



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

IBEW Local 234

Newsletter



January 2011

The Electrical Workers Union for Monterey,
San Benito, and Santa Cruz County

Local 234 Officers:

Ken Scherpinski
**Business Manager/
Financial Secretary**

Andy Hartmann
President

Chris Kiner
Vice President

Mike Ihnot
Treasurer

Stephen Slovacek
**Recording Secretary/
Registrar**

Anthony Davis
Andy Gattis
Rick Keaton
Richard Smith
Executive Board

Business Manager's Report by Ken Scherpinski

Greetings Brothers & Sisters,

I wish you all a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year!

We currently have 46 on Book I, 44 on Book II. On the Residential books, we have 1 on Book I, 2 on Book II, and on the Sound & Comm. books, 3 on Book I, 2 on Book II. The New Year should bring more opportunities than 2010. We are monitoring job bids for the Desal Plant in Marina and are waiting to hear back on the General Instruction Building at the Presidio of Monterey. There are two courthouse new construction projects in Hollister and Greenfield on the books for work. AMS has a project in Santa Cruz at UCSC and Bayview at Cabrillo's Green Technology Center in Watsonville. Rosendin has some solar projects in Hollister looking to man up when weather breaks.

We will be hosting a CALCTP business course for contractors at the end of January. This class is a pre-qualification for companies who want to work with PG&E for advance lighting controls and retrofits. Once the contractors are eligible for this work, we will need CALCTP certified electricians to fill this specialty. We are also offering this hands-on class at the JATC. Contact Ed for more information.

I have been working with a student leadership group from North Monterey County High School on a new football/soccer scoreboard. I have set up the group

with a company called Fair Play. This company is a manufacturer of scoreboards. Our NECA contractors, through the LMCC, are considering helping with the installation and equipment needed for the project. I would like to ask for your help. I need as many electricians as possible to chip in. Call the office to sign up.

Andy has been working hard on the installation of vehicle charging stations throughout Monterey and Santa Cruz counties. He has helped put IBEW Local 234 as the first choice for these installations. I also believe this work should be done with our membership in our area, a point we have made at a recent State LMCC meeting in Oakland. These opportunities can lead to more work in the way of service upgrades or changes, breaker charge outs, as well as design build installations to meet the future demands of this Electric Vehicle technology.

How are you doing with your New Year's resolutions? How about resolving to attend a Union meeting this year? Helping out with projects for the JATC? Joining the Membership Development Committee or attending your local City Council or School Board meeting? Your involvement in your Union and community will help all of us become stronger.

*"A happy New Year! Grant that I
May bring no tear to any eye
When this New Year in time shall end
Let it be said I've played the friend
Have lived and loved and labored here,
And made of it a happy year"*

- Edgar Guest

GREEN EXAMPLE: Electricians' Union Hall gets LEED certification by Lane Wallace

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234 doesn't just teach electricians about green building practices — the union has made its offices on Merritt Street in Castroville an example.

"We're the first IBEW building to get a LEED certification," said Andy Hartmann, the local's business representative.

LEED — Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design — is the most recognized standard for green technology. The union went for, and qualified for, gold status, the second highest rating possible.

Read the full article from the Herald at bit.ly/gCZveL

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Local 234 is nearly complete with installing a publically accessible electric vehicle charging station in our parking lot. Tom Dowling, the Charging Infrastructure Manager of the Electric Auto Association, has donated a charging station to IBEW 234. The charger is an inductive type. The installation will include a conduit and pad for a second charger to be installed at a later date. There is grant money that will fund the purchase and install of a second charger. The second charger will include a standard 110V outlet and the J1772 SAE standard connector that will adapt to nearly all of the new electric vehicles coming to market.

