

VOLUME 41 NO. 4  
OCTOBER 2021

# 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

## IMPACTS OF HURRICANE IDA ON THE DISTRICTS

The fall newsletter is here and although it's been a few months since my last correspondence, it seems that we just sent the last one out. If you have been to the district meetings, this article will be old news to you but for those of you who haven't been in attendance, I will do my best to keep you informed in every way possible. We put out multiple different types of communications. For example, Facebook bulletin board, mass emails, mass texts and communications through the Agents with visits to the sites when possible and monthly Union meetings. Any other missed chances could be eliminated by calling your district offices during business hours. If an office is closed due to unforeseen circumstances, we try to forward the phones ahead of time so that there is no interruption in the information chain. We realize that in a disaster situation that cell towers and internet are limited if not completely unavailable. This is the reason we put the information out in every possible way that we can to get it to you as soon as you get service or get to an area where you can access it.

The New Orleans office was projected to be down with the impact from Hurricane Ida for approximately

By *D. Jason Billings*  
Business Manager-President



a month. We had the foresight to move the computer's server to the Baton Rouge office and get back online in about a week when internet was restored there. I want to recognize the staff of Local 406 for stepping up to the plate and going the extra mile to help secure the Local and get it back running as soon as possible while dealing with disaster in their own homes as well. We went into the city to assess the damage just days after the storm had passed and decided the best path forward was to restore the main office in New Orleans. We had minimal damage at the New Orleans office and none at the Baton Rouge office. The Agents as well as Apprenticeship Administrator Craig Kaiser and our instructors were reaching out to members in the affected districts as they could reach them despite the difficulties that handicapped them. I am happy to say that we were back in the office in less than a month with the server and working out the bugs to get back to normal. There were utility issues and accessibility problems and some that are still ongoing to

*Continued on Page 3*

### SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 6, 2021

**ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS OF I.U.O.E. LOCAL 406 A, B, C, G, H & R**

The Semi-Annual General Membership Meeting Will Be Held  
Saturday, November 6, 2021 - 10 A.M.

Operating Engineers Union Hall, 7651 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**PLEASE ATTEND**

**Notice: Due to the Semi-Annual Meeting, All Regular Meetings for the month of November are Canceled**

**Meeting will be held following all recommended CDC guidelines.**

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

# ENGINEERS NEWS

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Craig M. Kaiser, *Financial/Recording Secretary*  
Jason Tassin, *Guard*  
Marty Anderson, *Trustee*  
Leo Battistella, *Trustee*  
Mark Ferguson, *Trustee*  
Peter Babin, III, *Business Manager Emeritus*

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Kyle Leger, *Conductor*  
Daniel Foy, Jr., *Auditor*  
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Troy J. Gainey  
Billy W. Hubbard, Jr.  
David Hyatt  
Craig Kaiser  
Russell Maddie  
Salvador Mangano

David Perrault  
Miguel Perrault  
Mark Schexnayder  
Timothy J. Sziber  
William E. Young

### SCHEDULED MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

#### OFFICES AND BUSINESS AGENTS

##### NEW ORLEANS:

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JOHN BABIN  
MIGUEL PERRAULT  
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(504) 241-1311

##### STATEWIDE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

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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.iuolocal406.org](http://www.iuolocal406.org)



Like us on Facebook

## PENSIONERS

### Baton Rouge District

AL J AUCOIN  
PRESLEY A BATES  
NICKIE C FONTANA  
DWIGHT D KRUMHOLT  
RICKY NAQUIN  
DAVID K STEWART  
RONALD D TAYLOR

### New Orleans District

ERNEST R PRIEST  
CLAY YOUNGBLOOD

### Monroe/Shreveport District

GARY H DAVIS  
MICHAEL J DUBOIS  
HARVEY A DUNN  
COLVIN K EVERETT SR



## DECEASED

### Baton Rouge District

BOBBY GENE ADAMS SR	07/28/2021
SIMMITTS S BANKSTONJR	08/14/2021
JOSEPH N BARRON	08/10/2021
BERLIN L HUNT	09/28/2021
PRENTIS W JONES	07/13/2021
THOMAS G LAMANA	08/03/2021
THOMAS W LANDRY	09/11/2021
KARL R MADERE	06/24/2021

