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JANUARY 2020

# 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

## NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF LOCAL UNION 406, INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS WILL BE HELD IN 2020. THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS WILL BE UP FOR ELECTION:**

### STATEWIDE

**Business Manager / President  
Treasurer  
Three (3) Auditors**

**Vice President  
Conductor  
Three (3) Trustees**

**Financial/Recording Corresponding Secretary  
Guard  
Thirteen (13) Executive Board Members-At-Large**

### ELECTION COMMITTEE

At the semi-annual meeting in May 2020 in New Orleans there shall be nominated from the membership present, and elected by secret ballot at the district meetings in June by plurality one member from each district to serve on the Election Committee. The Committee consists of the members elected from all districts.

### NOMINATING PROCEDURES

The eligibility requirements and the procedures to be followed in the nomination of candidates and election procedures for each office will be in accordance with the Constitution of the International Union of Operating Engineers and the By-Laws of Local 406, as amended. Copies of the International Constitution and By-Laws of Local 406 are available for all members upon request at the office of this Local Union.

All nominations for election of officers will be conducted under Article XII of the Local 406 By-Laws. To be eligible for nomination for any office, a member in good standing must secure verifiable signatures of no fewer than 200 other members in good standing or 2% of the entire membership in good standing of the Local Union, whichever is less, on a Nominating Petition supplied by the Recording-Corresponding Secretary. Such forms will be available beginning April 1, 2020 and must be returned on or before the May semi-annual meeting by personal delivery or registered certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the Recording-Corresponding Secretary at the New Orleans Office of the Local Union. If a Nominating Petition form is requested by mail, it must be by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the Recording-Corresponding Secretary at the New Orleans office. Otherwise, a form can be obtained from the Recording-Corresponding Secretary in person at the New Orleans office. Any completed Nominating Petition must identify no more than

one candidate for a single position. To properly verify signatures each member in good standing signing a Nominating Petition should provide either his union registration number or (at the member's option) his social security number adjacent to his signature. Nominations will be officially accepted and recognized at the May semi-annual meeting.

Within 5 days after the nominations have been concluded, the Recording Corresponding Secretary shall mail to each member nominated, at his last known home address, notice of his nomination and of the office to which he has been nominated. Within 10 days after receipt of this notice, the nominee shall file with the Recording-Corresponding Secretary, a written acceptance of his nomination to office, and that he is eligible to hold office in accordance with the provisions of Section 504 of the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959. At each regularly scheduled Local Union membership meeting held after receipt of the nominee's written acceptance of nomination, the Recording Corresponding Secretary shall read or cause to be read the name of each nominee and the office to which he seeks election.

### ELECTION

The election shall be held in August 2020 by mail referendum among all qualified members by secret ballot under the supervision of the Election Committee and the firm of Certified Public Accountants selected by the Executive Board. All members shall be mailed a ballot containing the names of the qualifying candidates, together with written instructions, not more than 15 days before the election day.

Fraternally yours,  
Craig M. Kaiser  
Financial Recording-Corresponding Secretary

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

# ENGINEERS NEWS

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## OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 406 OFFICERS

D. Jason Billings, *Business Manager— President*  
Craig M. Kaiser, *Financial/Recording Secretary*  
Jason Tassin, *Guard*  
Marty Anderson, *Trustee*  
Mark Ferguson, *Trustee*  
David Sansone, *Trustee*  
Peter Babin, III, *Business Manager Emeritus*

David Hyatt, *Vice President*  
Carlos Benoit, *Treasurer*  
Arthur Robertson, *Conductor*  
Daniel Foy, Jr., *Auditor*  
James Potter, *Auditor*  
Coley Stockman, *Auditor*

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

John Babin  
Carlos Benoit  
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Buster Buxton  
Robert H. Cerise Jr.  
Albert Frazer

Troy J. Gainey  
Billy W. Hubbard, Jr.  
David Hyatt  
Craig Kaiser  
Russell Maddie  
David Perrault

Miguel Perrault  
Mark Schexnayder  
Tim Sziber  
William E. Young

## SCHEDULED MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

### OFFICES AND BUSINESS AGENTS

#### NEW ORLEANS:

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

#### BATON ROUGE

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

#### LAKE CHARLES/LAFAYETTE

D. JASON BILLINGS  
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(337) 436-7878  
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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

#### 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](http://www.iuoelocal406.org)



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## PENSIONERS

### Baton Rouge District

James O. Blair  
Remi J. Brown, Sr.  
Michael S. Carson  
Leroy F. Hooper  
Danny P. Ledet  
David A. Lyon  
Alton Westmoreland  
Archie M. Wood, Jr.

