

July 2014

Little Rock Chapter
Construction Specifications Institute



SPECWORK

Knowledge for Creating & Sustaining the Built Environment
CSINet - Home of The Construction Specifications Institute

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Reports	2
PERSPECTIVES	3
May Minutes	4-5
Tech Article	6 & 8
CSI Leadership	7
Open Letter	9-10

Metal wall and roof system design



Brian Selig, CSI



Learning Objectives:

A one hour AIA Learning Unit program that discusses the history of metal roofing and covers the basic types of metal roofing that are used today.

October 14th
Location; TBD



MISSION OF CSI:

“Advance the process of creating and sustaining the built environment.”

“CSI is a national association dedicated to creating standards and formats to improve construction documents and projects delivery.

The organization is unique in the industry in that its members are a cross section of specifiers, architects, engineers, contractors and building materials suppliers.”

From CSI Website: csinet.org



President's Message



Leadership Seminar on Fundraising:

One of the critical components of a nonprofit organization is to be able to raise sufficient funds that ultimately will benefit its members. Every donation, whether it be from advertising, lunch meetings, tournaments or member dues, is an important piece of what makes our organization possible. One of the reasons our supporters contribute is because they believe in the CSI mission. Our acknowledgement of these individuals or companies is sometimes the only tangible return of their investment. In order to strengthen our fundraising for our Chapter, we need to familiarize ourselves with our sponsors and help them see how their contribution benefits and improves our industry and our professions.

Jerome Sorensen, AIA, CSI

Chapter News

Little Rock Chapter, CSI has a new website. In case you haven't noticed, the old web address is no longer valid. Because of continued costs and issues associated with maintaining our own separate website, the Board has made the decision to move our website to a "microsite" managed by the Chapter through the Institute. There is no cost associated with this new site except for the time of a webmaster to keep things updated. Please take note of and update your current bookmarks to the new address: <http://littlerock.csinet.org/>

Gulf States Region Leadership Meeting

Mark your calendars, the 2014 GSR Leadership Meeting will be held in Pearl, MS between August 8-9. Please visit: <http://mississippi.csinet.org/2014-GSR-Leadership-Meeting> for more details, and to register and pay online!

The Construction Specifications Institute is a nationwide non-profit technical organization dedicated to the improvement of specifications and building practices in the construction industry through service, education and research. Founded in 1948, CSI provides a forum for architects, engineers, specification writers, contractors, suppliers and others in our industry. Membership is open to all who are involved in the built environment. Please contact Chapter membership Chairman, Kare White or any chapter officer listed on the "Officer, Directors and Committee Chairs" page of this newsletter.



PER-SPEC-TIVES

OTHER PERSPECTIVES, OPINIONS, EXPRESSIONS, IMPRESSIONS, THOUGHTS AND IDEAS ABOUT THE NOBLE
PROFESSION OF SPECIFICATIONS WRITING -- OPEN FOR, AND SEEKING DISCUSSION

NO. 92 - August 2, 2010

DOESN'T ANYBODY CARE?

by Ralph Liebing, RA, CSI, CDT

Cincinnati, OH

Does a specifications consultant in private practice/business in Kansas have any educational responsibility for young architects [from students to emerging professionals]? Does an unregistered, but architecturally trained, specifications writer, in a firm of 9 people in Mississippi, have any such responsibility within that office? Does the long-experienced, full-time, registered, in-house specification writer in a firm of 110 or more in Oregon have any such responsibility?

Do any of these folks care? Are they all too busy; too disinterested; or devoid of any feeling of responsibility? Oh, and yes, in all cases what should the depth of their interest be?

Michael Chusid, FCSI, posted an interesting article on his blog recently and one that is both sad and maddening. Friends, it appears that few people [and spec writers are only a small number of these] give a tinker's darn what students.... no, FUTURE architects.... should know and be able to do! Has everyone bought into the shtick that architecture = only design, and there is no need for architects of the future to know materials, construction methods, processes, legalities, project control/ management, developing contract documents, detailing, and the task of "putting buildings together"-- i.e., constructing real touchy-feely architecture from glitzy board mounted, computer-generated, detail-less design concepts?

How can registration laws require experience and education to prevent substandard construction from harming the community and "public, health, safety and welfare"? How can those laws now be subverted to allow minimalized education, simply for convenience of "making more architects, more easily" [forget better training and competency!]- most of whom still will NOT be able to correctly and adequately document a project for construction? How utterly stupid!!!

