CAWGC 85th Anniversary

The CAWGC celebrated its 85th Anniversary in an extraordinary way on February 23, 2018 at the beautiful Bolingbrook Golf Club. This spectacular event which was decorated in Gatsby/Vintage style and featured an amazing four course gourmet dinner, butler passed hors d’oeuvres, an elegant sweets/coffee table along with an all evening premium open bar service.

There was a “flip book” style photographer as well as a portrait photographer that used a backdrop of Chicago St. in Joliet’s early years.

(Continued on page 2)

It’s EXPO time!

The CAWGC 2018 Meet & Greet EXPO will be held Thursday, April 19 from 3pm to 7pm at the Stone City VFW. Last year we had 32 exhibitors and over 160 people attend. For only $75 for members and $90 for non-members, exhibitors get a space with a table and 2 chairs, 2 entry tickets with wristbands and choice of outside or inside space available on a first come first serve basis.

Guest admission tickets are still only $20 in advance and $25 at the door. Each

(Continued on page 7)
85th Celebration (continued from page 1)

A complimentary Cigar Bar adorned this party also where there were both fine cigars and chocolate cigars as well. The guests were able to go out to the terrace where it was heated to enjoy their cigars and visit with one another.

The entertainment was provided by the very funny and talented Vegas-style Singer & Entertainer Vito Zatto who performed during dinner. Vito, who is very spontaneous and "plays" off his audience was hilarious and his show included celebrity impersonations, incredible singing, along with audience participation. He hand picked his participants to help him with his skits. Hesitantly they left the room and came back in with props (wigs, costumes etc.) and were all such good sports and the rest of the audience roared.

After dinner a short awards program was held where several awards were presented. The "We Build Will & Grundy Counties Award" was presented to the Will County Board for their numerous updating projects and improvements to their existing buildings and facades. They also have signed the Project Labor Agreements to keep local contractors and tradesmen employed on their new buildings.

The 2017 member of the Year went to Ken Sandeno, Todd Sandeno & Tami Hansen, who are the owners of "D" Construction. This family owner business, that was founded in 1982 by their father Kenneth P. Sandeno, is based in Coal City and has been a CAWGC Member since 1984.

They self-preform a large percentage of work utilizing a dependable local union work force and large fleet of owned equipment. Their unique approach to managing projects and longtime client base reflects their strong commitment to safety, quality and production.

Ken, Todd & Tami have not only been very involved and supportive of the association's events and committees but have also been instrumental in supporting their community.

Longtime employee Mary Metz received an award for 25 years of service to the association. Metz who was totally surprised told the crowd that she has seen many changes throughout the years and has watched several generations pass the reigns. Metz added that she has always felt as though the members were like family to her.

The CAWGC also celebrated it's members who have been affiliated with the association for 20+ years and have brought the CAWGC to this mile marker year. (see separate article on page 5)

This celebration was complete with a PowerPoint presentation of pictures that had been taken throughout the associations many years which was played continuously during the evening on 5 screens.

Pictured: Will County Board members


Pictured: Mary Metz, CAWGC Executive Director

Pictured: Will County Board members

The News Network is the official publication of the Contractors Association of Will and Grundy Counties. The News Network is published quarterly at Joliet, IL. Copyright 2018

CAWGC
233 N Springfield Avenue, Joliet, IL 60435
Phone: 815/741-1455  Fax: 815/741-2165
Email: info@CAWGC.org
Website: www.CAWGC.org

CAWGC Officers
Chairman
Jason Cox, Len Cox & Sons Excavating
Vice Chair
Tom McGann, TIMM Electric
Secretary/Treasurer
Lori DuPree, DuPree Construction
Directors
Jay Adler, J.L. Adler Roofing
Bob Baish, Baish Excavating
Barry Narvick, Narvick Bros.
Todd Sandeno, D Construction
Mike Ullrich, Smith Painting
John Young, Seasons Landscaping

Staff
Mary Ellis Metz, Executive Director
mmetz@CAWGC.org
Les Cheney, Ambassador
lchesterney@aol.com
Karri Lane, Plans Room Coordinator
klane@CAWGC.org

Contractors Association of Will & Grundy Counties
CAWGC now over 200 Members Strong

Congratulations to Lang Mechanical, Inc. for being our 200th Member.
They were sent a CAWGC personalized gift package.
Sling & Rigging Safety

All construction workers take part in material handling. As a consequence, employees are often injured because slings are not maintained and used correctly. Only workers who are authorized and have actually been trained in how to use slings and proper rigging methods are permitted to rig loads for lifting.

