

# 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.

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## President's Message

by Nick Tufaro, ASLA

In this month, some long-standing programs and efforts of strategic planning begun by the Executive Committee are bearing fruit, coincidentally, just in time for presentation and open discussion by the general membership at our Annual Meeting, February 10-12, 2002. I hope that you all will attend the meeting and voice your opinion of these issues. I also wish to thank the various present and past ExCom officers, members, and support staff who have been involved in the steady development of these initiatives from their beginnings in the early 90's.

The big news is that our first venture on the state legislation front since the enactment of the Landscape Architecture Certification Act was approved and signed by the outgoing administration. Landscape Architects are now officially "closely-allied professionals" with architects, engineers, interior designers, land surveyors, and planners. This distinction provides significant enhancement to the profession in areas of legal and public perception.

The ExCom meeting, which will be held from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., Sunday, February 10 at the Trump Taj Mahal, will also feature a short address by Frederick C. Kniesler, Jr. Rick has served on the Landscape Architecture Evaluation and Examination Committee in the NJ Department of Community Affairs for many years. Rick is the first landscape architect in 15 years to be elected President of the New Jersey State Board of Architects and is just beginning his term. Congratulations Rick, we look forward to hearing your comments! I hope that this new development will result in stronger coordination of common goals of Architects and Landscape Architects in the state.

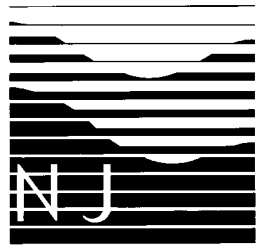
The new NJASLA website (now under construction) will also debut at the Annual Meeting. Brad Meumann, Website Committee Chair, and our website designer will be on hand with a demonstration of the website bells and whistles. Expected online debut will be March 1, 2002. The addresses for the chapter website: njasla.org and njasla.com.

## THANKS FOR S-2112!

by Jerry A. Lewis, ASLA

On behalf of the entire Chapter membership, the NJASLA Executive Committee would like to thank everyone that worked so hard for the successful passage of the Closely Allied Professionals Bill, Number S2112.

The Executive Committee is especially grateful to Alan Wallack, Joe Simonetta, Larry Powers, Jay Cosentino and Carl Hintz for their foresight and dedicated service to making the Bill possible.



ASLA

## NJ LA's Gain Closely Allied Professional Status

by Lawrence P. Powers

New Jersey landscape architects gained "closely allied professional" status during the waning days of the last session of the New Jersey Legislature when the New Jersey State Senate passed Senate Bill S-2112 on January 7, 2002. The vote was 74-0. Acting Governor DiFrancesco signed that bill into law on January 8, 2002. The full text of revised statute N.J.S.A. 45:3-1.1 can be found on the New Jersey Legislature website at: [http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2000/Bills/S2500/2112\\_I1.PDF](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2000/Bills/S2500/2112_I1.PDF).

The practical effect of the new law is to permit landscape architects to own or to hold an equity interest in a multidisciplinary firm of design professionals. This will permit landscape architects to form business entities which offer a broader range of design services to their clients. Landscape architects may wish to consult with their attorneys to discuss how this new law may be utilized to benefit their practices.

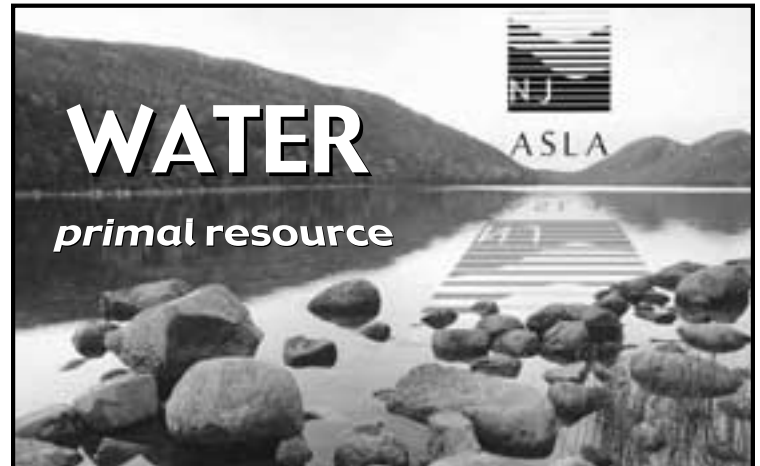
## NJ-ASLA 2002 Annual Meeting February 10 - 12, 2002

Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort - Atlantic City, NJ

### PAC Cocktail Party

by Henry Arnold, FLSLA

Here is your opportunity to build on the momentum created by our recent success in the New Jersey State Legislature with passage of the bill that recognizes landscape architects as "Closely Allied Professionals". With this impetus, our program to educate the State Legislators will be easier and bring us closer to getting a Practice Law. To further this objective we are sponsoring a cocktail reception at the NJASLA Annual Meeting on 11 February to raise money for our PAC fund. You will receive an invitation by mail. If you don't r.s.v.p. before the meeting bring a check, and you will not be turned away at the door. Your contribution is vital in carrying out our accelerated campaign. Pledges to contribute half of your winnings at the casino would be another noble gesture, (but will not be good for admission to our formidable party)! I look forward to seeing you at the Political Action Committee reception on Monday 11 February, at 6:00 PM in the Bronze Room at the Trump Taj Mahal.



