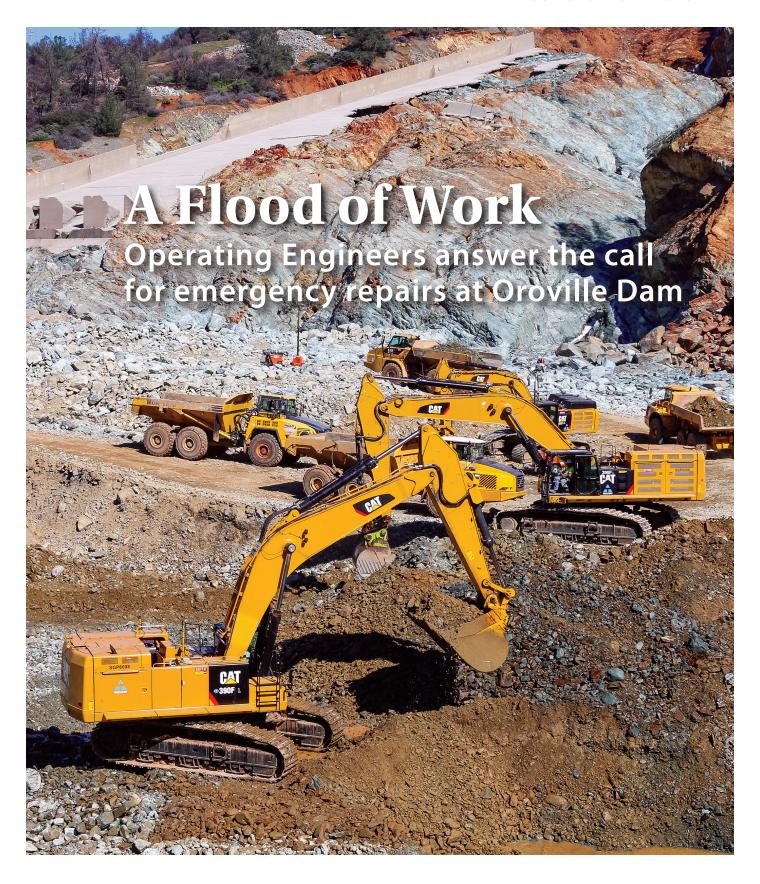
# Operating Engineer (2)



# Operating Engineer

Spring 2017 • Volume 160, No. 2 Brian E. Hickey, Editor Jay C. Lederer, Managing Editor

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[cover] Emergency repair and cleanup work at California's Oroville Dam.

[photo] Mandy McMillen and John Matos, IUOE Local 3

[right, photo] Jay Lederer, IUOE



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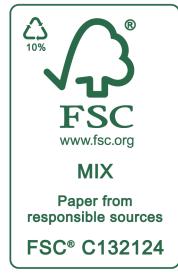
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#### [James T. Callahan]

#### Infrastructure Matters to All

I LOVE THIS time of year. The construction season has begun throughout North America. Projects great and small are breaking ground. And demand for our skilled tradesmen and women is strong. This year presents another opportunity to increase our market share and grow our ranks through organizing.

It is also the time of year that we mark Infrastructure Week. This is our chance to shine a spotlight on the incredible amount of work that needs to be done repairing and rebuilding critical infrastructure from coast to coast.

It brings labor and business together to press our case with the Administration and Congress to get serious about long-term plans to address financing and funding shortfalls, and regulatory permitting reform.

The jobs that are generated for IUOE members through investments in transportation, water, and energy infrastructure projects are the lifeblood of our union. The millions of hours worked strengthen our training programs, healthcare plans and pensions for the benefit of every member and their families.

Rebuilding and repairing the roads, bridges and tunnels that we travel each day to get to work, that carry our kids to schoolandthatenableourcommunities to thrive is important throughout our membership. Infrastructure that is reliable and accessible strengthens the overall economy and encourages development and job growth.

There is quite a bit of momentum around infrastructure this year. Several states have taken bold steps recently to increase funding and streamline permitting processes. Last month, the California legislature passed a

major infrastructure package that will raise the gas tax and dedicate those funds to tackle the massive backlog of transportation infrastructure projects facing that state.

But we need to keep up the pressure in more state houses and the Congress. In addition to our work with the business community, the IUOE is also supporting a new nationwide effort called ReBuild USA. The campaign gathers together the strength of all 14 unions that make up the North American Building Trades Unions (NABTU).

The ReBuild USA campaign will raise public awareness to the deplorable state of our infrastructure and the solutions we support to address it. The initiative will serve as a vehicle to bring grassroots voices and sustained pressure on our politicians to take action.

There was a lot of talk during the recent elections, but we need to see real plans debated and enacted into law. Infrastructure is not and should never be a partisan issue. We will hold elected officials of both parties accountable for their actions on infrastructure as well as core worker protections, like prevailing wage standards at both the federal and state levels.

I encourage every member, no matter where they live or what job they perform, to reach out to their elected officials and let them know that you believe infrastructure is one of the most important policy issues facing our country today. It is time to put our professionally trained, highly skilled Operating Engineers to work rebuilding our highways, bridges and transit systems.

Speaking of training, there is no doubt that our programs are the gold standard. When I visit locals throughout



the International, I see a high level of activity getting apprentices started and upgrading our seasoned journeymen.

Many locals are making smart investments to expand and modernize their training facilities, adding stateof-the-art equipment and updating their curriculum. These investments will pay dividends for current and future members and our signatory contractors for years to come.

In addition, I am happy to report that progress on the International Training and Education Center is going very well. Work at the 225 acre site in Crosby, Texas is moving at a brisk pace. The design and concept, incorporating ideas of some of the top local training coordinators from across the International, is becoming more of a reality each day. We look forward to opening the doors and welcoming members early next year. You can follow the progress via webcam by logging into the member's only section of the International website: www. iuoe.org

So, as the weather and the work begins to heat up out there this season, remember your training and take care to look out for each other. Thank you for the skill and professionalism you bring to the job every day. Work safe.

# **Local Instructors Dig the OSHA Excavation Class**

#### **HAZMAT**

THIRTEEN INSTRUCTORS FROM nine different IUOE Locals attended the OSHA 3015 Excavation, Trenching, and Soil Mechanics class in April. The class was held at Local 12's OETT training site in Devore, California.

The instructors gained knowledge in the OSHA Excavation Standard, soil mechanics and classification, duties of a competent person, requirements for sloping and benching, and shore protection systems.

Exercises included visual and manual tests for soil classification, evaluating existing trenches for compliance, and hands-on experience excavating a trench and moving a trench box.

