

# A Day of Service Across the Nation



Volunteers help distribute clothes and food to those in need during the EWMC's Day of Service.



NOVEMBER 2022

WWW.IBEW11.ORG

THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11

# NEWS @ 11

## Local 11 EWMC Helps Those in Need on Skid Row

By Oren Peleg

**O**n a clear and sunny Saturday morning on Skid Row, Local 11 Business Agent Shomari Davis gathered his volunteers for Local 11's participation in the National Day of Service.

"Let's start unloading the tables and get the taco truck parked across the street," Davis told his 40 volunteers who had assembled bright and early at Gladys Park to get everything ready.

The Day of Service, sponsored by the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC), takes place every year with chapters participating across the nation. "So it won't just be us here in Los Angeles," explained Local 11's

EWMC Chapter President Alton Wilkerson. "It'll be people in New York, it'll be people in Seattle, and at various locations throughout the country. Today we are going to give out a ton of clothes here in the Skid Row area, and we will be feeding hopefully about 800 individuals as well."

Local 11 assembled hygiene kits, shirts, socks, pants, kids clothing, "a little bit of everything," Wilkerson said. *(Continued on page 4)*

## Value of Training Highlighted During ETI Tour

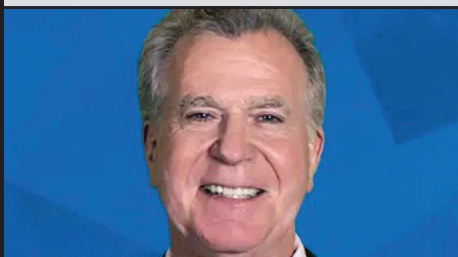
**A**ndrew Meredith was excited. The President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council was on day four of a five-day tour of the state's apprentice programs and he had much to brag about. He had visited Sacramento's Courthouse, the largest PLA in the area, a diesel refinery that was transitioning to renewable diesel energy, and just that

morning he had seen the first offshore wind PLA off the central California coast. And best of all, he had seen a lithium extraction facility in Imperial County, the techniques of which could well provide a promising future for the construction industry.

Meredith was on a mission to highlight the 85th National Apprenticeship Week, held around the country Nov. 14-20, by spotlighting all of *(Continued on page 5)*



(L-R) California Labor Federation Executive Secretary-Treasurer Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, State Building and Construction Trades Council President Andrew Meredith and Local 11 Business Manager Joël Barton



Happy Holidays: Business Manager's Message



Meet Organizer Oscar Martinez



A Look Back at Election Victories



# BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By Joël Barton

## Happy Holidays!

off boxes at various district offices. Don't forget to drop off a new, unwrapped toy to help brighten a young child's holiday season.

### You Made Your Voice Heard

IBEW 11 participated in a big way in the recent mid-term election, and we have much to be proud of. Not only did our members turn out to vote in great numbers, they also volunteered to Get Out the Vote, making sure their neighbors and friends and family voted as well. As a result, the anticipated national "red wave" that would have been brutal for labor unions, never materialized.

I am proud to say that two important local measures we co-sponsored passed resoundingly and will provide our members with thousands of jobs for years to come – the \$5.3 billion community college bond measure, and Measure ULA, the millionaire's tax initiative that will provide at least \$600 million each year to reduce homelessness and provide more affordable housing.

We all know the homeless crisis in our city has reached epidemic proportions. Today, there are some 42,000 people living on the streets in LA, while hundreds of thousands more spend half their income on rent. IBEW 11 recognized early on

that we could be part of the solution. We joined together with the Los Angeles/Orange County Building and Construction Trades Council along with homeless and housing experts to craft the United to House LA (ULA) initiative that creates a steady stream of funding each year to finally tackle our affordable housing crisis. ULA will begin by converting vacant hotels and apartment buildings for homeless use. It will also provide thousands of jobs for our members who will be working on these projects.

IBEW 11 also co-sponsored Measure LA, the much-needed \$5.3 billion community college construction bond. Our nine aging community college campuses are in desperate need of modernization and repair. The money will be used for infrastructure and technology upgrades and to make improvements throughout the system. There will be much work for our members - converting interior and exterior lights to LED lighting, upgrading battery storage, converting utilities to electric, EV charging stations and more.

