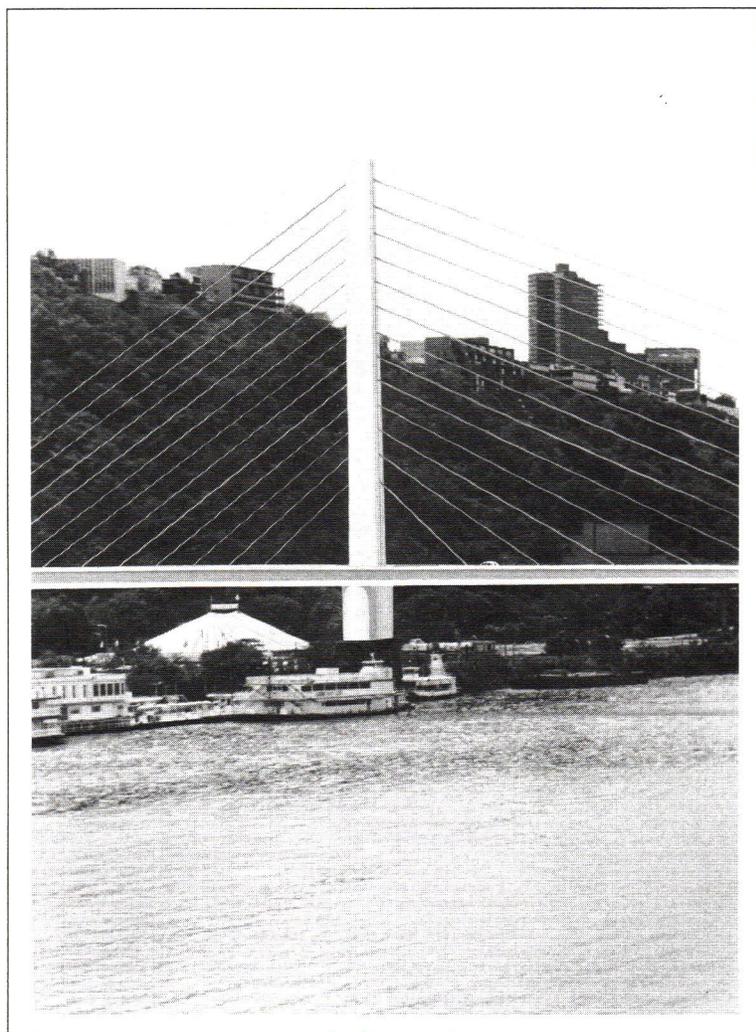


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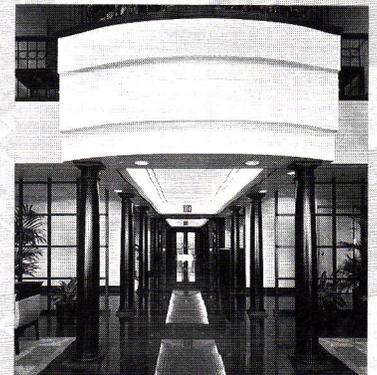
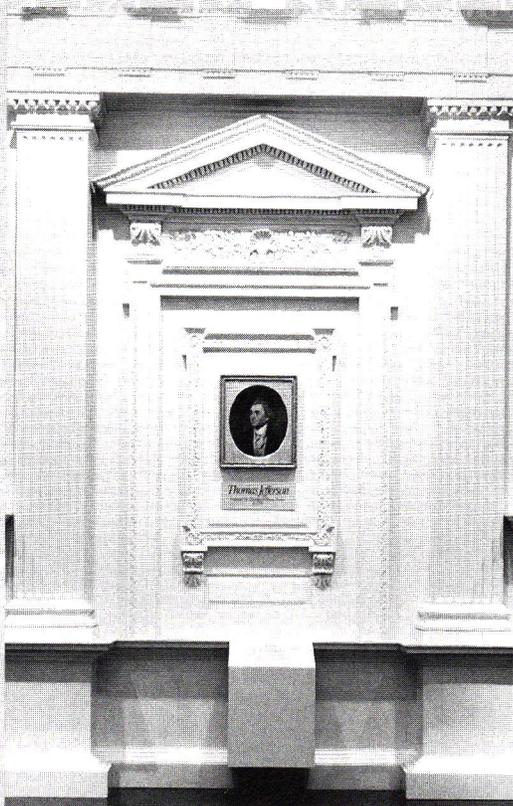
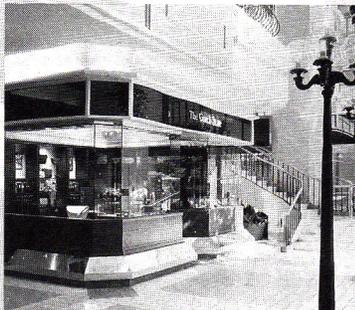
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# A turning point for COLUMNS?

Rob Pfaffmann, AIA President

## “Remember, the music

*is not in the piano.*”—Clement Monk



The constant tug of war between form and content is nothing new to those who design. Just as we struggle to bring the proper expression and life to our buildings, the Cantor Group and our communications committee is often struggling to find that same balance. It has to be said up front that Connie Cantor and her staff have had the

unenviable task of satisfying the world's most opinionated and demanding group of professionals. Some of us would prefer a more critical, scholarly orientation to things; others a more self-gratifying promotional approach. How can we balance these differing sensibilities?

Since its inception, COLUMNS has steadily improved both in graphic form and editorial content. It is now at a turning point: for a professional “rag” we want it to promote our members and their practices first. For those of us without professional marketing staff, or the ability to get published by *Architecture* magazine, our marketing efforts may benefit from a good looking local publication that can be brought to an interview or used in a cold call.

“Some of us would prefer a more critical, scholarly orientation to things; others a more self-gratifying promotional approach.”

The counterpoint to this point of view to which I subscribe is that our publication, while having an important role in promoting the work of the membership, must also develop a credibility founded on a tradition of solid editorial content. COLUMNS can reflect the ideals of our profession to the general public as well as the members. It also needs to be relevant to clients; often our institutional and government clients *are* architects.

The opportunity to place our profession out front as a respected source of information about the issues affecting the built environment can be effectively accomplished through COLUMNS directly and indirectly. Well-written articles about the value of architecture using our members' work as examples can be effective “seeds” only if they are tied to larger issues that the print and electronic media will latch on to. The opportunities are impressed on me each time we receive a comment about a story published in COLUMNS. Constructive criticism from professional journalists, graphic designers, photographers, and publicists is useful to the continuing improvement of our publication.

But ultimately we have to have something to say, ideas to express. We need to have an opinion. We need to disagree. We need to show the public that we can be self-critical. WE need to find that elusive balance between hard-edged journalism and self-indulgent promotional hype. If we don't, we lose our collective credibility and the real opportunities to extend the professions' positive impact upon the quality of our lives. The opportunity awaits us. 🏠

## In This Issue

### Bridge Over the River Mon .... 6

The latest on the Wabash project with a promise of a forum for architects' input.

### What's Going Up (Or Down) in Pittsburgh? ..... 8

Architects and city planners discuss the good and bad in the approval and planning process.

### For the Birds ..... 11

A new look for the Pittsburgh Aviary is hatching on the North Side.

View Point .....	3
Home Front .....	4
Executive Director .....	5
Bricks and Mortar .....	12
Breaking Ground .....	15
Engineers' Directory .....	21
Dossier .....	19
Calendar .....	13
Editorial Calendar .....	22
Advertisers Index .....	22
Marketplace .....	21
September Meetings .....	22, 23

A close-up of the cable-stayed design proposed for the new Wabash Bridge. Photo from Figg Engineering.

