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CARLSON'S GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR STAIRWAY REPLACEMENT

By: Christopher Carlson

Many residential and commercial buildings and/or parking garages have stairways that are partially or fully exposed to the elements. It's a given that exposed steel stairs will corrode, wood stairs will decay, and concrete stairs will deteriorate as water reacts over time with the structural components. At some point, replacement or major repairs will be necessary.

see Stairway - page 5



Sixth Annual ICRI-BWC Project Awards

The Baltimore Washington Chapter hosted its yearly project awards program on November 4th, 2010 at the Holiday Inn College Park, MD. More than 80 people attended this year's awards program. This year's program featured unique projects completed within the last year.



see Wrap-Up - page 10

2010 Fall Technical Seminars



On Thursday, December 2, 2010, The ICRI Baltimore/Washington D.C. chapter held the 2010 Fall Technical Seminar at Concrete Protection & Restoration's warehouse.

see Seminars - page 11

SPONSORS

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SEE PAGE 4 FOR A LIST
OF OUR SPONSORS

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR A GREAT PRESENTATION
ON THE WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE.

February 3, 2011
Holiday Inn, College Park, MD

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Business Card Service Directory

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ICRI-Baltimore Washington Sponsors

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ICRI MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the International Concrete Repair Institute is to be a leading resource for education and information to improve the quality of repair, restoration, and protection of concrete and other structures in accordance with consensus criteria.

ICRI is an organization composed of Engineers, Consultants, Contractors, Manufacturers and other Material Suppliers, Property Managers and Owners all working together for the betterment of the industry and of all involved. Providing an open forum to speak about our work, new technologies and methods, exchange ideas.

Creating and following standards to produce the best results for all involved.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome to a new year and an exciting 2011 agenda with ICRI-BWC. Thanks to the membership for entrusting the chapter's helm to myself and the Board for the year. We are honored to follow in the footsteps of so many of our industry's leaders. When you see them, please thank our outgoing board members, Larry Genovere and Eric Rigsbee for a job well done and welcome our newly elected directors, Sean Fisher, Brian Greene, Brian McCabe, and Neil Savitch. We also recognize Matt Nachman, our past president, for his outstanding leadership during 2010. This year we plan to build on the momentum and successes of the past several years and continue with many of our key programs. Our goals for the year are:

- Retain the Chapter of the Year status
- Grow the chapter membership and attendance at meetings
- Increase chapter sponsorship
- Complete our chapter history documentation and the chapter history webpage
- Finish the chapter incorporation process in compliance with the IRS

At the end of last year we implemented a new committee with the goal to achieve Chapter of the Year status on a continual basis. Marty Fischer and Oscar Valenzuela will be looking for opportunities throughout the year to improve our standing in this annual acknowledgement.

Currently the chapter is at an all time high in membership thanks to you and the dedication of Mike Prizzi and his membership committee. In 2010 our chapter sponsorship program was so successful that in 2011 we plan to provide additional student and industry scholarships. The sponsorships have also allowed us to broaden our Chapter's outreach to the community through projects at Carver Vocational Technical High School in Baltimore, Habitat for Humanity in Garrett County, and the

Gospel Rescue Mission in Washington, DC. Please watch for upcoming announcements from Pat O'Malley and Mike Miller related to these worthy projects and for an opportunity to be involved in giving back to the community.

Cindy Garman has been working hard to compile our Chapter Archives and expects to be finished this year. Watch the website for future additions to the chapter history page. Jay Whitton was tasked with meeting the mandate from ICRI National that all chapters be incorporated in compliance with IRS regulations. He is nearly finished with this challenging process.

Tom Ouska, Programs Chair, has been working diligently to amass an informative and interesting compilation of speakers and topics for the year. We lead off the year with our February meeting, which will again be a joint ACI/ICRI event at the College Park Holiday Inn with a discussion of several challenges that were overcome on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project. We look forward to seeing you there.

We always have opportunities for volunteers on our technical committees. To become involved, feel free to contact any committee chair. Neil Savitch is constantly searching for articles to print in the Aggregate. Please send him all items that you would like to have published so that we can continue to educate the membership in accordance with the ICRI Mission Statement.

