Professional Construction Estimators Association of America, Inc. (PCEA) was chartered in 1956 with 35 members from various construction disciplines in Charlotte, North Carolina. Some of the Charter members remain active today. During our early years, members rallied together to exchange ideas, promote educational endeavors and high ethical standards, while simultaneously developing new friendships. Under the leadership of Charlotte’s early presidents, the members set forth many goals to promote and support the industry while expanding the voluntary association. As a result of these efforts, a second chapter was formed during 1958 in Greensboro, North Carolina (now called the Triad Chapter). The Raleigh-Durham Chapter (now called the Triangle Chapter) followed behind in 1963. Subsequent chapters were formed in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia and Florida. Vern W. "Bill" Helms of the Charlotte Chapter was elected as our first National President in May 1975 during the first annual convention at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Since then, PCEA has grown to almost 1,000 members with twelve chapters in five states. Current goals include active expansion to other market areas.

PCEA members have always been active in the promotion of construction education for the betterment of the industry. Each chapter individually coordinates, develops and establishes programs to assist and enhance the educational endeavors in their community while pursuing the educational goals of membership. PCEA Chapters support educational programs ranging from, but not limited to, scholarships to local students, endowed scholarships at several Universities, providing construction instructors, purchasing equipment for use in technical training and introducing construction as a trade to "at risk" students.
Above are the Officers and Board Members working for you.

PCEA Triangle Chapter 3 Scholarships:

PCEA recognizes that one of the greatest problems facing our industry is a shortage of interested and well qualified employees at all levels. To that end, our mission is to extend Scholarships to persons interested in pursuing a career in the construction Industry.

The following Scholarships are funded by the PCEA Triangle Chapter fundraisers and events. (Please see a Faculty Representative at these schools to receive an application).

PCEA Member Dependent Scholarship
The PCEA Member Dependent Scholarship is available to immediate family members of PCEA members in good standing. The recipient of this Scholarship does not have to be pursuing a degree in the Construction Industry.

Members Corner
If you, or you know of someone having personal or health issues please let me know, so their needs can be noted.

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers;

* Our Soldiers and Sailors near and far
* Uncle Frank, Prostate Cancer, Dad Kidney & Lung Cancer.
Triangle Chapter PCEA Scholarships

Our mission statement includes the growth and education of the next generation of construction professionals. We do this by investing our time and talents with the companies we represent by taking time with persons that are new to the Construction Industry, our training programs, our monthly speakers, our News Letter and our Scholarships that we distribute to local Universities throughout North Carolina.

We work each year to raise funds to develop, train and mentor these young adults, to fill the void within our ranks. It is critically important to encourage young adults to enter and grow within our industry.

With a projected shortfall of trained craftsmen exceeding 1,000,000 in 2020, we need more than ever, this new blood. Its organizations like PCEA that are tasked with the job to spread the work about the advantages in our industry, for the skilled, and motivated individuals.

Our Scholarships assist in funding an education of individuals that are taking engineering and construction related classes. We have Chapter Member, Dependents Scholarships of our members dependents going into the construction industry that are available each year.

These scholarships are added incentives to enter into the construction Industry.

We have Scholarships @ NCSU, ECU and UNCC Charlotte.
For our Local Triangle Chapter of the PCEA to grow and flourish we need to continue to bring in new members. The very best way to grow our membership is through the word of mouth of an active membership.

Since our founding in 1956, the PCEA has had but one goal to raise the professionalism and competence of our membership in support of the Construction Industry.

We do this in several ways.

I. By providing educational opportunities for our members.

II. Offering online accredited training at a reduced cost to our members.

III. Monthly presentations, during our monthly meetings, by professionals who have support roles for the Construction Industry or professionals who have interesting subject matter relevant to current events.

IV. Monthly News Letter that provides construction related articles, amusing factoids, and a format that allow for promoting Construction Businesses through paid advertising.

V. Member Dependent College Scholarships Opportunity

We offer our support to you and your business, either through your membership or through our paid advertising.

Either way you will gain access to our membership opportunities, or direct access to our members and readership through out the southeastern United States.

Our Organization has Members and readership in North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

We are hopeful that by reading this note and the attached copy of our most recent Triangle Chapter News Letter, that you would choose to join our organization as a paid member or at the very least, advertising your business, or employment needs in our monthly news letter.

Your paid membership or paid tax deductible advertising supports the local Triangle Chapter’s annual Scholarships and ongoing educational activities.

Full Page Advertisement Free for Firm making a presentation for the monthly meeting

Full Page Advertisement Free with Paid New Membership.

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How Much Daylight do you have?

And

Extended Weather Forecast for Raleigh
For
August 2018
Up and Coming Construction Technology

Technology is on the rise in the construction industry, with an increasing number of construction companies deploying an array of leading-edge technologies across the project lifecycle. While traditional construction software has failed to solve construction’s productivity problem, mobile technology solves the two primary pain points driving digital transformation in the construction industry. Mobile construction apps not only reduce risk and help construction professionals maintain their bottom line, but also help teams communicate and share documents both in the field and office.

- The high return on investment construction professionals can expect from mobile technology
- How to craft a strategy to increase technology adoption within your organization
- How to determine the ROI from your investment in mobile construction apps
Tackling AI’s Unintended Consequences

Whether or not they know it, nearly everyone has had an experience that exposes just how dependent we have become on artificial intelligence (AI). It often comes in the back seat of a car.

That’s where I was a few months ago, sitting in a rideshare from suburban Scarsdale, New York, to New York City. The driver had recently emigrated from Nepal, and his ability to quickly find work greatly illustrates how ride-sharing platforms open economic opportunities. Once upon a time, my driver would have had to learn the area well before he could drive a customer from place to place. Now AI mapping had him hard at work just weeks after landing.

The New York metropolitan region is one of the most complicated urban areas in the world, however, and even with the map, my driver struggled. After making a few illegal maneuvers and an unplanned stop for gas, he did get me to my destination, but I exited the car thinking that I’d once had the privilege to expect a far more capable driver.

