

Voyage To The Inner Harbor

Join RTA In
Baltimore For
The 91st Technical
Conference

It's time to set sail for Baltimore and RTA's 91st Annual Symposium and Technical Conference. And, what a journey is in store. Superb research papers, tie programs and plans unveiled, industry sector updates, legislative and stimulus package presentations, engineering and purchasing plans of the Class 1s...plus more on the state of the wood preserving industry.

So, if you are in search of a treasure chest of tie knowledge, mark your calendar today to join producers and users of crossties Oct. 13-15 at the Renaissance Harbor Place Hotel for one whale of a meeting.

Need to know more? Well, read on intrepid traveler and find some of the jewels that are planned for you.

First, even before the conference officially kicks off on the evening of Oct. 13, members can explore Baltimore's many Inner Harbor sites. While the annual golf tournament is played (more on that later), attendees and guests can climb aboard a chartered water taxi and be guided to some of the area's finest points of interest.

The first stop, Federal Hill, was originally called Signal Hill and overlooks the Inner Harbor. A cultural and civic treasure, this vantage point will be the first stop along the tour.

Following that, the next stop is Fort McHenry, site of the famous nighttime battle that led Sir Francis Scott Key to pen the Star Spangled Banner. Once this piece of history is fully explored, the trip continues

to Fell's Point, one of Baltimore's many eclectic neighborhoods, where you'll find cozy lunch spots and unique shops.

Then, finally, the tour concludes at The National Aquarium of Baltimore. This is Baltimore's leading attraction, hosting more than 1.6 million visitors annually. The exhibits here house more than 16,000 creatures, including stingrays, sharks, monkeys, sloths, iguanas, dolphins and much more.

Then, the day tops off with the first official conference event, the RTA presidential reception hosted by this year's president, Gary Williams of Koppers Inc.

There's even more in store for attendees the next day. In addition to the stellar list of presenters (see complete agenda, page 11), attendees will hear from Dennis Avery of the Heartland Institute during a keynote luncheon address entitled, "The Railroad Industry and the Carbon Trap." Invited guest Deputy Administrator of the FRA, Karen Rae, is also expected to come to the podium to review the Obama Administration's rail stimulus package with a focus on high-speed rail initiatives.

There will be a hardwood sawmill session devoted to the current state of the industry and what can be expected over the next year for these vital companies. Tabletop exhibits will also be set up, and given the success of last year's vendor-mercials, you can expect to see more quality information from exhibitors during the business sessions.

And, what would the day be without presentations from

the Class 1 engineers, headlined by an address from Union Pacific Railroad's Bill Van Trump, this year's incoming AREMA president.

While the business sessions are under way, spouses and

guests have another treat in store for their day. Following the traditional hospitality breakfast, attendees can walk directly into the mall attached to the hotel for a leisurely shopping experience. Then, at about 11:30 a.m., they can join the optional fee luncheon and presentation planned by Laurie Forster, The Wine Coach®. Forster, who is also a certified life coach, is a published author and radio and television personality who will guide guests through a superbly entertaining and uplifting view of life. The event will be scheduled off site at La Scala restaurant in Little Italy, voted the best Italian food in Baltimore and it's a sure bet a few tastes of wine with the meal will enlighten attendees' spirits!

The evening will bring yet another spectacular banquet event. Based upon a nautical theme, guests and members alike will experience a true Maryland Crab Feast.

Then, to top it off, following the annual awards, Kier Irmiter will provide the banquet entertainment. This one-man musical comedy show actually treats the audience to more than a dozen performers ranging from Billy Joel to Tom Petty to John Lennon as he puts the icing on the banquet cake.

The next day finds a final morning business session with more research presentations and Class 1 purchasing staff providing guidance for the next year. And then you are off on your voyage home.

