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ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING•HEATING•COOLING•CONTRACTORS

Volume 100, No. 10

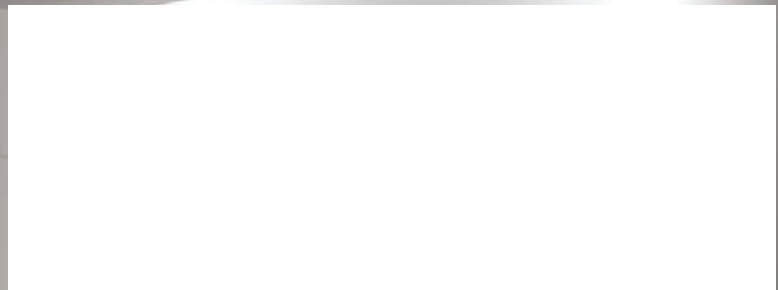
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PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Steve Jany
Illinois PHCC President

Greeting friends,



Autumn has arrived, happy fall everyone. These cool mornings, low humidity during the day and cool evenings are great. This type of weather reminds me it is time to get all the outside work done. If you are like me, you still have sewer and water lines to trench and lay, plus there is still yard and garden clean-up. There is never enough time in the day. Also, remember the mornings will soon remain darker longer. Please be careful of the children getting on buses or walking to school.

If you haven't already gotten your CEU credit as needed per state statute to keep your plumbing license current, make plans now. The schedule is in the Illinois Master Plumber magazine or online at www.ILPHCC.com. For your convenience you can register online also.

If you desire or are in need of a printed copy of the Illinois Plumbing Code that will fit in your existing binder, you may purchase them at any Illinois PHCC CEU class. You can also find an order form in the Illinois Master Plumber magazine or online at www.ILPHCC.com.

ILPHCC.com. You may also purchase a new binder if you need or want one. Also on the web site, is the link to the IDPH's electronic version of the plumbing code if you have internet capability on the job site. There have been a lot of changes to the Code, illustrations cleaned up and appendixes updated. Stay abreast of the latest Code to prevent problems on the job site.

Do not forget to patronize our Illinois Master Plumber advertisers. Let them know that you have seen their ads in the magazine. Also, don't forget to use their products. We need to support those who support us.

The IMSCA-PAC fundraiser raffle drawing was September 19th. Thanks to all who helped with this very important fundraiser. This being an election year, the fund is very important as the opposition has very deep pockets. The winner of the \$500 Hilton gift card and \$500 American Airlines gift card was Steve Boren.

Mark your calendars for the Illinois PHCC Board meeting, November 15th at the Marriott Hotel in Bloomington/Normal. Everyone is welcome, so please come join us. Also if you know someone who would benefit from a PHCC membership, let them know that if they join now they will get 15 months for

PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

CONTINUED

the price of 12 months.

Boo!



Remember at the end of the month is Halloween. Watch for all the little ones out trick or treating. I can't wait to see what my grandson Wallace will be for his 1st Halloween.

President Jany



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COMMENT PERIOD FOR AMENDING ILLINOIS ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE

The Capital Development Board, in conjunction with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, is beginning the update cycle for the Illinois Energy Conservation Code from the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to the 2015 IECC. Per the Energy Efficient Building Act, CDB is required to review and adopt the most current version of the International Energy Conservation Code within one year after its publication date. The Code will then become effective within 6 months after it is adopted by CDB.

When developing Code adaptations, rules, and procedures for compliance with the Code, CDB is required to seek input from representatives of the building trades, design professionals, construction professionals, code administrators, and other interested entities affected by the new Code. To ensure input from these groups, CDB created the Illinois Energy Conservation Advisory Council (ILECAC) which has representatives from each group listed above. This Council reviews proposed amendments to the Code and votes regarding the acceptance or rejection of the proposed amendments. The Council's recommendations are then presented to the Capital Development Board. Proposed amendments will be accepted by the ILECAC until December 1, 2014.

The Council will hear or read all comments and

proposals presented to them. However, the Council will only take action on submitted amendments that meet the following requirements: The amendments must be written as strikethrough and underlined amendments to the Code. (Track changes) Any new language must be the same format and style as the Code. Any proposed amendment must be shown in the appropriate Code section relevant to new or amended language.

**Please submit all
amendments or comments
to Lisa Mattingly,
lisa.mattingly@illinois.gov.
If you wish to address the
Council, a request should
be sent at least 15 days
prior to the
Council Meeting.**



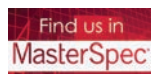


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A PLUG FOR ELECTRICAL FIRE PREVENTION

In our technology-centered lives, we tend to take for granted what ultimately makes all our gadgets work: electricity! We rush to “plug in” and generally don’t think twice about the power that keeps us connected.

To bring attention to a growing hazard and to coincide with 2014 National Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11), let’s discuss electricity—a power source that’s similarly taken for granted and often ignored as a fire risk.

