IN THIS ISSUE...

1...
   » 100 Members!
2...
   » Chapter President’s Message
   » Your 2018/2019 Board
   Members Committee Chairs
3...
   » CSI GR Upcoming Events
4...
   » CSI Design Expo Info
5...
   » Events Around the Region
6...
   » Get to Know New Members
7...
   » New Members and Anniversaries
8...
   » We Saw you
9...
   » Number Pick’N
10...
   » Spec That
11...
   » CDT Thoughts
12...
   » Career Changes

MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE

100 MEMBERS!

This past year has seen impressive gains in membership and activity. It is a pleasure serving on this committee and the energy brought to the table. More than 40 joined CSI Grand Rapids this past year bringing our total to over 100 members! This was a concentrated effort by your membership committee, the board, interesting programs, and the CDT classes by Ed Avink.

A key dynamic and big thank you goes to you, our members, averaging 30-40% attendance!

In response to some member suggestions, we held a Survey Monkey and began and will continue to build upon those results for ideas of networking and topics of interest. One of the consistent responses was the perceived value in CSI being the only organization truly bringing together all aspects and people of the building profession. It’s great to have and get to meet so many passionate people one will come across in their work and know them on a personal level.

Events may always be found at: https://www.eventbrite.com/o/csi-grand-rapids-16443485267

We have exciting activities for our members, with the following in February alone:

Thu., February 7th: AIA-CSI networking happy hour
Wed., February 13th: CSI chapter meeting “Jeopardy!”
Thu., February 21st: Women’s social event “wine tasting”

Come join us, spread the word to colleagues, and offer up feedback and ideas to make it great!

JOIN US!
csiresources.org/csigrandrapids
LinkedIn: Construction Specifications Institute - Grand Rapids Chapter
@CSI_GR

Thank you to our generous sponsors:
**WELCOME:**
Thanks to our Membership Committee and Chairman of all things CDT, Ed Avink, I would like to Welcome all of our new Chapter Members!

**COMMUNICATIONS:**
We are working diligently to get our social media streamlined. I understand there has been some confusion over the past few months as to location and times of meetings, but be assured that we are working through these issues!

**MAJOR EVENTS COMING UP:**
- Great Lakes Region Conference (April)
- West Michigan Design Expo (April)
- Scholarship Golf Outing (June)
There is more information on each one of these events within this newsletter. Registration is open for the Region Conference and Design Expo. We will be providing more information on the Scholarship Golf Outing later in the year. Please direct your attention to our website: [www.csiresources.org/csigrandrapids/home](http://www.csiresources.org/csigrandrapids/home)

**FEBRUARY’S PROGRAM:**
This month’s Program is titled: CSI Jeopardy! Your’s truly will be the MC (aka Alex Trebek)! Please plan to attend this educational and fun evening with your fellow CSI’ers! More Information can be found in this Newsletter. Yes, there will be a test after this!

**MEMBERSHIP:**
If you are interested in becoming a member, or know of someone who would like to become a member or would just like more information on becoming a member, please contact Brandon Hartwick: hartwickb@progressiveae.com or Brian Welsh: BWelsh@kingscott.com.

**SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE:**
Speaking of the Scholarship Golf Outing, if you have family or friends that have College Students that are pursuing a degree in a field within our industry, Architecture, Engineering, Interior Design, Facility Management etcetera, please contact Kevin Bush: kbush@kalwall.com for scholarship applications. Applications are due at the end of April.
COME PLAY JEOPARDY - CSI STYLE!

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2019 @ 6 P.M

GARAGE BAR AND GRILL
400 MONROE AVENUE NW | GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Test your project delivery knowledge; study for the CDT and enjoy a beverage or two! Featuring your chapter President, Jeff Murphy as Alex Trebek!

RSVP: ELOVE@WJE.COM

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

» PANEL DISCUSSION
» FAMILY NIGHT OUTING
» CSI JEOPARDY NIGHT
» CSI EXPO
» CHARITY GOLF OUTING
» WOMEN’S WINE TASTING

SOCIAL NETWORKING

CSI GRAND RAPIDS EVENTS

SOCIAL NETWORKING HAPPY HOURS

Go to: https://www.eventbrite.com/o/csi-grand-rapids-16443485267

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2019

Happy Hour Starts @ 4:00 p.m.
DERBY STATION IN EAST GRAND RAPIDS

IN THE WORKS

» MANUFACTURER’S TOUR
» HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE
» REVERSE LUNCH ‘N’ LEARN
» CSI EYE-TO-EYE
  (SPEC/REP “SPEED DATE”)
» SOCIAL NETWORKING
2019 CSI DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION EXPO UPDATE

We are open for booth sales for the upcoming 2019 CSI Design and Construction Expo to be held on April 17, 2019 at the Pinnacle Center in Hudsonville Michigan from 12-7:30. The show will feature AIA CEU Seminars for continuing education, food and beverages available. We will have nearly 70 booths featuring construction products and services, as well as many affiliate associations represented.

Please reach out to your Grand Rapids CSI Board or Expo Committee members or visit the website to reserve your booth or get involved today.

https://www.eventbrite.com/o/csi-grand-rapids-16443485267

CHARLIE APPLEBY CSI, CCPR | MWA/Firestone Building Products | applebycharlie@mwacs.com

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2019
12:30–7:30 PM
The Pinnacle Center | Expo Floor
3330 Highland Drive | Hudsonville, MI 49426 | 616.662.3330
Regional and Chapter Leaders,

The 2019 Great Lakes Regional Conference Website is now live and ready to accept conference registration and sponsors. We have plenty of sponsorship opportunities for members and non-members alike. We have set up a fun and informative Companion program, Hospitality Suite on Thursday and Friday nights, and a Scavenger Hunt on Saturday morning at one of the oldest and most authentic farmer’s markets in the country! Everybody gets a prize! If members don’t want or need to attend all the leadership classes, we have a CEU program running concurrently!

Bring your friends and family and experience the miraculous rebirth of the City of Detroit! You won’t believe it. I guarantee you will learn stuff and have fun!

Sincerely,
Blair Resse
President, Metro Detroit CSI

CONTACT FOR RSVP:
MARK LACKOWSKI, SPECIFYDETROITCSI@GMAIL.COM

CSI GREAT LAKES REGION CONFERENCE 2019 EVENT SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 11, 2019
Registration and Hospitality Suite

Friday, April 12, 2019
Registration
Trade Shows Roundtable
Communications Roundtable
CEU Sessions
Leadership Training
Speaker Event
Programs Roundtable
Membership Roundtable
Keynote Speaker
Hospitality Suite

Saturday, April 13, 2019
Awards Banquet
Tour of Eastern Market

CSI WOMEN’S GROUP: WINE TASTING!

Go to: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/csi-womens-group-wine-tasting-networking-tickets-55087248443

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.
CASCADE WINERY
4665 BROADMOOR AVENUE SOUTHEAST
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49512

Calling AEC industry ladies...
Please join the CSI Women’s Group at the Cascade Winery for the winter event: Wine tasting & networking. This free event begins at 5:30pm and also includes light appetizers. An RSVP is your ticket to a great evening of wine, fun and networking.

Sorry gentlemen, this is a LADIES ONLY event!

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GET TO KNOW NEW MEMBERS

MEET ROGER FABIANO:
Roger has been in the commercial door and hardware industry for over 24 years. He has held roles including estimating, project management, outside sales and manufacturers representative. He is currently with The Eisen Group covering West Michigan. The Eisen Group is a Manufacturer’s Representative Agency established in 1938. Representing various manufacturers in division 08, 10 and 28. The Eisen Group is focused on assisting architects, distributors, and end users in all aspects of design, technical support, and specifications writing for the manufacturers they represent. Roger is happy to be a CSI member and is looking forward to making new connections and being part of the group. He hopes he can contribute and learn from others. Outside of work he enjoys spending time at home with his family and heading out on the open road riding his Harley Davidson.

616-318-2091 | rogerf@eisengroup.com

MEET MARK ZIMMER:
Mark got his start in construction during his early teens as helper for his uncle’s manufactured housing company. During the market downturn he transitioned into renovating homes in Heritage Hill which lead him to join Team Restoration in 2010. Over the years he has transitioned from working in the field to project management and estimating. Today he keeps busy running Team’s residential and commercial remodeling division. When not working, Mark enjoys hiking, running and hanging out with his wife and son. Team Restoration started in 2004 with an initial focus on insurance restoration work. Over the years Team has grown into a mid-size company with the ability to handle all aspects of repairs and remodeling on both residential and commercial properties.

