

825. NEWS



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

VOL. 11 ISSUE 5

Popular events return after a year of shutdowns

Members have a blast, tee off and make a 'reel' splash



Two of three of Local 825's most popular fundraising events, canceled last year because of the corona virus, returned to sell-out audiences this year. The golf outing, which was delayed last year and the only event allowed to take place after a postponement, took place in early June.

The sporting clays shoot in Lehigh, PA, blasted off in late June. The fishing trip took place in mid-July. Members were happy to return to more normal times and enjoyed the days together. Next up is the annual motorcycle Poker Run, which will also make its return after last year's hiatus.

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

SEPTEMBER

6 - Labor Day - UNION HOLIDAY

6 - Rosh Hashanah

7 - District 1 Meeting

8 - District 2 Meeting

15 - Yom Kippur

20 - District 3 Meeting

21 - District 1 Retiree Luncheon

11:30 a.m. Crystal Manor
210 S. Delsea Drive, Glassboro, NJ

22 - District 4 Retiree Brunch

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., NY Training Center
96 Bates Gates Rd., New Hampton NY.

22 - Autumn begins

23 - Districts 2 & 3 Retiree Brunch

10 a.m., 65 Springfield Ave., 3rd floor,
Springfield.

26 - 8th Annual Poker Run

28 - PAC Meeting

6 p.m. Hilton East Brunswick
3 Tower Center Blvd., East Brunswick.

OCTOBER

4 - District 1 Meeting.

6 - District 2 Meeting

11 - District 3 Meeting

11 - Columbus Day

13 - District 4 Meeting

31 - Halloween

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lavee, Business Manager



Labor gains were hard won and are still worth fighting for

With summer winding down and Labor Day upon us, it is time to save at least a few moments to reflect on the hard-won gains of the labor movement and resolve to maintain those gains for the younger operating engineers who will follow us.

Infrastructure in all its forms has been our biggest source of work for decades. Highways, bridges, transit, water mains and pipelines are now being complemented by wind, solar and broadband. We have supported these new forms of development, while advocating for the continuation of the traditional projects.

That is why we recently called on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to conclude its already lengthy review of the permitting process used to evaluate natural gas projects. This review process has led to costly delays in the development and construction of energy projects that could be providing economic stimulus to our communities.

We call on FERC to finalize its process and update its evaluation procedures as quickly as possible. FERC must clarify its permitting path to allow companies to invest in critical energy infrastructure and avoid regulatory obstacles on critical projects in the future.

Semiannual meeting

In an effort to gradually restore in-person meet-

ings, we began holding district meetings at the Dayton Training Center. Standing in front of windows facing the parking lot, members could watch and listen in their cars by tuning into an FM channel. It worked so well that we conducted the July semiannual meeting in this way. What happened next is described on page 3.

Scholarship events return

We are grateful that we were able to restore our popular events this summer as the virus seemed to be under control. See pages 4 and 5 for information and photos. As this newsletter goes to print, we are watching health developments from around the country. We will continue to closely monitor what is happening and take appropriate steps if they are needed to protect the health of our members and workers.

825 banner to fly again

This year we will continue our tradition of sending a Labor Day greeting via tow planes to the millions of people who visit our shore communities, from the Highlands to Cape May. As always, we encourage members to keep their eye on the sky ... to snap a photo of our banner passing overhead and post it to the Local 825 Facebook page.

Enjoy the Labor Day holiday.

Contact Information

Local 825 Headquarters

65 Springfield Avenue, 3rd FL
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Building A Unit 6
Bordentown, NJ 08505
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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
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Debra Botulinski
(908) 608-2013

Semiannual meeting nears end, gets rained out

A fast-moving storm ended July's Semiannual meeting but not before most of the reporting had taken place.

President John Wood called the meeting to order. Bob Davis, John Rocco and Joe Logan gave their reports. Business Manager Greg Lalevee was well into his report when torrential rains soaked the transmitter that broadcast to the members outside.

Greg reported a positive status for all of the funds. He praised the training staff and Director Willie Vaccaro for continuing to deliver quality training programs throughout the pandemic. Winter classes alone had 249 students. During the first six months of the year, nearly 700 students took part in 35,000 hours of training.

The Business Manager's report also included this information:

- The Funds Office is developing a plan that will allow appointment scheduling to resume in October, blended with continued virtual meetings.
- The member application process will be revamped and eliminate the campouts that last for days at the training center. The new process will comply with Dept. of Labor standards and consider expanding direct entry for veterans and possibly pre-apprenticeship programs in some county Vo-Tech schools. For regular applications, the IT department is developing an online application process.



Members are greeted with a beach towel on arrival.