Please check our website www.icribwchapter.org for the calendar of events for the year and for contact information of the current Board of Directors. We want your input so that we can continue to meet the needs of the membership as well as allow us to thrive as the leading and largest chapter in ICRI. On behalf of me and the Board we look forward to working with you this year and are honored to have been entrusted with these positions.

Chris Carlson

Engineering and Technical Consultants, Inc.

THE BALTIMORE WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF ICRI

Thursday, February 3, 2011
Holiday Inn College Park
10000 Baltimore Blvd.
College Park, MD
301-345-6700

Exit 25 (Baltimore Blvd. North US 1) off Beltway
Hotel on Left



ICRI - ACI
FEB 2011
JOINT
DINNER
MEETING



Advance Reservations by 01-27-11:	\$50
After 01-27-11 & Non Members:	\$60
4:00	Board Meeting
5:30	Social Hour
6:30	Dinner & Presentation

USE OF CONCRETE FOR DESIGN SOLUTIONS ON THE WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE

OUR FEATURED SPEAKER

Ronaldo T. "Nick" Nicholson, P.E., Chief Engineer
District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT)

Ronaldo "Nick" Nicholson was appointed Chief Engineer with DDOT in April 2010 and is an Adjunct Professor of Civil Engineering at George Mason University. Prior to that Mr. Nicholson served as the Regional Transportation Program Director in charge of VA MegaProjects Program as well as the Project Manager for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Improvement Project. These projects are recognized as some the largest and most complex ongoing transportation infrastructure projects in the nation.

At VDOT, Nick also served as the NoVA District Structural and Bridge Engineer and the Assistant Resident Engineer for Preliminary Engineering and Construction. Under Mr. Nicholson's leadership, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project and VDOT received the 2009 IBC Gustav Lindenthal Medal, 2008 ASCE Opal Award and the 2008 AASHTO America Transportation Award.

Mr. Nicholson holds a Master of Science in Structural Engineering from George Washington University in Washington, DC, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Kansas. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Virginia and the District of Columbia, while currently serving as a member of the AASHTO Standing Committee on Highways and Structure and Bridge Subcommittee, Transportation Research Board and ASCE.

OUR FEATURED PRESENTATION



The presentation will focus on challenges which included, poor soils, aggressive schedule, construction access, esthetics, standardization, etc. and how the project team found design/construction solutions to address these issues while maintaining schedule, budget, and expectations for quality.

- Concrete Design Solutions
- Concrete Solutions for Ground Improvement
- Design/Construction Techniques for Aggressive Construction Schedules
- Bridge/Noise Wall Aesthetics
- QA/QC Techniques for Mega Projects

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS January 27, 2011

NO-SHOWS WILL BE BILLED

Please email (oscarv@skaengineers.com) or print this page and fax to **Oscar Valenzuela**, Secretary, at 301-881-8066 no later than January 27, 2011. Checks to ICRI BWC may be turned in at the meeting or mailed with your form to:

Oscar Valenzuela, Secretary
ICRI BW Chapter
C/O Smislova, Kehnemui & Associates
12505 Park Potomac Avenue, Suite 200
Potomac, MD 20854

**You may also register and
pay online at**

www.ICRIBWChapter.org

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Number of Guests:	_____ Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Online
(Please include receipt)	
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Stairway

continued from page 1

When considering replacement of deteriorated and unsafe stairways, there are two primary factors to take into account – the need to maintain access during construction and the composition/configuration of the replacement assembly. Often, the issue of access is the more complex and costly consideration, particularly if the stairs provide the only means of access and egress. For example, eliminating, even temporarily the only access to residential units is not an option without some accommodation to the affected occupants. That could be a form of temporary access or relocation while the stairs are out of service. There may be more latitude with commercial properties when work can be performed while businesses are closed.



Erecting temporary stairs can present a major challenge. The stairs must not only provide access, they must also allow the repair/replacement work to proceed. It goes without saying that they also have to be safe (stable, easily negotiable, fitted with hand and guardrails, etc.).

