

An Argylian Rant

You're looking at what we hated to see an intrusion on the positive attitude of our editor and a continuation of an Argylian Rant by the much feared Argylila the Worcester Hun. Theoretically on

RESOLUTIONS

If every NER committee Chair actively communicated we would have at least 20 pages You won't see that in this issue because we didn't see that.

As Editor we will assemble copy we receive from region leaders and those they lead. We will add introductory, explanatory, and supplementary editorial notes as required but we do not intend to create massive amounts of original copy. The Bridge is intended to be a NER membership communication device and to be successful it requires participation by both Region Leadership and chapter membership. Participation in CSI builds the value of CSI for both yourself and others. So

Please Communicate

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RESOLUTIONS

By: Argylila, The Worcester Hun, The Bridge Rant Editor

Here we are at the end of January, hunkered down waiting for spring and the start of the pillaging season. Some of our young more aggressive Huns are due to go south soon and pillage Fort Meyers. Those of us with the wisdom that comes from battles won and lost remain and make resolutions. Optimistic resolutions made early in the year's first month soon will fall like winter hair from an Old English Sheepdog as the sun warms. And we are told that the sun will warm just not real soon.

In the last issue of the Bridge you were asked to participate in CSI with the suggestion, "**Try it you'll like it!**" This month I, Argylila leader of the Worcester Huns, have to speak because reports have come to me of a lack of leader communication. Did you include any optimistic resolutions to ramp up your activity in CSI? Active participation is greatly valued as the Hunnish pathway to success. I am told that use of the impersonal pronoun "it" instead of coming right out and saying **leadership** may have made our last month's communication unclear to you. We are disappointed to note no major improvement in the amount and quality of communication from you, our Northeast Region Leaders.

We have recently viewed an amusing motivational exercise called **Come on Man** on **ESPN's Countdown Monday Night Football** where the talking heads run a clip on some player's embarrassing moment of the week and at the end in chorus go, "**Come On MAN!**". Last month the Bridge's Editorial **Participation** and a companion piece **A Communication Update** went out and we waited and waited and waited some more for the flood of communications. Argylila, could not resist shouting,

COME ON MAN!

Maybe in our case it should be **Come On People!** Was **Try it you'll like it** not direct enough? I've heard it said that when you haven't filled a leadership position you know what you're going to get. When you fill it with someone who is overcommitted and/or under motivated you never know.

COME ON PEOPLE!

Because there was so little response to our communication request in the last issue of The Bridge we're running our request for communication again starting on page 3 ...

COME ON PEOPLE!

Northeast Region FY 2011 Officers

Executive Committee

President

Richard Eustis, PE, FCSI, Lifetime Member, CCCA, CCS

Vice-President

Kenneth Gehringer, CSI, CDT, AHC

Treasurer

Roland Barrett, CSI

Secretary

Editor *The Bridge*

Edward Healy, RA, FCSI, Emeritus Member, CDT

President's Page

"Every Chapter Committee has ample opportunity to improve not only their Chapter but also the industry at-large by undertaking some meaningful activities, possibly jointly with other local organizations."

Dick Eustis

A Time to be Active

This is a busy season for CSI Members and an opportunity for members to become involved in a wide range of activities. Even those members that have not been very active during the past year have an opportunity for participation.

First, in early February, all CSI Members, eligible to vote, with an email address on file at the Institute Office should receive a ballot for the Institute elections. The NE Region does not elect an Institute Director this year but there is still plenty of reason to cast your ballot. There are two highly qualified members on this year's ballot for the position of Institute President-elect, one through the traditional Nominating Process and the other by partition. Both have extensive CSI experience so it is up to the membership to select the candidate that you believe will do the best job.

On this same ballot is an Institute Bylaws Amendment to eliminate the current Industry and Associate Member Classifications and change the Intermediate Member classification name to Emerging Professional. Each member has a responsibility to review the justification for the change and determine, in their own mind, if there is sufficient value in the change for it to be an appropriate amendment to the Institute Bylaws. Sheldon Wolfe did a pretty good piece on why he changed his mind on this issue which is available at

This is also the time for every Chapter and every member to consider appropriate nominations for both Institute and Region Awards. I believe we all know members deserving to be recognized through the "Awards Process" but this recognition does require some work and commitment to prepare the appropriate nominations forms. I was disappointed at last year's Institute Convention to see how few NE Region Members walked across the stage to receive Institute recognition for their contributions. While there is still time, take a look at your Chapter's Membership and help draft a Nomination for anyone that deserves the recognition.

It is only a few months until the NE Region Conference which will be held at the Holiday Inn in Enfield, CT. on May 5-6 followed by the Region Board Meeting on May 7th. This year the Conference is being organized by a Region Committee rather than having a Host Chapter and there will be numerous changes from past activities. Material on the Conference Registration and on Sponsorship Opportunities has been distributed to all Chapters, some have further distributed it to their members or posted it to their Chapter website. Now is the time to start planning to attend this event as there will be an expanded opportunity to earn continuing education credits as well as an opportunity to network with fellow CSI Members from around the Region. This Conference will also provide an opportunity to hear first-hand about some of the new programs being offered by the Institute such as the new "Practice Guides", the endorsement of 6 standard "ConsensusDOCS", MasterFormat 2011 or the purchase of BSD. If you have any questions about these or other changes at the Institute, the Region Conference is the place to get them answered.

Let's all work towards making the NE Region, the best Region in the Institute.