Attendees traveled from across the United States and included James Haitz Local 66, John Hopcus Local 12, Jeffery



Legan Local 12, Jesse Lindgren Local 48, Louis Loupias Local 12, Dennis Manown Local 66, Rick Means Local 101, Shannon Ridgeway Local 9, Steven Rogers Local 57, Richard Rose Local 12, Jason Smoot Local 12, Michael Strunk Local 3, and Chris Trolson Local 12. Instructors conducting the course were Robert Seman, Local 18: Tim Manning Local 280, and Patrick Bell IUOE NTF National HAZMAT Program.



# **Construction Industry Gathers for CONEXPO 2017**

CONEXPO 2017, the top construction equipment show in North America, was held March 7-11 in Las Vegas. Over 128,000 attendees came to view a record 2.8 million-plus net square feet of exhibit space.

The IUOE booth had a prime display spot in the Grand Lobby and was visited by over 500 proud members and their families during the five day exhibition.

The booth showcased the IUOE's history, members' skills and training, and it's future in the construction and building management industries. The display also included a John Deere Excavator simulator where enthusiastic attendees could practice and demonstrate their excavator operation skills.



# **Local 68 Training School Graduates New Class of Journeymen**

IN APRIL, LOCAL 68 of West Caldwell and Atlantic City, New Jersey held its annual training school graduation. Over 37 members received completion certificates from the U.S. Department of Labor indicating their status as Journeymen. In addition, each graduate received a completion certificate from the New Jersey Department of Vocational Education. To obtain their completion certificates, all graduates completed a 4-year program. These courses included a curriculum in steam, refrigeration, electricity, plumbing, welding and controls.

Thomas P. Giblin, I.U.O.E Local 68 Business Manager, addressed the 175 attendees stating, "Graduation is only the beginning of a life-long learning experience in becoming the most confident and well-trained engineer possible. With constant change in



the workplace, it is not a choice but a 'must' to keep up with technology."

Edward P. Boylan, I.U.O.E Local 68 President, cited the need for trained and qualified members in order to meet to the needs of our employers.

He noted that labor and management must work together in concert to maintain well-paying jobs that provide security and a future.

# An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

MEDICINE IS PRIMARILY focused on treating illness after it happens. What can we do as IUOE members to better our health and prevent illness?

The U.S. National physical activity guidelines recommend 150 minutes of moderate activity or 75 minutes of vigorous activity each week (60 mins a day for kids). Physical activity can mean the gym or it can mean walking the dog, gardening or simply taking the steps versus the elevator.

Exercise can help all aspects of your life from weight, memory, concentration, mood, stress and sleep. Exercise can also lower high blood pressure and cholesterol and lower your risk of getting diabetes.

High blood pressure? It is a good indication of the health of your cardiovascular system. When your blood pressure is high, it's working under stressful conditions. Your body weight is one major influence on your blood pressure.

Type 2 diabetes or pre-diabetic? Diabetes type 2, primarily a preventable disease, ranks among the most expensive diseases in the United States. You can cut your risk of getting type 2 diabetes by exercising, reducing your weight with a low fat, high fiber diet

High cholesterol? Exercise can lower cholesterol by helping you lose or maintain weight. Being overweight tends to increase low-density lipoprotein (LDL) in your blood, which is linked to heart disease.

There's no "perfect weight" that fits everyone. BMI, or body mass index, measures how healthy your weight is based on how tall you are. It gives you a clue to your risk for weight-related health problems. What is your Body Mass Index (BMI)? Try WebMD's BMI calculator: http://www.webmd.com/diet/body-bmi-calculator

Consult your doctor today for a physical and assess your family's risks for these sometimes preventable conditions.

# Top 10 prescription drugs used by IUOE CVS members are:

**#1 Atorvastatin Calcium** 

Cholesterol, 72K scripts

#2 Lisinopril,

High Blood Pressure, 63K scripts

#3 Amlodipine Besylate
High Blood Pressure, 46K scripts

#4 Omeprazole

Reflux Disease, 44K scripts

#5 Metoprolol Succinate
High Blood Pressure, 33K scripts

#6 Metformin Hcl

Diabetes, 36K scripts

#7 Simvastatin

Cholesterol, 32K scripts

#8 Levothyroxine Sodium

Thyroid, 32K scripts

**#9 Hydrochlorothiazide** 

High Blood Pressure, 27K scripts

**#10 Losartan Potassium** 

High Blood Pressure, 27K scripts

#### Member Spotlight

### **Blood Brother**

Union member reaches 100-gallon milestone

LOCAL 139 MEMBER Brad Morter reached a milestone of 100 gallons of donated blood on March 16 at the American Red Cross Madison Blood Donation Center.

He achieved what the organization describes as "elite status" of blood donors and said he plans to continue to regularly donate blood plasma and platelets.

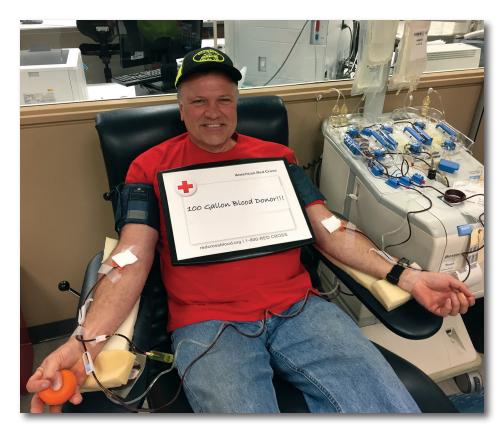
Morter joined Operating Engineers Local 139 in 2007. He works for WK Construction Co., a milling contractor from Middleton, Wisconsin.

Morter, 60, said he decided to start giving blood in 1979, when an older coworker was diagnosed with cancer and required numerous blood transfusions.

"People don't realize just how easy it is to give blood and help others," said Morter. "It's so sad when you see people going through cancer. So this is my way of helping them out."

Not only is Morter a frequent blood donor with the Red Cross, he is an active volunteer for the organization. For nearly 20 years, he has volunteered at blood drives throughout the area and most recently was accepted as a volunteer transportation specialist for the Red Cross.

He has B-negative type blood. The platelets he donates are of special need to those receiving cancer treatments and accident victims because the tiny cells form clots and stop bleeding. They also have a relatively long shelf life of five days before they must be transfused.



In a process called apheresis, Local 139 member Brad Morter is connected to a centrifuge while donating his 100th gallon of blood. The machine takes his whole blood, spins out plasma and platelets for donation to others, then returns red blood cells to him. Morter typically donates three times a month when he is laid off, during the off-construction season.

"We are inspired by Brad's actions to support the Red Cross and for helping to save lives," said Sonja Juric, donor recruitment director for the American Red Cross Badger-Hawkeye Blood Services Region. "Blood and platelet donations are needed so patients can receive lifesaving treatments. The joy is ours in telling his story and encouraging others to give blood, volunteer and follow in his footsteps."