As AI infiltrates more of our experiences and organizations, it’s important to recognize not only its many benefits but its unintended consequences as well. AI protects us from known and unknown threats, helps us connect to one another, and provides better answers faster and cheaper than humans do. And, of course, it’s great that AI frees us from routine tasks such as reading a map. But are we recognizing and addressing the loss of human expertise that accompanies that new freedom?

For business leaders and others investing in the technology, there are certain high-gain questions that can help them begin to grapple with leadership in the AI age—including how to manage the unique properties and risks of AI, bring clarity and focus to its deployment, and ultimately make better application of it (see Figure 1).

**Figure 1**

More companies are following technology leaders and beginning to experiment with and adopt machine learning

Source: Bain & Company
“Contractors are taking on more risks today than they were yesterday,” USI’s Beck said. With so much construction work going on right now, “it’s incumbent on contractors to be diligent about their risk management philosophy and plans and be careful to not take on more risk than they are prepared to handle,” according to Beck.

Professionals insuring contractors need to be thoughtful when managing risk. “You have to sit down and understand what their goals are and consider that insurance is only one piece of risk management,” said Beck.

She sees risk allocation continuing to shift as contracting structures and projects become more complex. “Owners are asking contractors to do more and more,” she said. “The risk allocation shift puts added pressure on contractors to manage risk effectively and efficiently.”

In addition, the industry is still experiencing heightened merger and acquisition (M&A) activity as contractors continue to find ways to grow and capture more market share. With M&A, additional risks such as geographic nuances or vertical integration present themselves, she says.

“You hear ‘insurance and risk management’ and you think ‘OK, we’re going to put together an insurance program that manages all the risks,’ and it doesn’t. There are other things that contractors can do to manage risks,” Beck said. She advises insurance professionals to be well-versed on “meaningful” risk management practices in construction.

“It’s a much more thoughtful conversation about how you structure a meaningful risk management program,” Beck said. “You can’t just walk into a construction client’s office and expect that since you understand the concepts of insurance, that you’re going to understand the risk issues.”

For example, sub-contractor pre-qualification is one area that general contractors and large trade contractors are always worried about due to sub-contractor defaults. Construction insurance professionals must help clients create a better risk profile for underwriters, she said. “The better adept that you are at understanding who your partners are, the better you can manage their risk profile,” Beck said.

Technology Helps the Process

As contractors are increasingly turning to technology and analytics to help them with risk management, construction brokers are also turning to technology.

“We utilize technology to really help them as they take on more risks,” Beck said. “When you look at insurance brokerage firms, you look at the platform and what they have from a value-add standpoint on what they give to their clients.”

USI’s tech investment in construction was one reason Beck joined the brokerage earlier this month from Marsh. “The investments that they’ve made in technology to help clients make informed decisions are really powerful. It helps our teams to be better and be extensions of their clients, so they can help them make decisions to do what they do best, which is build buildings, or build infrastructure. And they can make decisions that can help them take on more risks while protecting their balance sheet.”

BTIS’s investment in technology is helping it reach its goal of being a $1 billion firm in less than 10 years, Hohlbein says. But it’s also helping its retail agents and the end customer — the contractor — with ease of doing business in today’s fast-paced construction market.

New technology is streamlining the insurance buying process for micro-contractors and agents that use BTIS, he says.

“We’re trying to make it easy for them to purchase insurance product and give them options, so they choose and custom tailor what they need,” he said. Hohlbein’s goal is to give contractors a different way to buy coverage that helps his firm and his agency partners as well. “BTIS has been busy building technology to put on agents’ websites, that will allow the contractor to get a price and actually submit and bind the piece of business online through the agent website.” The API-based technology aims to cut quoting and binding times from five minutes to 60 seconds, the announcement said.

Hohlbein said the firm is currently working with a group of beta agents to test the technology and it will soon be made available to all the retail agents that do business with BTIS.
There are also a half-dozen risks that should inform those conversations as well.

Risk No. 1: AI can create hidden errors
Unlike traditional rules-based programming, AI models are statistical representations of the world. They provide answers based on their learning, but they are imperfect. The opacity of many AI models and their ability to quickly scale make it possible for real errors to remain hidden from view. We are familiar with chatbots unleashed on social media that pick up racist views from their data set because that example is on public display. But what about autonomous driving or flying systems? Their training data is growing exponentially and the models based on it are improving dramatically, yet errors in those algorithms continue to be discovered, sometimes only after loss of life.

Risk No. 2: AI can lead to a loss of skill, critical thinking and understanding
It’s not only new rideshare drivers who are in danger of becoming excessively reliant on AI. One Silicon Valley engineer recently stated that his site’s recommendation algorithm makes it so that his team doesn’t have to think as much. Whether you run a finance department of a company that relies on algorithmic sales forecasts or you are a salesperson getting leads from one, it’s dangerous to lose an understanding of the fundamentals of your business and what’s truly driving demand.

Risk No. 3: AI can open new hazards
Similar to human workers, algorithms are subject to manipulation. But while a worker is observed by management and makes relatively few decisions in the course of his or her day, an algorithm will make many decisions—often unseen. Spammers learned long ago how to get the best of machine learning systems, and there’s every reason to believe that hackers are only getting started on AI. Look at the election-season manipulations of social media newsfeeds or the cottage industry of search engine optimization. Algorithms can be and are being exploited. As algorithms take on broader roles—setting a price on an e-commerce site, determining a car insurance rate, hiring someone—cause for concern increases. Now managers must anticipate how an algorithm might be manipulated and adjust accordingly.

Risk No. 4: AI can institutionalize bias
Most AI machines learn by studying examples in curated data sets. AI experts may understand how an algorithm reached its conclusion, or it may be a black box that is mysterious even to experts in the field. This lack of transparency raises concerns about bias, since any algorithm trained on historical data will logically come to conclusions that reflect bias present in that data. In the mortgage industry, for instance, lenders had better be certain their algorithms conform to regulations that they not discriminate based on characteristics such as race and gender. Bias does not have to be so clearly wrong for it to lead to bad outcomes, either. In customer analytics, for example, an algorithm trained on data culled from an existing customer base will favor those customers’ preferences. But what about the tastes of the many people not yet served? With algorithms now involved in everything from hiring to the delivery of social services to the needy, one very real risk is simply repeating how things have always been done.

