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# Annual Report



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# Introduction

**Welcome to the North Central Electrical League's Annual Report for the year 2023!**

Building on the foundation of our motto, "NCEL gets you started, better, and connected," we are thrilled to share the highlights of the past year. As an organization dedicated to fostering growth and collaboration within the electrical industry, NCEL continues to provide numerous opportunities for learning, community engagement, and professional development.

The pinnacle of our achievements in 2023 was the resounding success of the Upper Midwest Electrical Expo, held on April 19th & 20th at the Minneapolis Convention Center's Hall B. The new location provided an ideal setting for industry leaders to connect, explore cutting-edge technologies, and gain insights into the latest trends. Beyond the Expo, our year was marked by a series of successes, including six NCEA workshops, multiple PluggedIN events, and the inaugural season of the NCEL Women's Group, which was created to empower and celebrate the contributions of women in the industry.

In addition to these milestones, we are proud to have hosted the NCEMC Charity Golf Classic, benefitting the Pinky Swear Foundation, the Sporting Clays Classic Shootout, benefitting Folds of Honor, and a memorable summer social on Lake Minnetonka for our members. Monthly NCEES and NCEMC meetings served as valuable platforms for ongoing collaboration and knowledge-sharing. As we reflect on this past year's accomplishments, we extend our gratitude to our members, sponsors, and partners for their unwavering support, making NCEL a vibrant and thriving community for electrical professionals.

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# Charitable Giving

Each year, North Central Electrical League makes it a priority to give back to our community. This year we had a goal of achieving 500 volunteer hours throughout our organization. Thanks to the efforts of our members and staff, we were able to surpass that goal and have volunteered a total of **565 hours!**

NCEL's 6th Annual Recharging the Community Week, which took place from June 12-16th this year, is a significant initiative for the organization to give back to the community. During this week, NCEL staff and members volunteered for 5 different charitable organizations. This included activities such as Urban Roots Park Restoration, where we planted trees and removed invasive plant species, as well as volunteering at Feed My Starving Children, where volunteers packed 26,784 meals. Additionally, we participated in A Brush With Kindness, where our volunteers primed, painted, and repaired a home for a local family in need, and at Bridging, where we loaded trucks full of donated household furniture and essentials to be sent to previously homeless individuals who are getting their first dwellings. This week of giving back showcases NCEL's commitment to making a positive impact on the community through volunteer work.

Other charitable efforts enacted throughout the year include individual volunteer efforts from our members, such as donating blood for the American Red Cross, volunteering on school boards and at churches, planting trees, picking up trash and bell ringing for the Salvation Army.

Perhaps our biggest charitable endeavor, NCEL as a whole awarded 30+ scholarships in 2023, totaling \$89,500 to children of our members.

We look forward to another year of giving in 2024!

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# L Leadership



## NCEL 2023-25 Officers:

**Chair:** Jeff Starkman, CPMR, CSP, President, Electrotech Inc.

**Vice Chair:** Kyle Brendefur, CPMR, CSP, Partner & Vice President- Operations, LESCO Inc.

**Treasurer:** Andy Giefer, P.E., Electrical Engineer, Hunt Electric Corporation

**Secretary:** Abby Andvik, Executive Director, North Central Electrical League Inc.

**Past Chair:** Tom Quinn, Partner, Grissinger-Johnson Sales

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## NCEL 2023-25 Directors:

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Kelly Bloch, XCEL Energy

Byron Ferguson, Manager, CED

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Dan Gunderson, VP - Transmission & Distribution, ALLETE-Minnesota Power

Sean Kosmides, C.E.O., OlympiaTech Electric

Chad Kurdi, P.E., Partner & Director - Electrical Engineering, BKV Group

Alex Piwoschuk, VP - Minneapolis District, Graybar Electric Co.

Derrick Schlangen, Director- Transmission Engineering and Technology, Great River Energy

Taylor Wiechert, Director of Business Development, J.H. Larson Electrical Co.

Michael Woodson, LEED-AP, BD+C, Associate Vice President, HGA



## 2023-2024 NCEMC Board of Directors

**President:** Chris Lee, CSP, MRL Company

**Vice President:** Pete Deeg, CPMR, CSP, LC, Rouzer Group

**Secretary:** Nate Boike, Burndy

**Treasurer:** Ashley Suess, Hubbell Wiring

**Past President:** Randy Kuzel, AJB Sales

**Director:** Tim McNaboe, EMS Partners

**Director:** Wyatt Shallbetter, States Electric Manufacturing

**Director:** Alanna Harper, AJB Sales

**Director:** Kurt Green, Electrotech

**Director:** Dave Boehde, Data Center Systems

**Director:** Gabby Healy, Hubbell Wiring

## 2023-2024 NCEES Board of Advisors

**President:** Evan Jones, HM Cragg

**Vice President:** James Sommer, KFI Engineering

**Secretary:** Tara Van Thomme, North Central Electrical League

**Treasurer:** Scott Ridgley, PE, Ziegler Power Systems

**Past President:** Michael Bilben, PE, Victus Engineering

• **Director:** Joe Wetternach PE LEED AP, BD+C, KFI Engineering

• **Director:** Amin Rahimi, Egan Company



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# NCEMC

North Central Electrical Manufacturers Club membership is available to any individual sales agent or direct sales representative of a manufacturer of electrical or electrical-related products- provided their company is a corporate member of the NCEL Manufacturers division. NCEMC boasts 163 members.



