

825. NEWS



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

VOL. 13 ISSUE 3

Enthusiasm builds at 2nd annual Cornament

Newbies join veteran cornholers in latest pitch to raise scholarship funds



If you thought cornhole was just a tame lawn sport like horseshoes or beanbag, you're missing out on a growing movement. The old beanbag-tossing game has caught fire and is being played in bars, gymnasiums, colleges and Elks Lodges. Even ESPN and related channels have been broadcasting cornhole tournaments for a

few years now. Thanks to event organizer Kevin Young, it is also the latest addition to Local 825's lineup of scholarship fundraisers, bringing together men, women, children, seniors ... individuals and families, all able to play together in friendly competition. See pages 4 and 5 for Local 825's own Cornament

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

March

8 - District 1 Meeting

The Estate At Monroe
1351 N. Black Horse Pike, Williamstown

10 - District 2 Meeting

Hilton Garden Inn
50 Raritan Center Parkway, Edison

13 - 11th Annual IUOE Local 825 Golf Outing

Gambler Ridge, 121 Burlington Path Road, Cream Ridge

14 - Mother's Day

15 - District 3 Meeting

Sheraton Parsippany Hotel
199 Smith Road, Parsippany

17 - District 4 Meeting

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

20 - Armed Forces Day

29 - Memorial Day - UNION HOLIDAY

June

5 - District 1 Meeting

Elks Lodge 1875
600 Washington Street, Toms River

7 - District 2 Meeting

Hilton Garden Inn
304 Route 22 West, Springfield

12 - District 3 Meeting

Holiday Inn
1000 International Drive, Mt. Olive

14 - District 4 Meeting

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

14 - Flag Day

16 - Juneteenth

18 - Father's Day

21 - Summer Begins

25 - IUOE 825 Annual Clay Shoot

Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays
2750 Limestone Street, Coplay, PA

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



Very busy work season on the horizon

Now that our contract negotiations are completed and in the rear-view mirror, we are looking forward to a busy work schedule of good jobs. As in every negotiation, there was give and take on both sides but we are pleased with the outcome and to have a ratified contract.

The next big activity is the IUOE convention that will chart the direction of this union for the next five years. This is taking place in Hollywood, Florida, as this newsletter is coming out. Our delegates are joining with other delegates from across the United States and Canada to elect our general president, general officers, vice presidents and trustees.

I will have the honor of chairing the committee that puts constitutional changes on the floor. We will pass a number of resolutions that speak to the direction of the union. Everything is on the table. We look backward and forward, as this is our opportunity to take a fresh look and update our approach to everything. The convention runs from Sunday April 30 through Wednesday, May 3.

Light At The End Of The Tunnels

Nearly 14 years ago former Gov. Chris Christie put the kibosh on the multi-billion dollar Hudson River Tunnel Project, saying the state could not afford escalating costs and fears of overruns.

Fast forward to the beginning of work in 2022 on the Portal North Bridge and to the announcement by President Biden that work can now begin on the much-awaited and crucial rail project. Although estimates say it will take 10 years to complete, it's always good when the work actually begins. See more information on page 3.

More ELEC Benefits

ELEC825 has expanded its credential reimbursement program to include the NJ/NY/EPA asbestos credential. Additionally, ELEC825 will reimburse for asbestos-related training classes. See page 7 for more information.

Coming Up

We wish the best of luck to two Local 825 candidates for public office. Latham Tiver will be the candidate for the 8th District NJ Senate seat in November. Meanwhile, Matt Walker will run in the June primary for the 4th District Assembly seat.

Two of our most popular scholarship fundraisers are scheduled to take place over the next two months ... details on the May 13 golf outing and the June 25 clay shoot are on page 3.

Although we look forward to a busy season, take time to enjoy the summer with your family.

Contact Information

Local 825 Headquarters

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

District Offices:

3242 Route 206
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
(973) 630-1013 FAX

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Debra Botulinski
(908) 608-2013

Biden commits to Hudson tunnels completion

The long, long-awaited Hudson River Tunnel Project got a presidential kickoff with a visit by President Joe Biden.

The President came to New York to announce a cash infusion for the Gateway transportation project and a promise to work out all financing for the two more rail tunnels under the Hudson River.

Biden said \$292 million from the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law has been earmarked for completion of a concrete casing for the tunnels, running under the Hudson Yards complex. He also pledged completion of financing for the entire \$16 billion project, a multi-billion-dollar effort between the states and the federal government,” Biden said.