Richard A Eustis, PE, FCSI, CCCA, CSC
NE Region President

The Bridge.

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Editor's Page

Editor: Edward M Healy, FCSI Emeritus Member, CDT, RA: ehealy@townisp.com

Rant Editor: Argyla the Worcester HUN: Argie@pillaging.org

Editorial Policy: The Bridge is a quarterly publication of the CSI's Northeast Region which acts to promote communication between the Institute, the region and the region's chapters. Distribution is to all NER leaders, to all Chapter Presidents and Chapter Committee chairs whose contact info we could find and anyone else that said please while asking. We welcome copy from all leaders and will publish as space permits.

Our volunteer staff digs relentlessly for copy and correct Email addresses for some of those on the distribution list. Your help in the digging will be appreciated. In some instances, metaphorically, dirt may land on your new white shoes. We want you to know that the Construction Specifications Institute had nothing to do with the dirt throwing. It is not our intent to dirty anyone's nice shoes and we're sorry if we did. The material collected herein does not necessarily represent the official views of CSI further it may not work efficaciously in all cases. Therefore, consider **the Bridge** as our best effort to inform and use your best judgment in using that information to inform your membership. Copies of all issues of the Bridge are archived on the website of the NER
<http://www.neregioncsi.org>.

A Communication Update

On September 20 we sent the following Email to the NER Committee Officers and Chairs. We will follow the format of a page, more or less, as indicated for each committee. Where we received no communication that committee's page is omitted.

NERCSI Leaders

We did Volume 3 Issue 1 of The Bridge way back in July when we optimistically anticipated a monthly. We figured that when President Dick called for all of us to communication monthly we'd be up to our beanie's propeller in copy. Are any of you prepared to demonstrate the power of Dick's leadership and your application to his assigned task by shipping me evidence of your activity? If I get enough info from enough of you early enough to send out Issue 2 before September ends the Bridge could be bimonthly. I will be more than a little surprised if that happens. I'm guessing as volunteers we'd be safer shooting for October and quarterly.

With a July issue, covering June 30th FY end events; an October issue, covering September's Chapter meeting year start up events; a January issue, covering mid year info, corrections and resolutions to do better; and an April issue, covering plans for a mighty surge to an impressive finish we should be able to document the required effort and describe our achievements.

So what can you tell me about your contact with your committee members and your committees plans for FY2011... your **participation**

As a stimulant to your creativity visualize yourself in a hard chair in a small room with no windows and a single blinding bare bulb placed so all you can make out is your questioner's propeller driven beanie and his argyle socks. (all virtually of course)

***... Have you contact info for all members of your committee?
ANSWER YES OR NO!***

***... Have you identified charges of your institute committee?
ANSWER YES OR NO!***

***... Have you determined and communicated how the NER and its chapters might support those charges?
ANSWER YES OR NO!***

***... Have you suggested local activities to your committee members in your committee's area of interest?
ANSWER YES OR NO!***

***... Have you initiated activity of any kind?
ANSWER YES OR NO!***

***... Have the members of your committee responded with any action?
ANSWER YES OR NO!***

***... Have you anything to add that might reflect favorably on your actions?
ANSWER YES OR NO!***

... document all yes answers by return Email by the end of Sep-

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Roland Barrett, CSI

Secretary

Edward Healy, RA, FCSI, Emeritus, CDT

Communication

Starts with correct contact information. The lists of Committee members on pgs 4-7 came from www.csinet.org. That list is based on data obtained by the Institute from Region Chapters as reported on the *Chapter Officers and Committee Chairmen* form. Region Committee chairs should base communication with the members on these lists. Then any member receiving communications misdirected to them hopefully will see that it is forwarded to the proper party and copy the sender. Corrections and additions to the list can and should be made by furnishing the information on a *Chapter Officers and Committee Chair* form and sending that info to chapterrelations@csinet.org for correction.

The Bridge.

tember.

SUBMIT AS MS WORD DOCUMENTS!

The questioner suggests (virtually of course) that those of you that have shown communication effort and achieved results consistent with the position you now hold will be lauded before their peers in the newsletter of the NE Region, **The Bridge**, with polysyllabic words not in common usage, semicolons, and flowery metaphors. The satisfaction you will feel when showing that article to all those who in anyway questioned your leadership skills can only be hinted at, as even polysyllabic words not in common usage, semicolons, and flowery metaphors may prove inadequate.

The light goes off and reality returns. Are you ready to deal with it and succeed? If those you are expected to lead are waiting for you to show leadership, don't sit in that chair in that small room with a bright light with no answers for their easy questions.

Audaciously yours,
Ol' Argyle AKA
Edward (Ted) Healy
Editor *The Bridge.*

*We have to admit the response to that Argylian Rant was not overwhelming. So we're going to Plan B and discuss **Participation**, pressing for better communication. Because of the lack of response to our rant questions, we are going to list the membership of the various NER committees **as given on the Institute website**. NER Committee Leaders should attempt to determine the effectiveness of each chapter committee by either utilizing the rant list questions or in any way you might consider effective. You will notice that some chapters do not list a member for some committees. In that case we know what will be achieved. We are not at all certain that listing of the Chapter president or another member that has no time to address committee responsibilities will result in an upgrade in committee performance. A committee of one is also not likely to be an upgrade. The simple act of volunteering does not guarantee participation. **Please copy me with your request for committee participation, any changes or additions to the list and any response received.** Editor *The Bridge.**