## Outings and Opportunities



On August 7th, the 2023 Charity Golf Classic was held at Southview Country Club. 144 golfers played 18 holes with proceeds benefiting the Pinky Swear Foundation, a charity that assists families who have a child diagnosed with cancer.

The annual NCEMC Holiday Party took place on December 8th at Minneapolis Golf Club. This year we collected donations for VEAP and Lakes Life Center, as well as donated monetarily to Crescent Cove and Bridging. At the Holiday Party, we gave out over \$7,500 worth of gifts in a raffle to our members.

## Monthly Meetings

Throughout 2023, NCEMC held 5 meetings in which companies and speakers such as CED, Xcel Energy, and the Center for Energy & Environment spoke on topics such as rebates and grants, and natural disaster response and gave us inside looks at several companies as well.

## Scholarships

NCEMC was able to award 11 scholarships to children of members who are pursuing further education. We gave out a total of \$16,500 in scholarships at our May meeting.

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# NCEES

NCEES operates as an educational organization dedicated to advancement in the electrical engineering field and the development of new electrical systems and designs. With 104 individual members, NCEES strives to connect electrical engineers to an abundance of educational opportunities.

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## Charitable Contributions

Since 2020, NCEES has been contributing \$200 to speaker-selected charities during virtual meetings. In 2023, donations were made to charitable causes such as the Ronald McDonald House of Hope and Children's Miracle Network.

## Monthly Meetings

From September through May, NCEES holds monthly meetings on a variety of board-selected topics relating to electrical engineering. In 2023, topics covered included Applications for UPS and their Technology, Fire Alarm Design, Electrical Receptacles in Patient Care Areas, Ethics, and Power Quality and Harmonics.

## Scholarships

NCEES was able to award 2 scholarships to children of members who are pursuing further education. NCEES gave out a total of \$3,000 in scholarships at our May meeting.



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# Events & Outings



## PLUGGED IN

In 2022, NCEL's PluggedIN Group was able to get together 5 times. We went bowling, watched a Minnesota United Soccer game, attended the Hamel Rodeo and went Axe Throwing.



## WOMEN'S GROUP

2023 was the inaugural year for the NCEL Women's Group. This group was created to give women the opportunity to network with and learn from other women in the electrical industry and to learn new skills that will help open doors in their careers. The Women's Group met quarterly at events such as golf lessons, wine tasting and a golf scramble.



## SPORTING CLAYS CLASSIC

On September 20th, NCEL hosted our annual Sporting Clays Classic Charity Shootout at the Horse and Hunt Club in Prior Lake. 200 members got together to shoot 100 clays each in hopes of being crowned "Conqueror of the Clays". This event raised over \$8,000 in proceeds for Folds of Honor, a charity providing scholarships to the families of wounded and deceased military veterans.



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# The Upper Midwest Electrical Expo

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The 39th Biannual Upper Midwest Electrical Expo took place April 19th and 20th, 2023 at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

This year's Expo had over 300 booths.

A record breaking 4,421 pre-registrations were received for this year's Expo, with a total of 7,199 attendees over 2 days.

On Student Day, 857 students from school across the Midwest attended to learn about the various companies in the industry and to attend the first ever job fair at the Expo, in which 17 companies participated.

Former NFL player Greg Coleman spoke at the Expo Breakfast on April 20th on the topic of Flipping the Field- Making a Difference in Your Organization.

NCEL in partnership with the Electrical Association held 3 days of training for those seeking Continuing Education Credit.



# NCEL 2023 MEMBER COMPANY LISTING

## Allied Trade Division

Center for Energy & Environment  
MN-DLI -Const. Codes &  
Licensing  
Dunwoody College of  
Technology  
Electrical Association  
NECA- Dakotas Chapter  
NECA- Minneapolis Chapter  
NECA- St. Paul Chapter  
North Dakota St. College of  
Science

## Contractor Division

Bloomington Electric Co.  
Central Minnesota Electric Inc.  
Collins  
Design Electric, Inc.  
Egan Company  
Electrical Production Services  
Erickson Electric Company, Inc.  
Gephart Electric  
Hanson Electric of Bemidji, Inc.  
Hunt Electric Corporation  
Medina Electric LLC  
Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative  
Muska Electric Co.  
Norske Electric Inc.  
OlympiaTech Electric  
PB Electric LLC  
PEC Solutions LLC  
Premier Electrical Corporation  
Qualus Services LLC  
Stinson Electric, Inc.  
U.S. Charging LLC

