



CRAN CHRONICLE

Letter from the CRAN President

By John Isch, AIA - One of the most important and exciting parts of attending the convention is connecting with peers and colleagues. It is gratifying to meet new friends and particularly to renew those longtime friendships developed in the past.

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Features

About Santa Fe

By Steven Lewis - Santa Fe is the capitol of New Mexico and a quintessential southwestern town for art, culture, and history. Dominated by adobe buildings and pueblo style architecture, Santa Fe is home to hundreds of galleries, thousands of artists, and more than a dozen museums. The beauty and scale of the landscape surrounding the city has inspired artists and cultures for centuries, turning Santa Fe into one of the most important art cities in the country.

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Virtual Home Tour

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Ala CRAN Symposium August 22-25, 2013 Santa Fe, New Mexico

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A CRANnie's Mile High Adventure

By Bud Dietrich, AIA - The Denver convention is well behind us so before it completely recedes from our rearview mirror, let's do a little post-convention recap.

But before I get to that, yours truly would like to point out that the AIA national convention is one heck of an event. I've only been to a handful of conventions, mostly of late, in a career that spans over 35 years. It's a shame, really, as attending the convention has become so rewarding that I plan on attending every year from here on out. From seeing old friends to meeting new ones, from learning about how the AIA functions and who the folks behind the scenes are, from learning new things and seeing some great cities, the convention is well worth the time and expense. And I say this as a sole practitioner, someone who isn't earning when not back at the ranch clocking billable time. No matter, some things are just more important than that extra billable hour or two (spoken like a true architect).

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Symposium Highlights

By Dawn Zuber, AIA and Bud Dietrich, AIA - From contextualism to globalism, traditionalism to modernism, environmentalism to industrialism, this year's symposium will feature a group of presenters that covers it all. And to bring it all home, so to speak, we'll have Bobby McAlpine talk about The Home Within Us. So here's a bit of an appetizer from each of our presenters. Make sure to join us in Santa Fe for the full meal.

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Register Now

▶ The following article is a submission from one of our emerging professional members.

A Burglar, a Glitchy Graphics Card, and a Happy Little Cloud

By Jared Banks, AIA - Within 48 hours of graduating from college, I loaded my car and drove north from Houston, Texas, to St. Paul, Minnesota. Somewhere in that car, along with my diploma that said Bachelor's of Architecture on it, was my computer with a college career's worth of photos, projects, resumes, and other important digital paraphilia. Within 96 hours of graduation I was sitting down to my first day of work with a small firm that did a mix of residential and commercial work. I spent the next eighteen months telling both myself and my wife that I was going to buy an external hard drive, or burn my portfolio to a DVD, or do something else to protect my data. But I had a job (well jobs), friends, and so much else to do. I never backed up that machine.



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In the News

▶ The following articles feature interviews and/or quotes from AIA CRAN members in national media.

Luxury Outdoor Spaces With Indoor Amenities

By Candace Jackson, Wall Street Journal | Read the article online »

4 Home Improvements That Will Save You Money

By Damian Farrell and Lucy Ann Lance on 1290 AM | Read the article online »

[VIDEO] The Architects Education

By AIA Custom Residential Architects Network | Watch the video online »

Resources

Document Your Project on Houzz

Did you know that CRAN has our own channel on the popular website Houzz.com? We do! It's at http://www.houzz.com/pro/aiacran/aia-custom-residential-architects-network! We would like to feature more projects from CRAN members on Houzz to help promote the advantages of hiring an architect. Our plan is to create a series of three or four articles for a single project, documenting it from the beginning stages through completion and owner occupation. Most articles on Houzz (called ideabooks) feature one project or idea. Projects can be small or large renovations or any size or style of new construction. It could be a project you completed in the past or one that's just getting started.

If you're interested in contributing, create your ideabook(s) and then send the link(s) to Bud Dietrich at bud@hfdarchitects.com so that he can add it to the CRAN page.

A Toolkit to Get You Organized Locally!

