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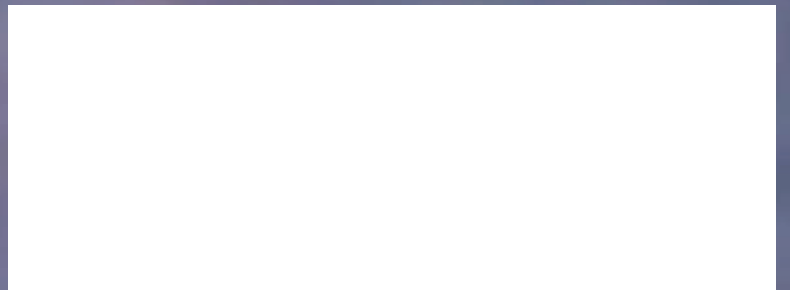
Volume 100, No. 6

June 2014

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*2014-2015*



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# PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Steve Jany  
Illinois PHCC President

## Greetings friends,

I hope this finds everyone in good health and adequate, profitable work. We are a fast changing world today where we need information and answers immediately to make rational decisions. Keeping up with the ever changing technology is essential to staying in business and making a profit. During the hustle and bustle of daily business let us not forget the reason we are doing this, our family. It is far too easy to neglect what is the most important component in our lives. Before you realize it, your present family and friends will be changing, so stay tuned in to your family, friends and business.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Illinois PHCC 121st convention and reunion as much as I did. French Lick Resort was an excellent setting to enjoy past and present friends and acquaintances. It was nice to renew old friendships with some of the people that were doing the work years ago that we are carrying on today.

Donna and I arrived Wednesday in the rain. Later that afternoon we were blessed with a double rainbow viewed from the hotel veranda with friends.

Convention started with the opportunity to get your required CEU credits for those needing them. We started off with Steve Lipsey of R.C. Sales & Service, bringing us up to date on the energy legislation concerning water heaters that is to take effect April 16, 2015. He was followed by Vicki Simpson from the Illinois Attorney General's office with the latest Illinois Accessibility Code and the Federal 2010 ADA Standards. Gary Hinderliter finished up with code changes to the Illinois Plumbing Code. The new code

is currently online for your viewing.

Later in the day we were able to relax while sampling local wine and getting the fascinating history of the French Lick Resort, sulfur springs, and the surrounding area.

After the Thursday evening relaxation, Friday started everyone off with a promise of an interesting day. The day started with a very energetic keynote speaker, Kevin Brown. We were reminded that we are in the people business and should always keep that in mind. This was followed by the Illinois PHCC annual meeting with Brock Martinez of Federated Insurance explaining how workmen's compensation rates are determined. The meeting concluded with nominations and the election of officers.

The Illinois PHCC Auxiliary sponsored an event that gave attendees the opportunity to attend a Culinary Challenge. The challenge was from preparation, all the way to presentation techniques before a panel of judges, while being coached by the excellent chefs from French Lick Resort.

Friday night guests were entertained with drinks, dinner and train ride aboard the French Lick Scenic Railroad traveling through the Hoosier National Forest. After the train was stopped and robbed, a culprit paid his dues. The guests were provided with hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments. One of our own members was held hostage for ransom. The proceeds collected to free her were donated to "Relay for Life". Everyone boarded the train for the return trip back to the hotel.

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## PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

CONTINUED

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Saturday continued with updates from both Jessica Newbold of IMSCA and Mark Riso, Government Relations Director, from PHCC National on the state and federal level of legislative, regulatory issues and updates. By keeping abreast of current and upcoming issues, the acquired information increases your chances of making a rational decision. This session was followed by Elicia Magruder bringing us all up to date on the latest membership services offered with your PHCC National membership and the tag line "Best People Best Practices".

The next session was the joint luncheon at which all past presidents of the Illinois PHCC and Auxiliary that were in attendance were honored for their services: "120 Years of PHCC Excellence".

We were all brought up to speed on the latest "apps" for our electronic devices to speed business decisions at our next session. After "Appy Hour" we followed up with our board of directors meeting which was attended by several past presidents.

