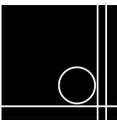


# NH FORUM

For those who shape the built environment

## AIANH Announces High School Design Competition Winners

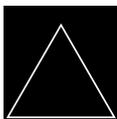
 A jury convened June 2 at Keene State College to review a room full of design submissions for the AIANH-sponsored 2008-2009 High School Design Competition, a program created to complement our other Learning by Design initiatives and bring our outreach into the high schools. Its objectives are to increase awareness of the relationships between space, human scale and function; gain experience in recognizing the various challenges in planning and designing indoor and outdoor spaces for specific uses; exercise analytical abilities and creativity in solving the problems; and gain experience in communicating planning and design ideas using

*Continued on page 14*



**Bartlomiej Sapeta Assoc. AIA, Art Pelletier, and Joseph Cincotta AIA consider the High School Design Competition submissions.**

## NH Architecture Foundation Awards Scholarships

 The New Hampshire Architecture Foundation (NHAF) is pleased to announce the recipients of its first Scholarship distribution to New Hampshire students pursuing architecture or a related program.

\$1,000 scholarships were distributed to Julie Rahilly, a Nashua High School graduate entering the Wentworth Institute of Technology and Michael Kulikowski, beginning his second year at Virginia Polytechnic Institute

and State University this fall. A \$500 award went to Michelle Wood, entering her senior year, also at Virginia Tech.

In order to be considered for a NH Architecture Foundation Scholarship a candidate must be a New Hampshire resident.

The NH Architecture Foundation is a charitable organization established by the NH Chapter of the American Institute of Architects to foster understanding of quality in architecture.

*Continued on page 14*

Published by

AIA New Hampshire

with the Granite State

Landscape Architects

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The editors of the *NH Forum* seek to encourage a lively discussion of design and other topics of concern to designers. Opinions and proposals presented in the newsletter are those of the writers to whom they are attributed and are not a statement of official policy by AIANH, unless so stated.

Visit our Website at [www.aianh.org](http://www.aianh.org)

**NH Forum**

## Perspective

*Point of view from the president of AIANH*



Bruce Hamilton AIA  
 President 2009

Imagine yourself standing on a bleak coast observing the restless Atlantic waves which tossed your ship all the way from England as

they splash tirelessly at the rocky beach beneath your feet. Riding at the anchor is a small estuary where you can see the high deck of the sturdy vessel which brought you so many miles to the barren shore in the New World.

The City of Portsmouth (Old Town by the Sea) justly boasts of her antiquity and being the first soil in New Hampshire that was touched by the feet of Englishmen. It is situated on a peninsula on the south side of the Piscataqua River, approximately three miles from the ocean.



**Old postcard of Portsmouth**

It is one of the oldest communities in the United States. Historically, it has preserved an unusual number of streets, buildings, and other landmarks. Ask anyone, Portsmouth is now among the most interesting and walkable small cities in the nation. The challenge today is keeping up with the cultural events such as art shows, lectures, festivals, historic sites,

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dance and theater, and live music.

The antiquity of Portsmouth, as noted above, is the reason that the AIA New England Conference Committee selected this “Old Town by the Sea” for the 2009 Conference and Awards Program, October 2-4. The theme for the conference is *Portsmouth: Past and Present*. Events include tours of Portsmouth architecture offices, an Isles of Shoals Steamship Cruise and Lobster Clambake, historic walking tours, building tours of the new LEED certified library, the Music Hall renovation, the new Portwalk (hard-hat tour), and two new sustainable homes. **PSNH** is the presenting sponsor.

Portsmouth may be described as an Architectural Sequence. There still remains an astonishing mass of old buildings, especially houses. There are parts of Portsmouth in which many old buildings stand side by side in their original groups. There are still visible today tiny streets with no side walks, like an old English town. As one stands looking down some of these little dead ends towards the water, for instance on Franklin Street, the view today is almost exactly what one would have seen, had one been standing there in cocked hat and shoebuckles, in Revolutionary times.

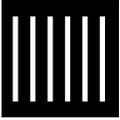
At the AIANE Conference you’ll have the opportunity to experience both the historical and the modern Portsmouth. In addition to the many tours, we’ll hear from Bert Cohen and Peter Britz about Portsmouth’s process to become New Hampshire’s first eco-municipality and from the engaging historian Dennis Robinson, who will give a presentation on “The Making of Strawberry Banke, or How Not to Start an Historic House Museum.”

On Saturday evening we’ll gather at the Discover Portsmouth Center for a wine reception and exhibit of the 2009 AIANE Award winners and the People’s Choice Award entries. (Note: This building is the old Public Library and has an interesting history—see page 4.) From the

*Continued on p. 4*

# Young Architects Forum

Guest writer: Mo Gagnon AIA, LEED AP, YAF Regional Liaison, New England



## The Benefits of Participation

The Young Architects Forum is a program of the AIA and the AIA College of Fellows, organized to address issues of particular importance to recently licensed architects (10 years or fewer after licensure). It was initiated in 1991 through the formation of a national YAF Advisory Committee to encourage the development of national and regional programs of interest to young architects and the creation of YAF groups in local AIA chapters.

As the YAF Regional Liaison for New England, my role is to maintain connections through Young Architects Forum Directors in each AIA chapter and report at a national level on particular issues, programs, and events ongoing in New England. Additionally, I have the opportunity to address broader issues we face in our profession, and have several goals which I feel will benefit us locally and regionally.

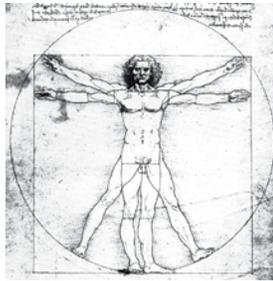
Having worked for a small firm for several years, I lacked a connection with other interns and young architects whom I could use as sounding boards for ideas or frustrations. It was only after I became involved with some AIA-sponsored events that I made these connections. I know there are many in similar situations in New England, and so my primary objective is to ensure that young architects throughout the region have the ability to connect with each other and get involved with activities locally and regionally. I encourage you to attend conferences and seminars, participate in AIA-sponsored events, or perhaps just get together outside of the office occasionally. Get to know others in the profession. It doesn't really matter what you do so long as there are good relationships that come out of it.

