

## Northeast Region News

The Northeast Region of CSI Board of Directors met for their semi-annual meeting on Friday April 27th & on Saturday April 28th for a Workshop and the Annual Meeting at the Holiday Inn 300 Woodbury Avenue Portsmouth , NH.

The Board meeting began at 1 pm on Friday. Some highlights were the election with the Nominating Committee presenting a slate of Ruma Som for Institute Nominating Committee member, Kevin Phillips for Region Treasurer and Brian Neely for Region Vice President. Maine's Brad Armstrong, nominated Marty Helly for the Vice President's office from the floor. Mike Lapomardo moved that the Secretary cast a vote for the two uncontested offices and ballots were counted for the vice presidents office with Brian winning over Marty by a single vote margin.

Awards Chair, Jim Grucella of the Buffalo chapter and Past President, Richard Eustis, passed out the Awards for FY 2011. Edward (Ted) Healy received a Region President's Award. The citation read, "For your devoted service as not only Region Secretary, but also as "Chief Recruiter of Volunteers" in an organization that runs on volunteer activity, and your willingness to devote sufficient time to all of your assigned tasks necessary to keep the Northeast Region moving in the proper direction, you are recognized by a FY2011 Region President's Award."

Ted also received a citation for Service to the Northeast Region in the Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 as Northeast Region Secretary.

The Board passed a recommendation submitted by Edward Healy, Membership Chair that would fund \$800 incentive awards for Most Outstanding NER Chapters, Most Improved Large NER Chapter, and the two Most Improved Small NER chapters. Full details will appear in a soon

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### June Annual Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, June 13, 2012

Sixty-First Annual Meeting, Awards Night, and Installation of Officers for the Metropolitan New York Chapter and a joint meeting with the IDECE



### Program: Aesthetically Designed Architectural Door Openings

Speaker: **Liana Steffens, ASSA ABLOY Door Security Solutions**

Date and Time: **Wednesday, June 13, starting at 5:30 p.m. with a social hour. The dinner and program will start at 6:30 p.m.**

Location: **Annie Moore's Restaurant, 50 East 43rd Street, New York, New York. We meet on the Lower Level.**

Cost: **Dinner and program are \$30.00. Please register in advance at**

**[www.brownpapertickets.com/event/179842](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/179842)**

**BROWN PAPER TICKETS**

**Metropolitan New York Chapter Officers  
FY 2012**

**President:** Jeff Matles, CSI  
Matles Enterprises  
Phone: (845) 558-0123  
E-mail: jmatles@aim.com

**Vice President:** Arnold Kravitz, CSI  
Besam Entrance Solutions  
Phone: (917) 715-4079  
E-mail: akravitz@besam-usa.com

**Vice President:** Anthony Drummond,  
Koroseal  
Phone: (516) 480-8085  
Email: adrummond@koroseal.com

**Treasurer:** Russ Carpenter, CSI  
Euclid Chemical Company  
Phone: (516) 847-0012  
Email: massbldr@aol.com

**Secretary:** Angela Centanni, CSI  
Tandus Corporation  
Phone: (732) 796-3037

**Director (2011):** Dennis Italia, CSI  
Metro Building Solutions, Inc.  
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E-mail: ditalia@metrobuilding.biz

**Director (2011):** Ruma Som  
Assa Abloy Door Security Systems  
Phone: 201-612-7459  
E-mail: rsom@assaabloydss.com

**Director (2012):** Thomas Lanzelotti,  
AIA, CSI  
Gensler Associates  
Phone: (212) 492-1400

**Director (2012):** Bob Crane, CSI  
Phone: (484) 225-6720

**Immediate Past President:**  
Linton Stables III, CSI, CCS, LEED-AP  
Perkins Eastman  
Phone: (212) 353-7207  
E-mail: l.stables@perkinseastman.com

**NE Region Director-Metro NY Chapter**  
Bert Korteling, CSI, CCPR  
Xypex Corp  
Phone: (908) 242-9922  
E-mail: bkorteling@xypex.com

**President's Message**

**TEAMWORK**

by Jeff Matles,  
President Metropolitan New York CSI

Teamwork has been defined in the Merriam-Webster dictionary as “work done by several associates with each doing a part but all subordinating personal prominence to the efficiency of the whole.” However, there is no universally accepted definition of “teamwork” in academic literature.