Saturday evening started off with the president's reception, dinner and PHCC and Auxiliary officers installation, followed by comedian Jonathan Pfindler.

The youth enjoyed their programs and entertainment Friday and Saturday when not involved with the adult activities.

This year will start my 2nd term as your president and I look forward to serving the Illinois PHCC as your leader. This convention also gave me the opportunity to enjoy father's day with my son Chris and my first grandson, Wallace.

Steve



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# WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

What was wrong with the cover photo of the May issue of the Illinois Master Plumber magazine? The green water would be the first thing a person would notice. Section 890.1130 a) states "Potable water supply piping and water discharge outlets shall not be submerged in any sewage or toxic substance. Where potable water supply piping or water discharge outlets are submerged in other substances, they shall be provided with backflow protection as listed in Section 890.1140. Section 890.1140 e) 1) Valve Outlets for Hose Attachments states "All threaded valve outlets shall have backflow protection".

When this hose was traced back to the building there was no backflow protection at the threaded outlet or inside. Not only was this dangerous for the occupants of the building, but a public event was being hosted there. Had there been an issue with back siphonage at the time, this could have become a health hazard.

There was no winner in this month's contest. Please contact the Illinois PHCC with any questions or comments regarding the contest. 



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## AUGUST 1, 2014

All Industry Golf Outing  
Cog Hill Golf Course  
Lemont, IL

## AUGUST 13, 2014

UA Industry Day  
Ann Arbor, MI

## AUGUST 23, 2014

Illinois PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings  
TBD

## SEPTEMBER 9-12, 2014

Cross Connection Control Class  
Rockford, IL

## OCTOBER 7-10, 2014

Cross Connection Control Class  
Joliet, IL

## OCTOBER 8-10, 2014

PHCC National Convention  
New Orleans, LA

## NOVEMBER 12, 2014

Annual Backflow Symposium  
Doubletree Hotel  
Bloomington, IL

## NOVEMBER 15, 2014

Illinois PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings  
TBD



# STEVE JANY INSTALLED AS ILLINOIS PHCC PRESIDENT

Steve Jany of Jany Plumbing Service, Inc. in Chester, Illinois was elected President of the Illinois PHCC at the association's 121st annual convention on June 13, 2014. President Jany was installed by his son, Chris Jany, and the other officers were installed by Illinois PHCC Past President Ed Kuhn.

The following were installed in the ceremony that preceded the President's Reception: President, Steve Jany; President-Elect, Erik Graybeal, PipeWorks, Inc., Bloomington; Treasurer, Steve Stimson, G.A. Rich & Sons, Inc., Deer Creek; Secretary, John Matthews, X-Treme Mechanical, Inc., Champaign; and President Emeritus Bill Todd, A & W Plumbing & Heating, Inc., Murphysboro.





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# EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AT THE ILLINOIS PHCC CONVENTION

Plumbing and piping industry professionals had the opportunity to learn what is new in the industry, and how to best use that information to improve their businesses, by attending the Illinois PHCC Convention.

The sessions began on Thursday with a 4 hour continuing education class for licensed plumbers. Presenters were Vicki Simpson from the Office of the Illinois Attorney General, Plumbing Inspector Garry Hinderliter, and Steve Lipsey of R.C. Sales & Service.

Friday morning began with Keynote Speaker Kevin Brown. His outstanding presentation on how to make a positive difference at work and in life is still being talked about by convention attendees.

IMSCA Legislative Consultant Jessica Newbold and PHCC National Government Relations Director Mark Riso provided the audience with Legislative & Regulatory Updates. Their presentations showed how political activities can affect your business and your ability to be profitable. They both emphasized the need for contractors to be involved in the process at the state and federal level.

Are you “Getting the Most Out of Your PHCC Membership”? was the topic presented by Elicia

Magruder, Vice President of Member Services of the PHCC National. Her interesting presentation provided updates on the PHCC and told about new and existing discount programs, tools on the website, and other ways to get the most from your annual investment.

A small table top product show of industry related vendors was available Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. Thanks to the following exhibitors who traveled to Indiana to participate: Federated Insurance, New Tech-Tech Marketing, and R.C. Sales & Service.



