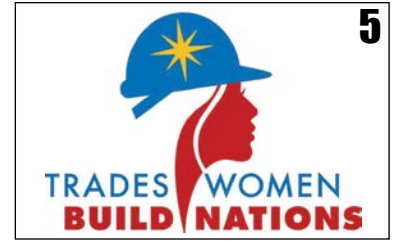


825. NEWS



View From The Top.....p. 2
Energy Policy Debate.....p. 3
Terminal A Opens.....p. 4
Winter Classesp. 6
Funds Office Honored.....p. 8

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

VOL. 13 ISSUE 1

A growing Local 825 welcomes the new year Apprenticeships in demand as need for OEs continues to grow



Local 825 continues to grow, as recent infrastructure spending has unleashed large-scale construction projects throughout the region. Recently, 100 apprentice applications were distributed in one day in our five New York counties. In New Jersey, thirty applicants from the 2021 New Jersey list have been notified that they are eligible to begin training in March and additional

applications will likely be distributed during 2023. With the amount of infrastructure projects now on the books and more on the way, the two training centers are geared up to handle the growth. Winter classes begin January 9 and are expected to see heavy demand, especially for the newer machines and programs. *Story and photos on pages 6 & 7.*

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

January

1 - **New Year's Day - UNION HOLIDAY**

9 - **Semiannual Meeting**

East Brunswick Hilton
3 Tower Center Blvd, East Brunswick

16 - **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

February

2 - **Ground Hog Day**

6 - **District 1 Meeting**

Hammonton Fire Company Station 2
51 North White Horse Pike, Hammonton

7 - **District 2 Meeting**

Somerville Elks Lodge 1068
375 Union Ave., Bridgewater

13 - **District 3 Meeting**

Sheraton Parsippany Hotel
199 Smith Road, Parsippany

14 - **Valentine's Day**

15 - **District 4 Meeting**

NY Training Center
96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY

20 - **President's Day - UNION HOLIDAY**

22 - **Blood Bank**

NJ Training Center
338 Deans Rhode Hall Road, Dayton

22 - **Ash Wednesday**

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



Let's get realistic about energy policy

State and national leaders have set ambitious goals to achieve renewable energy independence. Sustainability is an important goal. But goals themselves should be sustainable. Long-term goals should not undermine short-term needs and realities.

For example, there is not enough lithium to make all the batteries that will be needed to convert the country to electric vehicles. There is not enough copper to make all the cables we will need for power generation and distribution. And despite all of the planning and goal-setting over the past two years, we still have not built or installed a single ocean windmill.

We are a long way from being able to turn a switch and power everything we need with renewable energy. That's the reality. Virtue signaling and government mandates are not going to get us to the goal. So it's time we talk realistically about an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy that includes natural gas, nuclear, propane and the like.

Say 'no' to shortages

Americans don't want shortages. Eighty percent of people prefer to heat their homes with natural gas. If recent elections have taught us anything, it's that there is still a great center in this country who want us to work together to solve problems. Americans don't like extremes on either side of the political aisle.

Political discourse, real conversation, must lead to better policy making. And as we're talking, we - meaning New Jersey and New York - should be aggressively pursuing every dollar available under the Infrastructure Jobs Act.

All departments of state and local governments, banks, the Board of Public Utilities, the Department of Transportation, should join together to pursue every dollar of funding for essential infrastructure projects. Thousands of miles of roads are in poor condition. Hundreds of bridges are functionally obsolete. Mass transit is inadequate, water mains still contain lead and 100-year-old cast iron gas pipes still need to be replaced.

Building coalitions

The good news is, there are like minds out there. We recently spoke at an energy forum where these and other ideas were discussed. By working with some of these groups, we hope to influence a more balanced, realistic energy program in the short- and medium-term that will more likely help us reach our long term goals with a lot less pain. (See page 3 for summary).

Happy New Year

As we close out 2022, we look forward to 2023. From all of us at Local 825, we wish you, your families and friends a very happy new year.

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(973) 921 - 0706 FAX

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(845) 374-2564 FAX

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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
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Springfield, NJ 07081
(973) 630-1010
(973) 630-1013 FAX

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Debra Botulinski
(908) 608-2013

Energy policy and advocacy in store for 2023

Through its advocacy and outreach activities, Local 825 stepped up its profile in the energy policy arena in the past 12 months, with an eye toward achieving a more balanced approach as New Jersey plans its long-term transition to renewable forms of energy.

