



MARCH'S PROGRAM

TOP TEN WOOD FRAMING ERRORS AND FIVE WAYS TO PREVENT THEM

Through observing hundreds of job site field installation errors, APA field specialists identify five simple concepts you can use to help avoid these ten costly callbacks. Photos from single-family, multifamily and commercial projects illustrate problems that can be easily avoided.

Participant Learning Objectives:

- Participants will understand five principles for wood design that will prevent a multitude of potential field problems.
- Participants will be able to identify common framing mistakes in the construction of wood buildings for floor, wall and roof systems and thereby reduce liability and insure greater client satisfaction.
- Participants will learn the proper design and installation of Engineered Wood Products to most efficiently meet design and construction needs.
- Participants will be able to navigate through technical resources (APA literature and a list of websites and publications) to address the design challenges facing today's wood building professionals.

Presenter:

Lisa Podesto, PE, CGBP is a California licensed professional engineering and Technical Director for the Wood Products Council initiative, WoodWorks, which serves to provide a single source for wood building design information and resources for the non-residential/multi-residential building industry. In her current role, she educates Northern California Architects, Engineers and Contractors on all aspects of wood design; via presentations, technical assistance and one on one project assistance.

For 6 years prior to joining the WoodWorks initiative Lisa was a Project Manager and a Design Engineer specializing in wood design. She earned her BS in General Engineering from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo and her MS in Civil Engineering from San Francisco State University. She is the current Chair of the SEAOC Sustainable Design Committee and a Certified Green Building Professional through the Build it Green program. She is also a member of ASCE, ICC and SWE.

WHEN: Thursday, March 4th, 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, March 2nd.
email: 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; beef tenderloin stir-fried with crispy vegetables and mild Szechuan sauce with rice; wine; dessert, coffee or tea.

OR

Tossed salad; soft polenta with an array of broiled vegetables on a bed of marinara sauce; 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

We're past the halfway mark of the current fiscal year and looking back, so many successes have occurred. I had recently collected a number of mid-year Strategic Planning updates from an assortment of chapter committees, and I'm proud to say everyone has worked very hard in providing the best services to the chapter's membership.

The Programs committee, chaired by Kevin Norman, has put on a number of wonderful programs, with engaging speakers and topics. Just last year in July Dawn Anderson kicked off the new fiscal year by presenting a successful program on ADA to a capacity crowd. The committee was also responsible for putting on a delightful Holiday Dinner event. Currently the Programs Committee is working on ideas for FY2011, with a brainstorming session set for February 22, 2010. If you're interested in participating, get in touch with Kevin Norman at knorman@des-ae.com.

The Education Committee, headed by Maia Gendreau, had a successful seminar in October, again taught by the chapter's very own Dawn Anderson. It was an in-depth review of ADA, and the designer's legal obligations. Thanks to Maia, the seminar was profitable. Be sure to look out for future seminars already scheduled for April and May, on specifications writing.

Rietta McCain has been especially busy. Not only has she been sitting on both the Board and the Programs Committee, she's also been editing and publishing the Newsletter, managing Continuing Education, and maintaining the sponsorships records.

The newsletter has been published on time, and all program attendees signing in have had their learning units recorded.

Both the Awards and Historian Committees have been overseen by the experienced Julie Brown, one of the chapter's and Board's sage counselors. We rely on Julie a great deal for guidance and counseling because of her depth, breadth of experience, and knowledge with this chapter. If there's any member who'd like some advice about pursuing an award, or to learn more about the history of the chapter, she's your go-to person.

We're excited about establishing our New Member Orientation, and we're looking forward to opportunities to present one in the near future. Thanks to Rose Garrison, the Membership Committee chair, we're also updating the members' badges box within the next couple of months. I'm sure by now you all have received a call from either Rose or one of her helpers, encouraging you to come to our programs. Due to Rose also being the leader for the Greeter/Raffle Committee, she's had an opportunity to meet a number of you the last time you attended a program. We appreciate Rose's energy and enthusiasm, and she's doing right by the chapter.

