Program Information
Wednesday, January 26, 2016

Orange County CSI Chapter
January Meeting

Program: Annual Joint Meeting with LACSI & OCCCSI
2016 McGraw-Hill Construction Outlook

Speaker: Cliff Brewis Honorary AIACC
Senior Vice President & Western Region Director
of Operations for McGraw-Hill Construction
Information Group

Join us to hear the McGraw-Hill Construction Information Group’s thoughts and forecast for the economy and construction in southern California 2016 at Old World Village. Our speaker will be Cliff Brewis, Senior Vice President & Western Region Director of Operations for the McGraw-Hill Construction Information Group.

Cliff Brewis is responsible for the news gathering operation of McGraw-Hill Construction/Dodge, and is a frequent speaker on the construction forecast. He has over 30 years experience in construction. Cliff has been employed by McGraw-Hill for over 25 years in both sales and operations. Cliff is a graduate in Economics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He has an MBA from American University in Washington D.C.

Old World Village is a very unique shopping, dining, beauty, arts and entertainment center located on 8 acres in Huntington Beach. Old World was built in 1978 by Josef Bischof, a German Immigrant. He wanted to introduce Americans to beautiful Germany, hence he created a German Village in the image of Bavaria. The village is complete with cobblestone streets, Fresco paintings on each building depicting 18 European countries & architecture from a very old town called Oberammergau. The Bischof family still operates the restaurant market, bakery & deli.

Time: 5:45 - 6:45 PM Social/Tabletop Exhibits/No Host Bar
6:45 - 7:30 PM Dinner
7:30 - 8:30 PM Program

Location: Old World Village
The Festival Hall
7561 Center Avenue
Huntington Beach, California 92647

Directions: Exit the 405 Freeway at Beach Boulevard; turn right on Center Avenue; across from Bella Terra Mall

Parking: Plenty of free parking

Dinner Cost: $40.00 for all attendees with reservations (No-shows will be billed)
$50.00 for attendees without reservations

Tabletops: Product representatives are invited to display at this meeting.
The cost for a tabletop is $80.00.
Contact David Jordan Smith at 949.250.0880 for information.

Reservations required by January 22, 2016. Call the OCCCSI hotline at 714-434-9909.
Note: LACSI members may reserve with their chapter’s reservation process.
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Co-Editor..............................................................................Gary Kehrier, CSI, CDT
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For my first message of 2016, I feared I would have writer’s block. What the heck do I write about? First of all, what would be a subject of interest to me? Second, what topic is going to keep you reading the first two sentences without tearing this page out to clean up after your puppy or kitten?

One thing I have a passion for is the evolving energy codes (I’m weird like that) which will probably be a topic soon. I also thought about writing about the political correctness of calling events “Holiday Events” instead of Christmas celebrations (It’s a week before the OCCSCI Holiday party as I write this). But then, I thought I really should be expressing admiration to a man that works year-round to feed homeless children. It seems that he only gets press around the holidays. I am talking about Chef Bruno and Caterina’s Club.

Caterina’s Club serves over 1,800 low-income children a nutritionally balanced meal of freshly made pasta and vegetables 5 nights a week, all year long. Over 1 Million meals have been served and rapidly counting. “I want people from every city in Orange County to follow my footsteps and feed underprivileged kids in their own backyard,” said Chef Bruno Serato. Chef Bruno, owner of the Anaheim White House restaurant and founder of Caterina’s Club, wishes that no child would go to sleep hungry. “Feeding a child should be a priority for anyone. But sometimes all they get is junk food from a vending machine. And that isn’t dinner,” said Chef Bruno when interviewed by the Orange County Register.

Chef Bruno’s efforts to reach out to local underprivileged children started shortly after he took his mother for a tour of the Boys & Girls Club in Anaheim. There, the pair spotted a young boy eating potato chips and drinking from a juice box.

After learning that the chips and juice would be the boy’s dinner, Chef Bruno and his mother returned to the Anaheim White House and cooked up a pasta meal for the boy and several dozen other children. That was in April 2005. Chef Bruno hasn’t stopped cooking such meals since.

Here are some statistics regarding Caterina’s Club:
- Over a million meals have been served in 10 years
- An estimated 2,000 “motel” children live in Anaheim
- Caterina’s Club feeds 1,800+ children 5 days a week
- 1 pound of donated pasta feeds 7 children a day
- There is estimated 75 residential motels in Anaheim
- With Chef Bruno’s help, 67 families moved into apartments in 2013 and 2014

“It’s important to give hope to people who need it,” says Chef Bruno. This is a message that everyone should read.