Team Restoration
Cell: 616-558-1010 | Office: 616-863-8118

MEET JESSICA THIEBOUT:
Jessica is a Registered Architect with more than 15 years of building enclosure consulting experience. She has a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Michigan and a Master of Architecture from Texas A&M. She specializes in solving existing building problems and thwarting them in new buildings. Her projects have included high rise restoration in Chicago, design reviews and construction quality assurance in Houston and over seeing building enclosure re-cladding in Saskatchewan. In 2017, Jessica moved back to Grand Rapids, Michigan as a Senior Project Architect with the Building Materials Group at SME. SME is a multi-service engineering and consulting firm that offers a range of services for every stage of the project life cycle. While best known for their environmental and geotechnical services, SME also has experts in Building Materials, Civil Engineering, Construction Materials, Pavements, and Nondestructive testing. As a member of the Building Materials Group, Jessica supports, owners, contractors, HOAs, facility managers, architects and more with the efficiency, construction and maintenance of their buildings.

Jessica looks forward to developing new relationships and serving West Michigan. Outside of work she loves to travel, is a scuba diver, a Jeeper, and an amateur beekeeper. She has traveled through several European countries and throughout the United States and has been scuba diving in Thailand, Honduras and Mexico.

616-901-1327 | Jessica.thiebout@sme-usa.com
NEW CSI MEMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>COMPANY</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GREGORY ALENTZ</td>
<td>FTCH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:galentz@ftch.com">galentz@ftch.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAVE ALPHENAAR</td>
<td>GMB</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Davea@gmb.com">Davea@gmb.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RANDY BAKER</td>
<td>WOLVERINE</td>
<td><a href="mailto:RBaker@WolvGroup.com">RBaker@WolvGroup.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANDREW DARLING</td>
<td>METAL TECH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:andrew@metaltechbuildings.com">andrew@metaltechbuildings.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROGER FABIANO</td>
<td>EISEN</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rogerf@eisengroup.com">rogerf@eisengroup.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIKE HALE</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mhale@rockfordconstruction.com">mhale@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICHAEL HUMBLE</td>
<td>PEL GC</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mike@pelgc.com">mike@pelgc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAN KOWALSKI</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dkowalski@rockfordconstruction.com">dkowalski@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BRIAN LAHAIE</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:blahaie@rockfordconstruction.com">blahaie@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LONG NGUYEN</td>
<td>FTCH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:LHNguyen@ftch.com">LHNguyen@ftch.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADAM NELSON</td>
<td>FTCH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ajnelson@ftch.com">ajnelson@ftch.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VINCENT MATTINA</td>
<td>FTCH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vjmattina@ftch.com">vjmattina@ftch.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIM POTTER</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:tpotter@rockfordconstruction.com">tpotter@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JESSICA SCHUT</td>
<td>KINGSCOTT</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jschut@kingscott.com">jschut@kingscott.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMARI SEALS</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aseals@rockfordconstruction.com">aseals@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAVID SHAFFER</td>
<td>FTCH</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sshaffer@ftch.com">sshaffer@ftch.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NATHAN STADER</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nstader@rockfordconstruction.com">nstader@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JASON VERHEY</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jverhey@rockfordconstruction.com">jverhey@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAMES ZEHR</td>
<td>ROCKFORD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jzehr@rockfordconstruction.com">jzehr@rockfordconstruction.com</a></td>
</tr>
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MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>JOINED</th>
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<tr>
<td>WILLIAM BEDFORD</td>
<td>2/1/2015</td>
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<td>PARADIGM DESIGN, INC.</td>
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<td>VICTOR BYRER</td>
<td>2/28/2018</td>
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<td>COMPASS MANUFACTURING</td>
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<td>DONALD COK</td>
<td>2/26/1998</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>A.M.D.G. ARCHITECTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHARLES JYLHA</td>
<td>2/3/2001</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>SKYLOFT STUDIO-R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICHAEL SICKLESTEEL</td>
<td>2/27/2017</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>CENTRIA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THOMAS STURR</td>
<td>2/9/2017</td>
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</tbody>
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CHAPTER CHALLENGE

This fiscal year the Region has offered a challenge and incentive to each chapter. The Challenge: increase chapter membership by at least 10 new members. The Incentive: the Region will cover Institute membership fees and the Chapters provide chapter fees to bring in new members for a year. If you know of anyone who could benefit by being in CSI and is in an architectural or engineering firm or contractor that currently is not involved in CSI, please contact a member of the GR Chapter board. To date, this program has brought in over two dozen new members in 6 of the 13 chapters in our region.

