

# CONCRETE REINFORCER

A Publication of the Chicago Chapter ICRI



## **THIS ISSUE:**

APRIL DINNER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

ICRI CHICAGO CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2020 ICRI FALL CONVENTION ANNOUNCEMENT

SEPTEMBER DINNER PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

2020 VIRTUAL TECHNICAL SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

ICRI CHICAGO CHAPTER PROJECT AWARDS PROGRAM  
CALL FOR ENTRIES

## **PHOTOS:**

April Dinner Meeting Highlights

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>SEPT</b>	<b>ICRI Golf Outing</b>
3	<i>Cancelled due to COVID19 pandemic</i>
<b>15</b>	<b>Virtual Dinner Program (FREE)</b>
	<b>Topic: Marijuana in the Workplace and Incident Investigation: 4 Stages Recommended by OSHA</b>
	<i>Event Starts 3:00 PM</i>
<b>OCT</b>	<b>2020 ICRI Fall Convention (Virtual)</b>
<b>13-15</b>	<b>Concrete Repair in</b>
<b>&amp;</b>	<b>Extreme Environments</b>
<b>20-22</b>	
<b>NOV</b>	<b>Virtual Technical Seminar</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Topic: External Strengthening of Concrete using FRP – Application and Installation Best Practices</b>
	<i>Event Starts 2:00 PM</i>
	<i>Duration: 2 hours</i>
<b>17</b>	<b>Virtual Dinner Program (FREE)</b>
	<b>Topic: TBD</b>
	<i>Event Starts 3:00 PM</i>
<b>DEC</b>	<b>Holiday Social</b>
	<i>Cancelled due to COVID19 pandemic</i>

## OUR ASSOCIATION...

ICRI, the only association in the concrete industry devoted solely to repair and restoration, publishes a bimonthly magazine and technical guidelines for concrete repair, and cosponsors the World of Concrete. Local chapters provide regional networking opportunities. Worldwide membership include contractors, manufacturers, engineers, distributors, owners, and other professionals with a common goal: prolonging the useful life of concrete through quality repair, restoration, and protection.

## OUR MISSION...

The mission of the International Concrete Repair Institute is to be a leading resource for education and information to improve the quality of repair, restoration, and protection of concrete and other structures in accordance with consensus criteria.



## LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Well, the world certainly has changed considerably since my last letter in April. I hope everyone is healthy and safe. Due to COVID-19, we all learned to adapt to social distancing, wearing face masks in public, and sanitizing excessively. Some good has come from our necessity to adapt. We became more comfortable communicating remotely, and saved a bundle at the gas station.

With construction being an essential service, I hope your business opportunities have not suffered considerably. There is a fine line between staying safe and being out of work. I hope you and your companies have been able to manage operations without jeopardizing your economic futures.

We are proud to be ICRI's 2019 Chapter of the Year. Since the Spring Convention was cancelled this year, the Board was informed of the honor via a Zoom meeting. We are certainly appreciative of our members for their interest and participation in the chapter, which allowed us to achieve that honor.

Unfortunately, due to current restrictions, we had to cancel our golf outing this year. It was a tough decision, but it just would not be the same fun-filled day of mingling and networking to which we have grown accustomed. Hopefully, that will make next year's outing that much more enjoyable. We had a nice turnout for our April webinar on the topic of Impacts of COVID-19 on the Workplace. Our September webinar will also be on a timely topic; Marijuana in the Workplace and Incident Investigation: 4 Stages Recommended by OSHA.

Our committee members are planning events to benefit members, while still social distancing. Similar to ICRI's National Fall Convention, our chapter's technical seminar will be virtual this year. Look for more information to follow on the seminar. If you have any suggestions regarding new topics or events you would like the chapter to explore, please send them to Tom at [info@icrichicago.org](mailto:info@icrichicago.org). We are always interested in your input.

Although our world has been turned upside down and all we want to do is watch a ballgame on television with real fans cheering from the stands, we will get through these tough times. Hang in there and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Mike Wiscons

ICRI Chicago Chapter President



**CHICAGO CHAPTER 2020 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

The 2020 Chicago Chapter Officers and Directors are already hard at work under the leadership of our new President, Mike Wiscons.

