President’s Letter

It’s hard to believe that we are already entering the stretch run of the 2010 construction season. Here’s hoping that 2010 goes out with a “bang” and we carry that momentum into the new year.

A few of the exciting happenings with the Indiana Chapter include:

Tom Grisinger and Ashley Frantz have combined their talents to develop a student certification program for universities in our state. The first certification class and exam is scheduled in November at Trine University in Angola. The Indiana Chapter will be sponsoring two teams from the ever-growing Purdue University student chapter at the fall convention in Pittsburgh in October. These teams performance in the student competitions will be highlighted in a future edition of the Palindrome.

Jobsite tour programs are in the planning stages for the Palladium Performing Arts Center in Carmel and the new arena project in Evansville. Planning is underway for our Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet in April, 2011. The project awards application will be sent in early 2011. We’re counting on our membership to have another great variety of projects submitted.

The officers and directors of the ICACI are very excited about each of these programs/events. Again, we’d like to encourage members to be heard and get involved. Please don’t hesitate to contact us with your thoughts and ideas.

Respectfully,

Mike Rose – Alt & Witzig Engineering, Inc.
President – Indiana Chapter ACI

Upcoming Events

October 24-28: ACI Fall Convention, Pittsburgh, PA
January 17-21, 2011: World of Concrete 2011, Las Vegas, NV
ACI Fall Convention Nears

The ACI Fall 2010 Convention will be held October 24-28, 2010 at the Westin Convention Center Hotel & David L. Lawrence Convention Center. Attendees of this convention are encouraged to attend sessions and special events to supplement their convention experience.

Over 30 sessions will presented. Many of the sessions will emphasize concrete sustainability, design, and performance. The following five sessions have been approved for continuing education credit by the AIA and USGBC:

- Design of Sustainable Concrete Bridges
- Sustainability of Concrete Pavement
- Sustainable Design in Concrete, Parts 1&2
- Green Binders Technology
- Textile-Reinforced Concrete: Modern Developments

Other session topics include:
- Emerging Technologies in Civil Infrastructure Applications
- Blast and Impact-Loading Response of Concrete Structures
- Errors in the Design and Construction of Concrete Structures- Examples, Consequences, and Mitigation.
- Diagnosis and Repair of Structures Suffering from Durability Problems
- High-Performance Concrete for Seismic Design of Bridges
- Analysis, Design, and Construction Practices in Environmental Engineering
- Concrete Structures: An Overview of ACI 350 Code (350)

All sessions offer the opportunity to earn Professional Development Hours (PDHs). Attendees will be provided with a session attendance form which can be used to track session attendance and act as evidence of participation to state boards that allow self reporting of continuing education activities.

Attendees who would like to enhance their convention experience further are encouraged to participate in special events which offer a taste of the city as well as opportunity to network with over 1400 concrete professionals. These events include:
- International Lunch on Tall and Green Buildings
- Tour of the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, the first gold LEED certified convention center
- Student Egg Protection Device Competition
- Student and Young Professional Networking Event
- Dinner Dance Cruise – cruise Pittsburgh’s three rivers during an evening of great food, music and networking
- Contractors’ Day Lunch with keynote speaker Eric Hayes of Walsh Construction discussing the Allegheny River Project
- Concrete Mixer at the Heinz History Center, home of Pennsylvania history including a large exhibit on Pittsburgh sports memorabilia

For a complete listing of sessions and special events, or to register for the ACI Fall 2010 Convention, please visit www.aciconvention.org.
Still Time to Weigh in on Fly Ash Designation

The deadline for public comment has been extended to November 19, 2010, on proposed Environmental Protection Agency action to create national rules to regulate the disposal of coal combustion byproducts (CCB’s) from coal-fired power plants. Spurred by environmental concerns following the failure of a massive coal ash slurry impoundment in Kingston, Tennessee in 2008, the EPA is evaluating whether to regulate the storage of CCB’s (including fly ash) under the hazardous waste provisions of the Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

The debate relevant to the concrete industry centers on the potential effects of having fly ash designated as a hazardous material. Such a designation could potentially create a stigma that would preclude its beneficial use as a material in concrete and other manufactured products. Should CCB’s become no longer economically viable as a recycled product, millions of tons of this material per year currently used beneficially would likely be re-directed to regulated landfills for permanent impoundment. The benefits of fly ash in concrete could be lost and higher costs from regulations for the appropriate collection, transportation and storage of this material would likely be borne by power companies with a potential need to pass on these added costs to consumers in the form of utility rate hikes.

A second option has been presented by EPA, namely to regulate the material as a non-hazardous solid waste under provision of Subtitle D of RCRA, while still providing enhanced regulations for the storage of CCB’s. This approach has been supported by Indiana 8th District Congressman Brad Ellsworth and others in both parties in both the House and Senate. Ellsworth, in a July 28, 2010 letter to the EPA, stated “I would like to express my continued concern with regulation of this material under Subtitle C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). Instead, I believe the reasonable and common sense approach is regulation of the material through enforceable guidelines under Subtitle D of the RCRA.”

