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# MASLA Newsletter

an electronic newsletter

December 2007

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## Dear Members and Subscribers,

There are many current headline issues such as global warming, poor water quality and declining health where landscape architects can contribute their knowledge and skills to help develop innovative solutions. I am confident that MASLA members are addressing these issues, and more, through their jobs in the public, private and academic sectors. Yet, there is another manner in which landscape architects can influence the built environment and resulting quality of life that doesn't get the attention that it needs. An important opportunity exists for landscape architects to contribute to the development and implementation of public policies at the local, state and federal level.

One approach where landscape architects can advance the values of our profession, as well as expand the role of landscape architecture in the eyes of the public, is by being a member of a park and recreation commission, a watershed board, planning commission or other advisory committee. As an example, MASLA member, David Motzenbecker, is contributing his skills to the community by serving as Chair of the Minneapolis Planning Commission.

Another approach to serve and promote landscape architecture is to apply for a state board, commission or committee position. There are two state boards that mandate that one or more board positions be filled with a landscape architect. The first is the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design, where two Board positions are reserved for landscape architects. These positions are currently filled by MASLA members, Doris Sullivan and John Uban. The other is the Governor's Residence Council, where one position is reserved for a

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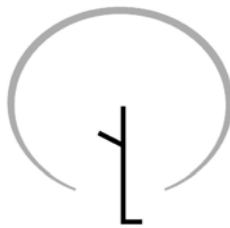


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landscape architect. MASLA member, Tom Ritzer, is currently filling this position. Several other state boards that would greatly benefit by having a landscape architect on them include:

- Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Capitol Area Architectural and Planning Board
- Center for Rural Policy and Development
- Environmental Innovations Advisory Council
- Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program
- Legislative - Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources
- Metropolitan Parks and Open Space Commission
- Minnesota Forest Resources Council
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Minnesota State Arts Board
- State Bicycle Advisory Committee
- State Designer Selection Board (MASLA member, Mark Koegler, currently holds a public member position on the Board)

While a large number of positions open up at the beginning of the year, the Secretary of State sends out notices of new openings on a monthly basis. We will try to post on the MASLA website position openings that would benefit by having a landscape architect fill them.

I'm sure there are other MASLA members beyond those I have mentioned who are providing important community service using their landscape architecture skills. We all lead busy lives and I want to thank all of our members who are taking additional steps to promote our profession and values. I would also encourage you to consider contributing to the development and implementation of public policies through participation on boards, commissions and advisory committees at the local and state level. If you haven't already, I would also encourage you to sign up with the ASLA Advocacy Network <http://capwiz.com/asla/home/> to receive email updates and alerts on legislative issues of concern to the ASLA.

On a final note, in October we lost an important member of the landscape architecture community, Donald Hess. A full obituary can be found later in the newsletter. Don was instrumental in gaining licensure for landscape architects in Minnesota. We all benefit from Don's service to the profession and should likewise strive to advance the profession for those that follow us.

Wishing you a happy holiday season!

Sincerely,

**Join our mailing list!**

Join

Joni Giese, ASLA  
President, Minnesota Chapter of the ASLA

### MASLA Related News and Events

#### Several Items for Review

#### **January Open House at the Metropolitan Design Center: January 31, 5:30 - 8:30**

This year MASLA is combining the January Open House with the annual student firm crawl. All students and professionals are welcome and this invitation includes vendors and other colleagues in related industries! The event will be held at the Metropolitan Design Center in Rapson Hall, 89 Church St., SE, Mpls 55455. The date has been set for Thursday, January 31st, from 5:30 - 8:30. Watch for an invitation and calendar posting soon after the holidays.



The Metropolitan Design Center is a non-profit organization that contributes to making the metropolitan landscape more livable and sustainable. Through projects, research and education the staff collaborate with a number of organizations to develop green spaces, add necessary housing, and design to promote active and healthy lifestyles. The interdisciplinary Design Center team includes staff with backgrounds in landscape architecture, architecture, planning, public health and landscape ecology. Sustainability in urban design will be the focus for the coming year.

MASLA would like to help introduce members and students to the wide range of career options that are available. The open house has traditionally been at consulting firms and this year we thank the Design Center for hosting and the opportunity to see another aspect of the profession. Please join landscape architects and students for food and beverages in January.

