

Long Island

SUMMER 2010

NECA WIRE

Wiring News Through The Electrical Construction Industry

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



**NECA 2010
Eastern Region
Annual Meeting
Photos on page 5**



Mangano Expresses Interest In Legislation Support At LI NECA Membership Meeting

Long Island NECA president Nicolaus Feldmann (left) with Nassau County Executive Edward Mangano at the April 22nd general membership meeting at the Carlyle on the Green at Bethpage State Park. Mr. Mangano was a guest at the meeting.

The Nassau County Executive expressed support for the Chapter's goal of having one Nassau County electrical license that would replace the current, confusing hodgepodge system of more than 20 licenses now required throughout the County. He subsequently met with Chapter representatives to help formulate a replacement plan.

Visit our website at www.lineca.org

From the President...



Nicolaus Feldmann

Recently, Local 25 members voted on a by-law change to institute a “Recovery Agreement” on L.I.

This change was directed by IBEW President, Edwin Hill and is to be instituted in all Local Union Construction Divisions throughout the country. Ed Hill has taken a leadership position in making changes that will help NECA contractors and their IBEW employees capture and expand work that has been lost or abandoned by the organized Electrical Industry. National NECA and the IBEW leadership have collaborated on this initiative.

The agreement is expected to contain a competitive wage package including healthcare, NEBF, CW/CE Classifications, referral language and training.

The final details are being reviewed and discussed on a Local level and the agreement will be forthcoming.

— **Nicolaus Feldmann**

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NECA Board of Directors

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 Eldor Contracting Corporation

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Charles Gardner

The National Electrical Contractors Association is the voice of the \$130 billion industry responsible for lighting, power, and communication systems in buildings and communities across the United States. NECA's national office and 119 local chapters advance the electrical contracting industry through advocacy, education, research, and standards development. NECA celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2001.

NECA is dedicated to enhancing the industry through continuing education, labor relations, current information and promotional activities. It is the voice of the electrical contracting industry, working to promote higher standards, quality workmanship and training for a skilled workforce.

Legislative Report

By Charles Gardner

Chapter Supports A10248

The Chapter has been working with the Plumbing Contractors Association of LI in regard to proposed New York State legislation (Assembly Bill A10248; Senate Bill S7137) that would require all electrical and plumbing contractors working on school buildings to be licensed if the buildings are located in areas where a licensing authority has been established. **If there is no local licensing authority, there is no impact on a school district.**

The Suffolk County Electrical Contractors Association and the Suffolk County Electrical Licensing Board have pledged their support. We have also contacted the Nassau-Suffolk School Board Association; the State Commissioner of Education; Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, Chair of the State Education Committee; and others asking for their support. The sponsors are Assemblyman Sweeney and Senator Foley. We are asking members to contact any or all of the above to express support for this legislation.

The following is our memo of support:

This bill would require that all electrical and plumbing contractors working on school buildings be licensed if the school buildings are located in areas where a licensing authority has been established. If there is no local licensing authority, there is no impact on a school district.

Unlicensed contractors are able to underbid licensed contractors. Many times they do not have the requisite insurance or pay proper payroll taxes. By not meeting these and other requirements that legitimate businesses comply with, the costs are less for unlicensed contractors. The cost to school districts that use unlicensed contractors can appear to be less but will usually wind up costing more due to shoddy work, overruns and change orders. Improper installation, repair and

improvement work done by unlicensed contractors may create hazardous conditions and unlicensed contractors are not answerable to any local enforcing authorities.

This legislation would afford taxpayers who live in these areas the same protections for work being done on buildings where their children are educated that those taxpayers enjoy when contracting for work on their homes. Licensed contractors need to meet predetermined standards necessary for the protection of the public and there is an assurance of a high level of public safety and consumer protection. There is an assurance that taxpayer dollars are going to be spent on competent, qualified contractors with demonstrated experience and skills. School districts and their constituents can be confident that all required insurance is in effect – workers' compensation, liability and property damage and, further, that licensing boards will be notified of any termination of a licensed contractor's insurance by the insurance companies.

