The 2021 Gulf States Region Conference will be in Huntsville, Alabama next spring. The exact date is undetermined at this time. Be looking for an announcement coming soon.
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Submissions to the GSR Leader
GSR members are welcome to submit articles of interest for publication in the GSR LEADER.

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@jhharchitects.com

Welcome John Murray, CSI, CDT as GSR Publication Chair: John has served the Mississippi Chapter and the GSR in many capacities including president of both and has written articles, flyers, and other publications. He has received the GSR’s Eugene Wetzel Award for Communication Excellence and the Outstanding Contribution Award from Institute. John Murray will be transitioning our publication to a blog format which will focus on what is happening in our industry across the Region. Be looking for more from John Murray in the coming month’s as we transition to this new communication format.

The Gulf States Leader is published by the Gulf States Region of The Construction Specifications Institute. This publication does not approve, sanction, or guarantee the validity or accuracy of any data, claims, or other opinions stated in the articles or advertisements. Editorial copy does not constitute an endorsement by the Gulf States Region CSI nor any of its members.

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.

Map of the Gulf States Region
Alabama • Arkansas • Florida Panhandle
• Louisiana • Mississippi • Tennessee

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

Retirement: I am retiring as Editor of the GSR Leader after 6 years in this position. I hope The GSR Leader has been a source of useful and factual information for you during my time as Editor. I’m not retiring from CSI and I am “Gulf States Proud” so I will continue to see you at CSI events!

John Dunaway, FCSI, CCS, CDT, AIA

The Gulf States Region of the Construction Specifications Institute
The Gulf States Region of the Construction Specifications Institute

2020 LIVE CONSTRUCT SHOW AND CSI CONVENTION CANCELED!
SEE BELOW FROM CONSTRUCT AND CSI

CSI and CONSTRUCT are committed to the safety and wellbeing of attendees, exhibitors, staff and CSI members. We are continuing to monitor COVID-19, specifically in the Dallas area, combined with local guidance. CONSTRUCT, an Informa Markets show, made the difficult decision to transition CONSTRUCT 2020 to a digital experience. CSI fully supports this decision.

The CONSTRUCT and CSI teams understand the importance of connecting and celebrating the architecture, engineering, and construction communities. Therefore, we are excited to offer a unique virtual event that will allow the industry to source, learn, network, gain inspiration and overcome challenges in this new environment.

The CONSTRUCT virtual event will take place October 7th – 9th, one week later than the original dates. CSI events associated with CONSTRUCT, such as the Honors and Awards Celebration and the Annual Business Meeting, are being rescheduled as well. Full details will be announced soon.

All attendees will receive a full refund, and answers to frequently asked questions are on the CONSTRUCT website. Although the decision to transition this year’s in-person event was difficult, and we will miss seeing everyone in Grapevine, we are excited about a new way to engage and interact with our industry.

We know the construction community is eager to come together face-to-face. Our reimagining of CONSTRUCT through a virtual event will offer exceptional content, the ability to source new products, learn, share ideas, and network.

Thank you for your continued understanding, patience, and support. We look forward to seeing you online in October.

Douglas Lugo, CONSTRUCT Show Director

Mark N. Dorsey, CSI Chief Executive Officer

Editorial Comment: As Gulf States Region members we should all support and try to participate in the revised CONSTRUCT format. GSR members are known for our involvement in CSI and CSI programs and this is no different. I want to extend my personal support and Thanks to Mark Dorsey and Douglas Lugo for making this tough decision and doing their best to see that we all remain healthy and CSI strong.

John Dunaway, FCSI, CCS, CDT, AIA
Gulf States Region Editor
Greetings from my Guest Room/Office/Guinea Pig’s Home!

Well, this has been one eventful/uneventful year! When we kicked off the fiscal year in Little Rock little did we know what the next 12 months held for us! We had a good Gulf States presence at Construct in Washington, DC., where we saw our own John Dunaway elevated to Fellowship in the CSI College of Fellows! Fellowship is one of the two highest honors given by the Institute. Congratulations, John! We are very proud of you! Be sure to congratulate John when you see him.

