

INTERNATIONAL



Operating Engineer

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John L. Downey

AS WE FIND ourselves at a pivotal moment in North America, marked by a significant number of mega projects and an ever-increasing demand for energy, it is crucial to acknowledge the challenges and uncertainties that have arisen in recent times. These challenges, influenced by political landscapes, have contributed to declines in certain sectors. However, amidst these obstacles lies a unique opportunity for us to organize and grow.

This transformative period presents us with a chance to harness the momentum we have built over the past year and take decisive action. To fully capitalize on this moment, we must implement effective organizing strategies that not only increase our membership but also expand our market share. To support these efforts, we have established a Stationary Committee, a subcommittee of General Executive Board members, dedicated to developing policies and strategies that will enhance our reach and foster growth. This committee will focus on proactive organizing initiatives, ensuring that we are well-prepared to meet the demands of the stationary industry head-on.

It is essential that we position ourselves for success in the years to come, seizing the opportunities that lie ahead while navigating the complexities of the current environment. Together, we can strengthen our union and ensure a prosperous future for all our members.

One of the pressing issues we face is the rising cost of healthcare and its impact on our Health and Welfare funds. Recent legislation has significantly reshaped the healthcare landscape, creating challenges that directly impact our plans. Key legislative actions aimed at controlling costs have often led to unintended consequences, such as proposed cuts to federal health programs and changes in reimbursement rates for healthcare providers. These developments have increased financial pressures on both public and private health plans, resulting in substantial premium increases.

Projections indicate an average rise of 15% in 2025 according to the Senate Finance Committee, [found HERE](#), threatening not only the immediate financial landscape but also the quality of coverage available to our members. As we navigate this complex environment, it is essential for our members to understand the broader implications of these legislative actions, as they could affect our ability to negotiate fair wages and comprehensive benefits at the bargaining table.

The political climate has also influenced the availability and affordability of healthcare services, with decisions regarding prescription drug pricing, Medicaid expansion, and the regulation of healthcare providers creating a ripple effect throughout the system. If lawmakers fail to address the rising costs of prescription medications, health plans may see increased utilization and expenses, further driving up premiums. As public unions

experience these financial strains, private sector unions may also feel the impact, as we may have to allocate more into our health and welfare funds instead of wages. It is crucial for our union to remain engaged in advocacy efforts that promote sustainable healthcare solutions. Understanding these dynamics is vital as we work together to secure the benefits our members deserve and strive for a healthier future for our union.

The fight over the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is at the heart of the current government shutdown. When you cut through the political rhetoric, the line is drawn between Republicans and Democrats over funding. Republicans are looking to either delay or scale back funding for part of the law and Democrats argue that those measures will strip millions of Americans of their health care coverage. The main points include whether to continue full funding for the ACA, a roll back of Medicaid expansion and lift some coverage mandates that businesses and individuals must meet. With both sides unwilling to compromise, a lengthy shutdown is possible, leaving the broader budget process in limbo.

Looking ahead, we are also focused on the upcoming Highway Reauthorization for 2026, a critical piece of legislation that will significantly shape the future of road work. Supporting this reauthorization is vital because it directly impacts job creation, funding for essential projects, and the overall health of road construction. This legislation not only allocates necessary resources for maintaining and upgrading our nation's roads, bridges, and transit systems but also ensures that our members have access to stable employment opportunities in the face of evolving infrastructure demands.

By advocating for policies that prioritize investment in infrastructure, we can help secure the funding needed

for projects that employ our members and enhance the safety and efficiency of our transportation networks. It is essential that we remain engaged and informed throughout the legislative process, as our collective voice can influence decision-makers and ensure that the needs of our members are met, ultimately strengthening our union and the communities we serve.

This year marks the biggest year in our local union election cycles. It has been my privilege to install officers in various local unions, and I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each of them. However, I want to remind our membership that elections of officers are not about titles; it is about service to the membership. These leaders are here to serve you, and it is crucial that we remember those who paved the way for us. As we prepare for the challenges ahead, let us honor their legacy by committing ourselves to the values of service and dedication.

In these times of change and challenge, the importance of unity cannot be overstated. We must remain focused on coming together as a collective force, supporting one another and working towards our common goals. Our strength lies in our solidarity, and it is through unity that we will overcome the obstacles we face. Let us remember that we are stronger together, and our unity will drive our success. Thank you for your continued dedication and service to our union. Let us seize this moment and work together to achieve our goals.

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[cover] Gross Reservoir, located in Boulder County, Colorado, is undergoing a 5-year expansion project managed by Kiewit and manned by over 200 Local 9 Operators during the peak of the job. Completed in 1954, the existing dam is 340 feet high, and it will be raised another 131 feet, tripling the reservoir storage capacity. When completed, over 1,470,000 cubic yards of concrete will have been poured into the project.

[photo] IUOE Local 9

Annual Tradeswomen Conference Draws 6,000 to Chicago

Celebrates Women’s Leadership in the Skilled Trades

THE 15TH ANNUAL Tradeswomen Build Nations (TWBN) conference was held in September drawing 6,000 tradeswomen, labor leaders, government officials, and industry stakeholders to McCormick Place in Chicago. Over 200 IUOE members from across North America attended the conference which showcased the growing influence of women in the skilled trades and provided a platform for leadership development, mentorship, and solidarity.

This year’s theme, “She’s Not Waiting. She’s Leading,” resonated throughout the three-day event, highlighting the proactive role tradeswomen are taking in shaping the

future of the construction industry. In addition to packed conference plenary sessions, meaningful skill-building workshops, and an awe-inspiring and energetic banner parade, the conference included networking opportunities for tradeswomen to deepen their connection with peers from across North America.

“Thank you for your dedication, your passion, and your commitment to our union. I am inspired by your strength and resilience. The future is bright, and I am honored to be a part of it with all of you,” General President Downey said in brief remarks delivered at the Operating Engineers reception



hosted by the International.

TradesFutures Executive Director Marina Zhavoronkova emphasized the importance of empowering the next generation of tradeswomen. “We see firsthand the transformative impact women are having on the skilled trades. This conference is a crucial opportunity to accelerate our efforts, strengthen our training pipeline, and ensure that women are not only participating but leading the way. They are literally building our legacy for generations to come.”

The conference also emphasized the importance of the Infrastructure Generation, the historic increase in the labor force fueled by unprecedented federal investment. Speakers highlighted the need for inclusive workforce development, equity, and continued advocacy to protect the rights and opportunities of working people.

This year, TWBN 2025 supported Connections for Abused Women and their Children (CAWC), a Chicago-based organization committed to ending domestic violence. Throughout the conference, tradeswomen fulfilled CAWC’s Wishlist, donated physical items, and contributed over \$100,000 in financial donations to support their work.

Next year’s conference will be held October 9-11, 2026, in Houston, Texas.



Paid Maternity Leave Benefit

Building a stronger future for you, your family, and our union

The IUOE Paid Maternity Leave benefit provides eligible members with up to \$800 per week, for up to 12 weeks.

Starting April 1, 2025, eligible IUOE members in both the United States and Canada can access up to twelve (12) weeks of paid maternity leave to bond with their new child. In coordination with Parento, eligible members will also have access to a suite of parent-friendly programming, articles, and resources.

Visit the [IUOE Paid Maternity Leave page](#) to learn more about this exciting new member-only benefit.



CHICAGO 2025

TRADES WOMEN BUILD NATIONS

Conference Photo Album!

Hoisting & Portable Training Conference

Where the Experts Meet and Share Knowledge

THE 2025 HOISTING & PORTABLE Training Conference, held at the ITEC in August, welcomed over 100 attendees that included IUOE Training Administrators, Directors, Instructors and Industry Experts. The annual event brings IUOE Training Directors from across North America to hear from Industry Experts who bring valuable information that helps enhance Local union training programs through the latest technology available. Equally valuable are the networking opportunities for new Training Administrators and Directors. This event is designed to share ideas, hear about industry best practices, and speak to other IUOE Local Union training staff from around the International.

IUOE Chief of Staff Derek Donley opened the conference and welcomed the group. He shared the vision of General President Downey and discussed the importance of these events to stay ahead of the ever-changing technology in our industry and to keep the IUOE training network strong.

IUOE National Training Fund Executive Director Chris Trembl, and the IUOE Construction Training



Department team of Tom McNamara and John Callahan, introduced presenters during the week, highlighting each guest and their importance to the IUOE organization.

Throughout the week, the group heard from ITEC's three GPS technology Industry Partners - Trimble, Topcon,

and Leica - about providing updates on technology and discount programs available to Locals, as well as other tech platforms like Appion Solutions and Diesel Laptops. There were valuable in-depth reports from other IUOE training departments such as Pipeline, OECF, and Job Corps.

Each day there were presentations from heavy equipment industry partners such as John Deere, Maeda Mini Cranes, and Brodersen Crane. As always, a strong partner to the IUOE, Helmets to Hardhats, participated with a presentation and welcome booth. ERISA professionals were also in attendance to provide valuable information when it comes to managing a Local training fund. Industry partners Dewalt Tools and Milwaukee Tools also gave presentations regarding the latest updates to their equipment lines.



ITEC Adds Equipment & Training That Drives Solar Industry Growth

IN ORDER TO keep IUOE members trained and employed in the rapidly growing renewable energy field, the Construction Training Department now offers training on one of the primary pieces of equipment used widely on solar farm projects.

The training class, Introduction to Vermeer PD10 Pile Driver Operations, is conducted at the International Training & Education Center (ITEC) and introduces students to the operating procedures of the specialized Vermeer equipment designed for solar field installations. This 3-day course takes place in the classroom and outside with hands-on operations, including setup, breakdown, control functions, GPS integration, and pile driving.

