



NEWS @ 11

IBEW11.ORG

THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11

APRIL 2026



features a 140,000-square-foot event space, a 23,000-square-foot emergency operations center, and a 7,500-square-foot community kitchen.

“The project’s expected completion date is April of 2026,” Lipe said, noting that 20 Local 11 members will be on site before it’s finished. “They’re looking to have it opened up before the Poppy Festival, which is at the end of April. I think we’re going to be able to hit that mark and have this open for that event, and hopefully the whole community loves it.”

Each day begins with a review of materials, assignments, and, most importantly, safety expectations, a standard that stands in stark contrast to the non-union experience of apprentice Bryant Cooper as a foreman at a lighting control company.

“Anything you feel unsafe about is a topic that everyone gets involved in at IBEW,” said Cooper, who is nearing journeyman status. “On the non-union side, safety was kind of irrelevant. They would give you bare-bones equipment. The first time that a company supplied me with a hard hat and harness was in the union, and I was non-union for almost four years. So, that’s really

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IBEW Powers Antelope Valley Project Toward Finish Line

At the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds in Lancaster, CA, IBEW Local 11 members are helping push the Multi-Agency Regional Resiliency Center (MARRC) project toward completion ahead of April’s California Poppy Festival.

[The \\$85 million project,](#)

developed by the cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, Los Angeles County, and the Antelope Valley Union High School District, will serve as both a year-round community event space and a regional hub for disaster response. Officials broke ground in July 2024, and IBEW 11 members

have been on site since October 2024.

IBEW 11 crews are currently installing lighting in the main building and completing wall rough-in for lighting and power in a secondary structure, said Bobby Lipe, general foreman for CSI Electric. The project

From Non-Union Tinkerer to Jobsite Superintendent

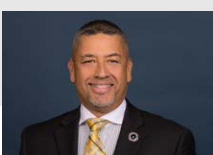
Emilio Lopez Jr. never gave much thought to unions.

Now a 16-year IBEW Local 11 veteran and superintendent at Rosendin Electric, Lopez spent years in non-union work before a chance encounter with a “clean-cut, sharp-looking” organizer opened the door to a better future.

His journey from non-union worker to sound and communication journeyman, and ultimately to general foreman and superintendent, was one marked by obstacles overcome through resilience, determination, and a deep reliance on the brotherhood of the IBEW.

Lopez was introduced to the trade in 1994, working alongside his father, uncle, and friends on low-voltage systems. A tinkerer since childhood, he brought a natural curiosity and hands-on experience from working on cars into the

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Business Manager’s Message

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BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Giving Back to Our Members & Pushing Toward a Bright Work Picture

Brothers and sisters,

As we move into the second quarter of 2026, I'm proud to report that our work picture is bright. Work has been steadily picking up, and we're adding apprentices at a scorching pace, all before our major projects kick off at the LA Convention Center and LAX.

But your leadership at IBEW 11 has been doing much more than securing work. Our members exchanged ideas and learned from peers at the 82nd Annual IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting. Our delegates have met with our elected officials in Sacramento multiple times to advocate for our trade. And we've raised thousands of dollars to give back to our members through our new IBEW Local 11 Knowledge is Power Scholarship Foundation.

Let's recap the wins from March as we look toward a busy spring.

Exchanging Ideas, Leading From the Front

Last month, business managers, executive board members, and rank-and-file members from locals across the West Coast met in Portland, Oregon, for the IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting.

These meetings are crucial for connecting locals throughout the Ninth District. Some locals are trying new approaches or facing challenges we haven't yet encountered. There's no reason to reinvent the wheel if another local has already solved a problem. The inverse is also true: Local 11 has built a strong reputation as a progressive, forward-thinking local, and we're always ready

to share lessons that can benefit others.

During the meeting, I sat on a panel discussing the electric vehicle battery and manufacturing apprenticeship that we helped launch in the Ninth District, which has since grown into a national program. We spoke with locals interested in using this apprenticeship to organize manufacturers in these emerging industries.

Our organizer, Ben Frank, also spoke on a panel about top-down organizing and engaging with contractors. IBEW 11 received an award for organizing the most contractors in the district for the second year in a row, and we were also recognized for our bottom-up organizing efforts. This year's Progress Meeting confirmed that our organizing strategies are delivering results with both contractors and members.

Strengthening Our Trade in Sacramento

IBEW 11 has been highly active in Sacramento in 2026.

In just the past few months, our members have participated in the California Democratic Party Convention, the California Labor Federation Convention, and the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California executive board meeting.