IBEW 234 has recently made a lot of progress with two grants working closely with MBEVA, the Monterey Bay Electric Vehicle Alliance, and an outfit out of Los Angeles to install EV charging stations. The sites are mostly located in Santa Cruz County at this point. We have enlisted the help of two local signatory contractors, Central Electric and Regalado Electric, to bid the jobs and perform the work. Eventually other grant money will become available opening up charging sites in San Benito and Monterey County. We then plan to get contractors involved from those areas to perform the installations. As part of the installations the contractors need to receive training and become certified by the manufacturer and authorized distributor. IBEW 234 got involved with these grants (and will pursue future grants) to help create work for our members by installing and maintaining the infrastructure necessary to support electric vehicles.

With all the recent action of the last Congress, the federal tax credit for the installation of EV charging stations was extended another year until 12/31/2011. The tax credit on an EV charger is 30% up to \$1,000 for consumers and 30% up to \$30,000 for businesses rather than 50% up to \$2,000 and 50% up to \$50,000 as it has been for the previous two years.

Information Changed?

Has any of your information changed? Keep the Hall up to date. If any of your information needs updating, let us know. New address, phone number, married, dependants, etc. Call or stop by the Hall to update your information.

IBEW 234 Appointments

Juan Dominguez was recently appointed to the Labor-Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) for the Monterey Bay Area. He is one of three Labor representatives, also serving are Ken Scherpinski and Andy Hartmann.

Stefan Marceron, Mickel Reeves, Michael Rodda and Manuel Valdez were recently appointed to the Examining Board. They will be in charge of administering the Journeyman exam which is now comprised of a written exam and a hands-on portion.

Thanks to these brothers for their dedication and involvement.



IBEW 234 is CARA Affiliated

January 2011

IBEW 234 recently became affiliated with the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) www.californiaalliance.org. CARA is a statewide nonprofit organization that unites retired workers and community groups to win social and economic justice, full civil rights, and a better, more secure future for ourselves, our families, and future generations. CARA is the official state affiliate of the Alliance for Retired Americans, www.retiredamericans.org.

The California Alliance for Retired Americans is building a statewide network of hundreds of organizations for the purpose of educating and informing its membership, the public, and elected officials about issues that affect the well being of California's older adults. CARA is working towards the advancement and achievement of just and equitable living conditions for seniors within the state and the nation through legislative advocacy consistent with the educational and charitable purposes of an advocacy organization exempt from federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

As an Affiliate, retired IBEW 234 members can receive important information with concrete suggestions on how to act effectively on critical issues. 234 members are entitled to receive CARA's monthly Alert and also be connected to the **CARA Action Team (CAT)**.

For information about CARA or to become involved with the CARA Action Team (CAT) contact:

California Alliance for Retired Americans

600 Grand Ave., Suite #410

Oakland, CA 94610

Phone: (510) 663-4086

(415) 550-0828

Fax: (510) 663-4099

jreid@californiaalliance.org

sgoldfarb@californiaalliance.org

DAS Fines Contractor \$675

The Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) has fined Cyclops Electrical Systems of Watsonville \$675 because they failed to provide contract award information and failed to request dispatch/hire registered apprentices. This is a violation of Labor Code § 1777.5. The project was the Cowell College Summer 2008 Major Maintenance Fire Alarms at UC Santa Cruz.

2011 Weekly Pocket Calendars

The 2011 weekly pocket planners are available for pickup at the front counter of the Union Hall. These calendars are free to members. The front cover has contact information for both the IBEW 234 and the JATC. The calendars are great for keeping a daily log or storing information in the cover such as your Electrical Certification or OSHA card. Stop by the Hall to pick up your free 2011 pocket calendar.

MBEVA Meeting

The Monterey Bay Electric Vehicle Alliance (MBEVA) is meeting again on Thursday, January 13, 10 am-Noon at IBEW Local 234, 10300 Merritt, Castroville. Everyone is welcome to attend.

9:30-10 a.m.- Special Pre-meeting Opportunity - Elaine Chiu is offering a few short test drives in her new Chevrolet Volt

- Agenda includes speaker (TBD) and updates on ChargePoint America-funded charging station installation, additional funding from CEC, and discussion of 2011 plans.

If you have questions or would like to RSVP, contact Andy Hartmann at 594-7471.





