



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234

# IBEW Local 234 Newsletter

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

January 2020

## Local 234 Officers:



Lamont Adams  
**Business Manager/  
Financial Secretary**

Mike Ihnot  
**President**

Al Randall  
**Vice President**

Nick Prelgovisk  
**Treasurer**

Stephen Slovacek  
**Recording Secretary**

John Agra  
Andy Gattis  
Trudi Teller  
Ryan Porter  
**Executive Board**

## Business Manager's Report by Lamont Adams

Sisters and Brothers,

On the Inside out-of-work list we have 13 on Book 1, 20 on Book 2, 9 on Book 3, and 2 on Book 4. There is 0 on Book 1 for Sound & Comm, 0 on Book 2, 0 on Book 3, and 0 on book 4. There is 1 on CW Book 1 and 6 on CW Book 2. There are 2 Inside apprentices on the out-of-work list.

Your "Basic" dues (the dues you pay in monthly increments to the Hall) will increase on **January 1, 2020**. "A" members Basic Dues will increase to \$42 per

month. "BA" members will increase to \$23 per month. This is in accordance with the 39th IBEW International Convention where several amendments were approved to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution. Remember to update your bank account if you have automatic bill payments sent to the Hall.

The JATC will be looking for a new Training Administrator. Stacy Rubalcava has decided to move on to other opportunities. We want to thank her for the 8 years of dedication to the JATC. She will be missed.

California will ring in 2020 with hundreds of new state laws addressing a range of issues. Assembly Bill 5 (AB 5) will go into effect and may impact whether workers are treated as employees or as independent contractors. California's minimum wage will increase to \$13.00/ hour for businesses with 26 or more employees. For businesses with 25 or fewer employees, the minimum wage will increase to \$12.00/ hour. It will increase every year until the minimum wage is \$15.00/ hour for all employees in 2023. The I.R.S. standard for mileage rates will increase to \$0.575 per mile.

Congratulations to Jaime Hernandez, a 3rd year apprentice. He won \$234 at the December General Membership meeting. For every meeting that is attended members put their name in for a drawing. The drawing happens at the December meeting. The prize is \$234. You must be present to win.

I want to thank everyone who donated non perishable food and money for the annual holiday food drive. We raised over \$1400 and 15 pounds of food for The Food Bank for Monterey County. The 3rd year apprentice class won with the largest donation. They will receive a pizza party for their generosity.

The Moss Landing Power Plant battery backup project has begun. There have been delays, but the first calls for journeyman and apprentices were for January 2nd. We look forward to providing the manpower for this historic project. I want to remind everyone of our CODE of Excellence Program. Through the CODE of Excellence Program we, as IBEW members, insure that our jobs meet the highest standards, including:

- ◆ The safest possible workplace,
- ◆ The ultimate quality and quantity of work,
- ◆ Unsurpassed work skills, and
- ◆ The safest work methods

**Wednesday, January 1, 2020** is New Year's Day and a Holiday for the Inside, S&C, and CECWs. **Monday, January 20, 2020** is Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday and a Holiday for the Inside, S&C, and CECWs.

Happy New Year to you and your families. May this year bring you happiness, prosperity and good health. Happy 2020!





## Prevention With Little Steps by Rasha Aniag

In the spirit of the Holidays, I would like to express gratitude for all the help from the union and the kindness of the members.

After speaking to a number of members, I have gathered that many do not have time to themselves. On average, the day starts at 5am, rushing to get ready, beat traffic, and maybe pick something quick for breakfast on the way. Then at work, some heavy lifting, maybe sometime for quick lunch, again at a fast food place, then drive through traffic exhausted from work and do the same thing all over again. Choices for food are probably fast food and exercise is sometimes non-existent.

For this season, I would like to share the gift of self-care. Ultimately the quality of health derives from what you eat, your activity level, but most of all, how you handle stress. Since time is precious, I would like to highly encourage making each meal meaningful. Made your plate colorful. Start your day with "overnight-oatmeal" that you can grab-and-go with some fruit. For lunch try adding greens and try making carrot fries to your favorite meal.

For managing stress, master your own thoughts and emotions. Learn some breath exercises.

Here are some apps you can download on your smart phone to help you get started:

"Headspace"

"Calm"

"Stretching exercises-flexible training"

"Food educate"

"Meal IQ"

Hope your holidays are filled with joy, love, and doing things that make you feel good about yourself. Your health is your wealth!

