



Knowledge for Creating and Sustaining the Built Environment

Big Sky Chapter, CSI
PO Box 853
Bozeman, Montana
59771-0853

Big Sky perspective

Volume 5, Issue 7



July 2011

CHAPTER EVENTS

Chapter Board Meetings:

Date:
3rd Thursday of the calendar month

Time: 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm

Location:
WebEx “MeetMeNow”
(Unless notified otherwise)

Contact:
Ryan Russell, CSI, CDT, AIA-A
406-587-9373

Quarterly Chapter Meetings:

Date:
4th Tuesday of the month
January, April, July & October

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Location:
(To Be Announced)
Bozeman, Montana

Contact:
Ryan Russell, CSI, CDT, AIA-A
406-587-9373

Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of The Construction Specifications Institute, the Big Sky Chapter, or the Editor.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The President’s Specs 2

Big Sky Chapter “News-To-Use” 3

More News-To-Use 4

View From the B.U.S.



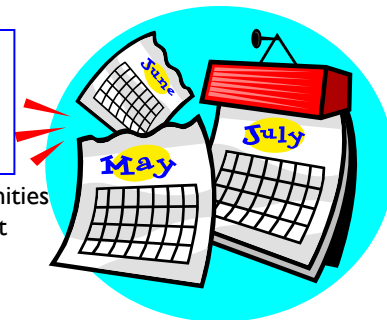
New Fiscal Year Starts at CSI

With the turning of a page on the calendar, the Construction Specifications Institute began a new fiscal year on July 1, 2011. With this new fiscal year comes new leadership at Institute, Region, and Chapter levels. **Mr. Paul Bertram, Jr., FCSI, CDT, LEED AP**, became president of the Construction Specifications Institute; **Mr. Martin W. Powell, CSI, CCCA**, became president of the CSI Northwest Region; and **Mr. Jan E. O’Brien, CSI**, became president of the CSI Big Sky Chapter. All three are committed to helping CSI members get the most from their memberships through opportunities in education, training, and networking.

“Unless commitment is made, there are only promises and hopes . . . but no plans.”

- Peter F. Drucker, Business Strategist

It is our hope that you will avail yourselves of these opportunities throughout the course of the next year, and if something isn’t working as it should, that you will volunteer to help fix it.



The President's Specs



Robert W. Simmons, FCSI, CCPR

WHY WE ARE HERE - CSI

My statement identifies why we like each other. CSI is a professional organization with chapters across the United States made up of ten regions and 146 chapters. We like our construction and associated industries and the people with whom we work. CSI has brought our industry project team together under one roof and monthly meetings to share our knowledge and information to assist our membership.

Our CSI membership, a diverse group of professional backgrounds, make up the professional mix of specification writers, architects, engineers, manufacturers, general contractors, sub-contractors and lawyers. These diverse groups of members are what constitute CSI.

We are the only professional group, with our diversity of membership, which can have a meeting and solve project concerns or discuss new project designs at a monthly dinner meeting. We are the only industry group that involves our diverse professionals in networking socially at the chapter, region and Institute levels where we meet and enjoy our conversations friendships.

I have enjoyed my twenty-two years in CSI and have made many new friends, business associates, and colleagues from the professional core of CSI. We are a group of professionals that, if you need assistance, help or just project information. We are a phone call or e-mail away.

Our long term goal is to double our membership and broaden the membership professions inside and outside of our industry, while continuing our educational, certification programs and updating and expanding our Technical programs. The core programs of CSI.

Your volunteerism and assistance in reaching these goals are needed.

Editor's Note:

This article represents the final "President's Specs" from Bob Simmons, as he turns the reins over to Jan O'Brien. When our chapter did not have a candidate for President last year, Bob volunteered to fill the position . . . following his own words with action. Thank you Bob for your dedication and service.

Missing

Did you miss something last month?

There were at least two things. Don't scratch your heads too long; I'll give you the answer. The Northwest Region Conference in Eugene, Oregon; and the June issue of the Big Sky perSPECtive.

Sometimes there are just not enough days in the week.



Big Sky Chapter Board Meetings On WebEx

Thanks to the efforts of Big Sky Chapter Director Dave Kauffman, CSI, the Chapter Board is now holding its meetings on-line through the WebEx program provided by FiberTite Roofing Systems. This program will allow the Board to meet on a monthly basis without the need to travel several hours, many times in less than ideal weather conditions. Board members can now participate from the comfort of their own computer or mobile device.

This sponsorship will also save the Chapter monies that can be utilized in other programs.

Big Sky Chapter of CSI

Move into the "Know Zone" and out of the "no zone"

"Do more than belong: participate. Do more than care: help. Do more than believe: practice. Do more than be fair: be kind. Do more than forgive: forget. Do more than dream: work."

- William Arthur Ward

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS!!