Lastly, Krista Nelson has been heading up the Operating/House Committee, taking all of your reservations and dinner selections, coordinating with the hotel, and making sure we always have a supply of wines for the raffles. So far, we haven't been short on any

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2009-2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

ANNUAL ROSTER

Chair Seat Open

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Hannah Moyer, CSI, CDT,
AIA, LEED AP and Dan
Ortiz at the February
Chapter Meeting



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

CSI, Santa Clara Valley
(Draft, Board Approval Pending)
Place: Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara
Date: February 4, 2010

Opening

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Hannah Moyer at 5:02 p.m.

Attendees

Board Members

Hannah Moyer, CSI, CDT, AIA, LEED, President; Jim Morelan, CSI, AIA, Vice President; Marvin Bamburg, AIA, CSI, – Treasurer-elect; Maia Gendreau, AIA, CSI, CDT, Secretary; Jim O'Keefe, CSI, Immediate Past President; Rose Garrison, CSI, Industry Director; Rietta McCain, CSI, CCCA, AIA, Professional Director; Kevin Norman, CSI, AIA, LEED, Professional Director

Region Director

Julie Brown, CSI, CCS, SCIP

Committee Chairs

Dave Ingram, CSI

Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed by those present. Minutes are filed as distributed.

Treasurer's Report

Budget – A motion is made to approve the Budget for fiscal year

2009-2010, motion passes.

Reports are distributed, there is some closing of the books and accounting that needs to occur.

Report is successfully reconciled, congratulations to Hannah.

In the next month the Treasurer-elect and the President will get together and close out the books and review the new Quick books.

Report is filed for annual review.

A brief discussion of whether the credit card machine is worth it commences. We do not take American Express now, and the discussion turns to the value of American Express charge also.

Region Report

The Mid-Year meeting is coming up. A committee was formed to review the conference dates. It is likely there will be no conference in 2011, the next conference is tentatively being discussed for spring of 2012. Comments are requested from the Board for the Mid-year meeting. The Board agrees the conference sounds reasonable, since the Institute convention is being moved to Fall.

President's Report

Dates for Institute upcoming events.

Unfinished Business

Strategic plan goals: Board reviewed the written reports submitted by committees. Continuing Education submitted a verbal report.

New Business

Board Insurance

Three things we need to be concerned about: directors and officer's liability insurance, fidelity insurance, and general liability.

AON is the West Region and East Bay insurer, Novick is the current recommendation from Institute, and Gray-Stone is another provider.

Costs are estimated at \$600 to \$700 for up to a million dollars insurance.

The Board is inclined towards pursuing D&O and General Liability insurance. Jim O'Keefe is requested to pursue getting some quotes.

New Treasurer

A motion is made to nominate Marvin Bamburg as Treasurer for the remaining of the fiscal year. Motion seconded, motion passes.

50th Anniversary

Approval of down payment for 50th Anniversary: A motion is made to provide the deposit for the De Anza hotel for the 50th Anniversary. Motion seconded, passes. At next month's

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SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute is celebrating our 50th Anniversary March 20, 2010, and the Chapter is seeking partners to join in our efforts in putting together a very elegant and special evening for our Chapter. This distinguished event will be a celebration attended by current and past chapter members, and friends from the leading Bay Area architectural, construction and specifications community.

The focus of the celebration will be our members, both professional and industry, and their contribution to our chapter's continued success through the Chapter's first fifty years. Our 50th Celebration Industry Partners will continue the historic support that this Chapter has always depended upon and deeply appreciates.

Commemorative wine glasses, historic commemorative booklet, a presentation with historic photographs and videos, and other related items will be produced to tell the chapter's

historic story, which will also reflect the memories of our more seasoned members.

The different categories for Industry Partners with prices and options are listed below.

Platinum Partner: \$1,000

Gold Partner: \$800

Silver Partner: \$600

Bronze Partner: \$400

If you are interested in being an Industry Partner for this evening of history, great food, and special people. Any questions feel free to call Dave Ingram (415) 370-6331 or Julie Brown (408) 778-0633. ♥



CSI ELECTION 2010

The polls are open! Members have until March 3rd to vote in the annual CSI election. Voting this year is completely electronic. Please visit www.csinet.org from more information and to cast your ballot.



