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president's column

donna j. leban, aia, lc, iesna; 2004 president aiaVT

By now you all should have received an invitation and registration form to the Better Buildings by Design Conference 2004. (See the following article for registration information.) Not only is this excellent conference right here in your backyard, but you can also earn a lot of Continuing Education Units for attending.

As an architect and lighting designer committed to sustainable design, I hope that designers in Vermont take seriously our role in Leadership for Environmentally-Effective Design and do more than attend this conference. A number of tools and techniques that will be discussed can help all new buildings in Vermont exceed current energy standards by at least 30%.

How many firms really look at how their buildings stand up to these standards? Even though the Vermont legislature has not yet passed a Commercial Building Energy Standard (based on International Building Energy Code), it would be interesting to see how Vermont architect-designed buildings rate. Sure, a lot of customers are concerned about the bottom line and putting up a building cheap and fast, but let's be honest here. How does your bottom line as an architect effect the sustainability of the buildings you design?

Here's a little quiz. How many of these steps has your firm taken in the last year to create sustainable buildings?

1. Discussed energy efficiency, building sustainability and life cycle cost goals with your client?
2. Optimized the site and building orientation to reduce heating and cooling loads?
3. Provided site design that replenishes ground water rather than increasing run-off?
4. Ran early design energy modeling on relatively simple software such as E-Quest?
5. Made early design decisions that enabled extensive use of daylighting?
6. Held conceptual design phase meetings with owner and all consultants to determine design integration goals and methods to achieve them?

cont.

from Architecture Without Architects/Bernard Rudofsky (1964)

We learn that many audacious 'primitive' solutions anticipate our cumbersome technology; that many a feature invented in recent years is old hat in vernacular architecture-prefabrication, standardization of building components, flexible and movable structures, and, more especially, floor-heating, air-conditioning, light control, even elevators.

2.04:1



every architect's dream

Enjoy a client without a budget, design criteria or site requirements.

You are invited to create a unique birdhouse to be auctioned May 15, the day of the *Great Middlebury Birdhouse Exposition*. There are no program or code requirements and the selection of materials, finishes, and size are up to you. (Note: birdhouses will, most likely, reside indoors.)

All proceeds will be used to help restore the landmark Town Hall Theater on the Middlebury Green. Constructed in 1884 the building has served as a town hall, opera house, movie theater and home to the Knights of Columbus.

Recently purchased by volunteers of the Town Hall Theater of Middlebury, last summer's \$400,000 renovation insured the physical integrity of the structure, but there is still more to do.

As work progresses, the theater will offer a home for: local performers, concerts by world-class musicians, summer theater, classic movies, art exhibits and classes, and events for children.

The auction will be held at the Town Hall Theater and donors are encouraged to submit their projects by April 15. For additional information, www.townhalltheater.org or call 802-388-1436.

7. Worked with a building science/environmental design consultant to optimize envelope design?
8. Worked with a daylighting/lighting consultant to optimize lighting quality and efficiency?
9. Looked at alternative heating and cooling options for energy efficiency?
10. Had your mechanical designer use energy-efficient lighting design loads and actual, calculated building loads rather than more convenient, but costly, rules of thumb to size and lay out equipment?
11. Analyzed how your building would rate on the LEED's rating scale?
12. Gone through comprehensive track with Efficiency Vermont (commercial buildings with AC)?
13. Specified building systems commissioning after building completion?
14. Selected building materials due to their recycled content?
15. Helped owners select building finishes that promote excellent indoor air quality?

I hope you did well on the quiz, or at least came up with a couple of new tricks to try. And, as for the bottom line--perhaps doing more of these things would improve your bottom line as well as the project owner's. The General Services Administration (GSA) of the Federal Government did a study of buildings that followed an integrated design process versus those that were done on a more standard process (i.e., get it done fast and cheap). Guess what? The integrated design process saved the government money due to reduced change orders and reduced building operating costs, even with higher design fees. Now that's something we can all take to the bank.

vermont conference welcomes design leaders to burlington

susan coleman, aia professional affiliate

On February 11 and 12, the Better Buildings by Design Conference 2004 will welcome national leaders in high performance building design to speak at the Sheraton Burlington. Among the featured speakers will be Kelly Karmel, AIA, of Design Balance, Montana, author of the newly-completed *High Performance Design Guide to Energy-Efficient Commercial Buildings — Vermont and the Northeast Region*.