These visits are more than symbolic. Each one is an opportunity to build relationships with elected officials that strengthen our power as a trade. That power translates into our ability

to advance legislation that upholds work and safety standards, ensures the use of union labor, and protects workers across the state.

A strong example is SB 54, a 2013 law requiring California refineries to use skilled and trained workers, effectively ensuring that most of that workforce is union labor. Wins like this show that long-term relationship-building in Sacramento leads directly to laws that protect working people.

Giving Back to Our Members

When you join the IBEW, you join a brotherhood that looks out for one another, from your first day on the job through retirement. IBEW 11 continues to honor that commitment, and we're proud to offer another valuable benefit: the Galleri early cancer detection test.

This simple blood test is free for members and their spouses aged 50 and older and screens for signals associated with more than 50 types of cancer. Many of these cancers have no routine screening options, so early detection can lead to more treatment options and better outcomes.

In addition, any member who completes their annual physical and bloodwork will receive \$100 on their HRA card. As a health trustee, I've seen firsthand that preventative care is the most effective, least invasive, and most affordable way to stay healthy. Take advantage of these resources to prevent small issues

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IBEW 11'S NEWS@11

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Building Strength Through Unity

Brothers and Sisters,

As we move into April, our Local is actively engaged in negotiations for the Inside Wireman and Intelligent Transportation agreements. This is one of our most critical responsibilities – fighting to improve jobsite conditions and ensure wages keep pace with today's tough economy. These negotiations are never taken lightly. They require preparation, strategy, and unity. While the process can be challenging, we remain focused and optimistic about

securing outcomes that reflect the value and professionalism of our members.

We're also proud to share recent accomplishments from the IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting. Local 11 was recognized for signing the most contractors in 2025, adding 23 new contractors. This achievement strengthens our market share and creates more opportunities for our members. More contractors mean more Local 11 members on job sites.

I was also honored to receive the Above and Beyond Award. While I'm grateful for the recognition, it reflects the hard work and dedication of our entire Organizing Department. Over the past year, we've made meaningful progress, signing our first contractor through salting, bringing in a significant number of new contractors, recruiting key supervision from Berg (one of our major competitors), and executing a bottom-up campaign using new strategies. These efforts mark an important shift in how we organize and grow, and this recognition belongs to the entire team.

Looking ahead, our Contractor Class will take place May 4-8.

If you've considered becoming a contractor, this is a great opportunity to learn how to get started. For more information, please contact the Organizing Department at (626) 243-9702.

Finally, as we continue this work, remember to take care of yourselves. Mental health is just as important as physical health. Check in with yourself and your brothers and sisters. We're stronger when we look out for one another.

Stay safe and stay united.

Alton Wilkerson

President
Director of Organizing
Senior Assistant Business
Manager

EVERYTHING IBEW 11 IS NOW JUST ONE CLICK AWAY!

← SCAN THIS QR CODE TO MAXIMIZE YOUR UNION MEMBERSHIP BY ACCESSING ALL THE NEWS, NOTIFICATIONS, AND REAL-TIME UPDATES

"NOT EVERY MEMBER READS THEIR EMAIL EVERY DAY OR GOES ON SOCIAL MEDIA OR LOOKS AT OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY, SO THE APP PROVIDES US WITH ANOTHER AVENUE OF GETTING INFORMATION OUT TO OUR MEMBERS."

CITLALI PONCE

BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 2)

from becoming major problems.

Continuing our commitment to give back, our second annual IBEW 11 Charity Golf Tournament was a tremendous success. This year's event benefited the new IBEW Local 11 Knowledge is Power Scholarship Foundation, which will provide scholarships to members and their families pursuing higher education. With the proceeds from last year's tournament, we now have about \$250,000 to begin awarding scholarships. Thank you to all of our sponsors and participants for making this event possible.

Upcoming Work Picture

Our work outlook is significantly stronger than it was at this time last year. We've already brought on a couple of hundred apprentices, and

that's just the beginning.

This growth comes even before major projects ramp up at the Los Angeles Convention Center and Terminal 5 at LAX. We also anticipate battery storage and photovoltaic work in the Lancaster/Palmdale area, which could generate jobs for 100 to 200 apprentices.

Additionally, Morrow Meadows has indicated a need for up to 300 electricians for temporary power work during the World Cup and Summer Olympics. I'll be reaching out to better understand the scope of that work as well as their training and staffing needs.

While we recognize there are broader global challenges, including energy price fluctuations and instability overseas, our outlook remains strong as long as current conditions hold.

A Change in Negotiations

I've said before that rank-and-file members deserve a voice at the negotiating table, and we're making that a reality.

After announcing this initiative, we received strong interest from members who wanted to participate. We selected one inside wireman and one intelligent transportation systems member to join the negotiations. Their perspectives will be invaluable, and we look forward to their contributions.