### Lake Charles/Lafayette District

Anthony M. Fontenet  
Darryl Leonard  
Coley O. Stockman

### Monroe/Shreveport District

Gregory Anderson  
Leroy Davis  
Douglas Lebrun  
Danny L. Maness

### New Orleans District

Walter L. Dauterive  
Michael Dorsey  
Michael Frank



## DECEASED

### Baton Rouge District

Rudolph Allement	10/19/2019
Charles R. Braud	08/22/2019
Carl Crawford	05/15/2018
Lester B. Freeman	12/30/2019
Frank J. Rizzuto	10/26/2019
Roy E. Welch	01/05/2020

### Lake Charles/Lafayette District

Billy W. Durrett	01/03/2020
Rufus J. Myers	01/09/2020
Joseph E. Payne	10/28/2019
John P. Young	10/09/2019

### Monroe/Shreveport District

Jeremy J. Holbert	10/27/2019
Billy Joe Rogers	10/31/2019
Jimmy M. Stancil	12/30/2019

### New Orleans District

John J. Abadie	11/09/2019
Tillman J. Desoto	12/17/2019
M. D. Doyle, Jr.	01/20/2018
Don J. Galiano	12/08/2019
W. L. Hemphill	12/02/2019
Michael Landeche	08/29/2019
James L. Mclane	11/24/2019
Herbert Morales	11/24/2019
Doug R. Ruehlen	07/18/2019

## MUCH TO ACCOMPLISH IN 2020

Happy New Year! Taking a quick look back to last quarter of 2019, it was enjoyable but it disappeared very fast. There were a lot of good times with the retirees, members and families along with mourning the losses of our fallen Brothers and Sisters at the events and meetings. The staff worked tirelessly to ensure that these events went off without a hitch and they were seamlessly executed. I would like to express my gratitude to all that were involved even if I don't mention them by name. You will see photos in this edition from those events and see the efforts that went into preparing them.

I also want to recognize all of the members, their families and friends that helped in organizing voters to participate in the reelection of Governor John Bel Edwards. Moving forward with him, I feel that we have a place for Operating Engineers' voices to be heard in the political arena. These efforts are a necessity for our survival in a world that shuns Unions for a place at the table.

Back to the Local, I work with each District and Agent weekly or as often as necessary to maximize our performance as staff to meet the needs for opportunities for the future of our membership. I won't get into too much detail on all of the particulars in the District's activities but as you read the reports from the Agents, you will see the total efforts put forth in order to accomplish our goals as a whole.

Looking forward into the New Year, it will be massively busy as a lot of things will be on the agenda to get accomplished. The first item, coming out of the last quarter, we made provisions to make sure that our insurance policies were updated and it rolled seamlessly from 2019 into 2020 to protect the Local's investments. I am also working with our contractors to help make the connections across the nation with other Business Managers getting them expo-

sure so that they can get on bid lists to secure more work for our members. I have been blessed to make connections across the nation over the past 18 plus years and form friendships with staff from other locals that benefit us by setting the table to make the connections with them and our contractors. These associations allow our signatory contractors to obtain work in areas that they have never worked. This creates opportunities to work our members as Key personnel on special equipment-specific applications. Our members are experts in the utilization of this equipment because of the training from the manufacturer and years of experience. Every job that our contractors secure means that they have fought for that job in a field of non union contractors and gained it because of your professionalism and experience. When we reach out across the country to make these associations, we are broadening your horizons by creating more opportunities to keep you employed. This is a brief synopsis of the things that go on behind the scenes and keeps you informed of our activities.

In January, 2019, the Southern Operators Health Fund Board of Trustees made a decision to increase the contributions by another \$0.25 to maintain the quality of benefits that we currently receive. The insurance increases are to come into effect as the contracts reach their anniversary dates. There are 365 days once the contracts are opened to negotiate any changes and some of those dates are narrowing down in 2020. We also had to add in the mandated \$0.05 National Training Fund per the International Constitution that was adopted in May, 2018 at the International Convention. We have reported on this in our Union Meetings, publications and ver-

By D. Jason Billings  
Business Manager-  
President



bally with members as we made contact with them and let them know that it was to be introduced in every contract. With this provision, it ensures that our members have access to that facility for all their training needs. Presently, we are working to get these into the Maintenance contracts at the time of this entry. While on the subject of training, Craig and I have been working on changes and modifications to our local training program. Stay tuned to Craig's articles to keep up to date on the current processes and changes with the program.

