

825. NEWS



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

VOL. 13 ISSUE 5

825's fishing outing sets participation record

Miss Belmar Princess charts course for best fishing spots, best haul ever



Local 825 members climbed on board early Sunday morning in July, packing coolers and gear for six hours of fishing off of the Jersey Shore. Business Manager Greg Lavee was on hand to greet the members and wish them well. The day was 'picture perfect' in every respect, from

blue skies to calm seas to a variety of fish that seemed all too willing to get hooked. By the time the Miss Belmar Princess pulled back into port that afternoon, the coolers were filled with sea bass, fluke, mackerel and ling. More photos and info on page 5.

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

September

4 - Labor Day - UNION HOLIDAY

5 - District 1 Meeting

The Estate at Monroe

1351 North Black Horse Pike, Williamstown

6 - District 2 Meeting

Holiday Inn, 160 Frontage Road, Newark

10 - Grandparent's Day

15 - Rosh Hashanah

18 - District 3 Meeting

Russian Hall, 464 Outwater Lane, Garfield

19 - District 1 Retiree Luncheon

(To Be Determined - Check with the office to make sure)

20 - District 4 Retiree Brunch

NY Training Center

96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton, NY

21 - District 2 & 3 Retirees Brunch

Union Hall

65 Springfield Avenue, 3rd Floor, Springfield

23 - Autumn Begins

24 - 11th Annual IUOE Local 825

Motorcycle Poker Run

24 - Yom Kippur

27 - PAC meeting - VIRTUAL MEETING

October

2 - District 1 Meeting

Hammonton Fire Company Station 2

51 North White Horse Pike, Hammonton

4 - District 2 Meeting

Holiday Inn, 2870 Hwy. 35, Hazlet

7 - Susan Komen walk to fight breast cancer

7 a.m., Six Flags Great Adventure

9 - District 3 Meeting

Sheraton Parsippany Hotel

199 Smith Road, Parsippany

9 - Columbus Day

11 - District 4 Meeting

NY Training Center

96 Bates Gates Road, New Hampton

16 - National Boss's Day

22 - Second Annual Hatchet Throwing event

Stumpy's Hatchet, Green Brook

31 - Halloween

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



Labor Day outlook: work is plentiful

With Labor Day just days away we are grateful for another great year. We can relax with our families, enjoy the benefits of our work, our compensation and our benefits. But at some point over the long Labor Day Weekend, take a few moments to reflect on how we got here.

We are grateful to all the men and women who went before us and who fought against unfair labor practices and unsafe conditions. Our good fortune was paid for in blood, sweat and tears. Let's remember the lessons of labor history and continue our willingness to stand up for our rights and for those who will come after us.

Looking back

At the Semiannual meeting in July we detailed the positive condition of our funds and the successes we've enjoyed so far in 2023 (see page 3 for more information). We honored our scholarship winners and their families and we had a great golf outing. The Sporting Clays shootout was another big success (page 4) and the annual fishing trip sold out for the first time (page 5). More photos of all our activities can be seen on our Facebook and/or Instagram pages.

Our Training Centers have had a busy year, turning out some 588 students and logging

63,137 training hours in just the first six months. Activities slow down but continue through the summer months. They are expected to ramp up again in September.

Our labor-management organization, ELEC (Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative) continues to pay dividends to members in the form of reimbursements, jobs that result from its Market Recovery Program, and ongoing advocacy work (see page 7).

Looking ahead

Coming up, we have retiree get-togethers; the Poker Run on Sept. 24; and a virtual PAC meeting on Sept. 27.

In terms of political activity, let's do everything we can to help Latham Tiver win the District 8 State Senate in New Jersey; and Matt Walker is on the ballot for state Assembly in the state's 4th District. Both are running on the Republican ticket.

Regardless of what district you live in, or whether you live in New Jersey or New York, make sure to vote for our interests in the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 7.

In October we have the Susan Komen walk to cure breast cancer on Oct. 7; and the Second Annual Hatchet Throwing event, Stumpy's Hatchet, in Green Brook on Oct. 22.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer.

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
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Union Plus®

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Debra Botulinski
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Members assemble to learn latest Local 825 news

At the semiannual meeting in July, Business Manager Greg Lavee provided an overview of key information over the last six months, as well as a look to the future. Here are some of the key topics.

Both New Jersey and New York state budgets have been approved. Each provides for major projects we have advocated for.

