

# NEW JERSEY SKYLANDS CHAPTER

## International Association of Electrical Inspectors

### Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties



**14 January 2016**

**Officers:**

**President**

**Robert Rutan**

**1<sup>st</sup> V/President**

**Robert Moentenich**

**Secretary**

**Greg Chontow**

**29 Normandy Circle**

**Hopatcong, NJ 07843**

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**Treasurer**

**Donald Storms**

**Board of Directors:**

**James Alsop**

**Frank Baguiao**

**Stan Fagerty**

**Chris Frankowski**

**Roy Konwiser**

**Thomas La Monaco**

**William O'Connor**

**Chris Walthour**

President Bob Rutan opened the meeting at 6:04 pm with the flag salute and a moment of silence for our men and women overseas. President Rutan then requested a report from Treasurer Don Storms. Don stated that we have a strong balance. Bob then asked Secretary Greg Chontow for the Secretary's report. Greg mentioned that do to an error on his part, the minutes of November were not posted to the Chapter's website. It would be corrected in the very near future, and we could revisit the report at the March meeting. Bob reminded everyone that the 2014 NEC has been adopted and the grace period ends in March. Additionally, the 2015 National Plumbing code was adopted on 4 January 2016. Bob then opened up the floor to questions. A member asked what is the reason neutrals and grounds must be separated in a subpanel. The response was that there is to be only one point of connection between the neutral and ground. If additional points were made, there would be neutral currents flowing through the ground which is prohibited. A follow-up question from another member was whether a three wire, or a four wire was now required to a detached garage. The general consensus was that a system with a ground and an insulated neutral is required. Additionally, per the requirements of Article 225, a grounding electrode system and a main is required. Another question came as to the maximum number of smoke detectors permissible. The maximum number is listed on the instructions provided by the smoke detector manufacturer, but in no case shall it exceed 12 (per NFPA 72). With no more questions, Bob introduced Jack Lyons of NEMA. Jack opened his presentation by talking about the issue of "nuisance tripping" of AFCI breakers. AFCI manufacturers set up an AFCI Task Group to deal with the complaints of customers with AFCI issues. They created a website to learn about and report AFCI issues, and can be found at [www.AFCISafety.org](http://www.AFCISafety.org) Jack also demonstrated a tool manufactured by Siemens used to diagnose AFCI issues in a home, and offered to loan the system out to anyone who needed it. Jack then moved on to discuss energy storage, a very old technology with many new breakthroughs that are changing the way we address storage capacity. Some of the battery technologies he went over were Sodium Salt, Redox Flow, and Lithium Ion which is the most common presently. Article 480 has been in the code for many years and is still valid today, but with the expanded use of storage systems, will expand into a new proposed article 706, Energy Storage Systems. Some

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products are so new, they have not been listed yet, and may not have a standard for listing. In this case, the products must be evaluated with existing standards that most closely resemble the products being evaluated. Jack completed his presentation with a generous round of applause. With that, the President closed the meeting with 32 members present.

Respectfully Submitted

Greg Chontow, Secretary

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