



CHICAGO DRUG & CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED IN 1900 – OUR 123RD YEAR

Chris Wrobel, President
Derek Paulowski, Vice President/Treasurer
Jeff Nelson, Secretary

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NEWSLETTER ■ JANUARY 2023

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President's Message

Message from 2022 CD&CA President, Bob Miller

Cheers!

As we close out 2022, I want to thank you all for your membership. I appreciate the help at our events this year for those that were able to volunteer!

2022 was a transitional year, as we tried to get things “back to normal” after dealing with the pandemic the previous couple years.

I would also like to offer a special welcome to the following new CD&CA members:

- **Kathleen Stark**, Solo Labs
- **Keri Heenan**, Estes Express
- **Jerry Colarossi**, TLC Ingredients
- **Chris Fairchild**, Alexander Chemical

It was a privilege being the CD&CA President this year and I look forward to having Chris Wrobel heading our Association in 2023.

Again, thanks to the Board and the committees for your support this year and I look forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

Regards,
Bob Miller
2022 President

Lou DePasquale • Dan Berg • Ryan Sheets • Jim McHatton • Katie Thompson • Cheryl DePasquale • Tommy Turriff • Judi Swain
Ex Officio: Bob Miller

Dawn Drass, Executive Administrator
DIRECTORS 2023

Message from 2023 CD&CA President, Chris Wrobel

Dear Chicago Drug & Chemical Association Members:

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and was able to spend time with your families and loved ones.

I want to thank Bob Miller, our CD&CA President in 2022; our Executive Administrator, Dawn Drass, and their committee for organizing and hosting our CD&CA Holiday Masquerade Party/Casino Night Event, held Friday December 9th; thank you to all CD&CA members and their guests who attended; everyone had a great time!

I look forward to serving as our CD&CA President this coming year and I thank our other CD&CA members serving as officers, committee chairs and committee members, in order to plan and host events for the membership this year. I also want to recognize and thank the members of our board of directors who provide us guidance and direction from their past years of service as officers of the CD&CA. I am excited to work with this dynamic group on our Board:

- **Derek Paulowski**, Vice President / Treasurer
- **Jeff Nelson**, Secretary and Co-Chair – Membership
- **Lou DePasquale**, Chair - Membership
- **Dan Berg**, Chair – Golf
- **Ryan Sheets**, Co-Chair – Golf
- **Jim McHatton**, Co-Chair – Golf
- **Katie Thompson**, Chair – Programs & Luncheon
- **Cheryl DePasquale**, Co-Chair – Programs & Luncheon
- **Tommy Turriff**, Chair – Publicity
- **Judi Swain**, Co- Chair – Publicity
- **Bob Miller**, Ex-Officio and Chair, Education
- **Dawn Drass**, Executive Administrator

As we start the new year of 2023, I would ask that all current members of the CD&CA to invite someone you interact with in the chemical industry to join the Chicago Drug & Chemical Association. Our Executive Administrator, Dawn Drass, and Membership Committee Chair, Lou DePasquale, are happy to help with any information you need. We want to grow our group this year and the industry networking benefits that the Chicago Drug & Chemical Association can offer to its members.

In the near future we will share information and dates on our upcoming events planned as we start 2023.

Until then, Cheers!

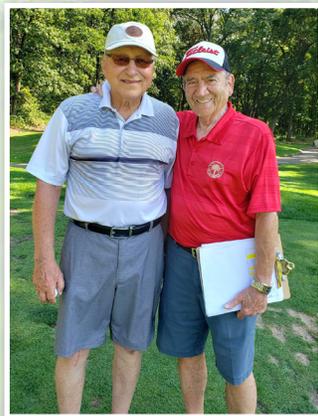
Chris Wrobel
President
Chicago Drug & Chemical Association

August Golf Outing

On August 22nd (remember when it used to be warm??), we had a great golf outing at Arrowhead Golf Course (Wheaton) with a modified shotgun start. Arrowhead is one of the best public courses in the area, and they did not disappoint our group! Since everyone finished around the same time, we were able to go right to dinner, for a fantastic buffet spread! “Hole in Two” and “Straightest Drive” contests helped keep things interesting. The weather was perfect and Golf Chair and Co-Chair, Jeff Nelson (VLS Environmental) and Dan Berg (Producers Chemical), worked well with Arrowhead to put on a first-class event!



**CD&CA Golf
Outing
Arrowhead GC
August 22, 2022**



*Pictured (clockwise):
Lou DePasquale (Acid Products)
and daughter Cheryl DePasquale
(TLC Ingredients), Tommy
Turrieff and Jerry Colarossi (TLC
Ingredients) and guests, a view
of dinner, including Megan
Peboontom (Ravago), “that guy”
(cool shorts!), Bob Miller (DuBois
Chemicals), Derek Paulowski
(Columbus Chemical) and Brian
Shannon (Producers Chemical),
Jeff Nelson and Dan Berg,
Katie Thompson (ECP), Megan
Peboontom, Derek Paulowski
(Columbus Chemical), your
CD&CA Board hard at work!,
and Dave Ryniec (LA Chemical)
and Lou D.*

REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Axe Throwing Event

A great time was had by all – and an excellent turn out – for the axe-throwing event on September 22nd! We had the place to ourselves at Master Axe Bolingbrook. After a quick tutorial, we grabbed a beverage and threw axes for two hours (Boy, were my arms tired!) This event was so popular, that we will be sure to repeat it! It was especially great to see so many guests at this fun event!



AXE THROWING

MASTER AXE
BOLINGBROOK

22 SEPTEMBER 2022



Pictured (clockwise): President Bob Miller (look at that concentration!), Jill Reese (Seeler Industries), Tommy Turriff, Jeff Nelson, Jim McHatton (EMCO Chemical), Jerry Colarossi, Dawn Drass (Rowell Chemical), Derek Paulowski, Katie Thompson, Dennis Grimm (Rowell Chemical), Stacy O'Connor (ECP) and many guests!

REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Annual Meeting and Silent Auction

CD&CA's Annual Meeting was again held at LaGrange Country Club, on 10/27/22. During the Annual Meeting, we voted in the new Board Directors and Officers, as well as receiving an annual update from our 2022 President, **Bob Miller** (DuBois Chemicals). Bob called up Former President, **Megan Peboontom** (Ravago), to award her Honorary Membership and to thank her for TWO years as our CD&CA President! Bob then turned over the microphone to 2023 President, **Chris Wrobel** (Univar Solutions). We also honored

John Eterno (retired) with the *CD&CA Lifetime Achievement Award* (see article herein), with a presentation, which was witnessed by John's wife and family members.

LGCC served us a wonderful meal in this iconic setting and many of us got a great head start on our Holiday shopping at the Silent Auction. All of the items sold at the event were donated by many generous sponsors. Over \$11,500 was raised at the auction support CD&CA's Education programs!

continued, next page



REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Annual Meeting and Silent Auction, continued

CD&CA Education Chair (and President 2020-2021), Megan Peboontom, gave an exciting Education Committee report! Megan and her committee have been busy this year and decided to fund various worthy programs in 2022:

- Of the fourteen stellar students that submitted applications for the CD&CA Members Only Scholarship program, the Committee decided to award seven scholarships, ranging from \$500–\$2,500, for a total of \$9,000!! Congratulations to all of the winners!
- Jackie Lomax, Founder/Executive Director of Girls4Science, was on hand to accept a grant of \$2,000 and to tell the attendees about this great organization. They used the grant to pay for girls to take a tour of the International Museum of Surgical Science in Chicago. (Cool, right?!?) Girls4Science does such great work! To find out more about their mission and programs, go to: <http://www.girls4science.org/index.html>
- CD&CA also presented a grant of \$2,000 to support the Science programs at the Marine Leadership Academy (MLA), which is a high school in Chicago Public Schools (CPS). Specifically, MLA teachers requested that CD&CA purchase on their behalf some DNA kits and some melting point apparatus sets. #STEMAwesome!! Drew Grimm, husband of CD&CA member, **Heather Grimm** (Essential Ingredients), teaches at MLA and two teachers were present to accept the grant. To learn more about this unique CPS school, check it out at: <https://marine.cps.edu/>



REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

Casino Night and Masquerade Ball

As the old song says: "Oh, What a Night!" The CD&CA Casino Night and Masquerade Ball was held on 12/09/22 at the Marriott O'Hare! Attendees had a great time playing with "funny money" at the casino game tables and a cool masquerade theme added a touch of intrigue to the evening! DJ Alex Dingmann spun the tunes all evening and kept everyone entertained! Partygoers were "rollin' 'em hot" at the Craps table, predicting the resting place of the "little ball" at the Roulette table and trying their luck at the Blackjack and Poker tables! Donations were also collected at check in for "Toys for Tots". The Marriott provided a delicious feast, including a tempting, festive sweets table! A raffle was held and six lucky attendees won cool prizes.



