

March 2009

Tidewater Virginia CSI Chapter



the COMMUNICATOR

The Construction Specifications Institute

TUESDAY MARCH 10 CHAPTER LUNCH AND PROGRAM

DESIGNING TO RECYCLE



Many aspects and considerations go into any commercial design such as purpose, space planning, function of the programs contained within that facility, such as education, offices, research, retail or food services. No matter how green the materials and methods used in the design of a facility, it is all for naught if the use of sustainable programs are not instituted within that facility.

Kathy Russell of Tidewater Fiber Corporation will provide us with information regarding commercial office recycling of waste cardboard, white paper, metals and plastics. The discussion will continue with design considerations needed for designing a recycling program and setting up the space criteria, electrical requirements and access for recycling service trucks.

LOCATION:

the Offices of Clark Nexsen in the
Clark Mtg room, First Floor, East Wing, 6160
Kempsville Circle, Norfolk, VA

TIME:

11:45 am Registration (come early to network)
12 noon Lunch and Presentation (1 AIA LU)

Lunch Fee:

CSI Members: \$15.00 (includes lunch)
Non-Members: \$20.00 (includes lunch)

RSVP for each meeting so we will have a place waiting
for you!

Leave a message at 757-502-5592 or eguran@cox.net to give
a reservation to pay at the door

No-shows will be billed by mail or check page 7 and fax your
credit card reservation to Debbie Cacace at 757-486-0855 no
later than COB the Friday before each meeting.

Thanks!

Don't forget to
VOTE



Institute Elections are open until
March 6. If you have voted, thank
you. If not, go to CSInet.org and
make your Institute Vote count.

The TVA Chapter CSI slate of
officers for FY10 will be presented
at the March Chapter meeting.
Ballots for FY10 Chapter officers
and directors will be sent out the
following day for you to make your
voice count in the chapter.



MARCH



*PRESIDENT'S
MESSAGE*

MARCH (Membership) MADNESS

Traditionally, March is CSI Membership Awareness Month. It is a good time to take stock of where you are as far as understanding the importance of both new and renewed memberships to the vitality of our Tidewater, Virginia CSI Chapter, and of the CSI organization as a whole.

Our Chapter track record for the fiscal year 2009 is not good. Instead of heading towards the **3% net membership growth** goal for July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009, we have actually retreated. In fact, our track record as of the midpoint of this year (December 31, 2008) is a **4.1% net membership loss**. This means we will need to increase our efforts in the last few months of the fiscal year, to avoid an even larger loss of members. The current national economic situation makes it even more imperative that we act now.

Our Membership Chairman is an excellent, one-man Committee, but he cannot do a complete membership recruitment and retention job on his own. Each of us must help.

Here are some things YOU can do to boost our Chapter's membership:

- ★ Invite guests to our monthly Chapter meetings.
- ★ Talk to current Chapter members whose renewal is less than 3 months away, to make sure they commit to remain as Chapter members.
- ★ Get students involved in our Chapter. (Eventually, they will be job seekers.)
- ★ Identify those members who may be in need of employment, and ask if they would like to be put in a standing Chapter list of those "Seeking Employment," in our newsletter, or on our website, with NO cost.
- ★ Identify those employers who may be hiring, and ask if they would like to be put in a standing Chapter list of those "Offering Employment," in our newsletter, or on our website, with NO cost.
- ★ Volunteer to help orient our newest members and get them involved in Chapter activities.

Improve your own Leadership skills at the Mid-Atlantic Region spring Conference in Gettysburg, PA, April 24-26

Join me and the rest of your Board of Directors in helping keep our Chapter strong. We need your support.

Cordially,

Richard Rivin, FCSI, CCS, AIA

Chapter President

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About CSI

CSI is an individual membership technical society that serves as the premier integrating force for those that create and sustain the built environment, and as a primary gateway to resources for programs, services, and the exchange of knowledge. The Institute offers products and services that provide a common system of organization and presentation of construction information, enhancing communication among all construction industry disciplines. CSI's 18,000 members include architects, specifiers, engineers, contractors, product representatives, building owners, and facility managers. Founded in 1948, CSI is headquartered in Alexandria, Va., and has 143 local chapters nationwide. For more information about CSI, call 800-689-2900 or visit www.csinet.org.



Step Up to Leadership

Being remembered for making things happen

Modified from an article written by
Tim Gale, BNI East Anglia, UK from www.Successnet.com

Leadership is tough. Consider some of the great leaders, and the obstacles they had to overcome: Lincoln, Kennedy, Churchill, Thatcher, Patton, Schwarzkopf, Eisenhower, Montgomery, Dell, Gates, and Branson.

