

## ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

**TIM AYERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
OCTOBER 2023**

### **2023 AUCA Award Recipients:**

**Outgoing President:  
Doug Blankenship**



*AUCA President Doug Blankenship from Blankenship Contracting in Dothan speaks after being recognized for his service as AUCA President in 2023.*

**Contractor of the Year:  
Lambert Inc.**



**Associate Member of the Year:  
Alcrete Industries**



**Legislator of the Year:  
Representative Randall Shedd**



A record 32 teams participated in the AUCA Sporting Clay Shoot, making it our largest event to date. We appreciate the many sponsors, volunteers and participants that graciously made this possible.

#### **Inside This Issue:**

Fall Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap	1-14
News & Notes	15-16
Upcoming Events	17
CWCC Report	18-19
Health & Safety	20

## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*

Thanks to the incredible support by AUCA members for making our 2023 Fall General Meeting, PAC Raffle, and Sporting Clay Shoot another tremendous success.

### Gold Sponsors:



## Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:

### Silver Sponsors:



### Bronze Sponsors:



## **Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:**

### **Participant & Door Prize Sponsors:**

Alabama 811  
AUCA  
CompTrust AGC  
Cowin Equipment Company  
Go Build Alabama  
Knapheide Truck Equipment  
Miller Pipeline  
National Trench Safety  
Safeway Industrial Services  
Southern Linc  
SET Logistics  
Tractor & Equipment Company

---

### **Refreshment Sponsor:**

Drinks & Snacks During Sporting Clay Shoot  
Courtesy of:



---

## **AUCA PAC Fundraising Raffle Winners**

**\$1,000 Cash Prize Winner:**  
Carla Crawford

**\$500 Cash Prize Winner:**  
Shirley Byrd



## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



*Coach Jack Crowe speaks to the record crowd that was on hand for the AUCA Fall General Meeting on October 12, 2023 at Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club in Montgomery.*



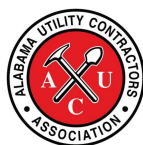
## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



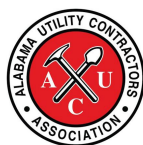
*AUCA Board Member Andru Bramblett shares a special moment with his daughter, Dru.*

*Dru is the reigning "Miss Eastern Shore" and will be competing for the title of "Miss Alabama" later this summer.*

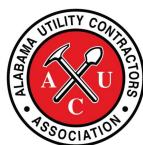
*For the 2nd year in a row, Dru opened the AUCA Fall Meeting with a stirring rendition of the National Anthem. It was made even more special this year since it was also her birthday.*



## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



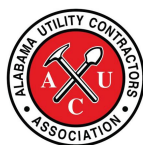
## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



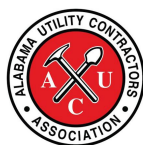
## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*



## *Fall General Meeting & Sporting Clay Shoot Recap:*

### **1st Place Team - Tractor & Equipment Company**



Tractor & Equipment Company Team  
Each Team Member Received \$100 and a 1st Place Trophy

### **2nd Place Team Alabama Pipe & Supply**



Alabama Pipe & Supply - Rodney Breland Team  
Each Team Member Received \$75 and a Trophy

### **3rd Place Team Greenhalgh Insurance**



Greenhalgh Insurance Team  
Each Team Member Received \$50 and a Trophy

## *News & Notes:*

### ***ALABAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION 2024 LEADERSHIP TEAM***

The list of Officers and Directors below reflects the members elected to serve on the 2024 Leadership Team at the October 12, 2023 Fall General Meeting in Montgomery.

#### ***OFFICERS***

**PRESIDENT:** JAY HOLCOMB, LAMBERT, INC.

**1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** RONNIE GOLDEN, CG JONES, LLC

**2ND VICE PRESIDENT:** GAVIN JONES, BAMA UTILITY CONTRACTORS, INC.

**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** ROBBIE BUTLER, CLEARY CONSTRUCTION, INC.

#### ***BOARD MEMBERS***

RANDY BISHOP, CONSTRUCTION LABOR SERVICES, INC.

DOUG BLANKENSHIP, BLANKENSHIP CONTRACTING, INC. \*

ANDRU BRAMBLETT, AFL

BILL CARTER, BILL CARTER CONSULTING, LLC

TIM GILLIAM, JOHN PLOTT COMPANY

SHAUN GONZALES, WEAVER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMPANY, INC.

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

MARK MAYFIELD, MILLER PIPELINE, LLC

RYAN McCLENDON, MARSHMcLENNAN AGENCY

BILL McGOUGH, W.R. MITCHELL CONTRACTOR, INC.

RICHARD MURPHREE, EMPIRE PIPE & SUPPLY

AARON SCHMIDT, SCHMIDT ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRUCTION, INC.

CHARLES SMITH, VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY

CHAD TUBBS, FERGUSON WATERWORKS

STEVE WALKER, JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.

*\*IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT*



## **News & Notes:**

### **In Memory of Dan Stracener:**

We are deeply saddened to report the passing of Dan Stracener, longtime Executive of Tractor & Equipment Company. Dan passed away unexpectedly on October 21st at the age of 62.

Please keep the Stracener family and employees of TEC in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

---

### **AUCA 2024 Calendars:**

AUCA will soon be receiving a supply of 2024 AUCA Calendars. If you would like to have one of these hanging on your office wall before they're all gone, please contact the AUCA office and we will make arrangements for delivery.

---

### **Alabama Legislative News:**

Alabama State Senator Steve Livingston has been elected as the new Senate majority leader. He will succeed Senator Clay Scofield, who recently resigned his position from the Legislature to become executive vice president of the Business Council of Alabama. Scofield was first elected to the State Legislature in 2010, becoming majority leader of the state Senate in 2020.

