

eMONTHLY - April/May 2004

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**2004 LARE SEMINAR SPONSORED & CONDUCTED BY WASLA**

The Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) is sponsoring examination study groups and preparation seminars for candidates planning on taking the LARE Examination in June 2004. The seminars will be taught by seasoned and *licensed* landscape architects.

**Study Groups**

Informal study groups are usually formed at the seminars. These groups are self-taught sessions emphasizing teamwork and dialogue. We urge you to join one of these study groups; your participation and dedication to this method of learning will help you succeed.

**Seminars**

**The 2004 LARE Examination preparation seminars will take place on Saturday, May 8 at the University of Washington, Seattle, in Room 322 , Gould Hall, at NE 40<sup>th</sup> Street between 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and University Way. Parking is available in a UW parking garage entered on 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE just north of Campus Parkway.**

The seminars will cover Sections A, C, D and E (but not Section B) of the LARE Examination. You may enroll in one or all of the seminars. There will be a flat fee of \$65 for enrollment that is charged to cover the cost of this flyer, the room rental, copying and equipment rental (if necessary). The same fee will be charged whether you enroll in just one or all four seminars. Cash or checks will be accepted as payment at the door.

Bring tracing paper, pencils, erasers, a lap-top drawing surface, a calculator, and architectural and engineering scales.

Date	Subject	Presenters	Contact
Saturday, May 8	Section A – Legal & Admin. Aspects	Matt Mathes	253 790-9820

9 – 10:30 AM			
10:45 – 12:15 PM	Section D – Structural Considerations, Materials, & Methods of Construction	Matt Mathes,  Erik Sweet	253 922-9780
1:00 – 3:00 PM	Section E – Grading and Drainage	Andy Rasmussen	206 322-1732
3:15 – 5:00 PM	Section C – Planning and Site Design	Ivana Begley	206 322-4937

### Seminar Videotapes

Videotapes of the 1996 examination preparation seminars can be rented on a first-come, first-serve basis. The videos cover all sections of the examination, but do not reflect changes to the exam made since 1996. If you are interested in renting the 1996 videotapes, please call Erik Sweet at 206 628-9133. A \$20 deposit plus a \$5 postage handling fee will be charged.

If you have any questions concerning the study groups or seminars, please call

Brooks Kolb at 206 324-0858.

### BCSLA HOSTS LARE PREPARATION WEBCAST

From: Brooks Kolb, WASLA Past-President

Tara Culham of the British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects (BCSLA) has this announcement about BCSLA's participation in a live webcast for LARE Candidate. This webcast program is in addition to the LARE preparation seminars hosted by WASLA on May 8 (please see separate e-mail message from WASLA for more information, or call Brooks Kolb at 206 324-0858.)

BCSLA, in collaboration with the Centre for Collaboration and Education in Design (C2Ed), has arranged to participate in a live webcast designed to help Landscape Architectural Registration Exams (LARE) candidates understand and prepare for the exams. The ten-hour program will be broadcast live over the internet on May 15-16. Two licensed landscape architects who passed the exam on their first attempt will share their experiences and help candidates prepare for the exams. A question and answer period hosted by the BCSLA Intern Sub-Committee will follow each webcast. Seating is limited so call the BCSLA office to register by May 5, 2004. For complete details please visit [www.bcsla.org/pdf.htm/webcast.pdf](http://www.bcsla.org/pdf.htm/webcast.pdf). Thanks to Joe Fry, Blair Guppy, Yolanda Leung, Margot Long, Mark Vaughan and Ian Wasson for helping to set this up. BCSLA CE Credits Available.

### PROMOTING ACTIVE LIVING KEYNOTES LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MONTH

By Brooks Kolb, Past-President, Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) and Don Benson, WASLA Visibility Committee Chair

Recently, Governor Gary Locke signed a proclamation establishing April, 2004 as National Landscape Architecture Month in Washington State in honor of the legacy of Landscape Architects and in hope for the bright future of their profession. A similar proclamation establishing Landscape Architecture Week in Seattle was signed by Peter Steinbrueck, former President of the Seattle City Council in April, 2003. Washington Landscape Architects, represented by the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA) are commemorating Landscape Architecture Month by calling attention to a public policy issue and an environmental opportunity of nationwide significance: the critical importance of promoting Active Living for a healthy society.

