Our Mission
To provide support, unity and leadership to the heavy, highway and utility industry in Ohio for the success of our membership.

OCA is all about those we serve. Photos in this review highlight just some of those individuals who make our industry what it is today.

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Dear Friends of OCA,

To all our loyal OCA members and friends,

We, first, thank you for being a part of Ohio’s transportation infrastructure story through your membership in the Ohio Contractors Association during 2019. It was a noteworthy year in many respects, about which you will read more in the pages of this year’s Annual Report. Through the legislature, through state and local governments, through the court system, in the work force arena, with our related unions, and interactions between and with our members, OCA has been engaged in an ever-widening range of noteworthy issues, events and activities. This reflects just how engaged and dynamic the heavy/highway construction industry has become in Ohio.

A highlight happening of CY 2019 was one rarely seen in the State of Ohio – namely, an increase in the motor fuel user fee. That noteworthy event, which will allow ODOT to maintain their past six-year annual average of a $2 billion capital construction program and provide over $400 million of additional funds to local governments, has proven to be a strategic investment in Ohio’s highway infrastructure for the betterment of our state’s citizens and our industry.

As you read through these pages, please remember that you are the reason OCA can represent you on so many fronts. It is because of the investment that you make through your membership that your interests are being represented by a group of individuals highly experienced in the many facets of the heavy/highway construction industry.

Thank you for being a part of the Ohio Contractors Association!

With warmest regards,

Chris Runyan, President

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Benefits of Membership

OCA holds a vital position at the very heart of the heavy, highway and utility industries in Ohio. For firms working in this lucrative arena, OCA is an invaluable resource, and membership offers a solid return on investment as members are positioned to capture the attention of a highly desirable industry.

Benefits of membership include:

- OCA is a valuable resource for advice and gives a voice to the heavy, highway and utility construction industries in Ohio, with extensive staff expertise in:
  - LEGISLATIVE & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
  - PUBLIC AGENCIES INCLUDING ODOT
  - GENERAL & INDUSTRY SPECIFIC LABOR & EMPLOYMENT LAW
  - SAFETY-FOCUSED ADVOCACY, EDUCATION & AWARENESS

- OCA facilitates industry collaboration at the local level through its network of nine chapters.
- OCA draws the industry together to create and strengthen relationships through timely, industry specific meetings, programs and events.
- OCA champions the development of today’s workforce and tomorrow’s industry leaders.
- OCA connects members with discounts on products and services that deliver bottom-line impact.

OCA members find that help in these areas of expertise is just a phone call away.

In addition, OCA membership is inclusive of membership in AGC, and, for our contractor members, in ARTBA!
2019 Legislative and Environmental Affairs Update

We had a busy and successful year legislatively. Our biggest accomplishment was the increase in the motor fuel user fee/gas tax. Efforts to create a coalition and build awareness of the need to increase highway investment in Ohio started in early 2017. We built the Fix Our Roads Ohio (FOR Ohio) coalition to include more than 70 organizations. Coalescing around four major points, the coalition advocated to:

1. increase the motor fuel tax rate and add an inflationary index,
2. levy an alternative fuel vehicle fee,
3. begin exploring alternative infrastructure funding methodologies, and
4. identify a dedicated funding source for public transit.

Newly elected Governor Mike DeWine responded quickly to the need and recommended a dramatic increase to the motor fuel user fee. After considerable discussions with industry experts, and after considerable debate, the Ohio General Assembly responded responsibly and in a bipartisan manner. The result was enactment of HB 62, the transportation budget bill, which included a 10.5-cent increase to the state gasoline tax and a 19-cent increase in the state diesel tax.

Increasing the tax rates on gasoline and diesel will add $840 million per year to the state’s transportation infrastructure system. This increased funding addressed ODOT’s immediate funding shortfall. Counties, cities, villages, and townships will also receive a funding boost for badly needed road and bridge maintenance and improvements.

In addition, fees for alternative fuel vehicles were enacted. Beginning January 1, 2020, owners of electric/plug-in vehicles will pay an additional $200 annually as part of their vehicle registration. Hybrid owners will be assessed $100 annually. These fees are anticipated to generate an additional $22 million annually.

The need to begin looking at alternative ways to fund infrastructure was recognized with the formation of the Ohio’s Road to Our Future Joint Legislative Committee. This Committee, comprised of legislators from both the House and Senate, is charged with studying various topics ranging from vehicle-miles-traveled funding concepts,
to the demographics of ODOT employees. A report of recommendations is required by December 1, 2020.

HB 62 also recognized the need to adequately fund public transportation and dedicates $70 million annually to Ohio’s 27 transit systems.

Beyond the transportation budget, we actively monitored other bills that addressed such topics as prevailing wage reforms, allowing minors on construction projects, and potential changes to Ohio’s unemployment compensation system, to name a few.

Looking ahead, OCA will be active in efforts to improve highway safety with enhancements to Ohio’s distracted driving laws. Distracted driving is currently a secondary offense, which means law enforcement must have another reason to stop a vehicle to issue a citation for the driver’s use of a phone while driving. Governor DeWine is leading an effort to make distracted driving a primary offense so that law enforcement can stop and cite a driver solely for using a hand-held mobile device.

Thank you to the many members of OCA who contributed to the Ohio Contractors Political Action Committee in 2019. A total of $77,870 was raised, allowing for 58 contributions totaling $79,000 to be made to statewide officials and House and Senate members. While these amounts are less than previous years, we were able to support many legislators who recognize the importance of the heavy/highway industry and support efforts to fund and enhance our industry and Ohio’s transportation system. Thank you again for your continued support.

Members of the OCA Future Leaders Forum joined association leadership representatives and staff for a tour of the Ohio Statehouse.

OCA members were generous with their time and energy speaking out for the industry both at home, and in Washington D.C.

