

The Newsletter of the Metropolitan New York Chapter of the Construction Specification Institute, Inc. Volume 59 Number 4 December 2010



**Meeting Information**

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**2010**

**Wednesday  
December 8, 2010**

**Manducatis  
Restaurant**

1327 Jackson Avenue  
Long Island City, NY  
Tel: 718-729-4602

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**Wednesday  
January 12, 2011**

**Construction  
Jeopardy**

150 East 43rd Street  
New York, New York

**INSIDE THIS MONTHS ADDENDUM**  
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**HOLIDAY ITALIANO!**

The Metropolitan New York Chapter celebrates **Holiday Italiano!**. Join us for music, food, and drink. We'll start with some great hors d'oeuvres and drinks from the cash bar. We'll have a fabulous authentic Italian three-course dinner with wine included. This year we are keeping the price low (\$30 per person), so that you will feel free to come and bring your spouse or significant other for a great time with your fellow CSI compatriots! Everyone is invited, whether member or friend!



**Date and Time:** Wednesday, December 8, starting at 6:00 p.m. with a social hour. The dinner will start at 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** [Manducatis Restaurant](#), 1327 Jackson Avenue, Long Island City, New York, telephone 718-729-4602. **By subway:** on the 7 line, Hunters Point station; on the G line, 21st Street Van Alst station. **NOTE:** This is a different location from our usual meeting place.

**Cost:** Dinner and wine is \$30 per person. Register and pay in advance at [Brown Paper Tickets](#). You may not pay at the door, since we have to provide a guaranteed attendance number in advance.

**To Register and pay for this program now:**  
[www.brownpapertickets.com/event/82006](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/82006)



## Metropolitan New York Chapter Officers

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## President's Message



It's holiday time and there's excitement in the air. Many of us are somewhere between hopeful and anticipating a new and better year in 2011. CSI remains in the forefront of preparing its members and the construction industry for what's next. For example, last month's program on Technology Design Principles for Modern Buildings, presented by Greg Roberts of AKF Technologies, gave us some fascinating insight into the digital world that lives inside many of our buildings.

A major part of the holidays, though, is to put aside our concerns about the world and have some fun!

The Chapter is going to do just that, with a magnificent **Holiday Italiano!** celebration in a new and different venue. Come on out to Long Island City (seriously, it's only 2 subway stops from where we normally meet!) for some great traditional Italian holiday food, perhaps with some Italian holiday music, and definitely with some traditional CSI holiday fun! We are keeping the cost low so that you can be a part of the party.

The Board of Directors is working hard to reach our Goals, Objectives, and Strategies for the year. The new year is a great time to make a new commitment to be involved in the Chapter. Please find some time to [read this document](#) on our web site and perhaps something there will inspire you to help in making some of these ideas happen. There is bound to be something there that you will get excited about.

One of our objectives is to celebrate the Chapter's 60th Anniversary in such a way as to put CSI and our Chapter "on the map" in the world of New York design and construction. The Co-Chairs of the Anniversary Planning Committee are Anthony Drummond and Arnie Kravitz. Contact them if you have an interest in working on this.

Have a terrific holiday season! I wish for you—and all of us—a truly prosperous New Year!

Linton D. Stables, III, CSI, CCS, LEED® AP, Chapter President

### Committee Chairs:

**2010 - 2011**

Academic Liaison	Scott Tobias	(845) 427-0853
Awards	Scott Tobias	(845) 427-0853
Certification	Luis Rosrio-Lluveras	(732) 207-7208
Environment	Susan Kaplan	(212) 353-4686
Education	Ruma Som	(201) 612-7459
House	Arnold Kravitz	(718) 982-5594
Membership	Bert Korteling	(917) 587-2814
Planning	Arnold Kravitz	(718) 982-5594
Product Show	Scott Tobias	(845) 427-0853
Program	Tor Sundlin	(973) 340-3666
Technical	W Jacquette Jr.	(212) 663-3167
Golf Outing	Anthony Drummond	(516) 480-8085

# Registration Open for Spring Exams

Registration is now open for the spring CDT and advanced certification exams (CCCA, CCS, CCPR)

March 28 – April 9, 2011. The early registration deadline is January 28, 2011 and the final registration deadline is February 25, 2011. [Learn more, or register now.](#)

Thinking about taking the CDT? CSI offers resources to help you prepare for the exam, including:

### Free CDT Study Guide!

[Download](#) a free study guide to help you prepare! This guide will help you focus on key areas of CSI's Project Resource Manual (PRM), the primary resource for the CDT exam.

