



825.News

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

VOL. 3 ISSUE 1

Pipeline Spans Hudson

Story & Photos p. 3

13 IUOE LOCALS TAKE PART IN SPECTRA ENERGY'S JERSEY CITY/NEW YORK CONNECTION



It took 15 sidebooms, six cranes, a flotilla of tugboats and barges and an army of operating engineers from 13 IUOE locals throughout the country. Together, they snaked a mile-plus-long Spectra Energy natural gas pipeline safely across the

bottom of the Hudson River, from Jersey City to midtown Manhattan. See how it was done on page 4. In the photo, (from left to right) are Fred Gear, Adam Snover, Billy Gebhardt, John Rocco, Greg Lalevee and Paul Izzo.



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Training Classes

January-March

**Classes begin at 8 a.m. except
Hazmat & Hazmat Refresher
classes begin at 7 a.m.**

40-Hour Hazmat Class*/NJ:
Monday, Mar. 11–Friday, Mar. 15

40-Hour Hazmat Class*/NY:
Monday, Feb 25–Friday, March 1

CCO Classes & Tests/NJ:
Saturdays: Jan. 5, 12, 19, & 26;
Test: Sunday, Jan. 27
Saturdays: Mar. 2, 9, 16, & 23;
Test: Sunday, Mar. 24

Hazmat Refreshers*/NJ:
Saturdays: Jan. 5, 19, Feb. 2, 9, 23,
Mar. 2, 16
Wednesdays: Jan. 9, Feb. 6, Mar. 20
Sunday, Jan. 13

Hazmat Refreshers*/NY:
Monday, Jan. 7
Saturdays: Jan. 12, Feb 23, Mar. 23
Wednesdays: Jan. 16, Feb. 13
Sundays: Jan. 27, Feb. 10, Mar. 10
Thursday, Mar. 14

Member Education Class/NJ:
Saturday, Jan. 5

OECP Written Test/NJ:
Saturday, Feb. 2

OSHA 30/NJ:
Monday, Feb 25–Thursday, Feb. 28

OSHA 30/NY:
Tuesday, Feb. 19–Friday, Feb. 22

Qualified Rigger Class /NJ:
Saturday, Jan. 5

Qualified Rigger Class /NY:
Thursday, Jan. 24
Saturday, March 9

Signalperson Qualification/NY:
Saturday, Jan. 19
Tuesday, March 12

Task 70 & 71 / NY only:
Wednesday, Jan. 2

** begin at 7 a.m.*

VIEW From The Top

Greg Lalevee | Business Manager

2012 builds on steady progress, gives engineers strong voice for 2013

With the arrival of the New Year, we pause to look back— not just through 2012, but over the entire period since March 2008, when our local came under international supervision.

We are proud of our role in helping to reelect President Barack Obama, particularly given that candidate Romney had promised to repeal Davis Bacon and prevailing wage clauses. We also are pleased that you helped to elect every single one of the federal-level candidates we endorsed in our November newsletter.

A look back at 2012 would not be complete without referencing Hurricane Sandy, which changed the landscape of New Jersey, with current damage estimates at \$30 billion in New Jersey alone.

About 50 of our own members suffered significant property damage. And many brothers and sisters have already volunteered their time and skills to help them rebuild. *(See more on page 7.)*

2012 saw the launch of our Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative (ELEC), which combines with participating employers to win contracts and create jobs for our members. ELEC also reimburses members for specified licenses and security clearances. *(More on page 6.)*

2013—Looking ahead

In New Jersey, we will start planning to identify highway construction projects for the next 30-months, so we will have good, stable transportation funding for the next two-and-a-half years.

2013 looks to be a good year for pipeline construction. We are already benefitting from the development of the Marcellus shale deposits, which extend from Ohio through West Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York. It is said to be the second largest natural gas field in the world and it will fuel development and thousands of jobs for years to come.



For example, we recently saw state and federal regulatory officials approve nearly seven miles of natural gas pipeline through Hunterdon County. The \$341 million Northeast Supply Link project will expand existing underground pipeline infrastructure and begin delivering gas to Princeton and New York by November 2013,

with construction scheduled to begin this spring.

Our members will be well positioned for these jobs, thanks to our robust pipeline training and the experience being gained on the Spectra Energy pipeline, which continues to employ our members. In December, we participated in a dramatic installation of a mile-plus-long pipeline across the Hudson River *(See photos on pages 4 and 5).*

In New York state we hope to see two large infrastructure projects begin this year.