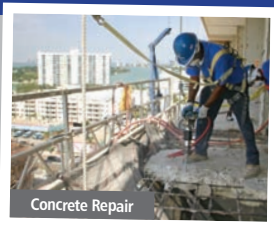
The issue of accessibility during repairs should be considered when choosing a repair strategy. As an example, many stairs in this region consist of manufactured assemblies that incorporate steel carriages, risers and forms for concrete treads. They would be installed and concrete would be placed in tread forms. A major drawback to that type of stair is that water will readily penetrate the concrete and corrode the steel. Repairs to those stairs often entail removal and replacement of deteriorated concrete which must cure before the stairs can be used.

One maintenance and repair-friendly alternative would be to remove and replace the assemblies or modify them to accept drop-in-treads. The stringers/carriages would be fitted

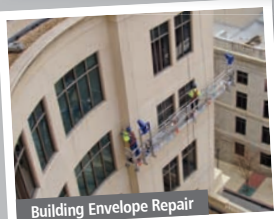
see Stairway - page 6

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BALTIMORE • WASHINGTON

Stairway

continued from page 5



with brackets, onto which precast treads would be attached by embedded fasteners. Replacement of damaged treads in that instance would take a few minutes and would not necessitate taking the stairs out of service for any period beyond that.

Replacing the stairs can be a logistical challenge. Owners have to weigh their options with regard to temporarily displacing tenants/ residents to allow the stairway to be closed for several days versus the increased costs associated with constructing temporary stairways to allow the occupants to remain in their units during the week.

When considering access, several questions must be answered before the design process begins. How long can the stairways be out of service? Do the stairs provide a primary means of egress? Is it less expensive to temporarily relocate the affected people to a hotel during the work than to install a temporary stairway? Are there any medical conditions of residents that could affect the project and the need for access? When is the best time of day or day of the week to close the stairs? Is there physically enough room to provide temporary access to the building? Answers to these questions will help further define the project constraints that must be considered.



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SPONSORSHIP

ICRI-BWC STILL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

In 2010, we raised \$15,300 with the help of our SPONSORS! Our thanks goes out to them!

It is time to start our 2011 Sponsorship Drive!

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!

The money we raise will provide increased exposure for sponsoring companies to our local and national members and, in addition, provide an additional revenue source to expand and enhance the member service program of our chapter. So, PLEASE -

BECOME A SPONSOR!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

WWW.ICRIBWCHAPTER.ORG

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Industry Recognition
- Peer Networking
- Concrete Repair Bulletin and the Aggregate
- Technical Support
- Discounted Pricing for Publications

These are just some of the reasons for becoming a member of ICRI and the Baltimore Washington Chapter.

BECOME A MEMBER!

Despite some tough challenges with the economy the Baltimore/Washington Chapter of ICRI has been able to increase our membership over the last 6 months. Our increase in membership can be attributed to dedication of all the individuals and companies who continue to support our local chapter. Take note that renewal of your current membership is annual and that you will receive a reminder to renew several months in advance of expiration. If you know of anyone or any company who is interested in ICRI, have them contact a board member or myself so that we can guide them through the membership process OR encourage them to attend a dinner meeting. We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Mike Prizzi

Membership Chairman

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SAFETY COLUMN

Plan to Stay Warm during Cold Weather Operations

Regardless of attempts to prove or disprove "Global Warming", when I go outside to work during the winter months I am sure of one thing... It's freakin' cold out! Although most people know the basics when it comes to the hazards of exposure to cold weather, there are some key points that never hurt reviewing when planning cold weather work.

The three most common cold induced problems in the construction industry are *Trench foot*, *Frostbite*, and *Hypothermia*.

Trench foot is considered less severe than frostbite. Typically resulting from cold, wet feet and usually described as a tingling, itching, or burning sensation. If you have ever had it you know it can be painful. Soak your feet in water, wrap them in dry bandages or dry socks and if possible drink a warm, sugary drink.

Frostbite is what happens to skin when it freezes. Avoid exposing skin to temperatures at or below 30°F. Wind does play a roll in determining the exposure temperature. Temperatures can get below 30°F quickly with just a little help from the wind.