To contact Rasha Aniag, MSN BSN RN:

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

**(831) 731-0460 cell**

**(831) 508-9969 fax**

## 2019 Dues Payments

The Union Hall will not be mailing out the Statement of Dues and Assessments paid in 2019 in a mass mailing. We are happy to mail or e-mail your statement to you upon request.

Please feel free to contact Local 234 at :

(831) 633-2311

or via e-mail at: [thehall@ibew234.org](mailto:thehall@ibew234.org)

If you would like to receive your statement.

# Union Dues Increase for 2020

January 2020

Your “**Basic**” dues (the dues you pay in monthly increments to the Hall) will increase on **January 1, 2020**. “**A**” members Basic Dues will increase to **\$42** per month. “**BA**” members will increase to **\$23** per month. This is in accordance with the 39th IBEW International Convention where several amendments were approved to Article IX of the IBEW Constitution.

**Remember to update your bank account if you have automatic bill payments sent to the Hall.**

## Are You Registered to Vote? Go to [goo.gl/XF1FBd](https://goo.gl/XF1FBd)

**Are you registered to vote in California? Or have you moved recently and need to update your address?**

To register to vote in California, you must be:

- A United States citizen,
- A resident of California,
- 18 years of age or older on Election Day,
- Not currently imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony (for more information on the rights of people who have been incarcerated, please see the Secretary of State's Voting Rights for Californians with Criminal Convictions or Detained in Jail or Prison), and
- Not found by a court to be mentally incompetent.

The deadline to register to vote for any election is 15 days before Election Day, so be certain to register early! Register to vote online with the California Secretary of State Alex Padilla at [goo.gl/XF1FBd](https://goo.gl/XF1FBd)

## IBEW Local 234 Political Action Committee

The **IBEW Local 234 Political Action Committee (PAC)** operates to enhance our ability to participate in the political process which has an affect on our members, the electrical and construction industry, and our communities. The goal is to support candidates and measures that help our cause and better our families and communities. Members who do not wish to have their dues money directed to the PAC may opt out of contributing money by notifying the IBEW Local 234 PAC in writing or by phoning the Hall at (831) 633-2311. Opt-outs will remain in effect until revoked by the member.

Currently the PAC contribution rate is **\$2 per member per month**.

## Safety Corner

This month's Safety Tip: Basic Electrical safety on the job.

No worker should ever assume equipment is de-energized.

- ◆ Always “test before you touch.”
- ◆ Identify all possible energy sources that could pose on-the-job hazards.
- ◆ Know and follow safety requirements.
- ◆ Select proper personal protection equipment: hard hats, gloves, goggles, safety shoes, and flame resistant shirts and pants.
- ◆ Use lockout/tagout procedures
- ◆ Make sure test equipment is working before and after use.
- ◆ If at any time the job becomes more hazardous than anticipated, stop and revise your plan.

# Tri-County Electrical JATC Training News

(831) 633-3063



## OSHA 30

Demonstrate your commitment to workplace safety and compliance with OSHA 30. OSHA 30, with Instructor Stephen Slovacek, is scheduled for **Saturday, January 25th from 8am—4pm**. The complete class schedule will be shared on the first night of class. Call the JATC at (831) 633-3063 to reserve your place.

This is a stand-alone OSHA 30 course. It does not matter when you last completed OSHA 10.

## 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! The next class is scheduled for **Tuesday, January 21st from 5:30pm—8:30 pm**

You are welcome to attend one class or as many as you like in this series. This is a (3) three hour class.

## Foreman Development Series Class

**Foreman class**, taught by Instructor Stephen Slovacek, is scheduled for **Monday, January 27th 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.

## Congratulations on Completing Class

**CPR / First Aid** on 12/07/19

Erik Fritz, Rick Keaton, Ron Keaton, Jose Moncada, Chad Vargas, and Crystelle Vargas