#### **Minnesota Green Expo: January 9-11 at the Minneapolis Convention Center**

The Minnesota Nursery & Landscape Association has issued a special invitation for MASLA members to attend the 2008 Minnesota Green Expo and to receive the \$20 per person member discount. This is the premier green industry event for the 1600 member- businesses in MNLA, and it offers a wide range of educational programs, an expansive trade show and the chance to meet industry professionals from

all over the country. MNLA has provided many classes and events specifically for landscape architects over the years and has been a continuing sponsor and supporter of MASLA. Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity and the chance to form a valuable partnership with MNLA members.

The educational programs offered are unparalleled in the green industry for their quality and affordability. 100 educational seminars will be held at the Expo. A complete schedule is available online at:

[Minnesota Green Expo](#)

See the list of seminars that MNLA has compiled that may be of particular interest to landscape architects on the MASLA website (Educational Seminars and Trade Show: [MASLA 2007 Calendar](#)).

The Trade Show will feature 1000 booths with a full line of plant materials, machinery, tools, equipment, hardscapes and services for nursery, landscape, turf and grounds professionals. All booths are located in a 198,000 square foot exhibit hall at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

There will be expanded networking, buying and selling opportunities for the broadest spectrum of green industry professionals in the north central region. These partnerships are necessary for landscape architects to implement their visions of stronger land use planning and design. Please join MNLA members and other landscape architects on January 9 - 11.

Registration may be completed online with a credit card, or by mail or fax. Please contact MNLA at 651-633-4987.

### **City of Minneapolis Draft Plan Now Available for Public Review**

The draft comprehensive plan is available on this website as of December 1, 2007, and will be available for public review through mid-February 2008. Read the draft plan and submit comments online. Comments can also be provided by email, regular mail, or phone to the contacts listed via this link: [MPLS PLAN](#)

### **Obituary - Donald Hess Jr.**

From the Mpls Star Tribune, 10/14-10/16/07  
Hess, Donald L. Jr. age 72, of Wayzata passed away October 11, 2007. Preceded in death by his parents. Survived by his wife, Deva; daughters, Laurel Hess (Carlos Aguado), Heidi (Eric) Grunewald, and Margaret (Russ) Cyphers; grandchildren, Ana, Andrés, Paige, Cade and

Brody; sister, Nola (Charles) Quigley; niece, Leslie (Steve) Quigley Cornils; nephew, Brian Quigley; brother-in-law, James Dalke and many dear relatives and friends. Memorial service 1 pm Friday, October 19, 2007 at Wayzata Community Church (125 E. Wayzata Blvd., Wayzata). Memorials preferred to Wayzata Community Church Music Department. David Lee Funeral Home Wayzata 952- 473-5577  
Link to Mr. Hess' Obituary: [StarTribune/obituaries](#)

#### Information from our Affiliated Organizations

See [MASLA.org](#) for News, Calendar of Events, and Other Resources

#### **Climate Change in Minnesota, by Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (NPS), Jan. 17th, 7pm**



How will climate change affect Minnesota?  
How do scientists know what will change?  
Come hear Jeffrey Corney, Associate Director of the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, describe the changes Minnesota will experience and about the studies which are being done to help create these future climate models.

Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve is home to a rare meeting of three distinct ecosystems (prairie, deciduous forest, and boreal forest) making it an ideal location to observe how climate change will affect these different biomes.

Location: Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center  
Read more at [Live the River website](#)

#### **Global Observations in Times of Economic Turmoil, Jan. 23, 2008**

Join the Sensible Land Use Coalition for this unique opportunity to hear the "view from the top" concerning global, national and regional economic conditions, including:

- A prognosis for the 2008 economy;
- Fallout from the sub-prime mortgage mess;
- The falling dollar and its impact on the real estate industry;
- Twin Cities real estate development forecast for 2008.

More information: [sensibleland.org](#)

#### **2008 Legislative Preview Forum, Jan. 17, 8- 12pm**

The Legislative Preview Policy Forum provides a valuable first look at the top environmental priorities for the upcoming legislative session, and gives audience members the opportunity to raise concerns or pose questions to legislative decision-makers. The Legislative Preview Forum is also a great chance to network with approximately 200 fellow attendees from business, government, and nonprofit sectors. The 2008 Legislative Preview Forum will feature three panels of bipartisan legislators: Legislative Leadership - Senate and House leaders highlight the major environmental issues under consideration in the upcoming session. Transportation and Transit - Key committee members speak about anticipated action on issues related to transportation and transit. Energy and Climate Change - Key committee members speak about anticipated action on issues related to energy and climate change. More from [Minnesota Environment Initiative](#).

