

Stay Current

with what's happening in the Housatonic Chapter

Join us every 3rd Tuesday of the month for our regular meeting, dinner and some education.

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Tuesday, May 20

program:

"Total Bathroom Design"

by **Luke Bromann** of
TOTO USA

time/location::

6:00 pm,
Citrus Restaurant, Milford

Tuesday, June 19

program:

Presidents Night

time/location::

6:00 pm,
Portofino, New Haven

Presidential Ponderings

Greetings CSI Housatonic Chapter Members-

I am serving my last few months as president before stepping aside as the new President of your choosing steps in. Did you vote for Chapter officers? I enjoyed my tenure as President mostly due to a very competent and supportive core group of leaders who helped direct the Housatonic Chapter. We had very few, and mostly minor hiccups and some great meetings. As always we could use some new leadership, and more support at our meetings. Did you attend any meetings since September. If not, then consider attending our May meeting, or Presidents' Night in June. Contact Roy Olsen (rolsen@jci.com) for more information, and to make a reservation for upcoming meetings.

Our April meeting with CSI Hartford Chapter was a rousing success with 31 attendees participating in a Specifiers' Round Table discussion. Thanks to Ross Spiegel for assembling a crack team of 4 heavy hitting specification writers who fielded several questions from Ross and the attendees. The round table discussion meeting format is quickly becoming a member favorite if attendance is any indicator. Thanks to all who participated!

The 2019 Region Conference committee is diligently planning for this upcoming conference. If you have not saved the date, save it now. The meeting is slated for May 16-18, 2019 tentatively held at the Marriott in Hartford. Stay tuned for more information as the program comes together!

That's it for now folks. Wishing you all the best that Spring in Connecticut has to offer!

Chris Meyers, CSI, President, CSI Housatonic Chapter

Results from CSI's 2018 National Election are in!

The 2018 National Election has concluded and the following members are elected to serve on the CSI Board of Directors, with terms beginning July 1, 2018.

[Marvin Kemp, FCSI, CDT](#) - Chair-Elect
[William Hayward, CSI, CCCA](#) - Treasurer
[Jonnie Cox, FCSI](#) - Director-at-Large
[William Sundquist, CSI](#) - Director from the Gulf States Region
[Arthur Featherstonhaugh IV, CSI, CDT](#) - Director from the Northeast Region
[Gene Fosheim, CSI](#) - Director from the Northwest Region
[T.J. Gottwalt, FCSI, CCPR](#) - Director from the Southeast Region
[Mitch Lawrence, CSI, CCS, CCCA](#) - Director from the West Region

To see a complete list of the CSI Board of Directors for the FY19 fiscal year (July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019) go to www.csiresources.org/institute/csi-election.

Interested in attending?
contact

Roy Olsen, CSI CCS
rolsen@jci.com

Special Lapsed Certification Reinstatement Program

Achieving a CSI certification is a significant accomplishment, and I am writing to convey important news about certification renewal. You are receiving this message because you are a chapter or region leader, and in advance of communication to the affected members.

CSI acknowledges that past communication regarding renewal requirements for CSI certifications has been inconsistent, and may have resulted in some individuals missing the opportunity to maintain their certification. Therefore, CSI is offering a one-time **Lapsed Certification Reinstatement Program**.

The one-time reinstatement period will be open April 15 to October 15, 2018. This offer is available to any individual having held a CSI certification which lapsed on or after June 30, 2014.

The following certifications will be included in the program:

- Certified Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA)
- Certified Construction Specifier (CCS)
- Certified Construction Product Representative (CCPR)

The Lapsed Certification Reinstatement Program offers a clear path for applicants to update their credentials.

When:

- April 2, 2018: Program announcement to lapsed certificants
- April 15, 2018: October 15, 2018 – Open application period via csiresources.org

To apply, individuals must submit the following no later than October 15, 2018.

- Completed Application Form: Provided on www.csiresources.org beginning April 15, 2018.
- Completed Continuing Education Reporting Form: Provided on www.csiresources.org beginning April 15, 2018.
- \$195 Special Reinstatement Fee

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact CSI at certification@csinet.org.

Specifiers Speak Out .. Again: More to Say About Specifications

A Panel Discussion on Specifications

April 10, 2018 - Wood-n-Tap Restaurant, 2100 Dixwell Ave. Hamden, CT

“Specifiers Speak Out Again: More to Say About Specifications.

