

ILLINOIS MASTER PLUMBER

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING • CONTRACTORS

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Happy Holidays



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PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Erik Graybeal
Illinois PHCC President

Hello to everyone out there.

I hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving and had safe travels.

The Illinois PHCC Board of Directors meeting was held on November 14th in Normal, IL. There was a small turnout and the meeting was short. Our membership was reported. It is staying steady with 194 Contractor Members, 52 Associate Members, and 21 Inspector Members. On Friday November 12th the PHCC hosted a seminar on Marketing and Service. Susan Roberts-Frew from Sunshine Plumbing in Denver, Colorado put on a great training session. There were about 15 people in attendance. Her knowledge on marketing, social media and reviews, and how it affects your business was very useful. It is amazing how a simple review can have such an impact on your business. If you are not marketing your company on social media, then you are missing out on opportunities for future work. Technology is a must these days.

Are you ready for winter? It is here whether we like it or not. Make sure your company vehicles are running well, batteries are up to date and the tires have good tread on them. Every time we have that first big freeze, or large snow fall is when we realize these things, so it is good to be proactive and prepared.

The holidays are here. Keep all of our troops in your prayers and appreciate what they are going through to secure our freedom. What is going

on in the Middle East and Europe is a tragedy. Be grateful that it is not yet happening here.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

Until next year...Erik Graybeal



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PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ILLINOIS PLUMBERS LICENSING CODE

The Illinois Department of Public Health has proposed changes to the Illinois Plumbers Licensing Code 68 Ill. Adm. Code 750. These changes were published in the November 6th edition of the Illinois Register.

To view the proposals: go to www.ilga.gov, click on the Illinois Register tab at the bottom left, go to Issue 45 (November 6) and view pages 14,297 to 14,320 of that issue.

For those wishing to submit comments on the proposals, instructions are included within the above pages. Comments must be received within 45 days of the November 6th posting date.

Please contact the Illinois PHCC office with questions or comments. 



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IN MEMORY

We recently received word that Illinois PHCC Past President **Norman F. Weiskopf, Sr.** of Naples, Florida, formerly of Springfield, passed away on July 28, 2015.

Norm was the owner and operator of J.F. Weiskopf and Son Plumbing and Heating in Springfield. He later worked for the State of Illinois, Central Management Services, retiring in 1998. He then moved to Naples.

He was a past member of Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 137 and was President of the Illinois Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Contractors Association from 1971-1972. He was a past member of the Jacksonville Country Club; Tyrian Lodge 333; Springfield Consistory; ANSAR Shrine and the Elks Club 158.

A funeral Service was held on August 3rd at St. John's Lutheran Church in Springfield with burial at Oak Ridge Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society; Hospice of Memorial Medical Center, Springfield, IL; Shriner's Children's Hospital, or St. John's Lutheran Church of Springfield, IL. 



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Contractors
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY 8, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
 Heartland Community College
 Normal, IL

FEBRUARY 19, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
 Heartland Community College
 Normal, IL

FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 2, 2016

UAC Unity Conference
 Marriott Pompano Beach Resort
 Fort Lauderdale, FL

MARCH 17, 2016

Illinois PHCC Annual Meeting
 Hilton Suites Hotel
 Oakbrook Terrace, IL

MARCH 18, 2016

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

MARCH 19, 2016

Illinois PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings
 Hilton Suites Hotel
 Oakbrook Terrace, IL

APRIL 8, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
 Rend Lake Resort
 Whittington, IL

APRIL 22, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
 Heartland Community College
 Normal, IL

MAY 18 – 19, 2016

PHCC National Legislative Conference
 Washington, DC

OCTOBER 19 – 21, 2016

PHCC Connect '16
 San Antonio, TX





*The Officers, Directors
& Staff of the
Illinois PHCC
want to wish you
and your family a
Happy Holiday Season*

ILLINOIS PHCC MEMBER BENEFITS

Illinois PHCC Mission Statement

Through a commitment to excellence, our Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors strive to protect the environment, health, welfare, and safety of the residents of Illinois.

Government Relations: The need to be heard in Springfield and Washington, DC has never been greater. Our members profit from pro-active legislation that is conducive to good business, and protected from legislative actions that are detrimental to the business climate. At the state level, protection and strengthening of the Illinois Plumbing License Law is one of our top priorities.

Representation with Regulatory Agencies: The Illinois PHCC has representatives on many regulatory/advisory boards within state government. This representation provides the plumbing & piping industry with input into the regulatory process and also helps to prevent actions that may be harmful to our industry. Following are some examples of PHCC representation with state agencies:

- Illinois Plumbing Code Advisory Council
- Plumbing Industry AdHoc Committee
- Green Building Advisory Council
- Subcommittee on Building Codes & Regulations
- Lead Poisoning Elimination Advisory Council
- Uniform Building Code Task Force
- Capital Development Board Advisory Board
- IEPA Public Water Supply Rate Board
- Liaison with IDPH Plumbing Program
- Liaison with IEPA Cross Connection Program & ERTC

Representation with Other Industry Groups: Representatives from the Illinois PHCC are members of and participate in the activities of the Illinois

Plumbing Education Association, Illinois Plumbing Inspectors Association, American Society of Plumbing Engineers, American Society of Sanitary Engineering, American Backflow Prevention Association, IAPMO Green Technical Committee, and others.

Networking Opportunities: All three levels of the PHCC federation offer great networking opportunities. Conventions, trade shows, local meetings and educational events all provide time to learn from others.