- The N.Y.C. Department of Environmental Protection has embarked on a five-year, \$1.5 billion project to fix the Rondout-West Branch water tunnel, which ferries half of New York City's drinking water supply from reservoirs in the Catskill Mountains. The tunnel is 45 miles long, 13.5 feet wide, up to 1,200 feet below ground and has been leaking some 20 million gallons a day.
- Likewise, we continue to advocate for funding to begin construction on the Tappan Zee bridge replacement.

Finally, we look forward to our International's convention in April. Our delegation is anxious to help reelect the General Officers and to hear the union's outlook and direction that will be charted over the next five-year period.

Thanks to all our members, whose pride, loyalty and concern for each other makes us stronger day by day, year by year. Best wishes for a great new year in 2013.

Local's reputation advances through sustained activity

At the beginning of 2010, with the help of our trustees and our members, we initiated a plan to update and improve our reputation in our communities, and to assert ourselves as a strong advocate for employment opportunities.

Better Communications

Under this plan, we identified groups we needed to address and we planned a communications program. This included revising our logo, emphasizing "825" to show the pride we feel for our local, launching a comprehensive website that addresses each of our audience segments and sustaining an advertising and public relations program to enhance our reputation and good will by citing our contributions and achievements.

We committed to keeping our members informed through:

- Regular newsletters mailed to homes.
- A regular schedule of intranet and email blasts.
- Continual dialogue with members through meetings and the use of social media, such as Twitter and Facebook.
- Adding a new, comprehensive Funds website to consolidate all information about benefits, providers, forms, and suggestions.

Advocacy & Legislative Affairs

On the advocacy front we:

- Monitored pending legislation and advocated our positions related to construction projects and employment opportunities to elected representatives and officials of state and local agencies
- Re-energized PAC funding and initiated regular meetings
- Brought elected officials before our members to hear their positions first hand.
- Arranged tours and public exercises at our training center to show the extent of our facilities and commitment to continuous training.
- Published endorsements of state and local candidates who understand our issues.

Combined, these efforts have established Local 825 as an important constituency for elected officials in New Jersey and New York, resulting in their now actively seeking our endorsement. It doesn't hurt to have a positive record and we proudly note that every single federal-level candidate we endorsed in November won election or reelection, thanks in large part to our members.

Initiatives


We have not shied away from being proactive and making our positions known. To further the interest of our members, we have:

- Invested pension money in construction projects that guarantee union jobs, such as Novo Nordisk's \$215 million redevelopment and upgrade to its 770,000-square-foot office building in Plainsboro. Aside from being a good investment, the move also secured 500 jobs for our members.
- Supported the lobbying push to approve the Spectra Energy pipeline expansion, which now employs many of our members.
- Pushed to create the Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative (ELEC) in 2010, with a full marketing rollout in 2012.
- Joined in the Building Our Future coalition that successfully promoted voter approval of a \$750 bond referendum for construction on state colleges and universities.
- Joined "Build the Bridge Now" business coalition to promote construction of a new Hudson River crossing to replace the Tappan Zee Bridge.

These are just some of the initiatives we engage in frequently to advance the cause of member employment.

Despite our achievements, it would be a mistake to become complacent and assume our job is done. As 2013 begins, we relish the opportunity – with your help – to continue our efforts to build a better reputation for our union and to expand the opportunities for all our members.

WE CHANNEL ENERGY AND FUEL THE LOCAL ECONOMY



Connecting our communities comes naturally to us

Spectra Energy recently received approval for its New Jersey-New York 21-mile pipeline expansion. When complete, it will channel critically needed natural gas to New Jersey and New York City.


The project is designed to carry up to 800 million cubic feet a day and save an estimated \$700 million a year by alleviating seasonal volatility in the natural gas market. In addition, it will improve the region's air quality by eliminating an estimated 6 million tons of carbon dioxide a year – the equivalent of taking more than a million cars off the road.


Precision and Safety

And who better to lay this pipeline than the members of Operating Engineers Local 825. Our members are involved in their communities every day – as workers, volunteers, coaches, moms and dads – and quality construction is more important to us than anyone.

Industry authority Pipeline and Gas Journal recently reported on Local 825's expertise in pipeline construction, citing our focus on precision and safety. Spectra Energy is committed to building one of the safest natural gas pipelines in North America and we're there to help them do it.

Working together, we will help channel energy to our communities and into the regional economy for years to come.





International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 825

BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

WWW.IUOE825.ORG

5,400-Foot Pipeline



Over a weekend in December, Local 825 operating engineers joined in a dramatic maneuver to thread the mile-plus-long Spectra Energy natural gas pipeline across the bottom of the Hudson River to midtown Manhattan.

