



Electroscan

Fort Worth/Tarrant County Chapter



January 2010

Volume 13, Issue 1

In This Issue

- 2010 Board Elected
- Members Support Mission Arlington
- Fast-Track January Apprenticeship Class
- Fall Apprenticeship Program Opens
- Membership Meeting Feb. 11
- IEC Receives Award for Work With Project Wish
- Students Receive NAWIC Scholarships
- Membership Anniversaries
- Sting Targets Unlicensed Contractors
- IEC Inc News
- IEC of Texas News
- News You Can Use
- Safety Tool Box Talks

2010 Board of Directors Elected

IEC's 2010 Board of Directors and Officers were elected by the membership and installed during the Christmas Party held December 4, 2009 at Stockyards Station. Congratulations to these dedicated volunteer leaders:

Officers:

President: Steve Humphrey, Jr., Humphrey & Associates, Inc.

1st Vice President: Doug Green, E-MC Electrical Services

2nd Vice President: Wes Shahan, Fox Electric, LTD

Secretary Treasurer: Chip Bean, Bean Electrical, Inc.

Directors:

Terry Browning, Cable Electric, Inc.

Gerald Jordan, Hurst Electric

Robert Leonhart, RISC, Inc.

Jack Martin, JBI Electrical Systems, Inc.

Alex Nantz, A B Electric Company

Coty Owens, Coty Owens Electric Service, LLC

Gary Sodd, Sodd Electric Company, Inc.

Bobby Tutor, Tutor Electrical Service, Inc.



Pictured left to right: Steve Humphrey, Jr.; Doug Green; Wes Shahan; Chip Bean; Bob Leonhart; Alex Nantz; Gary Sodd and Bobby Tutor.

Alex Nantz, AB Electric Company, is the third generation of the Nantz family to serve on the IEC Board of Directors. He follows in the footsteps of his father, Mike Nantz, and grandfather, A. B. "Jack" Nantz.

Calendar of Events

Membership Meeting
February 11

Annual Meeting
March 25

Spring Golf Tournament
April 20

Horse Races
May 27

Graduation
June 10

Clay Shoot
August 20

Trade Show
September 9

Fall Golf Tournament
October 11

Holiday Party
December 3

Education Calendar

2010 Continuing Education

IEC Chapter Office

January 23

January 30

February 13

February 27

March 13

March 27

April 10

April 24

May 8

May 22

June 12

June 26

July 10

August 14

September 11

October 9

November 13

December 11

IEC Members Support Mission Arlington

During the holiday party held December 4th at Stockyards Station, IEC collected donations of more than fifty toys and gift items along with \$890 which will be donated to Mission Arlington. IEC members and staff generously continue the tradition started by Ellis Sodd, Sodd Electric Company Inc., of donating items to the Mission for those in need during the holiday season.

Fast-Track Apprenticeship Class Begins Jan. 18

IEC will hold its first ever accelerated first year apprenticeship class beginning January 18th. The twenty-five week class will end July 12th and allows apprentices to complete the first year at a faster rate. It's also a chance for you to pick up new apprentices who are entering the program. Excellent candidates are waiting for you. Give us a call if you can use some of them.

For more information, contact Sandy Strevel at the IEC office (817) 496-8422 or sandy@iecfwtc.org.

Fall Apprenticeship Program Opens April 1st

Applications will be accepted April 1 through July 31, 2010 for the 2010-2011 school -year. Applications will be taken Monday through Thursday at the IEC office from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Minimum requirements to apply for the program are:

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
- Applicants must have a high school diploma or must have successfully passed the GED Equivalent and have a GED Certificate.
- Applicants shall be physically capable of performing the essential functions of the apprenticeship program without posing a direct threat to the health and safety of the individual or others.

Candidates must be able to pass a drug test and become a licensed apprentice with the State of Texas for admittance into the program. Please call Sandra Strevel at the chapter office (817) 496-8422 or [Click here for more information](#).

