

# New Jersey ASLA Today

Supporting landscape architects in their professional endeavors

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including creating a sense of place and protecting natural systems through innovative planning and design.

[www.njasla.org](http://www.njasla.org)

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## President's Message

By Joe Perello, ASLA

Spring is finally here and it's a time of planning, growth and preparation! The NJASLA has many on going projects and looks forward to continuing to experience increased member participation, just like we had for our Annual Meeting. The upcoming events of National Landscape Architecture Week (NLAW) are worthy of your immediate attention, and hopefully, your participation.

National Landscape Architecture Week (NLAW), is an exciting annual event celebrated each April to raise public awareness of and appreciation for the profession of landscape architecture, acknowledging the role of landscape architects in creating the special places in which we live, work, and play. National Landscape Architecture Week will be held April 19-27, 2003, and is historically celebrated in conjunction with the April 26th birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903). During NLAW there will be numerous on-going events at both the national and local level, and the American Society of Landscape Architect's (ASLA) over 13,500 members, 48 chapters, and partner organizations will coordinate efforts to create events that are both educational and enjoyable.

On a local level, the NJASLA has planned events to enable landscape architects to participate and celebrate NLAW! Events such as announcements pertaining to the Proclamation of April 19-23, 2003 as National LA Week in New Jersey; a lecture pertaining to plant materials at Princeton University on April 23rd; a donation of Landscape Architecture Publications and materials made to public libraries in NJ; and an afternoon of planting and improvements by volunteer landscape architects at East Brunswick's Butterfly Park on April 25th, 2003. For more information pertaining to these events, see the related articles in the newsletter, or call NJASLA Headquarters for information and directions.

Events of national scope are planned as well. A tree planting on the U.S. Capitol grounds in honor of prominent Landscape Architect Ian McHarg, FASLA, will take place on Earth Day, April, 22, 2003. During the evening of April 23, 2003, Frederick R. Steiner, ASLA, will lecture on McHarg's extraordinary life and significant contributions to the landscape architecture profession.

For more information about NLAW events, visit [www.asla.org/lawweek](http://www.asla.org/lawweek)

The NJASLA can only be as successful as our membership is involved! We would like to see and hear from you, our members, throughout the year, so please participate in the events of NLAW 2003, as well as other events scheduled for throughout the year. The NJASLA Executive Committee appreciates your input, and we look forward to organizing events and programs that interest YOU!

## National Landscape Architecture Week 2003!

The NJ Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects cordially invites you to join us in our celebration of National Landscape Architecture Week 2003!

A special event is planned for an afternoon of gardening, education, fresh air, and camaraderie at the 2003 Butterfly Park Planting

Event to be held at the East Brunswick Butterfly Park, Friday, April 25, 2003, at 3:30 PM

Please join us as we celebrate National Landscape Architecture Week (NLAW) with fellow Landscape Architects, the Township Environmental Commission, Township Representatives, and the adults and children of the community.

Plant materials & refreshments provided by NJASLA. Please bring shovels for planting shrubs and perennials, and wear appropriate clothing for field work. RSVP prior to April 22, 2003 to Vicky Drew at NJASLA Headquarters, via email: [vdrew@hsbgnet.com](mailto:vdrew@hsbgnet.com) or Fax 609-393-9891.

## Help to create the 2004 Annual Meeting and Exhibit, NJASLA's Premier Event

The 2003 Annual Meeting was another great success, but we need volunteers to meet the challenge to make 2004 even better. While some eager folks have already expressed interest, NOW is the time to confirm your interest and provide your contact information so that we can arrange for the kick-off meeting in the month of May. Help get the ball rolling for another great meeting by contacting NJASLA headquarters.

## Executive Committee Elections

Three Executive Committee positions are up for election this year: President Elect, First Vice President and Treasurer. The President Elect position is a three-year term, which rotates from President Elect to President to Past-President, and is currently held by Dave Roberts. Second Vice President and Secretary are both two-year positions currently held by Jay Petrongolo and Jerry A. Lewis.

