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CPA NEWSLETTER

Message From The President

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CPA President Murray Pink

It is with great honour that I begin my term as President of the Concrete Precasters Association. Since my introduction to the Board of Directors I've seen the association grow and the services we offer increase. During my time as President I want to see that trend continue.

On behalf of myself, the Board of Directors and the CPA Membership I would like to extend our gratitude to Bill Puddicombe for his service as President for the past two years. An unwavering commitment to producing quality products seemed to be his mandate and his constant reminders encouraged the eventual onsite inspections for the CPA registration program.

He continues to encourage the industry to not accept the status quo and to continue to find ways to improve our already outstanding product. Thank-you Bill.

It was great to see record attendance for our 2008 convention. It's during the convention that I am reminded of the support that our associate members extend to this Association. Their membership, products, services and extensive knowledge are appreciated.

I think that it's fantastic every year to see a group of competitors congregate for the advancement and betterment of the industry. We're always looking for committee volunteers and advice on where you think YOUR association should head. Your comments are always certainly welcome.

It seemed the "Hot Topic" this year was the revision to the CSA standard B66. As stakeholders in this industry I'm glad that many members did not take a passive approach to the proposed changes to this standard. Our members are industry experts in this field and our voices should be heard. A few key members of the Board of Directors brought together by Administrator Brian Hoffman took the

role of organizing our efforts to make our collective voice heard. Our thanks goes to these folks, the members who wrote to CSA and Jeff Bradfield for accepting the role of the CPA Representative on the CSA Committee.

Thank-you to our Administrator, Brian Hoffman and his wife Lesley. Your attention to detail and constant prodding have contributed in no small way to assist in growing and expanding the CPA.

Murray Pink
 President, CPA Ontario



Dave Turner, Tyra and Matt Wilkinson and Bill Wilkinson peruse the exhibits at our 2008 Convention



Former CPA President Bill Puddicombe in his final address as President. Many thanks for your term Bill.

Convention 2008

The 18th Annual CPA Convention was held November 30 - December 2, 2008 at the Sheraton on the Falls in Niagara Falls. Thank you to all delegates for making this yet another successful CPA event.

The Convention began with Sunday evening's Welcome Reception, held among over 25 trade show exhibits showcasing our Associate Members and their products. Finger foods were provided by each Associate Member through a portion of their annual membership fee. As usual, this was a great way to kick-off the Convention, giving delegates the

opportunity to see old friends and network with some new contacts as well.

Monday began with a full breakfast and was followed by the Annual General Meeting. The rest of the morning was rounded out with a presentation on the topic of Lean Manufacturing by Wayne Warwick. Key discussion points included eliminating unnecessary movements and steps in order to increase efficiencies and how to add value without adding cost. The use of effective photographs and practical examples helped to send the mes-



Delegates enjoy our annual Welcome Reception generously hosted by our Associate Members the 18th Annual Convention.

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2008 Convention cont'd



New Board Member Dominic Girotti chats with Tech Committee Vice-Chair Mel Marshall.



Warren Reynolds, a senior representative from the Ministry of Transportation has a very informative and interactive session with CPA members.

sage home. On Monday afternoon we welcomed Warren Reynolds, a representative from the Ministry of Transportation, who spoke about such topics as daily vehicle inspection requirements and cargo securement. Vivid video of what not to do were effective, ensuring that delegates remembered the key messages of safety long after the end of the presentation. Monday's speaker program ended with a presentation by Gordon MacGregor of MacGregor Marketing. Gordon provided an overview of how to work with marketing firms and helped set delegates on the proper path to the marketing of their business. Humorous video clips and real life examples helped to demystify the potentially daunting world of marketing.

