



CISCO

COMMUNICATOR

A Newsletter for Chicagoland Construction Labor & Management Professionals

Labor Director Joe Costigan to Highlight Annual Meeting

Event Set For Friday, January 27, 2012



As union construction and employee collective bargaining rights continue to come under attack, it is fitting that CISCO will feature Illinois Department of Labor Director Joe Costigan, an industry leader who has a history of fighting to save union jobs.

Midwest Region of Workers United which represents over 20,000 members across the Midwest.

He got his start in the J.P. Steven's textile workers boycott campaign and worked for Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union in Chicago in 1979. Costigan ran a successful national campaign to save thousands of jobs at a men's clothing company in 2008, and he also led a fight to save clothing workers jobs in Cleveland in 2009.

Joe has served the labor movement in a variety of capacities including as a delegate to the Chicago Federation of Labor and as a Vice President of the Illinois AFL-CIO.

CISCO will welcome Costigan as its Keynote Speaker on Friday, January 27, 2012. The Annual Breakfast Meeting begins at 8 a.m. at Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant in Schaumburg.

Joe Costigan has served for more than 30 years in the labor movement. Most recently he served as the elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Chicago and

PRIDE IN CONSTRUCTION AWARDS

The meeting will also highlight CISCO's annual Project of the Year Awards recognizing top construction projects, as well as awards for Labor Conciliator of the Year, Educator of the Year, and Public Body of the Year. To attend, contact CISCO at 630-472-9411.

CISCO Accepting Applications for 2012 Scholarship Program

CISCO is now accepting applications for its 2012 Scholarship Program. Applications for both the two-year Continuing Education and the four-year scholarships are available now at www.cisco.org/scholarships/ or by calling CISCO at 630-472-9411. The program was established in 1994 in order to provide educational support for CISCO members and their families.

Each year, four-year scholarships, valued at \$2,000 per year (\$8,000 maximum) are awarded to *high-school senior* children of members and employees of

trade unions and contractors affiliated with CISCO. In addition, two-year Continuing Education scholarships, valued at \$1,000 per year (\$2,000 maximum) are awarded to union members or contractor employees.

All applications and accompanying documents **must** be postmarked by **February 17, 2012** to be eligible for consideration. Winners will be notified in March and awards will be presented at CISCO's Annual Luncheon in April 2012. For judging criteria, application information, and eligibility requirements, please refer to the application forms.

From *the* Desk of the Executive Director



Ever since the downturn in the economy occurred, CISCO has helped support construction projects in our 6-county service area, encouraging the use of union construction labor and contractors, in an effort to put our brothers and sisters back to work.

That is why the approval of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority's \$12 billion Capital Plan was such a significant step in the right direction. The Capital Plan will create more than 120,000 permanent jobs and add \$21 billion to the economy. For every \$1 billion of annual construction, more than 13,000 construction-related jobs will be created. And, this capital plan sustains those jobs over the next decade.

The Tollway's 2012-2026 Capital Plan includes rebuilding the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) as a state-of-the-art corridor linking Rockford to O'Hare Airport, a new interchange to connect I-294 to I-57, and a new all-electronic Elgin O'Hare West Bypass that can provide western access to one of the nation's busiest airports. In addition, the plan addresses the Tollway's existing system needs and includes funding for planning studies for the Illinois Route 53 Corridor and the Illiana Expressway.

With O'Hare being one of this region's economic engines, this is a key component of the plan, as it

pertains to the movement of goods and services. Getting travelers and products more conveniently and quicker to O'Hare Airport will add productivity, and save costs for users and businesses.

Unemployment in the construction sector is hovering around 30% and will remain in the double digits through the next several years. One way is to pull ourselves slowly out of this hole is to continue maintaining and building our nation's infrastructure.

China spends nine percent of its GDP per year on infrastructure. India spends five percent. The U.S. only invests 1.9 percent. Particularly when our foreign competitors are investing to speed the movement of goods and services, we need to invest in our transportation system, too. We need to out-build our competitors to improve productivity through transportation.

In all of these examples, entities including labor, management, end users, the business community, municipal/county economic development arms, and state and local elected officials have formed dynamic partnerships to bring about meaningful change.

The time is here and the time is now for all government organizations and the business community to work together and push the job-creation agenda.