The Metropolitan New York Construction Specifications Institute is a “team of sorts”. Our non-profit group is made up of architects, engineers, industry professionals, and suppliers, all sharing their time, expertise and energy to improve the built environment. Many of our volunteers have served the organization over the years in several different capacities. This has allowed the organization to grow and given us some flexibility. When someone leaves or moves on, others usually step in taking their place. Nothing works “more perfectly” than a well oiled machine where everyone has a role.

The New York Yankees have won many championships over the years with several different key players. Those players like Derrick Jeter, Alex Rodriguez, Curtis Granderson, Robinson Cano, Mark Teixeira, Nick Swisher, Russell Martin, CC Sabathia, Ivan Nova, Phil Hughes, and Mariano Rivera are their core group that makes them go. When a player like Mariano Rivera goes down with a season ending injury, or one retires like Jorge Posada the whole team suffers. Fortunately, others do step up to take their place.



*Continued on page 3- J Matles*

**Committee Chairs 2011 - 2012**

Academic Liaison	Linton Stables III	(212) 353-7207
Certification	Luis Rosrio-Lluveras	(732) 207-7208
Environment	Susan Kaplan	(212) 353-4686
Education	Ruma Som	(201) 612-7459
House	Anthony Drummond	(516) 480-8085
Membership	Tom Lanzelotti	(212) 492-1400
Nominating	Arnie Kravitz	(917) 715-4079
Planning	Bill DuBois	(212) 492-1400
Product Show	Arnie Kravitz	(917) 715-4079
Product Show	Jeff Matles	(845) 558-0123
Program	Robert Crane	(484) 225-6720
Public Relations	Angela Centanni	(732) 796-3037
Technical	Bill DuBois	(212) 492-1400
Golf Outing	Anthony Drummond	(516) 480-8085

*Continued from page 2 - President's Message*

The Metropolitan New York CSI Chapter also has a core group. Our super stars that make us winners are Linton Stables, Arnold Kravitz, Bill DuBois, Tom Lanzelotti, Russell Carpenter, William Jacquette, Susan Kaplan, Anthony Drummond, Angela Centanni, Ruma Som, Clifford Marvin, Bob Crane, Bert Korteling, Kenneth Raikowski, Denis Italia, Louis Rosario, Mary Hosley, and Jeff Matles make things happen...and, there are many who support our organization from behind the scenes, like Scott Tobias and our entire membership and members of associated groups that attend our monthly events.

We are a championship team and a great group for networking.

Come join us.

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## **Congratulations to the incoming Board of Officers**

**President - Jeffrey Matles**  
**Vice President - Anthony Drummond**  
**Vice President - William Jacquette**  
**Secretary - Angela Centanni**  
**Treasurer - Linton Stables III**  
**Director 2012 - Bob Crane**  
**Director 2012 - Tom Lanzelotti**  
**Director 2013 - Arnold Kravitz**  
**Director 2013 - Ken Raikowski**

## **Press Release**

The Metropolitan New York Chapter of  
Construction Specifications Institute (CSI)  
Announces 2012 Trade Show and Seminar  
Event

### **CONNECT NYC: PEOPLE, PRODUCTS & INFORMATION**

*New York, NY, March 01, 2012:* As architects, builders, and product manufacturers we are always subject to many forces and influences. Economic cycles, architectural design trends, environmental concerns, codes and regulations, technology advances, education of new professionals, and current events all shape our industry and the buildings that we make.

