



PHOTO BY TED SOQUI

Grand Old Lady Gets a Union Makeover

Work on Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum is Local 11 Legacy

By Oren Peleg

From serving as a world stage for two Summer Olympics (1934 and 1984) to the 12-year stay of the L.A. Raiders to decades of USC Trojan football, the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum has seen it all.

IBEW 11's finest have been there before to get the job done and they're on site again, renovating one of the world's most famous sporting venues that, in the summer of 2028, is set to become the world's first three-time Olympic host venue.

A team of over 50 inside wiremen, journeymen, apprentices and low voltage communications specialists are giving the Exhibition Park stadium known as the Grand Old Lady

a splashy makeover. The work will include the installation of additional seating as well as new, state-of-the-art elevators, suites, press boxes, broadcast booths, concession areas and a rooftop party deck.

Hardhat-toting workers like Antonio Reyes are bringing the Coliseum facelift to fruition. As he prefabbed for the installation of lights on an outside deck and

(Continued on page 6)

IBEW 11: Bringing Jobs Back to the Community

When California Senate Bill 54, a refinery work safety law proposing sweeping changes in the state's refineries, passed in November of 2016, it marked the end of a long fight taken up by the state's building trades. For IBEW 11

(Continued on page 8)



Contract Negotiations: Your Feedback is Needed!

Contract negotiations will soon begin on both the Inside Wiremen and the Intelligent Transportation Systems agreements. Many changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement start with YOUR SUGGESTIONS! At our website, www.ibew11.org, you will find the current Agreements and the contract proposal forms. Both can be downloaded and filled out with your suggested changes and submitted. Participate in your union and make your voice heard!



Spotlight on Contractors: Baker Electric Loves L.A.



Long-time Member John Degrassi Back for More



IBEW 11 at the 2019 Los Angeles Women's March

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THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11

NEWS @ 11



BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE By Joel Barton

Reaching Out: For Yourself, For Your Loved Ones

Sisters and Brothers,

Learning of the passing of an anchor in our area of a possible drug overdose leads me to comment in this newsletter. Apparently, this was a surprise and shows how some are afflicted with demons unknown to those around them. Through your health plan, we offer a Membership Assistance Program. This valuable benefit offers a helping hand and professional advice to help our members deal with life's many trials and tribulations. Call the Health Trust at 323-221-5861 or go to the website

at www.scibew-neca.org. The IBEW, Local 11 and our NECA partners are committed to a drug and alcohol-free workplace. As you know, we are all subject to random drug testing. This is not only to ensure a safe workplace for all, but to help our members. Alcoholism and drug addiction not only affect performance on the job, but also at home and in life. Please reach out for you and your loved ones.

IBEW and NECA are always looking towards the future and securing work that will create opportunities for our contractors and members. Recently, IBEW Local 11 was able to secure two seats through the Los

Angeles Metropolitan Transit Agency on the Sustainability Council. This council will advise the Metro Board of Directors on environmental goals and performance measures. John Harriel, Jr., on behalf of Second Call, was appointed to the "Social Justice" seat, and Jennifer Kropke, of SC IBEW-NECA LMCC, was appointed to the "Labor" seat. Congratulations and thanks to both for their unselfish commitment of their time and continued service to the IBEW. These appointments and involvement will create workforce development opportunities for our electrical workers in clean energy such as zero emission vehicle procurement, EV charging, advanced lighting controls, net zero building designations and environmental technologies such as battery energy storage and microgrids.

I will end by wishing all a happy and healthy new year and by thanking you for the opportunity and honor to serve as your business manager. I also send my heartfelt thanks to the great staff we have representing IBEW Local Union 11. They spend every day fighting for your rights, jobs and working conditions. Remember, "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile" — Albert Einstein.

*In Solidarity,
Joel Barton
IBEW 11 Business Manager*

IBEW 11 Launches New Website!

