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monitor

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INDUSTRY ADVANCEMENT & PROMOTIONAL FUND

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*Monitor vs. Merrimack
March 9, 1862, Hampton Roads, Virginia*

WELFARE FUND REPORT

Trustee Marty Tew reports for the Health & Welfare Fund that for May, 2010, Ordinary Income of \$2,530,137.10 plus Investment Income of \$1,035,090.24 minus Expenses of \$2,823,197.94 yielded a Net Income of \$742,119.40.

Since the Fiscal Year begins in May, the Year-to-Date numbers are the same. The Fund Value as of 5/31/10 was \$88,202,413.40.

PENSION FUND REPORT

Trustee Rick Ascher reports for the Pension Fund that for May, 2010, Ordinary Income of \$2,390,323.99 plus Investment Income of (\$56,707,366.47) minus Expenses of \$3,060,801.92 yielded a Net Income of (\$57,377,844.40).

For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Ordinary Income of \$4,687,883.18 plus Investment Income of (\$51,981,348.15) minus Expenses of \$5,801,737.35 yielded a Net Income of (\$53,095,202.32). The Fund Value as of 5/31/10 was \$439,702,677.81.

“Spalling” in 60 Seconds

“Spall” are flakes of a material that break away from a concrete or masonry surface several ways, including impact, corrosion, weathering, cavitation, or excessive point pressure (as in a ball bearing). “Spalling” describes the process of surface failure in which “spall” is shed.

Salt spalling is the weather deterioration which occurs in porous building materials, such as brick, natural stone, and concrete. Dissolved salt is carried through the material in water and crystallizes inside the material near the surface as the water evaporates. As the salt crystals expand, this builds up shear stresses which break away “spall” flakes from the surface.

It is widely believed that porous building materials can be protected against salt

spalling by the application of penetrating sealants which are water repellent and can penetrate deeply enough to keep water with dissolved salts away from the surface. Great care must be taken, though, to ensure that any coating applied is compatible with the substrate in terms of breathability (ability to allow the release of vapors from inside while preventing water intrusion), or other serious problems can be created.

It must always be assumed that water — possibly even arriving in vapor form from the interior — collects behind the surface, and it must be allowed to both drain and evaporate. In truth, concrete, brick, and stone surfaces can all readily be damaged beyond repair inadvertently by the well-intentioned application of a wrong coating, once the coated surface has passed through a few freeze-thaw cycles.



A Few
Words
From...

TOM TYRAKOWSKI
President, FCA of Chicago

TIME TO GO “BACK TO SCHOOL”

From time to time, we attend conventions and conferences hosted by our National FCA, National PDCA, and LMCI (Labor-Management Cooperation Initiative) organizations. Most recently, National FCA conducted an Annual Meeting in New York City, featuring a battery of truly informative seminars that were all conducted by top experts and consultants in the construction industry.

In my estimation, one of the very best speakers was Jim Weber, a CPA from Toledo, Ohio. Jim is unlike any CPA you have ever met, in the sense of totally breaking the stereotype mold of a reserved, stuffy little guy that just crunches number in the back room.

Jim is outspoken, has a sharp wit, and loves to joust with the students in his classes. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the table and delights in pricking the standard balloons of “common knowledge.”

For that reason, we have invited him to conduct a new Seminar in September entitled the “Top 10 Best Business Practices.” This session will be held on the afternoon of September 8, 2010, (2:00 PM to 5:00 PM) at Maggiano’s Little Italy in Chicago. I urge you strongly to attend this Seminar, even if it’s the

More... →



2010

FCAC Meetings & Events

IAF Seminar “Top 10 Best Business Practices”

September 8, 2010

Maggiano’s Little Italy, Chicago

FCAC Membership Meeting

Speaker: Jim Weber, CPA

“Surviving Tough Times”

Business Meeting Report From The Nominating Committee

September 8, 2010

Maggiano’s Little Italy, Chicago

FCAC Christmas Luncheon

December 8, 2010

Maggiano’s Little Italy, Schaumburg

Chicago PDCA Associates Christmas Luncheon

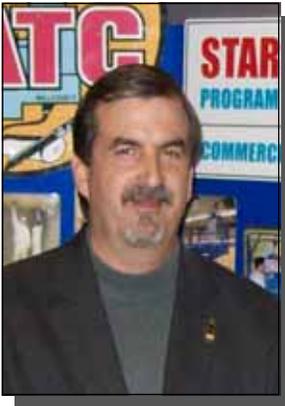
December 17, 2010

Basils Greek Dining, Aurora

FCAC Presidents Night

January 21, 2011

Rosewood Restaurant, Rosemont



News From The Apprentice School...