Licensees are held responsible for incompetence or fraud and are liable for penalties. Licensing boards

maintain records of all licensees and any interested party can review their history of violations and/or complaints.

*Unqualified people should not be practicing as electricians or plumbers, especially in our schools. Our school districts should be required to use contractors who meet all of the relevant standards that a system of licensing insures. Licensure is a fair and effective method to insure all of the above and adds an extra layer of protection for our taxpayers, school staff and students. **NONE OF THE ABOVE IS ASSURED IF THE CONTRACTOR IS UNLICENSED.** •*

Calendar

Meeting Dates

Board Meeting

August 19 (3rd Thursday)

Board and

General Membership Meetings

September 16 (3rd Thursday)

October 21 (3rd Thursday)

November 18 (3rd Thursday)

NECA Golf Outing

September 28, 2010

Hamlet Willow Creek Golf & CC

NECA 2010 Convention & Show

October 2 – 5, 2010 Boston, MA



**Make Reservations
Now**



**Convention & Trade Show
OCTOBER 2-5, 2010**



A rendering of the new Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex Now Under Construction in Shirley. One of a number of local projects Hedlund Electrical Corporation is involved with.

L.I. National Wildlife Refuge Complex Stars In Hedlund Electrical's Growth

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act gave \$3 billion to the Department of the Interior. Of that amount, \$280 million in funding goes to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service nationally. On Long Island, the Service has received \$9.775 million to construct a visitor center and headquarters for the Long Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex. The new energy-efficient facility, located at Wertheim National Wildlife Refuge in Shirley, N.Y. will be a hub for 10 national wildlife refuge areas located within a 125-mile area.

This 17,000 square-foot building is expected to open in the Fall of 2011. Hedlund Electrical Corporation of Mount Sinai has contracted for the electrical work. A plum for Hedlund? Yes. A result of hard work? Absolutely.

As with many electrical contracting companies, Hedlund Electrical Corporation had its beginnings as the idea of a working electrician. Christian Hedlund is from a long line of union electricians. His grandfather, Rudy Hedlund was a charter member of Local 25, IBEW. Christian's father, also Rudy Hedlund, now retired after 42 years, was a Local 25 Journeyman who worked on the Shoreham nuclear plant. Christian followed the tradition. As an apprentice he started at the bottom, washing fixtures and making neon signs. He then spent five years with Hutton Electrical Contracting as a journeyman and rising to

foreman. Finally, Christian decided to become an entrepreneur and start his own company.

Hedlund Electrical began in 2002. With a lot of help from his wife, Sharon, Christian transformed the business from a small residential company to a larger, all commercial corporation, employing 28 full time people and fielding 7 fully stocked trucks operating all over Long Island.

Primarily an electrical construction contractor, Hedlund also works in low voltage, constructing and installing security, data and telephone systems. Much of the firm's work is in schools and nursing homes.

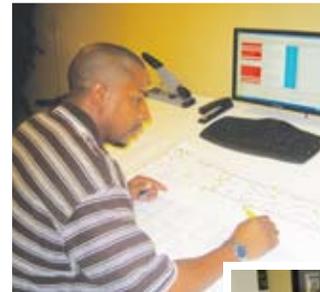
The company success can be measured largely from a dedication to seeking out opportunities and employing cost savings wherever they are available. Hedlund keeps its overhead low and operates efficiently during bad economic times.

Wanting to become involved in his industry as a whole, Christian joined NECA in 2007. He is now a director of the Long Island Chapter and recently became a trustee on the JATC board.

Christian and Sharon have two young sons, Christian, 4 and Jared 2.