**"No one can whistle
a symphony. It takes
a whole orchestra
to play it."
H.E. Luccock**

**Kevin Norman, CSI, AIA,
LEED and John Pluff, CSI
at the February Meeting**



WEST REGION CORNER



WEST REGION PRESIDENT
Duane Johnson, FCSI CDT
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I just came back from a great working vacation to Southern California. Although it was tough to stop eating ice cream for breakfast with the grandkids, I was happy to be able to spend some time with two active student groups. The first was our long established group on the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo campus, who are the Student Affiliate of the Fresno Chapter. We had to start late due to most students now having to take night classes to find class space, but we brainstormed until about 10:30 PM going over transition issues and plans for their annual Construction Sciences

Forum on campus Wednesday April 7th. I want to thank Fresno for already pitching in to make this another successful event and to encourage all product reps to sign-up for the on-campus Product Show. Check out the student club's website for details at www.calpoly.edu then click on the CSI site.

The following day, I drove to San Diego to visit one of our newest student groups at the New School of Architecture & Design. I was delighted to see the great level of support the San Diego Chapter is giving this fast growing school of around 600 students. In discussions with the Dean, he was very pleased to have CSI on campus. The Chapter was doing something that night that is rarely done in other chapters and the room had a wonderful networking buzz. This night they were having their regular chapter meeting on campus with a great turnout of tabletops for their 2nd Annual Sustainable Products Fair. The entire evening was open to the students with a very enjoyable speaker who connected with them and the faculty. I would enthusiastically recommend other chapters look into bringing David Mar, S.E., a Principal with Tipping Mar + Associates of Berkeley, CA to speak at your events. His was able to

share his years of experiences with sustainable projects and alternative construction in a very understandable, informative and entertaining manner. Check out their well done web site for event photos at www.sandiegocsi.org.

Speaking of well done web sites, I hope many of you by now have seen the impressive results of Eric Camin's redo of the West Region website. We needed to take back more control of our site and Institute was not ready with their new version that will have ability to add Region (and Chapter) microsites. Eric completely remade the website using Go Daddy and it's getting some pretty good reviews although not fully up with all pages. He's asking all chapters to send him current information and event photos to populate the site. Nice going Eric!!

February is CSI Election month. I want to remind everyone that this year's elections are only via electronic format. Chapters are being encouraged to contact their members that do not have e-mail access and see if they can help them vote by providing a laptop at your Chapter meeting or allowing them to come to another member's office. Historically we only get about a quarter of the members voting and in this time of declining numbers we

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need to do everything we can to help members be involved. Remember, to save money, we were also able to get our Region officers on the same Institute ballot. This election will be the final step in our governance changeover as we go to a separation between the two Region officers and our Institute Director. So we have three positions to elect and contested races in each position. Please read over their qualifications (and ask some questions). Since I currently wear both the Institute Director hat and the Region President hat, I can tell you that this split will allow each position to now give more focused attention to their piece of the organization. With the limited volunteer hours we all have, this will allow us to move forward in a more positive way.

Recommended Reading

In the Holiday rush, I had overlooked the Dec 2009 issue of The Monthly Leader. I'm glad I didn't delete it as this is one of the best they've done. I want to encourage each Chapter to discuss the "New Member Orientations That Work" article at their next Board meeting. One point that has been made at our Institute Board meetings is we sign up a lot of members but after a short time many fall away. In this article it lists "Five Tips for a Dynamite Orientation." This supports the time tested success story that if you get them involved so they can see value within the first 60 days of joining you dramatically increase the odds of them renewing at the end of their first year. If you have discarded this great issue, remember you can now get past articles from the online CSI Monthly Leader Archive.