Risk No. 5: AI can contribute to a loss of empathy
As more companies use bots and other machines for consumer interactions, organizations run the risk of losing touch with their customers. To executives, the concerns of workers managed by algorithms, as rideshare drivers are today, may feel similarly remote. Distance could lessen managers’ empathy and ability to listen to either group, but it doesn’t have to. Though I fly often for work, I have taken just one Virgin Atlantic flight over the past few months, and it was delayed 45 minutes. When I landed, the airline’s systems had already spotted the issue and sent an email apology and a voucher for a discount on my next flight. Rather than feeling irritated by the experience, it left me rather impressed.
Risk No. 6: AI can cause a loss of control
The convenience and speed of AI-driven decision making are attractive, but sometimes humans need to be involved. There is no clearer example than the integral role that human drone pilots play in the remote bombing of military targets. Today, it’s accepted that human judgment must be involved, but as we grow more accustomed to this technology, it is plausible that could change. Will that be OK? Many such difficult questions will arise around AI’s erosion of human control. It will be essential that leaders grapple with them.

Governance matters. Top executives need to be involved in establishing the goals and guardrails around the AI that is increasingly enabling their businesses. For decades, financial services organizations that rely heavily on credit algorithms have been expected to stringently govern risk management; a similar elevation of AI governance may now be needed for organizations broadly embedding the technology.

Every materially important algorithm in the business should also have a product manager—a human reviewing and testing the algorithm, auditing its outcomes, and assessing and improving its performance.

Strong, human listening systems are essential. The key constituents of an important algorithm must be regularly solicited for input and feedback, whether they are customers or employees or other partners. Empathy must guide the management and deployment of any algorithm. The organization must be able to recognize when a reset is necessary.

How this plays out for any organization depends on the industry and context. Each will have its own particular AI opportunities and potential pitfalls. There are, however, certain questions that can help any executive or board member stimulate the right conversation around AI:

• How well does this algorithm match the essential tenets of our business? How will it work with those key principles?
• Who is going to ensure that we secure the benefits and not the downsides from its deployment?
• Who are the key constituents affected by this algorithm? Are we soliciting their feedback now? How will we be sure we continue to seek their insight in the future?
• Who is going to operate the algorithm? What are their goals for increasing its impact and innovation?

The pervasiveness and scalability of AI mean that algorithms can rapidly affect millions. Competition and progress require its use, but technology is neither necessarily moral nor intrinsically improving. That’s up to the humans who leverage it. In a world shaped by AI, human leadership matters more than ever.

Chris Brahm is a Bain partner based in the San Francisco office; he leads the firm’s Global Advanced Analytics practice.
August 1

August 1, 1838 - Slavery was abolished in Jamaica. It had been introduced by Spanish settlers 300 years earlier in 1509.

August 1, 1944 - Anne Frank penned her last entry into her diary. "[I] keep on trying to find a way of becoming what I would like to be, and what I could be, if...there weren't any other people living in the world." Three days later, Anne and her family were arrested and sent to Nazi concentration camps. Anne died at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp on March 15, 1945, at age 15.

August 1, 1944 - The Warsaw Uprising began as the Polish Home Army, numbering about 40,000 Polish patriots, began shooting at German troops in the streets. The Nazis then sent eight divisions to battle the Poles, who had hoped for, but did not receive, assistance from the Allies. Two months later, the rebellion was quashed.

Birthday - *Star-Spangled Banner* author Francis Scott Key (1779-1843) was born in Frederick County, Maryland. After witnessing the British bombardment of Fort McHenry on the night of September 13-14, 1814, he was enthralled to see the American flag still flying over the fort at daybreak. He then wrote the poem originally entitled *Defense of Fort McHenry* which became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.

Birthday - *Moby Dick* author Herman Melville (1819-1891) was born in New York.

August 2

August 2, 1776 - In Philadelphia, most of the 55 members of the Continental Congress signed the parchment copy of the *Declaration of Independence*.

August 2, 1923 - President Warren G. Harding died suddenly in a hotel in San Francisco while on a Western speaking tour. His administration had been tainted by the Teapot Dome political scandal and his sudden death prompted many unfounded rumors. He was succeeded the next day by Calvin Coolidge.

August 2, 1939 - Albert Einstein wrote a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt concerning the possibility of atomic weapons. "A single bomb of this type carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory." Six years later, on August 6, 1945, the first Atomic Bomb, developed by the U.S., was dropped on the Japanese port of Hiroshima.

August 2, 1990 - The Iraqi army invaded Kuwait amid claims that Kuwait threatened Iraq's economic existence by overproducing oil and driving prices down on the world market. An Iraqi military government was then installed in Kuwait which was annexed by Iraq on the claim that Kuwait was historically part of Iraq. This resulted in Desert Shield, the massive Allied military buildup, and later the 100-hour war against Iraq, Desert Storm.
August 3

**August 3, 1492** - Christopher Columbus set sail from Palos, Spain, with three ships, *Nina, Pinta* and *Santa Maria*. Seeking a westerly route to the Far East, he instead landed on October 12th in the Bahamas, thinking it was an outlying Japanese island.

**Birthday** - War correspondent Ernie Pyle (1900-1945) was born in Dana, Indiana. His syndicated column offered sympathetic insights into the experiences of common soldiers during World War II. He received a Pulitzer Prize for his reports of the bombing of London in 1940 and later war reports from Africa, Sicily, Italy and France. He was killed by machine-gun fire near Okinawa in the South Pacific on April 18, 1945.

**Birthday** - Gray Panthers founder Maggie Kuhn (1905-1995) was born in Buffalo, New York. After she was forced into mandatory retirement at age 65, she founded the Gray Panthers organization to fight age discrimination and succeeded in the banning of mandatory retirement in most professions.