Wind Speed	Temperature (°F)			
calm	40°	30°	20°	10°
5 MPH	37°	27°	16°	6°
10 MPH	28°	16°	4°	-9°
15 MPH	22°	9°	-5°	-18°

Hypothermia is related to a person's "core body temperature". If the core body temperature drops to 95°F or below, the onset of symptoms will begin. This temperature may be important to a nurse or doctor, but I can assure you in the field, you are not going to put a thermometer were it has to go to obtain this measurement. Here's a clue - It's not your mouth. Instead, train employees and field managers to spot the signs and symptoms of Hypothermia. Shivering, loss of coordination, slurred speech, and fumbling with items in the hands are the first signs. All employees should be trained to identify those key factors and report them to their supervisor.

Field Managers should be aware of other variables that affect a person's ability to generate heat. Age, physical condition, tobacco, alcohol, caffeine, illicit drug use and even medications including anti-depressants, sedatives and tranquilizers can have a negative affect. Do not allow employees who are displaying signs and symptoms to continue working with out checking on them.

OSHA recommends employers consider these steps when planning for cold weather work:

Engineering Controls

1. Shield work areas from drafts or wind.
2. Use radiant heaters to warm work area. Monitor Carbon Monoxide levels.
3. Use insulating materials on tools and equipment handled by workers, especially metal handles.

Administrative Controls

1. Drink plenty of liquids – avoid caffeine and alcohol. Dehydration is common in cold weather.
2. Adjust the work schedule to perform heavy work in the warmer parts of the day.
3. Take breaks out of the cold.
4. Consume warm, high calorie foods such as pasta to maintain energy reserves.
5. Work in pairs and watch for signs and symptoms of cold stress.

Protective Clothing

1. Wear Layers – 1st layer should be synthetic or wool and able to wick away moisture from the skin. Avoid cotton as it will not insulate when moist or wet. Dry skin is key; I apply talcum powder to my feet and body before I put on my clothes. Layers should have space to trap warm air between them while also allowing ventilation and evaporation of sweat. Clothing should range in size from one layer to the next just to avoid a tight fit.
2. Keep the head, hands, and feet warm and dry. If any of these three get cold it will soon become the only thing you can think about. Bottom line, get the best protection you can for these body parts. I assure you the stuff will pay for itself many times over.
3. Keep a change of dry clothing and boots in the car in case you become wet.
4. Wear insulated boots or other footwear. An *insulated insole* will provide an additional layer of protection from cold surfaces. If possible, avoid wearing boots with steel toes or steel shanks.

To this day I am still reminded by family, friends, and co-workers how to dress for the cold. I used to feel insulted. Now I see things differently. In the field it is a good thing to look out for each other. Don't take a fellow co-worker's advice or observation as an insult. Sometimes it is hard to admit we are cold when we are too busy being tough.

For more information or to recommend a topic for a future publication contact me at d.p.cable@gmail.com



LEGAL COLUMN

Be Alert When Contracting with A Religious Congregation in Virginia

By Jennifer Mahar

Entering into a contract with a religious congregation for a construction project located in Virginia requires increased vigilance on your part to ensure that the representatives with whom you are dealing are legally authorized to contractually bind the religious congregation. VA Code § 57-15 requires the trustees of a religious congregation to obtain a court order authorizing them to encumber or improve the religious organization's land before entering into a construction contract. Without this court order, the trustees lack legal authority to encumber the religious congregation's real estate, and therefore have no authority to contractually bind the religious congregation for payment of construction on the congregation's real estate.

The easiest method for determining whether the trustees of a religious congregation have complied with VA Code § 57-15 is to request the trustees to provide a certified copy of the court order. The trustees must obtain this order from the Virginia circuit court in the jurisdiction where the real estate is located. The court will only grant the order upon evidence that it is the religious congregation's wish that the improvements be made.

