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THE JOURNEY

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Established in 1958 CHARTER MEMBERS

Walter P. Bennyworth	Joseph O. Maddux
Robert L. Bibb	H. Clinton Parent
Wilbur F. Creighton, Jr.	Robert J. Rawding
Francis P. Harper	H. Roy Slaymaker
John S. Herbert	James N. Stansell
Granberry Jackson, Jr.	Louis O. Swift
Edward H. Johnson	William O. Webster
Kenneth K. King	Roy L. Weeks
John W. McDougall	

Fellows

Jerry Preston	Kevin Corkern
Richard Cooper	Kent Kyle

Past Presidents

1958-60	Robert J. Rawding	1982-84	Thomas B. Allen	2002-03	James P. Bennett
1960-64	Frank Kurzynske	1984-86	Stephen Rick	2003-04	Troy A. Williams
1964-65	Warren Taylor	1986-87	Rebecca E. Dunkley	2004-05	Kevin Corkern
1965-66	James W. Rich	1987-89	Elizabeth Thompson	2005-06	M.F. (Mark) Schwartz, III
1966-67	Bruce Overton	1989-90	Kenneth R. Beam, Jr.	2006-07	Kent R. Kile
1967-68	Morris W. Werner	1990-92	Kathy C. Pedigo	2006-07	Thomas L. Parshall
1968-69	Frank Gower	1992-93	W. Richard Cooper	2007-08	Tiffany Goulet
1969-70	Thomas E. Ervin, Jr.	1993-94	Harriet Hall Cates	2008-09	Mike Leonard
1970-71	Joseph Kott	1994-95	Larry L. Woods	2009-10	Randy Huffman
1971-72	Batey M. Gresham	1995-96	Timothy Pedigo	2010-11	Timothy Yoko
1972-73	George S. Thompson	1996-97	John Arndt, Jr.	2011-12	Eric Lundquist
1973-74	Edward H. Street	1997-98	Betty Brooks	2012-13	James K. Christain
1974-75	Dale S. Bartee	1998-99	Doug Johns	2013-14	R.R. (Rick) Jones
1976-78	N. Carl Manka	1999-2000	Boyd G. (Buzz) Jacoway, Jr.	2014-15	Melanie Kenney
1978-80	Edgar Powers	2000-01	Rex E. Garton, Jr.	2015-16	Y. Lynn Jolley
1980-82	Jerry W. Preston	2001-02	Cheryl Crosby	2016-17	Daniel W. Cress
				2017-18	

The Edward H. Street Memorial Award Recipients

1997	Boyd G. Jacoway	2005	Edgar Powers, Jr.	2013	Troy A. Williams
1998	Joseph O. Maddux	2006	W. Richard Cooper, Jr.	2014	No Award Given
1999	Jerry W. Preston	2007	No Award Given	2015	Melanie Kenney & Thomas L. Parshall
2000	George S. Thompson	2008	John R. "Jack" Potter, Jr.	2016	Kent R. Kile
2001	Thomas E. Ervin, Jr.	2009	Kathy C. Pedigo	2017	Tiffany Goulet
2002	Rebecca E. Dunkley	2010	James K. Christain	2018	R.R. "Rick" Jones
2003	Robert D. Herbert	2011	Cheryl Crosby		
2004	N. Carl Manka	2012	Rex E. Garton, Jr.		



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1958

CSI Nashville Chapter History

By... Kathy C. Pedigo, CSI
President 1990-92

Edward H. Street Memorial Award 2009

In March of 1948 the specifications writers of government agencies recognized the need to improve the quality of specifications in order to meet the demands of the post-war construction boom. They came together to form the Construction Specifications Institute. The Institute quickly realized the need to include specification writers in the private sector.

On November 15, 1958 seventeen forward thinking men in Nashville, Tennessee signed a charter and formed The Nashville Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute.

Sixty years later we are gathering to celebrate the formation of this chapter. Where did they get the idea? Who were the first to organize the group? Where and when did they meet? We can answer all these questions because we actually have one of the original charter members still doing business in our city. Joe Maddux is a treasure that we are blessed to have and he recently sat down to answer these questions.

Mr. Joe says the original idea to charter a chapter came from John W. Mc Dougall. He was a big promoter of CSI to the architectural community. H. Clinton Parent was the first architect to really rally the other firms of Nashville to send their draftsmen and specification writers to the meetings. According to Mr. Joe, specifications in Nashville prior to the formation of the Nashville Chapter of CSI, were a random grouping of products and paragraphs describing big items, but most specifications just simply said, for example, call Joe Maddux for doors.

Their first meetings were at the Noelle Hotel at Church and 4th. They met once a month during the early years. George Waller was an early convert to CSI's format. Hart Freeland, Roberts were early supporters and always sent several people to the meetings. Other early regular attendees were Martin Roberts and Clarence Holt.

Mr. John S. Herbert of Herbert Materials was also a charter member. I had the honor of working for Herbert Materials early in my career. Mr. Johnny was already retired by 1980, but he still came into the office once a week, and he was the epitome of a "Southern Gentleman."

absolutely no one there. I felt like a stranger. I would meet a few of the architects sitting at the same table at meetings, but that is about it. I have since met many others through one occasion or another. They are all good people, but I still don't know a lot of them, even after all these years. Then there was CSI.

During these past 23 years I have meet, built relationships and become friends with countless product reps, vendors, contractors and others. A lot of them are regulars in the office. A few of them have come and gone, but a lot of them are still around, AND a lot of them are in CSI.

