

ILLINOIS MASTER PLUMBER

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING • CONTRACTORS

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Mike Ehret *Elected* Illinois PHCC President

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821 South Grand Avenue West
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Telephone (217) 522-7219
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821 South Grand Avenue West
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Telephone: (217) 522-7219
FAX: (217) 522-4315
1 (800) 795-PHCC

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PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Mike Ehret
Illinois PHCC President

As your incoming president I would first like to thank our outgoing president Brian Wilk for serving the last year under very trying conditions. We wish him and his family the best.

Because I am closer to the end of my career than the beginning, I now realize that some of my ideas and goals will not be achieved during that career, which leads to the reason I am back as president. We need younger generations of new driven people to lead our industry in achieving these goals.

We need to not only attract new members into our industry and our association, but we need them to involve themselves as our leaders of the future.

We have two great executives in Bev and Shelley but we as company owners need to do our part by becoming involved enough to be able to fill the offices of the board in the future.

We also need to grow our membership to get the future leaders involved today. Please join and volunteer, you will be surprised by what you learn and enjoy.

Thanks for reading.

Mike 

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 13-15, 2023

CCA of PHCC Meeting
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Phoenix, AZ

SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

IL PHCC Online CEU Class

OCTOBER 6, 2023

IL PHCC Online CEU Class

OCTOBER 26, 2023

ERTC Backflow Symposium
DoubleTree Hotel
Bloomington, IL

OCTOBER 25-27, 2023

PHCC CONNECT'23
Huntington Convention Center
Cleveland, OH

NOVEMBER 10, 2023

IL PHCC Online CEU Class

MARCH 22, 2024

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

2023/24 ILLINOIS PHCC CEU SCHEDULE

The Illinois PHCC schedule for online and in-person classes for the 2023 renewal year is listed below. These classes offer a minimum of 3 different speakers and topics in each class.

All Illinois PHCC classes will provide State hours for Certified Inspectors and Licensed Plumbers.

Below is our current schedule of continuing education classes for Illinois licensed plumbers. **Please visit our website at www.ilphcc.com for the latest information and to register for a class.** Registration links will be live at least 6 weeks prior to the class date.



2023–2024 Continuing Education Dates

Saturday, September 23, 2023 – 8:00am – 12:00 pm (Online)

Friday, October 6, 2023 – 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Online)

Friday, November 10, 2023 – 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Online)

Saturday, January 13, 2024 – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm (Online)

Friday, February 16, 2024 – 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Online)

Friday, March 22, 2024 – 9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Drury Lane Conference Center, Oakbrook Terrace, IL

Saturday, April 20, 2024 – 8:00 am – 12:00 pm (Online)





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Illinois PHCC Officers & Directors Installed

Mike Ehret of Ehret, Inc. in Belleville, Illinois was elected President of the Illinois PHCC and installed on June 8th at the Par-a-Dice Hotel in East Peoria. Other Illinois PHCC officers for the coming year are: Vice President, Terry McCarthy, Terry Plumbing, Countryside; Treasurer, John Baethke, John Baethke & Son Plumbing, Chicago; and President Emeritus Brian Wilk, Bishop Plumbing, Heating, Cooling in Mount Prospect.

Directors serving for the coming year are:

Tammy Rich Stimson, Bloomington/Normal PHCC; Mark Ehret, Great Southwestern Association; Terry McCarthy, John Baethke and Kevin Kuhn, PCA of Greater Chicago; Dan Heise, Midwest IL Mechanical Contractors; John Matthews, PHCC of Central Illinois; Randy Grob, Egyptian Association; Brian Rich, Past Presidents; and Brian Yelton, Associate Members.

We would to thank our PHCC National Zone 3 Director Adam Meny for traveling from Indiana to conduct the installation.



Photo Caption:

Front row L-R: Terry McCarthy, Installing Officer Adam Meny, Mike Ehret, Tammy Rich Stimson, John Baethke, Brian Rich, and Executive Director Bev Potts.



Illinois PHCC Past Presidents



Several Illinois PHCC past presidents were in attendance at the 2023 Installation Event.

Pictured from L-R: Jerry Rich, Terry McCarthy, Steve Jany, Mike Ehret, Tammy Rich Stimson, John Baethke, Brian Rich, Chuck Hicks, Jeff Brown, Erik Graybeal and Steve Stimson.

ILLINOIS PHCC AUXILIARY OFFICERS



Pictured L-R: Treasurer Becky Davis, Vice President Gail McWilliams, President Cathy McCarthy, Secretary Jenny Dippel, and Program Book Chairman Janice Graybeal.

