



CISCO

COMMUNICATOR

A Newsletter for Chicagoland Construction Labor & Management Professionals

CISCO Annual Meeting Set for January 25, 2013

Keynote Speaker: Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur



CISCO welcomes Keynote Speaker Kristi Lafleur, Executive Director of the Illinois Tollway, to its Annual Meeting on Friday, Jan. 25 at Maggiano's Little Italy, 1901 Woodfield Road in Schaumburg. The meeting also features the 2012 Pride in Construction Award presentations.

Lafleur became the first female executive director in

Tollway history when she was selected by the Board

of Directors in April 2010. She is responsible for the agency's day-to-day management and oversight of its \$973 million annual budget.

In 2011, Lafleur and the Illinois Tollway Board of Directors successfully secured a new \$12 billion, 15-year capital plan, Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future. Lafleur was named to Crain's Chicago Business list of "Women to Watch 2011", and Crain's 2012 list of "Who's Who in Chicago Business".

Registration & Breakfast begin at 8:00 a.m. and the Program begins at 9:00 a.m. Registration is FREE to CISCO Members. RSVP early; seating is limited. Register by e-mail to Julia@cisco.org, or by calling 630.472.9411.

2013 CISCO Scholarships

CISCO is now accepting applications for its 2013 Scholarship Program. Changes have been made to enable a wider range of the children of both building trade union members and union contractor employees to apply.

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

The applications are available to download at www.cisco.org/scholarships/ or by calling CISCO at 630-472-9411. All applications and accompanying documents must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2013 to be eligible for consideration. Winners will be notified in March, and awards will be presented at CISCO's Annual Luncheon Friday, April 19.

Johnetta Ryan Recognized



Education to Careers Director Johnetta Ryan was named a recipient of the Daily Herald Business Ledger's Influential Women in Business Award for 2012. Johnetta was honored on Monday, October 29.

Ryan helped develop the Education to Careers program, which creates and promotes construction industry apprenticeship programs to introduce young people to the industry's opportunities. Johnetta has spoken to thousands of young people in the last decade raising awareness of the many opportunities offered within the union construction industry and the building trades.

From *the* Desk of the Executive Director



It is my pleasure to pass along a significant piece of good news as we enter 2013: The Federal Highway Administration and Federal Aviation Administration have approved construction of a \$3.6-billion Illinois tollway intended to improve access from Chicago suburbs to O'Hare International Airport.

The tollway, part of a 15-year, \$12-billion capital program named, Move Illinois: The Illinois Tollway Driving the Future, will replace the Elgin-O'Hare Expressway.

Plans call for construction of an all electronic tollway that will bypass O'Hare on its western border and connect to the Jane Addams Memorial Tollway (I-90) and the Tri-State (I-294). The Elgin-O'Hare Expressway will be widened and converted to a toll road that also connects to the bypass.

Funded by toll revenues, the 12-year project is expected to create 65,000 direct and indirect jobs when combined with the completion of the western terminal at O'Hare Airport.

The next step, as I have referred to in other *Communicator* columns is to secure a \$300 million funding gap that still exists with the project. One trip to Washington D.C. has already been made by local elected officials and labor leaders, and another is being planned for February.

This all segues nicely into a promotional mention of our keynote speaker for our January 25 Annual Meeting - Illinois Tollway Executive Director Kristi Lafleur.

Ms. Lafleur will be able to provide more information about the Western Access Tollway plans and funding. She will also provide us with an update of the proposed Route 53/120 extension through southern and central Lake County, and further details about the Tollway's current 15-year, \$12 billion capital program.

All in all, 2013 is shaping up to be an exciting year as economic indicators are showing that residential apartment construction looks to be robust; architectural billings are up; a new Gaming Bill is being discussed in the General Assembly that will have a impact on additional construction work; the multi-billion dollar O'Hare expansion continues; and the Governor is asking for a new capital bill.

With the work described in these plans and projects, the outlook for the union construction industry is positive. The projections of revitalization we made in 2009 for our industry are starting to become reality.

I want to take this opportunity to pass along my wishes to all of the families of CISCO members, contractors and building trades professionals for the happiest of New Years in 2013!

John Brining
Executive Director

Dennis Fleming Appointed to CISCO Board



Dennis Fleming was appointed to the CISCO Board of Directors this past fall. Dennis has been a member of Sprinkler Fitters Local 281, U.A. since 1984. He also has been an instructor at the Sprinkler Fitters Apprenticeship Training facility for the past four years. Dennis became a Business Agent for the local in 2010, and he plans on seeking election to the position of Business Manager in June 2013.

