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MEMBERS ONLY NEWS FROM YOUR INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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Alaska Chapter News

Board of Directors/Membership Meetings

The annual Board of Directors/Membership meeting & Holiday party will be held on December 3rd. The Holiday party will be at the Embassy Suites. Please RSVP to the Chapter for both as soon as possible if you have not done so already.

The nominating committee, appointed by President Lael Fullford, met and the following were nominated to fill the five (5) vacancies on the Board of Directors.

Anchorage

Dave McAllen	Haakenson Electric
Jason Hodges	Northern Powerline Constructors Inc
Jesse Hale	Endeavor Electric LLC

Fairbanks

Dave Kezer	Sturgeon Electric Company Inc
Glenn Potter	Star Electric Inc

Prior to voting at the annual meeting, nominations will be called for from the floor for eligible write-in candidates.

If you are unable to attend, please refer to NECAGram N16-22 for the details on sending your proxy.



Government Affairs

NECA Top Three

1. The Trump transition team began in earnest to put together its new Administration, with an announcement that Vice President-elect Mike Pence would take over as head of the transition. NECA sent a letter to the transition team on November 15,

Events

11/24/16
Thanksgiving Day

12/03/16
Annual Board of Directors / Membership Meeting & Holiday Party in Anchorage
[RSVP](#)

12/05/16
Proving & Pricing Subcontractor Change Orders Seminar at Hilton Anchorage

12/25/16
Christmas Day

outlining our role in the electrical construction industry and our priority issues.

NECA's Look Ahead: President-elect Donald Trump announced that he has selected retired Lieutenant General Michael Flynn, the former head of Defense Intelligence Agency and a key military surrogate throughout his campaign as national security adviser. He also announced that Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) will serve as Attorney General and Rep Mike Pompeo (R-KS), as director of the Central Intelligence Agency. In a "Team of Rivals" move, he was also to meet last weekend with 2012 GOP nominee Mitt Romney, who is reportedly under consideration for Secretary of State, despite embarking on a one-man mission to block Trump from the White House.

2. Congressional leaders kicked off the "lame duck" session of Congress last week by laying out plans for the remaining weeks of the 114th Congress as they also voted on leadership teams for the 115th Congress, which will be sworn in on January 3, 2017.

To view Leadership Teams for the 115th Congress, [click here](#).

NECA's Look Ahead: In a surprise move, House Democrats decided to delay their leadership election last week, as Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) put it off amid disarray over the party's worse-than-expected election results. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-OH), said November 17 that he will challenge Leader Pelosi for the job as House Democrats are now scheduled to vote for Minority Leader and other posts by secret ballot on November 30.

3. After meeting with Vice-President-elect Pence last week, House and Senate Republican leaders agreed to abandon plans to finish up this year's appropriations bills this fall in order to give the new Congress and incoming Trump administration the final say over fiscal year 2017 spending. Rather than a large omnibus that could have served as a vehicle for other must-pass bills, the House in December will take up a new continuing resolution (CR) that continues current funding through March 31, 2017. The announcement was at odds with plans that Republican leaders, particularly Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY), and House and Senate appropriators were pursuing to finish the bills this December. Passage of some kind of funding bill is necessary before a current CR expires on December 9.

NECA's Look Ahead: It is hoped that the new CR could include funding for items such as the Flint, MI water crisis and Louisiana flooding disaster assistance. Looking further down the road, the other big news last week was that House leaders are strongly considering ending the earmark ban as a means to restore the "powers of the purse" given to Congress by the Constitution.

Speaker Ryan said next steps on the matter of earmarks will be decided next winter, before the next CR runs out. NECA sent a letter to members of the House and Senate urging for action on several items before Congress adjourns in December. You can take action, too, by telling your member of Congress and Senators to act on key legislation before the end of the year.

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Listen to the 2016 Election Recap Webinar Today!

In case you missed NECA's webinar, "What Just Happened: NECA's 2016 Election Recap," a recording is available for you to view. Learn all you need to know about NECA's role in the 2016 elections and what to expect of the 115th Congress.

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Labor Relations

Chugach Electric Association Donates Vehicles to Local JATC

When a group of electrical contractors in Alaska decided to give back to the community, they found an answer that will benefit everyone for years to come.

Anchorage based, Chugach Electric, has donated two vehicles that it had planned to retire this year. Training programs at the University of Alaska Anchorage and the Alaska Electrical Training School were at the receiving end of that good fortune.

The NECA/IBEW Alaska Joint Electrical Apprenticeship & Training Trust, which operates the Alaska Electrical Training School, is getting a 1990 model aerial bucket truck after 26 years of use at Chugach.

The truck is no longer road-worthy, but it is still a valuable teaching aid. The aerial bucket unit passed its safety and dielectric inspection and is still usable for training purposes at the school. The school can use the truck for instruction on safe use of an aerial bucket, bucket truck rescue training and safety.

The University of Alaska Anchorage's Diesel Power Technology program will receive a 1989 utility line/digger derrick truck that has been in the Chugach fleet for 27 years.

Because of the truck's age and condition, it is being retired, but it remains a great teaching aid for the UAA program. It has all of the systems any fleet mechanic would work on including diesel

engine, power train, hydraulic system, electrical systems, gears, controls and pumps.