In closing, I would like to thank Peter Babin IV for all the years of service to the Local Union, membership, as well as the staff. Congratulations on reaching your retirement and I hope that it is as enjoyable as it was deserved. You are a perfect example of what we work to achieve by being able to retire with time left to enjoy it.

I would like to welcome Organizer Miguel Perrault as the newest member on staff. He came in the last quarter of 2019 and he has been training in schools and classes as well as working in the office to help answer phone calls, assist in job placement and organizing activities by working under my direct supervision. I encourage you to contact him at the New Orleans office, introduce yourself and get to know him. If you have any questions, contact your local Agents and attend the meetings for the latest and up to date information.

Please be safe going into the 2020 turnaround season and travels or wherever your path may lead. May God Bless you and your families.

Geaux Tigers, Our National Champions!



## Pipeline classes available at the IUOE Crosby Training Site

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



I hope everyone had a great Christmas and a good start to the New Year. The work throughout 2019 has been slow but steady. The Wayne Holden and Company work and the racking jobs that T.G. Mercer and PeBen have had going on in our area has been a blessing along with some HDD work with REM. Many thanks to all those that made these jobs successful and without any issues. Your hard work is appreciated, not only by me, but by the contractors that depend on us to provide them with qualified and competent manpower. Your level of professionalism is a credit to yourselves and the Local. I would be remiss not to mention the stewards and what you do for Lo-

cal 406 does not go unnoticed and I am thankful for what you do and for the help that you provide.

We are looking forward to what's coming this year and hope it is going to be busy. The Training Site in Crosby, Texas has been filling classes for Pipeline Training and the first available classes to get into are mid-February at this point. If you need to sharpen your skills or even get refreshed on knowledge that you already have, this is a great place to do it and there is no substitute for the level of training that is offered there. This is how we make ourselves more valuable to the contractor and how we stay working. Take a moment to look at all of your certifications and make sure they are up to date as well as CDL's. If you are interested in getting your Crane Certifications to be utilized more, call any of our district offices and we can assist you with getting set up for it.

The turnaround work will soon start and if you have the credentials, you could fill the Spring down time with income. We ap-

preciate what you do and look forward to every opportunity to express our gratitude in service to you. With a lot of the pipeline work comes a lot of rumors and I am left to chase those down and deliver the most accurate information to you. Business Manager-President D. Jason Billings is instrumental in helping me obtain the correct information from his vast knowledge and years of contacts in the business. I am thankful for his tremendous experience and wealth of knowledge. Without him, I'm not sure where this Local would be and we are in good hands with him. Most of us know by now that Brother Peter Babin has retired. I appreciate the years of service that he has given to Local 406. May God bless him in his retirement years. Farewell Brother Babin. I have been working with Miguel Perrault to help get some of our dirt guys to work on some Boh Brothers' projects while they have downtime in between pipeline jobs. He is doing a fine job taking up the slack that was left by Brother Peter's absence and is very pleasurable to work with. Welcome to the staff Brother Miguel.



Brother Coley Stockman (Steward) presenting Brother Ronald Richmond his 25 year Honorary Membership Pin



Brother Robin Keith Townley receives his 25 year Honorary Membership Pin from Business Manager Jason Billings



Brother Danny McDaniel receives his 40 year Honorary Membership Pin with Bus. Rep. David Hyatt and Business Manager Jason Billings

## 2020 PIPELINE TRAINING

The International offers various pipeline classes to members throughout North America. If you are interested in working on the pipeline and taking any of the classes listed below, please register by logging onto the IUOE.org website at <https://www.iuoe.org/training/iuoe-pipeline-training> and follow their **Application Process** as follows:

**Step 1** Access the Schedule. Review the class descriptions and decide which class is best for you and your skill level. If you have in-depth questions, or need more information than what is included in the downloadable packets above, please contact NPTF Assistant Director Keith Hoover ([khoover@iuoetec.org](mailto:khoover@iuoetec.org)) or NPTF Director Bryan Abel ([babel@iuoe.org](mailto:babel@iuoe.org)) for clarification.

**Step 2** Choose a class whose dates will work with your schedule, be mindful if a class commences or concludes around your work/vacation plans.

