



SCIPping Along

July 2016

Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, CCS, CCA, SCIP, Associate AIA
Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Carter, CSI, CDT, RA, NCARB



This year I become the SCIP President for a two-year term. I am pleased to be able to serve the SCIP membership for another term. Previously I have served as secretary for 4 years, as treasurer for 4 years, and as president-elect for 2 years; and of course after I serve as president, I will then serve a 2-year term later as past president.

Serving on the board in these various roles has allowed me to get to know many of you personally and professionally, and has given me much satisfaction to be a part of this distinguished and talented group of specifiers.

I have been dabbling in specifications for most of my career as an architect, and my fantasy job was always to become a competent specifier - the old guy on the team that knew how to put a building together! I don't know that I have arrived there yet, except for the old part, but I have learned a great deal of what I know from attending and serving on CSI and SCIP committees and on the SCIP board.

My goal as president of SCIP is to help you, the members, stay connected to each other and have opportunities to grow and learn together.

ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Hilton Garden Inn, Downtown Austin, TX; Tuesday, September 6, 2016

The annual meeting is open to members and affiliates. Please join the meeting as your travel plans permit. SCIP sponsors will join us for the entire day.

The details of the annual meeting are nearly complete. The meeting is our official FY2017 annual member business meeting. The schedule is similar to previous years. A new SCIP member workshop will be held immediately after lunch.

The Tuesday schedule will be as follows:

- 08:00am - 09:00am - Breakfast
 - 08:30am - 09:30am - Annual Member Meeting
 - 09:30am - 10:00am - Sponsor Presentations (part 1)
 - 10:00am - 11:30pm - Open Forum
 - 11:30am - 12:00am - Sponsor Presentations (part 2)
 - 12:00pm - 1:00pm - Lunch
 - 01:00pm - 01:45pm - SCIP BIM Workshop Part 1
 - 01:45pm - 02:30pm - Group Photo & refreshment break
 - 02:30pm - 03:15pm - SCIP BIM Workshop Part 2
 - 03:15pm - 03:30pm - Refreshment break
 - 03:30pm - 04:15pm - SCIP BIM Workshop Part 3
 - 06:00pm - 09:00pm - Arkema Hosted Event (special invitation)
- Wednesday sponsored reception schedule (location to be announced):
- 05:00pm - 07:00pm - Tubelite Hosted Reception (open to SCIP members who RSVP)

This year our sponsors are supporting SCIP in general and SCIP is determining how the sponsorships are used. Consequently, our sponsors are funding the annual meeting meals, refreshment breaks, and most importantly the SCIP workshops. See www.scip.com home page for a list of our current sponsors and logos below.

Breakfast will be available beginning at 8:00 AM. The annual member business meeting will begin at 8:30 AM while you finish breakfast. A separate agenda will be provided for the member meeting.

After the business meeting, we will enjoy presentations from our sponsors, then begin the traditional SCIP Open Forum Discussion of member suggested topics. Suggestions for the forum will be accepted between now and the meeting date, and also the day of the meeting before the forum begins. The open discussion is to address member concerns, solutions, and practice issues. Come ready and willing to participate. Send your ideas for the forum discussions to treasurer@scip.com.

Starting at 1:00 PM we will begin the Second Annual SCIP Workshop – Building Information Modeling (BIM). This Workshop will address concerns about how BIM programs operate, and how their proliferation might affect our tasks, business models, and operational methods. These are concerns that have been legitimately raised by some of our membership. We are a diverse group, although some of our members have extensive knowledge of what these technologies are built on, other members have had far less contact with them. This Workshop is for all levels of experience, and will consist of 3 afternoon sessions, from the simple to the specific. This event will be conducted by Jeff Pilus, fellow SCIP member.

- Part 1: Elephant in the Room – What is Building Information Modeling?
- Part 2: BIM DNA – Omniclass, Uniformat, Build Smart Alliance.
- Part 3: Hands-On – Software demonstrations.

