



Knowledge for  
Creating and  
Sustaining the  
Built Environment

# CSI CHOICE

## CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

Volume 43, No. 12

August 2007

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John Cannon                      President-Elect  
Don Scruggs                      Vice President  
Jake Burkholder                      Secretary  
John Groff                      Recording Secretary  
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Jim Kingsborough, 1 year  
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Henry Zirkle                      804-794-0547  
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## BOARD AND PLANNING MEETING

Thursday, August 9, 2007 at 6:00 PM

All chapter members are welcome to attend this meeting. Board and committee members are strongly encouraged to attend if they are able. A board meeting, starting at 6:00 PM, will precede a planning meeting at approximately 7:00 PM for the upcoming year's activities and open discussion on issues concerning CSI and the Central Pennsylvania Chapter.

At the office of

### El Associates, Architects and Engineers

Governor's Plaza South  
2001 North Front Street, Building 2  
Harrisburg, PA 17102

El Associates' office is located on the south side of the Governor's Mansion, on the first floor of Buildings 2 and 3. We will be meeting in Building 2, which is the middle section of a 3 wing U shaped building. The lobby to Building 2 can be accessed by entrances and parking areas located on the Front St. and Second St. sides of the building. Anyone needing further information or clarification on directions, please contact Chris Atwood by e-mail at [catwood@eiassoc.com](mailto:catwood@eiassoc.com) or telephone at 233-4556.

### Menu

Light refreshments will be provided.

### Reservations

Reservations are not required.

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All material **MUST** be in the editor's hands no later than August 22, 2007 for publication in the September 2007 issue of "Choice". Send to Paul Brunski, Noelker & Hull Associates, Inc., 30 West King St., Chambersburg, PA, 17201 or email to [pbrunski@noelkerhull.com](mailto:pbrunski@noelkerhull.com)

The Construction Specifications Institute is a nation-wide nonprofit technical organization dedicated to the advancement of construction technology through communications, education, research and service. Founded in 1948, CSI provides a forum for architects, engineers, specification writers, contractors, suppliers and others in the industry.

Anyone who is concerned with construction specifications in any manner is invited to apply for membership. Contact Jake Burkholder, Ph: 717-564-6860 or email [jakeburkholder@cctd.com](mailto:jakeburkholder@cctd.com).

The Central Pennsylvania Chapter meets the second Tuesday monthly except NO meetings are held in July or August.

### CHAPTER ADDRESS

P.O. Box 3504  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

### TELEPHONES

Secretary..... 717-564-6860  
Treasurer ..... 717-540-9248  
Editor ..... 717-263-8464  
Ads..... 717-238-4910

### CHOICE STAFF

Paul Brunski..... Editor  
Jan E. Myers..... Advertising  
Chris Atwood ..... Roster

### RESERVATIONS

Maria Weber  
at 717-651-2890  
[maria\\_weber@mcgraw-hill.com](mailto:maria_weber@mcgraw-hill.com)

Please Read Ads On Our Website — They Support "Choice"

Chapter Website: <http://www.cpc-csi.org>

## President's Message

Our July event was a relaxing tour at Appalachian Brewing Company on Cameron Street in Harrisburg, an incredible historic building that has been re-used through its history by widely different types of businesses, survived a major fire, and has now been made into a top-notch micro-brewery and restaurant. We had a small but enthusiastic group of attendees who enjoyed a behind-the-scenes look at the operation, followed by a lively board meeting and dinner. The board spent much time wrestling with how to apply the chapter's reimbursement policy to the Convention expense reimbursement requests received from members; it wasn't pretty, and if nothing else, it demonstrated a need to reconsider aspects of the policy and to make clear sufficiently in advance of events what expenses the chapter is going to reimburse so that those who go have knowledge of what they can expect to pay for out of pocket.

At last, we have the rest of the Harry Potter story, and while we aren't wizards, able to wave our wands and magically conjure our way through projects, we do try to weave our words and works to achieve results that go beyond the mundane. Maybe there is a little magic in what we do after all.

On August 9, we will be gathering our thoughts and efforts together to prepare for the coming months. This is an opportunity to get the lead out, jump-start committee activity, and move into a higher gear. Please join us if you can.

*Christopher R. Atwood  
Chapter President*

## 2007 Mid-Atlantic Region Award Nominations

The deadline for FY '07 Middle Atlantic Region awards nominations is Monday August 13, 2007. Nominations must be received on or before that date in order to be considered. Awards and recognition are the only compensation that outstanding volunteers can receive.

You can find the Region Awards Guide and forms online at [www.midatlanticcsi.org](http://www.midatlanticcsi.org). The Awards Guide is Chapter 6 of the Region Guide and the forms are found in Appendices C and D.

Nominations are to be sent to:

Jeff Snyder, Sales Manager  
Wagman Metal Products Inc.  
400 South Albemarle Street, York, PA 17403  
Telephone: 717-854-2120 Fax: 717-854-4540  
[www.wagmanmetal.com](http://www.wagmanmetal.com)

## JULY 2007

### Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

The Board of Directors of the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute met in the Appalachian

Brewing Company in Harrisburg, PA on July 17, 2007. President Atwood called the meeting to order at 4:54 p.m. Board members and committee chairs present were: Groff, Atwood, Brightbill, Scruggs, Cannon, Turicik, Shaw, J. Myers, S. Myers, Beauduy, Brunski, and Herre.

