



THE NATIONAL ESTIMATOR

JULY, 1983

PROFESSIONAL CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATORS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

PROFESSIONAL, COOPERATIVE, ENTHUSIASTIC ATTITUDE



The personification of Professional Cooperative Enthusiastic Attitude is depicted above by Dixie Chapter. Left to right - Leprechaun (courtesy of products show): Al Shuman, Dixie Chapter National Director; Cotton Glass; winner of the drawing and Richmond CSI Chapter President; Tim Schmah, Dixie Chapter President.

Dixie decided the best way to get people's attention was with groceries at a local CSI products show. Food for thought!

1983 CONVENTION REPORT

By Al Shuman

The Ninth Annual National Convention of the Professional Construction Estimators Association was held May 20-22 at the Landmark Motel, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

On Friday, May 20, 1983, they had an orientation for new chapter officers and National Directors. The orientation was very informative and detailed as to the duties and responsibilities of each office. The first day of the Golf Tournament was started and the reports were that everybody who participated had an enjoyable time.

The final meeting of the Board of Directors of the 1982-83 year was held in the afternoon with the following items being discussed:

The financial position of the National Organization with Bill Shuler stating that the expenses against the budget were down. Projected revenues were also down. However, it appears that year ending May 31, 1983, will show a positive balance over the last year since revenues exceeded expenditures.

Convention sites for 1984-85 were discussed with many recommendations. Two of which were Williamsburg, Va. and Virginia Beach, Va.

Various changes to the By-Laws were reviewed and recommendations made that were to be presented at the General Business Meeting on Saturday morning.

A cocktail reception honoring the past Presidents was held Friday night. This reception was mainly for getting re-acquainted and meeting new people.

On Saturday, an Early Bird Breakfast with door prizes, was held and special presentations made to various members. Our President, Greg Parks, won a Nikon FG 35mm camera.

The business meeting was very informative and educational. It included a speaker, Chuck Wuertenberger, former President, Carolina Branch of A.G.C. He spoke on arbitration as opposed to Construction Management. The presentation was extremely controversial, amusing and enjoyable.

NATIONAL OFFICERS, CHAPTER NATIONAL

DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN 1983-84

President . . . S. Ray Currin, Jr. . . Engineers Constructors, Inc.
Greensboro, N. C.
President-Elect . . . Larry Thompson . . . Yeargin Const. Co.
Greenville, S. C.
Vice-Pres. Kyle Cave Security Building Co.
Chapel Hill, N. C.
Treasurer Bill Shuler Binswanger Glass Co.
Greensboro, N. C.
Secretary Lee Holton Lee's Lines Ltd.
Roanoke, Va.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Big Brother Larry Thompson Yeargin Const. Co.
P. O. Box 6508, Greenville, S.C. 29606
Budget Bill Shuler Binswanger Glass Co.
130 W. Green Court, Greensboro, N. C. 27407
By-Laws Jack Smith D&D Specialty Co.
No. 2 Gaitburg Sq., Taylors, S.C. 29687
Construction Projects . . . Kyle Cave . . . Barnhill Contr. Co.
975 Walnut St., Cary, N.C. 27511
Convention Sites . . Keith Middleton . . Roanoke Engr. Sls. Co.
P. O. Box 36919, Charlotte, N.C. 28236
Credentials . . . Barney Williams . . . Humphries Conc. Blk. Co.
P. O. Box 969, Norcross, Ga. 30091
Editor Wertz Burnette Graham Hodge Assoc.
P. O. Box 5188, Greenville, S.C. 29606
Education . . . Eddie Carroll . . . Engineers-Constructors, Inc.
P. O. Box 7347, Greensboro, N.C. 27407
Elections Al Shuman Associated Electrical Ser.
8511 Oakview Ave., Richmond, Va. 23228
Historian Bob League . . . Davidson & Jones Const. Co.
3217 Amherst Rd., Rocky Mount, N.C. 27801
Legislative-Ga. Joe Dan White . . . Claussen Conc. Co. Inc.
3138 Trafalgar Dr., Augusta, Ga. 30909
Special Proj. Dale Gillis Mid-Atlantic Roofing Co.
P.O. Box 34311, Charlotte, N.C. 28234
Legislative-S.C. Dick Wells Hardaway Conc. Co.
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Legislative-N.C. Bill Downey L.A. Downey & Sons
P.O. Box 1688, Durham, N.C. 27702
Legislative-N.C. Howard Finch Promac, Inc.
5103 Revere Rd., Durham, N.C. 27713
Legislative-Va. Tim Schmah . . . Area Const. Mgmt. Corp.
P.O. Box 592, Richmond, Va. 23205
Long Range Planning Steve Davis Parker Davis Co.
2310 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, N.C. 28206
Membership Ext. Larry Thompson . . . Yeargin Const. Co.
P.O. Box 6508, Greenville, S.C. 29606
Nominating Lee Holton Lee's Lines Ltd.
P.O. Box 8566, Roanoke, Va. 24014
Parliamentarian Lee Holton Lee's Lines Ltd.
P.O. Box 8566, Roanoke, Va. 24014
Publicity Carl Seager Seager Waterproofing Co.
P.O. Box 9533, Greensboro, N.C. 27408
Resolutions Connor Dempsey Watson Elec. Const.
P. O. Box 3105, Wilson, N.C. 27893
Roster National Office
P. O. Box 1107, Cornelius, N.C. 28031
Rudy Barnes Award Steve Davis Parker Davis Co.
2310 N. Tryon St., Charlotte, N. C. 28206