CRAN offers local chapters wanting to start a residential committee the tools to help establish a committee and a network of successful local groups from which to draw ideas and inspiration. Download the Toolkit (PDF)

Tools for Clients: How Design Works + You and Your Architect

Architecture is about people: how buildings can enhance people's lives. The process of design is also about people: clients and architects working together to realize the full potential of every project.

The following resources are to help you and your clients throughout the design process. From selecting an architect, to establishing a legal contract, these free tools can help make each stage a little easier. Read More

The CRAN Chronicle would not be possible without the hard work of a dedicated group of volunteers.

Did you know anyone can join AIA Custom Residential Architects Network for FREE? Sign-up on AIA KnowledgeNet and start a discussion in the AIA CRAN Discussion Forum.















Washington, DC 20006

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About Santa Fe

Santa Fe is the capitol of New Mexico and a quintessential southwestern town for art, culture, and history. Dominated by adobe buildings and pueblo style architecture, Santa Fe is home to hundreds of galleries, thousands of artists, and more than a dozen museums. The beauty and scale of the landscape surrounding the city has inspired artists and cultures for centuries, turning Santa Fe into one of the most important art cities in the country.

Located in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo range of the Rocky Mountains, Santa Fe is a gateway to near limitless outdoor recreation including hiking, camping, cycling, white water rafting, fishing, climbing and more. In the winter, hiking and biking trails become cross-country ski terrain while alpine skiers and snowboarders can find their thrill high atop Ski Santa Fe.

Santa Fe is centered around its 400-year old Plaza and many of its premier attractions are within short walking distance of this hub. The Loretto Chapel with its miraculous spiral staircase is on everyone's "don't miss" list. The Palace of the Governors, the oldest public building in the United States and an authentic architectural treasure, faces the Plaza. Native American vendors sell their handmade items on colorful blankets outside. They must adhere to strict rules about their materials and craftsmanship and there are many excellent bargains to be found.

The Palace of the Governors and the modern annex behind it house the New Mexico History Museum, a perfect place to understand Santa Fe's Native American, Spanish Colonial, and American West heritage. The New Mexico Museum of Art is right across the street from the history museum and is arguably the city's finest example or Pueblo Revival architecture. The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum is nearby. There are shops and art galleries of every description all around the Plaza and its surrounding streets. Lovely cafés and restaurants invite strollers to take a break and luxuriate in the European-style ambiance.

It is easy to spend most of a day at Museum Hill, about 10 minutes from downtown Santa Fe. Four fascinating museums are set around a central plaza with native landscaping and spectacular mountain views in every direction. Visitors can linger in one or two of the museums or see a bit of all four. The Museum of International Folk Art has a vast permanent collection and many rotating exhibits. The Museum of Indian Arts and Culture includes hundreds of objects that define the artistry of New Mexico's Native American people. The Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian, modeled after a Navajo hogan, is a smaller museum with first-rate rotating exhibits. The Museum of Spanish Colonial Art has fine examples of the traditional Spanish Colonial arts that still flourish in Santa Fe and occupies a home designed by acclaimed architect John Gaw Meem. Each museum has a gift shop and there is a café on the plaza.

Santa Fe is filled with pioneer history as the end point of the Santa Fe Trail, a mercantile route that connected Missouri and New Mexico during the 1800s. Prior to the influx of new settlers the trail brought to town, the Santa Fe area was home to ancient cultures and the heart of today's city was the site of a 13th Century Native American pueblo. Today, historic Native American communities surround Santa Fe while long-abandoned cliff dwellings are



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located within a short drive of town. All of the city's history is alive in Santa Fe's day-today life, visible in its architecture, traditions, and people.

On any visit there are enough art galleries, museums, interesting shops, and places to explore in and around Santa Fe to take up days. Compact and walkable, Santa Fe is easy to navigate on foot; from the heart of the city, the Plaza, to the dense gallery district along Canyon Road to the newer Railyard area and all the nooks and crannies in between.

Santa Fe's nightlife offers a wide array of entertainment, ranging from live music in many locations, theater performances, a nationally-renowned summer festival of opera, jazz, and chamber music, year round gallery and artist happenings, an internationally recognized conversation series, touring entertainers from around the world, and special events that keep the calendar full throughout the year.