August 4

**August 4, 1962** - Apartheid opponent Nelson Mandela was arrested by security police in South Africa. He was then tried and sentenced to five years in prison. In 1964, he was placed on trial for sabotage, high treason and conspiracy to overthrow the government and was sentenced to life in prison. A worldwide campaign to free him began in the 1980s and resulted in his release on February 11, 1990, at age 71 after 27 years in prison. In 1993, Mandela shared the Nobel Peace Prize with South Africa's President F.W. de Klerk for their peaceful efforts to bring a nonracial democracy to South Africa. In April 1994, black South Africans voted for the first time in an election that brought Mandela the presidency of South Africa.

**August 4, 1964** - Three young civil rights workers, James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner, were found murdered and buried in an earthen dam outside Philadelphia, Mississippi. They had disappeared on June 21 after being detained by Neshoba County police on charges of speeding. They were participating in the Mississippi Summer Project organized by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) to increase black voter registration. When their car was found burned on June 23, President Lyndon Johnson ordered the FBI to search for the men.

**Birthday** - Jazz trumpet player Louis Armstrong (1901-1971) was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. Known as "Satchmo," he appeared in many films and is best known for his renditions of *It's a Wonderful World* and *Hello, Dolly*.

**Birthday** - Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg (1912-1947) was born in Stockholm. During the Holocaust, Wallenberg saved an estimated 33,000 Jews by issuing thousands of protective documents, by securing the release of Jews from deportation trains, death march convoys, labor service brigades, and by establishing the International Ghetto, a network of 31 protected houses. He was detained by Soviet agents on January 17, 1945, and is believed to have died in prison in 1947.
August 5

August 5, 1583 - The first British colony in North America was founded by Sir Humphrey Gilbert, a British navigator and explorer. He sighted the Newfoundland coast and took possession of the area around St. John's harbor in the name of the Queen. He was later lost at sea in a storm off the Azores on his return trip to England.

August 5, 1861 - President Abraham Lincoln signed into law the first Federal income tax, a 3 percent tax on incomes over $800, as an emergency wartime measure during the Civil War. However, the tax was never actually put into effect.

August 5, 1962 - Film star Marilyn Monroe died at age 36 from an overdose of sleeping pills. She made 29 films during her career and came to symbolize Hollywood glamour.

August 5, 2011 - Standard & Poor’s credit rating agency downgraded the United States debt from its highest rating of AAA to a lesser AA+ rating, marking the first-ever decline of credit worthiness for the U.S. The agency cited America’s $14 trillion in outstanding debt and ineffective political leadership regarding debt reduction.

Birthday - John Eliot (1604-1690) was born in Hertfordshire, England. Known as the "Apostle to the Indians," his translation of the Bible into an Indian tongue was the first Bible to be printed in America.

August 6

August 6-10, 1787 - The Great Debate occurred during the Constitutional Convention. Outcomes included the establishment of a four-year term of office for the President, granting Congress the right to regulate foreign trade and interstate commerce, and the appointment of a committee to prepare a final draft of the Constitution.

August 6, 1945 - The first Atomic Bomb was dropped over the center of Hiroshima at 8:15 a.m., by the American B-29 bomber Enola Gay. The bomb detonated about 1,800 ft. above ground, killing over 105,000 persons and destroying the city. Another estimated 100,000 persons later died as a result of radiation effects.

August 6, 1962 - Jamaica achieved independence after centuries of British and Spanish rule. During 150 years of Spanish rule, African slaves were first brought to the island. The British invaded in 1655 and the slave trade greatly expanded during the 1700s. Following the abolition of slavery in the 1830s, Jamaica remained a British colony.

August 6, 1965 - The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson. The Act suspended literacy, knowledge and character tests designed to keep African Americans from voting in the South. It also authorized the appointment of Federal voting examiners and barred discriminatory poll taxes. The Act was renewed by Congress in 1975, 1984 and 1991.

Birthday - British poet Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-1892) was born in Somersby, Lincolnshire, England. He was appointed Poet Laureate in succession to William Wordsworth. Memorable poems by Tennyson include Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington and The Charge of the Light Brigade.

Birthday - Penicillin discoverer Alexander Fleming (1881-1955) was born in Lochfield, Scotland. By accident, he found that mold from soil killed deadly bacteria without injuring human tissue. He received the Nobel Prize in 1954.
August 7

August 7, 1964 - Following an attack on two U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin off North Vietnam, the U.S. Congress approved the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, granting President Lyndon B. Johnson authority "to take all necessary measures to repel any armed attack against the forces of the United States and to prevent further aggression."

August 7, 1990 - Just five days after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, President George Bush ordered Desert Shield, a massive military buildup to prevent further Iraqi advances.

Birthday - International spy Mata Hari (1876-1917) was born (as Margaret Gertrude Zelle) in Leewarden, Netherlands. Arrested by the French in 1917 as a German spy, she was tried, convicted and sentenced to death. At her execution, she refused a blindfold and instead threw a kiss to the French firing squad.

Birthday - African American statesman and Nobel Prize recipient Ralph J. Bunche (1904-1971) was born in Detroit, Michigan. In 1949, as a mediator for the United Nations, he helped bring an end to hostilities in the war between Israel and the Arab League.

August 8

August 8, 1945 - Soviet Russia declared war on Japan and sent troops into Japanese-held Manchuria.

Birthday - African American explorer Matthew Henson (1866-1955) was born in Charles County, Maryland. He accompanied Robert E. Peary on several Arctic expeditions and reached the North Pole on April 6, 1909.

August 9

August 9, 1945 - The second Atomic bombing of Japan occurred as an American B-29 bomber headed for the city of Kokura, but because of poor visibility then chose a secondary target, Nagasaki. About noon, the bomb detonated killing an estimated 70,000 persons and destroying about half the city.

