

OHIO PRECAST CONCRETE ASSOCIATION



eNewsletter



Summer 2020

OPCA Board

President
Dean Wolosiansky

Vice President
Lou Richmond

Secretary/Treasurer
Jesse Wingert

Producer Trustee
Ron Robinson

Trustee at Large
Dominic Dowell

Associate Trustee
Floyd Crooks

Past President
Tim Gahm

In this Issue

- 1: -Remembering Roland Lindsay
-Annual Conference Update
- 2: -Annual Conference cont'd.
-Adjusting Business in the COVID-19 Era
-Dominic Dowell joins OPCA Board
- 3: -Meet Summer Intern Ian Underburger
- 4: -OPCA Contact Info.
-Purpose
-Member Listing

We're on the web!

www.ohioprecast.org

This issue is also available on the OPCA website. Text appearing in red indicates live links to more information.

Remembering Roland Lindsay

Industry pioneer and longtime OPCA member Roland Lindsay passed away on August 13, 2020, at the age of 87. A lifelong resident of Canal Fulton, Ohio, Lindsay was a veteran of the Korean War having served in the United States Army. He returned home from service and started Lindsay Excavating and Concrete Products

Company, purchasing his first backhoe and using a hand concrete mixer in his garage to produce his first products.

Executive Director Toni Thompson recalled, "Two years ago, I had the privilege to meet and interview Roland for our video 'Celebrating OPCA--Then & Now.' He said in the very early days of his business nearly 60 years ago, he installed tanks made by other manufacturers; but he was not at all satisfied with their quality, so he decided to make his own." Of course, the rest is a wonderful history of quality, innovation, and growth--and it's



Roland Lindsay, Founder of Lindsay Precast, Interview photo February 28, 2018.

his lasting legacy. Lindsay was a founding member of NPCA, which began in Dayton, Ohio. He served as their Board chairman in 1988.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Linda, and children, Melanie (Randy) Lindsay-Brisbin, Roland (Sonya) Lindsay Jr., and Heather (Michael) Hoffman.

He was the proud grandpa of Jenna (Jacob) Mathews; Luke (Taylor) Brisbin; Sarah and Sam Lindsay; and Grace, Alex, and Ellie Hoffman. He is also survived by his sister, Delores (Lindsay) Schweitzer, and many beloved brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews.

Access the obituary at: <https://www.swigartearsterlingfuneralhome.com/obituary/Roland-Lindsay>. The OPCA video in which Lindsay appeared can be accessed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLEI8LX4Kgw&t=9s> (His segment begins at the 4:55 minute mark).

Annual Conference Moved to March 2021

Amid continued health and safety concerns relating to the spread of COVID-19 in Ohio, the OPCA Board of Trustees made the decision to once again postpone the Annual Conference & Trade Show. Erie County, where the Kalahari Resort & Conference Center is located, is currently among several "hot spots" in the state, listed at Level 3-Code Red for high exposure and spread of COVID-19. Schools in the county will be conducting classes virtually for the first 9 weeks. In addition, many industry constituents remain under travel limitations for their safety.

The rescheduled dates are Thursday-Friday, March 18-19, 2021. Paid 2020

Kalahari OPCA Guestroom Block

Online Registration Portal:

<https://book.passkey.com/e/50118486>

Conference Rate: \$149 +tax **per night**
Wednesday, March 17 (pre-conference) &
Thursday, March 18

Post-Conference discount rate

Friday, March 19: \$189 +tax

Block and rates expire February 17

All Guestrooms include 4 FREE Waterpark Passes, so bring the family!

Conference exhibitors, registered attendees, and sponsors will be automatically credited to the new dates; however, they are asked to confirm attendance by contacting Toni Thompson,

Continued next page

Annual Conference Moved to March 2021 *(Continued from P.1)*

OPCA Executive Director at info@ohioprecast.org or by phone at 937-540-2444.

Those who are not able to attend or exhibit on the new dates should also contact Toni to cancel for a full refund. Anyone who currently has a room reserved under the OPCA block for September may cancel without fee by contacting Kalahari at 1-877-525-2427.

The new guestroom block reservation portal link for March 17-19, 2021 is <https://book.passkey.com/e/50118486> and will be available through February 17, 2021. Pricing will remain the same: \$149 plus tax each night Wednesday, March 17 (pre-conference arrival) and Thursday, March 18. For those who wish to stay after the conference on Friday, March 19, the rate is \$189

plus tax. Suite upgrades are also available at discounted rates within the block. ALL guestrooms will still include four Free passes to the indoor water park.

