



Electroscan

Fort Worth/Tarrant County Chapter



January-February 2011

Volume 13, Issue 11

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 2011 Board of Directors
- IEC Members Support Mission Arlington
- January Fast-Track Class Starts December 10
- NAWIC Scholarship Awarded to IEC Apprentice
- IEC CE Courses
- Safety Matters
- Membership Anniversaries
- New Members
- Membership Directory Updates Due
- Middle Class Tax Relief Act 2010
- IEC Inc News
- IEC of Texas News
- TDLR Info

2011 Board of Directors Installed

IEC's 2011 Board of Directors and Officers were elected by the membership and installed during the Christmas Party held December 3, 2009 at Stockyards Station. Congratulations to these dedicated volunteer leaders:

Officers:

President: Doug Green, E-MC Electrical Services
 1st Vice President: Wes Shahan, Fox Electric, LTD
 2nd Vice President: Coty Owens, Coty Owens Electric Service, LLC
 Secretary Treasurer: Chip Bean, Bean Electrical, Inc.

Directors:

Terry Browning, Cable Electric, Inc.	Jack Martin, JBI Electrical Systems, Inc.
Steve Humphrey, Jr., Humphrey & Assoc.	Alex Nantz, A B Electric Company
Gerald Jordan, Hurst Electric	Gary Sodd, Sodd Electric Company, Inc.
Robert Leonhart, RISC, Inc.	Bobby Tutor, Tutor Electrical Service, Inc.

IEC Members Support Mission Arlington

During the holiday party held December 3rd at Stockyards Station, IEC collected donations\toys and gift items along with cash which was 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.

IEC members and Humphrey and Associates, partnered together to provide 53 new bicycles and \$1,200 to Mission Arlington this holiday season.

January Fast-Track Class Started January 5

The January fast-track class is designed for students who want to complete the first year

**CALENDAR OF
EVENTS:**

*Annual Meeting
March 24*

*Spring Golf
Tournament
April 19*

*IEC Night at the
Races
May 12*

*Graduation
June 9*

*Clay Shoot
August 19*

*Tradeshow
September 22*

*Fall Golf
Tournament
October*

*Holiday Party
December 2*

**EDUCATION
CALENDAR:**

*2011 Continuing
Education*

IEC Chapter Office

January 22

January 29

February 12

February 26

March 12

March 26

April 9

April 23

May 14

in a shorter time and move into the second year in the Fall. During this class students attend school by alternating two nights one week and one night the next week.

With a record number of twenty-eight students, IEC will hold to two fast track classes in 2011. One class will begin on Tuesday, January 4 and the other class will begin on Wednesday, January 5.

IEC Apprentice Receives NAWIC Scholarship

Ryan Autrey, IEC second year apprentice employed by Brant Electric, is the recipient of a \$750 scholarship from National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) Fort Worth Chapter 1. NAWIC provides scholarship funding for students in the construction trades and seven IEC students have received a total of \$5,250 in scholarships to date. The monies received pay the apprentice contribution portion of their tuition for our chapter.

An additional \$750 scholarship will be awarded to a student in the January fast-track class.

Electrician License Continuing Education Offered

IEC now offers two continuing education opportunities for electrical license renewal.

Course 6687, "2011 NEC Code Changes, Safety and State Law", will be offered at the IEC office beginning January 22. The course will provide information regarding changes to the 2011 NEC Code along with safety and state law. The cost for IEC members and graduates is \$35 per person. The cost for non-members is \$45. Additional dates for the course are listed on the sidebar of this newsletter.

