

# IRMCA NEWS



Volume 20, Number 2

August 2001

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## President Flynn Encourages Member Participation

Hello Members!

Here we are four months into my tenure as your president of IRMCA. If you haven't noticed, your association is off to a very fast start this year. The committees are hard at work planning the programs and seminars that make up the framework of our great association.

I want to re-emphasize the tremendous amount of time and effort that all of the staff, committee chairs, and committee members put in to provide you, the members, with information pertinent to our industry. I encourage all of you to support the work they do and try to attend as many of these programs and outings as possible.

Our Summer Meeting has come and gone with the best attendance to date. It was a great opportunity to catch up with old



friends and find out what is going on in the state as well as the association. The camaraderie and relaxed atmosphere provided for a sizzling summer program.

I urge you all to mark your calendars for September 11th. This is our next scheduled event, the Scholarship Golf Outing held at WeaverRidge in Peoria. I hope to see you all there.

I wish you all a prosperous summer.

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## Susan Harwood Grant Allows IRMCA to Provide Safety Training

The IRMCA staff and Safety Committee are currently in the process of applying for a grant renewal of our Susan Harwood Training Grant. This grant was presented to IRMCA for the purpose of training the trainers and the employees in the construction industry. The training sessions are *Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness*, *Silica*, and an OSHA 10-hour course that addresses concrete burns, hand signaling, material

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Executive Director's Update

### Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association

**Officers**

Paul Flynn,  
President

Dan Edwards,  
Vice President

Mark Blager,  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Monte Bartels,  
Past President

**Directors**

John Albinger  
Tim Huiner

Dan Kuehler  
Bill Marcordes

Lou Marcy  
Dennis Odewaldt  
Joyce Raspolich

**Staff**

Lisa Knutsen,  
Executive Director

Bruce Grohne,  
Field Director

Jennifer Bedell,  
Administrative

Assistant  
Nikko Santiago,  
Secretary



*working together to  
create value, teach  
excellence, and  
produce quality*

We got off on a slow start with this year's Susan Harwood safety grant but are gaining momentum now!. A lot of time, energy and research has gone into developing a curriculum and finding the qualified presenters and facilities in the selected locations. I want to thank the Safety Committee and the IRMCA staff for all of their hard efforts and voluntary time given to date on the development of this important training program.

Also, the IRMCA Membership Committee and office staff have developed a program for our latest "Contractor" membership category. Dues will be mailed to prospective contractors at year's end, along with producer, associate and affili-

ate dues. Contractor members will receive a notebook that includes valuable articles on concrete practices, our directory, and our newsletter, in which they will be encouraged to place ads. As our contractor membership develops, we will also include them in our directory. Next year, IRMCA also hopes to establish meetings for the contractors.

The IRMCA Web site is still down and will be for some time for a total revamping. The hope for the Web site is to not only reflect our calendar of events, but to encourage producers, associates and affiliates to display ads that will provide automatic links to their Web

*(Continued on page 13)*

*(Susan Harwood Grant continued)*

handling, excavation, construction equipment, and more. We have currently established a tentative training schedule for each segment of the training. This schedule is subject to revision and will be confirmed in future mailings and newsletters. Locations will also be confirmed at that time.

Topic	Location	Date
Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness	Edwardsville, IL	11/26/01
Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness	Decatur, IL	11/28/01
Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness	Joliet, IL	11/30/01
Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness	Moline, IL	12/10/01
Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness	Rockford, IL	12/12/01
Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness	Palatine, IL	12/14/01
Silica (Video Conference Presentation)	Edwardsville, Decatur, Joliet	1/14/02
Silica (Video Conference Presentation)	Moline, Rockford, Palatine	1/15/02
OSHA 10 Hour	Joliet	2/4/02
OSHA 10 Hour	Decatur	2/6/02
OSHA 10 Hour	Edwardsville	2/8/02
OSHA 10 Hour	Palatine	2/11/02
OSHA 10 Hour	Rockford	2/13/02
OSHA 10 Hour	Moline	2/15/02

## Field Director's Update

Wow! Do you have any idea how big the state of Illinois is? When I joined IRMCA, the board directed me to "get out & get known". Well, four months and 20,000 miles later I am just getting started! I've visited 70 plus plants, met batchmen, drivers, office staff and, oh yes, occasionally I have even met with IRMCA members. I have attended promotional meetings from Aurora to Edwardsville, visited and exchanged ideas with ready mix associations from neighboring states, participated in board meetings and committee meetings, and met with members to discuss specific concerns. I attended the ACPA-IL convention, met with the Concrete Industry Alliance group, witnessed two contractor appreciation seminars and much, much more.