At 1:45 to 2:00 PM, approximately, we will break for the annual group photo and refreshments. Officers will herd all members back to the meeting space to complete the workshops.

SCIP Day concludes with the 13th annual Arkema evening reception, dinner, and entertainment. Special invitations will be sent by Arkema, only to those members who have paid to renew their membership for FY17. Please RSVP directly to Arkema to reserve your place.

And this year we also have a sponsored reception for SCIP members on Wednesday evening, hosted by Tubelite. Hope to see you there, and please RSVP for this event also. See details below.

Members are requested to help man the booth in the exhibit hall to promote SCIP and network with peers and colleagues. Signup sheets will be circulated during our meeting. The goal is two members manning the booth during the show times. This year our booth number is 555.

TO RSVP for the ANNUAL MEETING and for the TUBELITE RECEPTION, please send an email to treasurer@scip.com prior to August 20, 2016.

See you in Austin!

ANNUAL WORKSHOP DETAILS

One of our members (Jeff Pilus) will be facilitating a presentation and open discussion at our meeting in the afternoon session on September 6th. We will be exploring issues concerning Building Information Modeling, technologies, and later we will be looking at software that interfaces with BIM programs like Revit. He will be joined by Beth Stroshane from Applied Building Information LLC, and finally demonstrations will be tendered by Paul Worosz and Chip Bullock from Building System Design Inc. in a workshop setting. These will be tailored to different user technical capabilities, from novice to expert. As new technologies emerge, the discussions about them tend to become so muddled by terminologies associated with them that anyone on the margins gets left behind. Jeff calls this “the antagonism of academic speak”. Jeff has been an adjunct member of the faculty at the University of Nebraska for fifteen years, and is putting together a program that is graduated and measured in language that we can all understand. Jeff has always said: “if you think you know about something, just wait until you try to teach it. That will show you”.

The learning objectives for the sessions:

1. 45 minutes: Elephant in the Room
 - a. What is Building Information Modeling?
 - b. How do different firms use it?
 - c. Why should we specifiers understand it?
 - d. How do we open the files? Demonstrations of the Revit Viewer
2. 45 minutes: BIM DNA
 - a. Omni Class, UniFormat, Build Smart Alliance
 - b. Project Phases
 - c. How linkage software works
 - d. Liability Issues and Agreements
 - e. Technical Language
3. BSD (45 minutes to however long you need them)
 - a. Linkman and SpecLink E

Find out more about Jeff at JMPCconsultantsllc.com. Beth will be doing a 90-minute presentation at Construct that will have detailed technical information about several programs. She would love to have you join her if you are needing further technical information

TUBELITE RECEPTION INVITATION

Tubelite Inc., a US manufacturer of Division 8 architectural aluminum fenestration systems, would like to invite all SCIP members attending CONSTRUCT 2016 in Austin to a reception preceding the host chapter party on Wednesday, September 7th.

Please join us at Eddie V's restaurant conveniently located near Brazos Hall at 301 E 5th Street. Tubelite staff will be available to meet you starting at 5 PM and we will provide beverages, appetizers and a gift for your attendance. Please also visit us at the Expo in Booth 249. www.tubeliteinc.com

Please RSVP to Treasurer@Scip.Com with your name and number of attendees.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW DUE

We are now at the start of the SCIP Fiscal Year 2017.

Fellow SCIP members, it is time to renew to continue enjoying your member benefits. Even with new benefits added this year, the dues remain the same – only \$50. Renew by July 31 to attend the annual meeting and BIM workshop, and enjoy the Arkema Kynar 500 sponsored dinner and other events.

This year renewal is simple – pay by credit card, PayPal account, or the old-fashioned snail-mailed check. You choose. scip.com/members/paypalmemberrenewal.html

Also you can still renew by check; send those to the new Treasurer, Helaine (Holly) Robinson. We ask that you no longer send money orders for renewals – if these are necessary please contact the Treasurer in advance to discuss the details.

