BEW LOCAL 440 A NEW HOME

۲

CONGRATULATIONS IBEW 440 ON THE PURCHASE OF OUR NEW HALL



SUMMARY

- 3 Business Manager's Report
- 4 Class Reps & School Improvements
- 5 From the President's Desk
- 6 Strong Membership
- 7 Slow Times
- 8 From the Secretaries Desk
- 9 Calendar of Events
- **10** Political Corner

Business Manager / Financial Secretary – Jeremy Forshaw President – Daniel "DOUBLE" Luther Vice President - Robert "Bobby G" Granados Treasurer - Colton Torrez Recording Secretary - Jacob Gray Organizing Lead – Bernie Balland Organizer/Registrar – Venessa Ingalls Organizer – Jorge Esqueda Organizer – Rick Hockwarth EXECUTIVE BOARD: Marcus "X" Blackwell

Marcus "X" Blackwel Bryan Fromdahl Raymond Martinez Mikeal Stevens Israel Salinas

Editor Janell Wellman

Business Manager's Report

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

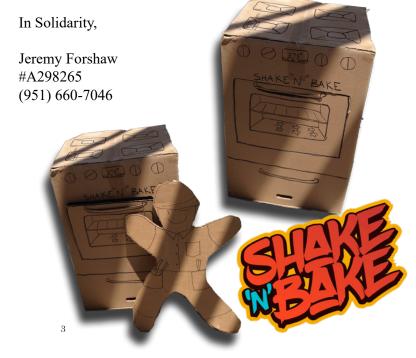
Where do I even begin, first off, I would like to thank Jim Rush for seeing something in me to appoint me to his staff. I would also like to congratulate him on his new position as a 9th District Representative. He will be close to us still and available to help bridge the gap between the leadership change. We wish him all the best in his next journey, and we are proud to have a member in this capacity. I would also like to thank the Executive Board for appointing me to finish out Jim Rush's term, we will not let you down.

As far as becoming the new Business Manager/Financial Secretary of Local 440, this is something I never imagined or ever aspired to be. My journey started out as being a non-union electrician for almost eight years of trying to just become a union electrician. I went to Chaffey College and enrolled in their Electrical Program while I waited to join the IBEW. I was finally organized by Bob Frost in 2003, and I have never looked back. I was fortunate enough to attend the Advanced Apprenticeship and graduate in 2005. Shake and Bake that just happened, that's an inside joke, if you know you know. I was fortunate enough to work at home for a while and when I wasn't I started traveling in 2012. I would travel for work to support my family and come home to work locally whenever I could to be back with them. I was actually working in Local 617 when Jim Rush called and asked if I would like to be an Organizer at Local 440. I had to maneuver around the conduit rack I was running just to answer the phone. That day has changed my life, I was finally able to help change people's lives like mine did when I joined. Becoming a member of Local 440 has been a gift to me and my family, and I truly enjoy paying it back in any way I can. I do not look at this new position as a position of power, I look at it as a position to do more for our membership. I strongly encourage anyone to reach out to me with any ideas on what we can do as a local to make sure everyone is heard. I cannot do this job alone, WE WILL do this job TOGETHER as Local 440.

As most of you know, we have purchased a new building for our office space and Hall. We have met with our Building Committee and started brainstorming ideas. We have also met with a Project Manager and a General Contractor, and yes, all work will be done by Union contractors. We are excited to see what the future brings to us; we will have our own of anything for the first time. We do hear all the talk about how we should have purchased a new school instead of a new Hall. Believe it or not that was our intention to buy a combo with the school and hall, but as Jim stated in the last newsletter there were hurdles in the way. We have not forgotten about a new school; the process is just a little lengthier. I have spoken to a few individuals about what our needs are for the school from an instructor's point of view. I would like to start an Instructor's Committee, so we can bring your concerns to the Apprenticeship Board. With school ending soon, I think we should take this summer to discuss where we can improve as a whole to do more for our future. As always, I leave my contacts in my signature for every news article I write. I am looking forward to hearing from our instructors. One last item regarding instructors, we need more instructors every year, if you are interested, please reach out to Jon Rowe at the school.

We know we are in a lull for work at this time, and yes, we keep telling everyone when they ask, it is coming. It looks like June is when some of this work will be breaking loose. We know it's tough and we are always trying to do everything we can to help with getting these projects to start. These are the times when we need our loved ones the most, we may be at home because we can't travel, or we may be on the road because we have to travel. Either way just know you are not alone, please reach out again if there is anything we can do we will. I'm actually in Washington, DC while I'm writing this article, and a brother reached out to me to help guide his son in this trade. This brother and I have known each other for quite some time, I said absolutely I would help guide his son. When we get back, we will help this individual like we plan to help every member where we can. If you are an apprentice, make sure you reach out to Double and Rick, there have been some locals reaching out for help.

