SDASLA continues to celebrate its 30th anniversary during Landscape Architecture Month by hosting a downtown happy hour. The event was hosted at Bondi, one of San Diego’s newest and most eclectic bars from down under, mate! Our happy hour was coordinated through “Evite”, an all electronic invitation system, which has helped SDASLA provide members with quick and easy notifications about Chapter events and also contribute to an eco-friendly system of communication. Members of all ages along with our gracious sponsors enjoyed a night of relaxing conversation and fun.

The Landscape Architecture Month happy hour provided our members with a much needed break from their efforts both in the office and in the community. This year SDASLA performed several activities to promote our profession and further the ASLA National theme of “Discover Careers in Landscape Architecture.”

These activities included visits to local high schools and a Boy Scout Merit Badge Fair to enlighten the next generation of working professionals about potential careers in Landscape Architecture.

The venue, Bondi Bar and Kitchen, is new to the Gaslamp and provides the downtown scene with a place to enjoy an authentic Australian atmosphere inclusive of an all Aussie wine list, eco-kegs that only hold authentic “Grog” and fare that is heavy on the meat. Most intriguing to our members as design professionals is the level of thought that was placed into the design of the bar. The décor is comprised of imported jarrah hardwood flooring, red iron ore walls and grass tree fronds shipped directly from Australia’s Pilbara desert. The staff was very accommodating and kind enough to provide two gift certificates as door prizes.

Those in attendance would agree that the happy hour had a great mix of veteran Landscape Architects, newbies to the field and also a good number of sponsors. Most of the conversations did not focus around work, but rather what ASLA is doing and how we can continue the momentum that this and prior SDASLA executive boards have established. Several guests have indicated how much fun our events are becoming and how they look forward to future events such as the second annual “Night at the Ballpark” on July 19th.

Members are encouraged to create an account on “Evite” at www.evite.com and set your firewalls to allow messages from this site, further ensuring your place at future events. This will be our primary tool for conveying invitations for monthly Chapter events and social activities.

SDASLA Unites with “I Love a Clean San Diego”

In April, SDASLA united with I Love a Clean San Diego to clean up the trash in Florida Canyon. Fifty people from around the city showed up at the Florida Canyon site alone and helped to pick up truck loads of trash and recyclables. Awards were given for the most trash picked up and the most interesting trash discoveries. And you can bet that there were many interesting things discovered in the canyon.

A special thank you goes out to organizer Cheryl Fields. Thanks also to local landscape architects who attended, David Solmes and his wife Elisha and Jennifer Spencer and her husband Brian. The biggest thanks goes to those helpful little people who made it out that morning, Matthew Spencer and William and Molly McCullough.
Our SDASLA Chapter has been very hard at work the last three months, and I’m proud to report that we have accomplished a lot. We’ve been working on planning events coming up this summer and fall and ones just recently passed.

Those members involved with the ACE Program attended the 4th Annual ACE banquet where the students presented their projects. Jon Wreschinsky and I traveled to DC to participate in the mid-year CPC meeting and congressional lobby day. I’m proud to announce that Martin Poirier’s nomination into the ASLA Council of Fellows was accepted this year. Congratulations Marty! Dave Preciado is working with Chapter staff in setting up credit card payment for our events on the Chapter website. Dave McCullough and I are working on revamping our Chapter’s website. Kelly Dixon is in the works passing on the Interrobang baton to Penny Clews who will oversee the Chapter’s involvement with the wildly successful lecture series consortium. Lastly, in April, the SADASLA Chapter celebrated National Landscape Architecture Month (NLAM) in a very big, big way.

NLAM was a huge success this year with many events. DJ Taylor organized our chapter’s annual participation in the Creek-to-Bay cleanup with over fifty volunteers collecting trash that accumulates in the canyon. Darren Solano and I represented the Chapter at the 97th Annual Boy Scout merit badge fair. Darren and I coached over 60 scouts helping them earn partial requirements for the Landscape Architecture merit badge. I would like to thank Bill Widas at Pardee Tree Nursery for donating plant material used to help facilitate the young scouts in earning the plant identification requirement. Thanks to our Executive Director Tracy, we had two official proclamations by the City of San Diego. Glen Schmidt, Pat Caughey and I were invited to meet with Mayor Sanders in his office on April 12, to accept the Proclamation of Landscape Architecture Month in the City of San Diego. We briefly discussed with the Mayor some issues that affect our industry. The following week, we accepted the second proclamation by the San Diego City Council, presented by council member Kevin Faulkner. Dave Leonard organized an LA Month Happy Hour at Bondi Restaurant downtown where there were about 50 people in attendance. The San Diego Business Journal ran a story about our LA month activities in their May 14th paper. Finally, ASLA National CEO Nancy Somerville presented to me a special commendation to SDASLA for our work during LA month. I want to personally thank all of you who may have attended any of the events, to those who volunteered, and I encourage more member participation.

Upcoming events include the Annual Golf Tournament, our Night at the Ballpark at Petco Park and the Design Awards. Our golf tournament will be held at Twin Oaks in San Marcos. Funding raised last year was a record, and we want to continue that trend for the 2007 Community Grant. We’re actively soliciting a title sponsor for the tourney, so please contact us to discuss this and other sponsorship opportunities. Last year’s first Annual Night at the Ballpark, was a huge success and a lot of fun. It was so successful that it prompted us to pre-order 100 tickets for the July 19th event. The seats are great and the price is unbelievable at $30. Please reserve your tickets soon. Chris Langdon is hard at work planning our Design Awards Banquet which looks to be held at the beautiful new UCSD Neurosciences Building. Look for an excitingly different format this year. Please plan to submit examples of your work by late summer. Thanks for reading. I’m enjoying my work and service to the Chapter.

