

# AIA/UK

the First International Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

Number 22

March 1998

---

## REPRESENT YOUR FIRM AT MIPIM

Once again, the AIA will host a booth at MIPIM, the annual meeting of international property and construction development in Cannes, France. The UK Chapter, in association with the Continental Europe Chapter, offers members the opportunity to display "postcards" and to distribute 250 business cards to inform potential clients about their services. A directory of people who visited the booth is published after the event and distributed to those firms that exhibited so that they may follow up potential contacts. For more information, contact Stephan Reinke at [Stephan.Reinke@HOK.com](mailto:Stephan.Reinke@HOK.com) or by fax at 0171-636-1987. All postcards must be at HOK's offices before Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, addressed to Stephan Reinke. If you want your business cards distributed, there is a £30 fee for small firms and £75 fee for large firms.

## WELCOME FROM BOB SCHMIDT, NEW CHAPTER PRESIDENT

On behalf of the 1998 Officers and Directors, I'd like to begin by thanking you for electing us to represent the Chapter over the year ahead. As I discussed at our Annual General Meeting, we would like to use this year's programmes and events to highlight the work of our members. We have a rich and diverse constituency, and there is much to be learned from one another. The Board is currently working on this initiative, and we hope to establish a series of new events.

I've just returned from representing the Chapter at the Grassroots Conference in Washington, DC. This three-day event focuses on internal leadership within the Institute as well as on the role architects have in the larger community. A great deal of emphasis was placed on the Institute's Continuing Education Programme. Our chapter seems to be split between those who have earned the required number of Learning Units (LUs), or are well on the way, and those who have zero. I am particularly concerned with the "zero group". As before, the Chapter will again offer a range of opportunities to earn LUs during the coming year. In addition, we have a full complement of information brochures and Self Report forms that can be used to record those learning activities that are part of your everyday professional life. Please feel free to contact me regarding this issue.

Finally, elsewhere in this newsletter you will find a list of upcoming events. I hope you will pay special attention to it and join us in supporting your Chapter's activities.

## NEW OFFICERS ELECTED FOR 1998

Robert L. Schmidt, associate partner of SOM, was elected Chapter president at the Annual General Meeting in January. Steven Yakeley of Yakeley Associates and Steven Steimer of Gensler were elected Vice Presidents. Jonathan Dinnewell of Christopher Smallwood Architects is the new Secretary, and Lorraine Dale King of European & Pacific continues as Treasurer for another year.

Members of the board of directors are Chris Colbourne, Craig Colclasure, Gary Gordon, Noel Hill, Peter Hoyt, Justine Kingham, Michael Lischer, Courtney Miller, Lee Polisano, Stephan Reinke, Leanne Toler, and Jens Ransdecker, student member. The committee chairs are Peter Hoyt, Awards (0171-256-6060); Ann Keigher, Historic Preservation (0171-373-9980); Noel Hill, Public Policy (0171-435-2462); Heather Hilburn, Education; Justine Kingham, Newsletter (0370-431-681); and Michael Lischer, Membership (0171-636-2006).

## CELEBRATE YOUR WORK

Over the coming year the Chapter would like to focus on the rich and diverse work of our members. This can be done in a number of ways - open house events to showcase a firm's current work; tours of construction sites or recently completed buildings; and specialist consultant lectures. This is an opportunity for you to share your work with your fellow professionals. The Chapter will help organise, advertise and sponsor the event but we need all of you to make this a success.

If you would be interested in participating in this programme please contact Robert Schmidt, Chapter President, at [robert.schmidt@som.com](mailto:robert.schmidt@som.com) or 0171 930 9108 (fax).

## JOHN ONKEN STARTS OWN PRACTICE

John Onken recently started John Onken Architecture at No. 428 Lingfield Road, London SW19 4PU, tel. 0181-946-1382. His market at the moment is mostly residential and small commercial projects.

"I started by being pushed for the '90s man' reason that I wanted to spend time with my 4-year-old." He had always wanted to try to work as a sole practitioner, and the time was right this winter. Work on a large house on the Isle of Wight had finished, and he had a variety of small projects to do while waiting for planning approval this month of a substantial project. Onken first came to London 10 years ago to study at the AA, which was followed by a MPhil in Environmental Design (green architecture) at Cambridge. He has worked for HOK, Munkenbeck + Marshall, Mittelman Caradock Hodgekins, David Chipperfield and ORMS.

## CHRIS COLBOURNE JOINS U.S. DEVELOPMENT FIRM

Christ Colbourne, director of education for the RIBA and a Chapter board member will leave the RIBA on April 11<sup>th</sup> to join Masterworks Development Corporation as Development Director for the UK. The New York based firm is best known as an East Coast hotel developer and operator. They are interested in traditional city centre locations, and have already started a few projects in London.

