
ILLINOIS MASTER PLUMBER

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING • CONTRACTORS


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The Illinois Master Plumber published monthly, is the official publication of the Illinois Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Association, only insofar as notices, bulletins, and reports are concerned.

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PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Brian Wilk
Illinois PHCC President

To my friends and colleagues throughout our Illinois PHCC Chapter, this article will mark my final entry as your State PHCC President. It's been an honor and my pleasure to help lead this amazing and impactful contractors' association. I look forward to serving this industry, our Chapter, and my peers in any beneficial capacity that I can in the future. With every "end" comes a new beginning. My successor as President is a familiar name, and the IL PHCC will be in excellent leadership hands this coming June as Mike Ehret (Ehret, Inc., Belleville IL) takes the helm in an encore term in this key role.

The Illinois PHCC Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers event on June 8 at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria is open to all contractor members, Auxiliary members and association staff (at no charge) – however advance registration is required. The Board & Auxiliary Meetings (separately) will follow the next morning at the same location. Details can be found elsewhere in this issue. As always, an array of sponsorship opportunities can be found in this issue as well. I encourage our members to please consider adding your support to this significant and memorable event by attending as well as serving as a sponsor. Be assured that your involvement will be appreciated and will make a difference!

The PHCC at all levels – state, local and national – continues to tirelessly and consistently bring out the best in our members, who are all working together to advance our industry. Whether you attended the Illinois PHCC's Expo in March, or the UAC's twice-presented "Constructive Collective Bargaining" seminar in January or April, or if you're planning to attend the National's Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. or "CONNECT'23" in October in Cleveland, OH, it's clear that the PHCC is composed of those who "do" rather than those who watch from the sidelines. We are fortunate to have dedicated, highly qualified and hardworking staff at our State Chapter with Executive Director Bev Potts and Associate Director Shelly Lott. At the National PHCC, longtime and legendary staff member Cindy Sheridan has risen to the challenge to take

the reins as our CEO. Under the guidance of National PHCC President David Frame (Bob Frame Plumbing Services, South Bend, IN) and the UAC under the chairmanship of Brian Rich (GA Rich & Sons, Deer Creek, IL), 2023 has already proven to be a year of substantial gains and refreshed goals for our Association and our entire industry. It's been my privilege to be a part of this exciting time, and I look forward to what's ahead. Let us continue!

Brian 



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 16-17, 2023

PHCC National Legislative Conference
Washington, DC

JUNE 9, 2023

Illinois PHCC Board & Auxiliary Meetings
Par-a-Dice Hotel, East Peoria, IL

JUNE 8, 2023

Illinois PHCC Annual Meeting &
Installation Event
Par-a-Dice Hotel, East Peoria, IL

OCT. 25-27, 2023

PHCC CONNECT'23
Cleveland, OH



IN MEMORY



Gerry Kennedy, Retired Foundation COO and National Association EVP, passed away on April 5th at the age of 80 after a short fight with cancer.

From 1997 to 2010, Gerry headed the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors (PHCC) Educational Foundation, first as Vice President of Education and then Chief Operating Officer. From 2010 until his retirement in 2015, he served as the PHCC—National Association Executive Vice President. In these roles, he developed and delivered programs that positively impacted the careers of countless individuals in the plumbing-heating-cooling industry.

In 2016, he funded a new annual PHCC Foundation scholarship to assist Boy Scouts interested in trades-related education. After retirement, he served as PHCC archivist while co-authoring a multi-year update to the “A Heritage Unique” PHCC history book that was published in 2019.

Memorials can be made to the PHCC National Education Foundation.

The Illinois PHCC extends its sympathy to Gerry’s family and colleagues.



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Illinois PHCC Annual Meeting & Installation Event

The Illinois PHCC would like to invite you to our 130th annual meeting and dinner to be held on June 8th at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria. Please join us in East Peoria as we thank our outgoing officers and install our newly elected leaders.

The annual meeting and installation of officers will be held at 5:00pm on Thursday, followed by dinner at 6:00pm and the Auxiliary's Silent Auction. There is no charge for PHCC Contractor and Auxiliary members to attend Thursday's event, but registration is required.

The event concludes on Friday morning with meetings of the Illinois PHCC and the Auxiliary Board of Directors. As always, these meetings are open to all members.

There is no charge for PHCC contractor members and Auxiliary members (and spouses/guests) to attend, but you will need to RSVP by May 30, 2023 so that you don't miss this great opportunity for networking and participating in your state association's meetings. We look forward to seeing you in East Peoria.

