

THE CASCADE HERALD

FALL 2008



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CHAPTER SITE UP AND RUNNING

It's official our website is up and running!

There are password protected areas (i.e. agreements, posted resumes, etc.) If you need to obtain a new login and password or wish to change the one

you have please contact the Chapter office to get a new one.

Check out your Company Profile! The membership database is searchable by specialties, each member profile has the ability

to post logo's and company pictures to further promote your business. If you have any questions please contact the Chapter. We hope you find our new site to be member friendly & resourceful.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH

Our next General Membership meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th. The meeting starts at 5:30pm in the Evergreen Room (2nd Floor) at the new Tulalip Resort Hotel.

We will be featuring special guest attorney Paul R. Cressman, Jr. of law firm AHLERS & CRESSMAN PLLC. His topic for the

night will be: "Electrical Contractors Beware—Contract Provisions That Impact Your Claim Rights"

2008 Job Safety Posters, code books, & 2009 pocket calendars will be available at this event. For those of you who didn't make the trip last time, leaving 10 minutes early can make all the difference in traffic!

Thanks to all members who sent in RSVP's! We have received great feedback for this meeting and are expecting 49 people in attendance!

DATE

Tuesday September 16th

PLACE

The Evergreen Room

Tulalip Resort Casino & Spa

10200 Quil Ceda Boulevard

Tulalip, WA 98271

MEETING AGENDA

5:30PM	Cocktails
6:00PM	Dinner
7:00PM	Meeting

RSVP DEADLINE

Monday September 8th

ECPAC UPDATE



Founded in 1978, the Electrical Construction Political Action Committee (ECPAC) has helped elect scores of industry-friendly members of Congress.

For the first time in our Chapter's history we have not only *met* our annual ECPAC goal minimum of \$9,200 for 2008, but *exceeded* it!

Thank you to the following initial contributors who have made this possible:

Cindy Austin—\$1,000
 Ashlee Boekenooogen—\$100
 Mel Buttrum—\$5,000
 Carol Gardner—\$200
 David Ginestra—\$100
 Todd Kottsick—\$100
 Bruno Padilla—\$100
 Michelle Padilla—\$100
 Peter Sanders—\$500
 Donna Sorensen—\$200
 Erik Sorensen—\$100
 Paul Sorensen—\$1000
 Jack Southwick—\$1000

Now that we have met our minimum dollar amount we have a set a new goal; **Increase the number of individual contributions.** In order for our chapter to be eligible for a place on the Political Leadership Council (PLC), a \$100 personal contribution must come from at least 50% of our chapters membership. The Cascade Chapter's membership is made up of 48 companies. **Thirteen (13) personal contributions have currently**

been made, we need eleven (11) more. The Chapter urges you to step up to the plate and contribute a personal check of \$100 dollars or more. If each contractor member gave a \$100 contribution we would raise our total an additional \$4,100 for a grand total of \$13,600.

The PLC is far more than just writing a check. Its members have specific opportunities to:

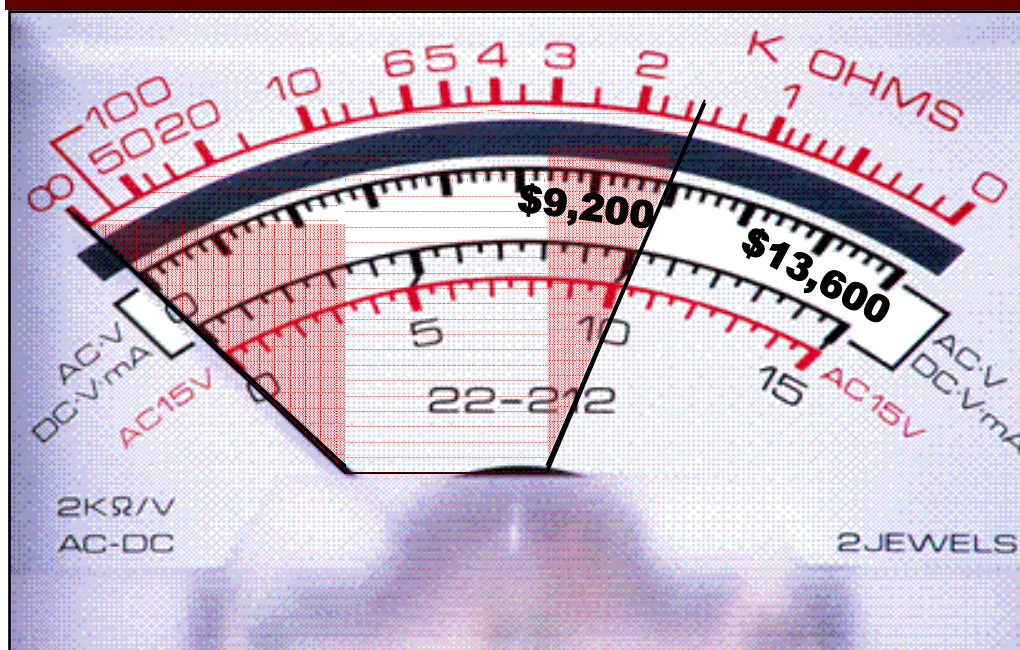
- Play a key role in

selecting the issues that our members want NECA to support.

- Participate in critical informational briefing sessions with Members of Congress
- Attend the annual PLC Summit with a full day of high-level interaction & briefings from elected congressional leaders & national experts who impact our businesses

(Continued on pg 3)

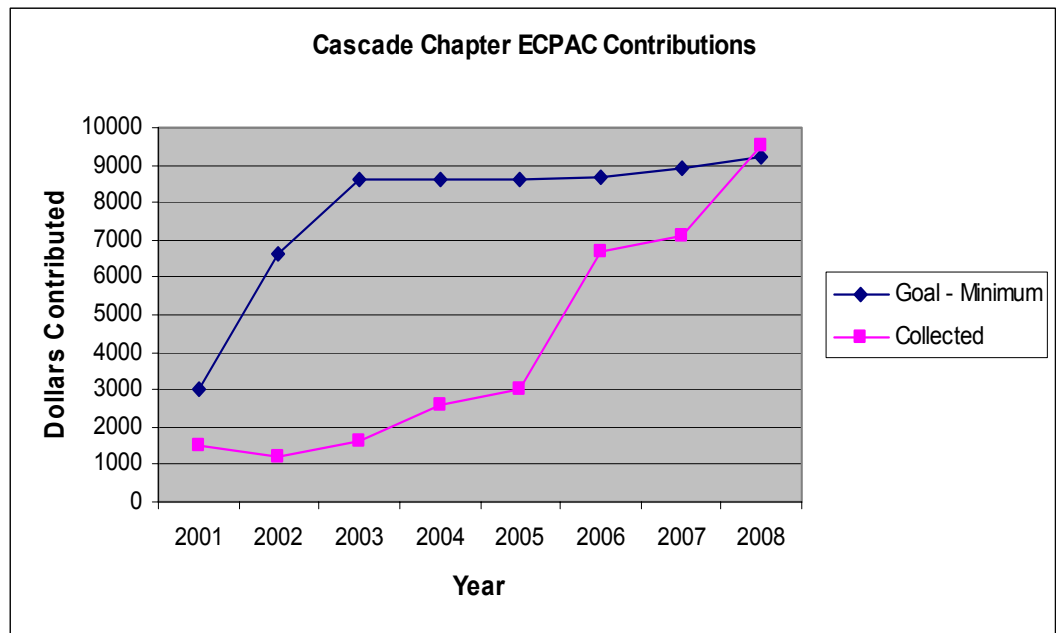
CASCADE CHAPTER, NECA NEW ECPAC GOAL METER



ECPAC UPDATE

- Receive weekly email updates on NECA government affairs, activity on current issues & in political action

Contributing to the NECA Political Leadership Council is an investment in the future of your business.



2008 NECA CONVENTION & SHOW—CHICAGO, IL



"The value I got from the educational opportunities at my first NECA Convention and Show in Boston was so great. I never want to miss another one... I'll be there!"

-Mike Young,
Young Electric Company

The Annual Convention and Tradeshow is just around the corner. We currently have 15 from our chapter in attendance to this meeting. NECA 2008 Chicago will be the one place to see all the latest hardware and software, the tools

and techniques, the products and services that can help your business prosper all year.

There is good news and bad news for those of you who are still interested in going.

The Bad News:

Early rate registration deadlines have passed and NECA Housing has released all Chapter Room blocks. The Fairmont is booked almost to the limit and October 3rd specifically is booked to full capacity.

