

# Volts & Views



... from the inside

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST AND DATES TO ADD TO YOUR 2025 & 2026 CALENDARS!

- September 12-15, 2025  
NECA Convention & Trade Show, Chicago, IL
- February 2-4, 2026  
2026 Women in NECA (WIN) Leadership Conference  
Hotel Crescent Court  
Dallas, TX
- March 10-13, 2026  
2026 Midwestern Region Conference  
The Hilton Waikoloa Village,  
Waikoloa, HI
- May 18-20, 2026  
2026 Safety Professionals Conference  
The Westin Peachtree Plaza  
Atlanta, GA

## More than 210 attend Dakotas Chapter Summer Meeting

More than 210 Dakotas Chapter family members, affiliates, and children attended the 2025 summer annual membership meeting at Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria, MN. The 66th Annual Meeting began the chapter's 76th Anniversary of NECA membership. The celebration featured plenty of food, fun, music and cosmic bingo for everyone to enjoy. The gathering also hosted the bi-annual Board of Directors meeting, member education class and annual membership meeting. The weather was mostly perfect for the golf outing, outdoor dining, and lake time. We hope to see members and affiliates attend next year.



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Dave Orman (L), NECA Midwest Field Representative, presents a plaque recognizing the Dakotas Chapter 75 years as a NECA member to President Bob Jarding and Executive Director, Ed Christian.



Bannon Larson of Electric Supply Co., Sioux Falls, SD was the lucky winner of a trip to Chicago, IL for the national convention.

*Congrats*

## 2025 NECA National Convention & Tradeshow



The 2025 NECA National Convention will be taking place in Chicago, IL September 12-15th.

The NECA show is the largest exposition for any and all electrical needs, includ-

ing power supply, security systems, integrated building systems, lighting, and controls. The convention is the perfect place to participate in education sessions geared to the needs of NECA contractors, connect with manufacturers and service providers you rely on, and meet up with your fellow NECA contractors.

## 2025 Annual Meeting Highlights



Brenda Jarding (Left), and Angela Ruud (R), were the winners of the Tiffany bracelets presented by Ed Christian. Congratulations!



Several contractor members participated in the membership education class, Applied Grounding and Bonding, to earn continuing credits in their respective state. The material was presented by Robby Wolfgang, RTC South, Sioux Falls, SD.

## Curt Kasper retires from Dakotas Chapter NECA

After 10 plus years—and more than 230,000 highway miles with the Dakotas Chapter NECA, Curt Kasper is retiring on August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Originally hired in late March of 2015 as the Assistant Executive Director, Kasper's duties slowly evolved into a second title of Manager of Career Development.

"Typically, a NECA Chapter hires an Executive Assistant to be groomed to be the next leader of the Chapter," Kasper said. "But back in 2015, Ed had the foresight to do something no other NECA Chapter had done—he hired a career development position to recruit electrical workers. The Board agreed with his decision, I got the job, and it's been an interesting ride for more than ten years," he said.

As time went on, Kasper learned more and more about NECA—and specifically about the members of the Dakotas Chapter—"it became apparent that this was a special organization made up of very special people," he said.

In a short speech presented during the summer membership meeting, Kasper thanked the Chapter affiliates and partners for helping him along in many different ways. He thanked all the contractor members for putting up with him and supporting him.

"Thanks to our Board for your support and having the confidence in me to let me do my job. At my first Board meeting they asked me to tell them a little bit about myself. The first thing I said was, "you know, Ed and I are not the same person . . . I think they were relieved," he said.

He also thanked his family and colleagues saying, "Each one of you contributed and supported my journey in a special way. I owe each of you a hundred favors, except for Darla, I probably owe you a thousand favors."

And when addressing Ed he said, "You're one of the smartest people I know. You have taught me, coached me and guided me on this journey. Thanks for the fun, and thanks for giving me this wonderful opportunity."

Kasper doesn't have any immediate plans for retirement. "We'll just wait and see what opportunities pop up," he said.

We wish Curt a Happy Retirement!



The Kasper Family. (L to R) Aaron Weiler, (future son-in-law), Lizzy, Katie, Jana, Curt and Joe.

## 2025 Dakotas Chapter NECA Golf Outing



Winning team: (L to R) Kevin Wheeler, Brian Emmersyn & Lori Spader, & Kyle Wheeler.



