From the President
by Bob Oberdorfer, ASLA

“It was a dark and stormy night...” It figures – it hadn’t rained in months, and the kickoff 2009 NMASLA quarterly-format event was scheduled for the next day. Yet despite the inclement weather, on March 13, nearly two dozen intrepid landscape architects gathered at the Albuquerque BioPark for a fun and informative afternoon, on what turned out to be a fairly nice day. And who knows? If we hadn’t planned an outdoor event for that day, we might still be waiting for the first precipitation of 2009. Aaron Zahm, our Chapter Secretary and the primary event planner, will be providing a recap of the event later in this newsletter, but I wanted to take a moment to thank him for organizing a successful outing for us. Now stay tuned for our Q2 event: June 5 in Santa Fe, complete with free travel via the RailRunner Express for our members from Albuquerque and points south. Mark the date and take advantage of this unique opportunity!

But enough fun and frivolity. As we near the mid-point of the ASLA calendar year, it is time once again to begin the search for worthy candidates to run this fine organization we call NMASLA. As a small chapter, our resource pool is fairly limited. This makes it all the more important for members to step forward and take a turn at keeping the wheels turning. Although I may be biased, I feel that the chapter Executive Committee has made great strides over the last year in acknowledging and trying to meet the needs and desires of the membership as a whole. However, in order to continue that trend, we need more of you to step forward and volunteer to serve as future chapter officers. And don’t make me name names!

Now for the “carrot” part: Participating in the Executive Committee is not entirely without its perks. First and foremost, the president, president-elect, and trustee all get a full ride, all-expense-paid trip to the ASLA Annual Meeting, in whatever exotic locale it happens to be each year (…for example, Chicago, this year!). Plus, let’s see… you get to meet lots of
other professionals, and attend official-sounding meetings, and eat well at least once a month. Yes, as a minimal recompense and thank-you for Ex Com members, starting this year, we have budgeted a line item to cover the cost of lunches for the monthly meetings. What more could a volunteer possibly ask for?

So rather than ramble on at length in my remaining allotted space, I have opted to keep my message brief, and attach a listing of the actual official duties of the various positions available for your reading pleasure. But keep in mind, those are only the “official” duties. All we really do is think of fun things to do to promote the profession and keep us entertained in between project deadlines!

If you are interested in participating, please contact the current Executive Committee member of your choice. I look forward to hearing from YOU soon!

To comment on the President’s message, please email responses to Bob:

rmo@rtiabq.com
NMASLA Executive Committee Position Descriptions

**President-Elect.**
Equivalent to a vice president, except that the president-elect automatically assumes the chapter president position in the following year. General duties and responsibilities of the office usually include:

1. Assisting the president as needed.
2. Presiding in the president’s absence or when called upon by the president.
3. Attending mid-year Chapter Presidents’ Council meeting and ASLA Annual Meeting.

**Secretary**
The secretary of any chapter has the primary duties of:

1. Keeping the records (election results, membership in the chapter, recorder of the minutes, chapter constitution and bylaws updates)
2. Acting as liaison between the other members of the chapter executive committee (i.e. announcements, notices, etc.)
3. Maintaining and updating regularly the chapter’s roster of membership.
4. Taking and keeping minutes of formal or business meetings.

**Treasurer**
The treasurer is the “keeper of the funds, and trustee of the accounts and chapter financial records.”

1. The treasurer receives and disburses funds and should keep a permanent record book showing the detailed account of all monies received and paid out.
2. Prepares the Treasurer’s Report for presentation at meetings.

**Member-at-Large / Associate Member-at-Large**
Members at large represent a cross-section of the chapter, chapter sections, and/or special interest groups. Duties include attendance at monthly meetings and other tasks which may be agreed upon.

