



# *International Association of Electrical Inspectors*

## **Minnesota Chapter**

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*President Cari Williamette*

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*Secretary Marcus "Sam" Sampson*

## **MINUTES MINNESOTA CHAPTER SUMMER MEETING JUNE 14, 2008**

The summer meeting of the Minnesota Chapter IAEI was called to order at 8:00 AM on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at Breezy Point Resort by Chapter President Cari Williamette.

Secretary Marcus Sampson read the minutes of the winter meeting which were then approved with two minor changes.

Under new business, President Williamette introduced the special guests and welcomed them to Minnesota:  
Mike Forister, Western Section Secretary,  
Thomas R Lichtenstein of Underwriters Laboratories,  
Robert Torbin of Cutting Edge Solutions, and  
Timothy Crnko of Cooper-Bussmann

President Williamette noted that the scheduled presenter from SquareD, Ed Larson, was not able to attend the meeting because of the severe flooding in Cedar Rapids, IA. She went on to thank the Friday afternoon presenters. Tom Lichtenstein did a review of the effects of aging on residential wiring systems. The Fire Protection Research Foundation identified 100 homes built from the early 1900's to the early 1970's from around the US that were scheduled for demolition. Volunteers harvested the services, receptacles, luminaires, etc. including the wall area around each device or box. The samples were shipped to UL where the components, terminations and splices were evaluated to determine the effects of aging. Tim Crnko's presentation on the importance of selective coordination also clarified inspector's questions on series rated electrical systems and the differences between SCCR and Interrupting Ratings. Tim's presentation included some excellent video reminders of the very real hazards of the improper coordination and selection of overcurrent devices.

President Williamette then called on the secretary for the financial report. This report was also approved without change. Secretary Sampson read the chapter correspondence, which consisted of a thank you note from inspector member John Williamson and the confirmation letter for the chapter ad in the program for the upcoming Western Section Meeting in Rapid City. There was some humorous discussion about the design and content of the ad, which will be a double page ad in the center of the section meeting program inviting attendees to the section meeting in Bloomington in 2009.

The Scholarship Committee sent a recommendation to the membership requesting consideration of a change in their commission. For many years the Chapter has awarded a scholarship to the son or daughter of a member in good standing who is in or entering a post high school training or college program. This amount has also been generously matched with a contribution from American Midwest Power courtesy of past chapter secretary, Mr. Earl English. The committee suggested that the scholarship program directly benefit an IAEI member by covering the cost of the registration fee for attending the Western Section Meeting. This would

involve a change in the current \$500 amount – either one scholarship for the \$295 registration or \$580 for two. Members would have to submit an application and winners would be selected, as previously, by random drawing, which would be held at the winter meeting. The committee has already approached Mr. English and plans to submit a formal proposal to the membership at the fall chapter meeting.

The Sunshine Committee sent cards to John Williamson whose father passed and to Dave Long whose wife passed. Sunshine Committee chair Thomas Tobias also asked for some parameters as to when the Chapter should send cards, for example: to members and their immediate family, parents, grandparents, when to send cards, when to send flowers etc. President Williamette appointed a committee to draft guidelines which could be reviewed at the fall chapter meeting.

Summer Meeting Chair Jim Gangl noted the contract for hosting MEA/IAEI summer meeting has now expired and MEA will be publishing a request for proposals. Judi Rubin of MEA noted that Breezy Point Resort has offered the best value for the conference in the past, but other venues will also be considered. The members present engaged in an enthusiastic discussion as to whether the Chapter should continue the summer meeting considering the cost to the chapter and the very limited member participation. It was suggested that the Chapter have only one meeting- an annual meeting- held in conjunction with the Building Officials Institute in January. Gangl also reminded attendees of the unique educational opportunities afforded at the summer meeting, opportunities that are not afforded at other settings.

Under Other Matters, Secretary Sampson reminded everyone of the “2011 National Electrical Code Proposal Challenge.” He said that he had copies of the proposals submitted by the Minnesota Chapter membership and asked if anyone who had time and energy to meet with him to put on the finishing touches before they are submitted to Mike Forister, Western Section Secretary. Each of the proposals will be reviewed at the section meeting to determine if they can become official IAEI proposals.

President Williamette noted the Western Section IAEI website; [iaei-western.org](http://iaei-western.org) has registration forms and hotel information for the Section Meeting in Rapid City. She also requested interested parties to contact her to sign up for a shift at the Construction Codes booth at the Minnesota State Fair. Due to the concurrent Republican National Convention, city of St. Paul inspectors will not be afforded opportunity to volunteer for their usual shifts, so more electrical inspectors are needed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.

After a short break, attendees watched a first-class presentation from Tim Crnko on overcurrent protection and then got an update from Bob Torbin on the bonding requirements for corrugated stainless steel tubing. Bob emphasized the need for bonding CSST, explaining what happens in the event of a power surge (such as a nearby lightning strike) when the premises gas system is at a different potential than the electrical and other metallic systems. He also noted that the new edition of the International Fuel Gas Code now requires CSST bonding to the premises grounding electrode system.

After the presentations, contractors and inspectors gathered for lunch and an afternoon session of field problems.

Respectfully Submitted,

M. “Sam” Sampson, Secretary