**OPENING COMMENTS:** President Atwood told the Board that this meeting marks the beginning of his tenure as President, and he felt the Central Pennsylvania Chapter tour of the Appalachian Brewery in Harrisburg prior to the meeting was a great way to start the year.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The June minutes were approved with correction, after a motion to do so was moved by Turicik and seconded by Brightbill. Jan Myers noted that the last sentence of the Advertising Committee report should read, "Jan Myers will compose a letter for Choice to explain the concept." in lieu of the recorded version.

### OFFICER'S REPORTS

**President Elect, Vice President and Corresponding Secretary:** No reports.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer's Report included Financial Status Reports for the 3 months April, May, and June to replace preliminary reports previously distributed since Treasurer Brightbill had not received all account information from our financial institutions in time for it to be included in these reports during those months. In addition, the treasurer provided a Reimbursement Worksheet as background for a discussion regarding reimbursement for attendance at the Institute's National Convention last month in Baltimore. Several members in attendance at the Convention who submitted expense accounts for reimbursement did not meet the criteria stated in the CPC bylaws for reimbursement. After a lengthy discussion, a motion to reimburse all requests for reimbursement as received for the 2007 Convention, and to revisit the bylaws with the intention of revising the criteria for reimbursement to provide new formula for reimbursement was moved by Turicik and seconded by Brightbill. The motion passed by a 6-3 vote.

**Past President/Advisor:** Past President Turicik displayed the Outstanding Chapter Award the Central Pennsylvania Chapter received at the national Convention.

**Editor:** Editor Brunski requested that Committee Chairs review and update the information for the committee tags displayed on the Chapter website.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Academic Affairs, Advertising, Archives, Awards:** No reports.

**Budget/Finance:** Chairman Beauduy submitted the proposed budget for the new fiscal year. A clarification was requested regarding where complimentary dinners for new members first meeting was included; there are included under meeting expenses. A motion to approve the budget was moved by Shaw and seconded by Herre. The motion passed unanimously.

**Bylaws, Certification, Directors, Education, Electronics and Exhibit/Show, Hospitality, Membership and Planning, Program, Publicity, Roster and Technical:** No reports.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

*Respectively submitted,  
John H. Groff, PE, CSI, CCS  
Recording Secretary*

## From the Editor

As an added feature (or distraction) to our readers, your's truly is going to attempt to add some "thoughts to ponder" through a monthly editorial. Here, I hope to pass on worthwhile information, notes, tidbits and miscellaneous. It may be brief, and hopefully to the point, but ultimately informative... to someone.

Today, I awoke to the news of the bridge catastrophe in Minneapolis. This type of story typically grabs my attention, as it did your's, and the desire for more information. NPR is always a great source of info for the 37 minute commute. One engineer indicated this was a unique design for a bridge with a clear span over the Mississippi. But it's only 40 years old! What happened? By the time you read this new data will probable point to specific issues. I couldn't help but to look a little closer at the dozen or so overpasses I went under along I-81, and their state of disrepair? I know they're older than 40. Certainly reminds us of the state of our infrastructure. What about the steam pipe explosion in NYC a few weeks ago? Where are things headed? What does it mean for us the design professionals? Implications are sure to come.

On a different note, those of you who missed the tour of the PPG Glass plant two years ago need to visit [www.architectmagazine.com](http://www.architectmagazine.com) for a wonderful article and inter-

view with Edward M. Kapura, Senior Engineer at the Carlisle (read Mt. Holly) plant No.6. The photos are great and it's a nice recap of what we saw during our walk thru. I'm still amazed the sand is hauled in from so far away, and, if I remember correctly, their gas bill is over \$1 mil per month!

For those of you interested, it appears the passing rate for the CDT exam was about 50%. Institute and their certification committee is okay with that because it's not meant to be an easy test that anyone can pass. It is a true test of what the PRM preaches. Congrats to those that have accepted the challenge and passed, and also to those who have tried but didn't. I know you know more than when you started the process.

Finally, about Masterformat '04. Are you using it? Have you converted? It appears most large firms have made the switch. I'm still with the '95 edition and couldn't be happier. Don't need to aggravate our engineers any more than we do now. Looking at the horizon, and the potential for BIM, I'm not sure I'll be able to hold out forever though, but lets pick up this discussion next month.

If you'd like to add to or comment on any of the above, please e-mail me at [pbrunski@noelkerhull.com](mailto:pbrunski@noelkerhull.com). No guaranties but I'd like to get some conversations going.

