

MERIT SHOP SPOKESMAN

ABC Keystone Newsletter • Issue 2 • 2017

ABC Craft Professionals AND THE Future of the Industry

The Construction Industry recently gained 54 skilled craftspeople, and ABC Keystone is honored to have had the opportunity to provide them with apprenticeship training. This year's Apprenticeship Graduation & Craft Professionals of the Year Awards Program was held on May 24, in Columbia, and featured Chuck Goodrich, ABC National Chair, of Gaylor Electric, Inc., Noblesville, IN. Six trades were represented, including the first graduating class of the new Heavy Equipment Operator program.

All of the 2017 graduates represent the future of the industry, and their dedication and high-level abilities were evident as multiple apprentices received recognition for perfect attendance and top grades. The following six students were awarded the High Achiever designation: David Beitman, H.B. McClure Company (Plumbing); Harry J. Feltenberger, Frey Lutz Corp. (Sheet Metal); Jonathan Leaman, Benchmark

Construction Co., Inc. (Carpentry); Jared McCoy, Haller Enterprises, Inc. (Electrical); David J. Strawser-Ortiz, J.D. Eckman, Inc. (Heavy Equipment Operator); and Robert C. Ulrich, Haller Enterprises (HVAC).

The quality of the Keystone Apprenticeship Program is shown through the dedication of the instructors. Each year, the Instructor of the Year Award is presented at Graduation to an individual who is chosen based in part on student reviews and classroom observations by staff and committee members. This year's recipient was Ralph "Homer" Kautz, Carpentry Level 2 Instructor, Wohlsen Construction Company. Ralph's commitment to the apprenticeship program is evident by his passion for sharing his knowledge and skill.

The future holds many growth and achievement opportunities for the graduates. Highlighting this potential for success was the presentation of



2017 High Achiever Award recipients (left to right): David Beitman, H.B. McClure Company (Plumbing); Harry J. Feltenberger, Frey Lutz Corp. (Sheet Metal); Heidi Brady, Wohlsen Construction Company, Chair 2017 Apprenticeship & Craft Training Committee; Jared McCoy, Haller Enterprises, Inc. (Electrical); David J. Strawser-Ortiz, J.D. Eckman, Inc. (HEO); Jonathan Leaman, Benchmark Construction Co., Inc. (Carpentry). Not pictured: Robert C. Ulrich, Haller Enterprises, Inc. (HVAC)

the Craft Professionals of the Year Awards at this year's event. This was the inaugural year for this awards program through the Keystone Chapter, and eagle trophies were presented to two well-deserving recipients: Charles P. Bowman, the Witmer Group (Exterior Veneers); and Larry Woodfin, Wohlsen Construction Company (Carpentry). These two men are fine examples to the recent graduates as they both represent the level of accomplishment and skill obtainable in a craft professional's future.

Thank you to the sponsors, instructors, Apprenticeship and Craft Training Committee, the Apprenticeship & Training Trust Trustees, the graduates and their companies and families for a wonderful evening. "It is an honor and pleasure to be part of the apprenticeship program, and especially Graduation, where we celebrate the graduates' accomplishments. Congratulations to all 54 graduates, and we wish you all the best in your future endeavors," Cindy DeWire, Director of Apprenticeship, ABC Keystone.

Off and Running

Blame it on the 24-hour news cycle or on our insatiable thirst for political turmoil. Whatever the reason, the day the 2016 election cycle ended, the 2018 campaign for Pennsylvania's Governor began.