Those are just a few, We can come up with our own list of great leaders, based on the characteristics we believe a great leader ought to possess.

But one leadership characteristic most can agree on is a person's ability to make tough decisions. Many of these difficult decisions have massive consequences, impacting lives even whole nations.

Bottom line: Leaders are remembered for "making things happen." In truth they are remembered for making GREAT things happen.

But along that road to greatness, all leaders have made mistakes. They even face critics. Yet determination - commitments to a cause larger than themselves propels them forward.

It has never been one of my aspirations to run the country, fight the Battle of the Bulge, or to take part in whacky adventures involving flying balloons round the world. Lots of us feel that way.

But that doesn't mean we're not called to leadership - to stand up for something we believe in and influence people in the process. Within CSI, you have a unique opportunity to make things happen by becoming part of the leadership in the Chapter and or at Region. But first you must consider in which category you currently preside and which category you want to be remembered being in.

OPTION A

You sit in the "cheap seats" and watch the world go by. You avoid doing anything and hope no one notices. You are most probably in a trade or profession that gets a return without much effort. At best you do nothing. At worst, you undermine those that do.

OPTION B

You step up. You get out of your comfort zone. You give freely without any expectation of return. You lead others to have the same spirit. You encourage others to invest in their personal development. You learn new skills or extend existing ones, in presenting, speaking, sales, marketing, managing, team building, and leadership.

Taking option A may mean you'll never step up to the leadership team, and will never invest any time on anyone's sales team. This may save you a few hours over a six-month term.

Taking Option B not only leads to personal satisfaction but also inspires others to do the same. You may only get to be on the team once because others will want to step up and follow your sterling example. A chapter of

committed givers will achieve more on every level than a chapter full of people looking to let someone else do the work.

When your term is over on the leadership team, you may not have a presidential cavalcade to usher you out. But you will know that you made a difference - and so will others.

What would you like to be remembered for?

Go on, Step UP!

Middle Atlantic Region Leadership Orientation Seminars

April 24, 2009 at Gettysburg PA

Opportunities to expand your
knowledge of CSI at all Levels and
your leadership skills as a
Professional and a CSI Leader.

Region Spring Board Meeting - April 24th

Chapter Presidents are required at the Region Board meeting, but Chapter members are welcome to attend.

Leadership Seminars April 25th

Seminars provide training and information for all CSI Members;

At the Wyndham Hotel, Gettysburg, PA
Make your reservations at
<http://www.wyndham.com/hotels/MDTGE/main.wnt>.



Governance Implementation Progress Report
by Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP
Chair of the GRITT 02/18/09

The process of implementing the amendments to the Institute Bylaws that were approved in 2008 has moved into the "detail" phase. With the major decisions approved at the June 2008 Board meeting, the path to the smaller board was set. Beginning in July 2009 the Board will consist of 21 members, comprised of the president, the president-elect, three vice presidents, the secretary, the treasurer, the immediate past president, and 13 directors. The reduction from 29 members will result from the elimination of one vice president position and 7 director positions. The board will function as one body with no executive committee.

Further changes, including election of the first Director at Large, for Fiscal Year 2011 (starting service in July 2010), and the second for Fiscal Year 2012 (starting in July 2011), will occur until the Board reaches its final composition of 18 members in Fiscal Year 2012.

The hardworking team referred to as GRITT has been comprised of Lane Beougher, Loren Berry, Richard Cooper, Dick Eustis, Daniel Hargreaves, John McCaffrey, and Casey Robb, with Mike Davis as Officer Liaison, Stacy Vail and Kelly Feldman as Staff Liaisons, and Sheryl Dodd-Hansen as Chair. The Task Team has held conference calls almost every week since March 2008. The team will continue its work to bring necessary recommendations to the Board and to update text in related documents including CSI's Administrative References and Board Operating Guide.

Here is a summary of the activities related to each of the March 2008 Bylaws Revisions as of January 2009:

Bylaws Revision, Article XIII, Meetings of the Institute, (now Article XII), which changes "delegates" to "voting members". Changes to the "Regulations for Annual Meetings" that eliminated the term "delegates" and established criteria for "voting members" were approved at the June 3, 2008 Board meeting. Procedures are being developed to accredit "voting members" for the June 2009 Annual Meeting.

