



Plain News – March 2, 2009

## Letter From the President, Joe Daly, ASLA

There is no doubt we are all experiencing tough economic times and it seems all we can do is wait to see how the newly signed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will unfold and hold out hope that the economic stimulus measures being taken by the Federal Government will have a positive impact on our industry.

As a Chapter we are in the middle of planning the Annual Awards Banquet that will be held here in Kansas City at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art on April 4th – invitations will be out soon. Both the Museum and Café Sebastian are wonderful places to visit on their own, but together they are sure to make for a memorable evening recognizing the great work done by our membership. Stay tuned for an announcement of our keynote speaker!

We are also actively planning events for Landscape Architecture month and will be actively recruiting your participation as we narrow down and focus on the details of each event. If there is something you would like to do individually or as a small group and would like to utilize Chapter resources, please contact someone on the Executive Committee and we would be glad to assist however we can.

We are looking forward to a very busy and successful spring!

Joe Daly, ASLA  
President PGASLA

### 2009 Calendar of Events

**April 22** – Sustainable Film Series presented by USGBC - KC

**April 29–May 2** – Chapter Presidents Council / Board of Trustees Meeting – Washington DC

**May 7** – Executive Committee Meeting – AIA KC Offices

**May 14-16** – [4th Annual Central States Conference, Omaha, Nebraska](#)

**May 21** – LINKS Event -

**June 4** – Executive Committee Meeting – AIA KC Offices

**September** – Mark D. Moore Scholarship Golf Tournament presented by Commercial Landscapers Inc. – Falcon Lakes Golf Course – Basehor, Kansas

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## Central States Conference Hosted by the Great Plains Chapter

Omaha, Nebraska . May 14 – 16 hosted by the Great Plains Chapter. Please visit this website for continually updated information and contact anyone on the Executive Committee should you have any questions or comments.

[Click here for more details.](#)

## KSU Faculty Position Announcement

Department of Landscape Architecture/Regional and Community Planning – College of Architecture, Planning & Design – Kansas State University Faculty Position Announcement. Below is the link to the web page for the complete position listing.

<http://capd.ksu.edu/media/pdfs/jobs/temporary-landscape-architecture-faculty-position.pdf>

### Government Affairs

- The **HALS Subcommittee of the Historic Preservation PPN** held its first quarterly conference call for 2009 last week. The group discussed preparations for advocacy efforts for HALS, plus ideas for education sessions, field sessions, and tours for the upcoming ASLA Annual Meetings in Chicago and Washington, DC.
- The 50 by 2010 state legislative activity is going full steam in February! **Vermont** had its first hearing on February 4 and held its advocacy day (with exhibit) on February 17. In the words of the chapter's lobbyist, "The postcard was everywhere." Upgrade legislation in **Virginia** has passed the Senate and is under consideration this week in the House committee. **Wisconsin** landscape architects took to Madison in recent weeks to gather support for their upgrade bill, which is nearing introduction. In **Washington** State, companion legislation for an upgrade to the state's title law has passed successfully through the first committees. **Illinois** has had its upgrade legislation reintroduced and is meeting with opposing organizations to identify their concerns and constructively work towards mitigating these issues.

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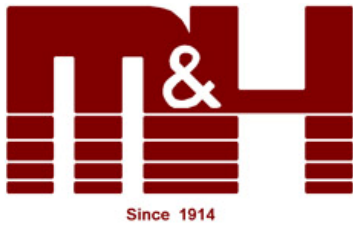
### Publishing and Resource Development

- A record 612 professional entries were received for the [2009 Professional Awards Program](#), the largest number in ASLA history and a nearly 20 percent increase over 2008. Thirty-three new members

joined through the awards program. The deadline for submissions is this Friday, February 20, and the jury will meet March 13-15 in Washington, DC.

- **The 2009 [annual meeting education program call for submissions](#) is open until this Friday, February 20.** The web site indicates 77 submissions are in the works so far, with 33 completed. Education Manager Clark Ebbert has reached out to a number of allied professional and trade associations that have not traditionally submitted programming ideas, including the Society for Marketing Professional Services, Sustainable Furniture Council, International Association of Lighting Designers, and the American Society of Golf Course Architects, among others.

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### Public Relations and Communications

- **ASLA is preparing a comprehensive response to the National Park Service's latest iteration of the [National Mall Plan](#),** which will be released March 1. To support ASLA's response, staff issued an RFP to hire a PR firm to help position ASLA and landscape architects as leaders and advocates for the National Mall and public spaces at large. ASLA's response will be timed to coincide with National Landscape Architecture Month.
- Staff has created [a new page within asla.org](#) as a resource for those members negatively affected by the current economic downturn. Two member-only e-networks are also being tested to offer platforms for networking and information exchange among **Established Professionals** (Full, Fellow, and International members) and **Emerging Professionals** (Associate and Student Members, plus members associated with landscape architecture schools) who have been hit by hiring freezes, layoffs, and severe business downturns.

### Information and Professional Practice

- The 17 **Professional Practice Networks (PPNs)** had a **collective membership of over 9,171** at the end of the 4th quarter of 2008, up from 8,741 at the end of the 3rd quarter. Members enrolled in multiple PPNS are reflected more than once in these figures; 1,349 people were members of more than one PPN at the end of the 4th quarter. The **Sustainable Design and Development** PPN continues to be the largest PPN, with over 1,800 members. **Urban Planning and Design** achieved a membership of over 1,000 in the last quarter of the year. In 2008 there was a significant increase in the number of PPNS meeting the requirement of developing at least one newsletter per year. Twelve of the 17 PPNS produced newsletters, compared to seven PPNS in 2007.

Stay tuned for more event information in the very near future!

## Job Opportunities . . .

New Job Opportunities have been posted. [Click here to check them out or to post your own ad.](#)

## Movers and Shakers . . .

Please contact Kristen Fisher ([info@pgasla.org](mailto:info@pgasla.org)) with any new employees.