Visit www.asla-sandiego.org
The Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting was held in Washington D.C. on April 25-28, 2007. Summary of business conducted:

• Finance and Budget: 2007 through 2009 budgets were approved by the Board of Trustees. Annual budget for 2007 is anticipated to balance with $200,000 income at $11.3 million. As directed by the BOT, Public Relations budget is increasing, currently at $160,000 in 2007 to grow to $250,000 by 2009.

• Program and Operations: Membership growth between March 2006 and March 2007 was 4.8 percent. Public relations exposure from the Green Roof project on ASLA National Headquarters has been very successful. Visitors to the Green Roof are averaging 25-30 per week.

• Board of Trustees voted to elect the 2007 Vice Presidential positions: Jonathan Mueller, ASLA for VP Government Affairs, Terry Clements, ASLA for VP Education, and Thomas Tavella, ASLA for VP Communications.

• National Lobby Day: On April 26th the National Executive Committee, Presidents Council and the BOT spent the day lobbying Capitol Hill. Over 200 meetings were scheduled with Congress and Representatives. Issues presented were the Small Visionary Pilot Initiative to assist small communities maintain their rural character, and the benefits of Green Roofs.

• The Sustainable Sites Initiative program was presented. This is a $1.9 million effort to provide a LEED like rating system for sites. The first reports will be released in the fall and findings will be presented at the ASLA conference in San Francisco in October. The program is expected to take another couple years to be finalized which is drawing concern from the Board of Trustees.

• A survey of ASLA leadership priorities for programs and policy showed a strong consensus that Public Relations is considered one of ASLA’s highest priorities.

• Growing the Profession: There has been an anticipated shortage of graduating Landscape Architects when compared to projected demand within the profession. The Board of Trustees spent considerable time brainstorming the issue and developed a number of suggestions. This is an ongoing concern and priority for the society to address.
Welcome New and Returning SDASLA Members!

• Peter Abernathy, ASLA - Rick Engineering Co.
• Cheri A. Blatner-Pifer, ASLA - KTU+A
• Mark Carpenter, ASLA - KTU+A
• Ryan Ferguson, Affiliate ASLA - Mark Schroeder & Company
• Nancy Graham, Affiliate ASLA - Centre City Development Co.
• David McCullough, ASLA - McCullough Landscape Architecture, Inc.
• Jennifer Spencer, ASLA - McCullough Landscape Architecture, Inc.
• Roy Seifert - Student
• Bart Shadlow, ASLA - ENVIRONS
• Steve Shirrel, ASLA - Landscape Development, Inc.
• Jeffrey Smith, ASLA - Daedalus Design Group
• Angelina Sotelo, ASLA - David Reed Landscape Architects
• John Taylor, ASLA - KTU+A
• Roy Zhu, ASLA - Nowell & Associates Landscape Architecture, Inc.

ASLA Anniversaries

60+ Years
William Dreiss, ASLA

50+ Years
Richard Wilson, FASLA

40+ Years
James J. Kennedy, ASLA

30+ Years
• Steve Adams, ASLA - Adams Design Associates, Inc.
• William J. Briggs, ASLA - Port of San Diego
• Roger DeWeese, FASLA - Roger DeWeese Landscape Architect
• Dennis Gillespie, ASLA - Gillespie Moody Patterson, Inc.
• Stephen Halsey, ASLA - Halsey Design Group
• Frank Kawasaki, FASLA - KTU+A
• Dennis Otsuji, FASLA - ONA, Inc.
• Ron Pekarek, ASLA - Pekarek Group Landscape Architects
• Ralph Stone, ASLA - Ralph Stone and Associates
• Michael Theilacker, FASLA

20+ Years
• Steve Ahles, ASLA - AHLES Land Architecture
• John R. Bardin, ASLA - J.R. Bardin Company
• Jon Becker, ASLA - Jon Becker Landscape Architect

For a complete listing, visit www.asla-sandiego.org
Vision
A world where the built and natural environments coexist in harmony and sustainable balance; where all peoples can express their diverse heritage and their individual desires to grow and thrive; and where we, as a profession, can substantially contribute to the process of achieving these ends.

Mission
To lead, to educate and to participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and natural environments.

Thank you to our 2007 Sponsors!

Four Seasons Sponsors $7,500
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Rain Bird

Spring Bouquet Sponsor $5,000
Kaufman Masonry & Landscape Supply

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KRC Rock
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The Office of James Burnett
David Reed Landscape Architects

2007-2008 San Diego ASLA Executive Committee Positions
The San Diego Chapter of ASLA has begun the process of identifying qualified candidates for the following positions on the Executive Committee: President-Elect, Vice President-Social Affairs, Vice President-Membership, Chapter Secretary, Treasurer, and CCASLA Representative. These positions offer an excellent opportunity to interact with fellow practitioners and shape the future direction of the Chapter. For the specific descriptions and terms of each position, please contact Jon Wreschinsky, President-Elect, 619-916-6956 or jon_wreschinsky@johngallup.com.

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.com/content/events.

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