### National Apprenticeship Week

During National Apprenticeship Week, Nov. 14-20, we were pleased to host Andrew Meredith, president of the State Building and Construction

Trades Council of California, on Thursday, Nov. 17 and show him around the ETI, one of the largest and best apprenticeship programs in the country. Meredith, who is an electrician by trade, was very impressed with our facility, with our teachers and staff, and most of all, with the apprentices who make it all happen.

Meredith noted that apprentices are the future, and more are needed to fulfill all the work we have on deck from those created by President Biden's Infrastructure Bill, which will give us jobs for decades to come, to the local bond and housing measures we just passed that will create thousands of additional jobs.

On the jobs front, the out-of-work list has grown due to construction projects being postponed, supply chain issues and rising interest rates. As you know, November and December are typically slow as we celebrate holidays and take time off to be with family. There are many projects in the works, and we expect calls to pick up in the first quarter.

And finally, I want to welcome the LA County Federation of Labor's new president, Yvonne Wheeler. I've known Yvonne for many years, working together on many LA labor union projects and initiatives that help working families over the years. I've seen first-hand the wonderful work she has done for her members across the labor movement, and I wish her much luck in her new job.

*In solidarity,*  
Joël Barton

**D**ear Sisters and Brothers,  
Happy holidays! I hope everyone had a terrific Thanksgiving and is now gearing up for the December holiday season. It's the season of giving, for family, for community and for those in need. Your union family wishes you a very happy season. I know a lot of the district offices are hosting holiday parties and get-togethers, so we hope you will participate in those as well.

I want to thank all the volunteers with the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC), which hosted an amazing food and clothing giveaway during the National Day of Service on Skid Row on Nov. 19, helping over 900 needy families. You can read about it in this edition of News@11. We partnered with the LA County Federation of Labor, and Labor Community Services, along with IBEW Locals 18 and 477 to feed families who are experiencing food insecurity.

The EWMC is also hosting drop-

# 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

# End of the Year Outlook and Best Wishes for the Holidays

**B**rothers and Sisters, Another year is coming to a close. The job/employment numbers for this year are down from last year and a couple of factors have contributed to this slowing effect. New construction jobs are being delayed by rising interest rates (Prime lending rate) and residual health issues stemming from COVID-19 (Omicron). These same issues have also affected our health insurance

plans, and now the cost of our premiums are starting to increase. Your Local 11 administration has been unswerving in its pursuit of better wages, more jobs and the best healthcare available.

If you have questions about your union benefits, please call the

Pension and Health Trust or our offices.

Thank you for the privilege to serve and have a happy and safe holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Gaylord "Rusty" Roten  
IBEW Local 11 President



# Happy Holidays

## Preaching the Union Gospel, Oscar Martinez Goes Above and Beyond

By Evan Henerson

**W**herever he goes, whatever he does, Oscar Martinez carries his personal and business cell phone and is always armed with plenty of business cards. This is true both on and off the job, when he is out to dinner or even undergoing medical procedures.

"I don't stop," says Martinez who left the field to join the Local 11 Organizing Department in the winter of 2018. "I keep on going. I've been that way since day one. I've always pushed myself to help give someone the opportunity to have a better life."

By all accounts, he's quite good at his mission. During his tenure as a union organizer, Martinez estimates that he has brought between 200 and 250 new brothers and sisters into the union. In 2019, he was honored with the Above and Beyond Award by the IBEW International, but because of the COVID pandemic, he had to wait for the union's membership development conference this summer to receive the certificate recognizing the achievement.

Not that the Carson native has any time to sit around waiting for accolades. He's too busy reaching out to potential new union members. Also in 2019, he joined Local 11 Apprenticeship Coordinator – and former mentor – Alton Wilkerson as a Los Angeles County representative on the

Organizers Without Borders initiative. The two men traveled to Orange County to recruit new members from a Bergelectric job site. The organizing effort was touch-and-go, but ultimately successful, according to Martinez.

"I was literally hiding in corners from the foreman," Martinez says with a laugh. "We took guys from every floor. I would poke my head out and when I saw the foreman, I would dash back inside and find another guy to start talking to, and give him a flyer."

"We're not salesmen," he continues. "We preach the gospel of the union. There are Berg foremen who are making \$43 per hour. We say, 'Come across with us and you'll be making \$57 an hour.' We let them know how it is."

The ongoing Bergelectric campaign has resulted in 450 new Local 11 members to date, according to Martinez.