Extension Cords

Extension cords are useful for temporary wiring needs. The key word here is temporary. Extension cords should never be used as a permanent fix for reaching a primary power supply.

Extension cord fire risk is mainly from overload. Overloads occur when extension cords are carrying more current than they are capable of, which can cause the plug, socket, or the entire cord to heat up. If the cord is near some easily combustible material, the excess heat could ignite a fire.

Cord size and capacity must meet or exceed the requirements of the device being plugged into it. For example, a tool needing 14 amps must be powered by an extension cord with a minimum capacity of 14 amps. This is particularly important for longer cords, since power capacity diminishes with length.

Power Strips

Country singer Trace Adkins made headlines in

2011 because of a fire that burned down his house. Investigators determined the fire started in the garage...from an overheated power strip.

Have you ever “discovered” a power strip hidden beneath dusty, forgotten piles of papers or other things? We probably all have and didn’t even consider the potential risk. But think about this: That buried power strip may be generating heat that could, over time, lead to combustion of whatever material it’s near.

Most power strips have the capacity to power multiple items, or the equivalent of 15 amps. The power draw of each item should be considered before plugging in additional devices. As items are added, the chances increase for overheating and overloading the power strip.

Power Load

Knowing what types of electrical setups your company has is just the basis of a proactive fire prevention risk management plan. As electrical use increases, attention must be paid to the overall load on the entire system. Recognizable warning signs of inadequate load may be as slight as lights dimming when equipment turns on, to a more urgent indication like a breaker that continually trips. All workers should be aware of the warning signs, as early detection of electrical issues is a valuable preventive for fires. If your electrical system is showing signs of being insufficient, a competent electrical contractor should be consulted. This is especially important before installing any new machinery or whenever electrical problems are noticed.

Daisy Chaining

Daisy chaining refers to an unsafe method of linking extension cords or power strips together in any combination, which can present undue fire risk and should never be allowed. The main reason people set up daisy chains is from a need for either more cord length or more outlets. Both situations create increased stress on the power strip or extension cord that is plugged into the main outlet. That plug will have the most load and be increasingly stressed with each item added to the “chain.”

The Burning Issue of Electrical Fires

There are so many good reasons to pay attention to the electrical system your business uses every day. Not only will awareness help decrease the risk of electric shock and fire, you could also see more efficient use of power and less maintenance needed.

Conscientious awareness and fire prevention tactics can actually contribute to your company’s fiscal fitness. The costs for electrical system improvements or a stepped-up maintenance program can generally be absorbed. But the costs from a fire can mean the difference between staying in business or not. By incorporating risk management strategies, you are taking important steps toward helping to keep your employees and business safe.

Federated Insurance has developed a Fire Prevention Packaged Program, which includes specific checklists and resources for your fire prevention and educational efforts. Contact your local Federated marketing representative or Federated’s Risk Management Resource Center (800-838-1760 or e-mail riskmanagementmaterials@fedins.com) for more information.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 7, 2014

Illinois PHCC 4 Hour CEU Class
Rend Lake Resort
Whittington, IL

NOVEMBER 8, 2014

Illinois PHCC 4 Hour CEU Class
Kaskaskia College
Vandalia, IL

NOVEMBER 12, 2014

Annual Backflow Symposium
Doubletree Hotel
Bloomington, IL

NOVEMBER 15, 2014

Illinois PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings
Bloomington, IL

JANUARY 9, 2015

Illinois PHCC 4 Hour CEU Class
Heartland College
Normal, IL

FEBRUARY 20, 2015

Illinois PHCC 4 Hour CEU Class
Heartland College
Normal, IL

MARCH 20, 2015

Illinois PHCC Expo & Educational Day
Drury Lane Conference Center
Oakbrook Terrace, IL



REGISTRATION OPEN FOR THE CERTIFIED PLUMBING DESIGN TECHNICIAN EXAM!

Reprinted from The Workflow.

This November, eligible candidates will have the opportunity to sit for ASPE's newest certification, the Certified Plumbing Design Technician exam. The Certified Plumbing Design Technician Examination was developed by the American Society of Plumbing Engineers to provide professional recognition of qualified individuals who design plumbing systems. The CPDT certification was developed as a precursor to the Certified in Plumbing Design, CPD certification. The Certified Plumbing Design Technician program has four primary objectives:

1. Provide a standard of professional competence in the practice of plumbing design at the technician level.
2. Identify and recognize those individuals who successfully complete the certification examination, thereby demonstrating their acquired knowledge and abilities in the field of plumbing design.
3. Encourage plumbing designers to become lifelong learners and participate in a continuing program of professional development and reach CPD certification.
4. Provide a standard for educational

programs in plumbing design and encourage implementation of such programs.

Registration for the exam closes October 24, 2014 so if you or someone you know is interested, act fast to be a part of this new certification program. The 2014 exam dates are November 20 or 21, 2014. Visit aspe.org/CPDT to read more about the exam, the fees, and find testing locations near you. Questions? Email the Certification Department at certification@aspe.org or call at 224-217-9016.





