



**The Construction  
Specifications Institute  
Santa Clara Valley Chapter**

# Summary

May 2010

Serving the Valley of Santa Clara since 1960

## MAY'S PROGRAM TROUBLESHOOTING CRACKING AND COLOR ISSUES IN PORTLAND CEMENT PLASTER

Stucco is a versatile building material that has been used for centuries. Along with its advantages, we must take into account its limitations, particularly when used over framed wall construction. Stucco is brittle, water absorbent, and depends greatly on field mixing and quality control to achieve its strength and beauty.

### Participant Learning Objectives:

- Gain an understanding for how to prevent and limit the potential for cracking
- Learn guidelines for specifications to establish the level of products and systems to achieve a successful installation
- Gain a better understanding of premixed and engineered products
- Learn the differences between the various finish options
- Be aware of references available for additional information and follow up - reading materials, manuals, and industry professionals

### Presenter:

Jerry L. Pozo, BS, CSI, CDT is an Architectural and Technical Consultant at BMI Products. His responsibilities include supporting Architects, Designers, Specification Writers, and others in the Construction Industry with Technical Assistance, and Product Education and Training on the proper application of Portland Cement Plaster in the built environment. He received his Bachelor of Science in Environmental GeoScience from California State University Hayward.



**WHEN:** Thursday, May 6th, 2010

**COST:** No host bar, dinner is \$32.00 including gratuity and tax.

**LOCATION:** Biltmore Hotel and Suites  
2151 Laurelwood Road, Santa Clara  
(Montague Expressway & 101)

**RSVP:** Please make your reservations to Krista Nelson with choice of meal by noon on Tuesday, May 4th.  
email: [krista@aba-arch.com](mailto:krista@aba-arch.com)  
phone: (408) 535-2935

**TIMES:** Board Meeting: 5:00 p.m.  
Social Hour: 6:00 p.m.  
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.  
Program: 8:00 p.m.

Guests are welcome • No-shows will be billed

**MENU:** Tossed salad; chicken enchilada with beans and spanish rice; wine; dessert, coffee or tea.

**OR**

Tossed salad; fresh vegetables sautéed in garlic topped with a mango curry sauce with steamed rice and grilled tofu; wine; dessert, coffee or tea.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION:

This program meets CSI/CEN and AIA/CES criteria. Participants will receive 0.1 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and 1 hour of LUS/HSW (learning units).



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY HANNAH MOYER, CSI CDT AIA LEED

In late March we celebrated our Chapter's 50th anniversary at the De Anza Hotel in downtown San Jose, and what a success it was. The hard work of the dedicated 50th Anniversary Committee was evident everywhere, from the charming room with tall, articulated ceilings, to the wonderful food, to the commemorative glasses, to the special handmade Ikebana vases produced by Mr. Mel Cole, FCSI. Thanks again to the committee: Ms. Julie Brown, CSI, CCS, SCIP Mr. Dave Ingram, CSI, Mr. Mel Cole, FCSI, Mr. Marv Bamburg, CSI, AIA and Mr. Jim Morelan, CSI, AIA. Many thanks as well to our Industry Partners, without whose help this event would not have happened. Their generosity is very much appreciated.

We had a wide representation of members that evening, from up and coming leadership all the way back to a Chapter charter member, Mr. Ron Young and everyone in between. We had some visitors from other

Chapters as well, from San Francisco, Redwood Empire, and even Los Angeles. Gracing the event with their presence and humor, as well as representing the West Region, were Mr. Dave Willis, CSI and Mr. Duane Johnson, FCSI. Mr. Ralph Greenlee, a Chapter President from 1965-66, was also in attendance and shared some interesting perspectives from his days in office.

As I noted in my welcoming statement that evening, it is during events like these, with the room filled with memories, that the history and legacy of an organization become palpable, are more clearly understood and therefore, more greatly appreciated.

