RESPONDING TO COVID-19

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

SCHOLARSHIPS
Greetings from our first virtual-only edition of Pipeline--

Unfortunately the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our territory. Please know that we at MCA of Chicago are thinking of you and your families both at work and at home. Thank you all for what you continue to do to keep business going while keeping your employees safe.

During this time, we want to be your partners in managing the unknown. We welcome your insight anytime at staff@mca.org. We are seeking your ideas on how the association can best help you, address your questions or connect you with the resources you need to manage in this temporary normal.

Already, we ramped up our communications in many ways: we created a COVID-19 hub on our website mca.org/safety/ which showcases some of the best resources we’ve found to manage during this epidemic; we’ve increased the frequency of our leadership gatherings online; we’ve made a special push for virtual education to keep you and your teams engaged; and we’ve brought you Q&A sessions with experts of interest--like our lawyer and a representative from the Small Business Administration.

If you don’t yet get our Local Angle eNewsletter you can sign up anytime on mca.org. It’s the best resource for knowing what we have to offer!

Also, due to the pandemic, you may have heard that you will continue to “see double” when you look to the national level. I was unable to pass the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) presidential gavel in March as the MCAA convention was cancelled. I will remain in this role until March 2021 and hope that by that time not only can we celebrate my transition in Orlando but also each of you and your companies who showed strength during this time.
CAREER DEVELOPMENT

SPREAD THE WORD:
MCA OF CHICAGO SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
ARE NOW OPEN

Do you know a student who is interested in a career in Mechanical Contracting? Send them a link to our scholarship application!

Go to mca.org/scholarships to apply today.

OCTOBER 2020

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1 SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
20 AWARD CEREMONY
EMERGING LEADERS

LEARNING LABS
Each Emerging Leaders Learning Lab focuses on a different area of professional development. In January, Emerging Leaders met at Park Tavern in Rosemont to discuss Lessons Learned. Emerging Leaders Steering Committee member Brandon Hubner interviewed past president Kevin Condon on his experience working as a mechanical contractor.

In April, Emerging Leaders got together online. The discussion, led by Dan Krekel from Autumn Construction, focused on the needs and interests of Emerging Leaders during the COVID-19 crisis.

The next Learning Lab will take place on April 17th at 3:00pm via zoom.

MARK THESE EMERGING LEADER EVENTS ON YOUR CALENDAR!

• Learning Lab | Thursday, June 18
THE WOMEN OF MCA OF CHICAGO

Women’s Lunch
The Women of MCA of Chicago hosted a women’s lunch at Livia Italian Eatery in Elmhurst in February. Thank you to all who attended!

#WICWEEK2020
We celebrated Women in Construction Week on social media during the first week of March using #wicweek2020! Shoutout to our members who participated in celebrating the wonderful women in their offices!

Polished Pebbles
Pink Hard Hats Event
MCA of Chicago’s Jill McCall represented us on the Polished Pebbles panel at Simeon Career Academy High School in Chicago in March. Participants explained the many roles the construction industry offers. Interested in helping with a job shadow program with this group? Email dbulley@mca.org.

SAVE THE DATE
JULY 16
Lunch with Girls Learning to Weld (GLoW)
Triton College, River Grove

Due to COVID-19, the next Women in the Mechanical Industry (WiMI) Conference in Austin, TX has moved from June 2020 to 2021.

New Member Feature: MCA of Chicago offers reimbursement for one person per member company to attend this conference.

Thanks again to all who attended the Women’s Lunch!
AROUND THE ASSOCIATION

SMALL GROUP BREAKFAST DISCUSSIONS

This year, in an effort to connect more strongly with the many segments of our membership, we planned monthly small group breakfasts. In January, our incoming president Charlie Usher from Ideal Heating Co. talked with principals from fellow Midsized Mechanical Contractors. In February, Dan Krell from Autumn Mechanical held an open forum with 597 members in company leadership. In March, Rick Cronholm from Johanson & Anderson led a discussion with Light Commercial leaders.

REPRESENTATION ON BUILTWORLDS’ PANEL

MCA of Chicago’s Dan Bulley represented us on BuiltWorlds’ panel at the 2020 Summit Chicago in March. The topic was Building a Technology Roadmap.

MCA OF CHICAGO TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE PRESENTS: TECH BYTES

Stay up-to-date on the latest industry technology with Tech Bytes. For more information on the Tech Bytes initiative, go to mca.org/techbytes

SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO

In February, the MEP Coordinating Committee held a panel discussion about the pros and cons of relocating your business. “Should I Stay or Should I Go?” drew local MEP contractors to hear about the various pitfalls and successes of companies who have recently expanded or moved their office or warehouse space.