Bylaws Revision, Article VI, Nomination And Election of Officers and Directors ; Section 4 Nomination of Officers, (now Article V, Section 3), which changes the petition process for nomination. The team's recommendation "Nominations by Petition" to change Institute Policy to establish a new schedule for the petition process was approved by the Board in November 2008. While the bylaws revision only changed the deadline from "during October" to "during December" the details of accepting petitions and developing ballots resulted in complex evaluations of the

(Continued on page 7)


TVA Chapter
Member News

Did you notice the new CSI shirts worn by the TVA Board members at the HRBPS this year! We still have a few left available for sale. The men's shirt in a beige color and ladies shirt in blue with a CSI Logo in Copper on the front, indicate are quite comfortable at a reasonable cost. Contact Tom Gill for more information.

Thank you to
Rension Tisdale of Vansant & Gusler
And
Dan Hickok of RRMM
For Renewing their Memberships.

STUDENT NEWS!

The Tidewater VA Chapter worked with Architecture School at Hampton University to provide an opportunity for 6 students to submit projects for the Gulf States Region Design Competition this spring. Feb. 12 and 13, Margaret Chewning of SpexResources met with the students at the Bemis Hall Library to select and prepare their materials for mailing to Alabama for the Competition. The students submitted a total of 13 projects, photos of models, renderings and other projects they have created in their classes. Dudley Flotte CSI CCS who received the submittal package indicated he was quite impressed with the quality of the projects submitted.

Judging is currently underway, we will be notified by April 13 if any of the projects submitted are selected for an award. Nothing like pins and needles!



Hampton University Students submitting for GSR Design Competition: L-R Mike Ellingson, Mark Matel, Jordon Smith, Don Watson, Isiah White. Not pictured Jason Cataldo.



CSI Education Opportunities

CSI Webinars - To attend any of the webinars below you only need a computer, phone and an hour to participate. Log on to CSInet.org and click on Event Registration to sign up. Costs are \$75 for members, \$95 for non-members except as noted otherwise.

CSI Offers New Webinar Series on Construction Business Profitability

Online educational sessions address sound business management practices

CSI has announced a new Webinar series in March that will address sound business management practices in the construction industry. **Creating and Maintaining Profitability in Your Construction Business** offers guidance on dealing with delays, differing conditions, changes to the work and unauthorized communication on the job site between sub-tier contractors and owners.

The interactive telephone/Internet sessions are scheduled for **2-3:30 p.m. EST on March 5, 12 and 24**. Participants can view materials and ask questions of the instructor in real-time during each of the 90-minute web-based sessions:

- **Thursday, March 5** – This session will discuss the effect of contract language on profitability; how to identify historical risks and address them in the contract; and the risks and rewards of various project delivery systems.
- **Thursday, March 12** – This session will address managing the risks associated with code compliance, specification and industry standards; managing communication and documentation to keep the owner aware of the costs throughout the project; and avoiding confrontation after delivering the final invoice.
- **Tuesday, March 24** – This final session will cover the latest information on alternative dispute resolution; establishing internal policies regarding dispute negotiations; and transferring costly risks away from your company.

"There are many factors that can affect the profitability of construction contracting businesses," said CSI Executive Director and CEO Walter Marlowe, P.E., CSI, CAE. "This series will address managing some of the most common issues that result in loss of time and production."

A thorough knowledge of the industry and mastery of technical skills are no longer enough to build a successful contracting business. High-quality project management is a critical component to operating a successful business in today's marketplace.

Participants can earn 0.45 CSI CEUs, 4.5 AIA LUs, HSW for completing the entire series. Discounts are available to students (proof of student status is required).

Bill Dexter, a renowned risk management consultant and trainer, will lead the series. He has more than 35 years of experience in the construction industry as a craftsman, business owner, contractor, consultant and educator.

2009 Fundamental Formats Workshop

Our Fundamental Formats Workshop has started with 9 active participants. About half of the class is signed up for the exams. If you missed the opportunity to sign up for this spring's class and exam, you have another opportunity in the fall. Should I have enough requests, we will schedule a Fundamental Formats Workshop prior to the Fall exams. If interested please contact Margaret Chewing, Certification Chair.

LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations Technical Review

Presented by the US Green Building Council



April 2, 2009
8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Chesapeake, VA
Damuth Trane Training Center
1100 Cavalier Blvd.
Chesapeake, VA 23323

The LEED® for New Construction Rating System is designed to guide and distinguish high-performance commercial and institutional projects, including office buildings, high-rise residential buildings, government buildings, recreational facilities, manufacturing plants and laboratories.

