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FALL AND WINTER IN THE OLD DOMINION
AND
THE VIRGINIA BRANCH AGC REVIEW
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977
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ON OUR COVER: This may be one of the roads the traveler will take in his quest to Discover Virginia. The photo was taken on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Humpback Mountain.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977
We Could Hear Their Voices Calling

In the early part of this century in Virginia, I was born into the country's largest minority, and most largely ignored — the Southern white shabby gentility.

Recently in talking with a medical friend from North Carolina, he laughed good humoredly at the reality of those days in contrast to the nation's concept of "Southern poor." He said, "we always had plenty to eat, a comfortable place to live although not fashionable, and decent clothes although not the best. What we did not have was money! Nor was the desire for money instilled into us."

Since this was decades away from the "age of affluence," there were no comparisons to arouse discontent with our lot, or even awareness of any significant differences between our neighborhood and the rest of the world around us.

As very young people we heard that the United States boasted many "millionaires," but how these uniquely rich acquired their money and what they did with it were remote from the comprehension or interest of our provincial microcosm. In and adjacent to our immediate neighborhood were a few families we recognized as being "better off" than the majority of us: in those days of few automotive vehicles on the streets, these families came to church in big cars, but (at least to a child) the people themselves seemed like the rest of us.

In fact, even in looking back, I am convinced of the solidarity of that community, especially among the children, whose shared beliefs and attitudes and Southern heritage formed our vision of ourselves and the immediate world around us.

The first decade of my life and that of my companions was only forty to fifty years after the Civil War, and in all families were grandparents, great-uncles and great-aunts, who had survived the armed invasion that desolated much of Virginia, uprooting and dislocating thousands of families. Both sides of my family left their land and came into Richmond as "refugees" either during the War or immediately after. Of course, that subject is no more fashionable today than the old misfortunes of the South ever were, but my father was born only two years after the Federal troops of occupation left Richmond, and my mother four years after the last of the troops of occupation reluctantly left the South. Both of them experienced first-hand the repercussions of Reconstruction, and they went to their graves as Confederate-Americans. Thus, something of the atmosphere of our elders was bound to form a living sense of our heritage as it unconsciously affected our day-to-day lives.

In more recent years we read much of the South's "separatism" and "guilts." I've never known a Southerner who felt any guilt about what happened in his region before he was even conceived, although I know of many (including myself) who have long felt guilt and outrage at what is happening in the whole nation. As for the "separatism," to us growing up as children there was a deep consciousness of being "Southern" — not necessarily
No Energy Shortage in AGC

MOST PEOPLE THINK OF THE construction industry as digging ditches and labor-oriented, but it is much more than that. Construction is the largest single industry in America adding more to the wealth of the nation every year than any other single business. The construction industry utilizes some of the largest and most sophisticated machines and equipment made. This, when combined with the skill and knowledge of the contractor, can make a pile of materials into a building that will stand for ages. As methods of construction have changed, the construction industry has changed. Contractors are no longer just a group of carpenters and masons, but engineers, computer operators, supply distribution managers and executives on all levels.

The members of the Virginia Branch, Associated General Contractors of America are proud to have been instrumental in the development of a modern day Virginia. Fortunately for our members and the citizens of Virginia, the AGC, through its officers, directors and committees, keeps on plugging regardless of fuel conditions. The record they are chalking up proves that energy is not confined to oil wells and pumps. Member organizations are contraseasonal so to speak. When conditions become tough they always get going, witness the performance in the Great Depression, two World Wars, and whenever the members interests were threatened. Fortunately, we do not need outside pressures to mobilize our resources but, when crisis develops, our members have what it takes.

Recently, the Congress of the United States defeated the Common Situs Picketing Bill. The Virginia Branch AGC worked diligently and effectively with the National AGC and many other trade associations and organizations throughout the country. In short, the key to the defeat of the Common Situs Picketing Bill was management’s ability to work together for the common good. So often management has a tendency to shy away from issues which do not address themselves to their limited specific interests. As a consequence, management loses the battle one issue at a time. The lesson to be learned from the successful defeat of the Common Situs Picketing Bill is that we must work to expend our time, money and resources to support or oppose issues which are for the best interest of the economy and the country in general.

The National AGC in conjunction with numerous trade organizations, formed a National Action Committee. The Committee’s primary functions were making materials developed by its members available to all groups for their use; keeping all those participating aware of the activities of others; and maximizing the industry’s collective efforts by minimizing the duplication of staff efforts.

Communications is a word that is heard often enough these days to saturate our consciousness. That is the problem — we hear about it but seldom take time to practice it. How many mistakes did you or your company make last year which were based upon faulty or erroneous
PLAY LURAY THIS FALL
Swing into the season on 18 holes of the most beautiful golf in the world—at the most beautiful time of the year. For information on complete GOLF (and tennis) vacation plans, write Golf Package, Luray Caverns, Box 18, Luray, Virginia 22835. Or call Richmond 786-4484. Two and one half hours northwest of Richmond. 10 minutes from the Central Entrance to Skyline Drive.

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Discover Virginia

Virginia has something for everyone, at all times of the year. But, Fall and Winter in the Old Dominion offer inducements of such wide variety that it would be impossible to present them all in any given issue.

On the following pages, we will endeavor to whet your travel "appetite" with a brief account of some of the attractions awaiting you if you will but avail yourself of the opportunity.
Like Yard Sales? Then this is a must!

THIRD ANNUAL AUTUMN LAWN SALE
Accomac

Plans are underway for the Third Annual Autumn Lawn Sale, sponsored by the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce. Chairman James Stuart hopes this sale will be the best one yet. The date is Saturday, October 1, from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Whispering Pines Lot at U.S. #13 and Accomac.

The Sale is a field of bargains. Housewives, merchants, students — all have rented spaces with their wares on sale. It might be live ducks home-made quilts, baked goods, furniture (old and new) or even a new car or boat. Whatever you might want to buy, you will find it for sale at the Autumn Lawn Sale. Organizations collect articles all year for a good show.

The lay-out of the lots for rent will be different in that they will be much larger, enabling the seller to have a vehicle (van, pick-up or car) parked in the rear of his lot with a space approximately 4X8 in front for selling purposes. The lots will be run in lines facing each other so that buyers may walk down the aisles and shop both sides before going to the next aisle. To entice neater looking booths, prizes will be offered, in three categories, for the most original and best looking booth. The prizes will be free rental space for next year's event. The three categories are: (1) scouts, school and church groups, housewives. (2) civic clubs or organizations and (3) merchants, dealers and professionals.

The Chamber is promoting such a sale to enable small groups and housewives a good audience for their wares. So many yard sales are held each summer with small attendance, the Chamber felt this would be a public service. There is no admission charged.

Come and spend the day and Christmas shop. Lunch items will be on sale under the big tent such as hot dogs and hamburgers.

Working with James Stuart will be J. Carroll Taylor, Walter Andrea, Willie Ed Mears, Stan Clark and Willie L. Holland, Jr.

If you are interested in additional information contact the Chamber of Commerce, Box 147, Accomac, Va. 23301 or call (804) 787-2460.

In event of rain, the sale will be held the following Saturday.
Eighth Annual Arts and Crafts Fair
Lynchburg

The Eighth Annual Arts and Crafts Fair will be held in Lynchburg, Virginia on November 4, 5 and 6, 1977 at the Lynchburg Fine Arts Center on Thomson Drive. Co-sponsored by the Lynchburg Fine Arts Center and Virginia Handcrafts, Inc., this is one of Virginia's smaller fairs, if not the smallest of the well-established fairs, limited to 20 invited craftspeople. However it enjoys the reputation of being one of the better fairs.

The fair is always held the first week-end in November — the weather is usually very beautiful with just enough crispness in the atmosphere to make one think of the approaching holidays. The Fine Arts Center provides a more luxurious setting than is seen at most fairs. Instead of muddy, dusty fields, hot sun, rain or cold weather, the craftspeople are comfortably settled in the gallery, the front lobby, the theater foyer or in the lounge behind large glass windows that overlook a terrace. Regardless of weather, the fair proceeds in comfort with ample parking for visitors.

Every attempt is made to have good craftspeople, with emphasis on native Virginians, although a few are from out of state. Each exhibitor is responsible for his or her own display, and each year the displays improve in both eye appeal and interest. Emphasis is on the craft and the crafter and a relaxed atmosphere for the buyer and the browser. A variety of crafts is offered. Included are potters, jewelers, weavers, batik artists, mountain crafters, tin-smiths, sculptors, glass-workers, leather-workers, candle-makers and many more. Only original work is acceptable.

This year for the first time, a rotation system will be inaugurated. Nine of the regular craftspeople who have come year after year will drop out for one year only. They will be replaced by nine people who have never been to Lynchburg before. This will provide both continuity and freshness.

Both attendance and sales have been climbing steadily through the years, and shoppers are urged to come early for a good selection. Friday is a good shopping day if one wishes to avoid crowds. The hours are:

- Friday: 11:00 - 9:00
- Saturday: 10:00 - 9:00
- Sunday: 12:00 - 5:00

There is a nominal admission fee and sandwiches and drinks will be available. The Lynchburg Fine Arts Center is located just off Route 501 near E.C. Glass High School, across from Lynchburg General Hospital.

to tell the Virginia Story

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977
The challenging Par 5 first hole at the new Caverns Country Club at Luray Caverns, Virginia overlooks the Shenandoah River at the left. The Blue Ridge Mountains and Skyline Drive are in the distance.

64 Acres of Caverns plus . . .

THE Caverns COUNTRY CLUB

Not as intriguing as the world famous Luray Caverns, but the 6,452 yard layout — from the middle tees — has added a new dimension to the area that has been boasting virtually one industry since 1878, when Andrew Campbell and Benton Stebbins felt a rush of air coming from a hole in the ground.

Less than a mile from the famed underground splendor of a vast array of stalactites, stalagmites, and carbonaceous lime formations, there has been carved along the Shenandoah River (South Fork) 18 golf holes to test the mettle and shot-making expertise of everyone from the experts to those more numerous duffers.