**Trustee**
This is a three-year appointment. General responsibilities include participation in meetings of the chapter Executive Committee, attending two national meetings per year, and providing effective understanding of the Society’s actions, policies and sources of help for members, which includes:

1. Informing fellow trustees, officers and staff of chapter opinions and comments on local and Society-wide issues.
2. Persuading fellow trustees, officers and staff to take actions seen as appropriate to the local chapter.
3. Serving on standing committees and/or task forces when appointed.
4. Informing the local chapter of Board opinions and comments regarding the best interests of the overall Society.
5. Persuading the chapter to take actions seen as appropriate by the Board regarding the best overall interests of the Society.
6. Serving on one of the trustee committees responsible for the Society’s goal areas.
Thesis Summary: HUB: Albuquerque: A transit centered and resource focused infill strategy for Albuquerque's industrial rail center

by Tawny Allen, MLA

This study produced a research and planning document with design strategies aimed at reducing the Ecological Footprint for an existing neighborhood and proposed transit stop. Land use scenarios were derived from an extensive GIS analysis based on original parcel data. Infill strategies for the neighborhood were proposed based on concepts of transit oriented development, ecological design and natural resource preservation.

HUB: Albuquerque set out to address global issues of deteriorating urban environments and natural resource depletion through physical planning strategies at a neighborhood level. By tying the research to the quantifiable concept of Ecological Footprints, it demonstrated how local design can tackle larger problems aggravated by population growth and rampant consumption. The proposed land use scenarios and community scale designs vividly illustrate the level of change necessary as well as the potential to reduce per capita Ecological Footprints to a globally sustainable level. In addition, HUB: Albuquerque presents a prototype of what that change might look like in a Southwestern American city.

As Americans, we are insulated from many of the most extreme symptoms of these larger issues. However, even in this wealthy nation, we face urban poverty, pollution, traffic congestion and a National health crisis. In the changing global economy, food and energy insecurity are also becoming more pertinent and pressing issues. Highlighting these stresses on the environment, Ecological Footprint accounting quantifies resource use and demonstrates the gap between current use and what the planet can provide.

To close this gap, a transition from resource exploitation to resource conservation is necessary. While it is clear this transition has to happen at every level, from individual consumption to national policy, regional strategies have great potential to address resource use at the urban infrastructure and system level. To demonstrate this potential, HUB: Albuquerque outlines a prototype area within Albuquerque's central rail corridor that highlights regional qualities and opportunities unique to Albuquerque to show the value and need for specific, local solutions. The selected area is centered on a potential Rail Runner stop at Montaño Street in northwest Albuquerque and is defined by a 20 minute walking distance.

To reach the goal of a sustainable Ecological Footprint, this project looks at how productive land uses can be accommodated within the existing urban fabric to effectively low-
er the per capita consumption of area residents. Out of the productive land uses that make up Ecological Footprints, the project integrates crop land, grazing land, forest land and carbon land (a quantified area to account for CO2 emissions). These land uses are proposed on vacant and underutilized parcels according to a set of suitability criteria in combination with design strategies aimed at locating density close to transit, building a strong pedestrian network, providing universal access to open space and creating community hubs.

For each proposed new land use, the project envisions a scenario, outlines a network and quantifies total acres, estimated outputs and the resulting Footprint offset. Together, these networks create a unified plan that links existing and proposed neighborhood resources through a system of paths and open spaces. In a phased approach, the proposed land use shifts are integrated while density is concentrated and new growth accommodated. At each phase, an increase in productive land results in higher bioproductivity and a corresponding per capita Footprint reduction that ultimately reaches the project goal of a sustainable Ecological Footprint. Reaching this goal assumes both major lifestyle shifts and infrastructure changes that enable these shifts. Tackling these larger issues takes change at every level, but as planners and designers, we need to realize the power of the urban environments we create and the potential they have to shape lifestyles.

allen@land-form.net

Urban Crops
Greetings ASLA Members, We are the 'Home' of Santa Fe Brown™ Gravels, and are pleased to be a new sponsor of your group.