Our Mid-Year meeting is quickly coming up and promises to be an energetic event. March 5th is the Speak-out and the 6th will be the

Board meeting in Oakland (at a new location more convenient to the airport). One of the high interest items we will be discussing are affordable ways to expand leadership training for "newbies" that aren't officers or directors yet. Also we need to respond to an Institute request to move our Region Conference out of our traditional Fall time slot. Although not required, I believe that this needs to be done so it will not compete with the Institute convention when they move to a final fall slot beginning in 2012. This could have a negative impact on product shows supporting our Conference and chapter cash flow for sending members to two closely held events. Remember, all members are welcome at the Mid-year Board meeting, we just need to know if you are coming for meeting room arrangements and lunch cost is on you if not a Board member or Officer. My request of each Chapter is that you fully discuss at your February Chapter Board meeting all of the options our Task Team has put together so your Region Director can be prepared to vote on a solution at the Mid-year meeting.

Finally, I want to encourage each member to look again at submitting their name for an Institute or Region committee. This organization is one of the best networking groups I know of and has kept me hooked since 1983. In this economy, more networking opportunities are a good thing. However, we all know it is certainly true that the more you put in, the more you get out. So send me an e-mail and let's get you "hooked up." Remember, the Institute committees are on their website so you can sign-up online, but as I'm now a "senior" board member, copy me so I can lobby for you in the hallways.♡

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meeting a final payment will need to be paid. A vote will be held next month to address the final payment.

Nominating Committee

The President appoints Julie Brown, Jim O'Keefe and Krista Nelson to serve on the nominating committee. Nominations may need to be held via email, since the ballots are supposed to be made two weeks prior to the March chapter meeting.

Committee Reports

Committee reports are skipped due to time constraints.

Announcements

None.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned by Hannah Moyer at 6:02 p.m. ♡



**"Give thanks for
what you are now,
and keep fighting
for what you want
to be tomorrow."**

Fernanda Landeros

TOY FOR TOTS 2009 HOLIDAY DONATION TURN-OUT

BY JULIE K. BROWN, CSI CCS SCIP

Our joint effort with the SCV CSI Chapter and AIA Santa Clara Valley Chapter was a great success. We were able to collect enough toys to fill 28 barrels this year. All the toys, and even bicycles, were given to the United States Marines for distribution to the less fortunate children in our area.

Special thanks to Ron Adams of Hills Brothers Chemical and Mike O'Donnell of O'Donnell Plastering for getting the barrels out to the seventeen barrel locations, as well as picking up the filled barrels, and taking them to the US Marines.

Thanks to the firms that had the barrels at their places' of business, as well as the people that helped make this a big success. With this economy we were down 20% from prior years, but considering all, this was a great turn out. We are looking forward to another year of success with the Santa Clara Valley chapters of AIA and CSI.



Ron Adams, CSI
and US Marine
at the December
Holiday Party

CHAPTER EMAIL NOTICES



Make sure you are receiving all the latest news and announcements from the Chapter by updating your email spam filters or safe lists to include:

krista@aba-arch.com
webmaster@csiscv.org

This will help to ensure that you get all communications about upcoming events.

CHEVRONS FOR SALE

For those of you that have reached the prestigious point in your CSI membership where you have been a member for more than 10 years, 20 years, or 30 years, the CSI chevrons are available. They are \$10.00 each, which includes the hard costs and shipping costs at the time they were purchased.



Contact Julie Brown if you are interested in purchasing a chevron. She can be reached at (408) 778-0633 or julie@jkspecs.com.

TRAVELOGUE: PART 1 CATHEDRALS AND CHURCHES

BY SHELDON WOLFE, RA FCSI CCS CCCS

My wife and I had so much fun on our European Vacation that I can't help but think about it every day. It was such a wonderful, inspiring experience that it may have made me less curmudgeonly - at least for a while. In consequence, I will occasionally set aside the Curmudgeon's Corner, and recall some of what we saw.

Churches, synagogues, and other places of worship can be found throughout America. Here in the Midwest, you won't find a town small enough to not have at least one, and some appear to have more than can be supported by the local area. Of course, the town itself doesn't include the farms that extend endlessly in all directions; I often try to imagine the weekly processions from the outlying areas to the churches. With horse-drawn wagons as the fastest means of travel, there wasn't much sleeping in on Sunday mornings!

