

The

# READY-MIXER

Virginia Ready-Mixed Concrete Association

630 Country Green Lane, Charlottesville, VA 22902-6478

Phone: 804-977-3716 Fax: 804-979-2439

E-mail: [easter@easterassociates.com](mailto:easter@easterassociates.com)



**NRMCA  
VISION**

Enriching • Inspiring • Empowering

## newsletter

October 30, 2001

### Tilt-Up Symposium Rescheduled

*Meeting Moved to March 2002*

The Tilt-Up Concrete Association's Symposium originally scheduled for September 19-22 has been rescheduled for March 13-16 at the same location, the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia.

The four-day event will include a tradeshow and building tour, featuring many tilt-up projects in northern Virginia as well as concurrent construction and design sessions. Construction topics include pre-construction planning, forming and casting, finishes, environmentally-controlled structures, connec-

tions, rigging and lifting. Design sessions include building and panel design, connections, special materials and a host of other design-related topics. The tradeshow of leading tilt-up accessory suppliers will be expanded from previous years to allow attendees more time to visit the exhibitors. Construction personnel, marketing professionals, engineers, architects and owners are all invited to attend.

The original fee of \$595 for TCA members/\$895 for non-nonmembers and \$395 for one-day admittance with-

out the building tour (\$595 for non-members) will remain the same for those who have registered for the original meeting dates and have not requested a refund. A revised pricing schedule will be developed upon completion of negotiations with the hotel for new and re-registrants. To register, log onto the TCA web site at [www.tilt-up.org](http://www.tilt-up.org) or contact TCA at (319) 895-6911. Full registration includes admission to all sessions, trade shows, bus tours, and either the *Tilt-Up Design and Construction Manual* or *Supervisor and Technical Reference Guide*.

For room reservations, contact the Marriott at 1-800-228-9290; Rooms are available under the TCA Symposium rate of \$159/night through February 20, 2002.

### Transportation Board to Sell High-Grade Bonds for Rt. 58 & Northern Va. Projects

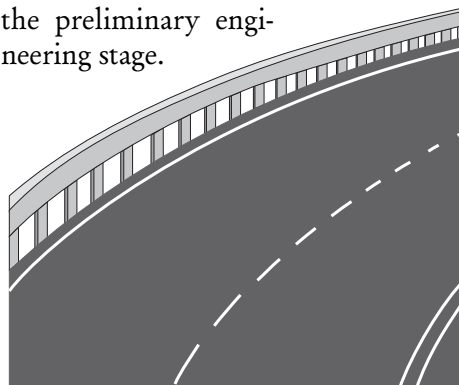
The Commonwealth Transportation Board issued \$163 million in transportation revenue bonds in September to support the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Development Program and Northern Virginia Transportation District Program.

"...The Virginia Department of Transportation continues to meet our commitments to provide much-needed transportation projects, as demonstrated by the sale of these bonds," Transportation Secretary Shirley J. Ybarra said. "The high quality ratings these bonds have received clearly show that the Commonwealth of Virginia is in very good financial health, and that taxpayer dollars are very well managed."

Nearly \$60 billion in bonds will finance projects in the Northern Virginia Transportation District Program. This is a special transportation program designed to provide for an adequate, modern, safe and efficient transporta-

tion network in Northern Virginia. Projects include improvements on Rt. 28, Rt. 15 and the Dulles corridor.

Approximately \$104 million in bonds will finance projects under the U.S. Route 58 Corridor Development Program. The General Assembly developed the project to improve safety and encourage economic development along the 500-mile highway, the longest in Virginia. Ninety-six miles have been constructed, another 57 miles are under construction and 172 miles are in the preliminary engineering stage.



### ACI Offers Slabs on Ground Seminar in Roanoke

ACI is offering a one-day seminar for specifiers, architects, contractors, building owners and government agencies. The seminar will be held at the Hotel Roanoke on December 11 at 7:45 a.m. and will cover planning and selection of slabs on ground, slab subsurface considerations, thickness design procedures, specifications and construction to achieve proper floor slab tolerances, special concerns for design details and materials and prevention of problems. Free publications, a \$160.00 value, are included: *Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction (ACI 302.1R-96)* and *Design of Slabs on Grade (ACI 360R-97)*.

For more information, contact Michelle L. Eickmeyer, ACI International, [michelle.eickmeyer@aci-int.org](mailto:michelle.eickmeyer@aci-int.org); (248) 848-3709.

The Southwest Virginia, Hampton Roads, Richmond and Southwest Advisory Councils are holding a series of luncheons in October and November for members and contractors on the development of a concrete finishing program in Virginia's vocational schools.

Presenting the program will be Dr. Neils W. Brooks, State Director of the Office of Career and Technical Education Services with the Virginia Department of Education. The Department of Education is interested in entering in a partnership with the Advisory Councils and the concrete contractors to provide a training and internship program for concrete finishing in vocational schools. The schools currently offer seven different career sections and this program would be added in some schools beginning the fall semester of 2002. The curriculum was developed with the National Center for Construction Education and Research located at the University of Florida. Each student completing the courses would also be certified as an ACI Concrete Finisher and Concrete Field Testing Technician Grade I.

