



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

# IBEW Local 234 Newsletter

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

May 2019

## Local 234 Officers:



Andy Hartmann  
**Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary**

Mike Ihnot  
**President**

Al Randall  
**Vice President**

Nick Prelgovisk  
**Treasurer**

Stephen Slovacek  
**Recording Secretary**

Lamont Adams  
Andy Gattis  
Rick Keaton  
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, 11 on Book 2, 4 on Book 3, and 6 on Book 4. There is 1 on Book 3 for Sound & Comm. There are 5 on CW Book 1 and 57 on CW Book 2. We have 1 Inside apprentice out-of-work.

I'm sad to report there was another serious accident on one of our jobsites. The accident involved a traveling brother. He came in contact with DC voltage on a large solar project. The brother was airlifted to a nearby burn

unit. Fortunately, it appears he will be alright, with a full recovery expected, despite the severe pain and trauma of the experience. Be certain to work safe on the jobsite, not only for yourself, but your fellow workers. Let's all go home safe and sound at the end of each day.

We just wrapped up the annual Christopher Burditt Memorial Scholarship. Each year we partner with the Burditt family to award one \$1,000 scholarship to graduating high school students in each of our three counties. Scholarship are due in March each year. This year the scholarship winner for Monterey County was **Crystelle Vargas** and for Santa Cruz County was **Nicholas Panzardi**. Unfortunately, there were no essays submitted for San Benito County. The Scholarship Committee also decided to give \$500 each to Maleny Ruiz (Monterey County) and Shane Baxter (Santa Cruz County) as runners-up.

On **Saturday, March 30th** the Local hosted a blood drive for the American Red Cross. 22 units of blood were collected that day from 20 donors. We anticipated

collecting only 19, so we did better than expected! We have been holding a blood drive for the American Red Cross at the Hall each March for the past three years.

The new, updated Bylaws for Local 234 have been printed and received. Copies are available at the Hall if you would like to pick one up. The cover of this edition is periwinkle blue.

Brother Manuel Valdez recently resigned from the LMCC. Brother Valdez had been serving on the LMCC since May of 2012. I want to thank him for his dedicated service to Local 234. President Mike Ihnot has appointed Lamont Adams to replace Manuel on the LMCC.

Remember to save your receipts whenever using your Benny Card. Those on the Inside Plan, can check the balance of their card at [my.wexhealthcard.com](http://my.wexhealthcard.com). Around April 1st all of the active members on the Inside Health & Welfare Plan received an annual bonus of \$0.50 an hour based upon the 2018 hours reported.

Local 234 will be hosting a retirement seminar on **Saturday, May 11th**. RSVP for the event as space is limited. Call the Hall at (831) 633-2311 for details. If you aren't able to make this seminar don't worry there will be other opportunities.

Graduation for our apprentices is fast approaching. This year we will have (6) Inside graduates and (1) Sound & Comm graduate. Graduation will be held on **Friday, May 24th** at the Monterey Tides Hotel in Monterey. Congratulations to this year's graduates: **David Durbin** (Inside), **Sabyn Cupples** (Inside), **Ivan Garcia-Ponce** (Inside), **Michael Gruber** (Inside), **Andres Laureano** (Inside), **Adrian Mendoza** (S&C), and **Patrick Ortiz** (Inside). Congratulations graduates!

**Friday, May 24th** is a Floating Holiday for the Inside and CECWs. **Monday, May 27th** is Memorial Day and a Holiday for the Inside, S&C, and CECWs.

## OFFICIAL NOTICE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS LOCAL UNION 234, IBEW®

The nominations for officers of Local Union 234 will be held on May 8, 2019, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the local meeting hall located at 10300 Merritt Street in Castroville. 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)**

**Delegate to International Convention**

**Alternate Delegate to International Convention (2 positions)**

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.

No apprentice shall be eligible to hold office in the Local Union, except that a member who was previously eligible to hold office in the Local Union shall remain eligible if he/she entered an apprenticeship program for the purpose of upgrading his/her classification.

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 22, 2019. 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 21, 2019, 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 13, 2019. The same rules shall apply to the runoff election as were applicable to the regular election.

All officers shall be installed and begin their three (3) year term at the regular meeting of the local union on July 10, 2019.

