



The Tool Box

Serving the Electrical, HVAC & Plumbing Industries Since 1912

Volume 4, Issue 85 August 1, 2007

MCASC and ABC Awarded \$150,000 Grant From The Department Of Education

A major milestone for our association and industry occurred on July 3, 2007 with the announcement of a grant award of \$150,000 to MCASC and our collaborative partner, ABC, by the South Carolina Department of Education. This award was the direct result of our two associations working together to respond to a Request for Proposal from the DOE.

As you may recall, both MCASC and ABC have made recent efforts to focus our future, collective activities and thinking toward prompting positive change on four major issues within our industry. Those issues include: workforce development, improving the image of the industry, prequalification of contractors, and the cost of insurance - both benefits and liability. This grant provides the funding to address two of these issues (workforce development and industry image). **WE** must now work closely together to capitalize on this opportunity provided by our state government. We are responsible for utilizing this grant to begin the daunting task of tackling the most serious issue facing our industry today - the future workforce.

Our team will be led by Charlene Meetze, Meetze Plumbing - Columbia, and Gary Bishop, Vice President – Workforce Development of ABC-Charlotte. An execution plan for the first year is being developed at this time with initial focus on the upstate region of the state due to the current, similar ongoing activities underway there. Within six months, the project model will be introduced in the low country with the midlands scheduled to be introduced in the eleventh month. We are hopeful that future grant money will be available by DOE for ongoing efforts after the first year. This needs to be on our legislative agenda during the upcoming session of the general assembly.

The goal of the effort will be to introduce both middle and high school students, their counselors, administrators, teachers, and parents to the opportunities that are and will continue to be available in our industry here in South Carolina. A wide variety of activities are being planned to close the gap between our industry and the education community. The results of our efforts will not be measurable in a one year program so we need to demonstrate patience, perseverance, and leadership to stay the course with this effort.

We plan to roll out our initial template for project implementation at our area meetings in September. This information will make our membership aware of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in our efforts to have a successful program.

Three other associations were also awarded a similar grant to inform the next generation of the workforce to their specific industries. This is an opportunity for us to show our government, the education community, and our citizenry of the benefits of construction careers in South Carolina. We may not ever have such an opportunity again. Let's plan to make the most of this year's effort and begin the lobbying effort to have these types of grants available in future years by state government.

More than ever, we need to be attentive to the information disseminated and ensure that you and your firm participate in this effort when we come to your area. Your creative ideas and strong support are needed to capitalize on this opportunity to begin solving the greatest challenge to our industry – our future job force. Please forward all ideas to Charlene Meetze at ccmeetze@bellsouth.net.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Atlantic Electric Company</i>	
<i>Mechanical Member Article</i>	2
<i>August Birthdays</i>	2
<i>Safety Tip</i>	3
<i>Legislative Alert</i>	3
<i>Welcome New Members</i>	3
<i>Anniversaries</i>	3
<i>Thx Convention Sponsors</i>	4
<i>2007 Convention Winners</i>	5
<i>2007 Training Courses</i>	
<i>Registration Form</i>	6
<i>Thermal Resource Sales</i>	
<i>Associate Member Article</i>	7
<i>Area Meeting Calendar</i>	7
<i>Vision/Mission Statement</i>	8

**THE
MCASC BYLAWS
WERE
UNANIMOUSLY
REVISED 07-22-07
AT THE
OPEN BUSINESS
MEETING AT
CALLAWAY
GARDENS,
PINE MOUNTAIN,
GA**

**IF YOU WOULD
LIKE A COPY OF
THE NEW
BYLAWS
PLEASE CONTACT
THE STATE
OFFICE TO
REQUEST ONE**

Mechanical Member: ATLANTIC ELECTRIC COMPANY, LLC

Atlantic Electric Company was founded in 1969 by Legrand and Nell Richardson as a family owned business. Atlantic Electric was one of the first major open (merit) shop electrical contractors in the Charleston Area. The business continued to grow rapidly in the 70's and by 1980 Atlantic Electric was one of the largest electrical contractors in the state.

