December 2016

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Member Spotlight
Hartley Alexander, AIA
MEMEBER SPOTLIGHT

HARTLEY ALEXANDER, AIA

I am a member of AIA because...I passed my final part of the licensing exam in the summer of 1969. The last step was to meet with two members of the State Board of Architecture – Jack Miller, AIA and Edward Hendricks, AIA. As part of my interview we discussed the AIA and all the support and service for practicing. The many sources of information relative to different areas of practice are invaluable. The opportunities to serve the profession and the community are fulfilling.

Who am I; what do I do?... and how did I get here? I was born and raised in Albuquerque. After graduating from UNM in 1964 I took a 4 year detour in the Air Force via Abilene, TX; Saigon; and Dayton, OH before we settled in Las Vegas. (I had first visited here in 1961 after my then future wife's family had relocated from Albuquerque. The airplane landed at night, the entire valley was dark except for a ‘fire’ of light from downtown 2nd and Fremont – how things change!) As I recall there were 17 architects in Las Vegas then.

I had passed 5/7 of the State Board exams while still in the Air Force in Dayton. Bob Fielden took several of us aspirants under his wing and helped us through the remaining parts of the tests. At the time I was working for Gerald Moffitt AIA, the major project then was the expansion of McCarran Airport adding Concourses A & B – the round buildings and concourses.

In 1971 I left Moffitt & McDaniel and hung out a shingle. Most of what work I had for the next 9 years was adding onto and/or remodeling at Valley Hospital and Sunrise Hospital, as well as a couple of motels.

The early ’70’s were an interesting period in AIA, and architecture. 1973 was a very lean year probably because of the oil embargo. That year I was secretary of the AIA – Fred Kennedy was president and Bill Simpson was vice-president. In 1974 Bill Simpson became president and I was vp; and then in 1975 I was president and Errol Hill was vice-president. 1975 was a legislative year, the year a group of drafting service operators initiated a bill to call themselves “building designers” allowing them to do all work up to and including 1 and 2 story commercial projects, and of course grand-fathering in all those proposing it. This would particularly affect a number of small architectural firm practitioners. I’m sure I’ll miss some names, for which I apologize, but among those of us who felt compelled to resist this movement were Art and Dom Cambeiro, Sid Goldberg, Gary Wilson, Barry Greene, Gene Crawford, John Mayers, the other officers of the AIA, and James McDaniel who made an impassioned speech against such a law and retained his brother-in-law Joe Foley to work as our lobbyist. The final result by the end of the session was a change to NRS 623 permitting “Residential Designers” to design housing up to and including 4-plexes.

A dry spell in 1980 sent me to work for Keith Farris, AIA who at the time was working on a large hotel/casino project on Koval lane, which was never built. Farris evolved into Farris–Alexander–Congdon–Massanari (working mostly on Clark County Government Center expansion/remodeling --Bridger Building, South 3rd Street Building, 6 District Court Addition, Courthouse remodeling projects--), but also the Oasis addition at the Dunes Hotel); into Farris–Alexander–Congdon; then Alexander–Congdon; and finally Congdon. The final project there was the Spring Valley Library Addition and Remodeling which was finished by Gary Congdon. I went to work for G.C. Wallace in 1986, and worked on the design and documents for the City of Las Vegas Prototype Fire Stations. After a personnel change which I felt compromised my license I next went to KGA for almost 3 years. Again my shingle went out for about 2 years until an opportunity opened to work for the Las Vegas/Clark County Library district as an Owner’s Representative on the construction of the Rainbow, Whitney, Sahara West, and Enterprise Libraries. As Library work was coming to an end, a position opened with my 1964 UNM graduating classmate Jess Holmes, FAIA to work on a major renovation of University Medical Center starting in 1996. Holmes–Sabatini became Dekker–Perich–Holmes–Sabatini, then Dekker–Perich–Sabatini. UMC work stayed with the firm, I didn’t stay with UMC. The last project I worked on was the Construction Administration phase of the Second Mesa Day School.

The economic downturn caught up with DPS, and I found myself retired in October 2009. Since then we’ve busied ourselves with projects around the house, gardening, and occasional travel. At times I dabble at painting.