New statistical evidence gathered in the last two or more years has proven that a strong correlation exists between physical health and active outdoor recreation, including bicycling, walking and jogging. Such a link was always assumed by Landscape Architects but the new evidence, gathered by the Washington State Department of Health and other agencies, lends much stronger credence to urban designers seeking to promote Active Living through the design of new communities and improvements to existing settlements.

Alarming news bulletins about the growing percentage of obesity in America, with over 50% of the population considered obese, has thrown a spotlight on the critical need to make our communities more pedestrian and bicycle-friendly. Children are especially at risk, with ever more children being driven to school, most often in low gas-mileage Mini-vans and SUV's. When I consulted on a playground renovation project at a West Seattle elementary school last year, I was disturbed to discover that children living only half a block or a block from the school were often driven by their parents, for fear of kidnappings and traffic accidents.

A growing number of citizens and environmental groups have become concerned about this public health issue and are strongly advocating for pedestrian-friendly communities that emphasize active living. Prominent among these groups is the Washington Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity, which is partially funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Headed by Executive Director Tom Wells, the WCPPA's mission is to "Promote increased awareness and knowledge about physical activity and the benefits of an active lifestyle; Develop and promote model policies, laws, and regulations supporting physical activity; Establish and maintain a physical environment supporting physical activity; and Share research/data of effective interventions working with a wide range of community organizations, including schools, universities, physician's offices, work sites, professional organizations and government agencies."

On April 21, the WCPPA hosted an "Active Living Leadership" dinner-meeting, held at REI's Corporate Headquarters in Kent, Washington. Attended by State Senator Rosa Franklin and former Seattle Mayor Charles Royer as well as leaders of 50 statewide organizations including WASLA, the meeting kicked off a public policy debate around the question, "What are the three top priorities in providing a mix of land uses, transportation options, and recreational opportunities that create healthy communities?"

Active Living has long been a top priority of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA.) At ASLA's annual "Lobby Day" event held every May in Washington, D.C., Landscape Architects from all 50 states visit their Congressional delegations to promote ASLA's top three legislative priorities in Congress. Two of these legislative priorities have the explicit goal of promoting Active Living: renewal of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (currently dubbed "TEA-21") and of the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR). TEA-21 will tie funding of bikeways, pedestrian routes and recreation trails to highway improvement funding.

UPAR establishes funds to rehabilitate and renovate existing recreation areas and parks in poor, inner-city neighborhoods across the U.S.

The Washington Chapter ASLA has also been actively involved in this cause. As part of our on-going and official partnership with the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Unit, we co-lead a charrette last October in the City of Moses Lake to create a city-wide master plan for a new, interconnected system of bicycle trails, linear parks and recreation areas. The charrette was enthusiastically received by Moses Lake community leaders and provides a blueprint for future Active Living initiatives.

Washington Landscape Architects are very proud of the many accomplishments we have achieved in the goal of making our communities more conducive to Active Living. There is much more to be done and we expect that Landscape Architecture Month will continue to call attention to this important public health issue in coming years.

### CONSIDER THE ODDS

By Matt Mathes, ASLA, WASLA Delegate to AELC

According to the Legislative Information Center, 1,546 bills were introduced in the 2004 Short Session. The House approved 363 bills and the Senate approved 260 bills.

Other 2004 bills may still be alive if the bills are necessary to implement-- or referenced in --any of the three supplemental budgets (operating, capital and transportation). Supplemental budgets are now being introduced. Many bills not passed in 2004 may reappear in 2005.

There might be 625 passed bills by the end of 2004 session, then the Governor can (and will) reduce the final number from 625 passed bills.

Only state governments regulate the professions - not Washington, DC, or counties or cities.

