



WATTS CURRENT @ ETI

QUARTERLY STUDENT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2024



FROM THE TRAINING DIRECTOR PAGE 1

COORDINATOR'S CORNER PAGE 2

VEEP GRADUATION PAGE 5

EMPOWER PAGE 7

From the Training Director's Desk

We are already near the end of the first quarter of the new year and time has flown by. The staff at the ETI continues to work hard to bring us closer to World Class.

The ETI started a new application process that I'm sure many of you have heard about. I have also heard some misinformation and wanted to explain the new process and why the Trustees have made this change.

The new application process is called GAN and has been used in other large apprenticeships for many years and in some, longer than that. These other programs show the same graduation numbers as we do and it made us question the amount of time and resources we used for our process to achieve the same results.

Before we changed, it would take up to nine months for an applicant to move through and complete the application process. We were devoting a lot of staff and interviewer time; this is part of why the process took so long.

The GAN process is broken down into two parts after application submittal. Applicants fill out 1) a PEF (Personal Experience Form) and 2) take a written test. Points are given for each, adding up to a total score. The process takes three months from start to finish and reduces our staff time by hundreds of hours. Additionally, it is a 'blind' process since there are no interviews, ensuring everyone is scored based solely on their own merits.

As with every new process, we found some bugs in the system which staff have worked to correct. One of the unexpected consequences was how our call volume spiked during the first three days of the application process. I hope you have seen and felt better customer service over the last year from the ETI, so please be patient if your call doesn't get immediately answered on one of these days. I promise the ETI staff is working hard to service everyone as fast as they can.

In all, we are processing over 2,100 applications in this first cycle. If you said "Wow, that's a lot!", you'd be right. We are blessed to have so many people want to be part of our apprentice programs and I am grateful to our hard-working staff for their efforts in processing such a high volume of applications.

I hope everyone has enjoyed a great start to their New Year and thank you for your continued support.



David Nott
Training Director
D899684

The Coordinator's Corner

This month, we have the pleasure of introducing you to the new Apprentice Coordinator for IBEW Local 11. Kelly Oliver began his IBEW journey in 1997 as an Inside Wireman apprentice right here with Local 11. Upon completing his 5-year apprenticeship, he began taking on leadership roles from Foreman to General Superintendent over the last 26 years. Kelly has a strong military background as a United States Marine with natural leadership and mentoring capabilities that will surely benefit our apprentices, overall membership, and local contractors.

Kelly Oliver – “It’s been nearly 26 years since I became an apprentice, and the training I received in my five-year apprenticeship helped set the foundation for me to climb the ladder to the General Superintendent level, so to return here to represent all of you is humbling to me and I am determined to pass on the mental tools we need as an apprentice to succeed in the construction industry.”

These two months have been a real eye opener to me on something Alton spoke of continuously: “MENTAL HEALTH.” It is a real issue, so I want to keep reminding everyone that we do have the resources to help you and your family, and like he said, “it’s ok to not be ok”. If you or a loved one within your family are struggling with mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, financial issues, or anything that may be having a negative effect to quality of life, please call 877-225-2267 or for more information please go to liveandworkwell.com.

We would also like to congratulate our new veteran apprentices who recently graduated from our VEEP program! We honor their service to our country and welcome these new apprentices with respect and appreciation.

Everyone knows it’s that time of year that everyone gets active in our politics, so don’t forget about our allocation meeting coming up, be active and don’t forget to vote!

Kelly Oliver

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Apprentice Coordinator for IBEW 11

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Aaron Miller

Apprentice Coordinator for NECA

Los Angeles County Chapter

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aaron@laneca.org



A visit from Japan

We were excited to host a distinguished group from Japan on February 22, 2024, comprising of 16 participants representing The Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), the largest utility company in Japan, their building EMS and renewables subsidiary, and Japan's New Energy Development Organization (NEDO). Also in attendance was ENSO, a company focused on developing scalable solutions for waste and energy. Recently awarded a grant from the Japanese government to spearhead a hydrogen powered energy center project in Lancaster, this esteemed group visited our facility as part of their high-level research endeavor. They were deeply impressed by the technology of our facility and the technological innovations showcased at the ETI. David Nott led the tour, supported by Steve Rose and Joe Sullivan, who played key roles in organizing the group's visit to our premises.



