I hope that all is well with everyone and that you are all busy. We have some exciting news for everyone. We were again awarded an Excellent Chapter status for 2014 by ACI International. In addition, we have some certifications that will benefit all of our flatwork finishers and contractors. We are now able to offer the Specialty Commercial/Industrial Flatwork Finisher & Technician Program, and the others associated with it. This can now be done in the Carolinas, when you are ready for it, instead of having to wait for the WORLD of CONCRETE in Las Vegas every year.

I would like to thank Bryan Smith for making this happen. Bryan, in his early career path, was a commercial concrete contractor. He had the experience and the years doing this, that gave him more than the minimum time to qualify. He took his written exam and did very well. He performed his field performance test on a job site in Savannah GA and received a perfect score from the ACI examiner. Bryan was even offered a job by the contractor after he finished his performance exam. Bryan is the perfect example of a volunteer. We asked in a board meeting if anyone knew of someone who could do this. Bryan said he would and did. It was not an easy road by any means, but he “got er done.”

Bryan is a member of the Board of Directors of the Carolinas Chapter of ACI. Bryan is also an examiner for Flatwork Finisher, which the Chapter provides on request. Bryan, Thank You very much for your volunteer assistance to Carolinas Chapter. I would also like to thank Euclid Chemical, Bryan’s employer, and Wayne Brothers for providing a site and the equipment to accomplish this for the Carolinas.

“We are now able to offer the Specialty Commercial/Industrial Flatwork Finisher & Technician Program, and the others associated with it.”
Fellowship Announcement

By David B. Scott

In case you missed the announcement in last year’s edition of Concrete International, the Carolina’s Chapter of ACI has established the Barbara S. and W. Calvin McCall Fellowship. The new fellowship was approved to provide a $7,000 fellowship to be awarded to students pursuing Undergraduate, Masters, or PhD students in an engineering discipline of construction, design, education, and/or materials. The requirements of the reward include it being awarded to a student in good standing with a University located in North Carolina or South Carolina, and will look with favor upon applicants with a field of study related to concrete. The Fellowship honors two individuals who have spent decades contributing to the science and proliferation of concrete and have shown longstanding dedication to the Carolina’s Chapter. Given this couple’s deep-seated commitment to the concrete industry at-large and the extensive impact they have made to individual lives within the concrete community, it is with sincere honor and respect that we establish this fellowship.

The ACI Carolina’s Chapter is honored to announce that the inaugural fellowship reward has been extended to its first recipient – NC State University’s Steven Thornton. The fellowship committee reviewed applications for the reward and it was determined that Steven was a good recipient for this award due to his commitment to the student chapter at NC State. To paraphrase Steven’s acceptance of the fellowship, he is honored to be rewarded this fellowship and looks forward to offering inspiration and leadership to other students at the concrete industry. Congratulations, Steven!!

ACI CAROLINAS CHAPTER THANKS ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS, WHO USE THEIR VALUABLE TIME AND TALENT TO SUPPORT THE CHAPTER. WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT, THE CHAPTER WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO OFFER THE VARIETY OF CERTIFICATIONS TO THE CAROLINAS.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.aci-carolins.org FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF CERTIFICATIONS: Field Grade I, Adhesive Anchor, Flatwork Finisher, Laboratory Testing Technician, Aggregate Testing, Concrete Strength, Masonry, Concrete Construction Inspector, Concrete Transportation Construction Inspector and Tilt-Up Supervisor

McCall Fellowship offered in honor of Calvin and Barbara McCall pictured above.
STUDENT CHAPTERS—THE FUTURE OF THE CONCRETE INDUSTRY

by Cecil Jones

The North Carolina State University ACI Student Chapter has been very active for many years under the strong guidance of Roberto Nunez, who serves as the student advisor for the chapter. Currently, the chapter has approximately twelve members, eight of whom attended the ACI Convention in Washington, DC. Six new members attended the Convention this semester and they are planning for a larger participation next semester. The new members really enjoyed the Convention and planed to attend the Convention in Kansas City, MO. The president of the student chapter is Elizabeth Phelps.

The student chapter participated in the Egg Protection Device competition at the Convention, along with other students from around the world. Although the chapter’s design did well, another student chapter won the competition. In addition to participating in the student competition, members attended seminars and technical committee meetings at the Convention. The chapter also plans to participate in the Concrete Construction Competition later this month.

The student chapter at NC State University also conducts ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician Grade 1 certification sessions for the North Carolina Department of Transportation. Members of the student chapter have obtained this certification themselves and are therefore in a position to assist with the instruction and serve as Supplemental Examiners for the performance testing phase of the certification program.

The Carolinas Chapter is honored to support this, and other student chapters. Carolinas Chapter members are always very impressed after engaging with any of our student chapter participants, and comfortable in the knowledge that the future of our industry is in good hands with these energetic and dedicated students.
Formation of New Student Chapter—UNCC

By David B. Scott and Cecil Jones

At the risk of writing a cliché, our student chapters are comprised of individuals who will be the future leaders of the concrete industry in the coming years. It has been important to the leaders of ACI, both ACI International and the Carolinas Chapter, to foster and attend to existing and potential student chapters in the Carolinas. The Board of the ACI Carolinas Chapter provides this support through engagement with students, leadership, and donations. As such, the Board is pleased to announce the pending formation of another student chapter – University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

The student chapter at UNC Charlotte is led by an enthusiastic and supportive student and faculty team and have proven to be competitive on a national level. More specifically, several students that now comprise the leadership of this chapter won a national competition related to concrete floor design. The UNC Charlotte students (Joel Shuler, Edward Blanchard, Stewart Crismore, Seth Spears, and Ashton Crabtree) placed first in the 2013 ACI/ASCC Concrete Construction Competition. The competition focused on finding solutions to a fast-track installation of floor coating on a concrete slab on grade.

