

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Local 234 Newsletter



Business Manager's Report by Ken Scherpinski

Greetings Sisters and Brothers:

Work has been steady for projects already in progress. Not many new projects have started up. If you have been checking the job line, calls have been scarce. I am hopeful that our contractors will pick up the fifteen million dollar Make-Ready project for SVMH, Whole Foods on 41st Ave in Santa Cruz, and the next phase of Salinas Valley State Prison.

I am asking all of you to join me in the commitment to the "Code of Excellence." Your Executive Board, along with Local 234 staff, have just completed the training and earned a certificate of completion. All certificates of completion are filed with the International Office. My goal is for our Local to be 100% C.O.E. certified. I will be giving the class every third Wednesday of the month at 5pm here at the hall starting March 18th . I look forward to working with you at one of the upcoming trainings. The goal of providing this training to you is to demonstrate to our customers that IBEW members possess unsurpassed work skills and provide the most responsible, productive, and safe work methods. Once everything is in place, future jobs in our jurisdiction will require that members be Code of Excellence certified in order to be dispatched to a job.

The state budget, which was one hundred days late, has finally been passed. One of the biggest obstacles was the Republican Party and its "across the board policy" that they will not vote for anything that includes new taxes. Although a noble concept, it has not worked for the last 8 years. The passing

of the budget still does nothing to address our representative's wages or expenditures of which they have made no concessions to help with the current economic situation. This latest show of power only strengthens the argument for getting rid of the 2/3 vote to ratify a budget and move it to a simple majority. This will eliminate the games being played with all of our futures.

I attended the 9th District Business Managers' meeting. The work picture is slow throughout the district with most of the work being in Las Vegas, Martinez, and the states of Washington and Alaska. Most locals have work on the horizon but are not sure when it will pick up again. The 9th District membership gained just a little over 1% in 2008. This represents 84% of the total gain for the IBEW district wide.

Let's enjoy the coming of spring and look forward to a turn around in our economy.

I want to share my wonderful news with you. I have become a grandfather with the birth of my first grandchild, a beautiful baby girl, Jordyn Rae Scherpinski.

"I walk slowly, but I never walk backward"

– Abraham Lincoln

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



Do you need to renew your Certification?

Most everyone, those that took the test in 2006 and prior, will need to renew their Electrical Certification this year. Your renewal date should be the month you took the exam. The Division of Apprenticeship Standards recommends you send your RENEWAL Application for Certification before it expires, preferably at least 1 month prior to the expiration date. Any applications submitted more than 3 months in advance will be returned.

IMPORTANT: You are REQUIRED to have:

- 1) Renewal fee of \$100.00;
- 2) 32 hours of continuing education and;
- 3) 2,000 hours in the industry in the previous 3

Upcoming Estimating Class

The Organizing Department will be hosting an Estimating Class. This class is open to all members. The class will run approximately 6 hours. Students will spend time both on estimating fundamentals as well as actually using estimating software. Both parts of the class are “hands-on.” Students will receive instruction on how to do a manual takeoff, price labor, and summarize a job. Students will then learn how the process works using the estimating software.

When: Saturday, April 4th

9am—3:30pm

Where: Local 234 Training Center

Cost: \$25 Refundable Deposit for Completed Class

Contact our Training Director, Ed Sudyka, at (831) 633-3063 to sign up for this class.

Upcoming Code of Excellence Classes

As skilled, qualified, and professional IBEW members, we know we face competition for our work as never before. The Code of Excellence Program was developed to insure that IBEW members retain and grow our opportunities for continued employment and success on the job by increasing our pride and professionalism.

Only by being the best can we insure our standards of living and job security. The Code of Excellence is our commitment to our union and ourselves.

Code of Excellence Classes will be held the third Wednesday of each month.

When: Wednesday, March 18th

5pm-7pm

Where: Local 234 Training Center

Cost: Free to All Members





State of California
 Department of Industrial Relations
 Division of Apprenticeship Standards
www.dir.ca.gov/DAS/ElectricalTrade.htm
 Electrician Certification Program
 Phone (415) 703-4919



RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR ELECTRICIAN CERTIFICATION

Please PRINT in Ink or TYPE

Name: Last _____ Sfx: _____ First: _____ Initial: _____

Name must match U. S. Drivers License or State ID:

Drivers License or State ID #: _____ DL State: _____ Birthdate: ____/____/____
MM DD YYYY

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____ E-Mail: _____

Day Phone: _____ / _____ - _____ Evening Phone: _____ / _____ - _____

Certificate Type: General Electrician Residential Electrician Fire/Life Safety Technician
 Voice Data Video Technician Non-residential Lighting Technician

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please fill in the information above and complete one or both of the sections below – 'ALL Certification Renewals' and, if needed, 'ALSO Required for Renewal of EXPIRED Certification'.
Please fill out a separate renewal application for each category of certification you are renewing. Keep a copy of this signed application for your records. DAS will respond to your application within 30 days of receipt. DAS accepts payment only by check or money order payable to: **DIR – Electrician Certification Fund**. Payment must be included for certification to be renewed. Mail this completed form and payment to:

Division of Apprenticeship Standards
 Attn: Electrician Certification Unit
 PO Box 420603
 San Francisco, CA 94142-0603

ALL Certification Renewals

- Enclose \$100.00 renewal fee. (Required for Valid and Expired Certificates.)
- Check here to verify that you have completed 32 hours of further electrical education from an educational provider relevant to the type of certification being renewed.
(if not, you do not qualify to RENEW your certification).