Even there, you can run into a cavern. Right smack in the middle of the first fairway is an entrance to one of the many caverns of the area.

"You get a free drop, if you hit it in there," you are told. But no one tells you how you get down in there to get the ball to drop.

Whatever, though, there is no free drop if you go left. There is only the long drop to the river. That is the only real serious body of water and it takes a pretty bad shot — like a duck-hook — to get it down there.

But you can! And there are some less serious water areas, particularly catching the eye at the Par 3's, which are of good length — longest less than 170 yards. The Par 4's are of comfortable distance and more than passing interest.

The Par 5's are rather long, but not so that they can't be reached handily in the required number of blows, assuming, of course, you keep those blows from being too wide. Keep them in the mowed area, which is a combination of several strains of blue grass (Kentucky, Merion, etc.) and there can easily be heard the "chirping" of birdies.

There are also the sounds of natural birds as you make your way around the layout that was designed by Mal Purdy of New Jersey. With the Massanutten and the Blue Ridge Mountains as the backdrop, Purdy has doglegged here, up-and-downed there and come up with a course that is not only interesting but also testing — as much so as you will let it be by paying more attention to the scenery than to the particular shot needed.
THE DOUBLE COLUMN in Giant’s Hall at Luray Caverns is considered to be one of America’s most spectacular cave formations. The stalagmite on the left and the stalactite on the right, forming the Double Column, “grow” at the rate of one cubic inch in 120 years.

And most every shot will — at one time or another — be needed. As a player finds himself with uphill — downhill — sidehill . . .

He will also find there are more than a few flat lies.

What he is more likely to find, however, is that the Penncross bent greens — average size around 8,000 square feet, putt just like they look. The roll will be found true. The break, too! With the river AND mountains so much a part of the scenery, the break may prove to be the biggest test of the course — figuring it that is.

After the player has done that for 18 holes — or has misfigured over the same distance — he can soothe his feelings and/or dented handicap in the spacious new Golf House. It has been within sight from most any point on the course and has most anything a golfer would want — whether his score was good, as it can well be on the Caverns course, or bad, as it can also be.

If the need is felt, Ken Nauman, who is the resident pro, is available for lessons — and a secret or two about getting around the course in the least number of strokes.

The lessons like the green fees, are well within reason and many will find they are more reasonable than most resort areas.

There is something else that will soon become evident: “The area, with the course, has more to offer than the usual resort. While the player is contemplating his next assault on the interesting site of his last humbling experience, he surely will want to take the hour’s tour of those 64 acres of caverns.

Luray Caverns is becoming a complete vacation complex. There are two caverns motels and the 350 seat Caverns and Coach Restaurant. Golf has come and new tennis courts were ready in the spring of 1977 . . . two, three, and four day Golf or Tennis Package Plans are available.

Surrounding all this, and offering the vacationer more than a little variety are Skyline Drive in Shenandoah National Park and the New Market Battlefield Hall of Valor at New Market.

And don’t miss the Historic Car and Carriage Caravan. One of the oldest still running cars in the nation, an 1892 Benz, is there. This is one of more than 75 antique vehicles on display.

For the fly-in golfer Luray Caverns Airport provides a 3,500’ paved strip adjacent to the course.

to tell the Virginia Story

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977

PAGE THIRTEEN
ARE THERE any "eternal truths" about naval history? The new SEAPower exhibition at The Mariners Museum explores this question and offers some answers. Seapower in the course of modern history, from the dawn of the age of sail to the present, is a broad subject. Consequently, the museum’s SEAPower exhibition is large, covering over 6500 square feet of gallery space, nearly one quarter of the entire museum exhibition area.

The story of the rise of the modern naval powers is told through use of several hundred historical artifacts, photographs, prints, and paintings. This great variety of detail is organized by the pursuit of the five basic elements of seapower throughout history: the ships, their weapons, the men who sail them, the strategy and tactics of their use in combat, and the support facilities which keep them afloat. As technical progress advanced from the oar-propelled galleys to sailing men-of-war; then to steam-propelled steel battleships and on to the oil-fired and nuclear-powered vessels of today, the same five elements compose seapower. They continue to determine which nation will dominate the continuing struggle for control of the seas.

In addition to explanation of the advancing technology of naval warfare, the SEAPower exhibition offers a glimpse of the life of the able seaman of the past and present. Casks for storing "salt horse" and other staples on a long sea voyage, or a piece of hardtack, or biscuit ration 115 years old, are contrasted with photographs of modern galleys and messrooms. Uniforms and equipment of the navies of the Civil War are compared to modern uniforms, insignia, and side arms. The closely-slung hammocks of the past and the bunks of today are seen in photographs. An actual Gunnery Officer’s cabin from a World War II Liberty ship has been installed complete, offering an authentic insight into living conditions aboard ship.

The Mariners Museum is open daily 9-5 and Sundays 12-5 year round, and until 8:30 p.m. in late June, July, and August. It is among this country’s largest marine museums and our leading international marine collection.
Cutlasses and boarding axes were still in use in hand-to-hand combat during the age of sail. Bo'sun's clubs and leg irons suggest that discipline was strict aboard ship.

The Decorative Arts Gallery contains bone china, earthenware, crystal, stained glass and silver that reflect the taste of seafaring nations and the influence ships and the sea had on daily life.

Gunnery Officer's cabin from the World War II Liberty ship EDGAR E. CLARK.

to tell the Virginia Story SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977
The Junior Board of Historic Fredericksburg Foundation, Inc. will present its Sixth Annual Christmas Candlelight Tour on Sunday, December 4, 1977 from 2 PM to 8 PM.

Costumed hostesses will guide visitors through six homes in Westmont, one of Fredericksburg's most prestigious neighborhoods. The homes vary in architectural style from Georgian to Contemporary, and each will be elaborately decorated for the holidays with fresh greens, pine cones, berries and candles.

Christmas carolers with brass accompaniment will stroll the streets singing familiar songs of the season, and a horse-drawn carriage ride will be available for the enjoyment of our guests. Festive refreshments will be served at the home of Mrs. R. Saunders Rawlings, 1725 Greenway Drive.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Historic Fredericksburg Museum, 623 Caroline Street, from any Junior Board member, or by calling or writing Mrs. Carroll E. Smith, (703) 373-0563, 908 Monroe St. Fredericksburg, Va. 22401 or Mrs. James Ashby III (703) 898-0085, 303 Amelia St. Fredericksburg, Va. 22401.

Tickets will be on sale during the tour hours at the Freeman home and the Pitts home. Ticket prices are $5.00 adults, $2.50 students and children. Group rate information can be obtained from either Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Ashby.

This is a walking tour and the streets surrounding the homes will be closed to traffic. There will be designated parking areas. Begin the tour at any of the following homes:

1. 1705 Greenway Drive — Mrs. G. Cephas Freeman . . . . tickets sold
2. 1713 Greenway Drive — Dr. & Mrs. John L. Smoot
3. 1714 Greenway Drive — Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton
4. 1725 Greenway Drive — Mrs. R. Saunders Rawlings . . . . refreshments
5. 1711 Highland Road — Mr. & Mrs. Randolph Cooper
6. 1724 Highland Road — Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Pitts . . . . tickets sold

For additional information contact: Mrs. S. E. Kohler, Publicity Chairman, 108 Windsor Circle, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401, (703) 373-1466.
Historic Home of the Lee Family
Built 1725-1730 by Thomas Lee. Born here were the only two brothers to sign the Declaration of Independence, Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee, as well as General Robert E. Lee.
The Original Great House and four dependencies are over 200 years old. New Reception Center with slide presentation and museum recently opened.
1500 acre plantation open every day except Christmas. Plantation Lunch served April through October.
Stratford Hall is located just off of State Route 3 on State Route 214, six miles northwest of Montross, Virginia. in Westmoreland County and 42 miles southeast of Fredericksburg, Virginia.

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Write our Chamber of Commerce.
Dept. VR, Virginia Beach, Va. 23458, for more information on ☐ hotels and motels, ☐ cottages, ☐ efficiencies, or ☐ campgrounds for the month of ____________.
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Address __________________
City ________________
State ________________ Zip ________________
Saint Andrew's Society Drum Major Donald Fairhiirst steps out to lead the annual Scottish Christmas Walk of the Alexandria Community Y. The stirring event this year takes place Saturday, December 3.

The new British Ambassador, Peter Jay, and his wife have graciously accepted the Alexandria Community Y's invitation to be patrons of the 1977 Scottish Christmas Walk. Produced by the Alexandria Community Y. Inc., the Christmas Walk takes place Saturday, December 3 in Old Town Alexandria. Working with the ACY are the City of Alexandria, the Saint Andrew's Society, the Chesapeake Bay Division of the Classic Car Club of America, as well as Alexandria's Tourist Council, Bicentennial Committee and Chamber of Commerce.

The salute to the Scottish founders of the Old Port City commences at 10 a.m. as the honor guard of the Police Department and members of the Saint Andrew's Society step out to the skirling of the Saint Andrew's Pipers. At least four other pipe bands, including the Alexandria Pipes and Drums, and several fife and drum corps are expected to take part in the annual event which starts at Scotland House in the 600 block of South Washington Street. Some will come from Rockville, Maryland, some from New Jersey and from Williamsburg, home of the crack American Eagle Girls' Fife and Drum Corps. The Patowmack Ancients Fife and Drum Corps have already joined the colorful group for the second year.

Four lovely old homes, totally different in size and shape, go on tour from 11:00 to 3:30 during the Christmas Walk. 113 Prince, now the home of the Robert A. Colliers, was built in the late 18th century and contains original floors, balustrades and stairs, mantels, moldings and trim. The living room opens to a formal garden complete with fountain and provides an exquisite outdoor room for the owners who have filled the handsome residence with their fine antiques, creating an extremely

PIPE MAJOR MIKE NICHOLSON of the Alexandria Pipes and Drums comes to rest during the Scottish Christmas Walk. The event salutes the Scots founders of the Old Port City. — Mattox Photography

A special Candlelight Concert at historic Christ Church is scheduled for out-of-town visitors and music lovers, followed by a social gathering at Carlyle House which will be ablaze with candles for the event. Times and cost may be obtained later from the ACY.