Cities have business license requirements and city tax programs, yet these regulations are aimed at revenues, not professional regulation.

In fact, you have a current professional duty to call and report to your state licensing Board of Landscape Architects any city or county attempt to regulate the title or the practice of your profession contrary to any RCW 18.96 provisions. If no one ever calls the Board, an elected official chairing a key committee (or several voting members) in 2005 might decide there is no future need to regulate landscape architects in Washington State. It can happen just like that some afternoon in a small room in Olympia.

Landscape architects were directly named and affected by only 1 out of 1,546 bills in 2004, for the proposed professional regulation annual dues account changes. We found out through AELC, and then obtained more information from our WASLA member on the LA Board, then weighed in thru AELC. The elapsed time was about 2 weeks.

AELC also tracked (and helped to stop) a challenge to Qualifications Based Selection.

AELC supported omnibus liability reform that required the support of one Senate bill that did not pass from the desk of the House Rules Committee Chair for the second year in row. The topic attracted 20 other competing bills from the House that contained only 10% of the content compared to the one Senate bill to make any substantive changes in 2004.

Meanwhile, the medical profession spent an estimated \$2.1 million on the medical malpractice / liability reform issue in Washington State in 2004. The 20 House bills have not all been signed by the Governor. If all 20 bills are signed, then there will only be about 10% of what the group really sought - and no caps on non-economic court damage awards, etc..

Liability Reform Coalition spent a planned \$350,000 budget on liability reform in 2004.

How would you feel if you were your doctor and spent \$2.1 million in 2004 and got only 10% of what you were seeking? Would you go back then next year and try again? If so, how much more would you spend then? At the rate of getting 10% of the job done each year Washington doctors might have to spend \$20 billion over 10 years, to get everything they want and need.

Next, consider the number of future years you will practice landscape architecture and the stream of those future annual earnings. What do you spend now to protect that stream of future income? 1%, 2% or 10% ?

Next, consider the odds and the high stakes in Olympia - and then consider just how cost effective AELC participation has been for the WASLA membership:

WASLA participation in AELC has allowed 225 landscape architects to focus and pick out approx. 20 selected bills out of 1,546 bills at just the right time, and then prepare and deliver messages on 7 core topics, all within the 60 day short session.

The WASLA cost of AELC is basically \$2 for all 1,546 state bills tracked, or approx. \$5 per passed 2004 bill (\$3,000 divided by 625 passed bills). Since only passed legislation really matters, the best measure is the "cost per passed bill per year."

If all 800+ registered LA's were WASLA members, the annual cost of AELC would reduce to \$1 per passed bill per year.

Next year in 2005, the odds will require that landscape architects cause the legislature to pass 1 bill out of an estimated 650 passed bills from among an estimated 1,600 total introduced bills for a practice act amendment to RCW 18.96. I'll take those odds. Why? Because of AELC.

Landscape Architects can hit 1 in 1,600 odds - the surveyors CE bill passed in 2004 (members of AELC, 1 in 1,546 odds in a short session), although the interior designers (not AELC members, hired a lobbyist, fought with kitchen & bath designers during the session) registration bill quietly failed in a committee one day, so they will be back next year.

When we hit 1 in 1,600 odds in 2005 - and we will - it will be because of our resolve, our past and continued participation in AELC and our unified focus on a modest set of RCW 18.96 amendments.

In LARE test annual preparation class each April that raises funds for WASLA Chapter each year, I address the topic of risk assessment - one has to know the odds before one can make a rational decision to accept a quantifiable risk, to place a value on the risk through insurance, etc.

Going to Olympia for legislation is no different - there's a cost, there's a risk, and there's an outcome - every single year.

In 2004, less than 10% of your annual WASLA budget and a large part of my volunteer time goes to AELC, because it is the most cost effective long term

method to participate in state legislation. In 2005, even more will be required and a new entity Landscape Architects of Washington (LAW) will address the financial needs.