"This was an exciting feat that allowed our members to work together and demonstrate their skills," said Greg Lavee, who observed the operation under the supervision of John Rocco. "The project brought together IUOE locals from around the country and will be remembered for a lifetime."

The operation was the culmination of months of preparation, excavation and pipelaying over a 15.5-mile path from Linden, through Bayonne, Jersey City and part of offshore Hoboken to its connection point in midtown Manhattan.

Each 40-foot section of pipe required three hours of welding, followed by X-ray testing to verify integrity.

A 5,400-foot length of pipe had to be assembled to span the Hudson. Once complete, it stretched from the river parallel to the Light Rail line that divides Jersey City from Hoboken, back onto 18th Street.

A Local 825 convoy of 15 sidebooms raised the pipe and inched it toward the waterfront, where six cranes positioned on barges cradled it higher, raising it into an arch, allowing it to then slope downward into a conduit in the river, like sliding a needle through a buttonhole. Once inserted, the pipe was pulled through from the New York side until it reached its destination.

The operation took about 48 hours and involved IUOE Locals from around the country, including Local 3 of Alameda, CA; Local 4 of Medway, MA; Locals 14 and 15 of New York City; Local 49 of Minneapolis, MN; Local 101 of Kansas City, MO; Local 137 of Briarcliff Manor, NY; Local 139 of Pewaukee, WI; Local 147 of Norfolk, VA; Local 178 of Fort Worth, TX; Local 624 of Jackson, MS; Local 627 of Tulsa, OK; and Local 965 of Springfield, IL.

The project was approved earlier in 2012 by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) after months of meetings with local groups to identify an acceptable route and respond to local concerns. The pipeline is needed to transport critically needed natural gas supplies to high-demand areas of northern New Jersey, New York City and Connecticut.



Shane McCaffry



Adam Snover, left, and Paul Filippi



Ron Seber, left, and Mark Hogreliues

Spans the Hudson



Scott Tufaro



Glynn Dubil

LOCAL 825 Updates

LEGISLATIVE

Erin Rice to coordinate PAC and Community Relations

This issue welcomes Erin Rice as Local 825's new coordinator of Community Relations/PAC. Erin will focus on strengthening our relationship with local and county officials and on coordinating our Political Action Committee.



Most projects are greatly affected by local government and it is vital that we promote a dialogue between community stakeholders and Local 825 so that we remain aware of current affairs and work together to support our interests.

Before coming to Local 825, Erin worked for a Public Affairs, Business Development and Political Consulting firm. Prior to that, she worked for Congressman Bill Pascrell and in municipal and state government settings. Erin brings with her extensive political campaign experience on all levels of races throughout New Jersey, which has given her the opportunity to get to know many community groups and officials.

Erin is a member of the non-partisan Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey, sits on the Irish Network N.J. Board of Directors, and served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention last fall. Erin earned a B.A. from Montclair State University. A native of Passaic County, she lives in West Orange with her husband.

ELEC

Reimbursing for security clearances

ELEC's role is to foster collaboration between Local 825 and its participating employers to win construction projects and create jobs.



Participating employer partners include: Associated General Contractors of New Jersey (AGCNJ); Building Contractors Association of New Jersey (BCANJ); Construction Industry Council

of Westchester & Hudson Valley; and the Construction Contractors Labor Employers of New Jersey (CCLENJ)

TWIC, SWAC, and SJ Chemical Card Reimbursement

An important part of promoting our value is nurturing a highly skilled, credentialed workforce. To ensure that we do this, ELEC is now reimbursing members for their TWIC, SWAC and South Jersey Chemical Card clearances.

To deliver on this promise, it is essential that our members maintain their licenses and security clearances. Recognizing that these credentials are costly, ELEC's Board of Trustees has approved our proposal that we reimburse members for TWIC, SWAC and South Jersey Chemical Card clearances.

Watch for information that will be mailed to you soon that will inform you of special meetings we are setting up with representatives of TWIC, SWAC and the SJ Chemical Card. You'll be able to apply on the spot and obtain all reimbursement information at the same time.

ELEC is working to keep the construction project pipeline flowing.

— Mark Longo

BENEFITS

The better to hear you with!

Hearing loss is not a natural result of getting older. It doesn't happen to everyone, and it doesn't have to happen at all!

The most common cause for hearing problems is prolonged exposure to loud noises. For many Operating Engineers, that's a constant in the workplace, but there's a simple way to protect yourself. Wear earplugs!

