



GCAA E-News

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Foundation for a Quality
Life

Georgia Legislative Session Kicks Off

As the Georgia Capitol press corps would say, "Hide your wallets and your daughters, January is here!" This, of course, is reference to the annual convening of the Georgia General Assembly. On January 14th, the GCAA participated in a legislative reception where we met with many legislators and talked about some of our concerns as well as heard their ideas for the upcoming legislative session. Optimism is always high this time of year.

For two years now, GCAA has been heavily involved in the pursuit of new sources of funding for transportation. As many of you will recall, proposed legislation failed by 3 votes in the waning minutes of the 2008 legislative session. While our legislative leaders have publicly agreed that the need for additional funding is beyond urgent, there is still some disagreement in which shape or form a proposal from the legislature would take.

There will no doubt be many bills this session that address both the issue of funding as well as reforming the DOT. The GCAA will be monitoring the situation closely and there will be information available under the Government Affairs tab on the GCAA website. We will maintain a list of bills that could be of impact on our industry. It will be password protected to view. Make sure to have your GCAA username and password to log in.

In addition, please check our news blog regularly as we will keep you informed on the business of the Georgia General Assembly. We have some new items up including coverage of a presentation on a funding proposal by House Transportation Chairman Vance Smith, an op-ed piece on funding by House Speaker Glenn Richardson and a column on where our leaders and future gubernatorial candidates stand on the issue as of now. We will use this space to post any and all new developments on this issue and others that will pop up throughout the session.

GCAA Foundation Scholarships Currently Available

The GCAA Foundation is off and running into its second year of scholarship awards. Last year, the foundation gave away nearly \$10,000 in scholarships to dependents of member company employees. **The application period for 2009 scholarships opened on Monday, January 12th and will continue through March 2nd.** The only eligibility requirement is that the applicant is a legal dependent of an employee working for a GCAA member company. We are accepting applications from all first time applicants this year whether they are currently enrolled in college or an upcoming high school graduate. Applications are available on the GCAA Website at www.gcaa.org For more information on the scholarship program, please contact Jimmy Cotty or your HR office.

Attention Trucking Members: DOT Registration Required

The Georgia DOT is moving in the direction of mandatory registration for any sub-contractor doing business for a prime contractor on any DOT projects. Again, all subs, including trucking companies, are going to be required to fill out a DOT Form 478 in order to register with the state.

While there has been no formal announcement of a deadline, rest assured that if you intend to do work on any job let by the DOT, you will be required to be registered. If you need any assistance or copies of any of the appropriate forms, please contact Jimmy Cotty in the office.

2009 Midyear Meeting Changing Venue

A decision was reached by the GCAA Board to cancel our scheduled 2009 Midyear Meeting planned to be held at the Amelia Island Plantation Resort. This was a difficult decision but based on current industry conditions it was felt to be the prudent choice. We will still have a smaller Midyear Meeting in metro Atlanta at the Marriott Evergreen Conference Center in Stone Mountain Park. The dates are June 25th & 26th. In addition to business sessions Thursday and Friday morning, there will be a golf tournament, reception and dinner on Thursday.

Trucker Workshop Series

GCAA ended 2008 by hosting two workshops for our trucking division members. We met with Michael Cooper from the Georgia DOT's Office of Equal Opportunity. At the workshop, Mr. Cooper talked about new goals for the DOT's DBE program as well as discussed and took questions about DBE certification.

GCAA also hosted Chief Mark McLeod and his team from the Department of Public Safety's Motor Carrier Compliance Division. Chief McLeod talked with our group about maintaining a safe and compliant operation. They also took questions from the crowd about specific situations in the field. It was very informative and everyone was able to take something away as far as how to be a better operator.

The two workshops have generated some interest in continuing the series for 2009. GCAA is working with some of our trucker members now to develop a 5 or 6 part series on issues pertinent to the trucking industry. We welcome your input and feedback. If you have any comments or questions about a proposed workshop, please contact Jimmy Cotty in the office.

New Indeco Service Center In Buford, GA

Indeco North America is please to announce the opening of a new Breaker Service Center in Buford, Georgia. This new center exemplifies Indeco's commitment not only to current owners of their equipment, but also to overall construction, aggregate and demolition industries.

Indeco's new Southeast facility will not only provide parts and service for Indeco breakers, but all other makes and models of hydraulic hammers. "our very specialized service technicians understand the intricacies of breakers and what needs to be done to get them back out in the field quickly and cost-effectively so that customers have minimal downtime," states Ryan Murphy, Director of Marketing for Indeco.

The new service center in Buford will be staffed with Indeco technicians who have been factory trained at the Indeco worldwide manufacturing facility in Bari, Italy. In particular, the new Indeco Service Center will provide troubleshooting services, breaker inspection and repair work using genuine OEM replacement parts to bring hammers back to their most efficient operating capabilities. Local equipment pickup and delivery will be available in Georgia and the surrounding area.

The Indeco Service Center will be having an open house on Wednesday, January 28th from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. The service center is located at 5203 Belle Wood Court, Buford, Georgia 30518. For further information, contact the service center manager Josh Sassenger at (770) 904-3775.

2009 Management Workshop February 17 - 18 - Cobb Galleria

It is once again time for the Management Workshop. As always, the workshop will be at the Cobb Galleria on February 17 and 18. Exhibitors set-up will occur on Monday, February 16th.

The theme for this year's workshop is "**Going Green While Saving Green.**" The reality of environmental consciousness combined with the current economic climate makes our theme particularly appropriate. We will hear about NSSGA's latest sustainability initiatives, biodiesel, the Clean Air Campaign, EPD compliance, sustainability in construction and a future energy overview.

In an effort to practice what we preach, the GCAA has taken a "green" approach in planning for the workshop. There will be recycling bins available throughout the exhibition hall. All of our printed products will use recycled paper and will feature double sided printing. All attendees will receive a reusable tote bag to take home, much like what is currently offered by many grocery stores.

There are several booths still available as well. If you are interested in exhibiting, please contact the office and speak to Linda Moore.

Coming Soon: 2009 GCAA Membership Directory

The GCAA is in the midst of publishing the 2009 membership directory. The last edition was published in 2007. The new directory will reflect the many changes that have occurred in our industry. Our directory will again include detailed member listings, product information and governmental information in the upcoming directory.

While enhancing our website, GCAA collected as much updated information from our members as possible. After the Management Workshop, we will be asking for any further updates or information that we have not previously collected. Please check your company's information as well on our website from time to time and let us know when a change has occurred.

Our directory is made possible by the advertiser featured inside. Ad sales for the directory are once again being handled by our publisher, TGC Publishing. If you are interested in advertising, contact Bo Ingram at (404) 824-9001 or boingram@comcast.net.

Website Advertising Opportunities Soon Available

In addition to advertising in the directory, the GCAA will have advertising available on its new and improved website. We will let you know when we are ready to take your order. Look for this program to be rolled out the first week of February.