MONTANA CHAPTER A.I.A.

FIRST FIFTY YEARS
THE MONTANA CHAPTER A.I.A.'s
FIRST FIFTY YEARS

PREFACE

This history sketch prepared from reading the minutes of the Chapter, the minutes of the State Board of Architectural Examiners, and notes on the activities of the School of Architecture in a comparatively short space of time is offered with uncomfortable thought that the errors of omission will perhaps outnumber the facts and interesting achievements.

It has been suggested that I relate some experiences and events of early day practice in Montana. Upon reviewing the gamut of things that happened; it is my earnest opinion that the “tellin” is more proper than the “written”.

The above is mentioned after reading Henry Saylor’s “First Hundred Years of A.I.A.”, in which he states the same thought. His book is recommended reading for all A.I.A. members; as it clearly portrays the difficulties and hopes of our parent body in its early years, and will perhaps allay the doubts and anxieties in the mind of a Chapter member as to the value of the work. It is certain that the A.I.A. has now reached a maturity that should leave no doubt as to its permanence and effectiveness in the years ahead.

A. V. McIver
The Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects was organized at a meeting held in the Department of Architectural Engineering of the Montana State College, Bozeman, on June 4, 1921. A Chapter has been received from Mr. E. C. Kemper, Secretary of the American Institute of Architects listing J. G. Link, Fred Willson, George Carsley, A. V. McIver, George Shanley, W. R. Plew, and Chandler C. Cohagen as Chapter members. Prior to the time of this meeting and for some years following, the Montana Architects had an organization known as the Montana Association of Architects. The Association was primarily a social organization and met once a year in either Yellowstone or Glacier Park where usually a week’s vacation for the families would be held. However, they did work for the betterment of the profession as evidenced by the enactment by the Montana State Legislature of the Architectural License Law and signed and approved by Governor S. V. Stewart, on February 28, 1917.

The young Chapter immediately started to enlarge the membership which caused some ill feeling on the part of the Association members who could not see the purpose of two organizations. The Chapter stressed the meaning of ethics and strict professional behavior; and this was new and unexpected to some of the Association members. The Chapter dues were set at $5.00 per year and the annual meeting was to be on the Thursday preceding Labor Day. An Educational and Publicity Committee was appointed. Chapter By-Laws, as recommended by the National Body, were adopted.

As was to be expected, changes in procedure were made in the next few meetings. The annual meeting date was changed in the second meeting to the third Friday in January and a semi-annual meeting was authorized; subject to the call of the Board of Directors. Delegates to the National Convention were chosen, and the Chapter was represented by its full quota of two.

Membership in the Chapter grew very slowly and in 1929 was only nine!!

Fred Willson was nominated as Regional Director for the Western Mountain Division at the March meeting in 1929, and subsequently elected at the National Convention in Washington, D.C.

President Hammond and Vice President Hewlett visited the Chapter at the Butte meeting in 1930 and were taken through the mines.

The stock market crash in October 1929, followed by the depression, seriously affected the practice of architecture throughout the nation and the Montana Chapter was actively interested in obtaining government defense work for its members.

The construction industry and the practice of architecture were completely obliterated during the years of the depression and Chapter meetings were dispensed
with during the years 1932 to 1935. Chandler C. Cohagen remained as President from 1929 to 1935.

A meeting was held in May 1935, in Bozeman, with 10 members present. Activity in the construction industry was picking up through the P.W.A. (Public Works Administration) and all offices in the State had something to do. The Chapter recommended to the State Architectural Board of Examiners that they try to amend the laws in a manner such that the Architects would be better protected.

Robert K. Fuller, Regional Director of Denver, visited the meeting of January 16, 1940.

Dr. Harlan Thomas, Dean of Architecture at the University of Washington and Regional Director, visited the Chapter at a special meeting of December 9, 1941. Much discussion was has as to how local architects could get work in the government agencies and under the Priority and Allocation Board. Because of lack of work, the membership was forgiven $5.00 of all dues owed by each member and the dues were reduced to $3.00 per year. A. V. McIver has served as President during the war years from 1939 to 1944.

H. C. Cheever succeeded W. P. Plew as Secretary-Treasurer of the Chapter. He served continuously since the Chapter was organized in 1921 until his death in June 1945.

A.V. McIver was nominated for Regional Director of the Institute for the Western Mountain District and was elected at the National Convention in Atlantic City in April 1945.

At the meeting in February 1946 at Montana State College, the dues were raised to $5.00 a year.

The 1947 May meeting was of special importance as graduated schedule of minimum fees was adopted and ordered printed. The question of accrediting the Department of Architecture at Montana State College was discussed and the Chapter determined to assist the College to that end.

A.V. McIver was nominated in the April 1, 1948 meeting to receive the A.I.A. Fellowship and he was passed by the Jury of Fellows and advanced at the National Convention in 1949 at Houston, Texas.

The membership of the Chapter was now 24 and the dues were raised to $15.00. Associate Members of the Chapter were authorized.

Regional Director, George Carnon Young, visited the October meeting in Billings.
The 1950 February meeting was held in Missoula; with the principal item of business being a discussion with the Montana Building Chapter of the Associated General Contractors. Points of interest had first been instigated at a joint meeting in Helena of committees from both sides.

A Student Chapter of the A.I.A. was authorized for the State College with Student Associate Membership.

The Chapter voted to recommend to the College that licensed members of the Architectural faculty be allowed to engage in outside practice while teaching.

The 1950 May meeting in Bozeman; provided for the Student Award Program, the procedure having been determined at a previous meeting. The membership, in April 1951, showed 30 corporate members, 9 associate, 8 junior associate and 47 student associates.

The Chapter was notified by the Institute that Chandler C. Cohagen had been elected to receive a Fellowship at the coming convention in Chicago in 1951.

The offices of the Chapter were empowered to engage a representative to study the bill presented to the State Legislature and give the Chapter the information needed.

Mr. Irving S. Smith, Regional Director of the Northwest District, visited the March 1952 meeting in Helena. The Western Mountain District had been changed by the Institute removing the States of Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Alaska from the District leaving Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana in the Northwest District. The Institute also recommended that each District have a Regional organization and meetings.

The September 1952 meeting in Helena was concerned mostly in the necessary revision of the Architects License Law, the proposed Engineers License Law and other possible legislation coming up in the next Legislature. It was decided that an attorney be employed and that each corporate member be assessed the amount of $135.00 to pay for the program.

A special meeting was held in Helena in December 1952; called to determine what action should be taken to oppose the activities of the Little Hoover Commission, a state group who recommended that Architects’ fees for all public works be set at 5.6% of the total cost of the project. Because of the shortness of time before the Legislature would meet, President Van Teylingen and McIver discussed the situation, went to Helena and engaged Attorney Sam C. Ford, former governor, to assist the Chapter in opposing the pending legislation. The Chapter approved their action.

The next meeting was held March 28, 1953 in Billings. In the meantime, with Mr. Ford’s assistance and after many meetings of the legislature committee; a compromise
The Fall meeting in 1953 was held at the Country Club in Great Falls on October 17. The fee schedule had finally been worked out by the Committee on Fees and Contracts and the Chapter, after adopting the Schedule, authorized 5000 of the the Schedules to be printed and sold to the members at cost. A report of the joint committee meeting of the Montana Chapter Associated General Contractors and the Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects held in Helena in January was read and points of mutual interest brought to the attention of the members at the March 27, 1954 meeting held in Helena.

The new Chapter Brochure on the “Architect’s Services” was now in printed form and could be obtained from the Secretary for $2.00 for fifty copies.

A School Building Workshop was to be held in Helena on April 22, and the Chapter prepared for the panel discussion between the School Administrators and the Architects.

Mr. Waldo Christiansen, Regional Director of the Northwest District, visited the March evening meeting after an eventful trip; as his plane landed in Bozeman due to bad weather in Helena. He was back in Helena for the evening.

The May 1954 meeting was held as usual in Bozeman. The President detailed changes in the By-Laws of the Regional Conference. A motion was made and carried that the Fourth Annual Regional Conference be held in Glacier Park in August 1955.

At the October meeting of 1954, a motion was made and carried that the Chapter be incorporated and the Board of Directors proceed with the necessary steps.

The A.I.A. Joint Committee meeting of July 16 was read and the report adopted.

William Fox was appointed General Chairman for the Regional Conference in Glacier Park and he appointed the chairmen of the various committees to handle the meeting.

The membership of the Chapter in March 1955 consisted of 48 corporate members, 12 associate members, 19 junior associates and 46 student associates.

The March 1955 meeting held in Billings had Mr. Waldo Christiansen, Regional Director as a visitor. A report of the legislative committee was given and their actions explained by the Mr. Alfred Dougherty, Attorney for the Montana Chapter and the Board of Architectural Examiners. The proposed changes in the Architect’s Licensing Law were explained and the members were advised to work with the professional engineers to try to formulate legislation at the next Legislature for the best interests of both groups.
The Chapter recommended to the Institute that Frank Bossout of Havre be made a member emeritus, being retired and 84 years of age.

The Chapter contributed $250.00 toward the Students Field Trip during vacation.

The May 1955 meeting in Bozeman was perhaps the largest meeting to date held by the Chapter; there being 29 corporate members present together with the Associates, Junior Associates and Student Associates.

The President, John Toohey, gave a very comprehensive report of the Regional Conference Executive Committee which met in Yakima, Washington, in April.

The preparations for the Regional Conference in Glacier Park were reported to the Chapter.

The evening meeting was devoted to the Student Activities and awards as is usual at the May meeting.

The November 1955 meeting was held in Great Falls. A detailed report was given on the Regional Conference held in September and the success of the conference was commented upon. The other Chapters of the conference complimented the Montana Chapter on the locale of the conference, the program and the details of handling it.

The Chapter decided to retain an attorney and Mr. Alfred Dougherty was engagèd at $600.00 per year. He was instructed to start working on the license law and revision of the fee schedule.

The Chapter contributed $25.00 toward the expense of a student representative to the Institute Student Conference in Washington D.C.

The Chapter purchased a film from the Institute for $140.00 to be used for public relations. The title of the film was “Architecture – U.S.A.”. Reports from the Billings and Great Falls Associations indicated the film would be used to the greatest possible use. David Davidson of the Great Falls Architectural Association was conducting an adult course in small home building.

The February 1956 meeting held in Helena was devoted mostly to By-Laws changes and the legal and legislative activities of the Chapter which were explained by Mr. Dougherty.

The May 1956 meeting was held in Bozeman as usual; for the Student Awards meeting and banquet. The new revised By-Laws were ordered printed.
Committee Chairmen were appointed and integrated with the National and Regional Committees. This is now one of the important tasks of the Chapter; as there are 16 Committees.

The Chapter voted an assessment on all members for use of the Legislative Committee. The amounts were: Corporate Members $100.00; Associates $50.00; and Junior Associates $10.00.

The August 1956 meeting was held in Great Falls, and was concerned mostly with the activities of the Legislative Committee. They reported that a brochure was about ready to be printed. This, they had worked on for some time and was prepared for legislative work with members of the Legislature.

The Fall meeting was held in Kalispell on November 10, 1956. Again, the main business before the meeting was the coming legislative activities. A resolution was passed on the death of Fred Willson.

The next meeting was held in Helena on March 16, 1957. Reports from the Legislative Committee were most favorable in the two architectural bills had passed by the Legislature.

The brochure had been used to good advantage and the legislative members were most friendly. The meeting was held in the Western Life Building and a letter was written thanking Mr. R. R. Richardson, President of the Company. The membership now consisted of 61 corporate members, 11 associates, 30 junior associates and 63 student associates.

The May meeting was held in Bozeman. The student activities were held the evening before with the awards and banquet. A discussion was held on the selection of architects and engineers on the renovation of the State Capitol and the matter was referred to the Board of Directors for action to have architects selected to do the work. Officers for the coming year were elected as usual.

The September meeting of the Chapter was held in Butte. The Great Falls and Billings Associations made reports of their activities. Mr. Cohagen reported that a committee from the N.C.A.R.B. (National Council Architectural Registration Boards) would soon visit the Montana State College School of Architecture for the purpose of accrediting the School.

The next meeting was held in Billings in February 1958. The Great Falls and Billings Associations report indicated increased activity in the two societies. They had each entertained the MSC College Seniors during the year. The Great Falls group was contemplating sponsoring a Builders’ Exchange. A sustaining fee of $10.00 was voted for the N.C.A.R.B. The Student awards and activities were held as usual at the May meeting.
The September meeting was held in Missoula and consisted of routine business, committee reports and reports from the Great Falls and Billings Societies.

The January meeting of the new year 1959 was held in Great Falls on the 24th. After routine business was finished; the Chapter voted to collaborate with the Montana Chapter A.S.C.E. (American Society of Civil Engineers) on all matters that pertained to the two organizations. The Chapter was advised that The Lovell Clay Products Company had just set up a scholarship for outstanding students in the School of Architecture at Montana State College. The Chapter was informed that the Great Falls Architectural Society has become a corporation. The meeting was held as a joint meeting with the consulting engineers and civil engineers proved so successful that the Chapter voted to continue them.

The customary joint meeting with the Student Chapter was held in Bozeman on May 16th. A report on the meeting of the new Montana Technical Society and the Chapter was advised that its Board of Directors had approved the Montana Chapter A.I.A. becoming associated with the Montana Technical Council and pay annual dues up to $50.00. The matter of a revised Fee Schedule was brought up and the Chapter voted to make the desired revisions and have 5000 copies of the new Fee Schedule printed. The joint evening meeting was held as usual with the presentation of awards following the dinner. Dancing followed.

The Fall meeting in September held in Helena. The new officers acted. Routine matters were disposed with. Chapter voted to allow $400.00 per year to the School of Architecture to aid the student field trip. It was reported in the Financial Report that the membership no consisted of 68 corporate members, 17 associates, 42 junior associated and 37 student associates.

H. C. Cheever, now being President of the Chapter, resigned as Secretary-Treasurer and Hugo Eck was elected to succeed him.

The October 31, 1959 meeting was held in Butte. Routine business was followed by discussion of various projects at hand, but there being no quorum present; action was deferred.

The January 1960 meeting was held in Billings as a joint meeting with the engineering groups. Mr. Lund of the Public Relations Committee informed the Chapter that the A.I.A. pamphlet “Facts and Fancies About Schools” had been distributed to the public through the Banks of the States. The Committee is also distributing the brochure “Architecture as a Career” through the High Schools. A Joint Committee meeting with the A.G.C. was held on January 15th in Great Falls and a report was given to the Chapter.

The Chapter voted to become a member of the Montana Technical Society with annual dues of $25.00.
The Chapter voted to aid in the Education Committee’s recommendation to the extent of $150.00 annually towards providing six lecturers per year from the Chapter for the Architectural School of Montana State College and also appropriated $120.00 toward the support of two-weeks seminar on the “Teaching of Architecture”.

The workshops of the State Societies were brought to the attention of the members and resultant publicity to the Chapter. These are of great interest in the communities and of aid to those interested in the crafts and home building.

The 1960 Spring meeting was held in Bozeman, as usual, on May 21. Reports on the National Convention at San Francisco were given by the Chapter delegates. The Public Relations Committee have distributed a pamphlet “Designing a Better Tomorrow” throughout the State; primarily for High School students and to vocational guidance counselors. The customary dinner and entertainment was held with the students and the awards were presented.

The Fall meeting was held at the Finlen Hotel in Butte on October 22, 1960. The Chapter voted to join the Montana State Chamber with a contribution of $50.00. Mr. Cheever reported that the Montana State College Schools of Architecture and Engineering has been accredited by the Accrediting Agency of the A.I.A. but that official notice would not be made public until the Fall meeting of the N.W. Accrediting Agency.

The Winter meeting of 1961 was held at the Rainbow Hotel in Great Falls on January 28. It was a combination meeting held with the engineering groups. The producers had several fine exhibits on display which added to the occasion. Committee reports were quite complete. The Chapter voted to donate $100.00 to the Teachers Seminar Program which will be held in Cranbrook, Michigan, this year. It was announced that the trip this year for the students would extend through Colorado and Texas and would be one of the longest yet taken.

A new brochure was distributed to the membership. The Government Affairs Committee and the Legislative Committee had been working on the brochure for several months and it is very informative and well edited. It was also distributed to the legislators. With the exception of the four center pages which were directed primarily to the Legislature, this brochure will be reworded and used as a general public relations instrument.

The three societies, Great Falls, Billings and Butte each gave a report on their activities. The Montana Technical Council gave a report of their recommendations on legislative matters which the Chapter endorsed.

Governor Nutter was the speaker at the banquet following the meeting. He had come out with an austerity program for building and engineering projects during the next biennium. Naturally, the architects and engineers were against his program and made it known. That evening, in his talk, he flayed the architects and engineers for not agreeing
with his wished. It made it very difficult for the architect toastmaster to thank him for his talk and presence.

The Exchange Club of Great Falls honored the Great Falls Society of Architects by naming it the Industry of the Year.

The Spring meeting was held in Bozeman on May 6, 1962, with the usual meeting with the students and the accompanying dinner, dance and awards.

A visitor at the meeting was Prof. Harold C. Rose’ of the University of Florida who will replace Prof. H. C. Cheever as Director of the School of Architecture. Prof. Cheever will return to teaching on a part-time basis as well as being Supervising Architect of the College.

The constitution and by-laws of the ladies auxiliary to the Chapter was approved.

A Fall meeting was held September 16 in Butte. The meeting was routine with Committee reports read and approved.