Michelle Bermudez
Public Relations and Events Coordinator
Marketing@laett.com



STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



THE STUDENT OF THE MONTH AWARD, PRESENTED BY MILWAUKEE TOOLS, CELEBRATES STUDENTS WHO CONSISTENTLY DISPLAY EXCELLENCE IN THEIR ACADEMIC AND TECHNICAL PURSUITS. THIS HONOR TAKES INTO ACCOUNT REGULAR ATTENDANCE, HIGH GPA, AND OUTSTANDING EVALUATIONS FROM EMPLOYERS.



JANUARY 2024

FEBRUARY 2024

MARCH 2024



DAVID WENDERLICH



ROBERT CARSON



MICHAEL BOYD



Graduates

VEEP Cohort-5

The Veteran's Electrical Entry Program (VEEP), developed by the Electrical Training Alliance, serves two critical purposes in the union electrical industry. Firstly, it provides transitioning service members and recently separated veterans with a pathway for reintegration into the civilian workforce. Secondly, it grants access to a high-demand field with promising earning potential.

On March 15, 2024, we celebrated the graduation of our fifth VEEP Cohort, comprising twenty-one men who demonstrated their readiness to become inside wiremen. Among them, eleven have chosen to remain in local 11 to complete their apprenticeship and pursue their careers.

The graduation ceremony featured inspiring speakers such as ETI Training Director David Nott, LA NECA Executive Director Eric Cartier, along with Vice President of the LA/ OC Building Trades Council and Assistant Business Manager of IBEW Local 11 Eric Brown standing out as a keynote speaker who emphasized resilience and staying true to oneself and comrades. Notably, the cohort took a special moment to honor their instructor Vinny "Big Panda" Martinez III by presenting him with a plaque they personally designed and paid for.



The day concluded with a great lunch and the students finishing LAQSP/OSHA 30 while their instructor Vinny gave all family members a tour of the facility they will call their second home for the next five years.





APPRENTICE SHOWDOWN

Attention Local 11 IW apprentices! Mark your calendars for an exciting opportunity: Ideal Tools is organizing a qualifying round event exclusively for inside apprentices at the ETI in late May. Expect door prizes, swag, surprises, and complimentary food for all participants. The ultimate prize? \$1,000 cash and a chance to advance to the semi-finals. The finals will be held in sunny Palm Beach, Florida, this September, with the first-place winner taking home a whopping \$40,000! Remember, last year, our very own first-year apprentice, Fabian Santillan, proudly represented Local 11 and the ETI at the Florida competition. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks. For further information, visit [Ideal Tools Nationals Home Page](#).

Steve Rose

Assistant Training Director

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Recruit, Retain, and Support Female Apprentices
and Journey-level workers in our Local



EMPOWER

ETI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM OFFERING WOMEN EXTRA RESOURCES
Creating herstory at each meeting



I'm happy to report that as our journey of internal growth continues, we are increasing in attendee numbers. To give us some more space, we've moved to our new home base, the ETI's Multi-Purpose Room (MPR). Thanks to the ETI's IT team, the MPR is set-up with all the multimedia tools we could possibly need. I'm excited, because this will allow us to have even more dynamic meetings. Here at EMPOWER, we meet in person to build strong networks, enjoy free dinner together, and listen to amazing speakers from across the nation share their wisdom.

January's meeting started the year off strong. We welcomed Assistant Training Director Deon Mayes, who shared the ETI's new application process to join Local 11. It was a privilege to be the debut audience for the Orientation videos, these resources were carefully crafted to navigate us through the updated application process and demystify the apprenticeship opportunities at Local 11.

In February, experts from Milwaukee Tools demonstrated power tool use with their latest safety innovations. The motorized stop feature—now a part of screwguns and hand-held power threaders—has revolutionized our work by drastically reducing hand injuries.

It was inspiring to see two women among the three tool experts. That shows Milwaukee Tool's dedication to gender equality in the industry. As usual, Milwaukee Tool was generous with raffle items, including screw gun sets, tape measures, even coolers. Also, an anonymous donor gave EMPOWER 30 calendars made by Ironworker women to allow us all to leave as winners.



