

A yellow snowplow is shown from a side-rear perspective, clearing a snowy road. The plow's blade is visible, pushing a pile of snow. The background shows bare trees and a clear blue sky. The snowplow has large, treaded tires and a yellow body.

**Buckeye  
Engineer**

# Season's Greetings

**Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication throughout 2021. May you have a joyous holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year!**

*The Officers, Staff and Clerical Personnel of Local 18*



Michael R. Bertolone	Business Manager and Editor
Thomas P. Byers	President
Jefferson S. Powell	Vice-President
Robert L. Hughes	Rec.-Cor. Secretary
Joseph W. Casto III	Financial Secretary
Thomas J. Perevosnik	Treasurer
Scott R. Stevenson	Trustee
Darrin Morgan	Trustee
Tony D. James	Trustee
Ismael Gutierrez, Jr.	Auditor
Jason D. Baker	Auditor
Ronald A. Krohn, Jr.	Auditor
Brent McCarty	Conductor
John D. Hardesty	Guard

## Main Office

3515 Prospect Ave. Cleveland, Ohio  
216-432-3138 44115

## Cleveland District Office

3515 Prospect Ave. Cleveland, Ohio  
216-432-3131 / 1-800-452-1526 44115  
Matthew T. Grills Executive Board  
Ron Metro Executive Board  
Thomas V. Bowling Executive Board

## Toledo District Office

2412 S. Reynolds Rd. Toledo, Ohio  
419-865-0221 / 1-800-952-5960 43614  
Stacey L. Chamberlain Executive Board  
Chad N. Swartz Executive Board  
Johnny Rodriguez Executive Board

## Columbus District Office

1188 Dublin Rd. Columbus, Ohio  
614-486-5281 / 1-800-762-4070 43215  
Brian A. Dean Executive Board  
Thomas R. Hyme, Jr. Executive Board  
Donald L. Staggers Executive Board

## Franklin District Office

3860 Towne Blvd. Franklin, Ohio  
937-806-0406 / 1-800-452-1530 45005  
Donald R. Black Executive Board  
Kendall Budd Executive Board  
Harold D. Burton Executive Board

## Akron District Office

1721 Triplett Blvd. Akron, Ohio  
330-784-5461 / 1-800-452-1529 44306  
Michael W. VanFossen Executive Board  
Jeffrey A. Work Executive Board  
Derek Furbee Executive Board

## Ohio Operating Engineers Fringe Benefit Programs

1-800-282-1767

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# Local 18 Training Centers

## Richfield Training Center

4675 Newton Rd.  
Richfield, OH 44286  
(P) 330-659-4115  
(P) Toll Free 800-842-9419  
(F) 330-659-9785

## Cygnnet Training Center

9435 Cygnnet Rd.  
Cygnnet, OH 43413  
(P) 419-655-3282  
(P) Toll Free 888-634-6880  
(F) 419-655-3290

## Logan Training Center

30410 Strawn Rd.  
Logan, OH 43138  
(P) 740-385-2567  
(P) Toll Free 888-385-2567  
(F) 740-385-7285

## Miamisburg Training Center

4250 Soldiers Home –  
Miamisburg Rd.  
Miamisburg, OH 45342  
(P) 937-859-5211  
(P) Toll Free 800-635-4928  
(F) 937-859-5901

Visit the website at [local18training.com](http://local18training.com)

## DUES SCHEDULE

Any member of Local 18, 18A, 18B, 18C, 18D, 18G, 18RA or 18S who does not have his/her current dues paid may be suspended. Dues are payable on a quarterly basis on the first day of each quarter (30-day grace period), with the exception of 18D and 18S, to be paid on a monthly basis.

The quarterly and monthly dues schedule for Local 18 and its Branches and Owner/Operator members is as follows:

Local 18 \$66.75 per quarter  
+2.5% Administrative Dues\*

Local 18A \$66.75 per quarter  
+2.5% Administrative Dues\*

Local 18B \$66.75 per quarter  
+2.5% Administrative Dues\*

Local 18C \$51.75 per quarter (Shops)  
+1.5% Administrative Dues\*  
only when working for Dealer/Rental  
Shops. 2.5% Administrative Dues  
when working for other shops, i.e.,  
Highway Heavy Companies\*

Local 18C \$57.75 per quarter (Stone  
Quarries, Material Yards, etc.)

Local 18D \$24.50 per month

Local 18G Two times the employee's hourly  
rate per month to be paid quarterly

Local 18RA \$66.75 per quarter  
+2.5% Administrative Dues\*

Local 18S Two times the employee's  
hourly rate plus \$10.00 per month to  
be paid monthly

Owner Operator members  
\$150.75 per quarter

Reduced Dues \$45.75 per quarter

**Joseph W. Casto III**  
Financial Secretary

Contributions or gifts to I.U.O.E. Local 18 are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

\*The Executive Board, at its January 25, 2020 meeting, approved a resolution to Article VIII, Section 1, of the Bylaws, decreasing the administrative dues to 2.5% of gross wages for all members of Local 18, 18A, 18B, and 18RA. The Executive Board also approved a decrease of administrative dues to 1.5% of gross wages for 18C equipment shop members. Local 18C Quarry and Sand & Gravel Pit members, Local 18D, Local 18G, and Local 18S members dues will remain unchanged. The decrease is effective on April 1, 2020.

# Buckeye Engineer



## Local 18 CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

- 6 All Districts – Advisory Board mtgs.
- 13 All Districts – Membership mtgs.
- 15 District 1 Info. mtg. – Ashtabula
- 15 District 2 mtg. – