

825. NEWS



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

VOL. 13 ISSUE 2

2023 Winter Training Classes Winding Down

Successful season sees nearly 120 take initiative to learn new skills



Another winter training session nears a productive completion in early March. As 22 apprentices become journeymen, a new crop of apprentices are ready to begin as soon as winter classes end on March 10. This winter season was notable for the absence of snow

and ice (at least as when this newsletter was going to print). Both Local 825 Training Centers in New Jersey and New York were expected to stay busy throughout the entire 10-week training period. *Story and photos on pages 4 & 5.*

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

March

6 - District 1 Meeting
Double Tree Suites by Hilton
515 Fellowship Road, Mt. Laurel, NJ

8 - District 2 Meeting
Holiday Inn
2870 Hwy. 35, Hazlet, NJ

12 - Daylight Savings Begins – Set Clocks Forward 1 Hr.

13 - District 3 Meeting
Holiday Inn
1000 International Drive, Mt. Olive, NJ 07828

15 - District 4 Meeting
NY Training Center
96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY

Blood Bank 2:00-7:00 pm

17 - St. Patrick's Day

20 - Spring Begins

April

2 - Palm Sunday

3 - 2023 Scholarship Applications Due

District 1 Meeting
Hammonton Fire Company Station 2
51 North White Horse Pike, Hammonton, NJ

5 - District 2 Meeting
Holiday Inn
160 Frontage Road, Newark, NJ

Passover

7 - Good Friday

9 - Easter

10 - District 3 Meeting
Russian Hall
464 Outwater Lane, Garfield, NJ

12 - District 4 Meeting
NY Training Center
96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY

22 - Earth Day

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Laveeve, Business Manager



Focus is on new activity as winter ends

In a few days the 2023 winter training classes will come to an end, completing another successful season for our two training centers. Our centers are a great resource and help our members stay on the cutting edge of equipment and technology. Congratulations to all who participated. Read more and see photos on pages 4 and 5.

Election results

Over the past few months we've had a chance to sort through the impact of the November elections. We were pleased to see that 84 percent of our endorsed candidates won their elections.

We saw Business Agent Ed Kalinowski re-elected to the Deptford Board of Education. Member Nick Civitan was reelected to the Frankford council. Amy McGovern, wife of member Brian McGovern, was reelected to the Ocean Township Board of Education.

Latham Tiver declared his candidacy for an open Senate seat in New Jersey's 8th District. At this point, he has emerged as the front runner. We wish Latham success in November. See page 7 for more info.

Looking ahead

As we move through 2023 we continue to negotiate our outside construction contracts with our

major associations. We're working hard to push for projects that put us to work and just as hard to push against laws and regulations that might prevent work.

Our delegates will attend the 40th IUOE General Convention, where we will elect our General Officers and set the tone for the next five years. When it comes to electing the General Officers, my name will be next to the International's 3rd Vice President. It is thanks to the greatness of this Local that has put it there.

Annual Reminder

Be sure to report all life-changing events to our Funds Office. All too often the Office finds itself mired in family situations because records have not been updated. The funds staff does not know if or when we get married, have kids, have a family member die or get divorced. It is our responsibility to make sure they know. Help make life easier for all of us.

The deadline to apply for a \$10,000 Local 825 Scholarship is April 3. If you have a child or grandchild who meets the criteria, don't miss this opportunity for financial help. Ten scholarships will be awarded. See our website – WWW.IUOE825.ORG for application details.

Enjoy the spring weather that will soon be here and keep safe.

Semiannual meeting covers wide range of topics

Local 825 members turned out for the January semiannual meeting, marking a return to normal from last year's January meeting broadcast over an FM radio band in the Training Center parking lot.

At the beginning of the meeting, Business Manager Greg Laveeve presented a \$17,400 check to the NY Jets Foundation (read page 7 for more info about this contribution).

Greg reviewed the status of the funds. Despite a volatile market and challenging conditions, the funds are in great shape and continue to deliver for members and retirees.

Scholarships

The 2022 scholarship fundraising events enjoyed a successful 2022, thanks to President John Wood, who chairs the committees that run each event, as well as to the members who give their time to make each event a success. Because of member generosity, the local provides \$100,000 a year in scholarships to the children and grandchildren of its members.