The city is known as a foodie's destination featuring the region's savory chile-based cuisine, modern creations from Santa Fe's many award-winning chefs plus international foods from around the globe. New restaurants continue to bring creative cooking of all kinds to Santa Fe in slick new environments and cozy old adobe buildings alike.

Historic, creative, blessed by beauty, and filled with interesting, friendly people, Santa Fe continues to be rated one of the most intriguing travel destinations in North America. For everything Santa Fe, visit www.santafe.org .

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President's Message CRAN Chronicle | 2nd Edition 2013

I am writing this message just after the AIA Convention held in Denver where the CRAN KC hosted 2 pre-convention workshops, 4 sessions, the CRAN Forum, and joint Housing/SPP/CRAN reception at the Wynkoop Brewery. It was inspirational and informative to be a part of such a vibrant event lasting over four days. One of the most important and exciting parts of attending the convention is connecting with peers and colleagues. It is gratifying to meet new friends and particularly to renew those longtime friendships developed in the past. I am finding that one of the most important things for me, beyond the love of architecture, is to be able to meet with and share experiences with those newly made friends and longtime acquaintances. CRAN alone had seven of its own AG members present and our events and sessions were well attended with like minded individuals. There is the possibility of getting content related to residential architecture at convention if you look.

On a more business-related note for convention one of the hot topics that was partially revealed was the Repositioning Effort of the AlA. I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the effort. To learn more you can go to

http://www.aia.org/about/repositioning/index.htm. On that web page you will find summaries of Repositioning activities from the convention and ways to provide feedback to your Repositioning Ambassador, the AIA Board, and AIA CEO Robert Ivy, regarding what you think is working or not working. Finally, you will find a document called the Foresight Report that articulates what is coming up for the year regarding Repositioning.

You have another opportunity in the near future to capture a similar experience as I did at convention. I encourage you to attend our upcoming CRAN Symposium in Santa Fe. Elevating the Art of Residential Design & Practice will take place from August 22 - 25, a mini convention if you will, focused on the practice of residential architecture. This is an opportunity not only to learn but to build those relationships I described experiencing in Denver in a more casual and intimate context. If you are interested in growing as a person and professional I think you will find those who attend to be open and friendly people that you can develop relationships with and benefit from. If you enjoy touring finely built homes, attending educational sessions, partying in the Georgia O'Keefe Museum, and commiserating with peers, I think you will find this event tailored for you. Hope to see you therel

John J. Isch AIA, 2013 AIA-CRAN President

RWA Architects, Inc.

2771 Observatory Avenue

Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

http://www.rwaarchitects.com

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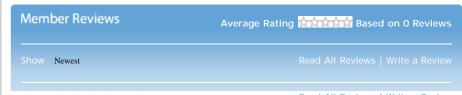
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A CRANnie's Mile High Adventure

Bud Dietrich, AIA

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And there's always something about the venue or the people or both that really makes the convention super memorable. This year was no different. From landing in Denver at 2:30 in the afternoon, just in time to be sent off to a tornado shelter, to being overwhelmingly inspired by Blake Mycoskie, to being a voting delegate from AIA Tampa Bay, to seeing many of my Chicago friends, attending the Denver convention was just awesome.

Yes, yours truly landed in Denver just in time for the airport to be placed under a tornado alert. The sirens were blaring and the terminal became a ghost town as everyone was shuttled off to the basement tornado shelters, which were way too small to accommodate everyone. So, as I stood in the atrium well waiting for the tornado to whoosh me off to Oz, my head was a jumble of thoughts ranging from "how could the architects not design adequate shelter areas" to "how cool is this." In the end, thankfully the funnel cloud didn't strike the airport and all I'm left with is one incredible experience.

It seemed like CRAN was everywhere at the convention. As the sponsor for a number of workshops and seminars as well as the CRAN forum, we CRAN nies had quite an impact on the convention. In fact, I bet that CRAN, which is a relatively small Knowledge Community, has as big an impact on the convention activities as many of the larger components and KC's. It just makes me proud to be a member of a CRAN and appreciative that I've gotten to know some really terrific architects in the process.

