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 John Morgan 1 year  
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# CHOICE

Volume 50  
No. 3 rev. 1



November  
2013

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER  
CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

The Board of  
The Central Pennsylvania Chapter  
of the  
Construction Specification Institute  
Cordially invites members  
and guests  
to join them for a  
celebration of the chapter's

**Fiftieth Anniversary**  
on  
**Tuesday, November 12, 2013**

Spouses, guests and visitors  
are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Altland House – Liberty Forge**  
3804 Lisburn Road, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
Social - 6:00 PM  
Dinner - 7:00 PM

**Dinner Cost**  
Free for Central Pennsylvania Chapter CSI Members;  
Students \$10  
All Others \$25

Dinner reservations by  
Noon, Friday, November 8, 2013  
See **FROM THE CHEF'S TABLE**  
for Menu and Reservation details.

**ATTENTION CHAPTER OFFICERS, DIRECTORS,  
ADVISOR, EDITOR, COMMITTEE CHAIRS and CO-CHAIRS**  
– You have a standing reservation for every dinner meeting.  
You are automatically registered for the first menu item on the  
list. If you are NOT attending the dinner meeting or want to  
CHANGE your menu item, you should RSVP with Logan at  
loganmyers@hotmail.com or 570-850-6330.

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

Please Read Ads On Our Website They Support "Choice"

[www.cpc-csi.org](http://www.cpc-csi.org)



## Inside the Choice

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All material **MUST** be in  
the editor's hands no later  
than November 18, 2013  
for publication in the  
December 2013 issue of  
"Choice".

Send to:  
Tanya Ness  
email to:  
TNess@wrmeadows.com

The Construction  
Specifications Institute is a  
nation-wide nonprofit  
technical organization  
dedicated to the advancement  
of construction technology  
through communications,  
education, research and ser-  
vice. 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: Paul Brunski  
Ph: 717-263-8464.



## President's Message



**William Brightbill,**  
FCSI, CCCA, CCPR  
Interim-President

Greetings! I hope that you are all doing well.

I would like to dedicate this month's President's Message to all of the Presidents that have served this Chapter before me. And in typical fashion as it has been done the past 50 years, the Editor received it late!!!

As any former President will tell you, getting the President's Message to the Editor on time is one of the most difficult parts of this assignment. Not certain why... can't be because

we have nothing to say, because we always do say something, eventually. Maybe it's because we think we won't have anything "meaningful" to say. Regardless, the message gets out and hopefully everyone finds some value in.

2013 is a very important year for us here at the Central PA Chapter of CSI. It marks our 50th Anniversary. I've said this many times before and I will say it again... CSI was and is an integral part of my growth and development in the construction industry here in Central Pennsylvania. I got to meet so many people in so many different areas of our business. When you look at the list of our Past President's and all those who have served this Chapter in some capacity it is truly impressive. When I think of the individuals like Tom Parry and Jim Frey, who got me involved early on and Bill Barrett our first industry member President and Leroy Kimmons and Sid Myers

who mentored me through my Region and Institute involvement, I realize how truly fortunate I was to have been around them.

On Tuesday 11/12/13 we will celebrate our 50th Anniversary and acknowledge and remember those before us who have made this Chapter great. But what about now... who is going to move this Chapter forward? Who

*(Continued on page 7)*

## From the Editor's Desk



**Tanya Ness,**  
CSI,  
Editor

The program last month on NFPA 286 flame spread was excellent. What a celebration we will have this month recognizing our chapter's golden 50th anniversary! Hope to see you there.

*Tanya Ness,*  
CSI Editor

## Classified Ads

To place classified ads, please submit your ad to the editor, Tanya Ness at [Tness@wrmeadows.com](mailto:Tness@wrmeadows.com) for insertion in "Choice" and on [cpc-csi.org](http://cpc-csi.org).

