



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



from the desk of the President of the Missouri Valley Ice Manufacturer's Association

Richard Melcher

The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally is over. It is probably the largest event in South Dakota. The Sturgis Rally attracted approximately 350,000 or more people, which are mostly Harley Davidson. The temperature was in the 90's and 100's, it was a very busy event for us. It is a yearly event that lasts for about a week.

Talking about ice, water quality, is very important for a good end product. Here at Tour Ice in Pierre, South Dakota, we use RO Water for all of our ice. RO is Reverse Osmosis. It takes our 90 to 95 percent of the solids in the water, thus making harder, clearer ice. Without RO Water our ice would be cloudy and soft. It also eliminates having to use acid to clean the ice makers, just flush the sump two or three times a year. Another benefit is greater production from the ice makers. We get up to ten percent more ice using RO Water, over using city water.

Our city water generally runs in the 700 to 900 parts per million of dissolved solids, with this many solids, our ice would be cloudy, soft and fused together, making it more difficult to get out of the bin and also the hoppers of the baggers.

Just before the Sturgis Rally started, while on my 5am HACCP tour of the ice plant: I noticed our RO storage tanks were below normal operating levels. While checking to see why or what was wrong, I noticed the product water from the two RO's was up to 90ppm, normal is 10ppm. Also the incoming water to the RO's was at 1450ppm, way too high.

I called the water conditioning company and told them that their water softeners must not be working. They spent most of the day checking their equipment and could not find anything wrong. On further checking, they said, "the city water was at 1350ppm and 28 grains hard", almost twice the normal.

I called the city water department, they came and flushed the water main, still no change. They said, it has to be your equipment. The city has thirteen water wells that supply six huge water tanks for the city. Thus they mix on the way to storage tanks.

When I asked, why the water at the ice plant was reading 1450ppm. They replied saying, "it can't be, as their sample from the State Health Lab only read 750ppm.

Finally, a meeting with the water department, the city engineer and the city administrator, we found out that they had shut down three wells that serviced our area. They had started another well, that well was pumping 1450ppm water right to us. Very frustrating to get the city hall to admit anything.

This went on for four weeks and having to add just softened water to our tanks, our ice making water was at 250ppm, with these high solids, our ice production went from 54 ton per day to about 52-1/2 ton per day. You can see that the quality of your water can make a difference.

In the end, it not only costs in lost production, but we had to use more water to make less production, more energy to freeze the ice, so the costs just go up, try to explain this to city hall.

The end result is better ice, more production and easier selling, as most C Stores or self baggers will not have the quality product that you have. One 5lb bag = 60oz of quality water for about \$1.50, one 20oz bottle for about \$2.00. Pretty good deal, I would say.

Richard Melcher



MISSOURI VALLEY ICE
MANUFACTURER'S ASSOCIATION



SECRETARY'S NOTES

Tom Howat

Well, August was a surprise (thankfully). I hope this issue of the Ice World Journal finds all of you in good health and finishing up a good summer.

This is always a hard issue to write for because our fall convention is either happening or over as you read this and it is still a month away as I write this. So, to report on the meeting let's look into my today's future to tell you what happened in your today's past - (got that?)

The fall meeting of the Missouri Valley Ice Manufacturer's Association was held in Oklahoma City from October 7 - 9, 2007. It was attended by more than 100 icemen and women and suppliers. The meeting included a golf tournament, a live motivational speaker and an Internet "meeting" with Paul Russell. There were plant tours of the Oklahoma City Reddy Ice facility and Bags, Inc along with a tour of the Federal Memorial in OKC and a plant/driver safety program

The meeting also featured good food, good friends and good times. Monday night saw Jon Tornatta, Jay Messerschmitt and Dennis Menke added to the "Lifetime Achievement Award" plaque. Congratulations to the three of you.

The dates were announced for the spring convention. It will be held March 9 - 11, 2008 at the Gold Strike Casino Resort in Tunica, Mississippi. Our hosts will be Delta Ice Service in West Memphis, Arkansas. I hope to see most of our members there.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Howat

convention news & notes

October 7-9, 2007

MO Valley Fall Meeting – Bags Inc, Oklahoma City, OK

Spring 2008

MO Valley Spring Meeting – Delta Ice Service, Tunica MS

Fall 2008

MO Valley Fall Meeting – Chicago, IL





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MISSOURI VALLEY ICE MANUFACTURER'S ASSOCIATION

FOR SALE

(2) New Era mini palletizers with film. Assorted old style Starrett low profile ice merchandisers. Call Tim at (618) 234-3080

FOR SALE

4 year old JMC Baler with positive incline, bypass chute and hot air bag sealer. Only used two seasons - complete with manuals. Call Tim at Baker's Ice Co. (636) 271-4603.

FOR SALE

1994 stainless steel Turbo Tigar 25, remote, ammonia ice maker - low side only. Call Craig at Myers Ice Co. (620) 275-5751.

FOR SALE

Two Hytrol HD roller/belt conveyors - 26' and 42' - good condition. Three 12' Hytrol model A conveyors. One VLS 510 Matthiesen bagger. Carving quality 10"x 20"x 40" crystal clear block ice, packaged and ready to ship. Call Bob (636) 225-6011.

FOR SALE

1997 GMC w/14' body. Low temp cold plate w/driver, curb side and rear doors. Automatic transmission - good tires - great shape. Clinebell model B 56 block maker w/two condensing units - good condition. Hamer 125 head only. Call Mike (573) 686-6666.

FOR SALE

60 ton (in the bag) mini tube ice plant. Includes Mycom and Frick compressors, BAC evap condensers, control centers, s/s drying belts. Cd's of the plant are available upon request. For sale by owner. PRICED TO SELL! Please call Chris Giocondo at 816-365-1632

FOR SALE

Northern Missouri ice plant for sale. Includes 1 P218F and 2 P118F Vogt mini tube ice makers, augers, bin, bagger, bag closers, belt conveyors, 20' x 40' freezer, 7 & 20 pound wicketed ice bags, and much support equipment. Large array of spare parts also available. Call Garry (660) 665-8303.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Chantz Candler, E Z Ice
Cushing, OK
(918) 225-2812

Becky Chapman, TNT Plastics
Perryville, MO
(573) 547-1051

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Don't forget to check out the MO Valley's website at www.movalley.homestead.com

