In 2020, All Eyes on November Elections

The 2019-20 Legislative session will end this spring, but with the new year, lawmakers in Madison are already laying the groundwork for fall elections.

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald is working on a plan to cut property taxes in 2020. In calling for the tax cut, Fitzgerald cited a nonpartisan Wisconsin Policy Forum report that was recently released showing homeowners are potentially facing the largest property tax increase in a decade. A spokesperson for Assembly Speaker Robin Vos said he is open to the idea of cutting property taxes. Meanwhile, Governor Evers said he wouldn’t rule out supporting a tax cut.

State officials are also watching public reaction to the impeachment proceeding and the political fallout that may occur in November. A new Marquette Law School poll of Wisconsin registered voters finds that support for impeachment has declined since October, before public hearings began. In the new poll results, 40 percent think that President Donald Trump should be impeached and removed from office, while 52 percent do not think so and 6 percent say they do not know. Back in October, before public hearings began, 44 percent favored impeachment and removal from office, while 51 percent were opposed, and 4 percent said they didn’t know.

General election matchups between Trump and five Democratic candidates all indicate very close races – within the margin of error of the Marquette poll. Respondents indicated the following preferences: Biden 47/Trump 46; Sanders 45/Trump 47; Warren 44/Trump 45; Buttigieg 43/Trump 44; Booker 43/Trump 44.

Among those who say they will vote in the Wisconsin Democratic presidential primary in April, Joe Biden receives the most support. Biden is the first choice of 23 percent, followed by Bernie Sanders at 19 percent, Elizabeth Warren at 16 percent and Pete Buttigieg at 15 percent. Corey Booker is the first choice of 4 percent. Recently announced candidate Michael Bloomberg has the support of 3 percent, as does Andrew Yang and Amy Klobuchar.

If the Marquette poll is even somewhat accurate, Republicans feel confident they can retain control of the state legislature. At this point, voters in Wisconsin do not appear to be calling for major change.

Peter Kammer, The Kammer Group
ASSOCIATION NEWS

WRMCA Welcomes New Members

- **KPRG** - environmental consulting - [https://www.kprginc.com/](https://www.kprginc.com/)
- **Marcotte Systems** - Software - [https://www.marcottesystems.com/](https://www.marcottesystems.com/)
- **Steve Reiff Inc.** - Sandblasting and painting - [http://www.stevereiffinc.com/index.html](http://www.stevereiffinc.com/index.html)

11th Annual WRMCA Pheasant Hunt

The 11th Annual WRMCA Pheasant Hunt was a success with 12 teams participating in the event.

A special thanks to Pheasants@Large and Dan Large for hosting the event. Thank you to committee members Dan Large, Keith Nault, Nicholas Rivecca, Mike Rivecca, and Gary Wallis.

Congratulations to the winning team consisting of Marty Doody, Chris Lovett, Garrett Lovett, Jarrod Russell, Josh Doody and Dan Reynolds. Thank you to sponsors FORTA, Gestra, Premiere Concrete Admixtures, Riv/Crete Ready Mix, and Zignego Ready Mix.

OES Committee to Recognize Safe Drivers

The WRMCA OES Committee would like to highlight driver members of the association for their commitment to health/safety & environmental promotion of ready-mixed concrete industry and efforts to the community. Experienced employees that continually promote excellence are truly a value added commodity to your company and help promote a very positive image to the ready-mixed profession.

Winners will be announced in February 2020 and will be recognized at convention. All nominees will receive a certificate of recognition. To get an application, please go to [www.wrmca.com](http://www.wrmca.com) and click on OES Information under the Members Only Section.

The deadline to submit is **February 15, 2020**. Contact Kim Novak at knovak@wrmca.com with questions or to download an application, please go to [www.wrmca.com](http://www.wrmca.com) and click on OES Information under Resources.
ACI Concrete Field Testing Technician – Grade 1

The training course offers instruction in the Fundamentals of concrete testing procedures. Emphasis is placed upon practical information and skills which will help quality-control and testing personnel do their jobs more efficiently to ensure consistent, quality concrete and reliable test results.

ASTM C94 requires anyone testing concrete in the field to be certified through ACI - this WRMCA program is the only such program offered in Wisconsin. Testing includes a classroom session followed by a field test session in the afternoon.

ACI Strength Testing Class - February 24th in Schofield

The WRMCA is sponsoring an ACI Laboratory Technician Concrete Strength Testing Technician Certification Course and Informational Seminar on February 24, 2020. The certification will be held at American Engineering Testing in Schofield.