In March we had heard of Covid-19, but didn’t know how our world would be turned upside down. We held our Region Planning Retreat the first weekend in March in Jackson and were once again treated to dinner Friday night at Charlene and John’s home! A great time of fellowship and GUMBO! We were able to “plan” our upcoming year, including our Region Conference in Birmingham, in June - or so we thought. Karen Fravert, Scott Thompson, and their Conference team had everything set for Gulf States Region Conference, but that wasn’t to be. Karen and Scott, thank you for all of your work preparing for the conference that didn’t happen. So now we are looking at the Region Conference for 2021. Huntsville will be hosting next year with support and help from Birmingham.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our Region Leadership team. Thank you to Bruce Martin for being there to support me during my year. Thank you to Cindy Brooks, incoming President for your support and calm reasoning skills (I needed them!). Thank you to Randall Lewis for keeping us fiscally strong. Thank you to Secretary, Mike Zielinski, for being persistent and on top of things that needed to be done. Thank you to Institute Director, William Sundquist, for keeping us informed on the happenings at the Institute. Thank you to Awards Chair, Betina Latiker, for continuing awards even when we were not having a conference. Thank you to Spec. Competition Chair, Tom Clarke, for helping to keep us Clear, Concise, Correct and Complete! The Specification Competition will be awarded next year at the Region Conference. And last but not least, Thank you to Editor, John Dunaway for keeping us up to date on happenings in the Gulf States Region with The Gulf States Leader newsletter. This is John’s last year as Editor and we are looking for someone to not “fill his shoes” but to take over as Editor. And Thank You, to each of you for keeping our Region strong!

Please take care of yourselves, Stay Safe & Stay in touch.

Gulf States Region President
Suzan Jordan, CDT, CSI

Whether running the show, making us laugh, or speaking her mind, Suzan has been an effective GSR President!

Thanks Suzan!

Speaking up at Institute Convention

Thanks for the fun and laughter

Suzan in charge!
GSR Leadership Retreat
Jackson, Mississippi

The Gulf States Region of the Construction Specifications Institute
THANK YOU! for your dedicated effort to facilitate the continued operations of the mission of CSI. The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted our lives at work and at home in varying degrees of severity but, throughout this period, the Gulf States Region continues to move forward. The way we do our chapter’s business has changed significantly, yet we continue to educate the construction community and to advance building information management. We have adjusted and adapted the way we do CSI to confront the challenges that this pandemic has presented and your works continue to promote CSI. I want to express my gratitude to you all for your efforts on behalf of the construction industry to address this pandemic over the past few months. Your flexibility to operate under different conditions and arranging virtual meetings and events has been vital in helping members stay engaged. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to CSI and service to the industry.

Due to Covid-19, the 2020 GSR Leadership Conference was postponed until next year. But we didn’t want to miss the opportunity to celebrate the devoted and conscientious volunteers who make up this great Region. The GSR has a long history of commending its members. The Region Board and Awards Committee were challenged with the task of not letting the pandemic break this tradition. It is with great honor that I announce the 2020 Gulf States Region Award Recipients.

**Outstanding Service Award:**
Carlie Massery, CSI-EP, for your dependable and selfless service to the Little Rock Chapter and your dedication to the ideals of CSI, you are presented this Service Award.

**Continuing Publication Awards:**
John Dunaway, CSI, CCS, AIA, for your meritorious service to the Gulf States Region as Editor of The Gulf States Leader and continuing to provide a well-organized, meaningful and professional document, you are presented this Continuing Publication Award.

John Dunaway, CSI, CCS, AIA, for your continued dedication to the Mississippi Chapter of CSI as Editor of The Speculator, you are presented this Continuing Publication Award.

Hans D. Faulhaber, CSI, CDT, for your service as Editor of The Memphis PerSPECTIVE, and its insightful content of technical articles, editorials, informational calendars of upcoming events, and other pertinent information, and keeping the Chapter members informed, you are presented this Continuing Publication Award.

