

Keynote Speaker

Dan Burden

Blue Zones, LLC

Director of Innovation and Implementation

During the summer of 2014 Dan transitioned to his new role with Blue Zones, LLC. Seen as a visionary, innovator and source of inspiration and collaboration throughout his career, Dan is a nationally recognized authority on walkable, livable and sustainable communities, complete streets, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities and programs. Dan has become known for his pioneering work and leadership to mentor many in how to transform communities into places for people first; all while still accommodating the car, and not the other way around. In this new role as the Director of Innovation and Implementation, Dan oversees many additional community-built environment transitions, making dozens, and eventually hundreds of communities healthier, more active places to live.



Dan has always been a pioneer in his work, staying up on holistic trends in transportation and land use, and becoming a sought-after master of implementing change. In 1980, staff for Governor Bob Graham, chose Dan to help transform the Florida Department of Transportation, which made it one of the first multi-modal transportation agencies in the nation. As early as 1991, well before the term complete streets was coined, Florida became known for its holistic look at street making, helping create place out of space. Dan pushed for change and became the nation's first full time pedestrian and bicycle coordinator, a position now required in all 50 states. At the age of 60 Dan broadened his skill sets, embracing urban design and land use while serving as a principal and senior urban designer with the community-planning firm Glatting Jackson (from 2005-2009). Dan currently serves as an advisor for several national organizations, including: Walkscore (www.walkscore.com).

Dan's efforts to get the world "back on its feet" earned him the two of the first-ever awarded lifetime-achievement awards. The first was issued by the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals. The second was issued by the New Partners for Smart Growth. The League of American Bicyclists named Dan as "one of the 25 most significant leaders in bicycling for the past 100 years."

In a peer driven process Planetzian Magazine ranks Dan as one of the 100 most significant urban thinkers of all time. Time magazine in 2001 named Dan as one of the six most important civic innovators in the world. And that same year the Transportation Research Board (National Academy of Sciences) honored Dan by making him their Distinguished Lecturer for that year. Dan pioneers change in fields he helped create. He has more than 40 years of experience helping create livable communities. Dan served for 16 years as the first State Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator for the Florida Dept. of Transportation. This program became a model for other statewide programs, and in 1991 launched one of the nation's first and most successful complete streets programs.

Dan and his wife, Lys, co-founded Walkable Communities in 1996. Since then, he has helped more than 3,500 communities throughout the world become more livable and walkable.

Blue Zones --Community well-being improvement initiatives designed to make healthy choices easier through permanent changes to the built environment, health producing policies, and social networks.

Keynote Panel



Dr. Ed Gilman, Professor

Dr. Ed Gilman, Honorary ASLA,

Ed has a 45% research: 50% extension teaching: 5% classroom teaching assignment. The new online arboriculture class is available to all world-wide. He works with arborists, consultants, landscape contractors, growers, urban foresters, planners, landscape architects and others engaged in tree selection, growing, planting and management issues. Research includes tree pruning, anchorage, roots, irrigation, and fertilization. His team provides service to the industry and to citizens in Florida by incorporating this and other research-based information into educational programs, demonstration sites, publications, and Web site for target audiences.



Frederic E. Stresau Jr., FASLA

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Fred graduated almost last in his High School class

- Graduated almost first in his Landscape Architectural class
- Schooled for more than 20 years under the guidance of Florida licensee #5.
- Authored the Site Design portion of the first LA license test in 1965
- Grandfathered as Florida License # 247 in 1966
- Community activist with more than 60 years of service on City Advisory Boards
- Recognized "City of Fort Lauderdale Distinguished Citizen of the Year 2009"
- Elected as a Fellow in the ASLA in 2012



John Ribes, PLA, FASLA

John Ribes, PLA FASLA

Entering his fifth decade in the field and invested as a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects, John has seen it all. His firm's diverse slate of projects, ranging from golf courses to commercial developments, reflects just that. JLR Design Studios was established in 1970. John has dedicated his time as a board member of the Florida Board of Landscape Architects, participated in the FLASLA Education Committee and helped host FLASLA conferences.

Keynote Panel



John Conroy - Owner
- Fish Branch Tree Farm

John Conroy is President, founder, and owner of Fish Branch Tree Farm, Inc. He chaired the committee for the most recent revision of Florida's Grades & Standards for palms. John obtained both a B.S. and M.S. degree in Education from Florida State University. In the 1970's and 1980's he owned garden centers with landscaping, irrigation and sod operations. John founded Fish Branch Tree Farm in 1988, a tree farm which has grown to 325 acres, located in Southwest Florida. Over the years John has sought to develop innovative production methods and has promoted new or under-utilized trees. He owns the plant patents to Boardwalk® and Park Side® live oaks. John has presented at many industry venues on various topics relating to palms. Recently, John played a key role in the establishment of a committee formed to review and refine a broad range of issues facing Florida's Department of Transportation's landscape program.



Stephen J. Trudnak, FASLA

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Steve has a long history of in Florida since graduation from Penn State sometime back in the last century.

His work history includes:

- Fellow at American Society of Landscape Architects
- Former Senior Landscape Architect at Johnson Engineering
- Former Principal at Stephen J. Trudnak, P.A. Landscape Architecture
- Former Director of Planning and Design at Bonita Bay Properties (now Bonita Bay Group)
- Former VP Landscape Architecture at Canin Associates
- Former Vice President / Project Landscape Architect at Harry Weese Associates.

Steve served the Florida Chapter in many positions including President and as conference chair. He has also served on national committees.

