

# C O L U M N S



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**Y**our clients depend on you to be knowledgeable of materials and techniques while still providing professional design expertise. You can depend on John Deklewa and Sons, Inc., for quality workmanship and professional management on all your construction projects.

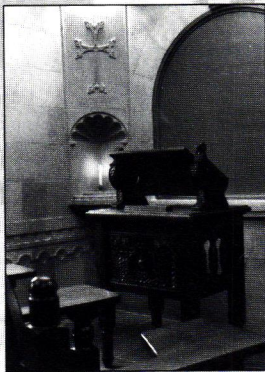
No area general contractor is better known or more respected than John Deklewa and Sons.



Our most recent project, The Clubhouse at Nevillewood is now home to the Family House Invitational Golf Tournament.

## Sweating The Details Is No Sweat

In the seventy-five years since our founding, we've produced some of the most dramatic and functionally well-integrated buildings in Western Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

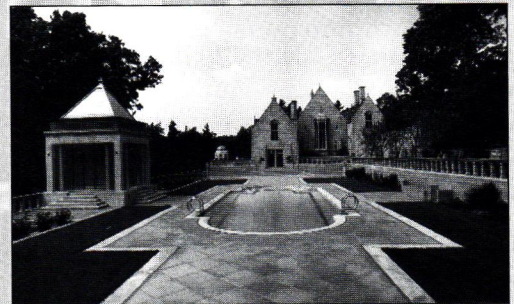


The Armenian room located on the third floor of the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh is the 22nd nationality room to be established at the university. The stone arched room copies the masonry techniques of church and monastery builders of the 11th century. This magnificent classroom was designed by Torkom Khrimiam who emigrated from Armenia in 1978.

We offer a full range of contractor services. Our pre-construction planning and value engineering, for example, can detect trouble spots early to help smooth out the production process. This insures your project comes in on time and on budget.

Whether you're considering renovation and retrofit of an existing structure or new construction, consult the experts at John Deklewa & Sons, Inc.

For a more detailed analysis of your specific needs, contact John E. Deklewa, President at 257-9000.



"Elm Court", a 9-acre private estate located north of Pittsburgh, involves unique additions and renovations. For example, the pool above is heated and has an ozone purification system. The deep blue water is surrounded by a granite surface edged in limestone. The pool is lined with hand made ceramic tile. On the left is a pool house sitting area. To the right is the "Fish Slide" built to hold two antique Indian carved marble panels giving the appearance of two carved fish swimming in the current of the fountain.

**JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS, INC. General Contractors**

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# Making a Difference

by Karen Loysen, AIA President

## A I A. So, why does it make a difference

to write those three letters after your name?

I wondered about the answer to that question during the Chapter's recent long-range planning session. As often happens, there was much discussion around the topic of membership. We discussed the effectiveness of our chapter, whether the needs of different member contingencies are being met, and whether the benefits of membership are perceived to be worth the dues. We discussed the need for new member recruitment and the need to maintain our current membership, particularly through lean economic times. The AIA is, after all, an organization whose clout and effectiveness is directly related to the size of its membership.

Recruiting or keeping members relies on the answer to the question—why does it make a difference to be a member of the AIA?

Becoming an AIA member means you become a participant in the national, statewide and local community of architects, and becoming a contributor, through your dues, to furthering the causes of architecture and the profession in general. The range of the AIA's activities is rather astounding. Perhaps because it would take an equally astounding amount of paper to communicate each activity to all of its members, the full scope of activities may not be well known. Some of the causes which are supported through your dues include:

*National:*

- research and publications on a wide variety of issues

- lobbying efforts for/against legislation favorable to architects or in the interest of architecture
- disaster relief
- scholarships
- development of contract documents
- legal advice, briefs on case studies relevant to practice
- financial support of R/UDATS
- international ambassadorship of architecture
- public relations on behalf of architecture
- professional practice continuing education
- member awards and recognition programs
- *Architecture* magazine

*State:*

- state level legislative lobbying
- state representation on national issues
- representation on registration issues

*Local:*

- support of a place and staff to distribute AIA documents, and who plan and organize the events of the chapter
- support of a place to exhibit the work of members, publicity for members through the Directory, *Columns* (which has distribution of 2,000 – 450 members and 1,500 non-members), and advertising
- public education and outreach
- public interest activities such as the Wabash Bridge Charette



*“The AIA... is an organization whose clout and effectiveness is directly related to the size of its membership.”*

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