



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

# IBEW Local 234 Newsletter

The Electrical Worker's Union for Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties

April 2018

## Local 234 Officers:



Andy Hartmann  
**Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary**

Mike Ihnot  
**President**

Al Randall  
**Vice President**

Nick Prelgovisk  
**Treasurer**

Stephen Slovacek  
**Recording Secretary/  
Registrar**

Andy Gattis  
Rick Keaton  
Stefan Marceron  
Gale Michalek  
**Executive Board**

## Business Manager's Report by Andy Hartmann

Sisters and Brothers,

On the Inside out-of-work list we have 11 on Book 1, 73 on Book 2, 15 on Book 3, and 15 on Book 4. There is 1 on Book 2 for Sound & Comm, 1 on Book 3, and 1 on Book 4. There are 19 on CW Book 1 and 173 on CW Book 2. There are 6 Inside apprentices on the out of work list.

Our Inside members had a **wage allocation** at the March general membership meeting. The Inside members present voted to allocate the \$1 raise all to wages. This raise goes into

effect on May 28th, 2018. This was the final raise for this Agreement as the current Inside Agreement expires on May 31st. Negotiations are underway for the Inside and have been going well with good discussions. We hope to reach agreement and establish a new Inside Agreement before the end of May.

I'm proud to announce that we signed another contractor to the Inside Agreement. Josh Watt of Watt Electric Inc. is our newest signatory contractor. Watt Electric Inc. brings with them 20 newly organized members. They are based in Hollister and focus on Residential prevailing wage projects.

We again held our annual blood drive with the American Red Cross on Saturday, March 10th. The blood drive was successful and had 20 registered donors. Red Cross ended up collecting 17 pints of blood. We also were able to register two first time donors at this blood drive.

The Inside Health & Welfare Trust met on Wednesday, March 21st. This year again the Trustees generously agreed to load each member's benny card at \$0.50 per hour based upon how many hours each member worked in the calendar year of 2017. Each member can expect to get approximately \$1,000 added to their benny card. This is in addition to the \$0.75 per hour we started adding to our benny card at the beginning of this year. Some of you may have not seen the money added to your benny card yet. There was a problem last month with the benny card company, the bank, and transferring the funds. If you haven't seen the money added to your card, it should appear within the next week as two deposits for January and February hours. Remember to save all your receipts whenever you use your benny card.

The Inside Health & Welfare Plan has been doing well recently. The Plan has over 15 months of reserves which indicates a healthy plan. At the last meeting of 2017, the Trustees agreed to increase the member's hour bank from 5 months to 6 months. Technically the hour bank went from 600 hours to 720 hours. Each month of eligibility requires 120 hours for our Health & Welfare Plan. Pay attention to your monthly statement for the increase to your hour bank.

We have started a campaign to register all of our members to vote. If you are not registered we will be contacting you in various ways over the next few weeks. Registering to vote is easy in California.

To register to vote, you must be a United States citizen, a resident of California, 18 years of age or older on Election Day, and not currently imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony.

The deadline to register to vote for any election is 15 days before Election Day. Register early!

Register to vote online with the California Secretary of State Alex Padilla at [goo.gl/XF1FBd](http://goo.gl/XF1FBd)

## Opportunities to Make Change

Between now and the November election many people will be making weekend trips to congressional districts to knock on doors of Democrats and those that have declined to state. The objective is to have face to face conversations and learn what their concerns are while at the same time encouraging them to vote. This is the most effective way of winning elections.

### **April 7-8 (CA-21) Exact canvass location within CA-21 to be determined cost \$60**

This is an overnight stay in Fresno at the Travelodge and includes breakfast. We will canvas with the local Dems Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning before returning home Sunday evening. Our third trip to CA-21 Meet at County bldg. parking lot 701 Ocean St. (where weekend parking is free) at 8:30 am on Sat, April 7-8. Vans available or bring your own vehicle.

