GOOD
CHANGE IS GOOD . . . REALLY // As an architect with a passion for historic buildings, change can be especially daunting. However, at the beginning of my term, I knew the only way to move forward would be to change. That’s a theme we all have to embrace, if we are serious about impacting our communities and the built environment.

Change is good, but it doesn’t mean it’s easy.

While the economy is rebounding, which offers a positive outlook for building projects, Indianapolis celebrated the completion of some of the largest public projects our profession has ever seen. That’s a signal of more change to come.

Future projects will be of a different scale, will encompass more reuse of the existing building stock, will be delivered at a faster pace and will utilize new technologies and new collaborations.

In order to adapt, we also need to remain committed to our core mission. To that end, AIA Indianapolis continues to advocate locally, regionally and nationally for higher design standards, to educate our public about the value of design and promote our profession. The annual City-County Council reception received national accolades in early 2012, as an innovative program that brings real value to members.

Through monthly events, AIA members and allied members have opportunities to network and attend educational sessions. AIA Indianapolis promotes the importance of a well-designed environment by co-sponsoring public lectures and art installations, offering op-ed pieces in local publications, involvement in public committees and boards and hosting a very successful Architects’ Home Tour promoting the value of hiring an AIA architect.

AIA Indiana continues to monitor state legislation that could impact our profession, the construction industry and the health safety and welfare of our communities.

On a national level, we participate in the annual Grass Roots Convention in Washington, D.C. to meet with our Senators and Representatives about issues impacting the built environment. Our voice is getting even louder thanks to that activism. Of course, it doesn’t hurt that Deb Kunce, FAIA, is vice president of national AIA and is leading a national rebranding campaign.

Many people deserve credit for making 2012 a success: the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Committee Chairs who selflessly give of their time and talents; our sponsors that provide financial support and willingly share their expertise; our executive director Jason Shelley who keeps everything on track and works to build and solidify relationships; and finally our members, who all contribute to our profession, and prove every day that Design Matters and that Change can indeed be Good.

Scott A. Pannicke, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, President
AIA Indianapolis // A Chapter of the American Institute of Architects
TRANSFORMATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL DESIGN //

In many respects, change is good, and AIA Indianapolis is helping educate the public about the value of good (ever-changing) residential design. The 2012 Architects’ Home Tour featured seven homes – the most ever on the biennial tour – all offering unique insights into some of the latest design trends. Some lessons learned: Great design can come in small packages; wood pallets aren’t just for shipping; every detail matters and new homes can find a perfect fit in historic neighborhoods.

A HOUSE IN THE TREES // Bedrick and Doug Metrish got inspired by a home they saw during a past Architects’ Home Tour, so they hired by Mark Beebe, AIA, to design a home for them. The only caveat: Figure out a way to build the house on a picturesque four acres in a flood plain. Beebe used the outdoors to his advantage and designed the house two stories off the ground (and above the garage), where the house is nestled among the tree tops and making the wrap-around deck feel like a sophisticated, adult tree house. However, the interior is anything by primitive. 05

SUSTAINABLE IN FOUNTAIN SQUARE // Compact, efficient and contemporary, designer Brian Burtch, Assoc. AIA of Demerly Architects hopes this Fountain Square house – designed for his brother, Patrick – will inspire others to stretch their imaginations. The one-bedroom house demonstrates the possibilities offered for urban dwellers who want high-design that minimizes their impact on the environment. The Burch brothers used slats from salvaged wood pallets for the ceiling, the walls and roof are made of structural insulated panels, while the two-story kitchen is flanked with walls of polycarbonate glazing, allowing the small space to feel more spacious. 06

ART INSPIRES ARCHITECTURE // Architect Jim McQuiston, FAIA, has proven that you can’t judge a house by its exterior. While the exterior of this 1960’s ranch remains the same, McQuiston tore down walls and ceilings inside. Inspired by the homeowners’ collection of regional art, McQuiston designed alcoves with drop-down lights, used warm woods, light-colored walls and understated furnishings – many McQuiston designed and crafted himself – to put the emphasis on the art. Make no mistake, this is not an art museum, it’s an intimate space that draws comfort and style from the couple’s love of art. 07

