



Official Journal of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Local 234 Salinas, CA - October, 2024 Edition



Celebrating Milestones and Charting Our Future

Dear Members,

As the leaves turn and we welcome the crisp fall air, IBEW Local 234 has much to celebrate and anticipate. Our recent Member Appreciation Picnic at Toro Park saw an impressive turnout of over 200+ members and their families, including a lively group of over 50 little ones. The joy and camaraderie shared reflect the strong bonds and vibrant spirit that are the hallmarks of our Union.

This gathering not only strengthened our sense of community but also highlighted the collective efforts that bring us together as more than just colleagues, but as a family united in solidarity and purpose.

Looking ahead, we are on the cusp of another significant milestone. The upcoming General Body Meeting on October 9th will be pivotal as we prepare to allocate what is set to be the largest raise in the history of Local 234, \$4.65.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every member for your dedication and support. Your collective efforts fuel our progress and enable substantial gains for our Union. I encourage everyone to participate in the upcoming meeting, where your involvement will shape the decisions that impact our future.

Let's maintain this momentum and continue to advocate for our collective interests. Together, we are building a promising future for all members of Local 234.

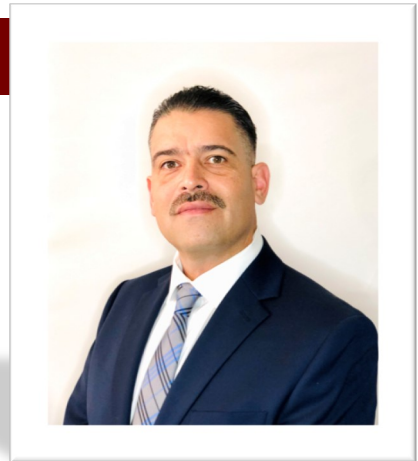
In Solidarity,

Paul G

Business Manager

IBEW Local 234

(831) 594-0860



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- BM Report
- Elections 2024
- Picnic 2024
- Wage Allocation Notice

<https://ibew234.org/>

Members of IBEW Local 234,

4 Hours to make a difference - We are at the point where things have picked up in the Election Cycle. IBEW International has endorsed and made a recommendation to the rank and file as to who they think is best to lead our country for the next 4 years. We concur and leave it at that as our focus is here at home with what will affect our members and family at the grassroots local level. We have reviewed what we believe to be the most important races and present to you the endorsements voted on by the members of IBEW Local 234. These you will find listed at the end of this message.

Are You Registered to Vote? - If not, there is still time. We highly suggest you register before the main deadline of Oct. 21. This link is to the Secretary of State's website, <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration>. But you can register up to and on the day of the election. Refer to the website. Be a part of the process. Don't let others make the decision for you. It's one of the greatest of all rights we have in this Country. VOTE!

Are You Ready to Help? – Local 234 is organizing a walk for candidates with other Building Trades members on Saturday, Oct. 19 in Hollister. We will also walk on Saturday, Oct. 12 and Nov. 2 in Salinas. Refreshments will be provided at walks. Mayor and City Council races in Hollister and Salinas have become very contentious and attempts are being made to takeover seats of government by those who are not friendly to Workers, Labor, and Local 234. **We are now taking signups to help get our people elected.** 4 hours of your time on one of these days to volunteer to support those who support us. **Please contact Ron at 831 869 3073 or ron@ibew234.org.** We are also looking at phone banking. Sign up, put in 4 hours, work to elect our supporters. The best 4 hours you ever worked to make a difference.

Be a part of the process, register and vote!

For those that participate and volunteer, your name will be put in a drawing for 3 days in Las Vegas for 2.

IBEW Local 234 Endorsed Candidates

Congressional Elections

16th Congressional District – Zoe Lofgren

19th Congressional District – Jimmy Panetta

State Elections

17th State Senate District – John Laird

28th Assembly District – Gail Pellerin

29th Assembly District – Robert Rivas

30th Assembly District – Dawn Addis

City Elections

City of Monterey – Mayor, Tyler Williamson, City Council, Dist. 4 Gino Garcia, Dist. 3 Eric Palmer

City of Salinas – Mayor, Chris Barrera, City Council, Dist. 3 Dual Endorsement, Jesus Valenzuela or Cary Swensen, Dist. 4 Orlando Osornio, Dist. 6 Anthony Rocha

City of Seaside – Mayor, Ian Oglesby, City Council, David Pacheco and Alexis Garcia-Arrazola

City of Soledad – Mayor, Anna Velazquez

City of Hollister – Mayor, Mia Casey, City Council, Dist. 1 Rick Perez, Dist. 4 Tim Burns

City of Watsonville – Dist. 1 Eduardo Montesino

County Elections

Santa Cruz County Supervisor, Dist. 2 Dual Endorsement, Kim De Serpa or Kristen Brown

Santa Cruz County Supervisor, Dist. 5 Monica Martinez

These are the races endorsed by IBEW Local 234 and don't represent ALL Races, Measures, or Propositions on the ballot in your area.

For more info: [IBEW Votes!](#)

What is Valley Fever?