I want to thank all the producer members who have welcomed me on board. Of all the concerns expressed and ideas shared, the ones I have heard most frequently are: safety/insurance issues; the need to be kept up to date on new product development; ways to become better "partners in quality" with our contractor customers;

and, of course, the need to expand the market for concrete.

I am pleased to report that IRMCA committees and staff are currently addressing these issues and others as well. Questions on safety issues should be directed to the Safety Committee, Steve Metz, Chairman. They are well prepared to meet your concerns. Be assured that as we receive information, it will be forwarded to you immediately. We are clarifying and implementing our newest member classification—Contractor. We are progressing on the assumption that the better trained and more competent our contractors are and the more they understand the complexities of our product, the better everyone's opportunities will be to sell more concrete. We are also working on a program, in cooperation with the Concrete Industry Alliance, that will bring our producers into closer contact with the "decision makers" of their villages, cities and counties. Opportunities in these areas are huge. These and many other avenues of service to the membership are being pursued daily.

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## Board of Directors Changes

At our 2001 Annual Convention in Tucson, Arizona, new board members were introduced. Past President Monte Bartels announced the appointment of: Paul Flynn of Flynn Ready Mix, Galena, Illinois, as President; Daniel Edwards of Edwards Ready Mix, Geneseo, Illinois, as Vice President; Mark Blager of Champaign Builders, Champaign, Illinois, as Secretary/Treasurer. New directors are Dennis Odewaldt of Prairie Construction Materials, Peoria, Illinois; Tim Huiner of Batavia Concrete, Inc., Batavia, Illinois; and

Dan Kuehler of Master Builders, St. Louis, Missouri. Their experience and perspectives will certainly enhance the Board of Directors.

Several board members completed their terms in 2000. These departing members faithfully devoted their time on the board and contributed to IRMCA's success. They are Jay Nolan of Meyer Material, Jim Amundsen of W. R. Grace, and Marty Ozinga of Ozinga Brothers. They will be missed.

## IRMCA Welcomes New Members

**Century Concrete**  
1130 W. Locust  
Canton, IL 61520  
(309) 647 - 3700  
Joe Davis, Partner  
*Product: Ready Mixed Concrete*

**Coulter Construction Company**  
4700 N. Sterling Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61614  
(309) 676-4893  
Ron L. Edwards, President  
*Service: Concrete Paving*

**Illinois Aggregate Equipment**  
1019 E. 143<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Plainfield, IL 60544  
(815) 254-8158  
John Jacob, President  
*Product: New & used equipment, sales and service Rexcon plants & pavers, Gunter & Zimmerman, Lippman-crushers, Lico Conveyors, C & W Dust Collectors*

**Midwest Ltd.**  
P.O. Box 4473  
Rock Island, IL 61204-4473  
(309) 788-2861  
Ed Bauersfeld, President  
*Product & Services: Concrete pumping, Laser Screen Rental*

IRMCA is grateful for the below listed associate reception sponsors

**(Gold)**

CEMEX

Continental Cement Company

Dixon-Marquette Cement Company

Essroc Italcementi Group

Holnam, Incorporated

Illinois Cement Company

Lafarge Corporation

Lehigh Portland Cement Company

Lone Star Industries, Incorporated

River Cement Company

W.R. Grace Company

**(Silver)**

Industrial Systems, Limited

Vulcan Materials

**(Bronze)**

Bidco Fibre

Schwing America, Incorporated

## IRMCA Safety Film Library Now Available

The IRMCA Safety Committee hopes that part of your ready mix season involves safety awareness training. If you are planning a company safety meeting, you might want to consider the following safety films as resources: *VIP Chute Safety* (5.5 minutes), *Preventing Truck Rollovers* (8.5 minutes), *Truck Mixer Lock Out* (11 minutes), *Back to Lifting Basics for the R.M. Driver* (9 minutes), *NRMCA Driver Safety* (23 minutes), *How to Avoid a Bad Scene* (accident investigation-5.5 minutes), *Ready Mix Driver Safety* (53 minutes), and *Operating a Mixer in the Safety Zone* (28

minutes). They are available at no cost; all we ask is that they be requested for a specific use and returned immediately following their use.

In addition to this, if you have not yet used the "Coaching the Ready Mixed Concrete Truck Driver" course with your people, it is highly recommended. If you do not already have the program, contact Top Driver-FLI, Inc. at (609) 466-9000 to purchase the course and a workbook for each of the drivers you will train. We wish you a safe ready mix season!