Make wearing earplugs a part of your routine. Keep them in your safety vest or next to your hardhat – things you'd never leave behind – and use them whenever you're on a job. You can also buy a pair that is connected to a cord, so you can wear them around your neck, making it even easier to put them in and take them out.

Don't take good hearing for granted. Protect yourself!

— Christine Medich



Calendar

January 1.13

1 New Year's Day

Union Holiday

7 Semi-Annual Meeting

Ramada Plaza, 160 Frontage Rd., Newark, NJ

21 Martin Luther King Day

February 2.13

4 District 1 Meeting

Kerri Brooke Caterers, 755 S. White Horse Pike, Hammonton, NJ

6 District 2 Meeting

Days Inn, 1260 Rt. 22 East, Bridgewater, NJ

11 District 3 Meeting

Holiday Inn, 1000 International Dr., Mt. Olive, NJ

13 District 4 Meeting

Holiday Inn, 68 Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NJ

18 President's Day

Union Holiday

825's Facebook a vital link during Sandy

Continual dialogue with members through the use of social media, such as Twitter and Facebook kept members informed during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. We used Facebook to post the latest information on jobs, project and legislative updates, and to share member information and photos.



You can find us by Googling IUOE Local 825 on Facebook. Don't forget to click "Like" at the top of the page to receive updates.

Hurricane Sandy's wrath hits home for Local 825

Hurricane Sandy changed the landscape of New Jersey, especially the shore communities many of us grew up in or visited throughout our lives.

The devastation touched huge areas of the state and interrupted power for up to two weeks. Our headquarters in Springfield was without power for 12 days, and our district offices were affected, too. We are pleased that we maintained our dispatch communication throughout the entire period.

In addition, we were able to communicate with most our members via daily Facebook posts and updates to our website, www.IUOE825.org. For members without power, these messages could be accessed on mobile devices.

The wrath of Hurricane Sandy led the state's largest utility companies to draw up plans to strengthen and protect the infrastructure that delivers gas, electricity and water to New Jersey customers. Executives from eight utilities have since outlined billions of dollars worth of projects at a New Jersey Alliance for Action conference in November.

All were touched. Some were crushed.

While all of us were touched in some way by the storm and its aftermath, about 50 of our members suffered devastating damage to their homes as a result of flooding, wind and fallen trees. Many of these brothers and sisters are still assessing the impact and deciding whether to rebuild or move on.

We're hoping to help them by recruiting a roster of volunteers who would be willing to donate a day or more of their time to help rebuild their homes. We need skills such as carpentry, drywall, insulation, electrical and plumbing. If you can help, please email us at: Sandy@IUOE825.org and include:

- Your name
- Contact info
- Skill you offer

What makes unions great is our willingness to help each other in times of need. Start the New Year off with a resolution to provide a few hours to help our brothers and sisters rebuild their homes and their lives following this "storm of the century."



NJ State Police escort for Local 825 equipment





**International Union of
Operating Engineers Local 825**

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Better Building Begins Here

Exec board expands Scholarship program

For the second consecutive year, the Union's college scholarship program has expanded. The decision increases the number of four-year scholarships (\$10,000 each) from four to six and decreases the number of one-time grants (worth \$1,500 each) from six to three. The scholarship payouts in 2013 will be \$15,500 higher than last year — a great benefit, considering the high cost of college education.

The three grants are given to one student who displays athletic achievement, to another who displays community service and to a third who displays an understanding of unionism. The scholarships are paid out at \$2,500 per year for four years.

The program is for graduating high school seniors from the class of 2013 who will begin attending a college or university in Fall 2013 and who are the children or grandchildren of a Local 825 member.

The deadline for application is April 12. For complete application details, visit the Scholarship page on our website: <http://www.iuoe825.org/scholarships.htm>.

16 Complete Apprenticeships

Congratulations to our newest journeymen, who completed their training in 2012:

Kevin Dupell
Ray Stiteler
Mike Zoldi
Rockey Johnson
Jeff Henderson
Nicholas Boyd
Rob Dube
Steve Reynolds

Mike Terranova
Tom Painchaud
Pasquale Morrocco
Larry Hill
Joe Odonnell
Shawn Garvin
Christine Carman
Roy Huayunga

Apprenticeship requires a minimum of 144 hours of classroom and hands-on training each year. After the training, apprentices are available for work at the trade and must have approximately 1,500 hours of work experience each year before they can advance to the next level of apprenticeship.

Contact Information

Local 825 Headquarters

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

Health & Welfare Office

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

Training

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

NY Training Center

6 Wesley Court
Middletown, NY 10941
(845) 692-3393