The Winter meeting in association with the engineers was held January 27, 1962, in Billings. The Regional Director, Mr. Harry Weller was a guest. He spoke on coming changes in A.I.A. to be brought up at the next national convention. It was explained to the Chapter that all legal cases before the State Board of Architectural Examiners were now settled and licenses would be given to the last of the grandfather cases, there being three in number. The Chapter donated $100 to send a College Staff member to the next Teacher Seminar in Cranbrook, Michigan. The Chapter voted that memorials be prepared for the families of Governor Nutter who was killed in an airplane accident the day before, and for Fred Brinkman and Percy Lenon both of whom had recently died.

The Chapter purchased the film “Your Career in Architecture” for $150.00, the Great Falls Society donating $100.00 of the amount.

The Butte society reported that it was now sponsoring a builders exchange.

The regular May meeting was held in Bozeman on the 26th 1962. The new Regional Director, Robert Durham of Seattle, was a guest at the meeting and reported on the Dallas Convention. A new form of Agreement Between Owner and Architect was adopted. It was voted to publish a regular Chapter Bulletin. The Chapter was informed that Chandler C. Cohagen was elected President of the N.C.A.R.B. at the Dallas meeting.

The Fall meeting was held in Helena at the Montana Club on October 6, 1962. Committee and Society Reports were all quite thorough. The Chapter was reminded of the coming legislative session. It was decided that no aggressive action be taken during the coming legislative session.
The Winter meeting was held at the Rainbow Hotel, February 2, 1963. It was a joint meeting with the engineering groups. Mr. Henry Wright, National A.I.A. President was a guest at the meeting. It is interesting to note that two national presidents of the engineering groups also were present at the combined meetings, which made the very unusual event of three national presidents of the design professions being present at the meeting.

The Chapter was informed that Chapter Honor Awards and other projects by Chapter members were exhibited at the Historical Library and Museum in Helena during the month of January while the Legislature was in session. An excellent AP-UP press release called attention to the display.

The customary May meeting was held in Bozeman with the student awards and evening’s entertainment.

The Fall meeting held in Billings on October 26, 1963, was well attended. A special assessment was voted to bolster the Chapter treasury because of legislative expenses. The Chapter was reminded that the Regional Meeting was to be held in Glacier National Park in September of 1965 and that preparations were being made by the Committee.

The first meeting of 1964 was held in Butte on February 8th and a typical business affair followed by an excellent luncheon in the Finlen Copper Bowl.

The May meeting was in Bozeman and was attended by Mr. Robert Durham, Regional Director. It was the usual May meeting with student activities.

The Billings meeting in January 1965 was very well attended and again was honored by Mr. Robert Durham, Regional Director. The discussion was mostly concerned with finances for Fall Regional Meeting to be held in Glacier Park and for the coming legislative session.

The Bozeman May meeting was routine in business affairs and further preparation for the coming Regional Meeting. Chapter dues were increased.

The Northwest Regional Conference was held at East Glacier Park on August 18 to 21, and from all reports was a knockout. To the Chapter; it meant a lot of hard work and expense, but it was worth it.

The Fall meeting held in Great Falls on October 30, 1965 was a routine business meeting with election of new officers.

The Bozeman May meeting was attended by Mr. Robert Martin, Regional Director. The Chapter decided to engage a Public Relations Counsel.
Kalispell was the location of the October meeting which was well attended. The major item of business was adoption of a new fee schedule.

Great Falls was the next meeting place on February 4, 1967. The meeting was honored by the presence of Mr. Robert Durham, President-elect, A.I.A. The major item of business was a discussion of pending bills in the legislature affecting architects.

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was held in Bozeman on April 14, 1967, at which time an Executive Secretary-Treasurer was engaged for part-time work to augment the elected Secretary-Treasurer’s duties. Changes in the Fee Schedule were discussed as well as the Owner-Architect Contract.

The May meeting was held in Bozeman; as usual. Mr. Thomas Judge was introduced as the new public relations consultant. He is also the paid Executive-Secretary. This meeting was the largest the Chapter had ever had. The membership was divided into four groups to have workshops on the following subjects: (1) Professional Service Schedule, (2) Contracts and Documents, (3) Budget, (4) Government Affairs and Public Relations. The workshops reported back to the general body for discussion of the various subjects.

The Fall meeting was held in Missoula on September 23, 1967. The corporate dues were raised to $90.00. Election of officers was held.

The mid-winter meeting of 1968 was held in Butte on February 17th. A new rate schedule was adopted.

The May meeting in Bozeman, held on the 18th, was attended by Mr. Robert Martin, Regional Director. An outstanding student entertainment program was enjoyed during the evening.

The Fall meeting of September 28, 1968 was held in the Senate Chambers of the State Capitol in Helena. A firm of legal counsel was retained for the next legislative session. The new Regional Director, Mr. Jack Wright, was present at the meeting.

Billings was the locale of a very interesting Winter meeting on February 8, 1969. It was largely attended and National President Kassabaum was a guest. He gave a very interesting report on national affairs. This was a combined meeting with the Engineers. A full report of the Legislative Council had been given the Board of Directors; concerning the proposed legislative program, which in turn was turned over to the membership. The report was generally unfavorable.

The Regional Director, Mr. John Wright, was a guest at the Spring meeting held on May 16, 1970, at Bozeman. The meeting was turned over to him and he gave an excellent report on A.I.A. affairs.

The January 1971 meeting was held in Great Falls and was routine.
The May meeting was held in West Yellowstone at the Executive Inn on the 15th. The Regional Director was again the guest and gave a report on the specification area at National. The Chapter decided to hold the Fall meeting in Butte and that it would tie in the 50th Anniversary.

The Fall meeting was held at the Fez Club in Butte on October 2, and was associated with a celebration of the 50th Anniversary. The Fez Club building is the old Clark mansion and was very interesting in its details to the membership. A series of seminars on professional practice were held for the benefit of the architectural students at M.S.U. to indicate to them what was expected of them upon graduation. The business meeting was followed by a very special dinner given by the Chapter. It was cooked and served by the Fez Club staff and was thoroughly enjoyed by all!
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The Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

The Second Fifty Years
January 8, 1972 – June 29, 2021
PREFACE

This is a historic overview of AIA Montana Chapter’s second fifty-years as reported in the approved meeting minutes of both the Executive Board and General Membership. Volume 1 covered the first fifty-years and was developed by A. V. McIver, FAIA. All one-hundred-years of the minutes are archived and in the care of the Executive Secretary of Chapter.

Every effort was made to correctly report the achievements, outcomes of events, interesting facts, and the few missed objectives of the Chapter. Any errors or omissions in this reporting were not intentional.

The members of AIA Montana have every reason to be proud of achieving the milestone of 100-years and to look forward to many more years of effectiveness in the FUTURE for the profession!

Connie Dempster,
Honorary Member of AIA Montana
1972 to 1979

The first Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in 1972 was held on Saturday January 8 in Helena. It was called to order by President Wayne “Gus” Gustafson. The budget, future meeting dates and committee assignments were the primary focus.

The Winter meeting was held on January 14, 1972 in Whitefish. At this meeting a new membership fee schedule was adopted; the executive secretary (ES) was instructed to establish a contract documents library; and the budget was approved.

The second BOD meeting in 1972 was on February 11 in Helena, Montana. This meeting included upgrading membership classifications; Building Codes Council’s issues on the adoption of the Life Safety Code and the Uniform Fire Code; and potential Legislative activity changing state codes to require 10% retainage of architects’ service fees on all state projects.

On March 11, 1972, the BOD met in Bozeman. Plans for Architecture Week (May 20 – 27) were finalized. The executive director was instructed to compile a list of contract documents with pricing to be sent to all architect offices in the state. There was a discussion to host the 1975 Northwest Region meeting at either East Glacier or Big Sky in late August.

The BOD met in Bozeman on April 11, 1972. Board member Jim Gough with member John DeHaas conducted interviews with four students for the Chapter’s scholarship while this meeting was held. Correspondence included a request from member Charles A. Kestle that the Chapter invite AIA’s Regional Urban Design Assistance Team to help organize long and short range programs offering a new design for uptown Butte. At this meeting President Gustafson advised that the US Department of Justice was continuing its case against AIA with regard to “Fee Fixing”.

The Spring meeting was on May 20, 1972 in Bozeman. The problems and pitfalls of county licensing was a primary topic of discussion. It was at this meeting that it was determined to hold an Honor Awards program every two years. The Honor Awards were to be made at the Winter meeting in 1973. Mr. Angus McIver was complimented for his efforts in writing “The Montana Chapter AIA’s First Fifty Years”. One hundred copies were to be printed and distributed to the membership.

The BOD next met in 1972 on August 4 in Helena. The Montana Attorney General determined that it was legal for counties to require architects to be licensed county-by-county and that the practice would probably expand throughout the state. On July 1, 1972 Jim Gough was succeeded by Professor Ilmar Reinvald as director of the School of Architecture. Professor Reinvald was invited to meet with the Chapter.

The BOD met on September 29 in Helena. This meeting was made up of primarily reports on existing programs and events.

The BOD and general membership met on October 7, 1972 in Billings. At these meetings, the Chapter’s By-Laws were changed to include AIA Associate Members as voting members of the Chapter. This meeting included reports from various committees and societies; the deadline for submissions to the 1973 Honor Awards program was announced; and an election for 1973 BOD was conducted.
The first BOD meeting in 1973 was called to order by Immediate Past President Wayne “Gus” Gustafson as newly elected President Harry Schmautz joined the meeting later in the day. At this meeting, the BOD reviewed membership categories and approved a new fee structure for dues; the 1972 budget was approved; committee reports were received; and new committee assignments were made.

The 1972 Winter meeting was combined with the engineers for February 2-3 at the Colonial Inn in Helena. The theme was ‘Design Professions in Government’. In attendance were members of ASCE; MSE; ACEC; AIA; MARLS; and AALA. As the Legislature was in session, the legislative representatives were invited to the cocktail reception held on February 2. The banquet held on the evening of February 3 included award presentations by both the architect and engineering associations. Meetings were convened by the BOD and the general membership.

On March 23, 1973, President Harry Schmautz called to order the BOD meeting in Helena. This meeting consisted of primarily reports and updates. At this meeting there was a report from national, considering the use of sections rather than societies within the state chapters.

The BOD met on April 26 in Helena. The meeting included updates from committees and new member approvals. The newly adopted Fee Schedule included ‘Recommended Procedure for Selection of an Architect’. Selection or qualification of an architect was to be based on experience; a personal interview; and investigation of past clients and projects.

The Spring meeting of 1973 was held at Big Sky on May 18-19. Ifan Payne, visiting professor at MSU/SOA from the University of Wales was the featured speaker on the topic of ‘Solar Energy and Architecture’. Both the BOD and the general membership meetings were made up of reports from the students, SOA, societies and committees. Robert Fehlberg advanced to FAIA status. Scholarship interviews were also conducted during the Spring meeting.

The BOD met on June 14 and again on August 4 in 1973.

The Fall meeting was held in Missoula on September 15, 1973. At the general membership meeting Society reports were received from Billings, Great Falls, Helena, Butte, Missoula, Kalispell and Bozeman; and the election of the 1974 BOD were conducted.

The November 12, 1973 BOD meeting focused on the upcoming legislative session. Lobbyist Sonny Hanson hired by the Montana Tech Council reviewed and recommended how to best work with MTC so that all associations received timely information and the ability to respond during the upcoming legislative session. Bills up for consideration included 1) An act to retain the authority to license professions for the State of Montana and 2) An act requiring that architectural and professional engineering firms maintaining branch offices have a resident registered professional in charge of each branch office.

The BOD met on December 12, 1973 to discuss strategies for future legislative sessions. Professional licensing was under attack. A voting membership in MTC went from $200 per year to $2,400 per year because of the need for additional lobbying activity.

President Ray Amundson called the first BOD meeting in 1974 to order on January 25 in Great Falls. In addition to legislative issues, the budget and goals for 1974 were approved. 1975 NW Region Meeting Chairman Marty Crennen announced his anticipated budget for the event would be $15,000.
The BOD next met on February 22, 1974 in Helena. In addition to committee reports and membership approvals, the BOD determined that the chapter’s newsletter had no set schedule for publishing and must become self-sustaining and published on a quarterly schedule. Peter Berry (ES) would continue to act as editor and Marty Crennen would continue to obtain advertisers. The BOD kept the existing AIA committee in place to work with the MTC and requested a proposal for addressing the expected attack on licensing during the 1975 Legislative session. This committee was named the ‘Minuteman Committee’ and was co-chaired by Dick Shope and Phil Hauck.

On March 29, 1973, the BOD met in Helena to conduct the business of the Chapter; plans for future events; and reports from different committees.

The 1973 Spring meeting was held in Big Sky on May 19. A ‘water machine’ contest was held in the pool for both students and members.

**NOTE:** No minutes were found from May 19, 1973 through May 11, 1974.

Meetings of both the BOD and the general membership were held during the 1974 Spring meeting on May 10-11. The minutes of the March 29 BOD meeting were approved but no minutes were found in the archives. The following items were found in the archives: 1) Marty Crennen served as president of the Montana Board of Architects. 2) The Montana Board of Architects developed ‘rules of conduct’ and the proposed ‘process to select an architect’ was advertised. And 3) Local societies shared the following conclusions with the State Chapter: The State Chapter should meet less and assign duties/tasks to the local societies; this would make use of local talent and save money at the State level; and Local society presidents should attend State board meetings.

The BOD meeting on June 28, 1974 was called to order by President Ray Amundson in Helena. It was announced the 1975 NW Region meeting would be held on August 28-30 in Big Sky. At this meeting ES Peter Berry resigned. A committee was formed to find a new executive secretary.

The next meeting of the BOD was on July 27, 1974 in Swan Lake. This meeting consisted of membership approvals, committee and society reports with event planning.

Marty Crennen called his Steering Committee for the 1975 NW Region meeting to order on August 16, 1974 in Big Sky. As a result of this meeting, the theme/title was to be ‘Design for Fun and Profit’ and the logo was developed by Peter Kommers. Initial activities were planned and included: bus tours to both Virginia City and Yellowstone National Park; a cocktail party at the top of the Gondola; optional activities hang-gliding and/or fly-fishing demonstrations; lectures would be held with nature walks and camera tours; a talk and visit with Euell Gibbons; and exhibits by both commercial companies and the MSU/SOA students.

BOD met on August 16, 1974 in Big Sky. In addition to the business of the Chapter, plans for the Fall meeting at Fairmont were finalized.

The Fall meeting was held on September 27-28, 1974 in Fairmont. Meetings convened by both the BOD and the general membership. Peter Berry had agreed to continue to serve as ES while the Chapter conducted its search but circumstances prevented him from doing so. Don Torgerson, another member of Mr. Berry’s firm, agreed to cover these duties. The 1975 BOD elections were conducted.
The final BOD meeting in 1974 was on December 5 in Helena. It was announced that the Montana Technical Council (MTC) would be conducting weekly meetings during the Legislative session beginning on January 29, 1975. MTC was now monitoring land use and legislative planning and there were concerns that this was beyond the original MTC focus of the built design industry. Other legislative issues included: PEs were to modify their practice law; landscape architects were asking for licensing; and the current A/E selection procedure. The BOD hired Don Torgerson as the Chapter’s new executive secretary. The Steering Committee for the 1975 NW Region meeting announced monthly meetings starting in January 1975 so that all would be ready for the NW Regional meeting in August.

President Wayne Whitney called the first BOD meeting in 1975 to order on January 21 in Helena. The Chapter’s newsletter continued to struggle and at this meeting the suggestion to have each of the seven local societies publish one (1) issue per year was made – no action was taken. At this meeting the BOD were informed that no bills currently introduced in the Legislative session were directly attacking professional licensure. A decision was made to poll the membership as to interest in the Chapter pursuing association group health coverage.

The Winter meeting of 1975 was held in Helena jointly with the engineers on February 21-22. The theme of the meeting was ‘Imagination Plus.’ Both the BOD and the general membership met to discuss HB 207 – The Architectural Selection bill – which had been amended to require school districts and other publicly funded projects to be advertised for consideration for bids and that at least three architects were to be interviewed during public meetings.

The BOD met in Helena on March 25, 1975. At this meeting, the BOD decided to hold elections for 1976 BOD at the Spring meeting as the Chapter’s 1975 Fall meeting would be replaced by the NW Regional meeting. The BOD decided to conduct the Scholarship selections during the Spring meeting but hold the announcement and distribution of funds until the awards portion of the NW Regional meeting.

At the 1975 Spring meeting on May 9-10 both the BOD and the general membership met in Bozeman. The election of 1976 BOD was conducted; reports by the local societies and committees were made; and a plea was issued for all architects to consider attending the 1975 NW Regional meeting in August at Big Sky.

BOD met in Great Falls on June 25, 1975. As of this meeting it was announced that registrations for the Regional meeting were coming in very slowly. As the Chapter’s newsletter continued to struggle, the Great Falls Architectural Society agreed to take over the duty for the next few months.

On July 26, 1975, the BOD met at Swan Lake. A letter from Louis deMoll, FAIA, president-elect of the American Institute of Architects announced the Institute unanimously opposed the degree requirement being proposed by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). There was no quorum at this meeting so no action was taken.

A special meeting of the BOD was held on August 29 during the Regional meeting at Big Sky. This meeting was short and mostly made up of reports by committees.

The BOD met on September 25, 1975 in Billings. The 1975 Regional meeting was reported to have a deficit between $200 and $500. This would be covered by the Region. The 1976 Regional meeting was to be hosted by Seattle and plans to hold this in Finland were being explored.
On October 30, the BOD met in Missoula. This meeting was made up of reports from committees.

The final meeting of the BOD in 1975 was held in Helena on December 18.

