

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Gary M. Kehrier, CSI, CDT



THANK YOU! Fellow Members — For the opportunity to be your (the) President of the Orange County Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute. I am once again humbled by the amount of faith you have placed in me to fill this leadership position. I shall do everything in my power to honor that trust, to give my Best... and to leave the Chapter in a healthy position!

This is the second opportunity offered to me to Head the OCCCSI Board of Directors (the first from 2003 — 2006). I also served the Los Angeles Chapter of CSI for thirteen years on the Board of Directors and served as President from 1994 — 1996.

As a Proud Member of CSI for my entire career, I am eternally grateful to my Mentor — Clifton H. Clark CSI, CCS, AIA (Walt Disney Imagineering) — for originally getting me involved in this Great Organization. Participating at this level has greatly helped my career, offering me a “seat at the table” to make a difference, and add character to both Orange County and Los Angeles Skylines.

The COVID-19 Pandemic changed lives forever... changed the way we interact with one another... change the way we do business... and CSI National was no different. Membership is down... Small and Large Chapters (like the San Diego Chapter and the New Orleans Chapter have disappeared from existence. I am happy to report to you that the Orange County Chapter of CSI sits on rock-solid ground. We are not going anywhere! We are the envy of the West Region AND the Institute with our CSI Trade Show! As a result, we continue to maintain financial stability, and our upcoming CSI Trade Show will provide yet another great financial opportunity to maintain that stability. PARTICIPATE!!!

Our Monthly Meetings at the Elks Club in Santa Ana, CA offer great food and the ability to learn about state-of-the-art construction related products, gain CEU's and Network with Members of the Construction Community — which include a nice mix of Architects, Spec Writers, Engineers, Installers, and Product Representatives. PARTICIPATE!!!

We are a Great Organization looking to expand membership and participation, and having a great time doing the work that makes us thrive. Members interested in getting involved, please feel free to reach out to me or any other Board Member and let us know you want to get involved — we'll take care of the rest! PARTICIPATE!!!

Politically, it's that time once again within the normal four-year cycle... VOTE!!! PARTICIPATE!!!



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WREN'S WESTERN OUTPUT

By Annette Wren, FCSI, CDT

Recently, a story about someone who followed their GPS to their demise encouraged me to repeat the following article from 2017:

Those of you who live and (maybe will) die with your GPS and navigation tools, listen up! In “the old days”, those of us in this industry actually used something called a map. What is that?

Back in the “old days”, we had Thomas Maps that were required for anyone negotiating their way around the roads in a vehicle. Today, we have a few apps and GPS systems that assist us. My experience with these tools is very positive. We have many wonderful technological advances in our world that makes our days more efficient. However, there is still a place in our daily existence for “old fashioned” tools like a map and

common sense. Take a look at the following examples:

Case 1: A person known to me was driving to a job site in downtown Los Angeles. His navigation tool was a GPS with a map on the screen. He relies on his GPS solely and does not have a working knowledge of the geography in the area. He is a twenty-six year old native Southern Californian. He was on the 60 Freeway and traffic was quite bad. Taking a look at his GPS, he noticed that the 60 freeway and the 210 freeway, with better traffic conditions, ran parallel. So, he drove north on the 605 Freeway to proceed to downtown on the 210 Freeway. From the 210, he drove down on the 5 Freeway to downtown. He had no concept that this move took him farther north. If you are agreeing with his decision, you need to look at a hard copy map.

Case 2: Good choices can be made with your navigation tools. They give you side streets as alternates to freeways. Most suggestions lead you to your destination with ease. One example is using Washington Blvd that parallels the 5 and 10 Freeways. Keep your eyes open on navigation tool recommended side streets. It is not a good choice when you see gang bangers on the sidewalk. Choose again!



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Case 3: A few years ago, a group of friends were meeting for dinner by my daughter's house up in Oregon. The restaurant was about a mile from her home. All the friends frequently visited her home and were familiar with the area. One guy used his GPS to locate the restaurant. Following GPS instructions, he drove about 30 miles in the opposite direction to the edge of a lake. The information he entered into his GPS was correct, apparently there was a glitch. The major glitch was his lack of common sense.

Case 4: Common sense should tell you that driving off a major highway in the winter or extreme heat summer is not a good idea no matter what short cut your GPS claims. You can search the Internet for examples of these incidents which all ended badly. “Death by GPS” is an interesting read. Driving blindly with GPS as your sole tool while in unfamiliar territory is plain stupid. Unfortunately, this has become the status quo. It may simply be termed the “lack of responsibility” by the driver. With drivers following their navigation devices blindly, you can envision a future where “natural selection” can take its course. A possibility of eliminating “blindly” driving folks is quite possible when they follow directions right off a cliff.

If you still believe that relying solely on navigation tools without any knowledge of your environment is the way to go, go for it! Remember that it will not kill you to consult maps and become familiar with your geographic area.

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SPECIFICATIONS 47 RULES FOR WRITERS

By John Regener, CSI, CCS, CCCA

with a conjunction.

4. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.

5. Avoid cliches like the plague. (They're old hat.)

6. Also, always avoid annoying alliteration.

7. Be more or less specific.

8. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are (usually) unnecessary.

9. Also too, never, ever use repetitive redundancies.

10. No sentence fragments.

11. Contractions aren't necessary and shouldn't be used.

12. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos.

13. Do not be redundant; do not use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.

14. One should NEVER generalize.

15. Comparisons are as bad as cliches.

16. Don't use no double negatives.

17. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.

18. One-word sentences? Eliminate.

19. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.

20. The passive voice is to be ignored.

21. Eliminate commas, that are, not necessary. Parenthetical words however should be enclosed in commas.

22. Never use a big word when a diminutive one would suffice.

23. DO NOT use exclamation points and all caps to emphasize!!!

24. Use words correctly, irregardless of how others use them.

25. Understatement is always the absolute best way to put forth earth

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1. Verbs has to agree with their subjects.

2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.

3. And don't start a sentence

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OCCCSI Installation & Awards Banquet Photos by Annette Wren



Pete Thomsen & Dana Thornburg (Omega)



Pete Thomsen presents Sam Drucker Memorial Award of Dedication to Dana Thornburg (Omega)



OCCCSI Past Presidents Kim Grosch & Pete Thomsen



Dana Thornburg received that Award for "the Truest Gift of Your Dedication, Time & Talent to the OCCCSI - A Selfless Contribution of Inestimable Value:"



Kim Hampton, CSI (Dunn Edwards) OCCCSI Secretary



Dan Thornburg receives the plaque listing all recipients for the Award from Gary Kehrier



Gary Kehrier (ASI-SD) & Kathy Greenway (Draper)



Past recipients present were: Annette Wren, Pete Thomsen, Bryan Stanley & Gary Kehrier