

# The Gauge

LOCAL 891 AFL-CIO

INTERNATIONAL UNION  
OF OPERATING ENGINEERS



OCTOBER 2016

VOLUME 74 NUMBER 2

## REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday October 6, 2016

at I.S. 167M 220 East 76th Street, between 2nd and 3rd Aves, NY 10021  
at 7pm



**LOCAL 891 - SHAPING OUR FUTURE**



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brothers and Sister,

The transition away from the indirect system of custodial operations has not been smooth. Although the changes are in our best interest, the implementation was rushed and has been very problematic. The system to enter payroll is a “work in progress” and needs a lot of work. Eventually, the custodial employees will clock in and out on new time recording devices that automatically transmit payroll data to the payroll company, which is currently ADP. The automatic link between the payroll company and Galaxy, the software designed to track the use of your building allocation, is not yet functioning correctly. The unions representing the custodial workers are still in the process of negotiating new Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBA) with the new employer which is the New York City School Support Services (NYCSSS). These are all issues that should certainly resolve themselves with time and effort by the Department.

Our \$10,000 per member transition bonus is scheduled to be paid on October 6, 2016. Every member on active payroll status on May 5, 2016 will receive the bonus. Members hired after that date, or those in retired status before that date, are not eligible. The bonus is fully pensionable. The Department has informed us they are set to respond to those CEs who requested a change to their work schedule to one of the newly available shifts of 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. or 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Remember, your building needs to be covered by qualified personnel during normal operating hours. As always, you must schedule your staff appropriately if you are going to seek a change of hours.

I'm pleased to announce our long battle to get new members of this union hired has been won. More than one hundred new Custodian Engineers (CE), both Level I and Level II, were hired this August. Another group is being processed by the Department to begin their employment soon. In addition, a dozen existing members were able to step-up under the new education guidelines of our CBA. Our CBA now requires the Department to continue to fill vacancies. Now our focus can shift to other issues of importance to our membership, including the need for additional building funding.

Another decades long struggle has also come to an end for Local 891, but only for now. The push to privatize and outsource government services is a key element of the radical right's ideological and political agenda and will never end. We have battled the use of private profit driven facilities management companies for decades. Every Mayor in our memory has used private contractors to replace our members at some percentage of the schools. At times, the attack against our continued existence has been relentless. On November 4th, 2016, private contractors will be removed from all of the buildings operated by the New York City Department of Education. For the first time in the history of our Union, every site will be operated by a Local 891 member. This exclusive jurisdiction is guaranteed by our CBA until December 31, 2027. **The unfettered right to outsource has been removed from our contract forever!** The best way to ensure that future city administrations after 2027 do not choose to once again attempt to replace our members with contractors is for every member of this union to provide the best possible service to their assignment.

## PRINCIPAL RATING

Members are reminded they only have 30 days to grieve a Principal's Rating. Any member wanting to grieve a rating should contact their Borough Chairman. Please contact your Union immediately upon receiving a Principal's Rating you wish to grieve.

## RETIRING

Custodian Engineers are reminded that they should contact their Union prior to retirement. Information regarding benefits and insurance policies are discussed. Answers to your questions at this time may save you a lot of work later during retirement.

## EDITOR'S NOTE

In this issue of the Gauge, we will attempt to update you with information you may have missed since our last official issue in June. So much has happened, from the inception of NYSSS to the roll out of ADP, as you read in the President's report. In this issue and the following two, November and December, we will make all efforts to get all questions answered. Starting in January of 2017, the Gauge will become a quarterly publication. Rest assured, any pertinent information to share will be disseminated via constant contact or at your monthly general membership meetings – which we should all make the effort to attend. As usual, the Gauge will be a means to inform and educate current and past 891 members of matters important to our jobs. If you have story ideas to share, please contact me at editor@local891.com

## EDUCATION

Local 891 is conducting a 200 hour refrigeration course to prepare members to take the FDNY Refrigeration Certificate of Qualification Exam. This is an in service class that will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Contact Frank Byrne at (718)455-9731 if you are interested.

## CUNY LABOR STUDIES

If you are interested in enhancing your understanding of labor and unions, CUNY's Murphy Institute offers Certificate and degree programs. Local 891 will reimburse your tuition if you decide to pursue any of the Labor related courses. The next information session dates are listed below. CUNY School of Professional Studies: The Murphy Institute Information Sessions, October 6 and 27, 6:00 to 7:30pm -- 25W 43rd Street, 18th Floor. (212)652-2869

## ANNUAL CHILDREN PARTY

The Local 891 19th Annual Children Christmas party will be held at P.S. 81Q this year. More information regarding age, gender and date of event will be provided in the November issue of the Gauge.