August 9, 1974 - Effective at noon, Richard M. Nixon resigned the presidency as a result of the Watergate scandal. Nixon had appeared on television the night before and announced his decision to the American people. Facing possible impeachment by Congress, he became the only U.S. President ever to resign.

August 10

Birthday - Herbert Hoover (1874-1964) the 31st U.S. President was born in West Branch, Iowa. He was the first President born west of the Mississippi.
August 11:

August 11, 1841 - Frederick Douglass, an escaped slave, spoke before an audience in the North for the first time. During an anti-slavery convention on Nantucket Island, he gave a powerful, emotional account of his life as a slave. He was immediately asked to become a full-time lecturer for the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society.

August 11-16, 1965 - Six days of riots began in the Watts area of Los Angeles, triggered by an incident between a white member of the California Highway Patrol and an African American motorist. Thirty-four deaths were reported and more than 3,000 people were arrested. Damage to property was listed at $40 million.

Birthday - Roots author Alex Haley (1921-1992) was born in Ithaca, New York. His Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, published in 1976, explored seven generations of his family from its origins in Africa through slavery in America and eventual hard-fought freedom. Roots was translated into 37 languages and also became an eight-part TV miniseries in 1977 which attracted a record American audience and raised awareness concerning the legacy of slavery.

August 12:

August 12, 1676 - King Philip's War ended with the assassination of Metacom, leader of the Pokanokets, a tribe within the Wampanoag Indian Federation. Nicknamed 'King Philip' by colonists, he led a Native American uprising against white settlers which resulted in a war that raged for nearly two years, now known as King Philip's War.

Birthday - Film pioneer Cecil B. DeMille (1881-1959) was born in Ashfield, Massachusetts. He produced over 70 major films including Cleopatra, The Ten Commandments, and The Greatest Show on Earth.

August 13:

August 13, 1961 - The Berlin Wall came into existence after the East German government closed the border between east and west sectors of Berlin with barbed wire to discourage emigration to the West. The barbed wire was replaced by a 12 foot-high concrete wall eventually extending 103 miles (166 km) around the perimeter of West Berlin. The wall included electrified fences, fortifications, and guard posts. It became a notorious symbol of the Cold War. Presidents Kennedy and Reagan made notable appearances at the wall accompanied by speeches denouncing Communism. The wall was finally opened by an East German governmental decree in November 1989 and torn down by the end of 1990.

Birthday - Women's rights pioneer Lucy Stone (1818-1893) was born near West Brookfield, Massachusetts. She dedicated her life to the abolition of slavery and the emancipation of women and aided in the founding of the American Suffrage Association.

Birthday - Wild West performer Annie Oakley (1860-1926) was born in Darke County, Ohio. Famous for her shooting ability, she joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in 1885 and was one of the star attractions for 17 years.

Birthday - British film director Alfred Hitchcock (1899-1980) was born in London. His suspenseful films included classics such as The 39 Steps, Rebecca, Suspicion, Notorious, Rear Window, The Birds, Psycho and Frenzy; in addition to his American TV series Alfred Hitchcock Presents.

Birthday - Cuban President Fidel Castro was born in Mayari, Oriente Province, Cuba, August 13, 1927. He led a rebellion in 1959 that drove out Dictator Fulgencio Batista, and remains one of the last outspoken advocates of Communism.
August 14

August 14, 1935 - President Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act establishing the system which guarantees pensions to those who retire at age 65. The Social Security system also aids states in providing financial aid to dependent children, the blind and others, as well as administering a system of unemployment insurance.

August 14, 1941 - After three days of secret meetings aboard warships off the coast of Newfoundland, the Atlantic Charter was issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill. The Charter, a foundation stone for the later establishment of the United Nations, set forth eight goals for the nations of the world, including: the renunciation of all aggression, right to self-government, access to raw materials, freedom from want and fear, freedom of the seas, and disarmament of aggressor nations. By September, fifteen anti-Axis nations signed the Charter.

August 14, 1945 - Following the two Atomic Bomb drops and believing that continuation of the war would only result in further loss of Japanese lives, delegates of Emperor Hirohito accepted Allied surrender terms originally issued at Potsdam on July 26, 1945, with the exception that the Japanese Emperor's sovereignty would be maintained. Japanese Emperor Hirohito, who had never spoken on radio, then recorded an announcement admitting Japan's surrender, without actually using the word. The announcement was broadcast via radio to the Japanese people at noon the next day. The formal surrender ceremony occurred later, on September 2, 1945, on board the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

August 14, 1945 - V-J Day, commemorating President Truman's announcement that Japan had surrendered to the Allies.

August 14, 1969 - Woodstock began in a field near Yasgur's Farm at Bethel, New York. The three-day concert featured 24 rock bands and drew a crowd of more than 300,000 young people. The event came to symbolize the counter-culture movement of the 1960's.

Birthday - French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) was born on the island of Corsica. Originally an officer in King Louis' Army, he rose to become Emperor amid the political chaos that followed the French Revolution. He built a half-million strong Grand Army which utilized newly invented modern tactics and improvisation in battle to sweep across Europe and acquire an empire for France. However, after defeats in Russia and later by the British, he went into exile on the island of St. Helena off the coast of Africa. On May 5, 1821, he died alone on the tiny island abandoned by everyone.
August 16, 1777 - During the American Revolutionary War, the Battle of Bennington, Vermont, occurred as militiamen from Vermont, aided by Massachusetts troops, wiped out a detachment of 800 German-Hessians sent by British General Burgoyne to seize horses.

August 16, 1780 - The Battle of Camden in South Carolina occurred during the American Revolutionary War. The battle was a big defeat for the Americans as forces under General Gates were defeated by troops of British General Charles Cornwallis, resulting in 900 Americans killed and 1,000 captured.

August 16, 1896 - Gold was discovered in Rabbit Creek, a tributary of the Klondike River in Alaska, resulting in the Great Klondike Gold Rush.

August 16, 1977 - Elvis Presley was pronounced dead at the Memphis Baptist Hospital at 3:30 p.m., at age 42.