After many miles traveled, meetings attended, phone calls made – a resounding victory for those who live, work and play in Ohio.

Governor Mike DeWine accepts OCA’s 2019 Champion of the Industry award at OCA’s Winter Conference from OCA President, Chris Runyan.

Brian Burgett (Kokosing Construction)

Meg Rietschlin (Rietschlin Construction); Toya Estes (J & B Steel Erectors, Inc.); Kyle Lucus (Capitol Tunneling, Inc.)

Members of the OCA Future Leaders Forum joined association leadership representatives and staff for a tour of the Ohio Statehouse.
Input on ODOT Specifications & Policy

OCA staff and members provided regular input to ODOT on specifications and policy. Our relationship with and ability to get our message to the decision makers at ODOT covered a wide range of topics:

- The Alternative Project Delivery Task Force met several times and provided input on Design/Build and other alternative contracting policies.
- OCA’s Heavy/Highway Committee met quarterly with ODOT Construction staff to provide industry input on a variety of topics including: Timely payment for completed work; pre-bid questions and answers; Manual for Assessing Safety Hardware (MASH) requirements, implementation, & sunset dates; Design/Build projects; railroad flagger issues; eConstruction; rumble stripes; Contractors as co-generators of hazardous material; prices for erosion control items; consistency of enforcement between districts; and smoothness specifications.
- OCA members and staff continued to be represented and provide specification input at all six ODOT Specification Committees – Contract Administration, Earthwork, Pavements, Structures, Hydraulics, and Traffic & Roadway. In addition, OCA Staff has continued to attend the monthly District Construction Engineers meetings, providing industry perspective on a variety of issues of mutual concern.

Don Conaway Partnering Awards / Conaway Conference

The seventh annual Don Conaway Partnering Awards were presented in 2019 at the Conaway Conference. There was great competition in the small and medium size project award categories. The winners, Brumbaugh Construction, Inc., District 7; DiGioia Suburban Excavating, LLC, District 3; and Kokosing Construction Co., Inc., District 8; & The Shelly Co., Inc., District 1 were presented with trophies by ODOT Director Jack Marchbanks and Chris Runyan as videos of their projects were shown to the audience.

The Conaway Conference was held on February 26 & 27 at the Hyatt in downtown Columbus. ODOT and contractor leadership and project personnel attended the first
day, with the leadership group staying over for the second day. Overall attendance was in excess of 800. The theme of the conference was “Partnering through Change”, in recognition of the new administration at ODOT. Director Jack Marchbanks again attended and spoke as well as OCA President Chris Runyan.

Sessions on the first day included:

- Matt Beaudreau from the Center for Generational Kinetics provided an excellent overview of communication between the various generations
- Navigating the Dispute Resolution Process, presented by Mike Pascoe of Hahn, Loeser, & Parks
- ODOT’s new Construction Inspection Workforce Program, presented by Randy Over
- Dangers of Silica on ODOT Construction Projects, presented by Mary So of George J. Igel Construction
- AASHTOWare Project Implementation and GoFormz, presented by Janet Treadway and Andrew Opsetnik from ODOT
- Machine Control and how it’s changing the Industry, presented by Hugh Brown and Jim Sterling of Beaver Excavating Co.
- 2019 Specification Updates, presented by the ODOT Central Office Construction staff
- The Veterans Memorial Highway — Lessons Learned from ODOT’s Largest Project — presented by Eric Kahlig of ODOT and Chad Ratkovich of Beaver Excavating
- Environmental Commitment Monitoring, presented by Samantha Givens of STONE Environmental Engineering & Science and Amanda Foley of ODOT
- 3D Model Integration, presented by Chris Dietz of DLZ
- Ethics in Autonomous Vehicles, presented by Tom Pannett of ODOT
- Whose Employee is it? Subcontracting and Joint Employer Consideration in the Age of Joint Liability, presented by Heather Adams of Ice Miller

Sessions on the second day included:

- ODOT Deputy Director of Construction Management Brad Jones gave an overview of ODOT’s program and emphasis for 2019-2021
- OCA President Chris Runyan gave an overview of the industry outlook for 2019
- Sarah Wade and Don Fisher of ODOT covered new requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Jim Barna, Executive Director of Drive Ohio covered new developments in autonomous vehicle technology
- Alison Premo Black, Senior VP and Chief Economist of ARTBA gave an overview of the national funding picture
- Laurie Maudlin of Appian Advisors gave an overview of Indiana’s increase in transportation funding
- Mike Clowser, the Executive Director of the Contractors Association of West Virginia gave an overview of West Virginia’s recent transportation funding increase

Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)

ODOT’s Office of Opportunity, Diversity, and Inclusion and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on a regular basis to express concerns on a variety of issues (from both a prime contractor and DBE perspective) concerning the DBE Program. Increasing goals on major projects, the shrinking pool of prequalified DBEs, Commercially Useful Function determinations, North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code limitations, and the Prompt Payment system were some of the major topics.

Plan Reading Course

Chris Engle taught a plan reading course at OCA headquarters, and is available to teach it at remote locations to accommodate the needs of members who had several employees in need of this course.

Local Project Administration Advisory Committee

ODOT’s LPA Advisory Committee to bring members’ perspectives to the group, which includes County Engineers and municipal representatives. Electronic bidding and contract administration processes are encouraged, and e-bidding has been implemented in several municipalities throughout the State.