Education: Seminars, continuing education, round tables and panel discussions are provided during Illinois PHCC events.

News: Keep updated on the latest happenings in the industry via the award winning Illinois Master Plumber magazine, PHCC OnLine, The Connection and local newsletters. The Illinois PHCC website, www.ilphcc.com is a good source of information and industry links.

Scholarships: The Illinois PHCC and the Auxiliary both offer annual scholarships to aid those wishing to further their education.

Safety Tape Library: A lending library of DVDs is available for the use of all members to aid them in safety and risk management presentations to their employees. There is no charge for the use of the materials.

Industry Promotion: The Illinois PHCC is always working to promote our industry throughout the state and even the nation. The Plumbing Coalition for Public Health and Safety is just one example of

how we work to “get the word out” about licensed, professional plumbers.

Magnetic Vehicle Signs: To help contractors comply with Illinois’ construction vehicle lettering requirement, the Illinois PHCC is offering magnetic signs for trucks, vans, and trailers at discounted rates. New members are eligible to receive two signs free of charge.

Programs to help a contractor’s bottom line:

Federated Insurance offers complete business and health insurance programs that are tailored to our industry. They offer risk management materials and programs at no additional charge to their clients.

IC Systems is a debt collection service offered to, and used successfully by Illinois PHCC members.

PHCC National Discount Programs offer savings up to 25% on some of a contractor’s regular business expenses. For example, **Aramark** work apparel and uniform services offers a 25% discount to PHCC members; save 10% on all stationary, forms, checks, software, labels and related printed products from **NEBS Business Forms**; free marketing tools and discounted services from **Hudson Ink’s Marketing Tools**; save \$500 when you purchase a new vehicle with the **Chrysler, RAM, Jeep Rebate Offer**; get a free fleet analysis from **Enterprise Fleet Services**; merchant credit card programs and much more. 

WINTER DRIVING IN ILLINOIS

Illinois has already had a taste of winter weather and the driving issues that accompany snow, ice, and wind.

Before heading out on the roadways during inclement weather, you may want to take the time to check with the Illinois Department of Transportation for road conditions. Simply go to www.idot.illinois.gov or call 1-800-452-IDOT to see what the roads in your

travel plan are experiencing.

Keep your employees, your family, and yourself safe by taking a few minutes to plan your route. Make sure that your vehicles are properly equipped with emergency items such as shovels, salt or sand, blankets, and flashlights.



WINTER DRIVING TIPS FROM THE ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

Driving during winter weather conditions is sometimes hazardous at best. Below is some information you may find useful as you prepare to confront the winter season.

If you must use your car during a storm...

- Plan your travel, selecting both primary and alternate routes.
- Let someone know your travel routes and itinerary so that, if you don't arrive on time, officials will know where to search for you.
- Check latest weather information on your radio.
- Try not to travel alone - two or three people are preferable.
- Travel in convoy (with another vehicle) if possible.
- Drive carefully and defensively. Watch for ice patches on bridges and overpasses.
- If a storm begins to be too much for you to handle, seek refuge immediately.
- If your car should become disabled, stay with the vehicle, running your engine and heater for short intervals. Be sure to "crack" a window in the vehicle to avoid carbon monoxide build-up.

Reliable transportation is especially important in the winter. If you have a car, make sure it is ready for whatever winter may bring. Not only should your car be kept in top operating condition all year round - for safety and fuel economy, it is especially important to get it winterized to avoid any unpleasant or dangerous situation while traveling in frigid weather. The following should be checked:

- ignition system
- fuel system
- brakes

- exhaust system
- wiper blades
- snow tires
- tire tread
- defroster
- proper grade oil
- cooling system
- battery
- lights
- antifreeze

Always fill the gasoline tank before entering open country, even for a short distance, and stop to fill-up long before the tank begins to run low. Keeping your tank as full as possible will minimize condensation, providing the maximum advantage in case of trouble. A Citizens Band (CB) radio and/or cellular phone can be very useful to you or another stranded motorist in case of an emergency.

Coffee Can Survival Kit...

Here's how to make your own:

- 2 or 3 pound coffee can (punch 3 holes at the top of can, equal distance apart)
- 60-inch length of twine or heavy string (cut into 3 equal pieces - used to suspend can)
- 3 large safety pins (tie string to safety pins and pin to car roof interior to suspend can over candle)
- 1 candle 2" diameter (place on lid under suspended can for melting snow)
- 1 pocket knife, reasonably sharp (or substitute with scissors)

- 3 pieces of bright cloth 2” wide x 36” long (tie to antenna or door handle)
- Several packets of soup, hot chocolate, tea, bouillon cubes, etc. (mixed into melted snow to provide warmth and nutrition)
- 1 small package of peanuts (provides protein) & fruit-flavored candy (orange slices, jelly beans, etc.-avoid chocolate)
- 1 pair of athletic socks (cotton) and 1 pair of glove liners (cotton)
- 2 packages of book matches
- 1 sun shield blanket or 2 large green or black plastic leaf bags (to reflect body heat)
- 1 pen light and batteries (keep separate)

When complete, place stocking cap over kit and carry in passenger compartment of car. If you have a 3 pound can, you will still have additional room for band-aids, aspirin, small radio, etc. If there is still room left, increase the quantity of any of the above items or improvise items you feel might be necessary.

Remember hypothermia (rapid loss of body temperature) can happen to anyone!

Stay in your car until help arrives!

