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The Electrical Board of Missouri and Illinois

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Use the same form to communicate that you would like to join us.

Questions: events@electricalboard.org or call 636.305.6434





A Message from the Incoming Chairperson

Bob Mirbaha | EBMI Chairperson | Metro Electric Supply

As we begin a new chapter at the Electrical Board of Missouri and Illinois, I want to first extend my sincere appreciation to **Craig Schild** for his exceptional leadership over the past year. Guiding an organization through change and growth takes dedication, focus, and resilience—Craig, your efforts have truly made a difference. Thank you!

Stepping into the role of Chairperson, I'm filled with excitement and optimism. We're entering a dynamic period of transformation and opportunity, and I'm honored to help lead the way. This is a pivotal time to get involved. Whether through **education, networking, or volunteering**, there are countless ways to grow your presence in our industry. I encourage each of you to step outside your routine: attend a seminar, take a class, bring a colleague or customer to an event, or volunteer your time. Our collective participation is what keeps EBMI not just viable—but vibrant.

Looking Ahead: 2026 Electrical Expo & More

At the top of our agenda is planning for the **2026 Electrical Expo**, scheduled for **August 26 & 27, 2026**. Although my term will conclude before the event, I'm committed to laying a strong foundation for what I hope will be our most successful Expo yet. I look forward to passing the baton to **Joe Young (Archkey - Sachs Electric)** with confidence and momentum.

We're also rolling out several exciting updates:

- A **fresh Holiday Mixer format**
- **Additional staff** to support our growing initiatives
- **Updated processes and procedures**
- **Upgraded technology resources**
- **Revised fee structures**
- An **enhanced web presence**

These aren't just updates—they're opportunities to strengthen our foundation and expand our reach.

Staying True to Our Mission

While we embrace change, we remain grounded in our mission:

To provide programs and services that educate, communicate, and connect our members of the community and our evolving industry.

Honoring Our Leaders and Legacy

I'm excited to work alongside outstanding leaders like:

- **Phil Wentz**, Treasurer and Chair of Education
- **Joe Young**, 1st Vice Chairperson
- **Kris Steiger**, 2nd Chairperson

Kris brings a unique perspective as the **first EBMI Scholarship Foundation recipient** to serve on the executive board—a milestone that reflects the long-term impact of our scholarship program. My own family has also benefited from the Foundation, and I encourage all members to explore how it can support the next generation of industry professionals.

Having been part of EBMI for over two decades—from the Mixer setup committee in 2005 to serving as 1st Vice Chair in 2024–25—each role has deepened my appreciation for our mission and the strength of our community.

Let's make this year one of **progress, participation, and pride** in all we accomplish together.

Regards,
Bob Mirbaha | EBMI Chairperson
The Electrical Board of Missouri and Illinois
Metro Electric Supply



**Welcome to the team,
Isaac!**

**Program and
Office Administrator**

isaac.galliher@electricalboard.org

Please join us in welcoming [Isaac Galliher](#) as our new Program and Office Administrator!

We are confident that Isaac's skill set and experience will enhance the already outstanding service our members have come to expect. In this pivotal role, Isaac will support the operational needs of [Electrical Board of Missouri and Illinois](#), manage data and financial processing, and assist with event coordination- all contributing to our mission of educating and preserving business opportunities in the electrical industry.

Looking forward to great things ahead!



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Save the Date- Calendar of Events

July 16th	AI Program Keynote Speaker: Ashley Pyle Westport Event Center
Aug 22nd	Ameren Missouri Clean Energy Symposium
Sept 9	Fall Classes Begin
Sep 9	Understanding Motor Control begins- 8 sessions
Sept 9th	Understanding NEC -begins 20 sessions
Sept 17th	Ameren Illinois Power Topics Program- Springfield
Sept 24th	Ameren Illinois Power Topics Program- Mt. Vernon
Sept 29th	GolfFest— Crescent Farms Golf Club
Oct 1st	Grounding course begins 5 sessions
Oct 11th	Veterans BBQ VA Medical Center
Oct 17th	Harsh and Hazardous Area locations
Oct TBD	Emerging Member Event- Mixer event at Frankie Martins Garden in Cottleville
Oct 23rd	Networking and Relationship Building –Professional Development
Oct TBD	Emerging Member Event- Coffee & Connections Coffee Truck at EBMI office
Nov 7th	Ameren Missouri Electric Power Topics Program
Nov 12th	Lighting Controls for Non-Residential Buildings
Nov 18th	Arc Flash & Electrical Safety Seminar
Dec 4th	Holiday Mixer- Sponsorship drive has been launched

