

Monthly Meeting | ●●●●●●●●

May 20, 2009 | Wednesday 11:45 AM

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

Speaker and Sponsor | ●●●●●

Our guest speaker for the February luncheon is **Fred Middleton**, speaking on the topic of wealth management. With public confidence lacking in the economy, volatility in the financial markets and the uncertainty in the stimulus package, many people are uncertain about how these issues are going to affect their business and them personally.

Fred Middleton is Managing Director of **W.R. Taylor & Company** and is a sought after local expert who has been featured on the news, quoted in newspapers and spoken to statewide organizations. He has the unique ability to speak to the everyday person about complex financial matters so they can understand how current economic issues affect them. His professional duties include portfolio management for individuals and businesses while assisting his clients in maintaining their retirement goals.

Our sponsor for the luncheon is **Alabama Graphics**. With locations in Birmingham and Montgomery, Alabama Graphics is a full service reprographic shop which emphasizes quality and superior customer service. The Montgomery office has been in business for over 29 years with associates that are long term experienced professionals with state-of-the-art of equipment and systems. Today, they are the largest and most diversified reprographics company in the state.

President's Message | ●●●●

Greetings Colleagues:

In case you missed last month's President's message, it was actually one of my better ones, and I have received lots of positive feedback. Thanks for reading! A big thank you goes out to Stephen King for organizing last month's Rural Studio tour. We had a full bus and everyone had a great time. If you have not attended a chapter meeting in a while, you should come by and check it out. There has been an ongoing effort by the Chapter officers to provide more variety in both meeting locations and learning opportunities.

Last week I returned from San Francisco after having the privilege of attending the National AIA Convention. This year's theme was "The Power of Diversity: Practice in a Complex World". They could not have picked a better city to hold this theme. San Francisco is seven square miles of the most diverse people, architecture, food and climate that one can imagine. Yet it all works and makes for a very vibrant and exciting city. The only negative was the weather. After a beautiful day on Thursday (spent entirely in seminars), the rest of the week was cold and wet.

There were literally hundreds of seminars to choose from supporting this year's theme and at least half of them focused on some aspect of green building. Attendees should have no trouble increasing their knowledge of sustainable buildings and communities. I thought it interesting that a seminar was offered on "Straw Bale Construction". Those of us from Alabama could find much closer

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THE MONTGOMERY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

resources for that subject.

One of the more interesting speakers to me was the Mayor of San Francisco, Gavin Newsom. Mayor Newsom, at 41, is one of the youngest mayors in San Francisco's history and is a very bold and energetic leader. It is safe to say that everyone will not agree with many of his policies, but he has an incredible record of launching new environmental initiatives.

Here is a partial list:

Every new building over 25,000 sq ft whether public or private must be LEED silver certified.

San Francisco has approved California's largest Photovoltaic installation, which will power many municipal facilities such as schools, the airport and hospitals.

San Francisco is diverting 72% of all waste from landfills by recycling. The goal is 75%.

Initiative of Mandatory Construction and Demolition Recovery ordinance, which in short means that construction waste does not go to the landfill.

Initiative of "Retrofit on Resale" requiring buildings sold to be retrofitted with water conserving plumbing fixtures. All commercial buildings will have to implement by 2017.

Launch of worlds first "EcoMap" which is an interactive map of the city by neighborhood to track climate change actions.

I know San Francisco and California in general are paying a high monetary price for these types of initiatives, but with Alabama, Georgia and Florida constantly in a water war; it is refreshing to see leadership focused less on consumption and more on conservation. We can all learn from each other.

Freddie E. Lynn, Jr., AIA
President

April Meeting Recap | ●●●●●●●●●●

The Chapter's April Luncheon was a field trip to Auburn University's College of Architecture, Design & Construction Rural Studio and sponsored by **Woolard Brothers Incorporated** of Montgomery.

