**WWCCA Members Meeting**

“Nite at the Races”
Thursday September 21, 2006

WWCCA is honoring our Old Timers for their many years of hard work and contribution to the Association of the Wall & Ceiling Industry. Once again we have reserved the Finish Line Room at the Los Alamitos Race Track. Meeting Notices are in the mail and also available for download on our website (www.WWCCA.org). Please join us Thursday, September 21, 2006 and see some old familiar faces and maybe win $ome mula$!
The W.W.C.C.A. completed another fun, exciting and rewarding golf season. The 32nd Annual Desert Classic held at the beautiful Desert Springs Marriott and played at the challenging Desert Willow Golf Club. It was a tremendous success!

We had our largest turnout out to date with more than 180 golfers teeing it up. The competition was fierce and a good time was had by all. Our players especially enjoyed the handsome leather luggage tee gifts. The Saturday evening party was attended by over 300 enthusiastic party goers enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and free flowing cocktails.

There were several happy winners in our raffle give away and our tournament winners gladly received cash awards.

Our 22nd Annual W.W.C.C.A. Charity Golf Tournament benefiting the L.A. Chapter of the Huntington’s Disease Society of America took place at the awesome and newly renovated Hacienda Golf Club. The golf course was in magnificent condition, the greens rolling fast and true (no truth to the vicious rumor that Ian had his Greens Superintendent cut & roll the greens to a speed of Mach 15!). With 140 players we were to raise over $26,000.00 for Huntington's!

The poolside party was a big hit as there were many enthusiastic raffle prize winners. The food was delicious and the cold beer was a relief enjoyed by many. We even were surprised and entertained by an anonymous high diver who could not resist the temptation of the cool pool water.

We will make a presentation with a check for the $26,000.00 we raised to the Huntington's Society at our general meeting Thursday September 21st at Los Alamitos Race Course. Please plan on attending.

Neither of our golf tournaments would be nearly as successful or enjoyable if not for the generous support of all of our SPONSORS. We truly appreciate your loyal donations!

It has been a pleasure to work for and with all of you at the W.W.C.C.A. this year. I am pleased to announce that I have been retained again for the 2007 season and will do my best to add to the service and enjoyment that you expect and deserve.

In the future I will be sending out a very important information form for all of our companies & players to fill out. In doing so you will be helping me raise the bar in service for you and communication to you for our events in 2007.

Tim R. Haas
PGA
Tournament Golf & Travel
ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY MAKING USE OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS PUBLICATION ASSUMES ALL RISK AND LIABILITY ARISING OR RESULTING FROM SUCH USE. WWCCA makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, that the information provided herein is suitable for any general or specific purpose. The information provided should not be used without the approval of a qualified engineer, architect, building designer or other duly qualified construction professional. None of the information provided in this publication is intended to exclude the use of implementation of any other design or construction technique.
Architects and Designers often specify portland cement-based plaster as an economical, long lasting and effective exterior cladding. It is tough, attractive and, (when applied over a well designed and properly applied weather-resistant barrier), moisture resistant. Plaster is also thin, brittle and prone to cracking.

To best reap the benefits of plaster, the Technical Services Information Bureau recommends avoiding steel trowel smooth finishes. These finishes involve intensive hand labor and leave a thin, brittle “egg shell” layer of portland cement. This thin, brittle layer is very susceptible to excessive cracking and has no texture to help hide otherwise inconspicuous minor cracking.

The American Concrete Institute, committee 524 also discourages smooth finishes:

12.3.12 Smooth finish—Smooth troweled surfaces are discouraged because of their tendency to crack, particularly over open wood framed supports. Burning the finish over open-framed construction is almost certain to induce cracking, and create discoloration of an integrally colored finish.

When the desire for a steel trowel smooth finish is greater then the industry recommendation can thwart, we strongly recommend specifying a paint finish, in lieu of an integral color. Integral colored, smooth plaster finishes will appear with mottled color and darkened burn lines. These blemishes are the result of friction from the burnishing required to bring the cement to a smooth finish, and moisture added to keep the cement workable. In addition, the pigment in the cement mix further interferes with the cement’s already impaired ability to resist cracking. Lastly, patching integral colored, smooth finish plaster always leaves a residual scar that usually looks worse when the crack is repaired. At least with paint, the crack can be patched and feathered smoothed with the entire panel repainted.

In summary, most specified smooth finish, integral colored plaster projects result in unsatisfactory results with numerous costly and time consuming attempts to repair.

The “California Construction Expo”, intended for contractors, designers, construction professionals, suppliers and construction workers made its debut at the Los Angeles Convention Center back on August 17th. The hosts of the event were the Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles Community College District and the Metropolitan Water District in addition to a state-wide consortium of public agencies. Its mission was to provide exhibitors an avenue to generate new business relationships, provide workshops to engage and facilitate contractor participation in the government sector and a venue to experience new tools and equipment. Also in attendance were several bus-loads of students from the LA Unified School District.

