ASLA
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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
The Website Newsletter for the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects
April 2010

Landscape Architecture Month: Plug into Cleanup, Earth Day, Garden Tour

We know springtime brings out the best in our projects with everything in bloom – that’s why April is the celebration of Landscape Architecture month.

Join us for the following Landscape Architecture Month activities that you and your family can plug into to enhance your quality of life:

Earth Day Fair
Sunday, April 18, 10 am to 5 pm
Balboa Park ASLA Booth
Represent ASLA and bring your own marketing materials to distribute at ASLA’s Earth Fair booth for a wonderful Earth Day celebration.

To volunteer 1-2 hours to staff ASLA’s booth at the Earth Day Fair, email Kasia Trojanowska, ASLA SD Secretary at kasia.trojanowska@urscorp.com.

Creek to Bay Cleanup
Saturday, April 24, 9 am to Noon
Florida Canyon Cleanup
Bring your family and friends and join David McCullough and DJ Taylor of McCullough Landscape Architecture for our annual Creek to Bay cleanup.

Meet at Southcrest Community Park & Recreation Center, 1419 Newton Avenue, San Diego, CA 92113. For more information or to sign up, contact David McCullough at 619.296.3150 x 2#, or at david@mlasd.com.

Printed on recycled paper.

ASLA San Diego Chapter
P.O. Box 81521
San Diego, CA 92138-1521

NOTE: Events, dates and times are subject to change! Please check with the ASLA office at 619.225-8155 for the latest events or visit www.asla-sandiego.org/content/events.

EVENTS

April
15 ASLA Executive Committee – Schmidt Design Group – 6 pm
18 Earth Fair – 10 to 5 pm, Balboa Park. Volunteers contact kasia_trojanowska@urscorp.com
24 Creek to Bay Cleanup – 9 am – Contact: david@mlasd.com. See page 1.

May
1 Garden Tour – Volunteers Needed – Contact Navid@mostassociates.com. See page 1.
20 ASLA Executive Committee – David Reed Landscape Architects – 6 pm

June
17 ASLA Executive Committee – The Lightfoot Planning Group, Carlsbad – 6 pm
24 Modern Builders Supply Tour/BHQ – 6 – 8:15 pm, 837 Grand Ave, San Marcos, CA

ASLA’s EarthFairboothfora won derful
EarthDay celebration. To volunteer1-2
hours to staff ASLA’s booth at the Earth
Day Fair, email Kasia Trojanowska, ASLA
SD Secretary at kasia.trojanowska@urscorp.com.

Four plucky souls braved driving rain and wind on Saturday, February 27, to tour the Famosa Slough winner of the 2010 ASLA Community Grant. The tour was led by Jim Peugh and Chet Nelson accompanied by ASLA San Diego Executive Committee members Navid Mostatabi and David Reed. The slough is a wonderful example of a saved salt marsh, fed by fresh water. Jim Peugh, Chairman of Board of the Friends of Famosa Slough showed the group the proposed grant award construction area and many other areas of the slough that have been reclaimed over the last twenty plus years.

Even though we are landscape architects, and the slough has almost all of the plant species of riparian, upland and salt marsh habitats, the highlight of the morning was the winter waterfowl! Many species of migrating ducks, avocets, stilts, and a little blue heron were observed on the water or simply nesting. If you wish to learn more about the flora or fauna, please visit http://www.famosaslough.org/

We understand that some members didn’t make the trip due to the weather, so we will schedule another trip if there is interest, especially before spring ends and the migrating birds go back North. If you are interested, please contact navid@mostassociates.com.

Thank You to Our 2010 Sponsors!

Four Seasons - $7,500 Donation
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Summer Breeze - $2,500 Donation
Hunter Industries
Rain Bird
Toro Products

Autumn Color - $1,500 Donation
Ackerman-White Industries
California Landscape Contractor’s Association, San Diego Chapter
Mark Schroeder & Company

Winter Warm Up - $750 Donation
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Benchmark Landscape
Nature Designs
RCP Block and Brick
Steven Smith Landscape
Southland Soil Farms

Lecture Sponsors
David Reed Landscape Architects
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As I searched through the archives for information about past garden tours, I found that there were over 300 tickets sold for our garden tour in 1992! I also discovered that, based on available material, the last San Diego ASLA garden tour was in 1996 - fourteen years ago! It has been far too long since we have celebrated the work of San Diego Landscape Architects in the public eye.

