

Winter 2025

# WATTS CURRENT

@ETI

QUARTERLY STUDENT NEWSLETTER



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# From the Training Director's Desk

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**Another year has flown by and it's hard to believe we are now in 2025. I want to take a moment and recognize our accomplishments in 2024 at the ETI on behalf of our members:**

- Increased instructor training to improve the quality of classroom instruction
- Updated and upgraded labs and classrooms
- More JW classes
- Implementing online class registration and payment
- 99% of phone calls answered, showcasing our improved customer service
- Introduced hybrid classes
- Adoption of an improved apprentice application platform and the GAN process

In addition, we will be working on the following projects in 2025:

- AC Microgrid replacement to change out our aged AC inverters to maintain our Net Zero status
- Build out of the old Pension/Health area into new meeting spaces
- Adding additional electric vehicle chargers
- A first of its kind functioning Hydrogen Display Room

I am proud of what we achieved in 2024 and am excited for what we will do in 2025. The team at the ETI continues to work hard at making us the best and most recognized training center in the country.

I hope all of you enjoyed a holiday season full of family, friends, laughter, and joy. This industry has provided me with purpose and security, allowing me to raise and support my family. I do not take for granted what a gift it is to be an IBEW electrician or the responsibility of being your Training Director. The ETI will continue to improve and evolve on our journey to becoming World Class.

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2025!

**David Nott**  
Training Director  
D899684





# ***The Coordinator's Corner***

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

As we close the chapter on 2024 and step into 2025, we reflect on the past year. We are continually inspired by the hard work, dedication, and sacrifices you've demonstrated. We recognize the challenges of balancing work, school, and family life. Missing kids' games, family gatherings, church, or special events to attend mandatory weekend classes or put in overtime is no small feat. The sacrifices you make today are investments in your future, and they will undoubtedly pay off. We also want to express our gratitude to your families for their unwavering support as you pursue this demanding yet rewarding path.

A fulfilling career lies ahead for those who continue to show up with a strong work ethic and the basics that make a big difference—being dependable, punctual, prepared for duty, and maintaining a positive attitude. Remember, your job site team relies on you every day to be a productive member, and every hour worked brings you closer to completing the OJT hours required for the state certification test.

As we begin 2025, the work outlook is promising, offering a wide range of opportunities and experiences. As always, we encourage you to advocate for yourself. If you feel you're not gaining the variety of field experience you need, don't hesitate to reach out to one of your coordinators. Together, we'll evaluate your situation and determine whether to keep you where you are or rotate you to a new contractor to broaden your experience. Every decision will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Here's to a new year filled with growth, opportunity, and success. Thank you for your continued dedication, and we look forward to supporting you in achieving your goals in 2025!

**Kelly Oliver**

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Apprentice Coordinator for IBEW 11

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**Aaron Miller**

**D900185**

Apprentice Coordinator for NECA

Los Angeles County Chapter

**[aaron@laneca.org](mailto:aaron@laneca.org)**





# Outreach Coordinator

The ETI is proud to welcome Miguel Sanchez as our new Outreach Coordinator. A shining example of success within the ETI apprenticeship program, Miguel is a certified Inside Wireman who has made significant strides both in the field and in his community. Throughout his career, Miguel has been more than an electrician; he's been a mentor, dedicating his free time to guiding youth from underserved communities toward brighter futures.

Miguel's commitment to outreach began during his time in the field, where he worked tirelessly to connect with young people through organizations like Second Chance and the Boys and Girls Club. Now, as ETI's Outreach Coordinator, Miguel is laser-focused on providing opportunities to kids who may not otherwise have the resources or guidance to enter the electrical trade. His passion for making a difference is evident as he "takes off running," targeting underprivileged youth and offering them a pathway to success through ETI's programs.

We're excited to see how Miguel's vision and energy will expand ETI's outreach efforts, inspiring the next generation of skilled electricians while fostering diversity and inclusion in our industry.

Welcome, Miguel!



**Miguel Sanchez**  
**Outreach Coordinator**  
**8013760**



## **Q: How do I update my contact information?**

A: You must personally update your current mailing address, phone number, and email with the ETI, Pension Trust Office, Union Dispatch Office, and Local #11 Credit Union using standard forms.

## **Q: What happens if I don't maintain my union dues payments?**

A: Failure to keep dues current results in penalties, such as written warnings, appearances before a JAC Subcommittee, and withholding of level upgrades.

## **Q: How is my job performance evaluated?**

A: Your performance is reviewed periodically by your contractor, foreman, or supervising Journey-level worker, as well as during job site visits from Apprenticeship Coordinators.

## **Q: What is included in Related Supplemental Instruction (RSI)?**

A: RSI covers classroom instruction, lab equipment, books, and administrative support—all provided at no cost.

## **Q: Can I quit my job or request to be laid off?**

A: No, quitting or requesting a layoff is prohibited and considered a resignation. If you need to change your employment, communicate with your Apprentice Coordinator.





