



SPECIGRAM

Newsletter of the Pittsburgh Chapter, Construction Specifications Institute

May, 2014

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CSI PITTSBURGH CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT

1. To support and promote the mission and core values of the Institute.
2. To help its members perform their jobs better by providing education and promoting certification programs.
3. To provide an opportunity for networking to facilitate project team building.

*Pittsburgh Chapter
Construction Specifications Institute
P.O. Box 367
Wexford, PA 15090*

May 13 Program



R I Lampus Company is celebrating 90 years of concrete product and building materials production and distribution.

This tour will include a brief overview of some of Lampus products and masonry design considerations along with an opportunity for you to ask questions of the Lampus representatives on hand.

You will have the opportunity to witness first- hand the batching, mixing, and machine production of concrete blocks during an actual production run.

Location:

Parkway Aliquippa
Block Plant
2321 Todd Road
Aliquippa, PA
15001

4:30 pm First Tour

5:30 pm Last Tour

**6:15 pm Dinner
on site**

**7:30 pm Board
Meeting**

Cost: \$35/person

Reservations

to David Miller
by Friday, May 9
davidmiller.kba@comcast.net
(412) 216-0219

VEEP TALK

May 2014

By Bill Vernon

1st Vice-President, CSI Pittsburgh

We have the CSI-elections this month; this is everyone's chance to be involved on the basic democratic level. CSI is a volunteer organization - you can be involved without having much responsibility. Committee chairs are always looking for support. Whether helping out at our monthly meetings or making calls to obtain letter of support for awards or finding an interesting program that everyone can enjoy for our meetings, we can always use people.



Always Remember What Is Really Important.

If you are worried about not knowing how a board works, at CSI you will always have a friendly mentor and the Mid Atlantic region has the Leadership Orientation Seminar where you can talk to current board members from chapters all around our region. You can always find someone willing to teach or explain the purpose or method behind any aspect of our chapter. I would like to make it a goal for our chapter to get more members involved with the operation of the chapter. I hope that this will allow the burden for operation of chapter to fall on more people. Responsibility of committee chairs is overall management and not actual performance of the tasks. New ideas or reinvention of/restarting old ideas are welcome -- Bob Bailey's restart of the Chapter newsletter is a great example of the difference you can make with some simple efforts that are well appreciated.

One of CSI's core values is education. This education is not just for the tools to convey design ideas to those who build and supply the built environment. Education also includes management of projects and operations, something board membership can help you with. Involvement also puts you in touch with our membership on a personal level to form relationships that will last throughout your career; relationships that help you to know the right person for the various problems that inevitably crop up with projects. We are dealing with the built environment and we do not need to assume or guess that someone in CSI has the solution.

If you show up to a meeting for the first time, please let us know and we will introduce you around, from the salty old veterans of our industry to the energetic new faces. We want you to feel welcome at our chapter.

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

33 rd	Kenneth Brown	Tom Brown, Inc.
29 th	Gerald Emili	Continental Building Products
2 nd	Kurt Scheer	BDA Engineering, Inc.
1 st	John Walker	CENTRIA
1 st	Thomas Morgan	StanleyBlack&Decker
1 st	Brad Bridges	RJ Bridges Corporation

NEW MEMBER

Ray See @ Bridges & Company

Member Profile: Deborah Merges

May 2014

Company and Position: I am employed by Architectural Resources, Inc., an independent rep agency out of Greenbelt Md. I am the local manufacturer's rep for Bobrick Toilet Partitions and Accessories, Hadrian Locker and Metal Toilet Partitions and Elmes Door Hardware, covering Western Pa. and WVa.

Tell us about your job: I call on dealers who handle Bobrick, Hadrian and Elmes in Western Pa and WVa. And I also call on architects, designers, and spec writers, keeping them up to date on the latest product changes.



What part of your job do you most enjoy? Talking with people.

If you weren't in your current job, what would you be doing? Most likely I would still be working for Best Tile.

What is the funniest/oddest thing that has happened in your professional career? One incident occurred when our chapter was in charge of the hospitality suite at a region conference. If you have never attended a conference typically, the hospitality suite is left open for people to stop by and grab a drink but this time the location of the room was right in the middle of rooms occupied by high school students on a school trip. Gail Nagie and I found ourselves standing guard over the suite all night with some of the parents just to make sure the kids didn't get any alcohol.