This workshop goes beyond the basics of the LEED® for New Construction v2.2 Rating System, using case studies and exercises to provide an overview of the building certification process, as well as a brief exam review.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Building industry professionals seeking to increase their understanding of the LEED® for New Construction Rating System and green building strategies, benefits and resources.

- Architects • Designers • Consultants • Owners
- Engineers • Developers • Contractors • Manufacturers

LEARNING LEVEL

This is a 300-level course. Consider our Green Building Basics and LEED course as preparation.

To register, please visit [Greenbuild365](http://www.greenbuild365.org):

<http://www.greenbuild365.org/coursedetail.aspx?ID=90000028>

your online portal to green building education

CSI Webinars are designed to be convenient and affordable. One fee covers the registration for all participants at a single site. Participants can register for an individual session, or save money and guarantee a seat by registering for the entire three-part program for one fee.



(Strategic Plan update Continued from page 4)

process. The resulting procedure, with forms created by the Institute Nominating Committee, provides for nominations by petition to be received by the Institute until December 31st. No petitions were submitted for this year's election.

Part of the discussion for the subject process involved the potential for future use of all electronic balloting. The team's recommendation was approved to bring Bylaws revisions that will provide for "Communications by Means other than Mail". Simple changes in verbiage from "mail" to "send" or a derivation thereof will allow the Institute to benefit from future delivery techniques for a variety of communications. The Bylaws amendment is on the current ballot and needs a 2/3 vote to pass, in order to allow for the use of more cost-effective methods of communication. You are encouraged to vote and to vote "yes" on this amendment. Please direct questions to the Election 2009 Forum on csinet.org.

Bylaws Revision, Article VI, Nomination and Election of Officers and Directors; Section 1 Nominating Committee, (now Article V, Section 1), which provides for two members of the Board to serve on the Nominating Committee. Institute Policy was changed in June 2008 to establish procedures and guidelines for selecting these Board members. Eligibility for this role requires that the member have served at least one full year on the Board before service on the Nominating Committee; that the two Board members selected in any given year be from different regions; and that Board members be ineligible to be nominated for election while serving on the Nominating Committee. The two Board members elected to serve on this year's Nominating Committee, Tom Deines and Daniel Hargreaves, provided valuable insights to the Committee's deliberations.

Bylaws Revision, Revised Board Structure. As noted above, the process is underway to reduce the size of the board and to reassign duties of the Executive Committee and the Directors. The Team's recommendation for "Reassignment of Executive Committee Duties" was approved by the Board in November 2008 and changed Institute Policy to create three new committees of the board to perform certain duties, as follows:

Operations - Represents the Board in periodic operational and administrative meetings (face-to-face or virtual) with Executive Director including preliminary review of budget with Staff and Finance Committee; members include President, President-Elect, Treasurer, and 3 board members, at least one from each class year.

Committee Oversight - Represents the Board in evaluation of progress, preparation of list of

charges, assignment of members and chairs, recruitment of potential members; members include President-Elect, 2 officers, and 3 directors.

Planning - Represents the Board in preliminary development and implementation plans involved in long-range planning and short-range (1-3 year) plans; members include President-Elect, 2 officers, and 3 directors.

These subgroups of the board will perform preliminary evaluation of information and the stated tasks and bring recommendations to the full board for action. The subgroups will not be empowered to make decisions on behalf of the board as the Executive Committee did under the old governance structure. Certain tasks previously assigned to the Executive Committee, including liaison with committees, task teams, and regions, will be distributed among all of the board members. Details of the assignments and duties are being developed as part of changes being made to the Board Operating Guide, the Region Administration Guide, and the Model Region Bylaws. For Fiscal Year 2010, the committee members will be selected at a Board-Elect meeting and orientation to be held in late March 2009.

The original governance proposal included a recommendation to establish qualifications for the Institute Directors elected by the Regions. The recommendation was deferred to the June 2008 Board meeting, where it was withdrawn. GRITT, with input from the Institute Nominating Committee, drafted a new recommendation to revise Institute Policy to establish "Qualifications for Institute Directors Elected by Regions." The recommendation was approved in November 2008 and established basic requirements involving strong leadership qualities (including ability to develop and communicate organizational vision, strategic planning experience, and organizational performance evaluation skills), service as a region or chapter leader, participation in CSI events beyond the chapter level, and sufficient time and flexibility in their schedule to accommodate Board responsibilities.

The original governance proposal also included a statement that "the Board create a policy that a member with alternate member classification serve at least one of three consecutive terms." In accordance with its charges, GRITT plans to bring a recommendation to that effect to the Board for action at the June Board meeting.

**Curmudgeon's Corner;
Selective logic**

by Sheldon Wolfe, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA

prejudice: preconceived judgment or opinion; adverse opinion formed without just grounds or before sufficient knowledge; irrational attitude of hostility directed against an entity or its supposed characteristics

Amid all the furor about "sustainable" design, CSI members as a group appear to be less excited than others. Given the average age of our members, this shouldn't be surprising. While those who are fresh out of school, with little idea of what makes a building work, are caught up in the spirit, those with time in the trenches exhibit a more conservative, skeptical response to the hype.

Most of us in the "elders" group remember when we, too, were taken in by one cause or another. It's not that we are against the principles of green design; we just remember how many well-intended products or programs ended up going awry. We also have seen the same issues raised more than once, with inspiring expressions of commitment to one cause or another, only to see them fade away as interest waned and something else claimed the spotlight.

I recall my enthusiasm for new products and assemblies in the years after I graduated. I recall even more the lessons learned from a naïve acceptance of the claims made by design professionals, manufacturers, industry organizations, and contractors. It seems there always is more to understand than you think.

Take something as simple as a joist hanger. Thirty-some years ago, I was influenced by the then-current energy crisis. I designed homes and buildings that minimized surface area, the intent being to reduce heat loss. Using joist hangers made it possible to keep all the floor framing in one plane, thereby reducing the surface area of the walls by the height of the framing. Not much, but every little bit counts. What I didn't realize was the effect this would have on mechanical and electrical systems. Joists resting on a beam provide space for ducts, pipes, and wiring; joists in the same plane as the beam force these systems to go out of their way to get past the beam.

At the same time, due to dramatic increases in the cost of oil, many were eager to embrace promising new types of insulation. Foamed-in-place urea-formaldehyde looked good on paper, and performed well when properly installed. Unfortunately, the ideal mix of components was difficult to achieve, resulting in wet insulation and other problems, and the product and its installers soon disappeared from the market.

That was then, this is now

Not much has changed since then. New products and new goals - especially those that promise to change the world - are seductive and hard to resist. I understand the appeal of cutting edge technology and the desire to design energy-efficient buildings, and I appreciate the threat of oil shortages and the need to conserve energy and resources - but we've seen it before.

Too often, new products and techniques come with unintended consequences. Several years ago, super-insulated, super-tight homes were the rage; they were followed by carbon monoxide

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poisoning and mold. Sudden interest in the dangers of chromate copper arsenate led to the development of new wood preservatives; only later was it known that the new chemicals caused failure of the galvanized hardware that had worked so well for so long, requiring the use of stainless steel framing accessories.

The results of universal reduction of VOCs are still with us. While most new low-VOC products now perform as well as, or better than, the products they replace, we still don't have a reliable way to keep flooring on the floor. Isn't the environmental impact of replacing floors within a year after installation worse than that of the VOC in a single application of adhesive that works?

In recent years, big business has acquired an undeserved bad reputation, and it has become fashionable to disbelieve everything said by a company that produces a product perceived as harmful to the environment. The fact that their products are useful, requested by consumers, and entirely legal is ignored; they are portrayed as companies whose main purpose is pollution. In the end, all products and manufacturing processes damage the environment in some way.

It's human nature to hear what we want to hear, to accept those things that support what we want to believe, and to dismiss those who disagree with us, but we can't let emotion control our decisions. As members of the construction team, it's our job to question the performance and effects of *everything* that goes into a building - not just those things that are denounced as bad for the environment, but also those things that are promoted as green. Yes, be wary of products that may be excessively harmful, but don't favor other products without knowing how they perform or if they are truly green.



TVA CSI CHAPTER BOARD AND COMMITTEES FOR FY09

OFFICERS

	<u>NAME</u>	<u>PHONE</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
President	Richard A. Rivin FCSI CCS	455-5800	rivin@clarknexsen.com
Past President	Margaret Chewning FCSI CCS	581-0428	mgcccs@spexresources.com
1st Vice President			
2nd Vice President	Sharon Ashton CSI CDT	362-7982	sharon_ashton@irco.com
Secretary	Calvin Crofford CSI	322-4237	horace.crofford@navy.mil
Treasurer	Debbie Cacace CSI PE	486-5522	dcacace@engineeringandtesting.com
Director 2009	Richard Chipchak CSI	495-0115	DChipchak@aol.com
Director 2009	Thomas Gill Jr. CSI CDT	523-1029	philmontgill@yahoo.com
Director 2010	Eric Guran CSI	502-5592	eguran@cox.net
Director 2010	George Luce CSI CDT	498-4400 Ext 109	georgel@ameinc.biz

