



March 24, 2014 meeting:

PLACE: H.E.S.S. Building
5430 Westheimer Road

TIME:

5:30 P.M. (Registration and mixer)

6:00 P.M. (Evening Meal and Meeting)

COST:

Gratis to CSI members;
\$35.00 to non members at the door.

RESERVATIONS: Go to:
<http://www.csihouston.org>

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CSI Houston Website:
<http://www.csihouston.org>

CSI Houston March Program "St. Joe Brick Works"

CSI Houston Chapter will feature a program with Mr. Peter Schneider on March 24, 2016, at the HESS Club. Founded in 1891, Mr. Schneider's company, St. Joe Brick Works, Inc. has been under continuous operation for 120 years, and run by Mr. Schneider's family for more than 115 years. This plant is the oldest family brick manufacturer east of the Mississippi River making face brick using wood moulds. Clay is formed into individual bricks in a wooden mould as was done in the early colonial period. The result is a brick so unique in its color and texture that architects have specified it for buildings throughout the United States. Its use on the facades of Rice University in Houston unifies buildings designed by a variety of architects for more than 100 years, and architects continue to select it for commercial offices and shopping centers, churches and schools, as well as single-family and multi-family residential projects throughout the Houston area.

St. Joe Brick Works continues to make a good honest brick, full in dimension and character, without coatings and without holes. Their wood moulds can be used for both exterior and interior pavers, and for walls with character in any architectural scheme, a feature that has been appreciated by succeeding generations of architects for over a century.

Mr. Schneider will be discussing this process of manufacturing brick including the features of the raw materials and traditional processes that sets such products apart. We invite you to join us to hear Mr. Schneider's presentation at the HESS Club on March 24th.

April CSI Houston Tour

The April CSI Houston program will be a tour of the HOK Shell Wood creek Building.

Be sure to watch for details of the tour.

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March 2014 President's Message

by Robert P. Byrne, CSI
President, CSI Houston Chapter



The February membership meeting was well attended even with the very wet and cold weather. As expected the program about the restoration of one Houston's landmarks, the Miller Outdoor Theater, was very interesting. The program was led by Richard Rodriguez, a Designer and Project

Manager with English+Associates, and Robert Byrne of one of our own member companies, Byrne Metals.

We have an upcoming election for next year's officers. Betsy Finch, our Chapter Secretary will be sending out the ballots to our voting members.

The Chapter's five-year plan meeting is tentatively set for March 27th. The Board and Committee Chair members will be discussing the chapter's future. If you have an idea and would like to share it, please contact one of us and let us know your thoughts.

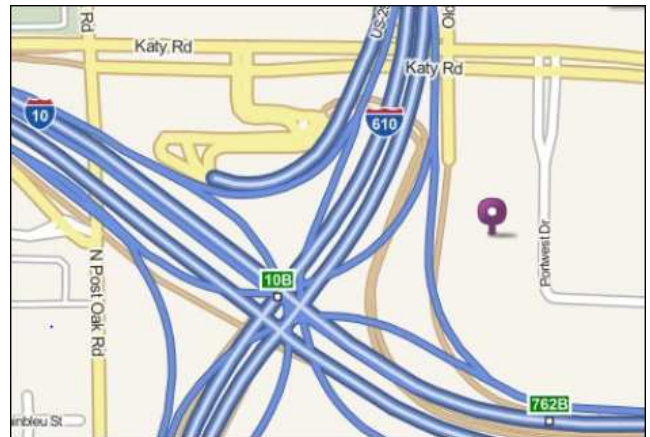
As usual, I look forward to seeing you at the next member meeting.

CSI Houston Chapter CDT Prep Class Schedule for Spring 2014

by Tim Wilson, CSI, Certification Committee
Chairman

The CSI –Houston Chapter will once again be sponsoring CDT Prep Classes during the Spring of 2014. The CDT Prep Class will begin on Thursday, February 6, 2014 and continue for six sessions.