We've also made an important change to how negotiations begin. In the past, the process often started on a terse note, with proposals simply exchanged back and forth.

Going forward, we're taking a more collaborative approach. NECA's chapter manager has

agreed to host a luncheon between both negotiating teams before proposals are exchanged. This will give both sides the opportunity to discuss the state of the industry and establish a more constructive tone from the outset.

This change doesn't alter what we fight for. It strengthens how we approach the process, starting from a place of mutual understanding as we work toward our goals.

In solidarity,

Robert Corona
Business Manager /
Financial Secretary
IBEW Local 11
corona@ibew11.org

saying something.”

Before joining, Cooper paid \$1,200 a month for minimal healthcare, worked long hours with constant travel, and had little work-life balance. After buying a home, he was spending only a day and a half there each week.

He contacted an organizer and joined in August 2021. Today, Cooper says he has the balance he lacked before and feels valued as a person, not just a number, unlike at his non-union job.

Matthew Foster shared a similar experience. He joined IBEW 11 in October 2025 after

working in a high-pressure, non-union environment driven by production quotas.

“I just felt like a number. It was all about production there. There wasn’t any camaraderie at my old job. They don’t really care about your personal self,” said Foster, who now has a newborn at home and appreciates the support he’s received from superiors, including access to paid family leave. “It’s definitely a brotherhood here.”

For Ismael Rangel, a member for just over a year, it’s relieving to work at a pace that lets him get the job done while learning

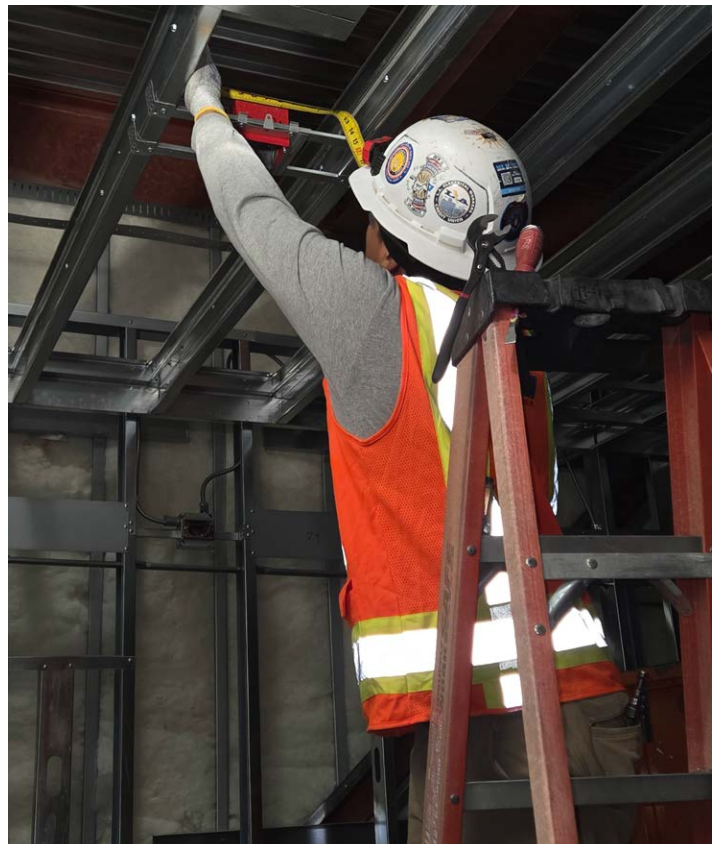
new skills without the time crunch that non-union shops bring.

“The people are so welcoming here, and they teach you. On the non-union side, everything is rush, rush, rush, and you’re always on the go,” Rangel said, noting how the union’s pay and benefits were also key factors in his decision to join. “But here you take your time, and you actually learn things.”

Lipe, who joined the IBEW after high school in 2007, now sees the union’s impact across generations. His son is preparing to follow in his footsteps after seeing the

stability and opportunities the trade provided.

“The way I look at it, there’s no downfall to joining the union. When you get hired, you start school ... you’re typically working the whole time you’re learning, you’re getting paid, you’re on the jobsite, learning, not just the classroom,” Lipe said. “That’s what my son chose to do over pursuing a career through college or something along those lines. He wanted to go with the IBEW because he saw the life that I was able to provide for him and my family, and he sees it as a great career opportunity.”



IBEW 11 Offers Business Course to Prospective Contractors

IBEW Local 11 members make a pact with the union: work hard, and you'll be rewarded with steady wages, secure benefits, and training to sharpen your skills and advance your career. But once a year, IBEW 11 also offers entrepreneurial members who are curious about starting their own businesses a chance to learn what it takes to succeed as a contractor.

