

Scenes from Kansas City

The ICRI 2005 Fall Convention



INTERNATIONAL
CONCRETE REPAIR
INSTITUTE

2005 FALL CONVENTION

INDUSTRIAL
REPAIR

NOVEMBER 2-4, 2005
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

By Dale Regnier

As we know, ICRI needed to move the location of its 2005 Fall Convention from New Orleans after the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina. ICRI, in conjunction with the American Concrete Institute (ACI), moved all fall convention activities to Kansas City, Missouri.

The city, in the midst of a restoration phase that has seen a virtual rebirth of the downtown area, proved to be the perfect choice. Registrations were steady and attendees were pleased with what Kansas City had to

offer. The convention was held November 2-4, 2005, at the Kansas City Marriott Downtown.

Stepping up to help us after the move was the newly chartered ICRI Great Plains Chapter. Not only did the chapter work tirelessly to get its charter approved, but the entire group extended a hearty welcome and even put together a very informative tour of a recent local project for those interested.

The fall convention began with the traditional Welcoming Reception on Wednesday evening,



Dave Tweedie (left) and Brad Kamin (right) from the Northern California Chapter accept their Outstanding Chapter Award



Proud members of the new Great Plains Chapter accept their official Chapter Banner



ICRI Board Member Rachel Stiffler enjoys the festivities



A great crowd was on hand for the Great Plains Chapter reception

where enthusiastic attendees had the chance to meet up with friends from across the country and make some new friends in the process. They also had the opportunity to peruse the exhibit area filled with information on a wide variety of products and services.

The theme for the fall convention was "Industrial Repair," which provided for some interesting presentations at the technical sessions. A variety of speakers presented unique talks during three technical sessions spanning Thursday and Friday. Many presentations centered on ICRI award-winning projects and drew high praise from attendees for the quality and content.

The convention's General Session on Thursday heralded the official beginning of the fall convention, with ICRI President Robert Pusheck welcoming attendees and giving them a brief update on ICRI.

Pusheck then introduced ICRI Past President Peter Emmons who brought everyone up to date on Vision 2020 activities.

Thursday's main event was the 13th Annual Awards Banquet. The evening began with ICRI Executive Director Kelly Page handing out the Chapter Awards for activities during the previous year. The Florida West Coast Chapter was honored with the prestigious Chapter of the Year Award for an unprecedented second year in a row. (A recap of the Chapter Awards appears in the Annual Report that also appears in this issue of *CRB*.)

With Randy Beard, Walker Parking Consultants, serving as emcee, the banquet continued with honoring the winners of the ICRI Project Awards. The presentations gave the audience a unique opportunity to hear about the details of these challenging projects firsthand. A special thanks



Richard McGuire, Structural Engineering Associates, Kansas City, was instrumental during the chapter charter process for the Great Plains Chapter



Raffle award winner Lee Sizemore (left) with his signed Kansas City Chiefs football presented to him by ICRI Board Member Katherine Klosowski-Blatz (right)



Tom Kline (left), Jim Frost (center), and John Damask (right), all of Structural Preservation Systems, accept the 2005 Project of the Year Award for the Delayed Coking Unit Turnaround project



Kansas City Councilman Chuck Eddy (left) with a certificate of appreciation presented by ICRI Executive Director Kelly Page (right)

and congratulations to those ICRI award winners for their hard work, not only on the projects themselves, but on the high quality of all the entries we received.

In addition to the prominent Project of the Year, ICRI also awarded seven 2005 Awards of Excellence and 11 Awards of Merit.

The convention hosts a variety of activities including the Inter-Chapter Luncheon and Forum, where chapter leaders and those interested in the success of chapters can share thoughts and ideas about what works for them as the heart and soul of ICRI. This year's forum was presented by Dale Regnier, Manager, ICRI Marketing and Chapters, and focused on the benefits of participating in, or at least reviewing, the components of the Annual Chapter Awards Program.

Also at this convention, the Chapters Committee recommended, and the ICRI Board of Directors approved, charters for the Great Plains, Southwest

Florida, and Puerto Rico Chapters. All three groups include many enthusiastic individuals who all worked together to bring an ICRI chapter into their area. Congratulations go out to each and every one of those dedicated folks.

The convention was capped off Friday evening by the Great Plains Chapter reception. The evening was a celebration of the new chapter's charter and included a special presentation of a Key to the City by Kansas City Councilman Chuck Eddy to ICRI and Executive Director Kelly Page. Councilman Eddy's band also provided the evening's entertainment.

All-in-all, the convention proved a rousing success, even after the last-minute scramble to relocate. If you missed Kansas City and were unable to join us in San Diego on March 16-17, 2006, please mark your calendars for November 1-3, 2006, when we'll descend on the good city of Denver for the ICRI 2006 Fall Convention.



(Left to right) Chris Olson, ChemCo Systems; Steve Hovland, WJE; Brad Kamin and Dave White; and Vern Korinek, Watertight Restoration, accept their Award of Excellence, Historic Category, for work on the Alcatraz Cellhouse



Exhibitors enjoyed opportunities, such as the Welcoming Reception and Continental Breakfasts, to greet attendees