IUOE members are encouraged to sign up for this course so they can be ready to hit the ground running if they are dispatched to one of these projects. The Construction Training Department remains dedicated to ensuring our membership is highly trained in all areas of our industry.



Construction Training
@ITEC



Full Class Schedule
and Registration

Smart Buildings, Even Smarter Engineers

ITEC Enhances the Advanced BAS Controls Course

AS SMART BUILDINGS become the industry standard, the demand for highly skilled building engineers who understand advanced control systems continues to grow.

The enhancement of the Advanced Building Automation Systems (BAS) course addresses this demand by providing line logic programing, hands-on, practical training using the Computrols intuitive, robust automation platform. BAS courses at the International Training & Education Center (ITEC) currently consist of Niagara based wire sheet programming and graphic block programming. This new platform, and the additional curriculum, will help increase the skill level of IUOE members, giving them the ability to program with industry standard line logic programming, while using additional communication protocols such as BACnet.

This comprehensive course introduces students to the highly advanced concepts of Building Automation Systems, which are essential for modern, energy-efficient, high-performance buildings. The course covers core topics such as system architecture, sensors and actuators, HVAC control, lighting automation, safety and security integration, communication protocols (e.g., BACnet/IP, MSTP, Modbus), and the role of the Internet of Things (IoT) in smart buildings.

Modular training sessions are completed during ITEC intense lab sessions. Members work directly with Computrols


hardware and software, gaining real-world experience configuring and programming controllers, creating schedules, responding to alarms, and optimizing building performance. The course is designed to take the mystery out of BAS and empower building engineers to be confident and capable operators of their facility systems.

Computrols is unique in the BAS market for its high-quality robust controllers and providing an open protocol system that allows for integration with legacy and third-party systems. Its CBAS software is known for its user-friendly interface and powerful capabilities, making it a favorite among building owners and managers in commercial real estate, healthcare, higher education, and government sectors.

Key Learning Outcomes Include, but Not Limited to:

- Understand advanced components and functions of BAS.
- Design and configure automated control systems for HVAC, lighting, and security.
- Work with communication protocols used in BAS networks.
- Apply energy efficiency and sustainability principles using automation.
- Troubleshoot and maintain BAS equipment and software.
- Explore the role of BAS in smart buildings and IoT integration.

Stationary Engineer Training
@ITEC



Full Class Schedule
and Registration

2 RS-485 Communication Ports

Open Protocols:

- BACnet MS/TP
- Modbus RTU

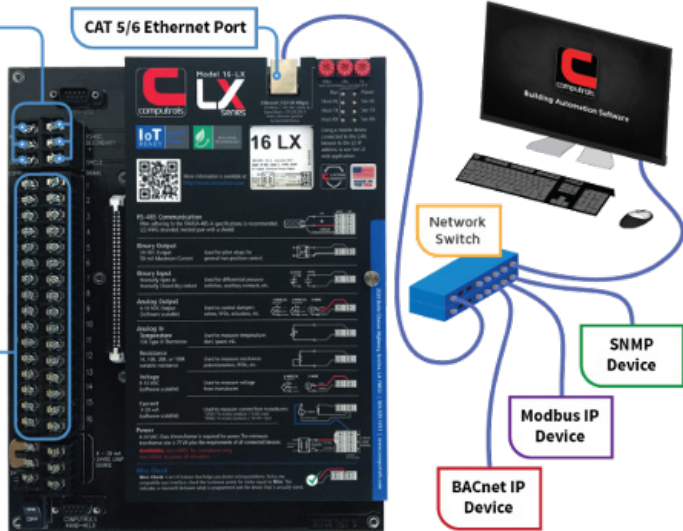
Proprietary Protocols:

- Siemens FLN/BLN
- Johnson Controls N2
- CSI/NET
- Opto 22
- Trane Comm 4
- And more...

4-in-1 Points

All points can be configured through software to be Analog In, Analog Out, Binary In, or Binary Out – no jumpers required.

CAT 5/6 Ethernet Port



Network Switch

SNMP Device

Modbus IP Device

BACnet IP Device

IUOE Job Corps: Mulberry Project



erosion and minimized sediment buildup, helping protect the reservoir’s water quality. They also cleared trees and brush from the overflow pond dam and rebuilt the structure, ensuring that excess rainfall can be safely managed. This improvement provides the City of Mulberry with a critical safeguard against downstream flooding and property damage. The remaining second and third phases will focus on constructing a new access road to the city’s water treatment plant and will involve removing brush and trees from the main spillway of the reservoir.

The Mulberry projects completed by the IUOE NTF Job Corps trainees highlight the dual mission of our pre-apprenticeship programs: preparing trainees for careers in heavy equipment, while delivering meaningful, cost-saving solutions to local communities.

[article & photos] IUOE NTF Job Corps Staff

FOR THE PEOPLE of Mulberry, Arkansas, the TJ House Reservoir is more than just a body of water, it is the city’s lifeline. Spanning 138 acres, the reservoir provides the community’s primary source of drinking water, with the water treatment facility located nearby. Ensuring its reliability is critical. The IUOE NTF Job Corps Heavy Equipment Operator Programs at Cass Job Corps, in partnership with the town of Mulberry, are working at the reservoir to maintain and improve the integrity of the reservoir, its surrounding infrastructure, and access roads.

Under the guidance of IUOE NTF instructors, Job Corps trainees are carrying out a three-phase project to strengthen the reservoir’s infrastructure while gaining valuable hands-on experience in heavy equipment operations. It is important to note that Local Union members are not displaced during these community service projects, and trainees are being compensated through the opportunity to gain hands-on, real-world experience.



Year-round Training Comes to Life at OE3 Training Center in Northern California

Covered dig, new facilities, to be completed soon

AT THE END of 2013, the Operating Engineers Local 3 Journeyman and Apprentice Training Center (OE3 JATC) acquired what was called the Pilliken Training Property. This 1,500-acre property is located in Sacramento County, CA, and since breaking ground more than 10 years ago, the goal has always been to build a covered dig, so that equipment can be housed and used year-round. The structure became fully operational this year.

“We’ve been talking about this for so many years,” said Local 3 Business Manager Dan Reding. “It’s great to be here and to get to see it actually happening!”

[below, L-R] OE3 JATC Director of Apprenticeship Greg Gasaway and Local 3 Business Manager Dan Reding watch the covered dig being built at the Local 3 Training Center in Northern California.

[right] This past summer, Local 3 members helped build the new covered dig for the training center.

[article & photos] IUOE Local 3





“This is operators building the future for operators.”

— Local 3 President Justin Diston



apprentices have also been part of the experience, including third-step Crane Apprentice Tim Wales, who is working for Malcolm as the oiler on the covered dig project.



“We’re building this pole barn, so dirt hands can come out here and be able to work in the wintertime or when it’s raining,” he said. “It’s been quite the process getting to this. When I got into the union about two years ago, this was only a thought, and now we’re finally seeing it come to fruition, and I’m lucky enough to have my company building this and being a part of it. I’m very fortunate for it.”

Local 3 President Justin Diston, who also witnessed the covered dig being built, had this to say about it: “This will help our apprentices train during the rain and throughout the winter months in the future. This is something that will be



absolutely beneficial to individuals, as they will not have to take time off during the summer and can train year-round. This is operators building the future for operators. I can’t wait to have our first class out here underneath this new structure.”

What’s even more exciting is that this covered dig is just one of many new developments happening at the OE3 JATC right now. Eventually, the entire training center, including the dining hall, registration and classrooms, will be located at the same property as the covered dig, so apprentices can eat breakfast and literally walk to their training site right after. The only portion of the old training facility that will remain off of Meiss Road will be the dorms, and those are scheduled for upgrades, as well.



[above] An aerial view of the covered dig and work on the new facilities, along with ongoing training.

[left] Local 3 operators and apprentices work on water lines for the new facility.

[center, L-R] Local 3 crane operator apprentices Tim Wales and John Menenez.

[right] The new covered dig at the OE3 JATC stands at an impressive 180-feet-wide by 400-feet-long.

[article & photos] IUOE Local 3

Trump's War Against Wind and Solar Infrastructure Work for Operating Engineers Hangs in the Balance

SINCE HE WAS sworn into office for a second term, President Trump has been determined to tear down America's wind and solar industries. Over the past eight months, his Administration has taken several executive actions to undermine wind and solar projects that are employing thousands of union construction workers, including Operating Engineers, from coast-to-coast.

On President Trump's very first day in office, he issued a Presidential Action barring new leases on offshore wind projects and a review of all current projects. [\[White House\]](#) This action was contradictory to an Executive Order [\[Unleashing American Energy\]](#), issued the same day, which called for reducing bureaucratic barriers to unleash new energy production.

In April, Secretary of the Interior Doug Burgum issued a stop-work order for the Empire Wind project in New York. The developer, Equinor, had already invested over \$2.5 billion into the fully permitted project. [\[API\]](#) The Administration eventually lifted the stop-work order a month later, putting more than 1,500 workers back to work, including many Operating Engineers. [\[American Clean Power\]](#)

On the Fourth of July, President Trump signed H.R. 1 – One Big Beautiful Bill – into law. The bill rolled back clean energy tax credits contained in the Inflation Reduction Act for wind and solar and other clean energy production, which will result in thousands of lost jobs and higher electricity rates. Fortunately, the Illuminate USA's solar panel manufacturing facility in Ohio survived the attacks and is still going strong with Local 18 stationary engineers operating



South Fork Wind Project; off Long Island, New York

and maintaining the facility.

