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

Special Points of Interest

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Greetings All,

I hope everyone is staying healthy and well. As we close out this year, may we all choose joy, growth, and prosperity as we move into the new year.

This year has certainly taught each of us many things, and we have grown to be thankful for what has been given to us as well as what we still have. As your National President, I want to extend a very sincere thanks for your continued involvement and support in this great organization we all love so dear. It is an absolute honor leading, and learning from, a great group of wise and talented individuals who are passionate about growing themselves, their companies, and the rising youth to better serve and shape the construction industry.

In anticipation of what 2021 brings, please be on the lookout for our member testimonial video that will be released in the next few months. Please also be on the lookout for the Call to Convention, which will be sent out in late winter as we prepare to hold our 2021 National PCEA Convention in the great city of Asheville, North Carolina. I hope you will all join me there!

As always, we should look at our membership retention as we move into the new year. I encourage each and every one of you to think on the reasons why you joined PCEA and why you are still in PCEA. Once those reasons have been established, share it with others around you and encourage others to attend meetings or join at your local chapters. The only way we as an organization will continue to grow is through the help of individual chapter members just like you.

As we close out this year, do not forget to hold tight to those you love, give more than you take and try to make the coming year better than the previous year. There are plenty of opportunities for you to be involved in PCEA both on chapter and national levels. Do not hesitate to reach out to your national board or your chapter board. The board and I are making continual steps to adapt and improve this great organization. I encourage each of you to be as involved as you safely feel comfortable. Your individual chapters have great things planned as well, so get plugged in and participate.

I wish all of you a very merry Christmas, happy Hanukkah, and Kwanza. I look forward to seeing all 2021 has to bring, and I look forward to seeing what PCEA has in store. Please stay safe and if you need anything, do not hesitate to reach out to me. My contact information can be found through the member directory on the National website.

Warm Regards,

Kristen Clarke
National President

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National President
U.S. Department of Labor Partners with McCarthy Building Companies To Promote Workplace Safety at Georgia Construction Site

CARROLLTON, GA -

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has signed a strategic partnership with McCarthy Building Companies to promote worker safety and health at the West Georgia Technical College-New Carroll County Campus project in Carrollton, Georgia. The Georgia Tech Enterprise Innovation Institute – Safety, Health and Environmental Services Group will also support this effort.

This partnership seeks to prevent injuries and exposure to hazards during construction of a new technical college with three buildings and a commercial truck driving range on a greenfield site. Under the agreement, the partners will focus on the use of personal protective equipment, heat illness prevention, fire protection and prevention, and preventing exposure to hazards related to falls, struck-by and caught-in/between objects, electric, hand and power tools, silica, lead and noise. The partners will also encourage contractors to develop and implement safety and health programs and provide related training to employees, employers and supervisors.

OSHA's Strategic Partnership Program works with employers, employees, professional and trade associations, labor organizations and other interested stakeholders to establish specific goals, strategies and performance measures to improve worker safety and health.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to help ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit https://www.osha.gov.

The mission of the Department of Labor is to foster, promote and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.

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Anthony Vellozzi
Triangle Chapter

Anthony has a degree in Business Administration and is computer savvy, but his interest in building things started well before all of that. Growing up with a father who was home improvement oriented, a tradition began of working together on home projects that led to a love of working with his hands. After he graduated from college, Anthony entered the field as a plumber/pipe fitter, welding pipes and digging ditches; all of these things learned from his father. Three years in to his career a client, impressed with his work ethic and knowledge, approached him to gauge his interest in estimating. Moving in to a General Contractor’s office he started with what he knew by covering the plumbing scopes of their projects. As his experience continued he picked up estimating within other trade scopes.

20 years in to his estimating career, Anthony is a Senior Pre-Construction Manager with Choate Construction’s Raleigh office. With offices in Atlanta, Charlotte, Raleigh, Savannah, and Charleston, this 500+ employee owned company has its sights set on expanding outside of the Southeast Region. With Choate, Anthony is active in full scope project estimating and project scope management in commercial construction. Building warehouse distribution centers, healthcare spaces, private educational sites, hospitality properties, and car dealerships, his local office works both autonomously and as a team with Choate’s other estimating offices.

