

# CONDUITS FOR CHANGE

IBEW Local 332 News | Fall 2021 | [WWW.IBEW332.ORG](http://WWW.IBEW332.ORG)



**THIS ISSUE:** Members at Google | Giants Game | Political Update | Women Members | JATC Update





# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Our Condolences

Local 332 honors our members who have recently passed away. Our hearts go out to their loved ones, especially during these challenging times. Please take a moment to remember:

- ♦ **Dennis Dellamonica**  
December 12, 2020
- ♦ **Douglas Valley**  
March 2, 2021
- ♦ **James Clifton**  
June 17, 2021
- ♦ **Laurie Glasere**  
July 16, 2021
- ♦ **David Pray**  
July 20, 2021

## In-Person Union Meetings Have Resumed

*We are happy that our in-person union meetings have resumed every first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 at the hall. Masks are required. Join us to learn more about union business, political issues, and community service opportunities and enjoy the camaraderie. For ongoing union updates, go to:*

- ♦ **website: [ibew332.org](http://ibew332.org)**
- ♦ **facebook.com/Local332**
- ♦ **instagram.com/ibewlocalunion332**
- ♦ **twitter.com/332ibew**

## Governor Newsom Visits the IBEW Local 332 Union Hall

Local 332, the South Bay Labor Council, and the Santa Clara County Democratic Party hosted a 'No on the Recall' rally at our union hall. Governor Newsom spoke to the importance of keeping a pro-union governor and not to join states like Texas and Florida with hospitals overflowing with Covid patients. He also reported that our state is faring better than most, and under his leadership, we have an \$85 million surplus. U.S. Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, CA Assemblymember Ash Kalra, County Board of Supervisors President Cindy Chavez, and South Bay Labor Council Executive Director Jean Cohen also spoke, and volunteers phone banked union voters to VOTE NO on the recall!



**Governor Newsom came to visit the Local 332 union hall. Here he is pictured with 332's Will Smith, Dan Rodriguez, and Alex Caraballo**

# FROM OUR BUSINESS MANAGER

## Greetings Brothers & Sisters:

The two things on everyone's minds these days are the recall election and the Covid Delta variant. I'll speak to both.

On the recall, I know that folks don't all agree, but Newsom has been a friend to construction, deeming us essential and keeping us working during the pandemic. None of the candidates challenging him share our values; they will try to turn California into a state like Texas or Florida.

The challengers will try to take away voting rights, put our lives at risk by weakening Covid protections, and decimate labor. In fact, the leading candidate believes the minimum wage should be \$0. If Newsom is recalled, our PLAs and prevailing wages will be at risk.

**I urge you to VOTE NO on the recall and continue the success the trades have enjoyed under Newsom's leadership.**

I know that Covid is also on everyone's mind since one of our unvaccinated members died and another is in critical condition. These are strong, young guys. No matter how strong you are, without a vaccine, you are playing Russian roulette with your life and the lives of your family and friends.

**If you haven't gotten around to being vaccinated, I encourage you to do so. It's safe, free, and will help us beat this virus once and for all so we can get back to normal life.**

In solidarity,



Dan Rodriguez  
Business Manager



**Dan Rodriguez**  
Business Manager  
Financial Secretary

## Big Win for C-10 Contractors

On July 27th, the California State Licensing Board (CSLB) voted 11-3 to limit C-46 license holders to solar work and require a C-10 electrical contractor license for battery energy storage installation.

This huge victory is thanks to our members who fought hard for it, as well as Governor Newsom, whose appointments to the CSLB gave us the solid majority we needed to get this done after four years.

This will mean a lot more work for C-10 contractors and for Local 332 members.

Congratulations to our members, and thank you Governor Newsom.





