



Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute
Serving the Valley of Santa Clara Since 1960 www.csiscv.org

December 2006

Summary

Santa Clara Valley CSI Invites You to an Evening With ROUDON SMITH WINERY

Join us for a festive evening with friends new and old to enjoy good wine and food. Roudon Smith Winery will join us and share with us their winery's history, the wine making process, and, of course, their wonderful award winning wines.

Thursday, December 7th, 2006
\$40 per person



Members, Guests, Spouses and Significant Others are Welcome and Encouraged to Join the Festivities

6:30 PM Social Gathering

No Host Bar

7:00 PM Dinner

First Course

2004 Santa Cruz Mountains Chardonnay
Assorted Pâtés, Cheeses, Crackers and Olives

Second Course

2003 Russian River Chardonnay
Greens, Mandarin Oranges, and Candied Walnuts with Caribbean Mango Dressing
Hot Fresh Rolls

Third Course

2003 Carneros Pinot Noir
Bacon Wrapped Filet Mignon with a Bleu Cheese Crust, Sautéed Baby Red Potatoes and
French Cut Green Beans, Mushrooms and Baby Carrots

OR

2003 Russian River Chardonnay
Shrimp and Crab Stuffed Sole in a Light Citrus Sauce with Rice Pilaf and
French Cut Green Beans, Mushrooms and Baby Carrots

Fourth Course

2004 Santa Cruz Mountains Pinot Noir
Special Holiday Chocolate Dessert

Don't forget to bring an unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots.

Wine courtesy of Ron Ronconi, CSI, AIA, NCARB - CAS Architects, Inc.
Evening Sponsor courtesy of Jim O'Keefe, CSI - Frazee Paint & Wall Covering

Business Attire

RSVP, with your choice of entree, by noon on Tuesday, December 5, 2006.

Gus Sharvey, CSI, at (408) 629-4088 or by email gussharvey@sbcglobal.net

Ramada Inn Silicon Valley 1217 Wildwood Avenue, Sunnyvale (Lawrence Expressway and 101).



President's Message *by Marvin Bamburg*

2006-2007 Board of Directors

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Wow! I counted thirteen of our Chapter members at the Western Region Conference in Reno last weekend [Bob Anderson, Jim Balboni, Barbara Brosch, Julie Brown, Mel Cole, Maia Gendreau, Dave Ingram, Rietta McCain, Hannah Moyer, Krista Nelson, Mike O'Donnell, Ron Ronconi]. That was out of a total of almost 200 attendees, among which were our Hawaii brethren, Mike Owen (last year's CSI president), and several staff from the Institute.

The Conference was packed full of excellent presentations, networking, social functions, networking, business meetings, networking, and fun. Oh, and did I mention, .. networking.

Most of the gambling was on-your-own, but there was one official tournament of Texas Holdem. The field totaled 16 contestants; our Chapter secretary, Maia Gendreau was our representative. Betting it all, she was sure her king-high straight would win, but was upended by an ace-high straight from Brian Varner. The Chapter did better in the Extreme Shuffleboard, when Mel Cole was on one of the finalist teams. Unfortunately, Mel did not prevail either.

Our VP, Krista Nelson, was on the Conference organizing committee. Her hard work paid off with one of the best conferences on record.

In addition to the many good ideas for improving our Chapter, I came away with some statistics. There are over 15,000 CSI members in the Country. Most other Chapters across the Country and within the Western Region are losing membership. Ours is one of two in the Region that is not losing membership. Our goal this year is to grow, however, and to that end we must all realize that it is the collective responsibility of all of us to bring new members into the fold. As a membership organization, we are the Institute. New blood is essential to the health of CSI; not only that, but membership alone does not - an organization make. The benefits one receives from membership are directly related to the efforts one expends on behalf of the organization - nothing in....., nothing out! Let's all join in to make this Chapter the best it can be.

Like most old-timers in CSI, I was saddened to learn of the passing of Hans Meier, last week. Hans was a pioneer in the Institute, a Fellow, and a leader in the field of construction specification writing.

