



Knowledge for Creating  
and Sustaining  
the Built Environment

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

## 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.

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View From the B.U.S.



Volume 5, Issue 3

March 2011

## CSI BIG SKY CHAPTER ELECTIONS

CSI requires all chapters to submit a “Chapter Officers and Chairmen Form” by April 30 of each year. In order to meet that requirement, we have elections. Pursuant to Article VI of the By-laws of the Big Sky Chapter, nomination of officers and directors is now open.

Are you not seeing the Big Sky Chapter fulfilling your needs as a member? Is there a program or direction you would like to see the Chapter explore? Now is your chance to help do something about it . . . volunteer to be chairman of a committee! It isn’t a painful thing to do. And the commitment is based upon how much you want to gain from CSI. If you desire a copy of the By-laws, email the B.U.S. at [jobrien@jgaarchitects.com](mailto:jobrien@jgaarchitects.com).



Ballots will be sent out to voting members during the **week of March 1, 2011**.

## Volunteer for a National Committee or Task Team

As a CSI leader, you know the value and power of a volunteer workforce. Volunteers are key to the success of CSI on every level – and volunteers benefit from their participation with an increased network, more recognition, and all the other bonuses leadership in CSI has already delivered for you. Between now and March 4, CSI is recruiting volunteers for FY 2012 national committees and task teams. Consider sharing your expertise and encourage your members to submit their names for consideration.

Membership, education, technical, and certification are just some of the committees looking for volunteers. Learn more about all of the committees and task teams, including their general activities and requirements for members, or volunteer for a committee seat at [www.csinet.org/volunteers](http://www.csinet.org/volunteers).

**Applications are due March 4, 2011.**

## Corporate Partner Program

CSI’s Corporate Partner Program bundles CSI’s products and services at value-pricing levels for:

- Building product manufacturers
- Contractors
- Design firms
- Federal agencies

Each partnership is customized to meet the business goals of the partner. As a CSI leader, you can probably name an organization or two in your community that fits this list. Tell them about the Corporate Partner Program! If they have several employees interested in joining CSI, it could help you grow your chapter or region. Tell them they’ll gain wider exposure by developing a formal relationship with CSI and its members. They’ll also be supporting the mission we all believe in: Advancing building information management and the education of project teams to improve facility performance.

For more information on this program, visit [www.csinet.org/corporatepartner](http://www.csinet.org/corporatepartner) or contact Susan Konohia at [skonohia@csinet.org](mailto:skonohia@csinet.org). Materials you can use to present the Corporate Partner Program to a firm in your community are available – just ask.

## The President's Specs



Robert W. Simmons, FCSI, CCPR

### Volunteerism and Professional Growth in CSI

The act of volunteering is the CSI way to build personal and business relationship with in your local, regional and national construction industry.

I've been in CSI since 1989 and the first several years I was not actively involved a mistake on my part. Getting involved broadened my horizons personally and exposed me to other members that were looking for knowledge and information that I could provide. You could say; it opened many doors of opportunity both personally and professionally.

Volunteering for a chapter committee gets you started in the work of CSI and we need you. The experiences in helping committees succeed is refreshing. You will find that you will want to do more. There are many opportunities, such as, the chapter's Budget Chair, a Board position, other chapter committee work or activities to help support your chapter.

Again, the opportunities in CSI for you are unlimited in working with your membership, your board or your region leadership team to keep your chapter strong and growing, a rewarding opportunity for you and your professional life.

I recommend you get involved with your chapter, region and Institute work, you will make a difference and along the way you will find it rewarding as a leader of CSI and your professional life grows with your successes. Get started today; your chapter needs you, please volunteer your time and expertise and grow with you CSI chapter.

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## 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.

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**Big Sky Chapter of CSI**  
**Move into the "Know Zone" and out of the "no zone"**

"Seek always to do some good, somewhere... Even if it's a little thing, do something for those that need help, something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it."

- **Albert Schweitzer**

## Big Sky Chapter is a Registered CSI CEN Provider

For more information on CSI's Construction Education Network, click on the following link:

[CEN - Construction Education Network](#)



[Find a CSI Chapter](#)

### CSI Member Referral Program:

CSI has a new membership recruitment campaign under way, entitled "Every 1 Counts". It's a pretty simple plan!

- Make **1** phone call
- Send **1** email
- Have **1** conversation

Click this link for more information:

[\*\*"Every-1-Counts"\*\*](#)

## Big Sky Chapter FY2011 Membership Challenge

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

### FY2011 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?

### 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](http://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 Membership Status

Big Sky Chapter  
Membership Numbers  
February 28, 2011

Count	Member Type
7	Industry
10	Professional
3	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 February 2011 "CSI Monthly Leader":  
CSI's goal is to grow member retention rate to 85% by July [2011]. We are nearing our goal . . .



**November: 79.5%**  
**December: 79.8%**

**Have you renewed your membership?**



September 13-16, 2011 ♦ McCormick Place ♦ Chicago ♦ [www.constructshow.com](http://www.constructshow.com)

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

"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it."

- Michelangelo



**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:**  
Robert W. Simmons, FCSI, CCPR

**President-elect:**  
- Temporarily Vacant

**Vice President:**  
Jan E. O'Brien, CSI, Architect

**Secretary/Treasurer:**  
Ryan Russell, CSI, CDT, AIA-A

**Director - Professional:**  
William Lynch, CSI, PE

**Director - Industry:**  
Dave Kauffman, CSI

**Immediate Past President:**  
Jan E. O'Brien, CSI, Architect

**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 will you use your CSI Membership in 2011?**



**Upcoming**

**NW Region Conference 2011**

EUGENE, OREGON JUNE 15-19, 2011



The Willamette Valley Chapter is hosting the 2011 Region Conference

- Theme: Cultural Diversity in the Work Place
- Join in leadership and technical training sessions
- Exchange exciting new products and experience with other building users, specifiers, suppliers and constructors.
- Meet or re-connect with leaders from around the region
- Explore our bike friendly town, especially the lovely Willamette River

For more information, contact Loren Berry FCSI, CDT, AIA  
email: [lberry@berryarchitects.com](mailto:lberry@berryarchitects.com) Fax: 541-485-3402

For accommodations contact: Hilton Eugene  
Tel: 1-541-342-2000 Fax: 1-541-342-6661  
Please reference CSI 2011 when reserving



**A View From the B.U.S.\***

\*Burr Under the Saddle



Jan E. O'Brien, CSI

**"Membership Has Its Rewards"**

I am a member of a company that gives me free miles for travel; another one that gives me discount gasoline; and as a member, my financial institution gives me on-line access to my account. Who isn't a member of something?

*By definition, a member is somebody who belongs to and participates in a particular group by birth or choice.*

CSI also has its rewards for membership. Look at the opportunities throughout this newsletter, or go to the Institute website. As a CSI member, we are also members of the local chapter. Reread the definition of a member . . . "someone who belongs to and participates in". The Big Sky Chapter has many opportunities for members to participate in, but if not used, they miss out on the personal rewards. Are you missing out on your rewards?

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	February 2011
Checking Account Balance	\$ 100.00
Savings Account Balance	\$2079.38
Total	\$2179.38
Deposits (Previous Month)	\$ 200.00
Disbursements (Previous Month)	\$ 0