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# AIA/EIC eastwords

NEWSLETTER OF THE EASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER

January 2008  
Issue 1/08  
www.aiaeic.org

## President's Message

by Bob Bohlmann, AIA, CSI

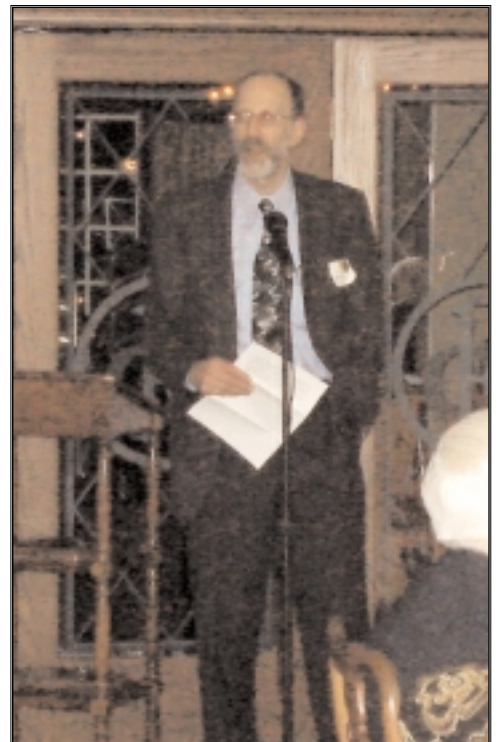
Our Eastern Illinois Chapter of the AIA was chartered January 1, 1978 with Ray Brejcha as our first Chapter President. We had previously been the South Section / Chicago Chapter under the presidency of one Mr. Ed Lugowski; my how time doesn't change things. AIA/EIC celebrated its 30th Anniversary at the Flossmoor Country Club Sunday evening December 2, 2007. Our new Officers and Board of Directors were introduced, with **Ed Lugowski** coming full circle to serve as our 2008 chapter president. We also recognized and thanked several members for their years of service, as well as enjoying a guest speaker, good food, and camaraderie. Shown by the pictures throughout this issue, with thirty four members and guests in attendance, a good time was had by all - especially at the chocolate fondue dessert table.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Mr. **Jonathan Fischel**, National AIA Regional Director for Illinois. Jonathan shared with us his experiences, insights, and an interesting anecdote or two with respect to being involved with National AIA, and invited members of AIA/EIC to also become so involved. I'm not too

sure about the name change to "American Institute of Acronyms," but as a computer geek, I guess I could survive.



*(Continued on next page...)*



2007 Annual Dinner guest speaker Jonathan Fischel shared his comments about AIA National and insights gained being our Regional Director.

### JANUARY 30TH CHAPTER MEETING

Program:  
"Mold is Gold"

Presenter:  
**Tom Ballard**  
**Mold Solutions**

See page 3 for details.

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# AIA/EIC 2007 Annual Dinner

*Bob Bohlmann, AIA, CSI*

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**Paul Machalek** was recognized for his five years of service to the chapter as our treasurer and given a plaque to hang on the wall; we're double checking the books for the Hawaii tickets. Our thanks to Paul for a yeoman's job and to Beata for sharing him with us for all of this time.



*Bob Bohlmann and Paul Machalek, with wife Beata.*

scholarship program; 20 and 15 years respectively.

**Jim Prybys** has completed his three year term as our Illinois Council Delegate, for which we thank him, and **John Benware** will be taking up that position.

Our thanks to 2007 officers and board for making this a great year for AIA/EIC. I am quite comfortable with turning the chapter leadership over to Ed. He may seem direct and gruff at times, but I have found a very sincere and concerned heart therein; my thanks for his support and willingness to carry on.



*Carole Brejcha leaving chocolate fondue dessert table, with Steve Reardon and Wayne Babiak at the table filling up.*

Please plan to attend all or as many of our upcoming AIA/EIC events as you can, and when contacted about attending this month's meeting, please respond in the affirmative. Thanks.

*Bob Bohlmann, AIA, CSI  
2007 EIC President*

Also recognized were **Grant Currier** and his committee (**Randy Chapple, Steve Reardon**) for their great job with AIA150; if you weren't at the meeting in November or the Annual Dinner, you missed the board showing the various AIA-150 presentations made by AIA/EIC. Our chapter area has been blessed with many significant buildings.

