

## **Buffalo/WNY Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute Awards Program**

**By Jim Grucella, CSI, Buffalo/WNY Chapter Awards Chairman,  
Northeast Region Awards Chairman**

It is necessary to recognize contributions of members to the mission of the Buffalo Chapter, the Northeast Region and the National Organization. It is also important to realize that our chapter is a volunteer based organization. This recognition imparts credibility to the individual's concern for the construction industry of which we are all indebted to for our livelihood. Relationships fostered in membership meetings and CSI functions assist our collection of knowledge for the assemblage of properly written specification and drawings. More precise specifications and drawings build better buildings more efficiently. These projects continue to build a body of work that embraces new ideas in the industry such as LEED, BIM and sustainability. Members, through their actions and activities, encourage new membership from a wide spectrum of industry roles including sales, architectural, engineering, computer and service areas, so that CSI may benefit from new ideas and visions. Awards are our way of heralding these crucial contributions.

Awards are to be presented in June of the year when the current Chapter President retires from his two year term, and takes the position of Northeast Region Director. This is such a year, 2014.

Submission of candidates for awards should be submitted to the Awards Chair by April 1<sup>st</sup> of that year.

There are three types of Awards, Citation of Service Awards and Special Awards, and Longevity Awards.

- Citation of Service Awards are:  
(Outgoing) President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Editor Award, and Committee Chair Awards
- Special Awards:
  1. Alvin J. Oberst Excellence in Service Award. This is the most prestigious award for the Buffalo/NY Chapter CSI. It is a Medallion with an engraving of the recipient to be worn around the neck at all CSI functions. It is awarded for special service to the CSI in the spirit of Alvin J. Oberst, our longest serving member.
  2. David Bob Memorial Award. This is the next prestigious award in memory of our tireless founding member. This award is to be presented as a Certificate.
  3. Certificate of Appreciation (Individual). This Certificate is to be presented to an individual who has exhibited notable service to the Chapter.
  4. Certificate of Appreciation (Organization). This Certificate is presented to an organization that has demonstrated exceptional service to the Buffalo CSI Chapter.
- Longevity Awards:  
These awards are presented to members of our Chapter who have achieved active membership levels of 10 years with increments of 5 years.

Chapter awards are presented biennially during our June membership meeting designated as Buffalo/WNY Chapter Awards Dinner.

The Buffalo/WNY Chapter Awards Chair is a member of the Northeast Region Awards Committee, and as such has responsibilities to the Region to include our members in Region Awards. It is necessary that the

Awards Chair become familiar with the Region Awards Program located in the Region Administrative References Part 5 -- Region Awards Program, which may be located on the Region website <http://ner.csinet.org/>. This

The Awards Chair also has the responsibility to nominate the Buffalo Chapter and its members for National Institute Awards. The Honors and Awards Program of the Construction Specifications Institute is found at their website: <http://www.csinet.org> .

It is of utmost importance that every member of the Buffalo/WNY Chapter be involved with nominations to the Awards Committee. Recognizing achievement and hard work should be the responsibility of all.

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