Martinez will celebrate his 25th year as an IBEW member in June 2023. Before coming to Local 11, he spent 11 years in the trade on the non-union side. Married and with young children, he was looking for better benefits and protection for his family. He went into the Union Hall and was organized in by Larry Henderson. Martinez completed the five-year apprenticeship program in record time.

"I got a meritorious upgrade and perfect attendance the entire four and a half years," says Martinez. "I got a certificate for that, too. And it was the best decision I ever made

for my family."

Although he enjoyed his time in the field as an inside wireman, Martinez was quickly recognized for different talents.

"In 2015, I was a foreman on a job and Robert Corona was my general foreman," he recalled. "In December of 2018 or 2019, he hit me up and said, 'Hey, Oscar I want to see if you want to come into organizing.' I said, 'It would be an honor to help you out.'"

Martinez quickly took to the job, learning when to employ the gift of gab for recruiting purposes and when to listen while the members and potential members are asking questions or voicing their concerns. Martinez credits the many mentors who helped pave the way for his success.

Even after having brought in hundreds of members during his tenure as an organizer, he takes little credit for the achievement. At the local's annual picnic, Martinez recalls being approached by a member who claimed to be among the first apprentices Martinez ever organized.

"He said, 'I just want to let you know that you changed my family's life. I have a daughter who was sick and now I have insurance,'" recalls Martinez. "I said, 'Wait a second brother. I didn't do that. You did that. All I did was open the door and you did the rest.'"

"We don't do it for numbers," he



Local 11 Organizer Oscar Martinez (2nd from left) receives his Above and Beyond Award.

continues. "We do it to give guys careers. Even today when I see Larry, I tell him 'thank you'. When my kids are with me, they tell him thank you too. It's such a fulfilling feeling to be able to give someone a career path."

Martinez and his wife of 30 years, Cristina, have a son and daughter. Martinez has battled cancer for the past three years and he says the work he does for Local 11 helps keep his mind focused on his mission.

"I was going with my dad to treatment and there was a break between treatment, so we went to get a cup of coffee," says Martinez. "There were a couple of electricians in the coffee shop. I brought one of them in and now he's in our apprenticeship program."

"It keeps me going," he says. "It keeps me from thinking about what I don't want to think about."

## DAY OF SERVICE

Continued from page 1

Over the next hour, several vans shuttled EWMC members and their families into the park where they set up the tables and organized donated clothing and other items under the direction of ETI lead senior instructor Summer Zachary.

When she first joined Local 11, Zachary was experiencing hardships of her own, but she said that providing service to those in need helped put things in perspective.

“It also helps you to just get your mind off yourself,” she said, adding that working together in a communal environment really helps boost new members’ self-confidence. “We have a lot of up-and-coming apprentices who come to our Days of Service. It really helps build that brotherhood and it helps build that family feeling and that atmosphere.”

The goal to increase the union’s brotherhood and sisterhood resonates with Marissa Zavala. Hoping to eventually become an Inside Wireman, Zavala regularly attends meetings of the Solidarity Committee, which she says are helpful in building community.



“They provide a meeting place for women and we’re constantly doing workshops and learning about the local and how we can get involved in it,” Zavala said. “You really get as

much as you put in, right? So I just really like to be involved. I’m seeing a lot of men here at this event, and I’m not sure what the statistics are on unhoused people, but I would like to see an event more women-focused to create a safe space for them.”

By 9 a.m. a line had formed outside the park with people waiting to come in to get the food and clothing. Pepper, who calls himself the Mayor of Skid Row, helped to keep order.

“Events like this lift up the morale of the community,” said Pepper, who has lived in the area for 41 years. “It puts more food in people’s bellies and gives them hope when a lot of them feel no hope, no love. It just shows love in a different way.”

This effort of giving back and strengthening the community is at the very core of EWMC and IBEW’s mission. “Every business manager that has been in our union has always emphasized giving back to

the community,” said Zachary. “Not only is it helpful for communities, but it’s advertising, since we reach our members from that community.”

“The Day of Service is another avenue for us to give back to the community that we work so hard to build up by building new schools, building homeless housing projects, and things like that throughout our community,” added Wilkerson. “It’s just another piece of the puzzle.”

For Local 11 member Carlos Martinez, the mission is personal.

