

THE ICRI 2016 SPRING CONVENTION

SCENES FROM SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

BY DALE REGNIER

The tropical waters of the Caribbean Sea served as the backdrop for ICRI's 2016 Spring Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Dedicated veteran ICRI members worked alongside the many new faces seen at this convention to push forward some significant committee work. Attendees also enjoyed some engaging technical sessions, a nice mix of



Enjoying the warm tropical breezes on the veranda during the Celebrate Puerto Rico party are members Pete Haveron (far left) and Clay Broyles (far right) with their spouses

exhibitors, and saw it all come together with the Institute's annual recognition luncheon. This expanded three-day event, held March 16 through 18 at the Condado Plaza Hilton was more than just another ICRI Convention; it helped prove once again that everyone is welcome at ICRI and if you are willing, there is plenty for you to do.

The convention began on Wednesday morning with our "Visit the Exhibits" continental breakfast, where our exhibitors showed off their best and brightest for the morning crowd. The theme of this convention, "Maintenance and Protection in Harsh Environments," allowed for members of the Technical Activities Committee to recruit a variety of industry professionals to address issues like surface preparation, moisture mitigation, post-tensioned structure

repair, service life extension, and preservation techniques. The spring schedule allows attendees to see the technical presentations in the morning of the first day with no other scheduled meetings to compete for their attention. Added to the schedule was an entire session on Friday morning, bringing the technical session count to 17 unique and informative sessions. To help break up the convention, Wednesday afternoon was free, so attendees could explore and relax as they wished.

Much of what makes ICRI a strong industry association comes from the hard work of our technical committees. We broaden our knowledge base and expand the industry by working together in these meetings. All the ICRI Guidelines and all of our new certification programs come out of the collaboration of our members in these committees. Contractors, engineers and materials suppliers, experienced and new to the industry, all bring their unique perspectives to the table. If you want to know what is happening at any time with any of our committees, you are encouraged to drop by the Technical Committee Page of the ICRI website to view a description of what is being worked on right now.

The highlight of the Spring Convention is the Annual Recognition Luncheon. In addition to recognizing the contribution of ICRI's Supporting Members and its Past Presidents, ICRI honored its newest Fellows, Peter Kolf, Mark Nelson, Michael O'Malley, and David Whitmore. Chapters Committee Chair Mark LeMay handed out the 2015 Chapter Awards, honoring the great work of ICRI's Chapters. The esteemed Chapter of the Year Award was given to the Metro New York Chapter. The Delaware Valley Chapter won Most Improved, and North Texas won Top Program for 2015. To finish the luncheon, current ICRI President Keith Harrison took to the stage to honor immediate Past President Katherine Klosowski-Blatz and introduced the 2016 Officers and Board of Directors. The rest of the afternoon included more committee meetings and technical sessions.

Thursday's busy schedule concluded with a special evening out on the spacious deck as guests enjoyed our Celebrate Puerto Rico event. A variety of local favorites from the kitchen as well as the bar helped fuel this celebration. A local musical group added just the right amount of background music to blend with the breeze and the waves. More than 170 guests were on hand to mingle and enjoy the Caribbean evening.

The convention closed Friday afternoon following the final "Visit the Exhibits" continental breakfast as well as a full day

