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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 enter February, I'm excited to highlight two important upcoming events for our chapter. First, we have our regular meeting on February 26th at Heroes West in Joliet, where we'll be joined by students from Joliet Junior College. I encourage all our members to attend this meeting and help inspire these young minds as they pursue their degrees in architecture. Your presence and insights can make a significant impact on their educational journey and future careers.

Secondly, I urge everyone to register for next month's Prairie Grassroots event on March 18th in Springfield. This is our opportunity to travel to the state capitol and lobby our legislators on issues crucial to our profession. The event is free to attend, includes transportation from the Chicago area, and is an excellent chance to network with fellow architects while making our voices heard.



I'm also pleased to announce that our chapter is expanding its scholarship program. In addition to students attending accredited universities, we will now be offering scholarships to junior college students as well. This

expansion reflects our commitment to supporting architectural education at all levels.

Let's come together to inspire the next generation of architects and advocate for our profession. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

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

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February 26

Chapter Meeting

Program:

*Design with Architectural
Blocks for Buildings*

Presenter:

Jack Chambers

Sponsor:

Oldcastle APG / Echelon

See page 3 for registration.

Prairie Grassroots

Get Involved



Members are invited to come to Springfield for learning, legislative visits, and fellowship. Enjoy an Issues Lunch sponsored by Holmes Murphy at the Inn at 835, “The Hidden Gem Boutique Hotel of Springfield” www.connshg.com/inn-at-835. Meet with our legislators at the Illinois State Capitol to discuss current issues impacting architects and our profession, and wrap up the day at a reception with host sponsors, Resource One and Haworth.



Register

at <https://www.aiaill.org/2025-grassroots>

Approved for 1 AIA Elective LU | Noon to 6 p.m. | Springfield, Ill. | Free to Attend

First-come, first-served bus transportation will be provided from Chicago (with a stop in Joliet) to Springfield and back. Carpooling or taking Amtrak are also encouraged.

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Upcoming Meeting ♦ Wednesday, February 26

Program: *Designing with Innovative Architectural Blocks for Buildings - 1 HSW LU*

Joint Meeting with Joliet Junior College Architecture Students

Special 6pm Social Hour Event planned.
Last year's was Architectural Pictionary-
Stay tuned for this year's fun activity...

Presenter: **Jack Chambers**
Architectural Sales Representative

Program: **Designing with Innovative Architectural Blocks for Buildings**
1 HSW LU
Concrete blocks are not just for foundations and basements. Architectural masonry units are animating the facades of schools, supporting columns of healthcare facilities and gracing the arches of shopping malls. This program will cover the vast range of masonry units available and their potential uses. Designing and building masonry structures to look good for the life of the building requires a fundamental understanding of the enemies of masonry and proper detailing to protect your walls. This discussion on critical detailing and project management will ensure lasting beauty of masonry units.
<https://www.echelonmasonry.com>

Sponsor: **Oldcastle APG | Echelon Masonry**

Location: **HEROES WEST JOLIET**
1530 Commerce Ln
Joliet, IL 60431
<https://www.heroeswestbar.com/>

MEETING IN PERSON in the Joliet Room banquet room in the back, after 6 p.m.
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



ECHELON
MASONRY

Reserve your spot!

Click here to register online, or

for directions and venue web-link go to:

<https://aiaaic.org/meet-reg1.php?id=120>

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.



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Rear View Mirror

BEAR VIEW MIRROR



Understanding Thermoplastics

Presenter: Robert Anderson, Regional Acct. Mgr., Elevate
Nolan Day, Arch. Rep., SJ Mallein & Assoc.

AIA/EIC
President
John
Benware, Jr.

Sponsor: Elevate



There was record attendance for the first meeting of 2025! Thanks to everyone who stopped by for January's program on Understanding Thermoplastic Roofs.

Our presenters were Robert Anderson, Regional Account Manager at Elevate Commercial Roofing Systems and Nolan Day, Architectural Representative of SJ Mallein & Assoc. Among other things, we learned that it is recommended NOT to value engineer the coverboard/protection board out of the project for short term savings; in the long run and future insurance claims, *(continued on next page)*



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Students and emerging professionals can purchase study materials from PPI/Kaplan with a 15% discount.

Go to https://aiaeic.org/PPI_Test or contact our membership coordinator John Benware for more information.

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Rear View Mirror

...continued



that cover board is very helpful.

We had a wonderful evening, and look forward to seeing everyone again in February.



Thanks to our presenters and Host/Sponsor, Elevate Commercial Roofing Systems !

www.holcimelevate.com/us-en/roofing



Nolan Day



Robert Anderson



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Chapter Corner

AIA/EIC Items of Interest



For years Johns Manville has been an industry leader in manufacturing high-quality commercial roofing products, systems, and solutions. They offer industry-recognized “BURSI” (Better Understanding of Roofing Systems Institute) training and educational programs. With fantastic designer feedback from last year’s Johns Manville BURSI 1 continuing education and hands-on experience, they are excited to invite you to BURSI 2!

Join fellow architects, consultants, and design professionals for a day of learning, interactive demonstrations, and open discussions with Johns Manville’s Product Managers and Technical experts.

**6.5 LU/HSW
Credit Hours (AIA)**

**Wed. March 19, 2025
Class/Demo 8am-5pm
Hospitality Reception
5pm-7pm**

**Chandlers at
Schaumburg Golf Club
401 Roselle Road
Schaumburg, IL 60194**



Presentation Topics:

- Low Slope Roofing Guarantees
- Low Slope Roofing Photovoltaic
- Low Slope Roofing Recovers Considerations and Best Practices
- Key Resiliency Considerations
- Evolving Codes and Updates
- Continental Breakfast & Lunch provided

This event will fill up quickly, so please register today!

<https://www2.jm.com/RS-2025-BURSI-Chicago-RSVP>

Sign Up

“Eastwards” 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 all articles to the editor, Roxanne Paukner, Hon. AIA, at rp.entasis@att.net.

AIA/EIC CALENDAR

February

- 24-26** AIA Natl. Leadership Summit
Washington, DC
- 26** Regular Chapter Meeting
Heroes West Joliet
Designing with Innovative
Architectural Blocks for Buildings

March

- 18** Prairie Grassroots
Springfield, IL
- 19** BURSI 2
- 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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