



# SUMMER

OUR 48TH YEAR

CONTRA COSTA CHAPTER

JUNE 2011

## 2011 Inside Wireman Negotiations

Last week we distributed a copy of the decision of the Council on Industrial Relations regarding our negotiations over the Inside Wiremens Agreement. The decision stated, "The hourly wage for Journeyman Wiremen shall be increased \$0.80 per hour, effective June 1, 2011." Since we have historically allowed Local 302 to allocate a negotiated wage increase across wages or fringe benefits, we had to wait until they could have an allocation meeting to communicate the changes to you. That meeting took place yesterday, May 31. They determined that all of the money would go to the Health & Welfare Trust.

Enclosed with this newsletter are the revised Wage Rates and Employer Cost Per Hour Sheets that reflect the changes.

As for the decision, "it is what it is."

One the basic tenants of labor-management relations in any unionized industry is that the parties have a process for dispute resolution that is agreed to in advance of any dispute. In our case, we use the Council of Industrial Relations (CIR) which is made up of an equal number of representatives from both NECA and the IBEW. The advantage is that decisions are made quickly and you always have people that are knowledgeable about your industry making the decisions. The disadvantage is the process tends to be assembly line dispute resolution. Next!

While we hoped to get you through this year without having to increase your billing rates to your customers, we obviously were not able to do that. We know this continues to be a sensitive issue with all of our employers and their customers, and we want to assure you that we have not lost sight of that.

*I would like to publically thank the contractor members of our bargaining team for the time and effort they put in to the negotiating process on your behalf: Casey Dias (Watson Electric), Mike Dias (Contra Costa Electric), Rick Henry (Del Monte Electric), Skip Stewart (Crockett Electric), Jim Szuch, Jr. (Elocin Construction) and Ray Trebino (Alhambra Electric).*

### Notice: To Employers Signatory to the Sound & Communication Agreement

On November 30th this year (2011), our Northern California Addendum to the Ninth District Sound and Communication Agreement with the IBEW will expire. The Chapters intend to negotiate a successor agreement that will be binding to all employers signed to a Letter of Assent. The process begins in late August and should conclude by the end of November. The new agreement will become effective December 1, 2011.

As a practical matter, this is not an issue for most of our employers. However, if you intend to terminate your relationship with the IBEW, you must do so in a timely manner by notifying the union of your intention. For employers signed to a Letter of Assent A, that notification must be sent prior to June 30, 2011. For employers signed to a Letter of Assent B, the notification to the union must be sent prior to August 20, 2011. Since bargaining is a complicated legal process, an employer choosing to terminate should not do so without competent legal council.

We are pleased to have Randy Weber of Communication Service Company representing our Chapter in this years negotiations.



2011 NECA Convention and Trade Show will be held at the San Diego Convention and Exposition Center in San Diego, CA October 22—25.

**Early Registration Begins**  
**Tuesday, June 14, 2011**

For more information go to:  
<http://www.necaconvention.org>

**Important:**

**NECA Server Upgrade & Your Log-In**

NECA’s family of websites has moved to an upgraded server, and there is now a new log-in form to use on those occasions when you need to sign in to access certain online features.

When do you need to sign on to <http://www.necanet.org>?

- To Register for a Meeting
- Update your Company or Individual Profile
- Make Purchases from NECA’s On-line Store
- View “Member-Only” Content (marked w/ “Key”)

As a result of the upgrade, userIDs and passwords have defaulted to the original in the NECA database (User ID is Your Individual ID Number and Your Password is the first three letters of your last name plus your Individual ID Number.).

If needed, go to (or simply click on) the URL below to have your userID/password reminder emailed to you:

<http://www.necanet.org/PortalTools/RequestReminder.cfm>



**June**  
**Membership Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Chapter Membership will take place on **Wednesday, June 15, 2011**, beginning with hosted cocktails at 6 p.m. at The Dead Fish in Crockett, CA.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.



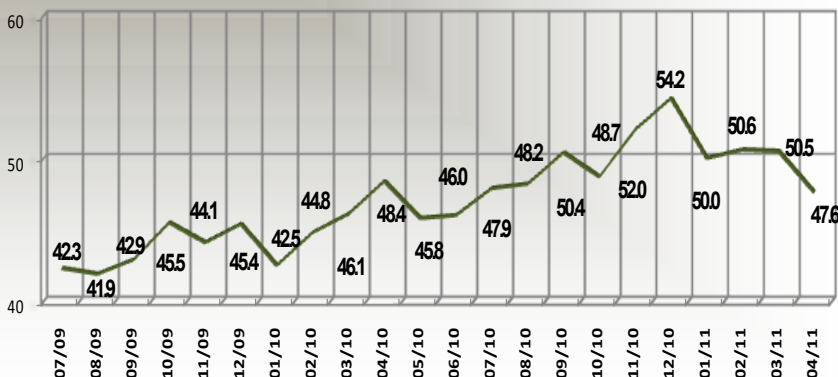
There is a new statewide rebate program available for home energy upgrades. This is in response to the failed PACE program and could yield potential opportunities in the residential market. The main requirement is for an accreditation from Building Performance Institute (BPI).

To find out more about the program and how you can become a Participating Contractor click on the following link:

[https://energyupgradeca.org/county/contra\\_costa/for\\_contractors](https://energyupgradeca.org/county/contra_costa/for_contractors)

**architecture billings index**

**April ABI 47.6, down 2.9 points from March.**  
**Any score above 50 indicates an increase in billings.**



**ENCLOSURES**

Wage & Cost Per Hour Sheets  
 June 1, 2011—May 31, 2012

Calendar

Body Bulletin



# June 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri Sat



**Contra Costa Chapter  
NECA  
1024 Court Street  
Martinez, CA 94553**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Casey Dias  
Michael Dias  
Rick Henry  
Skip Stewart  
Jim Szuch, Jr.  
Ray Trebino  
Randy Weber**

**MANAGER**

**Michael Geller**

**Phone: 925-372-3222  
Fax: 925-372-0282**

**Email**

[neca\\_contracosta@sbcglobal.net](mailto:neca_contracosta@sbcglobal.net)

			1	2	3	4
				<b>JATC Graduation</b> Crown Plaza Hotel Concord, CA  6:30 p.m.		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				<b>JATC Interviews</b> Training Center Martinez  8:30 a.m.		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		<b>JATC Interviews</b> Training Center Martinez  8:30 a.m.	<b>NECA</b> The Dead Fish Crockett, CA  4:30 p.m. Board 6:00 p.m. Chapter			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
						
26	27	28	29	30		
				<b>Electrical Industry Trust</b> Primas Tratoria Walnut Creek  11:45 a.m.		

NOTES: