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# Presidents Report August 2014



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS  
Idaho / Montana Chapter

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The summer building season is coming to a close and we hope everyone has been busy. The chapter has been working hard to further the profession in both Idaho and Montana in 2014.

We are in the final stages of launching a new chapter website with the help of Scott Lebsack from High Desert Landscape Architecture, Jerome, ID. As some of you know the weekly upkeep of a website can be very tedious and costly. So, as one of our chapter initiatives we have been transitioning to a new website design to have a more vibrant presence on the web and to avoid the costs and fees associated with the upkeep of an html intense website. We are moving the website to Squarespace.com which helps the chapter update and control the website without paying for a web master. It is a simple drag and drop system to populate the information and very easy to update on a daily and weekly basis. The website will have a little more graphic flare than in the past with photos of past Award winner's projects on the home page. Please take some time to check it out as it starts to evolve into a real website that the chapter can promote to the public and membership. <https://www.idmtasla.squarespace.com/>

We are sometimes asked the question, "What is the value of ASLA membership?" I wanted to list some of the advantages and benefits of ASLA for you!

### ASLA Advocates for the profession

ASLA represents the voices of landscape architects to federal, state and local elect officials and rule makers. Through the [ASLA Advocacy Network](#) members are given the tools that they need to effectively communicate with policy makers and positively impact issues important to the profession.

### ASLA strives to increase awareness of the profession

Every year the Public Relations and Communications department reaches out to thousands of people, advancing awareness and appreciation of the profession through outreach efforts. ASLA and local chapters organize events during the year which build awareness and showcase the importance of the profession. These events include

[National Landscape Architecture Month](#), [professional awards](#), [social media](#) and [much more](#).

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**Save the date!**

**Golf and Dinner Outing October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 presented by The Olmsted Group and IMASLA!**

Continuing Education Units (2-4) 10:00am – 12:00 venue TBD (Lunch provided \$75)

Golf 1:00pm – at Warm Springs Golf Course (free to members)

Dinner 6:00pm at the Idaho Botanical Gardens (free to members)

**In partnership with:**

Hunter Industries,  
Silver Creek,  
and the Idaho Botanical Gardens

=====



Our vision is to Lead the design and stewardship of land and communities.

Our mission is to lead, to educate and to participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and natural environments

### President’s Message, cont.

#### ASLA is dedicated to helping members with professional resources and professional development

ASLA offers free and discounted professional resources, including [Standard Form Contracts](#) , [Landscape Architecture Technical Information Series \(LATIS\)](#) and [ASLA’s Annual Meeting & EXPO](#). Members can also keep current on practice specific information through the [Profession Practice Networks](#).

#### Financial benefits

ASLA members receive substantial discounts on [Annual Meeting & EXPO registration](#), [award entry fees](#), [surveys](#), [contracts](#) and more. ASLA members are also eligible to participate in a number of [cost-saving programs](#) that cover a wide range of services that can help you and your business save money. ***Plus national member dues are 92.7% tax deductible.***

Next, the chapter has verbally agreed to a partnership with The Idaho Botanical Gardens (IBG) to further both of our Missions and goals. We will be kicking off this partnership in the fall with a Golf Tournament/ Dinner and bocce ball, to help raise funds for the chapter and the IBG. We are looking forward to this partnership as the IBG has deep ties with the community in the Valley. There will be more information coming in the next week or two on the schedule and locations for the 2014 golf-gala and the Idaho Botanical Gardens partnership.

We are excited to announce two new Chapter sponsors for 2014. **National Vinyl Products** which manufactures the Duratech vinyl products and fencing lines and **K-Rain** irrigation products have chosen to become a strategic partner and sponsor of the Chapter for 2014. As members, please feel free to approach both companies for product support and information at [www.nvpfence.com](http://www.nvpfence.com) and [www.krain.com](http://www.krain.com) or your local supplier.

Lastly, the next ASLA annual meeting will take place in Denver, Colorado November 21-24 this year. Register now at <http://www.aslameeting2014.com/> the advance rate discount ends October 17<sup>th</sup>.

As always, take a moment and let us know how we are doing and what we can do to better serve your needs. You can reach me directly at [roters@slaboise.com](mailto:roters@slaboise.com) or get in touch with your newly elected section leadership either Jacob Thomas, vice-president of Idaho or Jennie Meinershagen as vice-president of Montana.

