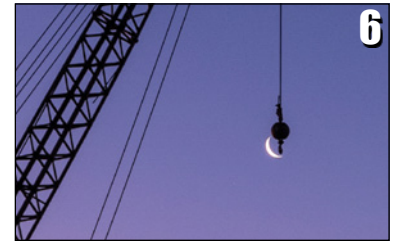


825. NEWS



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

VOL. 14 ISSUE 2

Members wrap up training in coldest winter yet El Niño winter brings stormy, snowy weather for this year's classes



The first El Niño weather pattern in four years visited the NJ/NY winter training classes in January and February. Light but frequent snowstorms, some ice storms and some rain storms made life interesting but didn't impact

training as members and apprentices focused on the tasks at hand. Predictions called for winter storms possible through early March, when training classes are scheduled to end. See pages 4 and 5 for more info and photos.

EVENTS CALENDAR

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

March

4 - District 1 Meeting

Double Tree Suites
515 Fellowship Road, Mt. Laurel

6 - District 2 Meeting

Holiday Inn
2870 Hwy. 35, Hazlet

10 - Daylight Savings begins. Set clocks forward one hour

11 - District 3 Meeting

Russian Hall
464 Outwater Lane, Garfield

13 - District 4 Meeting

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

13 - Blood Bank, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m.

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

17 - St. Patrick's Day

19 - Spring begins

24 - Palm Sunday

29 - Good Friday

31 - Easter

April

1 - District 1 Meeting

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

3 - District 2 Meeting

Holiday Inn
160 Frontage Rd., Newark, NJ

3 - Scholarship applications due

8 - District 3 Meeting

Lake Hopatcong Elks #782
201 Howard Blvd., Mt. Arlington, NJ

10 - District 4 Meeting

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

22 - Passover

22 - Earth Day

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Greg Lalevee, Business Manager



Spring in sight as winter training ends

As temperatures begin to moderate, winter training classes wind down and the work picture continues at a strong pace. 2023 training hours were 33 percent higher than the year before and we have every reason to expect this interest in training to continue in the months ahead.

Growing Stronger

Our ranks are growing, thanks in part to the successes of our organizers and thanks to the 44 apprentices and 26 STEAM members who recently completed their years of training.

Apprentices who have completed their academic coursework in the Earn and Learn program will graduate from Hudson County Community College in May. They will have earned their associate degrees while working toward the completion of their apprenticeship. This a milestone for our Local and for Hudson County Community College. We continue to expand the academic portion of our apprentice program and are currently laying out a course schedule for all apprentices that will include Labor Studies, Construction Management and Surveying. We also are moving fourth-year apprentices toward NCCCO/Crane Classes, Drills and GPS classes before they graduate.

It's a tribute to our local that we continue growing stronger. We are moving closer to our

long-term goal of being the best source for operating engineers in New Jersey and five counties of New York State. And the desire to become a Local 825 operating engineer is as strong as ever, witnessed by 250 applications being snapped up in five minutes in October.

State Representation

We were proud to see our brother Latham Tiver take his oath of office and accept his seat in the New Jersey Senate after a hard-fought campaign. In addition to working to educate our elected officials on matters important to our livelihoods, it is gratifying to have our own voice in the New Jersey Statehouse.

Scholarships & Events

April 3 is this year's cutoff to submit a scholarship application. If you have a child or grandchild graduating high school this year, don't miss this opportunity to win a \$10,000 scholarship. Local 825 members raise thousands of dollars every year to fund this important program. With that in mind, check our schedule of events beginning with the Golf Outing on May 11. See page 7 for all our upcoming events.

Enjoy the weather as it continues to improve and take time to spend time with your families this summer.

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

Semiannual meeting updates members on local's activities

Nearly 500 members filled the East Brunswick Hilton's ballroom in January for an up to the minute update on all aspects of Local 825's activities over the past six months.

Business Manager Greg Lavee reviewed the status of the Funds, which remain positive.

Greg recognized the funds staff for their dedication, hard work and genuine care they provide to each member and their families. Because many staff members are nearing retirement age, a thorough succession plan was put in place to ensure continuity in the event of retirements.

Administrator Chris Medich still leads the office and continues to mentor the department heads to identify potential leaders. Some departments were made more efficient and there is a high level of confidence that the Funds office staff members will continue to provide the level of care they have become known for.

Apprentices and STEAM members

Forty-four apprentices graduated from the program last year. Which is twice as many as the previous year. Covid had extended the duration of many apprentices. Some had been in the program as many as 10 years, due to covid and other impacts during that time.

Greg gave a shout out to Willie Vaccaro, Shana Grace and the entire training center crew for their efforts throughout the period to graduate so many apprentices.

