CISCO CELEBRATES 30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH FULL HOUSE AT LUNCHEON

An enthusiastic crowd of 325 guests was on hand to hear about CISCO’s impact on the union construction industry over the past 30 years, and they left satisfied after hearing remarks from Executive Director Dan Allen and Speaker of the House Michael Madigan, who was named Labor Advocate of the Year.

In addition to that award, CISCO also recognized Educator of the Year Steve Schmidt, Instructor at Lake County High School Technology Campus and the Chicago Housing Authority for Public Body of the Year.

Rounding out the event, CISCO also presented scholarship awards to five high school seniors (see article on back page) for their excellence in academics and extra curricular achievements.

CISCO has been an advocate for the union construction industry since its inception in 1988 - making students and adults aware of careers in the building trades, as well as fighting for prevailing wage and the right to collectively bargain fair wages.

Following acceptance of his award, Illinois Speaker of the House Michael J. Madigan affirmed CISCO’s mission points in his 10 minutes of remarks.

“Everyone in this room has devoted much of their lives to raising wages and their standard of living. And while the Governor has advocated an agenda that works in the opposite direction, I have stood against that agenda.”

“Here in Illinois, people want equality of opportunity throughout the workplace, and go to their job and provide for themselves, their family and their children.”

After the three individual Pride in Construction Awards were presented, the five students’ high school achievements were highlighted, and a representative of the parents trade union presented the winner with a plaque and check.

Also, Gateway to Learning (GTL), a special education and training center in Chicago provided beautifully packaged cookies for each guest at the luncheon.
SCOLARSHIP WINNERS HONORED DURING LUNCHEON

The winners of CISCO’s 2018 Scholarship Program were formally recognized during CISCO’s Annual Luncheon last week Friday, May 4th.

Four-year scholarship winners:
1) Alexia Kubas - Lincoln-Way East HS - Alexia’s father is a member of BAC Local 21;
2) John Bibbiano - Stagg HS - John’s father is a member of IBEW Local 134;
3) Sophia Lopez - Whitney Young HS - Sophia’s father is a member of Carpenters Local 13.

Two-year scholarship winners:
1) Gabrielle McDermott - Tri-Point HS - Gabrielle’s father is a member of Operating Engineers Local 150;
2) Christian Sifuentes - Waubonsie Valley HS - Christian’s father is a member of Sprinkler Fitters Local 281.

Congratulations to this year’s winners, and best of luck in all of your future endeavors as you pursue your academic goals!

GATEWAY TO LEARNING RECEIVES SPECIAL ATTENTION AT LUNCHEON

Gateway to Learning members Adam and Elizabeth (center) got a special visit before the Luncheon from State Senator Tom Cullerton (left) and Illinois Treasurer Michael Frerichs.

Gateway to Learning is a special education and training center that provides services for individuals with intellectual disabilities in order for them to reach their full potential.

DUPAGE COUNTY APPRENTICESHIP EXPO - MAY 30, 2018

CISCO will be teaming up with the DuPage County Building Trades and PowerForward DuPage – who will host the event – on a DuPage County Apprenticeship Expo Wednesday, May 30, from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. at IBEW Local 701 Hall, 28600 Bella Vista Parkway, Warrenville, IL, 60555.

Several different trades will be on hand to educate students, parents and adults about a career in the union construction industry. In addition, instructors will have an interactive demonstration of each craft, and will provide information on the application process, wages and benefits.

To register, go to https://powerforwarddupage.com For more information, contact Karyn Charvat, Executive Director, PowerForward DuPage at 630-791-2660.

REITER NAMED NEW PRESIDENT AT CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR

Delegates to the Chicago Federation of Labor elected CFL Secretary-Treasurer Robert G. Reiter, Jr. the 19th President of the organization. He had served in that capacity for the past eight years, and is a 3rd generation member of the Operating Engineers Local 150.

The decision followed the departure of President Jorge Ramirez, who had recently accepted a position with investment company GCM Grosvenor. Reiter will fulfill the remainder of Ramirez’ term that expires June 30, 2018.

28TH ANNUAL ISAC CONFERENCE

Above: CISCO’s Executive Director Dan Allen and Director of Education - to - Careers Johnetta Ryan both presented at the recent Illinois State Apprentice Committee Conference in Peoria.

Below: University of Illinois Professor Bob Bruno speaks to attendees on the value of prevailing wage.