



Pikes Peak Chapter

The Construction Specifications Institute



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Upcoming Chapter Meeting Dates

Folks, please make sure to mark your calendars for the following dates and join us for our next two upcoming Monthly Meetings!

Tuesday, November 16, 2021 - "The New Office Mandate" by Teknion Wall Systems

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 - "McAllister House Museum" by Eric C. Metzger of the Historic Preservation Alliance of COS

Invitations to register for the meetings will be sent via email. Each meeting will be held at Brakeman's Burgers, 10 S. Sierra Madre St. COS

Don't forget to invite a friend or co-worker or send someone in your place if you can't make it!



Our Holiday Tradition

For the past several years, the Pikes Peak Chapter has joined the local Marine Corps League in helping to collect gifts for their annual Toys for Tots event. At the start of our meeting on November 16, we will be hearing from the local coordinator, Russ Miller, who will be telling us how we can all help in this worthy cause. Please bring an unwrapped toy to the meeting and help share the joy of the upcoming Christmas season!

Since we could not meet in person last year, your Board of Directors donated \$100 to Toys for Tots of the behalf of the members of the Pikes Peak Chapter. Please help us to continue this tradition in making the holidays a more festive and giving time!





We are already in November?

How is that even possible? We are now back in Standard Time. Wow! It is that wondrous time of year again, even though we have temperatures still in the 70s.

I truly love the holiday season. It is a time for family, friends, and goodwill toward our fellow citizens. I sincerely wish you all a most delightful and pleasant Thanksgiving as we will soon be gathering with our loved ones to acknowledge our blessings.

I apologize for the lateness of this newsletter. We have already been meeting the last two months, but I have been slow on publishing The Intent. Time just seems to go speeding by with all the things we have going on.

Our first in-person meeting of this fiscal year was a very interesting presentation about the upcoming changes to codes to be adopted by the Regional Building Department. Several members of the department gave us a glimpse into the future and insight on the sheer volume of work they undertake to keep our buildings safe and code-compliant.

Last month, we had a fascinating presentation about the history and current rehabilitation construction project underway on the US Air Force Academy Chapel. Many thanks to Matt Fridley and Jeff Young for sharing the story about that iconic architectural masterpiece.

We have been meeting at our new venue the past couple of months, Brakeman's Burgers. Many of you may remember that we used to meet at Giuseppe's Old Depot several years ago, before the place closed. Now we return to a slightly different place but it still feels like coming home to me. I hope you think so also. We are still working out the bugs with meeting in person again, but I am so happy to see so many of you at our meetings.

This month, we have Teknion Wall Systems giving us their seminar entitled "The New Office Mandate." It will be held on a special date, Tuesday, November 16, instead of our typical last Tuesday of the month, to avoid any conflicts with the Thanksgiving Holiday week. I hope you will be able to attend.

We will have a special presentation in December about the historic McAllister House, which promises to be very interesting.

Happy Thanksgiving!

**Daryl G. Robinson, FCSI
Pikes Peak Chapter President**

Pikes Peak Chapter

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The 2021 Herald R. Holding Memorial Scholarship Award Winner

In 2005, the Pikes Peak Chapter of CSI established an annual scholarship in honor of former Chapter President and architect, Herald R. Holding. Mr. Holding was one of 25 souls aboard United Airlines Flight 585 who perished in the plane crash near Widefield on March 3, 1991. The scholarship is awarded to a second-year student attending either the Architectural Technology or Interior Design programs at Pikes Peak Community College. This year, the scholarship was awarded to Interior Design student, Ria Hurst. Below is her story:

My name is Ria Hurst. I am the daughter of a Dutch immigrant and in 1991 at the age of fourteen I was able to spend a summer month in The Netherlands, my mother's homeland. That was when my love of architecture and design blossomed. I remember the very moment I saw Kubuswoningen (The Cube Houses) by Dutch architect Pier Blom. I was astonished by the unique structures; it was a little city of angular floating homes. I had never seen creativity in architecture like Blom's design. Just as incredible yet vastly different are the nostalgic windmills, like the one my great grandmother was born in, to the tall and narrow canal homes like my mother's home. Castles to concentration camps and boat houses. My mind and heart just became sparked seeing all these diverse designs. I do not know if it was my heritage that attracted me to the designs or the designs that drew me into my heritage, either way the excitement that ignites in my veins when I see beautiful design and architecture has never left.

As a child I was always begging my parents to let me repaint or redecorate my room. Good thing Pinterest was not around three decades ago. Growing up, secular educational was not acceptable in my family and therefore receiving a college degree was not available to me. Since I have an eye for aesthetic details and loved color it felt natural for me to go into the beauty industry. I had already started doing my siblings hair in my backyard beauty salon, and where better to learn how to deal with my crazy curls which had always left me perplexed. So, a month after my high school graduation at the ripe age of eighteen, I started cosmetology school. With the support of my incredible, inspiring, and loyal clients and educators I have been able to continue in the beauty industry. To date I have been a stylist 27 years. Additionally, I have been a color and cutting educator, a salon manager and salon owner.

