

**Building
Contractors
Association
of New Jersey**

MONTHLY UPDATE

February 2011

Business Agent Directory Updated

Via Bulletin #18-11, we distributed to Active Members the 2011 Directory of New Jersey Building Trades Councils and Business Agents. This document should be placed in your **Labor Information Binder** under the “*Business Agent Directory*” section, replacing the Directory dated September 2009. Also, the Directory will be posted on BCANJ’s website at www.bcanj.com in the “Members Only” section.

Robert Polisano
President

James Prisco Jr.
Vice President

Eric Jensen
Secretary

Robert Gamba
Treasurer

Jack Kocsis Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

Darlene Regina
Executive Director

Reminder:

March Membership Meeting

Members are encouraged to register for the next BCANJ Membership Meeting on ***Tuesday, March 29, 2011, 5:30 p.m., at the Doubletree Hotel, Tinton Falls-Eatontown, NJ.*** For details about the program and the registration form, access Bulletin #10-11 in the “Members Only” section of our website or call BCANJ at 732.225.2265.

Mark Your Calendar:

Annual Golf Outing

BCANJ’s Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner will return to Eagle Oaks Golf Club in Farmingdale, NJ on Monday, June 27, 2011. *Look for our “Save the Date” flyer enclosed with this Update.*

Coffee Talk with NJ DOL

On February 23, 2011, members of BCANJ and AGC of NJ met with New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Hal Wirths and his Chief of Staff Matt McDermott. During the discussion, Mr. Wirths and Mr. McDermott reviewed the department's efforts to enforce prevailing wage, misclassification and workers compensation laws, and stated they relied on reputable contractors and craftworkers to report those who abuse the laws. They also emphasized their commitment to restoring jobs in New Jersey's construction industry and making New Jersey a more business-friendly state.

Associate Member Web Advertising

In Bulletin #17-11, we told BCANJ Associate Members about the available months in the 2011 calendar to promote their business on the BCANJ website. We encourage Associate Members to take advantage of this affordable advertising opportunity. *In March, we look forward to featuring United Rentals, followed in April by Montecalvo/Bayshore Recycling.*

Excavation Seminars

As we announced in Bulletin #14-11, a group of New Jersey utility companies, including Atlantic City Electric, Elizabethtown Gas, New Jersey Natural Gas, PSE&G and South Jersey Gas, along with the New Jersey One Call Center, will host a series of meetings throughout the state to remind excavators about the importance of underground utility safety. We encourage you and/or your staff to attend one of these FREE sessions to learn more about damage prevention and why it's so important to call 811 for a mark out before you dig - it's the law in New Jersey. Access the bulletin for dates and more information at www.bcanj.com.

BCANJ Presidents' Scholarship Program

The BCANJ's 2011 Presidents' Scholarship Program is open as of March 1, 2011. Announcements will be mailed to all active members, while applications and supporting documentation will be accessible online or by contacting the Association office. Please look for this information and be sure to circulate it to your employees. The deadline for completed applications is May 2, 2011.

Student Summer Work Program

Bulletin #16-11 detailed the 2011 Student Summer Work Program and included the program guidelines and a request form. With increased enrollment at our participating universities and a notable reduction in available jobsites for placement, *once again, the program will not accept direct contractor submission for student participation.* Only those students placed by BCANJ will be eligible. Access the bulletin in the "Members Only" section of our website or call the BCANJ office at 732.225.2265.

Student Chapter Hosts ASCE Conference – Again!

We are pleased to assist our student chapter at Fairleigh Dickinson University as the chapter and school host, for the second consecutive year, the American Society of Civil Engineers Metropolitan Student Conference, April 15-17, 2011. The student chapter organizes the overall event as well as prepares entries for the Steel Bridge and Concrete Canoe competitions.

In addition, the chapter needs financial support. We appeal to our members to make a contribution that will be extremely helpful to these ambitious young men and women. We encourage

members to contact the BCANJ office for sponsorship information. Your participation is much appreciated.

BCANJ Student Chapter Seeks Judges for ASCE Conference

Bulletin #19-11 contained an invitation to Active Members asking for your help in judging two important competitive events at the ASCE Conference at Fairleigh Dickinson University in April. We hope your schedule allows you to share your time and expertise for this very exciting, worthwhile endeavor. For the invitation, access the bulletin at www.bcanj.com in the "Members Only" section.

BUILDING CONTRACTOR Magazine

Per Bulletins #21-11 and #22-11, we told you of opportunities to publish your company's in-house news and employment opportunities in our BUILDING CONTRACTOR Magazine, Volume I-2011, scheduled for distribution in April.