Speaking of appreciation, I am getting ready to attend the CSI Annual Convention in a few weeks, and am looking forward to a get-together with a small group of fellow Chapter Presidents I met last year. This circle represents a wide range

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## CSI ONLINE

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Region  
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Jim Morelan, CSI, AIA and  
Ron Young at the 50th  
Anniversary Celebration



# MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

CSI, Santa Clara Valley  
(Draft, Board Approval Pending)  
Place: Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara  
Date: April 1, 2010

## Opening

The meeting was called to order by Chapter Vice-President Jim Morelan at 4:59 p.m.

## Attendees

### Board Members

Hannah Moyer, CSI, CDT, AIA, LEED AP, President, (late arrival); Jim Morelan, CSI, AIA, Vice-President; Marvin Bamburg, AIA, CSI, Treasurer; Maia Gendreau, AIA, CSI, CDT, Secretary; Rietta McCain, CSI, CCCA, AIA, Professional Director; Kevin Norman, CSI, AIA, LEED AP, Professional Director; Jim O'Keefe, CSI, Past President

### Region Director

Julie Brown, CSI, SCIP, CCS

### Committee Chairs

Dave Ingram, CSI

## Minutes

The minutes of the March meeting were reviewed by those present. The word "meet" is stricken from item III. The minutes are approved as corrected.

## Treasurer's Report

There is no report tonight since the

website was down for Intuit and Quick Books could not be accessed.

Marv has tested the new credit machine at the hotel and it should be working properly.

## Region Report

Julie distributed a written report on the West Region Mid-Year Meeting to Hannah and Maia.

A virtual chapter is forming, Bryan Varner is heading up this effort.

West Region has requested that Chapters issue press releases for public relations in the local community.

The new chapter, the Inland Empire, is formed and some interest is forming from Cal Poly Pomona.

There is discussion of supporting the McGraw Hill Region Directory, possibly by placing an ad.

Future West Region conferences will be held in late March to early May.

For those attending the Convention, leadership training will be available. The training is not limited to Presidents and Vice-Presidents, all member are welcome.

The new West Region website is up, and will soon have a Google calendar.

Technical committees are tasked with reviewing Green Format submissions.

There was a motion to postpone the

Monterey Golf Tournament.

The model bylaws will not be changing and we need to contact Sheryl for instructions on how to proceed with our bylaws finalizing.

## President's Report

Thanks to all who served on the committee for 50th Anniversary. It was a successful event.

## Unfinished Business

Jim O'Keefe: no news on the board insurance yet.

Election results are counted: 33 ballots are submitted, one unsigned, all ballots elect the new board unanimously. New officers for Fiscal Year 2010-2011 are:

- Jim Morelan, CSI, AIA, President
- Kevin Norman, CSI, AIA, LEED AP, Vice-President
- James O'Keefe, CSI, Treasurer
- Dede Impink, CSI, CCS, Professional Director
- Rose Garrison, CSI, Industry Director

Chapter Advertising in the West Region Directory :

- The Chapter directory was a fund-raiser this year, due to electronic-publishing. However, the marketing package should probably be reviewed. The roster was produced largely because we

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- had committed advertising as a part of the marketing package.
- The McGraw Hill directory is not self-sustaining, and the board discusses what contribution Santa Clara Chapter could make to assist. June 30 is the deadline for advertising. Members need to update their information by June 1st for correct listing in the West Region Directory.
  - The question arises if the Chapter wants to buy advertising, or do we want to solicit others for ads in the West Region Directory.
  - A motion is made to discontinue the Chapter Roster, to ask the Marketing Chair to assess the marketing package with the Committee, and to focus our efforts this year on supporting the West Region directory. Motion is seconded. Motion passes.

Status of Joe Cota: Due to his teaching commitment, he has let his CSI membership lapse and although he has not formally resigned, we need to find another industry director. Hannah has some possible ideas for a new director.