The Pittsburgh Chapter AIA serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and the Pennsylvania Society of Architects. The objective of the Chapter is to improve, for society, the quality of the built environment by further raising the standards of architectural education, training and practice, fostering design excellence, and promoting the value of architectural services to the public. AIA membership is open to all registered architects, architectural interns, and a limited number of professionals in supporting fields. Chapter Headquarters: CNG Tower, 625 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Telephone: 412/471-9548; FAX: 412/471-9501.

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Opinions expressed by editors and contributors are not necessarily those of the Pittsburgh Chapter, AIA. The Chapter has made every reasonable effort to provide accurate and authoritative information, but assumes no liability for the contents.

Why Pittsburgh?

Michelle Fanzo, Editor

Starting with this issue

you will notice some new aspects to COLUMNS, including its managing editor. After laboring over the last 26 issues, Drue Miller will be leaving Pittsburgh for the sunnier climate of the City by the Bay—and handing the blueprints over to myself, a recent transplant from Massachusetts.



When I first decided to move here, everyone started asking me "why Pittsburgh?" I figured their knowledge of the city stopped at 7th grade Social Studies texts. But then after I moved here, everyone still asked me, including the Board members of the AIA! So let me say, this move was made after much deliberation. As a writer, I make few decisions without first researching in musty sections of libraries and phoning people I don't know to ask them non sequitur questions. So was my route to Pittsburgh paved.

I first perused all those pop geography books (The 10 Greatest Places to Live with Low-light Plants, Glen's Guide to Glorious Georgia, etc.) and called friends of friends' neighbors to hear what they had to say about Albuquerque, Atlanta, Boston and others. After eliminating Seattle and San Francisco for rain and cost, I narrowed my search for the ideal city to four. Finally, my friend and I got in the car and proceeded to drive to Greensboro and Raleigh/Durham, NC, Tampa, FL, DC, and Pittsburgh.

We picked Pittsburgh because it is an accessible, invigorating place to live. There is a sense of community here starkly absent in most cities. Pittsburgh has charm, eclectic character, humanity, entrepreneurial opportunity, and an inspiring quilt of open space woven with quality architecture. It was Pittsburgh's diverse housing styles and cohesive mixture of old and new that made the lasting impression which brought me here. So keep up the good work!

Along with changing faces behind the scenes, this issue will highlight the changing face of Pittsburgh with a look into the Wabash Bridge Tunnel project and alterations and issues surrounding City Planning. Over the next few months COLUMNS will be taking on a more sophisticated look, and—as form is little without substance—an expanded editorial perspective. Expect a more in-depth look at issues which effect architecture and you as professionals in this often volatile field.

Many of the items you enjoy—Dossier, Breaking Ground—will continue to appear. Our hope is to expand on what you like, so your suggestions and comments are encouraged. As the forum for 479 of the area's most qualified planners and builders, COLUMNS should have a significant voice in the community—and that voice is yours. 🏠

Michelle C. Fanzo

## Of Board Members and Bathing Suits

*Anne Swager, Executive Director*



*"All of us would welcome someone who jumped up and declared their unflagging interest in helping us . . . The reality is no one ever steps forward."*

### I could write a book

on how to stand up in front of a crowd and make a fool out of yourself but I don't think it would sell too well. Talent shows

have always been my personal favorite way to embarrass myself. As a skinny and short fifth grader, I once sang what I considered to be a most soulful rendition of *Swing Low Sweet Chariot*. Judging from the audience reaction, my performance was closer to a bad imitation

of Pee-wee Herman than a deeply moving spiritual. I did win a talent contest once, but not because of the stand up comedy routine I performed. My fourth grade boyfriend, Sam, handed out bubble gum to any kid in the audience willing to vote for me. While my attempts to break into show business never panned out, the positive side of those attempts was that I don't embarrass in front of a crowd too easily anymore. One exception was when I volunteered to help out on a task force formed to revitalize Mt. Lebanon's central business district. Sheer boredom propelled me through the door for the first meeting. I certainly had no confidence that anyone would want the help of a "mainly Mom" with two little kids who incidentally had a background in economics and business. Eventually, I ran the program but that day was my first lesson in the "any warm body with fresh ideas is qualified and needed" school of how to run an organization.

I am still a student of that school. At this month's membership meeting, we will be electing new members to the Board of Directors. Every year, the Nomination Committee is charged with finding willing, interested individuals who will help run the Chapter. They do make an effort to "balance" the Board. We think a mix of backgrounds, reflective of the membership at large, is better able to govern an organization charged with representing the profession.

Each year, we discuss the relative merits and drawbacks of changing the way we nominate members to the Board. At least

since I have been here, we present you with a slate of people to fill the upcoming vacancies. There are just enough people on the slate to fill the number of vacancies occurring in the upcoming year. There is no heated race, no campaigning, and no real choice. This is not by design. Most of us would welcome a heated race with an issues oriented campaign. All of us would welcome someone who jumped up and declared their unflagging interest in helping us to become the best we could be and then of course worked hard to help us do this. The reality is no one ever steps forward. Instead, we mostly draw potential Board members from the committees. Since we ask people to be on the Board, we don't try to manufacture a race that doesn't exist by asking more people than we have seats to fill.

I can't answer the question of why some of you don't step forward and ask to be nominated to the Board. I hear from a number of you as to what you think we could do better and how we ought to focus our energies. You are certainly all qualified to be on the Board. However, it does take time and commitment. The tradeoff is it's also challenging and fun. Mostly, it gives you a chance to do things you don't normally do.

Never fear. If I have sparked some interest in you to run, there is a provision in our by-laws which allows for nominations from the floor at the election meeting. If you are a member of the Chapter, it is as simple as nominating yourself or if you embarrass easily in front of a crowd, draft one of your friends to do it for you.

If you are interested, we are interested. You will probably have to say why you want to do it but you won't have to sing or wear a bathing suit. 🏠

## Bridge Over the River Mon:

Pittsburgh's New Transportation Project Rolls On

by Michelle Fanzo



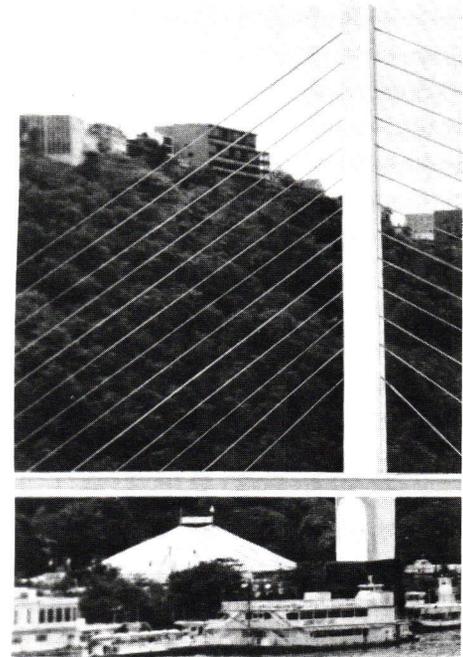
▲  
Through cantilever bridge of the Pittsburgh and West Virginia Railway, known as the Wabash Bridge.

