



# 2019 YEAR IN REVIEW

## Building the Future



## How We Will Build the Future in 2020



ABC's Board of Directors and staff are very excited for what is to come in 2020. Together, we are focused on Building the Future for you, your company, and your employees. We are accomplishing this by "bringing ABC to you," making it more convenient and efficient to access all we have to offer. For example, the opening of

ABC's new Federal Way office, our second location in Western Washington, allows us to bring training and resources to even more of our members. We are also building the future through increased educational tracks and expanding topics offered to our members.

Building the future includes our continued commitment to the safety of our members. In 2020, we will be enhancing our safety offerings with a program that will allow members to conveniently and efficiently track all training and certifications for their employees through a user-friendly platform. This platform will include a new system for our members that will provide single, business-sized personal cards that contain each employee's personalized safety training information. This information can be easily accessed via your mobile device or desktop computer and is available "on demand." We are very excited to be offering this game-changing technology as another benefit to our members.

ABC of Western Washington is known as one of the leading ABC chapters in the country and we strive to continue our hard work growing our benefits and services while increasing our membership.

On a personal level, it is an honor to be asked to lead our excellent Board of Directors into 2020 and we all look forward to serving you over the next year. If you are interested in helping us Build the Future, please feel free to reach out to me or President/CEO Wendy Novak and let us know. Participating at ABC is a fun way to give back to the industry, grow your connections, learn new skills and most important, you will make a difference.

*Jason Wandler*

Jason Wandler, Chair, ABC Board of Directors  
Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker LLP

### Letter from the President



Our 2019 Year in Review is a sample of the ways we were a vital ally to you, your company, and your team over the last year. You will find as you read through this publication that increasing the benefits and services to our members and working closely with our business partners and the construction industry as a whole is very important to us. We expanded our business partnerships with The Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide Prevention, Renton Technical College, and Edmonds Community College, allowing us to not only remain relevant by addressing today's biggest workforce challenges, but broaden the types of services we provide. We are excited to be your business partner and look forward to working with you in 2020!

*Wendy Novak*

Wendy Novak, President/CEO  
Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Washington

### Your 2020 Board of Directors

#### Officers:

**Chair: Jason Wandler**

Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker LLP  
**Chair-Elect / Secretary: Glen Kuntz**  
Tekton Group LLC

**Immediate Past Chair: Travis Hull**  
Mechanical & Control Services, Inc.

**Vice Chair, Government Affairs:**

**Josh Griesse**

Washington Commercial Painters, Inc.

**Vice Chair, Membership:**

**Stephanie Carlin**

Propel Insurance

**Vice Chair, Professional Development:**

**Dawn Lanz**

Sea-Tac Electric, Inc.

**Vice Chair, Leadership Development:**

**Travis Hull**

Mechanical & Control Services, Inc.

**Treasurer: Marc Victor**

Rafn Company

#### Directors:

**Cindy Axthelm**

Axthelm Construction, Inc.

**Shelley Bloom**

The Blue Book Building  
& Construction Network

**Adam DeBruler**

Neeley Construction

**Scott Garcia**

Parker, Smith & Feek

**Doug Jones**

Haggard Electrical Contractors

**Candi Pfluger**

BDO USA, LLP

**Karen Say**

Saybr Contractors, Inc.

**Mike Yore**

Olympian Precast, Inc.

# We Are Building the Future by Expanding Our Partnerships

## Opening of New Federal Way Office

As our membership and benefits of membership continued to grow, we found it increasingly difficult for many of our members to take advantage of our expanded resources due to traffic. Therefore, we are excited that we were able to open a Federal Way office in August. This second location allows us to bring training, education, and resources to South Sound members.

## Construction Business School



Our Diversity Committee worked hard over the past year to develop the curriculum for ABC's Construction Business School. Last spring, we celebrated the graduation of 23 women- and minority-owned construction firms that attended the school. We partnered with Sound Transit, Community Transit,

USDOT, Renton Technical College, NW Small Business Transportation Resource Center, and the Minority Business Development Center to offer an eight-week course that covered 26 topics, all focused on running a successful construction company. This course was so successful, it is seen as a best practice across the country. We look forward to offering this school again, this time up North, and partnering with Edmonds Community College in January 2020.



President **Wendy Novak** and representatives from our partners with Sound Transit, Community Transit, Small Business Transportation Resource Center, Minority Business Development Agency – US Dept of Commerce.

## Workforce Development



ABC members **Aaron Deidrichs** with Waeco Construction, LLC and **Erin VerHoeven** with Corstone Contractors LLC helped to work the ABC table at the Snohomish High School Career Fair in October.

Our state is booming with development and construction.

Combine this with the retirement of the Baby Boomer generation and the result is a shortage of qualified, construction industry personnel at nearly every level. That is why we are doing our best to bridge that gap with our workforce development initiatives. One such initiative is to partner with organizations that can help us expand resources in order to decrease labor shortages.

With key workforce development partners like the Construction Industry Training Council (CITC), we can connect individuals with the apprenticeships they need to be successful in their chosen trade. CITC continues to grow in Western Washington and all around the state, bringing the best talent to the surface of the pool. Increasing the number of skilled laborers is a priority for ABC, and CITC has helped us achieve this.

Another invaluable workforce development partner is Renton Technical College's School of Construction Management Program (RTC). This year, ABC supported RTC through the contribution of two scholarships. We know that helping students achieve their professional aspirations by removing the obstacle of educational debt is a crucial way to grow the workforce.

