



# CURRENTS

SAN DIEGO ELECTRICAL TRUSTS

Issue 91

June 2018

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INSIDE WIREMAN & SOUND TECHNICIAN CLASS OF 2018



Photo courtesy of Snapps Photography

On June 8, 2018 in San Diego, the San Diego Electrical and Sound Technician Apprenticeship Graduation and Awards ceremony was held at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront.

Over 750 guests gathered this year to celebrate & honor the Training Center's 96 graduates, who received their Journeyman credentials. Graduates were rewarded with their Palomar College Certificate of Completion; Special Congressional Recognition from Congressman Duncan Hunter and Scott Peters; State Senator Joel Anderson and State Assembly Members Marie Waldron and Eduardo Garcia. In addition to the family, friends, and union contractors who attended the festivities, guests included Assembly Member Todd Gloria and District Director Stephen Hill; Assembly Member Shirley Weber and Lee Hernandez; IBEW 9th District Representative Johnny Simpson; Division of Apprenticeship Standards Consultant Rhiannon Rogers; City of Chula Vista Mayor Mary Casillas-Salas; City of San Diego District 1 Councilmember Barbara Bry; Supervisor Ryan Kelley from the Imperial County Board of Supervisors; Southwestern Community College District Governing Board Member Griselda Delgado; Miramar College

President Dr. Patricia Hsieh; from Palomar College Director of Occupational & Non-credit Programs Nicole Roe; Director Erik Ortega from the Imperial Irrigation District; from the San Diego Convention Governing Board Vice Chair Xema Jacobson and Boardmembers Laurie Coskey and Carol Kim; Board Member Kevin Beiser from the San Diego Board of Education; Sweetwater Union High School District Director of College & Career Readiness Elaine Leano; from GAFCON Vice President of Labor Relations Marty Glaske; Administrative Manager Matt Morfoot from the San Diego Electrical Industry Trust; Matt Yagyagan representing City of San Diego 9th Councilmember Georgette Gomez; Lidya Valenzuela representing 38th District State Senator Joel Anderson; past Training Directors for the San Diego Electrical & Sound Technician apprenticeship program Jim Westfall and Bert Richardson; District from Klein Tools Elizabeth Medlen; from Milwaukee Tools Mike Schrage and from Ideal Industries Ned Johns and Diane Liptak.

The evening was a night of recognition and celebration for the graduates! To start off the festivities, the Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance were presented by the Boy Scouts of America Troop 299.

The following graduates were recognized for having perfect attendance throughout their apprenticeship: Craig Adjemian, Peter Ber, Paul Byrd, Ronald Castañeda, Wyatt Doblado, James Garner, Ramiro Larios, Cristina Marquez, Cameron McIntyre, Arturo Ocegueda, Mauricio Ortiz, Mark Parker, Paul Peluso, Joshua Pribyl, John Saling, Tristan Smith and Jason Waggoner. Each received \$250 from IBEW-NECA LMCC, \$25 Amazon gift card from National Security & Electrical Works, \$50 & gift bag from HMT Electric, plier set from Milwaukee Tools and gifts from Ideal Industries.

The Outstanding Sound Technician honor went to Daniel McFee (National Security Works). He graduated with academic honors, and excellent employerevaluations. Arturo Ocegueda (National Electric Works) was this year's Outstanding Inside Wireman graduate and in addition to academic honors and excellent employer evaluations, had 5-years perfect attendance. Each received \$250 each from Baker Electric, Dynalectric Company, and Morrow Meadows Corporation; \$100 from HMT Electric, \$100 from National Security Works/National Electric Works, a drill kit from Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation, tools from Ideal Industries, tools and certificate

*continued on page 2 -*

of recognition from Klein Tools and an engraved plaque memorializing their achievement. In addition, they received an invitation to attend the IBEW/NECA National Training Institute program at the University of Ann Arbor, Michigan where they will attend the leadership training program along with Outstanding Apprentice graduates from throughout the United States and Canada.

John Saling (Davies Electric) was the runner-up for Outstanding Inside Wireman graduate. He received a drill set from Neal Electric, \$150 from Morrow Meadows Corporation, \$175 from IBEW-NECA LMCC, \$100 from Baker Electric and Dynalectric Company and a multi-bit screwdriver from Ideal Industries. He also graduated with academic honors, perfect attendance, and excellent employer evaluations. John is also the Training Center’s delegate to the 2018 Western States Electrical Contest this September in Portland, OR.

