

MAY 2007

APRIL MEMBERSHIP MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Electrical Contractors' Association of City of Chicago (ECA) held its April Membership Meeting on Wednesday, April 11, 2007 at Gibsons Steakhouse in Rosemont, Illinois. The meeting was open to all signatory Local Union 134, IBEW contractors. The featured speakers were Mr. William Divane, EIT Management Chairman, Divane Bros. Electric Company and Mr. Sean Madix, EIT Administrator.

Highlights of their presentations, include: Funds status update, Pension Reform Protection Act and its applicability to the funds, updated website, additional initiatives starting

this year including a Wellness Program called, "Take Charge - It's Your Health" which features a smoking cessation program and a lower back pain avoidance program. Other issues discussed included the following: bonding issues, 'owner-in fact' language clarification and over-reporting difficulties. The meeting attendees received a packet of supplemental information regarding the above topics. A brief question and answer session followed. Both were met with a resounding round of applause for their presentations. We thank these gentlemen for their time and expertise.



Pictured from left to right are:
Sean Madix, EIT Director;
Brad Weir, ECA President, Kelso-Burnett Co.; and
William Divane, EIT Management Chairman, Divane Bros. Electric Company

MAY 2007

EPS LEVEL I PROGRAM

The Electrical Project Supervision Level I Program presented by the Electrical Contractors' Association Research & Education Committee will be concluding on May, 21, 2007. Over 25 individuals are currently registered for this program. The EPS Level I Program is being held at the Holiday Inn Oak Brook Hotel, 17W350 22nd Street, Oak Brook Terrace, Illinois. The Research and Education Committee anticipates coordinating the EPS II and EPS III Programs later this year. In addition, the Committee is working to schedule the Basic Electrical Estimating Workshop for early Fall 2007. Please review upcoming *LiveWire* newsletters for schedule updates.



Pictured above is Norb Slowikowski as he began to facilitate the EPS Level I Program.

NECA CONVENTION

As you are aware, the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Convention and Trade Show is scheduled to be held October 5 - 8, 2007, Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, California. A brief schedule of events follows. The NECA Convention and Trade Show evening Opening Reception is scheduled for Friday, October 5th. The Trade Show hours are arranged as follows: Saturday, October 6, 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM; Sunday, October 7, 11:00 AM - 3:30 PM and Monday, October 8, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Along with the technical workshops, management seminars, the Convention is offering Lighting Education Tracks and the Think Green Program, as well as the Labor Relations Town Hall Program. The Opening General Session scheduled for Saturday, October 6th from 10:15 - 11:30 AM will feature Steve Young, the record-setting quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers. Steve Young had earned three Super Bowl titles and renown as the highest-rated QB in the history of the NFL. The Closing General Session scheduled for Monday, October 8th from 9:00 - 10:15 AM will feature Nando Parrado. Mr. Parrado is the author of the bestseller "Miracle in the Andes: 72 Days on the Mountain and My Long Trek Home." The Convention Closing Celebration is scheduled for the evening of Monday, October 8th featuring entertainer, Dana Carvey. The Chicago and Cook County Chapter, NECA has chosen the J. W. Marriott Hotel (formerly the Pan Pacific Hotel) as its Convention hotel. Convention Registration will open in early June. We hope that you will be able to participate with the NECA Convention and Trade Show.



MAY 2007

APPRENTICE CLASS PRESENTATION

Electrical Contractors' Association of City of Chicago (ECA) Executive Committee member, Daniel Durkin, Sr. of Durkin Electric Company, Inc. made a presentation to the first-year Residential Apprentice class on Thursday, March 29, 2007 at the IBEW-NECA Technical Institute (INTECH) in Alsip, Illinois. Mr. Durkin addressed the apprentices regarding various issues that an apprentice electrician would encounter on a jobsite. He touched on many areas that would directly affect the relationship of the customer to the contractor to the apprentice. The presentation focused on several themes, including: timeliness for work at the jobsite, safety, proper attire, use of tools, competition in industry, customer recognition, mental and physical demands of job, connection between estimate of a project and the work ethic and productivity of a job. Mr. Durkin emphasized that the electrician was the direct PR for a contractor to the customer. Enthusiasm and passion for learning are essential for a successful career in electrical construction. The Association wishes to thank Mr. Durkin for his time and expertise in presenting his talk. Great job, Dan!



