

**Building
Contractors
Association
of New Jersey**

MONTHLY UPDATE

December 2009

New Member

In December, Building Contractors Association of New Jersey welcomed the following company as a new member:

United Hoisting & Scaffolding Corp.
Long Island City, NY

2010 Officers & Trustees

At the BCANJ Annual Membership Meeting on December 15, 2009, the 2010 Slate of Officers & Trustees was unanimously elected. Officers for a second term: Paul R. Natoli, President; Robert Polisano, Vice President; James R. Prisco, Jr., Secretary; and Eric Jensen, Treasurer. As Trustees: John Baumgardner, Clifford Blanchard, Alfonso Daloisio, Jr., Charles DeAngelis, Paul Denehy, Clifford Dunham, Jr., John G. Epifano, Michael Fitzpatrick, Peter Galetto, Jr., Robert Gamba, Glenn Garlatti, Louis D. March, Jr., Richard T. Nugent, Carlos Peixoto, Samuel Prisco, A. David Schulz, Jack Spencer and Allen A. Zappone.

NJ Special School Election Results

Via Bulletin #102-09, we distributed the results of the final 2009 New Jersey School Construction Referenda, held on Tuesday, December 8. Access the results on the "Members Only" section of the BCANJ website, www.bcanj.com. The next scheduled special election date is January 26, 2010.

**AGC's Sandherr Speaks at
Membership Meeting**

AGC of America CEO Stephen Sandherr, guest speaker at the BCANJ Annual Membership Meeting on December 15, 2009, told the nearly 200 attendees that while AGC defends the infrastructure investment funded by the Stimulus Act, the organization has also been criticizing its execution as too slow, with too many impediments like the "Buy American" provision. Sandherr also reviewed AGC's "Build Now for the Future" blueprint, a plan to reverse the recession, particularly for the construction industry.

NJ Construction Stimulus Initiative

As previously reported, BCANJ and other management associations have met with the Building Trades to address reducing labor costs. BCANJ plans to move forward with the general construction trades if an industry-wide agreement cannot be attained. A meeting has been scheduled with BCANJ's Executive Board and the leadership from the Carpenters, Laborers and Bricklayers in early January. We will continue to provide members with information as these discussions progress.

Horizon Actuarial Services

BCANJ has engaged Horizon Actuarial Services, LLC, to review and analyze the Carpenters, Laborers, Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, and Operating Engineers' Actuarial Valuations and other pertinent fund documents, for the purpose of helping members better understand the current environment of each of the multi-employer pension plans. A preliminary report was recently received and is in the process of being reviewed. In January, the report will be presented to BCANJ's Executive Board and shared with other interested parties.

2010 Membership Certificates

BCANJ will provide Membership Certificates to companies upon receipt of their 2010 dues payments. As a way to publicize your affiliation with BCANJ, certificates can be photocopied for inclusion with bid packages or displayed at jobsites. Upon request, additional "original" copies can be obtained by contacting the Association office.

IMPACT Drug Testing

Effective January 1, 2010, all Ironworkers local unions in New Jersey have agreed to be part of the IMPACT Drug Testing program. The program was jointly developed by labor and management to promote union ironworkers nationwide and implemented by an addendum to the collective bargaining agreements. A letter highlighting this program was recently distributed.

***BUILDING CONTRACTOR* Magazine**

The next issue of the *BUILDING CONTRACTOR* Magazine will be mailed shortly. The feature article looks at the state of the construction industry in New Jersey and outlines ambitious construction plans in both the private and public arenas for the coming year.

Membership Directory

The BCANJ Membership Directory is now posted on the website, www.bcanj.com, and not reproduced as a separate document. Members were recently asked to update their listing if warranted. The Directory will also be included in the next issue of the *BUILDING CONTRACTOR* Magazine.

2009 Activities

BCANJ distributed a summary of our 2009 Activities at the Membership Meeting in December. If anyone would like a copy, kindly contact the BCANJ office at 732.225.2265. We encourage our members to be familiar with the ways in which the Association can provide services to your individual companies.

NJBIA's New Good Neighbor 2010 Awards

As we announced in the November Update, nominations are now being accepted for NJBIA's New Good Neighbor 2010 Awards. The award recognizes organizations that have worked to bring about an improved business climate in New Jersey by building or renovating a commercial facility. Completed nominations must be received by NJBIA on or before February 1, 2010. If you need a nomination form, please contact the Association office.