### Free Personnel-related Posters

Information obtained from Association HELPS

#### Illinois

**(Illinois Department of Labor/217-492-4060)**

"Notice to Employer and Employee" (state wage, overtime,...)  
"Child Labor Act"

**(Illinois Department of Labor/312-793-2800)**

"Workers' Compensation Notice to Employees"

**(Illinois Department of Labor/312-793-4880)**

"Notice to Workers About Unemployment Insurance Benefits"

#### Federal

**(E.E.O.C./800-669-3362)**

"Equal Employment is the Law" (OFCCP-1420; US EEO Commission; for employers of 15 or more employees)  
"Age Discrimination Poster" (GPO 871177; for employers with 20 or more employees)

**(U.S. Department of Labor/217-492-4060)**

"Your Rights Under the Fair Labor Standards Act" (WH-1088)  
"Notice-Employee Polygraph Protection Act" (WH-1462)  
"Your Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993" (WH-1420; for employers with 50 or more employees within a 75 mile radius)

**O.S.H.A./312-353-2220**

"Job Safety and Health Protection" (OSHA 2203/200; 312-353-2220)

## Improved Operating Permit

During the IRMCA Short Course in January, it became evident that many producers were previously unaware of the existence of our recently formed Environmental Committee. In addition, most of the producers present at the Short Course were not aware of the new generation IEPA air emissions operating permit developed through the extraordinary efforts of the Environmental Committee. The end result is an operating permit that is a quantum leap ahead of the previous permit.

The improved permit provides the following: production of 480,000 cubic yards of concrete annually; lifetime coverage (no permit renewal required); and construction of (without a separate construction permit) 14 silos, 3 weigh hoppers &

mixers, 15 conveyer transfer systems, 3 separate truck loading systems, and 4 water heaters and/or boilers.

The permit requires nothing additional of you, though it gives you the relative anonymity of having a permit identical to hundreds of other Illinois batch plants. While older permits sometimes have unique compliance requirements, which only invite attention from the EPA, nothing in your new permit will be different from the operating conditions of other plants having this same permit. If you do not have the new permit and would like to apply for one, contact either the Illinois EPA Bureau of Air (217-782-2113) or any Environmental Committee members.

### Become an IRMCA Associate Reception Sponsor

The first Associate-sponsored Reception was held at the Eagle Ridge Summer Meeting and provided cocktails and hors d'oeuvres for all meeting participants. Sponsor signs were displayed at the entrance and the bar. All present had a great time!

The opportunity to sponsor these events is still available. You can either contact the IRMCA office for a form or send a check for the level of sponsorship you select: bronze (\$100), silver (\$250), or gold (\$500).

### **\$49,500 each** Five 1995 OSHKOSH S-2146 FRONT DISCHARGE MIXERS



Cummins L-10-300 Engines, Allison HT-740 Automatic Transmissions, Oshkosh 21,000 lb driving front axle, Rockwell RT-46-160P, 46,000 lb tandem axles, 32' Illinois Spec Bridge Formula "Load Span" with 72" spread tandem axles, 11 yard mixers with Hydraulic Power Chutes, Drum Start/Stop, 150 gallon aluminum Water Tanks, Air Flip Hoppers, Piggyback Chute Cylinder, ZF Drum Drive, High Back Cloth Seats

**\*All Maintenance Records Available\***

**\*Quantity Discounts Available\***

Contact Dan Caine, Advance Mixer, Inc,  
(cell phone) 414-870-5420 or (pager) 800-251-1936

## Environmental Committee Gives Advice On Handling EPA Visits

1. IEPA or local regulators rarely show up at your plant without a reason (usually the result of a complaint), though spring/summer visits are often to check compliance with environmental permits.

2. Handle environmental inquiries at the highest possible management level. Do not let inexperienced personnel talk to regulators! Have a designated manager identified in advance as a regulator contact for each of your plants.

3. Instruct your plant personnel to be polite & cordial.

4. Have plant personnel ask the inspector about the purpose of the visit.

5. Instruct your plant personnel to ask the inspector to please wait while they contact the designated manager.

6. Call the designated manager immediately. Have the designated manager make every effort to either travel immediately to the plant to escort the inspector or schedule a time to meet the inspector on site at the earliest opportunity.

7. If the inspector only wants to see a permit, then retrieve only that permit from your environmental files. If possible, make the inspector a copy of the permit.

8. If the inspector wishes to inspect anything within your yard, have your plant personnel politely inform the inspector that the company has a policy of cooperation with all regulatory agencies and that the company would be happy to escort him/her around the plant to see specific items of interest. Remember: **COMPANY RULES** require that a designated manager **MUST ESCORT** the inspector on the plant property.

9. Instruct plant personnel to resist the urge to engage the inspector in any conversations regarding regulatory compliance. Plant personnel should politely inform the inspector that compliance matters are handled only through the appropriate channels within the company and that the designated manager must handle any environmental compliance inquiries. Regulatory inspectors usually have a specific purpose for their visit; once their specific inquiry has been satisfied, the regulatory inspector will most likely leave. **Instruct plant personnel not to volunteer information of any kind to the inspector or they risk creating additional inquiries from the EPA.**

10. EPA inspections usually involve review of air emissions permits & NPDES/storm water permits and  
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### IRMCA Noise Dosimeter Available For Member Use

Are you aware that IRMCA possesses its very own Quest Technologies Q-200 Noise Dosimeter? This "display-only" meter is easy to use, light to transport and comes with complete instructions. It is the policy of IRMCA to make this dosimeter available to members on a first come, first serve basis. If you would like to use the meter, just get in contact with our office and we'll check current availability. Please don't hesitate to ask -we want as many members as possible to share this important tool.