From these relationships spring the solution for my second goal, which is to foster professional growth and leadership development among our interns and newly licensed architects in New England. Friends who share ideas, interests, and activities can evolve into a network of professionals with a common voice. It is through these activities and from this voice that we find future leaders for our region and for our profession.

Here in New Hampshire, we've been rather successful compared to other regions

in acknowledging our younger architects, associates, and interns. I like to think this is due to an interest by interns and architects to participate in the various activities provided throughout the year, and the willingness by AIANH to support and encourage us in these activities. My hope is that we continue to promote collaboration among architects of all ages in New Hampshire and build a solid network of professionals. ■

For more information on the YAF please visit the AIA website at [www.aia.org/professionals/index.htm](http://www.aia.org/professionals/index.htm) or visit the AIANH website at [www.aianh.org/professionals.asp](http://www.aianh.org/professionals.asp). Mo Gagnon can be reached at [mo.gagnon@lbpa.com](mailto:mo.gagnon@lbpa.com).



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## In Memoriam

Tyler Carlisle, the head of C&M Engineering and former code board member died July 23, 2009 at his summer residence in Deering, NH. He was born November 6, 1933, in Ellsworth, ME. He was a graduate of the University of Maine, Class of 1959 with a Bachelor of Science in electrical engineering.

In 1959 he moved to Manchester to work as an electrical engineer at Public Service of New Hampshire Co., later working for John J. Reilly Electric until forming C&M Engineering in 1979 which was the culmination of a successful professional career. Mr. Carlisle was named as New Hampshire Engineer of the Year in 2002. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War receiving honors from the military.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Palace Theater, 80 Haver Street, Manchester, NH 03101.



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## NCARB Announces ARE Security Fee

NCARB will increase the fees for the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) by \$40 per division effective October 1, 2009. The increase is due to recent incidents of exam content disclosure by ARE candidates.

"The decision to raise the exam fees now—especially in the current economic climate—was not made lightly," said Gordon E. Mills FAIA, President. "However, NCARB's responsibility to uphold the integrity of the ARE is our first and foremost concern."

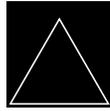
The ARE is designed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by providing a psychometrically justifiable and legally defensible process that measures the level of competence necessary to practice architecture independently. In recent months, NCARB has had to turn off substantial amounts of content after several candidates posted detailed exam content on the internet. These candidates have had their exam scores canceled and testing privileges suspended for up to five years. To ensure the integrity of the exam, NCARB has been forced to add two full-time staff members to monitor and investigate exam disclosures and copyright violations.

Replacing exam content is expensive and time consuming because each vignette or multiple-choice item must be written, reviewed, edited, and thoroughly pre-tested before it is added to the exam. The process of developing replacement content will take two years and the involvement of many volunteer professionals. The current six-month waiting period between failed divisions is in effect to ensure that a candidate does not see the same question twice. The cost to develop and replace the exposed content and handle the administrative and legal costs related to these incidents totals an estimated \$1.1 million.

All exams scheduled on or after October 1, 2009 will be at the new rate of \$210 per division. Prior to October 1, candidates can schedule future exam appointments through 31 December 2009 at the current rate of \$170 per division.

## Academy Corner to Discover Center

*A 200-year history at site of AIANE Awards Reception, Oct. 3*



The theme of the AIANE Regional Conference is Portsmouth: Past & Present. Our Annual Awards program presentation will begin with a wine reception at the The Discover Portsmouth Center, a building with a 200-year history. On this evening it will hold an exhibit of current architecture projects from all over New England: winners of the Design Awards program and entries to the People's Choice Awards.

We are fortunate to hold our event in this historical building, which in 2007 was transformed from the old public library into The Discover Portsmouth Center, the city counselors' goal was to create a one-stop hub showcasing local theater, film, visual arts, crafts, and history of the local environment.

The Discover Portsmouth Center is really two separate Federal Style buildings both built about 1810. One, at the corner of Islington and Middle Streets, was the Portsmouth Academy, an elite tuition school with two rooms downstairs and two upstairs. It later became

*HAMILTON, Cont'd from p. 2*

Discover Portsmouth Center, we'll walk over to the nearby Portsmouth Pearl for dinner and presentation of the 2009 Design Awards. Head juror Patrick Quinn FAIA, Emeritus Professor, and former Dean, School of Architecture, RPI, will be the guest speaker, reviewing the jurors' overall impressions of the 150+ submissions.

Sunday morning will find us at Strawberry Banke enjoying brunch. Attendees will have the option of touring the Museum.

Attendees of past AIANE Conferences have given this event high scores for education, tours, and all around enjoyment. So mark your calendars, bring your cocked hats and shoe-buckles, and plan on attending this enriching conference in October! AIANH is hosting this event, and we're asking our members to support this effort both by attending and calling your peers and acquaintances around New England and inviting them to join you!

We've got a great weekend planned. See [www.aianh.org/aia\\_events.asp](http://www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp) and additional articles in this issue for programming details

the Jones Grammar School. After the schools closed, it was rented for a Civil War memorial and in 1898 was entirely renovated for the city's first public library.

The other half was originally a private home built by Thomas Morton who ran a grocery store downtown. It was later owned by Frank L. and Kathryn H. Benedict.

The Morton-Benedict house had twelve subsequent owners who made various additions for tenants over the 19th century. After Dr. Benedict's widow Katherine died, the



**Morton-Benedict House c. 1908**

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The enlarged public library in 1954.

property was sold at auction in 1950 and then purchased by the city for the Portsmouth Public Library.

In 1954 a one-story brick addition was built connecting the Portsmouth Academy building and the Morton-Benedict House. In 1976 that addition was totally replaced by a two story modern building that also replaced older additions to the Morton-Benedict house. The combined building served as the city library until 2006 when the new library was built on Parrott Avenue. (Tours of the new Library are

also part of the AIANE Conference events, see page 8.) The landmark is now leased to the Portsmouth Historical Society to help the public “Discover Portsmouth!”