Happy 2016 everyone! To donate to Catarina’s Club visit www.catarinasclub.com.

Lastly, can someone explain to me what a dangling participle is?
Make it easy for people to do business with you! Sounds simple. Most companies are in business to create income and profit. The bad news is that there are companies that operate with the belief that “human” participation is bad for business. These companies have initiated practices to promote more profit and fewer employees. When you accept that level of communication and interact with those companies, you empower their bottom line. In addition, there is a domino effect that will go straight to your “door”. What does that mean?

One of the most annoying practices in ANY industry is the answering mechanism that makes you press dozens of numbers to reach someone at a business. A machine replaces an employee. Design professionals complain that some of the construction product manufacturers give phone numbers that lead to machines. Those companies really want you to use email. Don’t call, put your questions and concerns in writing. It saves them time and money. It eliminates jobs and enhances their bottom line. Instead of getting your technical question answered verbally by an employee, you get engaged in a back and forth by email with someone who may be in their pajamas at home working on a “1099”. Is this a problem?

The construction industry has evolved remarkably into the 21st Century. Our educational system has propelled design professionals forward to sit in front of computers, design, specify with canned specs, create drawings, and magically have perfect plans for a project. The problem is that at one point you are going to need human contact before the project comes out of the ground. This lack of action scenario is what makes contractors despise design professionals. Generally speaking, the plans created with limited human contact are severely flawed. Those plans are “heaven” for change order loving contractors and “hell” for the others. Is there a better way?

Design professionals do complain about the lack of representatives in certain divisions. In my division, there are huge companies that do not have proper architectural representatives or a decent “800” numbers with technical information. Some design professionals continue to specify the products without proper information. Some use “canned specs”, which have simple methods to specify products. Do they realize that they are in the “path” of the dominoes as well?

When you do not verify information and interact with people that have proper technical information, it can have a domino reaction. Writing specifications without connecting with product manufacturers to verify information does lead to the loss of jobs all the way down the line. Loss of jobs can result from lawsuits at design firms for mistakes made in plans and specifications. Design professionals are no longer “off the hook” from that liability. Without venturing into the artificial intelligence discussion,
One of my favorite tales I use when teaching about specifications happened to me shortly after I took my first job as a specifier, at the University of Minnesota. Prior to taking this job, the sum total of my experience with specifications consisted of copying specifications onto drawing sheets. This activity was presented to me as little more than a mindless job, a necessary evil that was to be done as quickly as possible, with no explanation of what specifications were. As you might expect, there was no mention of CSI, MasterFormat, or SectionFormat.

This seminal event in my life as a specifier took place within a few weeks of starting my new job. It started with a phone call from one of the construction administrators.

"The contractor wants to know what kind of pipe we want for the bollards."

I didn’t know, but I was sure it was in the specifications, so I responded, "It’s in the specs, isn’t it?" (Brilliant, don’t you think?)

"It is, but the contractor says he needs to know more."

At this point, I’d like to commend the contractor for asking the question. It would have been entirely correct for the contractor to provide anything that complied with the specifications, but as we’ll see, that could have created just a bit of a problem. Instead, the question was asked, and I learned a most valuable lesson about reference standards.

I don’t recall exactly what our specifications said, but it wasn’t much more than "Bollards: ASTM A53." Apparently, that wasn’t enough. Because of my lack of familiarity with specifications, I didn’t know why, but I was bound to find out.

I found a copy of ASTM A53, and the title - Standard Specification for Pipe, Steel, Black and Hot-Dipped, Zinc-Coated, Welded, and Seamless - immediately made it clear that I was in trouble. ASTM A53 doesn’t cover just one type of pipe, but several: It could be black or galvanized, and it could be seamless or welded.

Looking further, I discovered that welded pipe could be either furnace-welded or electric-welded, and that seamless pipe had two Grades. No wonder the contractor was confused!

My education didn’t stop there. The standard has several appendices, one of which is a four-page table of combinations of dimensions, weights, and test pressures for plain end pipe. There
The Woodwork Institute (WI) was founded in 1951 and is a regional, established, industry-driven, non-profit association of independent and competing producers of millwork and allied products. Its particular purpose is to promote the development and dissemination of information relative to the uses, advantages, and utility of wood and allied products to the architectural design community. WI offers the leading standards and quality assurance programs for the architectural millwork industry through our Architectural Woodwork Standards, Certified Compliance, and Monitored Compliance programs. WI recently rolled out the new SAW program (Sustainable Architectural Woodwork). Our Directors of Architectural Services conduct AIA education seminars on a variety of topics including “Common Pitfalls in the Design of Accessible Casework”. Contact: Marcia Falk, Director of Architectural Services: (916) 214-9334; marcia@woodinst.com mailto:marcia@woodinst.com.