Help us stay connected ... If any of your contact information is out of date, please go to the CSI website at CSInet.org and log in using the information provided on your membership card. You can then go to the "My CSI" page and choose "Update your Profile" from the box located to the right of your name.

Please make sure CSI has your current email address – thanks!

Big Sky Chapter FY2012 Membership Challenge

Why did you join CSI? How about sharing it with someone else!

FY2012 MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE

Sign up just one (1) new member. That's it!

No bells and whistles; no gimmicks; no prizes. Just a challenge to see if the values you place on CSI membership is worth sharing with someone you know. Are you up to the challenge?

CSI 50-50 MEMBER RECRUITMENT PROGRAM RETURNS

CSI's 50-50 Recruitment Program has returned. It is a chapter-based new member recruitment opportunity in which CSI works with chapters to obtain and retain new members. New members are offered 50% off of Institute dues as well as 50% off of the host chapter's dues. Big Sky Chapter will be looking into this program to see when we should consider implementing it into our membership drive.

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."
- Les Brown

Big Sky Chapter Membership Status

Big Sky Chapter
Membership Numbers
July 1, 2011

Count	Member Type
18	Members
2	Student
20	TOTAL

Who Are We?

We need to get out and share CSI with people we know and work with on a daily basis. We belong to the only organization that encompasses the entire building industry. Let's all do our part in increasing our home-chapter membership this year.

CSI Retention Rate

From the June 2011 "CSI Monthly Leader":
CSI's goal is to grow our member retention rate to 85% by July [2011]. How are we doing . . .



March:	79.9%
April:	80.0%

Have you renewed your membership?



Big Sky Chapter of CSI
What do you want out of it...what are you willing to put into it?

"If a man does his best, what else is there?"
- General George S. Patton



CONTACT US:

Articles, 250 words or less, are requested for this monthly newsletter. If you have articles or information to be shared with the Montana members, please send by e-mail to:

<http://xinbox.com/q9chjf>

Deadline is 25th of the month

We're on the Web!

<http://csibigsky.org>



CHAPTER CONTACTS

President:

Jan E. O'Brien, CSI, Architect

President-elect:

- Temporarily Vacant

Vice President:

- Temporarily Vacant

Secretary/Treasurer:

Ryan Russell, CSI, CDT, AIA-A

Director - Professional:

William Lynch, CSI, PE

Director - Industry:

Dave Kauffman, CSI

Immediate Past President:

Robert W. Simmons, FCSI, CCPR

Membership Chairman:

Gary Simonich, CSI, CDT, PE

Newsletter Editor:

Jan E. O'Brien, CSI, Architect

**CSI NW Region
Contacts**

CSI BIG SKY CHAPTER #146

THE CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS INSTITUTE

The CSI Academies, February 24-26, 2011 ♦ Join a CSI Practice Group ♦
CSI's Certification Exams ♦ **BIG SKY CHAPTER** ♦
CONSTRUCT2011 & THE CSI ANNUAL CONVENTION,
September 13-16, 2011 ♦ **CSI ELECTIONS**, February 2011 ♦
2011 Northwest Region Conference, June 15-19, 2011 ♦
CSI Webinars ♦ Search CSI Member Directory ♦ Deals for Members



How did you use your CSI Membership in 2011?



Member Loyalty Program

CSI's Member Loyalty Program is designed to assist:

- Members whose employers can no longer pay for membership dues
- Members who have been laid off
- Members who are being hit hard by the economic crisis and cannot afford to pay for membership dues

CSI is offering a 6 month grace period for membership renewal to members who are facing the issues listed above.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. The member must be in the Professional, Associate or Industry level of membership.
2. The member must either:
 - Have been laid off
 - Have an employer who can no longer pay dues
 - Be undergoing financial hardship due to economic constraints

Convey this information to CSI

Contact CSI Member Services at **800-689-2900** for more information.

A View From the B.U.S.*

*Burr Under the Saddle



Jan E. O'Brien, CSI

"Happy New Year"

No, I didn't turn my calendar over and automatically go from June to January. Like many businesses, the start of a new year can be another month of the calendar year. Schools typically start their year in August; the Federal Government starts its fiscal year on October 1; and CSI starts its fiscal year on July 1.

Each new year signals the start of new programs, as well as, the continuation or discontinuation of programs from the previous year. Big Sky Chapter will be eliminating some programs, per Institute changes, and will be starting some new programs. One program that we are working out details for is a monthly meeting in conjunction with the School of Architecture at Montana State University in Bozeman. More details about this will be forthcoming in the Big Sky perSPECTive.

Until then . . . Happy New Year and have a safe Independence Day weekend!

And that's another view from the B.U.S

**Membership is not
a spectator sport**

Move from the bench into the game!

CSI Big Sky Chapter Treasurer's Report

Date	May 2011
Checking Account Balance	\$ 100.00
Savings Account Balance	\$2079.38
Total	\$2179.38
Deposits (Previous Month)	\$ 0
Disbursements (Previous Month)	\$ 0