From the President's Chair

Contributed by Dennis Dooley, 2011 National President

Founded in 1954, the American Construction Inspectors Association (ACIA) through its volunteer leadership has striven to represent its members and insure the value of membership through its ongoing continuing education and Registered Construction Inspector (RCI) programs. You are all aware that the last few years have been difficult for the construction industry as a whole and for inspectors in particular.

The current Board of Directors, at their most recent meeting, made some major changes to the structure and operating policies of the ACIA in an effort to maintain the high quality of the organization in keeping with the challenges presented by the industry-wide economic and political conditions with which we are presently faced. As described below, these will include the reconfiguration of regions and chapters to better serve membership and the revision of certain outdated elements of its by-laws, and reflect the Boards ongoing commitment to that mission.

There will be some By Laws changes presented to the voting members in October for approval. These amendments will serve to update and simplify the operations of the ACIA, including reducing the number of Regional Directors from two to one per region. The Board also approved removal of some archaic phrasing and “leagalese” language to clarify the operational goals. In addition, some privacy policies were instituted which will protect not only the members’ personal information, but also the work product of the RCI and Educational Committees.

These actions, together with cost savings realized by significant reductions in operating expenses, is indicative of leadership and the Boards response to these trying economic times.

Member support has always insured the success of this Association and now is a great time to volunteer to work with the Board to revitalize flagging chapters, reinstate the prestige of the ACIA in California and elsewhere, and maintain the RCI credentialing and continuing education programs. Paying your dues and participating in membership activities positions members for advancement in the improving economy. Our members represent a reservoir of knowledge and experience unmatched by many industries; without their availability as the economy improves, construction activities may be slowed. Help keep the ACIA and RCI in the forefront of the construction industry by continuing to support us through your membership and participation.