



# NEWSNOTE

Austin Chapter, CSI

November 2017

The Construction Specifications Institute

## RESIDENTIAL SPECIFICATIONS

Please join us for our last Lunch Presentation of the year on November 20th!

**Joe Parchesky** with **Built Green Custom Homes** will be speaking on Residential Specifications

Residential Specifications:

Primary Goal

- 1 Zero Energy
  - 1.1 Reduce Energy Consumption
  - 1.2 Generate Energy on Site
- 2 Zero Water
  - 2.1 Reduce Water Consumption
  - 2.2 Harvest Rainwater
- 3 Wind Resistant Construction
  - 3.1 Design for Wind Resistance
  - 3.2 Add Wind Resisting Features
4. Low Building Cost
  - 4.1 Size Matters
  - 4.2 Features Matter



Master Builder / Certified Green

\*\*\* Lunch will be provided by WR Meadows - Trinity Foods \*\*\*

(Speaker's bio on page two)

**Monday November 20, 2017**

**Networking 11:30 | Lunch and Program 12:00**

**Austin Center for Architecture, 801 W. 12th Street, Austin, TX. 78701**

Click below to preregister for this event:

<https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07eetrpp3p08ec98a9&oseq=&c=&ch=>

Attendance Fee: \$5.00 per person

Email comments and/or questions to: [csiaustin046@gmail.com](mailto:csiaustin046@gmail.com)

## Speakers Bio:

**Joe Parchesky** was born and raised in eastern Massachusetts. Joe graduated from MIT with a BS in Electrical Engineering and received his Masters in Engineering from the University of Florida. He is a Licensed Professional Engineer in Florida. Joe spent his whole professional career as an Electrical Engineer working in a variety of industries. For the last 20 years, he worked in the telecommunications industry.

Joe is a life long do-it-yourself-er; He is a pilot and aircraft owner; later he began working with Trinity Habitat for Humanity as a volunteer and moved up to crew chief and project manager. Joe helped build 14 houses from start to finish.

During the same time he began a serious study of Building Science. With this knowledge he designed and built his retirement home.

**Joe Parchesky** currently works for Built Green Custom Homes as a Building Science Consultant, helping clients design & build strong, affordable, energy efficient homes.

## Built Green Custom Homes

The **Built Green Custom Homes Process** provides consulting, training and the tools necessary for clients to build their own Custom Home at **Builder's Cost**. Our specialties include:

- Owner Builder Program
- Build on Your Lot Program
- Green Building Techniques
- Cost-Effective Custom Homes

Take a tour of beautiful custom homes built by our clients at **Wholesale** in our **Gallery**.

Dare to compare our **50+ Reviews** with those of our competitors. Our clients share their exciting experiences of **Saving Thousands** and **growing Equity**.

### Our Mission Statement:

To help our clients succeed in building their home.

### Our standards for success are achieved when:

- Building your home has been a positive experience.
- The quality of materials and workmanship by the suppliers and contractors surpasses your expectations.
- The final appraised value of your finished home substantially exceeds the actual cost.

[builtgreencustomhomes.com](http://builtgreencustomhomes.com)

## President's Message



Dear Members,

This month reminds us all to be thankful and grateful for what we have. All events are blessings or lessons or both. Let's remember to remain positive in this typically stressful time of friends, family, travel. Take some deep breaths and listen to some medita-

In October we attended the South Central Region Fall Conference. The first session was based on the book, "Start with Why: How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action" by Simon Sinek. This is a great inspirational read or audio book, Highly recommended as the gravy is flying over your head.

My main take away from this event is that as a leader, we need to know why we do what we do. Its easy to say what we do, and how to do it, but its when you get to your why that your business or organization can really start to grow and prosper.

During our discussions, Austin Chapter joined with the San Antonio Chapter and we discovered that while we do not have active mission and vision statements, we do have a common goal of Education.

**What do we do?** We provide educational sessions and a place for networking for the community.

**How do we do it?** We hold monthly board meetings that are open to the members as well as a monthly educational session that provides attendees with learning units.

**Why do we do it???** I do it because I want to give back to the construction community. When I joined CSI, it was because It was a work requirement. I am no longer with that company, but I am still with CSI because what I learned, and the people I met are invaluable to me both personal and professionally.

As an association, we want to provide you with the kind of information that is pertinent and relevant to your work.

We want it to be the kind of information that you will take back to your place of work and share with your coworkers, and impress your supervisors.