If you have not yet submitted your firm's information, please do so as soon as possible. You may use the forms attached to the bulletins, available on the "Members Only" section of our website, or e-mail us at jschiff@bcanj.com.

Per Bulletin #23-11, we invited you to submit your organization's experiences in "Giving Back" to your community. With your contribution, you help us recognize the remarkable men and women of our industry who participate in charitable activities. Complete and submit the form attached to the bulletin, available on our website, and look for the Giving Back column in BUILDING CONTRACTOR Magazine, Volume I-2011.

Government Affairs Report...

Legislation to Revitalize AC, Revel Financing

On Tuesday, February 2, 2011, Governor Christie signed into law legislation creating an Atlantic City Tourism (ACT) District to help revitalize the city. Within the District, the Administration anticipates centralized coordination of resources such as planning and permitting that can serve as "one-stop-shopping" for area business. The law grants broader power to the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority to oversee processes within the District. Access Bulletin #15-11 online for more details. Also pertaining to Atlantic City development, we announced in Bulletin #25-11 that Revel Entertainment Group secured the necessary funding to finish the partially built Revel casino on Atlantic City's South Inlet. The project is expected to employ 2,000 construction workers and, when the casino opens in summer 2012, 5,500 casino workers.

Governor Announces SDA Project Plans

In Bulletin #24-11, we told you of Governor Christie's announced changes to the Schools Development Authority as well as a proposed list of prioritized projects. The plan recommends advancing 10 projects this year at a state investment of \$584 million, along with standardized project design and an allocation of \$100 million for emergency projects in SDA districts. For more details, access the bulletin online.

FY2012 Budget Overview

On February 22, 2011, Governor Christie delivered his FY2012 budget address to a joint session of the NJ Legislature. The Governor's proposed plan comes in at \$29.4 billion and reduces state spending for the second straight fiscal year. Short on specific details, the plan highlighted several areas the Administration is focused on, including \$200 million in

job-creating tax cuts and incentives, keeping municipal aid for towns at this year's level, a \$250 million increase within the school funding formula, and property-tax credits for middle-class and senior residents. More details can be found online in Bulletin #28-11.

Safety News...

For information on key safety issues, please refer to the enclosed report. *Be sure to read about BCANJ's new partnership with the Operating Engineers, Local 825 Training Center to train management staff for important safety functions on the jobsite.*

Labor News...

Construction spending drops, unemployment rises

As we posted in Hot Topics on the BCANJ website this month, construction spending was down 10.3% overall in 2010, hitting the lowest point since July 2000. It was also the fourth annual decline. Nonresidential construction activity fell 23.3% for the year, while spending for nonresidential projects dropped 26%. Adding to the bad news, construction unemployment climbed at dramatic rates from November through January, reaching 22.5% last month. Bad, but not as bad as last year's January unemployment, which clocked in at nearly 25%.

Union density in construction declines

The number of construction workers represented by a union dropped more than a percentage point from 2009 to 2010, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Last year, 13.7% of the 6.1 million construction workers were union members, down from 15% of 6.6 million workers the year before. The BLS figures include residential construction, which historically has been less unionized than other sectors of the construction industry.

AGC/A Joins FASB Advisory Group

In Bulletin #27-11 we told you AGC of America has joined a construction industry group that has been advising the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) on FASB's Exposure Draft that proposes accounting standards revisions for multiemployer plan disclosure. For more information on what role AGC will play, access the bulletin on our website.

BCA of SJ Seminar

BCA of South Jersey will host a seminar, "How to Win the Fight! Change Orders & Claims," on April 29, 2011, at Caesars Atlantic City, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (8:30 a.m. registration). Described as "Essential Training for Construction Personnel," the seminar will cover a variety of topics pertinent to successfully navigating change orders and claims, focusing on minimizing contractor risk and increasing the bottom line. A \$25 fee also covers lunch and the course book. Interested parties may register by mail, fax, e-mail or phone: BCA of SJ, 304 Harper Drive, Suite 110, Moorestown NJ 08057, phone 856.235.6950, fax 856.235.2136, e-mail bcasj@bcasj.com.

LEED Grant

As a reminder, BCANJ received a grant from the State Employment Training Commission to provide reimbursement to members for taking the LEED Green Associate, LEED AP+ or Specialty Exam between January 1 and July 1, 2011. This grant has limited funding is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please refer to Bulletin #09-11 for details or contact the Association Office.

Associate Member

We are pleased to include information from the following member:

Montecalvo Disposal Services

Keasbey, NJ