



## Introducing NECA Officers

The profiles that follow introduce the officers being elected at the Board of Governors meeting in Austin, TX on October 15, 2022. These **unopposed** candidates will be **elected** that day. Terms of office will begin on January 1, 2023 and are two-year terms.

- **Steven M. Petri, Sr.** will be the new **District 2 Vice President** replacing **Todd Mikec**
- **David Washebek** will continue as **District 4 Vice President**
- **Mark Walter** will be the new **District 6 Vice President** replacing **Scott Bringmann**
- **Craig Clark** will continue as **District 8 Vice President**
- **Steve Lindley** will be the new **District 10 Vice President** replacing **Jody Shea**

The following person has been nominated for Vice President of Integrated Systems Contractors, for a two-year term commencing January 1, 2023, pending the approval of the position (Bylaw Amendment - Proposal 1).

- **Charles W. Fairchild II**

## INTRODUCING STEVEN M. PETRI SR., VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 2 NOMINEE



*Steven M. Petri Sr.  
President  
Deca Inc.  
Baltimore, MD  
Maryland Chapter, NECA*

### **BACKGROUND**

Petri began his electrical apprenticeship in Baltimore in 1980 upon graduation from high school, becoming a journeyman wireman in 1984. Throughout his career, Petri moved up the ladder becoming a foreman on a service truck and later an estimator and project manager, earning his Master Electrician License through testing in MD, DC and West Virginia. In 2019, Petri was appointed to the Maryland State Board of Master Electricians.

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Founded in 1967 by Petri's father, Wendell and a friend, Deca has grown from installing industrial controls and power and commercial power to performing specialty work in mechanical systems power and building automation controls installations for federal, state, and commercial projects. Deca's headquarters are in Baltimore, MD and they perform installations all around the country and beyond, with some projects in Guam and Romania. The annual revenue for Deca, Inc. has grown to approximately \$12 million.

### **INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA**

Deca joined NECA and the Maryland Chapter in 1973. Petri joined the chapter's executive board in 2010 and served as Chapter President from 2014 to 2018. He has served as Chapter Governor since 2018 and has also served on the Chapter's Negotiating Committee. Petri served on NECA National's Safety Task Force in 2017 and 2018.

### **INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS**

Petri notes that finding and keeping experienced laborers is now more difficult than ever, and customers and general contractors are pressing higher demands. Technology advancements have helped alleviate roadblocks in productivity and installation quality. However, Petri believes new rules and regulations are stunting the ability of small companies to grow in today's business landscape.

### **AWAY FROM THE OFFICE**

Petri married his wife Stephanie in 1983, having met her when he was 15 years old at a skating rink where his band was playing. They have two children; a daughter and son, as well as a son-in-law, daughter-in-law and four beautiful granddaughters. Petri enjoys spending personal time with family and friends, boating, fishing, and playing his keys.

## INTRODUCING DAVID WASHEBEK, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 4 NOMINEE



*David Washebek  
Chairman  
Lemberg Electric Company  
Milwaukee, WI  
Milwaukee Chapter, NECA*

### **BACKGROUND**

Washebek has spent the entirety of his 45-year electrical career with Lemberg Electric Company, an ESOP firm near Milwaukee, Wis. He completed his Electrical Apprenticeship in 1982, where he was recognized as the outstanding student of his class. He holds and maintains such certifications as robotics, microelectronics, transformer design, digital electronics, master electrician and electrical design engineer.

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Lemberg Electric Company was founded by William and Clara Lemberg in 1928, where it eventually grew to become one of Milwaukee's largest and most trusted organizations for quality services in electrical construction, custom business signs, data communication, energy technology and commercial electrical service. Today, the firm utilizes 200 total employees to generate annual sales of around \$55 million.

### **INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA**

Washebek served as Governor of the Milwaukee Chapter, NECA from 2014 to 2020. He is also Chairman of the Sound and Communications Labor Agreement Committee for the Chapter and sits on the Material Handler Labor Agreement Committee and the Lemberg Sign Labor Agreement Committee. Throughout his career, he has been key to growing NECA's influence in the Milwaukee region, and has helped secure extensions of various labor agreements between NECA and the IBEW. In 2020, he was installed as a Fellow of the Academy of Electrical Contracting. He is the current Chair of the Codes and Standards Committee.

### **INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS**

Washebek said that National Electrical Code changes have made wiring methods much easier to the point of becoming a commodity. Safety on jobsites has become the most important piece of the electrical contracting business, and NFPA 70E requirements have changed how this type of work is performed forever. He added that prefabrication has made the industry rethink how to run jobs and be profitable, and lean construction practices also will remain viable going into the future.

### **AWAY FROM THE OFFICE**

Washebek and his wife Marlene have three grown children and four grandchildren. His leisure time is spent enjoying family activities, hunting, fishing, golfing, collecting firearms and tinkering around with his antique tractors.