*Keynote Speaker  
Kevin Brown*





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# PHCC RIDES THE RAILS

Another highlight of the 121st Illinois PHCC convention was a fun evening on the French Lick Scenic Railway. Attendees boarded historic train cars at the French Lick depot and then departed for a scenic ride through the Hoosier National Forest. The train traveled past basketball great Larry Bird's boyhood home and high school and then entered the 2200 foot Burton Tunnel. As we neared our destination, "robbers" being chased on horseback by the law boarded the train.

After disembarking, we and the "town folk" witnessed the capture and punishment of the "bad guy". People visited with the cowboys and were even allowed to sit on their horses. Everyone then enjoyed a cook out prepared on site by the Railway staff. Following dinner, Auxiliary President Barb Page was held "hostage" by the cowboys. She was soon released as attendees quickly provided the needed funds to pay her ransom. All the money collected by the cowboys was donated to Relay for Life. The weather was perfect for the enjoyable ride back thru the forest to end the evening. 🚂

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# CONVENTION CULINARY CHALLENGE

One of the most popular events at the recent convention was the Auxiliary sponsored Culinary Challenge. The renowned chefs of French Lick guided our teams through food preparation, cooking, plating and presentation techniques. The culinary creation of each team was judged and prizes award to the winners. Each participant received a chef's hat and apron to take home with them. At the completion of the event, the contestants and onlookers enjoyed a meal from competition entries. 🍴



*The winning team was comprised of Rose Kuhn, Bill & Joan Flader, Paige & Chris Jany, and Cathy McCarthy.*



*The runners up were Barb Page, Chelsea Hood, Angi Rich, Jacob Rich, Sue Rich, and Elicia Magruder.*




# 120 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE LUNCHEON

A luncheon was held during the Illinois PHCC convention where past presidents of the Association and Auxiliary were honored. Photos of past presidents were displayed along with other memorabilia of the PHCC. A booklet with a brief history of the Illinois PHCC was printed and distributed to everyone in attendance.

Following are some interesting facts that were shared during the luncheon:

- There have been seven PHCC National Presidents from Illinois;
  - Twenty seven of our Presidents served two terms;
  - One served three terms (1932, 33, 34);
  - We have had two firms/families with two Presidents (Arthur & Norm Weiskopf from Springfield, and C.D. Brownell, Sr. & Jr. from Champaign).
  - We have had two firms/families with three Presidents (Roscoe, Bob, & Jack Wagner from St. Charles, and Jerry & Brian Rich, & Tammy Rich Stimson from Deer Creek). Tammy was also the first female President of the Association.
  - We have had fifteen Presidents from Chicago, and the next highest is the Egyptian Association and B/N with both having 7. (With the installation of Steve Jany, the EAPHCC now has 8.)
- The list of Presidents of the Illinois PHCC Auxiliary includes eleven from Chicago, four from the Egyptian Association, and four from the Bloomington/Normal area.
  - In 2007, the Auxiliary had its first male President with the election of Steve Stimson.
  - There have been three couples who served as Association and Auxiliary Presidents at the same time: Mr. & Mrs. Bert C. Young in 1963; Jim & MaryAnn Dillon in 1969 & 70; and June & Allan Stewart in 1991.

Illinois PHCC President Bill Todd presented each past president in attendance a small token from the PHCC to commemorate the event. 



*Illinois PHCC Past Presidents (L-R): Bill Todd, John McWilliams, Bill Flader, Jerry Rich, Ed Kuhn, Chuck Hicks, Brian Rich, Steve Jany, George Curran, Tammy Rich Stimson, Terry McCarthy, and Tom Gent.*




Illinois Auxiliary Past Presidents (L-): PHCC President Bill Todd, Bev Potts, Joan Flader, Jeanne Gent, Steve Stimson, Donna Jany, and Becky Davis.





# ILLINOIS PHCC RECEIVES DONATION

During the Illinois PHCC Convention, the Auxiliary presented a check for \$1,000 to the Association. The officers, directors and staff of the

Illinois PHCC thank the Auxiliary for this generous contribution and for their continued support of the Association and the industry. 

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# Watch future issues of the Illinois Master Plumber for more convention coverage.



