

S Nashville SPECIFACTS

Nashville Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute Newsletter

July 2026 Edition



Chapter President's Corner

Greetings All,

I find myself as the Nashville CSI Chapter President once again. Everyone has busy lives and interest in filling the position for this term was just not there, and that is OK. At 70, I agreed to do this job one last time. Thankfully, we have someone to follow me, and that is Paul Montray, as President-Elect. Paul will do a great job when his time comes.

I am doing this again because many of you know what you all and this Chapter has meant to me over the years. For our 60th anniversary celebration in 2018 some of us submitted our CSI story, which was published in the commemorative handout everyone received at the party. My story was too long to include in this newsletter. I still wanted that information to come out, since many others have joined since then. I had my AI buddy condense it and I have put it in the paragraphs below.

When I joined HMHA in Nashville in 1995, I knew almost no one in the city outside of the office. Unlike many local architects who built relationships by working at multiple firms throughout their careers, I have spent my entire Nashville career with one firm. While I gradually met architects through AIA events, I often still felt like an outsider.

That changed through CSI. My first exposure was a CDT class taught by Rex Garton in 1998, followed by Specheads meetings that Barry Holt encouraged me to attend. Barry, a longtime colleague and friend, was one of the key reasons I eventually joined CSI. Through those meetings, I met many industry professionals, including Jim Christain, whose office hosted Specheads gatherings at the time.

Another person who played an important role was Melanie Kenney, a familiar face at CSI Product Shows and a longtime friend to both our office and my family. Her enthusiasm and involvement in the Nashville Chapter helped make CSI a welcoming community.

Over the years, CSI introduced me to countless product representatives, vendors, contractors, and fellow members who became friends. By the time I attended my first CSI meeting as a member, I already knew many people in the room. Since then, serving as a member and Director has expanded those relationships even further.

Today, walking into a CSI meeting feels very different from those early AIA meetings. Instead of feeling like a stranger, it feels like coming home.

I left one person out of my story in 2018, although not on purpose, and I will correct that error now.

At one of my first AIA meetings that I attended after coming to Nashville, I met David Bockian. We were sitting at the same table. Even though we had never met before, David was friendly and made me feel at ease. As a result, I have known David for a long time, before I knew what CSI was. I want to thank David for making me feel welcome in a room full of strangers so long ago.

As I continue my final journey as your Chapter President, I will try and do my best to help make this chapter succeed. Recently, a close friend told me not to be afraid to ask for help. I will have no problem doing that. That said, it takes all of us, not just one person, to see that this chapter succeeds and thrives moving into the future. I will need everyone's help.

I will sign off for now. I promise my future articles will be shorter.

Take care.

Harry

Previously, on CSI Nashville.....

CSI Nashville – June SpecHeads

Thank You so much to Taylor Wilhelm representing Scranton Products, enlightening us on the best practices for Restroom Design.

- Date: June 9, 11:30 AM - 1:00PM CST at Sesco Lighting

Stay Tuned For.....

CSI Nashville – July SpecHeads

- Date: July 14, 11:30 AM - 1:00PM CST at Sesco Lighting

How to Avoid the 10 Most Common RFI's – Coiling Doors

AIA Program# COR600

Speaker: Shawn McCormick, Mid-Atlantic Architectural Product Representative

Understanding the 10 most common building design applications regarding Coiling Door Product that cause RFI's; allowing for more accurate plans, more efficient projects, and the best use of resources.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to learn:

1. The most appropriate locking options for coiling doors.
2. Motor operator options for coiling doors that provide maximum safety and aesthetics.
3. Application of appropriate coiling door finish options.
4. Properly specifying the most suitable cycle life product for conditions.

5. Accurate mounting and support requirements for coiling doors, and the option for supports provided and engineered by the manufacturer.
6. How to correctly detail an opening that will be protected by a fire rated coiling door.
7. Understanding the difference between a Fire wall and a Fire Barrier.
8. Difference in fire door closing systems with an application guideline for specifying the safest product solution.

Credits: 1-Hour | HSW

CSI Nashville – August SpecHeads

- Date: August 11, 11:30 AM - 1:00PM CST at Sesco Lighting

Basic Electrified Door Hardware

AIA Program# EDH102

Speaker: Sean Phelan, CDT - Phelan & Associates, Inc.

Understanding electrified door hardware, its components, requirements and functions.

Learning Objectives:

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:

1. Recognize the four key components of every electrified hardware system.
2. Identify the different hardware products that constitute these components.
3. Distinguish what additional information is required when specifying electrified door hardware.
4. Compose a basic description of operation for an electrified door opening.

Credits: 1-Hour | HSW

Awards Banquet at Mere Bulles, Brentwood, TN

June 25, 2026

It was an honor to be part of this Awards banquet at Mere Bulles! Thanks to Jim Christain, here are some photos of the event.



