

From Our History

Items from earlier Chapter of Institute Publications that
have been reprinted in more recent
Maine CSI Newsletters

Prepared for the Maine Chapter's
40th Anniversary

From our History - Maine Chapter and CSI Articles published in Maine Chapter Newsletter

Full set including notes added when re-published in Maine Chapter Newsletter
As of May 7, 2007

Dateline – 1966

Have times really changed? In 1966, CSI along with AIA, AGC and Council of Mechanical Specialty Contracting Industries, Inc., jointly published a document known as “Uniform System for Construction Specifications, Data Filing & Cost Accounting”. This document included material from a previous published CDI document, “The CSI Format for Building Specifications” that was the original CSI 16 Division Format. The term “MasterFormat” was yet to be adopted. The 1966 “Uniform System” showed how the CSI 16 Divisions and Sections within Divisions could be applied to product data filing and to cost accounting/estimating.

What is very interesting is the introduction that explains why the “Uniform System” was developed. To quote the first paragraph of this explanation, “The Uniform System has been developed in response to pressing needs for better and more rapid classification of technical data. Current technology has created these needs by introducing new materials and new techniques at a rate that threatens to outstrip our ability to assimilate essential new information and to correlate it with old”.

Have times changed, isn't this statement just as relevant today as it was years ago in 1966 when it promoted some uniformity?

Maine-ly Specs Dateline June 1969

The Chapter Newsletter reported that at the June 10th Chapter Meeting, the Chapter voted to assess a 25 cent fine to members not wearing a CSI Pin at a Chapter Meeting. President Niran Bates announced the membership in the various Chapter Committees for the coming year. Those serving on the Membership Committee were Edward (Pete) Churchill, Chairman; Ralph Knowlton; Paul Tolman; Lionel Kelly and Richard Godfrey. (*Note: Paul Tolman was from New Hampshire and was instrumental in organizing the New Hampshire Chapter in a later year.*) The program for the June 10th Meeting was a panel discussion on the “Maine Filed Bid System”. The result of the panel discussion was that the system was possibly being carried to extremes by calling for the submission of filed bids for an excessive number of trades.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline September 1970

Maine Chapter President Howard McCartney, in his “President’s Message, included the following comments about attending the Institute Convention in Chicago:

“Niran C. Bates, Robert Armitage and I made it to Chicago and back safely. It certainly was an experience to attend a National Convention. The numbers involved and the magnitude of such an undertaking was quite impressive. (NOTE: in 1970, there were 265 Exhibit Booths and 2,752 registered for the Convention)

The theme of the Convention was built around *Continuing Revolution in Construction Communications*. A great deal of time was devoted to this subject. Many of the seminars dealt with the experience and the mechanics of attempting to utilize mass reproduction media in the preparation of specifications. The specifications industry is relatively new as an organization and is apparently undergoing a period of review and change. The complete nature of this change is at present difficult to discern and adequately predict. We in Maine will be a part of the movement and hopefully we may play our part in helping to shape the future of CSI.”

(Webmaster’s Note: I wonder what the attendees of the 1970 Chicago Convention would have thought if someone had predicted that in the future Specifiers might have “Master Specifications” that could be quickly edited for a specific job, by the use of a computer, and then instantly transmitted across the country as easily as making a telephone call.)

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – September 1970

Thirty-six years ago, the new Maine Chapter President was preparing for his second meeting as Chapter President and the September “Maine-ly Specs” contained the following report (the Meeting schedule was adjusted in September and October 1970 so that Maine Chapter Members could attend the Chartering of the New Hampshire Chapter which was held on Oct. 5, 1970).

“Your President attempted to reflect on the National Convention and a very interesting discussion on the state of our construction industry. For those of you who were not present, I urge you to read the three features in this month’s “Specifier” by Dr. Tribus, John Healy and Michael Brill. These articles point out some of the problems we face as an industry. In trying to fill a not too well defined role, CSI is facing a possible name change which would more nearly reflect our current position. As a Chapter, we will be requested to pass on our thoughts. I urge each of you to give this some careful consideration.

I am pleased to announce the formation of a new committee, under chairmanship of Niran Bates, that will be studying methods by which CSI can assist the building trades program at Central Maine Vocational Technical Institute (Webmaster’s note, this is now Central Maine Community College). I believe this is a very worthwhile project and one that will bring credit to our organization”.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline - January 1971 - Originally reprinted from the “Puget Sound Spectrum”

Final portion of original article.-

What exactly, is the architect's responsibility and best approach with regard to acceptance of products and materials to be incorporated into a project? What is the contractor's responsibility, and to what extent should he become involved in the selection of materials? Use of a material or product other than that originally contemplated can cause a substantial amount of redesign. Whose responsibility is that? What of the manufacturer who spends large sums on research and development in the use of a standardized basic material? Is he entitled to the exclusive use of the system he develops and conversely, is the small manufacturer who simply bids entitled to it? Should the supplier who simply sits and waits for a job to appear for bidding be entailed to the same considerations as one whose representatives helped solve the problem of design and is he even qualified to execute that design? What is the best technique for selecting among the thousands of materials and products available for construction?