Convention delegates reconvened in the evening for cocktails and hors d'ouvres, sponsored by Lafarge North America Cement Group and Mel C. Marshall Industrial Consultants Inc., respectively. Delegates were then escorted into the Great Room for a Banquet dinner, complete with wine supplied by St. Lawrence

Cement. Following the meal, an entertaining comedy and music show was enjoyed by all. Once again, the CPA members did not disappoint as they became as much a part of the show as the performers (and we have the pictures to prove it)! Much appreciation goes to J. McCoy Equipment Ltd. and to Palfinger Inc. for their donations toward the entertainment.

Tuesday morning saw delegates board buses en route to Palfinger Inc. for a tour of their North America Headquarters. Jeff Black and the crew at Palfinger provided delegates with guided tours, the opportunity to ask questions about their cranes, and a presentation about the engineering behind their final product. Delegates were provided with refreshments and gift bags to round out the tour. Following the tour at Palfinger, Robert Nichols and the staff at StelCrete Industries welcomed delegates on a tour of their assembly facility.

Guided tour leaders provided an informative look inside the operations of their 165,000 square foot facility, which produces such products as manhole cages, stair assemblies and 55mm rebar. A highlight of the tour was the Panasonic Tawers™ welding robot, which can weld both carbon and stainless steel rods and wire. Following the tour, delegates were warmly welcomed to an excellent buffet lunch.

Many thanks go to Bionest Technologies Inc. for their generous donation to sponsor the Convention and also for their generosity in donating a Niagara Falls Gift Certificate raffled off during the banquet dinner. Much appreciation also goes to St. Marys Cement and St. Lawrence Cement for their continued hospitality.

Believe it or not, here at the CPA office we are already busy organizing the 19th Annual Convention, which will be held in Guelph. Stay tuned for more details.

Board of Directors and Committee Representation

The CPA is pleased to welcome two new members to its Board of Directors. Dominic Girotti of Hy-Grade Precast was acclaimed to the CPA Board of Director's position of Treasurer. Jeff Stutt of BIK Hydraulics was elected to the position of Associate Member Representative. Both Dominic and Jeff bring a wealth of experience to their roles and the Board of Director's looks forward to working more closely with them.

The CPA is also very happy to welcome Murray Pink of C.J. Pink Ltd. as CPA

Board President. Murray's experience on the Board of Director's for the past several years as well as his extensive experience in the industry will serve him well in this role.

The other members of the CPA Board of Director's includes: Bill Puddicombe, Past President; Murray Aitken, First Vice President; Jason Schoenfeld, Second Vice President; Jim Wilkinson, Standards Committee Chair; Chris Pink, Membership Committee Chair; Dave Turner, Marketing

Committee Chair; Robert Puddicombe, Technical Committee Chair; Judi Maier, Convention Committee Chair; and Brian Weddel, Safety Committee Chair.

The CPA is also pleased to have Stephen Boucher represent the CPA on the Highway Barrier Committee and the Ontario Concrete Pipe Association. The expertise Steve brings to these committees helps to ensure that your voice – the voice of the precast concrete industry – is heard.

2008 Annual General Meeting

The 2008 Annual General Meeting was held on Monday, December 1, 2008. The Honourable Mayor Ted Salci of the City of Niagara Falls warmly welcomed CPA delegates to Niagara Falls.

Chairs of the various committees of the Board of Directors provided members with reports on their respective committees. Membership Committee Chair, Chris Pink, reported that there were 33 manufacturer members and

43 associate members for the year. He noted that we welcomed 1 new associate member in 2008 and that we expect to welcome at least 4 new associate members and 1 new manufacturer member in 2009. In addition,



A group shot after the first tour of the day at Palfinger.



Our second tour brought us to StelCrete where delegates toured their expansive shop floor. Many thanks to both companies for hosting two very well received tours.

2008 Annual General Meeting cont'd

he noted that we have 137 delegates registered for this year's Convention with a total of 22 manufacturer and 34 associate member companies represented.

Treasurer, Jason Schoenfeld, presented the Financial Report for the year ending October 31, 2008. Members were given the opportunity to review the financial statement.

