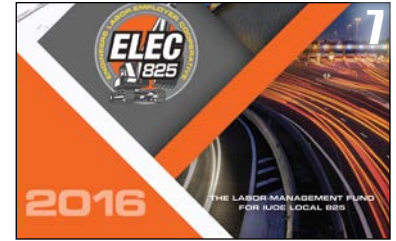


# 825. NEWS



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SERVING THE LOCAL 825 MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS VOL. 7 ISSUE 2

## Members carry Local 825 flag to war on terror Trio receives emotional sendoff in support of war on terrorism



Business Manager Greg Laveve (left) and Business Agent John LoCrao (center), a Vietnam veteran and former Navy Seabee, present the Local 825 flag to Staff Sergeant Vincent Kyzima before 450 members at the semiannual meeting. Sergeant Kyzima, along with brothers Sergeant Fred Conrad and Corporal Joseph Bove,

brought the flag with them to the Middle East when they departed at the end of January. The trio deployed together in the 3rd Platoon of the 417th Engineer Company to support the global war on terrorism. The entire membership and executive board wished them a successful mission and safe return.

# CALENDAR

Note, all district meetings begin at 7 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

## MARCH

1 – **Ash Wednesday**

6 – **District 1 meeting**

Crystal Manor  
210 S. Delsea Drive, Glassboro

8 – **District 2 meeting**

Holiday Inn  
2870 Hwy. 35, Hazlet

12 – **Daylight Savings**

Set clocks forward

13 – **District 3 Meeting**

Russian Hall  
464 Outwater Lane, Garfield

15 – **Blood Bank**

2 p.m. to 7 p.m., prior to District 4 meeting

15 – **District 4 meeting**

Holiday Inn  
68 Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NY

17 – **St. Patrick's Day**

20 – **Spring begins**

## APRIL

3 – **District 1 meeting**

Elks Lodge 1875  
600 Washington Street, Toms River

5 – **District 2 meeting**

Ramada Plaza  
160 Frontage Road, Newark

7 – **2017 Scholarship Applications Due**

9 – **Palm Sunday**

10 – **District 3 meeting**

Holiday Inn  
1000 International Dr., Mt. Olive

10 – **Passover begins**

12 – **District 4 meeting**

Holiday Inn  
68 Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NY

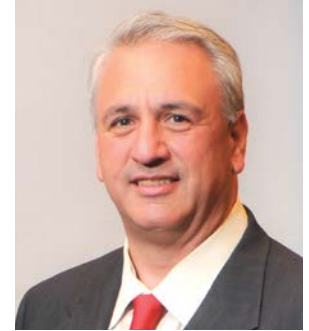
14 – **Good Friday**

16 – **Easter**

22 – **Earth Day**

# VIEW FROM THE TOP

*Greg Lalevee, Business Manager*



## Charting our next course over troubled waters

In 2016 – with the TTF deal and the “yes” vote on Public Question #2 – New Jersey proved it had the will to make difficult decisions to improve our state. The next great issue is fortifying and fixing our state’s ailing water infrastructure.

Our water system is out of date and poses real risks. We’ve already heard about lead being found in the water in Newark, Paterson, Glassboro and dozens of other places throughout the state — including in our schools. And while lead is a major concern, serious structural problems are less obvious because they are hidden below ground.

Experts estimate that water infrastructure requires \$8 billion over the next ten years. Funding would be used to improve pipes and water treatment infrastructure, collect data, improve sensors and adopt new technologies that extend the life of these complex systems. The state would save money in the long run by using less water, making more out of what we have and avoiding costly waste and infrastructure failures.

While the political will to raise money remains a challenge, politicians, voters, and businesses hold the power to make commonsense decisions to maintain our quality of life and keep residents safe. This takes into account indoor piping, drinking water, sewers and environmental impacts.

In initiating this effort, we have already published an Op-Ed in NJ Spotlight, laying out the need for investment and kicking off our plan of action.

In 2016, New Jersey showed that brave legislators, activists, and citizens can unite behind an important cause and enact programs to make our state a better place. In the months ahead, we will be looking for your support as we extend these efforts and chart a new course for 2017.

### Winter classes a success

January and February saw our members brave the cold weather to learn new skills and enhance existing ones at the NJ Training Center, see them in action on pages 4 and 5.

ELEC’s “Safe Crane Initiative” is off to a great start, with 12 municipalities adopting our ordinance. Kudos to ELEC staff as they pursue at least 20 additional towns in their ambitious program this year. More information on page 7.

Congratulations to our 14 newest journey-men, who were awarded graduation plaques in January (page 8).