This year we are bringing the Garden Tour back and adding a new twist: We will do a guided bus tour and will not only highlight residential gardens but will also showcase some of the public work designed by Landscape Architects. By having a bus tour, we will be able to offer up endless facts about our profession, and point out public work while driving between gardens, both educating and showcasing simultaneously.

When the tour is finished, we are planning to have a reception with vendor booths, live music, and food.

Information and tickets are available at www.asla-sandiego.org. PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS EARLY! We are only selling a certain number of tickets. There is a good chance that this event will sell out!

We have ample sponsorship and volunteer opportunities available! Please don’t be shy. Visit the website at www.asla-sandiego.org for a sponsorship form. Questions or comments are welcome. Please call me, Navid Mostatabi, at 800.414.1860 or the SDASLA office at 619.225.8155.
Running for a Board position next year, please contact me or Tracy, our Executive Director. We would like to make this year’s ASLA activities truly memorable. Their contact information is available in each description. Also, if you have ideas for future events or if you are considering running for a Board position next year, please contact me or Tracy, our Executive Director. We would love to hear from you.

April is Landscape Architecture Month. Activities include an ASLA booth at Earth Fair, and the Creek to Bay Cleanup. We will begin also accepting nominations for next year’s Board of Directors. Contact members listed on the cover to plug into Landscape Architecture Month activities and Tracy Morgan Hollingsworth regarding 2010-2011 Board positions (619.225.8355 or aslad@sbcglobal.net).

On May 1, the ASLA Garden Tour returns with a focus on landscapes in transition. Please contact Navid Mostatabi to volunteer or for more information (619.414.1860 or navid@mostatabi.com).

In June, we will be mailing and posting the application for our annual Community Grant on our website at www.asla-sandiego.org. If you know of a worthy community group with plans, but few funds, to beautify their neighborhood, point them to the application (organizations must mail applications by August 1). Please contact Jim Jachlewski regarding the Community Grant (619.795.7663 or jim@stteamsandiego.com).

On June 24, Modern Builders Supply, one of our generous Four Seasons Sponsors, will host an event at their facility in San Marcos. Please contact David Reed (619.239.3300 or david@drasla.com) regarding this event.

In July/August, we will be hosting our first Green Vendor Fair – Chasing Green. This event will feature our sponsors who produce and promote “green” products and members who have adopted cutting edge “green” landscape architecture best practices. Please contact Marian Marum (619.992.9533 or Marian@MarumPartnership.com) for information and to volunteer.

Join us in August/September as we host our 28th Annual Golf Tournament. This is our major fundraising event for the Community Grant. This event requires lots of assistance, so please reach out to David Reed (619.239.3300 or david@drasla.com) to help.

In October and November, we will hold our annual Lecture Series. These lectures are a treat as we always have provocative and first rate speakers talking about what interests us as Landscape Architects. Please contact Brooke Pietz (619.294.4477 or brooke@ktua.com) with ideas on speakers or to provide much needed sponsor assistance.

We will end the year on a high note as we host our Holiday Gala/Annual Meeting. This is a great time to reflect on the past year’s accomplishments and a way to thank our Board members and our many volunteers. David McCullough (619.296.3100 x 2# or david@mlasd.com) will be organizing the event, so please let him know if you can help.

Legislative actions in Sacramento continue to show us that there are many issues critical to us as practitioners of landscape architecture and as California citizens. The California Council ASLA is continuing to monitor those and many other legislative and regulatory actions on behalf of the California Chapters and their members. As your CCASLA representative, it is important that I hear from you regarding any issues of importance or concern to you. I will gladly pass them on to the full Council for attention. CCASLA retains a lobbyist in Sacramento who represents our concerns amongst the various Legislative Committees, Boards, Commissions, etc. These efforts continue to elevate our presence in Sacramento and increase our voice.