Contract Administration Process Assistance

ODOT’s program and emphasis for 2019-2021
- OCA President Chris Runyan gave an overview of the industry outlook for 2019
- Sarah Wade and Don Fisher of ODOT covered new requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act
- Jim Barna, Executive Director of Drive Ohio covered new developments in autonomous vehicle technology
- Alison Premo Black, Senior VP and Chief Economist of ARTBA gave an overview of the national funding picture

ODA staff and DBE Committee met with ODOT’s Office of Opportunity, Diversity, and Inclusion and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on a regular basis to express concerns on a variety of issues (from both a prime contractor and DBE perspective) concerning the DBE Program. Increasing goals on major projects, the shrinking pool of prequalified DBEs, Commercially Useful Function determinations, North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code limitations, and the Prompt Payment system were some of the major topics.
Workforce Awareness

To better position the Association and its member representatives to address workforce development issues, OCA staff has engaged in various workforce development activities throughout the year focused around creating awareness of careers in the heavy highway construction industry:

- Staff launched and will continue to build relationships with educators and share the “Contractor/Classroom Collaboration” facilitation of introducing contractors to educators. Connections made include several South-Western City Schools, Hilliard City Schools, Tolles Career and Technical Center and Knox County Career Center.

- The Rich DiGeronimo Constructor for a Day program celebrated its 34th year. Constructor for a Day programs expose the industry’s future workforce to careers in construction through jobsite tours offered to local students. Many of the events also included job fairs that help OCA members connect with qualified co-op and job candidates. Seven chapters held either high school or college-level events and three chapters held programs for both levels. Total combined attendance for the 2019 programs was 1,149 participants.

- The Columbus Chapter celebrated its 18th annual Science of Big Machines at COSI. More than 26,000 visitors attended the week-long event. Science of Big Machines is free to the public and enhances the image of the industry throughout the community by giving young children a hands-on construction experience as they sit in, and even operate, heavy equipment.

- OCA members remain committed to raising funds for scholarship awards being presented to young men and women focusing on the Civil Engineering and Construction Management fields. In 2019, $20,000 was awarded to 9 recipients of the OCA Hall of Fame scholarship through the OCA Advancement Foundation; in addition, OCA Chapters presented $22,500 to students pursuing construction-related careers.

- OCA staff participated in The SuccessBound Conferences that bring together area secondary and post-secondary educators, business/industry and community partners to focus on creating new career opportunities for students. Staff presented at the conferences and shared resources our industry offers including IBA-Ohio and OCA’s Contractor/Classroom Collaboration initiative to partner schools with heavy highway contractors.

- OCA staff participates at College Tech Prep Success Bound conference committee as a business industry representative. This participation has helped increase connections with Career Tech educators.

- OCA took the lead to hold a focus group for Tolles Career and Technical Center, held at OCA. The meeting introduced the school superintendent and other administrators/school board members to a mix of some central Ohio AGC Ohio and Ohio Contractors Association members that are willing to help the school update its Construction Technologies program with the goal of increasing the interest and number of student’s participating in the program.

- OCA was also able to reinforce at this meeting our industry’s need for skilled workforce and our encouragement to include more awareness on heavy highway opportunities in their program. We also confirmed to the school administration our industry’s support and willingness to get involved with their classrooms.

- OCA facilitated a meeting with career educators (guidance counselors, internship coordinators) from central Ohio schools to share information about industry opportunities and connect them to contractors. The group met at OCA, followed by a presentation and jobsite visit with Kokosing.

- The Muddy Boots Award grew from one of OCA’s chapters to encourage construction trade-focused high school students attending the CFAD programs. The award is a pair of work boots the student chooses (up to $200) from the local Red Wing store. Students are pre-nominated by their instructor and we ask for the name of a student attending that is working or expected to work in the field who the instructor feels would most use the boots. This is a surprise award given at the end of the program and has been very much appreciated by the educators and students. One student per school attending receives a certificate and we have done this for two events so far — awarding a total of 8 pairs of boots. Funds were used from the chapter community service funds and we will be encouraging other chapters to implement this award around the state.

- Staff met with the Laborers and Carpenters apprenticeship representatives to better understand their programs, including those being implemented in career technical high schools.

- The OCA/AGC-Ohio Workforce Development Working Group developed a website resource, ibuildamerica-ohio.com, to create awareness, consideration and selection of the multitude of construction career pathways in order to enhance the supply and diversification of Ohio’s skilled workforce in support of the state’s dynamic construction industry needs.
Labor Negotiations

OCA’s Labor Relations Division (LRD) successfully renegotiated five collective bargaining agreements with three heavy highway unions in 2019.

New three-year agreements were reached with the Cement Masons, Laborers, and Teamsters. The Teamsters negotiations represent three agreements; Statewide Agreement A, which included the pension obligation to Central States Pension Fund; Statewide Agreement B, which is obligated only to the Teamsters National 401-K retirement plan; and, Teamsters Local 436 Cleveland Addendum Agreement.

The wage and benefit package increases for the new agreements averaged 2.6% per year over the 3-year period. The contracts were secured under the LRD goal of 2.7%!

A provision for railroad maintenance construction was added to the Laborers agreement at 80% of full rate in order to compete with the Laborers’ National Railroad Agreement.

The Teamsters Local 436 Cleveland Agreement now permits Saturday make-up days at straight time, and all contractors signatory to the Cleveland addendum will now be contributing 10 cents per hour to the Ohio Teamsters Apprenticeship Fund.

Workforce Development

Improvements were made to the OCA/Laborers Apprenticeship & Training Program. The program was approved by the Ohio Department of Education as meeting 12 of 16 credits necessary for high school graduation in Ohio. The program administrator is now marketing the program to Ohio’s vocational and high schools. The Laborers Apprenticeship and Training program has also adopted a new communication system and attendance policy. Attendance at all classroom work is mandatory. One unexcused absence may lead to termination. Sponsoring employers may now access on-line training records to confirm that their apprentices are present at required training classes.

Improvements were also made to the OCA/Operating Engineers Apprenticeship & Training Program. Mechanic trainees are now formally included in the Apprenticeship program. They are issued certificates and can now work at the percentage rates while on prevailing rate projects.

Labor Relations Issues

Overall grievance activity was down in 2019. That is a good for OCA’s busy contractors and helps maintain good labor / management relations. OCA did however, experience one area of problematic and costly labor issues with a Cleveland area union local.