Greg stated that President Biden's administration has come out as decidedly pro-union. The American Rescue Plan has financially shored up state and local budgets for infrastructure projects, while negotiations continue on additional infrastructure spending.

This year the entire state legislature, as well as the governor's office, is up for reelection, making it important for all members to stay informed and be certain to vote in the November elections.

Scholarship events

Greg thanked all those who have participated in the scholarship events, which provide \$100,000 in college help to Local 825 families. Two events remain for this year:

8th Annual Motorcycle Poker Run

Sunday, Sept. 26, start from the Dayton Training Center.

100-Year Anniversary Dinner

6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 6, Harrah's Resort Atlantic City, NJ.



Business Manager Lalevee addresses members in parked cars through the windows of the training center.



A fast-moving storm blew in and ended the meeting early.

40-Year Dinner Set for October

This year's 40-year dinner will take place in October and will include honorees from last year that did not get to celebrate due to the coronavirus lockdown.

Pins for our 45-year members, as well as plaques and pins for 50, 55, 60, 65 and 70-year members will be given out at this year's retiree breakfasts, which all will be held in September.

Members raise rifles, rods and clubs to raise scholarship funds

Events sidelined in 2020 are back in action

Scholarship shootout

The annual Local 825's Scholarship Shootout got off with a bang on June 27 at the Lehigh Sporting Clays in Coplay, PA. Squads lined up for registration before 8 a.m. and by 9 a.m. the teams rode to their stations to begin a day of shooting fun.

According to event organizer John Rocco, the event sold out and approximately 170 members and guests attended. The day got off to a cool start but temperatures rose and by noon it was close to 90 degrees. The shootout was followed by lunch, door prizes and awards.

John thanked Business Manager Greg La-levee for his support and all of the volunteers who worked to make the event a success. John announced that next year's event is already scheduled for June 26, 2022. Since the event sells out every year, John advised everyone to mark their calendars in advance.

As for most events, an official shirt was included in the registration. If anyone would like to purchase an additional shirt or check other Local 825 items on sale, check the company store. Five dollars of every item is donated to the scholarship fund.



Shotgun starts 9th golf outing

The ninth annual IUOE Local 825 Golf Outing took place in May, bringing a return to normal scheduling after last year's outing had to be postponed due to the covid-19 pandemic.

The day did not disappoint. The golfers slots all sold out and sponsors were visible at every turn. The day was a complete success from every viewpoint. Skies were cloudy but rain held off.

Golfers arrived early, checked in at the clubhouse and headed for lunch under an open tent. For many, it was the first time to get together since last September's outing.

Business Manager Greg La-levee greeted the members and guests and, along with President John Wood and Training Director Willie Vaccaro, monitored the hole offering \$50,000 for a hole in one, which nearly everyone "just missed by inches."

Proceeds benefitted the Local 825 Scholarship Fund, the 2021 scholarship recipients (see page 3) and helped keep the fund healthy for coming years.



For more photos on all our events, visit [FACEBOOK/IUOElocal825](https://www.facebook.com/IUOElocal825)



Belmar Princess sails

The second annual IUOE Local 825 fishing trip embarked July 18 with a full boat of more than 70 anglers.

Business Manager Greg Lavee and President John Wood were on hand to give a proper sendoff. The boat pulled away from the dock after 7 a.m. and traveled eight miles for the first stop. Seas were a bit rough after a night of thunderstorms. As soon as lines dropped, fish started coming out ... black sea bass and ling were most common but there were also surprises, like sea robbers, skate, a 30-inch silver eel and a lobster.

The sun came out about midday and the boat returned by 2:30. The trip was put together by Joe Graham and Joe Palmisano and other volunteers. With two fishing trips in three years, a third one is a virtual certainty for next year.



TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training

NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

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

Asbestos Awareness

September 11

8 Hr. Hazmat Refresher

September 18

Temporary Heat / Fire Watch

CCO study day

October 2

CCO study day

October 9

8 Hr. Hazmat Refresher

CCO study day

October 16

CCO study day

October 23

CCO written test

October 24

NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

(845) 673-3154

CCO study day

September 11

CCO study day

September 18

CCO study day

September 25

CCO written test

September 26

Light at the end of the Delaware Roundout tunnel

Work continues on the Delaware Roundout Tunnel that now stretches underground, passing under the Hudson River, from Newburgh NY to Wappinger on the east side.

The bypass tunnel runs parallel to the original tunnel and will replace a 2.5-mile section of it that loses millions of gallons of water every day. It is the largest repair project in the

177-year history of New York City's water supply system. The bypass tunnel is a small section of the 85-mile-long Delaware Aqueduct, making it the longest tunnel in the world.

