



ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OCTOBER 2015

Director's Comments:

When you have as many quality members as we do in AUCA, it's sometimes hard to single out individuals for special accolades. However, at our recent General Meeting, we were tasked with presenting awards for both the Contractor Member of the Year, and the Associate Member of the Year.

While many members could be deserving of these awards, two individuals stood out for what they have done for our group this year:

Contractor Member of the Year:



Gavin Jones
Bama Utility Contractors, Inc.
Birmingham, AL

Associate Member of the Year:



Dwight Swaim
Tractor & Equipment Company
Decatur, AL

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Working with great men like Gavin and Dwight has certainly helped make my transition into the role of Executive Director a much smoother process this year. I'm thankful for them both, and for all that they do to help further the cause of AUCA for the benefit of all of our members, as well as for their respective companies.

Tim

Upcoming AUCA Events:

November 10th at 11:30 a.m. - Tuscaloosa Area Meeting

The Levee Bar & Grill
1 Bridge Avenue, Northport, AL 35476

November 12th at 11:30 a.m. - Mobile Area Meeting

Wintzell's Oyster House
6700 Airport Blvd., Mobile, AL 36608

November 17th at 11:30 a.m. - Birmingham Area Meeting

The Irondale Café / Original Whistle Stop
1906 1st Avenue North, Irondale, AL 35210

November 19th at 11:30 a.m. - Huntsville Area Meeting

Wintzell's Oyster House
5100 Sanderson Road NW, Huntsville, AL 35805

The U.S. Department of Labor began distributing voluntary Davis-Bacon Prevailing Wage Rate Surveys in Alabama in August. The survey period will continue through February 2016, and includes all counties in Alabama, and covers Highway, and Building and Heavy Construction projects that were active during the time frame of January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014.

The Main Topic for all 4th Quarter AUCA Meetings will Cover the Ongoing Davis-Bacon Wage Rate Survey Process.



Mark Your Calendars Today!



Upcoming Industry Events:

Construction, Manufacturing and Distribution Company Year-End Seminar

AUCA member company Carr, Riggs & Ingram will host their annual Year-End Seminar
November 5, 2015
Robert Trent Jones – Oxmoor Valley Clubhouse
100 Sunbelt Parkway, Birmingham, AL 35211

This year's program will cover several issues such as:

- **Reel In Potential Fraudsters:** *6 Best Practices for Vendor Authorization*
- **Join the A-List for Revenue Recognition:** *Steps to Get Started Now*
- **Lights, Camera, Take Action on Taxes and Estates:** *Year-End Bright Ideas for Minimizing Your Tax Liabilities*

To Register Please Contact

Patricia Williams - Carr, Riggs & Ingram
205-949-8640
pwilliams@cricpa.com



Upcoming Auctions: ***November 6, 2015***

AL Department of Transportation Auction
Montgomery, AL

December 2-3, 2015

Trucks, Construction and Forestry Equipment
Montgomery, AL

For more information visit
www.jmwood.com



SAVE THE DATE
December 1, 2014

2nd Annual Alabama Construction Law Summit

Sponsored by the Construction Law Section of the
Alabama State Bar

Hyatt Regency Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham

For information on sponsorship opportunities,
please contact Beacon Programs at 205 887 3000 or
beacon.programs@aol.com



News & Notes:

**ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION
2016 LEADERSHIP TEAM**

The list of Officers and Directors below reflects the members elected to serve on the 2016 Leadership Team at the October 15, 2015 General Meeting in Montgomery.

AUCA sincerely appreciates the past service of those rolling off the Board (Ripp Mitchell of Southern Pipe & Supply, and Jim Riis of Forterra Pipe & Precast), and looks forward to working with our newest members in the coming year.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: SHAUN GONZALES, *WESCO*

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: ERIC HUDGENS, *SLOAN UTILITY CONTRACTING*

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: AARON SCHMIDT, *SCHMIDT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION INC.*

SECRETARY/TREASURER: GAVIN JONES, *BAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS*

BOARD MEMBERS

RONNIE GOLDEN, *GOLDEN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT)*

RANDY BISHOP, *CONSTRUCTION LABOR SERVICES, INC.*

DOUG BLANKENSHIP, *BLANKENSHIP CONTRACTING, INC.*

BILL MCGOUGH, *W.R. MITCHELL*

MARK MAYFIELD, *MILLER PIPELINE LLC*

RICHARD MURPHREE, *DRM UTILITIES LLC*

ANDRU BRAMBLETT, *SOUTHERN LIGHT**

LANNY FIEVET, *ADVANCE TANK & CONSTRUCTION*

LARRY LOGSDON, *WALLACE, JORDAN, RATLIFF, & BRANDT, LLC*

BILL CARTER, *AMERICAN DUCTILE IRON PIPE*

STEVE WALKER, *JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.*

LAIN CHENEY, *FERGUSON WATERWORKS**

TERRY YOUNG, *MRM**

** Indicates New Board Members for 2016*



News & Notes:

OSHA Confined Space Standard for Construction

The new OSHA Standard for Confined Spaces in Construction went into effect on August 3, 2015. Full enforcement of the new standard was postponed for 60 days from the effective date until October 2, 2015.