### Lake Charles/Lafayette District

PAUL R GUIDRY	07/13/2021
JONATHON HARMS	08/26/2021
ALVIN R VAUGHN	10/05/2021

### New Orleans District

JONATHAN CAILLOUET	08/28/2021
JOSEPH L DAZET JR	07/29/2021
AMUND O DJUVE	08/16/2021
GEORGE J GRIFFIN	09/25/2021
HLANSON COSSE	08/03/2021
JOSEPH MACKE	03/13/2021
JOHN H PIGOTT	08/06/2021
VANDER J SAPP	10/21/2020
ARNOLD J RODRIGUEZ	08/24/2021
BYRAN K SAUCIER	08/04/2021
GLENN SULLIVAN	09/11/2021

### Monroe/Shreveport District

LESTER L CARTEE	10/106/2020
RAYMOND ESCALON	08/27/2021
WILLIE A PEART	07/16/2021

Continued from Page 1

date as with the mail service, but for the most part, we can conduct business as usual.

An important issue that is now at the forefront of our industry is the debate on vaccinations. We are hearing that some sites are requiring vaccinations or mandatory Covid testing weekly to be able to work at the facility or site in question. This isn't a direct issue with Local 406, but we realize that it affects you. I am not personally taking a stance on the issue but there are some facts that we must address moving forward. If the client that owns the facility or site requires either one or both, the only contractors that can work in that facility, Union or Non-Union, Closed Shop or Merit Shop, are those who comply with the mandatory requirements. This may also hold true for federal, state, and local job requirements as well as any training facility that you may need to visit to get the necessary training to enter those sites.

The General Executive Board of the International Union of Operating Engineers met on this specific issue. A result of that meeting was a letter was directed to all Locals that any member, visitor, or vendor that wishes to attend any training sessions for the 2021-2022 training schedule at the National Training Site in Crosby Texas would require being vaccinated fully before attending. A copy of that letter can be reviewed upon request in the local district offices.

This is a lot of information to process, and it is hard to put into words without losing interest so I look forward to seeing you at your next district union meeting providing there are no state or federal restriction governing meetings that will hinder attending. Please remember that as we roll into the Holiday Seasons, remain safe and may God Bless you all.

## 2021-2022 Peter Babin Jr Scholarship Winner



It is with great gratitude that we announce to you the winner of the 2021-2022 Peter Babin scholarship award. Lillian is the daughter of Brother Keith Pace a 17 year member of IUOE Local 406. We hope this contribution will assist her in her future endeavors through life and her future studies. Ms. Lillian plans to take the scholarship opportunity with her

to Southeastern University.

Listed below are the achievements that she has already overcome.

- Salmen High School Student Council Vice President
- Graduated with Honors and an overall GPA of 3.4.
- Salmen Ambassadors member
- 4 year Varsity Cheerleader
- 14 year Dance team member

## CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

by John Babin  
Business Rep.  
Stationary Engineers



Local 406 negotiated with our two Federal Contractors at the Hale Boggs Federal Complex in New Orleans. Due to changes made in the contract dates by General Services Administration, I was contacted by both companies with a proposal to extend the current contracts that were set to expire next April for three more years. After discussion, Local 406, agreed to extend both companies contracts for three more years under the current terms and conditions with the same wage increases and benefit levels going forward. Both contracts will be in place until September 30, 2025.

I am still in negotiations with the Loews Hotel in New Orleans to negotiate a new five-year agreement. We have had several zoom sessions with the Vice President of Human Resources and the Attorney for Loews, and we are close to having an agreement. Our next step is to present the proposals to our committee members for their input and hopefully get a new agreement ratified before the end of this year.

Local 406 along with the Southeast Building and Construction Trades will also be engaged in negotiations with ASM Global for new agreement at Caesars Superdome. Our members have been working under an extension of our old agreement that was set to expire last summer. Due to COVID 19 pandemic, we extended the old agreement for one year and froze all benefits and wages until we negotiate a new five-year agreement. The extension of the old agreement is set to expire this December, so I hope to open talks with ASM Global in the next few months.

**406 members working on the Amazon project in Shreveport. Brother Andrew Carson & Brother Lemar Dousay working on the front loader for Project Steward.**



# WORK IS BACK

by Miguel Perrault  
Business Rep.  
New Orleans  
District



Even though the Covid-19 pandemic hasn't lightened up and with the added natural disaster of Hurricane Ida, the work has been picking up. I've been working with Boh Brothers, getting journeyman operators and apprentices hired on to help build crews to man city, street and drainage repair. Boh is also looking forward to getting jobs started in Baton Rouge and Lake Charles areas real soon. Crane rental is also getting busy. Deep South, Maxim and Turner Industries are manning up for a very busy Fall turnaround season. I was able to get a few project labor agreements signed before and after the Hurricane. Brandenburg has some demolition work at Kemira-Waggaman, Sparks and K2 Industrial were here for disaster recovery work. We are currently entering contract negotiations this month with our signatory crane rental contractors. We will update that progress as it moves forward. I also would like to remind everyone about the training opportunities at the IUOE Training and Educational Center located in Crosby, Texas.

