



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

IBEW Local 234

Newsletter

February 2012

Local 234 Officers:

Andy Hartmann
Business Manager/
Financial Secretary

Mike Ihnot
President

Chris Kiner
Vice President

Chris Burditt
Treasurer/Organizer

Stephen Slovacek
Recording Secretary/
Registrar

Anthony Davis
Andy Gattis
Rick Keaton
Richard Smith
Executive Board

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

Business Manager's Report by Andy Hartmann

Sisters and Brothers,

On the Inside Out-of-Work List we currently have 67 on Book 1, 25 on Book 2, and 1 on Book 3. For Residential we have 1 on Book 1 and 1 on Book 2. For Sound & Communications we have 4 on Book 1, 1 on Book 2, and 1 on Book 3. Also we currently have 8 Inside apprentices out of work.

Last week I gave \$50 to the Obama reelection campaign. Although people may be feeling lukewarm about this election cycle it's important to understand what the political ramifications have on Labor for who occupies the White House. Think about who the President appoints to the NLRB, let alone the Supreme Court. In the interest of our livelihood and the electrical industry as a whole I encourage everyone to get politically involved. Are you registered to vote? Stephen Slovacek, our Political Registrar, or myself would be glad to assist. Registration forms are available at the Hall.

There is a Health and Retirement Fair scheduled for Wednesday, February 29th from 5-8pm. Don't miss this special opportunity to talk one-on-one with representatives from Benesys, PHA, Sav-RX, Principal and more. We will have a few select providers offering free services such as cholesterol screening, Vision Acuity Testing, and Weight Watchers. There will be some exciting door prizes to win such as a Kindle and iPod, just for showing up. The whole family is welcome to attend. I look forward to seeing you there.

Our Inside Agreement is set to expire on May 31st. Input from the membership is always appreciated. In November San Jose received a \$2 raise with \$1 going on the check and \$1 to pension. The work outlook appears to be getting better in San Jose. At last check there were 183 on 332s Book 1 and 178 on Book 2.

When working outside of our jurisdiction for a traveling contractor, it is always a good idea to check-in with the Local Union Hall where you are going to be working. It is both appropriate and respectful to our sister Locals. Do not rely solely on your employer to perform this action; it is ultimately your responsibility to check-in. Remember that apprentices are not allowed to work outside of the jurisdiction without the consent of both jurisdiction's Business Managers and Training Directors.

In December I was elected to Vice President of Santa Cruz County for the Monterey Bay Central Labor Council. This means I, and Local 234, will be playing a more active role in the Council. The Council is currently made up of over 60 unions which represent over 32,000 workers in Monterey and Santa Cruz County.

I recently invited International Representative and Educator, Tracy Prezeau, to put on two classes for our Local. The first was "New Officer Training" for our Executive Board. The second class was "COMET." The COMET was put on for all of our apprenticeship classes: 1st, 4th, and 5th years. If you have not taken COMET before please contact the Hall and sign up for the next class.

Our Executive Board recently adopted a policy on Sexual Harassment, as prescribed by the International Office. A copy will be posted at the Hall. Contact us if you would like to receive a copy of the policy.

We hope to send out the membership's tax information by the middle of February; the statements will include Basic and Working Dues and any clothing purchased for 2011. December's working hours aren't reported and processed until the end of January. We then have to input the hours into our computer system. So bare with us as we process the hours and get the statements to you in a timely manner. If you need the information sooner, feel free to call the Hall and ask either Mira or Sallie for the necessary information.



IBEW

... the right choice

STOP The Corporate Power Grab

FACT SHEET: "The Corporate Loophole Act" (Paycheck Deception)

A ballot measure designed to silence the voice of union members in politics while creating a huge loophole for corporations has qualified for the November 2012 ballot. Proponents of this initiative are calling it the "**Stop Special Interest Money Now**" Act, but it has nothing to do with stopping special interest money. It's really an attack on union workers funded by conservative Orange County millionaires designed to give big corporations even more power. While similar to previous "paycheck deception" measures California voters have rejected, this initiative is more deceptive and destructive. It would impact EVERY union in California, while allowing corporations to have free rein to exert limitless influence on our political system.

THE CORPORATE LOOPHOLE ACT and UNIONS

- This measure goes straight at unions' ability to give their members a voice in politics. It prohibits ANY contributions collected via payroll deduction (ie member dues) to ballot measure committees as well as independent expenditures supporting or opposing state and local candidates and ballot measures.
- Further, the measure prohibits ANY direct contributions by unions to state and local candidates or the controlled committees of such candidates.
- Unlike Prop. 75, which targeted public sector unions, this measure would apply to ALL public and private sector unions.
- Members would be required to provide annual written authorization before unions can accept member funds received through means other than payroll deductions (which are banned outright) to ballot measures and independent expenditures in support or opposition to candidates.

