## **MAY 2017**

#### <u>MAY</u>

May 3 OSHA SILICA Training Frost Supply

May 11 BPI in a Box Lunch Syberg's on Dorsett

May 11 Seal the Deal Sales Seminar Syberg's on Dorsett

May 24 Construction Showcase & BBQ Queeny Park

#### <u>IUNE</u>

June 21 Monthly Meeting Ill GC HAPPY HOUR

#### <u>JULY</u>

*July 19* Monthly Meeting LUNCH Mtg

visit <u>www.asamidwest.com</u> for a calendar of events. I would like to start this month's message, reflecting on the fact that my time as president is quickly coming to a close. It has been a great year, and I am looking forward to closing out my time, with one final event.. *The Construction Showcase & BBQ* will be held at Queeny Park again this year. Please note we have moved this event up to May, to enjoy the milder weather this spring. Mark your calendars for May 24, 2017 from 2-7pm. Visit with the top vendors, suppliers, subcontractors, and GC's, featuring the latest and greatest construction tools, equipment, supplies and safety equipment. The Showcase if **FREE** for all attendees. If you are still interested in being an exhibitor, that registration is due by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

I would also like to take this time to urge everyone with Cardinals tickets to donate them to our *Tickets for the Troops* campaign this year. We are looking for tickets throughout the month of July, all tickets will be donated to members of the US Armed Forces through the USO of Missouri. This program has been able to provide a lot of joy, and family time to our military men and women over the past 8 years. The Tickets for the Troops campaign has collected over 2000 tickets, valued at \$150,000 since 2009. If you would rather donate money, we will purchase tickets for you. Please call Tom McDonnell, with George McDonnell & Sons at (314) 581-1681, or ASA executive director, Susan Winkelmann at (314) 845-0855, if you have tickets to donate, or would like to make a monetary donation to the 2017 ticket campaign!

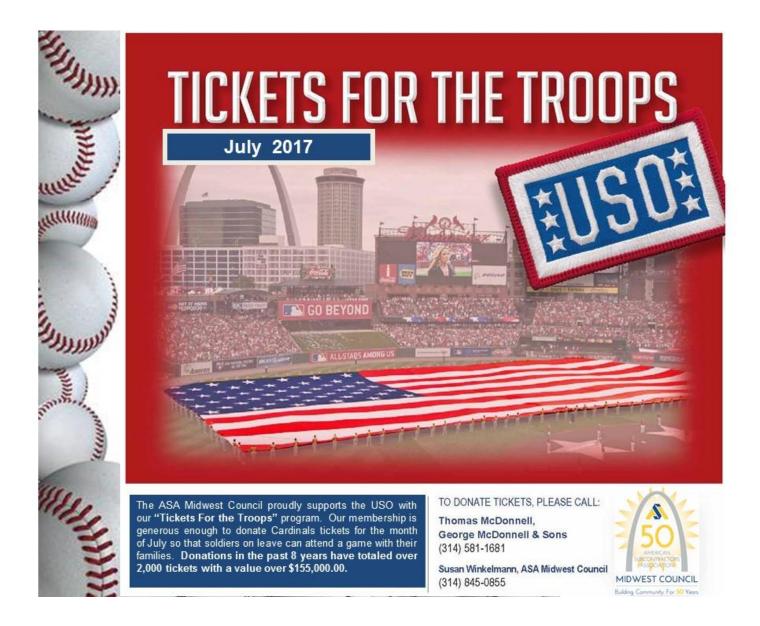
Due to the BBQ in May, we will not have a regular monthly meeting, but we will host a BPI in a Box Lunch meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>, at Syberg's on Dorsett, from 11:30-12:30, This meeting is for subcontractor and supplier members only. Registration is \$25, and includes lunch and a BPI session, visit asamidwest.com to register by May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Looking forward a bit more, save the date for the June 19<sup>th</sup> Monthly Happy Hour Membership Meeting, which will feature Illinois GC's, including: Contegra Construction Co., Impact Strategies, The Korte Company, Korte & Luitjohan Contractors, and Poettker Construction Co. Watch your email for additional details, and make plans to join us on June 19<sup>th</sup> in Illinois.