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Chuck Wuertenberger was a very animated and unusual speaker. For those of you who missed him, he walked through the audience as he talked and has had some very interesting experiences which he related in an unorthodox manner that kept everyone wide awake. If an opportunity ever presents itself for you to hear him — don't miss it!

Many prizes, including golf and tennis trophies were won. Ol' Ted Malphrus, from Chapter 5, probably came out better than anyone else. He won the VCR unit.

Saturday afternoon there was a beachwear fashion show at poolside.

Jack Smith, Chapter 5, placed third in a big belly contest and was heard to say, next year he was going to let it all hang out.

Saturday night, there was a very nice banquet at which all the trophies and awards were passed out, followed by dancing into the wee hours.

Sunday morning a brief board of directors meeting was held, then it was - hit the highway, fight the traffic, and go back to work. It was a very gratifying and enjoyable convention. A final tally showed 308 registered and about 300 actually attended.)

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA

The last two months have been very busy for the C.S.R.A. Chapter of the P.C.E.A. Our programs have been presented by the Director of the Augusta Planning and Zoning Board and by one of the leading landscapers — Nursery dealers in the area. We were pleasantly pleased when he referred to us as "blooming estimators" rather than "blooming nuts."

On June 25th we held our First Annual P.C.E.A. and W.I.C. Scholarship Golf Tournament and raised approximately \$780 for the two organizations. Considering this was our first outing, we felt as if we accomplished a lot by getting our names in front of the community by attracting 98 golfers.

Membership is slowly increasing with one new member and several very good prospects waiting in the wings.

As far as new chapter expansion is concerned, some initial contacts with some local Savannah contractors will be made next week as to see when they can set up an appointment and we can get them some information concerning the P.C.E.A.

— Alva Gaskin, President

BLUE RIDGE, ROANOKE, VA.

Greetings from the great state of Virginia and the Star City of the South, the cultural center of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Greetings again from our new board members which consist of: President Bill Overstreet, Branch & Assoc
1st Vice President . . . John Light, Roanoke Const. Specialties
2nd Vice President Larry Wilson, Thor, Inc.
Secretary Barry Hartman, Structural Steel
Treasurer Tony Beck, Service Contracting
Directors: Chris O'Neill, Argabright Contractors; Scott Harle-
man, Overhead Door; Dick Stout, Stout Door; Tom Orlando,
Boxley Construction; Danny Jarrett, Jarrett Electric; Lee Hol-
ton, Lee's Lines, Ltd.
National Director . . Phil Dawson, Leonard Smith Sheet Metal
and Roofing, Inc.

Our meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month at Belle's (Holiday Inn-South). Board meetings the second Tuesday of each month. We would like to invite anyone interested in enjoying with us good company, good food, and a good exchange of ideas. Make plans now to join us. You're invited and if you're not there you'll be missed.

Since our last report, we have had three meetings. Our April meeting described a "better way" with Roy Mendelsohn of Area Construction Management Team. Roy's talk raised questions about a new era in our construction industry. Are we coming of age to treat construction like a business?

The May meeting was a joint meeting with the Joint Area Construction Industry. All construction oriented professional and trade organizations attended. A.G.C. provided the speaker from the Virginia State Chamber of Commerce. We heard what's being done to entice business to Virginia. Apparently, something the Carolinas and south have been doing for years.