The first meeting of 1976 was also the Winter meeting on January 16-17 in Billings at the Northern Hotel. The theme of this meeting was ‘Improving Management in Architectural Firms’. This was also the first time in many years that the Winter meeting was not held jointly with the engineers. President Jerry Aanes called to order both the BOD and general membership meetings. At these meetings, after many years of struggle, it was announced that the Chapter’s newsletter would be abandoned. The budget was approved and local societies were given individual committee assignments.

The BOD held the second meeting of 1976 on February 18 in Bozeman.

On March 16, 1976, the BOD met in Helena.

The BOD held a meeting on April 20, 1976 in Helena. The Chapter’s Minuteman Committee was concerned with the 50% reduction in grants for the historic preservation program – this funding was from the Federal level.

The 1976 Spring meeting was held at Chico Hot Springs on May 14-15. Without a quorum a meeting could not be convened but committee and society reports were shared. It was at this meeting the BOD shared the findings of Attorney General Opinion #52. This opinion was requested by Fire Chief William A. Penttila of the Fire Marshal Bureau asking if the ‘public’ building included commercial buildings as stated in the following: Section 66-2366 stating that the state shall not accept plans and specifications for public buildings, water systems and storage facilities, sewerage systems, waste water disposal projects, swimming pools, recreational facilities, and similar type projects which may have a direct bearing on the public health and safety for approval unless they bear the seal of the professional engineer for engineering projects or the land surveyor for land surveying projects, or licensed architect for architectural projects, as provided for the practice of the respective professionals by this act. The attorney general stated that Senate Bill 334 clarified that “Public” refers only to the building of the state and its political subdivisions and therefore plans and specifications for the construction of privately owned buildings need not bear the seals of professional persons. This was signed by Attorney General Robert L. Woodahl on January 21, 1976.

The BOD next convened in 1976 on May 20 in Helena to conduct the business of the Chapter. A letter was shared from the Montana School Board Association stating they did not like the system requiring interviews of selected architects. Since many members of AIA had also complained, it was recommended that AIA and MSBA meet to reach a proposed alternative to the system that could be shared at the next Legislature session.

On July 20, 1976, the BOD met in Helena. This meeting dealt with the formation of a committee made up of engineers, architects and the licensing boards of both professions to draft or redraft the law defining the State’s current definition of ‘public’ building. The first meeting was to be held at noon on August 5 with the second meeting to follow on August 26. Marty Crennen with Jerry Aanes would head up this loosely formed committee and invite all parties to the table.
The August 5, 1976 committee meeting reviewed the architectural law from section 66-103 (e), (f); 66-105; 66-114; 66-115; recertification; and public member on the architect licensing board. Each local society was assigned to review and rewrite section 66-107 (b) and (c) and set forth information on specific subjects such as seismic design; continuing education; turnkey guidelines; errors and omission insurance; notice to building inspectors; and definition of ‘public’.

Prior to the August 26, 1976 committee meeting reviewing the architectural law, the BOD held a short meeting to conduct routine chapter business. The outcome of the committee meeting was as follows:

1) Seismic Design: Those licensed after 1965 no testing or oral interview is required but those licensed prior to 1965 are to complete an AIA/NCARB sponsored seismic seminar or take an oral seismic exam from the State Board of Architects.
   RECOMMENDATION: 1) The Board of Architects should not be conducting oral exams; 2) seismic should not be part of the law but part of the rules and regulations; 3) all applicants for reciprocal registration should be required to have passed the NCARB qualified seminar; and 4) MSU/SOA should set up an NCARB qualifies seminar with exam to offer full opportunity for all applicants.

2) Continuing Education: Only two states Iowa and Minnesota require continuing education for renewal of licensure.  RECOMMENDATION: Recommended that the State Board of Architects not push the issue and that the MSU/SOA explore program development on a trial basis be explored.

3) Turnkey Guidelines: It was recommended that an outline for the guidelines be drawn up for discussion which should also include the risks and problems encountered by school districts that have used this method for projects and if this would be considered legal under the current architect selection procedure for school districts for the Fall meeting on October 2 in Kalispell.

4) E and O Insurance: It was recommended that the requirement for architects to have adequate E & O insurance should be removed from the law and that the State should make available E & O insurance for the architect on a per project basis. The question arose if architects are being discriminated against since this insurance is not required of all professional licensed groups.

5) Definition of “Public Building”: It was recommended that there should be a clear definition of “public” building and a better definition of “owner”. The State adopts the UBC code but does not follow its definition of “public” building.

6) Notice to Building Inspectors: It was reported that James Kembel of the Construction Regulations Bureau was consulted and agreed guidelines to building inspectors should be in the Montana law booklet.

Revisions made to the individual sections as discussed during the August 5 meeting were reviewed and the changes would be lobbied by the MTC. The committee would present the draft to the members at the Fall meeting.

The Fall meeting of 1976 was held on October 1-2 in Kalispell. Both the BOD and the general membership met primarily to review and approve the proposed changes to the Architectural Law. New committees were formed to include registration law revision, school board association liaison, and codes. Election for 1977 BOD was conducted.

The BOD met on November 9, 1976 in Helena. The BOD adopted the recommendation from the membership pole to hold only two (2) general membership meetings per year with focus on continuing
education and practice. The final draft of the revisions to the architect law were distributed to all members with comments due back by November 26.

The final BOD meeting in 1976 was on December 8 in Helena to conduct routine Chapter business.

The first meeting in 1977 was the Winter meeting on February 18 – 19 in Helena. President Ilmar Reinvald convened meetings of both the BOD and the general membership. A letter from the Western Region asking if Montana would like to join the Western Region was shared and the BOD declined the invitation in favor of the relationships cultivated with the other Chapters in NW Region. A questionnaire was distributed polling members about the Spring meeting.

The BOD met on March 17, 1977 on St. Patrick’s Day in Butte. Marty Crennen announced that SB 329 revising the registration law had passed the Senate – two sections of the bill were amended out: the portion of the bill redefining “public” and the option for architects to carry or not carry E & O insurance – unfortunate but expected. The bill next goes to the House Business and Industry Committee for hearings.

On April 14, 1977, the BOD met in Helena. The news that SB 329 passed as amended through the House and was awaiting the Governor’s signature was read into the minutes. SB401 consolidated the administration of codes under the Construction Regulation Bureau of the Department of Administration also passed and was signed by the Governor.

The Spring meeting in 1977 was held in Bozeman on May 20-21. In addition to scholarship awards for the students four continuing education topics were covered: 1) Starting an Architect’s Office; 2) Producing Good Design and Making A Profit; 3) Energy: Opportunities for Architects; and 4) New Document: A201. The BOD and the general membership both met. The dues structure was revised to meet the increasing costs of Legislative activity and to eliminate the supplemental dues being assessed. The new dues structure was proactive and considered fair to all members.

The BOD next met in Helena on July 6, 1977. At this meeting a directive from National announced Corporate Member would now be called AIA Member and that AIA Associate Member would now be Associate Member and that all members must now join both the State and National level with the exception of the Professional Affiliate category that can join at the State level only. The Chapter’s Constitution and Bylaws would need to be amended to reflect this directive from National and by moving the Fall meeting to the third or fourth week of October there would be enough time to accomplish the task.

On August 23, 1977, the BOD met and approved the revised Constitution and Bylaws for distribution for review to the members by September 14 so a vote could be held at the Fall meeting on October 14-15. A report of the joint meeting of the Montana Contractors Association and Montana Chapter of AIA on August 11 was shared. AIA shared the new A201 General Conditions contract document with MCA and MCA requested AIA support of repealing the Montana Contractors License Tax Act in favor of the Montana Contractor License Law.

The BOD met in Bozeman on September 12, 1977 to approve the final plans for the Fall meeting which would include an Energy Redesign/Retrofit Seminar by Jack Haley, partner in the firm of Sizemore & Associates of Atlanta, Georgia and a special computer seminar from MSU.
The Fall meeting on October 14-15, 1977 included a short BOD meeting and a short general membership meeting to allow the time necessary to two (2) seminars. The changes to the Constitution and Bylaws passed unanimously and were effective immediately and election for 1978 BOD was conducted. Very short society and committee reports were made at the general membership meeting. Members wished to focus on continuing education - not the business of the Chapter.

President Chuck Sumner called the first BOD meeting in 1978 to order on January 13 in Helena. In addition to updates from committees and local societies, the budget for 1977 was approved.

The Winter meeting in 1978 was held on February 10-11 in Great Falls. The BOD met on February 9 and the general membership meeting was held on the 11th. At the BOD meeting, representatives from the State’s A & E Office met to discuss the difficulty of acquiring E & O insurance on behalf of architects on State projects as SB329 was now the law. The A & E Office felt strongly that this insurance should be part of the architect’s overhead and should not be provided by the State. The BOD felt that if architects are forced to provide this specific liability coverage by that State, that other professions should be required to do the same. The BOD noted a raise in compensation on State projects to cover these costs could be a possible solution. Both meetings included reports and updates from committees and programs.

The BOD next met on March 23, 1978 in Helena. As there was no quorum met, no business for the Chapter could be conducted but updates and reports were accepted.

At the 1978 Spring meeting in Bozeman on May 11-13, NCARB introduced the Intern Development Program (IDP) to the Chapter and the MSU/SOA. In addition to continuing education sessions, meetings for both the BOD and the general membership were convened.

The BOD met on June 14, 1978 in Helena. Correspondence from MSBA expressed the need for a new method of negotiating fees since SB329 became law. The requirement that the State provide architects with E & O insurance was not possible in the current marketplace. The use of the “Guidelines for Negotiating Compensation for Basic Architectural Services” from National AIA was coming under attack as well, not only in Montana but in other states and at the Federal level.

At the August 11, 1978 BOD meeting in Helena, the board received a directive from State Attorney General Mike Greely. Following are excerpts from Mr. Greely’s letter:

“An inquiry into this area revealed that the architectural profession in Montana generally utilizes the “Guidelines for Negotiating Compensation for Basic Architectural Services” as a rigid fee schedule, rather than an advisory guideline. It is my opinion that this type of activity by the Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects runs afoul of both state and federal antitrust statutes.”

“I would advise your Chapter to immediately discontinue the use of “Guidelines for Negotiating Compensation for Basic Architectural Services”, or any type of schedule or list of fees, charges or compensation for architectural services. Failure to discontinue use of this type of schedule will result in appropriate action by this office.”

Suddenly, architects were being attacked from many State departments and at the Federal level for unfair price fixing. The BOD requested information from AIA Headquarters to defend these actions.

The September 15, 1978 BOD meeting received a report from President Chuck Sumner regarding “Guidelines for Negotiating Compensations” with the Attorney General (AG). The AG proposed that the
selection of architects continue as presently used by state agencies, using the interview process to
determine the top three firms. The agency would then give the top three selected architects the project
criteria so they could provide a bid for their architectural services. The committee did not accept this
proposal and countered with the following: The top three interviewing architects should be ranked and
fee negotiations begin with the architect ranked number 1 on a lump sum base. If not successful, the
agency could move onto to the next ranked and so on. This method seemed acceptable to all those
present at the meeting. The next major piece of business at this meeting was to share a directive from
the current National AIA President Elmer E Botsai, FAIA to refrain from answering questions from the
Department of Justice. “This is your legal right and you have the right to request a lawyer to be present
if subpoenaed. The Institute can provide a lawyer or you can use your lawyer.”

The 1978 Fall meeting was held on October 26-28 in Billings. This meeting included a day long
presentation from PSAE Master Spec, a visit from National AIA VP Jim Harris regarding the need for a
significant dues increase, and meeting of both the BOD and the general membership with an election of
the 1979 BOD.

BOD met on November 17, 1978 in Helena. The BOD received a letter from the Institute in response to
the Attorney General’s directive advising them that according to the consent decree signed by AIA in
1972, the Institute and its members have a right to lobby their views regarding architects compensation.
Members are not locked into any set fee schedule. This was to be shared with the member.

President Jim Stephens called the BOD meeting to order on January 31, 1979 in Helena. SB247
proposed a ‘super’ board for all design professionals. Members were encouraged to contact their
representatives opposing SB247. In addition to committee reports, the budget for 1979 was approved.

The 1979 Winter meeting was on February 16-17 in Helena. The MTC reported that SB247 had died;
SB420 introduced by the Attorney General would require all architects to bid services for all state work
except where exempted; SB469 would allow local building codes to adopt stricter codes than the state
had died; SB434 provided a definition of ‘public’ building and the enforcement of building codes was in
committee hearings; and HB588 was QBS type bill for procurement of all professional service by state
agencies was in committee hearings. Executive Secretary advised that his company will no longer be
providing these types of services effective April 1, 1979. It was at this meeting that the “Women’s
Architectural League” disbanded and their remaining funds of $300 were donated to the MSU
Architectural Library.

The BOD next met on March 14, 1979 in Helena. It was announced that Joann Harris of Sonny Hanson’s
firm Energy Conservation Services would take over the Executive Secretary services for AIA Montana
effective April 1, 1979. Joann formed her own company known as Association Management.

On April 18, 1979, the BOD met in Bozeman. Local societies were to become sections and Billings
Architectural Association was asked to develop a model for sections to follow.

The 1979 Spring meeting was held on May 18-19 at the Holiday Inn as the MSU/SOA could no longer
sponsor events with exhibitors that benefited organizations other than MSU. The theme of the meeting
was “Working Drawing Production Systems”. Scholarship interviews were conducted and awarded, and
meetings of both the BOD and the general membership were convened.
The BOD met on June 20, 1979 in Helena. It was at this meeting the BOD determined future meetings would move to different locations throughout the year.

The August 15, 1979 BOD again met in Helena to conduct routine Chapter business.

The BOD met in Billings on September 12, 1979 to discuss the validity of three (3) general membership meetings per year. Attendance had dropped at both the Winter and Fall meetings and the Spring meeting in Bozeman had the best attendance most years. It was suggested that Winter meetings only happen on a Legislative year. No action was taken at this time.

The Fall meeting in 1979 was held at Fairmont Hot Springs on October 26-27. In addition to a general membership meeting, a seminar by Henry Schirmer, AIA on “Cost Based Compensation Guidelines” was offered. The BOD met on October 25 to conduct the business of the Chapter. At the general membership meeting it was announced that work had begun to develop a brochure in conjunction with CEC/M on “Quality Base Selection” (QBS) for local and state projects. At this meeting, the membership requested the BOD consider reviewing the Constitution and Bylaws about the possibility of proxy or mail-in ballots. Elections for the 1980 BOD were convened.

On November 14, 1979 the BOD met in Helena. Don Taylor volunteered to act as Chapter Editor of a newsletter with 3-issues per year. A proposed budget and calendar of meetings for 1980 were presented.

The final BOD meeting in 1979 was on December 12 in Helena.
1980 - 1989

The first meeting of the BOD in 1980 was called to order by President Dan Taylor in Helena on February 21. This meeting consisted of committee reports and the approval of the 1980 budget. The first issue of the newsletter was distributed with the minutes of this meeting. (No copy of the newsletter could be found.)

The BOD next met on March 19, 1980 in Helena. In addition to committee reports, BOD recommended that AIA be involved in the MSU job fair on April 10-11.

On April 16, 1980, the BOD met in Helena. The Chapter had 162 members: AIA – 134; Associate – 17; Professional Affiliate – 2; and Emeritus – 9. A call for newsletter articles was included in the minutes in addition to a survey of the members regarding Ethics items that would be voted on at the National convention: 1) Repeal the AIA Code of Ethics and adopt non-anticompetitive “Statement of Principles” which would be mandatory and enforced; 2) Same as #1 only voluntary; or 3) Revise existing Code of Ethics to minimize anticompetitive acts and maintain enforcement.

The Spring meeting in 1980 was held on May 15-17 in Bozeman. There was both a BOD and general membership meeting held. The results of the ‘ethics’ survey was shared. Members were in favor of revising the existing AIA Code of Ethics to minimize anticompetitive acts and maintain enforcement. In addition to scholarship interviews and awards, local sections and committees shared reports and updates.

The BOD meeting was hosted by President Don Taylor at his cabin at Placid Lake and included the families of the BOD on August 15-17, 1980. The BOD actually met on August 16 to conduct routine Chapter business. The rest of the time consisted of swimming, boating, horseshoes and wood chopping.

The Fall meeting in 1980 was held on October 16-18 in Billings. Meeting for the BOD and the general membership consisted of local sections and committee reports with elections for 1981 BOD.

The BOD next met on November 20, 1980 in Helena. In addition to reports and updates, a lengthy discussion of the dues committee’s recommendations was held. There was no action taken and the issue was tabled.

The final BOD meeting for 1980 was on December 17 in Helena. Member Ozzie Berg attended this meeting to bring to the BOD’s attention the following concerns: 1) Student/community led planning groups set definite design parameters that cannot be met; 2) Engineers designed energy retrofits often offending the architectural concept, i.e. boarding up windows, etc.; and 3) Both groups are practicing architecture without a license. The BOD recommended a committee be set up to explore possible solutions. Newly elected President Walter Hinick summited his proposed budget for 1981 for approval.

President Walter Hinick called both the BOD and general membership meetings to order during the 1981 Winter meeting held on February 20-21 in Great Falls. MTC made a short report about the Legislative Session – no real issues were identified. The Montana DNRC invited the membership to a one-day seminar on February 28, 1981 entitled “Energy Efficient Construction”. The continuing education sessions at this Winter meeting focused on seismic design and were well attended by both architects and engineers.
The next BOD meeting was held on April 15, 1981 in Helena.

The Spring meeting in 1981 was in Bozeman on May 15-16. In addition to BOD and general membership meeting, a one-day seminar on “Earth Sheltered Structures” by Walter Grondzik and Jim Knight from the Architectural Extension at Oklahoma State University was featured. Scholarship interviews and awards were conducted.

