

Spring 2010

# OHIO Precast Concrete Association



# NEWSLETTER

## OPCA Board

### Members

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Ed Ciersezwski  
Norwalk Concrete  
Industries

Vice President  
Matt Blind  
Lindsay Concrete Products

Trustee at Large  
Mike Stiger  
Stiger Precast Inc.

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Concrete Sealants

Executive Director  
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## Highlights from Canton 2010

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association recently held its Annual Conference and Meeting, March 7th & 8<sup>th</sup> in Canton, at the Holiday Inn. Seventy three people (full house!) were in attendance for this years conference. Starting off the event, President Bob Shank welcomed everyone present and introduced new members, who are: Everly Concrete Products of Adena, OH, Carmeuse Natural Chemicals of Northfield, OH, Chryso, Inc, (Admixtures) of Charlestown, IN, Grace Construction Products, Dublin, OH, & Mixer Systems, Inc. of Pewaukee, WI. The next presentation was the Keynote Address given by Dr. Roger Mayer, Professor of Management,

College of Business Administration, University of Akron. His address, entitled "Building Trust in the Workplace", touched on several topics which could be useful and put to practice whether you are a producer or an associate member. His powerpoint highlights can be viewed thru our website [www.ohioprecast.org](http://www.ohioprecast.org) under "newsletter" then click on "2010 Conference Education".

The next presenter, Pat O'Hern of Montpelier Gove & Safety Products, Montpelier, IN, spoke about Safety: Slips, Trips & Falls and the preventative measures to take to avoid these calamities. Following Pat's presentation was the annual OPCA business meeting at which time the

new officers for 2010 were nominated, accepted and approved by the membership. New officers for the term are: Ed Ciersezwski, President; Matt Blind, Vice-President; Mike Stiger, Trustee at Large; Sam Lines, Associate Trustee; Bob Shank, Past President; and openings for Secretary/Treasurer and Trustee positions. Financial reports, membership and website activity where also reviewed during the meeting. The day was topped off by the Networking Reception with producers, associates, vendors and guests joining in the social hour to relax a little and enjoy getting to visit the vendors and their displays set up in the room.

(cont' on page 2)

## "THANKS TO OUR CANTON 2010 SPONSORS"

**Carmeuse Lime & Stone**

**Champion Pump**

**Concrete Results**

**Conseal**

**East Jordan Iron Works**

**Euclid Chemical**

**Grace Conctruction Products**

**Hamilton Kent**

**Infiltrator**

**Jet, Inc.**

**LaFarge**

**Mixer Systems**

**Montpelier Glove & Safety**

**Ohio Electric Control**

**Polylok**

**SIKA**

**St. Marys Cement**

**Tuf-Tite**



## Highlights from Canton.... (Cont.)

Monday morning started off with a continental breakfast and a brief update on current issues with Ohio Department of Health. Followed by a full schedule of speakers including: Ken Klopecki from M.A. Step, who spoke on step safety, Tim Chylik of Carmeuse and his topic of discussion, was Engineered Limestone. Several Admixture representatives

were on hand for a panel question and answer period including: Steve Allender, representing SIKA, Mike Wojt from Chryso, Inc., Jesse Osborne from Euclid Chemical, Joe Daczko, BASF and Jim Kolakowski from Grace Construction Products. Also, there was an ODOT Specifications discussion led by Mike Hoffman from Lindsay Concrete Products.

The attendees then traveled

to Canal Fulton to the Lindsay Concrete Products facility. And after lunch, provided by Lindsay/OPCA, we broke into several groups and were given a tour of their plant.

The board would like to thank Lindsay Concrete Products for being the host facility this year and appreciate the fine welcome encountered at LCP.