Our June meeting was a terrific end to a terrific year. Awards were presented to Bill Overstreet - Program Chairman, Chris O'Neill - President's Award, Lee Holton - Estimator of the Year. Our speaker was Ralph Perry talking to us on communications. Obviously those of us who read specifications have no need for this.

Finally, our annual picnic featured a quality gathering and quality food. We had enough for a softball team - infield only. Having ended our year I will likewise end this report. We've worked hard for a common good. We deserve a rest. In closing, we in Virginia are firmly committed to the progress of PCEA and that through a united effort, we can make a difference.

HICKORY-CATAWBA VALLEY

As of this report, 36 members have renewed their membership for the new year. Also, we have four new members and one application waiting for consideration by the Board of Directors. Total membership going into August should be 41.

The Board of Directors has raised our local dues this year to \$50.00. Of this amount, \$20.00 goes to National and \$10.00 goes into our chapter scholarship fund.

The Board also voted that money from the Gold Roll not awarded because the winner is not present shall be put into the scholarship fund. We were able to present a full scholarship last year to a second year architect student at Catawba Valley Technical College and should be able to do the same this year.

Our July meeting is to be held at the Statesville Brick Cottage on Lake Norman on July 20th. Statesville Brick acts as our host during the summer for one meeting each year.

CHARLOTTE, N. C.

The regular monthly meeting of the Charlotte Chapter PCEA will be held at the Holiday Inn, Woodlawn, for the current year. Meeting will be the second Thursday of each month. You are all welcome to come and join us at any time.

Membership — at the end of the current year, Charlotte Chapter is to have 290 members (as suggested by National) — Current membership status: Life Members 3, Honorary Members 6, paid renewals 178, new members 8, total membership 195. Any member who brings 4 new members into the Chapter will receive a jacket with PCEA logo on it as a reward for his efforts.

Socials — Planned activity for the year include a Christmas Social at the Radisson, a Golf Tournament, and a Las Vegas Night in the spring of 1984. As always, any of our members from other Chapters are welcome to attend these functions.

We are trying to get more new people involved on our committees and help increase the interest in the welfare of our Chapter.

We will be presenting a scholarship to a qualified young person later in the year. Also we will be involved with the World of Construction, as we are every year. Education will be a big item for us this year and we hope to get more involved in educating the young people of our community as to the benefits and advantages of the construction industry.

— Darrell Barbee for Hub Lyles

COASTAL PLAINS, GREENVILLE, N. C.

The Coastal Plains Chapter has had its first quarter begin in style. Our June meeting was a unique and enjoyable golf tournament at Willow Springs Country Club in Wilson that was followed by a regular membership meeting. Dr. John Tart, P.H.P., President of Johnston County Technical Institute spoke on today's educational process and its progress.

Our June board meeting was held in Greenville, N. C. with 100% of the board members attending. Topics of discussion included sending membership applications to each member with their newsletters so that the general membership will be prepared when they recruit a new member, our membership goals and local and national dues. Several interesting ideas and projects were discussed which should be evident in the coming months.

Also, during the month of June our education committee has been discussing some new projects and scholarships. Bob League and Denton Wall attended the "Construction in the Eighties" symposium held in Greensboro which was co-sponsored by the PCEA.

The July membership meeting, which was held in Rocky Mount, was highlighted by the Coastal Plains Chapter Service Award to Mr. Dewey Weaver of D. J. Rose & Son for his contributions to the Eastern N.C. community. Bill Rose from the Nash County Industrial Development Commission was our guest speaker.

As our quarter has progressed, Chapter 8 has had 36 people to either renew their membership or become new members. We are well on our way to our membership goal of 60 members.

— Chris Williford

DIXIE CHAPTER, RICHMOND, VA.

Great things have been happening in the Virginia Area especially for those of us in Richmond's "Dixie" Chapter of the PCEA. Since our start we have topped the 70 mark on membership and still think there is room for expansion. All of this in just 5 short months.

Since the convention, there has been a scramble of activity for our chapter members, who have been active on various committees working to make our 1st Annual Family Picnic a reality. Long hours have finally paid off and on the 24th of this month we propose to have one heck of a show. Through sponsors we have been able to provide this picnic free to children under 12 years old. Other sponsors have helped to assemble prizes for various events and tournaments for the kids. There are even prizes for some of the adult events. We would like to invite anyone from any other chapter who is interested to come on up and have a good time.