Also graduating were 26 members of the STEAM program. STEAM was developed in



Nearly 500 members attend January's Semiannual meeting

2018 as a five-year training focused on the paving industry. The program began with 35 students and of those, the first 26 were recognized last night. Twenty-one students remain in the program, many of those having joined after the program first began.

250 Applications – gone in five minutes

In October, the latest batch of applications were made available through an online portal. In five minutes they were gone, showing the high demand to join Local 825. Forty new apprentices will start the New Jersey program and 10 will join the New York program in the Spring.

The meeting was followed by the usual social hour with light food and drinks. The next semiannual meeting is scheduled for June 17 in a new location: the Prudential Center, 25 Lafayette Street, Newark, NJ



Tiver sworn in as NJ 8th District's Senator

Congratulations to brother Latham Tiver, who was sworn in as the new state senator for the 8th Legislative District on Jan. 9.

Latham was recognized during the semiannual meeting the night before by Business Manager Greg Lavee.

At his swearing in ceremony, Latham said, "I have lived in the 8th district my entire life and look forward to representing my neighbors and community in the New Jersey Senate. I will work tirelessly to make New Jersey more affordable for our residents and am committed to improving our business climate to help stimulate job creation."

Latham formerly served as Southampton Township Committeeman and Burlington County Commissioner. The 8th Legislative District includes parts of Burlington and Atlantic counties.



Some of the 44 apprentice graduates are shown here

Winter weather arrives in time for winter classes

Temperatures hovered in the high 20's on the first day of training

The annual ritual of winter training coincided with a drop in temperatures in early January. The day began under clear blue skies and cold but that didn't stop the dedicated men and women who were there to kick off the

first training programs of 2024 at both the New Jersey and New York Training Centers.

Training Director Willie Vaccaro and this year's instructors met with members and apprentices in the shop to review the do's and don'ts. This year there will be a total of 10 instructors at both facilities. After a brief address, members split into training groups with some heading outdoors and others remaining in indoor classrooms.

New Jersey classes include 360 forklift;

Bauer/Casagrande; basic crane; basic combo; basic dozer; basic excavator; CDL prep; GPS dozer, excavator, rover; paving classes (including milling machine, paver, asphalt roller and transfer machine); utility class / trench class; and welding class.

New York classes include GPS dozer, excavator, rover; utility class / trench class; miller machine; paver; asphalt roller; and milling machine.

Classes are scheduled to end on March 15.





Be in control of your funds, update life events

Each year it is important to review any life-changing events that may have occurred over the past 12 months and report them to the Funds Office. Because if the your records are not updated, you may not like the outcome.

A marriage, the birth of a child, a divorce, it is up to each member to make sure their records are up to date so that there are no surprises when it comes time to make use of those benefits.

In the case of a divorce, the Funds office likely needs to know some of the terms of the divorce, along with having copies on file of any appropriate documents. The divorce terms absolutely have an impact on medical benefits and usually have an impact on retirement benefits. Make sure everyone is accounted for and equally important, update your beneficiaries if they change.



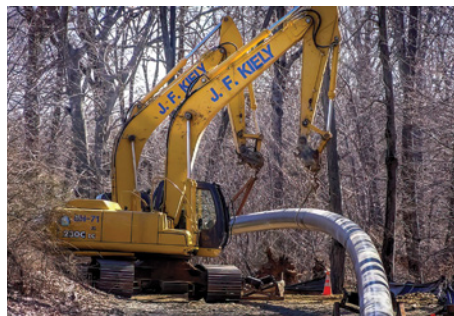
Successful organizing moves local closer to its goal

At the Semiannual meeting in January, Business Manager Greg Lavee praised the work of Local 825 organizers and praised their record.

The union's overall organizing strategy and goal is to be the only source of highly skilled operating engineers in our area. In 2023, Local 825 grew 233 members closer to that goal. This achievement is in line with its progress over several months. Since July 2023, the organizers have reviewed 170 surveys from operators seeking membership in Local 825. They have engaged in 233 relevant top-down initiatives, ranging from research to meetings, negotiations & bannerings.

The Department also has held 138 interactions, including outreach to employees at nonunion companies. Additionally, it signed 10 new contractors to the Union's Construction Agreement:

- Digging & Rigging, a large non-union crane company based in Maryland and now only union in Local 825's jurisdiction; and



- Kiely Construction. During the second half of 2023, Local 825 concluded all issues with Kiely and the Utility Workers Union. After successfully defended ourselves from the utility workers NLRB charges we then welcomed 78 Kiely employees as members, greatly improving our market share of utility work in Central and South Jersey.

Despite its successes, the organizers continue to fight for Local 825 and the rights of non-union workers. Hats off to them for their continued efforts.