2014-2015 Continuing Education for Illinois Licensed Plumbers

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fee</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 26, 2014 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 27, 2014 – 8:00 am-12:00 pm	Kaskaskia College, Vandalia, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **November 7, 2014 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake Resort, Whittington, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **November 8, 2014 – 8:00 am-12:00 pm	Kaskaskia College, Vandalia, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **January 9, 2015 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **February 20, 2015 – 1:00 pm-5:00pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **March 20, 2015 - 9:00 am -1:00pm	Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	\$30.00

No Walkins – No Exceptions. All Registrations for the March 20 class must be received before March 1, 2015

<input type="checkbox"/> **April 17, 2015 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake Resort, Whittington, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **April 24, 2015 - 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00

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TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Fee must accompany application.

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To register, complete this form by checking the location you will attend, **provide your complete address, make checks payable to Illinois PHCC** and mail to **Illinois PHCC ♦ 821 South Grand Avenue, West ♦ Springfield, Illinois 62704**
Phone (217) 522-7219

Name: _____ License # **058-** _____

Address: _____

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IMPORTANT:

You MUST bring your Plumbers License with you to the program. Please arrive no later than 30 minutes prior to complete the registration process. Directions are available on our website at www.ilphcc.com
Cancellation Policy: IL PHCC reserves the right to cancel a course due to insufficient enrollment. If we cancel a course, you will be notified and your pre-registration will be refunded to you or you may transfer to another location. There is no refund for any registration not cancelled (10) working days prior to the class. There will be a \$40.00 service charge for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Illinois PHCC Association will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities at its meetings. Please call 217-522-7219 with any special requests.



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_____ of code book inserts X \$55.00 Total inserts \$ _____

_____ of binder(s) X \$5.95 Total binders \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Mail form with payment to: **Illinois PHCC**
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Make checks payable to the Illinois PHCC.

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Questions? Contact the Illinois PHCC at bev@ilphcc.com or shelly@ilphcc.com

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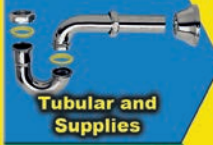
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WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE

First of all, we would like to thank the person who submitted this great picture regarding wet venting as it relates to the Illinois Plumbing Code. It is not often we get to see what is above and below the floor at the same time and that is what makes this such a great picture.

Looking at the under floor, we see the turn up for the water closet, a wye tie-in for the tub downstream from the water closet, and a wye tie-in wet vent from the lavatory. Had there not been a tub tie-in, this would be the ideal picture of how a single lavatory can be used for a water closet wet vent system on any floor including multi-story buildings (Section 1500 (i)).

However, this is a full bathroom and the tub needs to be vented. The location of the wet vent tie-in for the water closet should have been before the tub tie-in to meet code, or a 2 inch horizontal wet vent could be added to the tub drain and tied-in no less than the 6 inches above the highest fixture.

(Section 890.1450 Vent Grades and Connections

- b) Vertical Rise. Where vent pipes connect to a horizontal soil or waste pipe, the vent shall be taken off above the center line of the soil or waste pipe, and the vent pipe shall rise vertically, or at an angle not more than 45 degrees from the vertical before offsetting horizontally or before connecting to the branch vent. Exception: Wet vent and floor drain vents may connect horizontally.
- c) Height above Fixtures. The connection between a vent pipe and a vent stack or stack vent shall be made at least 6 inches above the flood-level



rim of the highest fixture served by the vent. Horizontal vent pipes forming branch vents or relief vents shall be at least 6 inches above the flood-level rim of the highest fixture served

- d) A horizontal wet vent may be used for two fixtures set on the same floor level with one fixture connecting upstream of the other fixture on the horizontal line, provided that the horizontal wet vent/drain between the two fixtures is one pipe diameter larger than the upstream fixture trap. The vent connection shall be located between the traps, and each trap-to-vent distance shall be in accordance with Appendix A. Table I.

Or the lavatory drain/wet vent could have been tied-in to the tub drain and it would have met Section 1500 (f) of the wet vent section listed below.

Section 890.1500 Installation of Wet Venting

- a) The following shall not be used to wet vent another fixture trap: water closets, washing

machine connections, blowout urinals, or dishwashers.

- f) A single bathroom group of fixtures, consisting of a water closet, lavatory and a bathtub, shower or floor drain, may be installed with the drain from a lavatory serving as a wet vent for a bathtub, shower or floor drain and for the water closet, provided that:
- 1) Not more than four DFUs drain into a 2-inch diameter wet vent; and
 - 2) The horizontal branch is a minimum of 2 inches and connects to the stack at the same level as the water closet drain. The horizontal branch may also connect to the water closet bend.
- i) On the lower floors of a multi-story building, a water closet may be wet vented with a single

lavatory in lieu of the requirements of Section 890.1470(h).