At the convention it was overheard that our National Executive Office was in need of a more sophisticated copy machine. Well, although it is not yet a firm reality, there is a Canon Corporate representative in our chapter who is actively

(Continued next page)

(Dixie Chapter, continued)

pursuing the possibility of a donation of just such an instrument. We invite anyone from National interested or curious enough to see to come on up to the picnic and find out first hand.

Our June meeting was set aside to be a business meeting to set up committees more firmly and further educate our membership on just what the PCEA stands for. It has become very obvious since receiving our charter that not only was the PCEA needed in the Richmond area, but it was wanted as is evidenced by our rapid growth. With the support of you all we are confident that the Dixie Chapter will become a very viable body in helping extend the principles that the PCEA stands for.

—Tim Schmahl

GREENSBORO, N.C.

The Triad Chapter just completed two very successful social events. We had our second golf tournament in which we had 48 participants in a captains choice tournament. We are undecided at this time as to whether to have the tournament annually, semi-annually or weekly.

Our Pig Pickin' brought out 80 people. This is the first year that we have cooked our own pig. One of our members, Ray Earnhardt, did a fantastic job on this and we had some of the best barbeque I've ever had. Also at the Pig Pickin', we installed our officers for the 83-84 year.

Through July 12th, we have had 58 renewals of membership, and 6 new members. We are expecting to retain at least 90% of our membership and with the new applicants that we are expecting, we should not have any problems attaining our goal of 170 members. Without starting our membership drive, we have an additional 8 new applications which will be processed at our next board meeting. We expect to start our membership drive in August, although we have not decided on the exact form of it yet.

We are hoping to renew the policy of having at least two meetings a year in Winston-Salem. Hopefully, this will encourage a greater increase in that city's membership.

Carl Seager is heading our Education Committee, and his main objective is to get more membership participation in various educational programs.

The next event that our club is working on is our annual Casino Night. We will probably hold this on October 29th, of which the proceeds go toward supporting our education fund.

— Alex Crist

GREENVILLE, S. C.

No report on membership, renewals or treasury available. June 1983 program topic was "Construction Management" presented by Dan P. Leach, Piedmont Engineers, Architects and Planners.

July 1983 program topic was "Economic Outlook for Greenville County, S. C." presented by Bill Millett, Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

Plans are taking shape for our varied social functions, i.e. Golf Tournament, Pig Pickin' and Softball, Christmas Party and Casino Nite.

We will continue to utilize our education fund to assist the World of Construction, Greenville-Tech and Clemson University.

— Marshall Feimster

TRIANGLE, RALEIGH, N. C.

Membership: Chapter No. 3 ended the previous year on May 30, 1983 with 139 members. As of June 30, we have gained 3 new members and lost 18 members, making our total membership now at 124 members.

Programs: 2nd Vice President Jim Clayton has already scheduled our speakers for the upcoming year. Glancing at some of the names and subjects, they should be both informative and entertaining.

Regular Chapter Meeting Place: As in the past, Chapter 3 is still meeting one month in Raleigh and the next month in Durham. We have changed our meeting place in Raleigh from Sam's Steak Villa to Ballentine's Cafeteria. In making this change we have also changed our regular meeting night from the 2nd Thursday to the 3rd Thursday of each month. Ballentine's offers us a greater and better selection of food at a reduced price. We have also outgrown our former meeting place.

Education: The Stephen Safran/Triangle Chapter PCEA award has been awarded to Mr. Rick Janerio for the upcoming year. The parameters of this award were discussed in an earlier report by our past National Director, Mr. Dwight O'Neil.

We are continuing as in the past with our \$2,000.00 scholarship to a student at North Carolina State University.

Casino Night, Golf Tournament and Raffle: We are taking a serious look at our scholarship fund raisers this year to see if the effort put forth by our different committees is worth the net profit resulting from these campaigns. A decision on these and other ways of producing monies for our scholarship program will be made at our next Chapter Board meeting.

Christmas Party and Summer Outing: As with our Casino Night, Golf Tournament, etc., we are making an evaluation on our previous social activities to see what we can do to make them more attractive to be better attended by our membership. A committee has been formed and will make a report on this item at our next Chapter Board meeting.

Newsletter: Our newsletter editor, Ms. Andie Young, is working diligently to improve this year's newsletter to better previous years. An autobiography form was sent out to all members to be completed which will be used in upcoming newsletters in order for our members to learn more about each other. We had almost 100% response to this request.