I want to thank Krista Nelson for filling in for me last month at the meeting with SEONC. I am sorry to have missed it. It is unfortunate that our November meeting conflicts with that of AIA SCV (they also changed

SUMMARY

from their regular meeting date). Hope to see you all at the Feng Shui session on 9 November and at the Holiday Party on 7 December at the Ramada Inn. Details will be forthcoming from Hannah Moyer.

CSI Loses Two

Saturday, October 15, 2006, was a day that witnessed the passing of a CSI legend. Hans William Meier, FCSI, CDT, Honorary Member, a CSI member since 1968 and a past Santa Clara Valley CSI and Los Angeles CSI Chapter President, left us with a legacy of firm, engaging leadership, always voicing his opinion when it mattered, yet rallying his pupils to do their best during the tough times.

The Construction Specifications Institute owes a debt of gratitude to an icon that established CSI's certification programs.

The amazing thing about Hans was that he was always available, teaching concise specs through his Construction Specification-Handbook and his vast Library of Specifications Sections. He taught specifiers and architects/engineers/owners all across the country his unique approach to explicitly defining and communicating construction documentation by engraining in us a better understanding of the English language to precisely delineate concepts.

Loss continued on Page 8

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How to Change Your Personal Information with CSI

It is very easy to change your personal information at www.csinet.org. Just log in with your name and password, as described on the web site. Then you have access to updating your new address, new employment, or new e-mail address.....all at your fingertips. This way you will be sure to receive everything from Institute and our chapter.

Minutes of the Board Meeting

CSI, Santa Clara Valley Chapter
(Draft, Board Approval Pending)

PLACE: Ramada Inn, Sunnyvale

DATE: November 9, 2006

The meeting was called to order
by Chapter Vice-President Mar-
vin Bamburg at 5:02 pm.

Attendees

Board Members Present: Marvin
Bamburg, CSI, AIA – Presi-
dent; Krista Nelson, RA, CSI,
LEED® AP – Vice President;
Dave Ingram, CSI – Immediate
Past-President; Maia Gendreau,
CSI, AIA,- Secretary, Hannah
Moyer, AIA, CSI, CDT – Profes-
sional Director, Barbara Brosh,
CSI – Industry Director, James
O’Keefe – Industry Director,
Jim Morelan, CSI – Professional
Director, Albert Wege, CSI,
CCCA, Treasurer,

Committee Members Present: Julie
Brown, Awards, Historian, Co-
chair Editor.

**The minutes of the October
meeting were reviewed by those
present.**

The minutes are accepted as
written.

Treasurer’s Report

Transactions with the credit card
machine will be controlled by
Wege at meetings.

There is an income discrepancy
due likely to short charges by
those who did not pick up the
increase to \$28.

Have not received an invoice
from SEAONC for October
dinner.

Credit card charges for Plan
Reading Seminar will be reflected
in November.

Wege will track credit card fee
increase.

Treasurer’s report is filed.

Region Director’s Report

Conference was well run. Con-
gratulations to Region co-chairs
Bryan Varner and Matt Craw-
ford.

Congratulations to Krista Nel-
son for winning the Rising Star
Award.

Congratulations to Hannah

Moyer on her presentation.

Summation: great conference,
networking, information for
chapter building activities.

President’s Report

Thanks to all for a good showing
in Reno.

Rietta McCain has volunteered
to co-chair the Editor of the
newsletter.

Unfinished Business

Summary Report on gift portfo-
lios from Moyer will be deferred
until December.

New Business

Brown: We have sadly lost some
Past Presidents Hans Meier and
Joe Tasker, and a long time mem-
ber and pioneer of CSI, Tom
Eckman.

Ingram: Motion to make a dona-
tion in the memory of each per-
son to a charity in the amount of
\$50. Motion seconded, carries.

President will follow through
with condolence letter to family.

Minutes cont’d on Page 8



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Rising Star Award



Our Rising Star – Krista Nelson RA, CSI, LEED, with West Region Institute Director Ed Buch CSI, CCS, AIA and West Region Adviser Paulette Salisbury FCSI, CDT.