Certification Level - Concrete Strength Testing Technician is an individual who has demonstrated the knowledge and ability to properly perform, record, and report the results of four basic ASTM laboratory procedures related to the determination of concrete compressive and flexural strength.

Certification Requirements - Recertification is required every 5 years, and requires completion of the written and performance examinations.

Registration - Download a registration form at https://wrmca.com/event/aci-strength-testing-certification-2/.
WINTER EVENTS

20th Annual Technical Workshop

The workshop at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells will begin on Thursday, January 16th with lunch at 11:30 a.m. and will end at noon on Friday, January 17th. Download registration at https://wrmca.com/event/wrmca-annual-technical-workshop/.

January 16, 2020
11:00 am Registration
11:30 am Lunch
12:30-1:30 pm Everything You Wanted to Know About the History of Concrete (*But Were Afraid to Ask) - Andrea Breen, Zignego Ready Mix
1:45-2:45 pm Slag Cement: The Other SCM - Larry Sutter, Michigan Tech University
3:00-4:30 pm Evolution of Ordering Concrete & Delivery
* Communication Challenges between Dispatch & Contractor - Cassie Krause, Carew Concrete & Supply
* Evolution of Dispatch - Jim Allan, Command Alkon
5:00 pm Social Hour
6:00 pm Dinner

January 17, 2020
7:45 am Breakfast
8:30-9:15 am WisDOT Update - Chad Hayes & Barry Paye, WisDOT
9:30-11:00 am Preventing Concrete Litigation - Buck Barker, RVT Engineering
11:00-Noon Update on Deicer Distress - Larry Sutter, Michigan Tech University
Noon Closing Remarks & Workshop Concludes

ACI Concrete Flatwork Certification – January 28th-29th in Wausau

WRMCA will be hosting an ACI Concrete Flatwork Certification on January 28-29, 2020. ABC Wisconsin is the exam sponsor for this certification.

**Dates & Times** – Tuesday, January 28th (8:00am-5:00pm) and Wednesday, January 29th (8:00am-Noon with the exam beginning at approximately 9:30am)

**Cost** - $405 per person

**Instructor** – ACI Concrete Flatwork Trained Instructors of the WRMCA

Download registration at https://wrmca.com/event/aci-concrete-flatwork-certification-4/

Please note the class is limited to **30 people** and it has been approved for 11 credits for the Dwelling Contractor Qualifier Certification. Please bring pencils and a calculator to class.
The 70th Annual Convention will be held February 26th-27th at the Grand Geneva Resort & Spa in Lake Geneva.

**Grand Geneva Resort & Spa**

**Room Rates:** $119 Double, $144 Guaranteed King, $219 Junior Suite plus taxes/fees

**Reservation Information:** Call 262.248.8811, mention WRMCA Annual Convention or book online at https://res.windsurfercrs.com/ibe/details.aspx?propertyid=13972&nights=1&checkin=02/26/2020&group=77465A

**Rate Cutoff Date:** January 24, 2020

**Sponsorship Opportunities:** There are opportunities to sponsor for $250 and includes signage and acknowledgement at convention, recognition on the WRMCA website and in the WRMCA newsletters. Thank you to our sponsors - CarVen Metals, Command Alkon, DORAL, FS/Growmark, GeoTest, Mapei, Oshkosh Corporation, Otto Jacobs Company, Sika Corporation, St. Marys Cement, Terex, Wingra Redi-Mix and Wisconsin Cement. Sponsor and registration information is available at https://wrmca.com/event/wrmca-annual-convention-3/.

**Wednesday, February 26, 2020**

1:00-1:30 pm Registration
1:45-2:15 pm **Industry Update** - Ray McVeigh, Great Lakes Cement Promotion Council
2:15-3:15 pm **Fiber Reinforcement in 2020** - Dan Large, FRC, LLC
3:15-3:30 pm Break
3:30-4:30 pm **Evaluating Mix Design Submittals for High Performance Floors & Pavements** - Bryan Birdwell, Structural Services
5:00-6:00 pm Reception