2026

SAVE THE DATE | Electrical Expo
August 26th & 27th
St. Charles Convention Center

Call EBMI at 636.305.6434 or email
events@electricalboard.org click [here](#) for more
information on any of our events.

Board Member Spotlights– NEW Board Members installed at June Board Meeting

WELCOME -We thank all board members (past, present and future) for their dedication.



Brian Cuffle |Supervisor Distribution Design| Ameren Illinois
33 years of industry experience

Ameren has been a corporate member of EBMI since 1924. Brian has been an active participant in EBMI for over 15 years, beginning as a speaker at the inaugural Illinois program. Also served as a featured speaker at the 2010 and 2012 Ameren Missouri Clean Energy Seminars.

I first participated as a speaker at several of the EBMI events in St Louis and then after talking to Bill and Annie Regan about bringing programs like I participated in -to Illinois. We put together a committee and started having the same type of events in Illinois.

I have been (Co-Chair of the Illinois task force) on the committee from the beginning and have been the Co-Chair of the EBMI Illinois events for several years along with Don Harrod.

Brian stated that EBMI has put him in contact with the industry. The instructional and networking opportunities has been essential in the everyday work. In his opinion, Ameren Illinois has benefited by the employees that continue to receive educational opportunities to further their careers and just get better at what they do every day.

We asked him to share a humorous story involving EBMI. His response- All I have to say is "ink pens". *"One of the first times being a speaker at a St Louis event, I used one of the ink pens that was put out on the table, immediately the ink pen broke, so I asked for another one, and it broke too. I asked Bill how much he paid for those pens, and that he should get some better ones. It was funny and has been a long standing joke for several years."*

Did you know?- Brian played 4 years of College Baseball and is a IHSA basketball and football official. He has officiated 3 Boys Basketball High School State Finals and 2 High School Football State Finals,



Kevin Bridick |Co-Owner & COO | Compass Electrical Solutions
27 years of industry experience.

3years actively involved in EBMI | Co-Chair of Emerging EBMI Members

"I originally learned about the EMBI 15+ years ago when I signed up for a 8hr- code update class. Shortly after I became a member with my previous employer where I would periodically take classes to further my education and knowledge of the electrical industry. Attending the Christmas Mixer and other EBMI network events in the past were always fun and educational".

Being a newer company in the industry the EBMI has helped by assisting in getting the word out about who we are. In addition they have helped educate many of our employees with the classes they offer. The EBMI network has helped us as a whole by being able to ask for positive references & referrals of other members and how they can help our business, or how we can help theirs."- Kevin Bridick

We asked Kevin what value he believes EBMI has added to his professional growth. He stated, *"EBMI has helped me in my personal and professional growth by offering educational classes of the NEC & other technical aspects of the electrical industry, but also leadership, communication and business. The network of people you meet within the industry through the EBMI are so supportive and willing to help which makes this organization invaluable."*

Did you know?- Kevin plays the drums and has a great love and passion for all music

Melissa Meywes | Technical Sales
Eaton—Cooper Power Series Products
Past Chairperson of Women's Electrical Board
EBMI Instructor
17 years of industry experience
Eaton Corporation has been a member of EBMI since 1938



We are thrilled to welcome Melissa to the EBMI Board of Directors! Melissa has been a dedicated and engaged member of our community for years. Most recently, she served as Chairperson of the Women's Electrical Board, where she played a key role in fostering connection and professional development opportunities across the industry. She has also contributed her time and ideas to the Emerging EBMI Members Committee, helping to support and grow the next generation of industry professionals.

