



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

# IBEW Local 234

## Newsletter

January 2012

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

### **Business Manager's Report** by Andy Hartmann

#### 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

Sisters and Brothers,  
Happy New Year!

On the Inside Out-of-Work List we currently have 67 on Book 1, 24 on Book 2, and 3 on Book 3. For Residential we have 1 on Book 1 and 1 on Book 2. For Sound & Communications we have 3 on Book 1 and 1 on Book 3. Also we currently have 13

Inside apprentices out of work. I have been talking with Local 332's Business Manager and Training Director in regards to our apprentices. San Jose has agreed to take some of our out-of-work apprentices if they have unfilled calls. We also are working on sending apprentices south to 639 for their large solar projects.

After months and months, the work picture is starting to look better. The economy may actually be turning around. There are a few projects that should be manning up soon. Republic Electric has a lighting retrofit project in Monterey. InterMountain Electric is still on a solar project at Fort Hunter Liggett and should be requesting additional manpower soon. Bass Electric will be starting a large solar project for the City of Watsonville at three locations. Baker Electric has a large electrical project at Fort Hunter Liggett and expects to start manning up in February. JM Electric has a project at Soledad Prison. We anticipate Rosendin Electric starting the Sheriff Station TI in Live Oak in April. Also more good news, the State Allocation Board recently allocated \$923.8 million dollars to the School Facility Program (SFP) to fund school construction. Eight schools in Monterey County will receive almost \$28 million for SFP related construction.

As of December 1st, there were 50 members behind in their monthly dues. Remember it is in your best interest to keep your dues current. With your dues current, you have death benefits available to you only if you are in

good standing. If you get more than three months behind you will no longer be in good standing and there is a reinstatement fee of \$33 on top of what you already owe. Members that fall six months behind are automatically dropped from membership. Feel free to call me if you have any concerns or questions.

Governor Jerry Brown signed a bill in early October that prohibits local governments and public entities from adopting bans on project labor agreements (PLAs) for public works projects. The bill requires cities with PLA bans to repeal them or risk losing state funding for projects. The bill does not require cities to enter into PLAs, but rather makes it illegal for cities to ban them. Eight cities currently have bans on PLAs.

The Department of Labor grant for reimbursing the JATC for CALCTP training was scheduled to expire at the end of December. Fortunately, the grant program has been extended to June 30th of 2012. So far 1,500 Electricians have been trained in the state of California. It's estimated that an additional 800 Electricians will need to be trained in the first two quarters of 2012 to get this program going.

This last month I attended a full week of Business Manager's training in Las Vegas. The International Office now requires two weeks of training for each new Business Manager. The training is a great education of labor law and compliance with the various organizations we deal with as a non-profit labor organization. There is another mandatory week of training scheduled for early March.

I recently received news from International Vice President Mike Mowrey that I have been appointed to serve on the California Statewide JATC Committee. I look forward to representing Local 234 in this capacity.

Our Inside Agreement is expiring at the end of May. If you have suggestions or ideas for the new agreement please contact either myself or our President Mike Ihnot.

Best wishes to you and your families in the new year.

## Paycheck Deception by Art Pulaski, Cal Labor Fed

**Breaking news: The worst “paycheck deception” measure yet has officially qualified for the November 2012 ballot.** This attack goes further -- and is more restrictive -- than the attempts of anti-union Props 226 (1998) and 75 (2005).

It would restrict all unions – both public and private sector – from collecting political action contributions from members as part of their payroll deductions, even if expressly approved by the member.

It prohibits the use of any union money for contributions to candidates.

This measure would silence our political voice and seeks to dissolve our ability to even exist as the voice of working people.

This will be a major and costly battle for all our unions in 2012.

The battle begins against this concerted effort by the right-wing to strip away rights from our union and our members.

This measure has been cleverly crafted by our opponents. They have learned from past campaigns. This version of “paycheck deception” has been drafted in such a way to make it appear “even-handed” by claiming it also limits corporations – even though **its only intent is to cripple unions.**

The statewide campaign to defeat this destructive initiative has already begun. We are convening meetings of all union state political directors and planning Labor’s campaign against it. As with Prop 226 and Prop 75, we will need a massive coordinated effort from unions in order to win.