**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 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.**

## Note from Treasurer Nick Prelgovisk

May 2019

Hey Brother's and Sister's, Nick Prelgovisk reaching out to you. I want to let you know what's really up at 'OUR Local 234 Hall'. Currently, we have a couple of members that are carrying the brunt of the Hall's activities on their shoulders. I'm talking about Stephen Slovacek and Mike Ihnot. These gentleman are retired but continue to serve to the betterment of LU 234. I may be "stepping on their toe's" and speaking for them BUT IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO STEP UP and give back to our LOCAL. I have the utmost appreciation for their continuing work and I know they love what they do. But it's time to drop some of their hats (roles) and LU 234 needs peeps to pick them up and participate. Let these guys enjoy their retirement and not be so strapped to the workings of the Hall.

Do you feel like you have a " job " or "career" in the Electrical field? If you feel it's a career then take the reins and direct how you want your future to play out. I like the old adage, "more hands make lighter work."

Give back a couple hours a month and we will continue to drive forward. If you want your career to continue that's what needs to be done. Yes, it's hard to do and can seem burdensome. But "OUR" LU is a day to day business as well.

Props for all that are currently providing their time to the Hall. The volunteers, elected, and the staff continue to be glue for our Local but are getting stretched thin.

## ibew234.org

The Local's website has recently been updated. The new version is mobile friendly. Check it out at [www.ibew234.org](https://www.ibew234.org).

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the IBEW Local 234 website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://ibew234.org>. The website has a blue header with navigation links: MEMBER RESOURCES, CONTRACTOR RESOURCES, CALENDARS, and CONTACT US. Below the header is the IBEW Local Union 234 logo, which includes the text "MONTEREY • SANTA CRUZ • SAN BENITO COUNTY" and "IBEW LOCAL UNION 234". To the right of the logo is a secondary navigation menu with links: ABOUT, JOIN, UNION BENEFITS, TAKE ACTION, CONTRACTORS, and NEWS. The "UNION BENEFITS" link is expanded, showing a dropdown menu with options: HEALTH AND WELFARE PLAN, RETIREMENT, and WORKERS COMPENSATION. The main content area features a large blue background with a white text box that reads: "MEMBERS" in large white letters, followed by a paragraph: "IBEW Local 234 provides highly skilled and highly trained electrical worker journeymen and apprentices to our signatory contractors throughout Monterey, San Benito and Santa Cruz counties. We are committed to helping our members prosper by providing them with opportunities to work for our signatory contractors, who want to employ the region's most efficient, experienced and safest workforce." Below this text are three red buttons with white text: "UNION BENEFITS", "SIGN-IN & RESIGN", and "PAY DUES ONLINE". The browser's address bar at the bottom shows the URL <https://ibew234.org/union-benefits/>.

## Tri-County Electrical JATC Training News

(831) 633-3063

### Foreman Development Series Class

**Foreman class**, taught by Instructor Stephen Slovacek, is scheduled for **Mondays, May 6th (Safety) and 20th (Communication) from 5:30-8:30pm**. You are welcome to attend one class or as many as you like in this series, each class is a different topic. This is a (3) hour class.

### CPR/First Aid Certification Class

A **CPR/First Aid class** is scheduled for **Saturday, May 18th from 8am-1pm**. Instructor Merralinda Goddard will be teaching the basics of First Aid and CPR. 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, May 21st at 5:30pm**.

### CALCTP Class

**California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program (CALCTP)** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. This class is a total of 50 hours: 10 hours of lecture and 40 hours of lab. The class schedule will be coordinated with those in attendance.

YOU MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF COMPLETING THE ONLINE COURSE PRIOR TO THE FIRST CLASS. Email your proof to [stacy@tricityjatic.org](mailto:stacy@tricityjatic.org). Students will not be allowed to attend the class if they have not completed the online coursework. Go to [bit.ly/IBEW234CALCTP](http://bit.ly/IBEW234CALCTP) to get started today.

There is a \$125 stipend available upon successful completion provided by the Monterey Bay LMCC.

### CALCTP-AT Class

**California Advanced Lighting Controls Training Program-Acceptance Testing (CALCTP-AT)** with Instructor Stephen Slovacek. This class is a total of 32 hours. The class schedule will be coordinated with those in attendance.

The prerequisite for this class is completion of the 50 hour CALCTP. An application form must be completed prior to starting class. To register for this class there is a \$225 application/record maintenance fee. Go online to [goo.gl/qkW7AI](http://goo.gl/qkW7AI) to complete an application and pay the application/record maintenance fee.

