Forever Part of the Fabric

For the past 31 years, since July 1982, John F. Bennett, Sr. has served on the Board of Directors of this Association. He was President in 1990-91. In fact, the monthly Networking breakfasts started the year John became president. He took an active part in inviting general contractors to host the breakfasts and there were very few that he did not personally attend. Over the years there have been few events that John and his wife Mary were not in attendance.

John’s career on the Board started as a material supplier member under his company Colorite Building Supply. That company was later acquired by Rinker Materials, which retained John to head their sales efforts. In 2006 John left Rinker to work for Baker Concrete to develop business opportunities for the large subcontractor. Then, two years ago he joined general contractor Coastal Construction Group in Miami to seek out new business.

Like clockwork, every two years John would renew his commitment to serve on the Board and be reelected, all while being active on the Boards of the Ft. Lauderdale Executives, ASPE, ABC, AGC and several other community and industry organizations. Of no surprise, John was instrumental in starting the Construction Executives Association (CEA).

While many notable characters have served on the CASF Board, John is the only one to have served for 31 consecutive years. His compassion for the construction industry and his community are apparent through his dedicated service to the CASF. He is an important part of the development of this organization over the past 31 years through his ideals and ability to help make policy decisions that benefited all members. It is undeniable that the results of the actions and participation of John F. Bennett, Sr. are forever woven into the fabric that makes the Construction Association of South Florida the proactive industry association it is today.

Member News

Miller Construction Company recently launched construction of Building 31, a 171,944-square-foot industrial/warehouse building at the Flagler Station business park in Miami-Dade County.

Miller’s crews are building the tilt-wall structure on an expedited schedule for completion this October. The new building is located at 10200 NW 110 Avenue in Miami.

Contractors are reporting business benefits from instituting strong safety programs, according to a new report by McGraw Hill Construction on safety management in the construction industry.

In particular, construction companies report the following benefits due to the implementation of safety management practices:

- 51% report increases in project ROI; with a fifth of those reporting increases of greater than 5%
- 43% report faster project schedules, with half reporting schedule improvements of a week or more
- 39% report a decrease in project budget from a safety program, with a quarter reporting decreases of 5% or more.
- Only 15% reported that safety programs cost firms more—debunking the myth that safety has to negatively affect a firm’s bottom line.
- 82% report an improved reputation
- 71% report lower injury rates
- 66% report they have a greater ability to contract new work
- 66% report better project quality.

63rd Installation Banquet Pictures
Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by Skanska, USA, will be held on Thursday, July 18, 7:30 a.m. at Shula’s Hotel in Miami Lakes.

ABC Concrete Cutting, Inc. was founded in 1971 by Larry McCoy. After moving from California, Larry worked hard to convince the South Florida construction industry that concrete was a faster and more efficient solution than using a jackhammer. For 30 years, he and his employees helped build the company into a South Florida mainstay. Larry passed away in July of 2004 and the business was carried on by his wife, Faith, and his employees helped maintain equipment, providing well-trained courteous and productive personnel and completing all work correctly the first time and, of course, fair prices. Keeping the employees happy and safe is also extremely important. Concerns and ideas from the employees are always welcomed, since management encourages them to take pride in being a part of the company.

The company currently employs 40 people and continues to grow. Some key employees are General Manager, Joseph Bland, Sales Manager, Darlene Quinones, Operations Manager, Mike Reynolds, and Office Manager, Lori Giusti. “Some of the best things about working for ABC Concrete is the family atmosphere, the great teamwork, and the opportunity to always learn something new,” states Quinones, who has been with the company for 4 years.

ABC provides the construction industry with many services, some of which include Electric and Gas Flat Sawing, Core Drilling up to 60’ Deep, Wire Sawing, Bollard Installation, Concrete Pour Back, Ground Penetrating, Radar, Wall Sawing, Polishing, Concrete Treatments and Corrections, and Specialty Installations. They stand out from their competitors by providing 24-hour service and having special equipment, which allows them to take on any job no matter how difficult. Some recent projects include the wire sawing for the sunken pier in the Bahamas, the Marlins parking garage and the Airport to Port of Miami Tunnel Project.

Having just joined CASF two months ago, ABC has definitely been taking advantage of the many networking opportunities. “CASF has great, outgoing members who make you feel welcome and that has allowed us to get out and meet new people,” expresses Quinones.

