CISCO’s members and guests were treated to a menu with a double dessert as Governor JB Pritzker and new Illinois Department of Labor Director Michael Kleinik spoke to a crowd of nearly 300 people during CISCO’s Luncheon in Schaumburg.

Governor Pritzker’s remarks followed the recognition of the scholarship award winners (see article on page 3), and the event was capped off by comments from Mike Kleinik.

Executive Director Dan Allen introduced the Governor by noting several recently enacted laws supporting union labor, contractors and working families in the Governor’s first 100 days:

- Protected Prevailing Wage by signing into law a bill that provides clear guidelines to what prevails as the construction wages in every Illinois County.
- Signed an Executive Order that ensures all state projects will be done with a Project Labor Agreement.
- Appointed three dedicated labor leaders (Jim Connolly, Gary Perinar and Jim Sweeney) from the construction industry to the Tollway Board.
- Signed a bill that will increase the minimum wage to $15 an hour by 2025.

The Governor continued in that theme saying that he is 100% committed to passing a Capital Bill with both “horizontal and vertical investments” and wants to work with the construction industry to put contractors and building trades members to work.

In closing, the Governor said, “When we look back, I want people to see that this administration cared about working families, and that my time as governor was spent getting lasting opportunities for middle class families, our young people, our very youngest children, and making sure everybody has the opportunity to thrive.” (More photos on page 4.)

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TO SEE MAJOR CHANGES

Director Kleinik takes over an agency that the previous administration neglected, and he stated in his remarks that his department plans to improve the process of reviewing complaints of violations of the Prevailing Wage Act.

In a remark that drew hearty applause, Kleinik reiterated that the Governor had signed SB 203 into law, which determines the prevailing wage rate in a county, is based on at least 30% of the collectively bargained rates in that county.

Kleinik also said that IDOL plans to “launch a user friendly platform for unions to report their collective bargaining rates throughout the year.”
“Prevailing wages” were first established shortly after the Civil War in 1866 when the National Labor Union called on Congress to mandate an eight-hour workday.

In 1891 Kansas was the first state to pass a “prevailing wage” for its own public works projects, and over the next 30 years was followed by seven other states. In the midst of the Great Depression, beginning in 1931 and prior to the end of World War II, 20 additional states passed their own prevailing wage laws. Also in 1931, Congress passed, after 14 earlier attempts, the Davis–Bacon Act - the Federal Prevailing Wage law that remains in force to this day.

It’s encouraging to know that at least half of our states got it right. I attended the Prevailing Wage seminar that the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters held recently that consisted of five speakers: two from the Department of Labor, one who spoke about Responsible Bidder Ordinances and two others who talked about the importance of Prevailing Wage.

Prevailing wage, in a nutshell, ensures that critical construction on public projects such as municipal buildings, park district facilities, schools, libraries, roads, bridges and mass transit are completed with the safety of our drivers, passengers and children as its top priority.

Frank Manzo IV, Policy Director for the Illinois Economic Policy Institute summed it up best: “Prevailing wage 1) Levels the playing field for construction and strengthens the economy; 2) Boosts worker productivity and improves workplace safety; 3) Promotes ladders of access into the middle class; 4) Is the best value for taxpayers; and 5) Helps build quality infrastructure and strong communities in Illinois.

Prevailing wage, in a nutshell, ensures that critical construction on public projects such as municipal buildings, park district facilities, schools, libraries, roads, bridges and mass transit are completed with the safety of our drivers, passengers and children as its top priority.

Both prevailing wage and responsible bidder ordinances (RBO) provide the best value for taxpayers. In the case of an RBO, it sets “verifiable standards and objective criteria - such as USDOL training - for which all bidders must comply.”

In essence, as Josh Weger, Policy Director for the III-FFC, explained, “the criteria serves as an insurance policy for municipalities and other public bodies to protect taxpayers in the allocation of precious tax dollars toward construction projects.”

There are currently 95 public bodies in Illinois that have passed RBOs - the latest being DuPage County. The goal is to expand that number as public officials realize that hiring the best-trained workers to build these community assets is the best way to create a foundation for our future students and community leaders.

To take it another step further, prevailing wage and responsible bidder ordinances are the tools that governments can apply toward building quality infrastructure and strong communities to provide a better quality of life for its residents.

Dan Allen
Executive Director

CISCO Golf Outing - SAVE THE DATE - September 9, 2019

Start planning your foursomes now for the annual shot-gun style outing and barbecue lunch, Monday, Sept. 9, 2019 at Bloomingdale Golf Club, 181 Glen Ellyn Road.

