SCENES FROM MYRTLE BEACH THE ICRI 2010 SPRING CONVENTION

BY DALE REGNIER



he shores of the Atlantic Ocean served as the backdrop for ICRI's 2010 Spring Convention in Myrtle Beach, SC. Extensive committee work, extraordinary technical sessions, energetic exhibitors, and our annual Recognition Luncheon were all a big part of our expanded 3-day event, held April 14-16, at the Myrtle Beach Resort and Spa at Grande Dunes. A big thank you goes out to our intrepid hosts, the Carolinas Chapter, for providing us with a unique glimpse into local flavor and hospitality on Thursday evening. Attendance was once again more than 200, proving the strength and relevance of ICRI is still important to our members and the industry.

The convention began on Wednesday morning with our Visit the Exhibits continental breakfast.

where a full contingent of exhibitors was able to show off the newest products and services to an enthusiastic crowd. The theme of this convention, "Aesthetics in Concrete Repair," allowed for members of the Technical Activities Committee to recruit a variety of concrete repair professionals to address issues such as self-leveling materials, floor moisture issues, surface preparation, colored concrete, and a number of other aesthetic issues. With the expanded schedule, attendees were able to attend the first five technical presentations—including an update on ICRI's Safety Guideline—on the first day with no other scheduled meetings to compete with the presentations.

After that, the Carolinas Chapter welcomed a contingent of golfers to an outing at the beautiful



The Visit the Exhibits continental breakfast on Wednesday morning is the first opportunity for attendees to see what exhibitors have to offer



Wednesday morning and all day Thursday, attendees listened to technical presentations that were put together by ICRI's Technical Activities Committee

Arcadia Shores Golf Club. The fantastic weather cooperated to prove once again why golf is so popular in the region. That evening, the golfers and the rest of the attendees joined together in the exhibit area for the official Welcome Reception. Friends had the opportunity to mingle and chat with each other and the exhibitors before heading off to dinner.

Much of what ICRI does as an industry association comes from the work of the technical and administrative committees. We broaden our reach and expand the industry by working together in



Getting ready to head out to the links are Alex Somohano (left) and Keith Harrison (right)



Students from the Construction Industry Management (CIM) program helping out during the golf outing



The weather was perfect for golf and the golfers were in a great mood

these committees. And it seems a new committee is formed at each convention, drawing in more members to share their expertise. Our two newest committees are ICRI Committee 150, Notes on ACI 562 Code Requirements, which will help ICRI prepare for the release of that ACI document; and 160, Sustainability, designed to help ICRI report on sustainable concrete and masonry repair practices. Drop by the Technical Committee page of the ICRI Web site to see a full list of committees a description of what they are working on right now.



Jim Hadley (left) and Todd Spindler (right) in the exhibit area during the Welcome Reception



(From left to right) Mark de Stefano, Steve Geiger, and Casey Chandler at the Welcome Reception



Starting Thursday morning, attendees participated in both technical and administrative committee meetings

The highlight of the spring convention is the annual Recognition Luncheon. In addition to recognizing the contribution of ICRI's Supporting Members and Past Presidents, ICRI honored its newest Fellow, Garth Fallis. Dale Regnier then handed out the 2009 Chapter Awards, honoring the great work the ICRI Chapters do for their members and the association. Included was the



The Recognition Luncheon on Thursday is the highlight of the spring convention

prestigious Chapter of the Year Award, given to the Baltimore-Washington Chapter, as well as the Most Improved Chapter Award, given this year to the Minnesota Chapter. Past President Randy Beard introduced the 2010 Board of Directors, and then he turned the gavel over to the 2010 ICRI President Chuck Knight. The rest of the afternoon included more committee meetings and the last of the technical sessions.

Thursday's busy schedule concluded with what locals call a "low country boil." Hosted by the Carolinas Chapter, this event, held at the Ocean Club of Grande Dunes, served to introduce many attendees to Frogmore Stew. There was a variety of local seafood, roasted chicken, and fried catfish to sate the biggest of appetites. Attendees enjoyed the beautiful outdoor setting with music by local legends Billy Scott and the Prophets. Dancing, mingling, and certainly a bit of business kept attendees occupied well into the night.

The convention closed Friday afternoon following the final Visit the Exhibits continental breakfast, as well as a full day devoted to committee



(From left to right) Jim Hadley, John Lambert, and Don Ford represented the host chapter at the recognition lunch



ICRI Executive Vice President Kelly Page (left) with ICRI's 2010 President Chuck Knight of Sto Corp. (right)



Chapter leaders from across the country accepted their 2009 Outstanding and Excellent Chapter Awards at the ICRI 2010 Spring Convention. Chapter of the Year for 2009 was the Baltimore-Washington Chapter

meetings. As you can see, ICRI conventions are packed full of interesting activities and entertaining networking opportunities. We hope to see everyone at the ICRI 2010 Fall Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. We'll be at the Omni William Penn Hotel from October 20-22, 2010. The theme for this event is

"Transportation Structures," and you don't want to miss the 2010 Project Awards Banquet and celebration. We are getting things done at ICRI and would like to extend an invitation for you to get involved. Make the most of your membership and come to a convention.



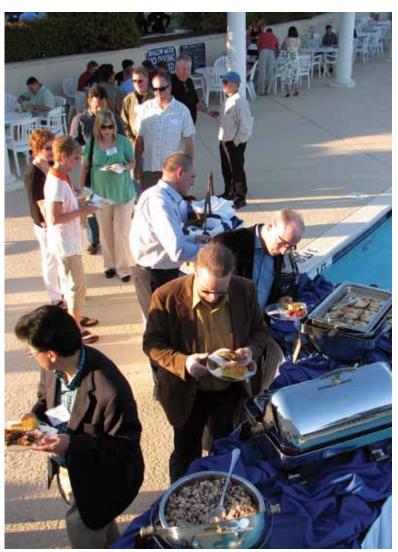
Friends gathered on the patio of the Ocean Club for an evening of food, fun, and music courtesy of the Carolinas Chapter



(From left to right) Randy Beard, Jim McDonald, and Rick Edelson, all Past Presidents of ICRI, found time to chat on the patio



(From left to right) Bill Freeman, Robert Amos, and Jorge Costa enjoyed the setting sun, fantastic food, and networking opportunities



The food buffets featured plenty of food with local flavor



(From left to right) Carolinas Chapter President Jim Hadley with George Arnold and 2010 ICRI President Chuck Knight paused for the camera during the Carolinas Chapter Low Country Boil