Great Lakes Region

Chapter Leaders, Region Leaders, and Institute Leaders have been elected and are starting a new fiscal year with CSI. I will be working with some great people on the Great Lakes Region Board as your GLR President and I am excited to have this opportunity.

My first opportunity to personally meet with the new GLR Board was at the Great Lakes Region Conference in Indianapolis on August 1-2, 2014. It was great to see representation from so many chapters. Please go to the Great Lakes Region Website for information on Strategic Plan, Bylaws, Guides, and Legacy Leadership Training.  http://greatlakes.csinet.org

We were happy to have Bob Simmons, CSI Institute President in attendance and presenting this year as well as Joy Davis and many other great presenters and speakers. The GLR Conference not only gives the opportunity for new Chapter leaders to get an orientation to what it means to be a CSI Leader and all the different officer and committee chair responsibilities, it also allows us to share ideas and concerns with other chapters in the Midwest. We have common goals and common interests in this great part of the country.

This year in my President’s Column, I plan on highlighting a different chapter every month and I am starting with the Columbus, OH Chapter.

**Chapter Meetings:** Second Monday at 11:30am at Boat House Restaurant, 679 West Spring Street Columbus, Ohio 43215. Contact Scott Starzyk at 314.440.8038.
**Chapter Chartered:** February 15th 1958.
**Members:** Has consistently held 150 plus members even through the last 6 years of the downturn
**Traditions:** Strong Leadership is a tradition with this chapter;
**Annual Events:** Trade Show- Design Columbus is a joint venture with USBGC chapter and had 450 people attend last year; 16 learning CEU sessions
**Monthly Publication:** THE COMMENT, delivered each month to their membership, past meeting and trade show guests, other interested parties upon request
**Student Activities:** OSU school of architecture Scholarship- 2500/yr; CSCC scholarship providing construction management students 750/yr; Student affiliate with Columbus State Community College, one of 5 in the region
**A Chapter Best Practice:** Getting name badges back after each meeting was a problem. They are now collected during the meeting and the speaker draws a badge to award a bottle of wine at the end of the meeting to a lucky member.

The Columbus Chapter is also home to Lane Beougher, Institute President – Elect, Thad Goodman, Institute Director, and Jim McDonald, Region Vice President.

I look forward to meeting all of you throughout the year. It is my goal to share common goals and challenges as well as solutions within the chapters of the region. I also challenge each chapter with addressing Emerging Professionals in your chapter programs. With your help we can make this Region Great.

Ivette Ramirez Bruns CSI, CCS
Great Lakes Region President FY15