

MAY '02



STAMPED IN CONCRETE

Newsletter of the American Concrete Institute, Inc., Northern California & Western Nevada Chapter, Inc.

2001-2002

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Membership

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National/Chapter Liaison

CALVIN R. CANNON

Personal Awards

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Public Relations

AKTHEM AL-MANASEER

Student Activities

RICK HYDEN/BOB O'NEILL

Technical

JOHN S. COMPOGINIS

Newsletter

May 14 Golf Tournament & Meeting

Tuesday: May 14, 2002

Location: Beeb's Restaurant • Las Positas Golf Course
915 Clubhouse Drive • Livermore

Social Hour: After Golf • Dinner: 6:00 p.m. • Program: 7:00 p.m. (?)

Price: \$30.00 Dinner only (includes meal and raffle ticket)

Program: *Awards and Associated Buffoonery*

Reservations: *Deadline Noon on Thursday, May 9. Please call
1-800-753-7711 ASAP.*

Still Time to Enter the Golf Tournament!

With our 3rd Annual Golf Tournament just around the corner, there is still time for a few last minute entrees.

If you are interested call Dave Rainey *right away* at (209) 577-2788. *Don't miss out on all the fun!*

Nominating Committee Offers 2002-03 Candidates

The Chapter Committee on Nominations has presented a slate of candidates for officers, directors, and the next Committee on Nominations.

Your ballot will be in the mail soon, but here are the members who are seeking your vote to lead the chapter in the coming year. Their professional activities represent a diverse group of businesses, throughout our chapter's jurisdiction in California and Nevada.

President (vote for one): **William "Mac" McClelland**, Master Builders

Vice President (vote for one): **Dave Baker**, George Reed, Inc.

Directors (vote for three): **Gary Balbi**, MatriScope; **Michelle Craig**, Dynamic Consultants, Inc.; **George Del Carlo**, American Ready Mix; **Guy Detwiler**, Lehigh Southwest Cement; **Rick Hyden**, Hanson Aggregates; **Rick Martinez**, RMC Pacific Materials; **William Nickison**, Micro Chem Lab.; **Dave Rainey**, Davis Colors; **Larry Rowland**, Lehigh White Cement

Committee on Nominations (vote for five): **Steve Benna**, Granite Construction; **Brent Coulson**, Central Concrete; **Cliff Craig**, Dynamic Consultants, Inc.; **Harvey Haynes**, Haynes & Associates; **Greg Juell**, Lehigh Southwest Cement; **Brett Lord**, Central Concrete Supply; **Carita Miller**, Master Builders; **John Schmidt**, Teichert Aggregates; **Craig Wallace** – Nevada Cement; **Andy Youngs** – Ca. Cement Promo. Council

President's Message: Reach Out and Educate Someone

We all have heard the advertisement by the phone companies to “*reach out and touch someone*” haven't we?

Well, we need to take that advise and use it to educate the industry on the principles of concrete.

Our industry (Concrete) has probably the best material and technology today. But it does not mean a thing if this technology is not passed on to the field, where the concrete practice takes place. This could be called Technology Transfer or educating customers. Whatever name it is given this is a practice that needs to be a normal everyday function. Our ACI Chapters mission is to take technology of the concrete industry and transfer this technology to the field. That is why we are members.

We need to work with our fellow chapter members, support them in their efforts to “Transfer Technology” to the field. We need to work as a team within our organization.

Utilizing the membership and partner with them in daily efforts to educate the industry. This process will strengthen our organization and bring success to all of us.

This Chapter can get stronger if we work within our chapter and support each other.

After all, isn't that why we belong to this chapter?

See you at our Golf Tournament on May 14th!

Sincerely,



Royce J. Rhoads, President

Kelly Ball Follies - Act II

Editorial Opinion by Dave Baker, Technical Service Manager, George Reed, Inc

As the curtain rises, we last saw our Cal-Trans heroes in the throws of Kelly Ball withdrawal. After suffering a bottom of the inning defeat, our Cal-Trans Kelly Ball master had to be helped from the job by his young students as his attempts to reject a third and final load of mud went down in defeat. It seems to be the Kelly Ball's darkest hour.

As the scene opens on Act II, the curtain rises on present day. On this April afternoon a replacement Kelly Ball master exits from his state pickup at our warehouse. There was a determined look in his eye that matched the glint from the ring in his ear as he strutted around our test facility.

We were in our final preparation for pre-qualifying the first of two mix designs for concrete pile and underwater concrete placement. The warehouse site was bustling with activity. 60 cans were set for 30 cylinder breaks, and two independent lab representatives with slump cones were present at our request. There were two mixers, drivers, laborers, wheelbarrows, 16 yards of just batched concrete, assorted company representatives and onlookers, and of course, the famous Kelly Ball.

At last, the defining moment had arrived. After getting 70 revs on the truck, we backed the mixer into position. Up came the wheelbarrow, and soon, gray matter began to flow down the chute. Under the watchful eye of Diamond-in-the-Ear, the first wheelbarrow was discarded like a bad hand of cards.

Once the second wheelbarrow was full, Diamond-in-the Ear took charge. With his trusty shovel, he mixed the mud thoroughly. With the skill of a surgeon, he floated the mixture flat. Licking his lips, he reaches into the gilded sarcophagus holding the Kelly Ball and brings forth the instrument of truth. Slowly, breathlessly, he places the ball in three select locations. A hush fell over the crowd.

On the first placement, the reading was 95 mm or 3.8 inches of penetration. A sweat formed over his brow as the readings were recorded. On the second placement, the famed instrument went to 100 mm plus. He began to tremble with anticipation. The specification called for 90 mm and above.