**Why do you do it?** í ...

This month, I challenge you to think about Austin CSI as more than just a learning credit, but as a place of networking, learning and a moment to challenge yourself to think outside the box. Help us come up with a vision statement, a mission statement and goals. We want to continually improve your Chapter!

One mission statement that was given to us, something to start with:

“CSI is an open forum for individuals actively involved in the construction community, to share and grow in their knowledge and skills through interaction with their peers.” ~ Grady Whitaker

Start with that í or don't. But tell us what you think! Why do you do what you do? What are your goals and expectations? I look forward to your responses!

Best Regards,  
Marina Reynaga, PE, LEED AP BD+C, CSI CDT  
Austin Chapter CSI President  
512.920.9148 ó marinareynaga@gmail.com

"Effective leaders help others to understand the necessity of change and to accept a common vision of the desired outcome." ~ John Kotter

**TIME FOR CHANGE?**

**Time for change?**

When I became a specifier, in 1985, all of the projects I worked on used the "traditional" design-bid-build (DBB) delivery method. And when I started my current job at BWBR in 1996, all we used was DBB. That shouldn't be a surprise because, at the time, there was nothing else, at least in the building construction industry.

The Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) was founded in 1993, coincidentally the same year that USGBC appeared. At the time, DBIA made what seemed to be overly optimistic projections of a future dominated by design-build (DB), with a corresponding decrease in design-bid-build. That prediction is nearing fulfillment, though perhaps at a slower rate than first expected.

Despite the growing popularity of DB, my office has been involved in only a few these projects. Even so, we rarely do DBB projects. Instead, we now use almost entirely one of the CM (construction manager) delivery methods.

As we moved away from design-bid-build projects, we changed our specifications accordingly. During this period I noticed a number of changes in the way we did our work. In 1996, we completed design, issued bidding documents, and typically issued only one or two small addenda, often none. Today, in contrast, we break projects into at least two bid packs, issue documents before they are done, issue at least two large addenda, and finish design using shop drawing submittals.

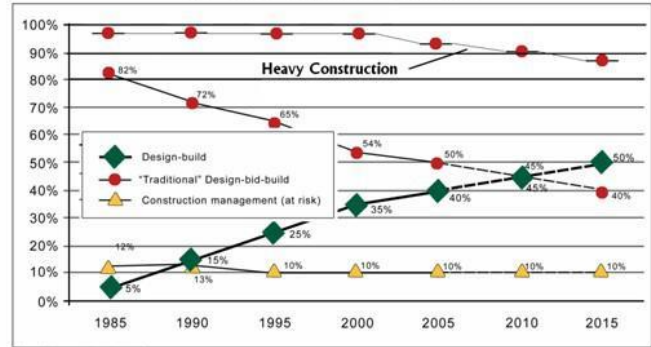
To accommodate these changes, AIA, EJCDC, CSI, and other organizations have been creating new documents and procedures, and, more importantly, contractors and design professionals have been modifying *their* processes, though in a less coordinated way. The result is less than satisfactory.

In a nutshell, we're using documents and procedures that were written decades ago, designed specifically for DBB. Any other delivery method requires that we use our standard documents in at least slightly different ways, ignore some of them, and often force them to do something they weren't designed to do.

For each delivery method other than DBB, the contractor has already has some relationship with the owner, and has made at least some decisions about how to do the project. In DB and in CM agent projects, the owner and contractor have an agreement and an understanding about how the work will be done. In those cases, there is no point in specifying what has already been agreed to. Even when the CM is at risk, the CM's involvement in the project during design affects the designer's work, and it affects the contractor's work as well.

Because the contractor is already on board, the front end is altered drastically by removal of bidding requirements, and Division 01, much of which tells the contractor how the designer will run the project, can be greatly reduced.

**Non-Residential Design and Construction in the United States**



## TIME FOR CHANGE? (CONTINUED)

Specifications, instead of telling the contractor what is required, frequently can simply document the decisions of the project team. For example, instead of specifying and detailing a specific waterproofing system and hoping the contractor uses something similar, the designer, contractor, and waterproofing sub get together and figure out the best way to do the waterproofing. The construction documents then document the decisions. The specifications, instead of being several pages long, can be reduced to a simple statement of which products will be used.

Scheduling also has changed. Instead of stating a single completion date for substantial completion, the contractor, owner, and designer discuss how the schedule will be determined and incorporated. Instead of issuing documents on a single document date, we respond to contractors who want documents when they need them, and that often means delivering incomplete documents so the contractor can seek subcontract bids for things that have yet to be designed. Taken to conclusion, all references to phases and bid packs can be eliminated, and the designer can issue information continually. A comprehensive document control system will ensure that everyone has access to only the current information.

