

# 825 NEWS



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

VOL. 11 ISSUE 1

## Members raze landmark generating station Industrial area to replace 114-year-old coal-burning plant



The Hudson Generating Station was built on the site of the former Marion Generating Station, the first PSEG plant, which started operation in 1906. The Marion Station was the largest in the PSEG fleet until 1924. The bulk of the Marion station was retired in 1961, as

construction on the Hudson Station began and its first unit began operating in 1964. By 2017, PSEG called it quits, blaming tougher environmental regulations and a move toward natural gas. (Information source Wikipedia.) *Story and photos, page 6.*

# CALENDAR

Dates are subject to change. If changes are made they will be posted to the IUOE825.ORG website.

## January

### 5 - Semiannual Meeting

Check website for updated information.

### 18 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

## February

### 1 - District 1 Meeting

Please check website or FB page for updated information as date nears.

### 3 - District 2 Meeting

Please check website or FB page for updated information as date nears.

### 8 - District 3 Meeting

Please check website or FB page for updated information as date nears.

### 10 - District 4 Meeting

Please check website or FB page for updated information as date nears.

### 14 - Valentine's Day

### 15 - Presidents' Day - UNION HOLIDAY

### 17 - Ash Wednesday

### 26 - Blood Bank

Tentatively set for the NJ Training Center, 338 Deans Rhode Hall Road, Dayton from 12 noon to 6 p.m. Please check website or FB page for updated information as date nears.

## VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



# A century apart, two pandemics bookend our history

**T**wo pandemics now mark our beginning and our centennial, a hundred years apart.

The Spanish flu raged across the globe from 1918 into 1920. The deadly covid-19 virus began in 1919 and will continue into 2021. It all but shut down our work for several weeks in March and April, before most of our members were allowed to resume. It harmed our economy and altered our way of life. We hope the development of vaccines will cut short its spread and hasten our return to normal. In the meantime, we'll continue taking great care to keep ourselves and each other healthy.

Covid-19 overshadowed 2020 and forced the cancellation of key commemorative events. Our semiannual and district meetings, the clay shoot, fishing trip, Poker Run and scholarship awards dinner all were canceled, as was a 100th Anniversary Gala planned for Atlantic City. Only the annual golf outing was allowed to be held outdoors in September.

### Anniversary Encore

Local 825 survived the 1919 pandemic and we will survive this one. We will stage an "Anniversary Encore" in 2021 and reschedule the events we missed this year. The gala dinner dance and our other activities will all be held during the next twelve months.

Covid-19 will enter the history books - as

did the Spanish flu - and we will continue our mission of helping members and preparing the way for future generations of Operating Engineers who will follow in our footsteps.

### A New President

In our last newsletter, we endorsed candidate Joseph Biden for president. We outlined the ways we believe he will be better on labor policy that directly impact our lives as union members. The election results were close but Joe Biden is now President Elect Biden. We will see him sworn into office later this month and we look forward to him honoring his commitments to organized labor and championing infrastructure programs.

### A New Decade

This is our first issue of a new decade, as well as a new year. As we turn away from a very difficult year, we look forward to a new decade that will be full of challenges and opportunities. Our work will continue. We will step up our advocacy for infrastructure programs, including water and sewer upgrades throughout our New Jersey and New York counties and we will work for the health and prosperity of our loyal members.

We hope you have enjoyed the holidays and we wish you and your families a happy, healthy New Year.

## 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

### Union Plus®

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(908) 608-2013

# Smaller, safer, personal visits add to virtual meetings

**A**s leaves left the trees in the final months of 2020, Business Manager Greg Laveeve ventured out to reconnect with members on their own turf at local eateries around the state.

“Zoom meetings help but nothing replaces face-to-face meetings for a personal connection.” Greg said. “We all miss the larger meetings but until we can resume them safely, we look for ways to keep our personal

connection with members.”

To keep meetings safe, gatherings were kept small and arranged based on locations, not by districts. Some of the meetings took place in the Tom Sawyer Diner, Paramus; the Park Place Diner, Matawan; and Shut Up and Eat in Toms River. Topics ranged from politics to business to personal matters.

Mindful of health concerns, meetings were

held outdoors or in tents. Masks were worn inside, except when eating and drinking. In general, meetings were appreciated by everyone attending.

Future plans will depend on weather conditions and possible restrictions imposed by the governor. A full resumption of normal meetings will have to wait for widespread vaccination and a level of herd immunity.



*In Toms River, Greg met members at 'Shut Up & Eat'*



*Toms River conversation*



*In Matawan, members met in outdoor tents*

# Women's Committee benefits Komen Fund

**F**or the second year, Local 825's Women's Committee raised funds to battle breast cancer with a successful sale of t-shirts and sweatshirts designed by members of the committee.

