



March 2020

Volume 56, Issue 8

March Meeting Details

Place

Design Collective
601 East Pratt Street; Suite 300
Baltimore, Maryland

Thursday, March 12, 2020

4:30 Board Meeting
5:30 Attitude Adjustment
6:30 Program

**Make your reservation before
Noon**

**Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Chapter notifies the Restaurant
of reservation number on
Tuesday afternoon**

RSVP at



Cost Alternatives With Reservation

\$35 per person

\$25 for Emerging Professionals

Without Reservation

\$40 per person

Payment due for reservations made

**Cash or Checks
(But No Credit Cards)
Accepted at the Meeting**

Make checks payable
in the exact amount to
" **Baltimore Chapter CSI** "

See the last page for More Information
on Using Paypal and EventBrite

March's Program

Why Peanut Butter Is Good for a Sandwich BUT NOT FOR YOUR AIR BARRIER

Strange as it may sound, some researchers actually tested a film of peanut butter according to the ASTM test method for air barriers, and the peanut butter performed admirably to the point of meeting the criteria of an air barrier. We don't know whether it was Jif™, Peter Pan™, Skippy™, a generic brand, or a gourmet brand. But that doesn't mean you should slather your favorite brand of peanut butter on the skin of your building.

According to Sections C402.5.1.2.1 and R402.4.1.1 of the International Energy Conservation Code certain panel materials, certain spray-applied foams, fully-adhered roofing membranes, masonry assemblies, cast-in-place concrete, and metal sheets are air barriers without special testing, with joints and penetrations of the materials are sealed. Requirements for residential structures include mandatory air leakage testing while commercial structures are not required to be tested for air leakage. When sustainability programs are implemented, commercial structures must be tested for air leakage.

Learn more about building materials which meet criteria of an air barrier, but should not be used or relied upon to act as an air barrier. We will have a representative from the Air Barrier Association of America do the explaining.

April's Program

We are ironing out details for the meeting, and we don't have anything to announce right now.

Board Members Officers

President	Marty Jakovics	443-928-9173
1st V.P.	Katherine Good	410-290-9680
2nd V.P.	Jim Clancy	410-980-2888
Secretary	Samuel Grant	443-608-2034
Treasurer	Steven Evans	443-442-7699
Past Pres.	Liz Stone	443-866-6690

Directors

FY 19-20	Meagan Elfert	410-790-8161
FY 19-20	Brian Lockwood	717-817-1713
FY 19-20	Scott Sider	410-290-9680
FY 20-21	Michael Gilbert	
FY 20-21	Todd Guntner	410-409-2100
FY 20-21	Henrique Kempenich	
FY 20-21	Brian Porter Jr.	

Committee Chairs

Awards	Jim Clancy	410-980-2888
Certification	[Vacant]	
Elec Comm	Meagan Elfert	410-790-8161
Finance	Steven Evans	410-916-1910
Handbook	Scott Sider	410-290-9680
House	Katherine Good	410-290-9680
Mtg Exhibitors	Todd Guntner	410-234-3600
Membership	Brian Lockwood	717-817-1713
Newsletter	Scott Sider	410-290-9680
Nominations	[Vacant]	
Planning	Cindy Adkins	410-937-6764
Prof Dvlpmnt	Scott Sider	443-573-2248
Programs	Liz Stone	443-866-6690
Tellers	Scott Sider	410-290-9680
William J. Grabowski Scholarship Fund	Liz Stone	443-866-6690

Check the Chapter Website
www.csibaltimore.org
 or
www.baltimorecsi.org
 for information about Chapter
 events and activities

Join us at feltpoints.blogspot.com

Editorial Policy Notice

The Constellation acts as a moderator without approving, disapproving, or guaranteeing the validity or accuracy of any data, claim or opinion appearing under a byline or obtained or quoted from an acknowledged source.

The opinions expressed by authors do not necessarily reflect the official views of the Baltimore Chapter CSI or The Construction Specifications Institute.

