



“And those who were seen dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music.”

Friedrich Nietzsche

MANAGER’S COMMENTS

GREATER CLEVELAND

When you receive a letter in the mail that says you are invited to a dance, how do you decide whether to go or not? Don't you first need more information? You know, the simple stuff like the five “W's”, who, what, where, when and why?

If some or most of that info is missing you probably do at least one of several things. You might throw the invitation in the trash, especially if you really don't like to do anything or you might ask questions, if you think you may want to go or you might put the invitation where you put other stuff that you intend to deal with later. In any case, it would be easier to make a decision if you had all the info from the get go.

Let's add another aspect to this dance invite. You get the mail and the invitation actually isn't just for you...its for the whole family. So if you make up your mind you aren't going and you pitch the invitation in the garbage, then the whole family would be clueless about any details pertaining to the dance. They get left out.

So let's say the dance gets started by the few people who eventually got and understood the details (The 5 W's) of the invitation and it's a pretty good party that's going on. Now the people who are responsible for sending the invitation without all the pertinent info are wondering why the turn out is so limited. They blame the mailman and everybody else but themselves.

Slowly, some people hear about the dance and ask their family members to attend. The family members don't want to go. They give any number of reasons, like they're mad because they made plans to just keep doing what they've been doing or they don't think they need to dance to have a good time and some just don't know how to dance because they never had lessons.

Obviously, the ones who made up and sent the invitations, wanted everyone to attend. But, they didn't learn anything from the last time they screwed up an invitation they sent and had to go out and individually talk to all the families to get some of them to attend. That dance is over so we won't talk about it.

Now back to this dance. The same thing is happening again but some of the families are saying they will go but, want to decide what kind of music will be played. So to get more people to the dance the sponsors acquiesce. It works to some degree. More people show up. So, different music is being played all over the place but at least the people dancing are having a good time.

The effort to get more people to the dance goes on because the dance is vitally important and can't afford to end. You see, this dance is just a metaphor for the CW/CE Addendum to the Inside Agreement. The invitation, by way of a notice signed by Edwin Hill and John Grau was sent on November 4, 2005. That's right, nine long years ago. A lot of people still haven't shown up. Why? Because some haven't taken the time to find out all the details, some because the music isn't perfect and some just because.

Unfortunately there needs to be more education, more understanding of the facts that show these nine year old CW/CE classifications of IBEW members have produced a ton of Inside man hours. For those who know this and still deny that these classifications put people to work...I just don't understand. I'll put it this way. You have a problem...a big problem! Apparently, you don't hear the music.



NEW OCILB RULES

This year the Ohio Legislature passed Senate Bill 78 and House Bill 486, both of which were signed into law by the Governor. They made some significant changes to the contractor licensing law that's administered by the Ohio Construction Industry Licensing Board.

Here's a summary of those changes:

SB-78

- The licensed contractor **shall employ** the trades people performing the work. The tradespeople must be paid by a **W-2** and not a 1099. Anyone paid by a 1099 is an independent contractor and must be licensed. The new law allows the licensed contractor to hire tradespeople from a temporary agency.
- Previously, the licensing law said the contractor **"may"** assign a **"business entity"** to their license. The new law now states the licensed contractor **"shall"** assign a **"contracting company name"** to their license or place the license in escrow. While in escrow, it is illegal to advertise and/or perform commercial work in the licensed trade.
- Proof of liability insurance at the time of renewal is no longer required. However, at least \$500,000 liability insurance must be maintained. The OCILB will periodically conduct audits and proof of liability insurance may be required.
- The test for obtaining a license may only be taken every **60 days** and not more than **5 times** in one year for each (Business/Law and Code).

Once a licensed contractor leaves the company assigned to the license, the contractor must complete a Company Name Change Form immediately. The licensed contractor must either be disassociated from the company for **90 days** or the company may release the license immediately. The 90 day disassociation period begins the day the OCILB receives the Company Name Change form.

HB-486 Establishes the Ohio Business Compliance Incentive Program.

- Allows licensed contractors who are in good standing to enroll in the program and renew yearly or every three years at their option. License fees will remain the same for either option (e.r., \$60 for each license each year.)
- For the purpose of this program, the year 2015 will be the base year for which the requirements for renewal will be based. If the licensed contractor fulfills all the requirements for renewal beginning 2015 (no violations, all CE completed, fees paid) the contractor will be provided the option to renew for 1 or 3 years during the 2016 renewal period. Any violation during a multiple renewal period will render the contractor no longer eligible and must revert back to the annual renewal program.
- For contractors enrolled in the program, the new law reduces continuing education hours from 10 to **8 hours** each year. For example, if the "licensed contractor" chooses to renew every three years, the contractor will pay \$180 renewal fee for each license and the license(s) will expire in 2019. As always, the four mechanical trades may take their continuing education in any approved course(s). Electrical must take half of their hours in code and the remainder may be taken in any other approved course or all hours can simply be taken in Electrical Code.
- The reduced hours and 1 or 3 year renewal period will not start until 2016.

