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THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11

NEWS @ 11



With IBEW 11 and Union Help, Anti-Worker Recall is Defeated

Local 11 and its union allies throughout the state stepped up in a big way to help Governor Gavin Newsom beat back a destructive and wasteful recall effort that many critics called a shameless power grab and an attack on democracy itself.

Between anti-recall rallies, get-out-the-vote efforts, campaign contributions and hundreds of volunteer hours on the ground and on the phones, Local 11 members and staff participated in the campaign with focus and enthusiasm. Ultimately, the union took great pride in the results: Newsom won by a resounding 64% to 36% margin around the state and an even higher



Local 11 Business Manager Joël Barton.

margin in Los Angeles County, where 70% of the voters checked “no” on the ballot.

“This was an attack on workers and on unions,” said Business Manager Joël Barton. “If we had

lost, it would have reverberated throughout the country.”

Let’s not forget that throughout his tenure in office, Newsom has worked hand-in-hand with the IBEW
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BUILDING HOPE

Electricians with Local 11 help complete a landing spot for families of patients at City of Hope

By Oren Peleg

Families whose loved ones are receiving lifesaving treatment at the City of Hope Cancer Center get to stay at a special hotel that will have IBEW Local 11’s personal union touch.

In the summer of 2020, City of

Hope broke ground on Hope Village, a five-story, 152-unit hotel that will enable three times as many patients and families to stay on the hospital’s campus during treatment as previous facilities allowed. Hope Village is being funded mostly through donations to the medical center, and City of Hope chose Anderson &

(Continued on page 5)



(L-R) Foremen and Local 11 members Darin Warren and Juan Uribe of Anderson & Howard at the site of Hope Village.



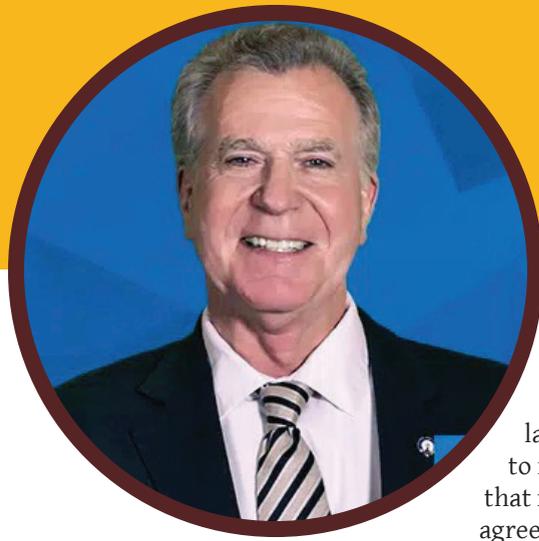
Meet Your E-Board



Labor Day 2021



Safety: Beat the Heat



BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By Joël Barton

Getting Back to Work



Let me begin by thanking our incredible IBEW 11 volunteers who worked so diligently to defeat the recent anti-worker recall election. Our membership stepped up big time for Gov. Newsom in this misguided recall attempt that would have turned the clock back on so much of the progress our union has made in the past few years — from a healthy work picture to making tough decisions to keeping us safe during the pandemic to designating us as essential workers during the COVID-19 shutdowns so we could continue to support our families.

I am so proud of the effort so many of you put into the campaign. Hundreds of you joined our labor brothers and sisters in IBEW and the LA County Federation of Labor in making tens of thousands of phone calls around the state, knocking on doors to talk to our members about the issues at stake, and donating much-needed funds to get our message out. Gov. Newsom is a friend of

labor, and we will continue to reap many rewards from that relationship. While we won't agree on every decision he makes, the governor and his staff have assured us that he is a phone call away when we need him. That is a priceless relationship for IBEW 11 as we grow our influence and our footprint in the state.

MORE PROJECTS COMING OUR WAY

With the election out of the way, we can get back to the important work of the union: securing more PLAs and more work for you and making sure you are safe on the job. The work picture is improving as COVID numbers are going down. We have several large projects coming up. One is the new home of the Clippers, Intuit Dome, which just broke ground. That project alone will employ hundreds of our members over the next few years. The work at LAX continues, as the remodeling and build-out in preparation for the 2028 Olympics approaches and the Long Beach VA hospital and the Long Beach Airport should be providing our members with jobs for years to come. These projects are representative of the work picture throughout all of our districts. In addition, we will be launching our new Green Jobs Are Union Jobs campaign to help capture that work for our members.

But in order to get that work, you might need to be vaccinated. With protocols requiring that businesses of 100 people or more need vaccinations, your employer may well require it as a condition of employment, particularly if you're working on any of these big jobs coming online. In addition, the City of LA, LAUSD, LAWA and the community colleges will all make vaccination a requirement of employment. We suggest you follow the science and get your shot. We've required all our staff to not only wear masks while in the office but also to be vaccinated in order to keep you safe. So we hope you'll do your part, stop the spread and get those big jobs.

GET YOUR FLU SHOT

On another healthcare note, I'm pleased to announce that Anthem will be offering our members flu shots on the 2nd floor at our Pasadena Headquarters starting Nov. 1. This is all part of Local 11's efforts to keep our members safe and healthy.

I recently attended the grand opening of the new Long Beach City College Labor Center. I'm especially proud of the work our members did there, making that center a first-rate facility. This is the first labor center at a community college, and it will be open to our members and other members of the community to learn about labor history, and

labor's future. It's important that our members learn about labor's struggles and victories so that we can continue to command more market share for working families.

I also want to offer a shout-out to two IBEW members who are now leaders in our movement. Liz Shuler, an IBEW member out of Oregon and a long-time labor activist in Washington, D.C., is the first woman to head the AFL-CIO. Please join me in congratulating a terrific person who has a vision to increase labor's power. Closer to home, I also want to welcome incoming President-Elect of the State Building & Construction Trades Council Andrew Meredith. Andrew comes out of IBEW 340 in Northern California, and he will be leading the charge for IBEW members around the state. Both of these leaders have big shoes to fill, but I am confident they will be terrific at amplifying labor's voice.