"America is in the midst of an energy manufacturing boom, with new solar and storage factories opening across the country thanks to the forward-looking policy this law will upend. Now many of these brand-new factories will be forced to shut down and lay off thousands of workers, gutting communities that were finally seeing the kind of industrial revival rural America needs and handing an untimely and strategic victory to China." [\[Solar Energy Industries Association Statement\]](#)

July saw yet another round of attacks on clean energy when the Administration announced new, lengthy review procedures targeting wind and solar development. [\[Department of the Interior\]](#) Through

this new review process, Secretary Burgum ordered that all solar and wind projects on federal lands and waters will require his personal approval. Under this new order, Burgum is authorized to conduct "elevated review" of activities ranging from leases to rights of way, construction and operational plans, grants, and biological opinions. [\[American Clean Power Association; Associated Press\]](#)

"At a time when energy demand is skyrocketing, adding more layers of bureaucracy and red tape for energy projects at the Interior Department is exactly the wrong approach. There's no question this directive is going to make it harder to maintain our global AI leadership and achieve energy independence here at home. It is deeply unfortunate that this administration's energy policy continues to favor

specific technologies rather than advance true American energy dominance." [\[Solar Energy Industries Association Statement\]](#)

Another stop-work order was issued by the Administration in August, this time targeting the Revolution Wind project off the coast of Rhode Island. At the time, the project was 80% complete and had over 1,000 Operating Engineers, and other skilled trades, working to finish the project. They became unemployed overnight.

Adding insult to injury, the Administration followed up by withdrawing or terminating a total of \$679 million in funding for 12 other offshore wind projects across the country. [\[DOT\]; \[IUOE Statement\]](#)

These actions directly affect Operating Engineers working on projects such as the Humboldt Bay Offshore Wind project in California. The project took five years of planning and lobbying and would have meant construction and maintenance work for twenty years. Instead, 200-300 Operating Engineers could be laid off. The cancelling of federal funds could also derail the Redwood Marine Terminal Project (California) where 100-200 Operating Engineers could



IUOE Local 18 members operate and maintain the Illuminate USA solar panel manufacturing facility in Etna, Ohio.

be affected; and projects in Maryland and New England with hundreds more Operating Engineers and several IUOE Local unions missing out on work.

The states of Rhode Island and Connecticut have taken the Trump administration to court over the Revolution Wind work stoppage, and in September, after the project was idle for a month, they were granted a preliminary injunction, allowing work to restart while the government conducts its review. [\[Politico\]](#)

However, this action sounds an alarm to investors and companies

that they too could spend billions of dollars on a project and years acquiring permits and at any time the Administration could indefinitely suspend the project or revoke the permits. This is a significant issue for all types of infrastructure projects, not just offshore wind. [\[WBUR\]](#)

"Federal policy obstacles and restrictive mandates are threatening hundreds of billions in planned energy investment. The uncertainty created by new bureaucratic delays and unclear demands is having a chilling effect on the pipeline for future energy projects, stalling growth precisely when our nation needs more energy to power a growing economy," said American Clean Power Association CEO Jason Grumet. [\[ACPI\]](#)

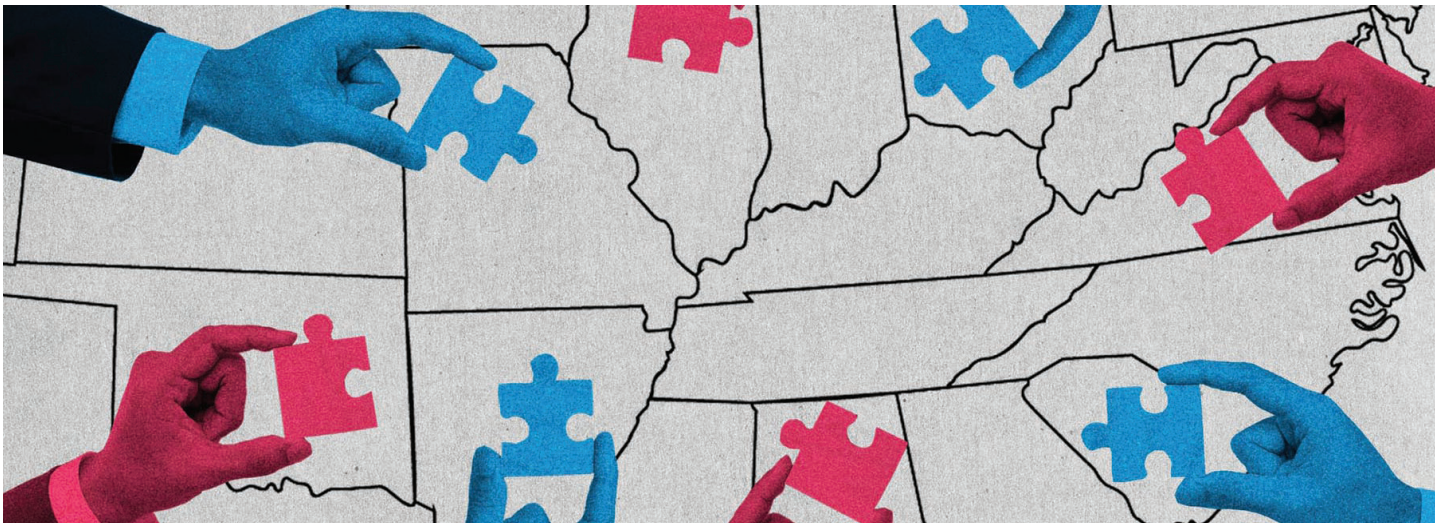
The International Union of Operating Engineers has always promoted an "all of the above" strategy when it comes to energy production. At a time when America's energy demand is skyrocketing, we should be building all kinds of energy projects such as oil, gas, coal, nuclear, wind, and solar. The Administration should not be picking "winners and losers," we need an "all of the above" energy strategy if the U.S. is going to meet this moment and not cede our leadership in clean energy to China.



Pier Wind Project (concept); Port of Longbeach, California

Partisan Redistricting Battles are Spreading

Redrawing of U.S. House Maps Creates Chaos for Mid-term Elections



THE AMERICAN POLITICAL system is in the middle of an unprecedented arms race. Every ten years, the census provides a snapshot of our population and triggers the redrawing of legislative maps. Done fairly, redistricting ensures representation reflects where people live. But because people—not just numbers—are involved, the process has always included political maneuvering. Gerrymandering, the practice of drawing districts to favor one party, is nothing new.

What is new is the push for mid-decade redistricting—18 months before a national election. This is not a routine adjustment, it is a blatant attempt to consolidate power. Allowing politicians to choose their voters, instead of voters choosing their representatives, undermines democracy itself.

While this may sound like insider politics, for working people, the stakes are enormously high. When maps are tilted towards incumbents or radically partisan candidates, those of us with everyday concerns—job security, fair wages, safe worksites—are left out. Gerrymandered districts reduce accountability, stifle competition, and skew policy toward extreme partisan interests rather than the needs of working families.

And it’s not just about who wins an election, it’s about whether working people can even prepare for one. Unclear or constantly shifting district lines make it nearly impossible for unions and community groups to plan effective political involvement. Which candidates should be supported? Which communities should be organized? Where should limited

resources be focused? When maps are redrawn mid-cycle, those answers are up in the air, and the confusion leaves working people at a disadvantage while political insiders get ahead.

So far, lawmakers in three states have approved new congressional districts since President Donald Trump began [pushing for mid-decade redistricting](#).

- **In Missouri**, the legislature was called into a special session and rushed through a new congressional map after pressure from the White House. The change could flip a fair 4–4 split into a lopsided 7–1 advantage. For unions, that means organizing strategies must



be rebuilt from the ground up, and worker-friendly candidates could lose their footing before campaigns even get started. Radicals in Missouri are also working to minimize the process of a citizen veto through ballot initiatives. There will be initiatives under the current rules to overturn the newly drawn districts AND maintain the right of the voters to have their voice heard in the ballot initiative process.

- **In Texas**, new U.S. House maps were drawn during a specially called session in order to weaken current Democratic seats and to dilute minority voting power. Lawsuits are still pending, which means voters don’t yet know which districts they will be living in when election season begins next year.
- **In California**, voters will decide Proposition 50 this fall, which asks them to weigh in on redrawing maps mid-cycle. The ballot fight itself creates confusion—workers and unions must spend resources educating members on what the measure means, before they can start organizing around candidates or policy priorities.

Several other states are considering options to either

consolidate power – or to counter the potential impact of an election tilted to favor one party over another. In some cases, sensible elected officials see the downside of this kind of gamesmanship and are resisting the calls to change the playing field. Other states are bound by non-partisan redistricting commissions that prevent the brash partisanship of this effort, but some are examining legal options to work around those commissions.

These battles may seem like “inside baseball,” but they directly affect union members and communities. Redistricting determines who gets elected, which priorities get funded, how resources are distributed, and whether elected officials feel pressure to listen to workers. Mid-cycle redrawing bypasses the checks built into the census process and locks in partisan advantages for years to come.

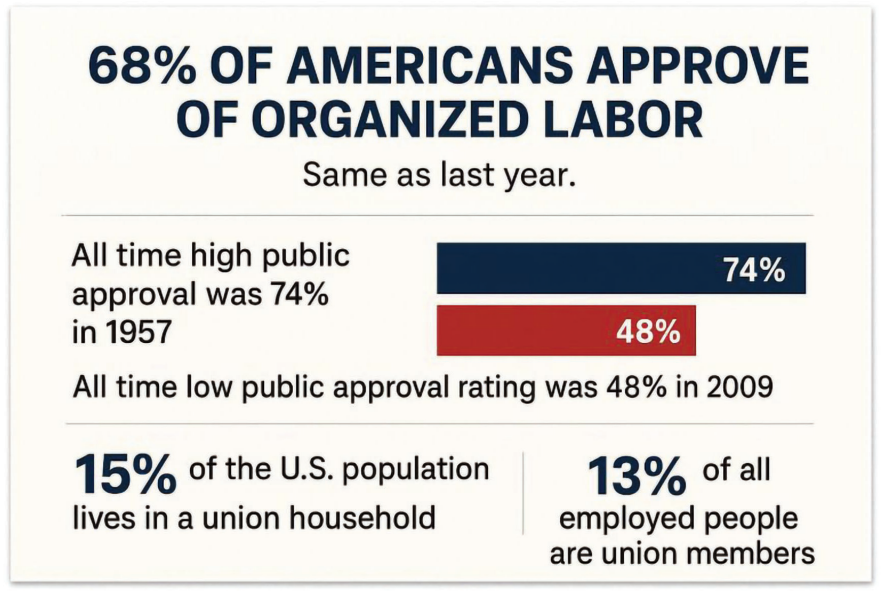
That’s why transparency and fairness matter. As state legislatures and courts take up these fights, the voices of working men and women must be heard. Electoral maps should reflect real communities—not just political advantage. If working people cannot clearly see the path forward, they cannot effectively engage in the political process—and that weakens the very democracy we all depend on.

