



ALLENTOWN CHAPTER

Allentown, Pennsylvania

**SEPTEMBER
2006**

www.csiallentown.org

ALLENTOWN CHAPTER

THE BUILDING CONNECTION

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT

If you know of someone who is not receiving the newsletter in their email, have them sign up on our website at www.csiallentown.org. Also, we are now putting the Board Meeting minutes on the website instead of including them in the newsletter.



This Month's Meeting

September's Meeting

"Transpired Solar Collectors"

by Shawn Green from ATAS International

One challenge in design today, is to improve ventilation, reduce energy costs, practice environmental responsibility. One solution is a Transpired Solar Collector - cladding that heats fresh air. The concept is simple:

- Perforated metal wall panels are installed several inches from a generally south-facing wall, creating an air space or plenum.
- Sunlight heats the air at the surface of the collector.
- Fans draw the warmed air through the perforations into the plenum.
- Heated air is distributed into the building, oftentimes through the existing HVAC system.

Wednesday, September 20th, 2006

Holiday Inn Conference Center ~ Routes 100 & 78 ~ Fogelsville

5:00 PM: *Board Meeting*
6:45PM: *Dinner*

6:00PM: *Fellowship*
7:30PM: *Program*

Dinner (\$25 per person): **Buffet Style**

RSVP by Friday, September 15th, 2006 to Dave Hausman (484) 223-1761
dhausman@libertyengr.com or use the website, www.csiallentown.org

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NOTE: ALL NO-SHOWS TO MEETINGS OR EVENTS WILL BE BILLED.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

OCT ~ 10/18/06 ~ Tour—The New Modern Precast Concrete Plant

NOV ~ 11/15/06 ~ Combating Corrosion

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT ~ 10/6/06 to 10/9/06 ~ MARC

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PUBLICATION DEADLINE
Friday After Chapter Meeting

September Meeting Speaker

Speaker: Shawn Green

Shawn is an affiliate member of four Virginia CSI Chapters and has written an article for the Richmond CSI Chapter newsletter entitled "Care to be InSpired". He has presented this AIA CEU program to Architectural firms throughout Virginia and was a guest presenter at the Tidewater CSI/ Hampton Roads AIA Architecture Week / Product Show. He is inspired to talk about this hot topic.

ATAS International, Inc. has committed production of this product because it makes sense. You will soon be able to view it installed on our new facility in Allentown. Come learn how it could benefit your building owners, and hopefully you too will become inspired.

From the Editor

CAN YOU BELIEVE IT!

Don't faint from actually seeing this newsletter. I have been trying for over a year to get this newsletter together and into your hands. Believe me, it is no small project. For all those on the executive committee, please except my apologies?

I would love any feedback on the newsletter and of course any articles or information that you might like published. We will entertain any construction related information.

I can be best reached by e-mail as indicated below. This is your chapter and your newsletter. Lets make it the best it can be.

Sincerely

Sal Verrastro

sverrastro@spillmanfarmer.com

August's Meeting

If you missed our August chapter meeting, you missed a "great" presentation by Christine Ussler, RA ,Owner of Artefact, Inc. The topic was **Historic Renovation Techniques**.

- Christine gave an overview of the recommended treatments for some common building preservation problems. She also reviewed some common problems facing Architects today who are working on properties in historic districts that are subject to reviews by HARBs and Historic Commissions and properties seeking Federal Investment Tax Credits for Historic Rehabilitation. Christine gave specific examples of the treatments for windows and doors, sidings, masonry, roofing and flashings, wood trim and cornices, storefronts (19th and early 20th c.), color and additions and the environmental concerns associates with Historic Renovations.

Allentown Chapter CSI—Mission Statement

The Allentown chapter of CSI strives to provide opportunities for education, and the exchange of knowledge and information for its members and the construction community by using the available resources through its diverse membership and relationships.

ADVERTISING

If you are interested in advertising on our CSI website, either contact Brad Teeters at csi.allentown@verizon.net or follow the link at the top right corner of our website's main page, www.csiallentown.org.