The very first CSI function I went to was a CDT class back in 1996 (I think) that Rex Garton taught. That is when I first met Rex. I then went to a few Specheads meetings after Barry Holt mentioned them to me. Barry and I worked together for 13 years at HMHA, and have a friendship I still value today. We also share the same birthday. That is all I will say, or he will tell me to go play in traffic. Barry was one of the reasons I joined CSI.

At the Specheads meetings I would see people I knew. That is when I also first met Jim Christain. He was our primary Division 7 rep/vendor and Specheads met at his office. After that I became little more regular over the years, and I eventually joined CSI as a member. Oddly enough, I don't remember going to a regular monthly meeting until I joined.

I could not write this memory without talking a little about Melanie Kenney. Well before any thoughts of me joining CSI I met Melanie. She worked at Franklin Brick and was the person who turned your business card into a luggage tag at the CSI Product Show. A very good way to meet people. Over the years, Melanie has worked for various masonry companies in town, and comes by our office quite regularly. She has become a great friend to our office, and she and her husband Stephen have become great friends to me and my wife. Melanie was also an integral part of why I joined CSI. She is also an integral part of the Nashville Chapter.

When I went to my first CSI monthly meeting as a member, I am happy to say, I knew a lot of people when I walked into that room, many of them my friends. Since joining CSI, and eventually becoming a Director, I have met many more CSI members, all good people, many whom have become my friends also. Now when I go to monthly CSI meetings it gives me a good feeling to walk into a room where you don't feel like a stranger. It almost feels like you are coming home.

Funny Story:

I haven't been in CSI long enough to have any funny stories, but I am trying very hard to work on it. This funny story was told to me by Barry Holt many years ago. It is based on an actual event when he was in college getting his architecture degree at UT, and still living at home.

Barry had gone out to a party one weekend night. He had consumed mass quantities of adult beverages, which probably included Jack Daniels. It was very late, and he managed to drive himself home. That was in a different time and place, when you did stuff like that. If I recall, he didn't remember a whole lot about that night. He did remember his dad in his room, waking him up the next morning, and pointing out the window, and asking him "How did you manage that?" Barry got up and looked out the window. His car was parked neatly, and undamaged, end to end between two trees in the yard. He didn't have a clue. I do have a question, though. Rex, Jim, were either of you at this party also?

OK, it probably didn't look quite like this, but this would have been much funnier!

Barry, my friend, you know I love you more than my luggage!

Harry N. Harris, Jr



*I*n 1988 I inherited a very healthy chapter from Bea Thompson, but there were dark economic clouds on the horizon. Working with a very informed board of directors, we worked to trim our chapter budget to prepare for the recession that was coming.

In spite of the belt tightening, we had a very robust and fulfilling year. The annual Product Show numbers were down slightly but was it still widely supported and well attended. We had chapter members representing Nashville at both the regional and institute levels, and the regional and institute conferences were well attended also.

But there are two special things that I am most proud of that year and will never forget. First, we sponsored the rebirth of a CSI chapter in my home town, Huntsville Alabama, that is still serving their design and construction community today. And secondly, as one of my final acts, I had the privilege and honor of nominating our chapter's first Industry member as chapter president – Kathy Pedigo. CSI has remained an important part of my professional life.

Kenny Beam, RA CSI CCCA



I joined CSI in 1973 - just one year before Jim Christain. Morris Werner (ESa) brought me to some CSI meetings and once I joined CSI, Ed Street found things for me to do. That was back in the days we met at the Albert Pick Motel and Jack Hansom provided an entire stocked bar out of his trunk for each meeting.

I, along with Dale Bartee, Becky Dunkley, George Gaffney, Shed Glass, Ed Powers and Jerry Preston took the first CSI Certification Exam (CCS). We drove to Little Rock for the exam, which was mostly essay / spec writing with pencil and paper. About that time, I moved to the State Architects office and was very familiar with the 16 divisions (published in 1964) and the 3-part format (published in 1969). By 1978, I believed that all architects should be using the 16 divisions and 3-part format, but they were not. So, with the approval of Mike Fitts (State Architect), I requested that architects that submitted documents on State projects use those formats.

There was some resistance and I was told several times that I needed to “butt-out”, as they had been writing specs since before I was born (probably true). Those were some challenging times, but when Jerry Preston also joined the State Architects office in a couple of years, we were able to pursue with CSI and related objectives.

I have enjoyed my participation in the CSI study groups, particularly after the CDT program was established. After our first study group for the CCS in 1978 there were no study classes until in 1986 Jerry Preston organized annual study groups and Jerry and I proctored the annual CSI Certification and CDT exams for the many years that they were given with paper and a #2 pencil. The classes have continued since 1986 annually with help from Rex Garton, Chip Ames, Cheryl Crosby, Kevin Corkern, Lynn Jolley and others.

My records over the last 20 years show that several hundred students have attended the CDT classes, most were not then CSI members, but were a part of our AEC community. Currently of our 117 CSI Nashville members, 50 are CDT or higher.

Carl Manka



A Tribute to Ed Street

by Baird Dixon

*A*s I consider the fact I've been an Architect now for 40 years (!?), I find myself looking back at people and events that have formed who I am today. A hugely important person in my life is Edward H. Street. Ed was my boss, my colleague, my friend. He was my mentor...and I find myself eternally grateful for the gift of his presence in my life.

Ed, along with his brother Bob, did some amazing work in Nashville out of Street and Street's 4 to 5 person office. As a young person newly out of school, I was well familiar with their projects: the Sarratt Student Center and Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt, the Sharp Residence, and so on. I wanted to do that kind of work, so this was the office I set my sights on early in my career.

