AWCI’s Committee Week

It’s a Solid, Hard-Working Week For the Association’s Leadership—But It Gets the Job Done

For AWCI’s leadership the so-called adverse construction economy had little impact as a record 302 wall and ceiling contractors, associate members, their spouses and guests showed up for the annual Committee Week at Amelia Island, Florida, in October.

Committee Week is when the wall and ceiling industry comes together and really gets things done. Committees met throughout the week—with the usual social activities—and then culminated their work with the Board of Directors meeting when official association action was taken on the many motions, recommendations, and planned projects.

The actions were as diverse as the members themselves. In recognition of the outstanding hospitality shown to a group of visiting AWCI members, the Board approved a motion of gratitude and appreciation to contractors in South Africa. They also adopted a resolution calling for continued support of President Reagan’s economic recovery plan—and received a nice thank-you telegram from the President in response.

In other actions, AWCI made these selections of “Outstanding” individuals who will be honored at the Montreal convention: committee chairman, Fred Treadway, Richmond, IN.; regional chairman, James R. Wies, St. Louis; associate member, Wagner/Grabber, Walnut Creek, CA; young member, Ben Hogan-camp, Murray, KY; unsung hero, Ernest Herzfeld, New York City; industry employee, Robert C. Knight, Denver; McNulty Award, Donald Mehrer, Seattle.

The Wall and Ceiling Contractors Political Action Committee (WAC/PAC) selected new officers with Robert F. Watkins, of Miami, as chairman, and Al J. Ricca, as vice chairman.

The board also approved of a thorough investigation by EBASCO, of New York City, into the possibilities of an AWCI-controlled insurance program for wall and ceiling contractors. AWCI also noted that the estimating course it is sponsoring with the Carter School of Estimating is coming along nicely, averaging about 18 students per sessions. The course is being put on in 24 cities in North America—and walk-in traffic has been higher than expected.

The International Liaison Committee’s recommendation to send a representative group to the annual convention of the Japanese Plasterers Association in Sapporo, Japan, in May 1983, was approved. It is planned that the AWCI group will also visit Hong Kong, with a stopover in Taiwan or Shanghai, if possible. Any contractors interested in joining the AWCI group should get in touch with Jerry Wykoff at AWCI headquarters.

The 1983 Board members for the Wall and Ceiling Foundation include Joe M. Baker, Jr., staff; Ronald J. Brady, La Mesa, CA; William J. Marek, Houston; Robert A. Negwer, St. Louis. Ron Gregory, of Inryco, was elected Foundation chairman. Other Foundation officers are: first vice president, P. Kenneth Hampshire, Baltimore; second vice president, J. Munroe McNulty, Chicago, and Joe M. Baker, Jr., secretary.

The Foundation’s library is now functioning full-time with Betty Jacobson as librarian. Bill C. Carroll, of Albuquerque, is reported to be investigating having the Foundation administer some $50,000 surplus funds left in the account of the former New Mexico Plaster Bureau as an annual scholarship fund.

Not all was business, though. The social program included an outside President’s Reception—which the Florida rains managed to dampen. The final night banquet at Crane’s mansion on famous Jekyl Island, Georgia, made up for the opening session. Both the reception and the banquet were sponsored by Allied Structural Industries, Detroit; Chicago Metallic Corporation, Chicago, Grabber/Wagner, Walnut Creek, CA, and Ohio Sealants, Mentor, Ohio.
Scenes From AWCI Committee Week at Amelia Island

... the President launched ... social activities ...

... as well as committee meetings ...
... and special sessions ...

... then came the Board meeting ...
... and Board deliberations ...

... as the Executive Committee ...
... followed matters closely ...