# MEMBERS ON THE JOB



**Kyle Bergner, Cupertino Electric**

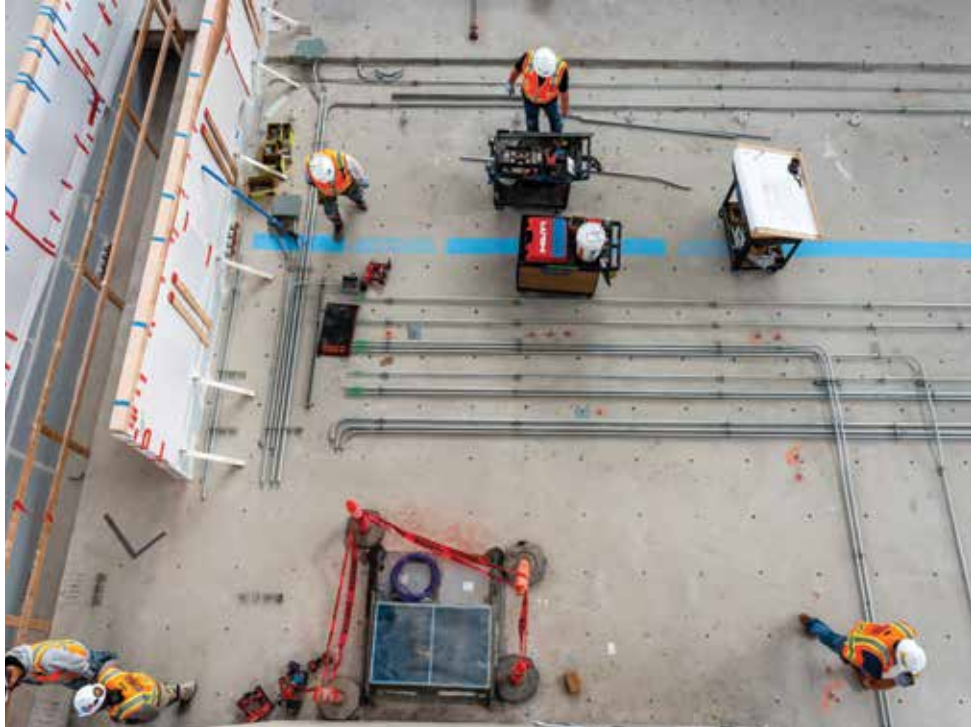
## Quality Union Craftsmanship

"The craftsmanship has been second to none," said Kyle Bergner, Cupertino Electric project manager. "Our electricians coming out of the union hall have helped us be successful on this job and have impressed our customer's world-class design team."

"It's been neat to see the camaraderie, professionalism, and unity of effort on this job. I came out of eight years in the U.S. army, and like soldiers, Local 332's electricians have a regimented and uniform set of expectations around their performance. There's a lot of pride in the product."

"The pandemic has been a hard 18 months, but the electricians stepped up. We were able to get the site back open after a month. In that time, Local 332's electricians have shown the value of their skill, how hard they work, and their commitment to getting the project done right. I'm proud to work for a union contractor."

Google Charleston is a once in a lifetime job for IBEW 332 members who work for Cupertino Electric. Using state of the art technology, craftsmanship, and safety protocols, our inside wiremen are building this marquee Silicon Valley tech campus. It's an architectural wonder, and for decades to come, our members will be able to drive by and say, "We built that, and we built it right." Hats off to Local 332 members for your amazing work on the project.



# BUILDING GOOGLE CHARLESTON

## Hector Nuño, 43 Years in the Trades

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"I've been in the trades for 42 years, both union and nonunion, and have been with Local 332 since 2000. It's what I've been doing since I was a kid, because my dad was an electrician too.

"I got my education in Mexico, and moved here 50 years ago. There are more codes here, and most of the time it's pipe work, whereas in Mexico, there was more motor control.

"I love everything about being an electrician. It's always a learning experience, and every day is different - especially at Google Charleston. You learn so much from the other journeymen, and I pass on everything I know to apprentices on the job. The way I see it, we gotta teach these kids, and it's just part of the job. It's a joy to do it, and it's a joy for them to learn. It's my way of giving back to the union, and those younger people pay for my retirement when I do finally retire.

"I'm going to be 67 this year and was going to retire this year, but I love to work. I can never sleep in - even on the weekends. Eventually I have to retire in the next couple years. I have two classic cars. I've finished rebuilding one, and when the other is done, I'll pull the plug and finally say goodbye to working in the field."