### FOR SALE

#### 1999 International

**9 yd std ready mix truck. If you need an almost new unit at a bargain price, call 217-935-6969 and ask for Welly.**

#### Two 1978 Ford LT 8000 mixer trucks

**Both are white and ready to be put to work. Chute lock & raise & lower from inside or outside. Sharp for \$6000 apiece! For details and/or pictures, contact Roger Daily of Moultrie County Ready Mix, 217-728-2334**

## Legislative Update

**Bills before the current session of our legislators:**

**HB 575  
Uniform 65 MPH  
Speed Limit**

This bill was approved by committee but failed in the House. From a trucker's standpoint, we would like the ability to "move with the flow of traffic." It appears, however, that this bill does not stand much of a chance.

**HB 537/SB 847  
Improved Truck Access**

IDOT is working with various groups studying the impact of expanding the access to local roads for 80,000 lb loads. This has taken and will continue to take some time. Meanwhile, keep those mixer loads under 80,000 lbs-ha!

**HB 3073 (Support this bill!)**

This bill would limit local jurisdiction to overweight fines and limit ticketing to either gross or axle-not both. Decatur, for example, is purchasing their own portable scales and designating their truck routes within the city. Cities and municipalities purchasing their own scales have a negative potential, which seems to be an income-producing motivation rather than a safety or road maintenance issue. This bill does not limit the extent to which they can operate portable scales and write tickets.

**HB 2203**

This bill will allow mixers that are weighed overweight to proceed to their job to offload the excess concrete. This helps the contractor and the aging of the mix-but you will still have to pay the overweight fine.



**Another  
Victory For  
Industry!**

The New Ruling by OSHA concerning their new Ergonomics Standard has been reversed...for now! While this change is a good thing, we must continue to be mindful to address potential

repetitive motion injuries. OSHA will come back in the future with a standard that they will hope to get accepted. While the ruling is gone, the need to provide the best possible training for our employees to prevent accidents and injuries will always exist.

**Illinois First**

Even with Illinois First, it seems our roads are deteriorating faster that they can be rebuilt or restored. This will not make it easier to resolve the weight issue on gross weight, inner bridge, or newly designed Class III Highways. Also, the funding for Illinois First will be exhausted in 2004. The Illinois Chapter of the ACPA is already looking to the future for federal funding. Currently, Illinois is a donor state to the federal highway fund and only receives \$.93 in federal money for every \$1.00 it contributes. Our objective is to become a donee state instead of a donor state and receive more than

**State No Longer  
Refunding Tax  
Paid Diesel Fuel**

One of our members has raised a question about submitting a refund report for the use of tax paid diesel fuel used in our end-loaders and off-road equipment. The state will no longer refund that tax. They now require that you purchase non-taxed, red-dyed fuel for your off-road equipment and of course, keep it in a separate storage tank. Don't mix the dyed fuel with the regular fuel for use in your trucks; you could be fined up to \$1000.00. They have targeted the farm industry with this bill and reversal

**Phone, fax, mail, or e-mail  
your state legislators and  
encourage their support of  
our industry.**

**Visit [www.legis.state.il.us](http://www.legis.state.il.us) to  
find your legislators and  
obtain their contact  
information.**



## TUCSON GOLF WINNERS

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Low Gross Score Ladies:

**Donna Edwards**

Low Net Score Ladies:

**Judy Marcy**

Low Gross Score Men :

**Jim Amundsen, 1st**

**Rich Sefried, 2nd**

**Rob Nelch, 3rd**

Low Net Score Men:

**Dan Kuehler, 1st**

**Tom Clarke, 2nd**

**Kevin Rustemeyer, 3rd**

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Ladies' Long Drive:

**Donna Edwards**

Men's Long Drive:

**Rob Nelch**

Hole #2 Closest to the pin for the men:

**Herb Hustedde**

Hole #8 Closest to the pin for the men:

**Dan Kuehler**



## Arizona Convention Included Weather From Home

This year's Annual Convention was held at the Shearton El Conquistador located in Tucson, Arizona. Unfortunately, Tucson had one of the coolest starts for their prime season that they have had in several years. But the weather did not dampen the spirits of the members who attended the meeting. In fact, the majority of them managed to golf in 40° F temperatures, which changed to snow, hail, rain, and then finished with an afternoon in the 60's.