### Like an architectural

Rip Van Winkle, the Wabash Tunnel has woken up after 30 years of dormancy to find everything has changed. A new bridge over the Monongahela River is in the planning phase to

meet up with the old railroad passageway through Mt. Washington, which will be upgraded to accommodate mass transit and possi-

bly individual cars. The two lane tunnel will connect with Route 51, creating a new access to downtown as well as a link to the proposed airport busway.



A June 23 public symposium at Station Square, "Creating Beautiful Bridges," was sponsored in part by the AIA to raise consciousness of the Wabash Bridge Tunnel and the issues surrounding it. Amidst speakers from City Planning, City Council, Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation and engineering groups, it may have been Al Biehler, Director of Planning and Business Development for the Port Authority of Allegheny County, who made the most noteworthy statement to the crowd of 200: "We want the project to not only be something we can be proud of, but something the community can be proud of," and to ensure that standard of quality "an architect may be consulted during the project." In a later discussion, Biehler said he's committed to whatever design review talents it will take to have a cost-effective, well-designed structure. The need for professional expertise makes sense, he says, "and if that means we should have an architect at that stage, then we'll do that."

The need for professional expertise makes sense, "and if that means we should have an architect at that stage, then we'll do that."

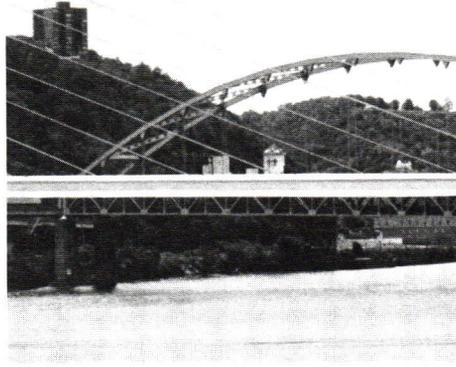
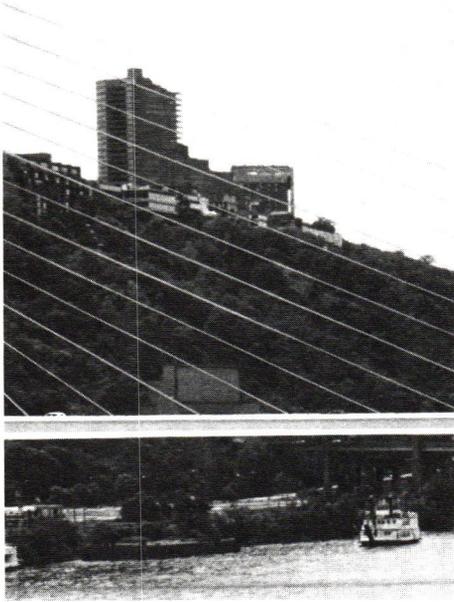
—Al Biehler, Port Authority of Allegheny County

This statement comes after efforts by the AIA to take a more assertive role in the delicate orchestration of engineering, planning and designing structures and roadways. Defining the architect's role in this process, along with advocacy and

education about the profession, have been among Rob Pfaffmann's goals as President of the Pittsburgh Chapter AIA. Projects like the Wabash Bridge Tunnel, he said in a recent interview, allow the public to gain an understanding of the architect's role, see how architecture effects their lives, and provide local professionals with design opportunities.

### Multi-faceted Project

The Wabash Bridge Tunnel not only provides an efficient access to downtown and the new airport, but is particularly critical due to the much heralded closing of the Fort Pitt Bridge—the most heavily trafficked crossing in Southwestern Pennsylvania. As City Council President Jack Wagner made clear at the gathering, the city needs to keep downtown the heart of the region. With only half as many



◀  
*Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation stressed the bridge "should be a landmark of our time"—like so many of Pittsburgh's other bridges which testify to the ingenuity of their eras.*

bridges entering the city from the south as the north, losing the Fort Pitt route could be disastrous to Golden Triangle businesses if another route is not made available.

The project may also address another city concern: the reclaiming of Pittsburgh's waterfront. Whether planners decide to use the old Wabash piers (which face the lobby of the Westinghouse building rather than an existing road), or construct the bridge downstream nearer Market Street, a logical and accessible downtown touchdown needs to be devised. To accomplish this, ramps and roadways may be lowered to waterfront level.

The entire project—bridge, busway, airport access routes, upgrading the tunnel, and the accouterments of such development—is estimated at \$450 million, with the bridge alone requiring \$30 million. Though money will be a large issue, funds were earmarked early on for this project which, says Biehler, "is very unusual." While a good amount of funding is needed by the end of this year, Biehler says the project has all green lights so far and looks about as definite as any endeavor can look at this point.

In sync with the city's taste for groundbreaking bridges, a dramatic "cable-stayed" bridge was presented by Robert Wellner of Figg Engineering Group in Bethlehem, PA. This design, most notably rendered in Tampa Bay's Sunshine Skyway Bridge, features airy, above board cables strung diagonally from a single mast, allowing an uninterrupted view of the Golden Triangle. (Wellner's computer-aided vision appears above.) HDR Engineering, Inc. of Pittsburgh proposed a steel arch cable-stay bridge, similar to the Fort Pitt Bridge, at this time. Other designs are to be considered in the future.

### Where Does the Project Go From Here?

The next hurdle, says Biehler, is to finish the Port Authority commissioned surveys of the area's needs and present this information at a public hearing, probably in September. "It's important for AIA members to participate in this meeting," he said, "and for everyone to show support for the project." 🏠

### New Legislation Encourages Input

A new federal transportation act, advocating social and environmental priorities and requiring public involvement, was introduced at the symposium as one of the most significant pieces of transportation legislature in a decade. The impact of the newly passed Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) will provide the state with government funding (\$155 million over the next five years) and help generate a public discourse. The National AIA lobbied strongly for this act to place emphasis on transporting people in an economically effective and environmentally efficient way, rather than "building more and more roads for more and more cars while asking Detroit to make more efficient automobiles," as Paul Farmer, Deputy Director of City Planning, explained at the meeting. ISTEA's emphasis on the social, environmental and energy impact of a transportation project will help ensure the Wabash Bridge solution considers long-term as well as short-term factors. The act requires a public meeting be held to discuss the project and Rob Pfaffmann is advocating for a Review Board of leading Pittsburgh designers and cultural leaders to evaluate the submitted design solutions.

## APPROVE

## What's Going Down (Or Up) in Pittsburgh?

Architects and City Officials Speak Out  
About the Planning and Approval Process

by Michelle Fanzo

"Some architects don't understand how their role fits in with other roles. They think their job is the only important one. Other architects go out of their way to look at every nuance of the code. They're very appreciative of the role they play."

— John Rahaim, Supervisor of Development and Design for City Planning

"Down the road, things always seem to change. First we don't need a sprinkler system. Then the city inspectors want to know where the sprinkler system is."

— Roger Kingsland, AIA

"The approval process for schools is a time when everyone everywhere is trying to stop the building."

— AIA firm principal

### When city officials and

architects talk about the approval, planning and review process of their professions, a variety of opinions are bound to surface. While everyone has a horror story about "that time when . . .," city officials and architects share many views, and often recognize each other's struggles.

When reflecting on the process, both firms and city officials found the downtown area to have the fewest problems, while frustrations seem to increase with distance from the Golden Triangle. Difficulties spring from code requirements varying between districts and building types. While downtown is host to signature buildings with name tenants, other areas and structures are at the mercy of time constraints, cost-cutting measures and out of date building codes.

Downtown has strict rules and public hearings to ensure the proper usage of space for all, yet offers flexibility for designers, says Paul Farmer, Deputy Director of City Planning. Alan Fishman, AIA, of IKM concurs, "City Planning and City Council want to work with institutions and architects for the betterment of the community. I don't see architects and city officials having an adversarial relationship, but one more like a team."