John Brining
Executive Director

Leon LaJeunesse Joins CISCO Board of Directors



Leon LaJeunesse, founder and President of Lake Zurich-based Custom Contracting, Ltd., is very active in local and national professional organizations, and has a strong commitment to promoting sustainable and performance-based practices within the construction industry.

Leon began his career as a millwork apprentice and after years of increasingly responsible positions, founded Custom Contracting Ltd. in 1987. As the President and COO, he manages all key personnel and core operations. Recently, he has leveraged his performance-based approach to human resources management to serve as a management consultant.

His industry involvement and service has included leadership roles in the U.S. Green Building Council-Chicago Chapter; the Lean Construction Institute Community of Practice-Chicago; the Builders Association, the College of Lake County Construction Technology Curriculum Advisory Committee; and MARBA (Mid-America Regional Bargaining Association) Carpentry Craft Committee.

Presidential Perspective



As my time as President of the CISCO Board comes to a close, I find myself extremely proud of the work that this association has accomplished over the past two years. In spite of the hardship that many in our industry are experiencing, and ominous economic forecasts; CISCO, its members, and its supporters continue to show the commitment and determination that has made being a part of the union construction industry so rewarding for me.

In the last two years, I have witnessed first-hand the importance of CISCO's mission. I have seen hundreds of men and women attend workshops, conferences and other events to learn new methods to improve the way they deliver a quality product. I have also watched young high school students graciously accept scholarships with beaming smiles, thrilled that CISCO has helped them to attend college and pursue their dreams.

I have seen younger students who attend Hands-On Expos in order to learn the basics of swinging a hammer, handling a trowel or correctly bending a pipe, as they decide what career path they wish to enter. And, I have also learned how the many relationships that CISCO has developed over the years have resulted in the passage of legislation, or the approval of a major construction project or multi-year Capital Plan. This is what I will remember as I continue to support this organization – determination in the face of adversity.

It has been an honor serving as your President. And as the holidays approach, I wish all of our members and supporters a safe and happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year.


Sincerely,

John Burns
CISCO Board President

September Event Featuring Mark Breslin Drew Capacity Crowd

Labor and management came together to learn, laugh and share ideas as more than 350 attendees packed Piper's Banquets for the September 27 double-header presentation led by Mark Breslin. Nearly 20 distinct organizations comprised of labor unions and signatory trade associations served as sponsors of this unique event, enabling a diverse audience ranging from first year apprentices, to season labor leaders, to next generation contractors and long established construction company founders to take part in the two separate and dynamic sessions.



 Presenting Mark Breslin (second from right) with a plaque are Executive Directors from left John Brining, of CISCO; Richard Volkmer of FCAC and S.J. Peters of PAMCANI.

Planned by the staffs of CISCO, PAMCANI and FCAC (Finishing Contractors Association of Chicago), the sponsorships covered Mr. Breslin's fees and expenses and all costs associated with planning and holding the event. The net proceeds of just more than \$4,250 are being donated to the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

The two sessions - "The Perfect Storm" and "Alpha Dogs" - were well received from the audience. The Perfect Storm was aimed primarily at union leaders and business owners in the construction trades, while Alpha Dogs focused on management, mentoring and motivation - ingredients needed to form competent and visionary leaders. The planning trio of CISCO, PAMCANI and FCAC are considering another event in 2012.

CISCO Golf Outing Raises \$3,000 For Area Food Banks

This year's "Last Swing" Golf Outing at Bloomingdale Golf Club had special significance as CISCO put the word out that the proceeds of the 2011 event were going to help fellow union families who are in need of assistance. The Chicago Food Depository and the Northern Illinois Food bank were designated to receive the funds that remained after financial obligations were met.

And boy, did CISCO members and supporters step up! Nearly \$3,000 will be split evenly to the two charities as golfers and sponsors contributed in near-record numbers. The course was sold out, and the weather was again perfect for a third consecutive year. In addition, the luncheon was highlighted by some lucky raffle prize winners.



Many thanks to our sponsors and supporters:

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- Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11
- ScreenSafe
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
- Trinity Roofing Services, Inc.
- Union Guardian
- Union Plus Mortgage Program



The success of the event, of course, was made possible by the generous support of our loyal partners. Our sincere thanks once again to all of you who continue to support CISCO and our efforts. We hope you will mark the date for next year's "Last Swing" Outing at Bloomingdale Golf Club, scheduled for September 10, 2012, and plan to attend.



For more Golf Outing photos, go to the Photo Gallery of the CISCO Web site at www.cisco.org.

