



SMCA Sporting Clay Outing

Magazine



Partnering up with Labor & Management

SMCA Legislative Dinner

www.smca.org

Spring 2022 Volume 3 Issue 2

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From the Exec's Desk

Greetings,

After a long, chilly winter we're all ready for a much-needed spring

thaw – green lawns, lighter jackets, and construction season ramping up. There are plenty of signs that we should be optimistic about Spring 2022.

Throughout the country, COVID-19 restrictions are easing as we put the pandemic behind us. Most importantly this demonstrates that the stress of a public health crisis has lessened, allowing SMCA contractors and their work force to narrow their focus on productivity and growth. Without the ubiquitous mask and distancing requirements of the past 2 years, we can “breathe easier” on the job now and really get to work.

The “Great Resignation” has been a challenge for employers over the past year as labor shortages hold back many industries, including construction nationwide. I'm happy to report that SMCA contractors have the manpower they need, thanks to the skilled workforce at Local 19 and the ongoing efforts of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee to recruit and train the next generation of Sheet Metal Workers. With the warm weather coming and construction expected to pick up, SMCA's contractors are well-positioned to complete their projects on time and on budget.

Material costs and availability were a problem throughout 2021 as the overall price of construction materials jumped nearly 20% last year. While that

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Have a story idea or a project you are proud of, email it to info@smca.org.

President's Column



I write this column while on my flight home from Partners in Progress, a conference that brings labor and management together to discuss everything from legislative efforts to diversity in the workplace. The business agents representing Local #19, Tony Iannucci, Howard VanBuren, and Bob Gadsby, want to grow the industry with

SMCA contractors. These three men truly work hard for the sheet metal industry, and I appreciate their efforts. I look forward to working with Local #19 as we continue to grow the industry. We need to communicate with each other. It should not be us or them; but all of us united. As contractors we need to do our part, as does Local #19's business agents, business managers, and members.

At Partners in Progress, I spoke with representatives from SMART Local Unions from all over the United States. I learned methods they use that we should consider, and they learned things from me that could help them in their area of the country.

The industry is changing. I know change is hard, but it needs to happen to keep the industry growing and improving. I want to remind everyone that the younger generations coming into the trades are not the same as when we came into the trades. We didn't have cell phones, iPads, or social media. Think about what you post and say on social media about a brother or sister and before you hit post. Would you like that said about you? If the answer is no, then do not send it. This post can be seen by millions, it is not just the 3 or 4 people you want to say this to. It stays out there forever. You can google just about anything. Consider your brothers' and sisters' feelings. Treat each other with respect.

With these changing times the internet has become very dangerous. Hackers are like the bank robbers of the Wild West. Today they can access your accounts and literally wipe them out. Banks insure up to \$250,000 but that's not for fraud. That is for if the bank goes belly up. If your account is victimized by cyber fraud, you cannot assume the bank will replace it. You should speak with your bankers and your insurance company to ensure you and your business are covered if these cyber attacks happen to your accounts. Do not go unprotected! I look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events, so watch your emails. Come out to meet me and Pete Jenkins. Get involved. As always, we are here for you.

Respectfully,
Dominic Bonitatis III
 SMCA President

Variables to Improve your Safety Climate

In the wake of normalcy returning to job sites in the Philadelphia region, reevaluating your firm's safety climate should be top priority. The most imperative aspect of your safety climate is to make sure your employees not only share the same perception towards safety but identifying and addressing probable safety hazards on job sites to supervisors and the management team before they arise. A few weeks ago, at a Mid-Atlantic Construction Safety Council meeting, we were alerted of a recent horrifying accident of a worker on a job site in our area who fell over the top rail on a scissor lift. Luckily, the worker only suffered minor injuries to their shoulder during the fall. This unfortunate incident sheds light for many in the construction industry on the importance of pinpointing two variables that will help improve the safety climate in their organization.