**Step 3** Complete the application and submit. After you submit your application, it is reviewed for approval at the Local and the International level. Once your application is approved, you will receive an email with instructions to complete a travel request.

**Step 4** Fill out and submit your travel request. Travel will be booked by the international and they will contact you via email with your travel information.

### Classes are available in:

Advanced HDD Training  
 Angle Dozer-Advanced  
 Angle Dozer-Intermediate  
 Angle Dozer-Intermediate w/Winching \* Kentucky  
 Bending Engineering  
 Deckhand Pipe Lifter  
 Excavator-Advanced Training  
 Excavator-Intermediate  
 Excavator-Intermediate w/Winching \* Kentucky  
 Excavator-Intro to pipeline excavator  
 Excavator-Mat Handling/Bridge Building Training  
 Excavator Procedures for Existing Live Pipelines  
 Excavator Procedures for Waterway/Creek Crossings  
 Horizontal Directional Drilling w/Mud Reclamation System  
 Hydro-Excavation  
 Into to Pipeline Sideboom  
 John Henry Rock Drilling  
 Sideboom-Advanced Training  
 Sideboom-Hydraulic Controls  
 Sideboom-Intermediate w/Winching \* Kentucky  
 Sideboom-Live Draw Works \* Kentucky  
 Vacuworxs Pipelifter

**PLEASE NOTE: THERE IS A HIGH CALL VOLUME DURING THE TRAINING SEASON. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO TALK WITH SOMEONE PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE. EMAILS TEND TO GET RESPONDED TO MORE QUICKLY.**

- The NPTF understands that circumstances change, in the event that you cannot attend training please contact the fund so we may fill your spot. Due to the time constraints involved with booking airline travel please note that all applications for the ITEC in Crosby, TX classes must be submitted no later than three weeks before the class begins, and that travel documentation should be returned no later than two weeks before the class begins. For the Local 181 facility in Boston, KY, applications must be received no later than one week before the class is scheduled to start. Applications that do not meet these requirements will be declined. **\*More classes will be posted as they become available.\***

## Apprentice to Organizer

by  
 Miguel Perrault.  
 Organizer  
 New Orleans  
 District



As this is my first article for the "Engineers News", I would like to formally introduce myself.

Raised in a union family, my dad, grandfather, uncles and cousins were union bricklayers. I learned the importance of a "brotherhood" from them.

In 2010, I decided to join Local 406's Apprenticeship Program. It was an eye opener because it brought me back to my roots.... Unions! I attended every class and made sure that my involvement on every aspect of operating was noticed. As an apprentice, I also attended as many scheduled monthly union meetings in New Orleans as possible due to my work schedule.

Into my third year, Brother Peter Babin offered me the opportunity to work for Boh Brothers in the Pipe Department. I was so excited to finally show what I have been training for. I completed the job safely, with no incidents, and always showed up on time. Unfortunately, I was let go due to lay-offs company-wide. Pete then offered an oilers position with B & G Crane Rental Co. on a turnaround at Chalmette Refinery. Once again, I completed my task and was back on the out-of-work list. A few months later, I was re-hired with Boh Brothers Pile Driving Department and worked there for six years.

While at Boh, I worked my way up starting from running forklifts to running backhoes, excavators, front-end loaders and Mi Jack overhead crane. I also studied for and passed my certifications for crane operation.

In 2019, Brother Jason Billings asked me if I would be interested in joining him and his team of agents. Of course, I couldn't refuse! In September, I was hired as an Organizer for Local 406. I have been to several Organizing Training Sessions and meetings. Jason's strong leadership is well represented through his team and they are excited and supportive with me. Everyone is just a call away and any issue that may come up is quickly resolved.

I am looking forward to continually developing my endeavors as an organizer. Working with Jason and the rest of the staff has been going really great. I am looking forward to meeting the members that I will have the pleasure of working for.



## Baton Rouge expected to have a busy year

by  
Russell Maddie, Jr.  
Business  
Representative  
Baton Rouge  
District



It's hard to believe that 2019 is already over and behind us now.

Everything seems to pass by so fast when work has been great and contractors continue to submit requests for operating engineers. For as fast as one outage was ending, another one was ramping up, with very few breaks in between.

