From the President
by Laurie Firor, ASLA

THE ASLA CHAPTER PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL AND LOBBY DAY

Another adventure to Washington, D.C., has come and gone and I return inspired and optimistic about the coming year for our profession and organization. It was too late for cherry blossoms, but the sweet scent of freshly blooming magnolias filled the air. Adults and children played together on the lawn of The Mall. Suits scurried across grand plazas, occasionally stopping for a break on a bench in a shaded knoll. The laughter of children was contagious as I found myself giddy amid my surroundings. Often, people are unaware they are working, studying, or playing in an environment created by a landscape architect. Yet, landscape architects were responsible for designing the spaces everywhere I looked, that were filled with folks taking great pleasure in their use.

Lobby Day provides an important opportunity for NMASLA to focus on how proposed and existing laws and regulations impact our environment and profession. Greg Miller, Lisa Powell, and I had a busy day racing from House and Senate offices to encourage support of important legislations currently under consideration in the Congress. The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) is already an established federal program within the National Park Service to document historic landscapes in the U.S. and its territories through measured and interpretive drawings, written histories, and photographs. Recent funding for HALS has been meager at best; so one item of discussion with our legislators was to support funding in FY 2009.

Another item of discussion was the Energy Conservation through Trees Act that would utilize tree-planting techniques to help reduce energy usage, improve air quality, and lower energy costs. This grant program specifically requires a landscape architect to be a part of Technical Advisory Committees outlined in the legislation, because of their training and knowledge of site planning techniques and expertise in utilizing tree canopy coverage as an effective tool in creating favorable interior building temperatures. Similarly, the Safe Climate Act anticipates reduction...
of carbon emissions by 80% by 2050 through a program of market-based emission caps, new regulations mandating less carbon dioxide emissions from motor vehicles, and by requiring that at least 20% of the energy used in the U.S. comes from renewable sources.

We also proposed support for the Green Energy Education Act that would create a partnership between the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation to provide critical funding to university undergraduate and graduate curriculum focusing on the design and construction of high performance buildings. The latter legislation already passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 416-0 last year and is currently awaiting action in the Senate. Overall, we received positive feedback and considered the day a great success!

Chapter President’s Council (CPC) and Board of Trustees (BOT) training meetings filled the next days. The CPC meetings this year included Bill and Joann Truby’s leadership training session. There were updates on International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) and the Sustainable Sites Initiative, Continuing Education Units (CEU’s), the ACE Mentor and Chapter Initiative Programs (CIP), disaster relief efforts, ASLA website, and National Landscape Architecture Month (NLAM). In recognition of all of our April events celebrating NLAM, NMASLA was presented with an award! Thank you all for participating in chapter events so we may continue to grow together!

For anyone interested in taking a larger role in NMASLA, Lobby Day and the CPC/BOT mid-year
Lobby Day and the CPC/BOT mid-year meeting provide the opportunity to have your voice heard at the national level, the training to prepare you for leading your local chapter, and the chance to network with your colleagues in other states. To encourage discussions among chapters outside of scheduled meetings as well as provide an opportunity to experience D.C., intermixed activities may include sketching while sitting on the steps of our nation’s great capital, reception atop the roof garden at ASLA headquarters, dinner at tapas (not ‘topless’ as a few seemingly disappointed folks heard was on the agenda) restaurants, live music at Irish Pubs that are speckled all over town, and dancing at elegant jazz lounges.

Heck, in the words of Chip Sullivan, “if you work hard, you gotta play hard!.

