

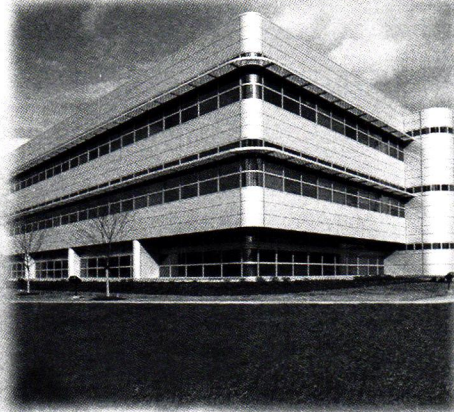
C O L U M N S



ALL ALUMINUM

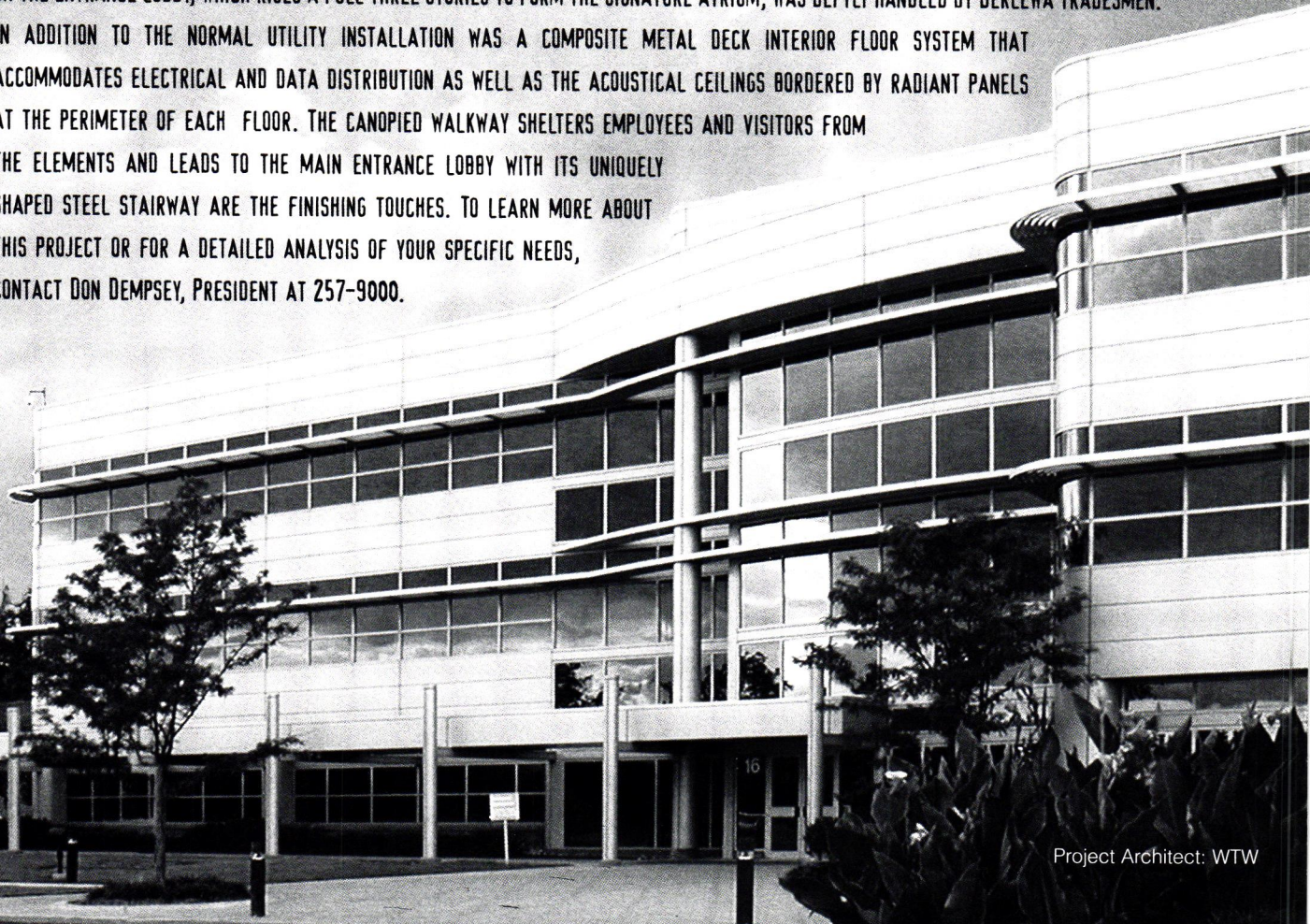
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October is Design Pittsburgh Month



