



# Building OHIO

News from the Associated General Contractors of Ohio

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## AGC OF OHIO CONVENTION

March 19-24, Isle of Palms, SC

***Register right away to lock in early bird pricing!***

This year's AGC of Ohio Convention will be held at The Wild Dunes Resort on the Isle of Palms, South Carolina from Sunday, March 19 thru Friday, March 24. Described as a beach resort unlike any other, Wild Dunes offers luxury and convenient access to the Isle of Palms beach and downtown Charleston. The convention agenda will include business sessions on topics of interest to commercial builders, social events, AGC of Ohio's officers' installation, and opportunities to explore the area.

The early-bird registration price saves conventiongoers \$350 from the regular convention fee and concludes January 15. The convention pricing covers hotel accommodations and AGC of Ohio-hosted events and business sessions. Learn more and register [here](#). Direct questions to Rich Hobbs at [rjh@agcoho.com](mailto:rjh@agcoho.com) or (614) 486-6446.

## COMPLETE THE [GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SURVEY](#); LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETS JAN 27

***Your input needed to help direct statehouse efforts***

Please take 5-10 minutes to complete the [AGC of Ohio Government Affairs Survey](#) and share it with others in your organization that may have additional insight on the questionnaire topics. Members' responses will help guide AGC of Ohio's government affairs priorities.

[www.cognitofirms.com/AGCOfohio1/AGCOfohioGovernmentAffairsQuestionnaire2](http://www.cognitofirms.com/AGCOfohio1/AGCOfohioGovernmentAffairsQuestionnaire2)

The AGC of Ohio Legislative Committee will meet on January 27 at the AGC office in Columbus from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (includes lunch). If interested in participating contact Andrea Ashely at [andrea@agcoho.com](mailto:andrea@agcoho.com) or (614) 486-6446.

## LINK YOUR CAREER PAGE WITH I BUILD AMERICA OHIO'S PILOT RECRUITMENT AD CAMPAIGN

***NE & SW Ohio contractors can connect with those looking for construction careers***

AGC of Ohio and OCA's I Build America Ohio workforce development program is teaming up with AGC of America to launch a pilot industry recruitment media campaign in Northeast and Southwest Ohio. This pilot campaign will consist of digital media ads targeted to individuals actively looking to pursue a career in construction. Upon clicking on an ad, individuals will be directed to a specific landing page that provides direct links to companies' career pages on their websites, in addition to career options and available training.

If your company is an AGC of Ohio or OCA member with an office in NE or SW Ohio and has a page on your website that displays open positions or accepts resumes, email a link to the web page to Parker Brown at [parker@agcoho.com](mailto:parker@agcoho.com). Contact Parker with any questions or for more information about the campaign.

## AGC OF OHIO ACCEPTING ENTRIES FOR TWO SAFETY AWARDS PROGRAMS

### National AGC Safety Awards - [Entries](#) Due Feb 8

*Takes 5 minutes, compares incidence rates, and recognizes those 25% below division average*

Submit your information for the [National AGC Safety Awards \(NASA\)](#) today! AGC members with direct-hire, jobsite craft labor may enter. It only takes 5 minutes to input information with your OSHA 300 log, there's no charge, and participating companies receive a Report Card comparing their data with other firms of similar type and size. Companies with rates 25 percent below their division average receive a Certificate of Commendation that will be presented during the AGC of Ohio Safety Luncheon.

[Learn more and enter](#) by February 8, 2023. Direct questions to Andrea Ashley at AGC of Ohio: [andrea@agcoho.com](mailto:andrea@agcoho.com) or (614) 486-6446.

### Construction Safety Excellence Awards (CSEA) – [Entries](#) Due March 31

*Top safety award, honors company's overall safety and health program*

CSEA recognizes AGC members for their overall safety programs, closely examining companies' commitment to safety and occupational health management and risk control. The comprehensive selection process considers evidence of company management commitment, active employee participation, safety training, work site hazard identification and control, and safety program innovation.