Any recap of the convention would be remiss without mentioning the Thursday keynote address by Blake Mycoskie. Blake is the founder of TOMS and the *One for One* program. If you ever have a chance to hear Blake speak, go for it. A few months back, Mickey Jacobs FAIA mentioned that Blake would be a speaker and that we wouldn't want to miss his address. Who the heck is Blake Mycoskie, I thought, and why would I want to listen to him? Well, I'm really glad I did listen. Rather than get into all of the detail about Blake, his company and his *One for One* program, the notion that a for-profit company can do good by doing well is something we can all learn from and be inspired by.



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Convention Recap

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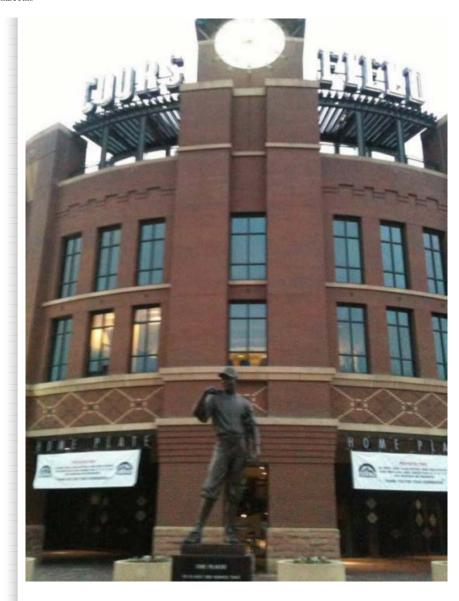
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While I could go on and on about the Denver convention, there are word count limitations. So lastly I'd like to say that I did get out and about. The library designed by Michael Graves and the art museum addition designed by Daniel Libeskind are within a short walk of the convention center. While these two buildings and the surrounding park, etc. are all nice and suitably "architecty," my favorite venue was Coors Field. It was a shame the Rockies weren't playing at home during the convention as I surely would have gone to a game. There's just something about a baseball park that's really wonderfully urban and American. Maybe it's the fabric of streets and proximity to a CBD that's special. Or maybe it was all of the housing being built around Coors Field that was reassuring. But in the end, it's really all of the restaurants and bars that nestle up to the best of our ball parks, like Wrigley and Fenway. And Coors Field has its share of these venues. Even when there was no game going on in the park, the adjacent party scene was going strong each evening we were in Denver. Thank God for America's pastime.



Finally, see you all at the CRAN Santa Fe symposium in a few weeks and at the Chicago convention next year. Until then,

Cheers.

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Symposium Highlights

Dawn Zuber, AIA & Bud Dietrich, AIA

From contextualism to globalism, traditionalism to modernism, environmentalism to industrialism, this year's symposium will feature a group of presenters that covers it all. And to bring it all home, so to speak, we'll have Bobby McAlpine talk about *The Home Within Us*. So here's a bit of an appetizer from each of our presenters. Make sure to join us in Santa Fe for the full meal.

The Value of Reality

James Cutler, FAIA

Cutler Anderson Architects

James Cutler is an award-winning architect and principal of the design firm, Cutler Anderson Architects (formerly James Cutler Architects), on Bainbridge Island, Washington. How is that we architects see the world? How is that we use our viewpoint to understand, interpret and improve the environment around us? How can we use material and craft to create a sense of place and give meaning to our world? And how does all of this provide value to ourselves and our world. Join James Cutler as he explores the answers to these questions through an explanation of his work.

In the Footsteps of Vitruvius: Durability Lessons

Matthew Bronski, Assoc. AIA, P.E.

Simpson, Gumpertz, and Heger

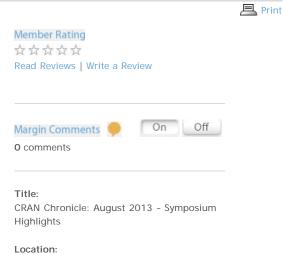
Matthew Bronski has used the work of the Vitruvius as a frequent touchstone for his own work as a historic preservationist. While some architects talk about the Vitruvian idea of firmness, commodity and delight, Bronski lived it. Following in the footsteps of the Roman architect, Bronski utilized Vitruvius' methodology of direct observation of existing buildings. Bronski studied the details, materials, and methods of the building construction and current condition to derive the lessons they have to teach us regarding long-term durability and preservation.