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Event: Construction Products & Services Exposition 2016
Marconi Automotive Museum & Foundation for Kids
1302 Industrial Drive
Tustin, California

October 13, 2016

Sponsor: Orange County Chapter Construction Specifications Institute

Invitation:
• You are invited to participate as an exhibitor.
• Architectural seminars with AIA/CES credit prior to exhibits.
• Display your products for local design professionals, owners, contractors, facilities managers and others.
• Exhibit hours are 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
• Gourmet hors d'oeuvres passed during exhibit hours.

Reservation: Please make your check payable to the Orange County CSI Chapter. Upon our receipt of your check, you will then receive set-up details and location confirmation. No credit card reservations will be accepted after October 10th. For questions, please call Dave Brown (714) 329-8498, E-MAIL dbrown.dpe@gmail.com or Bryan Stanley (714) 221-5520, E-MAIL: bryan@tsib.org.

Prices of Exhibits: BEFORE, August 1, 2016 (Postmarked) DISCOUNT CHECK/CASH
Tabletops (6’ x 2-1/2’ table).................................$600.00 each
Mini-Booths (8’ x 2-1/2’ table)............................$700.00 each
Booths (approx. 10’ x 8’).................................$900.00 each

AFTER, August 1, 2015
Tabletops (6’ x 2-1/2’ table).................................$700.00 each
Mini-Booths (8’ x 2-1/2’ table)............................$800.00 each
Booths (approx. 10’ x 8’).................................$1,000.00 each

For credit card transactions and prices go to our website at occcsi.org until October 10, 2016.

Mail to: Orange County CSI Chapter
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RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR CHECK

Event: Construction Products & Services Exposition 2016
October 13, 2016 - Marconi Automotive Museum & Foundation for Kids
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OCCCSI Annual Holiday Party

Santa Claus and Holiday Party Chair Dana Thornburg

Pete & Sue Thomsen

Randy & Paula Brown, Santa Claus, Jill & David Brown

Santa Claus & Trevor Resurreccion

Joe & Melody Esquer

Santa Claus with Louise & Mike Pitcher

Dorothy & Frank Dave

Kevin & Jennifer Wensel
OCCCSI Annual Holiday Party

Don & Dana Thornburg

Kristin & Gary Kehrier

Marcia Falk & Trevor Resurreccion

Juliette & Tom Domenici

President Bryan Stanley with Karine & Mr. Galla

David & Kitty Smith

Gary Kehrier makes a pitch for Caterina’s Club donations

Christmas Carolers (sponsored by David Brown)
West by North West (CSI Bi-Region) Conference

Representing 22 chapters and eight western states

Registration

CHOICES

... reconnect, learn, relax, network, gather practical building knowledge, golf, swim in lagoon style pool or private beach, indoor & outdoor dining ... you choose!

Designed for the architect, the contractor, the specifier, the engineer and the commercial building team!

HYATT, Incline

MAY 18-22, 2016

HYATT REGENCY RESORT, SPA, AND CASINO

(LAKE TAHOE) INCLINE, NEVADA

CHOICES


See the site at:

thunderbirdtahoe.org

Hosted by the Sacramento chapter of the West Region jointly with Northwest Region of the Construction Specifications Institute

Website: http://csiwestregion.org/2016_Region_Conference.html

For contact information: biregion2016@gmail.com

Marni Vincent Assoc. AIA, CDT, CID, CKD or Laura Macaulay, AIA, CDT, CSI, IIDA
“One’s philosophy is not best expressed in words, it is expressed in the choices one makes ... and the choices we make are ultimately our responsibility.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

“You can’t make positive choices for the rest of your life without an environment that makes those choices easy, natural, and enjoyable.”

Deepak Chopra
I think I know one reason why Bill Schamiz, FAIA, CSI, CCCA wrote The Architect’s Guide to Writing for Design and Construction Professionals. He must have read one too many long and unintelligible articles written by an architect in Architectural Record or a similar magazine. Isn’t that true for many of us? Even if that wasn’t his motivation, he’s provided us with an entirely useful reference for anyone who writes and wants to make their writing better. The Architect’s Guide to Writing for Design and Construction Professionals has 23 chapters, each with specific advice on the use of language, selecting the right words, guidelines on grammar, punctuation, sentences & paragraphs, writing style, making email effective, and a short chapter on writing architectural specifications.