"We're very pleased to be able to make these donations to two local educational programs," said Chugach CEO Lee Thibert. "After years of valuable use at Chugach, it is good to know these trucks will provide skill training for our industry and help prepare future mechanics and linemen with hands-on experience."

The truck to the NECA/IBEW program was scheduled to be delivered Monday, and the truck to UAA will be delivered the week of Nov. 28. The association said Chugach Electric Senior Shop Mechanic Richard Dusenbury serves on the Diesel Power Technology Advisory Council at UAA and helped organize the donations.



Publications & Resources

NECA Releases Sixth Guide in NFPA 70E Electrical Safety Series; Complete Set Now Available!

The latest guide in the series (Index # 5127-16) provides the contractor with a template for use in creating policies and best practices and includes samples and tools for your company to develop written programs that are easily communicated to employees and customers.

About the NECA Systems Approach to Electrical Safety for NFPA 70E Series

This series of six guides was designed to help employers, employees and customers understand the requirement found in the standard and easily apply those provisions for compliance. The guides come in individual spiral bound handbooks sized for easy use in the field by all personnel and are sold individually or as a set.

NECA Safety System Guide based on NFPA 70E Guide Set – Index # 5128GS-16:

- NECA Guide to NFPA 70E Employer (Contractor) Responsibilities (Index #5126)
- NECA Guide to Decision Making: Energized vs. De-Energized Work (Index #5340)
- NECA NFPA 70E Personal Protector Equipment (PPE) Selector Guide (Index #5024-15)
- NECA NFPA 70E Lockout/Tag-out Guide (Index #5400)
- NECA Supervisors Guide to Jobsite Safety (Index #5125)
- NECA Guide to Policies and Best Practices *NEW* (Index #5127-16)

Individually these guides cost \$25 members/\$50 non-members and together you can purchase all six guides for \$120 Members/\$240 Non-member.

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Technology

Technology Disrupting the Masses

One of the most overlooked topics for the news has been emerging disruptive technology, especially as it relates to transportation and augmented reality for the masses.

Apparently, those who have reported on emerging technologies for a long time are saying the “next big thing” is just over the horizon-as in any day now. One major developer, Tesla’s CEO Elon Musk, seems to be focused on electric transportation for everyone, and on the verge of becoming a much larger player in the *global* auto industry.

Tesla’s Model 3 is a sleek, stylish, fast electric car appealing to the masses with almost 375,000 customers registering advanced orders at \$1,000 each. The Model 3 has driving range of 200 miles and will sell for around \$30,000 after credits and tax breaks are applied. Carmakers have been bolting glass, rubber, plastic and steel together for decades. Described as a Toyota Corolla with a head-turning exterior and electric motors in place of a gas engine, Tesla’s Model 3 should be a cinch to build. Futurists will be wowed once the code is finally cracked on the self-driving capability, which will be standard on the Model 3. And realists will be enthused with the first affordable Tesla vehicle and the approach to “electrified mobility for the masses”. Becoming what the auto industry calls a volume product, the Model 3 is critical to Musk’s and Tesla’s goal of delivering 500,000 vehicles annually, by 2018.

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Sun heats. Wind blows. Water falls.

Sounds like an early primer for teaching reading. The obvious is not always easy to achieve in the sense of harnessing power for electricity. Solar, wind and water are on a continuum to improve our sustainability and break dependency on traditional sources of energy. Renewable, cost-efficient energy that makes our lives cleaner and healthier is very promising and perhaps closer than we realize. In terms of installation and energy distribution the potential for additional jobs is huge, from engineering and design, to construction and ongoing management and maintenance.

On October 28th, Tesla unveiled a new-design solar roofing tile. The appearance of the tiles is a big consideration for potential

buyers. Tesla's tiles come in four designs including Textured Glass, Slate Glass, Tuscan Glass, and Smooth Glass. Solar designs have to leap a major hurdle in terms of customer perception and style or presentation, leaving a lot to be desired in terms of offering a product that can be described as "good-looking". Claiming to be able to power a standard home, Tesla's new solar tiles will also provide spare power in case of inclement weather or power outages. Elon Musk says the overall costs of his new roofing will be less than installing a conventional roof and paying the electric company for power. The new solar glass tiles should not only withstand wind and hail storms better than most roofing shingles, but likely last two to three times longer than our roofs today.

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Safety

OSHA Releases New Recommended Practices for Safety and Health

The new recommended practices for safety and health programs brings the guidelines current to assist employers and employees in achieving safety in the workplace, their shared responsibility.

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OSHA Delays Enforcement of New Recordkeeping Standard Until Dec. 1

The U.S. Department of Labor released the following memorandum on October 18, 2016, stating that the OSHA has agreed delay enforcement of the final rule to Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses until December 1.

This delay is due to a request submitted on October 14 by the District Court, Northern District of Texas asking OSHA to allow them additional time to consider a motion pending before the court in a case challenging the new provisions.

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OSHA Issues Final Rule Updating Walking-Working Surface Standards

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration released a preview of the final rule updating its general industry Walking-Working Surfaces standards specific to slip, trip, and fall hazards. The rule also includes a new section under the general industry, 1910 Subpart I Personal Protective Equipment standards that establishes employer requirements when using personal fall protection systems.

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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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