



JUNE/JULY 2024

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THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11

NEWS @ 11



IBEW Local 11 Business Manager Robert Corona, pictured at a rally for Prop 1 earlier this year, was recently elected to a full term.

IBEW 11 2024 Election Results

Local votes to retain Robert Corona as Business Manager

By Robert Fulton

IBEW Local 11 completed its union officer elections earlier this month, with the membership resoundingly

supporting Robert Corona as Business Manager/Financial Secretary.

Corona took over as Business Manager in December of 2023. Following Joel Barton's resignation, Local 11's Executive

Board voted to appoint Corona for the top spot.

Corona has steadily guided the local since his appointment and is grateful for the trust the membership has shown him in giving him the opportunity to continue.

"I am thankful to my IBEW brothers and sisters for their support," Corona said. "I'm eager to continue the work we've started these past few months and lead Local 11 forward."

Robert Corona joined IBEW Local 11 in 1991 after serving four years in the Air Force and working for two years as a shop steward in the refineries before he applied for the apprenticeship as an Inside Wireman electrician. He moved into his role as an Organizer with IBEW 11 in 1998.

He is only the third Business Manager to helm IBEW 11 in the 21st century and the first person of color to hold the position.

In other election results, Alton
(Continued on page 5)

I.B.E.W. Local 11's ANNUAL UNION PICNIC AND HEALTH FAIR

AUGUST 3RD 10 TO 4

FOOD SERVED 11:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

Hollywood Sports Park
9030 SOMERSET BLVD., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706

ENTERTAINMENT:
DISC JOCKEY • RAFFLES • HORSESHOES • BOUNCE HOUSES • BINGO
CIGAR LOUNGE • INFLATABLE GAMES • ROCK WALL • HIGH STRIKER • GEL BLASTERS
AXE THROWING • ARCADE • ADULT GAMES • CHILDREN GAMES & PRIZES

PAINTBALL is an optional event being offered to our Members at a reduced price. For those who would like to participate, all gear provided.

REGISTRATION FOR TICKETS WILL BE ONLINE ONLY • PLEASE VISIT: www.ibew11.org



It's My Honor to Serve



School Modernization Means More Jobs



Tips for Staying Cool



BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE

By Robert Corona

It's My Honor to Serve

Plus: Job calls, technology and keeping cool

Brothers & Sisters of Local 11, I am honored by your recent show of support in electing me as your Business Manager.

When I was appointed Business Manager back in December following the retirement of Joël Barton, I felt an enormous responsibility. Not only did I need to serve you, the members, but I also had to earn your trust.

I needed to prove to you my capabilities and my performance will always be in the best interest of this Local and its members.

Now that I have been elected Business Manager outright, nothing has really changed. I still promise to serve the members to the best of my ability, and I still need to continue to earn your trust.

I have immense gratitude for the thousands of members who participated and raised their voice during the recent election, and I applaud the large number of members who turned out to

vote. A union is only as strong as its members' participation, and make no mistake, this is one strong union!

You have entrusted me with your livelihoods, so I make this promise: I am the Business Manager of ALL of Local 11, and I will work hard for all the members, whether you voted for me or not. We are stronger together!

Union Matters

I'm happy to report that job calls have started to improve, and we expect that to continue. Our bottom-line mission is to ensure that you're working so you can put food on your tables for you and your families.

We're also starting to utilize technology more. This includes:

- Fine-tuning the Dispatch system by including a hyperlink on the web site to make it easier for members to check the zip code required calls.
- We are working on the ability where you can get your certification scanned and saved in our system. This is so you don't have to show your certificate every time.

• We're also launching an app to better communicate with the membership and provide information at the tap of a button. We should have this up and running by the end of July. In order to facilitate this smoothly we need you to download the app on your phone. Scan the QR code or click **this link** to download.



Speaking of certifications, please keep those up to date. Various certifications are available, and you don't want to lose work because your certifications aren't current.

One final thing: These summer months can be brutal. Heat stroke is a real thing. Take care of yourself, listen to your body and stay hydrated.

Stay safe. Be well.