As a family owned business, the children (Lee, Lodema, and Mike) were expected to be part of the business. Lee and Mike were required to work in the field during summer months as electrician helpers from the age of 15. Lee graduated from the University of South Carolina with a BS in Electrical Engineering. Lee immediately joined the office staff of Atlantic as a project manager and estimator in 1976. Mike started working full time in 1980 as a job site superintendent and in 1982 became head superintendent for all field employees. Lodema graduated from Bauder Fashion College in 1981 with an interior decoration degree but moved into Atlantic accounting department in 1984.

Legrand and Nell sold Atlantic Electric to their three youngest children (Lee, Lodema, and Mike) in 1986. Lee became President, Mike Vice President, and Lodema Treasurer. Atlantic Electric continued to grow and prosper under this new leadership until 1999.

Atlantic Electric was sold to Building One Services Corporation in 1999 but the Richardson Family management team stayed in place. Building One Service Corporation merged with Group Maintenance Corporation to form Encompass Services Corporation in 2000. Unhappy with Encompass's direction, Lee and Lodema decided to leave the business in 2001. Mike remained on to help manage the company.

Atlantic Electric was purchased back from the now bankrupt Encompass Services Corporation in March of 2003 by Lee and Mike Richardson. Immediately, Atlantic Electric began to rebuild and return to its successful roots. Atlantic Electric is at the top of the electrical construction industry once again in South Carolina.

Atlantic Electric Company, LLC
P. O. Box 41347
Charleston, SC 29423-1347
Phone (843) 460-1202, Fax (843) 460-1203

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Tonja Ivey	8/2	Roger's Computer Service	
Guy Hancock	8/2	H. R. Allen, Inc.	
Jean King	8/2	James M. Pleasants Co., Inc. (G'ville)	Wife of Harry
Pat Deer	8/3	B & W Mechanical Contractors, Inc.	Wife of Tom
Richard Miller, Sr.	8/5	City Plumbing Co. of Florence, Inc.	
TJaye Wheeler	8/9	Eastern Industrial Supplies, Inc.	Wife of Greg
Gary Mullins	8/12	Insulation Contractors, Inc.	
Bob Hill	8/13	Honorary Life Member	
Gail Waldrop	8/14	Waldrop, Inc.	Wife of Benny
Beth Higdon	8/15	Bryce Mechanical Contractors, Inc.	Friend of Darlene
Missy Hunter	8/17	Ferguson Enterprises	Wife of Michael
Steve Tucker	8/18	Consolidated Pipe & Supply Co., Inc.	
Buz Teas	8/18	Smith & Stevenson, Inc.	
Allen Goff	8/21	SIFCO Mechanical, Inc.	
Jim Haynes	8/21	Faulkner, Haynes & Associates	
Reece McWilliams	8/21	Columbia Cooling & Heating. Co., Inc.	
Freddie T. Zeman, Jr.	8/21	Honorary Life Member	
Raymond DeAntonio	8/22	Transworld, Inc.	
Miriam Allen	8/22	H. R. Allen, Inc.	Wife of Roddy
Edward Gibbs	8/22	Bear Mechanical Services, Inc.	
Jimmy Shealy	8/23	Shealy & Sons Electric Co., Inc.	
Judy Minor	8/25	Honorary Life Member	
Mike Ribbich	8/27	Johnson Controls, Inc.	
Bob Duke	8/27	Honorary Life Member	
Cindy Prevatte	8/27	North Strand Mechanical, Inc.	Wife of Paul
Ron Kolanko	8/30	Atlantic Occupational Health	
Gordon Smith	8/31	Simpsonville Chevrolet	

*Happy Birthday Members! We Would Like To Announce Yours.
Please call the Birthday Hotline at 803-772-7834 or Email to mflowers@mcasc.com*

“Tool Box Talks” - Safety Tip

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

Dressing for a job means more than just wearing a shirt, pants and shoes. Safety equipment is provided for your protection. However, not everyone uses it as it is intended.