Tell us about your family: George and I have been married for 45 years this coming June 6th. We have two children, Kimberly Jo and Gregory George. Kim is married to Brian Murphy and is a stay-at-home mother taking care of our only grandchild Kenzie Jane. They live in Duxbury, Mass and because of that we don't get to see them much. However, since Kenzie has been able to stand on a stool she and I have made apple pie together. It never fails the first thing she asks me is, "Mimi, can we make an apple pie?" Greg lives locally and is a registered architect working in private practice and with George. Greg is also a CSI member and has been attending CSI conventions and conferences since 1979.

(continued on p.4)

Member Profile (cont'd)

What year did you join CSI? I joined the first time in 1987 when working for Babcock Lumber Co. as a rep for DuPont Corian.

Why did you join CSI? It was a good way to meet Architects, Designers and Spec Writers and other Reps and find out what was happening in the area.

Did you have a CSI recruiter/mentor? I can't say I had a recruiter, but I would have to say that far as mentors goes it would have been Ken Nagie, Sandra Hundley, and George.

What is your role in CSI Pittsburgh? Presently I hold no position, however I have been the chairman of the Hospitality Committee several years, worked on the Awards Committee, ran the Chapter golf outing several times, worked on the region conference committee three times, and held the office of second vice president, and was chapter director for several terms.

What do you see as the value of CSI membership? CSI is a great organization that offers an opportunity for representatives covering all divisions in the construction specifications to meet and discuss projects with the architect, designer or contractor working on a project. Friendships are developed across the country for those taking advantage of Chapter, Regional and National gatherings.

What was your proudest moment in CSI? Seeing George receive his Fellowship award and everything that went with it.

What would you want somebody considering CSI membership to know? That the more you become involved the more you will get back.

What's your passion? I Love quilting, sewing and golfing.

What would people be surprised to know about you? That I was a flight attendant (stewardess) for Allegheny Airlines.

Watch your email for next month's meeting

Awards Dinner and Membership Recognition Event

Location to be announced

Fun is always on the menu!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD

May 2014

APRIL 8, 2014 AT CEFALO'S IN CARNEGIE, PA

Hospitality – Considering June Awards Dinner event as a river cruise.

Programs – New chair will be Bailey.

Website – Paypal now working.

Membership – Still at 138 total members.

Tech/Ed – Slight change on topic, as discussed will be led by attorney Mike Cremonese with an insurance agent also present dealing with legal issues of sustainable design/LEED.

Awards – Pgh Chapter received many Middle Atlantic Region awards. LOS will have a meeting about submission requirements.

GBA Liason – Dorenkott and Bailey attended meeting discussion EPDs and HPDs.

Student Outreach – 8 students from Chatham will participate in Are You Smarter Than A Specifier?

Golf Outing – Thursday, June 5, Strawberry Ridge.

MARC 2017 – Initiating planning.

Old Business – Google forms need updating. Chapter to have a booth at the May 14 Electric League Trade Show.

Need to get your name out there?

Get included in our Newsletter!

Only \$50/year!

Host a table top display at our next meeting!

Be seen on the CSI website!

Click [here](#) for details.

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Leaders in Living & Learning

National and Local Strategies for a Better & Brighter Tomorrow



Photo Credit:
Thatcher Cook for PopTech via Flickr

Listen as **Retired U.S. Marine Corps Colonel Mark Mykleby** tells a National Strategic Narrative on how sustainability can be our nation's best option for becoming more competitive, prosperous, and secure.



Photo Credit:
Mark Dixon via Flickr

Let the **Honorable William Peduto, Mayor of Pittsburgh**, illustrate the vision and strategies for the next phase of our nation's Most Livable City.



Learn how schools throughout the region are leading the way in creating inspiring, healthy, and high-performing places of learning in order to educate and cultivate our next generation of leaders AND build a thriving community!

Please join Green Building Alliance and Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens for the Season Finale of its 2013-2014 **INSPIRE SPEAKERS SERIES**

Event Details:

- May 15, 2014 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Oakland
- Enjoy food, a cash bar, live music, and networking!

To **LEARN MORE** and **REGISTER** for this event, visit www.go-gba.org/inspire or call 412-773-6017.



