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AIA/EIC eastwards

NEWSLETTER OF THE EASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER

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President's Message

by Ed Lugowski, AIA



To all of you out there who are not of retirement age, this is a warning: change professions immediately! Architecture is really a *disease!* During the past month I've heard from some of my fellow colleagues... you know, the ones I call the Old Farts. Well it seems that no matter how old we architects get, we don't have a clue as to what awaits us beyond the drawing board. Remember, we don't do CADD. Look around at the next meeting. Including myself, there are at least six of us who are over the age of 65 and still very actively running our businesses. Oh yes, Don Turner sold his business and moved south, Ray Chocholek sold his business and moved west, and Ray Brejcha closed his business and has stayed in the neighborhood; but these are the exceptions.

What started me thinking about this again? I got a call from Frank LaRocca, FAIA, who was part of our Chapter in our early days. I had lost track of him; in fact I thought he had retired to Tahiti or the Bahamas long ago. I failed to mention Frank in my past writings about the Old Farts, mainly because no Old Fart complained that I didn't. However, not only was Frank active in the AIA, he was the glue that held all of our kindred organizations together so that we became one audible voice in Springfield. He was also almost single-handedly responsible for making sure the Capital Development Board didn't run over us with their cleats. I know for a fact that Frank spent a great deal of time in Springfield for our profession and was responsible for many things, including keeping our profession just that - a profession.

Now? You guessed it; he hasn't retired. I didn't dare ask him how old

he is, but suffice to say, he was one of our EIC elders thirty years ago. At that time Frank was a principal in the firm of Fitch, LaRocca, Carrington, and Jones. His firm was the architect for many of the junior colleges which sprouted up all over Illinois in the seventies. I don't remember them all - there were quite a few - but South Suburban College, Kennedy-King City College, and Kankakee Community College come to mind. I don't know what happened to his firm, but he did try retirement for awhile. However, the allure of architecture was too much, and so his wife and he relocated to the Detroit area to work for the firm GHAFARI. There for six years, they found it increasingly difficult to be away from their grandchildren; so Frank and the Missus moved back to downtown Chicago and tried to live the urban life while Frank knocked around working for several firms. The LaRocca's wound up moving to Geneva, IL, so they could be near both their children and grandchildren. Meanwhile, Frank and a colleague contacted GHAFARI and asked about opening a Chicago office. Well it now ... continued on next page

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Chapter Corner

Joliet Junior College Career Night

Joliet Junior College AEC/CADD Career Night was held March 12. Larry Mahoney and Steve Reardon, AIA represented our chapter at the event. This was an opportunity to talk with students and parents about careers in architecture, and to showcase a few of the Distinguished Building Awards. Jim Prybys, AIA, of Stromsland and De Young, Architects, Inc. in Joliet, was also in attendance manning the booth for their firm.

JJC's Technical Department has programs leading to an Associates degrees in Applied Science in Architectural Technology, Computer-Aided Design and Drafting, and Architecture Engineering Construction. There was a good turn out of businesses looking to familiarize students with employment opportunities at their companies. Probably the talk of the evening was the 12-year-old CADD prodigy that was asking about drafting positions at Sargent and Lundy.

Steve Reardon, AIA



Shown above: Larry Mahoney, Affiliate and Board Member of AIA Eastern Illinois Chapter, and Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, discusses architectural restoration issues with Loretta Molter of Molter Corporation of Tinley Park.

Continued from page one...

employs seventy persons. Frank's daily travel time of two hours each way gets him to his office and back home three days a week. He says he's *semi*-retired now and is a consultant to GHAFARI.

What's my reason or writing about retirement? My bride of 37 years will be retiring in one year and keeps asking me what we are going to do when she does. Like I have a plan? I've had a drafting pencil in my hand for 54 years and have never had to concern myself with being entertained in some other fashion during my waking hours. So, what is on this new horizon? To tell the truth, I'm scared. Do I have to work to maintain financial stability? No. Luci and I were given good advice at the beginning of our marriage; and don't forget, when you put in 24/7 being an architect, you don't really need a lot to live on. Many of my

friends have retired, but most of them were not in this profession. Travel, golf, travel, grandchildren, travel, shop for the grandkids, etc., etc. Is there a place like the Betty Ford Clinic for architects? I hope so, because withdrawal will be difficult. Didn't I plan for my retirement? Of course I did. I have two hobbies which require much attention and I was looking forward to the time when I could give them the attention they deserve. However, when I really look at what my hobbies are, I will be trading one very complicated profession for two complicated hobbies. See, I'm ready! All I need now is that cabin in the UP and I'm set. Uh... Luci doesn't like the cold.

Why do I think we might need a clinic to get architects through withdrawal? A number of years back a gentleman in our chapter told me that he had retired, but

rumor had it he still maintained an office at his firm and was frequently involved in the business. Just about a year ago, I heard that his firm finally kicked him out and took away his office. It sounded like he was finally put out to pasture. Lo and behold, while speaking to a mutual acquaintance of ours, I found out that he is still haunting the halls of his old firm.

I haven't had a chance to discuss this with the Old Farts, but while your are sitting at the dinner table at our April meeting, why don't you ask Ted Dunaj, Ross DeYoung, Scott Seaton, Bob Smith, and Dean Walker why they continue to hang on? For that matter, if you can find Ron Moline or Marty Francis, you can ask them too. HELP!

