

# THE AGGREGATE

ACI Intermountain Chapter Newsletter

"concrete news you can use"

December 2006

## *President's Message*

The other day I was talking to the first vice president of the Home Builders Association. We talked about everything from the tea in China to the price of concrete. He asked about the cement powder shortage last year. I told him it wasn't so much a shortage but an increase in demand. We talked about the housing market in Salt Lake City verses the market in Las Vegas. It seems that developers would buy up a tract of land and before it was improved, the lots would sell for double what the first buyer paid for them until one day it finally caught up with them and a lot of people lost a lot of money. Then we talked about the rising cost of wood last year. I was complaining about the price of ¾" HDO (high density overlay.) He said that the price of sheeting went up so fast that the builders were losing \$4,000.00 per house until they got caught up with the price adjustment.

You may wonder how the price of the tea in China came up. Well it didn't, but that kind of sounded good so I put it in. This building business that we are in is a fickle beast. The market is constantly changing and to stay competitive you have to stay on top of the prices of materials, labor, insurance, employee accidents and your competition, etc. I could go on for what seems like forever.

Anyway, Bah Humbug! I hope you have saved some of your hard earned money for this Christmas season because even the presents will be costing more than last year. Someone has to pay for the higher cost of concrete and the big bonus that I'll be getting at the end of the year.

Merry Christmas to all and to all a Good New Year.

Ray Nelson  
President

## *December Chapter Luncheon*

**When:** Tuesday, December 12  
12:00 noon

**Where:** Cabela's in Lehi

**Topic:** "Construction Methods"

**Speaker:** Lee Wegner  
Eagle Precast

We will meet on Tuesday, December 12, at Cabela's in Lehi, Utah. Lunch is available at the cafeteria on the second level, just outside the conference room.

Upcoming luncheon topics include:

January 10	Jim Woods
February 13	Governor's Economic Report
March 13	Think Green/Environment
April 10	Curing
May 8	Warm Weather Concreting
	Testing & Construction

See you there!



## World of Concrete

ACI International is offering free admission to World of Concrete on January 23-26, 2007, in Las Vegas. Follow this link for complete information on this offer.

<http://www.concrete.org/general/woc.htm>

## ACI Scholarship Golf Tournament



I would like to thank all those folks who braved the weather and played in our Fall Golf Tournament. I would also like to thank all of our sponsors for Holes and for Lunch. Even though we try very hard to be lean in our costs so we can maximize our monies for the three to four scholarships that our Chapter supports, this is still one of the better golf experiences of the year. It is all because of the people! We have a lot of great people, maybe not great golfers (we all work too hard to be good golfers), but fun folks that show up for this tournament. Next year is coming so get prepared to come and enjoy yourselves and try and bring someone that always wanted to play golf but never got around to it. This is the perfect place to learn and have fun.

Thanks for your support.

Douglas Bedingfield

P.S. Should we change the name to the Monsoon Shootout?

## Excellence in Concrete Awards

The nomination forms will be available shortly. Information on deadlines will be published on the website and through email. Start thinking of those projects you would like to nominate!

## Certification Programs

Field Testing Technician Certification program dates:

January 2-5, 2007  
March 15-16, 2007  
May 9-10, 2007  
August 16-17, 2007  
October 4-5, 2007  
January 3-4, 2008

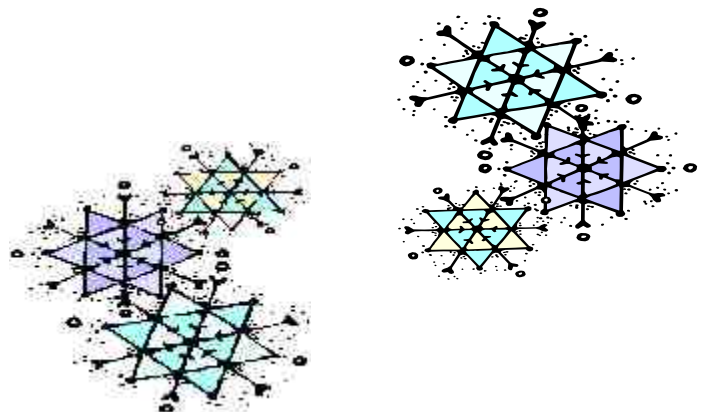
Flatwork Finisher program dates are:

January 11 & 18, 2007  
March 8 & 15, 2007  
June 7 & 14, 2007  
August 9 & 16, 2007

The Flatwork Finisher class is conducted on the first day. Then, the following week the written exam will be given.

Registration forms are due at least two weeks before the program. Study materials are mailed out **after** the registration form and payment are received. Registration forms are available at the website [www.aciintermountain.com](http://www.aciintermountain.com) or by contacting Kristin at 801-250-3444 or [kristin@aciintermountain.com](mailto:kristin@aciintermountain.com).

Concrete Construction Inspector Certification examinations are given on an as-needed basis. Call to order materials and schedule an exam date.



## *ACI International Membership Enhancements*

The American Concrete Institute has some important membership enhancements coming in the next several months. One recently introduced NEW benefit for ACI International Individual members is the opportunity to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) online. Members are eligible, for no additional fee, to participate in eight online courses to earn CEUs during each membership year. This means that members can earn up to .8 CEUs, equivalent to 8 Professional Development Hours (8 PDH), by virtue of their ACI Individual membership. CEUs earned can be presented to state licensing agencies to meet part of each state's re-licensing requirements for PDHs. ACI retains a permanent record of each participant's course activities.

In the coming months, other membership enhancements will be coming out such as an online membership directory, a web-based online resource center to provide practice-oriented design and construction information on ACI 318-05 and 301-05; three free downloads from ACI Journal articles, papers published in ACI Special Publications, or other select ACI publications; and an optional subscription to the International Concrete Repair Institute's *Concrete Repair Bulletin* in lieu of a subscription to the *ACI Materials* or the *ACI Structural Journal*. With these announced enhancements, and others under consideration, ACI is making membership more valuable than ever before. Watch for announcements on the introduction of the new member-only benefits.

### *Chapter Website*

Have you visited our new website yet? The information is continually being updated. Registration forms are available for certification programs. Sign up for our e-mail updates. Keep checking back as we work to improve the site. We welcome any comments and suggestions.

[www.aciintermountain.com](http://www.aciintermountain.com)

## *ACI International's New Career Center*

ACI International has developed a new Career Center. It brings together great job opportunities and great candidates. This job search engine is specifically targeted to the concrete industry and has links for both those seeking employment and those hiring.

[www.concrete.org/general/career\\_center\\_main.htm](http://www.concrete.org/general/career_center_main.htm)

### *Scholarships*

Do you know a bright engineering, architecture or construction management student who could use a cash scholarship? (Really - are there any who don't?) The ACI Intermountain Chapter will be offering scholarships to be awarded at our annual Awards Banquet this spring.

Watch for more information to be announced soon!

### *Chapter Library*

Did you know the Chapter maintains a library full of recent publications? There are also historical documents. A list of the items in the library is available on the website or contact Kristin with any questions at 801-250-3444. Chapter members are welcome to use this library any time!

The library is available at Geneva Rock Products, 302 W. 5400 S, #200, Murray, Utah.

### *Is He/She Certified?*

Do you want to know if someone is currently certified? You can check online at [www.concrete.org](http://www.concrete.org). Individuals can be searched by last name or by craft. Click on "Certification" and then "Certified Personnel Directory." Pretty cool!