

# NCAIA NEWSLETTER

Official News Bulletin of the North Carolina Chapter of  
The American Institute of Architects

NUMBER 108  
DECEMBER 1983

## THE PRESIDENT REPORTS

by Michael Tye, AIA  
President, NCAIA

At this point I want to thank the membership of NCAIA for giving me the opportunity to serve as President during the past year. It has been an interesting and exciting experience — and certainly a more active year than I anticipated.

Looking back over the past several months, I can see why they passed so quickly: we've been busy! The major items that have been on the agenda for your President and Board:

- The North Carolina Architect made an effective transition into a new, entertaining and successful format.
- Your NCAIA newsletter has continued to develop and mature into a major and productive communication device.
- A major legislative effort was initiated and pursued, with success to follow in the short session of the legislature early next year.
- The business systems of NCAIA were upgraded by the addition of a mini computer with fantastic potential for serving the membership with information.
- The Tower has felt the impact of the beginnings of a major renovation effort, thanks to the generosity of the membership and the Architectural Foundation.
- A new Executive Director has been found and brought on board, and we will all benefit from the exposure to new perspectives on our organization. While we will all miss Betty Silver Howison at the helm, we look forward to getting to know Lillian Woo, and look forward to growth and change under her regime.

As a last, lame-duck action, we have "bitten the bullet" and asked your approval of a dues increase. This request is overdue, and necessary at this time if we are to continue to be a healthy organization that delivers the services the membership deserves. We know your response has been positive, and we appreciate your support and confidence in our direction.

Mary Lou and I will miss the activity of the past year, but will look forward to continued association with an excellent Board of Directors that will keep NCAIA moving in a positive direction. We are fortunate to have Clay and Nancy Taylor

take over our responsibilities next year, and we look forward to helping them in every way possible to achieve the goals they will set.

I would urge each member to take advantage of the opportunities for service within NCAIA, at the Committee or Section level, and contribute their considerable energy to the cause of the profession. Our strength is in our membership. We must all give of ourselves if our organization is to achieve the limitless potential that is ours.

## STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS

North Carolina law provides a specific period of time in which suits can be brought against architects for damages that arise from the defective or unsafe condition of a building.

The general rule is that a claimant has up to three years to sue an architect for damages arising out of an unsafe or defective condition of a building designed by the architect. The three year time limitation does not begin to run until the defective or unsafe condition is discovered or should have become apparent to the claimant.

There is one very important exception to this general rule. No matter when the defective or unsafe condition is discovered or should have become apparent, the claimant must sue the architect within six years from the **later** of: (1) the substantial completion of the building, or (2) the last act or omission of the architect giving rise to the defective or unsafe condition. This exception does not apply to actions in which the architect is the owner or tenant of the building at the time the damage occurs. In addition, it does not apply to cases involving fraud or wilful or wanton negligence.

## COMPUTER GRAPHICS FOR ARCHITECTS

On January 5 & 6, 1984, "Computer Graphics for Architects" will be held on the Clemson University campus (Clemson, SC). This seminar is designed to introduce computer graphics to architectural personnel who have **no** previous experience. For more information on this seminar, please call Ms. Cynthia Gaines at (803) 656-3308.

## NCAIA TO CO-SPONSOR WORKSHOP

NCAIA is sponsoring with the NC Arts Council, the NC Association of Arts Councils, and the NCSU School of Design, three facility development workshops in February. The workshops are scheduled to take place in:

- Asheville - Folk Arts Center  
Tuesday, February 21, 1984
- Winston-Salem - Winston Square  
Thursday, February 23, 1984
- New Bern - Bank of the Arts  
Tuesday, February 28, 1984

The purpose of the workshops is to assist local communities to develop cultural facilities in their areas. Many communities have received bequests of historic buildings which they now want to convert into cultural centers. NCAIA members will not only help these local projects in the initial planning process, and assist them in setting their goals and directions for the use of the facility.

If any member of NCAIA is interested in volunteering his expertise to this collaborative effort please call the Raleigh office — 919-833-6656.

This participation in a workshop of this kind is very important in helping us explain architecture to the lay public and in playing a major role in community projects.

## 1984 DUES

Upon recommendation of the NCAIA Board of Directors and approval by the membership, the 1984 dues have been increased as follows:

First year	\$30
Second year	\$40
Third year+	\$50
Associate	\$25
Supplemental	\$50

The additional income will be used as follows:

Part-time employee	\$6000
Public Relations Campaign	\$4500
Postage	\$ 500
Newsletter	\$1000

The dues notices will be mailed the end of December. Please be sure to fill the form out completely so the NCAIA can update their records. Thank you for your continued support.