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Find us at
www.ndseb.com

A Message From the Executive Director:



New Year Greetings

to everyone!! It's been a busy winter so far as the work load seems to increase for us all. January is a busy

month with the State Sponsored continuing education classes and apprentice and journeyman/master license renewals.

Is anyone else having computer troubles or are we the only office blessed with that?! We tried to install what seemed to be a routine download of the driver for a printer and somehow or another it caused our main server hard drive to crash! It's taken several weeks to work all the bugs out of the new server since the crash, and we appreciate all the contractors' patience in working with us while the IT people remedied the problems. For the most part, things are back to normal so if you're having any troubles working with

your e-certs please let us know so we can look into it.

Remember also to keep us informed of your most current email address as information is transmitted from this office from time to time via email. Presently when we send out email reminders approximately half of the emails come back as "undeliverable" so let us know if your email address changes.

To update you on the progress of the administrative rule change to article 24-02-01-02 paragraph 3 on page 22 of the ND State Wiring Standards: It was reviewed by the Attorney General's Office and has been sent on to the ND Legislative Council. If all is accepted and approved, it will become an administrative rule as per the dates allowable by state statute which will probably be April 1, 2013 as it looks now but more information will come later when it becomes official.

If you want to submit any administrative rules proposals to the 2014 ND Wiring Standards, the deadline for receiving these proposals will be February 28, 2013. You can download the form from our website at <https://www.ndseb.com/?id=128>.

This office is still receiving calls from consumers and electricians saying there are unlicensed persons advertising to provide electrical work and/or actually doing electrical work. We can't be everywhere so please let us know when you run across this so we can look into it.

The staff and I are available for questions or information you may seek, so give us a call or send an email so we can assist you. Remember to check our website at NDSEB.com for updates and notices. Let us know how we are doing as we welcome feedback.

Thank you,
James Schmidt



Connections

A Newsletter of the North Dakota State Electrical Board

Issue 239
January 2013

Ensuring Public
Safety Since 1917

Increased Workload Requires New Hires

There are three new staff members at the NDSEB, all of whom started in January.

Safety/Training Director Ed Therriault started work January 2nd and immediately began presenting information at the State-sponsored CEU classes along with Director of Inspections Lyle Wergeland. This is a new position recently created by the NDSEB.

"The Board has talked about adding a Safety/Training Director for a couple of years," noted NDSEB Executive Director James Schmidt. *"When the state required that apprentices have additional training in 2008, the Board really felt that it was our responsibility to make sure they were getting a good education in the electrical field."*

Therriault has been a Master Electrician in the state of Washington for the past 25 years and is a licensed Journeyman in the state of North Dakota. Experienced in all aspects of the electrical trade, he has been a certified CEU instructor for



District 3 Inspector Mitch Feininger presents at the NDSEB electrical code CEU class in Williston on January 24th.

over 10 years and has also taught apprenticeship programs for seven years.

Now that there is a Safety/Training Director on board, the NDSEB is planning to offer CEU classes throughout the year with the hope of reducing class room size for better class

participation. This will also make the classes more accessible to electricians wanting continuing education.

Classes are planned to start in May and continue throughout the year in various locations

across the state. The NDSEB is interested in what topics electricians would like to learn about. Suggestions on CE topics can be sent to Therriault at edtherriault@nd.gov or Schmidt at jameschmidt@nd.gov.

Two new inspectors also started work in January. Kendrick Kjorsvik of Devils Lake will be replacing Steve Cuiffini as the District 10 Inspector. Cuiffini left the NDSEB to go back to work in the electrical field. Kendrick's first day was January 15.

Because the inspections work load has increased dramatically this fall, the Board also added an additional inspector position to the team. Leo Floer from Lake Park, MN, will be assisting with inspections in various districts.

Welcome aboard Ed, Kendrick and Leo! ☺

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Helpful Reminders from the NDSEB:

- REMINDER that NDSEB licenses individuals, not firms.
- REMINDER that contracting Master/Class B electricians are responsible for wiring certificates issued to him/her and, if using, overseeing the e-Cert (electronic wiring certificate) system.
- DON'T submit any forms to NDSEB unless they are fully completed;
- REMINDER to submit wiring certificates according to the following schedule:
 - Start-up (goldenrod) copy before work commences;
 - Canary copy to power company before work commences;
 - White/green and inspection fee (final paperwork) within 15 days of use, occupancy or completion, whichever is foremost.
- REMINDER to accurately calculate inspection fees based on job cost [total amount of electrical contract]. **Inspection fee calculator available at www.ndseb.com, under "Inspection Fees" for easy use.
- DON'T submit correction reports until all corrections have been completed. If extensions are needed, DO contact NDSEB before correction report is past due.
- REMINDER that it is a violation and subject to penalties to sign and submit a correction report without the corrections being made.
- REMINDER that certificates with a job cost of \$10,000 or less are valid for 12 months from the original filing date. DO file a new wiring certificate for all unfinished work.
- REMINDER that contracting Masters/Class Bs are required to notify the NDSEB before leaving employment with the contracting firm. DO plan on making sure that all jobs are completed and appropriate paperwork is submitted to NDSEB.
- DO provide sufficient reasons and information for voiding a wiring certificate, and if paper wiring certificate, all copies need to be returned.
- REMINDER that NDSEB's ratio of electricians is three apprentices to one licensed individual.
- REMINDER that apprentices are required to be under direct and constant supervision of a licensed electrician.
- REMINDER that registrations and licenses are due:
 - Apprentice registrations: January 31st
 - Journeyman licenses: March 31st
 - Master / Class B licenses: April 30th
- DO possess your current electrician's license ID card and photo ID when doing electrical work.
- REMINDER that eight (8) hours of continuing education must be submitted before or at the time of renewal of an electrician's license.
- DO allow sufficient (reasonable) time for NDSEB to process documentation. ☺

Keep Your License Up-to-Date!