This will include an early member education and mobilization effort at worksites, through phone banks, mail, and online.

We also must fund a large campaign to reach the general public. In 2005, it took \$54 million to defeat the last paycheck deception initiative. A similar effort this year is needed to defeat this even more devious form of paycheck deception.

More information at [www.calaborfed.org](http://www.calaborfed.org)

## New Laws Effective January 1st

Some new laws go into effect on January 1st that will have a positive impact on the electrical construction industry.

**Assembly Bill 1346** requires those seeking electrical certification from the Division of Apprenticeship Standards to include an employment history report from the Social Security Administration when submitting an application for certification and examination.

**Assembly Bill 551** increases the fines for contractors who fail to pay prevailing wage on public works projects and for failure to provide certified payroll records in a timely fashion. It also requires the Labor Commissioner to notify CSLB when it updates its lists for these violations, and to annually notify awarding bodies of the availability of debarred contractors.

**Assembly Bill 766**, a companion to Assembly Bill 551, requires that certified copies of the payroll records be made available to members of the Joint Enforcement Strike Force on the Underground Economy or other law enforcement on request. If such records are requested by the public, information on the employees would not be included.

# DIRs Compliance Monitoring Unit

January 2012

Oakland—The Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) announced the launch of the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement's (also known as the California Labor Commissioner's) Compliance Monitoring Unit (CMU). The unit will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the State's prevailing wage laws on state bond-funded public works projects in California.

The CMU's role includes the review of certified payroll records, verification that workers on the projects are paid correctly, and enforcement of pay, overtime, record-keeping and hours limitation requirements. The unit will begin operations January 1, 2012.

"The funds that pay for California's infrastructure come from hard working taxpayers, and the agencies that hire contractors to build the infrastructure have a responsibility to see that these funds are spent wisely and to the letter and spirit of their intent," said DIR Acting Director Christine Baker. "The CMU will provide a greater level of monitoring over contractors and the money spent on workers who build schools, roadways, bridges, water treatment plants, and other public works projects."

The CMU will monitor and enforce compliance on construction projects that are funded in whole or in part by State bonds, as well as on other projects undertaken by local governments using special procurement processes.

"We are committed to smart, effective enforcement that identifies and corrects violations during the life of a publicly funded project," said Labor Commissioner Julie A. Su. "The CMU was developed to better fulfill the State's commitment to enforcing prevailing wage laws. Reviews of certified payroll records for public works projects will be coupled with full audits and on-site inspections where necessary, to protect the workers and the honest employers of California."

Informational seminars and webinars on public works projects and requirements of the CMU are scheduled throughout the State to ensure that the cities, counties, districts, and other state and local agencies whose projects will be subject to monitoring understand their responsibilities under the new program. The first seminar is scheduled on Wednesday, January 4 at the Elihu Harris State Building in Oakland. Seating is limited and registration is now open to the public. Additional seminars will be scheduled soon.

DIR has also scheduled training seminars and webinars for construction contractors on submitting certified payroll records through the Department's new electronic reporting system and on how to comply with the State's labor laws. A full list of training sessions scheduled next month is now available at [www.dir.ca.gov/cmu](http://www.dir.ca.gov/cmu).

The implementation of CMU began two years ago following the 2009 enactment of SBX2-9. The program was slated to launch in August of 2010 but was withdrawn after issues were raised concerning how bond funds would be used to pay for the monitoring. Those issues were resolved with legislation (AB 436) that was signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. on September 30, as well as amendments to departmental regulations which were approved for filing with the Secretary of State on December 7. The new law and regulations will take effect on January 1, 2012, which is the scheduled launch date for the CMU program.

Legislation signed by Governor Brown provides that the maximum charges will be substantially less than local agencies have customarily paid for required labor compliance programs on many public works projects.

For more information about the Compliance Monitoring Unit and SBX2-9/AB 436 visit the DIR website at [www.dir.ca.gov/cmu](http://www.dir.ca.gov/cmu). To learn more about the functions of the California Labor Commissioner, visit [www.dir.ca.gov/dlse](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlse). Employees with work-related questions or complaints may call the California Workers' Information Hotline at (866) 924-9757.



