

Engineers News LOCAL 406 I.U.O.E.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LOCAL 406 AND SUBDIVISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

ABILITY

PROGRESS

SAFETY

UNITY

YOUR UNION AT WORK

While I write this article for the Engineers News, I am reflecting back to previous articles to insure the quality of information I'm putting out is worthy of your time to read it. The Representatives will give the more detailed report in their districts as I report on the business of the Local but will touch base from time to time in reference to some things that the Representatives speak about. I want to stay the course with reporting the most efficient way possible but keeping as much information that I can being put out for total transparency. In my last article, I spoke of many things that were affecting the Local's finances and the economic impact from many different hurdles. I have to look inward to keep a constant eye on the finances which are a direct effect of membership in this local. Those of you that we see at the district meetings hear this from myself and the Representatives there first and repetitiously. For those of you who may be unable to attend due to work schedules or being out of state, I try to keep the information here for you to read to keep up with the business as everyone else can. Looking back a year ago up until now, I have looked at many reports from financial, membership and maintenance aspects while doing cost analysis and comparisons to get creative on moving forward in today's economy.

Membership numbers since the 60's have dropped tremendously but the costs of operating and maintaining real estate hasn't went down with the numbers, only increasing the costs of doing business on the By D. Jason Billings Business Manager-President

members that remain. We can't live like royalty on a peasant's income. I am putting together small business plans for future reference but it is still too premature to have a full discussion at this point. To



make major moves, meetings need to be held, ideas need to be formulated and discussed and then presentations can be made to move forward. Ideas being formulated have to be presented to the Executive Board before presenting it to the membership for consideration and then execution.

We have moved a considerable distance in one years' time as we started the recovery process from the Pandemic and multiple hurricanes. It is my experience from seeing people be locked down for extended periods of time that they have forgotten how to be social again. The crime rates have drastically elevated in all states, especially ours in the major cities. To be financially solid and to have safe work environments, is core to my thought process as we find the pieces of this puzzle coming back together. Some of the things that may be presented in the near future may spark some of your interests and your attention is desired.

I have adjusted the schedules of the clerical and staff in New Orleans and Baton Rouge so that no one is alone at these higher risk areas for their safety. I am putting

SCHOLARSHIP

This edition of *Engineers News* contains an application for the 2022-2023 Peter Babin, Jr. Scholarship Fund. All members with children who have excelled scholastically during their senior year in high school should apply for the award.

DEDICATED TO PROMOTING THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY SAFE WORK PRACTICES, CONTINUITY OF EMPLOYMENT, AND JOB SECURITY

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SCHEDULED MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

OFFICES AND BUSINESS AGENTS

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

6:00 p.m.

NEW ORLEANS:

D. JASON BILLINGS JOHN BABIN MIGUEL PERRAULT (504)241-1311 7370 Chef Menteur Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70126

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

Thursday of the week of the 1st

Thursday of the week of the 4th

Friday of the months of January

April, July & October at 6:00 p.m.

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

1st Wednesday of every month at

BATON ROUGE

CARLOS BENOIT KYLE LEGER, ORGANIZER RUSSELL J. MADDIE, JR. 7651 Airline Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70814 (225)924-1311

LAKE CHARLES/LAFAYETTE

D. JASON BILLNGS DAVID HYATT 130 W. 18th St. Lake Charles, La 70601 (337) 436-7878

SHREVEPORT-MONROE-ALEXANDRIA

D. JASON BILLINGS WILLIAM E. YOUNG (318) 686-7745 9300 Mansfield Rd. Ste. 201, Shreveport, LA 71118

STATEWIDE BUSINESS AGENTS

JOHN BABIN, Stationary Engineers Representative (504) 241-1311

Wednesday of the week of the 4th Friday of the months of January & July at 6:00 p.m.

Temporary Time Change To 6:30 p.m.