2011 CISCO Board of Directors

Executive Board

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John Burns, *Laborer's D.C. of Chicago & Vicinity*

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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 # 25
Underground Contractors Association

Member Organizations

Architectural & Ornamental
Ironworkers Local 63
Associated Steel Erectors
Association of Glazing Contractors
Boilermakers Local 1
Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen District Council
Builders' Association
Cement Masons Local 502
Cement Masons Local 803
Ceramic Tile and Terrazzo Local 67
Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
Chicago Outerbelt Contractors Association
Chicago Painting & Decorating Contractors Industry Advancement & Promotional Fund
Chicagoland Roofing Council
Chicagoland Sheet Metal Contractors Association
Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Construction & General Laborer's 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
Illinois Regional Insulation Contractors Association
Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
Ironworkers Local 1
Insulators Local 17
Lake County Contractors Association
LMCC (IBEW Local 117, 150, 461 & NECA-NEIL)
LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 & ECA)
NECA-IBEW Local 701 LMCC
Machinery, Movers & Riggers Local 136
Mason Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Mechanical Contractors Association
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Northeastern Illinois Chapter
National Fire Sprinkler Association
Northern Illinois Chapter

Northeastern Illinois Sheet Metal Contractors Association
Northern Illinois Painting & Drywall Institute
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Operating Engineers Local 150
Painters District Council Local 30
Plasterers Local 5
Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 501
Plumbing Contractors Association of Chicago & Cook County
Plumbing & Mechanical Contractors Authority of Northern Illinois
Professional Flooring Installers Association
Residential Construction Employers Council
Roofers Waterproofers & Allied Craftworkers Local 11
Sheet Metal Workers Local 73
Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
SMACNA Chicago
Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
Teamsters Joint Council # 25
Underground Contractors Association

Welcome

CISCO's Newest Associate Members

Unimar Public Relations
Midwest Medix Surgery Center

Save the Date

CISCO 2012 Annual Meeting
Friday, January 27, 2012

Be sure to mark your calendars for CISCO's Annual Meeting. The event begins at 8:00 a.m. with registration and breakfast is our treat! This year's keynote speaker is Jim Costigan, Director of the Illinois Dept. of Labor.

The Annual Meeting will once again be held at Maggiano's Little Italy, 1901 Woodfield Road in Schaumburg. Call CISCO at 630-472-9411 to reserve your spots at the tables. Seating fills up quickly!

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Johnetta Ryan,
Director
Education-to-Careers

EDUCATION 70 CAREERS

Apprenticeship Coordinators Bring a Wealth of Knowledge

With our continuing focus to highlight our apprenticeship coordinators, this issue will feature the trowel trades - Bricklayers and Tuckpointers.



Bob Arnold began his bricklaying career with Local 21 in 1978. He worked in residential, commercial and refractory masonry as a Bricklayer, Foreman and Superintendent. He was hired as the first Chicago Job Corp Brick Instructor in 1999, Local 21 Instructor in 2000

and District Council Training Center Director in 2001. That year, the DCTC began educating bricklayers and plasterers. Since then, we are now the primary training facility for the Marble, Terrazzo, Tile and Tuckpointing Trades as well as Brick and Plaster. In addition to being the DCTC Director, Bob is currently working as the North central Regional Training Director for the International Masonry Institute. He also is a voting member of ASTM C-12, C-15 and C-18.

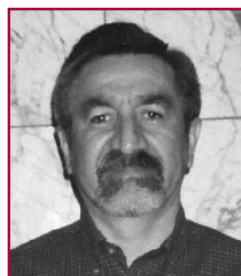


Michael Hunt began his career in 1971 laboring for a tuckpointing contractor. He joined Local 52 Tuckpointers in 1973. He ran work for a number of contractors and in 1996 was brought into the local as a part time apprenticeship instructor. In 1997 he started attending the Instructor Certification Program

through the International Masonry Institute. He became the Apprenticeship Coordinator in 1999 and completed the Instructor Certification Program two years later. Michael has attended numerous training classes such as OSHA 500, OSHA 1926 Scaffold, Fall Protection Awareness and Silicosis Awareness. In 2003, when the City of Chicago Scaffolding Act was enacted, Michael put together a more in depth Scaffold Training Program which was recognized by the city as a certified training program. In 2010, the Tuckpointers moved from Chicago to the Bricklayers District Council in Addison.