Ancient Light

Jon Dick, AIA

Archaeo Architects

Jon Dick, of Santa Fe, an award winning and well-traveled architect, will examine the conflict between romantic and pragmatic influences in architecture; specifically as these relate to culture and context. Jon will examine how historic architecture effects current design and how these effects intertwine to influence the decisions we architects make



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Ann Harris

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today, especially as it relates to custom residential design.

The New Natural House Revisited (Concurrent Session)

Stuart Narofsky, AIA, LEED AP

Narofsky Architecture

Stuart Narofsky is an award winning and nationally published architect and founder of Narofsky Architecture, located in Long Island City, New York. Stuart will discuss the importance of understanding universal building techniques used throughout history by indigenous people who adapted these techniques as responses to regional and local environmental demands. Narofsky will present the growing movement of regional modernism shown by built examples emphasizing sustainable practice and natural building trends. He will also examine the impact of recent weather changes, such as the "super storm," on existing communities, and recent past failures with respect to disregard of warning signs and environmental conditions.

Real World Metrics for a High Performance Home, A Case Study (Concurrent Session)

Tenna Florian, AIA, LEED AP BD + C

Lake|Flato Architects

Tenna Florian joined L|F in 2005 and has focused on sustainable architecture and designs that integrate into their natural environment. In her presentation, Florian will review the design of the home and the passive sustainable design strategies that were implemented. She will then explain how energy dashboards can be integrated into existing and new construction, and how they can easily identify low-cost, high-impact techniques for saving energy. She will also demonstrate how the dashboard equipment can be used as a diagnostic tool to ensure systems are performing properly. Finally, she will discuss how the architect/client relationship can be strengthened by using post-occupancy evaluation as a vehicle for staying in touch with a client beyond project completion, and helping to ensure the home is performing as was intended.

Some Place Like Home

Toby Israel, Ph.D.

Design Psychology

Dr. Israel is a visionary founder of the new field of Design Psychology. Her worldwide experience and groundbreaking theories are summarized in her book <u>Some Place Like Home: Using Design Psychology to Create Ideal Places</u>. During her session, she will introduce participants to the new field of Design Psychology. She will share how Design Psychology can enhance participants' current residential design practices, and will discuss the process and tools related to Design Psychology.

On Adding On: Incremental Architecture

Stuart Cohen, FAIA & Julie Hacker, FAIA

Stuart Cohen & Julie Hacker Architects

Stuart Cohen taught architecture at the University of Illinois at Chicago and has published numerous articles on theory and criticism. His wife and business partner, Julie Hacker, has a background in psychology and modern dance, and an interest in archeology. The two will discuss the recent history of building additions, including formal and planning strategies for adding on to an existing building. They will explain when an addition should replicate the language of the existing building and when it can stand in contrast. Finally, they will cover the implied meanings conveyed by replicating and extending an existing building versus building in contrast to existing forms and materials.

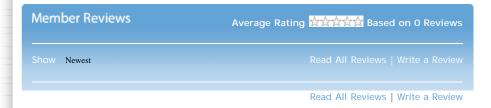
The Home Within Us

Bobby McAlpine, AIA

McAlpine Tankersley Architecture

In his <u>best-selling book from Rizzoli International</u>, architect and furniture designer Bobby

McAlpine speaks poignantly about everyone's personal search for home. Armed with the perspective of a southerner and an arsenal of architectural experience, he reveals his thoughts on grace, the human condition, tenderness of place and what we know to be true in our lives, all based on his body of work created over the last three decades. In his presentation, McAlpine will explore using a person's home as a laboratory and will encourage development of an appetite for maturity in design. He will discuss how to create relationships with good interior designers and landscape architects, as well as the importance of publication.