## From the Chef's Table



**Logan Myers**  
Hospitality Chair

### MENU

*Choice of*

**Stuffed Chicken Marsala  
or  
Roast Beef Brisket**

*Chef's selection  
of Starch and Vegetable  
Chef's selection of dessert*

*Special Dietary menus,  
such as vegetarian,  
low fat or low sodium,  
are available upon request.*

In addition, we will try to accommodate special requests such as vegetarian, low fat or low sodium selections. A fresh fruit plate, instead of the Chef's Dessert Selection, is always available by request. Special request menu reservations should be made no later than the Friday prior to the Tuesday meeting.

Please feel free to forward either your comments regarding your meal, or any suggestions that you feel could improve the CPC-CSI dinner, to: [loganmyers@hotmail.com](mailto:loganmyers@hotmail.com).

*Logan Myers*  
Hospitality Chair

### RESERVATIONS

to Logan Myers by calling 570.850.6330 or e-mail at [loganmyers@hotmail.com](mailto:loganmyers@hotmail.com) or use our on-line registration form at [www.cpc-csi.org](http://www.cpc-csi.org)

**YOU MUST MAKE  
RESERVATIONS OR CANCEL  
STANDING RESERVATIONS  
by NOON,  
FRIDAY, NOV. 8, 2013.**

ALL NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED.  
*Entrée selection should be made when making a reservation.  
First entrée listed is the default selection if no choice is made.*  
To schedule a Table Top Display, email Bill Deck, [bdeck@lscdesign.com](mailto:bdeck@lscdesign.com) or use the form in Choice or online.

Attendees should make an entrée selection when reservations are placed.

*(Please note that the first entrée listed will be the default selection if no choice is made.)*

The Central PA Chapter dues include all meals for the chapter program dinner meetings for the year. Come out to our meeting to network, socialize, and learn about timely subjects in the Construction Field.

## Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting



*John M. Danes,  
CSI, CDT  
Secretary*

**Date:** 10/8/2013

**Time:** 5:00 pm

**Location:** Radisson Hotel, Governor B Room, Camp Hill, PA

THERE WAS A QUORUM (8 or more)

Meeting was chaired by President Elect Eric Hardenbrook in President William Brightbill's absence.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved. There were no exceptions.

**Opening Comments:** By President Elect Eric Hardenbrook Did everyone get today's Agenda?

### Officers Reports:

**President Elect (Hardenbrook):** Eric recently spoke at the recent American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE) Meeting. The meeting went really well, in fact it went over by about an hour. Both organizations are very similar. They want to do a joint meeting with our chapter in the spring.

**Vice President (Loftin):** No Report

**Secretary (Danes):** No Report

**Past President/Advisor (Groff):** John has pictures from Construct (The CSI Convention).

**Treasurer (Brightbill):** No Report

**"Choice" Editor's Report (Ness):** No Report

### Committee Reports:

**Academic Affairs (Cannon):** No Report

**Advertising (Deck):** Get advertising associated to the back of "Choice".

**Archives (Morgan):** No Report

**Awards (Danes):** Have to get the Outstanding Chapter Award application in by 12/31/13.

**Budget/Finance (Beauduy):** No Report

**Bylaws (Deck):** Bill passed out changes to our bylaws at previous meeting. He will also email them. We need to

review and approve at December's Meeting.

**Certification (Groff):** Certification appears like it will be taught at HACC. We have until November to sign up for the course. The course number will not be the same.

**Education/Technical (Loftin):** Still awaiting approval of tonight's presentation on NFPA 285.

**Electronics/Communications (Danes/Ritter):** We are looking into the CSI Sponsored microsites. We need to get information out to our members faster.

**Exhibit Show (Cluck):** The show will be 3/19/14. Time to be determined. A poll was taken to all the vendors who have participated in past shows. The vendor show hours will change.