Ending months and months of speculation, state Senator Scott Wagner (R-York) disclosed in a press interview the day after the 2016 Presidential election that he intended to run for Governor. The millionaire businessman, with a family history in construction, shocked the Commonwealth in 2014, by becoming the first state elected official to win via write-in, defeating former House member Ron Miller for a vacant Senate seat in York. Wagner immediately began a bombastic and controversial run, placing blame for a staid, stagnant legislature at the feet of then-Senate Majority Leader Dominic Pileggi (R-Delaware). Wagner worked behind the scenes, and months later, Pileggi was out, and conservative Sen. Jake Corman was in. Wagner also assumed the role as head of the Senate Republican Campaign Committee

(SRCC), targeting Senate districts in play in 2016, and helping to deliver Republicans a 34-seat "super majority." But as long as Tom Wolf is Governor, Wagner says he'll never rest. With his self-made fortune and aggressive tactics, Wagner will certainly be a thorn in the Governor's side.

In January of 2017, another name began percolating as a potential contender for the Governor's mansion. Paul Mango built McKinsey & Co., a Pittsburgh-based healthcare consulting company. A graduate of West Point and the Harvard Business School, Mango quickly recruited some of the top political consultants in Pennsylvania. His measured approach and collected style are in sharp contrast to the bombastic Wagner, who once threatened to "be sitting in the back room with a baseball bat." Mango points to his financial consulting experience as a boon for Pennsylvania's growing fiscal issues, citing a \$44 billion pension obligation and a need to shrink state government, but his philosophical platform may be too far afield of the purpleish electorate. Mango has stated that he is ardently



**Senator
Scott Wagner**

pro-life and would support defunding Title X programs, which are provided for at the federal level and typically support organizations such as Planned Parenthood.

Finally, House Speaker Mike Turzai (R-Allegheny) has begun exploring a potential run for Governor. Turzai, who has explored but never committed to running for Governor in the past, cites Governor Wolf's half-hearted attempt at private alcohol sales. Despite a revised licensing structure that allows for more privatized wine and beer sales, Turzai's goal is complete divestiture of the Commonwealth from alcohol sales, ostensibly allowing private business to sell wine, beer, and distilled spirits. Turzai also points to his conservative



**House Speaker
Mike Turzai**

legislative record as a success in keeping taxes low and government small since 2001.

Whoever walks away from the 2018 Republican primary will undoubtedly have a tough road to hoe in the general election. Following his protracted budget battle with House and Senate Republicans, Wolf's poll numbers were as low as 31% in 2016. But recently, Pennsylvanians seemed to have turned the other cheek. With his latest budget proposal highlighting significant consolidation of social services and health agencies, Wolf's poll numbers are now mid-40%, equal to Ed Rendell months before he easily won re-election in 2006.



Paul Mango



Letter from **DONNA J. SHOFF**

2017 CHAIR OF THE BOARD; PRESIDENT, H.L. WIKER, INC.

America the Beautiful

This is the time of year when the weather is finally warmer, and we look forward to outdoor activities like picnics, swimming, hiking, and family vacations. Summertime began with the celebration of Memorial Day, a day of remembrance for those who have died while serving our nation. Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, was officially proclaimed in May of 1868. There is evidence that women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War. Some call Memorial Day the "unofficial" start to summer.

The next patriotic holiday was Flag Day on June 14. Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the United States flag which occurred on June 14, 1777. Flag Day was officially proclaimed in 1916, and in 1949, National Flag Day was established by Act of Congress. Since then, the United States President proclaims the

commemoration yearly and encourages all Americans to display the flag outside their homes and businesses.

On July 4, we celebrate Independence Day, the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776. The first Independence Day celebration took place on July 4, 1777, the year following the signing of the Declaration of Independence. By the early 1800's the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established as a way to celebrate America's birthday.

With all the patriotic holidays this time of the year, the summer season provides numerous opportunities to show your love for our great country and to recognize the importance of living in a country where we are free to choose our own destiny, conduct business freely, and experience unlimited opportunities. It's also a great time of the year to express our sincere

gratitude to our dedicated military: past, present, and future. Because of their bravery and unselfish sacrifices, we can enjoy freedom, not just this time of the year, but each and every day.

Consider displaying the American Flag proudly during patriotic holidays, or better yet, display the flag every day of the year. As you look at it with honor, take time to think of all the blessings we have living and working in the great nation of the United States of America. Remember the people who served, and those who currently serve, our country to make freedom possible. Never take freedom for granted. Like most worthwhile things in life, we must work hard to preserve it.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer. I hope to see you at an ABC event soon!