Last, but certainly not least, we partnered with Workforce Foundation, an organization that helps pair formerly incarcerated individuals with ABC member companies. When we picture the future growth of skilled labor in the construction industry, we often imagine young professionals fresh out of trade school and completely overlook a vast pool of untapped potential in the formerly incarcerated. Like Workforce Foundation, we believe that helping individuals get a much-needed second chance is good for everyone.



ABC member **Jeff Clayton** from Pivetta Brothers and ABC Meetings and Events Manager **Janessa Bishop** attended Sumner High School's Try a Trade Day in order to inspire future generations to consider a career in construction.

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## ABC Joined the Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide Prevention Workgroup

Recent Center for Disease Control (CDC) findings have placed the construction industry as the workforce at highest risk for suicide deaths. There are many industry dynamics that impact construction workers and place them at risk. With suicide deaths at four times the national average, stakeholders need to explore how the industry can come together and reduce the risk factors that impact the workforce. ABC was invited to participate in the Construction Industry Alliance for Suicide prevention workgroup, including: ABC Chair-Elect **Glen Kuntz** (Tekton Group), and Chair of Professional Development **Dawn Lanz** (SeaTac Electric), along with ABC Safety and Education Manager **Tony Incrocci**, and ABC President **Wendy Novak**. This group has been working to bring a variety of resources to employers and employees to help them address the topic of suicide. We're adding this content to our website for easy access to resources such as posters, pocket cards and toolbox talks. ABC is currently reviewing Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) as an additional resource for members and will be announcing this soon.



## ABC Brought Expertise and Leadership to the Table at the North Puget Sound Small Business Summit



We were proud to support the Economic Alliance of Snohomish County's North Puget Sound Small Business Summit again this year. Over 700 individuals from a variety of industries gathered for a day of breakout sessions, panel discussions, exhibition hall booths, and networking opportunities. ABC President **Wendy Novak** moderated a panel discussion focused on What to

Expect: Regional Construction & Development. The panel focused on how small businesses can participate in the growth and development with Sound Transit, WSDOT, and general contractors.



Membership Development Manager **Jared Malone** managed a booth at the Small Business Summit.

## Approval of a New Student Chapter

This past year, ABC National approved Renton Technical College's Construction Management Program as a student chapter. This was a particularly notable achievement due to the fact that RTC's program is only two years long and most ABC student chapters are based in four-year universities. The students are excited about the opportunities ABC brings to the table: jobsite visits, exposure to real-world professionals, guest speakers, and most notably, a connection to potential employers.

## Creating Strength in Numbers; Help Us Welcome Membership Development Manager, Jared Malone!



This year, we hired **Jared Malone** as our new Membership Development Manager in order to help us better connect with the needs of local construction businesses and grow our membership. Jared brings his previous experience as a Realtor in Minnesota to ABC and is already doing an outstanding job. It has been truly extraordinary to watch him hit the ground running as soon as he started in July. With his help, we exceeded our membership growth goal of 40 new members, welcoming 41 new members so far in 2019. We are excited to have him on board and to watch our membership grow to exciting new heights. If you happen to run into Jared at one of our events, be sure to say "hi!"



### ABC Comes to You!

We enjoy getting out and visiting our members, whether it's delivering a Beam Club Award (on left: **Vaughan Seifert** with EfinityTech, who's helped ABC recruit 6 new members), or dropping off a STEP Award (on right: **Robert Newton** with Newton Building & Development, LLC achieved Platinum Level STEP in 2019), we try to visit members on a regular basis. Perhaps your office will receive a surprise visit in 2020!



# We Are Building the Future with the Help of Strong Member Leadership

## Thank You to Our Outgoing Board Leaders



Mike Schultis, SSI Construction

We want to thank our outgoing Board members for their time, commitment, and leadership over the last few years. **Mike Schultis** (SSI Construction) was ABC Board Chair in 2018 and prior to that served on the Membership Council. During Mike's leadership ABC grew our membership and our programs and services. **Ryan Brown** (System Mechanical and Safety Solutions) led the Membership Council resulting in growing ABC's membership and messaging through rebranding efforts and a focus on telling our story. **Tim Carpenter** (Environmental Stoneworks) led the Leadership Development Group resulting in educational and leadership opportunities for all members.

## Congratulations to our Member of the Year: Glen Kuntz with Tekton Group

**Glen Kuntz** is Chair-Elect of ABC's Board of Directors and sits on our Professional Development Council. He also sits on ABC National's Safety Committee, represents ABC at the University of Washington Construction Industry Advisory Council, and on the Suicide Prevention Workgroup. Glen is very passionate about ABC and he is always sharing the value with non-members.

Glen has worked hard to develop a tool for ABC members that will help them determine the required training needed for their employees based on their trade. This safety matrix is available for use by members and can easily be edited to track their own training. He is a hardworking, positive, and passionate advocate for the industry, ABC, and most importantly, safety!



## Congratulations to Our Young Professional of the Year: Josh Griesse, Washington Commercial Painters



Josh is chair of the Government Affairs Council, a board member, serves on the Legal Action Committee, and attends events hosted by our key strategic partners. He brings a thoughtful, well-prepared approach to every volunteer and leadership role, including being the moderator for the Leadership Lunch panels. Josh is a graduate of the Rising Stars Program and continues to hone his skills and pass along what he's learned as an instructor for the Rising Stars Program.

### Get involved. Join a Council Today!

We are a member-run organization. This means that ABC staff works closely with members to drive our association onward and upward through relevant benefits and services. We are looking forward to getting things done through our committees and councils in 2020 and invite you to join us. With ABC's second office in Federal Way, participating in a council is now easier for South Sound members. We also have Zoom Meetings set up in both of our offices (Bellevue and Federal Way), allowing you to join a meeting from wherever you are.

