

**ND State Electrical Board**  
**PO Box 7335**  
**Bismarck, ND 58507-7335**  
**(701) 328-9522**

**Find us at**  
**www.ndseb.com**

## A Message From the Executive Director:



**Hello** everyone!  
 The NDSEB CEU classes for our next license renewal are going very well so far. They got off to a slow start but with the over-

whelming positive reviews from the attendees thus far, we feel this class atmosphere is what electricians have been looking for! Here are a few of the comments we have received so far:

*"Today's presentation was excellent."*

*"Doing real world calculations and correcting quizzes as a group is helpful, I am pleased with the new format."*

*"Very useful and informative, best class in years."*

Just a reminder: Only on-line registration will be accepted (unless otherwise arranged) and will close one week prior to class start date. You will want to register early as the class sizes are limited.

The Board received several proposed administrative rules changes which will be scheduled for public comment at the upcoming administrative rules hearing. The time, date and location will be announced on our website and in newspapers. We appreciate the interest and time that individuals have spent concerning our industry by sending in proposals.

If you call into the NDSEB office and are wondering why we are asking so many questions about your identity, it's for your own protection. A North Dakota electrician's identity was compromised by another individual with the same name from a different state. Someone called and asked to send a duplicate master license to an address in Tioga, ND. Since we knew the person did not reside in Tioga, we assumed he must be working in Tioga, lost his pocket ID and wanted his duplicate ID right away. Apparently, the phony guy must have been on our website, searched electricians, found one from ND with the

same name as his and called our office claiming he lost his pocket ID and requested another. Needless to say we caught on to the phony guy and called the local authorities but he had high-tailed it back to Missouri before he was caught. It takes all kinds as they say . . .

I want to close with a thought for all of us to reflect on. I've been an electrician since the 1970s, and have had the privilege of working with some great electricians. Some are still here and others gone but there are a few that stand out in my memories. I am thinking about one from the early days when I wanted to learn and absorb as much information and knowledge as I could. We all have had these individuals in our lives so let's take the thoughts and deeds from our mentors and be a good mentor ourselves by passing along knowledge to the apprentices, young journeyman and co-workers we work with. Thanks Jack.....

Be safe out there,  
 James Schmidt



Ensuring Public Safety Since 1917

# Connections

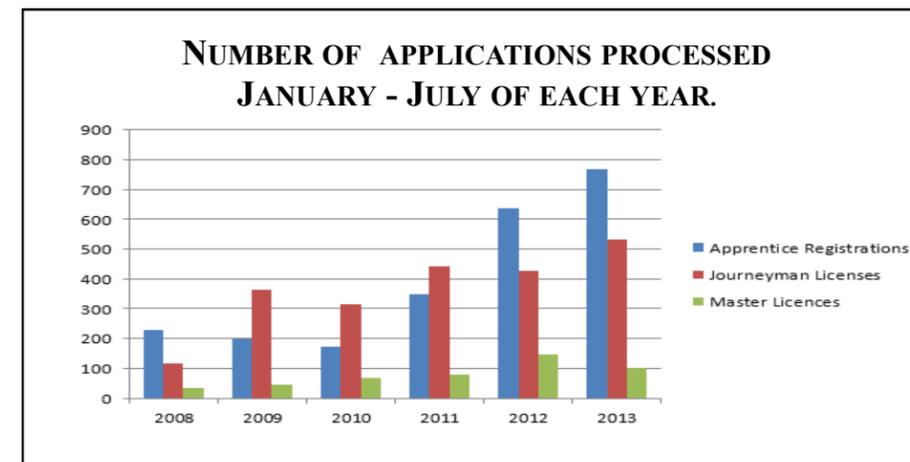
Issue 241  
 August 2013

## License and Apprentice Applications Rise Again

**The** number of electrical license & apprentice registration applications is still on the rise in North Dakota. In just seven months 959 master/journeyman and 720 apprentice applications have been processed.

Not all applications receive licenses or registrations due to a variety of factors, including insufficient experience or failure to meet application requirements. However, in the last seven months, the NDSEB has issued a total of 1,318 master/journeyman licenses & apprentice registrations. This is an increase from the first seven months of 2012 when the numbers were at 1,211 and an even bigger jump from the first seven months of 2011 when numbers were at 871.

A little over 500 of this year's applications have been reciprocals. NDSEB currently reciprocates journeyman licenses with Alaska, Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, South Dakota, and Utah, and reciprocates master licenses with Minnesota & South Dakota.



The North Dakota State Electrical Board accepts experience in electrical construction obtained under the supervision of a contracting master licensed electrician, as long as the work is done in an area where the jurisdiction regulating the work has similar licensing and inspection rules as the State of North Dakota.

Applicants are all subject to case by case review.

Some states don't require verification of electrical experience to obtain a license and some states or projects don't require electrical inspections. Time worked on projects in these states does not qualify.

In order for an applicant's time to count, the licensing requirements need to be similar to those in North Dakota and inspections need to have been performed by a governmental authority, such as a State Electrical Inspector or City Inspector. ☑

## Inside This Issue . . .

- License and Apprentice Applications Rise Again
- Now Hiring Electrical Inspector
- News and Notes from the NDSEB
- Safety Corner: Which End is Up?!
- Highlights from June Inspectors' Meeting
- Making a Connection: NDSEB Board Member Karen Karls
- A Message from the Executive Director

## Now Hiring Electrical Inspector

*(Please see details  
 under Employment  
 Opportunities @  
 www.ndseb.com)*

## News & Notes from the NDSEB

### New Logo

The NDSEB now has its own logo! Previously, we had simply used the State Seal of North Dakota, but the Board approved the logo (shown at right) at their July meeting. You will start to see our new image on letterhead, our website, and other official items soon to help the public and others identify personnel and documents relating to official NDSEB business.