What is the most important thing you’ve learned?... Particularly in this age of computer design/drafting I believe the most important skill for an architect is the ability to sketch, and in doing so to see. I was fortunate to be in a position to mentor several talented young persons while at DPS. Occasionally the assumption that the computer was correct proved not quite so. The best means to come to an understanding was through sketching. Participating in a group such as Eric Roberts’ Urban Sketchers would be a worthwhile endeavor for anyone who wants to improve their abilities. I have had the privilege on occasion of going on sketching outings with Hal Dean, whose work and ability are unparalleled.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
What is your favorite piece of architecture? Why?... Barcelona, Spain. Although the La Sagrada Familia literally stands above the rest, there are many exceptional buildings and spaces from the 1st Century through the present that form the character of the city. The various projects by Gaudi are but a beginning. There are buildings by Frank Gehry, Richard Meier, Norman Foster, Santiago Calatrava, and Jean Nouvel. The city planning itself is notable for the Avenida Diagonal and for the chamfering of building corners at street intersections. Nine days there was not near enough, a return trip is planned for 2026 when the Sagrada Familia is due to be completed.

What person, living or dead, would you most like to talk with?... One advantage of being old is that some of those now dead were here in my earlier times. I was extremely fortunate to hear Louis Kahn speak in Los Angeles, somewhere around 1970. And seeing Buckminster Fuller pull up a chair to the edge of the stage at Judy Bayley Theater and then tell his story for over 2 hours was probably one of the greatest highlights. Frank Lloyd Wright spoke at UNM, but I was a little young at the time and don’t remember it.

However, the person I would most like to talk with would be my grandfather, Hartley Burr Alexander. He died two years before I was born. HBA was a philosopher, poet, composer, authority on the American Indian, and perhaps most pertinent to me was his work as the ‘iconographer’ for the Nebraska State Capitol Building and the Los Angeles Public Library, both by Bertram Goodhue. He was responsible for developing the inscriptions, and coordinating the artwork and sculpture that became integral parts of the overall projects. In addition he worked on Rockefeller Center, and created the inscriptions on the University of Nebraska Stadium (e.g. “NOT THE VICTORY BUT THE ACTION; NOT THE GOAL BUT THE GAME; IN THE DEED THE GLORY”). He was also an honorary member of the AIA.

How can architects provide “value add” to their clients?... An important contribution architects can bring to a project is to think outside the box in the context of the clients’ program. The first design meeting I had with the committee of fire captains for the City of Las Vegas prototype fire stations was interesting. The committee knew best their needs and presented me with their design. We came to an agreement: I wouldn’t discount their solution if they would be open to an alternative.

The initial project was for 3 stations - #s 2, 4, and 42. One of the stations was to be built with a bay for a paramedic unit, the other two would have that bay as a future addition. The captains’ plan would require the addition to expand the two bays into three thereby disrupting their operation during construction. The design proposed to them, and accepted, placed the paramedic addition on the opposite side of the building from the engines; allowing construction to be undertaken without disrupting operations. The first stations were not “square” buildings, in part because of a requirement to be adaptable to various possible sites. Currently CLV fire stations are still being built with the paramedic bay separate from the engine bay, though the buildings are now rectangular.
President’s Message

Brett K. Ewing, AIA

It has been such an honor to serve as the President of the Chapter this year. I have said many times that this year was a great opportunity for me personally as we have been celebrating our 60th Anniversary. We had held several superb events over the year and our membership continues to grow. Just since July, 40 more members joined AIA Las Vegas!

We are certainly in a transitional period regarding the leadership of our nation… because of this time of uncertainty I want to make sure that you, the members of AIA Las Vegas, are aware of the Mission and Vision of our chapter as well as our commitment to all members.

AIA Mission Statement: The AIA is the voice of the architectural profession and the resource for its members in service to society.

Along with the mission and vision, AIA Las Vegas upholds core values that distinguishes our organization including those of integrity, inclusion, diversity and equity.

We support the AIA National Council’s Diversity and Inclusion statement: A diversified profession mirrors the society it serves; celebrates and encourages the contributions of all architects, regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, physical ability, religious belief, geographic location, or practice.

Our Chapter and Board also are focused on the commitment to the AIA 2030 Challenge to combat Climate Change. Last week I drove across Wyoming and South Dakota for the Thanksgiving holiday and it was refreshing to see the vast expanses of nature and wildlife that have not been altered by humans. However, this pristine landscape “is” being affected by Climate Change and we as Architects have a serious responsibility to address this is the built environment.

