

### William Sundquist, CSI Candidate – Institute Director from the Gulf States Region



Year Joined CSI: 2004

Home Chapter: Chattanooga TN

**Firm:** The Whitacre Greer Company

Occupation/Position Region Sales Manager

Email: Wsundquist@wgaver.com

**Education:** BS in Public Relations, 2001, University of Georgia Southern

University

**Professional Registrations, Licenses** 

and Certifications:

Not Specified.

CSI Awards: Knoxville Chapter Awards

2004 Chapter Appreciation Award2005 Chapter Appreciation Award2006 Chapter Appreciation Award2007 Chapter Executive Service Award

2007 Chapter President's Award

2008 Chapter Executive Service Award

2008 Chapter President's Award

2009 Chapter Executive Service Award

2010 Chapter Service Award

2010 Gunnar Kraft Special Merit Award

Chattanooga Chapter Awards 2010 Chapter Appreciation Award 2012 Chapter Appreciation Award 2013 Chapter Appreciation Award 2014 Chapter Appreciation Award

2017 President's Special Merit Commendation

2017 Ken Brandenburg Award

#### **Region Awards**

2010 Outstanding Chapter President

2012 Certificate of Honor and Merit
2012 Certificate of Appreciation
2014 Certificate of Distinguish Service
2016 Certificate of Merit and Appreciation
2016 Spirit of Service Award
2016 The Eugene Wetzel Award for Communication
2017 Region Award for Special Event

#### **Institute Awards**

2009 Certificate of Merit and Appreciation2016 Communications Award2017 Outstanding Contribution

## Other Professional/Civic Organizations and Awards:

- American Institute of Architects, Chattanooga, TN Affiliate Member, 2010 to 2014
- Associated General Contractors, Knoxville, TN General Member, 2004 to 2010 Associated General Contractors, Chattanooga, TN General Member, 2010 to 2012
- Associated Builders and Contractors, Knoxville, TN General Member, 2004 to 2010
- American Society of Interior Designers, Chattanooga, TN Vendor Member, 2012 to 2014
- Chattanooga Masonry Association, Chattanooga, TN General Member, 2010 to 2014
- Fulton High School Construction Mentoring Program, Knoxville, TN Committee Member, 2008 to 2009
- Federal Aviation Administration, Washington, D.C. Private Pilot's License, 1999 to present

# Current/Previous Experience as a Board Member for Organization(s) other than CSI:

- American Institute of Architects, Knoxville, TN Allied Board Member, 2006 to 2008 Allied Member, 2004 to 2010
- Brick Industry Association, Reston, VA Landscape Paving Council, 2nd Vice Chair, 2017 to present
- East Tennessee Masonry Association, Knoxville, TN Apprentice Committee Co-Chair, 2007 to 2010
- Public Library Board, City of Chattanooga Board Member,
   2017 to present
- Friends of the Chattanooga Public Library Council, Executive Chair, 2014 to 2016
- Friends of Tennessee Libraries President, 2017 to present

#### **Candidate Statement:**

My campaign theme is, "This is our time." This is our time because just like our founding in 1948 the industry still must communicate. It is important for the Institute Board to continue to build on our strong foundation. During my professional career I have work in national, region and local positions. As it relates to

CSI, I have served as a chapter and region president in addition to various roles in both. For work I travel various regions of the country so during my campaign I have visited chapters in the Gulf States, South-Central and Southwest Regions listening to the members. I believe this is fully preparing me to serve CSI.

#### What leadership skills do you possess that you could apply as a member of CSI's Board?

Throughout my career I have always committed myself to listening. To me this is a critical leadership skill that used effectively can benefit any organization. I also believe that when you serve in leadership roles one must be a visionary. The world of today does not just happens. It takes a collective of knowledge, planning and implantation of a vision. I also have a great believe in placing people in positions to be successful. Without the proper people in place no vision will come together. Managing the human resources of any organization is critical and crucial to its success. My education provided me skills in marketing, which I have been able to use in my career. Additionally, these skills have allowed me to successfully market ideas within volunteer organizations, and to market the volunteer organization to others in the design and construction industry.

#### What skills and experience make you uniquely qualified for the position for which you are a candidate?

Starting with my first job at age 14, I have continued to develop my skills as a special projects manager. Throughout my corporate career I have always taken on roles of reversing negative markets or developing non existing markets into profit centers. It takes a unique skillset to be able to perform in an environment as such and I have proven over and over that I am capable of the challenge. CSI is at an emerging cross road today. With our new governance directive there will no doubt be change; and let me be the first to tell you that change is hard. The Institute Board should be comprised of members who understand CSI, understand how to work in a changing culture and be able to effectively assist the director when needed. I also served at an executive level with a 501c3 that supports libraries, so I am aware of the fiduciary responsibilities. I am able to bring an additional perspective of membership organizations from multiple disciplines. CSI is not in this alone and I believe it is important to understand the challenges that lay before our organization.

## What do you think should be changed about CSI or what changes would you make? What shouldn't change about CSI?

Broadly speaking, John F. Kennedy once stated that, we must celebrate the past to awaken the future. That said I am a member of CSI because I believe in our product; I would not "change" CSI. As I said in my candidate statement, this is our time to capture new members and expand our commanding role in the construction industry. Technology has advanced since 1948, but the need for the industry to communicate has stayed constant. CSI's model is rooted in communications which is a necessity for any successful organization.

#### What do you see as critical to CSI's future success?

The commercial construction industry no doubt has a natural ebb and flow with respects to investment dollars. That said, when the architectural performance and other commercial industry indexes are trending upward so should our organization. Just like our founding, we must continue to tap into the core values that advance our industry and be a resource for industry advancement and excellence.