There is a \$125 stipend available upon successful completion provided by the Monterey Bay LMCC.



# Congratulations on Completing Class

May 2019

## Foreman Development Series (04/08/19)

Mark Hiura, John Agra, Jacob Taylor, John Greene, Randyn Trybom, and BJ Heading

## Significant Changes to the 2017 NEC (04/16/19)

John Agra, Jim Shumaker, Mark Hiura, and Randyn Trybom

## CPR / First Aid (04/20/19)

Ivan Garcia, Michael Mangrum, Zach Moore, Regi Ramirez, Jim Shumaker, Justin Soto, Michael Steel, AJ Todd, and Randyn Trybom

## Foreman Development Series (04/22/19)

Randyn Trybom, John Greene, Jacob Taylor, Chris Olsen, Ulises Mendoza, John Aguilar, and Andy Hartmann

## 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 **May 2019** the JATC has chosen to recognize:

### **5th-year: Andres Laureano**

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.



## Donate To The JATC When You Shop

Shop at **AmazonSmile** when you shop at Amazon. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the Tri-County Electrical JATC. Start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7114317](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7114317) The Tri-County Electrical JATC is a non-profit 501 (c)3.



## Financial Literacy for Construction Workers

Do you have a budget? Having a budget is a good idea and can lead to financial well-being. When planning a budget you should pay your expenses first, set aside money for savings, pay down any debt, and set money aside for fun. What expenses do you have? Both fixed and variable. What surprises can you plan for? Unexpected car repairs is an example. What's your weekly income? Have you reviewed your paycheck recently for accuracy? Your income should exceed your expenses otherwise you'll end up in debt. A great way to save is to have money automatically deducted from your account and put into a savings account. When it's automatically deducted, it makes it super easy and you don't risk the chance of spending the money on something else. When saving a good rule of thumb is to set aside 3-6 months of your income. This is a great rule for those of us in construction, which tends to be cyclical in nature. Saving is difficult and challenging for most people. If you can start saving as little as \$10 a week, that can add up over time.

Do you use credit cards? How much is your balance on each card? Do you pay off the amount each month in order to avoid interest and fees? If not you might consider NOT using a credit card. Credit cards can be convenient but can lead to easy spending. Even the little things, like a cup of coffee each day, can add up over time. Avoid credit cards that charge an annual fee.

When was the last time you checked your credit score? A FICO score can be between 300 and 850. Higher than 690 is what you should aim for. The number one factor in having a good credit score is paying your bills on-time.

## S&C Save the Date

Educational Workshop for:

Sound & Communication Members, Residential Members, Material Handler Members, and Duct Handler Members

