

Second Quarter, 2012



# AIA Montana News

## Architect's Report from Washington, DC: The Home of the AIA National 2012 (and \$7 Pints of Beer)

David Koel, AIA, President-Elect of  
AIA Montana

At the last minute Dale Nelson discovered that he was unable to attend AIA National this year, so as runner-up President, I boarded the first of three airplanes leading eventually to Washington DC at something like 5:45 a.m., but it might as well have been 2:00 a.m.; the last time I was even vaguely awake at that ungodly hour was probably when I was feeding my infant daughter luke-warm baby formula, both of us barely clinging to consciousness. And that was a solid eight years ago. And I had hoped never to repeat it.

Nevertheless, to get to Washington DC from Kalispell, Montana, the best flight available departed early (I think I mentioned that), sending me backward to Seattle (to get a good running start, I suppose), then flinging me lengthwise across the continental United States with a short stop in Minneapolis before landing in the early evening at Reagan International Airport. This was the second time in two years that I'd been here, and this time I was pleasantly rewarded with clear skies, allowing me to briefly survey the city from above as I passed over it, able now to visualize with clarity the organized brilliance behind Pierre L'Enfant's masterplan of this fine city, each major landmark visually connected with angular streets boldly breaking the rigidity of the city grid. A powerful statement that, to this day is still considered a stroke of urban-planning genius.

AIA National was hosted at the downtown Washington Convention Center, perhaps 10 blocks north of the Washington Mall, and from this location a host of hotels radiate in all directions, serving with great vigor the diverse multitude of businesspeople that descend and crowd into them each and every week of the year. People like me, I suppose... coming from all parts of the globe, each with the unwavering agenda of either gaining some sort of knowledge and insight, or hoping to leave an indelible imprint upon the political landscape. Perhaps both. Except I doubt too many of these people spent the first 15 minutes of their time in DC trying to figure out how to open the mini bar fridge in their hotel room. Clearly, I am much more "uncultured" than I thought... and I went to bed early, and admittedly quite thirsty.

In spite of that, the first day of the convention was indeed a sight to behold. The convention hall is quite a marvel in itself: 3 full blocks-worth of glorious conventioning rooms, with the exhibitor hall spanning the whole length of it on the lowest level underground, as one massive 3-block open space spanning contiguously beneath the streets. It might as well have gone on indefinitely, because there was no way a single human could possibly see all of the exhibitors... well, unless one of the exhibitors

was exhibiting a human-duplicating machine, and you created like 15 copies of yourself, and assigned each one of your copies several hundred exhibitors to visit. But, in my travels, I never saw an exhibitor with a contraption like that. Although it's possible that it was located over next to the boring old floor tile guys... I never visit the tile guys, for some reason.

Within the massive convention hall, I set out to mingle and hobnob amongst the nation's greatest architects, and I was pleasantly surprised to find that most of the folks that I met at random were good, genuine, and down-to-earth; they made me proud to count myself as one among their profession. Note that I did say MOST: Because I tell you, I've also never seen so many Philip Johnson / LeCorbusier round black bespectacled lookalikes in my life... combined with their impressively expensive haircuts and strikingly neutral shirts, they could've just as well called this thing a black turtle-neck convention. Those are the guys that I routinely steered clear of, and I'm guessing they're glad that I did- I'm sure my North Face khakis were probably visually offensive to them, with non-linear stitching that impulsively defies the perfect proportions of the golden rectangle over and over again. But hey, they're comfortable as hell.

