Welcome to the next 40 years of Planning in South Carolina!

Make plans now to attend SCAPA’s 40th Anniversary Reception on the evening of Thursday, October 15 in Greenville! The reception will begin at 5:30 pm at the Greenville Hyatt and will include a SCAPA Trivial Pursuit game that is not to be missed! Following the reception is the 40th Anniversary Celebration and Dinner where we will share memories and highlight our accomplishments while looking forward to the our organization’s future. APA President Bruce Knight, FAICP and APA Executive Director Paul Farmer, AICP will be in attendance to share this special event with us. Special thanks go to the Anniversary Committee for planning this event.

Where were you in 1969? What were your goals and aspirations in the planning field? How was the planning profession in South Carolina different? Where will you be in 2049? What do you think will be the state’s planning issues that our profession will face? In what ways will our communities be better?

Over the last few weeks, these are the very issues that I have pondered in writing this article. Forty years is a long time. I am astounded and honestly overwhelmed by the hard work of individuals that have made SCAPA what it is today. In collecting information for the anniversary celebration program, I’ve been touched by the stories that our members have shared with me. Just like a family, our organization has had many special stories to tell – some happy, some sad and many inspirational.

On the SC Planners Email List, I have posted a request for you to share your favorite SCAPA memory as well as provided an opportunity for you to post your vision for our communities, our state and our profession in 2039. Wouldn’t it be great to have these thoughts for our 80th Anniversary Celebration? If you are not a member of the email list, send an email to sc-planners-email-list@googlegroups.com or log into Google Groups.

I look forward to reading your responses and seeing you in person on October 15!
This year the annual FALL conference returns to Greenville and is sure to be an educational and fun event. Join professional planners, members of allied professions, appointed and elected officials, interested citizens, and students to learn more about the art and practice of planning and to discuss what the future holds.

We will continue to offer concurrent sessions throughout the conference featuring some very interesting planning sessions.

We are pleased that both Bruce Knight, FAICP, President of APA and Paul Farmer, FAICP, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of APA will be joining us to not only discuss current issues in planning and APA but help us celebrate SCAPA’s 40th anniversary.

The 2009 conference offers eighteen sessions on a variety of planning-related topics. The conference is designed to provide opportunities to attend those sessions that are of interest to you. There will be four session tracks:

Planning and Development in the Future
• Advancing the Planning Movement: APA’s Role in Meeting the Challenges of the next 100 Years
• Looking Forward Into the Past: Case Study Field Trips Through the Carolinas and Beyond
• SC Sustainable Schools Initiative
• Transportation Legislation on the Horizon
• Planning for a Changing Demographic
• Integrating School and Community Planning—Is It Possible?

Environment and Sustainability
• SC Stormwater Program and NPDES Phase II Permitting
• The “Green” Revolution
• Planning and Designing for Trails and Greenways for Healthy Communities: The Upstate Experience
• Integrating LID (Low Impact Development) into Ordinances and Policy
• Conservation Easement: What They Are and How They Work

Planning Practice and Professional Development
• SCAPA and Planning through the Decades, 1969-1989: Lessons Learned
• SCAPA and Planning through the Decades, 1990-2009: Lessons Learned
• Planning and Land use Law Update 2009
• Ethics and the Planning Professional

The New Economy
• Economic Development and the Professional Planner
• Impact on Planning: Reality-Based Planning; Leveraging Market Conditions to Maximize Success
• Bankruptcies, Plant Closing, and Retail Contraction
• Housing Choice and Affordability

Mobile Workshops
• CU-ICAR Campus Tour
• Swamp Rabbit Trail Tour

Registration forms are available on line at SCAPA.org.

For more information please contact Pat Collins at jpcoll44@bellsouth.net or 864-221-1433

We hope to see you in Greenville!

ALL SESSIONS HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR AICP CERTIFICATION MAINTENANCE CREDITS AND THE SC MANDATORY CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS.

