



Workforce Development Update

Members Making a Difference

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Bill Chambless, AGC Georgia's Member Development Specialist, can connect you to a construction program near you.

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Teachers from high school construction programs across the state participate in Camp Trade & Industry held every year in June.

Thank you to the following member firms who donated their time or resources to making this year's program a success for our state's construction teachers:

- ACE Electric, Inc. ♦ Allen & Graham, Inc. ♦ All-State Electrical Contractors, LLC ♦ Argos USA ♦ BAK Builders, LLC ♦ Batson-Cook Company ♦ Brasfield & Gorrie ♦ Cork-Howard Construction Company ♦ JCI Contractors ♦ McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. ♦ MetroPower, Inc. ♦ Mock Plumbing and Mechanical, Inc. ♦ Pyramid Masonry Contractors, Inc. ♦ H. A. Sack Co., Inc. ♦ Sheridan Construction ♦ Swofford Construction, Inc. ♦ West Georgia Roofing II, Inc. ♦ Wiregrass Electric, Inc.**

FUTURE SKILLS CHALLENGES

- **NOVEMBER 4**
Southern Crescent and Central Georgia Workforce Development Alliances
Southern Crescent Tech College
Griffin
- **NOVEMBER 17**
East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance
Augusta Fairgrounds
Augusta

Member firms in the above regions are planning mock skills competitions to simulate what students will experience when attending the Regional SkillsUSA competitions next January and February. You can get involved by providing judges, giving materials, paying for lunches, donating prizes for winners, and sponsoring the event. For more information, contact Bill Chambless at 478-972-5865.

One Student, One Instructor, One School, YOU

The commercial construction industry is experiencing a critical workforce shortage. AGC Georgia is taking the lead to address the immediate need for workers to build today's projects and to develop long-term sustainable solutions to grow a consistent pipeline for years to come.

Together with our members, education-related governmental agency representatives, community business leaders, academia, and elected officials, we are moving forward to achieve the following goals: 1) coordinate a statewide strategy of sharing our mission to recruit more talent to the construction industry; 2) increase state funding for career, technical and agricultural education initiatives; 3) develop quality training and consistency among graduates through Georgia; 4) grow opportunities for students to fill work-based learning positions at contracting firms; and 5) align skills training with current market needs.

Over the past year, we have made great strides towards achieving these goals, but our efforts would be fruitless without the help of our members. By meeting with technical colleges and high schools, government agencies, and teachers and students, they are making an impact on the future pipeline of talent for the construction industry.

To stay up-to-date on all AGC Georgia's Workforce Development initiatives, visit www.agcga.org/Workforce to view a calendar and important resources.

Included in this *Workforce Development Update* are some of the recent stories from members' efforts. If your firm has a success story to share, please contact Bill Chambless, AGC Georgia's member development specialist, at chambless@agcga.org or 478-972-5865.



Mark Your Calendar

- JULY 25-29, 2016**
 Mentoring a Girl in Construction (MAGIC) Camp
 Gwinnett Technical College
 Lawrenceville
- OCTOBER 24-25, 2016**
 SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference
 Jekyll Island Conference Center
 Jekyll Island
- NOVEMBER 4, 2016**
 Southern Crescent and Central Georgia Workforce Development Alliances Skills Challenges
 Southern Crescent Tech College
 Griffin
- NOVEMBER 17, 2016**
 East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge
 Augusta Fairgrounds
 Augusta
- JANUARY 2017**
 TIEGA Winter Conference Two Day Event
- MARCH 23-24, 2017**
 CEFGA Expo/SkillsUSA Championship
 Georgia International Convention Center
 College Park, GA

Bringing Our Industry Into the Classroom

- In late March, Statesboro High School construction students built a scaled model of a Habitat for Humanity house. The project placed 3rd in the state SkillsUSA competition, and Habitat for Humanity plans to use the model for a variety of purposes in the future.
- Augusta Tech welding student, Elina Jarvi, won the SkillsUSA Postsecondary Welding Contest. Jarvi served as a judge for the East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge in Augusta last November. This event focused on providing trade practice for high school students interested competing at the state competition.
- With construction of two stadiums in metro Atlanta, students have access to amazing stories that help them learn more about choosing a career in construction. The Atlanta Falcons released a video highlighting the steel erection of the new roof on the Mercedes-Benz Stadium. Click [here](http://bit.ly/22PfnAI) or visit <http://bit.ly/22PfnAI> to view the video.
- Lentile Construction Company invited East Laurens High School construction program students and their instructor Dean Cutler to hear a tool box talk hosted by the AGC Georgia Site Safety Van.
- At the end of the recent school year, Charlie Garbutt, Garbutt Construction Company, spoke with construction students at East Laurens High School.
- Camp Trade & Industry (T&I) was held June 10-12 for CTAE high school programs, including construction and metals/welding. This program provides instructors hands-on training. AGC Georgia members stepped up by supporting the “adopt your instructor campaign” which provided the needed funds to hold the camp for construction teachers as well provide industry professionals to train the teachers. AGC Georgia members significantly increased their donations from Spring 2015 and provided a great lineup of presenters focusing on four trades (masonry, metal framing, drafting, and plumbing), safety, and employability skills.

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The Site Safety Van visits students at East Laurens High School.

Students at Lamar County High School receive plumbing supplies from Emerald Services.





