

Workforce Development Update

Members Making a Difference

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For more information on how to get involved or learn more about our workforce development initiatives, contact Bill Chambless at 478-972-5865 or chambless@agcga.org.



(r) AGC Georgia members deliver checks from the AGC of Georgia Foundation, Inc. to construction programs across the state. See full story on p. 5.

In the Classroom

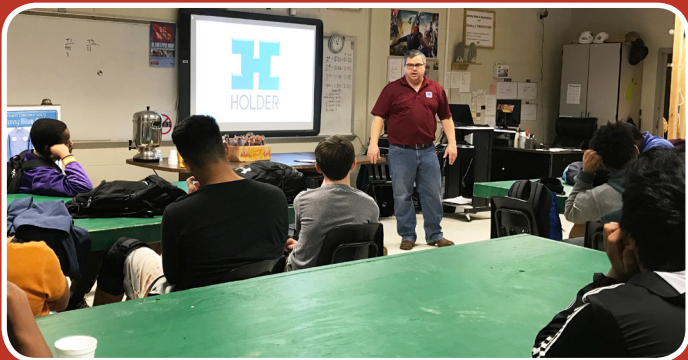
- At the beginning of 2017, Jeff Bearinger's class at Lumpkin County High School finished installing the metal roof on their Habitat for Humanity home. Students began the project at the beginning of the school year, August 2016. To date, this project is the largest lab experiment Lumpkin County construction students have undertaken. Based on the success of this year's project, Bearinger has decided next year's class will build a Habitat for Humanity home.
- Rick Reed, Swofford Construction, delivered scrap metal to David Lee's class at Henry County Academy for Advanced Studies in early February.
- On February 10, McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. delivered lumber to Warren Technical School in Atlanta. Joe Tuggle and the Georgia Skilled Trade Initiative coordinated the acquisition and delivery of the lumber.
- Collins & Arnold coordinated with the AGC of Georgia Foundation, Inc. to donate \$700 to Mimosa Elementary School's Youth Apprentice Program and \$600 to Elkins Pointe Middle School for Jr. Hornet Construction. Both programs focus on learning the importance of safety, developing age appropriate hand tool and measurement skills, and working on a year-long project to better hone these new skills.
- Currently, Swofford Construction has a Spalding High School dual-enrollment student working on their Griffin College & Career Academy jobsite. Another Spalding High student works on the jobsite after school and during holiday breaks. Also, they will bring a student intern on their team to work on the Beaverbrook Elementary School job in Griffin this summer.
- Ryan Otwell, The Travelers Companies, gave a lecture on the definition of bonds and bond underwriting to the Surety 101/201 Construction Management class at Kennesaw State University.
- Jonquil Steel & Construction Company donated scrap steel to Henry County College & Career Academy for students in the Advanced Studies Welding class.
- Georgia Trade School purchased and delivered all the tools and supplies requested by Kennesaw Mountain High School's construction program to the students in early March.
- Jon Lewis, Holder Construction Company, spoke with students at Kennesaw Mountain High School. He touched on opportunities available to students after high school and college when choosing careers in construction.
- In February, Collins & Arnold coordinated for Sunbelt Rentals to host a demonstration for students at Roswell High School.
- Rod Owen, C.C. Owen Tile Company, Inc., donated tools, equipment, materials, and his time to start a tile training program at Griffin High School. Samuel Huston and Martin Sanchez were the first students to train on the ceramic tile module. With Owen's direction, Sanchez competed at the State SkillsUSA Competition on March 24 in Tile Setting.
- Gainesville High held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the completion of their second Habitat for Humanity home. The Habitat High program was developed for Hall County Schools by Rodney Presley, Johnson High School, with assistance from industry partners, including Carroll Daniel Construction Co., and other community leaders.
- Michael Hatcher, Sovereign Construction and Development, works with Worksource Atlanta. The mission of the organization is to place kids from Fulton County College & Career Academy, Crim Open Campus High School, and Clayton County Schools in summer internships through employers and/or worksource agencies. As of February 2017, 40 students have been placed in a program.
- Early last year, Charlie Garbutt, CEO of Garbutt Construction Co., met with AGC Georgia staff, representatives from Oconee Fall Line Technical College (OFLTC), and fellow middle Georgia contractors to discuss the idea of bringing AGC of America's respected Supervisory Training Program (STP) to OFLTC. The concept was embraced by all stakeholders and Charlie committed to working with OFLTC instructor



Charlie Garbutt, Garbutt Construction Co., teaches Unit 3 of STP at Oconee Fall Line Technical College.



Georgia Trade School delivers tools and supplies to Kennesaw Mountain High School.