We're happy to announce the launch of IBEW 11's website – www.ibew11.org. This is your one-stop-shop for the latest news and events from the Local. It is also a resource for members where you can pay dues, see job calls and more. Plus, the site is mobile friendly for those of us on the go. Check it out, and let us know what you think!



IBEW 11's NEWS@11

President
Rusty Roten

Recording Secretary
Chuck Webb

Business Manager/Financial Secretary
Joel Barton

Vice President
Jane Templin

Treasurer
Dave Grabowski

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

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Spotlight on Contractors: Baker Electric Loves L.A.

Celebrating their 80th year in business in 2018, Baker Electric toasted to their longevity by expanding the four generation, family-owned company based in San Diego to the City of Los Angeles. Since 1938, Baker has delivered electrical contracting services to the greater Southern California area with uncompromising quality, innovation and integrity. The exponential growth in the number of projects in the region over the past few years has led Baker to open a new office in Los Angeles to better serve the greater L.A. County market.

“We are very excited to establish a significant position within the L.A. market by the end of 2019 positioning Baker Electric as a committed partner to this region.” said Baker Electric owner Ted Baker.

Today, in addition to the hundreds of field employees in and around San Diego, Baker’s field electrician workforce is rapidly growing in the Los Angeles area. “As a committed partner to the region, Baker is ready to take on the challenges in this diverse market.” said

Allen McLane the Director of Baker Electric’s Los Angeles office. Allen continued by saying, “We have the support from our owner Ted Baker and our talented team is ready to make a real contribution to the Los Angeles electrical contracting landscape”.

Baker Electric’s robust array of services has allowed them to develop a diverse portfolio of commercial projects in Construction, Renewables, Tenant Improvement, Systems Infrastructure and Services & Special Projects. Baker’s ability to rely on their experience and expertise in completing state-of-the-industry projects ranging from large-scale solar systems to EV charging stations for numerous different verticals has set them apart from the pack.

What is the Baker difference? It’s simple. As is expected from a company with 80 years of excellence under its belt, Baker recognizes the importance of investing in its people. From the field electricians to the administrative support team, it’s the people that come first. Even the company motto, “We deliver energy through people”, reflects Baker’s understanding of the fact that any successful company that prides itself on excellence is simply a sum of its parts.



“Teams that take pride in their work, take pride in the company they work for and in the service they provide to their clients.” Allen said.

An IBEW union contractor since the company’s inception and a member of NECA since 1957, Baker understands the importance of putting its employees first. Generations of Baker electricians and their families have benefitted from the most competitive wages, health care and other invaluable benefits afforded to them such as employer-provided pension plans. Baker’s ability to deliver on its commitment to an employee-first business culture year after year is a key differentiator in the industry.

The future indeed looks bright in California. With new opportunities popping up every day in this scaling economy, Baker Electric is excited to play a major role in the historic growth of Los Angeles. Building on 80 years of excellence, Baker is primed to fulfill the demands of the current construction boom and beyond.

Planning for the future: Concept of Pension/Retirement

Disclaimer: Your pension benefit is “unique” and can only be calculated by the pension trust offices. Give them a call and ask them to calculate your retirement numbers. They will answer all your questions and strive to give you “peace of mind.”

Have you ever wondered how our pension (in general) is supposed to work when you retire? For the Inside Wireman and Traffic Signal, the idea (that we are shooting for) is, when you stop working 40 hours a week, then your retirement should provide you the same net “take home” amount to live off of.

You start on your 30-year career in the union electrical trade. You are a good hard worker, working 2,000 hours a year as a Journeyman Wireman. You get married and you and your spouse decide to buy a home. The bank will only qualify you for a 30-year mortgage. That means that you as a couple, as a family, must live off of the remaining 75% monthly take home income. You work consistently for 30 years. Two things should be occurring 1) your home mortgage is paid off 2) you have reached the qualifying age and earned hours to start your retirement. The monthly

retirement income amount should be comparable to the 75% work income you learned to live off for 30 years. Since you no longer have a mortgage, you no longer need the additional 25% to pay it off. That’s roughly the principle design of the Defined Benefit Pension Plan. But wait! There’s more!

