

Iowa Chapter IAEI

Spring Educational Meeting

Fort Dodge, Iowa

April 15-17, 2009

Wednesday, April 15th

On a beautiful Iowa spring morning, IAEI Chapter President Dave Sullivan opened the 71st Annual Spring Educational Conference at 0800 hours. After the 80 members in attendance recited the “Pledge of Allegiance”, Dennis Jordison led the attendees in prayer.

David Fierke, Fort Dodge City Manager, welcomed everyone to the city and briefly encouraged all to travel around and see the sites. Sullivan then welcomed guests to the conference: Tom Lichtenstein with UL, Ed Larsen with Square D, Don Iverson with NEMA, Mike Forister the IAEI Western Section Secretary, and Pat Merrick the State of Iowa Chief Electrical Inspector. Sullivan followed with his President comments to the Iowa Chapter membership.

Forister then took the podium to give a membership report from the I O and an update on Western Section items. Sullivan read a letter from IAEI Western Section President Dave Williams, and Iverson then provided a report from NEMA.

Iowa Chapter Secretary, Barb Mentzer, provided a report on the conference and updates to the agenda.

Sullivan presented the recommendation from the nominating committee for the 2009 officers, as follows:

President:	Joe Mason
1 st Vice:	Mel Duncan
2 nd Vice:	Tony Servantez
Secretary:	Barb Mentzer
Treasurer:	Don Thompson
Education:	Jerry DePenning
Publicity:	Dennis Jordison
Membership:	Rick Chambers
Past President:	Dave Sullivan
Western Section Rep:	Dwight Kramer
Executive Board:	Jeff Cooper
	Rob Weber
	Mike Wetter
	Gary Snell

Motion by Curt Teeter to accept the nominations, second by Nick Nigro. Approved by voice vote.

After a short break, Mel Sanders won the first of many door prizes to be given out over the course of the conference. Sullivan then introduced Mike Munson, Regional Sales

Manager, with Cummins Generators for the first segment of our educational program. Munson spoke until 1100hrs. After another short break, and a prize for Gerald Schall, Sanders spent some time going through the first few Code Panel questions as we had a bit of time to kill before lunch was ready.

When back from lunch, Richard Gruver won the next prize. Dale Wion, an apprenticeship instructor for the Iowa NJATC, was the afternoon presenter. His information and knowledge of Soare's Grounding was very beneficial to all in attendance. Two more breaks were taken over the course of the afternoon with Tamora Brown and Darien Uetz winning the prizes.

The afternoon session concluded at 1700 hrs and attendees were released to attend the tradeshow being held at another location. During the tradeshow, everyone enjoyed very tasty appetizers from "The Cellar", and many won nice prizes from the suppliers on hand. The rest of the evening was open for attendees.

Thursday, April 16th

This morning started off very bright and early at 0700 hrs for most attendees with the annual Mike Forister Code Breakfast. While enjoying more tasty food from "The Cellar", tables of teams competed to find answers to 20 questions. The 2008 NEC and UL White Book were both used as references. Winners would be announced later in the conference.

Once back at the meeting location, John Wiles, with the Institute of Energy and the Environment at New Mexico State University, provided an all day seminar on photovoltaic systems.

Several breaks were taken throughout the day, and winners this day included: Joe Mason, Mike Marling, and Brent Buls.

Mr. Wiles concluded his presentation at approximately 1700 hrs, giving attendees an hour to prepare for the banquet.

The annual banquet was held at "The Cellar" restaurant and again, the food was very good. Forister installed the new officers for 2009. Years of Service Awards were acknowledged; certificates will be coming from the I O. The recipients this year:

Robert Wasielewski	40 years
Calvin Hamaan	35 years
Mel Sanders	35 years – in attendance
Mike Kessler	30 years
Richard Hellwig	25 years
John Phillips	25 years – in attendance
Jerry Reding	25 years

Mel Sanders was also presented a plaque from the Iowa Chapter to recognize his years of dedication to the IAEI and the NEC. He was not expecting the extra recognition, but greatly deserves the accolades.

After some comments from the new President, Joe Mason, the entertainment for the evening was a local electrician who moonlights as a magician. With his son giving him a hand, Larry Dunbar, put on an entertaining show for the attendees.

Friday, April 17th

The last day of the Spring Conference began with coffee and rolls while Forister provided the answers and winners of the Code Breakfast. With only fragments of a point separating the teams, table #9, consisting of: Roger Zeig, William Moore, Stan Johnston, David Rickels, John Phillips, and Gary Wehrman won the top prize. Prizes were given to the top three teams and of course, to the last!