Red Cross spokesperson Laura McGuire said donors with blood types O, A-negative and B-negative are encouraged to make a Power Red donation, as Morter has been doing. Power Red donors give a concentrated dose of red blood cells during a single donation, allowing them to maximize their impact.

[article & photo]
Dave Backmann, IUOE Local 139

# **New Study Shows "Right-to-Work" Laws Harm Workers**

"RIGHT-TO-WORK" laws are nothing new. The first states to adopt such laws did so in the 1940s and 50s. But between 1960 and 2012, a span of 52 years, only four states became "right to work."

In contrast, since 2012, six states have adopted so-called "right-to-work" laws – Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and, just this year, Kentucky and Missouri.

What's going on?

"Right to work" schemes make it harder for workers to form strong labor unions through which they can organize and speak with one voice on the job. At a time of extreme inequality in our country, legislators should be making it easier, not harder, for workers to unite. The question of why this is happening now has to do with money in our politics, the power of special interests and the influence of right-wing extremists.

But the recent conversions in the Midwest set the stage for a kind of regional experiment that is helping us answer another important question: What's the impact of "right-to-work" laws on a state's workforce?

By tracking certain economic indicators in three newly-minted "right-to-work" states and comparing them with three collective bargaining states, researchers Frank Manzo IV of the Illinois Economic Policy Institute and Robert Bruno of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, set out to answer this question. They compared Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, on the one hand, with Illinois, Minnesota and Ohio.

What they found leaves little doubt that "right-to-work" schemes harm workers. In a study published this



month, which studies the period from 2010 to 2016, Manzo and Bruno write, "Based on data over recent years, RTW has had particularly negative consequences for many middle-class workers in Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. These include working-class Americans in construction, protective services, office support jobs, and those with two- and four-year college degrees."

In particular, they point out that "right-to-work" schemes have statistically lowered the hourly wages of:

- Construction and extraction workers by 5.9 percent;
- Workers in service occupations, including police officers and fire fighters, by 3.1 percent;
- Workers in office and administrative support roles by 2.7 percent;

- Employees in retail and business sales by 2.4 percent;
- Professional, educational, and health workers by 1.9 percent.

Manzo and Bruno also found that "right-to-work" schemes reduced the unionization rate by 2.1 percent on average.

Nobody wins with "right to work."
Or, nobody wins except the rich.
"Right-to-work" schemes are designed to benefit the wealthy at the expense of average Americans on the job.

[article] by Pablo Ros, AFSCME
[research] by Illinois Economic Policy
Institute, www.illinoisepi.org
[photo] Jason Chan, *The Badger Herald* 



Crony capitalists want to maximize profits on the backs of workers Their mouthpiece, Rep. Steve King (R-Iowa), has introduced a national "Right-to-Work" bill, H.R. 785, that will cut our pay and hand it over to Corporate America. Don't let them get away with it!

# Rebuild the middle class. Oppose "right-to-work."

Workers in "right-to-work" states **earn 12% less** than workers in other states. That's nearly \$6,000 that families need to make ends meet.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, 12/9/14

# Put workers first. Oppose "right-to-work."

Jobs in "right-to-work" states are more dangerous. Without union training workplaces are less safe, and the rate of **workplace deaths are 54% higher.** 

Bureau of Labor Statistics; AFL-CIO 4/14

# Respect states' rights. Oppose "right-to-work."

**Every state has the right** to workplace rules that work for their local economy. We don't need Washington politicians interfering to pick winners and losers.

Tell your Member of Congress that "Right-to-Work" is Wrong.
Call today:
(202) 224-3121

For more information and tools to protect unions, visit **StopRTW.org**.



#### **Feature**

THE PHOTOS DON'T do it justice. As crewmembers stand along California's Oroville Dam – the largest earthen embankment dam in the United States – they look like fluorescent dots among the massive concrete of the dam and its spillway that dominates the Lake Oroville landscape. Built by Local 3 operators from 1961 to 1968, Oroville Dam rises an impressive 775 feet high, managing 3.5 million acre-feet of water. Yet, Mother Nature is often not so easily controlled.

During routine use of the spillway on Feb. 7, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) discovered erosion along the main flood control spillway and stopped the flow in order to investigate. But as substantial incoming storm runoff caused lake levels to rise, DWR decided to use the damaged spillway to manage lake levels. Despite their efforts, water eventually began to spill over the emergency spillway for the first time in the dam's history.

By Feb. 12, massive erosion on both spillways occurred, threatening to undermine and collapse the emergency spillway's concrete weir, which could send a 30-foot wall of water cascading into the Feather River. Consequently, 180,000 people living downstream were forced to evacuate the area.

Two days later, water levels at Lake Oroville had receded 13 feet below the crest of the emergency spillway, and DWR began seeking hundreds of emergency crews to provide spillway repair, erosion control and dredging along the diversion pool at the base of the spillway, which had filled with an estimated 1.7 million cubic yards of debris.

While erosion control and dam/levee repair is not unusual for Operating Engineers at this time of year, emergency repairs of this size and scope are something not many have seen in their lifetimes.

"I've worked many big jobs in my career, and I've never seen anything like this," said Teichert Foreman Mike Anthony, a 27-year Local 3 member.

He has joined more than 200 operators and hundreds of workers from other crafts working 24 hours a day, seven days a week on the emergency repairs. At the Yuba City District Hall, which is usually slow in the winter, dispatches have been off the charts, and one operator even flew in from Bangkok to catch part of the action.

[right] Local 3 Operating Engineers go to work removing rock and debris from the Thermalito Diversion Pool below the damaged Oroville Dam spillway.

# A Flood of Work Hundreds of operators answer the call for emergency repairs at Oroville Dam



#### **Feature**

The "action" is an intensely focused display of Operating Engineers doing what they do best; working efficiently and carefully, sometimes in close proximity of one another, to get the job done.

"You just watch it, and you can see that this is well-orchestrated and planned out," said Syblon Reid Construction Senior Manager Will Scott. "All this work is being done by the biggest equipment they make, but you look at it [from a distance], and it looks like Tonka toys."

Syblon Reid is the main signatory on the project, overseeing subs Lund Construction, Teichert, Gilbertson Dragline, Barnard, Cal-Neva, Holt of California, Peterson CAT, Dixon Marine Services and Maxim Crane.

Since it is an emergency job, these signatories join several non-union contractors, which means big organizing opportunities.

The first order of business at the site has been to mitigate the damage along the emergency spillway. As helicopters drop in sandbags, operators with Syblon Reid and Lund have been filling the gaps and laying concrete down to stabilize them. At the same time, crews are removing the debris below the main spillway's diversion pool, which collected there from the erosion.

