

# National Building Museum Awards AGC

The Associated General Contractors of America, including the Builders Association and rest of its chapters, became the first national association receive the National Building Museum Honor Award at a ceremony in early June.

The AGC chapters were recognized with the Honor Award for advancement of the construction industry for the past 90 years. The AGC of America as the oldest and largest organization of contractors.

Not only are all members of the Builders Association part of the AGC, but the Builders Association helped found the AGC of America in 1918.

The AGC and its chapters received this prestigious award for their hard work promoting construction excellence. The many levels of the AGC have advocated the advancement of the construction industry. The Honor Award reflects the AGC's commitment to the industry, education and career development.

## AGC News

The National Building Museum's Honor Award was created in 1986 for companies and individuals that are making an impact on our built environment. Many factors are considered, and the recipients of the award come from a wide variety of backgrounds. Former recipients include Clark Construction Group, Lady Bird Johnson, the National Football League and Major League Baseball.

A gala was held June 4 at the National Building Museum's historic Great Hall in Washington, DC. Many construction industry leaders were in attendance, including AGC President Douglas E. Barnhart, AGC Chief Executive Officer Stephen E. Sandherr, and BA President Al Leitschuh, who accepted the Builders Association's award.

## Legislative News

# Clock Runs Out On Structural Work Act

Construction Safety Act (HB2094) was not brought to a vote in Springfield, but the planned reenactment of the Structural Work Act - which was repealed in 1995 - could surface in the future, according to the Builders Association's lobbyist.

The SWA was around five votes shy of passage and would have needed even more votes to pass the House of Representatives if brought to a vote after May 31.

The Builders Association opposed the Structural Work Act on the basis that it was an unneeded law, and that safety accidents had actually gone down in Illinois since the repeal. Republicans in the House were almost universally opposed to the bill.

The Builders Association would like to thank companies and individuals who took advantage of the talking points, tips and sample messages on the website to contact their legislators and register opposition to the Structural Work Act. Lobbyists and the group of industry organizations opposing the bill remarked that communications between business owners and lawmakers did have an effect.

Late in the session, the legislature turned its attention to budget matters. Democrats in the House of Representatives proposed a capital improvement plan, but the Builders Association supports the Illinois Works Coalition.

Illinois Works is a \$34 billion capital improvement plan that would open up a number of construction opportunities around the state in education, retail, transit and a number of other areas. The coalition believes this aggressive plan to be necessary because it's been nearly 10 years since the state legislature passed a capital improvement plan.

House Democrats accepted two of the four sources of funding for the bill, but tabled the matter.

## Labor Negotiation Updates

### *Partial List Of Completed Negotiations (Full list at [www.bldrs.org](http://www.bldrs.org))*

*Bricklayers, Local 6 (Rock Island Chapter)* - The parties have concluded a one-year agreement with an economic package of \$1.30. There were very minor changes in start time and make up day language.

*Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters - Commercial* - The parties have agreed to a two-year contract with an economic package of \$3.40 a year, with an additional \$0.02 employers contribution to the Industry Advancement Fund (\$0.06 total IAF per hour contribution).

Work rule changes include a random drug testing program, shift start at 7 a.m. upon notice to the Union, contract language for employees who work outside the geographic area of the agreement and formation of a pile driving subcommittee to consider crew sizes.

*Electricians Local 117, 150, 461 and 701* - The Council on Industry Relations issued a ruling awarding a total wage package increase of \$1.40, effective June 1.

*Pipefitters Local 597 (Cook, Lake, Will & McHenry Counties)* - A three-year agreement was ratified by the parties. The economic package is \$2.37, \$3.30 and \$3.30 respectively. A random drug policy will also be implemented.

*Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 422 (Will & Grundy Counties)* - The parties concluded a three-year contract with economics of \$3.37, \$3.30 and \$3.30.

*Plumbers Local 93* - A four-year deal has been reached with an economics of \$3, \$3, \$3.20 and \$3.50. Language changes include: a no strike, no lockout provision; mandatory random drug testing; and bonding structure changes.