Particularly troubling were the antics of the Union to file numerous grievances, and simultaneously, unfair labor practice charges with the NLRB, and in some cases, also discrimination charges with the Ohio Civil Rights Commission and EEOC. OCA was able to successfully and cost effectively fend off several of the issues by utilizing the Plan for the Settlement of Jurisdictional Disputes in the Construction Industry located in Washington, DC.

OCA also moved to meet directly with the Business Manager of the Union to get to the core of the issues emanating from the Cleveland Local. Several members of OCA’s Labor Executive Committee will join OCA’s Labor Relations Director in the meeting.

OCA, along with its national affiliate, AGC, continued to push for and monitor legislative efforts (or, lack thereof) for multi-employer pension reform. OCA has notified its membership of the key talking points for pension reform and has enabled them to contact their elected officials in order to press for needed reforms.

LEC/LRD Meetings

The summer Labor Executive Committee Meeting (LEC) was held at OCA on October 3, 2019. Chairman, Mark Sterling opened the meeting and welcomed the committee members. Highlights of the meeting were:

- Review of grievance / legal actions by Laborers Local Union 860 against OCA member companies.
- Reviewed Workforce Development Issues
- Reviewed decision to replace fund counsel on Laborers Pension and Health & Welfare Funds.
- Heard Pension Legislative Updates from Jim Young, of AGC
- Discussed 2020 collective bargaining priorities.

The annual Labor Relations Division Meeting was held on December 9, 2019 in conjunction with the Winter Conference.

Bob Dunlevey, Esq., with Taft Law, addressed the meeting and updated those in attendance on legal status of all major labor issues handled during 2019.
Mark Potnick, OCA’s Labor Relations Director addressed the meeting and reminded attendees that 2020 will bring labor negotiations with the Carpenters and Operators. Member input was requested. He also thanked those LRD members who currently serve as management trustees on the various union benefit funds and requested that members encourage their young future leaders to consider service as trustee vacancies become available.

The following individuals were reappointed to serve three-year terms on the LEC:

- Jim Chamberlin, Jr., Miller Cable Co.
- Andy Leffler, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
- Dan Smith, John R. Jurgensen Co.
- Chris Stutz, The Great Lakes Construction Co.

Mark Sterling, of Beaver Excavating Co., was re-elected to another one-year term as LEC Chairperson.

Member Assistance/Consulting Contacts

Throughout 2019, OCA handled nearly 2000 labor and employment related requests for assistance via phone and email from both member and non-member employers in the contracting industry. The issues ranged from collective bargaining agreement interpretations to assistance and representation in grievance and jurisdictional disputes, as well as Davis-Bacon and Prevailing Wage issues initiated by the compliance divisions of various cities, counties and ODOT.
Safety Overview

OCA faced many and varied safety challenges throughout 2019. The goal of providing our members with guidance, education and assistance was accomplished, and the big picture outcome was a busy, but safe and efficient construction season for Ohio’s Highway, Heavy, Utility construction industry.

Safety Highlights

OCA’s Safety Committee evaluated and distributed compliance summary for OSHA’s certified crane operator standard. The summary covers 5 major points contractors should implement to maintain compliance with the standard.

OCA assisted its members with the transition of Work Zone Traffic Supervisor certification from OCA to ODOT, who now conducts the certification testing.

OCA continued to move forward on finalizing a standardized, ODOT and FHWA compliant warning device for overhead powerlines and hazards which cause great safety problems when struck by raised truck beds and/or equipment booms. OCA has developed a prototype device which is in the final stages of approval by ODOT and FHWA as this goes to print. We are hopeful to roll out the device in early 2020.

As a result of several trenching and excavation incidents in Ohio, OCA and the Columbus Area Office of OSHA, co-sponsored Trench Safety Day on June 25th. The successful event attracted more than 200 people and included multiple workshops on trenching safety and technique.

OCA formed a safety subcommittee to revise its popular Construction Safety Guide. Committee input was compiled and returned in December. The revised guide should be available in the first quarter of 2020.

OCA was excited to join Dr. Fabian Tan, of The Ohio State University in a partnership study. Dr. Tan has applied to the National Institute of Health for a grant to study the effects of opioids in the construction industry. He intends to rely upon OCA members to conduct his studies.

Underground Utility Damage Prevention

OCA continued its major role in promoting underground utility damage prevention. As a major stake holder in the Ohio Damage Prevention Coalition, OCA participated in discussions and debate about such issues as law exemptions, large project definitions, scope and life of ticket concerns, abandoned lines issues, training requirements, and accountability for third-party locators.

Safety Awards Program

OCA recognized five contractor members as Division winners in the annual Jerry Keller Memorial Safety Awards Program. The five winning companies worked more than 5 million hours, without a lost time accident…incredible! Four companies also achieved Zero Accident & Injury awards for the year. The firms were honored during the OCA’s Winter Conference on December 10.

Training & Education

OCA continued its leadership role in providing top-notch safety training and education for Ohio’s construction industry. Approximately 200 individuals took advantage of OCA’s training programs in the areas of excavation & trenching, work zone traffic control, substance abuse, underground damage prevention for field personnel, and more.
Division I:
The Shelly Co.
-3,085,388 work hours

Division II:
Beaver Excavating Co.
-1,120,371 work hours

Division III:
The Great Lakes Construction Co.
-863,311 work hours

Division IV:
BOCA Construction, Inc.
-124,673 work hours

Division V:
Double Z Construction Company
-93,716 work hours
OCA's nine chapters, each led by a volunteer Executive Committee, continue to grow and provide valuable benefits across the state by offering members the opportunity to:

- connect with industry leaders;
- develop and build relationships;
- promote the industry through community outreach, and
- encourage the future workforce.

