



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

IBEW Local 234

Newsletter

May 2010

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

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

Business Manager's Report by Ken Scherpinski

Are you thinking about retirement? Would you like more information on the process? If you are interested, I would like to hear from you. I will set up a forum for you and your spouse to hear from Benesys about health care, the 9th District Pension Plan, Principal, and an International Representative to explain

NEBF and the Pension Benefit Fund. I would like to set this up in the very near future and need to get an idea of the number interested to provide adequate accommodations. Just call the office and have your name put on the list. This event should provide a lot of valuable information for any member even if your retirement is not in the near future.

The work picture remains slow throughout the state as well as here in our Local. We have had a few calls come in and local members are filling these. Currently we have 49 on Book I and 73 on Book II. Sound and Communications have 3 on Book I and 1 on Book II. Looking forward, there are some work opportunities at the Naval Post Graduate School, Defense Language Institute, UCSC, Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula and Pacific Grove High School. The project for CHOMP is an offsite project slated to be built at the former Fort Ord near 12th Street. In talks with the hospital projects person I was told that the qualified list of electrical contractors consists of union affiliates.

Last month's General Membership meeting attending members approved the disbursement of our last wage allocation for the current contract, which will be in effect until May 2011. Thank you to all the members who showed up and had a say. These types of decisions are always tough and need as many members in the decision making process as possible.

The IBEW has sent me a fact vs. fiction reference sheet on health insurance reform.

FICTION: Because of the new law, employers will be able to cut collective bargained health benefits or require union members to pay more.

FACT: Nothing in the reform bill changes obligations under Federal Law to bargain collectively with the union on mandatory subjects such as health benefits.

FICTION: Health insurance reform will increase premiums.

FACT: The reform will actually lower premiums slightly for group health plans. It will lower costs by reducing cost shifting for uncompensated care for the uninsured.

These are just two examples. If you wish to read the entire document just stop by the hall or drop me an e-mail and I can give you a copy of "FACT vs. FICTION on Health Reform".

As always I wish you and your family well and remind you to be cautious of your surroundings; keep yourself and those around you safe from harm.

Inside Wage

Allocation
of \$2.05
Effective
May 31,
2010



Our Condolences

On the passing of 2nd Year Apprentice, Arturo Herrera. He died on March 12, 2010.

Have You Updated Your Beneficiaries?

When was the last time you updated your beneficiary information? Are you married? Have you remarried? Do you have children? If you want help updating your beneficiaries contact Mira or Sallie at the Hall. Beneficiary information is needed for:

Health & Welfare

Pension (9th District Pension Plan)

International Office (Pension Benefit Fund)

Inside Wage Allocation

At the Union Meeting on April 14th, the membership voted to allocate the Inside wages on **May 31, 2010** as follows:

\$1.72 Wages

\$0.10 Health & Welfare

\$0.19 Pension

\$0.04 JATC

Classification	Hrly Rate	H&W	Pension Fund	Ed. & Training	LMCC	NEBF 3%	AMF 0.75%	Total Hourly
Journeyman	\$41.20	\$9.80	\$9.50	\$0.95	\$0.20	\$1.24	\$0.31	\$63.20

Letter Carriers' Annual Food Drive-May 8

The 18th annual National Association of Letter Carriers National Food Drive to "Stamp Out Hunger" is the largest one-day food drive in the nation. Carriers collected a record 73.4 million pounds of food in last year's drive. The drive is held annually on the second Saturday in May in over 10,000 cities and towns in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and Guam.

Donations will be collected on Saturday May 8th by more than 1,400 local branches of the 295,000-member postal union and delivered to food banks, pantries and shelters that serve the communities where they are collected. Assisting in the effort are rural letter carriers and other postal employees, as well as members of other unions and thousands of civic volunteers.

Persons who have questions about the drive at their location should ask their letter carrier or contact their local post office.

Retirement Seminar

Are you interested in attending a retirement seminar? Are you planning on retiring within a year? Do you have questions about the 9th District Pension Plan, NEBF, or the I.O. Pension Benefit Fund? How about Health & Welfare questions?

If you are interested in attending a seminar geared towards understanding transitioning into retirement, contact the Hall and tell us you're interested. We are tentatively looking at scheduling this seminar for sometime in July or August.

Outstanding Volunteer 2009-2010

Once a year, during National Volunteer Week, the City of Santa Cruz recognizes outstanding volunteers at an awards ceremony with the City Council. This year, on April 13th, the City of Santa Cruz recognized **Erik Dybdahl** and **Andy Hartmann** as "Outstanding Volunteers" by the Parks and Recreation Department. Erik, of Dybdahl Electric, and Andy helped with electrical work at the new Teen Center, which is now located in the Loudon Nelson Community Center.

