

## PCAV Happenings



Mimi Rainero Coles  
PCAV President

Happy Summer! I hope every one of you is having a productive and safe summer—and that you all are busy, busy, busy with the design, production, or installation of concrete pipe and precast products!

There are several important events coming up in the next few months. **PLEASE** put them on your calendar and make every effort to attend!

### Upcoming Events

On **July 18<sup>th</sup>**, we will have our **scheduled joint meeting with VDOT**, followed by lunch and our **third quarter Board of Director's meeting**. The meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Koger Center in Richmond, Virginia.

Put the dates of **September 12 and 13** on your calendar now so that you don't miss our **Annual Meeting at Wintergreen Resort**. This event is a great opportunity to conduct PCAV business, network, play a little golf and enjoy the gorgeous Blue Ridge Mountains. Friday morning we will wrap up the session with our **Annual Business Meeting** and a great speaker!

The PCAV will be marketing concrete pipe and precast products at the **2002 Transportation Conference** to be held at **Virginia Military Institute, October 16-18, 2002**. We appreciate participation from any of our members who would like to help staff the booth!

*Continued on page 2*

## PCAV's Precasters Meet Challenges

by Patrick Rodgers

Fifty years ago if you told people a large diameter sanitary structure could be installed, inverted and turned active in a matter of hours, they would probably think you were off your rocker. Today, the story is very different with the overwhelming majority of structures precast.

Luckily, Virginia offers distinct advantages over other states, many of which do not have a local precast association like PCAV. Our association and its members diligently and conscientiously work with VDOT, local municipalities and engineers to consolidate and develop cohesive concrete storm, sewer and bridge products, and improve our processes.

PCAV's Specification, Marketing and Education committees participate in a wide variety of activities to learn about, develop, promote and educate its members, market-oriented professionals and students on precast products. As a result, we have developed one of the finest and industrially advanced storm, sewer and bridge systems and products in the country.

### City of Fredericksburg

Yesterday's most difficult jobs are commonplace today. For instance, the City of Fredericksburg currently has an interesting sanitary sewer job in progress, Powhatan Street, which is being done by Contractors Precast Corporation. In this project the city is replacing and updating a main sewer line, up and down, through several neighborhoods. Due to drop manholes and steep grade changes, it increases the possibility of microbiologically induced corrosion occurring. (See "Antimicrobial Concrete has Arrived" on page 3 in this *Hard Facts* issue.)

The engineer specified interior epoxy coating along with a regular coat of external bitumastic, and 72-inch-diameter manhole bases. (Don't worry it gets better.) The owner, Dave Ellington, of the contracting firm A-Ace Hauling wanted precast inverts in the 72-inch-diameter manhole bases. Because the old sewer lines and structures being replaced were in the middle of the street, deep and active, Ellington wanted to keep pumping—especially at night—to minimum. The 72-inch-precast invert would allow him to go from truck to active in no time. On top of that, everything had to be backfilled that day, with no open ditches. For the nostalgic buffs out there, the sanitary structures being removed were also blocked in place.

Thank goodness for precast. Fifty years ago these parameters could have never been met.

As with all of PCAV's members, Contractors Precast Corporation rose to the challenge, by providing 3-foot by 72-inch-manhole bases with precast inverts.

What will the next 50 years bring? No one knows, yet, but stay tuned to PCAV's *Hard Facts* to find out.

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Americast

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# PCAV

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## President's Message

*Continued from page 1*

This is a great opportunity to learn about the latest in transportation technology and talk to VDOT engineers and administrators, contractors, vendors and other industry members.

### Thanks and Best Wishes

After eight years, we are saying goodbye to our managing consultant, Alex Oliver, who has accepted a position as executive director of The Hermitage Foundation in Norfolk. Alex was responsible for the day-to-day management of the association and saw us through many changes over the years. He helped in the development of *Hard Facts* and the establishment of our 1-800 number, and provided association leadership support. We thank Alex for all of his work on behalf of the PCAV and wish him the best in his new job!

We are most fortunate that Betsy Parsons, our Director of Programs, will continue to assist PCAV with daily operations and administrative duties.

### New Members

Finally, it is with great pleasure that I welcome **four new members** (listed in the adjacent column) to the PCAV. We look forward to working with all of these companies in the future!