In 2019, 4,997 participants attended 51 chapter events throughout the year.

Five chapters completed major hands-on Community Service Projects in their local areas and all nine supported their communities with monetary and in-kind donations given to non-profit organizations. This year significant hands-on support was offered to residential communities by providing new streets, sidewalks, driveways and much needed parking for multiple community-based service centers.

The Rich DiGeronimo Constructor for a Day program celebrated its 34th year. Constructor for a Day programs expose the industry’s future workforce to careers in construction through jobsite tours offered to local students. Many of the events also included job fairs that help OCA members connect with qualified co-op and job candidates. Seven chapters held either high school or college-level events and three chapters held programs for both levels. Total combined attendance for the 2019 programs was 1,149 participants. OCA recognizes and thanks the many individuals who gave their time and opened their jobsites to help make these events a success.

OCA members remain committed to raising funds for scholarship awards being presented to young men and women focusing on the Civil Engineering and Construction Management fields. In 2019, OCA Chapters presented $22,500 to students pursuing construction-related careers.
Chapters around the state continue to show strong support and recognition of the importance that the political process has in impacting the heavy/highway industry in Ohio. In 2019 chapter contributions totaled $66,355.

The Columbus Chapter celebrated its 18th annual Science of Big Machines at COSI. More than 26,000 visitors attended the week-long event. Science of Big Machines is free to the public and enhances the image of the industry throughout the community by giving young children a hands-on construction experience as they sit in, and even operate, heavy equipment.

The Cleveland Chapter received the 2019 Outstanding Chapter of the Year for the first time in 33 years. Chapter of the Year is determined by three criteria including meeting attendance, increased membership and PAC activity. All chapters made a great effort to support OCA, their local membership and their communities.

For more information about how you can benefit from chapter activities, contact OCA Director of Chapter Development, Melanie Kitchen at OCA, 614-488-0724 or mkitchen@ohiocontractors.org.

### 2020 Chapter Executive Committee Leadership

**Akron/Canton Chapter:**

Mark Myers, Chairman  
(The Ruhlín Co.)

**Eastern Ohio Chapter:**

Josh Reed, Chairman  
(Shelly & Sands, Inc.)

**Cleveland Chapter:**

Matt Krauss, Chairman  
(The Chas. E. Phipps Co.)

**North Central Ohio (NCO) Chapter:**

Scott Stover, Chairman  
(National Lime & Stone Co.)

**Columbus Chapter:**

Ron Wike, Chairman  
(National Lime & Stone Co.)

**Southwest Chapter:**

Mark Nelson, Chairman  
(Assured Partners)

**Dayton Chapter:**

Sean Wade, Chairman  
(Eagle Bridge)

**Toledo Chapter:**

Jason Baden, Chairman  
(Gerken Paving, Inc.)

**Youngstown Chapter:**

Rob Sullivan, Chairman  
(A. P. O’Horo Co.)
Training

OCA continues to provide educational topics that are relevant to our industry. Multiple classes were held throughout the year including the Successful Project Management, Effective Construction Supervision, Estimating Sitework Construction, Estimating Earthwork Construction, Estimating Roadwork & Paving and Estimating Underground Utilities among others. We are always receptive to suggestions for training topics by our members.

Awards

Congratulations go to the following individuals for being recognized as outstanding in their industry, and voted on by their peers.

- Hall of Fame Award — John Igel, George J. Igel & Co., Inc.
- Distinguished Service Award — Mark Nelson, AssuredPartners

The Hall of Fame award recipient is elected by the OCA Board of Directors, OCA Past Presidents, and each chapter chair and vice chair. The Distinguished Service recipient is chosen by the OCA Board of Directors, OCA Past Presidents, and the OCA Associate Member Executive Committee.

Website

Our new website was launched allowing for greater coordination between our membership database, our website and the accounting system. All of it designed to make industry information easier for members to access, share on social media and for quicker more efficient event registration. Also introduced was a new look the weekly eNewsletter that delivers the most current and relevant industry news and announcements every Monday.
Winter Conference
This event continues to be our highest attended event of the year. Nearly 700 people were in attendance over the course of the two days. 78 great companies filled the exhibit hall. OCA members attended sessions relevant to our industry. Our keynote speaker, Donna Laquidara-Carr, shared how technology is transforming horizontal construction. Members enjoyed the cocktail reception and casino and took advantage of the opportunity to network with peers. New members again enjoyed the new member mixer, allowing for introductions between our new members, OCA staff and board members.

Annual Convention
2019 in Riviera Maya, Mexico — Always great to be down south when the snow is flying up north. Great networking with sessions that were relevant to our industry, with many opportunities for members to network in a relaxed and fun setting.

2020 in Maui, Hawaii — Our convention stay will be at the Four Seasons. Looking forward to great weather and lots of great excursions, networking and strengthening of business relationships.


2022 in Aruba — Watch for details — February 2 -9, 2022

Conaway Conference
This conference is a collaborative effort between the Ohio Contractors Association and the Ohio Department of Transportation. A steering committee comprised of ODOT and OCA members helps determine the topics most relevant to our industry. In 2019, day one brought over 600 people, with over 200 people attending on the second day. From 3D Model Integration to Ethics in Autonomous Vehicles no topics got missed. Sponsorship opportunities are available.
Meet the 2019 Hall of Fame Scholarship Winners
These students shared $20,000 in awards!

Kathryn Ackerman
Blake Brower
Jack Downs
David Gaydos
Ryan Miller
Mike Ostendorf
Dana Pagley
John Picklesimer
Alec Thompson

Estimating Competition
The 19th Annual Estimating Competition took place in February with over 65 students attending. The students estimated the Columbia Road Relocation project, constructed by John R. Jurgensen Co. Rob Lichter, Project Manager with Jurgensen, presented the project to all guests including teams, faculty and coaches. Each team left with a monetary award for hard work. OCA members offer much time and expertise as team coaches, judges and project presenter. Coaches are continuing to work together for standards in preparation for the competition.