What I did not know, until I became a member of the team, was what a wonderful person Ed Street was. He was truly a gentleman...a word that has largely gone out of favor in our current times. Ed was, quite literally, a gentle man. Throughout his career, he dealt with chancellors, governors and mayors. But when he spoke, he spoke quietly and deliberately, with an economy of words and always thoughtfully. I quickly learned to listen carefully to everything he had to say.

There was also much more to Ed than what he had to say. In my mind, Ed provided the perfect example of what an Architect should be, and how an Architect should act. The scope of Ed's knowledge was vast... he could call up structural formulas in his sleep, and he didn't just know how different materials interacted with one another; he knew the chemistry underlying the building science. Perhaps most important for me, Ed provided the perfect example of how to run a business- a business based on a foundation of ethics and respect for everyone else we work with.

Indeed, everyone who knew and worked with Ed had a profound respect for the man. I remember well the day he died: we got the word that morning and tried to focus- not too effectively- on our various daily tasks. That afternoon, I had to go to one of our job sites under construction. I relayed the news to a jobsite superintendent we had worked with for years, and I'll never forget what he said: "I'm so sorry to hear that. I learned a lot over the years from Mr. Ed." Now I'm quite used to us Architects learning things we need to know from people in the field, but not so much the other way around. That comment sums up how I still feel about Ed today: the respect and team spirit for everyone he interacted with, the willingness to entertain someone else who might have a better idea. These basic principles have formed the whole basis for how I try to conduct my professional life today.... And for that I thank Mr. Ed.

Recent Years and Amazing Leaders

By Melanie Kenney

As I think back on my time with CSI Nashville, 26 years now, the people stand out that made a difference. We have had amazing leaders – some very visible and others doing their magic quietly. Here are some of my outstanding memories.

Richard Cooper – bigger than life. He put his arm around me as a young new member and said, “We need someone to step in and do our newsletter, will you do it?” I knew nothing about what it would take to do that, but Richard was confident that I could handle it, so I jumped in and just did it to the best of my limited ability.

Rick Jones helped me with it back in the day too. Then **Gary Taylor** came along after us and took it to a whole new level. **Beth Hargis Meadows** also stepped in when we needed someone and did a great job! **Specifacts** has emerged into the high profile and very professional newsletter that it is today by the extremely capable hands of **Mike Martin** who has taken it to an all-time high.

I believe it was when **Rex Garton** was president that he asked me to be the Technical Chair. Again, I had no idea how this was supposed to work because I am not a very technical person. I am a people person and have lots of ideas but technical? I did it because I was needed. **Jack Potter** came back from a regional meeting and told me about a group that had started in New Orleans that was basically a round table monthly discussion between different members of the commercial construction industry – if I remember right, there was a lawyer, supplier, architect, etc. to make 6 or 7 people. He said you could do a group like this here. Thus, **Spec Heads** was established in 1998 with 8 people. We met at the Franklin Brick Showroom on Sidco Drive where I worked. **Frank Varble** was a charter member and still attends. Spec Heads changed locations later to 667 Wedgewood Drive where **Jim Christain’s** office was located and remained there for many years under the direction of **Mark Schwartz** and then **Jerry Curtis**. When Jim retired and rented his office space to Southland Brick and Block, we continued to host it there for three more years. When we moved our offices to 3643 Trousdale Drive, we made sure there was space for Spec Heads to still meet and that is where they meet today – only our name has changed to Lee Building Products. Under **Jerry Curtis’** leadership, our attendance averages 38 folks every month of the year and is currently booked out through 2019. Just amazing! Vendors love to come in and host this group that consists of Spec Writers, Designers, Engineers, Product Reps, etc. Some are CSI members and a lot are not members. This group is open, and the participants get a free lunch and lots of learning.

So many of us have been the Product Show Chairman through the years. **Randy Hoffman** was before me and asked me to be his co-chair. I loved working with him and working on this event. I went on to work it several more times with talented folks like **Rick Jones**, **Shirley Randolph**, and then **Tiffany Goulet** later. Tiffany and I learned that we worked very creatively and well together, and a great friendship and partnership began. Since then we have worked together on the **Leadership Conference held at the Sheridan Music City in 2011, The “Tune in to**



I remember my first year as a Nashville CSI member. I had transferred to Nashville from Richmond, VA to become the first Architectural Representative for PPG Porter Paints covering 3/4 of TN, KY and Southern IN. Troy Williams was the chapter president. I approached him and told him that I was a past president of the Richmond CSI chapter and that I needed something to do in the Nashville CSI chapter. To this day, I’m not sure Troy knew exactly how to take my request. To his credit though, he did find me a place to help and a couple of years later, I was Nashville CSI’s chapter president. Be careful what you ask for in this most enjoyable organization! You may get more than you expected!

Having been part of Nashville CSI for 15 years now and being a member of CSI for close to 32 years, I can say with great sincerity, it has been one of the most positive influences on my career and in helping grow my knowledge of the construction industry. This chapter and the Gulf States Region are an excellent representation to all of CSI and the construction community as a whole, as to what this organization is all about.

Congratulations Nashville CSI for 60 years of continuous service to Middle Tennessee, the Gulf States Region and CSI Institute. The members of this organization have latterly changed my life. For that I will always be most grateful.

Kent Kile



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to the NASHVILLE CHAPTER of CSI

I graduated UTK in Architecture in 1976, but I figured out while still in college, I didn't want to be a practicing Architect. I hoped the degree would open some doors in construction and it did. After returning home to Nashville, I went to work as an estimator for an interior's subcontractor. For the next several years, I began to learn the construction industry in Nashville. As a result of a job offer from a small general contractor, I took the opportunity to look around elsewhere and in October of 1983, Ernie Taylor offered me a job to join T.W. Frierson Contractor, Inc. I knew very little about working for a general contractor, but they wanted someone that they could teach, and I got lucky when they put me with Walt Litaker as my teacher. Walt was already in his second career as a project manager, as he had spent several years in the Marine Corps. He was a wonderful mentor; honest, smart, hardworking, patient, caring, but driven, as you would expect from a former marine. He was the best time manager, I've ever been around, and lived by the scheduler of the 80's, a pocket 'Day Timer'.