The meeting had some top rate topics and speakers. These included Ken Quartermain of Arizona Rock Products. He gave an extremely interesting presentation, which included media clips of a major accident on an Arizona highway involving a ready mixed concrete truck, a semi-truck, an RV and a couple of automobiles. The concrete truck involved was an Arizona Rock Products mixer, though it was not the cause of the accident. Mr. Quartermain stressed the importance of having an individual from your plant who is skilled in dealing with the media in a crisis situation. He used audience participation in which he was the media representative interviewing the plant representative and coached the audience on information that should and information that should not be given in an interview.

Other speakers included John Niland of Arrow Magnolia. Mr. Niland's presentation was also invigorating and full of energy! His topic was "Being Dead Is Bad for Business". Mr. Niland stressed the importance of promoting concrete resources to implement promotion. He stressed the need to expose the concrete producer's business and increase the public's awareness.

Also speaking were Wally Johnson of BuildPoint Corporation, who did a presentation on "Opportunities & Challenges of E-Commerce and the Construction Industry"; Stephen Miley of Southdown, who presented some important information regarding the "Changing U.S. Cement Industry"; and Peter Bedard of Vedder Price, speaking on "The Mechanics of Lien Claims ." A big thanks to all of our speakers for voluntarily giving their time.

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## Technology Meeting Participants Enjoy Renowned Speakers

Peoria, Region 3, and Decatur, Region 4, were host cities for IRMCA promotional meetings on March 14 and March 15. In attendance were over 120 architects, engineers, contractors, ready-mix producers and representatives of allied industries. Participants were privileged to hear a talk by Mr. Ross Martin, Vice President of Engineering and Technical Services for Baker Concrete Construction. The internationally known and respected Mr. Martin has a wealth of background and experience in our industry. He spoke on curling, causes and remedies, and he graciously remained after both meetings to exchange thoughts with and answer questions from the attendees. Other equally qualified and respected blue ribbon speakers at these technology meetings were Mr. Mark Monfills, Senior Technical Services Representative of ChemRex Inc., who spoke about changes in curing materials due to VOC requirements; Mr. Tom Barton Technical Support Manager of Synthetic Industries, whose topic concerned the use of steel fibers in concrete; and Mr. Mike Pistilli, Technical Director and Quality Control for the Prairie Group, who spoke about petrography and how it can be used to benefit the producer.

## New Concepts in Design and Construction of Concrete Local Roads

Region 2 of the Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association and the Illinois Chapter of ACPA combined to present a seminar on March 20, 2001, in Aurora, Illinois. Mr. Randell C. Riley, P. E., Engineering Consultant (*pictured right*), presented the seminar to over thirty city officials, representatives from engineering firms, and members of the concrete industry. Mr. Riley examined the excellent long-term performance of concrete paving, discussed resurfacing with the use of Ultra-Thin Whitetopping, and demonstrated the use of new computer software designed to simplify the engineering of concrete pavement. In addition to the informative talk, attendees left with several valuable handouts.



### SIUE Concrete Seminar Attracts Large Group

IRMCA Region 5 joined seven other organizations and companies on March 14 in presenting a concrete seminar at the Engineering Building on the campus of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Ninety-four attendees filled the auditorium and were rewarded with good information from well-qualified speakers. Mr. Luke M. Snell, P. E., a Professor of Construction and Director of the Concrete Construction Resource Unit at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, spoke on "Specifications with ACI Documents". Mr. Ward Malisch, who was previously with *Concrete Construction* and is currently the Senior Managing Director of Technical Operations for the American Concrete Institute, presented "Control Moisture in Concrete Floors". Mr. Mark Luther is the St. Louis based Technical Service Engineer for Holnam Cement Company. His talk, "High Performance Concretes," was accompanied by a highly entertaining slide presentation. The final speaker was Mr. John Gnaedinger, CEO and Chief Technical Officer of Con-Cure Corporation. His talk was titled "Using Maturity for Determining Concrete Strength."

### SIUE Sends Letter of Thanks For Contribution

This spring, Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association and the Great Lakes Cement Promotion Association made a \$5,000 contribution to the Center for Concrete Construction Development Fund at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

The purpose of the contribution is to fund the Concrete Construction Resource Unit (CCRU) of the Department of Construction within the School of Engineering at

Southern Illinois University. The CCRU enables the Construction Department to offer the Properties of Concrete Class, a popular elective class. This class was previously offered on an every-other-year basis but will now be offered on an annual basis. The CCRU will also allow for creation of more concrete-specific courses for future inclusion in the curriculum. Two examples of the classes currently under development  
(Continued on page 14)



**Don't Miss the  
Second  
Annual  
Scholarship  
Golf Outing**

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**September 11  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Weaver Ridge  
Golf Course  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Peoria, Illinois**

