President’s Message

It’s been a great year so far at AIA Eastern New York. While it’s not quite the end of the year, this is the time when the Board of Directors starts to shift its focus and prepare for the upcoming year. We recently held a strategic planning session that focused on brainstorming and thinking big picture about the direction we’d like to take in 2020. One of the major goals that came out of the discussion is that we want to bolster volunteer support and add more value to our member benefits.

Our dedicated group of core volunteers—a team that has brought in some new members in recent years—has worked hard to make our association management transition a smooth one, while still providing the programs and events that you have come to expect.

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We’re looking to expand that group of volunteers and are focused on how to increase involvement. Partnering with AIA New York State for our association management has given the Board the opportunity to become more strategic in our conversations and planning, resulting in becoming less bogged down with the day-to-day operations of the chapter. As a result, our goal is to roll out some focused programs that will provide the opportunity to get involved while balancing other areas of your busy schedules.

Our Annual Meeting is coming up on November 14, and we’re excited to share everything that’s been going on behind the scenes with our membership. The Annual Meeting is much more than obtaining a quorum in order to vote on a slate of candidates; it’s an opportunity for the Board of Directors to present the membership with a summary of what we’ve done over the past year and what is being planned for next year. It’s also a great opportunity to meet the current team of volunteers working hard to create an active and engaged architecture community. I would like to personally invite the entire membership to attend our annual meeting so you can provide feedback on what has worked well and where we need to improve moving forward. If you’re interested in volunteering to help your architecture community at any level, the Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to see how and where you can get involved.

We’re excited about what we’ve got planned for this year and the impact that our new partnership with AIANYS will have. If you have any questions, comments, or would like to know how you can help, please feel free to reach out to me at caseycrossleyaia@gmail.com!

I’m looking forward to seeing you all at our Annual Meeting next month!

Casey Crossley, AIA, LEED AP
2019 AIAENY President
Event Updates

By Andrew Petruzzelli, AIAENY Vice President of Programs

Owens Corning Tour

On May 9th over 15 AIAENY members attended an exciting 3 CEU credit event hosted by Owens Corning. The event included two 1 hour lectures with topics including maintaining continuous insulation and weather resistive barriers and understanding exterior wall fire testing with respect to NFPA 285 and ASHRAE 90.1. Following the lectures, the members were treated to a generous lunch and then broke into two groups to have a hands-on tour of the insulation production in the factory. Unfortunately, pictures were prohibited on the tour and facility so the images that we can share are quite limited. Overall, the event had a robust attendance and everyone left with a new understanding of insulation production and uses.

Singh Residence Tour

On May 15th about 10 attendees enjoyed a personalized second look in the series tour of the Singh Residence. This tour highlighted residential construction techniques utilizing structural insulative panels and explored in detail wood and steel framing methods as well as the correct ways to create openings, seal, and join these panels. The tour also explored the advantages and pitfalls of using general contractors on a larger scale residential project with a unique construction method.
On May 31, over 90 participants from the architecture and design community including interior designers, vendors, sponsors, architects, and engineers gathered together for the third annual Capital Region A&D Scavenger Hunt at the Stockade Inn in Schenectady. Participants broke up into over a dozen teams to explore the rich architectural history within the historic Stockade District. Teams had a limited amount of time to look for the pre-determined list of items and accomplish some really fun team building tasks along the way. Photo documentation was required to prove accomplishment of the task or solving of the clue. After the allotted time, teams met back at the Stockade Inn for an after party including refreshments, buffet, networking, and fun trivia contest. Organizers and hosts for the event were local chapters of ASID, IIDA, and AIAENY. Thank you to all that participated, volunteered, and sponsored the event.
Event Updates

**Omega Institute Tour with USGBC**

On June 9th, AIAENY and USGBC collaborated to host a tour of the Omega Institute in the Southern extreme of our region in Rhinebeck, NY. The tour was a success and offered visitors a first-hand look at one of the greenest buildings in America; 100% of Omega’s wastewater is treated with zero chemicals and the facility is net zero energy. Additionally, the tour illustrated techniques in natural water reclamation, sustainable living, and green building practices.

