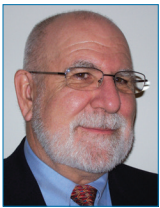


MEET FRANK NADEAU

A lifetime of learning and giving

William Atkinson



Frank Nadeau grew up in Somersworth, N.H. “Throughout high school, my favorite courses were math and the sciences,” he says. He attended one year of community college before entering the Navy for four years as a radarman.

Following that, he attended the Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Mass., where he earned a bachelor of science degree in architectural engineering technology in 1975. After that, he attended the University of New Mexico (UNM) in Albuquerque, where he earned a master’s degree in architecture in 1981 and an MS in engineering in 1983.

His senior design project at Wentworth was a post-tensioned midrise high-rise building, and his research took him to nearby San-Vel Concrete in Littleton, Mass., for information. That’s where he became interested in precast concrete. After graduating, he got a job at San-Vel as a drafter.

Over the years, Nadeau expanded his knowledge in precast concrete as a result of working at several companies and being licensed in 14 states. He found employment with Stanley Structures in Albuquerque as an engineer with a concentration on parking structures, bridges, and hotels, while obtaining his master’s degree at UNM.

After getting his master’s degree, he moved to Amarillo, Tex., where he worked mostly on bridges and parking structures for Southwest Prestressed as engineering manager.

From there, he, his spouse, Kathrine, and his two children moved around quite a bit, during which time he worked at Forest City Dillon, Blakeslee Prestress, Metromont Precast, Unistress Corp., and Tindall Corp. In his various positions in these firms, Nadeau frequently worked on tennis stadiums, multistory hotel structures, parking structures, hollow-core housing projects, prisons, and bridges.

While at Blakeslee Prestress, Nadeau met Mario Bertolini, who introduced him to PCI. Then, while working at Tindall,

Nadeau became chair of Georgia/Carolinas PCI. He was also named a PCI fellow.

From that point on, Nadeau became increasingly active in PCI. “Besides being active on committees, I really enjoyed learning from all my colleagues, and I am proud to say that we can ensure and provide a consistent product in our industry,” he says.

“Step out of your comfort zone, and talk to and learn from everyone you can meet.”

Over his years in PCI, Nadeau was a member of the Technical Activities Council, the Parking Structures Committee, the Journal Advisory Committee, the Research and Development Council, the Seismic Committee, the Sustainability Committee, the Marketing Council, the Erectors Committee, and the Concrete Materials Technology Committee.

Looking back, Nadeau, who is now retired, says that his two favorite precast concrete projects were the Flushing Meadows Tennis Stadium and the Yale Tennis Stadium, because of their complexity of design and the use of precast concrete products. “I also really enjoyed the Blue Cross-Blue Shield parking structure project when I was with Blakeslee,” he says.

Over his career, Nadeau says, he is most proud of the fact that he was able to help develop young engineers to become productive, innovative, and confident in their precast concrete design work. To the younger generations, he says, “Step out of your comfort zone, and talk to and learn from everyone you can meet,” he says. “Joining PCI will help you do this.” 