As reported in the last newsletter, Senate Bill SB 189, Mechanics Lien – is working its way through the state legislature. This legislation will reorganize and restate the statutory mechanics lien law and will provide the ability of landscape architects to file a lien for recovery of fees owed to them for design services rendered under contract. The bill is currently in the State Assembly awaiting further action. CCASLA continues to work diligently with its lobbyist to affect inclusion of landscape architects in this legislation.

Various legislative proposals related to water conservation and landscape guidelines continue to be introduced both in Sacramento and locally. As these work their way through the system, we will continue to bring these to your attention. Information regarding specific rules, regulations, and legislation benefits of networking and working with fellow members of our industry.

As can be seen, the Board has been busy planning events that are sure to be of benefit to you, our members. So, please consider participating on one of the organizing committees and consider serving on the Board. There is a lot to do, but, with your help, we can have a very successful and fun year.

PS: We want to acknowledge and thank all our sponsors who, without their support, we could not host the variety of activities held throughout the year. Many thanks to Benchmark Landscape for their support (we omitted Benchmark from the January newsletter – our apologies).
We had almost 90 students visit the ASLA booth and many questions and provided a brochure which highlights our presented the ASLA San Diego Chapter at Patrick Henry High School. We had almost 90 students visit the ASLA booth and many questions and provided a brochure which highlights our presented the ASLA San Diego Chapter at Patrick Henry High School. We had almost 90 students visit the ASLA booth and many questions and provided a brochure which highlights our.

Talking about dirt took on a new meaning at our March 4 Sustainable Soils event. The 45 members who attended received key information on soil testing, healthy soils, and soil amending with compost.

After a fun social exchange and introductions by Marian Marum, ASLA, LEED AP, the meeting started with a discussion on the importance of healthy soils led by Ruth Stafford, ASLA, LEED AP. Ruth works with WRT and is a member of ASLA’s Sustainable Sites Initiative PPN. She explained that healthy soils offer a diversity of “ecosystem services”. She suggested that members read more about this important topic on ASLA’s Sustainable Sites Initiative website at www.sustainablesites.org.

Mary Matava of Agri Service stood in for Garn, who was quite ill. Mary, who has a soil testing background, gave an excellent presentation and fielded numerous questions from the audience. Special thanks to Agri Service for hosting the Stewardship Committee “Sustainable Soils Event” at Zocolo in Old Town.

Sharon May, also of Agri Service, described the composting process at Agri Service, and why composting is so valuable to healthy soils. Her table display highlighted the beneficial effects that can be obtained by mixing compost with site soils. Sharon did an amazing job of pulling together a most memorable event!

David Reed wrapped up the evening with project examples of soils that had been effectively transformed to support robust growth of plant materials at a new park in Chula Vista.

Anyone wishing to learn more about or participate on the Stewardship Committee should contact Marian Marum at 619.992.9533 or marian@marumpartnership.com.

ASLA SD 2010 Kick Off Meeting
By Nacal Mostafali, VP Programs/ Social Activities

On February 11, the San Diego chapter of the ASLA held its annual Kickoff Event at Grounded Modern Living in Encinitas. While 3rd Corner wine bar served up excellent bottles of red and white along with the food, we chose to go with Stone beer to celebrate their recent ASLA San Diego award (designed by Schmidt Design Group).

I would like to give a special thanks to those who made the event possible.

Our annual sponsors give us the ability to host these events free of charge to our members – show them some love. This year we had some incredible door prizes made possible by: The Martinez Inn Bed & Breakfast on Montecito Bay. Rainbird provided a weather-based irrigation controller; Pardee Tree Nursery donated a $250 gift certificate to the nursery; and Grounded Modern Living gave a $100 gift card and a Plant Orb. Also, special thanks to Justin Werner and Jeff Dewine for providing an acoustic guitar jam throughout the night.

