



# NECA E-xclusive

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## Alaska Chapter News

### Board of Directors and Officers for 2017

The Chapter is pleased to announce the 2017 Board of Directors and Officers:

- Scott Bringmann, President
- Dave McAllen, Vice President
- Lael Fullford, Governor
- Jason Hodges, Treasurer
- Dave Kezer, Director
- Glenn Potter, Director
- Jesse Hale, Director
- Mark McKinney, Director
- Ralph Kibby, Director

### NECA's 2016 Holiday Party

On December 3, 2016, at the Embassy Suites in Anchorage, the Chapter held its annual Holiday party. Despite the drop in the temperature, quite a crowd came to join us in great conversation, delicious food, fun photos and dancing. Next year's party will be on December 2, 2017. Save the date!



## Government Affairs

The House passed, in a 326-96 vote, a stopgap spending bill, H.R. 2028, that would keep the government funded only through April 28, 2017. The compromise extension is intended to give President-elect Donald Trump more say over the final spending bills for the current fiscal year. Several NECA priority issues such as authorization for composite pension plans, energy tax extenders, and a change in how the FEC regulates Political Action Committees, all were deferred on until the next Congress begins its session on January 3, 2017.

**NECA's Look Ahead:** It was hoped that final agreed-upon language on composite plans would be included in the final deal,

## Events

12/25/16

**Christmas Day**

01/01/17

**New Year's Day**

01/11/17

**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**  
[RSVP](#)

02/15/17

**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting in  
Juneau**

02/20/17

**President's Day**

03/08/17

**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

04/12/17

**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

05/10/17

**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

05/29/17

**Memorial Day**

but a showdown occurred over including funds for retired mineworkers' health care and pension plans and the House would not agree. Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) said he will hold up passage of the bill in the Senate, but it is unlikely he will get enough Senators to agree with him. The investment tax credit extensions for new technologies such as fuel cells, combined heat and power, small wind, microturbines, and geothermal were not included because House negotiators want to address these issues during comprehensive tax reform next year. NECA will continue to push for swift action on these issues in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.

After two full years of legislative action and several more years of debate, House leaders also ran the clock out on negotiating a NECA-supported comprehensive energy bill, angering many on both sides of the political and policy spectrum.

**NECA's Look Ahead:** The energy bill conference took a seemingly endless series of unusual twists and turns over the past six months, during which a bill that was intended to address a broad range of outdated federal energy policies essentially turned into multiple frustrations over issues on the natural resources side of the committees' jurisdiction. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Chair Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) was apoplectic over a statement issued by House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI), where he claimed the two chambers had failed to resolve "various outstanding issues." Indeed, there was agreement on multiple items, including energy efficiency provisions, performance metrics for electricity infrastructure providers, including identification of tools and resources that may enable improved grid performance, modifying the definition of renewable energy to include thermal energy, establishing a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Energy Workforce Advisory Board focused on training for energy & manufacturing jobs, and a host of other issues. NECA will ask that conferees agree to move on this bill when the new Congress returns in January.



## Technology

### **Anticipating Disruption? Put the Customer First.**

Who can anticipate disruption, or if they can, can they accurately foresee the impact of disruption in their part of the marketplace? 85% of CEOs surveyed in the U.S. say they don't have time to strategize in response to disruption and innovation. One way to anticipate potential disruption in tomorrow's marketplace is to study trends in current customers, academia, social media and industry analytics. Historically, electrical contractors have put an emphasis on customer needs and experience, instead of beginning with changes stemming from the latest technology. Customer experience is still the driving force when weighing changes to business processes and models. Customer needs

06/14/17  
**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

07/04/17  
**Independence Day**

07/12/17  
**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

08/2017 Date TBD  
**Board of Directors /  
Membership/Veteran  
Member/Guest/Spouse  
Meeting**

08/2017 Date TBD  
**NECA Open at  
Anchorage Golf Course**

09/04/17  
**Labor Day**

09/13/17  
**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

10/07-10/17  
**2017 NECA Convention  
& Trade Show  
Seattle, WA**

10/2017 Date TBD  
**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

11/08/17  
**Board of Directors /  
Membership Meeting**

11/11/17  
**Veteran's Day**

11/23/17  
**Thanksgiving Day**

12/02/17  
**Annual Board of  
Directors / Membership**

must first be identified, then the new business model can be built with supporting technology.

### **Google Announces it Will Run on 100% Renewable in 2017**

Every year people search on Google trillions of times; every minute people upload more than 400 hours of YouTube videos. All of that takes an incredible amount of processing power-which means energy. Our engineers have spent years perfecting Google's data centers, making them 50 percent more energy efficient than the industry average. But we still need a lot of energy to power the products and services that our users depend on. We began purchasing renewable energy to reduce our carbon footprint and address climate change-but it also makes business sense.

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### **Safety**

### **OSHA Issues Recommended Practice to Promote Workplace Safety and Health Programs in Construction**

On Thursday, December 1, the OSHA issued Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs in Construction to help industry employers develop proactive programs to keep their workplaces safe.

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### **eSafetyLine Toolbox Talks**

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.

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**Meeting & Holiday Party in Anchorage**

12/25/17

**Christmas Day**