If a drill bit is being sharpened on a bench grinder, it generally takes only a few minutes. But, has anyone stopped to figure that in only a couple of **SECONDS**, an eye can be injured or perhaps put out by a piece of the wheel or bit? **IT DOES NOT HAPPEN OFTEN, BUT IT CAN HAPPEN.**

Most companies require the use of welding hoods, cutting goggles, safety glasses, dust masks, face shields, steel toed boots, hard hats, and/or other protective equipment for your protection – depending on the job. **USE THEM.** In cases of personal injury without using protection, there is no excuse. Your eyes, your hands, and your feet are essential to your personal health and happiness. Protect them.

RSS Safety will help by offering personal protection equipment to you on our new website: www.RSSsafetysolutions.com ALL MCASC members will get a 15% discount off their first order. Register online today!

REMEMBER: BE SAFE. DRESS SAFELY.

**By: Mel Rosas – RSS Safety, LLC
1122 Industrial Drive, Suite 109, Matthews, NC 28105**

Washington Legislative Alert!!!

The Healthy Families Act - (HFA, S. 910 / H.R. 1542)

Rather than supporting employer efforts to provide flexible, voluntary leave benefits for their workforce, Congress is considering legislation that would require employers with as few as 15 employees to provide seven (7) days of paid sick leave to all full-time employees, and a pro-rated amount of leave to part-time employees. This “one-size-fits-all” approach may actually cause more harm than good. Employers, not the federal government, are best situated to know the benefit and compensation needs of their employees. For All The Details Go To The Thomas Library of Congress at <http://thomas.loc.gov> and type in the Bill No in “Search Bill Text” You can also go to www.protectfamilyleave.org and go to “In Congress” to read the Healthy Families Act Fact Sheet and Issue Brief. Please contact your South Carolina Congressional Delegation in Washington to let your voices be heard.

Happy Anniversary

**Mr. & Mrs. Jim White - 8/9
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Parker - 8/12
Mr. & Mrs. Chris Cullum - 8/22
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Meetze - 8/26
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Clark - 8/30**

Welcome New Members

**Deborah Rella - Brown & Brown Insurance
Charleston, SC
Ken Clark - Thermal Resource Sales
Greenville, SC
John Spratlin - Keenan & Suggs, Inc.
Columbia, SC
Gerri Brown - Southeast Integration Services
Charleston, SC**

Friends and Family – Flora and Fauna

MCASC 152ND SEMI-ANNUAL CONVENTION - JULY 19-22, 2007

CALLAWAY GARDENS - PINE MOUNTAIN, GEORGIA

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

SPONSORS

- ADAMS EADDY & ASSOCIATES
- AMERISURE INSURANCE
- ATLANTIC ELECTRIC COMPANY
- BB&T/BOYLE-VAUGHAN INSURANCE
- B & L ELECTRIC COMPANY
- BOYKIN CONTRACTING, INC.
- BRYCE MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS, INC.
- CASHION ELECTRICIANS, INC.
- CHARLOTTE PIPE & FOUNDRY COMPANY
- CITY ELECTRIC
- CONTROL MANAGEMENT, INC.
- CREGGER COMPANY, INC.
- CRITICAL COMPONENTS, INC.
- ECK SUPPLY COMPANY
- FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, INC.
- GATEWAY SUPPLY COMPANY, INC.
- HAJOCA CORPORATION
- HD SUPPLY, INC.
- HILL PLUMBING & ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
- HOFFMAN & HOFFMAN, INC.
- JAMES M. PLEASANTS COMPANY, INC.
- LIGHTING PRODUCTS COMPANY
- METRO ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
- NORTH LAKE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.
- PREMIER LIGHTING
- RANDOM DRUG SCREENS, INC.
- ROBINSON McFADDEN
- SANTEE COOPER
- SHEALY & SONS ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
- SHEALY ELECTRICAL WHOLESALERS, INC.
- SIMPLEX GRINNELL
- SMITH & STEVENSON, INC.
- SMITH, KESLER & COMPANY
- SURPLUS MATERIALS NETWORK
- VICTAULIC
- WALDROP, INC.