## Michael Cadena, 5th Year Apprentice

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"I was nonunion for four years, then worked a water plant, and IBEW guys encouraged me to get into the union. First I did sound and communication and graduated in 2017, and then I started my inside apprenticeship.

"The biggest difference between union and nonunion is the brotherhood. No one is throwing you under the bus, and people look out for each other. You can also always continue your education and advance your skills. Nonunion it's just a job, but the union is a career.

"I've been on the Google job for a year. I've never done raised floor work or a kitchen, so I'm learning a lot. This job goes above and beyond, and it's the safest shop I've ever seen. Some contractors get rough when it comes to gloves or vests. But here, there's no dollar amount for Cupertino Electric, it's just about our safety. I have everything I need, and it makes me want to work above and beyond.



"Google Charleston is not just a building. When people drive by, they are going to admire it. When it's done, I'll go to the park next to it with my daughters and tell them I was part of that building. You can feel proud of it."



# MEMBERS ON THE JOB AT GOOGLE





# CAMARADERIE OF THE BROTHER/SISTERHOOD

## In Solidarity We Do Recover: Sobriety Support Committee for Members

There are many members who struggle with alcoholism and/or drug problems. When someone is thinking of asking for help or looking for support with addiction-related topics, the amount of information and resources can be overwhelming. The 332 Recovery Committee was created by members Marcus Weagle and Nichole Hall to help members connect to resources and gain support within our brother/sisterhood.

We never want our fellow members to feel alone on their path to recovery. The brotherhood and sisterhood is there for each other on the job, and we are here for each other in recovery. In solidarity we do recover!

### To join the Recovery Committee:

- The group meets every third Friday of the month at 5pm on Zoom.
- We also meet the first Tuesday of the month an hour before the union business meeting so folks who want sober fellowship have a place.
- Call Marcus Weagle: 831-247-3140 or Nichole Hall: 408-761-0337 for more information or to get the Zoom link.
- Join our private Facebook group: search 332Recovery.



**Marcus Weagle**



**Nichole Hall**

## On the Field with the 332 Lightning Catchers Coached by Rafael Gonzalez-Gomez

"Back in 2019, I asked Javier Casillas why we no longer had a 332 softball team. He said, 'No one wants to coach it.' So I said, 'Problem solved: I'm your guy!' I coach the team, and I'm primarily the pitcher. We play in a local slow pitch league, and we have also played in the IBEW District 9 Tournament in which we placed 6th.

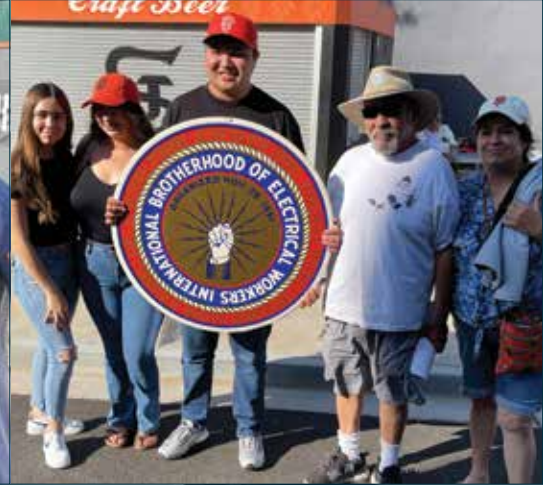
"I had a great apprenticeship, and the team is a great opportunity to give back to our union. I always want apprentices coming up to have the same experience I had in the program. It's just another way we can strengthen our bond with our brothers and sisters that share the field. We have teamwork on the field the same way we have teamwork on the job.

"This fall, we are going to play in several tournaments and also have a Toys for Tots game. We invite members to attend and donate a toy. Our games are posted at the JATC, our website, and on social media. Come out and enjoy watching a game!"