FY2011 Region Committees

Committee	Chapter
Academic Programs	
Ruma Som, Chair	Metro NY
Cynie Linton	Boston
Sharon L. Trippany	Buffalo
Annette J. Woodside	Eastern NY
Ashley E. McCurdy	Hartford
William E. Selski	Housatonic
Jenny L. Mulholland	Long Island NY
David J. Early	Maine
Vacant	Metro NY
Lisa G. Kavarnos	New Hampshire
James J. Ramentol	New Jersey
Ashley E. McCurdy	Rhode Island
Vacant	Rochester
Maryanne Cronin	Syracuse
John Gant	Vermont
Jim M. Olender	Worcester
Awards	

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When you see a president's name listed as a member of a committee that probably means one of two things. Either the president in addition to other responsibilities wanted to chair that committee or a volunteer was not designated as chair of the chapter committee on the *Chapter Officers and Committee Chair* form submitted to the Institute.

One of a president's prime responsibilities is to motivate chapter members to participate in the operation of the chapter. Chapter Committees are where active volunteers participate in the creation of outstanding chapters. In that participation relationships are formed; skills are learned and developed; and lasting bonds can be formed between individuals and the organization.

Participation is the engine that drives chapter growth.

NER FY2011 Chapter Presidents

Boston- Brian Neely
Buffalo—Elisabete Gooden
Eastern NY— Annette Woodside
Hartford—Jennifer Casedy
Housatonic—Ted Smith
Long Island NY—Ken Raikowski
Maine—Bill Charland
Metro NY—Linton Stables
New Hampshire—Bob Weygant
New Jersey—Jim Repka
Rhode Island— Tracey Powell
Rochester—Stuart Axelrod
Syracuse—Kevin Phillips
Vermont—John Kamenick
Worcester—Marty Helly

Jim Grucella, Chair
Ralph R. Enos
Philip A. Lechner
Annette J. Woodside
Scott D. Bergsbaken
Frank Tropea
George B. Schramm, III
Stephen Dunn
Scott J. Tobias
Robert S. Weygant
James Repka
Patrick D. Quinlan
Bruce A. Werner
Kevin E. Phillips
Robert E. Maurer
Roland M. Barrett

Certification

Mary Hosley, Chair
Thomas A. Scarlata
Kevin M. O'Beirne
Anele A. Dzekciorius
Scott P. Celella
Theodore T. Smith
Steven C. Hearl
Lori E. Rohr
Luis Rosaario-Lluveras
Robert S. Weygant
Vacant
Tracey D. Powell
Stuart J. Axelrod
Kevin E. Phillips, Jr.
Jonathan M. Miller
Martin J. Helly, Jr.

Education

Ken Gehringer, Chair
Mark Kalin
Ted Czajkowski
Annette J. Woodside
Jennifer Casedy
Roy Olsen
Ken Gehringer
Jeffrey P. Larimer
Susan M. Kaplan
Rob Weygant
Helen V. Gucwa
Tracey D. Powell
Craig Mole
Madeline C. Smith
Rebecca L. Leet
Neil Dixon

Finance

Jay Strother, Chair
Ken Raikowski
Wayne Wheeler
Richard Brousseau
Roland Barrett Treasurer (ex Officio)

Membership

Edward Healy, Chair

Buffalo
Boston
Buffalo
Eastern NY
Hartford
Housatonic
Long Island NY
Maine
Metro NY
New Hampshire
New Jersey
Rhode Island
Rochester
Syracuse
Vermont
Worcester

Metro NY
Boston
Buffalo
Eastern NY
Hartford
Housatonic
Long Island NY
Maine
Metro NY
New Hampshire
New Jersey
Rhode Island
Rochester
Syracuse
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Worcester

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Deborah P. Shard
Timothy P. Downey
Annette J. Woodside
John P Robitaille
Roy C. Olsen
Kenneth Raikowski
Stephen Dunn
Bennarr Korteling
Curtis Naleid
Bill Munoz
Tracey D. Powell
Geoffrey M. Reed
Charles C. Laun
Ronald W. Beales
Edward M. Healy

Nominating

Edward Healy, Chair
Herb Ule
Jim Grucella
John Van Oort
David Newman
Jay Strother
Ken Gehringer
Jeff Larimer
Arnie Kravitz
Ned Keating
Susan Sheffmaker
Tracey Powell
Guy LoMonaco
Ronald Fiorentino
John Gant
Michael Lapomardo

Planning

Brian Neely, Chair
Bill Charland
Charles Laun
Howie Levine
Jack Osborne
LouAnn Fornataro

Program

Brian Neely, Chair
Ted Czajkowski
Amy Ross
Jennifer M. Casedy
Ross G. Spiegel
Kenneth R. Gehringer
Douglas A. Rice
Mark Stillman
Tor Sundin
Ned Keating
James Repka
Tracey Powell
Pamela Marcotte
Kevin E. Phillips, Jr.
Robert E. Maurer
Martin J. Helly, Jr.

Product Show

Tracey Powell, Chair

Boston
Buffalo
Eastern NY
Hartford
Housatonic
Long Island NY
Maine
Metro NY
New Hampshire
New Jersey
Rhode Island
Rochester
Syracuse
Vermont
Worcester

Worcester
Boston
Buffalo
Eastern NY
Hartford
Housatonic
Long Island NY
Maine
Metro NY
New Hampshire
New Jersey
Rhode Island
Rochester
Syracuse
Vermont
Worcester

Boston
Maine
Syracuse
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Rochester
New Hampshire

Boston
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Hartford
Housatonic
Long Island
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Rochester
Syracuse
Vermont
Worcester

Rhode Island

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Communicate

We are distributing to the individuals on this list and Chapter Presidents. Of course, if you have good information on other members being chairs, make the corrections and advise us and the institute. If you receive the bridge in error and do not know who currently holds the committee chair position please advise us by responding to our transmittal Email.