There is a new emphasis on energy efficiency, new design and coordination tools in building information modeling, new construction products that reduce waste and improve the indoor environment — all of these and more come to our attention every day, and have the potential to make us better at what we do. Adaptation is the keyword that links us to the future.

The *2012 Annual Metro New York CSI Chapter Trade Show and Education Day* will explore the ways in which you can contribute to better building. Come and learn with us, share your knowledge with us, and interact with others who share your quest for doing a better job of designing and constructing buildings.

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Seminars: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Trade Show 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Architectural Mixer: 5:00PM to 7:00PM

Location: Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 19<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY

No Entry or Seminar Fees, Includes Lunch AIA/CES HSW and CSI CEN Learning Units (Choose from 5 Seminars though out the day)

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Visit us at [www.assaabloydss.com](http://www.assaabloydss.com)

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Submit review

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Punch-list creation

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and hardware schedule

Code compliance and  
installation review

Job site inspection  
services

## What have architects given up?

When architects were Master Builders, they were responsible for an entire project, from beginning to end. Over the years, as buildings became more complex, the architect became the leader of a team of professionals, a Master Builder by committee. However, along the way, a number of things fell aside, leaving others to take on essential functions that apparently were no longer important to the team. The first of these was extensive knowledge of building materials and construction, encouraged by the separation of architecture into separate fields of design and construction.

Since then, architects seem to have less interest in - or less time to address - other things, such as complete design, site services, and estimating. Yes, many architects provide some of those services, and some do better than others, but some have simply allowed others to take them on. And some project delivery systems have reduced the architect's role whether they liked it or not.

Why are architects not fighting to keep these lost services, and allowing others to take more control? Perhaps they are not willing or able to accept the associated risk.

### Complete Design

Architects should know in advance that the completed building and its systems will satisfy all of the owner's needs. Architects spend a great deal of time working on space planning and circulation, but the physical space of a building is only part of the total design. The building also must provide a suitable environment for its occupants; systems should be easily operated and maintained; finishes should be durable, easily maintained, and easily replaceable; and the energy consumption should be within limits established acceptable to the owner.

The architect who concentrates only on spatial and aesthetic qualities, paying little attention to building systems, is not doing the job. The new buildings may look nice, and they may win awards for the architect, but often they don't work as expected. The building envelope leaks, operating costs are too high, mechanical systems are noisy and hard to balance, lights are needlessly bright in some areas but inadequate in others. It's easy to blame the consultants, but the architect is ultimately responsible.

The consequences of the lack of complete design are evident in the demand for commissioning. A separate professional is now called on to analyze building systems, project operating costs, and verify correct operation of those building systems before the owner accepts the building as complete. All of these could be done by the architect's team.

### Site Services

Architects are not responsible for many of the problems encountered in construction. Owners want the most bang for their buck, and they sometimes make poor decisions, sacrificing long-term considerations for lower initial cost. They often encourage architects to cut fees and services in a bidding war, resulting in less time for design, reduced quality control, and less time at the site. A lot can go wrong in a few days, and many problems are concealed by following work. Poor connections, lack of concealed supports, improper materials, and a host of other defective work may go unnoticed for years.

Saving the cost of site observation by the architect is false economy, and architects should fight to keep this unique opportunity to make sure that their own interests, as well as those of the owner, are protected. It's odd that many owners now hire independent representatives and testing agencies to oversee their projects. As architects have given up this basic service, others have moved in to fill the void.

### Estimating

Published monthly, except July and August by:  
The Metropolitan New York Chapter of the Construction Specification Institute, Inc.