Technical Committee Chair, Robert Puddicombe, acknowledged Bill Wilkin-son, past chair, for his work on the Committee to date and reported that Bill will continue to provide a valuable advisory role on the committee. Among the Tech Committee highlights presented by Robert was the plan to create a Tech Catalogue that will showcase all Tech notes developed by the Committee over the years. Robert also announced the Association's desire to hold a Production School this Spring, voluntarily facilitated by Mel Marshall; please see the back page of this newsletter for more information about the Production School.

Marketing Committee Chair, Dave Turner, reported that the first edition of Tank Talk was sent out in Spring 2008 and was very well received; he noted that some plants requested

additional copies for distribution since the initial mailing. He also informed that the Association has recently engaged a marketing firm to develop an updated image for the association, including associated marketing materials. He noted that this project is currently in progress.

Safety Committee Chair, Brian Weddel, reported that the recent safety audit initiative launched by the CPA to assist members in complying with safety standards has proven successful to date. He reported that his plant has already become involved in this project and that the plant's involvement and associated documentation was seen favourably during a recent WSIB audit. Frank Keegan of Technical Training and Compliance provided more details about the safety audit initiative and informed that for approximately \$1000 per plant, he will conduct a workwell audit, compare the results to the CSA Z1000 standard and help plants bridge the gap between the audit results and the standard to ensure compliance.

CPA Board of Directors President, Bill Puddicombe, addressed the membership. He noted the unfortunate passing of associate member, Ollie Clowe, of Technical Training and Compliance and expressed sympathies to Ollie's

family. On a happier note, he also acknowledged Doug Robinson for his receipt of a lifetime achievement award from ODWA and expressed the CPA's appreciation for Doug's involvement with our association. Bill encouraged all members to be proactive and move the industry forward, particularly during this time where the precast concrete industry finds increased competition from products manufactured with materials other than concrete. He spoke of the need to address corrosion of concrete and confirmed that the CPA Tech Committee will be investigating this issue in the near future. Bill thanked Brian and Lesley Hoffman for their efforts in the Administration of the Association over the past year. He also expressed gratitude on behalf of the Association for all the companies who donated and sponsored portions of this Convention, contributing to its success. Finally, Bill expressed his appreciation for the hard work and support of the members of the Board of Directors during his term.

Brian Hoffman presented Bill Puddicombe with a plaque from the Association expressing gratitude for his dedication to upgrading the quality and standards of our industry in his role as President over the past 2 years.

CPA Registration Program Update

At the Convention, CPA Registration Program Administrator Reg Searles, provided an update on the Registration Program. He informed that the onsite inspections have been very successful and that each manufacturer welcomed and provided Reg with the required information in a cooperative manner.

He shared that all registered companies have now received at

least one onsite inspection. Reg also shared that he has been directed by the CPA Board of Directors to continue onsite inspections and that, except for the initial onsite inspection, future visits will be unannounced.

Reg noted that this spring he will be sending reminder notifications of the June 30 deadline for annual compliance to each plant's engineer as well as the owner and/or manager, in an effort to promote early submissions of annual compliance documentation.

	2005	2006	2007	2008
# tanks registered for annual compliance	75	70	46	40
# manufacturers with tanks registered	19	21	23	23
# of tanks on CPA website	-	-	286	293



Wyevale Precast's Cameron Archer and Mary and Vic Campbell along with Unit Precast's Doug and Rose Robinson enjoy Monday evening's Banquet.



Marian and Rob MacLellan of Moose Creek Cement Products entertain delegates with their onstage antics during the entertainment portion of the 2008 Convention.



The reunion of the "famous" comedy team: The Two Victors! (also known as delegate Vic Campbell and comedian Victor J. Hanson)



The King was in the building! Louis Lefebvre and his entourage entertained all.

CSA B66-05 Update

During the Annual General Meeting, the disbandment of the CSA B66-05 Committee and the subsequent draft amendment to the B66-05 standard was discussed. It was noted that there were currently no representatives from the precast concrete industry on the committee that now oversees B66-05.