Congratulations to Erik Dybdahl and Andy Hartmann as "Outstanding Volunteers."

OFFICIAL NOTICE—Nominations and Elections Local Union 234, IBEW

May 2010

The nominations for officers of Local Union 234 will be held on May, 12, 2010, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the local meeting hall located at 10300 Merritt Street, Castroville, CA 95012. Anyone desiring to be nominated must be present during the nominations or provide a written and signed statement that they will accept the nomination. No member may be a candidate for more than one (1) office. Anyone nominated to more than one office must choose the office for which they will be a candidate.

Nominations will proceed in the order of offices as listed in the IBEW Constitution whose term of office shall be three (3) years:

President

Vice President

Recording Secretary

Financial Secretary/Business Manager and Delegate to International Convention

Treasurer

Executive Board (4 positions)

Examining Board (5 positions)

Alternate Delegate to International Convention



In order to be nominated, a member must have a minimum of two (2) years of continuous good standing in Local Union 234. Good standing means that the member is current in the payment of dues and has been for the two (2) years preceding the nominations.

An election judge and tellers will be appointed at the close of nominations. None of these may be a candidate for any office.

The election shall be conducted by mail ballot, and ballots shall be counted beginning at 10:30 a.m. on June 19, 2010. All members in good standing shall be mailed a ballot not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the above-specified date. Ballots received after the close of business on June 18, 2010 will not be counted. Instructions on the use of the mail ballot will be enclosed with the ballot.

Candidates shall be entitled to an observer at the polling place and during the counting of the ballots. Observers may not interfere with the orderly procedure of the election. There shall be no campaigning or electioneering at the polls or within fifty (50) feet from the entrance to the polling place. No postings except for instructions shall be permitted at the polling place.

In the event a runoff election is required, same shall be held on July 10, 2010. The same rules shall apply to the runoff election as were applicable to the regular election. Members who requested an absentee ballot for the regular election will automatically receive same for the runoff.

All officers shall be installed and begin their three (3) year terms at the regular meeting of the local union on July 14, 2010.

Any member who believes a protest of the election is warranted during the conduct of the election is urged to contact the election judge. Further protests of the election may be filed in writing with the International Vice President of the district within thirty (30) days following the election. The decision of the International Vice President shall conclude the processing of a protest within the IBEW. In the event the protesting member is not satisfied with the decision of the International Vice President, the member may submit his/her protest to the U.S. Department of Labor.



JATC Training News

By Ed Sudyka

Joint Apprenticeship and Training Center

Ed Sudyka, Training Director
Debra Frame, Admin. Asst.
831.633.3063 office
831.633.3068 fax
trainingibew234@sbcglobal.net

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

FREE SEMINAR! Thursday May 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Understanding the Impact of the 2007 CBC on Seismic Bracing

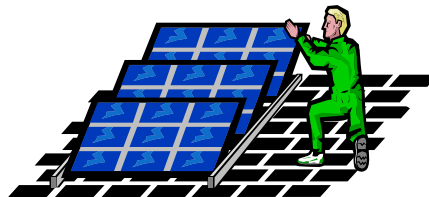


Presented by Jon Gregg, P.E. of ISAT, this seminar will teach you how the changes to the 2007 California Building Code (CBC) will impact the way you design and install seismic bracing systems for your conduit runs and pipe racks. Don't miss this informative event! One night only! Thursday, May 20 at 5:30 p.m.

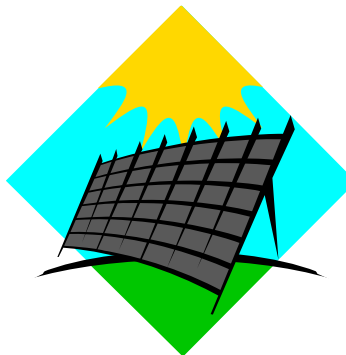


California Solar Training and Certification

Saturday, May 22 at 8am will be the next opportunity to take the certification preparation and testing class for those of you who attended one of the IBEW Local 11 Solar PV traveling roadshows. A study guide will be sent to you prior to the class to help refresh your memory regarding some of the solar principles that you may be tested on.



Class will be limited to 35 students. Apprentices who would like to take this class may do so. Their status as "Certified California IBEW Solar PV Installer" will not go into effect until they turn out as a Journeyman wireman, however. So call today and reserve your seat so that we can get that Study Guide sent out your way! This class will be offered again at least once in the summer time.



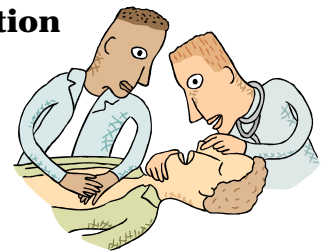
CPR

Recertification

MAY 22

Saturday

8 a.m.

