



# Official Journal of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Local 234 Salinas, CA, March, 2025 Edition



## Leading The Way, Advancing Our Future

Dear Members,

As we enter March, we find ourselves in a defining moment—not just for Local 234, but for the labor movement as a whole. Across the country, organized labor is under attack. The fight for fair wages, benefits, and job security has never been more important. But here at Local 234, we aren't just standing our ground—we are leading the way.

Through strategic leadership and relentless effort, we have expanded our market share, secured more work under Union agreements, and strengthened our partnerships with contractors who recognize the value of an IBEW-trained workforce. The results speak for themselves—increased man-hours, record number of signatory contractors signing agreements, and continued demand for our skills.

At Moss Landing, we are proving once again that complex, high-risk, and high-stakes work belongs in the hands of skilled IBEW electricians. Thanks to the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) we put in place, this work remains Union, ensuring our jurisdiction remains strong and our members have opportunities to perform the work that powers our communities. Without these agreements, we risk non union and lower-wage contractors, non-taking what should be our jobs. That's why leadership matters. That's why staying engaged matters.

We are also reinforcing our apprenticeship and workforce development, making sure our members have access to advanced training, upskilling, and growth opportunities that keep us ahead of the curve. The electrical industry is changing, and thanks to our vision, our planning, and our commitment to excellence, we are ensuring that Local 234 remains the gold standard in our industry.

The choices we make today will define our future. We are not just protecting what we have, we are building something bigger, something stronger. If we lose sight of that, we risk losing the very things we have fought so hard to achieve. But that will not happen on my watch.

This is a time for leadership, action, and unity. The work we do today secures the future of this Local for generations to come. Let's keep pushing forward, keep raising the bar, and keep proving why IBEW Local 234 is the best in the industry.

*Paul G*

Business Manager  
IBEW Local 234  
(831) 594-0860



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Website:

<https://ibew234.org/>

## The Health Corner

### The Hidden Dangers of Hearing Loss in the Electrical Trade

Over 50% of construction workers, including electricians, experience some level of hearing loss in their careers. Daily exposure to power tools, heavy machinery, and job site noise exceeding 85–100 dB puts electricians at high risk for **permanent, irreversible hearing damage**. Many don't notice the loss until it's too late.

Early Signs of hearing loss:

• Ringing in your ears.

• Muffled sounds including voices (noticed more in high frequency ranges like with children or female voices, or birds chirping, devices beeping).

• Difficulty understanding speech.

• Need to increase the volume on devices like TVs, radios, or cell phones.

Protect your hearing:

- Wear hearing protection, earplugs or ear-muffs, with a noise reduction rating (NRR) of 12 decibels when working near loud equipment.
- Limit exposure by stepping away from noisy areas when possible.
- Follow the 60/60 rule—keep volume at 60% for no more than 60 minutes if using headphones.

Take breaks to allow your ears to recover from loud noise.

**Electricians should have a hearing test at least once a year.**

*Hearing loss doesn't just affect your work—it impacts communication, safety, and overall quality of life.*

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or need assistance with any health-related concern, including accessing medical care and appts. Be Well!

Anita Alvarez, RN, PHN  
Nurse/Health Advocate  
Electrical Workers Health and Welfare Trust Fund  
IBEW Local 234  
Work #: 831-741-8677

## Expanding our Reach

Our work as Union electricians doesn't just start and stop on the job site, it extends into the communities where we live, build, and thrive. In 2025, IBEW Local 234 has made a strong, deliberate push to elevate our brand through career fairs, community outreach, and guest speaking engagements. We are making sure that our presence is felt, and that we secure member opportunities.

So far this year, we've already engaged in 10 outreach events, spanning from South County to the top of Santa Cruz and into San Benito County. We've attended career fairs, spoken at schools, and engaged with industry leaders, educators, and decision-makers. This isn't just about exposure, it's about securing our rightful place as the premier workforce in the electrical industry.

These efforts are not just for show. They translate directly into job opportunities. When we build relationships with communities, developers, and policymakers, we increase our influence. We create new projects, expand contractor partnerships, and open doors for more work. Our participation in these events means more visibility, more respect for our trade, and ultimately, more opportunities for every Local 234 member.

2025 is shaping up to be a year of growth, expansion, and new possibilities. Our commitment to workforce development, market expansion, and community engagement is setting the foundation for even greater success. Every connection we make today brings us closer to securing the work of tomorrow.

This is our time to grow, to lead, and to make sure that IBEW Local 234 stands stronger than ever.



### Investing in the Future: The Chris Burditt Memorial Scholarship

We work every day to build a better future—not just for ourselves, but for the next generation. Whether as parents, mentors, or leaders in our community, we understand the value of opportunity and the doors that education can open. That's why IBEW Local 234, in partnership with the Burditt family, proudly offers the Chris Burditt Memorial Scholarship each year to help support the dreams and ambitions of our members families.