In New Jersey, about \$300 million was earmarked for water infrastructure. Most of the money is allocated to towns and cities, which usually means the work will start sooner.

In New York, transportation was allocated a healthy \$8.6 billion. Of this, Route17 continues to receive funding. New York's Climate Invest Program, which invests in clean energy work, added labor protections, so that any project over a hundred thousand dollars has a prevailing wage requirement attached to it. If the project is more than \$5 million, there will be a Project Labor Agreement. There is also apprenticeship language on all projects.

The NY Power Authority, which has the authority to build power generation projects,

now stipulates that all renewable energy projects require a PLA.

On the work front, we continue to advocate for large scale projects. After a few years of hearings and testimony, Williams Regional Energy Access Project is now under construction. Also, PSE&G has submitted its application for its Gas System Modernization Program III. If approved, this would continue to fuel significant utility work.

Following the meeting members enjoyed an hour of food, beverage and camaraderie.



Business Manager Greg Lavee addresses the membership



Approximately 400 members attend the July meeting



Members get together after the meeting

Negotiation and Organizing Updates

In the last six months, the business agents have negotiated 23 collective bargaining agreements, with positive outcomes across the board for the bargaining units.

Shop Agents also negotiated 12 contract wage re-openers for wage distribution and benefit allotments.

Our local continues to take an aggressive approach to organizing. Four new employers were organized through card checks or elections. Since January we have signed fourteen new contractors, including Perdomo, a national wrecking company and Terco, a site and utility company. Additionally, we have organized 103 new members.

This past Spring, we welcomed Dave Yannetta to our group of organizers. We continue to recruit highly skilled operators and defend against non-union activity.

Participation and enjoyment in annual events at an all-time high

Clay Shoot triggers a good time for all

The drive out to Coplay, in Lehigh PA, feels shorter every year as familiarity as the event attracts sportsmen and women alike to the abandoned quarry turned shooting range.

The shooting stations are set in a scenic setting of old buildings, clear water, sun and shade.

"This year's event sold out almost immedi-

ately," said John Rocco, event organizer. "Once people get hooked, they come back every year."

This year's shootout took place under blue skies with billowy clouds and temperatures in the low 70s. Business Manager Greg Laveve greeted the rifle men and women, the Sporting Clays staff reviewed safety precautions and the golf carts rolled out for a shotgun start.

When everyone was done it was time for lunch, announcement of winners and cornucopia of door prizes.



Day at sea yields buckets of bass, fluke & ling

The Miss Belmar Princess slipped away from its dock precisely at 7:01 a.m. and set its course for a first fishing location about 45 minutes out. The seas were calm and the sky was blue with barely a breeze, let alone any wind.

Along the way, the captain alerted the fishermen and women to two humpback whales on the horizon, breaching and splashing the ocean's surface. After a show that rivaled Sea World, the ship resumed its way until it reached the first in a series of fishing locations. Each spot paid off, with an endless supply of fish. The catch was mostly sea bass, plenty of fluke, some mackerel, ling and at least one shark.

Event organizer Joe Graham expressed his gratitude for how the event came together. "The event completely sold out for the first time," he said. "We couldn't have had a better day."

The 50/50 winner was Janet Maki. The biggest fish was caught by Dan O'Keefe. There was also a generous supply of door prizes donated by contractors and well wishers.



Training Center remains busy as it enters second half

The Training Center had an active year to date, logging 588 students for 63,137 training hours during the first six months of 2023. Most of these attended winter classes, although training activities continue through the summer months.

For the busy winter session we loaded up on extra equipment. We rented some and others were on loan from our contractors. We want to thank them, in particular:

- Crisdel Construction
- Jorrey Excavating
- H.O. Penn Machinery
- JESCO
- Wirtgen Group.

We appreciate their partnering with us for this important training.

Apprenticeship

We currently have 147 apprentices. Eight have graduated this year and 12 more are expected to graduate by year's end.



Many operators come to the center for testing



Osprey tenant watches training from his Link-Belt penthouse

The N.J. apprentice program began a new class with 30 apprentices in March. The N.Y. program started with nine.

All of the apprentices have completed HAZMAT and OSHA training. All have started field training and have had an opportunity to go to work on a job site.

The training center instructors remain busy through the summer and begin gearing up again for more activity in September and October.



