Rain hammered the Bluegrass region leading up to and during the 58th Annual KCA Winter Convention - but that didn’t stop us from having a great time! Despite flooded roads and water-logged shoes, numerous members made their way to the historic Campbell House in Lexington Kentucky for event February 22 -24.

The event kicked off with several meetings and a safety luncheon to honor those Ready Mix Plants with an impeccable safety record for 2017. A special congratulations goes to imi’s Bardstown Plant and Ernst Concrete’s Downtown Louisville plant for winning the Overall Category A and B safety awards (respectively).

That evening was capped off by a wonderful cocktail reception hosted by the KCA Gold Club. The next morning’s general education session offered a wealth of information pertinent to the ready mix industry, with presentations from Pierre Villere, Alan Sparkman, and Brett Ruffing.

The fun didn’t stop there though, as one of the largest KCA bowling crowds in recent history piled onto the bus and headed to Collins Lanes for some good old-fashioned light hearted competition, drinks, and pizza - tons of pizza. After an afternoon of camaraderie the bus returned to the hotel for the Annual Banquet.

At the Banquet, Eddie Webster was officially inaugurated as the KCA President where he shared a thoughtful address with the crowd. William T Robertson High School Essay Contest winner Ashton Thrasher was presented her award and recognized for her well thought out response (on back) to how concrete can be used to benefit Kentuckians. The final pre-
sentations of the evening were presented by John McChord, honoring 4 different concrete design projects:
1. Dollar General Stores - The Wells Group
2. KYTC Rt. 9 Roundabout - Hilltop Companies
3. Drury Inn - Ernst Concrete
4. Eggners Ferry Bridge - Federal Materials Company

The convention wrapped up with the General Membership meeting where an updated set of Bylaws were passed and several new Board Policies were passed. Overall the event was a huge success thanks to the dedication and participation of our membership.

TRIPLE CROWN CONCRETE IS THE NEW READY MIX
Since 1959, Ready Mix Concrete out of Somerset Kentucky has delivered concrete to thousands of jobs across the southern stretches of the Commonwealth. This year marks a new beginning in this historic business with a new name, new team, and new mission.

Last year on July 29th, Ready Mix Concrete was acquired by Hinkle Contracting Company LLC, a Division of Summit Materials LLC. Combining the corporate structure and efficiencies of Hinkle Contracting Company with the decades of experience of Ready Mix Concrete was a business move that made perfect sense.

The acquisition brought a new team to the company, and the opportunity for a new brand. The company was re-branded as Triple Crown Concrete in February and is looking to the future to build a business that will continue to grow. Please give a warm welcome Brady Goebel, the General Manager for Triple Crown Concrete if you meet him at any KCA events. Additionally Bill Newell, the Quality Control Manager for Triple Crown Concrete was elected to the KCA Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting this year.

CMC ADDS ANOTHER CUSTOM PAINT JOB TO THEIR FLEET
Construction Materials Company in Richmond has a special way of supporting local organizations and causes that they care about: by custom painting their truck drums. CMC has several drums that show off their commitment to the community and industry - from a truck honoring fallen Officer Ellis, to a “Concrete Lasts A Lifetime” mixer - they have a whole host of trucks with custom messaging. The newest to the fleet? A truck drum honoring the Richmond Rotary Club.

ADVANCED CONCRETE ACADEMY
The Quality & Specifications Committee has worked for the last year to refine and organize the KCA’s 2nd annual Advanced Concrete Academy (previously called Level III). Though, the attendance was a bit lower than was hoped, the content presented throughout the 4 day course was incredibly well thought out and prompted a significant amount of discussion among those in attendance. Thank you to all of the presenters who volunteered their time and expertise to this Academy. It was because of you that this event was successful.

KCIPAC SPORTING CLAYS EVENT COMING SOON
The Kentucky Concrete Association will be hosting the first every Sporting Clay Shoot at Elk Creek Hunt Club in Owenton, Kentucky on May 17th. Join us for a morning of fun, food & guns with people from across the state. The proceeds from this event will go towards the Kentucky Concrete Industry Political Action Committee to advocate for the concrete industry and ensure that our member’s best interests are protected in Kentucky.

Teams of 4 are encouraged to register together, though individuals are welcome and will be placed on teams as slots are available. More information regarding registration will be sent soon, so be on the lookout.
EC&S COMMITTEE MEETING
The Environmental Control & Safety Committee was slated to host a meeting at the KCA office on March 7th. Unfortunately the number of attendees (particularly the number of companies represented) made it necessary to postpone this meeting to a later date.