Their efforts raised \$6,800, which will fund life-saving research, treatment, education and community health programs.

“Unfortunately, the covid-19 pandemic ended plans to raise money for a Local 825 scholarship fundraiser,” Tammy Good said. “We will look forward to pursuing that again in 2021.”

Fundraising aside, the women's committee also is getting more involved in trades organizations to share information and learn from other women in the construction industry.

“The Women's Committee would like to wish our brothers and sisters a safe, happy and healthy new year,” Tammy said.



*The Local 825 Women's Committee offers members a safe venue and forum for advice, direction and support for Local and worksite related issues.*

# Winter training schedules set for NJ and NY

**P**ending possible last-minute virus-related announcements from the governors of New Jersey and New York, Local 825's annual Winter Training Classes are planned for both training centers.

The cold winter months have always presented an opportunity to learn new skills and perfect existing skills but for months it was uncertain whether they would be scheduled.

"Last classes got in under the wire, having just completed by the time the dangers from the covid-19 virus were beginning to be realized as a significant threat," said Training Director Willie Vaccaro."

Our instructors are the best in the industry and have recently completed NCCCO foundation drill and micro pile drill certification as practical examiners.

Of note, the pipeline class has been replaced with a utility training class that will include trench boxes and steel plates. Other classes will include: Basic Crane, pile driving, milling and paving, utility class, foundation drill/micro pile drill, GPS dozer/basic dozer, robotic demolition, welding, pipe fusion, CDL.

There is still time to register. Consult the calendars and contact either training center to sign up.

**In New Jersey, classes start at 7 a.m., Monday, Jan. 4. Classes run until Friday, March 5. Classes include:**

- Milling and Paving Classes (Paver, Miller, Transfer Machine, Blacktop Roller)
- GPS (covers Rover, Dozer, Excavator)
- Basic Crane (includes the All Terrain)
- Pile Driving (3900 with Fixed & Hanging Leads)
- Junttan
- Foundation Drill (Bauer)
- Micro Pile Drill (Casagrande Drill)
- Basic Dozer Class
- Robotic Demolition Class (Brokk)
- Welding Class (Simulator / Booth)
- Pipe Fusion Class
- CDL Class

For additional training opportunities, check the New Jersey training calendar. To register for any of the New Jersey classes, call (732) 798-2170.

**In New York, classes start at 7 a.m., Monday, Jan. 4. Classes run until Friday, March 5. Classes include:**

- Black Top Classes (Paving, Roller) Rubber Tire Excavator
- Utility Class

For additional training opportunities, check the New York training calendar. To register for any of the New York classes, call (845) 673-3154.



*The New York Training Center in New Hampton*



*Instructor Terrence O'Brien provides direction*



**Apprentices and Journeymen hone their skills**



**Terrence O'Brien, left; Chris Delaney, center; Craig Boyd, right**



**Members get a jump on winter classes**

**NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER**

All classes start at 7 a.m. Call (732) 798-2170 to register or request a certification.

**JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH**

**8-Hour Hazmat Refresher (Saturdays)**

Jan. 9, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 20, March 13, March 27

**CCO – Four Study Saturdays**

Jan. 9 – Signup & TSS;  
 Jan. 16 – TWR at 7 a.m. / TLL at 8 a.m.  
 Jan. 23 – OVR at 7 a.m. / LBT at 8 a.m.  
 Jan. 30 – LBC & review  
 Jan. 31 – Written test

**OSHA 10 (Must attend BOTH days)**

Jan. 16 and Jan. 23

**Signal Person Class**

Feb. 6

**Rigger Class**

Feb. 27

**CCO – Four Study Saturdays**

March 6 – Signup & TSS;  
 March 13 – TWR at 7 a.m. / TLL at 8 a.m.;  
 March 20 – OVR at 7 a.m. / LBT at 8 a.m.  
 March 27 – LBC & review March 28 – Written test  
 Signal Person Class – Feb. 6  
 Rigger Class – Feb. 27

**OSHA 30 (Must attend ALL 4 days)**

March 16 through 19  
 Tues. 3/16, Mod 1; Wed. 3/17, Mod 2  
 Thurs. 3/18, Mod 3; Fri. 3/19, Mod 4

**40-Hour Hazmat (Must attend all 5 days)**

Mon., March 22 through Fri., March 26.  
 Tues. 3/16, Mod 1; Wed. 3/17, Mod 2  
 Thurs. 3/18, Mod 3; Fri. 3/19, Mod 4

**New York Training Center**

All classes start at 7 a.m. Call (845) 673-3154 to request a training program or certification.