The concrete contractors would provide an internship program during the 11th grade and employment during the summer months. An agreement of a uniform wage for all students would need to be executed with participating contractors. Contractors would then be expected to offer students employment after graduation. This program provides an excellent opportunity for the contractor to have an employee with proper training and enthusiasm for his job, and for students to enter into the field trained and ready to work. The benefits to VRMCA members are obvious; more trained finishers and testers means more concrete used by contractors.

VRMCA has been instrumental in the development of this training. Gus Lorber, Al Newman, George Hossenlopp and Peter Easter have served with the Coalition for Quality Concrete Flatwork in the task force and implementation. The Board of Directors of the Concrete Advisory Council met with Dr. Brooks during the Fall Convention at Wintergreen and has endorsed this program.

This is a very important program for our Advisory Councils. Its success depends on the participation of the concrete contractors in each region and the support of the members of our councils. We have an opportunity to fill the void of quality people to work in our industry.

In addition to the vocational training program sessions, the Southwest Virginia Council continues its educational activities with three programs in the immediate future. The Council sponsors a dinner-seminar on poured concrete foundation walls in Martinsville this month, with Concrete Foundation Association board member Tim Parrish as guest speaker. Later in October Chandler Concrete in Roanoke will host a stamped concrete demonstration by Stampcrete International.

Keith Beazley and Bob Nablo will have the VRMCA display booth at the AIA Building Virginia 2001 Exposition in early November. This year the booth will feature ICF and tilt-up construction. Literature describing all facets of the VRMCA promotional effort will be distributed.

## DEQ Annual Report Available

Virginia's Department of Environmental Quality has produced its first-ever annual report. The theme of this report, "Partners in Protecting Virginia's Environment," highlights how the DEQ and Virginia's citizens are working together to protect Virginia's natural resources. In addition, the report includes sections on improving environmental literacy, safeguarding our water resources, managing waste and cleaning up and improving air quality through cooperation and innovation. The report is available online at the DEQ web site: [www.deq.state.va.us](http://www.deq.state.va.us).

## Concrete in Cyberspace

The VRMCA's new web site is in the final testing phases and will be online soon. The new site features easy email links to VRMCA staff, including field representatives Keith Beazley and Bob Nablo, as well as information for homeowners and design professionals. As with any web site, VRMCA.org will continue to expand and grow, and your suggestions are welcome.

Some other sites related to the concrete industry:

**[www.worldofconcrete.com](http://www.worldofconcrete.com):** Information on World of Concrete show in January 2002, including exhibitor lists and meeting schedule.

**[www.aci-int.org](http://www.aci-int.org):** The American Concrete Institute's site, which features ACI standards, training schedules, and regional chapter activities.

**[www.nrmca.org](http://www.nrmca.org):** The National Ready-Mixed Concrete Association's site, offering technical tips and marketing information for concrete professionals.

**[www.tilt-up.org](http://www.tilt-up.org):** The Tilt-Up Concrete Association offers examples of tilt-up buildings, plus extensive resources for designing and marketing tilt-up construction.

**[www.decorative-concrete.net](http://www.decorative-concrete.net):** This site features examples of interior and exterior decorative concrete—from custom-poured countertops to exterior stamped concrete.

**[www.concrete.com](http://www.concrete.com):** This site serves as a "yellow pages" for the concrete industry and offers directories for equipment suppliers, tool manufacturers, communications systems and other related products.

## Concrete Homes Brochure Available Soon

The VRMCA Advisory Council has prepared a tri-fold brochure that introduces homeowners to the advantages of insulated concrete form (ICF) construction. The brochure features full-color photographs of ICF homes, including several in Virginia. It also highlights the energy efficiency of ICF homes, with five-year average heating and cooling costs for several ICF homes in the Commonwealth.



A black-and-white sample copy is enclosed with this newsletter. Copies of the brochure can be ordered by the Regional Councils or directly from the VRMCA office by calling Bobbie at (434) 977-3716 before November 15. Prices vary by quantity as follows:

Quantity	Price per copy
250	32¢
500	30¢
1,000	28¢
2,000 or more	24¢

## Upcoming Events

October 29-31

NRMCA Board of Directors Meeting, Pinehurst, North Carolina

December 3-4

NRMCA-Concrete Parking Area Sales Training Program, Charlotte, North Carolina

December 11

ACI Seminar-Concrete Slab on Grade, Roanoke, Virginia

December 14-15

NRMCA/Morse Brothers Mentor Driver Workshop, Orlando, Florida

January 14-15

NRMCA-Concrete Parking Area Sales Training Program, Charlotte, North Carolina

January 9-12, 2002

World of Concrete, New Orleans, Louisiana

**Save the date!**

**Mark your calendar for VRMCA's Spring 2002  
Convention: May 19-21 at the Homestead**

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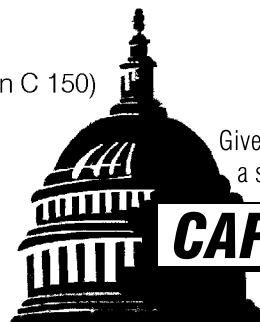
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