



THE MONTEREY CURRENT

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courses, excellent speakers and a first class trade show. Even though early registration has ended, it's not too late to go! First time attendees also receive \$100 off of their registration fees.

A chapter dinner will be held on Monday evening at Island Prime in their private cabanas. We hope those in chapter members in attendance will be able to join us. Transportation will be provided from the Omni Hotel.

Need help with registration? Just contact Jerri Champlin to handle your registration and hotel reservations. If you prefer to make accommodations outside the room block, you should be aware that there is a fee from NECA National for not staying at a convention hotel.

What expenses are covered? This will cover your full registration to the convention, hotel and airfare for members -- sorry, but you must pay the cost of your spouse to attend. In order to get your reimbursement, receipts are required. For more information about the NECA Convention and Tradeshow, visit their website at <http://www.necaconvention.org/>

We hope that you will make plans to meet many of your colleagues in San Diego! If you haven't used your education reimbursement, this would be an excellent way to take advantage of that as well. The classes that are available are excellent!

The Monterey Bay Chapter has been assigned to the Omni Hotel which is in walking distance to the convention center. Don't forget...If you would like assistance in registering for the convention, please do not hesitate to contact the chapter office.

Future Dates

2012: Sept 30 - Oct 3 Las Vegas

2013: Oct 12-15th Wash DC

2014: Oct 11-14th Chicago

2015: Oct 3-6 San Francisco

2016: TBD

2017: Oct 7-10 Seattle



IBEW INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

The IBEW held its 38th International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, on Canada's Pacific coast from September 16th to the 23rd, 2011.

Held every five years, the IBEW convention is a massive undertaking, bringing some 3,000 local union delegates, officers, staff and guests to the host city. The convention is where the IBEW conducts the heart of its business, setting broad policy goals to guide the union over the next five years in an open, democratic forum.



NECA CONVENTION UPDATE

Join us in San Diego!!

Don't forget!! The Board of Directors has extended an offer to each regular member of our Chapter to make it easier for you to attend the 2011 NECA Convention in San Diego. The chapter will pay up to \$2,400 for you to attend!! That's right! The convention will be held October 22-25 at the San Diego Convention Center and there are many opportunities to enhance your business including education

Chapter Manager Jerri Champlin attended the convention this year along with Local #234 Business Manager Ken Scherpinski and Executive Board Member, Mike Ihnot. If you are interested in an update on this event, please contact me for a copy.



NECA CHRISTMAS PARTY Shadowbrook Reserved!

Located beside lush Soquel Creek in beautiful Capitola-by-the-Sea, Shadowbrook Restaurant is best reached by its own quaint cable car, or a meandering garden path. Since 1947 Shadowbrook has continued to provide world-class service, fine food, wines and liqueurs in an atmosphere of Old-World charm and grace. Best of all it will be the location of our 2011 NECA Christmas Party!! We have reserved the Wine Cellar for this year's event.

Chairman Sharon Jurach and Chapter Manager Jerri Champlin have been working on plans for the upcoming Christmas Party to be held on Friday, December 2nd. Due to the early date, invitations will go out in November (sorry to rush the holiday). Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for this event as it always proves to be a fun kick off for the holiday season!

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Fairfield by Marriott which is located within a mile of Shadowbrook. A rate of \$109 plus tax has been secured. The contact information follows for those who would like to make reservations early:

Fairfield Inn Capitola
1255 41st Avenue
Capitola, California 95010
Phone: [1-831-427-2900](tel:1-831-427-2900)
Fax: [1-831-515-3397](tel:1-831-515-3397)

KEN SHERPINSKI I.O. REPRESENTATIVE Moving on...



Congratulations to Ken Scherpinski who recently announced his promotion to his new position as an International Office Representative replacing retiring Rep. Steve Ray effective October 1, 2011. Vice President Mowrey cited Scherpinski's efforts to work cooperatively with NECA as a key in his decision to elevate him to the new position.

The Executive Board of Local #234 met on September 28th to decide who would complete Ken's term as Business Manager and elected Andy Hartmann to fill the position. Mike Ihnot will complete Andy's term as President of the Local. Chris Burditt has been selected as the new Organizer and Business Development Coordinator to assist Andy in the office and in the field.