Look at the value your SCIP membership brings. The CSI member dues discount alone pays for your SCIP membership. So renew now, and suggest your specifier friends join SCIP, too.

| Benefit | Value |
|---|--------------|
| CSI Corporate Partner CSI individual member dues discount | \$60 |
| MADCAD ASTM Subscription | \$2000 |
| AIA CES Provider Status to offer AIA credits | \$900 |

If you are a retired or retiring member, please email us indicating your intent to remain a retired member, or to become a retired member. There are no dues or voting privileges for retired members, nor can a retired member serve on the board.

NEW SCIP OFFICERS

As you are probably aware, we have held elections for the SCIP board for fiscal years 2017 and 2018 (two-year term).

The following are the newly elected Board officers, effective July 1, 2016 thru June 30, 2018:

- President – John Carter
- President Elect – Linda Stansen
- Vice President – Vivian Volz
- Vice President – Neil Davison
- Secretary - Stephen Nash
- Treasurer – Helaine (Holly) Robinson
- Past President – David Stutzman
- Affiliate Director – Don Harris

If you wish to contact the new Board, all of the contact info is available at www.SCIP.com by clicking on the Quicklink on the home page for MEMBER DATABASE. Your comments and ideas are encouraged. Any time you have an idea or a question, just send it to any SCIP board member, email it to treasurer@scip.com, or leave a voice message at the SCIP Hotline at 818.390.7692.

Several of the former SCIP Board members are staying on to serve another term, but to the outgoing Board members, the new Board collectively sends a very special THANK YOU for their dedicated service over the past two or more years:

- Marilyn Smith – former Secretary
- David Lorenzini – former Past President
- Peter Jordan – former Vice President

For info about requirements and responsibilities for serving on a future SCIP Board, please download the SCIP Bylaws at www.SCIP.com.

SCIP ARCHIVES

The SCIP Board recently established a (free) cloud-based storage/archive location on Microsoft OneDrive. This storage site was established for use by the Board in conducting SCIP business and archiving historical documents such as prior budgets, agendas, and meeting minutes.

A special THANK YOU to Stephen Nash, new SCIP Board member, for his time and effort in organizing the structure of the archive, and to Marilyn Smith for her careful preservation of meeting minutes over the past few years.

If any SCIP members have documents they want to donate to the archives, please forward them to treasurer@scip.com or bring them to the next annual meeting.

ASTM RESOURCES FOR SCIP MEMBERS

We have signed an agreement with MADCAD.COM which will allow SCIP members to access certain ASTM Standards online. MADCAD has already sent out instructions to each SCIP member, informing you how to access these resources online. If you have NOT received your instructions, or need help accessing these resources, notify both treasurer@scip.com and ededebas@madcad.com (Erdem Dedebas at MADCAD). Erdem will contact us to verify your current membership, then assist you in gaining access.

The standards that can be referenced through this service are ASTM Standards Referenced in Building Codes - this includes over 2,000 ASTM construction standards typically referenced by UBC, ICC, UPC, NFPA 5000, Spectext, Masterspec, BSD Speclink, Green Standards, UL Global Standards, and NRCA. This package includes active, redline and historical editions, and it is updated quarterly.

This service will allow two concurrent SCIP members to access these standards at any given time. For this reason we urge you to be careful to log out when finished, and not stay logged in for extended time.

SCIP MEMBER 2015 WORKSHOP WHITE PAPER

At the 2015 annual meeting, SCIP members participated in a half-day workshop, facilitated by David Samuel, to review and document specifications processes. Members were divided into six teams to review specific subjects and aspects of delivering construction specifications. The result of the workshop was a white paper written by professional writer Max Russell titled "The Construction Specifications Process - A Value Focused Overview." This white paper is available to every SCIP member for distribution to clients and others. In addition, each SCIP sponsor for the 2015 meeting received a copy. To read or download a PDF of the paper, go to www.SCIP.com; look for the WHITE PAPER link on the left side of the home page, under PUBLICATIONS AND ARTICLES.

