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AIA/EIC eastwards

NEWSLETTER OF THE EASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER

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President's Message

by John Benware Jr., AIA, NCARB

Dear AIA Eastern Illinois Chapter Members,

As we embark on a new year, I am excited to welcome you to a fresh chapter in our organization's journey. Our commitment to advancing the architecture profession and enhancing the built environment remains steadfast, and we have an exciting lineup of events and initiatives planned for the coming months.

We're thrilled to announce several engaging events that will provide opportunities for professional growth, networking, and community involvement:

January meeting: Join us for the first meeting of the year with a presentation by Nolan Day of SJ Mallein & Assoc. on Thermoplastic roofing.

February Meeting: Join us as we meet with the students from Joliet Junior College who are interested in becoming architects. Come out to offer your encouragement and insight to the students.



Your voice matters to us. We want to ensure that our chapter's activities align with your interests and needs. Please take a moment to share your thoughts on:

- Topics you'd like to see covered in our educational programs
- Potential speakers or firms you'd be interested in hearing from
- Community outreach initiatives you believe we should pursue

Your feedback is invaluable in shaping our chapter's direction. Please feel free to contact any board member or send your suggestions to our dedicated email address.

(Continued on next page...)

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January 29 Chapter Meeting

Program:

*Understanding
Thermoplastics*

Presenters

*Robert Anderson
Nolan Day*

Sponsors:

Elevate

See page 7 for registration.

President's Message

...continued

I hope you are gearing up for our upcoming Bi-Annual Awards Program! This event celebrates excellence in architecture and design within our chapter. We encourage all members to submit their outstanding projects for consideration. The submission deadline is approaching in 2025, so start preparing your entries now. More details on categories and submission guidelines will be sent out shortly. As we move forward, let's continue to support one another and elevate the standards of our profession. Together, we can make a lasting impact on our communities through thoughtful, innovative design. Here's to a year of growth, collaboration, and architectural excellence!

Warm regards,

*John F. Benware, Jr.
AIA, NCARB
EIC President*



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Chapter Corner

AIA/EIC Items of Interest



We are proud to announce that EIC member, Bob Bohlmann received the **Wright Spirit Award** for the Professional Category at the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy 2024



Bob & Linda Bohlmann

Annual Conference in Detroit, Michigan. He was recognized “for his leadership and educational endeavors in stewarding the Bradley House in Kankakee, Illinois.” Our congratulations to Bob for this well-deserved honor!

<https://savewright.org/stream-the-2024-wright-spirit-award-video/> (Bob is 7 minutes into the video)

Preparing for the AIA/EIC transitional board meeting this month at the Bradley House were L-R: ▷
Wayne Babiak
Gabe Hocking
Katelyn Walker
Dewain Peterson
John Benware



See the last page for the complete list of 2025 EIC board and officers.

AIA/EIC CALENDAR

January

- 11 Transitional Board Meeting
The Bradley House
- 29 Regular Chapter Meeting
Flossmoor Station - Flossmoor

February

- 24-26 AIA Natl. Leadership Summit
Washington, DC
- 26 Regular Chapter Meeting
Heroes West Joliet
Design for Stone Masonry

March

- 26 Regular Chapter Meeting
Flossmoor Station
Epic Metal Decks

April

- 23 Regular Chapter Meeting
Gatto's Tinley Park
Commercial Applications w/ SIPs

May

- 28 Regular Chapter Meeting
Flossmoor Station
Gerflor Flooring

June

- 6 White SOX outing
Guaranteed Rate Field / Comisky Park
Chicago White Sox vs. K.C. Royals



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AIA/EIC Historical Highlights

by Wayne E. Babiak, AIA



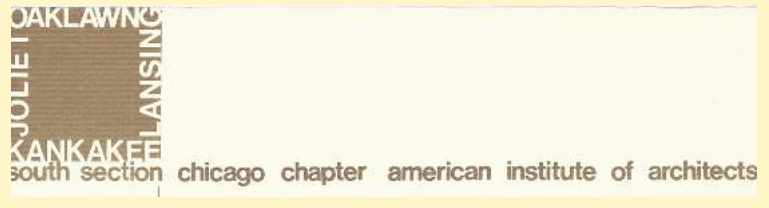
We became a chapter effective January 1, 1978. In upcoming issues of "Eastwords" I will be highlighting various items and events pertaining to AIA Eastern Illinois Chapter and our history. This month's article on some of the related graphics is intended to be an initial "trailer" lead-in regarding this endeavor.



A little about me... not going to dwell on this too much. I became an AIA Member in 1976 as part of the Chicago Chapter. EIC was at that time the South Section of the Chicago Chapter. I have had the privilege of knowing many of the other charter members of our chapter. I guess one can say I have been around awhile.

Those of you who may have historic information to contribute, I encourage you to contact me for inclusion in subsequent articles. You will be given credit for your contributions.

Early letterhead from when we were a Section of the Chicago Chapter defined the general coverage of the South Section: north, south, east and west. ▽



So... what's behind this?



At first, glance, this button looks like one of those smiley faces popular in the 1970s. Some of you may remember those? Well... this button was created by our South Section prior to the 1977 AIA National Convention, held in San Diego, California. It was kind of an intended friendly "tongue in cheek" rib to Chicago Chapter, as the South Section was petitioning to break away from them to form our own chapter.