Gallup Poll: Union Approval Rating at an All-Time High

FOR THE FIFTH consecutive year, at least 67% of U.S. adults approve of organized labor, a level last reached in the late 1950s and early 1960s, according to a new [Gallup poll](#).

The August 2025 annual survey found, “Public approval of organized labor is holding strong, with nearly seven in ten

Americans expressing approval, thus continuing a streak since 2021 of historically high support. Yet, the partisan divide remains sharp, with Democrats and independents overwhelmingly supportive, while less than half of Republicans approve.”



Prime Minister Carney Announces First Five “Nation Building Projects”

SPEAKING IN EDMONTON on September 11, 2025, Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney announced the first five “Nation Building Projects” his government would work to get built quickly. The projects include:

- **Phase two of LNG Canada** in Kitimat, B.C., doubling its production of liquified natural gas.
- **The Darlington New Nuclear Project** in Bowmanville, Ont. This project will make Canada the first G7 country to have an operational small modular reactor (SMR).
- **Contrecoeur Terminal Container Project** in Contrecoeur, QC. This project will expand the Port of Montreal’s container capacity by approximately 60 percent.
- **McIlvenna Bay Foran Copper Mine Project** in East-Central, SK supplying copper and zinc to strengthen Canada’s position as a global supplier of critical minerals for clean energy, advanced manufacturing, and modern infrastructure.
- **Red Chris Mine expansion** in Northwest, BC increasing Canada’s annual copper production by over 15 percent.

Combined these projects will generate more than \$60 billion for the Canadian economy and create tens of thousands of high paying jobs. These projects are being referred to the newly formed Major Projects Office to make sure that projects in the national interest advance quickly. The Prime Minister directed the Major Projects Office to transform regulatory processes to provide the certainty that all major projects are reviewed within two years, from start to finish.

“We used to build big things in this country, and we used to build them quickly. It’s time to get back at it and get on with it,” Prime Minister Carney stated at the event.

“We’ll advance projects that turbocharge and connect our regional economies as well as our economy to the world. Projects that diversify our products and markets. Projects that create hundreds of thousands of high-paying careers, good union careers for our workers,” the Prime Minister explained.

Following the announcement, IUOE Canadian Regional



[above, L-R] Minister of Jobs and Families Patti Hajdu; Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney; IUOE Canadian Regional Director Patrick Campbell at the event in Edmonton, AB.

Director Patrick Campbell and other Building Trades representatives met with Prime Minister Carney, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Tim Hodgson, Minister of Jobs and Families Patti Hajdu, Secretary of State (Labour) John Zerucelli, and Dawn Farrell CEO Major Projects Office (MPO).

The use of Project Labour Agreements, enforcement of prevailing wages and apprenticeship ratios on the projects were the main messages communicated to government. Director Campbell impressed upon the Prime Minister and the Ministers the importance of having a strong Labour voice within the newly formed Major Projects Office, as these projects are prepared for “shovels in the ground.” This is critical to ensure that working Canadians will see the greatest possible benefit from these mega projects.

The Canadian Federal Government is set to announce the next set of major projects as early as November of this year.

65th IUOE Canadian Conference Held in St. John’s, Newfoundland & Labrador

OVER 110 DELEGATES representing IUOE Local Unions from across Canada convened in St. John’s, Newfoundland & Labrador in September for the 65th IUOE Canadian Conference. Host Local 904 Business Manager Terrence Hickey and his team, along with Canadian Conference President Marc Lafond and Canadian Conference Secretary Treasurer Greg Hoath worked tirelessly in the lead up to ensure the conference agenda was a great success for all delegates.

The excellent line up of keynote speakers throughout the conference brought a broad spectrum of expertise from politics, industry, stakeholder relations to trade unionism and leadership expertise to the delegates.

Speakers included:

- **John Zerucelli** – Secretary of State (Labour) Government of Canada



- **Lloyd Parrott** – Member of the House of Assembly District of Terra Nova
- **Honorable David Piccini** – Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration Training and Skills Development
- **Jennifer Williams** – President and CEO of Newfoundland & Labrador Hydro
- **Robert Fiander** – Trades NL Executive Director
- **Jennifer McCormick** – President Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Labour
- **Brad Gushue** – Curling Olympic Gold Medalist presenting on leadership

The delegates also benefited from coming together in the H&P and Stationary Caucuses allowing IUOE Local Unions from across Canada to report out on the various successes and challenges in their respective jurisdictions. The sharing of ideas and insights between Locals and the leveraging of relationships throughout the industry in the areas of labour relations and training opportunities benefit the membership of the IUOE Canadian Region as a whole.

The conference also had a record number of applicants for the Canadian Conference Bursary in 2025, with over forty (40) applications from across Canada. These ten (10) educational bursaries of one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars are intended to provide financial assistance to IUOE members’ dependents.

The Bursary Committee reviewed all applications and congratulated the following winners: Allie Donnelly Local 959, Julian Xitong Que Local 882, Sharla Berry Local 955, Shyla Malkea Local 955, Keira Middleton Local 987, Evgendi Slesarchuk Local 987, Archi Doshi Local 772, Makennin Roach Local 793, Elizabeth Fitzgerald Local 727 and Morgan Beaudreau Local 727.

[left] Honorable David Piccini – Ontario Minister of Labour, Immigration Training and Skills Development

Retiree Jerry Shull Gives Back to Skagit Habitat for Humanity

LOCAL 302 OPERATORS have the best skills in the industry.

As any operator knows these skills lead to meaningful careers, and they're immensely helpful in our personal lives. Not only to fix homes and properties, but those of our neighbors.

After 52-year Local 302 member Jerry Shull retired in 2007, time opened up, and he decided to use his skills to give back to the local community.

For the next 10 years Jerry helped build 15 homes for the Skagit Habitat for Humanity in the greater Mt. Vernon, WA area.

The Habitat Homebuyer Program provides a unique opportunity for hard-working, low-income individuals

and families to help build and buy their own home.

"Building housing to help people was one of the greatest enjoyments of my life," said Jerry Shull.

Jerry has the full range of skills to build a home from the ground up. Although he mostly used his operating engineer experience to dig housing foundations with an excavator, grade dirt, and more.

Jerry has since moved to the Yakima, WA area to be closer to his daughter and grandchildren where he enjoys fixing up his family's properties.

[article] IUOE Local 302

[photos] Courtesy of Skagit Habitat for Humanity



[above, L-R] Local 302 retiree Jerry Shull with fellow Skagit Habitat for Humanity volunteer Dave Groves on a job site.



Local 302 retiree Jerry Shull digs the foundation in an excavator for a Skagit Habitat for Humanity house in Mt. Vernon, WA.

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As Wildfire Hits Neighborhood, a Union Crew Rushes In



STRONG WINDS HAD been blowing for hours when foreman Ray Akers got an urgent call from his boss, superintendent Jack Harris of Hodge Western Corporation on the afternoon of July 18. Harris had just heard from an employee at the Port of Morrow that a brush fire was spreading fast, threatening an entire neighborhood in Boardman, Oregon. The town needed help right away. Could Hodge Western bring water trucks to help prevent the fire from spreading?

Akers says Harris and company owner Alex Hodge didn't hesitate for an instant. They directed that all company resources be made available.

Akers and the crew of union operating engineers he supervises had been heading home from the Tower Solar project being constructed on Port property. They'd stopped work early because the winds were creating too much dust. Akers, 52, is a 30-year member of Operating Engineers Local 701. He made some calls and he and his crew headed back to pick up five water trucks and a road grader.

The water trucks are used to keep down construction dust and help with soil compaction. They carry 4,000 gallons and are equipped with sprayers on the front, back, and sometimes on the side. When Akers reached the area of the fire, he saw nearby residents up on their roofs with garden hoses. Operators used their sprayers to wet the yards and roofs of homes near the fire that might be at risk.

The fire was fierce. In several hours it destroyed five homes, multiple automobiles, and a former church that was serving as Boardman's food pantry. No humans perished, but five pets were lost, and several first responders were treated later for smoke inhalation.

Akers said at one point one of the water trucks got stuck in the sand of a burned-up field and Hodge Western workers pulled it free using the road grader they'd brought.

"I told the crew when they left, 'Do not get in harm's way. Assist. Assist.' And they did just that. I'm proud of the whole group."

Besides Akers, those jumping in to help the Boardman Fire District that day were Local 701 members Mike Pearson, Tim Hanset, and Kanei Alisna-Kolo. Alisna-Kolo was in his first day on the job as a union apprentice but he'd been trained on the truck that morning by Pearson. Akers wasn't able to reach enough operating engineers to operate the trucks, so he also tapped a member of Laborers Local 737, fourth-term apprentice Israel Fernandez.

As the fire died out, Akers said residents came up to offer thanks, saying more houses might have been lost if it wasn't for the water trucks.

He credits Hodge Western for acting quickly.

