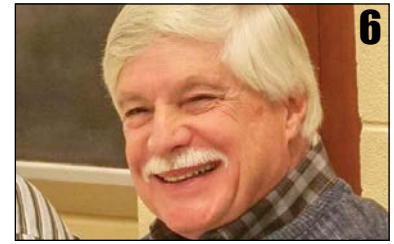


# 825. NEWS



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

VOL. 10 ISSUE 3

## Leaving Las Vegas

### Local 825 takes bold steps to protect members



A contingent of Local 825 and ELEC representatives returned from the Conexpo-Con/Agg trade show, which closed a day earlier than planned due to COVID-19 concerns and impending travel restrictions. President John Wood, joined by business agents, organizers and trainers, attended the expo. The largest heavy equipment showcase in North America, Conexpo is held only once every three years and attracted 130,000 visitors and

2,500 exhibitors. It features 2.67 million square feet of the latest equipment, products, services and technologies for the construction industry and offered educational workshops for construction industry professionals. After returning home Business Manager Greg Lavee asked all who had attended to self-quarantine for 14 days to ensure against any exposure to the virus. See page 3 for more on Greg's directives to protect members' health and safety.

# CALENDAR

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

## May

- 4 - **District 1 - Canceled**
- 6 - **District 2 - Canceled**
- 9 - **Eighth Annual IUOE Local 825 Golf Outing** - rescheduled to Sept. 19
- 10 - **Mother's Day**
- 11 - **District 3 - Canceled**
- 13 - **District 4 - Canceled**
- 13 - **District 3-Health Fair** - To be rescheduled
- 16 - **Armed Forces Day**
- 25 - **Memorial Day - UNION HOLIDAY**

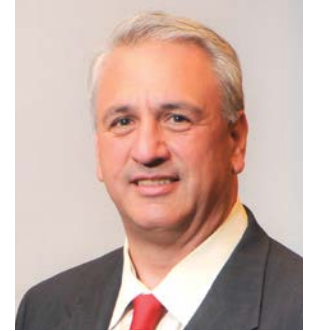
## June

At this time, all June dates are subject to change. Please check the [iuoe825.org](http://iuoe825.org) website by May 15 for updated information.

- 1 - **District 1**  
Elks Lodge 1875  
600 Washington Street, Toms River
- 2 - **Scholarship Dinner: Tentative**
- 3 - **District 2**  
FairBridge Hotel  
195 Davidson Avenue, Somerset
- 9 - **District 3**  
Holiday Inn  
1000 International Drive, Mt. Olive
- 10 - **District 4**  
NY Training Center  
96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY
- 10 - **District 2 Health Fair**  
Training Center - Dayton, NJ,  
3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- 14 - **Flag Day**
- 16 - **District 4 Retiree Brunch**  
NY Training Center  
96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY,  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 20 - **Summer begins**
- 21 - **Father's Day**
- 24 - **District 2 & 3 Retiree Brunch**  
Ramada Plaza, 160 Frontage Road,  
Newark, 10 a.m., \$20.
- 28 - **IUOE 825 Annual Clay Shoot**  
Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays  
2750 Limestone Street, Coplay, PA

# VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



## Rising to unprecedented challenges

The world has changed since we met in the East Brunswick Hilton for our semiannual meeting just four months ago. The COVID-19 virus has thrust change upon us, as it has on people the world over.

We took early action, canceling District meetings beginning with District 3 and 4. We rescheduled events and established safety procedures to protect members and administrative staff while allowing work to continue.

In April we established a COVID-19 Response Unit, a hotline and a schedule of virtual town meetings, see page 3 for more details on this.

### Unemployment rises

Like so many employees throughout America, COVID-19 has forced many of our members into unemployment. This will require that we tap our Funds for a period of time that is unknown at this point.

Thankfully, we went into this with healthy funds and strong reserves. But we don't know how long this crisis will last. If all construction were to stop, contributions would no longer be coming in. That would pose an unprecedented burden on our funds.

In our role as fiduciaries, we are studying what defensive steps we can take to stretch our resources. It is imperative that we begin

to formulate options to guide these difficult decisions, should the time come for that.

Hopefully, it will not. Many great minds in laboratories and companies throughout the country are working feverishly to develop treatments, cures and vaccines to battle the virus. We believe there is light at the end of the tunnel. We just hope that it comes sooner rather than later.

### Infrastructure hope

There is also talk in Congress about a new infrastructure spending bill that might fund largescale projects, like the Gateway Tunnel, and create good jobs for many members.

In the meantime, I am grateful for the work you do and for the sacrifices you all are making.

I also want to express gratitude to our two governors - Andrew Cuomo of New York and Phil Murphy of New Jersey - for their efforts at keeping construction open until now and for their continued leadership through this very difficult time.