ROOMS WITH A VIEW // Walk inside the loft at 429 Penn (called Adagio) and you’ll be eye-to-eye with the Indiana War Memorial. Christopher Short, AIA, of HAUS | Architecture used a vaulted flowing ceiling of a satin-lacquered shiplap cedar to help shape the contemporary space, paying attention to every detail from millwork to finishes to create a dramatic contemporary design. 08

CABIN(S) IN THE WOODS // Wes Janz says walking the length of his home is like taking a walk in the woods. That’s because the master bedroom and kitchen are inside a new timber-frame structure with lots of exposed wood beams, while the dining and family rooms are in another structure (a renovated limestone house) that are connected via a glass-enclosed walkway. Designed by Paul Puzzello, the design met the homeowner’s goals of having a house in the woods, yet be within walking distance of shopping and restaurants (the Monon Trail is in the backyard). 09

MATCH MADE IN LOCKERBIE // Mark Demerly, AIA, of Demerly Architects wanted to design a house for his newlywed clients that would emulate their personalities, while also blend into historic Lockerbie. Taking advantage of the corner lot, he designed two facades: one plays into the Victorian style on Park Avenue and the other more suited for its federal-style neighbors. The interior has a style all its own with expansive glass in the family room taking in views of the private garden, rich wood floors and built-in cabinetry in the dining room and French doors in the second-level master bedroom that open to a balcony. 10
As part of the 2012 Architects' Home Tour, designers Brian Burtch, Assoc. AIA, Jason Wolfe, Assoc. AIA and Ben McGhee, Assoc. AIA (below right), created a gallery exhibit by asking one simple question: What would you do with a vacant lot? That question evoked all kinds of ideas from people around the globe. The project called, 1X20 (one space, with 20 different design ideas), was a featured exhibit during the September First Friday event at the Harrison Center for the Arts.

Further stretching their imaginations, Burtch, McGhee and Wolfe created a backdrop to display the 20 designs by attaching strips of brown paper to a square frame. The exhibit was a way to get people to think about design and also helped AIA Indianapolis promote its upcoming tour.

Designs included everything from an urban house to a Cloud Condensor described as a customizable urban activator that brings people closer together, or Hang Out, where various rope structures would make a playground for all ages. The three designers along with Home Tour Chairman Mark Beebe, AIA (below left), received AIA Indianapolis Service Awards for their work on the tour and the Exhibit, which captured the attention of the public and the media. “Our goal was to explore the intrinsic differences between various designs and to show how architects approach creative challenges to a common problem – vacant urban lots,” said Beebe.
CHANGING DIRECTIONS //

The environment in 2012 is very different from what it was only five years ago, and the changing economic landscape has caused most people to pause, rethink and even re-invent themselves, their businesses and their work. AIA Indianapolis provided a year-long slate of special programs and events that offered its members new experiences, opportunities to learn, a chance to network with colleagues, peers and the community.

RAISING THE DESIGN BAR IN COLUMBUS // Columbus has had a resurgence of attention about its dedication to architecturally significant buildings when the Miller House (one of American’s most significant modernist houses), was opened for public tours. The commitment to design excellence over the years captured the attention of the AIA Committee on Design, which hosted a four-day conference: “Defining Architectural Design Excellence,” in Columbus, where attendees got to see first-hand some of the early buildings, as well as some of the most recent designs, including the Commons in the downtown area (left), new Cummins offices and parking garage, which all have been part of a downtown redevelopment project.

EXCELling IN GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS // AIA Indianapolis received the 2012 Grassroots Excellence Award for its annual City-County Council Reception. Initiated in 2009, the reception provides a forum for its members to get engaged in the local political process. It also gives council members a chance to meet their constituents and learn about key issues impacting the community. “It’s nice to have an opportunity to discuss the issues of the day with so much Indianapolis architectural expertise gathered in one space at one time,” Jackie Nytes – who retired from the council in 2011 – said in a letter to AIA Indianapolis Executive Director Jason Shelley.

MAKING A 100-ACRE IMPACT AT IMA // Nationally acclaimed architect Marlon Blackwell, FAIA, gave designers, art lovers and Indianapolis Museum of Art members and stakeholders insights into his design of the award-winning Ruth Lilly Visitors Pavilion in the 100 Acres: The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art and Nature Park (below). Blackwell talked about how his inspiration came from art, not architecture as he designed the pavilion. During the special lecture at IMA, he talked about his design process and insights about the success of the pavilion.
MAKING A STATEMENT //

Architects make statements in the buildings they design, the materials they choose and even the layout of an entire neighborhood or community. In 2012, AIA Indianapolis architects not only showed achievement in their designs, but also in other roles from being elected into the prestigious AIA College of Fellows, to being the chapter’s first gold medal award winner to earning a leadership role at a national level, advocating for more sustainable design and even inspiring budding young architects. Here’s a look at some of those special achievements.

