



# CONNECTIONS

Western Ohio Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



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October, 2010

## SAFETY EXPO

### 2010

The second annual Safety Expo was held on September 16 at the Crossroads Expo Center. Sponsored by the Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) of the Western Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractor's Association (NECA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82, the event featured safety equipment exhibitors, speakers, and demonstrations by safety experts. Over 150 attendees had an opportunity to learn about the latest in electrical safety equipment and speak with industry experts. Chairman Paul Chaney and the Local 82 Safety Committee were

instrumental in coordinating this outstanding event.

Exhibitors included safety clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) manufacturers and distributors: RavenRock Workwear, Contractor's



Miller Fall Protection demos new safety gear.

Choice, Argus-Hazco, Riverside Manufacturing, Westex, Miller-Sperian, ABCO Safety, American Scaffolding,



NECA Safety Director Jerry Rivera.

Cooper Industries, SVS Vision and First Star Safety.

Speakers included NECA Safety Director Jerry Rivera who reviewed some of the upcoming changes to 70E for 2011. Hugh Hoagland also returned again this year to cover arc-flash safety. American Scaffolding and Miller Fall Protection gave demonstrations on the latest in fall protection gear. And DP&L also returned to demonstrate power line safety

with their program "Think Hot, Stay Safe."

This year's event also showcased the newly completed Confined Space simulator built by the Dayton Electrical JATC Apprenticeship program. The simulator will be available for outside companies and organizations to use for confined space training. Piqua



Hugh Hoagland, arc-flash safety expert.

Fire Department representatives were in attendance to witness a demonstration of the unit.

A big thanks to all who volunteered to make the Safety Expo a great success!

## Construction Career Expo

The Fifth Annual Dayton and Miami Valley Construction Career Expo was held Tuesday, October 5 at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds Coliseum Building. Sponsored by the Miami Valley Alliance of Construction Professionals (MVACP), the event provided a unique and interactive learning experience about the Miami Valley Construction Trades. The construction industry is one of the nation's largest employers, with over 6 million workers.



The G-PAD from Columbus was a big hit with the students.

Over 670 high school juniors and seniors with their instructors participated in the expo. Students were bussed to

the Expo from 9am to 1pm. Twenty different schools, programs and career tech centers participated, including: Apollo Career Center; Centerville High School; Dayton Public School's Ponitz, Dunbar, Belmont, and

Thurgood Marshall; Fairmont; Greene County Career Center; Greenville High School; Piqua High School; Springfield-Clark CTC; Stebbins; Tecumseh; Tri-



Students try their hand at welding.

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# Apprentice Shannon Mayenschein wins scholarship

**U**nderwriters Laboratories pledges \$100,000 in scholarships to the National Joint Apprenticeships Training Committee (NJATC) each year for exceptional apprentices who have completed their first year of training. They award twenty \$1,000 scholarships every year for five years to cover textbook costs. The program is part of their ongoing commitment to public safety and support for skilled electrical workers. Congratulations to Shannon

Mayenschein with the Dayton Electrical JATC for winning an award this year!

Shannon was no stranger to the construction industry before entering the electrical apprenticeship program last year. In fact, he owned a painting company for several years. Shannon also completed a program at Sinclair Community College as a Certified Carpenter. "I consider myself a career construction worker," says Shannon, "and becoming a Journeyman electrician seemed like the next step. The experience and

knowledge I have received reaffirms my decision to be in the program." Shannon currently works with Chapel Electric.

Applicants for the scholarship must be nominated by the local JATC. This program helps to reward outstanding performance.

Criteria include:

- Attitude. They must display a positive overall attitude to coworkers, Instructors and the community where they live.
- Attendance. 100% attendance on the job and in school is desired.

• Academic Standing. The student must be in the top 20% of their class.

• Leadership Skillsets. They should be a take-charge person (self-starter and self-motivated) who has the potential to become a future leader in the industry.

*Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) is an independent, not-for-profit product safety certification organization that has been testing products for more than 110 years. UL tests more than 19,000 types of products annually, and more than 20 billion US Marks appear on products each year.*

## Kastle Solar & Wind

**K**astle Solar & Wind, a recently formed companion business to the 85-year-old electrical service contractor Kastle Electric, is celebrating Kastle Solar's biggest project since it entered the field in January. The array of 528 solar panels is on the roof of the 4501 Kettering Blvd. building it shares with the Dayton Daily News' distribution operation. With the array, the 35,500-square-foot distribution site will save more than 209,000 pounds of carbon dioxide a year, Kastle estimates.

At 119 kilowatts, it's the largest rooftop solar array in southwestern Ohio and one of the largest in the state, notes

President Mark Wiley. With the help of government tax credits - as well as education of prospective customers - they think the array may be one of many across Ohio before long.

Bill Spratley, Executive Director of renewable energy advocate Green Energy Ohio, sees strong growth ahead, thanks in part to Ohio Senate Bill 221, a bill passed two years ago which requires investor-owned Ohio utilities to produce 25 percent of their power from advanced or renewable energy sources by 2025.

The Kastle Electric Group, comprised of Kastle Electric, Kastle Plus (their service group) and Kastle Technologies provides the region with a comprehensive selection of electrical contracting services. They work closely with owners, contractors, and architects to deliver complete, efficient electrical contracting services. For more info visit [www.kastle-group.com/solarandwind](http://www.kastle-group.com/solarandwind).

## Career Expo *cont'd*

Star Celina Schools; Trotwood; and Versailles High School. Breakout sessions were incorporated so students could learn about how to become an apprentice, the types of programs available, and wage scales. Session leaders included Mark Combs of the Department of Labor; Jeff Davis with the Dayton Electrical JATC; and Vince Irvin, Statewide Apprenticeship Coordinator for Ohio Laborers Training and Apprenticeship program.

Exhibitors included various union construction trades: Bricklayers, Carpenters, Electricians, Ironworkers, Plumbers & Pipefitters, Sheet Metal Workers, Operating Engineers, and Laborers. The Green Power Alternative Demonstrator (G-PAD) from Columbus was also available so students could get a first-hand look at a solar array. Students participated in hands-on projects, such as: brick laying, welding,

carpentry, and operation of a backhoe simulator.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82; the Dayton Electrical JATC (Apprenticeship Program); and the Better Choice Program



*Multiple hands-on projects were available for students to learn about the apprenticeship programs.*

teamed up to showcase both Commercial and Residential wiring samples. Students also had an opportunity to bend conduit to use as a putter to try their luck on a putting green.

Students received sack lunches and an opportunity to win \$1500 in door prizes.



October, 2010

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

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# Better Choice Program *success stories*

The Better Choice program was developed to provide work experience and educational opportunities to interested high school students. Sponsored by the Miami Valley Alliance of Construction Professionals (MVACP), the goal of the Better Choice program is to help students achieve a permanent career in the organized construction industry as journeymen and to develop an experienced base of highly skilled journeymen from which to foster new minority business enterprises in the construction industry. Thirteen different building trades and their signatory contractors participate in the program, including Roofers, Electricians, Carpenters, Sheet Metal Workers, Ironworkers, Painters, and more. Program participants earn the wages of the classification they work

under in the trade they are referred to.

Recruitment for the program takes place through the Dayton Public Schools, Montgomery County Job Center and community outreach. To qualify a student must have a high school diploma or GED, must be 18 years of age, have a valid driver's license and a negative drug test. The program provides OSHA 10 hour safety training; 1000 hours of monitored work; full placement service with local signatory contractors; introductory training on each of the trades and their apprenticeship programs; core courses in math or reading to help them with entry into apprenticeship programs; and specific trade-related courses.

Since the program's inception in 2008, about 30 students have participated in

the program. And there have been several success stories. Last year, Wayne Nalls was accepted into the Electrical Apprenticeship program; Delaquan McClursky started in the Carpenters Apprenticeship program; and Alan Smith was accepted into the Bricklayers Apprenticeship program. This year, the Carpenters also accepted JD Brookshire in their program.

Also, Dorian Jones and Ronald Farmer Sr. entered the Electrical Apprenticeship as first year students. Dorian signed up in April of 2010 and began work at some of the Dayton Public Schools as a Construction Wireman through Chapel Electric. He was able to take some classes during the summer, took the aptitude test and was interviewed and accepted into the Apprenticeship program in June.

Here's where persistence pays off. Ronald Farmer applied for the Apprenticeship Program in the past, but didn't qualify. He then went to work for GM. When GM closed and he lost his job, Ronald came to the Union Hall looking for Eddie Jaudon, who coordinates the Better Choice program. He was accepted into the program, worked as a Construction Wireman 1, and was able to take classes that qualified him to move up to a Construction Wireman 3. Ronald also worked for Chapel Electric at both the Meadowdale and Ponitz school projects. After completing 4,000 hours, he was interviewed and accepted into the apprenticeship program. Both Dorian and Ronald are still working for Chapel. For more information about the Better Choice program, visit [www.mvacp.org](http://www.mvacp.org).

## Architects roundtable

The Miami Valley Foreman's Club (MVFC) recently hosted an Architect's roundtable discussion at their August meeting. Participants included: Peter Harsh of APP Architects; Dave Bills with Brown & Bills Architects; Rick Holmes with The Architectural Group; Earl Reeder of Reeder & Associates; and Marty Lange with Edge & Tinney.

This was an opportunity for Foremen from the various building trades to ask questions about some of the factors in the construction of a facility that influence the design of buildings. According to Earl Reeder, the most important aspects on a job site are craftsmanship and safety.

"We've had a great experience working with union Journeymen," says Earl.



From left to right: Earl Reeder, Rick Holmes, Peter Harsh, Marty Lange and Dave Bills.

"They're well trained and have a good work ethic." Others on the panel agreed. The apprenticeship programs

offered by the unions keep them on the top of their game with exposure to the latest technology. Training is essential to the success of every project.

The participants discussed some of the challenges of working with clients. Whether they have building experience or not, clients look to the architect's for suggestions for many aspects of the building process including materials, mechanical work and electrical lighting.

Material selection is more important in today's economy because materials aren't stocked like they used to be.

Colors and types change so they rely on good manufacturer's reps to keep them updated on the latest. And sometimes architects are in a position to recommend particular subcontractors for a project.

Continuing education is a must for Architects and they are required to complete 18 hours of training annually to retain their license. Additional accreditation like LEEDs certification and for the medical field require additional courses. Keeping current is essential to their competitiveness and success. Everyone who participated enjoyed the session and would like to return next fall. The upcoming MVFC schedule for events can be found at [www.mvacp.org](http://www.mvacp.org).



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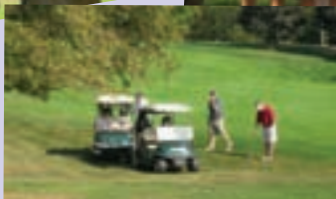
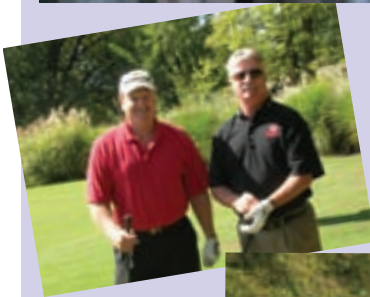
- **Safety Expo**
- **Construction Career Expo**
- **Architects Roundtable**
- **Kastle Solar & Wind**
- **Apprentice Scholarship**



## Another successful LMCC / NECA / IBEW Golf Outing!



*Winners of the 2010 Golf Outing held at Walnut Grove CC are (from left to right) John Harpest, Heapy Engineering; Greg Brush, Kastle Electric; Greg Martz, Edge & Tinney; and Andy Stuhlmiller, Kastle Electric. Congratulations!*



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

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