



AGC - West Tennessee News

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**John Paul Finerson,
President, AGC of
West Tennessee
Branch**

AGC's Day On The Hill



New Senator Brian Kelsey met with the West Tennessee delegation; Ted Hayden, Jay Weatherington, Sam Haynie, Gary Weeden, Nick Nanney, Diane Laird and Chris James.

State Directors Gary Weeden led a group of AGC Members and Staff to call on West Tennessee Senators and Representatives to make AGC's position on pending legislation known to them. Appointments were made by AGC Staff and the halls of the Legislature were literally filled with 38 Members and Staff from across the State as the entire morning of February 3rd was devoted to encouraging business favorable actions by our elected Representatives. Representative Charles Curtis (R), Nashville, took time to meet with the entire AGC Delegation and discuss all of the bills regarding construction related issues that he is guiding through the Legislature. Subsequently, two AGC General Contractors appeared before the Commerce and Insurance Committee dealing with revising the Worker's Compensation Insurance legislation. Lt. Governor Ramsey and House Majority Leader Mark Norris also met with the entire AGC Delegation and welcomed us to the Capitol.

Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

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Martha Lott has been the Administrator of the Memphis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the last six (6) years. During her tenure with the MPO she has taken the MPO from decertification status to a best practice among the State MPO's. Martha is highly skilled and versatile transportation executive. In her previous roles, Martha spent seven (7) years as the Shelby County Government Grants Manager and fifteen (15) years as a City of Memphis Police Officer. She is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and holds a number of certifications in Transportation related planning. In her spare time, Martha is an avid golfer and grandmother.

Martha Lott and Paul Morris, Principal Transportation Planner, presented the program at the January meeting. Mrs. Lott proved to be one of the most informative speakers we have had. She withstood a couple of diatribes from members about how government couldn't address the necessary issues, as seen by these members. She proceeded to spell out in detail the contracts that were forthcoming, the amounts and the time frames for bidding. She explained the difficulties that Memphis MPO and all other agencies were having in keeping up compliance to new paperwork being required by the Federal Government in order to get Stimulus monies.

Note to Contractors That Do Underground Work in Shelby County

Several General Contractor Members met with Memphis Light Gas & Water Division President & CEO Jerry Collins regarding the time it takes after a gas, electric or water line is broken during construction for MLG&W to process the claim. He had the various department heads in the meeting also. After discussion, he agreed to analyze the claims of the (5) contractors present. As a result of this meeting MLG&W instituted a program that began February 15th in which the locator will contact the contractor within 24 to 48 hours after a utility damage occurs and will attempt to meet on site to determine fault. It is also Mr. Collins' intent to speed up the paperwork to determine if the contractor receives an invoice, or not.



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Note to Contractors That Do TDOT Work!

TDOT has informed the construction industry that each company working on a TDOT Work Site is required to have at least one person on each site that has successfully completed a 10-Hour OSHA Construction Safety & Health Training Course. This requirement will become effective for March 19, 2010 letting. The site below will provide detail information for this program:

http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/construction/Safety_Health_Program/EmployeeSafetyandHealth.pdf

AGC Safety Director Nick Nanney is listed as a Trainer for this Directive.

Intermodal Freight Transportation Institute



State Director Jay Madden discusses Intermodal Freight with **Dr. Martin Lipinski.**

Dr. Lipinski, Director of the Intermodal Freight Transportation Institute at the University of Memphis and Ensafe Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Memphis, presented the February program. Dr. Lipinski is responsible for the operation and management of the Intermodal Transportation Institute. In addition, he currently serves as principal investigator for The University of Memphis' participation in four major intermodal freight transportation studies which address issues related to analyzing system capacities and needs and developing recommendations for enhancing freight movement and supporting economic development.

The Intermodal Freight Transportation Institute is pursuing a vision to become the nation's premier research and educational resource for the freight community. The extensive transportation infrastructure in the Memphis region that supports a vibrant logistics/distribution industry provides the perfect working laboratory for IFTI to fulfill its mission of solving the critical problems facing the freight industry and providing educational opportunities to develop tomorrow's leaders. Anyone that desires to become a "Friend" of IFTI should contact Dr. Lipinski at mlipinsk@memphis.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 16 – “Leveling the Playing Field” by Mr. Bill Turner, Executive Director, TNONECALL. Bill will present and discuss pending legislation on interest to anyone who digs. Meeting at Jim’s Place East.



April 26 –Skeet Shoot & BBQ at Arlington Gun Club

May 13 – Memphis in May BBQ & Beer on the River



June 7 – Golf Outing at Stonebridge Golf Club w/Hooterswings and other Special Attractions. Come and see what Golf Chairman Roy Rothenberger has cooked up for YOU!

Who Is That Masked Hooters Girl?



July 20 – Special Joint Meeting Pre-View of the Builder’s Ball to be held in Nashville on October 30th. The Ball is being billed as “Steel Toes & Stilettos” which in itself should make you curious. Mark your calendars

THE ASSOCIATE GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF AMERICA
The Association of the Construction Industry