We mine and process 'Santa Fe Brown'™ on the west edge of Santa Fe, NM.

We currently have reserves to supply you for the next 20 years. Please call us if you would like samples of our products, names of local suppliers, or maybe even a tour of our facilities and huge inventory.

Thank you,
Tony Tucker    505-553-0208
Don Eker       505-473-9815
ps. More Rock, Less Talc
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for your support of
the organization.

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Q1 Event Recap
By Aaron Zahm

Thanks to everyone who joined us at the Albuquerque BioPark back in March for our inaugural Q1 event. The turnout was fantastic and it was great to see so many new faces and old friends of the chapter, especially as rainy weather threatened to spoil the event. And a huge thank you to New Mexico Travertine for sponsoring us and to all the amazing volunteers at the BioPark.

Take advantage of your chapter membership again on Friday, June 5th and join us for our FREE Q2 event in Santa Fe. See the enclosed flyer for more details.
May 2009 ASLA
Chapter Presidents Council Meetings

Attended by: Patrick Gay

Elected from New Mexico Chapter. Chapter Presidents and Presidents-Elect from 45 states were in attendance. Here are the presentation and discussion topic highlights along with some associated resources I brought back with me.

Topics and Resources

1. Chapter Executive Directors, Chapter Managers, and Administrators
   a. Resources – example Executive Director position RFP and Grad Student Assistant job description/application (this may be a viable option for NM)
   b. Benefits – More visibility and more public events, organization
      i. May need to raise fees, however many are self funded by additional sponsorships(commissions to ED/Administrator)
      ii. Typical 30 to 40 hours per month, may be less for small chapter
2. Maintaining and Renewing Sponsorships
   a. Resources – Colorado and Maryland Sponsorship Package examples
   b. Approach potential sponsors early in the year when they have “fresh” budgeted money to spend
3. Working with Allied Organizations
   a. Include University LA Professor or Director on Ex-Com
   b. Chapter should engage NM LA Board at least once per year
4. Chapter Membership
   a. Good roundtable discussions with many ideas on:
      i. Retention/recruitment
      ii. Connecting with lapsed members
      iii. Supporting unemployed members
      iv. Other membership bright ideas
5. Public Relations/CPC Business
   a. I have information on e-voting, survey service.
6. Licensure
   a. I have a copy of the letter to the Governor that California Chapters used to fight the dissolving of their State Board.
7. Chapter Finance Fundamentals
   a. The ASLA tax accountants/attorneys did a presentation on taxes and tax exempt status that was a bit over my head. We do have the contact info though and some notes I took.
   b. Budget Planning - Have example budgets from 2 large chapters

I also discussed the potential to have a Four Corners LA Conference in spring 2010 with AZ, UT, & CO that got a pretty positive response from all. If anyone is interested in more in-depth notes on any of these topics or would like copies of any of the resources, please contact me at Sites Southwest.
ASLA Advocacy Day

By Ryan Anderson

On April 30, a few members of the NMASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees, met with their federal legislators as part of ASLA’s annual Advocacy Day. The ASLA also provided the opportunity for the NMASLA to send one student to Washington DC for Advocacy Day. This year’s advocates from NMASLA were Patrick Gay and Gregory Miller. The student representative from the University of New Mexico was Ryan Anderson.

With Congress preparing to consider the reauthorization of an omnibus surface transportation bill and major legislation to combat the effects of climate change, Advocacy Day participants worked to ensure that legislators include provisions to address sound transportation planning and design in both measures. Advocates encouraged members of Congress to support Complete Streets legislation, which would require states and localities to consider the needs of all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, senior citizens, and children walking to and from neighborhood schools. ASLA advocates also encouraged legislators to include the Clean Low-Emission, Affordable, New Transportation Efficiency Act (CLEAN TEA) in any legislation aimed at reducing carbon emissions. CLEAN TEA would require states and localities to use “charrettes” to plan and design more sustainable transportation corridors that would reduce carbon emissions. The New Mexico members of Congress were supportive of the issues raised by ASLA Advocacy Day.
Chapter Events

