



RIICA NEWS

“UNDERGROUND & IN THE TRENCHES”

JUNE, 2008

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.....

RIICA's *Underground Utility Contractors License* bill has been under debate for some time and is making some headway. However it has met some resistance with the Leagues of Cities and Towns on the basis of loss revenue and autonomy. Be assured RIICA's Legislative Committee is working with UCARI's legislative committee and lobbyist Terry Marteisian to bring the bill to the floor. We will keep you updated as it becomes available.

On the *Oversize/Weight* bill, we have worked hard at developing a compromise bill giving contractors a maximum weight not to exceed 130,000 lbs. in addition to an increase in width to 12' 4". Passage of this bill is near. The compromise was brought about by discussions with RIDOT through Terry Marteisian and RIICA's Legislative Committee..... KUDOS to Terry for his hard work!

For more detailed information, contact any member of the Legislative Committee or call the RIICA Office at 401-785-1830.

PAWTUCKET RIVER/ SAKONNET RIVER BRIDGE WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED— RIICA PARTICIPATION CREATES COMPROMISE

Providence, RI— By now, you are all aware of the weight restrictions imposed on the Pawtucket River at 18 tons and Sakonnet River Bridges to 22 tons. RIICA was instrumental in minimizing the impact on our members as RIICA was involved with direct discussions with members of the House Finance Committee prior to the committee's vote that day. Although the news outlets did not mention RIICA directly, members of the committee that met with RIICA expressed our concerns to the letter and agreed to allow placards be placed in windows indicating "EMPTY" for trucks passing over the bridge. RIICA was also assured that RI State Police would monitor and maintain common sense when deciding to pull over those suspected trucks. Please be advised however, that RIICA has learned that law enforcement are pulling trucks over *after* they crossed over, so be sure to have the appropriate signage and be *under* the posted weight limits.

For more information and details on the purchase of laminated placards at \$ 6.00 each, call the RIICA Office at 401-785-1830.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR.....

RIICA ANNUAL STEAK FRY
To benefit RIICA's Scholarship Fund

July 20, 2008 at Fort Getty's Pavilion, Jamestown, RI

Starts at 12 noon....Tickets are \$ 26.00 !!

Join us for great food, great people and great times!...

Tickets available from Board Members or by calling the RIICA Office at 401-785-1830
See the enclosed Raffle & Sponsor Form

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS.....

- **Aquidneck Construction, Inc., Portsmouth, RI**
Rep: Shari Hall; 401-683-9036
- **Right Choice Paving Inc.**
d/b/a Louis & Ted's Blacktop
Rep: William Faria; 401-683-5088

RIICA PAC COMMITTEE TO HOLD STEAK AND CIGAR NIGHT FUNDRAISER— June 26, 2008

Coventry, RI— The newly formed *PAC Committee* of Dave Skurka, Steve Gianlorenzo and Bob Johnson have announced the first fundraiser to support **RIICA's PAC**. The event will be held on **Thursday, June 26, 2008** from **6:00 to 9:00 pm** and will be held at **Nino's on Lake Tiogue, Coventry, RI**. Tickets are \$ 65.00 per person and includes a great steak dinner complete with a premium cigar! The PAC Fund was developed to help support RIICA's legislative initiatives over the coming years. Your support for this event and RIICA's PAC Fund is greatly appreciated. This provides RIICA with the necessary funds to help push for reforms that effect the way our members do business. **Personal Checks ONLY!** No Corporate or business checks allowed.
For tickets and more information, see any Board member or call the RIICA Office at 401-785-1830.

RIICA IN TRANSITION....

Warwick, RI— Over the last two months, RIICA has been involved in a transition and transformation that is hoped will reinvigorate the association and bring needed change to the operation and purpose of RIICA. With this transition and transformation, you will begin to see some new and exciting things happening including streamlining of information, new exciting events and guest speakers across the spectrum.
Change has been difficult, but in the end RIICA will move toward new heights. The Officers and Board members are excited with these changes and ask for your patience and help during this time. We want to bring back RIICA's slogan of "capability, pride and integrity" **Join us in our quest as we move forward in this exciting time in RIICA's history!**

WANT ADS and FOR SALES...

This is a ***FREE service*** to all our members. Please feel free to fax your request before the 20th of each month for including in the monthly news. Space limited.....

FOR SALE:

1989 RD20 Read Screenall

3 spare screens of various sizes
Spare filters, etc.

Great condition!.....\$ **15,000.00**

1989 Ford 445 Tractor/Loader

Cab with heater

Attachment of a 7' brush hog mower

Spare blades and misc. parts

Only 2290 hours!.....\$ **9,500.00**

CALL PETE at 401-846-4538

FOR SALE:

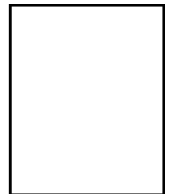
• **4' John Deere grading bucket**– fits JD 410E, G & J.....\$ **500.00**

• **9' X 4' Pathfinder Heavy Duty Power turn snow plow**; Clean and painted.....\$ **800.00**

• **2006 Yamaha TTR 125 Dirt Bike**; Excellent condition.....\$ **1,200.00**

Call Matt Olson at 401-855-3245

Rhode Island Independent Contractors & Associates
P.O. Box 7254
Warwick, RI 02887



Capability, Pride, Integrity.....Since 1980

SAFETY NEWS.....How To Give A Toolbox Talk

Contractors should hold toolbox safety talks with their employees on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. Toolbox talks should reinforce the company safety rules, warn of dangerous conditions, and describe safe procedures. One of the best ways to communicate safety information to employees and to prevent accidents at construction sites is through toolbox talks.

Toolbox talks are not a substitute for training. These toolbox talks are not designed to provide all the information available on the subject. However, they are designed to reinforce training and to remind workers of hazards and of ways they can protect themselves on the jobsite.

You don't have to be a professional instructor to give a good toolbox talk. However, there are ways you can make your toolbox talks more effective. Use the following tips to help you lead the discussion:

- Use your own words; Talks should be applicable to the type of work at hand;
- Give each worker a copy of the written toolbox talk;
- Provide examples related to the subject.

Use visual aids related to the subject matter because everyone remembers more of what they see than what they hear. Visual aids could be pictures, charts, diagrams, or physical objects.

- Talk about a personal experience or something you have heard about. Also, encourage workers to tell their personal experiences related to the subject;
- Document the training session. Include the date, time, subject matter, instructor's name and the names of the employees. Also have each employee sign the sheet which should be a simple formatted sheet to use every time you give a tool box talk.
- **REMEMBER...This will save you money with your Liability and workers comp insurance companies, but will help you if OSHA ever comes for an inspection!**