### ABC Councils and Committees:

**Membership Council:** Oversees the sustained growth of the chapter by focusing on member recruitment, retention and providing services, events, and benefits of value.

**Government Affairs:** Oversees the promotion and defense of free enterprise and open competition in construction and building a favorable construction environment of laws and regulations.

**Professional Development Council:** Oversees the enhancement of safety resources for our members and their employees.

**Leadership Development Council:** Oversees education for current and future leaders of the construction industry and business-related fields. Also responsible for the Young Professionals' events.



ABC Board and staff at the annual planning conference at Alderbrook Resort and Spa.

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**Diversity Committee:** Focused on providing equitable access to all resources for WMBE companies to achieve success.

**Electrical Contractors Council:** Peer group focused on issues specific to electrical contracting.

**Safety Peer Group:** Peer group focused on issues involving employee safety.

**Golf Committee:** Responsible for helping to plan and fundraise for the annual golf tournament.

**Legal Action Committee:** Promotes the interests of ABC members and Washington’s construction community before regulatory agencies, the legislature, and the courts, by both proposing helpful changes and opposing harmful changes in the law.

If you are interested in participating on any of the councils, committees, or taskforces, or just want more information, please contact Vice President of Member Engagement **Victoria Klyce** at (800) 640-7789.



*Top Performing Contractors from left: The Nova Group Inc., STARCON International, Inc., Saybr Contractors, Inc., Marpac Construction, LLC, and CHG Building Systems, Inc.*

### **Congratulations to ABC’s 2019 Top Performers!**

This year, we celebrated eight members who met ABC National’s criteria for the 2019 Top Performing Contractors list. To be eligible, companies must have demonstrated world-class safety performance by implementing ABC’s STEP Safety management System, which, according to the ABC 2019 Safety Performance Report, makes the top-performing contractors up to 680% safer than the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics industry average. The companies are ranked by size based on the number of hours worked, as reported in their 2018 STEP applications.

The listings highlight contractors that have earned ABC’s Accredited Quality Contractor credential for their commitment to corporate responsibility in quality, safety, talent management, education, community relations, and diversity; those that won national Excellence in Construction®, Safety Excellence and Diversity Excellence awards; and those that hold designations awarded to diverse companies to help procure work from government and private entities. Here are our chapter’s Top Performers for 2019:

- **CHG Building Systems, Inc.**
- **HHJ, Inc.**
- **Marine Vacuum Services, Inc.**
- **Marpac Construction, LLC.**
- **Nova Group, Inc.**
- **NW Utility Services, LLC.**
- **Saybr Contractors, Inc.**
- **STARCON INTERNATIONAL**

### **ABC Retro Program Released Highest Amount of Refunds to Members**



Our Retrospective Rating program performed very well again this year, returning a new all-time high of \$8.5 million in performance refunds to the members. The 2015-2016 refund came in over 31%, increasing over 10% from the first adjustment. The 2016-2017 year increased from 31% to 35% pushing the total refund over \$9 million. Finally, the 2017-2018 year came in at 35%. This result is the highest percentage at the first adjustment for the ABC group since 2012. The release of over \$8.5 million is the largest amount that we have ever returned, putting money back in members hands, where it belongs.

Our membership continues to focus on safety. For the upcoming year 52% of the members achieved the claim-free discount (no indemnity payments for 3 years). 85.6% of the group achieved an Experience Factor under 1.00, which means they paid less for their premiums than the average employer in Washington. Finally, nearly 60% of the group either reduced, or kept their Experience Factors the same for 2020.

The 2018-2019 plan year is coming up on its first adjustment in April and it appears that the plan year will be as successful, if not more, than previous years. ABC looks to continue its proud tradition of being one of the top construction retrospective rating groups in Washington.

L&I continues to reduce rates for employers as an average 0.8% decrease was announced for 2020. Proposed rates show that construction could see an average 4.7% decrease in rates, compared to the overall state average. The construction market in Washington continues to be very competitive. ABC members stay ahead of the competition by keeping employees safe, utilizing the retro program, and participating in continued training.

ABC wants to thank Aspire Consulting for their strong commitment and excellent customer service to our members. Should you have any questions about your claims or the ABC Retro Program, please feel free to contact Aspire at (253) 205-8150.

### Retro Day

It was like Christmas in June! Many qualified ABC Retro participants received a healthy return as a result of their safety practices in the form of cold hard cash. Due to our group's outstanding safety record this past year, we were entitled to the largest refund in our retro program's history. ABC members continue to knock it out of the park with an exceptionally safe workforce!



## We Are Building the Future by Paving the Way to Success Through Events

### ABC's Young Professionals Events



Our Young Professionals Group had a busy year of exciting events and networking opportunities. They kicked off 2019 with a tour of three different Ballard breweries and learned about how they could get more involved with our Government Affairs council. In April, they learned the challenging art of safe axe-throwing at Axe Kickers in West Seattle. In July, the Young Professionals and their guests sipped wine and enjoyed the gorgeous summer weather together. The event began at Waters Winery, then moved to Latta Wines, and finished at GrayPants, a lighting design studio where attendees heard from a panel of inspiring women who are paving the way in the construction industry. Panelists included **Cindy Axthelm**, with Axthelm Construction; **Amy King**, with Squarepeg Construction; **Dawn Lanz**, with Sea-Tac Electric; **Susan McCants**, with Osborne Construction Company; and moderator **Stephanie Carlin** with Propel Insurance.



