



CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

THE CARPENTERS FORUM

WINTER 2020



Gary Perinar

Fighting Tax Fraud and Wage Theft

Last year, the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters implemented a department to combat Tax Fraud and Wage Theft. Every year in the United States billions of dollars in tax revenue is lost due to the fraudulent actions of deceitful employers.

The loss of tax revenue negatively effects every one of us. The purpose of this department is:

1. To make sure our members are paid the proper wages and benefits according to their contract.
2. To level the playing field for our signatory contractors to competitively bid projects.
3. To help communities receive the correct amount of appropriated tax dollars to increase future growth, new projects and public services.

What is Tax Fraud and how does it impact construction workers? Tax Fraud and Wage Theft happens when employees are not paid the wages that they have earned. Another form is not being paid the legally mandated overtime premium for hours worked in excess of the 40-hour work week. Wage Theft is often accompanied by tax and insurance fraud, which are crimes that hurt the construction industry. We know that Wage Theft does not happen accidentally - it's intentional and it's the business model of corrupt companies. Those unethical



contractors often choose shady subcontractors or labor brokers to hide themselves from the liability of wage theft, but under state laws they still can be held liable. Wage Theft gives cheating contractors a huge advantage when it comes

to bidding projects against honest signatory contractors. What this means is fewer jobs for both our members and our law-abiding signatory contractors. I would like to emphasize that the vast majority of our signatory contractors are paying

their employees properly, but in order to maintain and increase our market share, we must address and clean up the corruption that is so rampant within our industry.

In August 2019, Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker signed legislation creating the Worker's Protection Unit Task Force within the Illinois Attorney General's office. This unit affords the Attorney General's office the authority to investigate and file suit against violators of the Prevailing Wage Act, Minimum Wage Law, Labor Services Act, and Wage Payment and Collection Act. The new Worker's Protection Unit Task Force will be working in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Labor to identify and take the necessary actions against payment violations and unfair labor practices.

The Regional Council's Tax Fraud Department also works

closely with the offices of the Attorney General and the Illinois Department of Labor. Our Tax Fraud Department will continue to provide documentation that clearly demonstrates the fraudulent activities of targeted companies to both state and local government agencies. We all pay our fair share of taxes supporting good schools for our children, or community services including police and fire, as well as Social Security and Medicare benefits. But we will NOT let cheating companies pollute our market by taking jobs away from our members and law-abiding contractors. We will NOT allow these cheating companies to pad their wallets at the expense of our hard-working members by failing to pay them the collectively bargained agreement amount. Remember this type of cheating is no accident and the intent to cheat our members is calculated and premeditated. We need our entire membership on board and to report these types of criminal activities to their local unions so our Tax Fraud Department can take action against these corrupt companies.

Construction Industry Tax Fraud Days of Action April 14-18, 2020

The Regional Council will be organizing activities for these days to highlight this crisis. To participate in our efforts, please call 630-920-8552 or email: kmedina@carpentersunion.org.

Visit www.StopTaxFraud.net to learn more.

C O N T E N T S



Steppenwolf Theatre
1642 N. Halsted
Chicago, IL

The Carpenters Forum

Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters
United Brotherhood of Carpenters
and Joiners of America

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A publication for members of the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters (CRCC).

Address changes or death notices should be reported to the appropriate local union, not the CRCC or *The Carpenters Forum*.



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Crcccarpenters

A Message from President

Jeffrey Isaacson



The Importance of Training and Development

The Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters stresses the importance of basic skill training for apprentices and skill-advancement training for journeymen. We want you to be the best you can be. We also want our leadership to be the best it can be in the labor industry.

Last month, the leaders of the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters met to learn from one another and enhance their leadership skills.

We were honored to have Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker address the leadership on his accomplishments in his first year in office for working families and how the Legislature is working in a bipartisan manner on major issues especially the Infrastructure Bill — which directly relates to the trades and more work. He again thanked the Carpenters Union for being the

first trade to endorse his campaign and said he will always remember our commitment to him.



Next, Colonel Steven Sattinger and Brian Heinold, Chief of Operations Division from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Rock Island District, provided an update on Illinois Waterway. The Rock Island District operates and maintains the second longest nine-foot navigation channel in the Corps of Engineers.

Our final speaker was Professor Robert Bruno, Director of Labor Studies Program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. An enthusiastic labor supporter, Professor Bruno's presentation was on comparative data and how this relates to the Carpenters Union and moving forward into the future.

Safety and Apprenticeship – The Safety Department presentation discussed the issues that were encountered in 2019 and what to look for while on the sites in 2020. Each session was broken up into groups of six. The department created a *Kahoot* quiz to not only test the knowledge of safety with our business representatives but to train them in the areas where we could improve their knowledge. In providing this information we expect that our representatives will share what they learned with our stewards and members while visiting the sites.

The four areas where the Safety Department saw the most challenges in 2019, were in order: complacency, unreported incidents or injuries, electrical issues, and fall protection. It was encouraging to see fall protection was not the first issue as in other years past,

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however, some of that was in the complacency category as well. Stay focused in 2020!

The Apprenticeship presentation supplied information and contacts for each training center for the new organizers and business representatives.

Handouts were provided on the new Skill Advancement Classes with an explanation for each class. This information was from the UBC International Training Center and the classes being offered which included: Collaborative Leadership, Foreman Training, Superintendent Career Training, UBC Journeymen Leadership and the 212 Journeymen Next Level Leaders Program. The handout also included a program overview, on who is eligible and who to contact as well as a schedule for the 2020 classes which we asked all local unions to share with their members.

Legal – This presentation entitled, “*Old School: Labor Dispute Basics*,” was presented by the Regional Council’s attorneys Terry McGann and Travis Ketterman from McGann, Ketterman and Rioux, who reviewed the legal requirements for the various forms of picketing, bannering and handbilling. Using war stories from the past, along with lessons learned along the way, McGann and Ketterman provided both the

legal framework and best practices in order to resolve a labor dispute. The attorneys presented an outline of the dispute but used interaction with business representatives and organizers to clarify the rules and emphasize the importance of teamwork.

Marketing and Tax Fraud –

This presentation began with the Tax Fraud Department providing a recapitulation of what transpired in 2019. They explained how they were focused on companies who pay members (or the non-union) with cash, checks without any tax withholdings, misclassification of employees by IRS form 1099, and piecework. They also emphasized the need for witnesses to prove our cases. The presentation described what stage each of our cases are presently at with five (5) of them being assigned to a conciliator at the Illinois Department of Labor.

The Tax Fraud presentation continued by sharing the new Illinois Worker Protection Unit comprised of five (5) Illinois units of government working together to crack down on tax fraud. A description of the 2019 Midwest District (UBC) Conference on Tax Fraud was presented and how the other councils are combating the same problem. Finishing this presentation was a description of the Fraud Week, April 14-18, 2020 which all regional councils in the UBC are expected to participate in to get the message to government officials and citizens highlighting

the disaster this is to our economy.

The Marketing Department delivered a powerful presentation that included the 2020 *Built to Last*® television series with schedule updates. Now in its seventh season on ABC7 Chicago, the program has been nominated for its third Emmy Award. The presentation also included the Carpenters involvement in the evolving Illinois solar market. The CRCC’s strong focus and strategies for building solar industry partnerships will support our contractors, members, and the economic sustainability of the local communities in our CRCC jurisdiction.

Organizing – This presentation took an aggressive approach to old tactics. We tackled banners and handbill design. We upped our game and worked on extremely aggressive handbill and banners geared toward end users. The end user is the decision maker. The end user is the person or group of people whose reputation is on what the building produces or houses. The participants all worked extremely hard together to produce over the top banners and handbills with our legal team giving insight on what is legal and non-legal. It was a great learning experience and we look forward to next year’s session.



Ted Kenney / George Vest, Jr. Scholarship Application

Contact your Local Union

Go to: www.CarpentersUnion.org

CLICK on Members Tools

[Deadline July 1, 2020](#)

Bright Outlook for Construction

Nathan German
Southern Region Director

This coming year of 2020 has a bright outlook for construction in Central Illinois. As such, we need to continue to recruit and increase our membership, not only to replace retiring members in the field, but to meet the manpower demands for the upcoming workload.

Along the Illinois River the locks and dams will be under rehabilitative construction. Also, the Murray-Baker I-74 bridge in Peoria will shut down for repair. Large vertical projects are also forecast to start throughout our



region including substantial university work and other large projects such as the Quincy Veteran's Home. While the state begins rolling out Capitol Funding projects, you can expect the private work will pickup to match the infrastructure upgrades.

As mentioned in previous articles, the solar industry is breaking loose.

In just the past few months, Central Illinois Contractors have really begun to embrace the opportunity. Hein Construction, Johnco Construction, Schomburg and Schomburg Construction and Thompson Brothers Construction have all recently performed solar projects and are

among those actively pursuing the solar industry. Along with this, the JATC school has made preparations to help begin training carpenters on the installation of solar modules and other components.

Once again, everyone prepare yourself with the necessary upgrade training to meet the demanded skills. Also, please help mentor new members and further recruit capable applicants to join our ranks and strengthen our Union!

Lastly, a big congratulations to our recent apprenticeship graduates and a big thanks to former UBC General Vice President Doug Banes and Executive Secretary-Treasurer Gary Perinar for honoring them at the ceremony.



Southern Region Apprentice Graduation

Congratulations to the seventy-seven graduates from Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters' (CRCC) Southern Region. The dinner was held on October 25th at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in Peoria, IL.

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Gary Perinar along with retired UBC General Vice President Doug Banes were among those present to honor the graduates for all of their hard work, dedication, and years of determination to persist through

the Carpenters' Apprenticeship Program.

Congratulations and welcome to the ranks of Journeyman Carpenters!

