

Long Island

NECA

Wiring News Through The Electrical Construction Industry

WINTER 2006

WIRE

Long Island Chapter National Electrical Contractors Assn. Inc., Commack, New York 11725 631-462-0490



The 2006 Board of Directors

The Long Island Chapter, NECA 2006 Board of Directors and Officers have been elected as follows:

Officers

President: Donald Leslie, Jr.
Vice President: Nicolaus Feldmann
Secretary: Joseph Gathard
Treasurer: William Schumacher
Governor: Robert Kohlmeyer

Directors

Michael Bender
Stephen Cadieux
Paul Dunn
James Giorgio, Sr.
Thomas Papa

Photos from the 2006 Installation Dinner at OHEKA Castle are on page 3

Visit our website at www.lineca.org

From the President...



Donald Leslie, Jr.

As you are reading this, it is by now February 2006, the New Year has come, the winter season is upon us, ... (or is it?) and we at NECA wish you all a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

With 2005 behind us, we are looking forward to a busy 2006. As I write this, the work picture for the unionized electrical industry remains the same as it was for the final three months of 2005. Existing jobs are moving ahead nicely, thanks to a “non-existent” winter season so far... our contractors are reporting that they do have some jobs ready to start, but they are waiting to clear the last hurdles to get them moving.

With an eye towards improving customers' relations, and recapturing work that has gone “bad”, both NECA and the IBEW are working together and implementing many changes in the workplace. The commitment between L. I. NECA and L/U #25 IBEW towards improved customer relations, projects finished on time, on budget, with a safe, drug-free, “Best trained” and qualified work force, has brought about unprecedented labor relations here on Long Island.

We have certainly come a “long way” from the mid 1980's through late 1990's, when, to say the least, the local NECA-IBEW relationship was pretty much “non-existent”. While we don't always agree on everything, our discussions and working relationship continues to

improve on a weekly basis.

With the BEST Apprenticeship program in the Northeast, our JATC trustees have agreed to go to the next level, full and complete drug testing of all apprentices. This, the first step toward our “Drug-free” workforce, is already underway as you read this. Baseline testing of ALL apprentices is underway and will be completed by the 1st week of March. Random testing of apprentices will continue from that point.

As I stated in the last issue of the NECA WIRE, many changes are underway, with more to come. Rest assured, both this administration, and that of Local 25 IBEW, are working hard to correct the problems of the past, avert the problems to come, and show our customers, there is NO better way to build than NECA/IBEW.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Jim Giorgio Sr, on his recent appointment to the National NECA - “Workforce Development Committee.” Jim has worked tirelessly for the Electrical Industry serving as a past Board Member, President, & Governor of the Long Island Chapter-NECA. He currently sits as once again, an active Board Member for the Chapter, and will represent the unionized electrical industry of Long Island on the Workforce Development Committee. We here on Long Island know that Jim will be a GREAT asset to the committee.

To the many trustees, and Board Members of the L.I. Chapter, “Thank You” for the many, many hours you volunteer your services to make this industry run, and become even better than it was. Your hard work and dedication is remarkable, and we can't thank you enough for all that you do.

You will note from our meeting notice, we at NECA are streamlining our meetings and changing meeting times to accommodate the majority, with an effort to adjourn around 7 - 7:30 pm to allow for everyone's busy schedules. Please stop into our meetings, and learn about NECA, the IBEW, and the Industry that you belong to.

And to OUR CUSTOMERS, our owners, general contractors, architects, consultants, project managers and friends...WE HAVE HEARD YOU! We are redefining ourselves, our industry, to show YOU, that WE - the NECA Contractors and Local 25 IBEW Electricians, are the only way to build your project - on time, on budget, no hassles, and professionalism you can ALWAYS count on...for ALL your project needs.

WE...ARE COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS!

— Donald Leslie, Jr.