**Committee Reports****Membership**

We currently have 87 members, 61 home chapter members.

**Education Seminar**

Sign-ups are still slow for the seminar on April 30. We have been soliciting with other organizations strongly. The AIA was unable to publish the flyer in their April newsletter but will send it as an email. The second seminar has been re-scheduled to May 28.

**Programs/Technical**

AWS tonight, next month is trouble-shooting plaster, June is the awards dinner, August is possibly a joint-bbq with AIA Santa Clara Valley.

**Continuing Education**

We will cover CSI CEU only tonight, the presenter will register the AIA continuing credits.

**Greeter/Raffle**

There is wine for the raffle tonight.

**Editor**

Deadline is Friday April 9th at noon.

**Historian:** No report.

**Awards:** No report.

**Website:** No report.

**Operating/House:** No report.

**Toys-for-Tots:** No report.

**Marketing Committee**

Ron Ronconi will chair this committee.

**50th Anniversary Task Team (2010)**

Wrapping up the budget, settling up the remaining bills. Photographs to be distributed to Historian and Editor.

**PLANNING  
CALENDAR****CHAPTER MEETINGS**

MAY 6	CRACKING AND MOISTURE ISSUES IN CEMENT PLASTER
JUNE 3	AWARDS DINNER
JULY 1	TBD
AUG 5	TBD

**PLAN AHEAD****CSI Annual Convention:**

Construct 2010  
May 11-14, 2010  
Philadelphia, PA

**West Region Conference:**

"Forces for Change"  
Sept 30 - Oct 3, 2010  
Yosemite, CA

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**Barbara Brosh**

Project Manager  
Western Region

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# WEST REGION CORNER



**WEST REGION PRESIDENT**  
**Duane Johnson, FCSI CDT**  
**(916) 362-6303**  
**duane@cja-architects.com**

I want to start this month's column by congratulating the winners of our recent elections. For Fiscal Year 2011 our leaders are:

- Institute Director, West Region - Stephen Nash, CSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA
- Region President - Craig Mount, CSI, CDT, AIA
- Region Vice President - Dave Willis, CSI, CDT, CCCM

I also want to offer my sincere thanks to the unsuccessful candidates Gary Tinseth, Brian Cournoyer, Don Lambrecht and D. Michael Fuller

who made the commitment and offered their names into the race.

In addition just prior to this election, our Region had a special election to approve our revised Bylaws in which they were overwhelmingly approved. Before we could "officially" nominate anyone for the offices above we needed to get these bylaws revisions approved by our membership. This prior election was necessary to bring our bylaws into conformance with the requirements of the Institute's new governance model, such as splitting my current position into two ( Institute Director and Region President). The current approved Bylaws are now posted on our new and vastly improved Region Website. Thanks certainly go to our Task Team leader Stephen Nash for his tenacity in following through on the Bylaws revisions. I know that spirit will serve this Region well in the Institute Board room.

About a month ago we had a very productive Mid-Year Board meeting and Open Speak-up at our new location closer to the Oakland airport. Friday night's session also allowed us to correct an omission from Awards ceremony at the Region Conference in Berkeley. It was a pleasure to see our Membership Co-Chairs, Jennifer Alexander and

Craig Mount, present our long term membership guru, Bryan Varner, a Best of the West award for leading the nation in member recruitment in the contest held earlier in 2009. His efforts were a major part in giving us a "Triple Crown" with his personal achievement in addition to helping his home chapter, Redwood Empire, place first which also helped the Region place first. Congratulations Bryan, I know you will keep that critical mentoring alive.