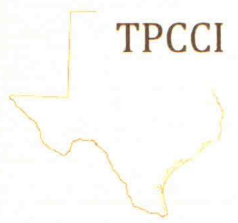
All classes will be held at 'Building Exterior Solutions,' 6975 Port West Drive, Suite 100, Houston, TX 77024. Each session will begin at 6:00 pm and last approximately 2 hours.



The cost for attending will be \$75.00 for CSI Houston Chapter members and \$100.00 for non-members. If you are interested in signing up for the classes, please contact Tim Wilson at (*32) 289-6765 or e-mail him at twilson@weatherizationpartners.com.

The class schedule is as follows:

- #1 February 6, 2014 at 6:00 pm
- #2 February 13, 2014 at 6:00 pm
- #3 February 20, 2014 at 6:00 pm
- #4 February 27, 2014 at 6:00 pm
- #5 March 6, 2014 at 6:00 pm
- March 13, 2014 (No class due to area wide Spring Break.)
- #6 March 20, 2014 at 6:00 pm



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CSI Houston Chapter Board Meeting Minutes
Location: HESS Building
5430 Westheimer Rd., Houston, TX
January 27, 2014

Present: Betsy Finch, Bill Fairbanks, Bill Lunsford, Bob Cook, Chuck Vojtech, Don Smith, Don Ude, Doug Frank, Holly Jordan, Neil Byrne, Tom Atwell

President Elect Neil Byrne called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.
The November 2013 Board Meeting Minutes were approved.

Vice President Reports:

Finance/Administration: Chuck Vojtech

Treasurer's Report: Bob Cook
Bob reported the deposit from Falcon Point had been returned. Neil Byrne asked about reviewing the budget mid year. Chuck and Bob will review the budget.

Professional Development: Tim Wilson

Continuing Education: Tim Wilson
Neil reported Tim has five of the six instructors committed to teaching the classes but only two people have signed up for the classes. Neil stated he would make an announcement at the chapter meeting regarding the classes.

Academic Affairs: Al Pasek
No report.

Certification: Tim Wilson
No report.

Technical Committee: J. Peter Jordan
No report.

Member Services: Tom Atwell

Board members discussed giving special recognition to Pat Kiley. Bob Cook "moved to make a donation in the amount of \$500.00 to a charity of Pat Kiley's choice." The motion was seconded and approved. Holly asked Neil to announce at the chapter meeting the decision to give special recognition to Pat for his commitment to our chapter by making a donation to a charity of his choice.

Programs: J. Peter Jordan

No report.

Membership: Bill Lunsford
Bill reported that the RSVP count for the January meeting was at eighty and the current membership number was one hundred and seventy nine.

Awards: Amy Salmeron
No report. Bill Fairbanks asked board members to start thinking about the Craftsman Award.

Table Top Display: Amy Peevey
No report.

Personal/Professional Development: Doug Frank / Di Ann Reid
No report.

Public Services: Don Smith

Golf Tournament:
No report.

SPEC.tectonics: Don Smith
Don reported the January newsletter was published to the website. Chuck mentioned he enjoys receiving the newsletter via email.

Electronic Communications: Logan Vits
Holly reported Constant Contact should be under the SCR by now and the SCR is responsible for paying the Constant Contact fee for all chapters in the region. Also mentioned advising Logan to change the chapter meeting charge currently listed on the website of \$30 to \$35.

Other Business:

Foundation/Scholarship: Al Pasek
Tom reported the Foundation is starting to receive scholarship applications.

Nominating Committee:
Doug stated the nominating committee is required to present to the membership at the February chapter meeting the list of nominees for the upcoming 2014-2015 fiscal year. The nominating committee includes Robert Byrne, Neil Byrne and Holly Jordan.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Betsy Finch, CSI
Chapter Secretary

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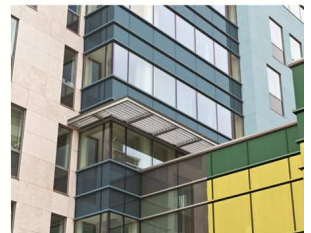
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FEATURE YOUR PRODUCTS WITH A TABLE TOP DISPLAY

At each monthly meeting, the Chapter encourages Industry Members to provide a table top display of their products and services for the inspection and education of those attending the meeting.