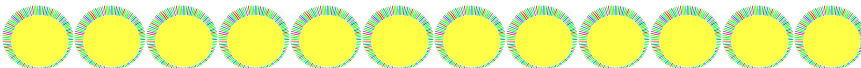


A few spots are left on the sign up sheet for this class! If you need your CPR/First Aid Certification renewed, you better call 633-3063!

A **volunteer** is needed to present info about our electrical apprenticeship program to **E.A. Hall**

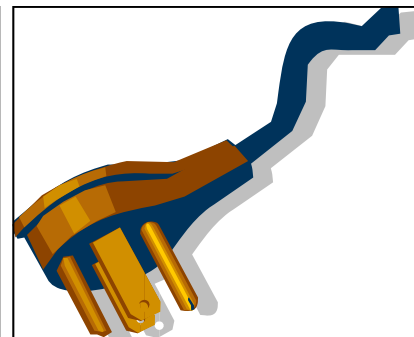


Middle School in Watsonville on **Thursday, May 27** from 9:30 to 11 a.m. If you're concerned about the future of our youth, this could be your chance to open their eyes to a way to make money while getting an education!



Class sign up Update

Have you signed up for a class? Are you wondering how many others have signed up and when **IS** that class ever going to start? Check out this list of some of our “advertised” classes and how many folks have signed up expressing an interest in the class:



CONGRATULATIONS!

To our apprentices who are just about to finish another year of classes!

Special thanks to our apprenticeship teachers for their time and dedication:

**Joe Baxter 2nd yr;
Mark Rosas 3rd yr;
Jimmie Moore 4th yr
and Mike Ihnot 5th yr.**

There was no 1st year class, so 1st year instructor Derek Webster had to sit in the bullpen this year.

Enjoy your well deserved summer break!

Class Title	Signed up
CALCTP (California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program)	7
Energy Audit Class	4
2008 Significant Changes to the NEC	1
NEC Code Calculations	9
Motors	Lots of folks!
Basic Motor Control	1
Advanced Motor Control	4
OSHA 10	5
OSHPD Training	13
Programmable Controls	4
Transformers	5
VFD's	Lot's of folks!

So what's that all mean? If the class is going to require a paid instructor, our JATC wants to have at least 10 JW's signed up before they will put on that JW upgrade class. I'll be sending letters out to you who have signed up for the VFD's, the Motors, the NEC Code Calculations and the OSHPD Training Classes to see if you're still interested in getting into one of those classes. I'll also ask you if scheduling it during the summer is going to work for you. If I get a commitment from at least 10 of you, I'll try and get the class on the schedule, and I'll let you know when it will be starting.

Coming up in June: Grounding and Bonding Separately Derived Systems

When wiring up a transformer, have you ever felt confused about where to bond the grounding conductor and the neutral? This class will clear that up! This will be a one evening class taught by Electrical Inspector and Union Brother Mike Stone. Take the mystery away from this important topic.. Be there! Monday, June 7 at 6 p.m.

Service Pin Awards

There are Service Pins that were not received by members at our annual picnic. They are still available for pickup at the Hall. If you see your name on the list, ask about your pin the next time you are in our office.

5 Years

Jonathan Goddard
Joshua Bailey

10 Years

Jose Moncada
Richard Tanaka
Bryon Borchard
Mario Vera
Greg Miller
Daniel Naranjo

Mateo Ceralde
Charles Schlesinger
Joe Ortiz
Michael Higueta
Rebecca Trescott

15 Years

John Ketchum
John Dacey
Pete Marsiguerra

20 Years

Larry Wendell
George Mellone

30 Years

Phil Zobel

35 Years

James Shumaker
Stephen Gilbert
Gary Schumacher

40 Years

Harry Deupser
David Fisher

45 Years

Marvin Swaites
James Keen

Go Green with e-Edition!



Sign up today to receive this newsletter as a PDF email attachment. Go Green! Help us reduce our production costs and be "green." Our webpage is located at www.ibew234.org. There is a link under **Downloads, Newsletter** to the subscribe form.

Also, if you would like to electronically receive your **birthday card** or a **notice that your dues are late**, let us know by calling the Hall and talking with either Mira or Sallie.

Manage Your 9th District Pension Plan

Get the help of a Financial Representative

Wednesday, May 26, 3-6pm



Call Toll-Free
(800) 654-1485

James Boisse, a Financial Representative with Principal, will be at the Hall to assist with your 9th District Pension plan account. Contact him if you would like to set up an appointment; however, no appointment is necessary.