The Inside and Traffic Signal Wireman have four additional retirement plans! The Defined Contribution Plan (Annuity) can be budgeted to pay a monthly amount that makes up the other 25% of take-home pay. Additionally, there are two Pensions that come from the International Office (National IBEW Pension) called the National Electrical Benefit Fund (NEBF) and the Pension Benefit Fund (PBF).

The NEBF Pension Benefit is \$32 per year of service (service being at least 300 hours per plan year), so if you worked 30 years then your monthly benefit amount would be (30 x \$32 = \$960) \$960 per month. Now there are plan choices that will reduce that monthly amount, but this is just to give you a general understanding.

The PBF Pension pays a small amount but it is something you earn \$4.50 per year of paying your monthly “yellow” dues. If you pay your dues every month for 30 years, then your benefit is (30 x \$4.50 = \$135) \$135 per month.

Last, don’t forget that you also get Social Security which pays a monthly benefit for life.



All in all, your retirement should look something like this:

- ▶ D.B. Pension – 75% of the take home income
- ▶ D.C. Pension – 25% of the take home income
- ▶ N.E.B.F Pension – \$960 per month
- ▶ P.B.F. Pension – \$135 per month
- ▶ S.S. Pension – (check with SSA for your amount)
- ▶ Total amount should be sufficient to live off of and take care of income taxes

It should be noted that all of these retirement plans don’t necessarily start at the same time. The intention here is to give you an understanding of generally what this career has to offer.

**DISTRICT 1
Shomari Davis**

There are many Projects coming in 2019:

1. LUCAS MUSEUM is a \$1 billion project located at Exposition Square that is in the early stages next to the L.A. Memorial Coliseum. Right now Anderson Howard is finishing The parking levels up to the street level then SASCO Electric will do the museum. They will be acquiring more manpower in the coming months.
2. THE GRAND TOWERS is a project located next door to the Disney Concert Hall at 1st and Grand. This project began with the parking structure demolition and earth work is being done. It's two towers and Rosendin Electric has been awarded the project.
3. THE LA CONVENTION CENTER REMODEL will begin this year that is 1.2 billion by developer AEG.
4. REGIONAL CONNECTOR METRO PROJECT in Downtown L.A. will start to need more manpower. DCD Electric and Dynaelectric will be the NECA Contractors.

**DISTRICT 3
Mike Costigan**

The District 3 work picture continues to be strong with many new projects on the horizon. Comet Electric is currently providing electrical support at the airport for the new Consolidated rent-a- car center (CONRAC), and the Landside Access Modernization Project (LAMP) which will clear the path for some extensive work for Local 11. LAX also has the Mid Field satellite Concourse under construction with over 200 members working for multiple contractors, as well as work in some of the other terminals. Inglewood Stadium is rapidly approaching 500 members with

Rosendin and Morrow Meadows Joint Venture leading the way. And with a 2020 completion date, some overtime should be inevitable.

Our local is seeing a lot of lighting retrofitting in our public schools right now. Notably in District 3 is Baker Electric working in our Santa Monica and Malibu School Districts. Rosendin is also working on the remodeling of the Century Plaza Hotel with a fairly good-sized crew. Not to mention continued work on the Purple line in that same area.

Anybody who checks the jobs board knows SB-54 created a lot of work in our refineries. District 3 is the home of the Chevron Refinery where Contra Costa has assumed the maintenance and projects duties. They currently have 50 members working there, and are looking to add some more members in 2019.

As you can see, we have our share of work on the west side. We would like to recognize all the stewards local wide for helping to represent the membership. They play a vital part in our local union and should be appreciated by all.

I encourage all members to make a commitment to attend a few of our many monthly unit meetings. It's how you can stay informed with what's going on in YOUR union. We need everyone to be energized and engaged in this contract year. And maybe you'll see some old brothers and sisters you haven't seen in a while, and maybe a few new ones. Plus, you'll get fed!! What could be better? As always, it's an honor and a privilege to serve our membership.