To comment on the President’s message, please email responses to me: Firor@consensusplanning.com

NATIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MONTH, APRIL 2008

NMASLA Welcomed ASLA President Perry Howard

ASLA President Perry Howard visited New Mexico in April to celebrate the NLAM theme ‘Career Discovery of Landscape Architecture.’ Lisa Powell took Perry on a western road trip adventure to visit UNM-Gallup campus to meet with students and distribute literature about our profession. The Ex-Com toured Perry around some of the highlights of Albuquerque and provided him the opportunity to feast on our fine cuisine (green chile was a hit!). Perry presented at the NMASLA monthly meeting held at UNM-SAAP Pearl Hall to discuss attracting diversity within the profession. Thanks to Morrow Reardon Wilkinson Miller for hosting a reception as well as sponsoring the luncheon! A wonderful time was had by all, so much so that Perry announced in D.C. that New Mexico was his favorite place to visit so far in his presidential travels!

NMASLA Chalk Design Competition

NMASLA held our first annual Chalk Design Competition at the ABQ BioPark in celebration of Earth Day. The theme was to

“NLAM” continued on page 12
Case Study: NORTHERN DOMINGO BACA PARK: A PROJECT IN PERSERVERENCE

by Chris Green, ASLA

Answer: 11 years . . . and counting. Question: How long has Consensus Planning been working on the design for North Domingo Baca Park? It’s hard to believe, but, yes, we’ve been working on this project since 1997. Consensus Planning was selected in 1997 by the City of Albuquerque to prepare a Master Development Plan for North Domingo Baca Park, which is bounded by Louisiana (west), Corona (north), Wyoming (east) and Carmel (south).

First, A Little History

During the 1980’s it was becoming increasingly evident to the City Parks and Recreation Department (PRD) the demand for organized scheduled recreation such as soccer, youth football and youth baseball was increasing significantly. Existing neighborhood parks with turf grass were being inundated with scheduled youth activities evenings and weekends. PRD staff knew community and regional sized parks needed to be planned, acquired and developed to help take the burden off neighborhood parks. The Parks and Recreation Department began purchasing property in the North Albuquerque Acres area with the intention of acquiring land for a community park. In 1991, AMAFCA began the process for site selection for the Lower North Domingo Baca Dam. At an early stage in the site selection process, AMAFCA worked with the City’s PRD for potential joint-use of the proposed Dam site to coordinate acquisition for the proposed community park. In 1992, AMAFCA began purchasing property for the Dam site east of Louisiana between Corona and Carmel. Based on negotiations with the City, AMAFCA began purchasing the property between Corona and Anaheim, east to Wyoming to convey arroyo flows within the existing arroyo to the Dam, with the understanding that the City would buy the lots back from AMAFCA at a later date for the community park. Based on existing acquisitions and negotiations with AMAFCA, the City continued purchasing lots between Anaheim and Carmel, east to Wyoming.

In 1997, a formal agreement between the City and AMAFCA was executed; how the City would purchase from AMAFCA lots in Block 7, east of the Dam, and responsibilities of platting and development of drainage improvements. The City continued to acquire land through 2001 by purchase from AMAFCA, through third party participation (“detached open space” requirement from an area developer), and through purchases from approximately a dozen individual private property owners, including 5 lots through the condemnation process.

In 1997, Consensus Planning was retained by the City to prepare the Master Development Plan for North Domingo Baca Park. The Project Team and City conducted public meetings to solicit input from the surrounding community to craft a plan that responded to the community’s vision for the park. A Public Advisory Committee (PAC), made of representatives from surrounding neighborhood
A Public Advisory Committee (PAC), made of representatives from surrounding neighborhood associations was formed. As residential development continued in the area, PAC expanded to 16 active associations.

In the summer of 1998, the decision was made to shift the planned location of Albuquerque Fire Department (AFD) Station 20/La Cueva Community Police Substation (APD) from a site at Louisiana Boulevard and Signal Avenue to North Domingo Baca Park.

A Master Development Plan (MDP) for the Park was approved by the EPC, July, 1999. This MDP did not include eleven lots along Carmel Avenue, beginning at Wyoming Boulevard, as they were still in private ownership. The City publicly conveyed its intent and need to acquire these eleven lots and incorporate them into the planning for the Park. The purchase of these lots was critical to the Park planning because Wyoming/Carmel intersection and Carmel frontage were the preferred location for a suite of community buildings, including a multi-generational center and pool complex.