On the third placement, there was a hesitation. With trembling hands, Diamond-in-the-Ear closed his eyes and said a prayer. The release was made. The ball went to 100 mm plus. We had passed our mud on the first try.

Taking their Que, our two independent labs slumped the same sample. Both came up with six- inch slumps. It was just what we were looking for, and Diamond-in-the-Ear seemed satisfied too.



THE AMERICAN CONCRETE INSTITUTE
Northern California and Western Nevada Chapter

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULE for FIELD TECH 1 TRAINING

APR. 27/MAY 4	RENO AREA -- (SOLD OUT)	JULY 27/AUG. 3	AROMAS (GRANITE ROCK)
MAY 4/11	FRESNO-- (SOLD OUT)	AUG. 17/24	RENO AREA
MAY 11/18	SUNOL -- (SOLD OUT)	SEPT. 7/14	SACRAMENTO (TEICHERT)
JUNE 8/15	SANTA ROSA (NORCAL)	OCT. 12/19	STOCKTON (TEICHERT)
JULY 13/20	SAN RAMON (RMC PACIFIC MAT.)	NOV. 9/16	SAN RAMON (RMC PACIFIC)

PLEASE CALL 800-753-7711 FOR A CERTIFICATION APPLICATION FORM

Kelly Ball Follies - Act II

Continued from 2

Carefully cleaning and returning the Kelly Ball to its sacred resting place, our inspector turned his attention to the making of the 60 cylinders. With practiced skill, Diamond-in-the-Ear kept one eye on the cylinders and one eye on the Kelly Ball. After all he was among thieves and there was a bounty on Kelly Balls as they made excellent boat anchors.

After 30 minutes and 4,500 cylinder strokes (all individually counted by Diamond-in-the-Ear), the cylinders were left to cure. Fearing imminent theft of the sacred Kelly Ball, concrete master Diamond-In-The-Ear quickly made his escape to the safety of the Cal-Trans yard.

As the dust from Diamond-in-the-Ear cleared away, I wondered about the Kelly Ball “100 plus” penetration. After all, the Kelly Ball only reads to “99”. With Cal-Trans so adamant about concrete quality, and so worried about contractor cheating, how then can the agency ensure quality results when the instrument they use can’t measure past 99? Where, I wondered does the “plus” in “100 plus” end?

Using the Cal-Trans Bible, Standard Specifications July 1999, section 90-6.06 “AMOUNT OF WATER AND PENETRATION” it states that the maximum penetration by the Kelly Ball is 115 mm. Yet the readings on the Kelly Ball handle **only go to 99**. Therefore, the written specification and the instrument used to measure penetration cannot be correlated with each other. Ever.

In short, Cal-Trans, by continuing to use the Kelly Ball method cannot ensure the quality of the mud they require by their *own* written standard because the instrument they use simply cannot measure that high. Once the Kelly Ball reaches the end, there is no way to guarantee accuracy or quality of the mix design except for contractor integrity. For a high profile agency such as Cal-Trans to continue to trust antiquated methods of quality control demonstrates no logic what so ever.

It also places them at the mercy of contractors who care little for quality.

If we didn’t have the two independent labs confirming the six-inch slump on that April day, we wouldn’t have had an accurate reading by anyone’s measure. From my experience, if anyone wants to confirm the scientific aspect of the “plus” of a Kelly Ball reading, it is nothing more then a wild ass guess.

Industry Employment Opportunity: Material Laboratory Supervisor

Dynamic Consultants, Inc. is seeking a candidate for Materials Laboratory Supervisor in the Mountain View office. Our Lab Supervisor, Denny Zucchi, has been with DCI for over 17 years, and is planning on retiring within a couple of years. We are looking for someone experienced in materials testing and interested in transitioning into this position. The laboratory performs testing on most of the structural materials used in construction, including concrete, concrete aggregates, masonry, structural steel, reinforcing steel, soils, asphalt concrete, and roofing. Ideal candidates would have 5 years experience and be willing to join Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3. **Contact Clifford Craig at 650 967-6982, 650 967-6955 fax, or email at dcj@dynamicconsultants.com.**

May 14th Golf Tournament and Awards Meeting!

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



444 Oak Place
San Andreas, CA 95249

Northern California & Western Nevada Chapter

Concrete Industry 21ST Annual Island Regatta

This year's Regatta is scheduled for Saturday, October 5, 2002. We hope this is during "Fleet Week". Look for more news and details this summer, as the date gets closer. The Regatta Committee is again looking for sponsors to assist in the expenses and be recognized on the official Regatta polo shirt.

Our 2001 Sponsors included: A. Teichert & Sons, Inc. • California Cement Promotion Council
Central Concrete Supply Co. • Dynamic Consultants, Inc. • Hansen Aggregates Mid-Pacific, Inc.
Mission Valley Rock Co. • Northern California and Western Nevada Chapter of ACI
RMC Pacific Materials • Shamrock Materials, Inc.

We are hopeful these sponsors will choose to return and that we can add others to the list. *Please contact Cliff Craig at DCI 650 967-6982 for more information.*

Concrete Quiz for the Month - May

Correctly Curing Concrete Aids in --

A. Hydration B. Strength C. Durability D. Water tightness E. Resistance to Freezing and Thawing F. All of the Above

Answer:

F. All of the Above. Most freshly mixed concrete contains considerably more water than is required for the chemical reaction process called hydration but any significant water loss by evaporation during the first few days after placement delays or prevents hydration. By keeping the concrete at a satisfactory moisture content and temperature between 50 F and 75 F, you increase concrete strength, durability, water tightness and resistance to freezing and thawing.