

CISCO COMMUNICATOR

A Newsletter for Chicagoland Construction Labor & Management Professionals

Luncheon SOLD OUT for Chicago Mayor - April 21st



CISCO members and supporters have sold out this year's Annual Luncheon in anticipation of hearing Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, who was announced last month as the scheduled speaker at this year's event, set for Friday, April 21.

This year's luncheon will be held at Maggiano's Little Italy Chicago at 516 North Clark Street.

Registration begins at 11:00 am with the Lunch/Program starting at Noon.

"There was tremendous interest in this year's event, due to having Chicago's Mayor as the keynote speaker," said CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen. "With so much construction occurring in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, our members are looking forward to hearing more about future projects."



In November, Mayor Rahm Emanuel recognized the installation of the post-recession, record-breaking 48th crane in 2016, while in Streeterville alongside Related Midwest CEO Kurt Bailey.

prominently during the event, and mentioned during luncheon remarks.

Under Mayor Rahm Emanuel, the City of Chicago has experienced a construction renaissance. In addition to having set a post-recession record for crane permits in 2016, Chicago was recently named by the *PitchBook* research company as the top city for the most profitable start up companies in the country.

Chicago's construction boom is further evidenced by its record number of building permits, the billion dollar renovation of CTA infrastructure, as well as the billion dollar-plus redevelopment program for Navy Pier and the McCormick Square neighborhood to name just a few examples.

In addition to Mayor Emanuel's Keynote Address, the 2017 Scholarship Award recipients will be honored at Luncheon. We look forward to seeing you there!



Last July, Mayor Rahm Emanuel showed DuPage County Chairman Dan Cronin plans for new gate locations at O'Hare Airport prior to the press conference announcing the construction work details.

If your organization would like to be listed as a sponsor of the luncheon, the cost is \$250. Your company's name will be listed in the program, shown

From *the* Desk of the Executive Director



As most of you may know, CISCO was founded in April 1988.

So with each passing anniversary, the month of April gives us reason to reflect on how our labor-management model has become such a success.

A good place to begin is to think about CISCO's mission of representing the union construction industry, and the

major programs we offer from educational outreach to legislative advocacy to fair contracting.

Or to put it another way, let's examine WHO WE ARE, and WHO WE ARE NOT.

WHO WE ARE

Our industry remains on the cutting edge of technology. You don't have to look far, as each of the trade's world-class training centers are constantly teaching apprentices the latest in sustainable construction, collaborative approaches and curriculum.

From a training perspective, some trades are seeing record numbers of apprenticeship graduates (see page 4), as we continue to address the construction labor shortages. This is good news for our contractors who can provide a highly skilled workforce to any project that comes their way from the building community.

Our legislative vigilance continues to reap benefits as recent positive news saw voters approve the "lockbox" amendment to protect funding for transportation-related purposes, and the passage of the Exelon Bill kept two power plants open, saved 3,800 jobs and will greatly expand job opportunities in renewable energy.

From a people standpoint, our industry is a family

of men and women that care deeply about each other. We stress safety on the jobsite first - ensuring that our sisters and brothers come home safe and sound.

In addition, our contractors and building trade members assist charitable causes helping food banks, cancer foundations, veterans, persons with disabilities, and even repairing the homes of residents in need.

WHO WE ARE NOT

In describing who we are not, it is best to compare and contrast how we conduct our industry versus those who cut corners, knowingly mis-classify workers, steal wages, ignore compliance with OSHA standards and violate local permitting and code requirements.

Some of the biggest offenders are companies that do not follow prevailing wage and misclassification laws openly exploiting workers - WE DO NOT.

When companies blatantly ignore OSHA safety standards, and fail to provide sufficient (or any) training, they put their workers at an increased risk of serious injury or fatality - WE DO NOT.

Our competitors rarely bring workers to the job site that have completed a U.S. Department of Labor certified apprenticeship training program - WE DO.

These factors are a recipe for disaster. Substandard construction - improper ventilation, wiring and workmanship - will cause mold, fire hazards, cross contamination and more creating unsafe buildings.

It's our mission to promote who we are, what we are, and the guaranteed quality an end-user can expect when they choose a team of union contractors and skilled union workers.

