



*Building Knowledge  
Improving Project Delivery*

# The Gulf States Leader

## The Newsletter of the Gulf States Region

### November 2018

It's time to start planning for the GSR  
Leadership Conference 2019 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The hotel lobby for the  
Conference looks like a great place  
for us to visit and socialize between  
meetings. See more on page 4.



The Gulf States Region CSI includes Alabama • Arkansas • Florida Panhandle • Louisiana • Mississippi • Tennessee

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## OUR NEXT BIG EVENT

### GSR Leadership Conference

June 6-8, 2019 in Little Rock, Arkansas

Please make sure your Chapter is planning to attend.

See page 4 for more information.

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The Construction Specifications Institute is a national non-profit technical organization dedicated to the improvement of specifications and building practices in the construction industry through service, education, and research. Founded in 1948, CSI provides a forum for architects, engineers, designers, specification writers, contractors, manufacturer's representatives, suppliers, and all others in the construction industry. Membership is open to all who are involved in the built environment.

## Submissions to the GSR Leader

GSR members are welcome to submit articles of interest for publication in the GSR LEADER. Please forward articles to: John Dunaway, CSI, CCS, AIA

[john@ccdarchitects.com](mailto:john@ccdarchitects.com)

## Region Email Blasts

All region wide e-mail blasts are to be distributed by the Region Electronics Communications Chair, Randall Lewis, CSI, AIA. Please limit Gulf States e-mail blasts to events of Region-wide interest such as Product Shows, Chapter Anniversaries, and seminars offering 4 CEUs or greater.

Forward to: [rlewis@jharchitects.com](mailto:rlewis@jharchitects.com)

## Deadline for Submissions

Do you have something to submit to the GSR Leader?

Articles, reports, and photographs of interest to GSR members are due no later than January 15, 2019 to be included in the February 2019 Gulf States Region Newsletter.

## Map of the Gulf States Region

Alabama • Arkansas • Florida Panhandle  
• Louisiana • Mississippi • Tennessee



## Chapters of the GSR

Little Rock  
Shreveport  
Baton Rouge  
Acadiana  
New Orleans  
Gulf Coast  
Mississippi  
Mobile Bay  
Montgomery  
Birmingham  
Huntsville  
Chattanooga  
Knoxville  
Nashville  
Memphis  
Pensacola



Greetings to all!

I hope this message finds all members of the Gulf States Region well and prospering.

Busy times, like the one our industry is enjoying, is great for all but it sometimes makes it hard to find time to give to CSI. An hour a week will help our group, as well as our industry, prosper. We all need to make a conscious effort to take that

needed hour and commit to helping CSI grow and prosper for everyone.

I would like to commend the Institute for managing to resolve a major issue with AIA. If the Institute is allowed to be a registered provider of CEU's in lieu of each Chapter, this will not only save money but the time it will take the Chapter to become a registered provider. GREAT JOB INSTITUTE!!

Our Gulf States Region is operating in the red. Several past Region leaders had the long range vision to put in place a requirement that the Region maintain sufficient funds to operate for at least two (2) years to allow our Region to continue to operate and have time to establish a plan to locate additional sources of revenue. If anyone has an idea, please share. Any thoughts will be greatly appreciated.

The Region is also looking for Committee Chairs. Being a Chair does not require a vast knowledge of CSI. A desire to contribute and learn is the main prerequisite. There is plenty of support available to assist in directing any committee. Remember, we all had to start from the beginning and with support were able to guide and promote our committee. Please contact Suzan Jordon or myself if you would like to get involved. All the knowledge you will gain and all the friends you will make is guaranteed to last a lifetime.

The Spec Comp committee is hard at work. Tom Clarke and Skip Treme have laid the ground work for this year's Spec Competition.

We encourage all Designers to participate to receive feedback on the contract documents produced by your firm.

Also, any Committee Chairperson or Vice Chair who wishes to provide articles or technical data is welcome and encouraged to provide this information with our Region

I am looking forward to seeing all Chapter Presidents and Committee Chairs in Jackson, Mississippi in late February/early March.

Bruce Martin CSI, CDT  
President, Gulf States Region CSI

*And here are a few photos from CONSTRUCT*



# 2019 Gulf States Region Conference, Little Rock, Arkansas, June 6-8, 2019

It's not too early to be thinking about the GSR 2019 Conference. The Little Rock Chapter under the direction of Billy Mathis will be hosting our next GSR Conference. The hotel has been determined and here are the particulars.

The location will be the Embassy Suites, 11301 Financial Centre Parkway, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201. Phone: 501-312-9000

With spacious two-room suites, free cooked-to-order breakfast and a nightly Complimentary Evening Reception with appetizers and beverages, both business and leisure travelers looking for a relaxed, upscale experience feel right at home at Embassy Suites.



The Banquet room. Spacious and inviting.



Room Rates Per Occupancy for the conference are:  
\$125.00 Single/Double  
\$135.00 Triple  
\$145.00 Quadruple

All reservations must be made by May 7, 2019 to guarantee these rates. The hotel offers free outside parking, and a made-to-order breakfast for each

hotel guest each morning. Billy also promises us a fantastic Hospitality suite.

The Little Rock Chapter will of course be accepting and needing sponsorships for the Conference. As always, sponsorships will get your company's name in front of GSR attendees from all over the Region. If you would be interested in being a GSR Conference sponsor please contact Billy Mathis.

Billy J. Mathis, FCSI, CDT  
C/o Taggart Architects  
4500 Burrow Drive  
North Little Rock, AR 72116  
Phone: (501) 758-7443  
Email: bjmathis@taggarch.com

Following are photographs of the hotel. This looks like fun!



The swimming pool. What great light in this inviting atmosphere.



Guest rooms appear to be well appointed with lots of amenities. This looks like a lovely place to spend time relaxing and refreshing before and between meetings. Make your reservations well in advance to get the room you just right for you and your family.

# Institute Board Report



We are thrilled to announce that CSI will now be an AIA CEU provider. This opens every chapter to the CEU program starting in 2019. This should be a wonderful way to increase attendance at your chapter meetings with the design community.

The Dynamic Chapter program starts this October. I know everyone is busy with their CSI year, but I would highly encourage you to actively participate in the program. Cynthia D'Amour joins us with many years of experience building solid chapters. If need be, table some of your business and work with this program. Investing in yourself and chapter is time well spent and I trust you will enjoy your time spent with Cynthia.

Also starting in October 2018, your membership renewal letter will include a membership card; they are back!

Tracy Petrillo, EdD, CAE, our chief learning officer, continues to develop and advance our education and certification programs. She is working on a new faculty guide for the CDT which should be available during the summer of 2019 as well as other updates on our certification program.

The CSI Resources website continues to evolve with our communities. If you have not joined this online experience I highly encourage you to participate. The discussions are lively and it's a great way to connect with all our members nationally.

Please visit <https://www.csiresources.org/home> and join a Community of Interest today!

The volunteer portal has been refreshed and updated. If you would like to join a committee, please visit the following link:

<https://www.csiresources.org/volunteeropportunities/opportunities-list-public>

I would like to congratulate all the winners of Institute Awards in 2018. Please know your service and commitment to CSI is appreciated by all. Please click on the following link to see all the 2018

award winners.

<https://www.csiresources.org/institute/honorsandawards/awards>

The next Master Specifiers Retreat is at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort in Coronado, California to be held from January 31 to February 3, 2019.

Specifier registration is open: [www.csiresources.org/msretreat/home](http://www.csiresources.org/msretreat/home)

Our next board meeting will be held February 3 & 4, 2019. So, if there are any items you would like to add to the agenda, please contact me.

Please note that Retired or Emeritus members must be voted on in person by the board. I mention this now because most like to present this transition at your year-end awards celebration. If you would like to transition a member to one of these classifications, please follow the instructions provided in this link so it can be added to the February agenda.

<https://www.csiresources.org/communities/membership/individual-membership/emeritus>

If you have anything further you would like to discuss, do not hesitate to contact me. My cell is 423-385-4598 or you can email me at: [wsundquist@wgpaver.com](mailto:wsundquist@wgpaver.com)

Please add a sidebar on the page you use for my column that includes contact information for Institute to include the following:

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Education: [education@csinet.org](mailto:education@csinet.org)

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Awards: [awards@csinet.org](mailto:awards@csinet.org)

Marketing: [marketing@csinet.org](mailto:marketing@csinet.org)

It's an honor to serve and I thank you for your support of CSI!

William Sundquist, CSI  
Institute Director from Gulf States Region

## Gulf States Region Caucus and CONSTRUCT

The Gulf States Region was well represented at the CSI Convention in Long Beach, CA.

Chattanooga – William Sundquist, Kenny Tyler, Amy Fleming

Knoxville – Samer Shatara, Gary Bergeron, Suzan Jordan

Mississippi - Leland Hinton, Chapter President and Keith West

Memphis - Susan Evans, Mike Zielinski, Gary White and Jeffery Parnell; and two Students: Jason Ontiveros and Isaac Barrantes.