Illinois PHCC has a special group rate of \$105.00. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-547-0711 or 309-699-7711 and reference code PHCF23C. Reservations can also be made by going to this exact web address <https://paradice.boydgaming.com/groups-and-weddings/group-reservation> and enter code PHCF23C. The special rate will be available until May 18, 2023.

Attire for the event is business casual.

Thursday, June 8, 2023

- 5:00 pm Annual Meeting
- 6:00 pm Reception/Installation Dinner
Auxiliary's Silent Auction

Friday, June 9, 2023

- 7:30 am Breakfast
- 8:30 am PHCC Board Meeting
- 8:30 am Auxiliary Board Meeting

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**2023 Illinois PHCC
Sponsorship Opportunities**
(Please check one)

This year our annual meeting and installation of officers will be held at the Par-A-Dice Hotel in East Peoria, Illinois at 5:00pm on Thursday, on June 8th followed by dinner at 6:00pm and the Auxiliary's Silent Auction.

- Platinum Sponsor—\$2500.00**
Platinum sponsorship would include a column in the Illinois Master Plumber magazine; 2 complimentary dinners; recognition and signage at the event; 5 minutes at the podium.
- Gold Sponsor — \$1000.00**
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- Silver Sponsor — \$500.00**
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- Bronze Sponsor— \$250.00**
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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BY BEV POTTS

The Spring Session of the 103rd Illinois General Assembly is scheduled to adjourn on May 19th. Many of the bills we had been following are now considered dead for this session. Following are ones that are still active that we will be watching and working on.

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 monitors be done by an Illinois Licensed Plumber. Amended and passed the House and assigned to Senate Energy & Public Utilities.

HB 1286 (K. Stuart)

Amends the Equitable Restrooms Act to provide any multiple-occupancy restroom maybe 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. Passed the House and assigned to the Senate Executive Committee.

HB 2621 (S. Kifowit)

Provides that IDPH shall create a pilot program to allow the Department to enter into an agreement with a licensed plumber 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 is on 3rd Reading in 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 and is in Senate Assignments.

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. Passed in the Senate and assigned to the House Public Health Committee.

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 assigned to the House Energy & Environment Committee.

SB 2368 (D. Koehler)

Creates the State Building and Residential Codes Act. Provides that the Capital Development Board, in consultation with the Department of Natural Resources, shall adopt a Building Code that establishes minimum requirements for the construction of commercial and residential buildings. Amended and passed in the Senate and assigned to the House Executive Committee.

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

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

CONT.

government entity may not withhold more than 5% retainage when a contractor has furnished a surety bond or its equivalent. On Calendar Order of 3rd Reading in the Senate with the passage date extended.

SB 1570 (K. Lightford) This bill would allow municipalities to utilize design/build. Passed the Senate and is on 2nd Reading in the House.

There are other bills we continue to watch that deal with Public Private Partnerships, Prevailing Wage, Procurement, Public Utilities, Indoor Air Quality/HVAC, Workforce, Energy, and more.



OSHA NEWS

Thirty-nine people died doing trench or excavation work in the U.S. in 2022 – four in Illinois and two others in Ohio. In fact, the number of worker fatalities more than doubled since 2021, continuing a troubling trend cited by the Bureau of Labor Statistics that found 166 workers died in trench cave-ins from 2011-2018, an average of 21 each year.

To address injuries and fatalities in the industry, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration is launching an outreach campaign in its Midwest region to work directly with employers, workers, state agencies and industry associations to reduce and prevent serious injuries and fatalities suffered by workers in one of the nation's most hazardous industries.

“A trench collapse can bury workers under thousands of pounds of soil and rocks in seconds, making escape and survival often impossible,” explained OSHA Regional Administrator Bill Donovan in Chicago. “With proper training and use of required safety procedures, incidents like these can be prevented. OSHA and industry employers are working hard to raise awareness of hazards and protective measures and educate employers on how they must protect workers.”



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OSHA NEWS

CONT.

The new campaign is a collaboration between OSHA and on-site consultation projects across OSHA Region 5, including Illinois.

“By launching this trench and excavation safety campaign as the spring construction season gets into full swing, OSHA and its partners are determined to make sure industry workers finish their daily shifts safely,” Donovan added.