The entire staff of Hedlund Electrical Corporation truly represents their motto which is "*Driven by Commitment.*"•

Christian Hedlund at work on a proposal in his office



Hedlund Estimator
Duane Lambert

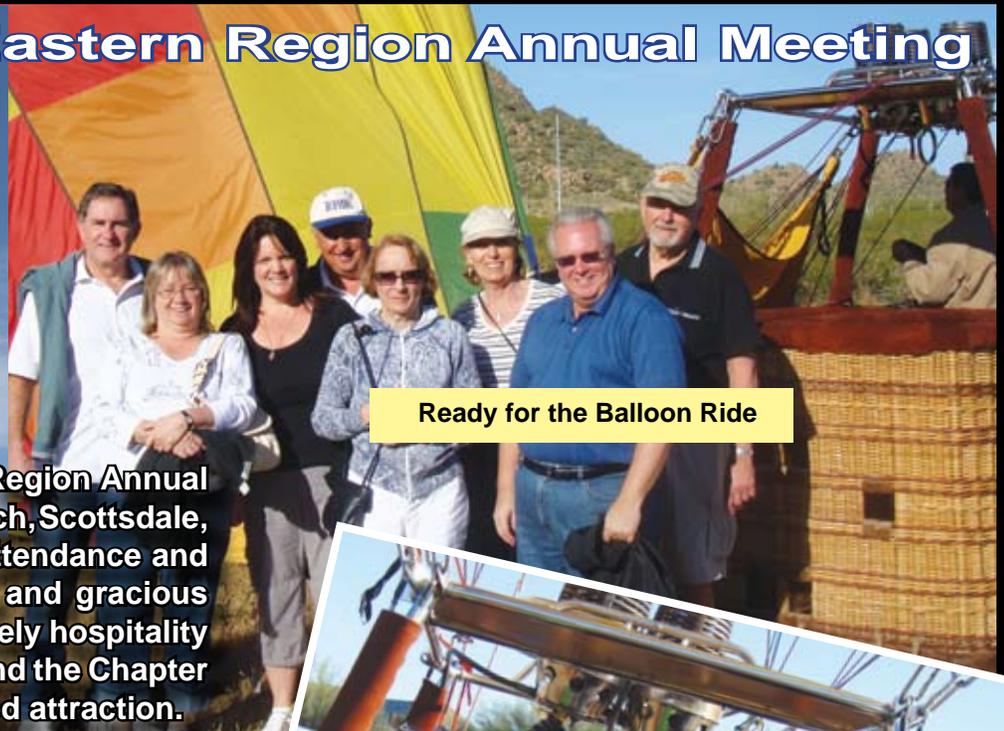
Christian with sons
Christian (left) and Jared