We were granted the formation of the Eastern Illinois Chapter at that 1977 convention. More on this will follow in subsequent articles.

Initial EIC Chapter letterhead. ▸
We even had a phone number then, probably someone's office.

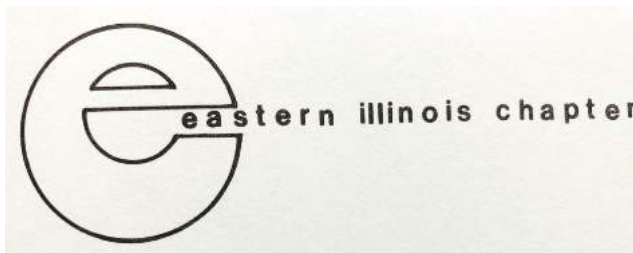


EIC Chapter area. ▸



In the early days of AIA/EIC, this was the logo.

Pac-Man anyone?

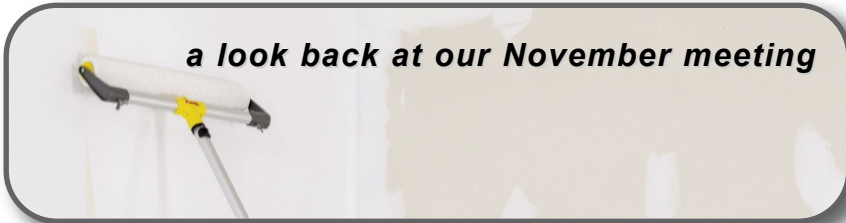


Do you have any historical information, including print photos, photo negatives, slides: remember any of those media? If you do, please share them with me. I can scan any of these into JPEG images. Contact me at web44aia@comcast.net, and arrangements can be made.

Wayne E. Babiak, AIA

Rear View Mirror

REAR VIEW MIRROR



Changing the Way You Think About Paint - Specifying the Right Paint for Every Project

Presenter: Christie Wilson / Wolf Gordon
Sponsor: Sarah Etcheson / Wolf Gordon



Thanks to our November 2024 presenter Christie Wilson of Wolf Gordon, for the refreshing continuing education program at the Flossmoor Station Restaurant. We also appreciate our evening's Host/Sponsor Sarah Etcheson for introducing WOLF GORDON to our chapter. Please visit their website at <https://www.wolfgordon.com/>

Wolf Gordon

In addition to their program, at the November meeting we approved and elected the 2025 AIA/EIC Board, as shown on the back page of this issue.



"Eastwords" is the monthly publication of the American Institute of Architects/ Eastern Illinois Chapter. Opinions expressed are those of the particular author and not necessarily those of AIA/EIC. For advertising information, contact Edvin Mertdogan, AIA at emertdogan@yahoo.com. Submit articles to editor, Roxanne Paukner, Hon. AIA, at rp.entasis@att.net.

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Annual Dinner

Sunday, December 8, 2024



At our Annual Dinner we welcomed the 2025 Board and all the members and guests who made this night special - including all of the sponsors! We appreciate your support.



△ Keynote Speaker Lee Bey is a writer, photographer, lecturer, and one of Chicago's foremost architectural critics. Lee gave a unique presentation on architecture in the south suburbs. Dive into his commentary on YouTube, PBS, or <https://portal.knme.org/.../southern-exposure-expands.../>

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2025 Board members
Wayne Babiak, Gabe Hocking,
John Benward, Edvin Mertdogan,
Katelyn Walker



Joliet Junior College students came out *on final's night* to celebrate their hard work in an architectural design competition! Entries were exhibited at our event, and attendees were invited to judge the competition.



Congratulations to 1st and 2nd place
Bio-Spine by Alton Richardson
Mariposa Del Cielo by Leslie Valerio.



Upcoming Meeting ♦ Wednesday, January 29

Program: Understanding Thermoplastics - 1 HSW

Presenter: Robert Anderson, Regional Account Manager, Elevate Commercial Roofing Systems
Nolan Day, Architectural Representative, SJ Mallein & Assoc.

Program: Understanding Thermoplastics

This presentation discusses the most widely utilized commercial roof cover technology – thermoplastic membranes, with a core focus on TPO and PVC applications. Similarities and differences in the production, installation, and performance of thermoplastic roofing membranes will be explored. The presenter will also note the advantages of viewing a roofing assembly as a “system,” instead of just a membrane and its accessories, and provide guidance on how to choose the appropriate roofing system for a given building.



Sponsor: ELEVATE

Location: Flossmoor Station
1035 Sterling Ave
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<https://www.flossmoorstation.com/>

MEETING IN PERSON

Please register at right.

Time: 5:00 pm Board Meeting
6:00 pm Social Hour
7:00 pm Dinner & Program
Presentation

Cost: \$30.00 / AIA/EIC Member
\$35.00 / non-member

Reserve your spot!

Click here to register online, or

for directions and venue web-link go to:

<https://aiaaic.org/meet-reg1.php?id=119>

If you are unable to register online, contact

John Benware, Jr., AIA

at jfbjr@jfbjr-architect.com or 708-529-8346.


**Certificates will be e-mailed
to registrants after the seminar.**

KATELYN WALKER



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