These two variables – “frontline supervisors correct unsafe conditions quickly,” and “workers feel secure reporting unsafe conditions” were identified as the most important variables to improve safety climate by the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP). When you look at these two variables and think about safety climate, the safety supervisors and management are the driving force, but they cannot improve the climate alone. This should be a collective effort needed from everyone on how to improve the climate on job sites as well as in the shops. SMCA firms' employees should feel comfortable in asking and bringing safety concerns to management. At a training last month with one of our firms, before the training session began, the foreman discussed with the employees what they will be doing on the job and encouraged them at any time to stop the training session to address concerns or ideas to make the project safe. By the foreman doing so, one of the employees interjected with a recommendation on using different personal protective equipment that would be better suited for them to use on the job. This was example of how this firm encourages interpersonal communication which inevitably will improve the firm's overall safety climate.

The safety climate of your firm speaks volumes not just within your firm, but to every trade, and General Contractor in our industry. Tenured employees' perceptions about the importance of safety will resonate with their coworkers especially with the apprentices. These apprentices will be leaders in firms where one of their main priorities will be to uphold the safety standards that their predecessors left in place. The firms can share this success not just within sheet metal firms who are working to improve their safety climate, but with other trades as well.

Greg Wharton, Safety & Education Director
(610) 828-4055 gwharton@smca.org



SMCA would like to welcome our newest member:

Progressive Sheet Metal, Inc.

1245 Industrial Highway

Southampton, PA 18966

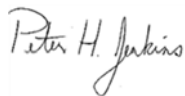
215.322.1816

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Exec's Desk

challenge remains, there is optimism that the market is beginning to correct and offer a more stable 2022. An uncertain legislative environment and foreign affairs continue to be a challenge for contractors, but the massive influx of federal funding to infrastructure projects via the recently passed Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill has generated excitement for the industry.

The spring season is one of renewal – nature emerging from hibernation, sun shining, and flowers blooming. There is an excellent chance that this spring we can all say, “the worst is behind us” and watch the industry blossom. Here’s hoping!



Executive Director

Philadelphia JATC To Host Mid-Atlantic Apprenticeship Competition

Sheet Metal Workers’ Local Union #19 Philadelphia Training Center will host the 2022 Mid-Atlantic Apprenticeship Competition in June. After being modified to a virtual format in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Training Center students, staff, and JATC Trustees are excited to welcome contestants and representatives from training centers around the region. In 2022, apprentices competing in the event will have the opportunity to display their skills up-close and in-person once again.

This annual contest brings SMART Local Unions in the Mid-Atlantic states together for camaraderie and competition. It also gives students and instructors an opportunity to meet with their peers in the region to

Schedule of Events

SMCA Legislative Dinner

April 21, 2022
The Buck Hotel



SMCA Sporting Clay Outing

May 20, 2022
Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays



SMCA Annual Meeting

June 2, 2022
The River’s Edge at Pen Ryn



SMCA Golf Outing

October 3, 2022
Bluestone Country Club



SMCA Engineers’ Night

Dinner Meeting
October 13, 2022
The Manor House at Commonwealth



Register on the SMCA Website

<https://www.smca.org/events/>



share experiences and best practices, making apprentices into better sheet metal workers and improving training programs throughout the region.