This year through early 2006, I'll be asking each of you to spend just a little more of your time to stay informed. There will also be donation requests, invitations to AELC golf tournaments, AELC events, etc. - so, please tell everyone that AELC and LAW will both be calling you.

Start skipping Starbuck's once in while, do your own math on your own future and be prepared.

## **SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION**

The Society for Ecological Restoration International (SER), founded in 1987, is a non-profit organization serving thousands of individuals and organizations in 30 nations; our members are actively engaged in ecologically sensitive repair and management of a wide range of ecosystem types. The Society's mission is ***to promote ecological restoration as a means of sustaining the diversity of life on Earth and reestablishing an ecologically healthy relationship between nature and culture.***

We invite you to review our two-page attachment that outlines a variety of ways for you or your business to become involved in the **SER 2004 Conference in Victoria, B.C.**, August 24-26. Sponsorships, exhibitor space, and web exhibition (Webex) options offer opportunities for you to promote your products and services to a large network of practitioners, scientists, community groups, NGOs and governmental agencies involved in the restoration of ecologies worldwide.

A wide range of **sponsorship levels** (\$500 to \$15,000+) provide benefits that include complimentary registrations and exhibitor space; and the Webex presents a unique opportunity to showcase your restoration projects to a wider audience.

[Click here for more information](#)

Please visit our website, [www.ser.org](http://www.ser.org), for complete details on all options for participation and call or email me with any questions you have. Thanks for your interest in SER 2004,

Judy Ciampoli

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## **WASLA SPONSORS SEATTLES 2004 STREETSIDE GARDENING CONTEST**

The street right of way is a challenging environment for garden design and maintenance and yet the gardens along the street can set the character of a place and be a catalyst for community creativity.

This year WASLA members will be joining other landscape professionals and community members as judges of the Streetside Garden Contest organized by the Seattle Department of Transportation and sponsored by WASLA, Seattle Public Utilities, Northwest Garden News, WALP, and the West Seattle Garden Club along with the support of area businesses.

Two years ago SDOT initiated the first citywide contest to recognize the help the public provides with beautifying Seattle's streets. This year's contest is the third of what is now an annual event. Streetside gardeners are invited to enter their gardens in the 2004 contest. The public can also nominate a garden that has caught their eye or been transformed from a neighborhood eyesore. It's easy to do with an online entry form available on the SDOT web site: <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/trafficcircles.htm>

### Qualifying gardens

To qualify for Seattle's contest, gardens must be located within the Seattle City limits. Mature trees should be limbed up to 8 feet at the trunk and young trees pruned so they don't block visibility. Gardens within 30 feet of an intersection cannot contain any unapproved objects such as rocks or posts and understory plants must be maintained at or below 24 inches. The understory plant height for streetside gardens beyond the 30-foot envelope is a maximum of 30" tall.

### Judging criteria

Judges are professional landscape designers, architects, and community members. They will be evaluating use of color and foliage, seasonal interest, quality of maintenance and plant health, and good gardening practices. The finalists will represent the best of unique design and personality, as well as their choice of plant selection with emphasis on drought tolerance, pest and disease resistance.

For more information, contact Liz Ellis at SDOT 206-684-5008 or [liz.ellis@seattle.gov](mailto:liz.ellis@seattle.gov)

### WASLA AND NATIONAL STUDENT AWARDS

The judging for this years WASLA and National (Washington State Students) has been completed. The results will be posted in next months newsletter

### CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS, 17TH ANNUAL NATIONAL TRAILS SYMPOSIUM















Join us on October 21-24, 2004 for the 17<sup>th</sup> National Trails Symposium. American Trails, the leading national organization that promotes the interests of all types of trail users, is your host for the Symposium, along with local partners Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Austin Parks and Recreation Department and Texas Trails Network. The Symposium is a premier opportunity for greenways and trails advocates, managers, planners, builders, and users, as well as environmental, tourism, real estate developers, and business interests, to come together to strengthen America's remarkable network of trails and experience an inspirational, educational, and fun-filled conference. [more...](#)

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**\*Be sure to check out their websites by clicking on their logo.**

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