



MINUTES

Orange Empire Division
International Association of Electrical Inspectors

Date: 06Dec2011.

Location: Santa Ana Elks Lodge, 212 S. Elk Lane, Santa Ana, California.

Called to order by Randy Buck at 11:47 a.m.

Attendees introduced themselves.

Minutes of Nov, 2011 meeting were not available for approval.

Membership Comm. Rep.

Report given by Tom Griffith, 108 members; Mark Perkins is a new member.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer's Report was given by Randy Buck. A motion to approve was accepted unanimously.

Old Business

Tom Griffith reported that the CEUs for last month are here. Scott Davis added that he had brought some CEUs for the Motors class.

Scott Davis reported that he had not yet obtained the wireless headset.

New Business

Randy Buck suggested to the group that we purchase Quicken for doing the treasurer's reports. A motion to approve was made by Bill Brownell; the motion was approved unanimously.

Code Questions

Saum Nour with Absolute Consulting asked about relocated equipment at a silicon-chip factory; how do you get UL approval? Rich Berman of UL advised that he get a field evaluation for industrial machinery and that UL would likely apply NFPA 79. Randy advised that Saum contact the AHJ early to find out how to address their concerns. Discussion continued on the details of the issue.

Eric Carreon of the City of Ontario asked, for battery chargers in warehouses, what code concerns address hard-wired cords to battery chargers. Scott Davis suggested that one use CEC

sections 400.7 and 400.8 which contain rules for what you can or cannot do with cords. Discussion of different scenarios followed.

Randy Buck asked to take a poll regarding service-entrance conductors installed over a walkable patio roof for a service upgrade. Russ Helmick opined that some AHJs do not address it because the cables belong to the utility. Some attendees responded that they would not enforce this requirement. Randy added that the SCE folks do not like the cables to be at eight feet over such roofs because they do not want to need to use a ladder on top of the roof to install their cable. Scott Davis said that the overhead service riser was ahead of the service point per NEC definitions and that prior to the utility making a connection, it was the local building department/inspector jurisdiction. He felt that service (un-fused) conductors lower than the Code dictates over a walkable roof - was clearly a hazard.

Consultant Time

Saum Nour suggested that NFPA 99 for Healthcare is a standard now but in 2012 it becomes a code in some states. Some discussion followed about applying standards other than adopted codes.

Saum also suggested that medical-occupancy tenants submit a comprehensive description of their activities when obtaining their building permits, and Randy reinforced this advice.

Testing Lab Time

Rich Berman of UL mentioned that he had provided handouts including an article on NFPA 790 and 791. He added that reports are increasing of unauthorized use of the UL listing mark. He also mentioned that four public notices came out today on this subject: battery chargers; fire sprinklers; power strips; and ac/dc adapter. Rich additionally mentioned that a CPSC recall came out today for some i-phone batteries that had a UL mark on them. He encouraged the group to call UL when they have issues so that they can investigate them. He recommended that attendees use the free subscriptions that are available for UL's Ultimate E-mail which can be used for reporting problems and will allow one to receive relative information.

Contractor Time

None taken.

Manufacturer Time

None taken.

Utility Time

None taken.

Inspector Time

None taken.

Education Program: How To Use The NEC.

by Scott Davis.

Scott presented the following suggestions for using the NEC.

Buy the 7-ring version. Get a 7-hole punch. Put help sheets in your code book.
Use as a tool, stick to it; it gets easier the more you use it. Use your index finger to help you focus on each particular item.

Search the code by/with.

Keywords

Theme

Table of Contents.

Finger It

Keywords

Example: How high can a switch be?

Keyword: switch.

Themes: Basic, Normal, Special and Communications.

Basic: Art. 90 (Code Law); Chap 1 (Definitions & General Rules); Art 300 (General Rules).

Normal: Design (Ch2); Installed by Electrician (Ch 3); Ordinary Equipment (Ch4).

Special: Special Places (Ch5); Special Equip (Ch6); Misc. (Ch7)

Communications: Chapter 8. It stands alone; does not depend on the rest of the code unless it references a section.

Chapter 9 and the Appendices contain tables and examples.

"Switch" is found under Normal. Ordinary Equipment is Ch 4. Only read Table of Contents items where there is number. Scan the bold entries: **404.3 Accessibility and Grouping**, then **(A) Location**, which gives: 6'7" (2.0 m).

Use index when you already know what you are looking for.

Scott gave an example by going through a search for GFCI rules.

Make notes citing other sections or references at the section you're reading.

Saum Nour asked if the Appendices were part of the Code? Scott answered that they are not; that they are advisory. He added that conduit fill tables had been part of the Code, but no longer.

California Code Book Has very few changes which are easy to find.

Use Tom Henry's Key Word Index (Henry Publications) or Vernon Ray Johnson's index (best).

Make page tabs to suit your purposes.

Make reference notes to other sections in the margins of your Code book.

Scott shared many different techniques he uses and has used to organize his code book using tabs and self-made tables.

NEC Plus subscription service is very helpful. Contains the Handbook. Scott brought the site up for the group to see. Randy touted the search feature.

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Vaughan.