But only so many buildings can be constructed downtown. The firms which handle institutional, health care, commercial and residential buildings in other neighborhoods will run into more brick walls. According to Farmer, a great example of this is Oakland, the third largest urban commercial district in the state.

This neighborhood doesn't have the clarity of downtown because it serves a wider variety of needs, and zoning district lines run through the center of many of its streets. "Oakland has every ordinance known to Pittsburgh," says Farmer, creating what he terms "more traditional" setbacks of long waits and codes that don't address some of the institutional and mixed-use facilities found in the area.

Fishman, whose firm primarily handles health care sites, says the amount of time and difficulty in getting approval is a disadvantage. "Everytime we want to modify a hospital it takes up to six months to get a permit." He is also concerned there is not enough City Planning staff to review the quantity of work proposed.

# APPROVE

Changing ideas between the initial and final review is a drawback seen by Al Cuteri, AIA, of Poli & Cuteri Architects. "In the course of a renovation, we all go in and analyze the structure for, say, fire and panic requirements. Then we get to the final review and things have changed, even if they were documented in the earlier meeting. It would be helpful if recommendations were permanent. Maybe City Planning doesn't have enough information at the time of the first meeting. Still, in comparison to outlying municipalities we're doing great."

The latter sentiment is echoed by firms who work outside of Allegheny County, where codes and approval processes do not fall under the city adopted BOCA standards but rather state-wide fire and panic regulations. "The city of Pittsburgh knows the code well and interprets it fairly and consistently," says Roger Kingsland, AIA, of Kingsland Scott Bauer Havekotte Architects, "but we have had some absolutely horrendous experiences with inspection departments who don't know the code." He cites times when his firm has been asked to interpret the code themselves and then months later, after construction has begun, "they pull out some special exception that wasn't in the material they gave us, or worse, was something the inspectors didn't even know existed."

One principal of an architectural firm, who asked not to be named, feels the approval process outside Pittsburgh is too lengthy and convoluted and has taken all the enjoyment out of his work. "As architects, we're treated like nothing. No matter what goes wrong—it's our fault. Every building is a prototype—it's never been done before, but everyone wants it to be perfect. Plus, nobody wants the cost to change. If something is going to cost more, we feel like we're going to get shot at dawn."

While voicing few concerns about working with architects, City Planning officials feel the process could be improved for everyone if firms could write site specific design/planning criteria, setting objectives out front. "They could avoid a lot of 'gotchas' later that way," says Farmer. He recognizes architects don't always have much to work with, especially with educational and medical buildings. "Sometimes hospitals and schools don't know how to expand well. The medical profession is growing so quickly their needs change by the time the structure is built. Then they want additions larger than the existing structure, with 75,000 feet here and 100,000 feet over there, creating a real messy situation. Architects don't deal with that well since their education doesn't address this situation."

"Another problem is some architects don't understand the basis of our review process," says John Rahaim. "They feel, 'why beat up on me when *that* [not so aesthetically perfect structure] got built?' I try not to cross the line between what is a public realm issue and what is a private design issue," he continues, "but I may interpret the former more broadly than others—but I do try hard not to cross that line."

While Farmer says cost-constraints have hurt good design, he feels architects also have a responsibility to work within budgets and add value faster than expense. "Each architectural project brings with it its own series of factors and forces," says Farmer, "and some will be conflicting—that's the exciting part of the design process." 

## Shake Up at City Planning

Recently, the Community Planning section of the Department of City Planning was eliminated. The absence of this group has caused some concern in Pittsburgh communities and for the AIA. Chapter President Rob Pfaffmann, AIA, recently wrote a letter to the mayor's office requesting a meeting and expressing concern: "Recent events (layoffs in the Department of City Planning, URA merger rumors and the appointment of new Planning Commission members) . . . indicate that a major shift by your administration may be taking place with regards to the planning process in Pittsburgh." The letter highlights architects' and clients' concerns about how their projects will be affected, with some people feeling these changes may hurt the quality of Pittsburgh's planning. Rebecca Flora, Executive Director of the South Side Local Development Corp., feels the basic services to communities won't be available, especially for neighborhood groups surviving on volunteers. → 10

**Shake Up . . . continued**

While she says Community Planning was already crippled by cutbacks, Flora is upset at how it was cut. "There was no forewarning. One day it was just gone." She feels the city should have alerted community development groups and worked with them to make sure neighborhood needs would continue to be met. "The way they did it," says Flora, "sends a message that community planning is not important."

Lew Borman, Assistant Executive Secretary of the Mayor's Office, says Community Planning was cut as a budgetary measure and because the job could be economized into other departments. "The decision was made to factor Community Planning responsibilities into other peoples' jobs and address community issues on an as needed basis. We do not want to ignore the needs of Pittsburgh communities."

At a meeting with the mayor's office, AIA representatives expressed the feeling that city cuts have hurt architects' abilities to do their job. The mayor's office called the changes painful, and said they recognized Community Planning was not an unnecessary department.

**Time For a Rewrite** 

The city's current zoning code was written the same year Alaska became our 49th state. Unforeseen changes since then have convinced City Planning it's time for a rewrite. The 34 year old regulations were written to encourage substantial redevelopment within Pittsburgh and Paul Farmer, Deputy Director of City Planning, now feels they need to be altered to look at current concerns.

"The old code was formed with more suburban development in mind," says John Rahaim, Supervisor of Development and Design for City Planning. "The character of the city has changed."

The new code will focus on industrial districts, whose uses blur into industrial, office and residential areas, and institutional sites, whose existing code did not anticipate the phenomenal growth in the medical field. Higher quality housing and improving neighborhood commercial districts are areas that will also be addressed. City Planning is currently looking for a consultant to begin the process, which Rahaim estimates will take two years to complete.

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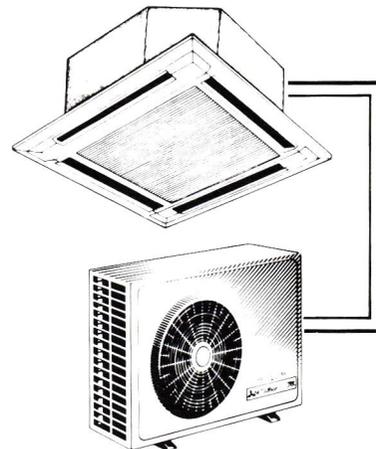
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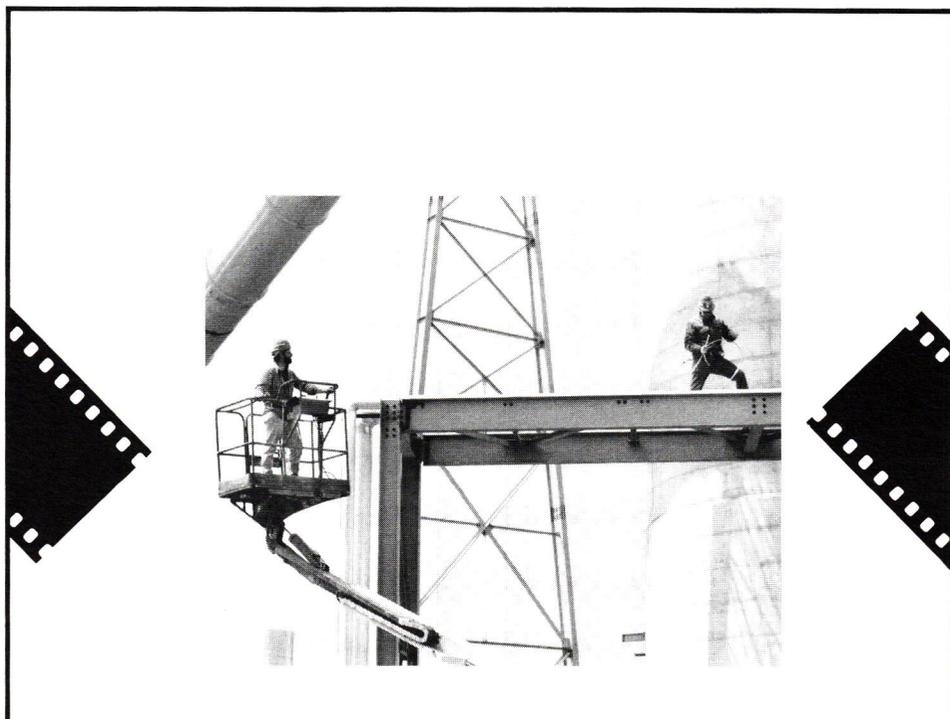