In late summer, Business Manager Greg Laveeve joined with a diverse coalition of business and labor organizations, urging NJ Legislature to halt a mandate signed by NJ Gov. Phil Murphy that would force commercial buildings greater than 25,000 square feet in size to convert from their existing source of energy to electric boilers that could cost as much as \$2 million per building. Additionally, the costs to heat a building with electric will cost four to five times more than gas.

The mandate, which was set to be approved Dec. 6 and take effect two years later on Jan. 1, 2025, impacts about 8,500 public and private buildings, including apartment complexes, K-12 public schools, grocery stores, and other facilities.

The coalition claimed Gov. Murphy exceeded his authority by enacting such a sweeping change, especially without knowing the real cost of these changes to business owners.



NJBIZ Energy Panel. (Clockwise from top left) Eric DeGesero, NJ Fuel Merchants Association; Michael Boches, Geoscape Solar; NJBIZ Chief Editor Jeff Kanige; Greg Laveeve; and Richmond Young, Rise Light & Power.

Apparently hearing these objectives, the Murphy administration formed a “Clean Buildings Working Group” of cross-sector collaborative of stakeholders and experts to “inform pathways to greener, cleaner buildings.”

At an energy panel discussion in October, Greg pointed out that the transition to green energy will take years. During the transition, we should maintain an “all-of-the-above energy mix,” he said. That includes nuclear energy, nat-

ural gas, propane, as well as the renewables.

The panel included Eric DeGesero of the Fuel Merchants Association; Richmond Young of Rise Light & Power; and Michael Boches of Geoscape Solar. The panel was moderated by NJBIZ editor Jeff Kanige.

Topics also included related energy issues, such as:

- How much reliance should the state place on offshore wind?
- How long natural gas might remain part of New Jersey’s energy mix;
- How brownfields can be repurposed;
- How much input and control local governments should have in the plans;
- What incentives and financing options might be offered to help business and individuals make the costly transition to green energy.

The conversation also addressed the costs associated with implementing alternative energy sources, such as offshore wind. Greg stressed the difficulty of knowing true costs of green energy policies. “So, the discussion of cost is absolutely necessary,” Greg said, “... because that’s really the bottom line.”

These issues will remain on the front burner for 2023.

How a labor union head gets named to a Real Estate power list

One of New Jersey’s leading business magazines has named Business Manager Greg Laveeve to its Power 50 list ... in *Real Estate*.

NJBIZ knows exactly why they chose Greg. With the commercial real estate industry making strides, vacancy rates are low and rents are high. The region’s strategic location and strong transportation infrastructure – along with a change in commuting patterns and shift in residential priorities occasioned by the pandemic – continue to fuel growth.

So in addition to being directly involved in building construction, The union’s work has kept Greg at the center of infrastructure planning and development, on which

Local 825’s new ad debuts in the Real Estate issue

real estate is dependent.

“Solid infrastructure leads to better development, not the other way around,” Greg

says. “And who knows that better than our members who build the infrastructure from which real estate is developed.”

In its Nov. 18 issue, NJBIZ acknowledges Greg and Local 825 members this way:

“It’s safe to say that all of the leaders on this list know Greg Laveeve. If they don’t know him personally, they certainly know his work... his members build the warehouses, office buildings and apartment complexes the real estate developers and brokers plan and sell.

“And Local 825 operators build the roads bridges and railways that get people and goods to and from all those places. As funds start flowing into the state from the federal government, Laveeve is one of the most prominent advocates of getting shovels in the ground and beams into the sky as quickly as possible.

“... He may not write the policies, but the people who do pay attention to what Laveeve says,” the article concludes.

Terminal A opens at EWR

33 gates; one million square feet; 2,500 jobs

The first phase of the \$2.7 billion Terminal A at Newark Liberty International Airport – which Local 825 members helped to build – is now open.

This initial phase consists of 21 gates out of 33. The remaining 12 gates are planned to open later this year. The first airline companies to transition to the new facility include

New York region. It features state-of-the-art passenger amenities, dazzling artwork, digital technology and dining and retail options provided by 60 regional, national and global brands, including six retailers from Newark, Elizabeth, and Jersey City. Its modernized check-in area and security and baggage claim areas are designed to efficiently handle an estimated 13.6 million passengers a year.

