Happy Summer! I hope every one of you is having a productive and safe summer—and that you all are 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 18th, 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!

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 most progressive concrete 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.
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

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 competition. Thanks for your participation judges!

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 free to contact Patrick Rodgers at 540.972.6677.

Hooray for VT!

Virginia Tech wins the Concrete Canoe Contest

Institute of Technology Institute of West Virginia wins Concrete Bowling Contest

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 ConMIC® Shield® concrete additive gives precasters antimicrobial concrete. Molecularly bonded within the cement, ConMIC® 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,” ConMIC® 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 chemically 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 on the Web.
2002 Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>10:00 AM PCAV/VDOT Jnt Mtg</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12:30 PM Luncheon with VDOT</td>
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<td>1:30 PM Board of Directors Mtg</td>
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<td>Sept. 12-13</td>
<td>Annual Conference</td>
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<td>Wintergreen, Va.</td>
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<td>Sept. (TBA)</td>
<td>Virginia Engineer Conference</td>
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<td>Oct. 16-18</td>
<td>VDOT Transportation Conf’nce</td>
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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, reconnecting 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.