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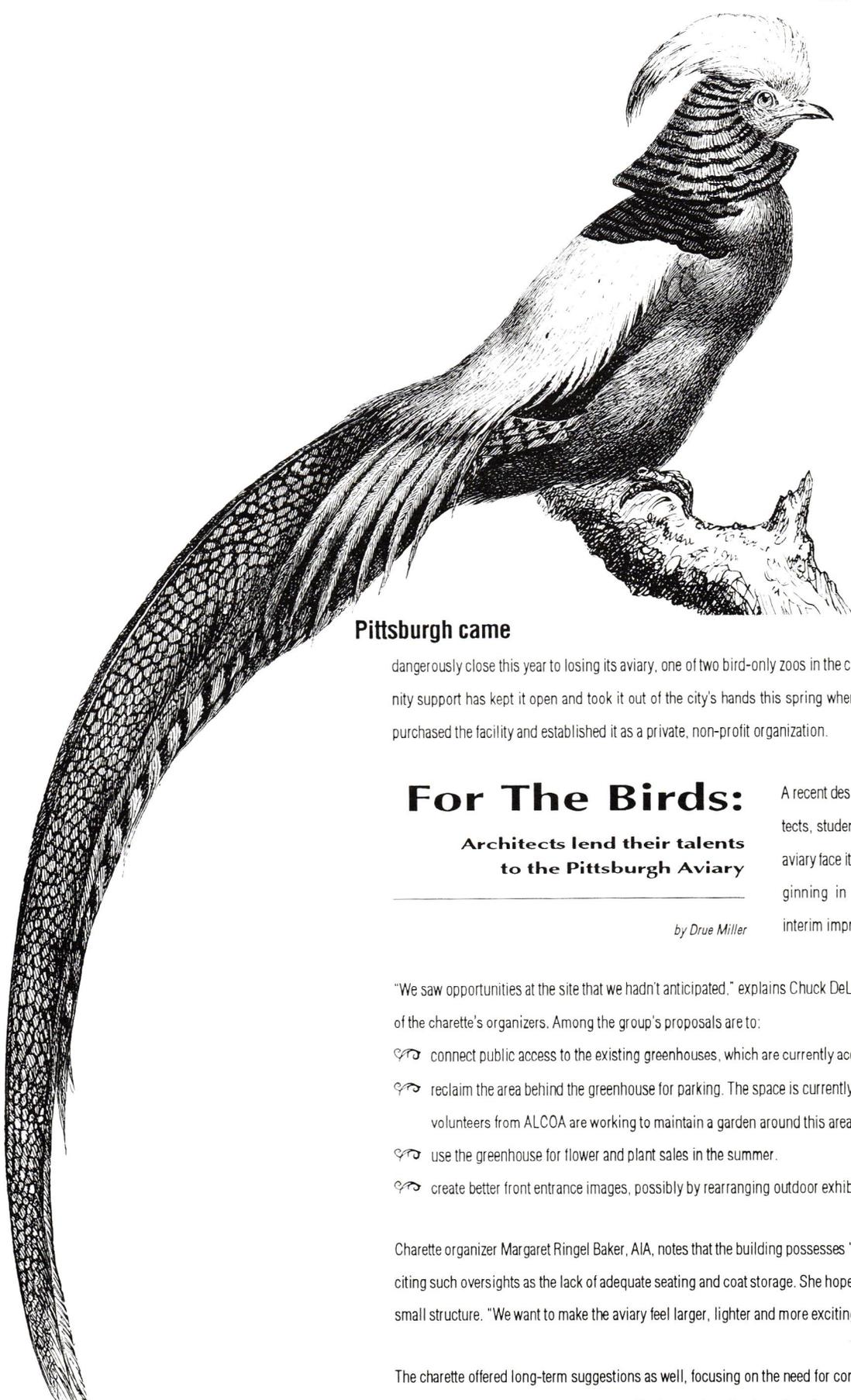
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## Pittsburgh came

dangerously close this year to losing its aviary, one of two bird-only zoos in the country. But a tremendous groundswell of community support has kept it open and took it out of the city's hands this spring when the grassroots group, **Save the Aviary, Inc.**, purchased the facility and established it as a private, non-profit organization.

## For The Birds:

Architects lend their talents  
to the Pittsburgh Aviary

by *Drue Miller*

A recent design charette brought together nearly a dozen architects, students, exhibit designers and a contractor to help the aviary face its changing future. The group met for six weeks, beginning in mid-July, to examine the space and propose interim improvements.

"We saw opportunities at the site that we hadn't anticipated," explains Chuck DeLisio, AIA, chair of the Interiors Committee and one of the charette's organizers. Among the group's proposals are to:

- ☞ connect public access to the existing greenhouses, which are currently accessible only through the main entrance.
- ☞ reclaim the area behind the greenhouse for parking. The space is currently used by the City as a junkyard. Aviary staff and volunteers from ALCOA are working to maintain a garden around this area, which will add to the visual appeal of the facility.
- ☞ use the greenhouse for flower and plant sales in the summer.
- ☞ create better front entrance images, possibly by rearranging outdoor exhibits.

Charette organizer Margaret Ringel Baker, AIA, notes that the building possesses "wonderful bird spaces, but terrible people spaces," citing such oversights as the lack of adequate seating and coat storage. She hopes the charette's recommendations will open up the small structure. "We want to make the aviary feel larger, lighter and more exciting. We want to make it more fun to visit."

The charette offered long-term suggestions as well, focusing on the need for comprehensive signage and graphics, the functionality of public spaces and how future work will relate to the aviary's park setting and neighboring structures. Sketch drawings emphasizing 3-D work and a summary report of long-range ideas were presented to the board of Save the Aviary, Inc., in late August. 🏠

## Urban Design Committee

● **Chair: Steve Hawkins, AIA, 521-9399**

We are pursuing two important initiatives: the recent staff changes at City Planning, and the Wabash Transit Bridge project. By this time, our members will have met with Mayor Masloff's office and with Port Authority Transit regarding both issues.

Rob Pfaffmann, AIA, and other members are meeting with the Mayor's assistants to inquire into the City's long range vision for DCP and how the department's functions will be handled after recent staff cutbacks. We also will express our feeling that DCP should not merge with URA, in keeping a separation between policy makers and policy administrators.