Letters

Who's Who in the making of a successful Allentown Chapter of CSI

By Tina Montone

Outstanding members, grateful applause, super smiles and a pinch of sadness were the ingredients that made up the CSI meeting on June 21st. The hot topic on the floor that night was the Awards Ceremony, featuring outstanding individuals and company members of the Allentown Chapter. This ceremony was a great opportunity to see the Who's Who of the Chapter, and is an inspiration for you to easily get on this list. As usual, the food was delicious, but the fellowship is second to none.

Roxanne Verrastro, (twenty-second) and "First Female President" of the chapter, was the Mistress of Ceremonies. This was her final meeting she presided as Madame President, after serving a two-year term. Many accomplishments, dedication and growth were experienced during her term. Roxanne worked behind the scenes and up front to strengthen our chapter on many levels, also setting programs into motion. Committees became more structured in order to perform efficiently. Her attitude and drive became an inspiration for board members and committee members to work toward the betterment of the chapter. As a result, we received the Chapter Commendation Award for the past two years on a National level!

On the surface, Roxanne built relationships with the Association of Builders and Contractors and coordinated meetings with AIA to encourage cross-disciplinary education. These relationships also encouraged more diverse camaraderie, which has been a large benefit for all of us.

The Allentown Chapter was fortunate and blessed to have had a spectacular Madame President. Roxanne recognized and awarded many members on June 21st, and we recognize and award her with much gratitude and appreciation for the two years, which she has given us as President.

Thank you Roxanne Verrastro!

CSI CERTIFICATIONS EXAMS 2006

The Allentown Chapter would like to recognize those individuals that have recently passed certification exams. The following have passed the CDT exam:

Mr. Andrew Adornado, CDT, USA Architects.
Mr Michael Bryson, CDT, USA Architects.
Mr. James Butera, CSI, CDT, Ass Abloy.
Mr. Arios Choi, CDT, USA Architects.
Ms. Joy Cohen, CDT, USA Architects.
Mr. Carl Dickert, CSI, CDT, Spotts, Stevens and McCoy.
Mr. Rey Esteban, CSI, CDT, Hilti.
Mr. Warren Gericke, CSI, CDT, D'Huy Engineering.
Mr. Daniel Koziel, CSI, CDY, Super Enterprises.
Ms. Gertrude Lindsley, CDT, DWKCB Architects.
Mr. Frank Messineo, CSI, CDT, USA Architects.
Mr. James Petro, CSI, CDT, USA Architects.

The following have passed the CCCA exam:

M. Edward Mangold, CCCA, DWKCB Architects.

Please join us in congratulating these individuals on their accomplishment.

Be sure to look for future chapter study groups that will be organized later in the year for the national exam date in spring of '07. Any questions, please contact Mitch Miller, Certification chair.



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For updates to the above information, please contact Brad Teeters at Modernfold of Reading, Inc.

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- 3-button
- 100% cotton shirt with the logo and the wording Construction Specification Institute embroidered on the chest of the shirt.
- Sizes L/XL/XXL/XXXL
- The trim and bodies of the shirts are available in red, black, hunter green and cornflower (blue).

To Order Polo shirts from the Allentown Chapter of CSI

Contact: Sal Verrastro, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA

Tel: 610-865-2621 Fax: 610-865-3236

Cost/each: \$26.00 plus \$4.00 shipping

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Mr. Wolfe goes to Washington

2 April 2006

In all the excitement of the annual member meeting in Las Vegas, a couple of seemingly innocuous comments reminded me of a somewhat heated discussion that took place at the June 2005 Board meeting. At the end of that Board meeting, a number of members expressed their displeasure at being away from home on Father's Day. Later that year, CSI staff was chastised for having scheduled CSI University during Yom Kippur.

Trying to schedule events is a major headache, especially for an organization with as many multi-day events as we have. For the extremely politically correct, there may be no way to have a meeting that lasts more than a day.

Holidays may be divided into two categories - secular and religious - but I'll add a third in a moment. National holidays, which fall into the first category, include New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. Government agencies observe all of these holidays, but some companies also take one or more of these days off, creating a number of treasured three-day weekends.