The approval of the 1999 MDP was appealed by the owner of five of the lots at Wyoming and Carmel. The appeal was heard by the Land Use Planning and Zoning Committee (LUPZ) of the City Council on September 15, 1999. The appeal was denied by LUPZ and a recommendation to not grant the appeal was forwarded to the full Council. The City moved forward with the purchase of the 5 lots through the condemnation process, as well as the purchase of the remaining 6 privately held lots along Carmel Avenue.

The AFD/APD Station was incorporated into the MDP and was built in 2000 at the corner of Wyoming Boulevard and Corona Avenue, the northeast corner of the park.

In July 2004, the MDP was amended to include the entire site boundary, and update the program of activities that the land acquisitions now allowed. So, seven years after starting the design process, the stage was set to begin detailed design for the phased construction of the park.

“Case Study” continued on page 6
The MDP includes design guidelines to provide a flexible framework for park design with specific objectives that encourage innovative and creative solutions.

The Master Plan
The park program for North Domingo Baca Park includes elements that are typically found in community-scale parks. Both active and passive forms of recreation are included to satisfy a broader range of potential park users. The program of facilities was refined based on public input and direction from the project's Technical Team. The Master Plan for North Domingo Baca Park is the outcome of over 6 years of public process and numerous community meetings. The park program ultimately includes: (4) turf recreation fields, an off-leash dog exercise area, (6) lighted tennis courts, (3) basketball courts, children's play areas, a hybrid skate park, areas for non-programmed uses (open turf areas), a multi-generational center, an aquatic facility, a library, and parking areas (including underground parking as a possible solution).

The MDP includes design guidelines to provide a flexible framework for park design with specific objectives that encourage innovative and creative solutions, rather than setting a rigid set of requirements that all design must adhere to. The desired character of design features common to the park are expressed in these guidelines, such as architecture, setbacks, landscape, signage, lighting, walls, and pedestrian trails.

Initial Development
In order for the park to be developed for public use, infrastructure improvements were necessary to provide utilities and access to the site. Significant funds were expended to construct these improvements, which included a 60-inch storm drain line, water, sanitary sewer line extensions, half street sections for Corona and Carmel from Wyoming to Louisiana, and an 8" non-potable water line stub out for future park irrigation systems. The non-potable line runs along Wyoming Boulevard and extends just south of the box culvert. Stub outs will be provided at fixed locations to allow landscaped areas for various facilities (multi-generational center, library, Aquatic facility and general park development) to be metered separately.

What's Happening Now?
In the fall of 2007, the first real public use elements of the park were developed, consisting of a dog park and a 170 space parking lot. The dog park is approximately 2 acres, designated for dogs off-leash to socialize and play an enclosed area, and includes shaded seating areas, benches, trash receptacles, drinking fountains, mutt-mitts, and an information board. Due to environmental considerations regarding fecal pollution, no discharge into the storm water, and ultimately the Rio Grande is allowed. The dog area should drain to a separate retention pond.

During the design phase for the dam in July 1993, a backhoe test pit study was conducted on an apparent refuse dump area located south of Corona. The analysis revealed that the area contained primarily construction and household debris, but no hazardous materials. The debris was covered with a layer of native soil. A majority of the trash was cleaned up during construction for the dam; however a small ridge remained immediately south of Corona and west of the
AFD/APD Station. During a recent construction phase, the landfill was remediated at a cost in excess of $500,000.

The design of a children's play area and a skate area are currently scheduled to be bid in July 2008. The play area will be age-separated to minimize conflicts between older and younger children, and will be designed to grow with the children, offering the chance to progress through a series of activities that challenge them physically, mentally, and socially. The lighted skate park, a hybrid design, will include fixed concrete features combined with modular features. Given the topography of the site, the skate park will be multi-level and provide for a range in user skill groups. The skate area's location adjacent to Wyoming Boulevard and the AFD/APD Station will provide optimum visibility and access to the facility.