Opportunities Abound

Bruce Werning
Western Region Director

Before we venture into this new year it is always important to review the past year's high points. There were ample work opportunities with new contractors and members brought into the fold. Wood framing made a resurgence with many restaurants, strip malls, hotels and senior living complexes being built. Our members worked on many of these projects but we still need to take more strides to be a bigger factor in this market. Many job site rallies were held to enlighten the general public and business leaders of issues affecting our members and this year we will again ask you and all members to step up your support in advancing our trade.

When we entered 2019 and into the year of the solar market, we had multiple contractors diversify their traditional scope of work to bid and install solar fields and roof top arrays. Members worked 25,000 hours installing modules. Our training center has purchased

equipment and developed curriculum to assist in training. We ask for your assistance in spotting and reporting solar activity on residential and commercial roof tops and agriculture/industrial fields. We anticipate even more job opportunities in solar this year. Please sign up.

Now is the time to sign up for work at the Illinois Exelon nuclear outages. The Spring 2020 outages are as follows:

- Byron 3/9 - 3/30
- Braidwood 4/20 - 5/11
- Quad Cities 3/30 - 4/19

Be sure to have your work history and certifications up-to-date. Contact your local millwright or carpenter union hall to obtain contact information for each nuclear station. This is a golden opportunity to work a bunch of hours including overtime!

As we move forward into this new year, we should each set goals to

obtain, some could be:

- Renew certifications
- Take a computer class
- Work in a different scope of trade
- Mentor a new member or apprentice
- Attend union meetings

Volunteer on a community project since we have entered into a new decade, how about long-term goals of:

- Setting a positive tone on tasks to be performed and towards the people around us
- Work toward leadership roles on the jobsite and in our union
- Build a financial nest egg
- Develop a wellness plan

Wishing this new year and decade brings you and your families prosperity, good health and social enrichments.

Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre-in-the-Round Project

The Halsted Street corridor in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of Chicago will soon be a new home for the Steppenwolf Theatre Company. The storied Chicago theater and its \$54 million project has been in construction since March 2019 and will create a new education center and a 400-seat theater-in-the-round, built on the parking lot south of the



theater's current 1650 N. Halsted home. The structure will also contain Steppenwolf's offices in addition to the theatre. The 50,000 square foot building in Chicago's Old Town neighborhood is expected to open in the summer of 2021.

The union general contractor is Norcon, Inc. with Rico Perez, Local 13 as Superintendent. Among those

handling the concrete work for this project is concrete union contractor Concrete Structures with John Reynolds, Local 13 as the steward.

When you look at Steppenwolf's 45-year history, it's been marked by a constant desire to be innovative," Eric Lefkowsky, chair of the theater's board of trustees, said. "It's become apparent that the existing campus just can't meet all our needs. We wanted to give the artistic ensemble all the tools they need."



Graduating Apprentices Honored

To graduate from the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters apprenticeship program takes years of commitment and hard work. This year we had more than 500 family members, friends, labor officials and regional council leaders that were present to honor the 300 plus graduates at the 47th Annual Apprentice Graduation and Dinner that was

held on Friday evening, November 8th, at the Westin Chicago Lombard Hotel in Lombard, IL.



Our most recent class of apprentices can now proudly call themselves journeymen. A special thanks to all the instructors and staff of the Apprentice Training Center and to the contractors, employers and the board of trustees for making all of this possible for our

newest union carpenter members. We acknowledge their contribution and thank them for their continuing support of the Apprentice Program. We also remember the importance of organized labor - what it stands for and how it has improved the lives of thousands of Americans. Take an active interest in your Union - attend meetings. The Union's future depends on YOU!

Congratulations to all the graduates and welcome to the ranks of Journeyman Carpenters!

Abbinante, Justin S
Aguilar, Luis E.
Aguirre, Gerardo U.
Allen, James J.
Allen, Timothy J.
Alonzo, Fernando
Alvarez, Humberto
Alvarez, Jose
Anderson, Mack R.
Anderson, Ryan J.
Anderson, Wade D.
Andrade, Guillermo J.
Archila, Christian P.
Armistead, Collin R.
Arreguin Arreola, Javier
Arroyo, David J.
Atkinson, Joshua J.
Avina, Eduardo
Balderrama, Jesse
Baron, Christopher M.
Barrera, Alejandro
Barrett, Kamar R.
Beadling, Bruce A.
Benson, James
Bierle, Jacob D.
Bisnette, Chadwell A.
Blocker, Kevin J.

Bonifay, Jr., Anthony J.
Bonislowski, Craig S.
Boothe, Shannon A.
Borelli, Scott
Borkowicz, Andrew T.
Brown, Latonya A.
Burbach, Austin A.
Cahnman, Nathan B.
Campbell, Anthony V.
Cano, Michaelangelo
Carrillo Esparza, Jesus
Castellanos, Keith A.
Ceci, Brian D.
Cederholm, Eric G.
Cegar, Ranko
Channell, Shannon L.
Chavez, Jose T.
Chavez Lozano, Bryan L.
Church, Christopher J.
Clary, Dillen T.
Cobb, Alexis D.
Collins, Eric T.
Collins, Jr., Michael R.
Conte, Rocco A.
Contreras, Brian
Cooper, Jacob A.
Cossyleon, Samuel

Counter, Kyle J.
Cox, James
Crawford, James A.
Cromartie, Eric A.
Davenport, Rickey L.
De John, Jr., Paul L.
De La Cerda, Miguel G.
Delgado, Henry
Deloriea, Jacob S.
Dial, Luis J.
Diaz, Adrian A.
Diaz, Yanier
Dinneen, Thomas J.
Dolan, Christopher H.
Dupree, Nicholas F.
Duran Chavez, Oscar N.
Dzierdzik, Karol
Eibenberger, Anthony J.
Emberton, Matthew N.
Epker, Zachery A.
Ervin, Natavias
Escamilla, Armando
Estrada, Scott N.
Flores Huerta, Jose A.
Flynn, James C.
Frazier, Epstan D.
Fuentes, Jr., Armando

Gallegos, Jr., Esteban
Garcia, Luis D.
Garcia, Manual S.
Garcia, Fonseca, Jose
Garrie, Kyle
Garver, Brandon M.
Giroux, Christopher S.
Goldsmith, Richard J.
Gomez, Michael
Gomez Cuevas, Jose
Gonzalez, Ivan
Gonzalez, Ricardo
Goodwin, Timothy R.
Gordon, Brandon S.
Gordon, Ramone T.
Gorz, Mark R.
Graczyk, Kevin A.
Grandchamp, Ryan M.
Greenwell, Killian L.
Griffin, Terrence L.
Grimmer, Paul C.
Gulbrandsen, Mark A.
Guzman, Michael
Haagen, Brycen P.
Hart, Timothy T.
Hathon, Nicholas R.
Headlee, Phillip

Hernandez, Demys O.
Hernandez, Zachery J.
Hernandez Camacho, Luis A.
Herrera Martinez, Jose L.
Herrera Martinez, Victor
Hillstrom, Spencer A.
Hoglund, Denni E.
Horwitz, Jacob W.
Howard, Darnell A.
Hulon, Coleton R.
Hyde, Daniel J.
Hynek, Matthew J.
Ibarra, Luis F.
Jamicich, John A.
Johnson, Will A.
Johnson, Jr., Rodrick A.
Jones, Andre L.
Jones, Travis H.
Kamin, Nathan W.
Kasanders, Steve M.
Kasper, Christopher R.
Kennedy, Robert J.
Kiaupa, John P.
King, Joshua M.
Klimaszewski, Adam
Klimek, Dariusz T.
Kohut, Lucas N.
Kowalkowski, Tyler F.
Kreznor, Brett M.
Krieger, Brian P.
Kulka, Travis J.
Kussy, Kyle D.
Kuzma, Branko
Lampi, Jack N.
Landeros, Juvenal
Langland, David L.
Larios, Edson N.
Lechelt, Jacob D.
Lee, Jeffrey M.
Lepretre, Zachery W.
Lestarczyk, Ryan R.
Lewis, Arthur T.
Lo Cicero, Michael J.
Lopez, Humberto
Lopez, Salvador C.
Lopez, Sergio
Louis, Jeremy B.
Lozano Hernandez Jr. G.
Lucas, Brandon J.

Macias, Kyle
Mamola, Michael E.
Mandes, II, Robert M.
Manu, John K.
Marganski, Andrew C.
Marinopoulos, Nicholas M.
Marquez Segoviano, Carlos R.
Martin, Jr., Jeffrey A.
Martinez, Eric
Martinez, Jaime
Martinez, Jesus
Martinez, Jose, A.
Martinez Noyola, Jorge L.
Martinez Pimentel, Rafael
Marungo Cepeda, Marco A.
Matamoros, Carlos
Mauricio, Anthony A.
Mayorga, Adrian
Mc Gillivray, Brian J.
McCarley, Ryan M.
McCord, David J.
McFadzean, Mark A.
McGowan, Ryan .
McGrath, Russell G.
Medina Perez, Yovani
Mellon, IV, James B.
Menadue, Auston G.
Mendez, Abraham
Messenger, Derek W.
Meza Jr., Jose Luis
Miller, Alex J.
Miller, Benjamin C.
Miranda, Jesus
Miranda, Michael J.
Morales, Fernando
Moreno, Ulysses A.
Nantz, Nathan
Ocampo, Lorenzo
OConnor, Diarmuid G.
Olson, Drew D.
Orner, Tyler M.
Oviedo Ariza, Daniel
Owens, Kenneth B.
Padilla Ramos, Luis D.
Patino, Jesse R.
Pellegrino, Robert
Perez, Eduardo
Perry, William R.
Petersen, Dillon J.

