

Long Island

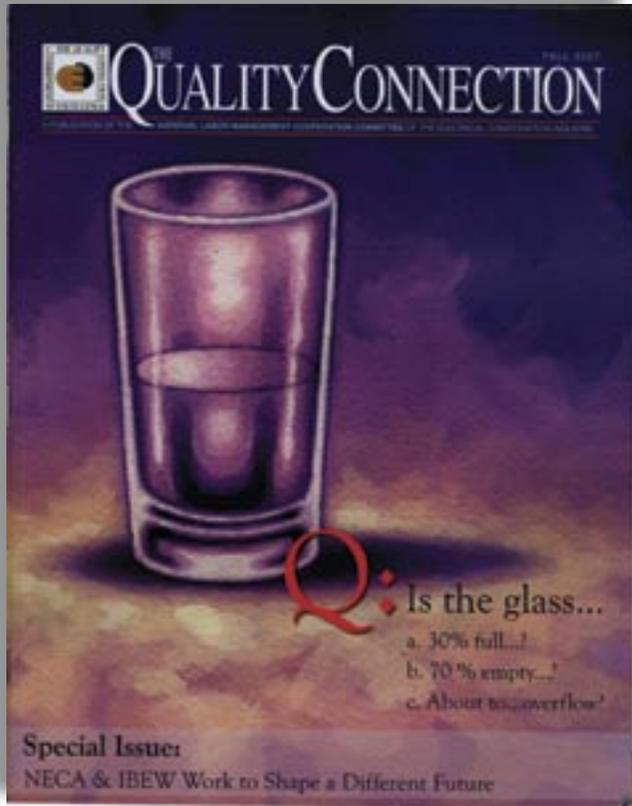
FALL 2007

# NECA

# WIRE

Wiring News Through The Electrical Construction Industry

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



## **The Quality Connection Publishes a Special Issue:**

### **“NECA & IBEW Work to Shape a Different Future.”**

#### **LI Chapter Offers Copies on Request**

The Fall 2007 issue of *The Quality Connection* magazine is dedicated to an exploration of how NECA and the IBEW are working to shape a new and different future. In his commentary contained in the publication, Edwin D. Hill, International President of the IBEW and NLMCC Trustee compares the old style with the newly successful, goal-oriented labor-management team activities of working together to meet challenges and solve problems. He sees a

bright future...as long as we don't drop the ball.



“This Issue Contains some of the best and most interesting information on our industry in many years,” says Chapter Manager

Roy Richey. “We are sending a letter to all Long Island contractors stressing the importance of these articles.”

Included in the issue are a variety of very motivating topics.

Among them are: *Helping The Customer To Succeed; Keeping The Big Picture In Focus; NEBF—Still Secure, But It Needs Your Help; What Is The Non-union Element Saying About Us And What Can We Learn From It?; Government Data Tables From Our Industry; The Future Of Organized Construction;*

*New Strategy For Unions; Marketing Efforts Of The NLMCC; The Need For Promoting IBEW/NECA Locally; Maintaining Competitive Edge In Training; and Key IBEW And NECA Websites,.*

The Long Island Chapter has obtained extra copies of this issue of *The Quality Connection* and is making them available at no charge. “We are glad to send them,” said Richey. Contact the Chapter office or go to the Chapter website at [www.lineca.org](http://www.lineca.org). to request a copy. •

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

**A**S THIS WILL BE MY “LAST” COLUMN IN THE WIRE, as President, so many things come to mind that should be said.

Actually, as I write this first draft, ( of which there are usually several...) I am sitting on a U.S. Air shuttle flight delayed on the tarmac at Ronald Regan National Airport, with several of my Board members, returning from yet another session of CIR, after successfully, ( as it turned out ) defending ourselves against the continuous grievances brought against the NECA Contractors by the local union, the very Contractors that are in “agreement” with them, that volunteer many hours of their own time to help resolve contract issues at the Electrical Industry Board, spend countless hours serving on the various trusts to make sure that the funds survive in this harsh environment that has haunted us for this past three years, the Contractors who sit on the JATC, not only interviewing the hundreds of “applicants” for each class, but that help keep the JATC functioning.