The two existing rail tunnels — shared by Amtrak and NJ Transit — are more than a century old and deteriorating. Once work begins, completion is estimated to take more than 10 years and the project will double rail capacity from today’s levels.



President Joe Biden announces funding for Hudson Tunnel project.

LoCrasto accepts 825 recognition

John LoCrasto represented Local 825 at the recent 12th Annual New Jersey’s Leading Capital Construction Project Awards in Forsgate, which honored the people and organizations throughout New Jersey that work

together as partners to ensure the safety and efficiency of the state’s infrastructure.

Other groups from across the Garden State were also honored for their involvement in major infrastructure projects.

Local 825 was recognized for its role in the Overlook Medical Center’s Cogeneration Replacement Project and also the Route 22 and Garden State Parkway Interchange Improvement Project.



John LoCrasto, second from right, accepts award on behalf of Local 825.

Golf outing, clay shoot fundraisers in sight

The 11th Annual Golf Outing and the Annual Clay Shoot are next up fundraisers.

The golf outing will take place on May 13 at the Gambler Ridge Golf Club in Cream Ridge, NJ. The clay shoot will follow on June 25 at Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays in Coplay, PA. Events are held on a weather-permitting basis.

As this newsletter goes to print, the golf slots have sold out, although sponsorships are still available. Register quickly for the Clay Shoot because that always sells out too.

Cornhole tourney scores a hit

The second annual Local 825 Cornhole Tournament took place on February 25 at the Jamesburg Elks Lodge. The tournament was organized by Kevin Young, director of Special Projects for Local 825. It was a fantastic opportunity for people to have some fun and connect with each other.

The tournament was a successful fundraiser for the local 825 Scholarship fund. The event brought together over a hundred mem-

bers of the union and their families, creating a sense of camaraderie and teamwork. Participants competed against each other in teams, showcasing their skills in friendly competition. Participants also enjoyed the lunch and dessert that were provided, which added to the festive atmosphere. It was not about winning, but about having a great time with colleagues and friends. The Local 825 Cornhole Tournament scored a corn hole in one!



TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training

NEW JERSEY TRAINING CENTER

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

8-Hour HAZMAT Refresher

Sat. May 20; Sat. June 24
Sat. July 22; Sat. August 19

CCO - Four Study Saturdays

Sign up & TSS Small Hydraulic, Sat., July 8
TWR/TLL Large Hydraulic, 8 a.m., Sat., July 15
OVR, LBT at 8:00, Sat., July 22
Lattice Boom Crane & Review, Sat. July 29
Written Test, Sun., July 30

Signal Person Class

Sat. May 6

Rigger Class

Sat. May 13

Asbestos Awareness

Sat. June 3

OSHA 10 Saturday Class (Must attend both days)

June 10 - Mod 1
June 17 - Mod 2
July 8 - Mod 1
July 15 - Mod 2

OSHA 30 Saturday Class (Must attend all four days)

August 5 - August 26
August 5 - Mod 1
August 12 - Mod 2
August 19 - Mod 3
August 26 - Mod 4

40-Hour HAZMAT Class (Must attend all five days)

Mon., August 14 through Fri., August 18

NEW YORK Training Center

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

8-Hour HAZMAT Refresher

To be announced.

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.



NJ awards training grant to Local 825

Local 825 will receive \$204,200 to bolster its apprentice program.

The funds are part of a \$3 million grant program from the NJ Department of Labor (DOL). The DOL's Growing Apprenticeship in Nontraditional Sectors (GAINS) program supports the creation and expansion of apprenticeships throughout the state. Part of the NJ Apprenticeship Network, the initiative seeks to help all New Jerseyans cultivate Careers across a wide range of employers.

Local 825 will use these funds to increase access to higher education for apprentices, in-

cluding paying for classes and curriculum development and for classroom materials to ensure student success, according to Business Manager Greg Lavee.

"This represents a 'win-win' for us and the state," said Greg. "We're able to get money in the system to underwrite what we do; the state gets to use money to fund programs that produce results they're trying to achieve."

NJ Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo said, "Apprenticeship has proven to be a valuable tool for building talent pools in any occupation and we're thrilled the state's con-

tinued investment in this earn-while-you-learn model can assist our employers develop the skilled workforces they need."

The GAINS grant program promotes expansion of USDOL-approved Registered Apprenticeship programs to support better-paying careers and advanced credential attainment. It seeks to develop new and existing apprenticeship programs and create Registered Apprenticeship programs in high-growth industries, including Local 825's 155 current apprentices. There are more than 8,300 active apprentices in more than 1,100 programs throughout the state.