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**www.icrichicago.org**  
 Chapter Website


**www.icri.org**  
 National Website

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## 2020 VIRTUAL TECHNICAL SEMINAR

### FREE VIRTUAL WEBINAR

External Strengthening of Concrete using FRP – Application and Installation Best Practices

**Thursday  
November 12th  
2:00 pm**

Please join us for a two-hour virtual education and demonstration Technical Seminar on Thursday, November 12, 2020. Experts in the field of Fiber-Reinforced Polymer (FRP) will present a general overview of FRP materials, typical usages, advantages of various technologies and the installation of the various systems. Eri Vokshi and Scott DiStefano of Sika Corporation will be the presenters.

ICRI will send an invitation to all ICRI members.



**Arden Kurtjian**  
Account Manager, NEOGARD

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# Call for Entries

## 2020 ICRI Chicago Chapter OUTSTANDING Concrete Repair Projects



### AWARDS PROGRAM

**Award Criteria.** Entries will be judged on uniqueness, use of current technologies & materials, functionality, value engineering and aesthetics. The Judges - ICRI Chicago Chapter Awards Board of Directors and Committee Members - consist of Engineers, Contractors and Manufacturers working within the Concrete Repair Industry.



**Eligibility.** The project must be at substantial completion phase by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. A single-phase of a long term project may be submitted provided it meets the same timeline. Concrete repair or restoration must be the MAJOR component of the overall project. The project must be designed, performed or supplied by an ICRI Chicago Chapter member.



**Deadline for Entry.** The deadline for receipt of the entry application is DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 to:

[AWARDS.ICRI.CHICAGO@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AWARDS.ICRI.CHICAGO@GMAIL.COM)

**Awards.** Winning Projects will be announced in the February issue of the Concrete Reinforcer and presented at the ICRI Chicago Chapter 2021 February Dinner Meeting  
**\*\*PLUS\*\***

**FREE** Foursome & Hole Sponsorship at the 2021 25<sup>th</sup> Annual ICRI Chicago-Chapter Scholarship Award Golf Outing and Fundraiser (\$750.00 Value)

International Concrete Repair Institute Chicago Chapter - PO Box 578625 - Chicago, Illinois 60657



## Families First Coronavirus Response Act

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### EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

#### PAID SICK LEAVE AND EXPANDED FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE UNDER THE FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act) requires certain employers to provide their employees with paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. These provisions will apply from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

##### PAID LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS

Generally, employers covered under the Act must provide employees:

- Up to two weeks (80 hours, or a part-time employee's two-week equivalent) of paid sick leave based on the higher of their regular rate of pay, or the applicable state or Federal minimum wage, paid at:
  - 100% for qualifying reasons #1-3 below, up to \$511 daily and \$5,110 total;
  - ⅔ for qualifying reasons #4 and 6 below, up to \$200 daily and \$2,000 total; and
  - ⅓ for qualifying reasons #5 and 6 below, up to \$200 daily and \$2,000 total.

A part-time employee is eligible for leave for the number of hours that the employee is normally scheduled to work over that period.

##### ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES

In general, employees of private sector employers with fewer than 500 employees, and certain public sector employees, are eligible for up to two weeks of fully or partially paid sick leave for COVID-19 related reasons (see below). Employees who have been employed for at least 30 days prior to their leave request may be eligible for up to an additional 10 weeks of partially paid expanded family and medical leave for reason #6 below.

##### QUALIFYING REASONS FOR LEAVE RELATED TO COVID-19

An employee is entitled to take leave related to COVID-19 if the employee is unable to work, including unable to telework, because the employee:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. is subject to a Federal, State, or local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID-19;              | 5. is caring for his or her child whose school or place of care is closed for child care provider is unavailable) due to COVID-19 related reasons; or |
| 2. has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID-19;                       | 6. is experiencing any other substantially-similar condition specified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.                           |
| 3. is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is seeking a medical diagnosis;                                    |   |
| 4. is caring for an individual subject to an order described in (1) or self-quarantine as described in (2); |   |

##### ENFORCEMENT

The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) has the authority to investigate and enforce compliance with the FFCRA. Employers may not discharge, discipline, or otherwise discriminate against any employee who lawfully takes paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave under the FFCRA. File a complaint, or initiate a proceeding under or related to this Act. Employees in violation of the provisions of the FFCRA will be subject to penalties and enforcement by WHD.



WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

For additional information  
or to file a complaint:  
**1-866-487-9243**  
TTY: 1-877-889-9627

[dol.gov/agencies/whd](https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd)

WHM2 09/2020

## Illinois Executive Order

- Extended through April 30th
- Directs Illinois residents to stay at home and many businesses to cease operations
- Enables Essential Services to continue
- Any business that is included in the Executive Order's definitions of Healthcare and Public Health Operations, Human Services Operations, Essential Government Functions or Essential Infrastructure is generally permitted to continue its operations. Businesses can also continue to operate if all of their employees work from their residences.

*Keefe, Campbell, Biery & Associates © 2020*

## ICRI CHICAGO CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The ICRI Chicago Chapter Scholarship Program's goal is to assist local under-graduates who have decided to study Engineering, Architecture, Construction Management, Concrete Industry Management, or a related field. Many qualified applicants participated in the submittal process this year and we are proud to announce that Lauren Schissler from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign & Meya Angeles from IIT-Chicago | Dominican University are the recipients of the 2020 ICRI Chicago Chapter Scholarships. This year's total award amount was \$5,000.00.

Dear ICRI Chicago Chapter,

My name is Lauren Schissler, and I was recently awarded the ICRI Chicago Chapter 2020 Scholarship. I am thrilled to receive this award! I am writing to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to the ICRI Chicago Chapter; I will use the scholarship funds to cover my tuition, fees, and other academic expenses.

I am a junior studying Civil Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and my hometown is Western Springs, IL. I am particularly interested in the Structural Engineering concentration and am also pursuing a minor in Materials Science and Engineering. Since my freshman year, I have been involved in concrete materials research with Professor David Lange's research group, and I am currently conducting a research project about developing a standard reference material for concrete. On campus, I also serve on the executive board for the university Chi Epsilon chapter (the civil engineering honor society), am a committee chair in the Society of Women Engineers, and enjoy playing trumpet in the Marching Illini and University of Illinois Basketball Band.

The past two summers, I have been an engineering intern at ATMI Precast in Aurora, IL; most recently, I worked on updating structural engineering calculations in Tekla Tedds for precast concrete wall panel design. I enjoyed learning about concrete design ahead of my engineering coursework, and my experiences made me even more certain that civil engineering is the right career for me. Throughout my career, concrete will play a key role in my work every day.

I am so grateful to receive the ICRI Chicago Chapter scholarship, which significantly reduces the financial stress of attending the University of Illinois and will allow me to focus on my studies and extracurricular activities. It is an honor to receive this prestigious award; thank you again.

Best,



Lauren R. Schissler

## ICRI CHICAGO CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The ICRI Chicago Chapter Board of Directors would like to officially congratulate Lauren and Meya! We would also like to thank Steve Genovese, Will Kroncke, Sarah Horton, and Shane Crowe who have put forth a tireless effort in the selection process. We look forward to the 2021 Scholarship Program.

Dear International Concrete Repair Industry - Chicago,

There is a certain excitement that comes when starting a new journey. However, many of us come across an unfinished or pothole-ridden road, which can cause the journey to be uncomfortable or can debilitate our excitement. On my journey towards obtaining a bachelor's degree, I have faced an uneven, cracked road. I have lacked encouragement from family due to my first-generation student status, have come from a financially difficult background, and in an effort to afford tuition, I have dedicated time to multiple jobs rather than focusing on industry-specific projects. Fixing the road includes removing the edges, replacing cracked cement, and lining the road. Receiving the ICRI-Chicago scholarship has corrected the bumps in my journey. With a smooth ride, the excitement to continue the journey is back in the forefront, and the energy to explore more roads sparks. Winning the ICRI scholarship has encouraged my passion in the construction industry, has supported me financially, and has given me the time to focus on a construction-related internship this fall.

I would like to sincerely thank ICRI-Chicago for their generous gift in support of my higher education. Due to all the time and effort ICRI has invested behind the scenes, I can take bigger steps towards my goals in the industry. Your support is refreshing, encouraging, and life changing. Thank you, ICRI-Chicago, for believing in my goals and being supportive of my next steps. Reinforcing my own goals has encouraged me to continue to give support to other students who also have a passion to enter the concrete and construction industry. I am incredibly excited to continue my journey on this renewed road.

Sincerely,



Meyahueltzin Angeles  
Architectural Engineering | Illinois Institute of Technology '21  
Mathematics | Dominican University '21  
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## 2020 ICRI FALL CONVENTION “CONCRETE REPAIR IN EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS”

After careful consideration, the ICRI Board of Directors have made the very difficult decision to transition the Fall Convention, that was scheduled to take place in Minneapolis, to a virtual format. The virtual convention dates will be October 13-15 and 20-22.

