



Term: Fall | Issue: 22 | Date: September 2020

What's Happening

Here is an update of what is happening in our Program

We successfully beat our earlier goal of 80 new apprentices entering into the program by 19 students. We have 99 apprentices starting their 1st Year classes in September. This is the same amount as we had last year. We had lowered our goal due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

What we have learned is that most of our applicants hear about our program mostly through 'word of mouth' which accounts for roughly 80% of our applicants. The second most effective recruiting tool is just a simple 'Google Search'. About 20% of the people tell us they just did an Internet search looking for Electrical Apprenticeship programs.

I do believe that many applicants that we have been getting are looking for career opportunities after losing their jobs because of business closures due to the pandemic.

Trying to Keep Everyone Safe



Here at the Training Center we have thermometers available to check the students temperatures.



It is a requirement for students to wear face masks during class. We have extras if someone forgets to bring one of their own.



We have installed a dozen hand sanitization stations throughout the classrooms and the common areas within the building.



We require the Instructors to wipe down the desks and chairs before and after class using bleach water. Common areas are also included.



We have set up an extra classroom in the lab area that is separated to meet the Social Distancing requirements.

2020 NEC

Just to update everyone:

The City of Austin has adopted their new 2020 COA Electrical Code as of September 1st. This includes the 2020 National Electrical Code.

Visit this website:

<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/electricians/elec.htm>

Scroll down to and read the article posted on March 10th.

“The effective date will be November 1, 2020 (delayed from the proposed date of September 1, 2020 due to Covid-19).

Also, November 1, 2020, all examinations for state electrical licenses will be based on the 2020 National Electrical Code.

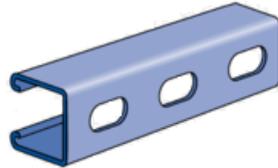
Quote

“With the realization of one’s own potential and self-confidence in one’s ability, one can build a better world.”

Dalai Lama

What are those things called?

While I was an Apprentice and as a Journeyman I learned Electricians across the country use different trade or slang names for common materials. Below are a few examples of materials that are often called by different names:



What do you call this? Unistrut , Super Strut , B-Line Strut or Kindorf? In New York Kindorf is 3/4”, 1-1/2” and 3”. We use 7/8”, 1-5/8” and 3-1/4”.



This is a ‘Madison Clip’, but often called a ‘sailboat’, ‘ battleship’ or an ‘F’ clip.



Isn’t this called ‘Payne Hanger’? Or maybe a ‘Minerallac strap’? Or who calls it a ‘Cowboy’? Or ‘Stand-Off Strap’?



Most people call this a ‘CGB’. But we know it is an abbreviation for ‘Cable Gripping Bushing’.



3 - Piece Coupling, Union, Erickson, Swede....



Reducing Washers or Chinese Money or called by a more derogatory term... “Chinks”



Caddy Clips, K-12’s, K-16’s, K-20’s
Bat Wings.



We commonly call these RE’s. But we actually know they are called Reducing Entry Bushings.

The passing of Jim Stricklan-Former Training Director

Jerry James “Jim” Stricklan who was born on August 8, 1958, in Houston, Texas, passed away on August 11, 2020, surrounded by loving family in Springfield, Missouri.

Jim, a native of Texas, grew up in Jasper, Texas, being raised by his grandmother. Over the course of his lifetime, Jim was in the construction industry, the military, and public education. He received his combat infantry badge as a result of his service during Operation Just Cause in 1989 in Panama. His education career included teaching at a junior college, teaching construction technology at the high school level, being a principal and assistant principal, and being a special education teacher at an elementary school. Jim’s love for students and teachers was evident to those who knew him. Jim enjoyed his work and took every opportunity to mix in some humor and fun.

Jim was a man of many interests and was always learning something new. He was someone who never met a stranger and could strike up a conversation with anyone. Jim was adventurous as evidenced by the many activities that he participated in and taught others over the course of his lifetime: hunting, fishing, skydiving, scuba diving, tomahawk throwing, woodworking, horseback riding, bull riding, shooting, flying small airplanes, motorcycle riding, and cycling. He volunteered in several organizations serving youth such as little league, youth rodeo, Boy Scouts, Kids Outdoor Zone, and Sunday school teacher. Jim was also an active member of the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association.

In 1986, Jim met his wife, Ramona, at Lamar University, in Beaumont, Texas, and married her in 1988. He graduated from Lamar University in December of 1986 as a commissioned officer through their ROTC program. He received his master’s degree from Stephen F. Austin.

Jim loved his family very much and led them on many adventures. He enjoyed special times such as coaching his children’s baseball and softball teams, teaching his children to ride horses and participate in rodeos, spending time at the deer lease with his family, going on daddy-daughter dates, taking his wife fishing, and taking his family to church. Above all, Jim was a Christian man and shared the message of salvation with many. He had a heart for God and others.

Jim is survived by his wife Ramona of 32 years, his daughter Heather Stricklan-Cross of Austin, Texas; his daughter Andrea Stricklan of Dripping Springs, Texas; his son Austin Stricklan of Houston, Texas; his son Maston Stricklan of Dripping Springs, Texas; his brother Dan Smith of Jasper, Texas; his brother-in-law and sister-in-law Ment and Angela Morris of Austin, Texas; his nephew Ment Morris and wife Megan of Austin, Texas; his nephew Cade Morris of Austin, Texas; and his two very special boys Hunter and Chase Orlando of Beaumont, Texas.