Instructors Joe Glova (right) and Bobby Lane evaluate crane practical testing



Apprentice Josh David practices on the excavator

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. Sept. 16
Sat. Oct. 21
Sat. Nov. 18
Sat. Dec. 2

Crane Standards & Load Chart Review (4 Study Saturdays)

Sign-up and Fixed Cab (TSS)
Sat. Oct. 7

Fixed Cab (TLL)
Sat. Oct. 14

Lattice Boom Crane (LAT)
Sat. Oct. 21

OVR & TWR and Review Class
Sat. Oct. 28

Written Test - 7 a.m.
Sun. Oct. 29

Signal Person Class

Sat. Nov. 11

Rigger Class

Sat. Nov. 18

Asbestos Awareness

Sat. Sept. 9

Fire Watch / Temp Heat

Sat. Oct. 14
Sat. Nov. 4
Sat. Dec. 2

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.

Women's Committee plans activities

The Local 825 Women's Committee invites your participation (male and female) at the Susan Komen walk to fight breast cancer at 7 a.m., Oct. 7 at Six Flags Great Adventure.

The Second Annual Hatchet Throwing event will be held on Oct. 22 at Stumpy's Hatchet Green Brook. Tickets will be available after Labor Day. Watch for details on the Local 825 Facebook and Instagram pages.

Also, please look for our "Operator of the Month" interviews on the Women's Committee social media feeds. We will be publishing short clips on fellow sisters and brothers in our local.

ELEC pays dividends to members for more than a decade

In 2012, Local 825 members voted to create the Engineers Labor Employer Cooperative (ELEC) to help stimulate economic development and create jobs. The local's labor-management organization has been paying dividends to members ever since.

Credential Reimbursement Program

Since the start of the program, member reimbursements are nearing \$1.5 million. During the first six months of 2023, ELEC has provided credential relief to members totaling nearly \$150,000.

Market Recovery Program

Since its inception, more than \$30 million in Market Recovery Program grants have yielded thousands of work hours for our operating engineers. Many of these projects have been in markets once thought to be lost to non-union competition, such as warehouses, mixed-use spaces, shopping centers and residential complexes.

Advocacy

Our ELEC staff is devoted to creating an informed discussion on public policy and educational campaigns. ELEC is a driving force in

various social media campaigns, including Affordable Energy New Jersey and New Yorkers for Affordable Energy. These campaigns advocate for a diverse mix of energy to support the economy, as well as our members. ELEC works to shape several other areas of public policy as well, including clean water projects, flood zone, stormwater management, building requirements and the implementation of NJ's environmental justice regulations.

Route 22 work staged to keep traffic moving



Rt. 22 traffic continues to flow while work progresses

Local 825 members continue work to replace the bridge over Echo Lake in Mountainside, Union County.

The \$9 million federally-funded project will replace the culvert under Route 22 and include paving and grading. Work is being staged in order to maintain all travel lanes.

The existing bridge was constructed in 1929 as a single-span, simply-supported bridge with concrete encased steel beams and a reinforced concrete deck.

This project will replace the bridge with a new pre-cast concrete three-sided culvert on cast-in-place spread footings. Completion is expected by late 2024. The contractor is Union Paving & Construction.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• **Sunday, Sept. 24, Annual Poker Run.** Start from the NJ Training Center, Dayton. Come ride and enjoy a festive, family Barbecue at the end of the ride, the Old Bridge Moose Lodge, 1221 Englishtown Road, Old Bridge, NJ.

• This year's PAC meeting will be available virtually ... connection information will be provided as the date gets closer



International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

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BETTER BUILDING BEGINS HERE

2023 scholarship winners and families honored



Congratulations to all the 2023 Local 825 Scholarship winners and their families, who were honored at an awards reception dinner in June at the East Brunswick Hilton.

Pictured are: front row scholarship winners (left to right): Eric Fraga, sister of Sarah Wilcock, Aisling Gill, Nicole Torres, Brooke O'Connor, Jurist DeOcampo, Rory Stansfield and Leah Alves. Back row (left to right): John Rocco, Bob Davis, President John Wood, Business Manager Greg Lalevee, Willie Vacarro and Joe Logan.

An evening with Paul O'Neill



Local 825's evening with Paul O'Neill was a hit at the Stone Pony in Asbury Park in June. O'Neill's 17-year career in baseball included five World Series wins and eight years with the N.Y. Yankees.