

Successful Spring Convention and Moisture Mitigation Seminar

By Kelly M. Page

The energy level surrounding ICRI's 2005 Spring Convention was enormous. The events began with a full-day seminar on Moisture Mitigation and Testing that was attended by over 100 people! The seminar was held on Wednesday, March 2, followed by the traditional ICRI convention on March 3 and 4. All events were held at the beautiful, historic Boston Park Plaza Hotel, Boston, Massachusetts.

The seminar covered a hot topic in our industry today: moisture-related issues in concrete floors. We had several prominent industry experts weigh in with their opinions on moisture causes, testing, and mitigation techniques. The interest in these topics was so great that it spilled over into the convention when, during the meeting of the Coatings and Waterproofing Committee, a subcommittee was formed to address these issues.

Approximately 180 ICRI members, including 28 exhibitors, showed their support for the organization and the industry by enthusiastically participating in the committee meetings and technical sessions. Many of the committee meetings had their highest attendance ever and progress was made

by the administrative committees and technical committees, which made great strides in the documents they are working on. Participation was also excellent at the Education Committee meeting, which is tackling the assembly of ICRI's first education program. (For more details, refer to Tom Ouska's column on page 4.)

The theme for the spring convention was "Corrosion," which made for some very interesting presentations. Twelve speakers gave talks on this subject during three technical sessions spanning Thursday and Friday. All of the technical sessions drew high praise for the quality and content of their presentations.



Over 100 attendees were rapt with attention at the Moisture Testing and Mitigation Seminar



Bill Wittlinger (far left), Bud Earley (second from right), and Curt Marnett (far right), of the Euclid Chemical Company, join ICRI Executive Director Kelly Page (second from left) for some laughs at the Welcoming Reception



ICRI President Elect Dennis Pinelle (left) gets some leadership advice from Past President Jack Morrow (right) at the Welcoming Reception

On Friday afternoon, ICRI's New England Chapter arranged a special tour of a restoration project at Harvard Stadium. Around 25 hardy souls braved the March weather in Boston for a look at this very interesting project.

Whereas attendees kept busy at these ICRI activities, there was also room for some fun. The convention was capped off Friday night by an "Evening at Jillian's," a social outing hosted by the ICRI New England Chapter. Attendees enjoyed a buffet dinner, along with some very competitive pool games at this legendary Boston bar, located in the shadows of famous Fenway Park. As you can

see from the photos, everyone had a great time at this event!

The ICRI conventions are full of interesting activities, as well as many lively (and fun!) networking opportunities. We hope to see you all at the ICRI 2005 Fall Convention, which will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, on November 2-4, 2005. The theme of the convention is "Industrial Repair." In addition to the regular convention activities, we will be honoring the winners of the 2005 ICRI Project Awards at a special dinner. If you've never attended a convention, this fall would be a great time to start!



Convention attendees networking and visiting the exhibits at the Welcoming Reception



ICRI Board Member Chris Olson (standing) gives a presentation at the InterChapter Luncheon and Forum



ICRI Board members Rick Toman (left) and Garth Fallis (right) enjoy the Welcoming Reception



Rick Toman (left) looks on while Jeff Carlson (right) attempts a difficult shot at Jillian's on Friday evening



ICRI's Technical Session, where all the presentations are taped for inclusion on the website www.fixconcrete.org



(Left to right) Brian Davis, Mark Nelson, Charles Idowu, and Scott Suttinger enjoying the evening at Jillian's