



# CISCO

## COMMUNICATOR

**A Newsletter for Chicagoland Construction Labor & Management Professionals**

### CISCO's Johnetta Ryan Recognized With Lifetime Achievement Award



The Great Lakes Construction Association (GLCA) recognized CISCO's Director of Education-to-Careers Johnetta Ryan with the prestigious Robert W. MacGruder

Lifetime Achievement Award recently at the Sanfilippo Estate in Barrington Hills, Illinois.

"Johnetta has been guiding students to our union trade apprentice programs and promoting careers in union construction via workshops, career fairs and presentations in Illinois for almost 20 years," Executive Director Dan Allen said in his introductory remarks.

Allen said that Johnetta exemplifies the spirit of leadership which Bob MacGruder demonstrated for the Lake County Contractor's Association (GLCA

predecessor) for 23 years.

"What makes Johnetta so effective is she knows first hand the hard work and commitment it takes to be successful in this industry, and she doesn't sugar coat it," Allen added.

In accepting the award, Johnetta thanked the GLCA, her CISCO co-workers and CISCO Board members, and the apprenticeship coordinators who attended the event.

"I love my job," she added. "The Board has been supportive in backing me and giving me the tools I have needed to do my job."

In her closing remarks, Johnetta mentioned her father, who advised her in 1970, when she started at Illinois Bell to "find your union steward during your first break, and sign up for the union. "That, she said, was the best advice he ever gave me."



**Pictured above (from left) are Dan Allen, CISCO Executive Director; Tim Marabella, GLCA Executive Director; Johnetta Ryan; CISCO Board Member Jim Allen and CISCO Board Vice President S.J. Peters.**

The award is named in honor of Robert W. MacGruder, who was Executive Vice President of the Lake County Contractor's Association (GLCA predecessor) from 1973-1996 before his death in March of 2017.

**Johnetta Ryan poses with Executive Director Dan Allen after receiving her lifetime achievement award.**

# From *the* Desk of the Executive Director



Last month, I was honored to be chosen to speak on a panel during the Obama Foundation Summit held at the Marriott Marquis in Chicago.

More than 1,000 people from around the world attended the 2-day event, which included an appearance from the former President to an audience of nearly

700, including 20 inaugural Obama Foundation Fellows, who represent 11 different nations, chosen from a pool of 20,000 worldwide applicants.

Within that global backdrop, CISCO had a seat at the table during a breakout session titled "The Obama Presidential Center: How We Build Is Just As Important (As What We Build)."

The moderator, Mike Strautmanis, Chief Engagement Officer with the Obama Foundation, began by saying that the Obama Presidential Center (OPC) expects about 800,000 visitors each year, and the Center is designed to invite people to stay and explore the rest of the Jackson Park community and surrounding areas.

In essence, the community will be at the same table as construction begins on the Center. The goal and vision of the OPC is NOT to just provide a job or a workforce that completes the construction within a budget or a deadline, but to build a foundation for the neighboring communities for generations to come.

Union construction pride will be on display as the construction of this Center gets underway. An effort to supply the contractors with the most highly skilled, diverse workforce is underway, and actually has been

for many years.

CISCO has forged partnerships with the Chicago Public Schools to create trade programs at Dunbar, Simeon and Prosser High Schools. There is also the effort with Access United - an agency created in conjunction with United Way to connect job-seekers in underserved communities with a roadmap to union apprenticeships. This program includes the Chicago Federation of Labor and the Chicago & Cook County Building Trades.

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***"Union construction pride will be on display as the construction of the Presidential Center gets underway."***

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In addition, CISCO works with the Boy Scouts Explorer Program. The hands-on program expands interest to young men and women that want to learn more about careers in the skilled trades. And let's not forget the faith-based organizations on the city's south and west sides that have worked with us to forge career readiness programs that prepare men and women for the apprenticeship application process.

All these programs are designed to reduce the barriers that exist for people who are qualified, yet need assistance. These efforts provide a beacon of hope to attain safe, sustainable careers for a community that has not seen this type of investment in generations.

The one common thread that CISCO shares with the Obama Presidential Center, is that we not only desire to build a foundation for a stunning library, but will be building a foundation for families and communities for years and generations to come.

**Dan Allen**  
Executive Director

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## Scholarship Program Application Deadline - Feb. 22, 2019

CISCO is now accepting applications for its 2019 Scholarship Program. CISCO offers three (3), four-year scholarships (\$2,000/year) to high school seniors; two (2), two-year awards (\$1,000/year) for seniors planning to attend community college; and two (2), two-year continuing education awards (\$1,000/year) to union members or contractor employees.



consideration. The scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic performance, faculty recommendation, extracurricular activities, employment experience, and a demonstrated interest in a productive career.