New Orleans – Robert Swan & Skip Treme'

Nashville- Jerry Curtis & Michael Gober

Little Rock – Jerome Sorenson



Suzan Jordan, conducted the Gulf States Region Caucus that was held on Wednesday, October 3, 2018 in Long Beach, CA. The attendees were challenged to reach out to meet new people during the Conference.

Jerry Curtis, with the Nashville Chapter invited everyone to attend Nashville's 60th Birthday Celebration to be held on December 6, 2018.

Keith West reported that the Region Planning Meeting will be held in March in Jackson, MS.

The 2019 GSR Region Conference information was sent by Billy Mathis. The 2019 Gulf States Region Conference will be in Little Rock, Arkansas June 6-8. See GSR Conference article on page 4.

Billy has provided the proposed GSR Leadership Conference schedule to current GSR Leadership to begin planning. Complete plans will be refined at the GSR Leadership Retreat and posted prior to the Conference.

Billy has also begun the Little Rock sponsorship program and since their Golf Tournament is one month before, they are tying the sponsorships together if people want to. Contact Billy Mathis for more information. Billy is working out the final tabletop count with the Hotel and will update things as we get closer to the date.

Registration is going to depend on the sponsors. If Little Rock can get a good amount of sponsorships, they will pass the savings to the registrants.



William Sundquist revealed that CSI had come to an agreement with AIA that CSI will be listed as a provider and each Chapter will submit under CSI's umbrella. YAY!

Meeting was dismissed so everyone could attend the CSI Welcome Party!

GSR Vice President - Suzan Jordan, CSI, CDT



## GSR Shines Brightly During Awards Ceremony

I and many other Region members, attended Construct 2018 in Long Beach, California in October. It is always a pleasure to see other members of our Region, but also to see CSI friends from other parts of the country and Construct is one of the few opportunities we have for that privilege.

Construct also serves as the only opportunity that the Institute takes to recognize its members with awards and to thank them for their service. It also is the time that our members are recognized for not only service but for outstanding contributions and efforts that benefit our members. While I have said many times before, the majority of our members participate and offer their services and contributions solely as a contribution, never looking for recognition or accolades. And I think our Gulf States Region members fall into that category. But I will also admit that I am all about awards, simply because it is pretty much the only way to recognize those efforts, but mainly our way of saying thank you for your contributions and efforts.

I will go ahead and also admit my prejudice and bias towards our Gulf States Region members, as I am, borrowing Betty Hays' famous statement, **Gulf States Proud!** And I will say our Region shone brightly in regards to awards that were presented during Construct.

I will start with the Outstanding Chapter Commendation. These awards were presented by region during the awards ceremony. There were a total of 26 Chapters who received the OCC, and 7 of those Chapters were from the Gulf States. Six of those Chapters are pictured at right. Other regions were recognized prior to Gulf States, and the majority of the other Regions had one or two chapters recognized. When they got to the portion recognizing our Region, they started calling Chapters, continued calling Chapters, and finally stopped after calling seven. Yes, I said seven Gulf States Chapters to step forward and receive their award. I actually heard several remarks and other wows from the audience as they finished reading all of our Chapters and the crowd of our members was up on stage to receive the certificates. Those Chapters receiving the OCC were Chattanooga, Knoxville, Little Rock, Memphis, Mississippi, Nashville, and New Orleans. I have long contended that every Chapter in the Gulf States Region is deserving of this honor, and in my biased opinion, with us receiving seven of the 26 OCC awards presented, it just confirms my bias as truth!

Some of our GSR members also received recognition and awards for other items such as publications. John Dunaway received three separate awards for his publications. The first was an award for serving as editor of the Mississippi newsletter, *The Speculator*. The second was for Mississippi Chapter Event Promotional Materials that he prepared for his Chapter. The third was for serving as editor of the GSR newsletter, *The Gulf States Leader*. Jeffrey Parnell, of the Memphis Chapter received an award for serving as editor of the Memphis Chapter website. The Memphis Chapter also received an award for their newsletter, *The PerSPECTive*.

Lastly, our own Billy Mathis received a Presidential Commendation from outgoing Board Chairman, Ron Geren. Billy was not able to attend Construct due to a conflict in scheduling, but Billy certainly deserves this recognition. It validates his contributions while he served on the Institute board.

Once again, we should all be **Gulf States Proud!** and say congratulations to all the award recipients. It will be our way of personally thanking them for their service and contributions to CSI.