Chris Burditt graduated from Cal Poly, SLO in 1999. He was born and raised in Monterey County and graduated from local 234 apprenticeship program in 2010 when he was named outstanding apprentice in his class. He has had the opportunity to work for local contractors: JM Electric, Collins Electric and Central Electric, as well as Zeco Electric and Cupertino Electric.

We look forward to working with all of these capable individuals and wish them all great success in their new endeavors

POSTING REQUIREMENTS POSTPONED

You have heard that effective November 14, most employers would be required to post a new notice to employees of their rights under the National Labor Relations Act.

The National Labor Relations Board recently announced that it is postponing implementation until January 31, 2012. In its press release, the Board stated it was taking that action "in order to allow for enhanced education and outreach to employers, particularly those who operate small and medium sized businesses."

This move follows the filing of lawsuits in September by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in South Carolina and the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Right to Work Legal Defense and Education Foundation and the National Federation of Independent Business in the District of Columbia seeking injunctions to bar the National Labor Relations Board from implementing the regulation.



ELECTRICAL SAFETY SCAFFOLDING

Despite its high fatality rate, construction can be a safe occupation when workers are aware of the hazards, and use an effective Safety and Health Program. This eTool will help you identify and control the hazards that commonly cause the most serious construction injuries. Here is one area of concern:

FALLS

Falls are the leading cause of fatalities in the construction industry. An average of 362 fatal falls occurred each year from 1995 to 1999, with the trend on the increase. It is important that safety and health programs contain provisions to protect workers from falls on the job

Upcoming Events

October 22-25
NECA Convention
San Diego, CA

November 16-18, 2011
NJATC Regional Seminar
Las Vegas, NV

December 2, 2011
Shadowbrook
Capitola, CA

March 19-20, 2012
District Nine Meeting
Scottsdale, AZ

Improper Scaffold Construction

Am I In Danger?

Working with heavy equipment and building materials on the limited space of a scaffold is difficult. Without fall protection or safe access, it becomes hazardous. Falls from such improperly constructed scaffolds can result in injuries ranging from sprains to death.

How Do I Avoid Hazards?

- Construct all scaffolds according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Install guardrail systems along all open sides and ends of platforms.
- Use at least one of the following for scaffolds more than 10 feet above a lower level:
 - Guardrail Systems - Where workers on a construction site are exposed to vertical drops of 6 feet or more, OSHA requires that employers provide fall protection in one of three ways *before* work begins:
 - Placing guardrails around the hazard area.
 - Deploying safety nets.
 - Providing personal fall arrest systems for each employee.

Many times the nature and location of the work will dictate the form that fall protection takes. If the employer chooses to use a guardrail system, he must comply with the following provisions:

- Top edge height of top rails, or equivalent guardrail system members, must be between 39 and 45 inches above the walking/working level, except when conditions warrant otherwise and all other criteria are met (e.g., when employees are using stilts, the top edge height of the top rail must be increased by an amount equal the height of the stilts).
- Midrails, screens, mesh, intermediate vertical members, or equivalent intermediate structures, must be installed between the top edge and the walking/working surface when there is no wall or other structure at least 21 inches high.
- Midrails must be midway between the top edge of the guardrail system and the walking/working level.
- Screens and mesh must extend from the top rail to the walking/working level, and along the entire opening between rail supports.
- Intermediate members (such as balusters) between posts must be no more than 19 inches apart.
- Other structural members (such as additional midrails or architectural panels) must be installed so as to leave no openings wider than 19 inches.
- Guardrail systems must be capable of withstanding at least 200 pounds of force applied within 2 inches of the top edge, in any direction and at any point along the edge, and without causing the top edge of the guardrail to deflect downward to a height less than 39 inches above the walking/working level.
- Midrails, screens, mesh, and other intermediate members must be capable of withstanding at least 150 pounds of force applied in any direction at any point along the midrail or other member.
- Guardrail systems must not have rough or jagged surfaces that would cause punctures, lacerations, or snagged clothing.
- Top rails and midrails must not cause a projection hazard by overhanging the terminal posts.