An accident or severe weather situation can occur at any time. Your driver must be aware of the effects of cold weather in the event he or she becomes stranded.



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WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

What was wrong with the cover photo on the November issue?

Probably the question should be what's right with this picture? As you have probably assumed, this was taken at an outdoor festival, the type we all enjoy throughout the year. In this case, the community did take the initiative to monitor the water usage

and secure the meter so it could not be stolen. Other than the fact the water purveyor is getting paid for the water being used, that is as far as it goes. Now for what is wrong. First there is absolutely no backflow protection between the community water supply and the potential cross connections. There is also no protection between one user's connection to the next. The manifold is made up of fittings, some of which are not approved for potable water by the Illinois Plumbing Code and some that appear to be used, which is prohibited. Also, are the valves that were used lead free? And lastly, if we were going to adhere to the plumbing code we would not allow a purple hose to be connected to this system.



Section 890.130 Incorporated and Referenced Materials

- 17) Drinking Water Systems Code (77 Ill. Adm. Code 900)

- 18) Water Quality Standards (35 Ill. Adm. Code 302)

Section 890.210 Materials

All materials, piping, fittings, appliances, appurtenances, faucets, fixture fittings, fixtures and devices used in all plumbing systems shall be approved by the Department, in accordance with the following criteria:

- b) Compliance with the applicable standard (see Appendix A: Table A).

Section 890.1120 Color Code

Identification of Piping. All piping conveying non-potable water shall be permanently identified by a continuous purple coloring so that the piping is readily distinguishable from piping carrying potable water.

Section 890.1130 Protection of Potable Water

- c) Backflow. The water distribution system shall be protected against backflow. Each water outlet shall be protected from backflow by having the outlet end from which the water flows spaced a sufficient distance above the flood-level rim of the receptacle into which the water flows to provide a minimum fixed air gap. When it is not possible to provide a minimum fixed air gap, the water outlet shall be equipped with an accessible backflow prevention device or assembly in accordance with subsection (f) of this Section or Section 890.1140.
- 6) Hose and spray units or stations shall be protected by one of the appropriate devices as indicated below:
- A) Fixed air gap;
 - B) Reduced pressure principle backflow preventer assembly;
 - C) Double check valve backflow preventer assembly;
 - D) Double check valve backflow preventer with atmospheric vent assembly;
 - E) Dual check valve backflow preventer assembly;
 - F) Atmospheric vacuum breaker unit.

Now, imagine what is outside the picture and think of what those six hoses may be serving. Yes, it was food concessions; corn dog trailer, lemonade stand, funnel cake stand, and various other food vendors. Think about what could happen when one of those hoses is lying in a puddle of water from where livestock was washed before going in the show ring. Let's just hope the livestock doesn't do the same thing as a person usually does when they hear running water!

This month's winner was Wendell Stevens from Lawrenceville, Illinois and he will receive an Illinois PHCC logo item for his correct entry. The contest will be on hiatus for the holidays and will resume with the February issue.

We would like to thank those who continue to send us pictures to be featured in the contest. Photos can be submitted by emailing them to bev@ilphcc.com. 📧



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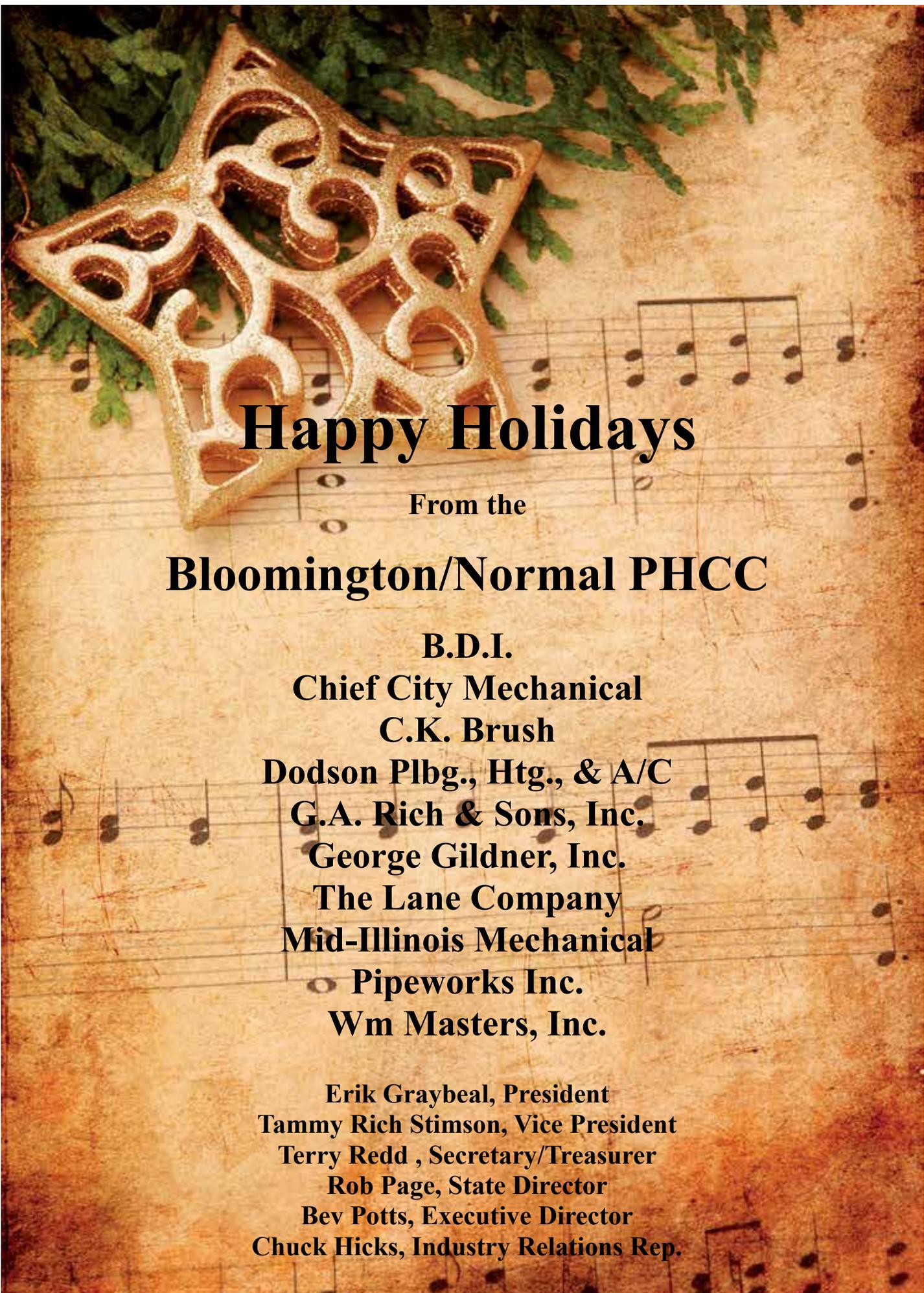
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2015-2016 Continuing Education for Illinois Licensed Plumbers