CORRECTION NOTICE
Please note that the dates for the extra tickets listed on the conference registration should be as follows:

October 15th luncheon
October 16th luncheon.
The comprehensive planning examination for acceptance into the American Institute of Certified Planners is the only certification exam for practicing urban planners. The exam is given at over 300 testing sites in the U.S. and Canada, and offered twice a year in two testing windows for two weeks in both May and November. The testing period for this Fall is November 9-23.

How, When To Register?
Beginning with the 2005 exam cycle, AICP has introduced a new application that combines the application and registration steps into one form and one fee. This eliminates the previous two forms and separate fee payments, and makes the process easier for applicants. Education and employment verifications for each degree and job listed in the application will continue to be required in order for your application to be considered complete for review. Fees are $485 for new applicants and $425 for returning applicants.

You can register to take the exam online on the APA's website:
http://www.planning.org/certification/

Do You Qualify?
In order to take the exam, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a current member of APA
2. Be engaged in professional planning
3. Have completed a requisite number of years of education and professional planning experience (2 years of experience with a graduate degree in planning, 3 years with a bachelor’s degree in planning, but other combinations are possible: http://www.planning.org/certification/eligible.htm)

Preparing for the Exam
There are a variety of ways to prepare for the exam:

Seminars
There are a variety of possible preparation techniques. Many APA Chapters have professional development officers that provide or arrange for day-long seminars that introduce the exam and some of the topics. Contact your Chapter’s Professional Development Officer for more information

CPC Study Manual for the AICP Exam
A good place to start is the APA’s Chapter Presidents Council’s CPC Study Manual. The purpose of this self-study manual is to help review basic planning concepts and to practice skills that are necessary for taking a multiple-choice test.


Online Courses
If you’d like to start your studying early, and interact with students from around the US, consider an online course to guide your studying. The Planetizen AICP Exam Online Preparation Course, for example, is organized into a series of eight topics with a total of about 50 lessons. Each lesson is about 20-30 minutes to complete, enabling you to fit in a little studying whenever you have time — during a lunch break, before work, or after you put the kids to bed. More than 10 hours of video presentations are also included, offering students a visual way to prepare. The course also provides over 450 sample questions, including a pretest exam and two sample exams. The course also includes five discussion forums to interact with other students and course staff, and ask any questions you might have as you prepare for the exam.

More information about Planetizen’s AICP Exam Online Preparation Course:
http://www.planetizen.com/courses/aicp/
AICP Certification News - cont.

Study Groups

If you live in an urban area, there are likely to be many others who will also be taking the exam. Using your Section’s PDO or individual networking to create a study group of 4-6 people. Take turns preparing sample questions and “study sheets” on specific topics to share with the other members of the group. Study groups can be a great way to keep you motivated and studying for the exam when things get busy at work.

What’s on the Exam?

The AICP Comprehensive Planning Examination consists of 170 multiple choice questions (20 of which are pre-test and do not count toward the final score) in two main areas: Knowledge (40 percent) and Skills (60 percent). In order to pass the exam, candidates must receive a score of 55 or higher. A score of 55 means that you got approximately 75 percent of the questions correct. Your score is in no way related to the percent of questions that you got correct. The exam is weighted as follows:

- History, Theory and Law [15%]
- Plan Making and implementation [30%]
- Functional Areas of Practice [25%]
- Spatial Areas of Practice [15%]
- Public Participation and Social Justice [10%]
- AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Practice [5%]

More details:
http://www.planning.org/certification/faq.htm

About the Authors

Jennifer Evans-Cowley, PhD, AICP has been a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners since 1999 and is an Associate Professor and Section Head of City and Regional Planning at the Austin E. Knowlton School of Architecture at The Ohio State University. Dr. Evans-Cowley regularly teaches courses to prepare candidates to take the AICP® exam and serves as the professional development officer for the Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association. Dr. Evans-Cowley is the instructor of Planetizen’s AICP Exam Online Preparation Course.

Chris Steins, M.PL is co-editor of Planetizen (www.planetizen.com), and CEO of Urban Insight, a Los Angeles-based web development firm focused on providing technology services to the urban planning community. Chris Steins is the former Chair of the APA’s Information Technology Division, and former technology coordinator for the APA’s Los Angeles Section. He is the technology coordinator for the Planetizen AICP Exam Online Preparation Course. AICP is a registered trademark of the American Planning Association (APA) and the APA’s institute. Neither APA nor AICP are affiliated with the authors of this article in any way, except as stated.

