

CHAPTER NEWS

CHAPTERS COMMITTEE CHAIR'S LETTER



MARK D. LeMAY

Greetings to all Chapter officers and members! It is a pleasure and, indeed, an honor, to take over leadership of the Chapters Committee from Keith Harrison. I must begin by thanking Keith; his predecessor, Beth Newbold (who first invited me to become a voting member of the committee); and Dale Regnier, Manager, ICRI Marketing and Chapters, for their support

and mentorship over the past several years. I look forward to the challenge of carrying on their vision and work, helping to strengthen and grow each and every ICRI Chapter.

True to the old adage, “Times flies when you’re having fun”—it’s March already, and 2014 has gotten off to a rollicking start! Beginning with the ICRI Kick-Off Party event at World of Concrete, where several hundred attendees feasted on fine food and drink, ICRI has started its second 25 years on solid footing. It was great to see so many familiar faces from around the country, many of whom are heavily involved in their local chapter activities.

By the time you read this, the second round of regional Chapter Roundtable meetings will have been completed with the gathering held in Tampa, FL, February 20-21, 2014. Four years ago, ICRI realized that there was not enough time available at the Association’s conventions to adequately address the needs of local chapters. The regional Chapter Roundtable meeting idea was formulated to have chapter leaders come together for a day and a half to learn more about ICRI, to share their success stories and their struggles, and learn more

about the “how-to’s” of running a successful chapter. Once every 2 years, chapters are invited to send two representatives—preferably chapter officers—to participate in the meetings. ICRI does not charge attendees a fee to attend the meetings. Attendees only pay transportation costs to get to the meetings and a hotel room for one night. Even though the meetings only last a day and a half, they are filled with important information for chapter leaders and provide a unique opportunity to share thoughts and ideas with fellow members from neighboring chapters. Each chapter is strongly urged to participate in these meetings and to budget monies to reimburse their representatives.

This month, we will be gathering at the Peppermill Resort, Spa, and Casino in Reno, NV, for ICRI’s 2014 Spring Convention. We hope you have your Chapter Delegate selected, and he or she has made plans to fulfill the delegate’s requirements by attending Friday’s Inter-Chapter Luncheon and Forum (where the topic will be “Where and How Do Chapters Find Speakers?”), and the Chapters Committee meeting that follows the luncheon. In addition, each delegate is encouraged to attend at least one Technical Session, and one technical or administrative committee meeting. And don’t forget to have your delegate forward a report to your chapter officers and members, with a copy to Dale Regnier. The Chapter Delegate requirements (and lots more information!) can be found in the Chapter Resources section of the ICRI website.

I am available (as is Dale Regnier) anytime to assist you and your chapter: mlemay@jqeng.com or (817) 505-4304. I hope to see you in Reno!