Steven Rebholz
Publication/Editor
Edward Healy, Chair
Jason K. Ford
Alvin J. Oberst
Annette J. Woodside
David R. Newman
Matthew T. Lewis
Kenneth Raikowski
Keith T. Lowell
Russell W. Carpenter
Wayne A. Wheeler
Vacant
Tracey D. Powell
Erin Marie Shannon
Kevin E. Phillips, Jr.
Arthur (Cam) Featherstonhaugh, IV
Roland Barrett

Technical
George Rosamond, Chair
Brian H. Neely
Vincent R. Bernard
Anthony J. Bianchi, Jr.
Kenneth C. Best
Roy Sanders
Emmanuel Mesagna
Mark E. Stillman
William Jacqueline, Jr.
Robert S. Weygant
Vacant
Tracey D. Powell
Nicholas C. Christopher
Charles C. Laun
Martin J. Helly, Jr.

Webmaster/Website/Electronic Comm.
Dick Eustis, Chair
Kevin Murray
Christopher Picone
Richard P. Bodane
Ashley E. McCurdy
Roy C. Olsen
George B. Schramm, III
Richard A. Eustis
Scott J. Tobias
Wayne A. Wheeler
Charles F. Vetter
Andrew Austin John Clough, Sr.
Erin Marie Shannon
Bobbie D. Decker
Christopher Eling
Roland M. Barrett

Rochester
Worcester
Boston
Buffalo
Eastern NY
Hartford
Housatonic
Long Island NY
Maine
Metropolitan
New Hampshire
New Jersey
Rhode Island
Rochester
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New Hampshire
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Rhode Island
Rochester
Syracuse
Vermont
Worcester

The Bridge.

Institute Director's Report

Institute Director Northeast Region

Howard A. Levine, FCSI, CDT
Director-Northeast Region
galvguy@aol.com or
hlevine@duncangalvanizing.com
617-594-6375 (cell)

The **January Board Meeting** covered many important topics which I would like to share with you:

MEMBERSHIP

1. At the beginning of this fiscal year (FY 11), membership was 12,638 with a retention factor of 78.4%
 2. As of 12/31/2010, membership was 12,400 (a loss of 238 members) but with an annualized retention rate of 79.4% (an increase of 1%)
 3. While we did have a loss in membership, 238, a comparison between the same period in FY 10 showed a loss of 535 members
- SUMMARY: Nobody likes a loss! However, given the economy and the competition for membership by many professional and trade organizations, the fact that CSI REDUCED our loss by almost 45% is cause for optimism and an indication that our programs are working and our members are actively pursuing the membership campaign

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. CSI is continuing to offer assistance to any member who is in financial difficulty by way of the "Member Loyalty Program". This program offers members a 6 month moratorium on dues payments and may be extended another 6 months if requested. Individual members should call CSI (800-689-2900) as needed to utilize this program.
2. The "Every 1 Counts" membership campaign has resulted in 70 CSI members recruiting 285 new members between October 1 and December 31, 2010:
 - Associate – 9
 - Industry – 80
 - Intermediate – 19
 - Professional – 19
 - Students – 160

This is an extremely well thought out program the deserves the involvement of all members. I know our individual Northeast Region chapters will "step up to the plate" and make recruitment and retention a primary objective this year.

3. CSI staff has obtained a list of 22,000 architects to promote membership and certification benefits early in January. The second half of the mailing has gone out at the end of the month and I expect some very good results from this effort. Additionally, this list will be used to promote other CSI products and events during FY11.

CORPORATE PARTNERS PROGRAM

This is probably one of the most exciting and innovative membership/marketing programs I have seen in my 25 years with CSI! As of this writing, seven firms have taken advantage of this program. For a set fee, they have the opportunity to take advantage of a "menu" of CSI offerings including certification programs, CONSTRUCT exhibition, education programs and many more. In order to participate, the firms must make a financial commitment as well as a commitment to membership. The Corporate Partners as of this writing are:

Assa Abloy
Atas
Building Systems Design
Glidden
Kingspan
LG Hausys

Institute Director Northeast Region

Howard A. Levine, FCSI, CDT

Director-Northeast Region
galvguy@aol.com or
hlevine@duncangalvanizing.com
617-594-6375 (cell)

Morin

CSI has hired Independent Sales Agents working throughout the country to assist in the marketing of this program. If you would like more information on this program, or know of an organization that would like to become involved, please contact Susan Konohia, CSI Corporate Partners Manager (skonohia@csinet.org) or me (galvguy@aol.com)

WEB SITE

Traffic to the csinet.org web site has remained constant. We are averaging approximately 1,255 unique visitors per day. One of the analytics that is particularly encouraging is the average time on site is approximately 3+ minutes, which indicates that the visitor found something he/she found useful! 44 Chapters/Regions have a microsite under their control and have attended training session(s) as of 12/31/10/

TECHNICAL

So far in FY 2011, 543 copies of Master Format 2010 update have been sold. Masterformat.com has restricted access to major portions of the site to CSI members and purchasers of the latest version. The first three practice Guides Project Delivery, Specifications, and Contract Administration are now available for ordering. All information is on the CSI web site.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