STATEWIDE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

CRAIG KAISER, Apprenticeship Administrator

7370 Chef Menteur Hwy., New Orleans, LA 70126 504)241-1311 Robert Training Site: 50713 Highway 445, Loranger, LA 70446 (985)542-4322

WEBSITE: www.iuoelocal406.org

Like us on Facebook

PENSIONERS

Baton Rouge District

 Steve Blanchard
 3/1/2022

 Steven L. Byrd
 1/1/2022

 James L. Garner
 5/1/2022

 Kevin L. Morman Sr.
 9/1/2021

 John M. Sanders
 10/1/2021

Lake Charles/Lafayette District

 Jimmy L. Cloud
 5/1/2022

 Frederick Edwards
 11/1/2021

 Calvin Spears
 1/1/2021

 Samuel W. Walker, Sr.
 4/1/2022

New Orleans District

 Albert M. Alonzo, Jr.
 4/1/2022

 John H. Datri, Jr.
 12/1/2021

 Thelma L. Gipson
 5/1/2022

 Joey R. Leonard
 3/1/2022

 Gregory C. Thomas
 4/1/2022

 Eddie R. Trapani
 2/1/2022

 Gerald J. Woodworth
 8/1/2020

Monroe/Shreveport District

Wilson L. Ingram, Sr. 8/1/2021 Roy D. Lowery 12/1/2021



DECEASED

Baton Rouge District

 Haines J. Acosta
 4/2/2022

 Ronald Barras
 6/13/2022

 Terry D. Hoover
 2/10/2022

 Dwight W. Lentz
 5/16/2022

 John L. Sicard
 4/2/2022

 Bobby Squires
 3/16/2022

Lake Charles/Lafayette District

 Jimmy Goss
 2/3/2022

 Michael D. Martel
 2/12/2022

New Orleans District

Donald D. Chilton 6/14/2022 Earl K. Due 4/14/2022 Jay G. Kennedy 6/11/2022 Charles B. Rappold, Jr. 3/31/2022

Monroe/Shreveport District

William A. McCuin 4/8/2022

Continued from Page 1

countless hours in to oversee the transition of the retiring staff to junior staff members as they work through the issues brought out in learning new tasks and responsibilities necessary to ensure the performance of these duties. I want to thank them as they have stepped up to the plate of taking on major responsibilities in keeping members safe and our business secure. I am also working hand in hand daily with our Representatives and our new Organizer while I travel around the state. To the staff, I ask for your patience as we work through this transitional period. This is a lot of information and I thank you for caring enough to read it all. There will be more information at your district meetings as it materializes with longer discussions and I encourage you to be there for that. Please keep me in your prayers as I keep your interest in mind in this journey. God Bless you all.

Indenture Day at the Apprenticeship Training Site















New Stationary Contracts in Place at Gold Strike Tunica and Loews

Loews Hotel New Orleans

by John Babin Business Rep. Stationary Engineers



Local 406, along with our partners in the Mississippi

Casino Workers Council, the Teamsters and Unite/HERE ratified a new three-year agreement at the Gold Strike Casino and Hotel in Tunica Mississippi.

The new three-year agreement contains substantial gains in wages over the three-year period, along with up to a \$2,500 ratification bonus for employees that have been there for 15 years or more. The Council also negotiated increases in the start rates for all classifications, up to \$3.00 for some of the maintenance classifications. The start rates for maintenance classifications have not been raised for five years. After Covid, the company was having trouble hiring new qualified maintenance engineers and slot techs. The Council was also able to make changes in the grievance procedure to streamline any grievance settlements by using mediation before arbitration. I have recently learned from MGM attorneys that the company is planning to sell the property to Indian Nation. Indian Nation as part of the sale, will have to agree to assume the Union Contract as per our successorship clause in the agreement. So, our agreement is in full force for the next three years, even if the property is sold.

Local 406 along with our partners Unite/HERE Local 23 have ratified a new 5-year agreement at the Loews Hotel in New Orleans.