Pina, Jr., samuel J.
Placencia, Jaime
Popoola, Samson O.
Porties, Jr., Tyrone
Prado, Jr., Catalino
Pruim, Brandon J.
Pugh, Johnathan L.
Pusz, Roland D.
Ramirez Melesio, Arturo
Rapp, Jr., Gerard D.
Renteria, Eduardo
Richardson, Dominique
Rios, Jaime A.
Rizzo, Michael F.
Robles, Jose
Rodriguez, Cesar G.
Rodriguez, Michael L.
Rodriguez, Salvatore O.
Rodriguez Rosales, Eduardo
Rog, Michael H.
Rosak, Noah J.
Rose, Nicholas, M.
Rosenbalm, Brian
Rosenstiel, Jeremy J.
Rowser, Shandale O.
Rubio, Jonah S.
Rutherford, Gevin M.
Salazar, Roberto
Sanchez Cisneros, Fernando
Sanders, Reid F.
Sanders III, Joseph G.
Sanders, II, Gregory T.
Santana Cuevas, Juan
Santiago, David
Saric, Dimitrie
Scheidecker, John
Schittino, Nicholas A.
Schnierla, Jr., Mike
Schott, Jacob L.
Schroeter, Joseph
Sebastian, Alberto
Segura-Felipe, Jose J.
Selep, Jake J.
Serrano Gonzalez, Luis E.
Severovic, Ivo
Sharisky, Tyler G.
Shaver, Jr., Thomas J.
Shepherd, Brett A.
Shields, II, Michael W.

Shimon, IV, Nelson E.
Silva, Miguel
Sizemore, Danny K.
Skelnik, Sidney J.
Skoryi, Austin, R.
Smith, Joseph M.
Smith, Omar K.
Solorio, Ricardo
Solovastru, Edward O.
Sotelo Sanchez, Carlos A.
Soto, Hector M.
St. Paul, James J.
Stachowicz, Paul L.
Stange, III, William C.
Stenberg, Luke A.
Stepanek, Zachary J.
Struchil, Nicholas M.
Sullivan, Matthew
Taylor, Shawn M.
Terbush, Matthew
Torres, Jr., Jose L.
Ungureanu, Joseph W.
Urbanek, Charles B.
Uribe Zavala, Guillermo
Utermark, Adam T.
Valadez, Jr., Juan M.
Valle, Mario
Vallejo Rodriguez, Francisco
Vazquez, Jr., Rogelio
Velasco, Adrian
Velazquez, Jesus A.
Vergara, Gilberto
Vilic, Haris
Vinson, Michael A.
Vogrin, John R.
Walneck, Edward G.
Warner, Zacharish C.
Wells, Anthony
Wellwood, Jonathan
Welsh, Marcus W.
White, Roger B.
Williams, Devin
Wuestenberg Benjamin R.
Zabraniak, Christopher A.

The Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Apprentice and Training Center

1256 Estes Ave. Elk Grove Village, IL 60007

(847) 640-7373

For more information: www.chicap.org





Successful Third-Year Apprentice Programs

The Midwestern District's Third-Year Apprentice Program was held at the UBC's International Training Center in Las Vegas, NV. The program is designed to give third-year apprentices a better understanding of the brotherhood and organized labor in the construction industry.

The program included discussions with union officers and a contractor panel, as well as a variety of presentations. The third-year apprentices were selected based on school and on-the-job performances and union involvement.

Congratulations to our August 2019 class. Top photo: Andrew Aguilera; Alberto Alba; Derrick Baker; Brock Barnhill; Gene Brugger; Brian Cody; Alexander Compasto; Randall Conrad; Tyler Cowart; Jorge Cruz, Jr.; Andrew Daniels; Julio De La Cruz; Liam De Wane; Jacob Dixon Nedeljik; Kyle Dyke

Brendan Emerick; Nikolas Faletti; Kent Fields, Jr.; Bryan Flammini; Ruben Gonzales; Michael Grossklaus; Gage Hanson; Robert Harms; Nathan Hayden; Mark Heggen; Leonardo Holguin; Matthew Hornik; Alberto Ibarra; Leonardo Jimenez; Derrick Johnson; Jacob King; Christian Kohler; Ryan Lauer; Edward Ledezma; Christopher Martz, Jr.; Jonathan Montes Diego; Ramon Ochoa; Timothy Orr; Gerardo Padilla; Walter Quevedo; Federico Ramirez; Hector Rodriguez Alba; Eric Sepanski; Esnad Skacic; Adam Tracy; Dusten Walsh; Tanner Webb; Ryan White; Christopher Wojcik; Cornelio Zaragoza; Andrew Zimmerman.

Congratulations to our September 2019 class. Below photo: Alejandro Alvarez; Joseph Amado III; Robert Angelo; Antonio Argomaniz; Phillip Arnold; Aaron Artus; Ernesto Ayala; Joshua Brantley;

Tyler Brewster; Raymond Colonius; Michael Czapinski; Jose Diaz Flores; Lawrence Dickinson; Leighton Elliott; Erik Falcon-Hardt; Mateusz Fudala, Daniel Garcea; Timothy Gaskin; Cameron Grams; Louis Grigoletti; Donovan Hannum; Juan Jimenez Lozano; Bradley Klukis; Christopher Knieps; Brian Marks; Raymundo Martinez; Callahan McDaniel; Sean McHenry; Michael Mendoza; Patrick Mroczkowski; Bernard Murphy; Tomasz Mycka; Michel Oconnor, Oliverio, Ortiz-Nino; Lukas Parker; Javier Patino, Jr.; Jesus Perez; Jason Powell; Jeremy Rivers; Benjamin Rosardo; Jesse Schneider; Ryan Slussar; Preston Taylor; Marcos Velazquez; Cesar Villagonez, Jr.; Nathan Voss; Michael Whittle; Joseph Wyatt; Brandon Wyatt.



Internal Organizing

Joel Pogose
Organizing Director

Welcome to 2020! Let's make this year a year of Wisdom. Specifically, new wisdom regarding internal and external Organizing. What is Internal and External organizing? Internal Organizing is when we Organize with our family & friends, on our jobsites and inside our union. External Organizing is how we organize in public, in our communities, politically, with our contractors and the end users that employ our contractors. It is proper to talk about getting "THIS HOUSE" in order before we worry about someone else's. We will break down both but for the purpose of this article we will begin with Internal Organizing. Let's talk about some ways we can organize internally.

It does not get more internal than your home. Does your family know what comes with strapping the tools every day? Do they know that you are a hardworking, smart, resilient union carpenter who is very proud of the work you produce daily? Do they know that the life they live is because you chose a career as, not just a carpenter, a UNION carpenter? Tell them how you work very hard every day to take care of them with the carpenters union working alongside you by providing a sustainable paycheck, pension and amazing insurance benefits. Show them proof. We can also discuss with other family members what the brotherhood provides to its members and their families. Once

your family knows how much being a Union Carpenter means, they will respect you for it. Oh, and the ones that don't... well we talked all about communication last year. Outside our family there are other important ways that we can do internal organizing.



So much incorrect information is spread around our jobsites. We tell everyone we are the most productive carpenters in the world. Now would be the time when you hear incorrect information on a jobsite correct it. If you are not sure, research the correct information; get wisdom. Once you have it inform everyone making sure all workers hear it. That is Organizing! Many times, the bad information puts people in bad moods. That takes away from teamwork and makes us unproductive on the jobsite. This will affect us all at the end and cannot be tolerated. An Organized jobsite is a productive jobsite that makes money for our contractors and the end users that hire them. When a contractor is profitable, they keep us employed so that we and our families can enjoy the benefits of being a union carpenter. Keep your jobsite organized with current accurate information

flowing and enjoy coming to work daily.

One of the places we can go to get this correct information is our union meetings. If you go to your local union meeting you will see that attendance is poor, but gaining momentum. The local union

meeting is a place to go, not only to get information, but to connect with your union brothers and sisters. You can discuss work, life, family, places for employment or just old times. Many times, you will discuss non union companies, problems with safety on jobsite, insurance issues you may run into – this is Organizing! This

flowing information needs to be discussed more often and with more carpenters. Our union meetings can benefit all of us in a positive way, but only if you attend. We need to get everyone on the same page. Go to your union meeting and take someone with you.

None of these three internal organizing ideas cost a dime, but they do require some time and most important the willingness to try. Choose being wiser in your career as a Union Carpenter. Do not say "that is someone else's job", "I don't care", or "I'm too busy for any of that"? Remember the paycheck, pension, and incredible insurance benefits can be gone in a blink of an eye. If we all move forward as one, we can say we are "Internally Organized". Remember if you do not believe in your union, why would anyone else? Time to start taking care of "THIS HOUSE" now before it is too late.

Safety as a Value

*John Horak, CHST, STSC
Safety Director
Assistant to EST*

There are many reasons to practice safety. Quite often, when we

encounter members not practicing safety, we inquire the reason for not following established procedures. Some respond that they did not know what they were doing was not correct. Thankfully, this is becoming

a rarity on our projects due to effective training. Others respond that the equipment is not available, or the equipment was available, but they forgot to bring everything they needed and did not want to go back to the trailer or gang box to get what they were missing. Even more concerning are members who choose not to practice safety because they had been “doing it that way for years and nothing ever happened”. There are many members who do take safety seriously every day and we and your families thank you. Which category do you fall into?

We can offer more training for those who were never taught, that is probably the easiest to correct. I am sure there were other members working in the same area who may have noticed that the carpenter was not performing safely but did they take a second to stop and assist our other member? In conducting investigations after an incident, we often hear from other carpenters that they wished they would have said something because they did witness the injured or

fatally wounded member prior to the incident. Complacency is our biggest concern with members who have been trained previously, have the equipment available, but either choose not to wear the PPE because

they forgot to bring everything, or nothing ever happened to them in the past. It is much more difficult to get someone to realize the consequences of their actions. When we see someone using negative behaviors, and we don't say

something, we are letting that person know subliminally that what they are doing is acceptable. As they continue repeating that negative behavior without penalty then that behavior becomes normal to them.

Conversely, if we see someone performing well and we let them know it encourages them to continue repeating what got them praise. In our “everybody gets a trophy” world some members may think that there should be no praise for doing your job. Is there anybody that would not appreciate hearing a good comment instead of always negative? I am certainly not a registered psychologist but if you consider the theory, it is basic human behaviors we need to focus on to improve safety outcomes.