The table top display is also encouraged to be presented during the social hour and after the program for any questions by attendees.

The presentation fee is \$200 for members and \$250 for non-members, or free with a Golf Sponsorship pledge.

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for more information.

CSI South Central Region News

By Holly Jordan, CSI, CCS, LEED AP,
CSI South Central Region President



The CSI South Central Region will be presenting the Construction Documents Technology (CDT) Boot Camp on Friday, April 4th at the Annual South Central Region Conference at the Austin Marriott South, 4415

South Interstate 35, Austin, Texas 78744.

Passing the CDT will provide 40 elective credit hours for the NCARB-IDP program. 12 HSW credit hours will be provided for registered Architects, Interns, and Interior Designers for taking the CDT Boot Camp Course. The course is based on the CSI Project Delivery Practice Guide and will be taught by very enthusiastic and experienced instructors.

For candidates wishing to stay overnight before or after the CDT Boot Camp, room rates for the hotel if registered by March 17th are \$139 per night. Cost for the Conference is \$125 for registration with an additional \$25 for the CDT Boot Camp Educational Track. Registration for the Conference and the CDT Boot Camp Track will include lunch, snack time breaks, hospitality room, product show information, etc.

The cost of the CDT Boot Camp does not include the CDT exam registration or the CSI Project Delivery Practice Guide. CDT Candidates are strongly encouraged to obtain a copy as well as the AIA-A201 General Conditions in accordance with the recommendations of the CDT Study Guide to become familiar with the CDT Exam requirements.

Self Study for the CDT exam is an option for all candidates, however, due to the complex nature of the exam questions and the amount of information to be covered during a short time, 36 to 40 hours minimum outside study is recommended to properly prepare for the CDT Exam. To get the most out of the CDT Boot Camp, participants should have completed the majority of study in advance of the class.

Let the CSI South Central Region help you prepare for the Construction Documents Technology exam with a review of the fundamentals and formats of construction documents. Below is a link for to register for the CSI South Central Region Conference and the CDT Boot Camp.

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e804d3ve614c0b80&llr=bc6p4qoab&showPage=true>

For more information, please contact Holly Jordan, CSI South Central Region President hjordan@jordanconsultants.com or David Loveless, CSI Austin Chapter President, csiaustin046@gmail.com

CSI South Central Region Conference - April 3 – 5, 2014

Austin Marriott South, 4415 S. IH-35,
Austin, TX 78744

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM	ROBERT'S RULES TRAINING
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM	- HOSPITALITY SUITE
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM	PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT DINNER (BY INVITATION ONLY)

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2014

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM	- BREAKFAST / MINI TRADESHOW
8:00 AM - 12:15 PM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS (AIA TRACK OR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT)
8:00 AM – 12:15 PM	- CDT BOOTCAMP
12:15 PM – 1:45 PM	- LUNCH / AWARDS / MINI TRADESHOW
1:45 PM – 6:00 PM	BREAKOUT SESSIONS (AIA TRACK OR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT)
1:45 PM – 6:00 PM	- CDT BOOTCAMP
6:00 PM – 10:00 PM	- HOSPITALITY SUITE
8:00 PM – 12:00 PM	- LIVE MUSIC IN THE "LIVE MUSIC CAPITAL OF THE WORLD"

SATURDAY

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM	SOUTH CENTRAL REGION BOARD MEETING / INCLUDES BREAKFAST
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THE BREAKOUT SESSIONS WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING TRACKS: AIA CEU * CDT BOOTCAMP * PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

