

# AWARDS

## Specigram

Newsletter of the Pittsburgh Chapter,  
Construction Specifications Institute

June 2016



# AWARDS

and Member Recognition

**JUNE 14, 2016**

**CEFALO's**

**428 Washington Ave, Carnegie, PA 15106**

**Board Meeting 5:00**

**Networking 5:30**

**Dinner 6:15**

**Program 7:00**

**Cost \$35**

**RSVP by June 10**

**[MAZell@Nationalgypsum.com](mailto:MAZell@Nationalgypsum.com)**

# AWARDS

# President's Message

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**"Sometimes the experiences that have the most meaning in our lives come from the briefest moments or interactions."**

As I try to write my last presidential message I decided to reread some of my past messages. One thing I noticed, beside the fact that I am not Shakespeare, is that there is an overarching common theme among them: "Get involved".

Whether it is mentoring a peer or junior staffer, stepping up to staff a committee, or seeking a board position, being involved outside your personal circles provides rewards.

Sometimes in life the experiences that have the most meaning in our lives come from the briefest moments or interactions. They are the moments in which we see, suddenly, something we had not seen; we understand something we had not understood; we forge a connection we had not expected; we accomplish something we never expected.



However, nothing is accomplished from the sidelines or experienced by watching others.

In a previous message I referred to some research done by others in the hopes of encouraging involvement at some level. Below I am reiterating the various types of volunteering that can help everyone become involved.

**Virtual volunteering** - also called e-volunteering or online volunteering - is a term that describes a volunteer, who completes tasks, in whole or in part, offsite from the organization being assisted.

**Micro-volunteering** is an unpaid task that can be operated via an internet-connected device and completed in small increments of time.

**Corporate volunteering or Employee Volunteering Programs (EVPs), also called Employer Supported Volunteering (ESV)**, are regarded as a part of the companies' sustainability efforts and their social responsibility activities.

**Community volunteering** refers globally to those who work to improve their local community.

If you have ever wanted to lead a committee or be on the board, but were not sure how to get started, CSI puts on a great educational conference to provide information on just how to do that. This conference is called LOS (or Leadership Orientation Seminar) for the Mid-Atlantic Region and is happening August 16th in York PA. Information will soon be available on the Region website.

I am truly grateful for all of the volunteers that I had an opportunity to work with. There is no way I could list them all, but I have listed some that are fresh on my mind as this year comes to a close.

I feel privileged for the opportunity of being your president for these past two years and am looking forward to joining our new president Rich Strayer in expanding and growing our outstanding chapter. Please join our new president and our hard-working board to make our chapter the best in the region. See you next fall!

# President's Message (cont'd)

June 2016

- Gail Nagie for being our ongoing treasurer.
- Josh Telenko who has done a great job of keeping our records.
- Rich Strayer for being the next sucker I mean the next president for the chapter.
- Bob Bailey for pulling together some awesome programs and keeping us up to date on all CSI Pittsburgh happenings with the Specigram.
- Lynn Fulton for doing a great job with our speed dating event.
- Dave Miller handling the post cards & our email communication.
- Kate Schuster for being a board director and maintaining the Web site.
- Marc Zell for finding great venues for our meetings.
- Jim Geist for the Holiday party.
- Mark Womer for our golf outings.
- Marty Thornton for handling the awards.
- Damian Carnegie and Matt Lander for keeping the membership records up to date.
- Brett Wygal for being our membership ambassador.
- Phil Dorenkott and Leisa McNamee for being board directors and some awesome technical seminars.
- Brad Bartley, Courtney Watson & Kelly Brown for being board directors and taking on various essential roles.
- Mike Bosco for being a board director and managing our certification program.
- And a special thanks to those in our chapter contributing at the Region level: Gail Nagie, RonnaLeah Prindible, & Kelly Brown.



# Member News

June 2016

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## June Anniversaries

16th William Fiedler Jr.  
7th Kate Schuster  
4th Ron Morris

3rd Damian Carnegie  
1st Bill Callaway  
1st Ryan Dietz

1st Jason Seal

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## New Members:

Patrick Rockhill  
Glen England

Dimensional Metals Inc.