**Emil Mastandrea, Jr.** and **Tim Trompeter** were both recognized for their dedication to the Annual Golf Outing, which supports our



*The incoming Officers and Board Members in attendance for the 2007 Annual Dinner Meeting from left to right: Edwin Mertdogan, Wayne Babiak, Phil Radloff, Steve Reardon, Randy Chapple, Bob Bohlmann, George Cary, and Ed Lugowski.*

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# Upcoming Meeting ♦ Wednesday, January 30, 2008

*"Mold is Gold"*

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Host & Presenter: Tom Ballard, Mold Solutions

Attorneys are saying mold is the next asbestos, or as they so greedily put it, "MOLD IS GOLD." However, Mold Solutions, a local company, can do the following: inspect the problem, remediate the problem and prevent the problem in the first place or from recurring.

Tom Ballard's presentation will discuss:

*The Problem*

*The Seven Common Errors*

*The Three Strikes - Water/Moisture, Temperature and Food Source*

*When Does Mold Begin and When Are You Liable?*

*The Costs of Mold*

*Methods for Mold Prevention*

*"Green and Growing."* (Which we're not sure if it means green mold is growing or the fact that building green is growing?) If you have a problem and those greedy attorneys are breathing or wheezing down your neck, call Mold Solutions now. Tom can be reached at 708/479-1190.

Although Mold Solutions does not, at this time, have an AIA approved presentation, our Continuing Education Guru, John Benware, will be making application for AIA's acceptance for the program for, at a minimum, One CEU (HSW).

Location: Holiday Inn Select Hotel & Convention Center  
I-80 @ Harlem Avenue Exit, North  
18501 South Harlem Avenue (Enter from 183rd Street, East of Harlem Avenue)  
Tinley Park, Illinois 60477

Time: 6:00 PM - Libation & Conversation  
7:00 PM - Dinner  
8:00 PM - Program Presentation

Cost: \$30.00/ Member - \$35.00/Non-member

Menu: this month selected by Emeritus Member, George R. Chapman, Jr.  
French Onion Soup Gratin  
Caesar Salad & Dinner Rolls  
Split Cornish Hen with Orange Glaze  
Wild Rice Blend  
Seasonal Vegetables  
Chef's Special Dessert & Coffee, Decaf, Tea

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## Program Alert for our February 27, 2008 Meeting:

Next month there will be one member of our audience glowing with a father's pride as Kevin Nelson, son of member Ben Nelson, will be our presenter. Kevin is employed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in Washington DC, and he will be discussing "Smart Growth at EPA," the EPA's plan for "Helping America's Communities Create Great Places."

Reservations by:  
noon  
Wednesday  
January 23rd

Contact Phil Radloff, AIA  
1st Vice-President, AIA/EIC  
Program Coordinator

Phone: (815) 806-0146  
Fax: 815-806-0149  
p.radloff@rjaarchitects.com

Payment required if cancellation  
after Monday noon.

# Rear View Mirror

REAR VIEW MIRROR

*a look back at the Nov. 14th & Dec. 2nd meetings*

*by Ed Lugowski, AIA, 2008 President, AIA/EIC*

NOVEMBER 14, 2007:

## SOLUTIONS FOR LARGE OPENINGS

**S**ince you will probably be reading this in January, I hope that you will not consider this double report as "stale" news. First, I want to report on the continuing lecture series being presented by member Max Bianchini at our Libation & Conversation hour prior to dinner. You may recall that his main topic is the "The Birds and the Bees," and he kicked off the series with a discussion on "Pollination." Well two weeks later, Max, already tired of the subject, quit the lecture series because he has nightmares about birds. It seems that Max has had a recurring dream through the years that he's on a date with Tippi Hedron and, well, you can visualize the rest. We did learn though that Max and his wife breed, raise, train, and board horses at their ranch in Oswego.