In closing, Chapter 3 is looking forward to working with our new National President, Mr. Ray Currin, and will do all we can to make this the "first of the best two years ever."

— Robert W. "Judge" Carr, Jr.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Welcome to the 1983-84 fiscal year of the PCEA! With your dedicated service this year promises to be the first of the best two years ever! Each and every one of you deserves all the credit that our membership can give for the sacrifices you will make during the upcoming year in our efforts to promote and further the fine profession of Construction Estimating.

Our goals for the upcoming year include starting four new PCEA chapters, attaining a membership of 1410, increasing professionalism and communication in the PCEA and our profession, promoting construction education, interaction with other professions related to construction and, last but not maybe the most important, increasing National PCEA's value to the chapters of PCEA. Each of you is encouraged to assist us in attaining these goals by being involved and by providing ideas for accomplishing each aspect of the objectives.

During the year, various competitions will occur. For example, the chapter that best achieves its own individual goals, as set earlier by National, will receive a prize and recognition at our Tenth Annual Convention. The goals to shoot for were outlined by National earlier this month and were revised slightly on June 13. Also, for the third year in a row, an award will be made to the outstanding chapter newsletter editor.

One of our goals is to increase membership to 1410 members. Each chapter is encouraged to conduct membership drives during the year. A few chapters have tried this in the past and have found a membership drive to be an excellent method to stimulate interest and increase membership. The competition stimulates involvement.

National PCEA requests each chapter to forward to the Executive Office any photos of PCEA events they feel of interest for inclusion in our National Estimator. Also, remember dues are payable to National as of June 10, July 10 and August 10.

We all can further the image of estimating as a profession with our actions on a daily basis. Also, through interaction with other professionals such as the AGC, NAWIC, CSI, PCETS, etc., we can assure others that estimators are good folk. To stimulate the interest of our youth, we need to get involved in the academic field in our own neighborhoods by serving on advisory boards, guest lecturing, etc. Remember that National has an AGC film about construction that can be used to make presentations in junior and senior high schools.

One last reminder — when processing an application for a new member, the membership chairman is the only person authorized to sign the approval blank. Make sure each mailing address includes a zip code. Also, please make sure that each applicant includes a description of the business they are in and that each applicant has signed the form.

This concludes the first of twelve issues during the year of this new National publication. Anyone confused about PCEA policy or procedures is encouraged to contact your National President or Executive Director. Your confusion may not be unique, and by discussing the problem in this publication, many others may be enlightened. Let's work together to make this a successful year.

Until next month . . .

Your President,
Ray Currin

AGGREGATE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1983-1984 Fiscal Year

- I. Increase National's Value to the Chapters
 1. Develop the Directory
 2. Promote Education
 3. Develop PCEA Product Lines
 4. Centralized Services
 5. President's Bulletin
 6. The National Estimator
- II. Increase Professionalism
 1. Improve Communication
 - a. Chapter-to-Chapter through sharing ideas and newsletters
 - b. National-to-chapter through National board meetings, National Estimator, and President's Bulletins
 - c. Chapter-to-National through chapter meeting minutes, newsletters, and National board meetings
 - d. PCEA to-the-public through the media and civic involvement
 - e. PCEA to other professional organizations through interaction at meetings, seminars, etc.
 2. Improve cooperation
 3. Polish our Image
- III. Increase Number of Chapters from Twelve to Sixteen
Target Areas: Tidewater, Va.; Savannah, Ga., Chattanooga, and/or Knoxville, Tenn.; Asheville, N.C.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Macon, Ga.; Atlanta, Ga. (second chapter).
- IV. 1350 Members by Convention Time 1984

VISIBLE COMMENCEMENT

A recent North Carolina Supreme Court case has given the building industry the definition of "visible commencement." The case was in Charlotte and was entitled Frank H. Connor Co. vs. Spanish Inn, Charlotte, Ltd. In that case, the N.C. Supreme Court updated the statutory definition of the term "labor" necessary to establish a mechanics lien under the N.C. General Statutes. The facts of the case involved a subcontractor clearing building lines, doing a survey, and staking the building corners on the site prior to the recording of a construction loan deed of trust on the same property. When a problem arose concerning payment, the contractor perfected his lien and brought an action to enforce it. The trial held that because the contractor's activities were before the recording of the construction deed of trust, his mechanics' lien should be given priority. The lender appealed contending that the work done by the contractor prior to the recordation of its deed of trust did not constitute the "labor" required to establish a lien under the N.C. General Statutes, and that the lien did not accrue until "commencement of building."