**Thursday, February 27, 2020**

7:45-8:45 am Breakfast/Registration
9:00-9:45 am **Tomorrow’s Workforce is Here: Taking Action Now** - Erin Henry, Northwestern Mutual
10:00-11:00 am **Recession Ready? Leverage the Right Professional Team to Solidify Your Business Plan** - Nick Hunzinger & Jared Thompson, Wealth Partners
11:00-Noon Efficiencies in Dispatching and GPS Truck Tracking - Dirk Krueger, Command Alkon
12:00-1:00 pm Lunch
1:00-2:00 pm **Changes and Opportunities at NRMCA** - John Carew, Carew Concrete & Supply and Mike Philipps, NRMCA
2:00-2:30 pm **OES Update** - Adam Tegelman, MCC, Inc.
2:30-3:00 pm **Legislative Guest**
3:00-3:30 pm **Legislative Update** - Peter Kammer, The Kammer Group
3:30-4:00 pm Board & Award Recognition
5:00-6:00 pm Reception
6:00 pm Dinner
The 17th Annual Workshop took place on December 5th-6th at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells with 30 members in attendance.

Thank you to OSHA and MSHA for presenting for the first time together on Pit Safety. Chris Hensler, MSHA District Manager & Mary Bauer, Compliance Assistance Specialists OSHA did an excellent job at pointing out the differences in reporting injuries.

The Panel Discussion regarding Operational and Legal Challenges of Employee Injuries and Return to Work included: Traci Tauferner of Advanced Physical Therapy & Sports Medicine, Chad Kaster of Acuity Insurance, Cassie Krause of Carew Concrete, and Daniel Pedriana of Lindner & Marsack Law Firm.

Thanks to Adam Tegelman for guidance on operational safety. Thank you to Chad Krueger, for walking us through the tools that CAB Central Analysis Bureau has to offer as well as the Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse. Thanks to George Gruetzmacher, PhD, CIH, CSP, PE Industrial Hygiene Consultant, WisCon Program and for presenting on the Occupational Noise and Hearing Conservation. Paul Klein from M3 Insurance presented on safety compliance in the industry. Thank you to Katy Bengsch of Wingra Redi Mix for speaking on key points in the book, “Crucial Conversations”.

The workshop wrapped up with Thomas Goeltz from the Risk Management Services of Hays Insurance regarding safety while driving. Please feel free to share Thomas’s interview on PBS released over Thanksgiving with your staff and leadership. https://pbswisconsin.org/wpt-video/here-and-now/new-bill-aims-curb-reckless-driving-habits/

Thanks to We’re Partners for sponsoring happy hour. Special thanks to the dedicated OES committee members for putting together an informative workshop.

OES NEWS

OES Annual Safety Awards

The WRMCA OES Committee is pleased to again announce the annual safety award contest. Please fill out the information for each of your individual operations. All information will be kept confidential and destroyed upon verification of the safety award presentation.

The safety award program is established to recognize those individual plant locations that have exceptional safety records. All plants that achieve a record (based on frequency and severity rates) below the industry average will receive a certificate of recognition at the WRMCA annual convention. The plant that has the best record within the nomination category will receive a plaque.

“Best in Class” winners will be announced and plaques will be awarded at the annual convention in February. Forms are located at www.wrmca.com and click on OES Resources under the Resource Tab of the website. Please return the nominations to the WRMCA via fax, (608) 250-6306 or email by February 15, 2020.

2019 OES Workshop Recap

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DATES TO REMEMBER

January 7    North Central Region Conference Call
January 13   Southwest Region Conference Call
January 16-17 Technical Workshop, Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells
January 22   Northeast Region Conference Call
January 23   ACI Grade 1 Certification, Riv/Crete Ready Mix, Milwaukee
January 28-29 ACI Concrete Flatwork Certification, Hilton Garden Inn, Wausau
January 30   WRMCA Annual Meeting, Madison
Feb 3-7      World of Concrete, Las Vegas
Feb 13-14    WCPA Annual Workshop, Madison Marriott West
February 20  ACI Grade 1 Certification, Todd’s Redi-Mix, Rice Lake
Feb 26-27    WRMCA Annual Convention, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva
Feb 28       Concrete Design Awards, Grand Geneva Resort, Lake Geneva
March 7-9    NRMCA Annual Convention, Las Vegas, NV
March 10-14  CONEXPO-CON/AGG Show, Las Vegas, NV
March 24     Technical Committee Meeting, Cabela’s, Richfield
March 26     ACI Grade 1 Certification, Northern Lakes Concrete, Eagle River
April 16     ACI Grade 1 Certification, Carew Concrete & Supply, Green Bay
May 21       ACI Grade 1 Certification, Jackson Concrete, Milwaukee

WRMCA SCOOP is a quarterly publication of your Wisconsin Ready Mixed Concrete Association.

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