All events are on Thursdays at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Event Partners:

- Green & Healthy Schools Academy
- Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
- Tri-State Area School Study Council
- Grow Pittsburgh
- GTECH Strategies
- Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
- MGRF
- CSI Pittsburgh
- AIA Pittsburgh
- Chatham University
- Sustainable Pittsburgh
- Master Builder's Association of Western PA
- * The City of Pittsburgh

Sponsors:



HAPPENINGS

MAY 2014

EMERGING INNOVATION for the Electrical Industry



EXPOSITION & CONFERENCE

MAY 14, 2014 • 8AM-8PM • MONROEVILLE CONVENTION CENTER

Keynote Address by Dennis Yablonsky, CEO of The Allegheny Conference

For more information:

<http://www.electricleague.com/>

Durability + Design is holding **D+D 2014**, the first annual conference and exhibition designed to integrate the emerging technical community of specifiers, architects, contractors, and facility owners united by their interest in achieving building performance and aesthetics.

This event will bring groups from all ends of the industry together to learn and share new ideas in a common conversation about "Advances in Protective and Aesthetic Technologies for Buildings". D+D 2014 will be held in Cincinnati at the historic Hilton Netherland Plaza Hotel on May 20-22.

A promotional banner for Construct 2014 Baltimore. The banner has a light blue grid background. On the left, it says 'CONSTRUCT 2014' in bold, with 'CONSTRUCT' in black and '2014' in red. Below this, it says 'BUILT WITH YOUR FUTURE IN MIND' in large, bold, blue letters. On the right, there is a dark blue rectangular box with white text that reads 'BALTIMORE' in large letters, followed by 'EDUCATION: SEPTEMBER 9-12 / EXHIBITS: SEPTEMBER 10-11' and 'BALTIMORE CONVENTION CENTER | MARYLAND'. At the bottom right, there is a 'Stay Connected:' section with icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and a share icon.

SHOW DATES

Education: September 9-12, 2014

Exhibits: September 10-11, 2014

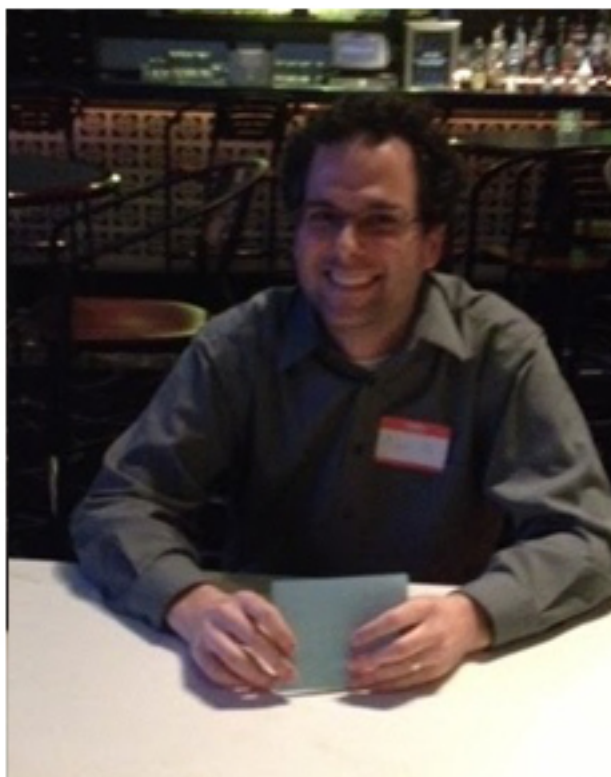
APRIL 2014 MEETING
"Are You Smarter Than A Specifier?"
Featuring students from Chatham University
at Cefalo's, Carnegie

May 2014



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May 2014



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May 2014

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CSI PITTSBURGH GOLF OUTING

Thurs., June 5, 2014

8:15 am Registration
9:00 am Tee Time
Strawberry Ridge
135 McNulty Lane
Harmony, PA 16037
Scramble format

Pay in advance to
"CSI Pittsburgh"
c/o Mark Womer
526 Stirrup Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601

RSVP by
Fri., May 30th
Mark Womer
DSS Tri-State
mwomer@dsstristate.com
(724) 708-6106

\$75 / person
\$275 / foursome (1 pymt)
Includes 18 holes, cart,
snack, beverages,
dinner and prizes!



Separated at birth???



KBA Representative
David Miller



Masters Champ
Bubba Watson