School Name(s): _____ City: _____
 School Name(s): _____ City: _____
 School Name(s): _____ City: _____
- Check here to verify that you have worked at least 2,000 hours in the industry in the previous 3 years.
(if not, you do not qualify to RENEW your certification).

ALSO Required for Renewal of EXPIRED Certification

- Enclose \$100.00 exam fee to retake examination and check language choice.
 DAS will notify you in writing of the next step.
 Language choice for RENEWAL EXAM: English Spanish

I certify under penalty of perjury that all statements are true and correct.

Original Signature: _____ Date: _____



JATC Training News

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Center

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

Monterey, San Benito, & Santa Cruz Counties

CERTIFICATION RENEWAL HORROR STORIES!

ACTUAL ACCOUNTS of TALES of WOE!

The contractors are serious, and they are not working electricians whose Certification cards have expired. Witness the case of one electrician, who could not attend continuing education classes because he was “unavoidably detained”. When he was finally able to attend classes, his certification renewal date was only 2 weeks away! Since it is recommended that the renewal form be submitted a month prior to the expiration date, he wasn’t able to get his continuing education classes done in time to renew. Now he is unemployed, and waiting to retake the Certification test.

Another electrician I know just kept putting off taking classes. In the “11th hour” he called me up asking if there was anything he could do to get his 32 hours. I couldn’t help him out, and now he is not working either.

Moral of the story? **DON’T DELAY!** Take the continuing education classes you need to be able to **RENEW YOUR CERTIFICATION CARD WELL BEFORE IT EXPIRES!**

Well, the switchboard here at the Training Center has not exactly been flooded with calls from helpful volunteers willing to donate time and effort to make this a better facility, but two JW’s have come by and are working with me to install some hands-on motor control and PLC workstations! I am encouraged by their willingness to help! Call me if you’d like to as well! - Ed, TD



Not new, but **IMPROVING!**

Thanks to apprentices Philippe Miccoli and Jo Trammel (and our Organizing Department!), our training workroom is gaining shelves above the workbenches. Using strut components recycled from the demo’d roof mounted solar photo-voltaic system, under the fresh coat of white paint these shelves are “green”!

Upcoming Journeyman Classes (Certification renewal hours!):

CALL 633-3063 to sign up!

2008 NEC Significant Changes Class

- 33 hours of Continuing Education (all you need in one class!)
- Monday evenings, 5:30 to 8:30
- Begins March 9, goes to May 18
- Instructor David Martinez
- Class deposit: \$40.00

BEST BANG
FOR THE
BUCK!
START SOON!
GET THE
HOURS YOU
NEED AND
COME UP TO
SPEED ON
NEC
CHANGES!

CPR / First Aid renewal class;

Saturday March 21, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (bring lunch)

Cosmi Padilla, Instructor

Class deposit \$35.00

**Solar Photovoltaic Local 11
Traveling Roadshow**

Coming soon for one weekend only here at our own Local 234!

Expected date: May 2009

**NFPA 70E Electrical Safety
Related Work Practices**

Saturday, March 14, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (bring lunch); call for space available.

Cindy Brady, Instructor

\$40.00 class deposit

Hands-on Solar Photovoltaic Class

Mark Rosas, Instructor

Install new solar awning at our Training Center while learning theory and NEC codes that apply to solar photovoltaic installation.

Expected date: Summer 2009

Other classes that may be coming up:

Medium voltage cable splicing

Motors and Motor Controls

OSHA 10 (OSHA 30 for Foreman!)

Cal-Trans Traffic Signal

Call 633-3063

Tell your friends and your relatives: the last day to apply for the upcoming April 2009 Apprenticeship Aptitude test will be March 13, 2009, 8 to 11 or 1 to 4.



Our Thanks to **Debra Bally**

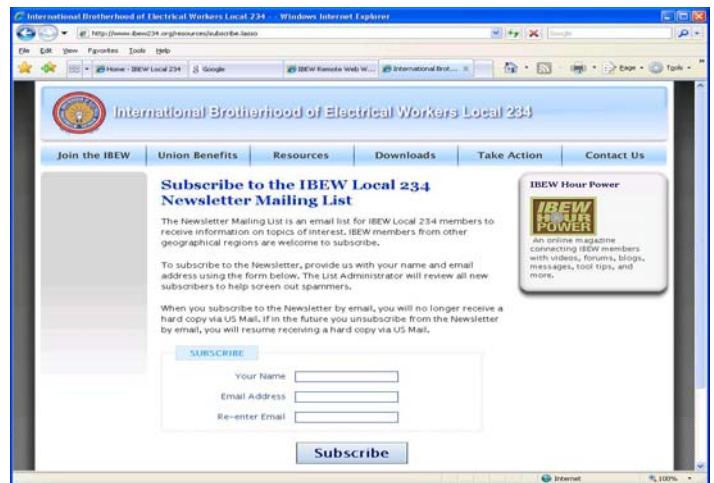
for donating many items from **Larry Bally's** tool chest to our JATC to help in the education of our Apprentices and Journeyman Wireman.