*Ed Lugowski, AIA
EIC President*

Upcoming Meeting ♦ Wednesday, April 30, 2008

Fire Protection - 1 CEU credit

Host & Presenters: **Scott Pfeifer and Elaine Szot**
Hilti North America

Program: Scott and Elaine will present new products during the cocktail hour, bringing table-top presentations of Firestopping products. Then they will make their program presentation after dinner, providing information on local Firestop Specialty Contractors. Elaine is one of the top Hilti Fire Protection Specialists in Chicago.

The cocktail hour before dinner will also feature our new/revised AIA/EIC website. Michael York and Wayne Babiak of our chapter's website committee will give members a tour of the site, www.aiaeic.org, during the social hour. The website has several aspects to it, including (but not limited to) our *EASTWORDS* newsletters (current and past issues), awards programs, a calendar of upcoming events, links to other architectural related websites, plus much more.

With the increased emphasis being given to electronic access of information pertaining to our chapter, including our monthly newsletter, *EASTWORDS*, this presentation will hopefully answer questions and give our members who may have not been accessing the website a chance to see what it's all about. Mike will be available to answer questions about navigating the site and how to get your company/office information included on the site. Be there to "experience cyberspace."

CEU: 1 LU - Be sure to sign in with Steve Reardon at the registration desk or the AIA for credit.

Location: Holiday Inn Select Hotel & Convention Center
18501 South Harlem Ave. (I-80 @ Harlem Avenue Exit, North)
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: In Washington DC last month we all got to see the famous Dulles Airport Building by Eero Saarinen. It's getting a little dated but still is impressive - no interior columns, which took some ingenuity back in the day. So, since he wasn't very busy, I had Eero Saarinen pick our menu. *

Creamy Forest Mushroom Soup with Wild Rice
Dinner Rolls ♦ Caesar Salad
Herb Roasted Lion of Pork with Roasted Garlic Demi-Glaze
Oven Roasted Garlic Potatoes ♦ Seasonal Vegetables
Chef's Special Dessert ♦ Freshly Brewed Coffee or Tea

**Note: Vegetarian meals are available by special request. If you would prefer this, please let Phil know when you make your reservation before the meeting.*

Reservations by:
noon
Thursday
April 24th

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 March chapter meeting

by Philip Radloff, AIA, Vice-President AIA/EIC



ANDERSEN WINDOWS, INC.

Presenter: Kirby Nocker

Kirby is presently the representative for Andersen Windows and Doors for our region. He announced that this would be his last presentation for our area because he is leaving Andersen to move to Appleton Wisconsin. We thanked him for being a knowledgeable representative for his windows and door products. Hopefully we will get the new Andersen catalogs in Ed's office to replace the forty year old ones before he leaves town.

His presentation was an analysis of how windows can provide architects with products on light, fenestration and LEED credits. Most of the presentation consisted of examples of how windows and types of glass can affect your LEED credits. One interesting fact that emerged from the question and answer session was that triple glazing is not all it's cracked up to be. That was news to me and many others in the crowd. Tests have indicated that the energy savings is not worth the extra cost of the windows. It seems they also have some problems with manufacturing and reliability. The real answer is low-E glass; this has a proven track record and is very desirable as a more economical solution.

Depending on what type of LEED certificate you are designing your building for, good windows can earn your project numerous credit points. These listed

LEED credits are broken down into three major categories.

- 1. Energy & Atmosphere - 17 LEED Points**
 - a. Use windows tested per ASHRE Standard 90.1.
 - b. Use high performance glass that exceeds the Energy Star requirements.
- 2. Materials & Resources - 13 LEED credits**
 - a. Build with recycled glass products; FIBREX contains 40% pre-consumer recycled content.
 - b. Use certified wood cores.
- 3. Indoor Environmental Quality - 15 LEED Points**
 - a. Operable vs. Fixed glass; operable provides natural ventilation to meet carbon good practices.
 - b. Factory finish the interior surfaces of your product.
 - c. Provide daylight and natural views between indoor and outdoor spaces with windows.

Energy Efficient Andersen Products are tested and labeled in the NFRC's rigorous third party certification and energy rating program, and every product produced by Andersen meets those standards.

Andersen Windows, Inc can be reached on line at www.Andersenwindows.com. Kirby will let us know when his replacement is in place.

*Philip Radloff, AIA
EIC Vice-President*

"Eastwords" is the monthly publication of the American Institute of Architects/Eastern Illinois Chapter. Opinions expressed are those of the particular author and not necessarily those of AIA/EIC. Submit articles to the Editor, Roxanne Paukner, at sfto1@aol.com.

Deadline for May submissions is Friday, May 2nd.

AIA/EIC Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 10th - Prairie Grassroots, Springfield, IL
April 30th - Regular Board and Chapter Meeting (see pg. 3)
May 15-17th - National AIA Convention, Boston, MA
May 28th Regular Board and Chapter Meeting
BHMA Certification Presenter and Host

This space available.

For information on advertising
contact Ed Lugowski, AIA at
(708) 895-4716 or ehlarch@aol.com.