Long Island Chapter, NECA Installation Dinner January 14, 2006



The 2006 Long Island Chapter, NECA Installation of Officers and Directors Dinner held on January 14, 2006 at the Oheka Castle was marked by the largest turnout ever — over 130 members and guests featuring dignitaries from Nassau and Suffolk Counties, NECA, and Local Union #25 IBEW. Swearing in was conducted by William H. “Biff” Jones, III, NECA Field Representative, Eastern Region.

Pictured at left are: (l-r) former President and Governor Donald Leslie, Sr., current President Donald Leslie, Jr. and current Governor Robert Kohlmeyer.



Shown above: (l-r) Director James Giorgio, Sr., Terry Giorgio, Vivian Papa, Director Thomas Papa



At left, President Donald Leslie, Jr. (left) with Donald Fiore, Business Manager, Local 25, IBEW

Below, Cmdr. Craig Richey, USN (left) with Charles Hoyler



*At right:
Chapter Manager Roy Richey (left) with Roger Bogsted, Commissioner of Consumer Affairs for Nassau County*



Partners At KND Electrical: *It's a Woman's World*

In an industry that rarely sees women working in the field much less operating a business, KND Licensed Electrical Contracting & Services, Corp. stands out not just because the company was launched by women, and is run in its day-to-day activities by women, but because KND broke the barriers placed by mostly male-dominated electrical construction all the way from the halls of management to the union labor it employs on the job.

This is a story of two young women, sisters-in-law, if you will, who decided to put their education and talents together and break into their husbands' family's field of business... electrical contracting. With mentoring by father-in-law Thomas DeNapoli, a long-time electrical contractor and his two sons, husbands Tom, Jr. and Michael, Kristine and Nanci-Jean DeNapoli set out on their own in 1998 to begin their own electrical contracting business in the back of Kristine's house.

They learned from the bottom up, and when they were ready, they bid on their first job. It had to be union though, especially since Nanci-Jean had grown up in a union household and couldn't envision any other way. But it wasn't easy to gain union acceptance until they had that first job. A small project at JFK airport did it. They received a call from Local Union #3 IBEW and KND was on its way.

Security work at the Bethpage Country Club for the U.S. Open followed along with other jobs that gave the business a footing. Meanwhile, they moved out of the house and into commercial space. Kristine and Nanci-Jean continued to do virtually all aspects of the work from clerical, take-offs, bidding, procurement, hiring and following the jobs, through billing and payment of bills.

KND now has staff, warehousing, and operates five trucks servicing Long Island, New York City and Connecticut. They have agreements with both Local #3 and Local #25. They are active members of the Long Island Chapter, NECA and New York Electrical Contractors Association. Kristine is a NECA Trustee for the Local 3 Pension and Welfare Fund as well as Secretary of the Group Life Fund and Nanci-Jean is a NECA Trustee for the Local 25 Pension/Annuity/401k Trust Fund.

The company has done work for the New York State Department of Economic Development, New York City School Construction Authority, New York State Dormitory Authority, the Port Authority of NY & NJ, LIRR, and the NYC MTA in addition to private commercial work

NECA membership is important to their operation. They've found that competitors become helpful friends at NECA meetings. And there has never been any disparagement about gender. Everyone is respectful and appreciative of what these two young mothers are accomplishing. Oh yes, Kristine has two children, ages 4 and 7, while Nanci-Jean has three, ages 7, 8 and 10.

With characteristic energy and entrepreneurship, the women are looking toward diversification. Kristine has continued her electrical education and expects to pass her Master Electricians test shortly. Nanci-Jean is showing a budding interest in Construction Law. And they are looking into a new area — photovoltaic energy systems — the applications and technologies, as they would apply to KND's services.

The women are proud of their prestigious certifications with many agencies as a Certified Woman Based Enterprise.



Partners at KND Electrical are (above) Kristine DeNapoli and (below) Nanci-Jean DeNapoli. With Kristine as President and Nanci-Jean as Vice President, the energetic young women have set a strong pace and achieved a record of success in business.