Dennis was born and raised on the south side of Chicago and graduated from Marist High School. Dennis fills the vacancy created after John Zubricks stepped down. John also represented Sprinkler Fitters Local 281. John had served on CISCO's Board of Directors since 2007, and had also served as CISCO's Board Vice President from 2008-09.

CISCO wishes to thank John Zubricks for his 5 years of service, and congratulates Dennis Fleming on his appointment.

Presidential *Perspective*



The end of the year is always a time to reflect upon our accomplishments, and quickly look forward to what lies ahead. In the last issue, I talked about public/private partnerships and the role it will play in affording the cost of new and rebuilt infrastructure, freight lines, transportation and generating alternative sources of energy. More ideas continue to surface as our industry looks for new ways to deliver public improvements ensuring that one of our regions greatest assets (union construction trades and contractors) is utilized as much as possible.

Another one of those fresh ideas surfaced when John Brining and I attended a forum that was hosted by the Chicago Federation of Labor last month. To sum it up, the discussion involved how union pension fund dollars have been invested or committed into the Chicago economy, mainly through the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust (HIT). In essence, billions have been invested in lower risk, local real estate endeavors, and this money has been funneled into the local economy and has provided work for thousands of union members here and nationwide.

The HIT is a \$4.5 billion investment grade fixed-income mutual fund, with more than 90 percent of the portfolio being U.S. government insured. The HIT creates union construction jobs by financing affordable housing, healthcare facilities, and community development, all built 100 percent union. These construction jobs are putting construction workers to work, but also the projects are creating additional infrastructure that helps the factory workers, helps support neighborhood businesses and creates positive economic development.

This kind of an idea has a mutual positive impact on our lives and our industry, and it is the type of news that is encouraging as we head into the new year. To all of CISCO's members, partners and supporters, I extend my wishes for a prosperous, safe and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Dave Henderson
CISCO Board President

CISCO Announces Pride in Construction Award Recipients

CISCO'S Board of Directors has chosen the top construction projects of 2012, and also announced individual recipients for Educator, Labor Conciliator, and Public Body of the Year.

Leading the way in the **New Construction – Chicago** category was the 840,000 sf, 14-story Rush University Medical Center hospital building (see right). The project was submitted by the Power/Jacobs Joint Venture.

In the **New Construction – Suburbs** category, the College of DuPage's Homeland Security Education Center earned the top recognition for its 62,000 sf multi-jurisdictional training building.

And in the **Rehabilitation** category, the Tollway's I-294/I-90 Tri-Level Bridge project was selected as the best rehab construction project.

Individual winners included: Educator of the Year **Janice Stoettner**, Executive Director at Career Development System; Labor Conciliator of the Year, **John Tribble**, Conciliation/Mediation Division Manager, IDOL; and Public Body of the Year – Chicago Department of Aviation/Commissioner **Rosemarie Andolino**.



Area Food Banks Benefit From CISCO Golf Outing Generosity

It's never too warm or too cold to talk about golf! Last September's "Last Swing" Golf Outing at Bloomingdale Golf Club saw near-perfect weather, a great turnout and a record number of sponsors. Proceeds once again were targeted to help fellow union families who are need in 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.



Many thanks to our sponsors and supporters:

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- Roofers & Waterproofers Local 11
- Sav-Rx Prescription Services
- ScreenSafe
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 265
- Sprinkler Fitters Local 281
- Trinity Roofing Services, Inc.



And CISCO members and supporters came through again! A total of \$3,000 will be split between the two charities. It sounds like a broken record, but the course was sold out, and the weather was again perfect for a fourth consecutive year. In addition, the luncheon was highlighted by great food, plenty of laughs and some very lucky raffle prize winners.



We owe it all to you! 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 save the date for next year's "Last Swing" Outing at Bloomingdale Golf Club, scheduled for September 9, 2013, and plan to attend.

2013 CISCO Board of Directors

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Concrete Contractors Association
of Greater Chicago
Construction & General Laborer's
District Council of Chicago & Vicinity
Electrical Contractors Association of
City of Chicago, Inc.

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 150, 461, & 701
 Finishing Contractors Association
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OP & CMIA Local 11
Operating Engineers Local 150
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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

Upcoming Calendar

The Builders Education & Training Foundation will present the third unit in the AGC's Lean Construction Education Program, Lean Workstructuring on Friday, February 8. Contact Stacey Kelly at 847-318-8585 for more information.

The Construction Safety Council, ASA Chicago and the Chicago Building Council will once again co-sponsor the Construction & Safety Expo on Tuesday, March 5 at Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. The Safety Sessions run from 7:00 -5:00 p.m., while the Expo is scheduled from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Call the Construction Safety Council at 800-552-7744 for information on registration, exhibitor and sponsorship opportunities, or visit www.buildsafe.org.



