

# Thomas F. Tarkowski, FCSI

*“In recognition of your ‘go anywhere, do anything for CSI’ motto and your belief that education is a lifelong process, resulting in notable, exemplary, contributions in education at chapter, region and Institute levels, including numerous seminars and articles promoting CSI principles and programs you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on the 26th day of June 1999.”*

*Los Angeles, California*



Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1936, THOMAS F. TARKOWSKI has spent most of his life in that city. He attended Milwaukee Area Technical College and worked as a draftsman for a number of engineering and architectural firms. In 1973 he joined the newly formed Construction Services Department at Milwaukee Area Technical College where he spent the next twenty-three years. Tarkowski was the specification writer and contract administrator until he accepted early retirement in 1996. After retirement, he formed his own consulting firm, WriteWord, Ltd.

In 1978, at the invitation of one of his consulting engineers, Tarkowski joined the Milwaukee Chapter, CSI. He was soon involved in chapter activities and in 1979 he was asked to serve as Editor of the chapter newsletter. Since that time he has been the chairman and/or a member of some chapter committee continuously. His service has earned him numerous chapter awards. In 1981 he successfully passed the exam for Certified Construction Specifier; he has subsequently helped Milwaukee and Fox River Valley members in their quest for certification by leading study sessions and serving as exam Proctor.

He has also been a willing worker for the North Central Region. He has been tapped ten times to chair a region committee and has served as a member of numerous committees. In 1983 he was Publicity Chairman of the host committee for the NCR Conference held in Milwaukee, and in 1996 he Co-Chaired a hugely successful Bi-Region Conference. He has received six region awards for his efforts.

Tom also served three years on the Institute Specifications Competition Committee, one as chairman, and another year as a member of the Institute Education Committee.

His service to the community isn't limited to CSI. He serves on the Education Council of the Associated General Contractors of Greater Milwaukee, the Architectural Advisory Committee of Milwaukee Area Technical College, and has served on the Code Advisory Association of Southeast Wisconsin. He has lectured at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Marquette University, and has proudly served the Boy Scouts of America as an adult leader for over thirty years.

## **CSI Membership**

Milwaukee Chapter, 1978 to present  
Fox River Valley Chapter, 1987 to present

## **Chapter Offices, Committees**

Secretary, 1984  
and Vice President, 1985, 1986  
1st Vice President, 1987  
President, 1988, 1989

## **Awards**

Institute Publications Commendation 1982  
Institute Certificate of Merit and Appreciation 1988  
Institute Certificate of Appreciation 1988  
Institute Certificate of Merit and Appreciation 1989  
Institute Certificate of Appreciation 1993