I would like to end with this, I am truly humbled and honored to be in this position to serve our membership. I feel blessed every day, even if we disagree on something I am still here to work through our differences and become better as a whole. Let's continue to put Local 440 on the map.



Class Reps & School Improvements

Class reps met on a zoom call on Monday April 22nd. We have 32 classes and would like to have a rep from each class actively participating. Our NECA Chapter Manger Ashley Berg, Training Director Jon Rowe, Assistant Training Director Jason Bachtel, Business Manager Jeremy Forshaw, & myself met with Reps from 2nd year through 4th year, David Mount, Jerry Herd, Julian Cobos, Julio Maya, and James Bennett.

The students were asked by our Chapter Manager if they could point out things the Training Center is doing well and things that can be improved on. Each student had good input and we look forward to working towards achieving the improvements and suggestions that they brought up.

Some of the concerns brought up in the Class Rep meeting were the size of classes and the lack of ability to get one on one time with their instructor if needed. Additional hands-on opportunities – not only with items like make up, circuitry, conduit bending, transformer terminations etc., but also hands on material like LLs, LBs, LRs etc. Another question that was asked was how our teachers are selected, as well as how one can potentially go about becoming selected. The concern about 4th year's being able to get a test date for the state exam immediately following completion of 4th year and getting upgrades in a timely manner was also brought up. One other good point that was made was that sometimes students are required to change class in the middle of the year and when they make a switch, they end up missing material because the class is not all on the same timeline.

All these items were discussed, letting our reps know that we are actively looking into creating a "Riverside Campus." All teachers are welcome to order materials and if students have suggestions on additional items to be ordered to help with hands on opportunities, then we hope these Class Rep meetings will be a good time for those items to be suggested. 4th year classes will be encouraged to fill out the paperwork for their state test as soon as 4th year is complete so they can get a test date as soon as possible. Any upgrade issues should be resolved as long as hours and timecards are submitted in the required time frame. As for the variation of where each class is compared to other classes of the same year, in effort to keep ALL classes on the same page, there will be a "Lead" instructor for each year that will help to keep the classes on the same track so that ALL apprentices are getting the same well-rounded information. In addition to the above-mentioned items, it was asked of all class reps to feel free to bring other suggestions and encourage students from other classes to volunteer or coordinate with one of them for any information our membership would like brought to the attention of the apprenticeship committee.

All in all, this was a great start to our current class rep roles, and we look forward to a productive partnership with our Apprentices, our JATC, our NECA counterparts, and the Locals. If you would like to have the input from YOUR class to be heard, please reach out to Jon, Jason, or myself to get put on the class rep schedule.

"Let's change the world or at least Riverside County."

Bernie Balland #A123099

To get added to the class rep schedule, please reach out to Jon, Jason, or Bernie





To the Brothers and Sisters of Local 440, I hope this letter finds you in a better place than the last one. As I write this letter the Local is moving in an exciting direction. Work has been unusually slow recently, but it is looking to pick back up. For JW's, work is still plentiful throughout the country and there are a multitude of options to keep busy until 440 breaks open again. We are moving forward with the new Hall and starting to meet with the 440 Building Committee.

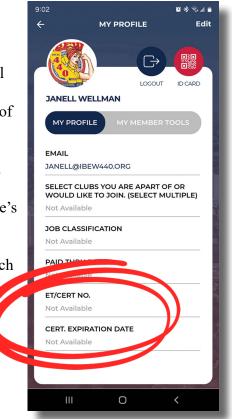
I would like to congratulate everybody in Local 440, both past and present, on the purchase of our new building. For the first time in the history of our Local, we have a place to call our own. This accomplishment couldn't have been achieved without the tireless work of our members. Building upon the foundation that our 440 forefathers have laid down, we look to build a place for generations to come. We are starting the process of meeting with architects and project managers to get the ball rolling. I would like to thank those that reached out to be involved on the Building Committee and those that emailed in ideas for the new Hall.

The 440 Building Committee is as follows: Khadeejah Soper, Lonnie Garza, Donovan Ross, Samantha Ross, Mike Talbott, Bryan Hildebrand, Jenniffer Hildebrand, Rick Hockwarth, Bernie Balland, Jeremy Forshaw, and myself. They will meet throughout the process, giving input and guidance as to the look and feel of the Hall. Your Executive Board will also play a vital role in the process. If you have any suggestions for what you would like to see, please reach out and let one of us on the staff know.