The next blood drive is in Middletown on March 15 ... give someone the gift of life and feel good about yourself.

Best wishes to all as our days are set to get longer and spring begins!

## Contact Information

### Local 825 Headquarters

65 Springfield Avenue, 3rd FL  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 671 - 6900  
(973) 921 - 2918 FAX

### District Offices:

5 Allison Drive  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08003  
(856) 470-1480  
(856) 470-1485 FAX

6 Wesley Court  
Middletown, NY 10941  
(845) 674-9020  
(845) 674-9025 FAX

### Health & Welfare office

65 Springfield Avenue, 2nd FL  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 671 - 6800  
(973) 921 - 0706 FAX

### NJ Training Center

338 Deans Rhode Hall Rd.  
Dayton, NJ 08810  
(732) 798-2170  
(732) 798-2175 FAX

### NY Training Center

Middletown Training Center  
6 Wesley Court  
Middletown, NY 10941  
Office: (845) 692-3393

### Wawayanda Office

96 Bates Gates Road  
Wawayanda, NY 10973  
(845) 374-2559  
(845) 374-2564 FAX

### ELEC Office

65 Springfield Avenue, 2nd FL  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 630 - 1010  
(973) 630 - 1013 FAX

### Union Plus®

(offered through Wells Fargo Home Mortgage)  
Debra Botulinski  
(908) 608-2013

# Semiannual meeting

## **Record attendance on hand to hear ‘state of the union’**

The kickoff semiannual meeting drew a record crowd to the East Brunswick Hilton Hotel in January. It was a standing-room-only audience as more than 450 union members came to hear the state of the union reports from Business Manager Greg Laveve, President John Wood, Treasurer Jim McGowan, Financial Secretary Joe Logan and Recording Secretary Bob Davis.

Greg reported on the status of the funds, and a thorough review of key activities.

### **Organizing and recruitment**

Greg announced that the local continues to take an aggressive approach to organizing,

with the goal of being the primary source of highly skilled heavy equipment operators in the 26 counties we cover.

Activity is aimed at employees who may be working for signatories but are not yet covered by a contract and employees at new companies the Union is seeking to organize. We also seek to represent workers who supply materials, equipment or equipment repair services.

We want contractors who employ our members to perform all construction work possible.

### **NJ fall elections**

This year’s election will select a new governor and all 120 legislative seats. It’s safe to assume that a lot of outside money and influence will pour into these races, as the election will be seen as a referendum on Donald

Trump’s first year in office.

We will play an active role in this election and will be asking for member support. Our PAC will continue to host our annual reception for candidates and we will endorse the candidates who we believe will best represent our interests.



**CHANGING ROLES** – Clockwise from top left, Jonathan Kopf, William Vaccaro, Jack Nacion and Mike Grace. At the meeting, Greg announced that Jack and Mike are retiring and he thanked them for their years of service. Willie will replace Jack as Executive Board Vice President; and Jonathan will replace Willie as Conductor. Best wishes to Jack and Mike on their retirement and to Willie and Jonathan as they take on their new roles.

## JJ Pierson makes it a ‘banner day’

Business Manager Greg Laveve accepts a four-foot high banner from J.J. Pierson, Esq., during the semiannual meeting.

Mr. Pierson’s father – known to most as Jack Pierson – served as President of Local 825 for several years in the 1970s. During that time the banner hung in the 4 Fleming Avenue, Newark, headquarters, before the relocation to Little Falls and then to Springfield.

Making the presentation, Mr. Pierson explained that the banner had been included in memorabilia saved by his father during the moves and is still identified with the Newark location.

Greg said that the banner will be displayed appropriately on the third floor of present day headquarters.

Mr. Pierson remains active in labor law and practices from his office in Short Hills, which he began as a full-time arbitrator in 1977, after an appointment as Assistant Commissioner of Labor and Industry in New Jersey. Raised in the construction industry, educated in labor-management relations and licensed to practice law, Mr. Pierson has served as a widely accepted and trusted dispute resolution neutral for nearly four decades.



# Training grows by 50% in a year, while winter classes proceed

**T**hroughout 2016, students received 69,260 hours of training, a 50 percent increase in training over the prior year.

In addition to expanding training opportunities, we continue to upgrade our facilities and equipment. In New Jersey, we are working to expand the Training Center with the purchase of 18 acres. In New York, the construction of new buildings in Wawayanda is progressing smoothly and is on track for completion by April, weather permitting.