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AUXILIARY PRESENTS CHECK TO ILLINOIS PHCC

At the June 8th Illinois PHCC Installation, the Auxiliary generously donated \$2,000 to the Illinois PHCC for the purchase of new software and upgrades. The Auxiliary raises funds for industry promotion/support, and scholarships through their Expo Program Book, Silent Auction, and T-shirt sales.

The Association sincerely thanks the Auxiliary for their generous donation and continued support!



Photo Caption:
Auxiliary President Cathy McCarthy presents a check to PHCC President Mike Ehret.



ILLINOIS AUXILIARY AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

At the June 8, 2023 PHCC Installation Event held in East Peoria, Auxiliary Scholarship Chairman Gail McWilliams announced this year's Illinois PHCC Auxiliary scholarship winners.

Mary Hilt of Dwight, Illinois was the recipient of a \$1,250 scholarship that was given in memory of longtime Auxiliary member and chaplain Dea Hicks. Mary is studying nursing at the University of Tampa with the goal of becoming a nurse practitioner. She was sponsored by Chuck Hicks.

Madison Kribs of Chester, Illinois received \$1,250 towards her education at Southeast Missouri State, where she is studying nursing and with plans for a specialty in obstetric nursing. Madison was sponsored by Donna Jany.

Congratulations and best wishes to these outstanding young people on their future endeavors.



ILLINOIS AUXILIARY HOLDS AUCTION

As a part of the June 8th Illinois PHCC Installation Event held in East Peoria, Illinois, the Auxiliary held its ever popular silent auction. Over \$1700 was raised for Auxiliary scholarship and industry promotion projects.

Thank you to everyone who donated the variety of items for the auction, and to those who bid and bought them.



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY BEV POTTS

The Spring Session of the 103rd Illinois General Assembly adjourned in the early hours of May 27th when an agreement was reached on a State budget. Legislators will return to Springfield for 6 days next fall for the Veto Session. Following are some of the bills from our original bill list that were still active at the end of session and their status. Bills that passed both chambers must be sent to the Governor within 30 days. He then has 60 to take action on them.

Plumbing/Piping/Trade Related Bills:

HB 1190 (B. Morgan)

Amends the Illinois Underground Natural Gas Storage Safety Act to provide that, in the case of a verified facility release, the owner and operator of the underground natural gas storage facility is responsible for specified actions. Requires the maintenance and installation of equipment to be done by an Illinois Licensed Plumber. Amended and passed the House and the Senate.

HB 1286 (K. Stuart)

Amends the Equitable Restrooms Act to provide any multiple-occupancy restroom may be all-gender. Requires specified signage, stall dividers, and urinal partitions. Provides ratio requirements on the number of required fixtures. Requires IDPH to adopt rules to implement the provisions. Amended to disallow urinals in those restrooms. Passed the House and the Senate.

HB 2621 (S. Kifowit)

Provides that IDPH shall create a pilot

program to allow the Department to enter into an agreement with an Illinois Certified Plumbing Inspector employed by a municipality to do inspections on behalf of the Department and submit appropriate documentation as requested to verify the inspections were completed to the standards required by the Department and outlined in the partnership. Passed the House and the Senate.

HB 3046 (A. Williams)

Provides that the IEPA shall propose and the Board shall adopt (1) amendments to the Board's primary drinking water standards that will repeal the prohibition on the use of recycled sewage treatment plant effluent set forth in Title 35 and that will make any other revisions to those rules that are necessary to facilitate water reuse in the State and (2) rules establishing programs for both direct potable and nonpotable reuse of treated wastewater, including rules establishing permitting standards and a permit application process. Passed the House, placed in Senate Assignments and now considered dead.

SB 1715 (S. Hilton)

Amends the Illinois Plumbing License Law. Provides that the Department shall adopt a rule requiring that for each drinking fountain in any construction where a drinking fountain is required under the Illinois Plumbing Code, there shall also be a bottle filling station or a combined bottle filling station and drinking fountain. Effective date of July 1, 2026. Passed in the Senate and the House.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

CONT.

SB 1804 (L. Murphy)

Provides that use of a refrigerant is not prohibited if the refrigerant is identified as a safe alternative under a specified federal statute and is contained within equipment that is in accordance with specified federal safety standards. Passed in the Senate and the House.