Why you should be aware?

Valley fever (coccidioidomycosis or "cocci") is a disease caused by a fungus that grows in the soil and dirt in some areas of California (Central Coast and Central Valley) and the southwestern United States.

In California, a total of 7,451 new Valley fever cases were reported in 2022.

People and animals can get sick when they breathe in dust that contains the Valley fever fungus.

Symptoms include fever, chest pain, difficulty breathing, muscle/joint pain, fatigue, headache, rash, and can lead to pneumonia.

Who is at risk:

People who live, work, or travel in areas with high rates of Valley fever, especially if they:

- Participate in activities that involve close contact with dirt or dust, including digging projects or landscaping.
- Live or work near areas where dirt and soil are stirred up, like construction/excavation sites.
Work in jobs where dirt and soil are stirred up or disturbed, like the construction industry.

Prevention:

Wet down soil before digging or disturbing dirt to reduce dust.

Stay upwind of the area where dirt is being dug/disturbed.

Consider wearing an N95 mask or respirator (other face masks are not enough).

After returning indoors, change clothes if covered with dirt. To avoid breathing in dust from clothes, do not shake it out before washing.

Treatment:

Antifungal medications treat Valley fever. Some people may need to take antifungal medication for months, especially if they have underlying health conditions. Others may not need medication.

Please feel free to contact me for more health information or support re: medical care/insurance.

Anita Alvarez, RN, PHN
Nurse/Health Advocate
Electrical Workers Health and Welfare Trust Fund

A Membership Milestone to Celebrate

It gives me immense joy to share the resounding success of our First Day Membership initiative, which we celebrated at our recent September General Body Meeting. This historic event marked a significant milestone for our Union, as we proudly welcomed 19 new members into our IBEW Local 234 family.

Each new member was sworn in during a heartfelt ceremony that underscored our commitment to unity and collective strength. It was a moment filled with promise and enthusiasm, as we watched new faces eagerly ready to embark on their journeys with us.



This initiative is more than just a formality, it is a reaffirmation of our dedication to support each member from day one, ensuring they feel welcomed, valued, and integral to our community.

Let us all extend a warm welcome to our new members. Your involvement and enthusiasm enrich our Union and strengthen the foundation upon which we build a better future for us all.

Thank you to everyone who participated and contributed to making this event a success. It is your spirit and solidarity that continue to drive our Union forward. Here's to many more milestones and successes together!

JATC News

UPCOMING CLASSES:

CPR / First Aid will be held Saturday, October 19th, from 8am – 1pm with instructor, Merralinda Goddard. Space is limited and sign-ups are required. This is NOT a drop-in class.

NFPA 70E will be held Saturday, October 5th from 8am – 2pm with instructor, David Martinez

· Scissor / Boom Lifts training ** will be held Saturday, October 12th from 7:30am – 2pm (training done by United Rentals) Space is very limited and sign-ups are required. This is NOT a drop-in class. **when calling in to sign-up, please specify if you are recertifying or if this is your first time taking the training

· Forklift / GradeAll training ** will be held Saturday, November 23rd from 7:30am – 2pm (training done by United Rentals) Space is very limited and sign-ups are required. This is NOT a drop-in class. **when calling in to sign-up, please specify if you are recertifying or if this is your first time taking the training

To sign up for any of the above-listed classes, call Damaris in the JATC office at (831) 633-3063.

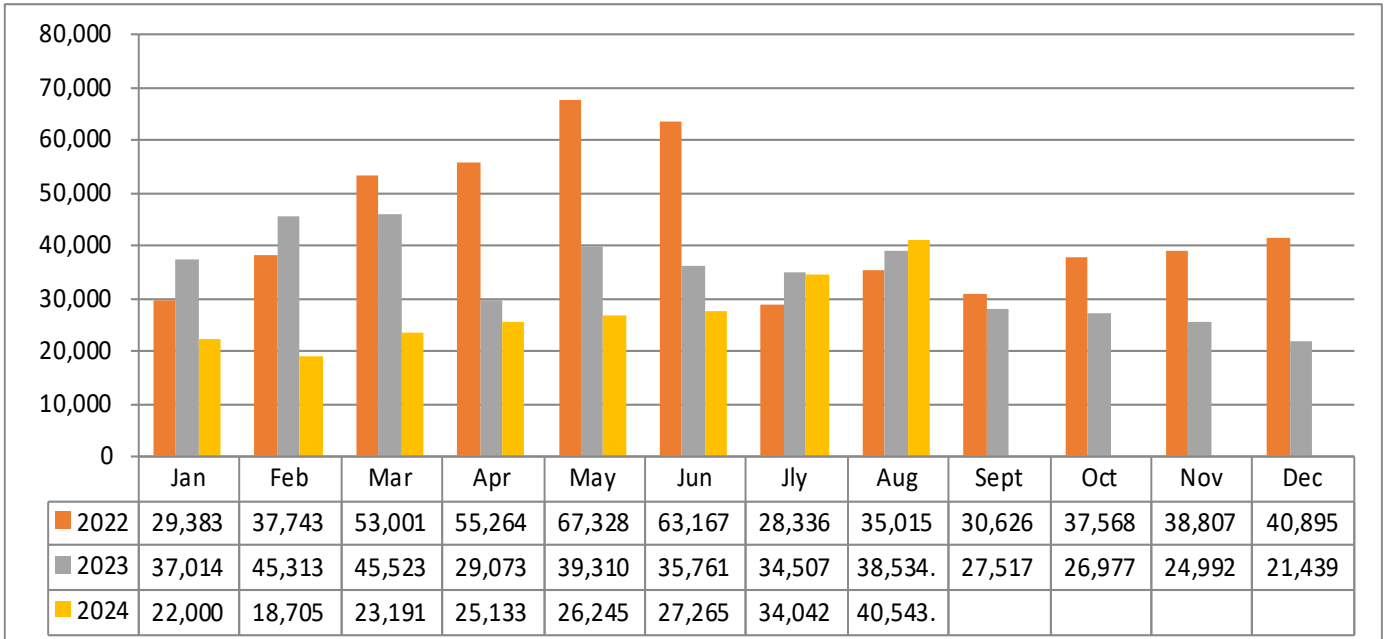
Please note that the JATC office hours are: MON-THURS 12pm – 5pm (831) 633-3063