This scholarship is about more than financial assistance it's a commitment to the next generation. It's about honoring the legacy of Brother Chris Burditt, who dedicated his life to the labor movement, by helping young men and women take the next step in their education. Whether their path leads to a university, trade school, or community college, this scholarship is a chance to lighten the financial burden and encourage their success.

For many of us, the lessons we've learned in the IBEW—hard work, integrity, and perseverance are the same values that drive success in education. By offering this scholarship, we are reinforcing those principles and ensuring that our children and loved ones have the resources they need to continue learning, growing, and building bright futures.

If you have a high school senior in Monterey, Santa Cruz, or San Benito County who meets the eligibility requirements, I encourage them to apply. The deadline for submissions is April 15, and this is an opportunity that should not be missed.

Let's make sure the next generation has every opportunity to succeed because their future is our future.

## Moss Landing: A Steady, Skilled Response

As work resumes at Moss Landing Power Plant, IBEW Local 234 members are once again leading the way, ensuring that all electrical systems are secure, stable, and ready for the next phase of operations. Our role isn't just about building new infrastructure, it's about maintaining, protecting, and ensuring the long-term success of critical energy facilities.

With the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) we secured, we've positioned ourselves to be the trusted workforce for Moss Landing, both now and into the future. This agreement ensures that our highly skilled electricians are the ones handling the complex and essential work required to keep the facility running safely and efficiently.

The energy industry is evolving, and Moss Landing remains a centerpiece of energy storage innovation. That means the work we do here is more than just another job—it's part of the bigger picture, shaping the future of electrical infrastructure and ensuring it is built and maintained by the best in the business.

As we move forward, I have no doubt that our members will continue to set the standard for excellence, reinforcing why IBEW Local 234 is the go to workforce for complex, high stakes electrical work. With the work picture continuing to develop, we anticipate opportunities to increase manpower on-site as the project progresses. This is just the beginning, and we stand ready to deploy more of our skilled workforce when the time comes.

### JATC NEWS

#### CLASS COMPLETIONS

CPR / First Aid held on 02/08/25

John Aguilar, John Barber, John Battaglia, Matt Battaglia, Jose Castaneda-Garcia Jr., Priscilla Cerna, Javier Contreras, Jonas Delgado Hurtado, Jovanni Guzman, Angel Mendoza, Nick Prelgovisk, Steve Rios, David Salinas, Adrian Silva, and James Stanchfield

Introduction to Blue Beam held on 02/24/25

Ancelmo Caro, Javier Contreras, John Greene II, Jose Munoz, Josh Murray, David Salinas, Adrian Silva, James Stanchfield, AJ Todd, and Juan Torres

#### UPCOMING CLASSES

CPR / First Aid: **Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> from 8am-1pm** instructor Merralinda Goddard

This class is NOT a drop-in class. Please call Damaris in the JATC office to reserve your place in the class.

Confined Spaces Awareness – **RESCHEDULED** for **Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 8am-4:30pm**

We've had to reschedule this class due to lack of sign-ups. There is limited space for the class and the deadline by which to sign up is 5pm, Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure to call Damaris in the JATC office to reserve your place in the class.

(There will be a 30 minute break for lunch. Lunch will NOT be provided.)

#### SPECIAL THANKS

The JATC would like to extend a special thanks to the apprentices who **volunteered** part of their Saturday to help proctor one or more of our recent aptitude testing sessions. We appreciate your help: Angel Aledo, Priscilla Cerna, Aidan Daily, Jonathan Elder, Alan Fonseca, Michael Martinez, Robert Meloney, Josiah Ramos, and Juan Vargas Jr.

#### Happy March Birthdays!

Lyle Abraham, Jr.

