



“Never push a loyal person to the point where they no longer care.

anonymous

GREATER CLEVELAND

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Lllleetsss ggeet rready to taalk pollliticss!

In this corner we have “NECA.” And in this corner we have “IBEW.” And in this corner we have “Other Like Minded Trade Associations and Building Trades Union.” And in this corner we have “Issues we agree upon.”

FYI. There are a few things going on in Washington, D.C. if you haven't noticed. Am I scaring some of you? Read the whole article before you pick up the phone and start freaking out on me.

I'm talking about the things going on that really affect our industry/livelihood that you may have noticed by reading the NECA News and NECA Legislative Updates or listening to me at our meetings.

First, it was at least 14 years ago that the “3 Corners” (NECA, IBEW and Other) joined to bring the issue of multi-employer pension plan problems to the Federal Government. Then, at a glacial pace and incrementally, they passed a number of pieces of legislation, that in my opinion, kicked the can down the road, which is what mediocre politicians everywhere are known for. So lets fast forward to today. The situation now is that more plans are facing insolvency and these politicians are running out of road. So, as we have come to expect, Congress is working to pass some piece of legislation which will, to some degree, help. To what degree? Only time will tell.

Second is IRAP's (Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs.) Back in June of this year the Department of Labor made public a Notice of Proposed Rule-making that would establish a process for the DOL to advance the development of high quality, IRAP's. That's the DOL's description. Keep in mind, this release had been in the works for a long time, during which the 3 Corners got the construction industry exempted. Then during the 60 day comment period thousands of letters were sent to the DOL supporting the permanent exclusion of construction.

Third, a little issue that affects the 3 Corners is Prompt Pay. Not much description of this issue should be necessary here. The sooner the owner pays the prime contract holder the sooner the subcontractors get paid. This issue is being addressed at the federal level as well as in the Statehouse in Ohio.

Then there's a very recent issue that has come up in Ohio that is very disconcerting. Last week a bill was introduced in the Senate that in effect would allow reciprocity with any state building trades contractor license holder in the country. In short, this would eviscerate our standards for holding a license. There would be no equality in the initial testing nor in continuing education requirements. I don't know how all 3 Corners feel about this but I can guarantee one and a half of them will aggressively oppose the bill.

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MANAGER'S COMMENTS CONTINUED

In addition in Ohio, there's a House Bill that is very complicated but apparently, at this point, will allow the Electric Utility Companies to perform work that we now do. It's likely that the current iteration of the bill will be amended before a vote is taken.

You've just read about five issues, but there are many more in the queue that can have an effect on us.

The reason for my comments today is simple. I want you to know I'm not losing sleep over any of these issues. Wanna know why? The 3 Corners are paying people to lobby these issues on our behalf. How's the saying go...Hire good people and let them do their job.

I can't speak as to two of the Corners but as for NECA, I assure you we have assembled a Capital Hill Team and Ohio Statehouse Team that are

second to none.

In Washington, NECA's team, lead by Director of Government Affairs, Jessica Cardenas and her staff, James Ferrell and Trevor Falk with expert support from their former Director, Marco Giamberardino work tirelessly to see to it that no issues are unattended.

And in Columbus, our (North Central Ohio Chapter, Cincinnati Chapter and Greater Cleveland Chapter) lobbyists, Aaron Ockerman and Dave Battocletti work every day to see that our industry's interest are being represented.

I have plenty of things that keep me up at night just like everyone else but politics isn't one of them, thanks to good people we've hired.

WE'RE MOVING!!!

After several months of discussion, the Board of Directors agreed to authorize the Chapter Manager to search for a stand alone office building to purchase. The BOD carefully weighed the advantages this decision would provide to the operations and mission of the Chapter.

Currently the Chapter owns an office condominium. Owning its own larger building will enable the Chapter to have a designated training area to conduct management training classes and a place to hold larger meetings without paying for a facility and have to work around their availability. It will also provide space for the member firms to use at no expense.

