



Phenomenal Phoenix!

Scenes from the ICRI 2002 Fall Convention

By Kelly M. Page

Some came for the beautiful weather, some for the resort/spa setting; and, of course, some came for the golf. Whatever the motivation, more than 200 ICRI members showed their support for the organization and the industry by attending the 2002 Fall Convention, held October 24 and 25 at the Pointe South Mountain Resort in Phoenix, Arizona.

Actually, as anyone who has attended an ICRI convention knows, for most attendees, there is hardly enough time in the day for anything but ICRI activities. Between two full days of technical presentations, over 25 committee meetings, and the awards banquet, this convention kept attendees busy!

The theme for the fall convention was "Concrete Repair in Extreme Environments," which made for some very interesting presentations at the technical sessions. Ten speakers gave talks on this subject during two technical sessions. There was also a special session Friday morning, put together by ICRI's Strengthening and Stabilization Committee, on state-of-the-art strengthening issues. All of the technical sessions drew high praise for the quality and content of the presentations.

During the general session on Thursday, ICRI President Robert Thaxton gave attendees an update on the state of ICRI and various projects in development. He then introduced Past-President and current Technical Activities Committee Chair Rick Edelson, who discussed the ongoing activities of ICRI's Technical Committees and strongly encouraged all to attend a committee meeting.

The weather in Phoenix was beautiful until storms hit over the weekend. The warm climate allowed us to have our Welcoming Reception outdoors. As seen in the photos, the picturesque resort setting made for a lovely evening.

The convention was capped off on Friday evening by the 2002 ICRI Project Awards Banquet. This was the best attended banquet we have had, with more than 135 people coming out to enjoy a good meal, fine company, and to hear all about the ICRI project award winners. There was a full

Many attendees filled the room at Thursday's technical session



ICRI Executive Director Kelly Page welcomes convention attendees at Thursday's general session



ICRI President Robert Thaxton giving his state of ICRI address





(Left to right) Lee Sizemore, Torrey Thompson, Bob Nittinger, and Jeff Travis enjoying the Welcoming Reception



The warm weather had many ICRI members enjoying the food and the company at the Welcoming Reception

schedule, with six Honorable Mention Awards, nine Awards of Excellence, and the Project-of-the-Year to award, but Awards Committee Chair and emcee Kevin Michols kept the evening lively and fast-paced, as did the award winners. Attendees were heard to remark that it was one of the best award banquets they had attended. A special thanks to our award winners from outside of North America, who traveled great distances to be at the banquet.

As you can see, ICRI conventions are full of interesting activities and many lively networking opportunities. We hope to see you all at the 2003 Spring Convention to be held in Vancouver, BC, Canada, March 27-28, 2003 (see page 23 for brochure).

Representatives from Structural Preservation Systems and VSL display their three Awards of Excellence (right)



Awards Committee Chair Kevin Michols welcomes more than 135 people to the 2002 Awards Banquet



Randy Poston of WDP & Associates shows off his company's 2002 Repair Project of the Year Award (right)



Honorable Mention Award winner Wieslaw Tezycki came all the way from Gdynia, Poland, to accept his company's award (left)