"It is truly an honor to work for a company that doesn't just do business in a community, but stands ready to support it in times of need," Akers wrote in a heartfelt post on Facebook. "In a world where insurance policies and liabilities often dictate decisions, I'm proud and deeply grateful that Hodge Western chose to act on principles and compassion."



[above] Local 701 members Raymond Akers, Mike Pearson, Israel Fernandez, and Kanei Alisna-Kolo.



[article] by Don McIntosh, Northwest Labor Press

[top, left drone photo] Steve Hiigel/Facebook



This year, Local 39 was proud to award two \$60,000 scholarship grand prizes. Business Manager Tim Eggen is seen here presenting Mikaela Rodriguez Castro with one of the two \$60,000 college scholarships. Mikaela will be attending UC Berkeley.

Local 39 also awarded eight \$5,000 scholarships. Since the inception of this Educational Scholarship Fund, Local 39 has awarded a total of \$2,383,146.

Local 39 Scholarship Fund

Local 39 held its 20th annual Educational Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament at Cache Creek's Yocha Dehe Golf Course. Local 39 Stationary Engineers proudly operate the facilities at Cache Creek Casino & Resort. This year's tournament raised \$440,668!



Local 474 Celebrates Members

Local 474 celebrated with its members in a pinning ceremony at the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force in July. There were numerous members and spouses in attendance ranging from 10 years to 60 years of membership.

Local 474 Business Manager Allen Braswell was on hand to award the members with their respective service pins. He noted that, "it was a special event that our members truly deserved."



60 years



50 years



55 years

Call of Meeting

General President John L. Downey called the meeting of the General Executive Board to order at 7:30 a.m. EST on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at the International Union of Operating Engineers’ headquarters building located in Washington, D.C. General Secretary-Treasurer Sweeney then read the call of the meeting, whereupon the roll call was taken which disclosed all members of the General Executive Board were present, with General Vice President Gallagher joining via teleconference. Also present were Chief of Staff Derek Donley, General Counsel Matthew G. McGuire, Chief Financial Officer Michael J. Antrobus, Associate General Counsel Andrew Bucci, and Regional Directors John Stevens, Martin “Red” Patterson, Ryan Dowd and Patrick Campbell. Regional Director Josh Chambers was excused from the meeting with General President Downey’s prior approval.

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

The minutes of the General Executive Board meeting and Executive Session conducted January 20, 2025 were approved and made a part of the official records of the Board. Copies of these minutes had been distributed previously to all Board members.

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

Payment of expenses incurred and actions taken by the International Union since the last Board meeting were thoroughly discussed. It was regularly moved and seconded that all such expenses and actions be approved. The motion was put to a vote and unanimously carried.

Case No. 3
Adoption of Agenda

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

Case No. 4
International Trustees’
Report

The International Board of Trustees appeared before the Board with Michael Bertolone via phone and gave a detailed report regarding the Trustees’ findings concerning the financial activity of the International Union. The Board of Trustees conferred with General President John L. Downey, General Secretary-Treasurer James M. Sweeney, CFO Michael J. Antrobus, James C. Kokolas from Calibre CPA Group, PLLC and Tripp Shreves of Wells Fargo Investment Advisors and reviewed with them the financial activity of

the International Union as of December 31, 2024.

The Board of Trustees commended General President Downey and General Secretary-Treasurer Sweeney for the efficient direction of the affairs of the International Union as well as the office staff for preparing the financial data review.

Executive Session

Following the International Trustees’ report, General President Downey then called the meeting into Executive Session. Upon completion of the Executive Session agenda items, the Executive Session was adjourned and General President Downey reconvened the regular Board meeting.

Case No. 5
Financial Report

Chief Financial Officer Michael Antrobus, CPA, reviewed the International Union’s internal financial results at the Open Session for the period ended January 31, 2024, highlighting the results as of that date and explaining variances from expected results. Mr. Antrobus presented an overview of membership changes and noted a large increase for the last 12 months of 6,721 members. Mr. Antrobus presented the key financial results, including cash and investment balances. He reported that expenses for the Political Funds had increased due to the 2024 election cycle gearing up. He

noted that investments have shown a sizeable increase for the year. CFO Antrobus then discussed the year-to-date results from operations. He noted that PCT revenue was up slightly YTD by .02 percent. He concluded his presentation with an overview of the financing activity of the International Training and Conference Center, reporting loan renewals had been approved on six (6) of the six (6) expiring Local loans for the year.

Case No. 6
Auditor’s Financial Review

James C. Kokolas, Partner with Calibre CPA Group presented the audited financial statements for the twelve months ended December 31, 2024. Mr. Kokolas reported on the total assets and liabilities. Mr. Kokolas also reported on the categories of assets and liabilities and the allocation of the investments.

Case No. 7
Treasury Fund Report

Mr. Tripp Shreves, of the Institutional Consulting Group at The Monument Group at Wells Fargo Advisors, presented on the comprehensive review of the treasury funds of the International Union of Operating Engineers which included the General and Defense Funds. Mr. Shreves reviewed the Treasury fund’s approved asset allocation, its investment performance, and expectations for future opportunities and risk over the next twelve to eighteen

months in Capital Markets. Mr. Shreves reported that the Treasury funds continue to be conservatively invested to support the long-term mission of the IUOE and its membership.

Case No. 8
Legislative and Political
Department Report

Legislative and Political Director Jeffrey Soth updated the Board on potential cuts to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law by the Trump Administration, including cuts to “hydrogen hubs,” Michigan Potash, and energy transmission projects. Director Soth also described threats to key policies like the new prevailing wage rule, which was “paused” for ninety days by the Trump Administration, as well as the end to Joe Biden’s Project Labor Agreement Executive Order, which required using PLAs on federal projects over \$35 million. Director Soth introduced key issues in the 119th Congress: First, defending energy tax credits that require the payment of prevailing wages; Second, expiration of the highway bill in October 2026. He also reminded the Board about the NABTU Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, on April 7-9, and announced the Canadian federal election on April 28.

Case No. 9
Healthcare Department
Report

Director of Healthcare Initiatives Joanne Lye-McKay reported to the General Executive Board about the IUOE pharmacy benefit manager coalition with 350K bellybuttons participating and the distribution of lives on a map. The upcoming

Healthcare Initiatives Conference to be held on May 6, 2025 at the International Training and Education Center was discussed. CVS/ Caremark will present on implementations, market trends including GLP1s, new drugs to market and programs to help control rising costs. The Segal Company will present on Mental Health Parity Act and requirements for welfare funds. Hello Heart will present on the importance of blood pressure control and the \$10K a year cost to welfare funds for cardiovascular care. Finhealth will present on fraud, waste and abuse, a new way to gain control of rising welfare claims costs. Vitech will present on software systems, what is current and what can drive efficiencies in a welfare fund office. Local 139 will be sharing a best practice illustrating the fund’s in network only coverage, plan liaisons and member resolutions. Calibre will be presenting on common mistakes made on financial statements. All plan professionals are welcome to join us for an informational conference and welcome the opportunity to meet other colleagues sharing best practices.

Case No. 10
Construction Training
Department Report

Director of the Construction Training Department Chris Tremml reported on the activities in the Construction Training Department since the last Board meeting. He started his presentation by informing the Board that there had already been over 40,000 training hours logged at the ITEC since January. He also stated that they had been over 30 more classes

added to the already robust schedule for Construction Training.

He then proceeded to discuss the renewed discount purchase agreement with industry partner CM Labs for heavy equipment simulators. He also mentioned to the Board that he was working with the CM Labs account representative to create a new brochure to be distributed to the locals.

Director Tremml then informed the Board that there were beginning conversations with industry partner Leica to set up a services agreement in the same fashion that the IUOE has with industry partners, Trimble and Topcon for GPS equipment. He explained that the service agreement will automatically account for software and hardware upgrades and will include any installation that needs to be done. Director Tremml told the Board he would follow up with more information as it comes in. He then also mentioned the new renewed training agreement with industry partner Wirtgen. This agreement is now good through the year 2029. He reminded the Board that Wirtgen provides equipment and instructors for the asphalt milling and asphalt paving classes that are held at the ITEC during the busy winter months.

Director Tremml spoke on the three-year lease agreement with John Deere that was coming to an end. This lease agreement is for the NTF equipment that moves around the country for the locals to utilize at their training sites. He mentioned that he received approval from General President

Downey and the Trustees on the NTF Board to move forward with ordering another round of equipment for another three years. He also mentioned that as in the past, the existing equipment will be put up for auction by John Deere. The terms of this deal will be between the locals and John Deere.

Director Tremml discussed the upcoming workshops for Mobile Crane and Tower Crane through NCCCO. He mentioned to the Board that they will be held the first two weeks of June as they have been in the past. He informed the Board that these workshops are for new hires at the Local Training programs so they can be practical proctors for their individual memberships. He also mentioned that once the instructors leave the ITEC, their audits will be done as well so when they return to their home locals, they can begin testing right away. Staying on the topic of certification, Director Tremml then kept the Board informed regarding the new rigging and signaling programs through OECP. He informed the Board that they are still on target for completion for July 2025.

Director Tremml mentioned the rescue training that was held in December 2024. He informed the Board that they had ordered the Rollgliss system, which is the mechanism used to lower a student down from the towel crane in case it was an emergency. He informed the Board that this mechanism was ordered along with all the apparatus needed for a safe tower crane rescue.

Lastly, Director Tremml then spoke about the new

curriculum that had been rolled out through the Construction Training Department. This new curriculum is for excavators and is now available on the Moodle Learning Management System. He informed the Board that the next update will be to the dozer curriculum.

**Case No. 11
Jurisdiction Department
Report**

Jurisdiction Director James J. Callahan briefed and presented to the Board a final draft of the IBEW Transmission MOU. The Board contemplated and discussed the merits of the draft before General President Downey sought a motion and vote on its approval.