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Thank You, ABC Keystone

BY KATE MCCASLIN, ABC PRESIDENT-CEO



For me, being a member of the ABC Keystone team over the past two years has been nothing short of amazing. By working together as a team, dedicated to our members and free enterprise, we have moved ABC forward, accomplishing many significant goals, bringing added value to our members and advancing the Merit Shop cause.

But sometimes, life presents opportunities that simply cannot be ignored. In my case, I have been offered, and have accepted, a position with the Morning Star Boys Ranch (MSBR) in my home town of Spokane, Washington. Thus, I will be leaving ABC Keystone shortly. MSBR has an incredible mission of helping young boys who have experienced extremely difficult circumstances overcome these adversities and grow into productive and positive men — their results are outstanding.

For 21 years, it has been my honor to help further ABC's extraordinary mission of advancing free enterprise, small business and the Merit Shop. The door has now been opened for me to assist MSBR fulfill its remarkable mission. It is a challenge that I cannot pass up.

Leaving ABC is difficult. I have learned from all of you — leaders, members and my colleagues on staff. It is safe to say that ABC Keystone leaders, members and staff are second to none in terms of their professionalism and dedication to free enterprise and the Merit Shop. Experiencing Central Pennsylvania has been wonderful, and I have loved every minute (well maybe not always the humidity), and it is an experience I will forever treasure.

Thank you so very much!

I will leave you with one of my favorite quotes . . .

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts."

- Winston Churchill

Fight on my friends, and never give up in the battle for free enterprise and the Merit Shop!

Yours for the Merit Shop,

Kate McCaslin
President-CEO

MEETING MEMBERS' NEEDS

NEED CERTIFIED WELDERS? ABC KEYSTONE OFFERS WELDING TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

If you are looking to get your welders certified and on the job quickly, ABC Keystone has the solution. Keystone will be offering ASME Pipe Welding and D1.1 Structural Welding in 2017. In addition to these "block time" training programs, the Chapter will also be offering a certification-only option. This will allow you to send your employees to ABC Keystone for assessment and training as needed to obtain certification, and we are currently working with a third party independent

Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) for this purpose.

This NEW program from ABC Keystone gives you access to high quality welding training in a convenient location. Take advantage of a shorter time-frame through the block program scheduling which will allow your employees to return to the job quickly with high level skills and certification. Contact Dave at the Chapter office for more information.

NCCER ACCREDITED ASSESSMENT CENTER COMING TO KEYSTONE

Helping You to Evaluate the Skills of Your Potential New Employees

You take care to hire the very best employees possible, and ABC is here to help make that process easier for you. Keystone staffers Jo Ann Breneman, CEP, Director of Career Development, and Cindy Dewire, Director of Apprenticeship, have both recently passed their NCCER Master Trainer and Assessment Administrator Certifications. This is the first step towards developing the NCCER Accredited Assessment Center here at Keystone.

The Assessment Center will provide you with an analysis of the trade-specific

skill knowledge and abilities of your potential new-hires, including training recommendations tailored to their needs. Following an assessment, you will be able to feel confident that the employees you are hiring have the skills they claim to possess, and you will know specifically what training they might still need.

Creating a quality workforce is your top priority, and ABC Keystone is here to help you achieve that goal. Watch for more information from Keystone in the very near future and contact Jo Ann at the Chapter office for more information.

Message from G. David Sload, Interim President, ABC Keystone

On behalf of ABC Keystone, I would like to sincerely thank Kate McCaslin for her expertise and ideas that have helped to keep Keystone moving forward while providing the greatest value to you, the members. Kate's commitment to ABC and her dedicated leadership has been exemplary. We wish her the very best in her new position.