Across the state, the Out-of-Work lists in the majority of the districts have been down to a bare minimum. Some of these members were due to lack of credentials and limitations of their qualifications. As I touch on the subject of qualifications, remember to keep up with your expiration dates for NCCCO Certs, TWIC, Safety Council cards, and of all things your Drivers' License and yearly DOT Physical. The contractors cannot work you guys without these in hand.

Other qualifications can be obtained by visiting the new IUOE Training Facility in Crosby, Texas. If anyone is interested, log onto the IUOE.org Training section of the website and register for any endorsements or continued education that you can utilize for steady employment. This training facility was established for all operating engineers. We, as members, pay for this facility! So, by all means, take full advantage of this opportunity and hone your skills if you can fit it into your schedule.

On another note, from what our signatory contractors have communicated and shared with us, work around the Baton Rouge District will be busy for 2020. Our

crane rentals are going to have project work through January and turnarounds are going to kick off the beginning of February. The dates and places have not been confirmed as of the time of this writing. The account managers (salesmen) haven't given all the particulars as of now, but are confirming work will be busy throughout the year.

Maintenance jobs have all been busy with Rubicon, CF Industries and Honeywell employing 23 men in the last quarter of 2019. Some of these are winding down and preparing for spring outages.

In closing, I would like to mention a few things about the Baton Rouge and Lake Charles Retiree Luncheons that I was able to attend. It was one of the coolest things that I have ever witnessed and will be etched in my memory forever. These gatherings made me feel like I was back in time from all the stories and some of the nightmares our Brothers and Sisters had to endure to stand the test of time. I witnessed a lot of laughter and jokes, saw tears in these men and women's eyes as they talked about lost friends and family from years past. We must not forget that these forefathers laid the pat that we follow today and must follow it as they did. Be there for your Brothers and Sisters and work with them, not against them. Business Manager Jason Billings has been doing his due diligence to do just that! He sees how hard our past and present members have worked to keep this local strong. It has been his goal to be committed and very efficient in making wise, rational decisions in order for our local to survive, so that we can witness what these veteran 406 members have.

## Need your CCO or need to recertify? Mark your calendars now for our upcoming tests:

### 1st Quarter:

**Test on March 28, 2020**

**Class Dates are  
February 29 and  
March 14, 2020.**

**\*\* Last day for applications is  
February 28, 2020.**

### 2nd Quarter:

**Test on June 27, 2020**

**Class Dates are  
May 30 and  
June 13, 2020**

**\*\* Last day for applications is  
May 29, 2020.**

### 3rd Quarter:

**Test on November 14, 2020**

**Class Dates are  
October 3 and  
October 24, 2020**

**\*\* Last day for applications is  
October 15, 2020.**

All classes and tests are scheduled for 7:00 AM.

To participate in any of the above classes, please contact the Training Site at 985-542-4322 to put your name on the roster and have an application mailed to you.

Completed Applications should be emailed to:

hpierce@iuoelocal406.org and  
ckaiser@iuoelocal406.org.

If you are taking a recertification, please follow instructions as to what is required for an updated photo and send the photo at the same time as the application to hpierce@iuoelocal406.org and ckaiser@iuoelocal406.org.

## Applications for 2020 Apprenticeship Program ends March 31, 2020

by Craig Kaiser  
Apprenticeship  
Administrator



Happy New Year! Hopefully everyone had a good holiday season and got to spend time with their families.

The last quarter of 2019 was a busy one that kept all apprentices and pre-apprentices that were willing to, working. Please remember this will be the last letter before our cut off date of March 31, 2020 for incoming apprentices to sign up for the Program. If you know anyone interested, please have them call 985-542-4322 and get on the list as a pre-apprentice. Also, if you have any working as pre-apprentices, be sure that they have called and left their information to receive a letter to come in and sign up for the Program. We have also pushed application day out further this year in an attempt to give students graduating high school adequate time to get transcripts from their guidance counselors, and also allow more time in between the day they receive the letter and application day for them to obtain social security cards or birth certificates if needed.

Along with NCCCO removing the language pertaining to physicals' requirements from their applications, they will also be requiring an email address moving forward. This being said, we will be moving the sending and receiving of applications for our written test to emailing as well. Also, for re-certification candidates, the photos will not have to be emailed moving forward and your attestation of hours is stating that you have a written log as well as documentation of your applicable hours. I ask that you please call individually and request your writ-

ten applications as we need to create and account for the correct test to be administered so we will need to have your information as to what kind of test you are taking. Everything will basically stay the same with the three exceptions that the applications will be sent by email and photos will have to be taken and sent by email as well. Last will be a log for applicable hours to waive having to take a practical for re-certification. For those signing up in the March 28, 2020 test, in the month of April we will be busy with classes, so you may want to consider taking your practical examinations first, in January, February or March. It was mentioned in the previous newsletter, but I will mention again that the NCCCO fees have increased as well.