Saturday bundles of fresh heather will be for sale, tied by supervisors of the Alexandria office of the C&P Telephone Company who are doing their thing for their fourth year. This is one of their community services and they go about their task in a most happy, efficient manner.

The Wonderful World for Children this year is being held at the Elks Club in the 300 block of Prince Street. Here youngsters may participate in many colorful and happy events during the day. Pony rides, Scottish and Colonial games and races at Market Square will all add to the time of a life for the youngsters.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is to house the fabulous Collectors' Corner, a treasure trove of antiques and "finds," as well as the ACY's Holiday Crafts Show and demonstrations. Many other exciting projects are being planned but are not firmed up yet.

HATS OFF! As the color guard of the Saint Andrew's Society of Baltimore passes the Alexandria Community Y in the annual Scottish Christmas Walk, pipe and sash units came from all over the East Coast to take part in the affair. — Mattox Photography

Saint Andrew's Society Drum Major Donald Fairhiirst steps out to lead the annual Scottish Christmas Walk of the Alexandria Community Y. The stirring event this year takes place Saturday, December 3. — Mattox Photography

PAGE EIGHTEEN

Annual Scottish Christmas Walk

Alexandria

guests in their gleaming autos which remain on view at City Hall to the delight of motor car buffs.

Friday night, December 2, a Christmas Gala is planned for the Old Town Ramada Inn under the sponsorship of the Friends of the Y, complete with a buffet supper, preceded by libations and followed by dancing. The divertissement is to be a program of Scottish country dancing presented by members of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Northern Virginia branch. Gentlemen will wear tartan or black tie, ladies their most glittering gowns. Attendance is by invitation which may be requested by calling the ACY at 703-549-0111.

A special Candlelight Concert at historic Christ Church is scheduled for out-of-town visitors and music lovers, followed by a social gathering at Carlyle

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Founded 1878
beautiful and livable home for themselves.

308 Duke is a two-story clapboard residence, now the home of the David Blainims. Built in the late 18th or early 19th century, the house is a delightful surprise. The talent of the Scottish joiners is evident in the delicately reeded arches and handsome trim throughout the building. The owners have brought to their home many family pieces, all 18th century English and American plus some Sheraton, laced with new finds and spiced with the work of 20th century American artists. Gene Davis, Helen Frankenthaler and Morris Graves hang happily in rooms filled with Chippendale, Sheraton and Georgian furniture.

Right next door at 306 Duke Street is a delightful small house, built at the same time, which in 1811 sold for $333.33. Now the home of Joel Stromberg, it is tastefully furnished. The floors are original as are the treads of the old but firm staircase. A charming, private brick walled garden opens from the dining room. Two bedrooms and a bath complete the bachelor's attractive residence.

Of special interest is a small clapboard rowhouse at 409 Queen Street, the home of a Navy Commander (bachelor, too) whose ingenuity and skill have created a very snug harbor for a
to tell the Virginia Story

the Commander, a gourmet cook, who knows what he wants and where he wants it. A brick floored dining room adjoins the kitchen in the English basement and its delightful fireplace sends out warming cheer. From this room one goes up steps to a small but attractive formal garden which is also seen from the study and one of the bedrooms. There, truly, is the home of a man who appreciates the good things in life.

The Scottish Christmas Walk is the major fund-raising effort of the Alexandria Community Y which serves the needs of thousands of Alexandrians. Chief among its projects are the Pulse Point program for youth in housing projects, Matrons' Matrons, a program offering help and understanding to women temporarily in the city jail while awaiting trial. The Fifty-Plus Club and the Fifty More-or-Less Club, for women who, recovering from mental illness, are returning to their places in society. The ACY is administering the Alexandria Head Start program for the fourth consecutive year. This year it has been chosen to operate Extended Day Care Centers at three elementary schools.

For more Christmas Walk information contact the Alexandria Community Y, 602 Cameron Street, Alexandria 22314 or call 703-549-0111.
At the stroke of midnight, Old Town Alexandria will celebrate "Hogmanay" (New Year's Eve) in the Scottish manner to honor the city's 18th century Scottish founders. This year, the public ceremony will be held at the restored Scottish mansion, Carlyle House. According to Scottish tradition, homes are brought good fortune in the coming year by a "dark haired person" who is the first to cross the threshold after midnight on December 31. The act is called "first footing."

The public Hogmanay will begin at 10 p.m. with a reception in historic Carlyle House. At midnight, a kilted piper from the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums will act as "first footer" and will bring food, drink and fuel to the home. With the words, "Lang may your lum reek," he will throw the fuel on the fire, present the food and exchange drinks with the host to complete the blessing.

The midnight ceremony will take place on the mansion's large stone terrace. Members of the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums will provide music and Scottish ballads will be sung during the reception in the home. Shortly after midnight, pipers will leave to perform the first footing ceremony in private Old Town homes which have been pre-registered for the event.

Carlyle House was built in 1752 by Scottish merchant John Carlyle. In 1755, five British governors met in the house with General Braddock to discuss taxing the colonies to finance the French and Indian War. The meeting resulted in taxation without representation and eventually caused the infamous Stamp Act — the spark which fired the American Revolution. Carlyle House was recently authentically restored to its original architecture and opened by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

The annual benefit event is sponsored by the Alexandria Tourist Council and proceeds are donated to the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums. Advance tickets are required for the Hogmanay reception and are $12/couple or $6/person. For ticket, hotel/motel and other information, contact the Alexandria Tourist Council, Ramsay House Visitors Center, 221 King St., Alexandria, Va. 22314 or call (703) 549-0205.
FALL AND WINTER IN VIRGINIA

OCTOBER THRU DECEMBER

(Information Courtesy of the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce — Travel Development Department, with additions from localities.)

Dates subject to change without notice. Listings supplied by localities concerned.

Hampton. Visitor Center, NASA Langley Research Center, opens Monday thru Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. No admission fee.

Jamestown. Jamestown Festival Park, open daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Jamestown. First permanent English Colony, Old Church Tower. Glasshouse and Visitor Center, open daily.


Williamsburg. Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection, open daily.

MUSEUMS

Charlottesville. Historic Michie Tavern, open daily.

Danville. Museum of Fine Arts & History, open Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. No admission. National Tobacco-Textile Museum, open Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: $1.00 for Adults, $1.00 for children.

New Market. New Market Battlefield Park, Civil War Museum, open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Newport News. Mariners Museum, open daily Monday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 12 Noon - 5 p.m. Adults — $2.00, Children 6 to 16 $1.75, Children under 6 FREE.

Norfolk. Chrysler Museum exhibits, open Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission FREE.

Richmond. Hand Work Shop 316 North 24th Street, open Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hand Work Shop 3435 West Cary Street, open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.


Williamsburg. Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection.

FALL WINTER EVENTS

October

NATIONAL TOBACCO FESTIVAL


THIRD ANNUAL EAST COAST COUNTRY MUSIC CHAMPIONSHIPS


FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL

1st part of October


OATLANDS FALL HUNTER SALE

Oatlands, near Leesburg. Gifts of quality hunters and hunter timber prospects to the National Trust for Historic Preservation will be gavelled down to help make possible the continued development of Oatlands as one of the country's leading centers for the performing equestrian arts. Horses will be presented with full particulars and will be on the Oatlands grounds for trial prior to sale. Contact Charles H.C. Wright, P.O. Box 791, Leesburg, VA 22075. (703) 777-2355.

AUTUMN LAWN SALE

Accomac. Lots Rented to exhibitors and sellers. 10x10 space to sell anything from clothing to cars. Many freshly baked goods and crafts on sale. Lunch on sale. Begins at 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Rent a lot and sell or come and buy. Contact Anita Conquest, Ex. Vice President, Box 147, Accomac, VA 23301. (804) 787-2460.

DOG MART

1. Fredericksburg Fairgrounds. 9-10 a.m. Parade in Fredericksburg — Events held at Fredericksburg fairgrounds two miles south of Fredericksburg. 9-10 a.m. — Parade in the city, consist of dogs and owners. bands, marching units, etc. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. — Dog Mart — Fairgrounds — Rts. 2 & 17, Dog Auction, Dog Show and competition. K-9 Corps. Old fiddlers contest. Turkey Calling, Foxhorn Blowing, Harmonica & Folk Guitar contest, Dog Calling, dancing by Pamunkey Indians, etc. Free admission. Sponsored by Fredericksburg Chapter Isaak Walton League.

SOUTHEASTERN BAND FESTIVAL

1. Bristol Tennessee High School Stadium. Bands from seven states attend this event. They are judged by nationally known judges. Approximately 7,500 band students attend from the various states. Contact L.J. Maddox, Chairman.

ANNUAL PETERSBURG HOME TOUR

1-16. Petersburg. A unique opportunity to explore a historic city’s colorful past in the most comprehensive view yet one of America’s outstanding restoration programs. Contact Mr. Paul D. Gholson, Director of Tourism, City Hall, Room 205, Petersburg, VA 23803. (804) 733-7690.

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24th ANNUAL WATERFORD HOMES TOUR & CRAFTS EXHIBIT

7.-9. **Waterford, VA.** Tours of 18 and 19th century homes in this Loudoun County community that has been kept much in its original state. Artisans and craftsman demonstrate and offer their products for sale. Area artists exhibit. Admission fee. Contact Mrs. Connie Chamberlin, Waterford, VA 22190. (703) 882-3091.

OYSTER FESTIVAL

8. **Chincoteague, Safari Campsite.** Oysters cooked different ways. ALL YOU CAN EAT for a Ticket Holder. Contact Don Turner, Chairman, Sea Tag Lodge, Chincoteague, VA 23336. (804) 336-5555.

FALL ART & CRAFT SHOW

8.-9. **Courthouse Green, Accomac.** Arts and Crafts on exhibit and for sale. Lunch items sold 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Contact Allison Bolm, Pres., Eastern Shore Art & Craft Guild, R.F.D., Parksley, VA 23421 (804) 665-7355.