Applications for this year's scholarships are now available by calling the Springfield Union Hall and are posted on the website. Children of our members are also eligible for scholarships from several Central Labor Councils and Building Trade Councils, also posted on the web site. If you have college age children, make sure they take advantage of the scholarship opportunities. Local 825's application deadline is April 3, 2023.



Business Manager Greg Laveeve shows a check for \$17,300 before presenting it to NY Jets representative Jesse Linder (standing). Training Director Willie Vaccaro looks on.

Organizing

Local 825 organizers signed 10 new contractors to the Union's Independent Agreement. Organizers also signed two new jobsite agreements with companies that are negotiating full contracts, and they assisted shop agents with the six new shop employer contracts. From April through November, they sent 330 candidates to the training center for skills tests. 128 new members were organized to fill outstanding work orders.

The Union's overall organizing goal, is to be the only source of highly skilled operating engineers in our area. Organizers continue to work closely with the International and sister locals, targeting multistate, and multinational companies.

Greg ended the meeting by acknowledging members' generosity, citing contributions amounting to 19,000 meals to the community food bank and the highly successful Toys for Tots Christmas program.

Twenty-two apprentices graduate in '22

Business Manager Greg Laveeve and President John Wood recognized the 2022 class of apprentice graduates at the semiannual meeting. Each was recognized for their achievement and presented with a plaque and welcomed as new members. The graduates and now journeymen are:

From New Jersey: Brian D'Amico, Patrick Wister, Daniel Tymon, Glen Seidel, Michael LoPiccolo, Keith Pollock, Ernest Schumann, Burak Turan, Joseph Iorio, Michael Rump, Matthew Holden, Joseph McNally, Tyler Castellini, James LoBiondo,



Scot Price, Brian Reynolds, Jacob Morrison, Joseph Newlin and Clint Martin.

From New York: David Anderson, An-

drew Reisinger and Brad Miller. A new apprentice class will begin at the Training Center in March.

Contact Information

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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
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(908) 608-2013

2023 winter training classes end as spring draws near

Winter training ends at both training centers in early March after a successful session reaching between 100 and 120 members. Classes got off to a chilly start in January with temperatures in the mid-30s. Typical winter weather continued over the past eight weeks with some warmer sunny days now and then. “In general the weather’s been good,”

said Training Director Willie Vaccaro. “We’ve accumulated a lot of training hours and we expect a good number of members will add new pieces of equipment to their work card as a result.” The New Jersey classes being completed include: basic crane, dozer, excavator and combo milling and paving, utilities and trenching, GPS dozer, excavator and ro-

ver, CDL prep, drilling with Bauer & Cassagrande, welding and 360 Forklift. The New York training classes included: GPS dozer, excavator and rover, milling and paving and utilities and trenching. When winter classes end, the STEAM class will continue through April to allow trainees to accumulate the 500 hours they need to become eligible for dispatch.



Training Director Willie Vaccaro and Site Coordinator Chris Szpila welcomed the members and apprentices to the first day of training in January.



TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

www.facebook.com/iue825Training

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

8-Hour HAZMAT Refresher
Sat. March 11; Sat. March 25
Sat. April 8; Sat. April 22

CCO – Four Study Saturdays
TSS Small Hydraulic
Sat., March 4; Sat., April 1

TLL Large Hydraulic
Sat., March 11; Sat., April 8

LAT Lattice Boom Crane
Sat., March 18; Sat., April 15

Tower / Overhead / Review
Sat., March 25; Sat., April 22

Written Test, 7 a.m.
Sun., March 26; Sun., April 23

OSHA 30 Class (Must attend all four days)

March 14 through 17:
Tues., March 14 – Mod 1
Wed., March 15 – Mod 2
Thurs., March 16 – Mod 3
Fri., March 17 – Mod 4

April 11 through 14:
Tues., April 11 – Mod 1
Wed., April 12 – Mod 2
Thurs., April 13 – Mod 3
Fri., April 14 – Mod 4.