In addition to her leadership involvement, Melissa has supported our education initiatives through education—serving as an instructor and education advisory board. We are grateful for Melissa's continued commitment to EBMI and the electrical industry.

Rich Sanders | Sales Representative | Lester Sales
Chairperson of Emerging EBMI Members
Previous Co-Chair and Chair of EBMI Holiday Mixer

20 years of industry experience.
10 years actively involved in EBMI—
Lester Sales has been a corporate member for 4 years.

We asked Rich how he first got connected with EBMI.

"The first event I attended was the EBMI Christmas Mixer. I didn't realize it at the time but at the event I met so many contacts and future partnerships. I was hooked, and the EBMI became an important part of my career. Years later I was honored to co-chair the Christmas Mixer, and now I currently Chair the Emerging Members Committee."



What value do you receive from being a member of EBMI? "Being part of the EBMI is both an honor and a responsibility I value greatly. The board plays a vital role in shaping the future of our profession—upholding codes, guiding best practices, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. I am eager to contribute to this mission by sharing my insights, learning from fellow members, and helping to maintain the high standards that protect both professionals and the public. The EBMI is both a privilege and a strategic advantage—not only for me personally but also for my company. Our involvement with the board allows us to stay at the forefront of business developments, emerging technologies, and connections throughout this great industry. This connection ensures that our team remains informed, adaptable, and aligned with the industry that has given us so much."

Rich wanted to share that joining the EBMI is a can't lose opportunity, you have everything to gain and nothing to lose. Just like most things in life, the more you put in, the more you get out.

"I feel people often underestimate the importance of partnerships and business relationships. The EBMI provides the space to form these lasting relationships, the space to gain valuable knowledge from peers, and the space to endlessly educate yourself in this ever-changing industry."

Did you know?—There really aren't many sports or activities that Rich doesn't enjoy. He enjoys golf, fishing, backpacking, you name it, he will play it. But most people probably don't know how much he loves music. Seeing new bands and going to different venues is always a top priority of his.

Bryan Shannon | Business Development Manager | BHMGE Engineers, Inc.
17 years of industry experience | active member of EBMI for 4 years

BHMGE has been a corporate member of EBMI for over 10 years.

"Being part of EBMI has helped me push myself on the professional side to do more than I would normally do to not only make new connections but also try new ways of doing things to make the industry a better place. One of our big initiatives right now at BHMGE is boosting our brand awareness within the industry. Being a part of EBMI has definitely improved our brand and we have made several new connections within the electrical industry that we would not have if we were not a member company".—Bryan

Did you know— that Bryan is an avid bowler and has around a 195 average.





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Friday, 22nd August 2025



8.00 am - NOON



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For UpToDate listings, visit:

www.electricalboard.org/career-center/job-listings/

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Contact EBMI office to add your listings today! This months features:

Eckelkamp Electric Co.

Eckelkamp Electric Company, an Electrical Contractor located in Washington, MO is looking for an Electrical Estimator/Project Manager to join their company. They are looking for Applicants with the following qualifications:

Have good knowledge of blueprint reading, take off, materials needed, and methods of installation.

Knowledge of the NEC and local codes.

Be able to do basic circuitry for power and lighting, and lay out drawings

Understand and accurately interpret construction documents

Prepare and coordinate full cost estimates for design-build and plan-spec bids

Strong verbal, written, and computer BHS estimating software is in use currently.

Be able to work with existing customers

Have a strong Commercial/Industrial background

Contact Doug Eckelkamp (President) for more information / submit a resume.

doug@eckelkampelectric.com

Pyramid Electrical Contractors is seeking a **purchasing /warehouse manager.** for the St. Louis / Metro East area.

If interested, please send your resume to

Mike Kemper | Executive Vice President at mkemper@pyramidelectrical.com.

Office: 618-632-1180 ext. 203



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