We will be reaching out directly to those of you who were committed to attend to be sure that the next date works for you or a representative of your company to attend. We apologize for the inconvenience and look forward to the rescheduled meeting.

ONLINE REGISTRATIONS COMING
This year the Kentucky Concrete Association will be making life much easier for many of our members. Coming very soon, expect to see online registrations opening up for KCA events and classes. These online registrations will allow easier access to automatic invoices, online payment, and a whole host of other benefits. More information and an in-depth review of how to use the online system will be coming soon. The online service was delayed by scheduling, but should be up and running soon.

COMMITTEE UPDATES
PROMOTIONS
Local CECs have clarified their focus for 2018. NKCEC has decided to reach the Industrial paving market with a presentation from NRMCA’s Amanda Hult, while pushing the ICF market to architects in the fall. BCEC has decided to focus on individualized lunch & learn opportunities in local and regional design offices, while trying to reach out to the contractors in the area to join the Council. KCEC is taking a direct approach to try and flip an asphalt parking lot in the area and use it as a training opportunity and promotional effort. OVCPG has opted to focus on their annual Contractor Seminar in December as their primary promotional effort. Finally, the SCCEC has met with a renewed focus in 2018 to try and drive contractor membership and establish lasting relationships with the builder community in Southern Kentucky.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL & SAFETY
After the success of the Fall 2017 meeting, the EC&S Committee is looking to recreate another collaborative meeting of the industry to discuss environmental and safety concerns affecting us all. Unfortunately the attendance commitment at the March 7th meeting has required us to postpone the spring meeting to a later date TBD.

QUALITY & SPECIFICATIONS
The Q&S Committee put on a very successful Advanced Concrete Academy and will be looking to meet soon to discuss the event and ways to improve it in the coming years. Thank you to all who participated.

Mark Your Calendar...

MARCH 15
ACI Level I (Full)

MARCH 20
(10:00AM online webinar)
KCA Board Member Orientation

MARCH 26
11:30AM Cardinal Hall - Louisville
KCEC/ACI KY Meeting

MARCH 27
8:00AM Seelbach Hotel - Louisville
NRMCA Plant Manager Certification

APRIL 17
ACI Level I
Concrete is one of the most important innovations in our world today. Concrete is used to build homes, roads, and other structures all around the world, but how can concrete help Kentucky? Kentuckians could benefit immensely from the installation of concrete structures, specifically Insulating Concrete Forms. This type of concrete can be used to build homes, businesses, and emergency structures that could change the way people view concrete construction. There are many dangers in the world today that can destroy home after home, but by converting homes to Insulating Concrete Forms, Kentucky can stay safe from these hazards.

Homes that are made of concrete are often referred to as ICF's or Insulating Concrete Forms. These types of homes are easy to build and protect homes against fire and water damage. The design of these homes allows the homeowner to create a beautiful home with their desired interior and exterior decorations. Concrete homes will protect families from flood, storms, fire, and other natural occurrences.

Concrete in a home can protect the electrical and plumbing system. A common cause of house fires in Kentucky is electric wiring malfunctions. With the installation of ICF's, you can prevent fires from starting in your home and help prevent the spread of fires from one room to another. Homes constructed with ICF are very energy efficient and will help lower energy costs. Insulating concrete forms will keep your home cooler and warmer due to its ability to maintain temperatures. By doing this, ICF’s will lower the amount of electric, natural gas or propane used in your home. This means you will save money on your energy bill and will help lower our global footprint by reducing the amount of energy used to heat and cool these homes.

The superior strength of an ICF home will protect it from floods, storms, and wildfires. ICF homes that are covered with brick or concrete veneer make a house that is virtually storm proof. Another benefit of homes made from Insulating Concrete Forms would be its protection against bugs, rodents, and termites. The strength and density of ICF homes makes it a pest free environment. These benefits provide peace of mind for homeowners as well as being cost effective for preventive purposes or repairs.

ICF could also be used throughout Kentucky to construct emergency service facilities such as fire departments, rescue squads, and emergency medical service buildings. This upgrade will allow them to provide a safe environment for our emergency responders from natural and domestic threats. These facilities could also be used as storm shelters throughout their communities during severe weather. ICF public buildings would last longer, be stronger and safer during threatening events with less maintenance.

Although construction costs that come with ICF can be higher than traditional wood construction, the long-term benefits and reduced energy costs will outweigh the initial added expense. As ICF is used more, the construction cost will decrease over time to offset the difference in initial construction cost. The Kentucky Concrete Association should push for more ICF construction across our state. These advanced building techniques could help promote longer lasting buildings in Kentucky and provide for more concrete related job opportunities.