Birthday - T.E. Lawrence 'of Arabia' (1888-1935) was born in Tremadoc, North Wales. He led an Arab revolt against the Turks during World War I and served as a spy for the British. He was killed in a motorcycle accident at Dorset, England, on May 19, 1935.

Birthday - Israeli leader Menachem Begin (1913-1992) was born in Brest-Litovsk, Poland. He fought for the establishment of a Jewish state in Palestine in the 1940's, serving as the leader of a militant Zionist group. In 1977, he became Prime Minister of Israel, and is best known for signing the 1979 Camp David Peace Accord between Israel and Egypt with President Jimmy Carter and President Anwar el Sadat of Egypt.

August 17, 1943 - During World War II in Europe, the Allies completed the conquest of the island of Sicily after just 38 days. This gave the Allies control of the Mediterranean and also led to the downfall of Benito Mussolini and Italy's eventual withdrawal from the war. However, the Germans managed to evacuate 39,569 troops, 47 tanks, 94 heavy guns, over 9,000 vehicles and 2,000 tons of ammunition back to the Italian mainland from Sicily.

August 17, 1978 - The first transatlantic balloon trip was completed by three Americans; Max Anderson, Ben Abruzzo, and Larry Newman, all from Albuquerque, New Mexico. Starting from Maine on August 11th, they traveled in Double Eagle II over 3,000 miles in 137 hours, landing about 60 miles west of Paris.

August 17, 1998 - Bill Clinton became the first sitting President to give testimony before a grand jury in which he, the President, was the focus of the investigation. This resulted from a sweeping investigation of the President by Independent Counsel Ken Starr as well as a private lawsuit concerning alleged sexual harassment by Clinton before he became President. In the evening, President Clinton appeared on national television and gave a speech admitting he had engaged in an improper relationship with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. The admission occurred several months after a much publicized denial.

Birthday - American frontiersman Davy Crockett (1786-1836) was born in Hawkins County, Tennessee. He was a farmer, scout and politician who perished at age 49 during the final heroic defense of the Alamo in Texas.
August 18

August 18, 1920 - The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified, granting women the right to vote.

Birthday - American explorer Meriwether Lewis (1774-1809) was born near Charlottesville, Virginia. Along with William Clark, he explored the American West, and in 1805, after a journey of over 18 months, reached the Pacific Ocean.

August 19

August 19, 1934 - In Germany, a plebiscite was held in which 89.9 percent of German voters approved granting Chancellor Adolf Hitler additional powers, including the office of president.

August 19, 1991 - Soviet hard-line Communists staged a coup, temporarily removing Mikhail Gorbachev from power. The coup failed within 72 hours as democratic reformer Boris Yeltsin rallied the Russian people. Yeltsin then became the leading power in the country. The Communist Party was soon banned and by December the Soviet Union itself disintegrated.

Birthday - Aviation pioneer Orville Wright (1871-1948) was born in Dayton, Ohio. In 1903, Orville and his brother Wilbur achieved the world's first successful sustained and controlled flight of a motor-driven aircraft, following years of experimentation with kites and gliders.

Birthday - Bill Clinton, the 42nd U.S. President was born in Hope, Arkansas, August 19, 1946. He was the first President elected who was not alive during World War II.

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Birthday - Benjamin Harrison (1833-1901) the 23rd U.S. President was born in North Bend, Ohio. He was the grandson of William Henry Harrison, the 9th President.

August 21

August 21, 1863 - During the American Civil War, William Quantrill led 450 irregular Confederate raiders on a pre-dawn terrorist raid of Lawrence, Kansas, leaving 150 civilians dead, 30 wounded and much of the town a smoking ruin. In 1862, Quantrill had been denied a Confederate commission by the Confederate Secretary of War, who labeled Quantrill's notions of war as 'barbarism.'

August 21, 1959 - President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a proclamation admitting Hawaii to the Union as the 50th state.

August 21, 1983 - Filipino opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino, Jr., was assassinated at the Manila airport while leaving his plane. Public outcry over the killing ultimately led to the collapse of the government of Ferdinand E. Marcos and the inauguration of Corazon C. Aquino, widow of the slain man, as president.
August 22

August 22, 1986 - Deadly fumes from a volcanic eruption under Lake Nios in Cameroon killed more than 1,500 persons.

Birthday - French composer Claude Debussy (1862-1918) was born in St. Germain-en-Laye, France. His unusual chords, based on the whole-tone scale, laid the groundwork for a new style of music called impressionism.

August 23

August 23, 1927 - Italian immigrants Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti were electrocuted inside a prison at Charlestown, Massachusetts. They had been convicted of a shoe factory payroll robbery during which the paymaster and a guard had been killed. Following their convictions, all appeals for a new trial had failed, despite the lack of hard evidence and a later admission by a known criminal that he had participated in the robbery with an organized criminal gang. The days and weeks leading up to their execution aroused worldwide protests amid accusations of unfair treatment because they had radical political views and were Italian.

August 24

August 24, 79 A.D. - Vesuvius, an active volcano in southern Italy, erupted and destroyed the cities of Pompeii, Stabiae and Herculaneum.

August 24, 1572 - Thousands of Protestant Huguenots were massacred in Paris and throughout France by Catholics, in what became known as the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre.

August 24-25, 1814 - During the War of 1812, Washington, D.C., was invaded by British forces that burned the Capitol, the White House and most other public buildings along with a number of private homes. The burning was in retaliation for the earlier American burning of York (Toronto).

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August 25, 1985 - Samantha Smith died in an airplane crash in Maine. In 1982, the 11-year-old American schoolgirl had written a letter to Soviet Russia's leader Yuri Andropov asking, "Why do you want to conquer the whole world, or at least our country?" To her surprise, Andropov replied personally to her and offered an all-expense paid trip to the U.S.S.R. She toured Russia for two weeks amid worldwide publicity and came to symbolize American and Russian hopes for peaceful co-existence.