PAGE COUNTY FESTIVAL

8.-9. **Page County Fairgrounds.** Arts & Crafts displays, demonstrations and sales, bus tours to historic sites and old-time music. Contact Ms. Mable E. Huffman, Exec. Sec. or Mr. John Bushey, Jr., President, 46 E. Main Street, Luray, VA 22835. (703) 743-5131.

BROADWAY-TIMBERVILLE FALL FESTIVAL

13.-22. Events sponsored by clubs, civic groups and churches such as art & craft shows, barbecues, pancake suppers demonstrations of various types, hymn sings, and the local participating merchants sponsor sales and promotions. Contact Hilda W. Biller, Exec. Sec., P.O. Box 91, Broadway, VA 22815. (703) 896-7413.

ALDIE HARVEST FESTIVAL


SHEN-VALLEY ANGUS LIVESTOCK SHOW

Expoland — I-64 at Fishersville Exit. Sponsored by Shenandoah Valley Angus Association.

OPENING OF CHATHAM MANOR

15. **Fredericksburg.** 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. — Chatham Manor, located one-tenth mile from east end of Chatham Bridge. Chatham built by William Fitzhugh — 1771. Open to the public. Program and refreshments. Free admission. Sponsored by National Park Service. 12 Noon - 3 p.m. — Barbeque luncheon available Sponsored by Historic Falmouth Towne & Stafford County.

ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

15. **Lovingston, VA.** Contact Ms. Liz Bryant, Roseland, VA.

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We offer excellent programs in our schools of Professional Nursing, Practical Nursing, Medical Technology, Radiologic Technology, Certified Laboratory Assistants and Surgical Assistants. For information write: Personnel Director, Roanoke Memorial Hospitals, Belleview at Jefferson Street, Roanoke, Virginia 24009. Consider a career that counts. For yourself and for your fellow man.

Do unto others
BELMONT
15.-16. Fredericksburg — Special Exhibition of Gari Melchers Paintings of Fredericksburg and Falmouth subjects. 12 noon - 5 p.m. - Studio — Free Admission.

FESTIVAL OF LEAVES

FAIRFAX HUNT

YORKTOWN DAY CEREMONIES

“CHRISTMAS AT OATLANDS”
20.-25. Oatlands House near Leesburg. Oatlands House decorated according to Carter family memoirs of the 1880’s. Regular visitor hours (10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays, 1-5 p.m. Sundays) and admission process ($1.50 adults; 75 cents students; children under 6 free) to Oatlands House and Garden. Contact Miriam Rabb, Oatlands Administrator, Rt. 2, Box 352, Oatlands, Leesburg, VA 22075. (703) 777-3174.

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to tell the Virginia Story SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977 PAGE TWENTY-THREE
ANTIQUE SHOW

THIRD ANNUAL ANTIQUE SHOW & SALE
11-13. Fredericksburg Sheraton Motor Inn Rt. 3 & I-95.

ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL
19.-21. Roanoke Civic Center. Arts and Crafts shown and sold. (703) 981-2241.

THE BLESSING OF THE HOUNDS
24. Old Grace Church at Cismont. Colorful ceremony of the blessing of the hounds by the service conducted by clergy. Huntsmen, hounds, bugles and bugling, all present/After ceremony. Visitors follow the mounted hunt participants across the fields to Kinloch for the commencement of hunting season. Contact Grace Episcopal Church, (804) 293-3549.

THANKSGIVING HUNT WEEKEND
24.-26. The Boar's Head Inn. In the heart of Virginia's hunt country attend the "Blessing of Hounds" on Thanksgiving Day and a foot hunt on Saturday. Evening entertainment, traditional Thanksgiving Feast, visit historical sites in area. Contact Daye E. Wilkins, General Manager, The Boar's Head Inn, P.O. Box 5185, Charlottesville, VA 22903, (804) 296-2181.

GOOSE WEEK AT CHINCOTEAGUE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

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CHRISTMAS PARADE
Early December

Waynesboro. Floats, Marching Bands — Lots of fun. Contact Waynesboro Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 459, Waynesboro, VA 22980. (703) 942-8203.

CHRISTMAS SALE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS

SALEM CHRISTMAS PARADE

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE
3. Downtown Bedford. Sponsored County Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Randolph S. Brent, Managing Director, P.O. Box 421, Bedford, VA 24523. (703) 586-9401.

SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK
3. Alexandria. Alexandria's Scottish founders are saluted with bagpipe bands, Scottish Clan Chieftains and visitors parading through Old Town. Begins 10 a.m. at Scotland House, S. Washington St. Special activities until 4 p.m. include antiques, heather, food and craft sales, old homes tour, children's events. (703) 549-0111.

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT WALKING TOUR
4. Fredericksburg. Private homes open to public. Christmas decorations, hostesses in Colonial costumes, Christmas refreshments, and Carriage rides, 4-8 p.m. Admission charge. Contact Mrs. Timothy C. McCoy, Chairman, 1510 Keenland, Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401. (703) 373-8354. Sponsored by Junior Board of Historic Fredericksburg Foundation Inc.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE
9.-11. Morven Park Mansion, Leesburg. Traditional Christmas Decorations and tour of Mansion, open to public free of charge. Contact E.A. Maurer, Residential Manager, Rt. 2, Box 50, Leesburg, VA 22075. (703) 777-2414.

GRAND ILLUMINATION

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
16.-18. Gunston Hall Plantation. Special programs of Christmas Carols will be performed in Gunston Hall, and in the Ann Mason Building costumed musicians will entertain with special Christmas music. Punch and cookies will be served. Contact Louise Stockdale Manager, Gunston Hall Plantation, Lorton, VA 22079. (703) 550-9220.

THE MERRIE OLD ENGLAND CHRISTMAS
23.-26. The Boar's Head Inn. Five days, four nights of warm-hearted festivities from Christmases of centuries ago. Contact Daye E. Wilkins, General Manager, P.O. Box 1585, Charlottesville, VA 22903. (804) 296-2181.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE ELKS
December
Elks National Home, Bedford. Famous Christmas lighting display which attracts thousands each year. Contact Doral E. Irvin, Executive Director, Elks National Home, Bedford, VA 24523. (703) 586-8232.

THE NATIVITY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
24. Richmond.

SCOTTISH NEW YEAR'S EVE

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PAGE TWENTY-SIX VIRGINIA RECORD
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to tell the Virginia Story
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977
PAGE TWENTY-SEVEN
Highlights of the Mid-Year Board of Directors Meeting

President John Poindexter opened the meeting with an expression of appreciation to the members of the Board for taking the time to attend. He said the Association had made considerable progress in the past six months and mentioned in particular, Davis-Bacon, Common Situs, Awarding of Scholarships, Increased Activities in Northern Virginia and Tidewater Regions. He concluded his remarks with a request for constructive criticism on any of the activities of the Association.

Aubrey Bass commented in his financial report that ways should be found to reduce the cost of postage and printing which continue to exceed budget estimates. Membership applications for four new Regular Members and nine new Associate Members were accepted. The resignations of five Associates were also accepted. It was noted that the Virginia Branch now has 11 National AGC Associate Members.

Jim Duckhardt reported on the highlights of the National Conference of Chapter Managers which was held in June.

Burt Kidd emphasized the importance of membership development and the results of recent Virginia Branch Seminars.

Bob Heiderer commented on activities in the Northern Region to attract new members.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of the Group Worker's Compensation Program was presented by Lou Schelter.

Alex Alexander reported on the actions of the Housing Committee to locate suitable office space for the Virginia Branch Staff when the current lease expires in November 1978. Another report is to be submitted to the Board at its November meeting.

Charles Lambert commented on status of the Bid Plan being developed by the Tidewater Builders Exchange.
NEW BUSINESS

Bill King reported on the proposed 1978 Virginia Branch Legislative Platform. It will cover Retainage, Registration of Owner/Developers, and reciprocal treatment for out of state contractors from states which give their state contractors preferential treatment. He also explained the problem with the state laws on definition of what constitutes architect and engineering work and that legislation may be the only way to define the definition. The legality of Conceptual Bidding was also discussed.

Lou Schelter reported on the results of the survey to determine the magnitude of the problem contractors have in licensing and completing safety inspections on job site trailers. The Board determined, based on the survey results, it was not of sufficient importance to seek legislative relief.

Randy Patterson reported on the increasing activities of the U.S. Department of Labor in the field of Affirmative Action Plans. John Poindexter requested that any problems in this area should be brought to the attention of the Virginia Branch Staff. Patterson also reported on the revision of the Contract Bond Section of the Bond Manual which becomes effective July 15, 1977.

Tommy Tomlinson commented on the activities in the Roanoke area to provide an opportunity for General Contractors, both AGC and non-AGC members, to get together to work to resolve local problems.

Dave Kjellsrom reported on a meeting of the National AGC Special Contracting Methods Committee. He stated one of the major activities of the committee is to develop techniques which will assist contractors engaged in construction management but is not stressing construction management as a preferred construction method. He also reported contractors can expect to see expanded use of Project Management in construction. It is Construction Management plus an economic impact study and real estate acquisition.

Harry Lee reported on a meeting of the National Open Shop Committee. He was very enthusiastic about the AGC activities to assist Open Shop Contractors. A copy of the Committee Report is to be sent each Virginia Branch District President.

Jim Duckhardt reported on the fact that the Virginia Branch had been requested to lend its support to the Bond Issue for the State Capital Outlay Program. The Resolution passed by the Board supporting the Bond issue is boxed herewith.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Lester Hudgins, Business Management Committee, explained the Virginia Branch 1977 Seminar Program. He mentioned the dates of the October Seminar on Marketing Construction Services had been changed from October 5 to October 3 & 4th. He outlined the committee’s actions with representatives of VPI to offer an Education Program for middle managers.

