THE ESTIMATOR

The official newsletter of the National Professional Construction Estimators Association of America, Inc.

FALL 2023





PCEA Triangle Chapter enjoys some skeet shooting during their Meat, Skeet, Greet Fundraiser!

October 2023

Special Points of Interest

Holiday Socials

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CSRA Chapter Participates in East Georgia Student Skills Challenge

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National News You need to know this!

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Chapter Event Gallery

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Volume 35, Issue 2





We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

Click the images for event details

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EDUCATION

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ACHIEVEMENT

CONTRIBUTION • PARTICIPATION

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and improve the construction industry through education of the Association's membership and education of young people.

The Association will work to define and encourage high ethical standards of conduct among its members and will promote the fraternity of the construction industry through social interaction.



US Department of Labor, National Labor Relations Board sign agreement to strengthen information-sharing, outreach on whistleblower protections

October 31, 2023

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor and the National Labor Relations Board today announced that the department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the board have signed an agreement to strengthen the agencies' partnership and outline procedures for information-sharing, referrals, training and outreach that explain federal anti-retaliation protections.

The <u>Memorandum of Understanding</u> will also enable OSHA and the board to cooperate more effectively and efficiently to enforce related laws and protect workers' rights.

"Everyone should be able to exercise their legal rights in the workplace without fear of losing their job or other forms of punishment," explained Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Doug Parker. "Our partnership with the National Labor Relations Board will expand both of our agencies' impact and effectiveness in protecting workers who raise concerns about workplace violations or retaliation."

The collaboration will also create mechanisms to increase overall awareness on the rights and remedies available under federal anti-retaliation and whistleblower protection laws. The agencies have jointly created a fact sheet, "<u>Building Safe & Healthy Workplaces by Promoting Worker Voice</u>" to help workers better understand what recourse they have when their rights are violated.

"Workplace safety can be a matter of life and death for workers and so the ability to report workplace hazards without fear of retaliation is critically important," said National Labor Relations Board General Counsel Jennifer A. Abruzzo. "Today's MOU will bolster protections for workers to speak out about unsafe working conditions by strengthening coordination between OSHA and the NLRB on our enforcement efforts."

<u>Learn more about the National Labor Relations Board</u> or call 1-844-762-6572. For assistance in filing a charge, contact your NLRB Regional Office.

For more information on whistleblower protections, visit OSHA's Whistleblower Protection Program website.

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PCEA CSRA Chapter Participates in East Georgia Student Skills Challenge



Pictured L to R – David Eller, Scott Gunter, Mark Stephens, Kat Sanders, Tabitha Hollimon, Steve Munn

About 100 high school students put their skills to the test in areas such as carpentry, electrical, masonry, plumbing, sheet metal and welding on Nov. 16 at the Augusta Exchange Club Fairgrounds as part of the East Georgia Skills Challenge.

"We need more young men and women to see our industry as a career path," said Associated General Contractors of Georgia CEO Mike Dunham. "We are doing that in a lot of different ways, but one of which is working with our high schools that have construction programs."

Thursday's skills challenge is one of eight regional events held throughout Georgia that will host over 2,300 students from nearly 100 schools.

Students at Thursday's event represented 14 counties including Burke, Columbia, McDuffie and Richmond.

"These challenges are not only like a competitive factor but also it allows students to see that we are a high-demand career field with very high paying jobs," said Dunham. "So, you will have students from these challenges entering the workforce making very good money and also be employed their entire lives."

Students spent part of the day participating in challenges that showcased the skills that they learned from instructors during their high school career.

"You teach them all the skills that they need, but when they come to an event like this, they are able to put those skills to the test," said Courtney Brinkman, the welding teacher at Thomson High School. "But overall, it's an amazing, connecting event for the kids and for the industry to be able to connect together."

In addition to the competing students, other students watched and learned in hopes of competing in the future. Along with the students in attendance, there were construction industry professionals offering their knowledge and expertise to help students become more knowledgeable with specific construction trades.

"These students that are competing today are getting a chance to showcase their skills to professionals what they have learned in school," said Dunham. "If they win here and are members of SkillsUSA, they will go on to the state competition in February, and from there they can go on and compete at the national competition."

The contractor organization partnered with R. W. Allen Construction, GoldMech and Sliver Sheet Metal to host the skills challenge.

The East Georgia skills challenge ended an eight-county tour that allowed students to learn new skills and overall showcase them to family, instructors, and professionals.

"We continue to make people aware of the need for construction growth and the careers that they are able to create in this field," Dunham said. "We have about 185 high schools that have these programs so we as an industry work to connect the contractors to the schools to allow students to see a career path in our industry." For more information about Skills Challenges, please visit <u>www.agcga.org/skills</u>.

Written by: Maxwell Shaffer Published by: Augusta Good News

https://augustagoodnews.com/high-school-students-compete-in-skills-challenge-nov-16/

Maxwell Shaffer is an Augusta University student and features correspondent for Augusta Good News. To subscribe to the Augusta Good News newsletter, click <u>here.</u>

You need to know ...

