



# CONCRETE HOMES

January 2002


## PCA's Carpenter Training Underway

### Training Program with United Brotherhood of Carpenters is initiated in new training center

An enthusiastic class of instructors completed the first ICF pilot training class for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters (UBC) the week of October 22 through 26 at the International Training Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. This program was created in response to the UBC's request for a certified installation program for insulating concrete forms.

PCA, ICFA, and UBC collaborated with Dr. Pieter VanderWerf of Building Works, Inc., during the past year to develop the course curriculum.

The UBC education program is taught to instructors from all over the U.S. who in turn present it to apprentices and journeymen at the local level. Graduates of the course will have learned the basic principles of form fabrication, installation, and concrete placement in ICF walls and be granted a certification from ICFA. The first class of instructors came from Alaska, California, Florida, Illinois, Missouri, Nevada, and Tennessee. During the week, they participated in 25 hours of classroom work and 15 hours of hands-on training and demonstrations. The core of the training materials consists of a new 100-plus page manual and PowerPoint presentation based on the manual. A favorite feature of the class *(continued on next page)*



*UBC carpenters try their hand installing an ICF system using horizontal planks and plastic ties. (Photo courtesy of R.W. Nielsen Co.)*

## Upcoming events

The **National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA)** will hold its convention and **Masonry Expo February 6–10, 2002**, in Kansas City, Missouri. For registration materials call 703.713.1900, or visit their Web site at [www.ncma.org](http://www.ncma.org).

The **International Builders Show** presented by the **National Association of Home Builders** will be held at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia, **February 8–11, 2002**. For registration materials call 800.368.5242, ext. 8197, or by visit their Web site at [www.BuildersShow.com](http://www.BuildersShow.com).

The **Insulating Concrete Form Association (ICFA)** will hold their **Winter Meeting & Expo on February 21–23, 2002**, at the Clarion Hotel—Performing Arts Center, Fort Worth, Texas. For registration materials call ICFA at 888.864.4232, or visit their Web site at [www.forms.org](http://www.forms.org).

**CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2002** sponsored by the **National Ready Mixed Concrete Association, Associated General Contractors, Construction Industry Manufacturers Association, and Nation Stone, Sand & Gravel Association**, will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, **March 19–23, 2002**. For registration materials call 800.867.6060, or visit their Web site at [www.conexpoconagg.com](http://www.conexpoconagg.com).

*(continued from page 1)*

was the "visiting instructors"—contractors, distributors and suppliers from the ranks of ICFA membership. They provided real world experience and insight about the construction of insulating concrete forms. The companies that donated materials and instructional personnel included AFM, American Polysteel, Reddi-Form, Reechcraft, Reward Wall Systems, WindLock Select, Vinyl Technologies, and Wisconsin Thermo-Form.

PCA Residential Technology Program Manager, David Shepherd, commented "This program represents a major opportunity to provide a well trained workforce of ICF installers in a relatively short amount of time. The consistency of quality in the educational programs also ensures that UBC members will graduate from the class as a productive team member of an ICF crew." The strength of the ICF Training Program comes from the formalized education system developed by the UBC. The International Training Center is a state of the art educational facility, completed in the summer of 2001. It is here that the 1800 UBC instructors come to participate in the classes that they teach to their students at 180 local educational facilities across the U.S. There are approximately 500,000 UBC tradesmen across the country. As apprentices, they are required to complete a 4-year multi-discipline training program. In some markets, journeymen receive additional instruction with annual continuing education classes.

David Lawson, Technical Coordinator at the UBC, observed that the members of the first class "are really enjoying this. They think these foam forms are a great system." The class was full two months in advance, though there were some cancellations because of air travel restrictions. Lawson noted that the UBC first approached ICFA because of requests from members to have such a course.

Three instructor classes are scheduled for 2002: February 18–22; July 8–12; November 4–8. If your market needs additional trained ICF installers, contact your local UBC training director and express your interest in hiring their personnel. For the name, location, and contact information of the local training director in your area, call David Shepherd of the Portland Cement Association at 847.966.6200 or e-mail [dshepherd@portcement.org](mailto:dshepherd@portcement.org).