**Dan Allen
Executive Director**

St. Patrick's Day Tradition - Plumbers Local 130 Dyeing Chicago River



Did you ever wonder which people get the honor of changing the color of the Chicago River into that beautiful Kelly Green?

Let's introduce the foursome in the left photo: They are (from

left) Plumbers 130 members Ingrid Wennerberg, Steve Johnson, David Kledzik and Steve Geraghty.

The group was sporting some green and orange crystallized hues added to their hair, beards and mustaches thanks to the below-freezing temps on the morning of Saturday, March 10, when this crew added the dye prior to the parade and other St. Patrick's Day festivities.

This long-running tradition is now a popular viewing attraction by thousands of Chicagoans.

Presidential *Perspective*



With springtime here and summer approaching, construction sites will be booming and busy across the country, and most notably, here in northeastern Illinois.

A recent article on *ConstructConnect.com* featured national construction trends to watch in 2017, and the news was extremely upbeat from a financial standpoint, yet tempered because of “nagging labor shortages”.

First the good news. The growth forecast calls for a 6.3% increase in 2017 over last year with a total construction amount of \$1,234.5 billion, followed by an additional 7.2% increase in 2018. Total residential construction spending is expected to grow 7.4% in 2017 to \$501.7 billion and total non-residential is forecast to increase 5.5% this year to \$732.8 billion. Those are impressive numbers which will give our industry a nice boost.

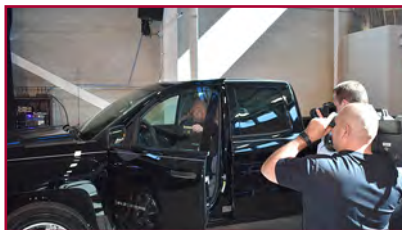
According to the article, construction labor shortages plague much of the industry, but not here in our backyard. Through CISCO’s educational outreach, job shadow events, hands-on expos and the collaborative efforts of building trades and contractors; awareness of careers in the construction industry is helping the union apprenticeship programs thrive. Maintaining a well-trained workforce ensures that the building community has a cost-efficient and productive advantage.

Sincerely,

Loretta Molter
CISCO Board President

Chicago Area LECET’s Safety Incentive Program; Truck Winner

Mike Christensen, a 24-year member of Laborers’ Local #75 drove away with a brand new Silverado (see below photos) thanks to a Safety Incentive Program that is designed to keep Laborers safe on the job.



Laborers for quarterly awards during the year, plus another 200 chosen at random are invited to nominate Laborers that meet the qualifications for the annual award (the truck), which are the same as the quarterly award except you need 1,000 hours worked in the field throughout the year. LECET then randomly chooses one Laborer from each of its 12 affiliated Locals to represent their Local at the annual safety incentive program awards grand prize ceremony. From there, one lucky Laborer wins the truck based on a random key selection process.

Mike was chosen to pick a key first and his lucky # 11 key opened the door and he became the 2017 winner in the program’s 15-year history. Mike currently works in the Braidwood Nuclear Generating Station. Congratulations to Mike!

SAFETY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The program is supplemental as it adds incentives to a company’s own internal safety program. On a quarterly basis, LECET randomly selects 200 contractors signatory to the Laborers’ Union and invites them to nominate any or all Laborers they employ that meet specific qualifications: they must have worked at least 250 hours in the field during the quarter, and have no workers’ comp claims - lost time due to injury or OSHA recordable events.

Of all the nominated Laborers that qualify, we randomly select 50 to receive \$250 gift cards to various retail stores (Menards, Home Depot, Best Buy, etc). Those are quarterly award winners.

On an annual basis, all contractors that nominated



Master of Ceremonies Pat Hosty, Chicago LECET, presented the 12 finalists on the stage prior to truck giveaway portion of the program.

Record Number Graduate From Laborers' Apprenticeship Program

In a recent ceremony held at the Chicago Laborers' District Council headquarters in Burr Ridge, guests, families and staff witnessed 80 men and women graduate from the Apprenticeship Program – the largest class in history.

Paul Hoetzer, Laborers' Apprenticeship Coordinator, served as the master of ceremonies, and was followed by several speakers, including LIUNA Great Lakes Regional Vice President Terrence Healy, who said "the value of education is the future of our industry."