OUR SINCEREST THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS YEARS
SUMMER CONVENTION A HUGE SUCCESS

2007 MCASC Summer Convention - AWARD WINNERS
Callaway Gardens
Pine Mountain, Georgia

POKER AWARDS

<u>Champion:</u>	<u>Cindy Prevatte</u>
<u>Table Winner:</u>	<u>Ned Forsberg</u>
<u>Table Winner:</u>	<u>Al Hitchcock</u>
<u>Table Winner:</u>	<u>Travis White</u>
<u>Table Winner:</u>	<u>Cindy Prevatte</u>

SPORTING CLAYS AWARDS

<u>1ST PLACE:</u>	<u>Frank Hill</u>
<u>2ND PLACE:</u>	<u>Bob Jacques</u>
<u>3RD PLACE:</u>	<u>Paul Prevatte & Weber Jacques</u>

GOLF AWARDS

<u>Captain's Choice</u>	<u>Bob Jacques</u>	<u>Jimmy Champion</u>
<u>Winning Team:</u>	<u>Taylor Brewer</u>	<u>Taylor Champion</u>
<u>Long Drive:</u>	<u># 6 Mitch Clark</u>	
<u>Closest to Pin:</u>	<u># 2 Darlene McGee</u>	<u>#10 Al Hitchcock</u>
	<u># 13 Buz Teas</u>	<u>#16 Jonathan Hunt</u>
<u>Best Dressed: Female:</u>	<u>Vicki Bobbitt</u>	<u>Male: Jimmy Champion</u>

SHOPPING AWARDS

<u>Georgia Economic Improvement:</u>	<u>Katrina Shealy</u>
<u>Shop Til You Drop:</u>	<u>Sandra Bishop</u>

OTHER AWARDS

EDUCATION PICK A WINNER AWARD:

Steve Brewer

EDUCATION PICK A WINNER AWARD:

Chris Kirkland



MCASC 2007 COURSE REGISTRATION



COMPLETE AND FAX OR MAIL TO MCASC
 P.O. BOX 384, COLUMBIA, SC 29202
 TELEPHONE #: 803-772-7834 FAX #: 803-731-0390
 EMAIL: mflowers@mcasc.com WEBSITE: www.mcasc.com

NAME: _____ **COMPANY:** _____

ADDRESS: _____ **PHONE:** _____ **FAX:** _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____ **EMAIL ADDRESS:** _____

NAME ON LICENSE: _____ **LICENSE NO.:** _____ **STATE:** _____

Payment Method

Please Invoice

Check Enclosed for \$ _____

NOTE:
 WE OFFER A DISCOUNT
 IF YOUR COMPANY REGISTERS
 THREE (3) OR MORE
 FOR THE SAME COURSE.

NOTE:
 All Courses Will Be Held At
 The MCASC State Office
 Training Facility
 1504 Morninghill Drive
 Columbia, SC

NOTICE:
 ANYONE FAILING TO WITHDRAW FROM A COURSE
 TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO ITS START WILL BE BILLED
 FOR THE ENTIRE COST OF THE COURSE.

PLEASE PLACE A CHECK BESIDE EACH COURSE YOU WISH TO REGISTER FOR:

NC & GA APPROVED
 Piping Tips For Better
 Hydronic Systems
 October 3, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC & GA APPROVED
 T. G. I. M. - Thank Goodness
 It's Monday
 October 17, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC, GA & AL APPROVED
 Collections In The
 Construction Industry
 October 24, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC & GA APPROVED
 Pump Maintenance
 November 7, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$ 175.00 Non-Member: \$ 225.00

NC, GA & AL APPROVED
 Measuring & Maximizing
 Employee Productivity
 November 28, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NOTE:
*Alabama Approval Pending
 On Some Courses*

NC & GA APPROVED
 T. G. I. M. - Thank Goodness
 It's Monday
 December 5, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$ 175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC & GA APPROVED
 Boiler Installation
 December 12, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

NC, GA & AL APPROVED
 Surviving An OSHA Inspection
 December 19, 2007 - Columbia
 Time: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 Member: \$175.00 Non-Member: \$225.00

**Associate Member:
THERMAL RESOURCE SALES, INC.**

Thermal Resource Sales (TRS) is an Independent Manufacturer's Representative firm, serving North & South Carolina. Headquartered in Kernersville, NC, we operate locally from 8 branch locations with offices in Charleston, Columbia, Greenville and Charlotte, serving our clients in South Carolina.