I look forward to seeing you on May 24<sup>th</sup> (2-7 p.m.), at the Construction Showcase & BBQ @ Queeny Park! Remember it is a **FREE** event you do not want to miss! Sincerely,

Amy Heeger AME Constructors <u>amyh@ameconstructors.com</u> President, ASA Midwest Council





#### ASA Midwest Council needs your time and talent!

Are you a new member looking to get more involved with the ASA? Or perhaps you are a long time member, and have never joined a committee!

We are <u>always</u> looking for committee members to help with our quarterly events, as well as the ongoing committees, that help run the organization!

If you are interested in joining a committee, see list below and contact the committee chair or contact executive director, Susan Winkelmann 314.845.0855 or susan@asamidwest.com

ASA Midwest Council has been Building. Community. Since 1967!

## Join a committee today.

Membership (Chris O'Hagan)

**Programs** (Chris O'Hagan)

Golf (Jennifer Church)

Advocacy (Tim Thomas)

Awards Gala (Molly Spowal /Rick Swanson)

Construction Showcase & BBQ (Amy Heeger/Jim Riportella)

> **GC Expo** (Walter Bazan, Jr. /Tim Thomas)

> > **Safety** (*Mike Sicking*)

Brand Development (Stephanie Woodcock)

**Contract Review** (Dick Stockenberg) Contact a committee chair today, to join a committee!



# **MIDWEST COUNCIL**

Building. Community. For 50 Years.

The American Subcontractors Association-Midwest Council (ASA) is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2017!

There is no monthly meeting in May, due to the ASA Construction Showcase & BBQ on May 24th!

Did you know the Showcase & BBQ is FREE to attend?

May 24th 2-7 p.m. @ Queeny Park

The Showcase is a great way to meet with multiple representatives from many construction industry companies, and see the latest & greatest, new and innovative equipment, tools, technology, and much more....oh and it is <u>FREE for all attendees and</u> <u>includes food & drinks!</u>

www.asamidwest.com for details!

## **First and Last Impressions**

## Walter Bazan, Jr. **BAZAN** Painting Co.

Everyone knows that you only have one chance to The last impression is often how we end a job, or make a first impression. With today's casualness in especially in handling problems. Issues need to be appearance and texting, it's easy to forget about the addressed quickly. We cannot stick our head in the importance of a first impression. Your appearance, sand like an ostrich, although we may want to do it. how you dress, how you present yourself, is very If we're honest, and own up to our mistakes right important. It's important to look professional. No, away, our customers and clients will certainly accept that does not mean that you must wear a coat and tie (although my salesmen do).

the newspaper. All their sales/estimators and people. management showed up for a picture to be taken, all wearing coats and ties and looking sharp. They all Pay attention to your first and last impressions! understood the importance of the event and of the picture, and wanted to present a professional image. However, most days, this competitor and his people could be found wearing jeans, work boots, and casual shirts, not presenting the same picture they felt was important to show publicly for a newspaper photo. I think clients are most important.

There are other ways you can make a great first impression, through proposals and business correspondence. Is it neat, clearly worded, and typed? Does it have proper grammar? Are your scopes of work detailed and understandable?

Another common mistake I hear many times is in a person's voice message, when they are on the other line or busy. Their voice mail message says, "Please leave your number, and I will call you back at my earliest convenience". To the customer, this says "I'll call you back when I'm good and ready", instead of "I'll call you back as quickly as I can".



the acknowledgment regarding the problem, and may also be willing to assist you in rectifying the situation. The correct way to handle problems will An example of the importance is demonstrated in also show your clients your integrity and your how a competitor of mine, while celebrating an business ethics. In the long run, this can help anniversary of their business, decided to run an ad in strengthen the relationship with those very same







to the MEMBER COMPANIES that attended the APRIL monthly meeting:

Affton Fabricating & Welding American Steel Fabrication Architectural Sheet Metal Aschinger Electric Bazan Painting Co. Bell Electrical Bick Group BlueLine Rental Boyer Fire Protection Briner Electric Co. CE Jarrell Contracting Commercial Fabrication CSA Advisors LLC Cummins Sales & Service Duct Systems ELCO Chevrolet Enterprise Bank & Trust Fabick Rents Freeman Contracting ideas4promos Integrated Facility Services J.D. Kutter Insurance Johnson Controls K & K Supply Kirby Smith Machinery Knapheide Truck Equip. Lawrence Fabric & Metal Lizmark Branded Solutions Midwest Construction Services & Products Montgomery Bank Nu Way P.M. Leach Painting Co. Premier Accounting & Consulting Solutions, LLC RG Rents RubinBrown LLP Sachs Electric Safety International Schaeffer Electric Seal the Deal Too SFW Partners LLC T.J. Wies Contracting UHY LLP United Rentals Vinson Mortgage Wies Drywall

# 2017 ASA Midwest Council Meetings & Events



**OSHA's New Silica Standards Training** Frost Supply-complimentary for ASA members

**BPI in a Box Lunch** Syberg's on Dorsett

**Seal the Deal Sales Seminar** Syberg's on Dorsett

**ASA Construction Showcase & BBQ Queeny Park** 

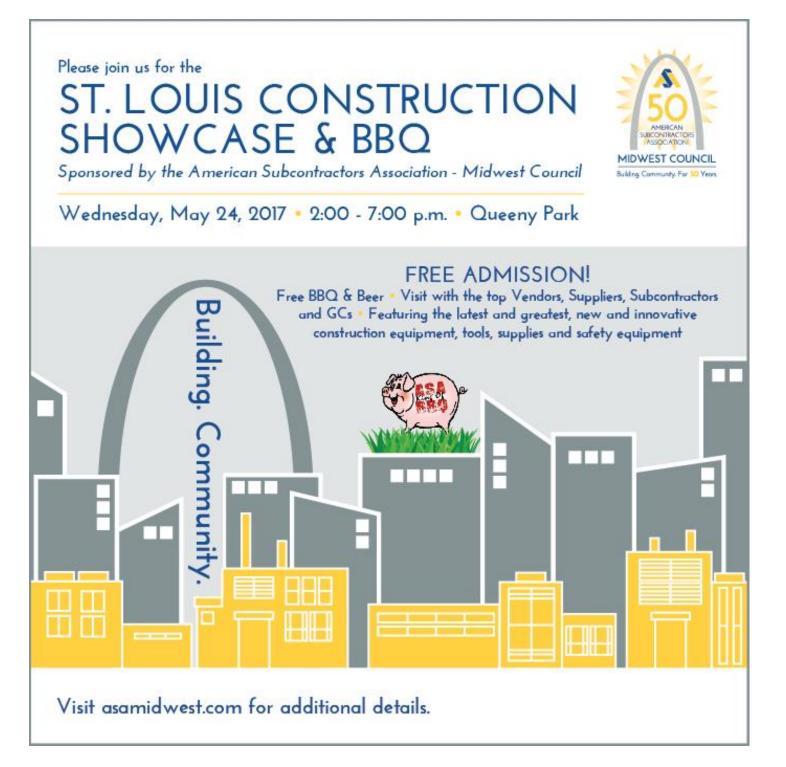
Monthly Membership HAPPY HOUR Meeting **Illinois GC Happy Hour** 

Monthly Membership LUNCH Meeting

Monthly Membership LUNCH Meeting L. Keeley Construction

ASA Midwest Council Golf Tournament Whitmoor Country Club

May 3 May 11 May 11 **May 24** *June 21* July 19 September 20 October 2 



# VISIT www.asamidwet.com for Exhibitor Registration Due May 15th!

Registration for attendees is FREE!!