1st place – Ohio Northern University ($2,400)
2nd place – University of Dayton ($1,800)
3rd place – Ohio University ($1,500)
Other teams - $1,200 each
Hall of Fame State-Wide Scholarship Program
Since 1996, OCA has awarded more than $250,000 in scholarships to support promising future talent studying for careers in Civil Engineering, Construction Technology and Construction Management. Supported by the OCA Advancement Foundation, these scholarships are available for students in Ohio with graduation goals set at the associate and bachelor’s degree levels. OCA recognizes the value that our Hall of Fame Scholarship recipients bring to our industry.

Congratulations to the 2019 Winners!

Hall of Fame Scholarships - B.S./B.A. Degree Programs:
Kathryn Ackerman, University of Akron
Blake Brower, University of Cincinnati
Ryan Miller, Cleveland State University
Mike Ostendorf, University of Cincinnati
Dana Pagley, Youngstown State University
Alec Thompson, University of Toledo

The Heffner Scholarship and Advancement Fund:
David Gaydos, University of Dayton

Hall of Fame Scholarship - Associate Degree Program:
Jack Downs, Columbus State Community College
John Picklesimer, Columbus State Community College

Ohio Contractors Association finance department continuously strives to create functional and focused financial reporting that is easy to translate, relevant, and informative to its members.

The immediate past fiscal year closed June 30, 2019, with membership dues and fees maintained at budgeted operational projections. The 2019 Fiscal Year comprehensive consolidated financial audit was performed by the Schneider Downs accounting firm with no significant deficiencies or concerns for the audit year.

OCA’s Board investment policy requires an investment of excess cash into government-backed U.S. securities, mutual funds, U.S. corporate stocks or foreign corporate stocks. The Board determines excess cash after evaluating upcoming expected cash requirements. OCA has selected the firm of Stratos Wealth Partners to implement the investment policy adopted by the Board and make needed adjustments to investments contained in the portfolios. OCA’s investment policy objectives emphasize a strategy focusing on a balance between long-term growth of capital and income (total return) while accepting only a moderate level of volatility.

OCA’s efforts to remain technologically aware and forward-thinking has provided continued improvements and refinements to its iMIS membership software throughout the year. We continue to look for ways of improving existing processes as well as developing new and better ways of utilizing progressive technology as it is made available to us. Member engagement and use of their online iMIS profiles allow them to join or renew their memberships online, manage their profiles, and view their purchase history. Members can also control their chapter activities and track their committee and event participation and registrations. Members’ e-commerce responsiveness and initiating their online payments have shown to continually increase...
What can we expect in 2020?

As you have seen, OCA has been actively engaged in heavy/highway industry issues and events throughout 2019. 2020 has much in store as well.

While 2019 saw a year where highway investment amounts were maintained at the state level and increased at the local level, OCA will begin the discussion toward making sure those funding levels remain consistent given the natural impacts inflation has on the purchasing power of those dollars. It is a major lift to get increases through the Legislature in the amounts achieved this past year. It is much more prudent to see increases come on a more frequent basis but in lesser amounts that reflect one or two years’ worth of inflation as opposed to a 15-year correction. OCA will be leading the discussion on adopting that funding philosophy.

Eliminating Distracted driving will be a major legislative initiative in 2020. The DeWine Administration, with OCA’s full support, is very much focused on highway safety. Our interests align well with that initiative, especially in work zones where our employees spend much of their work day. It is a dangerous profession. Keeping drivers’ attention on the road at all times will go a long way in ensuring those we care most about return to their families at the end of each work day.

The Operating Engineers’ contract will expire in 2020. At a time when funding for Ohio’s highways and bridges has been increased, stability in the work force is a critical component to completing projects on time, with a high degree of quality, and within budget. Securing a multi-year labor agreement with I.U.O.E. Local 18 will be an important achievement for the year ahead.

OCA chapters have been thriving with increased attendance, meaningful outreach through scholarships and community improvement activities, and informational networking opportunities. Our leaders of tomorrow receive their initial exposure to the broader face of the industry through OCA’s chapters. We encourage you to encourage others within your circle of friends and co-workers to become and remain involved in your local OCA chapter.

These are just a limited few of the many things OCA will be engaged in for 2020. The unexpected always shows up and there are always interesting twists and turns even for those things we plan for. Regardless of how issues end up on our plate, your OCA staff will be here to represent your interests and provide the information and advice you need to help make 2020 a productive and successful year for your company.
2020 Executive Committee

Mike Ciamaichella
Chairman of the Board
The Ruhlin Co.

Brad Miller
Vice Chairman of the Board
Miller Bros. Const., Inc.

Amy Hall
Immediate Past Chair
Ebony Construction Co., Inc.

Joe Griffin
Treasurer
Griffin Pavement Striping, Inc.

Meg Rietschlin
Executive Committee Member
Rietschlin Construction

2020 OCA Directors

Dean Breese
Gerken Paving, Inc.

Tom Frantz
Eagle Bridge, Co.

Walid Gemayel
American Structure Point, Inc.

Dave Guzzo
Double Z Construction Company

Mary Fantozi
J.D. Williamson Construction Co.

Rick Friess
Carron Asphalt Paving, Inc.

Colby (Cole) Graham
Shelly & Sands, Inc.

Jason Jurgensen
John R. Jurgensen Company
2020 OCA Directors (continued)

Bernard Lewis  
B. G. Trucking & Construction Inc.

Paul Lorenz  
Ohio CAT

Geoff Rinehart  
Kokosing Construction Co., Inc

Rod Russell  
Barrett Paving Materials, Inc.

William (Bill) Luttmer  
A & A Safety, Inc.

Matt Malone  
Kurtz Bros., Inc.