I'm not sure when Walt joined CSI, but he had been an involved member for a few years by the time he got me involved soon after I joined Frierson and I joined the Nashville Chapter in January 1984.

This next January, will make 35 years as a Nashville Chapter member; same as the age of my son, and the same as my tenure here at Frierson. My, my, time flies when you're having fun, and I've had some fun in all three of these big parts of my life and career!

My memories are only partially faded, but the timing of events back thru the years are sometimes confused. I remember our meetings at the little house in the very back of Woodlawn Cemetery, where Jack Hanson, and Joe Maddox were in charge of the Chapter's liquor stash and would carry it in their trunks to be brought out after each meeting and served at a buck a drink. I remember when we had dinner meetings at the Marriott near the airport and we would all go to the bar there or move to the Sheraton after the meetings and stay another couple of hours. I remember that when there was a regional conference, we'd always have a good size group go and the fun would never stop in whatever city or hotel we were at. The Nashville Chapter always seemed to have a room dedicated to partying and it was always the place to be among all the chapters. I remember and participated in a few water ballets in hotel pools while off at these conferences in distant cities with others that might also have fuzzy memories due to large intakes of food and drink.

I've been active in a number of construction related groups over the years, but I've given the most to the Nashville Chapter of CSI, because I've enjoyed it the most. I think I've held every position of leadership we have except Treasurer, and I've always tried to do what I said I would. The cross section of our Chapter's membership, including designers, contractors, spec writers and manufacturing professionals are what sets us apart and have kept me interested and involved all these years.

I can't say that Frierson has ever been awarded a project because of my membership, but they've always been supportive of my involvement and I wouldn't trade the friends I've made for anything.

I don't think I can give it another 35 years, but I hope to stay around a few more!

Happy Birthday!

R. R. (Rick) Jones, CSI

When I first came to Nashville in September of 1995 to work with Michael Hindman at HMHA, I knew absolutely no one in town outside of the office. Michael and I go way back to 1983, when he was a partner at the Houston, TX firm we both worked at. As a result, I have only been with one firm for my 23+ years in Nashville, unlike most local architects, who have worked at various firms during their careers. These architects have worked together and developed friendships with each other over many years.

Once I moved here I eventually started going to the local AIA meetings. When I first walked in the room I knew



I spoke with his son Sam Herbert recently and he said Mr. Johny took over as President of the company in 1949 and he was always afraid of another depression so he determined that the company needed to modernize their manufacturing facility and he built and opened a very modern tunnel Kiln for Brick manufacturing in 1955. It was known as plant #3 and was still in operation when I went to work there in 1980. Mr. Johny saw the value in improving the specifications format and was a big supporter of the formation of the Nashville Chapter. I was the benefactor of the Herbert Materials ties to CSI when, in 1980, they sent me to my first meeting.

The Nashville Chapter of CSI has grown from these seventeen charter members to a peak of over 200 members in the mid 1990's. It has produced four distinguished Fellows of the Institute, twenty-one Edward H. Street Memorial Award recipients, won numerous Region and Institute awards, produced 38 product shows, hosted numerous Gulf States Region Conferences and one Institute Convention.

CSI Nashville has educated countless members of the Nashville construction community through continuing education classes and study classes for CSI certification exams. The absolute beauty of CSI is that it brings together every aspect of the commercial construction industry, Architects, specification writers, building owners, facilities managers, contractors, material suppliers, and the occasional humble brick salesman into the organization, and the sum of all these parts makes it an exceptional place to exchange ideas and improve documents for the greater good. Here's to 60 more years of the Nashville Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute.

Our Memories

As a long time member of CSI it has meant the opportunity to develop friendships and relationships with other members of the construction industry both here, the region and nationally.

I remember some of the various meeting venues over my years the Albert Pick Motel, Airport Marriot, Willis Conference Center, AGC meeting room, and now the Adventure Science Center.

I also remember the CSI Product Show has moved around from the National Guard Armory on Sidco Dr, to the Fairgrounds and Nissan Stadium under various names both EAST and WEST sides.

All the various Anniversary and Christmas Party locations both shared with other (AIA, AGC, IFMA, IIDA) and just CSI.

Jack Potter

When I started attending CSI meetings eleven years ago, I was introduced to an organization that accepted all members of the construction industry; financiers, architects, engineers, contractors, product representatives, owners, specifiers, owner representatives among others. I was introduced to a group of inclusive, friendly, open minded individuals of all ages and backgrounds who yearned to know more about the construction industry and learn everything they could about products, installation procedures, good practice techniques, and anything that directly or indirectly impacts daily operations.

CSI is an organization that is driven to change and grow in knowledge and be at the forefront of the construction industry and the continued drive has been an inspiration to me.

Jarrold Finger

One of my fondest memories of CSI was the way that I was introduced to the organization. I call it the "Lollipop Story".

Roughly 20 years ago I was working on a project and was tasked with writing the specs. I had never written specs before and got the job done in a couple of days. I did the best I could, but suffice it to say "it was a very poor set of specs". When I hand delivered the specs to the Owner, my plan was to leave it with the receptionist and skedaddle. But instead I was called into the office of the Owner and had to sit and sweat it out as the Owner browsed through my poorly put together specs. The Owner was Carl Manka, whom I had heard was a tough client. I was expecting something really bad to happen, but in retrospect I believe that was one of the best things that ever happened to me. I don't remember much about our conversation as Carl browsed through the specs, but I do remember that he was very kind and he invited me to attend the upcoming CDT classes; and he even gave me a lollipop. So within days I started attending CDT classes, took and passed the CDT exam, and later became a CSI member.