With the continued uncertainty and safety issues surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICRI Board of Directors concluded that there's no realistic way to hold an in-person Fall Convention in a manner that would be safe for participants.

They know there is no substitute for seeing friends and colleagues face-to-face, but members will adapt and position ICRI for an even stronger future. And, the ICRI Board of Directors believe, a virtual convention presents exciting new possibilities:

- First, they plan to offer member companies and sponsors the opportunity to present virtual product demonstrations, showcasing their unique products and services. This is a first for ICRI.
- Second, they intend to reach new audiences that might never be able to attend a live convention—especially students who may be interested in working in our industry.
- Third, going virtual now means building new online education capabilities that will better serve the membership (and help attract new members) after this pandemic loosens its grip.



## ICRI SEPTEMBER DINNER PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

### FREE VIRTUAL WEBINAR


**Marijuana in the Workplace and  
Incident Investigation: 4 Stages  
Recommended by OSHA**

**Tuesday  
September 15th  
3:00 pm**



Please join your ICRI Chicago Chapter for a FREE VIRTUAL WEBINAR featuring two “blazing” hot topics on Tuesday, September 15 at 3:00 pm. ICRI Chicago Chapter member Justin Maack of Assurance Agency, Ltd. and John P. Campbell with Keefe, Campbell & Biery will present “Marijuana in the Workplace” and “Incident Investigation: 4 stages Recommended by OSHA”. They will discuss how the new legalization of marijuana in Illinois will affect the design/construction industry from the employer and workers perspective. Additionally, they will discuss the importance of incident reports and how their accuracy and completeness assist in the proper resolution of incidences. Please look for the email blast inviting you to the free virtual webinar. We hope you can join us.

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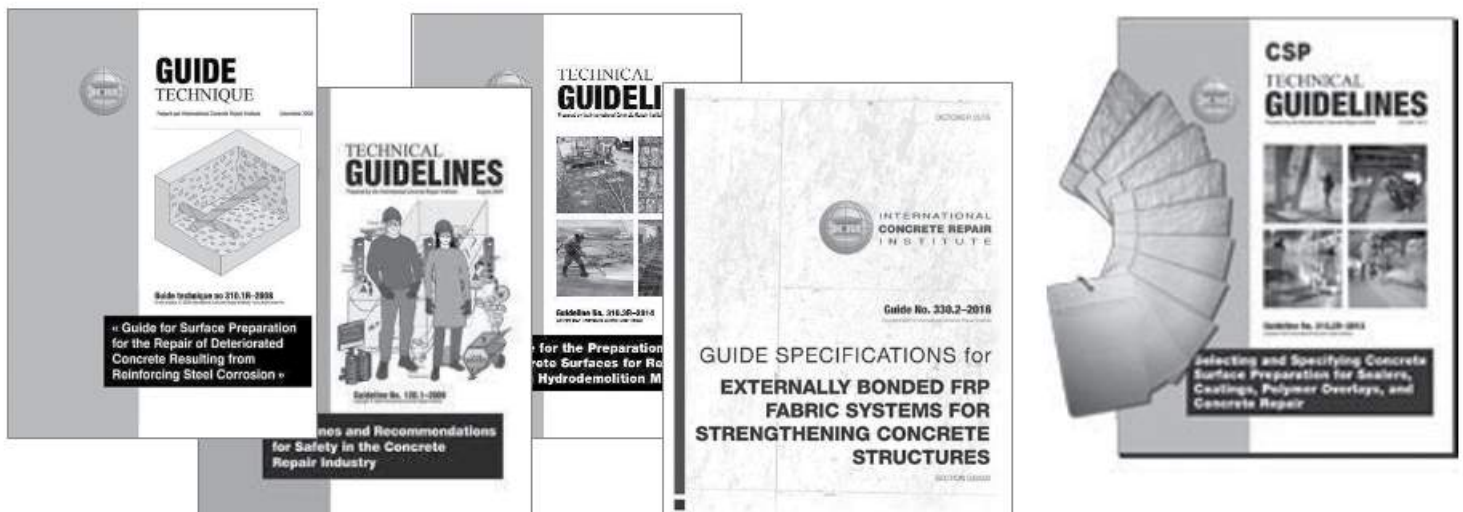


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