Alan Weiskopf, AIA, is maintaining contact with PAT since the Chapter's offer to participate in the Wabash bridge design process was accepted. We intend to propose a platform, for inclusion in the RFP for design services, that recommends and encourages a collaborative effort among various design disciplines, or that establishes design criteria and issues that would have to be addressed by the proposer, or both.

The committee should also be hearing from the Hill District community in response to our offer to participate and assist them in establishing a community design process and possibly in articulating their vision for the neighborhood.

We also briefly discussed how we might pursue grant funding for various projects. Please join us at our next meeting, Tuesday, September 15, at 5:45 PM in the Chapter office.

## Exhibits Committee

● **Chair: Karl Backus, AIA, 765-3890**

Judged entries from the WIA photography competition will be on display in the Chapter office throughout the month of September. Please stop by to see them during business hours. Our next meeting will be held Thursday, October 1 at 5 PM in the Chapter office. All are welcome to attend.

## AIA/MBA Committee

● **Chair: Joe Collins, 922-4703**

We welcomed two new members to our committee in June: Gary Dickinson, of Joseph J. Cavarello, Jr., Inc., and William Singleton, of the Dunn Corporation. We are seeking four more members; any architect interested in joining us is asked to contact James Kling, AIA, at 391-4850. See page 22 for details on our meeting this month on Partnering. Please join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, September 23 at the Building Industry Center, Conference Room #1, 2270 Noblestown Road.

## IDP Committee

● **Chair: Rich Bamburak, AIA, 321-0550**

We are continuing our site observation series together with Johnson/Schmidt and Associates at the Pittsburgh National Bank branch office at McIntyre Square, McKnight Road. The project is progressing well and much is available to see and learn. Interns are urged to attend, ask questions and hear the 'horror stories' associated with the construction process. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is Saturday, September 12 at the project site. Be there at 9 AM for coffee and donuts followed by the tour. Old clothes and shoes are appropriate. Each intern will be required to sign a liability waiver prior to beginning the tour. If you have questions, please contact Rich Bamburak.

## Membership Committee

● **Chair: Gwen Williams, intern member, 363-4622**

Please welcome these new members:

**Joseph S. Spagnuolo, AIA**

W.G. Eckles Co., 301 North Mercer, New Castle, PA 16101

**James P. Wurst, AIA**

Pittsburgh City Center, 500 Grant St., Suite 335, Pgh., PA 15219

**David Celento, intern**

Reid & Stuhldreher, 2500 CNG Tower, Pgh., PA 15222

**Klaus R. Chalupa, intern**

Integrated Architectural Services, 1700 The Arrott Bldg., 401 Wood St., Pgh., PA 15222

**Robin DeSantis, prof. affiliate**

Forbo Industries

Graduate of Carlow College

Family: daughter Krystal

Interests: reading, horseback riding, sports, music, theatre.

**James Arthur Sheehan, AIA (reinstated)**

Sheehan & Holler Architects 417 S. Craig Street, Suite 302, Pgh., PA 15213

Graduate of Temple University (B.S. Arch); CMU (M.Arch)

Family: wife Lauren Oneill-Sheehan; daughter Emily, 2 years old

## CALENDAR

## AIA ACTIVITIES

## ■ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Communications Committee Meeting, 12:30 PM at the Chapter office. Doug Shuck, AIA, 321-0550.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

Pittsburgh Chapter AIA Board Meeting, 5 PM at the Chapter office. All members are welcome. Anne Swager, 471-9548

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

IDP Site Observation, 9 AM at Pittsburgh National Bank, McIntyre Square (McKnight Road). Rich Bamburak, AIA, 321-0550.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

Legislative Committee Meeting, 4:30 PM at the Chapter office. Al Cuteri, AIA, 471-8008.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15**

Urban Design Committee Meeting, 5:45 PM at the Chapter office. Steven Hawkins, AIA, 521-9399.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**

WIA Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at the Chapter office. Susan Tusick, AIA, 394-7069.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17**

AIA/MBA Committee Meeting on Partnering, with guest speaker Frank Carr, Chief Trail Attorney, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. *Details and RSVP on page 22.*

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21**

Interiors Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM. Call for location. Charles DeLisio, AIA, 488-0307.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22**

The PSA 1992 Annual Meeting and Design Awards Program, at the Hotel Bethlehem, Bethlehem, PA. Call PSA for more information, 717-236-4055.

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

AIA/MBA Committee Meeting, 6 PM at the Building Industry Center, Conference Room #1, 2270 Noblestown Road.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

Professional Development Committee Meeting, 5:30 PM at the Brenenberg Brown Group, 4018 Penn Avenue, 683-0202.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

September Chapter Meeting, Town Meeting Forum, 5:30 PM at the Engineers Club. *Details on page 23.*

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1**

Exhibit Committee Meeting, 5 PM at the Chapter office. Karl Backus, AIA, 765-3890.

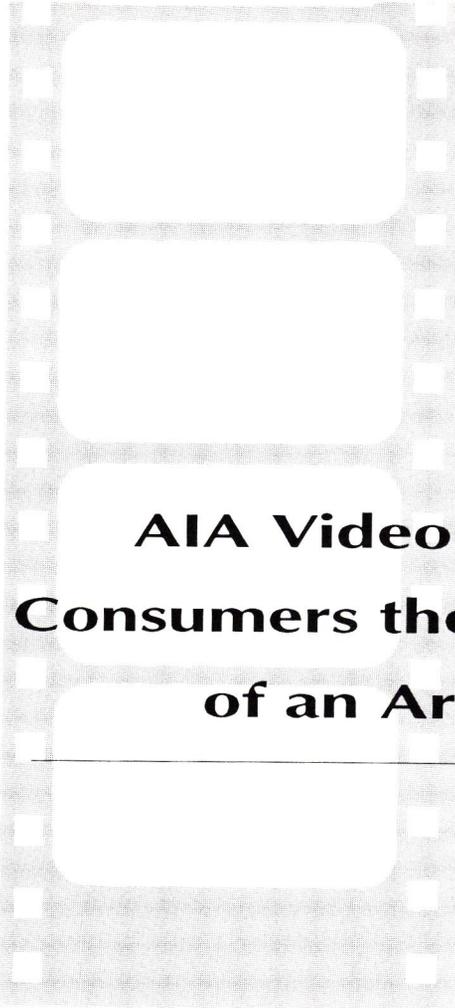
## AROUND TOWN

## ■ TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

CSI Monthly Meeting, 5:30PM at the Embassy Suites Hotel (*please note new location!*). Bob Molseed visits the Pittsburgh Chapter. Cost is \$20, pay at the door with advanced reservations. Sheila Cardiff, 823-5063 for information.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8**

Society of Architectural Administrators monthly luncheon meeting at the Engineer's Club. Cost is \$12.50. Call Perity Walecko, 429-1555.



## AIA Video Shows Consumers the Value of an Architect

### In response to

questions from consumers, the AIA has developed a new video that explains how and why to work with an Architect.

Entitled *Investing in A Dream: A Guide to Getting The Home You Really Want*, the 13-minute video features four real-life case studies—a new home, two additions, and one renovation/addition in progress—in which clients and their Architects discuss all aspects of the design and construction process. Through the case studies, the video shows how Architects can translate their clients' ideas and goals into dynamic homes well suited for the individuals who live in them.

Targeted to home owners contemplating building a new home or altering their existing one, *Investing in a Dream* highlights the value of the Architect's services and vision. The video also emphasizes the importance of collaboration between client and Architect and the need for the client to take an active role in the process.