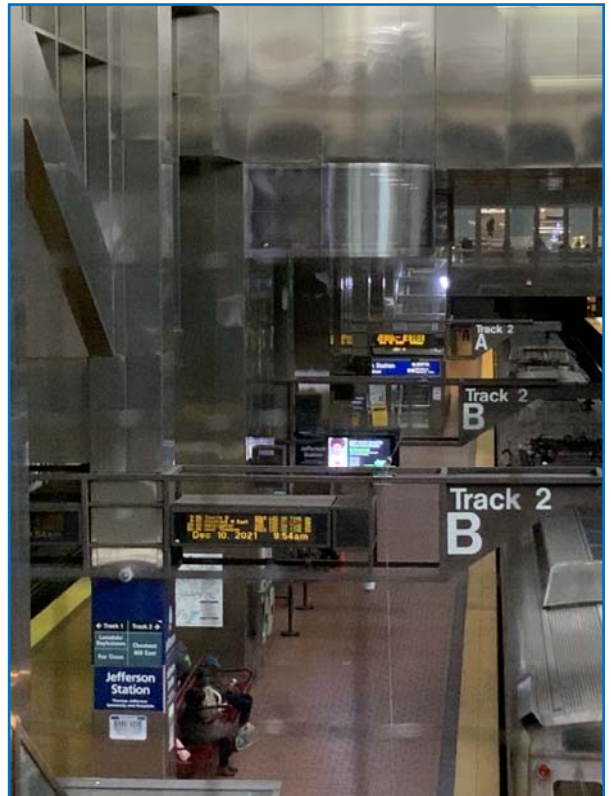
Apprentices participating in the contest vie for both individual and team prizes. Contestants will work on fabrication and installation projects, creating mockups for evaluation. SMCA wishes the best of luck to all those participating, but we’re rooting for Philadelphia!

SSM Helps Ventilate SEPTA'S Jefferson Station

SSM Industries showed they are more than just ductwork. In a recent renovation of the exhaust ventilation system at SEPTA's Jefferson Station on Filbert St. in Philadelphia, SSM dipped into the architectural side by fabricating and installing 4 custom grilles. These were not your average grilles; these grilles are 12 ft wide x 12 ft x 6 ft high.

The grilles were fabricated from 14-gauge T316 brushed finish stainless steel with slotted perforations. A change in the station ventilation required that solid stainless panels be removed and replaced with these perforated grilles. This new system allows for removal of hot air to help cool the station. In the event of a fire these will be used for smoke removal.

The final challenge for SSM was the installation of these grilles. They are installed 24 feet above the train platform and close enough to the overhead lines that power the trains, that they could only be installed during 4-hour periods where the tracks were shut down. SSM took on this logistical challenge and provided SEPTA with a final product that exceeded their expectations.



SMCA Returns to Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays

SMCA returns to the Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays on Friday, May 20, 2022, for their annual outing. By request, this year SMCA will be renting out the entire facility for our guests and attendees will shoot all 17 stands!



The day will begin with a continental breakfast followed by the shoot. Immediately following the shoot, attendees will have lunch and awards will be presented to the best shooters.

We hope you will join us for this exciting outing. Register on the SMCA website under Events, <http://www.smca.org/events>. The deadline to register is May 9, 2022.



Labor and Management “Partner Up” in Las Vegas

In March, representatives of SMCA and SMART Local 19 joined labor and management leaders at the 2022 Partners in Progress Conference. With a focus on working together toward common goals, attendees discussed where the construction industry is headed in the future and how to make use of best practices.

Workforce development has been a key issue in construction for years. Conference attendees discussed how to recruit and train the next generation of union sheet metal workers, with a focus on diversifying the industry and bridging the gap between generations.

Industry best practices are constantly evolving as new, better solutions to the issues facing sheet metal contractors roll out. Partners in Progress gave attendees a forum to learn about what other areas of the country are doing to enhance their businesses and their relationship with local unions. Communication, leadership skills, and coalition building were “hot topics” at this year’s conference for attendees looking to strengthen cooperation between labor and management leaders.

This year’s conference also marked the introduction of the “Emerging Leaders” program. Making a special effort to include the next generation of leadership, SMACNA and SMART allowed chapters and locals to identify young, emerging leaders to experience



Matthew Sano of Fisher Balancing Co. on the Indoor Air Quality Panel.

what today’s leaders experience every day. These up and comers showed the motivation and initiative to take on leadership responsibilities now and in the years to come.