The repair project began in 2013 and is expected to be completed by 2023.

DEP Commissioner Vincent Sapienza recently thanked the operating engineers and all those who have worked on the tunnel over the past several years. Its completion will ensure the reliability of the water supply system that delivers roughly half of the water supply to New York City.

Thanks to Business Agent Chris Wood and Kiewitt Construction Lead Engineer Mark Evans for providing the update.



Cranes at the Newburgh staging area can be seen for miles.



Operator James McDermott helps get the job done.

Post 532 helps honor our flag



Vincent Kyzima, a member of Local 825's American Legion Post 532 has donated a custom designed mailbox to be used as a dropbox for old or worn American flags.

Conveniently located near the old steam works at the Dayton Training Center, it is a way to collect old flags from job sites (or any site). The flags may be retired in a proper ceremony, or they may be sent to "Stars for our Troops", a non-profit organization that takes the flags, cuts the stars out presents them to soldiers who are going overseas.

American Legion Post 532 provides support and advocacy for veterans, active military and their families and fosters patriotism and responsible citizenship. Thanks to Joey Bove for providing the photo and information for this posting.



THANKS TO NY ASSEMBLYMAN Mike Lawler for taking time to visit our NY training center in Wawayanda. We appreciate elected officials who make an effort to understand our line of work and issues that are important to us. Assemblyman Lawler got to see first-hand the level of training we offer our members. He even tried his hand at some of our state-of-the-art equipment, including the virtual equipment and simulators.

New Jersey must disclose Energy Plan details

As a proud member of the Affordable Energy for New Jersey coalition, ELEC825 has been one of the leading voices calling for transparency in our energy policy from Trenton. Since announcing the Energy Master Plan in

2019, the Murphy Administration has been silent on its costs and ignored our calls for greater transparency. They even ignored an Open Public Records Act (OPRA) request.

Plan kills gas projects

Knowing that the plan calls for the elimination of natural gas and natural gas infrastructure projects as well as including an astronomical price tag, Affordable Energy New Jersey has taken it upon itself to calculate the costs, working with renowned economist Dr. Jonathon Lesser. Together, we have published a white paper designed to inform and influence public officials.

New Jersey must adapt to climate change and improving our transportation, energy, and water infrastructure to cope will lead to work for our members. But the policies outlined in the Energy Master Plan will place a crushing financial burden on residents, discourage businesses from locating and operating in our state.

Help hold them accountable

Help us make the cost of the Energy Master Plan a part of the conversation. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter (@NJAffordableEnergy), share our content, and participate in the comments section.



ELEC programs aid members, contractors

ELEC continues to fulfill its mission of stimulating economic opportunities and job programs help members and contractors

The Market Recovery Program has generated more than a million Operator Engineer man hours on jobs that may otherwise have gone to non-union contractors. Designed to help our union contractors win contracts when they face off against non-union competition, the program has provided \$17.45 in grants on projects that have been completed or are in construction; \$6.65 million for projects that have been awarded to union contractors and \$11.2 million that is set aside to cover bids that have not yet been awarded.

The MRP grants have been especially successful in boosting smaller projects that previously went uncontested ... projects like warehouses, mixed-use developments and shopping centers.

Reimbursing credentials expenses

The first six months of 2021 provided credential relief to members totaling more than \$75,000. This brings the total reimbursements to members to \$1,134,000 since the start of the program.

Efforts also target New York State plans

Local 825 and ELEC are deep into New York advocacy and construction projects.

Through ELEC, we are playing a major role in the New Yorkers for Affordable Energy coalition, which advocates natural gas projects to be included in the mix of wind and solar projects.

We have taken the lead role in the 17Forward86 coalition, which advocates for an additional lane on Route 17 from Harriman to Sullivan County and have been instrumental

in obtaining funding for its Preliminary Engineering Study. We have learned that Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has included Route 17 as one of his infrastructure priorities.

Our members continue to work for Kiewit Construction on the Delaware Roundout Bypass Tunnel (see photos and more info on page 6); and we are putting final touches on the new Legoland (photos on page 8), the world's largest, in Goshen.



International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE



After five years of construction, Legoland's flagship is now open. At the height of construction, Local 825 had about 85 members on the job. Work was halted during the covid-19 pandemic, delaying completion for a time. Legoland Goshen is the largest ever developed by Merlin Entertainment and is home to seven-themed lands and more than 50 rides, shows, and attractions. An official grand opening ceremony is being planned.



Business Agent Chris Wood and Lead Engineer Steve Wacha



Operating Engineer Rob Sweeney works on final touches as Legoland prepares for an official grand opening.