*Submitted By: Peter Madalloni (718)455-9731 x249*

## 891 GRIEVANCES

Annual Plan: Please refer to the 2016 MOA - #7, Paragraph 3. Annual Plan is now formulated by the CE with consultation from the Principal. Local 891 recommends using the generic annual plan that Business Manager Troeller emailed on August 10, 2016. The Annual Plan is formulated using only operating money or the "base budget." Do not put more in the annual plan than a CE can accomplish with the base budget. Please know that in the event that you grieve a Principal's rating, the annual plan is a list of the CE's minimum responsibilities.

## COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Reporting of Injuries: NYSIF website look for EFROI (Electronic First Report of Incident). The same way CE's used to do with the exception of the employer is now NYCSSS. The Policy number to use is X2395989-3, and we are signing in as the Supervisor. Answer all other questions on the EFROI as best as you can.

Audits: If CE's are not contacted for Audit before October 1st, contact me.

Refund Checks: Follow procedure in Circular #1 2016/2017 Issued on August 11, 2016

Bills: Ignore all State Insurance Fund bills UNLESS it is an Audit Bill. You will be Audited for 2 periods: August 1, 2015 to July 31, 2016 and August 1, 2016 to August 11, 2016.

Audit Bills: If CE's have the funds to pay the bill, then I advise CE's to pay it. If you don't have the funds, contact me for assistance. It is strongly suggested by 891 to make provisions in your excess budget (where possible) to pay your audit bill. compensationinsurance@local891.com

*Submitted By: John Maderich (718)455-9731 x251*

## OCCUPATION: HEALTH/SAFETY

Welcome back everyone and special congratulations to the newly hired Custodian Engineers. This should be an exciting school year, and as always, the schools are clean and ready.

I am available to you on matters concerning occupation health issues and safety matters in our work environment. Monthly I will educate you on NEW health issues that affect our daily lives in the form of an article or perhaps a link to the internet. Take the time to read and be proactive in these issues. Share and educate your staff and building occupants.

The Department of Education has provided asbestos medical exams since 1985, free of charge and continues to screen Custodian Engineers who have been employed by the New York City public schools for a minimum of ten years combined service. Anyone who may have had a potential exposure to asbestos should have a screening every two years. Every member should take advantage of this service regardless. Included in this exam is a complete physical including a pulmonary function test, chest x-ray, EKG, blood, eye and urine analysis. After all the tests, you then sit down with a doctor and confidentially speak with them on any concerns that you may have. Then a few weeks later, you will receive a written report summarizing all findings and recommendations.

Remember, as Custodian Engineers we are at a higher risk for contamination. Prevention can come in the form of a doctor's exam. Not only asbestos issues but any ailment can surface at any time in our lives. Utilize this free service. Look at it as a second opinion for yourself and your families. Insurance only allows for one physical a year so if you space it out in the course of the year it is double security. The whole exam is completed within an hour and a half. Call a brother or a sister and go together. Make it a date with your wife, husband, partner or children.

Forms are available through me or the Local 891 website. As always I am available to you at any time for questions or concerns. The next screening will be in mid fall and is held on a Saturday between 7AM to 12NOON in lower Manhattan.



