

Long Island

SUMMER 2014

NECA WIRE

Wiring News Through The Electrical Construction Industry

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



Chapter President Paul Dunn gets right to work meeting with Long Island Congressman Peter King at NECA Legislative Conference in Washington DC.

See more on page 3

Presenting the Long Island Chapter, NECA 2014 Board of Directors and Officers

Nassau County Legislator, Francis X. Becker, Jr. was the installing officer at the Long Island Chapter, NECA's annual Installation of Officers and Directors dinner in January.

Shown left to right: Albert DePace – Director;

Stephen Cadieux – Director; Robert Kohlmeyer – Director;

Paul Dunn – President; Nicolaus Feldmann – Governor;

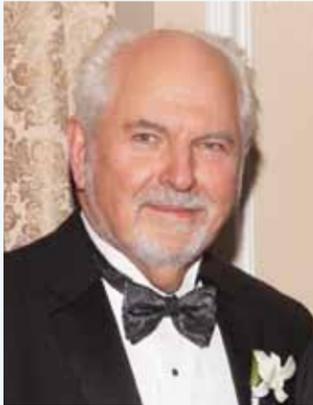
Pasquale Santoro – Treasurer; John Casciano – Secretary

Not in attendance; Vice President Michael Bender and Directors Donald Leslie, Jr. and James Giorgio, Sr.

See more photos and presentations on page 7.

Visit our website at www.lineca.org

From the President...



Paul Dunn
Mainline Electric

As 2013 fades to a distant memory, I look to the coming years with a cautious optimism for an improved business environment. Since 1961, customers, colleagues and other associates doing business with Mainline Electric have known me to be the “eternal optimist” and, although increasingly difficult, that approach and attitude still holds true today.

For more than 50 years, Mainline Electric has been serving Long Island communities with courteous and professional Electrical Contracting services, the very same passion and commitment to excellence shared by my fellow NECA contractors and exactly what attracted me to this organization over 20 years ago.

Today’s increasing regulations, skyrocketing taxes and mounting uncertainty associated with the implementation of Health Care and Pension Reform has set the table for what is possibly the most challenging political and socioeconomic landscape Long Island business owners have ever faced. As such, it remains imperative, more so than ever, that business owners get involved to better understand just how many of these changes will impact their operations and their ability to run a prosperous organization in these challenging market conditions.

NECA continues to evolve and today I see NECA as so much more than one of the largest trade associations in the country providing the latest information and cutting edge solutions to our industry challenges.

Locally, we are a homegrown, close-knit FAMILY of concerned and engaged Long Island business owners. Pragmatic and strategic in our approach, we endeavor to use our collective voice and varied resources to get ahead of the curve and improve our positioning in the marketplace to advance our business objectives. We openly share ideas and together, work tirelessly for the betterment of the entire electrical contracting industry.

Although we face challenging times, I take the helm of this organization with a renewed optimism for the future of the construction industry on Long Island and look forward to working closely with our industry partners at Local 25 of the IBEW. Together I believe we can work to restore our industry and put Long Islanders back to work.

I look forward to serving our association members and invite your input and feedback always. —**Paul Dunn**

Government Affairs

Charles Gardner
Director of Government Affairs

2014 State Legislative Session Ends With Great News for LINECA!

The recently concluded session of the New York legislature ended on a high note for our members and for all of the electrical contracting industry on Long Island.

Two bills that we have been working on for several years were passed by both the Senate and the Assembly and are on the way to the Governor’s desk for, we hope, his signature and enactment into law.

The first would give Suffolk County government the sole authority for licensing of electricians in Suffolk County. This means that the license issued by the County would prevail in all areas throughout Suffolk and towns and villages would no longer have the right to demand their own licenses for work done in their locality. This is a huge win for our industry and should prevent Suffolk from descending into the absurd chaos that exists in Nassau County where more than two dozen licenses are required for electricians to work in that jurisdiction. We owe Suffolk County Legislator Tom Cilmi, Senator Lee Zeldin and Assemblyman Fred Thiele a great deal of thanks for spearheading this legislation and shepherding it through the maze of Albany bureaucracy.

We owe a similar debt of gratitude to Senator John Flanagan and Assemblyman Bob Sweeney for passage of their bill that prevents unlicensed electricians from performing work for school districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties. For too long, some school districts have taken the position that they are above the law and could use any contractor that they chose, licensed or not. This legislation makes it clear that only licensed electricians may be hired for school work.