For more information contact: BWELSH@KINGSCOTT.COM
CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

CSI GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP

Every spring we enjoy the fellowship and fun outdoors with the Annual James “Hojo” Hojnacki Scholarship Golf Outing to raise money for the next generation! Here is some information of how a student may benefit from that generosity:

In addition to serving on the Detroit and Lansing CSI board of directors, Kevin Bush is involved with the Grand Rapids chapters Academic Scholarship Committee.

If you know of a deserving student with a minimum 3.0 GPA that is studying architecture, engineering, or construction technology, please feel welcome to share this financial assistance opportunity with them.

Applications must be submitted to the chapter by April 26, 2019. More information can be found on our website or by contacting Kevin Bush for an application form:

KEVIN BUSH | 734.210.8273 | kbush@kalwall.com

Award amounts vary depending on the number of qualified candidates.

WE SAW YOU

WE SAW YOU AT

MSU RESEARCH CENTER TOUR

We had a great turn-out for the MSU Research tour and the Atwater Brewery social after. About 1/3 of our membership responded. The event was a pre-tour presentation on the public/private funding dynamics, downtown property ownership trades for accumulation of the site, and future planning followed by a tour. Some of the interesting shares were backgrounds into forward thinking space planning of researcher and lab areas brought about by advances in the field; space constraints posed by funding and urban infill sites; future connectivity to the north side of I-96; MSU brand presence and continuation of the Michigan Medical Mile urban wall; cost saving measures such as “curtain” style construction weather barriers; considerations for LEED; backup measures for HVAC in case the municipal steam fails as it did a few years ago; and unique perspectives about the clean environment preservation for the animal laboratory. The walking tour showcased features such as reuse of the GR Press building’s copper roof within the lobby, atria, lab and support areas. Thank you all for a successful meeting and networking!
The following article is the second of several revisiting a series originally published between 2005-2008, called “Number Pick’n”. They take some obscure or interesting item and present a sometimes semi-serious, sometimes just plain fun pondering of where to specify it. Enjoy!

GARY BEIMERS, FCSI, CDT, CSC, SCIP

MF NUMBER PICK’N – CATTLE GUARDS

Cattle Guards (aka Stock Guards) are a roadbed detail originally devised to prevent cattle from going through openings in rangeland fence lines created for the railroads to go through. For many years they were a common and essential part of rural railroading, particularly in the West and Southwest. Early Cattle Guards were constructed of wood, with wings on each side of the track where the fence connected, and wooden stringers of triangular shape set parallel to the rails that gave livestock unsure footing and prevented them from straying across the opening.

Most Cattle Guards today are also used where gates cannot be used for openings in fence lines for vehicular traffic, including off-road cycles. They typically employ horizontal steel rails, transverse to the road, spaced four to six inches apart, placed at fence openings, in shallow dug-out pits in the roads or trails adjacent to highways (sometimes across highways), to prevent cattle from crossing. Cattle and other hoofed animals will not step on the guards, because of the unsure footing.

Cattle Guards are constructed “work results” or manufactured “products.” They can be made of wood, concrete, or metal. I was able to identify a few companies offering manufactured Cattle Guards.

Soooo . . . where do we deal with them.