**Hospitality (Myers):** Buffet will be served at all future meetings. Logan needs updated members list.

**Long Range Planning (Cluck):** No Report

**Membership (Brunski):** We now have 108 members.

**Programs (Atwood):** November 12th will be our 50th Anniversary Celebration.

### DIRECTORS:

- 1) Any reason to keep all of the paperwork from MARC?
- 2) The Buffet format is good for the meetings. The members like it.
- 3) So far on 11 RSVP's for the 50TH Anniversary. We need members to RSVP.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

*Respectfully Submitted by  
John Danes  
(in absence of appointed recording secretary)*

## Construction Document Technologist (CDT) Certification Study Course



*John Groff  
PE, CCS, CSI  
CPC Chapter  
Certification  
Chairman*

Construction Document Technologist certification is awarded to candidates who successfully pass the certification exams given by the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI). CDT certification is a prerequisite for taking the Certified Construction Specifier (CCS), Certified Construction Product Representative (CCPR), and Certified Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA) certification exams. The National Spring Certification Exams are scheduled for March 31 – April 26, 2014, and are available at Prometric Testing locations throughout Central Pennsylvania. To register for taking the exams, go to [www.csinet.org](http://www.csinet.org) and click on "Certification". January 31, 2014 is the Early Bird Registration Deadline to register for the Construction Specification Institute's CDT, CCS, CCPR, and CCCA certification exams. February 28, 2014 is the Final Registration Deadline.

This January the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of CSI will offer a 10-week CDT Certification Study Course at the Midtown Campus of HACC—Central Pennsylvania's Community College. The study course is designed to assist candidates preparing for the CDT examination by offering a complete overview of CSI's *Project Delivery Practice Guide* and other pertinent publications. It's a great way to hone your contract document skills, and includes document relationships, procedures, formats, and modifications, and covers the elusive contents of the *AIA A201 General Conditions of the Contract for Construction* and the new in 2013 *EJCDC C-700 Standard General Conditions of the Construction Contract*. This study course is highly recommended for anyone taking the CDT certification exam. The course will be offered as both a 1 credit course in HACC's Building Construction Technology curriculum and a non-credit course in HACC's continuing education program:

**Dates:** January 15 thru March 26, 2014 (*10 Wednesday evenings, but no class on March 12 during Spring Break*).

**Time:** 5:30 to 8:30 P.M.

**Location:** HACC Midtown Campus, 4<sup>th</sup> and Reily Streets, Harrisburg, PA

**Tuition Cost:** \$155 (*subject to change – check the HACC website below*)

**Textbook:** CSI's Project Delivery Practice Guide (*Buy directly from CSI or from the instructor*)

**Registration:** To register and enroll in the program, go to [www.HACC.edu](http://www.HACC.edu), click Admissions, and follow the registration instructions. The course registration numbers are:

*Credit course enrollment:* Course No. CRN 36098

*Non-credit course enrollment:* Course No. CRN 91467

If you have any questions about the class or the certification program feel free to contact me at 717-763-7211 or [jgroff@qfnet.com](mailto:jgroff@qfnet.com).

*John Groff PE, CCS, CSI  
Central Pennsylvania Chapter Certification Chairman*

## Curmudgeon's Corner

### It worked last time...

For many years, I was one of the instructors for my CSI chapter's certification classes. In addition to explaining what CSI's practice manuals say, I liked to include horror stories - real-world examples of the ways people found to really mess up a project. One of my favorite stories came from a public sector waste treatment agency. The project was a relatively simple addition to an existing building at one of the waste treatment facilities, to provide shower and locker rooms for the employees.

The agency had hired an architecture/engineering firm to design the addition, and to prepare bidding documents. As the bid opening date approached, the owner began getting calls from mechanical subcontractors, who asked, "Did you want to use fresh water or effluent to serve the *baptismal font*?"



Apparently, the mechanical engineer had reused specifications from another project, which happened to be a church. Obviously, assuming the specifications had been submitted for review, there should have been opportunities to discover and correct the error, but had the engineer started with master specifications, the baptismal font almost certainly would not have appeared in the specifications for this project.

This is an amusing result of the time-honored way of writing specifications: take the specs from the last project, change the client's name, and - voila! - they're done. While this may be a quick way to produce specifications, it also is a way to virtually guarantee those specifications will be incorrect.

There are times when this quick-fix approach *almost* works; certainly, in a project with multiple bid packs, there will be a great consistency and repetition from one bid pack to the next. An obvious example is waterproofing, which will probably be included in the foundations bid pack, though it could appear in later bid packs. Either way, it will probably appear only once. Given the nature of the product, it will be easy to either add or delete it as the project moves forward.