**In the
Spotlight**



Recognition Plaque Revised & Updated

While researching Long Island Chapter history, Chapter Manager Roy Richey discovered that some items on the Recognition Plaque displayed at Chapter headquarters needed updating. Corrections have been made and a new section honoring Chapter members who went on to become NECA District Vice Presidents was added. Shown in the photo with the revised plaque is Donald Leslie, Sr., (left) the first District Vice President (1982-1987), and James Giorgio, Sr. Chapter President 1999-2004 whose presidency was added. Also added was Gordon L. Seaman (District Vice President 1998-2001).

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:*
 - Michael Bender**, 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**

In Memoriam

Arvon A. Webster

Arvon A. Webster of Inter-County Electric, Inc. passed away on December 20, 2005. Mr. Webster began his career in the electrical industry with T. Frederick Jackson, Inc. after serving in World War II. Throughout his more than 60 year career, he was active in NECA and served in various industry positions including president of the New York City Chapter. In addition, he was a trustee of the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 30 pension fund and a member of the Board of Directors of The Bank of Babylon. Our sincere sympathy to his family.

12TH ANNUAL NECA EASTERN REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING



At these Spectacular Beachfront Resorts

Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort and Casino

Radisson Aruba Resort and Casino

Palm Beach, Aruba

March 19-22, 2006

If you haven't made your reservations, call the Chapter office at 631-462-0490



New Standards Set for Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters

An extensive evaluation of ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI), one of the major innovations in electrical safety, recently yielded new safety requirements from the Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL), and the Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

Since the early 1970s, GFCIs have reduced household electrocutions by protecting residents from lethal currents. A GFCI is a wiring device that de-energizes a circuit when a current to ground could result in electric shock. The GFCI "interrupts" power before it reaches a level that would cause injury. The National Electrical Code (NEC) requires GFCIs to be used in bathrooms, kitchens, garages, basements, crawlspaces, and outdoors.

Before the introduction of GFCIs, more than 700 people died from household electrocutions each year. As of 2001, that number had been reduced to 400 cases annually. However, a 2001 field study from UL and the National Electrical Manufacturers

Association determined that a small but significant percent of GFCIs, particularly older ones, did not work after several years. These findings created a demand for more stringent safety features that can alert users when a GFCI malfunctions.

The new requirements are being set by the CSA and UL and apply to the harmonized standard, UL 943, Safety Standard for Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) and CSA C22.2 No. 144.1 (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters). In the U.S., manufacturers must stop producing old versions of GFCIs on July 28, 2006, and must introduce new, redesigned GFCIs after that date. Distributors can sell and contractors can install old GFCIs until their supplies run out. The UL revisions will not affect the NEC, which regulates installations, not products.

For more information about GFCIs or the new UL and CSA requirements, contact the Electrical Safety Foundation International at (703)841-3229 or visit <http://www.esfi.org>. •



Jim Giorgio Named to Prestigious National Committee

Congratulations to Long Island Chapter Director James Giorgio on his appointment to the National NECA Workforce Committee. Jim has been a tireless contributor to the efforts of the NECA organization as President, Governor, Director and negotiator for the Long Island Chapter. His expertise will be a valuable addition to the National Committee. •

Calendar

Meeting Dates

General Membership

February 16, 2006 (3rd Thursday)

March 16, 2006 (3rd Thursday)

April 20, 2006 (3rd Thursday)

May 18, 2006 (3rd Thursday)

June 15, 2006 (3rd Thursday)

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

2006 Eastern Region Annual Meeting will be held March 19, 2006 to March 22, 2006 at the Hyatt and Radisson Hotels in Aruba
2006 NECA National Convention will be held October 7-10 in Boston.

National Convention



October 7-10
Boston

**Chapter
 Golf
 Outing**
Tuesday
June 6, 2006
**Stonebridge
 Golf & CC**