## Membership Up For Renewal:

Alexandra Apostolou  
Kevin Spence  
Nicholas Lardas  
Dante Amato

Apostolou Associates Inc  
Marvin Windows and Doors  
Niko Contracting Company  
The Blue Book Network

## Current Membership

124



*Building Knowledge  
Improving Project Delivery*



# Mid-Atlantic Region Conference 2017

June 2016

## MARC 2017

## May 19-21, 2017 Pittsburgh, PA



**Conference Headquarters: Sheraton Station Square, south side Pittsburgh.**

Primary Participants: CSI members from the 14 chapters that comprise the Middle Atlantic Region: Erie/Northwest PA, North Central PA, Pittsburgh, PA Railroad, Central PA, Allentown, Philadelphia, Northern VA, Baltimore, DC Metro, Central VA, Richmond, Tidewater, Blue Ridge.

### **Sponsorships are available!**

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**Tours of local High-Tech organizations**  
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*and much more!*

# Member Profile - *Gail Nagie*

## What is your company and what is your position?

I retired following a medical event in November 2014.

## What is your education background?

I attended Duffs Business Institute studying Business Administration. After two years I transferred to CCAC for another year. I took a job as an Assistant Buyer at Joseph Hornes Co. They sent me to Pitt for two years to study Retailing at night after work.



**"Your CSI membership goes well beyond just business. You become a CSI family member. The friendships you develop here go far far beyond business. There are many values in a membership. I have never been turned down by anyone when I needed help."**

## How many years have you been in the industry?

I didn't work in construction until after I married Ken in 1969. I was recruited by Ken and Jack O'Carroll to work in facilities and securities department at CCAC for two years.

Along came Ty and I became a stay at home Mother for seven years. Ken now had his own practice and I worked for him in Spec preparation for 16 years.

In 1993 I was convinced to help Ken and Marty with spec preparation at Foreman Architects for 18 months in addition to Ken's private practice.

In 1998 our lives changed forever. Ken was struck down with kidney and heart failure going deep into a coma for 10 days. Add to that a serious misdiagnosed infection on his legs. For the next four months I watched money going out with little coming in. We went from a paycheck of approximately 100 hours a week to receiving 60% of 40 hours per week, a serious pay cut. One day I saw an ad looking for a building inspector/code enforcement officer for a local municipality. I was desperate, I had a husband who still needed regular attention and no income. So for jollies I applied. I figured the worst that could happen would be I would be laughed out of the office. Instead I was hired that day and approved by council the next evening.

Why??? I hold my CDT Certification. To them it made me an expert in Construction. I knew better but was grateful for the opportunity. I used my CSI connections to learn. Having Ken at home helped also. I had four days to learn from my predecessor and then I was on my own.

For the next two years I went to Indiana University at night twice weekly to learn building inspection and then did my internship. All this while working all day.

Municipalities love their employees to post certificates and the diplomas on their office walls. And so I did, always making sure my CDT was in the best spot possible. As a female I had an extra roll to overcome. Contractors just love to test you to see if they can pull something over on you. I carefully used the CDT initials when signing reports. Most smaller contractors had no idea what they mean but some even admitted they wouldn't want to mess with it.

# Member Profile - *Gail Nagie* (cont'd)

## What positions do you currently hold with CSI?

In Pittsburgh I am treasure, budget committee chair and co-chair of MARC17.

At the Middle Atlantic Region I am in my first year as Region President. I also serve as a member of the LOS Planning committee. I am trying to update the Region. We seem to be stuck in our old ways.

At the Institute I serve on the Institute Awards committee (2nd year) and on the Regions Presidents committee (2nd year). During the past year the Awards committee rewrote the entire Awards Manual, trying to bring it more current. Seven people revised the Manual and requirements for all the awards to make them more interesting so Chapters will submit their members for acknowledgement. We also are developing three new awards which should be published in next years Manual. This was a monumental task that required weekly meetings as well as a Homework assignments each week from the beginning of July until late October.

## Tell us a memorable CSI experience.

A few years back a sister of Miki Vargo developed leukemia. Our chapter set up a blood drive. Since Ken's death I have been a blood donor because as the widow of a Shriner I will receive all the blood I will ever need for the rest of my life but, I cannot transfer this gift to anyone else. I decided to give blood myself. So I started with whole blood, then when requested I changed to red cells only, and finally blood platelets. When Kayla needed it, I donated platelets every three weeks for six months to help. There is no feeling quite like knowing that someone's life depends upon my two hours I lay there while donating. My part was very small but today Kayla is much better thanks to the love donated by the CSI family members.

**What's the best advice anyone ever gave you?**

**Never stop reaching for the stars. Your biggest limit is your imagination. Keep reaching you will surprise yourself what you can do. And I have.**

## What people influenced you most?

First and foremost, Ken Nagie. He always encouraged me and told me that I should attempt to make my limited construction education into the best thing I could including constant reading and enrolling in everything I could. Learning never stops.