SCAPA’s 2009 Summer Conference in Columbia was well attended and informative. Thanks to everyone that work to make it that way.
Where were you in 1969?

Do you remember where you were when Apollo 11 landed on the moon? Did you participate in Woodstock? Did you watch the original prime-time showings of Gunsmoke, the Brady Bunch, Star Trek, and Dragnet? Perhaps enjoyed the smooth sounds of “Aquarius” by the Fifth Dimension or “Sweet Caroline” by Neil Diamond in your Chevrolet Chevelle?

1969 was a year of many changes in the life of Americans and was a precursor to dramatic societal changes in the decade of the 70s. It was also a year in which our professional organization was founded. The South Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Planners – the predecessor to the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association – was born in Columbia in the summer of 1969.

The formation of our organization was developed by pioneers that forged their way into a frontier known as planning: a foreign term in most parts of South Carolina at the time. SCAPA founding members such as Dennis Day, Sid Thomas and Dan Vismor developed the framework for our organization as we know it today.

SCAPA has had an interesting 40 years. We have consolidated our processes, while looking toward our chapter's future and our role in advocating for quality planning in communities throughout South Carolina. SCAPA's 40th Anniversary Celebration will begin Thursday, October 15 at the Hyatt with two conference sessions focusing on the history and future of SCAPA and planning in South Carolina, followed by a conference reception at 5:30 pm and the Anniversary Dinner at 6:30 pm at the conference hotel. Your conference registration includes your admission to the reception and dinner. Additional tickets are available for spouses and individuals not able to attend the conference. We are pleased to announce that APA President Bruce Knight and Executive Director Paul Farmer will also be in attendance. You will not want to miss this exciting event as we make history once again!

WE NEED YOUR HELP

This year marks SCAPA’s 40th anniversary, which will be celebrated at the SCAPA fall conference in Greenville. To commemorate the occasion we are organizing a display of documents and SCAPA memorabilia spanning the past 40 years. We are also developing a Powerpoint slide show of SCAPA related pictures throughout the years. We are asking everyone to look through their files and offices to see if you have anything that you could donate or lend for the cause. Memorabilia items may include:

- Pins
- Conference brochures
- Awards
- Invitations
- Legislative updates
- Pre-1982 Palmetto Planner Issues
- Perennial student auction items
- Anything else that looks interesting or will bring back memories.

**Display:** Tony Bebber has volunteered to head the collection of items for the display – please contact him at tbebber@scprt.com or (803) 734-0189 if you have a donation of item(s) to lend.

**Photo Show:** Kelly Mezzapelle is leading the development of the photo show – please contact her at kmmezzapelle@cityofmyrtlebeach.com or (843) 918-1073 to send scanned or digital photos, or if you would like to donate or lend printed photos for the occasion.

If you have anything that you would like to donate or lend for the occasion please contact Kelly or Tony. We promise to label everything carefully and return to the lenders in the original condition.

Thanks!

SCAPA 40th Anniversary Celebration Committee
For the past 20 years, the Town of Kingstree, South Carolina, located in Williamsburg County, has undertaken many individual projects to improve various aspects of its downtown. Projects have included streetscapes, water and sewer improvements, trails, and a recreational complex. Each of these has been considered successful on its own merits, but there has been no cohesive plan to tie them all to a common vision.

Moving forward, the Town of Kingstree desired to develop a roadmap for the future development and redevelopment of downtown to provide a comprehensive strategy for success. To that end, the Town undertook a master planning process that was open and transparent, allowing all interested voices to be heard and informed consent to be reached. Crucial to the success of the master plan process was this comprehensive public participation program. A steering committee guided the process and provided continuous collaborative support to the planning team. One-on-one interviews with key property owners throughout downtown were conducted to ensure that critical master plan components had the buy-in and support of those they will affect most. Additionally, a series of public information meetings provided the general citizenry an overview of the project and its progress, as well as opportunity to submit feedback on the plan.