I hope that all of you and your families remain healthy as we await a day, hopefully soon, when we can meet again as a group to share information and friendship. Our mission now is to emerge with a Local 825 that continues to thrive and to have your backs when times get rough.

## Contact Information

Local 825 Headquarters  
65 Springfield Avenue, 3rd FL  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 671 - 6900  
(973) 921 - 2918 FAX

District Offices:  
3242 Route 206  
Building A Unit 6  
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  
(845) 374-2559  
(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  
Springfield, NJ 07081  
(973) 630-1010  
(973) 630-1013 FAX

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Debra Botulinski  
(908) 608-2013



# COVID-19 Response Unit Established

In early March, Business Manager Greg LaLevee established procedures to safeguard the health of members and administrative staff workers alike, allowing administrative work to continue. During the first week of April additional steps were announced to help members and signatory contractors grapple with information that changes rapidly.

Intended to eliminate misunderstandings and respond to questions, Greg and his leadership team established a **COVID 19 Response Unit; a COVID-19 HOTLINE;** and provided for ongoing **Virtual Town Meetings.**

The COVID-19 Response Unit's mission is to inform our members and signatory contractors of:

- workplace issues related to COVID-19;
- questions relating to the administration of our funds;
- concerns over how state (New Jersey and New York) and federal agencies are requiring employers and employees to conduct themselves;
- and to provide general up-to-date information on the virus as it relates to our industry.

The COVID-19 Response Unit consists of three teams charged with receiving questions via the hotline, routing them to the appropriate authority and responding in the virtual town meetings, as well as through our ongoing communications via emails and social media.

**TEAM 1** focuses on information and is headed by William Vaccaro and Victor Grigoriew. They will conduct ongoing virtual town hall meetings to provide the most up-to-date information that and responses to questions received through the hotline.

**TEAM 2** focuses on administration and is headed by Kevin Young and Drew DiPalma. Team 2 staffs the hotline, logs calls and routes them to appropriate sources for responses. The most Frequently Asked Questions will be communicated in the town meetings, the IUOE825.ORG website, the 825 App and social media outlets (Facebook and Instagram).

Team 2 also coordinate with New Jersey and New York Departments of Labor and with Federal agencies for information on unemployment and other important information. In addition, they identify signatory contractors who specialize in workplace decontamination and disinfection and provide these resources to signatory contractors.

**TEAM 3** focuses on Job Assistance. Team Members, Outside Construction: Tim Muller, Chris LaLevee and Joe Grace. Inside shops: Alex Kolbasowski, Evan Daniels and Pat Hjelm.

Team 3 determines answers to hotline questions and responds. Issues include job

site etiquette and navigating problems related to COVID-19. Responses are shared for use in town hall meetings and communications platforms.

## Virtual town meeting requirements

Virtual town meetings will likely be held using the GOTOMEETING.COM web platform. To participate, one must download the GOTOMEETING app to his or her phone or computer in advance. Callers who request to participate will be emailed a link in advance of the meeting with information as to the time of the meeting.

## Covid-19 hotline

The Local 825 COVID-19 HOTLINE is (973) 671-6991. Callers should leave their name, telephone number and a brief reason for their call. All calls will be documented and then directed to the appropriate team for response. Every effort will be made to provide responses within a reasonable time frame.

## Training Center updates

Apprentice classes in March and April were postponed until further notice. May and June classes are on hold at present. Information on classes will be made available once the information is certain.



**Conexpo showcased 60 acres of all types of construction equipment and parts, in addition to educational seminars.**



**Members attended two to three seminars each day until the expo closed early.**

# Five-generation Shinn family spans Local 825 history



The history of Local 825 spans a hundred years of events and times that define the history of America and the Labor Movement that helped build it. The history of Local 825 is also the story of union families. These family names include the Shinns, Reardons, Webers, Campbells, Cremones, Lalevees, Vaccaros and many more.

One of these families extends five generations and covers the entire life of Local 825, beginning with its first president.

## The Shinn Family

(Provided by Timmy Shinn, great-grandson of Local 825's first president.)

In 1917, **Edward T. Shinn** ran steam-driven crane equipment for Linde-Griffith, a pile-driving contractor based in Newark. Around 1917 or 1918, the steam shovel local in which he was a member merged with IUOE Local 106 of Albany and this combined group applied for a charter to form what is now Local 825.



**Edward T. Shinn**

(As an aside, this merger introduced **Joseph S. Fay** to Local 825 history. Joe Fay joined the Steam shovel and Dredgemen's International Union of the American Federation of Labor in 1909 at the approximate age of 17. This local became IUOE Local 106 of Albany in 1915, which later merged with Edward Shinn's steam shovel local.)

