



WASHINGTON e-NEWS

January 2004

In this issue:

- **WASLA Welcomes New Officials**
- **2004 Elected Officials Running Statements**
- **2003 Professional Award Sponsors**
- **Liability Reform Coalition News Update**
- **Spokane Area Landscape Architects**
- **National Playground Safety Institute**
- **Seattle Public Utilities Offers February**

WASLA 2004 Election Results

by Carrie Culp, President

WASLA Welcomes New Executive Board Members and Thanks our Past Board Members

Eighty-nine Executive Board election ballots were received and counted today, January 5, 2003, and the election results are in! All of the candidates were highly qualified, so it was a very close race for each position! Congratulations to our new Board Members:

President-Elect: Matt Mathes

Treasurer: Jasmine Aryana

Secretary: Dakota Keene

Member at Large/West: Maureen Colaizzi

Member at Large/East: Josh Tripp

Associate at Large: Rachael Watland

Frank Ide was elected Trustee in October, 2002 and will continue his term.

The first Board meeting of 2003 will be held at 5:00 on Thursday, January 15, 2004, at the office of GGLO, 1301 First Avenue, Suite 301. We are looking forward to a productive year! Please remember that Executive Board meetings are held the third Thursday of each month and are open to all members!

On behalf of WASLA, I would like to thank all of last year's board members - Don Benson, Steve Worthy, Jim McDonough, Linda Frkuska and Anna Tamura - for their hard work on improving our chapter and its services to our members. I hope that each of you will continue to be active within the chapter, because your talents and efforts are truly an asset to our organization.

2004 Election Winners Ballot Statements

We have provided the elected officials ballot statements for you review (now that they have been elected, it may be good to refresh a bit on who they are)

PRESIDENT CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Matt Mathes, ASLA

My goals for WASLA as President-Elect include continuing the current effort to reshape our current RCW 18.96 from title act to practice act, creation of more opportunity for landscape architects statewide, to plan a first ever combined

statewide annual meeting for WASLA and Washington Chapter APA in 2005 and to remain active in AELC for legislative issues. These five goals would create value for WASLA members.

As to my background, my practice as a Landscape Architect includes mostly planning work along with notable site design projects located in Eastern, Central and Western Washington, including current work for City of Covington. I testified on SEPA and GMA issues, wrote several landscape architecture magazine articles, appeared on Ed Hume's garden TV show, hold graduate degrees in urban & regional planning and administration and have volunteered for 17 years on community and state boards. My past ASLA leadership and service positions include Section Vice Chair, student chapter president, AELC Delegate for WASLA in 2003, and LARE prep instructor for the Legal & Administrative Practice section for past four years.

TREASURER CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Jasmine Aryana, ASLA

I have eight years of project design and planning experience in Landscape Architecture and am registered to practice in the States of Washington, Arizona, and California. As a graduate from the University of Arizona with a Masters degree in Landscape Architecture and a certified wetland specialist after completing the Wetland Science and Management Program at the University of Washington, my experience includes a vast genre of projects covering the spectrum from traditional landscape architecture to wetland and stream restoration and mitigation design. My passion to learn more and be involved in the field of landscape architecture led to my appointment as a member of the West Seattle Design Review Board.

As Treasurer, I look forward to executing responsibilities such as supervising collection of all fees, dues, and charges due to WASLA and presenting our financial status report at the Annual Meeting as well as the monthly Board meetings. Currently as one of the charter members of the WASLA Committee on the Environment, I have been exposed to the prevailing interest among WASLA members to shepherd greater interaction among its members. I will be a passionate advocate of functions and seminars that will create additional interaction among Washington Landscape Architects with the intent to further promote the goals of WASLA and its members.

SECRETARY CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Dakota Keene, ASLA

When I decided to return to school after several years in marketing and merchandising for the Seattle Art Museum and Amazon.com, I looked to the field of Landscape Architecture as a profession that would enable my participation in the conscious development of the places we live as well as the preservation of the places less touched. Since interning at The Berger Partnership and completing my BLA degree from the U W in June 2003, I have been with the

Landscape and Planning Team at Mithun. My additional experience and qualifications as a candidate include my roles as Treasurer and later Vice-President of the Westlake Center Merchants Association Board of Directors, 1991-1994. I also served as Outreach Coordinator for the UW Student Chapter of ASLA from 2001-2002 and participated in the planning of events such as the Beaux Arts Ball and the UW volunteer efforts for the WASLA Awards Ceremony in 2001.

In all my endeavors and professional positions, I have recognized the value in being connected with organizations that support and promote communities. I see WASLA as an organization that serves to empower our profession as well as extending educational opportunities to the community at large. It is for this reason that I would like contribute to WASLA through the position of Secretary. My skills in event planning and coordination, as well as my previous service on a board of directors will bring the necessary experience, organization, and motivation to this position. Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy for this exciting opportunity.