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A Burglar, a Glitchy Graphics Card, and a Happy Little Cloud

by Jared Banks, AIA | Shoegnome, LLC | www.shoegnome.com

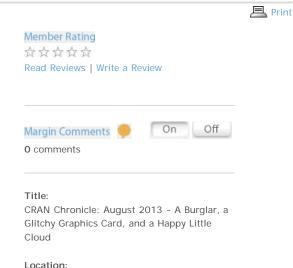
Within 48 hours of graduating from college, I loaded my car and drove north from Houston, Texas, to St. Paul, Minnesota. Somewhere in that car, along with my diploma that said Bachelor's of Architecture on it, was my computer with a college career's worth of photos, projects, resumes, and other important digital paraphilia. Within 96 hours of graduation I was sitting down to my first day of work with a small firm that did a mix of residential and commercial work. I spent the next eighteen months telling both myself and my wife that I was going to buy an external hard drive, or burn my portfolio to a DVD, or do something else to protect my data. But I had a job (well jobs), friends, and so much else to do. I never backed up that machine. On September 5th, 2006, I came home to find our front door open. While everyone else was going back to school or work after Labor Day, a burglar pushed in our window air conditioning unit (I had meant to take it out that weekend), grabbed some jewelry and my computer, then walked out the front door of our duplex. Neither the jewelry nor the computer had much monetary value. But in that one moment, all my schoolwork was lost and gone forever. I did have two hardcopies of my college portfolio and years later as I was packing up to leave Minnesota I found some old CDs that had some of the original images for some of my projects (of course not my favorite images of my favorite projects). But my college work was effectively lost. I was lucky that it was a burglar and not a fire or flood. Then my two hardcopies of the portfolio would have been lost as well

I moved to Newton, Massachusetts, in 2013. After a few weeks of unpacking and settling in, I was finally ready to get back to work. My first week of working was very productive. A month of traveling, unpacking, and no childcare was exhausting, fun, and surprisingly rejuvenating. It was nice to have my daughters back in school, my wife at work, and my home office to myself. On the start of my second week of work, my laptop stopped functioning: my graphics card spontaneously failed. I could start up my machine and get a few minutes of proper functionality. But the moment I did anything demanding, the computer glitched out and locked up. Instead of being productive, I was now sitting in front of a two-thousand dollar brick. A few hours later, my laptop was on the way to an Apple repair center and I was working unimpeded on my wife's computer. No lost data. No inaccessible data. Just a bit of annoyance and some impatience. All I had to do was access whatever I needed via The Cloud.

It took me a few years, but I learned my lesson. Regardless of how tech-savvy your firm is, irrespective of your firm's size, you need to have a bulletproof data-safety plan. Whether you're using BIM, CAD, or even still hand drafting, your computers are filled critical data. You need to protect your data and make sure it's always available to you, no matter what.

Time and Space

How do you go back in time a few days or a week? When your client comes and says "You know that genius idea you showed me three months ago that I hated? Well oops. I love it. Let's do that." Are you prepared to turn to your computer, magically click on a file, and say "Oh you mean this idea? Sure thing. Now let's talk about that additional fee



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for reworking."

How do you reach all your data when your physical access point changes? This might be because you're on vacation and not near your primary machine. It might be because someone stole your laptop. Or your office burned down. Or the basement flooded. Or perhaps like me this week your machine broke without warning. How do you not let that stop you from doing your job?

There are plenty of ways to protect your data. For many of us, we need something simple and effective. We don't have servers with tape drives and IT staff. The answers to both of my questions, which can be shortened to data access across time and data access across space, is a combination of smart practices and smart services.

Simply put, you should save a daily backup of any critical file you work on that might corrupt or require you to look at previous versions of. CAD and BIM files are the best example of this. The solution is to save daily backups in a special backup folder in the given project folder on your hard drive or server. *Everyday. Save a backup.* If you're tech savvy enough to automate this process, great. But if not, I promise you the few seconds it takes each day to copy the file or do a save as is well worth it. Keep these backups on your machine forever. No need to delete them. Your hard drive is big enough to store all those files. And when your hard drive fills up, a bigger hard drive will be super cheap. But I doubt your hard drive will fill up. If you don't believe me, do the math:

(average file size) x (number of days you work on an average project) x (number of projects/year) = a surprisingly small number of gigabytes

To recap: save a backup everyday and keep them all forever.