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fee</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 18, 2015 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 19, 2015 – 8:00 am-12:00 pm	Kaskaskia College, Vandalia, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **October 16, 2015 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Hilton Garden Inn, Springfield, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **November 6, 2015 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake Resort, Whittington, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **January 8, 2016 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **February 19, 2016 – 1:00 pm-5:00pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **March 18, 2016 - 9:00 am -1:00pm	Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	\$35.00

No Walkins – No Exceptions. All Registrations for the March 18 class must be received before March 1, 2016

<input type="checkbox"/> **April 8, 2016 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake Resort, Whittington, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **April 22, 2016 - 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$75.00

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Course # 750-035-C1

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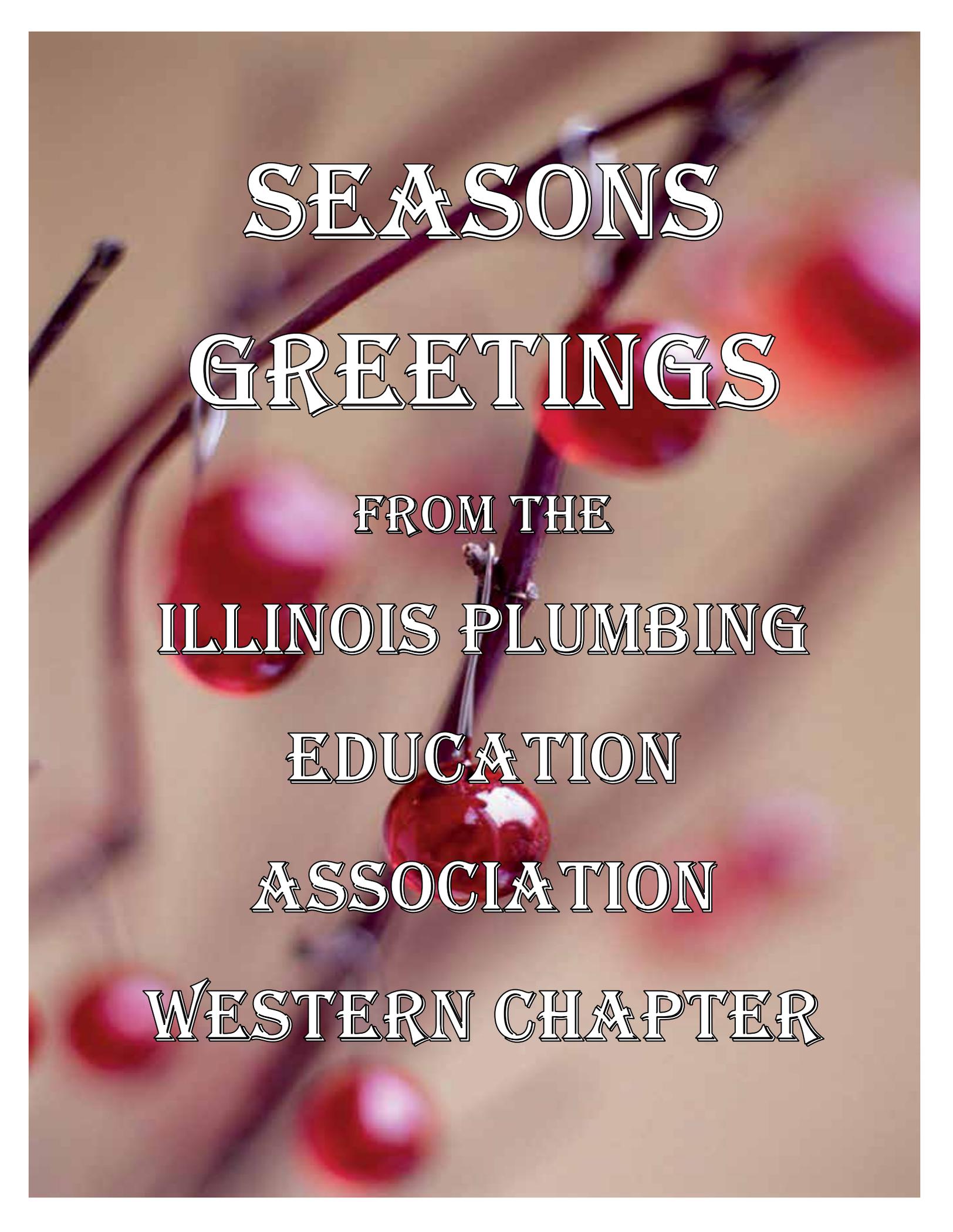
IMPORTANT:

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 \$50.00 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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**“Let’s keep working on mandatory
certification of Plumbing Inspectors”**



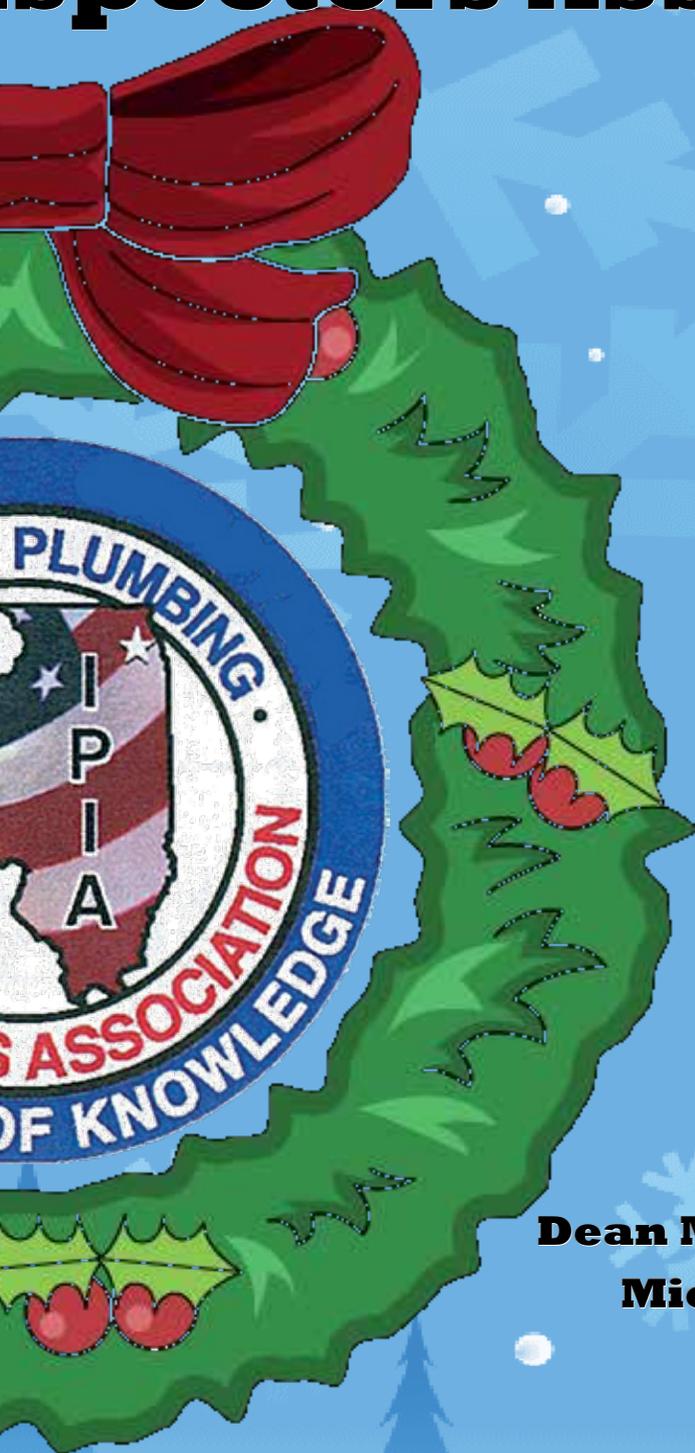
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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and a prosperous New Year.**

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312-263-6612

603 Rogers Street, Suite 2, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515-3774

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION PLUMBING, HEATING, COOLING CONTRACTORS AUXILIARY

Dear Friends of Illinois PHCC,

It is again time to start thinking about the annual 2016 Illinois PHCC Expo & Educational Day. Known as one of the best state product shows in the country, it will again be held at the Drury Lane Conference Center, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois on Friday, March 18, 2016.

The Auxiliary will publish a Souvenir Program Book to be distributed to all Expo participants as we have for the past 36 years. The vendors and attendees are firms and individuals within the building and construction industry who influence or have authority over specifications, purchasing and/or installation related to plumbing, heating, cooling, piping and other related fields. These are the people who recommend products to the general public. This Program Book is handed out free to all attendees of the Expo, which last year totaled over 1600 people. This figure alone is one good reason to participate by advertising your business.

Through this Auxiliary project we have raised money to provide scholarships, helped to further industry public awareness, and purchased supplies for the IL PHCC office in Springfield.

We would appreciate your support by placing an ad in the 2016 Souvenir Program Book by using the following Ad Order Form. Deadline for ad submission is February 5, 2016.

