

825. NEWS



View From The Topp. 2
Semiannual Meeting.....p. 3
Forward NJ Ralliesp. 5
Benefits News & Updatesp. 6
ELEC's New Lookp. 7

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

VOL. 5 ISSUE 2

Wintry blast fails to put 2015 training on ice Sixty-six members log 4,497 hours over seven-week program



A thin layer of snow covered the grounds at the New Jersey Training Center during the seven-week winter-training program this year but did little to prevent classes from taking place. Only a few days were too cold to work outside and so, those days turned into classroom days. Training covered a range of

crane classes, including Leihberr training on the Blue Tooth Remote Control, as well as the standard classes in excavation, side boom and dozer operation, milling, paving and rolling. In all, 66 members logged more than 4,497 training hours during this year's program. (Pages 4 and 5)

CALENDAR

NOTE: All District Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

MARCH

Mar. 2 – District 1 Meeting

Elk's Lodge 1875
600 Washington Street, Toms River

Mar. 4 – Blood Bank

4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Holiday Inn
2870 Highway 35, Hazlet

Mar. 4 – District 2 Meeting

Holiday Inn
2870 Highway 35, Hazlet

Mar. 11 – Blood Bank

2 p.m. to 7 p.m., Holiday Inn
Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NY

Mar. 11 – District 4 Meeting

Holiday Inn
Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NY

APRIL

Apr. 6 – District 1 Meeting

Crystal Manor
210 S. Delsea Drive, Glassboro

Apr. 8 – District 2 Meeting

Ramada Plaza
160 Frontage Road, Newark

Apr. 10 – Scholarship

Applications Due

Apr. 13 – District 3 Meeting

Holiday Inn
1000 International Drive, Mt. Olive

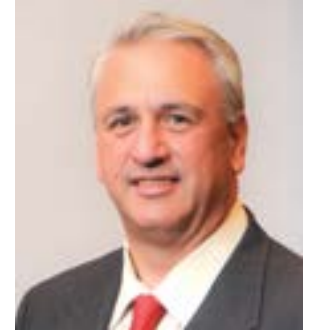
Apr. 15 – District 4 Meeting

Holiday Inn
68 Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NY

Apr. 22– Earth Day

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



TTF funding and pipeline approvals require stepped-up support

Roadwork and heavy construction have sustained many of our members for the past few years. Bridges have especially provided opportunities and will continue to do so during 2015. Now it's time to focus on the private sector and to achieve a funding solution for the New Jersey Transportation Trust Fund (TTF).

TTF funding an uphill battle

As we heard from NJ Senate President Steve Sweeney at our semiannual meeting (Page 3), we need to fight for a \$2-billion-a-year solution.

As a union, we must be prepared to win this fight. Together with our labor management organization, ELEC, we are actively promoting the need for funding solutions using a variety of social media tools (See page 7).

Reasons for cautious optimism

As we enter March and April, there are reasons to be upbeat. Since last July, more than 50 projects have been bid worth a minimum of \$5 million each. Some have started and others will start in the spring.

PSEG is planning 40 miles of distribution this year and contractors doing the work report two years of work on the books.

Pipeline proliferation

There are several pipeline projects in the approvals process.

- The **Constitution Pipeline** should begin in New York next year, as all FERC permits are complete. Forty-two miles of this line go through our area in Delaware County, NY.
- **Spectra Energy's AIM** project centered on New Haven, CT, starts in our part of New York State. Spectra wants to begin an HDD under the Hudson River that will extend six miles to the Stony Point Compressor Station.
- The 108-mile **PennEast Pipeline** to Mercer County is entering a critical phase. We're urging all members to visit the PennEast Pipeline Take Action website – www.penneastpipeline.com/takeaction – and register support with federal, state and local officials.
- The proposed **Pilgrim Pipeline** from Albany to Linden is facing opposition and – together with ELEC – we are providing support to help overcome this opposition.

With all this potential, we need to stay informed of ways we collectively can make a difference. With your help, we will continue to rally support among our friends, family and neighbors through our district meetings, newsletter and Facebook posts.

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

Training

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 details “state of the union”

Approximately 400 members crowded the banquet room of the East Brunswick Hilton to hear about the state of Local 825.