"Everyone hit the ground running," said Syblon Reid Industrial Relations Director Bill Koponen. "The response has been fantastic," he said. "From members to the leadership, we're all in this thing together."

It hasn't always been easy. Crews have been out there, rain or shine, night and day, conscious always of their central role in the safety of each other and also the nearby communities.

One day, crews from each 12-hour shift had removed around 30,000 tons of rock and debris for a combined total of 60,000 tons in 24 hours. Lund's crews have been rotating workers from other projects, because, "Guys can't do 12-hour shifts day after day," said Lund Vice President Jeff Lund. At the time of this writing, 1,075,000 tons of material have been removed from the base of the spillway.

On the north side of the dam, Dutra has been dredging the Feather River and removing chunks sometimes "as large as Volkswagens," from the river. This has been dicey, as crews struggled just to stay in the boats and keep giant, century-old oak trees off the dredges. Their fleet, which was hard to get in the water, consists of three dredges, six flat deck barges and five tugboats. Bigge Crane crews came in to set-up the fleet, and dirt crews moved quickly to offload the dredged materials along the shore.





"The community has been so appreciative," said Bigge Crane Operator Garth Ungerman, with local restaurants providing the operators with free meals, and residents posting signs in their yards thanking the crews for their work. Dutra has also been giving plentiful lunches and snacks to its crews on every shift.

"We can't eat it all," said 38-year member/Crane Operator Steve "Hollywood" Faughnan.

"This whole project is incredible," said Local 3 Treasurer Dave Harrison. The former dredgehand recently toured the jobsite, remembering the wicked floods of 1997 that brought him out to dredge along the same river.

"It's a true testament to the skill of our members to come together like this on a job of this size with the kind of pressure they're under during an emergency effort," he said. "We always rise to the task."

Hopefully, there will be no "rising" of the lake anytime soon! (At the time of this writing, the hydroelectric plant at the dam has been re-started, and there are plans to open the main spillway soon. Currently, water levels at the lake remain stable.) In the meantime, all of this work is temporary. A bigger, more permanent solution is in the works.

"The DWR has already begun planning for spillway replacement, which is set to begin this year," said Yuba City District Rep. Ron Roman. "The project is estimated to top \$250 million and create huge amounts of work."

[article and photos] Mandy McMillen and John Matos, IUOE Local 3



# **Local 793 Upgrades Training Facilities and Equipment**

LOCAL 793 HAS successfully completed an \$11-million building and renovation project at the Operating **Engineers Training Institute of Ontario** (OETIO) campus in Morrisburg, Ontario.

The local has also added to its fleet of equipment and virtual reality simulators and is now looking at enlarging its banquet hall at head office in Oakville and adding a student residence at the training centre there.

The revamp of the training building included the demolition and rebuild of a dormitory, renovations to an office and administrative area as well as electrical, IT and fire code upgrades.

"The training campus in Morrisburg is now a modern, state-of-the-art facility that our members can truly be proud of," said Local 793 business manager and IUOE VP Mike Gallagher. "It's a place where our apprentices and members can stay and train in a comfortable setting."

The union's executive board began planning for the renovation because the building was in dire need of improvements. Gallagher had toured the building and, afterwards, recommended an upgrade. The board agreed and approved the renovation and expansion.

"Apprentices and our members deserve a world-class training facility and accommodations," said Gallagher. "By investing in the OETIO, we can continue training heavy equipment apprentices who will contribute to the future growth and prosperity of Ontario."

The project began in spring 2015. The office area and main building of the campus were first to be renovated. The



[above] The new dormitory at the Operating Engineers Training Institute of Ontario campus in Morrisburg has 70 single-occupancy rooms. Many have views of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

dormitory wing of the campus was then demolished and rebuilt.

The new dormitory now has 70 single-occupancy rooms with large windows. Many have views of the St. Lawrence Seaway. A full fitness area also complements a gym that's on site.

Meanwhile, at the OETIO campus next to Local 793's head office in Oakville, a new Liebherr 85 EC-B5 tower crane has been erected.

The crane will enable students to be trained in top- and bottom-climbing procedures. The OETIO is the only training centre in the world that offers such training on tower cranes.

The concrete pad for the tower crane was poured Dec. 2 by Local 793 member Craig Agar of Pumpcrete Corp. Craig is a steward at Pumpcrete.

A structure will be built around the crane to support climbing exercises. The crane has an extra large cab for

training students.

The OETIO has also expanded its fleet of crane and heavy equipment virtual reality simulators.

There are now four new VxAdvantage simulators in Morrisburg with roughterrain, tower and crawler crane scenarios and setups for boom trucks. excavators, backhoes and wheel loaders. The Oakville campus has two new VxAdvantage simulators with crane, boom truck and concrete pump

Two existing simulators in Oakville have also been retrofitted and the OETIO has purchased two smaller VxTrainer simulators that can be taken

As for the future, Local 793 is looking at expanding the banquet hall at its head office and adding a student residence at the training campus in Oakville.

Architectural plans are being

developed and construction work on the banquet hall will begin in early 2018, followed by the student residence.

The executive board of the local has set a budget of \$25 million for both projects

Both projects will be completed by summer 2019 - in time for the local's 100th anniversary celebrations.

"I had promised during the last union election that we would be prudent in expanding the banquet hall and building the new student residence and that the local would not be at any risk," said Local 793 business manager Gallagher. "I plan to deliver on that promise.



"We will enhance our property so that it is more valuable and we will do it without incurring any debt whatsoever."

The banquet hall will be more than doubled in size. Upon completion, it will have capacity for about 750 people. The student residence will have 43 rooms, additional classroom space, a gym and lounge area. It will be built to the north of the existing training centre and incorporate elements of the former Elliott Hotel in Toronto, where the founding fathers of Local 793 met in 1919 to draft a letter requesting a charter for the union.

[above] A new Liebherr 85 EC-B5 tower crane was erected at the OETIO campus in Oakville.

[left] The concrete pad for the tower crane in Oakville was poured in December by Local 793 member Craig Agar of Pumpcrete Corp.

[article & photos] Grant Cameron, IUOE Local 793



FLAMES CRAWLED ALONG the roadway as panicked residents of Fort McMurray tried to evacuate on May 3, 2016. The grass covered highway medians were littered with abandoned vehicles that had run out of fuel or had caught fire. The roadway itself was packed with residents fleeing for their lives, but getting nowhere. They moved slowly, watching the fire inch closer.

"Are we going to live, Daddy?" Chris Flett's terrified 7-year-old daughter asked as he maneuvered his truck into traffic, attempting to avoid the flames. Although he tried to reassure her, fear knotted his stomach.