Our larger cities have more and larger churches, and we just happen to have two major Roman Catholic churches in the Twin Cities - the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis, and the Cathedral of St. Paul in St. Paul. My wife and I also have visited the Washington National Cathedral a

couple of times, so even though we live in the boonies, we have been able to see a few of the biggest churches in the United States. Still, the oldest of the ones we have seen are less than a century old.

And so, when we left on our vacation (yes, I'm back to that again), we looked forward to seeing the fabled cathedrals and churches of Europe. But with only three weeks available, we had to limit ourselves to only parts of Germany and Italy, and my observations obviously are limited to what we saw.

Our first stop was Rothenburg ob der Tauber, a walled city a few hours southeast of Frankfurt. The city itself dates back to about 1100 AD, and its feature cathedral was constructed from 1311-1484. Its two towers are about 180 feet tall, and the east end of the soaring nave is lighted with a few beautiful lancets of stained glass. One of its two large altars was created by Tilman Riemenschneider, who has been called the Michelangelo of woodcarvers, and the west end of the nave is dominated by a towering, 5,500 pipe organ.

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PLANNING CALENDAR



CHAPTER MEETINGS

- MARCH 4** TOP 10 WOOD FRAMING ERRORS
- MARCH 20** CSI SCV's 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
- APRIL 1** ARCHITECTURAL WOODWORK STANDARDS
- MAY 6** CRACKING & COLOR ISSUES IN PORTLAND CEMENT PLASTER

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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Our next destination was Immenstaad am Bodensee, in southernmost Germany. Immenstaad is a resort town on the north shore of the Bodensee, or Lake Constance as it's known here. Most of our trip was by rail, but the last leg was on a large passenger ferry, which deposited us on a long pier leading into the heart of town. Looking south from Germany, you can see Switzerland from all but the east end of the lake, where it is bordered by Austria.

We didn't see much of Immenstaad, as we travelled out during the day and returned each evening for dinner by the lake. One of these excursions was to Meersburg, a short bus to the west. Meersburg is a small city, most of which is centered around two old castles, but from the lake, the enormous city winery looks like it may be the more important part of town. The age of the older castle is unknown, some saying the first part was built in the seventh century, while others believe it wasn't built until the twelfth century. Either way, it's been around just a bit longer than the good old US of A.

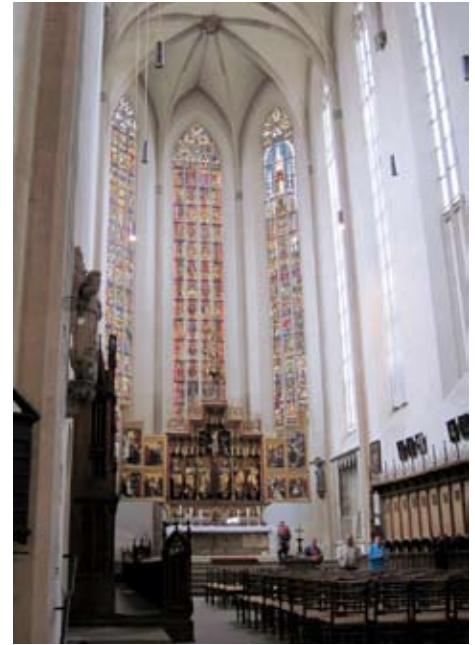
A short distance to the east is the new Meersburg castle, which is more of a palace. It was built in the eighteenth century, but used as a castle for only a few decades, having since become the home of two or three museums. The east end of the palace contains a modest chapel, which was built for the resident prince. Along with the rest of the building, it has undergone more than one restoration, the last about twenty years ago. From the outside, you wouldn't know there is a chapel within, as the façade and height are in keeping with the rest of the building. As a result, it's a real surprise when you enter and find a tall, two-story space built in the rococo style.

The walls and ceiling are stark white, overlaid with elaborate ornamentation and gilding, and most of the ceiling is decorated in colorful fresco.