Do you know a student who could benefit from applying?

Our Ted G. Wilson Memorial Scholarship is available to students pursuing a degree in the construction industry. In 2024, we will award scholarships to 4 students, one in each state that we hold chapters in.

For more information on how to apply, visit our Scholarship page.



A Professional Construction Estimators Association

STEP IN TO A LEADERSHIP ROLE

We encourage YOU to consider taking on a leadership role within the association!

Are you interested in playing a role within your Chapter Board?

Are you ready to take your participation to the next level by joining the National Board?

Contact National Office to discuss your interests!

MARK YOUR SPOT

IN THE ASSOCIATION'S LARGEST PUBLICATION OF THE YEAR!

DOWNLOAD THE MEMBER DIRECTORY AD FORM and claim your page now!





(click for details)

Start considering your nomination for the Rudølph John Barnes Award!

The most coveted award presented by National Professional Construction Estimators Association, the Rudolph John Barnes **National PCEA Estimator of the Year Award**, is presented annually to an individual that has gone above and beyond on the National level to contribute to the success of PCEA.

Details on how to submit your nomination will be released in January 2024.

BILL HELMS Chapter of the Year Tay in the Year

PCEA Orlando's Annual Randy Welch Memorial Golf Tournament



PCEA Triangle's Membership Drive @ Drive Shack





Keep your eyes peeled!

Our 2024 Convention Host Chapter, CSRA, anticipates opening the Convention Registration in January 2024!

🖕 Title Sponsorship Learn about our Own the stage with Title Billing! **Eagle Sponsorship** Sponsorship Sponsor a seminar and join the fun! **Birdie Sponsorship Registration is inclusive! Opportunities!** Past Presidents' Sponsorship Honor the men and women who have lead us! Swag Bag Sponsorship Download the Sponsorship Dominate the swag bags! **Brochure! Mulligan Sponsorship** Attending or not, your company can still shine on the National stage!

Central Savannah River Area Chapter

Board for 2023-2024 Term:

President: Mark Stephens, Cost Segregation Services VP: Membership, Kat Sanders, Centennial Contractors VP Programs: Steve Munn, MAI Risk Advisors Secretary: Cara Wilson, Gage Consulting and Construction Treasurer: David Eller, Georgia Drywall National Director: Steve Munn

Recent Speakers:

David Hudson of Hull BarreL gave a presentation in November on construction law and shared some excellent 'cheat sheets' on what to look for in your construction contracts to avoid problems.

Darin Myers of The Alternative Board and Blue Mountain Advisors spoke to our group about engaging your team to encourage retaining and developing talent.

Cal Wray, CEO of The Augusta/Richmond County Economic Development Authority spoke about his team's efforts to bring large employers to our area, perspective on our economic outlook and how local contractors can benefit from the new industry coming to Augusta.

Social Events:

Our Christmas Social will be at The Partridge Inn on December 14th.

<u>New Members:</u> Tabitha Holliman - Holliman Strategic Advisors, Caitlin Donavan - Rumsey Restoration

Golf Tournament:

Our golf tournament at West Lake was our most successful yet with over \$9K raised for our scholarship fund.

<u>Newsletter:</u> If anyone wants to subscribe to our newsletter, please let Kat know at ksanders@cce-inc.com.

Convention 2024 News:

We've been having monthly convention planning meetings and are pleased to have some sponsors and speakers in the works. Our budget is being put together and we expect it to be very engaging and profitable.

We are hosting a Bass Tournament the Saturday of convention and will live stream the weigh-in to our convention guests in the hospitality room. We expect to raise a lot of money for our scholarship fund.

Board Meeting Update:

Our board continues to meet the last Wednesday of each month and our new executive is formed for the coming year and we're all excited to help grow the chapter and increase influence in our community.

Steve Munn National Director

Columbia Chapter

Greetings from the Columbia Chapter.

Our September 14th meeting was held at the British Bull Dog Pub featuring the Mayor of Columbia Daniel Rickenmann. The Mayor did a presentation on the growth and renewal construction in Columbia.

Our October 12th meeting was held at the British Bull Dog Pub. Our program was presented by CTS Rapid Set on a polished overlay flooring system. Another presenter discussed Epoxy based and Duraflex resinous flooring systems.

Our Fall Golf Scholarship Tournament was held on October 27 at Fort Jackson, SC. This is the first golf tournament that the Columbia Chapter has held since Covid 19. The Golf was good with 8 teams participating.

Our November 9th meeting was held at the British Bulldog Pub. Palmetto Drone Company gave a broad overview on how the company is using drones on construction sites, in real estate, inspection services, mapping and other useful services.

If you are in the Columbia area on the 2nd Thursday of the month, you are welcome to attend our membership meeting at 6:00 PM at the British Bull Dog Pub at 1220 Bower Pkwy E-10 in Columbia, SC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Glenn Hessee National Director



National Board of Directors 2023 - 2024



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Adam Blalock National Past President

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MAI Risk Advisors Augusta, GA