Legislative Update

Pennsylvania

Senate Bill Would Address Change Order Scheming

Senate Bill 812 is moving through the Pennsylvania legislature, having recently been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. The bill, introduced by Senator Kristin Phillips-Hall (R-York) would create a cause for debarment if a construction company has a history of excessive change orders in other states.

House Anti-Indemnity Bill Under Consideration

House Bill 424 was “removed from the table” over the winter, making it available for consideration by the legislature. The bill, sponsored by Representative Todd Stephens (R-Montgomery), would prohibit both broad and intermediate forms of indemnity and leave contracting parties with only limited form indemnity. Pennsylvania currently does not have a law on the books prohibiting these forms of indemnity. This legislation, like laws in neighboring states, would allow only for indemnity against losses caused by the negligence of the indemnifying party.

Federal

Biden Administration Requiring PLA’s on Federal Projects

In February, the White House issued an Executive Order requiring the use of Project Labor Agreements on federal construction projects above \$35 million. The Executive Order is intended to alleviate management and coordination challenges that often slow the

progress of major construction

projects. Using Fiscal Year 2021 figures, the Order could affect up to \$262 billion of federal construction contracting. Federal projects include a variety of work, from nuclear facility maintenance to building retrofits and infra-

structure. The administration hopes that by raising the standards of all bidders for federal contracts, businesses with well-trained workers like those employed by SMCA contractors will be more likely to bid and win federal contracts.



Copyright Protection - Codes and Standards Proposed in Congress

A bipartisan bill that would preserve copyright protection of codes and standards when incorporated by reference into federal regulations was recently introduced in the United States House of Representatives. The legislation, introduced by Reps. Ted Deutch (D-FL) and Darrell Edward Issa (R-CA), would confirm the legal copyright of standards created by Standards Development Organizations that can be incorporated by reference into regulations and building codes. The bill would allow full access to applicable standards through a publicly accessible website while preserving the public-private partnership of standards development.

SMCA Annual Dinner Meeting

Join SMCA Members, Industry Fund Contributors, and Suppliers at the Annual Dinner Meeting and Election of Officers and Directors, being held on June 2, 2022 beginning at 6:00 pm. This year’s dinner will be held at the River’s Edge at the Pen Ryn Estate. The evening begins with a cocktail reception, election of Officers and Directors, followed by dinner and entertainment!

Join us for a wonderful meal, an entertaining evening and the beautiful view!



Stainless Steel Skirting & Flashing for Pharmaceutical Inspection Line

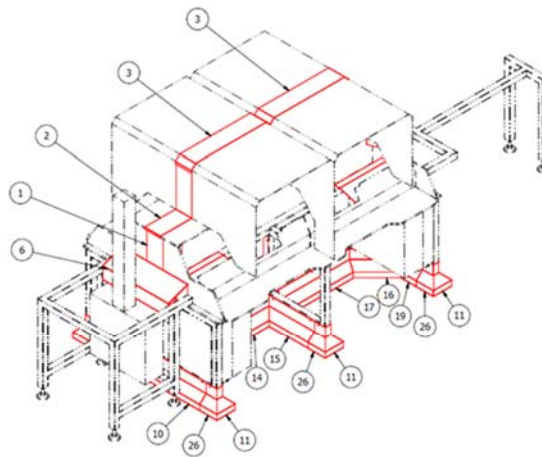
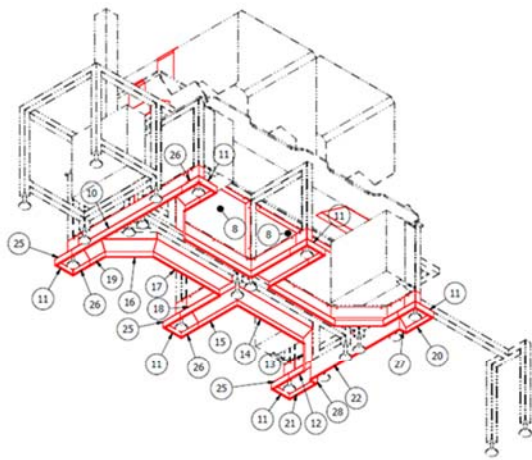
By: Ernie P. Menold, Ernest D. Menold, Inc.