Afterward, each graduate came up to the stage to receive their diploma amidst applause from nearly 200 guests and staff members.

Pictured clockwise from top are: Terry Healy addressing the audience; Rodrigo Lopez Jr., Local 152 and Stevie Mays, Local 5, receiving their certificates from Paul Hoetzer.



Annual Meeting Showcases Community Impact Of Union Construction

The benefits, excellence in quality and community impact of union construction was on full display during CISCO's Annual Meeting. Not only were the top construction projects of 2016 recognized, but three individuals who demonstrated a positive impact on the union construction industry were honored too.

James Ongtengco, Principal of Fenton High School, was recognized as Educator of the Year; **The Village of McCook and its Mayor Jeff Tobolski** were hailed as Public Body of the Year; and Chairman/CEO of Clayco, Inc. **Robert Clark** was honored as Labor Advocate of the Year.



CISCO supporters network at Annual Meeting.

In addition, the top construction projects in six categories were recognized at the meeting.

"The collaboration of union contractors and union building trades personnel was never more evident than during the meeting," said CISCO Executive

Director Dan Allen. "You could see it with each project team we recognized."



The Lane Tech Rehab Project Team recognized.

CISCO also gave special recognition to two men retiring with lengthy, distinguished careers in the construction industry. Pictured below, are Don Walker (left), Bricklayers Apprenticeship Coordinator who enjoyed a 45-year career, and former CISCO Board President Mark Maher (right) who served on the CISCO Board for 18 years with two terms as President. Mark was a member of the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters.



2017 CISCO Board of Directors

Executive Board

President

Loretta Molter, *Mason Contractors Association*

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 S.J. Peters, *PCA Midwest/Plumbing Council Midwest*
 Charles Ruegge, *SMART Local 265*

Penny-Per-Hour Contributors

Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers District Council Local 1
 Builders Association
 Cement Masons Local 502
 Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
 Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Assoc.
 Chicagoland Roofing Council
 Concrete Contractors Assoc. of Greater Chicago
 Construction & General Laborers' District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
 Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
 Lake County Contractors Association
 LMCC (IBEW 117, 150, 461, & NECA-NEIL)
 LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 and ECA)
 NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC
 Operating Engineers Local 150
 Professional Flooring Installers Assoc.
 Teamsters Joint Council No. 25
 Underground Contractors Association

Member Organizations

Architectural & Ornamental Ironworkers Local 63
 Associated Steel Erectors
 Association of Glazing Contractors
 Boilermakers Local 1
 Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers District Council Local 1
 Builders Association
 Cement Masons Local 502
 Cement Masons Local 502-B
 Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
 Chicago Roofing Council
 Chicagoland Sheet Metal Contractors Association
 Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
 Construction & General Laborers' District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
 Electrical Contractors Association of City of Chicago, Inc.
 Electrical Workers Local 117, 134, 150, 461, & 701

Finishing Contractors Association of Chicago
 Glaziers Union Local 27
 Heat & Frost Insulators Local 17
 Illinois Regional Insulation Contractors Association
 Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
 International Assoc. of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local 126
 Ironworkers Local 1
 Lake County Contractors Association
 LMCC (IBEW Local 117, 150, 461 & NECA-NEIL)
 LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 & ECA)
 Machinery, Movers & Riggers Local 136
 Mason Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
 Mechanical Contractors Association
 National Electrical Contractors Association
 Northeastern Illinois Chapter

Northeastern Illinois Sheet Metal Contractors Association
 Northern Illinois Painting & Drywall Institute
 Operating Engineers Local 150
 Painters District Council Local 30
 PCA Midwest
 Plumbing Council Midwest
 PowerForward DuPage
 Residential Construction Employers Council
 Roofers Waterproofers & Allied Craftworkers Local 11
 Sheet Metal Workers Local 73
 Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
 SMACNA Chicago
 SMACNA/SMART #265
 Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
 Teamsters Joint Council No. 25
 Underground Contractors Association

