

# THE ESTIMATOR

The official newsletter of the National Professional Construction Estimators Association of America, Inc.

FALL 2022



Orlando Charter Members attending the Chapter's 20 Year Anniversary



Debbie Gaskin, Dianne Edwards, Lee Edwards, Alva Gaskin Jr.

## Fall Socials

Our chapters are in full swing with Member Socials and Fundraising efforts!

Learn more about what our members have been up to.

More on pages 5 & 7

## Special Points of Interest

PCEA Orlando had a BIG Fall!

Check out what their members are doing this season

Read more on page 5

### Member Company Highlight

I get the goods from Columbia Chapter Member, Whit Suber

Read more on page 3

### Upcoming & Important!

What you need to know about the end of 2022 in PCEA

Read more on page 8







# Chapter Happenings

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Catch up with what's been going on in some of our chapters!

Photo collages on pages 5 & 7

PARTICIPATION • CONTRIBUTION

## MISSION STATEMENT

To promote and improve the construction industry through education of the Association's membership and education of young people.

The Association will work to define and encourage high ethical standards of conduct among its members and will promote the fraternity of the construction industry through social interaction.

EDUCATION • ACHIEVEMENT

# US Department of Labor initiates technical support; worker safety, health outreach in areas hardest hit by Hurricane Ian

**October 17, 2022**

ATLANTA – In the aftermath of Hurricane Ian, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has initiated efforts to provide on-site technical assistance and outreach in the areas of Florida hardest hit by the storm to protect workers involved in the recovery and response and to prevent any further injury or loss of life.

The agency had ceased programmed and planned enforcement inspections in counties identified in the hurricane's path, and – once the storm had passed – deployed safety and health professionals to help employers and workers engaged in recovery operations to eliminate serious hazards.

While this work continues in heavily impacted areas, OSHA retains the right to perform enforcement inspections related to fatalities, catastrophic incidents, employee complaints, incidents involving life-altering injuries and employers who expose employees repeatedly to serious hazards during cleanup and recovery.

OSHA has suspended programmed and planned inspections to provide outreach and technical assistance in the following Florida counties: Brevard, Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Flagler, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Manatee, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Sarasota, Seminole and Volusia. Employers and employees working in these areas should call OSHA's toll-free hotline at 800-321-OSHA (6742) or visit the agency's website to contact an area office representative and request on-site assistance.

OSHA maintains a comprehensive webpage with safety tips to help employers and workers prepare and respond to a hurricane, including an alert on keeping workers safe during flood cleanup.

OSHA provides free on-site consultation services to help employers identify and correct hazardous conditions at their worksites, as well as improve occupational safety and health management systems. To schedule an on-site consultation visit, please contact the University of South Florida On-Site Safety and Health Consultation Program.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to help ensure these conditions for America's workers by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance.

Learn more about OSHA.

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Release Number: 22-2009-ATL (378)

<https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/region4/10172022-0>



## Member Company Highlight

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### Whit Suber Columbia Chapter

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In the early 90's, Whit Suber was at Clemson pursuing a Political Science degree with his sights set on law school. Shortly after graduation he was working at a local golf course when a friend of his mentioned that his company was looking to fill a position in their Concrete Sales Trainee Program. Whit knew absolutely zero about concrete or the construction industry, but he thought "Hey, why not give it a shot!" Ever since entering the industry in '93 he has never wanted to do anything else.

The concrete business carries with it a diversity that he loves. Every day is different and he's always working with people from various walks of life. Due to the nature of concrete, there's a precision and efficiency that it demands.

**"Everybody is on pins and needles when concrete's being poured on their project."**

Suber has worked his way through the business over the past 30 years, and has made his way to Argos USA, a ready-mix division owned by Grupo Argos out of Medellín, Colombia.

Prior to that, in 2008, he moved to Columbia, South Carolina to join Hardaway Concrete. Dick Wells, his friend and coworker, was a charter member of the local Columbia Chapter of PCEA. One might say PCEA was a passion of Wells. He would give his customers a PCEA Member discount on his product, and his company's quotes carried the PCEA logo in their letterhead.

