



# THE ARCHITECTS ASSOCIATION OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

First Quarter

2012

## FOUR ELEMENTS LECTURE SERIES

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This years AASCC Lecture Series, *The Four Elements: Water, Fire, Earth and Air*, looks at how systems in our built environment can gather, use, and reuse our natural resources, and how those systems can be integrated into the architecture of a building.

Our first presentation, *Water*, explores how water harvesting, combined with careful landscape design, can lead to a Net Zero Landscape use of this valuable resource, and can help to reduce stormwater flows off-site as well.

In an era of climate disruption and uncertain water supplies, the on-site capture and storage of such an important resource provides property owners the freedom of choice to maintain their beautiful and lifestyle enhancing landscaping, while reducing the impact of landscaping irrigation on our scarce potable water supply. *See articles on page two & three.*

The second presentation, *Fire*, investigates the options for collection of electrical and thermal energy that solar radiation provides every day.

In a world of increasing energy costs, with uncertain geopolitical concerns roiling the energy futures pricing, a steady stream of energy, to heat the water for your bath and to light your home, offers a hedge against unpredictable supply and pricing.

Our series third presentation, *Earth*, focuses on how capture and reuse of greywater can also reduce reliance on scarce freshwater sources for irrigation, reduce sewer loads, while also recharging the groundwater.

Use of laundry and bath greywater systems can substantially reduce reliance upon our limited potable supplies for landscape water needs, reducing the need for expensive new water supply systems as our community continues to grow.

Our fourth, and final presentation, *Air*, shows examples of how these different resource conserving systems can be integrated into the architecture of a single project.

People want the benefit of these energy and resource saving systems, but are reluctant to have their home look like the spaceship Voyager has landed on their roof, or like a tank farm. Integration strives for a seamless incorporation of resource systems into the building, while maintaining both aesthetics and functionality.

## OAT ADVERTISING

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Sponsorships and advertising are still being accepted for this year's Open Architecture Tour Ticket Booklet. Don't miss this great opportunity to promote your services or products to our discerning Tour attendees. Call Catherine Moon at 831 724-4110 for rates and more information.

## 17th ANNUAL OPEN ARCHITECTURE TOUR SCHEDULED

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The Architects Association presents the 17th **Open Architecture Tour**, a benefit for **Habitat for Humanity Santa Cruz County**, on the **19th of May** from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, with a post-Tour gathering for Ticket holders at La Posta from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.

Featuring a wide variety of architectural styles and budgets, from new homes to modest remodels, the Open Architecture Tour is your opportunity to see the latest in design by local architects, while supporting the efforts of our local Habitat for Humanity chapter to assist deserving community members earn a home of their own.

A \$36 Ticket Booklet admits two people to all sites on the Tour, including the post-Tour gathering, and goes on sale April 27th at: Bookshop Santa Cruz 423-0900; Palace Arts on 41st Avenue 464-2700; PROBuild in Santa Cruz 426-1020; Alladin Nursery in Watsonville 724-5785; and online at [habitatsc.org](http://habitatsc.org).

Our many thanks to all whose efforts combine to make the Open Architecture Tour possible each year, the AASCC members and their clients who open their homes, the Tour Sponsors and Advertisers, New Moon Design Group, and the dedicated Habitat staff. Again, thank you all.



## The Architects Association of Santa Cruz County

### Officers:

President: Jim Stroupe  
Vice President: Hugh David Carter  
Treasurer: William Fisher

### Newsletter:

Send letters, change of address, subscription & advertising inquiries to:  
AASCC Newsletter, P.O. Box 7462, Santa Cruz, California 95061

The Architects Association of Santa Cruz County is a professional organization of licensed Architects, interns, and related professionals living or working in Santa Cruz County. It was formed in 1982 with the purposes of increasing public awareness and sensitivity to architecture, giving members a platform for addressing design and planning issues at the regulatory level, fostering communication among local design and building professionals, and sponsoring cooperation among private and public groups, all with the goal of improving the quality of both the built and natural environments.

