

ICRI 2006 Spring Convention: Hardworking Committees, an ICRI Member Band, and More!

By Kelly M. Page

A great chapter golf tournament, two new committees meeting for the first time, a forum on contracts and warranties, and the debut of a band—these were just some of the highlights of ICRI's 2006 Spring Convention, held March 16 and 17 at the Hyatt Islandia in San Diego, California. Around 180 ICRI members showed their support for the organization and the industry by participating in the convention.

The events began with a golf tournament on Wednesday, March 15, 2006, hosted by the ICRI San Diego Chapter, which deserves special thanks for organizing the outing. The sunshine held out all day for this fun-filled event!

Thursday morning at the convention was busier than ever, with the kick-off meetings of ICRI's two newest technical committees. First, the Procurement Methods and Relationship Arrangements Committee, whose mission is to develop and report information on selection processes, contractual agreements, and procurement methods that will minimize disagreements between contractors, engineers, and owners, held its meeting. This was followed by the meeting of the Environmental Health and Safety

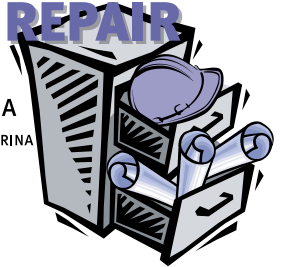


2006 SPRING CONVENTION
**THE BUSINESS OF
CONCRETE REPAIR**

MARCH 16-17, 2006

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

HYATT REGENCY ISLANDIA HOTEL & MARINA



Committee, whose mission is to develop and report information on environmental health and safety issues related to the repair of concrete and masonry. Both committees jumped right into the work and began making plans for many activities over the next few years.

The theme for the spring convention was The Business of Concrete Repair, which made for some very interesting presentations at the technical sessions, including talks from a lawyer and a surety company expert. Friday morning, the



Convention attendees filled the outdoor tent at the Hyatt Regency Islandia for the Welcome Reception



The members of The Restoration Brothers Blues Band: (back row, left to right) Robert Higgins, David Rodler, Peter Craig, Marty Sobelman, and Bill Gardner, (front row, left to right) Scott Tarr and Tom Ouska

Strengthening Committee sponsored a special session on its newest document, "The Guide for the Selection of Strengthening Systems for Concrete Structures." All of the technical sessions drew high praise for the quality and content of the presentations.

Although attendees kept busy and worked hard at these ICRI activities, there was also room for some fun. Many attendees agreed that the highlight of this convention was the world premiere of the Restoration Brothers Blues band at the Welcome Reception on Thursday evening. The band, featuring the talents of ICRI members Peter Craig, Bill Gardner, Robert Higgins, Tom Ouska, David Rodler, and Marty Sobelman, impressed the crowd with its versions of many classic hits. There was also a special performance by our current President, Dennis Pinelle, channeling Pee-Wee Herman during "Tequila" and a rousing rendition of "Freeze-Thawing" (sung to the Tom Petty tune "Free-Falling") by Scott "Rock Star" Tarr. As you can see from the photos, everyone had a great time at this event!

On Friday afternoon, ICRI held a special Business Forum. Rick Edelson, ICRI TAC Chair,

acted as moderator for this lively discussion about warranties and contracts, and how they affect businesses. The panel of industry experts included Rob Pusheck, C.A. Lindman (contractor); Michael Tabassi, Tadjer-Cohen-Edelson Associates, Inc. (engineer); and Katherine Klosowski-Blatz, DeNeef Construction Chemicals, Inc. (manufacturer). With some great audience participation, this was a highly interactive and thought-provoking event!

As you can see, ICRI conventions are full of interesting activities and many lively (and fun!) networking opportunities. We hope to see you all at the ICRI 2006 Fall Convention, to be held in Denver, Colorado, November 1-3, 2006. The theme of the convention is Back to Basics, and the Evaluation Committee is taking the lead in planning many interesting presentations and demonstrations. In addition to the regular convention activities, we will be also be honoring the winners of the 2006 ICRI Project Awards at a special dinner. If you have never attended a convention, this fall would be a great time to start!



Scott Tarr, CTL Group, joined the band for a few numbers he reengineered with a definite "repair" theme



And the band played on... well into the night



Panel industry experts for Friday's Business Forum included (from left to right): Rob Pusheck, C.A. Lindman (contractor); Katherine Klosowski-Blatz, DeNeef Construction Chemicals, Inc. (manufacturer); and Michael Tabassi, Tadjer-Cohen-Edelson Associates, Inc. (engineer), with moderator Rick Edelson, ICRI TAC Chair



Members of the Technical Activities Committee get to work early on Saturday morning