Sam Modisett, Contract Forms and Specifications Committee, reported on the changes his committee
WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia faces a growing list of critical capital outlay needs in higher education, corrections, mental health, state parks and recreational facilities and ports; and

WHEREAS, many of these needs have existed for a number of years, but limitations on the General Fund in this difficult economic period have made it impossible to meet them from normal revenue; and

WHEREAS, the 1977 session of the Virginia General Assembly gave overwhelming approval to five bond issues totaling $125 million to be submitted to the voters in a referendum on November 8, 1977, to provide these urgently needed new facilities; and

WHEREAS, the legislation authorizing the bonds ensures a responsible and orderly method of repayment, and permits a sound, business-like approach for a capital improvement program which clearly is in the best public interest; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors, The Associated General Contractors of America, Virginia Branch, assembled at The Tides Inn, Irvington, Virginia, on July 12, 1977, declares unanimous support for the general obligation bond issues authorized by the 1977 Session of the Virginia General Assembly;

RESOLVED, further, That the Board of Directors, The Associated General Contractors of America, Virginia Branch recommends to all Virginians their vote of approval when the bond issues come before them in the November referendum, recognizing that the facilities to be provided in this manner are essential to the continued public service expected by the people of the Commonwealth.

recommended to the State General Conditions. He requested from the Board, and received its authority, to recommend to the state that Retainage be reduced from 10% to 5% on Projects of $500,000 or more.

Charles T. Lambert, Davis-Bacon Committee, reported on progress to establish a Wage Demarcation Agreement for Virginia, the expanding interest of Congress to enact Davis-Bacon Reform Legislation and urged contractors to write their representatives to support Hr 6100.

Bob Gehres reported for Briscoe Guy, Education Committee, and commented on activities to initiate a Supervisors Training Program in the Community College System.

Robert M. Dunville, Legislative Committee, stressed the importance of the District Legislative Meetings and of keeping state and national legislators informed on their wishes on matters which impact on the construction industry.

Ike Worley, Manpower Development Committee, reported his committee had awarded two Virginia Branch scholarships and that it was developing guidelines to assist Districts in their scholarship programs. He encouraged members to contact their University and volunteer to give lectures on various aspects of construction.

Clyde Green, Labor Relations Committee, stated his pleasure at the outstanding response to his committee's request for information on employee benefit programs and that results would be published in the Virginia Branch bulletin within a few weeks.

Harry Lee, Membership Committee, emphasized the importance of membership development and the success of the "Most Wanted" Posters.

Jack Houck, Management Conference Committee, reported 120 people have made reservations for the Rome trip and urged members who wish to go to make reservations soon before the trip is sold out.

Bob Kersey, Public Relations Committee, expressed his satisfaction with the expanding channels of communication and the increasing awareness of the necessity for Public Relations.

Ike Worley, Special Contracting Methods Committee, reviewed his actions to establish this newly authorized committee and stated their method of operation will be to respond to problems brought to its attention.

Rex Smith, Convention Committee, commented the committee was making progress on the 1978 Convention Program. He also said a special effort would be made to make new Virginia Branch Members welcome.

Bill Bryson, Safety Committee, reported the Virginia OSHA will conduct nine, six-hour seminars during October and November on VOSHA and strongly encouraged Virginia Branch Members to take advantage of the opportunity to get their people trained.

Aaron Conner, Utility Committee, Actions taken to identify examples of Force Account activity were outlined and the inclusion of utility items on the Agenda of the Joint AIA, AGC, CEC. VSPE Cooperative Committee was noted.

DISTRICT PRESIDENTS

Harry Barker, Richmond District, reported on activities with construction officials in Henrico County, the District's social and membership drive.

Walter Caldwell, Southside District, reported on the success of a recent meeting which addressed architect-engineer-contractor problems. He stated plans are underway for their Fall Legislative Meeting.

Q. M. Tomlinson, Roanoke District, commented on expanded activities to assist General Contractors and on a request he had received, to join the Virginia Building Inspectors Association.

Walter Conrad, Tidewater District, stressed membership activities, plans for a Father-Son Program honoring those construction firms in which Father and Son are both active in the business and award of a district scholarship.

Ed Cothran, Central District, asked that the district area of responsibility be reviewed to determine if better limits could be developed.
THE SINGLE INDUSTRY which accounts for the largest part of the United States' Gross National Product is the construction industry. The construction industry is larger than the automobile, steel and liquor industries combined. Unlike these industries, in which there are standards like Ford, General Motors and U.S. Steel, none of the leading construction firms do a substantial portion of the total building in the United States.

Many problems arise as a result. A major problem is the development of the future leaders of the construction industry. Where will these leaders come from? How will the development of the potential leaders be supported? Individual construction firms can ill afford to support substantial education and training programs.

In an effort to alleviate this problem the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. and the Virginia Branch AGC award scholarships to students in four-year Construction and Civil Engineering programs. Scholarship grants from $500 for one year up to $4,000 over four years are available. This year, six Virginia students have received scholarships from the AGC.

The six Virginia Construction Scholars are: Daniel Van Epp of Oakton; Alexander D. Yourshaw of Falls Church; James D. Sittler from Roanoke; George L. Compo, Virginia Beach; Guy Townsend, Blacksburg; and Michael Cowley of Norfolk. These students were awarded scholarships because they have demonstrated an interest in a construction industry career, have performed well academically, showed a financial need and are well-rounded individuals.

The Virginia Branch AGC will continue to meet the need for the education of tomorrow's leaders in the construction industry.
Northern Virginia District held its April meeting at the Holiday Inn, Tysons Corner on April 21, 1977. President Joe Kemp presented a follow-up report on VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America), noting that they had elected to ask financial support from Union sources.

President Kemp further reported on his attendance at a presentation concerning the hiring of disabled persons in the construction industry and made an initial announcement concerning the annual Northern Virginia AGC Construction Ball to be held Friday, June 3, 1977 at Stouffers International Center, Crystal City, Va.

A presentation was made by Mr. Marshall Smith, Placement Counselor, Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Commonwealth of Virginia, who discussed the services provided by his department. Mr. Joseph Krivak, Chief Non-Point Source Branch Water Pollution, EPA, discussed EPA's Water Quality Program as it affects the Construction Industry.

Northern Virginia District's "Most Wanted Prospect Members" were identified and Deputy Sheriffs were assigned to "bring them in." A display of AGC emblems was featured so that contractors would be reminded of their availability and the importance of displaying this emblem on every jobsite.

The Northern Virginia District held its final meeting prior to the summer vacation on Friday, June 3, 1977 with a "Constructors Ball" at Stouffers, Crystal City, Arlington. A reception was held at 7 p.m. followed by dinner and dancing. Over 60 Contractors and their wives were in attendance at this gala affair. The food was delicious and the after dinner dancing was enjoyed by all.

Valley District President Bob Moss of Moss and Associates held a meeting on Thursday, April 21, 1977. State AGC President, John Poindexter, presented to the district members an overview of the AGC's accomplishments during the first three months of his term. He noted the defeat of Common Situs Legislation as our "big victory" and mentioned district and committee achievements to date. John also stated his goals for the remainder of the year. 25 attended the Valley District's first meeting of the year.

Over 90 persons met on Monday the 25th of April for a Piedmont District Meeting which was held in conjunction with the Board of Directors Spring meeting. District members, directors, district presidents, committee chairmen and their wives heard Mr. J.J. Wuerthner, Vice President for Public Affairs at the National Legal Center For the Public Interest present the purposes and goals of the NLCPT. District President, Reggie Mills of Manson & Utley, presided at the excellent meeting.

Richmond District President Harry Barker held a meeting of the Richmond District on May 11, 1977. Over 50 members present heard Earle Dunford, City Editor of the Times-Dispatch, talk about news and a newspaper's role in the community. President John Poindexter attended the meeting and presented an overview of the Virginia Branch AGC's goals and accomplishments to date. In addition the Rich-
mond District had a Cocktail-Dinner-Dance at the Country Club of Virginia's James River club house. It was attended by approximately 100 and enjoyed by all.

* * * * *

Central District President John Kranz, of Pebble Building Co., Lynchburg, held a district meeting on Wednesday the 18th of May. Over forty members were in attendance. The meeting initiated the district's membership drive by assigning prospects to current members. It was proposed that a group of local members personally deliver the Virginia Construction Industry Guidelines to local architects and discuss their role and importance to our industry and, finally, suggestions for current-year projects were solicited and received. State AGC President John Poindexter attended the meeting. John addressed himself to this year's activities, successes and plans. The meeting was topped off by an address by Andrew P. Miller.

* * * * *

On May 26, 1977 nearly 60 Virginia Branch AGC members attended a Roanoke District Meeting. District President Q.M. "Tommy" Tomlinson presided. A new Secretary-Treasurer, Larry Mongole was elected at the meeting and Martin Bros., A.J. Conner, General Contractors, B & J Construction and William E. Reynolds Construction Co. were presented Certificates of Commendation for having NO disabling injuries during 1976. Andrew Miller was the meeting's speaker.

* * * * *

President Chris Phillips called a meeting of the Peninsula District at the Newport News Holiday Inn on June 7, 1977. The program for the dinner meeting was a presentation by Mr. Charles Lambert, Secretary-Treasurer of the Virginia Branch. He gave an overview of AGC activities and stressed the importance of participation by members of the Association.

* * * * *

President Roger Rowland, Jr. held a Southwest District meeting on Thursday, June 9th. Nearly 30 members were informed by Irvin Hamlet of NASA/Langley of the present status of solar energy used in commercial and residential buildings. Mr. Hamlet discussed and showed slides of the solar systems currently in operation in a single-family residence and other buildings at Langley AFB. Innovative construction techniques and structural adaptations were discussed relative to energy conservation and utilization of solar energy.

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to tell the Virginia Story SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1977 PAGE THIRTY-THREE
On August 16, the members of the Southwest District held a Social meeting at the Wytheville Country Club. The meeting opened with a fashion show featuring local models and fashions. Carolyn Jobe served as Mistress of Ceremonies and Narrator. Carolyn is the wife of Russell Jobe of Richard E. Phillipi, Inc. One of the models was Anna Wirt, wife of Ralph Wirt, Systems Contractors, Inc., Wytheville.

After a reception a delicious dinner was served. President Roger Rowland, Jr. welcomed the members and introduced the guests, including James F. Duckhardt, Executive Director of the Virginia Branch AGC, Richmond. Mr. Ford James presented prizes to the winners of the golf tournament. The winners were low gross — George F. (Jesse) James of James Insurance Agency, Wytheville and low net — Jack W. Cecil, Beavers and Cecil Contractors, Inc., Tazewell.