As Interim President, I would like to assure you that during this time of transition, it will be business as usual here at ABC Keystone. Our staff is here to assist you, and as always, our primary goal is to serve your needs to

help you and your business prosper. Just as Kate made it her priority to assist members when they reached out to her with concerns or needs, I will also make it my top priority. I look forward to this new role, and I am committed to keeping Keystone moving forward.

We will be certain to keep you, the members, informed of updates during this time as we transition leadership. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at the Chapter office if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your support of the Merit Shop!

JOHN E. FULLERTON INC. ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

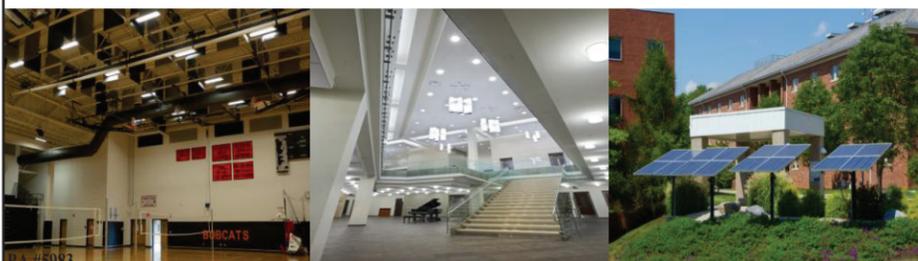
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Join Us at the Next ABC Event!

FEATURED EVENTS:

SUMMER OUTDOOR MIXER PRESENTED BY BARLEY SNYDER

Tuesday, August 8
5 pm – 7:30 pm (YP hour: 4 pm – 5 pm)
John Wright Restaurant, Wrightsville
YP hour, band and 300+ in attendance.

CLAY SHOOT & PICNIC PRESENTED BY OSS HEALTH

Thursday, September 21
8 am, 12 pm & 4 pm Flights
Central Penn Sporting Clays, Wellsville
Meal and drinks provided following your flight!

CHILI COOK-OFF CORNHOLE TOURNEY

Thursday, October 5
4 pm – 8 pm
Tailgate in the ABC Keystone Parking Lot
Compete in chili, cornhole or both.

EXCELLENCE IN CONSTRUCTION AWARDS GALA

Wednesday, October 25
5 pm Reception;
6:15 pm – 9 pm
Dinner & Program
Eden Resort & Suites, Lancaster
Celebrate with 300+ industry leaders!

Contact Barbara Holtzapple to sponsor any of these events, including exclusive title sponsorships! Barbara is also available to answer your questions regarding EIC, ABC events and the C.O.R.E. sponsorship program.

VISIT THE CALENDAR PAGE
OF ABCKEYSTONE.ORG FOR
A COMPLETE EVENT LIST.

REGIONAL CONSTRUCTION WAKE-UP CALL EVENTS:

Network with your colleagues in your backyard!

Topic to be announced soon!

7:30 am – 8:45 am

Wednesday, September 13

Northeast Regional at Baker Tilly

Wednesday, September 20

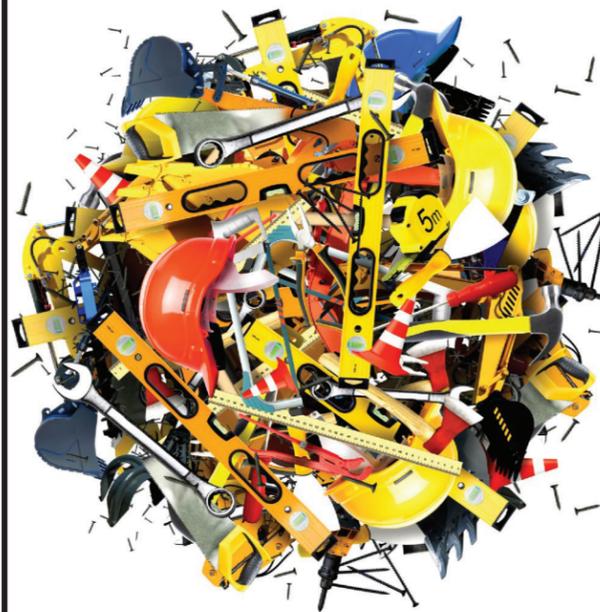
Southwest Regional at Conewago

Wednesday, October 4

Capitol Region at Gannett Fleming

Wednesday, October 11

Lancaster Region at ABC Keystone



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ABC Keystone Recognizes Contractors for their Outstanding Safety Performance

