

Thomas Van Arsdale Retires

Local Union No. 3, IBEW Business Manager, Thomas Van Arsdale, announced his resignation on October 10, 2006. At a meeting of the union's Executive Board, Mr. Van Arsdale announced that he would also retire at the end of the year.

The Executive Board elected Christopher Erikson as the new Business Manager to fulfill the balance of Mr. Van Arsdale's term through May of 2008.

Mr. Erikson had been the Assistant Business Manager for the union's Maintenance Division.

The grandson of Harry Van Arsdale Jr., Mr. Erikson has a vast knowledge of the electrical industry as well as the construction industry in New York City. A thirty-year member of Local Union No. 3, IBEW, Business Manager Erikson became a Business representative in 1989.

Thomas Van Arsdale served as the Business Manager of Local Union No.



Thomas Van Arsdale



Chris Erikson

3, IBEW from September of 1968 to October of 2006, was International Treasurer of the IBEW from 1978 to 1998 and the President of the New York City Central Labor Council from 1985 to 1995.

Mr. Van Arsdale was initiated into Local Union No. 3, IBEW in 1946 as a third generation electrician.

A graduate engineer from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute his sixty-year career in the electrical industry has been marked with many important outside positions including Trustee of the State University of New York, the Board of Governors of the New York College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Director of several organizations including the National Committee of Labor Israel, the Police Athletic League, the Greater New York Fund and the United Way of New York City.

Mr. Van Arsdale's father Harry Van Arsdale Jr. served as Business Manager from 1933 through 1968. Harry Van Arsdale Jr. passed away at the age of 81 in 1986.

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President's Corner



“The common goal for all of us is to build a better future for those that come after us, whether they are employers or employees.”

The summer is behind us as are most vacations and our AEC activities are back in full swing. Like most people, I too, would love to have less pressure of running my own business, go to less industry meetings and have more time for my family and hobbies.

But, I recognize that I have a responsibility to contribute back to my industry for the benefits I have enjoyed as a member of the electrical industry family.

Many people like us will become electrical contractors and deserve to have the same opportunities as we have had, and hopefully, to benefit from our experiences. The common goal for all of us is to build a better future for those that come after us, whether they are employers or employees.

It is my hope that more of our members will come to our meetings, participate in the work of our committees and share some of their wisdom with their peers. Some have more time than others, but we all should try and give what we can, when we can.

I have been reaching out to individual members to encourage their participation and also to find out how our organization can be more attractive to them. If you have any suggestions about meeting or program schedules or ways we can improve our communications and services, please contact me or our Executive Secretary Richard Wishnie.

As you know, our industry continues to experience long term unemployment and all the accompanying associated problems. We have taken steps to organize ourselves to address the ills of our industry and to assure that our future is greatly improved over the months and years ahead.

We recognize that our concerns are not just local or regional but are shared by the IBEW and NECA on a national level. We have an opportunity to make change and alter the course before it is too late. There is much work to be done and I urge you to please become active and help build a stronger foundation for the future.

Michael J. Castellano
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Michael J. Castellano

The Future for Union Electrical Contractors

ELECTRI International has released a study that addresses five myths about union electrical construction's future.

THE FIVE MYTHS ARE:

- (1) All union electrical construction will remain "locally" controlled.
- (2) Unions will continue to have a significant influence in the marketplace and society.
- (3) Union electrical construction will always have a training advantage over non-union electrical construction.
- (4) Pay scales are fixed and cannot be changed.
- (5) Both IBEW and NECA contractors will continue to share a common vision for growth of the industry.

The study concludes that the following must occur for union electrical construction to reach its full potential by 2025:

- (1) The market must be systematically organized.
- (2) Training methods must become more flexible and dynamic.
- (3) Compensation methods must change.
- (4) Leadership must be consolidated at the national level.
- (5) Leaders of IBEW and NECA must articulate a vision of growth and prosperity for all.

Copies of the full report will be distributed to members

New Trans-Hudson Passenger Rail Tunnel

The Port Authority Board of Commissioners has authorized the investment of at least \$1 billion and as much as \$2 billion toward construction of the Trans-Hudson Express (THE) Tunnel project.

The New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund has committed \$5 billion and the Federal Transit Administration will be a major contributor as well.

This critical mass-transit project will create an additional passenger rail tunnel connecting New York City to New Jersey and to Rockland and Orange counties in New York, and includes the expansion of New York's Penn Station beneath 34th Street in Manhattan.