Continued to Page 2 –

### Special points of interest:

- **2012 AIA Montana Annual Fall Conference—Modern Regionalism: Innovative Design Inspired by Locale Registration NOW open at [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org)**
- **AIA Montana Design Award Programs—Traditional and UnBuilt: Calls for submissions NOW open—Submissions are DUE August 13, 2012 to the AIA Montana Office—Guidelines can be found at [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org)**

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**“In all, I was once again humbled by the magnitude and power of multitudes of architects, all joining together to better themselves and their profession.”**



Montana Chapter of the  
American Institute of  
Architects

## **Architect's Report from Washington, DC –Continued from Page 1**

Because I promised myself that I would expend the effort to get to know the city a bit better, I walked everywhere that I possibly could throughout the event, and thankfully, the weather cooperated with me the entire time. It was a bit over a mile from my hotel to the convention center, but the route was uncomplicated and appealing... particularly because there was a nice little restaurant with an outdoor seating area that I was dying to try out. So after the second day, I dropped in at dinner time, situated myself on the patio, and triumphantly opened the menu. The fare was simple but exquisite, and they had a nice beer selection too. And because I was well overdue since being cleverly outsmarted by the pesky hotel minibar lock, I happily ordered the standard IPA, only to find that it's "special happy hour price" was a mere \$7 per pint. "Wait... did you say... SEVEN dollars?"

I listened again to the waiter's report. I attempted to pry imaginary blockage from my ears. I tried to rationalize... then I went into a brief state of denial, followed by an eventual (and inevitable) succumbing to the ridiculously-sky-high prices that permeate the entirety of this fine and friggin' BRILLIANTLY-planned city... Well, at least I could get a good grid-breaking view of the Capitol from here, if I leaned out into the street while sipping my seven-dollar beer. And believe me, I sipped it- I didn't want to miss a drop, knowing it would be my last.

I would take this next paragraph to talk about the expertly-guided architectural tours that I attended (parading eyes-upward through heavenly basilicas, strolling in amazement through fine art museums, and wading sadly through the unearthly tragedy portrayed by the Holocaust Museum), but it would take far too much paper, and you can already tell that I'm not known for my succinctness (if you are interested, just drop my an email). Instead, I need to publicly thank Steve Jurosek for also attending the convention on behalf of MSU-School of Architecture and NW+P Region's Leadership Institute, because due to my early plane departure Saturday, he officially voted on my behalf on several important topics that needed our attention.

In particular:

### **Bylaw Amendment 12-A: Emeritus Membership Eligibility Requirements.**

At our regional meeting, the general consensus was to vote 'no' on this issue, citing that becoming 'emeritus' under the new rules appeared to unfairly sideline architects into being officially labeled as 'retired' architects, thus effectively disallowing them to stamp drawings or instruct. Additionally, the amendment raised the minimum age for emeritus to 70. One fellow at the meeting claimed he would revoke his AIA membership if it passed, proclaiming that an architect often never really, formally retires, toiling and tinkering with projects

all of their life, and no such emeritus ruling would make him do so. But it DID pass, in spite of our efforts.

### **Bylaw Amendment 12-B: Authority to Form an International Region.**

Japan was very vocal about this movement occurring too quickly and without proper consultation or study. Because of Japan's concern for its prematurity, Montana voted against this amendment, but it nevertheless passed. And, as the title states, this amendment does not officially create a new International Region just yet, but it paves the way for its eventuality. This may not be a bad thing for the AIA overall (even Japan was quite happy to consider it, if time was spent in creating it properly), but it'll be a sad day when we have to say goodbye to our friends along the Pacific Rim.

In all, I was once again humbled by the magnitude and power of multitudes of architects, all joining together to better themselves and their profession. We may have our differences, but we also are surprisingly similar at heart.

Except in Montana, where we happily wear jeans and drink \$2 beer... and believe me, I would not have it any other way.

## LEED in Montana!

*Kath Williams, Ed.D. LEED Fellow 2011 of KathWilliams + Associates located in Bozeman, Montana and found at [www.kathwilliams.com](http://www.kathwilliams.com)*

Guessing the number of LEED Professionals in Montana isn't easy and the answer is often surprising. As of June 1, 2012, there are 405 professionals across the designations of LEED-Green Associate to LEED Fellow. Their combined work has produced 37 certified projects and another 51 registered projects, on track for completion in the near future.