Chapter members and guests boarded a tour bus that morning and were taken to Hale County, AL to visit numerous projects by the Rural Studio. The Tour provided a great opportunity to learn from the experience the Studio has obtained from some ten years of designing and building projects that have been nationally acclaimed for their use of sustainable design concepts. **Andrew Freear**, Director of the Rural Studio was our tour guide for the morning and provided visits to the Rural Studio Campus in Newbern, the Newbern Fire Station and Perry Lakes Park. While at the Park lunch was provided by Mustang Oil Restaurant of Greensboro and time was provided for all to visit the Park's pavilion, bathrooms, pedestrian bridge and bird tower constructed by the Studio.



Rural Studio Campus – Newbern, AL



Newbern Fire Station – Newbern, AL

In the afternoon **Daniel Splaingard**, an instructor at the Studio led a very entertaining tour of one of Greensboro’s 20k house, the HERO Children Center, HERO Knowledge Café, Lions Park, Hale County Animal Shelter and Subrosa Pantheon.



Hale County Animal Shelter – Greensboro, AL

Even though the field trip was planned as a break-even event the Chapter actually netted \$308. The Executive Committee agreed to donate this fund to the Rural Studio for their ongoing construction and operational needs. Thanks to all who made the trip a success including Woolard Brothers for their sponsorship. The Chapter is also very grateful to everyone at the Rural Studio for their assistance and southern hospitality.

Attendance: 32; Guests: 10

Congratulations | ●●●●●●●●●●

Congratulations to **Seay, Seay & Litchfield** of Montgomery for being a recipient of the Brick Association, Southeast Region, Brick Awards. The firm was awarded an Honor Award for their work on Auburn University’s Campus with Ross Hall and was presented the award during this year’s Alabama Council’s Awards Gala.



Congratulations to **Parsons Wible Brummal Alkire Architects, Inc.** of Montgomery for being a recipient of the Brick Association, Southeast Region, Brick Awards. The firm was honored with a Merit Award for Southern Homes and Gardens project and was presented the award during this year’s Alabama Council’s Awards Gala.



Congratulations to Chapter member **Sommerville Hill, Associate AIA**, who was the recipient of the Alabama Council President’s Award for his efforts in working with the Council to help provide more support for our associates. Sommerville was the Chapter’s intern-director last year and currently employed with Brown Chambless Architects of Montgomery.



The **Tuskegee University Chapel** was given the Alabama Architectural Foundation’s Significant Building Award. The award recognizes buildings over 25 years old which are still considered exemplary and noteworthy. The present chapel, with its awe-inspiring sanctuary, was constructed between 1967 and 1969 and has played a significant role in the spiritual development for generations of Tuskegee students. The architects were Paul Rudolph of New York and the firm of John A. Welch and Louis Fry, who both were Tuskegee Institute faculty members. **Major Holland, FAIA**, accepted the award on behalf of the University.

Announcements | ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

The 12th annual **Draw Montgomery Art Competition** Award Reception is Thursday, May 14th from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm at the Armory Arts Learning Center in Montgomery, AL. The reception is open to the public and provides a great opportunity to see how local students see and artistically interpret architectural of the river region. The reception includes the displaying of all the entries with an award presentation by the Chapter's Treasurer, **Platt Boyd** announcing all winners. Hors d'oeuvre will be served during the event. The competition is sponsored and organized annually by the Chapter and is a juried art exhibition open to all students of the river region enrolled in the 7th through 12th grades. This year's competition included over 50 submissions and will remain on public display through the month of May. If you need additional information please contact Platt Boyd, Treasurer at 263-5162.



