

## Rebuilding Together *Dayton*

**R**ebuilding Together Dayton is the only organization in the Miami Valley dedicated to rehabbing owner-occupied homes for low-income homeowners at no cost. Through in-kind labor and donated materials, Rebuilding Together Dayton is able to expand every dollar raised into \$4. On April 30, 2005, approximately 1,000 Rebuilding Together Dayton volunteers worked on 30 homes across the City of Dayton, providing \$250,000 worth of home improvements.

A house captain is assigned to each house. They coordinate with the volunteers and safety person to make the needed repairs. Roofs are

replaced, porches are repaired, sidewalks are replaced, houses are painted, wheelchair ramps are built, yards are landscaped and electrical repairs are made.



*IBEW Local 82 Journeyman Scott Daniels, with Mutual Electric, installs a new breaker panel.*

Jack Lohbeck of Wagner Smith Electrical Contractors has been a board member for five years and is responsible for the safety checklist. According to Jack, "When you are working with volunteers, a safety checklist is critical to avoid

accidents. Excavations must be marked, ladder safety must be discussed, and leaving tools around can cause a hazard."

Dan Knoblauch of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82 was the electrical worker volunteer coordinator for several years. Bill Melke, who is also on the board, has organized the electricians for the last two years. In addition, Chapel Electric, Wagner Smith Electrical Contractors, Kastle Electric, ESI Electrical Contractors and Mutual Electric donated materials.

Founded in 1996 by Preservation Dayton, Inc., Rebuilding Together Dayton is a non-profit volunteer organization that has repaired over 200 homes in

neighborhoods all across the city. The organization's mission is to build community partnerships and provide home rehabilitation for low-income Dayton homeowners, particularly the elderly and disabled, so they may live in warmth, safety and independence.

Rebuilding Together Dayton selects projects from nominations by neighborhood groups, churches, neighborhood development corporations, city housing inspectors, priority boards and individuals. Nearly 300 applications were screened for this year's projects. "IBEW Local 82 volunteers worked on about ten electrical projects this year," says Coordinator Bill Melke. "The work includes adding receptacles, rewiring switches, installing breaker panels, hanging ceiling fans and more."

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## Apprentice Expo

**T**he future of our country is dependent on our youth. That goes without saying. There has been a trend for the last several decades to rush our high school graduates into universities, and for a good reason. Years ago, there were a variety of factory jobs available for high-school graduates where someone could make a good living, receive benefits and depend on a retirement pension. However, most of the manufacturing jobs have gone

overseas. In order to enter the work force and make a decent living, continuing education is imperative.

Some of the most overlooked educational opportunities are apprenticeship programs for learning a skilled trade. There are a multitude of trades available where you earn while you learn. As an apprentice, you work in the field with skilled Journeymen

from the trade. Generally, an apprentice will also attend school one or two nights a week or during the day, where many of the courses also count towards college credit.

in Union Apprenticeship Programs is that an apprentice actually gets paid while learning a craft.

In April, the Miami Valley Building Trades



*Asst. Training Director JATC Dick Brooks (left) and Bob Keller, Green County Carrer Center instructor.*

Programs vary in length, from 3 to 5 years. The key difference

Apprenticeship Group sponsored an Expo at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82 union hall. High school counselors

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# Celebrating 50 years

This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Western Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA). A celebration was held at the Dayton Dragon's party deck on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The Western Ohio Chapter membership includes 20 electrical contractors from the Dayton area and Lima.

NECA is the voice of the \$100 billion industry responsible for lighting, power, and communication systems in buildings and communities across the U.S. NECA's national office and 120 local chapters advance the electrical contracting industry through advocacy, education, research, and

standards development. NECA celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2001.

According to Danal Neal, Executive Manager of the



Caption

Western Ohio Chapter NECA, "NECA is dedicated to enhancing the industry through continuing education, labor relations, current information and promotional

activities. It is the voice of the electrical contracting industry, working to promote higher standards, quality workmanship and training for a skilled workforce."

Local chapter managers negotiate and administer labor agreements and local unions of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. NECA is also co-sponsor of the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (NJATC) for the

electrical industry, which trains more than 25,000 electrical apprentices each year and is the sole source of significant in-service training for Journeymen electricians.

## Did you know?

Nanotechnology has produced a guitar no bigger than a blood cell. The guitar, 10 micrometers long, has six strummable strings.

In October, 1994, Jeff Bezos wanted to name his new Web venture "Cadabra," as in "abracadabra." But his attorney convinced him that this magical moniker sounded a bit too much like "cadaver." Reluctantly, Bezos went with his second choice: Amazon.com.