**GSR Awards Chair - Keith West, FCSI, CDT**



## What's That noise!

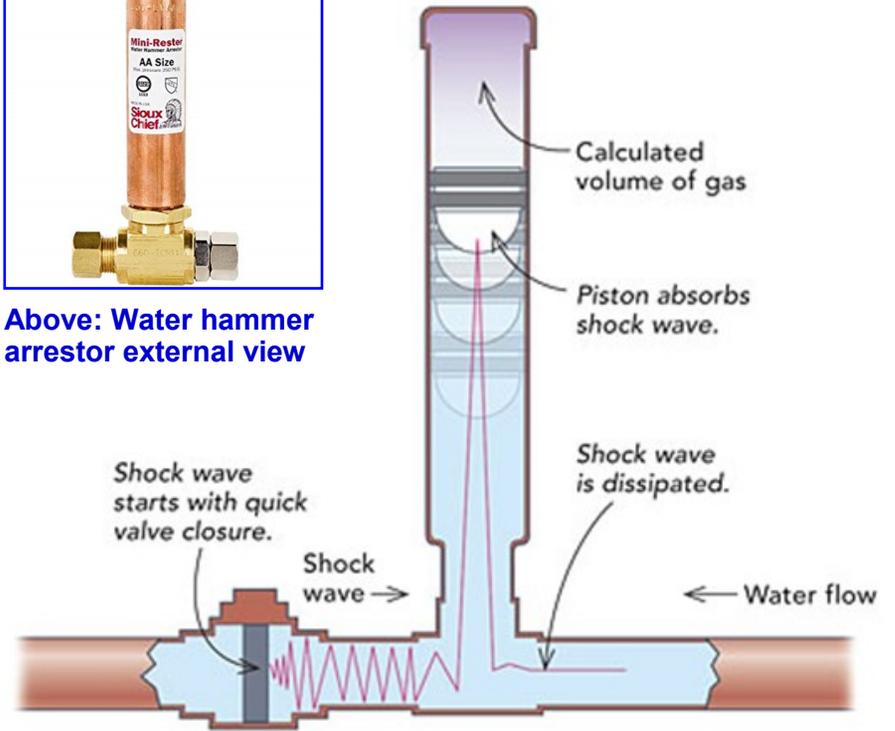
We all use the plumbing fixtures in our homes and offices several times each day. Several of us have experienced water pipe noises as we turn off the faucet that sounds like water pipes rattling in the wall cavity. Most plumbing engineers call this water pipe noise “water hammer”, but how many of the general public know how to stop it?

Water hammer is caused by the fast closing action of a faucet, or the electric solenoid valve in an icemaker, dishwasher, or in the washing machine that controls the water flow to the appliance. This fast closing action causes the water to stop suddenly and sometimes reverse direction in the pipe. This water pressure wave traveling back and forth in the water pipe can cause the water pipe to rattle if the pipe is not secured in place inside the wall cavity. This water hammer can also exceed the water pipe and fittings pressure rating and cause water leaks. A plumbing device called a water hammer arrestor (shockstop) or an air chamber is often installed on the cold and hot water lines adjacent to the fast closing valve to prevent the water hammer and its associated noise. These devices function like a shock absorber on a car to dampen the pressure wave that causes the water hammer noise.

The barber shop that I patronize had a water hammer problem that was difficult to resolve. Since a backflow preventer and pressure reducing valve had recently been installed, the plumber recommended a water expansion tank be installed on the cold water line serving the water heater. This expansion tank did not solve the water hammer problem because it is designed to provide for thermal expansion from hot water and does not act as a water hammer arrestor. The clothes washing machine was also a water hammer suspect because of its fast closing solenoid valve. The plumber recommended a shock stop to be installed on the washing machine box that contained the hot and cold water shut off valves for the washer. After this was installed, the water hammer still did not stop. Since the barber shop only had three barbers, each barber took one day off per week. When one of the barbers took his day off, the other two barbers were annoyed by the dripping faucet at the day-off barber's station. When the remaining barbers turned off the faucet at the fixture stop under the sink, all of the water hammer noise stopped. This tells us that sometimes a leaky faucet can be the culprit.



Above: Water hammer arrestor external view



AND THIS IS HOW IT WORKS



Washing machine water hammer arrestor

So, if you hear a water hammer noise at home, install a washing machine box or an icemaker water hammer arrestor available at your local big box retailer.

YouTube has an installation video if the instructions with the device are not clear.

**Gary Bergeron, CSI, CCS**  
**GSR Technical Chair**

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