In Solidarity,
Joël Barton

IBEW 11's NEWS@11

President
Rusty Roten

Vice President
Eric Brown

Main offices of IBEW Local 11
297 North Marengo Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 243-9700 Phone
(626) 243-9750 Fax
www.ibew11.org

RECORDING SECRETARY
Christine Austria-Lozoya

TREASURER
Jaime Sanchez

BUSINESS MANAGER/FINANCIAL SECRETARY
Joël Barton

Produced by Senders Communications Group

PUBLISHER: Cherri Senders
EDITOR: Evan Henerson
ART DIRECTOR: Mike Kritzer
www.SendersGroup.com

From the President

Save Your Paystubs and Track Your Benefits



Brothers and Sisters, Your local union has many benefits for you and your family. The manner in how you accrue these benefits is very important. In our employment with our many contractors and whichever contractor you work for, there is a system in place to receive and record your individual hours and payment from our contractors. All our contractors are “dialed in” on how the reporting is done and by what date. Sometimes a missed reporting can occur and there are safeguards in place to help repair and remedy these mishaps.

Save your paystubs! If you have the wherewithal to save them for

your entire career, that would be ideal. However, at least save them for the whole year, just in case.

As I stated, the contractors report everyone’s hours monthly and our trust offices record those hours and purchase the benefits. Every three months, a quarterly report is sent to all of our members informing them how many hours they have recorded on their behalf and from whom the hours are received.

Sometimes a member might have taken some time off or even forgotten. Sometimes a contractor’s payroll personnel makes mistakes in reporting those hours. The worst possibility is that a contractor purposefully misreports your hours. That’s why it’s important to keep your

paystubs and to review the quarterly statement sent to you. If you double-check your paystub hours to the statement hours, everything should be right. If the hours don’t match up, then call the trust offices and talk to them about what appears to be wrong. They will ask you for your paystubs (and copy them) for validation and go about recovering those missed hours.

Please take the time to look at your statements. If you don’t understand, call the trust office. That’s what they’re there for. It’s better to be calm and do the research than to outright accuse the employer of any wrongdoing. Understanding how the monies are recovered and how the benefits are

paid for is a lot to know. It’s up to you to take the time to learn it!

As always, if you have questions about your union, just ask one of our agents. Otherwise, you are welcome to call our office and I’m happy to talk to you as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

*Respectfully,
Rusty Roten
President / Senior Assistant
Business Manager*

Manny Solis is a Man of Many Talents

By Evan Henerson

You will find Manny Solis in many places.

Since 2019, he has been a Local 11 District 2 business representative overseeing refineries, which makes sense as Solis spent a lot of his early apprenticeship years working in refineries. Solis also checks in with the Local 11 members who work on construction projects at schools within District 2, covering Long Beach, San Pedro and Carson.

Given his shuttling around the territory, would it be fair to characterize Solis as a “Manny” on the move?

“To say the least,” agreed Solis. “There’s not one day where I’m not moving around from one city to the next, talking to members, talking to the owners of companies that employ our members, the superintendents, general foreman and field personnel. I’m talking to

the members who are working these projects and making sure everything is up to snuff with their pay, with the way they’re being treated, and making sure the employer is following all the rules.”

Outside of his job site visits, Solis does his part to bring in and acclimate new Local 11 members. He has served as the chairman on the examining board, proctoring journeyman-level exams for the men and women who are coming from non-union employment into Local 11. In his volunteer work with the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus, Solis has tutored individuals who are looking to get into the union’s apprenticeship program, making sure they have the knowledge they need to pass the entrance exam.

“Volunteering and giving back to this local union is my calling,” said Solis. “Giving of yourself comes from my family background. My mother and father were always helping people in the community, helping those who were less fortunate and finding ways to make their lives better. My wife and

I do that, too. It fills one’s heart with joy to be able to help somebody.”

Solis was almost destined for a different career path. The son of a cement and stone mason, Solis would accompany his father and brothers to job sites, where the family would build block walls, brick planter boxes and driveways. Solis discovered he loved using his hands and his body in physical ways through construction. Building, he noted, is in his family’s genes.

But while visiting the McDonnell Douglas manufacturing building in Long Beach, Solis noticed a group of electricians putting up lights. The work looked fascinating to Solis, who asked the workers what they were doing and how one could move into that kind of a career.

“They said they were IBEW Local 11,” Solis recalled.

Solis did his homework, discovered the union’s apprenticeship program, applied and was accepted. As an apprentice, he worked at various refineries and with LA Metro. He continued his education as a journeyman, eventually getting his certification in instrumentation controls. Gradually, he moved up through the ranks to foreman and general foreman, running major projects within power plants, water treatment facilities and refineries.

Married and a father of three with



two grandsons, Solis has been more than happy to pass on the knowledge he has gained over his decades spent as a journeyman wireman. He acquired a California Career Technical Education Teaching Credential through the University of San Diego and the Los Angeles County Office of Education. He also earned a high-voltage splicing certification through the IBEW in advanced classes, which, along with the instrumentation certification, were both completed at the ETI — the same place where he later became a teacher.

“I do miss the teaching quite a bit, and I miss putting my hands on the tools and building,” Solis said. “Every aspect of this trade is fulfilling, and the part that’s most fulfilling is knowing that you’re able to help somebody along on their journey.”

“Every aspect of this trade is fulfilling, and the part that’s most fulfilling is knowing that you’re able to help somebody along on their journey.”

Meet Your E-board

At its June election, IBEW Local 11 welcomed a new seven-member executive board. The electees are a blend of new faces and familiar names who share a common vision of working tirelessly to represent the great members of Local 11.

In this edition of News@11, we introduce you to Tom Sterrett, Crystal Herrera and Benjamin Frank.

CRYSTAL HERRERA

By her own admission, Crystal Herrera loves building things, and, through her endeavors, she is working to help physically build structures within the city and also to create community throughout Local 11. A native of Pico Rivera, Herrera grew up within a family of educators, but she chose a different path. Deciding to enter the building trades, Herrera started her apprenticeship in 2014 and found herself the only woman in her boot camp.

As an inside wireman for Johnson-Peltier, Herrera has worked at LAX, at a pharmaceutical plant in La Verne, at the Hyperion Water Treatment Plant, and at several refineries. Ramping up her union involvement with the union practically from the moment she became a member, she has taken positions with the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus and the Local 11 chapter of Reach Out and Engage Next-Gen Electrical Workers (RENEW).