In 1900, there were 8,000 cars in the United States; by 1919, there were 6 million cars in the U.S.

Early models of vacuum cleaners were powered by gasoline.

## Rebuilding *cont'd*

Rebuilding Together Dayton also offers Neighbor-Care, a year-round, county-wide home repair program. Neighbor-Care provides the services of skilled trades people who perform urgent home repairs and home modifications, such as wheelchair ramps and handrails. Neighbor-Care is always in need of skilled trades people who are willing to donate their labor year-round. Contractor pledges of service calls can assist countless

homeowners in need throughout Montgomery County.

The organization is governed by a 20-member volunteer Board of Directors. Members of the board include Wagner Smith, DP&L, Home Builders Association, Fifth Third Bank, Miami Valley Hospital, Reynolds and Reynolds and the IBEW, Plumbers Union and Roofers Union. The local group is part of the national Rebuilding Together organization that has 250 affiliates in 50 states. Across the country, on National Rebuilding Day, April 30, over 225,000 volunteers rehabbed 8,670 houses and non-profit facilities. The work took place in 865 cities and towns delivering a market value of \$93 million. Visit [www.rtdayton.org](http://www.rtdayton.org) for more information.

## Expo *cont'd*

and public officials in the area were invited to attend in order to learn more about the apprenticeship educational opportunities available to area students. Several guest speakers shared information about their how their apprenticeship experience positively impacted the rest of their career in construction. Speakers included Bill Newlin, Training Director of Electricians Local 82; Rick Cornett, Training Director of Ironworkers Local 290; Mary Ann Dayspring, State Director, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training; Howard Krisher, President, Starco Inc. (and President, Mechanical Contractors of Greater Dayton); Dennis Quebe, CEO, Chapel Electric; and Bob Keller, Instructor, Greene County Career Center. Tours were given of the IBEW/NECA

Training Center and a drawing for a \$500 scholarship was won by counselor Dale Frost of Miami Valley CTC, and awarded to one of his students, Daniel Woodruff.

After breakfast was served and the speakers concluded, the counselors had an opportunity to visit booths and exhibits set up by the various trades. The trade groups represented included: Bricklayers; Carpenters, Lathers and Floor Layers; Cement Masons; Electricians; Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers; Ironworkers; Laborers; Millwrights; Operating Engineers; Painters; Plasterers; Plumbers, Pipe Fitters and Refrigeration Servicemen; Roofers; and Sheet Metal Workers.

To learn more about apprenticeship opportunities, visit [www.daytonapprenticeships.org](http://www.daytonapprenticeships.org).

## CONNECTIONS

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Your comments, suggestions and questions are welcome! Contact the Western Ohio Chapter - NECA.

e-mail: [wocneca@choiceonemail.com](mailto:wocneca@choiceonemail.com)  
website: [www.wocneca.org](http://www.wocneca.org)  
phone: 937-299-0384  
fax: 937-299-7322

## Where's our power?

If you own a manufacturing facility and have an electrical outage, the first call you would probably make is to the local utility company. But utilities only run electrical power to your meter. So if all is well from their end, you most likely have a problem in the distribution wires that feed your plant from the meter. Now you need to call your National Electrical Contractor Association (NECA) electrical contractor so they can dispatch a high voltage expert.

The distribution cables that provide electricity to your door may acquire a fault (it could be the size of a pin hole) that necessitates a trained Journeyman to repair. High voltage cable splicing requires very specialized training.

The Dayton Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC) held high voltage cable splicing classes from April 11-15, at the IBEW/NECA Training Center. Thirteen Journeymen

participated in the class from Wagner Smith Electrical Contractors, Aztec Electric, Kastle Electric and two Journeymen traveled from Michigan and one from Rhode



Caption

Island to attend. The trainers were some of the best in the industry. Steve Anderson, Director of the National JATC and a cable splicing trainer headed up the team. In addition two 3M representatives joined the teaching staff: Dan Reisem, a Technical Service Specialist and one of the most knowledgeable trainers

at 3M and Wes Staud, regional representative for 3M and trainer for the 5<sup>th</sup> year electrical apprentices in Dayton. 3M, one of the largest electrical supplies manufacturer's, makes the splice kits used in the class and is an NJATC training partner.

According to Steve Anderson, "Working with high voltage cables is extremely dangerous. Learning hand taping and proper cable termination techniques, as well as cable types is imperative to ensure your safety." Every high voltage cable has two

terminations. Each end must be grounded to drain off the charge prior to taping.