There are so many signs and policies on our sites indicating that “Safety is a Value” for that company. We must analyze deeper to determine if the message is real. In today's world the schedule is constantly under pressure. Far too often, when this happens, the first thing to suffer is safety. There are very few companies that would deliberately tell someone not to work safe but by telling workers the work must be completed quicker, the wrong message is received by the worker and we take it upon ourselves to get the job done. After all, isn't that why we are the best trained in the world? We get things completed, but not always safe.

We must go back to the beginning. Ask yourself why do I get up each

day and go to work? Most of our members would probably have the same answer, to provide for our families. Some projects even have a board in the trailer where workers on that site could place a photo of their

family on the board. We are proud to be able to provide.

Imagine if each day we looked at that picture prior to starting work, whether on a board, in your wallet, or in your heart, and made a pledge that you would work safely for them.

continued on following page



KEEP IT SAFE

continued from previous page

Imagine them right in front of you, and then try not working safe. All we are asking is to focus on your family, which is the most important thing in your life. Believe me when I tell you what happens to the family after an injury or fatality. It will change each of your lives forever. We have seen the results, grief, and guilt of not being able to provide for the ones you love. We can

make a difference in safety on the sites. It will take all of us working together, but it can be done, one day at a time.

The difference between a core value and a priority is that a priority can change based upon conditions, but a core value never changes. What a great time prior to the busy construction season to make a commitment to your families, to ask someone to show you the proper way to practice

safety if you don't know, take the extra few minutes to go back and get whatever PPE you forgot, and realize that just because it hasn't happened to you in 25 years doesn't mean it can't happen. Will safety be a priority or a value for you this year? I can't wait to see the picture of your family.

Day One starts tomorrow.

Working in Cold Weather

Working in cold weather can beat up the best of trade persons. Trying to stay flexible in this kind of environment is quite a chore. Soft-tissue injuries frequently occur as a result of the cold working conditions. Cold-related illnesses and injuries, and potential for permanent tissue damage or



death can occur as a result of cold weather exposure. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), developed a quick card to help inform construction workers of the hazards of working in cold weather. Please read the information on the quick cards, and protect yourself from frostbite and

related injuries. Use the information at your next Safety Toolbox Talk. Protect yourself. Protect your fellow workers. Go to www.osha.gov or www.carpentersafety.org for more information on working in the cold and the Cold Quick Card.

Be Safe!



UBC/CITF Construction Site Safety Specialist (CSSS) Certificate Program and Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) Certifications

For More Information Contact:

John Horak
CRCC Safety Director
312-787-3076



Carpenters Partner with OSHA on Rush University Project

Rush University Medical Center has begun construction on a new \$450 million Cancer and Neurosciences Center project.

This project was made possible by the largest philanthropic gift in Rush history by Joan and Paul Rubschlager. This building will include a new 10-story administrative building, a 10-story parking garage, an underground tunnel across Ashland Ave., a pedestrian walkway on the 4th floor that will



connect to the butterfly building to allow access to all of Rush Medical Center's buildings via the pedestrian walkway system. Adjustable


Forms is contracted to do the foundation for this 10-story building.

This project stretches a full city block from Ashland Avenue to Loomis Street on the west to the east and from Harrison Street on the south to Congress Parkway on the north.

The Chicago Regional Council of Carpenter has entered into an OSHA partnership with Power Construction. Completion set for 2022.



WANTED



**Building Leadership
for a Strong Future Program**

**Journeyman
Carpenters**

**Contact Your Local Union
TODAY!**



Carpenters Local 1, Local 13 and Local 54 came out to support Congressman Lipinski at his Annual Jamboree. Congressman Lipinski is the most senior member from Illinois on the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee. He is a great friend of labor for many years and a champion of the middle class

Gately Indoor Track World-Class Facility

The Gately Indoor Track and Field will be a world-class facility with the area's first hydraulically banked 200-meter track. This \$57 million, 139,000 square foot facility will open in Chicago's historic Pullman neighborhood in 2020.

With seating capacity at 3,500, it will also include supporting amenities such as, a management control room, concessions, multi-purpose rooms and locker rooms. Additionally, the facility will feature a 4000 square foot warm-up area, eight sprint lanes, two long and triple jump runways and pits, pole-vault runway and pads, a high jump area and scoreboards.

In addition to sporting events and programs, non-sporting events are also expected to be held throughout the year. To accommodate this need, this facility will be flexible with 70,000 square feet of usable space that can be programmed for recreational basketball, volleyball and other non-sporting events. Also in the new facility, *After School Matters* (ASM) will program 22,000 square feet of program space including a dance program, full culinary kitchen and multi-purpose labs for art, science and technology. The new Gately facility will be both a world-class sports complex and a year-round community center for

wellness, culture and after-school programming.

Kiefer U.S.A., a Chicago-based leader in the supply and installation of athletic surfacing, will head the team that will install the Mondo variable banked hydraulic track system; McHugh Construction Co. and Bowa Construction both based in Chicago, will build the track facility.

This project is made possible due to a generous donation by Exelon and partnership with *After School Matters*.



BUILT TO LAST®



SEASON 7 COMING SPRING 2020

Check out your local listings for times



abc7chicago.com





carpentersunion.org

You   

VOTE to Protect Your Rights

Kevin O’Gorman
Political Director

In the constant changing and ever shifting political landscape it is easy to become distracted. Despite the perceptions being created it is of the utmost importance that we don’t lose focus on the genuine attacks we as union members face. With sleight of hand information being thrust in every direction from social media, to disingenuous reporting from mainstream media, there is an insidious effort to not only diminish our way of life but to eliminate it entirely. As union members we have been demonized and accused of being deterrents to the economy, free trade, blamed as an inflation component and a roadblock to competitive business practices. The engine of destruction is in constant motion, not only to disrupt organized labor but to ultimately abolish it. A great deal of time and effort is put forth, and a tremendous amount of money and energy is committed to convincing the public that union members are a threat to the well-being of society, that we have been and continue to be not only an impediment but a burden. They want to dismantle our right to reasonable compensation, affordable healthcare, the future security of pensions, workplace safety, employment protection and the ability to collectively bargain. Rather than negotiate and bargain they seek to abolish us.



From the moment talented and skilled craftspeople recognized that with unity, they could create the power of recognition and that their will and determination to be treated not with exception but rather with fairness would allow for better safety, consideration, protections and security. That is why the Labor Movement was created, and for those reasons we must continue to fight and resist those in commerce, industry,

“The Labor Movement was the Principle Force that Transformed Misery and Despair into Hope and Progress”

Martin Luther King Jr.

business and politics who strive to dismantle our House of Labor, to divide our unity and weaken our strength. Since our inception we have fought, battled and struggled to gain and maintain basic conditions and protections, these efforts were secured at no small cost but by the blood, sweat and

tears of our founding members, preceding members and current members.

Unions have always been the liberator of the middle class, civically responsible, charitable and involved in community development. Because there is strength and power in unity, unions represent a threat to an agenda which is based on greed and control. We are a force that will continue to build the American middle class. As a union member you represent a promise to a multitude of people that yearn for the same conditions and benefits that generations of union men and women have worked so long and hard to secure. We are part of an organization that doesn’t seek or expect entitlement but one that strives to create an atmosphere of cooperation and contribution. Through our history and the lessons of our past we are woven into the fabric of our country. Through the strength of our unity and solidarity we have created a community, a Brotherhood and Sisterhood and an organization that we should be proud of.

Let there be no question that there is a concerted and concentrated attack upon us, not for what we have gained, but more because of what and who we represent, and for what we can accomplish as a unified body. It is imperative that we continue to maintain and promote our unity. Now, I ask that you contribute to your proud union history and protect your rights by voting in unity for politicians that share our goals and values.

MARCH 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION

Please consider the following Labor-endorsed candidates when voting

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

BALLOT QUESTION

Support Fair Tax Constitutional Amendment

FEDERAL

U.S. Senate – Dick Durbin (D)
District 1 – Bobby Rush (D)
District 2 – Robin Kelly (D)
District 3 – Dan Lipinski (D)
District 4 – Jesus “Chuy” Garcia (D)
District 5 – Mike Quigley (D)
District 6 – Sean Casten (D)
District 7 – Danny Davis (D)
District 8 – Raja Krishnamoorthi (D)
District 9 – Jan Schakowsky (D)
District 10 – Brad Schneider (D)
District 11 – Bill Foster (D)
District 13 – Rodney Davis (R)
District 14 – Lauren Underwood (D)
District 16 – Dani Brzozowski (D)
District 17 – Cheri Bustos (D)

STATE SENATE

District 1 – Antonio Munoz (D)
District 4 – Kimberly Lightford (D)
District 7 – Heather Steans (D)
District 10 – Robert Martwick (D)
District 11 – Celina Villanueva (D)
District 13 – Robert Peters (D)
District 16 – Jacqui Collins (D)
District 19 – Michael Hastings (D)
District 22 – Cristina Castro (D)
District 25 – Karina Villa (D)
District 28 – Laura Murphy (D)
District 40 – Patrick Joyce (D)

STATE HOUSE

District 1 – Aaron M. Ortiz (D)
District 2 – Theresa Mah (D)
District 3 – Nidia Carranza (D)
District 4 – Delia C. Ramirez (D)
District 5 – Lamont Robinson Jr. (D)
District 6 – Sonya Harper (D)
District 7 – Emanuel “Chris” Welch (D)
District 8 – La Shawn Ford (D)
District 9 – Lakesia Collins (D)
District 10 – Jawaharial “Omar” Williams (D)