Sincerely,

Barb

Barbara Miller
IL PHCC Aux. Ad Book Chairperson
1268 W County Line Rd.
Brighton, IL 62012
PH: 618-372-8367
Email: phccadbook@aol.com



SEASONS GREETINGS

From the Members of

**THE GREAT SOUTH-WESTERN ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF
PLUMBING-HEATING-COOLING & MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS**

A & H Mechanical
AMSCO Mechanical
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Bel-O Cooling & Heating
Bel-O Sales & Service
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Corrigan Company
Custom Mechanical
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Essenpreis Plumbing
Gerstner Plumbing
Grove Plumbing
Haier Plumbing



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Connor Co., Construction Data Services
Federated Insurance, Ferguson Enterprises
Johnson Controls, Koch Air
Plumbers Supply, Yaekel & Associates Insurance

Hendricks Plumbing
Houseman Supply
Hubert Plumbing
Icon Mechanical
Maxson Services
Murphy Co. Contractors
Nooter Construction Co.
Plumbing Solutions
Spengler Company
Vasquez Plumbing
Weinland Refrigeration
Wells Plumbing

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION PLUMBING, HEATING, COOLING CONTRACTORS AUXILIARY

Name of Advertiser: _____
 Contact Person: _____
 Signature: _____
 Address: _____

 Phone Number: _____
 E Mail Address _____

1. AD SIZE:

Please check ad size below. (If submitting more than one page, please indicate.)

			TOTAL DUE
_____ Back Cover - 8" x 11"	@	\$500.00	_____
_____ Inside Front Cover - 8" x 11"	@	\$300.00	_____
_____ Inside Back Cover - 8" x 11"	@	\$250.00	_____
_____ Full page - 8" x 11"	@	\$125.00	_____
_____ 1/2 page - 5" x 7"	@	\$100.00	_____
_____ 1/4 page - 5" x 3.5"	@	\$75.00	_____
Business Card Ad	@	\$50.00	_____
Patron Ad - Auxiliary Members Only	@	\$10.00	_____

For Patron Ad please print name as it should appear in the program:

2. ARTWORK:

Please check all that apply.

_____ Camera ready ad enclosed	@	N/C	_____
_____ Printer to make up ad copy	@	\$15.00	_____
_____ Minor type change required	@	N/C	_____
_____ Reduce or enlarge ad to fit desired space	@	N/C	_____
_____ Color:	@	\$250.00	_____

(Please be sure camera ready ad is a CLEAN, DARK COPY OF AD)

3. GRAND TOTAL AMOUNT DUE:

Check enclosed _____ Bill us _____

4. IMPORTANT: All Plumbing contractors must include their Illinois Plumbers License Number in their ad. If your ad does not include your License Number, please write it on the back of the ad in pencil. Ad deadline is February 5, 2016.

5. Please enclose your check made payable to IL PHCC Aux. Program Ad Book. If you prefer to be billed, payment must be received by February 20, 2016.

Please return order form and remittance to: Barbara Miller
 1268 W County Line Rd Brighton IL. 62012
 Phone: 618-372-8367
 email: phccadbook@aol.com



2016 Exposition Application & Contract
March 18, 2016

Company Name: _____
Type or Print Company Name as it is to appear on Printed Material

Booth Preference: Indicate Booth Preference as Shown on Floor Plan.

of Booths _____ Choices 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

Booth Costs: One to three booths cost \$750 each. Four or more booths cost \$725 each.

Discount price for Illinois PHCC Associate Members:

One to three booths cost \$650 each. Four or more booths cost \$625 each.

\$150 deposit per booth must accompany application form.

5% discount if full amount of booth cost is paid prior to December 31, 2015.

BALANCE MUST BE PAID NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 15, 2016.

Make check payable to: Illinois PHCC, 821 South Grand Ave. West, Springfield, IL 62704

Company _____

Street Address or P.O. Box _____

City / State / Zip _____

Contact _____

Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____

E-mail _____ Website _____

Signature _____

The following products or services will be displayed: _____

Space assigned on a first come, first served basis. Please furnish all information requested. Cancellation must be by mutual consent of the applicant and the Illinois PHCC. A copy of the accepted contract will be mailed to you. If the contract is canceled prior to January 1, 2016 a full refund will be made. No refunds after February 1, 2016. Booth space contracted without deposit will be made available as space is needed. Illinois PHCC will not be responsible for lost, stolen or damaged goods or damage to the Drury Lane Conference Center.

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 800-795-7422 with any special requests.

Booth Assignment(s) _____

Date ___/___/___ Signed: _____

Illinois PHCC Executive Director/Show Manager



PLUMBING CODE BOOK ORDER FORM

**PLEASE FILL OUT FORM COMPLETELY.
WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION TO PROVIDE YOU WITH UPDATES ELECTRONICALLY.**

Name: _____

Company: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Cost \$55.00/insert
(includes tabs, Plumbing License Law, Plumbers Licensing Code,
Plumbing Contractor Registration Code and
Lawn Irrigation Contractor & Lawn Sprinkler Code)

_____ 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
821 South Grand Avenue, West
Springfield, IL 62704

Make checks payable to the Illinois PHCC.

There will be a \$40.00 service charge for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.

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

(217) 522-7219

OSHA AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS RENEW ALLIANCE

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the American Red Cross have renewed their alliance to continue efforts to reduce workplace incidents and protect workers from hazardous exposures. During this five-year alliance, OSHA and the Red Cross will focus on providing workers and employers with information and training resources on emergency preparedness, disease prevention education and first aid.

“Our alliance with the Red Cross over the past 10 years has allowed us to share safety and health information with workers, particularly those most vulnerable to workplace hazards,” said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. “We look forward to continuing this partnership to provide workers with the resources necessary to stay safe and healthy on the job.”