We, as NECA Contractors, negotiate the many NECA / IBEW local area contracts, including the “A” construction, maintenance, service, telephone, residential, and the testing and maintenance agreement, donating many hundreds of man hours to do so. And yet, in spite of the fact that our two national organizations “get it”... that they understand and have taken insightful steps to help our industry survive, help our contractors survive, which in turn, helps the union member through greater job opportunities, and ultimately, the union itself, to take back the market that has been lost or severely undermined by the non-union Contractors, the local union, unfortunately, just doesn’t “get it”... and continues to go after the very people that are in agreement with them! Hopefully, with the continued efforts of all the parties involved, we will be able to rectify this situation, and get on with the business at hand, that being the recovering, and growing of our market, of our industry, and showing our customers that we ARE the best for their projects.... bar none !

It’s hard to believe that I’ve sat as the President of this chapter for the three years already. Clearly, the support of my Executive Committee and the Board of Directors made those three years possible during one of the worst climates for business possible... three years of the worst unemployment in the local union history... three years of very little union electric work being done in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

I want to thank each and every Officer, Trustee, NECA member and our Chapter Manager for the hard work, support and time away from their own business to help keep this industry headed in the right direction. Granted, there have been many “speed bumps” along the way, may obstacles thrown at us, and I am proud of the job done, and the progress made by these hard working, dedicated people.

NECA and the IBEW on a national level, have been taking steps to enhance the NECA / IBEW relationship... as partners in an industry that needs to change to be able to address the challenges, the economics, and the ever changing landscapes of the electrical contracting industry. I applaud their efforts, their foresight and

## *From the President...*



Donald Leslie, Jr.

their initiative.

We, on a local level, need to now continue that initiative...to strengthen a severely damaged relationship and work together towards a mutual goal... rebuilding the NECA / IBEW relationship on Long Island, recapturing

our work place, our market, and in so doing put our unemployed journeymen back to work. The local Union, and ALL of it’s members, NEED to know that we, the NECA Contractors are not the enemy, that we are all in this together, and that it is only “TOGETHER” that we will prevail and flourish as an industry. We, the NECA contractors, cannot do it without the IBEW, and the IBEW cannot do it without the NECA contractors.

If you have followed my “President’s Message” through my tenure as President you know that I have always advocated that “change” is not a bad thing... if you recognize the need for it and act on it in a timely fashion. Also, the NECA / IBEW relationship, while admittedly rocky at times, is one that needs to be continued and strengthened in order for our industry to survive. And “Survive” is one thing, especially as a Contractor, you learn to do, and learn to do well. As our leaderships change, and our relationships change, we must always keep in mind that our “other partner” in this, that being the OWNERS of our projects, our CUSTOMERS... continue to look to us as an industry, to be fluid, to be able to change to meet today’s challenges, and to be ready for the future challenge that is right around the corner. WE MUST, if we are to survive as an industry, change the way we do things, so that we can continue to meet the project owners needs, and show them that the NECA / IBEW TEAM, is ready, willing and able to meet and surpass any challenge that lies ahead.

Though I will be leaving as “President”, I have been elected to the position, and will remain involved, as the Chapter Governor for 2008, a position being vacated by Bob Kohlmeyer, one in which he did an outstanding job...”THANK YOU” Bob, for all your hard work and assistance, BOTH to me, and to this industry over the past three years.

As you know, the NECA Chapter elections were held at our November meeting, and the new Board of Directors, as well as the Officers that will be elected at the December board meeting, will take office as of January 1, 2008. I am confident that those elected to the Board in November will be as hard working and

*Continued on page 5*

## Maryann Eagel Celebrates 25 Years With Long Island Chapter

As the Long Island Chapter, NECA prepares to commemorate its 60th Anniversary in 2008, congratulations go to Maryann Eagel on celebrating 25 years as the Chapter's Administrative Assistant. Maryann joined

these organizations and appreciates their courtesy when she deals with them.

Maryann has witnessed changes in work activities such as implementing the use of computers, fax machines, e-mail. She recalls how petrified she was when she initially had to learn to use the computer, but through hard work and training she has become pretty good at it.

She has also been involved with the preparation for several contract negotiations, which include doing the minutes and on occasion submissions of briefs to the Council on Industrial Relations.