**DISTRICT 4
Marc Greenfield**

Greetings from the Valleys. The work picture continues to improve in Santa Clarita Valley. We have made political inroads there, and are turning that valley blue. At our last meeting, we gave out service pins to D4 members. Ray Booth,

and Gaye Chapman received their 40-year pins, Jeff Sayer got a 30-year, and Danny Lerma and Avo Missakian received their 25-year pins. We will continue doing this at our future meetings on the first Tuesday of every month. I would like to thank everyone on The Welfare Committee for all of their help getting food ready for our meetings and for purchasing and selling merchandise.

**DISTRICT 5
Mitch Klein**

As of this writing, the New Year has taken off on a good note. Cupertino Electric has just started hiring for the 120 MW solar project. Kaiser medical clinics are continuing work in Lancaster and Palmdale and Defense is starting to pick up. Through Business Development we have now secured nine "Community Workforce Agreements" around the Antelope Valley. We will soon see work coming from these agreements.

I would personally like to thank all the members who came out and participated in the last elections which was a clean sweep for us in the High Desert. All the political candidates we supported in various seats won. I would like to thank our Business Manager Joel Barton, President Rusty Roten and Political Director Antonio Sanchez for all their support.

Journeyman Classes continue here in District 5. Please sign up for classes at our Unit meetings or the next time you come into the Hall.

I want to thank our officers and volunteers Alfredo Torres, King Moore, Ed Fowler, Edgar Ico, Mike Kaminsky, Luis Martinez, Dion Jensen, Michael Polanco, Roy McBain, Dan Reynolds, Frank Jaseph, Maurice Washington, Maria Cruz Ordon, Darren Hilts, Elizabeth Debroeck, Chris Cragg, Ahmad Anderson, Ruben Santana, Mable Stephen and Steve Killion for all there help and participation.

Until the next writing, God bless, take care and work safe Brothers and Sisters.

On Target for DWP



Members of IBEW 11 with On Target Electric have been busy installing new lighting in office buildings around the region as part of DWP's Small Business Direct Install Program. The

program is intended replace old, inefficient fixtures with new, more energy efficient fixtures. At right, Frank DeLeon installs a fixture at a Business Park in Canoga Park.



SOUND & COMMUNICATIONS Chuck Webb

At the January 12, 2019 Sound & Communications Unit meeting Business Manager Joel Barton spoke to those in attendance about the upcoming contract negotiations and officers of different sub committees of the S&C Unit. An election will be held at the next scheduled unit meeting, Feb. 9th, 2019, to replace the Welfare Committee officers until the sanctioned election to be held in June for all committee seats. Work is keeping most of our members busy and it looks like a lot more is on the way. Stay safe, work smart!

UNIT 14 Luis Arida, Civil Service Business Representative

Sisters and Brothers,

Below are updates to our contract negotiations.

NEGOTIATIONS:

LAUSD: The Building Trades Council and

IBEW Local 11 have finally reached a tentative agreement with LAUSD. After 18 months of slow moving negotiations, we will be able to present you with a contract we believe will be worthy of your vote. In addition to the reported 6% general salary movement, we were able to address prevailing wage inequities, salary differentials, and bonuses. As soon as I have a summary sheet and voting information available I will disseminate more information. I thank you for your patience during this very tumultuous period. Please take this time to make sure that your co-workers are members of their respective unions so that we show the district the solidarity that enabled our team to fight for a fair contract.

LA County: Several weeks ago, the Building Trades Council reached tentative agreement with the County with regard to MOUs 411 and 412. The reason we have not as of yet voted on this contract is that the Fringe Benefit Agreement has not yet been resolved. Normally these two agreements are independent of each other, but this time around there are economic portions on the Fringe Benefit Agreement that directly affect the MOUs. The Building Trades Council is

therefore postponing the ratification of MOUs 411 and 412 until an agreement on the Fringe Benefits is reached. Although this has caused a significant delay, please rest assured that the MOU agreements will be retroactive to October 1 regardless of when they are ultimately ratified. I understand that this process has caused frustration for many of our members, and I am very appreciative of your patience.

LA City: Our MOU 2 and 13 negotiations have resumed! We are working diligently to advance all of the proposals that have been forwarded to me by members! Although progress is slow, we are making some headway towards an agreement worthy of your approval. I hope to have more detailed information by our next Unit 14 meeting.

HACLA: Negotiations for our successor MOU have begun. If you have any proposals, please get them to me as soon as possible.

For further information, please attend our Unit 14 Civil Service meeting which is held every 4th Thursday of the month! If you would like to speak to me directly, please feel free to contact me on my cell phone at (626) 712-4769. Alternatively you can email me directly at arida@ibew11.org.

RETIREE CLUB

CLUB TOURS AND TRIPS

The club had two outings in 2018. The first one we toured the USS Iowa Battleship and Museum in San Pedro Harbor. This was a wonderful experience especially for those who did not serve in the military or who have never been on a Navy ship. They now have a little understanding of cramped quarters.

In June the Retirees Club took a field trip to Justice Brothers Racing Museum in Duarte, California. It is a terrific place to go to see the evolution of motor sports. Founded in 1985, the Museum has a wide variety of vintage racecars, racing motorcycles, street rods, Indy cars from past and present, dragsters and restored classic Fords and other cars from the late 20's and 30's. The team at Justice Brothers has used their experience to develop and formulate products for engine oil and fuel additives, transmissions and specialty lubricants. They had two buildings to tour with about 10 members present. After the tour, most of the members went to lunch at a restaurant in Monrovia.

In late spring of 2019, the club is planning a trip to Wally Parks NHRA Motorsports Museum at the Pomona Fairgrounds. Additional information for this field trip will be discussed and provided at a later date. If you are interested, please let us know.

2019/2020 CLUB OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

The newly elected officers and board

- President: Al Etherton
- Vice President: John Vargas
- Secretary: Sandy Smith
- Treasurer: David Smith
- Sergeant-At-Arms: Joe Zamora
- Board of Directors(8): David Alaniz, Jim Amato, Butch Bachand, Tom Jonynas, Fernando Martinez, Angelo Santoro, Anthony Vann, Joe Wassenaar

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The club is still working on merging and updating our old and new mailing lists so we can continue mailing newsletters to the retirees at least once a year (fall/winter) and sometimes we are able to mail a spring letter.

For the last two years, the club has done most of its communication by E-mail (RetireesClubIBEWLocal11@gmail.com). It's cost effective and convenient. One of our goals is to help retirees keep a little bit informed with what is happening in the Local and the club. When you are retired, the only communication that you receive is "The Electrical Worker" newsletter from the International Office and the occasional letters from the various health/benefits office. If you did not get this newsletter electronically, please send us your E-mail address so we can add you to our E-mail list. Or if you only received the newsletter by E-mail please send us your mailing address. If you know a retired electrician who is not a member of our club or on our E-mail or mailing list, please forward and share the Emails and letters with them.

DUES

If you look at your address label on this newsletter, you will find when your dues are paid through. If you have not paid your annual dues please fill out the form and send dues in. Would you also check the label for correctness and let us know of changes that are needed. Thank You!

NEXT RETIREE'S CLUB MEETING FEBRUARY 13

Our regular meetings are at 10 a.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at ETI
6023 S. Garfield Ave.
Commerce, CA 90040
Conference Room

We have arranged for a guest speaker from UnitedHealthcare and Kaiser Permanente to attend the **Retiree's Club Meeting on February 13, 2019**. They will be providing information about preventative care. Additionally, there will also be a speaker from Optum attending our **March 13, 2019 meeting** to discuss estate planning.

Executive/Board of Directors meeting to be announced typically held in January, May and November of each year.

Additional Info E-mail: RetireesClubIBEW11@gmail.com.

UNION MAKEOVER

Continued from the cover

running wiring and j-boxes for an upcoming safety inspection, Reyes took a moment to reflect on what Local 11 has meant to him.