I am currently an independent architectural specifier and I consider myself a pretty strong Nashville CSI member. I love the work I do and I love Nashville CSI. What great friendships and opportunities to learn and network. What great access to people that really know some stuff about design and construction, products, writing specs and I could go on.

I think I owe a lot to Carl Manka for inviting me to attend CDT classes and I owe a lot to CSI Nashville for my personal growth and the growth of my specifications writing business.

Thanks Carl. You are a true goodwill ambassador for our chapter and good friend and mentor. Thanks Nashville CSI. You are a great organization and I really appreciate all the things you do to contribute to the design and construction worlds.

Y. Lynn Jolley CSI CCCA CCS AIA SCIP NOMA

Architectural Specifications Consulting
Y. Lynn Jolley AIA CSI CCS CCCA SCIP
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My best memories of CSI are all the people in the building industry that I met and interacted with. While a noble purpose formed CSI, it was fun and friendship that were equally important in bringing everyone together. I joined in the 80's because George Thompson, AIA and Randy Hoffman were active members, and both said that as an intern architect I would benefit from the organization.

The places we met in the 1980's were quite memorable. The first location was in the Albert Pi-ick Motel, a no-tell motel on Murfreesboro Pike. (Pi-ick is pronounced as a two-syllable word (ask anyone who was there at the time.) There was one long room, just large enough to slide behind the chairs at the single table. Most striking to me, other than the no-tell aspect, was the high-water line about a foot above the floor. This muddy brown line got my attention every time I entered the room. I was glad when we moved to the Airport Hotel, whose actual name I have forgotten. It was at the Old Airport, the one entered from Briley Parkway. Good times and fellowship were had here for years.

Who was it that was served a grasshopper in their green beans? Rather than leave the hotel right away, I remember CSI holding informal debates on just how many grasshopper "parts" were allowable in green beans by the FDA. And was it before or after the Airport Hotel that we met in the cemetery? We were in a cemetery since we had to drive along one lane paths through the graves to reach this place. Gravestones on your left and right kept you on the narrow road in the dark.

The restaurant had a welcoming meeting room, and they didn't mind that a couple of us backed up cars and unloaded cases of liquor - the half gallon size. This hard-drinking crowd, before the later politically-correct times, sneered at any requests for beer or wine. All the fun memories I have do not begin to address the knowledgeable people I met who taught me about all aspects of construction. I met people who had time for a young architect. They explained the difference in thin-set and thick-set tile; all the types of roofing; brick specifications and brick laying; insulation; sealants; and more particulars about paint than you can imagine.

It is a great group of people and I am happy to have been in their company.

Bea Thompson



Nashville” Chapter Event for CONSTRUCT 2013 held at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum (by far largest undertaking), The three **Joint Holiday Parties**, The annual **Holiday Parties for our chapter**, and now **Merry & Bright for 60 years!** We were dubbed by Jim Christain as “The Party Angels” lol. **Tiffany** is amazing and is a worker bee for our chapter. She takes care of so many things they are hard to list. She has a spirit of “Let’s do it and make it fun!” And I would be remiss if I did not mention **Tom Parshall** and his promotion of Nashville as a destination for the CSI Institute Show CONSTRUCT. It was his vision and promotion that made it happen here in 2013. Way to go Tom! Rumor has it that it will be back here soon too.

Rick Jones has been a fixture of our chapter for many years as well. He has always been involved in any way he could help and served in many roles. So many dollars were raised through his leaning on companies to donate to our Product Show through the years. He was also the visionary for the **Joint Holiday Party** that we participated in for three years along with AGC, ABC, CFMA and others at Marathon Music Works. Rick as president, took our chapter to a Sounds Game and **Michael Gober** got it certified as a leaning unit!

Kathy Pedigo was my brick competitor back in the day along with **Tim Pedigo**. She was a big player in our chapter as well. I came to love her year later as my friend and boss at LoJac Materials. She took the task to get our chapter history together to heart and got input from so many former members including charter member **Joe Maddox**. She was a force in business, in our chapter, and as my friend. We are so very grateful for her putting into words how our chapter started.

So many great people that it is not in my ability to name them all. Here were just a few that impacted my life in a big way. **I LOVE our CSI Nashville Chapter.**



GRAND OLE OPRY HOUSE

GAYLORD OPRYLAND NASHVILLE TENNESSEE

Around 2002 when Cheryl Crosby was Chapter President, I was riding with her and Richard Cooper down to Mobile, Al for a Region Conference. This is when we held our monthly meetings at the Airport Marriott Hotel.

Many of the staff there were from other countries that had come there for training and their name tags generally had just their first name with their country of origin in smaller letters below their name. Apparently, some people, including Cheryl, didn't realize this. There was generally one young man from the Marriott that was assigned as coordinator for the CSI meetings. As we were traveling through Alabama, Cheryl began talking about how helpful he had been "you know Abdul, Abdul Pakistan". I immediately said "Cheryl, that's not his name - that's where he's from."

This was very unlike Cheryl, and Richard and I laughed about that for months.

Troy Williams

My funny stories can't name names! What happened at all those conventions should never be spoken of... haha. I will say this:

In my years practicing architecture, it was my CSI connections that meant the most. Their focus on codes, materials and methods was more help to me than any comradery offered at other organizations. I learned more through the CSI by far than through another professional organization to which I belonged, including enough to blackmail several colleagues.