DREW WHITE ELECTED TO 2012 AIA COLLEGE OF FELLOWS //

Drew White, FAIA (right), the founder of AXIS Architecture + Interiors, was elected into the prestigious American Institute of Architects (AIA) College of Fellows in recognition of his design work, his commitment to the community and his advocacy about why design matters. // White is best known for his contemporary designs and urban revitalization projects, including the Nature Conservancy headquarters, which has received numerous design awards. His most recent work includes designing workspaces of the future for forward-thinking, innovative Fortune 500 companies, including Exact Target, Cummins Engine, Crowe Horwath and Eli Lilly. His design of Lilly’s office space recently was featured in the Harvard Business Review. White has helped companies provide work environments that have increased collaboration, increased productivity and boosted morale. // “Drew is passionate about design and works to help educate business, government and community leaders about why design matters,” said Jason Shelley, executive director of AIA Indiana, where White was the 2011 chapter president. // White is the 29th architect in Indiana to be named an AIA Fellow.

HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION // More than 100 teenagers from around the state got a chance to see what it’s like to be an architect as part of the annual Indiana High School Design Competition (left). In addition to practicing design, students had an opportunity to work on their projects and get feedback from practicing architects as part of a special workshop.

VIRTUAL DESIGN CENTER // After studying the pros and cons of establishing a bricks and mortar design center, AIA Indianapolis decided in 2012, to create a virtual design center. What does that mean? It’s too early to say. However, a committee is developing the framework with the goal of creating a resource that will help inspire and educate the general public, show the benefits of working with an architect and connect architects to potential clients. The committee is headed by Eric Rowland, AIA, and Scott Pannicke, AIA, and includes AIA Executive Director Jason Shelley, Sarah Hempstead, AIA, Adam Palmer, AIA, Ryan Mills, AIA, former IBJ Editor Tom Harton and Laura Musall.

SHIFTING FOCUS IN RESIDENTIAL DESIGN // Local residents find inspiration and home furnishings at the Indiana Design Center (IDC) in Carmel. You’re more likely to find architects, however, on the second floor to-the-trade showroom, where they can select materials, do research or meet with clients. // Mark Demerly, AIA of Demerly Architects was the guest speaker during a monthly AIA event to talk about residential design trends, and also about how IDC provides a platform for designers to come together to learn, collaborate and ultimately continue to improve the built environment. // Demerly – a member of the IDC Advisory Board – not only has become a local leader in residential design, but he’s having an impact nationally as past-chairman of the Custom Residential Architects Network (CRAN), which helps facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise to help push the value of residential design forward.

KEEPING UP WITH TECHNOLOGY // With dozens of new technologies launched every week, it’s hard to keep up with everything available. That’s precisely why AIA Indiana launched a technology symposium in 2009. Each year, it continues to grow. The 2012 AIA Indiana Technology Symposium in conjunction with Design 27 provided opportunities for members to check out everything from the latest trends in office furniture (including how to burn calories while you work) to energy optimized automated shades to collaboration programs that help designers work more efficiently.

DRIVING COMPETITION ON THE LINKS // The foursome of Steve Savoie, AIA; Albert Radomski, AIA; Joe Berding of Essroc and Drew Elliger of Edgewood, is now a two-time champion at the annual Golf Outing. After winning at Purgatory in 2011, they won again in 2012 at Plum Creek Golf Club with a score of 54. The annual golf outing is made possible thanks to more than 20 sponsors and more than 100 golfers.