## Distributor Division

Anixter, Inc.  
Arrow Electrical Supply Co. of  
MN  
ATEK Distribution LLC  
Border States Electric  
CED  
Crescent Electric Supply Co.  
Crum Electric Supply Co.  
DSG  
EESCO/ United Electric Supply  
Gexpro  
Graybar Electric Company  
J.H. Larson Electrical Co.  
ROAM Furniture and Lighting  
Van Meter Inc.  
Viking Electric Supply  
WESCO Distribution Inc.  
Winsupply/ Winlectric

## Engineer Division

AKF Group  
Ayles Associates  
Barr Engineering Company

BKV Group  
Burns & McDonnell  
CMTA  
Dunham Associates, Inc.  
Emanuelson-Podas, Inc.  
Ericksen Ellison & Associates  
EVS, Inc.  
Hallberg Engineering, Inc.  
Dunham Associates, Inc.  
Emanuelson-Podas, Inc.  
Ericksen Ellison & Associates  
EVS, Inc.  
Gausman & Moore  
Hallberg Engineering, Inc.  
HGA  
IMEG Company  
KFI Engineering  
Leo A Daly  
LHB  
Michaud, Cooley, Erickson &  
Assoc.  
Nelson-Rudie & Associates  
Paulson & Clark Engineers, Inc.  
Salas O'Brien  
SEH- Short-Elliot-Henderson, Inc.  
TKDA Engineers & Architects  
Unified Theory  
Victus Engineering  
Wold Architects and Engineers

## Inspector & Individual Division

Backer, James  
Fick, Steve  
Hersey, D. Lane  
Oelke, Nicholas  
Rebman, Larry  
Ringdahl, Mark  
Vicento, Ronald M.

## Manufacturer Division

3M Electrical Products  
ABB- Electrical/Industrial  
Solutions  
AFL Fiber Optics  
AJB Sales  
American Power + Comm. Group  
A.M.P. Manufacturing & Supply  
Applied - Thermal Products  
Group  
ASCO Power Tech  
Berstrom-Verbarb Co.  
Burndy LLC  
Bussmann by Eaton  
Cerrowire  
Cimperman Sales Inc.  
CitiRep  
Copperweld  
Core4 Technologies  
Critical Facilities Technology

Cummins  
Data Center Systems, Inc.  
Davis & Associates Inc.  
Doeren Sales & Associates  
DWM Holdings  
Eaton Electrical  
ECS- Electric Component Sales  
Electrical Solutions & Design  
Electro-Mechanical Industries  
Electrotech Inc.  
EMS Partners, Inc.  
Energy Product Sales  
Energyefficient Products, LLC  
EnerSys Battery- RCOM  
Engineered Products Co.  
FRESCO Inc.  
Gaynor & Associates Inc.  
Grissinger-Johnson Sales  
HM Cragg Company  
Holophane & American Electric  
Ltg.  
Hubbell Wiring Devices  
IDEAL Industries Inc.  
Infinity Group Ltd.  
Intelligent Lighting Controls  
Interstate PowerSystems, Inc.  
James Power Technologies  
JTH Lighting Alliance  
LESCO Inc.  
Lighting Plastics of Minnesota  
Louvers International  
Luma Sales Associates  
Maddox Industrial Transformers  
Milwaukee Electric Tool  
Mlazgar Associates, Inc.  
MRL Company  
Mulcahy  
Neotech Solutions Inc.  
North Central Sales East  
NSI Industries LLC  
nVent-Hoffman  
Okonite Company  
PCCS Inc.  
PCS- Protection & Control  
Solutions  
Pioneer Sales Group  
Preferred Sales Agency LTD  
Primus Marketing Group  
Pro-Tech Power Sales  
Pulse Products  
RAB Lighting  
ReliaPower  
Rouzer Group  
Schneider Electric  
Shepard Sales  
Siemens Industry, Inc.  
Signify  
States Manufacturing  
Stelpro  
Sylvania Ledvance LLC

Upper Midwest Utility  
Sales  
Volco Company  
Wiha Tools  
Ziegler Power Systems

## Utility Division

Agralite Cooperative  
ALLETE- Minnesota Power  
Arrowhead Electric Coop  
BENCO Electric Coop  
Brown Cty Rural Electrical  
Assn.  
Connexus Energy  
Cooperative Light & Power  
Crow Wing Power  
Dakota Electric  
Association  
East Central Energy  
Federated Rural Electric  
Goodhue Cty Cooperative  
Electric  
Great River Energy  
Itasca-Mantrap  
Cooperative  
Services  
Kandiyohi Power Coop  
Lake Country Power  
Lake Region Electric  
Coop.  
McLeod Cooperative  
Power  
Meeker Coop. Light &  
Power  
Assn.  
Mille Lacs Energy Coop  
Minnesota Valley Electric  
Coop.  
Nobles Cooperative  
Electric  
North Itasca Electric  
Coop.  
Otter Tail Power Company  
Redwood Electric Coop  
Runestone Electric Assn  
South Central Electric Assn  
Stearns Electric Assn  
Steele-Waseca Coop  
Electric  
Todd-Wadena Electric  
Coop  
Wright-Hennepin Coop  
Electric Assn.  
Xcel Energy Inc.

