



SPECTICKLE



SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
The Construction Specifications
Institute, Inc.

Volume 10, Issue 1
July 2010



Neal Drell, CSI, CCPR
2010-11 SDCSI President

I am writing this on my first official day as President of CSI San Diego. I am very excited about the opportunity to add my little spin on the organization. I believe we have some new energetic members on the Board, yet are anchored by some mature reasoning. I really think we will have a fun, productive year with CSI.

President's Message

My initial feelings about CSI many years ago were a bit of intimidation and awe. I was socializing and having dinner with many of the principal architects I had been trying so hard to meet ... unsuccessfully, I might add. I was learning that there are many more divisions in the construction world, other than just mine. These other divisions also have product reps. All of these new people were warm and welcoming to the new kid on the block.

I remember meeting with Mike Lugo and Gina Adams and their attitude of "whatever they could do to help."

My goal for CSI San Diego is to live that attitude. I want to share that attitude and encourage all of our members and all of the future members to equate CSI San Diego with "whatever we can do to help."

We are a very diverse group of professionals whose common thread is the San Diego construction industry. Our work experience and practical knowledge spans many more years than we would really like to admit. That information and insight can never be learned from a book. That is the knowledge that must be shared and passed on.

My goal is to provide continuing education classes and the opportunities for sharing of real life construction experiences. Let this insight be something we all pass on to the next generation. Let's all work together to achieve this goal and live the idea of "whatever we can do to help."

Thank you ALL for your support and let's have some fun. ■



CALL FOR ARTICLES !

Have you or one of your co-workers written an article (either recently or in the past) that might be of interest to our San Diego Chapter membership?

If so, please send an email to Newsletter Editor Randa Vargas, CSI, at randav@woodinst.com describing the article and attach a copy (in Word or PDF) for publication consideration.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Call For Articles	1
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	2
Our Monthly Advertisers	2
SpecTickle Advertising Rates	2
West Region Corner.....	3
The NEW "CALGreen" Code.....	4
Meet a Member of the CSI San Diego Chapter:	
KAREN G. FINCH, CSI.....	5
PER-SPEC-TIVES: TRAVESTY	6-7
Great Moments in Engineering History	7
Editorial Policy	8
San Diego Chapter Board of Directors/Committee Chairs ...	8



West Region Corner

by David A. Willis, CSI, CDT, CCCM – West Region Vice President
Craig L. Mount, CSI, CDT, AIA, NCARB – West Region President



Dave Willis, CSI, CDT

Greetings to all as we head into another exciting new year with CSI. It feels like it was just yesterday I started out as the West Region VP, and here we are on the brink of a new year with new governance and all. This will be a busy year, with the West Region Conference coming up this fall at the Tenaya Lodge near Yosemite, the mid-year Board meeting in Oakland in the spring, and the North-South one-day drive in Leadership programs being planned for the fall of 2011 in lieu of a West Region Conference normally held at that time. The Institute Conference is moving to the Fall in 2011, and we will not have the next WR Conference until Spring of 2012.

I have had the extreme pleasure of attending four chapter dinner meetings in the last two months in Northern California. Duane Johnson asked if I would visit the Bay area chapters before the end of the CSI year. He went south. I had the privilege of installing the incoming officers for the Oakland/East Bay Chapter and the Santa Clara Valley Chapter. I attended the San Francisco Chapter Awards and Installation Dinner where Paulette Salisbury did a great job installing their officers. The Monterey Bay Chapter was next, meeting in a wonderful old hotel—the La Playa—in Carmel. Their Installation and Awards Dinner will be in August sometime. On June 29th, I had the privilege of installing the offices of my home chapter in Fresno at the annual summer party. I also had the privilege of attending the Santa Clara Valley Chapter's 50th Anniversary Dinner.