David J. Spurio  
DOT Construction Corp.

Matt Sterling  
Beaver Excavating Co.

Mark Miller  
P S Construction Fabrics, Inc.

Ty Nofziger  
The Shelly Company

Jason Tucker  
The Great Lakes Construction Co.

John Wagner  
E.S. Wagner Co.
2020 OCA Chapter Executive Committees

Akron/Canton Chapter
Chair – Mark Myers, The Ruhlin Co.
Laura Culp, Sikich LLP
Mary Fantozzi, J.D. Williamson Construction Co
Steve Hamit, The Thrasher Group
Alex McCaillion, Brennan, Manna & Diamond, LLC
Mark Miller, P S Construction Fabrics Inc.
Marvilia Miller, Barbicas Construction Co., Inc.
Jim Milligan, Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.
Chad Ratkovich, Beaver Excavating Company
Jim Ruhlin, Jr., The Ruhlin Co.
Taylor Schauer, Schauer Group
Betsy Sterling, Beaver Excavating Company
Brian Zele, The Shelly Co.

Columbus Chapter
Chair – Ron Wike, National Lime & Stone Co.
Vice Chair – Christie Howard, Surety Bonds, Inc.
Shawn Bremer, Griffin Pavement Striping, Inc.
Mike Guzzo, Double Z Construction Company
Kevin Hill, Buckeye Ready-Mix, LLC
Brian James, Rudd Equipment Company
Mike Obert, Complete General Construction
Brent Poston, George J. Igel & Co., Inc.
Geoff Rinehart, Kokosing Construction Co., Inc.
Nate Smith, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
Troy Stegner, The Shelly Co.

Cleveland Chapter
Chair – Matt Krauss, The Chas. E. Phipps Company
Nicole De Ville, Kokosing Construction Co., Inc.
Nick DiGeronimo, Independence Excavating, Inc.
Bill Dvorak, The Shelly Co.
Rick Friess, Carron Asphalt Paving, Inc.
Joe Kosek, Construction Planning Group
Bryan Schauer, Schauer Group, Inc.
Alex Shaw, Shook Construction
Jason Tucker, The Great Lakes Construction Co.

Columbus Chapter
Chair – Ron Wike, National Lime & Stone Co.
Vice Chair – Christie Howard, Surety Bonds, Inc.
Shawn Bremer, Griffin Pavement Striping, Inc.
Mike Guzzo, Double Z Construction Company
Kevin Hill, Buckeye Ready-Mix, LLC
Brian James, Rudd Equipment Company
Mike Obert, Complete General Construction
Brent Poston, George J. Igel & Co., Inc.
Geoff Rinehart, Kokosing Construction Co., Inc.
Nate Smith, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
Troy Stegner, The Shelly Co.

Dayton Chapter
Chair – Sean Wade, Eagle Bridge
Mickey Brown, Hageman Trucking
Paul Cain, John R. Jurgensen Co.
John Gray, Bowser-Morner Inc.
Dave Groth, Melvin Stone Co.
Paul Lorenz, Ohio CAT
Jon Robertson, Ernst Concrete
Bill Wohlford, Barrett Paving Materials, Inc.

Detroit Chapter
Chair – Ron Wike, National Lime & Stone Co.
Vice Chair – Christie Howard, Surety Bonds, Inc.
Shawn Bremer, Griffin Pavement Striping, Inc.
Mike Guzzo, Double Z Construction Company
Kevin Hill, Buckeye Ready-Mix, LLC
Brian James, Rudd Equipment Company
Mike Obert, Complete General Construction
Brent Poston, George J. Igel & Co., Inc.
Geoff Rinehart, Kokosing Construction Co., Inc.
Nate Smith, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
Troy Stegner, The Shelly Co.

Eastern Ohio Chapter
Chair – Josh Reed, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
Vice Chair – Samantha Rodgers, Beaver Excavating Co.
Stewart Dotson, Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers/Iron Planet
Mark Haverty, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
Jeremiah Johnson, Beaver Excavating Co.
Rita Lantz, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
Theresa Mizer, Mid Atlantic Maintenance
Matt Powell, Triton
Samantha (Bour) Rodgers, Beaver Excavating Co.

North Central Ohio Chapter
Chair – Scott Stover, National Lime & Stone Co.
Jake Christina, Shelly & Sands, Inc.
Scott Didion, Welfle, Inc.
Willy Given, BCC Ohio Inc.
Scott Kinnamon, Norwalk Concrete Industries
Steve Malone, Kokosing Construction Co., Inc.
Aidan McDonnell, BOCA Construction, Inc.
Ben Rietschlin, Rietschlin Construction
Nick Rietschlin, Rietschlin Construction
David Timmer, Richland Engineering Ltd.
Amy Volz, Kokosing Construction Co., Inc.
Keith Weatherly, BOCA Construction, Inc.

Southwest Chapter
Chair – Mark Nelson, Assured Partners
Dennis Brunton, Barrett Paving Materials Inc.
Chuck Ehlers, Encore Precast, LLC
Tom Hackett, The Great Lakes Construction Co.
Jason Harvey, Prus Construction Co.
Mike Holmann, Enterprise Fleet Management
Karen Lankfer, Enterprise Commercial Trucks
Brian Ralph, Barrett Paving Materials Inc.
Chris Simpson, John R. Jurgensen Co.

