

# 825. NEWS



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SERVING THE LOCAL 825 MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

VOL. 9 ISSUE 1

## Holiday party starts with Santa's Workshop

Members show generosity, Marines on hand to spread it around



Members showed their generosity and shared their holiday spirit by donating Toys for Tots during the annual Local 825 holiday party on Dec. 11 at the East Brunswick Hilton. The party has become a symbol of goodwill each year as members share their own good fortune with those who have been less fortunate. Members of the US Marine Corps Reserve,

Combat Logistics Battalion 25 of Red Bank, were on hand to load the toys into bins, then into trucks and ultimately to local organizations that distribute them to children. (Left to right): President John Wood, Sgt. Damar Walker, Sgt. Cornelius Thompson, Business Manager Greg Lalevee. More holiday party photos on pages 4 & 5.

# CALENDAR

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

## JANUARY

**1 – New Year's Day – UNION HOLIDAY**

**7 – Semiannual Meeting**  
Hilton East Brunswick  
3 Tower Center Blvd., East Brunswick

**21 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

## FEBRUARY

**4 – District 1**  
Kerri Brooke Caterers  
755 S. White Horse Pike, Hammonton

**6 – District 2**  
FairBridge Hotel  
195 Davidson Ave., Somerset

**11 – District 3**  
Russian Hall  
464 Outwater Lane, Garfield

**13 – District 4**  
NJ Training Center  
96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY

**14 – Valentine's Day**

**18 – Presidents' Day – UNION HOLIDAY**

**26 – Blood Bank**  
11 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
NJ Training Center  
338 Deans Rhode Hall Road, Dayton, NJ

*With this issue, Volume 9, Issue 1, the 825 News begins its ninth year of publication.*

*For the second time in our nine year history, we have updated our look. We've simplified our cover, our typefaces and our layout to keep the content looking fresh and easy to read.*

*We hope you continue to enjoy each edition of our 825 News.*

## VIEW FROM THE TOP

*Greg Lalevee, Business Manager*



# As a great year ends, we look forward to 2019

**W**hen it comes to full employment and good jobs for our members, 2018 was a year that will be hard to beat.

From the Tappan Zee to the Goethals and several bridges in between, Local 825 members and the rest of New Jersey and New York enjoyed the best economy and record employment in recent years.

Aside from bridges, members worked on tunnels, highways and construction projects of every kind. In the past few weeks alone, our members have been working on the team of JF Brennan to dredge the historic Delaware and Raritan Canal; topping off the LG headquarters in the Palisades; reaching the halfway mark in the Delaware Aqueduct bypass water tunnel from Newburgh to Wappinger, NY, and many other projects throughout New Jersey and our five New York counties.

### Winter Classes

Training opportunities are available at both our Training Centers this winter. Take advantage of these to learn new skills and to stay on top of your game with refreshers and new technology. The training calendar is on page 5. Also read about the steps we've taken to have our

NJ Training Center recognized as a two-year technical college.

### Annual Fund Raising

We completed a great year of fundraising activities this year with our bi-annual Scholarship Dinner Dance. For the first time it was held at the Palace at Somerset Park and everyone who attended gave it a thumbs up. Photos are on page 3.

Finally, we enjoyed another great holiday party on December 11. Our members generously donated thousands of dollars worth of toys for families in need. Members of the US Marine Corps were on hand to take custody and distribute the toys in time for Christmas. Photos on pages 4 and 5.

### Looking Ahead

We are grateful for 2018, for our strong membership, for a steady stream of talented apprentices and for the bond we all share as proud members of Local 825.

Please join us on January 7 for our Semi-annual meeting at the East Brunswick Hilton. In the meantime, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all.

## Contact Information

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Bordentown, NJ 08505  
Tel. 856-470-1480  
Fax 856-470-1485

96 Bates Gates Road  
New Hampton, NY 10958  
845-674-9020 - Phone  
845-674-9025 - Fax

**Health & Welfare office**  
65 Springfield Avenue, 2nd FL  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 671 - 6800  
(973) 921 - 0706 FAX

96 Bates Gates Roads  
Suite 70  
New Hampton, NY 10973  
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(845) 374-2564 FAX

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

**NY Training Center**  
Wawayanda location  
96 Bates Gates Road  
New Hampton, NY 10958  
845-673-3154 - Phone  
845-674-9025 - Fax

**ELEC Office**  
65 Springfield Avenue, 2nd FL  
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(973) 630-1013 FAX

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(908) 608-2013

# Dinner Dance closes 2018 fundraising at the Palace

It was a special night that only comes once every two years. And this year's Local 825 Scholarship Dinner Dance drew more than 500 guests to the elegant Palace in Somerset Park.

The evening was filled with great food and company. The Juliano Brothers Band entertained with an endless repertoire of Rock, Blues, R&B and Disco and played to a full dance floor most of the night.