We were pleased to have NanaWall as our host & presenter on the 14th. Both Todd Kilstrom, Sales Manager, Aurora, CO, and Jason Greene, Architectural Representative, Blue Island, IL, shared the duties as presenter of the lecture and were able to demonstrate with knowledge the most important aspect of operable glass wall systems - the hardware. NanaWall provides both folding systems and individual panel sliding systems; both systems are available in wood or aluminum. Their presentation was more visual than technical, as they explained the many configurations that can be used as well as the methods for storage and/or double use. In several cases they showed how architects had made double use of a system by creating indoor/outdoor space due to weather conditions. The product is manufactured in Germany, with some fabrication done here in the USA. While Todd works directly for NanaWall, Jason, our local rep, is employed by the Assured Corporation, who not only represents and distributes NanaWall, but also Hope's Architectural Products, Optimum Windows, Dynamic Windows & Doors, Vetter Windows & Doors, and Fleetwood as well. So if you're looking for doors and windows, be they aluminum, steel, bronze, stainless steel, or wood, contact Jason Greene @ 708/385-4079; 708/567-4310 or jgreene@assuredcorp.com.

DECEMBER 2, 2007:

## ANNUAL INSTALLATION DINNER

**W**e meet at the Flossmoor Country Club, we eat, and we go home. Considering the small number of members in attendance, that's what most of our membership must think happens on an annual basis. In fact, although not heavy hitters, we do have a cocktail hour at the beginning in which our spouses, our significant others, and we get a chance to meet and talk. Over the years many good friendships have formed amongst our spouses and sig-others as well. Every one of you is welcome and you won't be left standing in the corner. If you say you really don't know anybody, well you never will until you start showing up, first at our meetings, and then at our social events.

Our featured speaker was the outgoing Regional Director for Illinois, Jonathon Fischel, AIA. For the last two years Jonathon has served on the National AIA Board as our representative. During his monologue, he was quick to point out that it was a great two years, as he has been able to develop life-long friendships with fellow architects all over the country and gotten to know the AIA Staff in Washington DC, for whom he had high praise. Some highlights on the present thinking of National are: encourage members to do 1% of their work Pro Bono; encourage members to get more involved in their communities and governments; encourage members to look into energy conversation, not only as "thinking green" for their projects, but in their life styles as well; encourage members to be more diverse in the makeup of their firms; develop new curriculums and encourage the more conservative of universities and colleges with approved architectural programs to become more open to change and to educate their students on a broader role for the future; and, lastly, he spoke on the new "Face Book" for Architects, *Soloso*. Although I don't think any one person can yet tell us what this is exactly and where it will finally lead us, it would appear that we, as a profession, are about to let the world at large into the deepest recesses of our knowledge. In simple terms, (yes Scott, I know I'm simple),



# Rear View Mirror

continued...

REAR VIEW MIRROR

it seems the AIA thinks that an interchange of knowledge between manufacturers, contractors, engineers, architects, and end users will continue to build this internet site into a cyber library for all to use. They say that they will monitor and screen the data prior to it being added to the site.

Several members in attendance, including yours truly, were positive about the idea of this site, but were not in favor of opening it up to the huddled masses. Other members expressed their being in favor of opening it up to everyone so that our clients can be better educated about their work as well as the need for using architects. Jonathon replied that when he first learned of the plan to let Soloso be available to all, he too was very skeptical and not in favor of opening it up to all. Since I get to write this column, and it's my last, I disagree with opening Soloso to the world at large because through the years I have found that the more educated a client is, the less he thinks he needs us. Now, the opposite may be true when you are dealing with large corporations who already understand the need for architects, but down here on the bottom of the totem pole it ain't gonna fly.

The work of art on this page was sketched by our Honorary Member Carole Brejcha, while Jonathon spoke to us.

Getting back to the central reason for our meeting: President Bob Bohlmann apologized for not completing his agenda during his term and begged me to relinquish my

*Incoming President Ed Lugowski presenting the "Past President's Plaque" to outgoing President Bob Bohlmann; interestingly, both seem to be smiling.*