Colonel Newman A. Howard, Jr., District Engineer in command of the Norfolk District Corps of Engineers addressed a meeting of the Tidewater District on June 14th at the Admiralty Motel in Norfolk. Colonel Howard’s remarks were well received by over 50 AGC members in attendance. President Walter Conrad chaired the meeting and expressed the willingness and desire of the Tidewater Contractors to cooperate with the Military Construction Program.

President Walter Caldwell held a meeting of the Southside District on June 27th at the Charcoal House, Danville. The meeting was preceded by a golf outing in the afternoon. The program for the evening meeting consisted of a panel composed of an architect, subcontractor and general contractor which was moderated by Sam Lionberger, immediate past president of the Virginia Branch, who answered and discussed questions from the members.

Also in attendance and serving on the panel was John E. Pointdexter, President of the Virginia Branch AGC. The discussions and exchange of ideas were most beneficial to all in attendance.
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FREE CATALOG!
VIRGINIA BRANCH members and their families are busy getting ready for the 1977 AGC Management Conference in Rome and Florence, Italy. At last report there were over 150 members, their families and guests availing themselves of this valuable opportunity for fellowship and travel — mixed with education and business.

The O.T.C. Charter to Italy will leave from Washington D.C. on a Pan American World Airways Charter flight, Sunday, October 23. The eight-hour jet flight will of course include all the amenities that make such a lengthy trip seem all too short.

Arriving in Rome on October 24, the happy travelers will be whisked to the Hotel Leonardo da Vinci, their temporary home base. After a "Welcome" cocktail party the evening of their arrival, many functions are planned for the group's four-day stay in Rome. Among them are guided tours of the magnificent "Eternal City," featuring sites such as the famous Trevi Fountain, the Quirinale Palace, the Pantheon, Piazza Navona, etc.

On Friday, October 28, the group moves aboard private motorcoach and travels via the "Highway of the Sun" to the city of Florence, another of Italy's "jewels." When not out viewing the matchless beauty of Florence, they will home-port at the Hotel Anglo-American.

A "Farewell" cocktail party will be held at the hotel the evening of October 30, and following breakfast there the next morning, the weary, but fulfilled group will be transferred by private motorcoach to Pisa Airport for their return flight to Dulles International Airport, U.S.A. It is a certainty that this memorable experience will be treasured by all involved for many years to come.

NEW VIRGINIA BRANCH AGC BOOKKEEPER

BETH HURST has joined the Virginia Branch AGC Staff as Bookkeeper. Beth, a native of Ohio, and her family moved to Richmond one year ago. Mrs. Hurst formerly worked for a Columbus, Ohio bank and within three years progressed from Teller to Financial Consultant. She has five years experience as a full-charge bookkeeper with supervisory experience.

Mr. Hurst is employed by Reynolds & Reynolds, a data processing firm. The two Hurst children, ages twelve and eight, attend Richmond public schools. The Hursts are weekend sailors and enjoy all spectator sports and outdoor activities.
Backwards Bounty Hunting

DISTRICT Marshals and Deputy Sheriffs are hot on the trails of over fifty "Most Wanted." To date, the apprehension rate is 20 percent. Across the state, the posse is out with only one purpose in mind — bring in the "Most Wanted." Caution — each "Most Wanted" must not be brought in Dead but rather Alive and willing to participate.

Sound like a Wild West roundup of criminals and desperados? Like to get in on the bounty hunting? Well, it isn't a roundup and you won't receive any bounties.

This year the Virginia Branch AGC is centering its membership drive around a group of Virginia contractors that are "Most Wanted" as members of the association. The unique aspect of this roundup is that the contractor who joins receives the bounty rather than a member of the posse. What is the bounty? The bounty is the ability to participate in construction industry affairs and to have a marked effect within the industry as it progresses through time.

District Marshals and Deputy Sheriffs are determined to apprehend each of these prospective members.

Everyone is working hard to ensure a 100 percent success rate.

If your firm is on our "Most Wanted" list of contractors, watch out! One of our posse is going to sign you up. Don't worry though, you won't be going to jail but you are going to appreciate becoming a member of the Virginia Branch AGC.

It's your move!
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Walters Receives Agent of Merit Award

Award-winner David W. Walters, partner of Brown-Arris-Langhorne Insurance.

RANDY PATTERSON, Chairman of the Associate Division, Virginia Branch AGC, and Bond Manager of Brown-Arris-Langhorne Insurance, members from Virginia Beach, announces with some pride, that David W. Walters, a partner of the firm has been presented the Agent of Merit award for the Virginia Association of Insurance Agents.

The award is given to the agent in the state who best exemplifies the highest standards of professionalism in the insurance industry.

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THE ROTUNDA
of the
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Restoration and Adaptation,
1973-1976
A Construction Project Presented in Nomination
for
The Virginia Cultural Laureate Award

presented by
Virginia Branch, Associated General Contractors of America, Inc.
Richmond, Virginia

The firm of R.E. Lee and Son, Inc., Charlottesville, having already won the 1977 Build America Award for excellence in general contracting for its work on The Rotunda of the University of Virginia, has been nominated for yet another award. Printed herewith is the verbal portion of the Nomination Presentation for the Virginia Cultural Laureate Award.

R.E. LEE & SON, INC.
PROJECT STAFF

Robert E. Lee, Chairman of the Board,


Frederick J. Warner, General Superintendent, R.E. Lee & Son, Inc., Construction Superintendent, Restoration and Adaptation of the Rotunda.


Editor's Note: At press time it was learned that R. E. Lee and Son, Inc. has won the Virginia Laureate Award in the Category of Technology (Applied Sciences). Winning the Virginia award qualifies the firm for National selection. Our congratulations to R. E. Lee and Son, Inc. for another job well done.
Foreword

This project is nominated for a Virginia Cultural Laureate Award for R.E. Lee of Charlottesville, Virginia. Mr. Lee was head of the project staff for the restoration and adaptation of the Rotunda at the University of Virginia. This project was unique because of the high level of skill, attention to detail and coordination to restore an historic and architectural masterpiece under severe technical limitations.

This project was unusual because the controlling limitations were not in financial or schedule details but in the level of skills and craftsmanship available. It was also one of those historical projects in which everyone involved sensed the spirit of Thomas Jefferson’s design as the restored building took shape.

The task was more than the physical restoration of an old building, for the University was seeking to restore the Rotunda to serve a central purpose, within the University, a major point in Jefferson’s original design. Thus, critical scrutiny was present at all stages, reflecting historic, architectural, and functional interests.

We offer this report as a verbal ... summary of the project. Joseph L. Vaughan and O.A. Gianniny of the University of Virginia served as consultants in the preparation of this report. ...

— June 1977

INTRODUCTION

The Rotunda at the University of Virginia was designed by Thomas Jefferson to be the centerpiece of the University of Virginia. Over the past 150 years it has gained a worldwide reputation as the building most symbolic of higher education in the United States. Both historically and architecturally it has been highly recognized as an outstanding structure. The Rotunda was demolished by fire in 1895 and rebuilt to a very different interior under direction of the architect Stanford White. The exterior was restored and renovated under a WPA project in 1939-1941. After World War II, extended efforts, largely under the leadership of Frederick D. Nichols, FAIA, Cary Langhorne Professor of Architecture, led to a reconstruction to return the interior of the Rotunda to Jefferson’s design, with adaptation for modern use. A special University committee, first under leadership of Professor Francis L. Berkeley, Jr. and later led by Professor Raymond C. Bice gave oversight to the project.

Architects for the new restoration and adaptation were Ballou and Justice.
Architects & Engineers from Richmond, Virginia, and the General Contractor was R.E. Lee & Son, Inc., of Charlottesville. Restoration was begun in October 1973 and completed in 1976 in time for the Bicentennial celebration. The reconstruction and restoration project was financed by grants from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and by the Cary D. Langhorne Trust of Washington, D.C., at a total cost of 2.3 million dollars.

The purpose of this report is to outline the phases of work of primary interest to contractors, emphasizing specifically the tasks of demolition and reconstruction, including the special attention required for the finish of the building.

BACKGROUND

Because the Rotunda is a unique historic and architectural structure, as well as one which is central to the University of Virginia, there was a very high level of public and University interest in the project. Architectural and historical critics could be expected to give the Rotunda a careful and critical scrutiny. Given the level of financing and the high level of expertise available through the architectural firm of Ballou and Justice, the special attention of Consultant Professor Nichols, and the special talents of R.E. Lee & Son, Inc., this building project required minute attention to detail. R.E. Lee & Son, Inc. was no newcomer to the level of care required for this project. They did the major renovation and restoration at Monticello in 1951 and 1952, and since that time have continued work at that historic location. They were also previously involved in renovation and maintenance at Mount Vernon.

The high expectations and the conditions imposed led to a series of constraints which made this particular project unique and possibly significant among contemporary building efforts.

For example, the entire interior of the Rotunda had to be removed without disturbing the exterior, and all materials needed for this task had to be moved in or out of the building through existing windows and doors. In the following pages, this report reviews the demolition of the Stanford White interior and the reconstruction phases of the project.

DESTRUCTION

The first major assignment facing R.E. Lee & Son, Inc., was to strip away the entire interior structure of the Rotunda including three balconies, one intermediate floor, and a set of three-story high brick and masonry columns which had been installed by Stanford White. The Rotunda would be reduced then to a hollow shell 77' 6" in outside diameter with a hemispherical roof atop the cylindrical shell. The walls of the shell were approximately 3' thick and the height of the entire structure was approximately 79' 8" above grade. The horizontal thrust of the dome was restrained by three separate wrought iron tension rings, each approximately 1/4" x 4", imbedded in masonry and initially tightened with turnbuckles.

The hollow shell would be extremely fragile and its actual strength would not be fully known, as all interior bracing from steel ring supports at each balcony and from internal masonry columns would have been removed. The only floor that had given intermediate bracing would also have been removed. In addition, the load bearing characteristics of interior floors and

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Re: "Motorola Build America" Award
Nomination of R.E. Lee & Sons, Inc.