But our friendships were and still are, after years of retirement, intact and I will never tell what happened in Chattanooga, New Orleans, Chicago or Little Rock.....Mike! Get out of the hotel lobby fountain, yer boots are getting wet!

Kathi Gregory

had a few too many libations. All I remember is Tim Pedigo getting thrown in the pool with his new cowboy boots on. In any event, the water ballet event became a tradition for many years at all the region functions and many of the institute functions. We had many participants through the years - even including several Institute presidents and executive directors.

Kathy also asked that I comment on my Fellowship. In 2001, after serving in a number of positions at the chapter, region and institute levels, I was encouraged by several people to pursue Fellowship. I began by drawing on the experience of both Jerry Preston, Nashville's only Fellow at that time and my friend, Kathy Proctor from the Knoxville Chapter, who had just received her Fellowship the year before. I cannot recall all of the many folks that helped develop my Fellowship package (old age again), but I do remember Cheryl Crosby as being instrumental in that process. At any rate, I was nominated by the Chapter and was fortunate to be elected to the Fellowship class of 2002. The Chapter hosted a reception for me at the Institute Convention in Las Vegas that year.

When I retired in 2011 and moved to Florida, I took with me many fond memories from the Nashville Chapter. Since I don't get back to Nashville very often, I miss seeing all my old CSI friends and reliving all the good times we have had together. I know this is a busy time for everyone, but I hope each of the younger members will get involved in CSI. I believe that the more that you put into the organization, the more benefit you will receive.

Richard Cooper

The CSI experience has been so very valuable to me both professionally and personally!

I joined CSI Nashville in 1986 (yes, 32 years ago!) at the insistence of Richard Cooper who was my boss at Orion Building Corporation. I have learned all about the construction industry while having a whole lot of fun! Being on committees, boards and an officer locally and regionally helped me in my professional life, as did getting my CDT and CCCA.

More importantly, though, having like-minded industry friends that I could always count on gave me the confidence to move forward in my career, and those friendships have seen me through the ups and downs in life. There is no organization that has meant more to me than CSI Nashville. Cheers to sixty years!!

Cheryl Crosby, CSI, CCCA

CSI Classes Brief History

Submitted by Carl Manka and Lynn Jolley

The first National CSI Certification exam was given in 1978; it was the Certified Construction Specifier exam. Seven Nashville CSI members organized a study group to prepare for the CCS exam. They were: Dale Bartee, Becky Dunkley, George Gaffney, Shed Glass, Carl Manka, Ed Powers and Jerry Preston. The exam at that time was pencil and paper, essay and actual spec writing. The next Nashville study classed did not start until 1982 when Jerry Preston served on the CSI National Certification Committee. Jerry initiated the study classed for the Nashville Chapter with assistance from Carl Manka, Rex Garton and Chip Ames.

We have records of roughly 18 people in the 1986 class and an attendance roll of roughly 52 in 1989. From 1982 into the mid 1990's classes were held every year at a variety of locations. The classes were led by Jerry Preston with assistance from Carl Manka, instructors also included Rex Garton and Chip Ames (an attorney).

Jerry served on the National Certification Committee starting in 1982 and continued for several years. He initiated the first computer grading done on CSI National Certification exams. The grading was done by Vanderbilt for all CDT and Certification exams nationwide. For the first time this allowed analysis of the exam questions that were missed to judge if they were a poorly worded or just hard questions. It was during this era that the CDT became the prerequisite exam and the CCCA and CCPR exams were added as Certification exams.

Sometime in the mid 1990's Rex Garton took leadership of the classes and they were held at the offices of Hart Freeland Roberts. He was the primary coordinator and instructor for a few years.

In 1999 Jerry and Carl joined forces with Rex, there was renewed focus on the CDT exam, and classes were moved to the AIA offices in Cummings Station. Classes met at the AIA offices from 1999 until 2005 and were generally well attended with a starting roll of roughly 30. In 2006 the classes were held at the Avon Williams campus. From 2007 through 2015 classes were held at the Tennessee Board of Regents. Classes were held at the AGC Tennessee Building during 2016 and 2017. Instructors through 2006 were Jerry, Carl and Rex. In 2007 additional instructors were added, classes were led by Carl, Jerry, Rex, Cheryl Crosby and Kevin D. Corkern. In 2013 Lynn Jolley and in 2015 Stephen Martin joined as instructors.

The CDT exam was first computerized in 2008. Ten Nashville candidates passed that year and four were CSI members. Early in the CDT exams, a significant number of Nashville area exam candidates were CSI members, usually in the Nashville Chapter. By 2008 most of the CDT candidates were not CSI members and that remains true today.

In the last 12 years roughly 150 Nashville candidates have passed the CDT exam. In that same 12 year timeframe 30 of our members passed the CDT exam. However, 25 of the 30 members that attained their CDT initials joined CSI in that 12 year period. In compiling our class rosters of the last 20 years we find over 600 names.

Clearly Nashville CSI has played a significant role in educating the local community and surrounding areas regarding design and construction principals. CSI Nashville in turn has been rewarded with a good number of CDT class students becoming strong and active members of the chapter. We hope that this win-win scenario will continue for many years to come.

Remembrances Of My Time With CSI

by: Rex Garton

Actually, my time with CSI goes back to my years at the University of Tennessee School of Architecture, 1970 – 1975, as a student member. At the time, my former self had no idea of what was ahead for me. I don't remember if we met in Estabrook Hall (now demolished to make way for a new nuclear engineering building) or Alumni Gymnasium, but somewhere in my files I have my original membership certificate.

