



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

IBEW Local 234

Newsletter



October 2011

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

Business Manager's Report by Ken Scherpinski

Local 234 Officers:

Ken Scherpinski
**Business Manager/
Financial Secretary**

Andy Hartmann
President/Organizer

Chris Kiner
Vice President

Mike Ihnot
Treasurer

Stephen Slovacek
**Recording Secretary/
Registrar**

Anthony Davis
Andy Gattis
Rick Keaton
Richard Smith
Executive Board

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I hope all of you that attended our annual picnic had a good time. Despite the unseasonable weather the event was a great success. The cooking crew headed by our Executive Board member Rick Keaton, prepared and served a top-notch meal with

plenty for everyone. Our NECA contractors were represented by Jerri Champlin, NECA Chapter Manager, and Gabriel Regalado of Regalado Electric. I would like to thank them for attending and for the raffle prizes they provided for our members. Member Greg Hague provided us with music for the event and also got prizes donated from some of the supply houses. Thank you to Electrical Distributors, Consolidated Electric Supply, and Buckles-Smith. Thanks to Mira, Sallie, and Andy for doing the majority of the organizing. For the first time we had special guests Mark Stone, Santa Cruz County Supervisor and Coastal Commission, Assemblymember Bill Monning, and a representative for Luis Alejo, Vanessa Rebecchi. Assemblyman Luis Alejo also provided each member who received a service award with a special proclamation from the State of California. This was indeed a great time to spend with other members and families from our local. I look forward to seeing all of you there next year.

I was honored to represent Local 234 during our recent 38th International Convention held in Vancouver Canada. We reelected our International President Edwin Hill, Secretary Treasurer Sam Chilia, Vice President Mike Mowery, and International Executive Council representative Pat Lavin. We are fortunate to have these great unionists leading our Brotherhood and I look forward to the path they will lead for the next 5 years. There were over two thousand Brothers & Sisters in attendance. The energy and enthusiasm from being around so many IBEW members is truly inspiring. The delegates are responsible for conducting the business of approving resolutions, bylaw changes, and appeals during the week of the convention. There were over 65

resolutions addressed. I will not print all, but a few of interest are the reaffirmation of the Code of Excellence support, buy American and Canadian, minimum wage/living wage, public relations of the IBEW, NECA/IBEW working relationship enhancement, March of Dimes, and approval of the 125th anniversary of the IBEW which will be held in St. Louis Missouri. St. Louis is the home of Local 1 and the site of our very first International Convention.

I was also honored to represent Local 234 and the 9th District as one of the Sergeant of Arms. I was required to be at the convention each day from 6:00 am to 4:30 pm to help ensure safety and order during the proceedings. I definitely saw the convention from a unique prospective. The planning of this committee ensured the event went on without any problems.

Lastly, I am informing you, the membership of Local 234, that this will be my last newsletter article. I was selected by Vice President Mowery to come on staff as the newest International Office Representative for the 9th District. Our current International Representative Steve Ray is retiring. This is truly an honor to be selected. I could never have gotten to this position without you showing the faith and support in electing me as your Business Manager, your Executive Board's professionalism, and the hard work from Mira and Sallie, helping with members and day-to-day business. For this, I will be eternally grateful. I feel the support and dedication from our President and Business Agent, Andy Hartmann, was monumental in helping move our local in the right direction. As we look to the future, I have recommended, and your Executive Board has approved, Mr. Hartmann to complete my current term as Business Manager. I urge you to support him. I am sure that he will prove to be a capable and worthy leader for Local 234. Again I thank all who helped me achieve this once in a lifetime opportunity. I have truly been blessed since joining the IBEW and in my heart I will always be a Journeyman Wireman card #D886037.

Best wishes and good luck to you and your families.

With the greatest respect,

Ken Scherpinski

Right to Work for Less

To set the record (and the name) straight, in some states “right to work” doesn’t guarantee any rights. In fact, by weakening unions and collective bargaining, it destroys the best job security protection that exists: the union contract. Meanwhile, it allows workers to pay nothing and get all the benefits of union membership. Right to work laws say unions must represent all eligible employees, whether they pay dues or not. This forces unions to use their time and members’ dues money to provide union benefits to free riders who are not willing to pay their fair share.

Right to work laws lower wages for everyone. The average worker in a right to work state makes about \$5,333 a year less than workers in other states (\$35,500 compared with \$30,167). Weekly wages are \$72 greater in free-bargaining states than in right to work states (\$621 versus \$549). Working families in states without right to work laws have higher wages and benefit from healthier tax bases that improve their quality of life.