Outside of commercial construction, Choate’s employee owners take an active role in their philanthropic, community engagement. Their individual offices’ initiatives raise money for local causes such as Autism Strong, The Shepherd Center, Kids’ Chance, Ronald McDonald House, Second Harvest, and Susan G. Komen. They also host several annual events that support the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation including their Cars & Q in Atlanta, the Savannah Wing Fest, and their “Choate Goats” hiking 30 miles on the Appalachian Trail during the Xtreme Hike fundraiser.

Anthony was introduced to PCEA in early 2020 through his boss, Tom Key, who is also a member of the Triangle Chapter. Although his involvement in the association was slowed by the pandemic’s halt of community events, he has already enjoyed the benefits of camaraderie and professional knowledge that comes from networking with like minded, estimating professionals and veteran members within the association. His computer knowledge combined with his ditch digging skills has rounded out his estimating capabilities, but he is continually learning new and old angles of the industry. With a propensity for planning events, he is looking forward to the new year and continuing his chapter’s involvement with their membership and their community.

Fifteen years of marriage have blessed Anthony with four children: three boys and one girl. Through them he has carried on the tradition of family working together on home improvement and building things. With the help of his kids he built his childhood dream, the “Ewok Village”, a multi-tiered tree house with connecting chain bridges. Now he is looking forward to the new year when his father will be joining him from NY to revive their father-son tradition in building a home work shop for all his future personal projects.
Community Outreach in our Chapters

Upstate Chapter’s Grayson Project

For more information on how you can donate resources or financially, visit pcea-upstate.org/Grayson-Brochure

Orlando Chapter’s Sleep in Heavenly Peace Charity Event

Orlando PCEA members building bunkbeds for those in need

November 19th
Dodge: U.S. construction starts will increase 4% next year

Dive Brief:

- Released yesterday, the Dodge Data & Analytics 2021 Construction Outlook predicts that total U.S. construction starts will increase by 4% next year, to $771 billion.

- The COVID-19 pandemic led to a deep drop in construction starts in the first six months of 2020, and the road to recovery “will be long and fraught with potential potholes” Richard Branch, Dodge chief economist, said in a press release. In 2020 so far, construction starts have slipped an estimated 14% to $738 billion.

- Dodge also predicted the dollar value of nonresidential buildings will be up 3%, while non-building construction will improve by 7%.

Dive Insight:

“Uncertainty surrounding the next wave of COVID-19 infections in the fall and winter and delayed fiscal stimulus will lead to a slow and jagged recovery in 2021,” Branch said in the release. “Business and consumer confidence will improve over the year as further stimulus comes in early 2021 and a vaccine is approved and becomes more widely distributed, but construction markets have been deeply scarred and will take considerable time to fully recover.”

Other predictions from Dodge for construction in 2021 include:

- Multifamily construction will drop 1% while the number of units started will fall 2% to 484,000.

- The dollar value of commercial building starts will increase 5%. Warehouse and data center construction will be strong as e-commerce companies continue to build out their logistics infrastructure.

- Retail and hotel activity will languish.

- In 2021, institutional construction starts will increase by 1% as growing state and local budget deficits impact public building construction. Education construction is expected to see further declines, while healthcare starts are predicted to rise.

- Public works construction starts will see little improvement as 2021 begins due to continued uncertainty surrounding additional federal aid for state and local areas.

- Electric utilities/gas plants will gain 35%, led by expected groundbreakings for several large LNG export facilities and an increasing number of wind farms.

- The dollar value of manufacturing plant construction will remain flat.

Authored by:
Zachary Phillips

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https://www.constructiondive.com/news/dodge-us-construction-starts-will-increase-4-next-year/588796/
Chapter Reports

CSRA Chapter
Greetings from Augusta!

What an unusual scene - Masters golf in November, and without the traffic nightmare!

The CSRA Chapter continues to meet at That Flippin Egg. In September, our speaker was Tracy Strickland with Hard Hat Work Force.

In October, Aaron Matthews, CFO of Matthews Motors was our speaker. He informed us of the various trucks and equipment they have available. We also discussed plans for the golf tournament.

Mark Stephens with Certa Pro Painters was our November speaker. He talked about the company’s plans to expand more in to the commercial market.

