

MCA Committee Reports (as of 2/25/20)

Arbitration

Marc Pittas, Chair

Brian Helm, Liaison

We are meeting immediately before the board meeting. Last year we agreed to a 3.6% (\$3.00) increase to the total wage and fringe package on June 1, 2020 (from \$82.78 to \$85.78). We now need to allocate \$.20 as the rest has been earmarked: \$1.15 going to wages, \$.20 into the Welfare Fund, \$.45 into the Training Fund (includes \$.25 in AWR), and \$1.00 to the Defined Contribution Plan.

Audit

Jim Jacobsen, Jr., Chair

Jim Jacobsen, Jr., Liaison

The committee met on 12.9.19. We had a clean audit for both MCA & PEC.

Career Development

Tami Farber, Chair

Karen Riffice, Liaison

We had our "2020 kick-off" meeting on February 10th. Essentially, we are overhauling Career Development while keeping some key past activities. At the meeting, we adjusted the scholarship program (MCA awards cap out at \$1,000 so company awards are equal or greater than ours), de-briefed on our successful Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) program, reviewed 2019 activities and talked about planning and messaging.

Certified Welding Bureau

TBD, Chair

John Stern, Liaison

Chair John Reynolds retired in 2019. Seven candidates are being considered for the open Board position. In 2020, the committee will ensure all members are following the new ASME rules on witnessing tests. We sent the information out previously and will reconfirm our own procedures at the school.

CFO Task Force

TBD, Chair

Nick Marino, Liaison

Chair Ron Marshall left the industry. We are seeking a replacement.

CEO Section

Tim Smerz, Chair/Susan Nelson, Vice

Karen Riffice, Liaison

The committee is sending out quarterly newsletters to CEO/Presidents (See current issue [online](#)). The next Power Hour is 5.5.20 at Ditka's in Oak Brook. Apprentice assignments may be a topic and we appreciate additional ideas. Both principals and UnionFusion communicators may be invited.

Education (CEI)

Paul Szymczak, Chair

Karen Riffice, Liaison

The committee met on 1.8.20. During the meeting, the committee reviewed the usage of the Construction Education Institute (CEI) offerings. Of the 95 member contractors, 50 participated in classes (53%). The committee is implementing a new marketing strategy for CEI including its own Facebook page. As a part of this strategy, the education partners become part of the committee and hopefully more involved in selecting and promoting course offerings. The committee will meet again on 5.12.20. Check out the current course catalog 2020: <https://www.mca.org/education/cei-seminar-catalog/>

Emerging Leaders

Ben Campbell, Chair

Brandon Hubner, Liaison

On 1.22.20 the Emerging Leaders hosted the [first 2020 Learning Lab](#). Former MCA President Kevin Condon shared his experience in the industry. The next learning lab will be 4.16.20 in downtown Chicago. Today the emerging leaders hosted their yearly Rising Star educational program that featured Dave Mitchell. For updates, visit our [working priority list](#).

Government Affairs

Ed Usher, Chair

Nick Marino, Liaison

We attended the Illinois Pipe Trades and MCA of Chicago reception held last week in Springfield. This is always a well attended event with many legislators including the General Assembly leadership. It continues to be one of the only joint labor-management events in the state. Our committee plans to meet 1.28.20 to review bills filed for this legislative session.

HR Section

Mary Witt-Bruce, Chair

Nick Marino, Liaison

The Chair and Vice Chair of this new committee met in the summer to plot out goals for the year. We will be hosting a CEI class on 4.1.20 that is specific to HR: <https://www.mca.org/event/warm-welcome/>.

Industrial Section

Tom Ridgway, Chair

Eric Delaney, Liaison

The new block training for apprentices appears to be beneficial to the industrial contractors. MCA of Chicago will be hosting a breakfast for Heavy Industrial Contractors on 4.3.20, visit the MCA calendar for more information.

Investment Committee **Kevin Condon, Chair**
The next meeting will be held in the first quarter of 2021.

Jim Jacobsen, Jr., Liaison

IT Network & Security **Craig Cox, Chair**
No report.

Brandon Hubner, Liaison

Joint Apprenticeship (JATC) **John Curran, Chair**

Brian Helm, Liaison

We had a meeting on 2.14.20. MCA is currently working on a better process for apprentice assignment. There are 57 apprentices currently available for work (34 unemployed & 23 temporarily working at training centers and the Hall). Mr. Kevin Morrissey, Business Manager of LU 597, has halted future classes from starting until we have full building trade apprentice employment. The hybrid class scheduled for availability on August 10 has been eliminated from the schedule. Goal is to have building trades employers mimic the service contractor process.

Marketing Committee **Barb King, Chair**

Eric Delaney, Liaison

Our Facebook page achieved 1,000 “likes!” We met on January 17 to discuss upcoming projects and will meet again in April. We recently published the [Winter 2020 edition of Pipeline News](#) and will publish the 2019 Year in Review in the coming weeks.