Membership Meeting February 11

Mark your calendar now for the next Membership Meeting to be held February 11. The venue and speaker will be announced soon.

Board of Directors

President

Steve Humphrey, Jr.

1st Vice President

Doug Green

2nd Vice President

Wes Shahan

Secretary/Treasurer

Chip Bean

Directors

Terry Browning

Gerald Jordan

Robert Leonhart

Jack Martin

Alex Nantz

Coty Owens

Gary Sodd

Bobby Tutor

Contact Us

Independent Electrical
Contractors
Fort Worth/Tarrant County
Chapter

5809 East Berry Street
Fort Worth, TX 76119
817-496-8422
Fax 817-496-8555
www.iecfwtc.org

Chapter Staff

Executive Director

Marcie Funchess, CAE
marcie@iecfwtc.org

Apprenticeship

Coordinator

Sandra Strelvel
sandy@iecfwtc.org

Training Coordinator

Tracy Dalrymple
tracy@iecfwtc.org

Membership & Marketing

Director

Jo Britt
jo@iecfwtc.org

Administrative Assistant

Diana Thornton
diana@iecfwtc.org

IEC Receives Award for Work with Project Wish

The Project WISH (Workforce Innovative Solutions to Homelessness) Employer Consortium received the Texas Transitional Workforce Award at the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) 13th Annual Texas Workforce Conference. IEC Fort Worth/Tarrant County Chapter is a member of the Employer Consortium.

The award recognizes a private sector employer or employer consortium whose efforts and initiatives had a positive effect on transitional workers, resulting in benefits to employers, other workers, and the community.

"Texas employers that use valuable services available from their local workforce development boards have a distinct advantage in the marketplace," said TWC Commissioner Representing the Public Andres Alcantar. "I'd like to congratulate Project WISH and Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County for their contribution to their region and the state of Texas."

Over the past two years, more than 500 homeless individuals have entered full-time employment and more than 70 percent have been able to retain those jobs as a result of the efforts of the Project WISH Employer Consortium in the Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County area. This group of 20 employers has held job fairs, organized job clubs, and offered job readiness counseling and assistance to more than 1,632 homeless individuals who participated in Project WISH programs. Job fair participants were required to attend a pre-job fair readiness workshop and were given certificates for free interview-appropriate clothing provided by the First Street United Methodist Mission. Project WISH employers set aside certain positions or gave interview preference for program participants. Project WISH provides seven workshops each week at seven different locations to a variety of homeless populations, providing employment services to some of the most challenging job placement candidates.



The Project WISH (Workforce Innovative Solutions to Homelessness) Employer Consortium

Special thanks to the following companies who sponsored Christmas Party Drawing Prizes:

Federated Insurance
Legrand
Milwaukee Electric
Tool

Two IEC Students Receive NAWIC Scholarships

Congratulations to Ryan Autrey and Scott Donahue who will each receive a \$750 scholarship from the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) Chapter Number One. Both are first year students working for Brandt Electric. The scholarship will cover the apprentices' contribution for dues in the apprenticeship program from January – December 2010.

NAWIC has graciously provided \$4,500 in scholarship money to six IEC apprentices over the past two years.

Membership Anniversaries

Contractor Members

Feris Electric Company – January 1957

Accutex Electric, LLC – January 2007

Associate Members

Risc., Inc. – January 1983

Square D Company – January 1990

Thomas Loss Control Ent. – January 2002

Trailer Storage Inc. – January 2006

Sting Targets Unlicensed Contractors

State Investigators Set Up Sting at Vacant Home

Brian Mylar, KSAT 12 News Reporter

POSTED: Monday, November 16, 2009

UPDATED: 7:00 am CST November 17, 2009

SAN ANTONIO -- State investigators recently launched a sting operation in San Antonio to target unlicensed electrical and air conditioning contractors. Their goal was to keep homeowners safe.