Juan C Arguelles

Ian Barbieri

Skyler S Blean

Mark Breeding

Israel Corona

Anthony D Davis

Willie Dietz

John A Ecklund, II

Gilberto Espindola

Peggy K Evans

Bryce Fuller

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

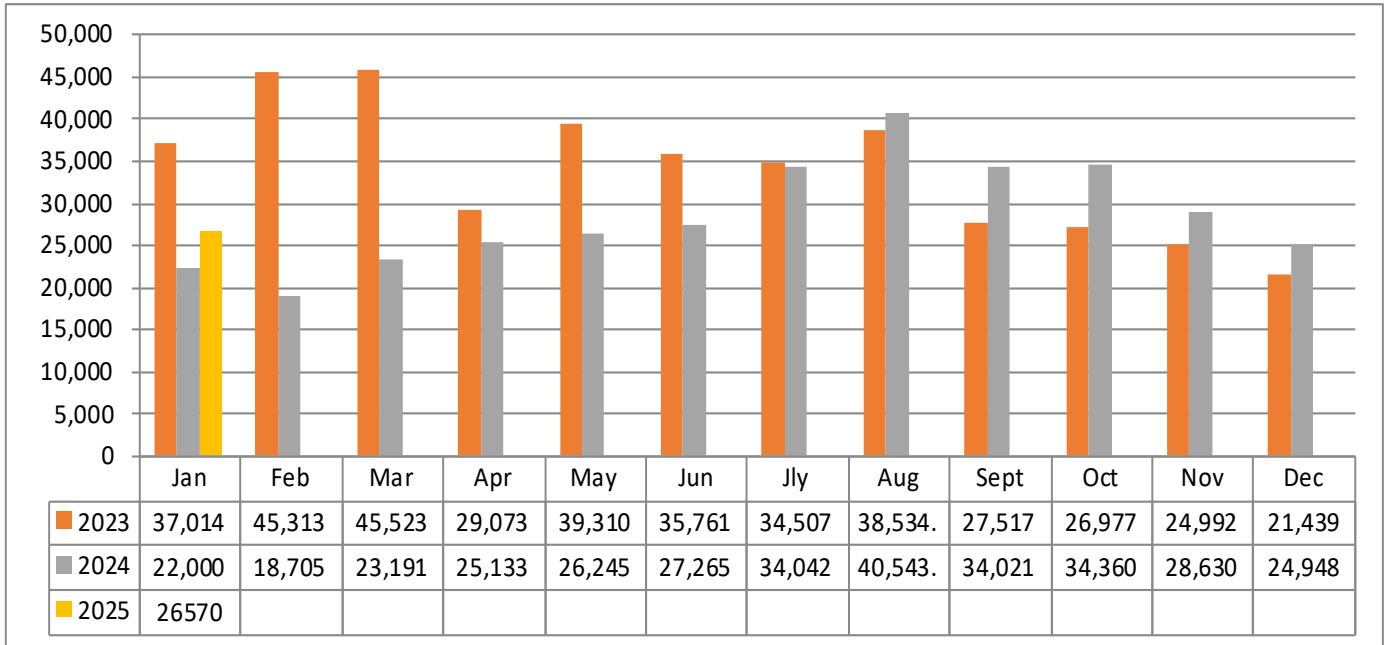
Aaron J Selbicky

Allister Sorrells

Patrick Torres

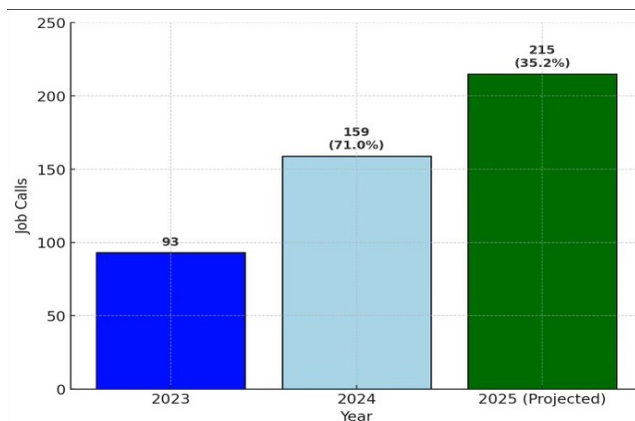
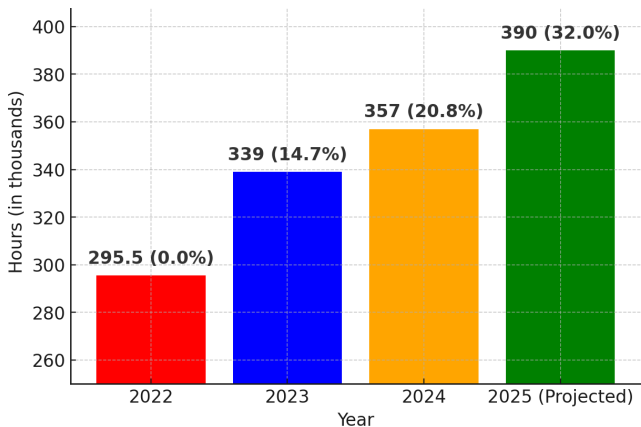
Manuel G Valdez

## Monthly Hours Report



MARCH 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Confined Space Awareness
2	3 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years	4 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	5 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years	6 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	7 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	8
9 Daylight Saving Time starts	10 Daylight Saving Time starts Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years	11 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	12 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years General Body Meeting	13 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	14 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years	18 St. Patrick's Day Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years JATC Interviews	19 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years	20 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	21 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	22
23 End of Pay Period	24 End of Pay Period Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years	25 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	26 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Executive Board Meeting	27 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	28 Apprentice Classes - 2nd, 4th, & 5th Years	29
30	31 Apprentice Classes - 1st / 3rd Years					