The new agreement includes substantial up-front wage increases for the first year, with annual increases in the following years that are higher than previous increases over the past agreement. Employees also received a ratification bonus based on their years of service. The Employees Insurance coverage cost did not increase over the term of the

agreement and all employees at the Hotel continue to get contributions paid into the Operating Engineers Pension Plan. Local 406 was able to negotiate increases of up to \$2.00 an hour in the start rates for the maintenance classifications at the Hotel. This will help them attract more qualified engi-

neers in the future.

I am also in contract negotiations along with the Southeast Building and Construction Trades Council at the Superdome. We have had a couple of sessions with ASM Global and hope to report on a new agreement in my next article.

Organizing Efforts

by Kyle Leger Organizer Baton Rouge District

Hello, my name is Kyle Leger and I am the new Organizer for Local 406.



First off, I would like to thank our Business Manager Jason Billings for offering me this great opportunity to serve Local 406. Under his direct supervision and with the help of our Business Representatives and staff, I have and will be working to help our organization grow and securing work for our members. I am a 4th generation Operating Engineer and was a mechanic with Deep South before coming on staff with the Local. I would like to thank Deep South for allowing me the

opportunity to serve in that capacity for about 10 years and for letting me make this move to serve my Local also. I have been working with all the Representatives and engaging in activities such as negotiations at the casinos and Superdome, making jobsite visits and investigating other sites for opportunities for our members for further employment. I have been through Ethics Training and Organizer Training at the International Training and Educational Center in Crosby Texas and that has kept me very busy not only learning the job but working it as I learn. The job is very intense but has allowed me to see a better angle of how our business is conducted and what it takes to keep it moving forward in the future. I am excited to be here and I look forward to seeing you all at our monthly meetings and on jobsites in the future. Until I see you again, stay safe out there.

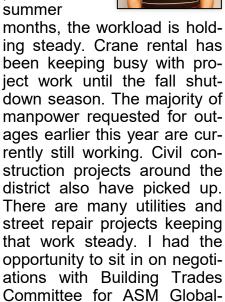
Our new Organizer, Kyle Leger, being Sworn In by Business Manager, Jason Billings.



Summer Steady Work Load

by Miguel Perrault Business Rep. New Orleans

As we approach the



Super Dome Facilities Crew. As always, jobsite visits are very memorable. It gives me the opportunity to speak with the membership up close and

personal.

As a reminder, please be aware of your credentials' expiration dates. Re-certify ahead of time, especially if nearing that date. Take advantage of courses offered at the International Training and Educational Center in Crosby, Texas. Log in and register for class on the IUOE web page. Those courses are exclusively offered to IUOE members.

Semi-Annual Meeting in New Orleans



www.iuoe.org

Educating our Future

by Craig Kaiser Apprenticeship Administrator

Hello from the training site, I hope all is going well. If you read the last newslet-



ter, March 31, 2022, was the last day that we were taking in apprentices for the 2022 year. We completed the Application Day on May 24, 2022, Interview Day on June 1, 2022, and Indenture Day on June 22, 2022. Throughout these days we started off with 22 pre -apprentices and ended up picking up 19 new apprentices for this calendar year. Out of these apprentices, we have 8 that are already working at signatory contractors and a high possibility for 2 more that gained interest on Interview Day. That will leave us with 8 more that we will have on our roster looking for employment.

We announced in the previous newsletter that Moodle learning management system rolled out. This was a tough start as Wilfredo Castro, at the time he works part time for us and is not able to stay on top of it all the time. I am thankful for his efforts though and happy to announce that it was available to help Jacob Crawford progress from 5th 6month level to 6th 6-month level. Without this program he would have been short 16 hours and would not have been able to progress and been placed on hold. Thanks to all who have been a part of getting this rolling, Brother Wilfredo Castro, Brother Leon

Lemoine & Mrs. Haylee Verret. Also, thanks to Brother Jacob Crawford for using it and making it worth the efforts and especially our International for making this available and accessible to us in place of the old blackboard system that had become outdated.