"I'm definitely here to learn," said Herrera. "I want to gain experience,



Benjamin Frank

especially as a young woman and a person of color. We're trying to build the IBEW future that we want, and I definitely believe that all of those demographics deserve to be represented. I look forward to working with this and future administrations to make IBEW Local 11 the best it can be."

BENJAMIN FRANK

The June election marks Benjamin Frank's second go-round on the Local 11 Executive Board. A 10-year member, Frank also worked as an organizer out of District 4. A general foreman with Rosendin Electric, Frank has worked on everything from high-rises to solar projects. "I've done it all," he said. "I've had a good experience within this local."

Frank said that his life might have turned out differently had he not discovered the benefits of life spent under the Local 11 umbrella. He went from a



Crystal Herrera

troubled background to a pre-apprenticeship program and then into apprenticeship program which Frank called "the best kept secret there is." After completing his apprenticeship, he rose through the ranks to become a foreman followed by a general foreman.

Thanks to the union, a member gets great healthcare, benefits, pension, an annuity and the ability to provide for one's family.

In returning to the e-board, Frank has one goal: to serve the membership and make the local stronger. "I will always work to make things better, to be more progressive," he said. "I want to bring solidarity to the local, for sure."

TOM STERRETT

Local 11 members will quickly associate the name Tom Sterrett with instruction, leadership, and, often, both. A general foreman for 13 years with O'Bryant Electric, Sterrett also served as a project



Thomas Sterrett

general foreman for Unison Electric. On the union side, he has been a business representative for Local 11 and an organizer whose success with the Electrolux campaign in Memphis and Baltimore Gas and Electric earned him letters of acknowledgement from International Vice President Brent E. Hall, President Lonnie Stephenson and Vice President Kenneth Cooper, respectively.

Members who have taken classes at the Electrical Training Institute (ETI) will certainly be familiar with Sterrett, who was a full-time day instructor at the ETI from 2014 to 2016 and has been a senior instructor there since 2018.

Of his new responsibility with the Local 11 Executive Board, Sterrett said he welcomes the challenge.

"I am pleased, proud and honored to have been elected to serve our membership with practical fiduciary responsibilities as my top priority," he said.

Overcoming Adversity with IBEW 11

By Oren Peleg

Juan Uribe has seen it all, going from a homeless kid to a superintendent with IBEW 11 signatory A&H Electric on the City of Hope project. The key to his success, he says, is not luck, but hard work and the opportunities provided by the union.

As a baby, Uribe and his family moved from Chicago to Los Angeles, arriving at the Greyhound bus station in downtown LA with nowhere to go. "We were in the street for a bit until the Salvation Army helped us out," Uribe, the youngest of six children, recalls. They soon moved in with a relative, but then more bad luck ensued, with Uribe contracting meningitis.

He survived, and by the time he

was 12, the family was living in Compton. There, he was hired on to an after-school work program called Tree of Life. With such a large family, Uribe explains, "I had to fend for myself to put clothes on my back, or to buy something I wanted."

The program was PLA work with the city's parks and recreation department, and it helped teach a young Uribe financial literacy. Each time he'd go in to pick up a paycheck, he was given a new task: open a bank account, open a savings account, save \$200 or start a line of credit. "I was already set up for success through them," Uribe says.

It was training that would quickly pay dividends. One of Uribe's first purchases was a 1968 Camaro. He was able to flip the car purchase and "use the money as

the down payment on my mom's first house." A few years later, at 18, Uribe would become a property owner himself, buying a duplex. But if Uribe's life seems like a string of exceptional luck, he is quick to say that it's the result of effort, proper guidance, and "having the right people and the correct programs around you."

About the same time he became a property owner, Uribe began working as an electrician. In his early 20s, he was organized into IBEW Local 11 where he's been a member for the last 16 years. "I went from foreman, to general foreman, to superintendent three-and-a-half years ago," he explains.

Looking ahead, Uribe says he's committed to teen outreach and career programs. He frequents high

school job fairs where he sets up a booth, "and I say here are your job opportunities, labor opportunities, and then let them know about IBEW and other trades that are available" to show them the path to success.

Do young people today have access to the same educational opportunities that he was afforded? "That's mostly gone away," he laments. "And it's a shame, because it was very impactful."

What opportunities does Uribe believe can help change a life and lead to lasting success? Without missing a beat, he says: "The union."



CITY OF HOPE

Continued from the cover

Howard as the project's electrical contractor. That meant thousands of hours of manpower for Local 11 members, some of whom sensed the importance of the project on a personal level.

"We've had approximately 25,000 man-hours for this project," explained Local 11 member Juan Uribe, general foreman of the hotel project, during a recent visit. The roughly 115,000-square-foot structure had topped out a few months prior, and Uribe's electrical crew was working on the third floor.

With the bulk of construction occurring during the COVID-19 pandemic, Uribe noted that there have been significant challenges. To begin with, the procurement and cost of materials as supply chain issues have increased prices and made raw materials much harder to get because they need to be shipped from different areas of the country. Also challenging is the physical terrain on which the job site is located.

"Because of the [San Gabriel] foothills, we have rocks that are two feet by three feet, and you can't really auger anything down," Uribe said. "You have to over-excavate and over-frame with the excess use of concrete just to be able to achieve what you have."

For site foreman Darin Warren, another Local 11 member, the project's underground construction was another challenge.

"It took a lot of coordination to make sure that all of our underground [electrical] was installed in precise locations," he explained.

Warren was able to get Local 11 apprentices on this job and help train them. "I always enjoy working with apprentices because it's a learning process for them," he said. "And it's an opportunity for me to help guide them along, give them tips and experience so that they can have that under their belt moving forward."

On the Hope Village project, fifth-year apprentice Javier Cantoran and his fellow electricians were able to practice everything from roughing in walls to metal cable work and even putting in switches and receptacles.

"Before I got into the union, I never touched this stuff," said Cantoran. "There's always challenges, and some of the stuff is a little bit new to me. Some of the higher, more complicated work with the panel is really new to me. So, visually being here and having someone



Fifth year apprentice Javier Cantoran

explain it to me was really helpful."