There are endless variations on the above questions and there probably are no right answers. On the other hand, it may be possible to improve the situation a little through communications, by hearing the other side of the story.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline May 1971

The Chapter Newsletter contained a brief article, a portion of which reads as follows; "We are extremely pleased that we have been awarded the, "Most Improved Chapter Newsletter Award" by the national CSI. It is nice to have one's efforts recognized. Part of this honor should go to the incoming President Elford (*Richardson*) who nourished and raised our Maine-ly Specs as its first and only Editor." The newsletter also reported the death of one of the Chapter's "Charter Members, Ambrose Higgins.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – June 1971

The June 1971 Chapter newsletter announced the June Meeting program that consisted of a Panel Discussion covering the subject "Relationship between the Job Superintendent and the Resident Inspector". Panelists for the presentation were Don Huff, Stewart & Williams, Inc.; John Bridge, Bridge Construction Corp.; John Sargent, Alonzo Harriman Associates, Inc; and David Garner, Wright, Pierce, Barnes & Wyman. The newsletter contained a "Member Profile" of William Michael Salter, President and Treasurer of Stewart & Williams, Inc. The Minutes of the May Board Meeting included a question about the "Region Assessment" which amounted to fifty cents per member. The newsletter also reported on the May Meeting which had been the "Awards Night".

Maine-ly Specs Dateline January 1972

The Chapter Newsletter carried a "Letter to the Editor" entitled "Is there a communications gap" written by Dick Eustis. The Newsletter Editor noted that this was the first of what he hoped would be many "Letters to the Editor". The content of the letter indicated Mr. Eustis had recently reviewed a set of electrical specifications that required all splices and joints in wires to be soldered.

When this requirement was questioned, the electrical engineer said he had been using the same specification for several years and nobody had raised any questions about his “soldered joint requirement”. Mr. Eustis wondered if notes of “out of date” requirements such as the one for “soldered joints” were ever relayed back to the specification writer from the field so that the specifications could be improved.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – March 1972

The Chapter newsletter included a small item indicating the all members of the Maine Chapter had received an invitation from the Atlantic Provinces Chapter of the Specification Writers Association of Canada (Now known as Construction Specifications Canada) to attend their national conference to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia on April 26-28, 1972. It was suggested that a group rate for a trip on the “Prince of Fundy” might be arranged for those interested in attending.

The newsletter also indicated the program for the March Meeting of the Maine Chapter would be a presentation by Dr. Keith Crocket, Director of School Services, Department of Education, on “Public School Construction – Past and Future”. It was noted that this should be of special interest because of the current emphasis on construction of more modern school facilities.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – April 1972

The Chapter newsletter included the program for the Meeting to be held on April 4, 1972. The Meeting was to be held at the “Red Lion” in Bangor and the program consisted of a Panel Discussion organized by Jim McBrady on the subject of Roofing. The panelists for the evening were:

Edward Schreiber, President of Construction Consultants, Inc. of Detroit, Michigan, a firm offering independent technical assistance in roofing systems.

Walter Damuck of West Hartford, Connecticut, a practicing architect with extensive experience in roofing issues.

Robert Moore, Nation Consultant for the Built-up Roofing Division of the Koppers Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Kenneth Marshall of the Federal Roofing and Sheet Metal Company of Jamaica Plains, Massachusetts.

A special invitation to the meeting had been extended to all architects, engineers and contractors in Maine. The May 1972 Newsletter reported that 72 people attended the April Meeting in Bangor.

Maine-ly Specs Region Conference – Dateline October 1972 nearly 31 years ago published Sept 03

Well gang here it is! The warm ups are over, the ground crew is leaving the field and the umpire is ready to throw out the first ball! The World Series? Heck, no – CSI Region I Conference!

The players (our local Committee) have done a terrific job in preparing for this event through lengthy skull sessions, one after another and have produced a pretty good game plan. The player roster has been “beefed-up” importing talent and experience from other teams for our panel and from Kansas City (no, not Mr. Finley, he’s gone to Oakland) Bob Vansant to serve as umpire-in – chief for the panel discussion.

Ralph Knowlton and Bob Armitage, “the managers” have assured us that the entire program which they have prepared will be both informative and entertaining.

George Barnes “the ground keeper” has made all the necessary arrangements to insure us that the Shawmut will be in tip-top shape for all events.

