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Richmond Branch - ASCE
<http://www.ascevirginia.org>

Applications of Composts

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Date: February 16, 2010
Place: Westwood Club
Time: 12:00 Lunch, 12:15 Program
Costs: \$20.00
Menu: Option 1 - Westwood " PLT " - *Grilled Portabello Mushroom, Sweet Onions and Avocado with Lettuce, Tomato and Basil Mayonnaise on Multi Grain Bread, Side (See below) & Dessert*
Option 2 - *Chicken Parmesan Hoagie with Basil Mayonnaise, Side (See below) & Dessert*
Option 3 - Club Sandwich, Side (See below) & Dessert
Sides: homemade potato chips, fresh seasonal fruit or cous cous salad

Contact Craig Ponte at CPonte@ammann-whitney.com or 804-262-5111 by Friday February 12, 2010

The recycling of organic residuals into compost products is becoming more prevalent across the country. Most widely available composts are derived from yard trimmings, biosolids and manure, or a combination of several different organic residuals. Compost is a less expensive option on many site soil amendments and can be utilized as a recycled material. Compost can also be used in some erosion control applications.

Our speakers will be **Ronald Alexander** and **Joe Belmonte**.

Mr. Alexander is a horticulturist and the President of R. Alexander Associates, Inc., a consulting company specializing in product development for organic recycled products. He has over 25 years working with compost and organic recycled products. Early in his career, Mr. Alexander was the Vice President of Marketing for one of the first compost brokerage firms. Since becoming a consultant he has authored the '*Field Guide to Compost Use*', '*AASHTO Specifications for Compost Use in Erosion Control*', and '*Landscape Architecture Specifications for Compost Utilization*'. Mr. Alexander is also co-manager of the US Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance Program.

Mr. Belmonte is with McGill, a compost manufacturing company with a facility in Waverly, Virginia.

General Assembly Meet and Greet a Big Success

On January 20, 2010, the Richmond Branch (with help from the Virginia Section) hosted the Second Legislative Meet and Greet for the General Assembly. Special thanks to the following General Assembly members and staffers that attended: **Delegate Knight, Delegate Bulova, Delegate LeMunyon, Delegate Oder, Senator McWaters, Senator Marsden, David Sutterlein (representing Senator Smith), Austin McCleod (representing Delegate Carr), Jared Walczak (representing Senator Obershain.)** The event was a great opportunity for members to interact with legislators. There were also many representatives from other organizations who represent civil engineers or are relative to the field. The Branch would like to thank the following for their hard work in helping make this event a success: **Amanda Harmon, Bryan Stevenson, Amy Bird, David Tillar and Porscha Toney.** The Branch would also like to recognize **all members** who came to the event. Special thanks to **Gilbane** who sponsored the room for us.

Prior to the Meet and Greet, a group of Section members met for a review the Virginia Report Card, a review of the General Assembly, reaching out to local legislators and reviewing some bills that have been proposed relative to civil engineering. **Please watch ascevirginia.org in the coming weeks for information on bills relative to civil engineering.**

We hope for even more success in 2011.

Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition February 28th

Our annual Popsicle Stick Bridge Competition is again taking place on February 28th at the Science Museum of Virginia as part of the Engineers Week Career Day. Education Outreach Chair **Mike Howell** did an outstanding job last year of making the Popsicle stick bridge competition more popular than it has ever been (last year's competition included participation from over 100 students!) This year has been a bit more challenging (the weather has affected school closures as the registration deadline approaches) but strong early registration should make it another great event.

If you would like to **be involved** there is still time. Contact Mike Howell at (804)777-3058 or mhowell@brockenbrough.com

Thanks to this month's newsletter sponsor:



Schedule of Upcoming Richmond Branch and other Events

Date	Speaker	Topic	Location
February 16	Ronald Alexander and Joe Belmonte	Applications of Compost	Westwood Club
February 18	-	RJEC Engineer's Banquet	The Jefferson
February 28	-	Engineers Career Day (and Popsicle Stick Bridge competition)	Science Museum of Virginia

There is more great information at
ascevirginia.org