## Business Representative Miguel Perrault visits brother members on the job working for BOH at the New Orleans Lakefront area.



Tyler Cunningham

Brad Daigle

## 100% ON CCO TESTING

by Craig Kaiser  
Apprenticeship  
Administrator



Greetings to all. Hopefully, this finds you all doing well and everyone pulling out of Hurricane Ida are doing okay. In the last newsletter, I stated that I would hope to have more information on the grant from the state. On July 21, 2021, Ms. Haylee Pierce and myself met with the state with the intentions of signing ourselves up as employers to participate in the program. This would allow us to get 50 percent of apprentices scale reimbursed by the state for on-the-job training. At the Apprenticeship Program, we work one apprentice for 3 months to try and give those that are showing up to class a start. The grant program is designed for 6 months paid and is also designed to create a permanent position for participants. We were not eligible to participate because we do not intend in keeping them for a permanent position. This made us ineligible to participate in the program. We did learn that the program is designed more for the contractors that plan on keeping them after the 6 months of employment.

On June 26, 2021, for the first time since I have been at the apprenticeship the members that tested for CCO for the third quarter passed with 100 percent. Everyone that took the test passed all their exams and that was something to be proud of for myself, the members, instructors Leon Lemoine and Wilfredo Castro Rodriguez,

and Ms. Haylee Pierce. While speaking about CCO there were a few changes, which are price increases for written and practical testing, also, written, and practical applications now must be filled out online by the applicant. Ms. Haylee has put together an instructional PDF on how to apply. You will still need to contact the training site at 985-542-4322 and she will enter you on our spreadsheet and email you the instructions. On the practical exams you will go on CCOs website at [www.ncccco.org](http://www.ncccco.org) and complete your application along with making payment. After completion you will receive a code that will serve as payment on test day.

In August, we indentured 21 new apprentices which brings our number of apprentices to 72. Some good news here is Deep South and Boh Brothers have been picking up a few of the apprentices. Hopefully things are starting to pick up again. Along with the ones coming in we had two graduates from the program in August Troydell Pugh and Jonathan Rohli.

In August, I attended the H&P conference in Crosby Texas. There was information on a new learning management system named Moodle that we may be getting on board with in the future. This program is replacing the old Blackboard system. I hoped to get some information while at the training site on when we may be able to move some of the government equipment from the site, which we started trying to move out last year. This topic is still going through legalities, and it may still be a while before a decision is made on this. I did get Henderson Auction to move out

three pieces of equipment that we did own, just trying to move that old stuff from the site.

We also rented an excavator for a trial period in the last quarter. Honestly it was not a case where everything worked great as it ran hot on us after the first 20 minutes, but we were able to get them to deliver another one and continue with training. This cost of the machine was \$919.16 for a week with delivery and pick up. I have plans in the future to rent an excavator and a skid steer at the same time but due to the Hurricane the availability of machines was not there at the time.

With everything picking up after the storm there were at least six jobs that we were not able to man because they required TWIC and/or safety council cards. Some apprentices had them when they came in and they have since let them expire. Their reasoning for them letting them expire is that the employer will pay for it if they get it, is what they are telling me. I hate to say it, but they are learning the hard way that they cannot get employed without both under most circumstances. It is not a requirement of the apprenticeship program to have these. However, I do express it over and over that about 29 out of 30 calls are asking for both, and they normally want the apprentice on the next day. Everyone please take a chance to look over your credentials and make sure they are all up to date. On a better note, the apprentices that had their stuff in order and were ready to go, have been placed on jobs also post hurricane. Everyone please stay safe and blessed as we push through the final quarter of 2021.