For those who were not able to attend or exhibit in September, but can do so in March, a registration form can be accessed by visiting the Events page of the OPCA website: <https://www.ohioprecast.org/events.html>

Lastly, OPCA Bylaws require an annual meeting of the membership. Since a live, face-to-face meeting was not possible this year, a financial report and slate of incumbent Trustees seeking renewed terms of office will be sent to the OPCA voting members of record before year-end. ***Fun Fact: 2021 will be the 25th Anniversary of OPCA's Incorporation as an Association!**

**OP-
ED**

Adjusting Business in the Covid-19 Era Thoughts-Reflections from an OPCA Member

What are you learning as you navigate business in this Covid-19 Era?

Dean Wolosiansky of Lindsay Precast in Canal Fulton (OH) and President of the OPCA Board of Trustees shares his insights.

In the precast industry, our companies have to deal with multiple changes each day from outside influences, and most of the time they are totally out of our control. We are resilient, persevering, flexible and try to keep a positive outlook during these daily changes/challenges. COVID has definitely pushed the limit to keep our industry and society resilient, and flexible; but what keeps our companies moving forward is the determination and positive attitudes. The one thing we all can take ownership in during some challenging times is to focus on what we can control and to pull together and help each other out. The ever changing mandates, legislation and litigation taking place can overwhelm the best of us but we can help learn from one another and

"One thing we all can take ownership in during some challenging times is to focus on what we can control and to pull together and help each other out."

Dean Wolosiansky, Lindsay Precast

pull through these times. I have been trying to "control what you can control" here at Lindsay, and have realized how blessed we are to still have daily "issues/opportunities." Many industries are far worse off, if existent at all. Even responding to emails tonight, pre-COVID, would have felt like "another email," however

with how many have lost jobs, I feel so grateful to have emails to respond to. It has also made me genuinely miss face to face interactions within our industry that I took for granted the last several years.

Has it been all easy? No. We have had concerns on material supply shortages, employee health, company policies, workload, and impacts on

budgets/contracts. But again, we will navigate through these difficult times and grow together.

Overall I believe we are blessed as an industry. We need to pull together to help each other out and find the good/opportunities in our current situation.

Dominic Dowell Named Trustee At-Large



Dominic Dowell

The OPCA Board of Trustees voted unanimously to appoint Dominic Dowell to the position of Trustee At-Large. He is currently the Customer Service Engineer and a Sales Representative for Jet Inc., an Associate Member of OPCA. With over 20 years of precast concrete and wastewater treatment experience, Dowell has installed Aerobic systems along with various pumps and panels, with specific

expertise in equipment, troubleshooting, and specifying panels. He facilitates classroom seminars and field training based on utilizing Jet products for advanced onsite treatment systems. He conducts NSF inspections of licensed Jet distributors' installations and is a member of the Ohio Onsite Wastewater Association (OOWA).

Dowell is serving the unexpired term of the late Justin Setser, who passed in March. He is eligible for election to a full, two-year term when members vote later this year.

Meet ConSeal's Summer Intern, Ian Underburger

Longtime OPCA Associate member, Concrete Sealants hosted an NPCA Foundation Scholarship Intern this summer. Ian Underburger, of Englewood, Ohio, is a sophomore at The Ohio State University majoring in Civil Engineering. Sam Lines, ConSeal Engineering Manager, and OPCA Technical Consultant is Underburger's mentor.

When asked what he likes best about his experience this summer, Underburger replied, "Having creative management over my own projects." He explained, "Sam will give me a project to work on with directions, and at that point, I take it into my own hands and try to give him the result he's looking for. I like having control in what I'm doing."

According to Lines, "Ian has done a fantastic job; in fact, he may have ruined us for future interns. We have offered to have him come back for as many summers as he has! He's very disciplined, responsible, independent, requires little to no management oversight; he brings the results."

Underburger shared an example of his work project activity. "One of the most fun things I've done here is create a standard control concrete recipe for admixture testing, getting into the concrete mix designs and applying the knowledge I learned through the PQS-I Class into this real-world application." He added, "It's something that can be used in the company when I'm not here next semester. Having my work play into something can be huge."

Sam's advice to the Industry in Ohio: "Don't miss the opportunity to bring on an intern, give them challenging tasks, and let them run with those tasks. You might learn something from the experience; you will also provide the student with a life-long learning opportunity." He explained further, "If you are an associate or producer company, it's definitely worth taking a chance and bringing somebody on board, whether the intern is coming through the NPCA Foundation or some other organization."