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2.04:2

integrated design/ integrated development (IDID): sustainable design and development awards

Excellence in Sustainable Design and Development Awards
IDID is seeking exceptional projects in architecture, landscape, historic preservation, and urban planning that demonstrate excellence in design, a substantive engagement of sustainable design principles, and particularly, built projects that highlight the beneficial synthesis of an integrated design process.

Specifically, such projects should:

- Highlight sustainable design initiatives and integrated design issues in current practice;
- Illustrate innovative material choices and environmental strategies; and
- Demonstrate an integration of community, site, and design.

Submissions will be accepted until 5:00 pm, March 1.
Awards will be presented at the IDID Closing Reception on Saturday, March 27. All submissions will be displayed at the Conference. Winners will be published on the AIANH Website.

For complete conference information:
www.aianh.org/action/idid.shtml

For awards:
www.aianh.org/action/ididcall.shtml

or contact:
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The conference will mark the launch of this guide, which was developed with the AIA and Efficiency Vermont. Ms. Karmel will outline the key concepts in the successful design and construction of buildings that cost less to operate, have healthy indoor environments and minimize the impact of natural resources. A free copy of the design guide will be provided to workshop attendees.

AIA continues its partnership with Efficiency Vermont to present this annual conference, which is the region's top gathering of design and construction professionals. The conference will include 32 workshops on building durability, efficiency and value. Focusing on four simultaneous tracks on envelope, mechanical, lighting, and integrated design, sessions will feature an array of opportunities to learn about design and construction approaches and technologies that are being used to create today's high performance residential and commercial buildings.

The conference will host an on-site trade show, providing attendees with access to more than 45 exhibitors of the latest innovations in energy-efficient products and services for the design and construction industry. Exhibitors will include representatives of lighting, window and thermal systems and HVAC equipment manufacturers and suppliers, as well as specialty contractors.

A new feature of this year's conference will be a session led by winners of the Better Buildings By Design competition for 2003 Vermont designs. On hand to discuss case studies of their award-winning designs will be Banwell Architects & GWR Engineering PC, designers of the Mascoma Savings Bank office in White River Junction; and Bast & Rood Architects, designers of the Northern Power Systems office in Waitsfield. Presentations will showcase unique details and illustrate how "business as usual" became "better buildings by design."

The conference keynote address, *Taking the Long View: Designing for Future Generations*, will be presented by Susan A. Maxman, FAIA, award-winning architect and past AIA president. Using examples of green projects that her Philadelphia firm, Susan Maxman & Partners, Architects, has designed over the years - culminating in The Cusano Environmental Center, one of the AIA Top Ten Green Buildings for 2003 - Ms. Maxman will share her perspective on re-inventing the way we look at the built environment.

Other conference presenters include Marlin S. Addison, Principal of M.S. Addison and Associates and Director of Arizona State University's Building Energy Simulation Lab. A nationally-recognized

cont.

2.04:3



Samuel "Sambo" Mockbee, FAIA
(Photo courtesy of the Rural Studio)

expert in the professional use and instruction of computerized energy and economic analysis tools, Mr. Addison's experience includes such projects as the National Audubon Society headquarters in New York City and the American Association for the Advancement of Science headquarters in Washington, D.C. Mr. Addison will present *Energy Modeling Software – Tools of the Trade* as well as *Building Energy Simulation – A Practical Approach to Modeling*.

Nancy E. Clanton, PE, LC, IALD, President of Clanton Associates, Colorado, will present *Daylighting and Darkness for Human Health*. Ms. Clanton is an award-winning lighting designer and past Chair of the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America. Group leader for the "Greening of the White House" initiative, Ms. Clanton received the 1999 "Contribution to the Built Environment" award from the Colorado North Chapter of AIA.

To register for the Better Buildings by Design Conference, call 1-877-248-9900 or visit www.efficiencyvermont.com.

Conference attendees will earn AIA continuing education credits. AIA Vermont will report units to the University of Oklahoma for attendees' chosen state(s).

Susan Coleman is a Business Development Specialist for Efficiency Vermont.

the rural studio comes to norwich

wendy a. cox, assistant professor, norwich university

Norwich University's Division of Architecture and Art was pleased to host a Perry Dean Rogers | Partners Architects sponsored lecture, featuring Andrew Freear. Freear, Co-Director of the Rural Studio of Auburn University in Alabama, spoke on Monday, November 17 as part of the Division's 2003-2004 Lecture Series. Mr. Freear, was trained at the Architectural Association and has taught and practiced both in England and in the United States. He joined Auburn University several years before the death of its founder Samuel "Sambo" Mockbee, FAIA.

Mockbee, posthumously, was awarded the 2004 AIA Gold Medal. Andrew spoke of Sambo's inspiration for creating the educational design/build studio, which is now a required part of the Bachelor of Architect-

cont.

Architecture and Utopia/Manfredo Tafuri (1976)

What is of interest here is the precise identification of those tasks which capitalist development has taken away from architecture. That is to say, what has taken away in general from ideological prefiguration. With this, one is lead almost automatically to the discovery of what may well be the 'drama' of architecture today: that is, to see architecture obliged to return to pure architecture, to form without utopia; in best cases, to sublime uselessness. To the deceptive attempts to give architecture an ideological dress, I shall always prefer the sincerity of those who have the courage to speak of that silent and outdated 'purity'; even if this, too, still harbors an ideological inspiration, pathetic in its anachronism.

2.04:4

‘Constructions’ Exhibit Planned for SPA

Studio Place Arts (SPA), a community art center in Barre, announces an upcoming exhibition (April 20-May 22, 2004) entitled ‘Constructions,’ celebrating architecture’s role as “the mother of all art.” SPA is inviting Vermont architects to exhibit 2-D and 3-D examples of their design work for this exhibition. The full text of the call is at www.studioplacearts.com/upcoming.html. Contact Mark Tucker, curator, by email at Tuck01@charter.net or call 802-479-7176 for more information



photo by steven house, aia

ture program at Auburn University. The work of the Rural Studio, which has students design and build real projects, has helped to beautifully house many of Alabama’s southwestern rural poor. The designs not only provide shelter but also innovate new manners of using materials that often end up in landfills. For instance, Mr. Freear spoke about The Lucy House made up of, in part, used fabric samples that were compressed to make a water tight wall system.

The work of the Rural Studio has won numerous design awards and has been exhibited in many museums throughout the United States and Europe including The Whitney in New York City. This lecture was well attended by both professionals and students and a lively question and answer period followed. To learn more about the Rural Studio, visit their website at www.ruralstudio.com.

We are delighted to announce that the Byrne Foundation sponsored lecture at Norwich on Wednesday, February 18 will feature Professor Mark C. Taylor from Williams College. Professor Taylor has written numerous books on the subjects of architecture, art, and culture. He will be speaking about his most recent book, *The Moment of Complexity: Emerging Network Culture*. The lecture will be held at Norwich University’s Chaplin Hall beginning at 4:00 pm. Note that all Norwich lectures are free and the public is welcome. For further information, please call 802-485-2620.

the american institute of architects: st. louis chapter 2004 architectural photography competition

AIA St. Louis announces its annual AIA Architectural Photography Competition to promote appreciation and awareness of the built environment as captured in images by architects. The competition is open to all architects registered in the United States and to associate members of the Institute. The competition is also open to student members of any AIA chapter or AIAS. Entries are now being accepted through March 15, 2004.

The entries must have an architectural theme or must contain some element of the man-made environment. The jury will use the photographic interpretation of the subject matter as their main criteria for judging, not the architecture itself. All images will be submitted in standard slide format.

cont.

2.04:5

aiaVT welcomes

daniel eldredge, *assoc. aia of waterbury*

penny miller, *assoc. aia of colchester*

tom moore, *professional affiliate of underhill center*

maura o'dea, *assoc. aia of colchester*

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AIA Vermont reserves the right to edit
articles for available space and deter-
mine appropriate content prior to
inclusion. Submissions must be
received by the 15th of the month
prior to publication.

Cash awards are: First place, \$500; Second place, \$400; Third place, \$300; Louise Bethune, \$200 (subject must be of American architecture - Louise was the first female registered architect in US); and digital category, \$200.00.

A total of fourteen images are selected to be honored for display at the upcoming AIA National Convention. All entries are then presented to Universe Publication to produce an engagement calendar of the winning entries plus approximately 40 other images, each with an acknowledgement.

The entry fee for AIA members is \$30; entry fee for AIAS members is \$15; entry fee for registered architects who are non-members is \$50. Entrants may submit up to five slides for each entry fee and may enter as many times as desired. Please visit www.aia-stlouis.org to download an entry form or call 314-621-3484 with questions.



**BETTER BUILDINGS
BY DESIGN
CONFERENCE 2004**

February 11 & 12 | Sheraton Burlington

Don't miss the region's top new
construction conference on residential
& commercial building durability,
efficiency and value.



Efficiency Vermont
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