One afternoon Dick told Whit to pick him up at his home because they had somewhere to be. That day Whit, Dick, and the entire entourage of Hardaway employees (aka: PCEA Members) left for the local chapter meeting.

Very quickly Whit moved in to local Chapter Board positions and has remained on the Board ever since. His first position on the Columbia Chapter Board was 2nd Vice President putting him in charge of Programs and Speakers. Even to this day, if ever there's a spot that needs filling, Whit is quick to offer up a concrete expert to speak!

**"I consider the PCEA members my friends ... and if something happens, that's a heck of a pretty good network throughout the construction industry"**

Being new to Columbia, PCEA offered Whit a social environment during a time of transition, as well as allowed him to professional network in a new city. He recognizes the influence the affiliation and networking within the association can have on an individual's professional growth. "It's completely different when somebody says 'I know this guy, I know how hard this guy works, I know what the people that work with him think'", Whit tells me, "That's completely different than 'look how many endorsements this guy has on LinkedIn.'"

As a former amateur competitive golf player, he has always been a fan of the Chapter's Golf Tournament, as well as the preceding Stew in the Woods low-country boil. He's spent a lot of time honing his craft on the golf course, and has some skills to show for it. Yet he also spent some time as a professional wrestler. As the 2003 Greenville County Amateur Champion, he's probably got a few stories to tell you!





# Hensel Phelps superintendent values soft skills in construction

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Kabri Lehrman-Schmid has managed \$1.9 billion worth of work for the Greeley, Colorado-based contractor.

This article is one in a series of conversations with women leaders in the construction industry. [Click here](#) for past discussions.

Kabri Lehrman-Schmid has spent the last 16 years of her career crisscrossing the country managing \$1.9 billion worth of work for Greeley, Colorado-based Hensel Phelps.

During that time, the project superintendent gained experience in both office and field management roles — including project engineer, scheduler, design manager and superintendent — on projects ranging from \$14 million high-end lounge spaces to a \$494 million airport terminal expansion.

She is currently overseeing construction of the 72,000-square-foot, \$102 million Interdisciplinary Engineering Building at the University of Washington's Seattle campus. There, she is leveraging her background in aviation work to meet the challenges of the project: sequencing work around the public, maintaining operations and meeting the expectations of a wide set of stakeholders.

Here, Lehrman-Schmid talks with Construction Dive about what led her to construction and why she thinks so-called "soft" skills are critical to success in the industry.

## CONSTRUCTION DIVE: What is your role in your current project at the University of Washington?

**LEHRMAN-SCHMID:** As the project's lead superintendent, team communication and customer service are always top of mind. I am the manager of all field operations — onboarding the trade partner team, developing the schedule, upgrading safety expectations, ensuring quality installation and demonstrating partnership with our client and neighbors.

The Interdisciplinary Engineering Building project has an integrated design-build contract and I've been on board since the design started, working with our architect partners at KieranTimberlake to develop a vision for the future of the College of Engineering. It's pretty special to roll from a design manager role to the lead superintendent on the same project.

## What led you to choose construction for your career?

I pursued an engineering degree because it was the option provided to me when I excelled at math and noted an interest in large structures. The opportunities that existed in the construction industry were never recommended or discussed.

What I realized in pursuit of my college degree, and after chancing into an internship that gave me experience on a construction site, was that I was strong at visualizing and communicating logistics, not theoretical mathematics. I also saw that the instant gratification of problem solving face to face on a jobsite was magnetic, and the teamwork and energy that was created through the combined efforts of different skill sets was inspiring.