05 50 00 Metal Fabrications . . . some are fabricated from metal
06 10 53 Miscellaneous Rough Carpentry . . . some are wooden, particularly those for off-road trails
05 53 00 Metal Gratings . . . the working surface is like a grating
10 81 00 Pest Control Devices . . . one could say a cow in the way of a moving vehicle is a pest
11 14 00 Pedestrian Control Devices . . . are cows pedestrians???
11 92 00 Agricultural Equipment . . . this area does include equipment for “raising livestock”, but this isn’t the right place for cattle guards.
13 19 13 Kennel Enclosures and Gates . . . see 34 21 00 below.
32 17 26 Tactile Warning Surfaces . . . it’s the openings between the bars to be feared
32 31 00 Fences and Gates . . . they are used in place of gates in fence lines. Are “invisible fences” really fences? Are virtual gates actually gates? One could build a case for addressing them here. Many of the manufacturers of cattle guards, also manufacture farm-type gates.
32 34 00 Fabricated Bridges . . . does the feature being spanned have to be deep?
34 71 13 Vehicle Barriers . . . as the title suggests, this level 3 section deals with barriers for vehicles. The level 2 section is 34 71 00 Roadway Construction, which is defined as construction specifically intended for roadways.
34 75 00 Roadway Equipment . . . the only level 3 section here is for operable roadway equipment and includes active vehicle barriers.
34 76 13 Roadway Crossing Control Equipment . . . title sure sounds like what they do, but this section is a level 3 under the level 2 section, 34 76 00 Railway Equipment. And while they were originally used for railways, usage today is for vehicles. Besides, this section deals with roads crossing railways, not cattle.

Key considerations are that Cattle Guards are functionally “barriers” that are constructed or installed in a rail, road, or trail at fence openings. So, as a work result, I guess I’d entertain the thought of a level 3 section in 34 71 00 Roadway Construction. However, since a constructed road, in the traditional sense, isn’t always required I could be swayed to something closer to 32 31 00 Fences and Gates.

THE REST OF THE STORY: Shortly after this article first appeared, the MasterFormat Maintenance Task Team approved a new number and title – 32 31 53 “Cattle Guards”. 

RAPID RIVER RAMBLINGS   CSI Grand Rapids Chapter
**Michigan by the Numbers**

- **12 14 00 Sculptures**

**MasterFormat Remember When**

- **05 51 23 Fire Escapes**
  - Wright Kay Building Detroit

**Say What?**

- **10 14 00 Signage**

**Safety First?**

- **01 35 29 Health, Safety, and Emergency Response**

**Spec That!**

- **34 41 13 Traffic Signals**

**X + Y = ?**

- **32 16 23 Sidewalk**
- **32 17 23 Pavement Marking**
- **11 67 43 Table Game Equip**
For those of you registered for the current CDT class with Ed Avink, CONGRATULATIONS and best wishes to you for success in your new skill-set. Below is an interesting blog post that sums up one person’s thoughts on the importance it brings to projects. Enjoy! - Brian Welsh

Advantage Goes to the CDT — The Value of CSI CDT Certification

Vicky Fleer, CDT, CCS, CSI
Reid Middleton

I’ve been preparing project manuals and editing specifications at Reid Middleton for the past two decades; so I was disillusioned when an engineer told me that, “No one reads the specs unless they have to.” No one had vocalized that particular “truth” to me before, but I do understand how daunting project manuals (aka specs) must be to the uninitiated and faint of heart.

Just as it is easier to find a word in the dictionary when you can spell, locating information quickly in a project manual is easier when you’re a Construction Document Technologist (CDT). CDT training reduces the intimidation factor associated with reading specs, making the volume(s) less daunting and (I’m probably being optimistic here) more inviting.

I think one problem people have with specs is that specs don’t have the same “picture is worth a thousand words” appeal as the drawings, but the specs are extremely important. Specs complement the drawings—containing information not found on the drawings. Specs contain all of the contractually important, somewhat boring, clearly intimidating, legalese for the project. They specify the quality, materials, workmanship, and administrative procedures. Specs are essential to a well designed, low-risk project—even if they are not well liked or read.

The CDT approach to design is pro-active. CDTs know how to develop and read the specs. They have a conceptual understanding of construction documents and contractual relationships. CDTs are versed in construction document administration, spec writing, product research and sourcing, and communication with design and contracting teams. They produce better bid packages for Owners and resolve questions quickly at the construction site. CDT training makes the paper chase less off-putting and saves time and budget.

CAREER CHANGE

DO YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF STATUS?

