



Workforce Development Update

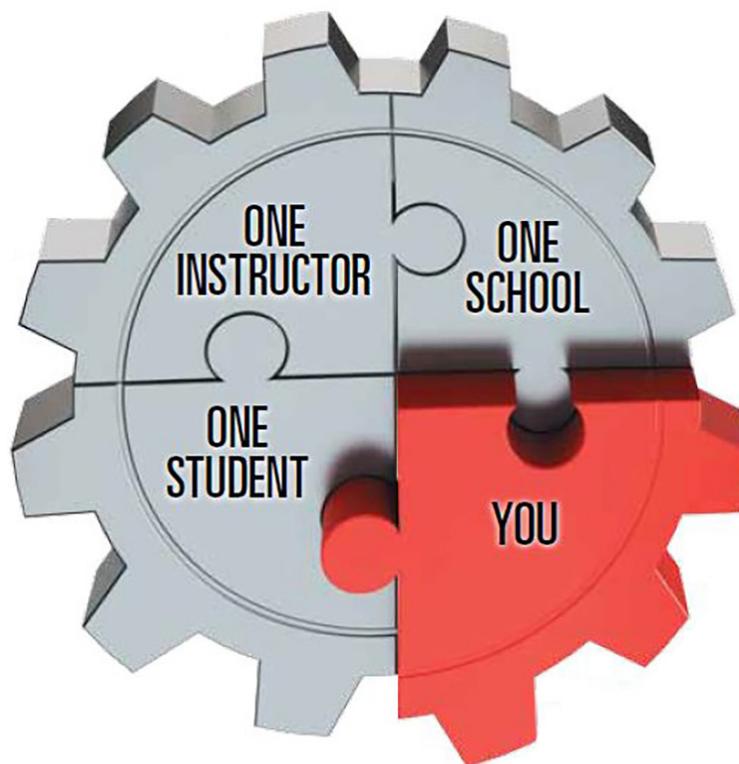
Members Making a Difference

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Bill Chambless, AGC Georgia's Member Development Specialist, has a list of construction programs in Georgia and can help you partner with one or more of your choice.

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UPCOMING CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION DAYS

- **SEPTEMBER 22**
South Georgia Workforce Development Alliance
Valdosta
- **SEPTEMBER 24**
Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliance
Albany
- **NOVEMBER 6**
Central Georgia Workforce Development Alliance
Macon
- **NOVEMBER 19**
East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance
Augusta

One Student, One Instructor, One School, *YOU*

While contractors are enjoying today's rebounding economy, the improved market present challenges. One of the most pressing is finding skilled workers. Our members are making great strides to offset this issue.

AGC Georgia is taking the lead to interact and build relationships with local school boards, construction teachers and policymakers at the Technical College System of Georgia and Department of Education. Staff also spends time communicating with government leaders about workforce, career, and economic development-related matters. During the 2015 legislative session, we concentrated our efforts on Senate Bills 2 and 132 that allow for high school students to dual enroll in postsecondary education institutions. These measures afford young people the opportunity learn trade-specific courses and to be career ready by the time they graduate from high school.

Members are also active in the statewide discussion. They are graciously giving their time and investing in students' high school experiences by partnering with instructors. This grassroots initiative is called the **one school, one instructor, one student** approach. It is proving to be the most effective way for contractors to make a difference. For one contractor, this might mean going to the local school to shake a construction faculty member's hand and thank him or her for a job well done. For another, it's speaking to students in a welding class about his love for the industry. Several members are finding greater success by frequently inviting local construction classes on jobsite tours.

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.



Mark Your Calendar

- JULY 23**
 Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting
 Carlton Construction Academy
 Albany
- AUGUST 13**
 Southwest Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting
 Carlton Construction Academy
 Albany
- AUGUST 25**
 East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance Meeting
 R. W. Allen, LLC Office
 Augusta
- OCTOBER 22-24**
 SkillsUSA Fall Leadership Conference
 Jekyll Island Conference Center
 Jekyll Island, GA
- JANUARY 2016**
 TIEGA Winter Conference Two Day Event
- MARCH 17-18**
 CEFGA Expo/SkillsUSA Championship
 Georgia International Convention Center
 College Park, GA

Contractors Connecting with Instructors and Students

On May 1, Wade Tuggle, Field Operations Manager at Eckardt Electric Co., visited with students in Chad Pruitt's construction class at Spalding County High School. Tuggle met Pruitt at the SkillsUSA Expo and was later invited to speak about careers in electrical construction. Wade also discussed the necessary training and benefits of electrical careers.