Although the amount of manufacturers with exhibit occupancy was low, WWCCA along with the Painters & Allied Trades DC 36 and the Southwest Carpenters Training Fund were there to represent and promote Union work and Apprenticeship training. Other exhibitors promoting union work were the CA LECET and “Helmets to Hardhats”.

By Michael Logan
Raymond Interior Systems has created a walk team for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Light The Night Walk, held on Saturday, September 16, 2006. Team Raymond will be walking in honor of Ghia Rivera Ondatje, daughter of Raymond foreman Erron Ondatje, who recently lost her courageous battle against a form of leukemia known as AML.

Light The Night is an annual, nationwide walk put on by The Society to celebrate and commemorate lives touched by cancer. Walkers participating in the event hold illuminated red and white balloons. Survivors of blood cancer hold a white balloon while supporters hold a red balloon. Together the illuminated balloons light the night with hope that one day there will be a cure for all forms of blood cancer. The walk culminates in a community celebration with music, refreshments and entertainment where friends, family members, neighbors, co-workers and others come together to demonstrate their support for cancer patients.

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society is the world’s largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research while also providing education and patient services. All funds raised for the walk will be used for research and to improve the quality of life for the more than 747,000 people in the United States who are currently fighting blood cancers. Although research is responsible for increasing survival rates and improving quality of life for those affected by these diseases, the battle is far from over. Every five minutes, someone in this country is diagnosed with blood cancer, and every 10 minutes someone passes away. Leukemia is the leading cause of cancer death among children and young adults under the age of 20.

We encourage everyone to come out to Angels Stadium on Saturday, September 16, 2006 to support Team Raymond and The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for this worthwhile cause. To learn more about the walk, you can visit www.lightthenight.org. We look forward to seeing everyone at the walk as we collectively Light The Night.
Trying to Fix Builder Relations

By Roger Vincent, Times Staff Writer
August 17, 2006

When Los Angeles officials asked contractors in June to bid on the job of building a new police headquarters to replace aging Parker Center, only one responded — and his bid was $43 million higher than the city's $200-million estimated cost.

The lack of interest among contractors disappointed city leaders but was no surprise. California's public agencies are hard-pressed to find builders for billions of dollars' worth of projects including roads, schools and airport runways as the construction industry struggles to cope with a sustained national building boom.

Aggravating officials' plight is their reputation for being difficult to work with, particularly by making numerous project changes and late payments. Contractors who have the choice are often opting to build for private developers instead.

"We have frustrated [contractors] so much that they have given up," Councilman Tony Cardenas said. Reduced competition is driving up prices, he said, "and taxpayers end out of business in the last decade — and that government shared part of the blame."

"The construction industry has essentially gone broke working for public agencies," said Ron Tutor, president of Sylmar-based Tutor-Saliba Corp., the lone bidder for the police headquarters. "There are only a few of us left."

Tutor-Saliba, one of two bidders on a project now underway to replace the south runway at Los Angeles International Airport, has been in some high-profile legal wrangles with public agencies. In 2004, Los Angeles airport officials threatened to remove the firm from a $34-million expansion of the Van Nuys FlyAway center, alleging that the company had failed to fix construction defects. The city later signed off the project as complete, though months behind schedule.

Seeking to mend fences and find bidders for more than $100 billion worth of projects, public agencies are hosting the California Construction Expo today at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Government agencies, led by the Los Angeles Unified School District, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and the Los Angeles Community College District, have invited builders to come learn about upcoming projects and attend workshops on how to do business with the public sector.

"We are trying to woo contractors," said Diana Ho, a consultant for the college district. "We're reaching out."

Although many builders plan to attend, skepticism remains.

"Talk isn't going to win us back," Tutor said. "They've got to change the way they do business."

It's no longer business as usual at the LAUSD, said Guy Mehula, chief facilities executive for the district, which needs bids on $1.4 billion worth of projects during the next 12 months, including 39 new schools.

In recent months, the district has begun to expedite payments on change orders and help contractors comply with state hiring and wage rules for their employees, among other changes, Mehula said. Bills are now paid within 20 days on average.

"We want to make sure the process goes quicker," said Mehula, a former construction manager for the Navy. "We want to be as efficient and contractor-friendly as possible."

At this point in the real estate cycle, being contractor-friendly is probably a requirement for anyone who hopes to get major work done because there aren't enough builders to go around. The residential construction boom of the last few years, coupled with increased public spending and massive rebuilding along the Gulf Coast in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, has stretched builders thin. Hot markets for condominium towers in Las Vegas and other cities have added to the strain.

Recent cooling in the housing market is expected to improve builder availability and the flow of construction materials, but contractors will probably still be short-handed, predicted Dennis Katovsich, a senior vice president at the Newport Beach office of McCarthy Building Cos., which specializes in building hospitals and is working on the new $500-million County-USC Medical Center in Los Angeles.

