

Official Journal of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Local 234 Salinas, CA. March, 2024 Edition



Energy and Renewal

Dear Members,

As we embrace the spirit of March, a month marked by budding beginnings and the promise of renewal, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of optimism for our Union and the journey ahead. Just as the changing season breathes new life into nature, it is our collective strength and unity that fuels progress within the electrical industry.

Amidst the challenges and triumphs, it's crucial to recognize the power of solidarity that binds us together. Each wire, each connection, and each circuit embodies the collaborative effort of our skilled workforce, dedicated to lighting the path forward.

As calls for our skills continue to increase, let us remember the importance of standing shoulder to shoulder, supporting one another in our shared pursuit of excellence. Together, we illuminate the way forward, igniting progress and prosperity for generations to come.

In the spirit of March, let us harness the energy of renewal and possibility, embracing the opportunities that lie ahead with unwavering determination and unity.

Stay United and Vote your check!

In Solidarity,

Paul G

Business Manager

IBEW Local 234

(831) 594-0860



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Energy and Renewal.....1
- The Health Corner.....2
- Election Endorsements.....2
- This Months' Birthdays.....3
- Chris Burditt Memorial Scholarship Essay Contest.....3
- Monthly Hours Report.....4
- Calendar and Schedule.....4
- Important Vote: Progress and Partnership in sale of 10300 Merritt St Castroville.....4

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- BM Report
- L.U. 234 Government Affairs: Election Endorsements
- Scholarship
- Important Vote: Sale of 10300 Merritt St.
- Contract Negotiations Underway!

L.U.234 March 5th Election Endorsements:

THE HEALTH CORNER

**THE IMPORTANCE OF
PREVENTIVE CARE: ARE
YOU UP TO DATE?**

Getting routine preventive health care can help you stay well and catch health problems early, helping you live a longer, healthier life. Here is what you need to know and do:

Schedule a yearly health exam with your doctor. Your doctor will know what screenings to order based on your age, lifestyle, and family health history.

Health screening tests check for diseases early when they may be easier to treat.

Screenings have proven effective at reducing cancer deaths and preventing the development or progression of other health conditions, like osteoporosis, diabetes, and hypertension.

Health care services, like getting vaccines, improve your health by preventing diseases and other health problems. For example: Shingles, Flu, Covid, Tetanus.

Some examples of common health screenings:

Blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes (type 2), hearing and vision, mood/mental health.

Cancer screens: skin checks, colonoscopy, prostate, mammogram, and pap.

Schedule of preventive care:
[NewPatientGuide-PrevHealth_FINAL_091721.pdf](#)

With our busy lives, it can be easy to put off making that doctor appt. and getting health screens and vaccines. Remember, you are important, and this is one of the best ways to practice self-care! Please contact me if you need help finding a doctor or if you have any health questions:

Monterey County

Dist. 1

Luis Alejo

Dist. 4

Wendy Root Askew

Jeremiah Pressey

Dist. 5

Kate Daniels

Alan Haffa

Bill Lipe

San Benito County

Dist. 1

Dustin Weber

Dom Zanger

Stacie McGrady

Dist. 2

John Freeman

Kollin Kosmicki

Dist. 5

Bea Gonzales

Ignacio Velasquez

Santa Cruz County

Dist. 1

Lani Faulkner

Manu Koenig

Dist. 2

Kristen Brown

Anthony Crane

Kim De Serpa

Bruce Jaffe

David Schwartz

Dist. 5

Theresa Bond

Christopher Bradford

Tom Decker

Monica Martinez

Vote YOUR CHECK

Your vote is your voice, and by electing candidates who stand with us, we can work towards building a better future for all. Let's make our voices heard at the ballot box and support those who advocate for the needs of our working families.



Christopher Burditt Memorial Scholarship: Investing in Future Generations

Education is the cornerstone of progress and opportunity, providing a pathway for our friends and families to realize their full potential. In honor of the late Chris Burditt, the Chris Burditt Memorial Scholarship is aimed at supporting students from Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito counties in their pursuit of higher education.



With a \$1000 scholarship available for a student from each of these three counties, we are committed to investing in the future leaders of our community. By furthering their education, these students will not only enrich their own lives but also contribute to the growth and prosperity of our region.

We encourage eligible students to seize this opportunity and submit their applications for the

Chris Burditt Memorial Scholarship. Together, let's empower the next generation to reach new heights and create a brighter future for all.

The deadline for scholarship submissions is April 15th. For more information on eligibility criteria and application details, please read below or contact our office directly.

Essay Contest

IBEW 234 is offering three \$1000 scholarships to high school graduates—one each in Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito County, who will graduate during the current school year and who meet all qualifying criteria.

To apply, a student must have at least one present or past union member, of any affiliation, in his or her immediate family and type an essay of approximately **500 words** on one of the following topics:

- What is the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and what has it done to enhance organized labor?
- Why is the organized labor movement important in the U.S. today?
- How has the Union movement played a key role in the life and well-being of my family member who is or was in a Union?