The IUOE granted Local 825's charter in 1920. Joe Fay became its first business man-

ager and Edward Shinn its first president. Edward Shinn served as president through 1952, when he died on the eve of the IUOE national convention in Chicago.

Edward's wife **Josephine Shinn** was very involved in union activities at the 4 Fleming Avenue hall in Newark. She helped with union activities and ran some of the food drives and soup kitchens for out-of-work members during the Great Depression.

Joe Fay played an integral role during the Local's peak organizing years from the 1920s through the 1950s. He was involved in labor confrontations during the 1920s and 1930s, a period he later said required standing up to "union busters." He retired to Avon and lived to 80 years of age and died on Aug. 9, 1972.



**Edward Shinn Jr.**

**Edward H. Shinn:** Known as Edward Shinn Jr., he learned the family trade early and became a crane operator at age 16.



One of United Crane & Shovel's early vintage truck-mounted Browning shovels on site in 1941 at the Picatinny Arsenal.



At 16 he owned and rented a pair of pneumatic dump trucks in Jersey City. Not long after, he started a ready-mix concrete business in Newark, Shinn and Walker. He invented a truck-mounted hoist, which worked as an outside elevator. It was used to raise equipment and materials at building sites. Edward filed for a patent on his invention but the advent of the hydraulic forklift made the truck-mounted hoists obsolete.

He founded United Crane and Shovel Service Company Inc. in 1937. His brother (Tim's uncle) was **J. Raymond Shinn**, who served as a Local 825 Business Agent Ray retired in 1977 at the age of 56. He passed away in Melbourne, Fla., in 1994.



**Ray Shinn**

**Kenneth J. Shinn**, (Tim's father), worked as a crane operator for the family's United Crane along with his brother **Edward Shinn III**. Kenneth came into Local 825 in 1949



**Kenneth J. Shinn**

and worked as a straight book-holding member. He remained a member for 66 years and passed away in 2015. Brother-in-law **Harold Magnusson** also worked for United Crane.

**Timmy Shinn:** The great-grandson of founder Edward T. Shinn, Timmy started working in the shop at age 14 during summers as a mechanic's helper. He went to work full time at 17, got his book at 18 and was running long-boom conventional crane equipment by the age of 20.



**Timothy H. Shinn**

Over the years, he worked at United Crane and also worked exclusively out of the hiring hall for nine years, working directly for many contractors throughout the state. In addition to crane operation, Timmy ran various types

of earth-moving equipment, including crawler-mounted backhoes, loaders, dozers, etc.

After his grandfather's death in 1987 Tim managed United Crane for eight years before purchasing it from the remainder of his family in 1995. The business continued for 20 years before closing in 2015 after 78 years.

Tim's brother, **Kenneth Shinn Jr.**, and cousins **Ed Shinn IV, Glenn and Dean Magnusson** were all Local 825 members. Cousin **Stephen Shinn** operates Shinn Brothers Cranes.



**Anthony Shinn**

**Anthony Shinn**, Timmy's son, is a fifth-generation member of Local 825. He currently is employed by Bay Crane Service in Hillside, NJ. Three cousins also represent the fifth generation of Shinn family membership. They

are: **Edward Shinn V, Kevin Shinn and Devin Magnusson.**

*We will include more family histories and photos in the next issues of 825 News.*



**Early 1940s: One of Shinn & Walker's ready-mixed concrete trucks utilizing Edward Shinn's patented truck-mounted hoists.**

# IUOE supports organizing success of Locals

**M**ore than a hundred members from IUOE Locals from around the country descended on Local 825 at the Dayton Training Center in late February to share information on organizing drives that have achieved successful outcomes over the last twelve months.

Along with a strong turnout from the IUOE itself and Local 825 organizers and business agents, the following IUOE locals attended from around the country: Local 4 Boston; Local 37 Baltimore; Local 57 Rhode Island; Local 66 Western Pa; Local 77 Washington DC; Local 147 Virginia; Local 150 Chicago; Local 178 Dallas/Fort Worth; Local 324 Detroit; Local 406 Louisiana; Local 478 Connecticut; Local 542 Philadelphia.

The theme was on how the IUOE can assist the Locals and how the Locals can cooperate

with each other to maximize their effectiveness.

Business Manager Greg Lalevee welcomed the group and provided information about Local 825's history of organizing and about recent efforts. Local 825 Director of Special Projects Kevin Young reviewed strategies recently employed. IUOE's Paul Anderson, Alan Pero, Matt Darnel and Colin Fones-Wolf discussed ways the International assists the locals.

"We were grateful to have the high interest level and turnout," Greg said. "Sharing vital information like this across so many locals shows the real strength of unity we enjoy with our brothers and sisters across the country."

