



2016 Newsletter



Mitch Byrd
*Business Manager
& Financial Secretary*

On September 1, 2016 the officers of Local 926 elected me to fill the unexpired term of Phil McEntyre as Business Manager and I want to take a moment and thank Phil for all that he has done for our great organization. I treasure his counsel and his friendship that he has given me over the years. Additionally I must state that I'm extremely humbled and grateful for the trust they have placed in me. I pledge to the officers and membership to deliver the best representation and pursue opportunities that ensure jobs for Operating Engineers of Local 926.

A New Year is upon us and the expectations for a steady work year is expected similar to last. We have more engineers manning Tower Cranes and Crane Rental than in recent memory, with no signs of a slowdown. Therefore we are encouraging training and development of members and apprentices that have an interest in this high demand occupation. Engineers working under the Associated Site Preparation Contract / Foundation Caisson Contract are also experiencing the same challenges in their respective fields. Engineers are working steady hours at the Power Plants with Georgia Power, with a little pipeline work going on in our jurisdiction that is scheduled for completion around April or May. With that being stated it's a good time to be an Operating Engineer, but let us not forget to promote skills training and upgrades for all of our apprentices and membership to ensure that we leave no doubt why a contractor calls on Operating Engineers out of Local 926.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND THE ROAD AHEAD

- Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act helps individuals training through funding learn a skilled trade, eliminate welfare dependency and promote the middle class family structure. Through this funding of training dollars we have presently invoiced \$20,000 for our Joint Apprenticeship and Skills Training Program account. We are developing relationships with county and regional leaders that promotes apprenticeship and opening up new opportunities for our contractors, which ensures engineers on the job
- Organizing is the life blood of any local and is essential that we bring new contractors through top-down or bottom up organizing. Many of you will recall our last organizing campaign in which we helped 189 Four Season's Environmental employees have a voice and we look forward to tough negotiations starting in December. Our goal is to expand our organizing department and with the help of the General Presidents Organizing Grant we will be able to accomplish our goal of increased market share.
- Building on the foundation of what our predecessors laid before us is our goal. With this being stated we are excited to present in the future 4 new programs that we are working on under counsel with General President Callahan and the International Staff.
 - 1) Surveying - This is a program that is accredited throughout the United States and developed in New York at IUOE Local 15. This will solidify an engineer on the job, we all know surveyors are the first on the job and the last to leave. This field is untapped and the opportunities are endless through organizing.
 - 2) GPS Systems - Once a surveyor completes his job an Operating Engineer can apply this to the GPS system and start his project. This will give engineers and contractors more opportunities to win bids and provide work for the members.
 - 3) Drones - Technology in the field of crane inspections, excavation projects and pipeline right of ways are just a few of the ways drones can be used. The International is finishing the curriculum and once complete we will be pushing this program to secure our work in this industry.
 - 4) Stationary Engineers Training - This is comprehensive training developed by the National Training Fund and will be instructed by the stationary engineers that are presently stewards and/or project managers in the buildings in which we represent the workforce. Through negotiations and input from our stationary engineers the feedback has been very positive from management.
- Manufacturers such as Caterpillar, John Deere and Sany America have been in discussions with us in an effort to showcase their products and allow our apprentices and journeymen opportunities to the latest products. Many of the discussions are ongoing but we are optimistic that we can develop a relationship that benefits the membership.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
May God Bless you and your family and
God Bless the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 926.

Meetings are on the 3rd Friday of every month at 7:30pm



Executive Board Members

Mitch Byrd	Bus. Manager & Fin. Secretary
Jeff Haire	President
Johnny Spann	Vice-President
Richard Shakespeare	Treasurer
Chris Carr	Rec/Corresponding Secretary
Gary Mashburn	Conductor
David Clegg	Guard

Trustees

Dennis Clayton
Jeff Wilson
Tommy Woodall

Auditors

Edward Caines
Ross Powell
Mark Templeton

Our heartfelt condolences are extended to all who have endured the loss of a loved one during this year.

DATE OF DEATH	NAME	AGE
11/04/2016	THADDIE LEWIS	74
10/30/2016	JOSEPH HIGHTOWER	59
09/22/2016	BILLY RED COCHRAN	81
09/13/2016	NEIL CARROLL	80
08/10/2016	JACK L WOLFE	73
07/27/2016	ROY CHAMBERS	80
05/24/2016	FLOYD ROBERTS	75
05/03/2016	MARVIN BALLIEW	74
04/05/2016	ROBERT SPRINKLES	86
04/04/2016	EVERETT ROPER	62
03/24/2016	ROGER E HOWELL	76
02/11/2016	ALVIN GULLEY	61
01/27/2016	HERSCHEL HARRISON	61
01/24/2016	NEAL LEDFORD	78
01/07/2016	EUGENE LANEY	87
01/04/2016	LEWIS L METIVIER	54
12/20/2015	JAMES E HELTON	82
12/05/2015	DONALD L KIKER	68

Hard to believe another year has passed.

First, I would like to wish all my Brothers, and Sisters a Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year.