I am especially proud of the AIA Las Vegas Board of Directors over the past few weeks. I witnessed spirit and compassion from the Board that I had not experienced before. The Board banded together to deliver a similar message and to let everyone know that we are here to serve our profession, and most importantly you the members!

This is also my chance to thank Randy Lavigne, Hon. AIA, Kelly Lavigne and Caron Richardson for all of their hard work and support over the past year. They are the heartbeat of the Chapter and we couldn’t operate without their hard work, dedication and guidance. Thank you!

I am excited to hand over the Presidential reins to Jon Sparer, AIA as our chapter moves into 2017. Jon will be focusing on the “Next Generation of Architects” with his platform and membership meetings next year. His focus on youth and the future of our profession will be a great complement and contrast to the Anniversary celebration we are completing.

I hope you will be able to join us at the Holiday Gala & AIA Nevada Excellence in Design and Service Awards which will be held on Dec. 14th at the Four Seasons Hotel (Mandalay Place). It is going to be a first class event as we will be closing out our 60th anniversary celebration & toasting the incoming 2017 Board members. Please plan on attending!
2016 AIA LAS VEGAS
HOLIDAY GALA

& AIA NEVADA
EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN AND DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Join us on

Wednesday, December 14th, 2016

To Celebrate Excellence in Design, Distinguished Service
And to Toast Another Wonderful Year

This special black-tie optional event is being held at 6:00PM at the

FOUR SEASONS HOTEL
Mandalay Place
3960 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV. 89119

Mark your calendar and make your plans to attend this special event

Celebrating
The end of the AIA Las Vegas 60th Anniversary Year
Recognitions of AIA Nevada Excellence in Design & Distinguished Service Award Recipients
Introduction and recognitions for 2017 Board of Directors
Best wishes for the Holidays and
A Champagne Toast to the New Year!

Tickets $125.00 each
Special rate for tables of 8 @ $950.00
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CLICK HERE to Reserve your tickets or your table today

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Daryl Walter Architect

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BreeAnn Cox, Assoc. AIA
Cunningham Group Architecture

Brian Gabriel, Assoc. AIA (rejoin)
Cunningham Group Architecture

Araceli Gomez, Assoc. AIA
SH Architecture

Chris Richardson, Assoc. AIA (rejoin)
RWA

Cameron Tate, Assoc. AIA
SH Architecture

AIA LAS VEGAS MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

We are proud to say we have started an archive of our past meetings

CLICK HERE FOR THE ARCHIVE

Index so far:
“60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION” JANUARY MEETING
“1956-1971 – THE WAY WE WERE” FEBRUARY MEETING
"MID CENTURY MODERN ARCHITECTURE" MARCH MEETING
"1971-1986 – A CITY GROWING UP" JUNE MEETING
"1986 – 2001 – THE FASTEST GROWING CITY IN THE COUNTRY" NOVEMBER MEETING
SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE DESIGN SERIES

Join us for a quarterly lecture series focused on sustainable rating systems and programs that support sustainable design and construction projects from infrastructure to healthcare.

Join us on December 8 for the fourth and final program in the series on the WELL Building Standard, an evidence-based system for measuring, certifying and monitoring the performance of building features that impact health and well-being. WELL is a different type of sustainability system that takes a holistic approach to health in the built environment addressing behavior as well as operations and design.

CLICK HERE to register for this program. Sponsorships are available for individual sessions and/or the complete Supporting Sustainability Design Series. Sponsors will be listed on the promotional materials and could host the session at their offices. Individual session sponsorship are $400. Please contact Kelly at klavigne@aianevada.org for more information.

GREEN OUR PLANET OUTDOOR CLASSROOM PARTNERSHIP

The COTE committee has continued our involvement with Green Our Planet on helping schools design outdoor classrooms in their existing gardens. In November, volunteers from our committee attended both an initial meeting and a charrette with fourth grade students at Sheila Tarr Elementary. The kids had a blast and the school was super appreciative to have us there (the kids were begging us to come back!)