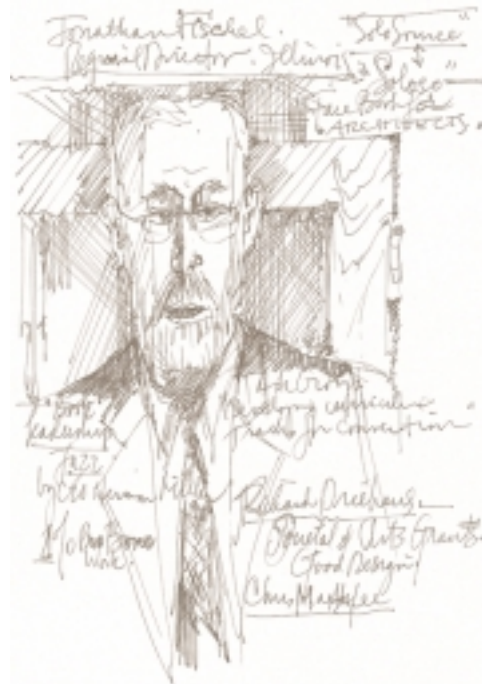


ascension to the presidency for one more year so he'd be able to complete his tasks. Realizing that he was hallucinating, I refused his request. So, Bob was forced to say his goodbyes and with grace, thanked his board for a great year. Bob presented a plaque to Paul Machalek to thank him for his devotion to and the great job he did as our treasurer for the last five years. When called up to the podium, we noticed that both Paul and his wife, along with our treasury, were gone. Last seen at

O'Hare boarding a plane for Hawaii, Paul thanked us for setting up his 401K and said he had cashed it in and was using the money to pay for the trip. Uh Paul, that was our chapter's CD, not your 401K. Once the slobbering and crying was over, it was my turn to take the reins as your El Presidente. The first order of business was to present Bob Bohlmann a plaque in appreciation for his leadership during the past year. Bob will stay on the Board and has requested he be assigned to work on both the EIC website with Mike York and "Eastwords" with Roxanne Paukner, in penance for being unable to complete his agenda. Not wanting to upset his fragile psyche, I acquiesced.

In taunting a rebuke I received for not having a Master Plan for my term, from our incoming Regional Director, known informally as Walter, at the Illinois Council meeting in November, I proceeded to outline my miniscule wants for the new year. First, after being the Program Guru for the past year and noting that the majority of our membership has never seen the inside of our meeting room, I'd like to work with the Board to develop a way to encourage a

*(Continued on next page...)*



# Rear View Mirror *continued...*

REAR VIEW MIRROR

better attendance by the members. Even if it means resurrecting our former Syndicate-inspired recruitment program. Take note **Mssrs. Birkenbeil, Brazley, Cabala, Gregersen, Healy, Hultsch, Johnston, Kraai**, to name just a few, you have been placed on the HIT LIST. I firmly believe that the only way we are going to increase our membership roster is to get our present membership to attend meetings so that they can encourage their colleagues and friends to join. Second, and last, I have asked the new Program Guru, Phil Radloff, to try and schedule programs which can decipher and explain the new acronyms being tossed around so casually, not only in AIA communiqués, but by those who think they are IN. Acronyms like BIM, Soloso, LEED, even AIA,

which I now understand actually stands for American Institute of Acronyms. My one Presidential Proclamation is that the use of any acronym by Bob Bohlmann during the year 2008 will be subject to the removal of a \$10 bill from his wallet. Maybe when he goes to the National Convention this year he'll actually ask what the Acronyms they toss around so haphazardly really mean.

I thought that I had put a stop to the bitching by our Emeritus Members (The Old Farts.) It seems no matter what I do, I'm open for criticism. Last month, after praising the work of Ray Brejcha, what Old Fart do you think complained next? You guessed it, **Ray Brejcha**. It seems I'd been remiss in not mentioning the part that **Ron Moline** played

during the early days of our chapter. Not only were we fighting Chicago for chapter status, but the state of Illinois was creating problems for our profession as well. Ron kept his hand on the pulse of the state and basically helped us to weave a strong organizational fabric which continues to this day. Professionally, Ron is legend; he was always challenging our members to look to using their professional skills to branch out into investment opportunities, development, ownership, property management, all while maintaining our ethics. Ron now works in Champaign, IL and finds it difficult to attend our meetings. I, for one, hope he's able to return one day. Let's have a great year, everyone!

*Ed Lugowski, AIA  
2008 EIC President*

## Midwest Energy Solutions: LEADING THE WAY

*This stimulating three day conference will be dedicated to energy issues in the Midwest. This year's conference program will highlight the growing momentum for energy efficiency in the region, and will include sessions on current energy policy initiatives, solutions to marketplace barriers to energy efficiency, sector-specific initiatives, and the economy-wide case for energy efficiency. Join the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance for this exciting event.*

**Drake Hotel in Chicago  
January 9th - 11th, 2008**

*Download the agenda and register online at  
[www.mwalliance.org/conference](http://www.mwalliance.org/conference).*

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**Send submissions for next issue by February 2, 2008.***

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