

“Your Profession – Your Future”

I am excited about the upcoming year with IDCN as your co-chair. You might ask yourself, what is there to be excited about? We tried legislation last year and we failed! Yes, we failed, but we learned so much through the process. We have specific things that we need to accomplish both this year and next. IDCN has a vibrant steering committee that is ready to keep our mission on the path. We will try again and do all we can to succeed. There is no need to be frustrated or think that at some point IDCN will just go away. Once legislation is passed, we will continue to be an important part of your future. This is not a “we/they” argument. All of our professions within the architectural and design communities should be able to coexist in harmony with clear definitions of our work.

Our profession of Interior Design will continue to change and evolve just as other professions do. It is important to you to be part of IDCN whether you are a member of ASID, IIDA, or neither group. This is a separate organization with a common goal- support of the interior design profession. As you will read in my co-chairs information, there are so many reasons to be part of this mission. Like it or not there is legislation that is happening on a regular basis that affects Interior Design and the way in which we are ‘allowed’ to practice. It is easy to say that you aren’t affected and that our ability to call ourselves Interior Designers will always continue. This may or may not be the case. I can barely predict what will happen tomorrow let alone the future years of being able to practice as a designer and to employ Interior Designers.

Each month I will be asking you for something! Don’t worry, it won’t be difficult! Your first call to action is to join IDCN at whatever level you choose. It is simple, all of it can be done by sitting at your computer for less than 15 minutes. From there, ask your fellow Interior Designer to join. There will be many benefits you will enjoy by being a member and actively having a say in your profession-your future. Join Today!

Marlene Knight- co-chair IDCN

Perspective from a New Professional

My first year in the professional design industry has gone faster than I could have ever imagined! I have been delighted to find that all of my hard work and late nights in school have paid off. I continue to learn new things everyday and build upon the education I have received. I hold my degree in high regard and hope to someday see its protection under state legislation.

This is why it is important to me to support IDCN.

Victoria Jordan

The Past

- **LB227** (Interior Designers Certification Act) was voted down in the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee during the 2009 legislative session
- The required fiscal note, provided to the Committee by the Board of Engineers and Architects, indicated that the newly created “Board of Interior Designers” would not be financially viable as a separate board
- After reviewing the fiscal note, the introducing Senator proposed last minute changes to the bill which altered the proposed Board of Interior Designers to become part of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects
- Vocal opposition from the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects, AIA (American Institute of Architects), NKBA (National Kitchen and Bath Association), IDPC (Interior Design Protection Council), NARI (National Association of the Remodeling Industry) and local engineering groups were detrimental to the bill advancing out of Committee

*Doris Buell and
Jessica Doolittle, Past Co-Chairs*

VISION STATEMENT "THE INTERIOR DESIGN COALITION OF NEBRASKA (IDCN) WILL ENSURE THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE PUBLIC THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A LEGAL DEFINITION OF THE INTERIOR DESIGN PROFESSION, STANDARDS, COMPETENCY, AND THE PROMOTION OF PUBLIC AWARENESS."

Interior Design Coalition of Nebraska

March 2010

Vol. 1 Issue 3

The "Watchdog" section featured in each newsletter will inform you of current legislative actions, both national and local, that could affect our profession.

The Present - "Watchdog"

National

- The International Code Council (ICC) proposed changing the definition of "registered design professional". It proposed to define a design professional as ONLY an "architect or engineer". ASID and IIDA, among others, lobbied hard to maintain the definition in its current wording, and were successful in their efforts. That definition states; "an individual who is registered or licensed to practice their respective design profession as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration laws of the state of jurisdiction in which the project is to be constructed." *Nebraska DOES NOT have a statute that defines interior designers.*
- The ICC Building Code, slated for publication and adoption in 2012, will use the California Green Building Code as a key reference document.
- Florida, February 4, 2010. It was declared unconstitutional to bar a person who provides lawful residential interior design services from using the term "interior designer". The practice act covering commercial design was upheld by Judge Hinkle. The Institute for Justice plans to file an appeal seeking to have the entire practice act struck down.

Local

- LB700, the Contractor Certification of Residential Construction and Remodeling Contractors, will have a hearing in the Nebraska Legislature on February 22. Bellevue, Nebraska has already passed a similar law and Sarpy County is considering one. In the building process, the architect, engineer, plumber, electrician, and soon to be painter and contractor will all be recognized and defined by statute in the state of Nebraska. All except for the interior designer who makes many of the selections for the aforementioned team members.
- Nebraska LB1066 has proposed a sales tax on interior design services. A hearing will be held on February 25.

Anita Wiechman- co-chair IDCN

Membership

With your membership this year you will be supporting IDCN in going forward with legislative efforts. We are focused on gaining support from our community, growing our legislative funds and by informing you of the latest in legislative activities that may affect our profession. We want to grow IDCN into a professional group that will be around for years to come to support our local professionals. Please take the time to fill out the quick membership form and support our efforts.

Upcoming Events for the year

2 Fundraisers for the year:

- Designers Garage Sale, Late Spring
- Halloween Party, October

Small Group Meetings

- Round-table discussions to provide information on current legislative actions in a informal question and answer format

Sustaining Sponsorship (\$750+)



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Patron Sponsorship (\$250)

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2010 IDCN Membership Form
January 1, 2010 - December 31, 2010

IDCN thanks you for your ongoing support for our profession. It is time to join and/or renew your membership/sponsorship in IDCN. We have changed the structure of the membership levels, with our goal being to increase membership. In 2010, IDCN will be monitoring legislation that may affect the interior design profession, will reach out to our grassroots, and will continue building the relationships we need for future interior design legislation. Remember, this is "YOUR PROFESSION...YOUR FUTURE" and your membership/sponsorship is crucial to the success of IDCN.

Name: _____ Date: _____
 Company: _____ Phone: _____
 Street Address: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Fax: _____ Email: _____

Membership Levels:

- Individual Membership: \$25**
 - o Includes discounted rates to member events
- Sustaining/Corporate Membership: \$125**
 - o Includes 1 individual membership (\$25) plus corporate and/or sustaining membership (\$100) and discounted rates to member events

Sponsorship Levels:

- Patron Sponsorship: \$250**
- Benefactor Sponsorship: \$500**
- Sustaining Sponsorship: \$750+**
 - o All sponsorships will be recognized in IDCN newsletters and at IDCN events

Payment Type: (Mail this form and payment to the office listed below, or pay via credit card on our website at www.idcnebraska.org)

- I am paying by Check (Payable to IDCN).
- Please bill my Credit Card in the amount of \$ _____ VISA MasterCard
 Card # _____ Exp Date: _____(mm/yy)
 Name on Card: _____
 Billing Address: _____
 City, State Zip: _____
 Signature: _____ Security Code: _____

You can also join/renew online at www.idcnebraska.org