



MEMBER UPDATE

July 2026

EDUCATION • ADVOCACY • WORKFORCE • SAFETY • COMMUNITY



A MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS

Dear Cascade Chapter Members,

On behalf of the Cascade Chapter Board of Directors, we want to share an important update about the future of our Chapter.

After many years of dedicated service, Executive Director Cindy Austin plans to retire in December 2027. To ensure a smooth transition, the Board began planning well in advance and is pleased to announce that Jamie Stuart joined the Cascade Chapter as Executive Director in late June.

Jamie brings more than 27 years of leadership experience in the electrical construction industry, with extensive expertise in safety, labor relations, workforce development, and organizational leadership. His passion for our industry and commitment to supporting NECA contractors make him an outstanding addition to our team.

We're also excited to welcome Britteny Scott as our new Office Manager. Britteny brings a strong background in operations, executive support, and process improvement, and she is already making a positive impact as she helps serve our members and support the Chapter's daily operations.

Please join us in welcoming Jamie and Britteny to the Cascade Chapter. We hope you'll take the opportunity to introduce yourself at an upcoming Chapter meeting or event.

We also want to express our heartfelt appreciation to Cindy Austin for her years of exceptional leadership and dedication. Through her hard work, commitment, and lasting relationships across the industry, Cindy has helped shape the Chapter into the strong organization it is today. We are incredibly grateful for her many contributions and look forward to celebrating her legacy over the coming year.

As the Board recently completed its strategic planning process, one priority stood out above all others: continuing to strengthen the value of NECA membership while growing our Chapter and expanding our market share throughout Northwest Washington. Jamie shares that vision and will work closely with Cindy and the Board during this transition to build on the Chapter's strong foundation while continuing to enhance member services, workforce development, industry advocacy, and labor-management partnerships.

The future of the Cascade Chapter is bright. We are excited for this next chapter and look forward to continuing to serve our members, strengthen our industry, and create new opportunities for union electrical contractors throughout our region.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming Chapter events.

Sincerely,

Jack Southwick

President

Cascade Chapter, NECA

NEW ADDITIONS - IN THE OFFICE AND ON THE FIELD



Jamie has more than 27 years of executive leadership experience in the electrical construction industry, specializing in safety, labor relations, workforce development, risk management, and organizational leadership. Most recently, he served as Director of Safety & Labor Relations for R-2 Contractors, where he led safety and labor operations across multiple states. Prior to that, he was the Vice-President of Safety and Field Operations with Valley Electric Company and served as Safety Director for the NECA Puget Sound Chapter for over a year. Jamie has experience working directly with NECA contractors throughout the region.

Jamie Stuart - Executive Director

Email: JamieS@NECAcascade.org

Phone: 206-931-5867

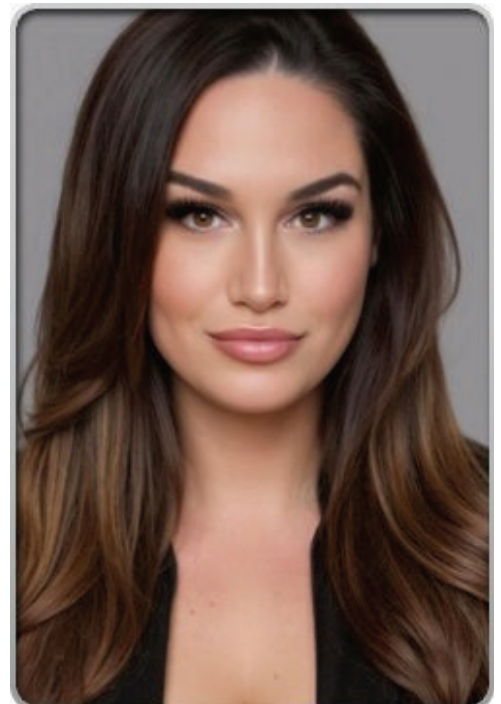
Brittney is a technology-proficient Office Manager with extensive experience supporting C-suite leaders and optimizing business operations in fast-paced environments. She brings a strong background in office systems, process improvement, digital tools, and software platforms. She has a proven track record of streamlining workflows, managing complex calendars and communications, and enhancing operational efficiency through the effective use of technology. Known for her warm personality, analytical mindset, and attention to detail,

Brittney consistently leverages systems and tools to improve organizational performance and support strategic business objectives.