Editorial deadline is the last Wednesday of each month.

President's Message

Thank you to Katherine Good, Scott Sider, and Waldon Studio Architects for organizing and hosting our meeting last month. If you were not able to make it, we had a great presentation from the International Masonry Institute not only how to avoid masonry assembly failures, but also how the masonry industry is evolving, embracing change, and collaborating with the industry as a whole to continue to grow, educate, be better, and perform to high standard. Sound familiar? Working in the construction industry is HARD. As I discussed in my last President's Message, communication is challenging, but so is how a building is constructed, from the initial design phase to completion. In our respective roles we have challenges from within our companies and from the outside of the design and construction of building. From these challenges comes the opportunity to educate on best practices, learn from mistakes, failures, and inspire to do better. There is also the opportunity to challenge ourselves to innovate, not be afraid to think, and do differently but always do right ethically.

Chip Mason, co-founder of the recently sold Legg-Mason (hoping this is good for Baltimore) had a saying and always emphasized to his employees, the importance of "not getting chalk on your shoes." It was a reference to baseball players going out of bounds and getting chalk on their footwear. Once you go out of bounds you cannot come back.

It seems that recently, more often in the construction news, I am reading about project failures and the consequences of those failures for all involved. These are significant with a lot of finger pointing, who is wrong, was it design, did the contractor use an inferior system, did the subcontractor not install properly, was it a manufacturing defect or a promise, or did someone get "chalk on their shoes?" Typically, we do not find out. It becomes a legal matter. It is costly for all parties involved, not only financially, but trust and reputations also. This is something as a CSI Chapter and CSI members we can bring value and learning to educate and communicate the importance of project specifications and how important it is to follow the 4 C's of Clear, Concise, Correct, and Complete.

Please join us at our next meeting, March 12th at Design Collective's Office, Air Barrier Association of America will be in town to present, "Why Peanut Butter is Good for a Sandwich, but Not for Your Air Barrier."

[Marty Jakovics](#), CSI-EP, CDT
 Chapter President

Middle Atlantic Region Conferences

The Charlottesville Chapter will be hosting the [2020 Region Conference](#) April 2 to 5 in Harrisonburg, VA.

It's Election Time!

INSTITUTE

CSI's 2020 election will open on March 11 with posting of candidate profiles on www.csiresources.org. Ballots will arrive in your email on March 24th. As in past years, this year all ballots will be cast online. Election closes on April 7, 2020. Election results will be announced on www.csiresources.org on April 15th.

REGION

Middle Atlantic Region election will not be held, since the Officers are in middle of their terms. The next Region election is in 2021.

CHAPTER

You will receive a ballot via email. Please vote by April 15, 2020



Board Meeting Highlights February 2020

President Marty Jakovics thanked everybody for attending the meeting.

Vice President Katherine Good stated that the web site is up to date.

Handbook Chair Scott Sider reported that the Handbook has been updated and distributed to the Electronic Communications Committee for posting on the Chapter website.

House Chair Katherine Good reported that next month we meet at the offices of Design Collective.

There was some continued discussion of use of a "call list," as discussed in January. That would involve assigning various Board members and Officers to call members, such members having not recently attended meetings. We want everyone to attend in March, so that we can work out the details of this list. Discussion as to who had joined the Chapter recently.

Newsletter Chair Scott Sider reported that **The Constellation** went out. Discussion followed regarding how it might assist membership development, including spotlighting a member each month. This included sending questions to a member each month, and having the member's answers placed in the newsletter including photos of the spotlighted members. Director Michael Gilbert is going to start work on such an idea.

Nominations for next fiscal year's Officers and Directors needs to be established. We will need two new Directors for the coming fiscal year. Currently, we have four directors for the next two years. One Director seat drops out this cycle, and one drops out the next election cycle.

Professional Development Chair Scott Sider, reported that the seminars are in progress, with six students. One is attending remotely, and that is working fine.