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation set up shop at a vacant house and called contractors and handymen for bids on electrical and air conditioning work. None of the contractors the agency targeted possessed state or city licenses, which makes it illegal for them to offer such services.

One contractor who responded to a call was Robert Almaguer, who was previously targeted by the state. "You're not licensed, why are you bidding this job?" KSAT 12 News reporter Brian Mylar asked Almaguer. "Yes, I am," Almaguer responded. But state investigators confirmed that Almaguer, who offered to do the job for \$1,100, is not licensed with the state or the city. Terry Wickham advertises as The Handyman Can. His sign reads that he is licensed and insured, but state investigators said he is not licensed. "You should be a master electrician to bid on jobs like this," Mylar told Wickham. "You're not a licensed contractor in the city or the state."

TDLR Executive Director William Kuntz wants to warn people about the dangers of hiring

unlicensed contractors. Kuntz said most of those contractors do not get city permits, which come with an inspection. "You have no independent inspections, so you really are in jeopardy if you deal with somebody like that," Kuntz said.

Another problem with hiring contractors without permits is that they may not be fully qualified to do the work, Kuntz said. One of those who showed up at the house recommended a large air conditioning unit. "Because of the square footage of the house, we're looking at probably 3 or 3 1/2 tons, which is for a small house," he said.

TDLR investigators said the unit is too big for a house under 1,000 square feet.

The 17 unlicensed contractors caught in the TDLR sting will receive cease and desist orders from the state and then a notice of violation. Repeat violators can earn jail time.

Copyright 2009 by KSAT.com All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission of KSAT.

IEC Inc. News

2010 Leadership Conference Set for January 25-28 in Las Vegas

Each year the IEC National Leadership Conference offers members, chapter leaders and volunteers the opportunity to learn, connect and profit; 2010 is no exception. Additionally, this year's conference will kick-off IEC's Leadership Institute. The Institute is a year-long leadership education opportunity for both Chapter and National volunteers. The Leadership Institute is designed to help each leader within IEC become the best. Strong leadership skills will grow chapter and improve your everyday business.

The Conference will be held January 25-28, in Las Vegas, at the MGM Grand Hotel. The conference schedule and registration are available at: <http://www.ieci.org/>

IEC Electrical Matters Newsletter

Click here for access to IEC's *Electrical Matters* newsletter:
<http://www.multibriefs.com/briefs/iec/120909.html>

IEC of Texas News

[Click this link to - Keep up with the current news from IEC of Texas.](#)

News You Can Use

IRS Updates

Click on the attached for new updates from the Internal Revenue Service. [IRS Updates](#).

United States Department of Labor OASP - Employment Law Guide Employment Law Guide Update

The U.S. Department of Labor today announced the availability of an updated version of its popular *Employment Law Guide*, an online publication that describes the major employment laws administered by the department. The *Guide* helps the public — workers and employers — understand many of the laws affecting the workplace. It helps small businesses develop wage, benefit, safety and health, and nondiscrimination policies and benefits employees and employee representatives who need information about worker rights and responsibilities under federal employment laws.

The *Employment Law Guide* is a companion to the department's *FirstStep* overview advisor, an online system that allows employers to quickly and easily determine which federal employment laws apply to them by answering a few simple questions about relevant variables. Together, the updated *Employment Law Guide* and the *FirstStep* overview advisor offer employers the information they need to ensure safe and fair workplace policies and practices. Both are available at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws> or <http://www.dol.gov/compliance>.

TDLR Current Flash Newsletter

Please click the link to receive the current issue of TDLR's Flash Newsletter:
<http://www.license.state.tx.us/electricians/cities.htm>

Safety TOOL BOX TALKS

Please click on the links below for information H1N1 and OSHA Recordkeeping:

<http://www.osha.gov/h1n1/index.html>

<http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/RKforms.html>

Sponsor an issue of the IEC Newsletter

Contact Jo Britt at (817) 496-8422 or e-mail your information to jo@iecfwtc.org.