The Supreme Court in rejecting a definition of "labor" as manual, unskilled work of a toilsome nature noted that the work had not been construed in over sixty years and concluded that "labor" should, therefore, be broadened to include modern skilled workers. Such a definition brought clearing and staking of building lines within the meaning of "labor" as used in the N.C. General Statutes.

The Court further found that the N.C. General Statutes were unique among the fifty states in dating the accrual of a mechanics' lien not from the commencement of building, but rather from the first furnishing of labor and materials at the site. Nevertheless, it is held that the N.C. Statutes implicitly require a visible commencement of the improvement and that partially clearing and the staking of the outlines of the building were sufficient to meet this requirement. The Court's addition of the term "visible commencement" is in keeping with the intent of the draftsman of the Statute that persons interested in the subject lot should be able to examine the property and ascertain the extent to which it is possibly encumbered.

The partial clearing of a site and the staking of the building as the first furnishing of labor constitutes a visible commencement of an improvement sufficient to put a prudent man on notice that positive improvement is underway and that the property might be subject to a lien. In a 1975 amendment to the N.C. General Statutes, a new right was created for a lien in those who perform or furnish professional design or surveying services.

The decision preserved the opportunity to discover the existence of potential liens on property while increasing the protection available to a contractor through the use of a mechanics' lien. The next issue will concern the topic of the last furnishing of labor or materials.

Perry R. Safran
Marshall and Safran, Attorneys at Law

MEMBERSHIP EXTENSION COMMITTEE

I am pleased to announce two very important appointments to the Membership Committee: Mr. Jack McClure, Charlotte, North Carolina, and Mr. Tim Schmahl, Richmond, Virginia, have accepted the duties of Vice Chairman. With the addition of Jack and Tim to this committee, I can promise a full and productive year ahead for PCEA.

Item 1 — Asheville, North Carolina: My most recent discussions (7/14/83) with Mr. Gerald Vaughn, Asheville Concrete Materials, have not been very productive. Gerald has been talking to a number of people who have indicated a desire to join PCEA, however, they do not wish to serve as a worker to establish the chapter or serve as an officer once chartered. Gerald and I are to converse by telephone during the early part of the week of July 18. Hopefully we can set up a short meeting for me with several of the interested parties.

Although things in Asheville do not appear to be very good, my committee will give it our best shot.

Item 2 — Nashville, Tennessee: I have recently received information regarding interest in PCEA in the Nashville area. Acting on this information, I contacted Mr. Charles Girtman, who is with Lankford Hardware and Supply Company in Nashville. Charles is a past charter member of the Atlanta, Georgia chapter and is very interested in establishing a chapter in Nashville.

I have forwarded some preliminary information to him on 7/12/83 and I have promised him the necessary materials, i.e. Procedures Manual and posters by 7/22/83.

Charles advised that he has been talking to numerous people in Nashville about PCEA and that there is a genuine interest in establishing a chapter.

Item 3 — Jacksonville, Florida: My latest contact (6/2/83) with Jimmy Whitted has not produced any positive results. Jimmy advised that contacts are being and have been made. On a recent trip to Jacksonville, Florida, I was unable to make personal contact with Jimmy.

Item 4 — Florence/Myrtle Beach, South Carolina: I have been furnished information in the form of a contact in the Florence area, Mr. Dan G. Askins, Jr., with Wm. C. Logan and Associates. This information was a direct result of a seminar in Southern Pines sponsored by the ABC and presented by none other than our very own Charles E. Bowen from the Triad Chapter.

Pursuant to receiving this information I have established contact with Mr. Askins. At this point in time, Dan feels that there are not enough "Contractors" in the Florence area to establish a chapter there. I have given him the name of Mr. James Monroe, of Binswanger Glass Company, who is a past member of Chapter 5 and is currently working in the Florence and Myrtle Beach area.

I also suggested that he may wish to visit Columbia and possibly join their chapter in the interim.

In closing this report I wish to request that all National Directors read this report in part at their next general membership meeting and inquire at that time if any member might have information that would assist this committee in its endeavor for the 1983-84 year.

With everyone in our association putting forth a small amount of effort we can and will G-R-O-W.