**NAME**  
Giavanna Francesca Venier

**BORN:**  
March 14, 2016  
6:43am  
8lbs 13ozs

**PARENTS**  
Mike and Rachael Venier  
Q162 Custodian Engineer



# LOCAL 891 SHOW OF SOLIDARITY AT 2016 NYCCLC LABOR DAY PARADE

CUSTODIAN AND CUSTODIAN ENGINEERS  
LOCAL UNION NO. 891



BOARD OF EDUCATION CITY OF NEW YORK  
CHARTERED MARCH 26, 1924





**LOCAL 891 WELCOMING  
AND TEACHING THE NEW MEMBERS**

# HOSPITALIZATION *As of July 1, 2016, these are the new Health Plan rates.*

## BI-WEEKLY

INDIVIDUAL	Aetna EPO	CIGNA	DC37 Med Team	Empire HMO	Empire EPO	GHI-CBP/EBCBS	GHI HMO	HIP HMO	HIP POS	MetroPlus Gold	Vytra
Basic	\$84.82	\$327.97	\$0.00	\$150.80	\$244.65	\$0.00	\$56.88	\$0.00	\$330.16	\$0.00	\$40.32
Prescription Drugs	\$262.32	\$115.40	\$0.00	\$90.26	\$90.26	\$52.93	\$99.38	\$69.74	\$335.53	\$78.96	\$86.20
Rider Other*	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.53	\$0.00	\$2.80	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total (Basic + Rider)	\$347.14	\$443.38	\$0.00	\$241.05	\$334.91	\$55.46	\$156.26	\$72.54	\$665.69	\$78.96	\$126.52
FAMILY	Aetna EPO	CIGNA	DC37 Med Team	Empire HMO	Empire EPO	GHI-CBP/EBCBS	GHI HMO	HIP HMO	HIP POS	MetroPlus Gold	Vytra
Basic	\$418.46	\$887.71	\$0.00	\$435.75	\$626.39	\$0.00	\$174.10	\$0.00	\$809.00	\$0.00	\$159.83
Prescription Drugs	\$718.15	\$345.52	\$0.00	\$221.26	\$221.26	\$95.28	\$253.39	\$170.86	\$817.38	\$181.34	\$224.17
Rider Other*	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6.40	\$0.00	\$6.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total (Basic + Rider)	\$1,136.61	\$1,233.24	\$0.00	\$657.00	\$847.65	\$101.68	\$427.49	\$177.72	\$1,626.38	\$181.34	\$384.00

\* For GHI-CBP/EBCBS, "Rider Other" is for enhanced major medical coverage. For HIP HMO, "Rider Other" is for private duty nursing & durable medical equipment.

Submitted By: Andrew Samberg (718)455-9731x261

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION (Local 94)

The weekly working hours for regular full-time employees shall include a thirty (30) minute relief and lunch period. Such period, at the Employer's option, shall be taken on the premises at a scheduled time within two (2) hours of the middle of the shift and at such suitable place compatible with building needs as may be designated by the Employer. Where an employee works a shift of more than eight (8) hours in any day, all time beyond eight (8) hours shall be considered overtime and paid for at the rate of time and one half times (1 1/2 x) the regular straight time hourly rate

## HENRY JOHNSON

Retired from Thomas Edison High School after 18 years of dedicated service to that building. Henry has been a dedicated Custodian Engineer for 38 years and has received 50 year pin for total years of service.



From left to right: Joe Sanfilippo CE Jamaica H.S., Henry Johnson, Peter Maddaloni CE M.S. 67Q

## BROOKLYN

The Borough of Brooklyn will be holding their **Annual Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 14th, 2016** at Buckley's Restaurant located on Nostrand Avenue and Avenue S, Brooklyn, New York. *Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$80.00 per person.* Contact: Joseph Reilly (718) 253-1412.

## GOOD AND WELFARE

Submitted By: Sandra Morton (718)455-9731 x258

June 1, 2016

Members of Local 891  
Brooklyn Navy Yard  
63 Flushing Avenue, Unit 358  
Building 292, Suite 401  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

Dear Friends,

On behalf of my husband Maurizio Corrao, myself and our 3 sons, I want to express our heartfelt thanks to all the members of Local 891. Your assistance during this extremely difficult time in our lives has been a blessing.

The fact that it takes only one moment to alter so many lives is shocking. As unimaginable as it can be, nothing can prepare you for such a life changing event, especially when it hits home. Time just stands still but the domino effect is still taking place.

Good colleagues are those who know that "we" is more powerful than "me". Your generosity and willingness to give up your earned time to help our family is truly remarkable and my husband is very fortunate to have friends like you in his life. This personal act has taken the financial burden off of our shoulders a while longer so that Mario can focus on his recovery. Thanks to you we can finally see a rainbow at the end of this journey.

Friends are there to guide and support us, to share our laughter and our tears. Some people have kindness in their minds, others have kindness in their hearts. Some people think about being kind, others talk about being kind. But very few people like you actually do kind deeds. Thank you, the impact of your kindness in our lives is nothing short of a miracle.

Maurizio gets better every day, has every intention of gaining his life back and looks forward to banding with his brothers once again.