Respectfully,  
John Roters  
Chapter President,  
IMASLA



ENHANCE THE BEAUTY OF YOUR PROJECT

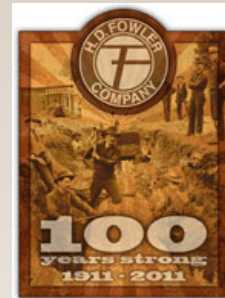
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# Thanks to Our 2014 Sponsors To Date!

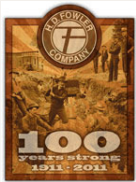


For more information on sponsorship opportunities check out our website at [www.idmtasla.org](http://www.idmtasla.org) or call the IMASLA office at 208-321-2389.



## Sponsor Spotlight

One of our newest sponsors is the HD Fowler Company. HD Fowler Company is the oldest and largest independent, family-owned distributor of waterworks, irrigation, pumps and wastewater treatment equipment in the Pacific Northwest, and one of the largest in America. More than 100 years after its founding, HD Fowler Company remains one of the last family-owned distributors of waterworks, irrigation, pump and wastewater equipment in the Pacific Northwest. HD Fowler Company was founded in the early 1900's by Harold D. Fowler ("HD" as he later become known). HD's son, Doyle Fowler, joined the firm after serving in WWII to build the waterworks division. Today, Doyle's son, Harold ("Hod" to those who know him well), is the company's president and James Fowler serve as officers of the company as well.



The sales and customer service representatives they employ are most often "local talent" who know their customers well and have worked in the industry for long periods of time. They pride themselves in serving "local customers" with "local care" and "local people". Their corporate offices are in Bellevue, Washington and they have several distribution sites, or branches, throughout Washington and Oregon. They also consistently service a variety of customers in Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho and Montana

## SITES

The Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES™) is dedicated to fostering a transformation in land design and development practices to bring the essential importance of ecosystem services to the forefront of decision-making and implementation. Current predictions and economic analyses anticipate that green-building industries will see a dramatic acceleration in market size, and the adoption of SITES as industry practice will meet the acceleration of market demand for sustainable practices. To aid in this transformation, SITES is now implementing many professional education programs and materials that provide distinct learning opportunities for all those in the land design and development industries.

Whether you're new to the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES) or need a refresher, this series presents important information for any individual seeking to learn more about sustainable land practices. Developed in collaboration with the United States Botanic Garden, these free webinars present relevant and current information about the SITES program and introduce audience members to the importance of having performance-based goals from the onset of a project. Check out the link below:

<http://www.sustainablesites.org/education>

## City of Missoula Implements a New Urban Forestry Plan

The City of Missoula adopted a new Urban Forest Plan which includes a revised Tree List on July 27, 2014. One item of particular note is the complete exclusion of *Fraxinus* (Ash species) from the list due to the spread of Emerald Ash Borer. The plan can be obtained at <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/DocumentCenter/View/26551>

*Resiliency is  
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we are and what  
we do. We  
work with the land  
and nature, not  
against it.  
Mark A. Focht,  
FASLA  
ASLA President*

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# ASLA National Conference—Invitation from the ASLA President

The largest gathering of landscape architecture professionals and students in the world!

November 21-24, 2014 Denver, Colorado

I was recently speaking at an allied profession's board meeting and was asked how landscape architects are responding to the issue of resilience. I had to pause, because in many ways we're not doing anything differently than what we've always done.

Resiliency is inherent to how landscape architects are wired. It is who we are and what we do. We work *with* the land and nature, not against it. Our profession and the Society have shown resiliency through the past few difficult years. Much like Colorado's beloved Aspen groves, which are strengthened by devastating forest fires and survive avalanches, our professional roots are interconnected and we are emerging stronger than ever.



Denver is one of the few cities that was not built on a road, railroad, lake, navigable river or body of water when it was founded. It just happened to be where the first few flakes of gold were found in 1858, but today it's one of the greenest, healthiest, and, yes, most resilient, cities in the world. From our central location downtown, we can immerse ourselves in its rich landscape architecture legacy, dating from the Olmsted Brothers to the many award-winning designers who are shaping the city today. On the following pages, you'll see hundreds more reasons to attend.

Be resilient, show your strength, and join us in Denver!

Mark A. Focht, FASLA  
ASLA President

## ASLA Advocacy Summit

By Aly Ross, IMASLA Advocacy Chair

This past weekend I had the pleasure of attending the 2014 ASLA Advocacy Summit in St. Louis, MO put on by ASLA Government Affairs on behalf of the Idaho/Montana Chapter. We spent a fair amount of time on Saturday focusing on how to host a site tour with elected officials and policy makers to showcase landscape architecture and how our designs can benefit a community. This was demonstrated with a site tour downtown of the award winning City Garden as an example. Other discussions focused on how to build relationships with our state Department of Transportation and the State Licensing Boards as well as Federal Impacts on Transportation Policy.