Available to members for cost of \$61.64 per copy, which includes shipping and tax:

Softbound 2008 National Electric Codebooks.

Would you like to receive this newsletter in your email?

We added a subscribe form to our website. The form allows you to add your name and email address to a mailing list. The mailing list sends out the newsletter in an electronic format, or more specifically a PDF version. We'd like to encourage our members to sign up to receive the newsletter online. Sign up today. Go Green! Help us reduce production costs. There is a link under **Downloads, Newsletter** to the subscribe form. Or type <http://www.ibew234.org/resources/subscribe.lasso> into your web browser. Our webpage is located at www.ibew234.org.



Happy March Birthday to the Following Members:

Lyle Abraham Jr
 William F Beauchamp
 Mark Breeding
 Christopher Burditt
 Patrick Cotter
 James Crabtree
 Anthony Davis
 Willie Dietz
 Juan Dominguez
 Erik Dybdahl
 Peggy Evans

Heath Guaracha
 Leroy Hamilton
 Kyle Hirayama
 Michael Holcroft
 Tony Lazaro
 Florentin Lozano
 Michael Martinez
 Mark Maschmeyer
 Gilbert Munoz
 Ronald Rodriguez
 Juan Rodriguez

Mark Rosas
 Ricardo Rubio
 Hermilo Ruiz
 Kenneth Scherpinski
 Aaron Selbicky
 Mario Thomas
 Manuel Valdez



Manage your 9th District Pension Plan

Get the help of a Financial Representative

Wednesday, March 11th Starting at 3pm.



Call Toll-Free
 (800) 654-1485

A Financial Representative will be at the hall to assist anyone with their 9th District Pension plan account. Contact either representative if you would like to set up an appointment. No appointment is necessary.

Mark Foster, LUTCF
 Senior Financial Representative
 (415) 951-0915
foster.mark@principal.com

James Boisse
 Financial Representative
 (415) 951-0915 x208
 (510) 409-2886 cell
boisse.james@principal.com

This Month's Local 234 Winners!

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

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

Bob Dollins won \$17 and donated it back.

Apprentice Give-Away:

Woody Carey won \$23.40.

Give-Away Winners:

Andy Gattis won a Klein 10-in-1 screwdriver.

Stefan Marceron won a backpack.

The next general membership meeting will be
Wednesday, March 11th, 2008 @ 6:30 pm.



IBEW®

... the *right* choice

A wise and frugal government, which shall leave men free to regulate their own pursuits of industry and improvement, and shall not take from the mouth of labor the bread it has earned - this is the sum of good government.

Thomas Jefferson

March 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 LMCC @ 5pm	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Time Begins	9 2008 NEC 5:30-8:30pm	10	11 Union Meeting @ 6:30pm	12	13	14 NFPA 70E Class 9am-4:30pm
15	16 2008 NEC 5:30-8:30pm	17 St. Patrick's Day JATC @ 6pm	18 Code of Excellence @ 5pm	19	20	21 CPR Class 8am-2pm
22 End of Pay Period	23 E-Board @ 6pm 2008 NEC 5:30-8:30pm	24	25 Examining Board @ 5pm	26	27	28
29	30 2008 NEC 5:30-8:30pm	31				

Rally to Build a Better La Bahia

Barry Swenson Builders (BSB) is proposing to build the high-end La Bahia hotel in Santa Cruz. This project was originally approved in 2003. Since then BSB has dramatically increased the height (from 43 feet in 2003 to 90 feet in 2008). The proposed site is where the existing, dilapidated La Bahia is located across from the Boardwalk. Only a small portion of the bell tower will be saved, although the unique La Bahia has historical value and reverence. The "Build a Better La Bahia" community organization urges BSB to design the hotel to be compatible with community values and ordinances, build the hotel with union labor, and offer card check for the employees that will operate the hotel. The "Build a Better La Bahia" is a coalition of organized labor, neighbors, and concerned members of the community. Help us urge Barry Swenson to maximize community benefit and build a better La Bahia.

Santa Cruz City Council Meeting

809 Center St., Santa Cruz

Tuesday, March 31 at 7pm

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

10300 Merritt Street
Castroville, CA 95012



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
IBEW LOCAL 234
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
CASTROVILLE, CA
PERMIT NO. 410

(800) 499-4239
(831) 373-1411
(831) 633-2311 Union
(831) 633-0570 fax
(831) 633-3063 Education & Training
(831) 755-2313 Jobline

thehall@ibew234.org

www.ibew234.org
www.tricountyjatc.org



«field1» «field2» «field3»

«field4»

«field5»