

Monthly Meeting •••••

March 19, 2008 | Wednesday 11:45

Our March luncheon will be held at **The Montgomery Country Club** in the Colonial Room.

Speaker and Sponsor | ••••

Our guest speaker for the March luncheon is **Nathan Norris**, Director of Marketing and Design for The Waters. Nathan will be speaking on the Montgomery Smart Code.



Nathan received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and his law degree from the University of Alabama. He served as an Army JAG officer with the 1st Cavalry Division as well as a JAG officer with the Alabama Air National Guard. He is a frequent speaker to organizations and groups interested in placemaking as an economic development tool.

Our sponsor for the luncheon is **Imaging Technologies**. With a branch office in Montgomery, Imaging Technologies offers comprehensive services in reprographics, color imaging, large-format printing equipment and software. With 16 branch locations throughout the Southeast, they are committed to providing superior products and services.

President's Message | •••••

This past February 15 was the American Streamlined Design Symposium. The symposium provided a day of great insight into the inter-relationship between transportation, industrial design and architecture, and illustrated how the streamlining of transportation greatly affected our daily lives. The staff of the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts was extremely gracious in their dedication to our chapter. It took many hours and a lot of money to pull off this phenomenal day and Mark Johnson, Margaret Lynn Ausfeld, Michael Panhorst, Alice Novak and many others deserve grateful thanks for all their time and effort.

Also during the month of February, it was brought to my attention by one of our firm principals that section S34-2-37 of the proposed revisions to the architectural registration law, presently a bill before the legislature, would allow any company that has a licensed architect the ability to represent themselves as an architectural firm and to practice architecture in the state of Alabama. The practicing architect of said company would not have to have ownership in the firm. Due to the quick action of this principal, some revisions were made to this bill which would require the practicing architect of said company to have a necessary ownership. Refer to the email sent out by Bill Wible towards the end of last month.

I mention these events because of my disappointment in the participation of our members in our monthly meetings and activities. As an officer of our chapter we are tasked to provide activities that are informative,

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March 2008

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NEWSLETTER

THE MONTGOMERY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

entertaining and a source of continuing education. The symposium and monthly lunches provide all of these. The number of participants for the symposium totaled 110 and would have been a great turn out if that was the number of members from our chapter that participated. Unfortunately of that 110, only 23 were members of the Montgomery Chapter. An additional 6 were architects from Georgia and surrounding chapters and the rest were members of the general public.

In January the revisions to the registration laws were presented by Don Brown, however many of our experienced and knowledgeable firm principals and architects were not in attendance, so this critical revision was missed. I have to apologize for my lack of knowledge of these laws and for not noticing this revision. I also feel we need to thank Bill Wible for the quick action that was taken to get some revisions made to this bill.

Over the past several years our firm has been blessed with many projects and lots of work, so I understand that many members are busy or out of town, but I want to stress the importance for all of us to participate in our activities when we have the opportunity. Not only are young interns and architects missing the opportunity of interacting and getting to know the generation of architects who have dedicated many years of their lives to the practice of architecture, it's also a time for us to come together and fellowship and to confirm that the direction our profession is heading is the way that is going to provide a bright future for ourselves and those that follow. I have noticed that once many of us do our duty and serve as officer we feel we no longer need to participate in chapter. Why? I don't have the answer but do know that there are many rewards of participation. Some include: getting together provides better communication among our members, it's a time to see old friends (old meaning "long time rather than "age", although age may apply in some cases), a time to eat a good lunch and it's also a time to pick up some required CEU's.

I don't mean for this message to be chastising, but I do feel it necessary for all of us to think about the importance of our participation in our chapter. I'm asking all of you to please participate in our monthly meetings, activities and Christmas party and to participate in our 1st annual Design Awards Banquet to be held later this year.

Douglas McNab, AIA
President

February Meeting Recap ●●●●●●

The February monthly luncheon was held at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts in conjunction with the **American Streamlined Design – The World of Tomorrow Symposium**.

The symposium was organized by the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts in collaboration with the College of Architecture, Design and Construction, Auburn University and your Montgomery Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The symposium included David Hanks of Montreal, the co-curator of the American Streamlined Design exhibition and author of numerous books and exhibition catalogs on modern architecture, design and decorative arts. Bret Smith, IDSA, Professor of Industrial Design, College of Architecture, Design & Construction Auburn University and Christopher Deam of San Francisco, designer and architect whose studio work spans furniture design, architecture, interiors and product design. Christopher Deam's latest work, a 2008 Airstream "Design Within Reach" travel trailer was on display and open for viewing.