Santa Fe Railyard Tour:
Date/Time: June 5, 2009: 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (or later)
Location: Santa Fe Rail yard Tour: Our second membership event will be a tour of the new Rail yard Park and newly renovated Historic Plaza which will include a sponsored lunch.
Note: Depart ABQ on the train at 10:37. Departures back to ABQ from Santa Fe are 4:10, 5:17, 6:18 & 8:15

Education Courses:
Wind Turbine Conference
Date/Time: June 12 & 13, 2009
Location: Lubbock, Texas
Guest Speaker: TBA
Speaker Topic: Blowing’ in the Wind: The Future of Wind Turbine Farms (see attached)
Note: The correct website for information, registration and speaker bios is: www.larc.ttu.edu/wind_conference<http://www.larc.ttu.edu/wind_conference>. Please make sure that the “underscore” is between wind_conference. University.

Membership & Address Changes
Please email Juli Niemann: juli_nielmann@fws.gov

Newsletter
The NMASLA newsletter is produced by students in the MLA program at the University of New Mexico School of Architecture and Planning. Please submit articles, news, photos, corrections, etc., to the editor:
Ryan Anderson ry.anders@gmail.com

Website
Please be advised that we are experiencing technical difficulties with our NMASLA website. It can be viewed http://host.asla.org/chapters/newmexico/index.cfm, but note that postings may not be up to date. The NMASLA Executive Committee is currently exploring alternative website hosting and development options, so stay tuned for further updates.

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(915) 585-1693 Office
(915) 585-1895 Fax

Two locations to better serve our clients in the Southwest!
Friday, June 5th, 2009
FREE for NMASLA members
$25/non-members

HUGE thanks to our event sponsors:

For those traveling from the south:
Ride the Rail Runner Express to Santa Fe
(Free round-trip pass included!)
• board the #512 northbound train where convenient,
plan to arrive in Santa Fe at 12:05pm

Lunch and Tour of the Historic Santa Fe Plaza
renovation project

Walking Tour of the Santa Fe River Parkway
renovation project

Tour of the new Railyard Park and Plaza

Happy Hour in the Railyard District

Ride the Rail Runner Express back to Albuquerque
• southbound trains leave at 4:10, 5:17, 6:18, and 8:15pm
schedule of events

Friday June 5th 2009

Board northbound Rail Runner Express
12:05 Train arrives at Railyard station
Free shuttle to Plaza

12:15 Lunch and Plaza tour
Fabian Chavez, City of Santa Fe
Judy Kowalski/Greg Miller, Morrow Reardon Wilkinson Miller

1:15 Walk to Santa Fe River Parkway renovation
Fabian Chavez, City of Santa Fe
Brian Drypolcher, City of Santa Fe

2:15 Walk to Railyard Park and Plaza
Brian Drypolcher, City of Santa Fe

4:00 Happy Hour Social @ Cowgirl (319 S Guadalupe St)
Depart to ABQ
Trains depart at 4:10, 5:17, 6:18 and 8:15 pm

RSVP by Monday, June 1st, 2009
Fax this form to Greg Miller @ 265-9637
-OR- email to gregmiller@nmwnm.com
Questions? Call Greg at 268-2266

This event is FREE for current NMASLA members, but friends, family, and colleagues are encouraged to attend for $25/person.
Payment is due at the event. Make checks payable to “NMASLA”.

Participants riding the train may board at any location, but please plan to arrive by 12:05 to ride the shuttle to the plaza. For complete train schedule, visit nmrailrunner.com

Box lunch order

☐ Smoked Turkey Sub __________ qty
☐ Sliced Roast Beef Sub __________ qty
☐ Portobello Mushroom Wrap __________ qty

Your Name: ___________________________
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Will you be joining us for happy hour?
yes ☐ no ☐ qty ______