Happy October

Birthdays!

John R Battaglia
Jeffrey L Beers
Scott A Benson
Joel Berruoco
Michael S Bradley
Ancelmo Caro
Javier Contreras
Eugene Davis
Sergio Diaz
Cristian U Escamilla Hernandez
Rigoberto Garcia
Erik Guerrero
Eric J Guzman
Michael Higuete Jaime F Jimenez
David J Karalius
Michael Marquez
James D Mauras
Miguel Angel Mexicano
Juan Morales
Ricardo A Morales
Antonio S Navarrete
Christopher Olsen
Ryan P Porter
Vincent Reyes
Luis D Rodriguez
Jack Russo
Brad Lee Smith
Michael J Steel
Ramon L Torres, Jr
Christian J Trejo
David Vasquez
Edgar Velasquez
Bernave Y Zubiata, Jr

Monthly Hours Report



OCTOBER 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 NFPA 70E
6	7	8	9 General Body Meeting	10	11	12 Scissor & Boom Lifts Training
13	14 Columbus Day	15 JATC Meeting	16	17	18	19
	Indigenous Peoples' Day	JATC Meeting				
20	21	22	23 Executive Board Meeting	24	25	26
27 End of Pay Period	28	29	30	31 Halloween		

IBEW LU 234 Member Appreciation Picnic 2024



Thank you all for making this
Years' picnic the best attended
L.U. 234 Annual Member
Appreciation Picnic. Over 200
Attendees were served, and the
Family fun did not stop...come

one come all, all ages are welcome for the 2025 event
now in development...stay tuned!

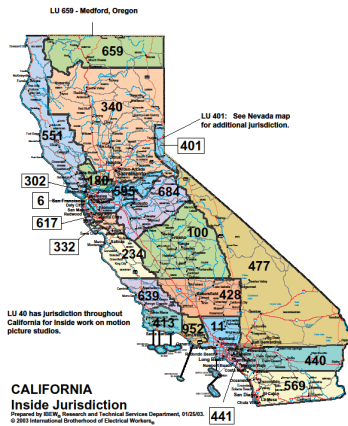
IBEW Local 234
 747 El Camino Real
 Salinas, Ca. 93907
 www.ibew234.org
 (800) 499-4239
 (831) 633-2311
 Email: thehall@ibew234.org
 (831) 633-JOBS
 (5627)Job line

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
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In the Office

Paul Gutierrez
 Business Manager/
 Financial Secretary

Jorge Suarez
 CAO/Assistant
 Business Manager

Henry Cortez
 Organizer

Ron Cheshire
 Government Affairs

Rosie Bowers
 Office Administrator

Local 234 Officers

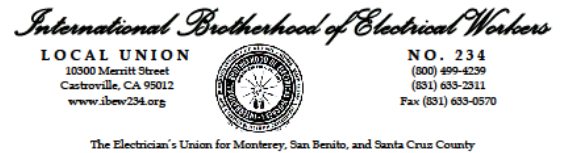
Andy Hartmann
 President

Jonathon Marquez
 Vice President

Enrique Ramos
 Treasurer

Stephen Slovacek
 Recording Secretary

Jeff Beers
Nick Jackson
Nicholas Preglovsk
Jorge Suarez
 Executive Board



Posted September 23, 2024
 Dear Local 234 member,

This letter serves as notice that our Ratification meeting for IBEW Local 234 negotiations will occur on October 9th, 2024, at our Hall located at 747 El Camino Real in Salinas, CA. The General Body Meeting will begin at 6:30pm in person, and you must be present to Vote.

This is Your Union, and your Vote is important. We look forward to seeing you.

P.S. Please bring a current copy of your dues receipt.

Respectfully,

Paul G

Paul Gutierrez
 Business Manager
 IBEW Local 234