Welcome to the Orlando Chapter of the Professional Construction Estimators Association of America. The Orlando chapter was founded in 2002, and has grown to be one of the largest chapters in the organization. This fun-loving group of construction professionals meets on a monthly basis to exchange ideas, promote education, and recognize construction estimating as a professional service within the construction industry.

At PCEA Member Meetings, we strive for attendees to leave knowing that their time was well-spent. Speakers often include representatives of Owner’s presenting information about upcoming developments in both the public and private sectors of the construction industry. There are plenty of opportunities to network and socialize – whether it’s during the happy hours before each meeting, or at one of our many social events.

Membership provides a range of advantages that can benefit you professionally and personally, so please be sure to renew or sign up for the first time today. Your membership in the Professional Construction Estimators Association of America’s Orlando Chapter will not only reward you; but your dues and participation in events like our Annual Randy Welch Memorial Golf Tournament will pay for scholarships for young professionals furthering their careers in the construction industry.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me or other Board Members if you would like to get more involved. We hope you enjoy your time spent with us, and look forward to seeing you at future events.

Thank you,
Christina Kanhai
PCEA Orlando, Chapter President
UPCOMING PCEA ORLANDO EVENTS:

Be sure to register on the PCEA Orlando website for the following events:

- PCEA Monthly Meeting: October 23, 2018 at 5:30 PM
  Citrus Club, 285 South Orange Avenue #1800, Orlando, FL
  Walt Disney Imagineering: “Doing Business with Disney”
  Art Higginbotham, Project Controls Estimator Principle
  Mike Johnson, Executive Construction Manager
  Bill Hanus, Executive Project Manager
  Harry Weiss, VP Estimating and Planning

- PCEA Volunteer Event: November 13, 2018 at 1:00 – 4:00 PM
  The PCEA board would like you to join us in the spirit of giving…
  Second Harvest Food Bank, 411 Mercy Drive, Orlando, FL
  Happy Hour to follow!! — Location: TBD
  Registration: https://shfbcfvolunteerhub.com/lp/

- PCEA 16th Annual Randy Welch Memorial Scholarship Golf Tournament:
  December 7, 2018 at 8:00 AM
  The Ritz-Carlton Grande Lakes
  Registration Limited to 27 Foursomes ($1,200 per Team)
  Special Room Rate at the J. W. Marriott - $159.00

- PCEA Annual Christmas Party: Members Only
  December 13, 2018 at 6:00 – 8:00 PM
  Ace Cafe Orlando, 100 W. Livingston Street, Orlando, FL

CONSTRUCTION COST ON THE RISE 6.2%

Fuel, Metals, Asphalt and Gypsum Prices Post Large Annual Increases as Index for New Construction Gains Only 3.4 Percent, Intensifying Squeeze on Contractors Already Impacted by Labor Shortages

Prices for goods and services used in construction climbed 6.2 percent over the past year, intensifying a cost squeeze on contractors coping with widespread labor shortages, according to an analysis by the Associated General Contractors of America of new Labor Department data. Association officials noted that the cost increases come as many construction firms are already grappling with the impacts of labor shortages and the prospect of further tariffs on key materials.

“Price changes for construction materials in August were mixed, but contractors are likely to be hit with additional cost increases as new tariffs take hold, as well as significant labor cost escalation,” said the association’s chief economist, Ken Simonson. “Prices for goods and services used in construction rose over the past year at nearly double the rate that contractors have raised their bid prices to put up new buildings.”

The construction economist noted that the producer price index for inputs to construction industries—a weighted average of all goods and services used in construction (including items consumed by contractors, such as diesel fuel)—declined 0.8 percent from July to August but jumped 6.2 percent since August 2017. In contrast, an index that measures what contractors say they would charge to erect five types of nonresidential buildings rose just 3.4 percent over the year, indicating that contractors were absorbing more of the costs than they were passing on to owners.

Diesel fuel, steel, aluminum, asphalt paving mixtures and gypsum products were among the diverse products that contributed to the large year-over-year cost increases, the economist said. He pointed out that from August 2017 to August 2018, there were producer price index increases of 33.9 percent for diesel fuel, 18.6 percent for steel mill products, 14.0 percent for aluminum mill shapes, 9.2 percent for asphalt paving mixtures and blocks and 8.2 percent for gypsum products. Among services used in construction, the price index for truck transportation of freight climbed 7.2 percent over the year.

In addition, a survey the association released recently found that 80 percent of respondents reported difficulty filling hourly craft worker positions and 44 percent said project costs have been higher than anticipated. Association officials noted that many contractors reported they have increased pay and benefits to retain and recruit workers. Despite those increases, significant numbers of firms report labor shortages are forcing them to take longer to complete projects, putting them at risk of financial penalties.

“Contractors are having to pay more for many construction materials and workers yet appear to have limited ability to pass those costs along to their clients,” said Stephen E. Sandherr, the association’s chief executive officer. “The President and Congress can help by removing costly tariffs on key construction materials and boosting investments in career and technical education programs.”

ANNUAL SILVER SPONSORS

INTERIOR SPECIALTIES
PCEA’S ANNUAL STEAK ON THE LAKE:

Every September, our monthly membership meeting is substituted for a cookout at the Orange County Sportsman’s Association. Dubbed Steak on the Lake, this annual tradition is frequented by representatives of the leading companies in Central Florida’s construction industry.

PCEA Volunteer Event:
November 13, 2018 at 1:00 – 4:00 PM
The PCEA board would like you to join us in the spirit of giving…

Second Harvest Food Bank,
411 Mercy Drive, Orlando, FL
Registration: https://shfbcfvolunteerhub.com/lp/

Happy Hour to follow!!! –Location: TBD

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- KMI International
- Landreth, INC
- Liberty Concrete and Forming
- Mad Systems
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- Maschmeyer Concrete
- Mechanical Services of Central Florida, Inc
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- Modern Plumbing Industries, Inc.
- Odyssey Global
- Owen Electric Company Inc.
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- PCL Construction Services, Inc.
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- Plans & Specs Reprographics, Inc.
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