Chris will continue to be involved in the RIBA as a member. He plans to remain involved in issues of both education review and reciprocity, which were of particular interest to him during his years on the RIBA staff.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION LISTED ON THE WEB

The Chapter has recently received a rush of queries about how to become licensed in the states. The first stop for detailed information is the registration board in question. If you haven't chosen a state, contact <http://www.ncarb.org> to understand all applicable requirements and procedures. Many states have their own direct information line, for example California, [cbae.cahwnet.gov](http://cbae.cahwnet.gov), Illinois, [state.il.us/dpr](http://state.il.us/dpr), New York, [nysed.gov/prof/arch.htm](http://nysed.gov/prof/arch.htm), Texas [tbae.state.tx.us](http://tbae.state.tx.us) and Virginia [state.va.us/dpor/boards#APELSLA](http://state.va.us/dpor/boards#APELSLA).

The NCARB administers a computer registration exam that is now used by all US and most Canadian jurisdictions. You no longer have only one or two opportunities a year to take the exam; you can schedule a testing time six days a week at any of 220 Sylvan Testing Centers in the US and Canada. You pay for each of 9 divisions separately, by credit card if you prefer.

The results are reported to the state board that you have elected within two or three weeks after you complete the multiple-choice sections (pre-design, general structures, lateral forces, mechanical and electrical systems, materials and methods, construction documents and services) and approximately four to six weeks after you finish the three graphic divisions (site planning, building planning, building technology). You need not take all divisions at once. On the multiple choice sections, the computer scores your first 65 answers; if you pass the test if over, otherwise it will ask further questions in increments of 25 up to 140 until you either pass or fail.

NCARB supplies free practice materials to eligible candidates, to allow them ample opportunity to become familiar with the computer program and tools before sitting the exam.

## AIA NATIONAL CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO MAY 14-17

The national convention will be free this year to AIA, Associate, Emeritus and Honorary AIA members. AIA98 expects to draw more than 15,000 attendees, making this the largest gathering of architects in the world. 124 continuing education seminars, providing opportunities to earn up to 25 Lus, will be offered for a flat fee of \$50. More information is available on [www.aia98.org](http://www.aia98.org).

## SWEETS INTERNATIONAL GIVEN TO CHAPTER MEMBERS

McGraw Hill has generously offered to provide all Chapter members with free copies of Sweets International. They will send you an application form to complete with shipping information, and you should receive the books shortly afterwards. The reference work normally sells for several hundred dollars.

## BIKING THROUGH FRANCE THIS SUMMER

Francoise Vonier of the Continental Europe Chapter is curious to know if there are members who might care to put together a bicycle or hiking trip or both in France—region to be determined—with a good restaurant and hotel every night, of course. An architectural aspect to the program would be arranged for those who don't already have zillions of continuing education credits.

Contact Francoise Vonier at 52/54 rue du Dr. Blance, F-75016 Paris, France, Tel/Fax 00-33-1-40-50-62-23.

## WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED?

Recently, a few British colleagues have expressed interest in the "American system" of preparing drawings and construction documents. Would you be interested in an educational seminar/gatherings where representatives from the various offices might display a sample package and talk about what works and why they did it that way? There is also the Construction Specification Institute (CSI) system to review. Please comment one way or the other to Bob Schmidt or Heather Hilburn.

## EVENTS

Feb 24 AIA/RIBA Liaison Meeting, 9:30 at RIBA Aston Webb Room.  
March 4 Chapter Meeting, 6:30 at Gensler, Roman House, Wood Street, London EC2Y.  
March Ben Franklin Seminar No. 4, 6:30 at 36 Craven Street, London.  
For more information, Tel/fax, 0171-373-9980.  
April 8 Chapter Meeting, 6:30, location to be announced.  
Sept 16-19 AIA International Markets & Practice Conference, London

**Chapter membership information:** Michael Lischer, 0171-636-2006, fax 0171-636-1987, [michael.lischer@HOK.com](mailto:michael.lischer@HOK.com)

<b>AIA National Information and Assistance:</b>	<b>001-202-626-7300</b>
Membership Services:	202-242-3837
CES/Transcript Verification:	800-605-8229
Library	202-626-7492
Order Books (paper format)	800-365-2724
Order Documents (electronic format)	800-246-5030

**Editors:** Justine M Kingham, Michael Lischer, Leeanne Toler, Karen Whittle

This newsletter is printed courtesy of Call Print (Central Information 0171-463-3411, <http://www.callprint.co.uk>). The Chapter receives the generous support of the following corporate sponsors:



## AIA London/UK

The First International Chapter of the American Institute of Architects  
26 Walpole Street, London SW3 4QS  
Fax/messages 0171-730-8922 [www.aiauk.org](http://www.aiauk.org)