A contingent of our Santa Clara Valley Chapter members at the CSI West Region Conference. From front to back and left to right as follows: Marvin Bamburg, CSI, AIA, Greg Mowat, FCSI, CDT, second row left to right: Krista Nelson RA, CSI, LEED, Dave Ingram, CSI, Barbara Brosh, CSI, Maia Gendreau CSI, Hannah Moyer CSI, CDT, AIA, Rietta McCain CSI, AIA, Julie Brown CSI, CCS, SCIP, third row, left to right: Mel Cole FCSI, CCS, and Ron Ronconi, CSI.

Planning Calendar 2006-2007

Chapter Meetings

BACK TO THE 1st THURSDAY OF THE MONTH!!!!

Dec 7 Holiday Celebration

Jan 4 Water Repellants

Feb 1 To be determined

Plan Ahead for 2007

West Region Conference:

Oct. 24-27, 2007 – Pasadena, hosted by the Los Angeles chapter

Convention:

June 20-22, 2007 – CSI Institute Convention & University, Baltimore, MD

Visit our website at
www.csiscv.org or

The West Region's website at
www.westregioncsi.org



West Region Corner



INSTITUTE DIRECTOR, PROFESSIONAL, WEST REGION PRESIDENT

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Our partner in producing the CSI West Region Membership Directory and Specifiers' Guide, McGraw-Hill, is in the process of soliciting advertisers for the 2007 edition of this valuable resource. It is scheduled for publication in March of next year. Your support as an advertiser is critical to its existence and I encourage you to place an ad for your company. It is the only region-wide source

for CSI membership information and, in some cases, also serves as the local CSI directory. Please contact Mr. Michael Moffatt of McGraw-Hill at michael_moffatt@mcgraw-hill.com for more information.

By the time many of you read this, the Institute Board of Director's fall meeting will have just concluded. It was held in Denver on Nov. 17th to 19th, at the tail end of the USGBC's Greenbuild Conference. The principal order of business for your Board to consider was the selection of a new executive director of the Institute. As you know, the position has been open since February of this year following the resignation of our former executive director. Since then, the search process has been underway with the help of the professional executive search firm, Korn Ferry International. In my article next month I should be able to report on this and other actions taken at the board meeting.

Also in next month's article I

will update you on the reaction of the Board to the preliminary report prepared by the Institute's Governance Task Team. This team was assembled to review our governance structure with the idea of seeing if there aren't ways to make our leadership and governance structure more nimble and cost effective. As a member of the task team, I think our recommendations have been carefully considered, they are modest, and they address the issues. Hopefully, the Board will view them the same way.

One of the important themes underlying the chapter workshops at the recently concluded West Region Conference held in Reno, NV, was the need to focus more attention on increasing our membership. As recently reported by last year's region membership chairman, Bryan Varner, we lost a total of 38 members in the region for the CSI year that ended June 30th. While 38 out of a total of 1,600 home chapter members

West Region *cont'd on Page 7*

Jim Balboni
Project Executive
New Equipment
Western Region



Otis

A United Technologies Company

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Sunnyvale, California 94085
408-328-4211 Fax: 408-738-2655
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BMI Products

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Phone: 408-293-4008
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Tom Brzica

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West Region *cont'd from Page 6*

doesn't sound like a lot, if this is the start of a trend, it will have serious consequences for our organization.

Membership is too important a function to be left to the membership committee alone. Serving our current membership, so that they want to renew every year, and recruiting new members hinges on many aspects of our chapter operations. Some of these that come to mind include the following: Interesting and timely programs at our chapter meetings are critical to attracting members. Having an up to date member directory is a great tool, especially for industry members to use in contacting professional members. Hosting technical, legal, or other educational seminars provides high visibility for CSI and helps in recruitment. Publishing a chapter newsletter or monthly flyer is another member benefit that provides an opportunity for industry members to advertise and for the chapter leaders to communicate with the membership. An active social committee can arrange events for members to have fun, outside of our business

relationships.

