

August 2009

**Building
Contractors
Association
of New Jersey**

MONTHLY UPDATE

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BCANJ PAC Cigar Night

The BCANJ Political Action Committee's Cigar Night on Tuesday, September 15, 2009, 5:30 p.m. at Eagle Oaks Golf Club, Farmingdale, will feature exquisite cigars, premium cocktails and an outstanding buffet dinner. Sponsorships are still available for the evening. ***Please note that all checks for the event must be made payable to BCANJ PAC.*** Register online at www.bcanj.com or call the BCANJ office at 732.225.2265.

BCANJ Hosts Coffee Talk Series

Beginning this fall, BCANJ will host a series of morning programs to provide our members with "right-from-the-source" information from state agencies. Members will have the opportunity to ask questions of those state officials who affect different aspects of public construction projects.

The first in the Coffee Talk Series, "Back to School with the New Jersey Schools Development Authority," is scheduled for September 18, 2009, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m., at the Association office in Edison. SDA CEO Kris Kolluri will review upcoming work, the construction schedule for future projects and changes adopted by the SDA that impact the construction process. Each Coffee Talk program is offered at no charge, but space is limited and pre-registration is required. Call us at 732.225.2265 or e-mail akopin@bcanj.com for a registration form.

BCANJ Annual Gala Dinner

Tickets, sponsorships and advertising space in the Souvenir Journal are still available for BCANJ's Annual Gala Dinner on Thursday, October 22, 2009, at The Palace at Somerset Park in Somerset, with a cocktail hour at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. This year's program will honor, as "Construction Man of the Year," Joseph McNamara, Director of NJ Laborers'-Employers' Cooperation & Education Trust and NJ State Laborers' Health & Safety Fund. For information, check the BCANJ website, www.bcanj.com, or call us at 732.225.2265.

Alliance Eagle Awards

BCANJ congratulates Ben Torcivia, Sr., founder of Torcon, Inc., who will be honored by the New Jersey Alliance for Action at the Alliance Eagle Awards Dinner on October 14, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick. Ben Torcivia, a past president of BCANJ, will receive the Ellis S. Vieser Lifetime Achievement Award.

Updated NJ Building Trades Directory

Coming soon: We will e-mail to our members a PDF of the recently updated Directory of New Jersey Building Trades Councils and Business Agents. Please call the Association office at 732.225.2265 if you would like a printed copy, available after Labor Day.

Construction Project Management Certificate Programs

As we told you in bulletin B-#70-09, enrollment is open for classes in the Construction Project Management Certificate Program at Rutgers. You can access the flyer with the outline of courses for Fall 2009 and Early/Late Spring 2010 through the Education section of our website, www.bcanj.com.

Enclosed with this mailing is a flyer detailing the Stockton College CPMC schedule for Fall 2009. Classes through the Stockton School of Graduate and Continuing Studies are held at the Main Campus in Pomona. The information is also available in the Education section of our website.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR Magazine

In August we distributed Volume II-2009 of the BUILDING CONTRACTOR magazine. In this issue's feature article, we scrutinize New Jersey's Project Labor Agreement Law and its effectiveness in the seven years since its passage. The issue is timely as the PLA debate heats up in Washington over President Obama's executive order on PLAs for stimulus projects.

Additional copies of *Building Contractor* can be obtained by contacting the Association office.

Legislative News...***Suspension of COAH's Non-Residential Development Impact Fee***

As you know, the New Jersey Economic Stimulus Act of 2009 suspends COAH's 2.5% Non-Residential Development Fee Act. Therefore, proof of payment of the fee, or proof of a qualified exemption of the fee is no longer required for the issuance of a final certificate of occupancy. For those contractors that have paid a non-residential development fee since July 17, 2008, you may claim a refund of monies paid. For further details please contact the Association office, or go to <http://www.state.nj.us/dca/affiliates/coah/regulations/nrdf/notice.pdf>

Bills Signed

Governor Corzine recently signed dozens of bills into law. Three new laws BCANJ monitored that may impact the construction industry are listed below.

S-2888 / A-4045 (Vitale, Schaer, Watson-Coleman) Appropriates funds to DEP for environmental infrastructure projects.

S-702 / A-1629 (B. Smith, McKeon, Prieto, Stender) Authorizes enhancement of State Uniform Construction Code's energy subcode based on anticipated energy savings; provides down payment assistance to certain purchasers of homes meeting enhanced energy subcode requirements.

S-1437 / A-1351 (T. Kean, Weinberg, Scalera, Voss) Requires training program for and recognizes position of technical assistant to construction code official.

Safety Update...

For information on key safety issues, please refer to the enclosed report.

Labor News...***Unemployment plagues the state and the industry***

Initial unemployment claims rose in the first week of August, with New Jersey listed among the top 10 states, according to the US Department of Labor. Construction employment fell in July in 34 states, but remained relatively the same for New Jersey after June's steep decline.

PLA rule still undetermined for federal projects

The comment period for the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) council's proposed rule on the use of PLAs expired August 13, but as of this printing the council was considering an extension. The rule would implement President Obama's executive order to "consider requiring the use of project labor agreements" for federal construction projects that total more than \$25 million. Check the "Hot Topics" page on our website, www.bcanj.com, for updates.

Associate Members

We are pleased to include information from the following Associate Members:

Conner Strong
Philadelphia, PA

Enclosed with this mailing is Conner Strong's corporate capabilities brochure.

HazTek, Inc.
Medford, NJ

HazTek invites you to a Breakfast Learning Seminar on September 15, 2009. The seminar covers three important industry topics: *OSHA's Role in the New Administration*; *Safety in Today's Economy – An Owner's Perspective on Outsourcing*; and *Risk Management 101 – What Every Company Needs to Know*. You can access the flyer on the "Members Only" section of our website, www.bcanj.com.

Annual Membership Meeting

Please mark your calendar for the final membership meeting of the year: Tuesday, December 15, 2009, at the Robert Meyner Reception Center at the PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel. Look for registration information or check our website as the event approaches.

In Memoriam

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the passing of **Rudolph Ricciardi** on Saturday, August 22, 2009. Rudy was 83. For more than 60 years of his life he was involved in the construction industry.

The commitment, time and dedication Rudy gave to the Building Contractors Association of New Jersey and New Jersey's construction industry is immeasurable. He can be defined and remembered as a BCANJ icon, serving as President in 1987 and 1988.

To list all the positions Rudy held would be far too extensive. But in choosing one to highlight, it would be his dedication to the construction industry workforce. Whether it was in his role as Management Trustee on various Fringe Benefit Funds, or as Technical Advisor to the New Jersey Institute of Technology's Student Chapter for more than 18 years, he focused on helping and looking out for the best interests of those who worked in the trades or in managerial roles for many BCANJ member firms.

Rudy's wisdom, sincerity and participation in our industry will be sorely missed.