Second place team: (L to R) Ben DeLay, Parker Gleason, Karla & Justin Feurerstein.



Wild Card Winners: (L to R): Georgia Krein, Veda Cymbaluk, Lance Johnson, Dave Orman & Pete Carlson.



(L to R): Mike Amick, Bob Jarding, Luke Gronewoller & Darin Hohn.



(L to R): Nick Carlson, Max, Colton & James Ruud.



(L to R): Justin Grina, Jason Kruse, Paul Comeau & Alex McDonald.



(L to R): Bannon Larson, Ryan Wolter, Brent & Jack Michelsen, Robby Wolfgang.



(L to R): Denny Rick, Brian Heinze, Chris Hoff & Shawn Wolf.



(L to R): Quinn & Michelle VanWell, Mike Anderson & Chris Lauinger.



(L to R): Knox, Laura & Brady Wheeler, Mike Heim.



(L to R): Kurt Larsen, Cameron Pederson, Chris Williams & Curt Kasper.



Kevin Wheeler (L) won closest to the pin on hole #8 and Paul Comeau won longest putt on hole #9.

# DIRECTOR'S CORNER

With Ed Christian, Executive Director, Dakotas Chapter NECA

Hello all,

Thank you to those who attended our 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Meeting at Arrowwood Resort last month. It was another successful event, and we enjoyed spending time with members, industry partners, and their families. We seem to have fun making the weather-related decision as to where to hold our events. And other than having to move indoors on Friday evening for our BBQ dinner, the rest of the weekend was spectacular. As you can see from the photos everyone enjoyed the events from the welcome reception on Thursday evening to Golf, BBQ dinner, and Dueling Piano's on Friday and then on to Saturday's Membership meeting, Pontoons and Jet skis, Dinner, and a fun time at Bingo. Note the official Dakotas Chapter 75<sup>th</sup> recognition plaque presentation photo.

Looking ahead we have a group of members heading to Chicago mid-September for the NECA Convention and Trade Show. We will have the Chapter Dinner at MJ's, on Sunday evening. It was announced recently that the NECA Midwestern Regional Conference will be held March 10-12, 2026, in Waikoloa on the Big Island, HI watch for further details.

We appreciate our Premier Partners, who support us throughout the year, and thank you for working with us on the Chapter level. We also want to thank our Affiliate members who support our annual event not only with in kind donations but also by spending time with their families with us.

On behalf of the Dakotas Chapter NECA staff,

Ed Christian



Monday, September 1, 2025

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A number of kids participated in the Wacky Olympics on the front lawn Friday afternoon.



## Thank You Dakotas Chapter NECA Affiliates!

### 3M

- ◆ Austin, TX

### Acme Tools

- ◆ Bemidji, MN
- ◆ Fargo, ND
- ◆ Grand Forks, ND

### Border States Electric Supply

- ◆ Bismarck, ND
- ◆ Dickinson, ND
- ◆ Fargo, ND
- ◆ Grand Forks, ND
- ◆ Minot, ND
- ◆ Rapid City, SD
- ◆ Sioux Falls, SD
- ◆ Watford City, ND
- ◆ Williston, ND

### Dakota Supply Group

- ◆ Aberdeen, SD
- ◆ Alexandria, MN
- ◆ Bemidji, MN
- ◆ Bismarck, ND
- ◆ Dickinson, ND
- ◆ Fargo, ND
- ◆ Grand Forks, ND
- ◆ Minot, ND
- ◆ Mitchell, SD
- ◆ Pierre, SD
- ◆ Rapid City, SD
- ◆ Sioux Falls, SD
- ◆ Watertown, SD
- ◆ Williston, ND

### Federated Insurance

- ◆ Owatonna, MN

### Graybar Electric Co., Inc.

- ◆ Bismarck, ND
- ◆ Fargo, ND
- ◆ Grand Forks, ND
- ◆ Minot, ND
- ◆ Brookings, SD
- ◆ Sioux Falls, SD

### JH Larson Electrical Co.

- ◆ Sioux Falls, SD

### Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC

- ◆ Sioux Falls, SD

### Milwaukee Electric Tool

- ◆ Brookfield, WI

### Rouzer Group

- ◆ Saint Louis Park, MN

### WESCO Distribution, Inc.

- ◆ Fargo, ND



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT**