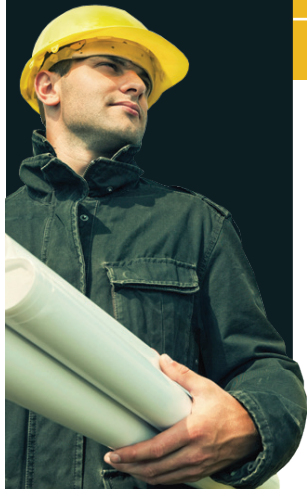


# Central Chapter Newsletter

Serving Professional Union Contractors in the Midwest

Winter 2022



## Schedule of Events

**Feb 21** Annual Meeting  
@Pere Marquette

**Mar 21** Membership Meeting  
@Oliver's Pizza

**April 18** Trade Show  
@Holiday Inn

**Attention Contractors:**  
Your PDC #30 Zone C  
Field Representative is  
Mandy Jo Ganieany  
309-338-1249

Finishing Contractors Association of Illinois (FCAI) is dedicated to providing value to union painting, glazing, and drywall finishing contractors by leading the industry through negotiating a collective bargaining agreement and promoting safety, education, training, and professional development.

Visit the FCAI website at:  
[fcaofillinois.org](http://fcaofillinois.org)



## FCA of Illinois Launches New Website

In late October, FCA of Illinois launched our new and improved website. This mobile-friendly site, designed by Weblinx, Inc. of Oswego, has familiar components along with some improved features that will make our website more user-friendly. Our improved *Find A Contractor* database now utilizes Google Maps so customers can easily find your business location. Our redesigned event pages now show a calendar view so you can see all our upcoming events by month.

Along with our updated events calendar, we also have a new method to RSVP for our meetings and events, with a new streamlined and easy-to-use registration form. Guests at our large events will also be able to check-in through using a QR code that will be sent at the time of registration. Other updates to our website include partner links, updated safety information, an entire tab dedicated to our Central Chapter. We hope that you take a few minutes to check out what is new at [fcaofillinois.org](http://fcaofillinois.org)!

## Calendar of Events - Central Chapter 2023

February 10	Blackhawks Game & Networking Event @ UC
February 21	Annual Meeting @ Pere Marquette
March 21	Membership Meeting @ Oliver's Pizza
March 22	Safety Seminar (Tentative)
April 18	Trade Show @ Holiday Inn
June 15	Scholarship Awards @ Two Brothers
TBD	Summer Outing
July 14	Golf Outing @ Orchard Valley, Aurora
September 19	Membership Meeting @ TBD
October 17	Community Cares @ Jim's Steakhouse
November TBD	Holiday Party @ Peoria Riverfront Museum

## Community Cares Night - Recap



*Back Row:* Brian Wright, Chris Vespa, Ken Ober Jr., Bobby Taylor, Jami Taylor, Ken Ober Sr., Charlie Zimmerman (Boy Scouts)  
*Front row:* Mark Palmer, Barb Murphy (Boy Scouts), Debbie Gaught (Fuller Center for Housing), Julie Moore (Dax Foundation), Denny Dragoo, Ryan Abott (That Kid Place)

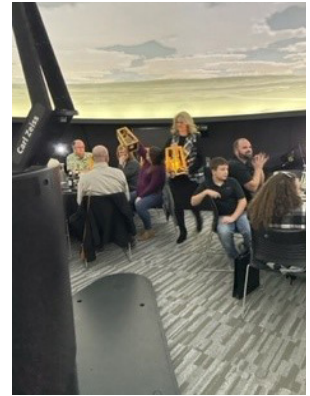
This year's Central Chapter Community Cares night was held at Jim's Steakhouse on October 18<sup>th</sup>. This was a very heartwarming event. Julie Moore, founder of the Dax Foundation, was our special guest speaker who gave an excellent speech on the importance of volunteering and giving back to the community.

Jami Taylor (President) and Brian Wright (Vice President) then awarded each of the four charity recipients with their checks. In addition, each of the recipients said a few words about their charity's purpose and how they give back to their local communities. The two winners from Peoria County were Illinois Valley Fuller Center for Housing nominated by Mid-Illinois Companies and the St. Jude Corvette Drive nominated by Elite Painting. The two winning charities from McLean County were That Kid Place nominated by Bedrock Painting and Cross Roads WD Boyce Council nominated by RW Vandegrift.

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# Holiday Party - Recap

The Central Chapter hosted a very special Holiday Party at the Peoria Riverfront Museum on Saturday, November 5th. This well-attended event featured a delicious meal in the dome planetarium under the stars. After dinner, all our guests had private access to the multiple Museum Galleries, including the Mars Exhibit, which held many hands-on activities for everyone to enjoy. Also featured in the Gallery was a 10 foot tall amethyst rock on display which is one of the largest in the world. It is absolutely beautiful!



Playing on the Big Screen was *Elf* - the featured movie - along with popcorn and snacks. The gift shop was also open with many unique items to choose from. Once these fun activities concluded, the audience members were captivated with a Uniview Presentation in the Planetarium. We wrapped up our night with the ever popular centerpiece give-a-way and delicious dessert. This year, we had special goodie bags made for all of the children in attendance.

This family event is near and dear to the Central Chapters Heart and we are thankful to have hosted such a heartwarming event.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## Interested in Becoming a Council Member?

Coming in January, the FCAI Central Chapter Council will be looking for new Council Members to join. This is a great opportunity to get involved, learn, and make a difference in your industry!

For more information contact Jami Taylor at [jtaylor@mic123.com](mailto:jtaylor@mic123.com)

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Mid-Illinois Companies

### Vice President

Brian Wright  
Bedrock Painting

### Council Members

Ken Ober  
Elite Painting, Inc.

Bobby Taylor  
Mid-Illinois Companies

Kurt Hand  
Vogue Painting, Inc.

Ken Ober II  
Elite Painting, Inc.

Chris Vespa  
Federated Insurance

Dennis Dragoo  
Dragoo Painting

To submit article(s) for future Newsletters, please email [kristin@fcaofillinois.org](mailto:kristin@fcaofillinois.org).