



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB 12, 2009
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
New ABCIL Office

FEB 12, 2009
CHICGOLAND OPEN HOUSE
AFTERHOURS
New ABCIL Office

FEB 19, 2009
EFFINGHAM REGIONAL DINNER
Firefly Grill - Effingham, IL

**WIN A \$500.00 SHELL GAS
CARD!**

RENEW BY FEBRUARY 13TH
FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

**PAYING TOO MUCH FOR
WORKMAN'S COMP INSURANCE?**

**CALL ROB WINCHESTER TO SEE
HOW YOU CAN SAVE 10%!!**

**SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION
PROGRAM (SAPP)**

**NEED TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW
SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION
LAWS?**

**WE CAN HELP! CONTACT THE
ABCIL OFFICE TODAY!**

Associated Builders & Contractors –
Illinois Chapter
1691 Elmhurst Rd.
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
V: (847) 709-2960 F: (847) 709-2970
www.abcil.org

MERIT UPDATE

FEBRUARY 6, 2009

OPEN HOUSE

**Come check out the new Elk
Grove Office and**

What: Networking Event
including a
Presentation by
Guest Speaker: Jeff
Risch, ABCIL Chapter
Attorney

Where: The New ABCIL Office
1541 Elmhurst Road
Elk Grove Village, IL

When: February 12, 2009
6:00 PM

Cost: \$20.00 Per Member

To register please call Lisa.

NEW REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO BID/ OR NOR FOR BID STATUS (BDE 124 INT) FORM

**EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, ANY
REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO
BID/OR NOT FOR BID STATUS
RECEIVED ON THE OLDER VERSIONS OF
THE FORM (BDE 124 INT) WILL BE
RETURNED UNPROCESSED. THIS WILL
RESULT IN A DELAY IN RECEIVING YOUR
AUTHORIZATION TO BID. THE
DEPARTMENT HAS DISCONTINUED THE
SALE OF LETTING SET CDS. THE
REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION
TO BID/NOT FOR BID STATUS (BDE
124 INT) HAS BEEN REVISED TO
REFLECT THIS CHANGE. PLEASE BE
SURE THAT YOU ARE USING THE NEW
VERSION OF THE FORM (REV.
08/25/08). IF YOU HAVE ANY
QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
RYAN SHELEY OR TIM GARMAN AT
(217) 782-7806.**

SOURCE: [LETTING YOU KNOW](#)

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

**TUESDAY, FEB 17, ABCIL WILL BE
CONDUCTING A NCCER TEACHER
CERTIFICATION CLASS. THE
CLASS WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 9AM
AND WILL CONCLUDE IN THE EARLY
AFTERNOON. THE COST OF THE
PROGRAM, COMPLETE WITH NCCER
BOOKS IS \$150. TO REGISTER
PLEASE CALL STEVE OR DIANA AT
THE ABCIL OFFICE, 847-709-2960.
SEATING IS LIMITED
REGISTER TODAY!**

NONRESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT HITS 20-YEAR LOW

EMPLOYMENT IN THE NATION'S NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SUFFERED ITS WORSE MONTHLY DROP IN MORE THAN 20 YEARS AS EMPLOYERS SLASHED 20,400 JOBS IN JANUARY, ACCORDING TO THE FEB. 6 REPORT RELEASED BY THE U.S LABOR DEPARTMENT. SINCE JANUARY 2008, EMPLOYMENT IN NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION HAS FALLEN BY 57,000 JOBS OR 6.8 PERCENT.

MEANWHILE, THE RESIDENTIAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LOST 20,300 IN JANUARY AND 137,200 JOBS ON A YEAR-OVER-YEAR BASIS. TOTAL PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION, WHICH INCLUDES SPECIALTY TRADE CONTRACTORS, LOST 111,000 LAST MONTH AND 747,000 JOBS SINCE LAST JANUARY 2008, WHICH MAKES THIS THE LARGEST YEAR-OVER-YEAR LOSS SINCE 1943.

OVERALL, EMPLOYERS SHED 598,000 JOBS IN JANUARY AND 3,500,000 ON A YEAR-OVER-YEAR BASIS, WITH ABOUT A HALF OF THOSE LOSSES OCCURRING IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS. THE NATION'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE CONTINUES TO CLIMB AND NOW STANDS AT 7.6 PERCENT FOR JANUARY 2009.

WHAT THIS MEANS

"REMARKABLY, THE MOST RECENT JOBS NUMBERS COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE," SAID ASSOCIATED BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS (ABC) CHIEF ECONOMIST ANIRBAN BASU. "DURING THE FINAL TWO MONTHS OF 2008, NET JOB LOSS NATIONALLY HAD ALREADY SURPASSED THE 500,000 MARK. MANY ECONOMISTS THOUGHT THAT THE JOBS REPORT FOR JANUARY COULD BE MUCH WORSE GIVEN THE FACT THAT MANY EMPLOYERS ARE INCLINED TO DELAY LAYOFF ANNOUNCEMENTS UNTIL AFTER CHRISTMAS.

"HOWEVER, THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS INITIAL ESTIMATES FOR JANUARY INDICATE THAT LABOR MARKET CONDITIONS ARE DETERIORATING STEADILY BUT NOT NECESSARILY DRAMATICALLY," ADDED BASU. "NONETHELESS, THERE IS CERTAINLY THE POTENTIAL FOR DRAMATIC DETERIORATION IN MONTHLY JOB LOSSES THROUGH THE INITIAL MONTHS OF 2009.

"BY CONTRAST, THE JOBS NUMBERS FOR NONRESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION DID DETERIORATE DRAMATICALLY IN JANUARY," STATED BASU. "THE PACE OF JOB LOSSES WAS MORE THAN IT WAS IN DECEMBER, AN IMPLICATION OF THE DEEPER IMPACTS THE CREDIT CRUNCH IS HAVING ON THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

"THIS DECLINE HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY SOME ECONOMIST AS BOTTOMLESS, MEANING THAT ANY HOPE FOR NEAR TERM STABILITY IN CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IS NOT YET VISIBLE," SAID BASU. "ABC HAS WARNED OF THIS FOR MONTHS AND THE DATA CONFIRM THAT THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY MAY BE DETERIORATING AT AN ACCELERATING PACE.

"FOR THOSE FIRMS THAT CONTINUE TO ENJOY STEADY OR GROWING BUSINESS, THERE IS A RARE OPPORTUNITY TO RECRUIT SKILLED TALENT IN LARGE NUMBERS," ADDED BASU. "CONTRACTORS ALSO HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO LIMIT HOURLY LABOR COST GROWTH IN WAYS THAT THEY HAVE NOT IN THE PAST."

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CLICK [HERE](#).
SOURCE: ABC NATIONAL**