President Ken has taken on the look of a promoter who is a little downcast as he reads the results of the advance ticket sales. We are certain that many are planning to attend who have not yet “bought their tickets”. To these individuals we urge that you act promptly in order to be present when the activities start at 1 p.m. Friday October 6. Oh yes, Harry Irma, our Region One Director, will be with us. To date he has not indicated whether he will be throwing out the first or last ball.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline January 1973

The January 1973 was devoted to several reports covering individual “Workshops” held at the Region Conference hosted by the Maine Chapter at the Shawmut Inn, Kennebunkport, Me in early October 1972. Reports in this issue covered the following: Membership, Publications, Programs, Technical, and Education. A few items reported over 30 years ago are just as valuable to day as they were in 1972.

The following was taken from the report of the “Publications Workshop” Chaired by Dick Bachelder of the Maine Chapter –

“Newsletter in general should receive wider distribution other than limited to Chapter Members. Several Editors indicated they have a regular exchange program with many other Chapter Newsletters. Also it was suggested that newsletters should be sent to all Architectural and Engineering Offices.

To promote contributions to the newsletter from the members, it was generally agreed that this can also be accomplished through properly “educating” the members of the value of membership contributions. “Letters to the Editor” appears to be one of the more popular approaches; however, most editors indicate a lack of support for the same. It was further suggested that the newsletters could contain a “new products” column. Such a column could be contributed from anyone outside chapter membership.

Editorials appear to be an area of possible expansion in the majority of the newsletters.”

Maine-ly Specs Dateline October 1973

The meeting topic for the October 1973 Meeting held at Steckino's Restaurant in Lewiston was a Panel Discussion on "Temporary Services for Construction". (Webmaster's Note: I wonder if the past 30 years have solved all of these problems or do some still exist?). Mel Cole was serving as Chapter Secretary and his report of the Board Meeting included a report from 2nd Vice president Jerry Haynes that because of rising costs it was becoming increasingly difficult to hold the dinner cost down to \$6.00. The Board voted to keep the cost between \$6.00 and \$7.00 when possible. The previous meeting (September 1973) had been held at the Portland "Holiday Inn by the Sea" with a program topic of how OSHA affects Architects and Contractors. The September Meeting was attended by 29 members and 15 guests.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline Nov. 1973

Bill Whited, President of the Maine Chapter included the following in his "President's Message for the November 1973 issue of Maine-ly Specs.

"THINGS DO AND ARE A-CHANGING. This title of a popular song includes those in the construction industry. With many new methods and words used to describe different approaches to the construction process, the times are indeed changing. Turnkey, Design/build, Construction Management, and Fast Track are but a few of the new approaches being promoted. These are hoped to result in wider design choices, better budget control and earlier completion dates. Through all of these approaches, one must wonder if the ultimate user is going to benefit from the shortcutting that is bound to result because of limited design time and inadequate funds to bring forth the best efforts of the design segment of the construction industry."

Maine-ly Specs Dateline December 1973

Bill Whited, in his "President's Message" included the following:

Education is the national theme for C.S.I. this year. Although I'm not sure whether this national theme was directed to the undergraduate, those just entering the construction specifications field or practice, or those, like myself, who have been writing specifications for a number of years. My comments in the President's Message this month are directed to those, like myself, who may be interested in updating their specification writing technique.

Of course, there are many tools available from national C.S.I. to guide the preparation of specifications in the C.S.I. format. However, there are still many offices (and ours is included) who have not changes all of their specifications to the format. The problem seems to be in using that old standard for preparing specifications, "cut and paste" and never having quite time enough to write a new specification. Possibly someone has the answer and is willing to share their solution with the Chapter.

Another area being encourages is the use of computer specifications. I have spent some time investigating this means of specification writing. I came up with the feeling that the first few specifications done with a "computer specification" are going to require a great deal of editing from the master spec. However, I can see that once an office has edited and stored a few specs tailored to its needs, the recall and editing of that spec becomes minimal.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline February 1974

The Chapter Newsletter reported the subject of the February Meeting which was to be held at the Silent Women Restaurant in Waterville would be “The Design-Build approach for Construction”. The report of the January 1974 Meeting held at the Sheraton Hotel in Portland indicated the meeting attendance was 82 members and guests. The subject of the January Meeting was “Availability of Materials, Guaranteed Construction Costs, Price Escalation, Energy Crisis and Allied Problems”. *(Note: This program had special interest because of a crisis in price escalation and material delivery caused by the energy crisis.)* The Chapter Membership Chairman reported a Chapter Membership Renewal Rate of 93.02%. The Chapter Newsletter in February 1974 consisted of 8 pages and required 8 cents of postage to mail.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline February 1974

Do you ever get disturbed by “Re-runs” of your favorite TV Programs or wondered about some of the other apparent changes that are not really new. Sometime a look at our history helps us get a better picture. The following is a part of the announcement about the February 1974, Maine Chapter CSI Meeting that was held in Waterville, ME.

“PROGRAM: A lot of “pros and cons” and maybe even misunderstandings have been generated by terms such as “Turnkey”, “Design-build”, “conventional approach” and “Construction Management” as they have entered our construction jargon in the last year or so. February’s program will be devoted to the TOTAL DESIGN-BUILD approach to construction, with emphasis on the use of the concept in Maine. Here’s your chance to get questions answered and make your opinions known throughout the Construction Industry.”

