



SAGE

Society for the Advancement
of Gerontological Environments

Newsletter

**Welcome to the Winter 2011 edition
of the SAGE newsletter!**

Welcome to SAGE!

SAGE is a collaboration of like-minded individuals with the common goal of improving physical environments for older adults.

Its membership is multi-disciplinary and consists of designers, regulators, operators, researchers, residents, students and all interested in SAGE's common goal.

SAGE partners with organizations to jointly advocate for physical environments that improve a resident's quality of life and sustains resident-centered care and aging in place.

SAGE members jury design competitions, organize and present at educational symposia, and train and conduct postoccupancy evaluations of senior environments.

SAGE supports evidence-based design research.

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New SAGE Website Launched

SAGE Website:

www.SAGEfederation.org

Hear ye! Hear ye! The new SAGE website is up and running! After a lot of hard work and many technical challenges, we have completely updated and re-vamped our website to make it easier for you to keep track of what is going on with SAGE.

Not only has the site as a whole been completely redesigned, but many additional resources have been added for SAGE members. Over the next year the “Member Resources” area will be expanded continuously. When you click on the tab to access that portion of the website you’ll see a list of the content we plan to add.

Included in the new “Member Resources” area is a link to the current SAGE member List, last year’s AIAS Student Competition that SAGE co-sponsored last year, our new SAGE Member Forum, and many more useful resources. The forum is a place where current

SAGE members can communicate freely, share ideas and information, schedule get-togethers, argue, and generally change the world. Here’s an example of one of the topics of discussion that illustrates how the forum works in regard to back and forth discussions. Shown below is a screen shot of an in progress forum discussion.

The screenshot shows a forum thread with three posts. Each post includes a header with the subject line, author, and date, followed by the text of the post and a profile picture of the author.

Post 1:
Subject: Re: Barn doors on resident bathrooms?
By: Nelson Keeler - Wed Mar 17, 2010 11:32 am
I just spoke to them. They do have barn doors in the memory impaired rooms. They say they work fantastically. I asked if they had trouble getting them to pass, and they said Texas is pretty rough, and they had to build mock ups, etc. and it took "months and months" to convince the powers that be that they be allowed.
They do give building tours

Post 2:
Subject: Re: Barn doors on resident bathrooms?
By: Rob Pfauth - Wed Mar 17, 2010 1:11 pm
Who did you speak with, out of curiosity?
As I said, I actually know the architects at PE who did that project. I used to work with them at OWPSP in Chicago before they left to open the Chicago office of Perkins Eastman. In fact, I was on the team that went for the very first site visit to Bivins in Amarillo before that split took place, so I'm quite familiar with that project. I guess I just never realized that they used barn doors.
Thanks again for tracking that down.

Post 3:
Subject: Re: Barn doors on resident bathrooms?
By: Nelson Keeler - Wed Mar 17, 2010 1:26 pm
I don't recall her name. I initially called the facility and inquired about the doors. That person seemed very reluctant to talk with me about it but took my name and the other person called me back this morning.
Sorry I can't remember



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Please keep in mind that this is only a portion of this particular ongoing discussion, and that there are quite a few more on other topics as well.

The forum is a resource for members that becomes more valuable the more members visit and contribute to it. The discussions shown will be on the forum forever (or at least as long as SAGE is around!), and the forum is searchable. In the future, anyone will be able to visit looking for information on the use of barn doors, search for that term, and this discussion will appear in the search results.

Once again, the forum populates itself with information only if the members take advantage of it and use it. Over time it will become a valuable living archive of discussions and topics available to all SAGE members.

The forum is available via a link in the “Member Resources” area

of the SAGE Federation webpage. We urge you to stop in and take a look around, ask questions, make a short statement, add a link to a great article you just read, or tell us about something interesting or exciting happening in your corner of the world.

The instructions for logging onto the “Member Resources” area of the web page, and the forum, were sent to SAGE members via e-mail on July 9th. If you didn’t receive this instructional e-mail, need assistance, or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Nelson Keeler via my email nkeeler@jwdstudio.com. I will be happy to help you get on board, and even spend some time walking you through the forum explaining its features and how it works.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



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SAGE/AIAS Student Competition

Rethinking Home student design competition

In this first article of a series, we would like to introduce you to the winning competitors in the Rethinking Home competition.

