

July 2008

Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz Counties

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

Local 234 Newsletter



Business Manager's Report by Ken Scherpinski

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to start by thanking all the members who attended the special meeting for the ratification and allocation of our current Inside Agreement. The overwhelming response to the presented proposals gave your union leadership a clear direction for providing service to our members. Although some members may not have received this notice, we did send it out using your contact information we have at the Hall. If your contact information is not current, please drop by or send us your information so that we can update your records and assure that you will receive all future notices in a timely manner.

On the political front, the AFL-CIO voted to endorse Senator Barack Obama for president, citing his strong track record on issues such as healthcare reform, fair trade, retirement security, and the freedom to form and join unions. Senator Obama has a ninety-eight percent voting record on working family issues compared to just sixteen percent for his opponent, Senator John McCain.

The Building Trades Council and the Central Labor Council have sat down with Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital representatives to discuss support for the upcoming Measure W bond, which supports their five hundred thirty million dollar construction project. This bond is for three hundred ninety five million dollars and will need a 2/3 majority to pass. I strongly urge each of you to support this measure, The hospital has already expressed an interest in using union labor. They realize the advantages of using a qualified union shop to complete this project, which, if the bond passes, should begin late 2008 to early 2009 and continue through 2013.

Wishing you a safe and sane 4th of July. Enjoy a well deserved holiday with your friends and family.

P.S I Love my wife!!!!!!!!!!

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| Local 234 Officers:
Ken Scherpinski
Business Manager |
| Andy Hartmann
President |
| Charlie Ruiz
Vice President |
| Mike Ihnot
Treasurer |
| Stephen Slovacek
Recording Secretary |
| Anthony Davis
Andy Gattis
Rick Keaton
Derek Webster
Executive Board |
| Jeremy Bigman
Robert Campbell
Phil DiGirolamo
Mike Reeves
Examining Board |

IBEW Local 234 Scholarship Results

IBEW Local 234 has awarded three \$500 scholarships to college-bound high school seniors – one each in Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz counties.

Honored were:

Sarah DeMateo, Everett Alvarez High School, who will be attending San Jose State University

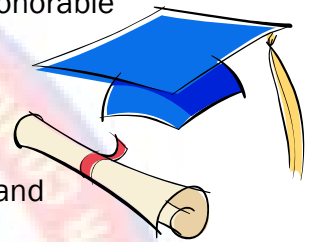
Amalia Slovacek, Anzar High School, who will be attending UC-Santa Cruz

Sarah Kulich, Watsonville High School, who will be attending Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo

Each was selected on the basis of a 500 word essay written about labor issues. Applicants also had to have one family member who is or was a union member, of any affiliation.

Elizabeth Rocha of Escuela Quetzal High School in Santa Cruz County received an honorable mention for \$250.

“We are delighted to award these scholarships to three such well-deserving students,” said Andy Hartmann, President of IBEW 234. “The essays showed great understanding of the roles that the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and the union movement have had in making America a better place to live for all.”



Monthly Dues Have Decreased by 1%

The quarterly audit of the General Fund has called for the working dues to be reduced from 3% to 2% of gross earnings. There is an additional working dues of 3% paid to the Industry Advancement/Organizing Fund. This means the total working dues (General Fund and Industry Advancement/Organizing Fund) deducted from your check has decreased from 6% to 5% effective May 26, 2008. This will remain in effect unless the balance in the General Fund falls below \$200,000. All Contractors have been notified about the change in working dues.

This effects workers under the Inside and Residential Agreements. Sounds and Communications working dues remain the same.

Trick of the Trade: Removing Chico

Ever have to re-pull a circuit through an explosion proof condolet? Did you have a hard time removing all the chico in order to access the wires. Next time you encounter this situation, pour a little vinegar on top of the chico. The chico will become soft and then easily removed.



Our Condolences

Don Brint—Passed March 28, 2008. Member since July 1996.

Steve Harvick—Passed May 24, 2008. Member since July 1995.

Rene Ortega—Passed June 1, 2008. Member since November 2006.

Eric Nicoll—Passed June 5, 2008. Member since July 1946.

Jane Abraham—Passed June 7, 2008. Wife of Lyle Abraham Sr.

Larry Bally—Passed June 15, 2008. Member since July 1981.

Earn a College Degree

National Labor College Offers Apprenticeship Graduates the Opportunity to Earn a College Degree

An accredited college, NLC offers degree completion programs for union members who have some college credit, such as what you've earned through the apprenticeship program. The NLC's Bachelor of Technical/Professional Studies (BTPS) degree program provides online access to the courses needed to earn a college degree.

For information about NLC or their course offerings, go online to www.NLC.edu.

Manage your 9th District Pension Plan

Get the help of a Financial Representative

Wednesday, July 9th Starting at 3pm.

and

Wednesday, July 30th Starting at 3pm.