# 30th Annual ASA Midwest Council Go f Tournament

Monday, October 2, 2017 Whitmoor Country Club • 11:30 a.m. Tee Time Sponsorships Available







# SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 30TH ANNUAL ASA MIDWEST COUNCIL GOLF TOURNAMENT

VISIT WWW.ASAMIDWEST.COM FOR SPONSORSHIP & GOLFER REGISTRATION There are only a few short weeks left in the 2017 legislative session. The Senate has been in gridlock most of the month of April while the House continues to roll through its legislative calendar. Lawmakers have been focused primarily on passing the budget for the 2018 fiscal year.

The month of April saw little movement as far as priority legislation for the Republican dominated General Assembly, as bills dealing with prevailing wage, "paycheck protection" and utility regulation modifications have sat mostly idle since House and Senate members returned from their spring break period back in March.

The slowdown has been mainly due to Senator Rob Schaaf and a handful of his allies, as they have partnered to filibuster nearly every piece of legislation that reaches the Senate floor. Schaaf has taken issue with many facets of the lawmaking process this year, in particular, the expansion of managed care for Medicaid patients in the state budget and the lack of movement on some ethics reform bills. The dysfunction in the Senate was highlighted on April 20, as fellow Republican Senator Caleb Rowden questioned Schaaf's ethics during a heated exchange between the two.

As the backlog of unfinished business continues to mount in the Senate, Capitol observers are looking at the calendar and wondering if the budget will be completed by May 5<sup>th</sup>, which is the constitutionally mandated deadline. If lawmakers fail to meet that deadline, they will be forced into special session to complete their work on the budget. All business with the state hinges on the passage of a new budget, including giving spending authority to MoDOT for road and bridge projects, monies used for reimbursement to health care providers for care given to Medicaid patients, and numerous other expenses that the state incurs daily. There is no doubt the budget will eventually be completed, the delay makes it difficult for all other legislation to gain momentum.

While the slowdown in the Senate has perpetuated, the House of Representatives has continued to churn out bills. But even as they do, no progress can be made until the Senate is able to move forward.

As frustrations continue to mount in Jefferson City, the clock will continue ticking as the budget deadline nears and final day of the legislative session, May 12 at 6:00 p.m. quickly approaches. Nikki Strong, Strong Consulting Group.

# **ASA Midwest Council Members**

Acoustical Ceilings, Inc. Affton Fabricating & Welding AME Constructors American Burglary & Fire, Inc. American Steel Fabrication, Inc. Architectural Sheet Metal Systems Aschinger Electric Autco Appliances Automatic Controls Equipment Systems Bangert Computer Systems Bazan Painting Company BDO USA Bell Electrical Contractors Benson Electric Company **Bick Group** Big Boy's Steel Erection Bi-State Fire Protection Corp. **Bi-State Utilities Company** Bloomsdale Excavating Co. Blue Line Rental Boyer Fire Protection Briner Electric Building Point Mid-America Bumpy's Steel Erection LLC C. E. Jarrell Contracting CK Power **CMIT Solutions CNA** Suretv CSA Advisors LLC Car-Doc Automotive Cardinal Environmental Operations Cee Kay Supply CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP Collins & Hermann Commercial Fabrication **Convergint Technologies** Corrigan Company Cummins Sales and Service Doll Services and Engineering Drilling Service Company Duct Systems Dynamic Controls. Inc. ELCO Chevrolet Cadillac Enterprise Bank & Trust Envirotech, Inc. Event Productions, Inc. Fabick CAT Fenix Construction Co. of STL Flooring Systems, Inc. **Foreman Fabricators** Foundation Supportworks by Woods Freeman Contracting Frost Supply