With our deepest gratitude,  
*Lucia Corrao & Family*  
Lucia Corrao and family

## IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of the following Brothers

**EDMUND HAJDUK  
RETIRED CE LEVEL I**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Mrs. Joyce Larson  
2 Magenta Lane  
East Northport, NY 11731

**RICHARD BRACKEN  
RETIRED CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Mrs. Grace Bracken  
57 Symmes Drive  
Manalapan, NJ 07726

**WILLIAM HAUGHEY  
RETIRED CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Joanne Haughey  
292 Barger Street  
Putnam Valley, NY 10579

**THOMAS CANNON  
RETIRED CE LEVEL I**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Rosemary Cannon  
14 Wyandotte Street  
Selden, NY 11784

**EUGENE FARLEY  
RETIRED CE LEVEL I**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Margaret Farley  
52 Canterbury Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10314

**MILAN ORBRADOVICH  
RETIRED CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Zjelka Obradovich  
1642 Van Buren Road  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902

**JOSEPH FAGAN  
RETIRED CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Mr. Brian Fagan  
293 Pine Street  
Wycoff, NJ 07481

**DONALD FLUG  
RETIRED CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Mrs. Mary-Ellen Flug  
13 Mill Lane  
Levittown, NY 11756

**JAMES DOHERTY  
CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Mrs. Rosemary Doherty  
218 Gilbert Avenue  
Pearl River, NY 10965

**GARRY McNAMARA  
RETIRED CE LEVEL I**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Donna Gardner  
2219 East 26th Street, Apt. 5E  
Brooklyn, NY 11229

**RUDOLF FRANK  
RETIRED CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Mrs. Linda Frank  
2280 El Cerito Court  
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

**RONALD MAGALIK  
RETIRED CE LEVEL I**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Marilyn Palka  
204 Joseph Lane  
Mine Hill, NJ 07803

**JOHN ROGOVICH  
RETIRED CE LEVEL II**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Mrs. Anna Rogovich  
103 Hampden Road  
Somers, CT 06071

**KEVIN SHEA  
CE LEVEL I, P.S. 24Q,**

CONDOLENCES TO:  
Nancy Shea  
42-03 247 Street  
Little Neck, NY 11363

## LEGISLATIVE

Legislative Committee Co-Chairs William Carroll and Michael Kelly would like 891 members to be aware of what is at stake during this Presidential Election season. Their message here, is a reminder not to lose focus.

With days left to this Presidential Election we have to remember who we are and not get caught up with in the minutia and lies that helped Donald Trump win the Republican nomination. We are Proud Union Laborites' who must stay in our lane and support the Candidates who support not only our Union but the Labor Movement on a whole. When you vote in the Presidential Election remember there is only one Candidate who supports your right to organize and collectively bargain, that's Hillary Clinton. Don't be swayed, stay in your lane, vote for the Candidate that supports you.

No sooner will this Presidential Election be over that a fight to preserve our Union Rights with begin in New York State. On Election Day – November 7, 2017- voters will be asked to decide whether the state should redraft its charter document-the State Constitution. This referendum is called a Constitutional Convention and will have ramifications for all New Yorkers and continue the attacks we've seen in recent years on the children, working and retired people of this great state. The State Constitution protects many of the rights and benefits that are important to the New York citizens. Any change to the constitution could jeopardize rights and benefits that are not protected, including but not limited to:

- Pension benefits and wages:
- The right to organize into Union and collective bargaining
- Civil Service appointments and promotions
- Civil rights, social welfare and Public education rights

All members are urged to discuss this issue with their families and friends; a convention is costly and could harm all New Yorkers for years to come. Call your legislators and tell them there are other ways to fix New York than a costly, wasteful and harmful constitutional convention. Simply put New York can't afford this convention.

*Submitted By: William Carroll (718)455-9731 x263*



*Pictured left to right: Bronx Borough Chairman Pedro J. Arroyo; Assemblyman Marcos Crespo and Local 891 member Jorge Corniel at a June 13, 2016 fundraiser at "Manhattan", for Assemblyman Crespo's re-election campaign.*

## VARIABLE RATE

The Pension Committee reports that the Variable Unit value for the month of August 91.356 and September 91.231



An Official Publication of

**LOCAL 891 IUOE**

**International Union of Operating Engineers**

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To Reach Anyone Listed Below, Dial the Main Union Phone Number and then the Extension

**BUSINESS MANAGER/PRESIDENT ROBERT J. TROELLER**

**Vice President Jeffrey J. Bilek**

**Recording-Corresponding Secretary Francis J. Byrne**

**Financial Secretary Kevin J. Gallagher**

**Treasurer Richard A. Gorgoglione**

**Boro Chairmen**

Bronx.....	220.....	Pedro Arroyo
Brooklyn.....	221.....	Rocco Marano
Manhattan.....	222.....	Kieran McKivergan
Queens.....	223.....	Peter Maddaloni
Staten Island.....	224.....	Steve Ready