- Registration and FREE practice range begins at 7 am
- Golf begins at 8 am
- Cocktails and lunch start around 1:30 pm

There are also many ways to sponsor the outing. Hole, Beverage Cart, Halfway House and Lunch sponsorships are available, as well as registration table and prize donations.

Sponsorship costs are the same as last year:

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Golf/Lunch only costs - same as last year:

- $125 per golfer; $475 per foursome (includes lunch) - $40 LUNCH ONLY

Go to our website (www.cisco.org) for more details, or call 630-472-9411 to reserve your foursomes today!
One of my favorite topics, a topic that is near and dear to me, is Workforce Development. As I, and many of our Board Members have pointed out, CISCO does a fantastic job in spreading the message about the opportunities that exist in the union construction industry - mainly careers in the building trades and potentially as a contractor.

In this issue of the Communicator (see page 6), Johnetta Ryan touches on an event that deserves further mention. The event was called the “Construction Training & Career Expo” and was held in late April at the IBEW Local 134 Hall in Chicago. The event, which was sponsored by CISCO, the Chicago Women in Trades and 10 other organizations attracted about 825 participants as 50 organizations were booth exhibitors.

CISCO was very prominent at the event, as it organized two breakout sessions pertaining to the preparation required to apply to one of the trades’ apprenticeship programs.

I was there at the electricians booth, and the turnout left me thinking that our message of opportunity, diversity and equality has never been stronger. In addition to CISCO’s strong efforts of recruitment and awareness, a mentoring network has been established with organizations such as Access United and Chicago Builds.

It also seems that the rest of the country is slowly coming on board with issues such as equal pay for women and minorities, and the importance of a well-trained, diverse workforce - issues that have been commonplace in the union construction industry.

One of the strengths of the union construction industry is in our ongoing efforts to create more diversity, and the fact that the union apprenticeship training programs are the 2nd-largest, privately-funded educational system in the country - providing top taxpayer value without using any publicly funded monies.

It’s tough to top that!

Sincerely,

Maurice King
CISCO Board President

Scholarship Award Recipients Recognized

The winners of CISCO’s 2019 Scholarship Program were formally recognized and honored during CISCO’s Luncheon on April 26, 2019.

Four-year scholarship winners:

1) Kaitlyn Moore - Grayslake North HS - Her father is a member of IBEW Local 134
2) Emilee Klemm - St. Charles North HS - Her father is a member of Laborers’ Local 68
3) Lourdes Alvarez - York HS - Her father is a member of Laborers’ Local 582

Two-year Community College scholarship winners:

4) Casey Woods - Marian Catholic HS - Her father is a member of Carpenters Local 54, employed by F.H. Paschen.
5) Andrea Fear - Milledgeville HS - Her father is a member of Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11, employed by Sterling Commercial Roofing.

Two-year Continuing Education scholarship winners:

6) Rhea Rashad - Currently attending Rowan University; Construction Management major.
7) Joseph Perri - Currently enrolled at the College of DuPage; Construction Management major.
CISCO, Carpenters, III-FFC Collaborate on Prevailing Wage Seminar

About 175 people consisting of building trades representatives, contractors and public body employees attended in mid-May, a prevailing wage seminar at the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Apprenticeship & Training Center in Elk Grove Village.

Seminar speakers were (in their order of appearance: 1) Josh Weger, Policy Director of the Indiana-Illinois-Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting; 2) Frank Manzo IV, Policy Director of the Illinois Economic Policy Institute; 3) Professor Bob Bruno, Director of Labor Education Programs/Project for Middle-Class Renewal for the University of Illinois; 4) Michael Kleinik, Director of the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) and 5) Doris Acevedo, IDOL, Conciliation & Mediation Division.

CISCO Extends Sincerest Gratitude to Lunch Sponsors, Attendees

In looking back at the success of our Luncheon, we have to thank all of our members and supporters who attended, as well as those who sponsored the event. You are the reason that CISCO continues to thrive and provide great service to our contractors and to the building trades members within the union construction industry. Many thanks for your contributions!