“The union has opened many opportunities for my family and me,” said Reyes, 24, who joined the union six months ago. “It’s really good for me, knowing I’m always going to be able to find high-paying jobs and knowing I always have someone that has my back. If something goes wrong, I know I can speak up and not be afraid of getting fired.”

One of the current tenants, the NFL’s Los Angeles Rams, which is sharing the Coliseum with USC’s football team, makes scheduling tough given the amount of activity the team has generated.

“We’ve got to have everything back up and

running, all cleared out for home games, at least two days in advance,” said Luis Pena, 43, a low voltage technician. “It’s a unique challenge, all the stopping and starting we’re having to do.”

With the Rams marching all the way to the Super Bowl, the additional playoff activity resulted in additional scheduling challenges into January. The permanent new broadcast booth couldn’t be installed until after the season concluded.

Alex Chavez, 34, a four-year Local 11 member, is a foreman on the job. Chavez spends his days pre-planning for his guys, divvying out materials for the day, laying out tasks and making sure safety precautions are always adopted. Chavez noted the array of trades on site.

“You have so many trades here going 100 miles an hour that are all trying to meet deadlines,” he said. “And we’re a following trade. You’ve got framers, dry wallers, precast, ironworkers, painters, fire proofers. There are about 17 trades in

all. That’s a lot of moving parts.”

Chavez said that the benefits and job security Local 11 have afforded him allow him to spend more quality time at home.

“I get to see my three daughters way more than I used to be able to,” he said. “That’s the best thing ever.”

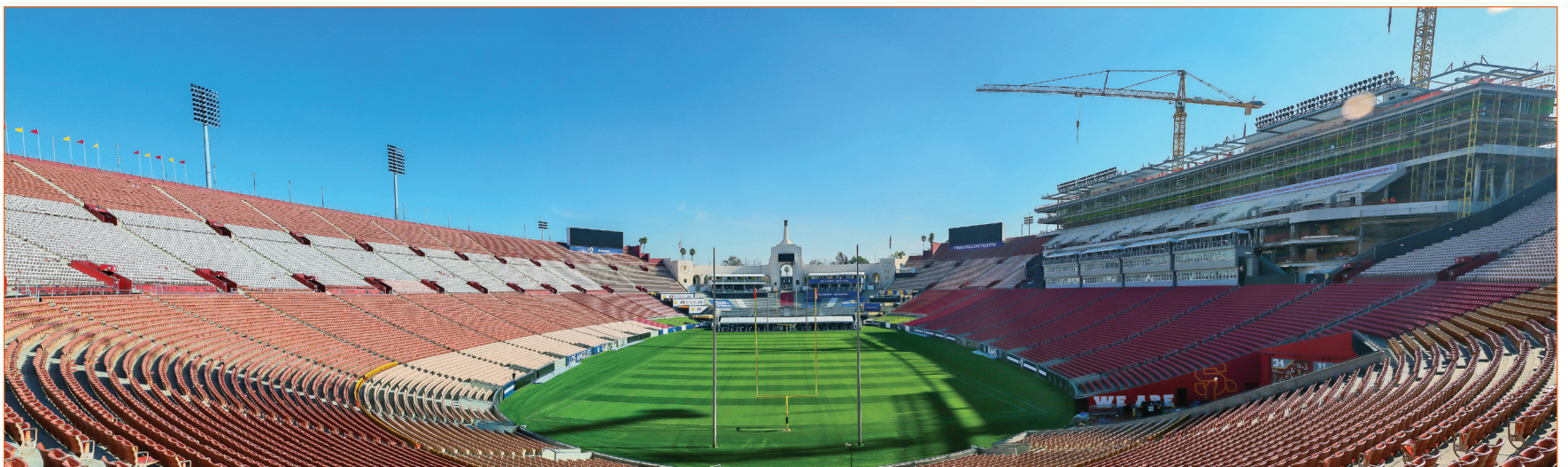
Lee Gutierrez, 44, who has been in the union since 1994, is the general foreman on the job, overseeing a team of more than 50 inside wireman, journeyman, apprentices and low-voltage technicians.