## Business Development, Opportunity, and Market Expansion



Historical comparison of core man hours at L.U. 234 without Moss Landing

Historical comparison of Job Calls at L.U. 234

Brothers and Sisters,

Success in this industry doesn't happen by chance—it takes experience, strategy, and relentless effort. Over the years, we've built a reputation for excellence, and now, thanks to our targeted business development efforts, we're seeing real results that translate to jobs, opportunities, and a stronger future for every member of IBEW Local 234.

Through outreach to contractors and key business partners, we've expanded our contractor base, bringing in new signatories that recognize the value of an IBEW-trained workforce. These efforts aren't just about shaking hands—they're about securing contracts, filling job calls, and ensuring that when work comes to our jurisdiction, our members are the ones getting the calls.

Now, let's talk about what this actually means for you. If you look at the graph, you'll see that our market share has grown significantly, meaning more of the work being done in our jurisdiction is under a union agreement. More contractors means more job calls. More job calls mean more opportunities to put money in your pocket.

To put it simply—if we think of our market share like a pie, that pie is getting bigger. And every slice of that pie represents work, security, and stability for our members. This isn't just numbers on a chart—this is about putting food on the table, ensuring steady employment, and creating opportunities for the next generation of IBEW electricians.

We are proud to currently have members dispatched to young and old contractor relationships at IBEW Local 234:

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Collins Electrical Co.</li> <li>-J M Electric</li> <li>-Sprig Electric</li> <li>-MIG Electric</li> <li>-Contra Costa Electric</li> <li>-McGrath Electric, Inc.</li> <li>-Quenna Electric Co</li> <li>-Bear Electrical Solutions</li> <li>-WATT ELECTRIC</li> <li>-Cal-West Lighting &amp; Signal Maintenance</li> <li>-Pajaro Valley Electric</li> <li>-Granite Rock Company</li> <li>-Bockmon &amp; Woody Electric Co.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Delgado Electric</li> <li>-Cyclops Electrical Systems</li> <li>-BEI Construction</li> <li>-St. Francis Electric</li> <li>-Best Electrical Company</li> <li>-Newtron</li> <li>-Rosendin Electric</li> <li>-AZCO</li> <li>-Tennyson Electric</li> <li>-Blocka Construction</li> <li>-Central Valley Electric</li> <li>-Aragon Electrical Services</li> <li>-Syserco</li> <li>-Boss Electric</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-TDN Electric</li> <li>-Leed Electric</li> <li>-Prime Electric</li> <li>-Electricraft</li> <li>-ASM Electric</li> <li>-Rossi &amp; Carr Electrical</li> <li>-SAC VALLEY ELECTRIC</li> <li>-Sigal Utility Services</li> <li>-WILD ELECTRIC</li> <li>-Smith Electrical</li> <li>-Wilson Electric</li> <li>-Mesa Energy Systems</li> <li>-Booth Electric</li> <li>-Craft Electric Company</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Day Electric</li> </ul> |
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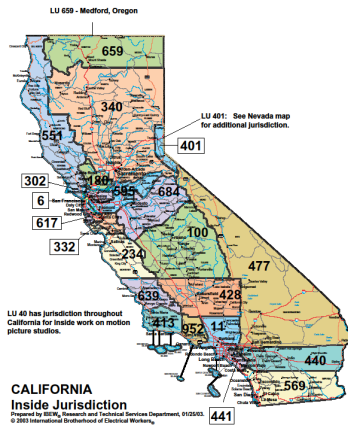
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 www.ibew234.org  
 (800) 499-4239  
 (831) 633-2311  
 Email: thehall@ibew234.org  
 (831) 633-JOBS  
 (5627)Job line

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 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.



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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

**Henry Cortez**  
 Organizer

**Ron Chesshire**  
 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

## Essay Contest

Christopher Burditt Memorial Scholarship

**IBEW Local 234**  
 thehall@ibew234.org

## Essay Contest Details

IBEW 234 is offering (3) \$1500.00 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 the 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 and essay of approximately 500 words on one of the following topics:

- 1) What is the international Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and what has it done to enhance organized labor?
- 2) Why is the organized labor movement important in the United States today?
- 3) 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?

<https://ibew234.org/member-resources>

**Applications Due By Friday, April 4th 2025**

Send Applications to:  
 Chris Burditt Scholarship  
 C/O IBEW Local 234  
 747 El Camino Real N.  
 Salinas, CA 93907