



## February 2026

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### WINE AND WISDOM 2026

It's time again to plan to attend the 2026 version of Wine and Wisdom at the beautiful Allegretto Resort in Paso Robles! A few things to remember about this year's event:

#### Wednesday, February 18th

Golf Tournament: Tee times begin at 9:00 AM  
(Hunter Ranch – Green Fees & Transportation on Your Own)  
Opening Dinner (Eberle Winery):  
Appetizers 5:15–6:30 PM | Dinner 6:30–9:00  
Attire: Blue or White (semi-formal)  
Wear flat/walkable shoes and bring a light coat  
(dinner is underground & chilly)  
Transportation provided - First bus leaves at 5pm from the lobby

#### Thursday, February 19th

Meetings begin: 8:30 AM (breakfast at 7:30)  
Spouses: Lei Making & Mimosas 8:30–10:30  
Hawaiian Themed Dinner  
Appetizers 6:00–7:00 PM | Dinner 7:00–10:00  
Attire: Hawaiian / Luau style

#### Friday, February 20th

Meetings begin: 9:00 AM (breakfast at 8:00)

Closing at noon



**TO BENEFIT ...  
PARTICIPATE!**

## MARCH EDUCATION CLASS SCHEDULED

### Managerial Strategies for Improving Project Level Cash Flow and Payment Terms

We are pleased to announce that we have secured another great class to be held in Pismo Beach -- Managerial Strategies for Improving Cash Flow. This class is based on an Electri study (attached) that was recently completed and comes highly recommended. Because the class is limited to 16 participants, we have 2 offerings. You may choose from Thursday, March 5th in the afternoon from 12 to 5 or Friday, March 6th from 8 to 1. Breakfast will be provided before the Friday morning class at 7:30 am.

As in the past, everyone is invited to join us for a family style Italian dinner at Giuseppi's -- always a hit! A room block has been secured at Vespera in Pismo Beach. In order to reserve your spot, please click on the link below. We will have a rooming list to register you for your room and confirmation numbers will be sent upon receipt. Please remember that our members have no registration fee since we received the Wendt Scholarship again this year and you are welcome to use your education credits toward the cost of your rooms.

This class is designed for Division Managers and Project Managers but those involved in finance have also found it useful.

**Interested in registering: Please  
click on the following link:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1jwzWtxO8dwUASZl1eYVo5x3ndeFObYu8ZVkuqEg6ls/edit?usp=sharing\\_eil\\_se\\_dm&ts=697a87d0](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1jwzWtxO8dwUASZl1eYVo5x3ndeFObYu8ZVkuqEg6ls/edit?usp=sharing_eil_se_dm&ts=697a87d0)

**We hope you will join us!**

## 2026 NEW IRS MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

The Internal Revenue Service announced that the optional standard mileage rate for automobiles driven for business will increase by 2.5 cents in 2026, while the mileage rates for vehicles used for medical purposes will decrease by a half a cent in 2026. The price for automobiles driven in service of charitable organizations will remain the same.

Optional standard mileage rates are used to calculate the deductible costs operating vehicles for business, charitable and medical purposes, as well as for active-duty members of the Armed Forces who are moving. Beginning January 1, 2026, the standard mileage rates for use of a car, van, pickup or panel truck will be:

72.5 cents per mile driven for business use

- 20.5 cents per mile driven for medical purposes
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The rates apply to fully-electric and hybrid automobiles, as well as gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles.

## HEALTH NOTE CORNER IMPORTANCE OF ANNUAL HEALTH EXAMS

In our busy lives, it is easy to put our health care on the back burner. Only seeking medical care if we are sick, have pain, or have an injury. However, annual health exams are critical to maintaining good physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Key Reasons for Annual Health Exams:

1. Preventive Care: Annual health exams help your medical provider monitor your health and identify potential health problems before they become serious. Regular checkups can help catch conditions like high blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol issues, early, before they become disabling or life-threatening.

2. Establishing a Health Baseline: Annual exams help establish your baseline health metrics like weight, blood pressure, and lab values (cholesterol and blood sugar, etc.). This baseline is essential for tracking changes over time and assessing your health risks.

3. Screening and Immunizations: At an annual exam, your medical provider will advise on needed screenings and vaccinations based on your age, health history, and risk factors.