Johnetta Ryan,
Director
Education-to-Careers

EDUCATION 70 CAREERS


Illinois State Apprenticeship Committee Counselor Conference

This past fall featured two major events that enabled CISCO and its partners to provide state-wide counselors and high school age sophomores and juniors the opportunity to learn more about careers in both the construction industry and the Engineering field.

Illinois State Apprenticeship Committee (ISAC) Counselor Conference - This late September event was hosted by the Operating Engineers Apprenticeship School in Wilmington. Counselors learned the skills that students will need to get into the Union Construction Apprenticeship Programs through hands-on activities and panel discussions.

A total of 83 Counselors from around the state attended the event, and based on comments received from post-event evaluation forms, many called it an “eye-opening” experience. In general, those who attended said that gaining an understanding of both the curriculum and the physical tasks that are involved in the building trades, was a true surprise, and changed their view regarding a career in the trades.




 *ISAC Counselors learn about trades: (clockwise from top left) bricklayers, insulators, operating engineers and plumbers.*

CISCO/CPS Hands-On Event Joins Forces With IDOT Again

CISCO's annual Hands-on Expo on October 18 with the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) partnered with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the second time to bring in a mix of professionals that included 11 different building trades, Engineering schools and other companies. More than 300 students attended the event from CPS schools that also included two northwest suburban schools and Catholic High School Brother Rice. The one-day expo was hosted by the Laborer's Apprenticeship School in Chicago.



 *Governor Pat Quinn (center left) stopped by to greet members of the partnering organizations: CISCO, CPS, IDOT and the Laborer's at the Oct. 18 Hands-on event.*

IDOT Secretary Ann Schneider attended and participated at the various hands-on training stations. Johnetta Ryan, CISCO's Education to Careers Director, helped coordinate the 11 different trade booths which included representation from the carpenters, plumbers, pipefitters, bricklayers, sheet metal workers and more.

Governor Pat Quinn also made an appearance (see photo at left) to encourage and applaud the efforts of union construction to raise awareness of careers in the trades.

Legislative Update - Vote on HB 3636 Looms During Lame Duck Session



HB 3636/Cypress Creek
– This legislation is now scheduled for a vote in the Illinois House during the first week of January. Prior to Feb. 25, 2011, lenders were preferred in a foreclosure action based on the value of the land, while the various contractors and suppliers were preferred based on the

value of the improvements built on the property. After this date, the decision called the “Cypress Creek Act” overturned this, giving the lenders priority on both the value of the land and the value of the improvements. The Illinois Mechanical & Specialty Contractors Association made a legislative remedy a priority, and IMSCA is asking that you please call your State Representative and ask them to vote YES to HB 3636, which brings the law back to its original standard of fairness. For a concise explanation view the video at the following url - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qVz4A9BvjwY>

Focus of CISCO Outreach Workshops: Upcoming Construction Projects


CISCO experienced a very busy Autumn as it scheduled three workshops aimed at bringing contractors and building trades personnel into the same room with Argonne & Fermi National Laboratories, and the Capital Development Board, which spent time detailing upcoming construction projects, as well as providing valuable information about how contractors could become pre-qualified to bid and perform work on these projects.

Argonne and Fermi staff met with interested parties at IBEW 701 on October 11 as CISCO partnered with NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC which hosted the event in Warrenville.


Next up was an event that CISCO partnered with the Fox Valley Building Trades and Fox Valley Associated General Contractors, November 9 at the Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 501 facility in Aurora. The Capital Development Board team, under the leadership of Executive Director Jim Underwood, presented a two-hour overview of the “Illinois Jobs Now” Capital program. In addition, the CDB team provided information regarding bid opportunities, new MBE/FBE requirements and prequalification/contract requirements.

The following Friday, November 16, a duplicate presentation was provided by CDB staff at IBEW 701 as CISCO partnered with Choose DuPage, the economic development arm of DuPage County. The success of the three events went beyond the nearly 175 people who attended as many contractors and building trades men and women built relationships that will keep them connected in the future.




 Fermi Facility Director Randy Ortgiesen provides upcoming construction work overview during October 11 workshop.



 State Senator Linda Holmes (D-42nd) gives an impromptu pep talk at November 9 event.



 Capital Development Board Executive Director Jim Underwood provides open remarks on November 16.



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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**

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

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Education-to-Careers Director: Johnetta Ryan
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___ "Union Construction" Bumper Sticker

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___ Construction Video Library (\$70 per set)