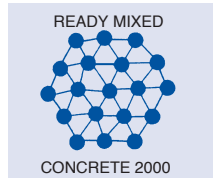


The

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Virginia Ready-Mixed Concrete Association
630 Country Green Lane
Charlottesville, VA 22902-6478
Phone: 804-977-3716 Fax: 804-979-2439

newsletter

APRIL 2004

2004 Spring Convention Schedule of Events

Sunday, May 16

- Noon-3:00 p.m. VRMCA Advisory Council Board Meeting and Luncheon
- 3:00-5:30 p.m. VRMCA Board of Directors' Meeting
- 3:30 p.m. Registration Desk Open
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. VRMCA Reception
- 7:30 -9:30 p.m. Dinner On Your Own, Homestead Dining Room

Monday, May 17

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast On Your Own, Homestead Dining Room
- 7:30 a.m. Registration Desk Open
- 8:00-8:10 a.m. Introductions
- 8:10-9:00 a.m. **"Human Resources – An Investment in Organization Performance"** by Steve Jones, Chandler Concrete
- 9:00-9:45 a.m. **"Upcoming Transportation Funding & Projects"** by Jack Rollison, VDOT
- 9:45-10:00 a.m. Refreshment Break
- 10:00-10:30 a.m. **"Virginia's Concrete Streets & Local Roads Initiative"** by Bob Long, ACPA
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. **"GPS 101 for Fleet Management"** by Kumar Persad, Trimble Navigation
- 11:30 a.m. Adjourn for Golf, Tennis, Sporting Clays, Sightseeing, Shopping, and Relaxation
- 12:30 p.m. Golf, Shotgun Start, The Old Course
- 1:30-4:30 p.m. Tennis, Homestead Courts
- 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sporting Clays, Homestead Shooting Club
- 6:30-7:30 p.m. VRMCA Reception
- 7:30 -9:30 p.m. Dinner On Your Own, Homestead Dining Room

Tuesday, May 18

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast On Your Own, Homestead Dining Room
- 7:30 a.m. Registration Desk Open
- 8:00-9:00 a.m. **"Contractor Beware"** by Richard Kirby, Dominion Power
- 9:00-10:00 a.m. Guest Speaker
Charles Mann, Former Washington Redskins
Defensive Lineman
- 10:00-10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break
- 10:30-11 a.m. VRMCA Advisory Council Updates
- 11:00-11:30 a.m. Annual Business Meeting
Presentation of Safety Awards
Election of Officers and Directors
- 11:30 a.m. Adjourn

House Moves to End Budget Deadlock

The Virginia House of Delegates took a major step toward resolving the State's budget gridlock March 13 when it passed, on a 52-46 vote, a \$750 million compromise tax package.

Some 17 Republicans joined all but two Democrats in voting for HB5018, sponsored by Delegate Harry Parrish (R-Manassas). The following GOP delegates voted for the bill:

Preston Bryant, Vince Callahan, Bill Carrico, Jim Dillard, William Fralin, Robert Hurt, Riley Ingram, Chris Jones, Danny Marshall, Harvey Morgan, Dave Nutter, Glenn Oder, Harry Parrish, Gary Reese, Tom Rust, Ed Scott, and Bob Tata.

(Democrats Johnny Joannu and Lionel Spruill voted against the bill; however, Spruill later said he voted no

by accident and asked that the House Journal note his error.) The 52-46 vote represented a dramatic about-face in the GOP-dominated House, whose leaders for more than three months have worked hard to keep the Republican caucus standing firm against tax increases.

The House went into session at 9 a.m.



REGISTER TODAY!
FORMS INSIDE



VRMCA
SPRING CONVENTION
MAY 16-18, 2004

See Budget, page 2



The late Milton L. Woolard, Jr. on the job.

Concrete Industry Loses Friend and Colleague

Milton L. Woolard, Jr., a superintendent with Richmond-based Emerald Construction Company, died March 20, 2003, of natural causes. Woolard had worked in the construction industry for over 30 years. During his career, he constructed corporate headquarters, high-rise office buildings, industrial facilities, hospitals, retail, schools and multi-level parking decks.

One of Woolard's many strengths was his working knowledge of concrete and the tilt-up concrete wall panel method of construction. He constructed over 1 million square feet of tilt-up construction in the Richmond/Fredericksburg area, including Windsor Business Park, Northlake Business Park, and River Run Business Center. In fact, Woolard was certified by

the American Concrete Institute as an ACI Tilt-Up Supervisor—an honor held by only 103 construction professionals in the United States.

Woolard, who was 58, is survived by his wife Jackie, two daughters, two sons, a sister, a brother, and seven grandchildren. He was known for his love of family, spending most of his free time with his wife, children, and grandchildren. He was also known as an avid golfer. As a co-worker, Woolard never lost his sense of humor and was always pleasant and thoughtful in his approach to everyone on the job site and to the demands of the work. Through his work life and his personal life, he made many friends and relationships. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Budget

Continued from page 1

and the bill did not go to a vote until 5.15 p.m., following several breaks, much debate, and a series of attempted amendments, most of which failed.

The bill's main features include:

- Estate tax: Eliminates the estate tax for the estates of persons who die on or after November 1, 2004.

- Sales tax on food: Reduces the state sales tax on food by one-half cent effective September 1, 2004, and an additional one-half cent effective July 1, 2005.

- Income tax: Increases the personal exemption amount from \$800 to \$1,000, effective January 1, 2005.

