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A Message From the Executive Director:



Hello, everyone!

Winter is here! Lots of snow and everyone seems to be busy!

We had a board change with the consumer member position. Tom Paulson resigned leaving approximately 2.5 years left on his term which the Governor's office filled with Gerald "Poke" Buck. We want to thank Tom for his 7.5 years of service and welcome Poke for taking over that position.

As you know as of last June, Minot turned the electrical inspections back to the NDSEB. Kevin Huber has been taking care of all of Ward County including Minot and the transition has been going very well. We just want to remind contractors to call Kevin when you have a request for an electrical inspection. Our latest district map on our website shows the contact information for the state's 14 districts inspectors plus Fargo, Bismarck, and Grand Forks electrical inspectors: www.ndseb.com/inspections/inspection-districts/.

Our state office CEU classes for the 22-23 season are closed but there is still an opportunity for you to sign up for the annual ND IAEI 12-hour CEU class, which will be held February 23rd & 24th.

We're starting the process of adopting new administrative laws and rules which also includes working on the adoption of the 2023 NEC. We hope this will be finalized early fall. They'll be more to come on this.

We've set up inspection instructions on our website under the newly created "Inspections" tab that lists the following information on inspection requirements:

"Electrical contractors and self-wirers shall notify the board of all electrical installations for inspection on forms prescribed by the board including, but not limited to:

- 1. The cost of new construction exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500.00).**
- 2. The cost of the repair work or additional installation exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500.00).**
- 3. A new service entrance is installed.**

- 4. An existing service entrance is altered or repaired.**
- 5. Before electrical work is concealed.**
- 6. A building is moved.**
- 7. A mobile home service/feeder is installed.**
- 8. Power limited system installations defined by the National Electrical Code Special Occupancies, articles 500 through 517."**

Be sure to contact the inspector in the appropriate district before work is concealed or covered up and they will give you direction to move forward.

Like always, we encourage your input on electrical happenings in ND. If you have questions or comments, please send an email, or give me a call as I'd like to visit with you!

Check out our website often for new information: <https://www.ndseb.com/>

Hope you enjoyed the warm fall we had and are having another great ND winter!

I wish you enough,
- James Schmidt

Continuing Education Options Before License Renewal

Greetings! I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season despite the weather, which has started off on a rough note but hopefully will moderate going forward. With the new year we are entering the license renewal period, so everyone needs to be sure to have your continuing education completed before trying to renew your license. Apprentice registrations expire January 31, Journeyman licenses expire on March 31, and Master, Class B, and Power Limited licenses expire on April 30, so be prepared to have your education requirements fulfilled before those dates so you can renew on time.

The NDSEB 2022 - 2023 continuing education classes ended on January 5 & 6, 2023 in Fargo and Grand Forks, and our 2023 - 2024 class schedule will begin June of 2023 in Bismarck and Fargo. Registration for those classes will tentatively open in May of 2023. Registration will be online through our website and will be posted under the continuing education tab.

We conduct 16 continuing education classes from June to January. The first few classes typically have smaller numbers, so if you prefer a smaller class that is the best time to attend. Remember when registration opens, it is open for the entire year, so if you

want to be sure of a spot in the later classes, you can sign up right away, as the later in the year classes always fill up.

Another option for continuing education is the North Dakota Chapter IAEI Annual Meeting being held in Mandan, ND at the Baymont by Wyndham on February 23 & 24 2023. The planned agenda for this year's class includes the following subject matter: 2023 NEC Analysis of Changes, Medium and High Voltage Installation Requirements, Hazardous Locations, and Aging Residential Electrical Systems Studies.

These subjects will be presented by several different nationally recognized representatives of the electrical industry. Many whom are directly involved in the code development process and can bring their insight and perspectives to their audience. The course qualifies for 12 code hours of continuing education and will be held from 8am to 5pm on Thursday and 8am to 12pm on Friday. Registration is online only, and information can be obtained from any of the inspectors, or you can contact Scott Halle at shalle@nd.gov.

There are also many other NDSEB approved continuing education courses available, just be sure the

course you select is approved for credit by the NDSEB or it will not count toward your license renewal. There is a list approved classes available on our website at www.ndseb.com. Thank you and a very Happy New Year to all!

