

Specigram

Newsletter of the Pittsburgh Chapter,
Construction Specifications Institute

December 2017



12TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY GALA

DECEMBER 12TH
6:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

THE CHADWICK
1 WEXFORD SQUARE
WEXFORD, PA

ADMISSION FREE
TO DESIGN PROFESSIONALS
\$10.00 ALL OTHERS

RSVP BY DEC 8TH TO
MAZELEKOVITZ@NATIONALGYPSUM.COM

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

HORS D'OEUVRE AND DESSERT TABLES

PRODUCT DISPLAYS

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF TASTY FOOD,
GREAT MUSIC, AND GOOD CHEER!

Highlights from the Board

December 2017

November 14, 2017 by conference call

PRESIDENT Strayer welcomed all attending. MARC conference call summary discussed. NOVA is hosting 2018 Conference. Just now seeking sponsorships; possible concern over preparation. Bailey had fund raising call with NOVA in September where he advised strategy & possible sponsors. LOS location for 2018 will be same as prior years. If we want to change, action required earlier to get a facility that meets the needs.

SECRETARY (ACTING): Presented previously issued draft of 10/10/17 meeting minutes. Brief discussion and correction to LOS presentation award nomination by Thornton was requested and agreed.

PROGRAMS:

- December 12th – Holiday Party. See Hospitality below.
- CMU Tepper Quad Tour in January or March TBD based on site progress.

HOSPITALITY: Geist updated sponsors. We have 15 tables committed. Need 21 to exceed break-even. Key is get professionals to attend. Notice from 2016 was updated. It was posted to web site & distributed to members to obtain sponsors & professional attendees. A 6-piece band will provide music. We need entertainment sponsors and 6+ table sponsors. Post meeting note: Received 2-3 new commitments for tables.

PUBLICITY:

1. **WEBSITE:** Holiday party announcement & GBA web site link posted.
2. **SPECIGRAM:** No November issue. Combined December issue to be published.
3. **POST CARDS:** Information for Holiday party forwarded. Cards to be mailed before Thanksgiving.
4. **EMAIL BLASTS:** Previous question about converting mass emails to meeting invites so that the data would be added to recipient calendar discussed. Recommended for Officers & BOD limited communication, but not general CSI members. Technical discussion resulted in email blast after the meeting to include links to CSI web site, calendar to permit easy manual process to add to individual calendars.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION: McNamee reported that November Plan Grid technical seminar at MBA offices on November 21, 2017 at 8:30 AM has no registrations. Phil Dorenkott advised the presenter to cancel. Notice to be added to web site.

AWARDS: Topics for Award submittals as received from MARC Awards Chairperson were reviewed. Deadline is December 31, 2017 for submission for the FYE 6/30/17. Thornton had provided recommendations to Vernon. Additional suggestions noted during discussion: ATAS & Allegheny Millwork – For Organizational Certificate of Merit for MARC in Pittsburgh; Education Award – Bailey for MARC. See additional notes in follow-up. Awards to be filed early. If early a reviewer has time to make comments & suggestions for modifications to maximize submissions. Strayer to arrange meeting with Vernon & Thornton to provide assistance.

STUDENT OUTREACH: Chatham hosted a student/professional meeting on November 6th. Colleen thanked as organizer for a very good turnout and format. The location allowed students to walk/bike to the event. CSI participation was approximately 15. Students from Chatham and PITT, attended as guests, approximately 20. Two members of NOMA attended. Two members of REA Real Estate Association of University of Pittsburgh attended.

OTHER/NEW BUSINESS: Secretary volunteer – Buirge will take the remaining term until 6/30/18 effective after this meeting.

CHAPTER 60th ANNIVERSARY: This can be promoted. Kate posted flyer on web site that can be used to solicit sponsors. Committee volunteers: Defilippo, Lander, Bailey, Zell & Strayer to organize. Meeting to be scheduled after Holiday party.

Highlights from the Board

December 2017

October 10, 2017 at Cefalo's Restaurant, Carnegie

PRESIDENT: MARC conference call held Monday. NOVA hosting 2018 Regional Conference. May be behind in sponsorships. Kemp asked for comments from Region & Members to Institute as to what they can do better. Construct 2018 in Long Beach, CA. Only 300 hotel rooms available.

TREASURER: Edgewood Country Club booked for September 15, 2018 for 60th Anniversary Party. Chapter has excess funds from actual current year fiscal activities. Budget excess to be used to support future programs as determined by the BOD, in particular student & NOMA dinner costs for November meeting.

