



NEWS

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April, 2018

IMPORTANT Dates to Remember

- **Joint Membership Meeting -**
Wednesday, April 11th Annata Winebar, Hammonton, NJ
- **BCA/SJ Sporting Clay Event -**
Friday, April 27 M&M Hunting Sporting Clays, Pennsville, NJ
- **2018 Scholarship Program -**
Scholarship Applications due May 31st

Membership Meeting

Join us for a joint membership meeting with the SJMCA on Wednesday, April 11th at Annata Winebar, 216 Bellevue Avenue, Hammonton, NJ.

A Representative of the NJ Election Law Commission will speak about political contributions made by business entities that are party to or are attempting to obtain contracts with NJ government entities.

Welcome reception begins at 6:00 pm with program and dinner to follow 6:30 pm.

OSHA's National Construction Fall Safety Stand-Down

OSHA and other federal safety agencies have designated May 7-11-2018 for the Fifth Annual National **Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction**. Designed to promote awareness among employers and workers about the hazards of falls, which account for the highest number of fatalities in the construction industry, contractors are asked to stop work at jobsites at prescribed times and conduct topic talks, demonstrations and training, or other activities that focus on fall prevention.

The National Fall Safety Stand-Down is part of OSHA's fall prevention campaign, launched six years ago with NIOSH. It provides employers with lifesaving information and educational materials on how to take steps to prevent falls, provide the right equipment for their employees, and training in the proper use of that equipment. Visit the OSHA site for more information, suggestions and resources you can use during the National Safety Stand-Down: <https://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/>

Tool Box Safety Talk



Access to Scaffolds

Getting to the work level of a scaffold has always been a serious problem. Workers, when not provided with a proper stairway or ladder, might be tempted to use cross braces to climb the scaffold. This is strictly forbidden in the new scaffold rule.

The OSHA rules apply to all employees gaining access to a scaffold work surface. For your safety, you should observe the following OSHA and your company rules when getting on or off a scaffold work area.

Access to and between scaffold platforms more than two feet above or below the point of access must be made by:

- Portable ladders, hook-on ladders, attachable ladders, scaffold stairways, stairway-type ladders (such as ladder stands), ramps, walkways, integral prefabricated scaffold access, or equivalent means; or
- by direct access from another scaffold, structure, personnel hoist, or similar surface.

Portable, hook-on, and attachable ladders — It is critical that portable, hook-on, and attachable ladders are:

- Positioned so as not to tip the scaffold.
- Positioned so the bottom rung is not more than 24 inches above your starting point.
- Equipped with a rest platform at 35-foot maximum vertical intervals.

Stairway-type ladders must:

- Be provided with rest platforms at 12 foot intervals.
- Have slip-resistant treads on all steps and landings.

Stair towers must:

- Be equipped with a stair rail consisting of a top rail (handrail) and a midrail on each side of each scaffold stairway. (cont. Pg.2)

- Have slip-resistant surfaces on treads and landings.
- Have guardrails on the open sides and ends of each landing.

Ramps and walkways six feet or more above lower levels must have guardrail systems in place.

Scaffold frames that are used as access ladders must:

- Be specifically designed and constructed for use as ladder rungs.
- Be uniformly spaced within each frame section.

As a user of scaffolds you are not allowed to erect or dismantle them — unless you are trained and designated to do so. However, you still must be able to recognize hazardous conditions when climbing up and down, to and from, a work surface. To totally ignore a problem is asking for trouble. Study the above OSHA rules and have a better understanding of when things do not look right. When they don't, don't climb.

Never use cross braces to gain access to a scaffold working platform



2018 BCA/SJ Scholarship Program

Information outlining eligibility requirements for the 2018 Scholarship Program

have been e-mailed to BCA/SJ Members.

This membership service is offered to put greater emphasis on all aspects of education, not exclusively the construction industry.

Request an Application by contacting the Association Office—856-235-6950, or you may access the same on our website www.bcasj.com, click on the education tab.

Call the Association with any questions.

JUST A Reminder:

All BCA/SJ members are welcome to obtain notary services at the BCA/SJ office. Call if you are in need of this service.

If you are looking for a way to get more exposure among other BCA/SJ Members send us articles of interest for inclusion in the monthly newsletter or submit a press release for your company.



As Reported From ACCNJ

Metro Construction Employment Up in January – Except in Some NJ

Metros: Across the country, construction employment posted gains in 248 of 358 metro areas (nearly 70%), fell in 68 and remained the same in 42 from January 2017 to January 2018. Some New Jersey metros didn't fare well in the year-over-year period, however, as Camden came in among the bottom five with the loss of 1,700 jobs, an 8% plummet; Middlesex-Monmouth-Ocean lost 1,500 jobs, a 4% drop; and Newark lost 600 jobs, a 1% decline. On the upside, Vineland-Bridgeton added 200 jobs for the year-over-year, a 9% jump; and Atlantic City-Hammonton and Trenton each picked up 200 jobs, a 4% rise for each.

Construction Materials Prices Rise in February:

AGC of America reports prices on many construction materials jumped in February, and told contractors to expect even higher prices when the steel and aluminum tariffs go into effect. Overall, the producer price index for inputs to the construction industry, including all goods and services, rose 0.6% in February, a significant one-month hike, with a 4.4% jump over 12 months. The index rose 4.2% for all of 2017 and only 0.9% in 2016.



BCA/SJ SPORTING CLAY EVENT FRIDAY April 27th—M & M Hunting Sporting Clays

Come and join us and experience the fastest-growing shotgun sport in America—Sporting Clays.

Originally designed to simulate hunting, sporting clays is now often described as “golf with a shotgun.”

Clay targets are presented in a variety of unique woods and open field situations on a course that is challenging and fun.

M & M's courses are the nation's finest, and considered by many to be among the best clay-target facilities in the world.

M & M offers a novice course and an advanced course to ensure fun for shooters of all experience levels and abilities.

Instruction and orientation is included to review safety requirements and basic skills before the event.

Beginners are welcome!