



**The Construction
Specifications Institute**
Santa Clara Valley Chapter

Summary

March 2012

Serving the Valley of Santa Clara since 1960

MARCH'S PROGRAM: TEN STEPS TO PROFITABLE CONSTRUCTION CONSULTING

Join us for an evening of learning about how to increase profitability and reduce liability risks. Jonathan Sweet will discuss the various laws governing construction businesses in California. Contract language and alternates for limiting liability will also be discussed.

Learning Objectives:

- Become familiar with California laws regarding corporation, partnerships and sole proprietorships.
- Learn about insurance used in construction.
- Understand options for avoiding personal injury and economic loss risks.
- Learn about Mechanic's Lien Law and the Home Improvement Act.

Presenter:

Jonathan J. Sweet is the principal of the Law Offices of Jonathan J. Sweet, located in Los Gatos. Mr. Sweet has conducted numerous jury trials, bench trials, mediations, and arbitrations. He regularly represents design professionals, contractors, and owners. Mr. Sweet also serves as an expert witness in construction litigation and can act as a professional arbitrator or mediator. He has authored two books and teaches at Lincoln Law School of San Jose and San Jose State University.



WHEN: Thursday, March 1, 2012

COST: No host bar, dinner is \$32.00 including gratuity and tax.

LOCATION: Biltmore Hotel and Suites
2151 Laurelwood Road, Santa Clara
(Montague Expressway & 101)

RSVP: Please make your reservations to Krista Nelson with choice of meal by 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 28th.
email: krista@aba-arch.com
phone: (408) 535-2935

TIMES: Board Meeting: 5:00 p.m.
Social Hour: 6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Program: 8:00 p.m.

Guests are welcome • No-shows will be billed

MENU: Tossed salad; Mahi Mahi topped with orange beurre blanc sauce, served with vegetables and rice pilaf; wine; dessert, coffee or tea.

CONTINUING EDUCATION:

This program meets AIA/CES criteria. Participants will receive 1 hour of LUS (learning units).

OR

Tossed salad; large ravioli stuffed with cheese and served on a bed of marinara sauce with vegetables; wine; dessert, coffee or tea.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY KEVIN D. NORMAN, CSI AIA LEED

I hope everyone's year is off to a good start. CSI Santa Clara Valley is ramping up for a busy and exciting year as we plan upcoming programs and put the finishing touches on plans for the West Region Conference.

Everyone should have received an e-mail announcement that the 2012 elections are now open. This e-mail included your personal ballot control number and instructions to vote. Voting closes at 12 noon on day, February 29th so be sure and cast your vote soon.

Excitement builds for the 2012 West Region Conference as registration for the conference is now open and can be accessed from the West Region website at www.csiwestregion.org. Hayes Mansion, our host hotel, is also now taking room reservations, either online or by phone, and information is available at the West Region website. All programs are registered for AIA learning units and rumor has it that there will be a presentation by Google that you will not want to miss. Watch for e-mail blasts and snail mail post cards with more information as the conference nears, but sign up now to be part of this exciting event.

There are still opportunities for sponsorships and to volunteer to help with the event, many details are posted on the West Region website and for additional information please contact the following individuals:

Sponsorships & Publicity:

Dave Falk 707-628-1487
dfalk@specritedesigns.com

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jamescokeefe@msn.com

Product Show:

Bob Mosblech: 650-954-5636
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Volunteer:

Jim O'Keefe: 417 655-0021
jamescokeefe@msn.com

Hannah Moyer: 650-450-3608
haha2342@gmail.com

At the chapter level we are also planning some exciting programs for the next few months. At our March meeting we will be hearing from Jonathan Sweet, a construction law attorney, on the subject of construction law. In April Ken Fenowick, cost estimator, will be speaking on effective cost estimating methods. We will not have a meeting in May, but we hope to see you at the West Region Conference the week before. We are still looking for your ideas for upcoming programs, so don't be shy. Send Jim Morelan, jim@morelan.net, or me, knorman@des-ae.com, a message if there is something you would like to see as a presentation or believe would benefit the chapter.