Overall, the job looked very good and seemed to be done in a professional manner.

Note: Although change is sometimes hard to except, sometimes, just sometimes it may make our jobs and life a little easier.

This month's winner was **Paul F. Buddy** of Cannonball Mechanical/Paul L. Buddy Plumbing & Heating and he will receive a PHCC logo item.

Is there something wrong with this month's cover photo? Let us know by sending your answer via the email, fax, or mailing address in the front of the magazine.

Please contact the Illinois PHCC with any questions or comments regarding the contest.



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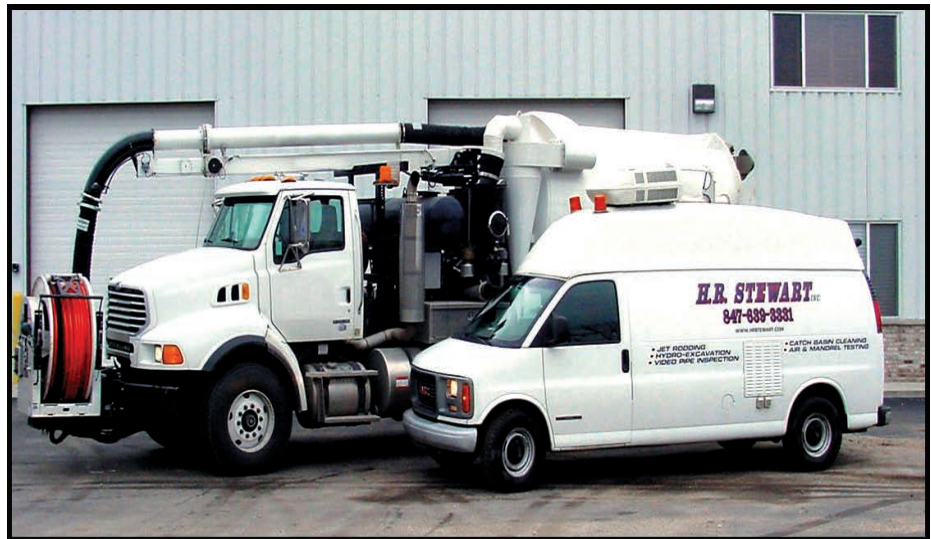
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IMSCA-PAC RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to **Steve Boren** (Contractors Adjustment Company, Buffalo Grove, IL) for winning the 2014 IMSCA-PAC raffle! Steve wins a \$500 gift card to American Airlines and a \$500 gift card to Hilton Hotels!

IMSCA wishes to thank everyone who contributed to their fundraising efforts this year. Your support is appreciated and will go a long way in helping IMSCA continue to serve as the voice for Illinois subcontractors. With your generous support, we were able to raise **\$13,750.00!**

Thanks again to everyone who made a contribution and also to those who encouraged others to contribute! Your support is very much appreciated!



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Plumbing Ordinance Approval Process

For

Units of Local Government

Pursuant to the Illinois Plumbing License Law (the “Act”; 225 ILCS 320, et. seq.) and the Plumbers License Code (the “Code”; 68 IL. Admin. Code 750.800), units of local government which intend to administer a plumbing program and to adopt an ordinance(s) regarding plumbing should seek the advice and approval from the Illinois Department of Public Health. In order to process such requests, such units must complete and submit the attached form with a draft copy of the proposed ordinance, in advance of any formal adoption of an ordinance regarding plumbing as it is defined in the Act. No ordinance should be adopted prior to receiving tentative approval, in writing, from IDPH in contravention of the Act and the Code.

Upon receipt of the form and proposed ordinance, IDPH will review submittals for completeness within 15 business days. Incomplete or improper submittals may result in the form being returned to the submitting jurisdiction with deficiencies noted. Properly completed submittals will then be subject to a substantive review in receipt order. Substantive reviews which require additional clarification, information, justification or necessary modification, will be handled by IDPH through email communication with the submitting jurisdiction.

If the proposed ordinance tentatively meets the requirements under the Act and Code, IDPH may issue a tentative approval to the submitting jurisdiction. The tentative approval by IDPH would provide the submitting jurisdiction a preliminary endorsement that the proposed ordinance meets the requirements under the Act and Code, so it may elect to proceed with formal adoption at the local level of the proposed ordinance. Subsequent to local passage of the proposed ordinance, the unit of local government should submit the duly adopted ordinance, exactly matching the ordinance presented to IDPH in the tentative approval process, and passed consistently with that jurisdiction’s procedures, to IDPH for formal approval of the ordinance. In the event IDPH approves the ordinance, it will provide for a formal **effective date** to the submitting jurisdiction which may then implement the ordinance consistently with the Act and the Code (subject to the provisions of 68 IL Admin Code 750.800).