**See you on the 18<sup>th</sup>!**

## PCAV Welcomes New Members

The following companies have recently become PCAV members:

### PRODUCER MEMBER

#### Frederick Precast Concrete Inc.

Gregory Ouimette

P.O. Box 75

Frederick, MD 21705

PH: 301.631.1460 FX: 301.631.1492

EM: fpcgreg@aol.com

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

#### Boral Material Technologies

Darrell Wilson

1515 W. Cornwallis Dr., Suite 205

Greensboro, NC 27840

PH: 336.274.1140 FX: 336.274.0940

EM: darrell.wilson@boral.com

#### Hail Mary Rubber Co.

Bill Jones

803 Monaco Drive

Warrington, PA 18976

PH: 215.343.1955 FX: 215.343.8824

#### Nox -Crete Products Group, Inc.

John K. (Keith) Fleming

1444 S. 20th Street

Omaha, NE 68108

PH: 410.374.1660 TF: 800.669.2738

FX: 410.374.1670

EM: keith@nox-crete.com

PCAV extends a hearty welcome to each new member.

## Learn with PCAV and Couwenhoven

by Patrick Rodgers

Hold on to your hats, because Ann Couwenhoven (Hydro) is blowing them away!

Her new engineering students lecture is very impressive. Ann's lecture is presented using a question-and-answer case studies method, allowing the students to interact with her during the presentation. The lecture focuses on the differences between organic and non-organic materials, discussing proper usage of the different types of concrete and plastic pipe and structures.

This fall Ann is scheduled to speak at VMI on several occasions. Her student lecture will be some time in late September or October. We encourage everyone to attend one of these lectures. What a great continuing education program opportunity for all!

Ann is also on the ACPA Marketing and Fall's Course (Las Vegas) committee. This summer in Las Vegas, Ann will present a lecture covering the HDPE update on specs and lab analysis and how to market against it.

## Concrete Contests Bring Out the Best in Students and PCAV

by Patrick Rodgers

The American Society of Civil Engineers Regional Concrete Canoe Contest was held from April 27–April 29, 2002 in Charleston, W. Va. The sponsor school for this year's contest was the Institute of Technology West Virginia University. Professor Lesley Rosier of the university and the Regional Representative for the American Society of Civil Engineers put together an excellent program for all the events.

We're proud to tell you that PCAV members really stepped forward for this year's Concrete Contest. Representing PCAV as concrete canoe judges were John Rayburn (Winchester Building Supply), Hank Gottschalk (Hanson), and Patrick Rodgers (Contractors Precast). Carissa Alexander (Hanson) served as a judge for the Concrete Bowling Ball com-



*Hooray for VT!*

petition. Thanks for your participation judges!



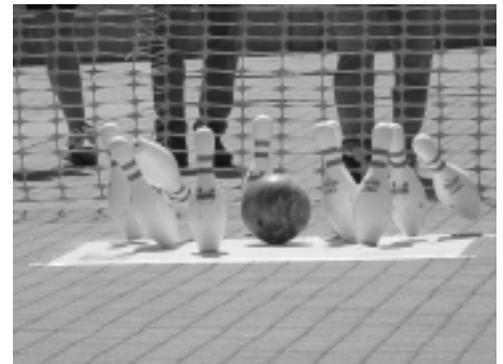
*Virginia Tech wins the Concrete Canoe Contest*

In the Concrete Canoe Contest, teams are judged in several areas: written overview, oral presentation, booth, swamp test and races. This year's overall winner in the Concrete Canoe Contest was Virginia Tech.

A brand new concrete event was added to this year's competition, "The Concrete Bowling Ball Contest." This contest was looking for a durable concrete mix. Each team built a concrete bowling ball, then on a concrete sidewalk, bowled pins down. The

team with the biggest piece of concrete left or the least number of cracks in their ball, won. This year's winner of the Concrete Bowling Ball Contest was the Institute of Technology West Virginia University.

Next year's competition will be held at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. in April. Please mark it on your calendar to attend. Remember, these schools need your company's support, so pick a school and get involved as a sponsor. If you have questions or comments, please feel



*Institute of Technology Institute of West Virginia wins Concrete Bowling Contest*

free to contact Patrick Rodgers at 540.972.6677.