Journeymen learn the correct procedure for cable splicing.

The cable must be properly cleaned because even dirt is a conductor. Correct splicing of a high voltage cable can lengthen its life from 2-3 years to 20-30 years. "One of the biggest challenges," says Dan Reisem, "is that you have to keep working from start to finish. Whether it takes 8 hours or 24 hours to repair, you can't leave an electrical cable with a fault until it's repaired." There are specific tools that are used to locate the fault, then the Journeyman must decide if the cable can be spliced or if an entire section needs to be replaced.

Learning high voltage cable splicing is 75-80% hands on learning. You must learn by doing. There are four modules for learning cable splicing and the 4 1/2-day training session in Dayton was only the first 30 hours. Although there is no

current certification for mastering high voltage cable splicing, the NJATC is in the process of developing a national certification program.

## Drug free workforce

The Western Ohio Chapter NECA (National Electrical Contractors Association) and the IBEW Local 82 (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers) have created a drug free workforce. The drug program has been in effect for over two years. All workers are required to take an educational seminar prior to being tested. If you don't have a drug card, essentially, you won't work. Random testing also takes place. The program is 100%

compliant with the Bureau of Workers Compensation guidelines.

A safer work environment is the goal of everyone involved in the construction industry. The implementation of a drug policy is a win-win for everyone. Customers, employers and employees alike

*"A safer work environment is the goal of everyone involved in the construction industry. The implementation of a drug policy is a win-win for everyone."*

suffer when there is a work-related accident. Drug and alcohol abuse can create construction delays for our customers due to decreased productivity, increased

absenteeism and possible injuries.

National statistics show 33 percent of all workplace deaths have some link to drug or alcohol use. A recent Cornell University Study of drug use in the construction industry

found 71 companies reduced injury rates by an average of 51 percent within two years of implementing a drug-testing program, compared to a 14-percent reduction at companies without the programs in the same period.

The overall goal of a drug policy is to create a substance free work environment. The focus is on helping those with a substance abuse problem recognize the problem and with treatment, enhance their lives. This policy will ensure that we are providing our customers with the best, most productive workforce available.



# CONNECTIONS

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## Upcoming Events

### Wireman's Golf Tournament coming to town

This must be the year for golf in Dayton! NCR is hosting the 2005 Senior Tour. And another group of avid golfers will be arriving in August. Every year the Wireman's Golf Association holds a tournament. It's a sizeable group of 420 electrical workers from 38 cities and two councils in Canada. This year, Dayton International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 82 will be hosting the 48<sup>th</sup> annual tournament.

The tournament first began in 1958, and was a one-day event. Over the years it has become the premier golf event of the season. The event begins with a three-man scramble on August 16 at Moss Creek Golf Club, then tournament play takes place August 17, 18 and 19 at Heatherwoode Golf Club, Pipestone Golf Club and the Golf Course at Yankee Trace. Fundraisers are held to help offset the costs including ad space in a program and companies can also sponsor a hole and/or T-box. All profits are donated to Toys for Tots.

On August 17, an evening event will be held at the Air Force Museum. "We decided that the Air Force Museum is the perfect place to hold an event because it showcases the aviation history of Dayton," says Nick Comstock, coordinator of the tournament.

### The Western Ohio Chapter - National Electrical Contractors Association Directory:

#### NECA Members

#### Division *Dayton*

Aztec Electric, Inc.  
 Chapel Electric Company  
 Complete Electrical Service  
 CRT Technologies  
 D.R. Electric, Inc.  
 ESI Electrical Contractors  
 Freedom Electrical Contractor  
 High Voltage Maintenance  
 Kastle Electric Company  
 Lake Erie Electric, Inc.  
 Maxwell Lightning Protection  
 Mutual Electric Company  
 Reliable Electrical & Mechanical  
 Studebaker Electric  
 Wagner Smith Company  
 York Electric, Inc.

#### Contributing Contractors

#### Division *Dayton*

Automated Controls  
 Integrated Control Systems  
 Justice Electric  
 Luehrs Electric, Inc.  
 M.B.A. Electric, Inc.  
 Nitro Electric Co.  
 O.R.E. Electric  
 Power Services  
 Precision Electrical Contrs.  
 Productive Electric, Inc.  
 Q.O.B. Electric, Inc.  
 Spurling Electric Co., Inc.  
 The W.G. Fairfield Co.  
 Triad Electrical  
 Union Lightning Protection

*Western Ohio Chapter - NECA  
 2210 Arbor Boulevard  
 Dayton, OH 45439*