Instructions for completing IDPH form

1. Complete Part I for all submittals. A draft ordinance which expressly adopt the Illinois Plumbing Code in its current form, without addition, modification, exception or amendment, may be submitted with the form marked “N/A” all others must complete Part II of the form to be considered for response.
2. Complete Part II by:
 - a. Inserting proposed ordinance language by subsection or section in the first column under the heading “Proposed Ordinance Language.” Only one specific amendment, exclusion or exception may be entered per row.
 - b. Inserting the purpose of the proposed language in the second column under heading “Purpose.” Provide in common terms the specific goal or purpose of the proposed amendment, exclusion or exception. (i.e. What is the effect of the language?)
 - c. Inserting the justification for the proposed amendment, exclusion or exception with specific details as to why it is required, what public health risk it addresses and in what way the Illinois Plumbing Code does not already address the same issues. Scientific or technical documentations should be attached separately to support any such claims made. (How are public health requirements of the State maintained through this exception? Why does the jurisdiction require or need this exception? How is this exception necessary for the jurisdiction versus another?)
3. Submit the proposed ordinance as it would be considered by the controlling body of the unit of local government, along with a statement from its duly appointed or elected President or Mayor, requesting consideration of the proposed ordinance.

Failure to comply with these instructions may result in rejection of the proposed ordinance and will delay the approval process.

All documents should be submitted electronically to dph.plumbing@illinois.gov and any questions should be directed to the Plumbing Program at 217-782-5830.

Illinois Department of Public Health Draft Ordinance Submittal Form

Part I

Organization Name _____
 Street address _____
 City, State and ZIP _____
 Contact person _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

N/A- Submitter certifies that 77 IL Admin Code 890 is proposed to be adopted by reference without modification, exception or additions by the submitting unit of local government.

**If marked N/A, do not complete Part II of this form

Part II

Proposed Ordinance Language	Purpose	Justification

Date reviewed: _____

- Tentatively approved
 Denied in part (see IDPH response)
 Rejected

OSHA ANNOUNCES NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING SEVERE INJURIES AND UPDATES LIST OF INDUSTRIES EXEMPT FROM RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has announced a final rule requiring employers to notify OSHA when an employee is killed on the job or suffers a work-related hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye. The rule, which also updates the list of employers partially exempt from OSHA record-keeping requirements, will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2015, for workplaces under federal OSHA jurisdiction.

The announcement follows preliminary results from the Bureau of Labor Statistics' 2013 National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

"Today, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that 4,405 workers were killed on the job in 2013. We can and must do more to keep America's workers safe and healthy," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez. "Workplace injuries and fatalities are absolutely preventable, and these new requirements will help OSHA focus its resources and hold employers accountable for preventing them."

Under the revised rule, employers will be required to notify OSHA of work-related fatalities

within eight hours, and work-related in-patient hospitalizations, amputations or losses of an eye within 24 hours. Previously, OSHA's regulations required an employer to report only work-related fatalities and in-patient hospitalizations of three or more employees. Reporting single hospitalizations, amputations or loss of an eye was not required under the previous rule.

All employers covered by the Occupational Safety and Health Act, even those who are exempt from maintaining injury and illness records, are required to comply with OSHA's new severe injury and illness reporting requirements. To assist employers in fulfilling these requirements, OSHA is developing a Web portal for employers to report incidents electronically, in addition to the phone reporting options.

"Hospitalizations and amputations are sentinel events, indicating that serious hazards are likely to be present at a workplace and that an intervention is warranted to protect the other workers at the establishment," said Dr. David Michaels, assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health.

In addition to the new reporting requirements, OSHA has also updated the list of industries that, due to relatively low occupational injury and illness rates, are exempt from the requirement to routinely keep injury and illness records. The previous list of exempt industries was based on the old Standard Industrial Classification system and the new rule uses the North American Industry Classification System to classify establishments by industry. The new list is based on updated injury and illness data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The new rule maintains the exemption for any employer with 10 or fewer employees, regardless of their industry classification, from the requirement to routinely keep records of worker injuries and illnesses.

**For more information
about the new rule,
visit OSHA's website at
[http://www.osha.gov/
recordkeeping2014](http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014).**



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PCA/PAMCANI Co-Sponsor IL Prevailing Wage Seminar



Over 160 municipal leaders, construction contractors, and labor and industry executives gathered at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel in Downers Grove on September 11, 2014 to attend an Illinois Prevailing Wage Seminar co-sponsored by the PCA, Plumbing Council and PAMCANI. The event was also co-sponsored by the Illinois, Indiana, Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting (IIFFC), CISCO, UCA, MCA Chicago and several other leading industry groups.

IIFFC Executive Director Marc Poulos opened the seminar with welcoming remarks and he also effectively articulated both the educational and monetary value of construction industry trade apprentices.

University of Illinois at Chicago Labor Studies Professor Robert Bruno and Illinois Economic Policy Institute (Greater Chicago Area) Director Frank Manzo elaborated on the subject of apprentices and provided their own research studies to prove that the Illinois Prevailing Wage serves as a greater taxpayer value to our communities.