Slings are generally made of chain, wire rope, metal mesh, natural rope fiber, synthetic fiber rope, or synthetic web. Visually inspect all slings for cuts, tears, fraying, elongated or worn chain links, and damaged hardware prior to use. **Never use a damaged sling!**

**Safe Lifting Practices**

There are four primary factors that should be taken into consideration when using slings and rigging:

1. The **size**, **weight**, **configuration**, and **center of gravity** of the load.

2. The number of legs and the angle of the sling legs. As the angle formed by the sling leg and the horizontal line decreases, the load placed on the sling leg increases. (e.g. at a 30 degree angle you double the load factor on each sling leg)

3. The rated capacity of slings varies depending on the type of sling and the type of connecting device or hitch. **Never exceed the rated capacity of the sling. Weight capacity tags must be in place on all rigging.**

4. The maintenance of the slings. Slings must be inspected before use. Damaged slings and rigging should be tagged and removed from service.

**Some do’s and don’ts to remember when using slings:**

- Select one crew member to act as the signal-person. The equipment operator should take directions from that person only. (For cranes is that person a certified signal person?)
- Know the sling’s rated capacity and never overload a sling. Use the proper hitch.
- If you must hold the sling in position be sure your hands are clear of any pinch points.
- Use tag lines to control the load.
- Never stand under or allow anyone else to stand under a raised load.
- Position yourself so you don’t get caught in between the load and a stationary object.
- Stay away from stacked material that may be knocked over by a swinging load.
- Remove unnecessary objects from where the load will be placed.
- Keep your feet, hands, and body out from under the load and clear of pinch points when lowering or setting a load.
- Never leave a load suspended in the air.
- Never ride on the equipment or load.
- Never shorten slings with knots, bolts, or other makeshift devices. (Knots reduce the capacity by 50%)
- Never use damaged or kinked slings. Remove them from service and destroy them.
- Pad slings to protect them from the sharp edges of the loads they are lifting.

There are a variety of rigging charts available on line, including software programs, and apps for smart phones. These charts and tables can assist you in computing load factors and making sure the load is lifted safely.

Dave Soderman, Safety Alliance, Ltd.  
(847) 951-3244  
dsoderman@comcast.net
CAWGC Members 20+ Club

As the CAWGC turns 85 we salute our members that have been with us throughout the years so we formed a 20+ Club. Each company that attended the 85th Anniversary Celebration was presented with their certificate. Companies that could not attend were mailed their certificates.

1933 (85 years)
Adler Roofing & Sheet Metal
1957 (61 years)
John Quas Masonry Construction
Naal Plumbing & Heating Co.
1972 (46 years)
Narvick Brothers
1980 (38 years)
Columbian Agency A Div of HUB
Crowther Roofing & Sheet Metal
NECA - Eastern Illinois Chapter
Vulcan Construction Materials
1981 (37 years)
Corsetti Structural Steel
First Midwest Bank
Johansen & Anderson
Northern Illinois Steel Supply Co.
P. T. Ferro Construction Co.
1982 (36 years)
Elens & Maichin Roofing & SM
Lindblad Construction Co.
McCann Industries, Inc.
Welsch Ready Mix
1983 (35 years)
Brieser Construction Company
1984 (34 years)
D Construction, Inc.
Joliet Junior College
Ruettiger, Tonelli & Associates
1989 (29 years)
C. R. Leonard Plumb & Heating
1990 (28 years)
Uno Plumbing
1991 (27 years)
Baish Excavating
Elliott Electric
Frank Burla & Sons Builders
Testa Steel Constructors
TIMM Electric,
1992 (26 years)
Cryer & Olsen Mechanical
J. S. Alberico Construction Co.
Pierro Quality Electrical Const.
S & K Excavating & Trucking, Inc.
Tri-State Enterprises, Inc.
1993 (25 years)
Gallagher Asphalt Corporation
Henry Bros. Co.
Underground Pipe & Valve Co.
West Side Tractor Sales Co.
1994 (24 years)
Indicom/MIV Electric
JB Contracting Corp
Vissering Construction
1995 (23 years)
Barry Plumbing & Heating
Fox Electrical
Herlihy Mid-Continent Co.
JK Steal Erectors
Ramcorp
TBS Construction & Excavating
1996 (22 years)
Air Quality
Construction by CAMCO
1998 (20 years)
Fatlan Trucking
Filotto Construction
R. Berti Building Solutions
RHL Insulation & Firestopping
Steve Spiess Construction
Kudos to the founders of West Side Tractor Sales, Richard and Mary Benck, who surprised their employees with an early holiday gift in November. The Benck’s signed over $1 million to employees as a thank you for their hard work in contributing to the success of the company. The gift, from their personal estate, was divided up to employees based on their years of service. West Side is a third generation family business celebrating its 55th anniversary this year.