SMCA member firm Ernest D. Menold, Inc. was contracted by a pharmaceutical customer to design, fabricate, and install stainless steel skirting and flashing around one of their inspection lines. When debris gets under their equipment, it can contaminate the batch that is in production. Making the manufacturing area easier to clean allows less down time and ensures microbial control within the environment.

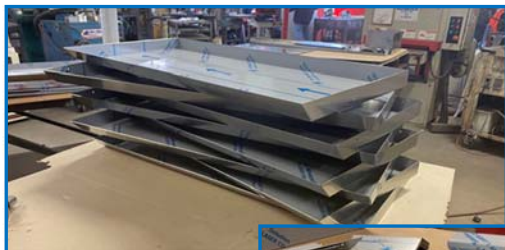
The existing space (see below) is a line of inspection booths, all sitting on top of stainless-steel leveling pads. The cleaning process to clean under this equipment, with debris getting caught underneath and around the feet, is a very time-consuming process. The skirting solution will decrease the time it takes to sanitize this space and more quickly prepare it for the next batch to produce.



Menold's design team measured the space of the existing equipment, ensuring their skirting solution would fit snug against all the components.



The shop fabrication team lasered, formed, welded, and polished all the members of the skirting and flashing. All material was Type 316 16-gauge stainless steel. All the welds were tint removed and polished down to a #4 finish.



The install team installed all the skirting and flashing pieces using stainless steel truss head machine screws. They lasered out vent holes where the equipment's motor needed to vent. The finished installed solution will significantly reduce the time it takes to clean this area for production, leading to a cost savings for the customer. It will also reduce the risk of any contamination during production.

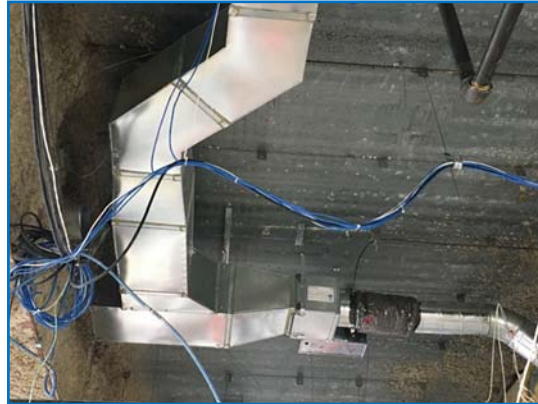


Hunter Mechanical, Inc. closes out office addition in Penn Mutual Towers

The Washington building at 510 Walnut Street in Philadelphia is currently adding another office area on the 13th floor in Philadelphia’s historic business park in Society Hill. The three-building complex which is formally known as Penn Mutual Towers, was constructed in 1914, 1930, and 1972. The floor to ceiling window views of the city has been a draw for notable clients to stake claim in calling this building their office every week. As much attention this building brings to prestigious tenants across the city, it is only fitting that a recognizable SMCA firm in Hunter Mechanical, Inc. was awarded to complete the duct work for the office fit-out.

Hunter Mechanical Inc. has been on the project for the last two months with a projected early spring completion date. According to 17-year Hunter Mechanical, Inc. employee and Lead Foreman Tim Schembs, the new office space consist of numerous lined spiral duct work, VAV boxes and additional duct work which is identified in the photos provided. Tim and his crew of three sheet metal workers look forward to closing out the last two months on the project with installing linear slot diffusers and collars.