Also included in this design phase is a temporary parking lot, including 50 spaces for a park and ride facility to access a proposed bus stop along Wyoming. This parking lot will become a permanent feature upon development of the multi-generational center.

Mahlman Studio Architecture is moving forward on the design for the multi-generational center, which will be a 48,000 SF facility, offering Albuquerqueans of all ages a wide range of recreational, athletic, educational, and social activities. The center will be similar to Manzano Mesa Multi-generational Center, which serves southeast Albuquerque. An approximately 18,500 SF Phase 1 is slated for design, construction and move-in by summer 2010.

So, just to get to the development of the “fun stuff”, the City spent over $6.5 million on land acquisition, utility extensions, roadway improvements, and landfill remediation. Phased development of the park will continue for many years to come as funding is available. North Domingo Baca Park will be a “jewel” for North Albuquerque Acres and a major gathering point for residents, young and old.

So, when all is said and done, maybe 11 years is not that bad to have accomplished all that, Besides, why rush a good thing?

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Thesis Summary: Descansos of New Mexico, Cultural Landscapes of Tradition and Appropriation
by Elise Welch, MLA

Religious shrines have always held my interest; in particular, the personalized and vernacular shrines found tucked into the niches of public/semi-private space. This individual response to organized religion combines memory and legend in a manner that moves away from the sacred yet regulated space of the church into the profane space of everyday life. While it stems from collective memory, it allows for individual touches that reside within and greatly affect a cultural landscape. Descansos, like vernacular shrines, interlace tradition, culture and religion then project them out onto the environment. Importantly, they mark a specific spot where a life ended. Influenced by place and culture, these shrines alter the landscape in a very personal, yet communal way.

This thesis project records and discusses markings upon the landscape known as descansos, a cultural phenomenon and spatial practice that has continued in the American southwest for centuries. It focuses on New Mexican descansos, how they have emerged from a long history, remaining in a cultural context yet continually adapting to present-day. Western death culture and current memorial practices are noted and evaluated. Through photography and mapping, an analysis of local descansos categorized similarities and unique factors that tie these cultural objects to both tradition and current times, and a discussion of official memorial programs contrasts and compares the meaning of official markers to those of homemade memorials.

In rural situations, descansos have always appeared at the sides of winding roads marking the site of an accidental death. In urban situations, descansos also appear at the sides of the road. However, in the urban context, it often means they are placed in the midst of a commercial landscape, on telephone poles and road signs, in between the sidewalk and a residential wall—in any marginal space that can be appropriated—in essence, further highlighting the
apparent subversive use of space and individualistic disregard for authority. Although spontaneous shrines and roadside memorials are appearing as a new phenomenon in other US states, descansos come from a long history in New Mexico and have been a part of the cultural landscape since Spanish colonial days.

A fervent interest in roadside memorials exists today as witnessed by an abundance of journal articles, news stories, and many links on the internet to books, movies, and photographs on this cultural event, making this inquiry relevant to our times. Descansos have been documented through perspectives of history, anthropology/sociology, and particularly of late, through folklore. Since descansos are human-made and sited in the landscape as well as within the context of memorial, it is a basic premise of this study that further understanding of this phenomenon would benefit from the standpoint of cultural landscape theory and landscape architecture.

Through the appropriation of public space, traditions and particular trends, and by means of persistent actions against the authoritative system, the tradition of descansos in New Mexico has evolved, maintaining its inherent cultural connection to place and history yet incorporating and reflecting a contemporary sensibility. In turn, this spatial practice has been appropriated by the authoritative system and incorporated into official campaigns of the state, thus taking a fringe practice and protecting, promoting, and valuing it as a regional trademark.

Descansos mark the site of a sudden, unexpected, and typically violent death which is often the result of an automobile accident, but not always. A few of the descansos in this study memorialize victims of murder, and many others involve stories that are unknown, but the common thread is that they are visible from the road.