OSHA has extended this deadline for **residential contractors** until January 8, 2016. Click [here](#) to read the full memorandum. For contractors working in residential construction and services (i.e. plumbers, electricians, HVAC technicians, insulators...etc.), this will buy additional time with regards to your residential projects and becoming fully compliant with adequately trained authorized personnel and gas monitors.

However, for those working outside of residential construction (virtually every AUCA member company), the standard is now under full enforcement.

In September, AUCA hosted Competent Person Confined Space Training classes in Birmingham and Tuscaloosa based on the new standard. If you did not have the opportunity to attend either class, but would be interested in future training, please contact the AUCA office.

City of Birmingham Business License Fee Ordinance:

Earlier this month, the City of Birmingham passed a "revised" Ordinance replacing the one that was passed back in the Spring of this year. Although not perfect, the Ordinance met all requirements as asked by the construction industry coalition representatives.

The revised Ordinance includes a \$25,000 cap, allows for a deduction of the amount of payments made to sub-contractors for services performed by said sub-contractors, regardless of the sub-contractor's office location, and clarifies the definition of "work" on projects within the city.

*Example: Contractor has a construction project in Huntsville for a total contract amount of \$1,000,000.00 (1 million dollars). \$950,000 of the construction work is performed by the Contractor solely in Huntsville and \$50,000 of the construction work (drafting, home office p.m., etc.) is performed by the Contractor solely in the Birmingham office. The amount of revenue to be include in "gross receipts" for the purpose of the Contractor's Birmingham license tax would be \$50,000.**

**In this example, the contractor is not claiming any exemptions (i.e. any payments to any sub-contractors).*

We will discuss this in greater detail at our next Birmingham Area Meeting. If you would like to receive a full copy of the Ordinance, please contact the AUCA office.



News & Notes:

Utility Contractors Association Leadership Conference



AUCA Executive Director Tim Ayers had an opportunity to attend a Leadership Conference in Chicago on October 22-23rd that included fellow Executive Directors and Members of the Clean Water Construction Coalition from around the country. This was a wonderful opportunity to discuss the latest developments in Association Management, as well as goals for improved Infrastructure funding at the state and federal levels.

AUCA Newest Member Company:

Global Construction & Engineering, Inc. - Birmingham, AL
Company Representative: Singh Kahlon

As was mentioned last month in the newsletter, AUCA now has a presence on Facebook. Don't forget to check out our page, www.facebook.com/AlabamaUCA, and remember to "like" us.



Clean Water Construction Coalition Report

Bob Briant, Jr. - Chairman CWCC

Congress Approves Short Term Continuing Resolution Measure and Averts Government Shutdown

Hours before the September 30, 2015 midnight deadline, Congress approved a stopgap spending measure to fund the federal government at the federal fiscal year 2015 appropriation levels. The temporary Continuing Resolution legislation will finance federal programs through December 11, 2015. To date, the House has passed a number of appropriation bills while Senate Committees have moved only a few spending bills.

Congressional budget negotiations will have to resume shortly in order to avoid a government shut-down on December 12th. Automatic spending cuts to all federal programs are in effect while Republican leaders are seeking to increase military spending and the President and Democrats want to increase spending on domestic programs. This will complicate negotiations unless Congressional leaders can find longer-term savings elsewhere in the budget.

The short term Continuing Resolution is good news for Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF programs. Currently the Clean Water SRF FY 2015 program is funded at \$1.448 billion and the Safe Drinking Water SRF spending is \$906 million. Both the House and Senate have proposed spending cuts to these construction programs for federal fiscal year 2016. Under the Continuing Resolution, the higher FY 2015 spending levels will continue. Coalition representatives will continue to focus efforts on supporting a continuing resolution while advocating for increased funding in the Senate.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Democrat Committee Members Work to Draft Clean Water Reauthorization Measure

Democratic members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee have drafted a Clean Water reauthorization bill that substantially increases funding for the Clean Water SRF. The five-year reauthorization measure provides funding at \$2.4 billion for FY 2016, \$2.7 billion for FY 2017, \$2.8 billion for FY 2018, \$2.9 billion for FY 2019 and \$3 billion for FY 2020. The proposal also authorizes an additional \$500 million each year (\$2.5 billion total) for sewer overflow grants. House T & I Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA) has stated that after the Federal Transportation program is renewed, the Committee will focus its attention to reauthorizing the Clean Water Act.

