

October 2011 Cactus Comments Newsletter

Welcome to the October 2011 issue of the CSI Phoenix Chapter Cactus Comments. We are experimenting with a new format. The email sent on the first of the month (typically!) will be more of a digest. You can skim the articles and click on the ones you want to read. Or you can come to the web site to the monthly newsletter page and see of the articles. All articles will be archived on the site.

Our goal with this change is to make the newsletter less bulky. We've been running 30+ pages with lots of forms and flyers in addition to the articles. We want to trim it down. We also want to increase traffic on the web site. This site should be the hub of all Chapter activities.

What do you think? Give us your feedback at webmaster@CSIphoenix.org

October 2011 President's Message - Today CONSTRUCT 2011 Tomorrow CONSTRUCT 2012 By: Stephen Smith, CSI, AIA, CSI Phoenix Chapter President



We had great representation from the Phoenix Chapter at Construct 2011 with thirteen individuals and if we count Ron Geren who had registered, but was unable to attend due to a family emergency, we had fourteen. This equals a little over 10% of our current Phoenix membership up in the Windy City.

I thought I'd pass on some of the events that occurred in Chicago for those who were unable to attend.

My wife, step-daughter and I flew into Chicago Midway Airport on Sunday afternoon and checked into our hotel on South Michigan Ave. That evening we ate pizza at Lou Malnati's Tastes of Chicago on State Street. If you like deep dish pizza, I would highly recommend eating here. Over the course of the week we ate there two more times! On Monday, we did the tourist thing: we visited the Navy Pier, took the Architecture Cruise on the Chicago River and visited the observation deck on the 103rd floor of the Willis Tower (the renamed Sears Tower). If you haven't visited the Willis Tower in the last few years, they have installed four retractable four foot deep glass boxes called the "Skydeck Ledge." It's quite a feeling looking down 103 stories between your feet!



Brian McClure



**Robin Snyder with
Jim Whitfield**

The CONSTRUCT educational sessions began on Tuesday, starting at 8:00 am and lasting until 5:30 pm with two technical tours available in the morning. One tour visited the Aqua Tower while the other went to Underwriters Laboratories. The day ended with the President's Reception sponsored by Hafele at their Chicago Showroom and hosted by CSI President Paul R. Bertram Jr. FCSI, CDT.

Wednesday's educational sessions started at 8:00 am and went to 11:30 am at which time the vendor's exhibit hall opened. Prior to the exhibit hall opening, the keynote speaker Cameron Sinclair from Architecture for Humanity presented "*Design for All: Implementing Cultural Acupuncture and Community Led Development.*" The day ended with a Welcome Reception for all attendees.

On Thursday, the Chicago Host Chapter's main event was the architectural river tour. We stayed down in the enclosed deck since it was a little too cool for our Phoenix blood up on the open deck!

Friday morning started with the Region and Chapter Presidents Breakfast with speaker Dana A. VanDen Heuvel addressing us with a presentation entitled "*Delivering Member Value through Thought Leadership.*" The educational sessions ran from 8:00 am to 10:30 am with the vendor's exhibit hall opening from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.



**Brian McClure with
Jim Whitfield**

Friday afternoon was the CSI Annual Meeting and Member Forum. The first portion of the meeting became an exercise in parliamentary procedure for a motion to allow the Membership Committee at the Institute level to investigate and recommend ways to grow our membership, which passed. Some of the awards were presented, during which **Ron Geren** received a **Communications Award** for his outstanding technical article series and downloadable PDFs focusing on the importance of properly coordinated documents. **Brian McClure** received the **CSI Panic Whistle** from the host Chicago Chapter. The Panic Whistle is a policeman's whistle that is passed from the host city to the next city in line for the national convention. This tradition started in 1961 by Albert G. Bear (Papa" Bear as he was affectionately called by the New Orleans Chapter).



**Teri Hand & Paul
Simonsen**

Friday evening was highlighted with the Honors and Awards Gala. **Teri Hand** received her **Fellowship Award** along with five others. Two Fellows from our Phoenix Chapter also received the President's Award for their service and contributions to the Institute. Recipients of the President's Awards are not announced prior to the Gala so receiving it comes as a complete surprise to everyone. Congratulations to **Lee Orosco** and **Paul Simonsen**. Board workshops and a board meeting on Saturday and Sunday closed the convention.

Please congratulate all the individuals that received awards from our Chapter the next time you see them.

Brian McClure and Gary Campbell did a great job of having our booth manned at all times and handing out information on Phoenix and CONSTRUCT 2012. Our CONSTRUCT 2012 committee shadowed the Chicago group throughout the week taking notes and getting suggestions that should further improve everyone's experience at CONSTRUCT 2012 in Phoenix.

Hopefully, everyone that attended CONSTRUCT 2011 came away learning from the educational sessions they attended, have fond memories of conversations with friends they haven't seen since the last convention, made new friends or experienced something in Chicago they hadn't done before. I certainly came away with all those items. In closing, there was one statement that I will remember for a long time. Richard Eustis, PE, FCSI, Lifetime Member, CCCA gave a very elegant speech after receiving the Distinguished Member Award and closed his speech by paraphrasing the most famous quote from President John F. Kennedy inaugural address. *"My fellow members, ask not what CSI can do for you, ask what you can do for CSI."*



Steve Smith

Overall, I had a great time in Chicago for CONSTRUCT 2011! This next year will be a great opportunity for everyone in the Phoenix and Tucson Chapters with the Southwest Region Conference in Tucson and CONSTRUCT 2012 in Phoenix. Both events will need volunteers as we move forward, so please ask what you can do to help!