Essays must be typed and sent with a completed Application Form to:

Christopher Burditt

Memorial Scholarship Essay Contest

C/O IBEW 234

747 El Camino Real

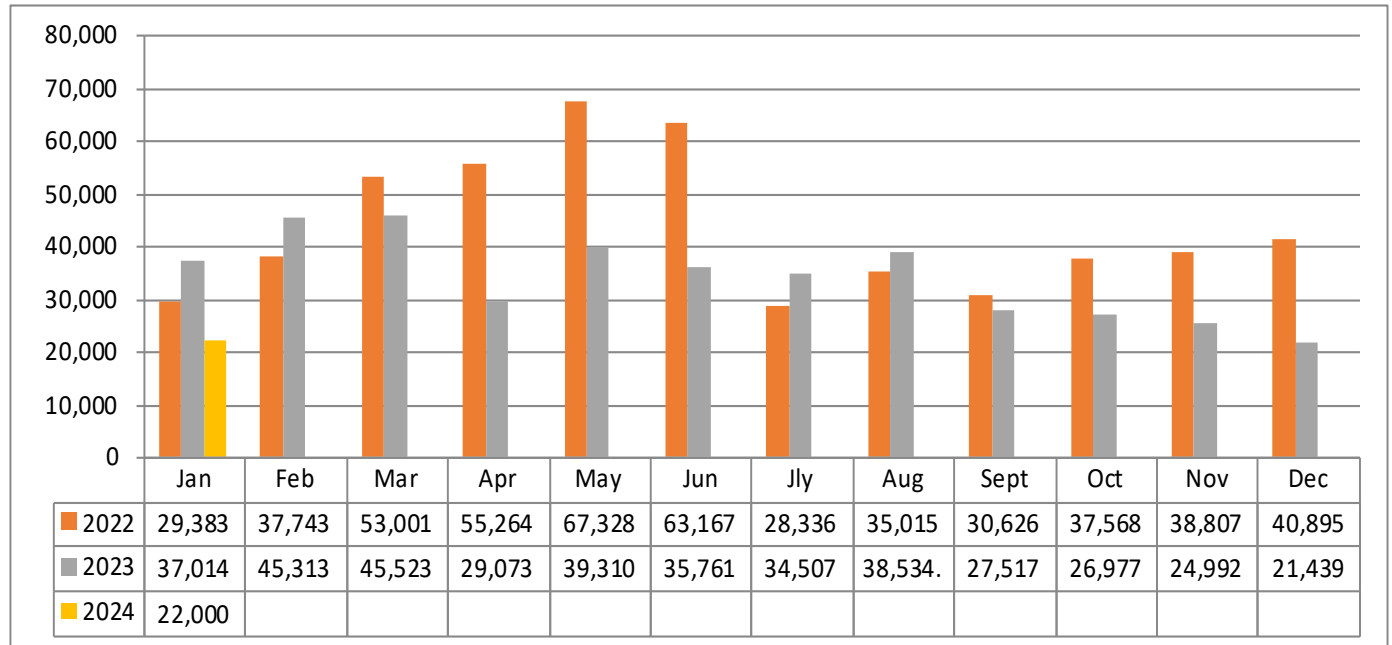
Salinas Ca, 93907

Or thehall@ibew234.org

Happy March Birthdays!

Lyle Abraham, Jr.
Juan C Arguelles Hernandez
Ian Barbieri
Skyler S Blean
Mark Breeding
Anthony D Davis
Willie Dietz
John A Ecklund, II
Jesus D Escobedo
Gilberto Espindola
Peggy K Evans
Heath R Guaracha
Robert W Heitz
Kyle J Hirayama
Florentino L Lozano
Cody M Mahler
Michael Martinez
Alejandro Murguia
Alfredo Nicolosi
Reginaldo Ramirez
Juan A Rodriguez
Ricardo Rubio
Hermilo Ruiz
Kenneth Scherpinski
Aaron J Selbicky
Allister Sorrells
Patrick Torres
Manuel G Valdez

Monthly Hours Report



Monthly Calendar: March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 First Day of Women's History Month	2
3	4 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years)	5 Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	6 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years)	7 Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	8	9 CPR / First Aid
10 Daylight Saving Time starts	11 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years)	12 Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	13 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years) General Body Meeting	14 Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years)	19 JATC Meeting Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	20 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years)	21 Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	22	23
24 End of Pay Period	25 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years)	26 Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	27 Apprenticeship Classes (1st, 4th Years) Executive Board Meeting	28 Apprenticeship Classes (2nd, 3rd, 5th Years)	29	30
4 31 Easter Sunday						

