

OVERVIEW



Mother Nature must have been having a bad week during the dates of IASM's annual conference at The Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach, VA February 18-22, 2009. On Tuesday, the day before registrants began to arrive in large numbers, the weather was perfect; 74 degrees, sun shining, with practically no wind. The next four days, however, it was a mixture of strong icy winds, intermittent rain and very low temperatures. But the weather had no effect on the conference. In fact, many attendees felt it was the best conference in the last several years.

Enthusiasm was high. There was a record six educational sessions. Attendance at the sessions was phenomenal. The room was packed for every session. In fact, when Charlie Johnson and his company's registrants were delayed due to a cancellation of their flight, attendees requested his presentation be rescheduled at 4:30 PM on Friday following the visit to John and Jim Matyiko's facilities. There were 198 attendees listening attentively until 5:45 PM.

The Matyiko Boys provided their facilities for attendees to visit. John and Jim operate out of the facilities but Jerry's company in Maryland and Joe and his son's company in Missouri also participated. They provided barriers from the cold wind and served up a delicious lunch of barbecue with all the trimmings. The portions of barbecue were as large as their generosity. In fact the caterer prepared four whole pigs and very little was left. Unified jacking demonstrations were provided by Lance Renshaw and Joedy Jahns. Most guests, however, enjoyed the opportunity to compare notes, view the equipment and speculate about the work in their respective areas.

The Products & Services Exposition offered 21 booths of vendors, five of whom were first time exhibitors, eager to assist members. Cash prizes were given away to lucky winners. Attendees were able to see up close the Power Pack Package contributed by Jahns Structure Jacking System as a prize for the raffle. New exhibitors made many sales, as attendees were able to receive answers to questions directly from vendors in a relaxed atmosphere.

The Ladies Group enjoyed opportunities of food, gifts, fellowship and education as they conducted their annual brunch and visited Historic Williamsburg. As usual the ladies received gifts for door prizes and sold tickets in support of the association's scholarship fund.

Fellowship and fun was the order of the day for each social event. From the Hat theme for the Maguire Agency President's Reception on Thursday to the Friday night dance, the luncheons, one hosted by Travelers Insurance, to the closing night Recognition dinner on Saturday evening. Canadians picked up three of the four major prizes and a member from Sweden was elected director.

The purpose of companies joining together to collectively accomplish actions that improve the business climate for their own companies was front and center. Fresh off having adopted procedural guidelines for the structural moving industry in Minneapolis, MN in 2008, directors and members were excited and serious about the latest initiative to bring about a nationwide Relocation Vs Demolition Policy as reported in the December 2008 issue of **STRUCTURAL MOVER** magazine. Member recognize the importance of helping to bring about such a policy in their state to highlight the significant contributions structural movers make to the safety of the environment, preservation of our natural resources, reduction of landfills, providing affordable housing and maintaining homes on the tax rolls.

The Saturday morning general session had a period of reflection and thanks for the lives of those who had contributed to the industry but had concluded their time on this earth. There was a period of silence and comments in memory of Pete Friesen who died a few days before the conference. See page 8.

So if you were present these pages of review will bring back memories. If you were not present, for whatever reason, plan now to attend the conference next year. The dates are February 10-14, 2009 The place is the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa, Destin, Florida.

EDUCATION



President Mike Blake opens and moderates the general session on Thursday morning.



A technical session featured three methods of moving structures. The first was *How to Use Banding With Moves* by Kenneth Zdrojewski, Vice President, Stephens & Sons House Movers, Inc., Dade City, FL 33523-0676.



Jerry Matyiko, President, Expert House Movers of Maryland; Sharptown, MD 21860 presented comments and examples of *Moving Brick Structures*.



Charlie Johnson, President, and Donald W. Barbee, Project Manager, Ducky Johnson House Movers, Inc., Grand Ridge, FL 32442 addressed *Moving Concrete Slabs*.



Stan Barber leads in prayer prior to the session.



Danny Cain, Safety/Risk Manager, Edwards Moving & Rigging, Inc., Shelbyville, KY 40065-9705 advised participants on *what to expect when being visited by an OSHA inspector, when an inspector has authority to inspect and when not, and what members can do to help prevent situations that could be cause for fines*.