Finally, the Young Professionals Group hosted ABC's always popular and highly-anticipated, Annual Ugly Sweater Holiday Party. Attendees enjoyed great company, delicious food and drinks, a DJ, photobooth fun, and most importantly, the opportunity to participate in the ugly sweater contest! Guests also brought toys for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots drive as a way to share the holiday spirit with others. It was a very merry celebration and a great way to close out a fantastic year of events.

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*The Haggard Electrical Contractors foursome came in first place in the Competitive Flight at the ABC Golf Extravaganza.*



*Cadence, Jason, and Mary Sturgeon with sponsor Arcade Wayfinding with our Master of Ceremony Rodrigo Fantabulos (ABC's Vice President of Government Affairs Andy Kaplowitz) at the Fall Event.*



*The Blue Book of Building & Construction Network group at the Fall Event.*



*The 2019-20 class of Rising Stars at their orientation and team building event.*



*The April Leadership Lunch.*

## Golf Extravaganza

For years, ABC Members have been looking forward to ABC's annual Golf Extravaganza and this year was no different. Every tee had eight golfers starting and a sponsor to greet as golfers played through. At one of the holes, the Government Affairs Council also introduced a fun and unique way to increase the usage of the ABC Action App by allowing players to drive the ball with an air cannon! A total of \$5,800 was raised for the Grassroots Junior Golf Charity through the sale of "super tickets" which allowed the players to participate in various course challenges. Thanks to all of our sponsors for making this event a success!

## Celebrating Our Members at The Greatest Show in SoDo

ABC Members ran away to the circus for our Fall Event held at Emerald City Trapeze Arts in SoDo. We got together to celebrate the year's accomplishments while having some good, old-fashioned fun! The following members celebrated ABC membership milestones this year: 30-years: **Dochnahl Construction Inc.** and **Propel Insurance**; 25-years: **CHG Building Systems, Inc.** and **Marpac Construction**; 20-years: **System Mechanical and Safety Solutions**; and 15-years: **BDO USA, LLP** (formerly Peterson Sullivan, LLP) and **Vanwell Masonry, a division of Environmental Stoneworks**. We also honored **Judd Lees**, a founding member of the Western Washington Chapter and our chapter's labor law attorney, and also our Young Professional of the Year, **Josh Griesse** of **Washington Commercial Painters**.

## We Are Building the Future by Fostering the Professional Growth of Our Members

### ABC's Rising Star Program

Community. Connection. Mentorship. Leadership. All simply buzzwords until you put them into practice. For those going through ABC's Rising Star Program, these words become the culture that is created within each class of participants. The six-month long leadership program helps build communication and teaching skills, management and evaluation tools, and encourages people to become their best leader, set the example, and walk the talk. Several Rising Star graduates have gone on to serve on the ABC Board of Directors, on committees and councils, and serve in leadership roles. Do you have someone who has a spark you'd like to encourage? Send them through the program, and you will notice an immediate difference in how they lead their teams. We are excited to meet the next batch of incredible leaders and help them grow into the best leader they can be. In 2020, we are very excited to offer exclusive ABC member access to FranklinCovey™ leadership training. More information will be coming soon!

### LDG's Leadership Lunch and Learns

What better way to learn how to avoid pitfalls than to hear from leaders in the industry that have been there and done that? Twice a year, the Leader Development Group (LDG) holds panel presentations featuring your fellow members who have grown into leadership roles the hard way, through learning from their mistakes, and continually pushing themselves to reach higher. This past year we were privileged to listen to discussions with a varied group of professionals. In April, the panel consisted of **Arti O'Brien** (Advanced Government Services), **John Noble** (Washington Commercial Painters), and

**Mitch Neeley** (Neeley Construction). In September, we heard from **Dan Seydel** (Platinum Group), **Justin Stewart** (Synergy Construction), **Jennifer Richards** (Safety Matters), and **Ryan Haggard** (Haggard Electrical Contractors). Both panels were moderated masterfully by **Josh Griesse** with Washington Commercial Painters. Each event is free for ABC members, and usually sells out. Be sure to check these out when they are offered next year – you will be glad you did!



From left: Moderator **Josh Griesse** (Washington Commercial Painters), **Justin Stewart** (Synergy Construction), **Dan Seydel** (Platinum Group), **Jennifer Richards** (Safety Matters), and **Ryan Haggard** (Haggard Electrical Contractors).

## We Are Building the Future by Improving Our Safety Programs and Resources

### Safety Training

We proudly offer many safety classes for our members, and strive to provide convenient and timely offerings around the area to make things easier for members to keep their employees safe. In the past year, we trained more than 1,300 member employees and offered 180 classes, which is a 20% increase from the previous year. Classes were offered at a wide range of locations in Seattle, Bellevue, and Federal Way. We also offer training at member offices and jobsites; most are free to ABC Retro members. All of our classes are listed on our website and are scheduled regularly each month. If you have a group of employees needing a specific training, we can work to arrange a trainer to come to your office or jobsite.

### 2019 ABC SAFETY ALLIANCE PARTICIPANTS

Burke Electric  
Centennial Contractors  
Enterprises, Inc.  
Clean Streets/Goodbye Graffiti  
Seattle  
Compass General Construction  
Deacon Construction, LLC  
High Country Contractors  
& Developers  
Nova Group, Inc  
SKIS Painting, Inc.  
Tekton Group, LLC  
Trades Labor Corporation

### ABC Safety Alliance

ABC's Safety Alliance program is a partnership with Washington State Department of L&I. Being a member of this program saves time and stress when L&I visits a jobsite because a focused inspection may be conducted instead of a full inspection. Third-party safety program verification and review provides an objective means to measure effectiveness of your program and enables companies to address areas that may need improving. It also provides a way to stand out by giving participants the opportunity to market their safe work standards.