Air Barrier Association of America will present in March. April and May are open. In June, we have Green Globes. A social event is tentatively planned for May. Treasurer Steve Evans added that this would have budget consequences. All were urged to keep ideas in mind for future programs.

Table Top Sponsorships Chair Todd Guntner, indicated that as we go to smaller venues for our meetings, we're less likely to have potential presenters interested. Todd will try to arrange something for March, as Design Collective has a large conference room.

Katherine reported on the results from the Middle Atlantic Region survey. Twenty-four MAR Board or Committee members responded, with 40 non-board or committee members. Overall, it was a lukewarm response; being split between "Strongly Agree/Agree" and "Disagree/Strongly Disagree," with relatively high percentage of "Neither Agree or Disagree" responses. Items such as effectiveness of leadership training, education, and Chapter support were split between agree and disagree. Where respondents were asked to rank what's most important, "Support the Chapters within Region" was by far ranked as the greatest importance. Initial conclusions of the survey:

- Respondents feel that it is most important for the Middle Atlantic Region to support the Chapters of the Region, but there is plenty of room for improvement.
- Leadership training (Chapter and Region) is important, followed by Middle Atlantic Region Conference and online education (again, there is room for improvement here).
- Promotion of certification at Region is not important. It should be done by the Institute.

Marty reminded everybody that Middle Atlantic Region Conference will be held in Harrisonburg, Virginia and members should sign up. When making hotel reservations, call the hotel instead of using the Conference's website's link for hotel reservations.

Sam Grant, CSI
Chapter Secretary
sgrant@gfnet.com

Tensile Strength

We know that steel is strong in resisting compressive and tensile forces. However, we rarely see practical examples of these strengths. Strangely, when building are demolished steel shows its strength fighting against the demolition efforts. Below are some photos of a reinforced concrete beam where a portion was hanging on for life, and fighting the demolition crew. Sadly, it met its demise shortly after the photos were taken.



Eventbrite

The Chapter has implemented Eventbrite for making and paying for Chapter meeting reservations. Paypal will remain the method for monthly meeting Tabletop Sponsor payments meeting Tabletop Sponsor payments.

Calendar Of Events

March

- 12 Baltimore Chapter Meeting. *Why Peanut Butter is Good for a Sandwich, but Not for Your Air Barrier*, presented by the Air Barrier Association of America's research group at Design Collective's office at 601 East Pratt Street, Suite 300.
- 18 Registration Ends at Cheap Rates for CDT®, CCS, and CCCA Exams.
- 19 Registration Opens at Medium Cost Rates for CDT®, CCS, and CCCA Exams. CSI Members save about \$85 on the Expensive Rates.
- 31 Registration Ends at Cheap Rates for CDT®, CCS, and CCCA Exams.

April

- 1 Registration Opens at Expensive Cost Rates for CDT®, CCS, and CCCA Exams.
- 2-5 [Middle Atlantic Region Conference](#) at the Madison Hotel at 710 South Main Street in Harrisonburg, Virginia.
- 7&8 The Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA) is holding their [9th Annual Building Envelope Conference](#) at the Hyatt Regency in Reston, VA on April 7 and 8, 2020. The conference will provide two full days of learning tracks specific to design professionals, consultants, general contractors, subcontractors, and other trade professionals. Discount Code for CSI Members: ABAA_CSI
- 9 Baltimore Chapter Meeting. Program to be announced.
- 30 Registration Ends at Expensive Cost Rates for CDT®, CCS, and CCCA Exams.

May

- 4 CDT®, CCS, and CCCA Exam period begins.
- 14 Baltimore Chapter Meeting. Program to be announced.

June

- 5 CDT®, CCS, and CCCA Exam period ends.
- 11 Baltimore Chapter Meeting. Green Globes.

March Anniversaries

Adam Gibbs, CSI	1
Donald Harris, CSI, CCS, CCCA, CDT	33
Erik Larsen, CSI, CDT	22

New Members

Rami Tarraf, CSI

