The fourth annual Safety Expo was held on September 13 at the IBEW Local 82 Union Hall. Sponsored by the Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) of the Western Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractor’s Association (NECA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82, the event featured safety equipment exhibitors and demonstrations by safety experts. Over 150 attendees had an opportunity to learn about the latest in personal protective equipment and speak with industry experts.

The Joint Safety Committee of NECA and IBEW Local 82 was instrumental in coordinating and participating in this outstanding event. Exhibitors included safety clothing and electrical personal protective equipment (PPE) manufacturers and distributors: Argus Hazco, Red Wing Shoes, Contractors Choice, and Hilti. In addition, several local electrical distributors participated this year as sponsors of the event. A big thanks to Becker Electric, Graybar, Cooper Bussman, Richards Electric Supply, and Wiseway Supply for their support.

This year, Hilti provided demonstrations and certifications in Power Actuated Tools and Fire Stop Safety.

Door prizes were also contributed by all the vendors. A big thanks to all of those who volunteered to make the Safety Expo a great success!

The Seventh Annual Dayton and Miami Valley Construction Career Expo was held Tuesday, October 9th at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Coliseum Building. Sponsored by the Miami Valley Alliance of Construction Professionals (MVACP), the event provided a unique and interactive learning experience about the Miami Valley Building Trades Apprenticeship Programs. The construction industry is one of the nation’s largest employers, with over 6 million workers.

Over 600 high school juniors and seniors with their instructors participated in the expo. Students were bussed to the Expo from 9am to 1pm. Breakout sessions were incorporated so students could learn about how to become an apprentice, the types of programs available, and wage scales. Becoming an Apprentice is just the beginning of establishing a career path in the building trades. After becoming a Journeyman, you can further your education to become a Foreman, Supervisor, Project Manager, and even open your own business!

Exhibitors included various apprenticeship programs: Bricklayers, Carpenters, Electricians, Ironworkers, Plumbers & Pipefitters, Sheet Metal Workers, Operating Engineers, and Plasterers. Students participated in hands-on projects, such as:

- Brick laying
- Welding
- Torch cutting
- Carpentry
- Operation of a backhoe with a computerized simulator.

The students and their counselors also attended a speaker session where Andrew Maciejewski of the Ohio Apprenticeship Council and the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services and Patrick Reardon, ODJFS, presented “Career Building through Apprenticeship Training.” The Expo concluded with lunch and a door prize raffle.

For more information about apprenticeships in the Trades, visit: www.daytonapprenticeships.org.
The United Rehabilitation Services (URS) held their twelfth annual telethon at WDTN TV Channel 2 studios on Sunday, December 2, 2012. The presenting sponsor this year was the Western Ohio Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 82. Several volunteers were on hand to take calls from donors. This is one of the biggest fundraisers for the URS and was a huge success! They set a new record of collecting over $117,000! Executive Director Dennis Grant was elated with the number of volunteers that participated in the telethon, and the amount of contributions collected.

For over 50 years, United Rehabilitation Services has been providing hope for families around the Miami Valley. The URS began in the 1940s as an informal support group created by parents advocating for their children with cerebral palsy. Founded in 1956 as an official organization, URS offers a wide variety of services for people with disabilities and their families, including: adult daycare, adult latch key, augmentative communications, the Berry Hearing Center, childcare for ages six weeks to nine years, community employment, hearing aid sales and service, home-based personal care, in-home respite care, latch key program for youths 10 to 18 years old, physical therapy, occupational therapy, aquatic therapy, senior daycare, speech pathology and vocational training.

Dan Neal, Executive Director of the Western Ohio Chapter NECA and IBEW Local 82 Business Manager Nick Comstock opened the telethon. “I can’t think of a better organization to work with,” said Dan Neal. Nick Comstock added, “The work URS does with the children they help is phenomenal. It is a great partnership.” A special “thank you” to Amy Fox and Beverly Carlin with Chapel Electric for their participation.

IBEW Local 82 launches Mentoring Program

A trade union is an organization of workers who have banded together to achieve common goals such as protecting the integrity of its trade, achieving higher pay, increasing the number of employees, and creating better, safer working conditions. Integral to the union organization is the concept of brotherhood. The focus is on improving the life and livelihood of all members, not just a select few.

Over the years, the concept of brotherhood in unions has waned. For apprentices, the course material is more technical and demands a greater amount of time to master. Apprentices also move from job to job, working for different contractors. Often, there isn’t enough time for discussion of other issues, bonding with fellow workers, or participation in union events or meetings. But, apprentices are the future leaders of the IBEW.

To encourage apprentices to embrace the tenets of the union and open the door to their participation, IBEW Local 82 recently launched a new Mentoring Program pairing Journeymen Wiremen (JW) with apprentices. A select pool of JW’s who have displayed the principles of being good stewards of the brotherhood, attended the first meeting in December, 2012. While the goals of the program are still developing, the basics include pairing a JW with an apprentice to become their mentor/partner. Each will keep a journal of progress, meeting, and discussions. A quarterly review will be submitted by each JW to the Mentoring Program Committee for review.

A mentoring program will give apprentices one of their best tools: the knowledge and commitment of a dedicated JW. Someone they can rely on to answer questions and lend a hand in the development of their career.

“The spirit of brotherhood recognizes the necessity of both the need of self-help and also the need of helping others in the only way which ever ultimately does great good, that is, of helping them to help themselves.” - Theodore Roosevelt.
Council of Apprentices

The electrical industry has grown into the third largest industry in the U.S. in the last century. The electrical trade is unique in that it is mechanical, technical, and professional. So Electricians must have an aptitude for using tools and the capability to master the intricacies of electrical science. They must keep up with the new technology and master the knowledge of thousands of installation and maintenance procedures.

This is no easy task and requires years of training...five years to be precise. The best trained, professional electricians in the industry are members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). Their training far surpasses any non-union programs. Their training program, referred to as the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC), is locally sponsored by IBEW Local 82 and the Western Ohio Chapter National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA).

The apprenticeship program is very selective in choosing their candidates. Not only do apprentices work 40 hours a week (for great pay) and attend classes in the evening, but their program requires that they follow the guidelines established by the members of the JATC. These guiding principles set forth in a Statement of Policy, which must be signed by each apprentice, cover such areas as attendance; grades; evaluations and work reports; professionalism on the job; safety and licensing; and general school policies. To help educate members about these policies, the Dayton JATC recently established a Council of Apprentices. The Council acts as a liaison between the apprentices and the JATC Staff and Trustees. The purpose of the Council is to advance the interests of all apprentices so an open forum is held each month to which all apprentices are invited to share their ideas and concerns.

In addition to the creation of the Council of Apprentices, other updates were made to the Statement of Policy, including a new point system. For example, an apprentice with an unexcused absence would receive two points. If an apprentice accumulates 12 points in any one continuous year or an accumulation of 24 points during the five-year program, they are eliminated from the program.

Another new policy is the Policy on Service Learning.

The JATC encourages its apprentices to develop a sense of social responsibility beneficial to the community. Volunteering helps develop a service ethic and gain a deeper understanding of the ties of the IBEW and NECA with the community. To this end, each apprentice must earn a minimum of 18 hours of Service Learning credits each year by volunteering for such organizations like Habitat for Humanity; Community Blood Center; Big Brothers/Big Sisters; Skills USA; Red Cross; Soup Kitchen/Food Pantry; or on campus events. Apprentices can also earn credit by attending monthly union meetings.

“The new Council and community service component added to our policies is empowering to our apprentices,” says Assistant Training Director Michael Gebhart. “This is their program, their career, and their future. Encouraging them to participate in developing program guidelines and volunteering in the community will help them develop their leadership skills in the industry.”

The Art of lighting

Let’s suppose you have a lighting system in an open office that is turned off automatically every night by a time-based controller. But a single occupant decides to work late and activates an override to the automatic shutoff function; you don’t want just one person keeping on all the lights when they only need a small area illuminated. To limit the override to a small area requires the lighting be divided into smaller zones, each assigned to a different conveniently located override switch.

Now suppose one wall of the open office space is windowed with high, consistent daylight falling on the space. The row of fixtures mounted to the wall could be assigned to a daylight-harvesting control zone; a controller would automatically dim the lights once light levels pass a certain threshold. Additionally, let’s say accent lighting is used to illuminate the other three walls and highlight artwork. These fixtures could be automatically turned off at the end of working hours, while the rest of the general lighting isn’t turned off until the end of the day.

Going further, say you want to maximize energy savings and flexibility by installing an individually controllable suspended direct/indirect fixture over each workstation. The downlight component of each fixture would be individually zoned for personal dimming control by the occupant using a slider icon on their PC. The upright component fixtures would be zoned to dim to off if all workstations in the group were unoccupied. Finally, all fixtures in the space are combined into a single zone for emergency demand response control.

So, in this scenario, the lighting of this office has defined separate zoning for automatic shutoff, override, personal dimming, daylight harvesting and demand response control all layered in the same space.

If this isn’t art, I don’t know what is! (Source: EC Magazine, Rick Laezman).
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Upcoming Events

Team Building Night
Thursday, January 24, 2013. 4:00pm - 7:00pm
Sinclair Conference Center’s Great Hall

The Builders Exchange of Dayton (DBX) and the Subcontractors Association of Western Ohio are sponsoring the Tenth Annual Team Building Night. Presentations of Craftsmanship Awards, Project Manager Award, Architectural and Engineering Awards and Outstanding Leadership Awards. New this year are “Foremen of the Year” awards from various crafts.

4:00 - 6:00pm: Exhibitors and networking
6:00 - 7:00pm: Dinner and awards

Now available:
“Build with the Best”

Video showcasing the building trades apprenticeship programs in the Miami Valley. Produced by the Miami Valley Building Trades Apprenticeship Group and the Miami Valley Association of Construction Professionals (MVACP). To view the video visit: www.daytonapprenticeships.org.