MEMBER AT LARGE/WEST CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Maureen Colaizzi, ASLA

I have volunteered for ASLA in both Oregon and Florida. After graduating from Penn State in 1992 with my bachelors of Science in Landscape Architecture, I moved to Florida and worked for Walt Disney World, City of Orlando and the City of St. Petersburg. In Florida, I was elected the Tampa Bay Section Chair for two years, working as a liaison for over 150 landscape architects in the Tampa Bay area. I was responsible for attending the State board meetings, fundraising, organizing informational meetings and award banquets in the Tampa Bay area. In 1999, I moved to Portland, Oregon and worked for Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation in Vancouver, Washington.

While living in Portland, I assisted with editing a quarterly magazine called the Oregon Land for two years until accepting a job with the City of Seattle's Parks and Recreation Department in 2001. Because of an intense public meeting schedule, I have not been able to be as actively involved until now.

I would be honored to become the Member at Large in Western Washington for the American Society of Landscape Architects. As Western Member at Large I would like to extend our communication and activities to Northwestern and Southwestern Washington to better include our members in those areas.

MEMBER AT LARGE/EAST CANDIDATE STATEMENT

Joshua K. Tripp, RLA, ASLA

I received my BSLA degree from WSU in 1997 and I am licensed in Washington State and Arizona. In six years' time, I have been exposed to a diverse range of project types from multi-million dollar public works projects to single family residential projects. All of my experience has been obtained in the

interdisciplinary private practice arena. While in Arizona, I was the web site administrator for the State ASLA chapter and an active member of the executive committee.

As a Landscape Architect in Spokane, I believe that the practice of Landscape Architecture is definitely viewed in a different light than in many other cities such as Phoenix, Seattle, Boston, Portland, etc. As a candidate for member-at-large/East, my primary goals are: (1) continue to increase meeting attendance and inter-profession involvement within our LA community, (2) continue to educate local communities on the value and services that a landscape architect provides, and (3) continue to increase the exposure of our profession to other design related professionals.

ASSOCIATE AT LARGE CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Rachael Watland, ASLA

I would like to be considered for the position of Associate at Large on the WASLA Executive Board. Because of my past experiences working with WASLA, my achievements at the University of Washington, and my perspective as a newcomer to the professional Landscape Architecture community, I believe I would be a valuable member of the board.

I graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor's in Landscape Architecture as well as a Bachelor's of Arts in Scandinavian Studies in March of 2003. In April of 2003, I began working as a Landscape Designer at SB & Associates. I have felt very lucky to find a job so quickly out of school, and I attribute a large part of my success to my involvement with WASLA, beginning in the Fall of 2000. At that time, I approached WASLA to help initiate a Mentor Program between the professional community and students. As many of my classmates would agree, the program has eased the transition into the working environment.

I would like to continue my involvement with WASLA and feel that serving as the Associate at Large would be an excellent way to do so. I hope that you agree that my experiences exhibit my motivation and enthusiasm for being connected in the local ASLA chapter. I look forward to the opportunities that serving on the Executive Board would bring. Thank you for considering me for this position.

WASLA Professional Awards Sponsors

We would like to thank [these](#) companies and suppliers for their support of November's awards ceremony.

Liability Reform Coalition NEWS UPDATE

by Matt Mathes, ASLA (WASLA Delegate to AELC)

WHAT ARE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS CONCERNED ABOUT?

Rising insurance costs, dropped coverage, new exclusions and controlling litigation are the top issues.

Landscape architecture firms currently pay a large portion of annual gross revenues for liability control and several types of insurance coverage. Firm owners in Washington now insured with one of the longest running insurers of landscape architects in the country are being notified that professional liability insurance premiums for typical E & O policy coverage may increase as much as 30% in 2004 while annual inflation is only running 1.8%. Firms with more than \$250,000 in annual gross revenues will no longer be able to obtain multi-year policies in Washington State.

Public agency clients typically specify professional insurance needs for landscape architecture firms, so public agency budgets will be impacted, if insurance cost increases are passed thru by landscape architects to public agency clients in 2004.

Business liability insurance policies might contain certain exclusions for "railroad" land related claims in Washington state. The exclusion combined with an event creates an uninsurable risk for landscape architects working for public agencies on "rail land" transit projects and "rails to trails" projects, as two realistic examples of the current overall liability and tort crisis in Washington State.

Condominium litigation is a big concern for landscape architecture firms that perform condo common area outdoor and rooftop design. GMA goals for dense urban residential projects can not be met, without condos. Very few new condo projects are starting up because condo project teams can not obtain insurance, due to our unique mix of state regulations. Other states have addressed tort reforms years ago.

There should be wider public outcry to fix condo liability coverage, particularly in the Puget Sound area. If we don't fix condo laws in 2004 session, we should expect more pressure to make GMA law changes and to expand Urban Growth Area boundaries in upcoming years.

While construction and design related liability is usually most important to design professionals, it's low on the radar screen to residents. State legislators are more concerned about by medical and healthcare as highlighted on the LRC talking points page. Start your conversations with the top issues that legislators know residents are concerned about, then add our specific issues as part of any construction related tort reform topics.