1. Eleven (11) Live webinars have been presented in FY 11
2. Five (5) additional webinars are in the works and will be presented shortly
3. Additionally, CSI offers many "on-demand" webinars on topics ranging from BIM to LEED Specifications and everything in between. Check the CSI web site for a complete listing
4. The "recently returned" CSI Academies has proven to be a highly successful program. The goal was to enroll 100 paid registrants. As of the early registration date of January 11, there were 147 paid Registrants and 17 speakers. The registration was cut off and a waiting list established! Again, another example of recognition of the need for quality education in the industry.
5. Registrations for the FY11 Certification Program are very encouraging. There were 352 registrants for the Fall testing cycle. So far, there are more than 900 registrants for the Spring cycle. The early registration deadline was January 28 and final registration deadline is February 26. If you are planning to take an exam or know of anyone planning as well, don't forget to register before Feb. 26. The testing window is 3/28-4/9, making taking the exam an easy proposition. There is a significant amount of certification preparatory material available. Contact CSI at 800-680-2900 or www.csinet.org for a complete listing of study material or, better yet, join a chapter sponsored study group.

The above is a snapshot of the January 2011 Board Meeting. If I can answer any questions, bring your thoughts or suggestions to the Board or speak at any of your Board meetings or other events, please let me know. As your elected representative to the Board, I work for you. Let me hear from you.

Howie Levine
galvguy@aol.com or
hlevine@duncangalvanizing.com
or 617-594-6375 (cel)

The Bridge.

Awards

James L. Grucella, CSI

Thermal Foams, Inc.
2101 Kenmore Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14207-1608
716-874-6474
j.gru@verizon.net

Fellowship Nomination Mentoring Program

The CSI College of Fellows has established a mentoring program to assist Chapters in improving the quality of nominations for Fellowship. The Jury of Fellows has reported that in many cases it was the quality and content of the nomination package that was the cause of the failure to be successful, not the lack of activities of the nominee. The College has identified volunteers in each Region that are willing to help Chapter better understand the requirements of the nomination process and required contents of nomination packages.

The two volunteers in the Northeast Region that are serving as "Mentors" are:
Dick Eustis, FCSI – eustis@infionline.net Phone: 207-827-2238
Jonathan Miller, FCSI – jmiller@earthlink.net - 802-349-9992

The Bridge.

Awards Chair's Communication

Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 8:31 PM

Subject: Fw: Fellowship, Distinguished & Honorary Memberships, and The Michelangelo Award

Good evening everyone,

This is usually a nice formal greeting which usually manages to elicit a 'delete'. Please do not delete this, as the CSI Institute Awards Committee continues to offer me so much assistance that I almost need not be present. Not true! Who else would browbeat you with this copy again, as I assume all of you have received this already? 'Tis I, the Candyman.

Remember that we are the initiators of accolades, prizes, bling, pins, plaques and other elements of recognition for our chapter members! Remember that we all like a little congratulation, a champagne toast, or even a 'stand up and take a bow' regards.

So I am going to challenge everyone in this Awards Committee to try something that has worked very well for me to garner some interest in this program. See the Chapter Treasurer, and ask him to front you about \$25.00. Then go to a candy store and buy \$ 20.00 worth of candy. If you are embarrassed to do this use your own money. (I find that most people like chocolates, Ghirardelli, but we can have lots of fun with candy cigarettes, Malo Bars, Clark Bars, Mike and Ikes, a bottle of wine or beer. Gee, there are so many things to choose from!) Pass them around at your next membership meeting. Oh, that \$5.00? Put it in an empty candy box or candy wrapper and see what happens. This way everyone receives some recognition, and someone, someone totally undeserving gets a little money!

This is a way to focus some interest on the awards program. A way to have a little fun with the most enjoyable and enviable position in CSI: The AWARDS CHAIR! Now that you have their attention, Now that you have them literally eating out of your hands, get them to do some thinking! Ask them to consider members, organizations, firms and companies to be recognized! Don't pair them with an award yet, just get some names and see if you can put them in one of the categories later. I'll bet you will get some nominees. If not, tell them no more candy!

Some of the Region Awards are:

The Distinguished Service Award, the most prestigious Region award
Certificate of Appreciation (individual)
Certificate of Appreciation (organization)
Donald J. Colosano Newsletter Award
Electronic Publication Award
Education Award

Joseph S. Zajchowski CSI, CCS Technical Excellence Award.

Now is also time to be thinking of the Chapter Awards. Here is a place that you may be a little creative in addition to the standard awards. Think about this for a minute or two. Lets have some fun with this job! If it can work for me, it can work for you.

Take care,
The Candyman
Jim Grucella CSI Northeast Region Awards Chairman

The Bridge.

**Northeast Region
FY 2011 Committee Chairs**

Education/Programs

Kenneth R. Gehringer, CSI, CCCA, AIA
H2M Group
575 Broad Hollow Rd.
Melville, NY 11747
631-756-8000
gehringer@h2m.com

Ted Czajkowski - Buffalo - The Buffalo and Western New York Chapter traditionally does not have a typical program or meeting in December meeting instead at an agreed upon good restaurant for dinner and libations. No chapter business is discussed, and the goal is to eat, drink and be merry. We have never failed at that. Hope everyone had a great holiday season.

Ruma Som Metro New York - I like that
In NY though there is so much going during the holiday season that it is hard to get everyone together. It may be great idea to extend invites to different affiliate organizations at one of our other meetings.

