



eNewsletter

Spring 2015

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OPCA Board

- President
Tim Gahm
- Vice President
Dean Wolosiansky
- Secretary/Treasurer
Julie Stewart
- Trustee
Mike Stiger
- Trustee at Large
Jesse Wingert
- Associate Trustee
Floyd Crooks
- Past President
Mike Foust

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Frank Palas Resigns as Director

In 2012, when the Ohio Precast Concrete Association needed to fill the role of Executive Director, ConSeal's Sales Representative Frank Palas stepped up to lead the association. Frank was instrumental in organizing three extremely successful annual conferences with some of the highest attendance numbers ever seen.

Frank helped revive the association to become fiscally healthy, and growing in membership. Today the OPCA has 16 producer members, 26 associate members, and 2 professional members.

Frank is not leaving the precast industry though. He is an important part of the Concrete Sealants, Inc.

sales team where he serves customers in about a dozen states across the US, including much of Ohio. Frank will still be attending the OPCA conference in the years to come, and I'm sure that the annual party at the pub in the Polaris area will continue to see a gathering of OPCA members and guests.



The Ohio Precast Concrete Association will continue to be managed by Sam Lines going forward. Our goal is to continue being a voice for the precast industry in the state of Ohio, as well as representing the local interests in the national association. We will continue to build on past successes for future growth. Thank you, Frank, for your voluntary contributions to the Ohio Precast Concrete Association.

OPCA Under New Leadership

At the annual business meeting, the members of the Ohio Precast Concrete Association held an election for the offices of President and Vice President. These offices are two year terms held by a producer member.

The membership voted to elect Tim Gahm as President for the term ending March 2017. Tim is a Sales Representative for Norwalk Concrete Industries. Also, the members voted to elect Dean Wolosiansky to the position of

Vice President. Dean is the General Manager of the Ohio Division of Lindsay Precast. Dean also serves through March 2017. Mike Foust will hold the position of Past President.

The officers of OPCA will continue to manage the business of the association, providing a vital resource for producer members. One of the goals in the near future include offering a NPCA Production and Quality School in late 2015. More details to follow in the coming months.

2015 Annual Conference Successful

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association held the annual conference in Columbus, Ohio on March 30-31, 2015. The conference was attended by over 60 members and guests.

The location was new this year. The conference was held at the Hilton Hotel in Polaris, very close to I71/I270 on the north side of

Columbus. The setting was very nice, and it provided easy access to members from all parts of the state.

The conference included presentations from NPCA, ODH, and PUCO. In addition, two area OSHA officers presented information on new federal safety laws. The Wastewater Education Association provided an example of

distance learning. Rick Amlin presented an engineering talk on the effect of holes in precast structures.

To see the presentations, visit www.OhioPrecast.org and click on the **EVENTS** tab.

View some photo highlights from the meeting on page three.

"If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got."

Henry Ford (1863-1947)

Wastewater Education on the WWW

Wastewater Education 501(C)3 is a public outreach, professional education, and training, organization dedicated to the implementation and management of affordable, appropriate wastewater systems.

The organization was created under the direction of two Joyce Foundation grants as part of their ongoing commitment to Great Lakes water resources protection and advocacy for the protection of water as a vital human and ecological asset.

WasteWater Education's Executive Director spoke recently at the OP-CA Conference via their Adobe Connect Distance Learning platform and showcased the wide range of virtual interaction that this medium now provides.

"Don't call this a webinar!" explained Best, "this is sitting down with a mentor or a tutor, or even more valuable, sitting down with your friends and peers - to learn by listening to other's experiences."

A series of 16 distance learning class/courses are approved for MI CEU credit and a corresponding number have been submitted for consideration by Ohio.

Current Board Chair is Jason Menchhofer, Van Wert County's Environmental health Director. "Sometimes we all get so wrapped up in the day to day operations, financial decisions, the endless meetings, the technology review and purchasing decisions - that we may lose sight of why we all do this in the first place? Being an advocate for wastewater 'folks' is what WasteWaterEducation.org is all about - trying to bridge the gap between perception and reality seems to be a never ending full time job! In

hosting real time online training, we retain the friendliness but minimize the cost."

Now a national, and international nonprofit, Best frequently reminds skeptics that "there's a reason the average life expectancy has doubled in this country - electricity, refrigeration, but primarily access to decent sanitation and safe drinking water."

To learn more about their distance learning platform, to suggest an education topic, or to become a host or presenter, contact: Dendra Best at [info\[@\]wastewatereducation.org](mailto:info@wastewatereducation.org) or call 231 233 1806. Or visit www.wastewatereducation.org





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We're on the web!
www.ohioprecast.org

OUR PURPOSE

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association (OPCA) is a group of producer members and associated industries cooperating together as an association. The intent being to bring pertinent issues and information that impact the Precast Concrete Industry, to the attention of government agencies which participate in the origination of these issues.

The OPCA is interested in assisting these agencies by providing expert advice and counsel in the development of regulations involving the industry and the general public.

The OPCA producer and associate members whose products and services range from the construction of buildings and highways to the manufacture of precast concrete products for the treatment of commercial and residential waste water. The OPCA member products and services affect the lives of nearly every Ohioan on a daily basis.

Some specific areas of interest being pursued by the OPCA are as follows:

The introduction of new sewage guidelines relating to the specific construction and operation of home waste water treatment products (septic tanks, aerators, etc.) by the Ohio department of health and the Ohio EPA.

The introduction of programs and policies relating to the testing of materials and products being used on Ohio Department of Transportation projects.

The development of quality control procedures and inspections services training by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association will be expanding its' scope of interest as membership roles grow and diversify. The need for input, regarding issues and regulations which effect the large segment of the public which it serves, comes to the forefront.

OPCA Member Companies

PRODUCER MEMBERS

E.C. Babbert, Inc.
Everly Concrete Products, Inc.
Hanson Pipe and Precast
J.K. Precast, LLC
Lindsay Precast
Mack Industries
M.W. Concrete
Norwalk Concrete Industries
Premier Precast Products
Quaker City Septic Tanks, LLC
Scioto Valley Precast
Sickels Septic Tanks, Inc.
Spoerr Precast Concrete, Inc.
Stiger Precast, Inc.
Uniontown Septic Tank, Inc.

United Precast, Inc.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A-lok Products, Inc.
A.L. Patterson, Inc.
Blackthorn, LLC
Champion Pump Company
Concrete Sealants, Inc.
EJ USA, Inc.
EMH, Inc.
Engineered Wire Products, Inc.
Essroc Cement Co.
Euclid Chemical
Gotham Staple Co., Inc.
Hamilton Kent, LLC
Hill and Griffith Company
Infiltrator Systems, Inc.

Jet, Inc.

M.A. Industries
Mixer Systems, Inc.
Ohio Electric Control, Inc.
Polylok, Inc. / Zabel Environmental
Premiere Concrete Admixtures, LLC
Press-Seal Gasket Corporation
Sika Corporation
St. Mary's Cement
Tuf-Tite, Inc.
W.P. Hilts & Company

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Concrete Engineering Solutions
Delta Engineers