# 2022 CCO WRITTEN TEST DATES

## 1ST QUARTER TEST DATES

CLASS DAY: FEB 5 & FEB 12  
TEST DAY: FEB 26  
LAST DAY TO APPLY: FEB 1

## 2ND QUARTER TEST DATES

CLASS DAY: JUNE 4 & JUNE 11  
TEST DAY: JUNE 25  
LAST DAY TO APPLY: MAY 27

## 3RD QUARTER TEST DATES

CLASS DAY: OCT 1 & OCT 15  
TEST DAY: OCT 29  
LAST DAY TO APPLY: SEPT 29

# APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

**Apprentice Jacob Crawford on dozer after repairs.**



**Apprentice Shaden Hammad painting 35 ton rims**



**Apprentices Steven Maggard & Tyler Cunningham**



**Apprentice Brennen Bueche**



**Apprentice Carla Johnson giving hand signals**



**Instructor Leon Lemoine teaching about the Union.**



## 2022 PIPELINE TRAINING

In the issue of the Engineers Newsletter is offered pipeline classes for 2022. In order to register, please go to <https://iuoe-itrs.org/>. You can search by Program-Pipeline, end date 12/31/22 to view 2021-2022 classes. Please be advised, however, at this time, you will only be able to register for 2021 pipeline training classes. The opportunity to register for all 2022 pipeline classes will occur at some point later this year.

The ITEC serves to supplement the training opportunities that are available to our members by offering more specialized classes that are designed to upgrade and enhance the skills that are essential to obtaining gainful employment in the pipeline construction industry. As always, prior experience is not required, and apprentices are welcome to attend. However, applicants must first demonstrate competency in the operation of basic construction equipment. The training program will evaluate each applicant at the beginning of the course, and those without required skills to safely operate the equipment utilized for each particular course will be dismissed.

The NPTF will provide all students training at the ITEC with all necessary training materials, lodging, meals, airfare, or mileage reimbursement. Additionally the cost of airfare will be covered for all students approved to take training classes held at the Local 181 Training site in Boston, KY, however, students are currently responsible for their own transportation from the airport to the Local 181 site. Finally, for any classes held at a hosting Local Union, the students will be provided with all training materials, lodging, lunch, as well as \$25.00 a day per diem, and mileage reimbursement.

### 2022 Pipeline Training Classes

Intro to Pipeline Excavator (Apprentice level class for excavator)

Pipeline Training (Intermediate Class for Excavator)

Pipeline Training (Advanced Class for Excavator)

Pipeline Training (Excavator Procedures for "Road Bore")

Pipeline Training (Right-of-way "slip repair procedures for Excavator")

Pipeline Training (Excavator methods for long wall pipeline activities)

Pipeline Training (Classes for Excavator/with Winch Procedures)

Pipeline Training (Excavator for Mat Handling/Bridge Building Training)

Pipeline Training (Excavator for Waterway/Creek Crossing Training)

Intro to Pipeline Angle Dozer (Beginner class for Angle Dozer)

Pipeline Training (Intermediate Class for Angle Dozer)

Pipeline Training (Advanced Class for Angle Dozer)

Pipeline Training (Angle Dozer methods for long wall pipeline activities)

Pipeline Training (Classes for Angle Dozer with Winch Procedures)

Pipeline Training (Right-of-way 'slip repair procedures for Angle Dozer)

Pipeline Training (Excavation class for existing live pipelines) (Maintenance/Rehabilitation work)

Pipeline Training (Horizontal Directional Drilling/Mud System Class)

Pipeline Training ADVANCED (Horizontal Directional Drilling/Mud System Class)

Pipeline Training (Deckhand Pipe Lifter Training)

Pipeline Training (Bending Engineering Classes)

Pipeline Training (Vacuworxs Pipe Lifter Training)

Pipeline Training (Hydro-Excavation)

Pipeline Training (Hydro-Testing of Pipelines)

Pipeline Training (Forwarder Training)



## Fall is Here

by  
William Young  
Business Rep.  
Shreveport-  
Monroe Districts  
And Pipeline  
Business Rep.



Fall is here and I'm happy to say that the weather is changing along with the work, as it has been picking up. The TVA-Day & Zimmerman work is in full swing on the Mississippi River Levee (Dirt work). Amazon is holding steady and will be winding down in the following months. Brandenburg (Demo) jobs are going in Pineville and across the State in different locations. We are now seeing the HDD (Pipeline) work pick up a little bit.

Now for the pipeline rumors, they are vast and far reaching. The truth is we don't have any paperwork on the rumored Michaels job. However, we are hoping it is as rumored. We want our Pipeline guys to be able to work a job in our State near their homes. Our President/ Business Manager Jason Billings has worked tirelessly with the PLCA and IUOE International to secure work for our Local, not only pipeline work but building and trades work as well.