Pictured above is Daniel Durkin, Sr., Durkin Electric Company, Inc. as he began his presentation to the Residential Apprentices at INTECH.

POST CONVENTION TRIP

As you are aware, the ECA recently announced that a Post-Convention Trip has been scheduled at Marquis Los Cabos Beach, Golf, Spa & Casitas Resort located at Carretera Transpeninsular Km. 21.5, Fraccionamiento Cabo Real, San Jose del Cabo, Baja California Sur, Mexico C.P. 23400. All members are welcome to attend even if you do not plan to attend the NECA Convention in San Francisco, California. The Marquis Los Cabos is positioned on a pristine, white, sand beach beside the shimmering Sea of Cortes. It is located at the southern tip of the Baja California Peninsula, in the "Cabo Real" section of Los Cabos. The resort includes suites with spectacular ocean views, a spacious holistic spa, three fine restaurants, a full service Golf Desk and more. Ideally positioned near the Robert Trent Jones designed Cabo Real course and just minutes from the Jack Nicklaus designed Cabo Del Sol and El Dorado courses, Marquis Los Cabos provides for easy access to six world-renowned golf courses. Please forward your Registration Form to the ECA office. For additional information regarding the hotel, please contact Moe Yanes at The Travel Agency at: (312) 853-0238, as well as at: www.marquisloscabos.com .

MAY 2007

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 9, 2007
ECA Regular Membership Meeting
Harry Caray's Restaurant Chicago, IL

June 6 - 7, 2007
ECA 36th Annual Spring Conference
Grand Geneva Resort Lake Geneva, Wisconsin

September 12, 2007
ECA Regular Membership Meeting
Courtright's Restaurant Willow Springs, Illinois

October 3, 2007
ECA Regular Membership Meeting
Rosewood Restaurant Banquets Rosemont, IL

October 5 - 8, 2007
NECA Convention & Trade Show
San Francisco, California

October 9 - 13, 2007
ECA Post Convention Trip
Marquis Los Cabos San Jose Los Cabos, Mexico

Please contact the Association office for further information on any of these events.

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.

GROSS RECEIPTS TAX

Anyone who has been involved in the legislative process knows that from day-to-day things can, and often do, change rapidly. The Electrical Contractors' Association is very concerned about the affect the Gross Receipts Tax (GRT), as proposed by Governor Blagojevich, will have on the electrical construction industry as well as the entire economy in Illinois. In an effort to provide you with the latest information we have recently forwarded several documents that we hope will be useful to you in understanding this destructive tax proposal, in knowing where this measure is in the legislative process, and having the right information to inform your legislators about your position in this matter. If you need additional information, please visit one of the websites listed below. The Electrical Contractors' Association will continue to provide updates to all electrical contractors regarding the Gross Receipts Tax legislation.

Websites to visit for GRT information:
Illinois Mechanical and Specialty Contractors Association (IMSCA): <http://www.imsca.org>;

Illinois Chamber of Commerce:
<http://www.largesttaxincreaseever.com/>; and

Alliance to Help Employment and Development (AHEAD): <http://www.buildingillinois.com/>

Please note: The totals below for '06 & '07 include all electricians working under the Principal, Communication and Residential Agreements.

FEBRUARY EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

	2006	2007	Cumulative Hourly Totals
NUMBER OF CONTRACTORS	1,008	943	2006 2,480,846
JOURNEYPERSONS & APPRENTICES EMPLOYED	10,282	10,685	2007
HOURS WORKED	1,239,647	1,262,228	2,585,896