COSTS

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE	\$125.00
CDT BOOT CAMP (FOR CONF. ATTENDEES)	\$25.00
LIVE MUSIC	\$ TBD
SOUTH CENTRAL REGION BOARD MEETING / BREAKFAST	\$ 30.00
ROOM NIGHT RENTAL	\$139.00
PLUS TAX	

SPONSORSHIPS FOR EVENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE @ \$100.00 EACH

MINI TRADESHOW WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY DURING BREAKFAST, BREAKS, LUNCH AND HAPPY HOUR/AWARD PRESENTATION @ \$200.00 EACH

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How did we get here? Chapters

By Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CSC

In the last article, "How did we get here? Membership", we looked at a graph showing CSI's membership curve. I'm using the same graph this time, with a second curve to show the number of chapters. As was the case last month, it was hard to find accurate information, but the overall curve is close to what it would be if I did have all of the correct dates. For sources, I used charter dates that were given to the Bylaws Amendment Review Task Team, responses to an inquiry I sent to all chapters, Walter Damuck's history of the Institute, and 50th anniversary notices that appeared in various CSI publications. Along the way, eleven chapters were lost, a few by merger, and others because they fell below the minimum number of members required to keep their charters.

As noted in the last article, I relied on reports or other confirmed information to plot the membership curve. I also said that I remembered hearing that membership peaked at near 19,000, but had no verification. Even so, a few members were concerned that I didn't report that number, so I added it. Assuming the number is correct, it shows a drop of about 1,000 members from 1989 to 1995, followed by a recovery of about half that amount by 2001. What happened? The graphs I've looked at don't appear to indicate an economic upturn that would have supported a growth in membership.



One of the questions asked on the LinkedIn discussion was, "How have things changed?" I won't attempt to answer that question, but here is an analysis I made in 2001. The way I summarized groups may appear somewhat arbitrary, but

without firm rules to guide members in completing the membership application, the information cannot be precise. When I joined CSI, I was an architect, working for the first time as a specifier, for the University of Minnesota. I had invested a lot of time in getting my license, so I checked "Architect" rather than "Specifier or Specifications Consultant" or "Owner". There were, and still are, many such options.

Not Specified	27	0.15		
100 Architect	4,662	25.78		
101 Forensic Architect	36	0.20		
102 Landscape Architecture	77	0.43	4,775 architects	26.41
103 Civil Engineer	542	3.00		
103A Highway	8	0.04		
103B Bridge	3	0.02		
103C Other Engineer	45	0.25		
104 Structural Engineer	509	2.81		
105 Electrical Engineer	180	1.00		
106 Mechanical Engineer	286	1.58		
107 Environmental Engineer	63	0.35		
107A Water Resources Eng.	6	0.03		
108 Forensic Engineer	22	0.12	1,664 engineers	9.20
109 Specifier or Specification Con.	953	5.27	953 specifiers	5.27
110 Attorney	108	0.60		
111 Building Official	42	0.23		
112 A/E Drafter CAD Operator	165	0.91		
113 Contract Administrator	258	1.43		
114 Project Manager	729	4.03		
115 Facilities Manager	121	0.67		
116 Interior Designer/Space Planner	75	0.41	75 Interiors	0.41
117 Public Agencies Personnel	64	0.35		
118 Cost Estimator	162	0.90		
119 Urban Planner	3	0.02		
120 General Contractor	660	3.65		
121 Sub Contractor	716	3.96	1,909 contractors	10.56
122 Material Supplier	1,791	9.90		
123 Distributor	393	2.17		
124 Manufacturer's Representative	2,403	13.29	5,310 suppliers	29.37
125 Construction Manager	309	1.71		
126 Electronic Media Manufacturer	7	0.04		
127 Educator	62	0.34		
128 Delineator	3	0.02		
129 Surveyor	4	0.02		
130 Building Owner	31	0.17	219 owners	1.21
131 Support Personnel	79	0.44		
132 Publisher	63	0.35		
133 Realtor	2	0.01		
134 Word Processing Personnel	4	0.02		
135 Banker	3	0.02		
136 Surety Advisor	15	0.08		
137 Association Personnel	71	0.39		
138 Labor Representative	3	0.02		
139 Developer	33	0.18		
140 Consultant	696	3.85		
141 Marketeer	97	0.54		
142 Test Lab Personnel	20	0.11		
143 Other	1,442	7.97		
144 Constructor	29	0.16		
	18,082	18,082		

I'll leave it to my gentle readers to get the current membership data and summarize what has changed. Send your analysis to me, and I'll use it in a future article, with accreditation, of course!