While photographing and mapping Albuquerque’s descansos, data particular to the site such as materials, artifacts, names and dates, decorations, type of cross and use of flowers were recorded. From there, common themes grouped the descansos according to categories. The study of numerous sites illustrates the stories, typology, spatial definitions, and notes the outcome of time passage that affect these highly personalized markings. Through appropriations of public space, traditional mourning practices continue.

Ultimately, New Mexico’s descansos differ from the relatively new phenomenon of spontaneous shrines because they have evolved from a long and distinct cultural context, one that is not borrowed and has not migrated, but a tradition that speaks of this place and people. They reflect our contemporary, post-modern era because they adapt to the times. They are not an historic artifact preserved in time, but rather part of the local culture that shifts and adapts continually as a living tradition. This study provides a theoretical basis, photographic and analytic record of ephemeral landscape practices that speak to common memories, a collective past, and a distinct cultural heritage through a constantly evolving spatial language.

ewelch@sites-sw.com

Private mourning occurs in the public realm of our state’s roadways, marking specific sites where someone’s life ended - Elise Welch
Thank you
NMASLA sponsors,
for your support of
the organization.

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

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ps. More Rock, Less Talc
evoke the quintessential NM landscape through a temporary chalk art installation. The competition covered 18-6’ x 6’ squares on the BioPark Plaza and included NMASLA members and their families, and UNM students who are members of Society of Landscape Architecture Students (SOCLAS).

Following the event, the public was encouraged to join in the fun and added an additional 68 squares to the chalk event. The public jumped right into the fun! Winners of the competition included the following NMASLA supporters:

1st Place ~ Greg Miller, NMASLA Trustee
2nd Place ~ Dominique DuPont-Hinds & Kristina Guist, MLA @ UNM
3rd Place ~ Aaron Zahm, NMASLA Treasurer
4th Place ~ Jessa Bunker, UNM student
5th Place ~ Aidan O’Hara, son of Corinne O’Hara

Gravel Pit-falls
by Peter Wong, ASLA

From Peter’s blog: Casa Coniglio (“Rabbit House”) http://www.casa-coniglio.blogspot.com/

After working in my garden the other day, I realized that the choice of gravel as mulch is a serious decision. In my back yard it may not have been the best choice. Gravel is good for penstemon and other native plants which self-seed readily. It reflects light and heat from the soil, moderates temperatures below ground and helps retain some moisture. Gravel’s nice finished appearance brought everything together in a way that made me smile. For those reasons, I will still use it in the less worked areas of the garden.

However, gravel isn’t good mulch
for many areas. It is hard to clear where plants are frequently moved, such as annual beds, vegetable or perennial gardens. Larger gravel is difficult to rake. Small gravel may be raked, but there is always gravel left. In my yard, eventually, all the gravel will be dug into the soil since I tend to move plants a lot. It is much easier to rake away organic mulch, which will decompose and be beneficial.

Gravel also collects blown sand and soon fills in. Unless I spend weeks every few years sifting the gravel, I'll soon lose the mulched appearance. The weed seeds soon follow. It's hard to hoeweed out of gravel, so many people use chemical herbicide instead.

The need to periodically add more gravel makes me wonder if using gravel mulch is a sustainable practice. I think not. Where is it coming from? Is that area being degraded? Is it coming from a strip mine? Is river rock removal causing stream banks to erode? Is beach pebble removal destroying habitat? Is it harvested using vast amounts of water? Are fossil fuels used to crush or sift the rocks? Is that rock coming from Italy or Mexico? Rock is very heavy and takes a lot of fossil fuels to transport, producing more atmospheric carbon.

Gravel can cause difficulty in irrigating plants. It's hard to tell if the water is soaking in. To check the soil, you'd have to move the gravel.