Additional awards went to Daniel Martin (Chula Vista Electric), who was this year’s recipient of the Lifelong Learning Journeyman Training Award. The Journeyman Trainer of the Year awards

went to Victor Garcia (for Sound) and Kevin Martinez (for Inside Wireman), both employed with Dynalectric. The “Excellence in Work Performance” were awarded to Inside Wireman graduate Andrey Novitchenko (Dynalectric) and to Garrett Camp (Pyro-Comm Systems). At our training center, we remind our apprentices of the legacy that is given to them: “YOU are the IBEW. YOU set the STANDARD for ALL other electrical workers.” During their apprenticeship, both Andrey and Garrett set the standard for all of us. Congratulations to both of them for a job well done. Congratulations as well to Inside Wireman graduate Christopher Cortez (HMT Electric) and Sound graduates Cristina Marquez (Baker Electric) and Rajali Walker (Southland Electric) who were this year’s recipient of the Union Strong Award. Instructor Scot Hemingway (Dynalectric) received the Above and Beyond award for his extraordinary service and contribution to the apprenticeship and his students.

The Division of Apprenticeship Standards, in addition to congratulating our graduates for their accomplishments, recognized JATC members for their continuous volunteer services

to the apprenticeship programs. Those receiving a Certificate of Meritorious Service included Inside Wireman JATC members Lynn Minor (5 years) and Robert W. Friar (5 years). Earl Restine Jr. received a Certificate of Merit upon retirement for his 26-year tenure on the Inside Wireman JATC and Alex Concha received a Certificate of Merit upon retirement for his 10-year tenure on the Inside Wireman JATC.

Many thanks to the following contractors and associates for their donations of tools, gift cards and cash for the graduates: Anderson Howard Electric, Audio Associates of San Diego, Baker Electric, Chula Vista Electric, Davies Electric Co. Inc., Dynalectric Company, Fuller Electric, HMT Electric, Inc., IBEW Local 569, IBEW-NECA Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC), Ideal Industries Inc., Klein Tools, Milwaukee Electric Tools Corporation, Morrow Meadows Corporation, National Electric Works, National Security Works, Neal Electric Corporation, Robinson Electric, REXEL, Saturn Electric, Southern Contracting Company and Synergy Electric.

## WHY NOT TO USE OUT-OF NETWORK PROVIDERS FOR CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY/SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Under the PPO Plan’s exclusive agreement with Optum for providing treatment for chemical dependency/substance abuse conditions there is a set network of physicians and facilities that **must** be utilized by covered participants in order to receive the highest benefit payments. In-network provider charges are basically paid at 80% of a discounted amount after their calendar year deductible has been satisfied with the participant owing their 20% balance up to the negotiated maximum allowable charge. The balance of billed charges must be written-off by the provider.

When a participant uses an out-of-network provider the Plan will make payment on those charges at only 60% of what

the maximum allowance would have been if an in-network provider had been utilized. Further, in the absence of any contractual discount arrangement the service provider may seek payment from the participant of the entire balance of their billed charges, whatever that may be. This often becomes a very large amount and it is common for the provider to turn unpaid balances over to a collection agent who only gets paid if they are successful in collecting the amount owed.

The following are actual examples of the difference in pricing, claim payments and patient responsibility between in-network (“INN”) and out-of-network (“ONN”) facilities for comparable type, quantity and duration of treatment:

Residential Treatment	INN	OON
Submitted Amount	\$6,498.83	\$22,200.00
Allowed Amount	\$3,666.00	\$15,318.00
Paid Amount	\$3,189.93	\$8,290.80
Member Responsibility	\$476.07	\$6,127.20

Day Treatment	INN	OON
Submitted Amount	\$9,835.20	\$19,200.00
Allowed Amount	\$2,820.00	\$12,096.00
Paid Amount	\$2,820.00	\$7,257.60
Member Responsibility	\$0.00	\$4,383.40

Structured Out-Patient	INN	OON
Submitted Amount	\$9,650.76	\$15,000.00
Allowed Amount	\$1,692.00	\$12,450.00
Paid Amount	\$1,692.00	\$7,470.00
Member Responsibility	\$0.00	\$4,980.00

As you can see there is a substantial difference between billed charges for comparable services. Not only are there no discounts by out-of-network providers, but those facilities are free to run up very large charges for diagnostic and laboratory services that would not be covered if performed by a network provider. **These charges and the balance of facility charges will expectedly be the responsibility of the participant.**

When in need of mental health or chemical dependency/substance abuse services please be sure to use only Optum network service providers in order to avoid any large outstanding balances and possible collection issues. Optum can be reached at 866-606-6751 and MAP is also available to assist by calling 800-342-8111.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 GRADUATES:

### Sound Technician Program

Douglas Benkert  
James Garner  
Daniel McFee  
Matthew Overlund  
Rajali Walker

Paul Byrd  
James Kurtz  
Eduardo Montes de Oca  
Mark Parker  
Jerry P.R. Velasquez

Garrett Camp  
Cristina Marquez  
Paul Navarro  
Brandon Rathburn

### Inside Wireman Program

Nicholas Abeyta  
Dustin Amelotte  
Cristian Ber  
David Brown  
Ronald Castaneda  
Christopher Cortez  
Wyatt Doblado  
Brandon Florey  
Hector Godoy  
Matthew Good  
Celso Gutierrez  
Gregory Klein  
Shane Lause  
Brent Leask  
Cameron McIntyre  
Eric Miscikowski  
Mauricio Ortiz  
Victor Patron  
Paul Peluso  
William Poitras  
Joshua Pribyl  
John Saling  
Tristan Smith  
Martin Tejada  
Carlos Torrez  
Mitchell Van Winkle  
Christopher Walhoad  
Marisol Zamarripa Talamantes

Craig Adjemian  
Justin Barnes  
Peter Ber  
Tyson Cardon  
David Ceja  
Andrew Cox  
Daniel Dorman  
Paul Fraga III  
Kevin Gonzalez  
Matthew Graboski  
Hugo Ibarra  
Steven Langone  
Harold Lawrence  
Max Lira  
Nathan McKelvey  
Andrey Novitchenko  
Christopher Pacheco  
John Pearson  
Zackary Perkins  
Alfredo Pompa  
Jonathan Roush  
Emmanuel Sarabia  
Edward Tannahill  
Nicholas Ternes  
John Turner  
Artem Voloshanovskiy  
Edward Willcox

Steven Alderman  
Nicholas Barron  
Darrel Brant  
Albert Casillas  
Francisco Ceseña  
Raul Cueva  
Michael Erickson  
Jose Garcia  
Cinthia Gonzalez Favella  
Carlos Gutierrez  
Brandon Kettl  
Ramiro Larios  
Matthew Laycock  
Ricardo Lopez-Casiano  
Justin Miller  
Arturo Ocegueda  
Carolina Parra  
Matthew Peck  
Tanner Podwoski  
Jorge Preciado  
Shaun Salas  
Travis Sherman  
Matthew Taylor  
Dominick Tino  
Jason Ullom  
Jason Waggoner  
Nathan Wright

## WHEN TO USE NEW HINES & ASSOCIATES ADVOCACY SERVICES

Hines & Associates now provides "FREE" advocacy services to PPO Plan participants. Through this advocacy services program it will be possible to contact registered nurses, experienced health care navigators, certified health care coaches and others for assistance with medical questions, benefit and coverage issues or questions, service provider selection procedures or referrals, claims and/or provider billing questions, referrals to Plan provided services and/or cost-containment programs, questions about pharmacy and Mental Health/Substance Abuse coverages and service providers, and assistance in using or navigating the Trust website. To begin this process eligible PPO Plan participants may call 1-888-893-6756 and a Hines nurse will initiate the intake process. Please note that the participant must be covered at the time services are rendered.

## PROVIDING THE TRUST OFFICE WITH CURRENT MAILING ADDRESSES IS IMPORTANT

For all participants the importance of keeping the Trust Office up to date with a current mailing address is to permit all communications issued by the Trust Office that have to do with announcements that may impact eligibility, benefits and/or claim payments or coverage issues to be delivered. If it appears a current mailing address is not available due to a piece of mail being returned to the Trust Office, after attempting to get an updated address from Local 569 the name of the participant may not be included in the monthly eligibility files sent to Plan A service providers (such as Optum and pharmacy) meaning their eligibility status will not be active at the time, thus a participant or an eligible dependent may

not be able to receive services or pick-up a prescription until this information is provided to the Trust Office and their record updated.

**For retirees, the impact of the Trust Office receiving a piece of returned mail will be the possible suspension of their monthly benefit payment until such time as a new address can be verified.** Therefore, all participants are urged to be sure any change of address is reported to the Trust Office as soon as possible in order to avoid a delay in being able to utilize plan benefits or an interruption of monthly pension benefits. Address change notifications are to be made in writing and can be delivered by mail, email, fax or in person. Please contact the Trust Office (x-310) with any questions in this regard.

## WHEN TO USE PPO PLAN

### NO-COST/LOWER COST- CONTAINMENT PROGRAMS

**Best Doctors (\$0 out-of-pocket cost)** - To question the need for surgery, need help deciding between multiple treatments, don't understand a diagnosis or treatment recommendation, no diagnosis or skeptical of their physician and/or symptoms not improving.