Chris Flett is an IUOE Local 955 Business Agent who has lived in Fort McMurray most of his life. With no evacuation order issued, Chris had to make the difficult decision to leave everything behind. It took Chris Flett and his family three days to reach safety. They stopped often, either to refuel or rest.

They ended up at a Christian youth summer camp in Dapp Alberta called Teen Time Ranch. It was set up with cabins, food, clothing, donations and everything a camp would supply such as boating, fishing lessons and riding lessons. The children even participated in the local school program at one point. All expenses were taken care of.

Chris and his family stayed at Teen Time Ranch for nearly five weeks before Chrissy and Jessica headed back to Nova Scotia where her family is from. Chris stayed behind and worked in Leduc until authorities said it was safe to return to Fort McMurray.

"My house was completely gone," said Chris. "It's hard to imagine, but



when you go through something like that, every emotion you can think of goes through you. It was frustrating, depressing, and scary."

It was quite a different story for Dan Madden and his wife Tracy. Originally from the United States—specifically Seattle, Local 302—Dan moved to Fort McMurray in 2012 and worked as a Crane Operator on a Travel Card. After an extensive kitchen remodel of their rental space and moving the remainder for their belongings, Tracy and Dan finally felt at home in Fort McMurray.

"When I got home I got a call on Dan's cellphone, because he was working nights and sleeping at the time. It was Damien Stanley, the Business Agent in Fort McMurray. He said the fire was in Beacon Hill and looked like it was coming for us soon. He called back a half hour later and told us to get out."

Tracy woke Dan, but in a fog he didn't quite believe what was happening. They packed a few things, but both Tracy and Dan thought they would be back. They didn't think they would lose their home, their belongings or their livelihood in Fort McMurray.

"By the time we got to Waterways it was fully engulfed," remembers Dan. "The fire was on both sides of the road. We went by the skidoo dealer and it was blowing up—parts of the skidoos were coming down in chunks. You couldn't see what was on the other side of the smoke either. You knew you had to go fast enough to get through it, but if someone was stalled on the other side you would smack right into them."

Approximately 90,000 people were evacuated from Fort McMurray. Out of the 2,200 structures that were destroyed by the fire, over 200 of those buildings were members' homes. There were no serious injuries or fatalities directly related to the wildfires, however, the level of devastation made the Fort McMurray wildfires the worst natural

disaster in Canadian history.

Despite the chaos, trauma and sadness at this time, both Chris and Dan were grateful to have the Union to fall back on. Both members headed to the Edmonton hall to collect the \$500 emergency visa cards that IUOE Local 955 was handing out. In fact, for most members, this was the first relief payments they received. Some residents had fled the city with only the clothes on their back. To them this funding was a life saver.

"That money got you the basics like clothes, food and a toothbrush," said Chris. "Honestly, there was something soothing about coming to your Union to get the credit card and seeing your Brothers and Sisters that evacuated and did the same thing. It was a healing experience to be there and see that everyone was safe and in good spirits. It was miraculous how quick they were able to get people in and out."

In order to help members in a timely manner, Local 955 had to act fast. On May 3, Business Manager, Bruce Moffatt notified IUOE Canadian Director Lionel Railton about the fires. That evening General President James Callahan phoned Bruce to offer assistance as well

After an emergency Executive Board meeting, the \$500 relief payment was approved and prepaid visa cards were ordered. Approximately 450 cards were given out starting Thursday, May 4. In total, Local 955 supported 1,773 members from Fort McMurray. After the hall ran out of visa cards, they began working with members to get banking information set up for direct deposits. The Union was also offering members a chance to view aerial shots of their homes to see the extent of the damage. It was a very emotional time for members.

"This is what unions are there for. We're here to support members in times of crisis," says Bruce Moffatt, Local 955 Business Manager. "My heart goes out to all of the people affected by the wildfires and I know that the effect of this is still being felt today by our members in many ways."

Across Canada, IUOE Locals were donating \$10 per member directly to Local 955. The International had also jumped into action, sending letters and cheques totalling \$5000 USD to



[opposite page, top] Abandoned vehicles litter the highway in May 2016 as citizens of Fort McMurray evacuted the area. [photo] Chris Schwarz, Gov't of Alberta

[opposite page, bottom] -- Business Manager Bruce Moffatt talks with members who gathered at the Local 955 Edmonton Hall to apply for relief funding and to receive the \$500 emergency VISA cards.

[above] - Business Agent Chris Flett surveys the charred rubble of his home.

Canadian News Local Spotlight



members who had lost their homes. The IUOE National Charity Fund made their first payments to members on May 13. They assisted over 200 members.

When Dan got back to Canada he had to find new work and decided that Edmonton held the best opportunities. He had to start over again with his wife Tracy. Now that they're settled, neither have any intention of leaving. Local 955 is their new Union and Canada is their home.

"You won't be able to get rid of me that easy," Dan said with a laugh.

Chris and his family are currently renting in Fort McMurray until their home is finished which may be as soon as early June. Both Dan and Chris were overwhelmed and humbled by Canada's response to Fort McMurray residents. The generosity and warmth they received will never be forgotten.

To read the full article and view more photos, please visit: www.oe955.com

[article] Cara Robertson, IUOE Local 955



[left] Fire raged on either side of the highway, making the Madden's evacuation, and that of 90,000 Fort McMurray residents, much more difficult.

[above] Dan Madden looks at the remains of his rental suite in Fort McMurray.

[below] Chris Flett stands outside his new home with his wife Chrissy and daughter Jessica. They hope to be able to move in early next month.



# **Local 15 Bestows Honors Spanning the Generations**

LOCAL 15 PRESIDENT and Business Manager Thomas A. Callahan held a dinner honoring the winners of the 2017 Local 15 Scholarship Award.

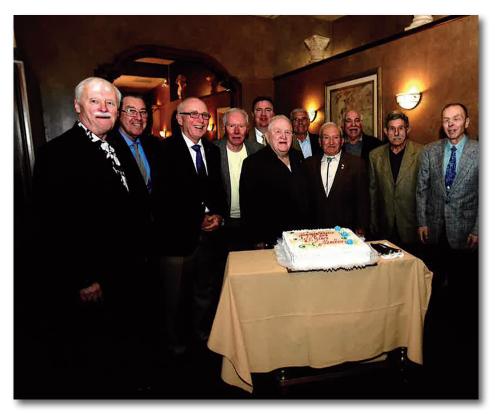
This year, 35 individuals submitted an application for review, each with an exceptional essay that included a detailed perspective of the meaning of the term "Right-to-Work," the implications of "Right-to-Work" for union members and the ability to collectively bargain, and the U.S. Presidential candidates' viewpoints on "Right-to-Work."