The open-mic speak-up session built on Bryan's recognition. We spent a lot of very productive time discussing how to do Leadership training. We debated how we used to do it, how we can be more inclusive and at what venues can this very important element of our organization's health get the best return on investment. I want to continue to use this and any other forum I can get to reinforce my belief that we need to expand our traditional scope and look beyond the current leaders. This is not to imply that their training does not still need to happen, but there are at least some current attempts by various Institute committees to address it. Most recently, our own Dennis Hall from San Diego as Institute Membership Chair put on

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**WEST REGION • from pg 6**

a very helpful session at the Institute Convention in Indianapolis and it will be updated and presented again this year in Philadelphia.

I believe we need to reach further out into our ranks to our “newbie” members also. These are the bright future prospects who most chapters have but that are not yet ready to even be a committee chair or Chapter Board member. Because of this they rarely get funding to attend the Region Conference or the Institute Convention where most of the “Leadership” training currently is being done.

The next day I started the Region Board meeting by building on the previous night’s discussion. I suggested a theme for our day’s discussions: “to find ways to add value to CSI membership that can be carried over into the workplace.” Once this is recognized by our employers they would then have an incentive to support and encourage CSI membership. To this end we discussed the four main leadership training topics listed on the recent Region Performance Questionnaire created by the Institute R.A.P.P. committee. None of the topics are how to be a secretary or how to be a treasurer but much more general and

certainly something that has helped me throughout my professional career.

- Parliamentary Procedures
- Running Effective Meetings
- Board Responsibilities
- Fiduciary / Finance

These are skills that any employer will see as having value in the growth of his employee in helping run his business and being productive in his or his client’s Board Room.

As this is getting very long, I will defer the rest until my next column. I must say however, that our Board is committed to stepping up our training. Our incoming President, Craig Mount, told the Board he will be naming a Leadership Committee Chair for his term and we adopted funding for a separate Leadership event (more later on this).

Another item that I have received a lot of questions regarding was resolved by the Board. We will be switching our Annual Regional Conference (with its required Members meeting) from the Fall back into a Spring time slot. It was suggested by the Institute to evaluate this as after our May meeting in Philadelphia this year; they will be switching the Annual Institute Convention to a “permanent” time slot in late September or early October. Our Board therefore believed that this would create travel issues if both region and institute

meetings were in the fall as well as problems with conference product shows. Therefore our Board adopted the following Region Conference schedule (thank you to Julie Brown and her Task Team for evaluating the multiple options and presenting a well thought out recommendation):

- September 2010, Fresno Chapter, Tenaya Lodge Resort at Yosemite
- Spring 2012, Santa Clara Valley and San Francisco Chapters
- Spring 2013, Redwood Empire Chapter
- Spring 2014, Honolulu Chapter
- Spring 2015, San Diego Chapter

Finally, Congratulations to Santa Clara Valley Chapter on your 50th Anniversary. It was a pleasure to attend the event and see a room full of mentors and mentees. I will close by mentioning one of my mentors who I thanked that evening, Mel Cole, FCSI, Member Emeritus, CCS, SCIP. He had my job when I was a region “pup” chairing the Education committee. His advice was if you have a good idea let’s hear it, I have not been shy since. ♥



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## CURMUDGEON'S CORNER: MOVING ON

BY SHELDON WOLFE, RA FCSI CCS CCCS

We just went through another round of bylaws amendments, and unless we decide to throw everything out and start over, we should be about done. The reason behind many of the amendments goes back to the governance initiative recommended by the Board and approved by the members just a couple of years ago. As you may recall, one of the biggest changes was to reduce the board of directors from twenty-nine members to eighteen. We are well on the way now; we soon will be down to twenty board members.

The intent of the governance amendment was to create a smaller board, one that would be more nimble, more efficient, and more forward thinking. With that in mind, let us consider two Board activities: creation of a new committee to oversee the way members use their dues, and expanding CSI's visibility and influence through increased participation of corporations.

### Region Allocation Program Oversight Committee

Along with the reduction in size of the Board came a division of responsibilities. Institute Directors now will focus primarily on matters

pertaining to operation of the Institute, while operation of the regions, formerly part of the Institute Directors' duties, now is delegated to the regions. This created a problem; while Institute Directors had annual travel budgets for visiting chapters, region officers would now have to find other sources of funding for region business.

