

TEXAS ARCHITECT



Letters

MAX - NOTE LETTER -

TEXAS ARCHITECT MAGAZINE
10/94

Humor and the Work of Colleagues

IT'S ALWAYS INTERESTING to see the work of college students whose "inhibitions have been lifted" by some bright instructor (*TA*, "Survey," July/Aug 1994). The work of Mr. Swearer's students reminded me of some of the creations that came from Mr. Goff's Architecture 8 classes at the University of Oklahoma.

However, for pure old fashioned fun, nothing will ever top Max Greiner's whimsical creations during his days at Texas A&M in the early 1970s. John Fairy was Max's instructor, and I think Rodney Hill had some influence on what Max was doing. The examples of "fetishistic focusing" pale compared to what Max was creating: A completely functional wine decanter crafted from a real (albeit deceased) chicken; a hand mirror whose handle is mostly the legs of a real (also deceased) bull frog; and, a jewelry box that stands on four legs (same again) taken from a raccoon. Now, *that* was good stuff.

Don't get me wrong—I like the results from Austin. I just couldn't envision how you really use them. The "portable clothing-like conceal-

ing structure" holds promise, but not like being able to tuck a white leghorn under my arm and ask . . . "a little Madeira, my dear?"

Humor is a powerful weapon. Keep up the good work, and keep trying. I like this better than the architecture currently being produced by my colleagues.
Jim W. Sealy, FAIA
Architect/Building Code Consultant
Dallas

at that time are still carrying leadership roles in TSA. All of you are doing great work for the profession and to the benefit of those who are just now coming into architecture. Your work is much appreciated.
Howard R. Barr, FAIA
Austin

Editor's response: *Mr. Barr's kind note makes light of a truly embarrassing editorial error.*

Correcting an Exaggerated Rumor

IT HAS come to my attention that according to the [April 1994] *Texas Architect Practice Annual*, in the listing of past TSA presidents, I am declared deceased. I fear that others will believe such an exaggeration of my physical condition and go into deep mourning. Since it is too hot at this time to wear dark clothes, I hasten to advise them to continue wearing light-colored cottons. I feel great and do not plan to accept celestial residence for some time to come.

Incidentally, although it has been 25 years since I had the pleasure of serving as TSA president, I note that many of those who were active

Of Design, Service, and CRSS

YOUR EDITORIAL in the July/August issue was interesting, but as an ex-CRSer (1965–1975) I think the sale of their architectural practice falls into a category other than Process versus Design.

I was fortunate to work for Bill, John, Wally, and Willy Peña and to be one of CRS's six minor shareholders before it went public (there were eight major ones). However, after going public, management said that our responsibility was to have a 15-percent compounded return for the market. On the projects in which I was

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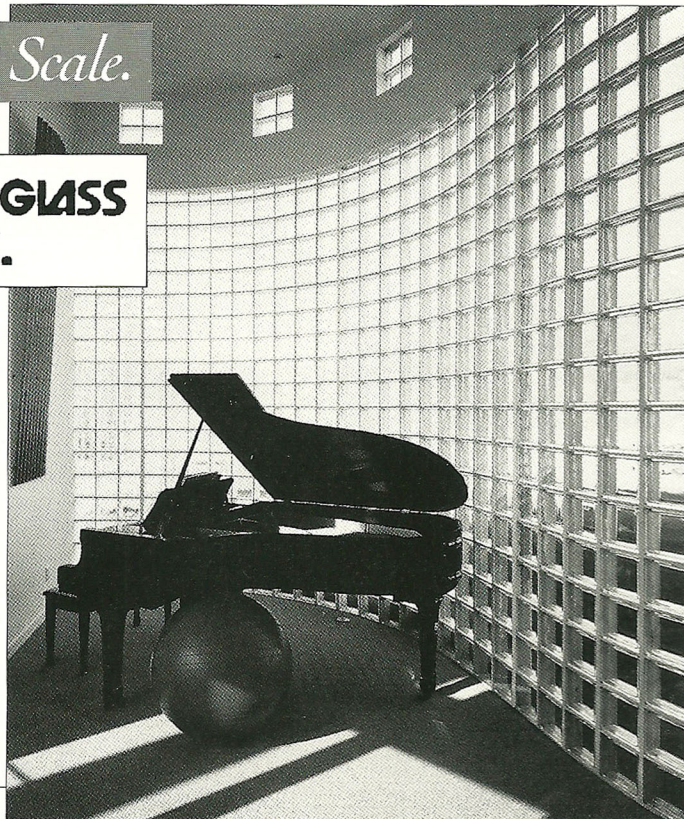
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