40-Hour HAZMAT Class (Must attend all five days)
Mon., March 20 through Fri., March 24
Mon., April 17 through Fri., April 21

NEW YORK Training Center
(845) 673-3154 (All classes start at 7 a.m. unless noted otherwise)

8-Hour HAZMAT Refresher
Sat. March 11; Sat. March 25

OSHA 30 Class (Must attend all four days)
March 21 through 24:
Tues., March 21 – Mod 1
Wed., March 22 – Mod 2
Thurs., March 23 – Mod 3
Fri., March 24 – Mod 4

40-Hour HAZMAT Class (Must attend all five days)
Mon., March 27 through Fri., March 31

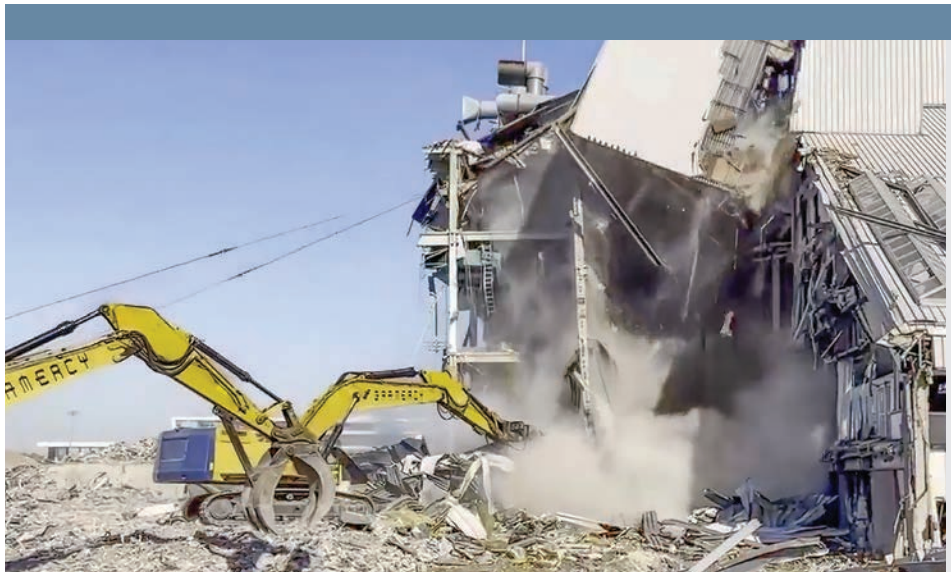
Please contact the New York Training Center to put your name on the list for a class or certification you need to take. If you do not see the class listed above, let them know and once we have enough names for a class, members will be notified.

Coming soon to Bayonne: Motion picture, TV studios

Local 825 members are on the job in Bayonne preparing a 60-acre site to become 1.5 million-square-foot motion picture and television studio.

Turner Construction is the General Contractor to build “1888 Studios.” The 17-building campus will include studio sound stage buildings, workshop/mill buildings and other spaces. Turner has selected Nordic Contracting as its sub, which is employing Local 825’s members. An open-shop job, Nordic will pursue the future phases of work, including site work, concrete, foundation, piles and drilling and building construction.

In the shadow of the Bayonne Bridge, the site is located at Avenue A and Fifth Street. It was formerly occupied by Chevron. Storage tanks are now gone. Turner has estimated that 2,000 construction jobs would be created during the site prep and construction of the buildings.



Local 825 is at the controls as the Meadowlands Racetrack grandstand stands no more.

The walls come tumbling down ...

In its heyday it was called the Big M, Meadowlands Racetrack. At its height, it hosted 25,000 patrons every Saturday night. The site also hosted the 1994 World Cup.

Opened Sept. 1, 1976, the Big M had a storied 37-year run before closing in 2013. Replaced by a new grandstand across the track, the New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority has approved a \$16.9 million plan to demolish the old building in preparation for the 2026 World Cup

ELEC marks impressive 10-year history

ELEC, Local 825’s labor management organization, passed its 10th anniversary in 2022, causing a review of its accomplishments over the past decade.

Business Manager Greg Lavee recognized this milestone and recounted the highlights of its history.

“From a startup organization with one employee, Director Mark Longo, ELEC has grown into one of the leading voices shaping the construction industry and public policy in New Jersey and New York,” Greg said. “From the start, ELEC’s goal was to grow our market share, which in turn would grow our union. It has certainly delivered.”