*UBC Journeymen Instructors listen to Ivan Panushev of Building Works Inc., discuss the finer points of ICF wall construction.*

*Special thanks to David Shepherd, Manager Residential Technology at PCA, for contributing to this article.*

## Concrete homes on display during International Builders Show

The 2002 International Builders Show, taking place February 8-11 at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia, will offer attendees two opportunities to view homes built with above-grade concrete exterior walls.

### ICF development to be feature attraction at 2002 Builders Show

For the ninth consecutive year, PCA will showcase concrete homes during the NAHB International Builders Show. This year's spectacular home, known as "The Hideaway," will be located in the Governor's Walk subdivision in suburban Snellville, about 20 miles east of downtown Atlanta. The Hideaway is constructed with exterior walls of insulating concrete forms (ICFs). Other innovative uses of concrete materials are incorporated into the home, including decorative stamped concrete, a structural concrete flooring system, and a concrete safe room. The Governor's Walk Development will ultimately be a community of 30 ICF homes. The concrete show development is sponsored in part by PCA, the Southeast Cement Shippers Association, Georgia Concrete & Products Association, and American Polysteel. The builder/ developer is Steven Miles of Three Crown Development.

### Habitat for Humanity Concrete Homes

PCA's member companies, in conjunction with concrete forming companies, ready-mix concrete suppliers, and state and local concrete promotion groups, have been working extensively with Habitat for Humanity affiliates across the nation to build disaster-resistant, energy-efficient concrete homes. Visitors to the 2002 International Builders Show will get an opportunity to view two Habitat homes with exterior concrete walls built by using removable concrete forms that incorporate foam insulation. The Habitat for Humanity homes are being sponsored by the Concrete Homes Council (CHC) of the Concrete Foundations Association (CFA).

### Free bus tours

Buses will depart the convention center every hour during show hours to take attendees to both the Governor's Walk ICF development and the concrete Habitat Homes, both of which are located in suburban Snellville, Georgia, approximately 40 minutes from the Georgia World Congress Center. Information about the tours will be available in the PCA booth #6644 during the show, or at [www.concretehomes.com](http://www.concretehomes.com).



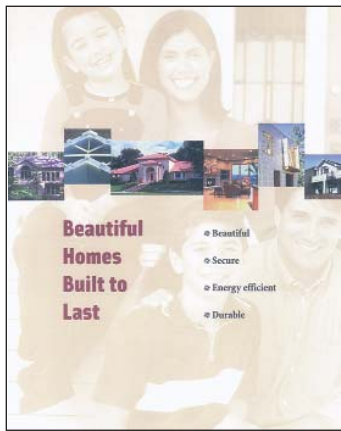
Top: *The Hideaway* is located in the Governor's Walk subdivision and constructed with an American Polysteel ICF wall system.

Middle: Entertainment is supplied to this room in the form of a baby grand piano.

Bottom: The size of this master bedroom provides an additional place to relax during the day in the *Hideaway's* suburban setting.

Photos by Chris Little for PCA.

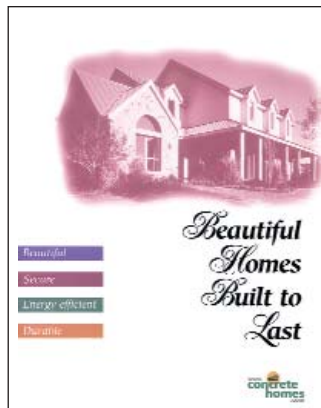
## Tools of our trade



This Insulating Concrete Form Association brochure is new and specifically designed for a consumer audience. It describes the homeowner benefits of ICF home construction, including energy efficiency, disaster resistance, and noise reduction. The brochure also gives a brief overview of ICF construction techniques, and clearly communicates to the reader that concrete homes are not only

functional, but beautiful and architecturally diverse. It's perfect for home shows, direct mail, or as a builder handout.

**Insulating Concrete Form Brochure (PL027) 4 pages \$7.50 for pack of 50 (plus shipping) 2001**  
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# CONCRETE HOMES

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The Portland Cement Association is an organization of cement manufacturers to improve and extend the uses of portland cement and concrete through market development, engineering, research, education, and public affairs work.