Please remember also to enroll yourselves through the IUOE.org Training Link for the Crosby Training Site, by logging on and communicating through email as well. We have had minimal issues, but the calling for scheduling and cancellations is causing some confusion. Also, please pay attention to the prerequisites when signing up for classes as some of them require you to have Rigger 1 and/or Signalperson before attending. We have also had members go to

NCCCO Written Preparation Class thinking they were taking the test at Crosby and that was not the case. The class description clearly states that it is a preparation class to prepare you to take the test. It is still a great class from what I hear and the members were happy with the class. I just wanted to mention it for future members that it is a Prep Class only.

During the last quarter, we attended job fairs at Fountainbleu High School, Pelican Park, one that was hosted by the Carpenters Union in Baton Rouge and also attended a re-entry program called Right on Crime in Baton Rouge.

Before closing I would like to say great teamwork to all of the staff at the union halls under the leadership of Business Manager Jason Billings, as well as the membership, part time instructors, and apprentices for stepping up to the plate in any matter that assistance is needed whenever it is needed. It was also a pleasure to work with and see Brother Peter Babin be able to retire and go enjoy his golden years after all the years he has put behind him. Enjoy your retirement Peter.

As usual, it was nice to see all of the retirees at the Christmas Parties.

Brother Miguel Perrault is sworn in as Executive Board Member At Large.





## Crane rental work expected to climb in Lake Charles area

by David Hyatt  
Business Representative  
Lake Charles District



The start of 2020 seems to look good for upcoming work in the Lake Charles District. I have spoken with our contractors and all three crane rental companies say that they look to be needing manpower well into the middle of the year and possibly beyond that. The turnarounds at the end of last year were successes for our signatories and members alike. Deep South is in their Citgo turnaround that was talked about last fall and Maxim is in theirs at Phillips 66. Thanks to those who are helping with these right now and were willing to stick it out during the holidays and make themselves available for the jobs in their district instead of chasing the road jobs. It says a lot for your character when you take care of the Homefront first.

As most of you know by now, the merger of B & G and Maxim is complete and there are 3 years left on their contract. A lot of you that were employed with B & G were worried about the merger and I can understand the nervousness that it caused. Thank you for your patience with us as we worked diligently to facilitate a smooth transition for you. It looks as if the best of both worlds were able to come together. This wasn't an easy feat. It took countless hours and working late with depart-

ment heads and Business Manager-President Jason Billings along with all the agents. The task was big, but under Jason's lead, things came together perfectly. It is a pleasure to work for someone who has the experience and levelheadedness to keep everything moving forward and all parties involved can rest assured that we are in good hands. Not only from the top but the whole administration runs like a well oiled machine under his lead.

While talking about the team, I can't forget to mention congratulations to Peter Babin on his retirement. Peter was an asset to me for the years of knowledge and always being willing to sure it with me as a new agent just

coming into the business.

While mentioning his leaving and that chapter closing, another one opens as Miguel Perrault comes in to help shoulder the tremendous load. I would like to personally welcome Miguel to the team. Your drive and passion is greatly appreciated. It's a pleasure working with you. If you haven't met Miguel yet, I would be happy to introduce him at the next Union meeting. These meetings serve as the perfect opportunity for you to get the best information as soon as we can get it to you. Your attendance is needed and greatly appreciated as we work together to make strides in forwarding Local 406 and growing our footprint in the region.



Brother Michael "Bo" Sharp, winner of the watch Raffle at the Lake Charles Retiree Christmas Party



Lake Charles Retiree Christmas Meeting



## Stationary contracts up for re-negotiation this year

by John Babin  
Statewide  
Business Rep.  
Stationary Engineers



This year a number of major stationary contracts will be up for re-negotiation in New Orleans and Mississippi. First on the agenda will be the Loews Hotel in New Orleans which is expiring in January. We will be sending the company a request to open up negotiations for a new contract and I will be working with our partners at the Hotel, Unite/HERE, and our committee of workers to put a proposal together. We will be negotiation a new five year agreement with the Loews Hotel and my major priority will be wage increases of course, but also an increase in the pension contribution for all the workers at the Loews.

