



President Jim O'Keefe

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
 By Jim O'Keefe, CSI

As I approach the end of my term as Chapter President, I look back and feel good about what your Board and Chapter have accomplished this year. We have seen our membership stabilize or slightly increase, and we have enjoyed a significant increase in the number of members attending our monthly meetings, due in no small part to the hard work of our Program Committee. Just this last month, we had nearly 80 attend an outstanding presentation on the new Transbay Transit Terminal. This year's ProFair attracted nearly 20% more vendors and many more professionals than the prior year.

The Northern California Leadership conference that our Chapter sponsored last month is of special significance to me. It is an indication that our Chapter and our surrounding Chapters are alive and growing and working hard to develop the leadership we will all need in the years ahead.

And finally, our Chapter expenses have been critically reviewed. Wherever possible, duties previously done by outside vendors have been taken on by the Chapter, or we have hired other vendors who offer better services at much more competitive rates. We expect that this year your Chapter will see a positive cash flow and add funds to its treasury.

I am pleased to report that our elections for the 2010 -2011 have been complete and reported to the Institute. This coming year we have all elected an outstanding Board, to be led by Vivian Volz as President.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- July 14** – Dinner Meeting
Troubleshooting Plaster
- August 11** – Dinner Meeting
- September 8** – Dinner Meeting
- September 30 - October 3**
West Region Conference
Tenaya Lodge, Yosemite
- October 13** – Dinner Meeting
- November 10** – Dinner Meeting
- December 9** – Holiday Party

OUR MEETING PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING!

You'll find a link on our website
www.csisf.org
 On the drop-down menu
 under Membership



A group from NAWIC, including joint member Carolyn Stephens



San Francisco Chapter Construction Specifications Institute

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Vivan has been on the Board for several years, headed our Certification Committee, participated on the both the Program Committee and the Web Site Committee, was Secretary during the 2008 – 2009 year, and served as President Elect during this current year. Vivian will be an outstanding President.

We have also elected Larry Fosnight as President Elect. This last year, Larry has been the Chapter's Secretary and almost single handedly organized and managed our highly successful ProFair 2010. This year we have also been able to attract three members to join the Board, Paul Miller, Rick Scheuer, and Suk-King Yiu. I am very pleased that we have been able to attract these individuals to the Board. It assures our Chapter of an ever-expanding set of vibrant leaders to guide our Chapter forward.

Speaking of leadership, have you visited the new CSI Institute website? It is much easier to navigate, and information is much more easily accessible. Further, the website is much more current in its presentation and imaging. Please take a moment and check out the new Institute website www.csinet.org.

Finally, have you seen that the Institute has announced 2010 updates to MasterFormat? The updates include new divisions for water and wastewater equipment, plus revisions to existing pollution control equipment and concrete divisions. The primary changes include:

- A new division, Division 46 - Water and Wastewater Equipment, which significantly expands the document's coverage of environmental engineering specifications
- Revisions to Division 44 - Pollution and Waste Control Equipment, so that it complements the addition of the new Division 46
- New specifications related to polished concrete (Division 03).

These updates, combined with the new annual revision cycle, will ensure that MasterFormat remains current and provides the tools that all users need to do their jobs well. The addition of the Water and Wastewater Division



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Michael Wolfe, Bryan Jones, and David Sissom

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especially will help industry leaders keep up with new environmental standards by incorporating topics relating to sustainability and energy efficiency.

James O'Keefe
 President
 San Francisco Chapter, CSI

**ROBERT J. MOSBLECH:
 SF CSI FELLOW**

By Jack Klemeyer, FCSI

The highlight of Construct 2010 was without question the elevation of our chapter's Bob Mosblech to Fellowship, an honor that is well-deserved for someone who has served our chapter and region with such commitment and consistency. Bob was one of just six people who were awarded Fellowship this year, thereby joining a group that continues to serve CSI in numerous areas. Hearty congratulations to a wonderful member who has no idea how to say "no" when asked to help out -- and sincere thanks for all he has done to make the San Francisco Chapter what it is today.

Another high point was of course the presentation of CSI's Service Commendation to Bryan Varner, CSI, CCCA, LEED AP -- again, an honor well-deserved.



Larry Fosnight and Bob Mosblech at the Gala at CONSTRUCT

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EDITORIAL POLICY

1. To inform members of the Chapter and Institute goals and activities directed toward these goals;
2. To inform members of the Chapter and Regional activities, Board actions; and
3. To provide a forum for all members.



