RIVERSIDE COUNTY

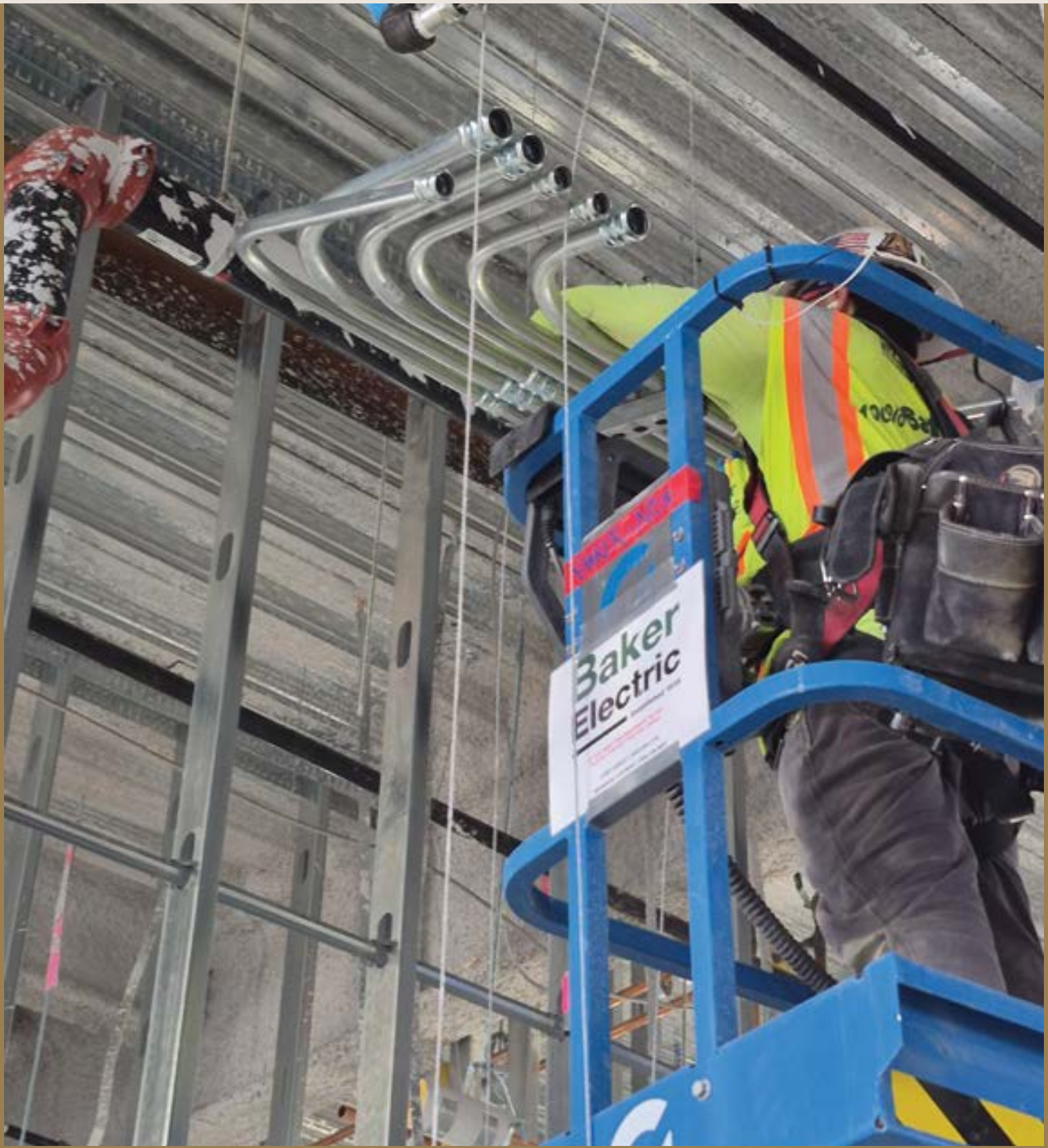
QUARTERLY UPDATE

JEREMY FORSHAW, BUSINESS MANAGER

IBEW440.ORG

THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 440

August - October 2026



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NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Brothers and Sisters of Local 440, as always, I hope that this letter finds you in a better place than the last one. 2026 is flying by and we are in the middle of summer already. Work is steady with calls going through Book 1. Apprentices are working and getting ready to get back to school. We have member education classes on the calendar that we hope you will attend. The Annual Picnic is also right around the corner.... We are busy.