Kennesaw Mountain High School hears from Jon Lewis, Holder Construction Company, about careers in construction.



Gainesville High School unveils the completion of their Habitat High program project.

Roger Byrd to identify candidates with expertise in each of the six STP units to teach the program.

Approximately 25 students from local firms and OFLTC have enrolled in each unit. Members who have taught lessons include: Jacob Patton, All-State Electric Company; Brent Darnell, Brent Darnell International; Danny Gibson, MetroPower, Inc.; Edgar Graham, Charlie Garbutt, and Sean Moxley, Garbutt Construction Co.; Chris Sheridan, Sheridan Construction; Jeff Arlington, The Christman Company; Phil Beck and Jim Bidgood, Smith, Currie & Hancock, LLP.

Warren Technical School receives a truck load of lumber from McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.



Have a story you want shared in our quarterly newsletter?

Send a summary and photos to Bill Chambless, Member Development Specialist, at chambless@agcga.org.

In the Field



JE Dunn Construction took Windsor Forest High School construction students on a local jobsite tour.



Hephzibah High School students look over drone footage with Peter Glenn, CM-BIM, BIM Coordinator, at R. W. Allen, LLC.

- JE Dunn Construction hosted Andre Perry's construction class from Windsor Forest High School in Savannah for a jobsite visit. Andy McGarrity, Senior Superintendent, shared his story outlining his journey from starting as a laborer and advancing to a skilled tradesman and eventually rising to his current role in senior leadership. In addition to hearing Andy's story, they also learned about opportunities available to them for employment after high school.
- February 2, 2017 was National Job Shadow Day. We had several members engage in this day with local educators.

Collins and Arnold Construction hosted two teachers from Berkmar High School in Lilburn. The school sent teachers from core curriculum subjects to learn more about opportunities students can pursue upon graduation. Ms. Miller, an Architecture teacher, and Mr. Medina, a Social Studies teacher, visited the Dawson Marketplace jobsite in Dawsonville, GA where superintendent, Bill King, gave a tour and answered their questions.

R. W. Allen, LLC also participated in National Job Shadow Day by hosting students from Hephzibah High School. The students sat down with different members of the R. W. Allen team to review drone footage with their BIM Coordinator, tour the newly renovated ball fields at Academy of Richmond County, and review site plans.

Ms. Miller (l) and Mr. Medina (r) from Berkmar High School ventured to Collins and Arnold Construction's Dawsonville jobsite to learn more about the industry. The teachers raved about the day's events and have focused on talking about the construction industry during their daily lessons.



Students from Hephzibah High School participated in National Job Shadow Day at the R. W. Allen, LLC Augusta office.

SkillsUSA Regional & State Championship

After organizing their own Skills Challenges in November, members still made time to participate in first quarter 2017 SkillsUSA Regional Contests.

- In Region 6 at the Oconee Fall Line Technical College, members donated supplies, money and time to provide students with a great event.

Lentile Construction Company, Garbutt Construction Company, and Cherokee Brick & Tile bought materials to be used.

R. W. Allen, LLC coordinated for the AGC of Georgia Foundation, Inc. to pay for tools to be given to competition winners.

Dublin Construction Company, Inc. gave \$500 to be used as needed for the event.

A Garbutt Construction Company employee served as a judge for the drafting contest.

- Tony Varamo, MetroPower, Inc., judged the cabinet making event at the Region 2 SkillsUSA Regional Contest in Northeast Georgia.

Upon completion of the regional contests, members gave away money that was originally raised during the fall Skills Challenges to schools participating in the State SkillsUSA Championship. Each of the following schools received a \$500 check from the AGC of Georgia Foundation, Inc.:

- Crisp County High School, Cordele, GA
- East Laurens High School, Dublin, GA
- Evans High School, Evans, GA
- Griffin High School, Griffin, GA
- Jefferson County High School, Louisville, GA
- Mary Persons High School, Forsyth, GA
- Peach County High School, Fort Valley, GA

- Statesboro High School, Statesboro, GA
- Washington County High School, Sandersville, GA
- West Laurens High School, Dexter, GA



Region 6 students compete at Oconee Fall Line Technical College in electrical (l) and carpentry (bottom).



(l-r) Scott Clark, R. W. Allen, LLC, and Ben McGhee, Gold Mech, deliver a \$500 check to Dean Cutler, East Laurens High School. Bill Chambless (far right), AGC Georgia, was present for the presentation.

To learn more about getting involved with the SkillsUSA Regional Championships or State Leadership & Skills Conference that occur every year between January and March or see results of the 2017 competitions, visit www.skillsusageorgia.org.

