



RINGING IN THE NEW YEAR

Saying good bye to 2011 will be hard - lots of accomplishments and memories. The Chapter made big strides and offered another full year of professional outreach/awareness, educational development, and social events for landscape architects and our allied professionals - all within budget! If you attended the holiday dinner (and thanks to all those who did!)- you heard the list of accomplishments. There is no need to list the events here but it should be known that the Chapter is hard at work - and always searching for improvement.

As we look towards 2012, the Chapter will be focusing efforts to update the Strategic Plan, which was last outlined in 2007 - and ramping up efforts to retain and protect our licensure. The strategic plan update will be a major undertaking and will not be successful without your help. We will be calling on you in the coming months to complete a survey. The survey is very important and allows the Executive Board to determine the goals, objectives, and priorities for the next five years. Your voice is critical to our success - and we look forward to hearing from you.

We wish you Happy Holidays - with memories of the year past and best wishes for the new year! Cheers to all.

Adam M Portz

Chapter President, VT ASLA



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CHAPTER AWARDS

The Chapter would like to acknowledge the volunteer efforts of Michael Buscher and Ann Milovsoroff.

Mike Buscher served as Treasurer for the Chapter Executive Board for eight years. His contributions extended well beyond the role of Treasurer. His voice will be missed on the Executive Board but we wish him well spending time with his family! Mike was awarded the Presidents Award for his enduring contributions to the Chapter.

Ann is in the midst of coordinating with National ASLA on the PR/Awareness Summit and bringing that information to Vermont. Ann was awarded the Service Award for her gracious contributions and efforts.



Ann Milovsoroff at the Holiday Party



Chapter President Adam Portz giving out awards at the Annual VT ASLA Holiday Party

VTASLA
P.O. Box 1844
Burlington, VT 05402





10th ANNUAL VT ASLA SKI DAY

It's been a slow start to the winter season but it will come....so BRING IT ON! Its time to gear up for the Annual VT ASLA Ski Day. This year marks our 10th anniversary so we will be heading back to our roots in Stowe, Vermont. Mark your calendars - March 2nd, 2012 - the first FRIDAY in March. Don't miss it!



This year hopes to be a blast with alpine riders, snow surfers, and free-healers gathering at Stowe Mountain Resort and cross country goers meeting at the Trapp Family Lodge. Following the full day of fun, we will gather for the Apres Ski and Dinner at the famed Matterhorn in Stowe. Details on group rates, dinner, and travel arrangements coming soon!

Contact Adam Portz for information at aportz@segroup.com.

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ADVOCACY DAY

The Chapter is holding our annual Advocacy Day on February 9, 2011 at the Statehouse. The event is earlier in the calendar year from years past but is great timing in the legislative calendar. This is an important day for all Vermont Landscape Architects and we welcome all volunteers!

Even though we passed the licensing bill in 2010, it is important to maintain a presence in Montpelier with our legislators. We have a sunset review coming up in less than two years and will be filed before or on Dec 31, 2013. There is no certainty that the Office of Professional Regulation will find that licensing has made a difference in the protection of Vermonters given their track record so far. They may recommend that licensing for landscape architects ends. We may very well have to go back to the legislature to override OPR's recommendations. To greatly increase our chances of being successful in that effort, we need to stay in front of them for the next couple years. We do not want to be seen as a profession that only comes out when we need a favor.

Additionally, there is always new legislation being considered that could greatly influence our profession. There is at least one such bill being considered right now that would change the way the State contracts assign liability on State contracts for engineers and architects. The issues are the same for landscape architects and we would like to have our profession included in the bill. To do that, we need to be there to lobby for it!

The Chapter will have a display in the **Card Room** (outside the cafeteria) from **8 am – 3 pm**. We are looking for volunteers to work the display and talk with legislators. The Chapter will provide a handout to volunteers re: talking points and will hold a preparation conference call for those interested.

Please **RSVP to Adam Portz at aportz@segroup.com by the last Friday in January (1/27)** if you are would like to volunteer for an hour, 2 hours, or all day.

visit us at:
www.vtasla.org





PLA DESIGNATION

From LANDE-news.

With the Board of Trustees approval, ASLA is encouraging all licensed landscape architects to use the post-nominal letters "PLA" after their names. As an abbreviation of the title "professional landscape architect," it will better enable potential clients and the general public to identify licensed practitioners. It will also provide consistent recognition for the landscape architecture profession across the nation.

Why PLA? To truly establish a designation that can be used universally, it is necessary to avoid words that have specific legal meanings, like the terms registration and licensure. While these terms are often used interchangeably, in reality each has a distinct meaning in the realm of professional regulation. Like the PE designation for engineering, PLA can be used in any jurisdiction where a landscape architect is duly licensed. Most important, the use of PLA can raise the profile of landscape architecture by creating a universally recognized symbol for licensed landscape architects.

The use of PLA by landscape architects is intended as a customary designation, just as similar abbreviations are used today. No legislative changes or rule development for state licensing is necessary, given that it falls under current title restriction provisions that restrict the use of any title (or abbreviation) that indicates the individual is a landscape architect. Further, no state law or regulation assigns specific post-nominal letters that licensed landscape architects must use.

The development of this policy and the discussion of this issue have raised many questions, particularly regarding how such a designation interacts with licensure laws.

For more information, visit <http://www.asla.org/land/Land-Article.aspx?id=33951>.

2011 HOLIDAY PARTY PHOTOS



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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 9
Advocacy Day
8 am - 3 pm
The Statehouse: Montpelier

March 2
VT ASLA Annual Ski Day
Stowe Mountain Resort
Trapp Family Lodge
Stowe

VTASLA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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