

PITTSBURGH  
AREA  
CHAPTER



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**American Concrete Institute  
Pittsburgh Area Chapter**

P.O. Box 86  
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February 2017

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# Chapter News

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“Progress Through Knowledge”

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## Concrete In the Steel City

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# Chapter News

## ~ Cold Weather Concreting ~

Recommendations to Improve Safety, Production & Quality Control in Ready Mix Concrete

Inclement weather - in our business you can't seem to get away from it. The best thing we can do is adjust our behavior and cope with it in the safest way possible. Each season, especially winter, brings on specific hazards we need to be aware of to continue to operate safely, and to ensure that our work meets the demands of our customers. Below are a few of the known hazards we all need to be cautious of during the fall/winter seasons:

Fall	Winter
Reduced Sunlight	Snow Glare
Frost & Ice	Frostbite
Freezing Rain	Hot & Cold Water
First Snow & Slush	Snowstorms & Black Ice
Wildlife	Hidden Trip Hazards
High Winds	Frozen Equipment & Tools

Specialized PPE is also available and recommended for these various weather conditions:

- Waterproof Gloves
- Insulated Boots & Clothing
- Hard Hat Liners
- Ice Cleats

Although these changes in temperature largely affect the way in which we, as individuals, complete our daily tasks, they also have a very dramatic (and potentially negative) effect on the production process and quality control of the concrete. Concrete can be placed safely throughout the winter months, if the concrete mixture and its temperature are adapted to the construction procedure and the ambient weather conditions. Some producers have even specially designed mixes to tolerate colder conditions (down to 19 degrees F), where "normal" concrete is inadequate.

When winter arrives, we need to take certain precautions to protect against some of the potential problems of placing concrete in cold weather, specifically, when the temperature drops below 40 degrees F. As this is the case, it is essential that ready mix concrete producers take the necessary steps to winterize their plants/materials properly, and that concrete contractors take the time to prepare their jobsites accordingly.

For the ready mix concrete producer, this means:

- Starting trucks & plants early
- Protecting valves, pumps, tanks, Etc. from freezing
- Heating admixture dispensing equipment
- Emptying aggregate bins, if not heated
- Turning power off to conveyor systems

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## Changes to Chapter Bylaws

At the Pittsburgh Area Chapter's annual meeting held in April 2016, it was announced that the Board of Directors proposed several changes to the Chapter Bylaws. Subsequently, a ballot was sent out to the membership for vote on acceptance or rejection of the proposed revisions. Based on the ballot results, the membership voted to proceed with incorporating the revisions into the Chapter Bylaws. A summary of the revisions is offered below:

- Beginning in 2017, the positions of **BOTH** President and Vice-President will be nominated by the chapter Nominating Committee and voted on by the membership. Candidates for President and Vice-President must have previously served a term on the Chapter's Board of Directors, at any time, in order to be eligible for nomination.
- The Vice-President **WILL NO LONGER** automatically take office as President. The immediate Past-President will be the person who most recently served as President prior to the current term.
- Candidates **MAY NOT** be nominated/considered for President and Vice-President during the same ballot year, but a candidate may be nominated for an open Director position and either President or Vice-President during the same ballot year.
- The terms of the President and Vice-President are for one year, but those individuals may be placed on ensuing ballots and re-elected for subsequent terms as voted on by the membership.

The Pittsburgh Area Chapter of ACI Bylaws may be viewed on the Chapter's website. We are now in the process of recruiting candidates for the upcoming election. If you have interest in serving on the Board of Directors, or a previous Board member has interest in being a candidate for President or Vice-President, please contact Beth Rader at [bethaci@verizon.net](mailto:bethaci@verizon.net) or call 724-452-1468.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2016 ~ 2017