Gentlemen;

I have been asked to write a letter concerning Mr. R.E. Lee’s work on the Rotunda at the University of Virginia for which his firm served as General Contractors. This, I am pleased to do.

Mr. Lee had responsible charge of the project which involved demolition of two floors of concrete tile architectural construction supported on steel beams, which were installed by Mr. Stanford White. This work naturally had to be done with a great deal of care, since all that was left after the demolition was accomplished was a shell about 60’ tall and 75’ in diameter, the exterior which was constructed of brick that had been through a fire of 1895, and was none too safe after the two floors had been removed.

In addition, a large heat tunnel runs through the center of the building and required a great deal of underpinning, which also had to be done with great care.

All of the plaster cornices were run by men directly in the employ of R.E. Lee and Sons. The woodwork is fairly complicated, especially the stairway part of which was let as a sub-contract and a part of which was finished by the contractor’s own forces. The laying of the flooring, which is all old wood, and is also splined, was laid by the contractor’s forces.

All work was accomplished within the allocated time schedule and the workmanship throughout the building is excellent, which can be seen by viewing the photographs.

Due to the complexity of this problem along with the great skill required in plaster work and carpentry work, and also the difficulty of installation of all mechanical work, the office feels that Mr. Lee justly deserves the "Build America" Award.

Sincerely yours,
Louis W. Ballou

At left above is a photo taken at the AGC National Convention as R.E. Lee, Sr. accepted the “Build America Award” for construction excellence. Shown left to right are: Frank Gifford, ABC television sports personality; Mr. Lee; and Kenneth Hessler, vice president and operations manager, Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc. At right above is a letter written for the “Build America Award” nomination by the Rotunda restoration architect, Louis W. Ballou, F.A. I.A. This letter is included with the material for the Virginia Cultural Laureate Award nomination.
Documentation of the Stanford White demolition to assure that structural integrity of the exterior shell was maintained. Care was also necessary to protect workers and to avoid undue shock on remaining portions of the structure as other sections were demolished. Rubble also had to be removed promptly to avoid dangerous accumulations.

The task was further complicated because the exterior shell had been through the fire of 1895, and there was no good way to estimate the extent of fire damage to the walls. It was known that Stanford White had been able to rebuild on those walls, and that the structure had withstood an additional 75 years since that reconstruction. Engineering and architectural consultants considered the shell to be adequate for the new structure if careful construction practices were maintained. Therefore, interior demolition was done manually so all materials could be removed in wheelbarrow loads through existing openings. Rubble was removed without interference with other activities within the University.

Of special interest in the demolition was the problem of estimating strength of the main floor which had to carry the heavy load of rubble from columns and balconies. This floor had a masonry arch construction with some debris and loose fill which gave very uncertain structural support. In addition, vibration and impact stress during demolition to this floor had to be minimized. It was necessary to provide extensive solid shoring beneath the floor to assure that it would maintain integrity until it was removed in small sections. Its rubble would then be shovelled off the solid shoring below.

EXCAVATION AND UNDERPINNING

Demolition began October 1, 1973, and continued for 3½ months, followed by excavation and underpinning lasting until the first part of March 1974. Excavation and underpinning were undertaken across a main north-south axis of the building to provide a 10' wide by 8' high utility tunnel, under the building and to provide a base for new interior walls. The actual excavation was approximately 12' below grade and opened a center area approximately 20' wide. The new subsurface walls in that area were concrete, 3' thick, designed as retaining walls, to hold back the earth under the building from the interior of the tunnel.

All structural materials were brought into the building through existing doors and windows. Doors were used at the basement level, and sash were removed from windows at three levels to provide the necessary access. Small gasoline driven dump carts were utilized to remove the earth from the excavation beneath the building and only hand operated wheelbarrows could be used at levels above the ground floor.

Throughout the demolition phase of the project, there were constant discoveries of features installed by Stanford White behind the walls, and also some Jeffersonian touches which had been covered up in the White renovation. Thus the slow pace of demolition allowed for a careful review of features which would interest architects and historians as well as for close monitoring of the condition of the retained structure. For instance in the east oval room at the basement level, workmen discovered two small chemical ovens which had been used before the fire of 1895 but which had been sealed off in the Stanford White renovation. These ovens still contained grates and some shards of molten glass and charcoal.

The structure also included some inverted arches at the ground level. These arches are not common in American architecture, but had been used for a time in Europe when a builder suspected that soil bearing characteristics were uneven. These features had been installed by Jefferson and had been covered by masonry in the White renovation. The demolition task itself was a unique part of this project, to protect the fragile shell of the building and retain the Jeffersonian features which would interest future generations.

RECONSTRUCTION

STRUCTURE

After completion of the demolition phase of the project, by May 1974, R.E. Lee & Son, Inc. began the major structural work of restoring the interior of the Jeffersonian room arrangement. At the same time they were concealing the modern features which provided fire protection, utilities, lighting, and an elevator. Construction of each floor and galleries was very similar with steel girders and joists covered over by concrete which would, in turn, be covered by the appropriate floor covering for each area. A new structural floor was installed over the south portico ceiling to support mechanical equipment without altering the exterior. Materials for this floor were introduced through the interior of the building.

Walls had to be prepared for electrical conduits to provide all the major services for modern lighting and for air conditioning the inside of the building. Mechanical equipment for air conditioning was located in out-of-the-way spaces, above and below the south portico and below the north portico. These latter two areas were connected by the utility tunnel running along the north-south axis. An elevator was installed in a small circular space which had previously held a circular stairway and at one time a set of clock weights. The elevator was supported from the ground so that there was no additional weight hung from the building structure itself. Electrical controls, switch boxes, and circuit breakers were located unobtrusively in the backs of closets.

Though the dome roof was to be undisturbed in this restoration, it was examined for structural integrity and for documentation. It had been constructed by Stanford White to replace the original destroyed in the 1895 fire. The dome was found to consist of two completely separate domes separated by an air space. Each dome was constructed as a thin shell of hard
clay tile. Inspection showed that no major reconstruction was necessary in that area. Only a resurfacing would be required on the dome proper. The skylight and the oculus in the top center of the dome needed to be replaced to eliminate leakage which had been experienced for the life of the Rotunda, to install a compression ring at the top of the dome, and to restore the Jefferson dimensions of that oculus which were approximately 2½' smaller in diameter than the Stanford White opening.

Each of the floors, with steel joists covered by a concrete slab on the top and surfaced by a plastered ceiling below, was to be fire rated for modern conditions as were each of the interior walls. Some special openings were needed in the oval rooms on the basement and first floors to provide fire exits. These were also arranged to be unobtrusive, following the general curvature and finish of the walls to provide an unbroken visual effect in the rooms.

Construction in these early stages had to be done in such a way that the high quality of finish could be achieved. Each of the rooms in the restored Rotunda was curved in shape. On the basement level there were three oval rooms, two of which were 49' by 28' and the third was 36' by 16'. The center area job demanded skills unused in thirty years. Much of the carpentry work in ornamentation, unsymmetrical splayed, and work had proceeded to the finishing stages.

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produce fine grain and to minimize warping. The laying of this floor required attention to both the varying widths of flooring and differences in grain. Thus a trial placing of flooring was used to match materials, especially in the dome room. All floors in the dome room and in the main floor were covered with the pine wood.

This finish flooring was installed over a plywood underlayment which in turn was set on sleepers that had been carefully shimmed to level the floor above the concrete slab. Such floors are frequently hollow sounding, so the space between sleepers was filled with a fiberglass insulating material. The resulting floor provides an acoustical treatment which, combined with the acoustical ceiling, permits use of the room for speeches, dancing, and musical activities.

The finish in the rooms had to be free of intrusion from such things as sprinkler systems, special lighting, and air conditioning. Provision for these features had to be made in special ways. For example, the sprinkler system contains recessed sprinkler heads which open when they release water in the case of fire. About the only visible concessions to modern fire requirements are the usual exit signs throughout the building. Bathrooms, food service areas, an elevator, as well as stairways that provide access to the different levels, are unobtrusively tucked away, making use of the shafts Mr. Jefferson provided for minor stairways.

Lighting and air conditioning mark the adaptation of the building for modern use. Air conditioning assures a climate control for year-round use. Chandeliers in all the major rooms recreate an atmosphere of early nineteenth century styling while using modern electric controls, complete with dimmer controls. Indirect lighting of the dome room ceiling, of portraits, and of balconies provide lighting controls that make the building useful and attractive under any conditions.

The construction of the Rotunda was completed on schedule, and the building was turned over to the University of Virginia by Architect and Builder at a special ceremony on April 13, 1976, the birthday of Thomas Jefferson. This Bicentennial event was attended by the Governor of Virginia, the Honorable Mills E. Godwin. The building was accepted for the University of Virginia by the Rector of the University, William L. Zimmer, III, and the keys were delivered to President Frank L. Hereford, Jr. of the University. In the succeeding months the building has been visited by 800 to 1,000 tourists per day. It was the location of a special luncheon for Queen Elizabeth II of England on July 9, 1976.

The completed Rotunda is expected to be a functioning building of the University of Virginia, housing meetings, lectures, seminars, special examinations and gatherings of visiting dignitaries, as well as providing an attraction for visitors to the University.

**SUMMARY**

The 2½ year period for demolition, reconstruction, and adaptation of the Rotunda was an organized task that included an exceptional level of craftsmanship and special materials. It was unusual and unique because of the fragility of the original building which had to be protected during the demolition phase and because of the hand work required by limited access especially during demolition and the major structural rebuilding. In the finish stages, the high expectations for excellence were maintained by the high quality of materials provided by suppliers throughout the country, by the skill of subcontractors, and by the exceptionally high level of craftsmanship by the regular employees of R.E. Lee & Son, Inc. All of these persons and organizations paid great attention to detail and demonstrated a coordinated set of skills which made this task unique.