District 11 – Ann Williams (D)
District 12 – Margaret Croke (D)
District 13 – Greg Harris (D)
District 14 – Kelly Cassidy (D)
District 15 – John D’Amico (D)
District 16 – Yehiel “Mark” Kalish (D)
District 17 – Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz (D)
District 18 – Robyn Gabel (D)
District 19 – Joe Duplechin (D)
District 20 – Michelle Darbro (D)
District 20 – Brad Stephens (R)
District 21 – Edgar Gonzalez, Jr. (D)
District 22 – Michael J. Madigan (D)
District 23 – Mike Zalewski (D)
District 24 – Lisa Hernandez (D)
District 25 – Curtis J. Tarver II (D)
District 26 – Kam Buckner (D)
District 27 – Justin Slaughter (D)
District 28 – Bob Rita (D)
District 29 – Thaddeus Jones (D)
District 30 – Will Davis (D)
District 31 – Mary Flowers (D)
District 32 – Andre Thapedi (D)
District 33 – Marcus Evans (D)
District 34 – Nick Smith (D)
District 35 – Frances Hurley (D)
District 36 – Kelly Burke (D)
District 37 – Neutral
District 38 – Debbie Meyers-Martin (D)
District 39 – Will Guzzardi (D)
District 40 – Jaime Andrade (D)
District 41 – Janet Yang Rohr (D)
District 42 – Ken Mejia-Beal (D)
District 43 – Anna Moeller (D)
District 44 – Fred Crespo (D)
District 45 – Diane Pappas (D)
District 46 – Deb Conroy (D)
District 47 – Jennifer Zordani (D)
District 48 – Terra Costa Howard (D)
District 49 – Maura Hirschauer (D)
District 51 – Mary Edly-Allen (D)
District 52 – Neutral
District 53 – Mark Walker (D)
District 54 – Maggie Trevor (D)
District 55 – Marty Moylan (D)
District 56 – Michelle Mussman (D)
District 57 – Jonathan Carroll (D)
District 58 – Bob Morgan (D)
District 59 – Daniel Didech (D)
District 60 – Rita Mayfield (D)

District 61 – Joyce Mayson (D)
District 62 – Sam Yingling (D)
District 64 – Leslie Armstrong-Mcleod (D)
District 65 – Martha Paschke (D)
District 66 – Suzanne Ness (D)
District 67 – Maurice West II (D)
District 68 – Dave Vella (D)
District 70 – Paul Stoddard (D)
District 71 – Joan Padilla (D)
District 72 – Mike Halpin (D)
District 74 – Christopher Demink (D)
District 76 – Lance Yednock (D)
District 77 – Kathleen Willis (D)
District 78 – Camille Lilly (D)
District 80 – Anthony DeLuca (D)
District 81 – Anne Stava-Murray (D)
District 83 – Barbara Hernandez (D)
District 84 – Stephanie Kifowit (D)
District 85 – Dagmara “Dee” Avelar (D)
District 86 – Larry Walsh Jr. (D)
District 88 – Karla Bailey-Smith (D)
District 90 – Seth Wiggins (D)
District 91 – Mark Luft (D)
District 92 – Jehan Gordon-Booth (D)
District 93 – Scott Stoll (D)
District 95 – Chase Wilhelm (D)
District 96 – Sue Scherer (D)
District 97 – Harry Benton (D)
District 98 – Natalie Manley (D)
District 103 – Carol Ammons (D)
District 104 – Cynthia Cunningham (D)
District 105 – Chamberly Cummings (D)
District 107 – David Seiler (D)
District 108 – Kacie Weicherding (D)
District 111 – Monica Bristow (D)
District 112 – Katie Stuart (D)
District 113 – Jay Hoffman (D)
District 114 – LaToya Greenwood (D)
District 115 – Johnnie Smith (R)
District 116 – Nathan Reitz (D)

JUDICIAL

1st Supreme – P. Scott Neville, Jr. (D)
1st Appellate – Michael Hyman (D)
1st Appellate – John Griffin (D)
5th Supreme – Judy Cates (D)
5th Appellate – Sarah Smith (D)

MARCH 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION

Please consider the following Labor-endorsed candidates when voting
Tuesday, March 17, 2020

COOK COUNTY STATE'S ATTORNEY

Kim Foxx

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Michael M. Cabonargi

BOARD OF REVIEW, DISTRICT 1

Abdelnasser Rashid

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

Kimberly Neely Dubuclet,
Eira Corral- Sepulveda
Patricia Theresa Flynn

JUDICIAL VACANCIES

Circuit Court – Bellows Vacancy
Circuit Court – Coghlan Vacancy
Circuit Court – Ford Vacancy
Circuit Court – Funderburk Vacancy
Circuit Court – Gorman Vacancy
Circuit Court – Larsen Vacancy
Circuit Court – Mason Vacancy
Circuit Court – McCarthy Vacancy
Circuit Court – O'Brien Vacancy
Circuit Court – Roti Vacancy
Circuit Court – C. Sheehan Vacancy
Circuit Court – K. Sheehan Vacancy
1st Subcircuit – Crawford Vacancy
2nd Subcircuit – Vacancy
3rd Subcircuit – Flynn Vacancy
3rd Subcircuit – Murphy Vacancy
3rd Subcircuit – Filan Vacancy
6th Subcircuit – Pantle Vacancy
6th Subcircuit – Nega Vacancy
8th Subcircuit – Fleming Vacancy
9th Subcircuit – Axelrood Vacancy
10th Subcircuit – Allen Vacancy
10th Subcircuit – McGing Vacancy
12th Subcircuit – Hanlon Vacancy
13th Subcircuit – Hoffman Vacancy
14th Subcircuit – Lacy Vacancy

Kerrie Maloney Laytin
Elizabeth Ryan
Laura Ayala-Gonzalez
Celestia L. Mays
Sheree Desiree Henry
Levander Smith, Jr.
Jennifer Callahan
Teresa Molina
Elizabeth Anne Walsh
Lorraine Murphy
Maura McMahon Zeller
Jill Rose Quinn
Tyria Walton
Sondra Denmark
David Bonoma
Erin Haggerty Antonietti
Daniel Maloney
Eileen Marie O'Connor
Jamie Guerra Dickler
Jonathan Clark Green
Pamela Stratigakis
John Mulroe
Jon Stromsta
Patricia M. Fallon
Joe Gump
Daniel O. Tiernan



Illinois State Senators Tour Training Center

The Carpenters Training Center in Elk Grove Village was honored to give a tour of the facility to several of our Illinois State Senators.

State Senators who attended included: Omar Aquino, Laura Fine, Ann Gillespie, Lara Murphy, Robert Peters, Elgie Sims, Jr., Ram Villivalam and candidate for Illinois House 19th District, Veteran, Carpenter and Police Officer, Joe Duplechin. Those representing Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters were: Kevin O'Gorman, CRCC Political Director; Vince

Sticca, JATC Director; Craig Triplett, JATC Assistant Director; Wade Beasley, Business Representative, Local 174; Jonathan Jones, Business Representative, Local 10; Eamon McMahon, Business Representative, Local 10; Joe Willis, Business Representative, Local 10.

All of these members of the Illinois General Assembly have stood shoulder to shoulder with organized labor in the fight to ban *Right To Work* zones, pass an historic Capital investment to improve our roads, bridges and mass transit

and strengthen prevailing wage requirement as well as collective bargaining agreements. These members genuinely learned about and appreciated the training that are union members go through.

All these senators have been proponents of labor, actively working to make the public aware of attractive high paying jobs and enable those to earn while they learn. Thank you all for your continued support!

Federation of Women Contractors Dinner

The Chicago Sisterhood of Carpenters would like to extend a gracious thank you to the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters for sponsoring members of the Sisters in the Brotherhood at the 30th Anniversary Federation of Women Contractors Dinner at the Chicago Architectural Center.

In attendance was Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot (photo center) who spent time discussing with the sisters what women face in the construction industry and wants to work with us to see change. It was the highlight of the evening having the conversations with Mayor



Lightfoot as well as other female construction company owners.

Chicago Sisterhood of Carpenters members in attendance were: Lisa Guzman, Local 58; Erica Ramos,

Local 54; Edith Guerrero, Local 54; Lisa Polowy, Local 58; Maria Tybor, Local 1889 - Assistant Coordinator; Lucia Alvarado, Local 54 - Warden and Rhea Rashad, Local 10.

Meetings are held every **2nd Thursday** of the month at 5:30 p.m. at the Chicago Women In Trades located at 2444 West 16th Street, Suite 3E in Chicago. If you would like more information call: (312) 942-1444.

Training School Instructors: A Career Passion

*Vince Sticca,
Training and Apprentice Director*

I wanted to showcase this group of truly remarkable instructors and the training they provide everyday for our journeymen and apprentices, which is unequaled anywhere in the Brotherhood.

Javier Alcaraz, Instructor



I started my career in 2003, right after high school at the age of 18 with the 9 week pre-apprentice program. I always loved working

outdoors and building stuff. I worked for PCI-Tempus for ten years, where I was recognized for outstanding performance. By the third year of my apprenticeship, I was laying out buildings as a foreman. Shortly after becoming a journeyman, I ran complex jobs as a general foreman, working with skilled co-workers who held a "can do attitude" and always improved themselves by learning and trying new methods with an open mind.

Now, I have worked 4 years at the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Apprentice and Training Program as an instructor, where it is a pleasure to see students progress and watch members get the professional training they deserve. Passing my legacy to the students is satisfying and I grow as a Professional Union Carpenter Instructor by staying updated and keeping a positive attitude.

I always keep a positive attitude to show how much I enjoy my career and use my creativity in any role I am in within the organization. I take the day to day tasks and challenge the status quo to see where improvements can be made. With my extensive years of learning and adapting to new technology, my goal as an instructor is to provide adequate tools to instill success to my union brothers and sisters in their

*My goal as an
instructor
is to provide
adequate tools
to instill success
to my union
brothers and sisters
in their careers.*

careers.