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# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY BEV POTTS

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The Spring Session of the Illinois General Assembly ended late on May 30th. Following are some of the industry issues we were monitoring this session. Bills shown as passed in both chambers will now await action by the Governor. Others are considered dead.

## **Plumbing/Piping/Trade Related Bills:**

**HB 4180 (M. Madigan)** Makes a technical change to the Employee Washroom Act. Re-referred to House Rules.

**HB 4267 (L. Chapa LaVia)** Amends the Illinois Plumbing License Law to provide that no governmental unit shall act as a plumbing contractor. Further provides that a person employed by a governmental unit as a Plumbing Inspector is prohibited from acting as a plumbing contractor on behalf of the governmental unit. Referred to House Rules.

**HB 5038 (J. Durkin)** Makes a technical change in the Illinois Plumbing License. Re-referred to House Rules.

**HB 5410 (R. Gabel)** Amends the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act. Prohibits persons from acting as lead abatement contractors, supervisors, and workers unless licensed accordingly by the Department. Makes other changes. Passed the House and Senate.

**HB 5595 (B. Phelps)** Creates the Facilitating Business Rapid Response to State Declared Disasters Act of 2014. Provides that an out-of-State business that conducts operations solely for work or services related State disaster or emergency shall not be required to register, file, or remit State or local taxes, and is not subject to any State licensing or registration requirements.

Re-referred to House Rules.

**HB 5735 (A. Williams)** Creates the Home Repair and Construction Task Force Act. Provides that the Task Force shall: (1) discuss whether the residents of Illinois would benefit from legislation requiring home repair and construction service providers to be licensed; (2) if it is determined that licensure is required, determine the requirements applicants must meet to qualify for a license, and any other considerations relevant to a licensing requirement; and (3) make recommendations to the General Assembly. Provides that the Task Force shall report to the General Assembly no later than November 1, 2015. Passed the House and Senate.

**HB 5776 (T. Demmer)** Amends the Higher Education Green Jobs and Technology Act. Permits public community colleges to establish green jobs certificate programs for workers in certain industries, including the energy efficient building industry, construction and retrofitting, and others. Re-referred to House Rules.

**SB 3215 (J. Morrison)** Makes a technical change in the Illinois Plumbing License. Referred to Senate Assignments.

**SB 3047 (D. Kotowski)** Creates the Water Loss Accounting Awareness Act. Provides that the Illinois EPA, in consultation with the DNR, the ICC, the Illinois State Water Survey, and other interested parties, shall submit to the General Assembly and the Governor a report that reviews and evaluates the latest available information on water loss in Illinois. Re-referred to Senate Assignments.

**SB 3055 (D. Biss)** Amends the Illinois Water Well Construction Code. Changes the definitions of “modification” and “closed loop well”. Makes other changes. Passed the Senate and House.

### **Other Construction/Business Related Bills:**

**HB 4657 (A. Turner)** Amends the Mechanics Lien Act. Provides that an applicant may file a petition to substitute a bond for the property subject to a lien claim on the property against which the lien claim is asserted. “Bonding Over” would seriously weaken the mechanics lien rights of contractors, subcontractors, laborers and material suppliers that the construction industry has fought hard to secure. IMSCA worked to have this bill remanded to the House Subcommittee on Civil Process and Procedures for further study.

**HB 4769 (D. Beiser)** This bill is an initiative of IMSCA and amends the Public Construction Bond Act to provide that the surety on a bond shall be a company with a certificate of authority from the Department of Insurance specifically authorizing it to execute surety bonds and a financial strength rating of at least A- as rated by A.M. Best or a similar rating agency. Passed the House and Senate.

**HB 5663 (E. Simms, Jr.)** Amends the Mechanics Lien Act. This proposal would require a written and executed contract before a subcontractor could have lien rights. IMSCA and the Illinois PHCC opposed this proposal. Re-referred to House Rules.

**SB 3023 (J. Mulroe)** This important bill is an IMSCA initiative seeking to amend the Mechanics Lien Act to prevent the elimination of lien rights through the use of subordination clauses. Passed the Senate and House.