Article by Kaye Brown



Architectural students in North American architecture and design programs were challenged in this competition to renovate a real but fictionalized skilled nursing home “Pelican Point” located somewhere in central Florida. The specific design challenges to be addressed were:

- *Renovate and/or build new for 60 LTC residents in 36,000 sq. ft.*
- *All existing services are to be maintained*
- *Project should support resident self care, choice and control*
- *Eliminate or deemphasize the existing institutional elements*
- *Increase the residential idiom in all living areas*
- *Design different levels of human scale to support relationships*
- *Utilize the therapeutic opportunities of the site*
- *Increase access to the community and the out-of-doors*

Competitors were to use the “Programming Guidelines for Rethinking Home” and the suggested square footages provided in the competition program. The entries were judged on March 10th by a multi-disciplinary team and the first place winners were introduced at the E4A conference in San Diego. Shown below is the first place design from this year’s competition along with selected comments from the jury.



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Rethinking Home student design competition

First Place Winner, “Transitional Community Nursing Center”, Heidi Dahle and Christian Feldkircher, (College Graduates) University of Illinois – Chicago





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Rethinking Home student design competition

Quite simply, the jury felt that this design team got the job done. Every challenge we set in the competition, from renovating a specific existing building to creating new spaces to sustain meaningful long-term relationships, was met. The team fully understood the new operating philosophy of resident-centered service as if that was the only way to design a nursing home. Everything we had hoped to see in our inaugural competition, we saw in this submission. The designers located the actual site of the case study and reproduced it on their boards, demonstrating a passion for understanding where in the world their renovation project was sited. They grasped immediately that a true renovation entails keeping a home functioning while at the same time transforming it, which as we all know is a monumental challenge in

and of itself. The winning design (plan shown on page 4) highlights decentralized services, placing most in the households. The designers created a lovely central courtyard and sited all resident rooms with a southern exposure. They thoughtfully considered all user groups for skilled care today-- short stay and rehab, long term stay and also hospice--and thoughtfully designed accordingly. By redistributing central services, they freed up space to develop a new front door to the community and developed activities for community members to use within the nursing home, such as daycare. You can sense almost at once how vibrant yet normal this transitional nursing home has become.



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Rethinking Home student design competition

In their narrative, our winners display an uncanny sense of who we are, the residents of tomorrow's skilled care most of whom have embraced the new enabling technologies of the day. This team seems to understand us, for they wrote:

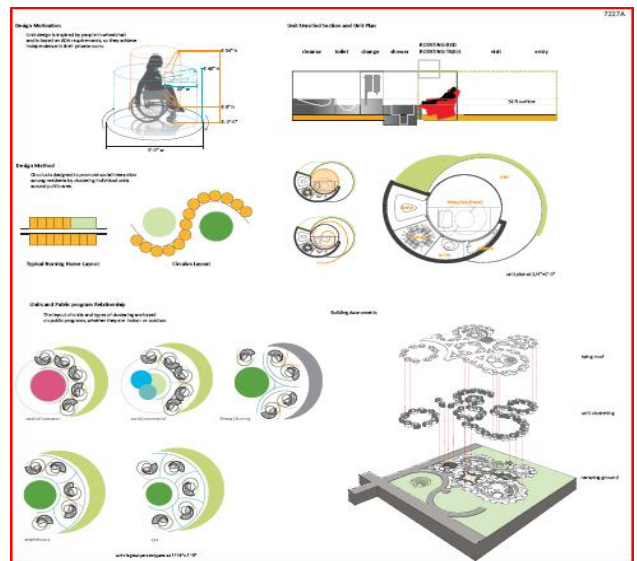
“We are young, emerging architects designing for an audience of established professionals in the prime of life. We would like to remind you that we have been thoughtfully considering the buildings that you may reside in at some point in time. You have the rare opportunity to direct our path forward, choosing what environment will best enable you to thrive... Let's get started.”

Judging from the audience's response to this team and their ideas, they are off to a fast start.