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for these three positions. Suggestions for potential candidates should be submitted to the Nominating Committee no later than May 6. Nominating Committee contacts are Nick Tufaro (ntufaro@earthlink.net), Jerry Lewis (Jerryalewisaassoc@aol.com) and Tim Delorm (972-744-8422). Please consider becoming an active member of the NJASLA Executive Committee and help create a place for Landscape Architecture in New Jersey!

## The Margaret O. Cekada Memorial Lecture

### Manufactured Sites: Rethinking the Post-Industrial Landscape

Niall G. Kirkwood, Professor of Landscape Architecture and Technology, Harvard Design School

7:30 PM Thursday, May 1, 2003 - Cook Campus Center, Multipurpose Room C

Sponsored by the Department of Landscape Architecture, Cook College – Rutgers – The State University of New Jersey

Niall G. Kirkwood is the Director of Master in Landscape Architecture degree programs (MLA) and founder and Director of the Center for Environment and Technology, (CTE) a research, advisory and executive education initiative at Harvard Design School.

Professor Kirkwood teaches graduate courses at Harvard, carries out research and publishes on issues in the post-industrial landscape. The goals of his academic work are to inform decision making with regard to the sustainable built environment and to improve technical knowledge of the built landscape and its application in the regeneration of urban space and civic. Current research projects are located in the Middle East, Mexico, Northern Ireland and the United States. Publications include award-winning books- 'The Art of Landscape Detail: Fundamentals, Practices, Case Studies' published by John Wiley & Sons, 1999, 'MotorCity Landscape: The Detroit Riverfront' published by GSD Press, 2000, 'Manufactured Sites: Rethinking the Post-Industrial Landscape' published by Spon/Taylor Francis, 2001. Upcoming books in 2003 include 'Weathering and Durability in Landscape Architecture' to be published by John Wiley & Sons and 'Reclaimed! Landscape Recovery Processes and Design Practices' to be published by Taylor Francis, co-edited with Professor Robert France.

## Great Parks/Great Cities

Celebrating 150 years of Central Park June 21-25, 2003, New York City

### Learn About:

- innovative case studies of parks survival during fiscal cuts
- how snarling dog owners became a cuddly team of parks advocates
- the impact of parks in economic regeneration
- public/private partnerships for parks of all sizes
- green urbanism in Copenhagen, London, Heidelberg and Zurich
- youth involvement in parks
- how neighborhood spaces bear witness to revelry and reveries

### Join Us For:

- a picnic in Prospect Park
- a canoe trip down the Bronx River
- early morning bird walks in Central Park
- an opening reception at Gracie Mansion
- and to see 5,000 rosebushes blooming in the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens

### Hear Distinguished Speakers, including:

Elizabeth Barlow Rogers, Executive Director, Central Park Conservancy  
 Fran Mainella, Director, National Park Service  
 Reverend Calvin Butts, Pastor, The Abyssinian Baptist Church, New York City  
 Joe Cimperman, Councilmember, Cleveland City Council  
 Malcolm Gladwell, Author, "The Tipping Point"  
 Peter Harnik, Director, Green Cities Initiative, Trust for Public Land  
 Karen Hobbs, Senior Fellow, Center for Neighborhood Technology  
 Luis Garden Acosta, President, El Puente  
 Professor Marianne Cramer, College of Environment & Design, University of Georgia  
 Susan Rademacher, President, Louisville Olmsted Parks Conservancy, Inc.  
 Wilbur McNeil, President, Weequahic Park Association  
 Debbie McCown, Executive Director, Piedmont Park Conservancy  
 Brian O'Neil, Superintendent, Golden Gate NRA  
 and more...

The 8th International Urban Parks Conference, Hosted by The Central Park Conservancy and Project for Public Spaces with City of New York/Parks & Recreation.