Billy J. Mathis, FCSI, CDT, for your distinguished service as Editor of SPECWORK and its service of keeping the Little Rock Chapter’s members educated and informed with technical articles, calendars, and other pertinent information, you are presented the Continuing Publication Award.

**Special Publication Awards:**
John Dunaway, CSI, CCS, AIA, for your thoughtful design and useful content of the special publications you produce for the Mississippi Chapter to promote the Chapter’s golf tournament, product show and seminars and other special meetings and events, you are presented this Special Publication Award.

John Murray, CSI, CDT, for creating and producing Chapter media to be displayed at Chapter events that promote membership, visibility and interest in CSI, you are presented this Special Publication Award.

**Electronic Communications Awards:**
Randall Lewis, CSI, AIA, for your continued support of the Mississippi Chapter of CSI through your timeless and reliable commitment ensuring the website is current and efficient, you are awarded this Electronic Communications Award.

Awards continued on Page 6
Electronic Communications Awards:
Phil McDade, FCSI, CCS, FASLA, for your willingness to take on the digital age and be an active administrator for the Mississippi Chapter’s Facebook page, you are presented this Electronic Communications Award.

Jeffrey D. Parnell, CSI, CDT, for your outstanding service to the Memphis Chapter, the Gulf States Region, and other Institute members in providing news, information, and opinions concerning the Memphis Chapter on your Chapter website, www.csimemphis.org, you are awarded this Electronic Communications Award.

Special Program Awards:
Chattanooga Chapter, for the program, “Gingerbread House Building Designs for the Built Environment” focused on Friends, Family and Fun, is presented the Special Chapter Program Commendation.

CSI Memphis Chapter, for the program, “Booze and Brews” to promote the Mission of CSI, is presented the Special Chapter Program Commendation.

Outstanding Program Commendations:
Chattanooga Chapter, for the program, “Aligning Building Design with Active Shooter Training,” you are presented this Outstanding Program Commendation.

CSI Memphis Chapter, for the program, “Specify Your Home Office” presented by Patrick Johnston, Chris McNally, Tim Ogburn and Jeffrey Parnell is presented the Outstanding Program Commendation.

Technical Commendations:
Hans D. Faulhaber, CSI, CDT, for your contributions of continuous, prolific, timely, and well-written technical articles and information to the Memphis Chapter newsletter, you are presented this Technical Commendation.

Membership Commendation:
John Dunaway, CSI, CCS, AIA, for acquiring new Student Members and re-establishing the CSI-S Affiliate Chapter at the University of Southern Mississippi, you are presented this Membership Commendation.

Keith West, FCSI, CCPR, for acquiring new Student Members and re-establishing the CSI-S Affiliate Chapter at the University of Southern Mississippi, you are presented this Membership Commendation.

We would also like to thank the GSR Officers and Committee Chairs. Your devotion and selfless contributions are what makes this Region great.

Certificates will be mailed to the Chapter Awards Chair or the address listed on the application.

Betina Latiker, CSI, CDT
GSR Awards Chair
According to the Chinese calendar 2020 is the year of the Rat. This sign is known for being inquisitive, shrewd and resourceful. Welcome to 2020. Just like you, CSI has had to adapt to the pandemic we know as Covid-19. I can report that to date everyone at the Institute Staff is healthy and safe. During this pandemic CSI has created a COVID 19 communications link on our website which can be found here:

https://www.csiresources.org/institute/coronavirus-info

The most exciting update I would like to share with you is that Institute has now secured remote proctoring capability. This means you will be able to take your CSI exams in the comfort of your own home. Please help me spread this exciting news!!!!

I am beyond thrilled to announce that CROSSWALK has arrived. CROSSWALK is the Digital Engine for the Architecture, Engineering, Construction, and Owner (AECO) communities.