Please, if you have any down time the International Training site in Crosby Texas has many classes with openings. You can find the schedule at [iuoe.org/training](http://iuoe.org/training).

## Members working Levee job on Mississippi River



# BATON ROUGE DISTRICT WORK PICKING UP

by  
Russell Maddie, Jr.  
Business Rep.  
Baton Rouge  
District



As I write this article with a heavy heart, with concerns of Local 406 members and their families, my thoughts and prayers are for everyone suffering from the devastation of Hurricane Ida, and those still recovering from Hurricane Laura and Delta, and not to forget the 2016 flood victims still struggling.

Within the last 20 years, Local 406 members have endured some of the most trying times in our local's history, and who knows what's next!

Keep your faith and let's work hard together and we'll get past this once again.

On a more pleasant note, work in the Baton Rouge District began picking up again towards the end of July at CF Industries for Turner Maintenance as I noted in the previous article, and most operators gained between 30 to 45 days of work. Once work was finishing there, most were being re-dispatched to Honeywell/Geismar, Westlake/Plaquemine, or Turner Crane Rental and Deep South/Exxon Baton Rouge.

Most of the signatory contractors have been in discussion with Local 406 and are expecting a very busy, but hectic fall season. The Baton Rouge Out-of-Work List is short, and I encourage everyone to please contact the hall once your assigned jobs are complete, so we can get you

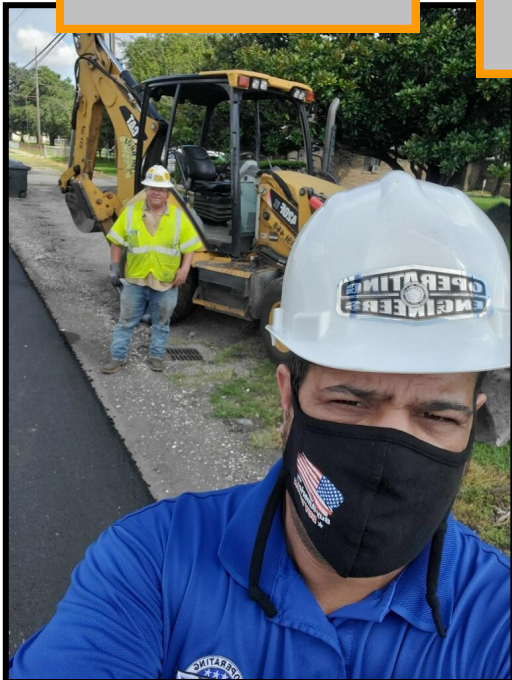
back to work as soon as possible.

For the knowledge of the membership, Deep South and Turner Crane Rental contracts have both been opened and will be in negotiations starting in October.

To reiterate about CT Stevedoring/Darrow, La., and Turner Industries Group/Shop, both contracts have been negotiated and ratified with a 3-year contract for CT Stevedoring and a 2-year contract with Turner/Shop.

Just recently I have started getting requests from Boh Brothers about work on the new Diversion Canal and civil project work at Shintec/Plaquemine, and many other projects throughout the state. They are presently looking for bluetop/grade hands, so if you or someone you know is interested, please call your local union hall. This is possibly 2-5 years of work.

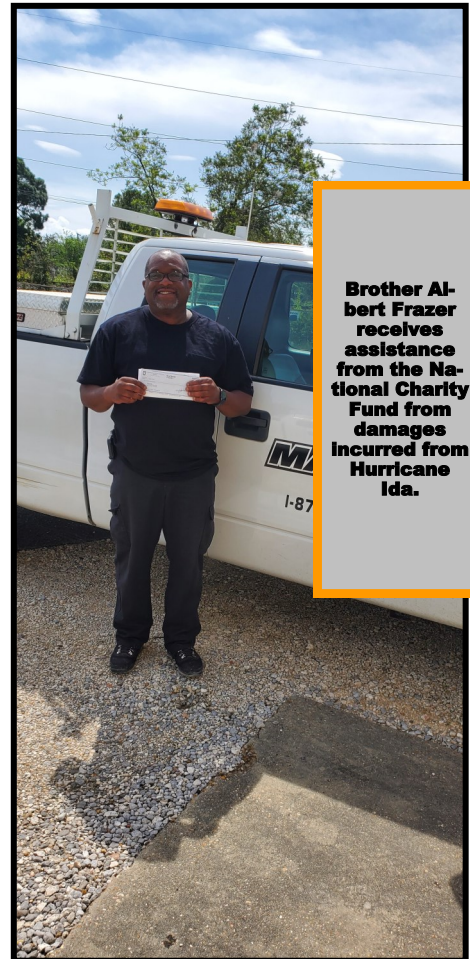
**Brother John P Jones working an asphalt job for Boh Brothers.**