Registration is now online <http://pps.org//GPGC/>

## Proposed "Good Samaritan" Bill Includes Landscape Architects

In our overtly litigious society, an update of the biblical story of the good Samaritan would be fraught with the risk of legal repercussions. Yet, in the wake of the horrific events of September 11th, what citizen would not spontaneously try to assist the victims of a tragedy? Conceived and sponsored by William Brown, architect and past president of the AIA-NJ, the land development professionals of New Jersey are making steps to allow individuals to provide professional services in times of emergency or disaster without fear of subsequent claims for damages that may result from prudent emergency actions to save lives and preserve the public welfare. This can only be accomplished through state legislation.

Because the NJASLA is continuously networking with the other closely allied professions, Landscape Architects have been included in this proposal. The proposed legislation has been reviewed by the chapter presidents of the architecture, engineering, planning, and land surveying associations as well as our own Executive Board through interaction in the Coalition of Design Professionals. Each association is preparing a letter of support for advancing this proposal in the state assembly. We have provided the text of this proposal for your review and comment. (Send responses to [ntufaro@earthlink.com](mailto:ntufaro@earthlink.com).)

1. As used in this Section:
  - a. "Architect" shall mean a person duly licensed pursuant to N.J.S.A.45:3-1 et. seq.;
  - b. "Engineer" shall mean a person duly licensed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:8-27 et. seq.
  - c. "Landscape architect" shall mean a person duly certified pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:3A-1 et. seq.
  - d. "Land Surveyor" shall mean a person duly licensed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45: 8-27 et. seq.
  - e. "Professional Planner" shall mean a person duly licensed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:14A-1.
  - f. "Public Official" means any federal, state, or local official with executive responsibility in the jurisdiction in which the emergency or event has occurred;
  - g. "Public Safety Official" means any appointed or elected federal, state or local official with executive responsibility to coordinate public safety in the jurisdiction in which the emergency or event has occurred;
  - h. "Law Enforcement Official" means any appointed or elected federal, state, or local official with executive responsibility to coordinate law enforcement in the jurisdiction in which the emergency or event has occurred; and
  - i. "Building Inspection Official" means any appointed or elected federal, state, or local official with executive responsibility to coordinate building inspection in the jurisdiction in which the emergency or event has occurred.
  
2. A licensed architect, engineer, land surveyor, or professional planner, or a certified landscape architect who voluntarily, without compensation (other than expense reimbursement), provides architectural, structural, electrical, mechanical, or other design professional services related to a declared national, state, or local emergency caused by an earthquake, hurricane, tornado, fire, explosion, collapse, or other similar disaster or catastrophic event, at the request or with the approval of a national, state, or local public official, law enforcement official, public safety official, or building inspection official believed by the licensed [architect] voluntary design service provider to be acting in an official capacity, shall not be liable for any personal injury, wrongful death, property damage, or other loss of any nature related to the licensed architect's acts, errors, or omissions in the performance of any [architectural] voluntary design services for any structure, building, facility, project utility, equipment, machine, process, piping, or other system, either publicly or privately owned.
  - a. The immunity provided in this Section shall apply only to an act that occurs during the emergency or within 90 days following the end of the period for an emergency, disaster, or catastrophic event, unless extended by an executive order issued by the Governor under the Governor's emergency executive powers.
  - b. Nothing in this Section shall provide immunity for wanton, willful, or intentional misconduct.

## Computer Associates and KaBOOM! Announce 2003 Playground Challenge Grant Program

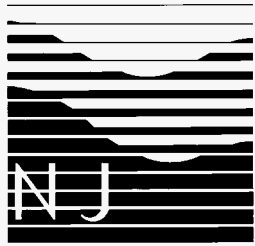
**Deadline: April 30, 2003**

KaBOOM! (<http://www.kaboom.org/>), a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization that helps to build playgrounds across North America, in partnership with Computer Associates (<http://www.ca.com/community/>), has announced its 2003 Playground Challenge Grant Program.

The program will award twenty grants of \$5,000 toward the planning and construction of playgrounds to eligible Fellowship community-based nonprofit organizations in the United States and Canada.

