Anyone who attended AWCI’s Expo: Construction Directions (also known as AWCI’s 85th Annual Convention and Trade Show) was a winner. Some winners received more recognition than others, but this issue of the magazine is all about recognizing everyone from those who have earned our respect for their tremendous achievements and the contributions they have made to the industry to the guy who put on a good show from his 10-by-10 exhibit booth.

Practically every day during the convention featured some kind of winner. It started with the stalwart committee members who are helping to shape the industry’s future, middled with the big winners who were recognized at the Awards Brunch, and the golf tournament winners, and ended at the final night dinner gala with the winner of a scholarship and the winner of a brand new car.

For those of you who were not able to attend, I wish I could say that this magazine brings the convention to you in its entirety, but I’m afraid a few pages in a magazine can’t do justice to this major industry event. The text and many pictures within these pages provide merely a glimpse. We wish we could publish all 600+ photos, but even that wouldn’t be enough.

As my term as your president nears an end, I reflect on the year it has been. This great group came together after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and donated time, materials and money to the cause. We banded together again to rally around each other in support when things like EIFS litigation, mold and mildew threatened to undermine our work.

I’m so proud to be counted among you all, as one of your peers, as a friend. Thank you for that opportunity.