Other materials are more complicated. Cast-in-place concrete, for example, could all appear in one bid pack, but it's just as likely to appear in the footings or footings/foundations bid pack, in the shell bid pack, and in the fit-out bid pack. If it's all specified at one time, it will be easy to remember to take the section out when it's not needed, but what if it appears in more than one bid pack? Ideally, each time a section is used, it will be edited down to address only what is needed for each bid pack. My experience has been that the design team often has trouble deciding which concrete is used in each bid pack, so there is a tendency to use essentially the

same specifications each time, and let the contractor figure out which parts of it apply. The same can be said about masonry, insulation, hardware, and other products that may be required at different times.

Reusing old specifications also is tempting when designing additions to existing buildings, or doing more work for a regular client, but even then, there will be differences.

The older the reused specifications are, the greater the certainty that they will be incorrect. Codes change, reference standards change, companies go out of business, products are discontinued or changed, and owner preferences change. A design firm's practices also change; most firms are more green than they were even a few years ago, and specify different products. Most people seem to think specifications are boilerplate. In fact, they are living documents, which must be updated continually to incorporate all of these changes.

Traditional specification editing is a subtractive process. The specifier starts with a master specification, which contains many options. In most cases, offices pre-edit master specifications so to minimize editing for the types of work they do most often. These master specifications are further edited for each project by removing unnecessary information, and, frequently, adding in missing information.

The problem with reusing specifications is, to accurately fit the needs of another project, the specifier *must* remember to add things that had been deleted, and to remove things that no longer are needed. Both require thought, but it's far easier to delete things that aren't needed than to remember what's missing.

Without exception, every time I have to reuse specifications from another project, even from an earlier bid pack for the same project, we discover late in the construction documents phase that we don't need something that was in the reused specs, or that something we do need wasn't there. Unfortunately, these things sometimes are not discovered until the bidding documents have been issued, or until construction is underway.

When reusing specifications, they must be compared to the masters, to identify things that have been deleted, or that may have changed as the masters evolved. And, they must be reviewed item by item with the team to make sure what's in them corresponds with requirements for the current project. I haven't kept track of how long it takes to review and update a reused specification, but it seems it would be just as easy and fast to start with unedited masters. Of course, the reason we're using old specs is that we don't have time to start over, so the review and re-editing is either ignored or superficial.

Isn't it amazing how often we can't find time to get the documents right before they're issued, but we somehow find time to fix them later?

Photo credit: Clovis' Taufe, by Meister des Heiligen Ägidius, [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons

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# Architectural GLASS



*Designed to expose rising architects in the Philadelphia region to the craft of a glazier through interactive instruction and hands-on application.*

**WHEN**

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM DAILY (LUNCH PROVIDED)  
**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2013**  
 JOBSITE TOUR, GLAZIER SAFETY & ORIENTATION

**WHERE**

FINISHING TRADES INSTITUTE  
 2190 HORNIG ROAD  
 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19116

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2013**

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP

**COST**

There is nocost to attend Boot Camp, however registration is required.

**PROGRAM**

Boot Camp beings with a hard hat tour of the Alfred I. DuPont Hospital for Children Inpatient Expansion projectin Wilmington, DE. Hosted by Skanska and R.A. Kennedy& Sons, the project features aradius unitized curtain wall assembly including diagonal tubular sun shades and custom aluminum panels, creating the illusion of pyramids. Please dress appropriately; AGI will provide safety equipment.

Following the tour, Finishing Trades Institute training staff will provide a workshop safety overview and orientation of the hands-on activity including tools, material and fabrication techniques.



Saturday’s full day hands-on workshop includesthe fabrication of a water-managed, stickcurtain wallassembly. Participants will gain experience in cutting and laying out extruded aluminum framing, installing shear blocks, gaskets and zone dams, applying applicable sealants, setting of glass, running backer rod, and creating structure and weather seal joints.