Prevailing wage is typically defined as the hourly wage, benefits and overtime, paid in the largest city in each county to

the majority of workers, laborers, and mechanics. According to Bruno and Manzo, it promotes responsible contractors and guarantees labor on the job consists of a highly skilled and trained workforce. Their studies also demonstrate that the prevailing wage ensures not only a competent, safe and efficient crew, but provides an investment multiplier of \$1.50 for every \$1.00 spent that is returned back to the community.

Other sessions throughout the day included a history of the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) and its enforcement of the Prevailing Wage Act led by IDOL Director Joe Costigan and IDOL Chief Counsel Ron Willis; a thorough review of how to apply for Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests led by Bureau Chief for Public Access Division of the Illinois Attorney General's Office Sarah Pratt; and a panel discussion to answer pressing prevailing wage questions from PCA and PAMCANI Executive Director S.J. Peters (moderator), 38th Ward Alderman Tim Cullerton, PCA Director and Bishop Plumbing contractor Brian Wilk, IDOL Chief Counsel Ron Willis, FOIA Division Bureau Chief Sarah Pratt of the IL Attorney General's Office, Attorney Michael W. Duffee (Thompson Coburn LLP); and Bloomington-Normal PHCC Industrial Representative and retired contractor Chuck Hicks.

Some of the questions asked by the audience and answered by the panelists included: Can the published prevailing wage amount be lowered; what makes a project subject to the Act; are owners required to pay the prevailing rate; and what is the correct way for municipalities to respond to FOIA requests.

To obtain copies of any of the presentations and materials offered at the seminar, contact the PCA or PAMCANI office at 312-563-9526 or 630-960-3970. Due to the high interest and importance of this subject matter, the PCA and PAMCANI will plan future sessions specifically designed for our signatory contractors. In addition, our associations will be working closely with IDOL, IIFFC and other industry groups to ensure that the prevailing wage is strictly honored and enforced by municipalities and contractors within the Local 130 territory.



Bob Abbott (left) representing Abbott Industries, Inc.



IDOL Counsel Ron Willis (left) answers an audience question.



PCA, PAMCANI, Plumbing Council, CISCO and IL PHCC executives, contractors and staff.



UCA-Illinois Executive Director Michael Wiedmaier.



From left: IDOL Director Joe Costigan and CISCO Executive Director Dan Allen.



IIFFC Director Marc Poulos.



PCA Director Brian Wilk (Bishop Plumbing) addresses the prevailing wage concerns of plumbing contractors.

RE-CONNECTING WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA THROUGH THE GEORGE MEANY AWARD

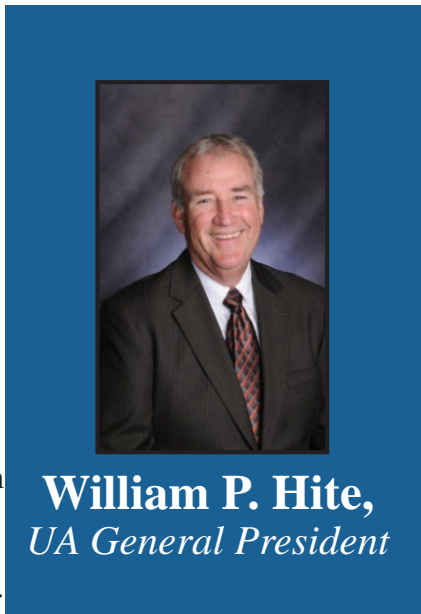


Robert F. Melko

*By Plumbing Council of Chicagoland and
2015 Labor & Scouting Event
Chairman Robert F. Melko*



I am pleased to announce that the Boy Scouts of America Chicago Council has partnered with the Plumbing Council of Chicagoland to honor UA General President William P. Hite as the recipient of the AFL-CIO George Meany Award on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers in Chicago. Event information can be found at www.chicagobsa.org/union and questions can be directed to the Plumbing Council of Chicagoland at 312-263-6612 or by e-mail at sj@plumbingcouncil.org.



William P. Hite,
UA General President

By now, the majority of us have come to realize

that there is a growing skills gap crisis facing the construction trades sector and the many other critical fields relating to our industry including engineering and manufacturing. The latest economic figures estimate that nearly 1.6 million new skilled workers will be needed over the next decade in order to replace our retiring workforce.

Yet finding eager and qualified apprentices to enter into our construction trades presents our industry with quite a challenge. Recruitment numbers in the Chicago and surrounding suburban counties are at an all-time low. By my own estimate as the UA Local 130 Joint Apprenticeship Committee Co-Chair, our plumbing apprentice numbers are significantly down by more than two-thirds this year alone. Plus, our efforts to reach kids at the high school level are often thwarted by well-intentioned yet uninformed guidance counselors trying to boost their college acceptance rates even though 75% of these students never complete their degree despite the astronomical costs of a higher

RE-CONNECTING WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA THROUGH THE GEORGE MEANY AWARD.

