



Introducing NECA Officers

The profiles that follow introduce the officers being elected at the Board of Governors meeting in Chicago, IL on September 12, 2025. These **unopposed** candidates will be **elected** that day and include the following:

Term of office will begin on January 1, 2026 and is for a two-year term.

- **Mark Walter** will be the new President replacing **Kirk Davis**

Terms of office will begin on January 1, 2026 and are two-year terms.

- **Michael P. McDonald** will be the new District 1 Vice President replacing **Stephen Gianotti**
- **Christopher M. Foster** will be the new District 3 Vice President replacing **Terry J. Lette**
- **Gregory Padalecki** will be the new District 5 Vice President replacing **Shawn P. Smith**
- **Daniel M. Smith** will be the new District 7 Vice President replacing **Donald G. Laffoon**
- **Fredrick L. Neubauer** will be the new District 9 Vice President replacing **Gregory D. Long**
- **Steven Stone** will be the new Vice President at Large replacing **Mark Harasha**

INTRODUCING MICHAEL P. McDONALD, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 1 NOMINEE



Michael P. McDonald
President
McDonald Electrical Corporation
Hingham, MA
Boston Chapter, NECA

BACKGROUND

With over 40 years of industry experience, McDonald's career began before high school, working after class for his father's company, PMT Electric. By the age of 18, he had earned his journeyman electrician's license. After entering into IBEW Local 103 through organization, Mike quickly rose to foreman and general foreman where he led some of Boston's largest electrical projects. McDonald attended the University of Massachusetts Boston, majoring in Engineering and attended the University of Tennessee, where he received a certification in education and taught classes in electrical construction. At 30 years old, driven by a vision to build a multifaceted electrical contracting firm rooted in integrity, excellence, and execution, McDonald left his position with his high school friend and business partner, Tom Cooney, and launched McDonald Electrical Corporation

COMPANY INFORMATION

Founded in 1999, McDonald Electrical Corporation is a leading full-service electrical contractor serving Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut with annual sales of over \$140 million. Known for its customer-centric model and deep technical expertise, McDonald Electrical Corporation has built a reputation for delivering high quality electrical solutions to the region's most skilled and respected general contractors, employing over 450 electrical and industry professionals. McDonald Electricals' comprehensive services include installation of power distribution systems, medium and high voltage utility services, lighting and lighting control systems, fire alarm and life safety systems, low voltage systems, Base Building and tenant fit-out electrical renovations, and service and maintenance work. The company has met complex electrical construction requirements for projects in diverse market sectors, including utility, power generations, aviation, corporate, commercial, higher education, entertainment, institutional, healthcare, life sciences, residential, renewables, and public facilities.

INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA

McDonald Electrical Corporation joined the Boston Chapter in 2008. McDonald has been involved with the NECA Boston Chapter as President and currently serves as Governor. He has served on NECA National's Government Affairs Committee since 2022. McDonald feels that education and networking are the most important services NECA can offer in the electrical industry. He will be installed into the Academy of Electrical Contracting at the Opening General Session at NECA's 2025 Convention in Chicago.

INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS

McDonald believes that while the industry remains heavily dependent on labor for the physical installation of products, programs supporting BIM, software-driven project management, and prefabrication have transformed the way we deliver services.

AWAY FROM THE OFFICE

Mike believes that maintaining a strong family is paramount in maintaining one's character. Mike and his wife, Linda, have been married for 30 years and take immense joy and pride in watching their two daughters grow and thrive over the years. Their oldest daughter is to be married soon and her younger sister not too far behind. They enjoy traveling, playing golf, and spending time at their Cape Cod home with family and friends.

INTRODUCING CHRISTOPHER M. FOSTER, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 3 NOMINEE



Christopher M. Foster
CEO
Whitehead Electric Company
Mableton, GA
Atlanta Chapter, NECA

BACKGROUND

Foster is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy and spent nine years in the Air Force before being honorably discharged as a Captain in 1997. Upon leaving the Air Force, he returned to Atlanta and began working for Whitehead Electric Company. Foster received an MBA in Finance from Georgia State University in 2001, and during his career at Whitehead, has worked as an Apprentice, Project Manager, Chief Financial Officer, and President before becoming the CEO in 2011.

COMPANY INFORMATION

Whitehead Electric Company was founded in 1938. Foster purchased the company from his father in 2011 and is currently the only shareholder. His son, Cooper Foster, also works for Whitehead Electric and is the 3rd generation of the family to work there. Whitehead Electric performs a variety of new construction work including data centers, hospitals, schools, hotels, and office buildings. They mostly do work in Atlanta and the surrounding metro areas and have an annual sales volume of around \$40 million.

INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA

Whitehead Electric Company has been a member of the Atlanta Chapter since 1939. Foster has been involved with NECA as President of the Atlanta Chapter from 2017 to 2020 and Governor from 2023 to 2024. He has also served as a trustee for the local benefit funds since 2008. Foster currently serves on NECA's Council on Industrial Relations and has been a member of the Academy of Electrical Contracting since 2022. Foster believes that providing training and resources—at a scale that supports both the largest and smallest contractors—is the most important service NECA offers.

INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS

Consolidation within the industry, an increase in the number of large-scale projects, and the growing pace of technology are all changes that have and will continue to challenge NECA and its member contractors in the coming years. The continued shortage of available labor has been a growing problem for our contractors over the past two decades. NECA and IBEW need to strive to find new sources of recruitment and training together to meet this need or we risk losing valuable market share to our non-union competitors that we will struggle to gain back.

AWAY FROM THE OFFICE

Chris and his wife, Ellen, have been married for 27 years. They met in the Air Force where Ellen was a nurse. Their son, Cooper, works at Whitehead Electric and their daughter, Caitlin, is a senior at the University of Georgia and is planning to pursue a career in medicine after she graduates. In their free time, the Fosters enjoy playing golf and pickleball. They are avid Georgia Bulldogs fans and enjoy following college football.

INTRODUCING GREGORY PADALECKI, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 5 NOMINEE



Gregory Padalecki
President & CEO
Alterman, Inc.
Live Oak, TX
South Texas Chapter, NECA

BACKGROUND

Padalecki started at Alterman as a 2nd year apprentice in 1999 and is a JATC graduate. He worked his way up through the company holding various positions including service technician, service manager, estimator, project manager, and chief estimator before becoming President in 2019, then President & CEO in 2020.

COMPANY INFORMATION

Nathan Alterman Electric Co. was founded in 1923 in San Antonio, TX by Nathan Alterman. He handed the company to his son, Richard Alterman (a past Academy fellow) in the 1950s. Richard sold the business to the employees at his retirement in 1984 and Alterman became 100% ESOP in 1999. In the mid 2000's, the company name was shortened to Alterman. Alterman does both commercial and industrial electrical work which includes large construction, service, and low voltage technologies. They have offices in San Antonio, Austin, Dallas/Fort Worth, and Southern New Mexico and their projected revenue for 2025 is \$725 million.

INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA

Alterman, Inc. joined the South Texas Chapter as a member in 1930. Padalecki has been involved with NECA as President of the South Texas Chapter from 2023 to 2024 and is currently the Chapter Governor. He was a member of NECA Future Leaders from 2020 to 2023 and currently serves on NECA's Government Affairs Committee and the ELECTRI Board of Trustees. Padalecki will be installed into the Academy of Electrical Contracting at the Opening General Session at NECA's 2025 Convention in Chicago. Greg believes that NECA's most important benefit is labor relations, followed by workforce development and networking.

INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS

Padalecki believe the most profound change in the electrical industry is the amount of work available. There is truly more work to be done than there are people to do it. The workforce is less tenured, and in high demand, and contractors that have embraced the workforce of today, and the recruiting and retaining effort needed to hire and employ them, are the most successful.

AWAY FROM THE OFFICE

Greg and his wife, Shelley, have been married for nine years and have a wonderful 5-year-old son. Aside from traveling for business, Greg enjoys spending time on large home renovation projects.

INTRODUCING DANIEL M. SMITH, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 7 NOMINEE



Daniel M. Smith
President
Electric Company of Omaha
Omaha, NE
Nebraska Chapter, NECA

BACKGROUND

Smith's journey into the electrical trade began in 1984 as an apprentice electrician in Nebraska, progressing to journeyman status in 1988. Smith went on to become a master electrician, service technician, foreman, general foreman, and superintendent. Smith was brought into the office of the Electric Company of Omaha (ECO) in 1997 as an estimator/project manager. In 1998, he was offered the opportunity to buy stock and eventually became the majority shareholder in 2001. Smith then assumed the role of President while also continuing his roles of estimator and project manager.

COMPANY INFORMATION

ECO was founded in 1982 by its four original partners, all coming from different sectors of the electrical industry. Focused on service and small jobs, ECO steadily grew to 13 shareholders with 23 office staff and 215 employees in the field. ECO offers a full line of electrical construction services, including commercial and industrial construction projects, medium voltage and 600-volt distribution systems, emergency power generation systems, UPS, fire alarm, telecom systems, building automation and integration, and security systems with an emphasis on service, healthcare and industrial. ECO works primarily within a 50-mile radius of the home office on the electrical side and all of North American on security systems, with an annual sales reaching \$60 million.

INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA

ECO became a member of the Nebraska Chapter in 1982. Smith has been involved with NECA as President of the Nebraska Chapter from 2007 to 2012. He also served as Governor from 2012 to 2017 and again from 2022 to 2023. Smith will be installed into the Academy of Electrical Contracting at the Opening General Session at NECA's 2025 Convention in Chicago.

INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS

Smith believes that technology is constantly improving at an alarming rate. He feels that it's important to ask advice from those in the industry and learn all you can from them.

AWAY FROM THE OFFICE

Dan lives in the country outside of Omaha with his wife, Laurie, who teaches electrical technology at a local community college. They enjoy spending time with their two children, two grandchildren and two Newfoundland dogs. They enjoy ATV trips with close friends and family. Dan is an avid hunter and just completed his mancave to showcase all his trophies.

INTRODUCING FREDRICK L. NEUBAUER, VICE PRESIDENT, DISTRICT 9 NOMINEE



Fredrick L. Neubauer
President
Neubauer Electric, Inc.
Los Alamitos, CA
Los Angeles County Chapter, NECA

BACKGROUND

Neubauer started his career in 1979 working as a draftsman and driver for a family electrical contractor. In 1981, he became a member of IBEW Local 11 as a Journeyman PE. He completed his schooling in 1983 and continued working as a foreman, general foreman, estimator and project manager until starting Neubauer Electric, Inc. in 1992.

COMPANY INFORMATION

Neubauer Electric, Inc. was founded in 1992 by Neubauer and became a member of the Los Angeles County Chapter, NECA in 2003. Neubauer Electric services Southern California and Southern Nevada where they focus on public works projects. Neubauer Electric has projects ranging from \$1 million to \$35 million in size, ranging from schools, colleges, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, and other institutional projects in the area. The company's annual sales volume is \$40 million.

INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA

Neubauer previously served as President of the Long Angeles Chapter and is currently the Governor of the Chapter. He has served on the NECA Codes & Standards Committee since 2016. His proudest achievement was being inducted as a Fellow of the Academy of Electrical Contracting in 2021.

Neubauer feels that education, industry resources and representation on local and national levels are NECA's most important services.

INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS

Neubauer feels that technology has empowered the industry through advancements in lighting control, BIM, LED lighting, design, and AI.

AWAY FROM THE OFFICE

Fred and his wife, Diane, have been married for 46 years and have 2 sons and 3 grandchildren. The family enjoys boating, fishing, off-roading, traveling, and spending time at their vacation home in Lake Mead. Fred recently restored a 1955 Chevy pickup truck and shows it with the car club he belongs to.

INTRODUCING STEVEN M. STONE, VICE PRESIDENT AT LARGE NOMINEE



Steven M. Stone
CEO
ArchKey Solutions
St. Louis, MO
St. Louis Chapter, NECA

BACKGROUND

Stone has been in the industry since 1998 working in distribution, industrial services, and electrical construction. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford and graduated from Harvard Business School in 2012. Stone has been with ArchKey Solutions since 2018 in a variety of roles including, Senior Vice President, Sales, Marketing and Strategy, President, and CEO.

COMPANY INFORMATION

ArchKey Solutions was founded in 1925 as Sachs Electric in St. Louis. Sachs Electric joined the St. Louis Chapter in 1927. The business has grown over the past 100 years, organically and through acquisition. ArchKey Solutions has brought together Sachs Electric, Parsons Electric, Sprig Electric, and Mona Electric, which now all operate as ArchKey Solutions nationally and have an annual revenue of approximately \$2 billion. Archkey Solutions is a national electrical and specialty systems installation and integrated facilities services business.

INVOLVEMENT WITH NECA

Stone was a member of the NECA Innovation and Strategy Task Force in 2020 and is currently a member of the NECA Dues & Service Charges Task Force. He is a past member of the both the Kitchen Cabinet and the inaugural Program Review Committee for ELECTRI. Stone is an active member of the Large Contractors group and will be installed into the Academy of Electrical Contracting at the Opening General Session at NECA's 2025 Convention in Chicago.

INDUSTRY OBSERVATIONS

Our industry is incredibly complex and ever changing. Most recently, the unprecedented demand for electrical contractor services has created consolidation among those capable of doing mega projects. Even further, businesses in our space continue to innovate to ensure we are able to meet customer demands with scarce resources and craft labor shortages.

AWAY FROM THE OFFICE

Steve's wife, Danna, is also a leader in the industry as a Senior Vice President at Graybar. They have two children, both in college. The Stones enjoy running, exercising, biking, hiking, and spending time at their farm with their family.