I want to compliment Jennifer Alexander and Craig Mount for their continued work and diligence as Co-Chairs of the West Region Membership Committee. Lately, Jennifer has been sending emails of encouragement to the West Region chapters with declining memberships. By the way, congratulations to the Inland Empire and San Diego Chapters for *increasing* their membership. Jennifer has sent out a few suggestions for increasing and maintaining members. With Jennifer's permission, here are a few of them:

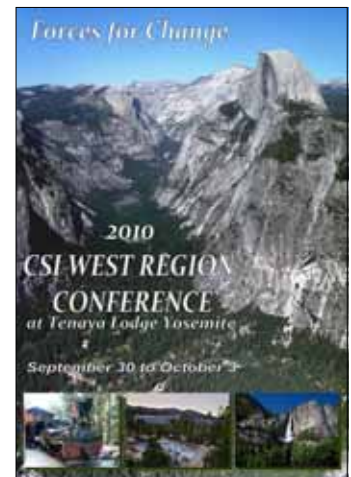
1. Make some calls to non-renewed members.
2. Send a "nice to meet you" email to somebody you met at an AIA, USGBC, or other professional organization.
3. Be extra friendly to existing members at your next meeting.
4. Invite a colleague at work to go with you to the next chapter event.
5. Call two past chapter Presidents and ask for help.
6. Tell others how CSI has so much to offer and why you like it.

I know these are not new ideas and we all have heard them before, but it doesn't hurt to be reminded about them now and again.

I want to encourage you all to think seriously about attending the WR Fall Conference. The committee has put together a great program for members and significant others alike. I know the WR Leadership Committee is working on having a great program for all those new and old chapter committee members. This isn't restricted to the committee chairs, so please sign up. The sponsorship application, hotel registration, and member link online or mail-in registration is all available through the WR Region or Fresno Chapter websites. I know there has been a little confusion with some of the sponsoring vendors as to what activities are included in full registration. This information is on both websites. There is also a breakdown of à la carte activities. The committee hopes you all will come a little early or stay a little late to take in the beauty of the Sierra Nevada and the awe-inspiring Yosemite Valley.

Philadelphia was the venue for the CSI Institute Convention this year. For those who did make it, it was a great conference situated in one of the most beautiful historical cities in the USA. This year at the member meeting, we actually had business upon which to act. We will again have the opportunity to vote on the issue of keeping or discontinuing the member classifications, *i.e.*, Professional or Industry. The Los Angeles Chapter brought the request for consideration of other business to the Annual Meeting. It was voted and passed that a new Bylaws amendment to change the membership classifications be put on the ballot again in 2011. The West Region participated with full enthusiasm, balloons and all!

In closing, I want to welcome you all to a new year in CSI. Please call me anytime with any issues or questions you may have, and may all your endeavors be prosperous. ■



[Click here](#) for Conference details and registration.

Don't delay registering!
Early registration savings ends August 9th, and the Tenaya Lodge **room block lasts only through August 28th**, after which availability may be limited and higher standard rates kick in.



Office of the Governor

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNOR

The NEW "CALGreen" Code

by Rob Smith, CSI, CCS, RA

CALGreen is California's first green building standards code and a first-in-the-nation state-mandated "Green Building Code." It is formally known as Title 24, Part 11, the California Green Building Standards Code (nicknamed "CALGreen"). This new code becomes effective January 1, 2011. This is not a stand-alone document, but rather becomes an additional "Part" to the Title 24 family of codes.

An early DRAFT copy may be viewed at <http://www.bsc.ca.gov/CALGreen>. CALGreen mandatory measures address planning & design in the following areas:

- Site development
- Water efficiency and conservation
- Energy efficiency and conservation
- Material conservation and resource efficiency
- Construction waste reduction, disposal and recycling
- Building maintenance and operation
- Pollutant control and indoor moisture control
- Indoor and outdoor air quality
- Environmental comfort

Many sustainability measures that "score points" in the LEED rating system now become mandatory in this Code. The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and Build It Green are working on analyses comparing CALGreen with their standards.

This Code is basically broken into two parts—(Low-Rise) Residential and Non-Residential mandatory measures. For now, only three stories or less residential buildings are covered by the scope of CALGreen. Residential projects above three stories may be addressed in a future edition. CALGreen establishes mandatory minimum green building standards and also includes voluntary Tier 1 & 2 measures.

Tiers may be adopted (*i.e.*, required) by a city and/or county consistent with other building standards. CALGreen does not limit the authority of local agencies (Authority Having Jurisdiction) to make necessary changes. It is important to verify what the code authority having jurisdiction over the project will be adopting and requiring.

Seminars on this new Code are currently being presented throughout California by a non-profit group called Green Technology. You may view or download a copy of the seminar's PowerPoint slides and see much more information at their website at <http://www.green-technology.org/calgreen>.