CONTINUED

education. Thinking “outside the pipe” is our only viable option in this matter, and fortunately one answer has been right in front of us the whole time.

The Boy Scouts of America has a long standing relationship with the American Labor Movement. These two entities share many common goals, including the pursuit of preparedness, economic justice and the value of hard work. This is especially valid when it comes to training the next generation with the critical science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) skills and apprenticeship education needed to boost our nation’s competitiveness. It’s also evident in the merit badges of our diverse labor trades and their ability to foster a genuine interest in construction industry careers among today’s youth and tomorrow’s construction leaders.

Unfortunately, too many of our current union leaders and business labor partners have for one reason or another lost touch with the Boy Scouts. Many of our merit badges and skilled labor lessons have simply been collecting dust. Our involvement in Boy Scouts career days and STEM exploration events are almost non-existent. And our mentoring of today’s Boy Scouts could use some work.

But all of that can change by partnering up and exploring new avenues of learning. By working together, we can have a profound impact on our nation’s economic prosperity.

Through the joint efforts of the Plumbing Council of Chicagoland and the Boy Scouts of America Chicago Area Council, we are re-kindling a spark that will hopefully ignite a much needed flame for the construction trades and in turn close the skills gap shortage.

As I mentioned earlier, the Boy Scouts of America Chicago Area Council will honor UA

(United Association of Plumbers & Pipefitters) General President William P. Hite with the coveted AFL-CIO George Meany Award at its inaugural “Labor and Scouting” dinner and ceremony held at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers in Chicago on January 20, 2015.

The AFL-CIO Executive Council established the George Meany Award in 1974 to recognize union members—men and women—who have made a significant contribution to the youth of their communities by volunteering in the programs of the Boy Scouts of America. The award is named for the AFL-CIO’s first president, who demonstrated strong support to Scouting over the years.

The George Meany award has not been bestowed upon a Chicago labor leader for many decades. But if this event reaches the level of success and notoriety that I know it will, UA General President Hite—who is a former Boy Scout and Sea Scout and native of the Chicago area (Wheaton, IL)—will be the new start of a long list of labor leaders to receive this prestigious recognition. More importantly, it will re-connect our construction trade industries with the Boy Scouts of America in a profound way that will benefit both organizations for years to come.

Already, we are seeing how this skilled labor and scouting event will reap rewards. The local Boy Scouts Council in Michigan was recently invited by the Plumbing Council of Chicago to attend the UA Instructor’s 61st Annual Training Program at Washtenaw College in Ann Arbor this past August. Not only did the scouts present the colors at the opening ceremony, but they toured the campus facilities and spoke directly with contractors, instructors, union leaders, industry professionals and apprentices as they participated in hands-on training to explore plumbing and

RE-CONNECTING WITH THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA THROUGH THE GEORGE MEANY AWARD.

CONTINUED

pipefitting as potential career options. Tellingly, one of the scouts even commented that “this was the best event that he has ever been forced to attend.”

The launch of this inaugural event and re-discovered partnership with the Boy Scouts will allow us to maximize our already successful Boy Scout merit badge programs in Plumbing, Welding and American Labor. In addition, I am excited to announce that the research of an HVAC merit badge is currently in the works.

I would like to invite everyone interested in learning more about the genuine partnership between the Boy Scouts of America and our construction trades to support our inaugural “Celebration of Labor and Scouting Unity” gala event on January

20, 2015 in Chicago honoring UA General President William P. Hite. Tickets, commemorative book ads and sponsorship opportunities are ready for purchase. In fact, more event information can be found at www.chicagobsa.org/union.

Robert Baden-Powell, a lieutenant-general in the British Army, writer, and founder of the Scout Movement, once said, “The secret of getting successful work out of your trained men lies in one nutshell—in the clearness of the instructions they receive.” And to that I would respond, “Let us clearly instruct today’s scouts into becoming tomorrow’s apprentices. They represent our future. All we have to do now is to show them the way.”



Plumbing Contractors Association of Chicago (PCA) Director Brian Wilk (Bishop Plumbing) leads a delegation of local Boy Scouts around the UA's Instructor Day training facilities at Washtenaw College in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

HEY, WHAT'S THE HURRY?

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Are your drivers potential targets of road rage? Road rage is becoming a commonplace incident on our streets and highways. Business drivers, whether sales people, service technicians, or delivery drivers have an increasing likelihood of witnessing, or being a part of, a road rage incident.

What is “road rage”?

It is simply an irrational display of emotions while operating a vehicle. Road rage can take a number of forms, from verbal rage (yelling, swearing, gesturing, honking, or insulting) to quiet rage (complaining, rushing, competing, or resisting) to extremely aggressive driving (cutting off, blocking, chasing, fighting, or shooting). Whatever form it takes, it is dangerous for anyone in the path of the enraged driver.