THE CORPORATE LOOPHOLE ACT and CORPORATIONS

- While the initiative blocks corporations from using payroll deduction for political spending, corporations generally do not engage in payroll deduction, so the provision would not apply to most businesses.
- Corporations would still be permitted make UNLIMITED independent expenditures in support or opposition to candidates. The same goes for corporate contributions to ballot measures.
- Corporations will retain the ability to use corporate profits, rents, investment income, organizational dues from other corporations and any other source of non-employee based revenues to support political spending.

For more information visit www.californialabor.org

Ernesto in the News

Ernesto Morales, a 234 member working for Republic ITS, recently appeared in the Monterey County Herald in an article titled "**Monterey Switches Street Lights to LED**" by Larry Parsons on January 21st.

Read the full article at goo.gl/z68fJ.

Photos courtesy of Vern Fisher of the Monterey County Herald.



Our Condolences

We were recently notified that retiree **Leonard Smith** passed away in March 2011. He had just completed and attained a 60 year membership. Our condolences to his family.

Union Plus Discounts

When workers are under attack, it's time to buy union. That's why Union Plus is offering a one-time \$25 credit on equipment or accessories if you switch your cell phone service to AT&T, the only unionized national wireless company.

That's in addition to the 15% union-member-only monthly discount from Union Plus.

With the current economic climate, it has never been more important to show your support for union workers and the employers who honor the right to organize.

The \$25 credit against the cost of equipment or accessories is available only to new AT&T customers who sign up online for a monthly service charge of \$39.99 or more. This offer excludes iPhone, iPad, and other tablets.

AT&T is the only nationwide wireless company that is completely unionized, with over 40,000 Mobility employees represented by the Communications Workers of America.

And not only do you save 15% off your regular wireless costs, but families under the Union Plus AT&T Wireless plan typically save \$110 per year!

You'll also be sending a message to non-union companies like Verizon Wireless that have fiercely resisted employee's efforts to unionize.

Right now union livelihoods are in jeopardy. Do not pass up this opportunity to help make a win for labor and your pocket book!

**Support fellow
union members**



Governor Brown Sends Right Message

State Building Construction Trades Council President Bob Balgenorth made the following statement after Governor Jerry Brown's January 17th State of the State speech:

"The State Building and Construction Trades Council applauds the efforts of Governor Brown to return California to its rightful prosperous state through critical construction projects such as high speed rail, renewable energy generation and water infrastructure improvements.

"It was nice to hear the Governor vigorously defend his bold plan to build a high-speed rail system, which will bring thousands of good jobs before the end of 2012. 'Without hesitation, we need your approval,' he told the naysayers who would disrupt the project. He noted that all major public works projects are widely criticized at first, but ultimately provide great benefits. As the Governor said, 'the critics were wrong then and they are wrong now.'

"We strongly support Governor Brown's efforts to create jobs for construction workers by revitalizing California's ailing infrastructure. The State Building Trades stands ready to work with Governor Brown to restore and rebuild California."

The entire speech can be viewed at the Governor's website, www.gov.ca.gov.

February 2012

**For More
Information
Visit:**

**[www.union
plus.org/att](http://www.unionplus.org/att)**



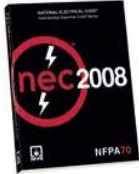
Tri-County Electrical JATC Training News

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee

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



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 as many as you like in the series. Class starts at 5:30pm. This is a three hour class. The next class has been moved to the third **Tuesday, February 21st at 5:30pm**. This is the last class in this series. A new set of 11 monthly classes will begin in March.

CALCTP Class



The next CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program) class is scheduled to begin on **Monday, February 13th** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. The daytime class will run from 7am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, ending on Saturday at noon.

YOU MUST 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. Go to bit.ly/IBEW234CALCTP to get started today.

EVITP Class



Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program is a Journeyman upgrade class designed for certified electricians. EVITP will give us an edge to provide for the rapid deployment of a trained and certified workforce to build and maintain an electric vehicle charging infrastructure across the nation.

There is an ongoing EVITP class, with Instructor Stephen Slovacek, which is completing on the first Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of February: February 1, 2, and 3 from 5:30 to 9pm.

Test Proctors Needed!