We hope you’ll join us here for the Awards Reception during the AIANE Conference and “Discover Portsmouth” along with other architects and building industry professionals from the six New England states. ■



Library additions, 1976, now home of the Discover Portsmouth Center

**AIANE**  
PORTSMOUTH  
past & present 2009



**2010 AIANH Design Awards Program**

The Call for Entries for the AIANH 2009 Design Awards Program is now available.

This Awards program recognizes and honors excellence in architectural design by registered licensed architects who are full members of AIANH. Firms that are domiciled in NH may submit projects anywhere in the world. Firms domiciled outside of NH but with a principal who is a full member of AIANH may submit projects located in New Hampshire.

The jurors are **Stephen Schreiber FAIA**, Professor and the Program Director in Architecture + Design, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, **Bruce Coldham AIA**, Coldham and Hartman Architects, Amherst, MA; and **Martha Montgomery AIA**, Montgomery Ark, Williamstown, MA

The Unbuilt Category initiated last year will continue, along with the People’s Choice awards.

For complete information go to the AIANH website: [www.aianh.org/design\\_awards.asp](http://www.aianh.org/design_awards.asp)



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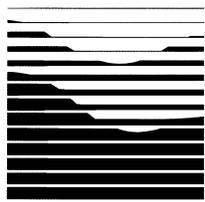


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# Survey Finds Signs of Economic Growth

Though landscape architecture firms continue to struggle, small signs of improvement could be on the horizon, according to the latest Business Quarterly survey by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). For the first time since 2007, the number of firms reporting average or above inquiries increased from one quarter to the next.

Overall, approximately one quarter (25.3 percent) of firms reported average or above inquiries in the first quarter of 2009, up from 21.5 percent last quarter. This represents the first quarter-to-quarter increase in inquiries since the survey first launched in November of 2007. However, firms reporting average or above hours continued to drop, moving from 31.2 percent last quarter to 25.2 percent currently. In addition, 11.2 percent of firms plan to hire in the upcoming quarter, down slightly from 12.8 percent last quarter.

"We are seeing tremendous competition among firms over relatively few projects, especially in the public sector," said Nancy Somerville, Executive Vice President and CEO of ASLA. "However, there appears some indication of improvement that may be driven in part by the recent stimulus bill."

The survey asked firms about potential work from economic stimulus funds in their markets. Nearly six in ten (58.8 percent) of firms reported stimulus funds in their markets, and 7.8 percent of all firms received any project assignments as a result. In addition, 56.1 percent of firms believed that stimulus funds tied to green initiatives would result in additional work for landscape architects.

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2008, your first quarter 2009 billable hours were: Well above average - 2.0% Slightly above average - 9.9% Right where they usually are, average - 13.3% Slightly below average - 26.9% Well below average - 45.2%

Compared to the fourth quarter of 2008, your first quarter 2009 inquiries were: Well above average - 3.5% Slightly above average - 9.3% Right where they usually are, average - 12.5% Slightly below average - 26.0% Well below average - 48.8%

Compared to the same quarter a year ago, your first quarter 2009 billable hours were: Higher - 7.7% About the same - 13.7% Lower - 77.3% Don't know - 1.2%

Compared to the same quarter a year ago, your first quarter 2009 inquiries were: Higher - 6.2% About the same - 14.5% Lower - 77.3% Don't know - 1.2%

Do you plan on hiring any employees in the second quarter 2009? (multiple answers): Experienced landscape architect - 2.0% Entry level landscape architect - 3.3% Support staff - 1.8% Intern - 4.5% Other staff - 2.5% Not hiring - 88.8%

Has your market received any stimulus funds and, if so, has your practice benefited? My markets have not received any funds - 42.2% My markets have received funds, but my practice, thus far, has not - 51.0% My market has received funds and my practice has work as a result - 7.8%

Will stimulus dollars tied to green initiatives translate into more work for landscape architects? Yes - 56.1% No - 43.9%

From your personal vantage point, when do you foresee business conditions improving enough to spur growth in your practice? It's happening now - 5.0% Second quarter 2009 - 4.0% Third quarter 2009 - 17.8% Fourth quarter 2009 - 17.8% Not until 2010 - 45.4% After 2010 - 10.0%

*About the Survey:* The ASLA Business Quarterly survey asks quarterly benchmarks on key statistics including billable hours, inquiries, and hiring plans. The Q1 2009 national survey was fielded April 8 through April 20 with 408 firms responding. ■

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## GRANITE STATE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

# Contemporary Landscape Architecture

by Jeff Halper

Contemporary landscape architecture is characterized by a subjective determination to sculpt the landscape into spaces that reflect the human living experience. It develops these spaces with respect to Nature, and in some way or another always works to create a relationship between architecture and the contemporary landscape. Contemporary landscape architecture can be used to either unify architecture and the surrounding landscape or to starkly contrast the differences between the two. The exact nature of the relationship is always determined by the project itself, its location, and the type of environment being worked in. Because it flows along the lines of contemporary design in general, and because of its highly subjective characteristics, contemporary landscape architecture can be found in almost any setting where the experience of living itself is used to create forms and structures outdoors.

When attempting to visualize a clear differentiation between contemporary landscape architecture and more traditional forms of landscaping design, think infrastructure. Facilities such as libraries,

hospitals, corporate campuses, civic centers, academic institutions, and sports stadiums all create a human experience characteristic of the urban living experience. Any open spaces that are not technically inside these buildings are then developed into planned environments that improve the quality of human life through manipulation of natural forms and outdoor spaces. Traditional landscaping seeks to emphasize and sculpt the beauty of Nature for the purposes of human appreciation. This is predicated on the belief that Nature itself offers a certain spiritual, emotional, or aesthetic meaning to life itself. Contemporary landscape architecture, on the other hand, is far more Existential and seeks to create only forms that are based on some practical function dedicated to improving the quality of life.

