



THE WIRE

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December 2025

The Presidents' Letter

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and are getting ready for the Christmas Season. Mike Bauerla did a great job with his grounding and bonding presentation at our November meeting. Many questions were asked and there was a good discussion regarding the 2026 National Electrical Code. We had 35 members in attendance. Mark Yates won the 50/50 drawing.

As of our last meeting, we have 38 members who are current with their membership dues. If you have not renewed your membership yet, please help us out and renew as soon as possible. In order to have better accounting, only the names of paid members will be on the sign-in sheet for the December meeting. If you plan on attending this meeting and have not had a chance to renew your membership you can simply add your name to the sheet. If you have any suggestions or ideas on the future of the ECHL, please attend the next general membership meeting on December 8th and express your thoughts.

Dennis Steier will be doing the December 8th presentation. We will also begin discussion on the 2026 Code. Please plan on attending and if you know someone who might be interested in becoming a member bring them with you. They can attend the meeting at **no charge!**

The Advisory Committee for Housing, Building, and Construction meets again on Tuesday December 16th. A motion will be made to begin the adoption process for the 2026 National Electrical Code. I will talk about this motion at the December meeting.

We have added a help request form to the ECHL website. Several of our members have experienced problems getting answers to various issues. Questions regarding licensing, electrical inspections, utility concerns, or electrical code are just a few examples that we have heard about. Take a look at the site and see what you think.

The Department of Housing, Building, and Con-

December 8, 2025 Code Program

**Sign-in 6:30 P.M. - Program at 7:00 P.M.
ELKS LODGE # 8 - 2824 KLONDIKE LN -**

The program for December will be a presentation by Dennis Steier. Dennis is a long time board member of the ECHL and always delivers an excellent presentation. Hope you can make the meeting.

Bring a friend and enjoy the program.

Dennis will also go over the Code Questions from the December 2025 Wire.

See you Monday Evening, December 8, 2025, at 6:30pm.

Stay Alert! Work Smart & Stay Informed!

Mark your calendars - CEU Renewals!

Our General Membership meetings are held at the Elks Lodge located at 2824 Klondike Lane. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm with sign-ins beginning at 6:30 pm. You can obtain your CEU Hours toward your Master Electrician License, by attending 4 classes of 1.5 credit hours at each class. Membership also includes an option for a Saturday class in February to obtain the credit hours to renew your contractor's license.

December 8, 2025

January 12, 2026

February 9, 2026

February 14, 2026 - Contractors Class

Applications for membership can be obtained from our website: www.echlky.com

Please encourage your employees to join us at the General Membership meetings. It's a great place to network with the electrical industry.

The 6 hour Contractor's Class will be February 14, 2026 at 4315 Preston Hi-Way; Suite 102; Louisville, KY 40213; 2nd Floor Training Room.

Applications are on the echlky.com website.

December 2025 Code Questions

1. I am installing a Grounding Ring as my grounding electrode, how deep does this ring need to be buried?

A. 24"
B. 18"
C. 30"
D. 12"

2023 NEC Code Section? _____

2. What is the smallest size AWG allowed for individual conductors allowed in flexible cord or cable?

A. 16
B. 18
C. 27
D. 20

2023 NEC Code Section? _____

3. I have a portable motor that has a ½ horsepower rating am I allow to connect this with a plug and receptacle? What is the section of the NEC covers this?

Yes
No

2023 NEC Code Section? _____

4. You have an installation that requires you to use individual open conductors that will be carrying 480 volt and will be installed inside a building feeding equipment, what is the minimum clearance between conductors?

A. 6"
B. 12"
C. 2 ½"
D. 1"

2023 NEC Code Section? _____

5. What is the minimum ampere rating of a service disconnecting means for Two-Circuit installations?

A. 60
B. 30
C. 20
D. 100

2023 NEC Code Section? _____

6. You must install an 8 AWG grounding electrode conductor on your project; would this require you to provide protection from physical damage?

True
False

2023 NEC Code Section? _____

Article 590

Well, it is once again that time of year when you dig out the old Christmas decorations and it seems to me, I just took them down, time sure goes by fast! Christmas decorations shall be required to be installed per Article 590 Temporary Installations in the 2023 NEC. The scope of this article is **590.1 Scope**. The provisions of this article apply to temporary electric power and lighting installation.

Article 110 General Requirements for Electrical Installations. In Section 110.3(B) **Installation and Use**. Which requires you to install listed or labeled equipment in accordance with the listing labeling instructions. So, Section 590.5 **Listing of Decorative Lighting**. States that the holiday lighting and similar products shall be listed or labeled. So, look and make sure you are purchasing Listed and Labeled products, this includes extension cords as well.