Although gravel mulch gives a clean finished appearance initially, it is like having white carpet. Anything on it stands out. This can be good where sculptural plants can show off their forms in the right setting. In the wrong setting, the landscape looks more like a moonscape. Even one twig is noticeable. You can't rake river stone, and twigs don't blow out. Gravel mulch requires constant maintenance. In rake-able gravel, I end up with a mound of half twigs and half gravel, which ends up in a landfill. Soon, I will need more gravel to fill in.

Gravel mulch deprives the soil of rejuvenating organic material. When organics fall onto gravel, they stay dry, do not decompose or incorporate into the soil. This is great design if your full intention is to deplete the soil. How do you incorporate soil amendments? Imagine the work involved.

Small gravel (1/4-1/2") is the perfect size to wedge into shoe treads. Not only is there hassle to pick out the pieces, but the damage gravel does to interior flooring. A gravel-mulched garden with few plants is miserably hot in the summer. If cement or concrete is spilled, spattered or rinsed onto gravel or stones during remodeling, it remains unsightly. Spatters or rinse water on organic mulches eventually disappear as the mulch decomposes.

There are common mistakes with gravel patterns. In Albuquerque, a river rock drainage swale is downhill from a fine gravel mulched planting bed on the West side. The fines drifted into the river rock, fill the spaces and destroy the function and visual appearance of the drainage swale. The only way to remove the fine gravel is to remove the river rock first. Instead, maintenance raked the fine gravel two feet away from the river rock. This is not attractive.

A second example is in a local median. A river pattern was made of similar sized gravel: a brown gravel swath in a grey field. Significant pedestrian traffic disturbed the crispness of the pattern the first year. Removing weeds and raking disturbed it more. Soon the groundcover will just be a mix of grey and brown.

Instead of gravel, consider options. Native-plant landscapes don't need mulch. Fallen debris will naturally incorporate into the soil. Use an organic mulch which is sustainably produced, either shredded garden debris, or a byproduct like pecan shells. Sure, it will need replacing every few years, but think of the benefit to the plants, the environment, and the reduced maintenance
ASLA MID-YEAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
by Greg Miller, ASLA

This year’s Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting was a reasonably calm agenda. This is fairly typical of the mid-year meetings, where the focus is generally on promoting the lobby day issues and listening to reports on the progress of the society.

One of the most pressing issues was the financial situation of the past fiscal year. The bottom line is that ASLA operated in the red by around $120,000.00. There were several factors that lead to this deficit. The largest contributing factor was the shift in the fiscal year within which ASLA operates. This switch resulted in multiple events (Honors and awards program, Fellows investiture) occurring twice in the same fiscal year.

The other big factor was a double edged sword. L.A. Magazine and JobLink generated more revenue than expected, which meant a tax burden. ASLA is a 501c6 entity because a large percentage of our income is generated by membership dues. The greater income from the non-dues programs tipped the scale above what is allowably tax-free. The success of these programs is anticipated to continue, so future budgets will account for the associated taxes.

This leads me to dues. The finance committee recommended a dues increase to keep up with inflation and increase the percentage of revenues that come from dues. The recommendation was to increase them by $10 in 2009 and $13 in 2010. This amount is approximately a 3% increase each year. There was not an increase in 2008. Our dues are roughly in the middle of related professional societies, and significantly less than AIA, APA and ASCE. The BOT voted unanimously to approve the dues increase.

The LA CES (Continuing Education System) is nearing a “soft launch” of the website. LA CES is collaboration between ASLA, CLARB, CELA, IFLA and CSLA and creates a system to approve providers and educational programs. The goal of LA CES is to help members meet continuing education (often varied) requirements of different states registration boards.

ASLA has also published standard form contracts. These contracts similar to AIA documents but are tailored to the special needs of landscape architects. The forms were reviewed by legal council and insurance providers. The contracts are available for purchase on ASLA’s website. Bill Perkins, one of our esteemed members, was very involved in compiling these documents. Thanks Bill!

