

F|H DESIGN

Fellow Members,

I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your President for 2010. It is difficult to believe that we are already starting the second decade of the century. Yes, I know that some of you numerical purist will say that it will not start until 2011, but we are now planning and shaping how AIA Middle Tennessee will serve its membership in the near and throughout the next decade. It seems like only yesterday we were worried about Y2K, if our computers will crash, and we lose our CAD files. Now some are wondering if there is an architectural future available at all. I am confident that there is!!! Throughout history, whenever there has been a decline in the economy, it has always come back stronger and moves higher than before the drop. It will again.

Several of us have recently returned from the 2010 AIA Grassroots Conference and everyone we talk to both in the Institute and our government representatives are confident that life in Middle Tennessee is starting to get better. Information locally has pointed out that the housing market seems to have bottomed out and is ticking upward. Members are seeing more calls from prospective clients requesting information on their firms.

Even so, there are still members and associates that are hurting and need help. Over the past year, the chapter worked diligently to provide low or no cost continuing education opportunities to keep everyone up to date on their continuing education requirements. We have worked with AIA National to install a payment system to pay your dues over several months to lesson the bite of writing the membership check. We have and are still coming to many member firms to meet with you personally to learn firsthand your needs and to work to resolve as many of them as we can.

The program committee is busy completing our program agenda for the year and hopes to have several sets of programs ready for publication within the next several weeks.

The AIA Mid TN Golf Tournament is scheduled for June 17, 2010 at The Legend's Club. Sign up your teams early as it will sell out as it has every year in the past.

I look forward to serving you for the next year. Please call me or stop to talk to me if you have any questions or concerns. We are here to help you and are sincerely interested in your well being. We have a unique community of architects and through working together can and will be able to create great architecture, warm friendly communities, and long range visions for our area.

Be proud. You have earned the right to be an Architect.

Sincerely,
David Hawkins, AIA
President, AIA Middle Tennessee