In 2022, OSHA conducted 311 trenching and excavation inspections at sites in Illinois, Ohio and Wisconsin. Six of the inspections followed incidents in which workers suffered fatalities after falling into a trench, being pinned between equipment, trapped by a cave-in or asphyxiated by naturally occurring, hazardous gases in the trench. Industry employers and workers should remember the following essential trench safety standards:

- Protective systems must be in place for trenches 5-feet deep or deeper. These systems include benching, sloping, shoring and shielding.
- A registered professional engineer must approve trenches of 20-feet deep or deeper.
- A competent person must inspect trenches daily – and as conditions change – before anyone enters a trench. The competent person must be able to identify existing and predictable hazards, soil types and protective systems, and have authority to take prompt corrective action to eliminate those hazards.
- Excavated soils must be kept at least two feet from trench edges.
- Underground utilities must be located and marked before digging begins.
- Ladders must be positioned every 25 feet of lateral travel for safe entrance and exit from the trench.

OSHA has a national emphasis program on preventing trenching and excavation collapses, and developed a series of compliance assistance resources in English and Spanish to help keep workers safe from these hazards. OSHA’s trenching and excavation webpage provides additional information on trenching hazards and solutions, including a safety video and safety alert.

Learn more about OSHA at [osha.gov](https://www.osha.gov).





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IT'S YOUR LIFE

The Importance of Business Succession Planning

Business succession planning is necessary to ensure a smooth transition when you choose to sell your company or are no longer able to run it. Below, we'll help you learn how to decide who will take over your business, how business succession should occur for a smooth transition, and more.

Who Will Take Over Your Business?

One of the first questions that needs to be considered when thinking about your business succession plan is who is going to take over your business. For some business owners, it might be a child who has been working in the business and is ready and willing to step in at any time. Others may have a key employee with years of service who has expressed an interest in taking over.

In any case, finding the right person is an important decision. It can mean the difference between financial security and financial hardship for you, your family, and your employees if your successor is not able to keep the business operating successfully.

When and How Will Your Business Succession Occur?

Once you have identified who you would like to take over your business, the next step is to figure out the details — the when and the how of your transition plan. There are basically two ways ownership of a business can be transferred: By sale or by a gift/inheritance.

The best option for your business — whether it's a sale, a gift, or a combination of the two — will depend on a variety of considerations and your individual circumstances.

When you are ready to put your plan in place, or review an existing plan, [talk with your Federated® marketing representative](#). They can go over the benefits and importance of succession planning and help refer you to an independent attorney.

This article is for general information and risk prevention only and should not be considered an offer of insurance or legal, financial, tax or other expert advice. The recommendations herein may help reduce, but are not guaranteed to eliminate, any or all losses. The information herein may be subject to, and is not a substitute for, any laws or regulations that may apply. This information is current as of its publication date and is subject to change. Some of the services referenced herein are provided by third parties wholly independent of Federated. Federated provides access to these services with the understanding that neither Federated nor its employees provide legal or other expert advice. All products and services not available in all states. Qualified counsel should be sought with questions specific to your circumstances. All rights reserved.

PHCC ILLINOIS

AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP RULES

Scholarships for college or vocational education are awarded by the Illinois Auxiliary for a minimum of \$500.00 up to a maximum of \$2,000.00 each year in June, as funds are available.

1. The applicant must be at least a freshman in college having completed one full semester with at least 8 credit hours of study. Seniors in high school may NOT apply.
2. No person may receive more than one award from the Illinois Auxiliary during his or her academic career. There cannot be more than two awards per family per year. A permanent list of recipients will be kept in the scholarship files.
3. In addition to the completed application form, the applicant must submit the following:
 - A letter from the applicant with personal data, family size, explanation of need for scholarship monies, and career plans. Also include information about participation in high school, college, and community activities as well as work experience. Knowledge of and/or working experiences with plumbing industry may be included, but is not necessary.
 - Three letters of recommendation.
 - One letter must be from a sponsor who is a member in good standing of the Illinois PHCC Auxiliary.
 - The other two letters must be from people who know the applicant personally and can attest to the applicant's character. They may also provide additional pertinent information such as academic performance and involvement in extra-curricular activities. Knowledge of parents does not necessarily qualify them for having knowledge of applicant.
 - Photo of the applicant.
 - Official transcripts—see details on application form.
4. **The deadline for submitting the application is May 26, 2023.**
 - Application must be postmarked no later than this date and include all the information required. If it is incomplete, application materials will be discarded and applicant will not be considered for a scholarship. Applicants may resubmit the following year.
 - The scholarship committee will have the final decision in awarding these scholarships. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact Gail McWilliams.