Community groups applying for a grant must demonstrate a compelling need for a new or improved community playground, the ability to organize volunteers in the planning and construction of the playground, and the ability to raise the additional funds needed to build the playground. Grant award winners must also commit to building their playgrounds by April 2004.

For more information about the 2003 Challenge Grants program and to download an application form, visit the KaBOOM! Web site at [www.kaboom.org/nooz.aspx?id=3D339=20](http://www.kaboom.org/nooz.aspx?id=3D339=20)



ASLA

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**The opinions expressed in bylined articles are those of the authors and do not represent the opinions of NJ-ASLA. The authors are solely responsible for the information contained in those articles.**

**For advertising information, contact Kelly McAllister at 609.393.7500**

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## National Walkable Community Workshop Series

The first of a national series of half-day workshops aimed at making local communities more pedestrian friendly convened recently in Boston. The workshops are sponsored by the National Center for Bicycling & Walking (NCBW), in partnership with various Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and are made possible in part by a grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

According to Peter Moe, national coordinator for the program, the workshops bring together elected officials, public agency staff, public health practitioners, planners, engineers, and advocates to focus attention on pedestrian issues in their community.

The Walkable Community Workshops concentrate on real-world problems and hands-on solutions for each community," said Moe. "During each four-hour workshop the participants identify opportunities to reduce barriers to walking, to enhance opportunities for walking in the community, and to build consensus for what needs to be done to improve conditions for people to walk."

During the next 12 weeks, teams of trainers will present Walkable Community Workshops in nine regions across the country, working with local MPO coordinators. Workshops will be presented in Boston, Massachusetts; Atlanta, Georgia; Spokane, Washington; Gulfport, Mississippi; Charlottesville, Virginia; Rochester, New York; Binghamton, New York; Burlington, Vermont; and Hartford, Connecticut.

As part of the curriculum, the workshop trainers lead the participants on a walking audit of an area in their community. "The goal is to teach the workshop participants to really 'see' the community from the perspective of a pedestrian," Moe said. "We see a lot of what we call 'lightbulb moments' when people really begin to see the challenges that face pedestrians. Missing bits of sidewalk or curb ramps that seemed insignificant become big issues when you're out there on foot, thinking of the abilities and limitations of different kinds of pedestrians, such as seniors or parents with children in strollers. You also can get the sense of how threatening some traffic behavior can be."

Walkable Community Workshops are a central piece of our direct assistance program," said NCBW executive director Bill Wilkinson. "Between mid-March and mid-June, our training teams will present a total of 72 workshops across the country. More than 1,500 workshop participants will learn the basics of how to create a walkable community and identify actions they can take to make it happen."

In the summer of 2002, more than 30 MPOs from around the country applied to participate in the 2003 workshop series. After acceptance into the program, a designated MPO staff specialist was trained to handle workshop logistics and act as a coordinator for the workshops in their region. Each MPO chose eight local communities to host a workshop, assisting local coordinators with logistics, publicity, and the recruitment of workshop participants. The NCBW provides a team of two trainers to present the eight four-hour workshops over a five-day period.

Expert trainers who can lead workshop participants in developing a vision for their walkable community are a core part of our program," said Wilkinson. "They highlight ways in which land use and transportation decisions affect walking, health, physical activity, and livability. The trainers are an elite squad of professionals from diverse backgrounds and fields of work, including planning, transportation engineering, public health, pedestrian policy, and program development."

or more information about the WCW, see the NCBW web site at: [http://www.bikewalk.org/technical\\_assistance/direct\\_assistance/wcw.htm](http://www.bikewalk.org/technical_assistance/direct_assistance/wcw.htm)

## Positions Available!

Taylor Design Group, Inc. of Medford, NJ. is looking for Fun, Motivated, Talented people with 1 or more years experience in Landscape Architecture and/or Planning to join our staff. Full Time, Part Time, or Subcontracting Basis Available. Projects Types Include Streetscape Design, Park Design, Urban Planning & Redevelopment, Site Planning- Residential & Commercial, Plan Review, Residential Design, Municipal Master Planning, Ordinance Development.

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