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OC NEWS FLASH

By Ed Buch, CSI, CCS, AIA

New & Renewing OCCCSI Members

Thank you to all those members who have renewed their membership and have joined! Due to something that happened to our source of information, the national CSI office, we do not have complete data to list all those that have renewed or joined since October 2014. We truly apologize. To the best of our ability to cull data, we list the following Orange County Chapter CSI members who have chosen to join or renew their membership:

- Aguilar, Alejandro**
- Camponovo, Christine**
- Cranston, Ivan**
- Crates, Dan**
- Dorgan, Chad**
- Duclett, Michelle**
- Esquer, Joe**
- Granatowski, Mike**
- Howmann, Moira**
- Kerley, Joyce**
- King, Joshua**
- Lim, Randall**
- Lindgren, Peter**
- LoBasso, Joe**
- Mejia, Tommy**
- Mitchell, Barbara**
- Myers, Tracy**
- Myatt, Marla**
- Pancake, Douglas**
- Peralta, Richard**
- Roberts, Dale**
- Ross, Steve**
- Schenkel, Philip**
- Schoeb, Pablo**
- Smith, Patricia**
- Stanley, Curtis**
- Swinney, Bill**
- Wise, Royce**

WOLFE'S HOWL

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couple of reasons: No one went to architecture school with the intent of becoming a specifier, and people typically don't become specifiers until they've had at least a few years' experience.

The move to information modeling may impact specifiers, but it will be primarily in how they do their work. Before the advent of word processing software, it was not uncommon for specifiers also to be typists, though many relied on redlining, with an administrative person doing the typing. As word processing became more common, specifiers did more of their own typing, until it became the norm, and all specifiers were more or less required to become more or less proficient at word processing. An unfortunate result of this is that many architects today see specifiers as little more than glorified typists, and their real value - research, knowledge of materials, understanding of constructability, and coordination of drawings and specifications - is overlooked.


Must specifiers change with the times? Of course, as much as any other profession. And, just like any other profession, there are specifiers who are content to do things the way they have done them for years, even if that no longer makes sense. The recent move toward building modeling may well have an effect on specifiers; as grunt work of the job fades away, they will be able to spend more time doing the important part of their work. Specifiers recently have been talking about changing the name of the profession to something like information manager, partly, I believe, to dissociate themselves from the common perception of what specifiers do.

The growth of specifying software, such as SpecLink, may also have an effect. Much as CAD was seen, 30 years ago, as a program that would reduce the need for architects by simplifying drafting and eliminating the need to be able to think in three dimensions, many architects expect specifying software to simplify specifying, perhaps to the point that specifiers no longer will be needed.

As BIM and specifying software develop, and we leave behind our paper-centric view of construction documents as drawings and specifications, more than the job of the specifier will change; the format of specifications and the way they're used also will change. As the software becomes more intelligent, it is almost certain that we will need fewer architects and specifiers to do the same amount of work. But as long as schools fail to teach the very things that led states to require architects to be licensed, large projects will require specifiers, regardless of what they're called.

Specifiers may be evolving, but they're not going away.

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Past Presidents table, Photo by Dave Lorenzini



ORANGE PEAL



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MEETING SCHEDULE AND INFORMATION

Make reservations by the Friday preceding the meeting.
Call the Chapter Hotline at (714) 434-9909

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

SEPTEMBER 1 OCCCSI BOARD MEETING (5:30 P.M.)

THOMPSON'S DESIGN CENTER
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ORANGE, CALIFORNIA

**SEPTEMBER 8 CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS & SERVICES EXPO
MARCONI AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM & FOUNDATION
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1302 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE
TUSTIN, CALIFORNIA**

OCTOBER 13 OCCCSI BOARD MEETING (4:30 P.M.)

PHOENIX CLUB
1340 S. SANDERSON AVENUE
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 13 OCCCSI MEMBERSHIP MEETING

PHOENIX CLUB
1340 S. SANDERSON AVENUE
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