**SB 3287 (K. Raoul)** Amends the Workers’ Compensation Act. This legislation eliminates the worker’s compensation immunity enjoyed by service companies that provide safety consulting – unless those companies are wholly-owned by the employer, insurance broker, or the insurer. This legislation would especially hurt small employers as they typically cannot afford, nor do they need, a full-time safety professional on their staff. That is why they use consulting firms to provide this expertise. Despite the concerns of the business community, this bill was passed by both chambers. IMSCA is part of a business industry coalition that was formed to oppose this legislation. IMSCA lobbyists, and other interested parties have a meeting planned to discuss strategy to encourage Governor Quinn to veto this legislation.

Contact the Illinois PHCC office with questions/ comments on any legislation or regulatory activity.

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# TEAM USA SCOOPS FIRST WATER INNOVATION CHALLENGE TITLE

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A U.S. team of young plumbing and engineering professionals narrowly edged out representatives from Australia to win the inaugural **Water Innovation Challenge** in Singapore. Coming together to develop a series of real and innovative solutions for emerging water and sanitation problems in two developing countries – Nepal and Bangladesh – the U.S. team members specifically developed a system to pump water from a rainwater harvesting tank to a sanitation station to fill a vessel that was used to clear the solids from an Asian toilet pan.

With generous financial support from the **PHCC National Association Educational Foundation**, among other industry groups, Team USA spent many hours on its solution before and during the three-day competition, covering construction, planning, logistics, budgets, project management and skills/knowledge transfer, which will be carried forward by the project partner Healthabitat as it implements the system in villages that need facilities.

“It was fun watching the kids become a team,” says team mentor William N. Erickson of Illinois **PHCC** member firm **C.J. Erickson Plumbing Co.** in Alsip, Ill. “It was clear that the U.S. team was over-the-top on their skills.”


These young, up-and-coming professionals, all under the age of 26, were proud to bring a solution to areas of the world where people are getting sick every day from inadequate sanitation facilities. The “real need” now, Erickson says, “is to train the local people on how to do this work.” Doing the work was not the challenge, he says of the experience. “Teaching people, who did not speak English and

did not read or write any language, how to do the work was the challenge.”

The United States was represented by Nicholas Michalenko, a veteran of WorldSkills Competition 2013 in Germany; Timothy Murphy, an apprentice plumber with Boulanger’s Plumbing & Heating; Sarah Parker, an advertising and design student at Appalachian State University and also a veteran of WorldSkills Competition 2013; and Judith Torres, a graduate mechanical engineer who currently works with Progressive AE. “This was an experience these kids will never forget,” says Cindy Sheridan, chief operating officer of PHCC’s Educational Foundation.

“Better than bringing home a win, they brought home the satisfaction that their skills can really make a difference anywhere in the world.”

Erickson, the team leader, is grateful for financial support from sponsors like PHCC. “It allowed us to focus on the tasks at hand ... not worry about how to get [to Singapore] and back or who would pay for the next cup of coffee or next meal,” he says. “Eliminating those issues allowed the kids to create and innovate. That was fun to watch.”

PHCC Executive Vice President Gerry Kennedy applauds the mentoring exhibited throughout the experience by Erickson, who even bought fans for Team USA and Team Australia when he witnessed both teams struggling with the oppressive heat and annoying gnats. “Bill [Erickson] is a real leader in the industry,” says Kennedy. “It’s no surprise that he spent countless hours nurturing and challenging these team members. As a result, they can look back with pride on their contributions to work as a team to develop innovative solutions.” 

**“It was fun watching the kids become a team,” says team mentor William N. Erickson of Illinois PHCC member firm C.J. Erickson Plumbing Co. in Alsip, Ill.**

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# FREE RISK MANAGEMENT SEMINAR FOR PHCC MEMBERS

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# Extreme Heat

Workers can suffer heat-related injuries, illnesses, and even death when the body's temperature control system is overloaded. Normally, the body cools itself by sweating, but under some conditions just sweating is not enough. When a person's body temperature rises rapidly their vital organs are threatened. In a typical year about 175 Americans succumb to heat. Heat kills more people each year in the United States than tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, or lightning.