A panel discussion with all the guest speakers and moderated by Karen Rogers, PhD, Associate Dean, Auburn University was especially interesting as they discussed those factors that will shape our designs in the future;

a world where everyday products like cell phones, shoes, and dinnerware will be designed by the individual consumer themselves thru the internet and then shipped to them the next day.



Designer & Architect Christopher Deam with his latest work: 2008 Airstream "Design Within Reach" travel trailer.

The symposium provided everyone with the opportunity to view the Museum's American Streamlined Design: The World of Tomorrow exhibition. The exhibit included 186 objects focusing on the 1930s and 40s when streamlined design developed, and also represents streamlined designs of today. Also on display for the symposium were streamlined design projects created by Auburn University industrial design and graphic design students.



Auburn University industrial design projects on display at the World of Tomorrow symposium.

We appreciate the hard work by many at the Museum of Fine Arts for organizing such a wonderful symposium. A special thanks to Doug McNab for his time and effort on behalf of the Montgomery Chapter.

Announcements | ●●●●●●●●●●

Congratulations to **2WR|HolmesWilkins Architects** whose web site received a Gold Addy at the 2007-2008 Addy Awards. Addy Awards are presented by the Montgomery Advertising Federation with the Gold Addy as recognition of the highest level of creative excellence and as one judged to be superior to all other entries in the competition. The site was developed by Square Root Interactive. www.2wrholmeswilkins.com



The Montgomery Tree Committee is hosting a reception for **Piet Oudolf** on Wednesday, March 26, 2008 at the Loeb Reception Center located in Old Alabama Town. Reception admission is \$10.00 and will begin at 5:00 p.m.

Piet Oudolf is an internationally acclaimed landscape designer from the Netherlands who has been profiled as one of the world's ten foremost contemporary landscape designers. Oudolf's works include the Lurie Garden at Millennium Park in Chicago, for which he won an international competition, and the redesign of a park at the Battery in New York, where he replanted The Gardens of Remembrance which is dedicated to the victims of 9/11. He became the founder of the New Wave movement, which takes inspiration from nature but employs artistic skills in planting schemes.

Piet Oudolf will be in Montgomery to select the best design in a landscape design competition for the Cypress Creek inlet located on the Montgomery Riverwalk adjacent to the amphitheater. The competition was coordinated by the Montgomery Tree Committee and the City of Montgomery for students in Landscape Design at Auburn University.

For more information you can visit Montgomery Tree Committee web site at www.montgomerytrees.org.



The Montgomery Chapter AIA Design Awards are currently being organized for 2008. The Award Banquet is being planned in conjunction with the Chapter's annual Christmas Party in December. An Award Banquet Committee will be formed to develop and organize the event and volunteers are needed. If you are interested in becoming a committee member or if you have some ideas for the banquet please contact **Douglas McNab**: dmcnab@crcarch.com.



The 2008 **Draw Montgomery Art Competition** sponsored and organized by the Montgomery Chapter is currently underway. The competition is a juried art exhibition open to all students of the river region that are enrolled in the 7th through 12th grades. Announcements have been sent to all Montgomery County public and private schools however the competition is open to all students in the tri-county area. If you know of a student that may be interested please have them contact **George Edmondson** at 262-3868 for entry information. Cash awards are given in each division and entry is free.



In an effort to make **Elevations** a better communication tool, we encourage firms and members to submit news that they feel important or noteworthy. This could include such honors as receiving notable commissions, being presented an award, winning a design competition or the hiring of a new staff member. Please submit news, comments or suggestions for the newsletter to the Chapter Newsletter Editor and Secretary **Stephen King** at sking@brownchambless.com.



The history of the Montgomery Chapter AIA is being compiled for inclusion into our new website. If you have any information, documents or pictures please contact **Douglas McNab** @ dmcnab@crcarch.com.

Upcoming Events | ●●●●●●●●

March 19

Montgomery Chapter AIA Luncheon
The Montgomery Country Club
Montgomery, AL

March 26

Piet Oudolf Reception
Loeb Reception Ctr – Old Alabama Town
Montgomery, AL

April 16

Montgomery Chapter AIA Luncheon
The Montgomery Country Club
Montgomery, AL

May 6

Draw Montgomery Award Ceremony
Armory Learning Arts Center
Montgomery, AL

May 15 - 17

National AIA Convention
Boston, MA

May 21

Montgomery Chapter AIA Luncheon
The Montgomery Country Club
Montgomery, AL

June 19 - 22

Alabama Council Annual Convention
The Battle House
Mobile, AL

December

The Montgomery Chapter AIA Design Awards Banquet
Montgomery, AL