A Financial Representative will be at the hall to assist anyone with their 9th District Pension plan account with either setting up, accessing, or managing funds. Contact either representative if you would like to set up an appointment. However, no appointment is necessary.



Call Toll-Free
(800) 654-1485

Mark Foster, LUTCF
Senior Financial Representative
(408) 437-7220 Ext. 77220
foster.mark@principal.com
or

James Boisse
Financial Representative
(408) 437-7200 Ext. 77245
(510) 409-2886 cell
boisse.james@principal.com



July 2008 JATC Training News

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee

Ed Sudyka, Training Director
Shary Greene, Admin. Asst.
831.633.3063 office
831.633.3068 fax
Trainingibew234@sbcglobal.net

Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz Counties

Upgrade Classes This Summer at the Training Center:

Basic Motor Controls, Tuesday evenings beginning July 8

Tuesdays, 5:30–8:30 p.m. Instructor Mark Rosas

Electrical Project Supervision (Foreman's Class) Level 2

July 12, Saturday, 8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

CPR / First Responder Renewal Saturday July 19, 8 a.m.– 3:30 p.m.

Electrical Project Supervision (Foreman's Class) Level 3

Aug. 9, Saturday, 8 a.m.– 4:30 p.m.

EPS 2 & 3 Instructor: Steve Asay

Coming Up In August: **Hands-on Training!**

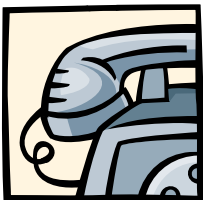
Small Conduit Bending Class: Tues. Aug. 12 and Thurs. Aug. 14

How to Use and Read Digital Multi-Meters: Mon. Aug. 18

Large Conduit Bending Class: Sat. Aug. 23

Call today to get your name on these class lists if you haven't done so already! 633-3063. If you are already on a class list, we'll contact you regarding class start date and times.

Voice-Data-Video Certification! Required January 1, 2009!



For Sound and Communication workers, Nor-Cal S&C is offering a VDV Exam Prep class in San Jose on July 15 & 17 from 5 to 8 p.m.

To register, call Mike Sheriff at Nor-Cal at (408) 453-3101, ext. 1823.

Certification renewal question... and some answers?!?

Members have called and asked me if the JW Upgrade class they had taken after January 2006, when Electrical Certification became law, would count toward their Certification renewal. One member even told me that he had a phone conversation with a representative of the DAS Electrical Certification Unit, who told him that it would. I asked him if he'd gotten that assurance in writing... for indeed, I have yet to see it in writing that our JATC can offer renewal classes, although I've been personally assured that it can by the Acting Chief of the DAS.

However, going under the assumption that any classes taken at the JATC since January 2006, and those taken in the future will count, the JATC will be sending out to every member that participated in JW classes a Certificate for the number of classroom hours of instruction completed. This should happen before the summer is over so the JW will know how close he/she is to having the required 32 hours of continuing education that is needed for certification renewal.

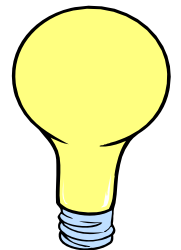
BASIC MOTOR CONTROLS CLASS

NEED TO KNOW HOW TO WIRE A START-STOP STATION?
HAVING A HARD TIME READING A CONTROL WIRING
DIAGRAM? STARTING TUES. EVES. JULY 8 FOR 8 WEEKS
MARK ROSAS WILL TEACH YOU THE BASICS!

A big **Thank You** to **Jose Moncada** for offering his tutoring services to those apprentices needing a little help with their Algebra skills!

June Question of the Month: According to the 2005 NEC, what does the Code now say about the source of power for the ungrounded circuits feeding office partition furniture?

This is a change to the 2005 NEC, and it could make service calls a little more difficult. Article 605.7 states that "multiwire branch circuits supplying power to the permanently connected freestanding partitions shall be provided with a means to disconnect simultaneously all ungrounded conductors at the panelboard where the branch circuit originates. So good luck to all you service guys as you try to find adjacent breakers spaces for your multipole CB's on that modular furniture reconfiguration, in order to be in NEC compliance!



July Question of the Month: Sticking with the NEC 2005 Code changes again, the TD is wondering if anyone out there knows where in the 2005 NEC it is stated that you can't use a "silver bullet" (self-tapping #7 pan head phillips sheet metal screw) to connect grounding conductors or connection devices to enclosures? Why not?

IBEW Local 234 Public Radio Advertisement

At the last General Membership Meeting, the body voted to underwrite two of our local public radio stations. KUSP, located in Santa Cruz, and KAZU, located at CSUMB. KAZU is broadcasted on 90.3FM. KUSP is broadcasted on 88.9FM, 89.1 Hollister, 89.3 Downtown Santa Cruz, 90.3 Los Gatos, 91.3 Palo Colorado Canyon, 91.7 Paso Robles/King City, 105.9 Big Sur Coast. The following message will be aired:

THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS. I.B.E.W. LOCAL 234, THE ELECTRICAL WORKER'S UNION FOR MONTEREY, SAN BENITO, AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES. INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT IBEW234.ORG.