Brittney Scott - Office Manager

Email: BrittneyS@NECAcascade.org

Phone: 425-258-2644



WELCOME OUR NEWEST NECA CASCADE MEMBERS

NECA Cascade is proud to welcome **Cochran, Inc.** and **New Era Electricians, LLC** to our growing membership. We are excited to have both companies join our chapter and look forward to their involvement in strengthening the electrical construction industry throughout our region.

Welcome, Cochran, Inc.

Cochran, Inc. has been a trusted leader in electrical and technology construction since 1954, delivering innovative solutions across commercial, healthcare, mission-critical, public works, sports and entertainment, and technology sectors. Headquartered in Seattle, Cochran provides a full range of electrical construction, low-voltage, security, audio-visual, and service and maintenance solutions, with a reputation for quality craftsmanship, safety, and innovation throughout the Pacific Northwest.



Welcome, New Era Electricians, LLC

New Era Electricians, LLC is an innovative electrical contractor specializing in renewable energy and electrical installations. Their expertise includes solar energy systems, battery storage, EV charging infrastructure, and commercial electrical projects. With a strong commitment to safety, quality, integrity, and sustainable solutions, New Era Electric is helping power the future of the electrical industry through cutting-edge renewable technologies.



Please join us in extending a warm NECA Cascade welcome to these outstanding companies.

We look forward to their participation in chapter events, educational opportunities, and industry initiatives. Together, we're building a stronger electrical contracting community.

2-DAY SERVICE & MAINTENANCE MASTERCLASS

Build your service business. Strengthen your team. Increase recurring revenue.

NECA Cascade is excited to host a **2-Day Service & Maintenance Master Class** presented by **Sean Samson Training**. This hands-on course is designed to help electrical contractors better understand the latest **NFPA 70E and NFPA 70B standards** while providing practical strategies to grow and strengthen their service and maintenance operations.

Course Details

- September 22–23, 2026
- 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- NECA Cascade Chapter Office
 - 315 S 3rd St., Suite 200, Mount Vernon, WA 98273

What You'll Learn

- Understanding the new NFPA 70E & 70B standards and compliance requirements
- OSHA vs. NFPA 70E vs. NFPA 70B—what contractors need to know
- Sales strategies for service and maintenance agreements
- How preventative maintenance can create recurring revenue opportunities
- Best practices for growing your service department
- Networking with fellow contractors

Who Should Attend? This course is ideal for:

- Business Owners
- Service Managers & Technicians
- Project Managers
- Sales Team Members
- Operations Managers
- Safety Directors & Trainers
- Shareholders

All classroom materials, including NFPA 70E & 70B booklets, are provided. Breakfast, lunch, and refreshments are included.

Reserve Your Spot Today! Class size is limited to 30 participants, so early registration is encouraged.

Registration Deadline: September 1, 2026

To register, please contact Lydia at LydiaL@NECAcascade.org

AI MASTERY MODULES AVAILABLE TO NECA CASCADE MEMBERS

As part of our commitment to helping members stay competitive in an evolving industry, the Cascade Chapter Board of Directors has purchased a **12-month AI Mastery Program for NECA Cascade members**.

Presented by **Carl Britton of Iron Thread Consulting**, these sessions are delivered live via Zoom and are followed by dedicated Q&A opportunities to help members implement what they learn.

Access the AI Mastery Hub:

<https://ironthread.online/neca-cascade>

What You'll Find:

- Registration for upcoming AI Mastery sessions
- Recordings of previous webinars
- Presentation slides and course materials
- Registration for upcoming Q&A sessions
- Previous Q&A recordings and resources

The program focuses on practical AI applications for electrical contractors, helping teams improve efficiency, communication, project management, estimating, and business operations.

MICROSOFT & NABTU LAUNCH AI TRAINING INITIATIVE FOR THE BUILDING TRADES

Microsoft and the North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) recently announced an expanded nationwide initiative designed to strengthen AI education and career pathways across the skilled trades.

The partnership introduces new AI-focused training programs and credentials intended to help construction professionals develop the digital skills needed in today's workforce. The initiative supports both current workers and future apprentices by providing practical AI training tailored specifically to the building trades.

Learn More:

Microsoft Announcement:

<https://news.microsoft.com>

Program Overview Flyer:

<https://cdn-dynmedia-1.microsoft.com>

NECA education leaders interested in learning more about the initiative may coordinate a briefing discussion regarding available training pathways and credentials.