For specified elective surgical procedures **Eligible Expenses will be paid at 100%** if a Best Doctors "Inter-Consultation" is completed **before** one of the following procedures is performed: back, hysterectomy, knee and hip replacement, obesity or bariatric, coronary artery by-pass graft, heart valve replacements, prostatectomy and lumpectomy/mastectomy.

**Global One Ventures (Bundled pricing for out-patient surgery)** - By using a network out-patient surgi-center there will be **\$0 out-of-pocket cost** for the procedure. Further, there may also be a **savings payment of \$250 or \$500** to the participant for having their procedure performed at a participating out-patient surgery facility. Contact the Trust Office for details (x-702).

**Heal "in-home" physician visits** - To avoid long waits to schedule a physician office visit or many hours waiting at an urgent care/emergency room - **Only a \$5 co-payment** for any visit routinely provided within 2 hours of making an appointment by phone or via smart phone. Hours are from 8:00 am - 8:00 pm Monday - Sunday and this program is recognized as a network provider in the Anthem Blue Cross PPO.

**Pinnacle medical/dental services in Mexico - \$0 out-of-pocket cost** for eligible medical and dental services rendered by only Pinnacle network providers in Mexico. A pinnacle ID card is required.

**Members' Assistance Program ("MAP") - \$0 out-of-pocket cost** for up to 8 visits within a 12 month period to address any issue or problem a participant may have.



## NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY

### Apprentice Opportunity for the Intelligent Transportation Systems Program

The Joint Apprenticeship & Training Committee offers a complete 4-year program incorporating on-the-job training and supplemental classroom related instruction for the Intelligent Transportation Systems Program, and continues to accept applications from eligible applicants in accordance with its approved standards and selection procedure.

### How to Apply

Applications will be accepted at the San Diego Training Center Wednesdays from 2p-4p. Applicants who complete the application and provide the required documentation listed below will be invited to take an aptitude test and, with a qualifying score, interview for an opportunity to be accepted into the ITS apprenticeship.

San Diego Training Center | 4675 Viewridge Ave | San Diego, CA 92123

### Required Documents

1. **Valid driver's license**  
(All applicants must be minimum of 18 years of age at the time of selection/registration)
2. **Sealed high school transcript or GED equivalency**

3. **Show evidence of successful completion of: one full credit of high school algebra with a passing grade, or one post-high school algebra course with a passing grade, or completion of the NJATC math course**
4. **DD-214 to verify military training if applicant is a veteran**

Upon completing the written exam with a passing grade of 4 or above, the applicant will be scheduled for an Oral Interview with the ITS Joint Apprenticeship Committee. The purpose of this interview is to evaluate and determine eligibility, and the proper period of apprenticeship for which the applicant qualifies. All applicants who complete the interview process will be eligible for this program subject to the needs of the industry.

#### Veterans may have testing requirement waived with all of the following:

1. **Honorable Discharge**
2. **Separated within 5 years of applying for apprenticeship program**
3. **DD214 Form (Member-4)**

**All applications will be received and processed without regard to race, color, religion, age, national origin, or sex.**

For more info about apprenticeship, visit [SDETT.org](http://SDETT.org)

## ANOTHER TRUST OFFICE WEBSITE REGISTRATION PROMOTION!

As part of encouraging all participants to register on the website, the Trust Office is running a 2<sup>nd</sup> promotion. All participants currently registered and all participants who register on the new Trust Website by September 30, 2018 will automatically be entered into a drawing for a \$250 gift card! As part of the promotion, four (4) \$250 gift cards will be given away.

#### So Why Register for the Website?

Participants who register on the site will have access to their hours worked, eligibility status, and utilization of the pension estimator to determine future benefits upon retirement. The site also contains access to each Trust's Plan Documents including the current Summary Plan Descriptions (SPD). Links to the service providers for whom the Trusts are contracted with are available. Clicking on these service provider links will take you directly to that organization's website whether to find a doctor, dentist, and other providers or maybe to see the benefits that are provided. Important articles relating to any of the Trusts, which also appear in these CURRENTS newsletters, are displayed on the website's home page. Many of the Trusts' documents/forms/applications may also be found on the website. Coming this Summer, participants who opt-in to electronic communications will be able to receive their Explanation of Benefit (EOB) forms online as well. Ultimately, we hope to make the [www.569trusts.org](http://www.569trusts.org) website your first and best stop for all benefit related questions.