Examples include screenings for cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and mental health. See this link for vaccinations and screenings by age and gender [NewPatientGuide-PrevHealth\\_FINAL\\_091721.pdf](#)

4. Addressing Chronic Conditions: Annual exams help your provider assess your ongoing health, review your treatment plan and adjust it, (such as medication changes), and suggest life style changes that can improve your health condition.

5. Building a Relationship with Your Provider: Regular visits help foster a relationship

with your medical provider. Making it easier to discuss health concerns and get personalized care. This relationship is vital for managing chronic health conditions and addressing any new health issues that arise.

I hope I have impressed upon you the importance of annual health exams and regular checkups! Luckily, we can get these important exams and screenings through the Health and Welfare Plan.

Please reach out to me if you need help finding a medical provider or have any health questions. Wishing you good health this Holiday Season!

Anita Alvarez RN, PHN  
Nurse Health Advocate  
Electrical Workers Health and Welfare Trust,  
IBEW LU 234  
831-741-8677

## **LABOR RELATIONS: DOL OPINION FLSA2026-2 AND REGULAR RATE OF PAY**

On January 5, 2026, the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) issued FLSA2026-2, an opinion letter addressing whether certain bonus payments may be excluded from the "regular rate of pay" under Section 7(e) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) for purposes of calculating overtime premiums. The WHD concluded that, under the specific facts presented, the employer must include bonus payments in the regular rate of pay and cannot treat them as excluded discretionary bonuses. Read more in this [NECA Labor Bulletin](#).





## UPCOMING CLASSES OFFERED THROUGH THE JATC

Please note that if you reserve a space and do not show up for class, you will be responsible for paying for the class.

### CPR/FIRST AID

- Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 8am-1pm
- Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8am-1pm
- Saturday, August 1<sup>st</sup> from 8am-1pm
- Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> from 8am-1pm

**This is NOT a drop-in class. Sign-up is required.**

Instructor Merralinda Goddard will be teaching on the basics of First Aid and CPR.

Please note that class size is limited and sign-up is required. (Also note that if you reserve a space and do not show up for class, you will be responsible for paying for the class).

### NFPA 70-E

**Saturday, March 7th  
8:00am-2:00pm**

David Martinez will be the instructor for this class. This class is NOT a drop-in class – sign-up required. Participants are encouraged to sign up by contacting Stacy at [Stacy@tricityjatic.org](mailto:Stacy@tricityjatic.org). Journeymen will receive hours of continuing education upon completion of the class. The class will be held at the Training Center in Castroville.

### CONFINED SPACE AWARENESS TRAINING

**Cancelled due to lack of sign-ups. We hope to reschedule for sometime soon. Please contact us if you have interest in attending!**

### OSHA 10

If you are interested in taking an online OSHA 10 course, please contact Stacy at [info@tricityjatic.org](mailto:info@tricityjatic.org) to sign up.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL CLASSES REQUIRE REGISTRATION PRIOR TO THE CLASS.**

**Please contact Stacy at [info@tricityjatic.org](mailto:info@tricityjatic.org) to sign up for all classes.**

We are in the process of adding classes to our calendar. Please reach out if you have a request for a class that would be beneficial to your firm.



## CLASS COMPLETIONS ROUND ROBIN SAFETY TRAINING JANUARY 10, 2026

John Barber, Jeff Beers, Ramon Cerna, Javier Contreras, Cristian Escamilla Hernandez, Jon Goddard, John Green II, Erik Guerrero, Andy Hartmann, Jaime Hernandez, Beau Kelly, Freddie Lopez, Robert Meloney, Jose Munoz, Matt Munoz, Josh Murray, Jake Myhre, Carlos Prado, Mike Rodda, James Stanchfield, Brian Stanley, Jonathan Stanley, Robert Tangonan, Trudi Teller, AJ Todd, and Patrick Torres

