
Members – send us your article to be posted here!

Please join us for our next AIA Eastern PA chapter meeting!

Green by Design
Understanding the 179D Energy Tax Benefits

**Thursday, February 24, 2011
6:00 – 9:00 PM**

Copperhead Grille
1731 Airport Road
Allentown, PA 18109

This program will discuss the latest tax benefits available through the Energy Policy Act and 179D. Retroactive tax benefits for 2006 projects will expire soon. This program is intended for Architects, Engineers, Contractors, Energy Consultants, and Building Owners to gain an understanding of the federal tax benefits available for the design of energy-efficient private, public, or government buildings.

***\$25 AIA Members
\$30 Non-members***

[Register Here](#)

Attendance at this event will earn (1) LU toward your annual CES requirements.

**AIA EPC 2010 / 2011
Calendar - [Click Here](#)**

The view from Grassroots

I have just returned from the AIA Grassroots 2011 Leadership and Legislative Conference. This year's theme, DESIGN VOICES, celebrates and strengthens the role of architects to advocate for stronger, better communities; empower our collective voice; and communicate that *design matters*. It's a tall order, but I will look at what we can do at the Chapter level to reinforce these themes in the coming year.

For me, this is my third Grassroots event, but hopefully not my last. I find that taking the time to bring issues, our issues, to the attention of our Representatives has a far reaching affect. We are architects; but we are also small business owners, contractors, teachers, mentors and parents. No agenda item is so narrow as not to impact our collective lives on multiple levels, and representing our profession as a multi-faceted one resonates with the Congress.

Another theme that quietly ruminates in the background, subtly informing all of our actions, is the state of our economy. I recall a session from Grassroots 2009 where Robert Ivy, FAIA spoke about the cyclical effect the economy has had on the profession in recessions past. He struck a nerve for me when he brought up the recession of 1991/1992 where "an entire generation of architects was lost". It drives home the point that we need to make sure the voices of Young Architects, Associates, and Emerging Professionals are still heard.

On a bright note, after meeting with component members from around the country, the take away is that we are all hurting to some extent, but there are pockets of opportunity beginning to develop. Always good news!

For our Chapter, the 2011 program is coming together with exciting events focusing on business, practice, design, education and advocacy. I look forward to our next meeting at the Copperhead Grille in Allentown for a presentation on the 179D Energy Tax Benefits.

Hope to see you there!

Scott J. Compton, AIA NCARB, LEED AP

Rent this space

Allied Members – We have been approached by several Allied Members to consider placing advertising in our newsletter. We reach over 200 Architects and would be the perfect media to connect with a very targeted audience. We would be happy to place a small add in our margins, or feature a full-page spread.

Please contact Scott Compton or Ryan Kennedy for a quote.

ARE Study Guides

The Chapter has purchased Study Guides, Question & Answer Booklets, and Practice Graphic Vignette Problems for each of the seven divisions of the ARE 4.0. These will be available for any AIA Eastern PA Associate Member who is preparing for the exams. Contact Katie O'Regan at koregan@entecheng.com

Feedback

One of the concerns that the Board has been working on is trying to provide the service, events, and support our members need. To that end, the Board will send out a series of polls of the Members to gauge their interests and hopefully adjust our course to better serve you. Look for them in the coming weeks.

"The Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter of AIA is the voice of our regional architectural profession dedicated to serving and empowering its members. Our Vision is to inspire a better built environment by engaging the community through a culture of excellence and innovation."

Changes to this year's calendar

The 2011 Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Board strives to bring our members a year's worth of informative programs and events. We also participate in a number of state, regional, and national AIA events. This year's calendar includes the following:

2011 National Grassroots Leadership Conference, Washington, DC: February 2-4

Pennsylvania Architects Day & Leadership Conference, Harrisburg, PA: April 12-13

AIA National Convention, New Orleans, LA: May 12-14

Tri-States Conference, Atlantic City, NJ: September 21-23

Please note that Pennsylvania's Architects Day has been moved to April this year. This helps us in getting ahead of upcoming legislation in Harrisburg as well as making room on the calendar for the Tri-States Conference. This new event is a regional conference bringing together the concerns of New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

2011 Board Members!

Congratulations to the 2011 Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Board Members. As 2010 ended, we found ourselves with a full slate of candidates for the election, as well as a very promising response to the Young Architects Forum and Associate Members openings. For the first time in a number of years we have filled all of the Boards Executive and Appointed Board positions. We are particularly excited about the YAF and Associates and look to them to begin planning activities, outings, lectures, etc., that will keep our chapter engaging and relevant to architects of all ages.

Scott Compton, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP – President
Ryan Kennedy, AIA, LEED AP – President Elect
Michael Metzger, AIA, LEED AP – Secretary
Lenette Wells, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP – Treasurer
Sean P. O'Brien, AIA, LEED AP – Immediate Past President
S. Christopher Getman, AIA – Young Architects Forum
Eric J. Orth, AIA – Young Architects Forum
Katie O'Regan, Assoc. AIA – Assoc. AIA Rep.
Jo Hohenwarter, Assoc. AIA – Assoc. AIA Rep.
Howard Quaintance, AIA, LEED AP – PA Board Director
James Spinola, AIA – PA Board Director
Gene Berg, AIA – Alternate PA Board Director