Toledo Chapter
Chair – Jason Baden, Gerken Paving, Inc.
Vice Chair – Chad Hartman, Ebony Construction Co., Inc.
Ryan Bernath, Miller Bros. Const., Inc.
Dave Gedeon, TMACOG
Brian Gefle, Mosser Construction, Inc.
Brent Gerken, Gerken Paving, Inc.
Kevin Hollar, The Shelly Co. (Stoneco, Inc.)
Michael Hood, Hanson Aggregates Midwest, Inc.
Chris James, Crestline Paving & Excavating
Tom Kovacik, Kovacik Consulting / TAGNO
Ken Kuhlman, Kuhlman Corp.
Jim Lortie, USI Insurance Services
Brad Miller, Miller Bros. Const., Inc.
Mike Ryan, Hanson Aggregates Midwest Inc
Fred Sander, Geo. Gradel Co.
Doug Shealy, Mosser Construction, Inc.
Andera Supplee, Key Cable and Supply
Craig Wing, Kokosing Construction Co., Inc.

Youngstown Chapter
Chair – Rob Sullivan, A.P. O’Horo Co.
J.D. Babjak, A. P. O’Horo Co.
Floyd Crooks, EJ USA, Inc.
Bill Gaffney, Jr., Marucci & Gaffney Excavating Co.
Jim Iudiciani, Stateline Paving LLC (Lindy Paving, Inc.)
Will Lewis, Pipelines Inc.
Tom Metzinger, A. P. O’Horo Co.
Keith Miller, L. Calvin Jones & Co.
Jim Milligan, Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.
Andrew Smith, Ohio CAT
David J. Spurio, DOT Construction Corp.
Jason Stokes, APBN, Inc.
Christopher L. Runyan  
President  
crunyan@ohiocontractors.org

Chris has served as President of OCA since the beginning of 2007. His duties include providing day-to-day oversight of the many operations of the Association while offering strategic guidance for the staff. Key to successfully accomplishing these tasks is effective and open communication with the Association’s many members.

Kim Bowling  
Administrative Assistant  
kbowling@ohiocontractors.org

Kim joined OCA in 2006 and currently provides general administrative support for the Director of Finance. She is responsible for Accounts Receivable to include membership, maximum/minimum work dues, chapter events, seminars, winter conference and the annual convention. Kim is also responsible for all member and non-member work dues reporting and is back-up for payroll processing and Accounts Payable.

Kim Dillon  
Administrative Assistant/Receptionist  
kdillon@ohiocontractors.org

Kim Dillon joined the OCA in 1984. She is an administrative assistant to Chris Runyan and the one to greet you when you call in the office.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2020 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Kevin Birch  
CNA Surety Corporation

Michael Madigan  
Kegler, Brown, Hill & Ritter Co. LPA

Floyd Crooks  
EJ USA, Inc.

Mark Nelson  
Assured Partners

Steve Hamit  
The Thrasher Group, Inc.

Ronald Rainsberg, Jr.  
Tiremaxx

Brian James  
Rudd Equipment Company

Mary Sharrett  
STONE Environmental Engineering

Jack Kehl  
Overmyer Hall Associates

Mike Slinger  
Murphy Tractor & Equipment

Kevin Keller  
The Fedeli Group

Brad Stammler  
Smith & Leavitt Insurance Services

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Mike Slinger  
Murphy Tractor & Equipment

Kevin Keller  
The Fedeli Group

Brad Stammler  
Smith & Leavitt Insurance Services
Sharon Stanfield  
Director, Finance  
sstanfield@ohiocontractors.org  
Sharon joined OCA in 2017, replacing long-time staff member Judy Morris. Sharon is accountable for the annual budget, year-end audit and payroll. Her duties also include Accounts Payable, monthly financials, maintaining personnel records including pension and recording PAC contributions and distributions to the state.

Lynda Pomeroy  
Director, Membership Development & Marketing  
pomeroy@ohiocontractors.org  
Lynda joined OCA in early 2014 to facilitate member retention and recruitment, as well as the marketing function for the association. With nearly 30 years of experience in association management and marketing communications, she is charged with identifying, communicating and helping to maximize the value of the membership investment.

LuAnn Weethee  
Administrative Assistant  
lweethee@ohiocontractors.org  
LuAnn joined OCA in June, 2008. She provides general administrative support for the Directors of Chapter Development and Legislative & Environmental Affairs. LuAnn maintains chapter event registrations and provides assistance to members with that process. She supports PAC activity including event planning and preparing and distributing mailings for events or issues.

David Rule  
Director, Member Events  
drule@ohiocontractors.org  
David came to OCA in 2019. He facilitates activities associated with the planning and execution of conferences and association-wide events including the Winter Conference, Student Estimating Competition and Future Leaders Forum. David serves as staff liaison for the Associate Member Executive Committee and oversees the association’s technology needs. David brings with him extensive association management experience, having served the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation for thirty-five years, including time as Senior Director of HR and Technology, and later as Senior Director of Organizational Development.

Michelle Holdgreve  
Director, Legislative/Environmental Advocacy  
mholdgrove@ohiocontractors.org  
Michelle joined OCA in 2018 – just in time to coordinate OCA’s successful efforts to secure an increase in the motor fuel user fee. Michelle brings a wealth of government relations and transportation experience, having previously served as Deputy Director for Legislative Services at ODOT – during which time she advocated for the previous successful motor fuel user fee increase. Michelle also served as Government Relations Director for the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association.

Melanie Kitchen  
Director, Chapter Development  
mkitchen@ohiocontractors.org  
Melanie Kitchen joined OCA in 2013 and serves as the liaison to nine OCA Chapters around the state, facilitating volunteer committees and managing Chapter programs and events. With nearly 20 years of experience in association management, her primary functions include member communications and engagement through local meetings and activities.

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Mark Potnick  
Director, Labor Relations & Safety Affairs  
mopotnick@ohiocontractors.org  
After 20 years as an executive in the construction, mining, and materials production industries, Mark began his tenure with OCA in March, 1997. He has nearly 40 years of experience and education in employment law, labor relations, and human resources management. In addition to serving as chief negotiator on all union collective bargaining agreements, Mark represents and assists the membership with all matters associated with labor, employment law, human resources management and safety.

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Director, Chapter Development  
mkitchen@ohiocontractors.org  
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