Members donate the gift of Life

Thanks to all those who turned out for yesterday's blood drive for Districts 1, 2 and 3.

Blood is the most precious gift that anyone can give to another person – the gift of life. A decision to donate your blood can save a life, or even several if your blood is separated into

its components – red cells, platelets and plasma – which can be used individually for patients with specific conditions.

Regular donation is needed to ensure that blood will always be available whenever and wherever it is needed.



ELEC825 expands asbestos reimbursements

ELEC825 has expanded its credential reimbursement program to include the NJ/NY/EPA asbestos credential. Additionally, ELEC825 will reimburse for asbestos-related training classes.

Currently, ELEC825 reimburses members for the annual fee associated with the NJ and NY state licensure from the National Asbestos & Environmental Training Institute (NAEIT).

In addition to the annual fee, the following courses are eligible for reimbursement.

- NJ/NY/EPA/AHERA Asbestos Handler/Worker Initial (4 days, \$550)
- NJ/NY State/EPA/AHERA Asbestos Supervisor/Contractor Initial (5 days, \$550)
- NJ/NY State/EPA/AHERA Asbestos Worker/Handler Refresher (1 day, \$140)
- NY State/NJ/EPA/AHERA Asbestos Supervisor Refresher (1 day, online, \$195)

This is a significant benefit for members and helps them maintain their status among the best, and safest, operating engineers in the entire region. For more information about these courses and links to register, visit <https://elec825.org/new-credential/>



Applying for reimbursement is easy

Applying for reimbursements has never been easier, thanks to the ELEC825 website. Simply go to www.ELEC825.ORG/members, scroll down to "How to Apply for Reimbursement" and log into the member portal to complete your form.

You can also submit your reimbursement application via email to memberhelp@elec825.org, faxing to 973-630-1013 or by mailing to ELEC's attention at 65 Springfield Ave, 2nd Floor, Springfield, NJ 07081.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kathleen Kieck at 973-671-6794 or visit ELEC825.org for more information.

JANJ adds Lalevee to Board of Directors

The Junior Achievement (JA) of New Jersey has appointed Business Manager Greg Lalevee to its Board of Directors.

JANJ is an educational resource dedicated to providing New Jersey's youth with relevant experiential education in financial literacy, career readiness, entrepreneurship, and life skills.

Headquartered in Edison's Raritan's Center, its mission is to inspire and help prepare young people for future career success. The organization is a real-world way for high school students to envision future career opportunities through a career-oriented curriculum and a career fair.

In addition to Greg, three other board members have been appointed: Dr. Mark McCormick, president at Middlesex College; Dwayne Redmond, Bank of America; and Dalton

Smart, VP of corporate audit and assurance services at Merck.

"The Junior Achievement organization is interested in taking a serious look at the value of a career in the skilled trades," said Greg. "I look forward to helping young people reach their potential," said Greg.



ON TAP: NJ American Water is beginning work on a \$7.9 million project in Cranford and Linden that will continue to upgrade and improve the aging water infrastructure in those communities. This improvement is part of a multimillion-dollar initiative to accelerate the renewal of water infrastructure that has reached the end of its useful life in more than 100 communities across the state. Our signatory contractors are on the job: CRJ Contracting; J. Fletcher Creamer & Son; Montana Construction; and Conquest Construction.



International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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

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BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

The cookie crumbles in Fair Lawn



The Nabisco tower was set to be imploded April 15. Photo Credit David Wildstein, NJ GLOBE

Local 825 members working for Sessler Wrecking Company crumble the cookies at the old Nabisco factory in Fair Lawn.

Nabisco baked some of the world's top-selling cookie brands at this site for more than 60 years. Demolition began with the building's interior in the fall and soon after work began on the exterior.

The building has been a major part of

the Fair Lawn's identity since its opening in 1958. The factory was visible over Route 208, with the NABISCO name beaming across the top in big red letters. Final demolition and site cleanup is expected to be completed by summer, according to Greek Development, which owns the property.

The site will be redeveloped into a distribution facility.

Stature continues to grow

Local 825's leadership continues to be recognized for its influence in civic and political circles.

In the past two months Business Manager Greg Lavee has been:

- Named to the NJBIZ Power 100 list for his leadership and advocacy for the local's members.
- Appointed to the Junior Achievement of New Jersey Board of Directors, and
- Recognized, along with ELEC Director Mark Longo, as a Power Leader by ROI-NJ magazine.

This recognition helps to amplify our voice when it's time to support or oppose proposals that touch on important labor issues.