Workers that are at high risk of heat-related injury and illness are: the elderly, the chronically ill, and those in urban areas. It is, however, important to remember that no matter your health, and regardless of where you live, extreme heat can tax the body beyond its ability to cool.

The following are some tips for employers to protect their workers during extreme heat:

- Check on workers frequently;
- Encourage workers to slow down;
- Avoid strenuous activity;
- Avoid too much sunshine;
- Postpone outdoor tasks or schedule work for the early morning;




- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing;
- Protect face and head by wearing a wide-brimmed hat;
- Wear UV-absorbent sunglasses to protect the eyes;
- Take frequent breaks if working outdoors;
- Drink plenty of water regularly and often;
- Avoid drinks with alcohol or caffeine; and
- Eat small meals and eat more often.

The National Weather Service has developed the heat index to measure how hot it really feels when the effect of humidity is considered. When the temperature and/or the heat index are expected to be 100 degrees, a heat advisory is issued. A heat warning is issued for temperatures and/or heat index of 110 degrees or more.

The best defense against heat-related injury and illness is prevention. Staying cool and making simple changes in fluid intake, activities, and clothing during hot, humid weather can help the body cope with the heat.

Remember to practice safety. Don't learn it by accident.

This fact sheet was published with information from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration Weather Service, the Consumers Energy, and the Texas Department of Insurance/ Division of Workers' Compensation. 

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# SHAPING HEARTS AND MINDS

by Mark Breslin

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The practice of preparing apprentices for a career in the industry is pretty challenging. There are technical challenges, time pressures, life skills, and more, that need to be impressed upon those that have chosen a life and career path with our union construction industry. But above all else, we should not forget that this is perhaps the last opportunity that many of these individuals will have at improving or shaping the personal character that will serve them in their lives.

After all, apprenticeship is a four to five year progression. And what needs to progress beyond skills, are the character, values and attitudes that will make or break them in an industry as demanding as ours. The person ultimately is more important than the accumulation of skills.

This is a very tall order. Most apprentice instructors and trainers understand that shaping hearts and minds is very important. That is why they chose to be instructors, often giving up more money and assuming headaches and challenges that go beyond what the field would have offered. But an instructor cannot be all things; mentor, coach, teacher, psychologist, parent... They can certainly use some help in this shaping process. And it is upon this, I suggest the following strategy:

Each apprentice, in every program in the U.S. and Canada, should be required to perform community service as part of their apprenticeship. Part of that performance would be to report back to their fellow apprentices what they learned from it.

This strategy has three significant impacts.


Firstly, if every apprentice in North America became a volunteer, we would have one of the largest and most visible groups of people in the nation doing good for all. What kind of branding impact do you think that would have on union construction? In an era where unions are becoming ever less popular, what could be more effective than 500,000+ apprentices each year showing values that are universally admired?

Secondly, giving to others shapes hearts and minds. Some of the most powerful lessons my daughter ever learned was when I took her multiple times to feed the needy and homeless at St. Anthony's Dining Room in downtown San Francisco. Young people need a reality check, and giving back is one real way to shape character and values, and perhaps, most importantly, maturity. There is a reason that one of the last things a Boy Scout seeking the Eagle rank, the highest honor, must do, and that is his community service project. Almost all apprentices are out of work a month or more a year. This is not an undue burden. This is a powerful opportunity.

Finally, there is the question of generosity of spirit. I am not an advocate for union construction for its business model only. It is a belief system that says people and talent should be rewarded with fair compensation, dignity and respect. What aligns more with this than us giving to those who lack these fundamental life advantages? This is a critical component in recruiting younger people of the Gen X and Gen Y age groups who really want to know what their employer or affiliating organization stand for. It may seem like it is all



about the money to them, but the really talented and pulled together ones want more, and will gravitate to organizations that offer the opportunity to make a difference.

Mandatory community service for apprentices is perhaps my own view, but it has too many benefits to ignore. So many union and employer organizations are already engaged in efforts like this, but the visibility and credibility is not always what it could or should be. Let us implement this far and wide. And do good in a profound way, recast a positive view of unions, and in the process shape the hearts and minds of our future workforce. 