The dinner dance capped off a year of fund raising for the scholarship fund, which benefits the children and grandchildren of members.

As he kicked off the evening, Business Manager Greg Laveeve announced that next year a tenth \$10,000 scholarship would be added, bringing to \$100,000 the amount given to help winners finance their four-year education.

This was the first dinner dance held at the Palace and everyone had high praise for the overall quality of the event.

The photos of the event were taken by Jason Giordano and are available to review or purchase on his website (see his logo on this page).



Jason Giordano  
Photo & Video



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*Event photos were taken by Jason Giordano.*

# Holiday party spreads cheer, brings members together

The toys started piling up early as members rode the escalator to the East Brunswick Hilton's third floor. Jim McGowan, Pat Hjelm and Alex Kolbasowski arranged the toys into bins and around a Christmas tree, preparing to turn them over to the US Marines on behalf of the Toys for Tots program.

Estimates put the value of the contributions between \$40,000 and \$50,000, all donated by Local 825 members who came to celebrate the holidays with their brothers and sisters.

An estimated 500 guests were on hand. As the members headed for the dining room, members of the US Marine Corps Reserve unit from Red Bank were on hand to take custody of the toys in preparation for their delivery of them the next day.

"Our members make us proud every year," said Business Manager Greg Lavee. "These toys brighten many lives on Christmas morning ... not just the children but also their parents."

With the toys packed away, the remainder of the evening was devoted to celebration, OE style.





# TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

## NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m. unless otherwise noted. (732) 798-2170

### JANUARY

#### CCO

Four study Saturdays, 8 a.m. start time

Saturday, Jan. 5 – Sign-up & TSS

Saturday, Jan. 12 – TWR at 7 a.m. / TLL at 8 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 19 – OVR at 7 a.m. / LBT at 8 a.m.

Saturday, Jan. 26 – LBC & Review

Sunday, Jan. 27 – Written test at 7 a.m.

#### 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher

Saturdays, 7 a.m. start time:

Jan. 12

Jan. 26

#### Wirtgen Machine demonstrations

Tuesday, Jan. 29 – Milling machine

Wednesday, Jan. 30 – Compaction machine

Thursday, Jan. 31 – Paving machine

### FEBRUARY

#### 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher

Saturdays, 7 a.m. start time:

Feb. 9

Feb. 23

#### Signal Person Class

Saturday, Feb. 2

## NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

All classes start at 7 a.m. unless otherwise noted. (845) 673-3154

### JANUARY

#### 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher

Saturdays, 7 a.m. start time:

Jan. 5

Jan. 19

#### OSHA 10

Thursday, Jan. 24 and Friday, Jan. 25.

Must attend both days to complete

#### CPR Certification

Saturday, Jan. 26

### FEBRUARY

#### 8-Hour Hazmat Refresher

Saturdays, 7 a.m. start time:

Feb. 2

Feb. 23

#### OSHA 30

Mod 1 – Monday, Feb. 25

Mod 2 – Tuesday, Feb. 26

Mod 3 – Wednesday, Feb. 27

Mod 4 – Thursday, Feb. 28

If you are interested in attending an OSHA 10, or a CPR Certification class or a class that is not listed, please contact either Craig Boyd 845-673-3154 or Chris Rumsey 845-674-9020. Once we have enough members for a class, you will be notified.

# Sign up now for Winter Training Classes

**T**urn a winter slowdown into an opportunity to enhance your skills or learn new ones.

Classes start at 7 a.m. Monday, Jan. 7 and end on Friday, March 1.

Contact the New Jersey Training Center at (732) 798-2170 to register for one of the following:

- Pipeline (Angle Blade Dozer, Side Boom, Excavator, Log Loader Truck)
- Blacktop Classes (Paving, Milling, Transfer Machine, Roller)

- GPS (covers Rover, Dozer, Excavator)
- Basic Crane (includes All Terrain)
- Pile Driving (3900 with Fixed & Hanging Leads), (Junttan)
- Casagrande Drill
- Brokk
- AWS Welding Class
- Bauer Drill Rig
- Helical Piles

For additional courses, dates, times and locations, see the training calendar on this page.



## ‘We have to be prepared for the onslaught!’

**“T**he onslaught of robotics did a lot of damage in the past to the United Automobile Workers,” Business Manager Greg Lalevee told NJBIZ magazine in a November interview.

“We don’t want to be in a position like that as technology creeps into our industry.”

“Almost all the jobs of the future will require people to master technology,” Lalevee said.

To ensure members are prepared, Local 825 has applied to the state Department of Education to have its training center recognized as an accredited technical college with the ability to offer associate degrees in

applied sciences.