# **SAFETY MATTERS**

## **MENTAL HEALTH & SUICIDE PREVENTION AS A SAFETY PRIORITY**

In construction it is typical for us to discuss physical safety on a daily basis. For many years, the focus of our work plans has been on keeping ourselves and our co-workers safe from bodily harm. What we have not typically talked about is our mental health, and now is the time to include mental wellness as part of our overall total worker safety.



You might be shocked to know that construction workers have the highest suicide rate of any occupation. As much effort as goes into keeping your fellow crew members safe each shift – would you consider putting that same effort in to making sure they return to work tomorrow safe as well?

**1 in 4 or 5 adults** are currently experiencing a mental health condition like depression or anxiety, or maybe something even more severe like bi-polar disorder. In most cases and with proper treatment, these conditions can be managed and overcome with those experiencing them having full and productive lives.

However, if these are ignored and not treated, as they are more than half the time, these conditions can lead to people being distracted, less productive than normal, and possibly unsafe and unable to perform their normal jobs. Because of this, mental health and suicide prevention need to be safety considerations.

In your safety huddles, check in on how your teammates are doing. Pay attention to those who may be acting or performing differently than normal and ask if they need to talk. Keep information on your Employee Assistance Program (EAP), the Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and the Crisis Text Line available to share with those who might need to seek help.

Remember, safety starts with what's under the hardhat.

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

**Allen Sloan**  
Director of Safety







# EMPOWER

ETI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM OFFERING WOMEN EXTRA RESOURCES

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

## 2024: An Incredible Year for EMPOWER

As we move into 2025, I want to take a moment to look back on everything we accomplished together at EMPOWER in 2024. We did so much! With our group growing, we permanently moved our meetings to the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR) to accommodate the need for more space. I'm so proud to see how far we've come, and as we continue to expand, our impact is being felt.

One of our biggest wins was the creation of our official EMPOWER logo—a symbol of who we are and what we stand for. Since then, we've made stickers, an EMPOWER tablecloth, and even a challenge coin to match. At our December meeting, every attendee received a coin when they checked in, and honestly, seeing those in people's hands just felt amazing.

We also introduced our Future Artisans of Bending (FAB) workshop, giving members monthly hands-on practice with conduit bending and fabrication. Apprentices looking for more experience and journey-level members wanting to knock off some rust now have an easy, guided space to practice—without needing to enroll in a class. FAB takes place every third Saturday from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM in the high bay. Just bring your work clothes, safety gear, and have a great time honing your skills!

Over the past year, we covered so many important topics, here's what we accomplished together:

- ♥ The new application process and what it means for apprentices.
- ♥ Milwaukee Tool demonstrations—not once, but twice!
- ♥ Retiree Cheryl Chisolm sharing her experience as one of the first Black women in Local 11.
- ♥ Women's labor author and Milwaukee retiree Sue Doro leading her Pocketwriters workshop.
- ♥ The labor history of May Day—why it matters and how it connects to us today.
- ♥ A fun origami workshop to build spatial reasoning skills (and just have a good time).
- ♥ Awareness of the effects of alcohol on women's health.
- ♥ Local 11 Political Director Antonio Sanchez on why politics and labor unions are inseparable.
- ♥ A panel of women at different career stages in Local 11, sharing their experiences.
- ♥ A meeting on gratitude and staying strong through change.
- ♥ December's gathering, where we created a gratitude tree filled with personal reflections, crafted ornaments, and held our grand raffle.

We're already kicking off the new year with important conversations and meaningful connections. For January's meeting, Diana Limon spoke about her experience at the Tradeswomen Building Bridges conference in the Philippines. Seeing the photos from her presentation gave us a deeper appreciation for what we have here and reinforced why it's so important to protect our work as union electricians.

There's so much ahead, and I'm beyond excited to keep growing, building, and supporting each other in 2025. Thank you all for being part of this journey—we are just getting started!



**Meetings are held every 2nd  
Thursday of the month at 4:00 pm,  
with a free dinner served with RSVP.  
Please use the QR code to RSVP.**

**Anthy Hadjimarkos**  
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Special Projects Assistant/  
EMPOWER Chair  
EMPOWER@LAETT.COM



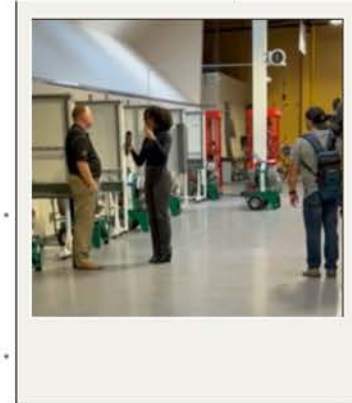


## ETI Shines in CBS LA's 'SoCal Spotlight':

### EMPOWERING COMMERCE THROUGH APPRENTICESHIP

Did you catch our ETI feature on CBS LA – KCAL 9's "SoCal Spotlight" on Friday, December 20, 2024? Commerce is a city we're proud to call home, and we were excited to showcase how our apprenticeship programs are shaping skilled workers and contributing to the local economy. The spotlight was on our commitment to hands-on education and its lasting impact on the community.