These statistics only include projects using the following LEED tools: new construction and major remodels (LEED-NC), remodeled existing buildings (LEED-EB prior to 2009), facilities working on efficient operations and maintenance (LEED-EB: O&M), commercial interiors (LEED-CI), core and shell developments (LEED-CS) and retail (LEED for Retail). If green home builders using LEED for Homes were tallied, the number would be well over 100 LEED projects in the works in Montana.

Exemplary performance in the Platinum category includes six Montana projects (in order of certification date):

- Home on the Range, Billings (the first Platinum in Montana, July 2007)
- Missoula Federal Credit Union, Missoula (May 2009)
- Klos Building, Billings (June 2009)
- MET Downtown Transfer Station, Billings (April 2010)
- Blackfeet Community College Math/Science Building, Browning (the first Platinum on tribal land in USA, March 2011)
- Payne Family Native American Center, Missoula

(the first Platinum on a Montana university campus, September 2011)

Reflecting on the fact that LEED was designed as a leadership tool with only the top 20% of buildings being able to certify at all, it is important to note that 11 of the 37 Montana projects have earned certified level, eight have reached Silver, and 12 have earned Gold certification.

LEED projects don't just happen. A successful project is the result of a committed owner, dedicated and knowledgeable team, integrated design process, careful construction, and diligent detailed documentation that is submitted to Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) for third-party review. LEED project teams have to prove that they did what they said they did—from design through construction, modeling through commissioning. There is no such thing as "LEED-like," "LEED equivalent," or "LEED self-certification."

LEED is a complete process from project registration through certification. The value echoed Montana owners includes that the documentation puts all of the paperwork from a project in one place. Ten years later the owner does not have to track down the design and construction team members when vital information is needed for remodels or upgrades.

LEED professionals have two obligations/responsibilities: 1.) to guide the choice of the appropriate rating system for each project and to educate owners, other team members, and the community about sustainable design and construction, and 2.) to continue updating their understanding of sustainability/green building and LEED through

the GBCI Credential Maintenance Program (CMP) where all work on LEED projects and many of the AIA credits apply. The Montana chapter of the US Green Building Council offers numerous opportunities to meet other professionals, learn about sustainability, and have a good time!

Any professional working with LEED is often asked about "points" and plaques. What is forgotten is the purpose of LEED. The rating system is simply a tool—for education, measurement, and recognition—that the owner, project team, and facilities management are using as they push toward the goal of sustainability. An unattainable goal? Yes. Is LEED perfect? No, there is not a tool on earth that is. Has progress been made? USGBC and GBCI, through the new version of LEED 2012, are making strides to gather evidence that LEED buildings are:

- ⇒ more efficient in energy, water, and material conservation
- ⇒ produce less waste during construction
- ⇒ are less-costly to own throughout the life-cycle of operations and maintenance of the building
- ⇒ provide flexibility for appropriate adaption, reuse and deconstruction in the future, and
- ⇒ are happier, healthier, safer places to live, work, and play.

Lessons learned from successful LEED Montana projects give everyone an opportunity to go back to their roots and regain that understanding of the local environment and conservation of resources, wisdom the pioneers and Native Americans developed and experienced so long ago.

**"LEED projects don't just happen. A successful project is the result of a committed owner, dedicated and knowledgeable team, integrated design process, careful construction, and diligent detailed documentation that is submitted to Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) for third-party review."**

[http://  
www.usgbcmontana.org/](http://www.usgbcmontana.org/)

**DELEGATES and VENDORS can now register online at the website [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org).**

**Click on the Fall Conference page—and follow the appropriate link.**

**Registration for the Fall Conference is NOW open at [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org)**

Note: For more information about each of the featured speakers at this year's Fall Conference, visit [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org) on the Fall Conference page – just place cursor over the speaker's name that appears in the conference poster and click. This will take you to that speaker's picture and bio.

