



Independent Electrical Contractors, Inc.

WATTS UP

4TH QUARTER—2001

The President's Corner



Integrity, fairness and dependability are character traits that exemplify our outgoing President, Tim Sammarco. He has left some very big shoes to be filled. But Tim also has bestowed upon our new Board some impressive mentoring skills as have his predecessors, Bobby Carlock, Stan Bond, and Karl Ekmark. With the assistance of these past presidents, our very competent Executive Director, Walt Czynnik, and his assistant JoAnna Frascella, I humbly accept the position as President of the Mid-South Independent Electrical Contractors' Association.

As I look forward to this next year of working with each of our members along with our new Board of Directors and the Apprenticeship and Training Committee. I would like to see growth in both our membership and in our associate membership as well as expanded educational opportunities. We have seen the impact the Mid-South IEC has had in our business community over the past ten years in the excellent training of apprentices and journeymen into qualified electricians. We now have a beautiful facility in which to work and to train your valued employees including the hands on experience in the new electrical and VDV labs. The job application process on the Mid-South IEC Website has proven to be most successful in saving you time and money. Now our Chapter needs to become even more aggressive in our approach to bigger and/or better jobs and become more politically aware of what it takes to make our voice heard in the community. Additionally as IEC members and contractors, we need to expand into new markets and incorporate emerging innovations into our educational and association work place in order to be on the complete edge.

I'll be contacting you within the next few weeks to get your ideas and opinions regarding growth, revenue enhancements, committee work and training opportunities as together we refine and work towards our goals. Be ready to lend your hands and voices and ride to the top.

Anita Haines
Anita Haines

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IEC VIDEO LIBRARY

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO STOP BY AND CHECK OUT ANY VIDEOS THE IEC OFFICE HAS AVAILABLE FOR OUR MEMBERS.



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2002

Applications

For the year 2001, we have had 521 applications that have been available for the contractors to review.

Past President Farewell

When I accepted the position of President I was not aware of how gratifying the experience would be. Well, I can honestly tell you the positives outweigh the negatives. It has meant a lot to serve as your President the past two years and work with the board and membership. I have taken each phone call and comment seriously and have tried to work for the benefit of the entire membership.

From our humble beginnings over ten years ago we have grown into an association offering a number of valuable services to our members, including training to well over a hundred apprentices each year. This association was created to pull us together in common areas and goals. Ten years ago it would have been hard to believe we could have accomplished what we have thus far by working together. However, what is so ironic is we have so much more to do and more issues to address in the future. We are Independent Electrical Contractors but we serve as one cohesive group when it comes to solving industry related problems and training electricians. The better our employees are the more successful we will be as contractors, and the more successful we are as contractors the more we can do for our employees.

I look forward to working with Anita Haines and the new board. I am confident our association will continue to prosper under their leadership. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve our association.

Tim Sammarco

WE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME BACK OUR INSTRUCTORS:

David Greer	Code Class
Bob Knouse	2nd Year
Jerry Lewis	1st Year
Leonard Lind	3rd Year
Phil Smith	4th Year

*Need something notarize for free!
Stop at the IEC Office
JoAnna is a Notary Public*

www.lksorganization.com

IEC Christmas Party

Our Annual Christmas was held at the Germantown Country Club on December 11. We played "Take a Present Home" game where you have a chance of taking someone else's gift away from them. Great time was had by all!!



Santa is stilling thinking about these two ladies being GOOD or BAD this year.....



Tim and Walt having a great time.

Jay Dickey is looking at his wife to see if he should keep this gift or take one from someone else.....
Nancy said, "**KEEP IT !!**"



David Ekmark liked his gift, he's thinking to himself if I open up the bottle now I will have share it...what to do!?!?



Everyone having a great time !!!

SAFETY ARTICLE

Hey, What's the Hurry? Avoiding the Ills of Road Rage

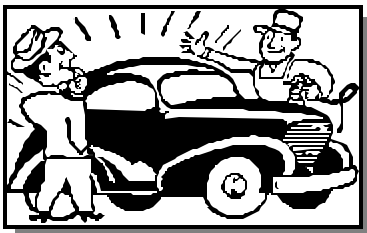
By Federal Insurance

What is “road rage”?

It is simply an irrational display of emotions while operating a vehicle. Road rage can take a number of forms, from verbal rage (yelling, swearing, gesturing, honking, or insulting) to quiet rage (complaining, rushing, competing, or resisting) to extremely aggressive driving (cutting off, blocking, chasing, fighting, or shooting). In any form it is dangerous for anyone in the path of the enraged driver.

*The most serious road rage is when a driver “acts out” violently and endangers others. Enraged drivers may act out of intentional malice, versus negligence, if they fail to control their emotions. This is generally considered a criminal offense and is different from aggressive driving (such as improper lane changes or speeding), which is a less serious moving violation offense.

The frustration of congested driving conditions often plays a major role in the driver's emotions. Drivers should manage their own anger and responses to other drivers. The best way to avoid being the target of an aggressive driver is to practice basic traffic courtesy. Each of us must pay more attention to our own level of emotion. Above all, we should not allow ourselves to be swept up in the emotions of the moment if another driver acts aggressively toward us. It is best to move aside and let the enraged driver ease out of the picture.



Educating your drivers about road rage helps keep them safe behind the wheel.



Walt's Tech Tips

I received a lot positive comments about last quarter's "Walt's Tech Tips" section of the newsletter. Therefore I thought we would keep it for awhile.

Tech Tip #1

I have been asked several times about "what's the difference in Microsoft Office verses Microsoft Word, Excel and so on? Therefore, I would like to demystify this.