The Construction Specifications Institute unveiled CROSSWALK, the first agile API that integrates fundamental construction industry organizational standards. This breakthrough technology connects CSI’s MasterFormat®, UniFormat®, and OmniClass® for the first time, and accelerates the communication cycle from designers to specifiers to contractors and subcontractors, so that they can build with more accuracy, more safely, with significant savings in cost and time. For more information visit:


The Dynamic Chapter Program continues to grow to help support our members in building dynamic chapter programming. There is a DCP community online and I highly encourage you to join it today.

https://www.csiresources.org/communities/community-home?CommunityKey=3f10c49c-423d-42dc-9e0c-0042cb12b5d3

Your CSI Digital Credentials can set you apart from those in the AEC Community. If you have a social media presence start using your digital credential today!

https://www.csiresources.org/certification/certification-digital-badges

The CSI Resources website continues to evolve, and we have now added a learning library. Please visit and use your CSI Library!

https://www.csiresources.org/learning/overview

Looking for CSI Swag? Shop CSI at:

https://shop.csinet.org/

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

Due to COVID19, CSI’s involvement in Construct (October 7-9) will be virtual, not in person. Please click on the link below:


Our next board meeting will be this Fall. So, if there are any items you would like to be discussed by the Board, please contact me. 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

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

William Sundquist, CSI
Institute Director from Gulf States Region
FY’ 2018 to 2021
What I Learned in CSI

The Mystery of Toilets: Think Outside the Bowl

What is one item we all use approximately three times per day, in private, but seldom talk about? Some clues: The device has been discovered in many ancient ruins but was seldom seen in the Middle Ages. Also, it is responsible for helping to prevent the spread of diseases, such as dysentery and cholera.

Whether you call it a toilet, water closet, can, throne, latrine, head, potty, loo, crapper, john, or something else; it is something most of us take for granted. An estimated 2.6 billion people worldwide lack access to proper fixtures and approximately 1.8 million people per year die from lack of access to suitable sanitation. The US patent office received 350 applications for new designs between 1900 and 1932 before the current version we all know was designed. The modern toilet was invented for Queen Elizabeth in 1596 by Sir John Harrington, (see drawing at left) but the ball cock that creates the siphonic action was designed by Thomas Crapper (photo at left). Various versions of toilets have been discovered in the ruins of Neolithic Britain, along with India, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. The water closet, or WC, was a polite term used to describe small closets where the first toilets were installed.

Plumbing engineers often talk about flush tanks, flush valves, floor mounted, and wall mounted water closets. Most architectural interns don’t make a distinction between the graphic symbols, but there is a difference to most plumbing designers. See the diagrams at right for the photographs and related plan symbols.

Tank type toilets are often specified in residential or light commercial buildings. The working parts (flapper, ball cock, lever and chain) often need adjustment or maintenance. Tank toilets are less expensive, require smaller water lines, and operate with lower water pressure.

Flush valve toilets are usually specified in commercial buildings where frequent use is expected. The working parts of flush valves require much less maintenance provided they are adjusted correctly during the original installation. Flush valve toilets require larger water lines, higher water pressure, and cost slightly more than tank toilets.

Floor mounted toilets with bottom outlets are less expensive and require less space than wall hung toilets. They are specified when the building budget is a concern. A floor mounted toilet is difficult to clean around the base and behind the toilet.

Wall hung toilets are usually specified for institutional buildings. The back outlets of wall hung toilets require a deep wall chase for a cast iron wall carrier to support the toilet. Cleaning around and under the fixture is much easier with wall hung toilets.

All modern toilets include a siphon jet that evacuates the bowl; a hollow flushing rim that washes the bowl; and a glazed trap way that provides an exit for waste and prevents sewer gases from entering the room.

Continued on Page 9
This porcelain china fixture has undergone significant improvements over the years and has become what we all recognize today as the toilet, water closet, can, throne, latrine, head, potty, loo, crapper, john, or something else.

If you want to learn about the finer points of design and construction, come to your next local CSI chapter meeting to build knowledge for a better project delivery.

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Editors Note: I don’t know about you but I have really enjoyed Gary’s articles very much over these 6 years of being Editor of the Gulf States Region Leader. Like always, in CSI we have the opportunity to learn from others, we just need to take advantage of that opportunity. Attend your chapter meetings, take part in discussions, volunteer for a committee, and you will be exposed to knowledge that will help you understand more about the construction industry.

Farewell,
John Dunaway, Editor
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The Gulf States Region of the Construction Specifications Institute