If you have any questions concerning these new rules please call the Chapter Manager at 216-802-9512.

We encourage all license holders to read and understand these changes. We also want to caution everyone to carefully consider whether you have the discipline to acquire the 24 continuing education hours needed if you choose to renew every three years. If you tend to procrastinate, the three year renewal isn't a good idea.

MANHOURS

Cleveland Division thru October :	2,335,461
Lake Erie Division thru October:	421,876
Northeast Ohio Division thru October:	<u>245,691</u>
Chapter Total:	3,003,028

ECONOMIC NEWS OF THE DAY

- 1.) Keystone Pipeline...guess we'll officially find out who is for jobs soon! Can you say "between a rock and a hard place"?
- 2.) Sales of gift cards rose to \$124 Billion this year.
- 3.) This year \$750 Million worth of gift cards went unredeemed.
- 4.) The recent 30% drop in oil prices may not be the bottom. That's good news for consumers.
- 5.) Watch for politicians in DC to throw cold water on consumers by increasing the gasoline tax.
- 6.) Shopping online? "Research more, browse less" is good advice.
- 7.) U.S. factories were less busy in November but the level of activity remains strong.
- 8.) After nearly a decade of legal wrangling, a billion dollar class action lawsuit over Apple's iPod music players heads to trial December 2nd. The interesting part of this trial will be the video taped deposition by the late Steve Jobs.
- 9.) In France, workers aren't the only ones who take to the streets to protest - their bosses do too. Several thousand French business owners, mostly small companies, demonstrated in Paris on December 1st to plead with the government to simplify regulations. Hmmm.
- 10.) "If Santa Claus should fail to call, the Bears may come to Broad and Wall."

2015 NECA NOW CONFERENCE

It's never too early to mark your calendars for 2015. As a matter of fact, you probably already started. Two years ago NECA held its first NECA Now Leadership Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. It was a huge success because it offered something for everyone. The focus was on educational seminars but there was a great mix of social activities for the whole family.

That's why you should mark your calendar (April 13-16) and plan on attending this year's conference at the Intercontinental Hotel in Miami, Florida located right on Biscayne Bay.

Visit NECA-Now.com for more information or call the Chapter Office 216-524-8444 or 216-802-9512.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1.) NECA Christmas Party—December 6, 2014-Ritz Carlton Hotel, Tower City, Cleveland.
- 2.) Prefabrication Design Seminar—January 14, 2015-8:00 AM—4:00 PM—Crown Plaza Hotel, Rockside Road, Independence.
- 3.) Lake Erie Division Meeting - January 6, 2015, place TBD.
- 4.) Northeast Ohio Division Meeting - January 7, 2015, place TBD.
- 5.) Cleveland Division Meeting - January 8, 2015, place TBD.
- 6.) 2015 NECA Now—April 13-16, 2015 in Miami, Florida.

ELECTRICAL TRAINING ALLIANCE AND NECA PREMIER PARTNERS

ELECTRICAL TRAINING ALLIANCE PARTNERS

PLATINUM LEVEL:

3M Company Electrical Markets Division

Graybar

Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation

Klein Tools, Inc.

Harger Lightning and Grounding

Fluke Corporation

Eaton's Bussman Business

Lutron Electronics, Inc.

Greenlee, A Textron Company

Prysmian Group

Salisbury by Honeywell

Southwire Company

Thomas & Betts Corporation

Schneider Electric

Underwriters Laboratories, Inc.

Westex by Milliken

GOLD LEVEL:

Buckingham Manufacturing Company, Inc.

E2E Summit

SILVER LEVEL:

Ann Arbor Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Ypsilanti Area Convention & Visitors Bureau

Steel Tube Institute

American Technical Publishers, Inc.

BRONZE LEVEL:

Alexander Publications

Coyne First Aid

Breslin Strategies, Inc.

Ideal Industries, Inc.

Legrand

MOSAIC

Rubin Brothers, Inc.

Stark Safety Consultants

Phillips Color Kinetics

TE Connectivity

The Lincoln Leadership Institute at Gettysburg

NECA PREMIER PARTNERS

Graybar

Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation

Federated Insurance

Schneider Electric

Thomas & Betts Corporation

Trimble

Westex by Milliken



LOOK FOR THE NEXT REVIEW IN JANUARY 2015!