“I like donating my time and giving back when I can to people in need,” said Martinez. “Because that could be me in those shoes right there. We just don’t know. Life could turn around really quickly, and that could possibly be me in the future. I know what it is to have things. And I’m very fortunate to be where I’m at now, where I can help the people that don’t.”



## ETI VISIT

Continued from page 1

the outstanding PLA programs around California. His latest stop was the ETI in Commerce, where the staff and IBEW 11 leadership were on hand to host the president and show him around the massive facility – home to one of the largest apprentice programs in the country.

Meredith was especially impressed with the apprentices.

“We are training the workforce of the future,” Meredith told the crowd of staff, officials and IBEW 11 leaders who accompanied him on the tour. “I also want to stress the value of PLAs, and that these apprenticeship programs are growing barrier-free pathways to the middle class. In the building trades, we offer equal opportunities for all.”

With technology constantly changing, from smart phones to smart buildings, “it’s important for our members to keep up,” added IBEW 11 Business Manager Joël Barton. “Especially with technicians who can now program entire buildings from offsite, the work of the IBEW 11 becomes even more critical.”

Best of all, noted Barton, students can earn while they learn a valuable trade, and be debt-free.

A report released earlier this year noted that union apprenticeship programs can go head-to-head with four-year college programs, and offer a better deal for many of our members because it won’t leave students with thousands of dollars in student debt. Analyzing data from the past 10 years from the



U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Census Bureau, the study found that graduates from union apprenticeship programs can make as much money and benefits as workers with a traditional college degree.

California is among the leaders in apprenticeship programs around the nation, with some 21,000 students in Southern California alone, said Chris Hannan, executive director of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council. “LA alone features more than 27 different apprentice programs,” Hannan said. “We’re very proud of our programs.”

“These apprenticeship programs represent a new generation of workers,” Meredith said. “Of

courses I’m an electrician by trade, so I’m biased. I know my own apprenticeship training changed my life. I was able to buy a house and raise three great kids. I’ve seen so many people’s lives transformed.”

Construction apprentice programs like the ETI are some of the best kept secrets, said Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Labor Federation. Gonzalez Fletcher also toured the facility. “These are good-paying careers. But how do we get more women in the trades? We’re working on getting \$25 million in grant funds for pre-apprentice programs for women to help them with basic issues like childcare. Construction starts at 5 or 6 a.m.

There’s no childcare open then.”

California’s Labor Secretary Natalie Palugyai agreed. “Apprentices are the oldest and most successful means to get people in good-paying jobs in promising sectors without the cost of college loans,” she noted. “The building trades are the gold standard in apprenticeships. We want to take these models and take them to other industries. We need to reach out to women about these construction career opportunities.

“These type of apprentice programs are not second-class training programs,” Palugyai added. “We have to educate people about that. In fact, they are better than academic programs in getting graduates good-paying jobs after they complete the program.”



Pictured (L-R) are Chris Hannan, Executive Director of the LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council; LA County Federation of Labor President Yvonne Wheeler; California Labor Secretary Natalie Palugyai and Local 11 Business Manager Joël Barton; and ETI Training Director Diana Limon.

**DISTRICT 1 (NORTH)**  
**Brett Moss**

Greetings from District One North,  
I hope this report finds you and your families well.  
A reminder about meetings. D1 unit meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. in Commerce. The D1 welfare committee meets the last Tuesday of each month in Commerce at 5 p.m. Our holiday party will be December 14. I hope to see you there.  
We continue LAUSD work, Prop HHH work and some mixed projects in the D1N area. The projects coming to Sunset are slow to get going, but are still on the horizon.  
Let's keep looking out for each other on the job. Be mindful to test circuits, use the proper ladder, practice good housekeeping and use that PPE. We are always stronger and safer together.  
Stay safe and be well. Always feel free to reach out via email, phone or text.

**DISTRICT 1 (SOUTH)**  
**Shomari Davis**

IBEW LOCAL 11 has been successful in helping to pass Measure ULA, which will provide \$800 million-\$1 billion worth of affordable housing construction to be done by skilled and trained workers at prevailing wage! Skilled and trained is us! We will have the opportunity to expand our scope and do all that work within the City of Los Angeles with Local 11 members!  
Unit 1 will be having a Christmas party meeting at 5 p.m. on December 14 in the room behind Dispatch at the Electrical Training Institute in Commerce. Enjoy some good food and fellowship with other Local 11 members to celebrate the holidays.  
We are working to make Local 11 a strong labor union that creates a bright future for the members to provide for their families. It is my honor to serve you and push this union forward!