This is not the first time such a mindset has taken hold in a society. The idea of mirroring the human experience in natural forms goes back to the Roman Empire, where civil engineering and outdoor projects were used to build an infrastructure that united the entire Mediterranean coast into a single cultural entity. Wherever the Romans went, they built their arenas, amphitheaters, gymnasiums, aqueducts, roads, and temples as reflections of themselves. Even in the rural parts of Spain and Gaul, agricultural regions were landscaped into Roman-style villas and estates to remind conquered people that man was the master of Nature, and that Rome was the master of all men. Pure lovers of Nature, (both then and now), find this concept distasteful, and tend to gravitate instead toward more aesthetic forms of landscape design whose forms represent states of mind rather than functions that serve humanity. This is why we see very little contemporary landscape architecture around private residences, but an almost universal adherence to its utilitarian principles in any public setting where civil engineers and planners have decided to integrate the natural world into human life itself, allowing people to experience the landscape on uniquely human terms. Movement through the landscape is encouraged as much as possible. Clean lines

in gardens and low-growth trees help put the landscape on more of what you might call an eye-level experience for human beings that makes them feel comfortable and confident when walking through outdoor areas like city plazas, parks, and streets.

Because of the need to bring contemporary architecture into unity with the landscape itself, variety of species in plantings is frequently replaced with geometry as a means of mirroring the structural features of buildings. By contrasting only a few plant materials and low-growth trees with linear bed lines and stark geometric designs, the contemporary landscape architect can take a single open space and convert it into many blocks of form and space, woven together, much like a building containing hallways and rooms with specific lines of movement and specific functions and unique experiences contained therein. ■

*Jeff Halper is passionate for landscape and wants to share information about that passion. [www.exteriorworlds.com](http://www.exteriorworlds.com)  
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**AIANE**  
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**Registration:**

Registration for the AIANE Regional Conference is available through the AIANH website events page, [www.aianh.org/aia\\_events.asp](http://www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp).

**Hotel Reservations:**

Rooms have been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn and the Sise Inn. Contact information and the date by which reservations need to be made are below. When you call the hotels tell them you are with the AIANE Conference, hosted by AIA New Hampshire.

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# AIANE Regional Conference Offers Varied Selection of Tours

The 2009 AIANE Regional Conference is hosted by AIANH this year, October 2-4, in Portsmouth, NH. The theme of the event is *Portsmouth: Past and Present*, so our programming and event sites will incorporate both the old and the new. This issue and the September issue of the *NH Forum* will give detailed coverage to the programs and events. (Information is also available on the website, [www.aianh.org/aia\\_events.asp](http://www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp).) The 2009 AIANE Regional Conference presenting sponsor is **Public Service of New Hampshire**.

We'll begin the descriptions this month with information on the tours. (Also see the article on the Discover Portsmouth Center, site of our Awards Reception, page 4.) Next month we'll cover the presentations and special events.

**The Music Hall:**

Built in 1878, The Music Hall was Portsmouth's most elegant theatrical venue and currently is the oldest theatre in New Hampshire. After years of neglect and deterioration, the theatre was rescued by "Friends of the Music Hall," a group dedicated to saving the historic theatre from development or destruction. Designated by the United States Senate in 2006 as "An American Treasure" in the national Save America's Treasures program through the National Park Service, The Music Hall embarked on a major and necessary restoration project.

Guided by John Merkle AIA and TMS Architects, we'll learn about the structural repairs; the restoration of the grand proscenium arch and the theatre's dome and auditorium; the elaborate murals and trompe l'oeil moldings uncovered in the process; and restoration of the theatre's antiquated lobby, expanded by the removal of 700 cubic yards of ledge — all accomplished while keeping the theatre open.

*Tour sponsored by Selectwood and Marvin Windows*

**Portsmouth Library:**

The most successful public libraries are those that continually meet and reflect the needs of the communities they serve. No easy task in today's world. Our thirst for massive amounts of information delivered when and where we want it; our ongoing appreciation of

the importance, relevance and joy of books of all kinds; and our growing need for strong communities in a world that increasingly threatens to isolate individuals pose great challenges for libraries today. Furthermore, the most successful municipal buildings must keep in mind the protection of the environment and their citizens' health and well-being.

In 2002 Portsmouth committed to meeting all of these challenges. Thanks to years of careful planning, expertise in library sciences, the coming together of the Portsmouth community, and the assembling of an enthusiastic and responsive design and construction team, a new 39,000 sf library was completed in December 2006. The comfortable, light-filled building has been embraced by the community with 18-26% increases in traditional library services, successful new services, and hundreds of bookings in the public meeting rooms.

The library is an efficient, green building and the first municipal building in the State to obtain LEED certification (Silver). Tour guides include Thomas Amsler AIA, formerly of Amsler Mashek MacLean, Architects Inc.; Mary Ann List, Portsmouth Library Director; and Rob Smith, who was the Project Manger from North Branch Construction.

*Tour sponsored by North Branch Construction, Inc.*

**Portwalk (Hard Hat Tour):**

Portsmouth's new Portwalk, now under construction, is truly an urban mixed-use environment with office, hotel, retail, restaurant, and residences. It will be the kind of animated place that is active seven days a week and very appealing to first-class office tenants who seek to attract and retain the very best talent available. We will hear about the entire planning of the development and tour phase one of the project — the extended stay hotel with first floor retail space. The architecture was in collaboration by Elkus Manfredi of Boston, MA, and Destefano Architects of Portsmouth, NH, as the local architect.

**Historic Walking Tours  
with Richard Candee:**

Walking Tour I—Market Square, the Waterfront & Olde Portsmouth: Meet at Discover

# AIA NE



## PORTSMOUTH 2009

past & present

Portsmouth Center, and on to Market Square, Portsmouth Athenaeum, Warner House, Memorial Bridge, Prescott Park, Strawberry Banke, Pleasant, Court & State Streets.

**Tour Sponsored by Milestone Engineering & Construction Inc.**

Walking Tour II—19th Century Portsmouth: from the Discover Portsmouth Center on to Rockingham Hotel, Haymarket Square and Middle Street, Rundlett-May House, B.F. Webster House and neighborhood; Cabot Street, Goodwin Park, and Pearl St. Church.