The intent of the master planning effort was to provide a framework of solutions and strategies that will result in a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant downtown. The Kingstree Downtown Master Plan was formulated through a systematic planning process that began in October 2007 and culminated in April 2009. Critical components of the effort included:

- Assessment of baseline information;
- Examination of issues, opportunities, and constraints;
- Formulation of a wide variety of preliminary alternative solutions that were weighted against a series of performance criteria; and
- Development and refinement of recommendations and associated implementation plan.
The final master plan creates a vision that is connected, comprehensive, and obtainable, including an action plan for implementation. Unlike many master plans that rework an entire downtown, the Kingstree Downtown Master Plan acknowledges and capitalizes on what currently “works” in downtown and focuses complementary improvements on areas that are most ripe for redevelopment. Solutions increase the walkability of downtown, encourage a mix of land use types, promote a broadened economic base, and create reasons to live, work, play, and stay in downtown.

A series of specific actions are recommended to move downtown Kingstree forward over the next 20 years. The Town of Kingstree seeks to maintain and enhance its traditional downtown character, while also advancing alternatives to car-dependent development that has occurred in recent years along the fringe of downtown. Key to achieving this goal is the implementation of planning and regulatory actions that will set the “tone” for future development in downtown Kingstree by encouraging a sustainable setting for reasonable growth.

Planning and regulatory recommendations include: updating the town’s comprehensive plan; development of a strategic facilities plan; performance of a market analysis; enforcement of existing regulatory requirements; refinement of existing regulations; and adoption of companion regulations.

A number of actions are also recommended that will require the expenditure of capital funds. These actions are of paramount importance to enhancing the livability and marketability of downtown and include: maintenance and improvement of basic services; enhancement of the walkability of downtown; implementation of catalyst projects; and facilitation of key redevelopment efforts.

Critical to attracting new investment in downtown Kingstree will be the town’s own investment in projects that will act as a catalyst for private investment. Catalyst projects include: formalization of a surface parking lot on the interior of an existing downtown block; performing a “road diet” along Main Street to realize angled on-street parking, planted medians, and pedestrian refuge areas; implementation of gateway streetscapes to serve as a “welcome” and “farewell” to the downtown; and provision of public access to the Black River. In conjunction with publicly advanced catalyst projects, a number of sites are identified that should be the focus of facilitated redevelopment efforts through public/private partnership.

One of the more ambitious public/private recommendations is the Farmer’s Furniture Block Redevelopment, a key block on Main Street that is currently occupied by an automobile-oriented, suburban-style shopping center. Working with existing property owners and businesses, the planning team created a conceptual plan for the relocation of existing businesses into a new, traditional, mixed-use environment. By pulling buildings up to the street frontage along all four sides of the block, a strong and dynamic street wall would be created and the pedestrian character of downtown enhanced. Parking would be provided in the center of the block.
Membership Minute

On-Line Community for SC Planners Now Active!

Ever get the proverbial question, “What are they doing in _____ [insert City or County name here]?” Now you can find out . . . and more! Join the SC Planners Email List and post your questions to an ever-growing community of over 110 planners from across South Carolina. Visit

www.groups.google.com and search on “SC Planners”. Be sure to use the quotation marks. Also, joining the list gives you access to 40 previous questions and responses from the past year. Lastly, and equally important, use features of the List to shorten the miles between us!

Does APA have your correct information?

SCAPA distributes all informational materials electronically. In order to ensure receipt of these materials you need to make sure that your email address in the APA record is up to date. All members can access their APA profiles and

www.planning.org/myprofile. Enter your APA ID (from

“create new password” of you have forgotten it or do not have one). If you need assistance contact Webmaster@planning.org.

Chapter Only Memberships

Chapter Only memberships are available through APA. Join SCAPA without joining APA for $35.00 annually. To become a chapter only member please go to the APA website under membership.