WEST REGION CORNER

By David Willis
West Region Vice President

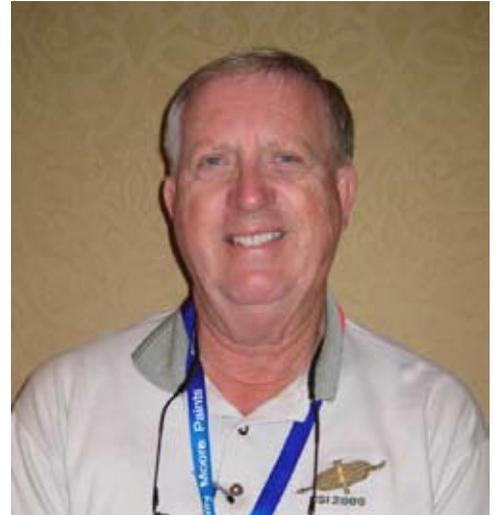
Time seems to fly by so fast these days; and here I am procrastinating until the last minute to submit my Bi-Monthly Region Corner Report. I actually have some ammunition this month, thanks to a great program the San Francisco Chapter sponsored back on April 17th entitled "West Region CSI Leadership Training." It was held at the San Francisco Sheraton Hotel at Fisherman's Wharf. If you are involved in chapter leadership in the north and did not make it, you missed a great program.

There were three presentations. The first was given by Bryan Varner on the subject of Chapter Financial Management. The presentation covered subjects including IRS filings and Forms, Fiduciary duties of the Chapter Board, Internal Reporting and Controls, and Membership Matters. Board members have the fiduciary duties of Care, Inquiry and Loyalty. "Chronic absence from meetings is a breach of fiduciary duty: ignorance is not an excuse." Under internal reporting, the board must insist on income and expense, profit and loss, and budget vs. actual reports each month. Internal controls would include reviewing the monthly bank statements vs. the monthly reports. Have two signature check signing and no signing of blank checks. A year end review made by others than the treasurer or controller, should be documented and archived. Remember that our most valuable capital is the membership and is more valuable than the money in the bank. How can we improve our membership service? "Our fiduciary duty requires us to manage membership as carefully and diligently as our money." Bryan took this to much more depth than I, but you get the point. I am sure he would share his presentation literature with each chapter if requested.

The second presentation by Jennifer Alexander focused on utilizing the CSI websites. Jennifer reminded us that all chapter members are on the Membership Committee. We should utilize contact programs such as LinkedIn. A good idea for a chapter program would be "How to Navigate Chapter, Region, and Institute Websites." These sites are great resources. Under membership, there is a book that can be downloaded entitled "How To Do Membership."

The third Presentation by James O'Keefe covered the subject of "Running a Chapter." Some of the thoughts from this presentation included:

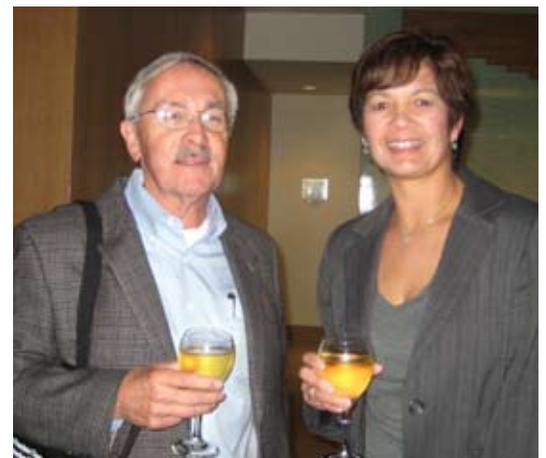
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David Willis



Carolyn Stephens and Patricia Lawson



Jim O'Keefe and Rose Garrison



John Maillard

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- Remember we are all volunteers. We do the things in CSI because we embrace the fellowship and sharing of knowledge. We have to remember when not to push too hard.
- Strategic planning should be on every chapter's agenda prior to the new year, especially for the new board members. Know where the chapter is heading. The new board members will appreciate the knowledge of past experiences.
- Presentations to college Architect and Business Management classes to promote CSI should top our to-do list. This is where the future is with CSI.

There were many other good ideas shared by all. This program was the prototype for the future leadership programs being planned beginning in the Fall of 2011. I look forward to seeing them implemented.

In other news, I can report that the planning for the West Region Conference is moving along very well. We have just yesterday confirmed that the Saturday evening entertainment will again be The Sons of the San Joaquin. Those of you who attended the West Region Conference in Yosemite in 2000 know how great these guys are. I attended a Sons program not long ago, and they are as good as ever. Those of you coming to this year's conference are in for a treat.

I want to take a moment to thank all who have put their confidence in me to carry on as your West Region Vice President. I will do my best to live up to your expectations, and the great values of CSI.

By the way, if you are looking to get involved at the Region level, Craig or I would like to hear from you. Region committees will need leaders and worker bees. Get Involved!