A Panel Discussion on Specifications” event was jointly event sponsored by The Housatonic and Hartford Chapters. The program featured a panel of some of the leading specifiers practicing in Connecticut today. Richard Abrahams, RA, CSI, CCCA from Silver Petrucelli + Associates, Roy Olsen, RA, CSI, CCS, LEED AP from JCJ Architecture, • Traci R. Hillebrecht, NCARB from Architx, LLC and Ted Smith RA, NCARB, CSI, CCS from Moser Pilon Nelson, Architects, LLC

Moderator Ross G. Spiegel, FCSI, FAIA, CCS, CCCA, LEED AP BD+C from The SLAM Collaborative led the panel in a round robin discussion of specification writing issues that confront them on a daily basis and how they resolve them.

The topics were timely and pertinent and the discussions were active and spirited.

1. Addendums – Do you love them or hate them? Why do you feel that way about them?
2. Your specifications are perfect so how did that typo slip into the section on roofing?
3. How often do you ask for product information from the project team only to get it on the day that project has to go out bid? And why is this a problem?
4. Whose responsibility is it to coordinate specifications prepared by multiple consultants with those prepared by you? Has your opinion changed since you began writing specifications?
5. What are air barriers and how do you specify them? Are they different from vapor barriers?
6. If you could choose a different profession, knowing what you know now, what would it be? And why?
7. How do you explain the importance of specifications to achieving design intent to other team members? How successful are you in getting buy-in from them?
8. Substitution requests/or equal/performance specifications: which one gives you the most heartburn?
9. What is your opinion of specifying new, untried products on projects?

The event was well attended and considered a huge success. By popular demand this program promises to become an annual event.



Specifiers Speak Out



Specifiers Speak Out

CDT as Certification Transition

The CDT certificate is the cornerstone of CSI's credentialing programs, providing a comprehensive overview for anyone who writes, interprets, enforces, or manages construction documents. I am writing to communicate some important and upcoming changes to the program. After several years, and following the lead of volunteer leadership, CSI is about to complete several steps toward elevating the CDT to a certification.

While the CDT certificate has many features of a certification, including encouragement to use CDT after one's name and "lifetime" validity, it is not. In fact, the norm for certificates is that they also have a finite period of validity—not lifetime—and certificate letters are not used after one's name. In the interest of increasing the professional standing of the CDT and reconcile these issues. beginning on July 1, 2018, the CDT certification program will include eligibility prerequisites and ongoing professional learning hours for renewal. This provides assurance to the public that CDT holders are tested on and will maintain contemporary knowledge.

There are no required actions by CDT certificate holders at this time.

Beginning on July 1, 2018, the CDT certification will renew on a three-year cycle and carry with it the following renewal requirements:

- 24-hours of Continuing Education
- Renewal Application including Attestation to Current Terms & Conditions
- Payment of a renewal fee

Current CDT holders may continue to use CDT as a post-nominal until June 30, 2021. To continue using "CDT" following their name after June 30, 2021, CDT certificants must meet the requirements for renewal.

CDT certifications issued after June 30, 2018 are renewed on a 3-year cycle based on the year the credential is obtained (Ex: a CDT certification obtained in 2019 renews June 30, 2022.)

This information will be communicated to the broader membership and updated on the CSI website.

Of particular note is the potential benefit to regions and chapters, as this change should add additional value to the continuing education you offer.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact CSI at certification@csinet.org.

Adoption Process for the 2018 Connecticut State Building and Fire Safety Codes:

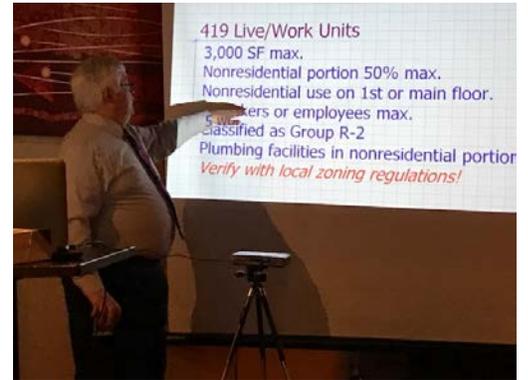
The State Building Inspector, State Fire Marshal and the Codes and Standards Committee announced on December 29, 2016 intent to adopt the 2018 State Building and Fire Safety Codes based on the 2015 editions of the International Code Council (ICC) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) documents.

Technical review of these codes is being conducted by the Committee's Codes Amendment Subcommittee (CAS) along with DAS staff. This review began January 2017 and was completed with the Codes and Standards Committee's approval for DAS to move both codes the legislative approval process at its November 8, 2017 meeting. The intended effective date for the new code is July 1, 2018.