We had our second NCCCO written for the year on June 25, 2022. The next one will be October 29, 2022. We have also been gaining attention towards Rigger 1 and Signalperson. On the Rigger 1 and Signalperson my recommendation would be if you at looking at obtaining one to try and get both as most places that require one want the other as well. I also attended NCCCO board meetings from April 18, 2022 April 21, 2022, in which the main topic was the test being compromised in September 2020. The courts found the defendant guilty with a granted lawsuit in NCCCOs favor of \$ 975,000 plus attorney fees. These actions have caused CCO to take more precautions to avoid such an event in the future and the rewriting of their test.

Letters to employers and apprentices should have already gone out by the time that you are receiving this, notifying them of the Apprentice's level going into August.

I have heard from some of the members personally experiencing issues with either extremely high and/or losing homeowners insurance post Hurricane Laura and Ida. We are in the same boat, experiencing issues with wind and hail policy at the site. Along with insurance issues, everything that we buy is increasing as well and payroll is costing more also. Please keep our contributions in mind as contractor negotiations come up.

At our apprentice board meetings on April 12, 2022, and May 23, 2022, we were granted permission to purchase a few new pieces of equipment around the site and make some upcoming future repairs and improvements. At the time of writing this we have purchased the following

- 1.) Kubota tractor with front end loader and bush hog @ \$31,953.20. Note we plan to purchase a backhoe attachment, but the order bank is closed until September or October. When available for order the expected cost is \$11,500
- 2.) Maxx 16-foot dump trailer @ \$17,816.27.
- 3.) A Chevrolet 2500 gas engine double cab truck with 8-foot bed @ \$49,316.33. This one is on order and has not come in yet.
- 4.) Club Car XRT 800 golf cart @ \$9380.00. This is on order as well and may be as far out as December before we receive.

Other things that will be coming throughout the year will be fence repairs, roof repairs on the old building and a new sign for the site. If anyone knows of a good contractor that does any of these, please pass us the information so we can give them the chance at quoting the job.

In closing I would like to share that the vaccine mandate has been lifted from the International Training & Education Center in Crosby, Tx.

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING



The NEW Kubota Tractor at the Apprenticeship Site



Moving RT745 off course for repairs



Apprentice Jason McGehee on Small Hydro Grove RT58



Interview day for Apprenticeship Applicants



Changing Telescopic hoses on RT 745



NCCCO Core Class Picture at the Training Site

Southern Operators Health Fund

Carlos Benoit Business Rep. Baton Rouge District



this writing, work in

the Baton Rouge District is busy, as you will see in Russell's article.

I would like to explain to the members about the "Sunsetting" of Local 406 Health and Welfare Fund. This fund has been paying a variance from \$0.25 up to \$1.00 per hour to Southern Operators Health Fund on the member's behalf towards their insurance coverage. As we have stated numerous times at meetings and publications, there will come a time when the fund will be exhausted of money and the members will have to pick up the shortfall. This will be starting January 1, 2023.

Since moving over to Southern Operators Health Fund January 1, 2017, 406 Health and Welfare Fund has contributed right at 4 million dollars to Southern Operators Health Fund on your (the member's) behalf...

i.e.,

- ·Per hour worked variable
- Paid self-contributions during the pandemic

This was the vision of Business Manager, Jason Billings, to use the remaining money from Local 406 Health and Welfare Fund for members of this Local. Job well done. STAY SAFE & STAY HYDRATED.

Brother Nolan Bueche III reveives 40 year pin from Business Rep. Carlos Benoit, at the Baton Rouge meeting.



LETIN BOARD

UPDATE YOUR BENEFICIARIES

Remember to check you beneficiary for the Central Pension Fund. Southern Operators Health Fund or **IUOE & Pipe Line Employers Health and Welfare Fund** and your Annuity Fund. Be sure you have named a designated beneficiary and if there has been a change, up date your beneficiary information. Forms can be obtained by calling any Local 406 Office.

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

If you move, be sure to update your address with the Union and the Benefit Funds. Ask for the proper forms from any Local 406 office.