This is a program that was given over 30 years ago !!!! So what is new???

Maine-ly Specs Dateline April 1974

The President’s Message in the April 1974 Issue of “Maine-ly Specs” included a promotion of an upcoming Chapter Seminar. It included the following paragraphs:

Next month on April 23, 1974, the Maine Chapter of C.S.I. will sponsor a seminar of the C.S.I. format at the Civic Center in Augusta. This seminar will be an evaluation of narrowscope specifications as written by many of the Maine specifiers. Specifications are now being submitted to the Division Leaders for use in this seminar. Copies of all specifications will be bound into a booklet which will be available to all attending as a part of the registration fee.

The submitted specifications will be evaluated on their conformance to the C.S.I. three part format outline. Although most design firms are using the 16 Division titles when preparing their

specifications, many still do not understand or use the three part format. Hopefully, this seminar will increase the understanding and use of this format. For this reason, I feel this seminar will be most valuable to all members of the construction industry and I hope that all will try to attend.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline May 1974

The Membership Committee reported that the Chapter had finally grown to 100 members with Eaton W. Tarbell becoming our "century" member. The report of the April Meeting indicated 63 members and guests attended the monthly meeting where the program was a panel discussion on Division 2. The Panelists were: Gertrud Ebbeson, Pete Sulenski, Stan Walker, and Bill Gorrell with Jerry Haynes as Moderator.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline February 1975

The Membership Committee reported the Membership had grown to 111 members and the Chapter Membership Renewal Rate was 96%. It was noted that the Maine Chapter received a "cash award" of \$175 for placing 5th in an Institute Contest for Membership Renewal. President Bob Whitmore reported on a recent Institute Bylaws change that provided for equal voting rights for Industry Members. (NOTE: Prior to this change only Professional Members were eligible to vote in Institute elections.) The Chapter President also reported the Maine Chapter had 29 people (members and spouses) at the previous Region Conference. The Newsletter also reported that current Maine School Construction costs were in the neighborhood of \$27.00 per sq. ft.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline March 1978

While searching my file of old Maine Chapter Newsletters for some bit of wisdom for this column, I found something that first appeared in the March 1978 issue that was taken from an earlier issue of a newsletter published by the Detroit Section of the Society of Women Engineers. It seems as appropriate today as it did over 25 years ago.

How to Kill an Association in Fourteen Easy Steps –

1. Stay away from all meetings
2. If you do come, find fault.
3. Decline office or appointments to a committee.
4. Get sore if you aren't nominated or appointed.
5. After you are named, don't attend board or committee meetings.
6. If you do get to one, despite your better judgment, clam up until it's over.
7. Do no work if you can help it. When Old Reliables pitch in, accuse them of being a clique.
8. Oppose all parties or shindigs as being a waste of time and member's money.
9. If everything is strictly business, complain that the meetings are dull and the officers are a bunch of old sticks.

10. If everything is not strictly business, complain that the Officers are ineffective and the meetings are a waste of time.
11. Never accept a place at the head table.
12. If you are not asked to sit at the head table, threaten to resign because you aren't appreciated.
13. Don't rush to pay your dues, let the Treasurer and Directors sweat; after all, they wrote the budget.
14. Read mail from the Association only now and then; don't reply if you can help it. After all, a newsletter is easy to compose and to type! Why should you appreciate it?

Maine-ly Specs Dateline June 1978

The following is reprinted from the June 1978 issue of "Maine-ly Specs" and was written by Jerry Alciatore. Since this was written, Jerry has gone on to become a Fellow of the Institute and serve as Institute President.

THE UNUSUAL BOOK

It is very seldom completely written in its entirety by its Author.
 It is very seldom ever completely read in its entirety by its Author.
 It is never completely read by the reader.
 The Author is generally not a writer.
 It almost always has contributing authors who are not always familiar with the contributions of other authors.
 The reader is not always a fan of the Author.

What is this unusual book called? Old Timers call it useless; secretaries call it a bastard; contractors call it the funny papers; others call it a specification; still others call it a project manual; C.S.I. members almost always call it a project manual (perhaps they should rename our organization the Construction Project Manual Institute). An unusual book by any other name is still unusual!

One other thing – It is generally more thoroughly read in a courtroom than in a drafting room.

(Webmasters Note: Have times really changed?)

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – February 1979

In his President's Message Dick (Richard III) Sullivan reported on attending the Maine AGC (now ACM) Annual Meeting in January 1979 and participating in an afternoon seminar session wearing two different sets of clothing, first a suit and tie to make comments as the Maine Chapter of CSI President and then changing to a "flak jacket" and helmet to answer questions as a designer. He then goes on to report:

“Seriously, I found that AGC is concerned about many of the same subjects as we in CSI are working to resolve. The subject of shop drawings, communications between construction parties and payments were discussed at length. I was pleased to be able to tell them that our Chapter is working toward developing a Recommended Practice concerning shop drawings. I also pointed out that CSI is an organization with a major purpose of improving communications between the construction parties and we would appreciate new members, attendance at meetings and any comments that the members of AGC would like to have our chapter consider. It seems only logical that CSI and AGC work together as much as possible when trying to solve the same problems.”