# JUNE 10TH GIANTS GAME





# A HOME RUN FOR IBEW FAMILY FUN





# BIDEN'S AMERICAN JOBS PLAN UPDATE



**Lonnie Stephenson**  
**IBEW International President**

## **Biden Working Overtime for Us**

"The Biden administration may be only a few months old, but it is operating overtime to get the United States back on its feet.

"Every day, President Biden recognizes the primacy of American workers, collective bargaining, and the labor movement. Whether he is expressing his support for a historic organizing campaign or appointing union members as key personnel in his administration, never before has a president been so public in their support of the values that the IBEW holds dear.

"[Biden's infrastructure bill] is a once-in-a-generation chance to set America on a path to prosperity and prevail in the global economic challenges we currently face." – Lonnie Stephenson, IBEW International president

The IBEW is at the heart of President Biden's proposed infrastructure bill, the American Jobs Plan, and would be the largest investment in American infrastructure since World War II.

The bill passed with bipartisan support in the Senate and is moving through Congress. It includes plans to modernize the electric grid, expand access to broadband internet, and electrify the transportation sector, including public passenger rail, ports, roads, bridges and airports. The plan will create well-paid IBEW jobs with strong labor protections.

Key to Biden's plan are 500,000 new electric vehicle charging stations and the standardization of the buildout of the nation's EV infrastructure developed through collaboration with the IBEW.

The IBEW has been at the center of discussions with the White House and industry leaders to transition the entire federal vehicle fleet from gas to electric. This move would replace more than 600,000 cars and trucks. It would accelerate the advancement of America's industrial capacity to supply domestically-produced, zero-emission vehicles and electric batteries, lower the government's carbon footprint, and create well-paying union jobs in manufacturing, engineering, and the skilled trades.

When it comes to building the electric vehicle charging infrastructure, there is no better model for scaling up and training the workforce than the IBEW/National Electrical Contractor Association's (NECA) program. We have over 1,000 signatory contractors across all 50 states who are using EVITP-credentialed journeymen.

"We have been around since the inception of electricity," said the IBEW's Austin Keyser. "There isn't an inch of U.S. land that isn't served by an IBEW/NECA training center. As the market grows, we can instantly grow with it using local workers."





# CA RECALL ELECTION: VOTE NO!

The recall election is massively undemocratic. If more than 50% of voters say yes, Newsom will be removed. Then whoever has the most votes among the replacement candidates - even if they only receive 5% of the vote - will become governor. The final list of 46 candidates includes a right wing radio host, Caitlin Jenner, and a Republican who believes the minimum wage should be \$0.

Newsom could be recalled 50.5% to 49.5%, and then a new governor could be elected with 5% of the vote. California could very easily have a right-wing governor on par with those in Texas, Florida, or Louisiana. It's a broken system and undemocratic!

Even if you're upset with Newsom, he kept the trades working when most other industries were shut down during the pandemic, and he's left our state with an economic surplus. He's pro-worker, pro-union, and pro-construction, and he's been an incredibly strong ally to the IBEW and our members.

**The IBEW stands 100% behind Governor Newsom. Join us and VOTE NO on the recall!**

**VOTE NO ON THE RECALL**  
**On or Before Sept. 14th**

## WHEN!

The recall election is Sept. 14th  
Ballots will be mailed to voters Aug. 16th

## WHAT!

1. Should Gov. Newsom be recalled: **NO!!!**
2. Which candidate should replace him: **NONE!**

## WHERE!

To find out where to vote or  
drop your ballot early go to:  
[bit.ly/332Recallinfo](https://bit.ly/332Recallinfo)



## Voting Information

- **Aug. 30th:** Deadline to register to vote at [covr.sos.ca.gov](https://covr.sos.ca.gov)
- **Sept. 14th:** Election Day | 7am-8pm | in-person voting or drop off your ballot at the polling location
- **Find out where to vote or drop your ballot early:** [bit.ly/332Recallinfo](https://bit.ly/332Recallinfo)

## Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Activities with the South Bay Labor Council