HAPPY NEW YEAR



# Tri-County Electrical JATC Training News

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee

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

## 2008 Significant Changes to the NEC



On the **second 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 as many as you like in the series. Class starts at 5:30pm. This is a three hour class. The next class is on **Tuesday, January 10th at 5:30pm**.

## CALCTP Class



The next set of CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program) classes are scheduled to begin on **Monday, January 23rd** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. A daytime class will be held for 6 consecutive days from 7am-4:30pm.

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/1BEW234CALCTP](http://bit.ly/1BEW234CALCTP) to get started today.

## OSHA 30



Demonstrate your commitment to workplace safety and compliance with OSHA 30. Instructor Joe Murillo, the Field Safety Officer for Collins Electrical Company, is scheduled to teach OSHA 30 on four Saturdays beginning on **Saturday, January 21st from 7am to 3:30pm**. Additional class days are on January 28th, February 4th and 11th. Call to reserve your place in the class. Space is limited.

## CALCTP Grant Extended

The Department of Labor grant for reimbursing for the CALCTP training has been extended through June 30, 2012. The DOL funds can now be used for unemployed, underemployed, and incumbent workers. As we wrap up the year, statewide IBEW will have successfully trained and certified 1,500 electricians and will need to train an additional 800 electricians in the first two quarters of 2012.

The grant extension was presented to IBEW 9th District VP Mike Mowrey, NECA Western Region Executive Director Bill Orgill, the LMCC Trustees, and the Business and Chapter Managers for each local. All participants at the State LMCC meeting confirmed their interest in pursuing any available 5th year apprentices and journeyman to complete the course to ensure successful expenditures of all of the Department of Labor grant funds.

## 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.

The next EVITP class, with Instructor Stephen Slovacek, is scheduled to begin on **January 26th at 5:30pm**. The class will continue for three more evenings on January 27th, 30th, and 31st. The class will conclude with two evening classes in February.

# NEC Code Question by necplus newsbriefs

January 2012

## Article 695

### Question

What are the overcurrent protection requirements for fire pumps? How are the overcurrent protection devices selected, and which overcurrent conditions are fire pumps being protected against?

### Answer

Overcurrent device selection for fire pumps are required to comply with 695.4 (B)(2), 695.5 (C)(2), and 695.6(C) of the 2011 National Electrical Code®. The overcurrent protective device must also carry the maximum load under stalled motor conditions or locked-rotor currents (LRC) of the fire pump motor and any associated equipment indefinitely. Generally, NEC provisions require the circuit breaker or fuse to be sized and set to trip to prevent overload conditions (overheating of conductors). However, 695.4(B)(2) prohibits power circuits of fire pump from being protected by overloads in order to remain operational during fires or other hazards.

Section 695.3 6(G) prohibits ground-Fault protection of equipment; as the need for a fire pump to be a reliable uninterruptable power source takes precedence for fire pump installations, per 240.13(3).

## JATC Accepting Applications in January

The JATC will again be accepting applications for a limited time for the Inside apprenticeship program. Applications will be accepted beginning on Tuesday, January 3, 2012. Applications MUST BE MADE IN PERSON at 10300 Merritt Street in Castroville. Applications will be accepted Tuesday through Thursday, 9-11am and 1-4pm. The last day to apply is Thursday, February 2, 2012.

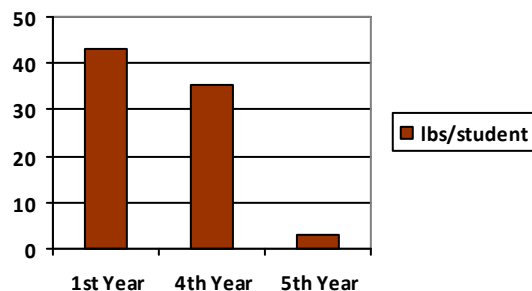
To meet minimum qualifications for apprenticeship, applicants must:

1. complete an application form.
2. be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age.
3. provide a High School Diploma or GED.
4. provide an official embossed and sealed transcript from High School or College showing completion of Algebra 1, or its equivalent, with grade "C" or better.
5. provide a photo ID.

