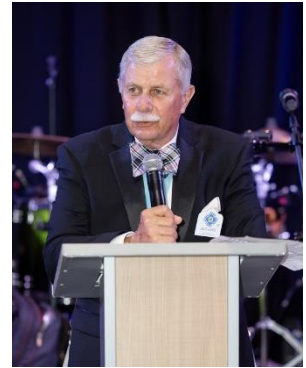


Recap of the 55th Annual Meeting of the Academy in Isle of Palms, SC

David Hardt ('07) chaired the 55th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Electrical Contracting meeting at the Wild Dunes Resort in Isle of Palms, SC where one-hundred-twenty-three (123) Fellows and one-hundred-eight (108) guests were in attendance!

Since 2018, David has served as Chairman of the Academy and, as this is his last year serving as Chairman, we'd like to thank him for his continued dedication and leadership!



A little rain brought the **opening reception** on Wednesday evening inside where we gathered to greet old friends and welcome new Fellows.



For Thursday's **Business Meeting**, **Marco Giamberardino** ('23), NECA's Senior Vice President, Government and Public Affairs, held a Q&A on Inside Washington, followed by **Dr. Marc Milstein** who spoke about age-proofing your brain and tips for quality sleep. The session was a huge hit and enjoyed by all who attended. Dr. Milstein discussed science-based solutions to keep the brain healthy, lower the risk of dementia, boost productivity and maximize longevity.



The **Board of Directors** held their annual meeting to act on Academy business including recommendations from the Jury of Fellows and requests for Change in Fellow Status.



On Friday morning, Our **General Meeting** speaker, **Captain Charlie Plumb**, a former United States Naval Aviator, spoke about how he endured the most extreme hardship and used the experience to transform his life in a profound way. He engaged us with his parallels between his P.O.W. experience and the challenges of everyday life.

The **Jury of Fellows**, chaired by **Dennis Quebe** ('06), selected the following sixteen individuals for induction into the Academy in Chicago, IL on Saturday, September 13, 2025:

- Larry Bell**, Alaska Chapter, NECA in Anchorage, AK
- Eric Carlson**, Joe Dickey Electric, Inc. in North Lima, OH
- Kristine DeNapoli**, KND Electric in Deer Park, NY
- Brian Dew**, Mid-City Electric/Technologies in Westerville, OH
- Tim Dudek**, Saturn Electric in San Diego, CA
- James Douglas Feazel II**, Feazel Electrical Contracting, Inc. in Shreveport, LA
- C. Stephen (Steve) Gaines, Jr.**, Southeastern Line Constructors Chapter, NECA in Tyrone, GA
- Brian C. Gini**, Collins Electrical Company, Inc. in Stockton, CA

Joseph P. Gross, Gross Electric, Inc. in Queensbury, NY
Michael R. Hanlon, Hanlon Electric Company in Monroeville, PA
Brian Hart, George J. Martin & Son in Rensselaer, NY
Al Itamoto, Hawai'i Chapter, NECA in Honolulu, HI
Emily Martin, Guarantee Electrical Company in St. Louis, MO
Jerry McGlynn, McWilliams Electric Company, Inc. in Schaumburg, IL
Les Moynahan, South Texas Chapter, NECA in San Antonio, TX
Larry Strohm, Big Sky Electric, Inc. in Upland, CA

Recognition is a key component at the annual meeting. During the General Meeting, the Fellows elected **Jerri Champlin ('21)**, **Tony Cook ('22)**, **Jim Fery ('23)** and **Kevin Gini ('24)** to the **Academy Board of Directors** for the **term ending in 2028**. Thanks were offered to Fellows going off the Board, as follows: **John Grau ('86)**, **Todd Mikec ('14)**, **Earl Restine ('16)** and **Jody Shea ('13)**.

Kevin Connelly ('18) presented on the topic: **Family Matters: Don't Let Entitlement and Nepotism Destroy a Family Business**. Kevin's paper can be viewed [here](#).

Secretary Traci Walker ('13) announced that the next gathering of the Academy will be a reception at the **Palmer House** for Academy Fellows and guests on Saturday, September 13, 2025 during the NECA Convention in Chicago, IL. New Fellows will be installed earlier that day during the Opening General Session. The **2026 annual meeting** will be at The Alyeska Resort in Girdwood, AK from June 10-12.

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

The weather was great on Thursday and Friday; attendees enjoyed various activities including golf, a historic walking tour of Charleston, a visit to Boone Hall, sailing on the Schooner Pride, fishing, and skeet shooting. Some took the opportunity to relax or venture out on their own to explore the area.



The **formal reception and dinner** on Friday evening was outstanding and the menu excellent! Chairman Hardt welcomed those attending their first annual meeting. **Epic Proportions** entertained



our guests with dinner music followed by an after dinner dance party that kept everyone on their feet!



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

We look forward to seeing you in Chicago!

Traci M. Walker

Traci M. Walker ('13)
Academy Secretary