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**Registration  
deadline is  
August 20**

# Slag Available for Industrial or Highway Construction

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Advertise in the  
*IRMCA News*

Deadline for the  
next issue is  
September 1

Classified (1-4  
lines): \$20  
Business card: \$36  
1/4 page: \$56  
1/2 page: \$94  
Full page: \$150  
\*Photos are \$9  
extra\*

Submit your  
advertisement to:

IRMCA  
211 Landmark Dr.,  
Ste. D-5B  
Normal, IL 61761

Phone:  
309-862-2144

Fax:  
309-862-3404

E-mail:  
Irmca@irmca.org

**Include full  
payment (checks  
made payable to  
Illinois Ready  
Mixed Concrete  
Association)**

**The Former Wisconsin Steel Works Site on Chicago's southeast side has approximately 70,000 cubic yards of slag available.**

- The slag has been approved by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for Beneficial Re-Use under Illinois Administrative Code 35IAC817.
- The material is a mixture of blast furnace and steelmaking slag.
- The particle size ranges from coarse sand to six inches diameter.
- While much of the slag is a solidified mass, a large portion of the material is in a condition that can be scooped for loading and transportation.
- Likely uses of the slag include highway bedding and industrial fill. (The slag is not available for re-use at residential sites.)
- The Former Wisconsin Steel Works site is located at 106th Street and Torrence Avenue, conveniently near Interstate 90 and Interstate 94.

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**All offers for the slag will be considered.**

For additional information, please contact:

Greg Vanderlaan  
**ARCADIS G & M**  
**312-263-6703**  
35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1000  
Chicago, Illinois 60601

## Got Driveway Sealer?

"Yes I do," says the sixteen-year-old clerk, "a little way down aisle seven." A brisk two-block walk to the dead end of aisle seven and, sure enough, here is the driveway **sealer**. One-gallon buckets, five-gallon buckets, long-handled rollers—everything home owners would ever need to **seal** their drives. But wait a minute. Something is wrong! I have a concrete, not asphalt, driveway and all the **sealers** here are black. I trudge the two blocks back to the information desk and wait ten minutes only to be told, "You know, we used to have concrete **sealer** here, but nobody ever bought any and it went bad. We didn't order any more. I guess concrete doesn't need **sealing** like blacktop does."

Why is it that every spring we see people with asphalt driveways happily buying **sealer**, rolling it on, and then erecting barricades so no one will drive on it? Then we see them doing it again about every year or two! Wouldn't it be nice to think that owners of concrete drives do not need to use **sealers**? That just because it is concrete it will last forever? Well, we know better. The fact is that our competition does a better job of telling their customers about the value of periodic **sealing** than we

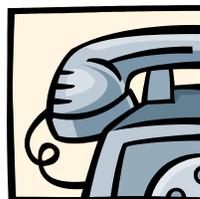
do. We can't let this continue and expect to keep or increase our market share.

Because proper **sealing** is done 30 days or more after pouring, it is possible that the concrete contractor is long gone. We producers must strongly encourage our customers, those same concrete contractors, to fully explain to the home owner/home builder all the benefits of **sealing**. Try to get your contractors to leave a bucket of **sealer**, which they bought from you, right in the garage where the owner/builder will see it every day. Ideally, get your contractors to explain to their customers the advantage of periodic sealing.

Everything lasts longer if it is properly cared for—including ready mixed concrete. Proper periodic **sealing** will reduce the possibility of surface problems. Just because **sealing** is the last step in concrete construction does not mean it is any less important than any other step.

Let's increase our odds for more durable concrete and reduce the number of dreaded spring phone calls. Talk to your contractors and homebuilders—emphasize the value of **sealing**. And while you are talking to them, sell it to them!!!

**Contact the IRMCA office about submitting articles and photos, or alert us about events and information that we may want to include in the IRMCA News.**  
**309-862-2144**



### Industry Web Sites

American Concrete Institute,  
[www.aci-int.org](http://www.aci-int.org)

American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA)  
[www.pavement.com](http://www.pavement.com)

American Society for Testing and Materials  
[www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org)

Decorative Concrete  
[www.decorative-concrete.net](http://www.decorative-concrete.net)

National Ready Mixed Concrete Association  
[www.nrmca.org](http://www.nrmca.org)

Portland Cement Association  
[www.portcement.org](http://www.portcement.org)

If you know of any industry Web sites that would be of interest to our membership, please notify the IRMCA office so that we can publish them in the newsletter.

## IRMCA Staff Promotions and New Hires

Over the past several months, IRMCA has had some staff promotions and additions.

Lisa Knutsen, who has served the association for the past few years, received a promotion to Executive Director.

Bruce Grohne, former President of Grohne Concrete Products Company, was hired as Field Director. Bruce brings extensive industry knowledge to the association.