The last thing that I would like to touch on is the CA State Cert for the JW. Please keep an eye on your expiration date and send your renewal in EARLY...at least 3 months. Please give yourself some cushion in case of any delay on the State's end.

My door is always open, and my phone is always on. Never hesitate to reach out if there is anything that you need. Cell- (951)204-4098 Office- (951)684-5665 Email- Double@ibew440.org

In Brotherhood-Daniel "DOUBLE" Luther Card #D861164



Check your JW cert. or ET card expiration date on your IBEW Local 440 app by going to, MY PROFILE.



CW & CE upgrade hours are accepted during the months of:

MAY AND DECEMBER Processed: June and January **Reflected:** July and February

Hours Sheets & Classification Upgrades

CW's and CE's are required to turn in hours work sheets at the end of each semester to be eligible for classification upgrades. Hours will be cross referenced and those who have obtained the required hours for their upgrades will reflect once processing is finished.

Our CW's and CE's are required to attend class via Zoom one night a week to maintain their Electrical Trainee Card (ET Card) through the Division of Industrial Relations. To maintain your ET Card and be eligible for employment they must attend 150 hours of schooling per year with a passing grade. It is the CW and CE's responsibility to renew their ET Card at the hall prior to expiration. It is free to renew if not expired, if expired it will cost \$25.

QR Code for DIR ET status on page 12

 QR Code for DIR ET status on page 12

 A Message From The School

 All new and current apprentices should be entering their working hours through the new Student Portal. Everyone has been granted access. If you need assistance logging in, please contact the school or email:

 Tiffany@inlandempirejatc.org

 *this is only for apprentices, does not apply to CW/CEs.

 -Tiffany Swedberg

Apprentice Tips

Make sure you are turning in your hours monthly through the school site.

► Take extra educational classes offered to you along the way! i.e., OSHA

► ASK FOR HELP! Look for a study group.



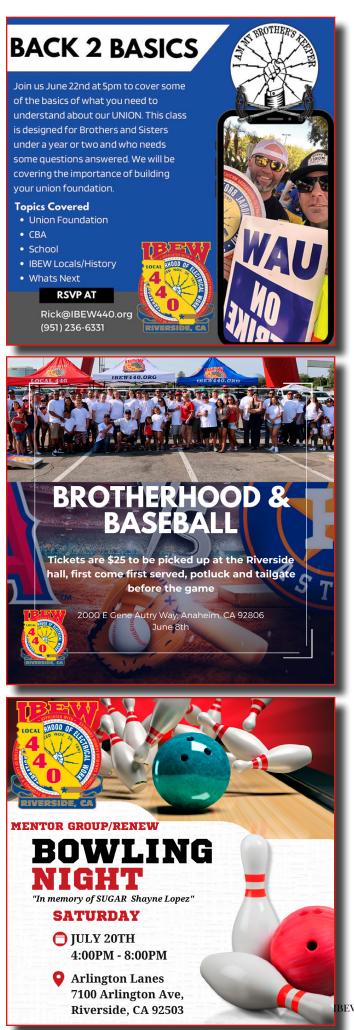
STRONG MEMBERSHI

Hello, Brothers and Sisters, I hope all is well with you and your families. March 2nd was our Annual IBEW Flag Football Tournament. This year four locals showed up to play in Los Angeles County. The weather could have been a little bit better, but we did not let some rain stop us from giving it our all. Unfortunately, we fell short and did not take the championship like we had hoped for. There is no doubt that we have some truly talented individuals in our local and I appreciate all who showed up to represent 440.

These last couple of months we have been busy testing our current CE/ CW's for their upgrades. We have been getting stricter on our requirements for the CE classification to set everyone up for success. When we strip workers from non-union shops, we do our best to set them up for success by setting them up for the 9th district hands on exam if they meet the requirements. This exam consists of our bread and butter for electricians: conduit bending, circuitry and transformer make up. The individuals are timed for each module and are given written instructions with various tasks per module. Essentially these tasks can be thought of as a typical day of work. Our examining board evaluates their skill based on the craftsmanship of their work along with following the codes in the NEC. If the individual does not pass the evaluation for whatever reason, they have the right to test again in six months. If you have ever had any desire to participate in the local, being involved in the examining board is a great way to see how the union welcomes all and has a standard for anyone coming in. I also want to point out that if you are a CW and want to turn in hours you will be able to do so in the months of May and December.