A simultaneous meeting took place on the new METAL program (Member Education, Training and Labor studies).



**Business Manager Greg Lalevee welcomes participants and provides background to Local 825s organizing history and activities. IUOE Northeast Director Alan Pero is at left.**



**Paul Anderson, IUOE Director of Organizing (second from left) and IUOE's Colin Fones-Wolf (third from left) discuss ways the International assists the locals.**



**Interest is high to learn about the Local 825 METAL (Member Education, Training and Labor studies) program presented by Chris Lalevee, Joe Grace, Tim Muller and John Rocco.**



**Local 825 organizers (left to right), Drew DiPalma, Kevin Young, Evan Daniels and Ken Riley.**

## MAP updated in time for health crisis

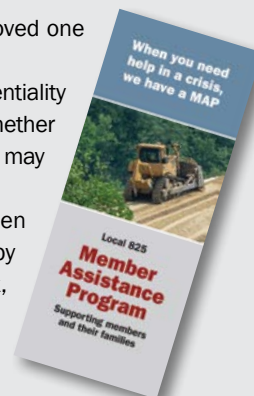
The Member Assistance Program, which began last year, has been updated and a new brochure is now available.

MAP is a member support network – members helping members – introduced to assist fellow members who may be experiencing emotional distress due to a range of issues, including depression, alcohol or drug misuse, workplace issues, PTSD, family relation-

ships, divorce, sickness or the loss of a loved one or even suicidal thoughts.

MAP members ensure complete confidentiality and can help find assistance quickly. Whether problems are domestic or work-related, they may affect job performance, safety and security.

Additional MAP representatives have been added to the network. If you'd like a copy of the updated information and network, please call (973) 671-6753 or email [MAP@IUOE825.ORG](mailto:MAP@IUOE825.ORG).





# ELEC advocates for health, safety during recovery

These are uncertain and extraordinary times. The novel coronavirus is highly contagious and threatening to overwhelm our health care system. In an attempt to avoid that, both New Jersey and New York have taken the extreme but necessary steps to reduce transmission by shutting down all but essential work and instituting social distancing measures.



By Mark Longo, ELEC Director

First and foremost, we are working with our management partners to ensure that all members working in proximity to others have the necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) so that they can continue to work in a safe manner. In tandem with ELEC825 communication, our management associations are providing individual contractors with resources for protocols and guidance. We have always emphasized worker safety in our training and credentialing programs. This is no different.

Second, we continue to communicate

with elected and appointed leaders to make sure that construction continues to be classified as essential work. We want to make sure that our members can still provide for their families and do so safely and that our region can still move forward.

Third, we continue to advocate for investments in transportation, water, and energy

infrastructure. With many working from home, now is a perfect time to do road work. And after we've flattened the coronavirus curve, the next task will be to jumpstart the economy. Investments in infrastructure provide a three-to-one return on investment and can be the foundation of the post-coronavirus bounce back. As you speak with family and friends, please encourage them to support an infrastructure-driven economic recovery.

Until we can look at the novel coronavirus in the rearview mirror, we hope that you and your family are safe.



## Stronger Foundations wins Reed Award

ELEC's *Stronger Foundations* advocacy group, won the Reed Award for the "Toughest TV Ad," during the fall election. The ad successfully challenged Gov. Murphy's attempt to minimize the importance of taxes to voters.

The ad was considered a game-changer in the 21st District legislative campaign, helping incumbents Jon Bramnick and Nancy Munoz to win re-election for State Assembly over Murphy's Democrat challengers.

The Reed Awards are named after Campaigns & Elections founder Stanley Foster Reed and are considered the most prestigious awards available for political consultants. Congratulations to ELEC's Mike Markarski, who helped guide the ad's development under the direction of Business Manager Greg Lavee and ELEC Executive Director Mark Longo.



Mike Markarski



## International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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**BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE**

# Covid-19 rains on St. Patrick's Day parade

The oldest and largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the world fell victim of the Covid-19 virus, breaking a record stretching back to 1762, eighteen years before the Declaration of Independence.

The "St. Paddy's Day Parade" grew into one of New York City's greatest traditions with the steady flow of Irish immigrants into the United States that continually increased into the Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries.

IUOE General President Jim Callahan had been selected to lead this year's parade as Grand Marshal. An estimated 150,000 spectators had been expected to cheer the hundreds of groups and marchers that come from miles around, joined by an even greater number who watch on TV.



## Golf Outing New Date

In a sign of optimism, the 8th Annual Scholarship Golf Outing has been rescheduled for Sept. 19 at Gambler Ridge Golf Club, 121 Burlington Path Road, Cream Ridge, NJ. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. and a Shotgun Start is at 1 p.m. Dinner to follow. Lunch and Dinner are included in your registration.