JATC Training News

By Ed Sudyka

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Center

Ed Sudyka, Training Director
Debra Frame, Admin. Asst.
831.633.3063 office
831.633.3068 fax
trainingibew234@sbcglobal.net

The Electrical Workers Union for Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz County

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NEW YEAR!



Beginning on Tuesday, February 1 at 5:30 p.m. the next CALCTP class gets underway. This 50 hour class is an extensive hands-on training experience involving the latest and greatest lighting control technologies. There is a 10 hour online course that needs to be done first, however. Point your internet browser to <http://bit.ly/IBEW234CALCTP> for that info. Don't delay, however; there are only 8 seats available! Call 633-3063.

Speaking of CALCTP: the LMCC is hosting a CALCTP Business Development class on Friday, January 21 here at the Training Center. If you're a contractor (large or small!), you need to take this course if you want to be able to perform lighting retrofits that are sanctioned by the California Public Utilities Commission as part of a plan to reduce energy use. Contact either Andy Hartmann 594-7471 or Jerri Champlin 236-1393 to sign up!



Generators! On Wednesday, February 16, at 5:30 p.m. Terry Currence will present an evening of education on generator operation and maintenance. Terry is a generator expert who wants to pass his knowledge on to IBEW members, giving back to the Brotherhood that's been good to him. Please call and let us know you're interested in attending: 633-3063.



Tuesday, February 22, at 5:30 p.m., Leviton Company will be here at the Training Center to present the latest and the greatest in their product lines... from the latest wiring devices to the most modern advanced lighting control products (can you say "Lutron"?) Leviton will show and tell the best they have to offer. Come on down and learn about the latest trends in wiring systems that will make our work shine! Also: earn CE hours for attending!



Looking ahead to March 16th, on that Wednesday **Southwire/Maxis** will be bringing in their gear to demonstrate the latest in pulling techniques and wire products designed to make our work easier and more productive. Another "short" evening of JW education to keep you informed of impressive changes in the electrical industry.

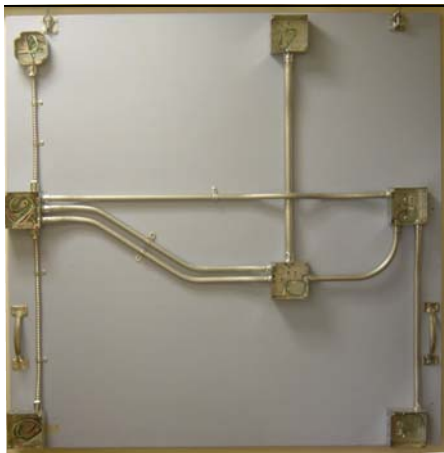


Congratulations to the 3rd year apprenticeship class, who contributed the highest per student (and teacher) equivalent amount of food to the 2nd Harvest Holiday Food Drive for the IBEW Local 234. The 3rd year will enjoy pizza provided by the LMCC for their contribution of 14.25 pounds per person. Honorable mention goes to the 5th year class... they came in a very close 2nd place!



CHRISTMAS COMES TO THE JATC! HANDS ON TRAINERS READY FOR ACTION

There were several new training modules just built here at the Training Center! In an effort to increase the hands-on learning activities for the apprentices and also to allow the IBEW and the JATC to test skill levels of JW's and apprentices, we've assembled 2 each wiring and device make-up trainers (know how to wire a 4-way? A split receptacle? Show me!); a transformer wiring and separately derived system bonding trainer (OK, where exactly do you bond the neutral and the ground? Show me!); and two motor control start-stop with relays trainers (here's the start-stop wiring diagram... can you make it work? Show me!). BTW: Apprentices: are you ready? You will be tested! OK, we'll give you some training first!



A Prediction for 2011... NEC, that is!

Of all the changes that are going to impact us when the 2011 revision of the National Electric Code is adopted, here's one that will rock the socks off of all you electricians: you'll have to provide a neutral at every switch location that controls a lighting load! Sure, there



are exceptions to this new rule: if you're using a conduit system with adequate room to add a neutral later, or with a cable system in a cavity that is open or unfinished on one side. But why would I need to have a neutral at my light switch location?