### Online CDT Prep Course

The CDT Prep Course lays the groundwork for understanding the development of facilities through construction documentation.

- Learn at your own pace in 11 on-demand sessions
- Live, webinar-based study sessions complement education sessions
- Earn AIA LUs and CSI CEN CEUs

Registration fee: \$150. [Learn more, or register now!](#)

### CDTFIash iPhone App and PDF Flash Card Download

CDTFIash is an iPhone application to help you study for the CDT exam! Answers to these 70+ questions include

excerpts and citations from the Project Resource Manual, the primary resource for the CDT exam. To learn more or purchase this new application, visit [iTunes](#). Don't have an iPhone? The flash cards are also available in a PDF format in [The CSI Store](#).

### CSI Chapter Certification Study Courses

Many CSI chapters offer formal study groups and informal mentoring for candidates pursuing the CDT certificate in CSI's Spring 2010 exams. [Find a study course.](#)

### The Project Resource Manual

The Project Resource Manual is the primary resource for the CDT exam. The manual is the authoritative resource for the organization, preparation, use, and interpretation of construction documents, encompassing the entire life cycle of a facility from conception through facility management. This edition considers the need for interdependent processes of planning, design, construction, and facility use. [Learn more, or purchase.](#)

### Register now and save \$\$\$!!!

The early registration deadline is fast approaching for the spring CDT and advanced certification exams (CCS, CCCA, CCPR), which will be held March 28 – April 9, 2011. The early registration deadline is January 28, 2011 and the final registration deadline is February 25, 2011. [Learn more, or register now.](#)

Questions? Contact CSI Certification staff at 800-689-2900 or at [certification@csinet.org](mailto:certification@csinet.org).

<b>ASSA ABLOY</b>  <i>The global leader in door opening solutions</i>	<i>Scott J. Tobias, AHC, CDT, CSI, LEED AP</i> Architectural Relations Manager			
	Tel: 845-427-0853 * Cell: 854-742-4827 * Email: <a href="mailto:stobias@assaabloydss.com">stobias@assaabloydss.com</a> Visit us at <a href="http://www.assaabloydss.com">www.assaabloydss.com</a>			
	Product selection and consultation	Product Research Electronic access control consulting	Field hardware surveys	Code compliance and installation review
	Pre-bid meeting	Product design review	Punch-list creation	Job site inspection services
Factory-trained technical support	Submit review	Specification writing and hardware schedule		

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# WOWEEEE!!!!

by Ralph Liebing, RA, CSI, CDT, Cincinnati, OH

From the innards of middle Illinois, I ran across this [written by John O'Neil, a gen-u-wine spec writer].

“SPECOCLOGY: specology (spec ol’ o je) 1. the art and craft of writing and editing construction specifications; 2. the science of construction specifications; 3. miscellaneous observations on architecture, construction and life as we know it.”

Zow-eeee! Ain’t never thought of it in all those terms and directions—Oh, yes I cheated! I added No. 2 to Mr. O’Neil’s original, not to intrude or contradict, but I think adding the “science” indicates a deep, insightful, understanding, flexibility and the ability to adapt to a given condition via the “art and craft....”

I don’t know what you think, but seems to me that this is a very true and accurate definition that is not expressed that often [if at all] We tend to short-cut it to “spec writer” all too often— for either expedience or to cut off any need for explanation. Many therein lies we are so misunderstood, and ignored. Sometimes you have to become a little verbose just to get some depth to your explanation— not to impress but to be accurate and true.