- **Virtual phone banks:** 8/31, 9/2, 9/7, 9/9 from 5:30-8:30pm
- **Precinct walk:** 9/2, time and place TBD
- **Precinct walk:** 9/11, 9am-2pm, 2302 Zanker Road, San Jose at the South Bay Labor Council
- **GOTV final turnout activities:** 9/12, 9/13, 9/14, time and place TBD
- **For info or to RSVP:** Contact Krista at the Labor Council: [krista@southbaylabor.org](mailto:krista@southbaylabor.org)



# 332 WOMEN MEMBERS TEACH OTHER WOMEN

"I first heard about the trades from friends. I always liked working with my hands and building things. Plus, I had just had twins, so I wanted something stable. It's the best decision I ever made, and I love Local 332.

"When I get the opportunity to share, I do. In high school, they promote college, but that's not the route for everyone. So when I had the chance to teach other women about the trades, I jumped at it.

"My employer, Prime Electric, was doing outreach at Cypress Mandela Training Center's program, 'I Can Fix It Myself.' It's a 12-week program in Oakland for survivors of domestic abuse and sex trafficking where participants learn basic repairs to eliminate the need to rely on their abusers. 332 members Misty Albrecht, Annie Aarons-Sawi, and I volunteered to speak.

"The women learn auto repair such as changing oil, brakes, and tire pressure; plumbing like fixing a toilet, changing a faucet, and fixing a leak; patching holes; and changing the locks. I shared information about the union: the application process, apprenticeship, and the day-to-day job. We had a sample project making up a J-box so they could get their hands on some tools. Each participant received a Klein 11-in-1 screwdriver.

"It's a very moving program. Helping women out of bad situations so they can be self-sufficient is important to me. They leave the program more independent and not



dependent on someone who might be hurting them.

"I think we can all relate to that independence of the trades. We can do things for ourselves, and we don't have to rely on anyone. The trades also allow us to be financially independent because of the solid wages. Most of all, there's a sense of satisfaction that comes with a good day of work, and it builds confidence. The trades is for everyone--men and women--and I encourage everyone to get the word out."





# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE OF OUR NEW JATC

Right now, there are roughly 22 Local 332 members working to expand the JATC from a 30,000 sq. ft. facility to a 79,000 sq. ft. The turnover date is Oct. 15th. We hope to be open for business on Nov. 1st when members can tour. It's your investment for generations of electricians to come.



**Dan Romero, 332 VP &  
Asst. Business Manager**

## Grand Opening Tentatively Nov.1

"We hope to be open for business on November 1st," said Dan Romero. "Right now, the walls are up and drywalled, the MEP rough has been completed, and we are waiting on a new main switch board to install. Then we can start pulling feeders, branch wire, and installing light fixtures. Before you know it, we'll be painting, and installing finishes and flooring."

"Remote learning classes will continue in the fall, but we plan on transitioning to in-person as soon as possible, pending county health guidelines."

"This project is coming to fruition thanks to the leadership of the local and the members who have made it possible with your financial support. We will have a grand opening where you will be invited to tour your investment."

# MEMBERS BUILD THE NEW JATC

## Francisco Chavez, 3rd Year Apprentice & Sharing the Trades with High School Students

"Before I got into the trades, I was a Brinks armored guard, an airport worker, and a student. I was always intrigued with electricity and where power comes from. The apprenticeship gives you the opportunity to learn, to meet others who are learning, and do stuff with your hands that you've never done before.

"I like being in the union. Great people are what make the union, people come together around one thing, and everyone can voice an opinion. I've gone to meetings and done a bunch of community service projects. I helped with a job fair at JATC and did Christmas in the Park, which were both great experiences.

"Probably the most memorable community service experience was doing a high school job outreach program. We talked to students and made them aware of the trades and what's out there aside from college. Honestly, in my high school, we didn't have all that information, and a lot of students only hear about the trades if a family member is in one. But when you open their eyes to that information, you open doors. It can lead you into a lifetime career with good pay, benefits, and a pension. It was cool to be part of that.

"In my free time, I love to play sports. I'm a soccer forward, and in softball, I'm an outfielder. I also like travel, especially to California's national parks and out of the country."