In our next newsletter, we will

feature the second and third place winners. However, if you just can't wait to see the rest of the designs, you can access the AIAS (architecture student association) website through the Resources tab on the SAGE Website:

<http://www.sagefederation.org/linksofinterest.aspx>



Above: Honorable mention for creativity:
Jinkyung Park and Yu-Han Annabelle Su –
University of Pennsylvania



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National SAGE Events

2010 AAHSA Meeting & Exposition

November 2, 2010

SAGE held its first Networking Reception at AAHSA (American Association of Homes and Services for the Aged) Tuesday evening, November 2, 2010. Generously sponsored by Direct Supply, IDEAS Consulting Inc. and Vigil Health Solutions, Inc. Along with dim sum and beverages, SAGE members from all over the country had the opportunity to make or renew friendships and those who wanted to learn more about SAGE could do so. Attendance was very good and all there enjoyed themselves. A General Meeting followed. The history of SAGE was presented along with a review of 2010 Goals and Accomplishments. All in all, it was a very good evening.

Good wine, food, and great friendships made the evening a rare occasion that we will look forward to again in 2011.

2011 Environments For Aging Conference

March 20-22, 2011

The Environments for Aging Conference will be held this year at the Sheraton Atlanta during March 20-22. The event is produced by Long Term Living Magazine and The Center for Health Design, in Association with SAGE. There is still time to register:

<https://secure2.rhq.com/vendome/efa11/attreg/index.cgi?source=email011811>

Just copy the address into your browser to register.

Environments for Aging is a three day event, during which attendees and presenters will explore and share new ideas for creating attractive and functional living environments that meet the unique needs of our aging population.

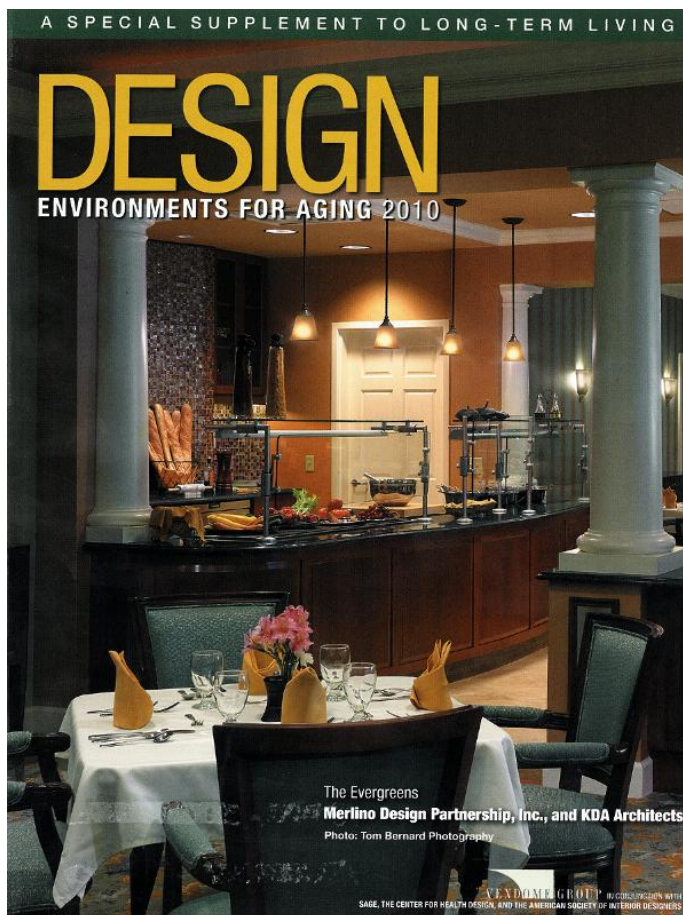


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**Announcing the 15th Annual Architectural Showcase
issue of DESIGN/Environments for Aging**

During January of 2011 Long-Term Living magazine, SAGE, The Center for Health Design (CHD), and The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) will be reviewing projects from across the nation and selecting those that address design issues and trends related to the needs of the entire aging population – from nursing home residents to active seniors. Some projects will be honored with a Citation of Merit award, presented at the annual Environments for Aging conference, which will be held in Atlanta this year during March 20-22.





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SAGE Member Highlight

The January issue of *Long Term Living* magazine, its 60th anniversary, includes an article by Richard Peck. It is titled *LTC's 10 Most Influential People*.

Included on Richard's list are the likes of Sen. Frank Moss (D-Utah), Bill Thomas, Elma Holder, Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass), Tommy Thompson and more.

Included on the list is our very own David Green. Peck writes...