The awards were presented to four outstanding applicants. The winners were Bianca Furci (Vincent Furci, Local 15), Sara Monahan (Timothy Monahan, Local 15A), Vincent Grippo (Vincent Grippo, Ill, Local 15C), and Nicholas Rauchbauer (Robert Rauchbauer, Local 15A).

President Callahan, along with the Executive Director of the General Contractors Association Denise Richardson, presented each of the winners with a check in the amount of \$5,000.

At a separate event, Local 15, 15A, 15B, 15C, 15D and 15H honored thirty 50-year members and thirty-nine 25-year members at ceremonies conducted in conjunction with the Regular Quarterly Meetings held in New York City.





# **Union Death Benefit**

January 2017	Moisspor	Local 138	Hubort I Page	Local 675	Harry I Lowey	Local 017	Erodorick U	Township MI	Rodger J. Devlin	Pohort I	Long Island city	Carpontor	Farminadala NV
Local 003	Meissner	Farmingdale, NY	Hubert L. Page Ryan G. Pittman	Frank L. Girardi	Harry L. Lewey	Lakeview, NY	Frederick H. Jones jr	Township, MI Melvin J.	Gerald B. Henzie	Robert L. Harrison	Long Island city, NY	Carpenter John E. Haas	Farmingdale, NY John Corona
Alameda, CA	Local 049	Richard T.	Local 399	Local 793	February	William N. Harris	Jones Ji	Bandlow	Geraid D. Fierizie	Sheldon Homer	Joseph Eaione	Adolph Hafner	Ernest W.
Lee R. Ceccotti	Minneapolis, MN	Murphy	Chicago, IL	Oakville, ON	2017	Laverne Snyder	Local 139	Clemente Bove	Local 612	Thomas Manzer	Jerry Gagliano	Charles James	Schiavone
Lee Hettick	Albin Boben	Marphy	Jeremiah	Delbert G.	2017	Euverne Snyder	Pewaukee, WI	Wayne Brower	Tacoma, WA	William E. Martin	Edward P.	Russell E. Sloan	George Wansor
Frank W. Holm	Donald Davis	Local 150	Carmody	Broome	Local 003	Local 018	Ralph E. Bitters	Raymond W.	George W. Wood	John A.	Margherita	Clifford M.	deorge Wanson
Robert Skidgel	Donald O. Elliott	Countryside, IL	William F. Miller	John Drapotoy	Alameda, CA	Cleveland, OH	William Hoppe jr	Cadrette	200.gc	Mckinney	Robert A. Weiss	Strande	Local 139
	Charles G. Rother	•		Harold Ross	Robert K.	James M. Adkins	James W. Kadlec	Thomas F. Cusick	Local 627	Johnnie Merriott		Charles D. Wright	Pewaukee, WI
Local 009	Wayne J. Swing	Troy A. Cheek	Local 406	John Toal	Andrews	Vernon	Eldon R. Linberg	Kenneth Duncan	Tulsa, OK	Frank H. Ream	Local 017	J	Allen E.
Denver, CO	, ,	Robert A. Hunter	New Orleans, LA		Alfred Bermea	Benschoter	Melvin J. Otto	Randy S.	Harvey E. Cox	James H.	Lakeview, NY	Local 066	Lamberies
Floyd Benefiel	Local 066	Allie Justice	Donald E.	Local 825	J .T. Haimes	Rufus Gehman	David W. Rees	Emanuelson	Fred J. Cox	Reynolds	Larry Frank	Pittsburgh, PA	John Lesser
·	Pittsburgh, PA	Pedro L. Lugo	Veuleman	Springfield, NJ	W .D. Hokanson	Earl W. Kreger		Lester		Milton Ross	Gerald J.	David Altman	Richard E. Magin
Local 012	James Bowman	Patrick J. Murphy		Edward Cremone	Donald James	Jackie Parsons	Local 150	Feldpausch	Local 701	Lorrie Stone	Guzzetta	Daniel A. Bulford	
Pasadena, CA	Robert T. Cook	John W. Neher	Local 501	Frank Lombardi	Leslie Mears	Aubert	Countryside, IL	Harry Flanagan	Gladstone, OR	Russell		Oscar S. Failor	Local 148
Elder Arndt	Guido Delisio	Troy A. Nunley	Los Angeles, CA	Joseph Remenar	Wayne Rose	Shellhammer	Richard Brandon	Darwin Hamel	Roger D. Giessen	Vanderhurst	Local 018	Grant Karns jr	Saint Louis, MO
Carl Beshears	Richard J. Foster	Wilbur J.	Robert L. Byers	James H.	George W. Stagi	John Steinhauer	Frank H. Cox	Ralph L. Johnson	Ronald Hubbard		Cleveland, OH	Doyle A. Martz	Jerome E.
Albert D. Davis	Joseph E.	Peterson	Julien La querre	Vanderhoof	George Thomas	George E. Tokos	Henry Dandrea	Robert W. Niemi	John Nilson	Local 004	Raymond A.	Kenneth E.	Callahan
Milton Geissinger	Gamble	Carl F. Rockrohr	Sydney Mckee		Bob E. Williams	Ray Weyand	James A. Degler	Robert L. Smalla		Medway, MA	Bechtel	Sheasley	Marvin D. Voyles
Pius Gross	Russell E.	Robert W. Shaw		Local 826			Richard H.	William B. Sweet	Local 793	Donald F. Gray	Henry C.		
Jerry Hannig	Huffmyer	Joseph L. Skuban	Local 513	Frank E. Ray	Local 004	Local 066	Glander		Oakville, ON	Joseph F. Lazzaro	Burdette	Local 068	Local 150
Cecil Herrell	James S. Overly	L .D. Smith	Bridgeton, MO	Local 841	Medway, MA	Pittsburgh, PA	John R. Greer	Local 370	Donald R.	Thomas C. Paine	Paul L. Creaig	West Caldwell,	Countryside, IL
Clyde L. Huff	jr	George Willis jr	Melvin W. Collins	Terre Haute, IN	Vincent J.	Warren H.	Wayne E. Horton	Spokane, WA	Macdonald	William F. Pyne	Charles R.	NJ	Donald R. Busch
James King			Raymond J.	Doyle Connelly	Pomposelli	Brunner	Emil Kjer	Walter C.		Allen L. Shackley	Duvendack	William H. Gray jr	Harley R.