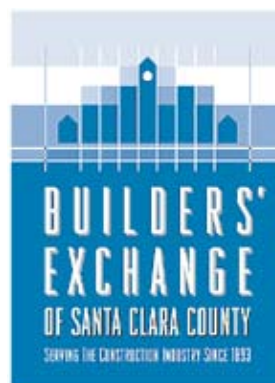
The response was the Region Allocation Program (RAP). Under this new program, regions no longer have to rely on chapter assessments for operating funds. Instead, the Institute sends a percentage of the basic membership dues directly to the regions. At one stroke, this addressed three problems: the lack of funding for region travel, the difficulty of collecting assessments, and the "missing" income that was not collected from at-large members. This is essentially the same process used for chapter dues - the Institute collects chapter dues, then sends the money to the chapters. As far as I know, this system has worked well for a long time without any special attention.

However, it was decided that the transfer of funds to regions required

CURMUDGEON • cont'd on pg 9



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**CURMUDGEON • from pg 8**

supervision by the Institute, and a Region Allocation Program Oversight Committee was formed, the intent being to “administer the Region Allocation Program (RAP) and evaluate the program’s effectiveness.” The oversight committee has since been quizzing regions and chapters, trying to figure out what is going on in chapters and regions.

In either case, is it not the members’ money, to be used as the regions or chapters determine? The Region Allocation Program was a good idea, but do we need an oversight committee to decide if regions are spending their money wisely?

**Increased Participation of Corporations**

Another topic, which our board of directors has discussed many times, is corporate participation in CSI. To put this in the proper perspective, our bylaws state that “Firms or corporations are not eligible for membership” and I certainly do not want to try to change the bylaws to allow corporate membership. However, it seems that we should be able to allow companies to participate in CSI without being corporate members, and to show their participation through use of the CSI logo and some expression of their relationship with CSI. This would benefit both the company and CSI by showing the company’s support and by making CSI more visible. AIA and USGBC have shown the value of cooperation between companies and organizations; it is time CSI stopped trying to ignore the importance of those companies that pay the bills.

We often have lamented the fact that while ordinary people are aware of AIA, they have no idea what CSI is. And in only a few years, USGBC has

become possibly the most-recognized construction organization. Should CSI pursue greater participation by companies? Should corporate participation be acknowledged by allowing companies to display the CSI logo? Is it not time to gain more visibility by promoting CSI through every means possible?

**Express Your Opinion**

How are the Region Allocation Program and corporate participation related? They are not, but members should take advantage of this year’s annual meeting to express their views on these subjects. Given a choice between the two, members will be better served by more visibility and recognition than by an oversight committee. And I believe it is a choice. Board members have only so much time, and the total time available is much less than what it was. It is more important than ever that the Board focus on those things that will make CSI more important and attract new members, and avoid activities that sound good but do not contribute to the mission.

While it is too late to submit a resolution, these and other issues still may be brought to the annual meeting as “Other Business.” The governance amendment made it possible to bring meaning to the annual meeting, so take advantage of it to tell your board of directors what you think is important! ♡

**PRESIDENT • from pg 2**

of the US, from Honolulu to Washington D.C., from Michigan to Philadelphia. This past year we have managed to keep in touch through e-mails: exchanging ideas, random thoughts, words of encouragement and admiration. This group has been a great little circle of friends, who want nothing more than to be a source of help for each other, for which I am appreciative. In fact, it has been going so well we are going to introduce our in-coming Presidents to the circle, in hopes that the support will be continued.

**Housekeeping Notes:**

In just a few weeks CSI’s Annual Convention will be taking place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from May 11 to 14. Do not miss out on a wonderful opportunity to both explore the birthplace of the Declaration of Independence, and all that CSI Institute has to offer.