The Annual Picnic will be on Saturday, September 19th from 10-4 @ Rancho Jurupa Park. We look forward to seeing everybody out there with your family. We will have tacos, burgers and hot dogs to eat. We will also have Kona Ice, La Michoacan, and cotton candy. We will also have jumpers for the kids and plenty of raffle prizes.... don't forget Bingo to wrap up the festivities.... ******Please leave your pets at home. We ask that you do not bring your dog to the picnic. Thank you.******

In regard to the Picnic....it takes a lot of effort to put this on, from set up and tear down, to serving drinks, attending to the trash cans around the park, and all the other aspects that go into it. Please reach out to anybody on staff if you are willing to help. We can't do this by ourselves.

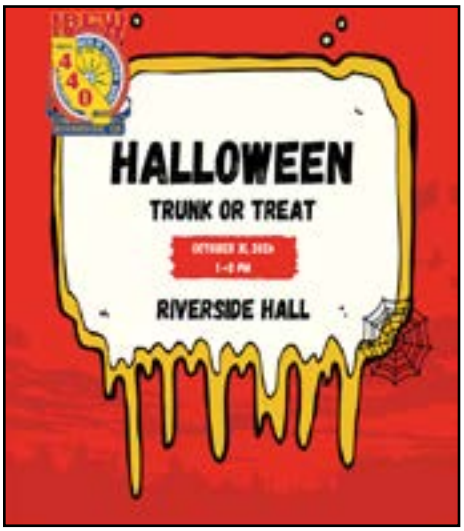
If you have any ideas for stickers, T-shirt designs, coins, etc. Please reach out to somebody on Staff. We have made several stickers from Member's ideas as well as a few t-shirt designs. We have some new swag coming out and it should be here by the time this letter hits your mailbox.

In closing, I just want to thank your Officers and Staff for the tireless efforts that go into serving the Membership of Local 440. To the job site Stewards, thank you for all that you do. It doesn't go unnoticed. Lastly, thank you to all the Members of Local 440 for making this the best Local in the IBEW.

In Brotherhood-
Daniel "DOUBLE" Luther
Card# D861164



BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we move through 2026, it has already proven to be another busy and productive year for IBEW Local 440. Between work opportunities, political advocacy, organizing efforts, and preparations for our upcoming Inside Wireman contract negotiations, our Local has remained hard at work on behalf of our membership. As we approach the third quarter of the year, there is no sign of things slowing down.

Work Outlook

We are proud to announce the signing of a **Statewide Community Workforce Agreement (CWA)** for the University of California campuses, creating opportunities for our members on future projects throughout the UC system.

Here at home, work continues to look promising. The **Grace Solar and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)** project recently received approval from the Riverside County Board of Supervisors and is expected to begin mobilizing toward the end of the third quarter or early in the fourth quarter.

The **Cobalt Solar Project** is expected to begin ramping up in early August, while the **Athos BESS** yards will also be moving forward during that same timeframe.

Within our jurisdiction, **RIS** has secured the Eastside Elementary School project along with several projects in the San Jacinto area. **Gregg Electric** has also been awarded a significant project in Perris. In addition, several smaller projects will continue throughout Riverside County.

Please continue to keep an eye on **dispatch**, as opportunities continue to develop across our jurisdiction.

Political & Community Engagement

Our political efforts continue to strengthen relationships with local elected officials throughout Riverside County. We remain committed to educating decision-makers on the importance of Organized Labor, registered apprenticeship programs, and California's state licensing requirements. These conversations help reinforce the value of employing highly trained, licensed electricians while ensuring the safety, quality, and integrity of projects throughout our communities.

We also recently hosted a **Collective Bargaining Agreement Roundtable**, which provided valuable discussion, education, and member engagement. The participation and feedback were outstanding, and we look forward to continuing these productive conversations.

As we prepare for the upcoming **Inside Wireman contract negotiations**, we encourage every member working under the Inside Agreement to attend the upcoming contract proposal meeting. Your participation is essential, and your voice helps shape the future of our agreement.

