Workforce Development Update Members Making a Difference



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











Over 30 construction teachers from around Georgia attended the June 2018 Camp Trade & Industry (T & I) hosted by the Georgia Department of Education. AGC Georgia members understand the vital role construction teachers play in developing the industry's future workforce and donated nearly \$10,000 to help make the hands-on training opportunity a huge success. See full details page 4.

In the Classroom

AGC Georgia member Nix-Fowler Constructors, Inc. is a partner in CTAE training. They are providing students with real-world opportunities to gain the necessary skills required in the commercial construction industry. Recently, Nix-Fowler purchased supplies and equipment for two carpentry programs, and then arranged for 20+ students to be OSHA trained. Jonesboro High School carpentry pathway students Mario Cardenas, Sergio Salazar, Eddie Sanders, and Cameron Tye are interning with Nix-Fowler during the completion of a renovation project at Arnold Elementary School.

- In May, Statesboro High School held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the completion of their "duck pond project." Students in Matthew White's construction class built the walkway and platform. Matthew is always looking for ways to enhance his students' experience and prepare them for careers and higher education after high school. AGC Georgia offers our congratulations to Matthew for being named Statesboro High School's Teacher of the Year.
- In May, Fred Hill with The Sack Company spoke to Home Builders Institute (HBI) graduates about careers in construction. HBI's mission is to advance and provide education, career development, training and placement of men and women serving the building industry.

In 2017, construction teacher Jim Steel became an OSHA authorized Outreach Trainer so he could offer OSHA training to his students. In May, students at Crisp County High School's second level class received their OSHA 10-Hour cards. The group proudly showed them off at their celebration.

This past spring representatives from Collins and Arnold volunteered with many workforce development initiatives. Matt Hardy, project manager, and John Arnold, vice president, are part of an industry

team certifying the welding program at Maxwell High School. Jenny Horton, the firm's president, spent time at the school conducting mock interviews with students and attending the spring advisory board meeting. Josh Tupa, a company superintendent, volunteered with the Vickery Mill Elementary Construction Club in Roswell. Tim Fulmer,

the director of preconstruction, is leading an evaluation team to certify the construction program at Chestatee High School.

McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. recently contributed new tools to the construction lab at Warren Technical School, a campus of DeKalb County Schools. Elgin Neal, principal, offered the following appreciation. "We are so lucky to have McCarthy as a donor. We thank them for investing in our school and in the students we serve."











In 2016, AGC Georgia and local contractor members were instrumental in the planning and development of an eight-month customized Supervisory Training Program (STP) at Oconee Fall Line Technical College in Dublin. This initiative is helping address the need for construction supervisors. The program uses the STP curriculum developed by AGC of America.

This past spring, OFTC hosted their second annual graduation, honoring students completing all STP units and meeting certain benchmark criteria. Nine students were honored as full program graduates and 23 others were

recognized as unit completers in a ceremony. "I am so proud of this program and I'm proud of the folks in it," said Charlie Garbutt, CEO of Garbutt Construction, while addressing the graduates. "You're the reason it's a success and my hat's off to you."

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In April, AGC Georgia member Choate Construction donated a plotter to Matthew White's construction program at Statesboro High School. Kirk Gilbert, division manager and Daniel Nunn, safety director were instrumental in bringing the contribution to the school's construction program a reality.



Jenny Horton - Volunteer of the Year

During the June 2018 AGC Georgia Annual Convention, Jenny Horton, president of Collins and Arnold Construction Company was honored with our association's Volunteer of the Year award. Jenny has a true passion for workforce development and has been engaged with our efforts since AGC Georgia



began dedicating resources to shaping the future of our industry's skilled pipeline.

One of the most admirable aspects of her leadership style is that she empowers all of her employees from management to field leadership to get engaged. Her project managers and superintendents are encouraged to speak to construction classes. They have standing permission to host students for field trips on the company's sites. She's implemented a per diem to encourage superintendents to help during lessons at nearby high schools.

She is active with the Gwinnett Tech construction program and is an industry advisor at Berkmar and Maxwell High Schools in Gwinnett. Jenny personally volunteers with Roswell High School's program and is active with their feeder programs at the elementary and middle school level. Each year, Jenny sponsors and attends the Northeast Georgia Skills Challenge in Gainesville and helps the schools she's adopted maximize their participation at the hands-on event.



Camp Trade & Industry

Beginning on June 6, 2018, more than 30 construction teachers from around the state gathered at the Golden Isles College and Career Academy in Brunswick, GA for Camp Trade & Industry (T & I). Over the course of three days, the instructors attended classes focusing on best practices and how to use more technology in the classroom. They also participated in lab projects using metal studs and concrete forming. After a low country boil on Thursday evening, instructors were placed in teams on Friday and competed in masonry, tile, electrical, plumbing, and carpentry projects. This comprehensive training is very unique and vital to the growth of Georgia's construction programs. Construction teachers are the equivalent to "farm team coaches." They are the knowledgeable leaders who help develop student interest in construction and open many doors for those who show a natural aptitude for the skilled trades.