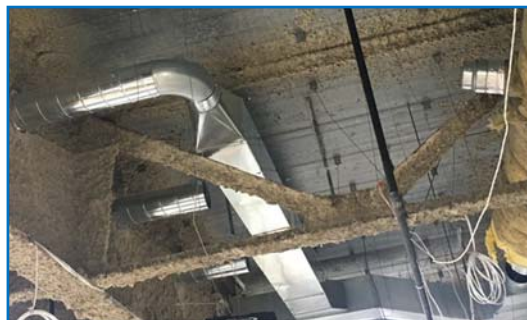
The sheet metal and mechanical firm is contracted to D’Lauro and Rogers, Inc. from Fort Washington, PA on this project. Hunter Mechanical, Inc. has several projects waiting in the balance to be completed, so keep a look out for more great finishes from this SMCA firm.



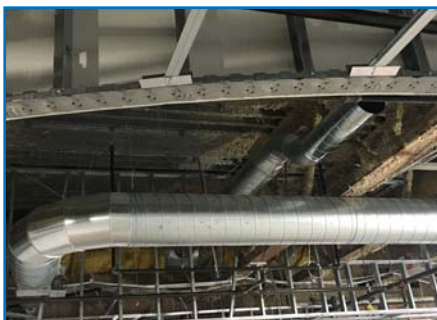
Supply VAV and low pressure slip and drive duct.



Supply waiting to be wrapped.



Low pressure duct from a VAV.



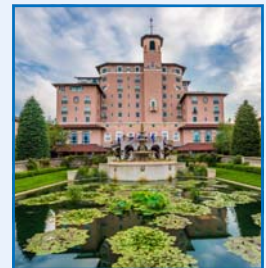
Lined spiral in open office area.



Chapter Executives Gather at the Broadmoor

SMCA Executive Director Pete Jenkins joined chapter executives from around the country for the 2022 Chapter Executive Institute. The Institute is an annual education session specifically for SMACNA chapter executives. Attendees exchange information with national SMACNA staff about labor relations, legislative affairs, market sectors, and safety and technical resources. The CEI also provides chapter leaders with an opportunity share ideas and knowledge with their peers throughout the United States, helping them to better manage their local SMACNA chapters.

The CEI is traditionally held at the site of the upcoming SMACNA convention, with 2022 marking a return to the event being held in-person after a hiatus due to COVID-19. This year, CEI attendees were able to visit the Broadmoor in Col-



orado Springs in advance of the Annual Convention being held this fall. Chapter executives familiarized themselves with the hotel and surrounding area, beginning plans for the always-popular “Chapter Night” at Convention and finding other fun activities for their members to try during Convention Week this September.



Spotlight:



DelRen HVAC, Inc.

What do you want SMCA Contractors, the engineering community and many other contacts to know about your company?

Since 1965 Delren HVAC, Inc. has demonstrated that experience counts. We understand that our customers expect great service, quality products, and competitive pricing. We have built our reputation based on trust, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to our customers and the manufacturers we represent.

What is your company's latest resource now available or available soon?

Delren HVAC is proud to represent Antec Controls by Price Industries. Antec provides high performance airflow control solutions for critical spaces such as laboratories, operating rooms, isolation rooms and pharmacies. Antec's goal is to innovate products and services that ensure the safety of healthcare workers, patients and researchers in environments where advancements to health and wellness are made. Through accurate airflow control and monitoring, the Antec/Delren team ensures critical spaces remain properly pressurized, containing airborne pathogens and keeping occupants safe.

Is your company involved in supplying goods for an interesting project?

Delren supplied Antec airflow control valves, Price Industries VAV boxes, Greenheck laboratory exhaust fans and energy recovery coils for a local Life Science Incubator Space that came on-line earlier this year.

Who are the main contacts that you would want listed if you are selected for this feature?

For more information about Delren HVAC or the products that we represent, please reach out to Bob Bacon (bbacon@delren.com), Tim Reinking (treinking@delren.com) or Stephen DeGrazio (sdegrazio@delren.com) or give us a call at 856-541-1776.

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