Team leader Harvey Dosik [hpdosik@gmail.com](mailto:hpdosik@gmail.com) (831) 331-6153

Click Link to RSVP to this EVENT: [https://actionnetwork.org/events/ca-21-exact-canvass-location-within-ca-21-to-be-determined-cost-60?source=direct\\_link&](https://actionnetwork.org/events/ca-21-exact-canvass-location-within-ca-21-to-be-determined-cost-60?source=direct_link&)

### **April 15 (Sunday only) to Tracy Cost- chip in for gas**

This will be the fifth trip to the greater Tracy area. Meet at Pasatiempo 11am Sunday, April 15th. Vans available or bring your own vehicle. Team leader Rene Bloch [r\\_bloch@yahoo.com](mailto:r_bloch@yahoo.com)

Click Link to RSVP to the EVENT: [https://actionnetwork.org/events/ca-21-exact-canvass-location-within-ca-21-to-be-determined-cost-60?source=direct\\_link&](https://actionnetwork.org/events/ca-21-exact-canvass-location-within-ca-21-to-be-determined-cost-60?source=direct_link&)

### **April 21-22 First weekend trip to CA-22 (just south of Fresno) Cost \$60**

This is the District of Devin Nunes, the author of that infamous memo that tried to cast doubt on the FBI's investigation. This is also an overnight stay at a yet to be determined motel. We will canvas with the local Dems Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning before returning home Sunday evening. Meet at County bldg. parking lot 701 Ocean St (where weekend parking is free) at 8:30am Sat, April 21-22. Vans available or bring your own vehicle.

Team leader June Gorman [june\\_gorman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:june_gorman@sbcglobal.net)

Click Link to RSVP to the EVENT: [https://actionnetwork.org/events/april-21-22-our-first-weekend-trip-to-ca-22-just-south-of-fresno-cost-60?source=direct\\_link&](https://actionnetwork.org/events/april-21-22-our-first-weekend-trip-to-ca-22-just-south-of-fresno-cost-60?source=direct_link&)

What to bring: water, snacks, walking shoes, dress for cool weather, your SMARTPHONE and a friend.

## Save on Hearing Aids with VSP

TruHearing offers significantly reduce out-of-pocket costs on hearing aids for VSP members and their families!

Call now to find out how much you can save as a VSP member! **(877) 372-4040**

VSP members and their families have access to the TruHearing Choice program. TruHearing offers you an average savings of \$980 per aid on a wide variety of the latest digital hearing aids as well as access to a professional network of over 5,000 provider locations nationwide.

In addition, each TruHearing purchase includes:

- 3 follow-up visits with a provider for fitting and adjustments
- 45-day trial
- 3-year manufacturer warranty for repairs and one-time loss and damage replacement
- 48 free batteries per aid

More information may be found at <https://www.truhearing.com/vsp/?mid=121>

# UnionPlus Mortgage Company

April 2018

Union Plus Mortgage Company (UPMC) is a new mortgage brokerage company founded and owned by the labor movement to support union members with mortgages when they buy a home or refinance their current loan.

UPMC is owned by the AFL-CIO, Union Plus and a group of AFL-CIO affiliated unions to provide more mortgage options to union members including access to the Union Plus Mortgage Assistance Program. Even better, the revenue generated by this company belong to the labor movement – not the big banks or Wall Street.

The UPMC staff and mortgage loan officers provide top-notch customer service based on extensive experience in the mortgage industry and their commitment to personalized service. Union members should feel confident that they can call or email the UPMC staff to answer all their mortgage questions.

The very first customer benefited from the strong combination of union and mortgage industry knowledge of the Union Plus Mortgage Company staff. A seaman with the Seafarers International Union, he had been declined for a loan because the prior underwriter did not understand the typical nature of the sailor's work: periods of months at work on the ship with different employers and other periods of not working. The Union Plus Mortgage loan officer was able to quickly understand that the sailor was a union member and gathered the necessary income documentation directly from the union hall. Union Plus Mortgage Company had the loan approved in less than two weeks and closed in three weeks. This is exactly the kind of service union members can expect from UPMC.

Union members can also benefit from the Union Plus Mortgage Assistance Program, which provides hardship mortgage assistance in the event of income loss due to disability, unemployment, or strike/lockout, one year after obtaining a UPMC mortgage loan. And any new mortgage customer can expect to receive a \$500 Visa gift card after closing.