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AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust
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 Benefits Management Group
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 Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council
 Chicagoland Construction Safety Council
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 Delta Dental
 DuPage County Building & Construction Trades Council
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Fox Valley Building Trades Council
 Fox Valley Construction Industry Advancement Program
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 Hunt Insurance Group
 Illinois American Water
 Illinois Pipe Trades Council
 I.M.P.A.C.T.
 IUEC Local 2
 Labor Management Cooperation Committee of Chicago
 Labor Management Cooperative Committee of Northeastern Illinois
 Lake County Building & Construction Trades Council
 Martin Salvino State Farm Agency
 Megent Financial

Middle States Electrical Contractors Association
 Midland States Bank
 Multi-Employer Property Trust
 PNC Capital Advisors
 PowerForward DuPage
 Rooney Consulting
 Sav-RX Pharmacy Benefit Mgmt.
 ScreenSafe
 UIG Union Insurance Group
 Ullico, Inc.
 UMB Asset Management
 Union Plus Mortgage
 Veritas Steel
 Wells Fargo/Home Mortgage

Community Partners

Boy Scouts of America
 Christmas Without Cancer

Exploring Real World Career Experiences

St. Paul Community Development Ministries, Inc.

NEWS BRIEFS/UPDATES

April 19, 2017 - UCA's Underground Spring Showcase at Venuti's in Addison.

Registration: (630) 467-1919

Visit: www.uca.org

New Office Location:

The Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National Association (SMACNA) of Greater Chicago has moved its office from Bellwood, IL to Oak Brook, IL. Its new address is 1415 W. 22nd Street, Suite 1200, Oak Brook, IL 60523. The office phone number (708) 544-7007, remains the same.

May 16, 18 & 23, 2017

2017 Employment Law Update
 Presented by: Ogletree Deakins

May 16 - Maggiano's/Skokie

May 18 - Maggiano's/Oak Brook

May 23 - Petterino's/Chicago

Register online at www.ogletree.com, or contact Amy Simons at (312) 558-1259.

EDUCATION TO CAREERS



Johnetta Ryan,
Director
Education-to-Careers

Hands-On Expo: Thanking Dedicated Apprenticeship Instructors

On March 14, CISCO's Hands-On Expo was being held at the Carpenters Apprenticeship Training Center in Chicago. Heavy lake effect snow started early that morning with 12 trades having signed up for the three-hour event.

For the past 13 years, CISCO has partnered with Chicago Public Schools to host this event so students from CPS can participate in various activities: laying brick, running a jack hammer, bending pipe, wiring door bells, doing carpentry and much more.

These 12 trades also have been attending each year for the past 13 years. These special men and women showed their dedication and commitment by traveling in white-out conditions for up to 4 hours to get to this event and they were all on time!

Working with these men and women who help get the word out to students and adults about their trade was never more inspiring. They could have called and canceled, but they sat in horrible traffic for hours so they could reach out to these kids.

I would like to thank all of these dedicated people for always being there when I need them. They work tirelessly days, nights and weekends.

We all have one goal - to spread the word on how to get students and adults into their apprenticeship programs.

A special thank you to the Carpenters for allowing us to host at their Training Center and having their apprentices help set up for the event and for shoveling all that snow.

And again, thank you to the trades that attended: Carpenters, Electricians Local 134, Pipefitters Local 597, Plumbers Local 130, Bricklayers, Laborers, Roofers and Waterproofers Local 11, Operating Engineers Local 150, Sheet Metal Workers Local 73, Painters/Decorators, Tile Setters and Finishers, and UAW Auto Mechanics Local 701.



 **Carpenters Kina McAfee - measuring techniques.**



 **Pipefitters Adam Sutter - pipe bending.**



 **IBEW134 Maurice King - doorbell wiring.**

Student Perspective: Hands-On Education Preferred Style

During CISCO's recent Hands-On Expo with students from five different schools (Curie, Chicago Vocational Career Academy, Prosser Career Academy, Ace Tech and Simeon) the *Communicator* reporter asked a handful of students how they enjoyed trying out basic techniques from 12 different trades.

Not surprisingly, each student we interviewed said that a "hands-on" approach was the easiest way to learn. Here's what some of the students had to say about their experience:

Jashawn Hinton, Junior, Simeon - "I love carpentry; my dad was a carpenter and so I grew up around it. He was always improving our house, repairing walls, and would let me help find the studs. Today's exercise with measuring drywall for outlets was very helpful, and our instructor really simplified how we went about completing the project. It was also helpful hearing how to go about applying for an apprenticeship in carpentry."