This year, we simplified the Safety Alliance program application and continue to offer it for free to any qualifying member. Safety Alliance banners have also been created to bring visibility to participant jobsites and the program. Safety Alliance members will receive one jobsite banner with the ability to purchase more for a minimal fee. To see if your business qualifies for Safety Alliance, or if you would like to request a Safety Alliance application, contact **Tony Incrocci** (tony@abcwestwa.org).

### Safety Peer Group

Our Safety Peer Group is comprised of safety professionals and Washington State Department of L&I who meet quarterly to assist members with questions they have regarding safety practices, identify areas of concern to be discussed at our Safety Roundtables, identify trends with compliance issues, and address members' safety needs. To address safety needs in particular, the group developed a training matrix to help members understand how to match the types of training offered with frontline workers and supervisors.

We also held two very informative Safety Roundtables. In June, we hosted **David Ross** from United Rentals who discussed changes to the ANSI A92.24/A92.24 Safe Use and Training requirements for Aerial Lifts. In September, we hosted **Mandi Kime** from AGC who spoke about Suicide Prevention in the Construction Industry.



Safety & Education Manager **Tony Incrocci** with Incoming Board Chair **Glen Kuntz**, Tekton Group, LLC at a jobsite in Auburn.

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## The Havoc Certification Card -- Coming Soon!

In 2020, we will be introducing the Havoc Certification Card (or smart card). With Havoc, ABC member employees won't need to carry a handful of different training cards in their wallets anymore. The Havoc card connects to a single account that contains all of the training information your employees have received. Employees will be able to simply show or even email copies of certifications to requesting parties. Employees and supervisors will also receive email reminders to renew training and certifications that are about to expire. Additionally, there will be no more waiting for cards to arrive in the mail! Training records will be available within 48 hours of attending a class. Access to training records will be free to all members. The cards will be free to all Retro members and available for a nominal fee for all other members.

## We Are Building the Future by Bolstering our Presence in Olympia



Board member and LDG Council Chair **Tim Carpenter** (Environmental Stoneworks) and Vice Chair, Government Affairs **Josh Griesse** (Washington Commercial Painters) at the National Legislative Conference in D.C. this past June.

### Overview

It's been a busy year in Government Affairs. In addition to the long legislative session, we've stepped into the local fray, working on issues in Whatcom County and Seattle. We have also seen a broadening and deepening of our political influence, including access to legislators and influencers not enjoyed in years past. Our approach has become more issue-driven and less-partisan, reflecting the political reality of politics in Washington State. At the end of the day, things get done when we seek common ground and engage on both sides of the aisle. We hope you'll see a good return on your investment in ABC membership, from just the Government Affairs standpoint alone.

### State-Level

For the first two months, we worked together with our allies on the Hill to redirect legislation that was less-than-friendly to open shop contractors. One such success was ESSB 5035, Attorney General Bob Ferguson's Prevailing Wage Theft bill which sought to increase penalties and consequences for contractors who disclose but fail to pay prevailing wage on public works projects.

Washington Construction Industry Council (WCIC) members collaborated with the trades and the AG's office to achieve consensus on legislation that allows inadvertent, administrative errors in PW filings to be corrected. It also allows businesses without a previous prevailing wage violation in the last five years to settle a PW dispute without incurring a "strike" against the company with reduced fines and penalties. The time allowed to file a complaint against an employer was increased from 30-days to 60-days, and flagrant violations are subject to an increased minimum penalty from \$1,000 to \$5,000. This includes debarment from participating in future public works for two years as the consequence for a second violation in a five-year period.

One of our key accomplishments this legislative session was the passage of E2SHB 2158, the Workforce Education Investment Act (WEIA). This bill overhauls education funding, providing grants for Washington's students who choose Washington's institutions for higher learning to pursue two- and four-year college programs. The WEIA includes historic support that benefits the construction economy, specifically:

- Apprenticeships and certificated programs are eligible for the Washington Grant Program and the Washington Student Loan Program.
- The return of robust apprenticeship prep programs to Washington's secondary schools, something that hasn't happened in many years.
- Only industries that require 30% or more of their workforce as college graduates pay the increased B&O taxes.

We ensured that would remain in place, along with a commitment that apprenticeship prep programs would be open to ABC, CITC, and other open-shop providers. Representative **Drew Hansen** (D-Bainbridge Island) said



ABC's Vice President of Government Affairs **Andy Kaplowitz** testifying in favor of E2SHB 2158 Workforce Education Investment Act in front of the House Appropriations Committee.

that our support was a vital element to the success of this legislation. The Workforce Education Investment Act allows students from working families at or below the median income to receive Washington college grants to attend covered programs (including apprenticeships and certificated training,) with those at or below 55% receiving full funding. Washington student loan refinancing programs will lower student loan rates and costs for students who attend in-state higher education through state programs and recognized apprenticeship programs, including CITC.

