

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Where Do We Go From Here?

I recently found the time to catch up on 3-4 months of periodical reading that I seem to always push aside to a neat stack next to my desk. OK, the stack isn't always that neat, but there is a general area in which magazines get placed until I read them all. All right, I don't always read all of them. But of the ones I do read, I try to perform my best rendition of an Evelyn Woods speed reading exercise to maximize my time. For me, that means I scan each article quickly and look for information that makes me want to back up and read more carefully.

It occurred to me during this recent reading exercise that I needed to stop and read many articles more attentively. Sometimes this was because the subject matter was especially interesting to me. But in many cases, this was because I saw a direct connection to RCI and mention thereof. Many of the authors mention their membership in RCI and proudly display their accreditation credentials. In addition, a great number of the articles cite RCI members actively involved in research projects, roundtable discussions, and standards development. I am pleased to say I have had the privilege of meeting most of these individuals, and many, I consider treasured friends in the business. *RCI* recently gave credit to many of these RCI members and their contributions.

Where am I headed with this? RCI is all grown up! OK, we may be in an adolescent stage relative to association development. Especially compared to many other organizations that have 3-4 times the history. I will be the first to admit we still have some growing up to do. And the accomplishments we celebrate need constant care and maintenance. But we have definitely developed beyond the challenges of our teenage years. I salute all the individuals past and present who have made our success so noteworthy.

So, where do we go from here?

If you haven't noticed, RCI is more active than ever in non-roofing, building envelope performance. When I say this, I mean walls, fenestrations, plazas, and below-grade waterproofing. For years, we have held annual building envelope symposia that continue to draw

more attendees each year. RCI is currently working through the process of role delineation and development of a Registered Waterproofing Consultant exam and accreditation. Each year, we seem to have a number of educational presentations, general sessions, and auxiliary seminars on non-roofing, building envelope-related topics at our annual convention. Through a membership survey conducted several years ago, RCI discovered the majority of its professional members also provide other building envelope consulting services. Do you detect a theme?

It occurs to me there is certainly interest from our membership (and future members) in the performance of the entire building envelope. In the movie "Field of Dreams," Kevin Costner was challenged with this statement: "If you build it, they will come." Is it time to search our association soul and consider a broader mission for RCI? Are we doing it anyway?

I believe progress is like target shooting and occurs in one of two fashions. One way is to draw a circle on a piece of paper, tack it to a board, and shoot the center of the circle. The other approach is to tack a piece of paper to a board, shoot at the paper, and then draw a circle around the hole. In both scenarios, the bull's eye has a hole in the center, but the way in which the center was established is considerably different.

So, where do we go from here?

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Luther C. Mock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being the most prominent.

**Luther C. Mock, RRC,
President**

This year's for you, Mike!