The Red Cross has been helpful in sharing information on updates to OSHA’s injury reporting requirements and also hosted a webinar on bloodborne pathogens and prevention of disease transmission in the workplace.

“This alliance reaffirms our commitment to training and preparation to help save lives,” said Dominick Tolli, Vice President, Preparedness and Health and Safety Services at the Red Cross. “Knowing the correct steps to take in those critical first moments of an emergency can mean the difference between

life and death.”

Founded in 1881, the Red Cross helps communities through disaster preparedness and service.

Volunteers and staff provide care to people affected by disasters in the United States and support members of the military and their families. The Red Cross also facilitates blood collection and distribution, health and safety education and training, and international relief and development.

Through its Alliance Program, OSHA works with unions, consulates, trade and professional organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, businesses and educational institutions to prevent workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses. The purpose of each alliance is to develop compliance assistance tools and resources and to educate workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities. Alliance Program participants do not receive exemptions from OSHA inspections or any other enforcement benefits.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA’s role is to ensure these conditions for America’s working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.



RISK MANAGEMENT CORNER

Can a Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace Program Affect Your Work Comp Premium?

In the world of workers compensation, *managed care* is a vastly misunderstood buzz word. In its simplest form, *managed care* describes a variety of techniques that, when properly applied, will help you efficiently use your workers compensation dollars.

Testing = Savings

A highly effective managed care strategy: the drug-free workplace. This concept has gained significant traction in recent years. Drug-free workplaces typically use pre-employment, random, or post-incident drug testing. A properly utilized program can be successful for both monitoring and preventing drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace. A drug-free workplace program can offer benefits over and above its initial intent, such as the potential for direct and indirect savings.

Direct savings come in the form of premium credits. Many states offer work comp discounts for a certified drug-free workplace program. Insurance carriers in other states may have discretionary underwriting credits available to recognize the value of these programs. Either way, this can be a great way to reduce workers compensation premium.

Indirect savings come from simply reducing the negative consequences of drugs and alcohol in the workplace. It certainly makes sense that employees who are under the influence of drugs or alcohol are more likely to experience a workplace injury. But, do you know to what extent? The United States Department of Labor studies show that substance abusers are almost four times more likely to be involved in a workplace accident, and five times more likely to file a workers compensation claim.¹

Would You Want to Work with a Drug Abuser?

Utilizing the three drug tests previously noted can have an impact reaching far beyond the direct premium savings.

Pre-employment – provides a means to screen candidates and help with informed hiring decisions.

Random – sends a strong message to employees that you are committed to a drug- and alcohol-free workplace, and may identify employees who are substance abusers.

Post-incident – can be a critical piece of your work comp injury claims management. The mere presence of this type of test should result in fewer claims. In many states, a non-negative, post-incident drug test can result in denial of the work comp claim. Even when the claim isn't denied, the knowledge gained will result in a different claim management process. Claimants with a predisposition toward drug use (as indicated by that drug test) require a different claim management process to ensure recovery and prompt return to work.

The End Result

You're not testing to "catch" anyone; in fact, it could be argued that the best testing program is one that catches no one. Effectively controlling your workers compensation exposure with a drug and alcohol program can create a distinct competitive advantage, not to mention the overall positive effect on your business.

¹U.S. Department of Labor; elaws® Drug-Free Workplace Advisor; *How does substance abuse impact the workplace?* Accessed September 18, 2015. <http://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/asp/drugfree/benefits.htm>

This article is intended to provide general information and recommendations regarding risk prevention only. There is no guarantee that following these guidelines will result in reduced losses or eliminate any risks. This information may be subject to regulations and restrictions in your state and should not be considered legal advice. Qualified counsel should be sought regarding questions specific to your circumstances and applicable state laws. All rights reserved.



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A Perfect Fit

Relationships take work. Sometimes things go smoothly, sometimes not so much. But a winning relationship—like the one between Federated and your association—is worth the effort. The result? A solid partnership built on a foundation of mutual respect. That partnership has one primary goal: helping you build the business you imagined.

Visit www.federatedinsurance.com to find a representative near you.



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309-663-8451

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Addison, IL 60101
262-512-1900

Happy Holidays

From The

**Midwest Illinois
Mechanical Contractors
Association**

Union-Affiliated Contractors Unity 2016



*February 28 –
March 2, 2016*

Marriott Pompano Beach
Resort, Fort Lauderdale, FL

UAC

Union-Affiliated
Contractors





YOU'RE INVITED

Unity Conference 2016 is THE place to be this winter. As the name implies, Unity is all about fostering strong working relationships among the industry's labor and business leaders. It is specifically geared to signatory p-h-c contractors, labor leaders, association executives and key industry suppliers.

Unity Conference 2016 will provide an opportunity to meet with the right people to discuss the issues important to you. In addition to high-level networking, the Unity Conference 2016 program delivers sessions designed to help you operate your business more effectively. Unity features presenters who have the knowledge and experience that can help you to become a more successful contractor. You don't want to miss this opportunity to build relationships with the best and brightest in the industry.

I hope to see you there.

Robert Melko, Chair
Union-Affiliated Contractors (UAC)
of the PHCC-National Association

HOTEL INFORMATION

Please contact Marriott Pompano Beach Resort directly for room reservations at 855/954-4683.

Be sure to identify yourself as a UAC Unity Conference attendee to receive the special group rate of \$225 single occupancy plus applicable tax.

