

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY, ICRI



GARTH FALLIS

Well, ICRI is 25 years old. As the saying goes, “We have come a long way, baby.”

It all started with a fledgling group of individuals that had a vision and put in the blood, sweat, and tears to get it up and running. Then, through your efforts, ICRI has grown to be a leader in not only the concrete repair industry but also the concrete industry in general. A job well done.

We talk about ICRI as an entity unto itself. But, really, ICRI is you and me, all our companies, the efforts of all the committees, the technical training we provide, and so much more. It is a living entity—a place where our businesses gain knowledge and grow; where we become acquainted with business associates, who share new ideas and ways of doing things and help us problem-solve; and where, above all, we make lifelong friends.

This year’s conventions themes are “Looking Forward to Vision our Industry Going Forward” and “Looking Back to Celebrate All That We Have Accomplished.” “Looking forward” in 1998, could we ever have envisioned where our industry would be now with the innovative materials, equipment, and techniques that are commonplace today? Wow! And think of all the possibilities for the next 25 years, and we will all be part of that progress...no, wait; we will be leading the way!

After all the hard work, this year we will have the chance to celebrate our accomplishments. As my namesake from “Wayne’s World” says, “Party on!” We have our spring celebration and party at the spring convention in Florida; and our thank-you for a job well done at the fall convention, where it all began, in Chicago. I hope you will all be able to be part of the celebrations—you deserve it.

This is my last message as President. By the time you read this article, my term will be over. It has truly been a great joy to be the ICRI President in 2012. ICRI has hit some milestones and achieved some of our long-term goals, one of which was the hiring of a full-time Technical Director.

I have personally had some very special moments: one was being part of the Quebec Convention, an absolutely fabulous convention held in my native country and hosted by my home chapter. Many people have been part of this journey. Therefore, I would like to thank the Executive Committee members, who have been dedicated, supportive, and visionary; the Board of Directors for their administrative work and guidance; and especially the CAM staff for doing so much more than we ever see. As President this past year, I had a behind-the-scenes glimpse of all the work they do, especially Kelly who, on more than one occasion, reminded me of something that needed to be done or a procedure that needed to be followed.

Again, I thank each and every one of you for your support and efforts in growing ICRI over the last 25 years and during my year as President.