**DISTRICT 2**  
**Gary Tomlin**

My Brothers and Sisters,  
The 2022 year is almost at an end, which means our famous and fabulous District 2 Christmas Party is upon us! We will be returning to the American Legion Hall in Long Beach, 5938 Parkcrest St, Long Beach, from 5 to 10 pm. Bring lots of money for all the great raffle prizes we will have on display. We will be providing tamales, rice, beans, fried turkey, sodas and water along with some cookie trays. Adult beverages can be purchased at the American Legions bar. Come out, bring you family and friends, and let's close out 2022 in style.  
I wish everyone a happy holiday, a great and safe New Year and look forward to what 2023 will bring us. As always, it is my honor to serve as your District 2 Agent.

**DISTRICT 3**  
**Mike Costigan**

District 3 looks to have more work breaking in 2023. LAX Terminal O surveying and utility location has started. LAX will be receiving an additional \$15 billion in funding through the new infrastructure bill and local bond measures. Other projects include Terminal 9 and the MSC south extension. The Purple Line should start to gear up. As the boring comes to an end, the station buildouts will start. Fisk Electric is expected to be performing that work on the PL-2 and PL-3.  
I visited the Chargers Training Facility in El Segundo where Rosendin has a small crew and is looking to man up very soon. District 3 will be having our holiday dinner and years of service pin ceremony at the El Segundo Moose Lodge on Thursday, December 1 at 5 p.m. If you find yourself out that way, come in for

some food and IBEW camaraderie. Please check out the Local 11 website under Welfare Committees, or visit [ibew11d3merch.com](http://ibew11d3merch.com).

**DISTRICT 4**  
**Marc Greenfield**

Hello Brothers and Sisters,  
Greetings from District 4.  
I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving holiday and was able to spend some quality time with family and friends. I would like to invite everyone to our annual holiday party on December 6 at 5 p.m. Bring your families to a traditional holiday dinner complete with raffle prizes and enjoy a great time.  
I want to thank everyone that came out to support the Los Angeles Children's Hospital with our joint blood drive at the D4 Hall. It was so successful that they asked us to host a second drive. We are still in the planning stages but are already grateful for the Local 11 members who came out to save lives!  
I hope everyone has a happy and healthy holiday season, and I am looking forward to seeing you at our holiday party!

**DISTRICT 5**  
**Mitch Klein**

In District 5 we have CSI Electric working the 225 MW solar, battery storage and substation project. We have contractors working at Antelope Valley College, Antelope Valley Transit Authority, Palmdale School District, Lockheed, Northrop, Rockwell and Antelope Valley Hospital. The new \$50 million Cedar Hall project at Antelope Valley College starts the first quarter of next year along with several other projects.  
Congratulations to all our candidates who won their recent elections. This means more Community Workforce Agreements. We have room for members wanting to take the LAQSP class.  
Don't forget that our District 5 holiday party will be Tuesday, December 13 at 5 p.m. This will be potluck, so please bring a dish. We will have food, raffles and Santa Claus for the kids. I hope to see all of you here. Special thanks to our officers and members for all their hard work and participation in making District 5 and Local 11 great!

**DISTRICT 6**  
**Jacob Troncoza**

Hello Brothers and Sisters,  
I have attended many pre-jobs and there is work coming up in D6! Work currently in our area is at the beginning stages of multimillion dollar jobs. They will need your help in the future.  
I have walked many jobs in SGV. Please notify me if there's a job you need me to walk.  
On the political front, we have been working hard to gain allies and support union-friendly candidates for PLAs. Norwalk has a multimillion-dollar job. El Monte has a \$300 million job.  
Our mission is to move, change and grow. Thanks to all the volunteers who give their time and energy to support our mission!  
I hope and pray that all of you and your loved ones are in good health and keeping safe during the holidays.

**UNIT 14 CIVIL SERVICE**  
**Luis Arida**

The following are updates for contract negotiations.  
LA City: On November 5, the new one-year agreement with the City was ratified. There will be a 3% increase on your check starting January 1. You will also receive a lump sum cash payment equal to 5% of your yearly salary on July 26, 2023. We will resume negotiations early in 2023 for a successor MOU with the new administration.  
LA County: By now you should have seen your \$1,375

signing bonus on your check along with the October 1 raise and retro. If you have not, please let me know as soon as possible.