## **This year's winter classes**

Nearly 90 members participated in this year's winter classes in January and February. Classes and their instructors were:

- Basic Crane, with instructors Joe Glova and Chris Szpila.
- Pile driving (3900 with hanging leads & juttan), with instructors Mike Tufaro and Joe Grace.
- Black-top classes (paving, milling, transfer machine and roller), with instructors Jim Beslanovitz, Glen Horishny, Dave Spece and Chris Delaney.
- Pipeline (angle-blade dozer, sideboom, excavator and log truck), with instructors Jared McCaffrey, Adam Snover, Terrence O'Brien Jr., Chris Wood and Jeff Zuill.
- Casagrande drill, with instructor Brian Bogie.
- Bauer drill rig, with instructor Joe Juzefyk.
- GPS and Rover Topcon, with instructor Efrain Crespo.
- Brokk, with instructor Tom Lewicki.
- Helical Pile Auger attached to Cat 311 Excavator, with instructor Dan Seig.

Training Directors Keith Adolf and Al Zabicki expressed thanks to Henkels & McCoy, who donated pipeline equipment; Crisdel & Stavola, who donated black-top equipment; Linde Griffith, who donated a fixed-lead pile driver; and Wirtgen for their equipment and presentations on milling, paving & rolling for the asphalt classes.

The second phase of the Great Adventure training grant started in February. Apprentices and Journeymen milled and paved the next section of the theme park's parking lot, with assistance from laborers from Local 172.

The first apprentice class of 2017 is scheduled for March 6, 2017, and the second on April 10, 2017.





# TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

## NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m., except CCO, which starts at 8 a.m. To register for a New Jersey class, call (732) 798-2170.

### MARCH

- First apprentice class of 2017 begins on March 6.
- CCO: March 4, 11, 18 and 25. Test day is March 26.
- Two eight-hour Hazmat Refreshers, one on March 11, another on March 18.
- OSHA 40-hour Hazwoper: March 13 through 17.
- OSHA 30-hour: March 7 through 10.

### APRIL

- The second apprentice class of 2017 begins on April 10.
- CCO: April 1, 8, 15 and 22. Test day is April 23.
- OSHA 30-hour: April 11 through 14.
- OSHA 40-hour Hazwoper: April 17 through 21.
- Eight-hour Hazmat Refresher: April 22.

## NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m., except CCO, which starts at 8 a.m. To register for a New York class, call (845) 374-2559.

### MARCH

- Two eight-hour Hazmat Refreshers, one on March 4, another on March 25.
- OSHA 10-hour class: March 16 (two hours) and March 18 (eight hours)

### Remember: Always ...

- Check your expiration dates on your certifications.
- Check with the Training Center a week prior to classes to make sure the schedule hasn't changed.
- Notify the Training Center if you cannot make a session you signed up for, so your spot can be offered to someone else.

# On-line dues payments now accepted

In response to ongoing requests, Local 825 members can now make dues payments online, through the Member Portal.

The new service was activated on Feb. 1  
To make your payment:

- Visit the IUOE825.org website and click on "Member Login."
- At the login screen, enter your Local 825 credentials.

- From the Main Menu, click on the "My Account" icon.

- From My Account, click on the Pay Dues Online link. Follow the steps indicated. You can pay with these major credit cards: AMEX, Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

If you have any questions or need help during the process, feel free to call our Dues Department at 973-671-6918 or 973-671-6917.



**MARSHALING THE TROOPS** – ELEC's Daniel Ortega and Local 825's Erin Rice collect postcards from members in January to help lobby state lawmakers to approve the BL England pipeline, which has been mired in legal challenges with anti-pipeline groups.



**BUILDING SUPPORT FOR LEGOLAND** – Members of IUOE Locals 825 and 17 were among those who rallied in support of the Legoland Theme Park proposed for Goshen, NY. In addition to union members, supporters also included chamber of commerce members and local officials. Legoland spokesman Phil Royle said he hoped the project could be approved by February or March, after which time the company would begin to recruit workers.

# ELEC's 'Year In Review' highlights 'best year ever'

**F**resh from its victory in the fight for a TTF solution and approval of Public Question No. 2 on the November ballot, ELEC will find new and creative ways to promote opportunities for our members and union contractors in 2017.

Its 2016 accomplishments were published in the annual ELEC Year In Review. This impressive record includes accomplishments in the fields of:

## Member reimbursement

Through credential reimbursements, ELEC has returned more than \$420,000 to members over the program's short lifetime. This includes more than \$130,000 in 2016.

This coincides with the number of credentials increasing dramatically, which expands work opportunities for members, allows the Local to fill jobs easier and puts our contractors in a better position of having a workforce that is ready when needed.