As usual at the beginning of the exercise, we asked what everyone wanted to be when they grew up. Two kids wanted to be Architects! We asked at the end of the charrette if any of them want to be Architects, Landscape Architects, or Engineers and more than a dozen raised their hands.

We have more schools that need our help! If you want to volunteer for a charrette please let us know, they typically take place in the afternoon and your time commitment would be only a couple hours. Please email Anna Peltier at anna@arialandscape.com to sign up to be a volunteer list for 2017!
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This article will focus on construction revisions for a new home that we are building in Northern Idaho. Next year, we will be moving from our current climate zone of 3 to the much colder climate zone 5. Our new home in Northern Idaho is being constructed under the 2012 residential building codes, versus the 2003 residential building codes for our current home. You can see a PowerPoint presentation on the Residential Provisions of the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code at the following web link:
https://www.energycodes.gov/sites/default/files/becu/2012iecc_residential_BECU.pdf

In addition to being built to a much more efficient energy code, we plan to do a number of upgrades to further improve the home's energy efficiency. The first major change (versus our current home) is that this home will be constructed with 2x6 exterior walls using advanced framing techniques. This will save about 25 percent in lumber and it will create a much better insulated exterior wall system.

See the following website for more information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aYqgdLB10pE

The second construction revision for this home will be to install Zip system R-sheathing instead of standard exterior wall sheathing. This system creates a shear wall, a weather barrier, an air barrier and an insulation thermal break on the exterior wall studs. This replaces standard exterior wall sheathing, eliminates the need for an additional exterior weather membrane, dries-in the building quicker and it adds a minimum of R-3.6 to the wall overall insulation value. It also is very easy and quick to install. This would bring the overall wall R value up to approximately R-25 (minimum depending on insulation thickness) and it minimizes the direct heat transfer through the exterior studs (creates a thermal break). See the following website for more information: http://www.huberwood.com/zipsystem/products/zip-system-rsheathing

As a third construction revision, this new home will include a vapor barrier installed on the inside face of the studs and trusses that will also act as an additional air barrier. Since we do not want air leakage at our wall and switch outlet boxes, we will install air tight wall and switch outlet boxes. Our ceiling electrical light fixture boxes and cans will also be air tight. Following is a web link that illustrates one type of air tight electrical outlet boxes with a flange for taping of the vapor barrier. Other manufacturers make them also.

See the following website for more information: http://www.smallplanetworkshopstore.com/airtight-electrical-boxes/
The fourth construction revision for this home will be to install wet cellulous insulation in the walls instead of standard fiberglass batt insulation. See the following website videos for more information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ybp93Jx6Tg https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cr96vHQnq9E

The fifth construction revision for this home will be to increase the attic insulation from the code compliant R-49 to a much thicker R-80 insulation standard. Instead of installing a radiant barrier under the top rafter of the roof trusses (as in our current home), we will install a radiant barrier directly over the increased cellulous insulation in all of the above ceiling attic spaces. See the following website video for more information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L-FNAPIUFZU

As a sixth construction revision for this home, we are planning to install much more energy efficient triple pane exterior windows with vinyl frames in the new home. See the following website video for more information: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F43Ime9WGTc

And last, but not least, we were careful to select a home site and design with a large south facing roof so that we could again install a solar electric system for our new home. We are planning to work directly with Tesla to install their new solar shingle and whole house battery system for our new home and pre-ordered Tesla Model 3. The inverter for this solar system will give first priority to the home energy loads, second priority to keeping the battery charged and last priority to the utility electrical grid. As a result, we will only be using the utility electrical grid as our back-up source of electrical energy. See the following news article and website video for more information: https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-11-17/musk-says-tesla-s-solar-shingles-will-cost-less-than-a-dumb-roof

In summary, I am sure that we will be making additional retrofitting upgrades to this new home once we move in and get settled again. One of the first things that we plan to do is an energy audit for the home. I anticipate that we will be adding surface weather stripping to the doors to reduce air exchanges, upgrading motor efficiencies and making many additional energy efficiency changes similar to in our current home. We also hope to add electric exterior locks, a home security, video camera and energy control system that we can monitor and control anywhere from our cell phones. We may also install a Heat Recovery Ventilator (HRV), an Energy Recovery Ventilator (ERV) or a Central-Fan-Integrated Supply Ventilation System to further improve our indoor air quality. See the following website article for more information: http://www.greenbuildingadvisor.com/blogs/dept/musings/designing-good-ventilation-system