We are still accepting contract suggestions, so please continue to send your ideas to **jeremy@ibew440.org**.

Apprenticeship & Organizing

One of the most exciting developments this year has been the continued growth of our apprenticeship program. We have been interviewing more apprentice applicants than ever before, and our outreach efforts through local high schools, career fairs, and community events throughout Riverside County are proving successful. Organized Labor continues to become an attractive career path for the next

generation.

For our **CE/CW members** who have continued gaining valuable experience in the electrical industry, I encourage you to reach out to our Organizing Department to discuss additional pathways into the apprenticeship, including our **Advanced Apprenticeship Class**.

We are also excited that our incoming first-year apprentices will be attending classes at **Norco College** this year. This partnership provides our apprentices with access to campus resources including tutoring services, the library, and the cafeteria while strengthening their educational experience.

Additionally, we look forward to continuing our partnership with the **Riverside Community College District**, where we have also signed a Community Workforce Agreement for future work opportunities.

Member Events

Thank you to everyone who volunteered or attended the **Flags for Every Hero** event over Memorial Day weekend. It was another meaningful opportunity to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice while proudly representing IBEW Local 440 in our community.

If you are a military veteran and have not yet received your IBEW Local 440 Veterans Shirt, please contact Brother **Victor Diaz**.

We have several great events coming up, and I encourage everyone to participate whenever possible:

- **Annual Picnic** – September 19, 2026, at Rancho Jurupa Regional Park
- **Domino Tournament** – October 4, 2026
- **Benefits Fair** – October 10, 2026
- **Annual Golf Tournament** – November 21, 2026 (additional details coming soon)

These events provide an opportunity for our members and families to spend time together outside of work and continue building the brotherhood and sisterhood that makes Local 440 so strong.

Our **San Bernardino Riverside Building & Construction Trades Council** will also be hosting a **Labor Day Parade** in Riverside this year. We will share additional information as soon as details are received from the Building Trades Council.

Member Merchandise

Thank you to everyone who has reached out with ideas for new Local 440 merchandise. We have received numerous emails, text messages, and phone calls with excellent suggestions. Please continue sharing your ideas. We are excited to introduce new merchandise inspired by the creativity and feedback of our membership.

In Closing

Every accomplishment our Local achieves is the result of our members working together. While we may not always agree on every issue, it is through respectful discussion, unity, and our shared commitment to one another that we continue building a stronger IBEW Local 440.

I sincerely appreciate everything each of you does to represent our Local every day. Whether you're on the jobsite, attending meetings, volunteering in the community, mentoring apprentices, or simply looking out for your fellow members, you are helping strengthen our Brotherhood.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming picnic and throughout the remainder of the year at our various events.

Until then, please continue to work safely, look after one another, and always remember to be your Sister's and Brother's keeper.

In Solidarity,
Jeremy Forshaw
Business Manager/Financial Secretary
IBEW Local Union 440

EXPANDING PARTNERSHIPS AND MARKET SHARE

Brothers and Sisters,

It has been an incredibly productive couple of months for our local. I am proud to announce that **Local 440 has oficially signed four new signatory contractors**.

New Signatory Contractors

- **L&L Electrical Solutions:** Specializing in small commercial projects, they are actively bidding on both private and public works. I had been working on this relationship since 2018.
- **Macano Tech LLC:** Currently installing EV charging stations throughout California, they are looking forward to partnering with our skilled workforce. They have at least two jobs starting soon.
- **Lister Electric:** Focused on private work and small commercial tenant improvements (TI) across Riverside County, San Diego and Orange County, they bring two Construction Wiremen into our ranks as the owner transitions out of the field to focus on bidding larger projects. He is clear about wanting to use us for the skills we bring to the table, let's not disappoint.
- **Fourth Signatory (PLA Agreement):** Our fourth contractor was signed due to a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) requirement. While PLAs may not be perfect, they remain a highly efective tool for securing union labor mandates, and I will continue to advocate for them. Even if this contractor is only signing due to the PLA, we want to give them a reason to want to stay permanently.

Our Shared Responsibility

My role is to build and cultivate these contractor relationships across Riverside County by demonstrating the value of a union partnership. Your role is equally critical: when dispatched to these projects, we must deliver exceptional craftsmanship, prove that our productivity justifies our labor rates, and professionally demonstrate how the IBEW operates.