These are just some of the chapter activities that relate to increasing our membership. The membership committee can't do it alone, we all need to do our part. To get things started and to set an example for others in your chapter, consider insisting that each member of your board of directors be responsible for bringing in one new member this year, only one. That doesn't sound too difficult. Once we get in the mindset of reaching out, I think the results will be surprising.

Going All In — In Reno

By Rietta McCain, CSI, AIA

Between playing the craps table, watching Marvin Bamburg do the can-can, and competing in 'extreme' shuffleboard, I am amazed I managed to learn so much at the West Region Conference in Reno. I was having too much fun. The 3-day conference was my first and I am still trying to catch my breath and catch-up on sleep. Thanks to six great seminars and the Annual Member

Meeting, I am happy to report that I have returned brimming with information on: strategic planning, sustainability, networking, BIM, CSI format revisions, chapter resources, and institute happenings. However, the highlight of the conference was the awards dinner.

Our very own Krista Nelson received the West Region Rising Star Award for her dedication to CSI and hard work on the education committee for the conference. To clamorous applause, Paulette Salisbury bestowed the award, praising Krista's commitment to CSI and her promising future as a leader in the organization.

Education is the main reason that Krista joined CSI, and it continues to be a factor in why she is active in the organization. She finds it extremely rewarding to know that people enjoy and learn from the work she does to create educational sessions. A true believer in the adage, "you get more out of something when you contribute," Krista is an asset to our chapter as we reap the fruits of her labor. We are lucky to have her energy and skill. All our

Reno *cont'd on Page 9*



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Loss cont'd from Page 3

We will miss Hans' wise counsel.

October 27, 2006 is a sad day for our chapter because we lost, a past president, specification mentor and another one of our chapter's pioneers. We want to share with you another past president's letter that was sent me.

— Julie Brown

What a sad day...

I joined the SCVCSI Chapter in 1974. Joe was one of the first people in the Chapter that I met and within a short time I learned why Joe garnered the respect that he held from his peers. Joe had specifications running in his blood and he worked long and tirelessly to promote "good specifications." There are a handful of people like Joe that gave to the industry in the unselfish manner that he did, but he didn't do it alone. There was always with Joe, Norma, his wife who not only built a respectable business of her own, but was always there helping Joe with CSI business- they were inseparable.

I not only knew Joe for his participation in CSI, but in those early days, as a contractor, we looked forward to bidding projects that Higgins & Root and Joe Tasker worked on. We knew their plans and specs were top quality- and they never failed to deliver the best.

I regard Joe as one of those pioneers that has made this valley

of Architects and Specification Writers what it is today.

Goodbye Joe, we will always think about you, you will be missed and we hope there is a "spec table in the sky" for you to continue your love and passion.

— Rich Jensen, a friend

Note from Managing Editor

Several e-mailed versions of the Summary have been returned to the Web Master due to incorrect addresses or a blocked account. To ensure that your newsletter is delivered, please verify your profile with www.csinet.org to ensure your e-mail and physical addresses are correct. Please notify Gary Barnett of any changes, as soon as possible, to ensure uninterrupted delivery of your newsletter and other SCVCSI mailings.

Minutes cont'd from Page 4

Ingram suggests that a line item for charity be added to the budget.

Task team formed: Task team for recognition of past contributions will be formed, Brown will chair, Morelan volunteers to serve, 2 others will be requested.

Brown: Rich Jensen, Past President, sent a letter requesting a Chapter Cup or Scholarship in the chapter founder's name. Proposal is not in a format to move forward, and should be referred

to a task team to review.

Conference Reimbursements:

Bamburg: review reimbursements of Board and members from conference, an informal poll indicates perhaps 4 or 5 will be submitted.

Wege: suggests articles to newsletter should be submitted within 60 days of conference and should be timely.

Committee Reports

Special Events: no report. Cremona is out for health reasons.

Membership: There are 5 or 6 possible new members identified. Need to refocus on goals of strategic meeting. Bamburg reminds everyone that membership is not just a committee, but the responsibility of all. Idea to the "bring a buddy meeting" was floated.