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Mike Cox



Enjoying dinner



DELIVERING VALUE: THE CSI CHAPTER

By Vivian Volz, RA, CSI, CCS, LEED AP
 and Larry Fosnight, CSI, CDT, BS

At CONSTRUCT 2010, on May 13 and 14, Larry and Vivian joined a large group of CSI chapter and region leaders, mostly incoming chapter presidents and presidents-elect, for a leadership seminar. Topics ranged from the inspiring to the tactical, but everything pointed to the same goal; delivering value to every CSI member through a CSI chapter. CSI's chapters are its center of gravity, as leader Brent Williams pointed out. Since San Francisco is the center of gravity of the Bay Area, our chapter has a strong mandate to bring the best of CSI to our community.

A key leadership tool presented at the seminar, one the San Francisco chapter has not used in a while, is a five-year plan. The plan is a set of goals, both near-term and long-term, which support the mission of CSI and the chapter. One leader pointed out, "If you don't know where you're driving, you don't know which way to turn when you pull out of your driveway." Each goal in the plan serves as a landmark, to orient participants in the right direction. It may be necessary to tack, like a sailor, and modify the plan to resolve the discrepancy between where we are and what the goal is. In most cases, though, the goals will remain the same, until we attain them and begin seeking the next ones.

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Vivian Volz



Larry Fosnight



The Glidden Professional team: Valerie Waldron, Dave Ingram, and Nick Marcano. Glidden Professional sponsored this evening's tabletop display.



Rose Garrison, Rick Scheuer, and Liesl Morrell



John Lewis, Dick Christensen, and Miles Bennett

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A five-year plan should embody the core values of CSI and the chapter. It should include financial goals, to ensure the health of the chapter and its ability to attain its other goals. It should include the major activities of the chapter, but also the purposes of those activities. For instance, our programs support several missions; sharing CSI education and values with our community, driving interest in membership, and educating and developing our own members. The strength of our Programs Committee will be key in developing concrete goals for the next five years. In fact, developing a five-year plan starts with an honest assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the chapter, along with its position in the community, in order to begin action with realistic near-term expectations.

Executing the five-year plan will require continuity of committees, handed along among individuals. In the plan, each role and committee has a mission. The plan informs the roles, and we fill the roles to best implement the plan; the plan is almost like a performance specification. A key strategy for committee continuity is pairing mentors and protégés; by passing roles down from mentor to protégé, we are always developing the next leaders among the committee members. Once the plan is established, the chapter and committee leaders should review, but not necessarily change, the five-year plan every year.



Dave Falk and Julie Barrett

To successfully develop and execute a plan will require more than participation from board members, or committees, or task teams, but the participation of the entire chapter. As we move forward with this initiative, there will be an abundance of opportunities for all chapter members and non-chapter members to be a part of bringing excellence to the chapter. The vision would be to have the leaders of tomorrow be a part of the development of our long term plans. This would give the chapter the opportunity to provide leadership development to our future leaders, as well as ensuring that we have full participation in the future executing and maintaining our plans. The beginning of the planning process will start prior to our June monthly meeting; and we anticipate being able to provide some general future dates to allow members the opportunity to attend and contribute their perspectives of where our chapter could and should go and what steps will be required to get there.



Steve Teeple and Rex Vanard

One of the challenges that many organizations face is making decisions while also following rules of governance. One should challenge oneself with the question, "What is the best possible way to accomplish this goal?" More typically, the question presented is, "Given the rules that we have, how can we accomplish the goal?" What

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happens as a result is that creativity is stifled, enthusiasm diminished, and results hindered. As we develop, execute, and evaluate the five-year plan, it may be necessary to review and amend existing policies, as well as identify whether new policies are needed to support the implementation of our plan.

As your incoming chapter President and President-Elect, Vivian and Larry are committed to making CSI's best available to the San Francisco CSI community. Armed with training and inspiration, we are ready to start the new CSI year by putting the Chapter's best foot forward.



GOT WINE?

By Jack Klemeyer, FCSI

If you would enjoy donating artwork, wine, or any other fun items to be bid on for the benefit of the Foundation let us know. Your donation will help some very bright students in local colleges and universities in construction industry-related courses of study further their education. The funds we raised last year provided \$5,000 in scholarships for three different applicants. If you would enjoy contributing your talent for the benefit of the SF CSI Foundation, we would sure enjoy showcasing your abilities at the Chapter Awards Banquet on June 9! Please contact Paulette Salisbury (pk Salisbury@sbcglobal.net) or Jack Klemeyer (wvk@sbcglobal.net) to discuss this further if it sounds appealing -- many thanks.





CURMUDGEON'S CORNER: MISSING STANDARDS

By Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA

Although there may be a few products that require little thought in specifying, most require some minimum amount of research, comparison of similar products, and determination of the right combination of characteristics best suited to a project.

