Notes From The Director

This issue features another example of how standard precast products typically associated with a specific use can be completely repurposed for a unique and creative application. We featured a similar project by Coastal Pipeline Products in the October 2016 issue where round manhole barrels were used for an artistic display. Ours is an industry that continually thinks outside the box by providing solutions that are durable, economical, and constructible.

Access hatches and castings are an important complement to underground precast concrete utility products and we are proud to have suppliers of these and other products among our associate membership. And, we appreciate the contribution to this issue by EJ USA on how to alleviate problems with manhole covers.

Warmest Regards,

Ronald E. Thornton, P.E.
Precast Lighthouse Tower—Sheridan, NY

Submitted by Mike Kistner of Kistner Concrete Products.

A lighthouse seemed to be just the thing to go with this historic home on the shore of Lake Erie. And what better way to construct a concrete tower than with four custom manufactured 10’ diameter x 8’ high manhole barrel sections. Each section was fabricated with weld plates on the inside face for strap plate connections.

Casting a full rough opening for the access door would have created a high risk for cracking during shipping and handling. Therefore, a thinner knockout section was left in for field removal after erection.

A circular stairway was installed inside the tower for access to the custom built lighthouse structure.

Project Credits:
Owner: Private
Architect: Scheid Architectural, Buffalo
Precast Manufacturer: Kistner Concrete Products, Lockport, NY
Two-Frame Manhole Castings Improve Road Surface and Reduce Maintenance

Contributed by Brian Steitz of EJ USA, Inc.

Manhole covers are critical access points for our nation’s infrastructure. However, much like potholes, covers that are not flush with the road surface can be a real annoyance to motorists. Even covers that are properly set during road construction can become problematic after repeated freeze-thaw cycles.

One way to alleviate problems associated with uneven manholes covers is to utilize a two-frame assembly consisting of a “fixed” base frame and a floating top frame that essentially moves with the road surface.

This type of assembly not only makes installation easier, but it can significantly reduce long term maintenance costs.

EJ USA, Inc. is an Associate Member of PCANY. Check out our members in the PCANY Buyer’s Guide located on our website

Installation of EJ SELFLEVEL Frame Assembly

Installed Frame & Cover in City of Elmira, NY
Forta Corp Announces New Sales Rep

Forta Corp has announced that Dave Orzel of Buffalo is now representing their fiber reinforcing products in New York. Dave can be contacted at 716-998-6486 or dave@orzel.us.

LHV Precast Featured in NPCA Article.

We highlighted a NYS Rte 86 twin span arch project in our January 2016 issue. NPCA has recently posted a more detailed article on this same project. (precast.org/2017/01/Remakeing-History).

The Precast Show 2017...

Will be held March 2-4 at the Huntington Convention Center in Cleveland, OH. PCANY will be represented at the first Affiliate’s meeting to be held in several years. Visit precast.org/theprecastshow/ for information and registration.