## Private Sector Jobs: Decade in Decline

*The only ones left were the diggers and they were eating lunch. The bagpiper felt badly and apologized for being late. He went to the grave and looked down. The vault lid was already in place. He didn't know what else to do so he started to play. The workers put down their lunches and began to gather around. He played his heart out for this man with no family or friends. As he played "Amazing Grace" the workers began to weep. It was a beautiful site. When he had finished, he packed up his things and headed back to his car and overheard a worker say "I never seen nothing like that before and I've been installing septic tanks for 25 years!"*

According to U.S. Labor Department Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data, between the year 1999 and 2009 more private sector jobs were lost in that decade than since the Great Depression. In 1999 statistics showed roughly 108.32 employed in the private sector as compared to 2009 statistics of 107.95. A difference of 370,000. However, there is some news worth taking notice on. An overwhelmingly

majority of the 22 states with Right to Work laws in effect, showed growth in that same decade. Private sector employment for these states was up roughly 1.5 million during this

period. The 22 states with Right to Work laws are as follows:

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Wyoming. The remaining 28 states collectively during this period lost 1.9 million private sector jobs. Ohio being among them. Unfortunately, despite the unemployment figures and economic hardship resulting in most businesses' lingering inability to hire more

workers, most of Congress and the President seem to be heading in the wrong direction. Case in point, the ironically labeled "Employee Free Choice Act" which isn't freedom at all. Would allow unions to gain control over millions of additional private sector workers.

Please watch out for any additional information coming your way. Also Keep informed with what your Senators and Representatives both National and State have been voting on good or bad. Remember, your vote does count when it comes to Election Day!

## Spotlight on: Concrete Sealants

Concrete Sealants is one of our Associate members. They are a manufacturer of sealants, extruding sealing tapes, primers, external joint wraps, hydrophilic waterstops, coatings, mastics hot-melts and lubricants. ConSeals products are used to assemble and seal concrete pipes, precast concrete manholes, box culverts, septic tanks, burial vaults, agricultural structures, buildings and components of all types. ConSeal products are also used with poured-in-place construction joints, concrete bridge spans and decking, HVAC and electrical applications, log home joints and many other types of applications.

Since its founding in 1970, ConSeal has proudly served our producers and end users with a full line of top-quality products. Today, ConSeal is widely recognized as a first-line extruder/compounder of sealants, wraps, coatings, primers, mastics and lubricants agents for distribution to a global economy.

ConSeal's on-going commitment to the development of , and often revolutionary, new products, coupled with our excellent technical and customer service support, have made it the one Company users look to for reliable, first rate solutions to their sealant problems.

ConSeal is the first sealant manufacturer to work side-by-side with precast concrete, and concrete pipe producers in their plants and on their jobsites to see first hand how even slight changes in product cross-sections and/or chemistry can improve their sealing properties and add value to the user. Today, this continuing field experience keeps ConSeal and its customers at the very forefront of new industry developments. For example, ConSeal was the first to develop sealants specifically for the precast concrete industry, including:

- ❖ Non-toxic sealant (CS-665), designed for use in potable water systems
- ❖ A gasoline/hydrocarbon resistant sealant (CS-440), for use on airport runway projects, in oil refineries and with secondary fuel containment structures
- ❖ External membrane wraps, used to protect all types of underground structures



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"Ideas don't stay in **some** minds very long.....they don't like solitary confinement!!!

*Unknown*

### **Concrete Sealants Celebrates Founder's Day**

On April 14, 2010, Concrete Sealant, Inc. celebrated founder's day in Memory of Robert "Bob" Haman, Sr. who passed away in 2009. Mr. Haman, in partnership with his bride, Carolyn, founded Concrete Sealants, Inc. in 1970. In the beginning, every member of the Haman family participated in the operation of the company. In 1996 Bob and Carolyn sold the business to their daughter and son-in-law, Cindy and Howard Wingert who are continuing the Haman legacy.



In a show of their appreciation to the Wingert family, the employees honored Bob's memory with an inscribed plaque, a tree and flowers at the entrance to the offices of the Tipp City, Ohio plant. The plaque, with a photo etched in granite, bears the phrase that has become the company motto: "Who do we work for? The customer." It is a statement that Mr. Haman created early in the company history. It is a motto that still lives today. Howard Wingert said it best, "Mr. Haman was a mentor and a friend, and we will miss his wit, charm, and intellect always".