For more information, call CISCO at (630) 472-9411, or visit [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org) and look for the scholarship article on our Home Page and click on any of the application links.

# Presidential *Perspective*



In my first letter to our members, I mentioned that these are both challenging and exciting times. Replenishing our building trades' ranks with men and women who are eager to work hard, and be rewarded for that hard work is a major priority.

About three months after my words were published, the challenge was amped up significantly with the Supreme Court's Janus v. AFSCME decision. The historical decline in unionization was already evident, and this ruling was expected to continue the decline.

Many labor leaders and union contractors stated the decision would not break the spirit of American workers, and it would not break the unions who defend them. Strong unions will continue to form in the workplace to fight for economic and social justice.

Today, I read a positive article that proves those leaders' assumptions were accurate! Here are some of the research findings that tell the story:

- The unionization rate increased to 15 percent, up from about 13 percent;
- Unions added 16,000 new members;
- Millennial workers saw an increase in union membership;
- In Illinois, unions raise wages by an average of 11 percent;
- The state's union wage effect is the 11th highest in the nation; and
- The union wage differential is highest for middle-class workers (10-12 percent), helping to reduce income inequality.

And more good news, a recent Gallup poll indicated that 61% adults say they approve of labor unions, the highest percentage recorded since 2003. This coincides with Midwest election results. Pro-labor gubernatorial candidates unseated anti-labor incumbents in Wisconsin and Michigan. In Minnesota progressives beat Republicans for Governor and both Senate seats. In Ohio, strong labor supporter Sherrod Brown won a third term in the Senate, and just three months ago, Missouri voters overwhelmingly voted against the anti-union "right-to-work" (for less) bill.

Our message has always been to advance and advocate for the middle class and working people. Everyone in the union construction industry has devoted much of their lives to raising wages and their standard of living. We want our members to have affordable healthcare, a safe work environment, and equality of opportunity, so that people can go to their job and provide for themselves, their family and their children.

Sincerely,

**Maurice King**  
CISCO Board President

## Register Today for CISCO's Annual Meeting - Feb. 8, 2019

CISCO's Annual Meeting will be held Friday, Feb. 8, 2019 at Maggiano's Little Italy, 1901 Woodfield Road in Schaumburg.

The Annual Meeting will feature the recognition of the 2018 Projects of the Year. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:00 a.m. and the Program begins at 9:00 a.m. To register, contact Office Manager Julia Mulvey at [julia@cisco.org](mailto:julia@cisco.org), or by telephone at 630.472.9411.

Each year, the union construction industry's

tremendous quality workmanship is on display. Hope to see many of our members and supporters there!



**2017 Winner - Zurich NA HQ in Schaumburg.**



## LifeSaving Efforts Recognized During Ceremony

**John Norling** of Carpenter's Local 272 and **Cesar De Alba** of Laborers' Local 2 were formally recognized for their life-saving measures on behalf of Kevin McLaughlin, an electrician with Lyons-Pinner Electric in Lyons, Illinois.

The ceremony, held at the IBEW Local 134 Hall, was led by CISCO Board Member Gary Misicka, who is President and General Manager of Lyons-Pinner.

Fortunately for McLaughlin, Laborer Cesar De Alba was working in the same room when he was electrocuted. "He had slumped over a pipe below the board he was working on, and his weight was too much for me to pull him off of the pipe, so I called out for someone, and John helped me," De Alba said.

The two men then called 911 and began performing CPR, which kept Kevin alive until the paramedics arrived.

"I never had to do this before," Norling said. "The attention is a bit overwhelming, but it is nice to be recognized. Fortunately it worked out well for Kevin."

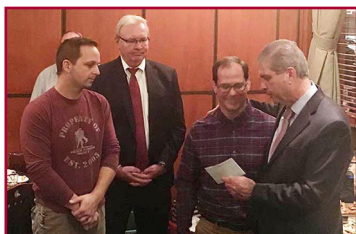


**Kevin McLaughlin is flanked by lifesaving heroes John Norling (left) and Cesar De Alba (right).**

Several speakers, including representatives of the American Heart Association, stressed the importance of CPR training, and the need to take action when a crisis occurs.

## RCEC Celebrates The Season

The successful partnership of the Residential Construction Employers Council (RCEC), the Residential Home Builders Alliance (RHBA) and School District 211, was on full display during the recent RCEC Holiday Dinner event.