## Angel Birruete, Material Handler & 2nd Generation Construction Worker

"I've been a union material handler for three years after working in nonunion warehouses for a while. In this job, you get to know all the materials that the journeymen use and help out with whatever is needed. It's something I enjoy, and now I want to do the inside commercial apprenticeship.

"Being a materials handler, you're a step closer to being a wireman, and I'm learning so much about what needs to be done to wire a building. I've always wanted to be a part of a union since I was young, and IBEW is the best. Everyone says it's the best thing that's happened to them.

"I have an eight-month-old and a two-year-old. Providing for them is my number one priority, and being in the union, I can do that.

"I was born and raised in Santa Clara. My dad was a construction worker, and when I was growing up I'd see apartment buildings going up, all the machinery used, and the people working on the buildings. I always wanted to be one of those people, and now I am."





# MEMBERS BUILD THE NEW JATC

## Anthony Castro, Foreman & Marine Corps Veteran

"I turned out in 2020. Before that, I was in the Marines for eight years. It's something I wanted to do prior to joining the service, so I just picked up where I left off. I was in Afghanistan for seven months. It was hard, but I'd go back in a heartbeat, because of the camaraderie of the Marines. That's why the union is important too.

"The union is the brotherhood which applies to our sisters as well. It plays a huge factor on the job. Everybody is looking out for each other and has the same goal. We all come from different backgrounds, but we come together for the same mission. One day someone might be tired, and someone else might pick up the slack. We carry that weight for each other.

"I love working with my hands, and I like to see the fruits of my labor. I'm going to be able to walk through the JATC for the rest of my life and feel proud. I feel like it's a huge honor. I want everything to be perfect. There will be so many electricians who walk through these halls and see every bit of pipe. When instructors are teaching in class, I want them to point up and see the textbook example of what it should look like to a T.

"Outside of work, I keep busy with my two daughters, ages 16 and eight. One is on a traveling softball team which I coach, though when I'm watching sports, I like contact sports like hockey, and specifically the Sharks!"



## Alex Jansky, 3rd Year Apprentice & Car Mechanic

"Before I started the inside apprenticeship, I did the full residential apprenticeship and turned out. And before that I managed a pizza shop. There, I got to hire people I know, but now I have a career.

"I wanted to get into the trades because I was always mechanically inclined and built a couple cars. My favorite part of the job is the creativity of bending pipe or laying out electrical rooms. If you get someone who knows what they are doing, it looks really organized and polished. I like knowing I can do that.

"I love that I'm on the JATC job, and in a few months, I'll be going to school in the same building I'm building. I'll be in a classroom learning about the very things I've worked on. And of course, I'll have bragging rights to be able to say I helped build that.

"Someday I hope to own my own electrical business, but I still have a lot to learn. In the meantime, I'm building motorcycles and dirtbikes. Eventually, I'll get back to building cars, but I want to own a house first."







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Recording Secretary  
Ryan Serene

Treasurer  
Craig Tomasello

**Union Electricians Get the Job Done Right!**

# PRESIDENT JAVIER CASILLAS: CONDUITS FOR CHANGE



## **Javier Casillas, 332 President & Member Development Representative**

"Our July and August meetings were in person, and it was great to finally see people again after so long. At our July meeting, we had over 300 members in attendance and took in a record amount for membership assistance. We barbecued in the parking lot, masked up inside, and everyone was pretty respectful of each other. We had to read through 13 months worth of meeting minutes, and folks stuck with it.

"For a lot of us, the general membership meetings are like church, without the religion. Every meeting is like a family reunion. You can work day in and day out with folks for months, go years without seeing them, and then catch up at the monthly meeting. It upsets my whole mood if I don't get to a meeting, and I know many of you feel the same relief that we can return to some semblance of normalcy.

"There may be minor disagreements at the meetings, but we can always agree that we're a unified voice of labor and facing the same direction. At the end of the day, we get the job done together and look out for each other together like family. I hope you'll join us in person on the first Tuesdays of the month at 5:30."