



JUNE 2022

INSIDE TCMA



Chairman's Comments

A Capitol Experience

Greetings Fellow TCMA Members,

In this issue I would like to recap our Annual Meeting. As we are all coming out of Covid isolation and working at moving forward into the new normal heading to Kalahari in Round Rock for our Annual Meeting was a blessing I had been looking forward to for weeks. So, it goes without saying that our Annual Meeting in Round Rock was a highly anticipated and thoroughly exhilarating event. Gathering the night before at the Double Cut Steakhouse lounge and greeting all the attending members and spouses and the dinner on Friday night was wonderful – rekindling friendships over a wonderful meal, I could not wish for a better start to our meetings.

The next day we gathered for a working lunch at Sortino's, where your Chair called the Board Meeting to order. I will not belabor the details since you will soon be receiving the detailed minutes of the meeting. Having said that, I think that it is important to note 3 points; first -our financial investments continue to perform under the direction of Johnny Hill and Clifford Smith. Secondly, our receipts are down and we must face that it is up to You and I to solve this issue. We agreed to produce a new value of membership flyer to use with personal invitations to attain new membership. WE must rally to this challenge. Finally, we viewed a presentation from the AFS CastExpo Governmental Affairs Panel that highlighted OSHA's intent to launch enforcement of their program to combat heat-related work hazards. Foundries should prepare for an increase in heat-related workplace inspections from OSHA under this new enforcement program.

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With a successful Round Rock Annual Meeting behind us, the TCMA board is planning a return to an "in the capitol" meeting in early 2023. TCMA Past Chairman and State Representative Jared Patterson is making preparations for a gathering inside the capitol as the focal point for the Annual Meeting. We did a similar event in 2019, and it was well received. Legislators from across the state came to visit with us to discuss our concerns for the industry. It was a pleasant departure from having to make appointments where we were often unable to see the representative personally.

The TCMA is sending representatives to the AFS Government Affairs Fly-In in Washington to learn about the New Buy American Guidance for Infrastructure Projects, OSHA Heat Related Hazards, and many more issues headed our way. We will keep you informed on the latest trends moving through Congress. Thank you for your continued support. •



Chairman's Comments continued

Following our Board Meeting we headed to our Annual Conference Program at Dell Diamond where we were addressed by;

Jared Ware – Deputy Director TCEQ – provided us with his thoughts on how he leads the TCEQ Program Support and Environmental Assistance Division (PSEAD), the Office of Compliance and Enforcement (OCE) at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Austin, Texas. Directs the Program Support and Environmental Assistance Division which supports field operations through a Program Support Section, a Small Business and Local Government Assistance (SBLGA) Program and a Division Support Team. He directed to a Youtube training to Get Help with Senate Bill 3 and Emergency Preparedness Plans <https://youtu.be/RB-z9u1XfgPo> We asked about help with finding sources to send our spent foundry sand now that the Foundry Sand Exclusion is approved and asked what is the current status of the EnvironMentor program – he stated he would provide feedback to us.

Brad Jones - CEO ERCOT – provided us with a review of what happened during freeze and power loss during February 2021 and a vision of the revamped Electricity Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) of today and his projection that we are in good shape for future high demand during hot summers when we need air conditioning and cold winters when we need heat. Many in attendance expressed the enormous scale of the outages to their operations in terms of lost production, damaged equipment, costly repairs, and lost profits. Brad was confident that ERCOT is on the path to preventing these issues. And yet only one week after our meeting, ERCOT issued conservation notices during our unseasonably hot spell – and yet continues to assert that the grid is stable. Clearly we are not yet out of the woods.

Joe Hutto – Engineering Manager / Foundry Superintendent Howell Foundry – provided us with a history how this once traditional Phenolic Urethane (No-Bake) shop has seen the value in Rapid Prototype printed sand molding and are banking on the 3D molding technology to charge into the future. Joe walked us down the reasons where and when the 3D molding technology has the advantage; Dimensional stability part to part, Reduce excess machining stock, CAD model direct to 3D mold, No more pattern cost – repair – warehousing, Extremely Short lead times possible.

Upon conclusion of the Conference Meeting Program, we walked out the conference room back door into the Dell Diamond baseball field to again enjoy our time together and cheer on the Round Rock Express baseball team.

Next up on the TCMA calendar is the AFS Governmental Affairs Fly-In is coming June 7th & 8th. This is our opportunity to take our message to Washington D.C. This year five TCMA members are headed to the Fly-In; Eric Ryan Meyers, Chris Norch, Owen Daniel, Clifford Smith , and I. Critical matters for discussion at this years Fly-In will include; Mid-Term Elections preview, Supply Chain Challenges, Energy Security, Environmental Justice – EPA's new approach, Critical Minerals and Materials, and Emerging Employment and Safety rules.

I have attended several TCMA Annual meetings over the years, and each time I come away with a great appreciation for the value provided by the program, interaction of our members, and constructive conversations. Our members are Foundry Owners and Managers in the industry; serious minded and hardworking individuals that care deeply about our industry future. We gather as friends and colleges to openly discuss important current events and issues on the horizon – all opinions and thoughts discussed and pondered for the benefit of all members. This was and continues to be the core foundation of the value of TCMA involvement. I offer a Special Thank You to all members and spouses who see the value and took the time out of their hectic schedules to attend this event – your participation is greatly appreciated. Thank You to those were not able to attend yet continue to support our activities through TCMA membership. And last, but certainly not least, Thank You to Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Smith for another exceptional meeting your efforts and dedication to TCMA are truly appreciated. Very well done! •

Respectfully Yours,
Brett Morehead

Welcome

This TCMA newsletter is developed by the association to improve communication and provide members with the latest news and legislative action concerning their companies and the cast metals industry.

Let us hear from you!

Please send company news, legislative inquiries, product updates and employee highlights to TCMAINC.ORG.

Visit our website

WWW.TCMAINC.ORG

TCMAINC.ORG serves as a valuable resource for our members. Go online to read about our newest members to the association, members' achievements, the latest updates on our bulletin board and the latest news in the foundry business.

OSHA LAUNCHES ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM FOR HEAT RELATED HAZARDS

AFS Foundries should prepare for an increase in heat-related workplace inspections from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) under a new enforcement program designed to protect indoor and outdoor workers from heat illness and injuries. As part of its newly unveiled National Emphasis Program (NEP), OSHA will proactively target over 70 specific industries and activities, including foundries, when the National Weather Service has issued a heat warning or advisory for a local area. On days when the heat index is 80 F or higher, OSHA inspectors and compliance assistance specialists will engage in proactive outreach and technical assistance to help stakeholders keep workers safe on the job. Inspectors will look for and address heat hazards during inspections. The NEP will remain in effect for three years unless canceled or extended. *

NEW BUY AMERICAN GUIDANCE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

In April, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published new guidance for implementation of the Build America, Buy America (BABA) provisions in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The BABA provisions require that any infrastructure projects receiving federal assistance must use iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials that are produced in the U.S. *

* Printed from Indiana Cast Metals Association's May, 2022 Newsletter. •



Well Done, Jared Patterson

Brett Morehead presented
Jared Patterson
with his Past Chairman Plaque

Social Time at Dinner and the Ballpark

Speaker Pictures



Brad Jones of ERCOT

TCMA Chairman
Brett Morehead
presented
Speaker Awards
at the Round Rock
Annual Meeting



Jared Ware of the TCEQ



Joe Hutto
of Howell Foundry



Texas State University & FEF Key
Professor Luis Trueba
and students
Margaret Lee and Ryan Rios.
Margaret was featured in the
April edition of Modern Casting