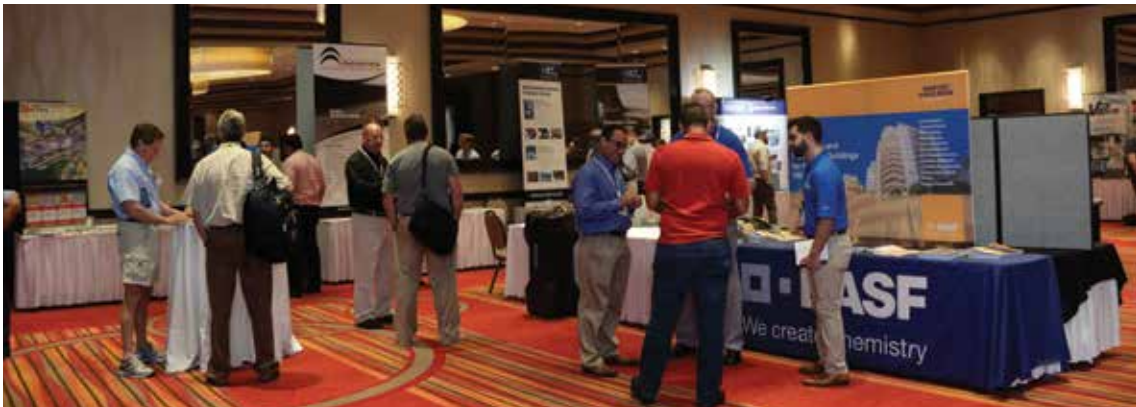
devoted to committee meetings. If you are not attending ICRI Conventions, you are definitely missing out on some interesting activities and entertaining networking opportunities. We hope to see everyone at the ICRI 2016 Fall Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. We'll be at the Westin Cleveland Downtown, November 9-11, 2016. The theme for this event is "Urban Reconstruction" and you don't want to miss the 2016 Project Awards ceremony and celebration. We are getting things done at ICRI and extend an invitation for you to get involved. Make the most of your membership and come to a convention.



The First-Time Attendees Reception is the perfect place to familiarize yourself with the people and the events that make up an ICRI convention



First-Time Attendees Chris Boorz (far left) and Kim West (second from left) are welcomed by ICRI Secretary Mark LeMay (second from right) and Fellows Chair Tom Ouska (far right)



The Welcome Reception is the perfect place to visit all the exhibitors



A group of attendees taking time during the Welcome Reception to visit an exhibitor



Enjoying the chance to meet old and new friends are (from left to right) Randy Beard, Pam Beard, Kevin Michols, Monica Rourke, Beth Newbold and Pat Winkler

SCENES FROM SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO



Everyone is all smiles at the Welcome Reception



Enjoying the reception are (from left to right) Barbara Bertrand, Brian Iske, and Jacques Bertrand



The 16 Technical Sessions at this event were a big draw for attendees



New ICRI Fellow David Whitmore says his thanks during the Recognition Luncheon



Chapters Chair Mark LeMay (left) with Chapter of the Year representatives Stephen Franks (center) and Alex Somohano (r) from the Metro New York Chapter of ICRI



Greeting attendees are staff members Gigi Jaber, ICRI Assistant Executive Director, and Blake Finger, ICRI Sponsors & Exhibits Manager



Much work gets done at the various committee meetings at each ICRI convention

SCENES FROM SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO



There were quite a few representatives from various chapters on hand at this convention to pose for this photo after the luncheon



The Executive Committee for ICRI (left to right) Chris Lippmann, Ralph Jones, Brian Daley, Keith Harrison, and Mark LeMay hammed it up a bit for this shot with Immediate Past President Katherine Klosowski-Blatz (front and center)



Two additional Fellows inductees Michael O'Malley (left) and Peter Kolf (center) with Fellows Committee Chair Tom Ouska (right)



The large veranda at the Condado Plaza Hilton was the perfect place to host a celebration of Puerto Rico

SCENES FROM SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO



Everyone found a reason to revel at the Celebrate Puerto Rico party



Enjoying the Thursday night celebration are (from left to right) Ingrid Rodriguez, Michael Nobel, Brian Daley, and Charles Mitchell



Having fun while networking are (from left to right) Ken Lozen, Pat Winkler and Rick Edelson



Celebrating their success during the recognition lunch are the winners of the ICRI Student Competition from the New Jersey Institute of Technology

**URBAN
RECONSTRUCTION**

2016 FALL CONVENTION
November 9-11 | Cleveland, Ohio

Save the Date!

Make plans to join us
November 9-11 for the
2016 Fall Convention in
Cleveland, Ohio.