During the spring, AGC Georgia reached out to members asking them to support our "Adopt Your Instructor" campaign with a \$250 donation to the AGC Georgia Foundation. The goal was to have contractors from around the state connect with a local construction teacher and offer to offset their travel and lodging cost so they could participate in the continuing education opportunity.

Member firms provided over \$9000 in contributions and were used to not only help offset teacher cost, but also help pay for various meals and material needs involved with hosting the camp.

Representatives from AGC Georgia firms also volunteer their time to serve as instructors at this camp. To make plans to be involved in the June 2019 camp, please connect with Bill Chambless at chambless@agcga.org.



The following teachers are leaders among their peers and our industry's greatest advocates! AGC Georgia commends each of these gentlemen for taking time out of their summer to attend Camp T & I and hone their skills and learn best practices so they can provide the latest instruction to their students.

If a teacher in a region near you is missing from this list, please help us introduce them to the great training available to them when they attend this annual program!

Garry Baker, Barrow County Charles Mitchell, Jr., Brooks County Carlos Jones Jr., Camden County Timothy Elliott, Catoosa County Brent Branning, Cobb County Robert McCullough, Columbia Co. Jim Bradley, Gainesville City Trenton Franklin, Dooly County Wyndell Hamrick, Jr., Dooly County Jeff Holland, Glynn County Michael Mahaffey, Gwinnett County Patrick Mahaffey, Gwinnett County RodneyPresley, Hall County Stacy Gilbert, Haralson County Jim Steel, Harris County Mike Carey, Hart County David Adams, Jackson County Dean Cutler, Laurens County Michael Peagler, Liberty County Michael Durham, Meriwether County D. J. Hurm, Monroe County Wade Owens, Murray County Paul Grantham, Muscogee County Tony McCraine, Muscogee County Jimmy Davis, Peach County Larry Foley, Spalding County Walter Preston, Spalding County Bradford Randall, Stephens County Mickey Bentley, Tift County Ben Lowe, Upson County







Thank you to member firms who support Camp T & I!

- ✦ Allen & Graham, Inc.
- ✦ All-State Electrical Contractors
- ✤ Baker Concrete Construction
- ✤ Batson-Cook Company
- Collins and Arnold Construction
- Duffey Southeast, Inc.
- Hutson Plumbing Company
- ✦ JE Dunn Construction
- McCarthy Building Companies

- Meja Construction, Inc.
- ✦ MetroPower, Inc.
- Penco Electrical Contractors, Inc.
- + Pyramid Masonry Contractors
- + Sheridan Construction
- ✦ Swofford Construction, Inc.
- West Construction Company
- + West Georgia Roofing II, Inc.

"I thoroughly enjoyed Camp T & I and learned so much from the AGC Georgia partners. There were two sessions in particular that will help me prepare my students in the upcoming school year. One was cutting a hip ridge/valley rafter. I have always struggled doing this, so I knew going into the session that it would be highly beneficial for me. The other valuable session for me focused on tile installation. Earlier this year, I discovered that the SkillsUSA State Leadership Conference had a tile competition. Working with this session's teacher helped me feel confident about preparing my students for the competition.

I walked away from Camp T & I with the thought that I had just attended the best camp in the 19 years that I have taught. It was the most real world applicable conference that I have ever attended."

Brandon Miller, Construction Technology Teacher Chestatee High School

"Camp T & I is the premier training event for construction teachers in Georgia. With the input from industry partners who attend and conduct the sessions, we as teachers, stay connected to current trends, develop networks and can provide career opportunities for our students. The financial and material support from AGC Georgia and their members helps teachers develop the pipeline for students."

Jim Steel, Construction Teacher Harris County High School

Statewide Initiatives

In April, representatives from Batson-Cook Company, Ben B. Gordy Construction, Brasfield & Gorrie, and River City Contracting, along with other industry professionals and AGC Georgia staff met with the Harris County CTAE Director and Work Based Learning Coordinator to provide support to the district as they plan to reopen the construction program at Harris County High School.



A meeting was held in middle Georgia with representatives from Oconee Fall Line Technical College, state representatives, Heart of Georgia College & Career Academy and others to work with OFTC officials to create a construction/CM program possibly in concert with Georgia Southern University. The group also discussed the importance of creating elementary school construction clubs and applying for grants with DOE to fund middle school construction programs.