### **Working Nature into Land Use Decisions Workshop Series, January - March**

Minnesota Government Training Services is offering three new land use planning workshops in 2008 from January 30 to March 27th. Watch for updates at: [www.mngts.org](http://www.mngts.org)

### **2008 Residency Season at the Artists' Enclave at I-Park**

I-Park announces its eighth season hosting The Artists' Enclave. Artists' residencies, self-directed/project oriented, will be offered from May through November 2008. Most sessions are four weeks in duration. Residencies will be offered to visual (including digital) artists, music composers, environmental artists, landscape and garden designers, creative writers and architects. Work samples will be evaluated through a competitive, juried process.  
Application Deadline: December 31, 2007  
Read the entire announcement- [In the News](#)

### **Real: Artists and Landscapes**

Minnesota History Center, St. Paul, MN  
Celebrate the wide range of art produced by self-taught Minnesota artists and in the process discover how artists' from all backgrounds incorporate creativity and passion into their work. In this exhibit, Vance Gellert presents photographs of untrained artists in and around the landscape of Minnesota along with a special presentation of their art.  
Closing: January 28, 2008  
[MNHS Calendar](#)

## Embrace Open Space Announcement

Join us for a discussion on: Conservation Ordinances and Incentives

Several local governments have adopted ordinances that create incentives to preserve open space and community character. We will see the wide variety of preferred incentives and methods and learn what is in place in different locales. Most importantly, we will have a discussion that allows you to ask questions and helps you define next steps and further information needs to protect and preserve our natural resources.

**January 9, 2007, 9 - noon**

North Mississippi Regional Park, Carl W. Kroening  
Interpretive Center  
4900 Mississippi Ct.  
Minneapolis, MN 55430

### Featuring

Overview of current conservation ordinances and incentives, Danny Nadeau

Edge Communities in Washington County, Richard Thompson - Planner TDKA

City of Chaska's performance-based ordinance, Paul Paige - Landscape Architect HKGi

Sherburne County, Jon Sevald - Sherburne County Planner Discussion

### RSVP

No charge for attendance, but help our planning and RSVP to Abbey Lentner 651-999-5313 or [abbey.lentner@tpl.org](mailto:abbey.lentner@tpl.org)

Questions? Jenna Fletcher Program Coordinator - Embrace Open Space, 651-999-5306, [jenna.fletcher@tpl.org](mailto:jenna.fletcher@tpl.org)

EMBRACE OPEN SPACE is a collaborative that serves as a catalyst for greater citizen and elected leadership to conserve and steward natural areas and parks, lakes and rivers in the eleven-county Twin Cities area.

[MASLA.org](http://MASLA.org) Your Resource

### Shared-Space Project for Planning of Public Space

Shared Space is a European project that is part of the Interreg IIIB-North Sea programme. The project aims to



develop new policies and new methods for an integral approach of the planning of public space for which man

and his surroundings are taken as the basis.  
Watch several videos from Shared-Space on YouTube:  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/Sharedspace>  
[Shared- Space.org](http://www.shared-space.org)

### **Transit for Livable Communities (TLC) Annual Conference, March 5-7**

The Transit for Livable Communities organization announces their national convention with the theme "Regional Equity '08" to be held March 5-7, 2008 in New Orleans, LA  
[TLC Calendar](#)

### **The Chicago Athenaeum Announces the American Architecture Awards for the Most Distinguished New U.S. Architecture, Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture, Deadline February 1, 2008**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, NOVEMBER 1, 2007. . . The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design in association with Metropolitan Arts Press Ltd. is organizing the 2008 American Architecture Awards® as a way in which to honor new architecture, landscape architecture, interiors, and urban planning projects designed in the United States.

The program is organized and curated by the Finnish architect and architecture journalist, Christian K. Narkiewicz-Laine, Museum President of The Chicago Athenaeum.

The 2007 awarded projects and previous award winners can be seen at the Museum's website at

[chi- athenaeum](#)

The deadline for 2008 submissions is FEBRUARY 1, 2008.

Read the entire press release - [In the News](#)

[MASLA.org Your Resource](#)

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MASLA is the local Minnesota chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, a professional organization that represents landscape architects nationwide. MASLA has over 300 members working in the private, public, and educational sectors. We are growing in numbers and in programs, and are currently planning and offering a variety of service projects, social events, networking opportunities, and continuing education sessions.

MASLA

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Email: [loons\\_ochs@comcast.net](mailto:loons_ochs@comcast.net)

Web: <http://www.masla.org>

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