This year's five-day Contractor Business Course, hosted by Matt Kolbinsky of PRO UNION Consulting, will take place at the Pasadena office from May 4 to May 8. Kolbinsky, who recently delivered his 140th iteration of the course, launched the program more than two decades ago after seeing an organizer in Ohio teach IBEW members how to start their own residential businesses.

"Instead of going out knocking on doors and having non-union contractors tell us to go pound sand, we took that time and energy and effort and money and resources and put it into our own people," Kolbinsky said.

The immersive program begins with three days covering the fundamentals – corporate structures, accounting, licensing, bonding, and everything prospective business owners need to get operations up and running. The final two days focus on profitability, with Kolbinsky and his team teaching members how to pursue emerging markets, particularly residential solar and EV work, where they can build lasting customer relationships.

"We're investing in the best resource and asset we have in the IBEW, which is our people, our members, and our contractors," Kolbinsky said. "But also, we're going after the work that's quick cash. From a new business standpoint, it's critical to have that cash flow, and then also from just a market standpoint, if we're in people's houses, those people own businesses, and if we're building those relationships in their sanctuary, in their house, it makes it a lot easier to work on their business."

The course, which requires a refundable deposit and is funded by the Labor Management Cooperation Committee, has produced several success stories in recent years. Of the 42 members who have attended over the past two years, eight have started their own businesses, with others currently in the pipeline, said organizer Ben Frank.

"There's nothing better than a homegrown union member becoming a contractor and giving back, and being able to give other brothers and sisters jobs out there," Frank said. "The information is invaluable. It's an investment in yourself, and you won't find it anywhere else out there."

Justin Ryan, owner of Arc Electric, took the class about five years ago while working as a general foreman at Morrow Meadows. He said it provided critical insight as he prepared to make the leap to business ownership.

"It's always been a goal of mine to start a union company," said Ryan, whose company primarily works at the Los Angeles International Airport and employs four to five union members. "They map the process out very clearly, and there are many steps involved in getting your C-10 and becoming a signatory contractor that you might not be aware of."

Just as importantly, the class can help members determine whether business ownership is right for them. More often than not, participants leave with a deeper respect and understanding for what it takes to build and sustain a company.

"Most of the people who go through the class don't start a shop. And I'm fine with that," Kolbinsky said. "It's important for them to take five days and get a really good look at whether or not they want to do it and hear from other people who have gone through that journey and are further ahead. It gives them an opportunity to make an educated decision on whether or not they want to do it."

Above all, the course is about strengthening the union from within. More than 700 shops have been launched by program participants, and Kolbinsky has one simple request for his students – keep it union.

"The focus is to build people up and to try to aggressively go after markets that are underserved by union shops," Kolbinsky said. "If you're going to do it, do it union... and don't forget where you came from. Hopefully, down the road, you have a chance to mentor somebody else and pay it forward."

Contact organizing@ibew11.org or call the organizing department at 626-243-9702 to sign up.





Celebrating Apprentice Journeys During NAW 2026

At IBEW Local 11, our strength comes from our people, and there's no better time to recognize that than during National Apprenticeship Week (April 26–May 2). NAW celebrates apprentices who are earning while they learn, building careers that support families, strengthening communities, and carrying forward the proud legacy of the electrical trade. Stories of how and why our apprentices joined IBEW 11 highlight what the program is truly about: opening doors, building futures, and creating a lasting sense of belonging.

For Savannah Branch and Marco Wu, the path to becoming inside wiremen apprentices with IBEW 11 began with uncertainty. Branch grew up in Compton, navigating the foster care system that never guaranteed stability.

"I didn't have a lot of family," said Branch, a third-year apprentice. "I had to figure a lot out on my own."

Wu, now a fourth-year inside wireman apprentice, spent time in prison at a young age and didn't have the chance to develop basic work habits,

like showing up on time or returning from breaks, he said.

Everything changed for both when they found the Second Call program, which connects people from underserved communities, including those impacted by incarceration, to careers in the trades.

"I met Big John, and he taught me not to have a victim mentality, and that I'm a product of my own doing," Wu said.

More than a general superintendent, Big John became a mentor and, in many ways, family. Through holidays, shared meals, and steady support, both discovered something deeper than job training: a sense of belonging.

"On Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, he has us over. There's food, there's music – that's the brotherhood," Branch said. "It's not just work. It's people who care about you."

That brotherhood became the foundation for their growth. Through the apprenticeship, both Branch and Wu gained technical skills while building confidence, stability, and a new

outlook on life.