**Case No. 12
Pipeline Department
Report**

Pipeline Director Paul McCormick reported on the comparison of man hours from 2023 to 2024 as well as the reported hours of work from January-February 2024 and January-February 2025.

He then went over NPLA job notices January-February 2024 to January-February 2025 and discussed the breakdown of Notices by region.

Director McCormick went over DCA job notices January-February 2024 to January-February 2025 and the breakdown of Notices by region.

He reported new signatory contractors for NPLA and DCA agreements.

He then reported on the

status of maintenance work and several multi-jurisdictional projects as well as two large compressor stations anticipate taking 2 years to complete.

Director McCormick gave an update on Line 5 re-route and the Indigenous outreach on which they are working.

He updated construction has begun on the Wisconsin Reliability project and gave an update on CO2 pipeline projects with contractors being successful in winning the projects. Additionally, Director McCormick updated the Board regarding station work involving these pipelines.

He updated the progress of Virginia Reliability, Oak Grove enhancement and LEG projects and advised that the Hope Gas work has finally begun.

Director McCormick advised that two large projects are beginning and that the permit process and public meetings have started at state and federal levels.

He advised that FERC permits were filed for the Heartland Pipeline project and gave an update on other carbon capture projects as well as the progress on the Ridgeline project. He then gave an update on South Dakota passing a law to ban the use of eminent domain which will delay the project one to two years.

Director McCormick then answered questions regarding the progress of the sub-committee for Attachment 5 in NPLA. He then responded to questions on the talks on the Line 5 Tunnel and a

PLA for which contract it would be bid under. With no more questions, Director McCormick concluded his report.

**Case No. 13
Construction Department**

Assistant Director of Construction Keith Hancock reported that the total hours worked under the NMAPC for 2024 came in at 4.7 million and by the end of the second quarter a final total will be calculated. Year-to-date, there have been 578 site extensions processed.

Assistant Director Hancock reported a total of 79 approvals for the GPPMA in 2024, covering 14.2 million hours.

He next reported that the NCA had a total of 14 approvals in 2024, covering 4.5 million hours.

He reported on the building trades PLA's with an even 500 approved in 2024 with an estimated value of \$188.3 billion in projects.

Lastly Assistant Director Hancock reported to the Board that the Francis Scott Key bridge Replacement project in Baltimore, Maryland was currently underway with Kiewit Infrastructure Co. This work will be performed under the National Heavy & Highway Coalition agreement.

**Case No. 14
Stationary Training
Department Report**

Director of Stationary Training Nasser Dollah reported to the Board recent developments within his department. He reported on class numbers and student

contact hours for 2025 and displayed an ITEC class timeline from 2020 through 2025.

Director Dollah reported on two new classes created, Blueprint Reading II & Energy Conservation. He also reported on two new instructors for Data Centers & Energy Conservation classes.

Director Dollah reported on new HVAC I & II refrigeration training aids, they were purchased and assembled by ITEC staff. He reported that Computrol's is a new Building Automation System partner that has donated approximately \$190,000, which included hardware, software & continuous curriculum development.

He reported on EDDUUS Live Ed Learning platform has donated \$90,000 in software & curriculum. Director Dollah also discussed the organizing through education process which included an ITEC tour for Washington University, which is in St Louis, Missouri.

Director Dollah also discussed the positive continuing marketing efforts of the IUOE Facebook team. Dollah reported on IUOE EV charging class that it is still in the process of being developed.

**Case No. 15
Research and Organizing
Report**

Director of Organizing and Research Department Colin Fones-Wolf reported on upcoming organizing events at ITEC, including the New Organizing Training and National Organizing Conference.

Director Fones-Wolf provided an update on the IUOE Organizing Grant Program, disclosing Local organizing numbers. He also reported on the continuing growth of the Action Builder platform.

Director Fones-Wolf reported on the status of several organizing drives, including the 1,300-worker solar manufacturing facility in central Ohio, a 95-worker NLRB victory at a chemical plant in Bay City, Texas and a successful public sector union drive in south Florida, covering 240 workers. The IUOE also continues to monitor developments in the data center industry for organizing and growth opportunities. Director Fones-Wolf lastly reported on the Department's prevailing wage enforcement activities led by Assistant Director Allen Smith.

**Case No. 16
Northeast Region Report**

Northeast Regional Director John Stevens informed the Board of employment status in the Northeast. He provided a comparative of February 2024 and February 2025. He noted that there were approximately 500 more members working this year compared to last year, which is an increase of 1%.

Director Stevens reported on the upcoming election cycle in the Northeast and ran through the 14 Locals that have an election coming up this year.

Director Stevens talked about the expansion of leak pro pipe replacement within the Northeast Region. He explained there is room to expand in this market in the

areas of NY, CT, and MA. Director Stevens showed a map of the Northeast, showing there were several thousand miles of pipe that is scheduled for replacement. He also showed how many gas services will be replaced.

Director Stevens continued to discuss the OQ gas training that the NTF is now involved in with a mobile training program that has already shown proven success.

Director Stevens talked about the Brooklyn Marine Terminal that is under construction for the Empire Wind Project with an 891-million-dollar investment for revitalization of the old port.

Director Stevens discussed the offshore wind projects being performed in the Northeast. He explained that the IUOE has had many issues with jurisdiction out in international waters due to low paying foreign labor aboard the offshore vessel. Director Stevens said that there are men making as low as \$5.00 per hour. Director Stevens talked about Revolution Wind being performed in IUOE Local 57 jurisdiction. He also talked about Empire Wind and Sunrise Wind both being erected off the New York coast.

Director Stevens reported on the investment that Yale University has committed to over the next 10 years, beginning with a commitment of \$1 billion dollars for the Science Hill Project. Director Stevens also said Yale University announced a \$7 billion dollar investment in facility upgrades and new construction within its

campus.

Director Stevens reported on GEOTHERMAL and the lack of signatory contractors performing this work. He explained that there were two PLA projects that had to carve out the GEOTHERMAL wells due to lack of union bidders. Director Stevens said that IUOE Locals 4, 478, and 98 have convinced Phoenix Foundation, one of their signatory employers, to buy a GEOTHERMAL drill to prevent this from occurring again. To date, Phoenix has bid more than \$50 million dollars on GEOTHERMAL projects and are in the process of completing their first job.

Director Stevens talked about some great organizing campaigns with IUOE Local 30 and IUOE Local 825. Both locals have been very successful winning multiple elections and therefore growing their membership through true organizing.

**Case No. 17
Canadian Region Report**

Canadian Regional Director Patrick Campbell provided a comprehensive report on the activities of the region. Reporting on the out of work number of 6390 members in Q1 of 2025 down from 6795 in Q1 of 2024. A positive sign given overall membership numbers are up and out of work numbers down.

Government relations activities in the region have increased significantly with a federal election coming in the near term. Former head of Bank of Canada and Bank of England Mark Carney was elected by the Liberal Party of Canada and is now Prime Minister of

Canada. Liberals have seen a significant turnaround in the polls with the resignation of Trudeau, election of Carney and actions of the US administration around trade between the two nations. Conservatives at the federal level have a long track record of supporting anti-union bills and legislation like "right to work." Despite this fact, there has been a National endorsement by the Boiler Makers and LiUNA in eastern Canada seems to be heavily promoting the Conservatives also. Once predicted to take 250 of 338 seats, polls now show the Conservatives losing the Federal election to the Liberals.

Director Campbell reported on the status of the Canada / US Trading relationship prior to the imposition of any new tariffs by the US Administration. US Trade deficit with Canada is equal to \$40.6 billion in 2023, however trade of goods and services between the two nations for 2023 was \$1 trillion. This translates to the US selling \$0.92 to Canada compared to \$1.00 Canada sells to the US. By comparison, the US sells \$0.40 to China compared to every \$1.00 China sells to the US. Canada has the 10th largest bilateral trade deficit, only 1/6th the size of the US deficit has with China and ¼ the size of the US deficit with Mexico. 76% of the products Canada sells to the US are not finished products, instead "inputs" for US businesses. Tariffs associated with these products will increase the costs for US businesses. Canada is the biggest source of US mineral imports (uranium, aluminum, nickel, steel, copper and niobium) Canada accounted for \$47 billion of US mineral imports,

followed by China with \$28.3 billion. Tariffs will severely impact defense, nuclear energy and manufacturing industries in the US. Tariffs could result in 2-3% drop in Canada's GDP and a loss of 1 million jobs with unemployment potentially reaching 10%.

Director Campbell issued a “notice to negotiate” to the PLCAC January 10, 2025 and the parties are scheduled to meet May 13-14, 2025 to negotiate the Distribution Pipeline Agreement for Canada. Market share remains strong in Ontario nearing 100% with minimal market share in Western Canada. 2024 pipeline hours for mainline pipeline construction saw a steep decline in hours worked as a result of major projects coming offline. Mainline hours for 2024 were 1,457,804 compared to 2023 hours of 10,412,773. This also factors in major cleanup taking place on CGL and TMX in 2024. 2025 has very little work scheduled, however with the assistance of the trades, Michels Canada was able to secure significant portion of Enbridge T-North project in northern BC. Only 11 miles of NPS 24 and 36.

He next reported that the total craft work hours under the GPMC/NMA in Canada were down in 2024 compared to 2023, but up for IUOE. 2023 hours worked are 19,153,533 for all craft and 368,850 for IUOE members while 2024 hours worked are 17,723,767 for all craft and 390,426 for IUOE members. 2025 is a bargaining year for Saskatchewan which started in February and New Brunswick scheduled for April.

IUOE Canadian Region election cycle has five (5) local unions up for election in 2025. IUOE Local 721 (Nova Scotia), IUOE Local 946 (New Brunswick), IUOE Local 955 (Alberta), IUOE Local 959 (Williams Lake, BC), IUOE Local 987 (Manitoba). As in the past, the Canadian Regional office will work with these locals and IUOE Legal Department to ensure any election related questions and concerns are addressed.