Chapter website: [www.csimetronewyork.org](http://www.csimetronewyork.org)  
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Business Card: \$350-10 Issues, Non-Member \$450  
Double Business Card: \$600-10 Issues, Non-Member-  
\$700-10 Issues  
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One of the owner's most important concerns is the budget, and the owner relies on the architect to come up with a design that can be built with the available funds. Shouldn't an architect know enough about costs to design a building that is within the owner's budget? Unfortunately, many design professionals have little knowledge of construction costs, and owners find that bids vary substantially from estimates. Independent estimating firms now offer their services to owners and architects alike. Some owners require the architect to provide estimates, which then are verified by other estimators. To me, that suggests lack of faith in the architect, at least in this area.

#### Construction Management

Architects aren't the only ones who have given up some of their traditional duties. Construction managers have done an excellent job of carving out their own niche, taking over the juicy parts of the architect and the contractor, while leaving the architect and contractor responsible for whatever goes wrong.

There is nothing inherently wrong with construction management. With it, owners can benefit from early involvement of someone with knowledge of construction processes, costs of systems and products, and current market conditions - that someone, in most cases, not being the architect.

These are some of the things architects choose not to do. Next month, we'll look at changes that have reduced the architect's responsibilities, at the same time increasing the importance of the contractor.

p.s. It seems a few readers were a bit put off by the first article in this series, What happened to the Master Builder? Some of my questions may be uncomfortable, but they must be asked. While architects remain leaders of the design team, much of what they did in the past is now done by others, and their importance will continue to decrease unless architects do something to reverse the trend.

Certainly, a well-trained, experienced architect is able bring much to any type of construction project. Architects are generalists, trained to seek optimum relationships and dimensions of spaces to meet the requirements of the owner's program, at the same instilling beauty, from the overall form to the smallest detail. And that, I will argue, is one heck of a job description; it presents a challenge that is virtually impossible to meet. Practical requirements often force the architect to make decisions based on incomplete information, and make it impossible to work out every detail.

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<http://swspecificthoughts.blogspot.com/>,  
<http://twitter.com/swolfearch>

## 2012 Metro NY / Long Isl and CSI Golf Outing South Shore Country Club



### September 18, 2012

The Chapter has set the dates for the Annual Golf Outing. Its a bit later than usual, in September this year instead of the heat of July .

So, if you want to get involved give Anthony Drummond or Bob Crane a call today.

Anthony Drummond - 516-480-8085  
Bob Crane - 484-225-6720

The outing will be held at the South Shore Country Club on Staten Island, NY

The cost is the same as last year at \$175.00 per golfer.

Sponsors please contact Anthony Drummond for sponsorship opportunities, see page 7

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*Continued on page 6-Marksmanship*

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# WHY THE ABYSS?

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

Because very few people have a family history of dealing with an architect, or realizing the benefits of doing so! Houses can be built using builders' plans or those produced by a vocational school trained drafter in the lumber yard office [hence built for a family that is given what someone else thinks they need]. And no one realizes or understands how the safety and sanitary accommodations in their office, stores, churches and schools, etc., are ascertained and provided for— much less how their own mood can be influenced by the physical environment they are in [i.e., the overall design features, the colors, the materials, the relationships, etc.].

Even though from the beginning of history somebody [master builder, etc.] has made decisions and created ideal arrangements for others—individuals, living places, work places, groups, etc. How did all that happen as evidenced by, let's say, the coliseum in Rome? By decree, perhaps?

Let's link two things together— laws requiring careful design and construction, and compliance with those laws by persons specifically educated and trained for such work. Simple building codes and architects [and engineers in some cases].

The first is a function of a civilized society which sees hazard in slip-shod construction, and determines, through laws, to require a certain level of construction which provides the minimum level of safety and sanitation [really protecting the community as a whole from any single non-compliant structure]. This has been distilled down so you now need a building permit [issued after a satisfactory plan review]. AND in many cases a registered professional is required to prepare the documents which show the construction required ["seal law"].

Next, to provide the personnel who are educated and trained to design buildings and other structures which meet the code requirements, the government has created a professional status [i.e., registered architect]. To become registered, one must have a college degree in architecture

[or a similarly named program] and must successfully pass an examination to verify understanding and competence to work in the system [and those registered are required to work in a lawful manner]. From this configuration, it is easy to project architecture as a "learned profession" and worthy of specific and in-depth training in the post secondary format.