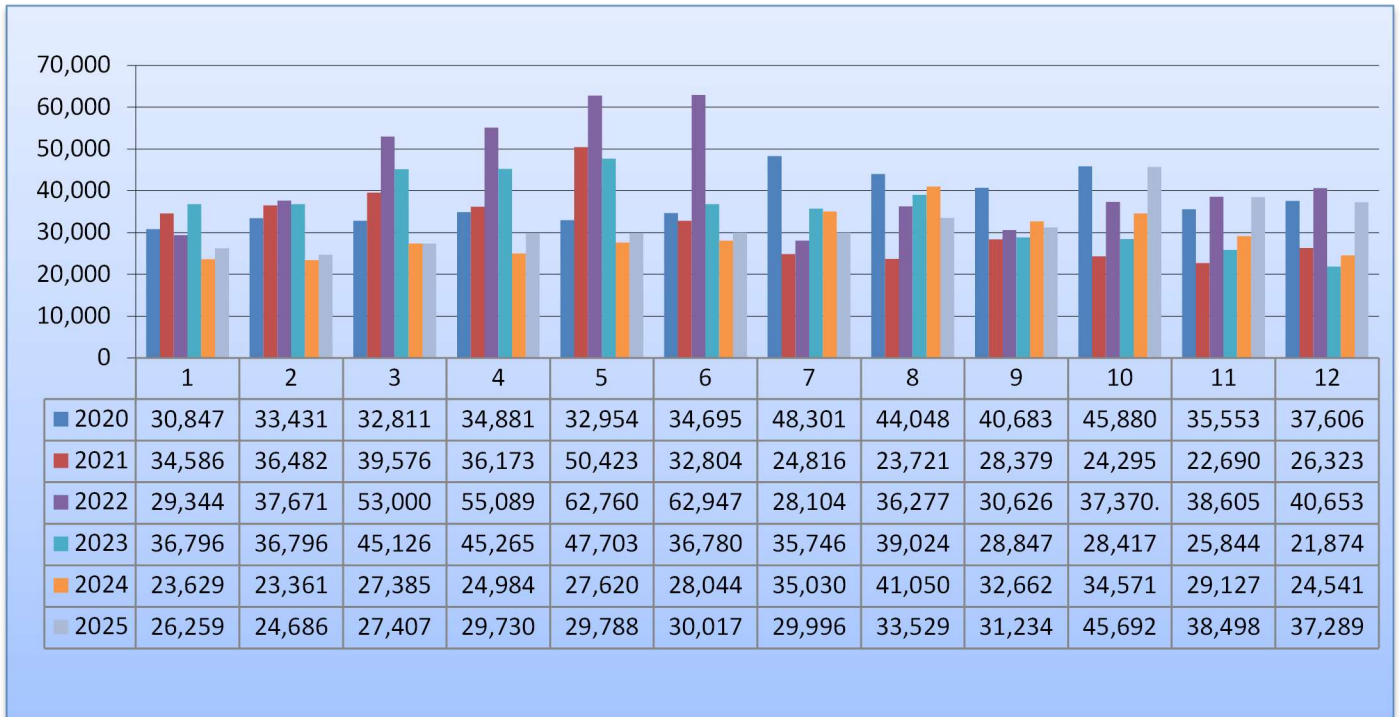


**New Dispatch Procedures for Local #234** as of January 1st, 2026 Monthly Hours Report Jun Jly Aug Sept The new dispatch procedure has been implemented starting January 1st. The previous dispatch procedure received a couple of revisions which include: • Resign became a once a month occurrence. Members will have to resign between the 10th and 16th of every month to keep their place on the out-of-work books. • Reinstatement of the ding system. If a call goes unfilled that you were qualified to take, you will receive a ding. After 3 dings, you will be removed from the out-of-work books. This change has been made to reflect what is currently in our CBA. New dispatch procedure info sheets will be emailed to all members and everyone on the out-of-work books.

## AVAILABILITY LIST UPDATE

On the Inside Out-of-Work List, there are 23 on Book 1, 8 on Book 2, 11 on Book 3 and 4 on Book 4. There are 0 Book 1, 1 on Book 2, 2 on Book 3 and 0 on Book 4 for Sound & Comm. There are no CE's on Book 1 and 0 on Book 2, 4 CW1's and no CW2's available. ***If you are interested in hiring an apprentice in the near future, please contact Stacy at the JATC office to let her know your future needs. One apprentice is currently available.***

# INSIDE WORK HOUR HISTORY



## NECA 2026 LAS VEGAS

**OCTOBER 4 - 7, 2026**  
**Mandalay Bay Beach**



# FEBRUARY

**February 18-20, 2026**

Wine and Wisdom  
Allegretto Resort, Paso Robles, CA

**March 5-6, 2026**

Managerial Strategies for Improving Project Level Cash Flow  
Vespera Resort  
Pismo Beach, CA

**April 13-15, 2026**

NECA Emerge  
Atlanta, GA

**June 10-12, 2026**

Academy Meeting  
Anchorage, AK

**July 15-18, 2026**

Tri-District Meeting  
Wailea, HI

**October 4-7, 2026**

125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary NECA Convention  
Las Vegas, NV