At 0800 hrs, Tom Lichtenstein presented an updated look at the 2008 UL White Book; copies of the book and CD were available to all in attendance. After a short break, Pat Merrick, Chief Electrical for Iowa and Barb Mentzer, Vice-Chair of the Iowa Electrical Examining Board, held a Q & A session on the new Iowa electrical licensing and inspection laws. With so many questions covering many topics for the two, time ran out to have the Code Panel discussion. All code questions & related answers will be posted on the Iowa Chapter website.

A quick break was taken and the Education Conference ended.

Iowa Chapter IAEI 2009 Spring business Meeting April 17, 2009 Fort Dodge, Iowa

President Joe Mason called the business meeting to order at 1200hrs. First item of business was approval of the minutes from the January Executive Board meeting. Motion by Dennis Jordison, 2nd by Butch Forbes, approved by voice vote (AVV). Treasurer Don Thompson provided his report showing a current balance for all accounts of \$33,987.53 as of 4/10/09. The auditor's report was also attached and noted no discrepancies. Motion to approve report by Jordison, 2nd by Ed Larsen, AVV. Secretary Mentzer requested two refunds for conference fees, for members who were unable to attend and their count was removed from food & lodging numbers, Adam Fedders and Gary Snell. Motion to approve refund by Bill Noack, 2nd by Forbes, AVV. Additional fees were garnered for the auditor's report, motion to approve fees by Jordison, 2nd by Rob Weber, AVV. Finally, a motion to approve payment of all invoices before the Iowa Chapter until the Spring 2010 meeting was made by Jordison, 2nd by Stan Johnston, AVV.

In his membership report, Rick Chambers discussed a 12-step program for retaining members and also a mentoring program he is establishing to help new members become familiar with the IAEI and other members.

Under Old Business, the website was discussed and confirmed the code questions would be posted, along with any other code items which surface between conferences. Also the October registration form will be posted immediately after arrangements are confirmed. Another item to be on the website will be forms for officers and members to use for reimbursement for Western Section meetings. Dave Sullivan, Tony Servantez and Mike Wetter will design forms and have posted online.

Keeping with the Western Section discussion, the Iowa Chapter's ad was next on the agenda. Sullivan motioned to spend \$500 on the break sponsorship with full-page ad this

year, 2nd by Chambers, AVV. Mentzer will get order form to Forister and work with him to design new ad copy for the Chapter.

A motion from Jordison, 2nd by Maurice Dudney, AVV, tabled discussion of the nominating committee to the Fall Meeting.

Under New Business, the Fall Educational Meeting will be held at Riverside Casino near Iowa City on October 15-16. Thursday evening will be Executive Board meeting with the educational portion on Friday. Ideas for topics include Kohler – Square D transfer switches, NEC Chapter 547 (Jeff Cooper), CSST bonding. Discussion of topics will be held at the July meeting of the Executive Board. Date and location yet to be determined, possibly in Newton at their public works building. Will contact Mel Duncan for availability.

Topic ideas for the 2010 Spring Meeting were 1-2 Family Dwellings, Back to Basics, calculations, among others. Those will be discussed in July and October. Jerry DePenning will start looking into possible instructors.

Advertising became the next topic and many ideas were discussed. Jordison and Chambers will work on getting press releases out to local newspapers about Iowa Chapter members and events coming up in the area. Use of email lists from IABO and the State Electrical Board may also be an option to disseminate information. Getting information in the hands of suppliers and contractors was brought up; Sullivan has an extensive email list of distributors. DePenning has flyers designed and will provide copy to all who wish to distribute.

A Train the Trainer class will be offered at this year's Western Section meeting. Iowa Chapter participation is encouraged, however the Chapter will only pay for those instructors working on behalf of the Iowa Chapter, not personal businesses. An email will be sent to all members to gauge interest before the July meeting of the Executive Board.

President Mason would like to send a letter to the Iowa Electrical Examining Board asking for a possible change in their meeting dates in October and April as to not conflict with our already designated conference schedule. Mentzer will draft a letter and send to Mason for approval. Also a letter to the State Fire Marshal, Jim Kenkel, and State Building Code Commissioner, Stuart Crine, will be drafted thanking them for allowing several State of Iowa inspectors to attend the conference and let them know how vital they are to our organization.

The final round of prizes were given out with the top three prizes being:

\$250	-	Bill Noack
Chrome Pliers	-	Rob Weber
Fluke Heat Sensor	-	Dennis Jordison

A big "THANK YOU" to the Waterloo office of Van Meter who provided the majority of the door prizes for this year's conference.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 1330 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Mentzer
Iowa Chapter Secretary