Luncheon sponsors were:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Chicago Area LECET
- Chicago & Cook County Building Trades
- Chicago Laborers’ District Council
- Delta Dental
- DuPage County Building Trades
- Hunt Insurance Group
- IBEW Local 9
- IBEW Local 194
- IBEW Local 701
- Laborers’ District Council - LMCC
- Laborers’ Local 68
- Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied Workers Local 11
- Ullico Investment Advisors, Inc.
- Underground Contractors Association

In order to take a final bow, here are some additional photos from the April 26th Luncheon:
2019 CISCO Board of Directors

Executive Board

President
Maurice King, IBEW 134

Vice President
S.J. Peters, PCA Midwest/Plumbing Council Midwest

Treasurer
Frank Furco, IBEW 701

Secretary
Dave Henderson, Great Lakes Construction Association

James Allen BAC ADC Local 1
Steven Cisco, I.U.O.E. Local 150
John Daniel, SMART Local 265
Tom Doherty, Sr., Chicagoland AGC
Dennis Fleming, Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, U.A.
Frank A. Lizzadro, Meade Electric
Frank Lollino, Underground Contractors Association
Chuck LoVerde III, Chicago Laborers’ District Council
James McGlynn, NECA-NEIL
Dan McLaughlin, Chicagoland AGC
Tom McTavish, Northeastern Illinois LMCC
Gary Menzel, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11
Gary Misica, Electrical Contractors Association
Loretta Molter, Mason Contractors Association
Kevin O’Gorman, Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
Joseph Pastorino, Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
George Patterson, Chicagoland Roofing Council

Member Organizations

Architectural & Ornamental
Ironworkers Local 63
Associated Steel Erectors
Association of Glazing Contractors
Boilermakers Local 1
Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers
District Council Local 1
Cement Masons Local 502
Cement Masons Local 502-B
Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters
Chicagoland Associated General Contractors
Chicagoland Roofing Council
Chicagoland Sheet Metal Contractors Association
Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Construction & General Laborers’ 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
Great Lakes Construction Association
Heat & Frost Insulators Local 17
Illinois Regional Insulation Contractors Association
Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
International Assoc. of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local 126
Ironworkers Local 1
LMCC (IBEW Local 117, 150, 461 & NECA-NEIL)
LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 & ECA)
Machinists, Movers & Riggers Local 136
Mason Contractors Association of Greater Chicago
Mechanical Contractors Association
National Electrical Contractors Association
Northeastern Illinois Chapter

Northeastern Illinois Sheet Metal Contractors Association
Northern Illinois Painting 
Drywall Institute
Operating Engineers Local 150
Painters District Council Local 30
PCA Midwest
Plumbing Council Midwest
PowerForward DuPage
Residential Construction Employers Council
Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11
Sheet Metal Workers Local 73
Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
SMACNA Chicago
SMACNA/SMART #265
Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
Teamsters Joint Council No. 25
Underground Contractors Association

Associate Members

AFL-CIO Building Investment Trust
Albridge Electric
Amalgamated Bank of Chicago
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois
Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council
Chicagoland Construction Safety Council
Cigna HealthCare
Delta Dental
DuPage County Building & Construction Trades Council
ELFCO
Eye Boutique

Fox Valley Building Trades Council
Fox Valley Construction Industry Advancement Program
Great Lakes Advisors
Hunt Insurance Group
IBEW Local 9
Illinois American Water
Illinois Pipe Trades Council
I.M.P.A.C.T.
IUEC Local 2
Labor Management Cooperation
Committee of Chicago
Labor Management Cooperative
Committee of Northeastern Illinois

Lake County Building & Construction Trades Council
Magen Financial
Middle States Electrical Contractors Association
Midland States Bank
Multi-Employer Property Trust
PNC Capital Advisors
PowerForward DuPage
Sav-RX Pharmacy Benefit Mgmt.
ScreenSafe
UIL Union Insurance Group
UICCO, Inc.

Community Partners

Boy Scouts of America
Christmas Without Cancer

Exploring Real World Career Experiences
Gateway to Learning

St. Paul Community Development Ministries, Inc.

Penny-Per-Hour Contributors

Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers
District Council Local 1
Cement Masons Local 502
Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
Chicagoland Associated General Contractors
Chicagoland Roofing Council
Concrete Contractors Assoc. of Greater Chicago
Construction & General Laborers’ District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
Great Lakes Construction Association
Illinois Road & Transportation Builders Association
LMCC (IBEW 117, 150, 461, & NECA-NEIL)
LMCC of Chicago (IBEW 134 and ECA)
Mason Contractors Assoc. of Greater Chicago
NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC
Operating Engineers Local 150
Professional Flooring Installers Assoc.
Teamsters Joint Council No. 25
Underground Contractors Association

NEWS BRIEFS/UPDATES

13th Ward Career Day
CISCO will be working with the Chicago & Cook County Building Trades in conjunction with representatives of the 13th Ward and Alderman Marty Quinn to hold a Career Day within the Ward on Wednesday, August 7th from noon to 3 pm.

Details regarding the location of the event are still being worked out, and will be communicated as soon as they are available.