Walking Tour Guide, Richard M. Candee, is Professor Emeritus of American and New England Studies at Boston University where he long served as Director of the Preservation Studies Program and a joint MA/JD on Preservation and the Law. From 1969 to 1976 he was architectural historian at Old Sturbridge Village. He has written extensively and been awarded Life-time Achievement Awards by

both Massachusetts and New Hampshire. As Trustee and Vice President of the Portsmouth Historical Society since 2004, he has organized the city's history and preservation non-profits and led the fight for a non-profit cultural orientation gateway, the Discover Portsmouth Center.

### Passive Energy, Zero-net Energy Home Tours:

These two new homes are noteworthy for the ways in which they reduce resource use. Tour one is of a highly insulated, airtight house, designed to store both passive and active solar energy (101 Mill Pond Way). It is designed to use only 15kWh of heat energy per square meter per year. The owners are just beginning to keep records, but anecdotal information from last winter suggests it will meet the goal, as it used only 50 gallons of propane. Tour 2 is of a residence (35 Lawrence Street) that uses net zero energy, has a passive solar design, a 3.1 kilowatt solar array, a solar hot water system, and a very well-insulated shell. Each material used in construction was selected in terms of sustainability, location of manufacture, and chemical content as well as best installation practices. The owners are seeking LEED platinum certification. Both homes are part of the 2009 NESEA Green Buildings Open House also taking place October 3.

We have scheduled all events and tours to be walkable from downtown Portsmouth. The two homes are the furthest from downtown, about 3/4 mile each. If possible, we suggest you park your car and spend the weekend exploring Portsmouth on foot.

More information and registration at: [www.aianh.org/aia\\_events.asp](http://www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp). ■

## BSA Has New Executive Director

Tom Keane, a Boston civic leader and longtime member of the BSA community, has accepted the executive director position and begins his new role on Monday, July 27.

An attorney, Tom comes to the BSA with diverse corporate, public and nonprofit experience. He launched companies and held senior management positions in several business sections, was a general partner in Murphy & Partners (a New York-based private-equity firm) and has been a regular columnist for the Boston Herald and Boston Globe Magazine. During his six-year tenure as a Boston city councilor in the 1990s, Tom focused significantly on matters of design, architecture, development, preservation, and the ways in which they fundamentally affect communities and individuals.

His commitment to these issues led the BSA to invite Tom to serve as a public director on the BSA's board of directors from 2000 through 2004. At the end of his term, Tom was made an honorary member. He also served on the editorial board of *ArchitectureBoston* and currently serves as a trustee of the Boston Foundation for Architecture.

During the extensive national search for the BSA's new executive director, the BSA Search Committee, chaired by Peter Wiederspahn AIA, worked with the executive search firm of E. Catlin Donnelly & Associates. The Search Committee included nine volunteers who invested many hours interviewing candidates and discussing the executive director's role. The Search Committee recommended Tom, and the entire BSA board enthusiastically supported this choice.

Tom succeeds Richard Fitzgerald, who held the position for 24 years before retiring at the end of December. Nancy Jenner, the BSA's long-time deputy director who served as director during the search process, assumes the new role of transition director.

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## Details...

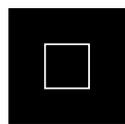
**Nicole Martineau AIA**, a project architect with **TMS Architects**, was selected from a large pool of applicants to spend the summer in Washington, DC, working on the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) under the supervision of the National Park Service and the Library of Congress.

The Historic Buildings Survey (HABS) and the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) collections are among the largest and most heavily used in the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress. The collections document achievements in architecture, engineering and design with projects as diverse as houses, windmills, one-room schools, the Golden Gate Bridge and buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Nicole is working specifically to document the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal that links the south branch of the Chicago River to the Des Plaines River and is the only shipping link between Lake Michigan, the Mississippi River and ultimately the Gulf of Mexico. Constructed from 1892-1900, it was the largest public works excavation project undertaken at that time and its pioneering construction techniques set new standards for future projects.

Nicole will return to TMS Architects in September.

## PlanNH Distributes Scholarships



PlanNH, The Foundation for Shaping the Built Environment (Plan NH), awarded this year's Fellowship and Scholarship Awards at its Annual Meeting on June 12.

PlanNH's Scholarship Program awards scholarships to undergraduate students from New Hampshire who are studying a field related to the built environment and its impact on community.

This year, PlanNH awarded a \$2,000 scholarship to Andrew Hollis Cushing of Piermont NH, who is pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies at Bowdoin College.

With support from the Alfred T. Granger Student Art Trust Fund (of the NH Charitable Foundation), the Fellowship Program awards students pursuing careers in Architecture, Engineering, Interior Design or Studio Art.

Undergraduates receiving \$2,500 Fellow-

ship grants this year include:

- Alexander Pape of Strafford NH, studying Civil Engineering at UNH
- John Walton of Meredith NH, studying Mechanical Engineering at MIT
- Nicole Ward of Salem NH, studying Interior Design at Endicott College
- Justin Paul Ware of Gilsum NH, studying Architecture at RPI.

Graduate Students receiving \$5,000 Fellowship grants this year include:

- LouAnn Fornataro of Nashua NH, who is pursuing a Masters in Architecture at the BAC
- Braden Hunter of Concord NH, who is also pursuing a Masters in Architecture at the BAC.

For more information about the Scholarship and Fellowship Programs, as well as the organization itself, go to [www.plannh.org](http://www.plannh.org). ■

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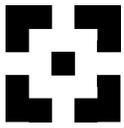
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# International Green Construction Code



The International Code Council launched its International Green Construction Code (IGCC) initiative, which will reduce energy usage and the carbon footprint of commercial buildings. Entitled "IGCC: Safe and Sustainable by the Book," the initiative is committed to develop a model code focused on new and existing commercial buildings. It will focus on building design and performance. Buildings consume approximately 40 percent of energy used and produce about the same amount of the nation's carbon emissions.