The announcement for KUSP will air at 6:19am Monday through Friday. We have committed to a year of underwriting for both radio stations. KAZU will air at the following times:

Tue	07/01/08	5.09:30a	MORNING EDITION 1
Tue	07/01/08	3.20:00p	THE WORLD
Wed	07/02/08	5.09:45a	MORNING EDITION 1
Wed	07/02/08	2.39:30p	ON POINT
Thu	07/03/08	5.09:30a	MORNING EDITION 1
Thu	07/03/08	3.30:00p	THE WORLD
Fri	07/04/08	5.09:30a	MORNING EDITION 1
Fri	07/04/08	2.39:30p	ON POINT
Sat	07/05/08	5.38:15a	WEEKEND EDITION
Sun	07/06/08	5.38:00a	WEEKEND EDITION
Mon	07/07/08	5.09:30a	MORNING EDITION 1
Mon	07/07/08	3.20:15p	THE WORLD
Tue	07/08/08	5.09:45a	MORNING EDITION 1
Tue	07/08/08	3.20:15p	THE WORLD
Wed	07/09/08	2.39:30p	ON POINT
Thu	07/10/08	5.09:30a	MORNING EDITION 1
Thu	07/10/08	3.20:15p	THE WORLD
Fri	07/11/08	3.20:15p	THE WORLD
Sun	07/13/08	5.59:00a	WEEKEND EDITION
Mon	07/14/08	5.09:45a	MORNING EDITION 1
Mon	07/14/08	2.59:00p	ON POINT
Tue	07/15/08	5.09:45a	MORNING EDITION 1
Tue	07/15/08	3.30:00p	THE WORLD

We have the ability to change the message as much as we like. We can also move the announcement around during the day. The message will air at rotating times on KAZU (see schedule above).

The idea of underwriting a public radio station is beneficial. Underwriting a public radio station helps identify us as a civic and community-minded organization with an interest in the public. Another benefit is to create name recognition and name branding. We decided to only underwrite the IBEW at this point. At a later date we will approach our contractors and our LMCC to see if they would like to underwrite as well.

This Month's Local 234 Winners!

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

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

Alan Replogle won \$6.00 and donated it back.

Apprentice Drawing:

Eric Guerrero won \$23.40.

Raffle Winners:

Jeff Flippin won an IBEW hat.

Eric Guerrero won an Ideal digital multi-meter.

The next general membership meeting will be

Wednesday, July 9, 2008 @ 6:30 pm.

“The flames kindled on the 4 of July 1776, have spread over too much of the globe to be extinguished by the feeble engines of despotism; on the contrary, they will consume these engines and all who work them.”

~ Thomas Jefferson

New Members Initiated

Please welcome the following new Local 234 members:

Jeff Flippin

Eric Guerrero

Ricardo Rubio

July 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 LMCC @ 5pm	2 Resign Ends	3	4 Holiday	5
6	7 NEC Class 5:30-8:30pm	8 Motor Controls 5:30-8:30pm	9 Union Meeting @ 6:30pm	10	11	12 EPS-2 8am-4:30pm
13	14 NEC Class 5:30-8:30pm	15 Motor Ctrl Resign Begins JATC @ 6pm	16	17	18	19 CPR Class 8am-3:30pm
20	21 NEC Class 5:30-8:30pm	22 Motor Controls 5:30-8:30pm	23 E-Board @ 6pm	24	25	26
27 End of Pay Period	28 NEC Class 5:30-8:30pm	29 Motor Controls 5:30-8:30pm	30	31		

2000 Ford Expedition for Sale

We are again attempting to sell the 2000 Ford Expedition. The vehicle will be sold to the highest bidder. The bids must be submitted to the hall in a sealed envelope before 5pm on Wednesday, July 23rd. Bids received after this date will not be accepted. The sealed bids will be reviewed and awarded to the highest bidder by the Executive Board on that Wednesday. The highest bidder must purchase the vehicle within five (5) business days of notification otherwise the offer will go to the next highest bidder. All proceeds will be remitted to the organizing fund. Call the hall if you have any questions.



2000 Ford Expedition V8 Triton, Silver, 160k miles, automatic, AM/FM cassette w/6-disc changer, running boards, privacy glass, A/C, PS, PW, PL, CC.

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

10300 Merritt Street
Castroville, CA 95012

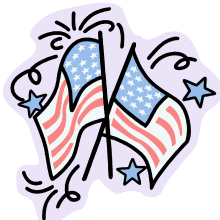


(831) 633-2311 Union
(831) 633-0570 fax
(831) 633-3063 Education & Training

(831) 755-2313 Jobline

www.ibew234.org

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«field1» «field2» «field3»

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«field5»