In May, Charlie Garbutt held a meeting at the Heart of Georgia College & Career Academy to promote middle school construction programs and construction-related programs at OFTC. It was a powerhouse meeting that included Senator Larry Walker and House member Matt Hatcher. AGC Georgia Board members, Scott Clark and Joe Tuggle, shared successes tied to the AGC Georgia Workforce Development Alliances they each serve

on. Other speakers included Zach Fields, CEFGA, and Dean Cutler and Jeff Johnson, Laurens County construction instructors. By meeting's end, there were commitments to work towards the desired curriculum for the college and the middle school programs and both legislators were on board



to push forward on the capital outlay needed for OFTC to renovate space for a construction lab.

Last year AGC Georgia, CEFGA, and local industry met with Chris Hatcher, CEO of Commodore College & Career Academy. The meeting resulted in a decision to include construction as a pathway. On May 10, 2018, Zach Fields, K-12 Pipeline Director with CEFGA, Landon Dooley of A. West Enterprise, Steve Barrett with MetroPower, and

AGC Georgia staff met again with Hatcher to discuss the construction pathway status and show industry's continued support. After an overview, Hatcher took the group on a tour and introduced the group to several instructors and construction students who are operating in a makeshift lab until a new building is constructed that will house construction and welding.



Appreciation from Louisville

Students from Georgia high schools who earned first place in the State SkillsUSA competition held in March showcased their talents at the national SkillsUSA competition in Louisville, KY earlier this summer. AGC Georgia's Young Leadership Program makes an annual donation to help all local SkillsUSA competitors with their travel expenses.

We were very excited to receive these thank you notes from this year's competitors.



"I am very excited to finally be in Louisville and competing for carpentry. I want to thank you for your support. I have been practicing and hope to bring home that gold medal."

"I've practiced over the past two years for this moment to compete on the national level in masonry! Thank you so much for your scholarship and making this possible for me."

After a lon week of work and anticipation, I will walk away from ShillsUSH with fifth place. Without your financial support, this trip and this experience would not have been avaible to me. Thank you so much for you support, you have provided me with the experience of a lifetime. Thank you,

PatrinkDickett

I had an amazing trip this week. I learned how good I am compared to other competitors from around the United States. I made 9th Place in My competition which I was very happy about. Thank you for all of Your support and help on this trip Sincerely,

Our Team has had an amazing week here in Louisville! We are so excited to tell you + hat we are bringing home the Bronze medaulion! We are so thankful for the support you have given us because we were able to prepare and practice without having to worny about the monetany burden. We hope we made you proud! Sincevely Or brouge sorton Doson Burgeton AM'S TEOUM WOVES Hamilton

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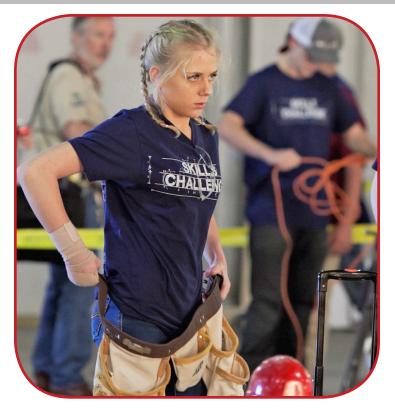
It's Skills Challenge Time Again!

Organizers of the four upcoming Skills Challenges are looking for sponsors and industry participants to serve as judges and meet with students and help them learn more about construction career paths. Consider meeting your future workforce at the source! For more info about upcoming Workforce Development events, visit www.agcga.org/WFDCalendar.

- Central Georgia/Southern Crescent Workforce Development Alliances' Skills Challenge November 1, 2018 in Griffin
- Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge November 8, 2018 in Gainesville
- East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Skills Challenge November 15, 2018 in Augusta



South/Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliances' Skills Challenge November 29, 2018 in Moultrie



The 2017 Skills Challenges allowed more than 420 students to compete, representing 54 high schools, in electrical, carpentry, plumbing, masonry, welding, A/V production and Team Works. Each of these events helped prepare students who competed in their regional SkillsUSA event each January.

Overall, the 2017 challenges drew nearly 800 student observers and many plan to compete in November 2018. AGC Georgia member firms helped make last year's Skills Challenges a huge success and we'll need your help again this year! Sponsorships are available and we encourage you to volunteer to be a judge for the student competitions.

AGC Georgia's Workforce Development Alliances representing each of the above listed Skills Challenges are set to meet this August to kickoff their planning for the 2018 series. Please get involved and join a meeting near you!

Upcoming Alliance Meetings

Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting

August 14, 2018 ----- 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Lanier College & Career Academy Gainesville

East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting

August 21, 2018-----4:30 pm - 6:00 pmOffice of R. W. Allen Construction, LLCAugusta

South/Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting August 23, 2018 ----- 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Colquitt County High School Construction Lab Norman Park

Central Georgia/Southern Crescent Workforce Development Alliance Meeting

September 4, 2018 ----- 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Board Room at Central Georgia Technical College Macon