



**WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER:  
BILL HALLENBERG - MINGLEDORFF'S, INC.**



Bill Hallenberg is a native of Dunwoody, Georgia. He began his HVAC career in 1985 at Cooling and Heating Supply in Decatur, Georgia. In 1996, Bill joined Mingledorff's, Inc as an Operations Manager for the North Georgia District. He quickly transitioned into the role of Distribution Center Manger for the Norcross and Tucker locations. Ten years later, Bill moved to Birmingham, Alabama to open Mingledorff's North Alabama Division. He was promoted to Vice President and General Manager in 2014 while assisting with the operational duties

for the company. Bill has an 11-year-old daughter with his wife, Julie, and two grown sons who have blessed him with three grandchildren. Bill enjoys golf, MLB, and SEC football in his spare time.

On behalf of SubAla, we believe Bill's experience will be a great asset to the board and staff. We look forward to working with him. Welcome aboard, Bill!



AEC Site Solutions, LLC

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O'Neal's Metal Buildings, LLC

Willfab, Inc.

P.O. Box 381236  
Birmingham, AL 35238  
Tel 205.981.0086  
Toll Free 800.239.4744  
Fax 205.981.9588  
[www.SubAla.org](http://www.SubAla.org)

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# SUBALA & WORKERSFIRST CONVENTION

July 15-18, 2021  
Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort  
Destin, FL



# Special Thanks to

## OUR CONVENTION SPONSORS

We are grateful to our friends who are sponsoring the 2021 SubAla and WorkersFirst convention. We are thankful for their interest in supporting us. Without the generous financial support of all our sponsors, we would not be able to host this type of first-class event. Please take advantage of this opportunity to socialize with representatives of these fine organizations and thank them personally for their support.

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# SAFETY BUZZ

OSHA recently published two articles showing violations within our region (Region 4). Review and share these violations at future safety meetings with your employees. These teachable opportunities might just prevent a future employee accident.

## Article #1:

### **US DEPARTMENT OF LABOR CITES TOCCOA PLASTIC RECYCLER FOR VIOLATING SAFETY STANDARDS AFTER WORKER SUSTAINS FATAL INJURIES FROM A FALL PROPOSED FINES: \$164,000**

**TOCCOA, GA** – With the holiday fast approaching, a 56-year-old worker at a Toccoa plastic processing facility could never have known he would spend Christmas Day in a hospital and die from a head injury after falling more than 6 feet from an elevated platform.

An inspection of the Dec. 21, 2020, incident by the U.S. Department of Labor's OSHA found that while Scrap Masters Inc. had installed some fall protection on the platform, it failed to meet federal safety standards. OSHA cited the company for failing to equip stairs and platforms with guardrails to prevent falls.

In addition, OSHA determined that the employer failed to:

- Mount and mark fire extinguishers, exposing workers to fire hazards. The employer also did not implement a training program for the use of the extinguishers.
- Repair powered industrial trucks and ensure workers wore a seatbelt when operating a forklift.
- Provide a training program on powered industrial trucks that consists of formal and practical training, as well as an evaluation of the employee's performance in the workplace.
- Develop and utilize specific procedures for employees performing service and maintenance activities on machines, exposing them to amputation hazards.
- Prevent workers from being exposed to occupational noise levels above the allowable time-weighted average.

#### **Takeaways:**

- If OSHA seeks your establishment or worksite out due to a reportable injury, complaint or targeted inspection----establish the scope of the visit during the opening conference. The company in article one was inspected due to a fall incident, during the inspection the compliance officer broadened the scope of the inspection while in the facility. The scope of the inspection should have been determined, the compliance officer should have been escorted the area of the fall and duplicate pictures of any of the images captured by the officer should have been taken by their escort.
- Known hazards, regardless of OSHA visits, must be abated. Fall protection requirements are a must. Hearing conservation plans must be adopted when noise levels are too high. Forklifts must be maintained and driven by only trained and certified operators. Machine guards must be installed and maintained.

## Article #2:

### **FOLLOW-UP SAFETY INSPECTION AT SITE OF 2019 WORKPLACE FATALITY FINDS GREENVILLE RECYCLING CENTER CONTINUES TO PUT WORKERS AT RISK PROPOSED FINES: \$112,000**

**GREENVILLE, GA** – The U.S. Department of Labor's OSHA has again cited a Greenville recycling company, where a 44-year-old welder employed by a contractor in the facility suffered fatal injuries in 2019 amid safety violations.