The Code Council included a number of key organizations during its announcement, including noting special roles for AIA and ASTM as cooperating sponsors for this important project.

"We believe the time has come for us to develop a code that will stand as a useful and credible regulatory framework for creating a greener commercial building stock," said Code Council Chief Executive Officer Richard P. Weiland. "We applaud and plan to utilize the good work of those who have developed systems, guidelines and standards to address green buildings."

Weiland acknowledged the presence of many organizations that have developed "green tools" impacting the built environment and welcomed their support and assistance in crafting the new initiative. After recognizing the historic role of Code Council members in the development codes such as the International Energy Conservation Code and the rapid evolution of new systems and guidelines to address green technology, Weiland said it

was time to move into a "new era of codes that specifically focus on green buildings and high performance. We are now at a place in the evolution of the sustainability movement that requires the specificity, the reliability, and the enforceability that only a code can bring."

Code Council Board President Adolf Zubia outlined the Code Council's development timeline, which will include public meetings of the Sustainable Building Technology Committee (SBTC), a public comment period on the Committee's initial draft, and a final draft that will be made available in 2010 as a resource document before it moves through the development hearing and final action hearing stages. The Code Council Board established the SBTC last year and finalized the Committee's membership earlier this month.

The AIA and ASTM will have visible participation in the development process. Weiland referenced the compatibility of the AIA 2030 carbon neutrality goals with the green code initiative, and emphasized the importance of design, architects and architecture in creating a useful tool for AIA members as well as the Code Council membership. The cooperation of the ASTM "signals the collaboration behind this project and the science that will drive it," Weiland said. "Their cooperation with us will ensure we pursue a development process that is based on recognized and verifiable approaches to standards."

To visit the IGCC web page, go to [www.iccsafe.org/IGCC](http://www.iccsafe.org/IGCC). For more information on supporting publications and services for green activities, please review the Code Council's green pages at [www.iccsafe.org/green](http://www.iccsafe.org/green). ■

## NH Accessibility Checklist Available

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities has developed a good new resource, The New Hampshire Accessibility Checklist. With the passage of HB 530, which will require new certification of accessibility compliance both at the design and the construction phases, this should be particularly useful to architects.

Although the legislation states the local code officials can do the certification, the initial reaction from them is they do not believe this is their responsibility so it will be incumbent upon the architect to either self-certify for their projects or hire a third party. The code officials will continue to do the plan reviews at permitting and standard construction inspections, but probably not the new certification.

It is a bit unclear exactly when this will be effective; the NHBOA is seeking clarification from the AG office, but it might be as early as January 1, 2010.

Go to: [www.nh.gov/disability/information/architectural/documents/ab-checklist1.9.09.pdf](http://www.nh.gov/disability/information/architectural/documents/ab-checklist1.9.09.pdf)

Link to the legislation: [www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill\\_status/bill\\_status.aspx?lsr=257&sy=2009&sortoption=&txtsessionyear=2009&txtbillnumber=hb530&q=1](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/bill_status.aspx?lsr=257&sy=2009&sortoption=&txtsessionyear=2009&txtbillnumber=hb530&q=1)



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## Details...

The IIDA (International Interior Design Association) recently awarded **Lavallee Brensinger Architects** with the only Honorable Mention in the "Healthcare Design 2009" category for its outstanding work on the new Concord Hospital Pediatrics Unit. The regional competition celebrates interior design and excellence in teamwork, showcasing outstanding projects throughout New England.

The firm also marked the opening of the Southern New Hampshire Medical Center's new 22,000 sq. ft. Birth Place, a state-of-the-art facility dedicated to family-centered care. Designed by Lavallee Brensinger, the new addition focuses on a comforting patient environment and efficient delivery of healthcare services.



**Concord Hospital Pediatrics Unit**

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## AIANH House Tour at Nubanusit

*June 17 was one of the very few sunny days this summer. We were fortunate to have scheduled our Annual House Tour for that date, touring the recently completed Nubanusit Neighborhood and Farm (Peterborough Co-Housing) designed by O'Neil Pennoyer Architects and built by Bruss Construction.*



**Top: From left, Richard Pendelton, Jim Bruss, Shelley Goguen Hulbert, Jon Edmunds, Robin Hulbert, Michael Bruss, Sheldon Pennoyer AIA, and David O'Neil AIA. Robin, Shelley, Sage Wheeler, and Richard acquired the property in 2004 as Nubi River Partners, LLC. Since then, Robin and Shelley have been leading the development of the project to create a co-housing community, organic farm, and woodland trails.**

*Photo by Clive Russ*



**Center: Visitors toured the site and several homes and learned about the conception, design, and construction of the community. One of the homes has received a LEED Platinum rating. The fine weather drew people out onto the porch of the Common House, left, during the reception and dinner**

*Photo by John Hession*



**Bottom: The Nubanusit development uses wood pellet boilers to provide heat and hot water.**

*Photo by John Hession*



**Nubanusit Neighborhood and Farm** consists of 29 quality built, energy-efficient homes, a Common House, office/studio space for rent, productive farmland, and woodlands with walking trails. It is located on 70 acres along the Nubanusit River, about a one mile walk from downtown Peterborough, NH. Co-housing is collaborative community development; residents participate in every decision concerning the design, management, and operation of their communities, often through the consensus decisions of a non-hierarchical management organization. *Photo by John Hession*



**Dinner in the Common House** was a festive affair. *Photo by Clive Russ*

*Thanks to Bruss Construction for sponsoring the AIANH House Tour.*



## Details...

**Dennis Mires, P.A., The Architects**, recently completed the 14,000sf Merrimack Medical Center on Route 3 in Merrimack. The former Newick's Restaurant is part of the Southern New Hampshire Health System. **Fulcrum Associates**, the Construction Manager, completed the project on time and under budget.

The firm has also received a Gold Award in Architectural Design-Commercial category for the Wellness Center at Nashua Community College plus two awards for two single family residential projects in the Cornerstone Awards program sponsored by the NH Home Builders & Remodelers Association.



