

# CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Eastern Illinois Chapter

1308 Houbolt Rd, Joliet, IL 60431  
Phone (815) 729-2288 / Fax (815) 729-2280  
www.necaeil.com

December  
2018  
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## Chapter Officers

Governor: Greg Outsen  
President: Dave Ruder  
Vice President: Keith Conrad  
Treasurer: Paul Rolih  
Exec Director: Scott Dworschak

## Board of Directors

Larry Clennon  
Shane Elliott  
Tom J McGann

## December Meeting Dates

**December 12th**  
JATC Meeting  
JATC Office – 3:00 pm

**December 13th**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
NECA Office – 8:00 am

## Upcoming Meeting Dates

**January 9th**  
JATC Meeting  
JATC Office – 3:00 pm

**January 10th**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
NECA Office – 8:00 am

**January 12th**  
Chapter Annual Dinner  
Syl's, Rockdale – 6:00 pm

**January 14th**  
Audit/LMCC/Bonding Mtg  
IBEW 176 Office – 8:30 am

**January 28th-30th**  
District IV Winter Council Mtg  
Palm Desert, CA



## **Chapter Board of Directors Elected**

At the fall Quarterly Membership Meeting held on November 14th, three Directors were re-elected to the Chapter Board. Returning to serve a two-year term are Dave Ruder, Larry Clennon and Keith Conrad. Thank you to those who are willing to take the time to support our industry and our local NECA Chapter.

## **Numerous Multi-Employer Pension Plans in Financial Danger**

Several large multi-employer pension programs are in financial distress and close to insolvency. Many other programs are projected to be unable to pay retirees their full defined pension within the next 20 years. Across the nation, over 1 million retirees are in danger of losing some, or all, of their benefits. Before, I go any further, it's important to note that retirement funds linked to IBEW Local 176 employees are in good financial shape. The Local 176-IBEW/NECA pension program, since it is an annuity program and not a defined benefit program, shouldn't be affected. However, problems with other pension programs may affect our NEBF and Decatur Pension programs.

Currently, participants in multi-employer pension plans are protected from any payout shortfall by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), which operates much like the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation which protects many individual bank savings accounts. In order to fund the PBGC, all pension programs pay an annual member based fee. Unfortunately, the size of the projected pension default far exceeds the resources of the PBGC by billions of dollars.

In order to address the long-term health of multi-employer pension programs, Congress created a Joint Select Committee to come up with potential legislative solutions to this problem. Among the possible solutions discussed were offering distressed pension programs taxpayer financed bailouts, long term low interest loans, or raising the fees paid to the PBGC by healthy funds to support those in financial stress. This last idea would have hurt our healthy, and prudently run, pension programs the hardest. Our NECA Legislative office supported the Giving Retirement Options to Workers Act (H.R. 4997) which would offer workers a composite retirement plan which offers features of both a defined benefit and a defined contribution plan with strict rules on long term solvency.

The Joint Select Committee was scheduled to announce its proposed legislation by the end of November. Unfortunately, the Committee just announced it has been unable to reach a consensus and has basically kicked this problem to the new Congress to convene in January. We will keep you apprised of developments next year, as this problem isn't going away.

## Eastern Illinois Chapter Retains PAC Goal

Thank you to all the membership for your contributions to our national political action fund NECAPAC. Special thanks to Larry Clennon for his very generous contribution. Based on our contribution level, we are once again honored to be a member of the prestigious Political Leadership Council. With all the changes going on in Washington, it's more important than ever that our industry's voice is heard. Also, congratulations to Paul Rolih, the winner of our \$150 PAC lottery prize!

## Christmas & New Year's Holidays

### Christmas - Tuesday, December 25th

Inside & Residential Agreement - all hours worked subject to double-time  
 VDV Agreement (Local) - **PAID HOLIDAY** (if applicable) - all hours worked subject to double-time  
 NVDV Agreement - **PAID HOLIDAY** (if applicable) - all hours worked subject to double-time

### New Year's Day - Tuesday, January 1st

Inside & Residential Agreement - all hours worked subject to double-time  
 VDV Agreement (Local) - **PAID HOLIDAY** - (if applicable) all hours worked subject to double-time  
 NVDV Agreement - **PAID HOLIDAY** (if applicable) - all hours worked subject to double-time



*The Chapter office will be closed December 24th & 25th.*

## MANPOWER REPORT

**Based on Monthly Benefit Reports for the work month of October 2018**

	<u>Inside</u>	<u>Res</u>	<u>VDV</u>	<u>Sign</u>
Local Contractors	43	6	8	6
Traveling Contractors	<u>99</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>1</u>
	142	9	36	7
Workers-Local	576	6	53	15
Workers-Travelers	<u>495</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>1</u>
	960	15	153	16
Hours-Local	95,685	938	7,421	2,668
Hours-Travelers	<u>51,514</u>	<u>1,054</u>	<u>2,762</u>	<u>179</u>
	147,199	1,992	10,183	2,847

Number of Workers

Registered for Work as of 11/30/18:

Book I.....197

Book II.....113

Apprentices.....25

Residential Wiremen.... 3

Residential Trainees....0

VDV Tech....34

VDV Trainees....0