Because of the increasing use of electronic lighting control devices that require a neutral connection to function. One example: switches that also sense occupancy and turn out the lights if the room is unoccupied for a period of time. So get ready to revise your wire pulls to switches! Check your job specifications and plans to find out if that switch is going to be just a plain old toggle switch... or an energy saving electronic gizmo requiring a neutral conductor!!! (see the 2011 NEC 404.2.C !)

Basic Dues Increase

Basic Dues for IBEW Local 234 members have increased effective January 1, 2011. The Basic Dues are now \$30 per month for "A" members. "BA" members are \$16 per month. This is according to the IBEW Constitution and Local 234's Bylaws. This is the final scheduled increase. Remember it is your responsibility to keep your Dues current. Call the Hall if you have any questions.

Local 234 Scholarship Essay Contest

IBEW 234 is again offering three (3) \$500 scholarships to high school graduates – one each in Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito County, who will graduate during the current school year and who meet all qualifying criteria.

To apply, a student must have at least one present or past union member, of any affiliation, in his or her immediate family and type an essay of approximately 500 words on one of the following topics:

- What is the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and what has it done to enhance organized labor?
- Why is the organized labor movement important in the United States today?
- How has the union movement played a key role in the life and well-being of my family member who is or was in a union?

Essays must be typed and received with a completed Application Form by Friday, March 11, 2011. More details at www.ibew234.org.



Manage Your Finances

Get the help of a Financial Representative

Wednesday, January 26th, 3-6pm

James Boisse, a Financial Representative with Principal Financial Group, will be at the Hall to provide financial assistance. Contact him if you would like to set up an appointment; however, no appointment is necessary.

James Boisse

Development Director

(408) 437-7245

boisse.james@principal.com

www.principal.com/centralcalifornia

Happy JANUARY Birthdays!

Abraham Adams Jr.
Joseph Antoni
Frank Baca
David Boggs
Mark Clough
Sean Curry
Ruth Dean
John Dion
Scott Gaffney
Ralph Garcia
Malcolm Gayman
Michael Gruel
Gregory Hague
Harold Hastey

Carl Huboi
Valentin Ivanov
Jesus Jara
Philip Karleen Jr.
Sean Kent
Christopher Kiner
Leland Knisley
Michael Kulich
Juan Leon
Ronald Martinez
George Mellone
Gale Michalek
Jose Moncada
Ernesto Morales

Daniel Patterson
Steven Petree
Luke Poljak
Nicholas Prelgovisk
Reynold Ramirez
Manuel Ramos
Dana Saccullo
Delbert Slaughter
Eugene Tomlinson
Jaime Urzua
Norman Wiedemann
Michael Wolfe
Jim Zupkus



This Month's Local 234 Winners!

Here are the winners from the **December** union meeting:

C.O.P.E. (Committee on Political Education):

Rip Smith won \$16 and donated it back.

Apprentice Give-Away:

Raymond Sykes II won \$23.40.

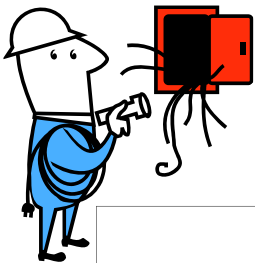
Give-Away Winners:

Raymond Sykes II won a Klein Tool Pouch then donated it to Stefan Marceron.

Mike Ihnot won a pair of Klein Strippers/Cutters and donated them to Raymond Sykes II.