Benefits of a chapter only membership include:

• Reduced rates to all SCAPA conference
• Quarterly Newsletter
• Training Workshops
• Participation on SCAPA committees

Clemson University MCRP Program

We are excited to begin the 2009-10 academic year with our largest classes in some time. We have a total of 44 students, with 20 second year students and 24 entering students. About a third of our students are from South Carolina. Most others are from all over the US with international students from China, Honduras and Brazil.

During the past academic year, we had 10 students graduate, including three with both MLA and MCRP degrees. Graduates include: Stephen Deal, Monica Ezell, Bridget Gilles, Brian Graham, Rashida Jeffers, Jennifer Johnson, Sarah Simmons, Tiffany Wedmore, Leigh Wood and Katie Young. Bridget, Jennifer and Monica each graduated with both MLA and MCRP degrees.

The incoming leadership of the Student Chapter of SC APA includes Samantha Jackson as president and Andrew Strickland as Vice President. We anticipate another fine year of activities and engagement, including a strong presence at the SCAPA annual meeting in Greenville.

Providing financial aid has been a challenge this year due to budget cuts at Clemson as well as various agencies in the Upstate who have hired our students as Public Service Assistants during the academic year. We greatly appreciate your continued support. Putting together a variety of resources including several research grants, we have been able to provide financial assistance for three-quarters of our students this semester.

We are taking on two interesting studio projects in our second year studio. Recognizing the growing challenge of providing water to its customers, the Pickens County Water Authority has requested a water resources assessment and plan. The Strom Thurmond Institute is coordinating this effort and Dr. Caitlin Dyckman is leading a group of seven students who will complete an assessment of existing supply, forecast future water usage and analyze water protection measures. A second project residential areas in the city. Two specific neighborhoods will be studied in this pilot effort.

Best wishes for a productive fall!
As the fall semester gets underway, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the members of SCAPA. My name is Samantha Jackson, and I am serving as the 2009-2010 Clemson University SCAPA Student Chapter President. Additional executive officers for the student chapter consist of Andrew Strickland, Kyle Flanders, Stephanie Johnson, and Steve Burr.

Our team would first like to congratulate the Master’s in City and Regional Planning Class of 2009 on their recent achievements as we welcome in the first-year graduate students into the program. We are looking forward to introducing these new faces to the SCAPA membership at the Fall Conference in Greenville. The student chapter will be welcoming your bids at the fall conference, as we host our annual auction in order to raise money for travel, conference attendance, and special events. We are especially looking forward to meeting Clemson alumni and their families at the alumni reception which is being held at the Greenville Hyatt on the Wednesday evening prior to the Fall Conference at 8 pm.

In addition to networking with you at conferences, the Clemson University Student Chapter is looking forward to interacting with you throughout the school year. This year will be full of exciting opportunities and special events for Clemson Chapter students, alumni, and friends. The student chapter will be participating in community service projects, hosting football tailgates, and providing educational opportunities, and we would love for you to join in the action! Our first volunteer opportunity is October 3-4 when SCAPA will be biking in the MS Ride in Greenville. If you would like to make a donation to help us reach our fundraising goal of $1000 or join our team please visit http://main.nationalmssociety.org/site/TR/Bike/NCPBikeEvents?team_id=177506&pg=team&fr_id=11151.

Looking forward to meeting you all!

Samantha Jackson
Clemson University Student Chapter President

Don’t miss the following events at our 2009 Fall Conference

- **Alumni Reception**  
  Wednesday, October 14  8:00 pm  
  Hyatt Regency Atrium

- **40th Anniversary Reception**  
  Thursday, October 15,  5:30 pm  
  Hyatt Regency Ballroom

- **40th Anniversary Dinner**  
  Thursday, October 15,  6:00 pm  
  Hyatt Regency Ballroom
Advertise in the Palmetto Planner and on the SCAPA webpage for one low fee.

The Palmetto Planner is a quarterly publication of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association with over 475 members. The newsletter provides information on current planning topics, chapter conferences and activities and job opportunities.

Advertisement space is the Palmetto Planner and the SCAPA webpage is available on a yearly basis.

The fee for a Business Card Advertisement is $200.00 per year.

For further information contact Pat Collins at 864-221-1433 or email jpcoll44@bellsouth.net.