For further information, please attend our monthly Unit 14 meeting on the fourth Thursday of every month at 5 p.m. Additionally, please feel free to contact me.

**COMPLIANCE REPORT**  
**Veronica Martinez**

I want to take this opportunity to share a recent occurrence that displayed the power of conversation, specifically for our members working on PLA projects for non-union subscription agreement contractors. I encourage you to talk to the core workers, share the benefits of becoming a union member with them and talk about the wages you are being paid. Just last month an apprentice working for a non-union contractor had one of these conversations with the non-union workers and guess what happened? The apprentice reported to the assigned business agent and Compliance Department that they felt the workers were being cheated of wages. After we conducted an investigation, it was discovered that this non-union contractor, who had been winning a lot of school district work, had not been paying its direct core workers prevailing wages. They were paying their workers \$20 per hour for electrical work! So, if you hear about it, report it!

**CW/CE**  
**Jackie Waltman**

For all CW6's, I have sent an email on how to get on the ETI website to get you access to the California State Practice Exam. Also remember that going to school is very important. You need 150 school hours and work hours per year. All CWs must keep your Trainee card updated. It is your responsibility to do so. Without a Trainees Card that is updated every year, you will not be able to work.  
IBEW is currently involved with IBEW Strong, which focuses on inclusion, diversity and equity for the working class. On that note I was honored and privileged to attend the Women's Conference in Washington DC, which is focused on retention for women in the trade.  
It is my pleasure to serve as your Apprentice and CW/CE Business representative and CW/CE Coordinator.

**INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION**  
**Chris Longoria**

Greetings brothers and sisters,  
I hope this message finds you in good health and prosperity.  
I've been making my way around and have had the opportunity to speak with many of you. The work picture for transportation in 2023 looks very strong. The need for skilled and trained transportation members will be in high demand. If you know someone that is interested in becoming a member, ask them to contact me for more information. Don't Wait! The time to get involved is now.  
Each district hall will be hosting a holiday party and these events are a good opportunity to meet and communicate with other members. I encourage you to attend.  
It is my privilege to represent Local 11 and the members of the Intelligent Transportation Systems Group.

**MANUFACTURING-INDUSTRIAL**  
**Kristian Mendoza**

I hope this message finds you and your families well. I will start with manufacturing and our brothers and sisters at Kinkisharyo.  
As of October 27, we had a tentative agreement that  
*(Continued on page 7)*

# Midterm Election Victories: ULA, School Bonds and More

By Antonio Sanchez

The midterm elections are behind us, and although the results are not certified, there are clear winners. I am most excited to share that our United to House LA measure (ULA) in the city of Los Angeles received about 58 percent of the vote. We needed 50 percent plus one for approval. Moving forward, everyone will benefit from the construction of new housing units built by IBEW

(and other building trades unions) because we cared enough to vote "Yes" on this measure.

Measure ULA will change Los Angeles for the better by helping renters and seniors stay in their homes and assist people experiencing homelessness. And it's worth repeating: the new housing will be built union!

Thankfully, billions of dollars in school renovation bonds were also approved. These bonds are important because they provide funding for facility upgrades at our public schools and send steady

jobs calls into the hall, even in a recession. Voters approved \$5.3 billion for the Los Angeles County College District, \$1.7 billion for Long Beach USD, \$425 million for Cerritos Community College, \$375 million for Santa Monica College, \$350 million for Compton USD, and \$120 million for Palmdale USD. These districts either have an existing project labor agreement (PLA) or they will have one. And that results in local job calls for you, our members.

Overall, there will be many new faces on our city councils, school

boards, and the other locally-elected positions. Know that I and your Local 11 staff will focus on building relationships with those newly-elected officials. Our goal is always to create more work for IBEW members.

Visit <https://electionresults.sos.ca.gov> if you want to see the results for state candidates and visit: <https://results.lavote.gov/#year=2022&election=4300> if you want to see the result of a local election.

I have many reasons to be grateful. Being part of this local is one of them.

## IBEW International President Lonnie Stephenson Announces Retirement

After seven years as International President of the IBEW, Lonnie R. Stephenson is retiring.

