



MAY 2005

APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Electrical Contractors' Association of City of Chicago (ECA) held its April Membership Meeting on Wednesday, April 13, 2005 at the Itasca Country Club, Itasca, Illinois. The session focused on a number of areas. The main topic of discussion was the upcoming negotiations. The responses from the collective bargaining surveys that were sent to all signatory Local Union #134, IBEW contractors were briefly highlighted. If you have not responded to the survey, we ask that you forward your completed survey sheets, as soon as possible. Input from the industry is crucial for the Association to move forward with negotiations. The ECA's Executive Committee, as well as the volunteer member Negotiation Committee thank you for your involvement. Also, a brief video regarding the importance of maintaining union market share was viewed.

Another area of discussion was the potential topic points for the upcoming Construction Alliance National Issues Conference scheduled for May 3 - 5, 2005 in Washington, D.C. A number of contractor members from the ECA Legislative Committee, as well as a number of at-large members will be in attendance. The discussion emphasized the importance of letting our elected officials know of industry concerns on a continual basis. The Association's Legislative Committee thanks all of the members for their continued participation with the Committee's varied activities. The next ECA Membership Meeting is scheduled May 11, 2005 at Maggiano's' Banquets, Oak Brook, Illinois. We hope to see you, there.

NECA MANUAL OF LABOR UNITS

JUST AS A REMINDER --

NECA is now processing orders for the new 2005 - 2006 edition of NECA's *Manual of Labor Units* (MLU). The NECA *Manual of Labor Units* is viewed as the industry standard for electrical estimators. Just as a reminder, each NECA member is entitled to a free copy; however, NECA needs to know as soon as possible whether you prefer your complimentary MLU in book form or CD-ROM format. Please contact the ECA office at: (708) 531-0022 if you need a copy of the NECA *Manual of Labor Units* Order Form. You may use the same form to purchase extra copies at the NECA-member price of only \$30.00 each, for the book or CD.

Please fax NECA the completed Order Form, quickly, as the cut-off for the availability of the free copy is May 20, 2005.

Electrical Contractors' Association of Chicago and Cook County



MAY 2005

NECA CONVENTION AND TRADE SHOW

The National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) has scheduled its Convention and Trade Show for September 17 - 20, 2005 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, New Orleans,



Louisiana. New Orleans is a truly unique location. The 'Big Easy' can be fun for everyone and New Orleans knows how to entertain. The cultural blends of New Orleans, its rich atmosphere of music and food is legendary. A walk down Bourbon Street or through the French Quarter or Magazine Street confirms this. We hope that you will attend the upcoming Convention and enjoy what the host City of New Orleans offers: fine music, food,

shopping, art. The 'Big Easy' is a one-of-a-kind place to visit. Also, the Chicago and Cook County Chapter has chosen the Windsor Court, one of the world's finest hotels, as it's Convention hotel.

Along with free technical workshops, the Convention is offering two new programs: *Conference on Lighting Education* and the *Conference on Integrated Building Systems (IBS)* - formerly the *VDV Conference & Expo* that was held in Las Vegas.

A few highlights of the new conferences, include:

Integrated Building Systems

- Master Format Course
- Fire Alarm Code Update
- NEC Changes
- Project Delivery Systems
- Project scheduling
- Security Technology innovations
- 10 things to know about Surety Bonds
- Master Format Changes: How they affect your business

Lighting Education

- Opportunities in Lighting Market Today
- Healthcare lighting
- Lighting Design basics
- New technologies in lamps and ballasts
- Value Engineering
- Lighting for safety and security
- Lighting calculations
- Best Practices for Installation: Commercial, Residential and Industrial

The NECA Convention and Trade Show evening Opening Reception is scheduled for Saturday, September 17th. The Trade Show hours are arranged as follows: Sunday, September 18, 11:30 AM - 5:00 PM; Monday, September 19, 10:30 AM - 5:00 PM and Tuesday, September 20, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The Convention Closing Gala is scheduled for the evening of September 20th. Registration is to begin in early June on-line at www.necaconvention.org. In the meantime, if you wish to have a detailed brochure about NECA 2005 New Orleans, please contact NECA at: (301) 215-4509.



MAY 2005

CHAPTER POST CONVENTION TRIP

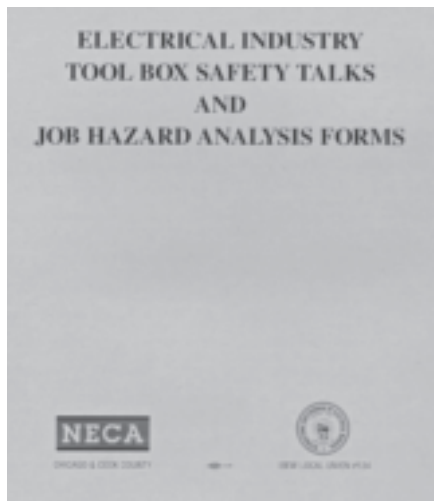
We are pleased to announce that a post-convention trip has been scheduled at The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island, One Sanctuary Beach Drive, Kiawah Island, South Carolina 29455, (877) 683-1234. The Association room block has been reserved at this luxury facility for arrival on Wednesday, September 21, 2005 and departure on Sunday, September 25, 2005. All members are welcome to attend even if you do not plan to attend the NECA Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island, a luxury oceanfront resort and spa opened in the Summer of 2004. It is located on a barrier island off the coastal South Carolina only 21 miles from historic Charleston. The Sanctuary offers the very highest level of guest service, elegant and spacious guestrooms, fine dining, a garden-themed spa, two restaurants, two world-class tennis clubs, indoor pool, among many other amenities. There are also five championship golf courses designed by the world's leading golf course architects: The Ocean Course by Pete Dye; Osprey Point by Tom Fazio; Turtle Point by Jack Nicklaus; Cougar Point by Gary Player; and Oak Point by Clyde Johnston.