Jennifer Bedell was hired in June as Administrative Assistant. Along with her administrative responsibilities, Jennifer coordinates the formatting and editing of the newsletter.

Nikko Santiago was promoted to Secretary. Her responsibilities include assisting in accounts payable & receivable and updating the member databases.

Congratulations IRMCA staff and keep up the good work!

## Flowable Fill Concern

Flowable fill is an engineered backfill material containing fine aggregate, Portland cement, water and fly ash (optional). It is a versatile product that is cost-effective and can be designed to meet most backfill needs. One of the most attractive features of flowable fill is that it can be easily removed any time after being placed—even well into the future.

**WARNING:** If properly designed flowable fill is loaded “on top of” any leftover concrete, the PSI of

that product will be increased well above the desired strength. This stronger product will, almost surely, cause the user serious removal problems. In an unnamed Illinois community, flowable fill that should have been “removable” could barely be dented with a backhoe. The customer resorted to costly jackhammering to remove the fill.

A suggestion? Custom design flowable so that it will satisfy the  
*(Continued on page 14)*

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## EPA Officials Listen to NRMCA Concerns

By Gary Mullin, NRMCA

NRMCA staff met with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency earlier this week in Philadelphia as part of EPA’s efforts to receive feedback from industries on ways it can assist industry on compliance matters. The ready mixed industry concerns over “heavy handed” enforcement tactics were aired, with NRMCA repeating its assertion that EPA should partner with the industry as a whole, with the desired outcome of a cleaner environment based on balanced

scientific and economic factors rather than unjustifiable threats and penalties for minor infractions. EPA officials were asked to continue developing clearer documentation with more industry-specific information.

Officials were also reminded that while the extensive EPA Web site is constantly being updated, many industry officials do not use the Internet. NRMCA then discussed its  
*(Continued on page 13)*

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## Alert! Alert!

At the risk of belaboring the obvious, the winter of 2000–2001 was one of the hardest in recent memory in respect to excess moisture followed immediately by hard freezes. We suffered through more freeze/thaw cycles than in recent years and we saw chemical de-icers used in great quantity. All these factors contributed to greater stress on recently placed ready mix concrete, so unfortunately, we saw more concrete distress this spring than we have in some time.

cement salespersons, admixture salespersons, and their technical support personnel, along with most ready mix producers, have looked at more distressed concrete than they have in a long time. IRMCA members from the southernmost point to the north borders of Illinois are all reporting on the unfortunate results of this most difficult winter. Bordering states are also experiencing the same problems.

Why the alert then, if the damage  
*(Continued on page 14)*

Cement company technical experts,

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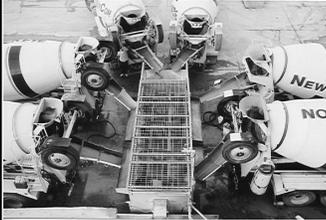
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*(Executive Director continued)*

sites for further inquiries. Also being considered is an IRMCA online directory, which would be available to members and can be set up so that it would be accessible by entering a member code. Frequent updates could be made to the online directory before the next publication. The Web site would also

include directory update forms that members can fill out as needed. We also want to have event registration online with e-commerce capability. Other areas being addressed include a picture gallery displaying various uses of concrete, an education page that would reflect the current classes, new articles, and videos, and a link to [weather.com](http://weather.com).

*(Field Director continued)*

I would like to express my gratitude to the many associate and affiliate members who have helped get me started. Sometimes these very talented persons are taken for granted; but, without their product expertise, industry knowledge, countless contacts and unwavering willingness to help, our opportunities for success at IRMCA would be greatly hampered. Please know that you are appreciated!

Finally, I want to thank Lisa Knutsen and all the

employees of IRMCA for making me feel welcome. I believe that IRMCA is competently staffed to meet our members' needs well into the future. As many of you know, I will soon be laid up for a few weeks following knee replacement surgery. During the recovery period I will be doing what work I can from my home. To contact me, please call the Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association office—they will know my status and how to reach me. Again, thanks for all the help and I will be seeing you soon.

*(EPA Visits continued)*

compliance with these permits. Please take the time now to review your air emissions & NPDES permits. Take particular note of the records that the permit requires you to keep. If these records are not up-to-date, please

update them immediately.

This is the first of a series of Environmental Committee articles. If there are environmental issues or questions you would like us to address, notify the IRMCA office.

*(EPA Listens continued)*

new Environmental Short Course for the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry, which received a very positive response from EPA officials. NRMCA and EPA officials agreed to explore avenues where

the course could be delivered to the industry.

*(SIUE Contribution continued)*  
are Materials Sampling and Testing and Case Studies in Construction.