On the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES), the next draft is scheduled for release in November. The committees are developing best management practices (BMPs) and methods of evaluation and scoring. The five basic components are human well-being, soils, vegetation, hydrology, and materials. The rating system is scheduled to be released in 2012. SITES is available in its current draft form at www.sustainable-sites.org. ASLA is encouraging landscape architects to implement the BMPs in current projects and report success stories and problems.

If you have any questions regarding the BOT or the Society, please feel free to ask. Thanks. gregmiller@mrwnm.com

“Gravel Pit-falls” continued from page 13

...costs. Ground cover plants that are native or require very little supplemental water stop erosion, decrease water loss, lower temperatures and hide debris.

So, where is gravel appropriate? Consider areas of minimal maintenance where plants do not produce objectionable litter. In garden paths or gravel patios use a size that doesn’t track into interior spaces, and is not attractive for children to throw. Rounded pea gravel is easier to hoe, and crushed rock is easier to walk on. Large rock mulch works as a pedestrian barrier and is impossible to skateboard or bike on. Weeds don’t grow well among larger rocks, and sand doesn’t accumulate in the same way. Consider shallow gravel mulch where you want penstemon and grasses to reseed such as a revegetation project. Eventually that gravel mulch will disappear under blown sand, and plant debris.
**ASLA Lobby Day, May 8**

*by Lisa Powell, President-Elect*

The azaleas were in bloom and the capitol was abuzz with election year energy as three of your intrepid officers participated on May 8th in the Annual ASLA Lobby Day in Washington D.C.. We met with staff representatives from the offices of Congresswoman Heather Wilson, Senators Domenici and Bingaman. We asked for their support for funding the following agenda items:

- Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) in Congress:
  - $800,000 in the FY 2009 budget
  - Green Energy Education Act in the Senate: H.R. 1716 funds university curriculum focusing on sustainable design. It is awaiting action in the Senate.
  - Energy Conservation through Trees Act of 2008 in Congress: H.R. 5867 is designed to improve air quality and lower the need for energy consumption.

We were met with attention and respect by all three offices. While Senator Domenici’s staffer expressed support for clean, renewable energy, he did express the Senator’s discord with S. 2191, America’s Climate Security Act. The Senator believes the bill is “unfair” to the South where there is apparently a lack of sunshine and wind compared to other areas of the country. Who knew?

Fear not, the “folks from back home” will make another run at the Hill next year where we will try, try, again. As always, thanks to NMASLA for support and guidance.

Lisaepowell@yahoo.com

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**Chapter Meetings**

**Weck’s Restaurant**, 3913 Louisiana NE, Alb, NM (505-881-0019), located on the west side of Louisiana just south of Montgomery Blvd.

Please join us for monthly chapter meetings, usually held the second Tuesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

**Guest Speakers:**

Anyone wishing to be a guest speaker should contact Lisa Powell (505-830-5400)

**Tuesday, June 10**

Speaker: Tori Johnson

**Tuesday, July 8**

Speaker: Greg Miller

**Events**

**Annual Landscape Tour**

*Saturday, June 7: 9am-3pm*

Tickets $10. Ten locations in Ridgecrest Nob Hill, North Valley and Far NE Heights. Contact Lisa at lisaepowell@yahoo.com

“LANDSCAPE OF CHANCE”

*April 25 to June 25th, 2008*

Photography Exhibit at the KiMo Theater Gallery in Albuquerque, NM. Contact Matthew Cohan:

info@artstudiomc.com

www.artstudiomc.com

**Soil and Water Conservation Society’s (SWCS) Annual Conference**

*Saturday, July 26, 2008 - Wednesday, July 30, 2008*

Starr Pass Marriott, Tucson, AZ

http://www.swcs.org/08ac

http://host.asla.org/chapters/newmexico/calendar.htm

**Membership & Address Changes**

Please email Genieve Yorman:

gyorman@consensusplanning.com

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**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 current editor:

Elaine Stevens

esteven1@unm.edu

**Website**

**NMASLA website Information**

For requests related to posting information or announcements on our chapter website, please contact website manager:

Rob Loftis

rloftis@mrwnm.com

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