### Administrative Rule Becomes Effective July 1, 2013

As you know, the NDSEB has been working on clarifying the role of a contracting master or class B electrician. Through the process of adding/deleting verbiage from the ND Wiring Standards, this is the wording that was approved by the ND Legislative Council at a hearing on June 6, 2013. The committee changed some wording and made this rule effective July 1, 2013. Here is the rule as it will be written in the state wiring standards:

Section 24-02-01-02(3):

Master and class B electricians. A master or class B electrician may exercise that person's privileges as a licensed master or class B electrician for no more than one shop or business, and shall comply with provisions as required for contracting with the secretary of state's office as stated in North Dakota Century Code chapter 43-07. A master or class B electrician must be actively engaged in the supervision of every project certified under that electrician's license. A master or class B electrician shall notify the state electrical board office immediately upon changing from contracting status to noncontracting status for the shop or business they represent.

### Board News:

Ben Koppleman was re-appointed by Governor Dalrymple to the ND State Electrical Board for another 5-year term. Ben is from West Fargo, ND, and was first appointed in 2008. We want to welcome Ben to another successful 5-year term!

At the NDSEB's July 10, 2013, meeting, the Board held its reorganization of the offices within the Board. Elected as President was Earl Scherer, Vice President Rod Mayer, Secretary Karen Karls, Treasurer Ben Koppleman and member Kyle Miller. These position terms are for one year.

### Welcome to our new inspectors!

We want to welcome Doug Grinde and Jerry Brackin to our staff. Doug will be assigned a new District #13 in eastern ND and Jerry will be the inspector for District 14, which at this point is still a roaming inspector position with the boundaries to be defined at a later date. John Travis, instructor for the ND State College of Science, was hired for temporary summer help.

Just a reminder: Please keep the NDSEB office informed of your most current email and mailing address as information is transmitted from this office from time to time via email. When the license renewal notices were sent out, we did get a lot of them back as "undeliverable" so let us know if your address changes. ☺

## Safety Corner: Which End is Up???

**Being** safe on the jobsite is crucial in our industry and can literally mean the difference between life and death. Always take the time to do things the correct and safe way!

Sooner or later a bad installation gets energized. Here's a photo of a self-wire situation that if you rotate the photo 180 degrees, it still looks the same!

If you run across something like this, unhook it ASAP. Don't rely on your customer to unhook it later. Sometimes later is years.  
BE SAFE! ☺



### Western Section IAEI Meeting

Don't forget: The meeting for the IAEI Western Section is coming up on **September 16-18** in Colorado Springs, CO. For more information go to: <http://www.iaei-western.org/>.

## Highlights from June Inspectors' Meeting

**On** June 27th, State and City Inspectors gathered in Bismarck for their bi-monthly meeting. The room contained all the usual suspects as well as a few new inspectors recently added to the team. Inspectors prepared for some rousing conversation on hot topics.

It is important to provide clear and consistent information statewide. The following were among the list of discussed topics worthy of noting in this issue of Connections:

- **Available Fault Current:** **NEC110.24** requires the maximum available fault current to be calculated and field marked on all service equipment. This marking shall include date calculation was done and be of sufficient durability for the environment. Exceptions include "Dwelling Units" and "Industrial Installations" - see definition at NEC 240.2. For an easy to use formula, go to MikeHolt.com, click on "Free Stuff", then "Short Circuit

Calculation", then "Fault Current Calculator.

- **Portable Housing:** We are seeing many versions of modular housing enter the State. If these products are to by-pass the State Inspection process, they must have a label from a third party inspection firm. This label tells us that they have met the wiring standards of North Dakota. Structures not bearing any third party inspection label will be subject to inspections and compliance of all applicable State and National Electrical Codes. Some of these products would require modifications



to be in compliance.

- **Dormitory Definition:** The 2009 International Building Code states a dormitory is a space in a building where group sleeping accommodations are provided in one room or a series of closely associated rooms, for persons not members of the same family group,



under joint occupancy and single management.

The North Dakota Wiring Standards require metal raceways for any dormitories designed to house more than 16 people. (Page 25 of 24-02-01-03 #6e) ☺

## Making A Connection:

### Board Member Karen Karls

**Originally** from Braddock, ND, Karen Karls grew up the oldest of 12 children (10 girls and 2 boys). She has a bachelor's of science degree in medical technology from Minot State University and is currently serving as the Consumer Representative on the NDSEB.

Karen is serving her second term in the ND House of Representatives (District 35) and makes wedding cakes. She and her husband Ken have been married for 42 years, have four grown and married children and eight grandchildren.

**What is your favorite part of serving on the Board?** *Working with other board members, our office staff and inspectors.*

**What is the hardest part of serving on the Board?** *Long board meetings, disciplining an electrician's license, handling the "tough cases" (i.e. requests for testing or licensing from states we don't reciprocate with).*

**What's the biggest challenge you see facing the Board currently?** *Handling the tremendous demand in oil country for timely inspections. Housing for western inspectors,*

*moving their families to oil boom country.*

**Did you or do you have a mentor or a person that inspired you?**

*I would have to say my parents. They taught all of us the value of faith in God, hard work, clean living, and public service.*

**What are your hobbies?**

*Scrapbooking, target-shooting, golfing (badly).*

**Do you serve on any other Boards or volunteer in other capacities?**

*I'm very active at Cathedral Parish in Bismarck. Also the Bismarck-Mandan Rifle & Pistol Association. My other involvements are Republican District Chairman and the Republican Women Board.*

**Do you have any advice for new electricians in the state?** *Register as an apprentice so your hours count - and get the required training classes. Look for a mentor. ☺*