DEKLEWA: FAST RELIEF FOR BAYER

BUILDING SIXTEEN FOR THE BAYER CORPORATION IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF JOHN DEKLEWA & SONS 80 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO QUALITY AND CRAFTSMANSHIP. THIS "STATE OF THE ART" THREE STORY 86,000 SQUARE FOOT OFFICE BUILDING WHICH FEATURES A STEEL FRAME STRUCTURE FACED WITH INSULATED METAL AND GLASS PANELS, WAS ERECTED IN ONLY 9 MONTHS BY DEKLEWA CONTRACTORS. INSTALLATION OF THE GLASS CURTAINWALL ON THE ENTRANCE LOBBY, WHICH RISES A FULL THREE STORIES TO FORM THE SIGNATURE ATRIUM, WAS DEFTLY HANDLED BY DEKLEWA TRADESMEN. IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL UTILITY INSTALLATION WAS A COMPOSITE METAL DECK INTERIOR FLOOR SYSTEM THAT ACCOMMODATES ELECTRICAL AND DATA DISTRIBUTION AS WELL AS THE ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS BORDERED BY RADIANT PANELS AT THE PERIMETER OF EACH FLOOR. THE CANOPIED WALKWAY SHELTERS EMPLOYEES AND VISITORS FROM THE ELEMENTS AND LEADS TO THE MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY WITH ITS UNIQUELY SHAPED STEEL STAIRWAY ARE THE FINISHING TOUCHES. TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS PROJECT OR FOR A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF YOUR SPECIFIC NEEDS, CONTACT DON DEMPSEY, PRESIDENT AT 257-9000.



Project Architect: WTW

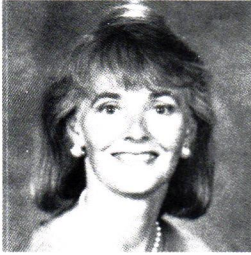
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GENERAL CONTRACTORS BUILDING SUCCESS

The Not So Long Good-Bye

by Cheryl Towers



To be an entrepreneur is to belong to the enterprise heart and soul, 24/7/365.

Paul Simon gave us fifty ways to leave a lover

and David Letterman the top ten reasons for doing just about anything. For my part, I have a short good-bye and thanks to all of you for making my three plus years as the editor of *Columns* such an enjoyable tenure, and just one reason for my departure.

I'm sorry (sort of) that I never did a dossier — if I had, you would know my favorite architect (Al Yankovich — B. Arch., Cal Poly, '81), favorite number (42), and favorite sport (windsurfing). But I didn't, so you don't. Or, I could tell you that I'm leaving to work on the Duke2000 presidential campaign, but that wouldn't be true. I could even say it's all been a dream, like *The Bob Newhart Show* (not true, either), or that I'm about to be abducted by aliens (not true, but entirely possible, knowing the company I keep).

The truth is that I've been a member of the entrepreneurial class for some time now, co-founding and preparing for the launch of a multi-media publishing and e-commerce venture. It's everything I thought it would be: interesting, challenging and a whole lot of fun. I'm stressed, sleep deprived, and twitchy, but love the process of creating something new and watching my ideas about the business take hold.

There aren't enough hours in the day to do what has to be done, and that is the #1 reason that I'm turning over the reins to a new editor — to be an entrepreneur is to belong to the enterprise heart and soul, 24/7/365.