The total project valued at approximately \$7.2 billion, will create 6,000 new construction jobs, \$10 billion in gross regional product and \$4 billion in real personal income.

The Tunnel will provide necessary redundancy to and from

Manhattan, boosting regional security and remove 35,000 vehicles from our road system.

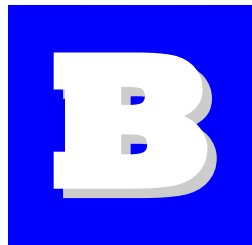
The project includes two new single-track rail tunnels and a new multilevel station under 34th Street, which would connect to Penn Station. NJ TRANSIT's Board of Directors authorized preliminary design for the creation of a new concourse to connect to the new Moynihan Train Station.

The new concourse, a critical early action item of the Access to the Region's Core (ARC) study, will expand the capacity of Penn Station New York and improve pedestrian flow throughout the facility.

ARC features the new Trans-Hudson Express (THE) Tunnel project as its centerpiece and together with added track, station and train storage facilities will double trans-Hudson rail capacity to meet peak-period demand for service between New Jersey and Manhattan—projected to surge from 43,000 passengers today to 86,000 passengers by 2025.



BARRY KATZEN



Barry Katzen began his career in the electrical industry as a Local Union No. 3, IBEW apprentice in June of 1965. It was the beginning of a successful journey that would pave the way to leadership positions in the electrical industry.

Through his perseverance and dedication to assisting others, Barry has created a legacy of service that continues to grow to this day.

For sixteen years Barry was employed in various capacities as an Apprentice, Journeyman, Foreman and General Foreman for Tipperman Electric.

He gathered the skills and training to venture off on his own to establish Katco Electric, Inc., in 1979.

After six years of growing his business, Katco Electric became a member of the AEC.

Barry's service to the AEC has been exemplary. As a member of the AEC Board of Directors for the last fifteen years, he has held numerous leadership positions including Secretary, Treasurer, First Vice-President, and was President for three years.

During Barry's tenure as President, the AEC dramatically increased its membership ranks becoming the largest individual union affiliated electrical contractor's association in the country.

Barry Katzen has been an integral part of the industry's leadership serving as a Trustee of Joint Industry Board and on many of its committees.

He was a member of the Vacation Committee for ten years, the Employment Committee for five years, and served on the Negotiating Committee for the last six contracts.

Barry's Resumé includes:

Member of the Joint Apprentice Training Committee

Member of the NECA Chapter Board of Directors

Member of the Queens Chamber of Commerce

Director of the New York State Association of Electrical Contractors, Inc.

Treasurer of the Harry Van Arsdale Memorial Association

Past President of the Queens Rotary Club.

Past President and current Board Member of the Association of Electrical Contractors, Inc.



AEC MEMBER

Barry has been a member of the Joint Apprentice Training Committee for twelve years and has been Chairman for the last three years. For fourteen years he served as a member of the NECA Chapter Board of Directors, and has been serving as a Director of the New York State Association of Electrical Contractors, Inc., for eight years.

He is the Treasurer of the Harry Van Arsdale Memorial Association, Past President of the Queens Rotary Club and a member of the Queens Chamber of Commerce.

One of Barry's most important concerns has been the education and training of Local Union No. 3, IBEW apprentices. After he received his B.A. degree from the City College of New York in 1965 and understanding the value of a strong education, he became certified by the Board of Education of the City of New York to teach in the industry's apprentice training school.

Remarkably, Barry became a teacher in the Local Union No. 3, IBEW Apprentice Training Program in April of 1970, just three months after his own graduation from the program in January of the same year.

He taught hundreds of students over a twelve year period and continues to be a major influence in the decisions made about apprentice training in New York City, particularly as Chairman of the JATC.

“One of Barry’s most important concerns has been the education and training of Local Union No. 3, IBEW apprentices.”

Barry's emphasis on education was not lost on his family. Barry has been married to Susan for 41 years. Susan received her B. S. and Masters Degrees at Queens College. They have three married sons Seth, David, and Stuart and six grandchildren, with another on the way.

Seth is a graduate of the University of Maryland and is a marketing professional with a not-for-profit agency. David is a graduate of Buffalo State University with a degree in Electrical Engineering and is a decorated police officer in the Emergency Services Department of the Suffolk County Police Department. Stuart is a graduate of Cornell University and Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine.

We congratulate Barry Katzen for his commitment to our industry and to the AEC. He possesses invaluable knowledge and experience that he willingly shares with his peers for the prospects of a stronger future for all.