Guest speaker NJ State Senate President Steve Sweeney thanked operating engineers for their work and predicted ultimate success in the drive to achieve \$2 billion a year funding for the state’s Transportation Trust Fund (see related story).

Business Manager Greg Lavee reported on the improving conditions of the funds. He complimented the Training Center for accommodating 1,517 students in 2014 and he announced the acquisition of new equipment to keep training on the cutting edge.

His detailed report touched on political action and organizing activities, with successful drives being completed at:

- United Rentals Trench Safety Division
- Sunbelt rentals Spring Valley NY Store
- Sunbelt Rentals Climate Control Division
- Badger Daylighting

with current organizing ongoing at as

many as five other organizations.

In addition to Greg’s report, additional

reports were provided by President John Wood and the officers.



A new class of apprentices also received plaques for completion of their program and becoming journeymen and journeymen.

Sweeney: don’t settle for TTF “crumbs”

The following are excerpts from remarks made by NJ State Senate President Steven Sweeney:

First of all, I want to thank Greg for his leadership and his friendship.

Tonight, I want to talk about something that is important to everyone in this room, and in this state. It’s the Transportation Trust Fund.

You’re hearing a lot about the TTF. Greg and I talk about it all the time and we’re going to have a bit of a battle to get this done. In this state we need a \$2 billion-a-year TTF plan. That’s \$2 billion *annually*, for years and



years and years. Not for three or four years, not a band aid.

We are focused on creating this and making this happen but it’s going to be one hell of a fight, because we’re not going to settle for crumbs. We are not going to settle for less than what we need in this state.

It will be a fight but with your help, we’re going to win this at the end of the day. We’re going to have a real TTF program that will last more than a decade and hopefully a couple of decades. And putting \$2 billion every year into this state is going to turn this economy around.

Scholarship apps available *now*

Scholarships and grant programs are now available to our children and grandchildren from the Local 825 Scholarship Fund and three other labor unions.

If you have a child or grandchild graduating from high school this year, you would be eligible to apply.

Local 825 members have approved an

Executive Board recommendation to award nine scholarships of \$2,500 per academic year for four years to graduating seniors who will begin attending a college or university in fall 2015.

Other scholarships are offered through:

- The Essex-West Hudson Labor Council AFL-CIO

- Monmouth-Ocean County Central Labor Council
- Mercer County AFL-CIO Labor Council.

For complete information on all of these opportunities, visit the Local 825 website (www.IUOE825.org). Click on the “Public Affairs” tab, then select “Scholarships” from the drop-down list.

Winter classes provide 4,497 training hours, despite wintry blast

Last year, the training center accommodated 1,517 students, who received 19,792 hours of training. This year, we're off to a great start with the conclusion of winter classes, which took place at the New Jersey Training Center over a seven-week period, from Jan. 12 through Feb. 27.

The first day of classes coincided with the onset of a wintry blast. However, the weather didn't keep anyone from the fields and turnout was great, according to Al Zabicki, Training Director. Throughout the seven-week program,

there were only two or three days where the elements kept us out of the field and on those days, training moved indoors to the classroom.

Overall, 66 members logged a combined 4,497 training hours over 691 combined training days.

There were many highlights.

- J. Supor & Son provided a 2014 Leihberr LTM 1070-4.2 crane and IUOE Local 825 Crane Operator, Chris Moglia demonstrated its Blue Tooth Remote Control abilities. The control – which is mounted to the dashboard

when not in use – enables the operator to set up the crane from outside of the cab.

- Wirtgen seminars on Paving, Milling and Rolling in January received a high level of interest and attendance. The Vac Truck instructional classes in February were also well attended.
- Other classes were full in all areas: Basic Crane, Pile Driving, Forwarder Class; Angle Blade Dozer, Excavator, Side Boom, Paving, Milling, Rolling and Transfer Machine Class.



Chris Moglia demonstrates to the Basic Crane class members how to test the tube lock.



Members participate in the Angle Blade Dozer class, grading off the right of way.



Side Boom Pipeline Class participants familiarize themselves with the boom controls and the brakes.



Ed Kalinowski, Latham Tiver & Al Zabicki address the Members Education Class.

TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

All schedules are subject to change. Always contact the training center to verify dates, times and availability. If you are unable to attend a scheduled class, please call us so we can fill that spot. NJ Training Center (732) 798-2170; NY Training Center (845) 374-2559.

NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

MARCH 2015

CCO Study Days

- Sat. 7, 14, 21, 28

CCO Written Test

- Sun. 29

OSHA 30

(Must complete all 5 days to receive card)

- Mod 1 Tues. 10
- Mod 2 Wed. 11
- Mod 3 Thurs. 12
- Mod 4 Fri. 13
- Mod 5 Sat. 14

40 Hour HAZMAT

• Mon. through Fri. 16 – 20
(Must complete all 5 days to receive card)

8-HR. HAZMAT Refresher

- Sat. 21 & 28

APRIL 2015

OSHA 30

(Must complete all 5 days to receive card)

- Mod 1 Tues. 7
- Mod 2 Wed. 8
- Mod 3 Thurs. 9
- Mod 4 Fri. 10
- Mod 5 Sat. 11

40 Hour HAZMAT

• Mon. through Fri. 13 – 17
(Must complete all 5 days to receive card)

8-HR. HAZMAT Refresher

- Sat. 25

NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

MARCH 2015

8-HR HAZMAT Refresher

- Sat. 7
- Wed. 11
- Wed. 25

Local 825 fuels TTF testimony

Business Manager Greg Lavee and President John Wood were joined by more than a hundred Local 825 members who descended on the NJ Statehouse to demand a solution to the ailing Transportation Trust Fund before it becomes insolvent in June.

In a standing-room-only committee room on the fourth floor of the Statehouse annex, Greg emphasized the urgency in finding a solution and urged lawmakers to take action.

The rally was called by the Forward NJ coalition, one of the largest, most diverse coalitions of business and labor organizations

brought together by this common issue. In addition to Local 825 and ELEC, it includes more than 80 groups, such as AAA, NJ SEED, NJ Alliance for Action, ACCNJ, Verizon, the UTCA, NAIOP, some of the largest chambers of commerce and most of the construction labor unions in the state.

Forward NJ coalition Chairman and New Jersey Chamber of Commerce President Tom Bracken said that coming up with a way to fund the state's ailing transportation infrastructure is "absolutely the most critical issue facing the state of New Jersey right now."



Kevin Young, Ryan Spirito, Pete Decicco, Bill Inman and Anthony Cremonese were among the members that traveled to the Statehouse to rally for TTF funding.

Support our Blood Bank drives

Two blood bank drives will be held in March.

On March 4, one will take place from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. prior to the District 2 meeting at the Holiday Inn, 2870 Highway 35 in Hazlet.

On March 11, a second blood bank will take place from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. prior to the District 4 meeting at the Holiday Inn, Crystal Run Road, Middletown, NY.

Give someone the gift of life by supporting these drives.



Random drug testing begins at the top

The Clarity Testing Lab Mobile rolled into Springfield and began the new random drug testing program at Local 825 headquarters.

Local 825 contracted with Clarity Testing Services to administer its new drug testing program, which includes pre-employment/

union entry, random, post-incident and reasonable-cause drug testing. The random component will test 50 percent of the membership each year.

Clarity has been administering these tests for more than 20 years and testing pro-

cedures are consistent with all federal DOT rules and regulations.

The policy is for everyone without exception and is intended to ensure the safety of our operating engineers, as well as other workers on a site, including members of the public.



Left to right, Chris Laveeve, Mike Ham, Jack Nacion, Greg Laveeve, John Wood, Joe Logan, Dirk Eggink, John Walsh, Lino Santiago and Cesar Gamio



Lino Santiago takes the Breathalyzer

Limit the risk of heart attack and stroke

Hearth disease and stroke are two of the leading causes of death for men and women – but they are also two of the most preventable. Here are a few simple steps to

limit your risk.

Eat a healthy diet. Eat plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables. Limit salt and sodium in your diet to help lower blood pres-

sure. Maintain a healthy weight. Exercise regularly. Don't smoke. Limit alcohol use. Monitor your blood pressure. Talk with your doctor.

Onsite training ensures continued quality customer service

The quality of customer service to members continues to be of utmost importance to our Local 825 Funds Office and customer service staff.

In January, our reps took advantage of an onsite training seminar to update their skills with new tools to enhance customer service and maintain the highest service quality standards.