SCIP IS AN AIA CES PROVIDER

SCIP is now an AIA-CES Provider, which will allow SCIP membership to provide classes online and in-person that can be registered with AIA for continuing education credits for the class participants. Instructions are available, and a few forms are required. This requires a little advance planning, so please plan ahead if you want to take advantage of this member benefit. Email treasurer@scip.com and we will provide more information to you.

SCIP HAS A LAWYER ON CALL - AIA LEGALINE

LegalLine is the AIA Trust Legal Information Service, ideal for small firms without in-house counsel or an attorney on retainer. A subscription service, LegalLine enables subscribers to discuss matters affecting risk management and their architectural practice with architects who are also lawyers and who are familiar with current practice issues.

While LegalLine does not act as a firm's attorney, it does provide legal information in response to practice-related questions and problems. In specific situations, LegalLine may help determine whether to hire a lawyer. Ultimately, the goal is to help small firms manage their risks, improve their practices, and prevent disputes and lawsuits.

Sole practitioners and small firms don't have the luxury of in-house counsel or retained attorneys, yet they confront many legal challenges such as negotiating and interpreting contracts and handling disputes with clients and contractors.

In addition, LegalLine can give insights on collecting overdue or disputed fees, options when hiring or firing an employee, incorporating one's practice, transferring firm ownership, and structuring profitable joint ventures. It's important for specifiers to recognize the traps and pitfalls in their practice to avoid legal difficulties – and focus on the business of specifications consulting.

SCIP members in the United States receive prompt responses by telephone to practice-related legal questions all year long – and learn what to do to help prevent costly and destructive legal problems. LegalLine inquiries are answered by Charles R. Heuer, FAIA, Esq., or a member of his team. Mr. Heuer is an architect, attorney, professional liability consultant, and mediator. As proof of value, several SCIP members have their own subscription to LegalLine!

As a member benefit, SCIP members are entitled to two free calls to LegalLine, (800)688-9780, each year.

SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

SCIP is continuing the sponsor program started last year. Already many original sponsors have renewed and additional sponsors are showing interest. There was very positive response to the initial program from both members and our sponsors. Members and sponsors interact throughout the day of the annual meeting exchanging information and advice. Table top product displays showcase sponsor products and allow individual discussions about products and projects.

Each sponsor is recognized on the SCIP website home page. Premium sponsors join SCIP members at the annual meeting and exhibit their products and have an opportunity to address members during the meeting. For additional details see <http://www.scip.com/sponsors.html>.

This year look for 15 or more sponsors, including some that are not in the CONSTRUCT exhibit hall.



MEMBER SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT

In 2007 Mark Kalin issued a member survey to gage the state of SCIP member practices and the influence our members may have on the construction industry. This year SCIP will repeat the 2007 survey with some additional questions to gage the trends among SCIP member practices. These are simple questions and the answers will provide insight about the construction industry, sustainability, specifications, services, and SCIP members.

Look for an email with a link to take the survey - a total of 15 questions. Make this survey representative of every SCIP member. The survey results will be shared at the annual meeting in Austin, TX.

SCIP BOARD MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES**PRESIDENT ELECT****Linda Stansen, CSI, CCS, RA, SCIP**

Stansen Specifications is a sole-proprietor, woman-owned (WBE) business established in 2002. Linda Stansen worked as an architect for over 30 years in various architectural firms, writing specifications in addition to project management, before starting her consulting practice. She draws on her widely varied architectural background to focus that experience on her specifications writing. Her past architectural project management experience includes commercial, industrial, high-tech, retail, hospitality, sound studios, residential, and renovation work. Her specifications projects have ranged through commercial, educational (both K-12 and university level), historical renovation and restoration, research facilities, sports complexes, parking structures, hospitality, medical outpatient and clinics, places of worship, and residential developments. She has produced specifications for local and state agencies, state and private universities, municipalities, and the federal government.

My goal for SCIP would be to work more on our interrelationship with the architectural community through AIA.