**Gary Perinar (right), Exec. Secretary-Treasurer of the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters presents Mark Hibner of Palatine High School with a check for \$2,500 as District 211's Chris Gunsteen (left) and Jeff Isaacson, CRCC President look on.**

Several organizations and trades were on hand to join RCEC and RHBA as they encourage the next generation of tradespeople who are enrolled in the District 211 building program by donating funds, work clothes and other work accessories.

Most notable among the donations were 100 Carhartt jackets provided by RCEC officers, and \$2500 contributed by the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters (see above left photo).

## Carrigan Honored With Peace Prize

Michael T. Carrigan, President of the Illinois AFL-CIO received the World Peace Prize "Roving Ambassador For Peace" Award at a ceremony before 100 guests at the Laborers' Chicago District Council headquarters in Burr Ridge.

The ceremony was conducted by two members of the World Peace Prize Awarding Council (WPPAC) – Chairperson Barbara Flaherty, Corporate Manager-Judge, and Fr. Sean McManus, Chief Judge.



**Father Sean McManus awards President Michael T. Carrigan with the prestigious "Roving Ambassador" medallion and an honorary plaque symbolic of the World Peace Prize.**

The World Peace Prize is the brainchild of the visionary peace leader Rev. Dr. Han Min Su, who co-founded the Prize in Seoul, Republic of Korea in 1989. The WPPAC selects each winner.

## 2018 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

John Cronin, *Chicagoland  
Roofing Council*

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.*  
Dave Henderson, *Great Lakes Construction Assoc.*  
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 Local 11*  
Gary Misicka, *Electrical Contractors Association*  
Loretta Molter, *Mason Contractors Association*  
Kevin O'Gorman, *Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters*  
Joseph Pastorino, *Chicago Reg. Council of Carpenters*

## 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

## 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  
Chicago Roofing Council  
Chicagoland Associated General  
Contractors  
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)  
Machinery, 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 & Allied  
Craftworkers 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  
Aldridge Electric  
Alvarez and Associates  
Amalgamated Bank of Chicago  
Benefits Management Group  
BeneSys  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois  
Chicago & Cook County Building  
& Construction Trades Council  
Chicagoland Construction  
Safety Council  
CIGNA HealthCare  
Culloton Strategies, LLC  
Delta Dental  
DuPage County Building &  
Construction Trades Council

ELFCO  
Eye Boutique  
Fox Valley Building Trades Council  
Fox Valley Construction Industry  
Advancement Program  
Humana Health Care Plans  
Hunt Insurance Group  
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  
Martin Salvino State Farm Agency  
Megent Financial  
Middle States Electrical Contractors  
Association  
Midland States Bank  
Multi-Employer Property Trust  
PNC Capital Advisors  
PowerForward DuPage  
Sav-RX Pharmacy Benefit Mgmt.  
ScreenSafe  
UIG Union Insurance Group  
Ullico, Inc.  
UMB Asset Management  
Union Plus Mortgage

## Community Partners

Boy Scouts of America  
Christmas Without Cancer

Exploring Real World Career Experiences  
Gateway to Learning

St. Paul Community Development  
Ministries, Inc.

### NEWS BRIEFS/UPDATES

#### 36th Annual CRCA Trade Show & Seminars

The Chicago Roofing  
Contractors Association has  
announced that registration for  
its event is available now!

The CRCA Trade Show &  
Seminars will be held January  
17-18 at Drury Lane in Oak  
Brook Terrace. To register, visit  
[www.crca.org](http://www.crca.org), email Jessica  
Roque - [jessica@crca.org](mailto:jessica@crca.org), or  
call 708-449-0837.

#### ASA Construction Expo

The Annual Construction Expo  
and Safety Conference, co-  
sponsored by the Construction  
Safety Council and ASA Chicago  
will be held on March 4th and  
March 5th at Drury Lane in Oak  
Brook Terrace. Booths and  
sponsorships are available.

Keynote Speaker will be Mark  
Breslin from 8:45 - 10:30 am  
in the Drury Lane Theatre. For  
more information, go to [www.asachicago.org](http://www.asachicago.org)





**Johnetta Ryan,**  
*Director*  
**Education-to-Careers**

# EDUCATION 70 CAREERS

## Strengthening Our Foundation And Plans For 2019

As another busy year comes to an end, our mission of strengthening the unionized construction market by recruiting the next generation of building trades workers continues into 2019 with exciting plans and new partners.