Federal law already protects workers who don’t want to join a union to get or keep their jobs. Supporters claim right to work laws protect employees from being forced to join unions. Don’t be fooled—federal law already does this, as well as protecting nonmembers from paying for union activities that violate their religious or political beliefs. This individual freedom argument is a sham.

Right to work endangers safety and health standards that protect workers on the job by weakening unions that help to ensure worker safety by fighting for tougher safety rules. According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, the rate of workplace deaths is 51 percent higher in states with right to work, where unions can’t speak up on behalf of workers.

Right to work laws are unfair to dues-paying members. If a nonunion worker is fired illegally, the union must use its time and money to defend him or her, even if that requires going through a costly legal process. Everyone benefits, so all should share in the process. Nonmembers can even sue the union if they think it has not represented them well enough.

Source: www.aflcio.org/issues/legislativealert/stateissues/work/

IBEW Local 234 Annual Picnic

The annual IBEW Local 234 picnic was held on Saturday, September 24th at Toro Park. Special thanks to Rick Keaton and his fabulous cooking crew!



Local Labor News

October 2011

La Playa Hotel and Pine Inn Workers March with Community Supporters through Downtown Carmel

More than 100 Carmel hotel workers and their supporters marched through downtown Carmel, September 1, 2011, in protest of actions by La Playa Hotel, Pine Inn, and Tally-Ho Inn ownership. The Carmel Hotel Workers Rising March began at La Playa Hotel and ended at Pine Inn, followed by several speeches by hotel workers and their community supporters. The March was sponsored by UNITE HERE Local 483, the labor union representing hospitality workers in the Monterey Bay area since 1937.

La Playa Hotel owner Nob Hill Properties, Inc. issued layoff notices to the workers, warning that they could be out of a job as early as October 6th, because of a change in hotel ownership. La Playa Hotel workers are seeking to protect their jobs when the hotel sells. The owner has thus far refused to honor its long-time workers with a guarantee that they continue in their jobs after an ownership change. This gesture of basic respect toward workers is common in the hotel industry. In fact, the Cope family primary owners of Nob Hill Properties, has made this same commitment to protect its hotel workers at the Cope's Huntington Hotel in San Francisco.

At the Pine Inn & Tally-Ho Inn, owner Richard Gunner of Fresno has refused to increase health insurance and pension payments, as required by the insurance and pension funds, while demanding to eliminate family health insurance at the bargaining table.

90 La Playa Hotel workers have been without a new labor contract since August 1, 2010, while 35 Pine Inn & Tally-Ho Inn workers have been without a contract since January 1, 2011. The workers are housekeeping, laundry, bell, front desk, dining, kitchen, grounds, and maintenance employees.

More information at www.unitehere483.org.

MBEVA Meeting

Monterey Bay Electric Vehicle Alliance (MBEVA) Meeting

Thursday, October 6, 10am-Noon

IBEW Local 234, 10300 Merritt, Castroville

Featured Speaker: Michael Coates, principal at Mightycom, will speak on "The Electric Vehicle Market". Coates is an internationally recognized expert in the field of automotive environmental issues. He has been a key participant in automotive marketing and publishing for more than two decades and is based in Los Gatos.

Wyesmen Inc. Memorial Rally

IBEW Local 234 has purchased up to five tickets for the 10th Annual Ben Forfang Memorial Rally sponsored by Wyesmen Inc. Wyesmen is a 501(c)3 charitable organization dedicated to the children of union members. This event's purpose is to set up a "nest egg" for children who have lost a parent prior.

Each donated ticket will include two raffle tickets, a t-shirt, lunch, BBQ, and a great ride. The event will take place on **Saturday, October 8, 2011** at 1875 Arnold Drive in Martinez. The event will begin with registration, breakfast, and rider meeting at 8 am, group pictures at 9:45 am, leave for route unknown at 10 am, and BBQ and raffle from 4-7 pm.

If anyone is interested in participating, please contact the Hall at (831) 633-2311 to reserve your ticket.





Tri-County Electrical JATC Training News

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Center

Debra Frame, Training Administrator
831.633.3063 office
831.633.3068 fax
debra@tricityjetc.org

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

2008 Significant Changes to the NEC



On the **third Tuesday of each month**, Instructor David Martinez will be leading the way through the Significant Changes of the 2008 National Electrical Code. Drop on in! You are welcome to attend one class or many as you like in the series. Class starts at 5:30 pm. This is a three hour class. The next class is on **Tuesday, October 18th at 5:30pm**.