**Merrimack Medical Center**



**Wellness Center at Nashua Community College**

*Photos by Rixon Photography*

## Details...

**North Branch Construction, Inc.** received First Place for Safety in the SIC Code 15 (50,000 to 100,000 man-hours) category at the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) NH/VT Chapter's Annual Awards and Employee Recognition Night. North Branch was also recognized for having zero cases in lost workdays as recorded on the OSHA log form 300A for 2008.

In addition, North Branch received the National ABC "Platinum" Level STEP Award. The STEP (Safety Training Evaluation Process) award program is a bench-marking tool that helps ABC members nationwide improve their safety and training programs.

**Fulcrum Associates, Inc.** recently completed construction of a 3,000 sq tier 3 disaster recovery data center at the Hesser Center in Manchester, NH for Telcordia Technologies Inc. Telcordia is a global telecommunication technology firm based in Piscataway, NJ. Fulcrum was construction manager for the project that includes raised access floor, redundant power and cooling, back up and stand by power generators and redundant telecommunication services.

## HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION, *Cont'd from page 1*

scale drawings and models. The program gives students a fun opportunity to develop these skills and to learn about the various aspects of planning and design.

Students could work individually or in teams of two. Winners in the first three categories received cash awards.

Winners are:

### **Best Design, Overall Superiority, in all aspects of Design Solution, Model, and Graphic Presentation:**

1. Julie Rahilly, Nashua High School
2. Shaun Russell, Salem High School
3. Gina Fantoni & Gage Littlefield, Pinkerton Academy

### **Best Model describing Design Solution:**

1. Danny Oot, Portsmouth High School
2. Gina Fantoni, Pinkerton Academy
3. Mike Morin & Steve Hebsch, Pinkerton Academy

### **Best Graphic presentation describing Design Solution:**

1. Julie Rahilly, Nashua, High School
2. Mike Morin & Steve Hebsch, Pinkerton Academy
3. Erin Hartmann & Ethan Webb, Pinkerton Academy

### **Honorable Mention:**

1. Lesley Miller, Conval High School
2. Bo Ratio, Conval High School
3. Mary Pratt, Conval High School

The jurors were **Bartlomiej Sapeta, Assoc. AIA**, Assistant Professor of Architecture at Keene State College; **Art Pelletier**, a retired high school teacher of mechanical drawing who pioneered a curriculum in which he taught architectural drawing at Portsmouth High School; and **Joseph Cincotta AIA**, principal of LineSync Architecture, a mid-sized practice in Vermont that specializes in creative solutions for sustainable design.

The three jurors came from relatively diverse professional backgrounds which made for an interesting exchange of ideas and complimentary assessments. Consequently, the work was considered from a variety of perspectives and we believe the submissions benefited by a more diverse consideration of their merits.

In general the jurors were impressed with the overall quality of the entries. In some cases the work could have easily been mistaken for

college level work. The ability of instructors to encourage self initiative was clearly an asset. There were a few minor issues that were consistent among the entries. Feedback was submitted to the students and their teachers.

Thanks go to **Bruce Hamilton AIA** and the Education Committee (Bruce, **Scott Vlasak AIA**, **Sonya Misiaszek AIA**, **Michael Morin AIA**, **Susan Thorne AIA**, **Lisa DeStefano AIA**, **Kim Harkins**, and **Gordan Cormack**) for all of their efforts in introducing and developing this program.

The High School Design Competition was funded by AIANH this year, but we will need to raise money in the future in order for it to continue. You can help out by making a donation to the NH Architecture Foundation, the AIANH-initiated non-profit that supports programs and activities that elevate public awareness of and participation in the planning, design, and construction of our communities ([www.aianh.org/nhaf.asp](http://www.aianh.org/nhaf.asp))!

Watch for details of the 2009-2010 competition to be released soon and spread the word to high school teachers, students, and guidance personnel! ■

## NHAF SCHOLARSHIPS *Cont'd from p. 1*

tural design, construction, and preservation by raising public awareness of and expectations for architecture and the built environment and by encouraging individuals to act as advocates for good design in the planning and design processes that shape their communities.

For more information on the NHAF or to make a donation, please contact Carolyn Isaak, Executive Director, NH Architecture Foundation, PO Box 398, Keene, NH 03431, office@[aianh.org](http://aianh.org), [www.aianh.org/nhaf.asp](http://www.aianh.org/nhaf.asp). ■

