ANNUAL MEETING DRAWS MORE THAN 250 PARTICIPANTS

The benefits, excellence in quality and community impact of union construction was on full display during CISCO’s January 27th 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 as well.

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.

Back in December, the top construction projects in six different categories were chosen, and also recognized at the meeting:

**New Construction – Chicago (over $20 m)** – Wolf Point West; General Contractor – McHugh/Clark JV; submitted by Ullico.

**New Construction – Suburbs (over $20 m)** – University of Chicago Medicine – Orland Park; General Contractor – Leopardo Companies; submitted by Leopardo.

**New Construction – Chicago/Suburbs (under $20 m)** – Chicago Public Library – Chinatown Branch; General Contractor – Wight Construction; submitted by Chicago Public Building Commission.

**Infrastructure** – Cermak/McCormick Place CTA Station; General Contractor – F.H. Paschen, S.N. Nielsen (FHP); submitted by FHP.

**Rehabilitation** – Lane Tech High School Renovation; General Contractor – Tyler Lane Construction; submitted by Tyler Lane.

**Residential** – 1000 South Clark; General Contractor – Lendlease (US) Construction LLC; submitted by Lendlease.

“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.”
SUICIDE PREVENTION SUMMIT OUTLINES SOLUTIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TO MANAGE IMPACT

According to researchers, construction is the second highest rated industry affected by suicide. More than 100 people attended the recent summit in Oak Brook to hear experts and others, who had lost loved ones to suicide, provide solutions designed to improve productivity, promote mental wellness and prevent and manage the impact of suicide in the workplace.

Main Speaker Sally Spencer-Thomas, Psy.D., MNM, CEO and Co-Founder of the Carson J. Spencer Foundation addressed the audience at Maggiano’s in Oak Brook. (left, below)

The Summit was arranged by the Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA) in conjunction with the Builders Association with CISCO being one of the primary sponsors along with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois, Chicago Area LECET, NECA & IBEW Chicago Local 134, Employee Resource Systems, Inc., the Construction Safety Council and others.

One of the more eye-opening elements of the presentation was a list of reasons why researchers found the construction industry to have such a high suicide rate. Embedded within the industry’s culture were several aspects or “risk factors” that lead to the decision for members to consider death by suicide. These reasons were:

- A stoic, tough-guy culture;
- Fearlessness and thrill-seeking;
- Not being prepared/trained for promotion to supervisor from a hands-on position;
- Family separation due to travel;
- Sleep deprivation due to shift work schedule;
- Seasonal layoffs/end of project furloughs;
- Chronic pain;
- Pressure due to schedule, budget and quality expectations; and
- Access to lethal means.

To learn more about building a caring culture in the workplace, contact the Carson J. Spencer Foundation at 303.219.5042, or by email: info@carsonjspencer.org.

CISCO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION DEADLINE - FEB. 17, 2017

CISCO offers (3) four-year scholarships ($2,000/year) to high school seniors; (2) two-year awards ($1,000/year) for seniors attending community college; and (2) two-year continuing education awards ($1,000/year) to union members or contractor employees. For more information, visit our website at www.cisco.org, or call CISCO at (630) 472-9411.

FVAGC 65th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - FEBRUARY 18, 2017

The Fox Valley AGC is inviting all interested groups and individuals to celebrate its 65th Anniversary on Saturday, Feb. 18 from 5:30 - 10:30 pm at Belvidere Events & Banquets, 1770 W. Devon Ave. in Elk Grove Village.

ASA EXPO AND CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CONFERENCE - MARCH 6-7

ASA Chicago and the Construction Safety Council will once again bring together construction professionals, safety specialists and vendors for two days of safety sessions and networking. The event will be held on March 6 and 7 at the Drury Lane Conference Center in Oakbrook Terrace. Registration begins at 7:00 am on both days. The cost to attend the ASA Expo on March 7 is $20 per person. Construction Safety seminars are available at an extra cost. For more information, call ASA Chicago at (847) 827-8336, or visit asachicago.org to register online.