Did you change status in contact, job title or employer? If so, take a moment to update with CSI in addition to LinkedIn and your other social media presence. Go to www.csiresources.org log yourself in and select “profile” under your avatar button in the upper right of the web page. It is the best way to let your fellow members contact you and to assure you receive CSI updates and newsletters. If you would like to be featured in the newsletter for a change, please notify either your chapter liaison Brian Welsh at BWelsh@kingscott.com or communications chair Christopher Alexander at alexanderc@progressiveae.com to share your news!
**Jana Cooper**, AIA, LEED AP has nearly 20 years of combined experience as an architect, project manager and construction manager. After graduating from the University of Michigan, she moved to New York City where she worked on several large corporate projects. Some of her clients included, MTV, Nokie and the New York Police Academy. Her specialties involve detailing and coordinating design and construction documents along with construction administration. She has also worked within the marketing sector of the industry, formulating several contacts for new business development.

After spending five years as a construction manager in the Grand Rapids area, Jana has returned to architecture as a project architect/project manager for Elevate Studio.

jana@elevatestudio.net

**Randy Meulenberg** began his career in the building trades working part time at a local lumber yard while in high school and while attending Michigan State University. Randy further integrated himself into the field as a sales representative for residential millwork products with Victor S Barnes, a Grand Rapids distributor. In 1997 he joined S.A. Mormon & Co. as an architectural estimator before spending over 17 years with Charter Industries in the capacities of sales and business development for the national commercial furniture, fixture and casework markets. His career path led him back to architectural building products as the West Michigan sales representative with The Eisen Group, where he represented Hager Hardware, Special-Lite, Bendheim, Ambico, Bobrick and other Division 8 and 10 manufacturers.

Currently Randy Meulenberg is Director of Sales Midwest for REHAU, a polymer manufacturer to commercial and residential furniture, fixture, casework and cabinet markets. REHAU is a German company who provides polymer solutions across the globe in many construction, industrial and automotive markets. REHAU leads the market with an emphasis on innovation, design and detail driven by a strong engineering culture. Randy Meulenberg principals a sales team and business development efforts in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas with edgebanding, extrusions, surfaces, cabinet doors among other products.

Randy’s driving force is his passion for customer satisfaction and to lead with the most innovative products available to the market. He appreciates that CSI reflects this by offering an educational forum for so many intertwined industries.

Director of Sales - Midwest, Furniture Solutions
www.REHAU.com | 616.600.5050 | 888.734.2810 | randy.meulenberg@rehau.com
# MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

**Personal Information**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Married</th>
<th>Single</th>
<th>Dr</th>
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First name: ___________________________  Middle initial: ___________________________

Last name: ___________________________

Title: ___________________________

Firm name: ___________________________

Website: ___________________________

Mailing Address: ___________________________

City | State | Zip: ___________________________

Business phone: ( ______ )  Fax: ( ______ )

Email: ___________________________

Date of birth: ___________________________

Occupation code: ___________________________

Firm type code: ___________________________

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**Institute and Chapter Dues**

*See Institute dues above and chapter dues on reverse side.*

Institute Dues (see types of membership to the left) $________

Home Chapter Name (see reverse) $________

Additional Chapter(s) Name(s) $________

Membership Certificate (optional) $15.00

Total (US funds only) $________

Signature* ___________________________

*Required to validate your enrollment form.

**Credit Card Payment**

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<th>AMEX</th>
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*Signature required for credit card authorization.
Occupation Codes

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<td>101</td>
<td>Architect</td>
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<td>102</td>
<td>Forensic Architect</td>
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<td>117</td>
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<td>Project Information Manager</td>
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 Locate the numbers corresponding to your occupation and type of firm, then write them in on the front of this form.

CHAPTER DUES

CSI has chapters nationwide and one virtual, web-based chapter. These chapters hold monthly meetings featuring guest speakers and educational programs of national and local interest. Chapter members network with peers and develop leadership skills by serving on chapter committees. Use the chapter list below to locate the chapter nearest you. Write the name of the chapter(s) you join and the related dues in the space indicated on the front of this application. Dues rates listed below are for Professional and Student memberships. Please write the name of the chapter(s) you join and its dues on the application. To contact a chapter to learn when and where it usually meets, visit www.csiresources.org/communities/components

Firm Codes

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<td>Academic</td>
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<td>313</td>
<td>Association/Technical Society</td>
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*Includes all or some meals. CSI allocates $16.50 of membership dues to The Construction Specifier magazine. Please check with your tax professional regarding appropriate business deductions for membership dues.

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