CALCTP Class



The next CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program) class is scheduled to begin on **Monday, October 10th at 5pm** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. This class will take place Monday through Friday from 5-8pm for two weeks with two Saturdays from 7am to 3:30pm.

BRING PROOF OF COMPLETING THE ONLINE COURSE TO THE FIRST CLASS. Students will not be allowed to attend the class if they have not completed the online coursework. Goto bit.ly/IBEW234CALCTP to get started.

The LMCC for the Monterey Bay Area is offering a stipend of \$125 for the CALCTP Class. This offer is available to those that successfully complete the course which includes an online prerequisite course, ten hours of lecture, and 40 hours of labs. The stipend is also available to middle management who take the online prerequisite and successfully complete the ten hour lecture.

CALCTP T-Shirts

The JATC received a shipment of CALCTP t-shirts. The shirts are available to all certified electricians that have completed the 50-hour CALCTP course. Stop by the JATC to pick up your free shirt while supplies last.

The JATC should also be receiving CALCTP hardhat stickers and CALCTP patches. Stay tuned!

Earn While You Learn



Local 234 members have an opportunity to earn \$125 for attending and completing either the CALCTP class or the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP) class. The LMCC for the Monterey Bay Area realizes the importance of these two class to our industry and is incentivizing members to attend.

Not only do both of these classes not cost anything to attend but you can receive \$125 upon completion!

NEC Code Question by necplus newsbriefs

October 2011

Article 310

Question

How is the term "ambient temperature" applied to Table 310.15(B)(16) for not more than 3 current carrying conductors installed in a single raceway directly buried in the earth. Is it permissible to use the ambient earth temperature of the ground surrounding the raceway as the ambient temperature when considering temperature derating?

Answer

Because the term ambient is in no way specific to the NEC® but instead is a commonly defined general term found in Webster's dictionary, the term is not considered "essential to the proper application of the Code" (as described in Article 100, Scope). Therefore, it is the responsibility of the AHJ to determine how the term "ambient temperature" should be applied regarding the installation. However, ambient for the purposes of its application in Table 310.15(B)(16) is considered the temperature surrounding the raceway, cable or direct buried application. For example; in the exception to 310.15(A)(2) the NEC specifically addresses situations where ambient temperature is considered. Where in a raceway installation there are two different ampacities applying to adjacent portions of a circuit the higher ampacity may be used beyond the point of transition a distance equal to 10 feet or 10 percent of the circuit length figured at the higher ampacity, whichever is less. This applies where a raceway is exposed to two different ambient temperatures such as where a raceway passes through a room such as a boiler room of elevated ambient temperature but not a distance that would require correction factors or derating. The same principle applies to an underground raceway. The ambient temperature of the raceway underground is the temperature surrounding the raceway, not the air temperature above the area where the raceway is installed. Even where the raceway emerges from an underground installation 310.15(B)(3)(a)(3) does not require the application of adjustment factors providing the conductors have physical protection (conduit), that does not exceed 10 feet in length and the number of conductors does not exceed four.

First Aid/CPR Class

Has your CPR expired? It is only good for a two year period. The next First Aid/CPR class is scheduled to take place on **Saturday, November 12th at 8am**. Instructor Cosme Padilla, a retired firefighter, will be teaching the basics of First Aid and CPR. Call Debra at (831) 633-3063 to reserve you place in class. Class size is limited.

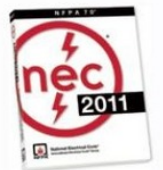
Code Books

Available for purchase are 2011 National Electrical Code books. Both softbound and the hardbound Handbook are available. The 2011 NEC Handbook is \$133.69 and the 2011 NEC softbound is \$84.13.

The 2008 NEC Handbook is \$129.69 and the 2008 NEC softbound is \$79.83.

The 2005 NEC Handbook is \$75.83 and the 2005 NEC softbound is \$45.79.

If you would like to purchase anything from the JATC, please pay with a check, money order, or credit/debit card. The JATC is no longer accepting cash.



Our Condolences

Retiree **Barney Neufeld** passed away on September 8th at the age of 91. He was an IBEW member for 55 years and would have been receiving a service award this year. Services were held on September 13th in Monterey.

Congratulations!

Juan and Teresa Dominguez welcomed a baby boy on September 5th. **Benjamin** was born weighing 8 lbs. 10 oz.