PROGRAMS: Keener to co-chair with assistance from Lander. Following are current plans:
November 6th – Student Outreach Mixer. See Student outreach committee report below.
December 12th – Holiday Party. See Hospitality below.
CMU Tepper Quad Tour in January or March TBD based on site progress.

HOSPITALITY:

Golf outing held 9/21. Total registration met budget revenue.

Holiday Party: Geist started soliciting. 13 tables committed. 21 to break-even. Key is get professionals to attend. Notice from 2016 to be updated & distributed to members to obtain sponsors & professional attendees. Entertainment needed.

PUBLICITY:

WEBSITE: New Leadership Information uploaded. Web site was updated to accept Pay Pal payments for various events. New advertising rates published. Expired advertisers to be deleted from the web site.

SPECIGRAM: Issued October 10, 2017

POST CARDS: None issued for October meeting; possible cause for low/last-minute attendee responses. Trimble has handled mailing, but needs to get information early to have time to produce & mail post cards. Can we convert mass emails to meeting invites so that the data would be added to recipient calendar and eliminate the manual process that seems to let people forget?

MEMBERSHIP: October shows 114 members. Report to be distributed after the meeting. Concern over Institute accuracy of reporting. Lander called recent lost members to verify status vs. reporting errors. Found one error and resurrected a past member. Pin inventory may be low for new member pins. Will confirm and recommend purchase quantity.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION: Dorenkott set November Plan Grid technical seminar at MBA offices on November 21, 2017 at 8:30 AM. Only Union affiliated companies to attend.

CERTIFICATION: We have 2 home study courses have been sold. In addition there are 2 more potential CDT candidates that may purchase the course. Carty is studying for CCPR certification.

AWARDS: Consider combining with 60th Anniversary this year. See new business. Topics for Award submittals were reviewed. Deadline is December 31, 2017 for submission for the FYE 6/30/17. Awards to be filed early. If early a reviewer has time to make comments & suggestions for modifications to maximize submissions.

GBA LIASION: Carty attended meetings. Has received information about GBA events that he reviewed. Will contact GBA to be sure it is ok to post their activities on CSI web site via calendar link. We will ask for the same courtesy.

STUDENT OUTREACH: Chatham volunteered to host a student/professional meeting on November 6th. Can invite students that can walk/bike to the event.

Students from: Chatham, PITT, La Roche, Duquesne, CMU to be invited. NOMA and REA Real Estate Association of University of Pittsburgh to be invited as guests. Format will be open discussion, food. Each Organization to make a 2-5 minute presentation of their purpose and career paths. CSI can discuss CDT course advantages. CSI members will pay reduced dinner fee. Defilippo issued a flyer of event information.

OTHER/NEW BUSINESS: Secretary Telenko resigned. Need volunteer to take the term and possibly run for new term in June. Zell unable to attend November meeting; will contact Jordon to confirm her attendance, or let us know a volunteer is needed.

CSI CHAPTER 60th ANNIVERSARY: This can be promoted. Schuster posted flyer on web site that can be used to solicit sponsors. Committee volunteers: Defilippo, Lander, Bailey, Zell & Strayer to organize.

Member News

December 2017

November Anniversaries

36th	Sandra Hundley	Sandra A. Hundley, Architect
35th	Jeffrey Anderson	Mistick Construction
22nd	Kevin Kearney	Builders Hardware
15th	Michael Konkle	MAK Sales Inc.
7th	Matthew Lander	AVT, Inc.
7th	Kevin Shinton	Easley & Rivers, Inc.
7th	Mark Bus	ATAS
7th	Richard Onslager	Robbins Sports Surfaces
4th	Toby Torchia Jr.	Knauf Insulation
2nd	Chuck Biasucci	CertainTeed Ceilings

December Anniversaries

31st	Brian Trimble	International Masonry Institute
26th	Philip Dorenkott	ATAS International, Inc.
21st	Matthew Matlak	VEKA Inc.
18th	Bruce Pollock	RSSC Architecture
14th	Steve Nearhoof	Cannon Design
11th	Dawn DiMedio	Gerard Associates Architects, LLC
11th	Michaelleen Vargo	LGA Partners
6th	Thomas Christiansen	ASSA ABLOY
1st	Alyssa Sineway	ARDEX Americas

New Members:

Emily Dritz, Architectural Manager, Great Lakes Region,
at Vitro Architectural Glass

Current Membership: 112



The Chapter extends deepest sympathy to the family of Bob Bridges, who passed away November 24th. A longtime chapter member, Bob formed RJ Bridges Corporation in 1984, of which son Brad is now president.