The welder was an employee of National Fabricating Services – operating as Quality Machine and Fabrication Inc. – when the fatality occurred on the TAV Holdings Inc. work site. OSHA conducts follow-up inspections when fatalities occur, and in its return visit to the site, investigators found repeat violations.

TAV Holdings failed to ensure workers completed training before operating telescoping forklifts and failed to examine the forklifts before placing them in service. OSHA cited the company for similar violations in 2019 after a forklift struck and caused an unsupported beam to fall and fatally injure the welder.

The agency also cited TAV Holdings with eight serious violations for the following hazards:

- Allowing workers to operate powered industrial trucks without a seat belt and failing to identify load capacities on forklifts.
- Dismounting powered industrial trucks with the load elevated.
- Electrical cords and scrap metal on the shop floor in high-traffic areas.
- Blocked access to fire extinguishers in the welding area and failure to conduct monthly fire extinguisher inspections.
- Failing to ensure the use of welding curtains during sheet-metal welding.
- Electrical boxes not designed and installed for outdoor use.

#### **Takeaways:**

- Owners/governing entities/General Contractors are being fined for violations involving their subcontractors at their facilities and on their jobsites.
- The qualifications to perform work will continue to tighten for subcontractors.
- Again, the scope of the inspection should have been determined during the opening conference.
- Again, known hazards in the workplace must be abated.

Please remember that I am available to all of my members for support. Please don't hesitate to give me a call or shoot me an email if I can assist.

Robert Moore | Loss Control Manager | WorkersFirst Compfund  
(334) 322-9497 | robert@workersfirst.net

## 2021 CHISENHALL AWARD

The Chisenhall Award is the highest award given by the Association. Established in 1971, the Chisenhall Award was named for Herbert Chisenhall who was instrumental in the establishment of ARSM-HACCA, now SubAla, in the early 1950's. The award has always honored association members who exhibit standards of excellence in the industry and their contribution to the success and growth of the association. The recipient is selected by vote of a committee of previous Chisenhall Honorees and presented at the Annual Convention.



We are honored to announce the 2021 Chisenhall Award recipient is L.F. (Chip) Pierce, Jr., Operations Manager of ALC Contractors.

L.F. (Chip) Pierce, Jr. grew up in Birmingham, Alabama and graduated from Shades Valley High School in 1969. He worked as an apprentice plumber at Brown Mechanical Contractors throughout high school and while attending Auburn University. After college, Chip began working fulltime at Brown Mechanical as a crane operator and field superintendent prior to moving into project management in 1975. In 1990, after 23 years of ascending the ranks, Chip was appointed President of Brown Mechanical Contractors. He was the active president for over 25 years until recently when he decided to assist his daughter, Leigh Ann Speake, in managing ALC Contractors.

Chip has dedicated much of his life to refining the rights of subcontractors. He helped spearhead the legislation that created the State of Alabama Plumbers Board to enable statewide plumbing certification and helped establish an ongoing MCA Scholarship for future mechanical contractors. While serving on the City of Birmingham Construction Advisory Committee, he collaborated with city leaders, architects, engineers, and other individuals in the construction industry to streamline the building permit and inspection process. Chip held various leadership roles in multiple organizations. He served on the State of Alabama Board of Heating, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Contractors, the Mechanical Contractors Association of Alabama, the Specialty Contractors of the Associated General Contractors, Associated General Contractors of Alabama, Subcontractors Association of Alabama (SubAla), and a myriad of others.

Chip met and married Ann Syltie, in 1976. They rooted themselves in Mountain Brook in 1978 where they raised two children, Leigh Ann and Nicholas. In 2001, his 19-year-old son, Nicholas, tragically and unexpectedly passed away on Christmas Eve due to complications from Mononucleosis. To honor his son's memory, Chip established a memorial foundation. Over the last 20 years, the Nicholas Franklin Pierce foundation has awarded 22 scholarships to graduating seniors at Mountain Brook High School for their academic achievements, athletic accomplishments, and strength of character. In his spare time, Chip enjoys boating, saltwater fishing, traveling, attending air shows, snow skiing, and moments with his family.

His dedication throughout the years to improve the construction industry does not go unnoticed. We are honored to award L.F. (Chip) Pierce, Jr. this year's Chisenhall Award. Congratulations!

