

# MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION CSI STATE OF THE CHAPTER REPORT

For the Fiscal Year July1, 2017 to June 30, 2018



PITTSBURGH CHAPTER  
#023

July 31, 2017



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**1. CHAPTER MEETING INFORMATION**

The monthly Chapter membership meeting is held at 7:00pm on the *2nd Tuesday* of the month at the Cefelo’s restaurant or Chapter scheduled tours.

The Dinner/Lunch that precedes the meeting at 6:00PM costs \$35.

*Dinner includes a cocktail hour from 5:00pm to 6:00pm PM with a cash bar*

Average attendance is 30-35; about 30 percent of the membership.

The regular Chapter Board meeting is held at 5:00pm PM on the *2nd Tuesday*, of the month at the Cefelo’s restaurant in Carnegie, PA.

**2. STANDING COMMITTEES**

Committee	Chairperson's Name	Number of Members	Number of Projects
Program	Bob Bailey/Scott Keener	2	10-monthly programs
Hospitality	Marc Zell	2	
Publicity	Kate Schuster	1	
Membership	Matt Lander	2	
Tech Education	TBD	1	
Certification	Michael Bosco	1	
Awards	Bill Vernon	1	
GBA Liaison	Jeff Carty	1	
Student Outreach	Collen Defilippo	1	
Finance	Gail Nagie	2	

Committee	Chairperson's Name	Number of Members	Number of Projects
Newsletter	Bob Bailey	1	10-monthly newsletters
Nominating/LRP	David Miller	1	

**3. CHAPTER PROGRAMS**

Specific repeating programs are indicated in the table below. Other Monthly Programs & occasional construction site tours are in process of finalization for the upcoming fiscal year. Chapter is in process of re-sequencing the events from the historic pattern indicated below. At our July-17 meeting the BOD and Committee Chairs discussed alternatives. In particular, joint meetings with other professional organizations to expose others to CSI.

MONTH	date	PROGRAM TITLE
JULY	7/31/16	Board planning Meeting
AUGUST	8/24/2016	Board planning Meeting
SEPTEMBER	9/13/2016	
OCTOBER	10/11/2016	
NOVEMBER	11/8/2016	Student/CSI mixer – CMU, PITT, Chatham
DECEMBER	12/13/2016	Chapter Holiday Party
JANUARY	1/10/2017	
FEBRUARY	2/14/2017	Speed Dating
MARCH	3/14/2017	CSI – New Member Orientation
APRIL	4/11/2017	CSI Jeopardy – Student Outreach
MAY	5/9/2017	
JUNE	6/13/2017	Membership Appreciation and Awards Program

**4. SPECIAL PROJECTS:**

Each year our chapter holds a golf outing in the spring and fall that are open to everyone. The event includes both a round of Golf with a shotgun start and dinner with raffle/ prizes. We have an option for the non-golfing members to attend the dinner portion only. This tends to be our most profitable fundraiser.

The Holiday party is held in December each year. It includes hot hors d' oeuvres table top product show. Our biggest challenge with this event is having more of our licensed professional members attend. This event format is under review to change/refresh the experience.

Speed Dating, we previously developed a Speed Dating program to link Industry members and Professionals. We have greater industry (vendor) than professional member participation. This difference creates voids for certain period so of time when the Professionals move from table to table for the short-term product presentations. This year we had a time limit of 4 minutes per “date”. We are looking for ways to keep this program fresh and interesting.

CSI Jeopardy is a team building event that tests knowledge of architecture and specifications in the format of a Jeopardy TV show.

**5. DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR MEETING:**

How do we cause CSI to become relevant in the current construction environment? The industry has de-constructed project specification responsibilities to individual project architects in many cases. Project Architects are, at least in Pittsburgh market, more inclined to participate in AIA events.

How can Project Architects be enticed to join CSI? They seem to control construction documents and bidding product specifications more than ever. Increased professional participation is a critical path issue for CSI.

The ratio of industry/product representative members to Professional members is causing industry/product representatives to feel disenfranchised. The industry member financial and chapter work are critical to future chapter success. We must work to solve this problem in our chapter.

Why is the CSI Institute appear to be poorly managed? What is the Institute doing to address the dropping overall membership levels? Can the Institute create activities that address the falling professional membership numbers within the overall decline? How are projects that require significant financial and personnel commitments identified, success factors determined, funded, and the results of these projects communicated to the members throughout the process? Can the Institute also conduct and provide reports of survey information and promote success stories for the benefit of all?

Respectfully submitted



Richard D. Strayer, Jr.

President, Pittsburgh Chapter #023