Awards Banquet

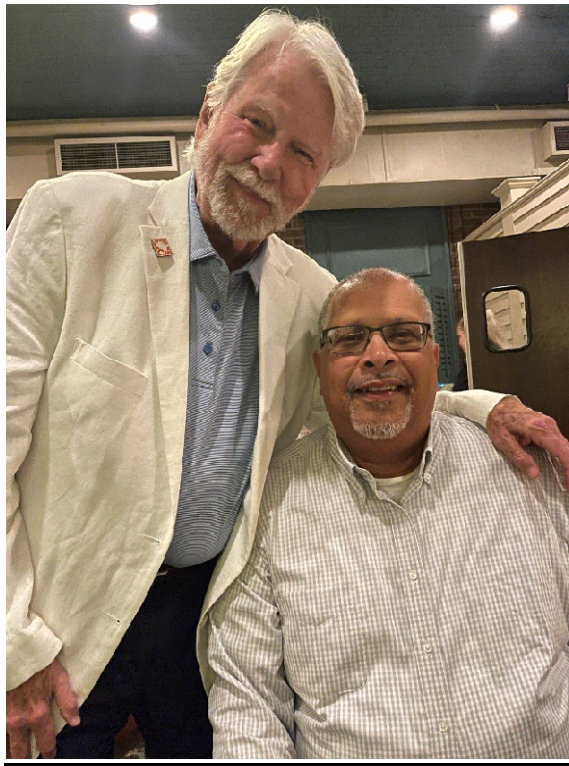


Awards Banquet



Awards Banquet

The Presidency passed to Harry Harris from Tara Mitchell



Register [HERE!](#)

2026 CSI Nashville Annual Board Retreat



JULY 21, 2026



6:00 PM



Jonathan's Grill

7135 S. Springs Drive
Franklin, TN



The retreat is where the Board sets goals and priorities for the year ahead. Please bring any ideas you may have for the upcoming year for discussion.



Food and drinks are complimentary and covered by the Chapter. Attendees will order from Jonathan's menu.

SAVE THE DATE!



10:30 AM – 3:00 PM
NASHVILLE FAIRGROUNDS

RESERVE YOUR BOOTH TODAY!

Contact Tiffany Goulet tiffany@nexgen-cr.com

Chapter Leaders

CSI Nashville Chapter - Officers & Directors for FY 2026-2027

<u>President</u>	Harry Harris	hharris@hnharchitects.com
<u>Immediate Past President / VP</u>	Tara Mitchell	tmitchell@esarch.com
<u>President-Elect</u>	Paul Montray	pmontray@tremcoinc.com
<u>Treasurer</u>	Jill Colby	jillcolby@colbyassoc.com
<u>Secretary</u>	Derek Hickman	derekh@kidwellscott.com
<u>Director</u>	Lynn Jolley	ljolley@comcast.net
<u>Director</u>	Tiffany Goulet	tiffany@nexgen-cr.com
<u>Director</u>	Carl Manka	cmanka@comcast.net
<u>Director</u>	Paul Montray	pmontray@tremcoinc.com
<u>Director</u>	Tim Yoko	tyoko@tmpartners.com
<u>Director</u>	Dan Clark	dan.clark@hdarchitects.com

CSI Nashville Chapter - Committee Chairs

Awards Institute Chair	Troy Williams	twilliams@cauthenandassoc.com
Certification Co-Chair	Carl Manka	cManka@comcast.net
Certification Co-Chair	Lynn Jolley	ljolley@comcast.net
Emerging Professionals	TBD	TBD
Graphic Design Content	TBD	TBD
Special Events / Programs	Harry Harris	hharris@hnharchitects.com
Membership	Paul Montray	pmontray@tremcoinc.com
Planning	Jack Potter	csjrpotter@att.net
Product Show Co-Chair	Tiffany Goulet	tiffany@nexgen-cr.com
Product Show Co-Chair	Jill Colby	jillcolby@colbyassoc.com

CSI Nashville Chapter - Committee Chairs, Cont'd:

Professional Development (CEU's)	Harry Harris	hharris@hnharchitects.com
Social Media	Tarro-Jefferies-Freer	tarro.jefferies.freer@sfs.com
Technical (SpecHeads)	Harry Harris	hharris@hnharchitects.com
Specifacts (Newsletter)	Dan Clark	dan.clark@hdarchitects.com
Photography	Jim Christain	jchristain@aol.com
Website	Collin Huse	chuse@nextstage-online.com
Chapter Support	Karen Mencarelli	k.mencarelli@mapei.com

Appreciation



The CSI Nashville Chapter sincerely appreciates the kindness of SESCO Lighting for the chapter's meeting accommodations. The CSI Nashville Chapter recognizes the importance in creating and maintaining relationships.

Stay Connected

CSI is built on the relationships we make. Connect and grow with us!

"Architecture is the masterly, correct and magnificent play of masses brought together in light."

-- Le Corbusier

Find us at:



*This news was brought to you by:
Dan Clark, CSI*