James Boisse
Development Director
(510) 409-2886

boisse.james@principal.com
www.principal.com/centralcalifornia

Happy May Birthday to:



Raymond Adams
Francisco Aldape Jr
Clint Byrum
Paul Chapin
Laurie Clark
Adam Cullers
Terry Currence
Craig Eddy
Alexander Elliott
David Espinoza
Gary Fenn
Michael Freeman
Fount Hanson

Glenn Hanson
Kasey Jeska
Alvin Keller
John Ketchum
Robert Kirby
Leo Lotz
James McGee II
Jimmie Moore
Jose Munoz
David Novarina
John O'leary
Omar Padilla
Jose Parra

Charles Perkins
Kevin Pitts
Walter Regnier
Gary Riggs
Richard Roach
Joey Rogers
Tom Sims
Richard Tanaka
Robert Tangonan
Jimmy Vandeusen
Bernie Wall
Richard Zeman

This Month's Local 234 Winners!

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

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

Chris Kiner won \$10.

Apprentice Give-Away:

Raymond Sykes II won \$23.40.

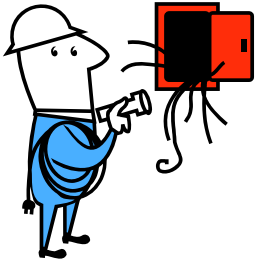
Give-Away Winners:

Chris Kiner won a t-shirt donated by Dave Karalius.

Andy Gattis won a blue Klein tool bag.

Dave Butters won an IBEW t-shirt.

The next general membership meeting will be



Wednesday, May 12th, 2010
@ 6:30 pm



The history of the labor movements needs to be taught in every school in this land. America is a living testimonial to what free men and women, organized in free democratic trade unions can do to make a better life. ... We ought to be proud of it!

Vice President Hubert Horatio Humphrey, Jr. (1865-1969), Lyndon Johnson Administration

May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8 NALC Food Drive
9 Mother's Day	10	11 LMCC @ 4pm	12 Union Meeting @ 6:30pm	13	14	15 Castroville Artichoke Festival
16 Castroville Artichoke Festival	17	18 JATC @ 5pm	19	20 Seismic Seminar @ 5:30pm	21	22 CPR and Solar Certification
23 End of Pay Period	24	25	26 Executive Board @ 6pm	27	28 Inside Off Day	29
30	31 Holiday Memorial Day					Page 7

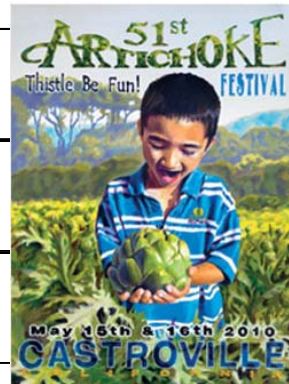
Organizing Update by Paul Gutierrez and Andy Hartmann

A lot of what we're doing these days is Labor Compliance. Labor Compliance is performed on Prevailing Wage jobs. Prevailing Wage jobs are projects that are funded either in part or in whole from government sources, i.e., federal, state, or local. Prevailing Wage jobs have a lot of requirements. Not all contractors on Prevailing Wage jobs know about the requirements and/or adhere to them. That is where Labor Compliance comes in. We monitor jobs to make sure workers are classified properly (that unskilled workers aren't doing electrical work), workers are paid properly, and Electricians are Certified. In addition, Apprentices are required to be employed one hour for every five hours of a journeyman. In other words, one fifth of the hours on a job need to be Apprentice hours. Also, Training Fund contributions, currently at \$0.91 for the Inside, have to be paid on behalf of the workers on the project.

With the economy in its current state, we are finding a lot of contractors on Prevailing Wage projects that previously did not perform this type of work. Hence, they tend to undercut the legitimate contractors and are not meeting all of the Prevailing Wage requirements. We are seeing rampant misclassification, underpayment, non-Certification, not employing Apprentices, and not paying Training Fund contributions, in addition to not filing the proper paper work associated with Prevailing Wage projects.

Once we become aware of the violations, we file a report with either the Division of Labor Standards and Enforcement (DLSE) or the Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) for enforcement and penalties. Sometimes other agencies such as the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) and the California Department of Insurance are contacted as well.

<p>IBEW Local 234 Nominations for Officers Wednesday, May 12 at 6:30pm</p>
<p>Volunteers Needed! For Artichoke Festival May 15 & 16 Contact Ken for details (831) 594-0860</p>
<p>Inside Wage Allocation of \$2.05 Effective May 31, 2010</p>



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
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 CASTROVILLE, CA
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«field1» «field2» «field3»
 «field4»
 «field5»