The battle is not yet over - we need to ensure that these bills are signed by the Governor - we are monitoring this situation closely and will keep our members apprised of our progress •

Electrical Licensing to be More Business-Friendly in Suffolk

A bill sponsored by Legislator Tom Cilmi and passed by the Legislature (HR-1) asks New York State to allow Suffolk County to be the sole licensing authority for master electricians throughout the County. In Nassau County, electricians are required to hold more than 27 different licenses in order to work in the variety of towns, cities and villages within the County. Not only is there a cost associated with each license, but there are additional insurance costs as well.

Presently in Suffolk County only two municipalities, in addition to Suffolk County, require separate licenses or registrations. Cilmi says his bill will prevent the proliferation of unnecessary, onerous fees and registrations throughout the County by stopping the spread

of unnecessary bureaucracy.

Cilmi worked with State Senator Lee Zeldin to craft Senate bill S.532, which is mirrored in the Assembly by A.7298. The State Legislature requires a home rule message from the County in order to act.

Legislator Cilmi said, “This is common sense, good government, good-for-business legislation which is also good for the consumer. All master electricians are licensed in Suffolk County. There is absolutely no reason to add extra layers of bureaucracy at the town and village levels which increase costs for consumers and taxpayers, and provide a false sense of additional security.”

Senator Lee Zeldin said, “This legislation will protect electricians and consumers against the unnecessarily complex structure of electrical licensing that currently exists. It’s another way we are empowering our localities and working to cut red tape to give our area businesses the chance to succeed. It’s a win for the electricians’ trade and a win for consumers.”

Charlie Gardner, Government Affairs Director of the Long Island Chapter, who worked with Cilmi and Zeldin on the legislation, called it a “home run.” He said, “Electrical contractors struggle every day to manage their businesses. Most don’t have administrative staff to keep track of dozens of required license renewals every year. Multiple licenses do nothing to protect the consumer and simply increase costs and make it more difficult for contractors to operate. Our members are thrilled to have played a role in getting this done in Suffolk County.” •

2014 NECA Legislative Conference

In May, President Paul Dunn and Board Member Don Leslie traveled to Washington, DC with Charlie Gardner, our Director of Government Affairs, for the annual NECA Legislative Conference. They met

one-on-one with Representatives Peter King, Steve Israel and Tim Bishop to discuss the top issues affecting our industry and asked for their support.



The top priorities for 2014 are to reform and repair, if not repeal, Obamacare; gain relief for multiemployer defined benefit pension plans, and to repeal the Estate Tax.

Contributions made by our members to the national ECPAC have enabled our Chapter to be a member of NECA’s Political Leadership Council and thereby play a key role in selecting issues that we want our elected officials to support. •

The 2014 Long Island NECA Golf Outing

A great day with friends and business associates was had by all who attended this year's event. On June 11th, The Long Island Chapter, NECA hosted its annual golf outing at the beautiful Baiting Hollow Club and, once again, we beat the threat of rain and had a fantastic day of golf. "This year's event really came together and was a huge success" stated Pete Mastrococo, Chapter Executive of the Long Island Chapter, NECA, "largely due to the hard work and dedication from Maryann Eigel and Charlie Gardner of the NECA office along with Robert Mauchan, Amy Silver and Jenny Artesona whose help with our fundraising efforts was greatly appreciated." "Additionally, without the support of our sponsors, Balco Industries, Milwaukee Electric Tool, Eldor Contracting Corp, Certified Multimedia Solutions, New York Fire Detection and Simplex Grinnell an event of this magnitude would not be possible".



Thanks To These Great Sponsors

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And The Winners Were...

Winning Team
 Mike Stonehouse
 Mike Liebler
 Guy Davi
 Bob Bender

Closest to Pin
 Mike Stonehouse
Longest Drive (Men)
 John Cook
Longest Drive (Women)
 Mary Ritzmann



Nick Feldmann of Eldor Contracting Tapped to Serve on Council of Industrial Relations.

The Council of Industrial Relations or "CIR" is one of labor arbitration history's success stories. Founded in 1920, the CIR is cosponsored by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) as a means to settle peacefully labor disputes within the electrical industry.

The process has worked well

with over 8,000 decisions issued since inception making the CIR process a shining example of successful labor-management relations.

After 20 years in a leadership role within the Long Island Chapter of NECA, Nick Feldmann's experience and industry acumen has been recognized nationally by his appointment to the Council of Industrial Relations. Nick will serve a two-year term, working collectively with a panel of industry leaders to preside over and render decisions on labor disputes from around the country. •

PSEG LI's Daly Addresses Chapter Membership Meeting; Pledges Cooperation

The February General Membership meeting was held at the Hamlet in Commack and David M. Daly, Chief Operating Officer of PSEG Long Island, was the guest speaker.