We specialize in providing engineered solutions for Commercial, Institutional & Industrial; Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Hydronic applications. With exclusive representation of over 40 industry leading manufacturers, our comprehensive offering of air-side and water-side products enable our Sales Engineers to provide clients with unique technical solutions and complete quotations for any mechanical project. TRS Sales Engineers strive to become our client's preferred vendor by providing high quality products and superior service from the design & quotation stage, through the order fulfillment, installation and equipment commissioning phases of each project.

We invite you to visit our web site at WWW.TRS-SESCO.COM or contact your local branch office for a complete overview of our products & capabilities.

Thermal Resource Sales, Inc.

Greenville Branch
120 Halton Rd, #20
Greenville, SC 29607
Ph: 864-250-2822

Columbia Branch
3021 McNaughton Dr, #4
Columbia, SC 29223
Ph: 803-419-6401

Charleston Branch
1038 Jenkins Rd, #111
Charleston, SC 29407
Ph: 843-556-7272

Charlotte Branch
6120T Brookshire FW
Charlotte, NC 28216
Ph: 704-392-7334

**Congratulations to our next Associate & Mechanical Members who will be highlighted in the upcoming issue of "The Tool Box":
Sunrise Technology Group, Inc., Charlotte - Associate Member
Gregory Electric Company, Inc., Columbia - Mechanical Member**

SEPTEMBER 2007 MONTHLY AREA MEETINGS

MIDLANDS AREA

Thursday, September 6, 2007 @ 6:00 PM
Location: MCASC State Office, 1504 Morninghill Dr., Columbia
Sponsored By: Rental Service Corp.

Topic: Career Clusters Partnership Grant
\$150,000.00 To Our Industry
How Can Your Company Benefit?

By Team Leaders: Charlene Meetze & Gary Bishop

PIEDMONT AREA - JOINT MEETING WITH ABC

Tuesday September 11, 2007 @ 6:00 PM
Location: 8345 Taylor Colquitt Road, Spartanburg
Sponsored By: Waldrop, Inc.

Topic: Career Clusters Partnership Grant
\$150,000.00 To Our Industry
How Can Your Company Benefit?

By Team Leaders: Charlene Meetze & Gary Bishop

PEE DEE AREA

Thursday September 20, 2007 @ 6:30 PM
Location: 1651 Hwy. 501, Myrtle Beach
Sponsored By: Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.

Topic: Career Clusters Partnership Grant
\$150,000.00 To Our Industry
How Can Your Company Benefit?

By Team Leaders: Charlene Meetze & Gary Bishop

COASTAL AREA

Tuesday, September 25, 2007 @ 6:00 PM
Location: 4447 Dorchester Road, N. Charleston
Sponsored By: ECK Supply

Topic: Career Clusters Partnership Grant
\$150,000.00 To Our Industry
How Can Your Company Benefit?

By Team Leaders: Charlene Meetze & Gary Bishop



P.O. Box 384, 29202
1504 Morninghill Drive
Columbia, SC 29210
Phone: (803) 772-7834
Fax: (803) 731-0390
E-mail: mflowers@mcasc.com
www.mcasc.com

*Serving mechanical contractors in
South Carolina since 1912.*

MCASC Executive Board & Staff

Henry Poplin, President
Chris Cullum, Vice-President
Richard Miller, Jr., Treasurer
Steve Brewer, Secretary
Bob Jacques, Associate President
Mona Flowers, Managing Director

Mechanicals make it happen -
Be part of the best!

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COLUMBIA, SC
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MCASC Vision Statement

The Mechanical Contractors Association of South Carolina will be the leading construction association in South Carolina for specialty contractors and suppliers in the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing fields by serving its membership, the industry, and the community in a vibrant and harmonious fashion.

MCASC Mission Statement

The Mechanical Contractors Association of South Carolina will provide its membership with:

- current business/technical information and support
 - a proactive political/legislative agenda
- a joint industry collaboration to improve relative business practices
- an ongoing effort to offer training opportunities for both professional and craft personnel
 - educational scholarships for deserving students
- the development of industry related career opportunities

The Association's objective for this mission is to enhance the future of the Construction Industry in South Carolina.