



# CONNECTIONS

Western Ohio Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



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## Building Trades Careers

High school graduates have more choices today than ever before. An often overlooked choice for continuing education is a career in the building trades. Apprenticeship programs consist of a combination of on-the-job training (earning while you learn) and classroom instruction, for which college credit is available.

Every year, the Miami Valley Building Trades Apprenticeship Group hosts a breakfast for area high-school counselors to showcase their programs. This year's event took place on April 22. Several of the trades had

exhibitor tables set up and shared information about their particular program with the



Connie Sink with the Cement Masons (from left), Patrick Reardon, Executive Administrator of the Ohio State Apprenticeship Council (OSAC) and Ron Middleton, OSAC Field Representative.

attendees.

Patrick Reardon, Executive Administrator of the Ohio State Apprenticeship

Council, spoke about the importance of Apprenticeship programs in Ohio. There are 913

registered apprenticeship programs recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor in

Ohio representing more than 10,000 employees. Several industries incorporate apprenticeship programs including: advanced manufacturing, hospitality, transportation, aerospace, health care, biotechnical, energy, information technology, and of course, the building trades.

There are several criteria that must be met in order to be a recognized apprenticeship program. There must be structured, supervised on-the-job training; a minimum of 2000 hours on-the-job training; required related instruction to supplement the training; and wages and benefits are provided in an incremental schedule based on time or competency.

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## Congratulations Class of 2015

On June 3, the Dayton Ohio Area Electrical Training Alliance held the Class of 2015 graduation banquet. Eighteen apprentices moved up the ranks to Journeymen, thirteen Inside Wiremen and five Teledata Technicians, while their families applauded their achievement.

Nick Comstock, Business Manager for Local 82 congratulated the graduates indicating that they currently only know a fraction of what they will learn going forward. "The future holds no limits. Continue your education as



Journeymen Graduates, Class of 2015

technology is always changing," Nick says. He encouraged the graduates to

always remember that they are a part of a brotherhood and to mentor other co-workers. Nick

continued, "Take ownership of your Local and your career. Get involved and give back to your Local and your community." This graduating class was involved in their own education by supporting the Apprentice Council and establishing a Mentoring Program with Journeymen and first year apprentices.

Mike Evans, Executive Director of the Western Ohio Chapter, National Electrical Contractors Association thanked the

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# Skills USA Ohio

SkillsUSA held its state-wide competition in Columbus on April 14-15, 2015. SkillsUSA is a national organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in technical, skilled, and service occupations, including health occupations, to ensure America has a skilled workforce.

SkillsUSA programs include local, state and national competitions in which students demonstrate occupational and leadership skills. SkillsUSA programs also help to establish industry standards for job skill training in the lab and classroom, and promote community service. SkillsUSA is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education and is cited as a "successful model of employer-driven youth development training program" by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Participating students are Juniors and Seniors from technical schools throughout

the state and locally include the Greene County Career Center and Miami Valley Career Technology Center.

Competitions vary from Automotive Refinishing, Aviation Maintenance, Basic Health Care Skills, Carpentry, Community Service, Computer Programming, to Medical Math, and more.

The coordinator for the regional and state-wide Electrical Construction Wiring and Industrial Motor Control competitions is Ben DeHart, Membership Development Coordinator for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW)

Local 82 in Dayton. Ben has been involved in SkillsUSA for the last four years. As the coordinator for the Electrical competitions, Ben and Local 82 were responsible for supplying all the materials required in the

competition, including wiring, motors, wall materials, drywall, conduit bending equipment, etc.

"It takes a day just to set up," says Ben. "We have to erect the walls used for the wiring competition and ensure

each individual has the required materials to meet the list of competition challenges." Participants in Electrical Construction Wiring and Industrial Motor Control

follow the same overall requirements: a two hour written exam; mock interviews (complete with submitting their resume); conduit bending; and a four hour hands-on lab. Students are given a set of drawings and descriptions of how the installations should function. Judges have a list of criteria that must be met, and students are scored accordingly.

Local 82 volunteer judges included: Ben DeHart, Randy Dohme, Chuck Terry, Rick Spurlock, Brad Travis, Dick Brooks, Ralph Peyton and from Portsmouth Local 575, Randy Brown. "I would like to thank everyone for their participation," says Ben. "It's a challenge to set up everything in one day and judge two, day-long competitions." Nick Sullivan, a CW2 at Chapel Electric, won the Silver medal in Motor Controls this year, barely missing out on back to back winners from the Greene County Local 82 CW Program.

For more information, visit [www.ohioskillsusa.org](http://www.ohioskillsusa.org).



Electrical Construction Wiring competition.

## Careers *cont'd.*

On average, an apprentice will earn \$150,000 in four years (the length of most apprenticeship programs). A college graduate owes an average of \$26,000 in student loans at the end of four years. It's plain to see why opting for a career in the building trades is a win-win experience.

Travis Journey, Regional Coordinator for Ohio Laborers Training and Apprenticeship spoke about his personal experiences in the industry.

Travis began his career as a laborer apprentice out of Local 83 in Portsmouth. He meets with students to encourage them to consider a career in the union building trades.



Travis Journey, Regional Coordinator, Ohio Laborers Apprenticeship

Matt Elkins is an Instructor at Sheet Metal Workers Local 24 Apprenticeship Program. Matt attended Sinclair and graduated with an Associates Degree, and worked as a Cad Cam designer. One day he stopped in to a contractors shop and was sold. After an interview with Eugene Frazier,

Training Director of the Local 24 Apprenticeship Program, he was sold. Matt currently



Matt Elkins, Instructor, Sheet Metal Workers Apprenticeship teaches an Autocad Detailing course.