The Good News:

You can still register and reserve rooms at

our discounted rates. To reserve a room you must send an email to NECA Housing.



All attending members will receive customized Glacier Jackets compliments of the Cascade Chapter. Non attending members are welcomed to purchase these jackets at a discounted rate of \$65.00 per jacket. For order forms please refer to the News & Events section at www.necacascade.org or contact the Chapter directly.

NECA 2008 CHICAGO

To Make Hotel Reservations

Email:

NECA Housing

NECA2008Housing@cmrus.com

To Register:

www.necaconvention.org

GLACIER JACKETS



Women's



Men's

CURRENT APPRENTICES ENROLLED THROUGH JULY 2009

Inside Wireman	
5th Year Apprentice	35
4th Year Apprentice	62
3rd Year Apprentice	77
2nd Year Apprentice	76
1st Year Apprentice	70

Residential Wireman	
2nd Year Apprentice	4
1st Year Apprentice	1

S&C Wireman	
3rd Year Apprentice	2
2nd Year Apprentice	2
1st Year Apprentice	2



**Emerging Green
Markets—
Strategies for
Electrical
Contractors on
LEED® and Green
Building Projects**

**Pick up your copy September 16th at
our next General Membership
Meeting!**

NORTHWEST WASHINGTON ELECTRICAL INDUSTRY JOINT APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING COMMITTEE PRESENTS

THE 2008 GRADUATING APPRENTICES! CONSTRUCTION ELECTRICIAN (INSIDE WIREMAN)

Ryan W. Amundson	Cole U. Gates	Kyle D. Myllekangas
Brandon L. Blakeslee	Dustin T. Hanstead	Harold "Jay" F. O'Neal
Jacob Z. Boyer	Michael J. Harrison	Jodi D. Ouellet
Jeremy D. Brooks	Charlotte D. Hathaway	Damon C. Raz
Robert J. De Velder	Jason A. Hough	Michael D. Robitaille
Corey R. Dunlap	Richmond A. Hutchins	Keigo K. Simpson
Derek E. Engebretsen	Timothy J. Kornelis	Daniel K. Wagner
Jim J. Gagnon	Ronden G. McCoy	Nathan D. Yoon

RESIDENTIAL WIREMAN

Mark A. Antonie	Owen J. Ensley	Jodi L. Kinser
Travis R. Best	Matthew W. Gentzler	Jacob L. Lockhart
Shane E. Boekenoogen	Stephen D. Griffin	Gerardo D. Reynoso
Matthew A. Clark	Timothy L. Isensee	Brian L. Smith
Derek E. Dow	Michael C. Johanesen	Jason M. Visser



SEAFAIR CRUISE RECAP



From Left: Donna Sorensen, Stephanie Southwick, Michelle Padilla & Robin Montgomery.

A big thanks to all members who joined the Chapter in another seafaring adventure! We were truly blessed with beautiful weather, friendly faces, and another fabulous SEAFAIR show compliments of the Blue Angels.



Blue Angels in Flight

Hula Hoop Competition

Winners: "The Natural"
Jan Ginestra of Dutton Electric Co, Inc. took 1st place for the women and Tony Criscuola of VECA Electric & Communications stole the men's 1st place by a landslide winning judges Donna Sorensen & Robin Montgomery of Ewing Electric, Inc. over with a one-of-a-kind neck hula.

Prize Drawing Winners:

Al's Quality Electric, Inc. won a \$200 gift certificate to "The Met" in Seattle and Pro Power Electric LLC won two tickets to a SEAHAWKS game of choice!

Thanks to all who participated in the NECA Trivia Contest.

On behalf of the Cascade Chapter Board and Staff we hope you all thoroughly enjoyed this year's cruise and are looking forward to seeing you all board the "My Girl" Charter Yacht next year!



Jan Ginestra & Harrison Stanfill sporting their Hawaiian gear.

To see more photos of this event please visit www.necacascade.org.



"My Girl" Charter Yacht

LOST & FOUND

A few items were left on the boat, please contact the Chapter if you recognize any of these items.

- Green Pacific Trail Women's Jacket
- Gray Hat with "Start me up" Lahaina, Maui stitched on it

WELCOME TWO NEW MEMBERS

The Cascade Chapter Board & Staff are pleased to introduce two new members to our Association: Brent Harris and Leonnie & Tom Stewart.

