

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SLOW-DOWNS? NOT AT ICRI!



RANDY BEARD

The status of the economy is still at the top of our list of concerns, so we were initially cautious and conservative in our projections for 2009. Thankfully, the events of this year have been kind to ICRI. Several forthcoming initiatives show promise and should add value to what ICRI brings to our membership and the restoration industry.

A Certification Committee has been authorized by the ICRI Board of Directors to manage the development of the Floor Moisture Testing Certification Program and the Repair Technician Certification Program. Other programs will be developed or reinvigorated by this committee. The programs, when implemented, will provide substantial value to the organization and improve awareness in other industries.

The Education Committee is currently completing a Guideline Training Program that will be used to update and train individuals and groups in the use of four of our prominent repair guidelines. The program is in its final stages of review for implementation and marketing and will include presentation material, written test questions, and instructor training. Co-Chairs Jeff Carlson and Bud Earley and the entire Education Committee have put in a great deal of effort to develop this program and are to be commended for their efforts.

The Technical Activities Committee (TAC) completed several documents earlier this year that are in the process of being launched. The addition of Jim McDonald as Technical Activities Consultant has been a tremendous help in facilitating

the documents. Kevin Michols, TAC committee members, and the technical committee group should be recognized for the countless hours invested producing these high-quality technical documents for use by the restoration industry.

Financially, the organization remains strong. Overall, revenue is up, even with the poor economy. Revenues from advertising are down 7%, which is expected in this economy, but membership numbers are coming back up to 2008 numbers, just short of 2000 members total. With the implementation of the Floor Moisture Certification Program, you will see significant growth of the organization in 2010.

On the administrative side of things, the Bylaws and Policy Manual are being revised and updated to reflect current activities. Creative Association Management (CAM) is in the third year of its current contract, and an upcoming contract renewal is under review for authorization by the ICRI Executive Committee.

The Chapters Committee is implementing a Chapters Round Table series of meetings that will bring together chapter representatives on a regional basis over a 2-year period. With this close-up involvement directly with chapter officers who do not normally come to national meetings, we hope to maintain a closer relationship with our chapters, provide chapter leadership training, generate additional interest in ICRI, and improve the awareness of what the organization can provide to its membership.

So far, this year has been challenging, but we feel improvements have been occurring and the organization remains strong and is positioned to grow in the future. Enjoy the holidays and thank you all for your continued support.