“We have now reached the time in our life to give back and we feel a good place to start is the employees of the Benck family companies,” said Rich Benck. “Employees are the backbone of any company and have made our John Deere dealership into one of the best in the country.”

Rich and Mary Benck grew up on farms near Lowell, Indiana. “Neither of our families had very much but a value for hard work,” said Mary Benck.

They married in 1951 and for the next four years, the US Air Force took them to Miami, Cheyenne and Darmstadt, Germany. After returning from the service, Rich went to work for a John Deere dealer as a technician on the south side of Chicago. They always dreamed of having their own business. When the opportunity came up to have their own dealership, they risked the little they had and pursued it.

West Side started with a pick-up truck, two technicians and no line of credit… but they had some luck. Every year the company grew, and operations spread to Texas and into real estate ventures. Fast forward to 2017, West Side’s footprint spans across two states, and RCE Equipment Solutions – a sister company – manufactures equipment for customers worldwide.

West Side and its’ sister company, RCE, has more than 30 employees that have been with the company for 25+ years; with even a few employees that have been part of the team for 45 of the 55 year history!

“We often talk with our employees about the legacy we wish to build with customers and within the communities we serve,” said Diane Benck, second generation ownership and general manager. “But the most important legacy to our family is the one we leave with our people, those that show up every day and give 100% to build this company alongside us.”

“We wanted to show our deep appreciation to those who have worked for our family. We certainly hope that it brightened their day,” said Mary Benck.

Rich and Mary Benck, owners of West Side Tractor Sales

The Joliet Region Chamber of Commerce & Industry held their Annual Dinner and Celebration for Success where two CAWGC members were honored. Congratulations to Corsetti Structural Steel for being named Small Business Employer of the Year and Joliet Junior College for Large Business of the Year.

Congratulations to Ken Wilhelmi who recently retired from “D” Construction. Ken who was a long time member and former CAWGC Chairman and his wife Lorie now have plenty of time to travel.

Congratulations also to Attorney Mike Hansen, Kavanagh Grumley & Gorbold, who is also retiring. Enjoy your retirement!

The Better Business Bureau of Chicago and Northern Illinois has selected Robert Marcocchio of Assurance Agency, a CAWGC Associate Member, to receive the coveted Torchbearer of the Year Award for 2018. This award is the highest award the BBB gives yearly to an individual for exemplary service to the community. Congratulations!

CAWGC Associate Member, MPS|CPA, merged recently with Mueller & Co. and will operate under the Mueller name.
In Loving Memory...

Sincere sympathy is sent to the family of Ken Norton who passed away in January. Ken was the owner of Joliet Construction, a longtime CAWGC member and a former CAWGC Chairman (1977). Ken who appeared in this old CAWGC photo (4th from right) and had been looking forward to our 85th Celebration but passed away suddenly a few weeks prior to the event.

Heartfelt sincere sympathy is extended to Bob Baish, Baish Excavating and his employees on the recent loss of two great guys from his team.

Bruce Smith who was Bob Baish’s cousin, passed away February 8th after a courageous battle with multiple myeloma. Bruce not only helped his cousin out at the company but loved the association and enjoyed volunteering his time at the CAWGC Steak Fry’s or golfing in one of our outings.

Louis “Louie” Ferdon, who was a Project Manger with Baish for the last 24 years passed away peacefully on Monday, March 26th. Louie was also a long time volunteer of the CAWGC events especially as a cook and helper at the Steak Fry and Expo.

EXPO (continued from page 1)

entry ticket includes delicious food, beverages including beer, water and pop and an opportunity to make new contacts. Numerous raffles and drawings will be held and our 50/50 raffle.

Proceeds from this event will go to Joliet Area Community Hospice. For ticket and exhibitor info see form included or go to our website at www.cawgc.org.

CAWGC 38th Annual Golf Outing

The CAWGC 38th Annual Golf Outing will be held on Friday June 8th at the Broken Arrow Golf Club in Lockport. This year’s event will be co-chaired by Tom McGann of TIMM Electric and Jay Adler of Adler Roofing. The outing will begin with a 9am check-in time with the CAWGC staff offering complimentary coffee and donuts, followed by an 11am shot gun start (scramble format).

Lunch will be served at the halfway house followed by a delicious buffet dinner at 4pm. During dinner winners of the contests, door prizes and major prizes from the sponsors will be announced.

