

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Capital Region Builders Association (CRBA)



ROBERT CARROLL | CRBA Board of Directors

Carroll Construction

What company do you work for and what is your job description?

I am the COO and Owner of Carroll Construction.

How long have you been a CRBA member and why did you choose to join?

I've been a member for nine years and I initially chose to join for the insurance benefits, but we have since learned much more.

What makes CRBA important to you?

Advocacy, benefits, insurance, networking and the professional association.

How has CRBA aided in the way you do business?

I have a BS in Construction Management from LSU, but most of what I know about my job has come from my interactions while holding my CRBA membership. I have had opportunities to meet with my government representatives one on one in Washington, D.C. and have seen what influence we can have as an industry when we stick together as a whole. I have worked on one with our insurance provider and can understand what key issues are when it comes to claims. Through the education opportunities afforded, I can also avoid problems on my own job. CRBA is much more than a membership to me, it is a family of peers who are all working to better the construction industry for everyone.

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Why do you believe it is important for other businesses to join CRBA?

If you are not a member of CRBA, then you are fighting all of your battles alone with a single voice. As a member of CRBA, you are also a member of LHBA and NAHB. This means that your voice is multiplied at your local level by over 1,000 members across the country. We are stronger together than by ourselves.

What is your most notable memory while being involved with CRBA?

Looking to the audience in Las Vegas during the NAHB Residential Construction Estimating Competition and seeing a group of CRBA members watching and cheering me on as I ultimately took a top spot in the nation among Construction Management students. The people in the audience that day have become friends of mine. They have influenced and inspired me beyond anything I learned during my degree studies.

While being a member, what has been one thing you have learned and been able to apply to your job?

I learned from members about an associate member, Emma Shinn's, book on Accounting and Financial Management for Residential Construction. This has helped me to move beyond simple cash accounting and into using my books to make projections and monitor the health of my company.

What is your favorite tip for someone working in the same industry?

Don't be afraid to ask questions from your trade partners. Everyone has something to bring to the table even if their product is different from yours.

How have you been able to impact the community as a CRBA member?

In 2010, I was selected to build the charity home for CRBA. We raised nearly \$700,000 in ticket sales to aid in the construction of the new Our Lady of the Lakes Children's Hospital.

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Have you received any awards or recognition?

Before entering the field professionally, I placed eighth in the nation at the NAHB Residential Construction Management Competition leading a team of students during the International Builder Show. In 2014, I was recognized nationally by Professional Builder Magazine with the 40 Under 40 Award. In 2015, I received my Certified Graduate Builder designation and was voted Builder of the Year by CRBA. In 2017, we won first place in the Louisiana Remodeling Excellence Award for a kitchen remodel we performed for a client in Pride, Louisiana. In 2018, I was selected as a finalist for the National Young Professional of the Year Award.

What are your hobbies outside of work?

Painting and Gardening are my favorite past times.

What is a typical day like for you?

My typical day involves business planning and coordinating the marketing and finances of Carroll Construction. The flexibility of my job means that no day looks the same, but I try to work in the office Monday through Wednesday and help our production manager on Thursday and Friday.

What are the top three things on your bucket list?

I only have one at the moment, which is to see the Aurora Borealis in person.

What motivates you?

My family. I am surrounded by the most loving and

Where are you originally from?

I was born in Lafayette, but moved to Baton Rouge when I was nine years old. I call Baton Rouge my home.