Director Campbell reported on Local Union activities starting in British Columbia. General President John L. Downey was in attendance to swear in Bryan Railton as Business Manager and Brian Lefebvre as President of IUOE Local 115. Local 115 concluded the purchase of land in the Fraser Valley where they will begin construction of the new Union Hall. The Local 115 Pension Plan is in good health at \$1.6 billion in value. IUOE Local 882, under Business Manager Haemant Sawh, has hired two part-time staff. IUOE Local 963 continues to lobby government to represent kitchen staff in the Vancouver School District.

Director Campbell reported on Local Union activities in Alberta. IUOE Local 955 was able to hold the line and deliver a memorandum of settlement for the membership working in Alberta crane rental. Despite the situation looking as if it was headed for a work stoppage, Business Manager Flett and his team secured a last-minute deal which will go to the membership for ratification; this is just in time for a very busy shutdown season.

Director Campbell reported on Local Union activities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Local 870 continues to have strong employment as a result of potash mines. The US imports 90% of the needed potash for US farms, 85% of which comes from Canada. The Manitoba work picture remains slow but positive legislation has been passed by the Manitoba NDP that will assist with organizing and securing projects under PLA's. PLA framework is scheduled to be released in the coming weeks. IUOE Local 987 has also seen organizing success with two new stationary units of 20 and 40 members. Business Manager Lafond sent thanks to the IUOE for the organizing grant that helped make these successes possible.

He next reported on Local Union activities in Ontario. IUOE Local 793 currently has eighteen organizers on staff, and all are being deployed to construction sites throughout Ontario during the “open period” to inoculate members against attempts by LiUNA 183 to raid IUOE units. Local 793 also raided a 70 person CLAC aggregate operation in February of 2025. Local 793 also continues to work with UBC in Ontario and the cooperation agreement between the two trades is proving useful. Local 793 continues to pursue a PLA discussion with Baffinland Iron Ore Mine in 2025 for the construction of the Steensby railway. IUOE Local 793 continues to defend the jurisdiction of the IUOE with 33 ongoing Jurisdictional Disputes at various stages. One dispute with Teamsters and the remaining 32 with LiUNA. IUOE Local 772

Business Manager Greg Hoath continues to work with ATP and the IUOE Canadian Regional Office to prepare the Power Engineer curriculum.

Regional Director Campbell reported on Local Union activities in Quebec. Local 905 and 484 merger will be completed by 2026 with the last Local 484 bargaining unit absorbed into Local 905. Local 905 has led provincial crane negotiations for 2025 and has reached a deal with the Employers. The deal will now be put to the members throughout the province for ratification.

Lastly, Director Campbell reported on Local Union activities in the Atlantic provinces for Local Union(s) 721, 727, 904, 942 & 946. Local 946 continues to wait for Mactaquac Life Achievement Project with 500+ Trades for 15 years starting in 2025. Business Manager Nason and Canadian Director Campbell met with NB Power to discuss other potential projects and the use of IUOE member to construct them. Local 942 is continuing to focus on membership development. Local 904 is working with Trades NL and Hydro NL to finalize an MOU for the Gull Island Hydroelectric project budgeted at \$25 billion dollars. When this project gets underway there will be a shift of trades people from west to east rather than the usual east to west. Local 721 has a work picture which remains consistent with several agreements up for renewal. IUOE Local 727 has received the decision of the GEB with regard to the recent appeal. Finances and Executive Board efforts for the local continue to

improve.

Case No. 18 Southern Region Report

Southern Regional Director Martin “Red” Patterson reported on the out of work list comparisons from January 2025 to March 2025. He reported on the ongoing projects in the regions as well as upcoming projects. He discussed the local unions within the region that need operators and gave a detailed explanation on organizing in the region. He reported on all the Southern Region locals and when their next elections will be.

Case No. 19 Western Region Report

Western Regional Director Ryan Dowd reported the total membership numbers of the Western Region and as of February 2025 the numbers were at 110,174 and stated the numbers were up from 2024.

Director Dowd noted that the out of work numbers for the region were close to the previous year. February of 2024 being at 5509 total and 4.98% of total membership and February of 2025 being at 5463 total and 4.95% of total membership.

Director Dowd gave a report on the total number of Stationary Engineer and Hoisting and Portable Apprenticeship numbers. For the Western Region there are currently 589 Stationary Engineers and 3246 Hoisting and Portable Engineers, and he noted that these numbers are up from the previous year.

Regional Director Dowd reported that the Western

Region has some notable projects in the area. He stated that Local 302 has 40 operators working on the Confluence Parkway Project, a 2.5-mile North-South bypass that includes a new bridge over the Wenatchee River valued at \$170 million. Director Dowd continued with Local 12's project in Peoria, AZ: The Amkor TECH Project, a \$2 billion, 350-acre site that will produce 480MW of Thermal gas-fired power along with 440MW of battery storage capacity. He noted that the job will employ 150 Operating Engineers at its peak. Director Dowd continued with Local 3's Cromberg Combined Project which is restoring the roadway and widening highway 70 through Portola, CA and noted that it is a \$101 million worksite that is currently employing 30 Operating Engineers.

Regional Director Dowd reported that Local 3 has a new training site in Morgan, UT and that it is a 30-acre site that will allow year-round training for the members in Utah. He noted that it is a state-of-the-art facility and has significant value to the Operating Engineers of Local 3.

Director Dowd reported that there have been 13 PLAs at the time of reporting valued at \$6.2 billion and said that the number has increased. He continued with his Organizing report and listed a few wins within the region; Local 3 Martin Marietta Materials, Inc., Local 12 Behrens and Associated, Inc., Local 39 Jones Lang LaSalle Americas, Inc. Director Dowd next reported on the ongoing campaigns. Local 12 is organizing Snell Crane, and Smiley

Crane in AZ. Local 501 St. Joseph Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, Palms Casino, and Planet Hollywood. Local 39 is organizing CoreSite at multiple locations in Elk Grove, CA. He stated that there is internal organizing going on in AZ with right to work employees, attempting to sign them up to become members at Local 501's Trans-Dev, and Hydro Metals, and Local 12, AZ: Pinto Valley Mine, Underground Pipeline, and Ames Construction.

Regional Director Dowd reported that there are 1161 datacenters in the west and said that at the request of two locals in the region, we have begun to identify potential organizing targets.

Director Dowd reported that Local 280 has had a leadership role change as Business Manager, Dean Bushy retired at the end of February and the new Business Manager is Josh Carter. He mentioned that although there is not a slide to show, listing the election cycle for 2025 was as follows: Upcoming elections at Local 39, Local 501, Local 612, Local 701, Local 800.

Regional Director Dowd reported “in Memoriam;” retired, former Business Manager Donald Bushy passed away on February 16, 2025. Director Dowd stated that “Don” started his career with Local 370 as a HD Mechanic then transferred to Local 280 and worked at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation outside of Richland, Washington. In 1980 Don was hired as a Business Agent for Local 280, then elected Business Manager until his retirement in 2006. Rest in Peace,

Donald.

This concluded Director Dowd's report and asked if there were any questions, which there were none.

Case No. 20 Legal Report

General Counsel Matthew G. McGuire began his report by updating the Board about some of the recent developments at the NLRB and the DOL, and in the federal courts. He advised the General Executive Board that on January 27, 2025, President Trump had terminated NLRB General Counsel Jennifer Abruzzo and NLRB Board Member Gwynne Wilcox. He further stated that President Trump would be nominating Ms. Crystal Carey, a partner at large management-side law firm Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP, to be the new NLBR General Counsel. He noted that Ms. Wilcox had filed a lawsuit challenging the legality of her termination, and that it was widely expected that the Trump administration would try to fast track this case up the the Supreme Court. General Counsel McGuire advised the Board that the Legal Department would continue to track these NLRB developments and the related lawsuits and that he would updated Board as these matters progressed.

General Counsel McGuire also advised the Board that on March 11, 2025, former Oregon Congresswomen Lori Chavez-DeRemer had been sworn in as the new Secretary of the U.S. Department of Labor. He noted that IUOE Local 701 in Oregon reported that they had had a fairly good

relationship with Secretary Chavez-DeRemer when she served in Congress. General Counsel McGuire further noted that several Republicans and many on the employer side had expressed concern about Secretary Chavez-DeRemer's nomination due to her past support for the Pro Act.

Next, General Counsel McGuire reminded the Board that the 2025 New Business Manager- Business Agent Training would be held April 14th -17th at the ITEC. He noted they currently had ten new Business Managers and approximately ninety new Business Agents scheduled to attend this training. He stated that registration had closed on March 21st, but that there were still some spots available for late registrants if needed.

At the conclusion of his report, General Counsel McGuire then asked Associate General Counsel Richard Hopp to come up to the podium and report on some benefit fund related action items for the Board's consideration and approval.

Associate General Counsel Richard Hopp reported that the Stationary Engineers Apprenticeship and Training Trust (SEATT) has merged into the IUOE National Training Fund effective January 1, 2025. SEATT is focused on training for operating engineers working in the petro-chemical industry. The terms of the merger are memorialized in a Merger Agreement, a copy of which is in the meeting materials for the Board's review.

Mr. Hopp reported that Associate General Counsel

due to General President Callahan's retirement, the IUOE Staff Retirement Plan will need a replacement Trustee. It was regularly moved and seconded to appoint General President John L. Downey as Trustee of the IUOE Staff Retirement Plan. The motion was put to a vote and was unanimously carried.