Member News

December 2017

Update on Mark Zell

Zell says, "Caught the trifecta of esophageal, prostate and skin cancers, all in the early stages. The past year and a half has been filled with surgeries and procedures, but Zell still looks good and it's better to look good than to feel good. While I have several more procedures to deal with, I am out of the woods and looking forward to a bit of normalcy to my life. Janet has been marvelous, "imagine spending 24/7 with Zell" and Max has been scared. National Gypsum and all of my customers have been especially understanding and thoughtful. I consider myself a very LUCKY man! Pretty good chance Zell wins this one! Happy holidays from the Zell's!"



Update on RonnaLeah Prindible

Ronna says, "I have had 3 chemos and one more to go – but the neuropathy in my hands is terrible. I'm on a medicine for that right now. Of course I have lost my hair – been dealing with fatigue, tiredness, and a rash...but that's it.

I did a 5k turkey trot Thanksgiving morning—seems like 5 days or so after chemo is when things happen and I am then a hot mess once again!

I have a diagnostic mammogram on December 18th – this will show if there is any cancer in the new breast tissue – this

appointment I'm very nervous about. In January I see my surgeon again – we will determine that action plan for my nip and tuck – he will be "cleaning up" my scars and making me pretty again!

We always go as a family (tradition) and cut down our tree the Saturday after Thanksgiving – this year we had friends bring us a letter from Santa and a gift – it was a 11 foot beautiful tree! We have explained to Liberty that this year was very different and people are so kind that the tree is a gift and a blessing – and that next year we will continue our family tradition – she was good with that. She sure has been a trooper! I'm very proud of her!!!

The prayers, gifts, love, and kindness continue to bless us – each and every day. It's so amazing. The TEAM RONNA is something I can't even begin to explain – God is truly great!"

Member Profile - *Jeff Carty*

December 2017

What is your company and position?

Product representative for Modernfold of PA

Tell us about your job.

I visit with architects, general contractors, and end users and often have meaningful discussions.

What is your educational background?

B.S. in Accounting

How many years have you been in the industry?

28.



What part of your job do you enjoy most?

Meeting with folks who need/want our products and helping out with design and installation.

If you weren't in your current job, what would you be doing?

Building furniture.

What was your first job?

Dishwasher.

What is the oddest thing that has happened in your professional career?

Walking away from a \$4 million casework job due to union conflict.

If you could change one thing about your profession, it would be:

Have PA adopt a "Listing Law" like other states have that protects subcontractors.

What year did you join CSI?

The first time, 1994 or 95? Then took a long hiatus. Rejoined in 2015.

What position do you presently hold with CSI?

Chapter Green Building Alliance Liaison.

Why did you (re)join CSI?

Kids are gone; time to re-engage. Plus, I have new products... stories need to be told.

What people influenced you most?

Many co-workers in the first few years out of college.

Member Profile - *Jeff Carty*

December 2017

What do you see as the value of CSI membership?

The networking is critical to us in the commercial interior specialty business.

What CSI certifications have you earned?

CDT - Construction Document Technologist.

What would you want somebody considering CSI membership to know?

The CSI experience helps you do your job better.

Tell us a memorable CSI experience:

Ken Nagie in a dress, on a golf course.

Person you learned the most from:

My mom and dad.

Tell us about your family.

I'm one of six kids raised in New Jersey. Most of my family has moved to South Carolina. Most have been blessed with good health. We had a great childhood... wouldn't trade for anything.

What's your favorite city?

Charleston, SC.

What are your hobbies?

Woodworking and gardening.

What's your passion?

The ocean.

What's a true sign of success?

Raising well-adjusted, responsible kids.

Best advice anyone ever gave you:

Don't burn the candle at both ends.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I spent alot of time on my surf board at the Jersey shore. Became fairly good at it.