Events:

2016 State Building Code Changes

Milton Gregory Grew, AIA, CSI presented to the attending members at the Tuesday, March 20 Housatonic Chapter Meeting, an overview of the changes made in the upcoming roll-out of the 2016 Connecticut State Building Code.



Housatonic & Hartford Chapters host the 2019 Northeast Region Conference

Theme: Challenges of Cold Weather Construction

Tentative date is May 16-18, 2019

Location is between Marriott in Hartford and Radisson in Cromwell

Region Conference Highlights include a table top trade show with 30 tables available on a first-come basis, at least 4 theme-related educational seminars with learning credits, Friday night Region banquet, and social activities for attendees and families among other goodies. There will be plenty of sponsorship opportunities for vendors, and others interested in promoting their products, or services to the CSI Northeast Region attendees.

CONSTRUCT 2018 Make plans to attend

CONSTRUCT is the only dedicated national trade show and education conference for commercial building teams that spec ad source building products. **CONSTRUCT** links thousands of industry colleagues that are focused on practical, real-world knowledge for continued building success **CONSTRUCT** offers a variety of different solutions-driven learning opportunities for you to stay up-to-date on the latest trends, work smarter, boost your career, and earn continuing education credits.



For complete schedule and exhibition and educational information for this event visit:

<https://www.constructshow.com/en/home.html.html>

The Literary Corner..... celebrating spring!

Trees

By [Joyce Kilmer](#)

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.



VINCENT VAN GOGH: "Iris", 1889 - oil on canvas,

"Trees" is a lyric poem by American poet Joyce Kilmer. Written in February 1913, it was first published in Poetry: A Magazine of Verse that August and included in Kilmer's 1914 collection, *Trees and Other Poems*.

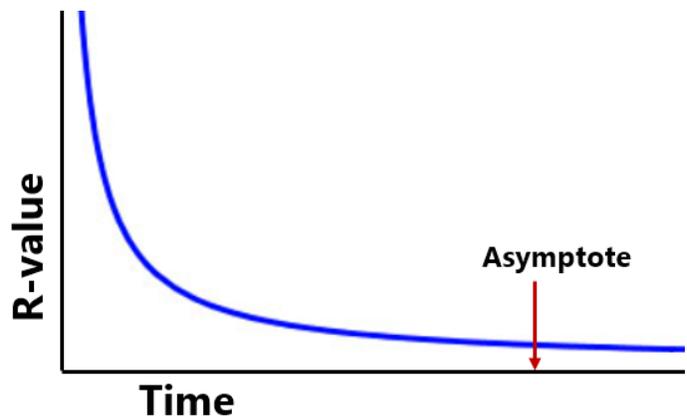
Van Gogh painted this famous canvas when he was living at the mental asylum of Saint-Rémy. The whole canvas is filled with the splendor and charm of the nature. Curiously, the red flowers at the top of the painting look like an echo of the red floor, while the white flower of the left is "reflected" in a pale blue one at the right.

Spock as a Specifier

by Sheldon Wolfe

In our never-ending search for truth in specifications, we often lose sight of reality. We're inundated with advertising, product data, test reports, and white papers; where once specifiers complained about a lack of information, we now struggle to keep up with what we receive. We can't know what we don't know, and we have no time to evaluate what we have seen. As if that weren't bad enough, we often find that what we thought we knew isn't true.

As an example, consider building insulation. The way it works and its value have been understood since antiquity, and until recently we have felt comfortable with evaluating, specifying, and detailing various types of insulation. And then everything began to unravel.....[READ MORE ›](#)



READ THE FULL ARTICLE:

<http://swconstructivethoughts.blogspot.com/2017/03/spock-as-specifier.html#more>

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2017-2018

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Roy Olsen, CCS, CSI
Ross Spiegel, FCSI, CCS, CCCA

**Technical Committee
Chairman**

Art Sanders, CCS, CSI

Chapter Meeting Minutes April 10, 2018

Present: President Chris Meyers; Vice President Ross Spiegel; Secretary/Treasurer Roy C. Olsen; Directors: Erin Kesegi, Bruce Wujcik, Bruce McCord. Advisor to the Board Art Sanders.

Guests: Jay Strother, Ted Smith

Call to Order 5:20 PM in the Meeting Room at Wood'N'Tap Restaurant, Hamden, Connecticut.