Website: [www.aascc.org](http://www.aascc.org)

Recorded Information line: 831.460.2999

## FIRST IN THIS YEARS LECTURE SERIES

Don't miss your opportunity, this **Thursday, March 15th**, to hear Bobby Markowitz of Earthcraft Landscape Design present examples of his firm's water harvesting and landscape designs achieving a Net Zero Landscape water use. .

See the "**Water Harvesting**" article, page three, for a more detailed description of the presentation. See location and event details on the back cover.

## ELECTION RESULTS

Balloting in this years election returned last year's officers Jim Stroupe as President, Hugh D. Carter as Vice-President, and Bill Fisher as Treasurer.

Propositions: raising Architect member dues to \$100. per year; Associate and Affiliate member dues to \$75. per year; and adding a new membership category "Friends of AASCC" at \$50. per year all passed.

The new **Friends of AASCC** category offers a new path to membership for those who do not meet the requirements to join as an Affiliate or Associate, but who wish to enjoy the benefits of membership in the AASCC. We look forward to welcoming our new members soon.

## THE VALUE OF YOUR AASCC MEMBERSHIP

Now is the time to send in your membership dues for 2012 to the Post Office Box noted above. Membership rates are listed in the "**Election Results**" article on this page to the left.

All members receive this Newsletter, printed quarterly, and the Architect and Affiliate members are listed on the Architects Association website [AASCC.org](http://AASCC.org), which has proved to be a valuable source of prospective clients.

Architect members are also eligible to participate in the annual Open Architecture Tour, which promotes a greater understanding of the value of design, by our professional members, to the public.

Of course, the AASCC also works to represent the expertise of it's members during the creation and modification of local land use regulations, seeking to make them fair, effective, and enforceable. Speaking together as a group can be more effective than as separate individuals.

The Architects Association has no paid staff, all dues are spent for the benefit of the members and for communicating the critical role our design and construction industry plays in the visualization, creation and maintenance of our built environment. So, please join and send in your dues today.

## NEW AASCC WEBSITE NOW ONLINE

Our newly redesigned website is now online, at the same address, **aascc.org**. It features updated graphics and a clean, spare design, which should be easier to navigate, and prove more useful to the public and AASCC members alike.

One new feature is an opportunity for Architect members to include up to three pictures of their work alongside their member listing. This allows prospective clients a quick glimpse of the Architect's design work, without the need to jump to another website. This only works if you provide the photos, so please take the time to forward your best shots to Jim Stroupe. While you're at it, check to see that all of your listed contact information is current.

Another new feature is found under the "Resources" tab on the Home Page. This feature, still under development, will include a listing of frequently referenced sources, such as regulatory agencies, other professional groups and standards associations. If you have a favorite source or site that you think should be included, please let us know.

Finally, our sincere thanks to Dale Nutley at Grendel Design for his patient, skillful efforts on our website, and for his years of service, keeping it up and running.

## WATER HARVESTING

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### Total Integration of Site Water Inside & Outside the Building

Bobby Markowitz, a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, ASLA, and the American Rainwater Catchment System Association, ARCSA, is the Principal of Earthcraft Landscape Design, with over 30 years experience as a fervent advocate of wise water use. His studies in rainwater harvesting include travels to Australia, Singapore, Hawaii, New Mexico, Arizona and here in California.

For over a decade he has been creating rainwater harvesting systems combined with award-winning, sustainable, landscapes that bring his clients the benefits of water independence, with the pride of environmental stewardship.

Today his work emphasizes total-site interdisciplinary planning and execution, not only to achieve Net Zero Water in the landscape, but increasingly, to also provide his clients with alternative non-potable water sources for interior use.

Mr. Markowitz is well positioned, through his work experience with other design professionals, to help Architects and clients include “smart” integrated water systems in their projects, including alternative water sources available on the site, such as rainwater and greywater, while keeping mindful of conserving energy through use of efficient water conveyance and pumping systems.

This type of integrated water system can also successfully implement storm water Best Management Practices through on-site rainwater storage, as it contribut-

ing to a reduction of peak flow off of the site.

