

THE ICRI 2014 SPRING CONVENTION

SCENES FROM RENO, NV

BY DALE REGNIER

Soaring mountains served as the backdrop for ICRI's 2014 Spring Convention in Reno, NV. 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 mixture of new and perennial exhibitors, and saw it all come together with the Institute's annual Recognition Luncheon and General Session. This expanded 3-day event, held March 19-21 at the Peppermill Reno Resort, Spa, and Casino, 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.



A sold-out exhibit area gave attendees plenty to look at in the ballroom



This convention featured 12 technical sessions and four special sessions on the ACI 562 Repair Code



INTERNATIONAL
CONCRETE REPAIR
INSTITUTE



INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR

ICRI 2014 SPRING CONVENTION

MARCH 19-21, 2014

PEPPERMILL RENO RESORT • SPA • CASINO
RENO, NV

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 exhibitor space at this event sold out with more than 40 exhibitors willing to share their innovations. The theme of this convention, "Infrastructure Repair," allowed members of the Technical Activities Committee to recruit a variety of industry professionals to address issues such as parking garage repairs, aging infrastructures, engineering evaluation tools, bridge repairs, and preservation issues. The spring schedule allowed attendees to attend 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 dedicated to the ACI 562 Repair Code and how it will affect concrete repair projects.

With no local chapter and the uncertainty of the weather always a concern, ICRI chose bowling as the Wednesday afternoon activity. Almost 40 attendees signed up to participate or watch as we took over a portion of the Grand Sierra Resort bowling alley. Lunch was served and the group broke up into 10 teams of four to see who could roll the best score wearing rented shoes and throwing house balls. The group had a great time competing and just about every strike or spare was met with cheers and applause. Because this was not a competition based solely on skill, prizes were handed out for the two best bowling teams and the two worst bowling teams. When all was said and done, everyone enjoyed the outing.

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 Technical Guidelines 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 visit the Technical Committees page of the ICRI website to view a description of what is being worked on right now.



Bowlers (from left to right) Chris Carscallen, Bryan Smith, Steve Breithaupt, Peter Golter, Jeff Barnes, and Brian MacNeil are ready for the action



Also at the Welcome Reception are (from left to right): Michael Krueger, Kristen Krueger, Jeff Barnes, Ingrid Rodriguez, Alex Barranco, and Thomas Buffington



Bowlers (from left to right) Sean Meracle, Alexandria Prokic, Jessi Meyer, Rae Jean Nicholl, and Jim Fadellin are a bit more relaxed



New to the Exhibit Hall this time are the guys from Terrafuse (from left to right): Steve Breighaupt, Chris Carscallen, and Matt Piekarski



Networking, meeting exhibitors, saying hello to old friends, and great food are all a part of the Welcome Reception



Attendees Matt Eller, David Marofsky, and Jason Coleman are seen enjoying a chat



Enjoying the networking at the Welcome Reception are (from left to right): Myron Kadillak, Jim Bluse, Mark Cunningham, Dave White, and Sebastien Goddard



The student group this spring included (standing from left to right): Michelle Neri and Michelle Ghanine from NJIT and (seated from left to right) Jaymi Hill and Jessica Alexander from CSU



The Recognition Lunch and General Session is usually quite full at the spring convention



Receiving the ICRI Distinguished Service Award from Kevin Michols (right) is Peter Craig (left), honored for his efforts with the Concrete Slab Moisture Testing Certification program



Fellows Committee Chair Kevin Michols (left) welcomes Patrick Winkler (right) as a new Fellow of ICRI



Immediate Past President Bud Earley (left) is thanked for his service by current ICRI President Michael Tabassi (right)

The highlight of the ICRI Spring Convention is the annual Recognition Luncheon and General Session. In addition to recognizing the contribution of ICRI's Supporting Members and its Past Presidents, ICRI honored its newest Fellow, Patrick Winkler, and this year's recipient of the Distinguished Service Award, Peter Craig. Dale Regnier handed out the 2013 Chapter Awards, honoring the great work of ICRI's chapters. Out of the record 24 entries, the esteemed Chapter of the Year Award was given to the Great Plains Chapter and Connecticut won the Most Improved Chapter. To finish the

Luncheon, current ICRI President Michael Tabassi took to the stage to honor immediate Past President Bud Earley and introduced the 2014 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 in downtown Reno as guests were taken to the National Automobile Museum. This museum features the Harrah Collection and offers a "Wow!" factor you don't often find in many museums. There were more than 200 eye-



Car enthusiasts (from left to right): Beth Newbold, Patrick Winkler, Ilene Paul, Jay Paul (seated), Don Ford (back), and Linda Ford



Museum Bash guests (from left to right): Bob Swan, Jim Andrews, and Roky Kriskovic

popping cars in four distinct galleries with authentic street scenes for visitors to take in at their own pace. Set amongst the vehicles were bars, appetizers, and a dinner buffet. At one point, several different period costumes found their way into the group and one or two Board members may have been seen wearing a wide-brimmed red sun hat—no one can say for sure.

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 2014 Fall Convention in Kansas City, MO. We’ll be at the InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza from November 12-14. The theme for this event is “Mega Projects” and you don’t want to miss the 2014 Project Awards dinner 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!



Enjoying the museum reception are (from left to right): Katherine Blatz, Gwynn Stegen, and Brian Iske



Museum guests (from left to right) Karl Rickert, Tim Montgomery, and Scott Harrison



Museum Bash guests (from left to right) Sebastian Goddard, David White, Aamer Syed, and Ken Lozen



Liyang Jiang (left) and Farokh Mehr (right) taking in the museum sights



The women of ICRI gang up on one of ICRI's Past Presidents (from left to right): Ingrid Rodriguez, Connie Mugno, Rick Edelson, Tanya Komasa, and Elena Kessi



Relaxing during the Thursday bash are (from left to right) Kelly Page, Chris Lippmann, Matt Sherman, and Brian Page