Even then, the process can be straightforward and fairly simple, provided the type of product is common, governed by widely accepted standards for materials and performance, well-described in product data, and supported by reputable manufacturers and representatives. Hollow metal doors and frames are a good example. Most manufacturers produce them according to one or both of two sets of common industry standards, published by the Steel Door Institute (SDI) and the National Association of Architectural Metal Manufacturers (NAAMM). Unfortunately, not all types of building products can be specified by use of similar standards.



Before you start that e-mail telling me how difficult it is to specify hollow metal doors, let me add that the number of grades, types, options, and finishes requires the specifier to understand the hollow metal door and frame standards before making the several decisions needed to write the specifications. Each of the hollow metal standards organizations has described every component of hollow metal doors and frames, how they are fabricated and installed, and which models are suitable for a variety of applications. All of those things are well-defined in the standards, and most manufacturers indicate which doors and frames comply with which standards.



However, some products are far more difficult to specify than others, despite abundant and readily available information. One group that comes immediately to mind is coatings. Unlike hollow metal doors, coatings have little in the way of industry standards, and there are many ways of achieving the same result.



For example, say we want a waterproof coating for an indoor floor. A variety of basic chemistries are available - acrylic, epoxy, polyester, polyurethane, and perhaps others. Some of these are better than others depending on what they will be exposed to, and some are more decorative than others, but it's likely that all would be acceptable if they need to contain only water.

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Even if one type of chemistry rises to the top as being superior to the others, there may be countless varieties of that type. To add to the fun, manufacturers use different combinations of primer and top coats, have widely different test results for physical characteristics, sometimes use different test standards for the same characteristic, combine different types of chemistries in different ways, require different preparation, have different application rates, and specify different requirements for curing.

One manufacturer may claim you need 6,000 PSI compressive strength and 200% elongation, while another says you need 10,000 PSI and only 125%. One says you need a primer for a given situation, another says you don't. One says you need to apply two topcoats, another says only one. One says you need a seal coat, another says you don't. And so on.

All of them make logical arguments for their particular systems, and all can produce long lists of local applications. All of which makes it difficult to logically select a product to specify, and makes it equally as difficult to evaluate substitution requests.

Paints are almost as bad as floor coatings, but, because they will be repainted every few years, the performance characteristics are far less important. Otherwise, paints suffer from the same problem as floor coatings - few widely accepted standards.

I'd like to have a rational basis for making decisions about coating properties. By that, I mean a scientifically derived set of standards based on actual performance requirements. I'm fairly certain that the reason manufacturer A says you need 6,000 PSI tensile strength, and manufacturer B says you need 10,000 PSI, is that those are the values their products have. I have yet to see someone say, "Oak Ridge National Laboratory has determined that a floor coating system should have a minimum compressive strength of 4,792 PSI."

Coatings aren't the only problem; foam thermal insulation is another. We have specified extruded polystyrene with 25 PSI compressive strength for a long time, not because of any research, but because that's what is required by ASTM C578 - and that is because that is what is produced and commonly used. Polyisocyanurate roofing insulation is available in 16, 20, and 25 PSI varieties. How do we compare the two types of insulation? If extruded polystyrene should be 25 PSI, should not polyisocyanurate also be 25 PSI? What is the rational basis for making this decision?

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Graydon Cox



Michael Wolfe and Bryan Jones, wondering what's up there on the ceiling



Gerry MacLelland, May's speaker



Ron Bishop, wine winner

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Going back to hollow metal doors, I doubt there is any research that tells us what the thickness of the face sheets should be, but in this case I don't think it's necessary. The gauges used probably are based on empirical evidence, but more important, one manufacturer isn't trying to tell me that the face sheets should be one thing while the other manufacturers are saying something else.

It has been stated that industry standards such as those published by SDI and NAAMM are not sufficient, as they tend to reflect the lowest performance of the association members. Even if that is true, those standards still provide a valuable service by specifying a multitude of characteristics, allowing the specifier to use them as a base. After that, it is relatively easy to specify that a hinge reinforcement or some other component be something different from that required by the standard.

By setting standards, industry organizations serve a valuable purpose. While I encourage coating manufacturers, suppliers, and installers to cooperate in establishing standards for their industry, I also encourage the same for other products that suffer from missing standards. And if those standards are based on analysis rather than just a consensus of what is available, so much the better.

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Dave Falk, wine winner



Kevin Norman, Julie Barrett, and Valerie Waldron



San Francisco Chapter Construction Specifications Institute

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*Construct 2010
Philadelphia
May 11 - 14*





San Francisco Chapter

Construction Specifications Institute

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Knowledge for Creating and Sustaining the Built Environment

CSI membership is composed of a cross-section of the construction industry - architect, engineers, contractors, developers, manufacturers, suppliers and representatives from allied industries. Chapter activities reflect the unbiased concerns of the entire industry - not one section of it. Members through the Chapter, Region and Institute have the opportunity to contribute their views and experience to the improvement of specifications and other contract documents.

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