Leo F. Lambert	Local 070	Local 158	Johnson	Allen D. Tolliver		William P. Craig	James Palade	Williams	Local 825		Sam G. Evans		Campbell
I .Markegard	White Bear lake,	Glenmont, NY	Morris D.		Local 009	Ronald F. Davis	Duel E. Phelps		Springfield, NJ	Local 007	Lawrence	Local 070	John W. Coles
Ronald G. Melville		Albert P. Shawver	Richardson	Local 865	Denver, CO	Robert Dice	Gerald E. Schiller	Local 400	Paul W.	Thomas J.	Gohring	White Bear lake,	Henry G. Luebbe
Kenny G.	Leroy A. Larson			Thunder Bay, ON	Ernest G. Cimfl	Francis W. Lusk	Orval D. Stout jr	Helena, MT	Weichselfelder	Stapleton	Edwin C. Jackson	MN	Walter P. Mcguire
Schreiner		Local 234	Local 520	Ronald H.	Harold Johnson	1 1000	Billy R. Taylor	Sidney G. Atkins		Local 012	Vernon L. Kruse	Roy O. Wolff	James E. Nichols
Albert Souza	Local 098	Des Moines, IA	Granite City, IL	Thorburn	Floyd Orfield	Local 068	1 1150	1 1406	Local 917	Pasadena, CA	Donald E. Martin	1 1000	Leonard R.
Kenneth Van	East	Larry N. Taylor	Joseph Cicardi	L L 002	La  012	West Caldwell,	Local 158	Local 406	Chattanooga, TN	B. Aicher	William L.	Local 098	Norman
eaton	Longmeadow, MA	Local 202	Warren H.	Local 882	Local 012	NJ David Bures	Glenmont, NY	New Orleans, LA	Herbert A. Davis	George Bell	Mccutcheon	East	Local 150
Local 017	Edward J. Bushey	Local 302 Bothell, WA	Westfall	Coquitlam, BC Herbert K. Weiser	Pasadena, CA Jerry D. Coombs	David Burse	Joseph Boyko jr Millard Hurlburt	Monroe Randall	Luther L. Mason	Velton Blackmon James Bradberry	Delno L. Shamp Dale W.	Longmeadow, MA	Local 158 Glenmont, NY
Lakeview, NY	Luwaru J. Busiley	Russell G.	Local 525	Herbert K. Weiser	Frank Geldrich	James Lynch	Benedict J.	Local 428	Local 955	Wayne	Shumaker	George Boulette	Lester Betor
Robert H. Engels	Local 101	Anderson	Stephen Pollo	Local 891	James Heron	Local 101	Nobes	Phoenix, AZ	Edmonton, AB	Bumgarner	Siluillakei	ir	Vernon P. Coyle
Nobert II. Eligeis	Kansas City, MO	Jack Ketchum	Local 542	Brooklyn, NY	Bobbie Holmes		Floyd Osgood jr	Roy E. Dickison	Kenneth N.	William Burch	Local 025	ינ	Robert Curtiss
Local 018	Frank L. Osborn		Fort	Malachy J.			Dewey M.	Edward E.	Prentice	Henry Dodd	Millstone	Local 101	Eben A. Forbes
Cleveland, OH	Trank L. OSBOTTI			Donoghue	Clair Palm	nondor W. runey	Reynolds	Schmitz	rrentice	T. Edwards	Township, NJ	Kansas City, MO	Albert E. Parshall
Nelson	Local 103	Alvin J. Thomas	Donald Coxe	2011091100	John Pulliam	Local 103	William C. Walker		Local 965	William	Raymond	Jess J. Greenburg	
Baughman	Indianapolis, IN	7	Paul Dipasquale	Local 912	James A. Shafer	Indianapolis, IN		Local 463	Springfield, IL	Guthridge	Guarnier	George W. Marsh	24
Jackie N.	Gerald Davis	Local 310		Columbia, TN	Mike Walter	Robert E. Engle	Local 181	Ransomville, NY	Kenneth E.	Clarence			Local 181
Blacksten		Green Bay, WI	Local 547	W .M. Warf		3	Henderson, KY	Harry Kroening	Putnam	Johnson	Local 030	Local 132	Henderson, KY
Louis Dalpiaz	Local 123	Eugene R.	Detroit, MI		Local 014	Local 115	W .C. Skinner	, ,	Thomas	John Madison	Whitestone, NY	Charleston, WV	Willie Deaton
Loren Maassel	Welch, OK	Engstrom	Asa D. Swallows	Local 917	Flushing, NY	Burnaby, BC	Roy D. Travis	Local 501	Richardson	Richard Marsh	Francis Love	Malcolm F. Davis	Teddy J. West
Frank Salvatore	Howard J.	Orville Lohuis		Chattanooga, TN	Vincent Ascione	Vernon K. Brown	•	Los Angeles, CA		P. Mc gheney		Lawrence B.	·
Kenneth E.	Barnhart	Ronald Marks	Local 564	Wiley R. Jones		Kenneth J.	Local 302	Jack A. Russell jr	March 2017	- ·	Local 037	Mason	Local 216
Speicher	Leo J. Landwehr	James E.	Richwood, TX		Local 015	Brunelle	Bothell, WA			Donald Mier	Baltimore, MD	Scott M. Nelson	Baton Rouge, LA
Howard P. Wilson		Mykleby	C .M. Hagen	Local 953	Long Island city,	Sharif A. Jarkasy	Cecil J. Carter	Local 520	Local 003	John Norris	Edward F.		Frank R.
Kenneth	Local 137			Albuquerque,	NY	William D. Klein	Roy L. Mason	Granite City, IL	Alameda, CA	James Spears	Kowalewski	Local 137	Mcknight
Woodward	Briarcliff Manor,	Local 347	Local 670	NM	Pietro P. Bellu	Paul Matvenko	Lloyd L.	Morris W. Long	William Avist	George Taylor		Briarcliff Manor,	
	NY	Elroy A. Adlof	Ardmore, OK	Roy Schoenherr	John Randazzo	John J. Olson	Montgomery		William Bachman		Local 049	NY	Local 234
Local 020	Roland J.	Floyd Foshee	William K.		Antonio Sales			Local 542	Ed H. Barrington	Washburn, jr.	Minneapolis, MN	Nicholas	Des Moines, IA
Cincinnati, OH	Pomerleau	C .L. Foster	Readnour	Local 965	Michael	Local 138	Local 324	Fort	Buddy A. Dory		Stanley L. Ask	Tarantino	Leland D. Carper
Wilbur O.		F .G. Mcwhorter		Springfield, IL	Squiccerini	Farmingdale, NY	Bloomfield	Washington, PA	Herb Hachman jr	Local 015	Francis H.	Local 138	James Lang