*In Solidarity,
Robert Corona
Business Manager/Financial Secretary*

**You have entrusted me with your livelihoods, so I make this promise:
I am the Business Manager of ALL of Local 11, and I will work hard for all the members, whether you voted for me or not. We are stronger together!**

IBEW 11's NEWS@11

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Vice President
Eric Brown

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's Been an Honor and Privilege To Serve You

Brothers and Sisters,
As I prepare to “hand off” my job as President of IBEW Local 11, I would like to take this moment to thank you all for having confidence in me and electing me to two terms as your President. There is a lot of responsibility that comes with this title, and I am extremely confident that the newly elected officers of IBEW Local 11 will continue

to provide all of us with superior service and representation.

I'm proud of our track record. We progressively improved Inside Wireman's wages and got double time after 10 hours instead of 12 hours. The Sound and Communication wage and fringe package are the highest in So. California. We were able to keep everyone working during COVID and when vaccines were first available, we got our members first opportunity to get them. I am

confident that we have improved our market share as well as our wages, fringes and working conditions.

As I've said in the past, be the best skilled electrician out there! Maintain a good work ethic and do your best to give the customer “best value.” Thank you again for allowing me to serve this great local!

*In Solidarity,
Gaylord R. “Rusty” Roten
IBEW 11 President*



New Apprenticeship Initiative for Battery and Advanced Manufacturing Sectors

Local Unions of the IBEW, the world's largest union of workers in the electrical industry, announced the creation of the Clean Transportation and Advanced Manufacturing Electrical Training Trust. This new apprenticeship training initiative draws on IBEW's 133 years of electrical experience to prepare today's workforce for the industrial, manufacturing and technology jobs of the clean economy.

The announcement came from the California State Association of Electrical Workers (CSAEW), representing more than 83,000 union electrical workers.

IBEW has committed national resources to develop customized training for individual workplaces in collaboration with employers. Apprenticeship and skilled training opportunities will include Medium/Heavy Duty Clean Vehicle Mechanics, Industrial Manufacturing Technicians and other battery and advanced manufacturing careers.

“The IBEW is on the cutting-edge of sustainable technologies, including batteries,” said IBEW Local 11 Business Manager Robert Corona. “We look forward to leveraging our decades of apprenticeship training in construction, the gold standard

in the industry, to bring best practices to the battery and advanced manufacturing sector.”

IBEW has dedicated electrical training centers in more than 35 locations along the west coast of the United States, which give electrical workers classroom and lab training to go with the on-the-job skills they learn in a paid apprenticeship. In addition to advanced manufacturing, the new training trust creates the opportunity to use these facilities for new and emerging clean technology sectors like zero-emission vehicle maintenance.

“Like President Biden, when we think about climate action,

we think about union jobs,” said IBEW 9th District International Vice President Dave Reaves. “The unprecedented federal investments from the Biden Administration are creating high demand for skilled workers in a variety of battery sectors from manufacturing components to recycling and repurposing to troubleshooting and repairing electric trucks and buses. The IBEW is ready to meet this moment and we are bringing national resources to this initiative spearheaded by Local Unions to make sure these sectors are creating middle-class, union career opportunities in the IBEW.”

POLITICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

School Modernization Means More Jobs

By Antonio Sanchez

This article is about an issue near and dear to my heart – our public schools, where my kids go, where your kids go – that will create better learning environments and more jobs for Local 11.

Government agencies in Los Angeles County have until mid-August to decide whether they will place a measure or bond before the voters in November of this year. More specifically, that means school districts and community college districts will decide if they place construction or modernization bonds on the ballot, which means work for you and our contractors. I track this

closely because we have the ability to support bonds where we have a project labor agreement (PLA). Naturally, if we don't have a PLA and the agency is placing a bond on the ballot, we'll pursue a PLA and lock down the work.

According to a recent study by the Public Policy Institute of California, a quarter of public school students in California attend schools with damaged floors, walls, or ceilings, and 14 percent with damaged electrical systems. We need to modernize our public schools.

It is very likely that California voters will vote on a statewide school construction and modernization bond in November. Couple those funds with a local school bond and that can mean millions of dollars in school construction,



which means more job calls for IBEW and the other building trades.

I will continue to update you on various topics that we will vote on in November.

**DISTRICT 1
NORTH & SOUTH
Brett Moss**

Brothers and Sisters, greetings from District 1. I hope this report finds you and your families well.

Our D1 South Rep Shomari Davis has retired. I want to thank him for his years of service and being a great tool buddy when I came to cover the District with him.

I will be covering all of D1 while the Business Manager considers candidates for the future D1 South Rep.