On June 16, 1981, the BOD met in Helena to conduct routine business of the Chapter. The Institute announced a group health insurance plan available to all members in good standing. Jim Kembel, Administrator of the Building Codes Division for the State of Montana explained the new building codes statute adopted during the 1981 Legislative Session. The new statute gives municipalities and counties that right to inspect all buildings once ordinances or resolutions have been passed by the local legislative body or board with the exception of residential building containing less than five dwelling units; farm or ranch building; or private structures for use by owner. This applies only to building and mechanical codes – electrical and plumbing codes applications remain unchanged. The state will enforce codes wherever local governments do not. Buildings must have a permit before construction can begin.

The Fall meeting in 1981 was held in Missoula on September 10-12. Level 1 of the AIA Energy Code was presented and elections for 1982 BOD were conducted.

The BOD met on November 17, 1981 in Helena. This was the final meeting of the year.

President Howard Scoones called the first BOD meeting in 1982 to order on February 15 in Great Falls. The goals of the Chapter were set by the President and included building a stronger financial position so more programs could be offered with a goal of increased membership involvement.

The Spring meeting in 1982 was on May 13-14 in Bozeman. Ten hours of this meeting revolved around a workshop presented by William Pena, FAIA, founding partner of the firm Caudill, Rowlett, Scott (CRS) of Houston, Texas titled “Problem Seeking: An Architectural Programming”. This was the first time that only a BOD meeting was convened at the Spring meeting since members felt the time was better spent on a workshop. The BOD meeting consisted of reports by local sections and committees.

The BOD met on September 8, 1982 in Bozeman. In addition to routine business of the Chapter, this meeting dealt with the proposed changes being considered by the Board of Architects – these changes if accepted would be considered during the 1983 Legislative Session. Changes included: 1) Requirement for use of an architect for residences and 4-plex or less; 2) Require every branch office be staffed with a licensed architect registered in the State of Montana; 3) Clarify or delete the phrase from the statutes that defines a ‘public’ building as a building that has been financed with public funds; and 4) Reject the suggestion by NCARB to license corporations rather than individuals. The BOD reviewed the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws and gave the committee their recommendations.

The 1982 Fall meeting was held on October 14-15 in Helena. Both a BOD and general membership meetings were convened and seminars included “Computer Aided Design” and presentation by Gunnar Birkerts’ significant but controversial buildings. In addition to local sections and committee reports, both meetings were consumed by the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. Most controversial was the moving of dues from the Constitution to the Bylaws which would allow the
BOD/Executive Committee to make changes in rates without a vote of the membership. Elections were conducted and a budget for 1983 was presented.

The final BOD meeting was held in Helena on December 15, 1982.

President George Barrow called the first BOD meeting of 1983 to order on January 12 in Helena. In order for the Chapter’s budget to balance, the BOD unanimously passed a supplemental dues charge of $15 per member. With this change the BOD was able to approve the proposed budget – this was the first Chapter budget to exceed $20,000.00. The remainder of the meeting consisted of setting goals and committee/program reports.

The BOD next met on March 23, 1983 in Helena. HB490 passed with the proposed changes to the Architectural Board except the sections striking the existing definition of ‘public’ building and use of architect for residents and 4-plex or less were amended out. BOD recommended the committee begin working on finding support for these issues so both can be revisited in the 1985 Legislative session.

The 1983 Spring meeting was in Bozeman on May 12-14. The BOD met during this meeting to conduct routine Business of the Chapter. Since a quorum was not reached, in place of the general membership meeting, President George Barrow’s presented a “State of the Chapter” as an open forum. This forum covered proposed Institute resolutions, report from the MSU/SOA, possibility of adding Honorary membership category, the need for new sponsor of the Spring meeting as Bob Utzinger & his staff who had been performing this duty for many years wished to be released from the responsibility, the announcement that the Governor would be speaking at the Fall meeting in Great Falls, contract documents, future Legislative sessions, and the fact that the Montana School Board Association was successful in passing a law that no longer required schools to have plans approved through the State A & E Office – this would impact architects and could challenge QBS.

On July 21, 1983, the BOD met in Bozeman with new committees formed to cover the following areas: Preparation for License Exams; Office of Practice; and Spring Meeting. In addition to the business of the Chapter, the BOD held a planning session covering Chapter activities; non-dues revenue streams; establishment of short and long range goals; and identified chapter problems and possible solutions.

The next time the BOD met was at the 1983 Fall meeting in Great Falls on September 22-24. MTC asked for assistance from AIA in writing ‘public’ building legislation. Jane Hastings, NW Regional director, asked the BOD to consider supporting the proposal to start a Regional Foundation. The general membership meeting included local sections and committee reports plus the election of officers for 1984.

The BOD had no additional meetings in 1983.

President Jon Coxwell called the first BOD meeting in 1984 to order on February 14 in Helena. At this meeting, committee assignments were made; the budget was approved; the possibility of having local sections submit Spring, Fall and Winter meeting proposals to the BOD were covered in addition to routine Chapter business.

The Spring meeting was held in Bozeman on May 17-19, 1984. Both the BOD and general membership meetings were convened. It was announced that Montana would be hosting the 1985 NW Regional convention at East Glacier in August. Local sections were given assignments: Billings – Exhibitors;
Bozeman – Speakers; Butte – At-Your-Service; Great Falls – Registration, programs, graphics, budget, etc.; Missoula – Spouse & family programs & entertainment; Helena – professional displays; and Kalispell – Accommodations. Scholarship interviews and awards were made during this meeting. A calendar of future monthly BOD meetings with location throughout the State was shared with members.

The BOD met on June 15, 1984 in Butte. The Butte Society of Architects was celebrating their 25th year. Members and the BOD held a general discussion on various topics prior to convening the meeting. Topics included definition of ‘public’ building, Building Codes Task Force, work by non-licensed architects, participation on National committees, nominees for AIA Fellows, State Board of Architects and plans for the 1985 NW Regional convention.

The August 10-11, 1984 BOD meeting was held in Whitefish and included a mixture of work and recreation with the Board’s families. In addition to the business of the Chapter, goals of the Chapter were discussed and set around the following: 1) 1985 NW Regional Convention – hosted by Montana; 2) Legislation and Building Codes; 3) Membership; 4) Education Program for Interns; and 5) Foundation fund for MSU/ SOA.

The BOD next met in Great Falls on September 14, 1984. The meeting consisted mostly of committee reports and updates.

The 1984 Fall meeting was on October 11-13 in Billings. Meetings were convened by both the BOD and the general membership. In addition to elections for 1985 BOD, the following areas were reported on: 1) Upcoming legislative issues; 2) Concerns that the IDP program as laid out would be too cumbersome; and 3) The findings of the Governor’s State Building Advisory Council. Elections for the 1985 BOD were conducted.

The BOD met on November 30, 1984 in Helena. Prior to the meeting, the BOD joined Architectural Society of Helena for a no-host lunch and received reports from the Building Codes Committee, proposed legislation to be introduced by the Board of Architects and Helena’s plans for the 1985 NW Regional meeting. Helena’s theme for the 1985 Winter meeting was to be titled “The User Public – the Uncontracted Client” – the goal being for more public exposure to code enforcement. The meeting of the BOD included more in-depth reporting on these same subjects plus approval of the proposed budget for 1985 and committee assignments. This was the final meeting of the year.

The 1985 Winter meeting was on February 7-11 in Helena. President Jack Armstrong called to order meetings for both the BOD and general membership. The meetings focused on committee updates, legislative issues, Honor Awards and Legislators were invited to evening functions.

The BOD next met in Missoula on March 1, 1985. Prior to the meeting, the BOD had lunch with members of the Missoula Society of Architects to exchange ideas and concerns. In addition to conducting the business of the Chapter, committee reports and updates were received.

On April 5, 1985, the BOD met in Helena. Prior to the official meeting, the BOD met with Rob Rosenfeld, IDP Coordinator for NCARB. At this meeting, Rob assured the Board that the current IDP program would not be mandatory. The programs training requirements had been liberalized and elective requirements had been added along with Continuing Education being substituted for experience. In his summation, he reminded all that IDP was an AIA program and not an NCARB program, so it is up to AIA to get more involved, understand and promote IDP. During the BOD meeting, committee reports were received and
for the first time, the BOD developed a short list from the numerous scholarship applications so that interviews would be easily conducted at the Spring meeting for this year’s scholarship awards of which there would be two: one for $600 and a second for $400.

The 1985 Spring meeting was held in Bozeman on May 16-17 and included both BOD and general membership meetings. In addition to the routine business of the Chapter and committee reports, the results of the Charette project – designing a doll house – open to both students and practitioners alike were announced. The jury for this Charette was three 7-year-old girls!

The BOD next met in Billings on June 18, 1985. Prior to the meeting, the Billings Architects Association joined the BOD for lunch to discuss areas of interest and concerns. At the meeting, committee reports included one from the National Convention regarding the 300% to 1000% increases in premiums for E & O insurance being experienced across the country plus the need to require professional development programs for licensing renewal.

On July 19, 1995, BOD met in Bozeman. Lunch was held with local architects with discussions that included the reactivation of the Fred Willson Society (name of the Bozeman’s local section), 1985 NW Regional Convention, and concerns/questions of the State Chapter. The BOD’s meeting was held at Chico that evening to conduct the business of the Chapter, committee reports and a discussion regarding ‘free’ architectural services or price cutting as it relates to the Code of Ethics.

The 1985 NW Regional Convention was held on August 21-23 in East Glacier. A short general membership meeting was held at lunch during the convention made up of short committee and program reports. The BOD met on August 24, 1985 to conduct a meeting to finalize plans for 1985 Fall meeting that would be comprised of a one-day seminar on October 11 in Butte presented by the Western Wood Products Association titled “Make Lumber Work for You”.

At the Fall meeting held on October 11, 1985, the general membership met over lunch to hold the election of the 1986 BOD with short committee/program reports. The BOD meeting called later that same day was to conduct the business of the Chapter. The one-day seminar format was noted as successful by the membership with a desire for more such offering in the future.

The BOD met in Helena on November 22, 1985. In addition to committee reports and updates, the 1986 proposed budget was adopted. This was the final meeting of 1985.

The first BOD meeting of 1986 was in Great Falls. The BOD had lunch with the Great Falls Society of Architects where they discussed the upcoming Grassroots Meeting. Grassroots would cover problems architects are facing across the nation, proposed draft to the Code of Ethics, direct billing consultants and the insertion of a liability clause in Owner-Contractor documents that limited architect’s exposure. After lunch, President Richard Shanahan called the BOD meeting to order. The BOD set a goal of more public awareness as to what services architects provide and set a calendar of meeting on the last Friday of each month throughout the State with the exception of the months when the Spring and Fall meetings were scheduled or if a local section had a special event planned.

The BOD next met in Helena on March 28, 1986. Lunch was with the Architectural Society of Helena and special guest Phil Hauck and Jim Kembel of the State’s Building Codes Division. The open forum allowed for questions and discussion around code enforcement, liability insurance, stamping of plans and re-use
of plans from one project to another similar project. The BOD met after lunch to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

The BOD next met during the BAA’s Meeting in the Mountains scheduled for May 2, 1986. This was the first time the Chapter discussed carrying liability insurance for the BOD. At this meeting, the policy to require two signatures on any Chapter checks over $500 was adopted.

The 1986 Spring meeting was in Bozeman on May 15. The BOD convened a meeting made up of reports and an open forum with the members. Scholarship interviews and awards were conducted.

The BOD met on August 22, 1986 in Missoula. The results of survey that polled the membership as to interest in the Chapter offering health and worker’s compensation insurance indicated there was not an interested. At this meeting the BOD approved sending letters to Senator Baucus and Melcher stating the Montana Chapter of AIA supported the selection of a Montana architect for the proposed Mansfield project.

At the 1986 Fall meeting in Missoula on September 25-26 the BOD met to conduct the business of the Chapter and the general membership conducted an open discussion around key issues such as: Board reorganization; establishing prepaid legal services for the Chapter members; and appointments to the AGC Concerns Liaison Committee and the IDP Committee. It was approved to have the BOD consist of the Executive Committee made up of Immediate Past President, President, President-Elect and Secretary/Treasurer with three Directors from different geographical regions of the state with the procedure of nominating and length of terms to be determined by BOD. Elections for 1987 BOD were held to support the new board structure.

The October 31, 1986 BOD meeting was in Helena. It was at this meeting the BOD approved the purchase of liability insurance for the Board – the annual cost was estimated to be $30 - $50 per year.

The final BOD meeting was convened on November 21, 1986 in Butte after lunch with the Butte Society of Architects. The MSU/SOA was under attack and facing severe funding cuts. The membership was encouraged to write letters of support for the School to both their legislators and the Board of Regents. The BOD approved sending a letter encouraging the Board of Regents to provide adequate funding for the School to both survive and continue to thrive. The BOD discussed the lack of response from the Board of Architects regarding plans stamped by engineers – not architects – being accepted and approved by Building Code offices throughout the State.

President Ray Johnson called to order the first meeting of the BOD on January 23, 1987 in Bozeman. One of the main focuses of this meeting was on implementing a letter campaign by members, firms, students and parents of architect students requesting support for the MSU/SOA. These letters should be directed to members of the 1987 Legislature and the Board of Regents. Each local section was asked to consider placing an ad in their local newspapers showing support for the MSU/SOA. It was reported that both the Boards of Architects and Professional Engineers had met to address the problem of practicing outside their disciplines. The budget and a meetings schedule were approved for the year. The Board approved a member dues increase of $20 per year and ended the assessment of supplemental dues.

The BOD next met in 1987 on February 27 in Helena. Prior to the meeting, the BOD had lunch with the Helena Architectural Society. During lunch, BOD announced the Northwest Region would now be called
the Northwest and Pacific Region. Members brought to the attention of the BOD that the dues increase voted on at the January BOD meeting exceeded the 20% increase in a three year period as allowed in the current Constitution at the discretion of the BOD. The BOD placed a hold on the collection of these dues until the Spring meeting when the membership could vote on the proposed dues increase. If this did not pass, the BOD would have to assess a supplemental fee (which was allowed by the BOD) in order to balance the budget and conduct the necessary business of the Chapter.

The BOD met on March 27, 1987 in Helena and started with a review of Montana’s Local Government Energy Agent Service program which will not take a percentage of the savings from participating jurisdictions but encourage investments of the savings realized into their facilities. How professional consultants would realize fees in this area had yet to be determined. This ended the Northwest Power Planning Council as created by Bonneville Power where a percentage of the energy savings realized by participating jurisdictions was placed with DNRC’s Energy Division and used to pay ‘energy consultants’ that identified these savings. The BOD approved sending a letter to the students of the SOA congratulating them on saving their school during the 1987 Legislative Session. The BOD approved a change to the Constitution and Bylaws requiring only the BOD to approve any change in dues structure. This would be presented to the membership at the Spring meeting for their approval. AIA and ACEC will work together to develop a brochure explaining HB310 – Quality Based Selection (QBS) for procurement of design professional services that would then be shared with all local and state jurisdictions.

On April 24, 1987, the BOD met in Great Falls to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

The Spring meeting in Bozeman on May 22, 1987 included both a BOD and general membership meeting. As the Spring meeting was lightly attended, the BOD made plans to send ballots out to the membership to vote by mail on the proposed Constitution and Bylaw change to allow the BOD to set dues.

At the BOD meeting in Missoula on July 24, 1987, the BOD accepted the results of the mailed ballots allowing the change to the Constitution and Bylaws for the BOD to determine dues for the Chapter. This change went into effect immediately.

The BOD held a planning meeting in Kalispell on August 28, 1987. The following plans resulted from this meeting: 1) Beginning in 1988, the Chapter will fund both the President and President-Elect to attend Grassroots; 2) Establish a prepaid legal service plan for AIA members; 3) Continue with the current BOD organization; 4) Establish an IDP committee and get the program working throughout the State; 5) Conducting BOD with local sections throughout the State had not worked – members came to lunch and left. BOD meetings would be held in central locations on a bi-monthly basis unless urgent business needed to be conducted; and 6) Working with student architects and develop a program titled “Architects in the Classroom” targeting high schools.

The BOD met in Butte on September 25, 1987 to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

The Fall meeting in 1987 was in Bozeman on October 30-31. The BOD met and determined that the elections for the 1988 BOD would be by mail since attendance at the meeting was low. A discussion regarding the poor attendance at the Spring and Fall meetings was held. The Spring meeting focused on speakers and education with the Fall meeting focused on fun and students. The general membership has not responded enthusiastically to either format. The BOD concluded by agreeing to focus efforts on one strong meeting per year. The meeting was adjourned so all could attend the Cat/Griz game.
The BOD met for the final time on November 30, 1087. The results of the mail-in ballots were accepted and both the 1988 proposed budget and schedule of meetings were presented. A letter from the Institute stating that Federal Grand Jury approved further investigation into AIA and 3 components involving Antitrust violations was shared. A committee was formed to make necessary changes to the Constitution and Bylaws regarding membership meeting requirements, and the incorporation of the AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct into membership requirements.

President LeRoy Johnston called the first BOD meeting to order in 1988 in Bozeman. The budget and schedule for BOD meetings were approved as presented. Committee appointments were made and the AIAS Chapter reported on their activities.

The March 18, 1988 BOD meeting was in Bozeman to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

The 1988 Spring meeting was held in Bozeman on May 19-20. The meeting featured “Architectural Photography Workshop” by Julius Shulman who was listed as one of the best known architectural photographers in the world. The meeting also hosted a ‘student/practitioner’ forum. In addition to conducting scholarship interviews, the results of the Honor Awards program were announced during the banquet. The BOD met and the only general membership meeting of the year was held.