Oh, how about the golf tournament? Well it's a treat as well. Golfers will hit the greens prior to the first day's business sessions on Tuesday Oct. 13 with a trip to Mountain Branch where they will tee off on a course noted as one that is close to perfection. Centered on the "mountain branch," a natural tributary of the Chesapeake Bay that meanders throughout the property, the course is one of the area's premier picturesque daily-fee courses in the Washington-Baltimore area.

Whew! All that in just 2 1/2 days? Yes, but only if you register to participate, which, by the way, you should do today! Staff and members alike hope to see you there! §



Baltimore's Inner Harbor will serve as the backdrop for RTA's 2009 Technical Conference. For more info, log on to www.rta.org.

Photo courtesy BACVB

2009 RTA SYMPOSIUM & TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 13-15, 2009

A G E N D A

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2009

8:00 a.m. **RTA GOLF TOURNAMENT** - Mountain Branch Golf
(Activities for spouses & guests during golf outing – see below)

3:00 - 6:00 p.m. **RTA GUEST-SPONSORED HOSPITALITY SUITES**

6:00 - 7:15 p.m. **PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2009

7:45 - 8:00 a.m. **RTA GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION & WELCOME**

TRACK RESEARCH SESSION

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. ■ **Dr. Allan Zarembski**, *Vice President & General Manager, ZETA-TECH*

“Comparison of Aurora Tie Inspection System with Visual Tie Marking Method”

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. ■ **Joe Palese**, *Vice President Engineering Analysis & Technology, ZETA-TECH*

“Wood vs. Steel Tie Engineering and Cost Analysis”

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. ■ **Richard Reiff**, *Manager, Transportation Technology Center*

“FAST/HAL Fastener Tie Study Report”

9:45 – 10:15 a.m. ■ **Tom Williamson**, *Vice President, Quality Assurance & Technical Services, APA*

“Engineered Wood for Railroad Applications Revisited”

10:15 – 10:25 a.m. **VENDOR-MERCIALS**
Vendor Sponsored 3-Minute Presentations
(must sign up in advance)

HARDWOOD INDUSTRY SESSION

10:25 – 10:50 a.m. ■ **Brian Brookshire**, *Executive Director, Missouri Forest Products Association*

“State Snapshot - Hardwood Industry Issues”

10:50 – 11:10 a.m. ■ **Linda Jovanovich**, *Director of Operations, Hardwood Manufacturers Association*

“Hardwood Sawmill & HMA Update”

11:10 – 11:40 a.m. ■ **Art Raymond**, *A.G. Raymond & Company*

“Other Hardwood Products - Marketplace Conditions and Outlook”

Noon - 1:30 p.m. **RTA GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION LUNCHEON**

■ **Dennis Avery**, *Senior Fellow, The Heartland Institute*
“The Railroad Industry and the Carbon Trap”

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

1:30 – 2:00 p.m. ■ **Karen Rae**, *Deputy Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration (Invited)*

2:00 – 2:20 p.m. ■ **Chuck Baker**, *President, National Railroad Construction & Maintenance Association*

2:20 – 2:40 p.m. ■ **Keith Hartwell**, *President, Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell*

2:40 – 3:00 p.m. ■ **Ed Hamberger**, *President & CEO, Association of American Railroads*

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. **VENDOR-MERCIALS**
Vendor Sponsored 3-Minute Presentations
(must sign up in advance)

3:15 – 5:00 p.m. **ENGINEERING SESSION**
with Special AREMA Presidential Address (Invited)

■ **Bill Van Trump**, *Assistant Vice-President of Engineering, Union Pacific Railroad*

■ **John Bosshart**, *BNSF*

■ **David Connell**, *Union Pacific*

■ **John West**, *CSX Transportation*

■ **Jeff McCracken**, *Norfolk Southern*

■ **David Ferryman**, *Canadian National*

■ **Mike Roney**, *Canadian Pacific*

7:00 p.m. **ANNUAL RTA BANQUET & AWARDS CEREMONY**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2009