Our Training Director, David Nott, guided the reporter through our facility, highlighting how we empower individuals with the skills they need to succeed while strengthening Southern California's infrastructure. Being part of this segment gave us the chance to share the passion and dedication that drive our programs every day.



As we close the chapter in 2024 and step into 2025, we celebrate the outstanding achievements of VEEP Cohort 8. This group of veteran graduates has exemplified hard work, resilience, and the ability to overcome the challenges of transitioning into the electrical trade. Their journey has been one of sacrifice and determination, balancing rigorous training schedules with personal commitments, all while demonstrating unwavering commitment to excellence.

The skills, discipline, and leadership cultivated in the program have prepared these individuals for fulfilling careers in the electrical industry. With the promising work outlook for 2025, graduates are stepping into a field rich with opportunities. To all of Cohort 8 and their families—thank you for your support and dedication. May this new year bring growth, success, and a bright future for each of you. Congratulations on your remarkable achievement!





# 6 MONTHS OF WINNERS! 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.**

**JULY 2024**



**J-ROSE WARREN**

**AUGUST 2024**



**INDEPENDENCE ADAMS**

**SEPTEMBER 2024**



**DERECK GROOM**

**OCTOBER 2024**



**ARMANDO BECERRA**

**NOVEMBER 2024**



**GABRIEL SMITH**

**DECEMBER 2024**



**ANDREW ROCHA**



## **ETI Completes First Cybersecurity Class**

We are leading the way in education with our new dual-purpose CYBER/SBEMS lab boards, developed with UC Davis. These innovative tools integrate cybersecurity and

Smart Building Energy Management Strategies (SBEMS), giving students hands-on experience in two key areas of the electrical industry.

We recently celebrated the completion of our first cybersecurity class using these boards, equipping apprentices to address cybersecurity risks in smart grids and automated systems.

This milestone reaffirms our commitment to top-tier training, positioning graduates as leaders in the evolving electrical and technology sectors.



## **Intelligent Transportation Systems Lab Boards to Advance Training**

The Electrical Training Institute (ETI) is excited to introduce our new Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) lab boards, designed to provide apprentices with hands-on experience in this growing field.

Equipped with modular components, 12V DC power sources, and DC-rated components, these boards safely simulate real-world ITS setups. From traffic signals to sensor-driven traffic management, they offer a practical platform for learning to design, install, and maintain advanced transportation systems. This innovation highlights our commitment to excellence in apprenticeship education, preparing students with the skills and confidence to succeed in the evolving electrical industry.



**Steve Rose**

Director of Innovation  
Technical Facilities  
[Roses@laett.com](mailto:Roses@laett.com)





# Holiday Schedule



## **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

Monday, January 20

## **Cesar Chavez Day**

Monday, March 31

## **Memorial Day**

Monday, May 26

## **Independence Day**

Friday, July 4

## **Veteran's Day**

Tuesday, November 11

## **ETI Office Closed:**

Thursday, November 27th & Friday, November 28th

Wednesday, December 24th & Wednesday, December 31st

## **No Classes Scheduled:**

Monday, November 24th to Sunday, November 30

## **Winter School Break**

**ETI Office Closed:** December 25th & January 1st

## **No Classes Scheduled:**

Monday, December 22nd - Sunday, January 4th



# OPEN CLASSES

Register Now

Limited spaces available, be sure to sign up before it's too late!

**Grounding & Bonding:** Two classes in January 2025 and one in March 2025

**Conduit Bending:** Two classes in March 2025 and one starting in late April 2025



To enroll in courses:  
[Click here](#)

# TUTORING



The ETI Tutoring Center is now offering tutoring for the National Electrical Code (NEC). Please contact the ETI office or send an email to [tutoring@laett.com](mailto:tutoring@laett.com) for available dates and times and to register for a tutoring session.

For Tutoring dates, visit the website, [Tutoring\\_](#)

## Contact Us

APPRENTICESHIP &  
TRAINING QUESTIONS

[323] 221-5881

DUES OFFICE  
[626] 243-9700

DISPATCH  
[323] 517-9610

HEALTH & PENSION  
[323] 221-5861

IBEW 11 Members: Resources  
for Impacted Fire Victims

We are deeply saddened by the devastating fires impacting Los Angeles. This is a difficult time for many of our members and their families, and we want you to know we stand with you.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the brave first responders, firefighters, and volunteers who are working tirelessly to protect our communities. Your dedication inspires us all. Please stay safe, and let's continue to support one another during this challenging time.

IBEW 11 Members: Resources for Impacted  
Fire Victims Visit:

[IBEW 11 Resources](#)



## 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](mailto:marketing@laett.com)

EDITORIALS & CONTRIBUTIONS



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## Joint Apprenticeship Committee

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Alton Wilkerson

Kelly Oliver

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Chris Longoria

Tommy Zielomski

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