Under his leadership, Evergreen was a recognized pioneer in the development of the "neighborhood concept" for long-term care-the notion that this highly personalized type of care is best delivered in an area resembling a kitchen-dining room surrounded by individual bedrooms (the Green House concept before its time). Green's unique contribution was his discovery that environments structured in this way lead to an entirely new approach to operations-less top-down, more frontline staff autonomy. He found that a director of nursing or, for that matter, a CEO such as himself, was not needed for daily decision making in such an operation, and that the responsibility for this could be moved down the chain-of-command to workers at the front lines, effectively "flattening" the organization

Read the January *Long Term Living* issue for the complete article. Congratulations David, We're all very proud of you, and thankful for your contributions.



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SAGE Website Committee Looking For A Little Help!

The Website Committee of the SAGE Board of Directors is soliciting one or two volunteers to assist us (some of whom have less than cutting-edge computer skills!) in the further development and refinement of our recently redesigned website. Requisite qualifications for the position(s) are as follows:

- > High level of enthusiasm for the mission of SAGE
- > High levels of energy, creativity, initiative, and IT savvy
- > Commitment to seeing tasks through to completion
- > Thoroughness and attention to detail
- > Willingness to commit to assisting SAGE for at least one year (for the sake of continuity)

The time commitment will vary depending on the nature and urgency of the tasks, but should generally be between one and two hours per week at the most. The compensation will consist of knowing that you have helped to strengthen the SAGE "brand", disseminated information, promoted collaboration, advanced your professional network, and thereby advanced the state-of-the-art for the design of environments for older adults.

If anyone is willing to help out, or knows someone who might, please contact Rob Pfauth at robert.pfauth@att.net



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Welcome New Members!

We at SAGE would like to extend a warm welcome to some of our most recent members!

Company memberships:

Planetree - Kimberly Montague, Heidi Gil, Jim Kinsey & Christie Davies

Willow Valley Retirement Communities - John G. Swanson, David W. Haverstick, Kendall Hunsicker, James Cluck & William Koch

BDH & Young Space Design – Kathy Young, Jill Brecourt, Joyce Stupnik, Holly Engrav and Summer Krzoska

Individual memberships:

- Kent Larsen – TSP
- Kristi Vick – Multi Vista Florida
- Pam Lahm – Lahm Associates
- Marc Russell – Russell Design
- Ryan Heusinkveld – Robert Rollings Architects
- Ann Kastensen – AKID
- Julia Powell – National Healthcare Corp.
- Adam Suomala – Aging Services of Minnesota
- Deborah Perry – Volunteers of America
- Jolene McDonald – Augustana Care Services

Also, a special welcome to our new or re-invigorated State chapters in Michigan, Minnesota and Missouri!



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SAGE Officers and Board Members

Let's hear from you! If you have news, culture change stories, pictures of a recently completed or renovated facility that you want to share, ideas of things you'd like to see in future newsletters, or other items to include in the next newsletter, please feel free to send them to: nkeeler@jwdstudio.com

SAGE Officers:

President: Russ McLaughlin – AG Architecture

Vice-Pres: Mitchell Elliot– Vetter Health Services

Secretary/Treasurer: Addie Abushousheh – Association of Households
International

The Board of Directors for the National Federation include:

Jack Bowersox - Wellness Life Communities Development Company

Kaye Brown – Duke University, Department of Biological Anthropology

Skip Gregory - Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

John Shoesmith – Mithun

Rob Pfauth – Architect

Elizabeth Brawley – Design Concepts Unlimited

Charlie Wilson (Past President)– Buckner Retirement Services

Special thanks to **Suzanne Sandusky** who keeps us on track!



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SAGE Design Principles

- **SAGE Website:** SAGE holds these values related to gerontological environments:
- **Physical safety and psychological security:** Provide appropriate safe guards and enhance perception of security.
- **Environment as a therapeutic resource:** Utilize all aspects of the environment (physical, programmatic and organizational) as a resource for healing and improved functioning.
- **Holism and well-being:** Focus on needs and desires of the whole person social, emotional, spiritual and physical, vocational and intellectual.
- **Individual rights and personal autonomy:** Maximize available choices, opportunities for self determination, and accessibility of options.
- **Communities and relationships:** Generate opportunities for meaningful interactions and relationships among peers, families and staff.
- **Support of caregivers:** Create an environment that promotes safety, efficiency, and emotional support.
- **Function enhancing technology:** Harness new technology to increase functionality of the environment.
- **Creating and evaluating:** Encourage innovation, diversity of approaches, experimentation with new solutions, and systematic evaluation of outcomes.