### Share Your Info At Annual Meeting

by Julie Blank, ASLA

At this year's Annual Meeting we will have a new table set up in the registration area where you can display information that you would like to share with your fellow landscape architects and other attendees. Bring brochures, flyers, booklets, etc. concerning programs, projects or educational opportunities that others may be interested in knowing about!



### Gala Beach Party

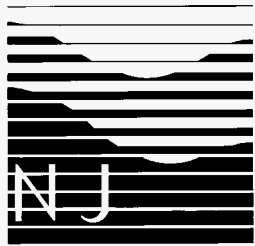
by Elaine Walker, ASLA

This year the Annual Meeting's Gala Dinner is taking a new twist. Instead of packing your formal clothes, reach back into your summer wardrobe for your beach theme shirt and shorts! In concert with the "Water" theme of this year's conference the theme of the Gala Dinner is "Beach Party". Wear your casual beach attire on Monday evening, February 11 at the Trump Taj Mahal. The evening will be relaxed featuring limbo competition, a best costume contest, and word has it, a men's sexy leg challenge...!

### February Executive Committee Meeting

by Elaine Walker, ASLA

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held at the Annual Meeting in Atlantic City. It is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 10 at the Trump Taj Mahal. The room will be announced in attendees' on-site packet. We look forward to your attendance!



# ASLA

New Jersey **ASLA** Today

The Official Newsletter of  
NJ-ASLA

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

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## NJASLA Help Wanted!

by Elaine Walker, ASLA

The success of NJASLA and what we can offer our members is 100% dependent on volunteer efforts. Only through the goodwill of our Chapter members can our operation be a success and in return, provide our members with the support they need. With that in mind, WE NEED YOU! Please review our list of current volunteers needed and make a call today to see how you can play a crucial role in helping NJASLA, our professional organization, be the best it can be.

### PAC Information Table

Do you have an interest in increasing political awareness about NJASLA's efforts? Volunteer to help man the PAC table at the upcoming Annual Meeting in Atlantic City, February 10-12. **Contact: Henry Arnold, (609) 924-4047, harnold106@aol.com**

### LARE Review Trainers

We need two people that have passed the LARE Exam in the past three to five years to help organize a review program scheduled for April for those taking the exam in the next year. **Contact: Elaine Walker (201) 825-9296, elainewalker@mindspring.com.**

### Annual Meeting

This year's meeting already has record numbers in sight. See how you can help shape the 2003 meeting and make it just as successful. **Contact: Julie Blank (609) 683-1011, julienelson-blank@covad.net.**

### National LA Week

For the first time, we will be celebrating the accomplishments of landscape architects nationwide during the week of April 20-27. Your ideas can make this week notable on a local level as well. **Contact: Nick Tufaro (908) 852-6990, mbaenviron@aol.com.**

### Chapter Liaison

Involved with the concerns of other state organizations such as the NJ League of Municipalities, NJ Home Builders Association, NJ Federation of Planning Officials, Sierra Club, NJ Clean Water Council? You can provide a crucial link between these sister organizations and NJASLA. **Contact: Vicky Drew, (609) 393-7500, vdrew@hsbgnet.com.**

### Golf Outing

Looking for a legitimate excuse to golf during business hours? Volunteer to assist the NJASLA Annual Golf Outing held in the fall. We need individuals to call sponsors and vendors for participation and donations, as well as for attendees. **Contact: Joe Perello (732) 577-9000, jperello@schoordepalma.com**

## Kemper Insurance Announces Regional Claim Manager

Kemper Professional is pleased to announce that Al Rabasca has joined the Construction Design Group as their Regional Claim Manager for the northeast region. Al comes to Kemper Professional with 23 years in the insurance industry, 13 of which were in the specific area of architect's and engineer's liability. He previously worked for DPIC as a Claim Supervisor, with a brief hiatus as a producer, and most recently as their Assistant Regional Claim Manager for the northeast region. Al is well known by many design professionals, producers and defense counsel in the northeast and is very familiar with the A/E issues we face in that region. Al will be located in Kemper's offices in Berkeley Heights, New Jersey and can be reached at (908) 286-5176 or at Albert.Rabasca@kemperinsurance.com.

## 2002 LARE Review

by Elaine Walker, ASLA

The New Jersey ASLA Chapter would like to hold a review session for the Landscape Architecture Registration Exam in April of this year. We are looking for people to help administer the exam review session. If you have passed the exam in the past few years - "We Want You!" Please consider getting involved. It is important that we help landscape architects prepare properly to take the exam. Contact Elaine Walker at elainewalker@mindspring.com.