Saving a backup everyday (I can't say that enough) handles accessing data across time, but what about across space? For that you want an automatic cloud backup service. There are a lot of options. Here's a list of 26. I'm not going to advocate for one service over another (though for those curious, I use Carbonite), but let me describe the features that I find are essential.

- 1. Automatic. You want your backup service running anytime you're connected to the Internet (which is probably 99.9% of the time). You want it to do all the hard work without you reminding it to.
- 2. **Unlimited**. Don't quibble or try to take a shortcut by saving a few dollars a year by selecting a limited plan. Find an unlimited storage plan.
- 3. Accessible. You want to have access to your data wherever you are. You only want to look at cloud storage services that allow you to download your data via a website to wherever you need it. The beauty of this means your cloud storage is not just a backup for crashes; it's also a way for you to grab that one critical file that is sitting back in the office on your machine which is turned off (because a backup of that file is also accessible via the cloud).
- 4. More than Dropbox and iCloud. Dropbox, iCloud, and other similar services are great. But those are something that work in conjunction with an automatic cloud back up service. They are not a replacement for it.
- 5. Not just Time Machine. Time Machine is a great feature for Mac users, but it doesn't meet the criteria of permanent backups, accessible from anywhere. Is it worth setting up? Sure. But focus on these other solutions first.

Now this is all just my opinion, of course. You might have differing opinions and other solutions. But remember, if you can't always access your data, no matter where you are and no matter when you created it, then you are setting yourself up for a cataclysm. Just because we are small firms focused on smaller scale projects and not computer wizards working for mega corporations is no excuse. All your backup and data safety needs are easily solved, and of paramount importance.

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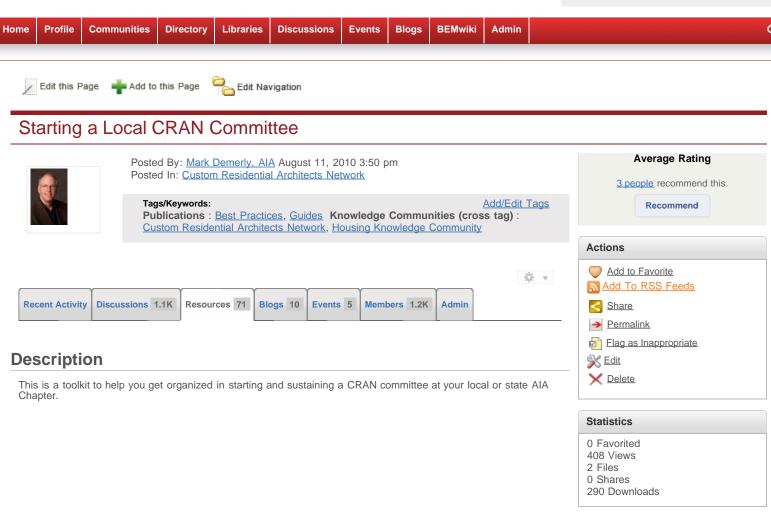




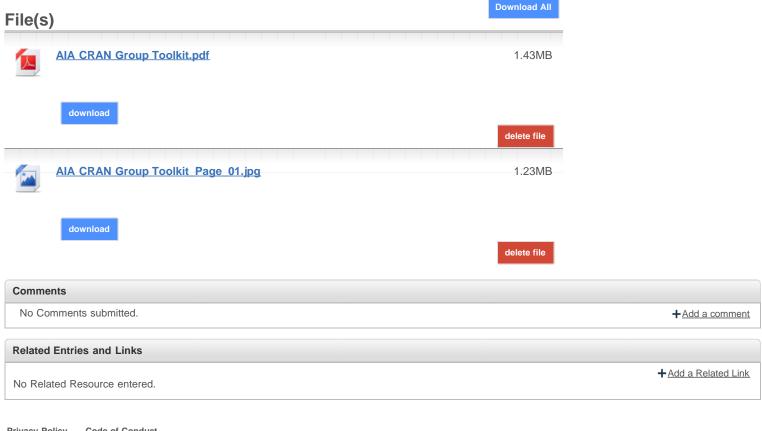












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