Ryan and Rebecca Ochinero welcomed a baby girl, **Olivia** Kaitlyn, on September 16th. She was born weighing 7lbs 13ozs. and was 19 1/2" long.

Health & Welfare Update

The Health & Welfare Plan has adopted a Preventive Care Benefit as of August 1, 2011. All in-network preventive care benefits will be covered at 100%, including the current office co-pay of \$25.

An amendment notice will be generated and mailed to all Plan participants outlining all the covered benefits. There are three main categories of benefits which are: Covered Preventive Services for Adults, Covered Preventive Service for Women, Including Pregnant Women, and Covered Preventive Services for Children. The list is too extensive to include in this newsletter. It will be posted online at www.ibew234benefits.org

9th District Pension Plan

Mark Foster, a Senior Financial Representative with Principal Financial Group, and Daniel Robinson are now available to assist members with financial planning. They will next be at the Hall on:

Wednesday, October 12th at 3pm

Mark A. Foster, LUTCF

181 Metro Drive, Suite 700
San Jose, CA 95110
(408) 437-7220
(925) 895-6349 cell
(408) 437-7207 fax
foster.mark@principal.com

Daniel J. Robinson

181 Metro Drive, Suite 700
San Jose, CA 95110
(408) 437-7223
(408) 910-0445 cell
(408) 437-7205 fax
robinson.daniel@principal.com

Drop ins are welcome and encouraged. However, if you would like to avoid waiting and wish to make an appointment, contact either Mark, Daniel or the Union Hall to schedule a time.

Happy OCTOBER Birthdays!

Salvatore Abramonte

Joshua Bailey
Horace Battaglia
John Battaglia
Michael Bradley
Frank Davi
Eugene Davis
Daniel Fernandez
Debra Frame
Erik Guerrero

Harold Hamilton

Michael Higuete
Akio Idemoto
David Karalius
Robert Keator
John Long
Jose Martinez
Rogelio Martinez
James Mauras
Clark Mccarty

Philippe Miccoli

Juan Morales
Lionardo Ortiz
William Roome
Jack Russo
Anatoliy Savin
Brad Smith
Richard Smith
David Vasquez
Elfego Velasquez Jr.



Call Toll-Free
(800) 654-1485



This Month's Local 234 Winners!

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

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

Chris Kiner won \$9.00 and donated it to Sean Kent and his family's Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation fundraiser

Apprentice Give-Away:

Raymond Sykes won \$23.40

Give-Away Winners:

Juan Dominguez won an 11-in-1 Klein Screwdriver
Chris Kiner won an Image Pointe drink insulator

The next general membership meeting will be:

Wednesday, October 12, 2011
@ 6:30 pm




October 2011

Quote of the Month

"Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it."

Ronald Reagan

October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 EVITP @ 7am
2	3	4	5	6 MBEVA @ 10am	7	8 EVITP @ 7am Memorial Rally
9	10 Columbus Day CALCTP @ 5pm	11 CALCTP @ 5pm	12 CALCTP @ 5pm Union Meeting @ 6:30pm	13 LMCC @ 4:30pm CALCTP @ 5pm	14 CALCTP @ 5pm	15 CALCTP @ 7am
16	17 CALCTP @ 5pm	18 Code Class @ 5:30pm JATC @ 5pm CALCTP @ 5pm	19 CALCTP @ 5pm	20 CALCTP @ 5pm	21 CALCTP @ 5pm	22 CALCTP @ 7am
23 End of Pay Period	24 CALCTP @ 5pm	25 CALCTP @ 5pm	26 Executive Board @ 6pm	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween 					

Political Endorsements

The **Monterey Bay Central Labor Council** and Monterey/Santa Cruz Building and Construction Trades Council has endorsed the following for the upcoming Tuesday, November 8th election:

Hartnell Community College

- Trustee Area 1 : **Manuel Osorio**
- Trustee Area 2: **Bill Freeman**
- Trustee Area 4: **Elia Gonzalez-Castro**

Monterey County Board of Education

- Trustee Area 4 : **Brian Higgins**
- Trustee Area 5: **Ron Panziera**

North Monterey County Unified School District

- **Mike Deckelmann**

Additionally, IBEW 234 and the Monterey/Santa Cruz Building and Construction Trades Council have endorsed local Architect **Jeanne Byrne** for the **Monterey Peninsula Water Management District, Division 4**.



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234



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«field1» «field2» «field3»

«field4»

«field5»