As a mortgage broker, UPMC shops the top lenders in the country to find the best mortgage rates and products for its union customers. The UPMC team members have an average of 18 years' experience in the mortgage industry, and as the company grows, the staff and loan officers' right to union representation will be supported and encouraged.

Check us out on online at [unionplasmortgage.com](http://unionplasmortgage.com) or call 855 UNION 53 (855 864-6653).

## UnionPlus Free College Benefit

Union members and their families can earn an Associate Degree with NO out-of-pocket cost.

### **FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY**

The Union Plus Free College Benefit offers working families an accessible, debt-free, and convenient higher education opportunity. You, your spouse, children, financial dependents, and grandchildren, can all take advantage of this exciting opportunity.

### **ZERO OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS**

Members and their families can earn an Associate Degree online, with no out-of-pocket costs. A last-dollar scholarship covers the difference between any Federal grants and your tuition, fees and e-books at EGCC.

### **EASTERN GATEWAY CREDITS ARE TRANSFERRABLE**

Eastern Gateway Community College is a public, non-profit school in the University System of Ohio and is regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Credits you earn can transfer to other schools, potentially saving you thousands of dollars.

Call **1-888-590-9009** or visit [unionplusfreecollege.org](http://unionplusfreecollege.org)

Free College is possible thanks to the early support and enthusiasm of AFSCME, who entered into a collaboration with Eastern Gateway Community College in 2016.

## Tri-County Electrical JATC Training News

(831) 633-3063

### Foreman Class

NEW! **Foreman class** taught by Instructor Stephen Slovacek is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 10th and 24th from 5:30-8:30pm**. You are welcome to attend one class or as many as you like in this series. This is a (3) hour class. Call Stacy at (831) 633-3063 to reserve your place.

### Confined Space Training Class

Do you know how to safely handle confined spaces? Many workplaces contain spaces that are considered "confined" because their configurations hinder the activities of employees who must enter, work in, and exit them. A confined space has limited or restricted means for entry or exit, and it is not designed for continuous employee occupancy. There is an 8 hour confined space class scheduled for **Saturday, April 14th at 8am**. Call Stacy at (831) 633-3063 to reserve your place. Class size is limited.

### 2017 NEC Significant Changes Class

Instructor David Martinez will be leading the way through the Significant Changes of the 2017 National Electrical Code. Drop on in! You are welcome to attend one class or as many as you like in this series. This is a (3) hour class. The next class is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 20th at 5:30pm**.



### Scissor/Boom Lift Certification Class

A **scissor and boom certification class** is scheduled for **Saturday, April 21st from 8am-12pm**. Call Stacy at (831) 633-3063 to reserve your place. Class size is limited.

### Forklift/Gradall Certification Class

A **forklift and Gradall lift certification class** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 12th from 8am-12pm**. Call Stacy at (831) 633-3063 to reserve your place. Class size is limited.

### CPR/First Aid Certification Class

A **CPR/First Aid with Blood-Borne Pathogens class** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 19th from 8am-1pm**. Instructor Estella Padilla will be teaching the basics of First Aid and CPR along with Blood Borne Pathogens. Call Stacy at (831) 633-3063 to reserve your place. Class size is limited.



### CPR/First Aid Certification Class

**REMINDER:** Class sizes are limited and there is usually a wait-list for each one. If you are unable to attend a class you have signed up for, please give Stacy a minimum of a 48 hour notice, so she can fill your spot.

# Congratulations on Completing Class

April 2018

## 2017 Significant Changes on March 20th with Instructor David Martinez:

Josh Murray, L. Earl Davis, Robert Rovella, Adrien Antosz, Jose Moncada, Ralph Yniguez, and John Greene

## CPR/First Aid on March 24th with Instructor Estella Padilla:

John Agra, Adrien Antosz, Ruben Lozano, Javier Martinez, Luis Ortiz, Austin Pless, Brett Ritchie, Ralph Yniguez, and Ronald Zych

## Milwaukee Apprentice of the Month

The Apprentice of the Month program is sponsored by Milwaukee Tools. The goal is to encourage apprentice participation and reward a high performing student for achieving outstanding results both in the classroom and on the job.