**Significant Changes** on 12/17/19

Israel Andrade, Erik Fritz, Mark Hiura



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

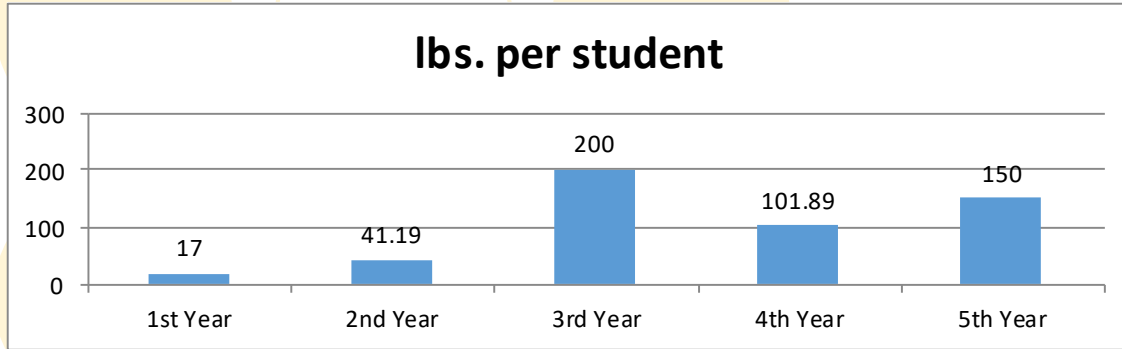
**1st-year: Kaimana Bright**

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



## Holiday Food Drive Results

January 2020



The Monterey Bay Area Labor-Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC) has generously agreed to again sponsor the apprenticeship class that brings in the most donations for the Holiday Food Drive for The Monterey County Food Bank with a pizza dinner. Pounds of food were calculated as meals as a percentage of each class. Each dollar donated counted as four meals. Each pound of food is equal to one meal.

This year the winning class of the Holiday Food Drive was again Stephen Slovacek's 3rd year class with the equivalent of 2,400 meals. Overall we donated \$1,485.00 and 15 pounds of food. Congratulations and thank you all for supporting the Food Bank for Monterey County.

## California State Certification Renewals

Have you recently renewed your Electrician Certification? Do you know when your certification expires? Notify the Hall of your new expiration date and certification number. Also, pick up any forms you need at the Hall or request copies of Class Completion Certificates to provide proof of education. If you are renewing your Electrician Certification prior to your certification expiring, you will need to have 2,000 hours of work in the industry in the past three years and have completed 32 hours of continuing education from an approved educational provider, like the JATC. You will then need to submit your [Renewal Application](#) with proof of your 32 hours and payment of \$100. As always, call the Hall or call Stacy with the Training Center if you have any questions.

## Donate To The JATC When You Shop Amazon

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. Donations are tax-deductible.

## Get Paid to Take Classes

Our LMCC incentivizes members to take classes. Members have an opportunity to win two \$100 gift cards. Two gift cards are awarded quarterly. The first \$100 gift card is awarded to the member that satisfies the most hours of upgrade classes in the quarter (i.e., October, November, December). The second \$100 gift card is awarded via a give-away. For every four hours of training completed, members will receive an entry in the give-away; there is no limit to the number of entries. The person who is recognized with the most hours and wins the first \$100 gift card is not eligible for the give-away. Classes must be successfully completed for members to earn entries in the give-away.

In addition, the LMCC pays a \$125 stipend to all members that successfully complete either CALCTP, CALCTP-AT, or EVITP.

The Monterey Bay LMCC is providing all gift cards and stipends.

## Condolences

Ronald Carpenter passed away on December 7, 2019. He was a IBEW member for 55 years and served as Local 234's Business Manager for 16 years. He will be greatly missed.

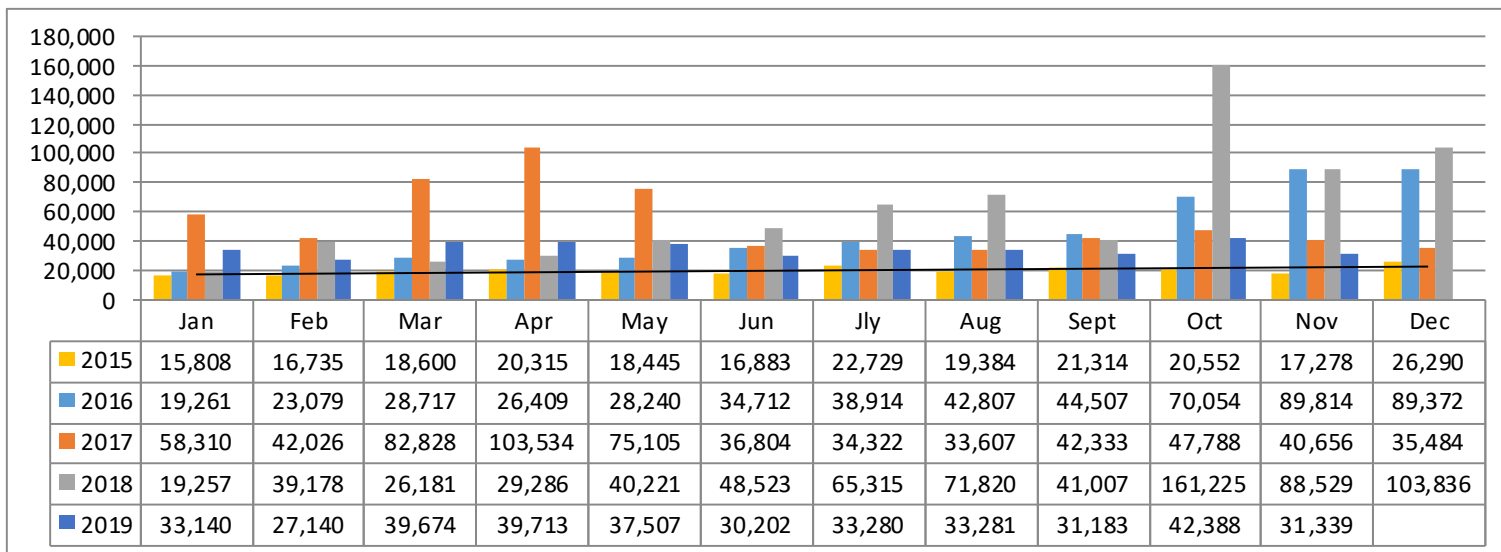
Sharon Dollins, wife of member Leslie "Bob" Dollins, passed away on December 7, 2019. She fought a courageous battle with cancer. Bob has been an IBEW member for 51 years.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the family members.

