

CHAPTER NEWS

CHAPTERS COMMITTEE CHAIR'S LETTER



MARK LeMAY

Summer has finally arrived and the construction season is (or at least, should be) in full swing. Long-awaited rains in my part of the country have filled the lakes, greened up nature to a point not seen since 2007, but also slowed outside repair work. The rain also has helped to highlight building leaks, swell the active clay soils, and raise settled slabs-on-ground—ah, the joys of job security!

April and May were very busy months! On April 16, I had the great fortune of attending the Virginia (VA) Chapter Symposium in Williamsburg, VA, where the well-attended morning technical sessions focused on repairs to maritime structures. The venue at Colonial Heritage Golf was envious, and provided a great test for golfers in the afternoon tournament, which was highlighted by a hole-in-one by Ken Pitman! Kudos to VA Chapter President Paul Farrell and his Board for putting on a great event!

On April 29, I was invited to speak about repair issues in new concrete construction with the Rocky Mountain (RM) Chapter. Many thanks to the RM Chapter members for the warm welcome I received, to Chapter President Jake Holland, and to Chapter Vice President Kevin Charlson for his pick-up and delivery services!

In mid-May, the three Texas chapters gathered in Bastrop, TX, east of Austin, for their Second Annual Texas State Conference. The Friday afternoon golf outing was temporarily interrupted by a thunderstorm, but the weather cleared in time to complete play and still have plenty of time to enjoy

a barbeque feast. The Saturday-morning technical sessions included presentations on chemical grouting and shrinkage testing on pre-packaged repair mortars. John Schemmel, Director of the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) Program at nearby Texas State University, provided attendees with an update on the CIM Program, and how our groups may better collaborate on upcoming events and programs.

The following week, I was asked to speak about ICRI at a meeting of the North Texas Chapter of Roofing Contractors Institute (RCI), which has morphed into much more of a building envelope organization. Because moisture intrusion is one of the main factors contributing to the deterioration of concrete structures, we discussed several opportunities for future collaboration.

I mention all of these events to show the strength and vitality of our local chapters, and the benefits of being actively involved with the organization. Everywhere I go, I am constantly amazed at the inclusive and welcoming atmosphere that pervades the Institute. It makes me wonder—if the concrete repair industry is your livelihood, why are you NOT a member of this great organization?

Signing up is easy. Go to www.icri.org and click on the “Membership” tab along the top of the page. You can complete the membership application form and pay online. Don't forget to include your chapter membership dues!

I hope everyone has a wonderful and productive summer! Please contact me if I can be of assistance to you or your chapter: mlemay@jqeng.com or (817) 505-4304 (office direct).

P.S. Save the date for the ICRI 2015 Fall Convention in Fort Worth, TX, October 14-16!