There is no need for puffery for our profession, but I think you agree that a little “transparency” [the current day word for it] is needed to open up to the world what exactly we do and why. We don’t use job signs [maybe we should] but simply do our thing back in the corner as ghost writers for clients or employers. And we don’t even get the exposure of a jazzy corner that most paperbacks have on them. We’re plain vanilla— not even vanilla bean! Might be an idea for a campaign for the organization in conjunction with outside talks to others and some ads, etc. Just again to make ourselves a little more known and perhaps to kick off a new campaign or both recognition and education [eh, what?]

You may wish to call this self-promotion, unprofessional and perhaps it is, but what else do we have to make known who are, where and what we do— and how well! I think this is a

need—truly! The mystique we labor under just is a gauzy venture most know and care little about. And more particularly what we can do for others in time of trouble or other construction confusion. And then again, our work is part of the Contract Documents— almost like an ambassador without portfolio [there but of no consequence] Oh, sure? Many will say, no doubt—that such effort is useless and unneeded. Do you agree? I am not suggesting a brass band parade through town, just a professional reinforcement of who and what we are and do. Sure there are many others in similar positions, but why can’t we be a little more visible— and still not advertise in the yellow pages? We are “into” communications and information, etc. so why don’t we do those very things? And do some of them for our own good.

**This is not a suggestion for blind advertising and chest thumping, but rather the truth about efforts that do benefit the general public and have a great impact on the built environment, etc—and the people users therein. We seek nothing, but why not become more visible within the industry, first and then later follow with good information and .....dare we say.....education!**



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## LIKE IT IS....WAS

By S. Steve Blumenthal, FCSI

A tradition of the Chapter is the Holiday meeting held in December. For a quarter of a century Will Turner has been associated with them. They were a must go to meeting for years several of which were held on Governors Island at the Officers club. Will would prepare the program see that it was printed and make certain it was distributed. In addition he would MC the program and run all over taking pictures. Among the membership he was as reliable as Santa Claus and the Times Square New Years eve ball.

Will was the go to guy for several years. Carl Grim gave him a special award in June 1984 which reads "As an outstanding representative of the Building Materials industry who has given of his time, energies and expertise to the Professionals of the Chapter". Over simplified that was ( and is) Will during his working career. The Boy Scout motto "Be Prepared" best illustrates Will Turner today and when he was actively working. He was the first member roasted at a meeting by his colleagues in 1971. Will joined the CSI on July 1, 1966 and has been an active member since. This in itself illustrates the dedication and importance of CSI to him.

In the early seventies the Chapter hosted the Region Conference at Bear Mountain aside from the core committee Will helped Pat Zampetti with registration and assisted Pete Paterson with his chores. He likewise assisted when the Chapter hosted a Conference in mid

town across from Central Park. The Chapter after Wills pleading arranged two or three theater parties. Cocktails on the top floor of the Times building then off to the theater. Like everything he had a hand in they were successful and sort after.

He was recognized by numerous Presidents: R. Cumrine 68, J. Strosnider 70, H. Bez 71 & 72,

W. Duffy 76, N. Katz 79, R. Gunther 82, C. Grimm 84, D. Henderson 89, R. Searby 91,

M. Helly 94, J. Rossi 2001, R. Carpenter 2002. It has been said he has received more awards and certificates than any member of the Chapter. He was a member of the Board, a Vice President and served on various technical committees

He now resides on the upper West Side and would "love" to attend a meeting if anyone would give him a hand his E Mail address is [Wturner12@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Wturner12@nyc.rr.com) should anyone want to write.