Other ways I have been staying busy is by reaching out to electrical workers in our jurisdiction. In these last couple of months, I have noticed that most electrical workers are currently unemployed. Sometimes when I speak to these individuals, they tell me that they want to join the union so that they can work. I must remind them that typically when work is slow it doesn't matter if you are part of the IBEW or not. Construction follows the economy and if there is a lot of work being performed then that would be the best time to join. I understand that there are a lot of brothers and sisters on the book currently, that does not change the fact that we should try to organize all electrical workers. When we organize workers, it is not our intention to flood the book, we are trying to grow union density. In some of our past campaigns we have been able to strip enough workers to make some of these non-signatory contractors increase their benefit package to their workers. In doing this we drive up the wages for the workers and make it more competitive for contractors to not use employee wages as a bargaining chip when bidding work. If you are interested in being part of a campaign, please feel free to reach out to me.

Y.I.B Jorge Esqueda 7890114



Slow times

I hope this finds our family safe and in good health. With summer right around the corner, I've been on the jobs reminding the contractors about providing shade breaks, cold water and doing what they need to, to protect everyone. Watch out for your brothers and sisters out in that heat. If you are an apprentice or on the younger side, please watch out for our older family, some have been beating that heat for a long time now and it's a little harder on them to handle.

I wanted to touch base about this slow period we are going through right now. As many of you know, we have sent apprentices out to Bakersfield as they have had a ton of work and need help manning it. It always sucks to be away from home, but I believe this to be a good experience for our apprentices. This is the reality of our trade. We travel for work in slow times. We obey the contracts we work under, even when we don't like them, as there are things in our own contract we don't like. We work for that local's wage regardless of if it's higher or lower. Please make sure that you are signed up for ERTS. That is the system that sends your benefits back home.

I have also been adding available JW calls on social media and I will be adding some here. Please make sure to call these halls as some have different licenses and requirements to take these calls as well as the possibilities that the calls have been filled already. If you ever have any questions about traveling, my phone is on 24/7 and I know Dub will help answer any questions you may have. There is work out there, just need to hustle a little to find it. I am hoping the jobs we are aware of in our local area will kick off soon as we don't want our family stressed.

As far as school goes, the spring semester is almost over, but I will be continuing my code classes throughout the summer. Keep an eye out on the school's calendar for upcoming classes. Our IEETC has hired a new Assistant Training Director, and our committee continues to push for better and more training. I have faith the school is headed in the right direction. If you are an apprentice and would like to be a part of the Apprentice Committee, please reach out to myself or Bernie.

Much love family, as always, my phone is always on. Please don't hesitate to reach out if I can be of service.

YIB Rick Hockwarth 8036825

7

Possibilities for work are listed below, please			
remember to call their hall for information.			
-			LU 1516
LU 270	LU 700	LU 474	LU 342

EW 440

From the Secretaries Desk

Union Dues as of July 1st, 2024 ► \$46.90 a month ► Convenience fees will apply to credit & debit card transactions

Death Benefits

We are currently at death benefit

336

Please check the top right side of your dues receipt to see what number you are paid through. For Example DF# 334-336 means you are paid through number 336, so you do not owe death benefits. Each Death Benefit is \$10.

Each Death Benefit is \$10

Last death was:

- #336 William D. Pearcy
- #335 Stephen Kadella
- #334 Andrew Holguin
- #333 James Brook

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.
- Sign in on our website and pay your monthly dues online!

<u>Membership</u>

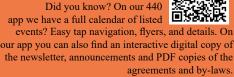
24 hr notice for all Travel Letters.

Dues can be paid with: CASH - CARD - CHECK - MONEY ORDER Debit & CC fees will apply

Dues can also be paid on our website IBEW440.org or our App.

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

App Tutorial



Scan QR Code for on screen navigation.

Don't forget to download the IBEW App.

Have photos you want to share ? Send them to janell@ibew440.org to have them featured in the newsletter and other publications.



► 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 2 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

Passing's

Our condolences to the family and friends of:

Newborn Corner

Cesar & Yesenía Gallegos welcomed their son Agustín Antonio Gallegos on January 21st, 2024

Hobart Cress & Dana Dukovan welcomed their daughter Charley Maríe Cress Dukovan on March 1st, 2024

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

IBEW 440

8

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 2024

CW HOURS DUE THIS MONTH

- 3rd R.E.N.E.W Meeting (5-6pm) General Membership Meeting (6-9pm)
- 5th Cinco de Mayo
- 12th- Mother's Day
- 25th BBQ & Cornhole Tournament @ RIV Hall (10-2pm)
- 27th- Memorial Day (Both Offices Closed)

