

# Staff Executive/ Editor's Comments



N. Eugene Brymer

## "House Movers are Different"

**H**ouse movers are different" is a term I first heard in February 1987 when attending the fifth annual conference of IASM in Charlotte, NC with Meric "Chip" Belding of West Chicago, IL. Chip was a past president of the Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association in Washington, DC where I was named Executive Vice President eight years earlier in 1979. He had been invited to be a guest speaker at the conference and asked me to accompany him to see if there was any possibility the two organizations could merge into one stronger association. "It'll never work, house movers are different," was the most expressed sentiment during exploratory discussions.

After guiding SC&RA from a membership of 385 in five countries to a membership of 1,100 in 43 countries and recognized as the worldwide organization for crane, rigging and heavy hauler companies, wife Rosalind and I decided 22 years in Washington, DC with no family nearby was long enough. We made plans to relocate to South Carolina to be nearer a daughter and her family that included two infant grandsons. Another daughter in school would relocate with us.

Two weeks after the necessary resignation notice to SC&RA officers, I received a phone call from Jeffrey Kennedy of Huntsville's Don Kennedy and Sons House Moving Co. to inquire if I would consider managing IASM. Jeff's contact was instigated by a phone call he had received from Gino Koster from the Netherlands informing Jeff of my departure from SC&RA. It is amazing how fast news travels and over such great distances. Three months later an agreement was reached allowing my participation as staff executive of IASM beginning January 2002. That agreement was extended for the ninth time in September in Clackamas, OR during the annual meeting of directors. Who would have ever

guessed that 15 years after the first encounter with IASM I would be managing the association of companies "different" from crane, rigging and heavy transport companies?

Unfortunately, Gino Koster died on September 29 of this year, five weeks after learning of a life threatening illness. He was 48. See page 9.

During the past eight years we have met and come to appreciate many "different" structural movers who have contributed significant time, money and effort to improve the association and its influence in the industry. Owners who consistently renew memberships, register for annual conferences, exhibit, sponsor events, and participate in award competitions are beneficially "different" because of their commitment to grow professionally and support the association. Especially officers and directors.

This magazine, the official publication of the International Association of Structural Movers and the North Carolina House Movers Association, is recognized as THE magazine for the structural moving industry. This December issue makes the 24th since my becoming editor in 2004. Many IASM members have been "different" by submitting material for articles about jobs their companies have performed.

Also **STRUCTURALMOVER** informs movers everywhere of all structural mover organization meeting annually in North America. It is an excellent vehicle to report about average or outstanding jobs performed by every member-company. If your company has not been taking advantage of this opportunity to showcase its abilities, I encourage you to be "different" in 2010 and do so.