The AGC of Ohio CSEA entry categories include Building (GC Only), Heavy, Specialty Contractor, and Construction Management. Members that entered AGC of America's CSEA program may send a copy of their national application to AGC of Ohio in lieu of completing the state application.

Winners will be recognized at the AGC of Ohio Safety Luncheon and receive a green marble brick with a yellow hard hat. Contact Andrea Ashley at (614) 486-6446 or [andrea@agcoho.com](mailto:andrea@agcoho.com) with questions or for more information. [Click here to enter.](#)

## EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

*Encourage co-ops, interns, students to [apply](#), deadline Feb 10*

The AGC of Ohio Education Foundation manages 31 collegiate scholarships sponsored by AGC members and affiliated organizations geared toward students pursuing construction degrees. Eligible applicants must be a U.S. citizen enrolled in a construction-related degree program and in at least their second year of a 2-year or 4-year college or university in fall 2023; and carry a minimum GPA of 2.5 (out of 4.0). Other eligibility requirements apply to most scholarships.

[Learn more and apply.](#) Direct questions to Parker Brown at (614) 486-6446 or [parker@agcoho.com](mailto:parker@agcoho.com).

### SAVE THE DATES!

May 15, 2023

**AGC of Ohio Golf Outing Benefiting the Education Foundation**, Northstar Golf Club, Sunbury

November 10, 2023

**AGC of Ohio Build Ohio Celebration**, Hilton Columbus at Easton

Note: Entry forms for the Build Ohio awards program will be available in May

## AROUND THE STATEHOUSE

### *Ohio legislators kick-off the 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, Ohio House drama*

The members of Ohio's 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (G.A.) have been sworn in, and most of the statehouse leadership teams elected – albeit some in dramatic fashion.

Last week, the Ohio Senate unanimously elected the leadership teams and established the body's rules. Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) was re-elected president. Rounding the Republican slate are Senators Kirk Schuring (Canton) as president pro tempore, Rob McColley (Napoleon) as majority floor leader, and Theresa Gavarone (Bowling Green) as majority whip. On the Democratic side, Nickie Antonio (Lakewood) was elected minority leader; Hearcel Craig (Columbus), assistant minority leader; Kent Smith (Euclid), minority whip; and Paula Hicks-Hudson (Toledo), assistant minority whip.

This week, the Senate finalized committees and introduced its first round of bills, usually considered priority legislation for the chamber.

Things have not started as smoothly in the Ohio House, and as a result, the body organizationally has stalled the second week of the G.A.

Last Tuesday, the usually mundane Speaker election took an unexpected twist when 32 Democrats joined 22 Republicans and elected Rep. Jason Stephens (R-Kitts Hill) to lead the body. The House Republican caucus tentatively selected Rep. Derek Merrin (Monclova Twp.) to serve as speaker after the November 2022 election. Merrin was backed by 43 Republicans on the House floor vote. The rare split majority vote harkens back to former Speaker Householders' election in 2019, when Democrats sided with a minority number of Republicans to give him the gavel.

The only other person from the majority party formally elected to leadership was Rep. Scott Oeslager (R-Canton) as speaker pro tempore. Oeslager garnered more Republican votes than the Speaker, with everyone but Merrin and thirteen of his supporters voting against. The minority leadership slate of Democrats was elected by a similar margin: Rep. Allison Russo, Minority Leader; Rep. Dontavius Jarrells (Columbus), assistant minority leader; Rep. Jessica Miranda (D-Forest Park), minority whip; and Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron), assistant minority whip.

At this point, Speaker Stephens must still bring the remainder of his leadership slate to the floor for a full chamber vote and need to be adopted by a majority of the chamber before legislative work can formally begin. And, to further the intrigue, Rep. Merrin met with his supporters yesterday and created their own Republican caucus to push for legislative priorities and organizational rules.

Being less than two-weeks into the G.A., the split Republican caucus and its impact on Ohio House policies and legislative priorities have yet to be seen.

AGC of Ohio stays out of party and caucus politics, and the association's PAC (political action campaign) supports representatives on both sides of the fractured caucus. AGC will continue to focus solely on legislation and public policy.