Gateway Land Services Galloway, Johnson, Tompkins, Burr & Smith GBI. Inc. George McDonnell & Sons Golterman & Sabo Grant Contracting Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C. **Guarantee Electrical** H & G Sales, Inc. HM Risk Haberberger, Inc. Hanenkamp Electric Hayden Wrecking Heitkamp Masonry Helitech Civil Construction Division Hoette Concrete Hunt Vac Services Ideas4Promos Integrated Facility Services **IronPlanet** Irwin Products J.D. Kutter Insurance J.F. Electric JJ Construction Services, LLC J.W. Bommarito Construction Co. J.W. Terrill John J. Smith Masonry Johnny on the Spot at Republic Services Johnson Controls K & K Supply, Inc. Kaemmerlen Electric Kaiser Electric Kay Bee Electric Kirberg Company Kirby-Smith Machinery, Inc. Knapheide Truck Equipment Landesign LLC Lawrence Fabric & Metal Structures, Inc. Leach Painting Company Liberty Mutual Surety Lindberg Waterproofing Lizmark Luby Equipment Services Marketeer, Inc. Martin Fence, LLC Mays-Maune-McWard, Inc. Merric Meyer Painting Co. Midwest Elevator Midwest Construction Services & Products Mobile Mini Montgomery Bank Murphy Company

Negwer Door Systems NES Rentals Niehaus Building Services Nu Wav O.J. Laughlin Plumbing Co. On Site P & A Drywall Supply P.M. Leach Painting Co. Parkway Construction Services PayneCrest Electric Pearl Street Electric, LLC Pirtek Fenton Precision Analysis, Inc. Premier Accounting & Consulting Professional Installers Professional Metal Works, LLC Priority Xpress Couriers LLC QualSafe Solutions **RAI Insurance Group** R.F. Meeh Co. **RGR** Equipment LLC **RJP** Electric **RM** Supply Raineri Building Materials Ravensberg, Inc. Rebar Specialists Installation Rental Supply, Inc. Riechmann Transport, Inc. **Ritchie Bros Auctioneers** Rock Hill Mechanical Corp. RubinBrown LLP Sachs Electric Company Safety International, LLC Sandberg, Phoenix, von Gontard Schaeffer Electric Co., Inc. Schmersahl Treloar & Co. Seal the Deal Seiler Instruments SFW Partners, LLC Signature Craft Speed Pro Imaging Stylemaster Apparel, Inc. Sunbelt Rentals Swanson Masonry, Inc. T.J. Wies Contracting Taylor Excavating Trojan Iron Works, Inc. **TROCO** Custom Fabrication Tyson Onsite UHY LLP United Rentals Vee-Jay Cement Contracting Vinson Mortgage Westport Pools Wies Drywall and Construction

Each month you will receive an update on the committees within ASA, to keep you informed. on current happenings at the committee level. Below are this month's committee reports.

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

Do you know a company that would benefit from joining the ASA? Contact membership chairman Chris O'Hagan-<u>chris@jdkutter.com</u> or Susan Winkelmann, ASA executive director-<u>susan@asamidwest.com</u> with any prospective new members. The membership committee will follow up with your contacts, and invite them to the next ASA membership meeting as our guest.

The ASA Midwest Council helps St. Louis subcontractors become more profitable and provides members with numerous benefits. ASA's goal is to makes our members more efficient and effective at doing business. We are an organization that helps its members increase their business and make them better at what they do on a daily basis.

ASA Midwest Council provides extensive opportunities to *Learn About and Network with Customers and Peers:* ASA provides a safe place for construction business leaders to discuss their business challenges and opportunities.

Being active in ASA-MWC is a great way to meet with and interact with all of the members of the construction team, including customers and prospective customers.

ASA Midwest Council events are "must attend" for everyone in the St. Louis Construction Community. Our Meet the GC's Expo, Awards Gala, Golf Tournament, and STL Construction Showcase and BBQ, set the standards for all industry events.

ASA Midwest Council events attract those from all aspects of the construction industry including General Contractors, Subcontractors, Suppliers, and the Service Providers to the construction industry.

#### **PROGRAMS**

We are always looking for new members for the Programs Committee. If you are interested in participating in the ASA Programs Committee, or have a suggestion regarding programming, please contact Chris O'Hagan, J.D. Kutter Insurance, ASA Program Committee Chairman.