Brent Harris, President

of Granite Electric, Inc. joined NECA in July of 2008. Granite Electric, Inc. is located in Everett and has been in business since 1972.


Leonnie & Tom Stewart,
owners of TLC Electric

joined NECA's membership in August of 2008. TLC Electric is located on Camano Island and has been in business since 2005.

Welcome!!!

**Take
Political
Action!**

**Act
Now!**



**Make A
Contribution!**

ELECTRICAL PROJECT SUPERVISION I (EPS 1) COURSE



We will soon be scheduling an EPS Course.

The Electrical Project Supervision program has been developed as three integrated components. Each of the three levels addresses the same topical areas, but successive levels are built upon the foundations established at earlier levels. All three program levels are designed to provide impor-

tant learning and skills for supervisors with a wide range of responsibilities.

While some material in one level may be "beyond" what most foremen might need to accomplish their immediate responsibilities, it enriches their understanding of the business and process of construction and gives them insight into what might be ahead as they move up the administrative ladder.

Course topics include defining the supervisor's role, team building, verbal communication, written communication, performance management, safety, production management, planning and scheduling, tool and material management, employee relations, and understanding cost.

Please let us know your interest in attending this course.

Look what other students have said...

"The seminar was very informative & introduced me to several things that I have not yet dealt with. The ideas on organizational skills & documentation of all things with each job were the most valuable things I learned in the course. Also a complete view of all costs & expenses of a contractor will be very helpful in the future."

**Ryan Samsil,
Beltline Electric**

What does WD-40 Stand for?



Maybe you didn't know, but WD-40 stands for Water Displacement, 40th attempt. Name was coined by the chemist, Norm Larsen, while he was attempting to concoct a formula to prevent corrosion by displacing water. Norm's persistence paid off when he perfected the formula on his 40th try.

RSVP NOW FOR TEATRO ZINZANNI'S



The RSVP's are officially out! Please mark your calendars for this special event and reserve your seat

NOW!

Due to the popularity of the venue and it being during the busiest part of the season, we have

to give our final attendee count October 10th. After that date Teatro's will release our blocks unused seats to the public.

Please visit:

www.necacascade.org for RSVP's or contact the Chapter for more information.

This is one Christmas Party you wont want to miss! **RSVP TODAY!!!**



BRINKS L & I TRAVEL PAY POLICY

L & I just released the new policy regarding travel pay as a result of the 2007 Washington State Supreme Court decision in the Brinks lawsuit. The first 4 1/2 pages of the administrative policy are the policies regarding travel pay dur-

ing the commute.

Our contractor coalition has been working with L & I on this policy for the past 6 months. NECA recommends that contractors review the policy to begin formulating any changes you may feel are necessary to abide by the

new rules.

You can get a copy of this Administrative Policy from Department of Labor and Industries web site. A PDF copy will also be available on your Chapter site under Links & Resources.

BASIC ESTIMATING COURSE—NOV. 17TH—20TH



Robert L. Mooty
MEI Consultant
Estimating

What: Basic Estimating Course

Instructor: Bob Mooty

When: Nov. 17—20

Where: JATC

Office Mount Vernon, WA

NECA Member Cost:***

Online Register: \$550

Paper Register: \$565

Non-NECA Cost:

Online Register: \$750

Paper Register: \$750

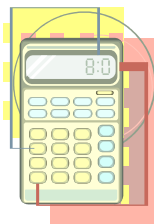
This course is for those with little of no experience in estimating, and those seasoned estimators looking to hone their skills. Materials include textbook, Man-

ual of Labor Units, reference books, sample drawing, and specification and work sheets for each student. **This course is a must for those who find themselves frustrated by the current bid market and continue to question their efforts in compiling a "competitive" bid.** The principles taught will help you eliminate careless mistakes, which can cost your company its very existence.

Topics covered during this 4 day course are labor factoring for job conditions, basics of material takeoff/expanded material takeoff, Manual of Labor Units introduction, labor

units applied to material takeoffs, bid documents, organizing an estimate for control, and much more.

Prerequisites include an understanding of electrical construction and the application of electrical material. This course is recommended prerequisite for the Advanced Estimating class.



Please contact the Chapter if interested in this course to

assure your spot until the official flyers from National NECA arrive.