"The apprenticeship offers so much more than learning the trade," Branch said. "It's mentorship, relationships, life skills. We talk about money, savings, real estate, life insurance, even working through childhood trauma. It really builds you up as a person."

Wu added that he learns something new every day.

"Recently I've reflected on how much I've learned since my first day. There is always something new to learn, and that's what makes you better," said Wu, crediting journeyman Steven Meili with helping rapidly develop his skills.

Today, both are thriving, confident, and fully committed to the trade. That confidence comes with ambition. Encouraged by mentors who are preparing the next generation to lead, Branch is already looking ahead.

"They're training me to take their spots," she said. "I want to be running work, become a journeyman, and eventually move up to superintendent or maybe even a general contractor superintendent. I love everything about construction. I want to be involved in it all. I want to break the mold."

Just as important is the environment they found along the way built on accountability, shared values, and purpose.

"I can't be around people who have nothing to lose anymore," Branch said. "Here, we hold each other accountable. We share the same culture, morals, discipline, and goals. It's powerful to be surrounded by like-minded people."

Both expressed appreciation to the ETI teachers and staff who create an enriching learning environment. Wu also passes along what he's learned to newer apprentices, he said.

"If someone is struggling, or there's a faster way to do something, I help people when I can," he said. "If everyone works smarter, the whole process is more efficient, we get more done, and everyone carries their weight."

For Business Manager and Financial Secretary Robert Corona, apprenticeship identity never fades.

"When I introduce myself, I'm an electrician, journeyman wireman," Corona said. "I happen to be the business manager right now, but I will always be an electrician, and that's because of the apprenticeship."

IBEW Local 11 Charity Golf Tournament Invests in Scholarship Foundation

More than 280 golfers gathered late last month at the Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms Resort for IBEW Local 11's Second Annual Charity Golf Tournament, a key fundraiser for the union's new scholarship foundation.

The sold-out event doubled in size from its inaugural year, featuring 72 foursomes from across the electrical industry, all contributing to the IBEW Local 11 Knowledge is Power Scholarship Foundation.

Years in the making, the foundation aims to ease the financial burden of college for IBEW 11 members and their families.

"We're starting this foundation to offer our members more value," said IBEW 11 Business Development Specialist Mario Barragan. He noted that he and Business Manager Robert Corona had long discussed the idea. "We both have kids who went to college, and we know how expensive it is. Any help we can provide will make a difference for our members."

Fundraising efforts are well underway from the golf tournaments, and Barragan said the goal is to award scholarships of varying amounts to members' children preparing for college, as well as members returning to school. Award amounts may be adjusted as application details are finalized.

"As the cost of higher education rises, it's our responsibility as a union to support our members and help ease that burden on working families," Corona said. "This is about giving back to our members and their families who want to pursue education. I'm thrilled to offer this benefit."

Last year's inaugural tournament raised \$50,000 for the Hollenbeck Youth Center and about \$90,000 for the scholarship foundation. With the proceeds from this year's tournament, the foundation now has about \$250,000 to begin awarding scholarships, Barragan said.



LOCAL 11 RECOVERY GROUP

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

A GROUP OF IBEW MEMBERS DEDICATED TO ASSISTING AND UPLIFTING OTHERS IN THE RECOVERY PROCESS. AS WELL AS HELPING TO REDUCE THE STIGMA SURROUNDING SEEKING HELP FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

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construction trades. Over time, his skillset expanded to include telephone systems, audio/visual work, and electrical installations.

But his path was not without hardship. Lopez's career suffered a tragic setback when he sustained a gunshot wound. Even during recovery, he continued showing up to work – admittedly in no condition to do so.

"It set me back a little bit, but through that I kept working," Lopez said. "I just kept on pushing forward. I just kept on working, kept on working, and I worked in a condition that I shouldn't have been working, but I did anyway, because of the love that I had of the systems I was messing with, the systems I was touching and learning (about)."

For years, Lopez worked non-union jobs, earning upward of \$20 per hour while paying around \$350 a month for basic healthcare. He kept grinding without much thought until 2008, when an organizer visited his jobsite while he was installing projectors.

"I'm working on the ladder, and I proudly said, 'I make \$20 an hour,'" Lopez said. "I felt good, until he said his workers make \$34 or \$35 an hour, and my jaw just hit the floor."

The organizer handed Lopez his card and encouraged him to reach out if he ever wanted to learn more. Lopez tucked it away, but the conversation stayed with him. As healthcare costs mounted and the possibility of surgery loomed, he began to reconsider his situation.