Peter Babin, Jr. Scholarship Award **Rules and Instructions**

The International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 406 has established a scholarship program to be awarded to one child of Local 406 members annually. The college scholarship will be in the amount of \$1,000 and will continue for four years if grades are maintained. The following rules will apply:

1. ELIGIBILITY

- a. All sons and daughters of Local 406 members may apply, provided the parent has been a 406 member in good standing for 5 years.
- Applicants must be high school students who have, or will be, graduated during the year they
- Applicants must have a cumulative "B" average at the time of their application.
- Applicants must meet the academic requirements of an accredited college of their choice.
- Applications must be received by September 15, 2022 for 2022-2023 school year.

2. AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS:

- The Local 406 Business Office will verify parental membership requirements.
- A committee composed of the Executive Officers will judge all applications and will select the winner.
- The election will be made on the basis of academic achievements, student activity and financial need.

3. PAYMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

- The scholarship is to be used at a college or university of your choice.
- Payment will be made directly to the college or university at which the student registers. If tuition is less than award, the difference will be given to recipient of award for books, supplies, living expenses,
- The \$1,000 scholarship will continue for 4 years provided a "B" average is maintained.

4. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

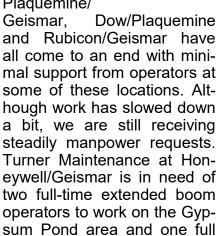
- a. Application form is a part of the Engineers News and copies will also be available from the office of the Business Manager. When completed, application shall be sent to the Business Manager of Local 406.
- A copy of the high school transcript should be sent with application.
- A recent photograph of the applicant shall accompany the applica-

APPLICATION ON PAGE 12 **

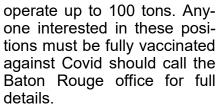
Steadily Receiving Manpower Requests

by Russell Maddie, Jr. Business Rep. Baton Rouge

The Baton Rouge district turnarounds at Westlake – Plaquemine/



time crane operator that can



CF Industries and Rubicon will be needing personnel for outages sometime within this quarter. All details and dates are still in discussion with account managers.

Boh Brothers is still in need of Heavy and Highway/ Industrial operators in and around the Baton Rouge area for Shintech/Plaquemine, College Drive and the new Diversion Canal project, once utilities have been relocated prior to any excavation work.

Riverbend Station/St. Francisville still has project work ongoing with Day and Zimmerman and Williams Plant Services. The 2023 spring

outage dates and manpower labor requests will be disclosed during the Tripartite meeting in July/August.

Crane Rental around Baton Rouge has slowed down a bit, but each is holding its own. Requests for mechanics and preapprentices are high in demand at all crane rental facilities. I'm proud to report that I was able to attend the Apprentice Indenture Day at the training site in Robert and Local 406 has apprentices that have very promising futures. I look forward to working with these young men and women as they make their future transitions.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the union meetings, so please make every effort to attend. Until then, stay safe and may God bless.

MAY Semi-Annual Meeting

Brother Steve Blanchard receiving his honorary 30 year pin from Business Representative Russell Maddie JR.





Tyler Cunningham receiving his
Apprenticeship Graduation Certificate from Apprentice Administrator
Craig Kaiser.

Brother James Gallagher receiving his honorary 50 year pin from Business Manager, Jason Billings at the May Semi-Annual Meeting.



Work is on the Uptick in the Lake Charles District

by David Hyatt Business Representative Lake Charles District

The first half of this year has come and went in a flash. It seems as if



we were just finishing the Holiday season and now Independence Day is here. The last quarter has been very good for work in the Lake Charles district with Deep South at Phillips 66 for their spring outages,

Maxim at Calcasieu Refining and Turner Crane and Rigging in multiple plants in the area. Work at the Module Site in South Lake Charles for ME&I is still ongoing but in the final part of the initial phase. They are actively and aggressively bidding for the next phase of 251 modules and hope to have a satisfactory proposal approved by the middle of July with work that will last for the next 18 to 24 months. I have been talking with the contractors in the district and they all are telling

me that the workload is looking good for the remainder of the year, with turnarounds in the fall and miscellaneous jobs in between to keep their employed. operators summer months are always slow but this year it seems to be holding its own. Please remember to stay hydrated if you are outdoors, even in your off time, because Heat Stress/Heat Strokes happen without warning and can be fatal. Enjoy your summer with loved ones and have a safe one.