The high safety standards in place at ABC member companies were recognized at the 2017 Safety Awards Dinner presented by RLS Construction Group on May 4, at the Sheraton Harrisburg Hershey Hotel. Award-winning companies were celebrated at the event for their strong safety programs. “This prestigious group of Pennsylvania contractors is committed to protecting their workers through aggressive job safety and health programs,” said ABC Keystone Chapter’s Vice President, Education & Workforce Development, G. David Sload. “ABC’s goal is to send every construction industry employee home in the same—or better—condition than which they arrived, and we applaud the companywide commitment to jobsite safety made by each of these award-winning member companies.”

At the event, two companies were awarded the highest level of Diamond: DESCCO Design & Construction, Inc. (Fleetwood), and RLS Construction Group (Mechanicsburg); and Platinum level was awarded to Houck Services, Inc (Harrisburg). This year, 17 companies were awarded Gold, and 24 companies achieved Silver. These companies have proven their commitment to safety and the standards upheld by ABC.

A strong safety program is also evidenced by a partnership with OSHA. The Keystone Chapter was proud to present certificates to 12 companies who were recognized at the event as OSHA Partners.

Please visit the News Releases page of abckeystone.org for a complete list of award winners.

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MERIT SHOP SPOKESMAN

UPCOMING TRAINING

COMPETENT PERSON: JOBSITE SAFETY
July 11 | 7:30 am – 1:30 pm

CEO ROUNDTABLE
(Exclusive for CEO / Owners / Executive Leadership)
July 27 | 7:30 am – 9:30 am

ADULT AED, CPR & FIRST AID
July 18 or 20 | 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm
August 22 or 24 | 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
September 19 or 21 | 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm

10-HOUR OSHA
July 18 & July 19 | 1:00 pm – 6:30 pm

SAFETY FORUM: FALL PROTECTION - ADDRESSING THE USUAL AND MORE COMPLICATED FALL HAZARDS
August 23 | 7:30 am – 9:30 am

BASIC BLUEPRINT READING
September 11, 18, 25,
October 9, 16, 23, 30 & November 6
7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT SERIES
Sign up for the entire series or individual sessions!
September 12, 2017 - June 12, 2018
The second Tuesday of each month
8:00 am – 10:00 am

SELF-MANAGEMENT: THE ART OF GETTING THINGS DONE!
Part of the Leadership Development Series
September 12 | 8:00 am – 10:00 am

SALES WORKS! GENERATING REVENUE & DEVELOPING LONG TERM CLIENTS
September 20, 27, October 4 & 12
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

CONSTRUCTION ORGANIZATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY FOR SPECIALTY CONTRACTING FIRMS
September 28 | 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS/EMERGENCY RESPONSE: IMPLEMENTING A DISASTER PLAN
September 28 | 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm

ESSENTIALS OF LEADERSHIP & PROJECT MANAGEMENT
September 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26, November 2 & 9
8:00 am – 11:00 am

DEVELOPING YOUR SKILLED LABOR & LEADERS
October 6 | 8:00 am – 11:00 am

FUNDAMENTALS OF CREW LEADERSHIP
October 19 | 7:30 am – 11:30 am &
October 20 | 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

All training held at ABC Keystone.
Visit www.abckeystone.org for more information.

Contact Jo Ann to set up any career development training as a customized training tailored to your company's needs!
joann@abckeystone.org

Contact Kevin for customized safety training and services!
kevin@abckeystone.org

You select the dates and times —
your place or ABC!
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