With 25 members strong, the UNC-Charlotte student chapter has a faculty mentor, developed a constitution, are going to take part in this ACI’s Concrete Construction Competition, and has fundraisers pending. The Board looks forward to bolstering this student chapter, along with others, and to help them flourish for the sake of the betterment of the future leaders of the concrete industry.
On March 5, 2015, ACI International and the ACI Carolinas Chapter held its first Reorganized for Design Building Code Seminar in Charlotte, NC. The topics discussed consisted of; Philosophy and Organization, Reference Standards, Structural Systems, Beams, Two Way Slabs, Columns, Walls, Diaphragms, Foundations and Plain Concrete, Joints and Connections, Materials, Strut-and-Tie Models, Construction, and Technical Changes. The full day seminar was held at the Charlotte Motor Speedway, which included an amazing lunch with full view of the race track. Attendance of 46 consisting of; consulting Engineers, Ready Mix Concrete Engineers, representatives from the Precast industries, Cement manufactures, and associated industry professionals. Presentation were executed by; James Wight, FACI and FASCE – F.E. Richart, Jr. Collegiate Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Michigan, and Michael Tholen, PHD, PE – Managing Director, Professional Development at the American Concrete Institute. All attendees received current publications of the ACI 318 Building Code. All the presentations were well received and captured the attention of all who attended. The added bonus had to be the overwhelming amount of fresh, warm, cookies/brownies and cool refreshing drinks during the afternoon break. This refreshing break kept our motors reeving through the afternoon. A special thank you to all the presenters and attendees for their help in making this seminar a memorable one.

ACI Carolina’s Chapter Summary of Educational Meetings

By David B. Scott

The Carolinas Chapter of ACI place a high value on the opportunity to host education meetings for the betterment of our patrons. Recent years included meetings with a focus on flatness and levelness testing of floors, moisture issues, structural design and construction, coatings, concrete specifications, corrosion, etc. Following along the footsteps of previous years, 2014 consisted of high-quality educational opportunities hosted by ACI’s Carolina’s Chapter at various cities throughout the North and South Carolinas. The focus of 2014 was Fly Ash. The focus of 2015 is going to be air – entrained or entrapped – in concrete. More specifically, your leaders of the Chapter are putting together these sessions which will educate on the aspects of Pre-Con meetings, admixtures, and hot-weather and high early-strength concreting. The seminars include speakers who are nationally recognized within the concrete community. Be on the lookout for announcements of these educational meetings at the new and improved website utilized by the Chapter. Be sure to Bookmark this website and visit it frequently for announcements and alerts regarding the activities hosted by the Chapter.

See Page 6 for an article on our May 5th First 2015 Educational Meeting.
On May 5, 2015, the ACI Carolinas Chapter held its first seminar for the year in Charleston, South Carolina. The topics discussed consisted of; Concrete Admixtures – Adding/Removing and Their Relationships, Hot Weather Concreting, Pre-Concrete Conference Is Mandatory, High and High-Early Strength Concrete, Sustainable Concrete Today, and Concrete Testing – New and Old Technology. The full day seminar was held at the Charleston Plaza Hotel, on a typical Charleston scenic spring day. Attendance consisted of; consulting Engineers, Ready Mix Concrete Engineers, representatives from the Precast industries, Cement manufactures, and associated industry professionals. Presentation were executed by; Scott Barbour, PE – Euclid Chemical, Chad Hensley, PE – Wayne Brothers Incorporated, William Phelan, PE – Euclid Chemical, and Kenneth Johnson, Jr – Soil Consultants Incorporated. All the presentations were well received and captured the attention of all who attended. A special thank you to all the presenters and attendees for their help in making this first seminar a memorable one.
ACI Certifications – A Look Ahead

By David B. Scott

One of the benefits of participating in an organization like the American Concrete Institute (ACI) International is the opportunity to obtain certifications. The certifications developed by ACI International are recognized around the world and include Field Grade Level 1, Flatwork Finishing, Adhesion Anchor, and many others. The certifications programs are carefully crafted by experts within the field respective of that certification. The certification programs will include study and demonstration of competency in three categories – general knowledge, working knowledge, and skill. Currently, ACI International, through Subcommittee 601F, is in the process of developing the first portion of a three-part certification on nondestructive evaluation of concrete. The first will be focused on the proper application of ground-penetrating radar (commonly called radar of GPR). This technique will instruct and certify on the proper use of GPR to locate and characterize steel embedded within concrete. Following the GPR certification will be a focus on NDE techniques which provide quantification of the strength of concrete using techniques such as pull off, pull out, Schmidt Hammer, etc. The final portion of this certification includes more advanced stress wave techniques such as impulse response, impact echo, ultrasonic pulse velocity, and shear-wave velocity. These three areas of certifications may be important to you and your company and provide valuable opportunity to expand your services. The leadership at the Carolinas Chapter are mindful of the benefits these certifications provide you and we will continue to diligently offer opportunities to provide these accreditations to you and your teams.