When Kevin Campos, a third-year apprentice, joined the site, the crew had already finished the decks. Campos has been learning a bit about conduits, a lot of flags and "a lot of things he'd never really seen before." He had worked on smaller projects—TI, single story—but never on the scale of five stories and 152 rooms.

"It was nice getting used to a big job like this," he said.

Journeyman Ismael Jimenez Mesa, a Local 11 member for over two years, had done this type of work before. But for the Hope Village project, shortages of standard materials meant working with something new. Not only has the union helped him become familiar with different materials, Mesa says he takes pride in working on a facility that will help people.

The experience of the families who will be using these rooms is one second foreman Armando Galvan knows intimately. Galvan's daughter lived through a similar experience, spending time in a hospital and needing a transplant. For that reason, Galvan believes that his personal touch will line the walls of Hope Village and will help those who will ultimately use the rooms to feel more at home.

Through the Ronald McDonald House, Galvan and his family were well-taken-care-of during their stay at the hospital while his daughter was recovering. "I spent a lot of time in the hospital," Galvan concludes. "So I know that feeling."

Work on Hope Village is set to end in November, with the hotel opening in 2022.



Journeyman Wireman Ismael Jimenez Mesa



Third year apprentice Kevin Campos

Members Speak Out

"For it being a hospital and helping the community, I take a lot of pride and joy in participating in a project like that. I'm also a volunteer helper for the Civil Air Patrol — search and rescue. So, I like volunteering, I like donating. It's a big part of who I am."



— **JUAN URIBE**
general foreman

"I always enjoy working with apprentices because it's a learning process for them and it's an opportunity for me to help guide them along and give them tips and experience so that they can have that under their belt moving forward."



— **DARIN WARREN**
site foreman

"I'm only 21, and I'm already on my third year with the union. I wasn't a big fan of going to an actual college institution. I wanted to learn one trade. And I just had my first son a year ago, so having the benefits and supporting him ... the union takes care of you with that."



— **KEVIN CAMPOS**
third-year apprentice

"In my family, we had one aunt who passed away from cancer. Doing this type of work really hits close to home. It feels good to be able to be part of something that is going to help families in the future. So when they come here, they don't have to be wondering, 'Where am I going to stay? How am I going to do this?'"



— **JAVIER CANTORAN**
fifth year apprentice

"I have a daughter who has had this experience. She had a transplant, but she's been doing so good, thanks to UCLA and God. I spent a lot of time in the hospital, so I know that feeling."



— **ARMANDO GALVAN**
second foreman

DISTRICT 1 (SOUTH)

Shomari Davis

Baker Electric has Ascot Elementary and McKinley MS that are in the very early stages. These are long projects and will need members soon.

Taft Electric has a three-year project at Huntington High where many buildings are being demolished and rebuilt in phases. Look out for that project.

Rosendin Electric has CalMart in Downtown LA, where they are doing the core and shell. There are many empty spaces, and as the pandemic has started to allow vendors to move in, I can see an opportunity for more work.

The Ferrante Project is still a very long project. It has two more buildings to be built and the contractor is SBE Electric.

Seed Project is on Vermont and Manchester Boulevards. It is a school that has housing for students and faculty. The contractor is Touchstone Electric. They are doing dirt work now and will start needing underground in a month or so.

Ingraham Apartments and La Veranda Apartments are being done by MG Electric. They have signed a PLA and we are trying to organize them. They are a 50 to 70-man shop. They are in the very early stages of construction and will need manpower shortly.

DISTRICT 2

Gary Tomlin

My Brothers and Sisters,

Work is still slow here in the D2 area, outside of the refinery calls. If you do not have your RSO-20 and/or TWIC and would like to work the refineries, please get these ASAP. You get the fees reimbursed and a stipend from the union. Just a side note on the TWIC: it also works for the TSA precheck for flying.

Currently at dispatch, for the Shultz calls at Marathon, if you have a paid receipt for the TWIC card, we will accept that as the requirement of the TWIC card itself. Also, if you do not have the RSO-20, you can take the call as long as you sign up with OSCA the same day you take the call. They are doing the hair follicle test and background check, so while OSCA is doing this, it gives you time to get the RSO-20 classes completed. The contractor is not paying for your time while taking the RSO classes. The only time they pay for is while you are at OSCA taking the required drug/alcohol test, and any site-specific training you will need.

If you have any questions on this regarding dispatch, please call me (626) 375-5721. If you have any questions regarding the job itself, please call Manny Solis (626) 318-7442

As discussed before, Gregg Electric will have a few large-scale projects coming in the near future at the Long Beach Airport: one for Amazon and one for a company that builds rockets and will have the world's largest 3-D printer.

There will be a new water treatment facility being built in Torrance, probably sometime in

early 2022. It still has not gone out for bid yet, but it is covered under a PLA.

Don't forget to apply for your free tickets on the Local 11 website for this year's picnic. It will be held on October 23 at the same place as our last event: the Hollywood Sports Facility in Bellflower.

As our job site environments seem to change frequently these days, please call with any questions. Currently, we are starting to see owners, builders/developers and general contractors asking that the manpower on the job sites be vaccinated.

We are continuing to have the District 2 monthly meetings at the South Bay Hall at 5 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month. Stop by the next one, have some good food and share some stories with other brothers and sisters you may not have seen in a while. And as always, Dave Grabowski will be there with Robert Diaz and Joe Herrera, with T-shirts and raffle items to support the District 2 Welfare Committee. Come see what's new.

As always, it is an honor and pleasure to serve this membership as your District 2 business agent.

DISTRICT 3

Mike Costigan

Hello from District 3.

As anyone working at LAX knows, you are required to have an OSHA 10 cert within the last four years. Seeing that the ETI offers an OSHA 30, which, of course, is a more extensive course, there are resources to acquire an OSHA 10. Clicksafety is a resource that comes to mind. Please don't let not having this certification keep you from one of the many jobs we have going on out at the airport.

I want to congratulate RENEW for putting on a great event at the South Bay Hall. The Luau was well-attended, and there were plenty of activities and entertainment for members and family of all ages.