The BOD met in Billings on July 15, 1988 for a short meeting to conduct the business of the Chapter before holding a lengthy planning session. Goals and methods of implementation were set for each of the following areas: 1) Architectural Practice; 2) Chapter Infrastructure; 3) Architectural Awareness (Public); 4) Architectural Education; and 5) Chapter Upgrades.

The BOD next met in Bozeman on September 16, 1988 to accept the changes to the Constitution and Bylaws as presented by the committee. The slate of officers for 1989 would be submitted to the membership for their vote by mail since no Fall general membership meeting would be convened.

The final BOD meeting in 1988 was on November 18 in Billings. The IDP committee asked the BOD to appoint an IDP coordinator since the new improved IDP program was received with great interest by students and better prepared new architects for the workplace. The BOD would reach out to the membership to find someone. The schedule with six (6) BOD meetings and the budget for 1989 were approved as presented. The changes to the Constitution and Bylaws were approved by the BOD and would be submitted for review by the Institute prior to holding a membership vote.

The first BOD meeting in 1989 was called to order by President John Peterson on January 13 in Billings. It was reported the Montana AIA Chapter had made application for a centennial grant from the State of Montana for an exhibit of ghost towns which when completed would tour around Montana during the year-long celebration of statehood. The Board of Architects reported that there would be no legislation submitted to define ‘public’ building during 1989 Legislative session. In an effort to demonstrate to the US Justice Department that architects were not violating any anti-trust laws, the Institute made available the “Minimum Standard #30 – Anti-Trust Education” to all Chapters. Meanwhile architects, sections and the Chapter were eliminating any existing copies of the 1973 fee schedule that had been developed for use on State projects as it was considered “fee fixing” by the US Justice Department.

The BOD next met in Billings on March 17, 1989. The State had awarded grant funds to develop the Ghost Town Exhibit and John Peterson with Don McLaughlin would finalize the exhibit boards with the
Montana Art Galleries Association taking over the responsibility of scheduling and transporting of the exhibit throughout the year. The Architectural Society of Helena asked for member support in writing letters to the Governor discouraging the polishing/sealing of the copper dome on the Capitol building. MTC position on the sales tax proposal was in support if ALL professionals pay and out of state work was exempted.

The BOD next met during the BAA’s “Meeting in the Mountains” on April 14, 1989 to conduct the business of the Chapter. The meeting consisted of short reports and updates.

Both the BOD and general membership met during 1989 Spring meeting on May 25-26 in Bozeman. The BOD conducted scholarship interviews and awarded 2 scholarships. Both meetings consisted of reports and updates. The updates and recommendations from the Institute to the Constitution and Bylaws were approved and would be shared with the membership for a vote later in the year.

On July 21, 1989, the BOD met in Bozeman with a short meeting followed by a planning session. The planning session reviewed the goals for 1989 and defined goals for 1990. The updated goals included Chapter outreach to not only members but the general public; a Chapter newsletter; upgraded social functions; making it a tradition to hold the Fall meeting with the Bobcat/Grizzly football game; strive for at least 5% of Chapter membership as FAIA; and increased Chapter membership. BOD members were to determine what two of these goals they wanted to focus on in preparation for additional discussion at future BOD meetings.

The BOD met September 15, 1989 in Bozeman. This meeting consisted of updates on centennial “Ghost Town” exhibit that was making its way across the State; the positive reception of Cecilia Vaniman’s presentation encouraging women to become architects that she was giving at different schools in the Bozeman area; and the plans for the Fall meeting.

The final board meeting of 1989 was held in Bozeman on November 4. The slate of officers was set for election at the next general membership meeting; the 1990 proposed budget was approved; and committee and program reports were reviewed.

At the 1989 Fall meeting in Bozeman, a short general membership meeting was held on November 17 with elections for the 1990 BOD. The Fall meeting included roundtable discussion of problems Chapter members and students were experiencing; a report from the Montana Contractor’s Association; a seminar on bonding; and results of the Honor Awards program. It was announced that the Chapter office now had a FAX machine!
1990 - 1999

Prior to first meeting on January 18, 1990 in Helena, the BOD and leaders of the State A & E Division met over lunch. President Merlyn Miller convened the meeting to conduct the business of the Chapter after lunch. The schedule for the BOD and committee appointments were approved as presented. A questionnaire surveying the membership for topics of interest for the Spring meeting was approved for distribution. MTC report included that issues around the selection process of architects and engineers by the State A & E Division were paramount among the membership and given the current climate in the Legislator this would not be the time to clarify the definition ‘public’ building.

The BOD met on March 16, 1990 in Great Falls. Dates and plans were underway for both the Spring and Fall meetings, the centennial “Ghost Town” exhibit will continue to be exhibited well into this year, the final details of the prepaid legal program for members were being ironed out, and routine business of the Chapter was conducted.

The Spring meeting in 1990 was held on May 17-18 in Bozeman. The individual members of the BOD presented design ‘problems’ for teams of students to solve. The problem and solution from each team was presented during the Awards banquet. This was reported as a huge success for both students and members. Only the BOD met during this Spring meeting. It was shared that the Institute has announced that the Fellows program will require nominees to present their information in official binders for consideration – these binders would be made available at the June convention.

The BOD met on July 13, 1990 in Missoula. It was reported that MTC lobbyist Sonny Hanson would have to be replaced as he had decided to run for the House of Representative office in his district. He provided a list of names of possible candidates to the MTC for consideration. The US Department of Justice’s jury found that AIA had violated Antitrust rules and a civil resolution was being reached – the details were to be worked out.

The Fall meeting in 1990 was held on September 27-29 in Billings. The BOD and the general membership meeting were combined into one. A report from the Board of Architects included the desire to use some of the excess licensing fees to conduct seminars in the future that would benefit the licensee – the Chapter agreed to work together to finding some appropriate subjects. The Board of Architects also reported that in some states IDP was now required for testing and reciprocity. Jay Reuss – an attorney and licensed architect – had agreed to explore offering a prepaid legal service program to Chapter members provided an agreement as to the type and extent of these services could be reached so an appropriate fee could be determined. Three names were advanced to the MTC for consideration for lobbying services: Jim Brown, Phil Hauck and Marty Crennen. Nominations for the 1991 BOD were finalized – the vote would be conducted by mail.

The final BOD meeting was on November 30, 1990 in Butte. The first directive of the Anti-trust resolution was sent from the Institute – Bulletin #1: All Chapter Components and Sections are to review their ‘codes of ethics, rules, bylaws, resolutions, guidelines, manuals, and policy statements’ and remove any provision that is contrary to the requirements of the Decree by February 1, 1991. It was shared that the Institute announced the “Accessibility Kit” to help members understand and comply with the 1990 Americans with Disability Act was now available for $9.95. The BOD accepted the results of the ballots for the election of the 1991 BOD.
The first meeting in 1991 was called to order by President Steve Hinick on January 25 in Helena. The BOD met with the new MTC Lobbyist Joanne Chance to discuss key legislative issues which included the acceptance of “Prevailing Wage Rate” for government funded work and a bill for bidding county work that excluded architecture services. The BOD reviewed the proposed budget, identified goals, made committee assignments and set the schedule of meetings for the year.

The BOD next met on March 16, 1991 in Butte. The budget was approved as proposed, long range planning goals were defined, additional committee assignments were made, a gala to celebrate 70th year for the Chapter was planned for the Fall meeting and there was an open discussion about Montana hosting the NW & Pacific Region meeting in 1993 in Big Sky/Bozeman area.

The Spring meeting was on May 23-24, 1991 in Bozeman. The BOD met on the afternoon of May 23 to conduct routine business for the Chapter and convened at 3:00 pm to conduct scholarship interviews and awards. The MTC reported that the proposed adoption of the Model Energy bill failed as presently written in committee (savings were directed to the gas and oil companies in this bill) and the mini Davis Bacon Wage Act passed out of the Legislature but was vetoed by the Governor. The SOA announced that MSU had moved from quarters to the new semester schedule. On Friday, practitioners presented design problems for teams of students to solve. This had been very well received in 1990 and all wished to repeat the process. The solutions were presented at the Awards banquet that evening. Members were invited to attend the BOD – no general membership meeting was convened.

The Fall meeting in 1991 was held at Gallatin Gateway Inn on October 5. A general membership meeting was convened consisting of committee reports and program updates. This was the first meeting were the video titled “Legal Hard Hat Required” was shown. This video was part of the Antitrust Degree and would have to be shown annual to the membership for the next 10 years. Nominations for the BOD were approved for the ballot that would be mailed out to all members for a vote. A gala celebrating the 70th year of the Chapter was held on the final evening.

The BOD met for the final time in 1991 on November 15 in Bozeman. This meeting consisted mainly of program updates and committee reports. The committee to plan the 1993 NW and Pacific Region meeting would be chaired by Don McLaughlin. The results election for the 1994 BOD was accepted.

The BOD did send a letter out to all Montana AIA Chapter members in December of 1991 cautioning about direct attacks of other architects and their firms during the interview selection process (QBS) lowers the standards of all architects. Applicable excerpts from the State Architecture Law were included with this letter.

President Toby Stapleton called the first BOD meeting in 1992 to order in Bozeman on January 24. The budget and schedule were approved as presented. The 1993 NW & Pacific meeting committee shared the following: 1) Date – July 29-31, 1993; 2) Place – Big Sky; 3) Theme: “Architecture & Sagebrush – The Influence of Place and Values”; 4) Activities – Seminars, Exhibitors, Tours, Social Events; 5) Regional Design Awards; and 6) request to hire a meeting planner for $500. All was approved. The BOD also discussed the new trend by the State to require ‘performance bond’ on projects.

On March 6, 1992, the BOD met in Helena to conduct routine business of the Chapter. The MTC report included the news that a new lobbyist was needed as Joanne Chance has resigned. Each Board member and the Executive Secretary had to sign a copy of the 1990 Consent Decree – another requirement of the Antitrust Decree resolution.
The 1992 Spring meeting was held on April 24 in Bozeman. The focus of the Spring meeting would be a one-day seminar titled: “Opening ALL Doors – ADA and Accessible Design”. The BOD met on April 23 to conduct routine Chapter business with scholarship interviews and awards. Other reports included the State A & E Office would withdraw the performance bond requirement while conducting more study of the issue and State Building Code Department announced that all structural plans would require a ‘stamp’ signed by licensed professional engineer.

The BOD met on June 11, 1992 in Bozeman to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

The July 31, 1992 meeting of the BOD was held in Great Falls. It was at this meeting the Institute shared news of the new electronic contract documents programs named “AIAEDS” was now available to all interested members.

The 1992 Fall meeting was held on October 23-24 in Missoula in conjunction with the Cat/Griz football game. The BOD meeting included setting the ballot for the 1993 BOD which again would be mailed out to all members for their vote, the announcement that Tom McNab (AIA member) would be serving as the MTC Lobbyist, and conducted the routine business of the Chapter. The general membership meeting consisted of committee reports, plans for the 1993 NW & Pacific Regional meeting, and the required viewing of the video “Legal Hard Hats are Required” to keep the Chapter in compliance with the Antitrust Decree resolution.

The final BOD meeting in 1992 was on December 4 in Billings. This meeting included the acceptance of the voted ballots for the 1993 BOD; the approval of the 1993 meeting schedule; proposal to expand the duties for each Board member beyond that of the Constitution/Bylaws; a proposal for a dues increase for membership in 1993; and a detailed schedule for the NW & Pacific Regional Meeting. Speakers at this meeting included: 1) Susan Maxman – President AIA National; 2) Jim Barker – President National Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture; 3) Brian Anson – Author, Critic and Architect from London, England; 4) Andre Nekrosov – Architect from Moscow Institute of Architecture Russia; and 5) Patrick Jobes – PhD in Sociology and Author of numerous articles on gateway communities.

President Don McLaughlin called the first meeting of the BOD to order on April 23, 1993 in Bozeman. Prior to the meeting, the BOD conducted scholarship interviews and awarded 3 - $500 scholarships.

The Chapter suspended regular BOD meetings until September 10, 1993 and used the time to prepare for 1993 NW & Pacific Regional meeting. At this meeting, Robert Rosenfeld gave an update on the proposed IDP program and other NCARB activities. It was brought to the attention of the BOD that no budget had been approved for 1993 and the BOD approved using the 1992 budget for 1993 as it was so late in the year. A report on the 1993 NW & Pacific Region meeting would be made at the next board meeting.

The final 1993 BOD meeting was held on November 12 in Bozeman. The Regional meeting netted the Chapter $6,064.85 and Marty Crennen was elected as the new director for the Region. A discussion was held regarding the new method of construction that was gaining popularity throughout the nation called design/build. Nominations for the 1994 BOD was accepted and approved for ballot vote by the membership by mail.
The first BOD meeting in 1994 was called to order by President Susan Bjerke on January 21 in Helena. It was reported that Seattle was serving as a test case for the proposed continuing education requirement for AIA membership. Tom McNab reported on the following proposed change to Building Codes, Section 302 b: “Plans, computations and specifications for buildings restructured with a calculated valuation of $100,000 or more, or when located inside zones 3 and 4 with a calculated valuation of $50,000 or more, shall be stamped and designed by an engineer or architect licensed to practice in the state of Montana.” It was noted that this did not address the A/E overlap issue. A schedule of BOD meetings was approved and routine business of the Chapter conducted.

The BOD met on April 15, 1994 during the Meeting in the Mountains in Red Lodge. The BOD approved the proposed 1994 budget and schedule of BOD meetings. The Scholarship Committee was formed to conduct interviews and make awards for the students now that the Meeting in the Mountains hosted by the Billings Architects Association (BAA) would be used as the Chapter’s Spring meeting. The Chapter accepted the proceeds from the 1993 NW & Pacific Region meeting of $6,305.45 and thanked Don McLaughlin and his committee for a job well done. It was reported that the State wished to consolidate engineering, land surveyors and architects into one licensing board to better serve the user rather than the licensee. The BOD reviewed the latest draft of the “Guidelines for Building Officials and Design Professionals” raised the following questions: “Who is this for and what is this for?” A budget of $400 was created to publish one Chapter newsletter per year.

The next meeting of the BOD in 1994 was on June 3 in Great Falls. The BOD took the position that the State’s proposed reorganization of combining the Architects, Engineers, Land Surveyors and Tramway Operators would be to the detriment to the practice of architecture and contain too many public members. The BOD drafted a letter to the Board of Architects identifying the following comments for consideration before approving the “Guidelines for Building Officials and Design Professionals”: 1) Architects and engineers both have rigorous training and education yet it was only mentioned in the definition of the engineers; 2) The term “purely incidental” was open to various interpretations when discussing overlaps in the design process; 3) The term ‘public’ building was narrowly defined by the State whereas the Uniform Building Code had a much broader definition that better supports the end user and should be clarified in this document; and 4) Original stamped and signed drawings should exist on each page of the plans from where the page originates in the set. The BOD agreed to meet with the Montana Contractor’s Association (MCA) to discuss common concerns/issues.

There appears to have been a BOD meeting in Kalispell on July 22, 1994. The records show an agenda, financials and a memo stating that the Executive Secretary would not be able to attend this meeting. The minutes of the next BOD meeting in September indicate that minutes were approved as published for this July 22 meeting but no copy of these minutes could be found in the records. The records includes a copy the of the MCA’s joint resolution of the building division – these results were presented at a joint meeting of MCA and AIA on June 30, 1994.

The 1994 Fall meeting was on September 2 in Butte. Both the BOD and the general membership met. Prior to the meeting, the BOD juried the Idaho Design Awards which President Sue Bjerke will present when Idaho meets to make the awards. The BOD approved a budget amendment for the annual Chapter newsletter from $400 to $5,000 to help with startup costs. The membership meeting consisted of reports from MTC, a summary of the BOD meetings, the opening of a dialog with the MCA, and the presentation of the 1994 design awards.
The final BOD meeting in 1994 was on November 18 in Helena. In addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter, much of this meeting dealt with upcoming legislative issues such as combining licensing boards, the proposal to move Building Codes from Department of Commerce to the Department of Labor and Industry, design/build for State projects, and revisions to the Energy Code. The final ballot for the 1995 BOD would be set and faxed to BOD for their approval by the end of November.

Ivan “Ike” Leigland had been elected to President in 1995 but passed before he could assume office. At the first BOD meeting in 1995 on February 17 in Helena, the meeting was convened by Vice President Stephen L’Heureux. After observing a moment of silence for Ike Leigland, the BOD approved advancing each member one chair and accepting both Jeff Sheldon and E. Rick Schlenker who had stood for election in the position of new director. The BOD approved the 1995 budget, commended Steve L’Heureux on the publication of the first issue of the Chapter’s newsletter named “Architecture Montana”, and received the news that HB-476 that would have consolidated many licensing boards and would have consolidated architects, engineers, land surveyors and tram operators together had been defeated on the House floor.

The BOD next met on April 4, 1995 during the Meeting in the Mountains in Red Lodge. At this meeting, the BOD approved Don McLaughlin’s request to form a “Presidents’ Council” that would be made up of past presidents of the Montana Chapter of AIA that would meet annually to serve as support to the BOD. The BOD accepted the request from the Vermont Chapter of AIA to jury their 1995 design awards and set a date of May 11 in Helena. It was reported that the Scholarship Committee would meet on April 18th to conduct interviews and award scholarships. A short informal membership forum was held later in the day to discuss the Institute’s plan to require continuing education hours to maintain AIA membership.