The legendary Cheryl Chisolm was our March speaker. Her story of her career at Local 11 inspired us. Part of her story involved a topic that affects so many of our members, childcare. She and a male coworker's wife ran a daycare that opened at 4 am. Business Manager Robert Corona added to this discussion, sharing the fantastic news that childcare services will be available at general meetings— starting with the March meeting which will help us with inclusivity. A bit about Cheryl: She's not only the first woman on Local 11's executive board but also the first female from Local 11 elected as a delegate to attend the IBEW International Convention.



Our sessions are more than meetings; they are where diverse experiences, work-life harmony, and conversations of substance are shared to continue to increase women's representation in Local 11.

To attend, please RSVP using the QR code. Children are welcome, please RSVP for them as well.



Anthy Hadjimarkos
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SAFETY MATTERS

HAZARDOUS NOISE LEVELS

When should you wear Hearing Protection Devices (HPDs)? Some warning signs that you are being exposed to a dangerous level of noise include ringing in the ears and temporary hearing loss. One way to identify hazardous noise exposure is when talking to co-workers. If it is difficult for you to have and hold a normal conversation, you need protection. A sound measurement will tell you for sure.

Sound is measured in decibels (dB). If you are exposed to consistent noise levels of over 85 dB throughout an 8-hour day a program must be implemented to protect your hearing. Protection must be provided to ensure you are not exposed to levels above 90 dB throughout an 8-hour day. At 95 dB the maximum amount of time that you can safely be exposed is 4 hours per day. At 110 dB you can only be exposed for less than a half hour per day and you should never be exposed to levels above 140 db. Even momentary exposure to this level of noise can cause permanent damage to your hearing.



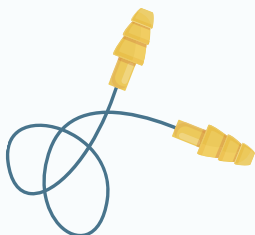
There are three common forms of Hearing Protection Devices (HPDs). They are ear plugs, earmuffs, and earmuffs with electronics. Ear plugs can typically reduce noise by 25-30 dba. If you have any concern about potential noise hazards and hearing damage, you should probably be wearing these.

Earmuffs offer roughly the same noise reduction levels; however, they can be taken on and off more easily. They are also more hygienic for you to share with colleagues. Another advantage is that earmuffs can be worn with ear plugs in extremely loud environments.

Some earmuffs have electronics integrated including a microphone on the outside so that you can hear external noises at a controlled and adjustable volume. You may find this beneficial when working with certain tools or machinery.

You should always select HPDs based on the fit and the level of noise environment. If too little protection is provided, hearing damage and loss may occur. Conversely, too much protection may interfere with communication and create isolation from your surroundings.

For questions about this or any other safety issues, please call: Allen Sloan at (323) 517-9553



Allen Sloan
Director of Safety



Spotlight on Expertise: Steve Rose Presents at NECA Emerge Conference

Steve Rose's impact on the electrical industry continues to reverberate as he prepares to share his insights at the NECA Emerge Conference in Las Vegas. Renowned for his pioneering work in prefab and packaging, Steve's presentation, "You're Already Doing Prefab," promises to offer practical strategies for optimizing prefab processes in electrical projects. As a key member of the panel on "Maintaining and Developing Business Development Relationships," Steve underscores the importance of cultivating strong industry ties for sustainable growth and innovation. His transition from corporate leadership to educational stewardship at ETI exemplifies a seamless integration of expertise and passion, driving forward advancements in electrical training and industry practices.



Investing in Growth and Learning at ETI

In a commitment to continuous improvement, the Electrical Training Institute (ETI) is set to send three senior staff members and eight instructors to undergo advanced training at the National Training Institute (NTI) in Ann Arbor, Michigan, at the end of July. This opportunity underscores the institute's dedication to lifelong learning and professional development. The intensive week-long program promises to hone the skills of participating instructors and staff, ultimately benefiting all students at the ETI. Additionally, the board of trustees has approved the inclusion of the top graduating inside apprentice for supplementary training at NTI, focusing on critical areas such as team building, leadership, estimating, negotiations, and understanding the structure of the IBEW/NECA. This initiative reflects ETI's commitment to nurturing top talent and ensuring their readiness for the dynamic challenges of the electrical industry.

Celebrating Excellence: ETI Apprentice at Western States Skills Competition



Building on a tradition of excellence, the ETI is proud to announce its participation in the Western States Skills Competition in Salt Lake City, Utah, this August. Following approval from the board of trustees, the top graduating apprentice from the inside program will represent Local 11 and the ETI at this prestigious event. This opportunity not only recognizes the outstanding achievements of our apprentice but also serves as a platform to showcase their skills on a regional stage. With last year's competition won by Molly Muller of Salem, Oregon, from Local 280, the ETI apprentice is going to demonstrate proficiency and uphold the institute's reputation for producing top-tier professionals in the electrical trade.

Steve Rose

Assistant Training Director

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PASADENA TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CENTER

FIELD TRIP

On Saturday, February 3rd, I had the privilege of accompanying 11 Intelligent Transportation Systems apprentices in the 4-2 class on a field trip to the Pasadena Traffic Management Center. The field trip was made possible by Instructor Tony Indolino, Senior Street Light and Traffic Signal Mechanic for the City of Pasadena.

The day began with a meetup outside Pasadena City Hall where Tony went over the recent history of Traffic Signal and Street Lighting updates in the surrounding area.

Next, we headed to the Traffic Management Center (TMC) where David Phan, Department of Transportation Assistant Engineer at the TMC, met up with the group. David discussed his role with the City of Pasadena, what happens in a TMC, and various career opportunities.



Next, David and Tony gave us a tour of the TMC and explained the inner workings of the system that allowed us to see live traffic camera footage of members of Tony's crew working on an intersection repair and footage of the IBEW Local 11 offices.



"Work smarter, not harder is what we're told when it should be work harder to be smarter."

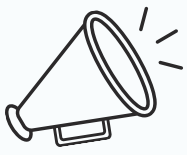
-Tony Indolino

Finally, we rounded out the visit by heading to the Department of Public Works building where Tony gave us a tour of the Traffic Signal and Street Light Division. We met some members of his team and discussed what they do every day to keep the City of Pasadena running smoothly, including an explanation of how the city's accessible pedestrian signals and video detection systems are monitored.

Summer Zachary
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Senior Instructor
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What Students Are Saying...

Class Surveys

If you've been attending class recently, you may have noticed that we're regularly sending out class surveys – at the beginning, middle, and end of each session. At ETI, we value student feedback greatly, as it helps us understand how we can enhance our courses and offer assistance before any concerns arise. The next time you receive a survey, take a moment to give your Instructor a shout-out and share your thoughts on how they're doing!

Instructor: Charles Drouaillet

“ Arguably the most passionate teacher here who always finds out the info we need even if he doesn't know offhand. ”

“ Charles is a really great instructor. His style of teaching is great. Really helps students understand the concept of what's going on. ”

Upcoming Tutoring Dates

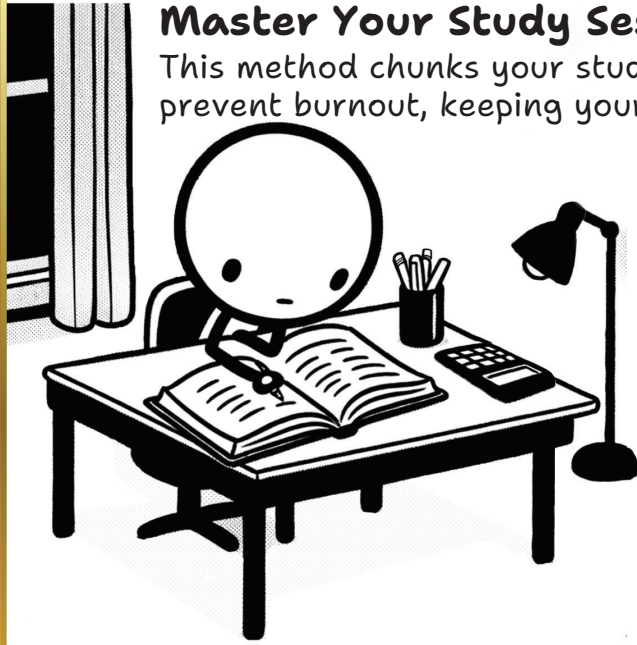
Having trouble with your studies? No worries, we've got your back! ETI is providing tutoring sessions on selected Saturday's from April through September. To schedule a lesson, just shoot us an email at tutoring@laett.com. Let's conquer those exams together!