Eventually, Lopez made the call. After breaking down his real take-home pay, he realized he was getting "ripped off." The promise of better wages and secure benefits led him to join the IBEW, but the transition didn't happen overnight. While waiting, Lopez and his wife welcomed their first child, and he underwent surgery. When his wife became pregnant with their second child, Lopez finally received the call to attend boot camp and officially join the union in 2010.

"I went through this boot camp, and they nail you," Lopez said.

"They go through to see if you snap. They threw everything at you. And I hung in there. I did my thing, and I got in. In May of 2010, I was literally sworn in, paid my dues, and that's where my union life started."

Lopez quickly advanced through the ranks, working for several contractors throughout the 2010s. At every jobsite, he approached the work like a "sponge," absorbing knowledge, learning from others, and gaining the experience needed to move forward.

He was eventually hired by Rosendin Electric, where he played a key role in the Providence Cedars-Sinai Tarzana Medical Center project. As a general foreman, Lopez oversaw multiple foremen, coordinated with the general contractor, and helped keep the large-scale project on schedule.

The five-year job involved demolition, rerouting electrical systems, and integrating three buildings into one cohesive facility, among many other duties. While the project was a major success, Lopez says his proudest accomplishment was helping fellow members grow.

"I taught apprentices, who then journeyed out. I gave them the tools, I spent time with them," Lopez said, noting that the project won recognition from NECA. "I made foremen out of that job. There are guys at Rosendin who are foremen who learned from me. I'm not going to just keep my skillset to myself ... I ended up teaching these kids, and now they're somebody."

Toward the end of the project, Lopez received devastating news: he had been diagnosed with thyroid cancer. The diagnosis came during the demanding closeout phase of the job, which he described as one of the most challenging stages.

This time, however, his experience was different from his pre-union years. He was given the all clear to take as much time as he needed to get healthy and recover without putting a financial burden on his family.

"When I got my surgery, all I

paid was \$200 – that was it," Lopez said. "I ended up swiping my (health insurance) card, the surgery went well, and they took care of me with the best service. I didn't have to worry about, 'I have cancer, how am I going to pay for it, what am I going to do?' Knowing that I'm with the union, that's where you start seeing where things pay off since my family's completely covered."

He saw that same security firsthand when his wife became ill several years ago. She was hospitalized for a week after being transported by ambulance, yet the total cost to the family was just \$5.

“I didn't have to worry about, 'I have cancer—how am I going to pay for it?' Knowing I'm with the union... my family's completely covered.

"The difference between non-union and union? There's no comparison," Lopez said. "Hands-down, there's not."

Today, Lopez serves as a superintendent on a major project at the Los Angeles Convention Center, overseeing more than \$70 million in low-voltage work. Reflecting on his 16 years in the union, he credits the IBEW's training, safety culture, and core values for shaping his life and career.

"The choice I made to go union is the best choice I made. Moving forward to join the union, waiting my turn, has made me who I am today and better at what I do," Lopez said. "I've learned a lot with the union. I know the work and this journey have brought me more good than bad. Things happen, but I'm taken care of. I have no regrets. Working for IBEW, working for Rosendin is the best."

BUSINESS AGENT REPORTS



DISTRICT 1 NORTH
ZAC SOLOMON

Happy April, Brothers and Sisters,

Calls have been steady in District 1, with 32% of February's calls tied to projects in our area. That's clear evidence of ongoing work to revitalize downtown. Several projects are also on the horizon at East LA College and LA City College.

I also want to remind everyone that while many of us face personal challenges, not everyone has someone to talk to or a place to turn for support. In that spirit, Local 11 offers a peer-to-peer support group open to all members, whether you need support or simply want to listen and help a fellow brother or sister. The Local 11 Recovery Group meets on Zoom every Wednesday at 7pm. You can find the link in this newsletter on page 7 and on the Local's website.



DISTRICT 1 SOUTH
ERROL CUTLEY

Spring is here, and change is in the air. Clocks have moved forward, and the weather continues to shift day by day.

Work in DI South is steadily picking up. In Inglewood, two projects stand out. The Hollywood Studio Project near SoFi Stadium is moving forward under a PLA, with Touchstone Electric performing the work. Also nearby, a two-story Raising Cane's project is underway, with Unison Electric on the job.

Several major projects are also nearing completion. The California Science Center and the Lucas Museum will soon showcase the hard work of our members. I've had the privilege of watching these projects come to life and truly admire the craftsmanship and attention to detail on display. From me to you, a well-deserved round of applause!



