Tonight, President Scott Clark will honor Charlie Garbutt, CEO of Garbutt Construction Company in Dublin with the 2018 AGC Georgia SIR Award. The award recognizes Mr. Garbutt’s outstanding service, leadership and involvement in the construction community during his distinguished career which continues to exemplify Skill, Integrity and Responsibility.

Charlie Garbutt is a visionary in the construction industry with over forty-five years’ experience building, renovating, and preserving structures. Charlie graduated in 1972 from Auburn University with a bachelor’s degree in building science. Charlie founded Garbutt Construction Company in September 1976 in his hometown of Dublin, Georgia, and has led it continuously ever since.

Launched in 1976, Garbutt Construction fulfilled Charles E. “Charlie” Garbutt’s life-long goal of starting his own company having come from a long line of small business owners in the Dublin community. Although he had no interest in following in his father’s footsteps as a drugstore owner, Charlie demonstrated at a young age a passion and knack for design which led him to pursue an architecture career. Taking his father’s advice to learn the tangible side of the business, Charlie took summer jobs in construction where he came to appreciate the hands-on nature of the job. Charlie explains that working in construction is akin to cutting grass, you can very clearly see the proof of your labor.

This experience drove him to alter his career path in favor of construction management. With degree in hand, Charlie joined JG Lockard Construction Company, an Alabama AGC General Contractor. Starting in the field, he worked his way up to project manager, overseeing all field operations, before moving back to Dublin to lay the groundwork for his own company.

So what has this journey been like thus far for Charlie Garbutt—he sums it up this way: “challenging but rewarding.” He is quick to add “It is not as much about me and what I’ve done as much as it is about the others who I have worked with alongside of me in a collaborative way as we’ve taken this journey together.”

General contractors come and go all the time, and Charlie is proud to lead a business with such staying power. Garbutt’s success was built on a foundation of core values that put integrity, respect, and collaboration first, values that come directly from Mr. Garbutt himself. Known for his attention to detail, Charlie is a profound process manager and works to lead the industry in new methods for project efficiency.

Charlie Garbutt is an advocate of Lean Construction, a system for organizing and managing projects that helps to minimize loss of resources. An industry leader in the company-wide implementation of Lean techniques, all of Garbutt’s teams work collaboratively to identify and solve problems, saving time, human resources, and money in the process. These techniques allow Garbutt to stick to tight deadlines and get each job done efficiently while retaining impeccable quality. Charlie, an AGC certified Lean Construction Instructor, personally teaches Lean techniques to his employees, as well as others in the construction industry. Charlie recently authored a book, Lean Construction: A Small Contractor’s Journey, detailing his history in the construction industry and the implementation of a lean culture into his company.

Eager to serve and enhance his industry and community, Charlie Garbutt has played an important role in numerous organizations throughout his career. Joining the Associated General Contractors of America in March 1977, Charlie has been an active and dedicated member since. He served 18 terms on AGC Georgia’s Board of Directors. Mr. Garbutt was instrumental in establishing AGC’s Supervisory Training Program (STP) in Middle Georgia, a program that he actively supports. Charlie also served as President of AGC Georgia from 2003-2004. He was a member the Georgia Board of Regents Facilities Advisory Board and the Georgia Southern Construction Management Advisory Board where he served as Chairman. Charlie is an American Institute of Constructors Certified Professional Constructor and is LEED AP Building Design & Construction Certified. He has also served more than a total of 20 years as a board member for CompTrust AGC Mutual Captive Insurance Company and AGC Georgia’s former third-party administrator, Affinity Service Group.

Charlie Garbutt is a member of First United Methodist Church where he has served as the 11th and 12th grade Sunday School teacher for over 25 years. Charlie and his wife, Jane, have been married for over 20 years and together they have five children, Brooke, Kellie, J. Charlie, Colter, and Arthur.

AGC Georgia proudly recognizes the professional achievements of Mr. Garbutt. Together with the 2017-2018 President, Scott Clark, we are honored to present Mr. Garbutt with a SIR Award bearing his name.