

## Recap of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Academy in Cape Neddick, ME

**David Hardt** ('07) chaired the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Academy of Electrical Contracting meeting at the Cliff House in Cape Neddick, Maine.

One-hundred-twenty (120) Fellows and 113 guests (**our largest attendance to date!**) enjoyed the gorgeous scenery stretching across 70 oceanfront acres atop Bald Head Cliff on the southern coast of Maine, overlooking the ocean's edge and the Nubble Lighthouse. The Academy programs and networking opportunities were similarly excellent and very well received.

An online survey was emailed to all attendees on June 27<sup>th</sup>. We ask that you please respond so we can share the success of the meeting.

There were many **highlights and memories:**



A little rain bought the **opening reception** on Tuesday evening inside, but the Lobsterbake was a huge success. It was a great setting for greeting old friends and welcoming new Fellows.

For Wednesday's **Business Meeting**, Josh Bone, Executive Director, ELECTRI International, led a **design-thinking workshop** for the Academy Fellows. In this interactive session,

participants explored new approaches to the ways the Academy can leverage its members' wealth of experience and knowledge to benefit the industry. Making maximum use of the Fellows' collective problem-solving skills, they identified numerous opportunities not only to increase awareness of the Academy but also to explore how members can assist electrical contractors who are facing business challenges.



Participants at the **spouse breakfast and program** on Wednesday were treated to a chocolate tasting by Bixby Chocolate, a woman owned craft chocolate company that is dedicated to creating high-quality, delicious, and unique chocolate confections.

The **Board of Directors** held their annual meeting to act on Academy business including recommendations from the Jury of Fellows, requests for Change in Fellow Status and a change in the Academy Rules. A link to the **Board of Director meeting minutes** can be found [here](#).



On Thursday morning, our **General Meeting** speaker, **Mike Eruzione**, Olympic Legend, delivered some inspiring remarks and discussed the importance of pride, commitment and most importantly, **respect**. He also reminded us to always search for the positives and not dwell on the negatives.



The **Jury of Fellows**, chaired by Dennis Quebe, selected the following seven individuals for induction into the Academy in Philadelphia, PA on Saturday, September 30, 2023:

- Ricky Ellington**, J.M. Clayton Construction, Company in Thomaston, GA
- James J. Ferry II**, Ferry Electric Company in Pittsburgh, PA
- Michael J. Holmes**, Holmes Electric Co in Kent, WA
- Ryan Landon**, McCoy Electric Company in North Plains, OR
- Anthony B. Mulizio**, Preferred Electric in Bloomingdale, IL
- Gregory L. Outsen**, Outsen Electric, Inc. in Kankakee, IL
- Chase Pendergraft**, East Tennessee Chapter, NECA in Chattanooga, TN

**Recognition** is a key component at the annual meeting. During the General Meeting, the Fellows elected **Scott Bringmann ('09)**, **Henry Brown ('21)**, **Joe Kaluhiokalani ('22)**, and **Mike Weaver ('21)** to the **Academy Board of Directors** for the **term ending in 2026**. Thanks were offered to Fellows going off the Board, as follows: **Tom Parkes ('17)**; **Clay Scharff ('13)**; **Duane Seifert ('15)** and **Paul Yesbeck ('18)**.

The following presentations were made:

- Drafting the Top-Ranked Talent***.....Brad Giles ('11)
- Growth Mindset in Today's Electrical Contractor*** .....Sonja Rheume ('16)

Brad's paper, along with his PowerPoint, and Sonja's recorded presentation can be viewed [here](#).

A link to the **General Meeting minutes** can be found [here](#).

Chairman Hardt announced that the next gathering of the Academy will be a reception for Academy Fellows and guests during the NECA Convention in Philadelphia, PA. New Fellows will be installed on Saturday morning, September 30, 2023, at the Opening General Session and the Academy reception will be held at The Bellevue Hotel that evening.

The **2024 annual meeting** will be at The Sun Valley Resort in Sun Valley, ID from June 5-7.

The **formal reception and dinner** on Thursday evening was outstanding and the menu exceptional! Chairman Hardt introduced Chef Rick Shell who has been bringing over 20 years of hospitality experience to his new role as Executive Chef at the Cliff House and welcomed those attending their first annual meeting.

During dinner, **Solstice** offered a fresh modern alternative to the “traditional jazz oriented” background ensemble. They also provided dance music after dinner.

Guests were also invited to engage with an Astronomer and Astrologer as the skies cleared and many moved outside to enjoy the lovely evening and sit around the fire pit.

If you would like to see and download photos from our meeting, please click [here](#).

We look forward to seeing you all in Philly!



Traci M. Walker ('13)  
Academy Secretary