The Long Island Chapter, NECA also has had several locations, which included Amityville, Commack and now the current location on New Highway in Hauppauge. Maryann enjoys the Hauppauge location the most, which is by far more pleasant and impressive than the previous offices. She enjoys the beautiful décor with deep cherry woods and the airiness of the first floor windowed setting where she gets to see people come and go as they pass the office suite.

"I don't know how I would get it all done without her," says Roy Richey. "Maryann does a great job for us." "Working for the NECA Members has been a wonderful experience for me. I look forward to many more years working for such an outstanding organization. Also, Roy is a great boss and I hope that he continues to work with me until I retire." How about another 25 years, Maryann! •



the organization on October 11, 1982, when the Chapter Manager was Barry French. Since then she has served the organization working with Chapter Managers Andy Nowotny, Michael Gilchrist and currently, Roy Richey. Maryann also works on the National Electrical Benefit Fund (NEBF) and the Administration Maintenance Fund (AMF).

During the time Maryann has worked for NECA, the Chapter has had nine Presidents and Governors, as well as different members on the Board of Directors. She has known five Business Managers of Local Union No. 25, IBEW, two Executive Directors of the Electrical Industry Board and three Directors from the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee. She enjoys working with the staff from each of

### Start Planning Now!



**October 4—7  
McCormick Center**



**Distance Runner.** During the NECA National Convention in San Francisco, Chapter Manager Roy Richey took time out with his son Steven, (pictured with Roy, above) to run the San Jose Rock'N Roll Half Marathon. 11,000 runners participated. Roy placed third in his division.

## Charles J. Hoyler Electrical Contractor, Inc.

Long Island NECA members attending this year's National Convention in San Francisco appeared to gravitate toward athletics. A large group got hold of bicycles and peddled over the Golden Gate bridge, Chapter Manager Roy Richey found his way to San Jose to join with his son Steven in running a half marathon, and, when things got quiet, Charlie Hoyler slipped away to the ocean and went surfing.

### In the Spotlight

That might be expected of Charlie Hoyler, who, together with Jill, his wife of 30 years, has a love affair with the water. An athletic family, the Hoylers, including sons Charles J. IV and Jonathan, are all avid boaters, surfers, swimmers and whatever else will get them onto or into the water. They even have a Black Lab (excellent water dog).

Charlie and Jill work together as the owner/operators of Charles J. Hoyler Electrical Contractor, Inc., a small, family run business in Babylon providing commercial, residential, and maintenance services in Nassau and Suffolk. Their son Charles IV is in the Local 25 apprentice program and currently works with them.

Like many of our members, Charlie began his career as an electrician with Local 25 and went on to open his own shop. That was in 1987 and two years later he joined NECA. He has been active in the organization ever since. He serves on the Residential and Service Committee and is one of three representatives to the New York State Association of Electrical Contractors and is on the Board of Directors of that group. He values his NECA relationships and has found that he can always depend on other members for help when needed.

Jill, who has worked with Charlie for the past 15 years, has a somewhat unusual background. She is the daughter of former U.S. Congressman James R. Grover and has fond memories of her youth, standing on the floor in the House of Representatives, visiting the White House, and meeting many famous people. Recently, her father gave her a box of old memorabilia and Jill and Charlie are planning to mount some of the material for display in their home.

As we all know, today's economy and the mortgage crisis have held back many projects, and like other contractors, Charlie Hoyler has certainly felt the pinch. But he is still moving forward on a host of smaller commercial jobs and is looking ahead to a renewed vigor in Long Island's growth.

Meanwhile, there is fun to be had. Frostbiting is terrific on the Great South Bay, and, since they can't always be on the water, platform tennis has become another favorite sport. •

*Jill and Charlie Hoyler  
arrive for the NECA  
National Convention in  
San Francisco in October.*

*Other photos from the  
convention are on page 6*



## President's Message

from page 2

committed to this industry, as the previous board members and officers, that I had the privilege to work with for the past three years, were.