From my first role as a field engineer, practicing surveying and collaborating with our crews, I knew somewhere deep down that I wanted to make an impact in the field, eventually as a superintendent. My motivation still comes from connecting with a seasoned earthwork foreman about their recommended work sequence, or an owner's HVAC mechanic about changes to their facility after I've studied the documents, listened to the other trades and can offer information or resources that improves that plan and their success.

article continued on page 6



## PCEA Orlando

- Randy Welch Memorial Golf Tournament
- Brewery Social
- Steak on the Lake



See more on page 7



# Hensel Phelps superintendent values soft skills in construction

...article continued



Kabri Lehrman-Schmid

**What are a few of the projects you've most enjoyed working on and why?**

My very first project as a full-time employee was the renovation of a historic courthouse in Washington, D.C., that was built in 1820. I still tell the most stories from that project — laying out face of wall for Shotcrete in 3 feet of snow; inspecting underpinning pits under original masonry vaults; the struggle of finding artisans to recreate revealed plaster reliefs; demo with robots; marking beam pockets in fall protection above an 80-foot atrium; staining new Carrera with tea bags to match smoke-stained historic stair treads ... you get the picture.

Since then, I have found the most pride in recalling long stints of night shift work where I led the critical path phasing of demolition and the rebuilding of passenger pathways through an active airport terminal project. I had such great teammates — we remained dedicated and created great solutions in the face of high risks and significant challenges on that one.

Outside of work, I've had the honor of participating in many efforts and organizations focused on addressing mental health issues in our industry and supporting formal training for the next generation of foremen.

**What advice would you give to young women considering construction as a career?**

Construction is an industry of incredible people and limitless opportunity. The industry's reputation may be hampered by historic biases and stigmas that impact worker health, but it's really the cultural strengths that deserve the focus: pride of work; a culture of apprenticeship and learning; loyalty to family and community. We get to connect people and processes with each other and with technology every day.

Young women entering the industry should know that they have a lot of power. They can impact every single interaction with their curiosity, kindness, attention and thoughtfulness. These are not "soft" skills in any derogatory sense. These are not resigned to any gender. They are keys to success for your career and for the success of everyone around you — to receive better information, to inspire crews to focus on safety and quality, to find your own confidence and flow.

In practice, they look simple, yet will set you apart: ask questions because people love to talk about what they are good at, so admit what you don't know. Provide follow-up when you promise information, complete your work with extra attention to the intended audience and treat every technical task as an opportunity to build a relationship.

Finally, recognize that our industry works really hard, so finding ways to align your goals inside and outside of work is essential to feeling fulfilled and recharged while supporting those you love.

Authored by: Jennifer Goodman

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Construction Dive Q&A

<https://www.constructiondive.com/news/hensel-phelps-superintendent-values-soft-skills-in-construction/634774/>



Triangle Chapter's Clay Shooting Tournament

CSRA Chapter's James Hutto Memorial Golf Tournament



Charlotte Chapter's Clay Shooting Tournament



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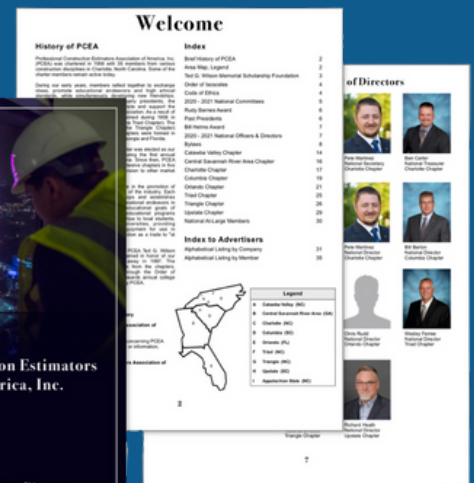
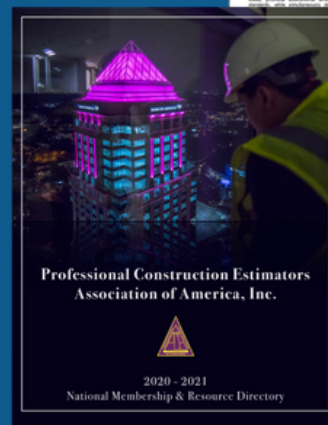




# Holiday Season is upon us!



Don't forget to advertise in this year's  
Membership  
&  
Resource Directory!