The article has been dedicated to a member who portrayed the holiday spirit for years and this is my way of saying Happy Holidays to all.....That's like it is-was... [asecsi@aol.com](mailto:asecsi@aol.com)

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## Happy Holidays



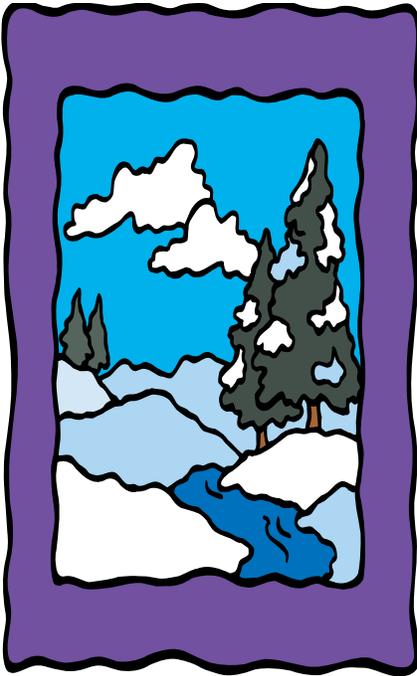
From the Officers  
and Directors of the  
Metro NY Chapter  
CSI

### Maintaining your Membership

Just a reminder to keep your membership active and contact information up to date. Running through our current list of members, there are many of you who have been long time members that have or are very close to having your membership expire.

If those of you could take a minute and let us know how we can help, or to express your concerns, it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Bert Korteling CSI Director/Membership  
Chairman Metropolitan New York Chapter CSI -



## Dinner is on us

*Chapter to offer dinner and program without cost*

In an effort to help people in these distressed financial times the Chapter Board of Directors plans to provide dinner with the January and February 2011 monthly programs at no cost to those who are involved in the design and construction industry. This will be a trial period for a policy which may be extended if it is successful. The Chapter's objective to attract a new group of people and to keep its current members is the inspiration for this experiment.

Help us get the word out to others in our industry. [Send us your contacts](#) (e-mail addresses) and we will make sure they get the most up-to-date information on the programs being offered. (We will also make sure that those addresses are protected from abuse, according to our [e-mail policy](#).)

## Anniversary Brings Out Our History

*Sixtieth anniversary of the Chapter causes a look back*

June 1, 2011, marks the Sixtieth Anniversary of the chartering of the Metropolitan New York Chapter, the first chapter in the Institute. Big plans are being developed to celebrate this occasion, including a history project to pull together some of the resources and relics of those sixty years.

Michael Bean, a member of CSI since 1988 and Chapter President in 1998, is leading the effort to gather the history of the Chapter and put it in a form that we can present to the membership and the public. If you have photographs, old Addendums, or other memorabilia from the earlier days of our Chapter, please consider sharing them with the rest of us! Steve Blumenthal, FCSI, member since 1967 and Institute President in 1989-1990, has already provided some of his recollections and artifacts from his active time in the Chapter. Others have also come forward to help with this effort. Please [contact Michael](#) if you can help out. Even a few recollections written down would help fill out the picture!

We will be celebrating the Sixtieth Anniversary for much of 2011, so stay tuned for more details on the occasions that are planned.

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# Metropolitan Chapter CSI Monthly Schedule for FY 2011

October 13, 2010 - How to Make a Killer Presentation  
November 10, 2010 - Technology Design Principles in Modern Buildings  
December 8, 2010 - **Holiday Italiano!**  
January 12, 2011 - Construction Jeopardy!  
February 9, 2011 - The Future of Door Hardware Specifying  
March 9, 2011 - Energy Usage, Savings and Changes in LEED-Certified Buildings  
April 13, 2011 - Building Tour with a Specifier's Perspective  
May 11, 2011 - Underground New York: Major Subsurface Projects  
June 8, 2011 - 60th Anniversary Membership Meeting and Awards Dinner

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## About CSI

CSI is a national association dedicated to creating standards and formats to improve construction documents and project delivery. The organization is unique in the industry in that its members are a cross-section of specifiers, architects, engineers, contractors and building materials suppliers. The organization has 146 chapters and more than 14,000 members. Monthly Chapter meetings allow members the opportunity to communicate openly with their counterparts and exchange information for successful project management. CSI is renowned in the industry for its rigorous certification programs for professionals seeking to improve their knowledge of accurate and concise construction documents. CSI provides continuing education, professional conferences and product shows. For more information, visit [www.csinet.org](http://www.csinet.org), or call (800) 689-2900.

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