Work in the area is still moving slowly, but we have had calls coming in for the area. We continue to see strength in LAUSD and Prop HHH residential projects.

A reminder, D1 unit meetings are on the second Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. in Commerce, please come when you can. The D1 welfare committee meets the last Tuesday of each month in Commerce: if you need assistance, please contact me.

With the heat returning, be sure to stay hydrated and watch out for your brothers and sisters.

Stay safe and be well. Always feel free to reach out via email, phone or text.

**DISTRICT 3
Mike Costigan**

Well, summer is here, and with that, we should see our job calls continue to increase. Taft Electric continues to man up for the Airport/Metro Connector [AMC] and is starting a new project at Will Rogers Learning Community in Santa Monica. Taft has a lot of new construction schoolwork in the Santa Monica School District as

well as LAUSD. If you see a job call for them, I recommend taking it.

I have been asked to help represent the members of IBEW at the Intuit Dome. I visited the site last week and met with our stewards. It's an impressive venue, and all that worked on it should be proud.

More notable work in district 3 would be the Sasco calls. The project I'm most excited about is LACMA. As the GC continues to remove the shoring of the concrete, more access becomes available to the other trades to get in.

**DISTRICT 5
Mitch Klein**

Good day Brothers and Sisters, my deepest appreciation and personal thank you to this membership for all their support in this last election. This administration has worked so hard in securing work under "PLA's" and/or Community Work Force Agreements and representing each and every one of you.

Work is picking up in the High Desert. Look for calls at the Palmdale School District, Palmdale Water District, Solar and Battery Storage, the new Resiliency Emergency center at AV Fairgrounds and the new Commons Building project at Antelope Valley College just to name a few.

Do not forget to renew your State License. You can send the renewal one year in advance. Don't get caught without your license

Please contact the ETI for Journeyman classes in District 5.

Thank you to Beto Gonzales, Kris Mendoza, Officers and members for all their hard work, participation and help in keeping District 5 the great District it is today.

**CIVIL SERVICE
Luis Arida**

The following are the current updates for contract negotiations.

County:

We need to dramatically increase our union density across all trades at the County so that we can be in the best possible bargaining position come spring of 2025 when we begin negotiations. To this end, we will be significantly ramping up our efforts to organize the non-members by visiting as many shops as possible over the coming months. Please help our efforts by setting up a visit to your location as soon as possible and talking to your coworkers. Additionally, please begin sending me your potential contract proposals right away.

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 at (626) 712-4769. or email me directly at arida@ibew11.org.

**INTELLIGENT
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS
Chris Longoria**

The recent allocation for IBEW Local 11's Transportation Systems members saw a turnout that was nothing short of phenomenal.

Your overwhelming support has fueled our engines and set us on a path to success!

Under the steadfast guidance of our administration, we've accelerated our division's growth by nearly 25%. They've kept us on track, navigating challenges with finesse, and paving the way for even greater progress ahead. Together, we're not just moving forward; we're in the fast lane towards excellence!

As we continue this exciting ride, let's stay connected, stay committed, and keep IBEW Local 11 moving full speed ahead. Your dedication drives us, and together, there's no limit to how far we can go!

Should you wish to learn more or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me directly at (626) 318-6333 or via email at clongoria@ibew11.org.

**REFINERY REPORT
Manny Solis**

At the Carson Refinery, Schultz Industrial is doing the Automation Modernization Project (AMP) Project, and at the Wilmington Refinery, Schultz is doing the LASER Project. Both projects are projected for a duration of more than 8 to 10 years. Schutz Industrial will need more RSO20 trained Journey persons and apprentices this summer 2024. At a later time, Schultz will need many instrumentation technicians (level "A" and level "B").

Contra Costa Electric is gearing up for work at the Chevron Refinery in El Segundo. They are scheduled to perform the ISOMAX turn-arounds in the third quarter of this year and will be performing pre-turn-around work in two separate shifts this fall. To take a call out to the Chevron Refinery, members need to have a current RSO20 training card.

Bragg Investment Company will also be in need of additional manpower at the Valero, Wilmington Refinery. As you may all have heard, Bragg has recently taken over all the contract work at this refinery.

