Members,

Wow that was fast! 2018 flew by us all. I hope all of us have a chance to slow down and appreciate the Holiday Season, by spending time with our families and recharging our batteries.

2019 is upon us. With each New Year comes new opportunities and challenges. Opportunities abound all over the state of Texas. It seems like there is a job on almost every corner, and I feel like I see at least two new cranes every time I drive through DFW, Houston, Austin, and San Antonio. It’s a great time to be building.

With all these jobs going on, labor becomes a precious resource. Finding seasoned installers can be difficult. Because of this, TLPCA is exploring some education/training opportunities that target military men and women whose service is coming to an end. Many of them are looking to learn valuable skills and training to enter our market place. There is still a lot to hash out on how all this works and how it is funded, but we feel this is worth pursuing.

Wall space. This has been dwindling some over the past couple of years. We have new manufacturers coming into our Texas markets every year, vying for wall space. These include siding, Nichiha, TAKTL Panels, Metal Panel, Brick and Stone…among others. I feel that it is important that we find a handful of people that are willing to get in front of city and code officials, architects, and insurance agencies to promote the many positives of our Stucco, Thin-Veneers, and EIFS systems. We still have to work out how this would be funded and tracked. I hope to have more information to share sometime in the next couple of months. This is something that benefits every single member…from manufacturer to installer.

We as an association look forward to a healthy and prosperous 2019. The TLPCA is nothing without its members. It’s an honor and a privilege to be a part of this organization.

Sincerely,
Andy Boyd
TLPCA President 2018—2019

SAVE THE DATE:
Annual Convention & Trade Show
June 12 - 14, 2019
Gaylord Texan Resort
Grapevine, TX
2018—2019 OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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May Peace, Joy and Happiness be yours during this Holiday Season and throughout the New Year!
TLPCA held its 2018 Annual Fall Weekend Larry Trusty Memorial Fishing Tournament, September 21—22, 2018 at Lake Texoma, Tanglewood Resort. Twenty-one fishers participated in the annual event.

Thank you to all participants of the 2018 Fall Weekend Events (including both the Clay Shooting Event and Larry Trusty Memorial Fishing Tournament) for your participation, time, donations and sponsorships. Also, thank you to the Fishing Committee (Joe Kerlee, Quikrete Companies, Charlie Meador, Texas Stucco Supply and Randy Newman, Silver Star Plastering). The sponsorship covered both the Annual Clay Shoot and fishing tournament.

Cash prizes and trophies were presented as follows:
- 1st Place Big Fish—Randy Newman
- 2nd Place Big Fish—Ryan Newman
- 1st Place Heavy Stringer—Randy Newman
- 2nd Place Heavy Stringer—Ryan Newman
- 3rd Place Heavy Stringer—Madison Howe

Additional funds were raised with the raffle of a $500 Gift Card. Madison Howe was the winner of the raffle drawing.

A reminder that all TLPCA Scholarship applications must be postmarked by January 15, 2019.

The scholarship program is open to TLPCA members, member’s families, member’s employees and family members of employees. Applications are available for download from the TLPCA website.
Cold Weather

Hot, cold, wet, dry, one thing is certain in Texas, the weather will change. Understanding how plaster reacts in all weather conditions is paramount to a successful application. As we move into the winter season I’d like to focus on cold weather best practices. As a stucco contractor, it’s your job to be diligent not only in the application but also explaining the reasoning for the process to your clients. Numerous “issues” can be attributed back to contractors taking unnecessary risks to make a client “happy”; installing plaster in inclement weather is one of those risks.

All manufacturers, to my knowledge, have a stipulation their products should not be installed in temperatures below 40 degrees. Furthermore, temperature also factoring in wind chill must remain at or above 40 degrees for 24 hours after product has been installed initially. When in doubt don’t install product! There is no recourse when plaster freezes other than it must be redone.

It’s important to understand the curing process and that water is the catalyst. Freezing temperatures, 32 degrees, inhibits proper curing and destroys the integrity of the plaster. Never put a heater directly on a wall, this creates rapid curing and most likely excessive cracking. Contractors in some states “tent” projects and create an ambient temperature suitable for application; it’s never been cost effective here in Texas. However, if you do get into a situation where temperatures fall below 40 degrees try to encapsulate the wall with plastic and an “overall room” temperature per manufacturer guidelines. The same premise holds true with acrylic finishes and paints. Once a pail of finish freezes it must be thrown out. Even a thorough mixing won’t allow the molecular bonds to reform and the material will never perform as intended.

We all know how critical moist curing cement is; never skip this step! Cold weather slows the initial set of cement which determines when you can shave and float out a wall. This process takes much longer on cold days and effects when you can water a wall. Don’t produce more than what can be “cured” in a reasonable time period! We all want maximum production, however, we must be patient in the winter. “Over producing” may lead to your crews watering at night time…..!

Because Texas weather turns on a dime its best practice to sit out the bitter cold days when possible and never install product when temperatures are forecasted below 40 degrees. Your team will produce more, installation will be superior and you won’t be taking unnecessary risks. The continued success of stucco / EIFS is contingent on us as applicators doing what’s right, this includes understanding cold weather installations. Merry Christmas!

Article submitted by
-Kevin Maxwell
Prime Walls Systems, LLC
Hutto, TX
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participation and
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>February 5, 2019</td>
<td>Board of Director’s Meeting</td>
<td>Houston—Marek</td>
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| April _____, 2019 | Board of Director’s Meeting  
*date to be determined  
Annual Luncheon  
Annual Spring Golf Tournament | Coyote Ridge Golf Club  
Carrollton, TX |
| April 22—26, 2019 | AWCI Convention + INTEX                              | Gaylord National Harbor Resort & Convention Center  
National Harbor, Maryland |
| June 12—14, 2019 | Annual Convention & Trade Show                       | Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center  
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