When he took office in 2015, the IBEW was still digging out from the wreckage of the Great Recession.

Stephenson was president during a period of nearly unprecedented chaos. After just one year in office, committed antiunion politicians controlled all three branches of the federal government. The Supreme

Court imposed right-to-work on the entire public sector workforce in 2018 and in 2020, the COVID-19 global health emergency silenced offices, factories, call centers, construction sites and schools.

Despite it all, the IBEW continued to grow steadily, year after year, until a small dip during the worst of the pandemic.

"It's been the honor of my life to serve the members of the greatest union in the world and advance the cause of trade unionism in the electrical industry," Stephenson

said. "As hard as it is to step aside, I am confident the IBEW remains in good hands."

As he steps down, effective Jan. 4, the IBEW has more "A" members than at any time in its history. And each year, thanks to the IBEW Strong program he shepherded, that membership looks more and more like the communities its members serve.

Stephenson built the closest and most productive relationship between a union and the White House in more than half a century.

*(Continued on page 8)*



*(Continued from page 6)*

has been ratified with Kinkisharyo. This agreement will improve wages, benefits and time off for all members. Some highlights are sick days going from 32 hours to 40 hours, and wages increases totaling 25.5% over three years. I would like to thank all of our members for being patient during the process.

We sent Covanta our bargaining request and are waiting for dates to begin negotiating a new CBA. I will keep you updated in the coming months as to where we are at with negotiations.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out.

### REFINERIES Manny Solis

Work in the refineries remains consistent and steady. Schultz Electric will continue to need more manpower throughout this year at both the Marathon-Carson and Marathon-Wilmington Refineries. Calls for Schultz Electric require members to have a RSO20 card, TWIC, OSHA 30, be fully vaccinated, and be able to pass a hair follicle drug screen.

Newtron Electric will continue to place calls throughout this year at new World Energy Refinery,

Paramount. Calls for Newtron Electric require members to have a RSO20 card, OSHA 30, NFPA70E, and be fully vaccinated.

Contra Costa Electric is also looking to bring on additional manpower for a large project they have been awarded at P66 Refinery, Wilmington. Calls for Contra Costa Electric require members to have a RSO20 card, a TWIC card, and be fully vaccinated.

Many of our other refinery contractors will have contracts that will require additional manpower in 2023.

### SOUND AND COMMUNICATIONS Christine Austria-Lozoya

It's almost time to say goodbye to 2022. Come celebrate with Unit 9 this December 10 at 9 a.m. on the 2nd floor of the Pasadena Office to feast and be merry.

It's been a long challenging year with ups and downs that we have overcome. The work picture looks good for 2023. I have spoken to many contractors that say the work is around the corner. Our organizing team and business development department have worked diligently to try and capture the work and bring in new contractors to support this.

As for our Sound negotiations, after labor and

management went to CIR, a decision was made and we will bring the opportunity for you to allocate the wage increase in the weeks to come.

### VETERANS Mike Kufchak

The Veterans Committee met in October. Our Political Director Antonio Sanchez addressed us about the mid-term elections and the importance of making our voices heard through voting. Manny Solis provided an informative brief on the refineries. Our own Diana Luna-Roth represented Local 11 Veterans at the Clippers Game and was recognized as the Veteran of the Game for Veterans Day.

I participated at the Rio De Los Angeles State Park where Local 11 and ESSCO Electric helped establish a Veterans Memorial within the park by erecting flagpoles along with the installation of electrical work that supports the lights that shine upon our national flag.

As we prepare to close the year out, I want to give a shoutout to our graduates of the Veterans Electrical Entry Program (VEEP) who will complete their pre-apprenticeship program on December 2. We look forward to them joining our Apprenticeship Program.

# Vote on your Contract Allocation Through Friday, December 2

## Inside Wiremen

A contract allocation in the amount of \$2.20 is coming up at the end of January 2023. We are required to notify L.A. NECA, 45 days in advance of how the raise is to be allocated.

The Inside Wireman's Benefit Committee has met and recommends the following:

- \$ .20 cents to the H.R.A. (\$ .75 cents + \$.20 cents = \$ .95)
- \$ .20 cents to the D.C. Pension Plan (\$ 6.14 + \$.20 cents = \$ 6.34)
- \$ 1.80 to wages (\$ 57.20 + \$ 1.80 = \$ 59.00)
- Total: \$ 2.20

The voting to approve this allocation will be held through Election Buddy (electronic voting) through Friday, December 2. Please contact an IBEW Local 11 office to update your email address.