In addition to the terminal, the Newark Liberty redevelopment program also includes a \$400 million integrated public



Rendering of an aerial view of the finished Terminal A



Nikki Glab and other Local 825 members at work on Terminal A last year

United Airlines, JetBlue, Air Canada and American Airlines. Delta is expected to move over later this year.

Spanning one million-square-feet of space, Terminal A is the largest design-build project in NJ history. It was designed to establish Newark Liberty International Airport as a world-class gateway for the New Jersey and



An inside view of the finished Terminal A

parking garage, with new centralized rental car facilities.

The terminal is expected to generate more than \$4.6 billion in regional economic activity and create more than 2,500 jobs, providing more than \$1.9 billion in wages.

Terminal A replaces the outmoded Terminal A that first opened in 1973.

Two states, two highways move forward

New York Route 17



NY Governor Kathy Hochul has given the green light to upgrade Route 17 in Orange and Sullivan counties to interstate standards and add a third lane.

Although road construction remains months away, work has begun on an Environmental Impact Statement for the project. Route 17 is a vital artery for the flow of people and commerce to and from the mid-Hudson, Catskills and southern tier regions.

“We’ve been a proponent of this project for several years,” said Business Manager Greg Laveve. “When finally complete, it will relieve road congestion and fuel what has already been explosive growth in the region.”

Landmark investments in the Mid-Hudson Valley have already resulted in the expansion of Woodbury Common Premium Outlets, LEGOLAND and Resorts World Catskills Casino.



New Jersey AC Expressway

A few hours south, the Atlantic City Expressway will add 26 miles of a third lane, from mile marker 31 westbound to the end of Route 42 in Gloucester Township, making the entire Expressway a three-lane highway all the way to Atlantic City.

The plan also includes construction of new bridges and reconstruction of the area where the Expressway and Route 42 meet.

Actual work is not scheduled to begin until 2024 and could take more than a year before its completion in 2025.

Women's Committee participates in NABTU conference

Four members of Local 825 participated in the 12th International Tradeswomen Build Nations conference in Nevada, hosted by North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU).



This conference is the largest gathering of its kind in the world, attracting more than 3,300 tradeswomen from the United States and Canada to share experiences and best practices with fellow tradeswomen, to learn about new programs and opportunities in the



industry, and to engage with top leaders from government, industry and the biggest fifteen international building trades unions.

Three Representatives were sent from Local 825. Diane Pappa, Ivette Ellis, Lisa Hunt. Kelly Raueber also attended on her own. Kelly is involved with the Trades Women Building Bridges organization, the task force organization. She gave a presentation on the Lean In Circles, which is an organization that provides an open forum for trades women meet and discuss challenges in the industry.

They joined members representing 48 states and ten provinces.



The three-day conference featured two plenary sessions, a banner parade on the Las Vegas strip and over a dozen workshops on topics addressing unique and critical issues of tradeswomen in the workforce.

While there, IUOE Local 12 Director of Training Larry Hopkins gave a tour of their facility to all IUOE representatives. Local 12's Business Manager also stopped in to great everyone.

"This conference is a celebration of these sisters and a testament to the growth of tradeswomen in our ranks," said Tammy Good of Local 825's Women's Committee.

North America's Building Trades Unions is an alliance of 14 national and international unions in the building and construction



industry that collectively represent over 3 million skilled craft professionals throughout North America. Each year, participating unions and signatory contractors invest almost \$2 billion in private-sector money to fund and operate more than 1,900 apprenticeship training and education facilities across the continent that produce the safest, most highly trained, and productive skilled craft workers found anywhere.

The Ladies agreed it was a great opportunity to listen, learn and interact with a diverse group of tradespeople, Tammy reported.



Solidarity, networking and leadership skills are a crucial part of retaining women in the trades. It was truly a memorable experience, reenergizing the sense of pride, dedication and appreciation of all our Union sisters and brothers.

The Local 825 Women's Committee promotes retaining women in our industry based on skill set, acquiring certifications and attitude. The committee works on fund raisers for breast cancer awareness and is looking into other possible fund raisers or events to give back within our local and outside our local for the community.



Winter classes begin Jan. 9 at NJ & NY TCs

Winter classes begin on Jan. 9 at both Local 825 training centers in New Jersey and New York. Classes will run through March 10.