YOUR NECA "TO-DO" LIST

SIGN UP FOR:

- **NECA Convention & Show, Chicago, IL—10/4-7/08**
- **RSVP for Teatro Zin-Zanni's—10/10/08**
- **General Membership Meeting—12/02/08**

Special

Member Discount

***** Upon completion of course Cascade Chapter Members will be reimbursed 50% of cost.*****

Look what other students have said...

"Teaching was great! Bob kept it interesting, kept people of all skill levels on the same page, busy & kept things moving."

Tim Hasley,
Turner Electric

"Bob's step-by-step approach was very helpful in simplifying the process I will refer to these studies through out the years!"

Jeff Beckler,
Absolute Electric

DISTRICT SIX SUMMER CONFERENCE RECAP



The District Six Summer Conference had quite the turnout, 158 total with 49 in attendance from our Chapter alone!

Business Session highlights:



Dr. Perry Daneshgari

Dr. Perry Daneshgari, adjunct Professor at the University of Michigan (M.S. Engi-

neering) and Executive MBA at Michigan State (Enterprise Information Systems). Dr. Perry reviewed his most recent ELECTRI International Foundation study "We Built This City", an investigation of factors impacting growth or decline of union and open shop market share in large cities. The research showed Signatory Contractors from twenty-five large city markets are experiencing market share losses

do to:

- Operational differences
- Labor Management
- Market shifts
- Portability
- Crew ratios

The research is in and the results of this study are jaw dropping. The market is changing, we can and must change with it. Though not published yet, "We Built This City" is brilliant, a must read for all electrical contractors.

Lake Coulson, NECA National's new Executive Director of Government Affairs introduced **Terry Hatch, Jr.** (son of



Terry Hatch, Jr., NECA National's Director of Legislative Affairs collecting ECPAC Contributions.

Oregon-Pacific-Cascade Chapter Manager Terry Hatch) as the new Di-

rector of Legislative Affairs. They spoke on the changes they brought to the PLC and the importance of ECPAC and its influence on our industry. Lake and Terry both



From Left: ELECTRI International's Russ Alessi & Diane VanBuskirk & District 6 VP Mel Buttrum.

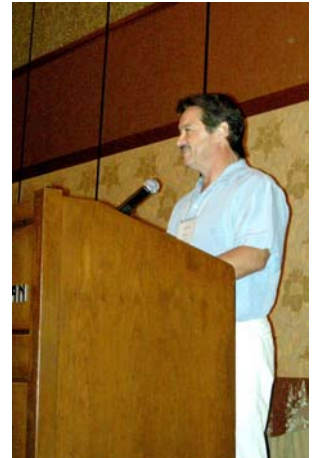
are incredibly proactive and seem to be the fresh faces that the NECA Government Affairs Department needed.

Our attending Chapter Members proceeded to contribute \$4,200 of their personal funds which ultimately led our Chapter to exceed our ECPAC goal of \$9,200. To read the Legislative Update hand out from this meeting please visit:

www.necacascade.org

under this event in the Announcements.

Russ Alessi, NECA President, ELECTRI Interna-



Western Region Field Representative, Bill Orgill addressing members at the Closing Reception.

**"Ever tried.
Ever failed.
No matter.
Try again.
Fail again.
Fail better."**

-Samuel Beckett



Cascade Chapter Manager Cindy Austin pictured with Member David Milne of Milne Electric, Inc.

DISTRICT SIX SUMMER RECAP (CONTINUED)

tional and **Diane Van-Buskirk**, new *Marketing Outreach & Chapter Relations Director* brought us up-to-date on the latest research and future projects for the Foundation for Electrical Construction. At the beginning of 2008 the Foundation launched a NECA student chapter college intern program called **Talent Initiative**. Bob Bruce, ELECTRI Council chairman says, "The Talent Initiative is one of our most important long-term programs that our Foundation could have ever selected. We need more student chapters. We need more NECA Chapters to work with faculty and students. We are raising a significant amount of

money that will help us generate scholarship awards and internship stipends. Our goal is simple. We want to have every construction management and engineering student know what NECA is, who our contractors are, what opportunities are available in our industry, and how to get there."

In addition to setting up student chapters, the Talent Initiative will provide funds to NECA Chapters to help enrich the scholarships they now currently offer to qualified students. ELECTRI International has designed a "how to" guide for NECA Chapter leaders to use when setting up a student chapter.

Currently, there are 15 NECA Chapters affiliated with student chapters. The Cascade Chapter is currently in the process of creating our own student chapter. We will keep you ad-

vised of our progress.