**modern regionalism:**  
innovative design inspired by locale

Thursday seminar:  
**Saskia Dennis, Cameron | MacAllister**, Berkeley  
<http://cameronmacallister.com/saskia.html>  
(Saskia will offer a 4-hour session on innovative architectural team-interview techniques)

Friday speakers:  
**Ray Calabro, Bohlin | Cywinski | Jackson**, Seattle  
<http://www.bcj.com/>

**Robert Harris, Lake | Flato**, San Antonio  
<http://www.lakeflato.com/people/rharris.asp>

**Tom Kundig, Olson | Kundig**, Seattle  
<http://www.olsonkundigarchitects.com/About/Leadership/TomKundig>

**David Salmela, Salmela Architect**, Duluth  
<http://www.salmelaarchitect.com/>

register now at [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org)  
mt aia fall conference | kalispell | sept 20 - 22, 2012

AIA Montana 2012 Annual Fall Conference  
**Modern Regionalism: Innovative Design Inspired by Locale**  
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

**Thursday – September 20, 2012**

11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Past Presidents' Club Luncheon (By Invitation)
12:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Saskia Dennis, Cameron   MacAllister   Berkeley "Innovative Architectural Learn-Interview Techniques" (Optional / Extra Fee)
5:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Vendor Setup in Exhibitor Room
5:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Masonry Awards: Reception & Dinner THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE FIRST 40 TO SIGN UP <i>Masonry Industry Promotion Group is sponsoring this event.</i>

**Friday – September 21, 2012**

7:30 am - 4:00 pm	Registration
7:30 am - 4:00 pm	THE 2012 AIA MONTANA VENDORS
8:30 am - 10:00 am	Ray Calabro, Bohlin   Cywinski   Jackson
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Robert Harris, Lake Flato
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	Tom Kundig, Olson   Kundig
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm	David Salmela, Salmela Architect
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm	AIA MONTANA AWARDS RECEPTION & BANQUET

**Saturday – September 22, 2012**

8:30 am - 10:00 am	AIA Montana General Membership Meeting
10:00 am - 1:30 pm	Tour of Historical Lake McDonald Lodge THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE FIRST 40 TO SIGN UP <i>Dick Anderson Construction is sponsoring this event.</i>

## Rollout of IDP 2.0 Complete

*Shannon Peterson, AIA, IDP  
Coordinator for AIA Montana*

The final phase of IDP 2.0 was launched in April. This concluded a three year phased rollout of the most significant changes to IDP in 30 years. The simplified experience settings, new supervisor licensure requirements, updated experience categories and area, and new online reporting system offer increased flexibility to interns.

The new experiences settings have been simplified down to three. Experience Setting A is for the practice of architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed architect. Other work settings, including under the direct supervision of an engineer, are recognized in Experience Setting O. Experience Setting S allows interns to earn supplemental experience hours even if unemployed. Interns are required to earn a minimum of 1,860 hours in Experience Setting A.

Under IDP 2.0, the supervisor licensure location requirement has been updated to provide more flexibility. Previously, supervisors were required to be licensed in the state where their practice was located. Now supervisors may be licensed in any US or Canadian jurisdiction. However, interns in New York and Texas are still required to be supervised by architects licensed in their respective states. In addition, the definition of direct supervision has been updated to include a mix of personal contact and remote communication such as e-mail and online markups.

The new experience categories and areas align more closely with current architectural practice. For example, the old IDP Training Area "Design and Construction Documents" has been split into Experience Categories "Pre-Design" and "Design" under IDP 2.0. Another improvement includes combining the previous areas of "Construction Documents" and "Document

Checking and Coordination" into a single "Construction Document" experience area. Interns are still required to complete 5,600 hours minimum.