SAVE THE DATE: TRADESWOMEN BUILD NATIONS 2026

The **2026 Tradeswomen Build Nations (TWBN) Conference**, the world's largest gathering of tradeswomen, will be held in Houston, Texas, from **October 9–11, 2026**.

Hosted annually by **North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU)**, the conference brings together thousands of skilled trades professionals, apprentices, labor leaders, and industry partners for professional development, leadership training, and networking opportunities.

Event Details

Dates: October 9–11, 2026

Location: Houston, Texas

Attendance: More than 5,000 union tradeswomen, apprentices, government officials, and labor leaders

- Conference Highlights
- Leadership development workshops
- Industry and workforce panels
- Career advancement opportunities
- Networking events
- Peer-to-peer learning and mentorship

The event serves as a powerful platform to celebrate and support women in construction while promoting workforce development across the union building trades.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Saturday, August 15th - IBEW/NECA AquaSox BBQ

- Everett AquaSox Baseball Club - Everett - 5:30pm BBQ, 7:05pm Game

Tuesday, September 15th - General Membership Meeting

- Timberline Brewing - Wenatchee - 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Tuesday, & Wednesday, September 22nd & 23rd - 2-Day Service & Maintenance Masterclass

- Cascade Chapter Office - Mount Vernon - 7:30am - 4:00pm Both Days

Sunday - Wednesday, October 4th - 7th - NECA 2026 Convention and Trade Show

- Mandalay Bay - Las Vegas

Tuesday, November 10th - General Membership Meeting

- Cascade Chapter Office - Mount Vernon - 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Be sure to RSVP to Lydia - LydiaL@NECAcascade.org

ABOUT US VIDEOS

Looking for a great way to highlight your company and connect with fellow NECA members? **The LMCC has open spots available for About Us Videos!**

Whether you'd like to showcase your company, introduce your team, highlight a recent project, or share your expertise, these videos are a great opportunity to increase your visibility within our membership and the electrical construction industry.

Interested?

Contact the **NECA Cascade Chapter** to learn more about available video opportunities and how to reserve your spot.

See examples of previous Member Spotlight videos on our YouTube channel:

NECA Cascade YouTube Channel

We look forward to helping you tell your company's story!

LOCAL 191 DISPATCH

CURRENTLY ON THE BOOKS AS OF 07/22/26

Inside Wire

Book 1: 183

Book 2: 151

Electronic Tech

Book 1: 6

Book 2: 2

Residential

Book 1: 6

Book 2: 3

Material Handler

Book 1: 10

Book 2: 50

Journey Instrument Tech

Book 1: 4

Book 2: 4

Light Fixture Maintenance

Book 1: 2

Book 2: 2

Special Projects

Book 1: 0

Book 2: 2

SAFETY CORNER - BEAT THE HEAT

As temperatures rise, so do the risks associated with working outdoors. Electrical professionals often work in direct sunlight, attics, rooftops, substations, and other high-heat environments where heat-related illnesses can develop quickly.

Heat exhaustion and heat stroke are preventable, but they require planning, awareness, and teamwork.

Stay Safe This Summer

- **Hydrate Frequently**
 - Drink water throughout the day—even if you don't feel thirsty. Avoid excessive caffeine and energy drinks, which can contribute to dehydration.
- **Plan Around the Heat**
 - Whenever possible, schedule physically demanding work during the cooler morning hours and take advantage of shaded or air-conditioned break areas.
- **Watch for Warning Signs** - Know the symptoms of heat-related illness, including:
 - Heavy sweating
 - Dizziness or headache
 - Muscle cramps
 - Nausea
 - Confusion or disorientation

If a coworker shows signs of heat stroke, call emergency services immediately and begin cooling them down while help is on the way.

- **Look Out for One Another**
 - Use the buddy system on hot days. Checking in with coworkers can help identify heat stress before it becomes a medical emergency.

Safety Starts With Preparation

Summer projects often mean longer days and increased workloads, but no deadline is more important than making sure everyone goes home safely. Taking a few extra precautions can make all the difference.

Remember: *Safety isn't seasonal—it's part of every job, every day.*



NECA/IBEW NIGHT AT THE AQUASOX - MARGARITAVILLE

Join NECA Cascade and IBEW 191 for one of our favorite annual summer traditions, NECA/IBEW 191 Night at the AquaSox! This year's theme is Margaritaville, and you're invited to bring your family, coworkers, electricians, and friends for an evening of food, fun, and baseball.