Saturday's	4/13/24	5/18/24	6/15/24	7/13/24	8/17/24	9/7/24
6 – 10 AM	Basic AC Theory Math	Basic AC Theory Math	Basic AC Theory Math	Basic AC Theory Math	Basic AC Theory Math	Basic AC Theory Math
10 – 2:45 PM	Advanced AC Theory Math	Advanced AC Theory Math	Advanced AC Theory Math	Advanced AC Theory Math	Advanced AC Theory Math	Advanced AC Theory Math

STUDY TIPS

Master Your Study Sessions with the Pomodoro Technique

This method chunks your study time into manageable intervals with breaks to prevent burnout, keeping your mind sharp and ready to learn.



Start a Pomodoro: Set a block of 25 minutes for a focused study session, called a 'Pomodoro'.

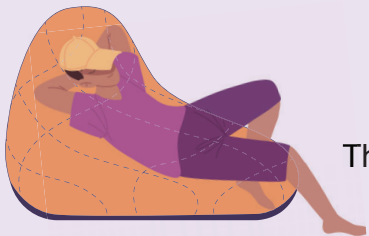
Focused Studying: Dive into your material. If you're sidetracked by a thought, jot it down and return to your work.

Take a Pause: When the timer chimes, celebrate with a checkmark on your tracker.

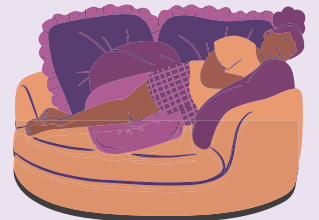
Enjoy a Break: Step away for a 5-minute breather.

Repeat and Recharge: After four Pomodoros, treat yourself to a 15-30 minute rest.

Holiday Schedule



The ETI will be closed in observance of the following holidays:



Memorial Day

Monday, May 27, 2024

Independence Day

Thursday, July 4, 2024

Labor Day

Monday, September 2, 2024

Veterans Day (Observed)

Monday, November 11, 2024

Christmas

Wednesday, December 25, 2024

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Thanksgiving Break

ETI Office Closed:

Thursday, November 28th & Friday, November 29th

No Classes Scheduled:

Monday, November 25th to Sunday, December 1st

Winter School Break

ETI Office Closed: December 25th & January 1st

No Classes Scheduled:

Monday, December 23rd - Sunday January 5th

FAQS

What should I do if I miss class?

It is mandatory to make up all absences, and students must submit a Leave of Absence with supporting documentation to have the absence excused.

Day School:

Contact the office by 4:30 pm of the week in which the day of school was missed to schedule a makeup day.

Track Classes & Advanced Classes:

Makeup classes must be completed within 21 days of the date of absence.

The student must contact the office between 8:00 am & 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday to schedule the makeup class.

Students must explain that they also need to make up any exams which were given during their absence.

Contact Us

APPRENTICESHIP &
TRAINING QUESTIONS
[323] 221-5881

DUES OFFICE
[626] 243-9700

DISPATCH
[323] 517-9610

HEALTH & PENSION
[323] 221-5861



CONGRATULATIONS ⚡ CLASS OF 2023 ⚡

This year, more than 400 graduates will be attending our upcoming graduation ceremony at the Bonaventure Hotel. Don't forget to check out the next issue of the newsletter for pictures from the event!



WATTS CURRENT @ ETI

We'd love to hear from you!

We're always on the lookout for great content for each issue. Please send your suggestions to: marketing@laett.com

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@NetZero_Plus

EDITORIALS & CONTRIBUTIONS

Scott Arnold, Michelle Bermudez, Anthy Hadjimarkos, Amanda Lazo, Deon J. Mayes, Aaron Miller, Ashley Nettles, David Nott, Steve Rose, Allen Sloan, Kelly Oliver, Summer Zachary



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Aaron Miller