By working together as true partners with these business owners, we will successfully increase our regional market share and union density. This collective growth directly translates to greater bargaining power during our future negotiations.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to building on this momentum together. Please work safely and feel free to reach out to me directly with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

Lonnie Garza

Organizer – IBEW Local 440 Card # 7482551



AH-TEN-HUT!!!!



During the month of June, my fellow organizers and I had the opportunity to attend the Membership Development Conference. The experience was both educational and motivating, providing valuable insight into organizing strategies, market recovery efforts, and the future of our industry.

One of the key takeaways from the conference was the tremendous amount of work projected for the 9th District in the coming years. According to our International leadership, an estimated $125 billion worth of industrial construction work is expected to come online between the end of 2026 and 2028. These projects will create significant opportunities for IBEW members and signatory contractors throughout our region.

Another class I attended during the Membership Conference was the Veterans Class in my capacity as Veteran Liaison. The class focused on the rights and protections available to IBEW members who are called to military service. Many of our members serve in the Reserves or the National Guard and may be activated to full military duty with little or no notice.

One of the topics discussed was the IBEW Active Military Card. The IBEW Constitution was amended at the 1991 St. Louis Convention to provide that any member who is in good standing immediately prior to the first day of the month in which they enter military service for the first time or are recalled to military service under the laws of the United States or Canada, is entitled to apply for and receive an Active Military Card from the Financial Secretary of their Local Union. This provision helps ensure that members maintain their standing with the IBEW while serving their country.

The class also reviewed the protections provided under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). USERRA protects service members from discrimination in employment because of their military service or obligations. Employers may not deny initial employment, reemployment, retention, promotion, or employment benefits based on an individual's military service.

USERRA also guarantees that eligible service members who leave their civilian jobs to perform military service have the right to be reemployed in the position they would have attained had their employment not been interrupted by military service, often referred to as the "escalator principle." Upon returning to work, eligible employees are also entitled to have their seniority, pension benefits, and other rights and benefits restored as though they had remained continuously employed.

In addition, USERRA requires employers to make reasonable efforts to help returning service members qualify for their positions through refresher training or retraining when necessary. The law also provides protection from discharge without cause for a period following reemployment, depending on the length of military service.

The Veterans Class served as an important reminder that our union and federal law work together to protect the employment rights of our members who answer the call to military service. These protections help ensure that our brothers and sisters can fulfill their military obligations without sacrificing their careers or their standing within the IBEW.

Victor A Diaz
#8008607
0811/USMC

THE POLITICAL WIRE

Connecting Politics to Opportunity

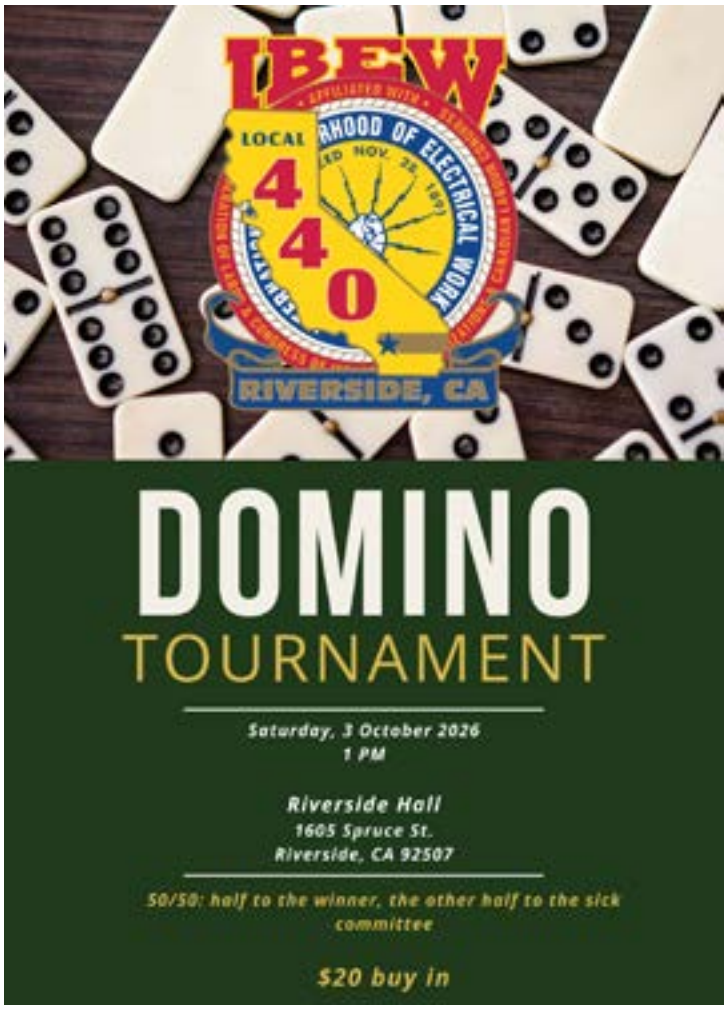
The Riverside County Board of Supervisors recently approved the Conditional Use Permit for the Grace Solar Project, marking another important milestone for a project that has the potential to bring significant investment and future electrical work to our region. While many people see these votes as routine government business, the reality is they are much more than that. Every project approved by a city council, county board, school district, or public agency represents months, sometimes years of planning, public input, environmental review, and policy decisions. Long before a contractor mobilizes equipment or the first shovel hits the ground, elected officials make decisions that determine whether a project will move forward at all.

