

APRIL 2026

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APRIL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

High Performance Historic Masonry Retrofits

Date: April 14, 2026
Happy Hour: 5:15 - 5:45 pm
Program: 5:45 - 6:45 pm
Location: 20 Stanwix St., Pittsburgh, PA
Cost: \$40 (CSI and AIA members)
\$20 (YAF member)
\$60 (non-members)
Register Here: <https://mp.gq/3hmqfgwn>

Corey Murphy, CPHC, NYS and PA Product Consultant
475 High Performance Building Supply

Course Description

The goals of historic preservation and energy efficiency and comfort often seem in conflict, as higher insulation levels can pose new risks to these timeless structures. Yet it need not be so. This comprehensive presentation discusses strategies for minimizing the apparent conflict while allowing for the highest possible performance - ensuring that the integrity of the structure won't be compromised and making a more robust structure for the next 100 years: preservation and high-performance working together for a truly sustainable future. The classic brick wall is un-insulated (R-6-ish) 3 wythe thick wall, prone to air infiltration. As many historic buildings fall under some form of aesthetic scrutiny often exterior insulation is prohibited. Therefore, the only option to make these buildings energy efficient is to insulate them on the interior. This presentation takes a close look at how to insulate these walls safely from the interior - considering moisture drive, bulk rainwater issues, and insulation materials - avoiding the dangers of freeze-thaw and mold.

Continuing Education Units: 1 AIA HSW



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Brian Trimble, P.E., CDT**

I'm not sure how many of you are following the Dynamic Standards issue, but this is a pivotal moment for our institute. The rollout of this new platform has surprised many members and has led to confusion and trepidation of what is happening with CSI. Social media (don't you just love social media?) has allowed members and non-members to sound off about this initiative with the Institute staff not prepared to handle the comments and criticism. Concern is growing about how the Institute will be licensing our formats – MasterFormat, UniFormat and OmniClass – in the future.



Brian Trimble, P.E., CDT

CSI has been developing digital tools for our standards since about 2021. If you've heard the term "Crosswalk", it is a digital platform that was created by CSI to provide more interoperability in all phases of a building's life cycle. The software allows users to move between MasterFormat, UniFormat and OmniClass easily at any point during design, construction or operation of a project. In the past, these formats, and the recognizable 16 (now 50) divisions, were in printed form. With the warp speed changes occurring with technology, doing things in print doesn't make sense, and there was a need to integrate our formats into software for design and construction. Because Crosswalk is an API (Application Programming Interface – I had to look this up), it works behind the scenes in software you are already using like Word, Revit and others. Sounds good so far, right?

CSI has created a for-profit corporation called The Construction Standard: <https://theconstructionstandard.com/> to help promote and update these formatting documents. Whether you realize it or not, all of these formats are copyrighted and you can't just use them without compensating someone for their use. In the past, we bought a book or a pdf of the numbering systems and used that in our construction documents for as long as we needed. Specification writing software companies have paid for the use of these in the past. Now, with the introduction of Dynamic Standards, the use of these formats will be controlled by the purchase of a license: <https://www.csiresources.org/standards/overview>. It appears that anyone who uses the 50 Divisions to organize their construction documents or uses UniFormat to organize information, you will have to pay a license. The cost runs from \$399 per year to \$2,500 per year depending on your firm size and revenue. What we used for free in the past, there could be a high cost to do in the future.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by **Brian Trimble, P.E., CDT**

While there are benefits to using these Dynamic Standards such as the numbering system being kept more up-to-date and ease of moving between resources, the change caught many CSI members off guard. Before CSI could officially announce the new Dynamic Standards, information leaked out about the product and industry professionals started having legitimate concerns with the process and the pricing. Posts on LinkedIn, 4Specs and finally the CSI website started to build with questions about leadership, appropriateness, costs, etc. (<http://discus.4specs.com/discus/messages/4254/10495.html?1774561478>) There have been some attempts to allay the concerns by Institute leaders, but that has been modest so far. There will be a town hall meeting on Tuesday, March 31 to provide some clarity to the issue (<https://www.csiresources.org/events/event-description?CalendarEventKey=aa8a1509-48d8-488e-894d-019d2adb700f&Home=%2Fhome>), but a lot of damage has been done to the reputation of CSI.