James Likes, CSI, CDT
Cell: 858-205-5500
Fax: 714-459-4690
email: jllikes@vistapaint.com

Superior quality architectural paints
and high performance coatings

Vista Paint Corporation
2020 E. Orangethorpe Ave., Fullerton, CA 92831
714-680-3800
www.vistapaint.com



Great Moments in Engineering History

1838 – An Italian architect dug a trench around the base of the Tower of Pisa so that people could better see the columns that had been buried as the tower subsided. The tower proceeded to lurch almost 2 feet. Nobody is sure how it managed to remain standing.

1890 – Out to prove that his DC generators were safer than George Westinghouse's AC generators, Thomas Edison testified to the State of New York that 'electricide' was a humane form of execution. He even went so far as to recommend his competitor's technology as the best for the job. Convicted killer William Kemmler, 28, probably wouldn't have agreed: It took over a minute for him to be electrocuted.

1972 – The FAA requires a stress test before a new jet engine design can be certified. With the engine operating at full speed, a compressed air cannon shoots chicken carcasses into the turbine at 180 mph. Engines



that survive can presumably withstand 'bird ingestion' under normal operating conditions.

1974 – People on the upper floors of Boston's Hancock tower became ill because the 60-story building was swaying and twisting in the wind. Most tall steel buildings move to some extent, but the natural frequency of the two types of motion were so close that they reinforced each other—just like a feedback loop with an electric guitar. Oh, and some of the 500-pound windows fell out.

1999 – NASA's Mars Polar Lander was destroyed because two teams working on the ship's systems were from different continents and were each using their own systems of measure. The American team was using inches and pounds, and the European team was using millimeters and kilograms. Apparently, the ship mistakenly calculated that it had landed and shut its engines off while still pretty high above the Martian surface.

PER-SPEC-TIVES: TRAVESTY

[continued from pg 6](#)

We got letters from the reps supporting this effort and expressing their eye-opening wonder at the experience; and the kids were markedly different—they took a giant step to being "rounded professionals"!

This is but one isolated attempt, and I am sure there are others. Other people and CSI members have seen fit to do something to moderate the shameful situation we have. But one wonders why this is not and cannot be a major effort at chapter and region levels, somewhat organized, certainly encouraged, promoted and supported at the national level. This is a gaping hole that is so easily filled with a little imagination, a small effort/dedication and a sincere desire to help and make better.

In fact, there is a prognosis that says this can be done throughout the construction industry with other aspects of direct interest to CSI—and within its members' capabilities to do such things. If CSI members and their colleagues are so good at "selling" project designs, and selling products, is this not a rather easy matter of "selling" something new, different and productive? We can talk ourselves blue-in-the-face, but it is action that makes the difference. And actions belie the tendency or determination to maintain status quo, and satisfy ourselves that by merely updating existing documents and programs, we self-perpetuate. Isn't loss of membership directly linked to such ideology? Aren't "new" service and direction and outreach not only the vogue of the day, but also the necessity of the day? Are we so satisfied to ignore this? Are we so lazy and detached to set this aside as "none of our business"?

Are we now so blasé, so stressed, so uncaring, so money driven [as in frugal] that we simply aren't interested in a small effort to reach out and fill a need that in turn could make our lot, later, better? And yes, part of this "problem" is getting the schools to at least let us get some information and access to their students. Part of the need is academic and institutional support, and national support and impetus for the local effort! Otherwise, the travesty in place will become ongoing, entrenched and unresolvable. ■

Ralph Liebing is Senior Architect–Specifications, Hixson Architecture, Engineering and Interiors, Cincinnati, OH: rliebing@hixson-inc.com



CSI Institute
800.689.2900
www.csinet.org

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER CSI
P.O. Box 191307
San Diego, CA 92159-1307

SDCSI Hotline: 619.401.6733
Toll-Free: 877.401.6733
Administrative Office: 619.593.9988
Fax: 619.593.9989
Email: admin@sandiegocsi.org
Website: <http://www.sandiegocsi.org>

Get Involved In
YOUR
Chapter!