DISTRICT 3
MIKE COSTIGAN

Hello from District 3,

As we move from winter into spring, job calls are picking up with the season. Purple Line 1 is scheduled to open May 8, including the Beverly Hills station. Fisk and other contractors have been working diligently to meet that deadline. Fisk is also active at three additional stations as the Purple Line continues west, with overtime being used as needed to keep projects on track. At LAX, Terminal 5 is expected to be fully demolished by the time this article is published. Foundation work is already underway for the nine modular buildings that will replace the existing structure. I also visited the future site of the Los Angeles Sparks' practice facility in El Segundo. Clark Construction is the general contractor, with Unison performing the electrical work.



DISTRICT 5
BETO GONZALES

I recently spoke with supervision at CSI Electric, and they project an increase in work in the Antelope Valley starting around October 2026, with jobs expected to continue through 2028. This is great news for everyone. CSI will be issuing numerous calls for these upcoming projects, so if you are traveling, this will be a good time to come back and take advantage of these opportunities.

Christian Belle Electric continues work at Antelope Valley College, though progress has slowed slightly due to project changes. Estimated completion is 2027.

Valley Unique Electric and Los Angeles Electric are actively working at the Palmdale Academy and have been issuing calls.

Braun Electric has completed its projects at the Palmdale and Lancaster Water Treatment Plants.

Please stay safe, and feel free to reach out with any questions: (626) 298-2427.



UNIT 9
JOE MENDIOLA

S&C work continues to play a critical role in shaping modern buildings across LA. Members in this classification bring specialized skills that support today's connected infrastructure—installing and maintaining structured cabling, fire alarm systems, access control, and audiovisual technology.

As demand for smart buildings and integrated systems grows, so does the need for a highly trained workforce. Local 11 members meet that demand through rigorous training, strong craftsmanship, and a commitment to safety on every jobsite.

From hospitals and schools to stadiums and commercial developments, our sound and communications teams help ensure facilities operate efficiently and securely. Their work may be behind the walls, but its impact is seen—and heard—throughout the communities we serve.

Unit 9 members are reminded to follow Section 2.11 of the CBA regarding tools. Please provide only the tools listed in the agreement. Any additional tools required for the job are the contractor's responsibility.

BUSINESS AGENT REPORTS CONTINUED



CIVIL SERVICE
ALEX FLORES

IBEW Local 11 continues to build strong momentum across multiple Civil Service agreements. We are proud to announce that agreements have been reached for both HACLA and the Convention Center, key victories that deliver higher wages and improved working conditions for our members.

Negotiations with LAUSD are progressing well, and we are moving closer to an agreement that reflects our members' priorities. At the same time, we remain actively engaged with Los Angeles County, advocating for fair contracts and stronger protections.

Looking ahead, IBEW Local 11 is preparing for negotiations with Los Angeles City Colleges to ensure our members have a strong voice at the bargaining table. We are also collaborating with the Bureau of Street Lighting to expand opportunities and create more quality union jobs.



ITS
CHRIS LONGORIA

A lot of exciting progress is happening in ITS. Through consistent compliance efforts and targeted organizing, we've reclaimed nearly \$50 million in ITS work that rightfully belongs to our members. This didn't happen by chance, it came from holding the line on scope, strengthening contractor accountability, and members staying engaged in the field.

This is why your continued involvement matters. The work we protect today sets the standard for tomorrow's agreements. Every conversation, jobsite observation, and recommendation helps identify gaps and opportunities to address at the bargaining table.

We are in a strong position, but maintaining it requires participation from all of us. Stay connected, speak up, and stay involved. Together, we will continue to expand opportunities, protect our jurisdiction, and ensure the next agreement reflects the value and skill of our ITS workforce.



P&I
KRISTIAN MENDOZA

Hello, I hope you and your families are well and staying safe. Here are the latest updates from P&I:

- Kinkisharyo: We have received the company's fourth proposal and are preparing our counter. Production is ramping up, and members are currently working 9-hour shifts.
- Supervisor Association Metropolitan Water District (SAMWD): Negotiations with MWD over classification studies have reached an impasse.
- EAA: The Council Aides campaign continues to move forward and is nearing the number of cards needed to form a unit.
- Full stack Modular: This new company is becoming a Building Trades employer. We expect to have members at its Carson facility once State Building Trades contract negotiations are complete.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Manufacturing or Industrial work, please contact me.



APPRENTICE COORDINATOR
KELLY OLIVER

Hello Apprentices,

As you can see, this year is moving quickly. We have already indentured more than 200 new apprentices and plan to bring in more each month. Work in both the Inside Wireman and Transportation sectors has remained steady, allowing us to grow the ITS division to more than 100 apprentices. We are also averaging 40-50 apprentices out of the workbook. I share this to emphasize how important it is to treat your trade like a business. Learn as much as you can, as quickly as you can, so you remain valuable and employable. To our new journeymen who recently completed the apprenticeship, congratulations. I hope to see you at the May 2 graduation. Apprentices, you should not be sitting with a contractor without progressing. If you have been doing the same work for too long, contact me so we can discuss your situation.