“We’ve been aggressively pursuing this, and anticipate it’ll take another 18 months to get approved. At that point we’ll build the academic infrastructure, like filling out the administrative faculty positions.”

Local 825 is already speaking with adjunct professors and has been discussing partnerships with four-year institutions. “We think this could be the apprenticeship of the future,” said Lalevee. “At some point down the road you could may see us in high schools at career night ... We have to be prepared.”



*“Although the next wave of innovation won’t create mass unemployment,” noted the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation, a nonprofit think tank, “it will likely ... make it essential that states and the federal government do a better job of equipping workers with the support, tools and skills they need to navigate a more turbulent labor market.”*

# Dredging helps restore environmental areas

**T**he JF Brennan Company of LaCrosse, Wisconsin, a specialty contractor for environmental dredging and marine construction, is employing Local 825 Operating Engineers to help dredge the historic Delaware and Raritan Canals.

Over the next two years, the JF Brennan team will dredge 250,000 cubic yards of sediment that has built up in the old waterway. Three 8-inch cutterhead dredges working at different job locations.

The canals were constructed in the 1830s

to transport coal on barges from Pennsylvania to New York City. Before steam power, coal was transported on barges pulled by mule teams.

The area is now a state park and home to an abundance of wildlife.



*The old pathways that were once used by mules are now walking and jogging paths.*



*On a dredge job, when a mechanical issue arises, it is a team effort to get up and running again.*

## ELEC NEWS

### ELEC registers support for the NESE pipeline

ELEC reiterated its support of the Transco Northeast Supply Enhancement (NESE) pipeline project at a public hearing on Nov. 5 conducted by the state Department of Environmental Protection to evaluate whether to issue permits and clearances that would advance the project.

The Transco system is a 10,000-mile interstate transmission system that moves most of the natural gas used in the northeastern United States. The proposed enhancement would provide additional gas to New Jerseyans and harden the system against future storms, such as Superstorm Sandy.

Among other modifications, the project would lay an offshore pipeline near Monmouth County, add several miles of 26-inch pipe in Middlesex County and construct a new compressor station in Somerset County.



NESE would bring approximately 2,400 jobs to our region and nearly \$240 million in economic activity, while raising \$16 million in state and local taxes. The project also represents an investment in clean, reliable energy that will help keep prices stable for decades to come.

### ACCNJ helps contractors make the most of P3

ELEC was proud to participate in an Oct. 30 workshop hosted by the Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey (ACCNJ) to help contractors make use of the Public-Private Partnership law (P3) that was signed into law in September.

The law promotes economic development through public-private-partnership agreements between government entities and the private sector for building and highway infrastructure. It requires that projects contain a project-labor agreement and that workers be covered under New Jersey's prevailing wage law.





## International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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**BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE**

## Local 825 makes Power List

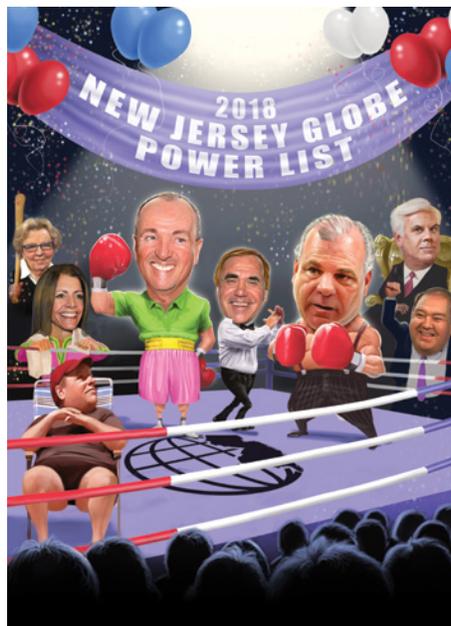
**T**he influential New Jersey Globe named Business Manager Greg Lalevee number 24 on its 100 Most Powerful People in New Jersey Politics.

The publication reviews all aspects of NJ politics and zeroes in “on those who impact politics and government in the Garden State, narrowing powerful personalities to one hundred people.

“Through the force of his personality, former crane operator (Lalevee) has helped build Local 825 into a major force in New Jersey politics and is admired by leaders of both parties.”

Other publications also cited Local 825 and Greg. Some of these included South JerseyBIZ, which named Greg to its “Power 50” and InsiderNJ, which named him No. 57 in its Power 100.

Such recognition is valuable for Local 825 because it gives voice to interests and issues that are vital to our livelihood.



***The Delaware Aqueduct bypass water tunnel from Newburgh NY to Wappinger reached its halfway milestone recently. Hosted by Lead Engineer Mark Evans, Business Manager Greg Lalevee, President John Wood and Business Agent Tim Muller toured the tunnel back in April and met with some of the Local 825 Operating Engineers on the project. Full project completion is expected to be on budget and on time in 2023.***