



## SPECTRUM

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Chapter CSI

### President's Message

*Bill Littler, CSI*

Genius? Innovator? Prophet? Egotist? These could all describe Frank Lloyd Wright, the man who is considered the quintessential architect of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His buildings and designs today still stir the hearts and minds of architects and designers. The works of this giant, though differing greatly from his contemporaries, stand beside the greats of Le Corbusier, Saarinen, Gropius, and Van der Rohe.



Frank Lloyd Wright, born just after the end of the civil war, came from humble Midwest roots. His love of the outdoors, the beauty and texture of nature inspired him. Wright's parents, his father a preacher and mother an educator, made just enough to scrape by. Because of this, he was hard pressed to pay for his education which was initially to become an engineer. He abandoned his college studies to work for Louis Sullivan (the father of skyscrapers) in Chicago and learn the trade. Though working as an apprentice to Sullivan, Wright had a mind of his own, and chose to break away from Sullivan's firm to accept private commissions and set up shop.

From his very earliest commissions, Wright began to define his unique approach - the Prairie Style or organic architecture. Wright believed that architecture should be suited to its environment and be a product of its place, purpose and time. This stood in stark contrast to much of the architecture of the day which reflected more the ornate details of European buildings.

One of the first examples of this style is the Charnley-Persky House, an early commission completed in 1892. The Charnley-Persky

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#### **In This Issue...**

1. [President's Message](#)
2. [Quick Pitches](#)
3. [March Chapter Programs](#)
4. [Memorial Foundation](#)
5. [CSI NW+W Bi-Region Conference](#)
6. [Tower of Babel](#)

#### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

**2016-2017**

**Chapter Program  
Topics**

**March 7, 2017**

*Tech Talk: Cross-Laminated Timber*

**March 9, 2017**

*All You Wanted to Know About Project Insurance*

**March 14, 2107**

*ProSpec*

**April 13, 2017**

*Port of Seattle SeaTac International Projects*

**May 11, 2017**

*Understanding Acoustical Design*

**May 18, 2017**

*NW Region/West Region Conference*

House began to show Wright's penchant for accentuating horizontal details which marry with the landscape.



The 1894 William H. Winslow house is thought to be one of his first true attempts at reinventing the traditional house. Wright worked from the outside in, designing the exterior first then making the interior floor plan fit the shell. Here you can see the first example of his signature style - broad-eaved hip roof projecting out over the second story windows.



In one of his next projects, the Frank W. Thomas residence, Wright began to show his respect for the family and to privacy with the offset front entrance. Typically you would expect the front entrance to align with the central archway; however, Wright very often would shift the front door to one side creating a greater degree of privacy.

**June 8, 2017**  
*Awards Program*

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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With Wright's practice of designing the exterior of his buildings first, one would think the interior floor plan was just an afterthought. However, Frank Lloyd Wright may be better known for his interiors and furnishings as for his "shells." Wright's ability to use natural light to affect the interiors of his buildings is seen most distinctively in the leaded glass windows of his own design. Wright designed over 4,000 leaded glass windows for over 150 of his buildings. Below is an example from the Dana-Thomas House.



Wright believed that his windows were a way of bringing the outside in as seen below in the windows from the Meyer May Residence. Also, many of his window designs mimicked nature in their patterns.

[Linda Arvesen CSI](#)

[Konrad Hee CSI CCS](#)

[Kevin Vaughn CSI](#)

***Spectrum*** is published monthly as a benefit for members of the Puget Sound Chapter CSI.

Articles must be submitted by the 15th of the month for the next month's edition. Email submissions to [office@pscsci.org](mailto:office@pscsci.org).

Visit [www.pscsci.org](http://www.pscsci.org) to subscribe or to view current and back issues.

## LINKS

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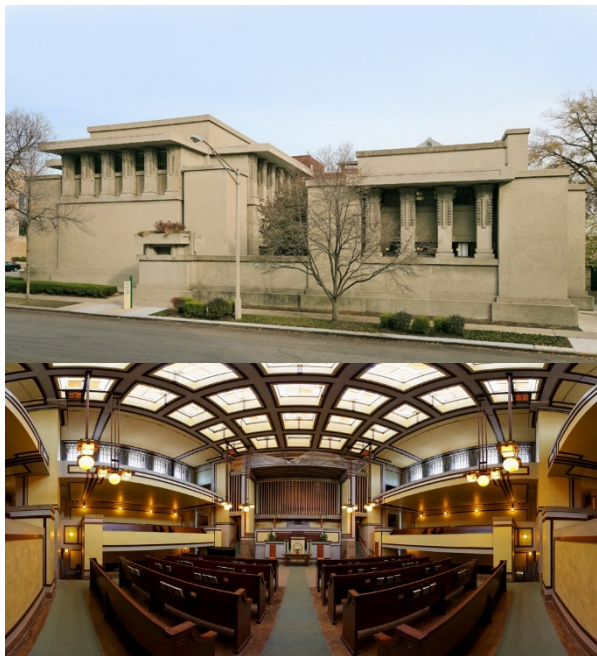
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Along with the numerous personal residences Wright designed, he is well known for his houses of worship. Probably the best known is his earliest - Unity Temple - built in 1904 and considered one of his most important structures. "Because of its consolidation of aesthetic intent and structure through use of a single material, reinforced concrete, Unity Temple is considered by many architects to be the first modern building in the world."\*



Commercial buildings were also in his repertoire. The Larkin Company Administration Building, Price Tower, Blythe-Markley City National Bank & Hotel, and of course, The SC Johnson Administration Building. As with many of his residential projects, Wright designed the SC Johnson building's exterior and interiors all the way down to the furnishings and fixtures. Note the 3-legged office chairs which was originally designed to encourage better posture - not sure ergonomists would agree.