On June 15, 1995, the BOD met in Missoula to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

The BOD met in Helena on August 11, 1995. The Institute reported that members wanted a single point dues system which would mean that all dues – local, state and national – would be paid to national with reimbursement made to the states and locals. Jim Kembel from the Building Codes Bureau attended part of this meeting to discuss that plan review was lacking and field inspectors were requiring costly field changes. All agreed a better system was needed. The second issue of the “Architecture Montana” newsletter was scheduled to be mailed later in the month.

The 1995 Fall meeting was on October 27 in Bozeman. Members were invited to join the BOD meeting. It was reported that in the near future, the Institute would implement the ‘single-point’ system which would include both dues payment and membership entry. The Institute had approved the following methods of obtaining continuing education credits: 1) Supplier formats that met a set of criteria; 2) Teleconferencing that met a set of criteria; and 3) Chapter and Institute provided courses. The problem of recording these credits for the members had yet to be resolved. NCARB reported at this meeting that the IDP program was now a requirement to taking the licensing exam. It was also announced at this meeting that the Institute’s contact with the publisher of the AIA magazine the “Architecture” would be replaced with a new publisher and the magazine would be named the “Architectural Record”. The “Legal Hard Hat Required” video was shown at the conclusion of the meeting.

The final 1995 BOD meeting was on December 15 in Great Falls. Legal console recommended that CDs would be considered as prudent when investing the Chapter’s funds. The BOD instructed the ES to
purchase a CD of $8,000 for a one-year term. This fund could be used to protect future attacks on the profession. It was reported that the Administrative Rules adopted in the 1995 Legislative Session included the 4-1/2 miles jurisdiction expansion but as of now, no one knew what that would mean. Agencies continue to violate QBS and the BOD would reach out to the engineers to see what could be done. Tom McNab was resigning as MTC’s lobbyist. The BOD recommended Jim Kembel (newly retired) as a possible replacement. The ballot for the 1996 BOD was set to be mailed to the membership for vote.

President Ron Hess called to order the first BOD meeting in 1996 on February 16 in Bozeman. The dates for future meetings was set, the budget approved and reports on various programs were received.

Both a general membership meeting and a BOD meeting was held during the Meeting in the Mountains on April 26, 1996. The general membership meeting consisted of reports on the NW & Pacific Region, the 1996 National Meeting scheduled for May in Minneapolis, and an update on State Chapter activities. The BOD meeting included the routine business of the Chapter, approving the design award call, reviewing of the scholarship applications so a date to conduct interviews could be set with SOA, and plans for the 1996 Fall meeting.

The BOD next met on June 14, 1996 in Lewistown to conduct the business of the Chapter.

The BOD met on September 21, 1996 in Bozeman. Jim Kembel was the new lobbyist for MTC. Plans for the Fall meeting on October 25 in Bozeman included a workshop from Arthur Erickson with expenses being shared with the MSA/SOA, results of the Design Awards program and short program reports and updates for the membership.

The BOD meeting during the 1996 Fall meeting on October 25 included the Building Codes Division’s request to increase the size of the Division by 30% in order to maintain compliance with ADA requirements; the proposal by the State A & E Office to direct bid projects less than $25,000, informal bids on projects from $25,000 to $75,000, and use of the QBS process for projects over $75,000; and the announcement that this was the first year that certificates (compliments of JGA Architects) would be given to the 1996 Design Award recipients. Nominations for the 1997 BOD were accepted and the ballot was set to mail out to members for their vote.

The final meeting of the BOD in 1996 was on December 13 in Butte. The BOD received news from National that the AIA Trust would be offering business insurance as part of the services. Jim Kembel, MTC Lobbyist, reported to expect the following issues at the 1997 Legislative session: Sales tax, design/build, Building Codes, environmental, health, safety and welfare, the State’s construction budget, and the yet unknown. The results of the election were approved, the 1997 meeting schedule approved and the proposed budget reviewed and tabled for approval at the next BOD’s meeting.

President Chuck Kestle called the first BOD meeting in 1997 to order on February 21 in Helena. Prior to the meeting, the BOD, Architectural Society of Helena and Jim Kembel, MTC Lobbyist, met for lunch with a report on the current Legislative Session. The 1997 budget was approved with funds allocated to publish a Resource Directory for AIA Montana that would include the membership roster and the routine business of the Chapter was conducted. The meeting convened early so that the BOD could attend some of the committee hearings at the Capitol.
The BOD next met on April 11, 1997 during the Meeting in the Mountains at Red Lodge. At this meeting, it was announced that AIA National was working with the Department of Justice to insure that ADA becomes a “code” issue and not a “civil rights” issue. Other items covered included continuing education opportunities and review of the Legislative session. Scholarship interviews were to be held on April 22 at the MSU/SOA.

On June 13, 1997, the BOD met in Great Falls. At this meeting, NCARB shared the release of new study materials for the new computer-based ARE.

The BOD next met in Missoula on August 15, 1997 to conduct routine business for the Chapter. The newsletter was again in discussion. It was proposed to adjust the format to 8-1/2” x 11” in an effort to reduce publication costs with a set schedule in an effort to attract more support. The ES was to look for proposals. In addition to updates on programs and committees, a discussion was held regarding school districts from across the State ignoring the QBS process routinely.

There was an agenda for a meeting during the 1997 Fall meeting in Butte on October 3 but there were no minutes saved in the Chapter’s records.

The records show there was a final meeting of the BOD on December 5, 1997 in Billings. The agenda for this meeting was hand written by Ron Anderson with a memo proposing a schedule, budget, committee assignments and a list of the 1998 Officers and Directors. No minutes were found.

President Ron Anderson called the first BOD’s meeting in 1998 to order on February 20 in Helena. The minutes for this meeting indicate that the minutes for the December 5, 1997 were approved as published – yet unable to find a set of those minutes. At this meeting the budget, schedule and proposed committee assignments for 1998 were approved. This was the first meeting where membership applications were no longer approved at the Chapter level and then sent to National – National would approve membership applications and send a notice to the Chapter. The BOD assigned the ES the responsibility of publishing a Chapter newsletter 4-times per year with the first issue scheduled for March, 1998.

The BOD and the membership both convened meetings on April 3 during the 1998 Meeting of the Mountains in Red Lodge. The BOD meeting included updates on programs including very positive feedback on the first issue of the Chapter newsletter, Spring meeting planned for May 1, scholarship committee plans, and the routine business of the Chapter. The general membership meeting consisted of reports on programs, committees and the National AIA advertising program that would assess each member an additional $50/year for the next 3-years.

The 1998 Spring meeting on May 1 included both general membership and BOD meeting. The BOD meeting included updates from MTC, design/build issues, Fall meeting plans, and results of the scholarship committee’s interviews and awards. The general membership meeting included discussion of the BOD’s upcoming plans, information on the AIA National media campaign, member involvement on local, county and state boards and ways to strengthen the Chapter’s newsletter.

On July 10, 1998, the BOD met at the Salmon Lake Center to hold a short meeting followed by a full day of planning for the Chapter. At the planning meeting issues facing the Chapter and possible solutions were covered: 1) How to communicate with members; 2) re-energizing the Spring meeting; 3) what the practice of architecture encompasses; 4) National AIA ad campaign; 5) 1999 Legislative Session; 6)
The BOD next met in Bozeman on September 18, 1998. The BOD reviewed the write up from the planning meeting and each Board member was asked to prioritize the issues and make plans to set goals for their top issue to review at the October 30th meeting. The meeting included MTC report, NW & Pacific conference highlights, plans for the Fall meeting, update on the Past Presidents Council plans, Fellow nomination for Joe Campeau and a report from AIA National’s first State Network Government (SGN) meeting.

The 1998 Fall meeting held on October 30 in Bozeman included only a general membership meeting. The meeting consisted of reports from MTC, the 1999 NW & Pacific meeting that would be hosted by Yakima, Washington and the Design Awards. The slate of candidates for the 1999 BOD was set for the ballot – the membership would vote by mail.

The final BOD meeting in 1998 was held on December 11 in Lewistown. It was at this meeting, the BOD discussed recognizing the BAA’s “Meeting in the Mountains” as a replacement for the Spring meeting and the State Chapter could put more effort into a strong Fall meeting. The MTC report noted a busy 1999 Legislative Session with over 900 bills expected. There was to be code issues, the Affordable Housing Coalition had plans to propose guidelines and subdivision codes, and the school districts wanted modifications to QBS. The BOD accepted the results of the election. The budget, meeting schedule and committees for 1999 were accepted as proposed. It was at this meeting the BOD discussed developing a Chapter website.

President Jeff Sheldon called to order the first meeting in 1999 on February 12 in Helena. MTC reported that the Legislative Session was active but a quiet session so far for the design professional – no formal design/build legislation had yet to be introduced. The remainder of the meeting consisted of program and committee reports and updates.

The BOD met on April 8, 1999 in Billings – the day prior to the Meeting in the Mountains in Red Lodge. Scholarship interviews were scheduled for April 30. Plans to bring Leon Krier as a speaker to the 1999 Fall meeting were announced. The BOD approved a 3-year trial for offering the design award program beginning with this year. The Regional Meeting in 2000 would be a collaborative effort of both NW & Pacific and Western Regions titled “Summit 2000”.

On May 21, 1999, BOD met in Bozeman to conduct routine business of the Chapter. It was announced at this meeting that the website for the Chapter was under design.

The BOD next met in Bigfork on July 9, 1999. In addition to having Leon Krier at the 1999 Fall meeting, a design/build seminar would be offered with the architect in the lead position. The BOD approved Fellows Nomination support letters for Eric Hefty, Clark Llewellyn and Joe Campeau.

The BOD met on September 24, 1999 in Great Falls. This meeting was primarily reports and updates from committees and programs. The Chapter’s website had gone live. It was also determined that the 1999 Fall meeting schedule was so packed that no meetings for BOD or the membership would be convened.
The BOD met for the final time in 1999 on December 3 in Helena. The BOD approved the nomination committee’s slate of Officers and Directors for the 2000 BOD ballot. The schedule, committee assignments and budget for 2000 were approved as presented. MTC would again be searching for a new lobbyist as Jim Kembel had given his resignation.
2000 - 2009

President Errol “Rick” Schlenker called the first BOD meeting of 2000 to order in Lewistown on February 4. It was announced that AIA’s continuing education requirements per year would go from 36 learning units to 18 learning hours per year. The BOD would undertake the review of the Chapter’s Constitution and Bylaws to bring them into compliance with both the Region and National’s requirements.

The BOD met in Billings on April 6 – one day ahead of the Meeting in the Mountains in Red Lodge. The BOD decided to conduct scholarship interviews and awards later in the month in Bozeman. The new Lobbyist for MTC was Attorney Robert Throssell. The BOD approved holding the Fall meeting in conjunction with the AERO conference planned for October 5-7 in Billings. The groups would share speakers, venue and vendors to the benefit of both. A draft of the Board Member Handbook was reviewed.

On May 19, 2000, the BOD met in Bozeman. The BOD approved travel allowance for the Chapter’s IDP Coordinator to attend the annual national meeting of IDP Coordinators. NCARB provided some funding but it would not cover all the costs. The Institute announced the University of Oklahoma had been contracted to record continuing education (learning) units for AIA members. The new program would simplify record keeping for the Institute, the Chapter and members. AIA National announced the new electronic TIMSS membership program would go on-line on September 1. The Joint Regional Summit was to be held on September 21-23 in Sun Valley, Idaho. MSU/SAO would celebrate 75 years with a celebration on September 8-9. The BOD approved the ballot for a membership vote for a MSU/SAO endowment for $10,000 funded by the Chapter spread over three years.

The BOD next met on July 21, 2000 in Bigfork. The BOD was asked by the Board of Architects to support and promote legislation in 2001 requiring the State Building Codes Department to use a fill-in-the-blank permitting form that includes spaces identifying the designer (architect/engineer) by name and license number, contractor by name and license number, type of work, occupancy, building use and estimated costs. The BOD pledged support and agreed to approach MTC for their support of such legislation.

The September 15, 2000 BOD meeting was held in Great Falls. The proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws would be mailed out to the BOD for their approval ahead of the general membership meeting on October 7.

The 2000 Fall meeting was held in Billings on October 5-7 in conjunction with AERO. A short general membership meeting was convened on October 7 to announce the revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws. In order to have the necessary quorum, the changes would be posted to the website and mailed to the members for their vote. The remainder of this meeting was a discussion about the signing of drawings: wet signatures vs electronic signatures. The BOD approved the appointment of Connie Dempster of Association Management as the Chapter’s new ES effective on December 1, 2000.

The final BOD meeting in 2000 was on December 8 in Missoula. The BOD approved the nomination committee’s recommendation for the 2001 BOD ballot. This ballot included another vote on funding $10,000 over a 3-year period to the MSU/SAO Endowment using Chapter proceeds; the changes to the Chapter’s Constitution and Bylaws; and the 2001 slate of Officers and Directors. 2001 committee assignments were made with the 2001 budget approved as presented but the 2001 schedule approval was tabled till the next meeting.
The first BOD meeting in 2001 was in Helena on February 9. Prior to President Tom McNab calling this meeting to order, the BOD met with MTC Lobbyist Robert “Bob” Throssell for a short report on the current Legislative climate that was calm for the profession thus far in this session. The first order of business was to accept the resignation of Dann Taylor from the BOD for personal reasons. The Board then advanced both incoming director candidates onto the Board: Bill Grant would serve as Junior Director and Lee Peters as Incoming Director. The BOD approved the 2001 schedule and conducted routine business for the Chapter.

The BOD met on April 6, 2001 in Billings to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

On June 8, 2001, the BOD met in Three Forks. It was at this meeting the BOD approved e-ballots noting that 42% of members had email addresses on file with AIA Office. Another discussion at this meeting was the need for more advanced planning for the annual Fall meeting to insure the Chapter reserved the dates and locations it desired. The ES was instructed to obtain a reservation for the 2002 newly named Fall “Conference” (not Meeting) at the MSU/SUB. The BOD accepted the invitation from the NW&P Region to host the 2004 Regional Conference.

The BOD met in Big Fork on August 10, 2001. The BOD approved making Sonny Hanson an Honorary AIA Member of the Montana Chapter – the award will be made during the Awards Banquet at the 2001 Fall Conference. The BOD approved the housekeeping changes to the By-Laws – no changes were made to the Constitution as this would require approval of the membership.

There was a General Membership meeting held in the Capitol in Helena on October 6, 2001 during the Fall Conference. The meeting consisted of reports on the 2002 Fall Conference, an update on the Disaster Coordination Group, the 2001 Design Awards and the Chapter’s plans to host the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference. At the conclusion of this meeting, Tom O’Connell gave an extensive tour of the Capitol Building.

The final BOD meeting in 2001 was held in Great Falls on December 7. The number of design awards being submitted when held annually had dropped to an average of 13 submissions. The BOD decided to add to this year’s ballot a poll of the members to determine if they wanted design awards to be annual or every 2-year. The ballot for the 2002 BOD was set for distribution to the members.

President Marina Little called the first BOD meeting in 2002 to order in Missoula on February 8. The BOD accepted the results of the election and seated the new Board. The schedule of meetings and the budget were approved. The BOD accepted the will of the members to hold annual design awards one more time to see if submittals increased before returning to the every other year format. The structure of the committee to oversee the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference was set up.

The BOD next met in Billings on April 11, 2002 to conduct the routine business for the Chapter. Don Olsen and Tom McNab were appointed as Co-Chairs for the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference.

The BOD met in East Glacier on June 7, 2002. In addition to conducting the business of the Chapter, the Board approved offering an 8-hour Disaster Assistance Program Training the day before the opening of the Fall Conference. It was announced that the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference would be held in Big Sky sometime in August or early September.
The BOD met in Bozeman on September 6, 2002.

The 2002 Fall Conference was held on November 10-11. The General Membership meeting was convened on November 11 made up of committee and program reports with a call for nominations for the 2003 BOD ballot. During the MTC report on the 2003 Legislative Session, it was reported that MDT would be requesting permission to run three projects as a test using the design/build method construction. This was the final meeting of 2002.

President Clark Llwellyn called the first BOD meeting in 2003 to order in Helena on January 10. The BOD agreed to support SB #45 which increased design fees from 10K to 20K before the QBS process would be required on State projects; to oppose HB #147 that included pricing during the QBS process; and agreed to support SB #83 that allowed MTD to conduct 3 test projects using the design/build method of construction. The 2003 schedule was approved. The approval of the budget was tabled till the next meeting. The BOD approved using the MSU/SOA’s Graphics Class for the logo design for the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference for a donation of $2,000.

On April 10, 2003, the BOD met during the Meeting in the Mountains in Red Lodge. It was reported that MTC was in the process of disbanding since MARLS and ACEC had both announced that they would no longer be part of the group. AIA Montana prepared to contract their own lobby services for future sessions. The 2004 NW&P Regional Conference would be in Big Sky on August 18-22 and titled: Big Sky Explorations – Architects as Explorers. The Regional Conference was to serve as AIA Montana’s Fall Conference in 2004. The budget for 2003 was approved.

The BOD met on June 20, 2003 in Big Sky. In addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter, the primary purpose of the meeting was to consider layouts for sessions, vendors, meetings and other events that would be part of the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference. The Board also met with Bob Bayley in Ennis for his idea of conducting tours in Virginia City.

The 2003 Fall Conference was held in Whitefish and the General Membership meeting was held on October 18. This meeting was made up of reports: 1) The demise of MTC; 2) 2004 NW&P Regional Conference; 3) continued low number of design award submissions – only 6 in 2003; and 4) the expected additional charge on the architecture license fee of $30. A call for nominations to the 2004 BOD was made.

