



WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects

MARCH 2008

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April 11

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Messages

LICENSURE UPGRADE BILL REPORT

Curtis LaPierre, WASLA Past President

Our landscape architecture bill made lots of progress this legislative session. The bill was passed by the Senate (albeit with an amendment we don't care for) and was nearly heard on the floor of the House when we ran out of time. The session is ending without the bill being sent to the Governor but there is every reason to believe that the bill will be passed in the 2009 session.

The emails and phone calls our members made to key legislators made a very noticeable difference in moving the bill along. We used both our chapter member email list and more narrowly targeted action alerts from ASLA National to notify chapter members. Fortunately, we also have a number of dedicated Government Affairs Committee members such as Greg Murphy, Ed Winkley, David Akiyama, Chuck Warsinske and Craig Lewis and lots of people offering their advice and guidance such as WASLA President Chris Overdorf, Bob Barnes and Shane Dewald. Members from the Olympia area including Bob Droll have also testified before legislative committees during the session. Terri Hotvedt, our legislative consultant who is also a licensed landscape architect in Washington, did the work of three people during the session.

One disappointment in trying to move the bill through the legislature was the actions of three industry groups consisting of the Association of Professional Landscape Designers

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(APLD), the Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association (WSNLA) and the Washington Association of Landscape Professionals. WASLA worked with these groups toward consensus on a bill that will effectively protect the public health, safety and welfare without negatively affecting the scope of work normally performed by landscape designers. Although WASLA had received letters of endorsement from the groups in consideration for modifying the bill language last year, those groups, through their representatives, have tried to have the bill amended with language that would allow the practice of landscape architecture by anyone.

Committee Reports and Public Relations

COME CELEBRATE WITH US

WASLA warmly invites all members and friends to join us on Thursday, March 27 at the Burke Museum of the University of Washington. We will kick off National Landscape Architecture Month, announce the winners of WASLA's Professional Awards, and celebrate our profession. The participants will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite entry among all the submitted projects.

[Register now](#) and be sure to join us on the night!

6:30 pm Open Bar, Hors d'oeuvre Buffet, Project Viewing, Voting

7:30 pm Presentation of WASLA Awards

8:30 pm Closing Reception

At the museum, please be sure to thank Pete Pachl of Electrical Representatives West and Jay Curcio of Pacific Earthworks, the sponsors of our Awards Program, and the sponsors of the buffet reception. The support of these generous firms is essential to WASLA's success.

More details: The dress for this event is festive. Your admission fee of \$50 includes two drink tickets and hors d'oeuvre buffet. The Burke Museum is located in the northwest corner of the UW campus at 17th Avenue NE and NE 45th Street. Parking is available inside the campus for \$5. There is ample public transportation to the area. Advance registration closes at noon on Tuesday, March 25.

NATIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MONTH

Don Benson, ASLA, WASLA Trustee

I would like to follow-up with an update on three upcoming events in April that promote landscape architecture month.

1. In response to the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics and the need to grow the profession, I am calling for volunteers, particularly those with kids in K-12 schools, to go into the classrooms and educate students about the profession. There are a variety of "tool kits" available to make presentations-our WASLA CIP-funded education brochure ca. 2003, a landscape architecture coloring book produced by the North Carolina chapter, and a power point presentation produced by ASLA National, among others. Let's get into the schools during the months of April and May to make these presentations and help "grow the profession."

2. WASLA is proposing to renew our partnership with the National Park Service-Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Service Program (NPS-RTCA) in early April. Through this partnership, which has served as a national model for the ASLA National NPS-RTCA Memorandum of Understanding and is now in its 10th year, WASLA and NPS-RTCA have conducted eight design charrettes in communities around Washington State. We renewed the partnership in 2003 and now it is time to renew it again.

3. Tentatively, WASLA and NPS-RTCA are interested in scheduling our 9th collaborative charrette in the Spokane area, probably in mid-October. This is an early heads-up to professionals and students to think about participating in this worthy effort. More details will be provided in the months ahead as the planning proceeds.

Please contact me if there are questions and if you are interested in participating in the above. Thanks!

Don Benson, ASLA, AICP
Washington Chapter Trustee
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206-438-2027

URGE YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS TO SUPPORT HALS

Jonathan Mueller, FASLA
Vice President, Government Affairs

As Vice President of Government Affairs for ASLA, I am writing to ask for your help to secure critical funding for the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS).

Congressman Carnahan of Missouri has sent out a "Dear Colleague " letter to Members of the House of Representatives requesting support for funding for HALS in the fiscal year 2009 Interior Appropriations Bill. We need each ASLA member to write their Member of Congress today to ask him/her to sign on to Congressman Carnahan's letter today.

As you may know, the requested funding would support core staff, including landscape architects, historians, and geographic information systems (GIS) specialists, as well as allow the program to provide technical assistance and small seed grants to local groups. With this support, citizens nationwide can initiate and complete HALS projects and help document nationally significant landscapes. To date, funding levels for the program have been extremely inadequate to carry out the mission of the program. Since its inception in 2000, HALS has received little funding and as a result many important HALS projects are awaiting documentation.