Next, Associate General Counsel Hopp reviewed the terms and benefits of a proposed IUOE National Reciprocity Agreement for defined contribution annuity plans. The proposed reciprocity agreement is modeled on the existing reciprocity agreement for defined benefit plans. The draft reciprocity agreement would allow, but not require, local union annuity plans to transfer travelers' annuity fund contributions to another home local annuity fund. It was regularly moved and seconded to adopt the IUOE National Reciprocity Agreement for defined contribution annuity plans. The motion was put to a vote and was unanimously carried.

Lastly, Mr. Hopp reviewed the terms of a cost sharing agreement between the IUOE and General Pension Plan Canada for administering supplemental payments paid to Canadian retirees. It was regularly moved and seconded to approve the cost sharing agreement. The motion was put to a vote and was unanimously carried, with Vice Presidents Vandyke and White recusing themselves.

**Case No. 21
Appeals**

Andrew Bucci reported that no Appeals were processed this quarter that would require a decision of the General Executive Board.

**Case No. 22
General Secretary-
Treasurer's Report**

General Secretary-Treasurer James M. Sweeney reported that all 2024 year-end political reports and the Congressional Lobbying Reports have been filed.

He then reported that the work continues with The Central Pension Plan for the 5th & 6th floor rental space lease completion at the headquarters building.

General Secretary-Treasurer Sweeney also reported that there are ten expiring Local Union loans that are up for renewal in the amount of \$12.75 million dollars.

General Secretary-Treasurer Sweeney advised that the 2024 year-end audit has been completed, and final audited financials are in progress. And lastly, he reported that the 2024 LM-2 filing is in the final review stage.

**Case No. 23
2025 Meeting Locations**

General President Downey advised the Board of the dates and locations for upcoming GEB meetings.

**Case No. 24
Good of the Order**

A variety of issues and subjects important to the welfare of the International Union were discussed.

**Case No. 25
Contributions**

General President Downey advised the Board of several requests by charitable organizations and others seeking financial contributions. After some discussion of these various requests, it was regularly moved and seconded that the matter of donations and the amount thereof be left in the hands of the General President and the General Secretary-Treasurer. This motion was put to a vote and unanimously carried.

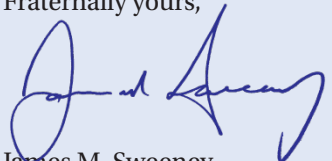
**Case No. 26
Payment of Expenses in
Holding Meeting**

It was regularly moved and seconded that the General Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to pay the expenses incurred in connection with this meeting of the General Executive Board. The motion was put to a vote and was unanimously carried.

There being no further business to come before the General Executive Board, upon a motion made, seconded and carried, General President Downey adjourned the meeting.

I, James M. Sweeney, General Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union of Operating Engineers, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the minutes of the General Executive Board Meeting on March 26, 2025.

Fraternally yours,



James M. Sweeney
General Secretary-Treasurer



IUOE Member, Family Members Awarded 2025 Union Plus Scholarships

Winners Honored for Achievement and Union Values

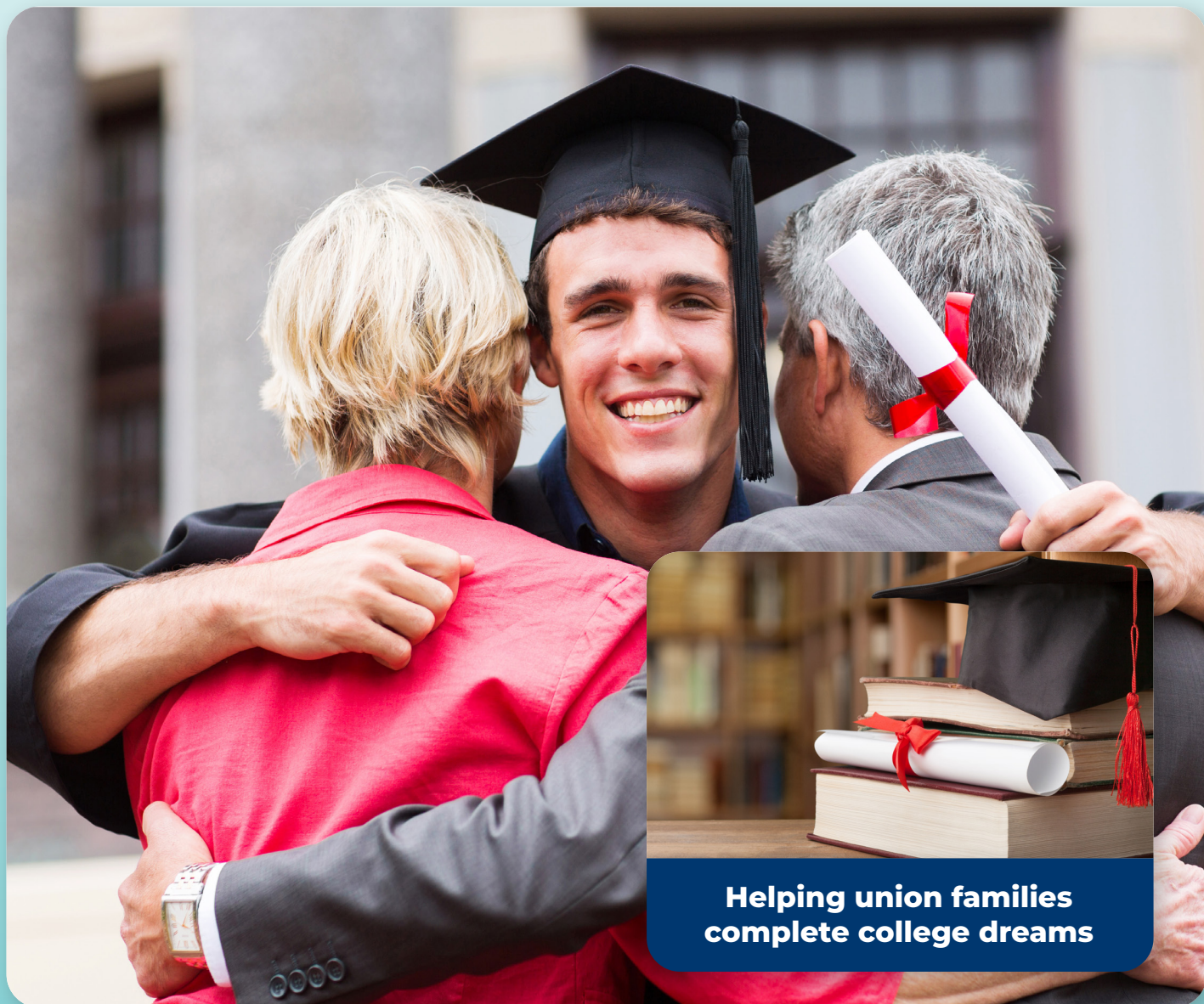
Washington, D.C. – Union Plus recently awarded \$250,000 in scholarships to 193 students representing 38 unions, including eight winners representing the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE). This year's group of scholarship recipients includes university, college, and trade or technical school students from 33 states. The IUOE winners are:

- **Rashiek Barber of New Milford, New Jersey.** Barber, who is a member of IUOE Local 94, has been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship.
- **Sydney Leigh Coleman of Checotah, Oklahoma.** Coleman, whose father, Thomas Coleman, is a member of IUOE Local 953, has been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship.
- **Charlotte Grace Cunningham-Hackney of North Wildwood, New Jersey.** Cunningham-Hackney, whose father, Joshua Hackney, is a member of IUOE Local 68, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship.
- **Allie Kohl of Herscher, Illinois.** Kohl, whose stepfather, Matthew Patchett, is a member of IUOE Local 150, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship. Allie was a 2023 Union Plus Scholarship recipient.
- **Eryn Gail McLain of Newark, Ohio.** McLain, whose father, Wyatt McLain, is a member of IUOE Local 18, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship.
- **Braden Rogers of Chana, Illinois.** Rogers, whose father, Anthony Rogers, is a member of IUOE Local 150, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.
- **Lyla Kekamamailani Sato of Ewa Beach, Hawai`i.** Sato, whose father, Derek Sato, is a member of IUOE Local 3, has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship.
- **Abigail Nicole Shaffer of Carthage, Illinois.** Shaffer, whose father, Dean Shaffer, is a member of IUOE Local 649, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship. Abigail was a 2024 Union Plus Scholarship recipient.

| Sponsorships By Quarter | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-----------|---|
| Paid to Order of: | Amount | Date Paid | Description |
| Hamburger Creative Group | \$90,000 | 4/28/2025 | Digital advertising Energy Tax Credits |
| IUOE Local 612 | \$2,000 | 5/12/2025 | Membership Assistance Golf Tournament Sponsorship |
| Mid America Regulatory Conference | \$20,000 | 5/21/2025 | Regional Conference Sponsorship |
| Enbridge Ride to Cancer | \$3,000 | 5/21/2025 | Donation |
| Canadian Building Trades Union (CBTU) | \$20,000 | 6/4/2025 | 25 Conference Sponsorship |
| LIUNA Belfast Beltway Boxing Project | \$5,000 | 6/14/2025 | Table of 10 |
| IUOE Local 137 Scholarship Fund | \$800 | 6/25/2025 | Scholarship Fundraiser |
| IUOE Local 399 Scholarship Fund | \$2,500 | 6/26/2025 | Beverage Sponsor Golf Tournament |
| Trades Women Build Nations (TWBN) | \$35,000 | 6/27/2025 | Breakfast Sponsorship |

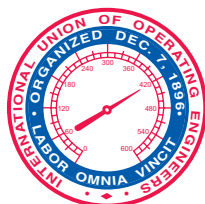
Scholarships **just for you**

The Union Plus Scholarship program has awarded more than **\$5.2 million** **in scholarships** to union families who want to begin or continue their post-secondary education.



Helping union families
complete college dreams

Help with the cost of college



Learn more at
unionplus.org

