

Walter R. Kaye*, FCSI

"In recognition of your distinguished and dedicated service to the Institute, as a leader in formation of new chapters and in guidance of chapters within your Section, in programming meetings, as a driving force in stressing technical work within chapters, as panelist, speaker, and moderator at Regional conferences, and for the thorough manner in which you have performed as Section Director, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on this 29th day of May, 1968."
Denver, Colorado



WALTER ROLF (KATZENSTEIN) KAYE was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1908. In 1923, he began working as an apprentice with Oelwerke Julius Schindler GmbH, one of five oil refineries in Germany, advancing to the position as International Sales Manager in 1938.

In 1938, Walter began working for the Sonneborn Building Products Company. He ended his working career 42 years later as Managing Director of Sonneborn's International Division. In 1978, the Department of Commerce notified Kaye that Sonneborn's International Division was being awarded the Department of Commerce's "E" Award for excellence in export.

Following his retirement from Sonneborn in 1979, Walter continued working in international export as a member of the Senior Corp of Retired Executives (SCORE). In 1985, six years after his retirement, Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige presented him a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding service in the field of export expansion. In 1992, SCORE Region VI presented him with a plaque for outstanding counseling in the field of International Trade.

In 1957, R. Graham Jackson, FCSI, began discussing the formation of a CSI chapter with a group of interested members of the Houston, Texas, construction community. Kaye was a member of that group, and joined CSI before the chapter was chartered, when was elected the first Secretary/Treasurer of the new chapter. At the end of his first term, he suggested that the job be divided between two members, after which he continued serving as chapter secretary. His efforts on the Program Committee resulted in a 50 percent increase in meeting attendance.

When Kaye was elected to the Institute Board as Director of the South Central Section, the Section included all of Region 9, and parts of Regions 5 and 8. During his term as Director, he helped found five additional chapters in the Section.

In 1992, because of his continued participation in chapter affairs, Walter joined R. Graham Jackson, FCSI, and Ben Greenwood, FCSI, as charter members of the Houston Chapter's Hall of Fame.

Kaye passed away on 13 June 1966, in Houston, Texas.

CSI Membership

At large, 1957-1958
Houston Chapter, 1958

Institute Offices, Committees

Director, South Central Region, FY 1965-1968

Chapter Offices, Committees

Secretary/Treasurer, FY 1959

Secretary, FY 1960-1962

Newsletter Editor, FY 1963

Program Committee, FY 1964, FY 1982-1983

Awards

Institute President's Plaque, 1971, 1979

Houston Chapter Hall of Fame Award, 1962

Institute