

GULF COAST CHAPTER QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2016



Past President's Pen

In Papua New Guinea, the Arapesh people have a story about the origins of the coconut. As the story goes, a tyrannical villager murdered a family member for stepping in front of him during a walk, and in turn was killed by a large group of angry young villagers. From his buried corpse, the coconut tree grew, with a fruit as hard as the impatient man's head.

What does this have to do with me moving on from Chapter President to Past-President, you ask? Not much, but it is an interesting story. The only correlation I can find is that I have told many people this year, as October approached, that my "reign of terror" as chapter president would soon be ending.

And so now, after an **EXCELLENT** and **EDUCATIONAL** international conference in Philadelphia, it has ended for one and began for another, appropriately in the city that symbolizes new beginnings, hope, and community.

As of October 1, Todd Lien has taken over leadership of the Gulf Coast Chapter, and the compass points towards continued growth and success in our region. Todd and the entire Gulf Coast Board are very excited about the upcoming year, and have already mapped out a new and improved educational and social calendar, with a couple changes and some new additions.

I will remain active as Past President, with one of my main goals to help maintain the momentum of our newly created committees, as well serve on the Southern Region Foundation Board, helping to ensure our chapter donations are used to advance both students and members in their educational planning endeavors.

As I move on from the challenges of this past year, and move on to new ones, I want to thank all of you for the support, especially all of our members that have stepped up over the last year, into these newly formed committees. These groups, and member support of all of our efforts, will continue to be a vital part of our success moving forward.

Thank You!!!

Erin Joseph Machac, AIA
Principal / Project Director
Stantec Architecture

— COMING UP —

A4LE School Tour of Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
– Cypress Park High School
October 27, 2016

A4LE Gulf Coast Chapter Sporting Clays
November 17, 2016 |
American Shooting Centers

A4LE Saint Arnolds Winter Social
January 12, 2017 | Saint Arnold
Brewing Company

Educational Session
February 23, 2017 | TBD

A4LE Gulf Coast Chapter Golf Tournament
March 2017 | TBD

A4LE Southern Region Conference
April 2017 | New Orleans, LA

2017 A4LE International Conference
October 25-30, 2017 | Atlanta, Georgia

President's Pen

As I begin my tenure as the new President of the Gulf Coast Chapter I want to take this opportunity to thank Erin Machac for his leadership, enthusiasm, and dedication to A4LE during the last year and for the great things he has put in place to grow the chapter. In addition, I would like to welcome Conroe ISD's Easy Foster to the board as Membership Director and congratulate Cy-Fair ISD's Dillon Brady as the newly elected Vice President of the Southern Region. They will both need a lot of help in their new positions so please offer what you can in support. As always the Gulf Coast Chapter was well represented this month at the international conference in Philadelphia and many great opportunities for networking and learning were enjoyed by all attendees. Planning is also underway for the Southern Region Conference to be held in New Orleans in April. I am sure that it will be a big success!

As you probably know, the board meets monthly to discuss the direction of the chapter and plans for future events. We have a number of great events planned in the upcoming year and welcome any additional ideas for new program topics, suggestions for facility tours, or exciting educational opportunities. Increasing membership in our meetings is essential to the success of our chapter. Your ideas and suggestions are a big part of making that goal possible. As the board rotates into different positions for the new fiscal year, I am very aware that this is truly an honor and unique opportunity to make a difference in our chapter and organization. Working on task forces, committees, the board, or attending conferences and workshops requires time, but translates into a feeling of involvement and belonging. The chapter needs this, as well as the organization, so I encourage all of you to contact a board member if there is an area of interest where you can volunteer and contribute.

The board positions for the upcoming year are as follow:

- *President - Todd Lien*
- *President Elect - Dillon Brady*
- *Past President - Erin Machac*
- *Secretary Treasurer - Allan Scott*
- *Communications - Danny Brewster*
- *Membership - Easy Foster*
- *Special Events - Cory Junemann*

In closing, I want to thank A4LE and everyone involved and look forward to the new year. I especially want to thank the Gulf Coast Chapter board members for everything they do for the organization. It is the dedication and support of the board and the members that make everything possible for us to continue in providing the best for our students.

Gulf Coast Chapter President,
Todd J. Lien, AIA

Gulf Coast Chapter Officers, Aug. 1–July 31

President Todd Lien VLK Arch. 281.671.2300	Past-President Erin Machac Stantec 713.877.0900	Communications Coordinator Daniel Brewster IBI Group 281.286.6605	Programs Coordinator Cory Junemann Texas Air Systems 832.342.9250
President Elect Dillon Brady Cy-Fair ISD 281.831.0866	Secretary / Treasurer Allen Scott Klein ISD 281.468.3614	Membership Coordinator Easy Foster Conroe ISD 936.709.7884	

Gulf Coast Chapter Sporting Clay Tournament-Nov. 17, 2016



SAVE THE DATE

ASSOCIATION FOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS
(FORMERLY CEFPI) GULF COAST REGION
SPORTING CLAYS EVENT

NOVEMBER 17, 2016

American Shooting Centers
16500 Westheimer Parkway, Houston, Texas 77082
281.556.8199

100 Round Shoot | Trophies for Top Teams and Top Guns | BBQ Lunch Provided

Registration + Lunch 11:30 AM–12:45 PM | Tournament begins at 1:00 PM | Awards Following the Event

**Additional shooting games will be available before the event begins.*

Gulf Coast Chapter Sporting Clay Tournament-Nov. 17, 2016

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

Top Gun \$2,500 | Title Sponsor for the event. Includes 5-man team (limited to one sponsor).

Pigeon Grade/Food + Beverage \$1,500 | Program Recognition

Field Grade/Trophies \$1,500 | Program Recognition

Station Sponsor \$200 | Dedicated Station Sponsor/Signage



Fees include: 100 birds, shells (20 GA or 12 GA provided, all other gauges will need to be provided by the shooter) and lunch. Shooters will be required to have both ear and eye protection. Team names, team members (including Shotgun gauge, if known) should be entered at registration.

Register at www.A4LE.org

SchoolsNext Competition

Seven middle school teams from around the country, including one from the UK, participated in the SchoolsNext Design Competition in Philadelphia, PA on September 29, 2016 at the AIA Philadelphia Studio.

The Southern Region was represented by our very own Gulf Coast Chapter. Students from Sheldon ISD's Null Middle School in Houston, TX took home the Award of Commendation. The students did a fantastic job planning and researching ideas to make their presentation a great one.

The team from Lake Oswego Middle School in Lake Oswego, OR won the Award of Excellence in the competition. Congratulations to all the students who participated. The challenge to all this fall is to reach out to our District and Campus administrations to continue to grow the program and expand the experience of our youth. Next spring's Southern Region Competition will be held in New Orleans, LA with the winning team moving on to the International competition in Atlanta, GA.



[Check out the presentations HERE.](#)

JOIN THE A4LE GULF COAST CHAPTER

MEETING AND TOUR

Cypress Park High School
7245 Westgreen Blvd | Cypress, TX

10.27.2016

Thursday, October 27, 2016
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Please RSVP to
cory.junemann@texasairsystems.com