Consequently, Tracy Certo will be on board starting with the November issue. Some of you may already be familiar with her work — her writing has been featured in *Mt. Lebanon Magazine*, and she has interviewed a number of architects for stories. She's even gone through a house remodeling, a probable requirement for any editor. Anne, Joan and I have promised her that you'll be your usual enthusiastic and forthcoming selves, so you are forewarned.

Again, thank you for everything, and, as I've already told one architect, I hope I don't have to build a new house in order to keep in touch with you. A new corporate headquarters might be okay, though...will call if we go IPO.

Cheryl can be reached at CRTowers@stargate.net, and Tracy at tcerto@adelphia.net.

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AIA Pittsburgh serves 12 Western Pennsylvania counties as the local component of the American Institute of Architects and AIA Pennsylvania. The objective of AIA Pittsburgh 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.

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A Season for Change by Anne J. Swager, Hon. AIA

I'll never forget my interview for

the job as Executive Director of AIA Pittsburgh. I was terribly nervous and a bit overwhelmed. After about three questions, I knew I had the job. The questions ended and I was told what I would have to do when I became Executive Director. All of it sounded great until I was told that I would have to write a monthly column for the magazine. I nodded assuredly while fireworks of doubt went off in my head. (I'm a numbers person. I know nothing about design much less architecture. What will I say?) I left the room and exited the Westinghouse Building feeling completely euphoric. I knew I'd nailed the job. Then I tripped over the curb ripped my stockings and skinned both my knees. Embarrassed beyond words, I picked myself up, put on my game face and reminded myself that even easy tasks like walking had their challenges.

I sent my first writing attempt to my friend Matt Smith at the *Post-Gazette*. He faxed it back with the word "constipated" scrawled across the top. Many torn up attempts later, I was done. I can't specifically remember what I wrote but I do know I tried to tell you who I was so you would give me time to learn the job and prove myself. I guess it worked because this is my 75th column in my 10+ year tenure. Some things haven't changed. I still consider myself more of a numbers person than a writer. I'm still always explaining what I do and why I do it and my enthusiasm for what you do still remains very high. *Columns* has grown and become more sophisticated but the product is still substantially the same.

However, ten years is a long time to grow. Cheryl Towers has done a wonderful, faithful and timely job with *Columns* in her 3+ year tenure. She brought tremendous organization to the process tempered with incredible patience for the Executive Director who never turned in her piece on time. I wish her the very best in the dotcom world and hope she will occasionally fill us in on the world of knowledge workers, entrepreneurs and IPO's. My personal thanks to you, Cheryl, for your calm, measured advice when you

heard my harried voice demanding "what do I do now?" You've always been a safe haven whenever I felt besieged. I know your anchoring has kept me from inflicting large wounds on my own psyche.

I couldn't believe my luck when I met Tracy Certo and she actually agreed to take on the job as editor of *Columns*. Many of you know her and she didn't run the other way. She obviously doesn't believe the myth about architects being overly demanding. I've reinforced this with several sessions on your strong points. I haven't been so lucky with the "procrastinator" argument. I think she'd already heard about me when I tried to float the idea that you were no worse than I am. Tracy is a terrific writer with a real love for architecture and things architectural. She brings some fresh ideas and new perspectives. With any luck, she'll let me slide until the last possible minute (like Cheryl always did).

This month's issue exemplifies one of the more positive changes in Pittsburgh's architectural arena. Cooperation and collaboration between AIA Pittsburgh, the Heinz Architectural Center and CMU's School of Architecture is at an all time high. In a small city with a small design community, we can't afford to be fractured. Pushing each other's events and building events of our own from the synergy is the only way to go. We still battle the problem of late notice on events proving that good communication still really is an art but we are getting better. In future issues, we plan to expand the comparisons between what we do and what other chapters across the country are doing. Perhaps not as rigorous as benchmarking, it will be an effort to put our efforts into a broader context.

You will see changes in *Columns* over the upcoming months but one constant remains. We need your input and feedback. Without it, we operate in an ineffective vacuum. Please let us hear from you and please return Tracy's phone calls. She's under deadline.



My personal thanks to you, Cheryl, for your calm, measured advice....