Educational Seminar: Moyer reports good attendance at the plan reading seminar last month (16). Comments were positive on the evaluation. Gross profit \$1800, sharing 50% with ACIA. No advertising costs. Dawn Anderson will consider doing another seminar in the spring.

Programs/Technical: Dec 7 wine pairing party meeting is shaping up well.

Minutes cont'd on Page 10

**"I've learned that
making a "living"
is not the same thing
as "making a life."**

— Maya Angelou

Reno *cont'd from Page 7*

chapter members that attended can attest to the excellent quality of the sessions she put together for the conference.

One of best sessions Krista Nelson and Bryan Varner organized for the conference was on networking. The speaker was Michael Goldberg of Building Blocks Consulting. I found it to be a practical session on how to make the most out of your social events through effective networking. He laid out the ground rules of networking first:

- Listen well and listen more than you talk
- Smile and have positive body language
- Don't speak to the same person for more than 5 minutes
- Exchange business cards
- Take notes on the back of exchanged business cards to remind yourself of your conversations and follow-up points
- Have a goal for a meeting you are attending and share it with people at the meeting
- Have questions ready for people you are going to meet.

It is important to remember that when you are networking, you are selling yourself and proactively meeting people to learn and help them. You are not selling a service or product. That is sales, not networking.

Michael pointed out the features of great networkers. They are articulate, engaging, sincere, fun to be with, and exude positive

body language. He notes that these attributes take time to develop and being around good networkers is a great way to pick up these habits. Taking the time to practice these skills and ground rules is essential until they become behaviors you do naturally.

The two other items that Michael stressed were having a personal statement and follow up. Your personal statement should convey what you do, what you know, what your niche is, and what you want to do. Take the time to develop your statement before you go to an event. It should only take 20 to 30 seconds to get across and be clearly understandable. Follow up is critical within 24 hours of networking with someone. If you do not follow up on a contact, it is as if that connection never took place. Another feature of following up is maintenance of your network. Maintenance is critical, and you should be in touch with people in your network monthly.

The information from Michael's seminar was immediately applicable to my time at the conference and I know it will help me at future events. I hope that my brief overview of what I learned can help you at your next networking opportunity.

I truly enjoyed my time in Reno. The conference provided me with the opportunity to meet people from other chapters, play ping-pong with a networking expert, learn more about our chapter members in attendance, do the electric slide, and become

familiar with region and institute activities. I learned more than I thought I would, and I had more fun than I thought possible at a professional event. I will see you in Pasadena for the 2007 West Region Conference!

A Silent Auction

Special Opportunity thanks to Roudon-Smith Winery

Roudon-Smith Winery is providing the Chapter with a special day for a few group of friends and family to have a day of wine tasting at the Santa Cruz winery. This silent auction will be made available at the January Chapter meeting. Look for more details in January's *SUMMARY* newsletter.

OEC Signs Distribution Agreement

SAN JOSE, CALIF – Open Energy Corporation (OEC), a renewable energy company focused on the development and distribution of solar energy technologies, announced the signing of a national distribution agreement with DC Power Systems, one of the largest wholesale renewable energy distributors in the country. The agreement, valued at \$7 million in the first year, includes an aggressive national marketing campaign, and dealer sales and installation training. For more information, visit www.openenergycorp.com and www.dcpowersystems.com.

Minutes *cont'd from Page 8*

January: talk on water repellent.

Feb: joint meeting with IIDA. Nelson reports: IIDA meeting moves around, they have suggested a location at COG in Milpitas, presenter is Michael Chambers on "protecting design intent of specifications." Brown requests that the meeting stay on schedule for the next 3 or 4 months so the new editors can be trained to the deadlines. Nelson will pursue having IIDA joint meeting at the regular CSI meeting location.

AIA Liaison: no report, AIA is meeting tonight also.

Greeter/Raffle: O'Keefe will cover tonight, Garrison is injured.

Annual Roster: Ingram reports two errata in the roster. Ingram will send out corrective labels.