The Montgomery Chapter of the AIA is proud to announce their participation this year with the annual **Auburn University College of Architecture Design and Construction Golf Tournament**. This year benefit will be held on Friday, June 19th at the Robert Trent Jones Capitol Hill Courses in Prattville, AL. The Chapter will be offering three morning educational courses (CEU's) open to all architects, engineers, and contractors. Following the morning courses the Chapter will hold their June lunch meeting at the club house with a surprise guest speaker. The golf tournament will begin at 1:00 pm with an award ceremony immediately following. Proceeds from the event will benefit various scholarships and programs for the Auburn University College of Architecture, Design & Construction. Additional information will be coming soon or you may contact **Richard Meinert** at (334) 834-9666.



The **Alabama Council AIA Convention** is returning to Asheville, North Carolina for 2009. The Convention will be held July 10th – 12th at the

historic Grove Park Inn. Education sessions will be offered on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There will be plenty of time to mix and mingle with friends and supporters during a Friday night reception, Saturday brunch and Saturday's golf tournament. A silent auction will also be held Saturday night, benefiting the Alabama Architecture Foundation. For additional information visit the Council's web site.



At the request of our members, the Chapter will once again host **CEU-for-Lunch** in August. This event was held last year and highly attended by members. The event is planned as part of our August luncheon and will provide members an opportunity to obtain 4 HSW CEU's that day. Being organized with Elite Meeting Concepts and four 1-hour seminars meeting AIA HSW accreditation is tentatively being planned. Along with these seminars numerous vendor booths will be displaying some of the latest products in the building industry. The event will be scheduled to maintain the Chapter's regular 11:45 – 1:00 luncheon with a 1-hour HSW credit being provided. After our luncheon, three additional presentations will be offered. Additional information will be provided at a later date including an agenda and seminar topics and speakers.



The Executive Committee is still trying to compile a history of the Montgomery Chapter AIA for inclusion on the Chapter's website upcoming archive section. As of this time we haven't received any significant amount of documents for inclusion. Items of interest would be previous newspaper articles, Chapter event pictures, newsletters and minutes of meetings. If you have any of these items or similar documents, please contact the Chapter's President-Elect **Stephen King** at PresidentElect@aiamontgomery.org.



The Montgomery Chapter AIA 2009 Design Awards Gala is currently being organized. Last year's Inaugural Award Gala was a big success

and we are looking forward to the 2009 event to be even bigger and better. The Gala Committee is still looking for a few additional members to assist in developing the program, organizing the event and providing overall creativity to the gala. If you are interested please contact Chapter's President **Freddie Lynn** at President@iamontgomery.org .



In an effort to make the Elevation 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 the recipient of an award, winning a design competition or the hiring of a new staff member.



Montgomery Chapter AIA is accepting nominations for the Chapter's first **Contractor Recognition Award**. The award will be given to a contractor (general or sub) within the Chapter area that has diligently shown excellence in their trade and over time become a valuable partner in the architectural community. If you know of a well-deserved nomination please submit in writing the person name, company, and reason for nomination to the President, **Freddie Lynn** at President@iamontgomery.org. Please submit by October 1, 2009. Those nominated will be narrowed down to three by the Design Award Gala Committee and then presented to all Chapter members for final voting. The award will be presented during the 2008 Design Award Gala.

Please take Special Note:

Please send event listings, announcements, and acknowledgements for inclusion in the newsletter and/or web site to President-Elect Stephen King at PresidentElect@iamontgomery.org .

Upcoming Events | • • • • • • • • • •

May 14

Draw Montgomery Award Reception
Armory Arts Learning Center
Montgomery, AL

May 20

Montgomery Chapter AIA May Meeting
Montgomery Country Club
Montgomery, AL

June 19

Auburn University College of Architecture Design & Construction Benefit
RTJ Capitol Hill
Prattville, AL

July 10-12

Alabama Council AIA Convention
Grove Park Inn
Asheville, NC

July 15

Montgomery Chapter AIA July Meeting
Montgomery Country Club
Montgomery, AL

August 19

Chapter CEU-for- Lunch
Montgomery Country Club
Montgomery, AL

September 16

Montgomery Chapter AIA September Meeting
Montgomery Country Club
Montgomery, AL