Looking back at the start of my journey and today, as a 17-year union member of carpenter local 1889, I feel blessed, proud and excited. The success of my career has been fast paced with challenges and discipline. I married the most amazing woman that has been my side encouraging me through the good times and those that have been the most challenging. Giving my daughters the opportunity to have a great future is a most rewarding feeling. I think to myself, I would not change anything in my career path where I met many talented people

and grew as an individual with multiple experiences. I cannot wait to see what the future holds.

Joel Boley, Instructor



I was raised in a Pro-Union Family. My father was a Union Millwright for over 40 years. I have had many memorable experiences in

my career. My father, brothers and I worked at the World's Finest Chocolate, in Chicago where I honed my craft. I always found myself gravitating back to the welding aspect of the job. It gives me great satisfaction to lay down a perfect weld. It gives me great pleasure to teach and pass on the craft to the younger generation. When I witness apprentices have that "lightbulb" moment when they finally get it and are able to accomplish a beautiful weld it is a proud moment for me as an instructor.

I truly enjoy teaching and challenging every apprentice that walks into my classroom. Welding is a perishable skill, which means "if you don't use, it you lose it". I'm glad to have returning students who are looking to take their skills to the next level.

In 30 years I have become proficient in Stick, TIG, MIG, and Flux Core Welding and I am motivated to share my knowledge and experience with others.

continued on following page

CARPENTER TRAINING CENTER

continued from previous page

I am blessed to be part of the Carpenters Training Center in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. It is there that I am able to pass my passion on to the next generation of Carpenters and Millwrights.

Brian Payne, Instructor



After high school, I was going to the College of DuPage with the intention of becoming an architect.

The first summer, my friend's

father was looking for some help at his construction company and I jumped at the opportunity. I thought it would be a great experience to build what I was going to draw. I immediately saw that I had found my calling. I loved working with my hands, working hard and being able to step back at the end of the day to take pride in what I had created.

Over the past 30 years, I had many great mentors and instructors that passed their knowledge of the trade on to me. I worked mainly on commercial projects from the layout. I also worked with framing, drywall, acoustical ceilings, doors and hardware, interior trim, exterior finishes – all

the way through the final punch list. I always enjoyed learning and sharing whatever I could.

In 2016, while attending a Carpenters Skill Advancement Program class (one of 60 I had at the time), I was asked if I was interested in an instructor position at the Elk Grove training center. I teach a variety of apprentice and journeymen classes. Inspired by those before me, it is my mission to pass on whatever I can to anyone that steps foot in my class. It is a privilege working with the finest men and women the trade has to offer and solidify our future as Union Carpenters.

XTRASM Program eXcellence in Training Recognition Award

XTRASM — eXcellence in Training Recognition Award is an incentive program designed to recognize and reward carpenters who take advantage of the training, continuing education and certification classes that are offered at Carpenter Training Centers.

The **XTRASM** program recognizes that participating in skill advancement training involves a time commitment above and beyond on-the-job hours. Therefore, the program will provide recognition by offering members a congratulatory package at the completion of a qualifying class. And, on an annual and quarterly basis those members will also be entered into drawings for larger prizes, like tools and electronics. These are but a few of the classes currently being offered at our Training Centers:

- Hardware Certified Installer (24 hrs)
- Concrete Deck Form Systems (16 hrs)
- ICRA - Infection Control Risk Assessment (24 hrs)
- Welding - TIG (24 hrs)
- Floor Covering - Carpet Installation (42 hrs)
- Millwright Shaft Alignment (24 hrs)
- OSHA 30 (30 hrs)
- First Aid/CPR/AED (8 hrs)
- Fall Protection (6 hrs)
- Lead RRP (8 hrs)
- Aerial Lift Training (11 hrs)
- Mass Timber Construction (24 hrs)
- Scaffold Erector (40 hrs)
- Total Station - Layout (30 hrs)

JATC
1256 Estes Avenue
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Phone: 847-640-7373
Fax: 847-364-8367

**CARPENTER APPRENTICE
TRAINING CENTERS**
Elk Grove Village main & annex
Chicago/Rockford/East Moline

Register Online Today! www.chicap.org

***A complete listing and online registration can be found on the Training Center website.**

Chicago Women in Trades TOP Class

The Chicago Sisterhood of Carpenters once again hosted a day of hands-on learning at the Elk Grove Village Training Center with Chicago Women in Trades' new Technical Opportunities Program (TOP) class.

Twelve sisters volunteered their Saturday to showcase what it takes to become a carpenter with rotating workshops on circular saw safety, layout basics, material handling, metal studs and hammering. Our

very own sister, Edith Guerrero, Local Union 54, has been one of the TOP class instructors at Chicago Women in Trades since 2016. Way to go!

Thank you to all the sisters for your continued support of the labor movement.



XTRAsm 4th Quarter 2019 Winners

Once again names were randomly drawn for the XTRAsm program and the quarterly winners received a DeWalt Drill Driver Kit while the Grand Prize winner received a 55" Samsung Smart TV.

The XTRAsm program is an incentive program designed to recognize and reward carpenters who take advantage of the training, continuing education and certification classes that are offered at the Carpenters Training Centers. The program is offering members a congratulatory

package at the completion of a qualifying class. On a quarterly and annual basis, those members will also be entered into drawings for larger prizes, like tools and electronics. This program is open to any member in good standing - not just journeymen.

A package will be issued at the completion of the class along with a ticket to be entered into the drawing. A package will be given out only after the first class is completed, one package per person. The more

classes that are completed by a person, the more tickets he or she is issued and the better chances of winning.

Congratulations to the following winners of the XTRAsm program 2019 4th Quarter drawings: (photos right to left) Frank De Pinto; Local 58; Roosevelt Hubbard, Local 10; Vanessa Nino, Local 54. Not pictured is Fred Walls, Local 272. Grand Prize Winners: Miguel Ortega; Local 1889; Jorge Castillo, Local 250 and Jeff Holtz; Local 4 in East Moline.



Rescuing Raynor Door - A Success Story

*Terry McGann, Esq.
McGann, Ketterman & Rioux*

"There is no greater fear than wondering how you are going to provide for your family," said Craig Kobler, Raynor Door carpenter.

Imagine being part of a 300-plus work force; you've dedicated the better part of your journeyman career specializing in what you do, and a harsh reality hits: You need to make a decision of whether to stay with your long-time employer and risk losing your health benefits or leave your job to seek benefits for your family you can afford.

This is not fiction. This is a true story that 318 members of Carpenters Local 790 faced as employees of Raynor Garage Door Company.

Located in Dixon, Illinois, Raynor Door began manufacturing, distributing and installing commercial and residential overhead garage doors in 1968. For nearly five decades, Raynor Door Carpenters enjoyed steady work and solid benefits for their families. However, in 2017 the cost of their health insurance benefits with the Heartland Healthcare Fund began to sharply increase.

Carpenters working in an industrial setting, as opposed to outside construction, are generally older and therefore naturally have greater health insurance expenses than their younger counterparts working outside construction. As the Raynor Door workforce aged and the number of claims increased, the premium rates

for Raynor Door Carpenters also increased. The individual premiums rose to \$1,485 per month and the Raynor Door Carpenters were paying \$.30 per hour toward their own premiums. Unless they were working 65-70 hours a week, workers couldn't pay their premiums.

*We are building
success by
representing the
interests
of our members
and providing real
value to
their lives and their
families.*

By the beginning of 2018, nearly 75 percent of the Carpenters at Raynor Door were in danger of losing healthcare benefits because of the premium demands, and workers had already begun leaving the company. Not only was Raynor Door losing experienced Carpenters, they were having problems recruiting new ones. The workers who elected to stay with the company were required to sacrifice earned vacation time and their personal savings to provide for the monthly shortfall in premium payments.

"We were hearing dire stories of Carpenters who were fearful they couldn't provide medical benefits for their families," said Gary Perinar, EST. "As a member of

the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters, no one should live this story. No one."

The only acceptable solution to this horror story would be to secure affordable health benefits, with no loss of coverage, for all Raynor Door Carpenters. Any possible solution would require a monumental task of coordination among all parties involved.

EST Gary Perinar orchestrated a one-of-a-kind solution that would require an agreement between Raynor Door, the Trustees of both the Heartland and Chicago Welfare Funds, the Regional Council and the Carpenters employed by Raynor Door.

The solution involved transferring the Raynor Door Carpenters out of the Heartland Healthcare Fund and into the Carpenters' Chicago Welfare Fund, while ensuring that none of the workers lost healthcare coverage during the transition and that the company's costs would not increase. This would require Raynor Door, only halfway through its existing collective bargaining agreement, to agree to open the contract and change the terms. In addition, the new terms would require the Trustees of the Chicago Welfare Fund to allow for the waiver of the Chicago Fund's requirement that new participants accrue 500 contribution hours before becoming eligible for healthcare benefits.

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5th Annual Apprenticeship Open House

Craig Triplett
Assistant JATC Director

As part of the DOL National Apprenticeship Week, the Carpenter Training Center in Elk Grove Village held its 5th Annual Apprenticeship Open House on November 13 and 14, 2019.

This year's event was geared towards educating those still in high school and the veterans that have served our country about the trades. Over 300 individuals registered on the school's website and attended the event to get more information about an Apprenticeship in

Carpentry. The night started out with tours of our facility led by members that volunteered their time to show people around. Those individuals were Ariel Arellano, Local 10; Craig Bonislowski Local 13; Bryan Flammini, Local 58; Marco Flores, Local 272; Kyle Mitchell, Local 1; Timothy Orr, Local 1027 and Anthony Sheridan, Local 10.

The presentation began with explaining what a Union is and why it's beneficial to be part of the Carpenters Union and the various crafts that fall under the Carpentry title. Included in this was also the steps to get into the various

Carpentry Apprenticeship Training Programs. It was nice to see all of the young faces in the crowd and to have questions about the process of applying for the programs, especially the high school seniors looking to start in the trades once they graduate.

Thank you to all of those in attendance and to all of the instructors that helped put on a great event. Doing this event helps promote our trade and will bring in a younger generation to continue the work the members have done for the Carpenters Union.