PLANNING FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY AT GRASSROOTS // The economy is on everyone’s minds, so when AIA Indy representatives went to Washington, D.C., for the annual Grassroots Conference, the focus of their discussions with Indiana Congressmen and Senators were all about job creation in the hard-hit design and construction industry. One of the best stats to back up why job creation is so vital: Every $1 million invested in building design and construction yields 28.5 full-time jobs; and the work architects provide to our industry accounts for $1 in every $9 of U.S. Gross Domestic Product. // AIA Indianapolis President Scott Pannicke, AIA, Vice President Eric Rowland, AIA, Secretary Mark Beebe, AIA, Chris Gerrity, AIA, Sarah Hempstead, AIA, Sanford Garner, AIA and Executive Director Jason Shelley represented AIA at Grassroots.
INDIANA SERVICE AWARDS //

PIONEERING NEW IDEAS // One of the youngest architects ever to be elevated to AIA Fellow, Deb Kunce, FAIA (right), received the J. Peddle Award from AIA Indiana. The service award recognizes those with a willingness to pioneer and has a devotion and commitment to architecture. Kunce owns CORE Planning Strategies, LLC. She was only the second Hoosier elected to the AIA national executive committee, where she is vice president.

GIVING INDIANAPOLIS NATIONAL VISIBILITY // Sanford Garner, AIA, received the E. Pierre Award for service to the profession and public. Judges called Garner, president of A2S04 in Indianapolis, “omni-present in Indianapolis community activities.” As president of the National Organization of Minority Architects, he brings national visibility for AIA Indiana and AIA Indianapolis.

FIRST GOLD MEDAL AWARD WINNER // Tony Costello, FAIA (left), a long-time design advocate, received a Gold Medal Award for his role in educating and mentoring architecture students and helping give Indiana architects national visibility. A distinguished professor emeritus of architecture at Ball State University, he founded the school’s community-based projects program, which has reached more than 1,000 communities.

KEEPING TABS ON HISTORY // The Ball State College of Architecture and Planning Library and Documents Archive in Muncie received the Walter Blackburn Award given annually to a person or organization that has contributed time and service in support of the architectural profession. As Indiana’s only architectural archive dedicated to Indiana’s built environment, it provides educational and community access to a growing collection of historic original drawings, photographs, models and other media.

SETTING THE BAR // One 10 Studio (left, bottom) was named 2012 AIA Indiana Firm of the Year for its exemplary designs, its community commitment and its philosophy of grassroots design and community engagement. “It is a special honor for a small, up-and-coming firm to be named the Firm of the Year. We have worked very hard to get here, but we truly understand that this is really about our clients, colleagues and families,” said One 10 Studio founder and principal Clete Kunce, AIA.

INDIANA DESIGN AWARDS //

JUDGES REWARD THOSE WHO INVEST IN GOOD DESIGN // Good design pays off. Not just in awards — although those are nice — but design can help increase attendance, improve reputations and raise awareness. That’s exactly the goals Indianapolis firms had in mind for these projects, all which received AIA Indiana Design awards. // Indianapolis’ Schmidt Associates received an Honor Award for the renovation and addition to the Illinois Fall Creek Center at Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis. A panel of architects from New Jersey, who judged the awards, liked the harmonious blend of the new addition with the existing design of the iconic Indianapolis campus [above]. // Fanning Howey received a Merit Award for its design of Colonial Smith Middle School in Fort Huachuca, Ariz. Not only did the design create flexible learning spaces and provide lots of natural light, architects used lively colors, textures and shapes. // A floating roof, mixture of materials and distinctive entrance all helped CSO Architects win a Merit Award for turning a vacant fitness center into a contemporary design for the firm’s new headquarters at Keystone at the Crossing. // Rowland Design received a Merit Award for the renovation of the Indiana University Theater, which has been converted into a state-of-the-art cinema facility, with classrooms and performance space for the Department of Theatre and Drama in Bloomington. Judges liked the creative repurposing of existing materials and the playful interior lighting. // Judges called the interior design of the John & Ruth Rhinehart Music Center, “elegant simplicity,” and awarded Brenner Design a Merit Award. The $23.7-million facility at Indiana University-Purdue University at Fort Wayne, includes a 250-seat recital hall, classrooms, studios, an art gallery, 1,600-seat auditorium and administrative offices. // The whimsical design of the Ellettsville branch of the Monroe County Public Library earned Odle McGuire Shock (OMS) a Citation Award. Judges said the architecture is engaging and creates active spaces. // Axis Architecture + Interiors received a Citation Award for its interior design work at the Eli Lilly Campus, where designers used its Integrated Workplace model to help create more collaborative workspaces.

CHANGE IS GOOD // AIA INDIANAPOLIS 2012 YEAR IN REVIEW