The video is available through the AIA's Publications Sales Department (800) 242-4140. The cost is \$19.95 for AIA members, \$29.95 for nonmembers. 

### 1992 PSA Annual Meeting

and Design Awards Program:

September 22, 1992

Hotel Bethlehem, Bethlehem, PA

Speakers:

**Susan Maxman, FAIA**, principal in the 12-person Philadelphia firm Susan Maxman Architects.

**Peter Piven, FAIA**, Principal Consultant of the Coxe Group, Inc., Management Consultants.

Cost: **\$50** per person. No charge for the Annual Meeting or the awards presentation.

Call 717.236.4055 for more information.

## "Marketing and Practice for the '90's"

*Watch for your new 1992  
Pittsburgh Chapter AIA  
Directory . . . coming in  
September.*

## Kudos

→ **Marsha Berger, AIA** has been appointed by Governor Robert Casey to the state's Selections Committee in the Department of General Services.

## From The Firms

→ **Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann** is designing a major building renovation for Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Construction will begin later this year.

**Williams Trebilcock Whitehead** has been selected to design a new addition and renovation at the Wetzel County Hospital in New Martinsville, WV. Construction of the \$2 million project will be completed by next winter. Project director is

**Robert P. Murray, AIA.**

**WTW/Martin Chetlin, Inc.** is designing a new J.C. Penney's store in The Mall at Bay Plaza in Bronx, New York. The three-story, 185,000 sq. ft. will open in 1994. Construction is underway on a new 175,000 sq. ft. Penney's at the King of Prussia Mall in King of Prussia, PA. Manager for both projects is **Douglas L. Shuck, AIA.**

## Transitions

→ **Lisa Dabinett** has joined **The Design Alliance Architects**. A 1991 graduate of the University of Virginia, she holds an M. Arch. and has received an AIA Excellence in Design Award for achievements in design studio at the University.

**James T. Schmida, AIA** has been named a principal of **Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann**.

**Williams Trebilcock Whitehead** announces the following promotions: **Douglas L. Shuck, AIA** to Senior Associate; **David T. Hatton, AIA** to Project Manager; and **Anthony C. Albrecht, Intern AIA** to Senior Professional. WTW also added two designers to its staff: **Gretchen Hope Kaltenhauser**, who holds a degree in architecture from the University of Cincinnati and **Lynn A. Truskie**, who earned her architecture degree at CMU.

## Call for entries

→ Entries are still being accepted for the Boston Society of Architects' **Annual Design Honor Awards**. Deadline for submission is Tuesday, October 13; any project built in Massachusetts is eligible. For complete details call BSA at 617/951-1433 x221.

**Here are upcoming deadlines for the AIA's 1993 awards program:** → **The Edward C. Kemper Award**, to a member who has made a significant contribution to the profession of architecture and the Institute. (*Submissions postmarked by September 12*).

→ **The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Citation**, to an architect or architecture-oriented orga-

nization in recognition of a significant contribution towards professional responsibility. (*Submissions postmarked by September 12; nomination must be made by a board member*). → **Honorary Membership**, the highest honor bestowed upon persons outside the

profession, to individuals who have given distinguished service to the profession. (*Submissions postmarked by September 21; nomination must be made by a board member*).

→ **1993 Urban Design Awards of Excellence**, to reflect and encourage a celebration of urban life, a vision of what cities could be, and attainment of the highest possible design standards. (*Entries postmarked by October 1; submissions by November 3*). → **Fellow-**

**ship**, to honor architects who have made a significant contribution to architecture and society. (*Nominations postmarked by October 13; reference letters due by November 23*).

→ **Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture**, to recognize achievements among private sector and public service architects and public officials or other individuals

who have furthered public awareness and appreciation of design excellence. (*Nominations postmarked by October 26*). → **AIA/American Library Assoc. Buildings Awards**,

given every other year to encourage excellence in design and planning of libraries, including new buildings, additions, renovations, conversions to libraries use and interior design and refurbishing. (*Entries postmarked by October 29; submissions by December 14*).

→ **Architecture Firm Award**, given to a firm that has consistently produced distinguished architecture for at least 10 years. (*Nominations postmarked by November 2*). →

**Institute Honors** (*Nominations postmarked by November 2*). → **Henry Bacon Medal**, for excellence in memorial architecture. (*Nominations postmarked by November 2*).

→ **AIA/ACSA Topaz Medallion for Excellence in Architectural Education** (*Nominations postmarked by December 7*). → **Brick in Architecture Awards**, cosponsored

biennially by the Brick Institute of America. (*Entries postmarked by January 11; submissions by February 15*). → **Interior Architecture Awards of Excellence** (*Entries postmarked by February 5; submissions by March 12*).

→ **Young Architects Citation** (*Nominations postmarked by April 2; must be made by an AIA component*).

**For more information on any of these awards, contact Frimmel Smith at 202/626-7390.**

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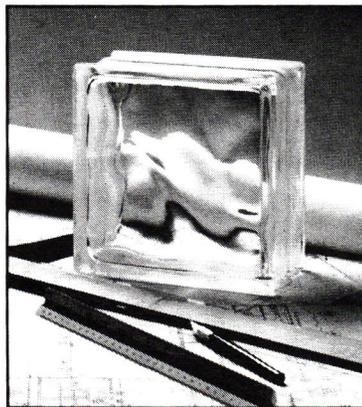
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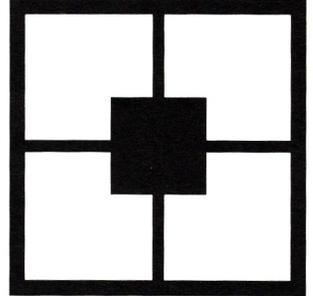
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# CALL FOR ENTRIES

It's time folks to present those creative ideas of yours by submitting entries for the **1992 Design Awards** and **Open Plan Awards**.



## AIA Design Awards and Open Plan Awards

The **Design Awards** are the primary award category for built projects and are open to all Pittsburgh AIA members and firms whose principal(s) are members of the Chapter. An entry may be any executed work of architecture including interior or urban design, or restoration, completed since January 1, 1987.

The **Open Plan** category is open to all designers with architectural degrees. Unbuilt work, research, theoretical projects, and work in the allied arts are encouraged. Projects must have been completed since January 1, 1987.

Entries must be submitted in a standard AIA 8 1/2" x 11" binder kit. Kits may be purchased at the Pittsburgh Chapter office or by mail from:

**PITTSBURGH CHAPTER AIA** 🏢 **CNG Tower, Suite 200** 🏢 **625 Liberty Avenue** 🏢 **Pittsburgh, PA 15222**

Submission kits for the Design Awards are \$60 for the first kit, \$45 for additional kits. The Open Plan kits are \$20. Submission kits must be paid in full in advance.

This year's jury chair will be **James Cutler, AIA** of Seattle. Mr. Cutler is noted for his work on sustainable design in the Pacific Northwest. Currently, he is working with **Peter Bohlin, FAIA**, on a residential compound for software magnate Bill Gates. He will select a jury of prominent architects from the Seattle Chapter area.