In the Ryniec family it's "hail to the orange," as three generations of Ryniecs have been student athletes at the University of Illinois in Champaign. Their legacy started in the 1950's, when **Lou Ryniec** headed downstate for Illinois baseball. His younger brothers, David and Al, followed in his footsteps on the baseball diamond in the 1960's and 1970's. In the 1980's, David's son, Tim, also wore the orange and blue for Illini baseball. The third generation is represented today by Tim's daughter, Abby, currently a member of Illinois softball.

Dan Berg (Producers Chemical) just got back from his honeymoon in Kauai! He and his wife, Jackie, visited the Waimea Canyon, took a catamaran to see the Na Pali Coast, visited Kauai Coffee Company, and went tubing down an old sugar plantation irrigation system. They also enjoyed the food and drinks there – eating a ton of seafood, acai bowls, and had plenty of Mai Thais and Piña Coladas. When they weren't out exploring the island, they spent the rest of their time hanging out at Poipu Beach.

Dan and Jackie Berg



One of CD&CA's newest members, **Jerry Colarossi** (TLC Ingredients), is leaving soon for a tropical, 2-week vacation to Hawaii. Jerry and his wife, Kimberly, are big fans of Maui and rumor is they may be adding a helicopter ride over an active volcano to their typical schedule of golf, poolside and fine dining! Color me jealous!

John LeDonne (Innophos) is really enjoying being a grandpa! His wife, Star, takes care of their granddaughter twice per week, so John gets plenty of hugs throughout the week. Over Christmas, he was excited to get in some cuddles with his grandson, who was in from out of town. What a sweet guy!

Judi Swain (Columbus Chemical) reports that her oldest daughter, Kyla, got engaged this year to her beau, Connor. They plan to wed in Fall 2024, after Kyla's graduation from Trinity Medical School. Wow!

Proud grandpa, **Pete Lorusso** (TLC Ingredients), reports that his granddaughter, Ashley, has been accepted at the University of Tennessee, where she will likely attend in the Fall, unless she is admitted at her top choice, Clemson. Can't wait to hear where this bright young lady will end up for her college career!

Well, the **DePasquale's** (**Lou**, Acid Products, and **Cheryl**, TLC Ingredients) are a tight-knit clan! There is so much news, that we will share some now and save more for the next newsletter:

- Lou's granddaughter, Natalie DePasquale, graduated from the University of Missouri with a Journalism Degree and a Minor in Business. She joined the Executive Development with Macy's, where she became a store Manager in less than 5 years. She has been chosen to open the first Market by Macy's in the Chicagoland area and Macy's Backstage for the whole company and the Grand Opening will be in October 2023.
- Cora Pauli, Cheryl's oldest daughter, graduated from Butler/Purdue University as part of their dual program with a Bachelors in Electrical Engineering and Mathematics. She is working for HBK Engineering doing electrical distribution design and project management, as well as designing solar and electric vehicle projects. She just completed her Professional Engineering (PE) license test and is approved in 24 states.
- Erica Pauli Brouette, Cheryl's second daughter, attended Moraine Valley Community College and graduated with an Associate's in Science Radiology and has worked for 12 years as a Radiographer in Orthopedics and Pediatrics. She and Rick have been married for 6 years and last September she made Lou a great grandfather with two beautiful twin girls.
- As long as we are talking about grandchildren, Connie's daughter, Sarah, and her husband, David, made Connie a grandmother, when Elise Atkinson was born in April 2021 and we just celebrated her 1st Birthday this year. Lou's total grandchildren count is now 6 (and counting).

BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member Bios

Next up in our “Meet the Board Members” series is the 2023 CD&CA President, **Chris Wrobel**. Chris works for Univar Solutions, as the Sales Manager-CASE-Lower Midwest.

Chris and his wife, Meg, have been married for over 35 years and have 7 boys – Andrew, Sean, Thomas, Patrick, Jacob, Samuel, Joseph – and one Grandson, Jackson. Chris says, “Yes, we are Catholic; yes, we wanted to have a girl; yes, all single births and yes, with the same woman (it’s amazing the questions we have gotten over the years...LOL!)”

Thanks to his Polish heritage, he loves bratwursts, Polish and Italian Sausages! Chris has been heard to say: “It’s nice to be important, but it’s more important to be nice” and “Follow the Golden Rule”. Chris and Meg enjoy hanging out at the Sandos Resorts in Mexico (Playa del Carmen and Cabo San Lucas, especially). Chris is a “family man”; in addition to spending time with his family, he enjoys golf, smoking meat, sampling bourbon, and an occasional cigar – with moderation being the key! Unfortunately, his newest hobby is PT – stretching to deal with osteoarthritis in his knees (the joy of turning 60 last year!)