WHAT IS WASLA DOING FOR MEMBERS?

The LRC "talking points" one page in the attached file was developed by LRC, made available through AELC to WASLA members. The attached LRC information reflects how the WASLA and AELC groups support liability reform joining AIA, ACEC and many other LRC supporters - most are major clients for landscape architectural services. WASLA makes the attached information available for you to have and to use as a WASLA member service, through AELC participation.

WHAT IS LRC DOING?

LRC is led by attorney Cliff Webster, who also facilitates AELC group. LRC hopes to raise and spend \$350,000 to \$450,000 to generally promote liability & tort reform, as a political action committee. Trial lawyers groups oppose liability and tort reform - particularly, they oppose caps for medical and public agency damages awards from court judgments. In 2003, the trial lawyers groups contributed approx. \$650,000 in hard and soft contributions to candidates and campaigns.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Next, I'll identify a list of specific legislators who need to hear from landscape architects, and share information about a proposed certificate of merit process to help reduce spurious claims in courts. I also hope to highlight a contact list of state legislators for liability and tort reform, with basic information about making contacts. For now, landscape architects should talk up general "liability & tort reform" issue with your colleagues and clients with the attached information.

Matt Mathes, ASLA
WASLA Delegate to AELC
206-790-9820

Spokane Area Landscape Architects

by Ken Laxton, past East Side Member-at-Large

Hello Landscape Architects, Landscape Designers, LA Students and allied Professionals, Happy New Year to all of you! Thank you for your participation last year in our Brown Bag luncheons. We had many great presenters, fascinating projects reviewed, and all-around-great meetings last year! We look forward to another tremendous year of fun and educational meetings with many interesting topics and projects being presented.

As always, we welcome suggestions for improvements and ideas for meeting topics and landscape projects to present (elaborate presentations definitely not expected). Please consider presenting one of your projects and let us know.

Our guest speaker this month was Joe Zubaly, certified arborist, and President of North West Plant Health Care, inc. As a well-respected Spokane area arborist, Joe shared with us information on underused trees that are well-adapted to our

area, suggestions for better utilization of plant material, and other horticultural information.

Please mark your schedule for our next Brown Bag Lunch meeting on Thursday, February 5th, at 12:00 noon. We will gather for a one hour meeting at the WSU Interdisciplinary Design Institute at 668 N. Riverpoint Blvd. in room 117. Topic to be announced.

Ken Laxton, ASLA
WASLA Member-at-Large East

National Playground Safety Institute Exam

NPSI – National Playground Safety Institute
March 17 & 18, 2004

Safety Inspector Certification Exam on March 19th

Presented by WRPA, NRPA and WRPA Park Resource Section
Tukwila Community Center, 12424 42nd Ave. S., Tukwila, WA 98168
(Building phone number 206-768-2822)

For more info or call Rick Still at 206-767-2344 rstill@ci.tukwila.wa.us

visit http://www.wrpatoday.org/park_resources.htm

Seattle Public Utilities Offers February Classes

12/17/03 item for WSNLA and WALP newsletters,
per request of Marianne Pratt and Peter Dervin,
Also sent to WORC and WASLA
from David McDonald, 206-684-7650 david.mcdonald@seattle.gov

Register Now for Two Great Classes in February

Seattle Public Utilities and building industry presenters have teamed up with UW's Center for Urban Horticulture and the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties to bring you two exciting new classes in late February.

Stormwater: Turning a Potential Problem into an Asset

February 24, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Washington Park Arboretum Visitor's Center, Seattle

Rainwater can be a resource. Learning to collect it, slow its movement through the landscape, and retain it in our soil and plantings will be the theme. This seminar is designed for builders, developers, contractors, landscape architects, engineers, planners, landscape designers and landscape professionals. The seminar will focus on successful projects around our region, large and small,

municipal and private, as teaching tools. Rain gardens, living roofs, cisterns, swales, soil improvement, and plant selection for projects, along with related techniques and regulatory issues, will be presented and critiqued by the project designers and builders.

Pre-registration required.

For information, cost, and to register see “What’s New”/ “Professional Programs” at www.urbanhort.org or call the Center for Urban Horticulture at (206) 685-8033.

Site, Soils, and Landscaping: Environmentally Friendly Techniques

February 25, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties, Bellevue

These low impact site, soil and landscape practices can give you a greener bottom line: easier installation, fewer callbacks, and happier customers. Start with efficient site and soil management techniques to produce healthy soils, for healthier landscapes. Then we’ll progress to establishing a landscape using the right plants for the site, organic fertilization, compost, mulching, integrated pest management, other field-tested practices, and how to sell these upgrades to your clients.

Instructors: Ladd Smith of In Harmony Landscape Services, Len Zickler of AHBL, and David McDonald.

Pre-registration required.

For information, cost, and to register, e-mail Master Builders University at education@mbaks.com or call (425) 451-7920.