It is absolutely baffling how the one profession that is charged so definitively legally; that contributes directly to the Contract Documents; and indeed, that is responsible for the very basis of what is built for the client, is so maligned, ignored, obviate, belittled, scorned and basically set aside! Other allied professions do not suffer from this type of neglect-- engineers exist in many disciplines and are accepted as "experts" in their chosen fields. Contractors certainly claim, and rightly so, expertise in their special work or in overall project control and administration. Yet both of these valuable entities do not receive the dismissive attitude and status. I am not sure how architects, collectively, have come by their diminished status-- sure, there have been and still are "prima donna" architects who excel in design, but does their work then automatically relegate the work of ALL other architects as irrelevant, needless, annoyingly picky, extensive, overly costly, unnecessary[!!!!] and "necessary evils" that all other participants must simply "put up with"?

vvthe design and rendering. Owners are paying "through the nose" for glitzy projects that fail to provide what is needed, leak, or otherwise prove inadequate [despite some quality construction]. Also missing is what is left and what can and will happen when the architect disappears and so do their specifications [it may be that the consultants will also be ignored, or grossly overworked [??]].

Maybe you feel no responsibility; but think-- no architect; no drawings and specs = Owner to Contractor "word-of-mouth, arm-waving architecture"! Hmmm!

May 2014 Minutes

LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER OF THE CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

Board Meeting Date: May 13th, 2014

Meeting Time: 10:30 AM

Meeting Location: BALDWIN & SHELL Office

Attendees:

President: Jerome Sorensen

- Call to order.
- Welcome and Opening Remarks.
- Quorum Check

Secretary: Acting: Jerome Sorensen

- Presentation of Minutes from Last Board Meeting.
- Discussion & correction
- Voting on minutes:
- Presentation of correspondence:

Treasurer: Jan Sanders

- Financial Report.

Old Business:

B. Regional Conference Meeting: May 16th - 17th in New Orleans.- Any Attendees? Jerome Sorensen & Michelle Christen will attend. Stipend distributed between attendees per approved budget. Stipend of \$400 each attendee issued. CLOSED.

C. Golf Tournament 2014: Tim Davis Provide Update: Tim Davis to resign from Golf Committee Chair. JS to head Committee. JS is intending on proceeding on requesting quote from Gregg Mosser for cost to plan event. Will provide update in January Board Meeting. Contract Signed with Sanders 2K to plan & coordinate event. 4/9= S2K continues to send out information. Some responses have been received back. Current enrollment is OPEN

D. Outstanding Chapter Commendation 2014: UPDATE: Still in process. 4/9= Jerome is compiling information for submission. Missed 5/2 Deadline for filing. Jerome will submit 7/14 Outstanding Chapter Award. = OPEN.

E. Nominating Committee: Tim Davis to provide recommendations to board for voting. Ballots should be sent out end of the Month of April for May voting. 4/9= Members needed to join Board of Directors. Potential candidates are needed. Outgoing Board Members are President Jerome Sorensen, VP Kara White, Treasurer Jan Sanders and Directors Bart Lusk & Jimmy Klawetter. Below are the slate of Nominations HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW.

1. President= Billy Mathis
2. President Elect= VACANT
3. Vice President= Bart Lusk
4. Secretary=Jerome Sorensen
5. Treasurer= Jan Sanders
6. Director 2 year= Michelle Christen
7. Director 2 year= VACANT
8. Director (Stays without election)= Bob Morris
9. Director (Stays without election)= Mark Edds
10. Past President (non-elected)= Jerome Sorensen

New Business:

A. Meeting Location and cost analysis: OPEN

B. September 2014 Seminar: Need to start planning potential speakers. B.M. to look into rough schedule. OPEN

- C. Chapter Calendar:
- June 26-28- AIA Convention: Chicago, IL
 - August 12- Chapter Meeting
 - September 9- Chapter Meeting
 - September 9 to 11- CSI CONSTRUCT 2014: Baltimore, MD.
 - September 2014- LRCSI Seminar
 - October 14- Chapter Meeting
 - October 24- LRCSI Membership Meeting
 - November 8-10: USGBC Greenbuild Conference
 - November 11- Chapter Meeting
 - December 12 FRIDAY- Chapter Plant Tour

2015 Calendar

- January 13- Chapter Meeting
- February 10- Chapter Meeting
- March 10- Chapter Meeting
- March 2014- LRSCI Product Show & Seminar
- April 14- Chapter Meeting
- May 12- Chapter Meeting
- June 9- Chapter Meeting/Banquet
- August 11- Chapter Meeting
- September 2014- CONSTRUCT
- September 8- Chapter Meeting
- September 2014- LRCSI Seminar
- October 13- Chapter Meeting
- October 16- CSI Golf Tournament
- October 23- LRCSI Membership Meeting
- November 2014: USGBC Greenbuild Conference
- November 10- Chapter Meeting
- December 11 FRIDAY- Chapter Plant Tour

Committee Reports:

- A. Academic Affairs (Kiem Kirkpatrick):
- B. Awards (Melissa Aguiar): Need NEW Chair
- A. Certification / Education (EMPTY: Jerome Sorensen): Need Chair
- 1. Quarterly CEU Seminars: JONATHAN LOWERY interested in becoming a teacher.
- C. Electronic Communications (Mark Edds): None.
- D. Emerging Professionals (Jerome Sorensen): Need Chair
- E. Membership (BOB MORRIS)= Newly Appointed/Volunteered. CURRENT STATUS BELOW:
(WAS 85 on 5/15/14)
- F. Media Promotion (BILLY MATTHIS)= Newly Appointed/Volunteered.
- G. Publications / Advertising (Bart Lusk): Latest publication in November.
- H. Nominating (Tim Davis): PROVIDE Update
- I. Programs/Table-Tops (Kara White): NEED MEETINGS. New
- J. Fundraising / Golf Tournament (JEROME SORENSEN)= Newly Appointed/Volunteered.
Michelle Christen acting as Vice chair.
- K. Planning (Jerome Sorensen):
- L. Finance (Jan Sanders):
- M. Scholarship Reports (Jessica Jeffries): Awarded \$1000 to Chris Friemel UALR
- N. Technical (Karl Hanson):
- O. Historian (Jerome Sorensen):
- P. Photographer (Bart Lusk): Provide Update
- Q. Website (BILLY MATTHIS)= Newly Appointed/Volunteered.

Meeting Adjourned

Architect / Consulting Engineer Coordination, Closing the Gap

Written by Billy J. Mathis, CSI, CDT President, Gulf States Region
Presented by Cherise Schacter, CSI, CDT

So here I sit at 10:00 a.m. on a Thursday, having spent 12 hours on my feet and in classes the previous day, wondering if this topic is going to be as interesting as we all think it sounds. Then the speaker starts and we all realize at this time this is going to be a good one. The basics of the presentation are not new. Architects and Consulting Engineers need to coordinate their efforts, however, in today's fast paced design and construction world, this does not always happen. So what we end up with are Change Orders, Lawsuits, and angry Clients. If we had taken a little time in the beginning to get on the same page, we could have prevented a lot of this from occurring. Not all of it, sometimes things just happen. But, if we had communicated and coordinated on the front side of the Design, the back side of Design and Construction should flow smoother. So what can we do? As Architects, we can't be afraid to share basic information such as the Owner / Architect Agreement (minus the financials if desired) as well as the standard Division 1 and General Conditions to be used on the Project. Why this information you ponder. Well, a lot of coordination and communication issues could be resolved if everyone was working off of the same script.

Architects, let the engineers know what is expected and when. Get samples of their specs, edit them for format and such, and send back. That way they know what is expected. Engineers, if the Architect doesn't send this information to you, request it. If you don't know what your duties and responsibilities are, how can you provide your services.

Architects, when sending out RFPs for services, think about granting bonus points if the Consulting Engineer has CSI Certified (CDT, CCS, etc) staff members. You may not find any immediately, but if you ask for it often enough, the Consulting Engineers will make the move. Consulting Engineers, you might consider getting your administrative staff CSI Certified so you can use their expertise to better market your services.

These are just a couple of the recommendations made. The biggest recommendation made was to meet early, meet at defined intervals depending on the complexity of the Project, and constantly update and prepare your specifications and drawings. If your Consulting Engineer sends over the unedited master specification at a 50% review, then you have a problem in that coordination will be impossible. Make sure that what has been drawn has also been incorporated into the specifications. Also, make sure everyone is on the same page when it comes to format, terminology, and what sections are actually included and that their Specs reflect this information.

Basically it boils down to the following sentence

If you can't take the time to communicate and coordinate early, you can't afford the time and money it will take to correct issues later.

LITTLE ROCK CSI CHAPTER

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iTunes Store Now Features International Codes eBooks

Construction industry iPad and iPhone users now have easy access to many International Code Council codes, commentaries, standards and handbooks in Apple's iTunes Store. Titles available include the International Codes, among them the debut of the 2012 International Green Construction Code and 2012 *International Swimming Pool and Spa Code*.

"Mobile and digital access is a must today. Whether you are a building official, inspector, architect, engineer, designer or other construction industry professional, when you need information, you need it now, especially codes and key references. To meet that need, International Codes, several custom state and local codes and many popular I-Code references are available as eBooks in the iTunes store," said ICC Executive Vice President and Director of Business Development Mark A. Johnson.

The latest series of International Codes and references now available in the iTunes store include:

- 2012 International Codes and Code and Commentaries
- 2009 International Codes, Q&A's, and IBC Handbooks
- ICC Referenced Standards
- 2011 Ohio Codes
- 2010 Florida Building Codes
- 2009 Michigan Codes
- 2009 Virginia Codes
- 2009 New Jersey Codes

To purchase an ICC product in Apple's iTunes store, customers need an Internet connection and iTunes account, which can be set up simply and quickly.