● Design Award Schedule:

<b>CURRENTLY:</b>	<b>Submission kits available</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 25:</b>	<b>Submissions due</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2:</b>	<b>Awards announced</b>
<b>OCTOBER 30:</b>	<b>Exhibit Boards due</b>

*Call the Chapter Office: 471-9548 for more information.*

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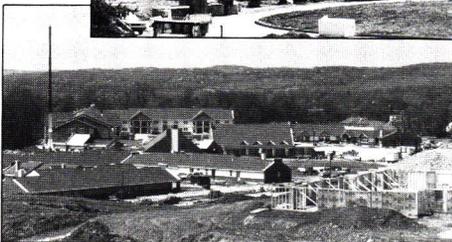
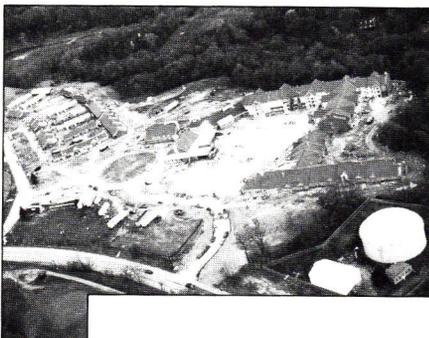
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Photos: Richard Golomb

# Douglas L. Shuck

*Firm: Williams Trebilcock Whitehead*

**Family:** wife, Sandy; daughter, Dina, 19 and Lindsey, 15.

**Years in practice:** 20 (but not long enough to be an expert).

**School/Education:** Kent State University (B. Arch '69).

**First Job:** Caddying for future clients.

**Project you're proudest of:** Owens Tech. College, classroom building on Findlay College Campus.

**Building you wish you had designed:** East Wing, National Gallery in Washington DC by I.M. Pei.

**Building you'd like to renovate:** The Fulton Theater Building.

**If you hadn't been an architect, what would you have been?** TV weatherman; good income, fame, not accountable to anyone and you know he'll be in error 50% anyway!

**If someone made a movie of your life, who would play you?** Chevy Chase, my wife thinks I act like him.

**If you could live anywhere in the world, where?** Tahiti.

**What's the best part of your job?** Facing a new opportunity each day!

**What would you change about your job?** Never check another shop drawing.

**What have you always wanted to tell your boss?** Thanks for your trust and support.

**What have you always wanted to tell your clients?** Approach your project with a clean agenda and allow your architect to orchestrate his imaginative skills to create...

**What's the most annoying things architects do?** Believe you must be 58 before you know how to successfully practice.

**Advice to young architects:** Start in a firm of 7-8 individuals and learn to do everything, and shoot for the stars.

**The one thing you wish they'd teach in school is:** "Never measure your performance against mediocrity."

**Favorite interior:** Nave, Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**Favorite building:** Fallingwater, Edgar Kaufman House.

**Favorite city:** Chicago.

**Favorite architect:** Louis Kahn.

**Favorite book recently completed:** "Flesh and Blood" by Thomas H. Cook.

**Favorite Pittsburgh neighborhood:** North Side because of the combination of open spaces, commercial, retail and architecturally significant neighborhoods.

**Most architecturally appealing restaurant in Pittsburgh:** Heinz Hall, outdoor Courtyard Cafe.

**Best gift to give architects:** To be given a commission without submitting a proposal or attending an interview.

**Wish list for Pittsburgh/downtown:** Having an integrated community of retail, commercial, and residential components.

**What's the next big architectural trend?** Pink sportcoats.

**Someday I'd like to:** Sail around South America.

**I want to be remembered for:** My integrity and inspiration.

**People would be surprised to know that:** I have a tattoo.

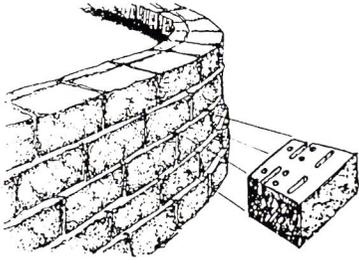
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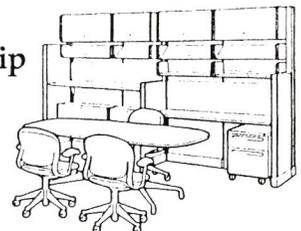
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<b>Meucci Engineering, Inc.</b> 409 Elk Ave., Carnegie, PA 15106 276-8844 Contact: James B. Fath					●	●			●			
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To include your firm in the Engineers' Directory call Tom Lavelle at 882-3410

**AIA/MBA Partnering Forum:**

**Frank Carr**, Guest Speaker

Chief Trial Attorney, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Thursday, September 17th**

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\$15 per person

cocktails and hors d'oeuvres served after the meeting

**RSVP** by Monday, September 14th

## Partnering Possibilities

Our culture's penchant for law suits has generated more than a little havoc among construction firms, engineers and architects. Construction litigation has escalated to such proportions major construction firms now retain their own in-house attorneys to keep track of when to file and appeal legal claims. The September meeting addresses this often hostile and controversial situation with an introduction to Partnering.

Partnering is a method of avoiding disputes which become part of a construction project as early as the design stage. It requires all parties to anticipate problem areas during construction and increase communication to create solutions rather than problems.

Guest speaker **Frank Carr**, Chief Trial Attorney, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has assisted in the development of the Partnering process. Also on the panel will be **David Henderson, AIA**, Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann; **Clifford Rowe**, P.J. Dick, Inc.; with **Raymond Hildreth, AIA**, Hillman Properties, acting as moderator.

Construction users, owners, engineers, architects and contractors are encouraged to attend the Partnering Forum to evaluate this method of developing a cooperative project management team.



**RSVP**  
**Partnering Meeting**  
 Engineers Club  
 Thursday, September 17

name \_\_\_\_\_

firm \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_

telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Names of attendees (\$15 each):

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Clip/copy this form and send with check  
 (payable to "Pittsburgh Chapter AIA") to:

**Pittsburgh Chapter AIA, CNG Tower, Suite 200,  
 625 Liberty Avenue, Pgh., PA 15222  
 or FAX to 412/471-9501 by September 14.**

## Construction Users Plan 1992 Forum

The Tri-State Construction Users Councils will sponsor the 1992 Construction Forum, scheduled from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, 1992 at the Robert Morris College Center for Leadership, Coraopolis, PA. Architects, contractors, construction users and labor representatives are encouraged to attend this event, which will feature an afternoon panel of professionals discussing various aspects of construction contracts. Guest speaker, William G. Thomas, CEO, Michael Baker Corporation, will reveal the future international and domestic plans of Michael Baker Corp., following a reception and dinner.

## Friends of the Riverfront

Care about the future of Pittsburgh's rivers? Find out how you can become involved in the *Friends of the Riverfront*. To put your name on their mailing list and receive their newsletter, call Martin O'Malley, 471-7719.

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**Editorial Calendar**

*October—Interiors*

*November—Community Projects*

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**Send your project to:**

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**AIA Pittsburgh**

**Cordially Invites You To The  
 September Town Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 29**

Engineers Club  
 337 Fourth Avenue

5:30 pm Cash Bar  
 6:30 pm Dinner  
 7:00 pm Town meeting

Members: Pre-paid  
 Guests: \$20  
 Menu: Scrod or Chicken Picatta

**RSVP** by Friday, September 25



**RSVP  
 Town Meeting**  
 Engineers Club  
 Tuesday, September 29

name \_\_\_\_\_  
 firm \_\_\_\_\_  
 address \_\_\_\_\_  
 city/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Names of members-prepaid):	MENU SELECTION (please check one)	
	Scrod	Chicken Piccata
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Names of guests (\$20 each):		
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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**1992 DESIGN AWARDS ENTRIES: DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1992. SEE PAGE 17 FOR DETAILS.**

**INSIDE**

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Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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