It would appear these comments are just as valuable today as they were over 25 years ago when they were first published in our newsletter.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – March 1979

The March 1979 issue of “Maine-ly Spec” contained an article written by Decatur Cousins, one of the Maine Chapter’s first representative serving on the Maine Concrete Technicians Certification Board. The article gave a brief history of the first 3 years since the concept of a Board was introduced to Maine’s design and construction industries in early 1976 by the Ready-Mix Division of the Associated General Contractors of Maine (now ACM).

In the article, Decatur reports – “The strength of the response to the introductory sessions led directly to the formulation of the Maine Concrete Technicians Certification Board, a voluntary nine member board made up of two members of AGC of Maine, two members from the Maine Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), two members from the Maine Chapter of the American Institute of Architects(AIA), one member from the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) and two members at large from the Industry.

The Initial MCTCB board meeting was held August 30, 1976 at which time it was decided that the Board members would become, by test, the first group of MCTCB certified technicians, that this group would act as jurors in subsequent tests and that additional jurors would be selected on the basis of superior performance by candidates early in the testing program. This system worked well and resulted in a pool of some thirty MCTCB certified technicians across the state who are designated “jurors-on-call” for the testing of new candidates.

The first test was held January 6, 1977 and that test, together with the fourteen subsequent tests to date have resulted in a state-wide pool of more than 140 MCTCB certified technicians representing all branches of, and all disciplines interfacing with, the Maine concrete industry.”

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – January 1979

Our Chapter Editor in January 1979 published an “Editorial” in which some of the comments are just as applicable today as they were then. Here is a portion of Denis’s Editorial –

“Happy New Year!!! 1979, can you believe it? I can remember my first C.S.I. meeting; I felt uncomfortable and somewhat out of place. I was in Awe! There before me stood years of valuable experience in the construction industry. Some 35 to 40 men, all of whom were experts in their own field. I felt insignificant. Just think, if I could have an opportunity to learn from all those men, how much of a better designer I could be. I wanted so much to tap these resources; to sponge from the vast experience they possess. To learn first-hand from other designers; to acquire new ways of detailing from contractors who actually have to put it together in the field; to become aware of the new products available from local suppliers; to get a feel of what kind of teamwork is necessary to successfully put a building, a project together so that it is within budget and meet the owners needs. At every meeting I attend, I can see this becoming possible.

Denis expressed 27 years ago what is one of the real values of attending Chapter meetings. If it is possible to learn from others and every those in attendance at a Chapter Meeting represent many, many years of practical experience in a broad spectrum of design/construction issues and members are always willing to share this knowledge. Why not attend a Chapter Meeting and tap into this experience database?

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – June 1979

In June 1979, Denis Lemieux was just completing his first year as Editor of “Maine-ly Specs” and as usual, he included an article “From the Editor”. This month we are reprinting a portion of Denis’s comments about 1979 (25 years ago) as these comments apply to this year as well.

“All in all, I’m amazed, and quite pleased at all the success we as a Chapter had this past year. Out of the hundred or so members, fifteen – for sure less than twenty five – of our members were active and participated. These people made it all possible. Can you imagine if thirty to forty members would become active! Maybe next year you will see how valuable you are and will make yourself available to help us help you. CSI is a viable organization for the construction industry in Maine. Let’s make it indispensable.”

Maine-ly Specs Dateline - October 1979

The October 1979 issue of the Chapter Newsletter contained a report of previous months meeting which consisted of a “Panel Discussion” chaired by Dennis Pelletier. The subject of the Panel Discussion was CSI and each Panelist was asked to include in their presentation, answers to 4 questions that had been given to them at the time they agreed to be on the Panel. The 4 questions were: 1) – Why are you a member of CSI; 2) – From your point of view, what is the meaning of CSI; 3) – How does CSI relate to your job; and 4) – In your analysis, what is the value of CSI to your profession and to the construction industry?

The Panelists in addition to Dennis were: Richard Bachelder, Director of the Bureau of Public Improvements; David Peck, Architect; and Richard Sullivan, Engineer, Enterprise Engineering, Inc. The following is a partial report on the comments made by Dennis Pelletier.

“CSI means a common ground to communicate and improve contract documents in the construction industry. More importantly, CSI means personal relationship and that to a supplier, means a good market. CSI relates to his work by bridging the construction picture, architect with supplier, owner with contractor, etc. CSI has improved his personal service and it has made him aware of the problems that different trades encounter. He mentioned that the “Architectural Representative” is a dying breed, and that CSI is bringing out the need for such a representative. His membership in general has improved his services.”