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After 13 months of negotiations and coordination between all parties, the Regional Council entered into a historic agreement with Raynor Door that seamlessly transitioned the Raynor Door Carpenters into the Chicago Welfare Fund. The new agreement put money back into the Raynor Door workers' pockets by eliminating the requirement to contribute .30 cent per hour to their healthcare premium.

On September 1, 2018, the extra money that workers were paying towards their Heartland benefits was shifted back to their hourly wage. The solution crafted by EST

Perinar provided these workers with greater healthcare benefits at zero cost to them, with no gap in coverage during the transition and no increased costs to the company. EST Perinar credited the efforts of Local 790 Business Representative Zach Ross and Chicago Fund Administrator Kristina Guastaferrri along with representatives of Raynor Door for having the vision and professionalism needed to accomplish this transition.

"We were so relieved when we heard about the agreement to be covered under the Chicago health plan" said Vellinda Cheshier, a Raynor Door carpenter. "I will never forget the sentiments shared

with me by so many of the Raynor Door Carpenters" added Perinar. "We are building success by representing the interests of our members and providing real value to their lives and their families."

Today, Raynor Garage Door Company is thriving with a full workforce of Union Carpenters who no longer face the terrible choice of having to leave their employment to provide health insurance for their families. Carpenters Local 790 is currently negotiating a successor agreement with Raynor Door that will include coverage for their members and their families through the Chicago Carpenters Welfare Fund.

Shrinking a Mountain of Debt, One Piece at a Time

Victor Ancich
CPA, Partner
Legacy Professionals, LLP

Knowing how to handle personal debt is important in maintaining healthy finances over the long term. Debt is something you will probably have to deal with at some point. The size of that debt may range from owing the price of some new clothes to a mortgage on a house. Whatever the case, knowing how to handle personal debt is important in maintaining healthy finances over the long term.

Are You in Too Much Debt?

To evaluate your debt situation, start by asking yourself these questions:

- Is my credit card balance growing?
- Am I paying only the minimum on my bills or am I missing payments altogether?
- Do I spend over one-third of my income on paying off bills, loans, etc.?

All of these are warning signs that you may have taken on more debt than you can afford.

How to Master Your Debt

Understand that while debt may initially seem like an unshrinkable mountain, it can be diminished one piece at a time. Gaining an overall understanding of your finances, including any debt you may hold, is probably the best way to do that.

The first step is to document your income. Look at your paychecks and assess how much money is coming in after taxes on both a monthly and an annual basis. Do the same for any other sources of income you may have.

*Understand that
while debt may
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one piece at a time.*

The second step is to document your expenses and ask yourself:

- How much do I spend monthly on necessary items such as rent, food, insurance, gas, and electricity?
- How much do I spend on optional items such as going to the movies, eating meals at restaurants, and buying expensive drinks at the coffee shop?

The third step is to document and understand your debt. For each loan and credit card, find out:

- What is the amount I owe?
- What is the interest rate?
- What is the payment schedule?

Use the information you've gathered to determine how much money you can dedicate to paying off your debt, as well as to project a timetable for doing so. From time to time, review your expenses to see if there are any new ways to allocate extra funds to reducing your debt. Also consider using cash instead of credit to help reduce your debt.

To tackle existing credit card debt, consider strategies such as paying off the card with the highest interest rate first, transferring your balance to a card with a lower interest rate, and paying more than the minimum amount. The last strategy is very important, since the less you pay off, the greater the interest will be and the longer it will take to pay off your balance in the long run.

It's Worth the Effort

Having too much debt can leave you cash strapped and unable to handle a financial emergency or make progress on saving for retirement and other financial goals. You can avoid such pitfalls by analyzing your spending, controlling expenses, and establishing a plan to reduce—and perhaps eliminate—your debt. A financial professional can help you with your planning.



Stay up-to-date with the Carpenters - Sign Up!
Send your email and address by texting:
WORKING4U to **22828** to Get Started!

Mental Health Awareness

*Kristina Guastaferrri
Administrator,
Chicago Health, Welfare &
Pension Funds*

Everyone experiences rough patches in life. In reaction to those trying times, most of us will experience a short-term period of depression, anxiety, even post traumatic system disorder (PTSD) symptoms. The death of a loved one, a divorce, debilitating illness, devastating diagnosis or an accident can spark a change in mental health and related behaviors.

No one knows for sure just what may trigger a mental illness. Mental illness is common. About 1 in 5 adults has a mental illness in any given year. Mental illness can begin at any age, from childhood through later adult years.

Anxiety disorders are the most common mental illness in the U.S., affecting 40 million adults in the United States age 18 and older, or 18.1% of the population every year.

Anxiety disorders can interfere with daily activities, such as job performance and school work but can also add stress to relationships. Many individuals suffer from both anxiety and depression.

Some people are able to lift themselves out of a short-term mental health event. Others may need someone to talk to – perhaps finding an individual or group to share similar experiences; the same type of loss, feelings of helplessness, despair, anger, anxiety, substance abuse

support etc. Many people need a professional level of treatment, even medication, to help in recovery.

Be aware that mental illness affects emotions, thoughts and behaviors. Signs or symptoms of mental illness can vary. Go to www.MayoClinic.org which provides examples of signs and symptoms of mental illness including; feeling sad or down, confused thinking or reduced ability to concentrate, excessive fears or worries, or extreme feelings of guilt. In addition, extreme mood changes of highs and lows, a withdrawal from friends and activities, significant tiredness, low energy or problems sleeping are also symptoms of a potential problem. As a mental illness progresses or remains untreated, other signs may appear including detachment from reality (delusions), paranoia or hallucinations, inability to cope with daily problems or stress, trouble understanding and relating to situations and to people, problems with alcohol or drug use, major changes in eating habits, sex drive changes, excessive anger, hostility or violence and suicidal thinking.

Certain factors which may increase the risk of developing a mental illness, including³:

- A history of mental illness in a blood relative, such as a parent or sibling
- Stressful life situations, such as financial problems, a loved one's death or a divorce

- An ongoing (chronic) medical condition, such as diabetes
- Brain damage as a result of a serious injury (traumatic brain injury), such as a violent blow to the head
- Traumatic experiences, such as military combat or assault
- Use of alcohol or recreational drugs
- A childhood history of abuse or neglect
- Few friends or few healthy relationships
- A previous mental illness

The stigma (lack of understanding or compassion) surrounding mental illness prevents some from seeking necessary treatment. Stigma can create self-doubt and shame. *"Why can't I handle this on my own?"*

Here are some ways to confront or deal with mental health stigma⁴:

- **Get treatment.** Take the first step and seek professional help.
- **Don't let stigma create self-doubt and shame.** Educate yourself about your condition.
- **Don't isolate yourself.** Reach out to people you trust for the compassion, support and understanding.

continued on following page

YOUR BENEFITS

continued from previous page

- **Don't equate yourself with your illness.** You are not an illness. So instead of saying "I'm bipolar," say "I have bipolar disorder."
- **Join a support group.** The National Alliance on Mental Illness (www.nami.org), offers local programs and internet resources that help reduce stigma by educating people who have mental illness, their families and the general public.
- **Get help at school.** If you or your child has a mental illness that affects learning, find out what plans and programs might help.

Discrimination against students because of a mental illness is against the law.

The Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters Welfare Fund offers both short and long-term mental health benefits through **CompPsych Guidance Resources®**. Active members and dependents can access the Members Assistance Program (MAP) and receive up to five (5) free therapy sessions per event each year. **Call CompPsych at 1-888-860-1566 24/7 or visit Guidanceresources.com for more information.** Coverage continues, as needed, through behavioral health benefits covered under the Plan.

Chicago Welfare Fund **Retired members and dependents** with medical coverage can seek help from a professional through the **BCBSIL network by calling 1-800-810-2583 or visiting www.bcbsil.com.** The **National Suicide Prevention Hotline** contact number: 1-800-273-8255 and online chat service at available at: <http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>.

- 1 Mayo Clinic website statistics
- 2 Anxiety and Depression Association of America website statistics
- 3 Mental Illness Symptoms & Causes - Mayoclinic.org

IWIP Hosts Blackshere Event

Volunteering with your local union during campaign season, it is key to creating political allies in your local and state municipalities. The Illinois Women's Institute for Leadership (IWIL) is an instrumental in the political arena and prepares and trains Democratic women to run for elected office, seek public appointments and govern effectively at all levels in Illinois.

Sisters in all unions are a positive force when it comes to organizing. Developing working relationships with labor friendly candidates are a key component to protect our rights as working men and women. One such relationship to cultivate is getting to know the Illinois Women's Institute for Leadership Training Academy. The IWIL honored a founding union sister, Margaret Blackshere, during their Annual Trailblazers reception hosted at the Chicago Regional Council in Chicago. Loretta Durbin,



who also is a founding board member of IWIL, was present with her husband Illinois Senator Dick Durbin, who spoke to the guests of his support for all unions and the IWIL programs.

As a labor union representing tens of thousands of members, the Carpenters union must serve as the united voice that protects our members and resolves workplace issues that affect our lives. By being active in politics and staying in close contact with legislators in the U.S. Senate, the House of Representatives and State Legislatures, we maintain

a direct line with lawmakers who can help us promote and defend the rights of workers. We also work to elect local, state and national leaders who will serve in positions that we support.

Photo center left to right: Loretta Durbin, Founding IWIL Member; Tamera Guiling, Journeyman Carpenter, Local Union 58 and Chair of Carpenters Local Union 58 Sisters in the Brotherhood; Elise Doody-Jones, IWIL graduate 2013 and Highway Construction Careers Training Manager Parkland College-Urbana Illinois also a Journeyman Carpenter, Carpenters Local Union 839; and Kina McAfee, Journeyman Carpenter, Carpenters Local Union 1 and Assistant Coordinator Chicago Carpenters Training Center.

Get out and vote next month!