Statewide Initiatives

- The East and West Laurens High Schools Advisory Committee met on January 12, 2017. AGC Georgia members Tim Lentile, Lentile Construction Company, and Brennan Bass, Dublin Construction Company, Inc., attended the meeting to discuss Dean Cutler's and Jeff Johnson's programs at East and West Laurens High Schools, respectively. The group also discussed the necessary support each program needs from industry partners for the upcoming SkillsUSA contests.

During the meeting, one of Dean's students expressed his interest in pursuing a career in construction. He also showed his electrical project he was working on in preparation for the Region 6 SkillsUSA Regional Contest. In addition to his current student, Dean also had a former student attend and speak to the group. This particular graduate had already opened his own small construction company and shared his trials and successes.

- Houston County College and Career Academy held its exploratory meeting on January 19, 2017 to discuss the construction program at the school. Jacob Patton, All-State Electrical Contractors; Tony Varamo, MetroPower, Inc.; Brian Geary and Jamie Stalvey, Ace Electric, Inc.; Curt Eckman, Parrish Construction Group; Zach Fields, CEFGA; and Chad Pruitt, Department of Education, attended.

- Mike Dunham, CEO of AGC Georgia, joined a panel comprised of Senator Lindsey Tippins; Mike Jett, VP of Honda Precision Parts; Philip Hardin, CEO of YouScience; Richard Woods, State Superintendent; and AGC Georgia member Randall Redding, CEO of R. K. Redding Construction, to discuss solutions to fill Georgia's workforce pipeline. Dunham and Redding discussed the proactive efforts our Workforce Development Alliances are taking by organizing contractors to volunteer their time and resources as a way to introduce more students to construction. The collaboration between local industry and the schools provides more opportunities both in the classroom and in the community to grow Georgia's pipeline and reduce the skills gap.



The East and West Laurens High Schools Advisory Committee meets to provide industry support for the construction programs.



An exploratory meeting is held to discuss the construction program at Houston County College and Career Academy.



(l-r) Superintendent of Schools Robert Woods, Philip Hardin, Senator Lindsey Tippins, Randall Redding, Mike Jett, and Mike Dunham address the skills gap in Georgia.

Around Town

The JE Dunn Savannah office participated in the Student Success Expo held by the Savannah Chatham County Public School System. The event showcased career opportunities in the architectural, engineering and construction industries for students ages kindergarten through 12th grade. Some of the attendees from the JE Dunn Savannah group volunteered as judges to critique the students and help sharpen their public speaking and interviewing skills.



On March 24, 2017, the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Workforce division announced the launch of a new brand for Georgia's skilled trade education initiative Trade Five, formerly known as Go Build Georgia.

"Trade Five, Skills for Higher Earning" was announced during the Champions Breakfast at the annual Skills USA Georgia State Leadership and Skills Conference/ Career Expo held at the Georgia International Convention Center.

This initiative, launched in 2012 by Governor Deal, is designed to dispel the misconceptions that jobs within the skilled trades are "dirty" and unattractive, but rather promote the lucrative, lasting career opportunities that exist within these key industries across the State.

To learn more about the initiative and to find out more about the Trade Five Grant and Scholarship, visit GeorgiaTradeFive.com.

TRADEFIVE

SKILLS FOR HIGHER EARNING



New South Construction Co., Inc. employees meet with visitors to the CEFGA CareerExpo on March 23 and 24.

Dan Smith, CFO and EVP of New South Construction Co., Inc., spoke with 11 Alive regarding why children should choose a career in construction. Smith touched on the salaries as well as the fact that this career has high job security with little fear of your job being moved overseas. Seven job titles in particular Smith discussed were project manager, welding, safety engineer, scheduler, ammonia refrigeration technician, virtual design construction, and flagger. When most parents think about construction, they focus on the hard labor aspect, but there are so many more opportunities in the industry waiting to be explored.

Read the full article at <http://on.11alive.com/2naaEHL>.

Upcoming Dates

Events listed below and on the web are looking for sponsors and industry participants. Meet your future workforce at the source!

- 4/13** North Cobb High School Career Fair
Kennesaw
- 4/13** Southern Crescent/Central Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting
Macon
- 4/13** Annual Construction/Public Safety Career Expo
Shaw High School
Columbus
- 4/18** South & Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting
Norman Park
- 4/20** East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting
Augusta
- 4/27** Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting
Gainesville
- 11/2** Southern Crescent & Central Georgia Skills Challenge
Griffin
- 11/16** East Georgia Skills Challenge
Augusta
- 11/30** South & Southwest Georgia Skills Challenge
Moultrie

For more information about upcoming Workforce Development events, please visit www.agcga.org/WFDCalendar.