Section 590.6 Ground-Fault Protection for Personnel. Ground -fault protection for personnel for all Temporary wiring installations shall be provided, holiday lights are considered temporary wiring and GFCI protection shall be required. These receptacles will be exposed to the elements and will be in wet location, and they shall comply with 406.9 (B)(1) which would require you to have a weatherproof hooded type of enclosure and shall be identified as extra duty.

Let us make sure that our holiday experiences are safe and memorable for you and your families this year. One more thing ... there is time constraints per 590.3(B) it is 90 days for holiday decorations, so if your neighbor still has their decorations up on Easter, call your electrical inspector!

Top Three Code Violations Louisville Metro Inspections December 2025

These violations are costing you time and money.

1. NEC Article # 517.13(A) Wiring Methods

All branch circuits serving patient care space shall be provided with an effective ground-fault current path by installation in a metal raceway system or a cable having a metallic armor or sheath assembly. The metal raceway system, metallic cable armor, or sheath assembly shall itself qualify as an equipment grounding conductor in accordance with 250.118.

2. NEC Article # 550.32(F) Mounting Height

Outdoor mobile home disconnecting means shall be installed so the bottom of the enclosure containing the disconnecting means is not less than 600 mm (2 ft.) above finished grade or working platform. The disconnecting means shall be installed so that the center of the grip of the operating handle, when in the highest position is not more than 2.0 m (6 ft. 7 in.) above the finished grade or working platform.

3. NEC Article # 550.32(A) Mobile Home Service Equipment

The mobile home service equipment shall be located adjacent to the mobile home and not mounted in or on the mobile home. The service equipment shall be located in sight from and not more than 9.0 m (30 ft.) from the exterior wall of the mobile home it serves. The service equipment shall be permitted to be located elsewhere on the premises, if disconnecting means suitable for use as service equipment is located within sight from and not more than 9.0 m (30 ft.) from the exterior wall of the mobile home it serves and is rated not less than required for service equipment in accordance with 550.32(C). Grounding at the disconnecting means shall be in accordance with 250.32.

You lose money when you are turned down on a project. It also costs you time, when you have to return to the job site to make the necessary changes to correct the violation, and that too, costs you money.

Presidents Letter - Cont'd

struction has transitioned to the new data base. Please do not be surprised if you have issues with your next license renewal. If you do experience any issues, please contact one of the Board members for assistance.

The Sponsorship Form is on the website. If you know of any company that may be interested in becoming a sponsor, please print off the form and give it out to any prospective sponsor. The cost for a company or organization to become a sponsor is \$100.

As mentioned, our next general membership meeting is scheduled for Monday December 8, 2025 at the Elks Lodge located at 2824 Klondike Lane. The meeting starts at 7:00 pm with sign-ins beginning at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you there.

As Always Stay Safe and Work Safe
Steve Willinghurst

LG&E NEWS **WARM UP TO SPACE HEATER SAFETY**

With winter's cold knocking on our doors, space heaters can be an easy way to add warmth to nearly any room in your home. But while they are convenient, space heaters can also prove dangerous if not used properly. Here are some safety tips to help ensure your family stays safe and warm this season. • Only use space heaters that have a tip-over safety switch. This makes sure the unit powers off if knocked over. • Always turn space heaters off before leaving home or going to bed. • Space heaters must always be placed a minimum of three feet from anything that could catch fire (furniture, linens, curtains, etc.).

Avoid placing space heaters anywhere they could be exposed to moisture.

While a space heater's cord and plug may feel warm, they should never get hot. If this happens, unplug it immediately.

Never use extension cords with space heaters.

They should always be plugged directly into outlets.

Also remember that while space heaters do provide quick warmth, they also use a lot of energy. To avoid driving up your monthly bill, try limiting your use of space heaters as much as possible.

Another Use for Duct Tape?



That black “blob” all over the mounting bracket of the luminaire is tape. The metal bracket is broken, and if it weren’t for the tape holding everything in place, the luminaire would be dangling upside-down by the circuit wires.

While the tape seems to be doing a pretty good job at the moment, I’m not sure that holding a luminaire up using tape meets the intent of Sec. 410.30(A), which requires luminaires and lampholders to be securely fastened. I’m also not sure how long tape will be able to withstand the extreme cold of New England’s winters or the heat of summer repeatedly. Repairing or replacing the broken mounting bracket would be the best option to ensure a long-lasting installation. One other problem I spotted here is the NM cable poking out of the building just above the luminaire. This cable is then laid across the roof. NM cable cannot be installed in this outdoor location. NM cable is neither sunlight-resistant, as required by Sec. 300.6(C)(1), nor is it permitted in damp or wet locations, as specified in Sec. 334.12(B)(4). Lastly, the apparent lack of any supporting and securing of the NM cable is a violation of Sec. 334.30.