In closing, it is with a heavy heart that I report the passing of one of our great mainstays in District 3. Marvin Keller passed last week at the age of 96. If you only attended one District 3 meeting, you would have had the opportunity to meet him. He was always there. He was very involved in many District 3 activities, and he chaired our unit meetings for Mark Aihara. His memorial was well-attended by several IBEW Local 11 members, including three past and one current business agent: Mark Aihara, James "Hoppy" Hopkins, Rusty Roten and yours truly.

It is an honor and a pleasure to serve the membership.

DISTRICT 4

Marc Greenfield

Greetings, Sisters and Brothers of District Four.

I hope you all had a nice and safe summer and were able to spend time with your families.

The work picture looks very good for the foreseeable future. As I have reported in the past, LAUSD and LACCD will keep many members busy for years.

I would like to again thank everyone who

attended our first annual Chili Cookoff and made it a huge success. The District 4 Welfare Committee worked extremely hard to make this a fun event. I would also like to thank the officers of the district for their dedication and hard work.

ETI has begun having classes here again. An OSHA class is already being scheduled, with a few open spots remaining. I would like to get a foreman's class here next.

Stay healthy and take good care of your families.

DISTRICT 5

Mitch Klein

A tip of the hat to my brothers and sisters. We hope you are well through these trying times.

As we enter the fall season, work continues to grow in the High Desert. District 5 has Ferreira Construction working the 25 MW solar project at Lockheed. Rosendin Electric is working the 25 MW solar job in West Lancaster. We continue work at several schools throughout the Palmdale School District. We have Taft Electric, among other contractors, working at Antelope Valley College Sage Hall, Discovery Lab and Student Services buildings. Pacific Industrial Electric is working at AV Hospital, and several of our contractors are working at the Kaiser facilities throughout Antelope Valley.

Work at Northrop, Lockheed and Boeing continues to hold steadfast, with more projects coming up. The new Lancaster City Hall renovation project was awarded to Performance Electric and we should see hiring from them soon. The high-speed rail, Bakersfield to Palmdale, is nearing its final approval which will bring several jobs to the Antelope Valley.

Because of Community Workforce Agreements, we will have several major projects in the Antelope Valley: the Green Hydrogen project in Lancaster, the Antelope Valley Hospital Medical Village, more solar, battery storage and vehicle charging stations, to name a few. We are on the verge of another Community Workforce Agreement with the Antelope Valley Union High School District.

Thank you to our business manager, Brother Joël Barton, Brother Rusty Roten, and Business Development for all their work in securing these agreements. Thank you to our members for attending city council, planning commission, water board and school board meetings when needed. Through all our hard work and participation, great things happen!

We recently finished an LAQSP class here in District 5. If you are interested in attending classes and keeping your state certification up to date, please call District 5 to put your name on the list. Our Unit 5 meetings are the second Tuesday of every month. Come and enjoy the camaraderie and be informed. Remember, our Local 11 picnic will be October 23. District 5 will work the children's games, and any help we can get would be greatly appreciated. The picnic is great fun for the whole family.

Thank you to our officers and members for all their hard work in making District 5 and Local 11 the great local it is today!

God bless the IBEW.

DISTRICT 6 Jacob Troncoza

I hope all is as well as can be expected, brothers and sisters of this union. We are now getting deep into the year 2021, and the holidays are around the corner. Thankfully, the work picture is decent and is expected to grow here in District 6.

Good news! The D6 hall is now fully operational and ready to serve the members. Thanks to all who were involved in contributing their time and efforts to the Diamond Bar facility. Now, after more than a decade, we are able to conduct union business in our own district once again. The new facility has been newly renovated by union contractors. Come into a unit meeting or stop in and see it yourself. It's a good-looking hall and we are proud to serve here.

Mt. SAC is looking to build a library on campus with one of our big contractors. Irwindale Brewery is expected to pick up more work as well. City of Hope has work to be done with two sizable contractors at this time. An unconfirmed third union contractor on-site as well.

School work in Hacienda Heights is continuing, and Pasadena is still busy with union trade work. El Monte School District has some work at this time, as well as the Downey Rancho Los Amigos facility. Keep an eye out for calls and make sure your certs are up to speed. Be safe and be healthy out there, and God willing, we will all get out of this current situation with COVID-19 with our loved ones and ourselves safe and sound. If anyone has a question or just wants to speak about something in particular, feel free to contact me.

Take care, and God bless the Union.

SOUND & COMMUNICATIONS Chuck Webb

On September 11, 2021, we, IBEW Local 11 Sound & Communications unit, were scheduled for a Unit meeting. Sadly, the meeting did not take place, as a quorum was not met. While this was a constant occurrence at one time, over the past few years our members have been in attendance. These meetings are a good time for you to talk with other members from other contractors, discuss possible contract infractions and get to know your business agent and organizer. We always try to have something to munch on for the attendees ... donuts, coffee, burritos, eggs and pancakes - you get the idea.

Soon, we will begin discussions on the upcoming contract negotiations, and your input will be expected. I hope that you will find the time to join us, and I do realize that many of you are working harder than you ever have before. It appears that we are picking up a larger percentage of the work in Los Angeles than we ever have before. Much of this is due to the PLAs, PSAs and CWAs that have been negotiated between developers here in Los Angeles and the Building Trades. While all of this work is a great thing, our membership needs to keep up on the certs that our contractors are calling for: VDV, FLS, OSHA 10, OSHA 30, LAQSP. While having these certs does not guarantee you a job, for many contractors, these are a must.

Our future looks bright, with work for years to come. Make sure that you are ready for it.

Work safe. Play hard.

REFINERY Manny Solis

Marathon Refinery - Wilmington: The calls out to Marathon Refinery to work for Schultz Mechanical were recently filled. Schultz Mechanical will still be looking to put in a few more calls for J.W.'s out to Marathon Refinery in the next couple of weeks. The requirements to take a call at Marathon for Schultz have changed for this work. To take a call, members only need to have a receipt for having signed up for the TWIC Card. Once a member takes the refinery call, the member must report to Schultz. Then the member can sign up for the RSO20 course at OSCA that same day to enroll in the 20-hour RSO20 course. While the member's background check and hair follicle test for Schultz are in process, the member can attend the 20-hour RSO20 course. Once the hair follicle and background check come back clear, the member will have completed the RSO20 course and can hit the ground running with all the necessary qualifications and certifications. The projects at Marathon Refinery are slated to continue through the end of this year with possible overtime.