Christian and Sharon Hedlund

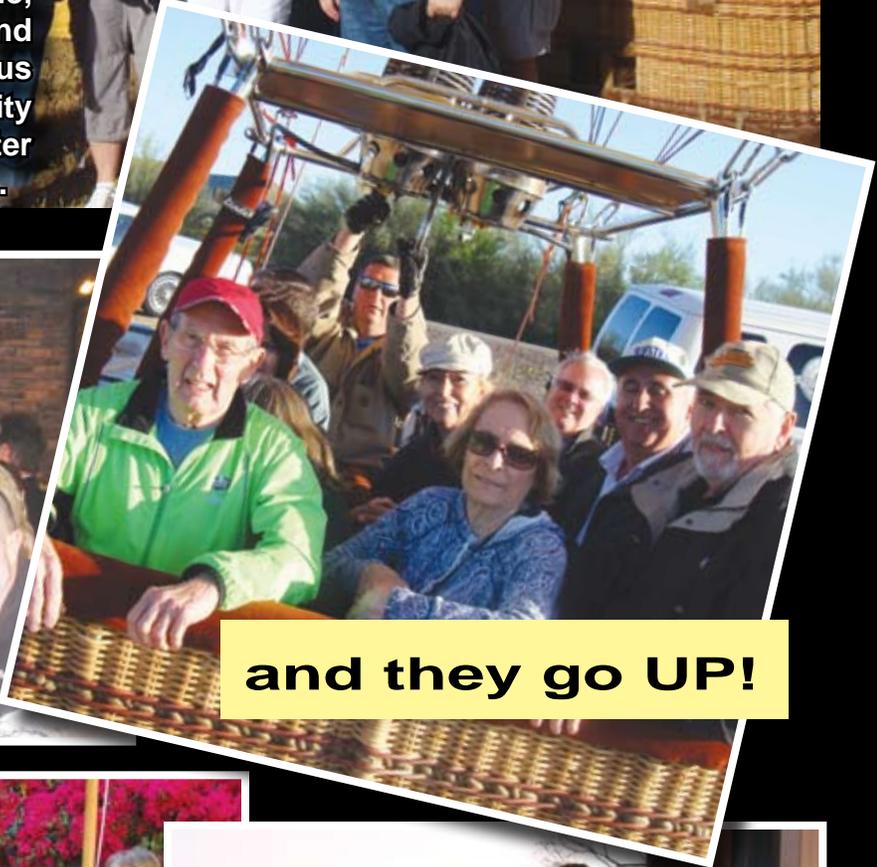


NECA 2010 Eastern Region Annual Meeting



Ready for the Balloon Ride

The NECA 2010 Eastern Region Annual Meeting, Hyatt Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale, AZ. Twenty-two were in attendance and enjoyed the fine weather and gracious accommodations. The lovely hospitality suite was enjoyed by all and the Chapter Balloon Ride was an added attraction.



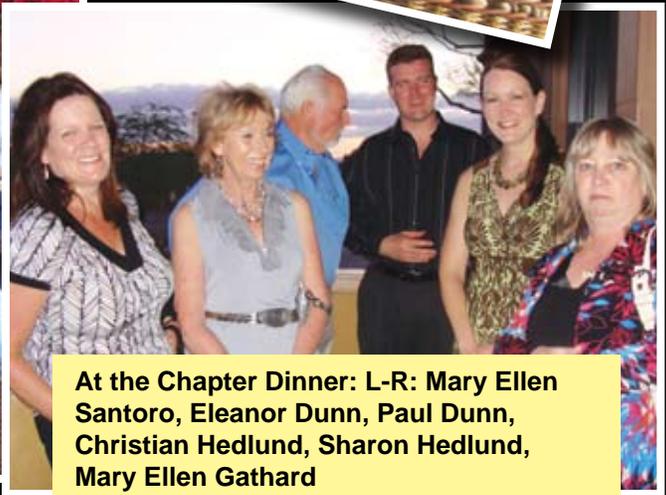
and they go UP!



Members enjoyed a fine dinner



L-R: Sharon Hedlund, Debbie Bradley, Rhoda Bender, Deborah DePace and Mary Ellen Gathard in the hospitality suite.



At the Chapter Dinner: L-R: Mary Ellen Santoro, Eleanor Dunn, Paul Dunn, Christian Hedlund, Sharon Hedlund, Mary Ellen Gathard

Michael Bender Elected To Academy Of Electrical Contracting

The Long Island Chapter, NECA is proud to announce that Mr. Michael Bender of Bana Electric Corporation was accepted as a Fellow in the Academy of Electrical Contracting.

The Chapter received a letter dated June 5, 2010 from the Academy stating that Mr. Bender was selected. Michael's father, Abraham "AL" Bender was also a Fellow in the Academy of Electrical Contracting.

Mr. Bender will be installed as a Fellow in the Academy of Electrical Contracting on Sunday, October 3, 2010 in Boston, Massachusetts at the NECA National Convention.

Fellowship in the Academy of Electrical Contracting is the singular honor of the Electrical Construction Industry. It is an honor desired by many, but bestowed to few. The Long



Longest Serving JATC Trustees

Mike Bender of Bana Electric Corporation (shown at right) and George Martin were celebrated at the recent JATC graduation ceremony on June 12, 2010. Both are the longest serving Trustees, each having served the JATC for 28 years. George is a past union Trustee and Mike, who is Treasurer of our Long Island Chapter, NECA, is a current Trustee.

Island Chapter, NECA is sure that our Academy, our NECA Association and our Electrical Construction Industry will benefit from Mr. Bender's active participation in the functions of the Academy.

The Long Island Chapter, NECA would like to extend its congratulations and very best wishes to Mr. Bender in his future endeavors as a Fellow of the Academy of Electrical Contracting. •



NECA Golf Outing

September 28, 2010
Hamlet Willow Creek Golf and Country Club
Mt. Sinai, NY