Now let's look at the religious holidays. Taking a practical approach - which holidays affect the greatest number of members - it would seem logical to add in Christian and Jewish holidays. No problem, you may think, but from here on, we won't get agreement on which holidays are important and which are not. Within any given faith, there is a range of feeling regarding religious holidays and how they are to be celebrated. Some celebrate all holidays, while others ignore most of them.

If we are truly sensitive and caring, we will add all holidays for all religions that are represented in our membership: American Indian, Amish, Baha'i, Islam, Jewish, Orthodox, Pagan, Protestant, Roman Catholic, Wiccan, and more. If all holidays were single day events, it would be trouble enough, but some of them last for many days. The calendar is getting smaller!

Without digging too deeply, I found that each month has holidays on at least eight separate days, and as many as twenty-seven; moreover, some days are holidays from more than one religion. Saturdays and Sundays, once respected by many religions but now often seen only as non-work days, add a few more.

Now consider the other organizations that draw from our members - AIA, AGC, professional engineers, IFMA, BOMA, IMI, BIA, World of Concrete, and more - all of whom are trying to avoid the same days we are. The calendar is almost gone!

And the third type of holiday? These are the made-up holidays, created and promoted by the greeting card companies and retailers: Father's Day, Mother's Day, Children's Day, Grandparents' Day, Grandchildren's Day, and for the heck of it I'll throw in Halloween and Valentine's Day.

Now don't get me wrong; I care for all of the people with special days as much as anyone else. Yes, I would like to be with my family on all of those made-up holidays, but I don't reserve my expressions of love for a single day each year. It would be great if we could avoid scheduling CSI activities on holidays, but with our busy schedule - convention, CSI-U, Board meetings, committee and task team meetings, region conferences, chapter meetings, and more - taking as many days as they do, all we can really ask is that we try to inconvenience as few members as possible.

*Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA
Institute Director, North Central Region, CSI*

ABC On The Move!

ABC Eastern PA is proud to announce two new partnerships. ABC has entered into association agreements with Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) and Independent Quality Alliance (IQA). Joining forces with these two construction industry organizations will provide all members of each association with valuable resources, training and industry information.

CSI is a national organization, with a local chapter in Allentown, devoted to the development of construction coding systems and product specification. IQA is a local HVAC association devoted to workforce development and training.

ABC looks forward to developing new and exciting education programs designed for all levels of personnel. With these new agreements ABC, CSI and IQA will strive toward improving the construction industry. Look for upcoming programs and information in the ABC Merit News or website. Please remember to visit our new website at abceastpa.org

Michael Gibson—President

Associated Builders & Contractors Eastern PA Chapter

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Going Green with Gypsum

Synthetic Gypsum Helps to Meet Recycled Material Requirements

Architects and specifiers challenged by requirements mandating the use of recycled building materials may be interested to learn that gypsum product manufacturers are relying increasingly on “synthetic” gypsum – a by-product of various manufacturing processes – to produce code-compliant gypsum board with a significant recycled content.

The vast majority of the synthetic gypsum used by the industry is a by-product of the process used to remove pollutants from the exhaust created by the burning of fossil fuels for power generation. “Were synthetic gypsum not used in the manufacture of gypsum board, it would be a useless material that would take up valuable space in landfills, explains Michael Gardner, Executive Director of the Gypsum Association. “In years past, gypsum board plants relied on a mixture of synthetic and natural ore to produce board. However, some modern plants can manufacture gypsum board almost entirely from synthetic gypsum.”

Gypsum plants also generate recycled gypsum

Another important source of recycled gypsum is production waste from gypsum board manufacturing plants themselves. Scattered throughout the United States and Canada, these plants reclaim usable gypsum by feeding production overruns or materials damaged during production back into the manufacturing cycle. In addition, selected plants can reclaim clean, new construction waste for reuse. Recycling isn’t limited to just the gypsum board, nearly 100 percent of the fiber used in the production of gypsum board face and back paper comes from newsprint and post-consumer waste materials.