The International Code Council is a member-focused association dedicated to helping the building safety community and construction industry provide safe and sustainable construction through the development of codes and standards used in the design, build and compliance process. Most U.S. communities and many global markets choose the International Codes.

Contact Steve Daggers: 1-888-ICC-SAFE (422-7233), ext. (4212)

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<http://www.iccsafe.org/newsroom/Pages/05112012-NR-iTunes.aspx>

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Open Letter to the Gulf States Region

Is Change in our Future?

After many good and challenging days at CONSTRUCT 2013 in Nashville, TN, I felt that I needed to address the entire Region to discuss several things. The first of which is Change.

Change – this is one word that invokes many differing reactions. For some, it is as simple as straying from their normal day-to-day course. For others it is working in a new way to make a difference in some aspect of their lives. For many, however, change is a very scary proposition and one which can cause anxiety. Well, from the many discussions I was party to, I can tell you that change is in the air and CSI is fully committed to leading the way. Change involves many of the Challenges our organization faces. These challenges include, but are not limited to, Membership, Education, Leadership, and making CSI Relevant to the Industry. In order to bring you up to date, let me discuss what I learned from my experiences:

We have talked and talked about the challenges faced by many Chapters today in both membership recruitment and retention. Well, it is time for the talk to end. As an organization we have to get the Gen X, Gen Y, and Millennium Generation to see the value of membership in CSI and get involved at all levels. There is no way around that challenge. The million dollar question is “How do we do that?”.

There are many ideas out there but the first and foremost concept is that CSI needs to make sure that these younger generations know that this organization is out there and that it has value for them. We want them to seek us out and join with us to keep CSI moving forward. We want them to get involved in making the jump from the Boomer Generation’s version to their new modern and in much more tech savvy version.

How we bring up leaders also has to change. The old ways of a structured training program and belonging to the organization for a specific time period before stepping into leadership roles is no longer valid. The younger generations want to step into leadership roles earlier, effect change and make an impact on not only the organization but society as a whole. This is evidenced by their desire to give back to the local communities through volunteer efforts. We, the Boomer Generation, need to realize that our ways are just a foreign to them as our parent’s were to us. We effected great change not only in CSI but in society as a whole, now we have to give them their turn. Bring the next generations in, let them step up to leadership roles when they say they are ready. As the “old timers” in the Chapter, our role will then be that of advisors, help them to move forward but not make the same mistakes we did. We should not dictate policy but provide guidance and possibly even play the “devil’s advocate” in the decision process. We have to learn to let go.

This leads to the next part of the challenge, which is to get involved in the community. CSI needs to be recognized as an organization out there in the community making a difference. Help organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill, your local Food Pantry, etc. These organizations are out there helping people in the community and should be our first steps in getting involved. Our local Chapters need to have a presence at these and many other community activities to get us out of the shadows and let the world know who CSI is and what we stand for.

Education is another challenge our organization faces. For years we have developed and depended on the CDT, CCS, CCCA, and CCPR certifications as the mainstays of our education programs. While we have provided avenues in monthly meetings for AIA CEU presentations, we have not really evolved beyond these narrow scopes. We have to expand beyond the monthly meeting CEU presentations and the CDT, CCCA, CCS, and CCPR certification realms. The Institute has recognized this and is currently taking steps in that direction with their CDT+G Certification and the new education program involving not only specifications and documents, but how a building comes together from the ground up. Much more is coming down the pipeline on these and other initiatives that are in the works and which should give CSI Chapters the opportunity to become the industry educators.

Leadership is another arena where we face many challenges. Chapters have to look at their local construction community and identify those areas where CSI can exercise leadership. Our leaders must be well informed and able to bring together a team that can take on the challenges identified locally. If this means changing the structure of the Chapter and/or reorganizing some committee relationships, then the local chapter leadership must act. Think both inside and outside the box, communicate with your members, provide for the membership's needs and the Chapter will grow and be healthy.

Making CSI relevant to the construction community is an ever evolving process as the construction community is an every evolving entity. Stay in contact with the sister organizations (AIA, AGC, ASHRAE, NAWIC, etc). They can help you keep up with changes.

But what can I do personally, you may ask. I am just one person and I really can't have that great an impact on CSI. If you noticed in this last election year, several elections came down to one or two votes. Each person is a powerful entity, one who can change the course of an organization. The difference between just existing as an organization and being relevant could boil down to one or two dedicated people willing to step up and get involved. There is a saying about Evil and what it takes for it to succeed that I would like to paraphrase:

"All that is needed for CSI to fail is for good members to do nothing".

Get out there, get involved and make CSI the organization it desires to be. Become an organization builder and not just a watcher following along with so many others.

Thank you for all you do and will do.

Billy J. Mathis, CSI, CDT
President, Gulf States Region





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Interested in providing an article or placing an ad in the next newsletter?
Please notify Bart Lusk.

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