The Tri-County Electrical JATC will be administering an aptitude test for the new applicants to the Inside apprenticeship program on Saturday, March 10th. There will be a morning and afternoon session. Three proctors are needed for each session. Please call Debra at (831) 633-3063 to volunteer as a proctor. Your help is needed! Ed Sudyka will be administering the test.

Volunteers Needed!

The Tri-County Electrical JATC will have an opportunity to present at Renaissance High School on **Thursday, March 8th**. Renaissance is a PVUSD continuation high school located in La Selva Beach. Contact Debra, if you are interested in presenting the electrical apprenticeship and the electrical trade to high school students.

NEC Code Question by necplus newsbriefs

February 2012

Article 450

Question

Does the National Electrical Code® require a means of disconnect for a transformer? What if the transformer is located in a room separate from the supplying feeder conductor?

Answer

A new requirement, 450.14 was added to the 2011 NEC requires a transformer disconnecting means to be located either in sight of the transformer or in a remote location. When in a remote location, the disconnecting means must be lockable in the off position and the location of the transformer must be field marked.

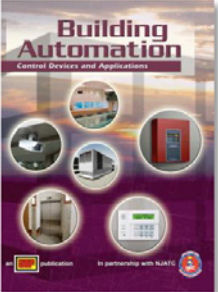
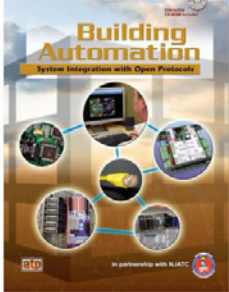
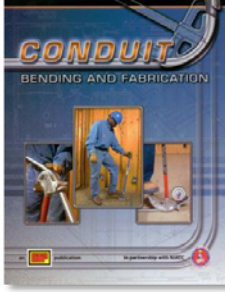
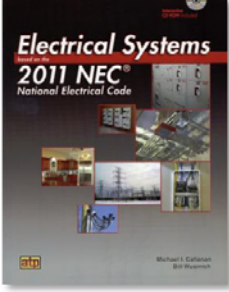
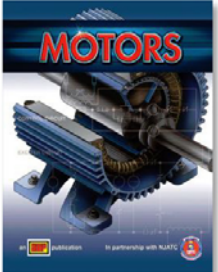
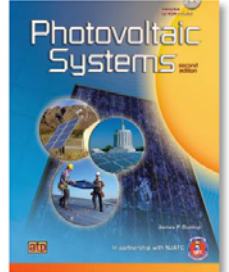
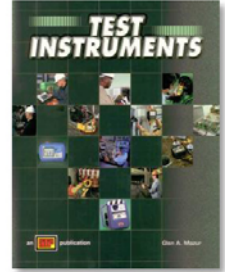
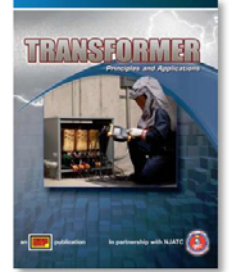
This requirement for a disconnecting means will allow for a transformer to be isolated where there are multiple transformers tapped from a single feeder as permitted by 240.21 (B)(3) . Where the disconnecting means is not within sight (Article 100) of the transformer, the lockable disconnecting means must be lockable in the off position to avoid inadvertent reenergizing of the transformer. Section 450.14 aligns transformers with other electrical apparatus with similar disconnecting means, such as motors, appliances, generators, and so forth.

Blended Learning

The JATC is now able to offer online blended learning. The online NJATC LMS (Learning Management System) has eight (8) CET courses currently active and available. CET (Continuing Electrical Training) courses are for students other than apprentices. The CET courses are primarily designed as self-study courses and are an excellent option for distance learning, Journeyman “brush up” courses, and even study guides toward certification.

If anyone is interested in any of these classes, contact Debra to sign up.

Below are the eight (8) CET courses that are currently offered:

<p>Building Automation-1 Control Devices and Applications</p> 	<p>Building Automation-2 System Integration with Open Protocols</p> 	<p>Conduit Bending and Fabrication</p> 	<p>Electrical Systems 2011 NEC</p> 
<p>Motors</p> 	<p>Photovoltaic Systems</p> 	<p>Test Instruments</p> 	<p>Transformers Principles and Applications</p> 



Health and Retirement Fair

All IBEW Local 234 members and family are encouraged to attend a Health and Retirement Fair. Healthcare and retirement professionals will be available with information and resources for all IBEW Local 234 Health & Welfare Plan participants, including spouses and children.