KATCO ELECTRIC, INC.



Directory of NECANY Minority and Women Electrical Contractors

The face of New York City business is changing as a new generation of small businesses owned and operated by minority and women principals is rapidly emerging.

Thirty-five of our New York City NECA Chapter members are recognized by various governmental agencies as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Woman Business Enterprise (WBE), Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) or Local Business Enterprise (LBE).

As the estimated \$22 billion of construction in Lower Manhattan begins, each of the agencies, general contractors and construction managers will receive a newly published directory listing each of our certified members.

The Directory will also be available on a website so that it is updated on a regular basis to maintain accuracy.

The Directory will also include a general directory of all Chapter members.

Workforce Development Training Update

Free training is being offered to all BTEA members. An affiliation with the City University of New York (CUNY) will provide construction related courses at the New York City College of Technology and LaGuardia Community College.

Pre-approval for this reimbursement program or at other CUNY system facilities can be secured through BTEA Vice President Henry Kita, at 212-7049745 or at hankkita@aol.com.

IBEW Convention Recapped Online

Learn first hand about the actions taken at the 37th Annual IBEW Convention recently held in Cleveland, Ohio.

Full coverage, including daily news updates and videos of major sessions taped live, is available online at their website www.ibew.org/convention2006.

Copper Price Information

You can check on the history and potential future prices of copper by going to www.ino.com. Insert "copper" in the search box on the left side of the home page and proceed from there.

The prices are upgraded every 15 minutes on a daily basis and trends are graphed on a month to month and annualized basis.

Javits Center Construction

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg and US Senator Charles Schumer have called for the construction of Phase II of the expansion of Jacob K. Javits Convention Center to begin at the same time as work begins on Phase I later this year.

In late July, the Javits Center Phase I expansion was approved by the Public Authorities Control Board that will nearly double the size of the facility, adding 520,000 square feet of new exhibition, meeting room and banquet space.

This new space would bring the total exhibition space to 1.4 million square feet, putting the Javits Center among the top tier of convention centers in the United States.

August/September 2006

General Membership Meeting 9-20-06



Councilman Eric Gioia



Bill Frochlic

Mike Castellano

Jerry Schiff Lauren Schiff

New York City Councilman Eric Gioia represents the 26th District that includes Long Island City. Mr. Gioia addressed the September General Membership Meeting discussing his concern and support for the middle class and business interests in the city. He reported on the improvements he has brought to his district and priorities he is working on at this time.

Jerry Schiff, Lauren Schiff and Bill Frochlic of Harbor Electric Fabrication & Tool, Inc. (HEFTI) were guest speakers at the September General Membership Meeting. Mr. Schiff offered an informative slide presentation that described his company, their products and services.

New York Building Congress Construction Report

The New York Building Congress has released their economic forecast for the construction industry for 2006-2008. The report predicts record construction spending with no decrease in sight. Most notably, the residential construction market will remain strong with office construction making a major turnaround. Much of the forecast depends upon the full funding of public capital plans.

Construction spending in New York City was \$18.8 billion in 2005 and is expected to reach \$20.8 billion in 2006, and exceed \$21 billion in 2007 and 2008.

Unfortunately, New York City has led the nation in the increase of construction costs and remains a major concern for owners and developers. Adding the rising costs of material to other factors, many projects can be delayed and in some cases will never be built. The realization of the forecast's predictions depends on the cooperative efforts of the public and private sectors to meet the challenges of rising construction costs, funding uncertainties, extraordinary demands on skilled labor and professionals, and the complications of simultaneous citywide demand.

Bronx Gateway Center Project Underway

The Gateway Center at the Bronx Terminal Market that will provide one million square feet of retail space in the South Bronx is now underway.

The \$500 million project will create 2,900 construction jobs and 2,100 permanent jobs and provide new public access to the Harlem River waterfront. When open in 2009, the facility will house a mix of national and local retailers, and restaurants. A portion of the construction contracts will be given to minority and women owned businesses that are certified with the Department of Small Business Services.

Metro North Awards Croton- Harmon Contracts

A huge, multi-phase project to modernize the Croton-Harmon Shop, the oldest and largest maintenance facility in the MTA Metro-North infrastructure continued to progress with the award of two contracts totaling \$292 million.

Work includes the building of two new facilities, one to maintain locomotives and the other standard coaches. This is the third and largest of a four-phase program to modernize the 275,000 square foot turn of the century facility. The last phase will be the construction of facilities to maintain the electric car shop.



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