There is lot's going on and many ways to get involved. I hope to see all of you at these upcoming events. Remember the more involved you are the more you get out of what our chapter has to offer. This is an exciting time and CSI Santa Clara Valley has much to offer, so get involved and enjoy the camaraderie with your fellow members. ♥

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Open

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Summary

The Summary is published monthly by the Santa Clara Valley Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute. The deadline for articles and announcements to be included is the 10th of the month. We encourage readers to submit articles of interest to our membership and the construction industry. Articles and images should be submitted in electronic form by e-mail. PDF, TIFF, JPEG, Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format would be appreciated.

Email submittals to:

Rietta McCain

rietta.mccain@gmail.com



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Log in to www.csinet.org with your name and password, as described on the website. Then you have access to update your new address, new employment, or new email address... all at your fingertips. This way you will be sure to receive everything from Institute and our Chapter.



Honolulu and Santa Clara Valley Chapter Members celebrating placing in the Chapter Challenge at the 2010 West Region Conference in Yosemite

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

CSI, Santa Clara Valley
(Draft, Board Approval Pending)
Date: February 2, 2011

Opening

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Kevin Norman at 5:03 p.m.

Attendees

Board Members

Kevin Norman, CSI, AIA, LEED, President; Julie Barrett, CSI, Vice President; Jim O'Keefe CSI, Treasurer; Maia Gendreau, AIA, CSI, CDT, Secretary; Jim Morelan, CSI, AIA, LEED, Immediate Past President; Albert Wege III, CSI, CCCA, AIA, LEED, Professional Director; Dede Impink, CSI, AIA, Professional Director.

Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed by those present. Minutes are accepted as distributed.

Treasurer's Report

Finances are as predicted from last month, with a drop due to liabilities being paid out.

The final cost to each Chapter for the Holiday Event was minimal.

Bank of America is charging a high monthly fee and Jim will look into this.

Report is filed for annual review.

Region Director's Report

Julie forwarded a message from Stephen Nash, who is running for Institute Vice-President.

President's Report

Electronic ballots for Institute seats have been issued to membership and members are encouraged to vote by the end of February.

Chapter Presidents have been asked to bring forward issues from Chapters to West Region to be discussed at the upcoming Region board meeting. Please forward any issues you wish to bring forward to Kevin

Unfinished Business

Tax Exempt Status: We are still waiting to hear from the state.

Committee Recruiting: John Pluff has asked to be replaced on the board. His term is complete in June. The board needs to find a new director.

New Business

Chapter Dues: Currently Chapter dues are \$45. A motion is made to establish the dues at \$45 for Professional, Emerging, and Retired members, and \$23 for Students. Motion is seconded and carries

Committee Reports

Membership: No report.

Education Seminar

A tile seminar is being developed, but it may not happen in this fiscal year. Maia is developing another seminar with Dawn Anderson. The Board has concerns about overexposure of Dawn and suggests we try to find a local speaker on the tile manual.

Programs

Jim Morelan has been doing a great job covering programs. Congratulations!

Tonight waterproofing is the topic. Next month will be legal issues and April will be on cost estimating. May there is no chapter meeting and June is the awards.

We have the flyer for March so we need to get it circulated to NAWIC, USGBC, and AIA Santa Clara and San Mateo contacts.

Tonight's meeting was also published in Business Journal.

Jim Morelan offers to Chair the Program Committee, and the Board is excited to accept Jim as Chair.

Continuing Education

Tonight's programs is registered with AIA and Maia is covering the speaker agreement and sign in sheets.

Greeter/Raffle:

Albert will assist with greeting and raffling tonight.

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MINUTES • from pg 4**Editor**

The deadline for the March newsletter is Friday, February 10th at noon. Jim Morelan suggests that we put a coupon in the newsletter for a raffle ticket with a quiz question as an incentive for people to read the newsletter.

