President's Message

Bill Littler, CSI

As you can imagine, trying to craft a meaningful message each month is challenging. So many of those who read my missives have significantly more knowledge and experience in their disciplines than I. With this in mind as I sit down to the keyboard, I find myself reluctant to dive into a treatise on specifications or a technical theme. Instead, I decided that I would speak to topics that inspire me and that I find fascinating with the hope that my passion would be infectious, that the messages would engage you as readers and you would come away from reading them enlightened, informed, challenged or at least entertained.

The upcoming holidays of Christmas and New Year's brings with them wonderful memories of the past and hopes of time filled with family, friends and fun. However this isn't the case for many in our community. Homelessness, hunger, poverty and despair can be found just around the corner. As we drink and dine in the comfort of the Mirabella, we only have to look across the street to see the other side of the coin. The abandoned Times building is but one example where the homeless have tried to find shelter and a place they can call their own - at least for a moment in time.

Each year, for as long as I have been a CSI member, the Puget Sound chapter of CSI has held our annual Northwest Harvest fundraiser. The auction has been a fun way each of us can make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate: keeping a child from going to bed hungry at night, helping those without the means to put meals on the table to feed their family, restoring a degree of dignity to hurting and hungry members of our community.
So when you are doing your Christmas shopping and planning your gift giving, please consider what you can contribute to this year's auction. Choose an item or items that reflect who you are and your passions - have fun! When you walk around viewing the treasures others have brought, don't just think of the "retail" value of the item, but consider the lives that will be impacted by your bid. When you have dug as deep into your pockets as you are comfortable, dig a little deeper. Give above and beyond. The true value in giving is in knowing that you are making a difference.

Indulge me just a few more lines as I would like to give you three final points that one of the greatest givers of all literature learned. You ask who - why Ebenezer Scrooge of course!

1. Don't wait until you are dead to give. Scrooge had the good fortune of nocturnal visitations that helped him reflect on giving.
2. Give what others want - not just what you want to give. Scrooge doesn't over-think his giving or let ego take over the gift selection process.
3. Inhabit your giving and find joy. Scrooge's giving also helps amplify his feeling of good will and connection to his community. He blesses others with his generosity and feels blessed to have the opportunity to give.

And I will conclude my communiqué with the words of Charles Dickens through his beloved Tiny Tim - "God bless us, everyone!"

Footnote: If you are interested in reading the entire article on "3 Holiday Giving Tips From Ebenezer Scrooge" by Steven Crandell, you can read it online.

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**Chapter Meeting Quick Pitches**

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There are presently openings in February, March, April and May for 10-minute Quick Pitches for our Chapter meetings. The cost is $150. Any member or non-member can present. If interested, contact Dick Owen for questions or to reserve your date. This is a great opportunity to introduce our Chapter members to you, your products, or services.

ASHRAE-CSI Joint Lunch Meeting
Location: 925 4th Ave, 4th Floor Multi-Purpose Room
Date + Time: December 7th, 2016 from 11:30am-1:00pm
Lunch: Catered Lunch
Credits: 1.0 LU
Cost: $45 members/$50 guests

CSI is hosting the room for this ASHRAE Chapter Meeting, during which Kjell Anderson (AIA, LMN Architects) will present the intersection between Architecture and energy modeling.

We know we need to collaborate early in the design process to achieve radical energy efficiency improvements, but we as an industry we have not figured out the best way to do this. Architects ask ‘how is this performing?’ and want various geometries compared with immediate answers; modelers want detailed data and enough time to perform simulations. Architects often fail to understand the
loads they create with geometry and glazing, and modelers don't often present their results clearly enough to get ideas across to architects and their clients. Architects, in many cases, never even meet the energy modeler on their project. We can drastically improve project performance by focusing on the relationship between architects and energy modelers: forging a better process as outlined in ASHRAE 209, understanding each other's language and constraints, learning to ask the right questions, and realizing the amazing things we can accomplish together.

Kjell is an Architect and the Sustainability Coordinator at LMN Architects, recipient of the 2016 AIA Architecture Firm award. He is a licensed architect, speaker and author of "Design Energy Simulation for Architects." In addition to regular design work on LMN's projects, he serves on the AIA Energy Leadership Group, is involved in energy code-writing projects, and has taught building simulation at the University of Washington.

Register Today!

December Chapter Programs

December 8th Dinner Program: Annual Silent Auction
Location: Mirabella, 116 Fairview Ave N
Date + Time: Silent Auction & Social Hour: 5:00-6:00 pm, Dinner: 6:00-6:30 pm, Last-Minute Bidding and Auction Winners Announced: 6:30-7:00 pm
Cost: $40 members/$45 non-members/$25 students/$0 sponsored students (after 12/5, prices will be additional $10)

Again this year, the Puget Sound Chapter is conducting a silent auction to raise funds for Northwest Harvest. To make our December 8th Dinner Meeting/Auction a fun event, your help is needed to fill it with a wide variety of items. Please consider donating and bidding to help raise funds for a worthy cause!

Typical auction items: Tickets to sporting events, plays and concerts, vacation rentals, tools, homemade goodies, gift baskets, beer/wine/spirits, arts and crafts, books, oddities and worthwhile things that can be re-purposed. If your item is too large to bring to the event, you may instead provide a picture of the item.

Due Date to Notify: Tuesday, December 6th - Let Dick Owen (dickowen43@aol.com) know what you plan to bring.
Bring to Meeting on Dec. 8th: Items or photographs of items, Description of items and dollar value. Bring cash or checks to pay for items that you win (we will be unable to take credit cards).
Just fun and good cheer with colleagues to raise money for NW Harvest, a network of 380 food banks serving over 2 million meals per month in all parts of Washington. For more info, go to www.northwestharvest.org.