Once again, we end the year with mixed emotions as one of our leaders retires. While it is a great loss of knowledge, and leadership for our organization, we are ecstatic that someone who has dedicated so much to our Union can enjoy the benefits he has worked for his whole life. I wish you the best Mr. Phil and Mrs. Wanda, and thank you for all you have done, not only for me, but also for the Union movement. I would like to wish Mitch Byrd the best of luck as our new Business Manager, and ask all of you to support him.

In closing, I thank all the Stationary Members for allowing me to serve you, and look forward to a very productive new year. We have a lot to accomplish this year so let's get busy.

Thank you,

David Clegg, Stationary Agent

Congratulations Phil.



God bless you and Wanda with a long, healthy and prosperous Retirement.

President ~ Jeff O. Haire

This past year has been a busy year for our local. Work has held steady, and it appears that 2017 will start the same. We have new signatory contractors, and are working diligently to sign more.

The past year also saw the retirement of our long-time Business Manager/Financial Secretary, Phil McEntyre. I would like to congratulate Phil on his retirement. It is well deserved. I thank you for your years of dedicated service, in many roles, to this local union and its members.

With Phil's retirement, Mitch Byrd is our new Business Manager/Financial Secretary, and Mark Templeton is our new Business Agent. Congratulations and good luck to you both. I have worked with both, and I know they will do the membership proud.

As 2017 begins, the country will have a new administration in Washington, DC. Congress remains in Republican control. Historically, they have not been friendly to organized labor. It is in all of our best interests to monitor legislation coming out of Washington. If you have not done so, I urge each of you to visit the International's website and register for email updates on matters that concern us all. Many of these issues will be discussed, at our regular union meetings, as to how they could affect us on the local level.

Lastly, I'd like to thank everyone for the honor and privilege of serving as your president this past year, and look forward to serving you in 2017.

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Happy Holidays!

December Union Meeting Notice of Cancellation

Please be advised that the regular
Third Friday meeting Scheduled for
December 16, 2016 is Canceled.

Fraternally,
Jeff O. Haire
President

During this time of the year, people all around are in a state of giving and being thankful. I am very thankful for every member that came before us and fought for all the rights and benefits that we share today. They taught us how to be great operators so that we may continue to pass down the torch. Furthermore, I am especially thankful for all of my 926 brother and sister operators that are out there shining every day to make 926 the best local to be a part of. Every one of us has experienced the benefits that we enjoy as union members while working directly beside our uninformed, non-union counter parts. Just imagine what kind of benefits we all could share if non-union workers and their employers joined and supported local 926. Have you ever spoken with an operator to have them tell you that their boss would not let them be union? Section 7 of the National Labor Relations Act states: "Employees shall have the right to self-organization, to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to bargain collectively through representation of their own choosing, and to engage in other concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining..." People have the RIGHT to form their union just like you and I regardless of whether or not their bosses do not want them to be. Some of us have not always been union, someone shared with you what being Union means so that you could better yourself and your family. Why not give that gift, the gift of section 7 rights, to every non-union operator? Speak with them; they are not rats or even scabs, they are our future members. If you have any questions about organizing, please do not hesitate to contact me at 404-372-3049. I am available 24/7, and please feel free to provide my number to any interested and potential future members. I pray that the good LORD blesses my 926 family with a wonderfully safe and caring holiday season.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Fraternally yours,
Anthony Nash, Organizer



Apprentices getting the HC78B Linkbelt 35-ton truck crane ready for a paint job!

Sprucing up the Training Site



Looking forward to 2017, let us take a moment to reflect on the accomplishments we all achieved in 2016. With work remaining steady, we were able to bring in 3 new classes of apprentices. The new classes along with the graduation of Shannon Byrd (12/3/15), Jake Overton (2/19/16), Andrew Gyles (7/5/16), Greyson Murray (7/22/16), Jesse Mallett (8/17/16), Paul Brown (8/22/16), Jordan Simsick (9/2/16) and Swain Earls (11/3/16) brought us to a total of 27 apprentices. P.J. Morgan had to drop out of the program due to health issues, so keep him in your thoughts.

We have held 4 NCCCO study classes, 2 NCCCO written test classes, 1 Haz-Mat refresher, 1 MSHA refresher, 3 OSHA 10 construction classes, 1 trench and excavation/soil erosion, 6 hydro excavation classes, 3 pipeline maintenance classes, 3 First aid/CPR classes and 2 Forklift certification classes. We also had had an inaugural pre-apprenticeship class with another scheduled for this year. This class is tied directly to W.I.O.A. (workforce investment opportunity act) and contributes funds to the program. Four members from the initial ten were accepted into the apprentice program and are currently working for our contractors. Members of I.U.O.E took 49 crane practical exams. We have continued to help out our surrounding locals with their crane and other certification programs. A special thanks to Dennis Taylor and C.A. Murren who both donated pieces of equipment to the program. The hours spent at the training site and upgrade programs by apprentices and journey persons continued to grow and this year added up to 9963 hours. Let's keep up the good work and shoot for over ten thousand in 2017. Our skills and certifications are all we have to sell. Keep all your certifications current and look for new ones coming soon. Remember we are negotiating our next contract with our actions on the job.