**Andy Lawrence**

JC Lee Construction Company  
*Past President*

**Justin Rader**

J.J. Kennedy, Inc.  
*President*

**Matt Manning**

J.J. Kennedy, Inc.  
*Vice President*

**Beth Rader**

*Secretary / Treasurer*

~ DIRECTORS ~

Joshua Bryan *Bryan Materials Group*

Paul "Coach" Dykta  
*Castle Builders Supply*

Dominic Giovannucci  
*Essroc Ready Mix*

Robert Lawrence  
*John W. Thrower, Inc.*

Ronson Mazany *Lafarge/Holcim*

Carly McGee *KTA-Tator, Inc.*

Joshua Rader *J.J. Kennedy, Inc.*

April Snyder *RJ Lee Group, Inc.*

Dave Thomas *Golden Triangle*

Nick Wytiaz *A&A Consultants, Inc.*

Chapter News is published by the American Concrete Institute, Pittsburgh Area Chapter for the purpose of informing members and others about issues of concern to the concrete industry. If you have information to include in this publication or any comments, contact ACI Pittsburgh Chapter at 724-452-1468

## PITTSBURGH AREA CHAPTER UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

### MEMBER MEETING

**Wed. - March 22, 2017**

The University of Pittsburgh

### AWARDS BANQUET

**Fri. - April 7, 2017**

River's Casino - Ohio Room

### SOCIAL EVENT

**Fri. - June 9, 2017**

PNC Park

### ACI GOLF OUTING

**July 2017**

Quicksilver Golf Club

Be sure to check the website, as our meeting minutes are posted there for review. In addition, members are welcome to observe board meetings, to obtain a better understanding of Chapter activities.

Visit our website for a list of upcoming events at [www.acipgh.com/calendar.shtml](http://www.acipgh.com/calendar.shtml).



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## Cold Weather Concreting

For the concrete contractors, this means:

- Planning ahead
- Thawing the sub-grade
- Avoiding sudden drops in temperature
- Protecting fresh concrete against freezing
- Leaving forms in place as long as possible

If for some reason these precautions are not enough to avoid freezing, there may still be some options available. Concrete that has been frozen just once at an early age can be restored to nearly normal strength by providing favorable curing conditions. Such concrete, however, is not as resistant to weathering, nor is it as watertight as concrete that has not been frozen. If concrete is frozen and kept frozen at about 14 degrees F, it will gain strength slowly. Below this temperature, cement hydration or concrete strength gain stops.

For more information: Contact your local ready mix concrete producer

### References:

- ACI - 306R-10: "Guide to Cold Weather Concreting"
- PCA - Chapter 14: "Cold Weather Concreting"
- NRMCA – CIP 27 "Cold Weather Concreting"
- Lafarge-na.com – "Cold Weather Concreting: Plain Facts and Common Sense"



## PENN STATE STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

### MEETING

**Wednesday, February 15th**

6:00 - 9:00PM ~ 118 Sackett Building

Speakers: Brian Scheffler & Jim Casilio

Topic: "Improving Specifications  
for Ready Mixed Concrete"

### CERTIFICATION CLASS

**Friday, March 31st - Saturday, April 1st**

3127 Research Drive, State College, PA 16801

## 2nd Annual Excellence in Concrete Project Award

REMINDER: The deadline for project entries is February 28, 2017.

Details along with the application form are available at [www.acipgh.com](http://www.acipgh.com).

## TINK BRYAN AWARD TRIBUTE TO: THOMAS "TINK" BRYAN

The Tink Bryan Award was created in honor of an outstanding individual who dedicated himself to his family, business and the concrete industry. For several years now the Chapter has honored various individuals with this award. The Pittsburgh Chapter Board of Directors is requesting nominations for a 2017 recipient. If a candidate is selected, they will be announced at the Awards Banquet in April. The candidate should demonstrate an exceptional commitment and achievement of service to the concrete industry.

Please forward a letter with your candidate(s) name and reasons for nomination to:

ACI, Pittsburgh Area Chapter | PO Box 86, Zelienople, PA 16063 | or email to: [bethaci@verizon.net](mailto:bethaci@verizon.net)

*To be accepted for board review, nominations should be received by March 15th.*