Our support of 5035 and 2158 led to invitations to attend the Governor's bill signing ceremonies for the first time in 18 years. Other noteworthy legislative results include:

#### ABC Supported Legislation

- HB 1295 (Capitol Projects Advisory Review Board Public Contracting Rule Changes) – PASSED
- HB 1743 (Affordable Housing Prevailing Wage Methodology) – PASSED
- SB 5334 (Condo Liability Reform) – PASSED

#### ABC Opposed Legislation

- SB 5163 (Wrongful Death expansion) – PASSED
- HB 110 (Carbon Tax) – DIED
- HB 2148 (Data Center Prevailing Wages on Private Works) – DIED
- HB 1257 (Governor's Energy Efficiency Proposal) – PASSED

#### Local Issues

We joined in efforts to impact outcomes at the local level, including successfully preventing passage of an ordinance that would have required 15% Apprenticeships on public works projects in Whatcom County, over \$1 million. We also supported efforts of like-minded organizations including the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and People for Seattle, to support more business-friendly candidacies for Seattle City Council. Ultimately, only two of the seven positions were filled by candidates endorsed by the Chamber and People for Seattle, but that is progress, nonetheless.

In July, the Seattle Public Schools Board voted to establish a task force to consider the establishment of a Student and Community Workforce Agreement. We knew that tactical opposition to the task force would not be successful, and, collaborating with AGC, both trade associations decided to support the formation of the task force and have members apply to serve on the task force. In doing so, we wanted to advocate for the adoption of ABC's Open Competition Project Stabilization Agreement, which does not require contractors or subcontractors to become party to any labor organization, nor does it replace, interfere with or modify any existing collective bargaining agreement between the contractor or it's subcontractors and any labor organization.

Both ABC President **Wendy Novak** and Vice President of Government Affairs **Andy Kaplowitz** testified in support of creating the task force, along with ABC's Diversity Committee Chair **Pat Oda** of Neeley Construction via written testimonial support. Despite our best efforts, no ABC or AGC members or representatives were selected to serve on the task force, and we're working through other channels to ensure that the Open Shop voice is heard.

#### From Thurston County to Whatcom County, Our Government Affairs Efforts are Helping Shape the Future of the Construction Economy Through Proactive Advocacy

Our chapter is seen increasingly as a leader and influencer on issues that impact the construction economy and the state. We know this from the increased outreach from elected officials and regulators, inviting us to weigh in on issues, not just during the legislative process, but as ideas are being developed. We're thrilled by our new momentum and invite all ABC members to weigh in on issues, and more importantly, to raise awareness of the issues that impact your business and your team.

*Continued...*



*Pictured is **Tim Carpenter** (left) and **David Rynearson** (right) of Environmental Stoneworks with Senator **Steve Hobbs** (D-Lake Stevens), Chair of the Transportation Committee (center). The transportation budget has a ripple effect, as work on state and local infrastructure drives commercial development. Working closely with Senator Hobbs helps your Government Affairs Council to influence outcomes to ensure vital infrastructure projects are funded, and helps our members' businesses prosper, whether they're involved in the transportation construction sector or not.*

#### Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Washington

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Federal Way: 505 S 336th St Ste 530 | Federal Way, WA 98003  
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[www.abcwestwa.org](http://www.abcwestwa.org)

Continued...

In March, we hosted **Bill Messenger** of the National Right to Work Legal Defense and Education Foundation to provide an update following the 2018 US Supreme Court's Janus Decision. Bill served as lead counsel on the lawsuit. The Janus Decision made it possible for public employees to opt out of paying union dues, and thousands have opted-out across the United States. Our members learned that efforts are underway, with legal action taken in Minnesota and elsewhere that will likely lead back to the US Supreme Court in the years to come. Whether your business is union affiliated or not, the Janus Decision is likely to have a significant impact on labor law, and ultimately, on your bottom line.

This Spring, we created the Legal Action Committee (LAC), a subcommittee of the Government Affairs Council. The Committee's mission is to pro-actively promote the interests of ABC members and Washington's construction community before regulatory agencies, the legislature, and the courts, by both proposing helpful changes and opposing harmful changes in the law. The LAC is comprised of ABC members with varied legal specialties along with business owners from construction contracting and subcontracting, manufacturing and material supplies, and service providers.

Methods for achieving our mission include:

- Providing education for our members beginning in 2020.
- Educating and influencing the Courts, through presentations and seminars at judicial conferences and articles submitted to publications for the judiciary. The LAC will also offer ABC members' recommendations on local and state elections for judges.
- Educating and influencing local elected officials as well as the Legislature and Regulators, including evaluation of legislation, proposing and drafting helpful legislation, and testifying in support of or in opposition to harmful legislation.
- Advising the chapter, including recommendations on when to initiate or join existing legal action, and present recommendations on judicial candidates in elections.

In February, our chapter and the Inland Pacific Chapter joined AGC in a lawsuit filed against the State of Washington, over SB 5493, passed during the 2018 Legislative Session. The law effectively turns over responsibility to establish Prevailing Wages to the trades, and by our interpretation, violates the Washington State Constitution in five different ways. The lawsuit is currently working its way through the courts and we are monitoring its progress.

## Summary

Whether you're an employee or the business owner, government affairs – from politics to policy – has a direct impact on your bottom line. As 2020 approaches, we hope you'll remember the ways you can support our chapter and ABC National to advance the Merit Shop Philosophy, where everybody can earn business, regardless of the business model you choose. Participate in the dues check-off on your renewal invoice: ABC of Western Washington PAC (personal and corporate funds accepted), and Free Enterprise Alliance. With a big election year coming, your financial support is more important than ever. You can contribute as recommended or increase your investment if you're inspired to help us with our work on your behalf. If you're interested in learning more about ABC PAC, our national Political Action Committee, please contact **Andy Kaplowitz**, Vice President of Government Affairs at (800) 640-7789.