Please send completed application by May 26, 2023 to:

Gail McWilliams
2707 Holcomb Dr.
Urbana, IL 61802
217-778-2511 e-mail: jgmcw@comcast.net



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PHCC ILLINOIS AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ~2023~

Applicant Name: _____ Birth Date _____

Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parents or Guardian's Full Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail _____

NAME AND ADDRESS WHERE CHECK SHOULD BE SENT:

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NAME OF SPONSORING AUXILIARY MEMBER: (Sponsor **cannot** be a parent, guardian or spouse.)

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Signature _____

SCHOLASTIC DATA:

High School Attended: _____

Year of Graduation: _____ Rank/Number in Class: _____ CUM GPA: _____

Principal's Name: _____

Name of College Attending & Career Plans: _____

Dean or Advisor's Name: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIP:

Application must be complete with the items listed below for consideration. Please read Scholarship Rules.

1. Completed application above
2. Small photo stapled to application
3. Three letters of recommendation as follows:
 - A. One letter of recommendation from sponsoring Auxiliary member who is not a parent, guardian, or spouse
 - B. Two letters of personal recommendation from people not related to applicant
4. Personal letter: State request and list your high school and college extra-curricular activities.
5. Original copy of high school and college transcripts. These can be sent under separate cover. **High school transcript is required** for all graduates from 2006 to current.

I hereby certify that the above is true and accurate.

Applicant's signature: _____ Date _____

Parent, Guardian or Spouse Signature: _____

GOOD LUCK!

DEADLINE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP IS MAY 26, 2023

ILLINOIS PHCC

PAST PRESIDENT'S CLUB SCHOLARSHIP FUND

1. Name of the Scholarship Fund shall be the "Illinois PHCC Assn. Past President's Club Scholarship Award".
2. Scholarship is established through dues income to Past President's Club.
3. A scholarship shall be awarded to an individual who has been nominated by a member of the Illinois PHCC Past President's Club who has been a member in good standing for the past two years.
4. Applicant must have the following qualifications:
 - a. Applicant must be a member of the senior class or graduate of a secondary school.
 - b. Pursue or desire to pursue courses of study such as may prepare them to serve or to advance the interest of the plumbing-heating-cooling industry.
5. The President of the Past President's Club shall be the Chairman and appoint two members to assist him in selecting the Scholarship Winner.
6. In no case shall more than one Scholarship be awarded to any one applicant, but the Scholarship Committee may award more than one scholarship at their discretion.
7. Scholarships shall be awarded at an event of the Illinois PHCC in June 2023.
8. The Executive Director shall be directed to inform the applicant who will be awarded the Scholarship.
9. Applicants not winning the award may be eligible to apply the following year.
10. The Scholarship money shall be made payable to the school of the applicant's choice. If the winner has changed schools since applying, he or she shall notify the IL PHCC Executive Director immediately.
11. If a recipient should drop out of school during the year, the balance of the award should be returned to the Past President's Club.

Application must be received in the Illinois PHCC office no later than May 25, 2023

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

IL PHCC PAST PRESIDENTS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Name in Full _____ Age _____

Address _____

City and Zip _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

City and Zip _____

Applicant's Phone No. - Home _____ Business _____

Employed by _____

Name of Owner _____

Address _____

Address _____

City and Zip _____

Name of Sponsoring Member of the Past President's Club _____

What career do you intend to follow? - Give full details in letter form. (In addition to the letter, it would be helpful to have a short video of the applicant explaining why they are applying and their goals for the future. This is optional, but if you choice to do so, email it to bev@ilphcc.com.)

What school do you plan to attend? _____

Complete Address _____

When do you plan to enroll? _____

Scholastic Data

High School attended _____

Complete Address _____ Zip _____

Year Graduated _____ Rank In Class _____

Principal's Name _____

In what activities have you participated: Attach list.

1. Fill out application completely and mail to IL PHCC Past Presidents Club, 821 S. Grand Ave., West, Springfield, IL 62704.
2. Enclose reference letters from three people, not related to you, who know you personally, attesting to character and other pertinent information.
3. Enclose a letter from principal giving complete transcript of grades, activities, rank and number in class and scores on one of the following tests: PSAT, SAT or ACT.
4. A wallet size picture of you.

Applicant's Signature

I hereby certify that the above is true and accurate. Date: _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature

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