After a visit to the Zeppelin museum in Friedrichshafen, we went on to Salzburg. From there, we took a day trip to Hallstatt, Austria, a postcard-sized town that looks like it was built for postcard pictures. After a two-hour rail trip through what might be the most beautiful mountains and villages in the world, we arrived at the Hallstatt station, a mere whistle stop compared to some of the terminals we saw. The station comprises a small building, a small platform, and the ubiquitous station clock. It is not, however, the end of the line, as it is across a lake from the Hallstatt, and the only way to complete the trip is by a ferry. Not surprisingly, the ferries schedule is tied closely to that of the trains.

Even though Hallstatt has only a thousand residents, it has two churches, both easily seen from across the lake and from much of the town. St. Michael's Chapel, which is perhaps fifty feet above the main street, dates back to the twelfth century. It is famous for its ossuary, home to about 2,000 human skulls. The other church, Christ Church Lutheran, was built in

TRAVELOGUE • cont'd on pg 11



St. Jakob, Rothenburg



Hallstatt



PRESIDENT • from pg 2

of the meals, the appetizers have been tasty, and the entrée selections have been wonderful.

Thanks to the hard work of these committee chairs, the chapter is well supported, and the Strategic Plan goals are being met. That is not to say they don't need more support from members like you, reading this article. All of these committees need to grow, not only to spread out the load, but also to spread out the fun. Don't think the current committees are the only ones entitled to lead. All of the chapter's members have potential for leadership, and the Board and current committees welcome all.

Housekeeping Notes

- Don't forget to vote! Look out for the February 2010 ballot. This will be an electronic ballot only!
- CSI Institute is currently in the process of producing a series of "Practice Guides" to provide a fresh take on material that has been presented previously in the Manual of Practice and the Project Resource Manual. These Practice Guides will serve as documentations of CSI best practices, references for construction professionals, and source material for future certification exams. Current plans are to make these Practice Guides available to end users in November 2010. The first batch of titles currently in production includes the basic volume, the Project Delivery Practice Guide, as well as the Specifications Practice Guide and the Contract Administration Practice Guide. As part of their production effort, they are soliciting volunteers for review of Practice Guide drafts. Please note the following:

- There will be short turnaround times for review of any of these materials.
- Comments received after each review deadline may not be able to be addressed.
- In some cases, complete document drafts may not be provided and volunteers may be asked to review individual chapters.
- Comments should be provided as tracked changes and comments in the provided Word document drafts or as a separate memo. Ability to provide one of these options as well as read MS Word documents is necessary for any volunteer.

To volunteer, please send an email to Greg Ceton, CSI, Senior Technical Program Manager

Construction Specifications Institute

p: 703-706-4723 f: 703-236-4623; e: gceton@csinet.org, indicating interest.

If anyone expresses interest but is unable to commit to assisting at this time or has interest but cannot assist with the subject matter in the above three Practice Guides, please note that this is not the final opportunity to assist with this effort. Additional Practice Guides are now in the pipeline and will be developed and produced at a later date. These include the Product Representation Practice Guide, the Sustainable Design and Construction Practice Guide, and the Facility Management Practice Guide. ♥

TRAVELOGUE • from pg 10

the nineteenth century. Located at street level, it has a spire that appears to reach about as high as the spire on the older church.

Moving on to Firenze (Florence), we found a comfortable second floor room with a window overlooking a courtyard. Looking out the window, we could see the tops of the Brunelleschi dome and the Campanile at Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore. The basilica is visible from a great distance, though usually hidden from street level. This shouldn't be surprising, given its size - at 500 feet long, 125 feet wide at the nave and 300 feet wide at the transept, and over 300 feet tall - it's by far the biggest structure in town. The exterior, a striking combination of white, green, and red marble, is a well-known symbol of the city. Unfortunately, we found the interior to be a disappointment after the colorful exterior. It has few windows, paintings, or statues; the highlight is the dome, which has almost an acre of painted surface. Still, despite the lack of ornamentation, the verticality of the interior and the sheer volume were quite impressive.

Come back next month, when we'll set out for the cathedrals of Rome. ♥

**"The world is a
book, and those
who do not travel
read only a page."
St. Augustine**