For information on how you can highlight your company or chapter in our Annual Directory,  
download our [Directory Advertisement Form](#) today!

Form Submission Deadline: November 31, 2022

### Triangle Chapter

Greetings from the Triangle Chapter. The Triangle Chapter members continue to be busy despite the availability of materials. It's hard to install infrastructure when materials are backordered for 8 months. This pushes back entire schedules for projects moving forward. Reasons given for long lead times range from manpower at manufacturing plants, delays due to Covid, and lack of materials from overseas to complete assembled products.

Since the last meeting, we have had 2 great membership meetings. In July, we had a speaker from Rigid. They presented several new items that Rigid provides, including a small machine that will drill anchors for hangers based on base lines established by the general contractor. After the meeting, members were able to squeeze off a few rounds at Onpoint Shooting Range. In August, we had a speakers from Sunstate Rentals. He presented all the items that are available for rent from their company. He also talked about availability of rental items in the area and how items will be limited in the future due to several large projects coming to the triangle. He also talked about new options they provide that can tell you when a piece of equipment is being used, how long it is being used, and it's location on the project.

We will have a sporting clays event on September 30th at Drake's Landing in Fuquay-Varina, NC. Rick Embrey has registration forms for anyone interested. You can also sign-up on our website.

We have been holding our monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at Casa Carbone at 6019 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh, NC. Social starts at 6:30 PM. Come visit with us if you are in town.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Sherron  
National Director

### Charlotte Chapter

Greetings from the Queen City where recessions don't exist.

In our July meeting Melissa Wilder with ProVigil (a member of the Raleigh Chapter) presented on video surveillance for jobsite security.

Also in July, we held our annual plant tour at Charlotte Pipe and Foundry. This was a fascinating tour as we learned the process of fabricating cast iron pipe from scrap metal to finished product. This was our first tour since we took a pause on these for Covid.

In our August meeting David Settlemyer with Bentley presented on SiteOps, their cutting edge conceptual site estimating software.

In September we hold our annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament. We are once again returning for a third year to Emerald Lakes because they have treated us quite well. This is one event that fortunately didn't take a break for Covid. Our upcoming September meeting is once again TBD as our events committee continues to work to get their feet under them.

That sums it up for the Charlotte Chapter. If you are ever in town on the 2nd Wednesday of the month stop in and see us at the Dilworth Neighborhood Grill – 911 East Morehead starting at 5:30 PM. We'd love to have you as our guest.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Carter  
National Director



### Columbia Chapter

Good morning from the heart of the Palmetto State. The kiddies are back in school, the temperature is now on the lower side of 100, and the internet and radio show are buzzing with excuses why (insert college name here) football team is just not as good as Alabama. For now we are all at 0-0, so truthfully we are all tied for first place. It should be another interesting season for our favorite college (semi-pro?) teams, and good luck pulling for your favorite Gators, 'Noles, Bulldogs, Tigers, Wolfpack, Gamecocks, Tar Heels, etc.

Columbia Chapter has stayed active over the summer months. We had a regular member meeting in June, and in July had Leslie Clark, Carolinas AGC Legislative Liaison for SC as speaker. She spoke on the recently concluded SC Legislative Session and outcome of new bills of interest to the industry. Our August meeting was a Minor League Baseball outing to the Columbia Fireflies vs the Salem (VA) Red Sox. A great game, fellowship, and copious quantities of ball park grub were enjoyed by all.

We will keep rolling along for the fall months, and have some work to do to rebuild our roster of members. We are up to the challenge.

Come see us when you are in the Palmetto State.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Cormany  
National Director

### Orlando Chapter

Hello and welcome from the State of Florida. Please see below a list of activities that the Orlando chapter has kept busy with since the last report.