“We had the benefit of a very enthusiastic educator who kept the program engaging and interesting,” said Debbie Kelly, who participated in the seminar. “We walked away from this course with a greater set of skills that can help us personally and professionally.”

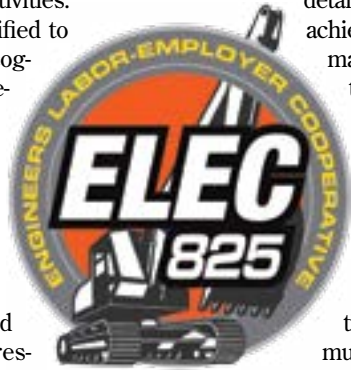
The seminar was provided by the Industry-Business Institute at Union County College and funded through a grant provided by the Department of Labor.



ELEC raises profile, ramps up advocacy

ELEC's dynamic push to promote Local 825 and stimulate economic opportunities for our signatory contractors reached a new level in January with a number of bold advertising, promotional and advocacy activities.

- The **ELEC logo** was modified to include "825" to ensure recognition as the labor-management organization of Local 825. The new logo will begin appearing on all new materials.
- A **new advertising thrust** targets Contractors and Developers separately. Ads are scheduled throughout the year in pres-



The new ELEC logo reinforces its connection to Local 825

tigious business and trade publications in New Jersey and our coverage area of New York.

- A comprehensive, **12-page annual review** detailing ELEC's activities and achievements throughout 2014 was mailed to all members and signatory contractors.

At the semiannual meeting in January, Business Manager Lavee praised the labor-management fund staff for its efforts. Greg cited ELEC's continued marketing activities using both traditional and social media, its community outreach, its program of

credentialing reimbursements and its strong, sustained program to promote Transportation Trust Fund funding.

Social Media Emphasizes TTF

A sustained social media campaign on Twitter and Facebook has connected with members of the public and also some of the most influential leaders in the state.

We have been all over the state's inspection of bridges, bridge closures, and efforts to arrive at a long-term funding solution for the Transportation Trust Fund.

Even NJ Senate President Steve Sweeney and Assemblyman John S. Wisniewski are among those who have responded to our tweets.



ELEC's 2014 annual review



2015 ad targeting contractors



2015 ad targeting developers

ELEC's advocacy yields results

ELEC's legislative advocacy continues to pay off with these initiatives seeing results.

- The **Water Infrastructure Protection Act (WIPA)**, which we lobbied for, was signed into law by Gov. Christie. This bill allows municipalities to privatize water and sewer systems in critical need of infrastructure improvements, where public funding is not available to make the necessary upgrades.

The law also has the potential to create additional work opportunities through water infrastructure repair and system modernization, and contains important provisions such as prevailing wage requirements and responsible bidder language.

- A bill that would make construction work on public utilities subject to "The Public Works Contractor Registration Act" was

conditionally vetoed by the Governor, who objected to parts of the bill and proposed amendments. If the Legislature amends the bill accordingly, it will be presented again to the Governor for signature.

We've also supported a Public Private Partnerships bill, which provides a means of funding vital projects that would otherwise be difficult or impossible to afford.



International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

65 Springfield Avenue, 3rd Floor
Springfield, NJ 07081
(973) 671-6900
(973) 921-2918 FAX
www.IUOE825.org



BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

Mitchell, Spirito and Palma attend HDD Class



Three of our members (left to right) Sterling Mitchell, Ryan Spirito & Joe Palma participate in the International's Horizontal Directional Drilling Class at the Local 77 training facility in Maryland.

Union Plus[®] offers financial services



The Union Plus program, offered through Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Company, offers a variety of financial services to members.

- Home financing and refinancing
- A first-time home buyers \$500 award (conditions and exclusions apply)
- Grants and interest-free payment assis-

tance in the event of a layoff, strike or disability.

- Credit counseling
- To learn the details and conditions for each of these programs, contact:

Debra Botulinski, Sales Manager: debra.botulinski@wellsfargo.com



Recruitment and Organizing

Our efforts continue to attract the best operators to Local 825 in a number of settings, from crane operators to excavators and more. This is the latest billboard message now on display in West Longbranch, as a daily reminder to local operators on their way to work.