Valero Refinery, Wilmington: Schultz will also need more journeymen at the Valero Refinery in the third quarter of this year. Members will need the RSO20 training card and the TWIC card.

PBF Refinery, Torrance: M.B. Herzog will need certified instrumentation technicians and a few certified journeymen wiremen for upcoming turn-around work in the fourth quarter of this year. The qualifications to work at PBF Torrance and most every refinery in Local 11 are all very much the same. You must have a current RSO20 training card and current TWIC card to work for M.B. Herzog.

World Energy Refinery, Paramount: The work at World Energy is here! This refinery was formerly Paramount Petroleum, which was bought out by World Energy and is now being completely revamped. Our IBEW union Contractors, California Spectra Electric and Newtron Electric, have been awarded the first of many contracts for much of this very fine work inside of World Energy Refinery.

The first contract will require both of our electrical contractors to hire IBEW journeymen, certified instrumentation technicians, and IBEW apprentices for the newest contract. The RSO20 training card and the TWIC card will be needed to take a call out to World Energy Refinery.

Newtron Electric is looking to begin work at the World Energy facility in late September and will be placing an initial call for approximately 50 to 60 inside wiremen and women, as well as a handful of instrumentation technicians with the Level-B certifications. Newtron Electric will also be placing calls for apprentices at World Energy.

Many other Refineries: As the third quarter and fourth quarters in the refineries approach, work in many other refineries will also be coming. Many of our other contractors working in the refineries are looking to acquire much-needed manpower in the winter months of 2021. So please stay current with the RSO20 training card and please keep your TWIC card current.

EAA REPORT Marleen Fonseca

Ordinance 187134 - The COVID-19 Vaccination and Reporting Requirement - was signed by the Mayor on August 20, and became effective immediately. It does the following for employees in the City of Los Angeles:

- Makes reporting vaccination status a condition of employment.
- Requires that all current and future employees are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Requires that all future contracts for work with the City of L.A. contain language mandating the contractor's employees be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Includes language that may require booster shots in the future.
- Allows for medical and religious exemptions
- Testing out option is only being offered to those who qualify for an exemption.

Although EAA has a high vaccination compliance rate, the City workforce as a whole reflects otherwise. As of September 20, approximately 5,100 employees registered their intent to file a medical or religious exemption and only 55% of approximately 45,000 full time employees have reported being fully vaccinated. EAA encourages members to get vaccinated, but we are fully committed to mitigating the consequences for those who choose otherwise.

City unions continue to negotiate the impacts of this new ordinance. In the duration, executive members of the City Council are being provided regular updates on employee compliance rates and are provided updated bargaining instructions in response. This may include proposals of discipline but have not yet. If the numbers don't change drastically, the city will have some tough decisions to make.



Marlon Anderson and Matt Dirling on the Vincent Thomas Bridge.

Local 11 Celebrates A Labor Day

RENEW Labor Day Luau

In addition to being part of a holiday weekend that unofficially marks the end of summer, Labor Day is a day on which we remember and honor the contributions of workers everywhere. With the COVID-19 pandemic kiboshing any festivities in 2020, the holiday was back in full force for 2021.

Local 11 was ready to celebrate, to advocate and to lend a hand.

Over the three-day weekend of September 4 through 6, Local 11 members, staff and officers turned out at three events.

On Saturday, members donned their tropical shirts and busted out their best hula moves for the inaugural RENEW Labor Day Luau, held at the South Bay Hall in Torrance. Organized by the Local 11 branch of the Reach Out and Engage Next-Gen Electrical

Workers (RENEW), the afternoon featured games, food, raffles and some amazing Polynesian dancers.

On Sunday, Local 11 tuned out for a rally at the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO (LA Fed), at a rally in support of Governor Gavin Newsom, a long-time friend to labor who attended the rally and thanked the labor community for their work in helping him to keep his job. (See photos on page 12.)

And on Labor Day Monday, Local 11 brought its man- and womanpower (as well as its famous grill) to Banning Park in Wilmington to take part in the annual Labor of Love barbecue and food distribution event. Joining up with partners that included State Senator Maria Elena Durazo, LA County Supervisors Janice Hahn and Hilda Solis, and the LA Fed, Local 11 helped distribute food to needy families.



Weekend to Remember

Labor of Love

What does labor do when times get tough? Labor gives back. This Labor Day, for the second year in a row, a few dozen IBEW 11 volunteers spent labor's special day helping to provide 3,400 meals to needy Angelenos who continue to be squeezed by the effects of the pandemic. Their task? To feed the hundreds of

labor volunteers who turned up at Banning Park in Wilmington to show the world what labor does on Labor Day: "We help. We take care of our own and take care of the community," said Armando Olivas, executive director of Labor Community Services. "We've given away over 2.2 million pounds of food, diapers and PPE to union members since the pandemic began." "We're here today feeding the volunteers who are doing the

tough job of distributing food and helping get groceries to the people who need them," said Local 11's Francisco "Paco" Arago. "This is all about solidarity today. We are showing our belief system. Coming out here to help the community shows who we are and feeds our souls as union members." The food giveaway is a great alternative to the traditional Labor Day parade that has been a tradition in Los Angeles for 42 years, noted IBEW 11 President

Rusty Roten. "Instead of staying home today, or hiding from the pandemic, we're marking our special day by helping feed people in their time of crisis. Our members started showing up at 6 a.m. to fire up our famous grill so they could get these volunteers fed." Added LA County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, President Ron Herrera, "We're a union town, and we're so proud we can pay our respects to our community and give back. That's what labor does."



Heat-Related Illness is a Real Concern

By Mike Costigan

As fires in California and the Pacific Northwest rage on, even the most defiant anti-climate-changers are rethinking their stance. California gets hot! For those of us who work in extreme temperatures, we are more susceptible to heat-related stress and illness than most.