Sponsors will be recognized during the presentation, on the program and in our newsletter. For more information and to register see the form included in this newsletter or visit our website www.cawgc.org.
**Illinois Employers Must Accommodate Religious Clothing and Facial Hair**

The Illinois Human Rights Act was recently amended to make it unlawful for an employer to impose upon a person any term or condition of employment which would require such person to violate or forego a sincerely held practice of his or her religion, such as wearing of attire, clothing, facial hair, as required by his or her religion. The new law covers all employment issues including hiring, promotion and transfer.

Like all laws there is an exception for an employer. If an employer makes a bona fide effort and demonstrates that the employer is unable to reasonably accommodate the employee’s or applicants religious beliefs, practices without undue hardship when conducting the employer’s business, then it would not be a violation of the Human Rights Act. We will need to see how the Human Rights Commission will handle discrimination charges under the amendment.

The new law does not prohibit restrictions on attire or facial hair to maintain workplace safety or food sanitation.

*Reprinted by permission from: Stanley E. NiewLaw Offices of Stanley E. Niew, P.C.*

---

**Plans Room Watch by Karri...**

The Silver Cross Hospital Demolition is underway and should be completed in June. After the site is cleared there will be 20 acres of available land for redevelopment.

Marcus Theaters is planning to build a new 8 to 10 screen theater at the Lockport Square Shopping Center. Construction is expected to start in the Fall of 2018 or Spring of 2019.

The City of Joliet has leased the old Joliet Prison to have more control over what happens to the property and buildings. They are in talks with a successful haunted house operator in Elgin called Evil Intention to convert one of the old buildings at the prison into a haunted house during the Halloween season with potential for year long activities.

The City also plans to reopen Chicago Street which will connect downtown with I 80. Construction could start as soon as early 2019.

Will County and the City of Joliet are working together to build a new parking lot near Union Station due to parking being lost because of the new Courthouse.

The Village of New Lenox will soon be getting a Cooper’s Hawk Winery & Restaurant at the northwest corner of Rt 30 and North Vancina Lane. Construction is expected to be completed by Fall of 2018 or Spring of 2019.

---

**2018 IRS Mileage Rates**

The Internal Revenue Service today issued the 2018 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes.

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2018, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be:

- 54.5 cents for every mile of business travel driven, up 1 cent from the rate for 2017.
- 18 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, up 1 cent from the rate for 2017.
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations.

The business mileage rate and the medical and moving expense rates each increased 1 cent per mile from the rates for 2017. The charitable rate is set by statute and remains unchanged.

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs.


Taxpayers have the option of calculating actual costs of using their vehicle rather than using the standard mileage rates.

A taxpayer may not use the business standard mileage rate for a vehicle after using any depreciation method under the Modified Accelerated Cost Recovery System (MACRS) or after claiming a Section 179 deduction for that vehicle. In addition, the business standard mileage rate cannot be used for more than four vehicles used simultaneously.
CAWGC’s 85th Anniversary Celebration

Photography by:
Terry Dorris, Dorris Digital Images
CAWGC 2018 Calendar of Events

April 13, 2018
Scholarship Deadline

April 19, 2018
CAWGC Expo
Stone City VFW, Joliet

June 8, 2018
Annual Golf Outing
Broken Arrow, Lockport

August 16, 2018
Annual Steak Fry
St. Joseph’s Park, Joliet

September 14, 2018
Fall Golf Outing
Morris Country Club

CAWGC Board of Directors Meetings
First Wednesday of each month, 4 pm, CAWGC Office

CAWGC Member Benefit

The CAWGC offers to its members an opportunity to have their important documents shredded free. Members are invited to toss their documents in the slot of the locked cabinet console located at the association offices.

Shark Shredding shreds the documents on a quarterly basis. They unlock the cabinet and destroy the papers right in our parking lot. Everything Shark Shredding, Inc. shreds is 100% recycled!

Three Rivers Safety Center
1615 W Jefferson St., Joliet, IL
815/744-3884 FAX/744-3886

Contractor Safety Training (Basic)
Monday-Wednesday-Friday
7:30 – 11:30 AM

Contractor Safety Refresher
Monday-Wednesday-Friday
7:30—10 AM

Must have current TRSC card in possession, no more than 30 days past expiration date, work steadily in chemical industry.

Register On-Line only at: www.trma.org

Members Earn $50 in Referral Credits

Refer a business to join the CAWGC and earn a $50 credit for each company that is approved for membership. The credit can be used for any CAWGC event or towards your membership dues. Membership forms are available on our website at www.CAWGC.org. Be sure to sign the membership form where it says “sponsored by” for your membership credit.