Points of interest that would be of great concern to the precast septic industry were presented. As a result, members were encouraged to submit comments to the CSA.

Many members wrote to the CSA noting their concerns with the draft amendment and the lack of industry representation. Subsequent dialogue between the CSA and CPA resulted in an invitation being extended to the Concrete Precasters Association to submit the name of a member who would serve to represent the CPA on this committee.

Jeff Bradfield, President of Anchor Concrete, who has over 25 years of experience in the manufacture of concrete septic tanks and has been a member of many committees and associations representing our industry, was selected to fill the position of the CPA Representative on the B66 Technical Subcommittee. Jeff brings to the table extensive knowledge and passion that will help advocate for the best possible standard. We thank Jeff for taking this role.

Mr. Bradfield attended CSA meetings in January including the B66 Technical Subcommittee meeting to discuss changes to the standard. The CPA's concerns with the draft amendment as well as the many letters that were submitted from various members were discussed.

We await the results of this effort.

Points TO Ponder

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again. Then quit. There's no point in being a damn fool about it.

W.C. Fields

You may not realize it when it happens, but a kick in the teeth may be the best thing in the world for you.

Walt Disney

Common sense in an uncommon degree is what the world calls wisdom.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things.

Peter F. Drucker

Pretty women make us buy beer, ugly women make us drink beer.

Al Bundy

If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf.

Bob Hope

I am free of all prejudices. I hate everyone equally.

W.C. Fields

Why pay a dollar for a bookmark? Why not use the dollar for a bookmark?

Steven Spielberg

I've had a wonderful time, but this wasn't it.

Groucho Marx

Let's get those Annual Compliance reports in early this year people!

Reg Searles

News In Brief

Last Chance to Register for Production School!

In January, a flyer about the upcoming Productions School was sent to all Manufacturer Members to inform that we will hold a Production School on April 8th, 2009 in the Mississauga area. Mel Marshall, P.Eng, has offered, once again, to conduct this school for the CPA. Topics include: Reinforcement, Concrete/SCC, Pre-Pour, Release Agents, Blockouts, Consolidation and Curing. The cost is \$100/person and includes a continental breakfast, lunch and refreshments throughout the day. The day begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at approximately 4:00 p.m. There is still a few seats available for this event, so be sure to contact us as soon as possible to enroll. This event is not offered every year; it is only held when there is a sufficient number of individuals interested in attending, meaning that it may be two to three years before it is offered again. Call or email the CPA office to register or find out more details: info@cpaontario.com or 1-866-853-0310.

The 2009 Registration Program annual compliance deadline is June 30, 2009. As usual, Reg welcomes early submissions. This year, to facilitate timely submissions, Reg will be sending reminder notices to manufacturers as well as their respective engineers. Please contact Reg Searles with any questions about your annual compliance: 905.274.2804 email: peggy.searles@sympatico.ca

Onsite Inspections: Thank you once again to all manufacturers enrolled in the Registration Program for welcoming Reg Searles as he visited your plant for an onsite inspection. All plants have had an inspection, enhancing the credibility of this program. As mentioned at the Convention in Niagara Falls, all subsequent onsite inspections will be unannounced. We thank everyone in advance for their cooperation with Reg's visits.

The 2009 Membership Handbook will be printed soon! Please ensure we have your updated ad no later than March 31, 2009. A copy of your 2008 ad was sent out for your review with your membership invoice. Thank you to everyone who has already submitted your approval or revisions.

Be sure to check your company's listing on our website at www.cpaontario.com. To make changes to your listing, simply email our webmaster Nick Hooper at nick@123web.ca. Please copy the CPA office at info@cpaontario.com so we can ensure we have your updated info as well.

19th Annual CPA Convention will be held in Guelph. As usual, we will hold the Convention in late November. We are pleased that Dave Turner of Acton Precast Concrete has invited delegates on a tour of his plant. This Convention is sure to be another successful, informative event. Look for more details this spring.