

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Tidewater Hard Hat Camp hosts Educators & Students

More than 65 Hampton Roads area (Va. Beach, Norfolk, Chesapeake, Suffolk and Portsmouth) teachers and students spent June 18 and 19 learning about construction during the sold out 2008 Tidewater AGC Hard Hat Camp in Virginia Beach.

In what has become a premier workforce development activity in cooperation with Tidewater Builders Association, Tidewater Community College and Paul D.Camp Community College, the two-day event featured hands-on construction simulation activities, speakers covering the gamut of available construction trade and office career opportunities and a field trip to a commercial construction job site followed by a lunch at a local construction company.

S. B. Ballard Construction Company hosted this year's luncheon as well as the tour of the ODU Health & PE Building job in downtown Norfolk. Our sincere thanks to Tidewater AGC Executive Committee member and S. B. Ballard employee Debbie Hudson for overall coordination of the event as well as Ballard's Johnny Johnson, Superintendent, and Chuck Bain, Safety Director for their job site expertise.

Construction-related educational contacts emerging from last year's Hard Hat Camp resulted in AGC/VBA adding a Members Only section to its website where persons interested in construction jobs can post their resumes. In turn, AGC members can access and review this information.

Additional thanks go to the following speakers who participated in the camp:

- David Sterling, VIRTEXCO Corp.
- Bob Kirby, R. E. Kirby, Inc.
- Melanie Boyd, Johnson Controls, Inc.
- Mike Willard, S. B. Ballard Construction Co.
- Gary Rogacki, Roof Services, Inc.
- Mitch Zawaski, Coastal Masonry, Inc.
- Ira Armstrong, Chesapeake Bay Steel, Inc.
- Kaddy Ward, W. C. Carpenter, Inc.
- Josh Haislip, Virginia Drywall, Inc.
- Robert Ike, Jr., Sentry Business Solutions
- Terry Allen, S. B. Ballard Construction Co.
- Janet Green, S. B. Ballard Construction Co.
- Claudia Schadegg, S. B. Ballard Construction Co.
- Keri Vogel, S. B. Ballard Construction Co.
- Mark Atkins, S. B. Ballard Construction Co.
- Clint Corbin, S. B. Ballard Construction Co.



Speakers Gary Rogacki, Roof Services, Inc.; Mitch Zawaski, Coastal Masonry; Mike Willard, S. B. Ballard Construction and Ira Armstrong, Chesapeake Bay Steel, Inc



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Hard Hat Camp tour group on the S. B. Ballard ODU Health & PE Building jobsite



S. B. Ballard Superintendent Johnny Johnson, orange vest, conducts the commercial site tour