## Go Green with Our e-Edition!

Sign up today to receive the newsletter in your email. Help reduce production costs and be "green" at the same time. Our homepage is located at [www.ibew234.org](http://www.ibew234.org). There is a link under Downloads, Newsletter to the subscribe form or call the Local 234.

## Monthly Hours Report



## Happy January Birthdays!

Lamont Adams  
Joseph Antoni  
Frank Baca  
David Boggs  
Efrain Castillo  
Rafael Castro Jr  
Mark Clough  
William Clough  
Matthew Craddock  
Ruth Dean  
John Dion  
Juliano DiSimone  
Scott Gaffney  
Manual Garcia  
Ralph Garcia  
Elia Giron  
Cristian Gonzalez  
Robert Greene  
Kirt Hackett  
Greg Hague  
Harold Haste  
Darrell Hickey

Cory Hoffman  
Valentin Ivanov  
Jesus Jara  
Artemio Juarez  
Abraham Kerns  
Leland Knisley  
Michael Kulich  
Jose Leon  
Giovanni Lopez  
Julian Macias  
Ernest Magallan  
Ronald Martinez  
George Mellone  
Gale Michalek  
Jose Moncada  
Keshana Moon  
David Morales  
Ernesto Morales  
Bill Moua  
Yeng Moua  
Francisco Mundo Jr  
Luis Ortiz

Rosio Perez  
Nicholas Prelgovisk  
Reynold Ramirez  
Orlando Ramirez Pinedo  
Manuel Ramos  
Bryan Ruiz-Herrera  
Dana Saccullo  
Maxwell Schnittger  
Vivian Shaw  
Delbert Slaughter  
John Spellman  
Jorge Suarez Jr  
Trudi Teller  
Asjia Thomas  
Jaime Urzua  
Michael Wolfe  
Jim Zupkus



# This Month's Local 234 Winners!

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

## Voluntary PAC (Political Action Committee):

Jonathan Marquez won \$16.00.

## Apprentice Give-Away:

Jacob Taylor won \$23.40.

## End of Year \$234 Give-Away:

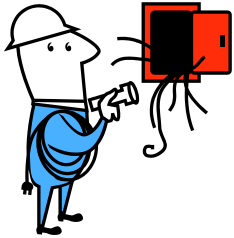
Jaime Hernandez won.

## Give-Away Winners:

Chad Vargas won an IBEW 234 Polo Shirt.  
 Carlos Prado won an IBEW 234 Sweatshirt.  
 Jaime Hernandez won a Graybar goodie bag.

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

**Wednesday, January 8th, 2020**



## Quote of the Month

“Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man.”

— Benjamin Franklin

# January 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 HOLIDAY New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Membership Meeting @ 6:30 pm	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 HOLIDAY Martin Luther King Jr's Day	21 JATC @ 4:00 pm  Significant Changes Class @ 5:30 pm	22 Executive Board @ 6:00 pm	23	24	25 OSHA 30 Class @ 8:00 am
26	27 Foreman Development Class @ 5:30 pm	28	29	30	31	



# International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 234



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

### IBEW Local 234

10300 Merritt Street  
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**



Bring on  
the  
NEW YEAR!