Meetings & Events **Paul Neubauer, Chair**

Charlie Usher, Liaison

After a successful [holiday party](#) at Union Station, the committee is hard at work picking locations for 2020 events. Save the date for 2020 Annual Meeting on 8.20.20 at Hinsdale Country Club. Starting in January, MCA of Chicago has been hosting small group breakfast for targeted groups. January included [midsize contractors](#) and February was for [597 cardholders in corporate leadership roles](#). The small groups generated [honest discussion](#) and a [number of suggestions](#) to explore. The next will be for [light commercial contractors](#) on March 6. For a list of the upcoming breakfasts, visit the MCA website [calendar](#). The committee is meeting again in the spring of 2020. The Marketing Committee continues to discuss work on our 2020 editorial calendar.

Membership **Mike Temple, Chair**

Tom Kelleher, Liaison

We have 93 members and can vote to add up to three new ones at the Board meeting: D. A. Dodd, MK Industries and Ochoa Mechanical. Our goal is to reach 100 members in 2020. The committee will meet again in the spring of 2020. Vice Chair Mike Temple will step in as Chair for the remainder of the term as our previous chair has retired.

Nominating **Mike McCombie, Chair**

Mike McCombie, Liaison

Committee will be appointed at today’s Board meeting.

Presidents’ Club **Brian Helm, Chair**

Brian Helm, Liaison

No report.

Innovation Committee **Tom Kelleher, Chair**

Brian Helm, Liaison

No report.

Residential Council **Steve Weiland, Chair**

John Stern, Liaison

Our monthly calls continue to be a good way to keep in touch with residential contractors. Recent discussions have centered around creating a training committee and the negative impact of double-time on Sunday.

Safety Section **Mark Rook, Chair**

Lindsey Grilec, Liaison

The Safety Section met on 2.11.20. We had a great meeting with speaker Bev Holcomb who asked us to vet her program for the MCAA convention. We also worked on the April 21 Membership Meeting (safety themed) and set the stage for our next peer group meeting.

Service Section **Jim Bartolotta, Chair**

Lindsey Grilec, Liaison

Things continue to go smoothly. We had a successful meeting with about 60 service contractors on February 4th and went to lengths to explain the subcontracting issue. We also debuted new forms on probationary requests, apprentice requests and explained our new Schedule A addendum to the National Service & Maintenance Agreement.

Technology**Joe Martineck, Chair****Brandon Hubner, Liaison**

While our first two Tech Byte sessions went well, our next two faltered. The third one was cancelled. It was supposed to be on Cybersecurity and we think our members have already seen enough on that, even though they probably need more. We are also rethinking the next Tech Byte in April due to changes in Technology since we planned it. We are looking into the office/field communication issue as the topic came up again at a recent member breakfast.

Trust Funds**Marc Pittas, Chair**

The Pension Fund as of Q3 2019 stands at Fund Assets of \$2.25B. The Funding Percentage of 95.1% and a UVL of \$45.8M remain.

Women Executives**Kathy McCauley, Chair/Karen Riffice, Vice Lindsey Grilec, Liaison**

[Our event was held at Livia Italian Eatery on 2.13.20 and had 43 attendees.](#) Kathy McCauley gave us an update for the WiMI Conference (6.15-17.20 in Austin, TX).. Our next Women of MCA of Chicago event will be 7.16.20: lunch with Girls Learning to Weld (GLOW) @ Triton College, River Grove.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:**Staffing**

We met two prospective intern candidates last week.

Diversity

We supported Polished Pebbles' 10th Anniversary gala and also a breakfast with US Congresswoman Robin Kelly last year. Both Polished Pebbles and Congresswoman Kelly are raising awareness among black women and girls to the construction industry. Kelly Fair, the founder, attended our last career development meeting and has some great ideas on how to build awareness to our industry. We continue to attend HIRE360 info sessions (last one was Friday) and welcomed two staff members at our recent women's lunch. Thank you to Charlotte Flesher and Tom Matus who continue to represent!

Education Subcommittee, Coordinating Committee (MEP)**Rebecca Lintow, Member**

The education subcommittee, which includes a representative from the local PCA, SMACNA, NECAs, and MCA hosted a combined program on 2.6.20 titled [Should I stay or should I go: Hear from your peers about the ups and downs of relocating your business.](#) Thanks to MCA member Ben Campbell for participating on the panel.

Coordinating Committee (MEP)**Jill McCall, Member**

The committee (local PCA, SMACNA, NECAs, and MCA) now includes a Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board representative. The execs got together at year end. We still have not decided what to do with the Construction Industry Affairs Committee (CIAC) which has been inactive for years.

MCAA**Brian Helm, President**

Brian Helm wowed the audience at the UA/MCAA Labor Relations Conference by co-presenting with the UA president on the three issues the joint strategic planning committee plans to tackle: 1. availability of manpower (portability); 2. high cost of fringe benefits; 3. jurisdictional issues. Kathy McCauley also made an appearance, articulating why she came into the industry and how we can better support the curiosity of the next generation. We look forward to Brian's president party in Maui, which is not only hosted by the usual suspects (MCAA, MCA Rockford, and us) but also Pipefitters LU 597. We are thankful that 597's top leadership will join us for the festivities personally, too.