The final BOD meeting in 2003 was in Bozeman on December 5. It was reported that MTC was officially closed and the remaining funds would be disbursed back to all active members in the percentages paid. The ballot for the 2004 BOD was set. The budget and schedule for 2004 were approved.

President Don Olsen called the first 2004 BOD meeting to order in Helena on February 6. Jim Brown, Director of the State Building Codes Bureau was invited to the meeting. The BOD asked Mr. Brown why Building Codes does not require an Architectural Stamp on plans as part of the permitting process. Mr. Brown explained that current code requires an architectural stamp on ‘public’ buildings currently defined as a building owned and operated by the government. Legislation would be needed to change this. He went on to explain that architects and engineers need to agree on what constitutes ‘incidental’ practice on a project before Building Codes could require the appropriate design stamp. At this same meeting, Associate Member Henry Sorenson asked the BOD to consider adding an Associate Member to the Board. The remainder of the meeting concerned the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference.
The BOD met on April 1, 2004 to conduct the routine business of the Chapter. Plans were finalized for the golf tournament scheduled for August 18 on the opening day of the NW&P Regional Conference. The tour of Virginia City was to be organized in such a fashion as to earn LUs on the bus plus those attending would be divided into smaller groups and passed from speaker to speaker earning additional credits throughout the day. The MSU/SOA would provide students to act as techs to help with the speakers and Region’s design awards jury. Other finalized plans included a fly-fishing class, Pub Crawl, Gala, Awards Banquet and promotional gift items. 76 of the 84 vendor booths were sold.

The next meeting in 2004 of the BOD was on June 4 in Helena. The Board of Architects had requested an Opinion from the Attorney General regarding their authority over persons practicing architecture without a license. The Attorney General’s Opinion #47 states that the Board of Architects has jurisdiction over licensed architects and has no authority other than cease and desist letters over unlicensed individuals. The unlicensed individual would have to be turned into the appropriate county attorney to take any additional action. It was at this meeting that BOD first considered conducting an AIA Montana Chapter Salary Survey. The following items were approved to add to the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference: A sketching hike and a Teepee Pitching with BBQ. Individuals were identified to act as hosts for events and speakers.

The BOD met on July 9, 2004 in Big Sky. The cost of conducting a salary survey for the Chapter would be around $5,000 and the company conducting the survey recommended that it should be done every three years. The BOD decided to poll the membership to determine if the Chapter should be spending funds for a salary survey since AIA National conducts an annual survey broken down by regions. The reminder of this meeting was devoted to working on the final details for the 2004 NW&P Regional Conference.

The 2004 NW&P Regional Conference served as the AIA Montana 2004 Fall Conference. AIA Montana convened a General Membership meeting on August 21, 2004 during the Regional Conference. The meeting included reports on the design awards of which there had been 16 submittals; the results of the salary survey poll with 80% of those responding wanted a Chapter salary survey; the announcement that Clark Llwellyn was the newly elected NW&P Regional Director; and a call for nominations for the 2005 BOD.

The final BOD meeting in 2004 was in Helena on December 10. The results of the election were accepted by the BOD. The 2004 NW&P Regional Conference was reported to be a great success but the AIA Montana Chapter lost $7,690.33. The final report to the Region on the 2004 Conference will include the recommendation that the Region develop “Conference” sponsors – large companies such as AutoDesk that would sponsor the conference wherever in the Region it was being held. The BOD approved the proposed change to the Constitution and By-Laws to include an Associate Member as a voting Director for a term of 3-years. This change would now need to be brought before and voted on by the membership. The BOD interviewed and approved the hiring of Jim Kembel as AIA Montana’s Lobbyist during the 2005 Legislative Session. The 2005 budget and schedule were approved.

The first meeting of the BOD in 2005 was on January 14 in Bozeman. This meeting was canceled as a blizzard had covered the State making it unsafe to travel.

President Bill Grant called the first BOD meeting in 2005 to order in Billings on March 31. The AIA MT- SGN committee had continued to work via email throughout the current Legislative Session with the leadership provided by Lobbyist Jim Kembel. SB 237 which would have diluted the current QBS process
was defeated in Committee. SB 342 that established ways for State Agencies to use alternative building methods such as design/build continues to move through the session but Jim Kembel was successful in getting some amendments to the bill and will continue to try to have a QBS like selection process added to the bill. All in all, AIA Montana was pleased with its first Legislative Session without the protection of MTC.

The BAA granted AIA Montana permission to convene a short meeting on April 2 in Red Lodge to vote on the proposed Constitution and By-Laws change to add an Associate Director to the BOD during the Meeting of the Mountains. The change passed by more than 2/3 of the members present.

The BOD met in East Glacier on July 22, 2005. It was at this meeting, the Region shared the news that Marty Crennen would be receiving the Gold Medal Award. The Board ordered the first Montana Chapter Salary Survey. The Survey would go out at the end of the year and reflect wages and benefits paid in 2005. The BOD approved their support of electronic plans in pdf format distributed with a plan holder list by the State A/E for state projects.

The next meeting of the BOD in 2005 was in Missoula on September 16 to conduct routine Chapter business.

During the 2005 Fall Conference in Bozeman, a General Membership Meeting was convened on October 29. This meeting included the announcement of the 2005 AIA Montana Salary Survey, the call for nominations and the setting of the 2006 Ballot, reports on programs/committees, a report from the Architects Licensing Board, and the AIAS Chapter.

The final BOD meeting in 2005 was on December 2 in Helena. The meeting primarily dealt with the proposal of merging the Landscape Architects and Architects licensing boards. Since the State’s auditor had ruled that each licensing board would be allocated and required to pay any and all expenses for their individual operations, the Landscape Architects needed to attach themselves to another board in order to afford to operate. As it currently stood, the 93 licensed landscape architects in the state would have a license fee of over $500 per year. The BOD tabled making any decision at this time. The BOD conducted routine business for the Chapter.

On March 30, 2006, the BOD meeting was in Billings to conduct the routine business of the Chapter. This is the first BOD meeting with the attendance of the new Board position: Associate Director Dennis Johnson.

The BOD met in Big Fork on May 19, 2006. Much of this meeting dealt with an issue brought before the BOD by Attorney John Lacey who represented an engineer who had his plans used by another engineer as documentation for a flood plain change request made 5-years earlier for an adjacent piece of property. This issue was scheduled to go to the Montana Supreme Court and Mr. Lacey requested that AIA Montana file as a “friend of the court” Amicus Brief supporting his client’s position that the plans belonged to the engineer and could not be freely used by another engineer. The BOD decided that AIA Montana would file an Amicus Brief supporting Mr. Lacey’s client’s position, provided it could be shown that another professional engineering society was filing the same.

The BOD next met in Missoula on August 4, 2006. The BOD approved the signing of the Endowment pledge with the MSU/SOA at this meeting. In order to be able to have a named endowment for architect student scholarships, the Chapter had to pledge raising funds in excess of
The Chapter pledged $6,000 each year for the next three and planned to raise the additional funds from members and friends of the Chapter.

At the 2006 Fall Conference held in Billings on October 26-28, a General Membership Meeting was convened on October 28. The BOD formally announced the AIA Montana and Friends Endowment to the membership with a pledge form. By the end of this meeting, with the Chapter’s pledge of $6,000 per year, member pledges and friend (vendors) pledges, the endowment funds totaled $21,700.00. The Chapter was well on its way to meeting its commitment. Lobbyist Jim Kembel gave a detailed report of bills already filed for the 2007 Legislative Session that could impact the profession. Nominations were called for the 2007 BOD ballot.

The final BOD meeting in 2006 was held in Helena on December 8. This meeting included an update on the Endowment that now stood at $25,300 in pledges. The BOD approved the schedule for 2007.

President Terry Sukut called the first BOD meeting in 2007 to order in Helena on January 19. Lobbyist Jim Kembel announced that HB54 would merge Architects and Landscape Architects into one licensing board. The BOD approved the budget which included funds for the 2007 Salary Survey – the Chapter’s second such survey.

The BOD met in Billings on April 12, 2007. The Montana AIA Sketch Up Trips were well underway and being held throughout the state as a way to celebrate AIA National’s 150th birthday. The second of these was scheduled for April 14 in Red Lodge. HB 640 which would have defined ‘public’ building as that which is used and occupied by the general public for commercial purposes was defeated on the floor of the House. The BOD spent time with Lobbyist Jim Kembel brainstorming ways to position the bill for success in the 2009 Legislative Session. The BOD thanked Jim Kembel and Bill Grant for their efforts. It was at this meeting the BOD were first approached about funding the A. J. Gibson project.

On June 15, 2007, the BOD met in Billings. The primary purpose of this meeting was to determine the level of financial and time commitment Dr. Rafael Chacon (art historian from the University of Montana) would require for his A. J. Gibson’s Life Work book. Discussions included building models from members, sketches from the AIA Sketch Up Trips showing how existing Gibson buildings currently look, and a cash pledge of $13,000 for Chapter acknowledgement in press releases and within the book. No firm decision was made at this meeting. The BOD started to explore the possibility of offering group health insurance for members and their firms at this meeting.

The BOD next met in 2007 on August 17 in Missoula. This meeting included updates on programs and committees. The idea of group health insurance with New West was well received by the membership and plans to proceed were approved by the BOD. For health reasons, Jim Kembel was forced to resign as AIA Montana’s Lobbyist. He had recommended Joe Roberts as his replacement. The BOD took this under advisement and would proceed to arrange interviews when next in Helena.

At the 2007 Fall Conference, a General Membership meeting was convened on September 15 in Bozeman. The meeting included a report from the AIAS Chapter, the BOD’s search for a new Lobbyist in preparation for the 2009 Legislative session and a call for nominations for the 2008 BOD.

The final meeting of the BOD in 2007 was in Great Falls on November 16. The BOD approved the Chapter’s involvement with the A. J. Gibson project, the expansion of the Salary Survey to include all
Montana licensed architects residing and working in the State, and moved forward on the New West group health insurance program. The ballot for the 2008 BOD was sent out in early December via email.

The first BOD meeting in 2008 was convened by President Mike Dowling in Helena on January 18. The BOD approved the budget, the calendar and the hired Margaret Morgan as AIA Montana’s new Lobbyist in addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter.

On April 10, 2008, the BOD met in Bozeman. The primary purpose of this meeting was to identify strategies with the new AIA Montana Lobbyist Margaret Morgan to expand the definition of ‘public’ building currently held in the Montana Code. This set of minutes includes the Talking Points that were developed as a result of this meeting. The BOD also approved the proposed change to the Constitution and By-Laws to include Professional Affiliate Member category. The membership would now have to vote on this change.

The BOD next met in 2008 in Bozeman on June 20. The BOD approved the expansion of health insurance plans to all chapter membership categories with New West. New West would attend the 2008 Fall Conference. The BOD received a report of the meeting with Division Administrator of the Department of Labor Mike Cooney where he conceded there would be no opposition to AIA Montana’s proposed change to the definition of ‘public’ building. It was at this meeting the BOD contracted for the first full-color magazine published annually and named “Montana Architect”. The first issue would be due out in December 2008 featuring this year’s design award winners. Each award would be granted 2-full-color pages.

At the 2008 Fall Conference in Helena, a General Membership meeting was convened on September 20. The meeting consisted of reports by the AIAS Chapter, MT-SGN committee, the NW&P Regional Conference scheduled for October in Hawaii, and the 2008 issue of the Montana Architect magazine. The proposed change to the Constitution and By-Laws passed unanimously. A call for nominations for the 2009 BOD was made.

The final meeting of the BOD in 2008 was during the “Montana Architects as Advocates Workshop” in Bozeman on November 14. At this meeting, the BOD approved the proposed bill for redefining ‘public’ building and the Livable Community Award. The ballot for the 2009 BOD was set. The afternoon was spent with Lobbyist Margaret Morgan in-training on how best to advocate for the bill redefining ‘public’ building in the Montana Code during the upcoming Legislative session.

The first BOD meeting in 2009 was called to order by President Jeff Sandholm in Helena on January 8. This meeting was preceded with the BOD and members spending the morning at the Capitol visiting with Legislators and sharing about what it is that architects do and the narrow definition of ‘public’ building currently in the Code. During the meeting the budget and calendar for 2009 were approved and reports were received on committees/programs.

The BOD met on March 29, 2009 in Billings to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

On June 11, 2009, the BOD met in Kalispell. It was at this meeting, the BOD received the caution from AIA National to review anti-trust rules before discussing pricing, profit margins, business strategies, etc., at meetings or during a Chapter sponsored event or conference as these could be construed as ‘price’ fixing.
The BOD next met in 2009 on August 13 in Missoula. The BOD decided at this meeting to not continue to press for legislation to redefine ‘public’ building as the support necessary to make this happen was not coming from the membership – only the BOD. Another avenue was to have the Building Codes Department propose the change and/or not to exempt that part of the IBC which requires the appropriate design professional’s stamp on plans when applying for a permit.

At the 2009 Fall Conference, a General Membership meeting was convened on October 9 in Bozeman. Reports were received from the AIAS Chapter, IDP Coordinator, and MSU/SOA. A call for nominations for the 2010 BOD was made.

The final BOD meeting in 2009 was held on December 3 in Great Falls. A & E Division Administrator Tom O’Connell was approved as an Honorary AIA Montana Member at this meeting. The BOD spent some time clarifying the different between a Local Chapter vs. Section at the request of the BAA. The BOD adopted the policy of returning the Fall Conference to Bozeman every other year or whenever possible to show support and keep the lines of communication open with the MSU/SOA. It was also determined with the new Fall Conference schedule of starting on Thursday at 1:00 pm thru Saturday at noon; there would be time to hold a Past-Presidents lunch at noon on Thursday. The ballot for 2010 was set for a vote by the membership via email.
2010 - 2019

President Kent Bray convened the first BOD meeting in 2010 on January 8 in Bozeman. The budget and calendar were approved for 2010 with updates received on programs and from committees.

The BOD next met in Billings on March 25, 2010 to conduct the routine business of the Chapter. The BOD approved the new design award submission program which allowed submissions to be made on CDs rather than with hardcopy photos. The BOD also approved a separate “Unbuilt” program option.

On June 24, 2010, the BOD met in Kalispell to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

The BOD met on August 19, 2010 in Helena. The BOD interviewed three potential Lobbyists for bill monitoring during the 2011 Legislative Session. Jennifer James was selected to lobby for AIA Montana. The BOD approved giving both a pinnacle styled trophy and 2 certificates in the embossed covers to each design award recipient in addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter.

At the 2010 Fall Conference, a General Membership meeting was convened on October 2 in Missoula. This meeting included the announcement of the location and date for the 2011 Fall Conference, a report from both the AIAS Chapter and the NW&P Region, and a call for nominations for the 2011 BOD.

The final in-person BOD meeting in 2010 was in Great Falls on November 12. It was at this meeting, the BOD received the news the NW&P Region will no longer require those submitting for the regional design program to have received an award at the state chapter level. The ballot for the 2011 BOD was set and would be voted on by the membership via email.

The BOD convened a short email board meeting on December 13, 2010 to approve the filing of a ‘friend of the court’ Amicus Brief with the Montana Contractor Association in support of the Dick Anderson Construction, Inc. vs Monroe Property Company, LLC. The case maintained that an owner of property cannot avoid construction liens simply by using a shell corporation that has no interest in the real property other than the contract for improvements to the real property.

President Chere LeClair called the first BOD meeting in 2011 to order on January 20 in Helena. The budget and calendar for 2011 were approved. Lobbyist Jennifer James was pleased to report the bill to eliminate the State A & E Office had been withdrawn. The Masonry Promotion Group requested permission to present the results of their first Montana Masonry Design Award Program at the AIA Montana Fall Conference. This was approved by the BOD.

The BOD met in Billings on March 24, 2011 to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

The BOD next met in Kalispell on June 24, 2011. The BOD received the news the Supreme Court had ruled in favor of Dick Anderson Construction thus preserving Montana’s existing lien laws. The Court had cited several of the arguments set forth in the Amicus Brief filed by AIA and MCA by Crowley Fleck. It was at this meeting, the BAA announced the desire to be a Chapter and not just a Section. The BOD shared the criteria with the BAA for this to happen. BOD will wait to see if the BAA proceeds to the next step which would include a LOCAL tier be formed in Montana.
The BOD met in Bozeman on August 5, 2011. In addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter, the BOD approved polling of the membership as soon as possible to determine the level of interest in creating a LOCAL tier in Montana. Once a LOCAL tier is created, dues at that level are mandatory just as they would be at both the State and National level.

A general membership meeting was held during the 2011 Fall conference in Helena on October 1. This meeting consisted of reports on different programs and committees with nominations for the 2012 BOD.

The last BOD meeting in 2011 was on December 8 in Bozeman. The results of the poll on adding a LOCAL tier membership to the Montana Chapter were shared at this meeting. 34% of the membership responded to the poll with 65% of the respondents against LOCAL tier membership. A letter was sent by President Chere LeClair to the BAA requesting they cease pursuing LOCAL Chapter status.

The first BOD meeting in 2012 was called to order by Dale Nelson on January 26 in Bozeman. In addition to approving the budget and calendar for 2012, the Board received news that NCARB will no longer support reciprocity with states that do not have a continuing education requirement for license renewal. The Architects Licensing Board would be implementing a continuing education requirement in time for approval in the 2013 Legislative Session. The BOD approved having both the Chapter’s Design Award Program and the Masonry Design Award Program at the 2012 Fall Conference.