Sunday we focused on the tools and resources that ASLA provides for Advocacy and how chapters can utilize them along with how all of our states are currently handling advocacy.

To wrap up we worked in groups to come up with elevator pitches to briefly describe what Landscape Architecture is. We had a wonderful group of 36 individuals that attended the event and it was a very motivating, positive experience overall.



# Strategic Plan—2014

Just a reminder of the strategic planning efforts YOUR chapter has embarked upon this year. Below are the priority areas and the Initiative Leaders. Please feel free to contact them at any time with your thoughts, suggestions and offers to assist.

- Leadership Development/Succession Planning—Jay Gibbons, Initiative Lead (jgibbons@meridiacity.org)
- Website Development—Jennie Meinershagen, Initiative Lead (jennie@montanalastudio.com)
- Partnering and Outreach Opportunities—Jacob Thomas, Initiative Lead (jacobthomas.la@gmail.com)
- Advocacy—Aly Ross Initiative Lead (alyross@gmail.com)
- Student Communication and Coordination - Sean Conner, Initiative Lead (sean@thelandgroupinc.com)
- Expand Sponsors —Jim Mihan, Initiative Lead (jmihan@beckandbaird.com)

### Standing Committees:

Audit—Sean Conners, sean@thelandgroupinc.com  
Constitution and Bylaws—Jay Gibbons, jgibbons@meridiacity.org  
Nominating—Neil Kiner, neil@peakstoplains.com  
Tellers—Neil Kiner, neil@peakstoplains.com

“An artist, he paints with lakes and wooded slopes, with lawns and banks and forest-covered hills.” — Daniel Burnham talking about Frederick Law Olmstead

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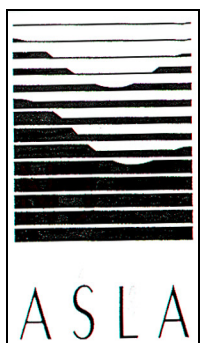


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# Qualification Based Selection

How does the Idaho QBS law apply to landscape architects in Idaho and those companies outside of Idaho responding to a request for bids?? The Idaho law states that :

(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, it shall be the policy of this state that all public agencies and political subdivisions of the state of Idaho and their agents shall make selections for professional engineering, architectural, landscape architecture, construction management and professional land surveying services, including services by persons licensed pursuant to chapters 3, 12, 30 and 45, title 54. . . (emphasis added).

The general interpretation that has been used in Idaho for all disciplines based on the required utilization of the QBS law (Idaho Code 67-2320) is that one of two things trigger the requirement for Qualifications Based Selection. They are:

The RFP/RFQ/Bid document asks for a licensed landscape architect, or;

The RFP/RFQ/Bid document asks for tasks to be completed that fall within the definition of landscape architecture as defined in Idaho Code 54-3002 (2), *whether or not* the RFQ specifically requires a license to perform such tasks.

The definition for landscape architecture under 54-3002 states:

"Landscape architecture" means the performance of professional services such as consultations, investigation, reconnaissance, research, planning, design or responsible supervision in connection with the development of land and incidental water areas where, and to the extent that the dominant purpose of such services is the preservation, enhancement or determination of proper land uses, natural land features, ground cover and planting, naturalistic and aesthetic values, approaches to buildings, structures, facilities or other improvements, natural drainage and the consideration and determination of inherent problems of the land relating to erosion, wear and tear, light or other hazards, but shall not include the application of geological principles. This practice shall include the location, design and arrangement of such tangible objects as pools, walls, steps, trellises, canopies, and features as are incidental and necessary to the purposes outlined herein, but shall not include the design of structures or facilities with separate and self-contained purposes for habitation or industry, such as are ordinarily included in the practice of engineering or architecture; and shall not include the making of cadastral surveys or final land plats for official recording or approval. It involves the design and arrangement of land forms and the development of outdoor space including, but not limited to, the design of public parks, playgrounds, cemeteries, home and school grounds, and the development of industrial and recreational sites.

However, the landscape architecture licensing law also states:

54-3003(b) None of the provisions of this chapter shall apply to the business conducted in this state by any land use planner, horticulturist, nurseryman, or landscape nurseryman, gardener, landscape gardener, landscape designer, or landscape contractor, as these terms are generally used, or any other person, including, but not limited to, their right to plan and supervise in connection therewith, except that no such person shall use the designation "landscape architect," "landscape architecture," or any description tending to convey the impression that they are a licensed landscape architect unless they are registered as provided in this chapter.