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Academic Program	Margaret G. Chewning FCSI CCS	581-0428	mgcccs@spexresources.com
Awards	Don Jernigan, CDT	651-2583	Donaldjernigan@cox.net
By-Laws	Debbie Cacace CSI PE	486-5522	dcacace@engineeringandtesting.com
Certification	Margaret G. Chewning FCSI CCS	581-0428	mgcccs@spexresources.com
Convention	Kevin Casey CSI	428-5380	kevin_casey@mcgraw-hill.com
Publications – Web	George Luce CSI CDT	498-4400	georgel@ameinc.biz
Publications —Newsletter	Margaret Chewning FCSI CCS	581-0428	mgcccs@spexresources.com
Education	Sharon Ashton	362-7982	sharon_ashton@irco.com
Hospitality	Eric Guran CSI	502-5592	eguran@cox.net
Membership	Dick Chipchak CSI	814-1708	dchipchak@appliedctrls.com
Nominating	Past President's Council		
Product Show	Southgate Leigh CSI CDT	640-1450	sleigh@lightstyles.com
Programs	Tom Gill CSI CDT	523-1029	philmontgill@yahoo.com
Technical	Mike Bumbaco CSI	619.8580	Msb23454@aol.com

Board Meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Tuesday of each month at lunch time at Friendly's Restaurant, Virginia Beach Blvd and Military Hiway. Board meetings are open to all Chapter Members .

(757) area code unless noted otherwise

the small stuff

The Communicator

Publication of the Tidewater VA Chapter CSI

Editor: Margaret Chewning FCSI

Edition - 09-8

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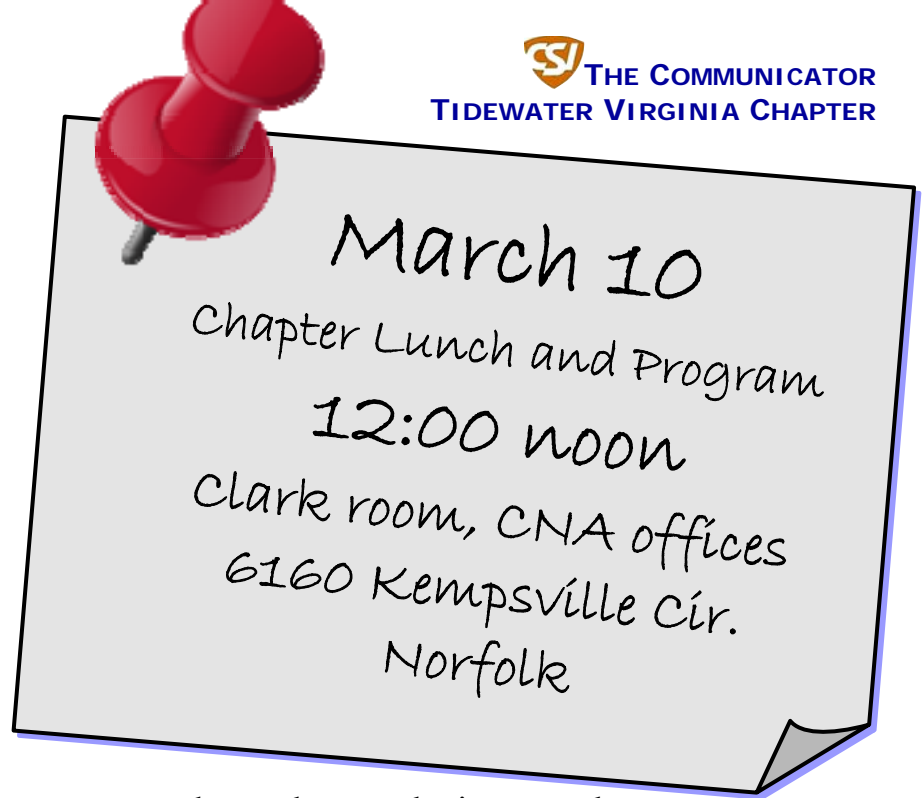
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Founded in 1948, the Construction Specifications Institute is a non profit technical organization dedicated to the advancement of construction technology through communication, research, education and service. CSI serves the interest of architects, engineers, specifiers, contractors, product manufactures and others in the construction industry.



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