Historian: No report.

Awards

Planning has started for this year's awards and the dinner.

Website: No report.

Operating/House

There are 18 attendees tonight, with four more coming just for the program.

Toys-for-Tots: No report.

Marketing: No report.

West Region Conference 2012

Hannah submitted a lengthy written report. Jim O'Keefe summarizes:

All the pieces are in place.

The online registration for conference, vendors and sponsorship is up and running at event.

Sponsors and exhibitors are signing up.

A payment is due next week, it will be covered by the sponsorships raised so far.

The education programs are registered with AIA.

Entertainment and keynote speakers are selected.

Jim approached Business Journal about doing an interview. We can write a news release and add an announcement to the calendar.

A save the date postcard and email blasts are calendared.

The Chapter who is hosting the next conference is generally responsible to host the Hospitality Suite, but there is not a Chapter signed up for next year.

The Chapter Challenge plans are underway.

Bylaws Review

Comments on the bylaws were received from the Institute Committee. The Chapter Taskteam needs to complete their review of the comments. The revised bylaws need to be published in the newsletter in two months.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned by Chapter President Kevin Norman at 6:04 p.m. ♡

**PLANNING
CALENDAR****CHAPTER MEETINGS**

MARCH 1 PROFITABLE
CONSULTING

APRIL 5 COST ESTIMATING

MAY NO MEETING
West Region
Conference is the
week prior to our
regular Chapter
meeting date (May 3)

PLAN AHEAD**CSI Academies**

March 1-3, 2012
San Diego, CA

West Region Conference

April 26-29, 2012
San Jose, CA

CSI Annual Convention

Construct 2012
September 11-14, 2012
Phoenix, AZ

CSI WEST REGION CONFERENCE 2012

APRIL 26-29, 2012 | SAN JOSE, CA

HISTORIC DOLCE HAYES MANSION

Volunteers Are Welcomed. Please contact:

Jim O'Keefe
jamescokeefe@msn.com

Hannah Moyer
haha2342@gmail.com

WEST REGION CORNER



WEST REGION PRESIDENT

Craig Mount, CSI CDT
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Thank You

To all of the hardworking volunteers of the Chapters,

You are the lifeblood of CSI and what makes us relevant and useful to our colleagues in the industry. This cannot be overstated. You are all about SERVICE. It is this service and passion for improvement that leads to the new ideas and programs within CSI, helpful educational seminars, much-acclaimed certification programs, promotion of better industry standards, MasterFormat, UniFormat, dinner meetings, our camaraderie, shared learning, and sincere caring for our members.

**"You are the
lifeblood of CSI
and what makes us
relevant and useful to
the industry."**

Announcements and Important Dates

West Region Conference 2012

April 26-28, 2012

Dolce Hayes Mansion, San Jose, CA

Mark your calendars now.

Spring West Region Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, April 26, 2012

9:00 am-4:00 pm

at the West Region Conference

Dolce Hayes Mansion, San Jose, CA

Spring West Region Members Meeting

Saturday, April 28, 2012

1:00 pm-2:30 pm

at lunch at our Region Conference

Dolce Hayes Mansion, San Jose CA

Spring West Region Speak-Out

Date to be determined

tentatively at the Region Conference

Dolce Hayes Mansion, San Jose CA

West Region Leadership Workshop, Northern California

Date to be determined (hopefully
before March 2012)

We are just waiting on someone in one of the Northern Chapters to champion this event. The program will be very similar to the Leadership Workshop in La Quinta last fall and the speakers have volunteered to do it again. The champion just needs to arrange an acceptable date, location, other logistics, and arouse some passion for it from the chapters. We have plenty of people to help the champion.

A Few Thoughts

In my last article, I expressed my view that the best gift to give at Christmas was our time and caring for those we love, and even for those we may not know very well, like the

elderly neighbor. I hope you had a chance to do that in December and felt the richness of sharing. I know it is not always easy to do. Family and relationships can sometimes be challenging, to say the least. But that is all the more reason to do it and thereby we learn, build and grow ourselves. It also helps to have sharing relationships with friends – a support group if you will. So if you did not reach out very much in December, that's ok, go ahead and do it now. It is never too late to show you care. (Yikes - I am starting to sound like a Hallmark card.)