Lines also clarified that any internship should be a true learning and mentorship opportunity—not just a means to bring in a laborer. "What people need is someone with an education **and** practical skills," he said. "You get the practical skills either through applied knowledge in an office or manufacturing-factory environment, and the internship is the absolute perfect way to provide those direct, applicable skills that are needed to be successful in the workforce." He concluded, "We're talking about gaining the skills and knowledge so that not only can the intern say they've got the 4-year degree, but they CAN really do it!" Underburger retorted, "You can study



Ian Underburger, ConSeal Summer Intern, is an NPCA Scholarship recipient and a Sophomore Civil Engineering major at The Ohio State University. He logged 480 work hours in 12 weeks.

concrete for four years, but can you actually make concrete?"

Lines added, "Can you imagine the power Ian's going to have when he takes Materials Science and Concrete Design, and he hears terminology like 'tarantula curve' and thinks, 'I've done that before, this is old-hat!'" In fact, Lines shared that many concepts Underburger has learned through NPCA's PQS-I class and on the job at ConSeal this summer may only be taught at the graduate level at some universities.

Ultimately, Underburger had been thinking about bridge work as a career, but after this summer's experience, he is open to the possibility of all facets of Civil Engineering.

Internship Resources

The Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education (SOCHE) is a non-profit consortium of 23 regional colleges and universities. In a typical year, they have hundreds of students working across Southwestern Ohio and other Ohio regions. Learn more at: <https://www.soche.org>. Another option is to reach out to local colleges, trade schools, and adult education centers and inquire about their internship programs. If they have none, start a dialogue with them about our industry.

The NPCA Foundation Scholarship

For over 20 years, the National Precast Concrete Association Foundation has provided educational scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in civil engineering, architectural, and construction-related curricula. Students can receive up to a total of \$14,500 over the course of their academic enrollment, providing they complete the PQS-1 class and fulfill an internship working at least 320 hours with an NPCA member company each summer of eligibility.

"NPCA Producer and Associate members can host interns," Lines said, "the work must be meaningful and industry-related so that the student intern can learn different facets of the business and see the career opportunities."

Lines serves on the NPCA Foundation Board and the Scholarship Selection Committee. He reported that this year, 11 new scholarships were awarded to students majoring not only in Civil and Structural Engineering, but also Business Administration. "Applicants don't have to be a Civil Engineering major to qualify for the scholarship," Lines explained, "their career path needs to be precast or construction industry-related; so, for example, the recipient majoring in Business has family in the precast industry, and the student's career goal is to help manage the company."

Learn more at <https://precast.org/foundation/scholarships/>

Ohio Precast Concrete Association

9325 SR 201
Tipp City, OH 45371

Executive Director: Toni Thompson
Technical Consultant: Sam Lines

Phone: 937.540.2444

E-mail: info@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' 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 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 *(Weblinks in red for the online edition)*

PRODUCER MEMBERS

[Bluffton Precast Concrete](#)

[Carey Precast Concrete](#)

[E.C. Babbert, Inc.](#)

[Ecological Tanks, Inc.](#)

[Encore Precast, LLC](#)

[Everly Concrete Products, Inc.](#)

[Forterra Pipe and Precast](#)

[J.K. Precast, LLC](#)

[Lindsay Precast](#)

[Mack Industries](#)

MW Concrete

[Norwalk Concrete Industries](#)

Portage Septic Tank

[Quaker City Concrete Products, LLC](#)

[Scioto Valley Precast](#)

Sickels Septic Tanks, Inc.

[Spoerr Precast Concrete, Inc.](#)

[Stiger Precast, Inc.](#)

[Uniontown Septic Tank, Inc.](#)

[USA Precast Concrete, Ltd.](#)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

[A-lok Products, Inc.](#)

[ALP Supply Inc.](#)

[Baughman Tile Company, Inc.](#)

[Blackthorn, LLC](#)

[Champion Pump Company](#)

[Concrete Sealants, Inc.](#)

[EJ USA, Inc.](#)

[EMH, Inc.](#)

[EZG Manufacturing](#)

[GCP Applied Technologies](#)

[Gotham Staple Co., Inc.](#)

[Hamilton Kent, LLC](#)

[Hill and Griffith Company](#)

[Infiltrator Systems, Inc.](#)

[Irving Equipment, LLC](#)

[Jet, Inc.](#)

[LafargeHolcim](#)

[Lehigh Cement Co.](#)

[Liberty Engineered Wire Products, Inc.](#)

[M.A. Industries](#)

[Mixer Systems, Inc.](#)

[Norwalk Precast Molds, Inc.](#)

[Norweco, Inc.](#)

[Ohio Electric Control, Inc.](#)

[Polylock, Inc. / Zabel Environmental](#)

[Premiere Concrete Admixtures, LLC](#)

[Press-Seal Corporation](#)

[St. Mary's Cement / Votorantim](#)

[Sika Corporation](#)

[Tuf-Tite, Inc.](#)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Concrete Engineering Solutions

[Delta Engineers](#)