## Antimicrobial Concrete Has Arrived

by Patrick Rodgers

One of the biggest problems facing precasters with sanitary structures and lines is microbiologically induced corrosion (MIC), a major cause of concrete corrosion of underground concrete sewer pipes, lift stations and manholes. For years the only choices available to combat this problem were plastic linings and epoxy coating. Now Con<sup>MIC</sup>Shield® concrete additive gives precasters antimicrobial concrete. Molecularly bonded within the cement, Con<sup>MIC</sup>Shield® does not lose effectiveness through abrasion or erosion

and since it is not a coating, it cannot wear off or delaminate ("Added Value For Precast Sewer System Concrete," Con<sup>MIC</sup>Shield®, pg 1-2, LB Consulting, LLC).

MIC is a corrosive process caused by the waste products of Thiobacillus bacteria. These bacteria flourish in the hydrogen sulfide gas and sulfuric acid in sewer lines. As the bacteria grows in numbers, the pH of the concrete changes from highly alkaline to highly acidic. The concrete is modified chemi-

cally to a gypsum-like substance and the pipes and manholes literally rot from the inside out. (See ASCE Manual of Practice No. 69.)

The Precast Concrete Association of Virginia Specification committee and members are working hard for approval of antimicrobial concrete from various sanitary commissions and test facilities, and we expect approval soon.

For more information about this subject, visit [www.con-shield.com](http://www.con-shield.com) on the Web.

## 2002 Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT
July 18	10:00 AM PCAV/VDOT Jnt Mtg 12:30 PM Luncheon with VDOT 1:30 PM Board of Directors Mtg
Sept. 12-13	Annual Conference Wintergreen, Va.
Sept. (TBA)	Virginia Engineer Conference (ASCE/VSPE) Location TBD
Oct. 16-18	VDOT Transportation Conf'nce VMI, Lexington, Va.

**Don't Miss It!**  
**Annual Convention**  
**September 12-13, 2002**  
**Wintergreen Resort**

### PCAV Past Presidents

Bill Tichacek, Americast	1991-1993
Jim Richmond, Americast	1993-1995
Kirby O'Malley, Garden State Precast	1995-1996
Don Anger, Americast	1996-1997
Richard Rotondo, Rotondo Precast	1997-1999
Scott Crumpler, Americast	1999-2001

## PCAV Mission

*The Precast Concrete Association of Virginia is dedicated to the growth of the precast concrete industry. We will educate specifiers and end users as to the advantages and proper utilization of products and systems, and we will represent the industry in the Commonwealth of Virginia.*

## May Meeting

by Marie Derby

The Precast Concrete Association met on Thursday, May 23, 2002 at the Boars Head Inn in Charlottesville. Committee and Board of Directors meetings preceded the General meeting.

Alan Siebenthaler, Director of Marketing and Quality Assurance, addressed the Board and the membership for the National Precast Concrete Association. Alan discussed how state associations can utilize the National Association. PCAV plans to take advantage of these benefits.

### A Big Thank You To Our Sponsors

**A-Lok**  
**A.L. Patterson**  
**East Jordan Iron Works**  
**Essroc Cement**  
**International Precast Supply**  
**Lafarge**  
**M.A. Industries**  
**Meadow Burke Products**  
**Permatile Concrete Products**  
**Swope & Associates**

## Annual Convention Coming

by Marie Derby

Our Annual Convention is scheduled for September 12 and 13, 2002 at the beautiful Wintergreen Resort in Virginia, where we have enjoyed the convention for several years.

We have a great agenda of speakers including Dr. Will Miller, who is nationally known for his cultural insights and humor, and Ray Rhees, chairman of the American Concrete Pipe Association. This may be one of the best annual conventions yet.

Thursday is a day of relaxation, re-connecting with friends and associates, and casual business networking. It will start with a golf outing, employing a double start at 10:30 a.m. An outside reception will precede dinner that evening.

On Friday morning the Associates and Board of Directors meetings will be followed by PCAV's General Session and luncheon.

Registration materials will be mailed in July. The deadline for registering is August 10, so sign up before you take that vacation!

Questions? Call Marie Derby, 757.880.5631.

**Hard Facts** is a publication of the Precast Concrete Association of Virginia for its members. Submissions, story ideas, member kudos, letters to the editor and comments are welcomed. Contact the editor, Lois Carter Fay, APR, at 757.259.9650 or sbp@visi.net.

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