This and that by Dana Oaks, Executive Director

The weather had been playing havoc with our industry fund contribution hours, as I am sure it is with your work. Looking forward to a prosperous construction summer season.

GPCSA is happy to report that it is now the Consultant for CIMCA (Central Illinois Mason Contractors Association).

Please plan on attending our annual golf outing along with our sporting clay shoot. The GPCSA hopes you will bring your employee’s and customers for a fun day of friendly competition.

Many thanks to our Labor Committee (Joe Hart and Mike Dietz Co-Chairman; Craig Baum, Kurt Baum, Tim Braker, Greg Cicciarelli, Chris Dillon, Jim Harris, Nick Hart, Jim Hein, Dennis Higdon, Bernie Koch, Tom Meischner, Brian Rumpf, Dave Schielein, Rod Slusher, Bobby Taylor, Joe Williams, Doug Wilson) for successfully negotiating contracts with the Operators, and Cement finishers this year. A substantial amount of time was spent preparing for these negotiations.

GPCSA membership is at 227 members as of 6-29-15.

GPCSA has started a Facebook Page.
Please drop by and like us.

Facebook - www.facebook.com/GPCSA
By The Numbers

Year End Plans received by the Plan Room
2015  247 plans — January 1 — June 30
2014  485 plans
2013  424 plans
2012  496 plans
2011  530 plans
2010  488 plans

Hours worked reported by Carpenters (#237-Zone 1), Ironworkers (#112), Laborers (#165), Cement Finishers (#18-12), Plasterers (#18-12), Operating Engineers (#649), all building contracts, year end 2014.

2015  393,001 hours - January 1 — May 31 compared to 330,437 for the same months of 2014
2014  1,298,258 hours
2013  1,526,823 hours
2012  1,725,817 hours
2011  1,461,909 hours
2010  1,700,346 hours

NEW MEMBERS

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS—

Central Illinois Floorcovering, Inc., Peoria, IL
Foulk Electric, Inc., Canton, IL
River Valley Mechanical Svc., Inc., Pekin, IL
Mechanical, Inc., Freeport and Peoria, IL
Riverside Interiors, LLC., Metamora, IL
AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

One of GPCSA’s New Member

Absolute Masonry, Inc.

Absolute Masonry, Inc. was founded in May of 2013, by Henry Williams, Jr., President. Henry is a journeyman member of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local #6 IL. He has been a member since 2002. Absolute Masonry, Inc. provides masonry work including: brick work, stone work, block work, restoration, construction and installation.

(IF YOU HAVE BUSINESS NEWS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO REPORT, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AND WE WILL GET IT IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GPCSA’s 42nd Annual Golf Outing — July 27
GPCSA’s Sporting Clay Shoot — August 21
GPCSA’s 30th Annual Membership Christmas Party — December 4
Carpenters 24 hour Construction Infection Control Risk Assessment training

During a time of heightened need for infection prevention and control in our nation’s healthcare facilities MCIRCC is stepping up to the challenge. Here at the MCIRCC we are taking a proactive stance on construction related Healthcare-Associated infections (HAI) through our 24 hour construction Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) training which includes 16 hours of classroom training (teaches carpenters the ”Why?” This is critical) and 8 hours of shop time (which carpenters learn “how” to protect patients, staff and themselves).

We see the ICRA training as a new standard in the healthcare construction industry. MCIRCC has joined groups such as APIC, APIC-CI, ASHE and CICHE in taking a stance on this issue as well as raising awareness.

By having trades people with this training on your project, Infection Preventionists and Facility Directors have one less thing to worry about in their already busy schedule. Although we are not Infection Control Practitioners, we certainly are a piece of the puzzle. We realize that carpenters aren’t the only craft on the jobsite, therefore, we can’t be the only ones trained in ICRA, that is why we offer 8-hour awareness training for other crafts, including hospital maintenance staff and key employees.

Renovation and construction projects in healthcare environments pose unique infection control challenges for contractors and workers, in a healthcare facility, patient care is everything. Unfortunately, thousands of patients fall victim every year to infections caused by dust stirred up during renovation projects. Inadequate procedures at the jobsite can release contaminants trapped above ceilings, behind walls or under floors, allowing them to infiltrate patient and staff environments via HVAC systems, foot traffic, and other conduits.

**One goal:** Deliver a workforce of construction professionals who understand how to protect the patients and staff during a building project, while not disturbing daily activities.
Governor Rauner Presents Governor’s 2015 Occupational Safety & Health Award to the Grain and Feed Association Of Illinois’ Safety Health Environmental Services Director

*John Lee Recognized for Outstanding Workplace Safety Efforts at 24th Annual “DIOSH” Day*

On Wednesday, March 4, 2015, Governor Rauner presented John Lee with the Governor’s 2015 Occupational Safety and Health Award. John Lee has provided leadership, innovative ideas and excellence in training in safe grain industry operations in Illinois and throughout the Midwest. He is among the leading trainers for grain handling safety. Through a practical understanding of the industry, John how to identify the risks and through his common sense training is able to teach people how to do a job safely.