SECRETARY: Roy C. Olsen: Spiegel moved to accept February minutes as amended, Kesegi second. Motion passed.

TREASURER: Roy C. Olsen: Spiegel moved to accept February report as amended, Sanders second. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

1. **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS LIAISON:** Vacancy - *No Report.*
2. **ADVERTISING:** Chris Meyers – *Meyers turned over advertisement related documents, including last check. To Kesegi.*
3. **AWARDS:** Bruce Wujcik – *No Report.*
4. **CERTIFICATION:** Ted Smith - *No Report.*
5. **EDUCATION:** Roy Olsen – *This evening's program has been approved for one AIA CEU learning unit. Credit reporting to be submitted to AIA and certificates issued to those who request it.*
6. **TECHNICAL:** Art Sanders - *No Report.*
7. **MEMBERSHIP:** Roy Olsen – *Membership is stable at 31, 27 paying chapter members, four lifetime, emeritus members. 25 professional, 2 emerging professional, 1 lifetime.*
8. **NOMINATING:** Ross Spiegel and Roy Olsen: *Partial slate has been generated. One position remains to have candidate. Final ballot of candidates to be presented to the Board shortly for acceptance.*
9. **PROGRAMS:**
 - a. April 10: Specifier's Roundtable Presentation.
 - b. May 15: Tentative: Total Bathroom Design.
 - c. June 19: President's Night/Awards Night.
 - d. Pending Programs: Blackrock Fireproof Columns possibly in September.
10. **SPEXPERT:** *April issue delayed.*
11. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. Product Table Top Display - *No Report.*
 - b. Chapter Merchandise: *No sales from last meeting to date.*
 - c. Director's and Officer's Liability Insurance has not been renewed. *Meyers received two premium quotes. Action deferred until next meeting for further discussion by Board.*
12. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. *None*
13. **REGION BUSINESS:**
 - a. *The NERCSI 2019 Region Conference will be held in Hartford at the Convention Center. Joint Chapter Conference Committee to provide progress at next meeting.*
 - b. *Terry Bracken, NERCSI administrative assistant, is available to provide*

administrative support for Housatonic. Meyers to follow up with Region to obtain assistance with Chapter tasks. sponsors.

14. INSTITUTE BUSINESS:

- a. Election results were released today. For official results, go to Institute Website. (<https://www.csiresources.org/institute/csi-election>).
- b. Spiegel and Olsen to attend a "Listen Tour" about problems with Chapters and how the Institute should help. Institute will follow up with what they think they can do to assist Chapters.
- c. Institute announced an amnesty plan for Certification Renewal (CCS, CCPR and CCCA) whose membership has lapsed since June 30, 2014. Further information on the special reinstatement program can be obtained at: <https://www.csiresources.org/certification/certreinstatement>
- d. The Institute announce of a program of elevating the CDT certification requiring continuing education to maintain the certification. Further information on the process and requirements will be made available shortly.

15. GOOD AND WELFARE OF THE CHAPTER: - No Report.

16. NEXT MEETING: Tentative: Citrus Restaurant in Milford, on May 15, 2018. Next Region Conference meeting to be announced.

17. ADJOURNMENT: Olsen motioned, Strother seconded. Adjournment at 5:50 pm.

END MEETING MINUTES

Other Chapter News:

Housatonic Chapters Election of Officers for the 2018- 2019 fiscal year

On the Ballot:

President:	Bill Selski Ted Smith
VP:	George Rosamond
Secretary:	Jay Strother
Director:	Ross Spiegel

Food for Thought:

Constructive Thoughts : blog by Sheldon Wolfe

<http://swconstructivethoughts.blogspot.com/>

Let's Fix Construction" – industry related blog.

<http://www.letsfixconstruction.com/>

The Construction Specifier - the official magazine of CSI

<https://www.constructionspecifier.com/>

Specifications Consultants in Independent Practice – informational website

<http://www.scip.com/>

Lean Architecture – blog and resources

<http://www.leanarchitecture.com/>

Notes from the Editor:

Greetings!

Unfortunalety due to a heavier than usual work load the April Edition did not make it off of the presses. On a brighter note!... Stan the Specifier is back!

The intention of this monthly publication is to keep members and affiliates of the CSI Housatonic Chapter up to date on the activities of the chapter and other pertinent Design & Construction industry news and events. This will be an open forum for all, if you wish to contribute to the content or have read some articles that you feel might serve our community please submit them to the Editor for consideration. Thank you.....*Bruce Wujcik, AIA, CSI*

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the lighter side:



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