Date: Saturday, August 15th, 2026

Gates Open: 5:30 PM

Bullpen BBQ Buffet: 5:30 PM

First Pitch: 7:05 PM

What's Included?

- Upscale Bullpen BBQ Buffet
- Unlimited soft drinks
- AquaSox game ticket
- FREE parking in the AquaSox South Lot
- Face painting by Contours Face & Body Art
- Free Margaritaville AquaSox shirts for the first 1,000 fans
- Post-game fireworks show

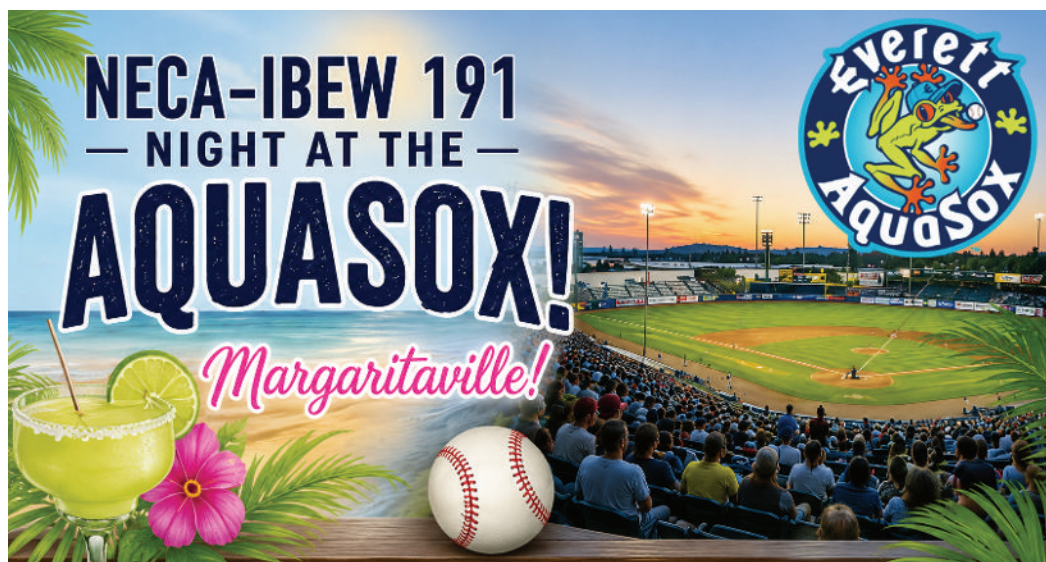
Guests may park free of charge in the AquaSox South Parking Lot, located adjacent to the Stadium Coffee stand on the west side of Broadway, south of the AquaSox office. This event is provided free of charge for NECA and IBEW 191 members, families, coworkers, and electricians.

RSVP Today

Please RSVP with your attendee count to Amber Harbrecht-

amber@ibew191.com or 425-259-3195

Don't miss this opportunity for food, drinks, raffles, networking, and most importantly... BASEBALL!



NECA 2026 TRADE SHOW AND CONVENTION

The electrical construction industry's premier event is heading to Las Vegas, Nevada, and registration is now open! Join thousands of electrical contractors, industry leaders, manufacturers, and innovators from across the country for four days of education, networking, leadership development, and the largest electrical construction trade show in North America.

Dates: October 4–7, 2026

Location: Mandalay Bay Convention Center

City: Las Vegas, Nevada

Why Attend?

- Industry-leading education sessions
- The NECA Trade Show featuring hundreds of exhibitors
- Networking opportunities with contractors from across the country
- Technology and innovation showcases
- Leadership and workforce development programming
- Special events celebrating NECA's 125th Anniversary

Whether you're a business owner, project manager, estimator, executive, or emerging leader, the NECA Convention provides valuable insights and connections that can help position your company for future success. Register Today!

Visit www.necaconvention.org to register and learn more.

Don't wait! Hotel accommodations and popular events fill quickly. Start planning now and join NECA members from across the nation in Las Vegas this October!



Stay Connected

NECA Cascade remains committed to providing members with valuable education, technology resources, workforce development opportunities, and industry updates. Watch for future communications regarding educational programs, AI training opportunities, and upcoming chapter events.

For questions regarding any of the programs highlighted above, please contact the NECA Cascade office.

Jamie - JamieS@NECAcascade.org Cindy - CindyA@NECAcascade.org Britteny - BrittenyS@NECAcascade.org
Lydia - LydiaL@NECAcascade.org