

NEW JERSEY--SKYLAND DIVISION 1-40-1

Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties

International Association of Electrical Inspectors



10 November 2011

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Robert Rutan**

**1st V/President
Robert Moentenich**

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Greg Chontow
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**Treasurer
Andre Cartal**

**The Officers:
James Alsop
Pete Buchanan
Jeff Hockenbury
Casey Hoff
David Menendez
Joseph Rossi
Donald Storms
Michael Wright**

President Bob Rutan opened the meeting at 6:12pm with the flag salute and a moment of silence for our men and women over seas especially on this day before Veterans Day and also the 236 birthday of the USMC. Treasurer Andy Cartal reported that we have a robust balance in the checking account and all bills are paid up to date. There was a motion to accept the treasurers report, and was seconded. Next, Secretary Greg Chontow mentioned that the minutes were emailed to all those on the email list. A motion was made to accept the minutes which was seconded and accepted. The president Then revisited the topic of submerged electrical equipment. Greg started off the topic with Romex and pointed out that type NM cable is listed by UL as Dry Locations, its definition being not normally subject to dampness, but may be subjected to temporary dampness. Older type NM has less resistance to water ingress then the newer PVC jacketed NM-B. As long as the NM-B cable ends are not immersed. Bob then continued with a list of water damaged electrical equipment prepared by NEMA. As some equipment can be refurbished and some needs replacement, and the list was long, Bob said we would have it posted on our web site. Andy Cartal then spoke about the Eastern Section conference. The attendance at the conference was the lowest it has ever been, most likely due to cutbacks in employment and expenses. He urged all to plan to attend next years conference in Rhode Island. This years conference, though not well attended had some great seminars such as grounding, smart grid technology and Photovoltaic systems, all taught by industry leaders from NEC code panels and NFPA. Bob added that the conference was held at the New Yorker Hotel and with a group was given a tour of their basements 65 feet below the surface, looking at exposed bus bar switches and the locomotive engine producing DC power. Dave Menendez brought to everyone's attention that as of 7 November, the Rehab code recognizes the 2008 NEC. Unlike a new code, there is no grace period that you can choose a code, as it takes affect immediately. He then went on to help contractors understand the states requirements for journeyman electricians. An employer must have one licensed journeyman electrician per crew of ten or more employees. As we were finished with our general meeting, Bob introduced our guest speaker for the evening, Ashley Haynes, product manager for AFCI and GFCIs for Siemens Industry. Ashley started off her presentation with a short video of a

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newscast of a fire that took place in Indiana. There were interviews of the homeowner and firemen who pointed out that Indiana is the only state that does not require AFCI protection in the home. Ashley then explained the timeline for adoption of the AFCI in the NEC and its product development. She pointed out that nuisance tripping has become less of a problem as the technology of arc discrimination has become better. She also described how adjusting the time curve would cause nuisance tripping so they had to develop a breaker that would trip in the low energy zone – a 5 amp arc threshold for an arc trip was required. Ashley then presented Siemens new line of microinverters, produced by Enphase and backed by Siemens warrantee. She explained how standard inverters, wired in strings of panels are less efficient as shading of one panel on the string will reduce the output of all panels in that string. Using a microinverter, attached to each panel allows maximum output of individual panels. In addition, wiring of the microinverter based system is easier as there is no DC to contend with and with the Siemens system, a “trunk and drop” plug in cabling system is employed. Ashley concluded with a well deserved round of applause. President Bob Rutan noted that we have 43 in attendance, fifty percent of our membership. With that, he closed the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted
Greg Chontow