

# C O L U M N S

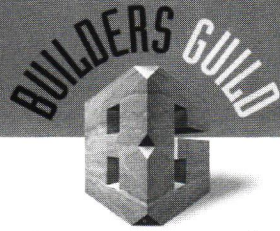


SCHOOLHOUSE

ONE ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE  
FOR SALE  
END NOW  
Kenny M. Cairns  
F. J. Burke Company

PLAYHOUSE  
FOR SALE  
BID NOW

## BUILDING A DREAM

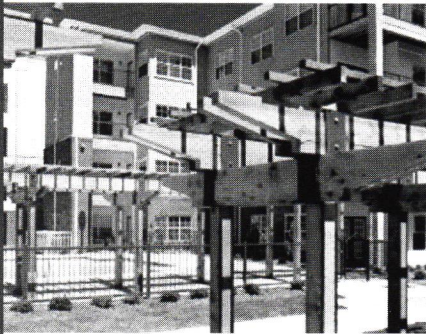


*It's going to work*

The Builders Guild of Western Pennsylvania, Inc.

*We ARE the Building Trades*  
*We ARE Union Workers and Contractors*

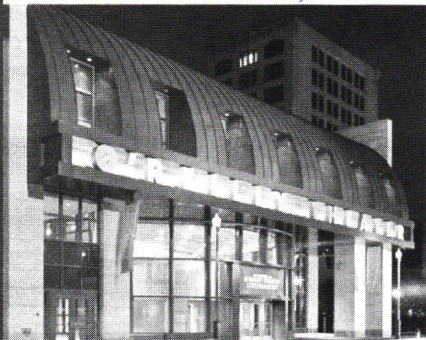
Lincoln at North Shore



"Without the assistance of our general contractor and major subcontractors from design development through construction, the Lincoln at North Shore may not have been developed. Today it is recognized as the most successful apartment community in the Pittsburgh metropolitan area."

**Kevin Keane, Sr.**  
Vice President/Partner  
Lincoln Properties Company

O'Reilly Theater



"The O'Reilly Theater provided a number of unique challenges as a highly visible project on a tight urban site. More visible exterior and interior finish elements, such as exposed architectural concrete stair risers, curving millwork and the vaulted copper roof, were all beautifully executed."

**Caroline L. Hancock**  
Director of Communications  
Michael Graves & Associates

*We ARE Unique,*  
Conscientious and Accountable  
Educated and Highly Trained  
Professional and Cost Conscious  
Skilled, Drug Free and OSHA Certified  
Committed to the Success  
of Your Construction Project

We ARE the Premier Providers  
of Construction Services in the Region

*But don't just take OUR word for it...*

To view projects and testimonials  
from satisfied customers, obtain a brochure,  
or, for a comprehensive list  
of construction resources visit:

**WWW.BUILDERSGUILD.ORG**

Art Institute of Pittsburgh



"This was a top-notch project. In regards to quality of the built environment, this facility is now considered to be the leader of all our schools across the country."

**George Pry**  
President  
Art Institute of Pittsburgh

PNC Park

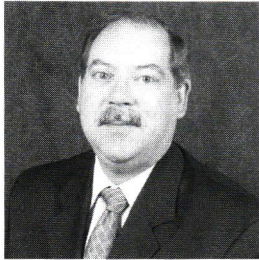


"The unions built PNC Park in just two years--on time, on budget. They were motivated to build the best ballpark in the country, and they did it. It was a great partnership."

**Kevin McClatchy**  
CEO & Managing General Partner  
Pittsburgh Pirates

# AIA 150

By Tom Briney, AIA



*The new paradigm is that we are being asked to become involved, we are being challenged to think holistically and inclusively, and we are reminded that we have the public credibility to advocate intelligent approaches to problems.*

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**On the cover:** One-room Schoolhouse by Radelet McCarthy Architects and F.J. Busse Company on display at the Pittsburgh Home and Garden Show. Photo by Smathers Photography.

### At this year's Build Pittsburgh Keynote event,

I took the opportunity to remind everyone that almost exactly a year from now, we will be celebrating the American Institute of Architects' 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. For most of us, just spelling "sesquicentennial" is challenge enough.

But if you recall several months ago in separate articles in "Columns", Steve Quick, AIA and I both wrote about the promise of the AIA 150 Blueprint for America Program as an initiative by AIA members and their local components to work with their communities to create a better future by design.

A significant part of the Program will include our gift back to the nation (in some way) of a "vision" to inspire healthy, safe, and sustainable communities and outline necessary steps required to enhance the built environment. At Build Pittsburgh 2005, AIA Pittsburgh firmly stated its commitment to this type of outreach and participation.

Interestingly, we often talk of how our profession is changing (and how quickly it is happening) and the discussion is usually centered on technology. But more recently, I sense the change is more about "who we are." I think we are being summoned to reassert our leadership skills and expand our role. The new paradigm is that we are being asked to become involved, we are being challenged to think holistically and inclusively, and we are reminded that we have the public credibility to advocate intelligent approaches to problems. To me, our response to this challenge is vital, and it's important to see how the character of this change underpins our commitment.

Our role in the future hinges on leadership and our willingness to commit to the set of values that set us apart. Clearly, the future of our profession will be as an expanded profession—one that designs buildings and communities. Also, we acknowledge that our own regional prosperity is linked to the quality of those very communities.

Our visioning and initial planning for the Blueprint initiative have been underway for some time, and we're fortunate that Ed Shriver, AIA has agreed to "champion" the

effort—trust me, he is taking on a large responsibility! As we continue to refine our "Blueprint", it is becoming clear that we intend to pursue a vision for the future of AIA Pittsburgh that will create an enduring legacy, not only for the membership but also for the community.

At Build Pittsburgh, I explained some of the general goals we have established for our AIA 150 participation. They deserve repeating because we envision a project that will demonstrate:

- A collaborative program that fosters community outreach, community participation and community leadership
- The role of community service in promoting the value of design
- A visible, tangible example of the Chapter's commitment to the recovery and future of our region
- The practical value and viability of urban mixed use, inner-city development and sustainability
- And, the practical value (for our membership) of creating greater financial stability, and the benefits of greater recognition for architects as leaders in the design community

If you missed the Keynote at Build Pittsburgh, let me paraphrase the words of Michael Gartner: "There are lots of good ideas out there with lots of energetic people who like a challenge and numerous sources of funding to support them." This comes from an individual who has achieved some truly great things through his own leadership, initiative and vision. After spending time with him, the one thought of his that stayed with me is: "It is activism and collaboration that get things accomplished."

As I said at Build Pittsburgh, on behalf of the Board, stay tuned—this will be an exciting year—we have accepted the challenge and we intend to take a leadership role.