We at the training site would like to thank everyone for your support and assistance in training the future operating engineers of Local 926. A good work ethic, keeping your certifications up to date and not being "afraid" to get dirty is what our engineers of the previous generation instilled in us, let us all continue to teach those lessons going forward. The future of this local is in our hands. Call today to reserve your seats for 2017 Classes 404-363-2764.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Rich Shakespeare ~ Director of Training
Gary Mashburn ~ Instructor
Linda Bailey

I would like to start with thanking you all for this wonderful opportunity to represent our organization and membership.

Work in our jurisdiction has been remarkable this year. Currently we have the Dalton Expansion Pipeline running from Newnan through Calhoun, GA. a job divided into two sections, with the northern part being awarded to Henkels & McCoy and the southern section awarded to U.S. Pipeline. We anticipate this project to finish up in April 2017.

The Georgia Power Plants are in full swing with annual shutdowns, work force projections were not nearly the amount of what actually was needed; these should be finishing in February 2017.

Approximately 100 operators were dispatched the New Falcon's Stadium in Atlanta and the Brave's Stadium in Cobb County, with both expected to finish in early 2017.

During the past few months, we have signed up new contractors, along with adding several operators to our membership; however, the growing demand for operating engineers has us continually seeking qualified operators in all contract fields.

In looking forward, we are excited to combat the challenges coming in 2017. We are striving to expand our horizon, along with the Atlanta skyline, through building our membership and contractor relations with operators attending certification courses, taking advantage of upgrading skills at the training site and enhancing our knowledge through attendance of Union Meetings and educational courses held at the Union Hall. We encourage all members to participate in meetings and classes to heighten our awareness on contractor expectations, job performance and outlook of our future.

A couple of the upcoming projects are The Atlanta Airport expansion and UPS distribution/fleet warehouse in the Newnan area.

I am looking forward to working for and with our membership for many years to come.
Happy Holidays,
Mark Templeton, Business Agent



Retiree Breakfast
4th Wednesday of each month at
Doug's Place in Emerson,
Georgia

Service Pin Award Night
February 17, 2017 at the Local
926 Union Hall beginning at
7:30 pm

Congratulations to the following members on their retirement. May you be blessed with a long, healthy and prosperous retirement!

<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
10/01/15	James Fitzgerald
11/01/15	John Beach
01/01/16	Jamie Owens
02/01/16	Raymond Puckett
02/01/16	Stephen Cater
02/01/16	Lee Wolfe
08/01/16	Gary Kennedy
09/01/16	Charles Adair
09/01/16	Phil McEntyre
10/01/16	J Homer Bailey

Hoisting & Portable Members' Monthly Membership Union Dues Increase Effective July 1, 2016

<u>Active Members</u>	<u>Retired Members</u>
\$26.00 monthly	\$16.00 monthly
\$78.00 quarterly	\$48.00 quarterly
\$156.00 bi-annually	\$96.00 bi-annual
\$312.00 annually	\$192.00 annually

Monthly Dues include group life insurance policy along with accidental death policy on actively working members.

For eligibility of the Group Life Insurance Policy, and the additional Accidental Death Policy (*actively working members only*)—your Union Dues must be paid current or in advance at the time of death for either of the stated benefits to be paid to your beneficiary. Also, through American Income Life Ins. Company there is an Accidental Death Benefit of \$2,500 for all members who are current on Union Dues.

Basic overview of Central Pension Fund:

Vesting: 5 years of service *with the Central Pension Fund* - If you are considering retirement, please contact us approximately 45 days prior to the effective date of retirement.

Eligibility:

Normal Ret. Age—65; Special Ret. Age—62 with 25 years of service;

Early Ret. Age—55 with 10 years—there is a 3% per year penalty (from age 65)

Basic eligibility for Retiree Health Insurance:

Southern Operators Health Fund – must be retired and receiving pension from CPF; be age 62 with no lapse in coverage for the previous 24 months; enrolled in Medicare A & B immediately upon eligibility.

Our God is so good!!

I want to take this opportunity to give thanks to my God.

For His provisions and protection surrounding us;

For the blessings that He pours upon us;

For providing us each day with a new beginning and a new breath;

For allowing us the vision to see those in need and the heart's desire to lend a helping hand;

I thank Him for His promises, graciousness and mercy and for the abundant riches given to us, in peace, joy and love.

Thank you my Lord for planting my feet upon a path leading me to the doors of IUOE Local 926 almost 23 years ago. We have made great strides in our organization thus far, and I pray for the strength and endurance to continue on the road that leads us to improve the livelihood for not only our families, our brotherhood but also our great Country.

God bless and keep us safe as we celebrate our Savior's birth during the holiday season and each day throughout the New Year.

Christy

**God Bless the U.S.A.
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

**IUOE LOCAL 926 ~ Newsletter
PO BOX 170
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