EDITORIAL POLICY



The *SpecTickle* is the official publication of the San Diego Chapter of The Construction Specifications Institute, Inc. The opinions expressed in the *SpecTickle* are those of the contributors only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions, policies or practices of the West Region, the Institute, or the San Diego Chapter of The Construction Specifications Institute. Reprinting of material from this issue is permitted only if full credit is given to the *SpecTickle*, along with credit to the author of the article. It is intended that the *SpecTickle* will provide a forum for all Chapter members and will inform those members of Chapter, West Region and Institute goals and activities.

PLEASE DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS TO:

SpecTickle Editor
Randa Vargas, CSI
Ph: 909.985.3747; 916.214.9335 (cell)
Fax: 909.985.3656
Email: randav@woodinst.com

Technical Editor
Rob Smith, CSI, CCS, RA
Email: rbsmithccs@aol.com

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President/ West Region Director	Neal Drell, CSI, CCPR The Z Group	Ph: 866.494.7687 Fax: 760.727.5936 Email: neald@thegroup.com
Vice President/ President Elect	VACANT	
Secretary	James Likes, CSI, CDT Vista Paint Architectural Services	Ph: 858.205.5500 Fax: 619.219.8998 Email: jlikes@vistapaint.com
Treasurer	Chad Scoggins, CSI, CDT Tremco Sealants & Waterproofing	Ph: 619.405.2872 Fax: 619.795.9175 Email: cscoggins@tremcoinc.com
Advisor	Dennis Hall, CSI, CCCA Presidio Design Build	Ph: 619.518.9095 Fax: 619.795.2377 Email: dhall.presidio@att.net
Director— Professional	Steven Clayton, CSI, CMAA Quieter Home Program SOCRAA	Ph: 619.400.2307; 619.857.9978 cell Fax: 619.400.2596 Email: sclayton@san.org
Director— Professional	Rob Smith, CSI, CCS, RA ARCADIS U.S., Inc.	Ph: 619.298.7850; 760.670.8670 cell Email: robert.smith@arcadis-us.com rbsmithccs@aol.com
Director— Industry	Kara DeLeon, CSI Interceramic Tile & Stone	Ph: 858.547.8453 Fax: 858.695.8453 Email: kdeleon@interceramicusa.com
Director— Industry	Randa Vargas, CSI Woodwork Institute	Ph: 909.985.3747 Fax: 909.985.3656 Email: randav@woodinst.com
Director— Students	Jared Basler, CSI-S Student, NewSchool of Architecture & Design	Ph: 619.207.1449 cell Email: jbasler@gmail.com
Executive Administrator	Margy Ashby Grabowski Administrative Services	Ph: 619.593.9988; 619.302.3257 cell Fax: 619.593.9989 Email: admin@sandiegocsi.org

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Academic Affairs

Robin Bush, CSI, CDT
Ph: 858.279.8522 Cell: 619.851.1636
Email: robincbush@san.rr.com

Awards

Sara Palazzolo-Packard, CSI
Ph: 323.377.4368
Email: sarapalazzolopackard@yahoo.com

Certification

Matthew Boomhower, CSI, CCCA
Ph: 858.395.8657 Fax: 858.278.4010
Email: matthew@southerncrosspc.com

Communications:

Randa Vargas, CSI **Newsletter**
Ph: 909.985.3747 Fax: 909.985.3656
Email: randav@woodinst.com

Matthew Boomhower, CSI, CCCA **Website**
Ph: 858.395.8657 Fax: 858.278.4010
Email: matthew@southerncrosspc.com

Finance

Chad Scoggins, CSI, CDT
Ph: 619.405.2872 Fax: 619.795.9175
Email: cscoggins@tremcoinc.com

Membership

Jim Likes, CSI, CDT
Ph: 858.205.5500 Fax: 619.219.8998
Email: jlikes@vistapaint.com

Planning

Dennis Hall, CSI, CCCA
Ph: 619.518.9095 Fax: 619.795.2377
Email: dhall.presidio@att.net

Professional Development/ Continuing Education

Gina Adams, CSI, CDT
Ph: 619.247.6594 Fax: 619.460.7326
Email: gadams@rcpblock.com

Programs/Events

Neal Drell, CSI, CCPR
Ph: 866.494.7687 Fax: 760.727.5936
Email: neald@thegroup.com

Technical

Rob Smith, CSI, CCS, RA
Ph: 619.298.7850; 760.670.8670 cell
Email: robert.smith@arcadis-us.com
rbsmithccs@aol.com