Chapter members, do not forget, when you attend an Annual Convention, you are eligible for reimbursement for the registration fees as long as the Chapter has funds available.

In exchange, you are required to attend the West Region Caucus, the Institute’s Business Meeting, a minimum of three seminars, and a leadership training seminar. You are also required to write an article for the chapter’s newsletter (all of which is not as painful as it sounds, really).

Reimbursement requests (with back-up and article attached) must be turned in to the Chapter’s Treasurer (Marv Bamburg) within 30 days of attending the Convention. The same article needs

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to be submitted to the newsletter editor (Rietta McCain) at the same time.

This is not a bad deal, plus, you get to meet some great people and expand your network. Remember, your network cannot grow without investment. ♥

**MINUTES • from pg 5**

Jim Morelan is doing some public relations to newspapers.

**Announcements**

The San Francisco Chapter will hold a leadership roundtable on the 17th of April at the Sheraton Fisherman's Wharf, San Francisco. Local Chapters will be invited. The focus will be leadership training.

A meeting between the co-chairs of the West Region Conference was held and possible meeting sites were discussed. The West Region Conference will be added to the Committee Reports.

**Closing**

The meeting was adjourned by Hannah Moyer at 6:00 p.m. ♥

"He who has a why

to live can bear

almost any how."

Friedrich Nietzsche

**BUCH NOTES: SPLINTERED HISTORY**

BY EDMUND BUCH, CSI

"A Splintered History of Wood, Belt-Sander Races, Blind Woodworkers & Baseball Bats" by Spike Carlsen may sound like the title for a book of casual reading rather than one for technical content, and you would be correct. However, in addition to some of its almost "Ripley's Believe It or Not" kinds of topics, it contains useful and entertaining chapters with historical and otherwise interesting information you did not realize you need to know. It will be appreciated by anyone who works with, or uses wood in any way.

It seems as though there is not a wood related topic that is not included. From the mundane, like toothpicks; to the essential, like the Louisville Slugger; to the musical, like the Steinway

Grand and the Stradivarius violin; to the archaic wooden water piping and wooden railroad rails, to the comical belt sander drag races of Tyrol Basin, Wisconsin, Carlsen touches on them all. He also includes fascinating historical facts related to wood such as the matter of "strategic timber" in the 17th and 18th Centuries. An example of this is the straight and tall timber that was essential to seafaring nations for masts on their sailing ships. Maine, in the Colonies was known for its especially straight and tall trees which England imported in vast quantities for its ships. This is perhaps one reason why England fought so hard to keep the Colonies.

BUCH NOTES • cont'd on pg 11

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**BUCH NOTES • from pg 10**

The broad range of wood species is described in detail. From the tropical iron woods weighing nearly 93 lbs/cubic foot, to balsa wood, and bamboo (not a true wood), to Cuban Mahogany costing nearly \$200/ board feet, and everything in between. Oak is heralded as the champion of all the woods. Its combination of strength, density, workability, and the beauty of its grain make it a favorite of woodworkers, cabinet makers, and ship wrights. Beyond these attributes it was an essential food source for Native Americans through its bountiful production of acorns. And there can be no argument on the beauty of live oaks that dot the California landscape whether you are a woodworker or not.

The first precursor to trees appeared about 450 million years ago. By 370 million years ago, these plants had developed a vascular system in the trunk connecting the roots and the foliage. As water evaporates from the leaves, water is pulled up from the roots via cohesion between water molecules passing through cells in the trunk. This was the beginning of what was to become a photosynthesis machine.

Trees evolved into two groups: hardwood and softwood. The former characterized by enclosed seeds and the latter by exposed seeds. Trees can also be characterized by where they grow: rain forest trees are mostly hardwoods like ipe and mahogany and since they grow continuously, they do not exhibit growth rings; seasonal/ monsoonal trees produce some of the densest and most beautiful woods such as ebony and rosewood; the temperate climates of Europe and North America produce an abundance of oaks, maples, pines, and firs to name a few.