The Coalition was asked to provide comments on the draft bill which the Coalition sent to the Committee in September.



Fleet Safety:

Provided by Josh Broaddus @ J. Smith Lanier & Company

Watch out for Children this Halloween

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration reports that Halloween is consistently one of the top three days for pedestrian injuries and fatalities, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that children are four times more likely to be struck by a motor vehicle on Halloween than any other day of the year.



Tips for helping keep young ones and yourself safe this Halloween:

- Slow down in residential neighborhoods and obey all traffic signs and signals. Drive at least 5 mph below the posted speed limit to give yourself extra time to react to children who may dart into the street.
- Many young children start trick-or-treating in the late afternoon/early evening, so be alert all day long. Watch for children walking on roadways, medians, and curbs.
- Look for children crossing the street. They may not be paying attention to traffic and cross the street mid-block or between parked cars.
- Turn on your headlights to make yourself more visible – even in the day light and especially at sunset.
- Broaden your scanning by looking for children left and right into yards and front porches.

General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

Thanks to the incredible support by AUCA members for making our 2015 Fall General Meeting, Raffle, and Sporting Clay Shoot a tremendous success. More than 120 members and guests enjoyed the wonderful weather and camaraderie at the event.



Alabama Senate President Pro-Tem Del Marsh speaks to the crowd of AUCA members and guests at the AUCA Fall General Meeting in Montgomery on October 15, 2015.

Gold Sponsors:



General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

Silver Sponsors:

Golden Construction Company
Warrior Tractor & Equipment
Rental Inc.
National Trench Safety
Knapheide Truck Equipment
Service Pump & Compressor
Southern Pipe & Supply
Thompson Tractor Company
Veterans Construction

Southern Light
Schmidt Environmental
Construction
Flint Equipment Company
Ferguson Waterworks
Warrior Tractor & Equipment
Rental Inc.
Southern Pipe & Supply

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Tractor & Equipment Company
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Consolidated Pipe & Supply
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HD Supply Waterworks
W.R. Mitchell Contractor
Dyas Human Resource Development
Truitt Insurance & Bonding
Great Lakes Petroleum
Turner Insurance & Bonding

Refreshment Sponsor:



General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

Door Prize Sponsors:

Consolidated Pipe & Supply Company

Four (4) Alabama 500 Talladega Race Tickets
for the Sunday, October 25th Race

Tractor & Equipment Company

Four (4) Alabama vs. Charleston Southern Football Tickets
for the Saturday, November 21st Game

HD Supply Waterworks

\$100 Cabela's Gift Card

Terry Young/MRM

\$50 Outback Steakhouse Gift Card

Alagasco

Stainless Steel Drink Tumblers



AUCA President Ronnie Golden was Presented a Plaque for His 2 Years of Outstanding Leadership for AUCA.

AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle Winners

Over \$5,000 was raised during the recent AUCA PAC Raffle to help support our Legislative efforts.



Aaron Schmidt
Schmidt Environmental Construction



Jeff Jones
Schmidt Environmental Construction

General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

1st Place Team - WESCO



WESCO Team - Shaun Gonzales, Mason Gonzales, Billy Thomas, and Tom Brunton
Each Team Member Received \$100 and a 1st Place Trophy

2nd Place Team - Warrior Tractor & Equipment - Oxford



Warrior Tractor Team - Mike Phillips, Mark Acker,
Jason Smith, and Ricky Burford
Each Team Member Received \$75 and a Trophy

3rd Place Team - Southern Pipe & Supply - Birmingham



Southern Pipe Team - Emil Persons, Buck Christian,
Michael Walker, and Peyton Walker
Each Team Member Received \$50 and a Trophy



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Plan administrator

- We track eligibility and mail enrollment kits to home address
- Participants call vendor for all issues
- New compliance process eliminates costly errors
- Arduous paper notices mailed by vendor
- Loans, hardship, etc., all handled by vendor!



For more information please contact
**Linda Smith and Jodi McMahon at
205-536-9204**

Linda Smith and Jodi McMahon are registered Investment Advisors Representative, with Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., A broker dealer, member FINRA/SPIC. Cambridge, BenSource Employee Benefits, and AUCA are not affiliates.

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***AUCA IS A MEMBER-DRIVEN, NEEDS
FOCUSED TRADE ASSOCIATION CREATED
SOLELY TO PROMOTE AND ADVANCE THE
UTILITY INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF
ALABAMA.***

**We're on the Web !
www.aluca.org**

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