ROOFERS & WATERPROOFERS 100TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DISPLAYS LABOR-MANAGEMENT COLLABORATION

With nearly 200 labor leaders and roofing contractors in attendance, the Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11 – the largest roofing union in the country – recently celebrated the 100th anniversary of their existence – at the Hilton Chicago/Oak Brook Hills Resort in Westmont.

The event was a celebration of the rich history of the union, as well as the collaborative bond that labor and management have within the roofing industry.

Business Manager/President Gary Menzel (left) served as the evening’s emcee as he described the history of the union within the framework of historical events that shaped Chicago beginning with the Chicago Fire in 1871.

When the Composition Roofers union and the Slate and Tile Roofers union merged in September 1919 to become the United Slate, Tile and Composition Roofers, Damp and Waterproof Workers Association (which would be renamed the United Union of Roofers, waterproofers and Allied Workers in 1978), they brought their 1,600 members together in a single organization of locals, which were each assigned new numbers.

As it reaches its 100-year milestone, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11 is the country’s largest roofing union, with more than 2,200 skilled craftsmen and craftswomen who professionally install various roofing and waterproofing systems.

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

Local 11 registered its apprentice program in 1945. The Joint Apprenticeship Committee was comprised of 10 members - 5 Local 11 reps and 5 contractor reps.

Nearly 65 years later, starting apprentices in 2019 earn $20.07 per hour plus union benefits. Program Coordinator is Marty Headtke, who added that upon graduation, the journeymen are fully qualified to work for more than 130 union-signatory contractors.

LABOR-MANAGEMENT TEAMWORK

Gary Menzel introduced the Presidents of two of Chicago’s long-serving roofing contractors - M.W. Powell Company and Knickerbocker Roofing and Paving.

In fact, the speakers, Anthony Roque of M.W. Powell Co. and Mark Moran of Knickerbocker Roofing are 4th & 5th generation family members of the founding members of those companies. Both shared stories of their long and successful relationship with the Roofers & Waterproofers Union over the decades.

Bill McHugh, Executive Director, Chicago Roofing Contractors Association, was the final speaker during the presentation as the others listen in. From right: Anthony Roque, President, M.W. Powell Company; John Martini, International President Emeritus; Gary Menzel; Jeff Eppenstein, International Representative; Mark Moran, President, Knickerbocker Roofing; and Marty Headtke, Roofers & Waterproofers Apprentice Director.

International President Emeritus John Martini provided historical perspective from his six decades of experience, before Gary Menzel capped off the evening with a toast.

He added, “From the beginning of this union, the workers of Local 11 banded together because they had one thing in common - they wanted a decent wage that could provide for their families.”

“We have built a business partnership with our signatory contractors and the association that goes deeper than the contractors and the union. Now it is time to focus on the next 100 years and embracing newer industry technologies.”

More news and photos on the back page.
NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK
NOVEMBER 11 - 17, 2019

With National Apprenticeship Week upon us next week, it seems appropriate to highlight an upcoming event in the area of CISCO’s Education-To-Careers program involving counselor awareness.

The Illinois State Apprenticeship Committee will be hosting a Counselor & Educator Conference at the IBEW/NECA Local 134 Training Center, 6201 W. 115th Street in Alsip. It will be held on Friday, Nov. 15th, from 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. This is a free event, with Hands-On portions. CPDU’s and lunch will be provided. To register/for more information, email: johnetta@cisco.org.

In addition to the ISAC conference, another Apprenticeship Week event is planned in Aurora:

Thursday, November 14 - Painters District Council 30 will be hosting a Hands-On Expo at their Apprentice Training Center in Aurora, where the public is being notified about the opportunity to tour the facility and learn more about the trade.

CISCO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:
DEADLINE TO APPLY - FEB. 21, 2020

CISCO is accepting applications for its 2020 Scholarship Program. The three different categories enable a wider range of students of both union building trade members and union contractor employees to apply. CISCO offers (3), four-year scholarships to high school seniors; (2), two-year awards for seniors planning on attending a community college; and (2), two-year continuing education awards to union members or contractor employees.

The application forms can be downloaded from CISCO’s website (www.cisco.org). All applications and accompanying documents must be postmarked by February 21, 2020. For more information, contact CISCO at 630.472.9411.

PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD:
DEADLINE TO APPLY - DEC. 4, 2019

CISCO’s Project of the Year Award is kicking off its 15th year of accepting applications for some of the best construction projects of the past 18 months. (June 2018 - December 2019)

CISCO Scholarships Program:
DEADLINE TO APPLY - FEB. 21, 2020

CISCO is accepting applications for its 2020 Scholarship Program. The three different categories enable a wider range of students of both union building trade members and union contractor employees to apply. CISCO offers (3), four-year scholarships to high school seniors; (2), two-year awards for seniors planning on attending a community college; and (2), two-year continuing education awards to union members or contractor employees.

The application forms can be downloaded from CISCO’s website (www.cisco.org). All applications and accompanying documents must be postmarked by February 21, 2020. For more information, contact CISCO at 630.472.9411.

PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD:
DEADLINE TO APPLY - DEC. 4, 2019

CISCO’s Project of the Year Award is kicking off its 15th year of accepting applications for some of the best construction projects of the past 18 months. (June 2018 - December 2019)

One of last year’s winners is shown above – Luther Burbank Elementary School in Burbank, IL for New Construction - Suburbs Category.

The award gives general contractors, owners, engineers and architects a chance to submit projects in six different categories that include the areas of new construction, renovation/rehabilitation, residential construction and infrastructure in both Chicago and in DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake and McHenry Counties.

The deadline for applications is 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2019. For more information, contact Gary Karafiat, Director of Communications & Public Affairs at 630.472.9411 or via email: gary@cisco.org.

SALUTING OUR NATION’S VETERANS

Veteran’s Day is November 11th. Remember those who have protected our freedom!

HAPPY VETERAN’S DAY!
CISCO Salutes Our Nation’s Veterans

More than 2 million veterans, who protected our freedom, are now back on the workforce and proud union members. Our veterans fought to protect our freedom and rights. We must ensure career opportunities for all veterans, and build a stronger working class.

From the Battlefield…
... to the Work Site

PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE LAUNCHES
MOBILE TRAINING CENTERS - NOV. 21

Prairie State College will host a launch party to announce the onset of their Mobile Training Centers on Thursday, November 21, between 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the College’s Transportation, Warehousing and Logistics Building, 191 S. Halsted St., Chicago Heights, IL 60411.

The training centers are ADA and equipped with welding stations, CNC stations, a robotic arm, industrial electric equipment, simulation technology, 3D printer, laptops, Internet and video streaming.

Enjoy hors d’oeuvres and refreshments and tour the units to see all the training opportunities PSC can offer. Please RSVP by November 14 online at prairiestate.edu/mtc.

Prairie State College Mobile Training Centers