Microsoft **Word** - is a word processor (good for creating letters, manuals and so on)

Microsoft **Excel** - develops spreadsheets (crunches numbers, makes charts and so on)

Microsoft **PowerPoint** - is a presentation program (many of you saw me use this when giving presentations at the member's meeting)

Microsoft **Outlook** - is a Personal Information Manager (it has a calendar, contact information, to-do list and can even be used to transmit and receive e-mail)

You can purchase all of the above programs separately. OR...you can buy them as a bundle and get all 4 programs at a lesser price than if you bought them one at a time. This "bundle" of 4 pieces of software is called, "**Microsoft Office Standard**". So if someone tells you they are using Microsoft Office Standard, you could safely assume that they have the above 4 programs loaded on their PC.

There are 2 additional pieces of software that a lot of businesses use. They are:

Microsoft **Publisher** - which makes newsletters and signs (just like the one you are now reading)

Microsoft **Access** - which is a database program (good for managing Apprentice's grades and attendance, HR records and so on)

You can purchase **all** of these pieces of software as a bundle, as oppose to buying them separately and saving you money. If you buy all of these pieces of software together, (the 1st four mentioned and the last 2 mentioned) these 6 pieces of bundled software is called "**Microsoft Office Professional**".

So now if anyone asks you do you have Microsoft Office, you will know what they mean, but you should then ask them, do you mean the **Standard** or the **Professional** version? One is no better than the other. One has 4 programs in it, and the other has 6 programs in it. Which one you buy for you or your office is dependent upon your needs.

Tech Tip #2

This is for those of you that use Microsoft Internet Explorer to view the internet. Would you like to have MORE VIEWING SPACE on your screen as you browse the web. Try this the next time you are surfing on the internet. After you have Internet Explorer running...press the F11 key. Your viewing screen will get larger. If you want it back to the way it was, press the F11 key again...it is now back to the original size.

The 2002 Mid-South IEC Officers:

President	Anita Haines	Pyramid Electric	(901) 382-2000
Vice-President	Frank Fuchs	Fuchs Electric	(901) 745-5077
Treasurer	Rodney King	Gusmus Electric	(901) 205-1000
Secretary	John Dennis	Dennis Electric	(901) 382-8150

The 2002 Board of Directors:

Tim Sammarco	Past President	Sammarco Electric	(901) 728-4173
Stan Bond		Marathon Electric	(901) 365-3421
Randy Davis		Davis Electric	(901) 752-5500
Jay Dickey		Airways Electric	(901) 744-1221
David Ekmark		Ekmark Electric	(901) 373-4339
Melvin Long		Reliant Electric	(901) 368-0008



Do you have extra parts from previous jobs that you would like to sell?

Is this "STUFF" just sitting in your shop collecting dust and NOT making you any money?!? Why not sell this "STUFF" to other members? Post this "STUFF" on the Chapter's bulletin board section, in the members area of our website. Give the chapter a call, and we will be happy to place this "STUFF" on the website for you to sell.

Associate Members

These Industry Partners Support IEC!

Please keep them in mind when making a business decision:

American Home Inspector Training Institute	Menard, Gates, and Mathis
Brambles	Nextel
CED	Rental Service Corporation
Cummins Mid-South	Siemens
Cutler-Hammer	Southern Electric Supply
Federal Alarm	State Systems
First Light Lighting	Stewart's Wholesale
1st TN Bank -David Warlick	Thomas & Betts
GE Supply	TVESCO, Inc.
Graybar	Two Bill Supply
Jackson, Shields, Yeiser & Cantrell	XO
LKS Organization	

The Process of the Electrical and VDV Labs

As many of you would agree that adults learn best by doing. We at IEC have taken that mindset and are in the process of building labs for our Apprentices.

Within the same square footage we currently have, we were able to build an Electrical Lab with 9 positions that can comfortably host up to 20 students at a time. Also, we were able to build 2 additional lab positions that BICSI requires for us to have for the upcoming VDV (Voice, Data and Video) Apprenticeship training. We are looking to start this VDV program this August.



Framing in the lab positions

As of the writing of this article, and due to generous donations from our Electrical Contractors, the carpentry portion of the labs are completed. We are now waiting for the electrical components that will be installed on these positions. There are several local business professionals in our industry that have said they would donate these much needed parts for the labs. Being that this is still work in progress, we will let everyone know the outcome of the labs.

“The better the Apprentices are trained, the better they will perform for you out in the field....
...where it matters the most”

Mid-South Independent Electrical
Contractors, Inc.

2814 Stage Center Drive
Bartlett, TN 38134

Phone: 901-682-3546
Fax: 901-682-4496

*“Unless you try to do
something beyond what
you have already
mastered you will never
grow.”*

We're on the Web!
www.midsouthiec.com



Independent Electrical
Contractors, Inc.

**Promoting
Responsible
Independent
Dedicated
Electricians**

Mid-South IEC Officers

President	Anita Haines	anita@pyramidelectric.com
Past President	Tim Sammarco	tim@sammarcoelectric.com
Vice President	Frank Fuchs	ffuchs@concentric.net
Treasurer	Rodney King	rodney@gusmus.com
Secretary	John Dennis	jdennis@denniselectric.com

Board of Directors

Past President	Tim Sammarco	tim@sammarcoelectric.com
	Stan Bond	marthone@aol.com
	Randy Davis	daviselectric1@aol.com
	Jay Dickey	
	David Ekmark	david@ekmark.com
	Melvin Long	m@reliantinc.com

Staff

Executive Director	Walt Czarnik	walt@midsouthiec.com
Executive Assistant	JoAnna Frascella	joanna@midsouthiec.com

For a complete schedule of events, please visit our website at
www.midsouthiec.com and click on “calendar”