Casey Thomas, Argos USA



Phill Allen, Allen & Graham, Inc.



Kenneth Cook, Pyramid Masonry



Robbie Pope, Brasfield & Gorrie



Steve Barrett, MetroPower, Inc.



Reuben Bennett, Ace Electric, Inc.



Fred Hill, H. A. Sack Co., Inc.



Daniel Tucker, Mock Plumbing

Representatives from the following member firms met with high school construction instructors at Camp T&I to learn skills sets and best practices to take back to their students: Argos USA, Allen & Graham, Inc, Pyramid Masonry Contractors, Inc., Brasfield & Gorrie, MetroPower, Inc., ACE Electric, Inc., H. A. Sack Co., Inc., and Mock Plumbing and Mechanical, Inc.

- In early June, AGC Georgia and member firms sponsored 12 girls at the Macon Mentoring A Girl In Construction (MAGIC) Camp. Attendees learned about the construction industry and opportunities for women in the field. One goal of the program is to connect students with women role models who work in the industry. Esther Goss, an auditor with Brown, Nelms CPAs, spoke during the camp. Other companies donating time and resources include All-State Electrical Contractors, Garbutt Construction Co., Greene and Associates, Inc., Parrish Construction Group, Inc., Sheridan Construction, Brasfield & Gorrie, and Heaton Erecting, Inc.



Esther Goss, Brown, Nelms CPAs, speaks to girls at MAGIC camp.

Providing Financial Support

- At the end of March, Emerald Services, a division of Greene & Associates, delivered plumbing supplies to Gerald Wread and his students at the Lamar County High School Construction Program.
- H. A. Sack Co., Inc. presented a check to Matthew White and students of Bulloch County High School's construction program for their participation in the SkillsUSA competition. Click [here](http://bit.ly/1XEgPjX) of visit <http://bit.ly/1XEgPjX> to view the article from the *Statesboro Herald*.

- Keith Watson, Bowen & Watson; Ashley Brown, SkillsUSA; Brian Daniel, Carroll Daniel Construction Co.; and Mike Dunham, AGC Georgia; presented a \$1,000 check to SkillsUSA Region 2 schools from AGC Georgia Foundation for supplies and resources to grow their programs. The check was given during the Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Kick-Off.
- Lamar County High School received lumber from Piedmont Construction Group and electrical supplies from Penco Electrical Contractors, Inc. to fulfill needs requested by Gerald Wread, LCHS Construction Instructor.
- BAK Builders delivered a truck load of materials to Matthew White's program at Statesboro High School this past spring. They also provided the Level 2 Construction of the Year Student, also from Statesboro High School, with a prize for his achievements.



(l) Macon-Bibb County Workforce Development Council holds its Kickoff meeting in April to react to the lack of skilled workers.
(r) At the Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance kickoff meeting, AGC Georgia presented a \$1,000 check to SkillsUSA Region 2.



(l) Gerald Wread, Lamar County High School, (LCHS) leads member firms through his lab.
(r) Penco Electrical Contractors, Inc. donates electrical supplies to LCHS.



Statesboro High School
(l) Fred Hill, H. A. Sack Co., Inc., presents check to student competing at the National SkillsUSA competition.
(c) Another student receives prize from BAK Builder for receiving Level 2 Construction Student of the Year honor.
(r) A group displays their Habitat for Humanity scale home. (See story page 2)

Statewide Initiatives

- In April, Bill Chambless, AGC Georgia, and Charlie Griffis, Parrish Construction Group, attended the Macon-Bibb County Workforce Development Council Kick-Off. The Macon-Bibb County Economic Development Commission formed the council in reaction to the growing concern from local industry for the lack skilled workers. AGC Georgia and member firms will continue to attend these meetings.
- Recently, the Construction Education Foundation of Georgia (CEFGA) sent a proposal to Mike Royal, Chair of the State Board of Education, that outlines a path to certify 100% of Georgia's high school construction programs so they can teach work-ready skills to our industry's future talent. AGC Georgia is proud to work with CEFGA to move this conversation forward with the DOE.

- The Central Georgia Workforce Development Alliance has met with education and industry representatives to discuss the need for developing curriculum for a supervisory training program at the post secondary education level. The program would include National Center for Construction Education and Reserach (NCCER) core and Level 1 in many trades as well as the Supervisory Training Program curriculum developed by AGC of America. The process for creating the accredited program will take 18 months. Attendees at the introductory meeting included Kenny Adkins, Technical College System of Georgia; Lloyd Haradan, Erica Harden, and Katie Davis, Oconee Fall Line Technical College; Mike Dunham and Bill Chambless, AGC Georgia; Zach Fields, CEFGA; Charlie Garbutt, Garbutt Construction Co.; Tom Hall, Dublin Construction Company; Walter Stafford,

Stafford Builders & Contractors, Inc.; Dean Cutler, East Laurens High School; and Jeff Johnson, West Laurens High School.

- As of June 16, 2016, Evans High School received their accreditation from NCCER and CEFGA. Robert McCullough's program is teaching students the skills needed for a successful career path in the industry. The program will now be a "CEFGA Certified Training Center" and "NCCER Accredited Training and Educational Facility." As students complete the training requirements set forth by these accrediting agencies they will receive national and industry credentials. Employers can now look up a student's verified training record when considering them for employment. AGC Georgia is a strong supporter of our state's construction programs taking the initiative to become accredited.