**JAN/FEB/MARCH/APRIL**

**8-Hour Hazmat Refresher (Saturdays)**

Jan. 9, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, Feb. 20, March 13, March 27

**OSHA 10 (Must attend BOTH days)**

Tues. & Wed., Feb 9 & 10.

**OSHA 30 (Must attend ALL 4 days)**

March 29 through April 1  
 Mon. 3/29, Mod 1; Tues. 3/30, Mod 2  
 Wed. 3/31, Mod 3; Thurs. 4/1, Mod 4

**40-Hour Hazmat (Must attend all 5 days)**

Mon. April 5 through Fri. April 9.  
 Tues. 3/16, Mod 1; Wed. 3/17 Mod 2  
 Thurs. 3/18 Mod 3; Fri. 3/19 Mod 4

**CPR Certification**

Dates to be announced

For last-minute updates at either training center, always visit the training center's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training](http://www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training)

# Electric generating station falls to progress

**L**ocal 825 members are clearing 241 acres of twisted steel and wreckage from the Hudson Generating Plant, formerly owned and operated by PSEG in Jersey City.

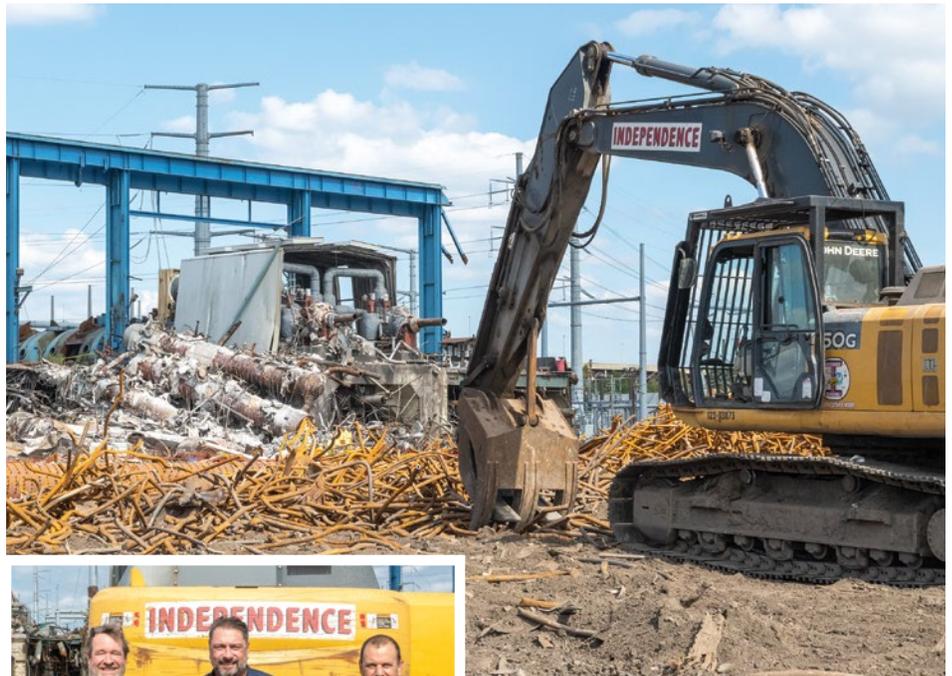
Employed by Independence Demolition of Ohio and under the direction of Lead Engineer AJ Tufaro, they are clearing the way for eventual site work, remediation and construction of a state-of-the-art industrial park and warehouses that are planned to serve the growing distribution business throughout the region. The site is situated among major roadways, has access to the Hackensack River and sits in the shadow of the Manhattan skyline.

The generating station included a coal-fired plant on Van Keuren Ave. and storage towers filled with lime and fly ash, leftovers from coal combustion. The property was sold in January 2019 to Chicago-based Hilco Re-development Partners.

A 500-foot tall smoke stack was successfully imploded in March, followed by the demolition of other buildings, plants and storage towers.

The Hudson Generating Station began operating in 1906 and continued until 2017.

For most of that time it ran primarily on coal to generate electricity and was later capable of burning natural gas as a secondary fuel.



**Brian Tussle, Chris Laveve and AJ Tufaro, lead engineer**

**Removing 114 years of carbon history ... like it never even happened!**

# NJBIA awards safe workplace certification

**T**he New Jersey Business and Industry Association has certified Local 825 and the Local 825 Funds Office as safe workplaces, following the successful completion of an NJBIA training course.

“This comes at an especially important time,” noted Business Manager Greg Laveve. “With the second wave of infections, it is critical that all staff be aware of, and follow, health and safety requirements.”