Governor Kay Ivey will announce a special election in the next few weeks to fill Scofield's now-vacant seat. State Representative Wes Kitchens is the first to announce his candidacy.

The deadline for qualifying for Alabama's newly drawn U.S. Congressional districts is coming soon, and the number and variety of candidates will be very interesting.

District 2 was created by a Special Master assigned by a federal court after the U.S. Supreme Court declared Alabama's gerrymandered congressional districts racist and ordered them redrawn to provide the state's Black voters with a second district with an "opportunity" to elect the candidate of their choice.

U.S. Representative Barry Moore is the incumbent for Alabama's 2nd congressional district, but his hometown of Enterprise was redrawn and added into the 1st district following the court-ordered redistricting of Alabama's congressional map. Moore has announced that he will square off against U.S. Representative Jerry Carl in a Republican battle for the newly redrawn and highly conservative 1st congressional district seat in South Alabama.



## *Upcoming Meetings & Events:*

***AUCA Board of Directors Meeting***  
**Thursday, December 7, 2023**

---

***AUCA Industry Lunch Meetings***  
**Dates and Locations To Be Announced**

---

***OSHA Competent Person Training Class***  
**Date and Location To Be Announced**

---

***AUCA 2024 Spring General Meeting,  
Golf Tournament and Shrimp & Crawfish Boil***  
**Thursday, April 18, 2024**  
**Arrowhead Country Club**  
**Montgomery, AL**

---



***AUCA 2024 Fall General Meeting  
& Sporting Clay Shoot***  
**October 2024**  
**Lower Wetumpka Shotgun Sports Club**  
**Montgomery, AL**



## **Clean Water Construction Coalition Report**

From Ryan Sharpe - Chairman CWCC & Sante Esposito - Key Advocates

### **October 2023 Insights**

#### **Government Shutdown Averted**

Congress narrowly avoided a government shutdown by passing a continuing resolution that extends current government spending for another 45 days. This resolution, which maintains federal agency spending at FY23 levels, was signed into law after passing both houses with bi-partisan support.

However, the vote on this agreement has resulted in some right-wing Republicans announcing they will seek to oust Speaker Kevin McCarthy. Congress now has until Nov. 17 to reach a budget deal or pass another continuing resolution.

#### **Spending Caps**

Advancement of the Appropriations bills continues to be held up by internal struggles over spending in the House Republican Caucus with a number of members seeking to enact stringent spending cuts.

As of this writing, three Appropriations bills have passed the House, while six of the remaining eight Appropriations bills have cleared the Appropriations Committee. In the Senate, all 12 Appropriations have been approved by the Appropriations Committee, but none have cleared the Senate.

In September, the House Budget Committee approved a proposal to balance the Federal budget in ten years which includes significant spending cuts. The measure is unlikely to pass the Democrat-controlled Senate.

#### **FY24 Appropriations Bills**

As we have previously reported, the allocations for the State Revolving Funds (SRF) differ significantly in the House and Senate version of the Appropriations bills.

The House bill provides a general fund base allotment of \$535 million in Clean Water SRF funding, plus \$470 million for earmarks. The Senate version provides a general fund base allotment of \$1.29 billion, plus \$345 million for earmarks. For Safe Drinking Water SRFs, the House Interior Appropriations bill provides a general fund base allotment of \$460 million, plus \$410 million for earmarks. The Senate bill provides as a general fund base allotment, \$882 million and \$244 million for earmarks.

The additional \$2.62 billion for the Clean Water SRFs and \$3 billion for Safe Drinking Water SRFs appropriated in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) is not changed.

Both Appropriations bills would provide \$20 million over five years for Water Instruction Improvement for the Nation (WIIN) grants

*(Continued on page 19)*



## **Clean Water Construction Coalition Report**

*(Continued from page 18)*

### **CWCC Advocacy**

The Coalition continues to try to influence the process to head off funding cuts for SRFs. Coalition members were encouraged to urge their House and Senate Members to oppose these cuts and support SRF funding at the expected FY24 level.

The Coalition also wrote to the leadership of both Appropriations Committees expressing its opposition to SRF funding reductions and continues to express concern about earmark funding being used as takedown from the SRF base allotments. In addition, we are closely monitoring ongoing negotiations on the Appropriations process.

### **STREAM Act, S. 2162**

Due to the unfortunate passing of Senator Dianne Feinstein, efforts to advance her bill, known as the STREAM Act, are currently unsettled. As we have noted in previous reports, the Coalition has supported this measure which would provide over a billion dollars for water recycling, surface and groundwater projects, desalination projects, drinking water projects for disadvantaged communities, and environmental restoration projects.

### **Additional Issues/Bills of Interest**

We continue to monitor several other bills and issues, including Alternative Water Source Program and Mega Recycled Water Project funding and we are prepared to support efforts to provide additional infrastructure funding.



## **Health & Safety:**

### **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.



Alabama Utility Contractors Association  
P.O. Box 383185  
Birmingham, AL 35238-3185  
Phone: 205-582-9436  
Fax: 205-582-9155  
E-mail: [tim@aluca.org](mailto:tim@aluca.org)

***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](http://www.aluca.org)**

**Please print out this newsletter to share with  
others in your company. And, if you are  
receiving this for the company owner,  
please print out a copy for him/her.**

**Let AUCA Be Your Source For All Your  
Training Needs**

**Contact the Association Office for more information**

**facebook**



@AlabamaUCA

**Linkedin**