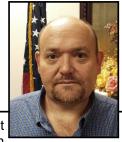




Brother Joseph E. Pace receiving his 25 Year Pin from Business Representative Russell Maddie JR & Business Representative David Hyatt at the Baton Rouge Meeting.

Pipeline Work has Picked up

by
William Young
Business Rep.
ShreveportMonroe Districts
And Pipeline
Business Rep.



As we are past the rainy season

for our region, we now have extreme heat as an obstacle. Please stay hydrated in order to stay in good health. Take the needed breaks, while doing tasks exposing you to the hottest temperatures of the day. There are many heat related illness-

es that can hurt you and your quality of life that are hard to recover from. The Pipeline work I spoke of in the previous article has picked up as most know, the Michels Pipeline job is still ongoing. There are some directional drills from time to time with various contractors that we help man as well and hope to see more in the future, this helps us keep you all working in between the big mainline jobs. We still have ongoing work on the levee in the New Orleans area and are awaiting the upcoming work in other areas of our state. I'm proud to announce, that after 2 years of cancelations. We have secured a date and venue for the Pipeliners & Retirees BBQ

Picnic. Please see details listed below. Please make sure to keep all of your certifications up to date and get the necessary training to make yourself more employable. We have our Local training site in Robert as well as the International Training and Educational Center in Crosby, Tx. Also, we would like to say thank you to all of the membership that have taken jobs in the clearing and now on the main line. A special thanks goes out to our Stewards. With your help we have kept things moving in a great direction. Associated Pipeline maintenance job has come to an end, it wouldn't have been possible without those of you who made it happen.

Brother Danny Grizzel is suffering from pulmonary issues and donations were taken up on the Michels Pipeline Job. He had been on this project operating a Sideboom.



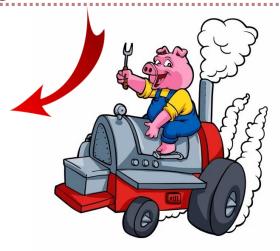
BBQ PICNIC

YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE INVITED TO THE NORTH LOUISIANA PIPELINE RETIREES I.U.O.E. LOCAL 406 BBQ PICNIC!!!

DATE: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10,2022

TIME: 10:00AM—2:00PM

LOCATION: REAGAN MADDEN PARK. 9337 HWY 80, SIMSBORO, LA 71275.



PLEASE RSVP AT 318-686-7745

BRING FOLDING CHAIRS AS SEATING IS LIMITED

ENGINEERS NEWS

2022-2023 LOCAL 406 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Student's Name		Date of Birth	ı
(Last) Address	(First)	(Middle) Sex	·····
State of Legal Residence _	Soc. Sec. No	Marital Status Single	Married
Graduation Date High School Grade Point Average		Name of High School	
Address of High School			
High School Activities and I	Honors: (Use separate sheet of paper if	necessary)	
College or University you w	rill attend		
Name of Parent who is a Lo	ocal 406 Memberrent		
Parent's Permanent Addres	SS		
Other scholarships or finan	cial aid for which you have qualified for 2	2022-2023	
Will or did you work during the summer of 2022? If yes, state the amount of your projected earnings.		Yes No _	
Will you work during the 2022-2023 school year? If yes, state the estimated school year income.		Yes No_ \$	
Projected school budget for a. Tuition for b. Room and c. Child cand. Clothing e. Transpo f. Medical and g. Other	ees, books nd board re and laundry rtation		
How much financial assista	nce will your parents give you for 2022-	2023 \$	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
During school, will you live	at school?	or with parents?	
If married, yesyes	or no, no,	will your spouse contribute to	
State why you feel you sho	uld receive a scholarship (use additional	paper if you wish):	
Signature		Date	