Ned Keating—New Hampshire - NH typically does not have a Dec Meeting, but the last 2 years we have joined with Maine for a first week of January joint meeting, which is usually a lighter topic. Has a holiday feel to the event and it is good to get together with our adjoining chapter. This year's topic was an Appalachian Mountain Club presentation on AMC's Maine Woods Initiative—a conservation and recreation effort that combines land conservation with outdoor recreation, and new nature-based tourism opportunities.

Marty Helly - Worcester Traditionally the Worcester Chapter has a holiday party – cocktails, dinner and an old fashioned Yankee Swap that generates a bunch of audacious gifts and much merriment. We conclude the evening with Leon Redbone and Christmas Island.
This year, since our own Michael Lapomardo was starring as Oscar in "The Odd Couple" presented by the Worcester County Light Opera Company, we had an evening of cocktails, dinner and theater instead.

The Bridge.

Chair's Communication

Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2011 1:18 PM

Subject: CSI NER Education Committee - January communication

Hello Program & Education Chairs,

Happy New Year, I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season. Boston & Rhode Island Chapters hosted a Winter Social event in December while the Long Island Chapter takes December off due to traditional low attendance due to conflicts with the many company Holiday parties taking place at the same time. When I was a member of the Palm Beach Chapter, we had a Toys for Tots drive and a presentation by a non-profit organization such as Habitat of Humanity. What does your chapter do during December, is it business as usual or do you do something different? Please hit reply all and share with your fellow committee members.

As we head into spring hopefully we'll see a Spring 2011 Education Connection Newsletter from Institute. If you haven't read/received them in the past they can be found under the Education pull down menu at <http://www.csinet.org/Main-Menu-Category/Education/Ed-Conn.aspx>. If you have any articles or information you would like to have included, or have any others questions regarding Institute you can contact Erica Smedley Cox, Education Manager at ecox@csinet.org or Josh Spiler, Education Coordinator at jspiler@csinet.org.

If you are not aware yet, the Region has posted some general information for the NER Conference taking place on May 5-7 in Springfield/Enfield CT. Attendees will be able to earn 5 CEU's, attend workshops, the NER scholarship auction, welcome reception and get an Institute update from Walt Marlowe, CSI's CEO and Paul Bertram, FCSI, CDT, LEED AP, CSI President-elect. More information and will be posted as it becomes available. Please advertise the event heavily to your chapters and I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Thank you,
Kenneth R. Gehringer, AIA, CSI, CCCA
NER Education Chair
NER Vice President
LI Chapter immediate Past President

The responses received by Ken follow in chronological order as received to date and seem to demonstrate that if you don't ask for too much you can get some kind of response. Ken has done better than any of us at communicating and his effort may be more successful at generating responses due to their consistent monthly generation of questions and requests for response. Try it you may like it. Editor

Roy C. Olsen Housatonic - The Hartford and Housatonic Chapters had a special joint Holiday meeting where the mood was relaxed and social and the lobster (sorry Maine) was delicious. We raised over \$350 for a "Toys 4 Tots" drive for the children at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. We avoided the business of the chapters, but did a little business and social networking. A good time was had by all even with table shuffling to accommodate everyone.

Jeffrey P. Larimer - Maine - For the Maine Chapter it has been customary to omit the December meeting and attend the AGC's "All Industry" dinner program that includes members of AGC, CSI, AIA and other state professional organizations. This is usually a well attended dinner meeting that recognizes each organization's contributions. The dinner is always followed by a program of interest to all who attend. In addition, all attendees are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy that then gets distributed to children in need.

Responses to date continued in sidebar to left

Membership

Edward M. Healy, RA, FCSI, Member Emeritus, CDT

Edward M. Healy, Architect
625 Boston Tpke.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545-5420
508-842-8520
ehaley@townisp.com

Membership Leaders Workshop

Notes from the August 21 Membership workshop remain in my Good Intentions pile as yet to receive any attention. When our significantly overcommitted staff can hang up the Bridge Editor hat and find the NER Membership Committee Chair's hat we'll do the right thing and get them on the NER website. One of the great things that happened at that workshop was a discussion of the OCC being used as a NER Chapter Growth and Retention incentive award. Those in attendance agreed it might be more effective than the past NER incentives

Update

Nothing much has changed it's still in the *Good Intentions Pile* having been dropped down in priority due to heavy involvement in Organization of NER FY 2011 Conference and some weather related issues i.e. Preparation of my illustrated talk on ***Causes and Corrective Treatment for Roof Edge Ice Dams.***

The May 5-7 NER Conference will have a ***Train the Trainer Membership Workshop*** Friday afternoon which should be on your schedule.

Chair's Communication

In the Fall issue of the Bridge we outlined the creation of a NER incentive plan that we expected might be more than Smoke an Mirrors by now. It was to be structured around the Institutes Outstanding Chapter Award. Several things have happened since we made that suggestion.

One - the Outstanding Chapter Award revision by the Institute Awards Committee is now complete and has some significant changes. Here's what the Pre-requisite Core Criteria looks like. To qualify for the Outstanding Chapter Commendation, a Chapter must have achieved all of these pre-requisites.