VICE PRESIDENT**Vivian Volz, AIA, CSI, SCIP, CCS, LEED AP BD+C**

New member of the board Vivian Volz is a specifier in private practice in the San Francisco Bay Area. Vivian has been an active volunteer with CSI San Francisco and at the national level. She is a relatively new member of SCIP, despite having owned VVAS since 2009. Vivian enjoys high-end commercial tenant improvement and core-and-shell projects, market-rate and low-income multi-family work, and experimenting with new ways to connect, streamline, and coordinate specs with her clients' work. She hopes to help SCIP find low-effort ways to improve its web site and communications.

VICE PRESIDENT**Neil Davison, RA, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP**

Specifier at Davison Associates, Inc. – Phoenix, Arizona

SECRETARY**Stephen Nash, AIA, FCSI, SCIP**

Aloha! I am looking forward to serving on the SCIP Board of Directors. My conversion to full time independent specifier and subsequently joining SCIP was recent. Prior to settling in Hawaii over 25 years ago, I started working in Michigan designing and installing fabric structures and later joining a large architectural firm in Houston and subsequently transferring to their southern California office. I have been fortunate to have served in various roles as an architect, designer, project architect, programmer, specifier, project manager, and principal in a medium sized office as part of a ten office firm. The recent economic decline led to a reevaluation of my career and the opening of a specification focused practice in 2010. SCIP and the relationships with other members has been tremendously helpful in building my practice. While serving as secretary I would like SCIP continue to build on the member benefits. In particular we may be able to pursue insurance providers to raise their awareness of independent specifiers to identify improved risk avoidance business practices and possibly a group rate for SCIP members.

TREASURER**Helaine K. (Holly) Robinson, CSI, CCS, CCCA, SCIP**

QSPECS LLC – Cincinnati, Ohio

AFFILIATE DIRECTOR

Don A. Harris, CSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA, SCIP



Design Collective, Inc. – Baltimore, MD

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

David Stutzman, AIA, CSI, CCS, LEED AP, SCIP



Conspectus, Inc. – Philadelphia, PA

Editor's Note: Thanks to the officers who contributed to this newsletter.



Past President and Editor David Lorenzini's Article Follows



TWO DECADES OF SCIP PUBLICATIONS

This is my farewell after spending 22 years on the SCIP Board of Directors. It all started when I took office as Secretary/Treasurer in July 1994. I also took over as Editor of the SCIP newsletter at the same time as Jo Drummond replaced Tom Heineman as SCIP President. The following is my actual introduction in the January 1995 issue of **KnowHow**:

EDITOR'S CORNER

—by **David Lorenzini, FCSI, SCIP Secretary-Treasurer, 1994-1996**

"When I received my first KnowHow in 1985, my first reaction was to pity the poor soul who had to publish it. I didn't know who Steve Andros was, but he must have been a glutton for punishment. Little did I know that 9 years later I would be a glutton for punishment as well. However, have no pity—this has been mostly fun playing with all the desktop publishing possibilities. For the record, I'm using the 32-bit version of Microsoft Word for Windows 6.0 on Windows NT. The text is output to a Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 4M Plus in Postscript for the photo-ready copy. The photos were scanned into a Hewlett-Packard IIcx color scanner, sized and sharpened with Corel Photo-Paint, and imported directly into the document. I want to thank Jo Drummond, John Raeber, Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, and the other contributors for making my job easier. **Kh**"

BIRTH OF SCIPPING ALONG

Jo and I were joined on the Board by the two Vice Presidents, Sheryl Dodd-Hansen and William Dyer. As Vice President, Sheryl wrote a 2-page summary of the SCIP Annual Meeting in San Francisco for the same January 1995 issue of the KnowHow. From the introduction to her article, which stretched over two additional pages, the title was called:

SCIPPING Along—Recollections of Annual Meeting

by **Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, SCIP Vice President , 1994-1996**
(with assistance of Robert Woodburn's notes)

"The annual SCIP meeting was held at the Marriott Hotel on June 22 and 23, 1994 in San Francisco, California. Having presided over the earlier Board meeting, the agenda for which consisted largely of preparation from the general meeting, President Tom Heineman directed the membership activities of the General Membership Meeting on Wednesday morning and led the discussion of issues of interest to our members in the SCIP Roundtable during Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning...."