Then, Why the Abyss?

Why such disarray? Why incomplete/inadequate education and training? Why less and less college level instruction? Why no specific instruction listed and required in degree requirements [not specific course titles, but detailed instructional areas to ensure complete coverage of primary work required in offices]? Why no discussion? Who, what or what organization has definitive real-world control over the education and registration, in a realistic mode? Why such indifference to "supposed" professionals, registered even though poorly trained? Why an overwhelming disposition toward production machines and little if any toward production document content, quality and thoughtful/ knowledgeable formulation? Why such "amour" with presentation and little with technology, construction, and actual display of how the project is to be built? Why, for a long time have so many, done so little [if anything] to correct a massive shortcoming in instruction/education, in favor of solely theory, glitz, misperceptions and unrealized projects? Why the acceptance of "visions" in lieu of hard facts, principles, methods, techniques and understanding of the process of "vision-realization"?

Why the continuing abyss, not only being ignored, but being denied that it is need of resolution— with hard core, fundamental instruction, and NOT another iteration of "bells and whistles" software. What gets the best of well-conceived design concepts built, occupied and used [as designed]?

The abyss continues and persists— ignored, not spoken of, and deemed irrelevant..... WHY?.....  
.....hmmmmm!

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# **2012 Metro NY / Long Island CSI Golf Outing**

**Tuesday September 19**

## **South Shore Country Club Staten Island**

### **GOLF & SPONSORSHIPS OPPORTUNITIES**

<b>Individual Golfer</b>	<b>\$175.00</b>
<b>Foursome</b>	<b>\$700.00</b>
<b>Hole Sponsorship</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
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<b>Longest Drive</b>	<b>\$200.00 + Donated Prize</b>
<b>First Prize</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>
<b>Second Prize</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>
<b>Third Prize</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
<b>Surprise Prize</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
<b>Dinner Only</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>

**All Members are asked to donate whatever company give aways they would like. We are going to make up gift bags to give to all golfers. We would like to have items from both professional and trade members. Please make sure to send at least 90 pieces. You can send all checks and give aways to;**

**Anthony Drummond**

**68 Barrett Ave**

**Bayport NY 11705**

**516- 480-8085**

**[adrummond@koroseal.com](mailto:adrummond@koroseal.com)**

**Feel free to contact me with any questions.**

## Metropolitan Chapter CSI Monthly Schedule for FY 2012

September 7, 2011 - Casino Night, Beacon Hotel, 2130 Broadway, NY, NY

September 13 - 16 - CONSTRUCT2011, Chicago, IL

October 12, 2011 - Education Day & Tradeshow, Metropolitan Pavillion, 125 West 18th St, NY, NY

November 9, 2011 - CSI and the Future of the Design/Construction Industry, Hafele Showroom,  
25 East 26th Street, NY, NY

December 14, 2011 - Holiday Party, Annie Moore's Restaurant, 50 East 43rd St, NY, NY

January 11, 2011 - Presentations Make a Difference, location TBA

February 8, 2011 - McKim, Mead and White Classical Ideal, Tandus Flooring Showroom,  
71 Fifth Avenue, 2nd fl, NY, NY

March 14, 2011 - Social Media for Construction, Steelcase Showroom, 4 Columbus Circle, NY, NY

April 11, 2011 - High Line Tour and Bowling at 300 Bowl, Chelsea Pier, NY

May 9, 2011 - Networking Live!, Grohe Showroom, 160 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY

June 13, 2011 - Annual Meeting and Awards Night, Annie Moore's, 50 East 43rd St, NY, NY

**Celebrating sixty year as the worlds first CSI Chapter 1951 - 2011**

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Metropolitan NY Chapter  
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