



### A Word from the Chair

## The Making of NEC Changes

by Jeff Kunkel, Chair, Board of Directors

Electricians, contractors, distributors, countrymen: The 2023 NEC has been published!

Five of our trainers, including myself, have just returned from a training session put on by the IAEI (International Association of Electrical Inspectors). This training was based on the 2023 NEC updates, and it featured presentations from people who are actual code makers. The training was designed for inspectors and trainers. You will read more about the nitty, gritty details about what we learned in an upcoming article by Mike Miller. You will also be able to learn about all the important changes in upcoming EA continuing education offerings, both classroom and online, that are being worked on as you read this. Since many opportunities are coming for you to hear about the actual changes, I would like to tickle your eyeballs with a few words about **why** the NEC needs updating.

We all know that electrical technology is constantly evolving. Widespread LED use has led to decreased power requirements. As the required power for lighting has lessened, so have the requirements for voltage and current. This has led to a need to address load calculations for all occupancies, which could lead to a decrease in service equipment size. These reduced loads have also now led to the possibility of something we have not seen before: 10-amp rated branch circuits for lighting. This is just one easy example of how evolving technologies can af-

fect changes in areas we may not have thought of as being directly impacted.

I like to put code updates into three categories:

- (1) Changes designed to reflect new or evolving technologies. Examples include LED technology, electric vehicle bi-directional power transfer, alternative energy sources like solar and wind, energy storage systems, and class 4 packet energy transfer systems.
- (2) Changes designed to promote personnel safety or property protection. Examples include overvoltage (surge) protection, AFCI and GFPE and GFCI.
- (3) Changes designed to enhance readability. Examples include placing definitions where they are easier to find and attempting to keep the numbering systems used in all code articles consistent.

As a long-term goal, the association leadership has identified a desire to have a say in the code updating process. This will require continuing to make connections with people who serve on code making panels and possibly sponsoring someone from our ranks to sit on a panel. Then, when we identify a change that we would like to promote, it may be a good idea to put it into one of the three categories above and ask ourselves the question: "Why does this need updating?"

Until we see each other again: Work hard, but work safe.



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## From the Executive Director State of the Association

by Clara Albert, CAE, Executive Director

As always, summer flew by! Here is what we are up to at the Electrical Association to continue to serve the electrical industry and our valued members.

### Education

- 2023 continuing education opportunities are almost finalized. Keep an eye on the website for a full calendar of dates and registration options. Masters renew their license Feb 28, 2023, so get your 16 hours scheduled.
- The 22/23 Apprenticeship program began on Tuesday, September 27 with over 350 electricians participating. There is still time to enroll your apprentices. We also have a Registered Apprenticeship program if you work on Prevailing Wage projects.

### Health Spark

We have 11 member companies using the Association Health Care Plan. If you are coming up for a renewal with your current provider, consider getting a quote on the Electrical Association's Health Care Plan. You can even use your current broker, just ask them about it and they can get the information from Blue Cross Blue Shield to become an agent to sell it.

### Events

We are making some changes with conferences and the way in which we are engaging with membership. We will be having a Regional Event in Cottage Grove on Thursday, December 1 and then holding a State of the Industry Event at Treasure Island on February 1-3. Save the Dates!

### Podcast

Spark'n Conversations has 9 episodes live and available for listening. Find our show wherever you listen to podcasts. You will hear about PLA's and Davis Bacon, the Association Health Plan, Electrical Apprenticeship, Prevailing Wage, Design Lighting, Retirement Plans, Material Shortages and 2023 Code Changes. Episodes are released on a monthly basis. Future topics include, past leadership giving insight to the history that has shaped the Association today and the Construction Economy. Please let us know if there are topics that you want to hear about and we will find an expert.

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## Tentative Interim Amendment #23-3

Effective Sept 1, 2022, the DLI will no longer be enforcing GFCI protection on outdoor HVAC equipment until September 1, 2026. DLI's decision was based on the action taken by the NFPA Standards Council at their August 12 meeting. The Standards Council actions upheld an appeal that was recommended by the HVAC industry, and stakeholders, which advocated for the removal GFCI protection for both the 2020 and 2023 NEC editions.

TIA 20-19 was published to remove the text regarding previous TIA language that exempted the power conversion HVAC equipment, and added a second exception to forgo the GFCI protection for listed HVAC equipment until Sept 1, 2026. The meeting minutes stated that due to the lack of representation from the HVAC industry on CMP-2, this delay was necessary to postpone the implementation to allow manufacturers to correlate industry standards and work on compatibility issues that may exist in the field.