Scott Halle
Training & Compliance

Rich Wolfe Retirement (continued)

Best wishes again, Rich, and thanks for your 23 years of continuous employment with the NDSEB!



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Preparing for Your Exam

Greetings everyone,

Planning to write your journeyman or master's exam? It may seem like a stressful or daunting task but with some proper preparations you may find yourself in a better position to succeed the first time. Completing an approved apprenticeship program or other means approved by the Board is often not enough in itself to receive a passing grade. It will take a commitment on your part to study and prepare on your own to achieve this milestone.

Before you schedule your exam with our office you should know that the exam will cover ALL areas of the NEC and our State Standards. Be willing to spend a few months preparing by knowing your way around the code book as well as general knowledge. If I ask you about GFCI protection, do you know where to look? How about requirements for appliances or motors? I have taken many different exams on many different code standards and one thing I can tell you is it's not about what you know, it's about knowing where to look.

There are also options out there for exam preparation that you may find useful. It's a small investment considering where this next step could take you. Finally, relax and read the questions thoroughly. Fully understand what the question is asking. Do not get frustrated as this may cause you problems moving forward on the test. If you need to, skip the ones you are unsure of and come back to them later.

Good Luck!

Respectfully,

Jon Saylor
Inspection/Information Compliance
Administrator



News & Notes from NDSEB

UNSUPERVISED APPRENTICES.

There have been several jobsites recently where our inspectors have found apprentices working alone. **This is a violation of state law and several contracting masters, along with their business agents have had to appear before the board and had their license placed on a probation based on each circumstance.** Along with this the apprentice is sent a cease and desist which is prosecutable if turned over to the local state's attorney.

We want to rectify this situation. It is not permissible to leave apprentices alone on a jobsite unsupervised. All contractors, licensed electricians and apprentices know the rules so let's stop doing this as inspectors will be verifying licenses on jobsites more frequently now. See below the 3 excerpts from the ND Century Code.

43-09-01. Definitions. In this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

1. "Apprentice electrician" means an individual who is learning the trade under the personal supervision of a state-licensed electrician.

43-09-13.1. Apprentice electrician registration. An apprentice electrician shall register with the state electrical board within the first six months of employment and shall pay an annual registration fee in an amount set by the board. An apprentice electrician may work on installations only under the personal supervision of a licensed electrician as provided in section 43-09-18.

43-09-18. Apprentice. An individual may serve as an apprentice under a licensed master electrician or power limited electrician, but a master electrician or power limited electrician may not allow an apprentice to work on any installation without personal supervision of a licensed electrician.

ANNUAL ELECTRICAL WIRING CERTIFICATE AUDIT CONTINUED

In our October, 2022 newsletter, we addressed our annual audit on jobs still pending in North Dakota and are over a year old. In comparison to 2020 and

2021, we still had over 70% of the questioned jobs turned in as completed. Just to reiterate, administrative rule **24.1-05-01-01. Electrical certificates:**

Within fifteen days of completion, use, or occupancy, whichever is first, the final paperwork must be submitted to the office of the board, along with the proper fee.

By submitting your final paperwork and inspection fees timely, this informs our office and our inspectors that the job(s) are done and ready for a final inspection. By doing so, this may eliminate not only a correction report to submit this documentation, but also trying to tell the consumer/owner the reason for the delay in inspection.

ANNUAL LICENSE RENEWALS COMING SOON

Licensed electricians must renew their license every year and the time is approaching for the next renewal. Online renewal at www.ndseb.com started January 1, 2023.

Apprentice and Power Limited Apprentice registration renewal reminders were mailed out around the beginning of December and a postcard reminder will be mailed out to all active Journeyman the first week of February, 2023 and active Master / Class B / PLEs the first week of March, 2023. It is always a good idea not to wait until the last minute.

Here are a few guidelines regarding online renewals:

- Please make sure that you or whoever is renewing your registration or license provides accurate information. The information provided is what is updated in your electrician profile in our system; your address, phone number(s), email address, schooling, felony information and employment status.
- To provide a current employer, enter the FIRST character of the business name and click Find. A window will appear with a list of business names to select from. Click on the bullet in front of the appropriate business name and that information will be input into the current employer field.