The NDSEB office has fielded a few calls from electricians with expired licenses wondering what they can do. Here are the details:

All licensed Journeyman and Master Electricians are required to complete 8 hours of continuing education every year and submit proof of the CE to the NDSEB by either March 31 (Journeyman) or April 30 (Master). You can then renew your license online at the ndseb.com website.

If you have missed the deadline, complete the CE and send in the certificate as soon as possible. You will have to pay a reinstatement fee

of \$25 for Journeyman and \$50 for a Master Electrician License.

If your license expires, you cannot continue to work as an electrician in the State of North Dakota until it is renewed! You will be "Wiring Without a License", which is a Class B misdemeanor for the first offence and a Class A misdemeanor for the second offence.

In addition, if you don't renew for one year, your name is taken off of the NDSEB list and you will not be reminded to renew again.

ND Code Section 43-09-15 states "If the licensee fails to renew the license for a

period of three consecutive years or more, the licensee is required to appear for reexamination". You will also be required to reapply and pay additional fees.

Also if you take an exam and receive a passing score, you have 90 days to send in for the license you tested for. After 90 days, you will be required to file another application, if and when you want a license.

So don't forget to keep your license up-to-date! ☺

Inspectors to Meet More Frequently

The electrical inspectors met in December for their latest inspectors meeting. Starting in 2013, the group will meet every other month, increasing to six meetings a year instead of five.

"With the expansion of the department and all of the new faces, it will help to get everyone up to speed and keep the different districts more consistent," explained Lyle Wergeland, Director of Inspections.

Some of the topics discussed at the December meeting were as follows:

- The agenda for the **continuing education classes** held in January.

- Prosecution of the **people wiring without licenses** and how that continues to be a problem. With the influx of people to the state it is not going to go away anytime soon.

- How to determine the proper way to wire the **"bonus" room above a garage**. Is the garage attached to the house, and if so, is the room accessible from the house or only from the garage? If it is accessible from the house and is another level of the home, it will need a smoke detector. If it is only accessible from the garage it will not.



Bonus Room Above Garage

- If you are using **6/3 UF** at a bin site or other places to a motor the #10 ground in the cable assembly might not be large enough for the motor you are feeding.
- If you forget, or the plans change on a slab on grade house, how do we **get a circuit to the island in the kitchen?** Putting the island on wheels is an option.
- Also discussed were some of the **requirements and limitations for self-wires**.

"All in all it was a good meeting," said Wergeland. The group will meet again towards the end of February. ☺

Making A Connection: Office Manager Paula Glass

Originally from Baldwin, ND, Paula Glass started with the NDSEB in 1999 as an Administrative Assistant and was promoted to Office Manager in 2006. Her duties include planning, developing, and implementing administrative support procedures, supervising office support staff, handling financial transactions, preparing NDSEB correspondence, and dealing with contractors and the public.

Management in 2007 (after five long years) from Minot State University. This opened up and gave me a lot of opportunity with NDSEB in my current role.



Paula has been married to Joe for 25 years and has three sons, Travis, Kody, and Cole, and a 4-year old grandson, Peyton.

What is your favorite part of your job? *My job duties and tasks are unlimited and can be very challenging at times, and this is what I enjoy as Office Manager. It is a very busy office, and there is never a dull moment.*

What have you overcome as an obstacle? *Going back to school. Getting married and having children at a young age, I didn't feel I had the opportunity to continue my education beyond an Associate's degree. At middle age, I enrolled and achieved my Bachelor's Degree in*

Did you or do you have a mentor or person that inspired you? *I would say my mom and grandma and all those people that lived before all this technology. They taught me that not everything involves a computer or a cell phone, and that, in fact, some things have to be done by hand or in person, and hard work gets people where they want to be in life.*

What are your hobbies? *I love going to the casinos, especially Las Vegas. However, with also owning a business with my husband (Glass Concrete Construction), work takes away from a lot of hobbies.*

The best movie of all time is . . . ? *Pretty Woman . . . love Julia Roberts in this movie. ☺*

Additional CEU Class Offered

For all the late comers who either forgot or had other conflicts with getting signed up for a CEU class, the NDSEB is going to offer a one-time "late comer" class at the **Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck, ND, March 14, 2013**, starting promptly at 8:00am ending at 5:00pm with lunch on your own.

Online only pre-registration will be required at www.ndseb.com starting on February 11th and ending March 7th, or until full. The classroom size will be limited to 125 seats so register early before it fills up.