Market Recovery

The Market Recovery Program helps achieve this by providing \$25 million in grants that help our union contractors be more competitive with non-union contractors. Because of this program, our contractors are expanding into markets that previously were considered lost. For example:

Site work in single family tracts, in condos and in small shopping centers. Paving in condominium complexes. Our concrete pumping contractors are on more jobs and our crane rental companies are competing for work they had lost in the past.

Advocacy

Our ELEC team constantly advocates for issues and projects. For example:

- The New York Route 17 conversion to Interstate 86. Governor Hochul’s \$1 billion allocation for this project is a direct result of ELEC advocacy and a big win for our Local
- New Jersey’s reversal of its proposed building electrification mandates. This mandate would have led to the end of oil, natural gas and propane as options to heat our homes.
- ELEC’s Affordable Energy for New Jersey Campaign has become the voice of the opposition to these regulations. In fact, it also swayed the New Jersey Ratepayer Counsel to our side of the natural gas cost-argument, after five years of messaging.

In 2022, ELEC’s team has attended and testified at hearings concerning: the Tennessee



Business Manager Greg Lavee presents an oversized \$17,300 check to RJ Mastroddi (left) and Jesse Linder (right) of the New York Jets organization. The contribution comes from a pledge of \$300 for every field goal kicked during the official playing season. It covers 58 field goals scored over the 2021 and 2022 seasons. The funds go to the Jets Foundation, which funds programs intended to positively influence the lives of young men and women in the tri-state area by supporting youth football, preventing bullying, and promoting social justice, particularly in disadvantaged communities. The presentation was made during the semiannual meeting.

Gas Compressor stations; the Williams Regional Energy Access Project; NJ’s Environmental Justice Hearings; NJ’s Inland Flood Rules and NJ’s Coastal Flood rules.

Member reimbursements

ELEC runs the Market Recovery and **Credential Reimbursement** programs.

In its first year, the credential reimburse-

ment program covered 3 three credentials and reimbursed members \$4,700. Today, ELEC covers eleven credentials and (in 2022) reimbursed members \$167,000.

“Since the program began, we have put more than a million dollars of credential relief back in the pockets of our members, ensuring that they maintain their credentials and are ready to work on ‘day one’ of a project,” Greg said.

Tiver sets sight on 8th District Senate seat



Local 825’s Latham Tiver has emerged as the front runner in the race for the New Jersey 8th District Senate seat. A former Burlington County Freeholder, he announced his candidacy recently, following State Senator Jean Stanfield’s (R) decision not to seek reelection.

The two Republican assemblyman from the 8th district, Michael Torrisi, Jr. (R-Hammonton) and Brandon Umba (R-Medford), have endorsed his candidacy.

Tiver is a lifelong resident of the 8th district. In addition to raising his family there, he has been integrally involved in civic and community roles.



International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

Toys for Tots thanks members

Continuing their history of generosity, Local 825 members donated a mountain of toys that seems to grow larger every year.

More than 350 members attended this year's holiday party at the East Brunswick Hilton.

Four US Marine Corp representatives were on hand to take custody of the toys and return them to their headquarters to prepare them for distribution to struggling families.

Weeks later, at the Semiannual meeting, Business Manager Greg Lavee read the following letter to members:

Dear Local 825,

As 2023 begins, I can't thank you all enough for helping us ensure that less fortunate children across our great nation had at least one present to open on Christmas Morning.

After such a difficult year, girls and boys from struggling families truly had a Merry Christmas. You helped bring smiles to their



Business Manager Greg Lavee and President John Wood turn over toys donated by Local 825 members to US Marine Corps representatives for the Toys for Tots program.

faces and joy to their hearts. And they have hope for a brighter year ahead....all because of your compassion and generosity.

On behalf of every child whose Christmas you made possible and a whole lot of grateful families – thank you so very much! We are deeply grateful for your continued part-

nership and excited for what is possible in the year ahead thanks to your support.

Wishing you a safe & Healthy 2023. Thank you again and Happy New Year.

Signed: Ted Silvester, Colonel USMC (ret); Vice President, Marine Toys for Tots Foundation.