



# BUILDERS PLAN

MARCH 2013

P.O. Box 745

Ashtabula, Ohio 44005-0745

Telephone (440) 645-7496

ashtabulacountybuilders@windstream.net

www.ashtabulacountybuildersassociation.org

## ASHTABULA COUNTY BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

" The Voice of the Industry in Ashtabula County"

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Bill Romanko, President

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John Hogan, Secretary

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Doug Andes

George Csepegi V

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Dan Theiss

## COMMENTARY

Hello friends,

I want to thank those members that brought guests to our last meeting at Casa Capelli, it was nice to meet or re-meet those guests that came. We saw Otis Sandidge of S.& B. Floor Covering, Ron Elton of Ron's Repair, and also Anthony Metcalf of Metcalf Glass, I hope they enjoyed the information as much as the rest of us. Rich Vanek gave us an informative talk on the tax law changes.

I want to mention a change that you should notice prior to our next meeting, and that change is that your board will be calling you instead of Michelle. Sometimes it is important to occasionally touch base with the membership, and we will also be asking questions for the purpose of updating our files. I know currently we are probably sending out newsletters to people that are no longer employed or have moved on to different jobs, phone numbers change, email addresses change, etc. Sometimes it is easier to give your opinion or suggestions for changes you would like to see from the Builders when you have someone on the phone instead of when you are at a meeting so this would be an ideal time to do just that. Michelle may still call you to confirm your reservation at our meetings but the board will be calling you for your business information and to inform you of any upcoming events.

Now to the speaker of the month, Chris Jaskiewicz of VEC Inc. will be our guest speaker, his company is very involved in the gas and oil well business and he is going to tell us all there is to know about how to do business with this growing sector. I expect

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 14th Chris Jaskiewicz  
VEC Inc.  
Gas & Oil  
Elks

April 11th Informational Meeting  
Casa Capelli

May 4th Reverse Raffle  
4H Building Jefferson

Happy hour is 6:00pm - 7:00pm  
Dinner 7:00pm

RSVP by Monday prior to meeting date  
and  
if you need to cancel please call by  
Tuesday evening.

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that we could have a large turnout for this meeting so I would not wait to long to make your reservation. I saw Chris speak at the gas and oil well meeting that Growth Partnership had several months ago and I was very impressed with the information that he shared there and that is why I invited him to be our speaker. (See Enclosed Flyer) Remember that we are always looking for new members and if you know of a possible new member please bring them with you and they will be our guest. See you on March 14th at the Elks.

One more thing I would like to mention and that is that our annual reverse raffle is coming up on May 4th. If you are looking for tickets for this fun event you can contact Michelle or any of the board members and we will make sure that you get your tickets. Also we are looking for items for the Chinese auction table. If you have anything you would like to donate that would be great, things like sports tickets, items from your business, or anything that you would think someone would like to win is always accepted. Donations can be given to any board member or Michelle also. I hope to see you there.

Sincerely,  
  
Bill Romanko  
  
Your President

## *From our member...*

### **Networking Works**

Have you struggled with bid after bid? Do you spend hours putting the numbers down on a bid sheet just to have the same frustrating result, such as the bid went to another company because your numbers were a little too high. Maybe you got the information on the bid too late? Wouldn't it be nice to know about the bids a little sooner? Wouldn't it be nice to have an edge and know what is happening in the county before it happens? Wouldn't it be helpful to know if any codes have changed and how they affect the jobs you're working on? I am here to tell you that networking works! If you're like me you belong to more than one professional or social association and the problem that all of them face is how do they get membership up? The Ashtabula County Builders Association is no different. At our board meetings we work hard to plan meetings that are interesting and will benefit the association as a whole. The informative speakers should peak your interest and entice you to join us on a Thursday night but the relationships you build should make you want to come back.

In these tough economic times we are all looking for an edge to put our company over the hump. If you're reading this newsletter we believe that you already have that edge; you belong to the "BUILDERS". Now you have to exercise that edge by coming to meetings, mingle, share experiences and start building relationships. As owner of E & J Glass I decided to join the Builders a couple of years ago when we branched out into commercial glazing. I began coming to the meetings and getting to know the fine people that make up the association. Since then my business has grown drastically. By attending the meetings I know about bids that are being released as soon as they are available. I no longer have to hear it through the "grape vine" after everyone else knows about them. I met a couple of GC's that I now work with on a regular basis and almost all of the storefronts I installed last year originated at a builders meeting. Helping me know about a job is only one way that attending the builders Thursday meetings have helped me. Once you have a job it can be a pain in the neck to keep up with the codes and how they have changed from year to year. At the Builders we have that covered. Dan Theiss keeps us informed about changes before they happen. If its taxes you're worried about Rich Vanek helps us stay in line with the IRS. By taking the time to come to the meetings and networking you will become more than just a number at the bottom of a bid sheet. You will add a face to that number. NETWORKING WORKS!!! Put our meetings on your calendar and start making positive changes for your company.