All gypsum-based products must be properly installed

Regardless of the origins of the gypsum used to manufacture gypsum board, these

products – as well as other wall and ceiling framing components – must be installed in accordance with manufacturer’s specifications if the wall and ceiling systems are to perform as intended.

“Gypsum board has an excellent track record of use that extends back almost 90 years,” says Gardner. “And when properly installed and maintained, it will provide decades of exceptional performance. To ensure satisfactory performance, provisions must be made to keep gypsum board dry throughout transit, storage, and application; gypsum board must not be applied over other building materials that exhibit conditions that are favorable to future damage or decay. In addition, the essential elements of a sound weather-tight building, such as the roof, sealants, and windows, must be properly maintained.”

Gypsum board products comply with ASTM standards

The quality of gypsum board produced from synthetic gypsum is the same as that manufactured from natural gypsum. Gypsum board in the United States and Canada is manufactured to comply with ASTM Specification C 1396. This standard must be met whether the core is made of natural ore or synthetic gypsum.

In either case, gypsum board has many advantages over materials used in other wall systems. Its light weight – often one-fourth to one-third that of other materials – often allows the foundation and superstructure of a building to be constructed using significantly lighter or less massive materials. With many tested designs for non-load-bearing and load-bearing systems already available, most building assemblies that incorporate gypsum board do not require special engineering. Additionally, certain gypsum board systems can be successfully erected even when temperatures fall below freezing. Such systems allow increased productivity over systems that require favorable curing conditions.

Gypsum board is available from most retail, commercial suppliers

Gypsum board is readily available from retail and commercial suppliers and is consistent in its properties, regardless of manufacturer or region of origin. Gypsum board used in fire-resistance-rated systems is certified and labeled in accordance with the requirements of an independent organization – a claim not available for all materials. It also lends itself to an endless palette of finishes - including paint, wallcovering, texture materials, or faux finishes - and almost any conceivable look can be achieved on or applied to this most versatile of materials.

With such a long history of acceptable use, a large body of literature is available to facilitate the application of gypsum board, and code-recognized standards describing application methods and materials are easily obtained. Comprehensive catalogs of fire-resistive and sound-attenuating systems are also available.

Gypsum board systems are easy to install

Gypsum board systems, including systems designed for fire-resistance, are also easily installed and can generally be repaired or modified without adverse impact on surrounding building construction. Different gypsum board materials can be used to provide a variety of flexible design options.

With gypsum board, how these products are installed and maintained really does make a performance difference. For more information on gypsum wallboard, log onto to the Gypsum Association web site at www.gypsum.org.

Chapter Awards Night Highlights



Immediate Past-President Roxanne Verrastro presents Peter Esherick with his award . Peter is retiring after 20 years in CSI



Past- President Roxanne Verrastro presents the President's Award to Lee Ann Slattery



Current President John Sweigart addresses the chapter



Past- President Roxanne Verrastro presents award to Mitch Miller for his work on the Certification committee



Past- President Roxanne Verrastro presents a Director's award to Kathy Kurtas.



Past- President Roxanne Verrastro presents Dave Fenstermacher an award for his role as Director.

You are Responsible

When you have a change in address, telephone number, or email address, you are the only person who can contact the Institute and change or correct the roster. The Chapter depends on the Institute data for sending emails, mailing postcard notices about meetings, and special events. If your information on the Institute roster is incorrect, you will be cut off from the flow of information about the Chapter, Region, and Institute events.

Act now! Make sure that you stay in contact with CSI!

CDT CORNER

This little article is being brought to you in an effort to 1)keep ourselves sharp in documents knowledge, and 2) to help those in preparation for the CDT exams.

Your CDT question for the Month of September is:

The general contract clauses that establish payment procedures are found in:

- a. General Conditions
- b. Division 1 General Requirements
- c. Payment bond
- d. Addenda

Email your answer to mmiller@usaarchitects.com, and the correct answer will be forwarded back to you

**Allentown Chapter CSI
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