New Jersey will offer classes in:

- 360 Forklift
- GPS Class (rover, dozer or excavator)
- Bauer Drill Rig
- Casagrande Drill
- Basic Crane Class
- Basic Dozer
- Paving classes (miller, paver, blacktop roller, transfer machine)
- Rubber Tire Excavator
- Pile Driver / Junttan Class
- Welding Class
- CDL Prep Class
- Utility Class

New York will offer classes in:

- Utility Excavation
- GPS Dozer
- GPS Excavator
- Rubber Tire Excavator
- Milling Machine
- Paving Machine
- Asphalt Roller

Preparation for these classes began in October. In the months leading up to year-end, apprentices and instructors took advantage of fall weather to practice their skills outdoors. “We conducted train-the-trainer classes in



Dominic Serpineto practices moving piles of dirt.

OSHA competent person class for trench safety for eight of our instructors,” said Training Director Willie Vacarro. “We purchased a 12-ton tag-along trailer for our CDL drivers class. And we ordered four new John Deere Gator ATV’s (three for NJ and one for NY).”

Road building remains in demand

“With all the infrastructure spending, there will be a continued big need for paving operators, for milling and paving, so we’ll be continuing our STEAM classes and related training,” Willie said.

Colder temperatures have since caught up with us as we enter January. As in years past, we have to be prepared for whatever the weather holds in store.

Doors open for aspiring apprentices in 2023

It has already started in New York. One-hundred aspiring operating engineers in Local 825’s five counties of New York State scooped up apprentice applications in November for 10 spots. These applicants were tested in December and will be interviewed in January. Only ten finalists will be selected to begin training in March in New Hampton.

In New Jersey, thirty applicants from the 2021 New Jersey list have been notified that they are eligible to start their training in March, in Dayton. Additional applications are expected to be offered in New Jersey at some point during the year.

The New York applications were distributed on a first-come, first-served basis beginning 8 a.m. via an online portal in November. The distribution period was to last for up to two weeks, unless all the applications were given out before then. And they were. All applications were given out by the end of the first day.

These apprentice slots were attributed to the New York State Hudson Valley and Southern Tier Regions. They cover Local 825’s five counties in New York: Rockland, Orange, Ulster, Sullivan and Delaware. Applicants were required to live in any of these counties.

The distribution was overseen by the New York State Department of Labor.

TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training

NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

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

2023 WINTER CLASSES:

Classes from Jan. 9 through March 10

8-Hour HAZMAT Refresher

Sat. Jan. 14
Sat. Jan. 28
Sat. Feb. 4
Sat. Feb. 25

CCO – four study Saturdays

Sat. Jan. 7 – Signup & TSS
Sat. Jan. 14 – TWR at 7 a.m. / TLL at 8 a.m.
Sat. Jan. 21 – OVR at 7 a.m. / LBT at 8 a.m.
Sat. Jan. 28 – LBC & Review
Sun. Jan. 29 – Written test at 7 a.m.

Signal Person Class

Sat. Feb. 4

Rigger Class

Sat. Feb. 11

NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

(845) 673-3154

(All classes start at 7 a.m. unless noted otherwise)

2023 WINTER CLASSES:

Classes from Jan. 9 through March 10

8-Hour HAZMAT Refresher

Sat. Jan. 14
Sat. Jan. 28
Sat. Feb. 11
Sat. Feb. 25

CCO – 3 Study Saturdays:

Sat. Oct. 29 – Signup, Study & Practice questions
Sat. Nov. 5 – Study day & practice questions
Sat. Nov. 12 – Study day & practice questions
Sun. Nov. 13 – Written Test at 7 a.m.

Please contact the New York Training Center to put your name on the list for a class or certification you need to take. If you do not see the class listed above, let them know and once we have enough names for a class, members will be notified.

NJCCC recognizes Local 825 for Pathways to Career Opportunities

The New Jersey Community College Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development (Consortium) has granted \$5,000 to Local 825 for participating in the work phase of the New Jersey Pathways to Career Opportunities initiative and the Center of Workforce Innovation for Construction.

This funding award is based on the work plans and budgets prepared by each Center of Workforce Innovation and approved by the Executive Committee of the Consortium, which administers the Pathways Initiative.