Many of these comments do not change with time.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – December 1979

The December 1979 Chapter Newsletter contained a report written by Mori Mitsui, Institute Director for the Northeast Region (at that time this position was known as Region Director).

Mori reported on several items discussed at the September 1979 Institute Board Meeting including a proposal to raise the membership dues from \$60 to \$75 a year (At that time dues increases required a vote by the CSI membership). Another item considered by the Institute Board that would be of interest to Chapters was to allow Chapters to have the position of “President-elect”. A third item considered by the Institute Board was the elimination of “Student Chapters” and that they be replaced with an organizational structure that had student groups operate under the guidance of a regular CSI Chapter.

In addition to the report on Institute activities, Mori’s report also included a request that Chapters make an effort to nominate members for Region and Institute Awards. He indicated that the Region and Chapters were much stronger than was indicated by the submissions for awards. He also commented on the successful October 1979 Region Conference held in Niagara Falls, NY and hosted by the Buffalo-Western New York Chapter.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – June 1980

The June 1980 issue of “Maine-ly Specs” included the report of the May 1980 Chapter Board Meeting prepared by Chapter Secretary Gertrud Ebbeson. These Board Meeting Minutes contained the following:

Mel Cole reported on final plans for Ladies-Awards night..\$25.00 per couple, drinks not included but available. Buffet dinner centered around lobster Newburg... Awards program with Frank Olsen officiating from 8 to 9 P.M., and then dancing to live Disk Jockey until 1 A.M. Flyers will be mailed out, and Mel would like reservations and checks mailed to him at Harriman’s Office by May 21st if possible. Guests are welcome.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – November 1980

Denis Lemieux, CSI had served several years as Editor of “Maine-ly Specs” and in the fall of 1980, he turned the Editor’s responsibility over to Chris White, CSI of Wright-Pierce. However, Denis did not leave the position without a parting article. The following is a portion of the article Denis wrote nearly 25 years ago but it is just as applicable today as it was then.

“How can our newsletter “Maine-ly Specs” contain personal news about members in order to help one another become better acquainted and to encourage one another to take pride in each other’s accomplishments? How can our newsletter weld the membership into a strong operating team, with a sense of purpose, excitement and “Esprit de Corps”? How!... By individual participation. I think it’s time that we all look at ourselves and ask ourselves what I can do to make CSI in Maine a better, more informative, more technical organization for the construction industry. It’s understandable that all members cannot attend all meetings, but it’s inexcusable for anyone not to be able to communicate to all members because we do have an award winning newsletter.”

Maine-ly Specs Dateline - December 1982

Have times changed, you be the judge? This month we are reprinting a portion of Dennis Pelletier’s “President’s Message that appeared in the December 1982 issue of *Maine-ly Specs*. In commenting on the fine Chapter Meeting Programs, Dennis writes this about two meetings –
“September, in Bangor, we had Paul Clifford of Leighton Business Systems with an update on word processing and computerization in the construction industry. It is a major concern. Anyone who is not up to date may find themselves standing aside to individuals and firms who are committed to the technology changes that are occurring in the market place. The December meeting is upon us. Brian Kent with the Maine State Energy Office will be available to discuss the Maine Energy Conservation Building Standards.”

A few of the Directors and Committee Chairs listed for 1982-83 are still attending Chapter Meetings – Ralph Sweet and Ronald Beauchesne, Directors; Herb Powers, Advertising Committee Chairman; Dick Eustis Bylaws Committee Chairman; Mel Cole, Jr. Education Committee Chairman; Denis Lemieux, History & Records Committee Chairman and Programs Committee Chairman.

Maine-ly Specs Dateline November 1983

The report of the September 6, 1983 Chapter Meeting include a section on the Meeting Program. It reported that Dennis Pelletier (Chapter President) had guests introduce themselves following dinner. The report goes on with the following paragraph –
“Dennis then turned the meeting over to Denis Lemieux, who introduced our speaker ... Dick Dolby, Plan Examiner for the State Fire Marshall’s Office, who spoke on the changes which have been made in the Code, the changes in the building classifications, and types of structures and/or uses of structures which make certain plan submittals to the Fire Marshall’s Office a “must”, and along with this information, the changes in rates for permits from the Department

Maine-ly Specs Dateline – June and December 1987 Published Sept, 2005

In honor of the New Hampshire Chapter hosting the Region Conference shortly after this newsletter is published, we looked back for information on previous Region Conferences hosted by the New Hampshire Chapter. One of these was the Region Conference hosted by the New Hampshire Chapter on Oct. 15-17, 1987 at the Sheraton Tara Hotel in Nashua, NH.