Jim Weber from *Weber*



Speaker Jim Weber from Weber & O'Brien CPA firm pictured with District 6 Vice President Mel Buttrum.

and O'Brien, CPA firm.

Jim's motto:

"Too many people spend money they haven't earned, to buy things they don't want, to impress people they don't like" - Will Rogers

The meeting topic was "Planning Opportunities". During this 2 hour program Jim lectured on developing a plan that is not merely tied to ones business, but also includes the business of ones personal financial plan. He discussed every area we should all be preparing for: retirement, insurance, suc-

cession, estate, education, real estate, financial & business planning. His facts & statistics were overwhelming. It is never too late too start saving and plan for our future.

Disability Insurance Facts

- Studies have shown that 1 in 3 employees will become disabled for 90+ days before age 65
- 1 in 7 employees will be disabled for 5+ yrs before retirement
- At age 32, a disability of 3+ months is 6 times more likely before age 65 than death
- Almost half of the disability claims made to the Social Security Administration are denied

To learn more about Jim Weber's money saving tips please visit:

www.weberobrien.com

Low Price!

NEC2008

Code Book

Call today & get your Discounted Member Price of

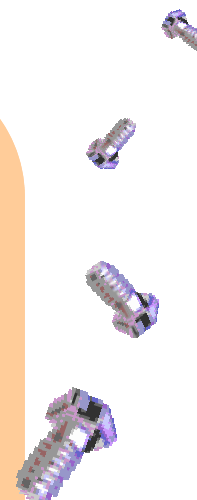
ONLY \$54.33

(tax included)!

Work-Smart Tip

Gone fishing... efficiently. It can be a problem trying to fish a wire down the inside of an insulated wall to attach conductors to a device or outlet no matter what tool you use. A simple and inexpensive 60-ounce Torpedo fishing weight tied to a jet line string could help do the trick. This type of weight has an eye molded into both ends, so once it drops to the cutout, you tie the wire to the end for the upward feed. The "torpedo" shape combined with the weight easily helps it drop past typical fiberglass insulation. If this doesn't work, just pull it partway back up and let it free-fall down to get through areas of packed insulation of bats. You can buy these weights at fishing tackle stores or online at www.torpedofishingweight.com.

Courtesy of Electrical Contractor magazine, www.ecmag.com.



Get your issue of
ElectroFactsPlus
today!

www.necacascade.org

OCTOBER 2008

KEY

-  OUT OF TOWN MTG / EVENT
-  MEETING
-  GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
-  HOLIDAY
-  DEADLINES

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 
5 	6 	7 	8	9	10 	11
12	13 	14	15	16 	17	18
19	20 	21 	22 	23	24 	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 	

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 4-7—National NECA Convention & Tradeshow, Chicago, IL
- 10—Deadline for Teatro ZinZanni RSVP
- 13—Columbus Day
- 16—National Boss Day
- 20—JATC Committee Mtg
- 21-22 Western Region Managers Meeting, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
- 24—United Nations Day
- 31—Happy Halloween











HAPPY HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER 2008

KEY

-  OUT OF TOWN MTG / EVENT
-  MEETING
-  GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
-  HOLIDAY
-  DEADLINES

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 	3	4 	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 	12	13	14	15
16	17 	18 	19 	20 	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 	28	29
30						

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 2—Daylight Savings Ends
- 4—Election Day
- 5-7—CEI Conference, Scottsdale, AZ
- 11—Veterans Day
- 12—Board of Directors Mtg
- 16-20—CIR, WA D.C.
- 17—JATC Committee Mtg
- 17-20 Basic Estimating Course, Mount Vernon, WA
- 27—Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER 2008

KEY

-  OUT OF TOWN MTG / EVENT
-  MEETING
-  GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
-  HOLIDAY
-  DEADLINES

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 	22 	23	24	25 	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 2—Annual Planning Session, Tulalip Resort Hotel
- 2—General Membership Mtg, Tulalip Resort Hotel
- 7—Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- 11—BSI Christmas Party
- 12—Teatro ZinZanni Chapter Christmas Party
- 15—JATC Committee Mtg
- 21—Winter Begins
- 22—Hanukkah
- 25—Christmas Holiday

Www.necacascade.org

CASCADE CHAPTER, NECA

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CASCADE CHAPTER

T H I N K N E C A .