**Mark Breslin is a strategist and author of several books, including Survival of the Fittest, Million Dollar Blue Collar, Alpha Dog: Leading, Managing & Motivating in the Construction Industry and, most recently, The Five Minute Foreman: Mastering the People Side of Construction. Visit his website at HYPERLINK “<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?BreslinStrategiesInc/c85d82846a/161a03c87d/77e14766f2>” \t “\_blank” [www.breslin.biz](http://www.breslin.biz) or contact him at (925) 705-7662.**



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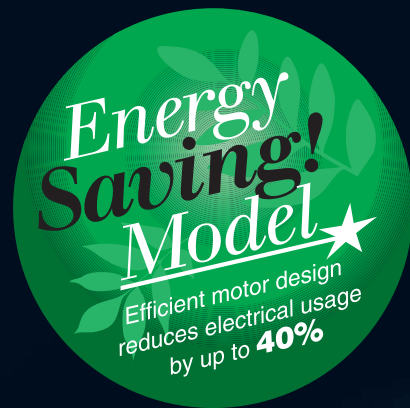
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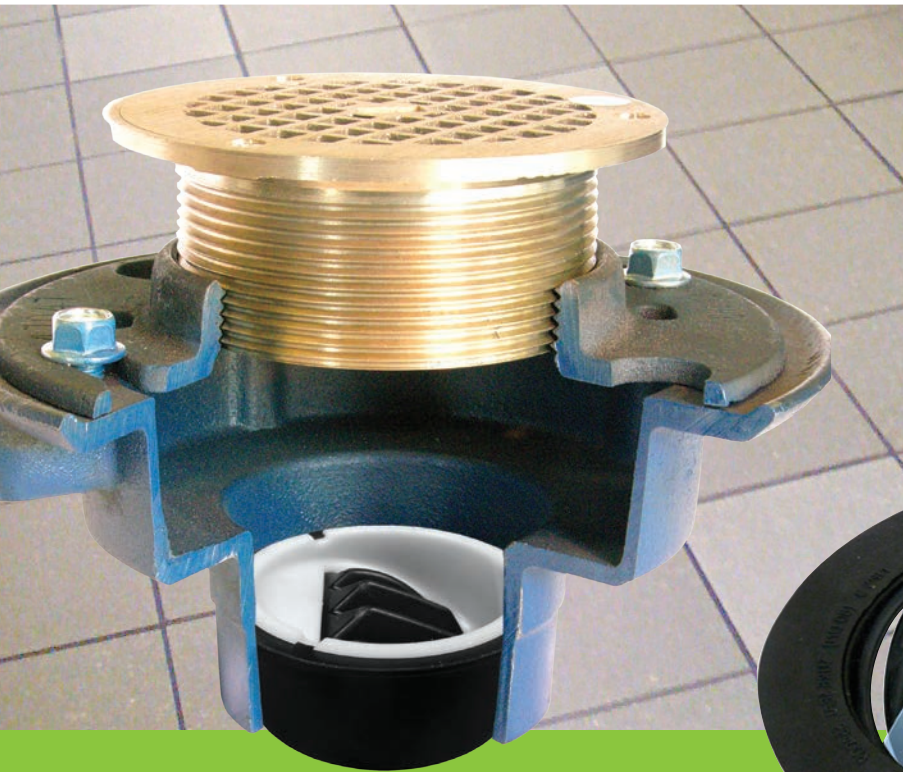


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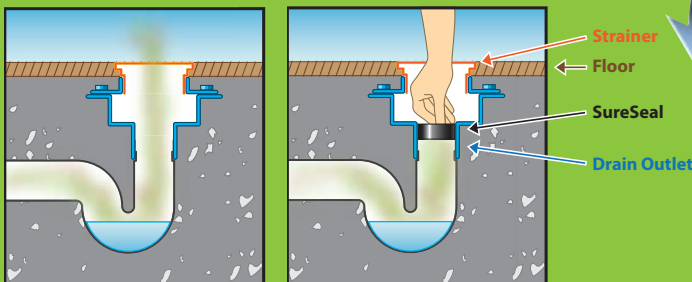
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