Additional workshop activities include cutting and polishing of glass and virtual welding.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

The Architectural Glass Institute is an approved provider of the AIA Continuing Education System. The programmeets AIA/CES criteria for 15 Health/Safety/Welfare Unit Hours. Participants in NCARB’s Intern Development Program can receive Supplementary Education Credit from attending AIA approved courses. Participants can therefore earn 15 IDP Training Hours!



**REGISTRATION– EMAIL [STEPHANIE@THEAGI.ORG](mailto:STEPHANIE@THEAGI.ORG) BY NOVEMBER 1, 2013 – LIMITED SPACE!**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Firm: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Calling All Reps!



*Bill Deck,  
Advertising Chair*

Would you like to highlight your company or a special product? Do we have a deal for you. For a mere \$125-\$150 you can display your wares during the social time and have 10 minutes of everyone's attention during dessert at one of our CPC/CSI dinner meetings. What an awesome opportunity to hit several specifiers at once. If you are a member of this chapter, it will cost \$125. If you are not, it will cost \$150. For more details, see the CPC-CSI.org website. To schedule a table top, contact Bill Deck at [wdeck@rlps.com](mailto:wdeck@rlps.com). Thanks!

*Bill Deck  
Advertising Chair*



**Central Pennsylvania Chapter of the  
Construction Specifications Institute**  
**Table Top Display Registration**

Name/Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$125 members /\$150 non-members (does not include meal)

Fee Includes:

1. One 72 x 30 inch table to display product.
2. Display time: 6:00 - 7:00 P.M. (During social hour)
3. Presentation: 10 minute presentation during dessert.
4. Electrical: Outlets available. Vender supplied extension cords.

Contact: Bill Deck, CPC Advertising Committee  
email: [bdeck@lscdesign.com](mailto:bdeck@lscdesign.com)

## Calendar of Events

**November 2013 & Beyond for Mid Atlantic BX** social networking, training & other educational events. Info: [www.midatlanticbx.com](http://www.midatlanticbx.com)

**October 29-November 2, 2013 National Preservation Conference**, Indianapolis, IN. Details: <http://www.preservationnation.org/resources/training/npc/>.

**November 12, 2013 CSI Central Pa. Chapter - 50th Anniversary Banquet** at Liberty Forge, 3804 Lisburn Road, Mechanicsburg, PA. More details will be forthcoming. This event will be in lieu of our regular monthly dinner meeting.

**November 20-22, 2013 USGBC Greenbuild 2013**, International Conference & Expo, Philadelphia, PA. Details: [www.greenbuildexpo.org](http://www.greenbuildexpo.org). Hosted by the Delaware Valley Green Building Council, opportunities to be involved can be found at <http://dvgbc.org/greenbuild-2013>

**December 10, 2013 CSI Central Pa. Chapter - Dinner Meeting & Program.** Location and program TBD.

**March 27-29, 2014 CSI Academies**, Indianapolis, IN. Want to learn more about product representation? contract administration? construction specifications? This is a great opportunity to deeply delve into these topics. Details: [www.csinet.org/academies](http://www.csinet.org/academies). Registration opens Summer 2013.

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### CHOICE STAFF

**Editor**  
Tanya Ness

**Advertising**  
Bill Deck

**Roster**  
Don Scruggs

*(Continued from page 2)*  
**President's Message**

are our future leaders? Either they are our newest members to our Chapter or they are out there looking for an organization to get involved with. We need to seek them out.

It takes time to realize the benefits of any organization. We all have to invest. But it's not that hard. Look for somewhere that you can contribute, even if it's just coming to the monthly meetings. Interact with your fellow members. Seek out the certifications needed to make you successful in your business. Be that trusted advisor to a design professional that

makes you a cut above everyone else. But you have to invest.

If you haven't signed up yet for our 50th Anniversary celebration, do it now. We have 25 former Presidents planning to attend. Take the time to meet these wonderful people and hear their stories. I guarantee that you will not be disappointed.

And always remember -----  
GET INVOLVED AT SOME LEVEL !!

*Regards,  
William R. Brightbill, FCSI, CCA, CCPR*