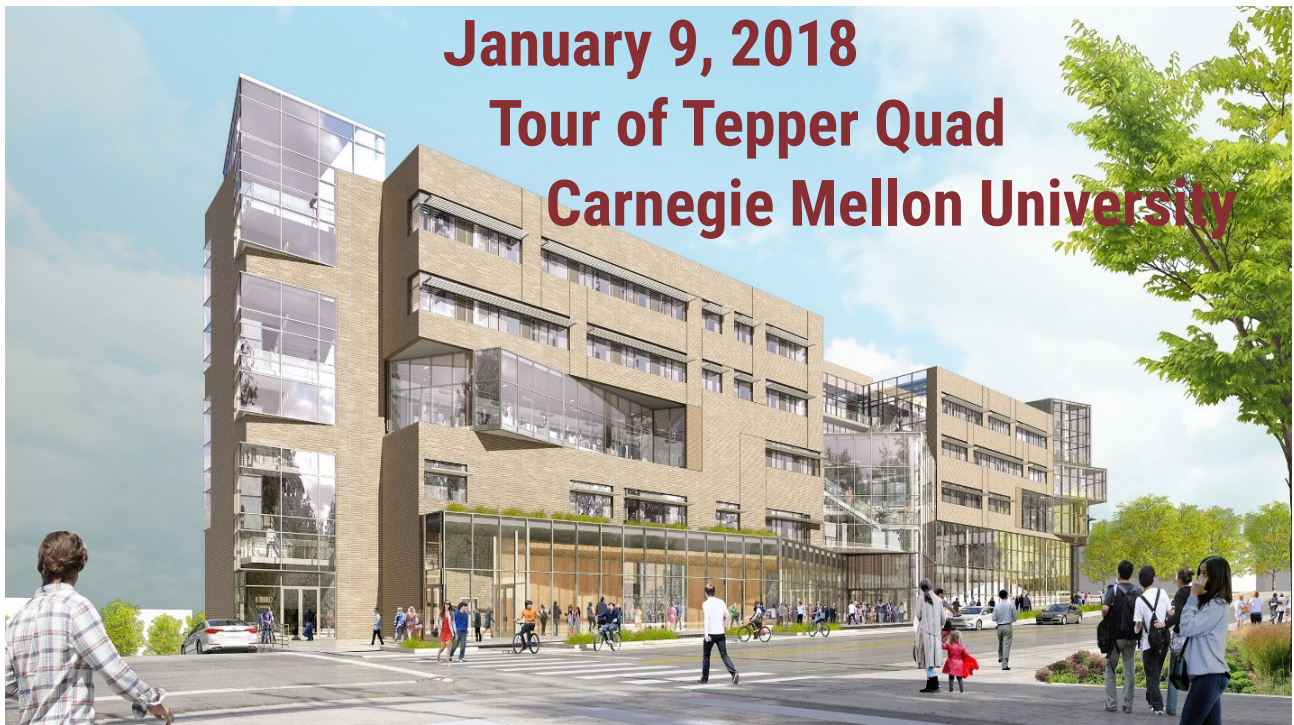
Who is you favorite "Peanuts" character and why?

Lucy, reminds me of my wife of 28 years.