Don Walker began his career as a bricklayer in 1972 as a member of Local 20, where he held the position of Treasurer from 1975 until 1996. Don has numerous skills such as residential and commercial masonry, reading blueprints, firebrick, general welding, public speaking and has been a job steward. He was a foreman for Esche & Lee in Arlington Heights from 1996-2003. In 2003, Don became an instructor at the DCTC in Addison. He is responsible for teaching apprentices academically and physically; showing apprentices how to lay brick and block in the wall. In 2007, Don became the DCTC Apprenticeship Coordinator, and is responsible for employment of apprentices. He has held numerous titles throughout his career: President and VP of Local 20, Fringe Board Trustee, AFL-CIO Trustee, Vice Commissioner and President of the LZBYA.



Andy Gasca has been a member of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 21 for the past 38 years. He was the first Hispanic appointed Instructor for the Bricklayers Local 21. Andy has also been an organizer for the BAC District Council #1 of Illinois. Andy is Trust Representative for Bricklayers Masonry Institute and is currently the Training Coordinator for District Council training Center, BAC Local 21 in Chicago. He is a Certified Trowel Trades Instructor for IUBAC and the International Masonry Institute. He is past Instructor for the United States Army active and reserves and a Vietnam Veteran. Andy has worked extensively with Helmets to Hard Hats and even though funding for Helmets to Hard Hats has ceased, Andy continues his work to help veterans get into the Bricklayers.

CISCO will continue to highlight more of our affiliated Apprenticeship Coordinators in 2012.

Legislative Update - Fall Veto Session


After another interesting Fall Veto Session closed in November, the biggest news was the General Assembly voting to override Governor Pat Quinn's veto on the Com Ed bill, and the failure of moving Gaming Expansion forward after it fell two votes short of the minimum 60 votes required for passage.

Senate Bill 1652 (Com Ed bill) was passed when both the House and Senate voted to override the Governor's veto from earlier in the summer. The legislation was put forth by Com Ed and supported by the IBEW. The bill allows for installation of a sophisticated power grid. The construction will produce 2,450 new jobs, paid for by a minimal rate increase.

With respect to Gaming Expansion, feedback from politicians mentioned that if slot machines at the race tracks are pulled from the bill, then the bill will not move forward. Race track owners are saying that two of every three tracks will close without the slot machine provision. The importance of this bill from a construction standpoint was that gaming revenue was intended to be one of the larger funding sources for the \$31 billion Capital Bill that was passed back in the summer of 2009. Without this funding, many of these projects will be stalled and thousands of construction jobs will never materialize.

At CISCO's November 7 meeting, we featured two guest speakers. The first speaker was Tim Leahy from American Water who discussed proposed legislation regarding the appraisal of public and private water systems. Water and wastewater infrastructure in Illinois, he said, are in need of \$32.5 billion in repairs. Leahy



 *Tim Leahy of American Water discusses proposed legislation to CISCO's Legislative Committee.*


said that they are planning to introduce legislation in January/February for General Assembly consideration during its 2012 Spring Session.

The second guest was Dave Van Wy, JULIE's Damage Prevention Manager for the Northern Illinois Region. Van Wy discussed proposed changes to the Illinois Underground Utility Facilities Damage Prevention Act. Follow-up meetings were scheduled with members of the contract community, and due to the overwhelming opposition among contractors to a new "48-hour rule" of notice, JULIE, Inc. recently voted to not proceed with changes to the ACT in 2012, and will instead reach out to many groups in an effort to reach consensus on proposed changes.

Another topic the Committee will continue to follow is the new worker's compensation law that was passed less than six months ago. While this legislation is a work in progress, the goal is for many of the building trades to participate in the voluntary collectively bargained workers compensation pilot program.

CISCO Outreach Workshops Travel to McHenry and DuPage County



 *CISCO continued its popular outreach workshops in collaboration with the Attorney's General's Office, the Department of Labor and the III-FFC with workshops in McHenry County and this one in Warrenville. The three-hour session that included updates to the Freedom of Information Act, Prevailing Wage Act and the benefits of Responsible Bidder Ordinances was offered to members of the building trades, contractors and employees of public bodies. CISCO would like to thank our partners for their continued support and involvement. For more information, contact CISCO at 630-472-9411.*



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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: 2000 Spring Road, Suite 110, Oak Brook, IL 60523**

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

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Education-to-Careers Director: Johnetta Ryan
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New Information

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