## INTRODUCING MARK WALTER, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 6 NOMINEE



*Mark Walter  
Chief Executive Officer  
Christenson Electric, Inc.  
Portland, OR  
Oregon-Columbia Chapter, NECA*

### **BACKGROUND**

Walter grew up in a small farming community in North Central Washington and received a degree in Electronic Engineering. In 1987, Walter began his career at Christenson Electric and worked within the Utility and Industrial Group for 5 years. He then took advantage of a management opportunity with a Spokane based contractor named Power City where he worked as their HV Division Manager and was promoted to Operations Manager. When he returned to Christenson Electric, as President, in 2003, the company was in financial trouble. In 2007, after making corrections to stabilize and balance the organization, he made an offer to purchase the company. That became a reality in 2008.

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Christenson Electric Inc. was founded in 1945 on the premise of providing exceptional customer service across. The service group, with a fleet of nearly 200 vehicles, provides electrical and limited energy service throughout the region. Additionally, Christenson performs electrical construction, renewable energy, A/V and security, and utility substation and outside line work. Although most of Christenson's work occurs in Northern Oregon and Southwestern Washington areas, renewables and energy work is performed across the entire United States.

### **INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA**

Walter has been active with NECA since the mid-1990s. Early involvement was with the NECA Northwest Line Chapter, where he held board positions and served as Governor. Since working as CEO, Walter has gotten more involved with the Oregon-Columbia Chapter, serving in various board positions and as Governor. He has been a member of the Political Leadership Council since 2020 and active on the Council of Industrial Relations since 2018. Walter received the Comstock Award in 2019 for his contributions to labor relations, leading to his induction into the Academy of Electrical Contractors that same year.

### **INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS**

Technology has been the largest-scale change Walter has seen since joining electrical construction. Another impact in construction today is how workers in the field and office communications. The improvement in technology has caused complete connection among the workforces, projects, and customers in this era.

### **AWAY FROM THE OFFICE**

Walter and his girlfriend, Nerissa, have five children between them, ranging in age from 17 to 33. They have four grandchildren and two dogs. In the fall and winter, they enjoy chasing birds behind their German Shorthaired Pointer, Louie, on the farm in North Central Washington. They enjoy spending springs and summers floating around the local lake or wake surfing.

## INTRODUCING CRAIG CLARK, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 8 NOMINEE



*Craig Clark*  
*CEO & President (Retired)*  
*Dynalectric Colorado, An EMCOR Company*  
*Denver, CO*  
*Rocky Mountain Chapter, NECA*

### **BACKGROUND**

As a third generation Union electrician from New Jersey, Clark started his journey in the electrical construction field with IBEW Local 102 in 1974. He worked his way up through the ranks in various field and management positions prior to holding the position of CEO & President of Dynalectric Colorado from 1999 to 2018. He served as a consultant to Dynalectric on various Light-rail projects and medical centers until late 2021.

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Founded in 1951 as part of Kennedy Electric, Dynalectric Colorado, a subsidiary of EMCOR, offers a single-source solution for commercial, industrial, institutional and highway electrical construction, as well as ongoing customer service. In addition to design/build and design/assist, it provides a broad range of other preconstruction and construction support services, including—but not limited to—budgeting, value engineering, schedule analysis, constructability reviews and major material procurement. Dedicated to customer satisfaction, it provides highly individualized, consistently professional project delivery. It has been the leading electrical contractor for Denver, Colorado Springs, and other Colorado regions for more than 60 years.

### **INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA**

Clark is the past Governor and President, of the Rocky Mountain Chapter, NECA, and co-chaired the Labor Management Committee and the RMC JATC. He has served on several national NECA committees, including the National Management Development Committee from 2011–2012, the Value of Membership Task Force in 2015, and the Council on Industrial Relations from 2019–2020. He has been a fellow in the NECA Academy of Electrical Contracting since 2014 and is the Current NECA District 8 Vice President and Chair of the NECA Safety Task Force.

### **INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS**

While there has been a recent resurgence in recruiting young people to the industry, it has still proven difficult to attract them to construction. Clark said that beyond the wages and benefits, many young people he interviews don't understand the full significance and value of being a part of a union. NECA contractors face the challenge of finding good people and developing the sophisticated processes that they now must invest in to stay relevant, such as BIM. This will help attract young talent to NECA companies.

### **AWAY FROM THE OFFICE**

Clark has six children and six grandchildren. He enjoys mountaineering, ice climbing, skiing, fly fishing, sailing, reading and living in the mountains with his wife, Carol, in Colorado.

## INTRODUCING STEVE LINDLEY, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 10 NOMINEE



*Steve Lindley*  
*President*  
*Hooper Corporation*  
*Deforest, WI*  
*Missouri Valley Line Builders Chapter, NECA*

### **BACKGROUND**

Lindley graduated from the University of Idaho with a degree in Accounting and received his CPA certification in 1991. Lindley joined the electrical construction industry in 1993 and became Vice President of Operations in 2009, where he managed the electric power division's core functions: operations, fleet management, business development, as well as financial and administrative functions. Lindley became President of Hooper Corporation in 2019.