Recognizing the danger of extreme heat exposure in a new changing world, the Biden Administration and OSHA on September 20 released enhanced and expanded measures to protect workers on the job. Expect more inspections, increased compliance, and more emphasis on education and mitigation to the dangers of hot temperatures to be coming to your job site soon.

As your safety officer, I will continue to give reports on heat-

related illness at our general meetings as well as posting articles and flyers on the safety page on our website, www.ibew11.org. I was also recently interviewed by Dr. Teni Adewumi-Gunn, an environmental scientist with the NRDC, who has been conducting interviews in multiple industries in relation to heat illness. Adewumi-Gunn is gathering data on the subject, and she told me California has the strongest regulations when it comes to heat-related illness.

Here are a few things you should know to keep yourself safe.

- When does shade need to be provided? At 80 degrees.
- When do breaks need to be more frequent? At 95 degrees, although you are entitled to a break anytime you need to cool down.
- Be sure to drink plenty of water, keep your head covered, and be aware when you are getting overheated.



In speaking to members and contractors on the job site about extreme heat, everyone agreed that while the dangers are still an issue, the situation has greatly improved in recent years, with contractors becoming more aware of their workers' needs. They have been taking the time to mitigate the effects of heat exposure by adding ice in the field, cooling towels and head gear, as well as cooling trailers for extreme conditions and break time, showing their commitment to preventing the potentially lethal effects of extreme heat.

Another common preventative measure to heat-related illnesses is acclimation — taking the time to

adjust to a hotter environment. Be aware that when you are coming from a cooler environment, either from another project or after returning to work after time off, try to readjust slowly to your new environment. No overtime your first week on the job.

Heat illness can wreak havoc on your body and mind if you don't take the proper precautions. And once you sustain a heat-related illness, you will be more susceptible to it for the rest of your life.

For more questions about heat-related illnesses, or to report a contractor who is not following the guidelines, please reach out to me right away.

Safety first: It lasts a lifetime.

OSHA
osha.gov/heat

Heat illness signs and symptoms

Watch for signs of heat illness and act quickly. When in doubt, call 911.

If a worker experiences:

- Headache or nausea
- Weakness or dizziness
- Heavy sweating or hot, dry skin
- Elevated body temperature
- Thirst
- Decreased urine output

Take these actions:

- Give cool water to drink
- Remove unnecessary clothing
- Move to a cooler area
- Cool with water, ice, or a fan
- Do not leave alone
- Seek medical care (if needed)

In Memoriam: Kim Craft

Thirty-seven-year IBEW 11 member Kim Craft passed away on September 12 in Idaho.

Kim Edwin Craft was born on February 3, 1953, in the small river town of Clifton Forge, Virginia, and grew up adventuring around West Virginia.

He joined the U.S. Marine Corps at 17 and served four years in Vietnam. Kim met the love of his life, Opal, at a Shakey's Pizza in 1973; they were married six months later and would give birth to a daughter and a son. Kim was honorably discharged from the service in 1974 with the rank of sergeant. He returned home and eventually moved to Los Angeles.

In July 1979 — after having spent time as a member of

the Industrial Paper Workers Union and the Oil, Atomic, and Chemical Workers Union, as well as earning his associate's degree in business management — Kim was sworn in as an apprentice at IBEW 11. He passed his wireman exam in March 1982 and quickly rose through the local's ranks, working as a journeyman, steward, foreman, and general foreman.

As soon as he passed his wireman exam in 1982, Kim jumped head-first into life as a member of IBEW 11, taking on organizational responsibilities within the union wherever possible. He spent four years as Unit 2 recording secretary and five years as an apprentice instructor. In 1983, he earned his vocational teaching certificate

from UCLA Extension and joined IBEW 11's Apprentice Advisory Committee in 1986.

During this era, he was also appointed to the IBEW 11 Political Action Committee, in addition to serving on the Contract Negotiating Committee and attending multiple conventions. He was elected chairman of Unit 3 and served for three years, as well as being involved in numerous other roles at the union.

Kim was elected president of IBEW 11 in 1991. As the 1990s wore on, Kim found that he wanted to refocus on working in the field. So he took on the role of assistant business manager, and, by all accounts, enjoyed it greatly.

By 2015, Kim decided it was time to retire, although he stayed

involved with IBEW 11, often appearing as an alternate or guest attendee at conventions. A few years later, he moved with Opal to Salmon, Idaho, and spent his time fishing, shooting pool, and laughing with friends.

He will be missed by his family and friends, and by so many of his colleagues at IBEW 11, where his granddaughter, Jordyn "Goose" Burnell, carries on his legacy as a CW.

"Kim Craft was absolutely dedicated to Local 11 and its betterment throughout his entire career and even into his retirement years," said IBEW 11 President Rusty Roten, a longtime friend of Kim's. "He loved this local dearly, and he gave so much to it. That cannot be overstated."

They Acted Fast and Saved a Life

What should have been a routine day at a DWP UV disinfectant plant job site instead turned out to be a day that longtime friends, co-workers and Local 11 members Robert Zehm and Matthew Perez — and their union — will never forget. On that December morning in 2019, Zehm and Perez saved a crew member's life.

Local 11 recognized the two proud members with Life Saving Awards at its September 2021 general membership meeting.

Here's what transpired. Just before 9 a.m. on December 9, 2019, as the crew was getting ready for its break, Zehm, the general foreman, was alerted that one of his crew members appeared to be crying in one of the portable bathrooms. Zehm and fellow general foreman Perez went to check it out.

Upon inspection, it turned out that the crew member was slumped over, nearly unconscious, and not crying, but gasping. Zehm pulled him out, laid him on his back and started checking for signs of life. He got one of the foremen to call 911, got on the phone with a 911 operator, and was instructed to begin CPR until the paramedics arrived.

Zehm started doing chest compressions, and Perez came over and performed rescue breaths, with both men doing their best to keep the area clear of gathering crew members. After the two men had done nine or 10 cycles, help finally arrived, and emergency technicians took over, gave the now-conscious crew member medication, and took him to the hospital. The crew member had suffered from a drug overdose, and drug paraphernalia

was found in the restroom.

"The day it happened, we didn't know whether he was going to be OK," Zehm said. "We were glad to be able to do what we could. You always want your guys to go home. We didn't want to have to attend anyone's funeral."

