

The Wild West

President's Message

Maia Gendreau, CSI, CDI, AIA

I hope everyone has been enjoying the summer and has some time to take a vacation and spend time with family. I travelled to a small town in Colorado recently for a family get-together. Being there and experiencing small-town life for a few days made me quite conscious of how cosmopolitan the Bay Area has become! It was exciting to see how the whole town was proudly celebrating the recent renovation of some turn of the century buildings, and opening of a new business. People were so happy to have another addition to the town, no one seemed even to notice that the doors are too small to get the new stove into the restaurant. And amazingly, the new stove sat out on the street for over a week patiently waiting to be lifted in through the window. This town served as the backdrop to a well-known movie, and many of the buildings did not need any Hollywood fluffing to portray their role in creating a late 1800's western town. Needless to say, there were many evident non-compliance issues, but I seemed to be the only person with any concerns about pesky entry stairs or odd puddles at the rear doors.

MEETING MUSINGS

The August meeting, "Setting the Standard for Accessibility", was a presentation by Dawn Anderson, AIA, CASp, on a project she has been involved with at the national level of ASTM. It involves creating an ASTM standard for accessibility evaluations. Although California is leading the nation with the creation of the California Access Specialist certification, there remains a wide variation in the industry regarding actual deliverables. Dawn was able to share her considerable expertise in assessing the state of industry, and is making a significant impact on developing a national standard.

CONSTRUCT: Beyond Limits

I am excited to be making my first trip to AUSTIN, Texas and attending my first CSI national Conference. Construct occurred September 7 to 9th, and I will elaborate on the details next month. SCV CSI has five members attending the conference, and we will be proud to accept the Institute Chapter Commendation Award for the second year running!

INSTITUTE INFORMATION

The Institute is having some growing pains as the saga of database transfer winds down. For those of you trying to log on to the Institute site, please notice that the green "login" button is not operating, and follow the written instructions on the page. Your new home page has some basic information about your chapter affiliation, certifications, and status.

Also please be reminded that Institute offers free monthly webinars, which will show on your homepage. Pre-registration is required, and webinars are no charge!