TRAINING CENTER CALENDAR

www.facebook.com/iuoe825Training

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

CCO

Sat. March 2
Sat. March 9
Sat. March 16
Sat. March 23 - TEST
Sun. March 24 - TEST

Sat. April 6
Sat. April 13
Sat. April 20
Sat. April 27 - TEST
Sun. April 28 - TEST

8-Hour HAZMAT

Sat. March 9
Sat. March 23
Sat. April 13
Sat. April 27

40 HOUR

Mon. April 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

OSHA 30

March - NO CLASS
April 2, 3, 4, 5
April 30, May 1, 2, 3

NEW YORK TRAINING CENTER

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

OSHA 30

March 19, 20, 21 & 22

8-Hour HAZMAT

Sat. March 9
Sat. March 23

40 HOUR

March 25, 26, 27, 28 & 29

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.

ELEC advocates for issues/projects important to Local 825

ELEC825, the Labor-Management team of Local 825, remains on top of issues and projects vital to the well-being of our members. The ELEC team helps to shape public policy for the construction industry in New Jersey and New York.

In New Jersey



ELEC has advocated for PSEG's proposed Gas System Modernization Program's third phase (GSMP III). While it has not been approved, it would strengthen the state's infrastructure and sustain thousands of jobs. Meanwhile, GSMP II was extended two years ago, so gas upgrades will continue under that program for two more years.

ELEC staffers are currently working with environmental and business groups in an effort to expand the state's water work opportunities. During the past year they succeeded in getting \$300 million added to water work from the state's budget.

ELEC also has filed a notice of appeal of the newly proposed rules for the state's environmental justice law, which far exceed anything discussed at stakeholder meetings.

In New York



Issues include the progress being made on Route 17 construction and participating in public meetings addressing the entire project that are continuing. New York's

budget faces a \$4 billion deficit this year, so we will have to work hard to ensure transportation funding remains a priority.

Last year, NY voters passed the \$4.2 billion Environmental Bond Act, which targeted water infrastructure, such as drinking water projects, sewer projects and lead pipes. NY Gov. Hochul then added another \$500 Million to the fund. We intend to work with local governments and legislators to ensure the Hudson Valley gets its fair share of those projects.

We will also continue to work on New York's energy policy to steer it away from its over emphasis on banning natural gas and, instead, advocate for more reliability and affordability by keeping natural gas in the mix.

Scholarship applications due by April 3

Take note of this year's event schedule

If you have a child or grandchild graduating from high school, they have until April 3 to complete and submit an application for a 2024 Local 825 scholarship. Applications are available by calling the Springfield Union Hall and are posted on the web site.

Don't miss this opportunity. Given the ever-increasing cost of continuing education, it could provide important support to offset these high costs. Because of our members' generosity, Local 825 provides \$100,000 per year in scholarships to the children and grandchildren of our members.

To be eligible, one must be a high school senior who is the child or grandchild of a member in good standing.

The Scholarship Fund has continued our relationship with the Labor Education Center at Rutgers. The professors there will determine the scholarship winners.

Children of our members are also eligible for scholarships from several Central Labor Councils and Building Trade Councils.

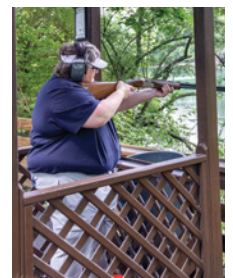
2024 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Local 825 members friends and guests help raise this money by attending and participating in a series of special events, which have also become a great source of fun and team building.

Not every event is an official scholarship fundraiser. Here is a list of all upcoming events, including some events that are scholarship fundraisers and some that aren't.

1. The golf outing is scheduled for Saturday, May 11 at Gambler Ridge Golf Course in Cream Ridge, NJ.
2. The Sporting Clays Shootout is set for Sunday, June 23 at Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays, Copay, PA.3.
3. The annual fishing trip is scheduled for Sunday, July 21 aboard the Miss Belmar, out of Belmar, NJ.
4. The motorcycle Poker Run is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 22, from the Dayton Training Center.

Thanks to President John Wood for chairing the committees that run each event; and thanks to all the members who give their time and effort to make sure each event is successful.





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

Water main break: another wake up call

The need to upgrade our water infrastructure is beginning to soak in, with a flood on Rt. 22 in Watchung providing the most recent wake-up call.

Local 825 and ELEC 825 have been advocating for the need to update New Jersey's and New York's aging water infrastructure for the past few years. Unfortunately, it sometimes takes a water main break to focus attention on the problem.

In Cranford and Linden, NJ American Water announced plans for a \$7.9 million project that will continue to improve the aging water infrastructure in those communities. The 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.



STUDIO 1888 – Progress continues on the 60-acre “Studio 1888” beneath the Bayonne Bridge on a site once occupied by Chevron. The latest phase of the 17-building Motion Picture and Television Studio Complex includes a parking garage, paving/reconstruction, sidewalks and water lines construction. Nordic Contracting is the subcontractor for Turner Construction. An open-shop job, Nordic is employing Local 825's members.