**Albany Community Land Trust Roundtable**

Held on September 11, the Albany County Land Trust Round Table, was a fruitful gathering of architects and designers where participants learned about the mission and services the Land Trust offers and the grants, funding, and sites they have available. Participants heard from TAP and related projects that the Land Trust is undertaking to help equalize the housing market and infill vacant and underutilized lots to improve communities and neighborhoods. The City of Albany spoke representing both the Neighbor Stabilization Office and the Planning and Development Department. Participants learned the statistics of vacant and zombie properties in the city, the steps the City is taking to record and improve these conditions from a preservation and safety mindset, the new form-based zoning code in the city, and regulations that would apply to two proposed building sites. Lastly, a round table discussion held over lunch explored some of the specifics of the building sites and programmatic requirements from the owner. The discussion was cut short due to time constraints and as a result, received many suggestions to hold a Part II of the event to continue the dialogue. Stay tuned for a future Part II from this event.
Sharon Springs Tour & Lecture

The Sharon Springs lecture and tour had a great turnout and was a great way to spend a Saturday morning. The lecture was given by Nick Drummond of Redpoint Design/Build of Cooperstown. Nick shared a great wealth of historical and current information on the Village of Sharon Springs as a resort community. Following this Christina Hingle of the Preservation League of NYS gave a brief primer on tax credits and grants available for struggling communities with a historic district. The second portion of the event boasted a tour of a few of the recently renovated and currently under construction properties along main street. These included The American Hotel, Klinkhart Hall, The Imperial Baths and the Adler Hotel. The tour lasted an additional 90 minutes past the scheduled time for those who chose to continue. Portions of the tour were led by both the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and the contractor currently working on the Bath house and Hotel.
Upcoming Events

Educational Event 11.19

With many sustainability rating systems available for new or existing buildings, it can be confusing determining the best system to utilize for your project. Learn about rating systems like Net-zero Energy, Zero Carbon emissions, LEED, WELL, Green Globes, Energy Star, ILFI, and AASHE to help with future projects and provide strategies to apply to buildings with or without certification. This tool box can also help to create or revise a sustainability master plan or sustainability guidelines for campuses.

Portfolio of Green Tools
Sustainability Conference

Friday, November 1, 2019 | Session 1: 1:00pm-3:30pm (2 LUs);
Session 2: 3:30pm-5:30pm (2 LUs)
Location: Sage College, Albany Campus, Art + Design Building
(across from the Opalka Gallery)
Fees: $35 for Members | $45 for Non-Members | Free for Students

AIA Eastern New York
Annual Meeting

Time: 6:00-7:30pm
Location: To be Announced Soon!
Beaux Arts Holiday Ball
Thursday, December 5, 2019

Save the Date

Second Annual Beaux Arts Holiday Ball
Masques, Merriment, and More

Thursday, December 5, 2019
677 Prime, Albany, New York  6 pm - 9 pm
Call for Volunteers!

Are you a problem solver? Do you like to be part of a collaborative team that moves discussions forward relating to the field of architecture and sees results? 2020 is your chance to get involved in one of our AIA Eastern New York Chapter’s committees.

Benefits of volunteering:
- Individual and firm name recognition
- Recognition as a leader
- Develops new skill sets
- Forges new relationships within the local architectural community and beyond
- Opportunity to give back to your local community and the profession

Time commitment: Committee involvement varies but typically falls within the range of 4 - 8 hours per month. This is also dependent on the committee’s goals and identified projects.