For **April 2018** the JATC has chosen to recognize:

### 5th-year: Will Clough

as the Milwaukee Apprentice of the Month. The apprentice of the month will have a dedicated parking space at the Training Center and also receive a gift provided by Milwaukee.

## JATC Instructors Needed

The JATC is looking for an instructor to teach the Inside apprenticeship classes. Jim Shumaker has temporarily taken over to complete the school year. The JATC is actively looking for a replacement 5th-year instructor. If you are interested please contact Andy Hartmann or Stacy at the JATC. There are minimum qualification requirements to be an instructor for the Community College system.

## How You Can Help the JATC

Shop at **AmazonSmile** and Amazon will make a donation to the Tri-County Electrical JATC. Start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7114317](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7114317)

## ElectricPrep

In an effort to help better prepare students for the electrical apprenticeship, ElectricPrep has partnered with the NJATC/ETA to offer voluntary courses to support applicants during the entrance process for the IBEW/NECA apprenticeship training program. ElectricPrep helps provide a better understanding of the electrical construction industry and the requirements.

If you know of anyone that is interested in applying to the apprenticeship have them check out the resources at [www.electricprep.com](http://www.electricprep.com).

## LMCC Education Quarterly Drawing

The LMCC holds a quarterly gift card drawing. (2) \$100 gifts cards are awarded each quarter for those taking JW upgrade classes. One gift card goes to the member with the most hours of class completed in the last quarter. The other gift card is awarded by lottery. Every four hours of completed classes will equal one entry in the lottery, with no limit. The member with most hours is ineligible for the lottery.

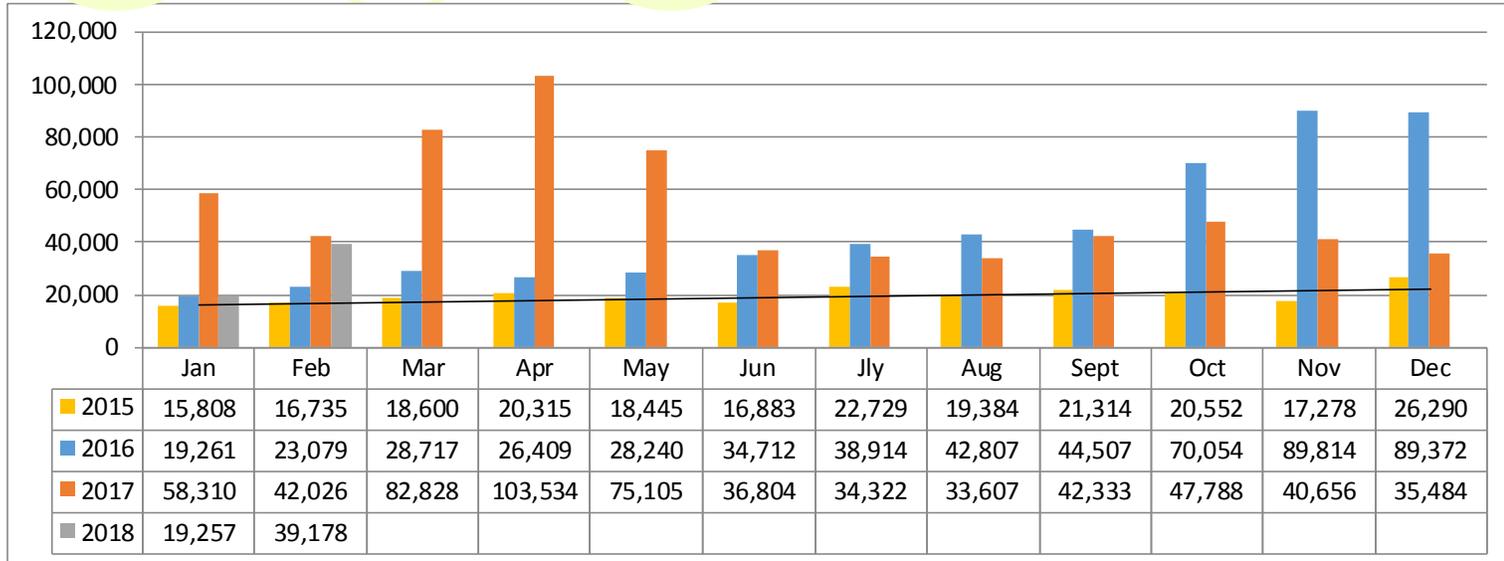
The winners for **Jan/Feb/Mar** were **Carlos Vargas** for the most hours of training and **Robert Rovella** for the lottery. Congratulations! Each will receive a \$100 gift card.



## Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Gilbert and Cassie Sanchez** who welcomed **Rosey Monroe Sanchez** on **March 7th** weighing 7.7 pounds.

## Monthly Hours Report



## Castroville Artichoke Parade

Join Local 234 Sisters and Brothers for marching in the Castroville Artichoke Parade. Manuel Valdez is spearheading the parade for Local 234. Banner carriers are needed. If you are interested, contact the Hall and let us know (831) 633-2311. Volunteers need to meet in the Local 234 parking lot at **8am on Saturday, April 28th**.

## New Merchandise

New IBEW 234 merchandise has arrived! Come to the Union Hall and check out our new t-shirts, hoodies (sweaters), and beanies. Wear your IBEW Local Union 234 merchandise with pride. It's a great way to represent!

## Happy April Birthdays!

Adrien Antosz  
Thomas Bauer  
Frank Bigham  
Louis Bonds  
James Byers  
Jessica Carnero  
Joaquin Correa-Mickel  
Leslie Dollins  
Alejandro Escobar  
Michael Fryou  
Gary Gabriel, Jr.  
Alex Garibay  
John Greene, II  
Troy Grier

Mark Hiura  
Lacy Jimenez  
Glen Johnson  
Robert Koenig  
Michael Kunkle  
Tramaine Lamb  
Reuben Lee  
Christopher Lucero  
Lloyd Marchant  
Richard Massie  
Lawrence Mellick  
James Nichols  
Warren Nichols  
Patricio Ortiz

Evey Perez  
Jesse Ramirez  
Mickel Reeves  
Alan Replogle  
Michael Rodda  
Carlos Segura  
James Shumaker  
Jonathan Stanley  
Bryan Tufts  
Joe Velasquez, Jr.  
Paul Velasquez  
Francisco Villanueva  
Jacob Wiirre-Paquette



## This Month's Local 234 Winners!

The winners from the **March** union meeting.

### Voluntary PAC (Political Action Committee):

Manuel Valdez won \$5 and donated it back.

### Apprentice Give-Away:

Ricky Rodriguez won \$23.40.

### Give-Away Winners:

Kyle Evans won a Platt beanie.

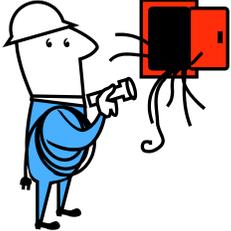
Enrique Ramos won a Lenox vari-bit.

Ricky Rodriguez won a Local 639 t-shirt.

James Stanchfield won a Local 2085 t-shirt.

General membership meetings are the second Wednesday of each month. The next general membership meeting will be:

**Wednesday, April 11th, 2018**  
@ 6:30 pm



## Quote of the Month

I have decided  
to stick with  
love. Hate is  
too great a  
burden to bear.

- Martin Luther  
King Jr.

# April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 EASTER APRIL FOOL'S DAY	2	3	4	5	6	7 OSHA 30 @ 7am
8	9	10 Foreman Class @ 5:30pm	11 Membership Meeting @ 6:30pm	12	13	14 Confined Space @ 8am
15	16	17 JATC @ 5pm Significant Changes @ 5:30pm	18	19	20	21 Scissor & Boom @ 8am
22 EARTH DAY End of Pay Period	23	24 JATC Interviews @ 4pm Foreman Class @ 5:30pm	25 E-Board Meeting @ 6pm	26	27	28 OSHA 30 @ 7am Castroville Artichoke Parade @ 8am
29	30					