In July, Dave Willis will become your West Region President. This is an excellent time to talk to Dave, or any of us Region officers about what you would like the West Region to be doing, and how you can help. Most of our Region committees have been a little quiet this year and would love to have your ideas and participation. In CSI, I believe a Region's main goal is to support the Chapters in any way possible. To me, this means leadership training, hands-on attention, sharing education and certification seminars, promoting good dinner speakers, and being a wonderful resource for ideas, expertise, support and encouragement. The leaders and committees of the Region are here to listen and to give back. But honestly, we need a little help. So consider giving us your requests, ideas, a little time, and some participation. I believe a Region committee can do a lot of good if the members just devote 4 hours a month. So please call a committee chair (listed on the West Region website – www.csiwestregion.org) or me, and we will do it together. ♡

BUCHNOTES: IMPOSSIBLE ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY AND TERRITORIALITY ON THE CANAL DU MIDI

BY ED BUCH, CSI CSS AIA

The construction of a ship canal across 150 miles of southern France in the 1670s seems, if not technically and financially impossible, at least highly unlikely considering that canals of this length and complexity had not been constructed previously. Construction was done largely by hand in the 17th century and the knowledge of structures, soil mechanics, and hydraulics was limited. What engineering and construction knowledge existed was empirical, engineering calculations were not yet customary. Survey and layout instruments were in their infancy. Locks of the size and quantity necessary to raise and then lower ships through 620' of elevation change had not been constructed previously. Finding qualified labor and organizing them for a project so large was difficult. Lastly, and no less important, was the issue of raising the money necessary for purchasing the land and building the canal, even for the King of France.

Impossible Engineering, Technology and Territoriality on the Canal du Midi by Chandra Mukerji describes how a wealthy French financier, Pierre Paul Riquet, first envisioned the canal, convinced King Louis XIV to fund the project, and then spent 14 years getting it built. The canal, as a shortcut from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mediterranean Sea, had been considered for years as a way to avoid the month-long voyage past hostile Spain and pirates of the Barbary Coast. The canal connects the Garonne River at Toulouse with Sete on the southeast coast of France. The eastern half of the canal is the

most interesting segment with the canal tunneling through a mountain at Malpas and across aqueduct structures bridging the canal over three river valleys.

Construction of the 86 locks was initially beyond the experience and technical capabilities of the engineers. Military engineers in the 17th Century were accomplished in fortress construction, but had limited experience with canal and lock construction from work on much shorter and smaller canals. As a result construction on the Canal du Midi was by the trial and error method. For example, the side walls at the first locks constructed failed due to the soil pressure bearing against the timber sides of the lock basins when the water was emptied. With the local knowledge of Roman masonry arch construction, available from numerous aqueducts and other Roman ruins in the Languedoc region, the geometry of the locks was changed from parallel side walls to curved sides resulting in oval shaped locks. Instead of timber, the locks were constructed of stone. The locks were 98' L x 36' W x 14'D and constructed in a series at each location, staircase fashion, with gates made of oak. In order for the water emptying from one lock to completely fill the adjacent one, the volume of each lock had to be precisely the same.

The most important technical accomplishment of the entire project was the system of dams and feeder channels that kept the canal full of water year round. This was done by harnessing the snow melt and

CHEVRONS FOR SALE

For those of you that have reached the prestigious point in your CSI membership where you have been a



member for more than 10 years, 20 years, or 30 years, the CSI chevrons are available. They are \$10.00 each, which includes the hard costs and shipping costs at the time they were purchased.

Contact Julie Brown if you are interested in purchasing a chevron. She can be reached at (408) 778-0633 or julie@jkbspecs.com.



