

Professional Construction Estimators Association

Orlando, FL







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PCEA would like to thank all our sponsors for supporting us throughout the year.

Happy Easter...

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



David Colvin

<u>Landreth</u> Lighting

PCEA Orlando Chapter 22 President

It's been a busy start to 2024 and there is no indication of slowing down! Our February meeting featured Jeff Hornick, Corp. VP Attraction, Design & Development for SeaWorld Parks and Entertainment, and we are following that up in March with an Owners Representative Panel. Coming up in April is our Annual Seafood on the Lake, which always draws a large crowd, so sign up now while you still can. We continue this month with our social calendar adding a bowling outing at Primrose Lanes March 19. Get registered now as there are limited spaces available! The National Convention coming up in April in Augusta, SC, and we would like to see a good showing from the Orlando Chapter. Anyone interested please reach out or look on the website for more information. We have had a great response to our scholarships this year, and we were able to award a total of \$22,400.00 to our applicants this year. Thanks to all who helped raise money by participating in the Annual Fall Golf to fund this, and special thanks to Kelly Garcia for her hard work with scholarships through the years. Thanks for the continued support of PCEA Orlando Chapter 22.

March 2024

www.pcea-orlando.org

UPCOMING EVENTS to register visit our website www.pcea-orlando.org

- **Bowling Social Night Primrose Lanes (Old Colonial Lanes)** 19 Mar 2024 – 6:00 PM 400 N Primrose Dr, Orlando, FL 32803
- March Membership Meeting, Owners Rep Panel
 26 Mar 2024 – 5:30 PM
 Citrus Club, 255 S Orange Ave #1800 Orlando, FL
- Seafood on the Lake
 11 Apr 2024 4:30 PM
 Orange County Sportsmans Club
- 2024 National PCEA Convention April 24-27 North Augusta, SC

ATTENDEES MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR ALL EVENTS



PCEA Annual

19

MAR

6:00 PM

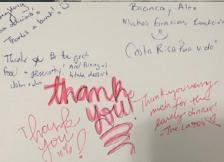
BOWLING NIGHT AT THE NEW PRIMROSE LANES (OLD COLONIAL LANES) Limited Spots... Sign Up NOW Includes 1 hour of bowling, shoe rental and appetizers! Drinks are available for purchase

Orange County Sportsmans Club April 11th 2024 4:30-8:00 PM 9020 Kilgore Road, Orlando, FL 32836

SAVE THE DATE 2024 NATIONAL CONVENTION April 24-27 – N. Augusta, SC

PROFESSIONAL Construction Estimators ASSOCIATION

PCEA **VOLUNTEERED AT RONALD MCDONALD** HOUSE We served Mission **BBQ.** They were awesome to work with and they donated cookies and salad. Here is a picture of the group and a Thank you note from the people who were staying at the house.



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GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES KEY TO HIRING, RETAINING WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

In recent years, firms have made strides to attract women to the construction workforce, such as more inclusive jobsite culture, better-fitting PPE and benefits designed to foster a healthy work-life balance.

Progress is being made, but slowly. Women now make up 10.8% of construction workers, compared to 9.1% a decade ago, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. That share remains even smaller for craftswomen.

Here, Construction Dive talks with Maja Rosenquist, senior vice president of Minneapolis-based Mortenson, to learn more about the state of the company's efforts to recruit women to the industry, what more can be done and how to measure success.

The following has been edited for brevity and clarity.

CONSTRUCTION DIVE: What are the major hurdles to bringing women into the trades and retaining them? MAJA ROSENQUIST: From a female craftsperson's perspective, a variety of hurdles that often begin on the jobsite can hinder career development and long-term engagement in the industry. The industry needs to give women more opportunities to acquire skills crucial to pursuing higher-paying, more advanced craft positions such as operating heavy equipment and mastering tools. Otherwise remaining engaged and progressing in one's career becomes extremely challenging.

While the makeup of tasks on a construction site can vary, the lion's share of time is spent on direct construction — activities like framing, roofing, electrical, plumbing and finishing work — with less time devoted to things like site prep and cleanup.

We want to see women get more access to this bigger piece of the pie in terms of skill development to create additional opportunities and support that promote on-site advancement opportunities.

Construction's culture is known to have been less-than-welcoming in the past. Has that changed?

The good news is that access and the opportunities that accompany it are changing. Challenges still remain and for many women, going into a field that's still very much male-dominated can be intimidating because of issues that historically plagued the industry. This includes sexism, harassment and microaggressions that created an uncomfortable and hostile work environment.

Growing awareness about gender inequality in construction has helped address these issues and improve practices. Many are working hard to promote diversity and inclusion in construction, offering training programs, mentorship opportunities and creating supportive networks for women. **PRESIDENT** - David Colvin, Landreth Lighting **PRESIDENT ELECT/NATIONAL PRESIDENT** -

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GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES KEY TO HIRING, RETAINING WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION- from page 3

We see encouraging signs and continued collaboration between construction companies, trade unions, training providers and government agencies can inspire widespread adoption of inclusive practices and accelerate positive changes. One such collaboration among construction companies is Construction Inclusion Week.

What is Mortenson's game plan for recruiting more women to the craft workforce?

Getting more women into the industry starts with a concerted effort to hire more women. That means getting out into the community and helping more women and girls see the building industry as a viable option. But hiring more women is just one part of the equation. To make a real difference and keep talented women in the pipeline, the industry must also support parity — from the office to the field. There needs to be clearer opportunities for meaningful careers — not just jobs — in this industry for both men and women.

At Mortenson, we have taken several steps. We have implemented a sponsorship program for our craft team focused on women and communities of color. We have also developed specific programs aimed at providing the training and education needed to advance on the construction site.

What other benefits does a culture change bring?

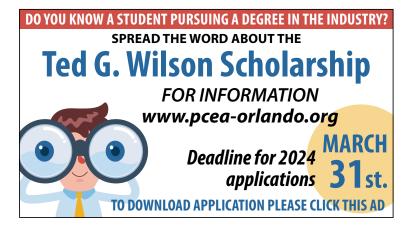
By having more diverse voices at the table, companies gain access to different perspectives and experiences, leading to richer discussions and more creative solutions to complex challenges.

Some of the biggest challenges we face as an industry — not least of all is a massive labor shortage — can be solved

by harnessing the full potential of our available workforce. By tapping into female talent, companies can access a larger pool of qualified candidates, increasing their chances of finding the best person for the job.

This mindset change could also lead to increased interest from younger generations, who are highly attuned to diversity and inclusion in the work opportunities they pursue. In a Deloitte survey, 76% of Gen Z respondents expect their workplace to be inclusive and welcoming to all. Has progress been made?

Progress is being made in improving the experience and opportunities for women in the construction industry. While there is still much work to do, women's participation in construction has been steadily increasing over the past decade with immense opportunity for continued improvement. It's crucial for leaders to remain committed and guide continued progress toward a more inclusive and equitable future.



3/4/24