JUNE 2024



NATIVE HAWAIIAN ACIFIC ISLANDER

- 7th R.E.N.E.W Meeting (5-6pm) General Membership Meeting (6-9pm)
- 8th Brotherhood & Baseball
- 14th Flag Day
- 16th Father's Day
- 19th Juneteenth
- 22nd Back 2 Basics (5pm)

JULY 2024



50% TO WINNER

IBEW 440

TO 440 SICK COMMIT

4th - Independence Day (Both Offices Closed) TBD - R.E.N.E.W Meeting (5-6pm) General Membership Meeting (6-9pm) 20th - Bowling Night @ Arlington Lanes (4-8pm)





For full list of benefit providers, phone numbers and website links **SCAN QR CODE**

Reference Numbers

IEETC

1855 Business Center Drive San Bernardino, CA 92408 Phone: (909) 890-1703 www.ieetc.org

For information on CA State Cert: Website: www.dir.ca.gov

(type: "electrician certification" in the search box or scan OR code on CW Tips section.)

Phone: (510) 286-3900

For information on your health, dental and vision coverage:

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

For information on Pensions/ **Annuity:**

Defined Contribution Pension/ Annuity: Zenith American Phone: (844) 731-7311 Christina Mitchell

Defined Benefit Pension: IBEW NECA Pension Phone: (800) 824-6935

Political Corner

EMPOWERING OUR MEMBERSHIP: THE IMPACT OF POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF OUR LOCAL

Dear Union Siblings,

In our Local, we hold the power to shape our future work landscape, influence local policies, and secure better opportunities for ourselves and our families. The key to unlocking this power lies in our active engagement in politics. It is crucial for us to understand that no one else will fight for our interests; it is up to us to leverage every tool at our disposal to create a better work picture for the future of our local. Politics is a potent force that can directly impact the amount of work our signatory union contractors can secure for us.

By engaging in local politics, we have the ability to influence outcomes at the local, regional, state, and even national levels. Our involvement in the political process is not just a choice but a responsibility that can shape the trajectory of our union and our livelihoods.

Unfortunately, the voter turnout among union members in the Inland Empire has been disappointingly low. We have witnessed the loss of assembly seats by margins as slim as 30 votes. Every single vote matters and during times of low voter turnout, our collective voice carries even more weight. It is imperative for each of us to exercise our right to vote and make our voices heard.

To address the issue of low voter turnout, we will be hosting a voter registration drive and reaching out to every unregistered member to encourage participation.

As registered voters, we also have the power to influence those around us – our households, neighbors, and communities – to support candidates who prioritize labor rights and advocate for our interests.

As union members, we hold the key to not only shaping our union's future but also impacting the lives of our families and communities through activism. Our collective efforts can create a ripple effect that extends far beyond our immediate surroundings. In closing, I want to emphasize that the future of our Local is in our hands. Our success as a union is not solely dependent on leadership but on the active participation and commitment of each member.

I work tirelessly to advocate for our interests and build relationships with policymakers, but true change can only come from our collective action.

I urge each of you to bring forth candidates for endorsement, register to vote, and support our endorsed candidates. Let us stand together in solidarity, educate ourselves, and organize for a better future. I hope I can count on your support as we navigate the path ahead.

In Solidarity, Sister Venessa Ingalls #7653911





SCAN QR to fill out interest form.

TRADESWOMEN SISTERHOOD

W.I.R.E. (Women's Initiative for Readiness in Electrical)

We are thrilled to celebrate the achievement of our W.I.R.E. (Women's Initiative for Readiness in Electrical) Crew #1! This group marks the inaugural graduating class of our women's pre-apprenticeship program. Over the course of 12 weeks, these 11 participants dedicated themselves to a combination of online and in-person training, equipping them with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in the electrical industry. If you or a loved one are eager to be part of our next cohort, scan the QR code below to sign up for our upcoming sessions.



- United States President Joe Biden addressing IBEW Members at the IBEW Construction & Maintenance Conference in Washington DC.



- California's Governor Gavin Newsom addressing affiliates at the California State Building Trades Legislative Conference in Sacramento.





• General Election -November 5, 2024





- Photo of IBEW 440 & 569 members meeting with Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia in his office during a recent California State Association of Electrical Workers Legislative INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CA

LOCAL 440

RIVERSIDE, CA 1405 Spruce St., Suite G Riverside, CA 92507

Office Hours:

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

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

Coachella Valley Electrical Resource Center 39615 Washington St Suite G Palm Desert, CA 92211

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

Telephone: (760) 999-1078