Students will participate in the following American Concrete Institute competitions:

- High Strength Concrete Cubes
- Design/Build of Structural

*(Alert! continued)*  
has already been done? There is every possibility that next winter will be just as devastating as the last—we better not wager on balmy Decembers! The alert, therefore, is to remind all of us that it is always the right time to be concerned about quality. We must be vigorous in our efforts to provide our contractors with strong, durable concrete designed to

*(Flowable Fill continued)*  
customers' long-term needs. Also, batch flowable fill into empty, preferably rinsed ready mix trucks!

The calls for flowable fill are increasing daily. Engineered properly, flowable fill is a great sales tool as well as a potentially profitable product. However, remember that for once, more (PSI) may not be better.

P.S. Often, mix designs for flowable fill are given to the producer, e.g. IDOT. When not, a simple strength guideline might be: hand removable, less than 75 PSI; machine removable, 75 - 150 PSI; non-removable, over 150 PSI.

- Models to Resist Impact Loads
- Fiber-Reinforced Plastics in Concrete Beams
  - Concrete Projects

SIUE feels that the competitions encourage undergraduates to become active in local concrete associations and become involved with concrete and the

meet his customers' long-term requirements. Just as important, we need to work as hard as we can with our contractors to ensure that our product is placed, finished, cured and sealed properly. Failure of the producer or the contractor to do their best can often result in problems—sometimes immediate, sometimes after a hard winter. And yes, sometimes even given quality concrete and quality

various aspects of the properties of concrete.

A letter of gratitude for IRMCA & GLCPA's contribution came from SIUE President James Walker and Chancellor David Werner, who thanked everyone associated with IRMCA and expressed deep appreciation for the association's generosity.

workmanship, Old Man Winter wins. Let's reduce his chances

IRMCA is currently addressing programs that will allow producers and contractors to interact positively with the ultimate goal being more concrete sold and more satisfied customers. You'll hear specifics soon. Meanwhile, we might all pray for a mild winter, but we better not count on it. Instead, prepare for it. Be alert!



Last chance to  
mail in your  
directory updates!

Do you want to appear in  
our new directory like  
this?

Ms. Tom Clarnutson  
Noillinis Seament Co.  
1z3 S. Concreek Crak St.  
LaPalls, Noillinis 6021

Presentdent: Ms. Tom  
Clarnutson

Phone: Don't have one  
Fax: Working on it

Producks and Servusis:  
Seament

Then, members **PLEASE** send us your directory update information. The form is enclosed in this newsletter. The final deadline for submittal is **November 1, 2001**. Please avoid being reflected as above or worse yet not being reflected at all!

*Our condolences to  
the member families  
who have recently lost  
loved ones*

*The Carl Bleichner  
Family, Ogden  
Builders Supply*

*The Al Cygan Family,  
Prairie Group*

*Low and Judy Marcy,  
Capitol Ready Mix,  
for the passing of  
Joseph Farris, Judy's  
father*

*The Family of Larry  
Parrish,  
Holnam, Inc*

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## *Mark Your Calendars...*

<b>SEPTEMBER 2001</b>	11	IRMCA Scholarship Golf Outing/Board Meeting, WeaverRidge Golf Course, Peoria
<b>NOVEMBER 2001</b>	26	Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Edwardsville
	28	Board Meeting, IRMCA office
	28	Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Decatur
	30	Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Joliet
<b>DECEMBER 2001</b>	10	Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Moline
	12	Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Rockford
	14	Electrical Jobsite Hazard Awareness ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Palatine
<b>JANUARY 2002</b>	9-12	World of Concrete, New Orleans, Louisiana
	14	Silica Video Conference Presentation ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Edwardsville/ Decatur/Joliet
	15	Silica Video Conference Presentation ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Moline/Rockford/ Palatine
	21-22	IRMCA Short Course/Board Meeting, Par*a*dice Hotel, Peoria
<b>FEBRUARY 2002</b>	4	OSHA 10 Hour ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Joliet
	6	OSHA 10 Hour ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Decatur
	8	OSHA 10 Hour ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Edwardsville
	11	OSHA 10 Hour ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Palatine
	13	OSHA 10 Hour ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Rockford
	15	OSHA 10 Hour ( <u>Safety Grant</u> ), Moline
	25- 3/1	IRMCA Annual Convention/Board Meeting, Marco Island, Florida
<b>MARCH 2002</b>	6-8	WRMCA Annual Convention, Milwaukee, WI
	17-24	NRMCA Annual Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada
	19-23	CONEXPO-CONAGG, Las Vegas, Nevada



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Normal, Illinois 61761

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E-mail: [irmca@irmca.org](mailto:irmca@irmca.org)

### **Mission**

*To be the voice for the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry in Illinois  
To promote the use of quality ready mixed concrete through innovative educational programs  
To accomplish common goals as an organization that cannot be done individually*