Second, Commander K. T. Nagie, Jr. I can't tell you how many times I heard "Mother there is nothing you can't do, somehow you will find a way, you always do. Don't sell yourself short."

Third, Sandra Hundley. After I lost Ken in 2008 she was always there to encourage me to spread my wings to try new things. Ken left a large shadow. Crawling out from under it was a monumental task. There were those who told me I would never accomplish it. Even today I struggle to be my own person. But I do continue to try.

## What value do you see in a CSI membership?

For me at work, anytime I had questions I had an endless list of CSI members who would graciously take the time to teach me.

When I retired in 2005 (My first retirement) I found myself getting phone calls from other inspectors requesting a copy of my contact list. They knew they could call me for a contact name or number to answer questions if I couldn't answer them for them. My membership in CSI gave me endless contacts. This is one place I feel we fail to try to include that area of construction in our membership. Yes they have their own organizations but we should include them in our Educational sessions to broaden their vocabulary.

## What you want somebody considering CSI membership to know?

Your CSI membership goes well beyond just business. You become a CSI family member. The friendships you develop here go far far beyond business. There are many values in a membership. I have never been turned down by anyone when I needed help.



# Member Profile - *Gail Nagie* (cont'd)

June 2016

## Tell us about your family.

There is just Ty and I now. Ken had no Brothers or Sisters and I am the only living member of my family left. Ty is a Commander in the United States Coast Guard stationed in Portsmouth Virginia. I can tell you very little about what he does except to say his favorite saying is "if I tell you what I do I will have to kill you!" I can tell you his job takes him EVERYWHERE. He loves what he does and is well respected by the people who serve with him. He just completed his 19th year of service. Ty is 41 (yes I had him at a very early age - 10 sounds like a good number to me) and single. Women just don't like moving nine times in 19 years. Can't understand why!!! I helped several times with the packing and unpacking until I announced last time "get a wife -- I'm too old for this"). So far that's not working out either!

## What's your favorite city?

Large city: San Diego. Ty spent three years there. I spent three Christmases there. I loved the city and could walk to most things.

Small town: Window Rock, Arizona, the national capital of the Navajo Nation. I feel a natural draw to this location although I am not Navajo I am one quarter Seneca of the Iroquois Nation.

## What are your hobbies?

Cooking and guns

## What is your passion?

Learning. I love to learn. In my 3rd retirement I would like to learn another language. Right now I am looking for a partner to do it with me. (yes I am on my third retirement -- number two only lasted about 5 months before I got pulled back. I got bored after Ken died and went back.)

## What's a true sign of success?

When my peers started asking my opinions about the job. I worked in a male oriented job, and so when men started asking me my opinion about a work related situation I knew I had finally reached at least some level of success.

## What would people be surprised to learn about you?

I shoot sporting clays. My goal is just once to shoot better than my son. I've been sidelined for 18 months because of blood clots but hope to be back before the end of this year. I love handguns (except when I shoot against Ty). It's really tough coming up against a professional. His bad day would be my dream score.

I am in the early stages of planning another train trip across the country - with a friend this time - hopefully next year.

I hope to trace my Seneca history now that I am retired. I know some details about my history but would like to know more. Most of the history was lost when the Courthouse in Emlenton Pennsylvania burned to the ground in the early 1900's. It would like to leave that history for Ty.

## Who is your favorite "Peanuts" character and why?

Schroeder! He plays the piano, something I wish I could do.





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June 2016

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# Leadership Orientation Seminar (LOS)

June 2016

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## 2016 CSI Middle Atlantic Region

### Leadership Orientation Seminars (LOS)

#### Chapter Officers and Directors - Plan **NOW** to attend!

**Location:** Heritage Hills Country Club, York PA  
Room Booking ID is **MID081916**  
For reservations, call 717-755-0123 (no internet reservations)

**Date:** Friday August 19 - Saturday August 20, 2016

- Golf Outing is being planned for Friday morning, August 19, 2016.
- Factory tour (with AIA Credits) will occur Friday afternoon, August 19, 2016.
- Region Board Meeting will be conducted Friday evening, August 19, 2016.
- LOS seminars will be conducted Saturday August 20, 2016.

CSI always encourages continuous leadership development on its Chapter, Region, and Institute levels. The Leadership Orientation Seminar (LOS) is the Region leadership's opportunity to present an overview of the duties and responsibilities of all new Officers, Directors, and Chairpersons, and focuses on training the new leadership of all Chapters within the Middle Atlantic Region.