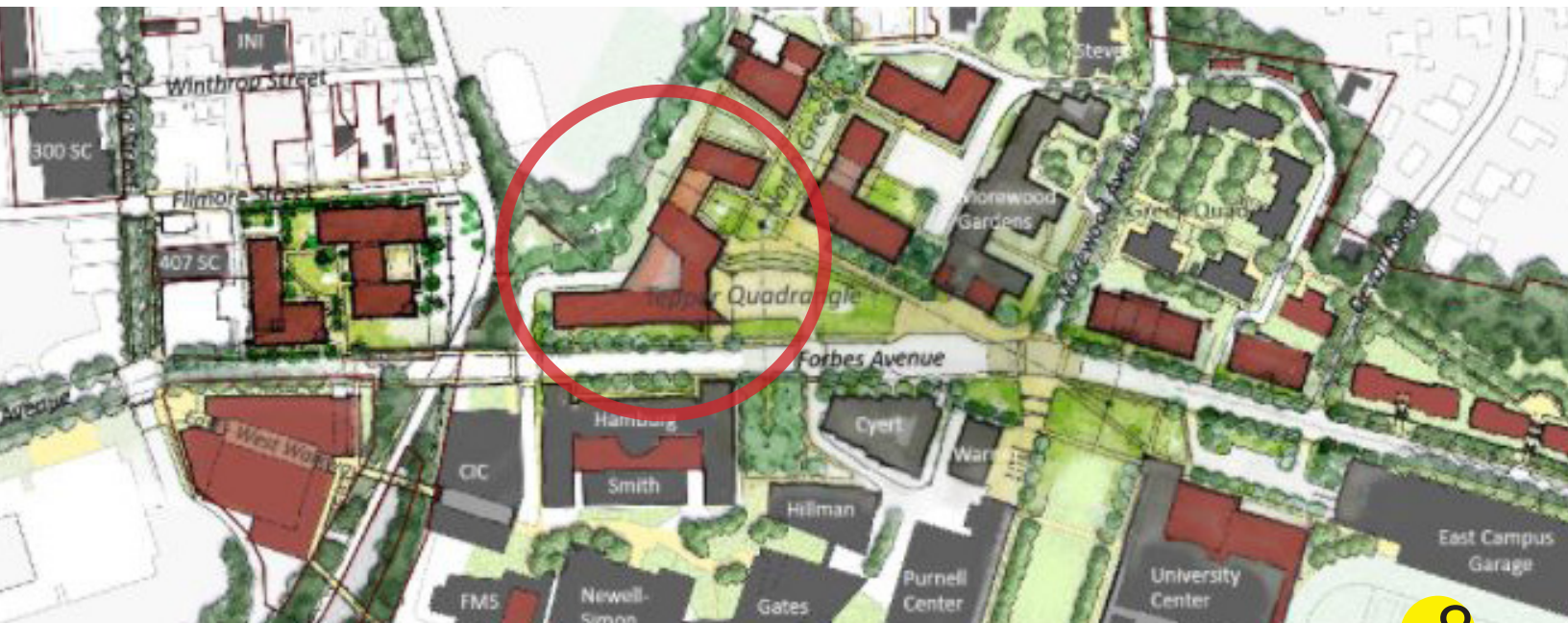


January Meeting

December 2017



Details will be forthcoming on parking, meeting location, time of tour, hardhat and other clothing requirements, and dinner location.



Chapter 60th Anniversary

December 2017



*Celebrate
CSI Pittsburgh's
60th Anniversary
1959-2018*

Saturday, September 15, 2018

Edgewood Country Club

sponsorship options available

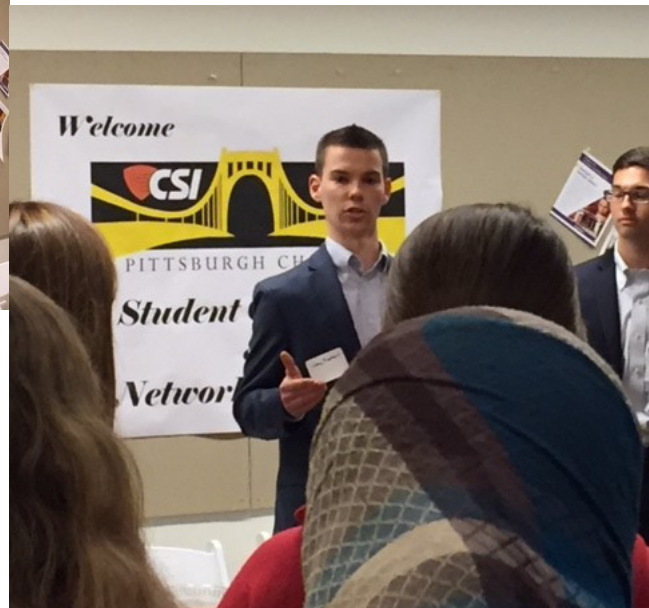
Last Month's Meeting

October 2017

Student Outreach at Chatham University Eastside

On November 6, CSI Pittsburgh gathered with National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) and Real Estate Association of the University of Pittsburgh (REA) to meet with approximately 20 students from Chatham and Pitt.

The event created an opportunity for interaction among all attendees. We hope to use this format for future events involving student participation.



Region Report

December 2017

The Region is continuing work on Region Guide updates and Revisions.

The Education Committee is working on a total “Do Over” of our LOS (Leadership Orientation Seminar). We are working to completely revise and improve and maybe even rename this event.

LOS has been free to all members of the region who wanted to attend. The Region picked up the registration fee cost as well as meal costs. It has been a two day event the only cost to attendees has been transportation costs and one night hotel cost. I don't expect that will change. We will keep you posted. Please consider attending. Do keep in mind our Chapter set aside funds to help members attend this event.

On behalf of the Middle Atlantic Region I wish everyone Happy and Healthy Holidays and a prosperous 2018.

Gail Nagie, CSI, CDT
President Middle Atlantic Region



MARC 2018

April 19-22, 2018

at the

**The George
Washington**

A Wyndham Grand Hotel

in Old Town

Winchester, VA

in the heart of the
Shenandoah Valley

with Revolutionary &
Civil War Historic Sites +
Regional Tourist Attractions

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December 2017

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