© 2014, Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CSC

[Agree? Disagree? Leave your comments at http://swconstructivethoughts.blogspot.com/](http://swconstructivethoughts.blogspot.com/) and <http://swspecifichthoughts.blogspot.com/>.

“Strictly SMITH-ly”

“What Bidders Have a Right to Expect in the Drawings and Specifications”

By Donald F. Smith, Jr., CSI CCS RA LEED AP

Consistent use of nomenclature, organization of information and consistent location top the list of expectations.

The goal in these documents is clear and consistent communication and understanding, and through understanding, agreement on what is required. CSI has an old mantra, “Say it once, say it correctly, and say it in the right place.”

Drawings show location, arrangement., size, and quantity. Specifications give requirements for procedures, performance, quality, material, equipment and product information and source, finishes, and installation procedures.

While Drawings and Specifications are complimentary, mixing some requirements between Drawings and Specifications is not a good idea. Even though Drawings and specifications are often the products of many authors, the nomenclature used must be consistent to promote good understanding. Even the level of detail in notes for one Drawing to the next can create doubt as to the true meaning of the note. Likewise, the amount of detail, submittal requirements, performance and testing, creates the impression that some subjects are more important to the architect than others.

Every plan, section and detail. Has a reason it was drawn. The subject of that plan section and detail should convey its purpose and not overly give information not necessary to place the subject in proper context. Likewise, at least one of multiple exterior wall sections needs to identify the materials that make up the exterior enclosure , while the other sections can rely on the differences of their particular section and refer back to the primary section for the typical enclosure wall notes.

Arrange the Drawing plans, details, and sections in a logical order to each other and the whole.

Schedules that do not schedule all spaces with finishes, all doors, all windows, all glass types, and other similar finishes are inviting oversights and Change Orders.

Bidders' time is limited. What they are looking for is accuracy and clarity. Think about putting together a bid for painting and coatings. How easy or difficult have you made it?

You need to be very careful not to get caught in your own mousetrap.

"If you don't know where you're going, you might wind up someplace else."

Yogi Berra

... Just my opinion,

Donald F. Smith, Jr., CSI, CCS, RA, LEED™ AP

CSI Houston Foundation Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow

By Al Pasek, CSI, CCPR, President, CSI Houston Foundation

The CSI Houston Foundation, Inc. was established to provide scholarship opportunities for deserving students who have selected a degree goal within the construction industry.

In 2013, we were able to fund five scholarships for \$2,000 each to architectural/engineering students with 60 hours or more time toward an academic degree within the construction industry. By exposing them to CSI and all its benefits, we believe these students will apply their education to become active leaders of tomorrow within their chosen field and CSI.

Continued support by the membership of CSI Houston and sponsors of CSI activities will offer the funds necessary to make our Foundation play an important role in advancing educational opportunities for students within the Gulf Coast Region.

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CSI Houston

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Visit CSI Houston
 on the Web

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Mar. 2014 Through Apr. 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Mar 2</i>	3	4	5	6	7	1 / 8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Planning Mtg, 2:30 pm, 9434 Katy Fwy, Ste 170	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 CSI Houston Board / Chapter Meeting- Hess	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	<i>Apr 1</i>	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18	19
20 Easter Day	21 Planning Mtg, 2:30 pm, 9434 Katy Fwy, Ste 170	22	23 Administrative Professionals	24	25	26
27	28 CSI Houston Board / Chapter Meeting- Hess	29	30	<i>Jun 1</i>	2	3