That is why Local 440 remains actively engaged with elected officials, public agencies, and community leaders throughout Riverside County. Our role extends beyond Election Day. We monitor proposed developments, attend public meetings, build relationships with decision-makers, and advocate for policies that encourage responsible growth, infrastructure investment, and opportunities for a highly skilled electrical workforce. Whether the discussion involves renewable energy, schools, transportation, public facilities, or economic development, the objective remains the same: ensure that projects creating jobs for skilled electricians continue moving forward while promoting quality construction, apprenticeship opportunities, and long-term investment in our communities.

Political engagement is not about partisanship; it's about participation. The conversations taking place in council chambers, planning commissions, county board rooms, and the State Capitol directly impact the amount of work available to our members and the future of our industry. Every project like this represents more than a vote it represents future jobs, investment in our communities, and opportunities for skilled tradesmen to build the infrastructure that powers our future. This is why staying engaged in the political process is so important. The decisions made in council chambers and boardrooms directly impact whether projects move forward and whether working families have opportunities to earn a good living.

Politics = Projects.
Projects = Jobs.
Jobs Strengthen Our Communities.

Jacob Gray
IBEW LU 440
Inside Wireman | Political Registrar



OUR UNION

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

With the work picture continuing to look strong, we're seeing several major projects being completed while many new ones are getting underway. That's the nature of our industry—we work ourselves out of one job and, hopefully, onto the next.

With that in mind, we all know that providing for our families is our top priority. Our new brothers and sisters who have recently joined our ranks are now part of that family as well. It is up to all of us to help them every step of the way. Please continue to share as much information as possible. We've seen instances where members have been with the same contractor for an extended period and forget the process of signing the books, get confused about re-signing, or, even worse, forget altogether.

Too often, members forget about the many resources available to them. It's understandable, orientation covers a lot of information in approximately two and a half hours, and no one is expected to remember every detail. That's why I make it a point during every orientation to remind everyone of one important thing: if you ever have questions or need assistance, call the hall and ask to speak with me. I'll always do my best to help.

Looking ahead, the future continues to be promising. As work opportunities increase, we intend to organize more contractors and bring more workers into our Brotherhood. We've recently had great success organizing contractors and providing them with the highly qualified manpower they need to succeed. These contractors bid on projects throughout Riverside County and surrounding jurisdictions without any guarantee they'll be awarded the work. When they do win those bids, they rely on our members to deliver quality craftsmanship safely, efficiently, and professionally. Time and again, our Brothers and Sisters demonstrate why union labor is the best in the industry by completing projects on time and under budget.

As we welcome one of the largest first-year apprentice classes we've seen, it's more important than ever that we lead by example. Take the time to teach them the right way from day one—our craftsmanship, our professionalism, our Brotherhood, and above all else, our commitment to safety. The habits they develop now will shape the future of our local.