The design phase and the construction document phases, then, change from pure design and specification to collaboration and documentation of what was agreed. That being the case, why do we continue to prepare construction documents for other delivery methods in the same way we do for DBB?

Perhaps it's time for the equivalent of a constitutional convention. Let's invite representatives of the traditional entities - owner, designer, and constructor - and their subcontractors, throw out all existing documents, and create new documents and procedures designed for the non-DBB delivery methods.

Are you feeling revolutionary, or are you content to struggle on with what you have?

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[Agree? Disagree? Leave your comments at](#)

<https://swconstructivethoughts.blogspot.com/2017/11/is-it-time-for-change.html>

## OCTOBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Marina Reynaga, Anthony Garcia (proxy), William Massingill, Robbin Kersey (proxy), America Alva (phone), Becky Winovitch, Jevon Johnson,

Call to Order: Marina Reynaga called meeting to order at 12:04 pm

Meeting Minutes: Meeting Minutes for September were approved as noted.

Agenda: Approved

### Committee Reports:

**Membership (AG):** Table Star Chapter to July 2018

### **Programs (MR):**

1. Oct 16: Shirley Ellis / 2015 IECC
2. Nov 20: Joe Parchesky, Built Green Custom Homes, Residential Specifications
3. Dec: Holiday party (date / location TBD)
4. Jan 24-25, 2018: Austin Build Expo @ Austin CC, Need volunteers, no lunch sponsor.
5. February 19 or March 19: Dirk Kestner, Life Cycle Assessment
6. April 16: Francisco Arredondo, Austin Container Bar Architect
7. May 20: Jody Boatman, Door Hardware
8. Program Suggestions:
  - a. Roy Schaufefe- ABBA Air Barriers
  - b. Lean Construction and CSI
  - c. LEED v4 Materials 20 products that meet criteria (check with Austin Green Building Program)

**Publications (AA):** No Report

**Awards (AA):** Use CSI South Central Region Criteria. Ask Robbin.

**By-Laws (TA):** The By Laws can be found on our website <http://austin.csinet.org/FunctionalMenu-Category/About/Chapter-Organizational-Documents/Austin-CSI-Chapter-By-Laws.pdf>

**Publicity (MR):** MR to contact AIA and Construction News for advertising.

**Certification:** Vacant

**Academic Programs:** No Report

**Finance (SM):** \$40K +/- surplus. Scott to investigate investment options for budget surplus.

### **Communications/ Social media (RK):**

1. FaceBook page is being managed by Robbin. Address is <https://www.facebook.com/austin>
2. LinkedIn page has re-created and is being managed by Robbin. Currently there are two addresses for CSI Austin

Chapter+: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12047365> and <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12048390>

3. Using info provided by AA, Robbin and William are to look into updates for CSI microsite.

4. Twitter page has been created and is being managed by Brad. Address is (@CSI\_Austin\_TX).

5. Meeting minutes are to be uploaded to DropBox archives annually (assigned to William)

6. CSI advertising in weekly AIA Austin e-publication is being managed by Marina

**House (MR):** No Report

**Archive Vacant:** On Mircrosite

### Old Business:

1. Brainstorming for getting UT architecture & engineering schools involved is ongoing (William is trying to schedule introductory meeting w/ new UTSoA Dean).
2. CDT Boot Camp 10-14-17
3. SCR Conference Oct 20-21, 2017, Attendees: Marina, Cameron anyone else?
4. Allowing additional people on conference call for board meetings. These meetings are open to all board members but only board members have voting rights.
5. Forward the links for meetings to social media.

Motion to adjourn was made and approved; meeting adjourned at approximately 12:56 pm.

Next Board Meeting scheduled to meet at the office of O'Connell Robertson between 12 and 1pm on Friday November 3, 2017.