#### **CONTRACT REVIEW**

The committee has recently completed its review of the subcontract used by Paric. Next up is a review of CLAYCO's contract. For a copy of the this or any other review, contact Susan Winkelmann, susan@asamidwest.com

If you have other questions regarding the contract review service, contact committee chair, Dick Stockenberg, Sandberg Phoenix, von Gontard at <u>rstockenberg@sandbergphoenix.com</u>.

#### <u>SAFETY</u>

The safety committee meets the first Thursday of the month at 4:00pm. The location is Fallons Bar & Grill 9200 Olive Blvd. Olivette, Mo. 63132. We are looking for more members. Please consider sending someone from your staff to join our committee. Remember Safety Pays! Due to everybody's busy schedule please call to confirm we are meeting that month. Call Mike Sicking at 314-486-3141 for info.



ASA Midwest Council is on Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn

## ASA White Paper Provides Tips on Project Financing

Construction project insolvency is a major concern of construction subcontractors who provide a large amount of labor and materials to the prime contractor on credit.

A 2015 ASA survey revealed that slow final payment, slow progress payment and pay-if-paid subcontract clauses are among the top concerns of ASA members. All three of these concerns can be traced back to the adequacy of project financing, at least absent predatory behavior by those controlling the cash flow.

ASA's White Paper on Project Financing is intended to help ASA members understand the importance of the creditworthiness of their potential customers. The white paper addresses industry policies and practices, including review of relevant clauses а in contract documents published bv ConsensusDocs. ASA's Subcontract Addendum, which is one of the documents in the ASA Subcontract Documents Suite. includes a provision that clarifies the contractor's to provide disclosures to obligation the subcontractor as a condition precedent to the subcontractor's performance.

The white paper also provides tips on protecting your business, including arguments to make to the prime contractor and how to get information on project financing.

The ASA White Paper on Project Financing is available to ASA members free on the ASA Web site at <u>www.asaonline.com.</u>

### What the Heck Is Happening with Tax Reform?

"Tax reform is next on the agenda." "We're going to finish healthcare reform before we tackle tax reform." "We're going to pass tax reform before the August recess." "Tax reform is off the table until next year." "We can't pass tax reform without Democratic support." "We're going to craft a tax reform package that we can pass with only Republican votes." On any given day, you may hear some or all of these contradictory statements in a single news show. How is a subcontractor supposed to plan? "Very carefully," according to ASA Chief Advocacy Officer E. Colette Nelson.

"Tax reform is a priority for President Trump and Republicans in Congress," she said. "The problem is that Congress must be willing to eliminate a number of popular deductions and credits in order to simplify the tax code and reduce tax rates low enough that the public feels like it's come out ahead. Or, Congress has to find new sources of tax revenue that can be stomached by a majority of Americans." Eliminating special interest "loopholes" like giving tax breaks to NASCAR and the production of films, will not generate enough revenue to allow Congress to significantly reduce tax rates. That is, to meaningfully cut rates, Congress will have to reduce some of the most popular tax breaks, like the mortgage interest deduction (the House plan does not); the deduction for employer-provided health insurance (the House plan would cap it); the charitable contribution deduction (not likely); and the deduction for retirementplan contributions (likely to be reduced).

In the alternative or in addition to such steps, Congress will have to come up with new revenue. The House tax reform plan does this with a border adjustment tax—a fancy name for saying that imports would be subject to tax and exports would be tax free. This proposal already has been met with ferocious opposition by retail companies and consumers, who benefit from low-cost imports. According to Nelson, one alternative under consideration is a value-added tax or VAT. The United States is one of the few developed country that does not have a VAT, a type of consumption tax that is placed on a product whenever value is added at a stage of production and at final sale. ASA will continue to report in this newsletter as Congress continues its debate on tax reform.