October Monthly Chapter Meeting Thursday, October 13, 2011

Location

Radisson Hotel Phoenix City Center
3600 North Second Ave
Phoenix, AZ 85013

Schedule

5:30 pm – Networking/Table Tops
6:30 to 8:00 pm – Dinner/Meeting & Program
8:00 to 8:30 pm – Table Tops

Program: Conflicts Between Specs and Drawings

Where do the words "best quality" or "more expensive" appear in a specification? Clue: In close proximity to a phrase that says if there is a conflict between the project manual and the drawings, the bidder is assumed to have applied the forgoing phrase and included the cost in his bid. Some advocate drawing notes as the better way to ensure that the information is more readily available for use on the job site and is more understandable to the workers.

Rethinking the Choices for Below Grade Waterproofing

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Victor P. Krevinko A.I.A., CSI – Soprema Fellow Architects, Consultants and Specifiers, Your next building project could be worry free if you select an innovative line of waterproofing solutions that utilize tested, proven materials that the building industry has depended on for years. These tried and true materials have evolved through the dedication and commitment to excellence of Research and Development. A general commitment to R & D allows the scientists to improve the product line's water stopping properties, greatly enhancing the product's

longevity and performance capabilities, ultimately increasing the service life of the entire product line for your project. By using high performance waterproofing products, hydrostatic pressure, from ground water, poses no threat to a dry below grade interior environment. Through the years, below grade waterproofing has been greatly improved with the introduction of three easy to apply, cost effective and highly reliable solutions that ensure a perfect seal for below grade walls and floors, highlighting both vertical and horizontal applications. These offerings may be applied over a base course or fastened to a concrete form bonded to a concrete floor or wall. The three most popular systems are the following. Self Adhered Hot Rubber Blind Side Waterproofing Self adhered waterproofing membranes are comprised of selected SBS (styrene butadiene styrene) modified bitumen and a tri-laminate woven polyethylene composite facers, for the most part. The reverse side, which faces the interior of the building, should feature a silicone release paper that creates a clean and easy installation. In some situations you can use a solvent or water based primer for better adhesion properties. Flexible rubberized asphalt waterproofing membrane that is applied in (90 mils) hot rubberized asphalt and reinforced with a polyester and nylon mat which is topped with a second layer (125 mils) of hot rubberized asphalt delivers a sound hot rubber system. The system is completed with an additional protection course such as fiberglass reinforced sanded membrane with an asphaltic rigid board or a polyester reinforced 180 gram mat for the ultimate in puncture resistance. This field assembly is then ready to accept a drainage mat or other finishes dependent on your projects specific requirements. BSW (Blind Side Waterproofing) is the third waterproofing system highlighted. When installed, the BSW provides unsurpassed puncture resistance and allows for the pouring of concrete directly over the membrane. BSW is comprised of selected SBS modified bitumen at a thickness of 1/8" (3 mm) and reinforcement composed of non-woven polyester/glass mat for added dimensional stability. The BSW is available in both fleece and sanded surface membranes. When attached to concrete form or laid on the substrate, the BSW provides resistance to both ingress of external hydrostatic water source and egress of water, needed in the uniform curing of the concrete element being cast into the form. All three of these products will satisfy your need for true building waterproofing solutions. These membranes, combined with an SBS liquid membrane, will provide the most cost effective and durable answer to your waterproofing needs. Trust your products to do the required and valued function that you specify by making sure that your materials have the proper certifications and testing for quality membrane products on your next building project.

2011 53rd AIA Arizona Awards Gala

When:

Saturday October 22, 2011

6:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Where:

Phoenix Zoo

455 N. Galvin Pkwy

Phoenix, AZ 85008

The early bird deadline is Friday, October 7, 2011.

CSI National Convention

The CSI National Convention will be held in Phoenix in 2012. Brian McClure at Brian.McClure@Stantec.com and Gary Campbell gcampbell@assaabloydss.com have agreed to co-chair this convention for the Phoenix Chapter. Our chapter will be asked to help in the following events during the convention.

- Fundraising
- Exhibit Booth
- Marketing
- Registration
- Spouse/Guest Program
- Student Activities
- Technical Events/Tours

We will need committee chair people and volunteers for these events. Please contact Brian or Gary if you are interested in chairing or volunteering for any of these events and they will include you in that event committee.

We are organizing to give everyone time to consider how they would like to help in making this a very successful convention and reflection of Phoenix and Arizona. With 18,000 attendees expected, it is sure to be a very exciting convention!

Our committee will be meeting monthly to discuss and have direction in our involvement with CONSTRUCT 2012.

Visit the Chapter's CONSTRUCT2012 webpage for more information!

2011 Imagination Cube Competition

Sponsored by the Phoenix Chapter, Construction Specifications Institute, this award recognizes imaginative investigation and creative design that explore the potential of a building product(s). A different building product/manufacture is chosen each year from within the CSI's membership and the companies they represent. This year's product/material sponsor is MAGNUM Companies.