**Brother Stanley Heinrich working for Bayou Construction.**



**Brother Albert Frazer receives assistance from the National Charity Fund from damages incurred from Hurricane Ida.**



# FALL TURNAROUND SEASON

by David Hyatt  
Business Representative  
Lake Charles District



The dog days of summer have come to an end and the fall turnaround season is in full swing. After a tumultuous year last year and everything shut down due to the pandemic, turnarounds were past due for most of the facilities in the Lake Charles area. Only minor repairs were made to limit exposure. Now that the facilities have learned how to safely perform work with limited exposure to the contractors on site, they have decided to get back into the swing of things.

Deep South and Turner Crane and Rigging are busy in five plants in the area on longer than average turnarounds employing upwards of fifty operators. This has wiped the books clear of all operators that were available and I had to call the Baton Rouge and New Orleans districts for additional manpower but as you will read in their articles, the work has picked up across the state and manpower is limited. I began getting calls from travelers and was able to cover the work for the time being.

There are still talks of a project at the Port of Lake Charles with Boh Brothers, but the start dates have been pushed back multiple times and I am expecting to hear back from them around mid-month to start putting operators out on that work here.

Multiple contractors have been calling for wages to bid work at the Shaw Nuclear Module site in South Lake Charles that is supposed to create a few jobs for our operating engineers in an indoor facility for close to a year if they get the bid. According to the contractors, the owners specified that the work had to be done with organized labor or Shaw wouldn't get it, so they have subs that are Union doing all the bids. As the year changes from Summer to Fall the temperature are falling also and helping to push any Hurricanes back that are trying to come into the gulf, effectively giving us a little more protection against them. Please don't forget that the season isn't over yet though and we've had storms well into December. Don't let your guard down. Keep prepared and stay informed of changing conditions. The Holiday Season is right around the corner and time with family will soon be here. Enjoy it with the ones you love and may God bless you all.

## Notice End of Year Member/Retiree Gatherings

Every year we look forward to celebrating the holidays with our retirees and membership, but due to concerns around the COVID-19 pandemic, we've made the difficult decision to cancel our regular Membership and Retiree Christmas Parties.

This was a tough call to make, but our primary concern is always the responsibility we feel toward the safety and health of our membership and staff. Hopefully we will be back to normal next year and will be able to resume our normal gatherings.

Thank you for your understanding and we wish everyone a very joyous, safe and healthy holiday season.

Brother Wade Willis working for Boh Brothers at the aireport.



## NEGOTIATION WITH DEEP SOUTH

*Carlos Benoit  
Business Rep.  
Baton Rouge District*



At the time of this writing, we are experiencing some unpresidential times. Two weeks ago, a very large group of 406 members were hit by Hurricane Ida, over half of the state was drenched by Tropical Storm Nicholas, added to this we are in the third strike of COVID. We shall prevail.

We are preparing to start contract negotiations with Deep South and Turner Equipment Division. I will give the outcome in the next issue. In the last month or two, Southern Operators Health Fund sent to all participating members an enrollment form. This form should be filled out (if) you had ANY changes. If you are not sure, please fill it out any way and return to Southern Operators Health Fund. This is in case you have any changes with your address, dependents, designated beneficiary.

I would like to take this time to tell everyone to stay safe and wish you all good health. Remember take a kid hunting, it does make a difference!

## Vacation Fund Checks

**Checks will be distributed on Saturday, December 4, 2021, in conjunction with our Union Meeting which will be held at 8:00 AM. We will begin distribution of checks immediately following our meeting until 11:00 AM. All remaining checks will be mailed the same day.**

**The fiscal year for 2021 Vacation Fund ends with the payroll period through September 30, 2021.**

**Discrepancies in the amount received and the amount deducted from your pay will be handled by the New Orleans office.**

**However, to correct any discrepancies, the member involved must be able to furnish all check stubs for the fiscal year ( 10/1/20 - 09/30/21).**



**Brother members at the July Shreveport Union Meeting**