



# REVIEW



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“We must welcome the future, remembering that soon it will be the past, and we must respect the past, knowing that once it was all that was humanly possible.”

George Santayana

**GREATER CLEVELAND**

## PREVAILING WAGE

Issues continue that bring concern to employers and workers. Some non-union competition is monitoring jobs that union contractors are working and if any violations are found a lawsuit is filed and pursued. As a contractor you need to have your foremen supervise their jobs closely and control the flow of

manpower particularly the use of apprentices.

With jobs being few in these tough economic times most employers do not need a confrontational legal case with the heavy cost and time commitment to fight.

## CHANGES IN REFERRAL LANGUAGE

IBEW Local Union 38 has:

- 1.) Suspended the “nick” system.
- 2.) All members on the out of work list will be eligible to obtain 20 weeks of work without losing their spot on the out of work list.
- 3.) The above will allow members to re-qualify for unemployment and possibly Health and Welfare benefits.
- 4.) This new procedure will allow all calls to be taken without losing your spot on the list.
- 5.) If 20 weeks of employment have been

completed and then a layoff occurs the member will have to resign the book.

- 6.) Quitting a call or being terminated for just cause will result in re-signing the out of work book.
- 7.) The “Will Call” list will remain available to all members unemployed—but working out of town.
- 8.) Once the nick system is reinstated-a fresh start will be available to all.

## CHAPTER OFFICERS/BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2010

- 1.) President—Mike Joyce, Zenith Systems, LLC
- 2.) Vice-President—Gerry Higgins, Firelands Electric.
- 3.) Treasurer—Tom Morgan, Harrington Electric Co.

- 4.) Governor—Duke Benevento, Herbst Electric Co.

Other Board of Director members include **David Haines, Ron Ullman and Kevin Vayo.**





## NECA GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) Total dollars raised in 2009—\$801,537.</li> <li>2.) Total ECPAC contributors—1134.</li> <li>3.) Total PLC members—60.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.) Total Chapter PLC members 34.</li> </ul> <p>A vote on the Health Care bill will probably occur in early February.</p> |
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## MANHOURS

For 11 months in 2009 the total manhours were down to 3,039,834 compared to 3,777,816,06 in 2008. LU #38 hours are down about 600,000 (inside hours), LU #129 hours are down about 125,000 (inside hours,) LU #673 hours are down about 1,500 (inside hours.) The percentage decline is approximately 20%. With one more month in the year, the yearly total will be about 3.3 million.

Looking back the Inside hours for 1980 for LU #38 were 2.5 million, for 1990 it was 3.2 million, for 2000 it was 3.7 million.

It is our hope at NECA that work hours increase, unemployment declines drastically and that all employers become as busy as they can be.

## FINANCIAL

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) Roth IRA's now available to anyone.</li> <li>2.) Look for crude oil to trade in a range between \$75 to \$100 throughout the year.</li> <li>3.) Expect consolidation in the solar sector with mergers and acquisitions.</li> <li>4.) Nearly 300,000 megawatts of wind farms are in stall mode-waiting for grid enhancements and upgrades.</li> <li>5.) Recharging stations—needed for plug-in electric vehicles are beginning to be installed in some towns.</li> <li>6.) \$59 trillion in unfunded liabilities exists for social</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>security, Medicare and Medicaid.</li> <li>7.) The dollar continues to be bearish.</li> <li>8.) The long term average unemployment rate for the U.S. is 6.3% - dating back to the mid 1970's. It was 5.5% between 1992-2007.</li> <li>9.) 130 U.S. banks failed in 2009-the highest number since 1992.</li> <li>10.) Consumer lending declined for the 9th consecutive month in October.</li> </ul> |
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## CALENDAR

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) District Two Council—Feb. 3-5, Naples, Florida.</li> <li>2.) Board of Directors—Feb. 8.</li> <li>3.) Eastern Region Spring Meeting—April 11-14, Hyatt at Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale, Arizona.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.) Annual Golf Outing –June 28 at Barrington.</li> <li>5.) Annual NECA Convention—Oct. 2-5 in Boston, Mass.</li> </ul> |
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## SAFETY/OSHA

The OSHA 300A form must be posted until April 30. Forms can be down loaded from the NECA Website.

NECA offers a booklet entitled “Electrical Construction Employee Safety Handbook.” The booklet is designed to allow employees to familiarize themselves with general safety rules and OSHA safety regulations pertaining to their jobs. The cost is \$4.00. Discounts are available for a large number of units ordered.

Also available is the ‘Hazard Communication Handbook for Electrical Construction Employees.’ It also is available for \$4.00 and discounts are available for large quantities.

You can review all the NECA publications on the NECA website: [www.necanet.org](http://www.necanet.org).

**LOOK FOR THE NEXT REVIEW IN FEBRUARY!**