In addition, the Standards Council addressed the same issue found in the 2023 NEC with **TIA 23-3**. The text is almost identical as written in the 2020 NEC, which includes the HVAC exemption and the sunset date. With this important action taking place prior to the publication of the 2023 NEC, the new language will be printed in the new code book as written.



### 210.8(F) Outdoor Outlets

For dwellings, all outdoor outlets, other than those covered in 210.8(A), Exc No. 1, including outlets installed in the following locations, and supplied by single-phase branch circuits rated 150 V or less to ground, 50 A or less, shall be provided with GFCI protection:

- (1) Garages that have floors located at or below grade level
- (2) Accessory buildings
- (3) Boathouses

TIA—cont. from pg 2

If equipment supplied by an outlet covered under the requirements of this section is replaced, the outlet shall be supplied with GFCI protection.

Exc No. 1: GFCI protection shall not be required on lighting outlets other than those covered in 210.8(C).

Exc No. 2: GFCI protection shall not be required for listed HVAC equipment. This exception shall expire September 1, 2026.

## Want to hear more about the TIA?



Listen to our podcast, Spark'n Conversations, Episode #9 where Dean Hunter, Chief Electrical Inspector with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry, goes into more detail.

Find us wherever you hear your podcasts. We also have some links available on our website:



[www.electricalassociation.com/resources](http://www.electricalassociation.com/resources)



**Members!** This important TIA update was sent to you via email on September 1; however, not all of you received it in your inbox.

Unfortunately, if you haven't opened up an email from us in the last few weeks or months, your email is bumped to "unengaged" status, and you will stop receiving some of our emails, depending on the type of email blast it is.

The simple solution is to just occasionally open up our emails to stay on the "engaged" list.

Save the Date • Networking Event



**COTTAGE GROVE 12/1 5:30pm**  
(details to follow)



## General Elections

by Michelle Dreier, Member Engagement & Government Affairs Manager

The General Elections will be November 8, 2022. This year you will get to select your new Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, US Representative, State Senator, State Representative, State Auditor, and various local candidates depending on your location. Since so many candidates are new, it provides the potential for a political clean state in Minnesota. Please don't miss your opportunity to vote and make a difference.

With recent redistricting, your polling location may have changed. You should have received a postcard in the mail with your voting location. If it went unnoticed, it might be a good idea to plug your address into this portal to determine if your location is the same <https://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/>. This look up will also give you a peek at what will be on your ballot if you care to research the candidates prior to voting.

## Important Dates

- 10/10 Columbus Day
- 11/1 MN Board of Electricity Meeting
- 11/8 National General Election Day
- 11/11 Veteran's Day
- 11/24 Thanksgiving
- 12/1 Networking event in Cottage Grove (save the date...details will follow)



## To Do

- 10/15 MN monthly filers: Sept return due
- 10/20 MN monthly & qtly filers: Sales & Use Tax is due for Sept (even if you report \$0)
- 10/15 Corps that filed for extensions: income tax return is due
- 10/31 MN qtly withholding tax return due for 3rd qtr (July-Sept)
- 11/15 MN monthly filers: Oct return due
- 11/21 MN monthly filers: Sales & Use Tax is due for October (even if you report \$0)

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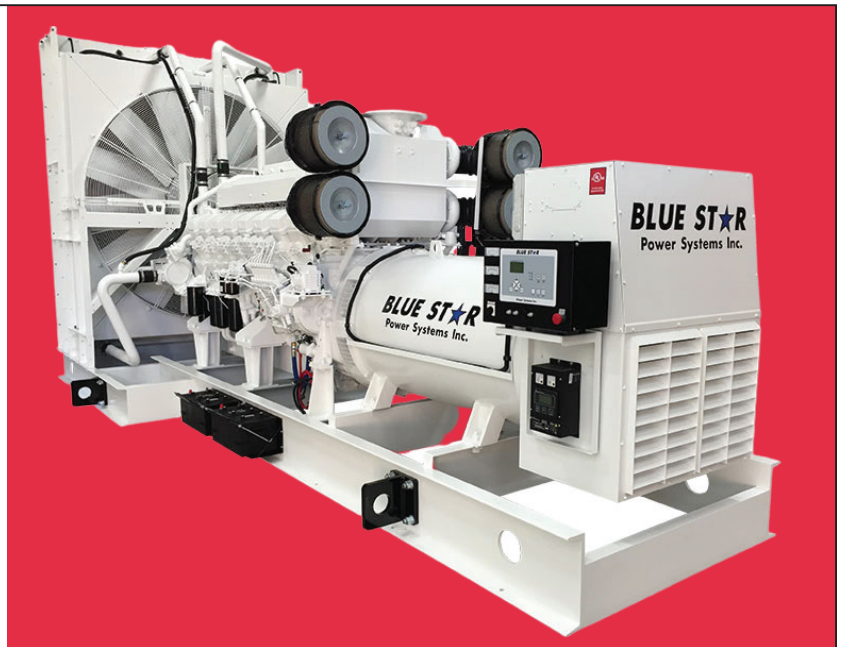
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## 2022-2023 Education Calendar