ICACI members are encouraged to study all aspects of this very important debate and provide feedback to the EPA as they deem appropriate. Additional information and links can be found via the national ACI website at:

http://www.concrete.org/flyash/flyash.htm

Article by Don Corson, Board Member, ICACI

IRMCA/ICACI Nature Conservancy Tour

The Indiana Ready mixed Concrete Association and the Indiana Chapter – American Concrete Institute held a seminar and tour of The Nature Conservancy Center on August 18, 2010. There were approximately 40 architects, engineers, college professors and ready mixed industry people in attendance at the half day event.
The morning started off with Mary McConnell talking about the process of determining how they decided to build a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum building. Then Eric Anderson of Axis Architects talked about designing such a building and the necessary considerations. Ryan Decker of F.A. Wilhelm ended the seminar by talking from the General Contractor’s point of view. The seminar ended with a question and answer session.

The group then toured the facility with Axis and Wilhelm (project architect and engineers) pointing out how the building used LEED points and in particular the points associated with concrete. It takes about nine months for the building to be certified as LEED, as there is a documentation period of time.

*Article by Cheri Wagner, Communications Manager, IRMCA*
Winter Concreting – Plan, Prepare and Perform!

Before you know it, snow is flying, ice is forming and you are trying to place concrete in less than ideal conditions!

What can you do?

Plan, Prepare and Perform

Successful winter concreting can be accomplished with great results by following a few rules to make sure that the concrete will mature and perform as intended.

Per American Concrete Institute Committee 306, cold weather is defined as “a period when, for more than 3 consecutive days, the following conditions exist:

1) the average daily air temperature is less than 40 F
2) the air temperature is not greater than 50F for more than one-half day of any 24 hour period.

Cold weather concreting difficulties are chiefly caused by low ambient temperatures, and by not protecting the concrete from freezing. These conditions adversely affect the quality of concrete since the rate of setting is extended, early strength development is reduced and the potential for plastic shrinkage cracking may be increased.

Some facts to consider in winter concrete:

- Concrete should maintain a water-cementitious ratio in line with ACI 201.2R, “Guide to Durable Concrete”
- Air entrained concrete must be used when the concrete is exposed to freezing and thawing while in a saturated state
- Frozen concrete during the first 24 hours can experience up to a 50% loss in compressive strength
- Concrete that is protected from freezing until it reaches 500 psi will not be damaged by exposure to a single freezing cycle
- Concrete should not be allowed to freeze and thaw in a saturated condition before developing a compressive strength of 3500 psi

Desired setting time, strength, durability and other properties of concrete can be obtained in cold weather by adhering to the following recommended practices:

- Plan ahead for cold weather concrete placements
- Use warm concrete ingredients and accelerating admixtures
- Never place concrete on frozen subgrade
- Prevent concrete from freezing
- Limit rapid concrete temperature changes
Concrete must and can still be cured in cold weather conditions. The requirements for good results in cold weather are not that different than in other seasons. Concrete should be placed where it is to remain, use wind breaks, cure the concrete and protect freshly placed concrete from moisture loss and freezing.

*Article by Jack Springer, Vice President, ICACI Board of Directors*

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**Membership Renewals!**

The current membership year ends December 31, 2010. Renewal forms will be sent via email in December. Please help the ICACI Chapter by getting your membership renewals returned in a timely manner.

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**Upcoming Certification Dates**

The dates below are for upcoming ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician, Level 1 programs that will be held in Indiana in 2010:

November 5-6 – Indianapolis

First Day: Review Class; Second Day: Written and Practical Exams

*Certification Program Policy Change: Examiners and Supplemental Examiners (Proctors) will now be required to be a Member of Indiana Chapter ACI; either through an Individual Membership or under a Company Membership.*

For a registration flyer or questions about the program, please contact Eileen Dick ~ phone (317) 872-6302.
ICACI Officers and Board of Directors

**President:** Mike Rose – Alt & Witzig Engineering  
(317) 875-7040 mrose@altwitzig.com
**Vice President:** Jack Springer – BASF Admixtures  
(260) 341-0606 jack.springer@basf.com
**Past President:** Scott Hall – Builder’s Concrete  
(317) 570-6201 shall@bcconcrete.com
**Treasurer:** Tom Grisinger - Lehigh Cement Co.  
(317) 409-3218 tgrisinger@lehighcement.com
**Director:** Don Corson – American Structurepoint  
(317) 547-5580 dcorson@structurepoint.com
**Director:** Justin Lowder – Irving Materials, Inc.  
(317) 402-3300 justin.lowder@irvmat.com
**Director:** Charlie Scheuermann – Patriot Engineering & Environmental  
(317) 576-8058 cscheuermann@patrioteng.com
**Director:** Ashley Frantz – Indiana Ready Mixed Concrete Association  
(317) 872-6302 afrantz@irmca.com
**Director:** Ryan Decker – F.A. Wilhelm  
(317) 359-5411 ryandecer@fawilhelm.com
**Director:** Tom Hart – Messer Construction  
(317) 576-9250 thart@messer.com

Indiana Chapter ACI Website
The Indiana Chapter has a website where you can find information on upcoming events, such as, ACI certification classes, programs, and golf outings. Membership applications, Award nomination forms, Scholarship applications and other information are also available. Please go to www.concrete.org, then click on the “Chapters” tab and select “Indiana”.

IC-ACI Tax-Exempt Status
As a tax-exempt organization, the Indiana Chapter American Concrete Institute is required to file an annual Return to the Internal Revenue Service. The Return is available for review by any member of IC-ACI. For information, contact Tom Grisinger, Secretary/Treasurer at 317-409-3218 or tgrisinger@lehighcement.com.