The final improvement under IDP 2.0 is the new online reporting system. The improved look and feel of this program will allow both interns and supervisors to easily report and approved hours. The system has a flexible design so new features can be rolled out in the future. Additionally, the updated Microsoft Excel IDP Workbook is available for free download on NCARB's website to help interns calculate and track their experience hours as a supplement to the online reporting system.

NCARB has updated their online resources with the final phase of IDP 2.0. Interns and supervisors can find the new IDP Guidelines and several webcasts about IDP 2.0 and the online reporting system at [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org).

**"The improved look and feel of this program will allow both interns and supervisors to easily report and approved hours."**

[www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org)

## Call for Entries for the 2012 AIA Montana Design Awards!

*Klint Fisher, AIA, Senior Director &  
Chair of the 2012 Design Awards  
Program*

Included with this newsletter is the official call for 2012 AIA Montana Design Awards Program. We will again be offering both the Traditional Design Awards and Un-Built Design Award programs. Submittals will be due to the AIA Montana Office by 3:00 PM on Monday, August 13, 2012. The Awards will be presented at the 2012 Fall Conference during the Awards Banquet on Friday

evening, September 21 in Kalispell.

Those receiving awards will be published in the annual Montana Architect magazine, featured on the AIA Montana website and included in the traveling exhibit which will start at the Montana State University School of Architecture.

Entry fees for the Awards programs will be \$100 for Traditional Design Awards submissions and for Un-Built

submissions. Fees cover the cost of the program including the awards and travel expenses for the lead jurist to make the awards presentation at the Fall Conference.

The Guidelines for each awards program have been included as an attachment with this issue and will be posted at the AIA Montana website [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org).

We are excited to see the best work of our membership again this year. Good luck to all!

**Design Award**  
**Submissions Due:**  
**August 13, 2012**  
**3:00 pm**



MONTANA CHAPTER OF THE  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF  
ARCHITECTS

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### The AIA Mission Statement:

The American Institute of Architects is the voice of the architecture profession dedicated to serving its members, advancing their values and improving the quality of the built environment.

Through a culture of innovation, the American Institute of Architects empowers its members and inspires creation of a better built environment.

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Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects was founded on June 4, 1921.

## From the AIA Montana Office

### 3rd Quarter Newsletter

Articles Due  
September 10, 2012

### 2012 Calendar

- **AIA Montana—Design Award (Traditional & UnBuilt) DUE 3:00 pm on August 13, 2012**
- **2012 NW+P Region of Medal Award DUE 5:00 pm on August 17, 2012**
- **AIA Montana Annual Fall Conference—September 20-22 —Kalispell, Montana**
- **NW+P Regional Joint Conference with Western Mountain Region—October 10-13—Tucson, Arizona**

The 2012 AIA Montana Annual Fall Conference promises to be a great event this year! David Koel—this year's conference chair — has all his speakers lined up and all excited to be coming to Montana. Registration is now open and folks are signing up. Don't delay too long — the Masonry Awards Dinner and Reception is limited to the first 40 to sign up. This event is sponsored and hosted by Masonry Promotion Group!

The tour into Glacier National Park on Saturday is sponsored by Dick Anderson Construction and is also limited to 40!

**VENDORS:** Booths are going quickly. You can register online at [www.aia-mt.org](http://www.aia-mt.org) and go to the Fall Conference page — just follow the links. You have the option of paying by check or credit card.

The 2012 AIA Montana Design Awards Call for

Entries is now open. Submissions are due August 13, 2012. Now is the time to 'toot your own horn' and submit some of the outstanding project that your firm has designed. You cannot win if you do not submit!!! Hope to see your entry soon!

Connie Dempster  
AIA Montana Office  
406-259-7300  
[aia@assoc-mgt.com](mailto:aia@assoc-mgt.com)

## Link for All States License Lookup

[http://www.engineersguideusa.com/architect\\_license\\_lookup.htm](http://www.engineersguideusa.com/architect_license_lookup.htm)

This site has links to every states' licensed architect 'look-up.'