In the subsequent 2-year term (1996-1998), Sheryl moved up to President. In this, my last SCIPPING Along article, I want to thank Sheryl for all her contributions to SCIP over the years and for her ongoing behind-the-scenes work as editor of *SCIPPING Along* going, now in its 22nd year.

I was able to publish 10 issues of KnowHow, numbered 50 to 59. In those days printed copies were mailed to all the members as I moved from California to New Hampshire to Virginia. The last item on the last page of the Spring 2000 issue was my request for a new editor:

FINAL ISSUE AS EDITOR

"This is my tenth and last issue of KnowHow. The next issue will be published by Mark Kalin and a co-editor to be named later. I have enjoyed the challenge, and have learned much in the process. I would like to encourage members to take the time to prepare technical articles. Past issues have shined because of the contributions of members like Gerard Sanchis, Everett Spurling, John Regener, Henry Berg, David Metzger, Richard Hein, Mel Cole, Anne Whitacre, Douglas Hartman, David Stutzman, Ray Duncan, Don Thomas, Steve Andros, Maynard Blumer, John Raeber, and Chisan Darge (who can now be revealed as the pen name for Gerard Sanchis). I owe a debt of gratitude to Tom Heineman, who started KnowHow so long ago, and whose many old articles were always relevant material for new articles, and for letting me take over when he became too busy back in late 1994."

Mark Kalin immediately answered the call as KnowHow editor and sent out eight issues. The seventh one included a 25-pound box of product literature that also contained SCIP-embossed **m&m's** in small metal cans. The last issue of KnowHow was published in Winter 2008, a year after McGraw-Hill sent SCIP members the last free set of Sweet's Catalogs. I'm not sure how many SCIP members knew that Mark's issues 64 to 67 of KnowHow have been posted on SCIP.COM for over 10 years. The little image of KnowHow that sits at the top of the left hand column of the home page is a link to those last four issues published by Mark. Each issue is loaded with valuable technical information. Take a look at the SCIP Web Site Map on page 19 of Issue 65, which shows the original organization of the website pages. There are web many pages that have never been implemented due to lack of member contributions.

Mark's expanded technical information brought a new dimension to KnowHow that was very much appreciated. I wonder if the era of newsletters has outlived its purpose now that we have so many more options with blogs, webinars, and social media providing much of what we read and see, especially now that we can use mobile devices. In spite of new technology, the older issues are fascinating to read. Given some free time, we might scan the earlier 63 issues and post them for posterity.

WWW.SCIP.COM

The *SCIP.COM* website was originally started in 1996 as an opportunity to learn how websites were created. The site has been up a few months short of 20 years. It's original purpose was to provide a list of members that could be accessed by potential clients. (Early correspondence of the founders of SCIP indicates that the main purpose was to publish and distribute a mailing list of its members.) The original website list was manually updated as members joined, left, and changed addresses. At the Annual Meeting in Las Vegas in 2008, the members voted to make the member database accessible to the public. In February 2009, the manual membership list was converted to a database that is managed by the members themselves.

NEW ERA FOR SCIP

This last 2-year term presided by President David Stutzman and ably assisted by President-Elect John Carter was perhaps the most productive in all my 22 years on the Board. Besides finalizing the process of **incorporation** that was started by John Regener in 2005, SCIP has received **financial support** of sponsors, has become a **CSI Corporate Member** with financial benefits to SCIP members, now conducts independent **offsite annual meetings** with sponsor funding, has set up **online payments** for member dues and sponsor donations, arranged for free access to **ASTM standards** for buildings, and has qualified as an **AIA-CES Provider**.

I will maintain SCIP.COM until we find a website manager who can work with the SCIP Board to provide current news, events, and photos to the members and specifier community at large. Perhaps they will bring a new look with new features that encourages members to check the site more often.