— Larry A. Thompson

FINAL REPORT & SUMMARY FOR YEAR 1982-83

N. C. LEGISLATIVE

In follow-up to my Legislative Report No. 1 the Senate gave tentative approval on Tuesday, May 17, 1983, to shorten Legislative sessions in the coming years. The final vote on this Bill in the Senate is due soon and is expected to pass. The Bill would then be sent to the House for approval. The purpose of the Bill is to preserve the Citizen-Legislator concept.

A bill has been filed in the House that would limit the operation of Tandem-trailer trucks to Interstate highways and four-lane roads in the Federal-aid primary system that have full control of access. This same Bill would also limit the size of any single trailer to 28 feet but allow "reasonable access" between highways and points of loading and unloading.

The N.C. Employment Security Commission has presently two items of legislation before the General Assembly to try and protect the financial solvency of the N.C. Unemployment Insurance Fund. The problem with the N.C. Fund is a result of record high unemployment levels. Both Bills H. 77 and H. 737 are still in committee.

The North Carolina General Assembly was not in session until the second half of our fiscal year reconvening on January 12, 1983. Due to the short time the Legislature has been in session I made only one previous report which was printed in the February, 1983 edition of "The National Estimator."

RESULTS OF CONVENTION SITE QUESTIONNAIRE:

A copy of the questionnaire was placed in the Convention Packet for each member attending the 1983 Convention and was sent to each of the National Directors on May 23 with the request that it be circulated to each chapter's members and that all replies be returned by July 1.

As of July 5, we received 146 replies, a majority of which were from members who had attended the 1983 Convention and/or previous conventions. A breakdown of replies by chapters is as follows:

Charlotte 61	Coastal Plains 4
Triangle 30	Greenville 3
Triad 12	Blue Ridge 3
Columbia 12	Dixie 2
Fayetteville 11	Catawba 0
Atlanta 8	CSRA 0

We feel that this was an excellent response from the members on this type of survey.

There are many ways the answers can be analyzed; our opinion regarding the answers received are as follows:

Question No. 1 — A large percentage of members prefer that we hold the convention in May, no matter where we might have to move it. Our By-Laws say the convention shall be held in the month of May, or proximity - this is due to the fact that our fiscal year runs from June 1 to May 31, and generally speaking costs in resort areas are less in May than in June.

Question No. 2 — This one really is a "can of worms." Although the question did not mention Myrtle Beach, 49 replies indicated they still prefer Myrtle Beach, whereas other locations (152) were preferred for 1984 if possible, or 1985 for sure. The only problem is the "other locations" responses varied greatly. The largest vote getters were Hilton Head, Asheville and Charleston.

Question No. 3 — There were more yes, "keep the convention at Myrtle Beach in 1984 (even if it means a June date)" than no's, and several "yes - but's," however, there was a fairly strong indication that we should try to move the 1984 convention out of Myrtle Beach, or at least try to back it up to a May date.

Ted Wilson and I have met with representatives from Meetings, Inc. of Charlotte. They have volunteered to gather the necessary information to make a preliminary proposal (budget proposal) to us on two or three possible sites for our 1985 convention, and they may possibly be able to come up with an alternate proposal for our 1984 convention at some site other than the Landmark at Myrtle Beach.

Our recommendation is that we authorize Meetings, Inc. to proceed with their preliminary proposals right away and that we specify these specific locations for their investigation: Myrtle Beach, Hilton Head, Asheville and Charleston.

G. Keith Middleton

EDUCATION REPORT

The 1983-84 year promises to be the best ever from the standpoint of education. The informative seminar held in Charlotte in January under the leadership of Robert Thaxton started us on the road toward every chapter having an improved relationship and more involvement with their local junior and senior high schools, technical institutes, community colleges, and four-year institutions. Every chapter is encouraged to participate in some type of "external" education project through scholarships, equipment donations, etc. If you need ideas or assistance, contact me at 919/292-9231. Incidentally, we have typed transcripts of the above referenced seminar which included excellent ideas for assisting the construction education programs at the types of schools mentioned above. For a copy of this transcript, call Carl Seager at 919/292-9284.

Emphasis will also be placed this year upon our own professional education. Plans are in the works for a PCEA sponsored seminar to be held in November or possibly in conjunction with the '84 National Convention. We may decide that we need a seminar in November and at the Convention, too. We are open for any ideas or help in planning this seminar.