## **Disaster at your Company!** How would you handle it?

#### Michael Sicking Safety International

a St. louis Manufacturing facility had a boiler blow include the following: through the roof and landed on a second business. This tragically caused several fatalities and injuries at both • A preferred method for reporting fires and other places of employment. The first thing I remember emergencies; thinking was if the companies had a natural and man-made disaster plan in place? There must have An evacuation policy and procedure; been tremendous confusion and fear at both companies as the accident unfolded.

Does your Company have an emergency action plan in safe or refuge areas; the case of a tornado? How about a fire? Explosion? Depending on what your company does are What should your emergency action plan include? you at risk of a possible terrorist threat. Oh wait, that last one is just probably the competition. All kidding • Names, titles, departments, and telephone numbers of aside, considering where we are located in the U.S. it is individuals both within and outside your company to reasonable to assume that your company might be sub- contact for additional information or explanation of ject to a tornado or earthquake. How would you fare if duties and responsibilities under the emergency plan; an unexpected emergency happened today? It might be time to consider an Action Plan. I have listed below a few details that shut down critical plant operations, operate fire OSHA suggest as to what should be included in a basic extinguishers, or perform other essential services that action plan. emergency http://www.osha.gov/Publications/ evacuating; and address of osha3088.pdf which will offer much more information and resources in this area.

good idea to look at a wide variety of potential procedures to account for all employees after an emergencies that could occur in your workplace. It evacuation. should be tailored to your worksite and include about potential information all sources emergencies.

Developing an emergency action plan means you should do a hazard assessment to determine what, if As always, if you have any questions please feel free to any, physical or chemical hazards in your workplaces contact could cause an emergency. If you have more than one Mike Sicking, Safety International, LLC worksite, each site should have an emergency action plan.

In St. Louis last month we had a very serious disaster at At a minimum, your emergency action plan must

Emergency escape procedures route and assignments, such as floor plans, workplace maps, and

Emergency Procedures for employees who remain to perform or There is a website cannot be shut down for every emergency alarm before

■ Rescue and medical duties for any workers designated to perform them. You also may want to When developing your emergency action plan, it's a consider designating an assembly location and

> of If nothing else I hope this article has initiated some thought and dialog within your company as to what would we do in the event of an emergency.

me any time. at Stav Safe!

# SPONSOR AN UPCOMING MONTHLY MEETING ONLY \$250-CONTACT SUSAN@ASAMIDWEST.COM FOR INFO.

# NO NEW MEMBERS

Help ASA Midwest Council continue to grow, by inviting someone who would benefit from ASA membership, to join us at the next monthly meeting. All first time **non member guests** are free of charge. **Please register your guest in advance by contacting susan@asamidwest.com** 



# **ASA Meeting Sponsorship**

Highlight your company at an ASA Monthly Meeting

It is only \$250 to be a meeting sponsor.

#### What do you get for \$250?

Full Color Sponsor Flyer Slide in Meeting Presentation. Microphone time to present company overview to meeting attendees! Announcement at Meeting. Recognition in Newsletter.

> Contact Susan Winkelmann susan@asamidwest.com 314 845-0855

>ponsorship Pata

Sponsorship opportunities are available in the ASA newsletter. Rates are very reasonable but are limited. Below are the rates. If interested, please call Susan at 314 845-0855.

- Website Rotating
- Website Static
- \$400/Year \$1,000/Year

\$300/Year

\$125/Year

\$500/Year

\$225/Year

\$125/Year

- 1/4 Page Monthly
- 1/4 Page Quarterly
- 1/2 Page Monthly
- 1/2 Page Quarterly
- Business Card Monthly
- Business Card Quarterly
- Whole Page 1X
- Whole Page Quarterly
- Classified Ads
- \$70/Year \$300 Per Issue \$900/Year
- \$15 Per Issue

# **ASSOCIATION PARTNERSHIPS:**

Mason Contractors Assoc. (MCA) Contact David Gillick (314) 645-1966

www.masonrystlouis.com

American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE) Contact Mindy Funk or Cyndi Walker (314) 596-7695 or (314) 781-1422 www.stlouis-aspe.org

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