Architects write, not necessarily to be great writers, but to communicate a point and to do this clearly and simply. To be effective we must keep in mind the purpose of our writing, the audience, and the use for which the information is provided. For example, an architect’s reply to an RFI might be different if it’s intended to be read and understood by the owner, rather than just the general contractor, if the owner is not familiar with technical issues or construction terminology.

Writers must keep up with an evolving language. Words have changing meanings, and some words become obsolete, like facsimile, for example. The word has evolved to “fax” and with the ascendance of PDF attachments, fax will soon be obsolete. Other words, like media and data, both of which used to be only plural words, are now being accepted for both singular and plural usage. Other words, like “gift”, are now being used as verbs as in “to regift”.

The chapter on grammar covers the gamut from the proper usage of nouns, to adjectives, to complex sentences, and elliptical clauses. Tricky situations are presented including how to avoid gender specific pronouns in favor of neutral ones. The correct usage of “who” & “whom” and “that” & “which” is also explained. Contrary to what we were taught in high school English class, it’s OK to end a sentence with a preposition if it sounds natural and relocating it would create an awkward sentence.

The correct usage of “lie/lay/lain” versus “lay/laid” is explained along with explanations for “neither/nor”, “shall/will”, and “i.e., e.g., etc.” How to use words like “affect” or “effect”, “complement” or “compliment”, and when to hyphenate to create a compound word.

The three chapters on punctuation cover everything from “em” dashes, to ellipsis, to pilcrow, to more common symbols such as apostrophes, hyphens, slashes (also known as virgules), and the ampersand. The “grawlix” (punctuation symbols used in place of an obscene word), should be avoided in professional writing.
New OCCCSI Members in 2015

Thank you to the following new members who have joined our chapter

Barend Botha  
Sean Connolly  
Dan Crates  
Julie Davis  
Joao Esteves  
Patricia Gallegos  
Eric Hartzeim  
James Hill  
Joyce Kerley  
Bertram Stefan Kiesling  
Ron Loyd  
Brad Lusk  
Arturo Ortiz, Jr.  
Sean Price  
Rene Sarver  
Kimberly Vandermost  
Octavian Viagea

Simone Grossman

Simone Grossman, wife of the late Al Grossman (long time OCCCSI member), passed away on October 29th. Simone was a gracious hostess to many Los Angeles CSI events at their lovely historic home. In her last days, she had such a memory for all her LACSI and OCCCSI friends. Al fell in love with Simone when he was in Europe during World War II. Al brought Simone and her wheelchair bound mother to the United States after the war. They had quite an amazing love story to tell all of us. Both of them will be dearly missed.

Ida Lee Baker

Our Past President, Mike Baker, had a tremendous loss in his life recently. On the evening of December 9, 2015, Ida passed away after a brief battle with thyroid cancer. Ida was 66 years old.

Ida was born on October 21, 1949, in Great Falls, Montana. On February 9, 1968, Ida married Michael David Baker at Prince of Peace church in St. Paul, Minnesota. Ida attended University of Minnesota and enjoyed sewing and needlework. They have two children, Mark David Baker and Jennifer Ruth El. In September 1980, the family moved to Diamond Bar, California to enjoy warmer weather and proximity to Ida's extended family.

Once Mark and Jennifer were both in elementary school, Ida went to work as a loan secretary at National Bank of Southern California in 1982. With no previous experience in banking, Ida demonstrated her ability to quickly learn new skills and excel in the workplace. Ida also worked at El Camino Bank in Orange County and started at Pomona First Federal in 1996. She held several positions during her time in the banking industry, from loan officer to VP of IT to compliance director. In 1989, Ida earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems from University of San Francisco.

Ida also developed a passion for crochet over the years, creating beautiful handmade lace, afghan blankets and decorative edging. She began experimenting with using crocheted covers to decorate simple glass Christmas ornaments. Family and friends who were lucky enough to receive handmade ornaments from Ida continue to cherish them as keepsakes during the holiday season.

Ida took a job in 2013 with Union Bank and eagerly started planning her retirement. She worked through July of 2015 and retired, looking forward to traveling, spending time with family, relaxing and of course, crocheting. Jennifer was relocating to the Bay Area and Ida and Mike chose to relocate with her. The family was in the process of the relocation process when Ida was diagnosed with anaplastic thyroid cancer in late November. She fought the cancer with grace and consideration for her family, who gathered around her in prayer and love.