Joedy Jahns, Plant Manager, Jahns Structure Jacking Systems, Elburn, IL 60119 and Lance Renshaw, President, Modern Hydraulics/Nevada, LLC, West Chicago, IL 60185-1937 discussed and answered questions from attendees on the *design, manufacture, capabilities and operation of a Unified Jacking System*. They also assisted with demonstrations of the actual equipment during a visit to the facilities of Expert House Movers of Virginia.



Lauren M. Small, Marketing Consultant, Hampton Roads Small Business Development Center, Chesapeake, VA presenting the first of six educational sessions during the conference. Her topic was *How to Market Your Business*.



Barbara Cubic, PhD, Director, Center for Cognitive Therapy, Eastern Virginia Medical School, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Norfolk, VA 23507 spoke on *How to Recognize and Deal With Stress*.



Christian Cencienne, Orleans Shoring, 25 Hickory Avenue, Harahan, LA 70123 and Warren Davie, President, Davie Shoring, Inc., #3 Veterans Boulevard, Kenner, LA 70062 provided major financial support for educational programming expenses for which the association is extremely appreciative.



Roland David, President, SAJOMACH Business Services, Chesapeake, VA 23320 detailed *how to determine What Your Business is Worth and How to Sell It*.

MAGUIRE AGENCY PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION

The Ladies Group Governing Committee, along with First Lady Penny Blake, recommended to Matt Sundeen of Maguire Agency that the theme for the reception in Virginia Beach be Hat Night, and so it was. It was a delightful evening of fellowship, food and swapping of information. Following are photos of some of the adornments worn by attendees.



President D. Michael and First Lady Penny Blake



Mike and Penny Blake with the winning hat worn by Delene Minty.



Harold and Lorna Minty



Chris Kurtz



Pam Young, Susan Toothman, Sharon Catlow and Craig Catlow



David and Sherry Vant Hul



First Lady Penny Blake and "Princess" Eva Goddard. The matching pink ensembles and tiaras were not planned.



Delene Minty



Kathleen Venclek and David Scribner

2009 Annual Conference Review



Janis and William Johnson



Raylene and Charlie Scott



Andy Hulings and Kyle Stobbe



Doug Massey



Rosalind Brymer, Eva "Princess" & Gina Goddard



First timers Julie and Greg Minnich. They don't have hats in Aledo, Texas.



Kathi and Jim Herman



Joshua Wendland



Magnus Martensson and Matt Clysdale



Christy and Keith Settle



John and Barbara Matyiko



VISIT TO EXPERT MOVERS OF VIRGINIA

Hosted by: Expert House Movers of Virginia • Expert House Movers of Maryland • Expert House Movers Midwest



Four barbecue pigs were served. It was delicious.



Warren Davie and Jerry Matyiko



A Digital Leveling Systems demonstration



Jason & Jim McConnell, Murray Nickel and Peter Christensen. All are members from Canada.



Rows and rows of dollies of all sizes



Carlo Masarella of Great Britain and DoQuoc Khanh of Vietnam meet for the first time in Virginia.



Jim Matyiko (with ball cap)



Gene Brymer, Do Quoc Khanh and John Matyiko, Jr.

PRODUCTS & SERVICES EXPOSITION



Andy Mathys, Equipment Supply Company, Brooksville, FL was a first time exhibitor.



Mike East, Digital Leveling Systems, Kevil, KY was a first time exhibitor.



Doug Massey, CrossRoads Insurance, Hildebran, NC



Alan Hof, Telkamp Transport Systems, Brookings, SD



Daniel Hammers, SVE Portable Roadway Systems, Inc., Charlotte, NC.



Lance Renshaw, Modern Hydraulics/ Nevada LLC, West Chicago, IL.



Ben Fehr, William Loewen, Ben Neufeld and Kerry Neufeld, Neufeld Building Movers, Ltd, Warman, Saskatchewan, Canada. A first time exhibitor.



William Johnson writes a check for the purchase of several Digital Leveling Systems.

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