This is a unique opportunity for ASLA to secure the much-needed funding to document historic landscapes across the country. Please take a moment to help your society achieve this important goal. Write your Member of Congress today to ask him/her to support critical funding for HALS by signing onto Congressman Carnahan's letter to the Interior Appropriations subcommittee.

Announcements

PLAN AHEAD FOR THE 1ST SPRING HAPPY HOUR

The AIA Seattle / WASLA 2008 Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series is about to begin.

March 21
SiteWorkshop
5:30 - 7:00

Refer to www.siteworkshop.net for map and directions.

Parking is limited so, busing, biking, carpooling, walking, running, skipping, or riding your Segway is the suggested methods of transportation. Refreshments will be posted and toasted by our happy hour host.

Enjoy exciting SiteWorkshop designs and projects. Meet new friends, see old friends, and enjoy a toast or two with colleagues.

Refer to the schedule for the next Emerging Happy Hour location occurring every third Friday of the month from March-October.

UW/WASLA STUDENT AWARDS SEEKS JURORS

The UW/WASLA Student Awards will be held this year on Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26. The jury for each day will be made up of four professionals. The local awards will be given on Friday. Jurors spend the day looking at work that the students have hung on the walls of Gould Hall for review. The task is to assign Honor and Merit awards to the deserving work. This process typically takes the entire day (8 am - 5 pm) and the UW will provide lunch for the jurors.

The national awards are given on Saturday. The UW will select two BLA and two MLA candidates to present their work for a possible award. The format is roughly an hour for each student - including a question period, and 15 minutes for the jury to discuss at the end. This process will take 1/2 day (8am - noon or 1pm). This is a wonderful opportunity to keep in touch with the work being done at UW and to meet some of the graduating students. We are looking for 3 jurors for Friday and 3-4 for Saturday. Please contact Carrie Culp at 425-864-9824 or via email at carriec@highridge.com if you are interested in participating. The students and the UW Faculty and Staff very much appreciate the time professionals give to this event!

WSU/WASLA STUDENT AWARDS SEEKS JURORS

The dates for the WSU/WASLA Award Jury have been set for April 10 in Pullman and April 11 in Spokane. We are seeking professionals to participate on the jury. Please contact Craig Anderson at craig@storhaug.com or 509-242-1000 if you are interested or would like further information.

LARE REVIEW STUDY GROUP CONTINUES

Join fellow emerging professionals in the pursuit of licensure. We will be meeting informally every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at the Greenwood Public Library to prepare for upcoming exams. There will be two groups: those studying for graphic Sections C & E and those who are studying for the computer Sections A, B & D. An ongoing study group will continue through December 2009 and beyond if there is interest by attendees. The Group will prepare by doing practice exam questions, gathering and sharing subject matter needed for sitting for the exam.

First Session

March 22, 2008

Section C & E Study Group (June and December)
Section A, B & D Study Group (September and March)

Every Saturday starting

March 22, 2008

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Greenwood Public Library

8016 Greenwood Ave N

Seattle, WA 98103

206-684-4086

Parking: Free covered parking under the building. Enter and exit the garage on 81st Street.

For more information contact Maureen Colaizzi at maureen.colazzi@gmail.com or (206) 546-0232.

**PEACEFUL VALLEY CHARRETTE SCHEDULE
ANNOUNCED, TIME TO RECLAIM THE PV**

Friday March 28 6-9 pm: introductions and potluck
Saturday March 29 8am-9pm: field visits and concept designs and lunch and dinner.
Sunday March 30 8am-2pm: final concept drawings and plan presentations

The Charrette is an intensive design and planning workshop designed to stimulate ideas and involve the public in the community planning/design process. It is a valuable tool for laying the foundation for the development of a comprehensive plan, master plan, or strategic plan. In our case we will be designing formal plans for our neighborhoods parks-Peaceful Valley Park, Peaceful Valley River Walk, and Glover Field.

We need neighbors with a broad range of skills and backgrounds. Peaceful Valley residents bring a unique insight to the charrette process. Together, and only together, we can restore our parks and make Peaceful Valley a better place to live.

In addition to neighborhood input the charrette process will include the services of interest groups such as; Friends Of The Falls, The Lands Council, Spokane County Conservation District, Washington Department of Ecology, Spokane Parks Department, Local Tribes, West Valley City School, Veteran Conservation Corps and anyone else that has an interest in this cause.

Visit the [Charrette webpage](#) for more information

OLMSTED BROTHERS: DESIGNING SPOKANE LANDSCAPES

October 6, 2007 - September 21, 2008

Spokane contracted the prestigious Boston landscape design firm, Olmsted Brothers, to create a park plan for this booming city in 1907. Intrigued by the region's "strikingly picturesque" basalt outcroppings, the Olmsted firm eventually designed parks, residential landscapes, and public projects over the next 45 years. Their correspondence, photographs, and planting plans offer a personalized local story, set into the broader context of western city planning.

Visit the [Northwest Museum website](#) for more information.