Register Now!

December 13th Tech Talk: Current State of Materials Transparency
Location: 925 4th Ave, 4th Floor Multi-Purpose Room
Date and Time: Tuesday, December 13th, 2016 from 12:00-1:00pm
Credits: 1.0 LU
Cost: Free

Getting started with materials transparency can be intimidating: you have to understand LEED v4, Living Building Challenge, Mindful Materials, EPDs, HPDs, Declare Labels, various Red Lists... and the list continues. Join Ed Clark (Associate Partner at ZGF Architects; LEED AP), Melissa Balestri (Associate at ZGF Architects; CCS) and Chris Hellstern (The Miller Hull Partnership; LFA, LEED AP BD+C, CDT) as they demystify the transparency movement and present the current state of the materials landscape. They will discuss both national and local efforts, as well as their firm's internal efforts. ZGF Architects was recently ranked number 1 in the country both overall and in the sustainability category by Architect Magazine. Hellstern is the author of "Living Building Education: The Evolution of Bretschi School's Science Wing." Clark, Balestri and Hellstern are co-founders of the Healthy Materials Collaborative.


Learn More and Register!
The Puget Sound Chapter CSI has a separate organization, the Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation, established in 2007, whose purpose is to provide scholarships, fellowships, and grants to promote educational programs serving the interest of the Puget Sound Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute, the construction industry, and related endeavors, which support the objectives of CSI. The Foundation is administered by a volunteer board composed of willing past presidents of the Puget Sound Chapter. Brad Williamson is the current president of the Foundation Board. Any individual or organization can contribute tax deductible donations to the Foundation by sending a check made out to the Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation and mailing to the Puget Sound Chapter office: 2150 N. 107th St., Suite 205, Seattle, WA 98133-9009, Phone: (206) 382-3393 (The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization). Donations in the past have been used for scholarship awards to candidates selected on the basis of recommendations by the Foundation Board and by Chapter members. The Foundation is always interested in
your fund raising ideas and financial support to promote the Foundations objectives.

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ProSpec 2017: Sign Up Today!

Check out the ProSpec website for up to the minute happenings with ProSpec and save the date March 14, 2017 to participate as an attendee, sponsor, or exhibitor. Current rates will change January 1st, 2017 so sign up to exhibit before then. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to socialize, network, show new products and marketing materials, and hear about issues in the construction industry.
Participating in ProSpec is an ideal way to let local Puget Sound architects know you are involved and want to be included in their architectural specifications or get that perfect lead for future projects.

See you there!

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**Monthly Programs Recap**

**November Tech Talk: Responsibilities and Liabilities of Delegated Design**  
*By Melissa Balestri, CSI, CCS*

As our presenter Jeffrey Hamlett, Esq., AIA said, "there is no magic bullet" when it comes to Delegated Design. We need to be very detailed and clear when specifying it, and even then we're not fully protected. During this interactive Q&A session, he gave several suggestions on how to lower our professional risk and better coordinate Delegated Design, and responded to and expanded on the audience's additional suggestions, questions, and anecdotes.

Many thanks to Mr. Hamlett of Hamlett Risk Management for speaking to us.

**October Tech Talk: Innovative Materials & Processes "PechaKucha"**  
*By Melissa Balestri, CSI, CCS*

Where else in a single hour can you learn about a product combining the sheathing and air barrier categories, the newest generation of resilient flooring, responsive lockdown hardware for active shooter situations in schools, how Architects are using Virtual Reality to inform their design process, and why HPDs aren't always to be trusted?

Many thanks to our presenters: Beth Stroshane of Applied Building Information, LLC.; Mike Fletcher of D-SEVEN; Glenn Fisher of Georgia-Pacific; Jenny Senner of STANLEY Commercial Hardware; Simon Manning of ZGF Architects, LLP; and Nora Vivarelli of Pacific Mat.

Thank you also to our sponsors, without whom we wouldn't have had subsidized pizza, drinks and desserts: Pella Commercial Windows and Doors; STANLEY Commercial Hardware; Hines Building Management; and ZGF Architects, LLP.

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**Tegularity**  
*By Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CSC*
As part of an update of approved abbreviations, my office changed its long-standing ACB (acoustic ceiling board) to ACT (acoustic ceiling tile). Before coming to this office I had always seen ACT, and it took a bit of time to get accustomed to ACB. No one knows where this unusual abbreviation came from, but it is the more logical of the two, as it includes both acoustic ceiling tile and acoustic ceiling panels. Still, it was decided to change from ACB to ACT because ACB is unusual. I doubt many contractors will ask an architect, "What's ACT?" but it has not been uncommon for contractors, subs, or suppliers to ask us what ACB is.

Read more >>

Affiliate Events

2017 Northwest Region and West Region Conference
When: May 18-21, 2017
Where: Seattle, WA

Learn more!
About CSI

CSI is a national association of specifiers, architects, engineers, contractors, facility managers, product representatives, manufacturers, owners and others who are experts in building construction and the materials used therein. They are dedicated to improving the communication of construction information through:

- A diversified membership base of allied professionals involved in the creation and management of the built environment. Join us.
- Continuous development and transformation of standards and formats.
- Education and certification of professionals to improve project delivery processes.
- Creation of practice tools to assist users throughout the facility life-cycle. Join a CSI Practice Group.

CSI is governed by a Board of Directors, a nationally elected body that provides long-range strategic leadership. The Board is composed of nationally elected CSI officers, including the president, president-elect, two vice presidents, the secretary, and the treasurer; elected representatives (directors) from each of CSI's 10 regions; and a director at large. CSI's executive director/CEO is a corporate officer.

For more information about or to join CSI, visit www.csinet.org/joincsi, or call 800-689-2900.