I also want to thank our National staff for their help, support and guidance over the past three years. Geary Higgins, Rich Parenti and Biff Jones have been there ready, willing and able to assist us and guide us through some of the many obstacles and very trying situations that have come up and continue to arrive on a daily basis. Also, there are many other NECA staff members that do so much for this industry by supplying needed information, setting up meetings, conventions and educational

seminars, coordinating our efforts on Capital Hill in Washington and locally, and studying our industry, it's needs, practices and future needs... to ALL of you –“Thank You”... we appreciate the tremendous job you all do on our behalf.

As I leave the office of President, I hope that I leave the organization in a somewhat better state than when I came in...but I guess only the Chapter members can judge that.

I thank all of you for the privilege of serving as president, and hope that my term as “Governor” will be progressive and a productive one.

I would like to take this time to wish all of you, a very Happy and Healthy Holiday Season, and a Prosperous New Year !!! •

## 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:* **Paul Dunn**  
Mainline Electric Corporation

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

*Directors:*

**Michael Bender**,  
Bana Electric Corporation

**Stephen Cadieux**,  
Roland's Electric Inc.

**John Casciano**  
A.S.R. Electrical Contracting, Inc.

**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**



**THE LI CHAPTER, NECA 2008 INSTALLATION DINNER** will be held at Oheka Castle on Saturday, January 12, 2008. Among the honorees will be Robert Kohlmeyer who is completing his term as Governor of the Chapter.



*Hilton Waikoloa Village®  
Hawaii's Big Island*

## 2008 NECA Eastern Region Annual Meeting

March 9 – 12, 2008

Hilton Waikoloa Village  
Waikoloa, Hawaii

## Calendar

### Meeting Dates

#### Board Meeting

December 20, 2007 (3rd Thursday)

#### Installation Dinner

January 12, 2008

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

2008 Eastern Region Annual Meeting  
will be held March 9-12, 2008 at the  
Hilton Waikoloa Village, Waikoloa,  
Hawaii

#### NECA 2008 Convention and Show

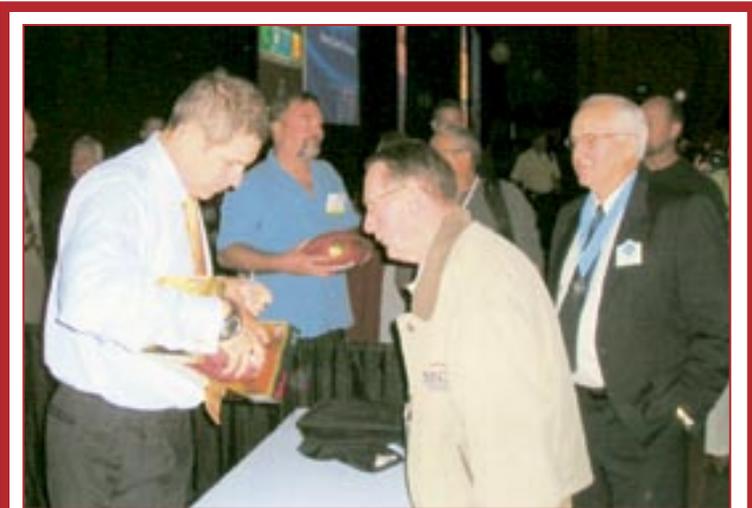
October 4-7 at the McCormick Center,  
Chicago, IL

# NECA National Convention in San Francisco

The Long Island Chapter was well represented at the NECA National Convention at San Francisco's Moscone Center in October. There was much business to accomplish and many sights to experience. The kick-off presentation, "Huddle Up," was an inspired talk given by Steve Young, former quarterback of the San Francisco 49er's. The thirty eight people attending the Long Island Chapter Dinner were treated to spectacular views from the Carnelian Room, 52 floors above the city overlooking the bay.



*Taking advantage of a great opportunity and a beautiful day, six NECA members enjoyed a bike ride over the Golden Gate Bridge. Shown are left to right: Joseph Crennan, Apprentice; Mike Daly, J.P. Daly & Sons; Donal Morrissey, Apprentice; Robert Kohlmeyer, CRK Contracting; Don Leslie, Jr., Johnson Electric; Chris Kelly, Director, JATC.*



*Chapter Manager Roy Richey was among those lining up for an autographed football, hand signed by Steve Young.*