- Apprentices do not need continuing education to renew but Journeyman, Master, Class B and Power Limited electricians need eight (8) hours of continuing education on file to renew.
- To receive credit for continuing education hours taken, our board requires the class is approved in North Dakota and proof of completion comes from the provider.
- Credit will not be given for attending the same continuing education class more than once in a code cycle (example: same sponsor, same title and same class approval number).

Registration and license fees and expiration dates are as follows:

- Apprentice and Power Limited Apprentice registration renewal fees are \$10.00 and expire on 01/31/2023.
- Journeyman license renewal fee is \$25.00 and expire on 03/31/2023.
- Class B license renewal fee is \$40.00 and expire on 04/30/2023.
- Master and Power Limited Electrician license renewal fees are \$50.00 and expire on 04/30/2023.

We want to remind the contracting Masters, Class Bs and PLE electricians to verify the individuals working under your license and supervision are renewed before you renew yours, as well as making sure your Certificate of Insurance is current with this office. If

you have outstanding correction reports or administrative late fees, your license may be on hold from renewal pending completion. ☺

A Word from the Director of Inspections

As electrical inspectors, electrical safety is our key focus. We are always interested in sharing information or new ideas that could help keep those working in the electrical industry safe and preventative maintenance is one place to start.

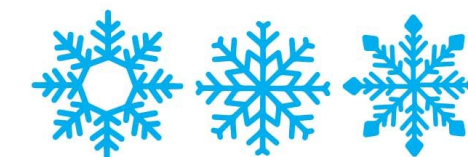
As electricians this might be a hard sell to your customers, whether it is a residential, commercial, or an industrial location. By making recommendations for minor electrical repairs, cleanup, or updates, you could possibly save your customers time, money, or personal injury in the long run. We all know that nothing lasts forever, and electrical equipment and components are no exception. Electrical equipment breaks down over time through physical use, being exposed to sunlight and outdoor elements or just flat out getting old.

One example to look for is missing GFCI's and old worn-out receptacles that could fail and cause damage to a structure or even worse the outdated fire alarm components that could possibly fail. Another common preventative maintenance example in my experience is noticing dirty motor starters, disconnects, or electrical panels that could easily cause untimely breakdowns, shocks or even fires.

Recommending a minor repair or quick cleanup for these areas may prevent the owner from future expenses and extensive repairs. It might be worth your time and theirs to have a friendly conversation on preventative maintenance.

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and please stay safe!

- Doug Grinde



Making A Connection: Jon Saylor Inspection/Information Compliance Administrator



Originally from Bismarck, ND, Jon Saylor grew up three blocks from the NDSEB office and graduated from Century High School. He was an Electrical Contractor and the Commercial Plans

Examiner for the City of Bismarck before becoming the Inspection/Information Compliance Administrator for the NDSEB 18 months ago.

Jon and his wife Kelly have three children: Jaden (14), Jackson (9), and Riley (7).

What projects are you currently working on? *Inspection statistics and the final inspection of the new Minot Trinity Hospital.*

What is your favorite part of your job? *The NDSEB outreach program such as the Marketplace for Kids, Career Fairs and Apprenticeship visits.*

Do you have a favorite memory or experience while working for the NDSEB? *All of Tom Crawford's stories (NDSEB District 9 Inspector).*

Did you or do you have a mentor or a person that inspired you? *My father. He taught me the importance of working hard and taking pride in your work and integrity.*

What are your hobbies? *I enjoy hunting, fishing, watching my kids compete in sports and high-power rocketry. A space shot is on my bucket list.*

What would be your dream vacation? *I am a history buff and would love to see all the old holy sites in Jerusalem.*

The best thing about North Dakota is . . . ? *Its people and it's the best place to raise a family.*

The best movie of all time is . . . ? *Any Martin Scorsese film but if I had to choose one it would be "The Departed"*

What's your favorite TV show? *I don't have a current one, but I will always watch a re-run of an old Seinfeld episode.*



What do you like on your pizza? *Almost everything, although my kids only like pepperoni so that's about all I get to eat. ☺*

Who's your favorite superhero? *Batman and Ironman. Both are self-made men and nothing supernatural needed.*

Anything else you want to share? *My door is always open. ☺*