DIRECTOR, VETERAN AFFAIRS
MIKE KUFCHAK

Fellow Veterans of Local Union 11,

As of this writing, I am preparing for the upcoming 9th District Progress Meeting, which will take place this year in Portland, OR. With the continued expansion of veteran committees across the district, International Vice President Dave Reaves has again provided time for a veteran caucus. This allows me and the 9th District state representatives to educate our peers on topics that support our community, including military benefits and dispelling myths about VA healthcare. On a related note, our VEEP Class Cohort 13 graduated on March 6. On behalf of the Local 11 Veterans community, thank you for your continued support.

The Local 11 Veterans Committee has also launched a [Facebook page](#). We encourage you to join and stay connected.

ORGANIZING REPORTS



DISTRICT 1
JORGE HERNANDEZ

Brothers and Sisters,

I've been consistently out in the field, visiting multiple job sites and speaking directly with members and workers. These conversations help us stay connected and identify opportunities to strengthen our presence. I've also been meeting with potential contractors as we continue working to bring new companies into the fold and expand our market share.

I've remained actively involved in the COMET training program, sharpening the tools we need to grow and protect our union.

We have an exciting upcoming blitz campaign, and I'm asking everyone to get involved. These efforts are critical to organizing and strengthening our future. Growing our membership isn't just a goal, it's how we build power, secure better conditions, and protect our work.

Let's all do our part.



DISTRICT 3
MYRA HILDRETH

Brothers and Sisters,

Organizing efforts continue across District 3, with visits to non-union job sites in multiple cities. Our team is conducting consistent outreach to unrepresented electricians at all skill levels and stages of their careers.

Many newly organized members say the protections of a collective bargaining agreement have given them peace of mind they never had in the non-union sector. One member noted, "It isn't just about the paycheck; it's about the dignity and safety that comes with having a brotherhood behind you."

If you know a non-union electrician ready for a better life and the career they deserve, encourage them to contact the organizing department or speak with one of our organizers. Every lead helps grow our movement and strengthen our collective voice.



DISTRICT 5
BETO GONZALES

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters from the Antelope Valley,

Organizing efforts continue as I visit non-union job sites throughout the Antelope Valley. At each site, I make it a point to stop by the general contractor's office to introduce myself, share information about the union, and encourage them to give one of our union contractors an opportunity to bid on future projects. I also remind them that, if they need support to complete a current project, the union is ready to help.

Thank you to the members who consistently show up at city council meetings when called upon. I know the notice is sometimes short, but your willingness to step up reflects your understanding of how important that presence is. Many of the projects now underway began at those meetings and were approved with your support.

As a reminder, a contractor class will begin in May. Please contact the organizing office for more info.

■ Qué Hacer Cuando es Confrontado por Oficiales de Inmigración ■

**¡CONOZCA
SUS
DERECHOS!
INMIGRACIÓN**



- 1. No tiene que permitir que oficiales entren a su casa a menos que presenten una orden firmada por un juez. Una orden de cateo debe incluir una dirección y las áreas que se buscarán dentro de la residencia. Si no le presentan una orden, mantenga la puerta cerrada y diga "No doy mi consentimiento para que entre."**
- 2. No firme ningún documento.**
- 3. Tiene el derecho a mantenerse en silencio. Si no tiene documentos migratorios, pida hablar con un abogado.**
- 4. No necesita responder a preguntas sobre el lugar donde nació.**
- 5. No falsifique documentos o mienta sobre su estado migratorio.**

Esta información no es asesoramiento legal.

PARA AYUDA CON TEMAS MIGRATORIOS:

ACLU of Northern California: (415) 621-2488

ACLU of Southern California: (213) 977-5253

ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties: (619) 232-2121

Para recursos legislativos o asistencia con agencias estatales, llame (916) 651-1502



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



IBEW LOCAL UNION 11

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

HELP REBUILD OUR COMMUNITY



IBEW Local 11 Is Stepping Up

IBEW Local 11 is partnering with Habitat for Humanity to help rebuild homes in Altadena that were destroyed in the catastrophic wildfires of January 2025.

You can do your part by volunteering to help our union do critical electrical work that will help fire victims get back in their homes.

Simply scan the QR code to sign up and do your part to help these families and our community make a full recovery.

HOW TO JOIN US

Do your part to help rebuild our community. Together, we can restore what's been lost—scan the QR code below to sign up!



www.ibew11.org