



# WATTS UP

September 01, 2010

Alaska Chapter NECA Newsletter

[www.alaskaneca.org](http://www.alaskaneca.org)

## Chapter Calendar

September 6

September 7

September 8

September 14

October 2-5

December 4

Labor Day

Anchorage JATC

Board/Membership Meeting

Safety Committee

NECA Convention/Boston, MA

Annual Meeting/Christmas Party

## Just Announced! 2010 Labor Relations Special Session in Boston to Focus on Market Recovery

There are many changes coming this year for labor relations as the IBEW has embarked on a nationwide campaign to recover the work that the unionized electrical construction industry is currently not doing. Therefore, we are pleased to announce that the **Labor Relations Special General Session** at NECA 2010 Boston is all about illuminating those changes to make you, the NECA/IBEW contractor, more competitive in today's marketplace.

The program will open with a roundtable discussion including NECA President [Rex Ferry](#), NECA CEO [John Grau](#) and IBEW President [Ed Hill](#) on the competitive issues and changes that are taking place in our industry. The discussion will be followed by a presentation featuring four NECA-member contractors from around the country who have put these new market recovery programs to work successfully.

The next session will be held **Monday, October 4, 10:00-11:30 a.m.** in the Grand Ballroom at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. It was purposely scheduled to not conflict with the NECA Show or any Management Seminars or Technical Workshops because we want to encourage maximum attendance at this program centered on our industry's future. *Don't miss it!* [Review the 2009 Labor Relations Session via a 10-part video on NECA's website](#)

## Labor Relations

### Labor Relations and market Recovery Also Focus of Labor Day Blog

"While most Labor Day messages are usually a salute to the workforce," our CEO's instead focuses on a challenge. John Grau's latest [NECA Transmissions blog](#) takes a hard look at the continual erosion of union market share in the electrical industry and is directed to IBEW members. He challenges them to think about how labor cost is applied on the job and productivity, and he invites them to respond. It's a message

worth sharing...and worth bringing to the attention of your workers! [Look at what NECA CEO John Grau is telling your IBEW-member employees](#)

## Meetings & Events

### Travel to Boston Receptions Like an A-List Celebrity...with a Police Escort!

Not only will shuttle-bus transportation be provided between our hotels and BCEC during our Convention and Show; we're also providing NECA busing for the **President's Reception** (*by invitation only*) and the **Opening Reception** on Saturday evening, October 2...with police escorts! Both of these events will be celebrated at [Jillian's](#), near Fenway Park. If you're attending either or both, we *strongly* urge you to take advantage of police-escorted NECA busing for the fastest, easiest trip. [Check out the schedule for NECA 2010 Boston to plan your itinerary](#)

## About NECA

### Proposal to Be Considered at 2010 Governors Meeting Available Online

NECA chapter governors will vote on three proposals when they meet October 2 at the Westin Waterfront Hotel in Boston. The proposals concern (1) an increase in annual dues, (2) a ban on so-called "permissible subjects of bargaining" being considered at CIR, and (3) language to replace NECA Standing Policy 2 on National Legislation. Please review them and let your governor know how he can best represent your interests. [Get info on the 2010 NECA Board of Governors Meeting and download proposals](#)

## Take Action

### ECPAC to Contribute Estimated \$1 Million to Mid-Term Campaigns

Having donated about \$254,000 to campaigns last month, our [Electrical Construction Political Action Committee](#) is well on its way to contributing \$1 million to help elect industry-friendly candidates to Congress in the upcoming mid-term elections. Thanks go to more than 25 percent of NECA members that support ECPAC and all those working to build relationships with their legislators. ECPAC contributed to 213 House members and 52 senators during the last election cycle. **Don't Forget:** NECA's Government Affairs specialists will offer insights and predictions on the mid-term elections Tuesday morning, **October 5, 8:00-8:50 a.m.**, during our Convention in Boston. [Investigate the latest news on NECA's website about ECPAC support and political action](#)

## On The Job

### ELECTRI Council Reviews Research Progress, Considers New Projects

Along with other items of interest, ELECTRI International's [August 2010 EI Connection newsletter](#) reports on last month's meeting of the [ELECTRI Council](#) where council members were updated on two important research projects: the [Energy Roadmap](#) and the multi-year effort known as the [Strategic Energy Initiative](#). They were also treated to presentations by researchers undertaking new projects on marketing preconstruction services, integrated project delivery, and nuclear plant construction. [Peruse a recap of the ELECTRI Council's July 27-28, 2010, meeting](#)

## **NECA and NJATC Co-Author Textbook on 2011 NEC Changes**

If you attend the Pre-Convention Seminar on [Significant Changes to the 2011 National Electrical Code](#), Saturday, **October 2, 1:00-3:00 p.m.**, you'll get a copy of the NJATC textbook by the same name at no additional charge. You can also purchase the book, at only **\$38**, from the NJATC. To order, visit the NJATC Bookstore at [www.njatc.org](http://www.njatc.org) or call **1-888-652-4007**. It's described in the online NECA Store. [Get info from NECA's online store about the Significant Changes to the 2011 NEC book](#)

## **Safety**

### **eSafetyLine Toolbox Talks for September**

Each month, the [special safety site available through NECA's website](#) addresses a specific topic and offers downloadable materials to enable you to provide related [weekly toolbox safety talks](#) \* to employees. \* Click on the red numeral for the week (shown on the [eSafety Line calendar page](#)) to download the current employee training material. Click on the toolbox icon for the archive of previously issued toolbox talks.

## **Member News**

Please welcome our newest NECA member

Alaska Power and Communications Services, Accredited representative: Robin Hindmarch

### **FUTURE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS.....**

October 22-25, 2011	NECA Convention/San Diego, CA
September 30-October 3, 2012	NECA Convention/Las Vegas, NV
October 12-15, 2013	NECA Convention/Washington, DC