Entering into a contract with a religious congregation that has failed to comply with the requirements of Va. Code § 57-15 can create serious consequences for you. First, the contract will be invalid and unenforceable against the religious congregation. Should the religious congregation fail to make payment, you will be barred from asserting a breach of contract claim. You will instead have to rely on an equity claim of quantum meruit for the reasonable value of the performed work which may not be successful in court.

Second, your right to secure contract payment via Virginia mechanics' lien statute is jeopardized. Virginia law requires that you possess a valid contract in order to secure the protection of a mechanics' lien. If your contract with the religious congregation is invalid under Virginia law, you likely cannot enforce a mechanics' lien against the religious congregation's property.

Do you have a legal issue you would like addressed in a future newsletter? Send me an email with your question to jmahar@smithpachter.com or contact me at 703-847-630



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sean Fisher
Cindy Garman
Mike Prizzi
Mike Miller
Dan Anagnos

Marty Fischer
Brian Greene
Neil Savitch
Brian McCabe

Upcoming Chapter Events

- Feb. 3, 2011** ICRI-BWC/ACI Joint Dinner Meeting
*Holiday Inn,
College Park, MD*
- May 5, 2011** ICRI-BWC 2nd Quarter Dinner Mtg.
- Sept. 8, 2011** ICRI-BWC 3rd Quarter Dinner Mtg.
- Oct. 6, 2011** ICRI-BWC 2011 Golf Tournament
*Glenn Dale Golf Club
Glenn Dale, MD*
- Nov. 3, 2011** ICRI-BWC Annual Awards Banquet
- Dec. 1, 2011** ICRI-BWC Fall Technical Seminars

Upcoming National Events

- Mar. 15-18, 2011** ICRI 2011 Spring Convention
Expanded 3-Day Event!
Theme: TBD
*The Westin Galleria, Houston
Houston, TX*
- Oct. 12-14, 2011** ICRI 2011 FALL CONVENTION
Theme: TBD
*The Westin Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH*
- April 18-20, 2012** ICRI 2012 SPRING CONVENTION
Theme: TBD
*Hilton, Quebec
Quebec, QC, Canada*
- Nov. 7-9, 2012** ICRI 2012 FALL CONVENTION
Theme: TBD
*Rancho Las Palmas Resort and Spa
Rancho Mirage, CA*

4TH QUARTER MEETING WRAP-UP

continued from page 1

Listed below are the winners:

1st Place – Concrete Protection & Restoration Inc. for their work on the “National Archives Self-Closing Flood Barriers and Loading Dock Turntable Removal” project. Details of the project were presented by Steve Royer.



2nd Place - Restoration East for their work on the Comfort Inn Parking Garage in Arlington, VA. The project was presented by Scott Harrison.



3rd Place - C.A. Lindman, Inc. for their work on the “Bryant Denny Stadium Seating Bowl Repairs” at the University of Alabama. Details were presented by Jay Whitton.



Each award winner had time to showcase their project, what challenges they incurred and what made their project a success.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Baltimore-Washington Chapter is looking for volunteers to help clean-up the exterior of the Gospel Rescue Mission in Washington D.C. Work will begin in the spring of 2011.

Please contact Mike Miller with with Structural Preservation Systems at either mmiller@structural.net or 410-796-5000, if you would like to help.

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2010 FALL TECHNICAL SEMINARS

continued from page 1

This was the final event for the Baltimore Washington Chapter for 2010. The theme of the event was Historic Restoration & Preservation and the seminar was cosponsored by The Association for Preservation Technology - DC Chapter.

The full day seminar was well attended with over 90 design professionals, contractors, material representatives and owners. The Chapter also sponsored 4 students and their instructor from Carver High School. Some of the presentation topics included "Restoration of Historic Concrete Structures", "Natural Cement as a Restoration Material", "Evaluation and Identification of Moisture Issues in Historic Masonry Structures" and several case studies related to historic restoration. A hands-on demonstration was also held that showed how various restoration products can be used. It was a wonderful educational and social event with a great barbecue beef and chicken lunch at mid-day.



Kelly Whitton, APT-DC President



Denis McMullan, P.E., McMullan & Associates



Students from Carver High School



Dennis Rude, Cathedral Stone



David Fyffe, P.E.
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