## Market Recovery

Created in 2014, the Market Recovery Program (MRP) targets projects where we face stiff non-union competition. To date, we have recovered more than 220,000 man-hours through this program.

MRP grants to secure these projects totaled \$4.65 million, while the wages and benefits to our members total \$16.7 million. That's a 260 percent return on investment in favor of our members.

## Advocacy

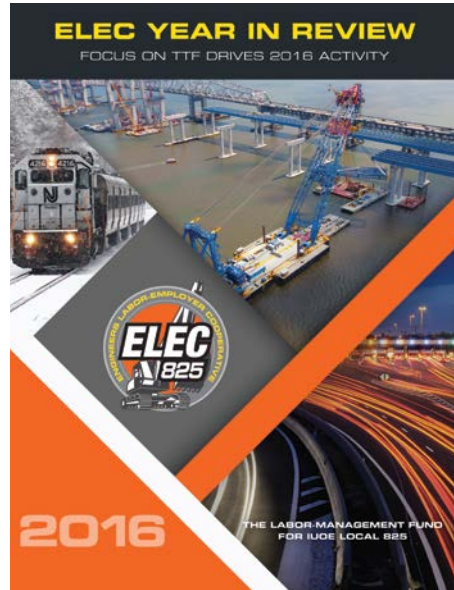
ELEC staff members are constantly involved in advocacy, joining more than thirty business organizations and meeting with dozens of government officials, business administrators, development directors, housing authority officials, planning and zoning board members.

These relationships, innovations and achievements strongly position ELEC for the challenges we face in 2017.

## Road to Repair takes a turn

ELEC's "Road to Repair" advocacy program now pivots from transportation to other infrastructure, particularly pipelines and water infrastructure.

Anti-pipeline groups have blocked almost



every project throughout our 26 counties. This disproportionate influence is based on misinformation and scare tactics and we will counter it in much the same way that we fought for the TTF solution.

We also have updated our marketing materials to communicate with our varied audiences and stakeholders. These materials will help us strengthen collaboration by communicating the value of our programs.

We are grateful to our members and trustees for their bold vision that created ELEC in 2011. Their action set in motion the ability to forge positive outcomes for our union contractors, our Local 825 members and our families.

We look forward to continuing this valuable work, which helped make 2016 our most productive year ever, tackling even greater challenges in 2017.

## Safe Crane initiative enhances community safety

In 2016 – following a spate of accidents involving non-union-operated cranes – ELEC began a "Safe Crane" initiative to protect municipalities.

Without a safe-crane ordinance, contractors do not have to inform a municipality that they will be bringing in a crane, unless a right-of-way is being obstructed or a police officer is needed for traffic control. This means that authorities only become aware of dangerous conditions after something goes wrong.

Working with the Local 825 Training Center and legal counsel, ELEC developed a model ordinance for towns and cities to ensure that only responsible contractors and operators receive construction permits.

The ELEC Safe Crane Ordinance would compel contractors to provide municipalities with:

### Partnering with municipalities

In order to help support compliance with a safe crane ordinance, ELEC, Local 825 and the Training Center sponsor specialized crane training and refresher programs to ensure operator skill level and safety.

ELEC also works with communities to encourage passage of the ordinance. During 2016, 12 municipalities passed a crane ordinance. These were:

Palisades Park  
West New York  
East Orange  
Passaic City  
Little Ferry  
Hoboken  
Cliffside Park  
Gloucester Township  
Belleville  
Monroe Township (Gloucester County)  
Deptford Township  
Guttenberg

Safe crane ordinances are pending in six more municipalities and meetings are scheduled in more than 13 others.



**International Union of  
Operating Engineers Local 825**

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[www.IUOE825.org](http://www.IUOE825.org)

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**BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE**

# 14 apprentices begin their journey with Local 825

**M**embers cheered fourteen 2016 apprentices as they were awarded plaques on their graduation to journeymen in January.

We are proud to be joined by this new group, which includes:

Charles Swiernik  
James Armstrong  
Damien Cahill  
James McGarvey  
Daniel Laveve  
Preston Foray, Jr.  
Joshua Tennyson

Edward McHugh III  
Edward Pierson III  
Daniel Richardson  
Edward Altz  
Kevin Morrison  
Anthony Seely  
George Kauffmann



## **Blood bank for New York region**

**T**he second blood drive of the year will take place from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. on March 15, prior to the District 4 meeting later that day at the Holiday Inn, 68 Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NY.

This is an important activity and something almost all of us can do. It costs us little and yet may save someone's life.

Add it to your calendar and feel good about yourself.