Time goes by: I get married (Sandy), have a couple of wonderful boys (Mark and Brian), buy a house in Brentwood, and get licensed. I have various jobs including structural steel drafter, historic preservation specialist, and roofing sales person. At last I get a job doing what I was trained to do; briefly with Gresham Smith and Partners as a drafter, and then (as now) with HFR Design in Brentwood, as project architect and specifications writer. I believe my current stint with CSI begins when I started writing specs for HFR in 1981.

As I look back at my time with the Nashville chapter, I remember meeting at places like a restaurant behind the Woodlawn Cemetery, the Admiral Benbow Inn on Murfreesboro Road, and the Airport Marriot. I got to go to various national conventions in Minneapolis, Baltimore, Atlanta, San Antonio, and Orlando. I attended some regional meetings in Baton Rouge, Knoxville, and Little Rock. At least, I remember going to these places, that is if I'm not having a spell of CRS (Can't Remember Stuff).

I've held CSI positions like certification chair, education chair, treasurer, president, and the best position of all, past president (kidding). In 2012 I was blessed to receive the Edward H. Street Memorial Award (very cool, thanks guys).

The very best thing about CSI is the people, not just the professional acquaintances I've made, but the genuine friendships. Let's talk professionally before I get sappy. The cadre of people I've met and had dealings with over the years results in a kind of trust you just can't get anywhere else. I know that when I have a roofing question, a paint issue, or masonry flashing detail I can't quite get, I can call one of the many rep's and industry experts I've meet at meetings or product shows, had lunch with, or shared a beer over, and I'll get a straight answer. You can't put a price on that.

Personally, I really, really appreciate the friendships I've made over the years. Specifically, when I was down on my back in 1999, and was unable to be president, the vice president stepped up and took my place. After back surgery, while I was recuperating and couldn't drive, I got rides to the meetings. Currently I'm dealing with a much more serious health issue. You think you're the only one dealing with issues like this, but I found out that other chapter members had the same thing I've got, got treated for it, and are fully recovered. That's encouraging. Thanks, guys.

So, would I recommend CSI to anyone else? Heck, yeah.

GOOD TIMES - GOOD FRIENDS

After reading a CSI newsletter spotlight last month (2008) I started thinking about what mine might say someday. Little did I know Tara Youngblood was thinking the same thing, although she forgot to tell me, until today? One day to write and remember, Tara please! Anything this might say is a pure guess but is based in fact.

I was always interested in materials and methods, we had a wonderful teacher at the UT School of Architecture, Marvin Martin FCSI. He was tough, but Marvin made it fun. He could make a set of drawings bleed with red marks. Marvin said let's start a student chapter and, of course, I said, "sign me up". The UT student chapter was finally chartered in 1974. I believe it was the second chapter chartered in the world. The UT School of Architecture was very supportive of CSI then and I know they still are today. Another charter member is our own Kathy Proctor, FCSI, (Knoxville member) who was the education Director for The UT School of Architecture and CSI national.

Being a student CSI member also meant you got to hang with the grownup chapter. These folks were so nice to us poor pitiful naive dumb students. I shall always remember their kindness and I still thank them for their attention. There was education, meeting travel, parties, food and the chance of landing a job, when they were very slim. I eventually went to work for one of these CSI guys, a visionary, Bill Martin. Cas Sweetser came on board with us a bit later, bringing with him 40 years of spec writing. We were a CSI powerhouse and introduced most of the division seven products in use today.

When I moved to Nashville, of course, there was CSI Nashville, a very stoic lot having been founded in 1958, but with some real personalities. Fortunately for me I was taken under the wings of Bobby Herbert, George Gaffney and later Jerry Sullivan and Ed Powers. These wonderful men were/are my mentors, teachers, counterparts and best friends.

Locally I ran the golf tournament for 8 or 10 years, the Christmas party for 5 or 6 years, programs, events, seminars, director, president and now photographer. Attended many national conventions and a zillion board meetings. As a student, I presented the UT Nicaragua foreign study program to CSI and AIA National and attended national meetings for the fledgling student side of CSI. I presented these programs to a National meeting of the American Collegian Schools of Architecture. I have always sort of championed education and the value of seminars. When AIA came out with it's CES program I attended the training and became a certified AIA CES provider, but I never told anyone. Can you imagine how many calls you will get toward the end of the year. I saw the free lunch for draftsmen thing evolving so I designed a large education room in our new location. Starting in 1999 we had many great education functions in the space. Spec Heads started meeting there and did so until 2016. The height of use was The Masters Workshops series. These were invitational events for architects, engineers, specifiers, big owners and for decision makers. I was rewarded for all of this when I became an Ed Street recipient.

Something I am really proud of is the long forgotten Collective roofing symposium series. When I first got into roofing, I remember complaining to Bill Martin about the lack of general education. There were specific manufacturers and fields of study but nothing that addressed everything one needed to know. We approached Mike Fitts and Ken Schneider about the void in roofing education. They were thrilled and really supported what was to become The First Collective Roofing Symposium. I remember Carl Manka and I worked on this for most of 1978. Dale Bartee was also in the group. The final marquee read like a who's who: Ned Ray McWherter, The State Architects Office, Oak Ridge, FM, UL, Simpson Gumpertz, National Bureau of Standards, TARC, NRCA, BURSI, AIA and of course CSI. I asked Dick Fricklas, the father of BURSI and later RIEI (Roofing Industry

Educational Institute), I asked him some years ago if The Tennessee symposiums had inspired RIEI. He just smiled. I was rewarded for all of this with an outstanding contribution award by the Global Sustainable Roofing and Waterproofing Alliance in 2015. I was also a co-founder of the local AIA Building envelope Council. What I like most about CSI is the people, collective knowledge and the willingness to share that knowledge. There have been many great times with CSI, but I guess the first national convention as a student was the best. I never made Richard Cooper's water ballet team, so this can still change if he comes out of retirement.