**SOUND & COMMUNICATIONS
Christine Austria-Lozoya**

Sound and Communications calls are going unfilled. Certifications, zip codes, and experience with different scopes of work are some of the requested or required needs of the contractors. There are approximately 58 Installers on Book 1 and 20 calls being requested. Inside wiremen are potentially filling some of those calls.

For the past two years I have informed our Sound membership that work was going to pick up and there will be a high volume of certifications requested. BICSI, Fiber Fusion Splicing, TWIC, RSO, FLS,VDV, LAQSP w/OSHA 30, etc.

The ETI provides us with Journeyman courses that can help with this need to fill the calls. Unfortunately, registration participation is extremely low. Please make sure you register ASAP.

The ETI is taking registrations for RSO and FOA for the month of July. Expand your knowledge and skillset and make a difference.



Organizer Zac Solomon representing IBEW Local 11 at the L.A. Latin American Career Fair held at the USW Local 675 in Maywood.

DISTRICT 3
Carlos Rodarte

Greetings Brothers and Sisters from District 3. I hope everyone has had an amazing month so far. Summer is here, so stay hydrated.

I wanted to share a few things about my organizing efforts. I have visited several jobsites in District 3 to bring more electricians and contractors into our local. Some of the jobsites I visited are commercial, residential mixed use and retail stores.

At the VA Hospital in West LA, I came across RDM Electric and Brentwood Electric. Also, I attended a planning commission hearing in downtown LA. These projects are going to put many members to work. A 50-story mixed-use development of 580 residential dwelling units and up to 7,499 square feet (about twice the area

of a tennis court) of ground floor commercial use on 34,679 square feet. Additionally, 296,853 square feet of floor area will be added to the Los Angeles Convention Center.

DISTRICT 5
Adalberto "Beto" Gonzales

Brothers and Sisters,

Greetings from District 5. As your organizer, I continue to visit jobsites in our jurisdiction along with the organizing team. We have been speaking to unrepresented electricians and informing them of the great opportunities that the IBEW has to offer.

I have also been going to career fairs at high schools and giving them information about our trade. I speak about our apprenticeships, wages, benefits, retirement, and tell them about my personal experience with joining a trade and not going to college.

I have attended city hall meetings in support of the expansion/renovation of the Los Angeles convention center. I am happy to report that the board is in support of this work and has given the go ahead to move forward to the next steps.

Congratulations to our member elected Officials, Business Manager Robert Corona, and all the elected officers of Local 11. Thank you, members, for your support.

ELECTION RESULTS

Continued from page 1

Wilkerson was named President, Kelly Oliver Vice President, Gary Tomlin Treasurer and Irene Valenzuela Recording Secretary.

In the first round of balloting, the local decided on Executive Board and Examining Board positions and Convention Delegates.

The Executive Board includes: John Harriel, Jr., Gus Alfaro, Armando Gutierrez, Anthy V. Hadjimarkos, Shawn McDonald, Michael Hawkins and Davion Darden.

The examining Board includes: Luis Corona, Gilbert G. Ortiz III, Myra D. Hildreth, Shan Hicksonbottom and Chris Rodriguez.

Convention Delegates include: Larry Caldwell, John Harriel, Jr., Shomari Davis, Luis Corona, Irene Valenzuela, Gary Tomlin, Brett Moss, Dannielle Lewis, Gus Alfaro, James M. Gruen and Kelly Oliver (Alternate).

IT'S HOT OUT THERE.
Here's a Reminder to Work Safely.

Drink plenty of water.
Take regular breaks.
Cool down in the shade.
Report heat symptoms early.
Know what to do in an emergency.

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

VETERANS CORNER

Another cohort of VEEP graduates join the ranks

By Mike Kufchak
Director of Veteran Affairs

Fellow Veterans of Local Union 11,

Since our last correspondence, "Pre-Election," the local has graduated yet another class of Veterans from the LA06 VEEP Program, to which we maintained nine new Veterans within our Local. Our next class LA07 will start

promptly on July 1.

In the intermediate, I recently returned from La Grange, Tx. from viewing their program to better assist our AJATC's regarding the Lineman Program. Please note that I represent all the 9th District regarding VEEP Programs.

I am currently in the process of preparing for the Membership Development Conference that will take

place in August, as I will be presenting all programs that are Veteran related from the main stage.

Please note that the Local 11 Veterans Committee has established a Facebook Page. Please take the time to register.

Link for registration:
facebook.com/groups/1292093491508732