“I’m a third generation member of the Local 11. My father and grandfather before him were proud members. This union has and always will mean a lot to me,” Gutierrez said. “I always have security, in terms of health insurance and medical needs, a great retirement program and there’s the brotherhood, as well.”

Gutierrez’s Local 11 legacy has made



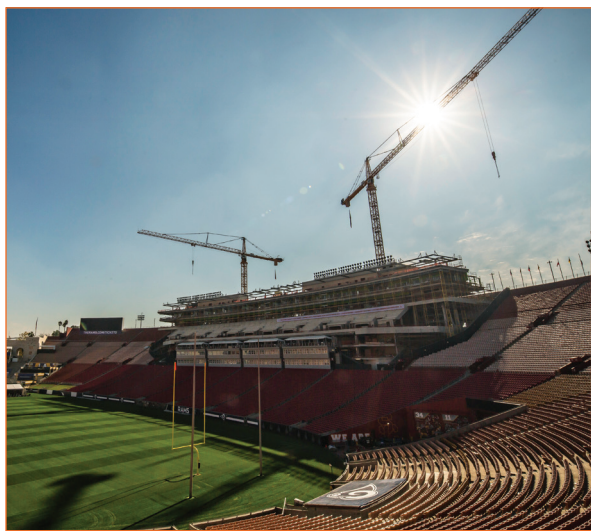
PHOTOS BY TED SOOJI



working on this particular site especially meaningful. “My father worked on the 1983 remodel ahead of the 1984 summer Olympics held here,” he said, beaming. “It’s an awesome opportunity to get to work on the same facility as him decades later, a place I love that I’ve been coming to for years.”

By contrast, the Coliseum renovation workforce also includes journeymen like Kevin Doshna, 28, whose first day on the job was also his first day ever at the Coliseum.

“It’s cool being around guys who have been coming here for years, who have family who worked on the Olympic job,” Doshna said. “I’ve heard guys talk about ‘I remember when the Coliseum was this or when it had that.’ It’s awesome to be around that. This is a pretty cool experience for me, knowing I’ll get to tell my friends and family, this just being a historical job and all. It’s an honor. This is an iconic job.”



The ‘Godfather’ and the Grand Old Lady

Long-time member Degrassi Back for More

By Oren Peleg

The Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in Exposition Park has produced heart-stopping thrills and iconic memories for nearly a century. Since opening in 1923, the designated National Historic Landmark has hosted the Summer Olympics and Democratic National Conventions, been home to USC football, two NFL franchises and welcomed iconic performers like The Rolling Stones and Bruce Springsteen. Pope John Paul II even celebrated Mass there with 100,000 worshippers.

“The place is full of memories,” John Degrassi, 65, said recently from inside the iconic Exposition Park venue. “And I’m proud to say I’ve helped build those memories.”

Degrassi, a long-time IBEW 11 member, helped put in Panasonic light panels in advance of the 1984 Summer Olympics and installed the electrical units in extravagant suites when Al Davis and the L.A. Raiders called the Coliseum home.

And he’s back for more.

On an overcast morning recently, Degrassi strolled around the Coliseum, smiling as Local 11’s finest busy at work on the venue’s latest renovation waved and affectionately called out, “Godfather!”

“That’s what they call me,” Degrassi, who’s serving as area superintendent on the job, said with a laugh. “I get it. I’m old. That’s what you get when you’ve been around long enough to watch the work you’ve put into this place come out and get replaced.”

Degrassi has also seen much of his work last. He’s helped with electrical wiring in countless high-rises downtown over the years and, more recently, the Wilshire Grand Center. While overseeing work on the Coliseum, he’s also pulling double duty frequently stopping by the new Los Angeles Rams stadium in Inglewood.

“It’s always cool to drive by the work sites



you’ve been a part of,” he said. “For me, that means buildings all over the city. I have my Local to thank for all the work over the years and the ability to provide for my family.”