GLCA Tailgate Cook-Off
The Great Lakes Construction Association will hold its 5th Annual Tailgate Cook-Off on Saturday, September 7, 2019 at the Lake County Fairgrounds from 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Members, families and guests are invited. Contact Lorraine to register your cook-off team: events@greatlakesca.org or by phone - (847) 623-2345.
As the 2018-19 school year comes to a close, it is once again time to reflect on another busy year of meeting students and young adults, along with the challenge of persuading them to consider a career in the union construction industry.

Recent polling trends suggest that Americans have a more positive attitude toward unions. A Gallup poll results indicated that 61% of adults say they approve of labor unions - the highest percentage recorded since 2003.

Interest among young adults was evident during a recent Construction Training & Career Expo held at the IBEW Local 134 Hall in Chicago as a total of 822 people attended the 4-hour event. In fact, a few of the Apprenticeship Coordinators commented that the attendees were more engaged and had more questions than during previous events.

**CISCO OPEN FOR THE SUMMER**

If your school is one of the lucky ones to be open for classes this summer, CISCO will be available to do our Opportunities for Careers in Construction presentation for summer school classes. If you are interested in scheduling a presentation or tours of the apprentice schools, contact Johnetta Ryan at (630) 472-9411, or email johnetta@cisco.org.

Our presentation for a Career in Construction gives students and adults information on what it takes to succeed. Though most of its is common sense. Showing up for work or school everyday on time being the most important rule.

The union apprentice openings are getting very competitive. Not only are high school graduates applying, there are a number of different organizations trying to get their members into the programs, and college graduates who are looking for jobs trying to get into the apprenticeship programs. The union apprenticeships are looking for the best to train. The apprenticeships are looking for self-motivators, people really interested in their trade and people who are willing to work hard.
Capital Bill Proposal Adding To A Busy Springfield Agenda

As the Governor stated during his remarks at the recent CISCO Luncheon, he is “100% committed to passing a Capital Bill with both horizontal and vertical investments and wants to work with the construction industry” in order to create more work and jobs for the union contractors and union building trades members.

Amidst discussion of a Capital Bill, Springfield is tackling a number of issues that are receiving much media attention, including a graduated income tax proposal, the legalization of recreational use of marijuana, a large gaming package that includes casinos in Chicago and other locales, sports betting and the expansion of video gaming; and, oh by the way, a budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Governor Pritzker recently unveiled a $41.5 billion Capital Bill branded “Rebuild Illinois.” The Capital program, which relies on $1.8 billion annually, in new or higher taxes over the next six years, will spend:

- $28.6 billion on transportation,
- $5.9 billion on education facilities at both higher education and K-12,
- $4.4 billion in deferred maintenance at state facilities,
- $1 billion in environment and conservation projects,
- $711 million in economic and community development
- $440 million on healthcare and human services facilities, and
- $420 million in broadband deployment

Funding for the plan relies on $17.8 billion in bonding, with $7 billion pay as you go, and $10 billion in federal funds. Local/private share is anticipated to be $6.6 billion.

The Governor’s Office stated that this will create 540,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs. A vigorous debate is expected, and as of press time, the General Assembly has not finalized the bill.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY BILLS

In addition to the Capital Bill, other bills impacting the construction industry include the ongoing hard work regarding SB 1636 seeking retainage reform.

The latest report regarding this bill is that it has now passed out of the Illinois House Executive Committee (13-0 vote) and it advances to the House floor. SB 1636 amends the Contractor Prompt Payment Act and allows retainage to be withheld at a rate of 10% for the first half of a construction project, but has to be reduced to 5% once the project is 50% complete. This bill only applies to private, commercial construction projects.

CISCO Present At 4th Ward Job & Career Resource Fair

CISCO teamed up with representatives of the 4th Ward and Alderman Sophia King for a Job & Career Resource Fair, held on May 22nd at the IBEW Local 134 Hall in Chicago.

Alderman King spoke to nearly 75 booth exhibitors and 250 attendees thanking IBEW Local 134 and the labor movement for helping with the event and “continuing to build strong families, strong communities and a stronger city.”

“Jobs are the most important aspect of our society, and are the backbone of our economic prosperity,” King added.
Survey

1) What, if any, information or sections would you like to see included in future newsletters?

2) What, if any, sections do you think should be removed from the newsletter?

3) What, if any, programs would you like to see CISCO offer to its members in the future?

We value your input! Respond by:

E-mail: gary@cisco.org
Fax: (630) 472-9413
Mail: 999 McClintock Dr., Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527

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: 999 McClintock Dr., Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527

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

Executive Director: Dan Allen
Education-to-Careers Director: Johnetta Ryan
Director of Communications & Public Affairs: Gary Karafiat
Office Manager: Julia Mulvey

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