

Connect

Attendees were in a festive mood at last December's Builders Connect event held in the elegant Gold Coast Room at the Drake Hotel. Several firms celebrated membership anniversary milestones: Assurance Agency and Essex Crane Rental Corp. (10 years); McShane Construction Co. (30 years); and Joseph J. Duffy Co. (70 years). Ken Simonson, Chief Economist for the AGC of America, provided the audience a comprehensive economic forecast and answered several questions concerning the industry's financial outlook.



Mike Mozal of Joseph J. Duffy receives 70-year membership award.



Shannon Brokenshire, Bruce Bare, Michael Bobruk, Doug Maibach, and Rob Beebe of Barton Malow Co. with the Corporate Citizenship Award.



John Lombard, Ryan Lombard, Phil Diekemper, and Mike Lombard.

Please see Mr. Simonson's article on page 13 outlining his 2016 economic projections.

The Association conferred two prestigious awards to very deserving construction industry professionals during Builders Connect. The Community Builder Award was presented to Ms. Carol Lord, previous Executive Director of Mid-America Regional Bargaining Association (MARBA). Ms. Lord retired this past spring after achieving many accomplishments as she led MARBA for 25 years in its mission to promote stability and unity through improved labor-management relations.

The 2014 Corporate Citizenship Award was bestowed upon Barton Malow Company for its philanthropic programs, contributions and commitment to public service. Barton Malow is involved in many not-for-profit

organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, The American Heart Association, the United Way, Toys for Tots, Lurie's Children's Hospital, and the Anti-Cruelty Society, among others. In Fall 2014 the firm introduced its first annual "Communities Day" at its offices nationwide. "We're so proud to have employees who share a desire - and make it a priority - to serve non-profit organizations, with many doing so in leadership positions," remarked