"Yes" vote approves the recommended allocation

"No" vote will put the whole \$2.20 on wages

If you have questions, please contact the main office at (626) 243-9700. Please vote for your preferred allocation choice.

## Intelligent Transportation

A contract allocation amount of \$2.20 is coming up at the end of January 2023. We are required to notify L.A. NECA, 45 days in advance of how the raise is to be allocated.

The Intelligent Transportation Wireman's Benefit Committee has met and recommends the following:

- \$ .30 cents to the H.R.A. (\$ .65 cents + \$ .30 cents = \$ .95)
- \$ .10 cents to the D.C. Pension Plan (\$ 6.24 + \$.10 cents = \$ 6.34)
- \$ 1.80 to wages (\$ 57.20 + \$ 1.80 = \$ 59.00)
- Total: \$ 2.20

The voting to approve this allocation will be held through Election Buddy (electronic voting) through Friday, December 2. Please contact an IBEW Local 11 office to update your email address.

"Yes" vote approves the recommended allocation

"No" vote will put the whole \$ 2.20 on wages

If you have questions, please contact the main office at (626) 243-9700. Please vote for your preferred allocation choice.

## LONNIE STEPHENSON

Continued from page 7

The names of the IBEW and its members, including Stephenson personally, were spoken by the President weekly, sometimes daily.

The real value of the relationship, however, was measured in the laws that were passed and in the allies of working people appointed to positions that matter for worker safety, wages and quality of life.

After nearly 50 years in the IBEW, Stephenson leaves a stronger, more diverse, more powerful and more optimistic IBEW. Today, the IBEW is a union ready to ensure that the electrification and energy transition of the North American economy will create a better, cleaner and more reliable future built, run and maintained by the kind of jobs working people used to be able to take for granted.

The International Executive Council appointed International Secretary-Treasurer Kenneth W. Cooper to fill the remainder of Stephenson's term and Sixth District International Vice President Paul Noble to fill the remainder of Cooper's term.

"Lonnie did something extraordinary. We faced historically bad headwinds during his term, and he leaves us stronger than he found us: more members, more friends and better prospects for the future," Cooper said. "He might not like me saying this out loud, but he was the perfect combination of leadership and vision that this union needed."

Stephenson plans to retire in Florida close to his wife Dawn's parents and spend as much time as possible not living out of a suitcase.

"Part of what we fight for is a retirement you have time to enjoy. Work brings us together, but you have to walk away from the tools before you need a cane to do it," Cooper said. "Lonnie and Dawn have earned this time together and I join every IBEW member across North American in wishing that theirs is long, happy and healthy."

# Per Capita Increase Announcement

The Delegates of the 40th IBEW International Convention, which was conducted in Chicago, Illinois, during the week of May 9 through May 13, 2022, approved several amendments to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution. Accordingly, effective January 1, 2023, there will be an increase of two dollars (\$2) for the per capita that is paid to the IBEW General Fund only. There will also be an increase of two dollars (\$2) in the IBEW Pension Benefit Fund (PBF) contribution, which applies to "A" members only. Therefore, \$22 per month from each member will be deposited in the IBEW General Fund, and the additional amount paid by "A" members (\$21 per month) will be deposited into the IBEW PBF.

The rates will apply to the international office portion of all monthly dues payments for January 2023, and thereafter. For your reference and information, all of the rate changes that were approved at the 40th International Convention are summarized below:

Effective Date:	1/1/2023	7/1/2024	1/1/2025	7/1/2025
Per Capita:	22.00	23.00	23.00	24.00
Pension Fund:	21.00	21.00	23.00	23.00
Total:	43.00	44.00	46.00	47.00

	"A" Members	"BA" Members	"FP" Fee Payers
Per Capita:	22.00	22.00	22.00
Pension Fund:	21.00	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Total:	43.00	22.00	22.00

# IBEW Sisterhood in Vegas



IBEW Local 11 had the largest delegation — 42 sisters and one brother — at the Tradeswomen Build Nations Conference held Oct. 28-30 in Las Vegas.



## Holiday Swag

Local 11 merch makes great holiday gifts! Check out your district welfare committee for all the great options!