**JATC Accepting Applications**  
**January 3 through February 2, 2012**  
**Tuesday through Thursday**  
**9-11am and 1-4pm**

## Holiday Food Drive Results

There was again this year a competition among the apprenticeship classes to bring in donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank Holiday Food Drive. The first year class was the class that brought in the most donations. The LMCC has again this year generously agreed to sponsor a pizza dinner for the winning class. Congratulations to the first year class! They donated an average of 43 pounds per student. Way to go!



## Membership Dues Increase

The delegates at the 38th International Convention approved amendments to increase the per capita \$2.00 effective January 1, 2012. This means that monthly dues for "A" members will be increased to **\$32** while "BA" members will be **\$18**. Dues payments are accepted by cash, check, money order and either debit or credit. Call the Hall for more information.

## 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.

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 attention on prevention, wellness, and retirement. There will be health screenings and a festive atmosphere to enjoy while IBEW Local 234 members 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.

## 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:

**Wednesday, January 11th at 3pm**



Call Toll-Free  
(800) 654-1485

[www.principal.com](http://www.principal.com)

### Mark A. Foster, LUTCF

181 Metro Drive, Suite 700  
San Jose, CA 95110  
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### Daniel J. Robinson

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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 JANUARY Birthdays!

Abraham Adams  
Joseph Antoni  
Frank Baca  
David Boggs  
Mark Clough  
Sean Curry  
Ruth Dean  
John Dion  
Scott Gaffney  
Ralph Garcia  
Malcolm Gayman  
Robert Greene  
Gregory Hague  
Harold Haste

Carl Huboi  
Valentin Ivanov  
Jesus Jara  
Philip Karleen  
Sean Kent  
Christopher Kiner  
Leland Knisley  
Michael Kulich  
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):

Stefan Marceron won \$17 and donated it back.

## Apprentice Give-Away:

Ray Sykes won \$23.40.

## Give-Away Winners:

Manuel Valdez won a Graybar canvas tote bag.

Juan Dominguez won an IBEW 25' tape measure.

The next general membership meeting will be:

**Wednesday, January 11, 2012**  
**@ 6:30 pm**



## Quote of the Month

*"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."*  
 - Martin Luther King, Jr.

# January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 New Year's Day	2 <b>Holiday</b>	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 LMCC @ 4:30pm	11 Union Meeting @ 6:30pm	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Jr. <b>Holiday</b>	17 JATC @ 5pm Code Class @ 5:30pm	18	19	20	21 OSHA 30 @ 7am
22 End of pay period	23 CALCTP @ 7am	24 CALCTP @ 7am	25 CALCTP @ 7am Executive Board @ 6pm	26 CALCTP @ 7am EVITP @ 5:30pm	27 CALCTP @ 7am EVITP @5:30pm	28 OSHA 30 @ 7am
29	30 CALCTP @ 7am EVITP @ 5:30pm	31 EVITP @ 5:30pm				

# Union Plus Scholarship

More than 2,000 students in union families have received money for college through the Union Plus Scholarship program. Now, applicants can apply entirely online. If you, your spouse or your child are planning on attending college or technical/trade school, visit [www.UnionPlus.org/Scholarships](http://www.UnionPlus.org/Scholarships). Winners receive between \$500 and \$4,000. **Deadline to apply is January 31, 2012.**

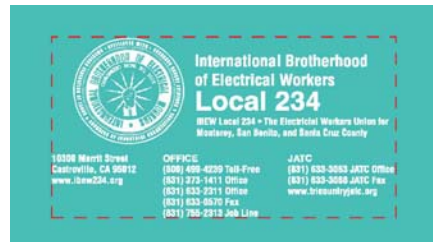
## Scholarship Essay Contest

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.**

See enclosed form for details.

## Pocket Calendars

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



## International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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(831) 755-2313 Jobline



«field1» «field2» «field3»

[thehall@ibew234.org](mailto:thehall@ibew234.org)

«field4»

[www.ibew234.org](http://www.ibew234.org)

«field5»

 ibew234

[www.tricountyjtc.org](http://www.tricountyjtc.org)