I was born in Kingsport, although I rarely admit it, then I moved to my ancestral homeland of Sevier County, which I do always claim as my home, then Knoxville, then Nashville 30 years ago. I was on my way to San Francisco. Didn't get very far, did I?

Reflecting on the past 30 years in 2008 and reading this you can clearly see my life and CSI have been parallel. Thanks CSI! Let's go for 30 more.

It is now 2018. I am almost completely retired. I celebrate 40 years in Nashville, 44 years in CSI and CSI Nashville celebrates 60 years.

James K. Christain, aia csi cdt



I joined CSI in the early 70's. I remember one man, who was writing specs at the time, recruited me. He thought it would be a good idea for me to have that association. I was still drafting at the time. I didn't start writing specs until a couple of my years later. We were meeting at the Albert Pick Motel. What a place, some of the roaches had names I think!

My first thought is of the bar. It was always set up by Joe Maddux and Jack Hanson, two people I came to rely on when I really got into spec writing. If I am not mistaken the drinks were a dollar each. A deal even in those days. I made some associations at CSI that lasted my entire career. Besides Joe and Jack there was Judy Cheatham, Don Harwell, Dale Bartee, Jim Hill, Carl Manka, Kathy Pedigo, Jerry Preston, Jim Christian, Tim Pedigo, Kenneth King, John McDougal, Creighton Crockett, Bob Upton, Ed Powers, and multiple Herberts.

I know I have forgotten someone, probably many someone's. Not all of these were there when I first became a member, but they were very important along the way. It was fun and we had some really great times, but more importantly an awesome learning experience.

Becky Dunkley

When Kathy Pedigo invited me to write a short note about my experience with CSI, I jumped at the opportunity because it has meant so much to me through the years.

I first heard of CSI through a former boss when I worked at Culbert Construction in the late 70's (Yes I am that old). It was portrayed to me as an organization where professional and industry members came together on an equal basis. Now that appealed to me. Even though I was a professional engineer, I was considered a non-professional since I was employed by a contractor. So, I became a member in 1981. For the first few years I, like so many newer members, did not really get very involved. I attended meetings, played in the golf tournaments, and, of course attended the annual Products Show.

Back in those days, the Nashville Chapter Products Show was a big deal for the entire construction community. While many attended just for the open bars and free food, many more attended to learn about new products and meet with the product reps. In later years, the Chapter also introduced learning seminars, which were a big hit. In 1988, I agreed to chair this event. I quickly learned that the big secret to having a successful event and still keeping my sanity was to surround myself with a host of dependable volunteers to take on the multitude of tasks required.

Another big event that was held in those days was our annual Christmas party. It was traditionally held at Hillwood Country Club. Joe Maddox hosted the event under his Hillwood membership and Judy Cheatam was the organizer. One year, I was tapped to play Santa. I only agreed to do so if Kathy Pedigo would come dressed as a Christmas tree. She arrived adorned in a most excellent costume. As the night progressed and the adult libations were consumed, I recall remarking to her that her limbs were beginning to droop.

As I became more involved in the Nashville Chapter, I made many lifelong friends and served in many capacities. Later, as I became involved in both regional and institute undertakings, I was able to extend those same friendships and promote the Nashville Chapter. I also like to think that I played some small part in helping to advance the construction industry through my involvement with CSI.

One of the special remembrances I have of the Chapter occurred in 1990. The professional member (I cannot remember who) that was supposed to be in line for Chapter president had to drop out. Kathy Pedigo and I flipped a coin to see who would fill in that slot. Of course, Kathy won and became the first industry member to serve as Chapter President. I had to follow as lowly runner-up. But she did teach me to eat my dessert as soon as I sat down so I would be ready to speak while everyone else was having their dessert.

I would be remiss if I didn't comment about the then-infamous water ballet. While it wasn't a Chapter event, it did put the Nashville Chapter on the map because two of the four founding members of the Gulf States Region Water Ballet Ensemble were from Nashville. Tim Pedigo and I had the honor of joining Kathy Proctor and from Knoxville and Floyd Sterling from Shreveport in the first every CSI water ballet event held. As I recall, this occurred in Jackson, Mississippi. Kathy Proctor remembers it as an activity to occupy several males that perhaps

WHAT CSI MEANS TO ME:

Knowledge. Gained through education directly from industry leaders and representatives, both locally and across the country. This keeps me current with the industry and is directly beneficial to my daily work and my overall career.

Relationship. Connecting with people across many industry disciplines and gaining understanding of different perspectives. Business relationships are formed, which turn into friendships, which collectively become our "CSI family". CSI members share in the joy of celebration and fun events, as well as life challenges and heartbreak of loss.

Opportunity. To participate in providing positive impact to our industry through leadership and supporting leading-edge education. There are a multitude of volunteer opportunities within the Chapter. It is inspiring to associate with a group of such amazing, dedicated people with a heart to serve for the benefit of others.

Dan Cress

I was invited by Mackie Shanks to attend a regular monthly meeting. Mackie assured me that it would be "good". And It was. That was about 25 years or so ago when we both were with Hickerson / Fowlkes Architects.

Ever since that introduction - and after a few more meetings, I became a regular dues paying member. I was hooked. The CSI is a group of very knowledgeable, attentive and supportive people all like-minded in the need to learn and keep up with new advances in construction materials and methods.

But one of the best things that I get out of The CSI, is that almost everyone - since they are all from different education and backgrounds. - add to the discussions from their own knowledge and experiences. It's still "good".

F Odell Pullen