*Be always at war
with your vices, at
peace with your
neighbors, and let
each new year find
you a better man.
~Benjamin Franklin*

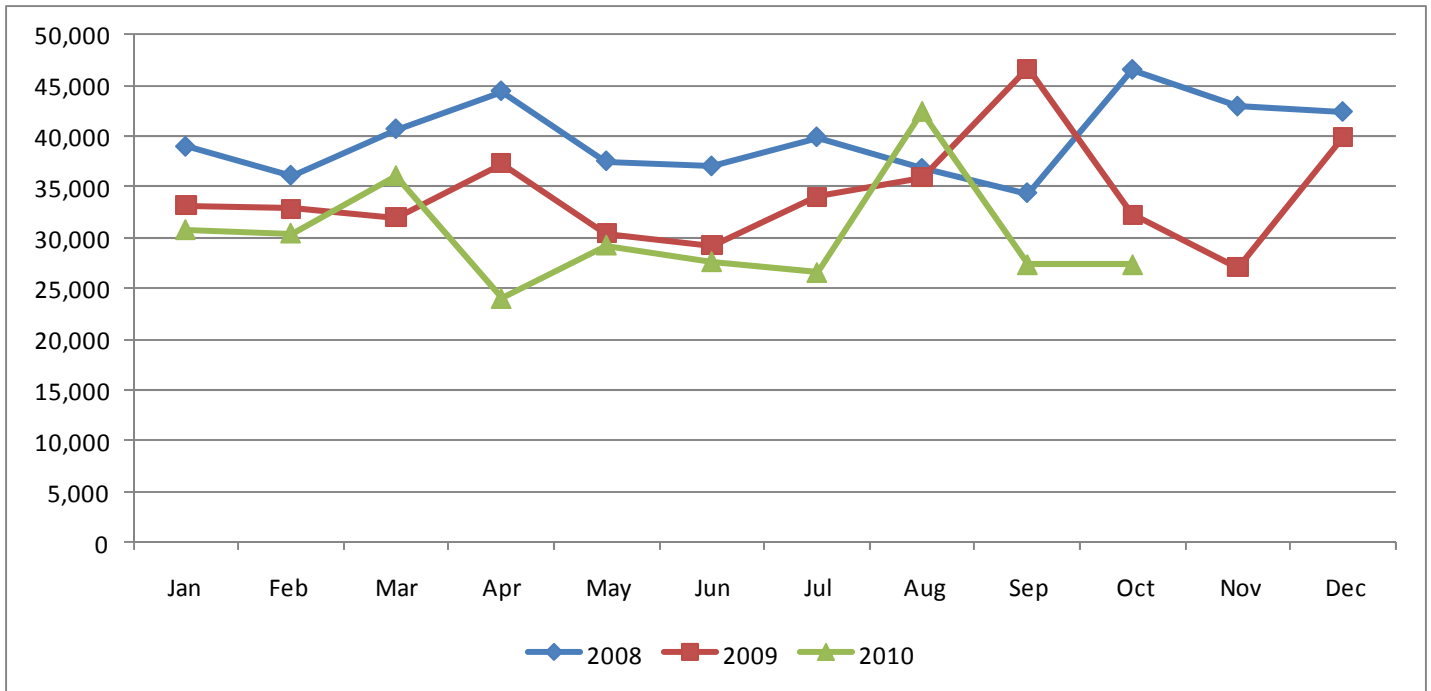


The next general membership meeting will be:
Wednesday, January 12th, 2011
@ 6:30 pm

January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					HOLIDAY	1 New Year's Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Union Meeting @ 6:30pm	13 MBEVA 10am -12pm	14	15
16	17 HOLIDAY Martin Luther King Jr.	18 JATC @ 5pm	19	20	21 CALCTP Biz Dev Class	22
23 End of Pay Period	24	25	26 Executive Board @ 6pm	27	28	29
30	31	CALCTP @ 5:30pm				

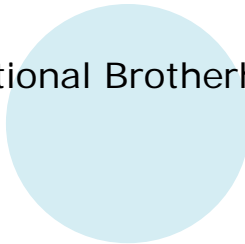
Work Hours by Month—2008,9,10 Annual Comparison



* November 2010 hours were reported on December 15th and have not yet been processed. December 2010 hours are due on January 15th, 2011.



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
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 (831) 633-3063 Education & Training
 (831) 755-2313 Jobline

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«field1» «field2» «field3»
 «field4»
 «field5»