



**President's Message**  
**Are you smarter than a 5<sup>th</sup> grader?**

What a terrific show, it's on Thursday nights on Fox, or 24/7 at our house. I have a 5<sup>th</sup> grader who puts me to the test all the time. Sometimes I win, but too often he proves me wrong. I am amazed daily on how smart our children are.

My 5<sup>th</sup> grader knows that gas is expensive (claims he can remember when it was \$2/gallon) and going to get more expensive every month.

When I asked him if we had our choice of a new car – what should we get? He said “We'd be crazy not to get a car that gets great mileage, and if it ran on vegetable oil that would be really cool!” He is rooting for a hybrid – Mini-Cooper some day!

My second question was if we should develop a solar energy farm or build a coal plant in Eastern Nevada? He polite fully said “Dad – obviously solar energy plants as they don't pollute the sky or the water”. I said that coal plants are less expensive to build, but he countered that maybe so, but they pollute the environment, which in the future someone will need to clean up. He noted that of every ton of coal burned, 2/3<sup>rd</sup> is actually waste energy and only 1/3<sup>rd</sup> is actually converted to electricity.

Asked if we should build a subdivision northeast of Reno for approximately 4,000 homes or build more compact housing near Reno, he said “Build more housing close to downtown Reno as it has the neat river there and the new baseball park will get more fans going to it”. And he is not even a baseball fan!

After listening to him it seems like the 5<sup>th</sup> graders really “get it” and look at the simple part of the equation. If the 5<sup>th</sup> graders were able to make a few of the decisions we leave up to politicians, we'd all be driving electric cars and have more medium density housing downtown - getting more people to energize the downtown economy while leaving the open spaces of Nevada for all of us to enjoy! They see the future better than we do.

He also knows that to get the atomic number of an element you need to add up the number of protons and neutrons, but that's another story!

Best Regards,

Pat Pusich, AIA  
Tate Snyder Kimsey Architects

## **AIANN and working for our Membership!**

So far for our first 3 months of 2008 has been busy planning the events calendar for the year. Most programs are in the final stages of planning. Please see the list of events below and please attend and support your chapter!

**23-26 April – CanStruction** will be judged at TMCC, and 20 teams strong. Come and lend your support to the event and give “thanks” to Fred Graham and David Eckes for chairing this great event!

**April 25 – Intern Social Mixer** – “Shop Talk” at the Imperial Tavern at 6 p.m., geared towards our Associate Members and Interns but experienced architects are welcome to engage in conversations as well!

**May 2 – Paul Goldberger**, Architectural Critic for the New Yorker Magazine will be at the Nevada Museum of Art (NMA) with the Black Rock Lecture Series.

**May 15-17 National Convention** in Boston (We the People)

**May 16 – Eric Lloyd Wright**, Architect and Grandson of Frank Lloyd Wright will be speaking at NMA with the Black Rock Lecture Series. See the NMA & AIANN Websites for info.

**May 22 –Q2 Lunch Program** - Bob Cox will be our featured speaker. Bob was Design Principal at Gensler for 25 years and now speaks to architects. His ‘Generations Changing the Work Place’ and ‘Emerging Trends’ will be great! Come and get enlightened!

**10 June – Sustainable Design Speaker and Symposium.** More details coming soon!

**August 8 –Q3 Lunch Program** - City of Reno City Manager, Charles McNeeley and Director of Redevelopment, Mark Lewis will speak to us about our growing and vibrant downtown Reno

**August 18 – Golf Tournament at Montreux.** Clear the calendar and get some practice rounds in as this year will be our best tournament ever!

**October 23-25 – Western Mountain Region** Conference in beautiful Santa Fe, with the theme of the Spirit of Architecture.

**November 7-8 Design Conference.** This 2 day design themed event will be at the Squaw Creek Resort and have a CEU component on Friday and Saturday morning with a target of 8 credits available. The social highlights will be a party at High Camp and final event being the 2008 Nevada Design Awards. Any help you can offer in assisting with this event is appreciated and we are meeting at SVWB’s office on every other Mondays (4/14, 4/28, 5/12, etc...)