In addition, IEC will offer on-line continuing education in partnership with AmericanCE. Cost is \$35.00 when you use the promotion code "IEC" during registration. Register online at: <http://www.iecfwtc.org/files/education.html>

Safety Matters

SAFETY TOOLBOX TALKS

The following toolbox talks are accessible through the links below –

GFCI's at Work and Home

<http://www.ieci.org/uploads/10NovGFCIsAtWorkAndAtHomeDec2.pdf>

May 28

June 11

June 25

July 9

August 13

September 10

October 8

November 12

December 10

Contractor
Education

*Journeyman and
Master License
Exam Prep Course
March 5 – April 16*

**BOARD OF
DIRECTORS:**

President
Doug Green

1st Vice President
Wes Shahan

2nd Vice President
Coty Owens

Secretary/Treasurer
Chip Bean

Directors
Terry Browning
Steve Humphrey, Jr.
Gerald Jordan
Robert Leonhart
Jack Martin
Alex Nantz
Gary Sodd
Bobby Tutor

Working in Confined Spaces

<http://www.ieci.org/uploads/10NovWorkingInConfinedSpacesDec3.pdf>

Membership Anniversaries

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Anniversary</u>	<u>Associate</u>	<u>Anniversary</u>
Feris Electric Company	1-1-1957	Risc., Inc.	1-2-1983
Accutex Electric, LLC	1-16-2007	Square D Company	1-17-1990
		Thomas Loss Control	1-11-2002

Welcome New Members

Contractor Members:

BW Electric

Breco White
2370 Laurelhill Lane
Fort Worth, TX 76133
Office: 817-714-4952 Fax: 817-370-2866
E-mail: brecowhite@yahoo.com
Products or Services: Home warranty,
electrical work.

2011 IEC Membership Directory

The membership directory will go to press shortly. If you have not already done so, please send in your company directory update ASAP so your company information will be accurate in the directory. Send to Jo Britt at jo@iecfwtc.org or fax 817-496-8555.

Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2010

I thought this information might be interesting and helpful, so I am forwarding this information for your knowledge. Here is how the law affects employers and employees: Item one applies if you have an employer sponsored tax code plan covering transportation benefits. Items 2 and 3 pertain to payroll tax administration.

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Marketing Director
Jo Britt
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**To Sponsor an
Issue of the
Newsletter:**

**Contact Jo Britt at
(817) 496-8422
jo@iecfwtc.org**

President Obama signed into law on December 17, 2010, HR 4853, known as the Middle Class Tax Relief Act of 2010.

- Section 1511 of ARRA created transportation parity commuter benefits, transit passes and parking through the end of 2010 for a \$132 transportation plan. In other words, these benefits all had monthly limits of \$230. Section 727 of HR 4853 extends transportation parity through the end of 2011. The IRS has delayed publication of the 2011 limits, but the limits are expected to remain at 2010 levels. Without this provision, the monthly limits for commuter benefits and transit passes would have dropped to their prior level of \$120. Because this essentially maintains the status quo, we do not expect any significant changes to our transportation plan administration.
- Section 601 of HR 4853 reduces the employee portion of the Social Security tax from 6.2 percent to 4.2 percent. This provision is effective only for the 2011 tax year. The maximum individual savings is \$2,136. The employer portion of the Social Security tax will remain at 6.2 percent.
- Sections 101 to 103 of HR 4853 retain the tax rates that have been in place for the past several years, extending them for 2011 and 2012. This means that the 2011 tax withholding tables will not be materially changed from past years. In response, on the same day the IRS issued Notice 1036, which provides instructions on the 2011 tables. This notice is available at:
http://www.irs.gov/pub/newsroom/notice_1036.pdf.

Employers should communicate these changes to all employees so that they can make appropriate changes, if any, to their W-4 withholding.

As background, despite the extended debate, HR 4853 passed easily. The Senate passed the bill by an 81-19 margin on December 15, 2010, and the House passed the bill by a 277-148 margin a day later, actually one minute before midnight. A copy of the HR 4853 is available by searching for the bill number at: <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

**Peggy Bass
The Sweeney Company
817-457-6700**

IEC Inc. News

Click the link to keep up with the current news from IEC Inc.: <http://www.ieci.org/>

IEC...."There's an App For That"

Continuing
Education:

ONLINE:
IEC has partnered
with



for your Online
Continuing
Education needs.

- AFFORDABLE
- CONVENIENT
- EASY TO USE

Cost is \$35.00 when
you use the
promotion code
"IEC" during
registration.

Register online at
www.iecfwtc.org

American CE
Provider Number
1129

CLASSROOM:
We also still have
classroom dates
available.