Birthday - American conductor and composer Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) was born in Lawrence, Massachusetts. Considered one of the finest conductors in American music history, his works included West Side Story, On the Town, and the opera Candide.
August 26

August 26, 1883 - One of the most catastrophic volcanic eruptions in recorded history occurred on the Indonesian island of Krakatoa. Explosions were heard 2,000 miles away. Tidal waves 120 ft. high killed 36,000 persons on nearby islands, while five cubic miles of earth were blasted into the air up to a height of 50 miles.

Birthday - American inventor Lee De Forest (1873-1961) was born at Council Bluffs, Iowa. He held hundreds of patents for inventions and was also a pioneer in the creation of wireless radio broadcasting and television.

August 27

Birthday - Charles Dawes (1865-1951) was born in Marietta, Ohio. He served as U.S. Vice President from 1925-29, and is best remembered for his "Dawes Plan" for German reparations following World War I. He received the 1925 Nobel Peace Prize.

Birthday - Lyndon Baines Johnson (1908-1973) the 36th U.S. President was born near Stonewall, Texas. He ascended to the presidency upon the assassination of John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963. Johnson served until January 20, 1969.

Birthday - Mother Teresa (1910-1997) was born (as Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu) in Skopje, Yugoslavia. She founded a religious order of nuns in Calcutta, India, called the Missionaries of Charity and spent her life working to help the poor and sick of India.

August 28

August 28, 1963 - The March on Washington occurred as over 250,000 persons attended a Civil Rights rally in Washington, D.C., at which Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. made his now-famous *I Have a Dream* speech.

Birthday - German author-philosopher Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832) was born in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. He is best known for the dramatic poem *Faust*, completed in 1831.

Birthday - The first American-born Roman Catholic saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821) was born (as Elizabeth Ann Bayley) in New York. She founded the first American Catholic religious order, the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph. In 1809, she opened an elementary school in Baltimore, marking the beginning of the parochial school system in the U.S.
August 29

August 29, 1792 - In one of the worst maritime disasters, 900 men drowned on the British battleship *Royal George*. As the ship was being repaired, a gust of wind allowed water to flood into open gun ports. The ship sank within minutes.

August 29, 1991 - Following the unsuccessful coup of August 19-21, the Soviet Communist Party was suspended, thus ending the institution that ruled Soviet Russia for nearly 75 years.

Birthday - Physician and author Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894) was born in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He once wrote, "A moment's insight is sometimes worth a life's experience." His poem *Old Ironsides* aroused popular sentiment in the 1830's which helped to save the historic frigate USS Constitution from destruction.

Birthday - British philosopher and pioneer in modern political thinking, John Locke (1632-1704) was born in Wrington, England. His ideas greatly influenced American colonists, namely that rulers derive their power only from the consent of the governed - and the doctrine that men naturally possess certain rights, the chief being life, liberty, and property.

August 30

Birthday - *Frankenstein* author Mary Shelley (1797-1851) was born in London.

Birthday - Civil rights leader Roy Wilkins (1901-1981) was born in St. Louis, Missouri. The grandson of a Mississippi slave, he was active in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

August 31

August 31, 1786 - Shays' Rebellion began in Massachusetts as ex-Revolutionary War Captain Daniel Shays led an armed mob. The rebellion prevented the Northampton Court from holding a session in which debtors, mostly poor ex-soldier farmers, were to be tried and likely put in prison. Following this, in September, Shays' troops prevented Supreme Court sessions at Springfield, Massachusetts. Early in 1787, they attacked the Federal arsenal at Springfield, but were soon routed and fled. Shays was sentenced to death but was pardoned in 1788.

August 31, 1980 - Solidarity, the Polish trade union, was formed at Gdansk, Poland. Led by Lech Walesa, Solidarity opposed Communist rule and was outlawed in 1981. Seven years later, the re-legalization of Solidarity occurred and the government agreed to hold partially free parliamentary elections. Solidarity candidates scored stunning victories in the elections that followed, gaining power in Poland and paving the way for the downfall of Communism there.

August 31, 1997 - Britain's *Princess Diana* died at age 36 from massive internal injuries suffered in a high-speed car crash, reportedly after being pursued by photographers. The crash occurred shortly after midnight in Paris inside a tunnel along the Seine River at the Pont de l'Alma bridge, less than a half mile north of the Eiffel Tower. Also killed in the crash were Diana's companion, Dodi Fayed, 42, and chauffeur Henri Paul. A fourth person in the car, bodyguard Trevor Rees-Jones, was seriously injured.
Toolbox Talks for OSHA Safety and Health

Toolbox talks are an easy way for foremen and supervisors to supplement the OSHA training efforts of their company or organization, and to keep safety front and center in their workers' minds. These short pre-written safety meetings are designed to heighten employee awareness of workplace hazards and OSHA regulations. They are not intended to take the place of formal OSHA safety training for workers, but to supplement it.

Here are a few tips to keep in mind when conducting a toolbox talk for your workers:

- Read the toolbox talk to yourself a couple of times before you hold the actual meeting with workers. That way you will be more familiar with the content to be covered and therefore less apt to stumble while reading to the group.
- Try to hold the toolbox talk in an area that is free of noise and other distractions. If the workers cannot hear you talking, or are distracted by other activities in the area, they won't be focusing on your talk.
- Speak clearly and directly. Mumbling or reading too fast makes it difficult for the workers to understand you. Just take a deep breath, and then speak clearly and at a natural pace.
- Use a prop when possible to help you keep the workers attention. If you are giving a toolbox talk on setting up a portable step ladder, have one set up nearby so you can point out things as you read the toolbox talk. To really drive home a point, have an unlabeled container you found on the jobsite available when giving a toolbox talk on OSHA's hazard communication standards about labeling requirements.
- Always give workers an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the toolbox talk. Don't make snide remarks to employees who do ask a question, as this will discouraging others from asking questions later.
- Always document your toolbox talks. Even if certain OSHA standards do not require documentation of safety training, it can't hurt to have the information about the topic, the trainer, the date, and names of the workers on file.
- Last but not least, practice what you preach. Nothing makes a trainer lose credibility faster than to have a worker see them doing something that violates the safety precautions that were covered in a previous toolbox talk. Always set a good example.