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

Founded in Madison, Wisconsin, in 1913, Hooper Corporation began as a mechanical contracting company. Hooper expanded to electrical contracting services as REAs formed in the 1940s. Specializing in outside line work, Hooper performs overhead and underground distribution and overhead transmission to 500kV. Hooper is a full-service substation construction and maintenance contractor as well. These services are provided from Hooper's corporate headquarters in Wisconsin, as well as offices in Florida, Ohio, Michigan, and Colorado.

### **INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA**

Hooper Corporation has been a NECA member since 1958. Lindley got his first industry experience attending a District 10 conference which motivated him to learn more about NECA and get involved. Lindley is currently the Governor of the Missouri Valley Line Builders Chapter and has served on the Board since 2012. Lindley has also served on the Missouri Valley JATC Board of Trustees since 2012.

### **INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS**

Lindley believes high-tech industry disruptors can change the industry overnight. An example of change is the significant consolidation of customers as well as contractors; closely held private companies now consist of larger firms with multiple companies. This growth reflects projects increasing in scale. Outside line electrical contracting has evolved from regional-based to national-based, with contractors working in much larger portions of the country. For these reasons, NECA is even more important on a national level and having one district for all outside line work is a tremendous benefit for contractors and the industry.

### **AWAY FROM THE OFFICE**

Lindley's proudest accomplishment is being able to work and succeed for his family. He and his wife, Mary, have two children – a daughter who is a Senior in college and a son who is a Sophomore. Lindley spends his free time with his family at the lake in the summer, where they go boating and fishing. Other activities throughout the year include hunting and snow skiing.



## INTRODUCING CHARLES W. FAIRCHILD II, VICE PRESIDENT OF INTEGRATED SYSTEMS CONTRACTORS NOMINEE



*Charles W. Fairchild II*  
*President*  
*Fairchild Communication Systems, Inc.*  
*Indianapolis, IN*  
*Northern Indiana Chapter, NECA*

### **BACKGROUND**

Fairchild has been an IBEW Local 481 Low Voltage Technician in good standing since 1985 and holds multiple industry and manufacture training certifications, including BICSI RCDD, AVIXA CTS, CTS-I, and CTS-D. Fairchild started his career in 1983 with AV Repair Company as an equipment repair technician, then moved on to sound and video installation at Custom Sound & Engineering. In 1986, Fairchild joined Electrical Equipment Company, where he worked for fifteen years and added sound and video experience to its life safety systems offering.

### **COMPANY INFORMATION**

After more than twenty years of experience in the industry, Fairchild founded Fairchild Communication Systems in 2001 with the support of his family. He started with only a van and some tools, but the company grew significantly and was recognized by the local business publication's list of the fastest-growing privately held companies in central Indiana. Fairchild attributes this success to a focus on working hard and treating people well. The company now has teams working across three Indiana office locations, serving education, healthcare and other markets with design, sales, installation and service of most low voltage, optical and wireless systems. Fairchild Communication Systems operates throughout Indiana, with some national accounts out of state, and an annual revenue of \$18 million.

### **INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA**

In 2003, Fairchild Communication Systems joined NECA, where the company benefited from the wealth of experience and best practices available from NECA, its staff and members. Fairchild has served on the Indiana Chapter's Board since 2018. Fairchild is also a member of the NECA IBEW Indianapolis Telecom Apprenticeship Sub-Committee and the Indiana Statewide Telecom Agreement Negotiating Team. This year, the company joined the NECA Northern Indiana Chapter. Fairchild sees educational opportunities, collective bargaining experience and advice, and government relations as NECA's key services, and values the peer networking opportunities.

### **INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS**

Fairchild recommends embracing and adapting to the fast pace of change, particularly in Division 27 and 28 Systems. He has observed how technology changed the way we design, estimate, sell, manage, install, track, test and commission construction work. He notes that the low voltage portion of the electrical package has increased significantly in terms of contract value and installation hours, as well as quantity and types of systems.

### **AWAY FROM THE OFFICE**

Chuck and his wife, Luanne, have been married for 37 years and have four sons. Their family has grown over the years, and they now have three daughters-in-law and three grandchildren. He enjoys hiking and camping, off road motorcycles and ATVs. The family has restored a 1954 18-foot Chris-Craft mahogany powerboat, owned since 1982, and plan to return it to the lake soon. Fairchild enjoys visiting Colorado, as well as historic and patriotic locations. Chuck received the Governor's Distinguished Hoosier Award for community service to Scouting, in recognition of his commitment to leading approximately 70 youth (including all four of his sons) to the rank of Eagle Scout over twenty years of service. He is currently the President of the Board for the charter organization that supports four active scouting units.

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