The Emerging Professionals Committee
The mission of AIAENY emerging professionals committee is to help architects in their quest to become a licensed professional. The goal is to create networking opportunities where emerging professionals can meet others in a similar situation as well as more experienced professionals. Hard copy study materials are available to help candidates prepare for the ARE. Volunteers can help host or support networking events and/or study sessions. The committee has plans to expand its reach and build this network by leveraging social media, participating in online forums, and creating access to current version testing/study materials featuring online videos, lectures, and tutorials.

This committee needs your help to get to these EP’s to the next level!
Chair- Andrew Petruzzelli, AIA

The K-12 Committee
The K-12 committee was re-launched in 2019 and looking to expand its reach in 2020. The mission of AIAENY K-12 committee is to promote awareness of architecture, design, and sustainability within the local K-12 school communities. The committee is working to poll local educators to determine what their needs may be in order to achieve this mission. The responses we receive from the teachers will help inform some of our next steps. Some of the committee’s short term and long-term goals are the following:
- Create a portfolio/project review session for high school architecture students that could include a studio/office tour, hosted by different firms
- Architects as guest speakers in classrooms and at career days
Special Thanks to Our Allied Members!

- Establish a database of local architects willing to work with local Districts to bring Architects into the classroom or students into the office
- Create a lecture series with each topic presented by a different firm, talking about a different type of architecture or firm expertise at each lecture. This would highlight the diversity of the work architects have.
- Getting other ACE (Architecture, Construction, Engineering) trades involved in different events to help draw as many students as possible.

These are just some of the ideas we are brainstorming and putting into motion. If you are interested in helping, please let us know!

Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Brutsch, AIA & Musa Kanneh, AIAS

COTE Committee
The Committee on The Environment
The committee’s mission is to advance, disseminate, and advocate design practices that integrate built and natural systems and enhance both the design quality and environmental performance of the built environment.

To achieve this mission, the AIAENY COTE committee has teamed with USGBC to bring a diverse level of content to the chapter. The committee actively organizes workshops, lectures, round table discussions with other design professionals, and tours of sustainable building projects to help expand the chapter’s knowledge and promote projects locally that fit into this mindset.

Other chapters with COTE committees within the state are looking to team with ENY to promote events, share content, and create synergies in order to build this initiative further. This only can happen with your help!

Chair: Baani Singh, AIA

Event Committees
Beaux Arts Ball Committee
The mission is to coordinate and plan the yearly Beaux Arts Ball event. This is a fun themed event where chapter members can network and socialize. Last year’s inaugural events theme was a masquerade. We plan to build and enhance this event every year we have it to make it better and better. Planning for this event is already underway.

Chair: Paul R. Conant, AIA

Design Awards Committee
The mission is to plan and implement the yearly design awards program for the ENY chapter. This event is one of the best attended events where colleagues come together to celebrate some of our members best work. In 2019 the design awards event was extremely successful with over 80 attendees. The committee member assist in the overall planning, scheduling, and execution of the awards ceremony.

Co-Chairs: Melissa Clarke, AIA and Katrina Pacheco, AIA

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to learn more, contact Paul Conant at pconant2512@gmail.com.
Of Interest

Publication Highlights
Architecture of Downtown Troy

Portions of this article excerpted from a letter sent to AIAENY from Karin Krasevac-Lenz, Executive Director of the Rensselaer County Historical Society

The Rensselaer County Historical Society announced the publication of The Architecture of Downtown Troy, An Illustrated History by Diana S. Waite.

This project of the Rensselaer County Historical Society was generously supported by the funds that the AIA Eastern New York Chapter provided to assist with new research, writing and editing of this detailed examination of Troy’s wonderful architectural heritage.

The end product is a ground-breaking and revealing new look at the architecture of Troy’s downtown, to this day a microcosm of 19th and 20th century architectural styles designed by both local and nationally recognized architects and builders. The book is being hailed as an important new resource for the study and awareness of Troy’s rich architectural heritage. Along with the many illustrations, some seen for the first time, Ms. Waite has discovered important new information on the history of patronage and the work of architects, some of whose work in Troy was unknown or forgotten.