Date: **Saturday, June 15, 2019**

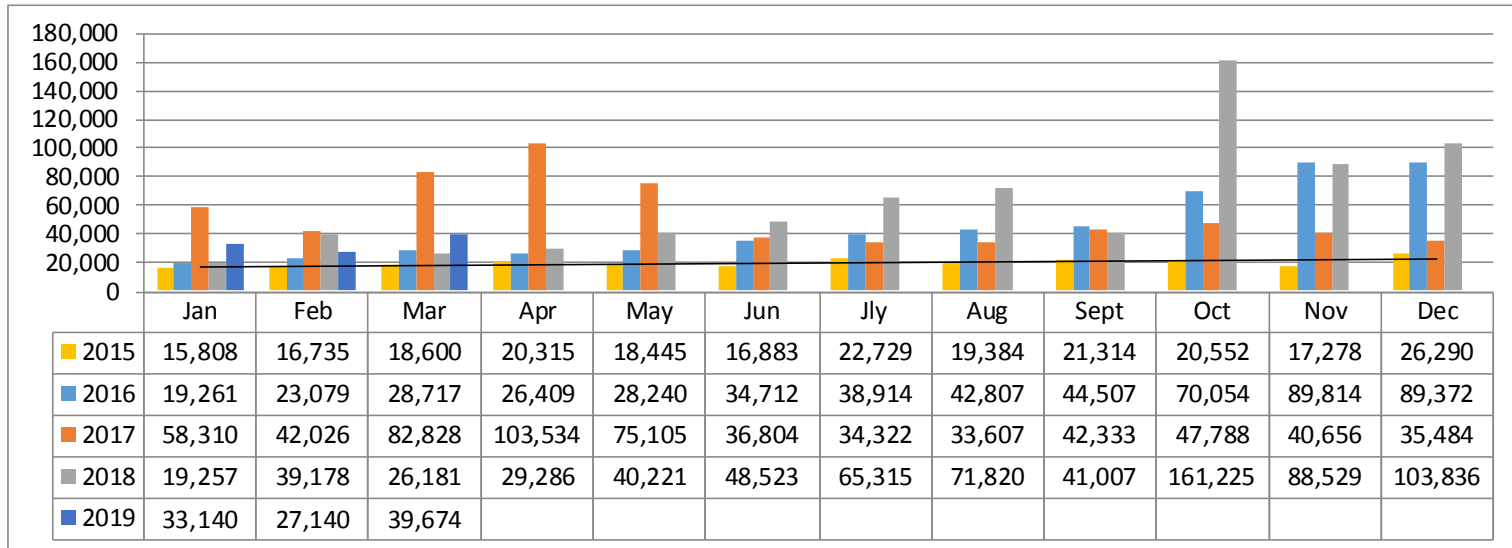
Time: **9am to Noon**

Location: **NORCAL JATC**  
3033 Alvarado Street  
San Leandro, CA 94577

Classes will include information on Health & Welfare, HRA, Short Term Disability, District 9 Pension, NEBF, Social Security and more!

FREE LUNCH INCLUDED, more details soon!

## Monthly Hours Report



## Happy May Birthdays!

Francisco Aldape, Jr.  
Jose Amezcua  
Jose Armenta, Jr  
Trinidad Avila  
Issac Azua, Sr  
Clint Byrum  
Jorge Castanon  
Paul Chapin  
Laurie Clark  
Carolina Cruz  
Adam Cullers  
Terry Currence  
Michael Delgado  
Dupree Demery  
Alexander Elliott  
David Espinoza  
Gary Fenn  
Guadalupe Ferrer

Michael Freeman  
Marcus Gaeta  
Jose Garcia, Jr  
Javier Gervacio  
Fount Hanson  
Glenn Hanson  
Manuel Ibarra  
Kasey Jeska  
Alvin Keller  
Beau Kelly  
Robert Kirby  
Robert Langley  
Cristian Leon  
Leo Lotz  
Felix Mabelo  
James McGee, II  
Jose Munoz  
David Novarina

John O'leary  
Federico Ortega  
Omar Padilla  
Alexander Palmer  
Charles Perkins  
Kevin Pitts  
Irlisis Rodriguez  
Tirrel Sain  
Rafael Sanchez, Jr  
Tom Sims  
Robert Tangonan  
Will Thompson  
Victor Trujillo  
Bernie Wall  
Steven Wells  
Richard Zeman



## This Month's Local 234 Winners!

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

### Voluntary PAC (Political Action Committee):

Ronnie Lance won \$5 and donated it back.

### Apprentice Give-Away:

Cody Mahler won \$23.40.

### Give-Away Winners:

Ivan Garcia-Ponce won a mini-camera donated by Gale Michalek.

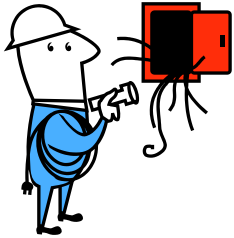
James Stanchfield won a Platt travel mug.

Cody Mahler won soccer tickets donated by James Stanchfield.

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

**Wednesday, May 8th, 2019**

**@ 6:30 pm**



## Quote of the Month

*"Don't walk behind me; I may not lead. Don't walk in front of me; I may not follow. Just walk beside me and be my friend."*

- Albert Camus

# May 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 MAY DAY	2	3	4
5	6 Foreman @ 5:30pm	7	8 Membership Meeting @ 6:30pm	9	10	11
12 MOTHER'S DAY	13	14	15	16	17	18 CPR @ 8am
19	20 Foreman @ 5:30pm	21 JATC @ 5pm Significant Changes @ 5:30pm	22 Executive Board @ 6pm	23	24 FLOATING HOLIDAY	25
26	27 HOLIDAY MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31	



# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234



NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
IBEW LOCAL 234  
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## **IBEW Local 234**

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Castroville, CA 95012

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

(800) 499-4239

(831) 633-2311

(831) 633-0570 fax

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

(831) 633-JOBS (5627)

Jobline

## **Tri-County Electrical JATC**

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

(831) 633-3063

(831) 633-3068 fax

[info@tricountyjatc.org](mailto:info@tricountyjatc.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