RTA WOOD PRESERVATIVE RESEARCH

8:15 – 8:35 a.m. ■ **Steve Smith**, *AquaEter Inc.*
“Life Cycle Analysis for Treated Wood Crossties”

8:35 – 8:55 a.m. ■ **Dave Webb**, *Webb Consultants*
“1958 Creosote Cooperative Final Report”

8:55 – 9:15 a.m. ■ **Terry Amburgey**, *TaskPro*
“Borate/Copper Naphthenate Dual Treatment Study”

9:15 – 9:35 a.m. ■ **Michael Sanders**, *Mississippi State University*
“RTA-AWPRP 1st Year Report”

9:35 – 10:00 a.m. ■ **Mike Juba**, *Koppers, Inc.*
“Creosote Regulatory Issues - U.S. and Around the World”

10:00 – 10:25 a.m. ■ **Tom Mitchell**, *KMG Bernuth*
“Creosote Market Issues - Short & Long Term Outlook”

10:25 – 10:45 a.m. ■ **Ed Smith**, *SP Newsprint*
“Used Crossties as a ‘Green’ Energy Source”

10:45 – 12:15 p.m. **CLASS 1 PURCHASING SESSION (Invited)**

■ **Chad Rolstad** - BNSF

■ **Gary Hunter** - Union Pacific

■ **Lisa Benz** - CSX Transportation

■ **Bill Rousis** - Norfolk Southern

■ **Bruce Emberly** - Canadian National

■ **Rob Churma** - Canadian Pacific

SPOUSE AND OTHER OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

The two events will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 13, and Wednesday, Oct. 14 & at an extra cost with minimums and maximums required:

1 – Self and Guided Tour via Chartered Water Taxi of Four Baltimore Inner Harbor Sites. *Federal Hill* was originally called Signal Hill and overlooks the Inner Harbor. A cultural and civic treasure, this vantage point will be the first stop along the tour. *Ft. McHenry* is a military fort and national monument. During the War of 1812, the British bombarded it, but failed to capture the city it defended. Francis Scott Key witnessed the battle while being held aboard a British ship and the sight of the US flag flying above the fort inspired him to write “The Star Spangled Banner.” During the Civil War, the fort was a Union prison camp and was deserted in 1933 when it became a National Monument and Historic Shrine. *Fells Point* is the next stop along the way. Known to locals as one of Baltimore’s most eclectic neighborhoods, cozy lunch spots and unique shops are just waiting to be explored! *The National Aquarium of Baltimore* was opened in 1981 and was constructed during the urban renewal period of Baltimore. It has an annual attendance of 1.6 million to see its col-

lection of 16,500 specimens of 660 different species. The tour will last from 9 a.m. until approximately 4:30 PM on Tuesday, Oct. 13 – with lunch & shopping on your own at *Fells Point* from noon until 2:30.

2 – “Don’t Drink, Taste” Wine Event and Luncheon with the Laurie Forster, The Wine Coach®. Ms. Forester, a certified Life Coach, as well as a published author and radio and TV personality has made it her mission to demystify wine one glass at a time. She focuses on creating connections between participants while delivering her unique brand of attitude-free wine education. The process professionals use to taste wines will be discussed, along with a number of interactive exercises to help participants truly understand tasting. The old proverb stating “Over a bottle of wine, many a friend is made” is experienced time and time again at her events. *The Wine Coach®* promises to guide you through a superbly entertaining and uplifting view of life so spouses and guests won’t want to miss this very exciting event!. This optional fee luncheon and presentation will take place off-site at La Scala Ristorante in Little Italy on Wednesday, October 14th from 11:30 AM until 2:30 PM.