### *Remembering Founding Member Judd Lees of Sebris Busto James*

Judd passed away unexpectedly this summer, leaving so many of us with very heavy hearts. Judd served as our chapter's labor attorney from the very beginning, providing vital legal counsel to many members, helping members navigate the state and federal legal systems to protect their rights. In addition, Judd was our go-to for labor law classes and was a frequent speaker at the ABC National Legal Conference.

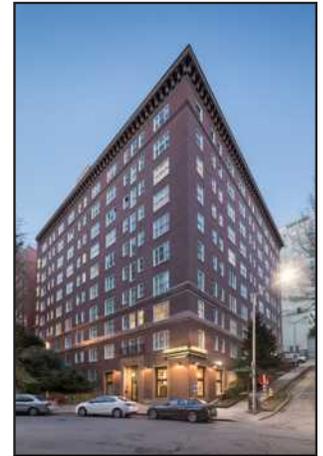
Judd also served as a board member and Board Chair in 1989 and served our chapter and its members in almost every capacity. He was admired and respected by those from both open shop and union communities for his thorough, ethical, and thoughtful representation. At the most recent quarterly meeting of the state apprenticeship council meeting in October, Judd was presented with a Certificate of Meritorious Service, which is the first time in our recollection, anyone other than a state or union official has been recognized. ABC was his passion and his heart, and while we're pleased to continue our longstanding and close relationship with Sebris Busto James who will continue to serve as our labor counsel, we will always miss Judd's wisdom, smile, and engaging laugh.



# Excellence in Construction Award Winners



*2019 Eagle of Excellence Award  
and Excellence in Construction  
Award Winner*



**Rafn Company**  
Cambridge Apartments  
Historical Restoration/Renovation \$10 Million- \$25 Million

## *2019 Excellence in Construction Awards*

Commercial Construction  
\$5 Million- \$10 Million  
**Donovan Brothers, Inc.**  
Riverside Business Park Building A

Electrical & Communications  
**SME Inc of Seattle**  
Cortina

Healthcare  
**Donovan Brothers, Inc.**  
Kent Recovery Place

Multi-Family Construction  
\$10 Million- \$25 Million  
**Synergy Construction, Inc.**  
Fox & Finch

Pre-Engineered Building  
**Donovan Brothers, Inc.**  
Auburn Dairy Storage Building

Tenant Improvement/Renovation  
Less Than \$4 Million  
**Synergy Construction, Inc.**  
Farms & Market TI

Tenant Improvement/Renovation  
\$10 Million- \$100 Million  
**Synergy Construction, Inc.**  
Evergreen Village

Exteriors  
**SKIS Painting, Inc.**  
Bayview Retirement Community

Mechanical: Industrial  
**Air Systems Engineering, Inc.**  
Bellmont Cabinets Finish Room

Other Specialty Construction: Commercial  
Less Than \$5 Million  
**SKIS Painting, Inc.**  
The Axle – Interbay

## *2019 Merit Awards*

**Synergy Construction, Inc.**  
Tenant Improvement/Renovation  
Less Than \$4 Million  
Paramount House

**Rafn Company**  
Multi-Family Construction:  
\$10 Million- \$25 Million  
Anchor Flats Apartments

**Air Systems Engineering, Inc.**  
Mechanical: Industrial  
Aquatic Bath TIs

## *ABC National Pyramid Award*

Congratulations to Synergy Construction, Inc.  
For Winning a 2019 National Excellence in Construction Pyramid Award  
for Westend Interior and Exterior Renovations  
in the General Contractor Renovation - \$5 Million to \$10 Million Category



**Thank you to all those who participated in the Safety Management System (STEP). You helped to elevate safety in our industry, and as a result, this chapter of ABC has been recognized with the highest STEP participation in the country.**

### **DIAMOND**

Centennial Contractors Enterprises, Inc.  
Commercial Construction Specialty, Inc.  
Deacon Construction, LLC  
DKS, Inc.  
DP Incorporated  
Ellsworth Builders, Inc.  
S&S Concrete Construction, Inc.  
Southgate Electric, Inc.  
STARCON International, Inc.

### **PLATINUM**

Balancing Service Co. CE&C, Inc.	Northshore Paving, Inc.
Cornell Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	Prime Cut Construction LLC
Donovan Brothers, Inc.	Ravenhill Construction, Inc.
General Storefronts, Inc.	Saybr Contractors, Inc.
Grady Excavating, Inc.	SR Building Services, LLC / King Sheet Metal Stuth Co., Inc.
HHJ, Inc.	System Mechanical and Safety Solutions
High Country Contractors & Developers	United Systems Mechanical, LLC
LEAD Staffing	Utilities Service Co. Inc
Modular Electric, Inc.	Vinnie & Sons Plumbing, LLC
Newton Building & Development, LLC	

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Abacus Electric Co., LLC  
Adept Mechanical Services, Inc.  
Advanced Government Services - O'Brien Global Enter  
Ahearn Electric, Inc.  
Air Systems Engineering  
Allied Construction Associates, Inc.  
Allied Steel Fabricators, Inc.  
All-Ways Air Control, Inc.  
AM Exteriors, LLC  
American Craftsmen, LLC

Amsberry's Painting, Inc.  
Arcadia Drilling, Inc.  
Artistic Drywall Textures, Inc.  
Avara Construction  
Bender Custom Construction  
Benjamin Asphalt, Inc.  
Blue Mountain Mechanical, Inc.  
Boone Electric Construction  
Bowen Construction, Inc.  
Bratton Masonry, Inc.