Articulation programs between community colleges and the apprenticeship programs and also four-year university programs, help

apprentices transfer credit easily to further their education.

The Union Building Trades Apprenticeship Programs graduate quality craftsmen and women who build the infrastructure of our country. For more information visit: [www.daytonapprenticeships.org](http://www.daytonapprenticeships.org).



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Your comments, suggestions and questions are welcome! Contact the Western Ohio Chapter - NECA.

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## Sustainable Gizmos

Here are some stylish options for saving energy!

### Plug Pot

One complaint with standard power strips is that every device plugged into them goes off when you flip the switch. The Plug Pot is a power strip with individual power buttons for each device, making it easier to save energy consumed by office equipment and lighting when not in use.

### Mando Footloose E-Bike

E-bikes are an alternative to bicycles that run on both an electrical battery and pedal power. The Mando Footloose E-bike by Meister, Inc. has the added feature of folding up quickly when you arrive at work. Made for traveling shorter distances, the hybrid drive system is "surprisingly powerful and adapts to different road conditions." The motor kicks in automatically when slopes are electronically detected to make climbing

moderate slopes easier.

Pedaling generates power and recharges the battery so you're ready for the trip home.

### LED Wake-up Light

Humans, too, must run on energy, and this bedside lamp may help you arrive at work with more get-up-and-go. The HF3550 Wake-up Light from Royal Philips Electronics, is an alarm clock that wakes your metabolism before it wakes you. A colored LED light slowly changes from red to orange and then to a light sunny yellow to simulate the slow rising of the sun. You can control the device with a free app on the iPhone, adapts to individual sleep patterns, and allows users to select different alarm sounds or songs.

### The Nest Learning Thermostat

The Nest Learning Thermostat learns about your daily heating habits, quickly self-programming a schedule that matches your living

patterns. Within a week or so the thermostat will be picking up that on Wednesday evening at 18:30 you like the temperature at a chilly 53, or on Sunday night at 20:00 you like a balmy 78 for bath time. The key is providing the Nest with sufficient data to learn patterns. Once the Nest has a few data points to extrapolate from it can continue managing your heating, as well as your air conditioning.

### Standby Sockets

Having an electrical appliance on standby can use a lot of electricity while we are lulled into thinking it's switched off. TVs, washing machines, dishwashers and music systems that are more than 4 or 5 years old could be an energy drain. A simple but smart solution is to buy smart sockets that just plug into ordinary sockets. You can turn it off completely using a remote control. This is great when your plugs are all hidden behind cabinets or sofas – no more crawling around trying to switch them all on and off.

## New IBEW Local 82 Officers

*Congratulations to the recently elected officers of IBEW Local 82.*

**Business Manager:**  
**Greg Gust**

**President:**  
**Mike Perry**

**Vice President:**  
**Roger Dawson**

**Financial Secretary:**  
**Charla Parker**

**Recording Secretary:**

**Jody Steinbarger**

**Treasurer:**  
**Cathy Zelinskas**

## Graduation *cont'd.*

graduates for their commitment and also thanked the families for their sacrifice. "There is a great demand for highly skilled electricians providing opportunities for furthering your careers," noted Mike. He challenged the graduates to use their passion and values to teach and mentor other apprentices as they move forward in their careers.

There are many career paths for these graduates, 59 to be exact, from Foreman, Inspector, Contractor, Instructor, to Training Director.

The top graduate for the Inside Wireman program is Hoss Coberly who carried a 96.45% grade average for all five years. The top graduate

for Teledata is Joseph Williams with a 89.82% grade average.

### Background

The Electrical Training Alliance (previously known as the JATC) offers the best electrical worker training in the area. For the last seven years, their graduation grade point average of 89%, has been well above the national average. Training is sponsored by the Western Ohio Chapter, National Electrical Contractors

Association (NECA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82. The state-of-the-art training facility is located in the IBEW Local 82 building on Poe Ave.

The 5 year training program for an Inside Wireman is comprised of a minimum of 8,000 hours on-the-job training and 900 hours of classroom training including 30-hour OSHA training, State of Ohio Fire Alarm certification, and

Electrical Project Supervisor I

Training. Upon completion of the 5-year program, the apprentice graduate has earned 45 free credit hours towards an Associate Degree.

The Teledata Installer Technician program is a 3 year training program. It requires a minimum of 4800 hours of on-the-job training and 480 hours of classroom related instruction. Teledata installers work on various systems including LANs, fire alarms, nurse call, HVAC control, and security systems.

Instructors for the electrical Training Center include Journeymen, Contractors, and Electrical Inspectors. Please visit [www.daytonohiojatc.org](http://www.daytonohiojatc.org) for more information.



*Journeyman Award.*





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[www.wocneca.org](http://www.wocneca.org)



### The Western Ohio Chapter - National Electrical Contractors Association Directory:

On June 30, the LMCC hosted an evening at the Dragons to thank all the General Contractors who keep *our* contractors busy! Thanks to all who attended. It was a great evening (even though the Dragons lost)!



#### NECA Members

Chapel Electric Company  
Chapel-Romanoff Technologies  
ESI Electrical Contractors  
GEM  
High Voltage Maintenance  
Kastle Electric Company  
Kastle Technologies  
Maxwell Lightning Protection  
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Justice Electric  
Lake Erie Electric  
Mid City Electric  
Power Pro  
Power Services  
Production Electric  
Spurling Electric Co., Inc.  
Triad Electrical  
Wilson Sign Company

#### Affiliate Members NECA

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Becker Electrical Supply  
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