2009 RTA- BALTIMORE, MD

SYMPOSIUM & TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

Early Registration
Information for the

91st Annual Conference

NOTE: CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION FEES
COVER ALL MEETINGS,
BUSINESS LUNCHEON
PRESIDENT'S
RECEPTION AND
ANNUAL BANQUET

Please complete both the
Registration AND Golf form
if you want to play in
the golf tournament

Producer, Supplier, & Contractor Members

(Includes Consulting Engineers)

\$395 Per Person

Associate Members

(Railroads, Government
and Academic)

\$250 Per Person

Non-Members

(Railroads, Government
and Academic)

\$395 Per Person

Other Non-Members

\$595 Per Person

Spouses

(Members and Non-Members)

\$195 Per Person

OCTOBER 13 - 15, 2009

Renaissance Harborplace Hotel

Make your reservations now! There is no guarantee of a room beyond September 12, 2009.

Make hotel reservations under the RTA Room Block by calling 1.800.468.3571 inside the U.S.
Outside the U.S. please call 1.410.547.1200

Room rate is \$189-\$229 night (depending on view), and early registration ends Sept. 1, 2009.

Late registration surcharges: Additional \$75 per person after Sept. 1, 2009.
Full refund prior to Sept. 1, 2009. No refunds after Sept. 1, 2009.

RTA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (Golf registration form is at the bottom)

Name _____ Company _____
TO APPEAR ON BADGE

Address _____
IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE USE ADDRESS ON CARD

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____ Name of Spouse _____
TO APPEAR ON BADGE

PLEASE CHECK ALL FEES THAT APPLY. YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEES MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

- Producer, Supplier, Contractor & Consulting Member \$395
- Associate Member or Non-Member Presenter \$250
- Non-Member—Railroad, Government & Academic \$395
- Non-Member—Other \$595
- Golf Tournament - Wednesday Oct. 29 (Fill out form below.) \$155
- Spouse Participation (Fee to attend any conference events.) \$195

Optional Events (Additional fee are required.)

- Guided Tour, via chartered water taxi, of Four Baltimore Inner Harbor Sites
(Takes place on Tuesday, October 13th – Same Day as Golf Tournament) \$ 85
- "Don't Drink, Taste" Wine Event & Luncheon - Laurie Forster, The Wine Coach®
(Takes place on Wednesday, October 14th – During RTA Business Sessions) \$ 95

****Minimums & Maximums Are In Effect So Advanced Registration is Necessary****
Tours are not guaranteed to run if minimums are not met.

TOTAL PAYMENT (Include spouse fees, optional tours or golf fee) \$ _____ U.S.

PAYMENT TYPE:

CHECK

CREDIT CARD

Card # _____

Exp Date _____

Name On Card _____

3 digit CVC on back of card _____

4 digit CVC on front of AMEX _____

Billing Zip/Postal Code if different
from above: _____

NOTE: Presenters and attendees who are RTA members need to check the box that corresponds to their membership type and submit that fee.

RTA GOLF REGISTRATION **PLEASE SUBMIT ONE FORM PER GOLFER**

MOUNTAIN BRANCH GOLF — (410) 836.9600 • GOLF CHAIRMAN — JOHN GIALONARDO (412) 227.2400

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009 • RTA Tournament - Shotgun start format [**\$155 each player**].

ONLY SOFT SPIKES OR SPIKELESS SHOES ARE ALLOWED.

PLEASE NOTE RENTAL CLUBS ARE LIMITED—ONLY RESERVATIONS MADE IN ADVANCE CAN BE CONSIDERED.

TO RESERVE CLUBS, CONTACT **KEITH DAVIS** AT 877.588.1492

Name _____ Company _____ HDCP _____

If you have preferred playing partners for main tournament list them below (Each must register separately.)

1. Your Name: _____
2. Preferred Partner: _____
3. Preferred Partner: _____
4. Preferred Partner: _____

Return this form with
all registration fees to:

The Railway Tie Association

115 Commerce Drive, Suite C,
Fayetteville, GA 30214
phone: (770) 460-5553
fax: (770) 460-5573
email: ties@rta.org