Everyone concerned with the restoration felt Jefferson’s presence and gained a new appreciation for his architectural ability as the building took its new shape. The uniqueness of the undertaking was that the architect, builder, and workmen took pride in recreating the great building Jefferson originally conceived.
Shenandoah's Pride

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ROBERT E. PAYNE — Architect

This newly constructed, contemporary one-story office building houses the construction firm of Andrews and Parrish Company. The exterior consists of a stone foundation and clear grain cypress vertical siding that accentuates the solar bronze windows and entrance panel of the 2600 sq. ft. building.

The building encompasses five large offices, a reception room, conference room, kitchen area, two toilets, janitor's and equipment room. All floors are carpeted and walls are of paneling and vinyl wall covering. The front door to the reception area is random paneled and stained to match the center wall which is treated with walnut-stained parquet.

Upon entering the conference room through double doors, you immediately feel the sense of continuity from the thick brown and bronze-toned shaded carpet to the sand-finished ceiling supporting the two bronze glass chandeliers over either end of the bronze glass conference table. Book shelves and cabinets fill one end wall and are stained to match the elegant walnut paneling of the other three walls.

While the building is contemporary in nature, various types of interior finishes were incorporated for visual inspection by prospective clients.

Andrews and Parrish Co. of Ashland, the owner, acted as general contractor and handled excavating, foundations, concrete, masonry, stone work and carpentry.

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We Could Hear Their Voices Calling

(From page 6)

separate from other political entities. All we knew was, first, Virginia, then the South, and gradually we comprehended that we were part of something called the United States.

As we grew older, especially to those of us who went “Up North” in our teens, we felt a sense of being “different” from Northerners and Westerners, but this was in nowise an unpleasant feeling. Among many groups in New York we were taken in as something special and exotic. In general, among the educated in and around New York, Virginians and other Southerners were well-liked. As my years passed among urbane sophisticates (four of my closest friends were native New Yorkers) my sense of “difference” went, so to speak, underground. I was rarely consciously aware of the early conditioning from the old neighborhood (itself long gone).

When at the end of WW II, I came home for personal reasons, with no intention of settling permanently, actually I felt less at ease with the people in general (except for a few friends, most of long standing), than with those whom I had left and with whom I visited back and forth. What kept me was my work in the Confederate past, especially the physical aspects of working old battlefields and old sites: this seemed to revive the Southern heritage of my childhood and I became a curiously divided person — an expatriate New Yorker passionately in love and identified with my region’s past. This duality was resolved for me by the Supreme Court’s 1954 Decision on school de-integration and its chaotic aftermath.

While I devoutly believed that Negroes should be relieved of needless burdens and humiliations, and helped and encouraged to advance in the national community, I just as strongly disbelieved that a dual society (black and white) could be changed overnight by Court edict. I was the first Southerner (in fact, one of the very few) to write an article of protest to a national magazine. Totally accepting the need of change, my objections were concerned with coercion limited to the South, which was bound to suggest to Southerners another Reconstruction. From my years in the North and West, I knew that the whole country was racist, and suggested that a national model should be provided for the South or national chaos would result.

For this controversial article, I was excoriated North and South as a non-Liberal. These insults I could bear with fortitude because I knew that Liberalism had nothing to do with what I had written. But I did seem a lone voice raised for honesty and realism. Then, on the 20th anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision and of my article, the magazine editor wrote me. “You were a prophet.”

That small consolation did nothing to reconcile me to the changes that had been brought (through little to no fault of the blacks as a whole) to my hometown, to the New York I had loved, and to the whole system — economic, educational and institutional — in which I had spent my first fifty years. In Richmond doubtless many factors contributed to the “white flight.” The result however is that an enclave of overtaxed and declining white population is girdled by speedways, beltways, freeways, and whatnot ways from which have sprouted shopping centers and even villages grown around centers of shopping facilities and service jobs.

Knowing that Richmond’s plight is not unique, knowing that the remnants of New York, as the greatest city on the continent and one of the truly great world capitals, is doomed, does nothing to quiet the conditioning of that lost neighborhood, with its civilities and friendliness and generosities. For the age of affluence has infected our area too, bringing its blatant competitiveness, with cars, evidently the chief symbol of conspicuous consumption, now noisily crowding the streets haunted by our long-lost innocent voices calling in the twilight.

Of course, this too is happening in many places. In Hollywood, one of the small divisions embraced by Los Angeles, I once knew a man who on leaving a plush restaurant at a particularly heavily trafficked stretch of Sunset Boulevard, called a taxi to get him across the street to his hotel (the now defunct Garden of Allah).

From California to Virginia and all points between, new and obviously transient patterns have developed or are developing primarily because Americans, as distinguished from most other nations, live to serve the automobile rather than vice versa. In addition to the known side-effects of this priority, a combination of greed and selfish short-sighted expediency, sheer stupidity and the absence of any long-range plan for the good of the whole Commonwealth, has allowed (or encouraged) the growth of a makeshift...
There is also the factor that many Americans do not like cities, historically the seats of culture and ideas and a community’s pride. Actually, as proved for centuries before the automotive vehicles, there is no reason that profitable businesses and industries cannot co-exist in human-scale environments designed to provide citizens with the charms and amenities traditionally associated with urban life. However, in this transitory period, where little thought is given to a just society for all, we must learn to live with the way things are today.

But I do not believe we need forswear our inner awareness of our personal and regional heritage, as a basis for the feeling that is (or was) distinctly ours, just because some stereotypes are imposed from without. In Virginia, we have long known there are many “Southerns,” of which we once were, and maybe in some fundamentals still are, a part.

This is in no sense nostalgia. It is straight-on resentment at once again being lumped in Northern publications under a single stereotype. Some forty years ago Huey Long descended on Washington from Louisiana, extolling the eating virtues of pot “likker” and hawg jowls. These delicacies were dismissed as Huey’s idiosyncratic NOW, eating. now being rewarded by a grateful city with taste in years. Those other days and enjoyed freedom the seats of culture and ideas and a political structure, in which the parts prided of place. war against one another with indifference to the whole.

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Yet with Mr. Carter’s presidency, the South is supposedly at last brought back into the Union. This nation is nothing of the young Union from which the Southern states seceded, as their fathers and grandfathers had seceded from Great Britain, and which the Virginia revolutionaries played a major part in making a strong central government. This is a conglomerate of fragments of regions and interests, in which diehard anti-Southern liberals still hate the South.

Perhaps the clearest single observation about the country today was made about New York by its mayor, A. Oakley Hall, during the reign of Boss Tweed: “This population is hopelessly split into races and factions to govern it under universal suffrage, except by the bribery of patronage, or corruption.” For us, the mayor could have added, “and the incompetence resulting from the greedy experiences of power brokers.”

“Reversing the clock” it might seem, or even the delusion of the “pathos of distance;” but we knew who we were in those other days and enjoyed freedom from the tensions of competition’s brief and empty rewards. From the perspective of those distant years, I could never feel that “The South has risen again” by having a Southerner in the White House; on the contrary, without no disrespect to the Carters and their cohorts, their habits and diets. I feel the South has descended to a common level — without its pride of place.

In my own neighborhood of Richmond’s now fashionable Fan District, I am among the older people (or settlers) who on fixed incomes and their own initiatives contributed to the charm of this urban area. Aside from being rewarded by a grateful city with tripled taxes and sundry new expenses, now speculators come and go until what was a neighborhood seems more like a road company version of Grand Central Station. But pride of place is, or should be, inside one. It is one of the few remaining individual human values that custom cannot change nor external and lunatic upheavals shake from the enduring core of personal dignity.
No Energy Shortage in AGC

 communication? When was the last time you really communicated with your Congressman? The participation by AGC members in the defeat of the Common Situs Picketing Bill was commendable. It proves that the Association through collective effort does have a voice in the governmental actions of this country and state. The so-called grass roots support is the very essence and foundation of our political system. Our legislators, both national and state want to hear from their constituents. They do read your letters and communications.

Not many industries have members living in each congressional district in the United States, but the AGC does. What have we done about this latent ability to communicate with our lawmakers? The construction industry has not taken advantage of its geographical dispersion to speak with a single voice to each member of Congress. The National AGC has built a framework upon which our industry will be able to communicate actively with each member of Congress. The structure is known as the AGC Legislative Network. The network is based upon the multiplication principle. One person in Washington is to call 11 others, who in turn will make more calls, so that soon 535 contractors will be talking to their Congressmen. Taking it apart, from the top down we find:

— The AGC Legislative Division, working with the Legislative Committee Chairman.
— Eleven regional coordinators.
— Fifty state chairmen. (In some of the larger states there will be assistants to the chairman.)
— Five hundred thirty-five action men, one for each Member of Congress.
— Chapter managers standing by to plug the gaps if any contractor in the network is not available when a message must be transmitted.

The action men are the key to this program. Each one of them must know, or get to know, his Congressman. Obviously, the best type of communication is the personal conversation. Thus, whenever he is in Washington he will be expected to call upon his Congressman. Occasionally, when the Congressman is back home he should be seen there too. As time passes, the action man will be able to transmit the AGC legislative message quickly and effectively to his Congressman.

The AGC is the only national organization representing the general contractor in all principal types of construction. Following World War I, President Woodrow Wilson pointed out the need for a national organization of contractors, a group through which the government could have contact with the industry. From the small beginning in 1918 the AGC has increased to almost 9600 members with approximately 122 chapters and branches throughout the country. The AGC is an integral part of every contracting firm. The leadership and staff of the AGC serves as an extension of each contractor’s business.

The Virginia Branch AGC offers an organization through which the contractors could act jointly on matters they could not act on separately. The members are furnished the information on legislative matters needed for a better understanding of the problems.

Construction is an industry becoming more sophisticated every day. Offering more opportunities than ever to those entering it as a career field. Pay is among the best in the nation. Working conditions are good and improving with each new piece of machinery. And the possibilities for using our knowledge, skill and ingenuity increase daily.

As we move ahead into the last quarter of this century, things are changing rapidly. Whether these changes are for the better or worse hinges, in large part, on the construction industry — on whether or not those making the decisions and doing the job are properly informed and organized. This is the role of AGC in the construction industry.

AGC is currently following legislative issues of concern to the construction industry. With the network in operation, and with the support and cooperation of the members, we will communicate with the Congress on these and other issues in a manner appropriate to the largest industry in the country.

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