#### **Union Death Benefit**

#### Benefits paid July, 2016 - December, 2016

Local 302	Carl T. Allen jr	Local 399	Freddie Hicks	Local 542	Local 675	Terre Haute, IN
Bothell, WA	Eugene E.	Chicago, IL	B .l. Rector	Fort	Albert L. Bennett	Clyde Gossman
Vern L. Bogart	Beaune	Patrick J. Clifford		Washington, PA	Local 701	·
Martin C. Fowles	Wayne Brown	Lawrence G.	Local 478	Harry D.	Gladstone, OR	Local 882
jr	James Colegrove	Grieshammer	Hamden, CT	Goldberg	Keith Browning	Coquitlam, BC
Lyle Lage	Tom Crowe	Edward S. Killian	W .E. Wiltse	Emil Marino	Ronald C. Jones	William A.
Lowell Stake	Richard E.	Alfred Vorreyer			George	Herdman
	Hambright		Local 513	Local 543	Malmstrom	Donald M.
Local 317	Don R. Lowell	Local 400	Bridgeton, MO	Wayne C.		Sparks
Oak Creek, WI	Bob J. Morrow	Helena, MT	Charles Cox	Schwanke	Local 793	
Edward	Robert G. Parker	Philip G. Reeves	Edward N. Crites	Local 564	Oakville, ON	Local 955
Aufderheide	Keith K. Revitzer		C .R. Czeschin	Richwood, TX	Don Atchison	Edmonton, AB
Edward L. Pfister	Gerald R.	Local 407	Jim Doyle	D .M. Sands jr	Donald Boyd	Meyer Grandia
	Rittenberg	Lake Charles, LA	James L.		Jacques	Elie Malainey
Local 320	Richard D.	Curtis L. Laurents	Fennessey	Local 571	Martineau	
Florence, AL	Robinson	Christon N.	Maynard Morris	Omaha, NE	Orval Wolfe	Local 963
Eric Plunk	Harold H.	Nelson		Roy E. Hurley		Vancouver, BC
Alvin C. Stutts	Spencer		Local 515		Local 825	Leslie C. Hill
James T.	George Thomas	Local 409	Loren N. Smith	Local 612	Springfield, NJ	
Wimberly		Buffalo, NY	Local 520	Tacoma, WA	Howard K.	Local 965
	Local 351	John D. Glascott	Granite City, IL	Cecil L. Bridges	Trentch	Springfield, IL
Local 324	Borger, TX		Wilbur Barton	Bob H. Fiedler	Carmen M. Vitillo	Raymond
Bloomfield	L .M. Stark	Local 428	Francis Osborn	Leo E. Manning		Kendrick
Township, MI		Phoenix, AZ	John Tevebaugh	Ben C. Phillips	Local 841	

#### **GEB Minutes**

#### **WEDNESDAY, Oct. 26, 2016**

#### **Call of Meeting**

General President Callahan called the meeting of the General Executive Board to order at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday, October 26, 2016. General Secretary-Treasurer Hickey then read the call of the meeting, whereupon the roll call was taken which disclosed all members of the General Executive Board were present. Also present were Chief of Staff Joseph Giacin, General Counsel Brian Chief Financial

Officer John Loughry, Director of Jurisdiction Terry George, Regional Directors Alan Pero, Lionel Railton, Martin "Red" Patterson, Todd Smart, and Carl Goff, and Assistant to the General Secretary-Treasurer Hugh Delaney.

#### Case No. 1 Minutes of the Previous **General Executive Board** Meeting

The minutes of the General Executive Board meeting conducted July 12, 2016 were approved and made a

#### October 26, 2016

part of the official records all such expenses and of the Board. Copies of these minutes had been distributed previously to all Board members.

#### Case No. 2 **Expenses and Actions Taken Since the Last General Executive Board** Meeting

Payment of expenses incurred and actions taken by the International Union since the last Board meeting were thoroughly discussed. It was regularly moved and seconded that

actions be approved. The motion was put to a vote and unanimously carried.

General President Callahan presented a schedule and agenda of the General Executive Board's sessions. It was regularly moved and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda as presented.

Case No. 4 International Trustees' Report

# UNION SKILLS. OUTDOOR PASSION. COMMON PURPOSE.



The strength of America's labor movement rises from solidarity based on mutual support, real world workmanship and organization. With those three things, mountains can be moved - or bridges built, trails made and parks improved. The Union Sportsmen's Alliance (USA) brings together union members who love the great outdoors and are willing to volunteer their unique trade skills to help protect our outdoor heritage for future generations through hands-on conservation projects. USA members work hard ... but they also play hard, and the USA helps serve their passion through sporting clays shoots and conservation dinners across the country, a union-dedicated TV show that takes union members on once-in-a-lifetime hunting and fishing trips, a magazine filled with photos and stories of union members and a dynamic website and social media platform. You deserve an outdoor organization to call your own – an organization that's as dedicated to you as you are to your craft.

That's the Union Sportsmen's Alliance.

# JOIN TODAY. IT'S WHERE YOU BELONG.

WWW.UNIONSPORTSMEN.ORG/IUOE







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#### **MORTGAGE**

The Union Plus mortgage program makes buying or refinancing a home easy for you and your children.

# **CAR RENTAL**

Up to 25% discount on car rental deals with Avis, Budget, Hertz, Dollar, Thrifty & Payless.

# Four Ways to Save

## **AT&T WIRELESS**

The only national unionized wireless provider. 15% savings for union members on the monthly service charge of qualified plans.\*

# **CREDIT CARD**

Several credit card choices,\*\* all with competitive rates and U.S.-based customer service, designed to meet the needs of union members.

\*15% ON THE MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGE of QUALIFIED WIRELESS PLANS: Available only to current members of qualified AFL-CIO member unions, other authorized individuals associated with eligible unions and other sponsoring organizations with a qualifying agreement. Must provide acceptable proof of union membership such as a membership card from your local union, a pay stub showing dues deduction or the Union Plus Member Discount Card and subscribe to service under an individual account for which the member is personally liable. Offer contingent upon in-store verification of union member status. Discount subject to agreement between Union Privilege and AT&T and may be interrupted, changed or discontinued without notice. Discount applies only to recurring monthly service charge of qualified voice and data plans, hor towerages. Not available without notice. Discount applies only to monthly plan charge of plans with 1GB or more, not to additional monthly device access charges. Additional restrictions apply. May take up to 2 bill cycles after eligibility confirmed and will not apply to prior charges. Applied after application of any available credit. May not be combined with other service discounts. Visit unionplus. org/att or contact AT&T at 866-499-8008 for details.

\*\*Certain restrictions, limitations, and qualifications apply to these grants. Additional information and eligibility criteria can be obtained at UnionPlus.org/Assistance. Credit approval required. Terms and conditions apply. The Union Plus Credit Cards are issued by Capital One, N.A., pursuant to a license from Mastercard International Incorporated. Capital One N.A. is not responsible for the contents of this message and/or any ofthe other third party products/services mentioned. The Mastercard Brand Mark is a registered trademark of Mastercard International Incorporated.

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