"Nobody ever plans to do what we did," added Perez. "You're always trained, and you get your certifications in first aid and CPR, but who's ever thinking, 'Oh, you're going to have to apply that?'"

On the job site after the incident, Zehm and Perez talked to the crew members, making sure that everyone was OK. As an instructor at the ETI, Zehm was able to reference the incident to talk about the importance of safety and being prepared in the event of an emergency.

In February 2020, Zehm and Perez received notification from Local 11 that their heroic work

would be honored. The COVID-19 pandemic delayed that in-person recognition for more than a year, by which time Perez had completed his 34th year on the job and had retired. But he was nonetheless happy to come back to Local 11 meet up again with Zehm (who had been Perez's apprentice) and to reinforce the message of not taking things for granted.

"When everyone is doing tailgates in the morning, sometimes people are afraid to speak up because they're afraid



(L-R) Robert Zehm and Matt Perez.

of asking a dumb question," said Perez. "But the dumbest question is the one that you don't ask. When questions aren't asked, that's when people end up getting hurt."

Hooping it Up at Clipper Groundbreaking

Local 11 Business Manager Joël Barton, Business Agent Shomari Davis and ETI Outreach Director King Moore were among the union officials on hand at the groundbreaking of Intuit Dome, future home of the LA Clippers. Construction of the 18,000-seat facility in Inglewood is expected to take three years and cost about \$1.2 billion. Hundreds of Local 11 members should expect plenty of work at the site over the next few years.

Local 11 Business Agent Shomari Davis and ETI Outreach Director King Moore with Clippers Owner Steve Ballmer.



Local 11 Meeting Takes a Virtual Leap

Local members from across the region were able to attend and participate in the September 16 general membership meeting thanks to the union's successful use of a multi-district Zoom broadcast.

While the meeting itself was held at the District 4 hall in San Fernando, it was simultaneously broadcast to Local 11's facilities in Commerce, Torrance, Palmdale and Diamond Bar, as well as to the Jungle Room of the union's Pasadena offices. Attendees at each site had the opportunity to Zoom in and give

reports or testimony. More than 150 new members were sworn in at the September meeting and, if the multi-district broadcast continues, Local 11 will have the ability to welcome a significantly higher number of new members who can take the union oath from multiple locations.

Occasional hiccups aside, the broadcast went smoothly, reported Local 11 Director of Communications Chuck Webb, who set up all of the cameras and computer equipment at the various offices in the days prior to the meeting.

"Regardless of unforeseen



glitches or gremlins, we were able to work around distractions and hold a coherent meeting," Webb said. "We proved we could do it, and it worked pretty well."

The final three general

membership meetings of 2021 are scheduled to take place at the Pasadena Convention Center. We will keep you updated as to whether those meetings will be streamed to the districts as well.

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A Chili Day During a Hot Summer

On a Saturday in August, roughly 300 people showed up for the first annual IBEW 11 Chili Cook-Off, including IBEW 11 members and their family members and friends, some from as away far as Las Vegas.

The Cook-Off, presented by the IBEW 11 District 4 Welfare Committee, featured lots of fun for kids of all ages. There were raffles for prizes, plus bingo, cornhole, horseshoes, giant Connect 4, a DJ, a kids' craft corner, food trucks, and much, much more. Oh ... and did we mention chili — lots of chili?

IBEW 11 members and family showed up with their best chili recipes and submitted them for a blind taste test, with each chili assigned a number. Then, after results had been collected, a People's Choice

Award was given for the favorite chili, as chosen by Cook-Off attendees.

After all was said, done, tasted, and tabulated, George Lopez's chili came in first place and Darren Pelick's came in second. There was a tie for third place, with Juan Morgan and Selena Barron both taking home a prize for their chilis.

Volunteers from IBEW 11, as well as others who stepped up to give their time, set up, tore down, and cleaned up after the event. District 4 Secretary Heather Renz credited District 4 Business Representative Marc Greenfield and Organizer Ruben Mendoza, plus Jacob Troncoza and Tommy Zielonski from District 6, as being instrumental in making the Cook-Off "a complete success."

"It was amazing to see how well this local works together as a family," Renz said, mentioning that plans for next year's Cook-Off are already in the works.

RECALL

Continued from the cover



(L-R) Business Manager Joël Barton, Governor Gavin Newsom, LAOCBT Head Chris Hannan and IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer Frank Lima.

to fund and promote an unprecedented expansion of the state's electrical vehicle charging infrastructure, noted Barton. "Newsom has made California a leader in fighting climate change by ensuring that the green economy creates thousands of good-paying, blue-collar union jobs."

Local 11 stood in anti-recall solidarity with the California Federation of Labor and the LA County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO (LA Fed). The LA Fed held numerous GOTV rallies, including one over Labor Day weekend in the final days leading up to the election that was attended by the governor himself.

Local 11 Political Director Antonio Sanchez praised the union's "ground game" and noted that, despite the political nature of the campaign, "we are not as divided as we may seem."

"The recall failed



Local 11 members turned out in force to support the No on the Recall campaign.

overwhelmingly, but Governor Newsom did not do this by himself," Sanchez said. "Labor did this."

LA Fed President Ron Herrera added: "Make no mistake, it was the Los Angeles labor movement that delivered this victory and defeated this recall. It was the work done by the union members of Los Angeles that helped keep Governor Newsom in office. Our work does not end here. We must continue the fight in the State of California to pursue the common good through labor's values of hard work, respect, dignity, and integrity."

Play Ball! Local 11, LA Unions Take the Field for Dodgers Union Night

On this particular night, even with 4,000 union members and their families in the house, "strikes" were just fine, especially when they were delivered by the home team.

IBEW Local 11 was well-represented during Union Night, held August 20 at Dodger Stadium and sponsored by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, and Labor 411. Local 11 bought nearly 400

tickets for its members, and Business Manager Joël Barton participated in a VIP tour of the stadium and joined labor dignitaries on the field prior to the first pitch.

The event featured a pre-game salute to labor and a spectacular post-game fireworks display. All attendees took home a special Union Night T-shirt. And with labor's karma powering the home team, the defending world champion Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the New York Mets 3-2.