**Attendance by all current and incoming Chapter leaders is strongly encouraged.** Other interested Chapter members, especially those on the "leadership ladder" and committee chairs are also encouraged to attend as LOS will give them a head start in their roles as both current and future Chapter leaders.

During LOS, attendees are briefed about Institute organization, staff, existing and new programs, and resources. This is also a forum for discussion of the mutual challenges shared by all Chapters as well as an opportunity for the sharing of ideas and experiences.

This will be our second year in York, and we are working now to improve on last year's event, with more sessions directed at CSI Mid-Atlantic Region leadership networking and development.

Please note: Attendance at the Region Board meeting as well as the Saturday LOS sessions will be required for anyone planning to participate in the Friday pre-LOS golf and/or tour activities. There is no charge to attend LOS. Attendees are responsible for their hotel and transportation, only.

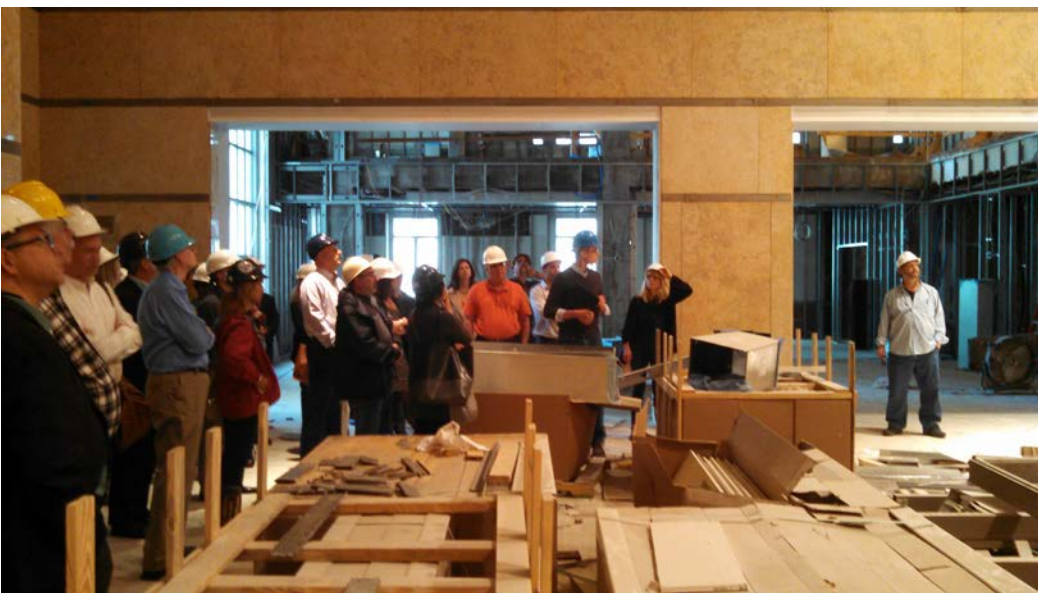




June 2016

# Tour of Drury Inn & Suites - May 10

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# Tour of Drury Inn & Suites - May 10



New openings cut in what was formerly a blank wall.

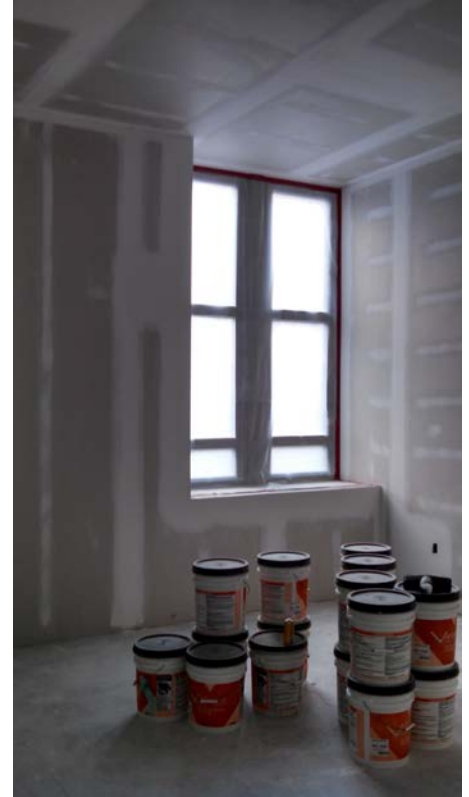


This is a cut thru the concrete wall of an original vault. The dark areas are reinforcing steel embedded in the concrete.



June 2016

# Tour of Drury Inn & Suites - May 10



June 2016

# Tour of Drury Inn & Suites - May 10

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# Chapter Leadership

June 2016

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