"Talent in our industry is at a premium from senior administrators down to carpenters," he said. "Everybody is pretty much at full employment."

Part of the problem is that worker ranks are still thin because enrollment in construction training programs was pared back during the 1990s, when the economy was slow and hiring flagged. And fewer Americans are attracted to the demanding business these days.

"Not everybody wants to be a plumber, electrician or cement finisher anymore," Katovsich said.

There is plenty of work for survivors in the private sector, said Frank Foellmer, a division manager at Swinerton Inc. The San Francisco-based contractor and others are often servicing their long-term private clients first to keep them happy.

"Not bidding a public job does not hurt your opportunity to bid the next job if it is attractive," he said. "We need to pick and choose our clients because we have a finite number of resources."

Some public agencies including Los Angeles and the state's university systems have improved their bidding and administrative processes, though, Foellmer said. He intends to attend today's program to see whether any public projects described at the event are good fits for his construction teams.

Private industry "won't sustain the pace it is currently on," he said. "We're always looking for opportunities in the public sector."

The city's community college district has $2.2 billion in bond money to upgrade nine colleges, said Larry H. Eisenberg, executive director of facilities planning and development. "There is so much work ahead of us."

Tutor said government still needed to do more to gain contractors' trust.

"Getting competitive bids isn't a right," he said. "It's something you've got to earn."

ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY MAKING USE OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS PUBLICATION ASSUMES ALL RISK AND LIABILITY ARISING OR RESULTING FROM SUCH USE. WWCCLA makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, that the information provided herein is suitable for any general or specific purpose. The information provided should not be used without the approval of a qualified engineer, architect, building designer or other duly qualified construction professional. None of the information provided in this publication is intended to exclude the use of implementation of any other design or construction technique.
Roundtable Discussion with the Governor

Carol Kimmel Schary joins Gov. Schwarzenegger in a Roundtable Discussion On Behalf of Businesses in the Enterprise Zones

Gov. Schwarzenegger highlighted his administration's work on behalf of businesses and successful fight to protect California's Enterprise Zones during a morning roundtable with business owners

Carol Kimmel Schary, owner of Nathan Kimmel Company, was a part of the nine person roundtable discussion. Business owners in the Enterprise Area discussed how the tax credits and other parts of this program were helpful in their businesses.

Going around the room, the participants discussed other challenges in the area such as homeless encampments, how to attract more business to this area, the continuation of the program, and how the program can be marketed to the business owners in a better manner.

Carol suggested that the marketing plan go to the realtors and the business owners in a more concentrated way so it is understood better. She also suggested a more user-friendly application so more people would be able to avail themselves of this program.

The Governor responded: "My administration has worked hard to improve the business climate and helped create almost 600,000 new jobs by reforming workers compensation, cutting taxes, passing responsible budgets, vetoing job-killer bills and increasing the number of Enterprise Zones," said Gov. Schwarzenegger.

"By using incentives like Hiring Credits or Sales Tax Credits, these zones help draw business investment to economically depressed areas. Enterprise Zones lead to more jobs, less poverty and long-term economic stability."

Calendar Events

September

4 - Labor Day (WWCCA office Closed)
12 - CSI Product Show
Marconi Auto Museum - Tustin
17 - 30 ICC Annual Conf. & Code Development Hearings - Lake Buena Vista, FL
21 - WWCCA “Old Timers” Members Meeting - Los Alamitos Racetrack

October

4 - San Diego Meeting - The Butcher Shop
4 - AIA Las Vegas Product Show - Stardust Hotel Pavillion
24-29 AWCI Committee Week - The Broadmoor Resort, Colorado Springs, CO

November

11 - Veterans Day (WWCCA office Closed)
12-15 FCA - Las Vegas, NV/Caesar’s Palace
14-16 Finishing Industry Forum/Las Vegas, NV/Caesar’s Palace
21 - WWCCA Members Meeting
23 - Thanksgiving Day
30 - Las Vegas Membership Meeting/McCormick & Schmicks

New Members

Contractors California

Contractors Nevada

Affiliates California

Affiliates Nevada

Pam's Place

Hello

I was thinking the other day how truly blessed I am. Soooo!! I said to myself, self? What a perfect time for me to express my appreciation to a very special person in my life. Now all of you know this person. This person always makes a special effort to dress up and show up at the job and give their best, always helps me when I ask, always talks to me with a smile when I answer the phone, always has a term of endearment when I answer the phone, darling, munchkin, cutie, pammy, sweetness, lovey, girlfriend, miss happiness, funny and many more. In fact I would like to give this person the "You are Wonderful" award. And U have probably already figured out who it is. Your right!!!!!!!!!! It’s all of you.

Thank you so very much for all your patience and fun phone chats with me. To the world you might be only one person, but to me you are the world each and every one of you. Sooo sorry please keep up the good work and continue to take good care of you, because you are all very special people to me.