In July of this year, I, along with representatives of the Building and Construction Trades Council will be negotiating new contracts at the Superdome and Harrah's Casino New Orleans. The Superdome will start some major renovation work this offseason and New Orleans will be hosting the Super Bowl in 2024, so all this will take place during the term of our next contract. Harrah's Casino New Orleans will build a new Hotel on top of the Casino and this also will happen during the term of our next agreement, so we intend to get new five year contracts at both facilities.

Later on in the fall of this year, we will open up negotiations for a new contract with

Harrah's Gulf Coast Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi as well. We will attempt to secure a first contract with the newly organized Horseshoe Casino in Tunica, Mississippi. Harrah's/Ceasers Entertainment was recently bought out by a company named Eldorado, so dealing with this new company will present some challenges. Our main goals in negotiations with Eldorado will be to get a Union Health Plan at both Harrah's Gulf Coast and the Horseshoe, the same plan that we were able to negotiate at the Beau Rivage which saved our members significant amounts of money while also increasing the medical benefits and choices for our members.

I will be meeting with our members in the next coming months at all these properties to begin putting our proposals together and I look forward to working with our partners in the Casinos and at the Superdome to secure new agreements for all Stationary mem-

bers working around the clock to keep these facilities running.

In all of these contracts I will be negotiating a five-cent deduction on all hours worked to be paid to our National Training Fund which supports our National Training Center located in Crosby, Texas. This will open up the facility to our members to take advantage of state of the art training classes that are offered to Stationary Engineers so they can remain the best skilled Stationary Engineers in the States of Louisiana and Mississippi.

I look forward to another prosperous term with our leader, Jason Billings. His energy, his knowledge and ability to multi-task are unmatched, but when combined with the team of staff that the local has, we will carry this Local into the next century, strong and proud. Congratulations to my brother, Peter Babin on his retirement and I thank him for all his many years of service to our Local Union.

Brother Peter Babin, IV was presented with a plaque upon his retirement honoring his many years of service as an operating engineer as well as serving as Business Representative for the New Orleans District and Treasurer for IUOE Local 406. Brother Babin is a 40+ year member and has served this Local on staff for almost 20 years. We wish him the best in his Retirement.



### Local 406 moving forward

*Carlos Benoit  
Business Rep.  
Baton Rouge District*



At the time of this writing, work in the Baton Rouge area has slowed down a little. Looking over the past year, Local 406 has made great strides toward becoming one of the strongest and vibrant Locals in the Gulf South. This is happening, because of the work of our Business Manager, Jason Billings. Jason reminds me of Coach "O", "One team, one heartbeat", and "it's not about me" attitude and work ethic.

I would like to welcome Miguel Perrault to the team. Miguel is in the New Orleans Office. Take time to either visit him or give him a call.

I would also like to congratulate Peter Babin on his retirement. We worked together for the last twenty years. I am proud to call Pete a true friend and brother and wish him and his wife Kelly a long and happy retirement.

## Baton Rouge Retiree Meeting



Brothers Charles Morace and Prentiss Jones winners of the watch raffle pictured along with Bus. Rep. Carlos Benoit and Bus. Manager Jason Billings and a Marine from Toys for Tots





# Statewide Membership and Retiree Christmas Party

Retirees and Members and their families gather together at the New Orleans Office for the annual Christmas Party held on December 7, 2019.







Brother David Perrault (center) receives his 40 Year Honorary Membership Pin



Bus. Rep. David Hyatt and long time Brother Member Ubert Terrell along with Bus. Mgr. Jason Billings



Brother Jimmy Gallagher winner of the watch raffle at the New Orleans Christmas Party



Brother Stanley Heinrich winner of the watch raffle at the New Orleans Christmas Party.



Local 406 Staff in attendance at the New Orleans Meeting

2019 Scholarship Winner



Congratulations

ALYSSA FRAZER

who was selected winner of the 2019-2020 Peter Babin, Jr. Scholarship Award.

After graduating Abramson Sci Academy High School, Alyssa enrolled in the University of Southern Mississippi majoring in Kinesiology because of her passion for helping people.

Alyssa is a very compassionate, responsible and adventurous young woman. Her interest in Kinesiology comes from her mother's textbooks while in nursing school.

Alyssa is the daughter of brother member Albert Frazer. We wish this fine young lady the best of luck in all her future endeavors.