

Long Island



NECA

Wiring News Through The Electrical Construction Industry

FALL 2006

WIRE

Long Island Chapter National Electrical Contractors Assn. Inc., Hauppauge, New York 11788 631-291-9732

# Welcome To Our New Headquarters

— See page 2

Maryann Eigel greets visitors in the new reception area

Below, the Board of Directors gets down to business in the new conference and seminar rooms



Visit our website at [www.lineca.org](http://www.lineca.org)

## Our New Home at 200 Parkway Drive South, Suite 101, Hauppauge

The Long Island Chapter occupied its new offices in July and Chapter Manager Roy Richey and his assistant, Maryann Eagel quickly made the premises shipshape to handle the many activities of the organization. Featuring gleaming dark mahogany wainscoting throughout and furnished



with rich mahogany decor, the spacious quarters are full of eye appeal and offer a sense of space, order and stature to the facility.

Daylight filters into the working areas, and the conference room is fitted out with the latest electronics including a wall-mounted HDTV. The large seminar and meeting room also sports cutting edge electronics and wall-sized projection equipment.

Located off the Northern State Parkway and a short distance east from Sagtikos and Sunken Meadow Parkways, the headquarters offers easy access from all directions.

Don't wait until the next meeting, if you are in the area, stop in. •

### *In Memoriam*

## Maurice Glennon Vincent P. Sullivan

Vincent P. Sullivan of Vincon Electric Co. passed away on September 22, 2006. Mr. Sullivan was active in Long Island NECA and recently participated in the Chapter Golf Outing on June 6th when he was one of the raffle winners.

Maurice Glennon of Meeker Electric Co. passed away on September 10, 2006 in Naples, Fl. Mr. Glennon was a former president of the Long Island Chapter having served the organization in that position from 1958 through 1960.

The directors, officers and members of The Long Island Chapter extend condolences and our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.

## NECA Board of Directors

*President:* Donald Leslie, Jr.,  
Johnson Electrical Constr. Corp.

*Vice President:* Nicolaus Feldmann,  
Eldor Contracting Corporation

*Secretary:* Joseph Gathard,  
All Service Electric, Inc.

*Treasurer:* William Schumacher,  
Elemco Testing Co., Inc.

*Governor:* Robert Kohlmeyer,  
CRK Contracting of Suffolk, Inc.

*Directors:*

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Bana Electric Corporation

Stephen Cadieux,  
Roland's Electric Inc.

Paul Dunn,  
Mainline Electric Corporation

James Giorgio, Sr.,  
B&G Electrical Contractors of L.I., Inc.

Thomas Papa,  
LPC, Inc.

*Director Emeritus:*  
Frank Hutton,  
Hutton Electrical Contracting Corp.

*Chapter Manager:*  
Roy W. Richey

## Calendar

Check the Chapter  
Website for Industry  
Meetings and keep in  
mind...

NECA Eastern Region  
Annual Meeting will be  
held March 25-28, 2007  
at ATLANTIS, Paradise  
Island, Bahamas

## *From the President...*



Donald Leslie, Jr.

It seems to me that we just finished negotiating our contracts with IBEW Local Union #25, yet as I sit and look at my calendar for early 2007, which is “just around the corner,” I am reminded that we have contract negotiations coming up for four of our agreements.

The end of April 2007, our “A Construction Agreement for inside and outside work expires, our “Testing and Maintenance” Agreement expires, and our “Service Agreement” also expires. Looking forward to September 2007, our “Residential Agreement” will expire.

For those of you who chose NOT to get involved with the contract negotiations, this would seem like a trivial matter, just another day in the Electrical Construction Industry.

Nothing could be further from the truth! As a participant in contract negotiations since the early eighties with Local 25, I know the many, many hours, meetings, telephone conversations, discussions, and more recently e-mails, that it takes just to prepare for formal negotiations. The members of the various negotiating committees work very hard, and long...donating their time to the industry, away from their respective businesses, (and families many nights!) to prepare for, and then negotiate with the union, and hopefully agree on a fair and equitable contract for all involved on both sides of the negotiating table.

Why do they donate their time and efforts to these negotiations??? Well, comments I continually get range from “somebody has to do it”...to “It drastically effects the way I operate my business” ...to “It’s all part of the job of being in the industry, and participating in NECA, (who holds the bargaining rights with the IBEW).” But mostly, I believe, it’s because they are dedicated individuals that believe in this industry, and feel the need to give something back to the industry that allows us all to live and make our living in the industry we choose to pursue.

For those of you that are not involved, GET INVOLVED!! The contracts we negotiate effect your business too! All NECA members are welcome to join in negotiation, and any other committee they might have an interest in. So call the chapter office and volunteer your time — help negotiate the contract that effects the specific part of the electrical industry you choose to work in. If you are not a member of NECA, why not join? What we do, the contracts we negotiate, have a direct effect on you and your Electrical Contracting Business. Remember, it’s your future too!

For those of you already involved, I thank you on behalf of your fellow contractors. Your efforts Do Not go “unnoticed” or “unappreciated.”

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season (Yes...it “snuck up” on us AGAIN!!)

**Donald Leslie Jr.**  
President

## Northgate Electric's Marty Bass — *"The NECA Leadership is Superb."*

**B**efore you meet Marty Bass you should check out some of his "collectibles." Conveniently placed in his lobby at Northgate Electric, the company he founded 40 years ago, you will find a magnificent "wachamacallit."

**In the Spotlight**

Welded, melded, glued, and imbued with a master's touch of modish sculpture, stands what to Marty was a great find at a local shop. On it, or in it, appears an ancient typewriter, a model automobile, an engine, bicycle parts, wheels, a circuit board and



Above: the prized sculpture, How many things can you see in it?

Below and to the right: The largest private residence in America and it's dining room. It took six years and 31 electrical workers to do the job.



whatever else your mind conjures as soon as it settles down after the shock of seeing Marty's prize. When you go inside to visit him in his office, you may come upon him peering out from behind a hardened steel cell door that would be the envy of a Riker's Island security chief.

Marty begged for the door from a prop

man at Chelsea Pier where the television show Law and Order was being shot and Northgate was doing an installation. The door is actually made of balsa wood, but until you move it you would swear to its authenticity. The CEO of Northgate Electric has it hinged to his office entrance. Other items of quirky interest appear throughout Northgate's headquarters, too.

But despite his interest in unusual art, Marty is a serious, dedicated businessman who over 40 years has grown his business from a garage to be now housed in a new 10,000 square foot building with an adjacent warehouse and maintaining some 14 trucks in the field.

This second generation electrician served as an apprentice in Local 3 IBEW from 1957 to 1962, then worked as a journeyman, and in 1966 struck out on his own. Along the way he was joined by Alan Oleski, Northgate's field foreman who has been with the company almost since the beginning. Several others came on board some 30 years ago, including Al Greco, Senior Vice President, and Field Superintendent Joe Sigillo. Also a longtime staff member is Marty's daughter, Dina Bass who runs Northgate's office. Marty and his wife of 45 years have three children, but only Dina has followed into the family business.

During an interview, we usually ask what type of electrical work the company does; Commercial? Maintenance? Residential? At this last suggestion, Marty hesitates, then smiles. "We just completed a waterfront residence in Sagaponak that we worked on for six years," he says. This was the project of a lifetime. A 70,000 square foot oceanfront

house on 65 acres, complete with a huge playhouse, a garage large enough for 20 cars and several auxiliary buildings. The project peaked out at 31 electricians and is the largest private residence in the country.

As a union contractor, Northgate is signatory to Local 3, Local 25 and Local 164 (New Jersey) agreements. And as a

union contractor, Marty also brought his company into Long Island NECA, where he served two terms as president, and held positions on numerous committees.

Now very serious, in a tone that conveys concern, Marty says business today is "at best dangerous, (we're in) a highly competitive mode." He explains that union contractors have a level playing



Marty Bass and his daughter, Dina Bass. Dina runs the office at Northgate Electric.

field among themselves but non union and quasi union shops are undercutting the business which itself has slowed.

Of course, the workers are hit hard. "The union is attempting to help, more than in years gone by," he says. "And the NECA leadership is superb." A partnership has been created and implemented in labor/management relations that is helping both sides to survive, he explains. "So, as a contractor, you have to remain optimistic and sit and wait."

And maybe that's why Marty enjoys his unusual artifacts. After all, if you can be optimistic enough to make sense out of a complex sculpture of diverse elements such as adorns the lobby of Northgate's headquarters, you can be optimistic about something as simple as making a living. •

# Boasting the largest turnout in years, 35 Registered attendees from the Long Island Chapter participated in the 2006 NECA Convention & Trade Show in Boston .

Having missed the 2005 Convention, which was scheduled for New Orleans and preempted by Hurricane Katrina, Long Island Chapter members and their guests made the most of this year's event in Boston.