Even though it’s hard to surprise Degrassi when it comes to a job at the Coliseum, the “Godfather” is finding surprises on this latest facelift.

“This job right here,” he said, gesturing out at wiring on an outdoor elevator, “is unique because it went to the bottom of the structure. We’re digging up two or three generations of renovations going all the way down, which is cool to be a part of. There’s history all around us.”

Speaking of history, in the summer of 2028, the Coliseum will become the first venue in history to host three Olympics. When asked if he plans on being in a hardhat for any potential work on the stadium for those games, Degrassi didn’t hesitate.

“I plan on being retired,” said. “I plan on enjoying my retirement benefits and watching the games like everybody else.”

“I get it. I’m old. That’s what you get when you’ve been around long enough to watch the work you’ve put into this place come out and get replaced.”

—JOHN DEGRASSI

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 District 4 Meeting	6 District 2 Meeting	7 District 3 Unit Meeting	8	9 Sound Unit Meeting
10	11	12 D-5 CE/CW Meeting District 5 Unit Meeting	13	14 Empower Meeting	15	16 EWMC Meeting
17	18	19	20 Executive Board Meeting	21 Local 11 General Meeting	22	23
24	25	26	27 District 6 Unit Meeting	28 Unit 14/ Civil Service Meeting		

2019 Los Angeles Women's March



IBEW Local 11 Sisters and Brothers proudly marched in the 2019 Los Angeles Women's March. There was sun, music, speakers and tremendous positive energy! This year's theme Truth to Power called for us to continue to hold our elected officials responsible to their duties to the women and men of this country. The IBEW Sisters and Brothers are committed to GOTV, precinct walking, phone banking, marching and whatever it takes until our working families are represented fairly.

Veterans Caucus: Live Fire Shoot



Our veterans had the opportunity to participate in a Live Fire Shoot at Mike Raahaugues's Shooting Range in Corona, Ca. Our veterans were sponsored by the San Clemente Marine Corps Support Group. This made for a great day of camaraderie. We were also joined by one of our contractors Rubio from On Target Electric.

—Mike Kufchak
Director of Veterans Affairs

BRINGING JOBS BACK

Continued from the cover

organizers, the fight was just beginning.

With SB 54's reforms calling for onsite maintenance and construction workers that meet mandated skill and training requirements, many formerly non-union contract workers at Southern California refineries need proper certification to continue working with contractors who are signatories on the bill. Who are they turning to?

"We've always been organizing at the refineries, talking to workers and telling them about the benefits of union membership," Local 11 Business Manager Joel Barton said recently. "Our pitch is now stronger than ever and we're churning out and incorporating more state certified electricians than ever before by giving them the proper training."

With more and more refinery workers electing to become unionized, the new IBEW 11 members are seeing increased wages, retirement packages and job protections they long lacked. It's also helping localize the workforce, as non-union contractors often exploited the lack of oversight by hiring out-of-

town workers from Southern states. In the mid-2000s, non-local hiring reached upwards of 80-percent, which included workers with H-1B visas.

"The result of this," Business Manager Barton said, "is that we're bringing jobs back to the local community. These guys can buy homes and invest locally."

Improving safety conditions at the refineries is another point of emphasis, according to Business Manager Barton.

"The refineries are safer than they've ever been with a better-trained workforce dealing with the hazardous conditions out on the jobsite," he said. "People living around the areas have gotten more cognizant of that and even wanted to shut them down in the past. So having a better workforce is alleviating some of those concerns, making the relationship between contractors and the community better, too."

He added: "There are benefits from so many sides to this. It's all a huge victory."

Hill in the House



IBEW 11 President Rusty Roten and Business Manager Joel Barton with recently-elected Congressmember Katie Hill at the District 5 Holiday Party. Hill defeated Republican Steve Knight and now represents the Antelope, Simi and Santa Clarita Valleys. Organized Labor, including IBEW Local 11, played a crucial role in flipping the house seat.