Thanks to Ingram for a job well done.

Winners from the Washington Post's 2005 Mensa Invitational

Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.

Hipatitis: Terminal coolness.

Inoculate: To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.

Editor: Rietta McCain has volunteered to co-chair, congratulations to her. McCain has submitted an article for the newsletter.

Historian: Photo album has been acquired. Has collected obits and information members passed away. Morelan: do we distribute information regarding the deceased to National, Brown reports that usually it is the spouse who reports the member.

Awards: No report.

Website: Bamburg reports that Webmaster Anderson is dissatisfied with internet host.

Operating/House: 22 reported attending tonight.

Toys-for-Tots: Flyer is produced and presented.

Marketing Committee: Frazee paint has agreed to sponsor holiday event. Many thanks to Frazee.

Operating Guide Task Force:

Operating Guide: Nelson, Brown and Ingram are developing a first draft, section 1. Hawaii has an operating guide and that was circulated. Next meeting DEC 4.

50th Anniversary Committee: need committee members. 2010 is the 50th. Ingram volunteers to be acting chair.

Announcements: None

**The meeting was adjourned
by Chapter President Marvin
Bamburg at 5:58 p.m.**

Simple Thoughts

Why are you IN a movie,
but you're ON TV?

Why do people pay to go
up tall buildings and then
put money in binoculars
to look at things on the
ground?

Why do toasters always
have a setting that burns
the toast to a horrible crisp,
which no decent human
being would eat?

If Jimmy cracks corn and
no one cares, why is there
a stupid song about him?

If the professor on
Gilligan's Island can make
a radio out of a coconut,
why can't he fix a hole in a
boat?

Why does Goofy stand
erect while Pluto remains
on all fours? They're both
dogs!

If Wiley E. Coyote had
enough money to buy all
that ACME crap, why didn't
he just buy dinner?

If corn oil is made from
corn, and vegetable oil is
made from vegetables,
what is baby oil made
from?

This Holiday Season the Santa Clara Valley chapters of Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) and AIA are joining forces again with United States Marine Corps of San Jose for their **TOYS FOR TOTS** campaign to help the less fortunate of our community.

They request toys that be new and in their original packages. Please do not wrap packages.

See below for a drop-off barrels in your area. These barrels will be moving from place to place around the Bay Area, so it will be easy to find a container to place the new toys in. Over the past seven years we have donated over two hundred and fifty barrels of toys. Great Work! Let's try to hit the mark of 300 barrels this year!

Drop-off barrels will be at the following locations:

Date In	Date Out	Company	Street Address	City
11/27/06	12/15/06	AIA Santa Clara Office	325 S. First St., 1 st Flr.	San Jose
11/27/06	12/15/06	CAS Architects	1023 N. Shoreline Bl.	Mtn. View
11/27/06	12/15/06	Dowler-Gruman Arch.	550 Ellis Street	Mtn. View
11/27/06	12/15/06	Devcon Construction	690 Gibraltar Dr.	Milpitas
11/27/06	12/15/06	HDR Architecture	650 Castro Street, #500	Mtn. View
11/27/06	12/15/06	Watry Design Group	1700 Seaport Bl. 2 nd Flr.	Redwood City
11/27/06	12/15/06	Santa Clara Builders Exchange	400 Reed Street	Santa Clara
11/27/06	12/15/06	Sugimura & Associates	2155 S. Bascom Av. #200	Campbell
11/27/06	12/15/06	HMC Architects	1570 Alameda #330	San Jose
11/27/06	12/15/06	Hill Brother Chemicals	410 Charcot Avenue	San Jose
11/27/06	12/15/06	O'Donnell Plastering	2318 Lafayette Street	Santa Clara
12/14/06	12/14/06	AIA Holiday Party	To be determined	—
12/07/06	12/07/06	CSI Holiday Celebration	1217 Wildwood Ave	Sunnyvale

The barrels were donated by Chemical Compounding and Hills Brother Chemicals

Call Ron Adams 408.838.6773 or Mike O'Donnell 408.988.4965 with questions.

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season