Highlighting the recreational portion was the Boston Duck Tour, a fun-filled amphibious ride, of-

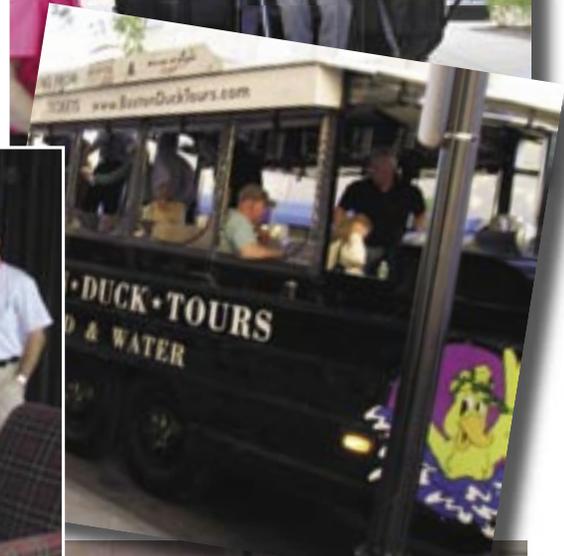


fering spectacular views of the Boston skyline from both land and on the Charles river, in a converted military DUKW.

As always, the Chapter dinner was an affair to remember. Thirty-eight members and guests enjoyed fine food and shared good times. Two outstanding

Apprentices who achieved high marks during their training attended as special guests of the Chapter.

Pictured below are l-r: Joseph Gathard, Secretary, LI Chapter, Stephen Andrezejewski (Apprentice), Ray Pomerico (Apprentice), Donald Leslie, Jr, Chapter President, Christopher Kelly, JATC Director.



# LI Chapter Golf Outing

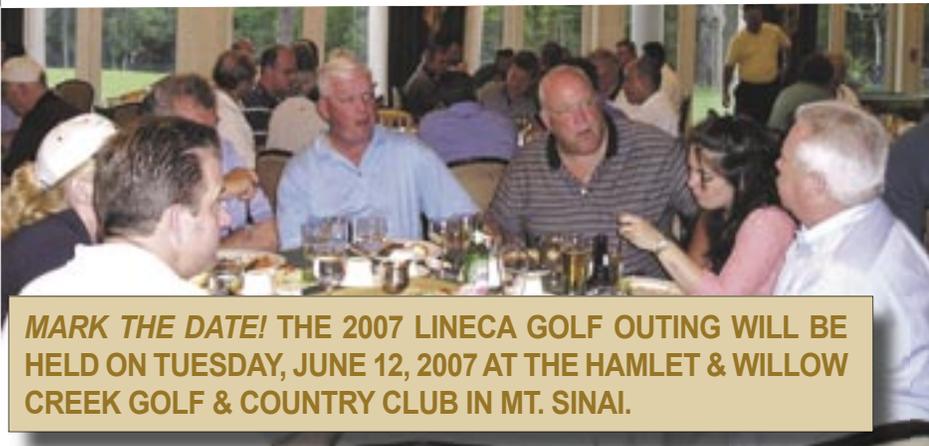
Some 120 golfers, members and guests, teed off on Tuesday, June 6th for the Long Island Chapter Golf Outing. Held at the Stonebridge Golf & Country Club in Hauppauge, good weather, camaraderie, a fine dinner plus a host of sponsors helped make this an all-in-all fine day. Thanks to Bob Mauchen for his great job as emcee of the affair. Raffle prizes were won by Bill Bradley, Vincent Sullivan, Roy Richey, and Jeff Smith.

*Other Honored Guests Attending were:*

Richard LaValle - Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
 Leslie Mitchell - Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
 Charles Bartha - Suffolk County Department of Public Works  
 Eugene Coughlin - Nassau County Department of Labor  
 Dean E. Bennett - Nassau County Office of Minority Affairs  
 Robert Dow - Suffolk County Department of Labor  
 William Baessler - Suffolk County Department of Consumer Affairs  
 Charles Gardner - Director Suffolk County Department of Consumer Affairs  
 Donald Fiore - Business Manager - Local Union No. 25, IBEW  
 John Gilday - Executive Director - Electrical Industry Board  
 Christopher Kelly - Director - Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee  
 Richard Ericson - Former Director, JATC and Former Business Agent  
 of Local Union No. 25, IBEW  
 Walter Kraker, Former Director, JATC and Former Business Agent  
 of Local Union No. 25, IBEW  
 Brian Conneely - Chapter Attorney - Rivkin Radler, LLP

Special thanks to these fine SPONSORS who helped make this fun Long Island Chapter event possible:

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**MARK THE DATE! THE 2007 LINECA GOLF OUTING WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007 AT THE HAMLET & WILLOW CREEK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB IN MT. SINAI.**