

James W. Lail, Jr., FCSI

*“For your role in the establishment and continuation of the Chattanooga Student Affiliate and the Marshall Hildebrand Scholarship; for your support of education in the greater Chattanooga area, including recruiting the best and brightest from local high schools and the community-at-large to pursue further education in the construction industry; for your continued leadership and mentoring of both young and seasoned members in addition to your invaluable service to the Institute, the Gulf States Region, and the Chattanooga Chapter, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on the 30th day of September, 2015”
St. Louis, Missouri*



JAMES W. LAIL, JR. is a lifelong resident of Chattanooga, Tennessee. Jimmy currently services as vice president and secretary of Raines Brothers, Inc which his dad helped start in 1955.

School was always a struggle for Jimmy because of dyslexia, which he was diagnosed with at a very early age. He became very shy and quiet because he was always afraid of making mistakes and being made fun of. To offset the shyness and quietness Jimmy excelled in athletics in junior high and high school.

Jimmy and his two brothers were shown by their farm boy dad and city girl mother what it meant to give it your all in no matter what you were doing, and how to put in a good, honest day's work.

Jimmy has an AS degree in Mechanical Design and a BS degree in Construction Technology, and it was a struggle. Working during the summers for Raines Brothers he learned

and saw a lot that helped him in school, and to decide that construction was going to be what he would study in school.

Lail's leadership skills and volunteering were learned mainly from his dad. It was early in his career that Lail was pushed by his dad to get involved in the CSI Chattanooga chapter, and after only a year or two Lail was working on a committee and on the board.

Jimmy has had an interest in education even though it was a struggle for him. He has always been there to encourage students whether it was one of his church's youth group, or when interviewing a college student asking for scholarship money.

Lail's volunteerism and leadership have also shown up in other places like AGC of East Tennessee, being a part of the Tennessee Building & Construction Institute of Chattanooga (part of Chattanooga State Community College), and being named to the board of GoBuild Tennessee.

CSI Membership

Chattanooga Chapter, 1986

Institute Offices, Committees

Region Responsibility & Accountability Task Team, FY2009

Board Oversight Committee, FY2011

Board Program Coordination Committee, FY2012

Awards Committee, Board Liaison, FY2012

Region Offices, Committees

GSR Board Member, FY1995, 1996, 2004, 2005

GSR Treasurer, FY2007, 2008

GSR Finance Vice Chair, FY2007, 2008

GSR Finance Chair, FY2009, 2010

GSR Fundraising Vice Chair, FY2009, 2010

GSR Fundraising Chair, FY2011, 2012

Awards

Institute

Certificate of Appreciation, FY1995, FY1996, FY2004, FY2005, FY2011, FY2012

Robert P. Brosseau Award, FY2015

Region

Certificate of Appreciation, FY2005, FY2007, FY2008, FY2010, FY2012

Robert V. Bishop Award, FY2014

Chapter

Certificate of Appreciation, FY2004, FY2007, FY2008, FY2009, FY2011, FY2012, FY2013, FY2014

President's Special Merit Award, FY1999, FY2008, FY2009

Ken Brandenburg Continuous Service Award, FY2002