

# Associate Division Comes Together for Annual Meeting

By Kristen Ogden Smith

The Associate Division of the AGC of Texas is one of the largest and most participatory in the country. In recent years, in the wake of the last Trade and Equipment Show a few years back, the Chapter has slowly been redefining what that participation is.

This year, Associate Division Chairman Colin Keane opted for a fresh approach to the division's annual meeting. Although the chapter's by-laws require a meeting each year, the form of that meeting is largely up to the chairman to create.



Top Golf in Austin was the venue for 2014, and the chapter enjoyed a good turnout of members. We even had a few prospective members attend to hear about the many ways AGC works for, and promotes, its associate members.

The meeting began in a meeting room with a private bar and buffet. Once attendees settled into their chairs, they received a welcome from 2014 President Dean Word, III, who thanked the associate members for their patronage, as well as extended his time should any want to discuss ways to participate in the chapter.

The members also heard an update from Jennifer Newton on the extremely ambitious Prop. 1 campaign, coordinated by her and Karen Johnson Rove. Following this update, Jennifer gave an insight into the upcoming legislative session, and what the chapter is doing on behalf of the industry. The Chapter is incredibly proud of the efforts on the Prop. 1

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campaign, which has been a significant undertaking of the Highway Funding Task Force.

Next, Chairmen Jeff Chapman and Bo Davis discussed their area Future Leadership Councils. The majority of their members are men and women in the early years of their careers with prime contractors, but both general and associate members are welcome. The councils are in their early years themselves, but interest and attendance has been steadily growing. These are vital components of a healthy trade association, and give up-and-coming industry professionals a means to immerse themselves into chapter activities.

Finally, Chairman Colin Keane reviewed the numerous ways an associate company could find involvement and networking opportunities within the chapter. There are several committees and task forces open to associate members, as well as major events like the annual conferences, the Scholarship Gala, area luncheons, and PAC events.

Finally, the meeting concluded and a wall of windows was opened up onto the driving bays. For the next few hours, members practiced their swings while enjoying a beautiful night, and the company of fellow industry professionals.

If you would like more information about the Associate Division and are looking for ways to become involved, contact Kristen Ogden Smith at kogden@agctx.org, or Colin Keane, Associate Division chairman at colin@portablescreen.com. We'd love to have you at the next meeting.

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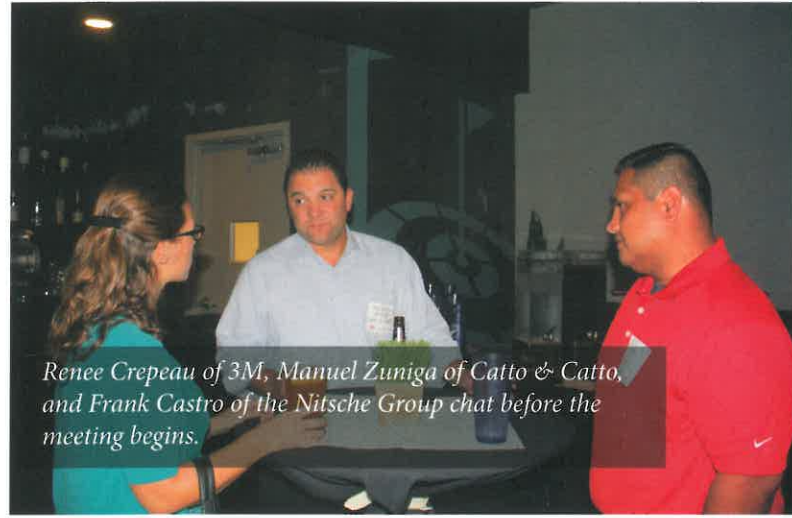
Jennifer Newton prepares to speak about her favorite topic, Proposition One.



Jeff Chapman, chairman of the Central Texas Future Leadership Council, provides members with an overview of how valuable the FLC can be for young professionals in the industry.



Stan Dacus with Lehigh Hanson, Colin Keane of McCourt & Sons, and Joyce Flatt with Trinity Highway



Renee Crepeau of 3M, Manuel Zuniga of Catto & Catto, and Frank Castro of the Nitsche Group chat before the meeting begins.



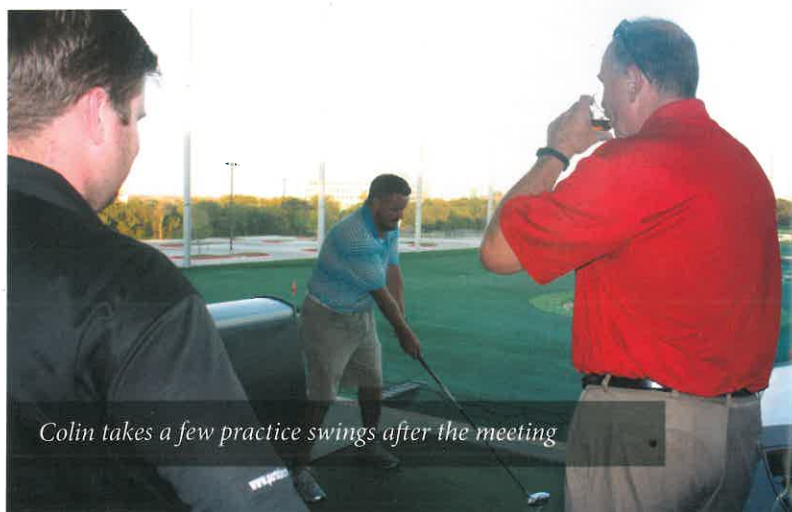
Chris Hamilton and Dane Hone of RDO Equipment get prepped for the golfing portion of the meeting.



Greg Vesut, Colin Keane and Sam Welch of McCourt & Sons pose in front of the green before the games begin.



Joyce Flatt shows other attendees how it's done.



Colin takes a few practice swings after the meeting