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# Construction Summary

**Project Type:** Roof Replacement & Repairs  
(Armories)

**Cost:** \$349,000

**Location:** Statewide NH

**Owner:** State of NH DOT

**Architect:** Sumner Davis Architects Inc.

**Contractor:** Desjardins Roofing

**Project Type:** Toilet Building (Gilson Pond)

**Cost:** \$289,700

**Location:** Jaffrey NH

**Owner:** State of NH DOT

**Architect:** John Jordan Design PLLC

**Engineers:** WV Engineers

**Gen. Cont.:** Pellowe Construction LLC

**Project Type:** Radisson Hotel Renovations  
(Window Replacement)

**Location:** Manchester, NH

**Owner:** c/o Architect

**Architect:** BMA Architecture Group PC

**Gen. Cont.:** Tocci Building Corp

**Project Type:** Alterations To Concord Regional  
Technology Center

**Cost:** \$184,000

**Location:** Concord, NH

**Owner:** Concord School District

**Architect:** Banwell Architects

**Engineers:** Lee Carroll, Yeaton Associates  
**Gen. Cont.:** Conneston Construction Inc-

**Project Type:** Johnson Theater Terrace &  
Walkways

**Cost:** \$41,110

**Location:** Durham, NH

**Owner:** University of NH

**Architect/Engineer:** Hoyle Tanner & Associates

**Contractor:** Cantwell Excavating

**Project Type:** Daycare Facility (Sophias Hearth  
Family Center)

**Location:** Keene, NH

**Owner:** Sophias Hearth Family Center

**Architect:** Daniel Scully Architect

**Engineers:** Brickstone Masons

**Const. Mgr.:** MacMillin Company

**Project Type:** Exterior Renovations Of Scattered  
Sites / Public Housing

**Location:** Manchester, NH

**Owner:** Manchester Housing & Redevelopment  
Authority

**Architect:** Amoskeag Architectural Group LLC

**Engineers:** Swift Current Engineering Services,  
Mechanical Systems Engineers

**Gen. Cont.:** Eckman Construction

**Project Type:** Airport Terminal Oversized  
Baggage Claim Improvements

**Cost:** 87,890

**Location:** Manchester, NH

**Owner:** Manchester / Boston Regional Airport-

**Architect:** Lavallee/Brensinger PA

**Engineers:** Rist Frost Shumway Engineering,  
Yeaton Associates, Foley Buhl Roberts  
& Associates

**Gen. Cont.:** Harvey Construction Corp Of, NH

**Project Type:** Tri-City Professional Office Park

**Location:** Somersworth, NH

**Owner:** Brandt Atkins

**Architect:** AG Architects PC

**Engineers:** Tritech Engineering, Bennett  
Engineering, JSN Associate

**Const. Mgr.:** JF McCosker

**Project Type:** Senior Living Apartment Building  
(The Meeting Place) (32 Units)

**Location:** Exeter NH

**OWNER/DEVELOPER:** Felder Kuehl  
Properties LLC

**Architect:** Burnell/Johnson & Tracy Architects

**Engineers:** Civilworks

**Const. Mgr.:** AW Rose Construction

**Construction Summary is provided by  
Construction Summary of NH, Inc.  
734 Chestnut St., Manchester, NH 03104**

## Job Opportunities Positions Wanted

Job listings and positions sought listings are on the AIANH website: [www.aianh.org/jobs.asp](http://www.aianh.org/jobs.asp). To submit an ad, please email ad text to [office@aianh.org](mailto:office@aianh.org). Ads are free for AIANH members and \$80 for four months for non-members. Please include your contact information with your ad listing.

## Details...

Friedman Court II in Concord, NH was awarded LEED Silver status for achievement in green homebuilding. The home was designed by **Warrenstreet Architects** and built by Chicoine Construction.

"The U.S. Green Building Council is proud to help celebrate Warrenstreet's commitment to greener living," said Michelle Moore, Senior Vice President of Policy & Market Development, U.S. Green Building Council. "Their leadership – demonstrated at Friedman Court II is at the national forefront of quality; and their example can help us all to live better by reducing our environment footprint, cutting our utility bills, and coming home to a healthier place to live."

Friedman Court II completes the CATCH Friedman Court development with the addition of 41 apartment units for residents 55 years and older. To date it is the largest project completed by CATCH Neighborhood Housing at 39,000 square feet.



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## Calendar of Events

**Aug 15** Newbury's Historic Treasures: Our Lake Lodges and Farmhouses, 9am-4pm, Newbury; information, reservations 763-2840 or 927-4006.

**Aug 18** A Forested Hill, Pristine Brook and Sparkling Lake, 7pm, free, information at 603-763-2210.

**Aug 18-Sept 16** NH Furniture Masters' 2009 exhibition, NH Historical Society Library, Concord, NH.

**Aug 22** Trail-Walk Series: Hidden History of The Fells, 1-3pm. Rain or shine, 603-763-4789, info@thefells.org

**Sept 4 LEED Green Associate Training**, presented by The Jordan Institute with AIANH, 8 am-4 pm, Audubon Center, Concord, *AIA HSW/S CEUs*, www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

**Sept 10, 24 LEED NC Training**, two part series, Intro to LEED, Technical Review and Exam Prep; 8am - 4pm, Audubon, Concord, *AIA HSW/S CEUs*, www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

**Sept 18 LEED Green Associate Practice Exam** (goes with 9/4 training) presented by The Jordan Institute with AIANH, 3-5 pm, Audubon Center, Concord, *AIA HSW/S CEUs* www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

**Sept 17 AIANH and AIAVT Joint Chapter Meeting:** Combined Chapter Meeting with AIA Vermont to tour the new Upper Valley Aquatic Center in White River Junction, VT and the AVA Gallery and Art Center in Lebanon., *AIA CEUs*, www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

**Sept 18-21 ASLA 2009 Annual Meeting & EXPO**, Chicago: "Beyond Sustainability: Regenerating Places and People," www.ASLA.org for event details.

**Sept 24-25 NNECAPA Annual Fall Conference**, Belfast, Maine, www.nnecapa.org/calendar/#52

**Oct 2-4 AIA New England Annual Conference and Awards Program**, hosted by AIANH, Portsmouth, NH, full weekend of events: building tours, firm open houses, historic walking tours, educational sessions, steamship cruise and lobster clambake, and more, *AIA HSW/S CEUs*, www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

**Oct 6 Lighting for High Performance and LEED Buildings**, presented by The Jordan Institute and AIANH, 8 am-12 pm, Audubon Center, Concord, *AIA HSW/S CEUs*, www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

**Oct 14 Building Informational Modeling (BIM) Seminar**, presented by NH Chapter CSI in conjunction with AIANH, 8 am-4 pm, The Yard, Manchester, NH, 6 *AIA HSW/S CEUs*, www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

**Oct 24** OEP Fall Planning and Zoning Conference, 603-271-2155, www.nharpc.org/calendar.html

**Oct 27, Nov 3 LEED-CI, v3 Training** (Commercial Interiors, 2 part series), presented by The Jordan Institute with AIANH, 8 am-12:30 pm, Audubon Center, Concord, www.aianh.org/aia\_events.asp

### NH Forum



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## Photo of the Month



**Monadnock Mill No. 3 at Claremont, NH**

**by Doug Sonsalla, UK Architects**

This photo was taken during the installation of the landscaping of the recently completed Monadnock Mills restoration in Claremont, NH. It was interesting to see the trees moving down the street especially in context with the church steeples in the background.

**Do you have an interesting photo?** Why not send us one of your photos for print? 300 ppi jpegs, approximately 4 x 6 inches, BW or color. Send along a title, brief caption if you like, and your name, to office@aianh.org.