Planned group activities for our members include a business meeting to be held on the morning of Thursday, September 22nd to discuss the status and future of our industry and a reception with a dinner buffet that evening. Also, a farewell cocktail reception is scheduled for Saturday, September 24th. Registration information has already been forwarded to all ECA members. Please contact the Association office at: (708) 531-0022 with any Registration questions. We look forward to seeing you at the Sanctuary at Kiawah Island in September!

SAFETY DIRECTOR'S FORUM

Just as a reminder, the Electrical Contractors' Association of City of Chicago (ECA) Safety Committee is hosting a Safety Director's Forum on Thursday, May 26, 2005 at the Holiday Inn Oak Brook (formerly the Four Points Sheraton Hotel), 17W350 22nd Street, Oak Brook, Illinois. The program will be held from 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM with a continental breakfast at 7:30 AM. The purpose of the Safety Directors' Forum is to provide an opportunity for the individuals within our member companies who shoulder the responsibility for implementing the company safety programs to share ideas, concerns, and other information related to their specific tasks. This is a great opportunity for safety directors to meet each other and talk about relevant issues in an open discussion. It is the intent of the ECA Safety Committee to make this a regular program based on the outcome of this first Safety Directors' Forum.



The registration fee to attend the Safety Directors' Forum is \$25.00 per person. If you are interested in attending please complete the previously sent registration form and return it to the Association office via fax at (708) 531-0071. The program will be limited to the first 30 participants so please return your registration form as soon as possible. Each participant will receive a copy of the NECA / IBEW "Electrical Industry Tool Box Safety Talks and Job Hazard Analysis Forms" book (a \$25 value) and also a "Safety It's A Way of Life" baseball cap and self stick labels with the same slogan. We hope you will take advantage of this important safety program by registering your Safety Director, today. Please contact the ECA office at: (708) 531-0022 if you have any questions regarding this upcoming program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3 - 5, 2005
Construction Alliance National Issues Conference
Grand Hyatt Hotel Washington, DC

May 11, 2005
ECA Regular Membership Meeting
Maggiano's Banquets Oak Brook, IL

May 20, 2005
O'Hare Modernization Program (OMP)
Contractor Open House 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Fountain Blue Banquets Des Plaines, IL
Registration information: (773) 557-4700

May 23 - 27, 2005
Basic Electrical Estimating Workshop
Wyndham Drake Hotel Oak Brook, IL

June 8 - 9, 2005
ECA 34th Annual Spring Conference
Grand Geneva Resort Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

June 19 - 22, 2005
NECA Midwest Regional Conference
Hyatt Lake Tahoe Resort Incline Village, Nevada

September 14, 2005
ECA Regular Membership Meeting
Harry Caray's Restaurant Chicago, IL

September 17 - 20, 2005
NECA Convention & Trade Show
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
New Orleans, Louisiana

September 21 - 25, 2005
ECA Post Convention Trip
The Sanctuary at Kiawah Island
Kiawah Island, South Carolina

Please contact the Association office for further information on any of these events, as well as visiting the ECA website at: www.ecachicago.com for the 2004 Calendar of Events.

BASIC ELECTRICAL ESTIMATING WORKSHOP

As a reminder, the Electrical Contractors' Association of City of Chicago's (ECA's) Research & Education Committee through the National Electrical Contractors Association Management Education Institute (NECA MEI) is again proud to offer the Basic Electrical Estimating Workshop. The program is to be held May 23 - 27, 2005 at the Wyndham Drake Hotel, Oak Brook, Illinois. Robert Mooty, MEI Instructor and a former NECA Field Representative will conduct the week long workshop. This program is offered to ECA members. Registration information has already been sent to all ECA members. We hope that you will be able to attend this informative, dynamic workshop. If you have any questions, please contact the Association at: (708) 531-0022.

LiveWire is a publication of the Electrical Contractors' Association of Chicago, Inc., Five Westbrook Corporate Center, Suite 940, Westchester, IL 60154.

Members are encouraged to submit articles and ideas for stories to the Association office.

Please note: The totals below for '04 & '05 include all electricians working under the Principal, Communication and Residential Agreements.

FEBRUARY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

| | 2004 | 2005 | Cumulative Hourly Totals |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| NUMBER OF CONTRACTORS | 1071 | 1069 | 2004 2,504,871 |
| JOURNEYPERSONS & APPRENTICES EMPLOYED | 11,426 | 9530 | 2005 |
| HOURS WORKED | 1,268,035 | 1,078,885 | 2,341,668 |