CSI ONLINE

Chapter
www.csiscv.org

Region
www.westregioncsi.org

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www.csinet.org

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rainwater runoff from the nearby mountains, the Montagne Noire. This required the construction of a dam and reservoir at St. Ferrol that was 160' H x 0.6 mile long. The dam was constructed of masonry faces with clay infill. It was connected to the canal at its highpoint through a series of feeder channels constructed by locals who had detailed knowledge of the topography so that the water would flow into, but not flood the canal.

At its peak, construction required an estimated 12,000 workers, many of them women. The 6' D x 56' W canal was constructed using hand tools. The canal was filled in May of 1681, 6 months after Riquet died. The canal is still in existence today serving as a recreational and tourist waterway.

The book has 304 pages and includes many maps and photos. Unfortunately many of them are too small to appreciate. The book focuses on the social and political climate in which the canal was constructed with only limited detail included on the canal's construction. Chandra Mukerji is a professor of communications and science studies at UC San Diego. The book was published in 2009 by the Princeton University Press. ▽



EJCDC, AIA, AND CSI JOINTLY RELEASE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT LOCATOR GUIDE FROM THE CSI NEWSROOM

The Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee (EJCDC) joined the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) in releasing a new edition of the guidance document Uniform Location of Subject Matter (ULSM). The 2012 ULSM is available from EJCDC as a free download, and will be included at no charge with purchases of EJCDC's Engineering Series package and EJCDC's Construction Series package. The AIA is also making the ULSM available for download free of charge on its website. CSI is making the ULSM available for download free of charge at www.csinet.org/ulsm.

Construction contracts typically include several components. Key business terms are found in the Agreement form, and further developed, refined, or modified by the General Conditions and Supplementary Conditions, and the Drawings and Specifications. In addition, key contract-related information is sometimes included in bidding documents, such as instructions to bidders and bid forms. Through the years the publishers of standard construction contracts (such as EJCDC and AIA) and CSI have worked to establish standard approaches to the structure and organization of construction contract documents, for the benefit and guidance of the drafters and users of the documents. The ULSM is the result of these efforts. The ULSM provides a comprehensive list of the subjects covered in typical construction documents, and recommends where each subject should be addressed.

For example, the issue of ownership of the drawings and specifications (and other instruments of service) is an important and sometimes controversial subject. AIA, EJCDC, and CSI recommend that the subject be addressed in the construction contract's General Conditions. The detailed listing of the documents forming the basis of the contract is critically important, and will vary from project to project; therefore the ULSM recommends that "Contract Documents—detailed listing of" be set out in the Agreement section of the contract.

The ULSM is useful to construction contract drafters (owners, construction managers, attorneys, architects, engineers, contractors) not only for determining the recommended location of a subject, but also as a checklist of key topics to be addressed. For example, one ULSM line item is "Conferences and meetings—during construction." This might prompt the drafter of a specific contract to consider and address whether such meetings will be held, and if so, how frequently, who will attend, and so on. The ULSM recommends that the subject be addressed in Division 01 of the Specifications.

For years there was no generally accepted approach to locating contract information. To help remedy this situation, EJCDC and AIA issued the first Uniform Location of Subject Matter in 1977. For each topic covered, the ULSM indicates for the bidding or contract document in which the principal or primary statement should be located, as well as where any supplemental statement may appear. ▽



SCIP
Specifications
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**CSI West Region
Conference
Specifiers Forum
Sponsored by
SCIP**

Date: Sunday
April 29, 2012
Time: 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Continental Breakfast
sponsored by Draper, Inc. **DRAPER®**

Roundtable Topics for Discussion:

- Pros and cons of liability insurance for independent specifiers; by John Feeney of Heffernan Insurance



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- Tools that make specifying easier
- Any other topics on your mind

In-house specifiers welcomed!

Location:
Dolce Hotels & Resort
Hayes Mansion
200 Edenvale Avenue
San Jose, CA

Conference Room TBA

RSVP: Please indicate your plans to attend **by March 15, 2012**

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