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Massive Growth for Renewable Energy

*Tony Janowski, LEED AP BD+C
Marketing Director*

The state of the solar and wind industry today can be described as vibrant and robust. Due to rapidly expanding environmental awareness and dramatic declines in the cost of solar and wind installations the industry has witnessed rapid growth. All indicators forecast an unprecedented boom through and most likely beyond 2025.

The work of the Carpenters Union is more critical than ever to the continued success of our position in the wind and solar industry.

Under our Regional Council leadership EST Gary Perinar, we have streamlined strategic planning initiatives and outreach "Partner with Us" campaigns. It is imperative to educating the renewable industry decision makers on the value of partnering with the Carpenters Union as the craft of choice for their solar and wind developments which in turn creates manhours for our members.

The Carpenters Renewable Energy department is in full swing promoting our Carpenters



Union Contractors throughout our jurisdiction and pursuing industry solutions to ensure accountable business practices are in place creating a level playing field for our wind and solar contractors to secure work against our renewable energy industry's competition. We have had tremendous success building relationships and partnering with some of the largest commercial solar and energy storage developers in the United States.

The cost of solar has decreased so significantly over the years because of the prices of fossil fuels and consequently electricity costs have skyrocketed.

With the Illinois solar and wind market development in full throttle the projection of over 1700 megawatts will be developed over the next five years and will

create massive amounts of opportunities for the Carpenters Union contractors and members.

There are over 1000 solar projects on the books for 2020 and pulling together our solar contractors and members will be a priority for the entire Chicago Regional Council staff and local unions.

Our Carpenters Training Centers are gearing up solar training to meet the Illinois workforce demand. Our business representatives are working hard in the field to ensure that the solar industry fosters practices that protects the Carpenters Union solar initiatives providing and promoting a diverse and growing local skilled workforce.

We look forward to expanding our Carpenters Union market share and providing opportunities for our contractors and members. If you would like more information about renewable energy as a contractor or as a members, go to the "Renewable Energy " at www.carpentersunion.org or email solarenergy@carpentersunion.org.



**STANDING UP TO
TAX FRAUD
SPEAK OUT. TAKE ACTION.**

**Construction Industry Tax Fraud
Days of Action — April 14–18, 2020**

Something To Think About...

Larry Hunt, CIC, CRM
Matt Hunt, CRIS
TheHuntGroup.com

Many of you who read the Carpenters Forum may remember when an earthquake struck the San Francisco area shortly before the start of Game 3 of the 1989 World Series in San Francisco. Suddenly the ballpark was without power, players and their families were running across the field to get out of harm's way. They were unaware that outside the ballpark, overpasses, highways and bridges had collapsed, and more than 60 people had lost their lives. This tragedy was due to the Loma Prieta earthquake, and 'ground zero' was actually 60 miles away from San Francisco, but with a magnitude rating of 6.9 it was so powerful it caused more than \$5 Billion in property damage.

I personally experienced an earthquake in southern California a few years ago while standing in the kitchen of a client's house. Suddenly I heard a thunderous rumbling like a speeding freight train – it was like no sound I'd ever heard before! Seconds later it passed under the house and as it sped past, the kitchen floor began to ripple like a wave beneath my feet, moving through the house and beyond in a split second without causing any serious damage.

But that was in California, where minor earthquakes are common and worries about a major quake



are in the back of most peoples' minds. Knowing that, I would have expected every homeowner in California to carry earthquake insurance, yet the California Earthquake Authority estimates that only 10% of them carry earthquake insurance! That percentage may have jumped a few points last summer after two quakes of 6.4 and 7.1 on the Richter Scale hit the China Lake Naval Air Station in central southern California. One reason the other 90% do not carry the coverage may be the premium, which on a \$300,000 house would be between \$750 to \$1,500 depending on how near or far the home is from a major fault line. **We recently insured a \$1.2 Million home in Southern California located within 10 miles of the San Andreas fault: the earthquake premium was \$2,268 with a \$180,000 deductible, or 15% of the policy limit!**

It will never happen here...

Here in the Midwest, few but the biggest worrywarts give a moment's thought to an earthquake and what could happen to their biggest asset, their home. After all, they happen very

rarely and when they do they are so minor they are not worth our attention – right? In over 200 years there have been less than 10 earthquakes of any significance in our region, but did you know that in the US each year there are between 12,000 to 14,000 earthquakes?

But it did...

The "granddaddy" of all known earthquakes

in American history actually originated in Illinois a little over 200 years ago! It sprang from the enormous New Madrid Fault, which radiates outward from Cairo in southern Illinois and crosses five state lines! This major fault gets little attention from researchers and the media, but in 1811 it roared to life with a series of three earthquakes estimated to be up to a whopping 8.2 magnitude, which is about 1000 times more powerful than a 6.2 earthquake! The main shock waves spanned an area 10 times larger than the famous 1907 San Francisco earthquake, and were felt across an area of three million square miles, from the Gulf Coast all the way to Quebec, Canada. Church bells rang in Boston, then-President James Madison felt the tremors in the White House, cracks up to 5 miles long opened on the earth's surface, and aftershocks continued for several years!

A word to the wise...

If you're now thinking it might be worth looking into earthquake insurance,

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Interstate (I-74) Continues to Pave the Way

Work this year at I-74 bridge has continued to move forward for our carpenters in the Western Region.

The majority of our work was performed in 2017 and 2018 with construction of the mainline westbound viaduct units 1 and 3, Ramp B off ramp and Ramp D on ramp. The westbound viaduct has 16 spans and the structure continues for over 2275 feet. Ramp B has 4 spans and that structure continues for 518 feet. Ramp D is a single span structure covering 140 feet.

This year's work consisted primarily of the demolition of the existing



westbound viaduct (28 spans), framing the last two piers and the abutment. The framing of Unit 4's deck covered over 600 linear feet. We currently have poured 1 of the 2 deck pours for Unit 4 and will complete it before the end of 2019.

A considerable amount of work still remains including: barrier wall, approaches, mask walls and stripping/cleanup. We also have the ramp A structure to complete which is another single span structure covering 140 linear feet. Let's hope for a relatively mild winter!

We also are hopeful for the Illinois Department of Transportation's Capital Improvement Program's \$32.5 billion dollars to start filtering into the pipeline for many upcoming jobs.

The future looks bright!

Local 1185 Carpenters Donate to Improve Charity Center

Carpenters Local 1185 members stepped up to the plate and gave all they got to refurbish the floors, baseboards, doors and other items at Chicago's Gateway to Learning Center - a special education center that provides services for individuals with intellectual disabilities.



was needed, and the Carpenters seized on the opportunity to do a good deed for a worthy cause. Professional Flooring Installers Association donated the manpower while materials called Eco-Grip were donated by

KJL Commercial.

of trade union members and contractors - were on hand to film the local union and contractors. "The Carpenters really saved the day for us" says Kathy Lavin, Executive Director, Gateway to Learning.

It wasn't only the Carpenters Union and the Professional Flooring Installers Association giving back. The event was also co-sponsored by the Residential Construction Employers Council and the Residential Homebuilders Alliance as well.

Damage caused by a leaking dishwasher was the reason the work

Built To Last® - an informative show exploring the skill and training

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we suggest you're your insurance broker to at least get a quote. **The average premium in most of Illinois, Iowa and Indiana is pretty low - between \$150 to \$300.** I confess that before adding it to my own homeowners policy, I had really questioned the need for it. Then I imagined how devastated I

would feel while staring at the rubble that was once my home after it was destroyed by a quake, knowing that my insurance would have had paid to rebuild it - if only I had bought earthquake insurance!

Matt Hunt and I hope you found this article interesting and informative, and invite you to contact us if you have any comments or questions.

Hunt Insurance is located at 12000 S. Harlem Ave., Palos Heights, IL 60463-1153. You can call them at 708-361-5300 or toll-free at 800-772-6484. You can also fax them at 708-361-5316 or email at info@thehuntgroup.com. In case of after-hours emergencies call 708-699-5300 or 708-341-5300.



Carpenters Events at Chicagoland Speedway a Success

For the past four years the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters (CRCC) have participated in a variety of Chicagoland Speedway's events. We participated in the NASCAR *Tribute to Labor* as well as the NASCAR *Stars and Stripes* weekends, both highly attended events at the racetrack. We will again participate at the Chicagoland Speedway's Summer Festival scheduled June 18-21 2020.

The CRCC organizers and business representatives distribute handouts with information about the carpenters union and the benefits of being a member. The volunteers also encouraged attendees to support the working class and join in solidarity for the present and future of labor across our country and to continue the fight for labor. This is an important undertaking for the organizing department each year to

promote our union. It also is one of the most successful events.

Thank you to all the volunteers and those that stopped by to support our union. Hope to see all of you at the races in 2020 - mark your calendar and bring the whole family!

CARPENTERS LEGAL HOTLINE

Legal Information Hotline for Carpenters

This program is a quick reference source you can trust on a wide variety of legal matters. You will receive the information you need to help you resolve your legal problem or you will be directed to where you can receive additional information without obligation.

You are eligible if you are a member in good standing. You will have to identify yourself by name, address, phone number and your local union number.

We can answer questions for you and members of your immediate family pertaining to Family Law, Quasi-Criminal, Financial/Commercial and Real Estate/Property Law.

We can also help you with cases involving Personal Injury and Estates.

A more detailed explanation of the legal hotline is available at www.carpentersunion.org/member-tools/carpenters-legal-hotline

Call:
1-877 MY HAMMER
(1-877-694-2663)
Nicholas Cortesi
Attorney at Law



On a cold morning in December, members from Carpenters Local 1 picketed Tuscany Construction for area standards. The site is located at 744 S. Dearborn in Chicago and the General Contractor is LG. They are building a Roots Pizza at this location. Keep up the good work!



THE CHICAGO REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS
www.carpentersunion.org



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-

Demonstrations, Exhibits, Major Tool Mfg. Displays

Food – Refreshments – Raffles – Prizes

Map



Website

