



Three members of our Chapter joined over 1000 other AIA leaders from around the country for a nearly weeklong series of presentations, workshops, seminars, and social networking. Matthew Shigahara, Don Comstock, and Mike Malinowski were the first

attendees representing AIACV at this event in quite a number of years – in fact our chapter was awarded an AIA National grant to support our re-engagement with this incredible event.



There were dozens of programs: Public Speaking “Where’s the Money”; Using the Web for effective Component Connectivity; Engaging the AIA in the political process proactively, Etc ... social gatherings including a really great event by AIACC and another by AIA National at the headquarters: ...



Not having been to Washington DC before, I took advantage of some of the extra hours before and after the programs to tour many museums and buildings on foot – a very compact and walkable city. As venues are for the most part free it was easy on a brisk walk to dash in for a quick look and I was able to take a peek at about 10 of the 14 museums that make up the ‘smithsonian’ (I had thought the Smithsonian was a ‘place’ – it’s actually a ‘collection’).

My favorite building – the Library of Congress – which has the most beautiful ceiling art in a romantic, art nouveau style.



Hope you enjoy a few photos of some of the themes and curiosities of the nation’s capitol



The National Building Museum ... check out the scale of these columns ... and notice the tiny white specks just below the high ceiling ... they are busts of ??? architects ??? ... I need to bring binoculars next time ...

...

A plethora of greek and classic temples ... can you say “Parthenon” fast a dozen times?...



I noticed LOTS of writing on building facades – somehow we’ve lost the boldness to commit to words to that degree ... imagine a spelling error in stone!!!





Contrasts and Contradiction in historic preservation ... including many examples of a 'slice of history' sandwich approach to preservation



An apparent fascination with the circular form ...



And of course ... the usual suspects



It was an exciting week, of meeting AIA people and seeing some great places ... some



synergies are already shaping up, such as cross event publicity with AIA East Bay and Sierra

Valley chapters ... some suggested revisions to the Architect finder to the software authors that may be in the next cycle, and much much more. I hope our chapter is well represented in the future, and would like to see a 'scholarship' for an active AIACV Associate member to go each year ...

Thoughts, comments or suggestions? Drop me an email: mfm@appliedarts.net Mike Malinowski AIA