For more info or to
register online for
any CE classes go to
www.iecfwtc.org
or call 817-496-
8422.

Do any of you have an iPhone or iPad? If so, then be sure to download the National IEC's Mobile app.

The National Independent Electrical Contractors Mobile App is the premier mobile resource for electrical professionals. Use it to quickly find products and services, keep up with industry news and events, and stay in touch with the association – all conveniently from your iPhone.

Mobile Access to the Latest Industry News from IEC Electrical Matters. With IEC Electrical Matters, participating electrical professionals no longer have to scour the Internet for industry-related news. Each week, IEC Electrical Matters aggregates the news for association members and delivers quality articles to their inbox in an easy-to-read format. Access the latest news from IEC Electrical Matters directly from your iPhone with the Independent Electrical Contractors Mobile App.

The Independent Electrical Contractors Mobile App offers even more useful features:

- Access the Independent Electrical Contractors website directly from the app
- Stay informed about upcoming events for electrical professionals with the "Events" tool
- Contact the Independent Electrical Contractors home office directly
- Store association member information

Download the Independent Electrical Contractors Mobile App now and start benefiting from this fantastic association resource today!

For more information and to download this app, just follow this link:

<http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewSoftware?id=401646043&mt=8&ign-mpt=uo%3D6>

NLRB Issues Proposed Rule Requiring Contractors to Post a Notice Encouraging Employees to Organize

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has announced a proposed rule requiring businesses to post a notice in break rooms to inform employees of their rights to bargain collectively, distribute union literature or engage in other union activities without reprisal.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking will be published in the Federal Register on December 22, 2010 and members of the public can submit comments on the proposal for 60 days, until February 22, 2011.

Private-sector employers (including labor organizations) whose workplaces fall under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) would be required to post the employee rights notice where other workplace notices are typically posted. If an employer communicates with

employees primarily by email or other electronic means, the notice would be posted electronically as well.

The NLRB issued a statement saying: "The intended effects of this action are to increase knowledge of the NLRA among employees, to better enable the exercise of rights under the statute, and to promote statutory compliance by employers and unions."

An NLRB News Release on the Proposed Rule and comment submission guidelines can be found here, and a sample of the notice can be viewed here.

If you have any questions or comments on this or any issue, please contact IEC National's Director of Political Affairs, Steve Hinton, at (703) 650-0055 or shinton@ieci.org.

Business Development Brochures

IEC National developed two brochures that can help grow your business! One brochure is directed toward general contractors, informing them of the many benefits to hiring an IEC electrical contractor. The second brochure informs potential customers of why it is a smart decision to use an IEC member for all of their residential contracting needs.

The back page of these brochures can be customized with your company's information to make them unique. After adding your company's information to the back cover, you can PDF the brochure and send them to your local printer or print them in-house from Word or Adobe. Below are some directions on how to download the brochures and customize them for your business.

1. Access the general contracting brochure here:
[www.ieci.org/uploads/IEC10GCBro\(Customizable\).doc](http://www.ieci.org/uploads/IEC10GCBro(Customizable).doc).
2. Access the residential contracting brochure here:
[www.ieci.org/uploads/IEC10ResBro\(Customizable\).doc](http://www.ieci.org/uploads/IEC10ResBro(Customizable).doc) (The documents are fairly large files, so download time may take a few minutes).
3. Click in the text box on the back cover where it says "Sample Text." (This is the only area of the brochures that can be altered).
4. Delete all of the "Sample Text" and add your company's information.
5. Once your text is finalized, save it where you would like as a Microsoft® Word Document and create an Adobe® PDF.

When your brochures are complete, you can print either brochure on regular 8.5x11" sheet of paper then fold it down the middle. If you have a professional printer you work with, you can send the files to them.

The brochures were created as a benefit to all IEC contractor members and their use is free of charge.

If you have any questions about the brochures, please contact Tim Welsh of IEC National at (703) 549-7351 or twelsh@ieci.org.

IEC of Texas News

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

TDLR INFO

Click below for the newest TDLR FLASH Newsletter:

<http://www.license.state.tx.us/electricians/cities.htm#flash>