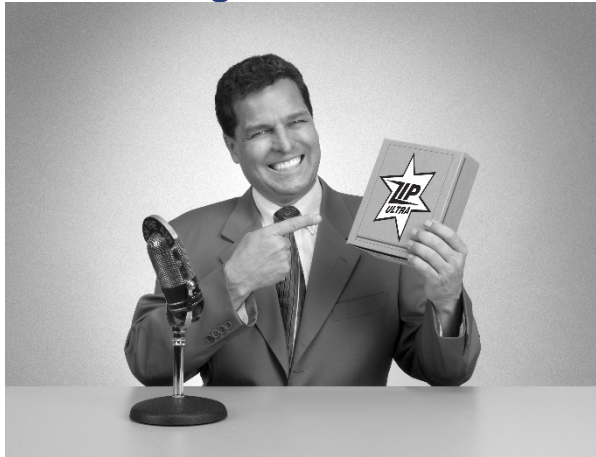


There is so much more that could be said about Frank Lloyd Wright as an innovator, an architect, a visionary, but I will conclude with a quote that seems to best encompass his views on his calling as an architect: "The architect must be a prophet... a prophet in the true sense of the term... if he can't see at least ten years ahead don't call him an architect."

\*Board of Directors, American Institute of Architecture. "Seventeen Buildings Worthy of Preservation" (PDF). American Institute of Architects. Retrieved 2 November 2012

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## Chapter Meeting Quick Pitches



There are presently openings next Fall 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.

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## March Chapter Programs

### **March 9<sup>th</sup> Dinner Program: All You Wanted to Know About Project Insurance**

Location: Mirabella, 116 Fairview Ave N, Seattle, WA 98109

Date + Time: Thursday, March 9, 2017

Social Hour: 5:00-6:00 pm, Dinner: 6:00-6:30 pm, Program: 6:30-8:00 pm

Cost: \$40 members/\$45 non-members/\$25 students/\$0 sponsored students (after 2/6, prices will be additional \$10)

Our March program will be presented by Shelly Cardiel, Senior Account Manager, Commercial Department and a Principal of Parker, Smith & Feek. She plays a leadership role in her firm's quality control, procedures, and training programs, and supervises PS&F's commercial account team members. In addition to her leadership responsibilities, Shelley manages all administrative aspects of the insurance program for some of the NW's largest, most high profile, and technically complex clients. Shelley

specializes in construction and real estate accounts, and has extensive experience with Contractor Controlled Insurance Programs (CCIP) and Owner Controlled Insurance Programs (OCIP) management and administration. She is an expert in contract analysis for insurance purposes and conducts training seminars on all aspects of contract management, including review and proper handling of certificates of insurance. Shelley has 40 years of experience in the insurance industry, 33 of those at Parker, Smith & Feek.

This an opportunity to learn about project insurance, so bring your questions and someone from your office to share the CSI experience.

**[Register Now!](#)**

### **March 7<sup>th</sup> Tech Talk: Cross-Laminated Timber**

Location: 925 4th Ave, 4th Floor Board Room

Date + Time: Tuesday, March 7th, 2017 from 12:00-1:00pm

Lunch: Bring your own

Credits: 1.0 LU

Cost: Free

Leda Chahim from Forterra and Joseph Mayo (AIA, LEED AP) from Mahlum Architects will introduce the use and production of cross-laminated timber in the Northwest. Innovative work is happening across the region and the non-profit Forterra is trying to catalyze a new market in Washington State. They advocate that "[c]ross laminated timber (CLT) has the potential to address issues from how we reduce greenhouse gas emissions by sequestering carbon in buildings to offering economic opportunity for our rural towns." Joseph is the author of the book "Solid Wood: Mass Timber Architecture, Technology and Design" and advised on the new Richard Woodcock Center for Education at Western Oregon University, the first installation of Oregon-made structural cross-laminated timber (CLT) in the country. Leda is Forterra's Government Affairs Director and an appointed member of the Forest Resources Coordinating Committee, a Federal Advisory committee to the Secretary of Agriculture.

**[Register Now!](#)**

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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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## CSI NW+W Bi-Region Conference

**When:** May 18-20, 2017

**Where:** Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, WA

**Description:** The 2017 CSI NW+W Bi-Region Conference offers relevant, accredited education programs, trade show and networking opportunities. The event also includes tours, activities and special events. The conference is specifically designed to provide the commercial building team real-world, practical product and education solutions.

If you're interested in volunteering to help with set-up, prep, coordination or any other behind-the-scenes work during the conference, please contact Jill Gile at [jill@cbagroupnw.com](mailto:jill@cbagroupnw.com).

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# Tower of Babel

By Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, CSC



*"Come, let us go down there and confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." Genesis 11:7*

I recently enjoyed watching a [video clip of a senate confirmation hearing](#), in which Scott Pruitt, EPA Administrator nominee, was being grilled by Joni Ernst, Senator from Iowa (the fun starts at about 2:14). At issue was the term WOTUS, or "Waters of the United States." Not knowing at the time I watched it what the term meant, it was amusing to see that 97 percent of Iowa would be governed by expansion of the existing definition. Further discussion focused on puddles and on a definition of a parking lot puddle as a "degraded wetland." [Read 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 board chair, 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 CEO is a corporate officer.

For more information about or to join CSI, visit [www.csinet.org/joincsi](http://www.csinet.org/joincsi), or call 800-689-2900.

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