I have sincerely enjoyed sharing these home retrofitting and new construction ideas with my fellow design and construction professionals and I may do an updated newsletter article after we have made our move back North. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or want to discuss some additional ideas on this topic.
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Kathy Wilson
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AIA LAS VEGAS CONTINUING EDUCATION LUNCHEON SCHEDULE

AIA Las Vegas continues to provide Continuing Education Luncheons without charge as a benefit of membership, however, there is a charge of $20.00 for non-members. All (including members) who wish to attend an AIA Continuing Education Luncheon MUST RSVP prior to the luncheon.

If you are interested in providing or hosting an AIA Las Vegas Continuing Education Lunch click HERE for more information

ARE STUDY MATERIALS AVAILABLE IN AIA OFFICE

A complete set of the Kaplan Architectural Examination Study Guide is available in the AIA Las Vegas office. These materials are available for use in the AIA office and can be reserved by emailing klavigne@aianevada.org

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CONSTRUCTION PROJECT COORDINATOR

$76,018 - $101,357
Filing Deadline: December 15, 2016

The City of Henderson, Nevada, is hiring a Construction Project Coordinator to oversee and coordinate the scoping, budget development and administration, safety management and project management of assigned City design, construction and maintenance projects.

Specific duties include:

• Monitors, coordinates, participates in and documents the design and construction of City construction and maintenance projects, from the budget estimate through the warranty phase of the project; reviews design documents, specifications, bid documents, contracts, cost estimates, schedules, contracts and other related documents; coordinates consultants; works with contractors and City departments/divisions to review and document site work and resolve issues.
• Estimates and monitors project budgets and ensures all funds are used according to contract and funding terms.
• Receives, reviews, and qualifies that contractor payroll records are in compliance with Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 338; verifies the prevailing wage for each craft or type of work performed during the project; assists with wage discrepancy investigations and resolutions.
• Reviews projects and facilities for conformance with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), building codes, ADA and other regulations.
• Assists Design and Construction Manager and/or Senior Project Coordinators with site visits, site coordination and other field related duties.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

• Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university in Architecture, Engineering, Construction Management, or a closely related field
• Three (3) years of full-time professional level project and construction management experience having responsibility for coordinating all phases of design and construction
• Note: An equivalent combination of related training and experience may be considered
• Possess and maintain a valid Nevada or ‘border state’ driver’s license, as defined by NRS 483
• Incumbent may be required to obtain licenses, certifications and complete in-service training as required. All required licenses and certificates, as mandated by state and federal laws, or as required herein, must be obtained and maintained at the incumbent’s expense
• Desirable: Experience in the coordination of public works and government building projects; proficiency in use of AutoCAD; experience with space planning and design; experience with planning and developing office and systems furniture layouts; and experience developing graphic presentations.

To apply, click here to visit the City of Henderson website and submit your on-line application by the filing deadline of December 15, 2016.
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- Hotel and casino photography
- 360 virtual tours
- Time-Lapse
- Videography
- And much much more!

The sky is the limit... or is it?! Because 501 is airborne with
- Aerial photography
- RC aerial copter video and photography

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As you can see we are located in the heart of the city, just behind the Palms Hotel and Casino.
AIA EVENTS CALENDAR

DEC

1
NSBAIDRD Seminar
Reno, Nevada

8
AIA LV COTE CE Breakfast
“Well Healthcare”

13
AIA Las Vegas Board Meeting

14
AIA LV Holiday Celebration
and
AIA NV Design & Service Awards

15
AIA Nevada Board Meeting
Dec. 19 thru Jan. 3
AIA Office Closed

24
Christmas Eve
AND
1st Night of Chanukah

25
Christmas Day

31
New Year’s Eve
January 1
New Year’s Day
AND
Last Night of Chanukah
January 3
AIA Office Open

JAN

New Year’s Day
and
Last Night of Chanukah

3
AIA Office Open

12
AIA LV CE Luncheon
TBA

17
AIA Las Vegas Board Meeting

19
AIA Nevada Board Meeting

25
AIA Membership Meeting
“The Next Generation of Architects”

26
AIA LV CE Luncheon
TBA