John Lee joined the staff of the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois in August of 1997 after serving as a Loss Control Representative for Grain Dealers Mutual Insurance Co. for nearly 4½ years. His responsibilities have been to provide regulatory assistance, guidance and safety training to members of the Association’s Safety•Health•Environmental Services Program.

During his 17 years with the Grain and Feed Association of Illinois, John has touched the lives of thousands of individuals throughout Illinois, the Midwest and even the country. With the innovative safety training and education he has provided, we will never know how many lives he has saved, however he recognizes the loss of one life at a grain facility is one too many and pushes forward to continue training and educating people on ways to perform their jobs safely.

John Lee has created a name for himself throughout the industry when it comes to safety. Often times John’s best leadership and work is behind the scenes. One such example was the work he did to educate OSHA about sweep augers and how they are used in grain bins. For a number of years he provided information and examples of different types of guarding to OSHA personnel inquiring about what was acceptable and what was not acceptable to them when it came to protecting employees while in a bin with the sweep auger running. John kept pushing. His leadership and determination to get to a resolution within the framework established by OSHA would not allow him to back down. Time after time, meeting after meeting, he would continue to beat the drum and discuss this topic with the appropriate personnel trying to get to a resolution of the problem. While the outcome may not have suited everyone, I believe we would not be where we are today without his behind the scenes work.

In 2011, The Asmark Institute decided to build a training center in Bloomington, Illinois which would house hands-on grain safety training equipment. The President of the Asmark Institute started inquiring about who could provide leadership and training in the area of grain handling safety. John Lee’s name kept coming up. The AgriCenter opened in fall of 2012 with the first grain safety classes held in early 2013. John
developed the safety course based on the OSHA Grain Handling Standard and is the lead instructor for one-day and two-day programs which not only provide classroom training but simulate real-world type scenarios to drive the safety lessons home. Participants have come from all across the country to attend this innovative training.

There is one other area that John Lee has provided immense leadership and that is with an organization called the Grain Handling Safety Coalition. This Coalition is a very diverse group put together after several tragedies related to the grain industry in 2010. The Coalition obtained grants and developed a significant amount of training material that can be used in the commercial industry or with producers. The training programs are largely based on materials John Lee has developed over the years. Recognizing the need for continuous safety training, he has been a key player in developing the curriculum for the Coalition.

Other initiatives of note for John Lee which demonstrate his leadership:
- production of four videos related to safety in and around grain handling facilities;
- presenter at numerous conventions and conferences on grain safety related topics;
- discusses grain safety with school groups and various other non-industry people;
- shares information about grain safety with fire departments;
- is one of the lead “go-to” people in the country for grain safety and environmental regulatory information.

John Lee is a true industry leader in the area of safety and regulatory compliance in the grain handling industry. He has made a difference in the grain industry.
Governor Rauner (right) congratulates John Lee at DIOSH Day for receiving the Governor's 2015 Occupational Safety & Health Award. Also, congratulating John Lee (center) is Hugo Chaviano, Director of the Illinois Department of Labor (left).
TRICON June 2015

TRICON Tri-County Construction Labor Management Council (TRICON) continues to promote union construction. Recently, we spoke with several local General Contractors and Construction Managers. We provided them with the latest Central Illinois Contractors Directory, so they have knowledge of and access to the local union sub-contractors in the central Illinois area.

Kevin Carter, TRICON Executive Director, recently spoke to the 1st year electrician’s apprenticeship class at the electrician’s training center and then the latest electrician’s apprenticeship graduating class at a dinner at Weaver Ridge golf club. He also spoke the 1st year operating engineer’s apprenticeship class at the operators training center in Mapleton Illinois. To the classes, Kevin presented on soft skills and what an employer looks for in an employee…such as being on time, what they might expect to encounter on a jobsite, and the importance of safety, as it is related to all on the jobsite.

In addition, Kevin and Mary Sanders, TRICON’s program manager, continue to work with P.E.R.F.E.C.T. (Peoria Educational Region for Employment and Career Training) in conjunction with the construction work-base learning program. This program is sponsored by the state of Illinois to introduce tri-county (Peoria, Woodford, and Tazewell counties) area high schools juniors and seniors to the union construction trades. TRICON sets the schedule for visits to the various union construction trades during the 1st semester of school. During the second semester, we place the accepted students with a local contractor. Many students have gone on to be members of various unions and work with the local contractors in the area.

Kevin also is a member of several boards of directors such as:

- Illinois Central College advisory for the Highway Construction Careers Training Program

- Goodwill advisory board of veterans and regularly speaks to veterans about careers in construction.
He gives presentations to local high schools about construction careers, participates in local job career fairs, sits on the college and career readiness committee for district 150, and works alongside Greater Peoria Contractors and Suppliers Association, the West Central Building Trades Council, and other entities to assist minorities and low income residents to gain knowledge of the opportunities in the union construction field.

Labor Shortages

According to a recent poll of 1000 union contractors revealed most are optimistic about the construction industry’s growth over the next few years, but still believe that the workforce will have shortages in most of the crafts.

Bloomberg BNA reports