Mr. Daly spoke to the members about the goals for PSEG LI as the company took the reins from LIPA as of January 1st. He stated that the #1 goal was to substantially increase the customer level of satisfaction with the company. He described LIPA's record, according to surveys by J. D. Power, as "rock bottom," one of the worst of all the power utility companies in the

U.S. He described the customer base as comprising residential and commercial properties as well as electrical contractors and stated "we need to provide better customer service."

Also, he pledged that any proposed Red Book revisions would not be finalized until PSEG LI has solicited and reviewed any and all comments from electrical contractors throughout Long Island.

The Renewables Program will be continued with rebates and refunds to be determined as the year progresses. He pledged full cooperation and increased communications between PSEG LI and the electrical contracting industry on Long Island. He then answered questions from the members and said that his office would always be open for any comments or suggestions from the industry. •

Assistant Chief Fire Marshal For Nassau County Presents to Chapter Members

At a recent membership meeting Michael Uttaro, Assistant Chief Fire Marshall for Nassau Country gave a detailed presentation to the Long Island Chapter, NECA members regarding recent code changes, permit filing and inspection requirements along with a brief question and answer period from the members.

Mr. Uttaro's presentation was detailed, very informative and very well received by the Chapter

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NECA Board of Directors

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CRK Contracting of Suffolk, Inc.

Donald Leslie, Jr.
Johnson Electrical Construction Corp.

Chapter Executive:
Pete Mastrocchio

Director of Government Affairs:
Charles Gardner

Highlights of LI Chapter NECA Annual Installation Dinner January 2014



Joe Gathard of All Service Electric Cited For Long Service and Dedication

A proclamation from Nassau County Legislator, Francis X. Becker, Jr. is presented to outgoing Long Island Chapter President, Joseph Gathard of All Service Electric for his many years of dedication and service to the Chapter, its members and the Electrical Contracting Industry.



Paul Dunn Greets Nassau County Executive Edward P. Mangano



Newly elected Director Albert DePace of Advance Sound with wife Deborah, Advance's president.

Charlie Hoyler of Charles J. Hoyler Inc. Celebrates 25 Years with the Long Island Chapter, NECA

NECA National Eastern Region Field Representative, Jay B. Jones (left) presents Charlie Hoyler with a well-deserved recognition award for his 25 years of service and membership in the Long Island Chapter of NECA. Looking on is Pete Mastrocchio, of the Long Island Chapter, NECA. "Charlie is just one of those contractors and members that every Chapter wishes they had, a great person who is always willing to help out any way he can," commented Pete Mastrocchio.



Save these dates...

- August 21 Board of Directors Meeting & Administrative Maintenance Fund Meeting
- August 25-27 Eastern Region Managers Meeting
- September 8-9 District 1 Council Meeting
- September 18, Long Island Chapter General Membership Meeting
- September 27 NECA Board of Governors Meeting, Chicago, IL
- September 27-30 NECA National Convention & Trade Show, Chicago, IL.
- October 16 Long Island Chapter General Membership Meeting
- November 20 Long Island Chapter General Membership Meeting



NECA
SEPT.
27-30 **2014**
CHICAGO

**McCormick Place
WEST
Chicago, Illinois**

The Long Island Chapter Of NECA Joins With Local No. 25, IBEW To Support The John Thiessen Children's Foundation

The John Thiessen Children's Foundation is a not for profit organization developed to support



local families with financial assistance to defray the cost of medical expenses, offer sick and needy children toys throughout the holiday season, fulfill patient's (ages birth to 18 years old) wish lists throughout the year and provide hospitals and child-care facilities

with therapeutic and recreational equipment.

Since 1992, the Foundation has collected over 550,000 new toys to donate to sick and underprivileged children in over 185 hospitals and child-care facilities across Long Island year round.

Upon hearing that the John Thiessen Children's Foundation was struggling with financial contributions for the 2013 holiday season, Pete Mastrococco, Chapter Executive of the Long Island Chapter, NECA immediately contacted the Chapter board members to gather support and, within hours, an effort

was underway.

John Casciano of ASR Electrical Contracting noted, "This is exactly what the holiday season is about and it makes me and my fellow board members proud to be able to support so many families through this amazing organization"

Partnering with Local #25 of the IBEW allowed for a significant contribution through the Long Island Labor Management Cooperative Committee — a true testament of what can be accomplished when labor and management work hand-in-hand for the betterment of the community.

Donations to this very worthy cause can be made by contacting the Foundation at (516) 679-5098. •