ABC Concrete Cutting, Inc.’s office is located at 2251 Hammondville Road, Pompano Beach, FL 33069. For more information call 954-523-4848 or visit www.abcconcretecutting.com.
Preparing for Deadly Lightning Storms

With summer at hand, this is a good time to prepare employees to keep safe during summer storms. Lightning storms, for example, can be killers.

Every year, people are struck by lightning. Many are killed on the spot. Some survive with burns and injuries to internal organs. But few escape unharmed.

Signs of a Brewing Storm
The signs of an oncoming storm are easy to spot. They include:
- Darkening skies
- Large cauliflower-shaped clouds
- Rumbles of thunder

When these signs are present, it's time to take precautions. Those who have access to TV or radio weather alerts can check those. Others may be able to access the Internet on their smartphones and

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<th>If Thunder Is Heard</th>
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<td>5 seconds after a Flash</td>
<td>1 mile away</td>
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<td>10 seconds after a Flash</td>
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Precautions
When a lighting storm threatens you should follow these precautions:
- Seek shelter inside a building whenever possible. Avoid open shelters like pavilions or porches.
- Once inside, stay away from open windows, sinks, toilets, tubs, showers, electric boxes, and appliances.
- Don't take a shower or bath during a lightning storm.
- Avoid using a landline telephone. Cell phones are OK.

- If in a vehicle, stay in the vehicle and roll up the windows.

If you are caught outside and there is no shelter or no time to seek adequate shelter:
- Crouch down on the balls of your feet with your feet close together.
- Keep your hands on your knees and lower your head.
- Get as low as possible without touching your hands or knees to the ground, but do not lie down.

According to the New York State Department of Health, you'll know if lighting is just about to strike where you are if your skin tingles and your hair stands on end.

If you have time, however, rather than crouching where you are, it's safest to find a low spot nearby away from trees, metal fences, pipes, and tall or long objects.

If you're in the woods, look for an area of shorter trees. Crouch down away from tree trunks.

If you're swimming, fishing, or boating and there are towering cauliflower-shaped clouds, dark skies, and distant rumbles of thunder or flashes of lightning, get to land immediately and seek shelter.

If you are in a boat and can't get to shore, go into the cabin or crouch down in the middle of an open boat.
Palm Beach Scavenger Hunt & Happy Hour
Thursday, June 12

Winners: Hensel Phelps Construction
Scott Denis, Thomas Fountain, Catherine Woodworth, Valene Bermudez & Kelsey Billingsley
25-year Member
Brown & Brown, Inc.
Eric Woodling

55-year Member
Hill York Service Corporation, Todd Aquilo

40-year Member
Miller Construction Co.
Tom Miller

25-year Member
Central Broward Construction
Justin Lord

25-year Member
Crowe Horwath, LLP
Mark Andrews

25-year Member
Balfour Beatty Construction Co.
Clinton Glass

25-year Member
Brown & Brown, Inc.
Eric Woodling

25-year Member
Right Way Plumbing Co.
Chuck Ermer

25-year Member
Structural Roof Systems
Tony Martin

25-year Member
Whiting-Turner Contracting Co.
Frank Zaremba

15-year Member
Central Florida Equip.
Bob Baer

15-year Member
Collingsworth, Alter, et.al
Justin Failoni

15-year Member
Tubs & More Decorative Plumbing
Jayne and Doug Johnson

10-year Member
Coral Steel Co.
Lee Disbury

10-year Member
Dura-Stress
Glenn Switzer

10-year Member
Hensel Phelps Construction
Derek Hoffine

2013-14 Board of Directors: (l to r) Chris Long, Bill Bower, Past President, Rick Schuerger, Frank Frione, 2nd V.P, Craig Heiser, President, Doug Wallace, Immediate Past President, Mindy Szarowicz, Bob Baer, 1st V.P., Michael O’Donoghue, Chuck Ermer, Past President 2004-05, Mike Fee, Justin Lord, Don Ferguson and John Siegle

63rd Annual Installation Banquet
Renaissance Hotel, Plantation
Thursday, June 6, 2013
Doug Wallace reviews his year as CASF President

CASF’s FIU Scholarship 2013 Winner, Hector Gonzalez

Jim Gough receives recognition for serving on the Board of Directors

Doug Wallace receives thanks and recognition for his Year as President

Pam and Heath Eskalyo, Kelley Kronenberg
Heath is Legal Advisor to the Board

Craig Heiser states his objectives as President for the 2013-14 year.

2012-13 President’s Exceptional Service Award Winner
Don Ferguson, Cayman National Mfg.

Chuck Ermer, CASF Past-President 2004-05 installs the Officers and Directors

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