Just around the corner is a Career Fair that is part of the Project Labor Agreement to construct “North Pointe” in Chicago’s 10th Ward. The first Hands-On Expo for the community will be held on January 25.

Following that event, one of our regular fairs will be conducted in conjunction with the Moraine Area Career System at the Carpenter’s Satellite Training Center in Chicago.

And later in the year, CISCO will partner with the City’s Department of Aviation relative to its construction plans at both Midway and O’Hare airports, as well as a similar career fair with the CTA as it prepares to begin a significant reconstruction of the Red Line.


### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Since education is the focus of this page, it only makes sense for me to promote our scholarship program. CISCO is now accepting applications for its 2019 Scholarship Program. CISCO offers three (3), four-year scholarships (\$2,000/year) to high school seniors; two (2), two-year awards (\$1,000/year) for seniors planning to attend community college; and two (2), two-year continuing education awards (\$1,000/year) to union members or contractor employees. (See article on page 1)

With the cost of tuition continuing to rise, this a great opportunity for seniors considering a higher education option. All applications and accompanying documents MUST be postmarked by **February 22, 2019** to be eligible for consideration.

### NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK




 **Various building trades held Open Houses during National Apprenticeship Week (November 12-17) and drew hundreds to their training facilities as participants toured the centers, and met with instructors and apprentices to get an idea about these career opportunities. Pictured above is Painters District Council 30 Instructor David Panico as he explains how to pull paper from a past machine.**

### HANDS-ON EXPO AT OP/RF HIGH SCHOOL

With representatives from seven different building trades on hand, CISCO orchestrated another successful Hands-On Expo in the fall as nearly 100 students from nine different area high schools attended a two-session, all-day event at Oak Park-River Forest High School.



 **Instructors and Apprenticeship Coordinators representing (from left) the Carpenters, Laborers and Bricklayers work with students.**

## Prevailing Wage Amendment Bill Passes Both House and Senate



For the past four years, organized labor has come up just short whenever they've tried to override Gov. Bruce Rauner's vetoes of their most important bills.

Strengthening prevailing wage laws has been one of the union construction industry's recent legislative priorities.

In 2016, the House passed SB2964 with 72 votes, but after the Governor vetoed the bill in May of that year, the House's override attempt failed by one vote.

SB2964, linked the local prevailing wage rates to the pay of an area's union workers in localities where at least 30 percent of the workers were covered by collective bargaining agreements.


During the recently convened Veto Session, the Illinois House and Senate passed a Prevailing Wage Bill (SB203) that contained identical language to the previous bill. But, this time, the bill passed the House with 78 votes and cleared the Senate with 44.

Shortly after the vote, Senate President John Cullerton filed a motion to reconsider, which is essentially a parliamentary hold to allow proponents to wait until JB Pritzker is sworn into office before transmitting it to the governor's desk.

## OTHER LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Other legislation that was discussed during the recent Legislative Committee meeting involved two other bills that were vetoed by the outgoing Governor, and plans are to reintroduce both.



 **CISCO's Legislative Committee members listen as Co-Chair Michael Macellaio (front center) leads the discussion regarding the recent Veto Session.**

SB3052, known as the Retainage Bill called for the amending of the Contractor Prompt Payment Act and addressed retention on private, commercial construction projects. It required retainage to be lowered from 10% to 5% when a project is 50% complete.

Other discussion centered on the municipal right-to-work (for less) bill that bans cities/towns/counties from creating right-to-work zones. The future of this legislation will be another priority for labor.


## AFL-CIO Hosts Congratulatory Luncheon For Candidates

Two days after the November elections had been held, the Illinois AFL-CIO held a congratulatory luncheon for candidates and campaign teams as the state witnessed a blue wave like no other state in the country.

It took another 3 weeks before a handful of results that too close to call were certified, but after the final counting of mail-in and provisional ballots, Democrats enjoy super-majorities in both the Illinois House and the Senate.

The final tally shows that the Democrats hold a 77-44 advantage in the House and a 40-19 plurality in the Senate.



 **Sharing a laugh during the luncheon are (from left) House Speaker Michael Madigan, Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael Carrigan and U.S. Senator Dick Durbin.**



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December 2018

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to obtain additional  
information about  
CISCO programs and  
events.*

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: 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](mailto:gary@cisco.org)

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

CISCO is a registered Illinois Servicemark for the Construction Industry Service Corporation.

## 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](mailto:gary@cisco.org)**

**Fax: (630) 472-9413**

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