Summer Golf Tournament at Mission Inn Resort and Club in Howey-In-The Hills outside Orlando - Once again great success this year with this event - This play and stay event led to some time on the lake as well - Always warm lots of adult beverages and lost golf balls and post golf boating time - We locked up 23 foursomes and a couple sponsors to raise approx \$4,600 that will be used for various chapter expenses and educational events to come

**June Membership meeting** - Jim Gray Orlando City Commissioner and Developer came out and talked about the growth of Orlando, impacts of the massive number of folks moving to Orlando and the Central Florida Corridor and plans for future development around the city centers - attended by 43 members and 5 Guests

**July Membership Meeting** - Lake County Commissioner (Just North of Orlando including the Villages) Sean Parks spoke about the new Medical centers and growth of Lake County as it supports the Orlando Metropolitan Area as well as the surrounding counties - 52 members and 5 guests Attended

**July Social** - Tried something new same week of our regular meeting had a get together at Gatlin Brewery just South of downtown Orlando - Featuring full bar, craft brews and attached eating this strictly on your own social generated a lot of attention with around 40 folks attending on and off for 3 to 4 hours

**August Membership Meeting** - Is this evening 8/23 and features a panel of General contractors discussing market conditions, market share, back log etc... - Featuring panelists from Hoar Construction, PCL, Hensel Phelps, Austin Commercial Wharton Smith, Balfour Beatty & MED General Contractors 60 members and 7 guests registered but we usually get some spares for this type of event

Upcoming events include another on your own social at Hour Glass Brewery this week, Bowling early September, Steak on the Lake September 16, 21st Annual Randy Welch Scholarship Summer Golf Tournament, with a Christmas party on the way if we can figure out the budget

We still meet the 4th Tuesday at the Citrus Club in downtown Orlando on the 18th floor from 5:30 PM to around 8:00 PM for our official meeting but you can probably find a member or 2 warming up after 3:30 PM and winding down till 10ish at a local establishment nearby.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Bauer  
National Director

### Central Savannah River Area Chapter

#### Board for 2022-2023 Term:

- President – David Eller, Georgia Drywall
- VP: Membership – Mark Stephens, Cost Segregation Services
- VP Programs – Steve Munn, MAI Risk Advisors
- Secretary – Sara Lord, Portable Services
- Treasurer – Robert Stanvitch, Thomas Concrete
- National Director – Steve Munn, MAI Risk Advisors

#### Recent Speakers:

- July – Kenny Coleman of Coleman Mechanical
- August – we had a membership forum with our board members to brainstorm ideas on how to grow the chapter.

#### Upcoming Social Events:

- Planning a happy hour for a date to be determined in September

#### Membership:

- Added three members, but lost three as well.

#### Scholarship

- We have a new relationship with a non-profit that puts high school students on a track to the trades, <https://www.tradeupcareersinc.com/> which will be a great source for scholarship applications in the future.

#### Golf Tournament

- 2022 PCEA James Hutto Memorial Golf Tournament , will be October 10th at Bartram Trail and we want to invite anyone interested from our friends at other chapters to come on down to participate.
- 50/50 tickets are \$5 a piece and winners can be purchased from me, not anyone with the last name Gaskin.
- Great sponsorship packages are available for anyone interested, as well.

#### Newsletter

- Kat Sanders has taken over our newsletter and we're excited to roll out some great new additions which include Member Spotlight, a monthly article on construction risk issues

#### Chapter News

- We have had several meetings lately, creating a new Golf Tournament Committee
- Kat Sanders is revitalizing our webpage, getting updated pictures and information on there
- Kat is also leading a Social Media charge for us,

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Munn  
National Director





# National Board of Directors

## 2022 - 2023



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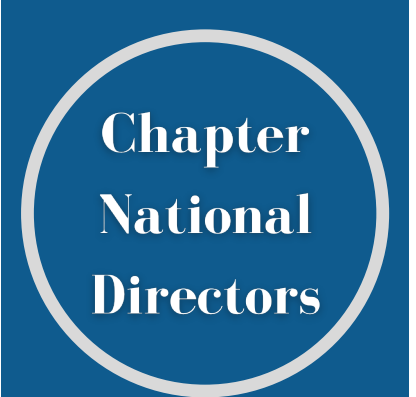
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