Networking works is a column that we will begin to run in the monthly newsletter. Please e-mail us your own success stories from networking with the Ashtabula County Builders Association and we will add them to an upcoming newsletter so everyone can gain from them.



# Ashtabula County Builders Association

## March Meeting



Our guest speaker will be Chris Jaskiewicz, he is the Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President of Valley Electrical Consolidated, Inc (VEC). In 2001, VEC Systems Integrator was created to meet the low-voltage and information-technology demands of customers. 2003 saw the acquisition of Evets Electric Inc., one of the largest specialty electrical contractors in the country focusing on the oil and gas industries; this has provided VEC with increase prominence in electrical contracting across a broader spectrum of construction sectors. Evets also provides mechanical and civil services. In 2010, J.L. Allen Company, LLC was acquired, expanding VEC's oil and gas capabilities.

Mr. Jaskiewicz will be providing us information on the possible up coming opportunities for local contractors to get in on the ground floor on the Utica and Marcellus Shale work to come to our area. Working on a large gas and oil well production site requires more than just the ability to do the work, it requires special safety training and certifications which he will be discussing at our meeting and also some of the different areas of subcontracting that is available with many of the large producers and also the work that is available from companies such as his.

This is a meeting that no one should miss, the information that Chris will be presenting could be invaluable to anyone wanting to get involved in this new economic development in our area. Reservation for this meeting can be called into Michelle at 440-645-7496 for the March 14th, meeting to be held at the Elks.

## **First Aid & CPR Training**

**Thursday, March 21, 2013**

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Northwest Ambulance District  
1480 South Broadway (Rt. 534)  
Geneva, Ohio 44041

Cost: \$30 – First Aid & CPR  
(Light Beverages & Snacks Provided)

This training is facilitated by Northwest Ambulance District.

It is Co-Sponsored by:  
Ashtabula Area Chamber of Commerce  
Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce

PLEASE RESPONDED BY  
March 14, 2013  
TO RESERVE SPACE

Questions? Contact Sue Ellen, Geneva Chamber, at 440-466-8694  
or  
Jessica, Ashtabula Chamber, at 440-998-6998.

All payments should be sent to the information below:

Call, Fax Email or Mail to:  
Ashtabula Chamber of Commerce  
4536 Main Avenue  
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004

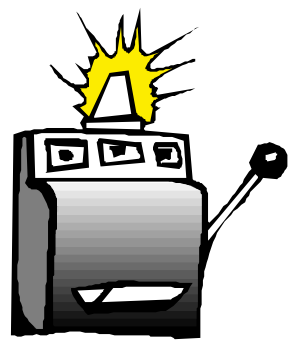
Phone: 440-998-6998 Fax: 440.992.8216

Email:

[info@ashtabulachamber.net](mailto:info@ashtabulachamber.net)

# **CASINO TRIP**

## **SENECA ALLEGANY**



As always the Board of Directors are thinking of ways to excite the members of the Builders Association. We are constantly trying to think of new programs and exciting extra events. Due to the success of last two Casino trips we are planning another one! This event will not take the place of our regular Builder's meeting in April but will be an additional event. This will be an excellent opportunity to get to know your fellow members better. There are only two things that we must mention and that is that only those 21 and older can travel with us and only those that feel lucky and want a good time are permitted. Also this trip is not limited to Builders; you are welcome to invite friends and family to this event. If you have any additional questions please call Michelle (440)645-7496.

**Saturday, April 13th - Sunday, April 14th**

**Bus Leaves 10:00 a.m. Brown Sprinkler Services April 13th**

**Bus Returns 4:00 p.m. Brown Sprinkler Services April 14th**

**BYOB on the Bus**

**\$350.00 per couple**

**\$250.00 single**

**(we have a minimum of 20 people necessary for the trip)**

**Room Included.**

**A private buffet will be provided for our party.**

**PLEASE RSVP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

**DEADLINE IS APRIL 1st**

**(440)645-7496 or [ashtabulacountybuilders@windstream.net](mailto:ashtabulacountybuilders@windstream.net)**

**Payment in full is due by April 13th.**