Free Toolbox Talks

The free toolbox talks provided below on this website are available for you to download and print at no cost for use within your company or organization. They are not to be used for commercial gain, nor can they be republished on any other website or in any document without our explicit permission.

A new toolbox talk will be published on this site each month. Each topic selected is generic enough to be applied to many different work environments (construction and general industry). While the information contained in each toolbox talk is believed to be accurate, remember that these toolbox talks are not intended to take the place of formal OSHA training, they are only intended to supplement the mandatory training and help maintain awareness.

You are responsible for checking the OSHA training requirements for construction and / or the general industry training requirements to determine the actual training that must be provided to your workers. OSHA Training Services Inc. cannot be held liable for the content in, or misuse of, these generic toolbox talks.

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Event Calendar

Early Bird

♦ August 16-2018 Membership Meeting to be held @ Casa Carbone.
   Speaker of the month Is Mr Joseph Stallings Representing the Town of Garner.
   Joseph will be speaking about what it takes to bring in new Businesses into our area. How localities prepare for and accommodate their infrastructure and social needs as they enter the community.

♦ September 20-2018 Membership Meeting to be held @ Casa Carbone.
   Speaker of the month Scott Strickland, Assistant General Manager of the Durham Bulls, set to come to our September 20 meeting to bring us up on the past year of the Bulls, playoff pictures, future happenings at the Bulls organization.

♦ October 18-2018 Membership Meeting to be a possible Social to be announced

♦ October 5-2018  PCEA Sporting Clays at Drakes Landing, PCEA Fundraising Event 3146 Chalybeate Springs Rd, Fuquay Varina, NC 27526  This year promises to be the best outing yet! Prizes will be Won! Bragging Rights will be made!! Steak Dinner and Awards after the Smoke Clears. Be sure to Get your score card to our Mr Rick Embry.

♦ November 15-2018 Membership Meeting to be held @ Casa Carbone.
   Speaker of the month to be announced.

♦ December 6, 2018 PCEA Christmas Social has been scheduled
   we will meet at the “Buku” Restaurant, Located at the corner of Wilmington and Davie Streets in the heart of downtown Raleigh. More info next Month.
August Membership Meeting @ Casa Carbone

August 16-2018 Membership Meeting to be held @ Casa Carbone.

Speaker of the month Is **Joseph Stallings,**

Economic Development Director, Town of Garner

Community Growth, does not happen without planning and hard work.

Our Speaker for August represents the Garner Economic Development. If you have watched the news or read the newspaper you’ve had to have noticed the surge of growth in Garner, North Carolina. Garner has made local and National news by being one of the better places to live and work in North Carolina. Ranking in the top 25 in most measured categories for living and working.

Joe Stallings joined the Town of Garner as their Economic Development Director in January of 2015. Prior to coming to Garner, Stallings served as the Economic Development and Media Coordinator for the Town of Benson, NC. Stallings received his Bachelor degree in Political Science with a concentration in Town, City and County Management and a minor in Regional Planning and a Master’s in Public Administration from Appalachian State University. He currently serves on the United Community Bank Board and is an active member in the Trojan Business Alliance, North Carolina Economic Developer’s Association, International Economic Development Council, Garner Young Professional’s Network and the Council for Entrepreneurial Development.

From the Triangle Business Journal By Lauren K. Ohnesorge A developer linked to Seattle e-retailer Amazon is finalizing plans with the town of Garner for “Project Axis,” a planned warehouse distribution facility at the old ConAgra site. Officials have not identified the tenant. Maybe Joseph will be able to share who the new complex will support.

Bring your questions. This will be a great opportunity to learn how Businesses are wooed into
September 20-2018 Membership Meeting to be held @ Casa Carbone.

Speaker of the month **Scott Strickland**, Assistant General Manager of the Durham Bulls, set to come to our September 20 meeting to bring us up on the past year of the Bulls, playoff pictures, future happenings at the Bulls organization.

The most recognized name in Minor League Baseball, the Durham Bulls have played a significant role in the development of the Triangle community since 1902. The team plays a 140-game schedule as a member of the International League and the Triple-A Affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays. For over a century the Bulls have offered affordable family entertainment to fans in the Triangle and beyond with a strong brand of baseball, great entertainment and special events throughout the summer. The team won its first championship as a member of the North Carolina State League in 1917 and has since won 12 more, including five League Championships and two National Titles since making the jump to Triple-A in 1998. Several prominent Major League players have donned the Bulls jersey, including Hall of Famer Joe Morgan, Bob Boone, Greg Luzinski, Ron Gant, David Justice, Chipper Jones, Andruw Jones, Carl Crawford, Evan Longoria and David Price. Along with an impressive history of on-field accomplishments, the Bulls play a major role in their community with programs such as the Durham Bulls Youth Athletic League, Explorer Post 50 and many others. Civic organizations volunteer at ballpark concession stands to raise money for their organizations, team mascot Wool E. Bull makes over 250 appearances in the community per year, and the team donates thousands of tickets each season for charitable events.
New Member’s Corner

We are expecting several new members this month; We need more new Members! Invite your colleagues, Customers and vendors to join our group of professionals!

Help Wanted?
Do you need to add staff for your growing backlog? Advertise!!!

Need help?
♦ Let our newsletter work for you.
♦ Know Someone that needs a job? Get them noticed, Let's Help our Contractors fill those voids

Use the PCEA newsletter to advertise your needs.

Include Link to your Company News Letter Per Year (12 Issues) $ 25.00
Let others know about the successes your Company is Having. Attract the right people to join your firm. Help Wanted Adds 1/2 Page “Help wanted Adds” (Per Issue ) $ 00.00 For Member Firms
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919-832-4443 networklumber@bellsouth.net
126 American Way, Fletcher, NC 28732
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Respectfully,
Thomas H. Von Cannon

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TAVonCannon@VSCFS.com

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