- Bravo Roofing, Inc.  
Bulldog Plumbing & Design, LLC  
C & C Logging, LLC  
Casa Bonita Home Care Inc.  
Cascade Fence and Deck  
Cascade Integration Inc.  
Central Washington Refrigeration  
CHG Building Systems, Inc.  
Christensen Inc. General Contractor  
Claffeys Painting  
Clearview Mechanical, Inc.  
Comfort Systems USA Northwest  
Compass General Construction  
Corstone Contractors LLC  
Creative Contracting and Investments  
Crystal Soda Blast, LLC  
CS Washington Holdings - Spectrum  
Construction Serv  
Custom Design Roofing LLC  
D&D Construction Corp.  
Davis Door Service, Inc.  
Davis Schueller, Inc.  
Dochnahl Construction, Inc.  
Dovetail General Contractors LLC  
Eco Electric  
Elite Commercial Contracting, Inc.  
ENTEK Corporation  
Evergreen Concrete Cutting, Inc.  
Evergreen Refrigeration  
Exact Electric, LLC  
Exterior Finishes, Inc.  
Exterior Metals, Inc.  
Farwest Tenant Improvements Inc.  
G&W Commercial Interiors  
Glacier Environmental Services, Inc.  
Global Construction Solutions, Inc.  
Global Metal Works & Erectors, Inc.  
Grand Entrances, Inc.  
Grayhawk Construction Co., Inc.  
Haggard Electrical Contractors  
HyTech Roofing, Inc.  
In Store Services, Inc.  
Industrial Resources, Inc.  
Innovative Electric, Inc.  
J & B Fabricators, LLC  
JE Cumming Corp.  
John Michael Hall Corp.  
Johnson Exteriors, Inc.  
Kaleidoscope Landscape Inc.  
Keithly Electric Co.
- Kemly Electric, Inc.  
Kenco Construction, Inc.  
KHS & S Contractors  
Knight Fire Protection, Inc.  
Krekow Jennings Inc.  
Krisco Aquatech Pools & Spas  
Lakeridge Plumbing & Mechanical, Inc.  
Lander Electric Co., Inc.  
Lockhart|Suver, LLC  
Lossing Construction  
Luminal Lighting  
Macro-Z-Technology  
Marine Vacuum Service, Inc.  
Mariner Construction, LLC  
Mastercraft Electric, Inc.  
Mattila Painting, Inc.  
McBride Construction Resources, Inc.  
McCartney Industries, LLC  
McClintock & Turk, Inc.  
McCown Crafted, Inc.  
Mechanical & Control Services, Inc.  
Med-Tox Northwest - Safe Environment  
of America  
Mehrer Drywall, Inc.  
Mike Werlech Construction, Inc.  
Modern Builders, Inc.  
MRJ Constructors  
Neeley Construction  
North Coast Iron Corp.  
Northstar CG, LP  
NW Utility Services, LLC  
Olympian Precast, Inc.  
Pacific Concrete Construction, Inc.  
Pacific Crest Construction  
Pacific Northwest Masonry and Design LLC  
Pacific One Construction, Inc.  
Pacific Window Systems, Inc.  
Patriot Roofing  
Pattison General Contractor  
Performance Mechanical Group  
Pivetta Brothers Construction, Inc.  
Precision Door Service  
Professional Staff NW  
Pro-Staff Mechanical, Inc.  
Puget Sound Mobile Wash, Inc.  
Pyramid Pools  
Queen Anne Painting  
Rainbow Federal, Inc.  
Raymark Plumbing & Sewer  
RC Painting & Sons, Inc.
- Redhawk Group  
Regency NW Construction, Inc.  
Safari Electric, LLC  
SCF General Contractors LLC  
Schultz Miller, Inc.  
SEA CON, LLC  
Sea-Aire, Inc.  
Sea-Tac Electric, Inc.  
SKIS Painting, Inc.  
SME, Inc. of Seattle  
Smokey Point Electric  
Sound Drywall, Inc.  
Sound Glass Sales, Inc.  
Sound Roofing Systems Inc.  
Specialized Landscaping, Inc.  
Sprinx Fire Protection, Inc.  
Stephens Electric Company, Inc.  
Sunrise Plumbing, LLC  
Superior Stucco Services, Inc.  
Synergy Construction, Inc.  
Tandem Electric, Inc. - JWR Electric Inc.  
T-Bar Construction, Inc.  
TCL Partners  
TEAM Construction, LLC.  
Tekton Group, LLC  
Thermatech Northwest, Inc.  
Tony Lind Paving, LLC  
Town & Country Fence, Inc.  
TPC Construction, Inc.  
Trade-Marx Signs & Display Corp.  
Trades Labor Corporation  
Traffic Control Services  
Trig Electric Service, Inc.  
Tri-Nar, Inc.  
Unity Electric, LP  
Universal Land Construction Co.  
V&R Roofing  
V.S.A. Construction, LLC  
Van Beek Drywall, Inc.  
VanWell Masonry, An Environmental  
Stoneworks Company  
Village Framers Corp.  
Vital Mechanical Service  
VP Peri Painting Company  
Waeco Construction, LLC  
Washington Commercial Painters, Inc.  
Western Specialty Contractors  
Western Washington Construction, Ltd.  
Westmark Construction, Inc.  
Woodinville Water District

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## Liberty



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CHG Building Systems, Inc.  
Overton Safety Training, Inc.  
BDO USA, LLP

## Gold

Daily Journal of Commerce  
Propel Insurance  
Sea-Tac Electric  
United Recycling & Container

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Air Systems Engineering, Inc.  
American Craftsmen, LLC  
Martian Systems, Inc.  
Rafn Company

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