Also in May, Ron Davis of R. W. Allen, LLC aided Evans High School students with a project on campus. Class members poured concrete for a sidewalk, and Davis jumped in to help. He left them wanting more!

Powder Springs Elementary School asked Swofford Construction, Inc. to participate in their Career Vehicle Presentation for kindergarteners through third graders. Swofford brought a dump truck and skid steer. Company leaders spoke to over 300 children.

Representatives from three member companies, JE Dunn, H. A. Sack, and Elkins, spoke to 19 students in Mr. Williams' construction class at Windsor

Forest High School in Savannah. The group introduced themselves as representatives of AGC Georgia and discussed how they represent the construction industry. After everyone enjoyed the lunch provided by the members, they had an open conversation about the availability of construction jobs and the outlook for the market in southeast Georgia. Students learned how a career in construction can provide satisfaction and the opportunity for something new every day.

Roswell High School construction teacher, Zach Fields, organized a BBQ to show off student success to parents. Collins & Arnold covered the cost of lunch for all attendees. Fields also recognized Collins & Arnold for providing transportation, registration, and a hotel stay for each participant. New South Construction also attended the successful event and donated \$500 for tool packages awarded to top OSHA trainees and SkillsUSA competitors. They also brought the "Blue Box" to show that latest in BIM and virtual reality.



Roswell High School holds construction BBQ to inform parents and students about the program.



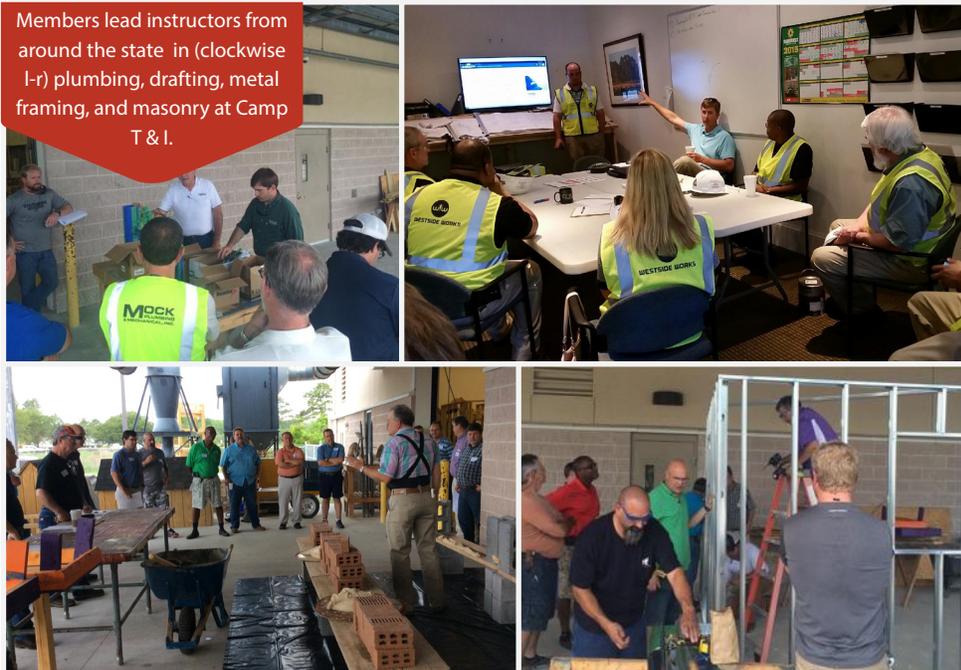
Joe Marchese, President, Marchese Construction, meets with instructors at Savannah Technical College.

At Savannah Tech, Joe Marchese of Marchese Construction, Bill Chambless of AGC Georgia, and Steven Stowers, AIA of Lott-Barber, met with instructor Dan Krautheimer to discuss the Carpentry/Construction Management Program at the school. Krautheimer said he was interested in increasing the amount of hands on training for students but didn't have adequate resources for materials and tools. He is also open to broadening the trades he teaches to include metal wall framing and special inspection. With the instructors commitment to teach the new curriculum, Marchese called on his suppliers to deliver enough materials to construction a 10x10 structure with dry wall and an acoustical ceiling. He also provided Krautheimer with contacts who can provide him with any materials he needs in the future.