The value of the QBS process is that it requires the political subdivision to look at qualifications first, which may be helpful when competing for a job against landscape firms not licensed as landscape architects. It also provides an opportunity to inform these entities on the value of using a licensed landscape architect.

If you see a job advertised in Idaho that asks you to bid on "landscape architectural services" or asks for the respondent to perform any of the work listed in the definition of landscape architecture above, call the QBS Facilitator office at **208-321-1736**. They will pursue it for you, keeping you anonymous, while providing an opportunity to educate

on the difference in using a landscape architect!

## Why You Should Join and Stay in ASLA!!

"My main reason for joining ASLA is to show a dedication to my profession. Not only to you give, promote and engage with your profession there is a certain stewardship that is shown by giving back to what has built you."

Natalie Garrett, ASLA

**ASLA—Your Career Connection!**



**IDAHO - MONTANA CHAPTER**  
American Society of Landscape Architects



P.O. Box 8224, Boise, Idaho 83707

Phone: 208-321-2389

## ASLA Membership Benefits Page

**Some reminders of the benefits of being an IMASLA Member—check out these on the ASLA website at [www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org).**

### Insurance, Car Rentals, etc

ASLA Members can save time and money by using one of ASLA's affinity partners on a wide variety of personal and professional services.

### Professional Development and Continuing Education

Through the annual meeting and other opportunities throughout the year with vendors and allied organizations, members can advance their careers through continuing education. IMASLA is a LACES provider and can work with you to get qualified classes approved for credit.

### LAND E-News for ASLA

Delivered bi-weekly via email to your inbox. All the latest news and events of the Society are just a click away.

### Business Quarterly

Each quarter, ASLA surveys key contacts for business statistics and prepares an economic outlook of the profession. The quarterly benchmarks are published online and shared with industry professionals and allied organizations.

#### **TRAINING EVENT—MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

September 9-10

ZONE 4 LIVE: Rocky Mountain Ornamentals

Chico Hot Springs

Pray, Montana

(call Chico for room block)

Featured speakers:

- David Salman, High County Gardens in Santa Fe
- Pat Hayward, Director of Plant Select
- Remy Greco-Brault, Labellum Floral

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## IMASLA Nomination Process and Board Appointments:

IMASLA called for nominations for the positions of Trustee and Member-at-Large. Nominations were due by July 1, 2014.

No nominations were received and subsequently the president appointed the following members to fill the empty Board openings:

Trustee—Jim Mihan, Beck and Baird

Member-at-Large –Dave Phillips, HDR

These appointees will serve until the next full Board election in 2015.

**REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE**

**OCTOBER 2**

**IMASLA Golf Tournament**

## Welcome New Members:

For more information on how to join check out our website at [www.idmtasla.org](http://www.idmtasla.org) or call the IMASLA office at 208-321-2389.

Jason Demsmer, The Land Group

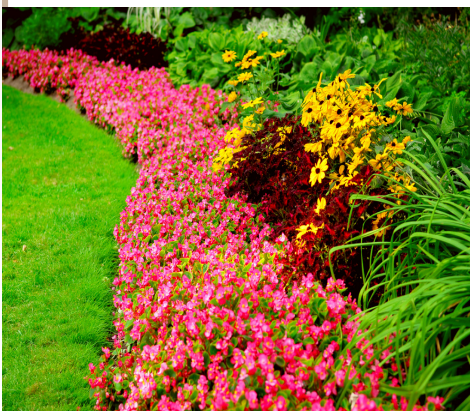
Brian Domke, Brian Domke Landscape Architect

Rodney Evans Jr, Breckon Land Design

Russell Hepworth, The Land Group

Debra Rosa

Kurt Charles Vomfell, Bruce Boody Landscape Architect





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## **VICE PRESIDENT- IDAHO**

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## **STUDENT CHAPTER UIILA**

Sarah Sundquist  
['sund6090@vandals.uidaho.edu'](mailto:'sund6090@vandals.uidaho.edu')

## Calendar of Events

### IMASLA Board Meetings (noon, MST)

September 16  
October 21  
November 18  
December 16

### CLARB Annual Meeting

September, 2014

### IMASLA Golf Tournament

October 2, Boise ID

### ASLA Conference and Expo

November 21—24, Denver CO