The BOD met on April 26, 2012 in Billings to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

On June 6, 2012, the BOD met in Helena. The MSU/SOA reported a balance of $9,257.00 remained in an account funded by AIA Montana in the early 1990’s for MSU/SOA to use on projects. The projects would require AIA Montana’s approval. The MSU/SOA was considering resurfacing the main gallery pin up boards and/or installation of a projection system for the main gallery. The BOD approved using the funds for either or both projects.

The BOD next met 2012 in Great Falls on August 17. The BOD approved using a grant request format for all future funding requests of AIA Montana. The 3-part process includes 1) a description of the proposed program and the amount of funding for the BOD to approve or disapprove; 2) a request for release of funds in full or part; and 3) a final follow up report on the project. This program can be used by the AIAS Chapter and others.

A general membership meeting was convened during the 2012 Fall Conference in Kalispell on September 22. The meeting consisted of short committee and program reports with nominations for the 2013 BOD. The meeting concluded at 10:00 am for a coach tour of Glacier National Park.

The final BOD meeting in 2012 was in Helena on November 29. In addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter, the BOD spent the majority of this meeting with Lobbyist Jennifer James regarding the upcoming 2013 Legislative Session.

President David Koel called the first BOD meeting in 2013 to order on January 17 in Helena. The BOD conducted the routine business of the Chapter and approved both the budget and calendar for 2013.

On April 25, 2013, the BOD met in Billings. The Architect Licensing Board will require 12 HSW/CEU’s per calendar year starting in January 2014 for architect license renewal. There will be no grace or
forgiveness program with the Licensing Board nor will CEU’s carry forward or back – licensee’s will need to earn 12 HSW/CEU’s per calendar year to maintain their license. The BOD approved conducting a salary survey reflecting wages and benefits for 2013.

The BOD met on June 11 in Bozeman to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

The BOD next met at Fairmont Hot Springs on August 8, 2013. A quorum was not met so no business could be conducted. Those in attendance did receive committee and program updates. The minutes of the June meeting and the financial reports were approved via email later this same month.

There was no general membership meeting convened at the 2013 Fall Conference.

The final BOD meeting in 2013 was held in Missoula on November 14 to conduct the routine business of the Chapter including setting the 2014 BOD ballot.

President Lisa Sukut called the first BOD meeting in 2014 to order on January 17. A letter was shared from Thomas O’Connell, Administrator and Russ Katherman, PE, HPBS Development Coordinator of the State of Montana’s Architecture and Engineering Division thanking AIA Montana for their help in reviewing the Private Sector High-Performance Building Standards. These standards were adopted on December 1, 2013. Much of this meeting dealt with refining the State’s definition of ‘public’ building through the State’s Department of Labor & Industry. The budget and calendar for 2014 were approved.

The BOD next met in Billings on April 3, 2014 to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

On June 12, 2014, the BOD met in Missoula. The issue of Montana’s narrow definition of a ‘public’ building continued to be caught up in a circular argument between the ARM and MCA. The BOD continued to work through the process and make use of Lobbyist Jennifer and Darryl James. The BOD approved hosting the 2015 NW+P Regional Leadership Summit on the Wednesday before the 2015 Fall Conference.

The BOD next met on August 21, 2014 in Great Falls. The BOD signed with Massive for a complete website redesign. The BOD supported Chere LeClair in her bid to run for NW+P Regional Director in October at the Tacoma Leadership Summit.

A general membership meeting was convened during the 2014 Fall Conference in Helena on September 25. Reports were received regarding the new website design, a forecast on the 2015 Legislative Session and ‘public’ building definition process, IDP update, NW+P Region update, the state of the MSU/SOA and the AIAS Chapter status. It was at this meeting, the IDP Coordinator Shannon Christensen announced that IDP Coordinator have been renamed Architect Licensing Advisor – no abbreviation allowed. Nominations for the 2015 BOD were requested.

The BOD met for a final time in 2014 on November 13 to conduct the routine business of the Chapter and to set the 2015 BOD ballot.

President Klint Fisher called the first BOD meeting in 2015 to order on January 15 in Helena. The 2015 Legislative Session was off to a slow start with few concerns for the design professional at this point in time. The 2015 budget and calendar were approved. The Montana Preservation Alliance requested help in funding their compilation of Montana’s finest 100 buildings. The project’s results would reside
on the web. The BOD agreed to match member donations for the project up to $2,500. In an effort to get more girls interested in architecture, it was announced that Shannon Christensen, Chere LeClair and Marry Klette would present a fun interactive program to the Girl Scouts in early March in Billings.

The BOD next met in 2015 in Billings on April 9. Funding for infrastructure continued to be a political football along party lines in this Legislative Session. The remainder of the meeting consisted of program and committee reports.

On June 11, 2015, the BOD met in Great Falls. The BOD voted to write a letter of support for John “Jack” Smith for the NW+P Region’s Gold Medal Award. The BOD approved making application for a grant of $15,000 from AIA National to help expand member’s ability to communicate their work on the Chapter’s website.

The BOD met in Bozeman on July 30, 2015. The Chapter was awarded $15,000 to expand member communications on the Chapter’s website. This money will be used to allow AIA Montana members to post completed projects on the Chapter’s website with a link back to their website or an email. The BOD spent additional time at this meeting reviewing the 7 categories of service that will make up AIA National’s standard for each Chapter to meet in providing AIA Core Member Services.

A general membership meeting was convened on September 24 during the 2015 Fall Conference. The meeting consisted of reports from Shannon Christensen – the Chapter’s Architect Licensing Advisor; Chere LeClair – Director of the NW+P Region; Ralph Johnson – Director MSU/School of Architecture; Elizabeth Seidel – Co-President AIAS Chapter; and Massive reported on the progress of the communication campaign for posting projects to the Chapter’s website. A call for nominations for the 2016 BOD was made.

The BOD met for a final time in 2015 on November 18 in Bozeman. AIA Montana signed the State Component Memo of Understanding with AIA National – the first step in the Core Member Service Plan Accreditation. Bill Grant stepped aside as SGN Co-representative. Shannon Christensen will serve as SGN Co-representative with Richard Shanahan. The ballot for the 2016 BOD was set.

President Tad Tsukamoto called the first meeting of the BOD in 2016 to order on January 21 in Helena. In addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter, the 2016 budget and calendar were approved. The BOD approved conducting the outcome of the Masonry Awards on the evening of the first day of the 2016 Fall Conference and updating the submission process for the AIA Montana Design Award program. The Chapter had submitted its first Core Member Service report and was awaiting accreditation from National.

The BOD next met in 2016 in Billings on April 21. The routine business of the Chapter was conducted. AIA National had asked the Chapter to define the method by which a “Strategic Plan” would be developed with both the short and long term goals. The BOD developed a Mission Statement, Vision Statement and a Strategic Plan to support and measure both. Additional work would be performed via email to finalize and submit back to National.

On June 23, 2016 the BOD met in Great Falls. The BOD approved using CadmiumCD programing for submitting design award projects on-line and the process would begin this year. A salary survey would again be offered reflecting salaries and benefits earned in 2016 and the report will be available in early 2017. The remainder of the meeting consisted of reports and updates from committees and programs.
The BOD met on August 18, 2016 in Missoula to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

A general membership meeting was called to order on September 29 during the 2016 Fall Conference at Fairmont Hot Springs. Reports were given as follows: Architecture Licensing Advisor Update, NW+P Region Report, MSU/SOA, AIAS Chapter Update with grant request, Salary Survey announcement and a call for nominations to the 2018 BOD.

The final BOD meeting in 2016 was held on November 17 in Bozeman. The BOD approved increases in both registrations for attendees and vendor booths as the Chapter needed to increase non-dues revenue streams and the current rates were making it difficult to break even. The ballot for the 2018 BOD was set for distribution to members for their vote. Plans for MT SGN Committee were reviewed in preparation for the 2017 Legislative Session.

President Ben Tintinger called the first 2017 BOD meeting to order on January 26 in Helena. In addition to approving the budget and calendar for 2017, the BOD spent most of the meeting receiving an update from Lobbyists Darryl and Jennifer James. It was announced that Shannon Christensen had received Young Architect of the Year award from National.

The BOD next met in 2017 in Billings on April 6. Both Russ Gatherman and Connie Dempster were approved to receive Honorary AIA Montana Membership at the 2017 Fall Conference. The Legislative report noted that SB 335 (Public/Private Partnership Funding) was withdrawn; SB 365 (to eliminate licensing requirements) amended out Engineers and Land Surveyors (Architects were never named); HB 473 (to increase gas tax) passed; and SB 278 (to revise procurement process) continues to limp along.

The BOD met on June 22, 2017 in Great Falls. At this meeting, the BOD voted to continue to share a membership with ASCE on the Infrastructure Coalition Committee. It was announced that architects would celebrate Montana’s 100th year of licensing architects at the Fall Conference during the Awards Banquet.

The August 17, 2017 BOD meeting was in Helena. The BOD voted and approved a letter be sent to the Bozeman Planning Department expressing concern that the proposed UDC Revisions were too restrictive and had the potential to suppress innovative design by licensed architects. The letter requested that architects have an opportunity to provide input before the Department implements UDC Revisions. The remainder of the meeting dealt with routine business of the Chapter.

A general membership meeting was convened on September 21 during the 2017 Fall Conference in Missoula. The meeting was comprised of reports and updates from NWP Region; Missoula’s Architecture + Design Group; AIAS Chapter; and MSU/SOA with a call for nominations for the 2018 BOD.

The final BOD meeting in 2017 was on November 22 in Bozeman. At this meeting two significant changes to ARM by NCARB were shared: 1) Those architects that are yet to be licensed will no longer be called “Architects in Training” (A.I.T.) – however – no new identifier was yet to be developed – TBD. 2) Each HSW – CEU must contain 75% HSW to be considered HSW. The 2018 BOD ballot was set for voting by the membership.

President Shane Jacobs called the first BOD meeting in 2018 to order on January 16 in Helena. Much of this meeting dealt with ‘unlicensed’ practice and the adoption of the 2018 IBC and exemptions made by
the Building Codes Bureau. It was announced that NCARB has been using the term ‘licensure candidate’ when referring to architect pursuing licensure. AIA National has proposed ‘associate architect’ but this violates many states’ architecture licensure statutes which prohibit the use of ‘architect’ except by those licensed. The 2018 budget and calendar were approved by the BOD.

The BOD next met in 2018 on April 12 in Billings. It was at this meeting, news was received that the Portland AIA Chapter with the Oregon Chapter would submit a proposal at the National Convention to have AIA National explore the elimination of Regions.

The BOD met in Bozeman on June 28, 2018 to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

On August 15, 2018, the BOD met in Missoula. The primary purpose of this meeting was to meet with NW+P Regional Director Rod Ashley as to how the Region could best serve the membership.

A general membership meeting was convened on September 27 during the 2018 Fall Conference in Great Falls. This meeting included report and program updates with a call for nominations for the 2019 BOD. AIA Montana was approved to host the NW+P Region’s Leadership Summit in 2019 – this would be held the day before the 2019 Fall Conference.

The final 2018 BOD meeting was on December 7 in Bozeman. In preparation for CMS accreditation, the BOD approved and added to the AIA Montana Policy and Procedure Manual a Conflict of Interest and Disclosure Form which each member of the BOD will sign annually. The BOD approved and added to the AIA Montana Policy and Procedure Manual a Whistleblower Protection Policy. The BOD reaffirmed that by being a Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, it will support all initiatives and policies adopted by the Institute. The 2019 ballot was set for a vote by the membership.

President Sophia Sparklin called the first BOD meeting in 2019 to order on January 24 in Helena. In addition to this meeting, AIA Montana held their first Capitol Day with the Legislators during the afternoon followed by a reception with them at the Colonial Inn in the evening. At the meeting, the 2019 budget and calendar were approved and Conflict of Interest forms signed. The BOD decided to conduct a members’ social after each Board meeting except during the Meeting in the Mountains and the Fall Conference.

On April 11, 2019, the BOD met in Billings to conduct routine business of the Chapter.

The BOD next met in 2019 in Missoula on June 20. This meeting included program and committee reports and updates. This was ES Connie Dempster’s final meeting with AIA Montana. Michele Munson (new owner of Association Management) would serve as AIA Montana’s new ES.

The BOD met on August 22 in Great Falls. At this meeting the BOD approved sending Associate AIA Director Nicole Stine to the Women’s Leadership Summit and supported the Great Falls Architects Society’s program encouraging the Skilled Trades.

A general membership meeting was convened on September 19 during the 2019 Fall Conference. The membership was introduced to Michele Munson. Reports were received from MSU/SOA; Architect Licensing Advisor Shannon Christensen; AIAS Chapter; MT SGN Chair Ben Tintinger; and the NW+P Region Directors Rod Ashley and Dave Huotari. A call for nominations for the 2020 BOD was made.
The final BOD meeting in 2019 was held on November 14 in Helena. At this meeting the 2020 ballot for the BOD was set. The BOD approved charging MSU/SOA students $25 to attend future Fall Conferences, vendor booth registration was set at $1,000 per booth, and to close Fall Conference attendee registration one-week prior to the Conference. The BOD approved limiting the size of Design Award Submittals to enable quicker uploading by the jury and to advance the submission period from April 1 through June 15.
2020 - 2021

President Justin Tollefson convened the first BOD meeting in 2020 on January 23 in Bozeman. In addition to the routine business of the Chapter, the BOD approved the calendar and budget with a salary survey reflecting wage and benefits for 2020.

The April 16, 2020 BOD meeting was conducted as a video conference call for Covid compliance. At this meeting the BOD began exploring options for the Fall Conference: In-person or video or cancel altogether. Jennisse Schule was approved to serve as the Architecture Licensing Advisor. The BOD extended the deadline for a logo competition for the Chapter’s 100th anniversary in 2021.

The BOD again held a video conference call meeting on June 11, 2020. In addition to conducting the routine business of the Chapter, the BOD approved conducting a virtual 2020 Fall Conference provided the speakers agreed.

The BOD next conference called on August 13, 2020 to conduct the routine business of the Chapter.

A general membership was held as a video conference call on September 17 during the 2020 Fall Conference. The meeting consisted of reports from the MSU/SOA; Architect License Advisor; AIAS Chapter; AIA SGN update; NW+P Region; 2021 Legislative forecast; and 2021 Fall Conference update with a call for nominations for the 2021 BOD.

On November 12, 2020, the BOD held another general membership video conference call with reports and updates on Chapter programs. The 2021 BOD ballot was set for voting by the membership.

President Dennie Stephenson convened the first 2021 BOD video conference meeting to order on January 11. The meeting included a Legislative Update on the 2021 session by Lobbyist Jennifer James. The budget and calendar for 2021 were approved.

The next BOD meeting in 2021 was on April 15 as video conference call to conduct the routing business of the Chapter. The BOD received the news that Regions will probably be phased out over the next three years. Each State Chapter will put forth a representative to serve at the National level for 3-year term on the Strategic Counsel.

The BOD next met in person in 2021 on June 29 in Helena. Per FERPA, AIA Montana will no longer be allowed to conduct interviews of MSU/SOA students for scholarships. The BOD will set the criteria and MSU/SOA will determine the recipients. The BOD accepted the Institute’s Equity, Diversity & Inclusion statement.

This concludes the second volume recapping the minutes of The Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects from January of 1972 through June 2021.
AIA Montana Past Presidents

AIA Montana—A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects was founded on June 4, 1921. Following is a list of the members that have served as President for AIA Montana over the years.

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Current President:  

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<td>Justin Tollefson</td>
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</table>
The following members have advanced to Fellow status with the Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects:

Angus Vaughn McIver  Chandler Carroll Cohagen  Robert Erick Fehlberg  
David S Davidson  John N De Haas, Jr.  Martin W Crennen  
Ferdinand Stoddert Johns  Randy Hafer  James R McDonald  
Andrew Vernooy  Chere LeClair

The following individuals have served as Executive Secretary for AIA Montana:

Thomas Judge (Thomas Judge Public Relations Agency)  1967-1972  
Peter Berry (Thomas Judge Public Relations Agency)  1972-1974  
Don Torgerson (Thomas Judge Public Relations Agency)  1974-1979  
Joann Harris (Association Management)  1979-2000  
Connie Dempster (Association Management)  2000-2019  
Michele Munson (Association Management)  2019-to Present

The following organizations/individuals have provided Lobby services for AIA Montana:

Harold “Sonny” Hanson (Montana Tech Council)  1973-1990  
Joanne Chance (Montana Tech Council)  1991  
Tom McNab (Montana Tech Council)  1992-1995  
Jim Kembel (Montana Tech Council)  1996-1999  
Robert Throssell (Montana Tech Council)  2000-2004  
Montana Tech Council disbanded on December 31, 2004

Jim Kembel (Direct Hire by AIA MT)  2005-2007  
Margaret Morgan (Direct Hire by AIA MT)  2008-2010  
Jennifer James (Direct Hire by AIA MT)  2011-to Present  
Darryl James (Direct Hire by AIA MT)  2014-to Present

The following members have served as State Government Network Representatives:

Tobias “Toby” Stapleton  1998-2001  
Richard Shanahan  2002-2018  
(Starting in 2014 – AIA Montana had Co-Representatives for SGN)

William “Bill” Grant  2007-2014  
Shannon Christensen  2015-To Present  
Ben Tintinger  2019-2021

NCARB – at the request of AIA – started Intern Development Program in 1978. It was a voluntary program until 1995. The following members have served as Intern Development Program Representatives:

Robert Petzborn  1998-2002  
Jeff Sandholm  2003-2005  
Vanessa Van Beusehom  2006-2008

NCARB renamed the IDP Representative to Architect Licensing Advisor in 2014.

Shannon Peterson Christensen  2009-2019  
Jennisse Schule  2020-to Present