As for me, I rely on CSI to be the group that brings all parts of the construction industry together for me to learn from and network. I have a bunch of CSI friends from all over the country that I can talk to and catch up. I have spent almost 40 years supporting CSI and working on those formats to make them better. I have had leadership positions over the years (Northern VA CSI chapter president, Institute Director, and now CSI Pittsburgh chapter president) and care deeply of what happens to “my” organization. I would encourage you to listen to the Town Hall meeting and come to your own conclusions.

Addendum to President's Message

Here are some of my thoughts after attending the Town Hall webinar on March 31. William Sunquist, CSI President and Jarrod Mann, CSI President-Elect provided their reasons why Dynamic Standards will position CSI for the future and make our standards more useful. While they stated that users were looking to keep our formats more current, most of the members that I have talked with don't want that. They want consistent standards that all parts of the construction industry use to foster better communication. It appears that CSI is penalizing members for their past efforts to gain acceptance of our formats and will now be charging users a fairly high price for that usage. One takeaway for me is for those that purchased copies of MasterFormat 2020 will be able to use that numbering and formatting system forever. It will be interesting to see who adopts MasterFormat 2026 and the Dynamic Standards model.

Brian

Relationships in Business and Careers: Let's Build Connections That Matter!

Date: April 23-26, 2026
Location: Sheraton Waterside Hotel, Downtown Norfolk, VA
Cost: \$175 (Members), \$200 (Non-Members)
Register Here: <https://app.memberplanet.com/#/event/csi-tidewatervirginiachapter/marc26>
Book Hotel: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1747413309891&key=GRP&questreslink2=true&app=resvlink>

Schedule Overview: **Thursday, April, 23**
Pre-Conference Activities | Registration | Welcome Reception



Friday, April, 24
Product Show | Presentations

Saturday, April 25
Product Show | Presentations | Awards Reception

Sunday, April 26
Post-Conference; SCIP Meeting

The MAR board meeting will be on Saturday morning, followed by the MAR business meeting.



The Middle Atlantic Region Conference is just around the corner. April 23 through April 26 is the time to be in Norfolk VA to join your colleagues to discuss how to make your connections and relationships work for yourself and your company.

We have some great presentations put together to learn how to avoid problems on your projects and use the relationships you have throughout the Region to solve them when they happen. Our Sponsors are bringing their newest ideas and products to share in the products show area of the room. We also are putting together a Speed Networking on Thursday afternoon before the conference. Be sure to sign up to get some one on one with our sponsors.



We also have some fun built in, the Tides will be in town on Friday night playing the Memphis Redbirds at Harbor Park; and the Ocean View Pier, the longest concrete fishing pier on the east coast will be available on Thursday or Sunday for those who love the Bay and a bit of fishing. Norfolk is a fun place to be with lots going on.



We look forward to seeing you in April!

Margaret Chewing FCSI CCS
MARC26 Chair

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Apr. 14** High Performance Historic Masonry Retrofits, Corey Murphy, 475 High Performance Building Supply
- Apr. 23-26** CSI Middle Atlantic Region Conference, Norfolk, VA
- May 21** CSI Pittsburgh Golf Outing, Quicksilver Golf Course
- Jun. 9** End of the Year Party at the Puttshack, CSI Pittsburgh

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4



New Members

Tom Seidel, Door & Hardware Institute

Matthew Schlessman, PPG

Member Anniversaries

February 2026

Michael Moyta , Design 3 Architecture	32 years
Brian Joyce , PPG	15 years
Walter Postufka , GAF	12 years
John Aiello, Jr. , Cascade Construction Products	7 years
Joanna Beres , Code-Sys Code Consulting, Inc.	1 year
Sam Astorino , Avanti Design Build, Inc.	1 year

March 2026

Duncan Penny , Michael Baker International	32 years
Ray See , Bridges & Company	12 years

April 2026

Brian Joos	46 years
Marty Thorton II , Conspectus, Inc.	40 years
Michael Bosco	38 years
Joseph Kostuch , The K Group PGH LLC	30 years
Barbara Matejka , HHSDR Architects/Engineers	27 years
John Bliss , R.I. Lampus Company	15 years
Pamela Neely , Wagner Companies	12 years
Jason Hamilton , Tnemec	9 years
Matthew Cohn , Pieper O'Brien Herr Architects	1 year
Taylor Williams , W.R. MEADOWS	1 year
Sara Sweeney , Urban Practice	1 year

Pittsburgh Chapter Leadership FY 2026

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