In August several PCEA representatives attended a reception held by Carolinas Construction Training Council in Charlotte for vocational education teachers in North Carolina. At this reception, held in connection with a statewide vocational teachers meeting, we were able to express our thoughts about young people entering the construction industry and the role that we, PCEA, and the instructors could play in encouraging and developing future construction industry employees.

— Eddie Carroll, Chairman
Education Committee

FALSE ALARM

As a result of recent articles in various construction publications pertaining to "blindness from arc welding," I offer the following medical report:

— Jim Stephens
Safety Associates

Recent reports being circulated of damage caused by contact lenses adhering to the eyes of workers engaged in activities causing electrical sparks arcs are totally untrue.

No one has been able to determine who started the widespread rumor which has resulted in many industrial companies banning the use of contact lenses by their workers. The American Optometric Association states that the safety directors of the two companies where the incidents reportedly occurred - Duquesne Electric and United Parcel Service, both in Pittsburgh, Pa., have denied that any such incidents or injuries ever happened to any of their employees.

The false safety alert, which has been posted on bulletin boards in various plants across the country, states that in two separate incidents contact lenses were bonded to the corneas of men as a result of exposure to electrical sparks and arcs.

There has never been a case where an electrical arc has dried up the tear fluid or caused the contact lenses to melt resulting in adhesion of the lenses to the eye. If such heat were generated that it could melt a contact lens then it would also be so intense that it would have the same effect on the lenses in a welder's goggle. This does not happen.

Both the American Optometric Association and the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness agree: contact lenses are not a replacement for safety glasses. Contact lenses should be worn in industry only in conjunction with proper safety shields, goggles, or other protection in conformance with OSHA regulations. In a resolution introduced by the Contact Lens Section of the American Optometric Association and passed by the members of that association at their annual conference in June 1983 it is recognized that contact lenses are not a substitute for an appropriate safety device and strongly recommends eye protection whenever such glasses or shields would be normally required. The American Optometric Association supports the use of contact lenses in industrial environs and opposes arbitrary restrictions to them unless documented research or experience proves some special hazard actually exists.

Protective eyewear should be chosen based on the types of hazards involved. The eyewear should be properly fitted and adjusted. Excessive pitting or scratching of the spectacle lenses reduces their impact resistance properties.

When eye emergencies do occur it is important to deal with them as effectively as possible. Proper policies and employee instruction in basis emergency procedures may avert serious damage to the eyes.

The risks to sight in the industrial setting are many. It is up to the employer to recognize these hazards and take the appropriate precautions. The employer must be knowledgeable in the area of eye protection, educate their employees on the need for proper eye protection, and assure that it is worn properly. Eye care professionals have the responsibility of working with industry to keep them informed of improved safety protection or potential hazards. Sometimes it takes a scare story or rumor to remind us all that the lines of communication must remain open.

—Dr. Morris Sheffer,
Eye Care Clinic
Charlotte, N. C.

TEST: Circle the correct answer to the following:

The shortest distance between two points is:

- A. Under construction
- B. Through a swamp full of hungry alligators
- C. Not esthetically beautiful enough for the architect
- D. Is too efficient and too economically feasible for the government
- E. All of the above

CLARIFIED? Section of once confusing specification:

DESCRIPTION OF WORK:

General: This section specifies the general interrelation of mechanical/electrical (M/E) provisions with general work provisions; and specifies certain mechanical/electrical requirements which are common to general work which contains mechanical/electrical components; and specifies certain general work requirements which are common to mechanical/electrical work which contains general work components. Specific requirements not indicated in this section are hereby defined to comply with applicable provisions of other Sections of these specifications.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

As your new Editor, the first thing I want to do is congratulate Ray Currin on the wonderful job he has done as Editor for the past two years.

I am sure he will be equally as conscientious and as successful as our new President. Once again Ray, congratulations on a job well done and we're looking forward to a great year with you as our President.

Having been only a Chapter Editor, this "National Thing" is a little mind-boggling here at the beginning — but with everyone's help and with what information and experience we can glean from Ray, we'll do our best to make this the greatest newsletter yet! However, it will be only as great as the information each Chapter provides, so do your part. Don't forget to keep those Chapter newsletters coming and if any member finds some interesting or amusing tidbit, send it to me at Graham Hodge Associates, P. O. Box 5188, Greenville, S. C. 29606, and I will use it as space permits. Let's do it!

— Wertz Burnett

~~1982-83~~ National Board

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