*See you in September.*  
Paul

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*The following is the address given by Mr. Valentine at the Awards Banquet at the National Convention in Baltimore. I found it to be a succinct, well-expressed exhortation to the membership, and I hope everyone takes a minute to read it.*

*Chris Atwood  
Chapter President*

**Presidential Address by  
President-Elect Eugene A. Valentine, FCSI, CCS, AIA  
Friday, June 22, 2007, at the Honors and Awards Gala,  
Renaissance Inner Harbor Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland**

Good evening! The philosopher Thomas Paine once said, "Things we do for ourselves remain and die with us; things we do for others live on for eternity." Tonight I want to challenge each of you - members, spouses, guests - to commit to sharing of yourself with someone who could benefit from your knowledge; your experience; and your passion. I realize that many of you are already doing so, but I also know that you...and I... can do more. And to those that have held back from sharing of yourself... to reconsider and begin. It's never too late, and our need...that of our industry; that of CSI... has never been greater. Because as I stand before you this evening, I believe CSI's future has never looked brighter; but our challenges never more severe. To fulfill that future... and to meet those challenges... I believe we need the participation of all our members, friends, and associates to share their wisdom, insight, and love of our organization and its mission with others who would greatly benefit from their participation in CSI... and with each of you.

Giving of one's self helps us personally because by helping others succeed and improve, we strengthen our sense of worth, accomplishment, and fulfillment. Also, by teaching and empowering others, we develop stronger, more meaningful working relationships with our co-workers and co-volunteers.

Seventeen years ago on a night much like this one, in a ballroom much like this one, I sat at a table just as you are this

evening and heard our President-Elect, our distinguished Honorary Member this evening - Bob Johnson - tell his audience that he dared imagine of becoming President of CSI when his membership "career" was just beginning. As I listened to Bob's speech - that being my first convention - I too, dared to imagine the possibility of such an honor of serving CSI. Through the gentle encouragement, sharing, and belief in my abilities by the late Gordon Bosl - a former Institute Vice President and mentor to many in the Albuquerque Chapter - I gained confidence in my ability to participate meaningfully in CSI's future. It was Gordon's sharing of himself with me that enabled me to believe in myself and that I could matter to CSI and our industry.

Giving of one's self helps strengthen our industry in which we work by helping others learn and develop new techniques and solutions to challenges facing construction today. By collaborating with others, we broaden our perspectives in addressing problems faced by owners, designers, contractors, and material suppliers today and in the future. Noted business consultant and author, Samuel Hui, has conducted numerous studies that conclusively prove that sharing and mentorship enable organizations to work faster, build greater trust, and increase responsibilities among participants. By sharing of ourselves, we increase our self-value and the value of others. Along the way, perhaps we can learn to respect each other more, and focus our energy toward the mission of CSI - and less on suspicion and our perceptions of others' motivations. In so doing, we'll better appreciate the value of others and their viewpoints. Additionally, we'll be better positioned to meet the formidable challenges of increasing the value of CSI to our members and the industry; and also, of leading the industry in the development of new formats and standards sorely needed in design documentation and construction delivery.

Giving of one's self can - perhaps most importantly - greatly improve CSI. By sharing of ourselves, others will learn that through their efforts they can positively affect our industry - and in so doing increase CSI's relevancy. By sharing our passion for CSI, we can increase awareness of the importance and need for technical so-

Continued on the back



Construction Specifications Institute  
Central Pennsylvania Chapter  
P.O. Box 3504  
Harrisburg, PA 17105

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lutions and formats in construction and that CSI is the best organization at meeting this need. Greater exposure of our strengths will increase our identity within the construction industry. ...I also sincerely believe that by sharing ourselves with others, our good works will increase, our position strengthens, and our influence within the marketplace will grow.

One of my favorite examples of sharing of one's experience and passion, is in my own company. In the past twenty years, our firm has seen seven individuals - through the encouragement and mentorship of others - rise to become chapter presidents of either the Albuquerque or El Paso CSI Chapters. Each individual shared the common fear of being unqualified or inadequate to do the job properly, but through the mentorship of those before them, gained the confidence and desire to give of themselves to CSI. This concept of sharing of one's self for the greater good was fostered in our firm by one of our founding principals - and my career mentor - Ron Peters, who I am delighted joined me on this occasion this evening. Thank you Ron, for caring to share yourself with me!

We have much work to do in the coming year! But, I know of no greater organization, no more committed members, no greater staff to achieve our goals. I believe, and I sincerely hope you will too, that if each of us will "care to share" of ourselves, CSI cannot help but improve our relevancy, identity, and influence. In addition to all of our organization's worthwhile initiatives - too many for me to discuss with you this evening - I know that if we will take this important step, we cannot help but improve CSI and our industry. And, in the spirit of sharing, my offer to you is that if I can be of service or help in any way, please contact me.

I am looking forward to a spectacular year and am honored to be your leader in 2008! Thank you for listening and good evening!

### **FEATURED EVENT**

## **Sponsorship Registration**



## **2007 CSI Bi-Region Conference of the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast Regions**

**September 27 - 30, 2007  
Charlotte, North Carolina**

Sponsor Registration Questions:  
Don Taylor BBA, CSI  
Phone: 704.953.8999  
don.taylor@saint-gobain.com

*Complete information can be found at  
[www.csicharlotte2007.org](http://www.csicharlotte2007.org)  
and at [www.cpc-csi.org](http://www.cpc-csi.org)*