**Committee Chairs**

Annual Childrens Party.....	249.....	Peter Maddaloni
Blood Bank.....	250.....	Evan Manca
Compensation Insurance.....	251.....	John Maderich
E.P.E.C.....	252.....	Gregory Sutton
Editor, "The Gauge".....	253.....	Daniel Danvers
Education.....	314.....	Frank Byrne
Engineers Protective.....	255.....	Frank Felix
Entertainment.....	256.....	Edward Brier, Jr.
Exceptions.....	274.....	Dan Morgan
Good and Welfare.....	258.....	Sandra Morton
Grievances 32BJ/94.....	256.....	Edward Brier, Jr.
Grievances 891.....	260.....	John Maderich
Hospitalization.....	261.....	Andrew Samberg
Indoctrination.....	262.....	Steven Williams
Legislative Co-Chairman.....	263.....	William Carroll
Legislative Co-Chairman.....	.....	Michael Kelly
Membership.....	264.....	Kevin Gallagher
Membership Assistance.....	265.....	Vincent McParland
Occup. Health/Safety.....	266.....	Joanne O'Neill
Payroll/Permits.....	267.....	Andrew Foti
Pension.....	268.....	Joe D'Amico
Rating and Transfer.....	269.....	Robert Calamia
Store Keeper.....	270.....	Stevio Pepdjonovic
Supplies.....	271.....	Michael Kelly
Temporary Care Assign.....	272.....	Joseph Sanfilippo
Watchdog Committee.....	273.....	Christopher J. Attianese
Web Master.....	274.....	Dan Morgan
NYC Central Labor Council Delegate.....	275.....	Anthony DelRosso
NYC Central Labor Council Delegate.....	276.....	Richard Gorgoglione

**Welfare & Annuity Funds**

**Kevin J. Gallagher, Chairman of Trustees**

**63 Flushing Ave. • Unit 358 • Brooklyn, NY 11205**

**Ph: (718) 455-9731 Ext. 301 • Fx: (718) 488-7122**

**welfarefund@local891.com**

**Dental Forms (718) 822-2098**

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**(212) 505-5050 ext. 229**

**Newsletter Design & Printing: AliGraphics**



# SAD NEWS

**Joe D'Amico will be stepping down as the Pension chairman at the end of the year. In the bitter sweet way, it is sad to see him go, but happy for his retirement. John Maderich and Christopher Attianese will be assuming Joe's role.**

## PENSION

Office of Payroll Administration does not have the ability to combine TDA contributions from regular assignments and temporary cares for the purpose of year to date totals. If you expect to reach the maximum contribution allowance it is very important that those members keep their own running total of TDA contributions. If you are close to maxing out give me a call and I will notify BERS to closely monitor your account.

Semi- annual pension statements should be out shortly. Once again everyone should pay close attention to the loan and beneficiary sections. Make sure that the beneficiaries listed are correct. The retirement systems are bound by law to pay benefits to the individuals they have on file. In the loan section make sure that any paid up loan does not have a balance showing. If a balance does appear, contact me so this can get corrected. It is in the member's best interest to keep on top of these important items. I cannot emphasize this enough.

The Central Pension Fund of the International Union of Operating Engineers issues semi-annual statements to members. Those individuals who worked while a member of another I.U.O.E. Local, such as Local 94 or Local 30 are entitled to a statement. If you have not received a statement and believe you are entitled to one, contact the CPF Benefits Department at 4115 Chesapeake Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20016. Include your social security number in any correspondence.

Governor Cuomo signed into law Chapter 41 of the Laws of 2016. This law expands the rights of members of New York State and City public retirement systems to purchase credit for military service performed before they joined their retirement system. Prior to this law, members could only purchase credit for military service prior to membership if at least a portion of that service was performed in certain conflicts, at specified times and places.

Under the new law, these specific requirements are eliminated. BERS members can now purchase up to three years of credit for service performed in the United States armed forces prior to his or her BERS membership, regardless of when or where this military service took place. The only requirement is proof of an honorable discharge. If you previously applied to purchase credit for military service prior to membership, and your request was denied because your military service was rendered outside the times and places formerly specified in the statute, you may re-apply to purchase this military service.

*Submitted By: Joe D'Amico (718)455-9731 x268*