The course encompassed a wide range of steps, including:

- How to develop a step-by-step Healthy

Workplace Environment Guide

- The best cleaning and disinfection procedures
- On-site health screening procedures
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements
- Social distancing strategies
- Protocols for isolating employees who become ill at work

It adhered to the standards and regulations set by OSHA, the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) to make sure all employees function in a healthy work environment.



# Undaunted by covid-19, ELEC825 pushes on

ELEC825 continues to advocate for public policy that supports infrastructure, economic development, and jobs for members of Local 825. Under normal circumstances, that would include attending, speaking at, and sponsoring events and meetings. But this year, in response to the disruptions caused by covid-19, we've gone virtual.

Here are just some recent events ELEC825 has participated in, virtually:

## NJBIZ: 'The Future of Construction/Development'

Deputy Director Kate Gibbs participated in a discussion about how COVID-19 was affecting construction work. Everyone agreed that work has shifted toward warehousing and logistics.

## NJ Spotlight News: 'Making the Case why New Jersey Needs This Landmark Environmental Justice Law'

ELEC825 sponsored this event, which discussed a new environmental justice law that imposes additional requirements on businesses planning to operate in communities of color. While the intent of this new law was considered admirable, concerns were expressed that unintended conse-



Screen shot of Zoom meeting] CAPTION: "Kate Gibbs participates via Zoom in NJBIZ forum on The Future of Construction Development"

quences could harm the state's economy and economic development. Governor Murphy spoke at this event, as did DEP Deputy Commissioner Shawn Latourette.

## Southern NJ Chamber Environment Committee

ELEC825 sponsors regional events like this one in order to make sure union labor participates in regional public policy discussions that affect their ability to work.

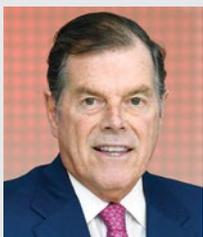
## Jersey Water Works

ELEC825 is proud to be a Visionary Spon-

sor of the sixth annual Jersey WaterWorks Conference. The American Society of Civil Engineers gives New Jersey's drinking water infrastructure a "C" and its wastewater infrastructure a "D" on its scorecard. As climate change is expected to exacerbate water issues, public support must be built for infrastructure investments.

These events are attended by business leaders, state and local government officials and other stakeholders and help shape public opinion and policy. It is critical that union members' concerns are voiced at these meetings and ELEC825 is that voice.

## Board salutes Fletch Creamer



J. Fletcher Creamer Jr.

On behalf of members of Local 825, the Executive Board paid tribute to a friend and partner, J. Fletcher Creamer Jr., who announced his retirement as head of one of New Jersey's largest construction companies.

"Over the years, Fletch Creamer and his company were one of our best partners, employing our members and many times loaning heavy equipment to our training center for winter classes," said Business Manager Greg Lavevee.

Fletch Creamer was 15 when he began working entry level jobs at his family business. Always early to show up for work, he learned to operate heavy equipment and worked at all levels until being named president at the age of 32.

Creamer and Son grew to 1,200 employees - many of them members of IUOE Local 825 - and was recognized among the Top 400 Contractors in the U.S. He was known to work alongside his employees and cared for his fellow workers and the community.

The Executive Board passed a resolution in his honor and presented him with a plaque at his retirement dinner.

## MS thanks Local 825



Gina Ross

Gina Ross Murdoch, President and CEO of the Multiple Sclerosis Association of America, expressed her organization's gratitude to Local 825 members for sponsoring the 10th

annual Gary Wallace Memorial Golf Outing in Marlton during October. The outing is held each year to help improve the lives of families impacted by MS.



## International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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## BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

### NJ's future: blowin' in the wind

A massive seaport being planned for Salem County would make New Jersey the first state on the Eastern Seaboard to service the offshore wind farms envisioned for the future.

The port is being planned to help New Jersey reach its goal of reducing carbon energy and transition to clean, renewable energy. Local 825's Operating Engineers would be at the controls of the heavy equipment needed to build the port, as well as to move giant turbines, towers and equipment onto ships bound for sea.

Estimates are that 1,500 permanent jobs would be created and more than \$500 million will be added to New Jersey's economy annually. Wind energy is increasingly seen as an important complement to our energy portfolio.



### Members strengthen electric grid

Members working for Ferreira Construction complete upgrades to the Aldene-Warinanco-Linden electric transmission system between Cranford and Linden. The \$90 million project replaces transmission facilities more than 50 years old. Authorized in December 2017, the project involved demolition of old towers, pouring new foundations and erecting poles through Cranford Township, Roselle Borough, Elizabeth and Linden. The goal of enhanced electric reliability was scheduled to be in service by the end of December with full restoration expected by April.