The plaque, along with the concrete foundation supporting it was manufactured by Spoerr Precast Concrete in Sandusky, Ohio.

### **Winners Chosen at Canton**

Those in attendance at the Canton Conference were eligible to enter a drawing providing they turned in their Conference Evaluation form at the end. One attendee name was drawn from each Associate and Producer baskets. Each received a certificate of credit for attendance into next year's conference. Chosen from the Associates was Pat O'Hern of Montpieler Glove & Safety Products of Montpelier, Indiana, and chosen from the Producer side was Ron Robinson of Spoerr Precast of Sandusky, Ohio. THANKS TO ALL who filled out their evaluation form. It helps the board prepare and plan for future conferences!

**Website Insight**

[www.ohioprecast.org](http://www.ohioprecast.org)

The OPCA website has been very busy this past year. Sam Lines of Concrete Sealants is our “Webmaster” extraordinaire! He tracks all activity on the site. Which was quite active in 2009! If you have any changes, questions or concerns regarding the website, please do not hesitate to call the the OPCA office, Sam himself, or any board member. Also, if you have any topics of interest that you would like to see available on the web or in the newsletter, please let the office know too! We are here to help you, the membership.



**2010 Members**

**Producer Members**

\* Indicates New Members

**Associate Members**

- E.C. Babbert, Inc.
- \*Everly Concrete Products, Inc.
- J.K. Precast
- Lindsay Concrete Products
- Mack Industries
- Norwalk Concrete Industries
- Poland Concrete Products
- Premier Precast Products
- Quaker City Septic Tanks
- Scioto Valley Precast
- Sickles Septic Tanks
- Spoerr Precast Concrete
- Stiger Precast, Inc.
- Uniontown Septic Tank
- United Precast, Inc.



- \*A-Lok
- \*Carneuse
- Champion Pump Co.
- \*Chryso, Inc.
- Concrete Results, Inc.
- Concrete Sealants, Inc.
- \*East Jordan Iron Works
- Engineered Wire Products
- Euclid Chemical
- \*Grace Construction Products
- Hamilton Kent
- Infiltrator Systems
- Jet, Inc.
- \*Mixer Systems
- Ohio Electric Control
- Polylok, Inc.
- \*Premiere Concrete Admixtures
- Sika Corporation
- Spillman Company
- St. Mary's Cement
- \*Tuf-Tite, Inc.

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“A good coach will make his players see what they can be rather than what they are”

Ara Parasheghian

## Ohio Precast Concrete Association

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We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
[www.ohioprecast.org](http://www.ohioprecast.org)

## OPCA Mission Statement

The purpose of the Ohio Precast Concrete Association shall be:

- 1) To promote and facilitate the acquisition and exchange of practical knowledge among its members;
- 2) To encourage the development of the art of manufacturing precast

concrete products;

- 3) To create a standard of excellence in manufacturing;
- 4) To promote the use of precast concrete products; and
- 5) To cooperate on behalf of the precast concrete industry with others

interested or involved in that industry or in related industries, directly or through their associations, in matters involving the business, technical and governmental affairs of the precast concrete industry.

## About Our Organization

The OPCA is a group of Producer Members and Associated Industries cooperating together as an association. The intent being to bring pertinent issues and information which impact the precast industry, to the attention of government agencies which participate in the origination of these issues. The OPCA is interested in

assisting these agencies by providing expert advice and counsel in the development of regulations involving the industry and the general public. The OPCA has Producer and Associate Members whose products and services range from the construction of buildings and highways; servicing the funeral industry;

to the manufacture of precast concrete products for the treatment of commercial and residential waste water. OPCA member products and services affect the lives of nearly every Ohioan on a daily basis.

**OPCA**  
**2121 Riverside Dr.**  
**Sidney, Ohio 45365**