SB 2368 (D. Koehler)

Creates the State Building and Residential Codes Act. Provides that the Capital Development Board shall adopt a Building Code that establishes minimum requirements for the construction of commercial and residential buildings. Use of the Illinois Plumbing Code is required.

Amended and passed in the Senate and the House.

Other Construction/Business Related Bills:

SB 133 (L. Holmes)

This is an initiative of our industry partner association, IMSCA, and it amends the Public Construction Bond Act to provide that a local government entity may not withhold more than 5% retainage when a contractor has furnished a surety bond or its equivalent. The bill made it to 3rd Reading in the Senate with the passage date extended, but was returned to Senate Assignments. This initiative was added to a very large procurement bill that did pass before the end of Session.

SB 1570 (K. Lightford)

This bill would allow municipalities to utilize design/build. Passed the Senate and the House.

Please reach out to me with any questions or comments on this or any other legislation.



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- >> **Four tickets to watch the Chicago Blackhawks** play at the United Center (Date TBA). (Value: \$750.00). Donated by Jim McGlynn, McWilliams Electric Company.
- >> **\$1,500 Travel Package** \$500 Southwest Airlines, \$500 Delta Airlines, & \$500 Hotels.com gift cards. Donated by the Bloomington/Normal PHCC/IL PHCC.
- >> **\$500 Amazon gift card** Donated by the Electrical Contractors Association of Chicago.
- >> **\$500 Best Buy gift card** Donated by PCA of Greater Chicago.
- >> **\$500 Cabela's gift card** Donated by the Underground Contractors Association of Illinois.
- >> **\$500 GoPlay Golf gift card** good at 5,000+ golf courses nationwide or for use on golf merchandise, golf lessons, or golf vacations. Donated by Bloomington Normal PHCC/IL PHCC.
- >> **\$500 Home Depot gift card** Donated by SMACNA Greater Chicago.
- >> **\$500 Morton's Steakhouse gift card** Donated by the Bloomington Normal PHCC/IL PHCC.

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IMSCA HOLDS SUCCESSFUL LOBBY DAY

The Illinois Mechanical & Specialty Contractors Association (IMSCA) held its annual Lobby Day and Legislative Reception in Springfield on April 26th. IMSCA is the voice of the construction industry in Illinois.

The day began with an IMSCA board meeting conducted by President SJ Peters (Executive Director of the PCA of Greater Chicago), followed by an insightful presentation by Patrick Pfingsten titled “Breaking Through the Noise of Illinois Politics. Pfingsten is the founder of Pf Communications and the publisher of the daily political report known as Illinoize.

After receiving legislative updates from IMSCA Executive Director Jessica Newbold, attendees went to the Capitol to speak to legislators regarding bills of importance to the construction industry. Several very successful meetings were held with the primary focus of the discussions on SB 133 which addressed reduction of retainage on public projects.

Lobby Day concluded with a joint reception with ICIC at the Sangamo Club. Over 30 legislators attended the event, along with Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton. Very productive conversations were held between contractors, association staff, and elected officials.

Congratulations to Executive Director Jessica Newbold for planning and implementing another successful legislative event. It is vital to our industry to have members who understand the importance of being involved in the public policy making process and for taking the time to participate in events such as this.



Pictured on their way to the Capitol are PHCC members Tammy Rich Stimson (GA Rich & Sons) (far left); PCA Executive Director (IMSCA President) S.J. Peters (2nd from left); Kelly Castrogiovanni (Terry Plumbing Co.) (far right); and Rick Kuhn (RJ Kuhn Plumbing & Heating) (2nd from right).



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ERTC Presents: Illinois Backflow Symposium Thursday October 26th, 2023 Doubletree Hotel Bloomington, Illinois

7:30am - Registration & Continental Breakfast - Vendor Area Open
8:30am *IEPA* Chris Johnston - Cross-Connection Code Review
9:15am *IRWA* Dave McMillan – Lead Service Line Replacement
10:00am *IDPH* Illinois Department of Public Health Update
10:45am - Break - Vendor Area Open
10:55am - Bob Schafer–Special Applications and the Illinois Plumbing Code
11:45am - ERTC Training Update, Outline of CCCDI Recertification Program
12:00pm - 1:15pm *Catered Southern BBQ Lunch* - Vendor Area Open
1:15pm - Kurt Harris, UR Trench Safety-Confined Space and Excavation Safety
2:00pm - Josh Goeden, Mid-Continent-Leak Detection Technology
3:00pm - Adjournment

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BEST PRACTICES ON PREVENTING HEAT ILLNESS AT WORK

By Jim Frederick, acting assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

With temperatures rising as we head into the summer months, so does the risk of heat hazards. In 2019, exposure to heat led to 43 work-related deaths and 2,410 injuries and illnesses, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has resources to help employers and workers beat the heat and stay healthy and safe.