When: **Wednesday, February 29, 2012, 5-8pm**

Where: **IBEW Local 234, 10300 Merritt Street, Castroville**

The IBEW Local 234 Health and Retirement Fair will focus on prevention, wellness, and retirement. There will be health screenings for cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure and vision testing. Come enjoy a festive atmosphere and learn more about what we can all do to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Representatives will be on-hand to answer questions you may have. There will be healthy food and beverages available during the event along with participation prizes and raffle drawings.

Providers: IBEW Local 234 Health & Welfare Plan, Benesys, Pacific Health Alliance, Delta Dental, Sav-Rx

Central Labor Council Meeting

The next CLC Delegates' Assembly meeting is at 6:30pm at SEIU ULTCW at 10 Alexander Street in Watsonville. These meetings are typically the first Monday of every month and alternate between Watsonville and Salinas. If you would like to get involved, contact Andy Hartmann at (831) 594-7471. Guests are always welcome to attend.

9th District Pension Plan

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



Call Toll-Free
(800) 654-1485

www.principal.com

Wednesday, February 8th 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 FEBRUARY Birthdays!

Anders Baer
George Brandt
James Brown
Stanley Chen
Ira Franklin
Erik Fritz
Daniel Gilbertson
Richard Giovanonni
Jonathan Goddard
Steve Guyton
BJ Heading
Clayton Joseph

Rick Keaton
Michael Magana
James McGill
Alan Minami
Kirk Morrison
Joshua Murray
Armin Neubert
Michael Nickals
Ryan Perryman
Richard Regier
Paul Rivas
Paul Rivera

Gerard Rogers
Keith Rudd
Ray Sahlberg
Robert Scardina
Carlos Souza
Theodor Teman
Per Trondhjem
Heber Tuazon
Derek Webster
Peter Willis

This Month's Local 234 Winners!

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

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

Chris Burditt won \$24.80 and donated it back.

Apprentice Give-Away:

Ray Sykes won \$23.40.

Give-Away Winners:

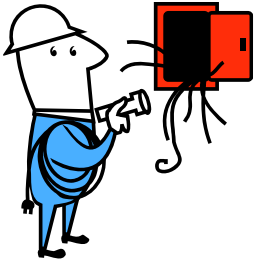
Chris Kiner won a Milwaukee T-Shirt

Alan Replogle won an IBEW hat

Stefan Marceron won an IBEW water bottle

The next general membership meeting will be:

Wednesday, February 8, 2012
@ 6:30 pm



Quote of the Month

*Give me six hours
to chop down a
tree and I will
spend the first
four sharpening
the axe.*

- Abraham Lincoln

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 EVITP@5:30pm CLC Meeting @ 6:30pm	2 EVITP@5:30pm Groundhog Day	3 EVITP@5:30pm	4 OSHA 30 @ 7am
5	6	7	8 Union Meeting @ 6:30pm	9	10	11 OSHA 30 @ 7am
12 Lincoln's Birthday	13 CALCTP @7am	14 Valentine's Day LMCC@4:30pm CALCTP @7am	15 CALCTP @7am	16 CALCTP @7am	17 CALCTP @7am	18 CALCTP @7am
19	20 HOLIDAY President's Day	21 JATC @ 5pm Code Class @ 5:30pm	22 Executive Board @ 6pm	23	24	25
26 End of Pay Period	27	28	29 Health & Retirement Fair @ 5pm			

No-Dog Offset Levels

We recently ordered and received more No-Dog Offset Levels. They are all blue and available for \$15 each. The "No-Dog" is a handy tool for electricians that eliminates "dog-legs" in offsets and saddles. It is precision tooled from lightweight, durable aluminum. Measuring 1/2" by 1" by 2", it is useful as a spacer with multiple runs of conduit. This size also makes it convenient to carry. The "No-Dog" can fit easily in a pocket or tool box, or can be clipped to a hardhat or tool pouch.



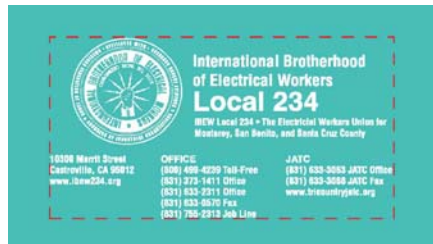
Scholarship Essay Contest

IBEW Local 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. Essays must be received by **Friday, March 9, 2012**.

Download the form at www.ibew234.org.

2012 Pocket Calendars

IBEW Local 234 **2012 Weekly Pocket Planners** are now available at the Hall.



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234



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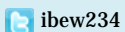


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ibew234

www.tricountyjatc.org

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«field4»

«field5»