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**November 2017**

**JW** Jim Whitten  
**Roof Consultants, LLC**  
 CONSULTANTS IN ROOFING AND WATERPROOFING  
 www.jimwhitten.com

Robert Hernandez  
 Senior Roof Consultant  
 rob@jimwhitten.com

P. O. Box 200925 office (512) 250-0999  
 Austin, TX 78720 mobile (512) 963-4995

**FALCON** Von Duprin *the safe way out*

**FALCON LOCKS**  
**Hidell Builders Supply, Inc.**

8613-15 BURNET ROAD P.O. BOX 9026  
 PHONE: (512) 459-7692 AUSTIN, TX 78766

**Larry Alan Whitlock**, CSI, AIA, NCARB  
 (M) 512 550 5233 [larrywhitlock@sbcglobal.net](mailto:larrywhitlock@sbcglobal.net)

**SPECIFICATIONS CONSULTANT**

CSI Certified Construction Specifier (CCS)  
 CSI Certified Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA)  
 UCLA Extension Certificate in Project Management  
 UCLA Extension Certificate in Construction Management

413 Swenson Farms Blvd #716  
 Pflugerville, TX 78660-5908

**Be Seen Here**  
**Ad Space Available**  
**New Rates!**

**CSI NEWSNOTE Ad Policy**

The ad period is July to June for \$75. Payment is due June 1. Cost of the advertisement will be prorated.  
 Mail to: Scott Mokry  
 500 East Anderson Lane, Apt. 200T  
 Austin, Texas 78752  
 [P] 512-475-8469

**CSU • CEUs • CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION NETWORK**

Construction Specification Institute  
**Construction Education Network**  
 (CSI CEN) has ceased operations.

In order to allow all users of the system to continue managing their credits, CSI offers the following options:

Option 1 (CSI Members Only): Login to the CSI website and view your CSU CEUs in the Electronic Transcription Service (ETS). Required CSI Member login.

Option 2 (CSI Members and & Non-Members): Click on the link below. Follow instructions to setup an AECDaily.com account.

<http://education.csinet.org/>

- 11/4 Austin Powwow  
 Travis Country Expo Center  
[www.austinpowwow.net](http://www.austinpowwow.net)
- 11/9-11 Texas Society of Architects  
 78th Annual Convention - Threshold  
 Austin Convention Center  
<https://texasarchitects.org>
- 11/11-12 & 11/18-19 East Austin Studio Tour Various Locations  
<http://east.bigmedium.org/>
- 11/18 Chuy's Christmas Parade Congress Avenue  
<http://www.chuysparade.com/>
- 11/20 CSI Austin Chapter meeting  
 AIA Offices - 11:30-12:45 pm
- 11/23 Turkey Trot The Long Center  
[www.thundercloud.com](http://www.thundercloud.com)



**December 2017**

- 12/1-2 & 8-30 Winter Wonderland at The Circuit  
 Circuit of The Americas  
[thecircuit.com/winter-wonderland](http://thecircuit.com/winter-wonderland)
- 12/2 German-Texas Heritage Society Christmas Market  
 German Free School of Austin  
[germantexans.org](http://germantexans.org)
- 12/9-23 51st Annual Trail of Lights  
 Zilker Park  
[austintrailoflights.org](http://austintrailoflights.org)

**FISCAL YEAR 2018**
**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

OFFICE	BOARD MEMBER	PHONE NO.	E-MAIL
President	Marina Reynaga	512-920-9148	marinareynaga@gmail.com
President-Elect	Anthony Garcia	512-474-0400	AGarcia@BuildingDX.com
Vice President	William R Massingill	512-531-7333	wmassingill@nelsenpartners.com
Secretary	Brad Bennett	512-375-9915	brad.benntt@gmail.com
Treasurer	Scott Mokry	512-475-8469	sjmokry@mail.utexas.edu
Immediate Past President	Robbin Kersey	512-965-3413	Robbinkersey2016@gmail.com
Director 2018	America Alva	512-382-3533	aalva@pagethink.com
Director 2019	Becky Winovitch	512-478-7286	bwinovitch@oconnellrobertson.com
Director 2020	Jevon Johnson	817-996-2791	jjohnson@wrmeadows.com

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

COMMITTEE	CHAIR	TELEPHONE NO.	E-MAIL
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Publications/Awards	America Alva	512-382-3533	aalva@pagethink.com
Bylaws	Tom Alexander	512-451-6579	tomalex@talexinc.com
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Certification	Vacant		
Academic Programs	Vacant		
Finance	Scott Mokry	512-475-8469	sjmokry@mail.utexas.edu
Communications/ Social Media	Robbin Kersey	512-965-3413	Robbinkersey2016@gmail.com
House	Marina Reynaga	512-920-9148	marinareynaga@gmail.com
Archives	Vacant		

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Austin Chapter CSI was chartered by the **Construction Specifications Institute** in 1961, and was incorporated in 1975 under the laws of the State of Texas.