By **ED BOGDAN**, *Apprentice Training Coordinator*

Financial Reports for May, 2010, indicate that Ordinary Income of \$135,535.82 plus Investment Income of \$44,035.19 minus Expenses of \$161,442.89 yielded a Net Income of (\$69,942.26).

For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Ordinary Income of \$583,964.75 plus Investment Income of \$87,041.85 minus Expenses of \$808,980.05 yielded a Total Net Income of (\$137,973.45). The Fund Value as of 5/31/10 was \$4,336,000.75.

STAR AWARDS BREAKFAST

The annual STAR Awards Breakfast will be held on Saturday, September 11, 2010, at the Fountain Blue Restaurant in Des Plaines. The program will begin with a hearty breakfast at 8:00 AM.

JATC GRADUATION CEREMONY

The JATC/DFTC Apprentice Graduation Dinner and Ceremony will then be held at the Rosewood Restaurant in Rosemont on Friday, October 29th. Cocktails begin at 6:30 PM, followed by dinner.

CONCRETE REPAIR/FINISHING ...WORTH LOOKING INTO

With new construction basically dead in the water, many FCAC Contractors are seeking out maintenance work of one kind or another to keep the ship of state afloat until economic conditions improve and the construction industry gets its legs again.

However, it's also pretty tough, going up against all the other competition (Union and non-Union alike) for the available traditional maintenance painting. That's where Contractors who find a special niche market can gain their edge.

One of our industrial FCAC Contractor members became interested in concrete repair and refinishing several years ago and has since then built a good part of his current business around it. He repairs cracks with epoxies, cuts expansion joints, grinds off sealers and surface stains, colorizes with acid-etching stains, and even handles the occasional decorative job with stencils that lend flagstone and brickwalk effects. He gets occasional garage floor jobs that require cleanup and abrasion with a Blastrac prior to application of epoxy floor-coating products and repairs. And he repairs spalling with abrasion followed by application of "microtopping," which is a thin layer of polymer-cement overlay.

The July-August PWC magazine carries an article entitled "Concrete Canvas" that relates the stories of several such contractors and imparts a wealth of good information about the field...it's well worth reading. If you don't already subscribe, visit their web site at www.pwc-magazine.com to take a look. The article is right on the home page, but you have to log in first.

Just now, the International Concrete Polishing and Staining Expo Conference is setting up to run from September 30, 2010, to October 3, 2010, in Atlanta, Georgia. This annual Conference is not affiliated with any manufacturers or suppliers and exists solely to support and promote the ever-expanding industry of Concrete Polishing and Staining.

If you're interested in looking into the field, it would be an opportunity to learn more. Check it out at their website: <http://www.icpsc365.com> or inquire by E-mail at: info@icpsc365.com.

Another conference, The World of Concrete, is held every year in Las Vegas, scheduled now to conduct tradeshow exhibits and seminars on January 17-21, 2011, at the Las Vegas Convention Center. This is really the big convention for concrete and masonry contractors, so it's much broader in scope. Still, there are many educational sessions and exhibits related to concrete repair and decorative finishing available. You can request information by e-mail from the World of Concrete at: contactus@worldofconcrete.com.

only educational class you take this year. The cost will only be \$25.00...a real bargain.

Later that same day, we'll shut down the classroom and adjourn for cocktails at 5:30 PM, then convene the FCAC General Membership Meeting at 6:30 PM.

Following a brief business meeting and Report from the Nominating Committee, Jim will return to the podium to address another topic, "Surviving Tough Times." This speech will cut right to the heart of our current struggles for survival amidst the worst economic conditions that anyone can recall. The entire

event (a hearty Maggiano's meal, a great speaker, and an open bar) will only cost \$25.00.

Attend both sessions if you possibly can...I guarantee it will be well worth your time.

Other seminars are also in the works, pending a new grant application being prepared for submission to the LMCI. Over the years, we have been quite successful in obtaining several matching-fund grants from LMCI which were then used to promote the industry through radio commercials and trade publication print advertising. As FCAC now enjoys the services of

a full-time Marketing Director, Clark Johnson, our new grant applications will now focus on providing business management and new technical educational opportunities to our Contractor members.

That's it for now...I mainly just wanted to beat the drum for the great seminar and after-dinner presentation we have for you on September 8th. Join us for these two great learning experiences, and also enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow FCAC Contractors.

All the Best,

Tom