From what I have gathered (I was unable to attend this year), the golf tournament was a huge success. All of the raffle tickets were sold, and one of our members won.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Gaskin
National Director, CSRA Chapter

Orlando Chapter
Greetings from sunny central Florida,

Things appear to be moving in the direction of returning closer to normal here in central Florida. I'm noticing an uptick here in my office with orders of product, phones ringing, and new starts in commercial construction, along with residential homebuilders. Another sign we are happy to see is movie production and TV commercial shoots are starting up again. These production companies use us for roll off dumpsters, and restroom trailers and the orders are coming in. We have also seen family reunion orders, and backyard weddings being booked. I sure hope you are experiencing the same in your regions.

We had a very fun and successful summer golf tournament. The event sold out and I believe we raised around $5,000.00. We had a BBQ truck that...

...Chapter reports continued on page 9

Charlotte Chapter
Greetings from Charlotte,

Season’s greetings from Charlotte to our fellow PCEA Members. Charlotte has been busy as can be expected given the times. We are doing our best to stay safe and follow the guidelines and continue meeting. We have had Visla technologies review their system that allows you to post a QR code and pull up project information down to room specific info. We also had our combo Holiday party and Member appreciation event that was delayed from May at Top Golf. A good time was had by all and we had close to 30 members in attendance. We will not be meeting in December as is our tradition.

Stay Safe and God bless, with warm regards from Charlotte.

Peter Martinez
National Director, Charlotte Chapter

Columbia Chapter
Greetings from the Columbia Chapter!

Hope all are staying well and adapting to our current environment. Hopefully, this will not remain as the new normal.

The Columbia Chapter is still not meeting in person, but we are meeting virtually. We have had reasonable response with lots of room for improvement. We plug away.

We have had two speakers join us this season. In August we had the pleasure of hearing from Lt. Commander Virginia Bowen with the US Department of Public Health (CDC). She shared some history of the USPHS, current activities of the CDC and her responsibilities. Ginny is a former Columbia Chapter Dependent Scholarship recipient. This month we had Leslie Clark with Carolinas AGC speak to us. Leslie is the SC lobbyist and she shared capitol activities and the current political climate in SC.

We continue to struggle with renewals and participation. We have lost two members and our December dues totals are questionable. The same core members carry us forward with due diligence.

Bill Barton
National Director, Columbia Chapter
The multinational firm has taken a leadership role against racism and bias in the construction industry.

Small, regional contractors look to big multinational firms in order to gauge the overall pulse of the industry, to get a leg up on potential bidding opportunities and even emulate them when it comes to innovative project delivery methods and technology. They also enjoy following the large or one-of-a-kind projects that the biggest firms in the country take on.

Turner Construction Co., for example, has completed commercial and infrastructure projects all over the world, including the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, the 118-story Warisan Merdeka mixed-use development in Kuala Lumpur, and in a joint venture with AECOM Hunt, the largest NFL project to date, SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, California.

The New York City-based company is ranked No. 2 on this year's Engineering News-Record's Top 400 contractors in the U.S. list, with $14.6 billion in total 2019 revenue. It also has about 1,500 projects going at any one time.

Obviously, Turner is a leader in the construction industry. And this past year, it emerged as a role model in another way.

The May arrest and death of George Floyd while in police custody, as well as other accusations of police bias against Black Americans, sparked protests that have resonated throughout the year. Even the construction industry was impacted when nooses and racist incidents were reported on project sites around the U.S. and in Canada.

When the same thing happened on Turner projects, the company shut down at least three major jobsites in order to conduct mandatory antibias training: the FC Cincinnati soccer stadium in Ohio, a Facebook data center in New Albany, Ohio, and the Las Vegas Convention Center expansion in Nevada. Turner is a partner in the joint venture that is heading up construction at the Las Vegas project.

In an industry that lives by schedules and milestones in order to deliver projects in a timely manner, this action by Turner grabbed the attention of owners and other contractors and set an example of how to stand up to racist attitudes and actions on jobsites.

More importantly perhaps, is that by taking a leadership role in the battle against racism, Turner is implicitly encouraging other contractors to do the same.

"I just think getting out in front of this thing is very, very important," CEO Peter Davoren said. "I think that others will rally around it.

Industry accolades

This zero-tolerance policy has been supported by Turner's clients as well as by unions, workers, subs and suppliers, Davoren said. It also won praise from Kenneth Thomas, co-founder of the New York City-based Minority & Women Contractors & Developers Association, who said that advocates like him can only do so much to bring about change without buy-in and action from standard bearers like Turner.