Or you can register on their website at www.pompanomarriott.com using Group Code:

UACUACA for King Rooms
UACUACB for Double Queen Rooms

Make your reservation early to ensure availability. The special UAC rate will only be available until January 22, 2016.



REGISTER FOR UNITY CONFERENCE 2016

TODAY!

**THIS IS A MEETING YOU
WON'T WANT TO MISS!!**

For more information call
(888) 997-0535 or
e-mail: jones@naphcc.org

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Schedule subject to change

Sunday, February 28, 2016

Optional events:

Deep Sea Fishing Contest

Golf

Evening at Isle Casino & Racing at Pompano Park

Monday, February 29, 2016

7:00 am - 8:00 am Breakfast

8:00 am - 10:30 am **Bradford White Water Heater Seminar** - *Dustin Bowerman, Director of Technical Services*

10:00 am - 12:00 pm **Current & Future Liabilities of Defined Benefit Plans “Those Who Ask Don’t Know, and Those Who Know Don’t Ask”**
Attorney James F. Vanek, Partner Laner Muchin, Ltd.

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm **UA Address**
UA General President William P. Hite (invited)

2:00 pm - 5:30 pm **Plumbing Industry Council Meeting** - open to all attendees

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm **UAC Reception** - Patio

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

7:00 am - 8:00 am Breakfast

8:00 am - 10:00 am **Industry Views**
Kirk Alter, Fast Management Inc.

10:00 am - 3:30 pm **“Market Recovery Strategies” & Roundtable**
Kirk Alter, Fast Management Inc.

Noon - 1:00 pm Lunch

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm **UA Address**
UA Secretary-Treasurer Mark McManus (invited)

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm **PHCC Update**
PHCC Executive Vice President Michael R. Copp

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm **UA Training Department Update**

5:30 pm - 6:00 pm **Trustee Meeting**

6:00 pm - 8:30 pm **UAC Reception** - Pool Deck

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

7:00 am - 8:00 am Breakfast

8:00 am - 10:00 am **Technologies 2016**
The latest in hardware and software tools for the jobsite and in the office.

10:00 am - Noon **Prevailing Wage & PLA's in Today's World**
Marc Poulos, JD - Executive Director of the Indiana, Illinois and Iowa Foundation for Fair Contracting.





UNITY 2016 REGISTRATION FORM

February 28– March 2 , 2016

Marriott Pompano Beach Resort
Fort Lauderdale, FL

YOU CAN REGISTER
THREE WAYS!

ONLINE: www.phccweb.org

BY MAIL:

Mail this form with payment to:
UAC, 180 S. Washington St., Ste 100
Falls Church, VA 22046

BY FAX : (703) 237-7442
Fax your registration form with
credit card number

QUESTIONS?

Call (888) 997-0535 or
e-mail: jones@naphcc.org

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name #1 _____ Badge Name _____
Name #2 _____ Badge Name _____
Company _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____ E-mail _____

REGISTRANT FEES

Please select the appropriate registration option (s) from the choices below.

_____ UAC Member \$595.00 _____ Non-Member \$650.00 _____ Trade Associate \$595.00 _____ Spouse/Guest (Receptions Only) \$180.00
_____ Golf \$125.00 _____ Deep Sea Fishing \$125.00 _____ Evening at Isle Casino & Racing N/C

Early Bird Discount! Register by **January 22, 2016**, take \$50.00 off of the full registration rate. TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

UAC Registration Cancellation Policy: All cancellation requests must be submitted to UAC in writing. Cancellations postmarked by January 22, 2016 will be charged a \$75 processing fee. No refunds will be made after January 22, 2016.

HOUSING, ADA REQUESTS & TRAVEL

Reminder: Please contact the Marriott Pompano Beach Resort directly for sleeping room reservations at 855/954-4683. Be sure to identify yourself as a UAC Unity Conference attendee to receive the special group rate of \$225 Single occupancy plus applicable tax. Make your reservation before **January 22, 2016** to ensure availability. If booking on-line, use group code UACUACA for King Rooms or UACUACB for Double Queen Rooms.

Special Needs: Please contact UAC directly with any special requests or needs you may have related to a disability.

Travel: Special rates for airport transportation have been arranged with VIP Limo. To schedule transportation contact Javier or Sandy at (954) 462-8245 or online at www.ftlviplimo.com. Go to "contact us tab", fill out form and in the message line state that you are with the UAC Unity conference. Group rate for 1-4 passengers \$55.00 one way, plus 20% gratuity for the driver.

TWO EASY PAYMENT METHODS

Meeting Registration Check Enclosed (please make payable to "PHCC-UAC")

Charge My (Circle one): Visa Mastercard AmExp Amount \$ _____

Card# _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV Security Code _____

Name on credit card _____

Billing Address for credit card _____

Signature _____

Questions? Please contact UAC offices with any questions regarding Unity Conference 2016
Call (888) 997-0535 or e-mail: jones@naphcc.org. Fax completed form to: (703) 237-7442.



Saving water just got a lot easier and much better looking.

Until now, adding water-saving electronic faucets to any building was a hassle. Electronic faucets are a challenge to install. What's more, performance is inconsistent, maintenance is demanding, the price is too high and, let's be honest, the design leaves something to be desired.

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EQ makes it easier than ever to bring style and water savings to restrooms in offices, retail, sports facilities, and other commercial buildings. Want to learn more? Visit eqfaucets.com for more information. It doesn't get easier than that.



Download a white paper on the rising cost of water and how doing the little things can really add up.

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