Mr. Markowitz’s many projects have successfully integrated rain water systems with the overall site aesthetics, including a Platinum Leed project, among others, in which the rain storage tanks are showcased as an attractive site feature.

His enthusiasm about how these systems, from simple to complex, can help solve the California water crisis is inspiring. The goal of presenting these case studies is to show how design professionals, can have great influence in promoting wise water use through environmental planning.

The hope is that this information will help design professionals incorporate these resource conserving systems into their projects, and inspire our clients, and the greater community, to consider alternative water systems.

It is especially important to consider including these systems at the forefront of a project, during the early stages of conceptual design so that they are integral to the initial design rather than an added on later.

An active educator, Mr. Markowitz lectures at professional conferences, such as, ARCSA, ASLA, the American Society of Civil Engineers, as well as at academic conferences. Working with public agencies, he seeks to help create regulations aligned with today’s best water management practices, especially in utilization of greywater and rainwater systems.

Mr. Markowitz’s recent speaking engagements about Net Zero Water have included the 2011 American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Conference in San Diego, where attendees com-

mented: *“Everyone should be using these practices! The information presented is essential and was well prepared.”* and *“Finally we got real data, charts, numbers that would allow us to use this material in our work. We need more of this!”*

Don’t miss this opportunity to see and hear how you can, and why you should, incorporate resource conserving systems into your projects.

*Bobby Markowitz of Earthcraft Design can be reached at 831 475-9355*

## SOQUEL DRIVE DESIGN CHARETTE

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You are invited to work on an urban design charette. Preparatory work continues for the Soquel Drive Design Charette later this year.

Since this is a major transit corridor, enhancing it’s existing centers and finding locations for new centers, directs future growth along existing infrastructure.

This is in keeping with the concept of Transit Oriented Development, which advocates focusing future, denser growth along existing transit lines, and in areas which support commercial uses.

Our initial focus has been on finding sites where, because of location or development status, there is an opportunity to create a new center, and on selecting existing centers which are in need of improvements.

We have identified four initial Opportunity Sites, and are obtaining aerials and creating base maps for the first of these Sites.

So, get involved, give Jim Stroupe a call to find out how you can help.

## 2012 AASCC LECTURE SERIES

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This years AASCC Lecture Series, *The Four Elements: Water, Fire, Earth and Air*, looks at integrating resource conserving systems into the site and building's architecture.

### **March 15th, 2012. Water.**

Bobby Markowitz of Earthcraft Design explores how water harvesting, combined with careful landscape design, can lead to a Net Zero Water Landscape.

### **June 21st, 2012. Fire.**

Options for collection of electrical and thermal energy.

### **September 20th, 2012. Earth.**

Andrew Brownstone of BioSphere Consulting shows how capture and reuse of greywater can also reduce reliance on scarce freshwater sources for irrigation.

### **November 15th, 2012. Air.**

Examples of how several different resource conserving systems can be can be integrated into the architecture of a single project.

## LECTURE SERIES VENUE

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All Lectures and accompanying Exhibits are free and open to the public.

Our Lecture & Exhibit Series is held in *The Museum of Art & History* at the *McPherson Center*, located at **705 Front Street** in downtown Santa Cruz.

Doors open 5:30 pm, with light refreshments and Exhibits in the Atrium. Lectures start at 6:00, running until about 7:15 pm, with questions, discussion and Exhibits open until about 7:30 pm.

We hope to see you there.

## SPECIAL EVENTS SCHEDULE

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**April 19th, 2012.** Building Tour Two, of Live Oak Resource Center.

**May 19th, 2012.** Open Architecture Tour.

**July 19th, 2012.** Building Tour Three, of the remodeled Sentinel Building, now Cruzio Building.

**October 18th, 2012.** Building Tour Four of the New Monterey Bay Sanctuary Center.



*Stile and Rail. The vertical and horizontal, supporting, perimeter elements, respectively, of a panel type door, window sash or of a cabinet frame.*



*Zoophorus. A horizontal band of carved people, and or animals, around the exterior of a building.*

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## AASCC

Post Office Box 7462  
Santa Cruz, CA 95061