The June issue of Maine-ly Specs contained a 2-page spread about the Region Conference including an invitation for members to participate in a “Regional Networking Business Cardholder”, which for a nominal fee of \$50 per insertion plus 250 Business Cards would provide all attendees and any Chapter Presidents that did not attend, “a handsome cardholder imprinted with the Regional Conference logo and date”. The Chapter Committee for the Conference consisted of: Mori Mitsui, FCSI, Chairman; Dale Dollar, Vice Chairman – Publicity, Program Journal; Arthur Rose - Finance; Larry Demers – Registration, Fund Raising; G. Kent Worden – Technical Program; Judy Mitsui – Spouse & Youth Program, Facilities; Rachel Demers – Souvenirs/Door Prizes; and Paul Goldberg – Social Events.

We also found President Mel Cole’s “President’s Message” in the December 1987 issue of Maine-ly Specs contained the following –

“The Maine Chapter of CSI was well represented at the Regional Conference in October with 8 members attending. In fact, there were more Maine children in the Children’s Program than from all of the other Chapters combined. *(Editors Note: I wonder if any of these have become CSI Members during the past 18 years.)*

Denis Lemieux and Dennis Pelletier both received Director’s Awards. Denis Lemieux also received the Donald J. Colosano award for his outstanding efforts as editor of Maine-ly Specs.”

Maine-ly Specs From our History – some CSI “Firsts” Published Oct. 2002

Tabulated by Richard A. Eustis, PE, FCSI, CCA

This month we are taking a little different approach with our history to provide our newer members some history of CSI and the Maine Chapter. CSI has changed considerably since it was first organized in 1948. Much of this material was compiled for publication in “The FELLOWS”, a newsletter distributed to the Fellows of CSI. The original material has been expanded to include some historical items about the Maine Chapter. The following is a reminder of some of our history.

- CSI Articles of Incorporation signed – March 8, 1948
- First CSI Meeting – April 1948
- First issue of “the Construction Specifier” – 1949
- First Chapter Chartered – June 1, 1951; Metropolitan New York Chapter
- First Institute Convention – 1957 in Washington, DC
- First Fellows Investiture – 1959, First Class of Fellows invested at Chicago Convention
- First (and only) year no member elevated to Fellowship – 1960

- First year Industry Members eligible to become Fellows – 1966, 5 Industry Members became Fellows
- MAINE Chapter Chartered on March 31, 1967 with original name of “Portland Chapter”. The Maine Chapter was the 91st Chapter chartered by CSI
- First year CSI considered name change because name did not reflect activity – 1970
- First female member of Maine Chapter elected to Maine Chapter Board – Election of officers for 1973-74, Gertrud Ebbeson elected to Chapter Board.
- First Institute election in which members other than Professional Members allowed to vote in either Institute or Chapter elections – Election of Officers for 1975-76
- First Maine Chapter election in which a member other than a “Professional Member” was elected Chapter President – Election of officers for 1977-78, Richard Danforth elected.
- First female member invested as Fellow – Class of 1978; Alice E. Shelly
- First Institute Certification Program – CSI launched the CCS Program in 1978
- First Industry Member elected to position of Institute President-elect – Ballot February, 1988; Steve Blumenthal, FCSI elected.
- First female member elected to position of Institute President-elect – Ballot February, 1994, Jane D. Baker, FCSI, CCS elected
- First female Chapter member elected to position of Maine Chapter President-elect – Election of officers for 2001-2002, Pat Hinckley, CSI elected.
- First time Industry members concurrently filled positions of Institute President and President-elect - 1999-2000

Maine-ly Specs From: Maine Chapter – First Decade written by El Richardson for the 10th Anniversary Celebration Only a portion of report

An organizational meeting initiated by Robert Armitage was attended by representatives of all segments of the Industry, was held in Portland on Dec. 9, 1966. Mr. Arthur Brown, Region 1 Director of CSI, explained the necessary steps for the formation of a CSI Chapter in Maine.

Other meetings and the work of a committee headed by Bob Armitage culminated in formal presentation of a Chapter to the Portland Maine Chapter of CSI on March 31, 1967. Chartering Night was attended by officers of the Boston, Hartford and Rhode Island Chapters with the Charter being presented by Kelsey Saint, then Secretary of the Institute. The Chapter was off to a good start under guidance of its new officers and directors:

President	Robert Armitage
1 st V.P.	Lloyd Cushman
2 nd V.P.	Roderick Ling
Secretary	Elford Richardson
Treasurer	Richard Danforth
Directors	Ralph Knowlton
	Arthur Ford
	Howard McCartney
	Raymond Mercer
	George Barnes

The 50 Charter Members, 28 Professional and 22 Industry, were a good representation of Architects, Engineers, Contractors, Manufacturers and Suppliers. The present doubled membership is still good in all segments with a somewhat large percentage of Industry Members.

For geographic reasons Chapter Meetings were held in various parts of the State to even out travel by the members, also to make the Chapter more appealing to prospective Maine members. Armitage obtained Institute approval to change the Chapter name to Maine Chapter.

The first year activities of the Chapter were concerned with education of the membership to the use of the CSI format, building Chapter membership and starting to spread the word of CSI's efforts for better specifications to the construction industry of Maine.