Here are some practices to remember as you prepare for the summer heat:

1. Train all workers.

Employers should train supervisors and workers on how to control and recognize heat hazards. Workers should also know about first aid for heat illness. Training should always be conducted in a language workers understand.

2. Follow the 20% rule.

On a worker's first day, no more than 20 percent of the duration of their shift should be at full intensity in the heat. The duration of time at full intensity should be increased by no more than 20 percent a day until workers are used to working in the heat.

3. Remember these three words: "Water. Rest. Shade."

Workers should drink one cup of water every 20 minutes while working in the heat to stay hydrated. When the temperature is high, employers should make sure workers take frequent rest breaks in shaded, cool or air-conditioned areas to recover from the heat.

4. Workers new to the job are at higher risk.

Workers who are new or returning to working in warm or hot environments need more time to adapt. More than 75 percent of heat-related fatalities occur during a worker's first week, which is why "acclimatization" – the process of building resistance to increased temperatures – is so important. Learn how to protect new workers from heat-related illness and monitor them until they are acclimatized.

5. Hazardous heat exposure can happen indoors or outdoors.

Though heat stress is typically related to outdoor work environments, and construction workers account for about one-third of heat-related deaths, workers in hot indoor environments like kitchens, laundries, warehouses and electrical utilities are also at risk.

6. Engineering controls and modified work practices can reduce the risk of heat illness.

Consider reducing physical activity as much as possible by planning for the work ahead and rotating job functions among workers to help minimize exertion. Find more work practices here.

Learn more about OSHA's campaign to prevent heat illness and [find resources in English and Spanish on our website at \[www.osha.gov\]\(http://www.osha.gov\)](#). Workers and employers who have questions or concerns about workplace safety can contact us online or by phone at 1-800-321-6742 (OSHA).



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PH: 309-693-7229</p> | <p>- Bloomington, IL
413 E. Oakland Ave.
PH: 309-828-000</p> | <p>- Quincy, IL 62301
1328 Seminary Rd.
PH: 217-228-7898</p> |
| <p>- Macomb, IL 61455
433 N. Campbell
PH: 309-833-2148</p> | <p>- Galesburg, IL 61401
2315 Grand Ave.
PH: 309-342-7000</p> | <p>- Collinsville, IL 62234
#3 Business Center Court
PH: 618-344-9200</p> |
| <p>- Kankakee, IL 60901
1600 Grinnell Road
PH: 815-933-6688</p> | <p>- McHenry, IL 60051
3918 N. Richmond Road
PH: 815-385-4404</p> | <p>- Decatur, IL 62526
3130 N. Grand Prix Dr.
PH: 217-875-5626</p> |
| <p>- Urbana, IL 61801
1900 N. Lincoln Ave.
PH: 217-367-7601</p> | <p>- Danville, IL 61832
520 E. Fairchild
PH: 217-446-1818</p> | <p>- Marion, IL 62959
801 Skyline Dr.
PH: 618-993-1031</p> |
| <p>- Peru, IL 61354
3 Terminal Road
PH: 815-224-1205</p> | <p>- Rockford, IL 61109
3537 Merchandise Dr.
PH: 815-874-1515</p> | <p>- Jacksonville, IL 62650
630 Brooklyn Ave.
PH: 217-243-3411</p> |
| <p>- Sugar Grove, IL 60554
694 Heartland Dr.
PH: 630-466-3284</p> | <p>- Terre Haute, IN 47802
2800 S. State Road 63
PH: 812-232-3333</p> | <p>- Freeport, IL 61032
1201 W. Galena Ave
PH: 815-235-7789</p> |
| <p>- Moline, IL 61265
4200 46th Ave.
PH: 309-797-3715</p> | <p>- Lafayette, IN 47905
851 Farabee Court
PH: 765-448-4553</p> | <p>- St. Louis, MO 63146
2374 Grissom Dr
PH: 314-994-9799</p> |
| <p>- Springfield, IL 62703
1400 South 9th St.
PH: 217-544-9612</p> | <p>- Frankfort, IN 46041
1599 McKinley Ave
PH: 765-659-5780</p> | <p>- Comfort Supply
Peoria, IL 61603
2800 NE Adams St.
PH: 309-688-4407</p> |
| <p>- Mattoon, IL 61938
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