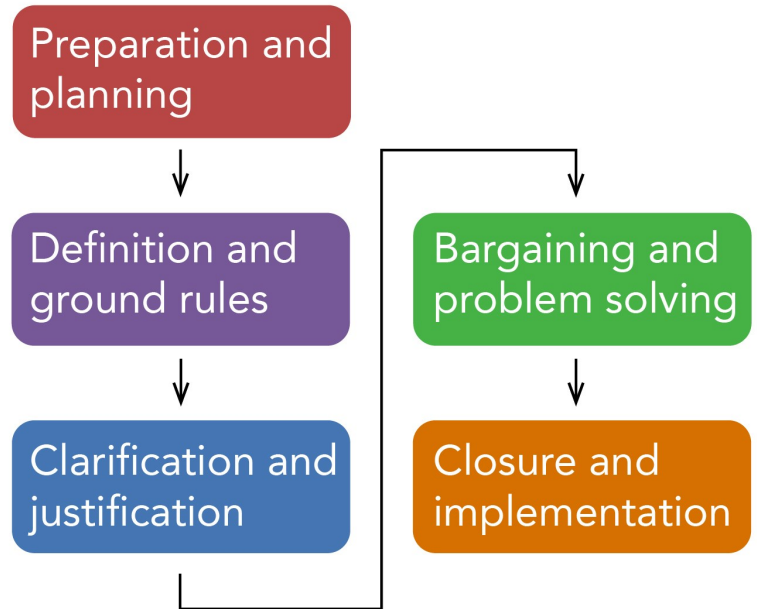
Negotiations for Future Contract Underway

As we move forward into the future, it's imperative that we ensure the best possible working conditions and benefits for all of our members. With that in mind, I'm pleased to announce that negotiations for our future contract, have officially commenced.

This marks my fourth negotiation cycle, and I bring with me years of experience advocating for the best interests of our Local and Members. Alongside me, our talented Assistant Business Manager Jorge Suarez, and I will be representing our Members' interests at the bargaining table.

Our goal is clear: to secure a contract that is fair, equitable, and reflective of the hard work and dedication of each and every Member. We are committed to negotiating terms that prioritize the well-being of our Members and out families.

Your input is invaluable to us during this process. If you have any suggestions, concerns, or ideas regarding contract language or any other aspect of the negotiation, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your feedback will help guide us in our efforts to secure the best possible outcome for all.



Decoupling Update: Progress and Partnership

We have an important vote on the horizon. During our March 13th General Body meeting, we will decide on the sale of our property at 10300 Merritt St. to the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC).

We stand at the threshold of another significant milestone in the journey of IBEW Local 234. As we gather at our upcoming general body meeting on March 13th, we have the opportunity to make a decision that will shape the future of our Union for years to come.

The diligent efforts and strategic planning undertaken through the process of decoupling from the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC), we have navigated challenges, conducted thorough assessments, and arrived at a point where a reasonable offer from the JATC has been received.

As we prepare to cast our votes, let us reflect on the significance of this moment. By approving the sale of 10300 Merritt St. to the JATC, we affirm our dedication to advancing the interests of our Apprenticeship and Union.

Let us come together on March 13th with a sense of purpose and unity, as we take this next stride towards a stronger, more resilient future for IBEW Local 234.

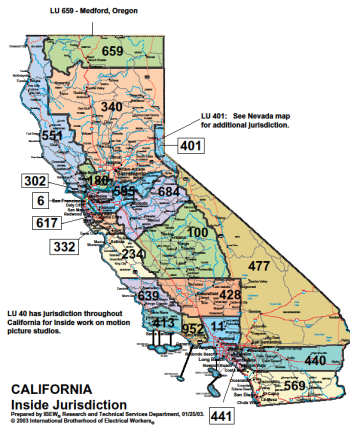
IBEW Local 234
 747 El Camino Real
 Salinas, Ca. 93907
 www.ibew234.org
 (800) 499-4239
 (831) 633-2311
 Email: thehall@ibew234.org
 (831) 633-JOBS
 (5627)Job line

Tri-County Electrical JATC
 www.tricountyjatc.org
 info@tricountyjatc.org

IBEW OBJECTIVES

The objects of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers are:

- ◆ To organize all workers in the entire electrical industry in the United States and Canada, including all those in public utilities and electrical manufacturing, into local unions
- ◆ To cultivate feelings of friendship among those of our industry
- ◆ To settle all disputes between employer and employees by arbitration (if possible)
- ◆ To assist each other in sickness and distress
- ◆ To secure employment
- ◆ To reduce the hours of daily labor
- ◆ To secure adequate pay for our work
- ◆ To seek a higher and higher standard o of living
- ◆ And by legal and proper means to elevate the moral, intellectual and social conditions of our members, their families and dependents, in the interest of a higher standard of citizenship.



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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

In the Office

Paul Gutierrez
 Business Manager/
 Financial Secretary

Jorge Suarez
 CAO/Assistant
 Business Manager

Ron Chesshire
 Government Affairs

Henry Cortez
 Office Administrator

Rosie Bowers
 Office Administrator

Local 234 Officers

Andy Hartmann
 President

Jonathon Marquez
 Vice President

Enrique Ramos
 Treasurer

Stephen Slovacek
 Recording Secretary

Jeff Beers
Nick Jackson
Nicholas Prelgovisk
Jorge Suarez
 Executive Board