Our first Chapter President would have liked more time to accomplish these objectives, but in the interest of involving more members in the action, it became a policy of the Chapter to elect new officers each year.

Lloyd Cushman, 2nd Chapter President, 1968-1969, was also a prior member of CSI in the Boston Chapter. The second year was noted for the vigorous efforts of the Technical Committee and heavy commitment made by the Chapter to specifications work, concentrating on:

Miscellaneous Metals	Armitage, Chairman
Concrete	Danforth, Chairman
Millwork	Wright, Chairman

All these specification committees brought their work to the membership via panel discussions at Chapter Meetings

Niran Bates, 3rd Chapter President, 1969-1970, kept the pot boiling for Technical Document Activities. Niran also promoted closer ties with education fields, bringing us a few educators as members and recommending an education committee be formed the following year.

The Maine Chapter sponsored the formation of the New Hampshire Chapter scheduling a joint meeting with prospective N.H. members in June 1970. Paul Tolman became the 1st President of the N.H. Chapter.

This was the year our newsletter evolved into a publication, Maine-ly Specs, complete with advertising to make it self-supporting.

Howard McCartney, our 4th Chapter President, 1970-1971, continued to press for full participation in the technical document activity. Tilt-up Construction (chaired by Danforth) and Utility Construction (chaired by Knowlton) were added to work on specifications in progress. The Concrete Specification and the Utility Specification were displayed at the Institute Convention.

The Chapter started its educational endeavor at Central Maine Vocational Technical Institute. A series of lectures were given by Chapter Members to acquaint technical students with the various aspects and importance of good construction specifications. Howard was a prime mover in the Chapter's educational efforts at CMVTI and chaired the Education Committee in subsequent years.

CHARTER MEMBERS

Maine Chapter – Construction Specifications Institute

Charter Presented – March 31, 1967

Professional

Henry J. Aliberti
Robert E. Armitage
Richard G. Bachelder
George W. Barnes
Niran C. Bates, Jr.
Eugene P. Bovard
Dale E. Caruthers
Lloyd L. Cushman
Douglas K. Goodspeed
Donald H. Grape
Herbert P. Gray
John P. Hennings
Kenneth E. Jackson
Frederick R. Johnson
Howard R. McCartney
Raymond J. Mercer
Richard W. Merrill
Linwood B. Pinkham
Elford H. Richardson
William G. Ryan
Guy Susi
Robert W. Swift
Carroll E. Taylor
Donald H. Turner
Robert H. Whitmore, III
Deane M. Woodward
William K. Woolston
Robert E Wright

Industry

James A. Biegel
Edward B. Churchill
Ival R Cianchette
Kenneth L. Cianchette
Carlo M. Cimino
Richard H. Danforth
Arthur W. Ford
Richard L. Godfrey
Warren G. Greim
Paul G. Katz
Lionel D. Kelley
Ralph G. Knowlton
John R. LaPlant
Roderick J. Ling
Donald N. Mueller
A.B. Palmer, Jr
Donato C. Profenno
Dennis G. Ryder
William Michael Salter
Raymond C. Tartre
G. Donald Taylor
Gordon W. Van Buskirk

INITIAL CHAPTER OFFICERS AT CHARTERING

President	Robert Armitage
1 st V.P.	Lloyd Cushman
2 nd V.P.	Roderick Ling
Secretary	Elford Richardson
Treasurer	Richard Danforth
Directors	Ralph Knowlton
	Arthur Ford
	Howard McCartney

Former Chapter Presidents (Prepared May 2007) CSI designations as of time of preparation

Fiscal Years

- 1968 Robert E. Armitage, FCSI, CCS
- 1969 Lloyd Cushman, CCS
- 1970 Niran C. Bates, Jr
- 1971 Howard P. McCartney
- 1972 Elford H. Richardson
- 1973 Kenneth E. Jackson
- 1974 William Whited,
- 1975 Robert H. Whitmore III
- 1976 Richard A. Eustis, PE, FCSI, CCCA, MAI, CSC
- 1977-78 Richard Danforth
- 1979-80 Richard B. Sullivan
- 1981-82 Richard E. Barrett
- 1983-84 Dennis M. Pelletier, FCSI, CCPR
- 1985-86 Denis Lemieux, CSI, CDT, AIA
- 1987 Kenneth Northrop
- 1988 Melvin S. Cole, CSI, CCS
- 1989-90 John McCormack, CCS
- 1991-92 Kenneth Brann, CSI, CCS
- 1993-94 Michael Hayes
- 1995-96 Paul Beaudette, CSI
- 1997-98 Bradford W. Armstrong, CSI, CCPR

1999-2000 Sam Woodward, CSI, CCS

2001-02 Floyd A. Lawrence, CSI, CDT

2003-04 Patti-Jean Hinckley, CDT

2005-06 John Morey, CSI, CDT