Chris and Meg are very involved in their Catholic faith and are very active members of their parish, Holy Spirit Catholic Community, where they sometimes run into fellow Naperville resident and Board member, Tommy Turriff.

Here’s a fun story about Chris! When he started in sales at CHEMCENTRAL back in 1984, he was still active with his music hobby, playing saxophone professionally for a few years after graduating from NIU and playing in one of the jazz ensembles and jazz combos there. One of Chris’s funniest stories was playing a gig in Milwaukee in February 1985 at the Milwaukee Athletic Club. They played a set of dinner music and some people came out to dance - and a few called out his name: they were people from the CHEMCENTRAL / Milwaukee sales team! Small World! It turned out they were playing for the Milwaukee Paint & Coatings Associations Valentine’s Day Dinner dance! The secret came out that day about his side hobby! Fortunately, it wasn’t a big deal to the company and he was able to keep his hobby going a few more years.

Dan Berg is an Account Executive at Producers Chemical - and he is your current Co-Chair for the Golf Committee for the CD&CA. Dan and his wife, Jackie, just bought their first apartment together in Chicago and the newlyweds just tied the knot in October 2022.

Dan loves to visit Northern Wisconsin or the U.P. Michigan, which are perfect places for fishing. He always likes getting out on the links. Dan is a Chicago sports super-fan: especially Cubs, Bulls and Bears!

At an all-you-can-eat buffet, Dan will probably reach for Pizza or BBQ (especially if it’s from Green Street Meats!). Dan says life ain’t worth living without coffee and Claritin (#SeasonalAllergiesSuck !) Dan also loves to cook. “I really enjoy making pizza from scratch and am constantly working on perfecting my sauce and crust.”

John Eterno

At the Annual Meeting on October 27, 2022, Lou DePasquale (last year's winner) proudly presented the CD&CA Lifetime Achievement Award to John Eterno. Here are a few highlights of John's career in the Chemical Industry and involvement in the CD&CA:

- In 1958 John graduated from Loyola University and later did post-graduate work at the University of Illinois.
- John was drafted by the US Army in 1959 and served for two years.
- In 1961, he started work at Kraft Foods. (Rumor is that he helped formulate Kraft Mac and Cheese!).
- In 1962, he went to work for Corn Products.
- One of the big events of John's life occurred in 1963, when he married Catherina. Eight children followed, with 16 grandchildren and five great grandchildren!
- The 1970's saw John working at Wilson Pharmaceutical and Stauffer Chemical.
- In 1982, he joined BASF, until he retired in 2006.
- Our honoree became a member of the Chicago Drug and Chemical Association in 1984.
- While on the Golf Committee, he helped develop the electronic spreadsheet to record the handicaps that was previously done manually.
- He was elected to the CD&CA Board of Directors in 1986 and became Co-chair and Chair of the Membership committee

John said: "Working on the membership committee and being co-chair/chair was an experience since most of the heads of companies wanted to be on that committee."

- John was later Golf Committee Chair and Co-Chair for many years and was awarded Honorary membership in the CD&CA in 2006.
- John has long since retired, but has continued to actively attend CD&CA functions, especially the golf outings with his son.

John has been a long-time supporter of the CD&CA. His award was well-deserved and applauded by all present. Congratulations to John and his family! And a special thanks to Former CD&CA President, John LeDonne (Innophos), for doing all the research on John Eterno's many contributions to the CD&CA.

Visit us on the web at:
www.cd-ca.org



CHICAGO DRUG & CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION

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- View our calendar of events
- Download membership forms
- Order CD&CA event tickets
- Catch the latest news
- Sign up for committees
- Submit Newsletter items
- Read up on CD&CA history



Chicago Drug & Chemical LinkedIn Group

We have created a group on LinkedIn for the CD&CA. It is a great way to have discussions, share information and stay in touch, etc. To join the group, please go to:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3775030>

To join the CD&CA group, you must be a member of LinkedIn. LinkedIn is free and setting up a new account only takes a few minutes. Please join the discussion on LinkedIn.

Welcome to Shutterfly

We have created a website called "Chicago Drug & Chemical Association" to share pictures with our members. Please check it out at

<https://CD&CA.shutterfly.com/pictures>

Shutterfly.

CHICAGO DRUG & CHEMICAL ASSOCIATION