The Kickoff is always a well attended event. Based on the comments I received, this was one of our best Kickoffs to date! Let’s continue this momentum and make 2010 a year where we connect, share ideas, and gather in celebration. I hope to see everyone at our future events!
Cuyamaca College Second Annual Sustainable Urban Landscape Conference

By Carol Fuller, Chapter President

The music is hauntingly soft, compelling, drawing you into the auditorium. The stage has a huge media screen showing a sky full of clouds and fading in and out are quotes to consider.

We are living on this planet as if we have another one to go to.
- Terri Swearingen

This quote especially catches my attention. As landscape architects and students of landscape architecture we must constantly remember that what we do directly impacts the environment.

Davis Arboretum who discussed water conserving plants. The Arboretum All-Stars is a list of plant material that perform admirably in low-water use landscapes. This list overshines the Nifty 50 we have all been using for the past few years. Prior to boarding buses for the onsite tour, we heard from the designer and production manager of the Solar Turbine Landscape Renovation as well as the developer and maintenance manager of the Santa Luz Development. At each site were speakers who were well versed in the design, construction or maintenance of the site and were very willing to answer all our questions.

Mark your calendar for next year’s Cuyamaca College Sustainable Urban Landscape Conference.

Water Conservation Sub-Committees

The San Diego County Water Authority (CWA), co-chaired by ASLA of the City of San Diego, invites you to join the CWA’s Water Conservation Action Committee sub-committees including: Sub-Committee representing Industry, Commercial/Industrial Regulatory Issues, Outreach, Residential and Agriculture.

If you are interested in serving on one of those CWA subcommittees, contact CAC Chair Glen Schmidt, ASLA at 619.236.1462.

National Trustee Report

By Glen Schmidt, FASLA, National Trustee

The midyear meeting in Washington DC is scheduled for April 29 through May 1. Please contact Glen Schmidt, Jim Taylor or David Reed if you have any issues you would like us to share with the national leadership at the meetings.

Currently there are 16,193 ASLA members.

Over 650 entries were received for the National 2010 Professional Awards Program, setting a new record for the largest number of entries in ASLA history. Thirty new professional members joined ASLA through the awards program this year. The jury met March 19-21, at the ASLA offices in Washington, DC and award winners will be announced soon.

A reminder to visit the ASLA.org web site and click on the Professional Practice Network (PPN) which is a free member benefit.

The 2010 ASLA Standard Form Contracts package is available for purchase from the ASLA website. The ASLA standard contracts package contains the standard form contract, standard short form contract, and corresponding guidelines for each. The tiered pricing remains the same for 2010 with no increases and is based on the number of employees in the firm. Member prices are significantly discounted.

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The 2010 Sustainable Urban Landscape Conference is an annual event that endeavors to include pertinent information, expert speakers and a tour of sites that exemplify the principles taught by the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Department.

It all started on Thursday, March 11, with keynote speaker, Henry L. Petersen, Ph.D., who discussed the Business Case for Sustainable Development, followed by Glen Schmidt on the Future of Sustainable Landscapes in San Diego. In that vein, Jim Mumford spoke on Green Roofs – their technology and use in the architectural field.

Marian Marum followed with a presentation on utilizing Green Landscape Materials. After a wonderful lunch served on campus, we re-convened to discuss Environmentally Friendly Pesticides with Pam Marrone, Ph.D., an innovator in bio-pesticides. Dixie Switzer of the County Water Authority then discussed the new water ordinance. The final presentation of the day was a panel discussion on local water recycling including gray water harvesting and re-water irrigation systems.

Outside the conference were more than 20 exhibitors featuring products pertaining to irrigation, plants, equipment, water alternatives, soil amendments, fertilizers, landscape materials, green roof installation, design and maintenance.

Friday commenced with Karrie Reid, MS, of the UC Davis Arboretum who discussed water conserving plants. The Arboretum All-Stars is a list of plant material that perform admirably in low-water use landscapes. This list overshines the Nifty 50 we have all been using for the past few years. Prior to boarding buses for the onsite tour, we heard from the designer and production manager of the Solar Turbine Landscape Renovation as well as the designer, developer and maintenance manager of the Santa Luz Development. At each site were speakers who were well versed in the design, construction or maintenance of the site and were very willing to answer all our questions.

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