The amount of funding reflects the deliverables have been assigned to Local 825, as follows:

- In the Pathway to Construction Management, to provide apprenticeship curriculum, industry certifications and related information to Hudson County Community College for the purpose of a course-to-course evaluation of the Operating Engineer Union Apprenticeship for credit toward the Construction Management Associates in Applied Science (AAS).
- In the Pathway to Utilities (Constructions, Maintenance and Operations), to provide apprenticeship curriculum, industry certifications and related information to Rowan

College of South Jersey for the purpose of the evaluating Operating Engineer Union Apprenticeship and Journey Worker experience for credit toward the Technical Studies AAS.

The Pathways initiative, brings together employers, industry associations, labor unions, education institutions, and workforce development partners. Its purpose is to provide students, adult learners and workers with the education and career pathways they need to find new careers to earn competitive wages. It also intends to ensure that employers have access to a highly skilled, innovative workforce to meet critical labor market needs.

The Initiative has created a statewide education system connected to industry and has attracted more than 1,200 education and industry partners since it started in December 2021.

This statewide collaborative approach to education and workforce training innovation is supported by an \$8.5 million investment from NJ Gov. Phil Murphy and the state Legislature.

According to Aaron R. Fichtner, Ph.D., President of the NJ Community College Consortium, NJ Pathways to Career Opportunities initiative:

- **Unites** industry and education experts to break down silos for true collaboration



Aaron Fichtner, Ph.D

- **Creates** education and career pathways for residents in the four fastest-growing industries in New Jersey
- **Positions** New Jersey to build a skilled workforce that can adapt to the changing economy, and
- **Ensures** a more resilient, equitable, and fairer economy for all residents.

Thanks to Jenn Thoman, Local 825 Chief Academic Officer, for her work in this pursuing this grant.

Built Robotics tours Dayton, mulls East Coast training

Business Manager Greg Lavee, Training Director Willie Vaccaro and Chief Academic Officer Jenn Thoman welcomed two officials from Built Robotics, a leader in autonomous construction technology, for a tour of the Dayton Training Center in November.

The IUOE has signed a training partnership with Built Robotics and they have been to the International's training center in Texas. General President Jim Callahan has named Greg and four Business Managers to establish training for members to become Remote Equipment Operators (REOs).

Greg, Willie and Jenn met with Gaurav Ki-

kani, Built's VP of Strategy, Operations and Finance; and Priscilla Magee, Head of Safety, Standards and Policy.

Built Robotics' mission is "to build the robots that build the world." They transform excavators into fully autonomous trenching robots. Their Exosystem™ is already deployed across the \$1 trillion earthmoving industry.

"This opens up a whole new field of equipment operation, software development and programming that is becoming increasingly important," said Greg. "Consistent with our goal of providing the best operating engineers available anywhere, it makes sense that we fully understand this technology and be part of it.

"As Built may be interested in establishing a training center on the Eastern Seaboard, we'd like them to consider our location. With

our state-of-the-art training facilities, our educational platform and our strategic location on the East Coast, we're confident we can offer them a superior solution, while at the same time providing our members with the opportunity to be part of an expanding future."



Built Robotics has already deployed autonomous construction technology



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BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

Funds Office honored in 2022

Our Local 825 Funds Office was honored in 2022 by business magazine NJBIZ as one of New Jersey’s Best Places to Work.

Based upon participation with the Best Places to Work survey from NJBIZ and its fellow BridgeTower Media firm Best Companies Group, the 2022 Best Places to Work nominees are determined by their own employees.

Business Manager Greg Lalevee, Fund Man-

ager Christine Medich and others attended the awards dinner in late summer to accept the award.

Funds Office employees made a video as part of the application process. It conveyed their pride in their organization.

NJBIZ annually recognizes organizations in the small, medium and large Best Places to Work categories.



New Local 68 training center opens in A.C.

Business Manager Greg Lalevee and IUOE General President Jim Callahan congratulated Local 68 Business Manager Tom Giblin on the opening of their new facility in Atlantic City.

The building at 1501 Pacific Avenue incorporates the local’s business office and

training center, which previously were housed separately.

Cutting the ribbon were (from left to right) Greg Lalevee, Jim Callahan, Tom Giblin, NJ AFL-CIO President Charlie Wowcanech, Atlantic City Mayor Marty Small and Local 68 President Mike McGlynn.

Local 68 is headquartered in West Caldwell, NJ, and represents stationary engineers and maintenance trades in New Jersey.

