

# Lake County Contractors Association

## Safety News

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February, 2001

**Safety Training** - Scheduled classes have begun again. Check the Safety Reservation form for a list of dates and classes.

**REMEMBER:** If you have ten or more (or will pay for 10 students) **we will bring the training to your office**, or a site of your choice, or hold your class at the LCCA Office.

First Aid, CPR, OSHA 10-Hour, Excavation Competent Person, Power Line, Confined Space, Respiratory Safety/Silica, Scaffold User or Competent Person, and much more are available for you. Since the LCCA Safety & Education Fund subsidizes the cost, the price is hard to beat.

Training dates are subject to our instructors' schedules, so if you want a particular date, call Gloria at the LCCA Office as soon as possible.

Thank you to the following LCCA members who have scheduled classes recently:

**Lake County Grading** – 1<sup>st</sup> Aid/CPR

**Landscape Concepts** – 1<sup>st</sup> Aid/CPR; OSHA 10 Hour

**Alliance Contractors** – Excavating Competent Person, OSHA 10-hour

**William A. Randolph** – OSHA 10-Hour

**LCCA Safety Awards** – Over 20 Safety Award applications for have been received so far. Awards will be presented at the February Membership Meeting.

**Bricklayers Seek End to Dry Cutting** – In a letter sent to all employers signatory to the Bricklayers Agreement, President Pete Marinopoulos said, "District Council #1 has serious concerns regarding the continuing practice of dry cutting of masonry materials on jobsites. This includes table saws, power gas saws and grinders. There is an ongoing problem particularly with gas saws and dry cutting being done on scaffolds directly behind or around employees. This practice must immediately cease. The health and safety of your employees and our members should be first and foremost on any jobsite. As we are all aware, silicosis and other related illnesses are of major concern in our industry. There are appropriate means by which material in our industry can be cut and shaped and these means must be followed. Article XXX, Section 30.4 of the Joint Agreement and Working Rules addresses this issue.

"Any **cutting of masonry material** on the job site is work which belongs to the bricklayers, and **the bricklayers only**, as covered by the Joint Agreement and Working Rules, and no other craft may perform this work.

"Regulation Masks: Employees dry cutting any masonry or poured concrete products will be provided with NIOSH approved particulate respirators adequate for the exposure, and receive training on the proper use and maintenance of these respirators. Employees(s) using respirators while dry cutting will be fit tested and medically evaluated."

**New Steel Erection Standards Effective July 18, 2001** – Due to a change in administration, the previously reported effective date has been pushed back to July 18, 2001. On this date the new Subpart R will take effect providing the first comprehensive standard for steel erection in OSHA's history. According to OSHA in a January 17 news release, "Ironworkers in America are safer under a new rule issued today by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The new rule on steel erection, developed in concert with industry and union groups, is expected to prevent 30 fatalities and 1,142 injuries annually and save employers nearly \$40 million a year.

"The steel erection rule is the first OSHA safety standard developed under the Negotiated Rulemaking Act of 1990 and the Department's Negotiated Rulemaking Policy. The rule was developed by members of the Steel Erection Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee (SENAC), representing employers and employees significantly affected by the standard.

“The standard enhances protections provided to iron workers by addressing the hazards that have been identified as the major causes of injuries and fatalities in the steel erection industry. These are hazards associated with working under loads; hoisting, landing and placing decking; column stability; double connections; landing and placing steel joints; and falls to lower levels.

“The final rule protects all workers engaged in steel erection activities. It does not cover electric transmission towers, communication towers, broadcast towers, water towers or tanks.”

A copy of the new subpart is available from the LCCA Office.