"I think the comprehensive actions they are undertaking to address systemic racism within the construction industry are critically important," he said. "Institutional builders like them set the tone for how operations should be conducted on their sites."

Ultimately, Thomas said, he believes that the company's actions will reverberate beyond the short term.

"I truly believe that this will provide a competitive advantage for them as they bid for work via private and public entities that have become increasingly sensitized to the vertical integrations of wholistic policies throughout the operational chain that reinforce diversity and inclusion while swiftly mitigating 'isms' of any kind," Thomas said.

Authored by:

Kim Slowey

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Orlando Chapter cont...

served brisket and gravy for breakfast, we had great prizes, raffles, and a nice lunch. I heard no report of anyone falling ill after the event. We did take the necessary CDC measures to ensure safety of the participants.

We have conducted two in person chapter meetings with guest speakers this past quarter. These are limited to 50 people per the venue. From what I gather people are feeling more and more comfortable and are eager to attend these events. We do encourage the distancing and masking as suggested by the CDC.

Our premiere event for the year was a tremendous success, the 18th annual Randy Welch memorial Fall Golf scholarship. The event also was sold out with 27 teams. This event raised $15,000.00 for scholarships! Again we had brisket & gravy breakfast, and lunch in the clubhouse. Each group had a caddie, that cost including a $100 tip per caddie was paid for by two generous sponsorships of $1,500 each. The sponsors were PCL Construction, and United Wall Systems. We have a member that donates all the printed materials including banners and signs for the event. I was able to get DEWALT to donate the raffle prizes, $2,300 worth of random products they offer. We again followed the CDC guidelines for masks and distancing and far as I know, nobody fell ill from the event that we know of.

Our next scheduled event for us is in November, a charity volunteer participation for Sleep In Heavenly Peace. Those that will participate will build bunk beds for a local charity that provides beds for children in need; we have 20 members signed up to date.

December we will have our chapter Christmas party, at this point we have 41 members signed up with a max capacity of 70. The location is still being decided on. The Christmas party is reserved for members and one guest each.

All the best from your Central Florida chapter,

Chris Rudd
National Director, Orlando Chapter

Triangle Chapter

As our state is locking down again, the construction industry in the Triangle area is still robust. If we were located any more north, we could be in total lockdown. We all may be moving to Orlando.

We have been busy the last couple of months. In September, we had a social at Drive Shack to welcome our members back to meetings after having to cancel 6 months of meetings. On October 9th, we had a sporting clays event with 47 shooters. At our October meeting, our speaker was Al Affinito of Security 101. He talked about access and security their company has been doing for companies due to Covid. Employees can come to a tablet mounted on the wall and it would do face recognition, take your temperature, and then allow access if all items were satisfied. He also talked about all of the security cameras that are now in use. In October, we also added $7,500.00 to our endowment at East Carolina University. On November 9th, we had a golf tournament that was re-scheduled from March. Our speaker at our November meeting was from Salisbury Moore General Contracting. They started as a hospitality contractor but added a general contracting division 2013.

We are still working on the convention in Asheville next April. Golf will be at the Grove Park Inn again as well as the kickoff party. The Past President’s Party and Banquet will be held at the Cambria. We are still putting together different tours and should have more information as soon as companies can commit based on Covid guidelines. Biltmore is an option but may be on the individual because they are not giving groups hardly any discounts.

We have been in touch with Wake Tech Community College, the largest community college in North Carolina, about starting an endowment for students in their construction and trade curriculums. We have committed to send $5,000.00 a year for the next five years to fund the endowment and an additional $1,000.00 to provide a scholarship until the minimum endowment amount is met.

We have been holding our monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at Casa Carbone at 6019 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, NC. Social starts at 6:30 PM. Come visit with us if you are in town.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Sherron
National Director, Triangle Chapter
Save the Date!

April 28\textsuperscript{th} thru May 2\textsuperscript{nd}

Keep your eye out for our Call to Convention with all the convention news and information.

• Industry Speakers
• Brewery Tours
• Association Awards
• Trolley Rides

Registration pages for the upcoming National Convention and Convention Sponsorship are now live!

National Convention Registration

Confection Sponsorships