All wood consists of cellulose cells held together by lignin. The cells that carry water are called the xylem and those that carry food, the sap, are called the phloem. The amount of lignin binding the cells together determines the strength, hardness, and flexibility of the wood. Both xylem and phloem cells are produced in the cambium zone, the slippery layer just beneath the bark.

The various applications of wood in construction are presented starting with log cabin buildings. By the early 1800s, when steam replaced water wheels as the source of power for saw mills, the expansion of lumber as a building material began in earnest. This was accompanied by the advent of machine made, mass produced nails. By 1830 balloon framing arrived, replacing timber post and beam construction. Balloon framing took advantage of the more economical small dimension lumber fastened together with mass produced nails. By the 1940s the balloon framing was replaced by platform framing, an even faster and more economical method for framing upper stories.

Nowadays, we do not associate wood with large scale commercial or institutional construction. But until steel and concrete framed construction became common in the early 20th Century, wood was used extensively for floor and roof framing, often in combination with masonry bearing walls. Large 19th Century buildings were commonly founded on wood pilings. Even the Empire State Building in New York City, built in 1932, and more recently the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans are supported on timber piling.

“A Splintered History of Wood” was published by Harper Perennial in 2008. The book has 411 pages, some with photographs but all written with good humor. ♡

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**Location:**       XL Construction  
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John R. Guill AIA, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP is Director of Construction Technology for AXIA Architects in Santa Rosa, CA, specializing in Construction Contract Administration, Specifications, Bidding and Quality Control. He has over twenty-five years experience in a wide variety of educational, institutional and industrial facilities for local, state and Federal government agencies as well as corporate and private clients.

Since 2000, Mr. Guill has served on the faculty of Sonoma State University, where he teaches Construction Contract Administration and Construction Specifying in the School of Extended Education's Construction Management Program. He is a regular presenter of continuing education programs on construction-related topics and has received a number of awards and recognitions for architecture, construction specifications and industry education, including honors by Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (CASH).

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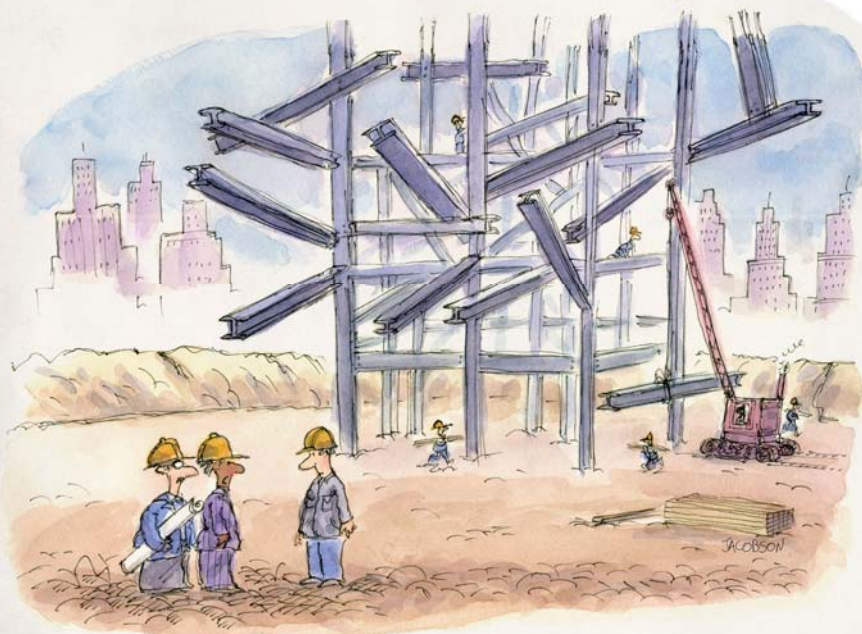
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