Ida is survived by her husband, Mike, her son, Mark and his wife, Libra; her daughter, Jennifer and her husband, Solar; step-granddaughters Y’mani and Isez El; granddaughter, Michaela El; father, August Hauptman; sister, Sarah Fanuccchi; brother, George Hauptman, his wife Harumi Lanier; brother, Martin Hauptman, his wife Francine Wong Hauptman, nephew Jonathan, niece Heather; sister Jane Rodriguez, niece Lisa, niece Sara, niece Marissa; brother Fred Hauptman and his wife Sujin; brother Ted Hauptman, nephew Danny, niece Katie; sister Elizabeth Bunnell and her husband Greg, nephew Jeffrey, nephew Brian.
WOLFE’S HOWL
(continued from page 5)

is a similar table for threaded pipe, and a few other tables of properties for good measure.

As noted, I’m glad the contractor asked the question for a couple of reasons. It’s too easy to complain about contractors and blame them for everything that goes wrong. In truth, they often do things as they should be done even when they are not clearly described in the contract documents, and sometimes when they aren’t there at all.

The other reason is that this problem was a great introduction to the proper use of reference standards. At the time of this misadventure, I think I had heard of CSI, but had not yet joined the local chapter; it was to be still longer before I studied for the CDT/CCS exam, where I would have learned about reference standards.

Lessons learned from books and teachers are valuable, but they are no substitute for lessons learned in the School of Hard Knocks.

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WESTERN WALL & CEILING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION / TECHNICAL SERVICES INFORMATION BUREAU: The “TSIB” is the technical arm of the Western Walls &
Ceilings Contractors Association (WWCCA) serving the communities of Southern California, Southern Nevada, Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah. WWCCA is the oldest (established in 1901) wall & ceiling association in the West. The success of the association can be attributed to our ability to develop loyal and close relationships with contractors, building code officials, architects, engineers and other industry groups that are unparalleled in the wall and ceiling industry. The technical information gathered by TSIB has been generated through correspondence, educational programs, technical papers and dissemination of industry technical codes and standards. CONTACT: BRYAN STANLEY CSI (714) 221-5530; bryan@tsib.org. TECHNICAL ADVISOR & OCCSI PRODUCT SHOW CHAIR.

BUCH NOTES
(continued from page 12)

The chapter on writing style is the most important one in the book. The fact that the English language is made up of words with Germanic, French, and Latin roots often results in choices for writers to use in selecting a word to get the right sound and rhythm in a sentence. But, in choosing words, writers should be careful to select words they know the meaning of. Using fewer words, rather than more words, makes the writing more direct and is more effective in getting a point across. Avoid redundancy and unnecessary words, especially unnecessary adjectives and adverbs. At all cost avoid trendy words and jargon, especially jargon that readers won't understand. If readers have to reread a sentence or paragraph to understand it, you've lost them.

Writing in the active voice, e.g., “Architects design buildings.” is more effective than the passive voice, “Buildings are designed by architects.” Sentences are clearest when they are short, have a single topic, and when the subject and verb are positioned close together. Varying sentence length provides texture and can make paragraphs easier to read.

These principles for clear writing are applied to specifications writing in Chapter 16. This chapter is consistent with the CSI Practice Guides for project delivery and specifications. Words such as “shall” & “will” and “furnish” & “provide” are defined as they're used in specifications. Avoid ambiguous phrases such as “as necessary” and “where required.”

Since email has become such an important communication tool, the chapter on this topic emphasizes the need for good grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. The subject line should be meaningful; the message should be kept as short as possible to get the point across; and avoid the use of “Reply All” except when “All” needs to read the message.

The final chapters cover the topics of editing what you've written, writing for international projects, and considerations for the style and look of what you're writing.

The Architect’s Guide to Writing for Design and Construction Professionals is a one-stop reference book written by a practicing architect for other architects, design professionals, and contractors. The book was published in 2014 in Australia by Images Publishing Group. It has 160 pages including a complete index so you can quickly find the word or topic you’re looking for.
# Meeting Schedule and Information

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

## Upcoming Meetings:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 12</strong></td>
<td><strong>OCCCSI Board Meeting (5:30 p.m.)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thompson’s Design Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1716 Case Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Orange, California</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 26</strong></td>
<td><strong>Annual Joint Meeting with LACSI</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Old World Village</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Festival Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7561 Center Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Huntington Beach, California 92647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Newsletter Deadline</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>OCCCSI Board Meeting (4:30 p.m.)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phoenix Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1340 S. Sanderson Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anaheim, California</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>February 9</strong></td>
<td><strong>OCCCSI Membership Meeting</strong></td>
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