In 2006, I stopped dreaming and I enrolled part time at PPCC to start my AAS of Interior Design. In 2007 I received an architectural drafting certificate (at that time the interior design department utilized architecture courses with interior design classes). I absolutely loved all that I was learning. Six part-time semesters in, one AutoCAD class under my belt and enrolled in AutoCAD for Interiors. One day as I am trying to trudge my way through AutoCAD in a ball of tears. My oldest daughter (5) sitting alongside me trying to do her homework and feeling overwhelmed, she started crying too. Then my empathetic toddler, seeing us upset also started crying. So, when my husband walked into the door from work to all his girls crying. He was like "what is going on?" "Just school" I remarked. That evening he suggested I put school on hold, I was in agreeance and although I did not want to be a quitter. I knew my girls needed my focus. That night I called my professor and dropped my classes. It was crushing to give up to something that I wanted so badly. I had to put my passion and desire to earn a college degree on hold.

Motherhood was priority and I continued working as a hairstylist, I was even able to open my own small salon eight years ago, with a focus on sustainable practices, organic products and supporting small batch companies. Fast forward, I am now 45 years old and again working towards a degree in Interior Design at Pikes Peak Community College. Upon graduation, I will be the first person in my family to receive a degree! Even though I struggled in schooling this accomplishment proves to me that I can come back from those challenges - braver. I have continued to work full time as a stylist and salon owner. A wife and mother of two teenage daughters, while attending PPCC part time.

Receiving this scholarship in honor of Mr. Holding has not only helped financially, but I am excited and grateful to be part of the Pikes Peak Chapter of CSI. Having the chance to meet professionals in building, design, and architecture, gives me the sense of being linked to my new career. After hearing the story of Mr. Holding, I feel even more connected to this scholarship as I was thirteen years old and just lived three miles from the site of the accident, a vivid childhood memory. I am grateful to be a part of the continuation of Mr. Holding's legacy.

The 2021 Herald R. Holding Memorial Scholarship Award Winner (cont'd)

While I was homeschooling my daughter, I took her on a tour of a homeless shelter for families. The environment was very sterile. I just keep thinking, "If the point of the accommodations is not just to provide a roof over their heads for the night but also a place where they can be educated and grow...Then, shouldn't they cultivate an environment that encourages motivation and growth?" It is my belief that buildings and their designs have a significant impact on the way people interact with others and the feelings within themselves. Areas that are well designed create joy, allowing for connection, relationship building, growth in oneself and the community.

My hope as I embark upon a career in the Interior Design industry, is that I will be able to be a part of a team that creates soul refreshing designs for those most in need of nurturing; be it the displaced population, abuse victims, trauma survivors, or those facing health/physical challenges. I want to participate in constructing surroundings where all are welcomed, allowing them to have a feeling of inclusion, peace, and well-being. Flourishing alongside people from all backgrounds and stories.

I strive to both professionally and personally give back when I can. Therefore, I enjoy volunteering with a variety of organizations such as Rebuilding Together in Denver: working on the restoration of an old fire station which houses The Women's Bean Project. Helping update homes and making them more accessible. Design for Hope Project through PPCC: Casa Fundraiser.

Much of my volunteering has been collaborating with our amputee community, as my daughter is a congenital upper extremity amputee: leading and co-chairing the Pikes Peak Amputee Connection support group, creating fundraising events, organizing speakers, peer support and educational experiences; similarly, with UnLimbited children's group and Camp NoLimits. My daughter and I authored a book about limb differences, that we distribute to families of children with limb differences and limb loss.

After the completion of my Associate Degree in Interior Design in December 2022, I am looking forward to working with a Design Build firm or similar business. Perhaps continuing toward my bachelor's degree. A big dream is to eventually sit for the National Council for Interior Design Qualification. I have also researched attending MIARD: Master Interior Architecture: Research + Design Program at the Piet Zwart Institute in the Netherlands, taking me back to where my love affair with design began to flourish. It would be an honor to collaborate with my cousin, who is a published designer in the Netherlands before bringing my newfound knowledge home.

As I reflect on everything, I hope it is evident that my professional artistic work, along with my desires to nurture, encourage, and educate my clients while helping them embrace themselves, their appearance and therefore making their lives happier; has a direct correlation with my aesthetic skills, design eye and passion for architecture and interior design coming together in a uniquely integrated way. I graciously accept The Herald R. Holding Memorial Scholarship from The Construction Specification Institute - Pikes Peak Chapter and PPCC Foundation.

With gratitude, my heart overflows.

Ria Hurst



Meet Your New Chapter Vice President - Lacey Wells

Lacey Wells is an aspiring architect with a passion for well-designed and context-driven architecture. Lacey has been part of the LGA Studios team since 2018 and is looking forward to a long and healthy career in the Pikes Peak Region.

Lacey believes in hard work and excellence and applies that to her work and personal life. While mathematics is one of her strengths, Lacey also enjoys a variety of arts and crafts; her favorite of which is watercoloring.

In the office, Lacey enjoys sharing homemade desserts and good jokes.

Her favorite dessert is cheesecake.

Her favorite joke is, "What is worse than raining cats and dogs? Hailing taxi cabs!"



Mile High With CSI

Save the Date!

**SOUTHWEST + NORTH CENTRAL
BI-REGION CONFERENCE**

April 27 - April 30, 2022

The Curtis Hotel, Denver, Colorado