- Chapter leadership was in place at the beginning of the fiscal year with a President, Treasurer, and minimum of one other officer in accordance with its bylaws.
- Chapter submitted officers to Institute by published deadline.
- Institute Secretary has approved Chapter bylaws and bylaws have been reviewed internally by the Chapter within the past two years.
- Chapter board meetings were held in accordance with its bylaws.
- Chapter prepared a fiscal year budget and utilized it for Chapter operations.
- Chapter filed the appropriate forms and is in good standing with the IRS
- Chapter had regular meetings held in accordance with its bylaws.
- Chapter had a minimum of 4 educational programs during the fiscal year (i.e., seminars, technical programs at Chapter meeting, etc.)
- Chapter communicated to members a minimum of 6 times during the fiscal year in the form of email, newsletter, and etc. regarding Chapter events and other CSI related information.

The 5 page application form can be viewed [here](#).

Two - The Institute has a new membership Recruitment incentive program called ***Every 1 Counts.*** Here's a promo for it ...



Make **1** phone call
Send **1** email
Have **1** conversation

That's all it takes to recruit a member and participate in CSI's [Every 1 Counts Membership Recruitment Campaign](#) and win one or more great prizes!

CSI members improve the construction industry by sharing what they know about construction. Through the Every 1 Counts Recruitment Campaign, we can recruit 500 new members this year, and spread our message and network further.

Also, the recruiter benefits by expanding their own professional network and access to construction knowledge.

At [CSI](#) every 1 counts, whether you are a product representative, an architect, a contractor, a facility manager, a specifier or a student. Together we can reach this goal by sharing how CSI is a unique association bringing together a diverse group of professionals committed to advancing the construction-building industry.

Learn more about how you can participate in the Every 1 Counts Membership Recruitment Campaign and win great prizes!

[Learn more >](#)

In view of these two developments it seems that our NE Region strategy on Membership Recruitment and Retention is in need of a little adjustment. That work will now occupy a position near the top of our NER To Do file. As we work through that process we would appreciate comment from Chapters on the following questions...

Will your chapter meet the pre-requisites for applying for the Outstanding Chapter Commendation and apply in FY 2011?

Does your Chapter feel that the Every1 Counts Membership Recruitment Campaign offers sufficient incentive without additional NER incentives? .

Edward M. Healy, FCSI, CDT, RA
FY 2011 NER Membership Committee Chair

The Bridge.

Nominating

Edward M. Healy, RA, FCSI, Member
Emeritus, CDT

Edward M. Healy, Architect
625 Boston Tpke.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545-5420
508-842-8520
ehealy@townisp.com

Deadline:

Nov 30, 2010 for verification of
Chapter member of NER Nominating
Committee with the NER Secretary.

Missed the Deadline?

Are you one of the Chapters yet to
confirm your NE Region Nominating
Committee member?
Check out page 6 and Email
ehealy@townisp.com if we got it
wrong. Not to worry just do it now
before you throw this on the pile.
Come on Man!

Chair's Communication

Due in part to an almost complete lack of communication, I am more certain than I ever was that the listing of FY2011 Nominating Committee members on page 6 is incorrect in many cases. Please review that list, advise the institute of any corrections necessary and copy me.

While the creation of a nominating Committee made up of Chairs of the Chapter nominating Committee does increase the leadership pool. It is my belief that this committee, so vital to the development of chapter and region leadership, has for multiple reasons never effectively performed its function.

Is the issue a systemic failure that needs to be addressed at the policy level to facilitate leadership succession? In the case of the region the Secretary serves as Chair of the Nominating committee ex officio. Would it be advantageous to adopt a similar policy at the chapter level? What policy does your chapter use to select this committee chair? Is your Nominating committee a committee of one? Your communication would help in the resolution of this issue!

The Nominating Committee is charged with making a recommendation at the FY 2011 Northeast Region Spring Board Meeting May 7, 2011 for candidates to serve as President and Secretary. Richard Eustis, NER President and Edward Healy, NER Secretary will both come to the end of their terms on June 30 2011. Howard Levine will have served his term as Institute Director but will not require replacement.

I have to ask that volunteers for this committee evaluate their commitments to determine that they can effectively participate. When you volunteered did you ask this question? **What participation is required if I volunteer?** Your volunteering accomplishes little if you are not able to participate.

As a member of the nominating Committee recognize that...

- generation of members profiles with skills and interests is invaluable.
- marketing leadership as a program for personal and professional improvement improves volunteer acceptance
- Knowing the requirements for Region leaders is essential. RAR bylaws require that nominees for officers have prior experience at the Region level as a Board member or a Committee Chair during the previous 5 year period. A list of those leaders qualified from each chapter is posted on www.NERRegion.org in the Nominating Committee Virtual Office
- Assisting your chapter president in finding chapter leaders is part of the job.
- Training and mentoring your replacement assures on going better performance.

Now each chapter has different procedures and terms for selecting these vital leaders. Each one of whom should be knowledgeable about the skills and interests of their recommended candidates; able to discuss the responsibilities and commitments required of the position and persuasive enough to sell refrigerators to Eskimos.

I'm very aware of the issues associated with recruiting volunteer leaders and would appreciate your assistance in improving the process. I'm at ehealy@townisp.com and I await your communication.

The Bridge.

Publication

Edward Healy, RA, FCSI, CDT,
Edward M. Healy, Architect
625 Boston Tpke.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545-5420
508-842-8520
ehealy@townisp.com

Opportunity *Still* Available

Publication Jr. Chair term FY2011–12

- No experience necessary
- Will train on the job.
- Metaphorical familiarity a plus
- Occasional use of ; allowed
- Audacity (in moderation) never hurt
- No heavy lifting
- Satisfaction guaranteed

Chair's Communication

Last issue we spoke about the hardest job every Editor has ... Getting copy to Edit. Today we have a suggestion that just might give you more direction in that effort. Have you recently reviewed the criteria for the Colosano Newsletter Award. It's a roadmap of where you should be looking and who should be contributing copy. So as our attempt this month to lighten your load here's an abstract of that award's criteria.

