

CHAPTER NEWS

CHAPTERS COMMITTEE CHAIR'S LETTER



KEITH HARRISON

The holidays have passed, cooler temperatures are upon us, and we're now welcoming a new year.

Hope you all made plans to attend the ICRI's annual Kick-Off Party in Las Vegas in January.

Although I was unable to attend, it seems that the ICRI 2011 Fall Convention in Cincinnati, OH, was a great success. I would like to personally thank Mark LeMay and Dale Regnier for leading the Inter-Chapter Luncheon and Forum and the Chapters Committee meeting in my absence. I also heard there was some great buzz surrounding the "Guideline Overview" PowerPoint presentation given by Rick Edelson. I am certain that the presentation will be a frequently requested tool for chapters once it is ready for release—we will be sure to let you know when that will be. As soon as ICRI, Rick, and the Education Committee can work out distribution, use, instructor, and other logistic information, we will be sure to get you involved. We are excited about what this type of presentation will mean for ICRI and our chapters.

With the new year comes the time for all of our Chapter leaders to buckle down and get to work on the Chapter Awards forms for the 2011 calendar year. The forms will be due back to Dale on February 15, 2012, and the awards will be presented during the Recognition Lunch at the ICRI 2012 Spring Convention in Quebec City, QC, Canada.

Filling out the paperwork for the Chapter Awards program is an excellent way to both look back and plan ahead. Use this opportunity to take a look at where you might need improve-

ment, new ideas you might want to try, and whether or not you should add a fundraising night or some sort of outdoor activity that the entire family can enjoy. And don't forget to pat yourself on the back for ideas that worked well for you! Please don't take this process lightly and get your forms in on time.

If the information-sharing segments during the first three Chapter Roundtable events are any indication at all, you have to know as a volunteer chapter leader, you are NOT alone. Are you and your board unsure about starting something new? Call the leaders from another chapter and find out what they did. Don't hesitate to ask for specifics, such as: how much did it cost, how much did you charge, how did you sell or market it to your members? Chapters in your area or around the country have tried countless ideas. Take one of theirs and make it work for your chapter.

To that end, the next Roundtable is going to be in Tampa, FL, in February 2012. Dale will be sending out the specific information as soon as the details are finalized. This one will be primarily for the chapters in the southeast (VA, CAR, GA, GS, FWC, CFL, SFL, SWF, and PR). This will be the fourth Roundtable and, upon completion, we'll have hit all the chapters in ICRI. If your chapter did not send two representatives to your event, we can try to make room for you in Tampa. Just ask.

Remember to use this magazine—the *Concrete Repair Bulletin*—to your advantage. Read about successful events and promote your chapter's successes by sending in a short description of your events with a photo or two. Your resources are vast and help is only a phone call away.