Several members continue providing local schools with the opportunity to visit jobsites and learn the construction process. In the coming school year, JCI plans to provide jobsite visits for students at Colquitt County High School and visit with them in their lab. R. K. Redding Construction, Inc. is planning to visit classrooms and offer jobsite visits to Haralson County High School and Polk County High School. Lastly, Swofford Construction has scheduled a jobsite visit for South Cobb High School after the school year begins.

Camp Trade & Industry (T&I) was held June 10-12 for CTAE high school programs, including construction and metals/welding, to provide 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 2014 and provided a great lineup of presenters focusing on the four trades (masonry, metal framing, drafting, and plumbing), safety, and employability skills.

Members lead instructors from around the state in (clockwise l-r) plumbing, drafting, metal framing, and masonry at Camp T & I.



Members sending representatives to teach at Camp T & I include Pyramid Masonry Contractors, Inc., ARGOS, New South Construction Co., Inc., MetroPower, H. A. Sack Co., Inc., ACE Electric, Elkins Construction, LLC, Mock Plumbing, and J. E. Dunn. Georgia Southern University also provided teachers.



Girls from Central Georgia participate in MAGIC camp where they learned more about the construction industry.



Providing Financial Support

In June, Sheridan & Company, Stafford Builders and Consultants, Inc., and the Central Georgia Workforce Development Alliance were among those sponsoring the middle Georgia MAGIC camp. Christy Kovac of Sheridan & Company aided in planning the event as well as lined up the equipment and operators for the girls to try their hand at operating the machines. David Moore of Piedmont Construction also provided the girls with an opportunity to see all the stages of the construction process by providing them with tours to three different jobsites.

This past March, a Lee County High School student won first place in the welding category at the SkillsUSA State Competition; however, he needed help with travel expenses to compete at the national championship in Louisville, KY. AGC Georgia's Young Leadership Program, Pellicano Construction, and LRA contributed to make it possible for Dylan to travel and compete at nationals.



(l) Irene Munn meets with Mike Dunham and Mark Woodall, AGC Georgia, and Mike Kenig, Holder Construction, to discuss Senate Bill 2.
(r) Instructors meet with Metro Atlanta contractors.



Students at Lumpkin County High School help design, layout, and construct a new home for an elderly couple.



(l) Scott Clark, R. W. Allen, LLC receives Volunteer of the Year Award.
(c) Dylan Manley, Lee County High School wins first at SkillsUSA.
See page 3 for story.
(r) Christy Kovac, Sheridan & Company, and Joe Tuggle, Swofford Construction, meet with local instructors.

Statewide Initiatives

- The Metro Atlanta Workforce Development Alliance has held several meetings this year. On April 30, all metro Atlanta area instructors and contractors were invited to the AGC Georgia office for a meet and greet. The highlight of the meeting was the self-introductions that allowed everyone in attendance to share their perspective and challenges they are facing in both funding on the academic side and finding quality employees from the industry representatives' perspective.
- After the passage of Senate Bill 2 which allows for high school students to dual enroll in postsecondary technical institutions, Irene Munn, General Counsel and Director of Policy with Lt. Governor Cagle's office, met with Mike Kenig, Holder Construction Co., and Mike Dunham, Mark Woodall, and Bill Chambless with AGC Georgia about Lt.

Governor Cagle's initiatives to engage students in this opportunity at college and career academies.

- An elderly couple's house burnt down, and the local ministerial association approached Jeff Bearinger at Lumpkin County High School about having his students layout, construct, and sheet rock the wall for their new house. The materials were delivered, and they went to work. The students were instructed to lay out the walls to the drawing. Upon completion, the walls were loaded onto a trailer and delivered to the job site. In about 5 days, the interior and exterior walls were erected, plumbed, squared and secured.
- In Crisp County, MetroPower hosted a Student Appreciation BBQ in coordination with the high school construction program. Two students

- were offered jobs by MetroPower and are beginning their apprenticeship program at South Georgia Technical College. Jim Steel, instructor at Crisp County High School, looks to continue this event to build the program, increase the number of students participating in SkillsUSA, and gain accreditation.
- At AGC Georgia's Annual Convention in June, Scott Clark, President/COO of R. W. Allen, LLC, was honored with a Volunteer of the Year Award for his efforts with the East Georgia Workforce Development Alliance. He not only invites students to frequent R. W. Allen jobsites, but he leads many of the tours. Instructors know him as someone they can count on to support their program and respect him for holding them accountable on raising the bar for their curriculum.