(a). Information on Chapter Activities - 35 points maximum

- (i). Coverage of immediate past general meeting.
- (ii). Coverage of immediate past Board meeting.
- (iii). Information on future meetings.
- (iv). Information on special events.

(b). Technical content - 20 points maximum

- (i). Coverage of technical committee activities.
- (ii). Articles of technical interest, considering the balance across all divisions.

(c). Education information - 20 points maximum

- (i). Coverage of Chapter education programs.
- (ii). Coverage of educational programs by Region and other CSI Chapters within reasonable travel distance.
- (iii). Coverage on non-CSI educational opportunities, local short courses, etc.

(d). Information of Region and Institute Activities - 10 points maximum

- (i). Institute Director's reports (verbatim or summarized).
- (ii). Region Conference information.
- (iii). Other Region and Institute news.

(e). Accessibility of Officers - 10 points maximum

- (i). Names, addresses and telephone numbers of:
 - Chapter Officers
 - Chapter committee chairs
 - Chapter Board members
 - Institute Directors

(f). Overall Appearance Effectiveness - 5 points maximum

- (i). Overall consideration of reproduction quality, typography, format and graphics.

Take a look at your chapter's newsletter and see how well you might have scored. If you covered most or all of the 6 bases listed above, pat yourself on the back and then send me electronic files of four recent issues. You could win the Colosano Newsletter Award and retire to a life of indolence on an obscure tropical island. If you didn't fare and you fear clearing ice dams in your senior years maybe it's time to take a fresh look at what you're doing and who is helping you do it. For a look at the full criteria on the Colosano Newsletter Award check out Part 5 of the RAR In the Library at www.neregion.org. Finally, check out page 7 to see if you have all Chapter Newsletter editors on your distribution list. Communication can improve every ones performance!

The Bridge.

Technical

George Rosamond, FCSI, CCS, AIA, LEED AP

Lothrop Associates Architects
200 Summit Lake Dr.
Valhalla, NY 10595-1353
914-741-1115
grosamond@lothropassociates.com

Chair's Communication

The Following is a report of the August TechCom Workshop which just missed the fall issue of the Bridge. Editor

Technical Committee Workshop - August 21, 2010

Presenter: George Rosamond, NE Region TechCom Chair

Attendees:

Arthur L. Sanders	Housatonic- Committee Co-chair
Denis Lemieux	Institute Director
Richard Brousseau	Maine
Roy C. Olsen	Housatonic
Lisa Kavarnos	New Hampshire
Roland Barrett	Worcester
John Ostrum	Vermont
Brian Neely	Boston
Cal Bowne	Syracuse
Stephan Van Hoose	Eastern New York

Workshop Handout: of 15 pages was distributed, consisting of:
Technical Committee Administrative Reference for the Institute & Region
Region's Technical Committee Chairman's report to the Board
Institute Technical Committee update by Mark Kalin
Northeast Region Awards Guide for the Technical Excellence Award.

After introductions, duties and responsibilities of committee as per Institute and Region Administrative Recommendations were reviewed. Goals of revitalizing the committee as a benefit to the Institute, Region and Chapters were reviewed. Keeping our region members aware of the Institute's Technical programs is important, but to develop interest at chapter level, discussions on our day to day operational problems and activities appear to excite more interest and will encourage more local participation.

Suggestions:

Consider a ten to fifteen minute "starting act" by the Chapter Technical Committee Chair on a local relative issue. Before starting a Chapter's main program at their meeting

Publish a monthly technical article in the chapter newsletter. Pool the resources of the region for the article. Hopefully if each chapter provided one article per year this goal will be easily met.

Encourage participation in submitting for the Region's Technical Excellence Award.

Expectations: Region chair will e-mail all chapters monthly. Chapter chairs are encouraged to e-mail the Region Chair and Chapter chairs also monthly. The committee can be a resource for worthwhile continuing education course, online, webinars etc, suggested by the chapters. The committee can be a resource for worthwhile technical information from industry associations and proprietary web sites, e.g. www.conspectusinc.com.

Meeting discussions that may generate interest to chapter members:

- Electronic shop drawing submissions.
- Electronic distribution of bidding documents and how to control distribution.- Brad Armstrong noted that his company saves \$24,000 a year by distributing bidding documents electronically.
- Filing of e-mails.
- RFI's
- Consensus documents
- Some municipal agencies are permitting electronic submission of filing drawings.
- Office procedures for providing a library of technical information including control of its content.
- Problems caused by the world of instant communication and result of the need to reply with major decisions instantly.
- Owner's review of the Conditions of the Contract including insurance requirements and bonds.
- IBC special inspections requirements.
- Recommendations for books and reference material that should be on every technical persons bookshelf or computer.

The subject matter quickly became unending in generating the need for further discussion. An example of the interest that can happen, prior to the conference the Region Chair e-mailed to the chapter technical committee chairs the thought of starting a discussion and perhaps "white paper" on New York State's Wick Law that requires separate prime contracts for MEP trades and the Owner being responsible for coordination. Within a day four chapter chairs responded with an informative discussions and support to continue and also expand the discussion to agencies outside of CSI.

The Bridge.