Alexander Cazarez, Sophomore, Prosser - "Today was a really fun day learning about the different trades. The hands-on stations made it easier to learn about each type of trade. I enjoyed the Bricklayers and the Laborers the most. I have a lot more interest in a career in one of the trades than I did before today. The instructors were very informative."



 **Roofers Brian Dubin - Adhering roofing paper.**

Jonathan Houston, Junior, CVCA - "I enjoyed the Bricklayers and the Operating Engineers station the most. The thought of being part of the group that builds an entire building or even one wall of the building was interesting to me."

Anica Wilson, Junior, Simeon - "I have been in the electrical program at my high school, and so I was interested in seeing what the electricians station had on display. Wiring a doorbell so that it would ring correctly was a neat exercise."

"The different trade options were good to see, but I still like the electricians the most. Interacting with the instructors was really cool, and hearing about salaries, and how to apply was very helpful."

"I Want SMART" Marketing Campaign Is Hot Topic

A rebate program that began in September, 2009 is quickly becoming the talk of the sheet metal industry as a result of an effective advertising campaign that was launched in March 2014.



The campaign called "I Want SMART" was initiated by Sheet Metal Workers' International Association SMART Local Union 265 in conjunction with SMACNA

Greater Chicago (Sheet Metal Contractors) to promote its rebate program. Since September 2009 through January 2016, SMART has replaced 8,776 furnaces, 8,988 air conditioners and performed maintenance on 14,435 pieces of residential equipment. Better yet, an average of 300 rebates have been processed each

month, since the marketing campaign was launched.

The campaign takes a non-traditional union approach and focuses on the pillars of the SMART brand. The objective of this campaign is to establish VALUE to the consumer, prove our QUALITY to the consumer, and develop TRUST with the consumer. The campaign's purpose is selling furnaces, air conditioners and service work.

If you are interested in learning more about the campaign's components, visit <http://www.smart265.org/iwstemp>.

CISCO would also like to highlight other successful advertising/marketing campaigns from building trades and/or contractors in future issues of the *Communicator*. Please notify Gary Karafiat via email - gary@cisco.org - if you have a program to share.

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events.

CISCO Communicator is published by the Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO). CISCO is a labor-management group bringing together unions of the building trades and construction contractor associations representing more than 140,000 construction workers and 8,000 contractors in the six county Chicago Metropolitan area.

CISCO MISSION STATEMENT

It is the primary mission of CISCO to strengthen the unionized construction market in the greater Chicago Metropolitan area. In support of this mission, CISCO will perform three major roles: 1) Serve as a forum to facilitate dialogue between contractors and building trades union leaders concerning mutual problems and concerns; 2) Serve as a clearinghouse for information on the local construction industry; 3) Serve as a promotional group to encourage union construction with the user community and the general public. As a joint labor-management organization, CISCO will focus on cooperative efforts to reduce problems and conflicts and enhance the competitiveness of union construction. Through its activities, CISCO will build trust between the parties and will foster the joint commitment of local contractors and union labor to high quality, on-time, within budget delivery on all projects.

Suggestions, story ideas, or comments should be directed to CISCO at: 999 McClintock Dr., Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527

Contact Us At: Toll-free 877-562-9411, (630)472-9411,
Fax: (630)472-9413, or e-mail gary@cisco.org

Executive Director: Dan Allen
Education-to-Careers Director: Johnetta Ryan
Director of Communications & Public Affairs: Gary Karafiat
Office Manager: Julia Mulvey

CISCO is a registered Illinois Servicemark for the Construction Industry Service Corporation.

Survey

1) What, if any, information or sections would you like to see included in future newsletters?

2) What, if any, sections do you think should be removed from the newsletter?

3) What, if any, programs would you like to see CISCO offer to its members in the future?

We value your input! Respond by:

E-mail: gary@cisco.org

Fax: (630) 472-9413

**Mail: 999 McClintock Dr., Suite 100,
Burr Ridge, IL, 60527**