### CODE TRAINING Based on the 2020 NEC® / 2023 NEC®

#### 16 Continuing Ed Credits —MASTERS! Renew your licenses before Feb 28!

**Classroom**—Multi-State Approval; check our website (2 days; 8am-5pm)

- Oct 6-7 **Duluth** Grounding & Bonding, Motor Installation; Overcurrent Protection.
- Nov 4-5 **Brooklyn Center** 2020 Code Highlights, Motor Installation; 70E.
- Nov 10-11 **Rochester** 2020 Code Highlights, You be the Inspector.
- Dec 1-2 **Cottage Grove (Van Meter)** 2020 Code Highlights, Motor Installation; 70E.
- Dec 8-9 **Rogers** 2020 Code Highlights, Motor Installation; 70E.
- Jan 12-13 **Mankato** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.
- Jan 13-14 **Bloomington** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.
- Jan 19-20 **Woodbury** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.
- Feb 9-10 **Worthington** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.
- Feb 10-11 **Rochester** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.
- Feb 17-18 **Baxter** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.
- Feb 24-25 **Marshall** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.
- Feb 24-25 **Plymouth** 2023 Code Updates, Parts 1-4.

*\*Thank you to our Class Host:*



2023 South Dakota Dates Announced!

Trainer Mike Miller



see web: [electricalassociation.com/southdakota](http://electricalassociation.com/southdakota)

#### 2 Continuing Ed Credits

**Live, Online**—Multi-State Approval; check our website

- Oct 19 (6:30-8:30PM) 2020 NEC Motors, Controls, and GFCI. Mike Miller, Trainer
- Nov 2 (8:00-10:00AM) 2020 NEC Motors Installation Requirements, Pt 1. Tim Zinniel, Trainer
- Nov 9 (8:00-10:00AM) 2020 NEC Motors Installation Requirements, Pt 2. Tim Zinniel, Trainer
- Dec 7 (6:30-8:30PM) 2020 NEC Motors Installation Requirements, Pt 1. Mike Lindberg, Trainer
- Dec 14 (8:00-10:00AM) 2020 NEC Motors, Controls & GFCI. Jeff Kunkel, Trainer

#### 2 & 4 Continuing Ed Credits

**Self-Paced Online Anytime, Anywhere**—MN-State Approval (more state approvals coming soon)

- Grounding & Bonding • Motors & Transformers • You Be the Inspector • Code Highlights
- Overcurrent Protection • Motors, Controls & GFCI • 2021 NFPA 70E Safety Training • Power Limited

### EXAM PREP COURSES Based on the 2020 NEC®

- Sept 27 **11-week, live online course.** Tuesday nights (Sept 27 - Dec 20). Jeff Keljik, Trainer (late registrations are being accepted)
- Dec 10-11 **Bloomington** Best Western Plus. Chad Kurdi, Trainer



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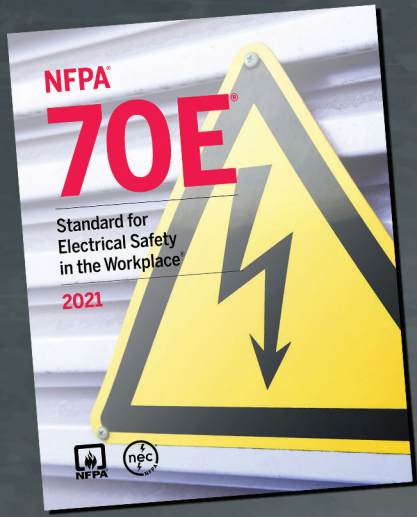
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