



## International Association of Electrical Inspectors

### 2009 OFFICERS

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VICE PRESIDENT

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DAN PRATER  
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RICHARD KURTZ  
TIM VAN FOSSEN

The October 20, 2009 meeting of the Palm Beach County Division of IAEI was called to order at 3:10 PM by President, Debbie Nutter with the Pledge to the Flag and self introductions. The September Minutes and Treasurer's report were discussed and approved.

Debbie mentioned that we have over 50 members whose memberships have expired and that we are attempting to contact these people and remind them to renew their memberships before they lose credit for the time that they have been a member.

Leonard Devine mentioned that Randy Jacobs of RJ Electric was having a pretty rough time with health problems and is trying to keep a good attitude.

Debbie also discussed the need to establish our proposed slate of Officers for 2010. Glen Labonte is in line to be Division President but after suffering a layoff from Jupiter Building Dept, his ability to attend meetings will depend on him securing employment that will allow him the time.

**Old Business;** Leonard Devine said that the Board had approved sending John Minick a gift certificate for a free dinner after his recent knee replacement. John is a NEC Code expert from Texas that has been a very generous and helpful to this Division. Leonard said John said thanks to all, but he would prefer that we treat one of our deserving members of the Florida Chapter instead.

**NEC Questions;** Bo Richards drew a riser to show a problem he saw recently in Palm Beach County. It consisted of a 400 amp service disconnect, fed from a CT can through a gutter. Two other tenant services were added at different times, by tapping from the gutter to meter cans and disconnects. The guy paying the bill for the CT meter did not understand his high bills until his 400 amp disconnect was turned off and the CT meter kept spinning. Several people over time had to overlook the taps downstream of the CTs.

Vinny Burdo discussed a condo building with the metal feeder conduits from the meter room to the units, running under the slab. The conduits were rusted away and they proposed to get an equipment grounding conductor by connecting from the tenant panel to the tenant's water line. No one in the room would even consider such an option.

Terry Cole of Cole Electric complained about the obvious errors on electrical risers and electrical plans that get approved by building plans examiners. Then he has to argue with the Architects and designers to correct the plan so that he can pass inspection. He has a very good point that building departments are too tolerant of electrical designs by architects of large custom homes. He asked that plans examiners get the plans corrected prior to permitting to put more responsibility on the architect and force them to use a designer with electrical knowledge if they don't have it themselves. Plans examiners are being pressed harder now than ever to get plans out and expect that electrical contractors will usually change the original design anyway to make it practical. Most residential designs can be improved, but if they meet NEC minimums, they will be accepted by plans examiners. Every effort should always be made to correct obvious errors. If a plans examiner is confident that the size of the electrical service is adequate he may overlook some errors in the electrical load calculation in order to expedite the plan.

Wally Herron won the door prize of a 2008 NEC code book.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM - Respectfully Submitted by Dan Prater, Secretary.

The next regular meeting will be at **3 PM on Tuesday, November 17th**, at the Palm Beach County Building Dept in the Vista Center, **2300 N Jog Rd**, West Palm Beach.

