

JULY 2008

ECA 37TH ANNUAL SPRING CONFERENCE

The 37th Annual Electrical Contractors' Association of City of Chicago (ECA) Spring Conference was held June 4 - 5, 2008 at The American Club in Kohler, Wisconsin. The weather cooperated for the most part and as always, the breath-taking scenery was plentiful as only Kohler can offer.



Pictured is a typical scene from the course at Blackwolf Run.

The Association golf outing was held at the Blackwolf Run River Course - a picturesque, yet challenging golf course.

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The ECAPAC Raffle was held during the evening Membership Meeting and raised over \$30,000.00. We thank all those who were able to participate with this important fundraising activity.



Pictured above from left to right are the golf awardees at the Spring Conference:
Bryan Gallagher, Grand-Kahn Electric, Wayne Gearig, Aldridge Electric, Inc.,
Paul Brown, Kelso-Burnett Co., Brad Weir, ECA President, Kelso-Burnett Co.,
Gary Misicka, Lyons Electric Company, Inc., James Curtin, Concur Electric Company, Inc. and
Roy Diamond, Malko Electric Company.
Not pictured: Robert Fergus, Okeh Electric Company

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Mr. Michael Callanan, Director of the NJATC was the presenter for the Business Seminar during the ECA 37th Annual Spring Conference. Highlights of the presentation and question and answer session included topics and issues concerning the following: 23% increase of apprentices in 2007; nearly 45,000 apprentices throughout US; over 100 day school training centers in the country; it takes \$140 million to fund the NJATC, which is self-funded; NJATC began in 1941; 85,000 journeymen continue with journeymen upgrade training coursework; the NJATC is continually developing training and curriculum programming - current focus is on solar, wind, building automation and controls; NJATC is pursuing more on-line training courses; NJATC is working with more outside vendors/suppliers on training programs/scholarships/promotional efforts, etc.; promotional and instructional DVDs are in the works regarding Foremen training, productivity issues, jobsite attitudes, etc.; National Training Center to move to University of Michigan. The Business Seminar concluded with a round of applause for Mr. Callanan. We hope that you will join us next year as the Conference is to be held June 3 - 4, 2009 at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.



Pictured above is Michael Callanan, NJATC Director as he discusses an issue during his presentation.

NECA CONVENTION

As you are aware, the 2008 NECA Convention is to be held in Chicago, October 4th through the 7th. Registration has already begun for this event and the Chapter Hotel is the Ritz Carlton Chicago Hotel. Prior to the NECA Convention and Trade Show, the Association will be sponsoring a "Welcome Reception" for the Chapter Governors, Presidents and Managers from throughout the country. The function will be held on Friday, October 3rd at the Peninsula Hotel in downtown Chicago. ECA members have been invited. Special invitations have been forwarded; we do hope that you will be able to participate. The Trade Show will be held at McCormick Place Lakeside Center; however, several events will be off-site. The Opening Reception is being dubbed, "Party at the Pier" as it will be held on Saturday, October 4th at Chicago's Navy Pier. The Opening General Session is scheduled for Sunday, October 5th and will feature members of Chicago's Second City comedy troupe. The Closing General Session is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th and will have Bob Costas, broadcaster as the presenter. The Closing Celebration is arranged for the evening of Tuesday, October 7th and will have Ricky Skaggs and Bruce Hornsby performing at the Arie Crown Theater. We look forward to seeing you at this year's NECA Convention.

JULY 2008

SPRINGFIELD LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION

As you are aware, if the Illinois General Assembly were to re-enact the Structural Work Act, insurance costs, legal fees and other additional costs of doing business will dramatically increase. The



Pictured above from left to right are:
Sen Dan Rutherford (R-Pontiac),
Lou Matson, Active Enterprises, Inc.,
Frank Peters, ECA and
Sen. Christine Radogno (R-Lemont).

Association is opposed to any legislation that would re-enact the Structural Work Act in Illinois. The Electrical Contractors' Association of City of Chicago worked with the Alliance to Help Employment and Development (AHEAD) - a coalition of business organizations and trade associations and the Illinois Mechanical and Specialty Contractors Association (IMSCA) - a lobbying group focused on subcontractor-level business issues to address



Pictured from left to right are:
James McGlynn, ECA Legislative Committee
Chairman, McWilliams Electric Company, Inc.,
Rep. Randy Ramey (R-West Chicago) and
Daniel Durkin, Durkin Electric Company, Inc.

this potentially damaging measure to the business community in Illinois. AHEAD and IMSCA coordinated a joint Legislative Reception in late May in Springfield. The reception was well attended and the legislators on both sides of the aisle listened to our industry's position regarding the SWA. The SWA was not heard in the final days of the Illinois General Assembly's session. We thank all who were able to participate with this event, as well as those who have been in contact with their representatives to alert them of this detrimental legislation. The SWA may be out of the picture for the moment; however, we must remain vigilant if it resurfaces.



Pictured from left to right - Back Row :

Rep. Joseph Lyons (D-Chicago), IMSCA rep., IMSCA rep., Frank Peters, ECA;

Pictured from left to right - Middle Row : David Suarez, Suarez Electric Company, Rep. Michael Boland (D- East Moline),

Rep. Don Moffitt (R-Galesburg), Michael Fortner (R-West Chicago), Steve Lamb, Mechanical Contractors Association,

Sen. Kirk Dillard (R-Hinsdale), Sen. Michael Frerichs (D-Champaign);

Pictured from left to right - Bottom Row: Mr. Delgado - HACIA/AHEAD rep., Margaret Vaughn - AHEAD rep., Daniel Day, CEA,

Daniel Durkin, Durkin Electric Company, Inc. and James McGlynn, McWilliams Electric Company, Inc.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 7, 2008
LEED Extra Credit: LEED for Dummies
USGBC - Chicago Chapter sponsored
Chicago Center for Green Technology
(773) 265-5911 for registration information
- September 10, 2008
E C A Regular Membership Meeting
Courtright's Restaurant Willow Springs, IL
- September 19, 2008
MVP Program
Wyndham Drake Hotel Oak Brook, IL
- October 1, 2008
E C A Regular Membership Meeting
Four Seasons Hotel Chicago, IL
- October 3, 2008
NECA Convention - "Chicago Chapter Welcome Reception"
The Peninsula Hotel Chicago, IL
- October 4 – 7, 2008
NECA Convention and Trade Show
McCormick Place Lakeside Center Chicago, IL
- October 12 - 16, 2008
E C A Post Convention Trip
The Greenbrier Resort White Sulphur Springs, W V

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.

CHECK OUT THE ECA WEBSITE

The Association urges all members to utilize the many resources that are available on-line at the ECA website. We hope that the information provided will help you better run your business, by helping you become aware of what's new in the marketplace not only in the Chicagoland area, but nationwide.

Available in the On-Line Resources section of the ECA Website is the Equipment & Material Member Exchange.

Visit the "Member's Only" section and unlock all the features provided to ECA members.

The Events area of the site is constantly being updated. Please view the calendar for upcoming educational programming, as this dynamic is ever-changing.

We hope that you will take advantage of the on-line surveys, polls, etc. Your participation will assist in the development of future programs offered by the Association.

We look forward to your visit to: www.ecachicago.com.

Please note: The totals below for '07 & '08 include all electricians working under the Principal, Communication and Residential Agreements.

APRIL EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

	2007	2008	Cumulative Hourly Totals
NUMBER OF CONTRACTORS	927	918	2007 5,333,807
JOURNEYPERSONS & APPRENTICES EMPLOYED	10,965	11,223	2008
HOURS WORKED	1,381,679	1,470,065	5,570,151