47th Annual Concrete Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the 47th Annual New Jersey Concrete Awards, recognizing projects completed during 2009 that demonstrate creative, successful applications of concrete. Nominations are due by January 22, 2010, and awards will be presented at a dinner on Thursday, May 13, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick. [A nomination form is enclosed with this mailing.](#)

Tuition Reimbursement Program

As we announced in Bulletin #101-09, BCANJ continues to offer a Tuition Reimbursement Program for full-time employees of BCANJ member firms that contribute to the Industry Advancement Program. Eligible employees who have worked 1,500 hours within the last 12 months qualify to receive 75% tuition reimbursement for approved courses, up to a maximum of \$1,000 per year. Approved courses should be aimed at providing job-related knowledge and skills for construction personnel in both office and field operations. Applications,

along with Terms & Conditions, can be obtained by contacting BCANJ. *Applications for courses completed in 2009 must be submitted by January 31, 2010.*

2010 Programs & Events

In Bulletin #103-09, we provided the BCANJ 2010 Schedule of Programs and Events. Access the bulletin on the "Members Only" page at www.bcanj.com, and check the website frequently for updated information.

Government Affairs Report...

Permit Extension Act III

As you know, many construction projects have been delayed because of our current, strenuous economic times. S-3137 / A-4347 attempts to mitigate financing delays of construction projects by extending any permit approvals until December 31, 2012. The permit extension would apply to any permit approval issued after January 1, 2007. The bill will continue making its way through the legislative process during the "lame-duck" session in early January.

Federal COBRA Health Subsidy Extension

President Obama signed a bill into law that extends federal COBRA health insurance premium subsidies for the unemployed. The measure extends the eligibility period for the COBRA premium subsidy to individuals who became eligible for COBRA due to an involuntary termination of employment between September 1, 2008, and February 28, 2010. The original eligibility period was scheduled to end on December 31, 2009. For further information, please contact the Association Office. A bulletin detailing this change will be sent shortly.

Federal Healthcare Reform

On Christmas Eve, the US Senate approved President Obama's landmark healthcare bill, which extends health coverage to more than 30 million uninsured, covering 94% of all Americans. Other provisions in the Senate bill halt insurance industry practices such as refusing insurance to people with pre-existing medical conditions. It would also require most Americans to have insurance, give subsidies to help pay for coverage and create state-based exchanges where the uninsured can compare and shop for plans. The party-line vote, 60-39, clears the way for negotiations with the House of Representatives, which approved its own version in November. The two versions must be identical prior to the President's signature.

Safety News...**OSHA 30-Hour Construction Safety Course**

BCANJ will host OSHA 30-Hour training on March 2, 9 and 16, 2010. A registration form will be sent shortly. Registration is also available on-line at www.bcanj.com, events page. BCANJ also plans to host OSHA 30-Hour training in May, September and December, and will offer the OSHA 500 and 502 trainer courses in October.

2008 Construction Injuries

Approximately 322,700 nonfatal injuries and illnesses occurred at construction jobsites during 2008, for a rate of 4.7 per every 100 full-time workers. In the building construction segment of the industry, the 64,200 injuries reported translates to a rate of 4 per 100.

Labor News

For information on key national labor issues, please refer to the enclosed report.

Associate Members

We are pleased to include information from the following members:

Flaster & Greenberg, PC
Trenton, NJ

R.S. Knapp Co./Napco Copy Graphics
Lyndhurst, NJ

Wealth Preservation Solutions, LLC
Ridgewood, NJ

2010 Holidays

The following list includes federal and state-recognized holidays:

Jan. 1 - New Year's Day
Jan. 18 - Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
Feb. 15 - President's Day
April 2 - Good Friday*
May 31 - Memorial Day
July 5 - Independence Day Observed (Monday)
Sept. 6 - Labor Day
Oct. 11 - Columbus Day
Nov. 2 - Election Day*
Nov. 11 - Veterans Day
Nov. 25 - Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 24 - Christmas Day Observed (Friday)
Dec. 31 - New Year's Day Observed (Friday)*

*State-only holiday