If anyone is interested in a refresher course, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Once we have a group of at least ten members, I'll gladly work to get one scheduled. I'm always happy to help.

Stay safe, look out for one another, and thank you for everything you do to make OUR UNION stronger every day.

Y.I.B
Jorge Esqueda
7890114
Inside Journeyman Wireman



CALENDAR OF EVENTS: QUARTER 3

August 2026

- **August 7th** – R.E.N.E.W. Meeting (5-6pm)
  General Membership Meeting (6-9pm)
- **August 21st** – Women's Committee (Riverside Hall 6-8pm)

September 2026

- **September 7th** – Labor Day (Offices Closed)
- **September 11th** – R.E.N.E.W. Meeting (5-6pm)
  General Membership Meeting (6-9pm)
- **September 18th** – Women's Committee (Riverside Hall 6-8pm)

October 2026

- **October 2nd** – R.E.N.E.W. Meeting (5-6pm)
  General Membership Meeting (6-9pm)
- **October 3rd** – Domino Tournament
- **October 10th** – Benefits Fair
- **October 16th** – Women's Committee (Riverside Hall 6-8pm)
- **October 31st** – Trunk or Treat (Riverside Hall 1-3pm)

REFERENCE NUMBERS

IEETC
(909) 890-1703

www.ieetc.org

CA State Certification
(510) 286-3900

www.dir.ca.gov

Zenith American
Defined Contribution Pension/Annuity

(877) 937-9602

IBEW NECA Pension
Defined Benefit Pension

(800) 824-6935

For pensions/annuity information

IBEW/NECA Family Medical Care Plan
(877) 937-9602

For health, vision and dental coverage information

For full list of benefit providers, phone numbers and website links, scan QR code.

FROM THE SECRETARIES' DESK

Death benefits

We are currently at death benefit:

 # 355

Please check the top right side of your dues receipt to see what number you are paid through. For Example DF# 334-355 means you are paid through number 355, so you do not owe death benefits.

Each Death Benefit is $10.

Last death was:

#352 James Kringel
#353 Samuel Stewart
#354 Isidro Dondiego
#355 Lawrence "Curt" Brown

Membership

- Dues are due at the beginning of every month. You can pay your dues in advance if you choose.
- If you get behind 3 months, you will go into **reinstatement**. You must pay the reinstatement fee of $30 plus all monthly dues and your death benefits to bring yourself current.
- Dues can also be paid on our website at IBEW440.org or our App.
- Dues can be paid at the **Riverside office** with: **cash, card, check or money order** (debit & CC fees will apply)
- 24 hr notice for all Travel Letters

CW Tips

- Keep a folder and save a copy of your last check stub from each employer as you go, that way when it is time to submit your hours for upgrades you will have all documents needed.
- If you renew your ET card *BEFORE* it expires, you **DO NOT** have to pay the $25 reinstatement fee. Set a reminder on your calendar 3 months before your expiration date, that way you give your self time for your paperwork to process.

CW hours are accepted at the end of the semester: **December** and **May**.

To check your status on the DIR website, scan code and:

- Enter ET card #
- Click search
- Add to list
- Print certification

Palm Desert office

Our **Palm Desert office** is now able to process dues and merch payments. **CARD SALES ONLY**.



IN MEMORIAM & NEW BEGINNINGS

Passings

Our condolences to the family and friends of:

Lawrence "Curt" Brown - June 23, 2026

Fred Duran - June 26, 2026

Newborn Corner

Christopher & Courtney Charming welcomed their baby girl, Claire Charming April 23, 2026

Jerry & Taylor Herd welcomed their baby boy, Colton Alexander Herd July 24, 2026

If you have a birth announcement please email to janell@ibew440.org for the next newsletter.

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA

1605 Spruce St.
Riverside, CA 92507



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers | Riverside County, CA

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM
(closed for lunch 12PM to 1PM)

Phone: (951) 684-5665
Fax: (951) 369-9032
Job Hotline: (951) 684-7607
Resign Email: resign@ibew440.org

IBEW440.org

1605 Spruce St.
Riverside, CA 92507

Coachella Valley Electrical Resource Center

Tuesday – Friday 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM
(closed for lunch 12PM to 1PM)

Phone: (760) 999-1078

39615 Washington St Suite G
Palm Desert, CA 92211