- Increases the standard deduction for married individuals from \$5,000 to \$6,000, effective January 1, 2005.

- Raises the filing threshold from \$5,000 to \$7,000 for individuals and from \$8,000 to \$14,000 for married couples, effective January 1, 2005.

- Maintains the age deduction as it currently exists for taxpayers aged 65

and older.

- Provides certain safe-harbors related to Delaware holding companies, effective January 1, 2004.

- Pass-through entities: Requires pass-through entities' information returns to be filed with the Tax Department, effective for taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 2004.

- Cigarette tax: Increases the state cigarette tax from 2.5 cents to 25 cents per pack. Beginning July 1, 2005, the rate increases to 30 cents per pack.

- Sales tax: Increases the state sales and use tax one-half percent from 3.5 percent to 4 percent, which when combined with the local 1 percent sales tax will raise the combined rate from 4.5 percent to 5 percent, effective September 1, 2004.

- Eliminates sales tax exemptions for certain public service corporations.

- Eliminates the accelerated sales tax payments.

Delegate Thelma Drake (R-Norfolk)

did succeed with an amendment that stripped the proposed increase in the recordation tax out of the bill. That amendment erased \$224 million from the bill's original revenue-raising target of \$972.5 million.

The bill now moves to the Senate Finance Committee. The Senate, which already has backed off a proposal for an additional \$1.6 billion in funding for transportation projects, currently favors a proposal seeking \$1.5 billion in new revenues over the Budget's two-year cycle.

Any attempts by the Senate to amend the bill would send it back to the House for further debate—and an unknown future.

In the meantime, it is critical that VRMCA members and their employees continue letting lawmakers know of Virginia's critical need for additional revenues for transportation projects.

Fredericksburg VDOT District Hosts Successful ACI Technician Testing Class

By J. Keith Beazley, Director of Industry Services

The Fredericksburg District VDOT hosted the second ACI Technician Certification class held in the Northern Virginia area this year. The class, held on the last week of March, was well attended and the number of certifications continues to rise around the Commonwealth.

This need and goal for more certified individuals has been recognized by VRMCA Executive Director Peter Easter and VDOT Materials Engineer **Andy Mergenmeier**, and as a result, a series of classes was established throughout the state. Richard Steele, P.E., retired from the state highway department, is the VRMCA Examiner.

The success of the latest class could have not been possible without the efforts of VDOT personnel within the Fredericksburg District. The District had a number of indi-

viduals help with the exam: **Brian Buckle**, VDOT Fredericksburg District; **Claude Riffe**, VDOT District Materials Engineer; **Alex Teklu**, Assistant District Materials Engineer; and **Ronald Jackson**, Materials Laboratory, assisted the examiners. **Ronald Smith** and **David Routt** assisted from the Culpeper District and served as supplemental examiners.

The supplemental examiners from VRMCA were **R. D. Dobson**, Ennstone; **Phil Baumgart**, Shockey Company; **Bobby Dunigan**, Allied Concrete; **Thomas Manning**, Titan America; **Will Adams**, Lehigh Cement; **William Shipe**, Rowe Concrete; and Bob Nablo and Keith Beazley, VRMCA. **Gary Downey**, Titan America, donated and arranged for the delivery of the concrete for the testing. The next class will be held in Richmond on May 3, 4, and 7.

ACI Field Technician Class Report

ACI Field Testing Technician Certification Program

Upcoming 2004 Seminar and Exam Schedule

Richmond
May 3, 4 & 7

Roanoke
June 23, 24 & 28

Hampton
July 14, 15 & 19

Harrisonburg
August 18, 19 & 23

Richmond
September 15, 16 & 20

Please see the enclosed registration form for the class times and information on how to register.

Register Now for the ICF Training Seminar

May 19, 2004, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Fairfax

The Northern Virginia Concrete Advisory is pleased to host a one-day training seminar about Insulated Concrete Forms on May 19 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Fairfax, VA.

Rory Ahern from Tara Contracting, Inc., distributor of Amvic Insulated Concrete Forms, will be conducting this regional training seminar for custom homebuilders and framing contractors who are interested in installing Insulated Concrete Forms.

Ahern conducts national, as well as regional, ICF seminars and has been a distributor and installer for over ten years.

The seminar will be on the basic procedures for building with ICF's and will be followed up with support on the installer's first job. Training will provide participants with the knowledge needed for quality installations and to make ICFs a profitable addition to your business.

The registration fee will be \$275 with a \$50 discount for attendees from the same company. Breakfast, lunch, and a tool bag of miscellaneous items for ICF installations will be included. For questions or to register please call Hessam Nabavi of VRMCA at 703-966-6743 or Tara Contracting, Inc. at 1-866-252-1152.

Got News?

Send your announcements, special recognitions, promotions, and special events information to emily@easterassociates.com or fax to 434-979-2439.



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MAKE THE **RIGHT** CHOICE

THE **RIGHT** PRODUCT & SERVICE
IN THE **RIGHT** PLACE
AT THE **RIGHT** TIME

Roanoke Cement has supplied ready-mix producers and the construction industry with consistent, dependable, high quality cement for over 50 years.

A superior product, backed by excellent customer service, the latest technology, and reliable distribution shows our commitment to serve our customers.

When so much depends on your cement, choose Roanoke Cement. Call 800-782-7622 or 540-992-1501 today.

The Smart Road bridge, at 175 feet tall, is Virginia's tallest bridge. Approximately 9,647 cubic yards of high-strength concrete were used to construct the 2,000-foot long bridge.

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