Minutes of the 19 October 2023  Membership Meeting

of IAEI Western PA Chapter

Gaetano’s Restaurant

1617 Banksville Road

Pittsburgh PA 15216

Steve Palchowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with 49 members present. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and a moment of reverence to honor those serving in our military and all first responders, both past and present.

Palchowski read the minutes of the 21 September 2023 meeting. No changes or corrections were offered by the membership.

Palchowski introduced the presenters for the evening, Michael Cuscino of Fields Electrical Sales and Robert Shirley of Littlefuse, Inc., founded in 1927, is an American electronic manufacturing company headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. The company primarily produces circuit protection products, electronic switches and automotive sensors.

The presentation, Non-Electrical Safety, started at 7:10 pm. The presentation started with a review of historical records of electrical accidents. The records indicate a dramatic decrease in electrical injuries in the last decade due to the implementation of ground fault protection devices in the residential, commercial, and industrial electrical systems The presenter used oral and video material to review the following code areas:

* NEC 2017 Article 210.8 Ground-Fault Circuit-Interrupter Protection for Personnel
* NEC 2020 Article 210.8 Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter Protection for Personnel,
* NEC 2020 Article 422.5 (Appliances) Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupter Protection for Personnel
* NEC 2020 Article 410.184 (Special Provisions for Horticultural Lighting Equipment) GFCI Protection for Lighting UL 943C Class A, B, C &D (4-6ma through 600v wiring)

The presentation was over at 8:00 pm. The break for food was over at 8:15 pm.

Dave Platt started his presentation with an oral report on the recently attended Section Meeting.

The technical presentation started with oral and video material on an in-depth review of GFCI, Protection for Personnel starting with the NEC 2011 Article 210.8 where GFCI Protection was first required for bathrooms, garages, outdoors, and crawlspaces and other non-residential applications.

Additional time was spent on Article 100. Added requirement in NEC 2014 and NEC 2017, article 210.8 were discussed in detail. Considerable time was spent to highlight newer requirements for GFCI Protection in other than dwelling unit locations. Time was spent reviewing a diagram on current flow through a GFCI device when it is in normal use and when a fault condition occurs. Many times, manufacturers exceed regulatory requirements. Most GFCI false tripping events happen due to installation and/or use errors as opposed to manufacturing defects.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.