GLCA RECOGNIZES TOPS IN SAFETY; SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The Great Lakes Construction Association distributed 45 safety awards at their annual Safety Awards Dinner last week, with 37 plaques going to contractors who achieved zero lost time injuries in 5 different categories based on hours worked.

In addition, GLCA presented two scholarship awards ($1,000 each) to deserving students.

“I was excited to win a safety award for zero lost time for injuries/illness in our category,” LaManna said. “It takes the entire company to be on board with safety, to create a culture that has everyone in mind. Safety is a priority here, and it is nice for us, as well as the drivers, to be recognized.”

Scholarship winner Hannah Yonke (see above) is currently pursuing her master’s degree in Education at Carthage College in Kenosha, WI, while she teaches chemistry and forensic science at a nearby high school.

Among the many contractors who accepted their safety awards was Kristen LaManna, Certified Director of Safety for Zion-based Kirschhoffer Truck Service, Inc., which was in the Division 3 category of 50,001 - 100,000 hours worked annually.

LABORERS’ GRADUATE ANOTHER RECORD NUMBER FROM APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Over the weekend, the LiUNA Chicagoland Laborers’ District Council Training and Apprenticeship Program held a graduation ceremony for 88 apprentices - most ever - at its Training Center on Homer Street in Chicago.

Paul Hoetzer, Laborers’ Apprenticeship Coordinator, (see photo at top of right column)served as the master of ceremonies as he presented the 88 apprentices, who represented 12 different locals.

One of many inspirational stories of the graduation was that of Tavarus Braggs, who was recruited into the program by Rebecca Garcia Westberg, Extension Services Director at South Suburban College (SSC).

Tavarus graduated from the first 12-week pre-apprenticeship class offered at SSC in 2014. Garcia Westberg helped Tavarus decide on which trade he wanted to enter, and helped him gain sponsorship.

“The LiUNA family has been a blessing to me and my family. I am so honored to be a part of the Laborers’ Union family. The staff encouraged me and made me determined to succeed as a laborer,” Braggs said.

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ASA EXPO AND CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CONFERENCE - MARCH 5-6

The annual two-day event provides an opportunity for your company to gain valuable exposure to hundreds of attendees at the 2018 Construction Expo & Safety Conference.

Stop by CISCO’s Booth –#137- and learn about CISCO’s Annual Luncheon Friday, May 4, 2018 and other upcoming events.

EDUCATION-TO-CAREERS
UPCOMING EVENT

The Housing Authority of Cook County (HACC), CISCO and the Chicago & Cook County Building Trades will be hosting a Hands-On Fair at the Chicago Heights Center in Chicago Heights on Thursday, March 1st for HACC residents. This is the first ever event being held with HACC as CISCO works with Timothy Kollar, HACC Manager of Workforce Initiatives. Several instructors from the various building trades will be on hand to talk to residents about apprenticeship qualifications along with hands-on demonstrations.

CISCO and Moraine Area Career System will team up for the third time on a Hands-On event Friday, March 16th. The Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters’ Satellite Apprenticeship & Training Center in Chicago will be the site of the event as students from the Moraine Valley College area will attend. Once again, several building trades will be represented to provide demos of day-to-day functions.

INDUSTRY NEWS

An estimated crowd of 5,000 attended the Chicago rally for the “Working People’s Day of Action” held Saturday at Daley Plaza.

The rally was part of a nationally organized event and sponsored here by the Chicago Federation of Labor and Illinois Working Together in order to unite for our freedoms, our healthcare, and our communities.

Don’t miss Season 4 of the Emmy-nominated program “Built To Last” currently airing on Sunday’s at Noon on ABC/WLS Channel 7.

Season 5 begins on Sunday, May 6th. The show, which was the brainchild of the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters provides an in-depth look at what it takes to be a carpenter, it touches on the economic impact of the union on the community, highlights veterans outreach and much more.

In Season 5, the Electricians Local 134 and Painters District Council 14 have partnered in order to showcase their crafts.

You can watch the video online. The video can be found on the carpenters website - www.carpentersunion.org.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Underground Contractor’s Association (UCA) held its annual Legislative Reception last Thursday, at the Medinah Country Club as members and guests got a chance to talk to legislators from both sides of the aisle.

Michael Wiedmaier, (at right) UCA Executive Director greeted the audience and introduced a group of about 25 legislators, elected officials and labor leaders.

Illinois Tollway Chairman Bob Schillerstrom provided an update on the Tollway’s Capital Construction Plan, and several of the legislators mentioned the need to adopt another Capital Bill. The last Capital Bill was passed in 2009.

Several leaders from various levels of government and within the construction industry mingled as here (from left) Marc Poulos, Executive Director of III-FFC; Jack Franks, McHenry County Chairman; Bob Schillerstrom, Tollway Chairman; Dan Cronin, DuPage County Chairman; and Mike Piraino, UCA Board Member pose for a group shot.

CISCO Executive Dan Allen (left) and MARBA Executive Director Aaron Janik. Photos courtesy of UCA.