A building search began in October and a property was chosen. The new address will be 9050 Sweet Valley Drive in Valley View, only five

minutes from the current office. The purchase should be finalized before Christmas and remodeling will begin as soon as possible. The plans include demising approximately 3,000 square feet to be available for lease.

The move-in date will be dependent upon how soon the existing office can be sold and the construction schedule. Everyone will be notified when the exact date takes place. An open house will be planned at a later date.

This investment by the Board positions the Chapter to meet the needs of the members far into the future. As always, the Chapter is taking steps to remain leaders in their industry.

EDUCATION DIRECTORS REPORT—A.K. FULLMER

Recently I have sent out an education survey including nine classes to gauge members interest. Many of you have already taken a few minutes out of your busy days to fill it out and for that I thank you. Your feedback and the continued feedback of other Greater Cleveland members will help shape the 2020 education program to better serve your needs. I look forward to sharing the findings of this survey with you soon and scheduling meaningful and valued education sessions in 2020.

Kent State and Cincinnati’s student chapters are both growing and are excited for the prospects of future progress. As the fall semester comes to a close, students in both chapters are

starting work on their Green Energy Challenge Projects, be on the lookout for progress emails in the coming semester as I will be excited to share them with you. Also, if you are in the market for an intern this summer, please consider attending the Kent State Construction Management Career Fair. The career fair will be held on February 7th and is a great way to find qualified applicants. I will be sending out the new link to register as soon as I receive it.

Most importantly, I would like to thank you all for your continued support and participation in our education program.

Happy Holidays!

MANHOURS

Cleveland Division thru October:	2,884,283
Lake Erie Division thru October:	415,663
Northeast Ohio Division thru October:	<u>357,910</u>
Chapter Total:	3,657,856

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1.) **Annual Holiday Party** - December 7, 2019 –6:00 PM –Ritz Carlton Hotel, Downtown Cleveland.
- 2.) **Lake Erie Division Meeting**- January 7, 2020—6:00PM—TBD.
- 3.) **Northeast Ohio Division Meeting**-January 8, 2020—Noon– Redhawk Grille.
- 4.) **Cleveland Division Meeting**– January 9, 2020—5:30 PM—TBD.



LOOK FOR THE NEXT REVIEW IN JANUARY 2020!!

**IT'S GOOD BUSINESS TO DO BUSINESS WITH THOSE FIRMS
WHO SUPPORT OUR ASSOCIATION**

CHAPTER ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

1-888-Ohio Comp	Graybar Electric Co.
ABB Industrial Solutions	Leff Electric
Admar Supply Company	Mars Electric
BMA Media Group	Milwaukee Tool
Ciuni & Panichi, Inc.	PEPCO
CompManagement, Inc.	Riffle and Associates
Eaton Corporation	Simplex Grinnell
ENESPRO PPE	United Rentals
Ericson Manufacturing	

NECA PREMIER PARTNERS

3M	Schneider Electric
Federated Insurance	Southwire Corporation
Graybar	Thomas and Betts Corporation
Greenlee	United Rentals
Milwaukee Tool	Westex by <i>Milliken</i>

ELECTRICAL TRAINING ALLIANCE PARTNERS

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Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation
 Klein Tools, Inc.
 Thomas & Betts Corporation
 3M Company Electrical Markets Division
 Salisbury by Honeywell
 Harger Lighting and Grounding
 Fluke Corporation
 Lutron Electronics, Inc.
 Eaton's Bussman Business
 Schneider Electric
 Southwire Company
 Prysmian Power Cables and Systems
 Graybar
 Greenslee by Textron Corporation
 Ideal Industries, Inc.
 Westex by Milliken

GOLD LEVEL:

Buckingham Manufacturing Company, Inc.
 Alexander Publications

SILVER LEVEL:

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 Rubin Brothers, Inc.
 American Technical Publishers, Inc.
 Ypsilanti Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
 Legrand, North America
 E2E Summit

BRONZE LEVEL:

MOSAIC
 Stark Safety Consultants
 Coyne First Aid
 Wellshade