The most serious road rage is when drivers “acts out” violently and endangers others. If they fail to control their emotions, enraged drivers may act out of intentional malice versus negligence. This is generally considered a criminal offense and is different from aggressive driving (such as improper lane changes or speeding), which is a less serious moving violation offense.

The frustration of congested driving conditions often plays a major role in the driver’s emotions. Drivers should manage their own anger and responses to other drivers. The best way to avoid being the target of an aggressive driver is to practice basic traffic courtesy. Each of us must pay more attention to our own level of emotion. Above all, we should not allow ourselves to be swept up in the emotions of the moment if another driver acts

aggressively toward us. It is best to move aside and let the enraged driver ease out of the picture.

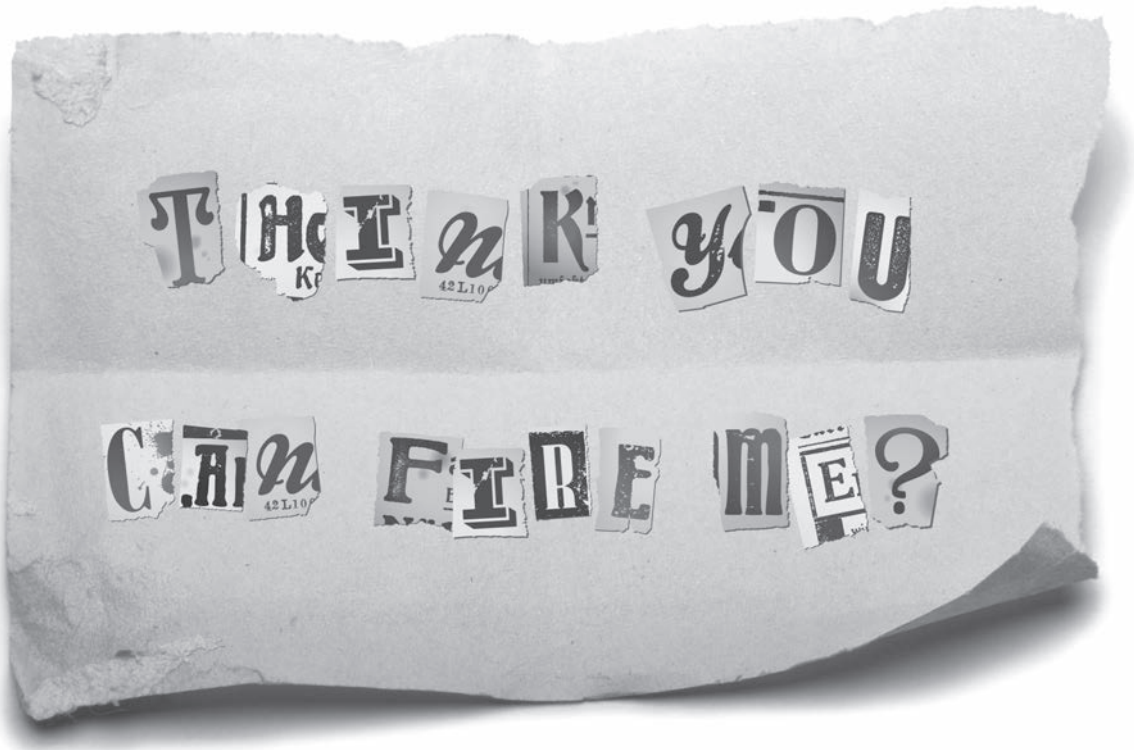
U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offers these tips to help you on your journey if confronted with aggressive drivers:

- **Get Out of the Way.** First and foremost, make every attempt to get out of their way.
- **Put Your Pride Aside.** Do not challenge them by speeding up or attempting to hold-your-own in your travel lane.
- **Avoid Eye Contact.** Eye contact can sometimes enrage an aggressive driver.
- **Gestures.** Ignore gestures and refuse to return them.
- **Report Serious Aggressive Driving.** You or a passenger may call the police. But, if you use a cell phone, pull over to a safe location.

Educating your drivers about road rage helps keep them safe behind the wheel.

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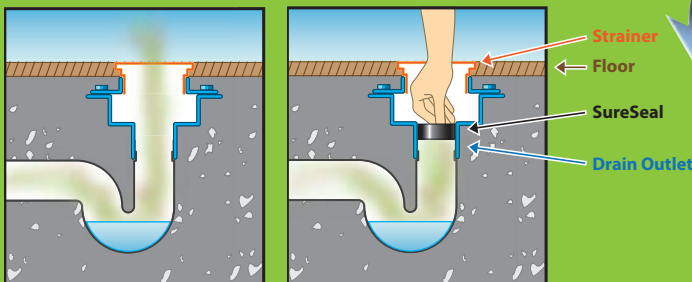
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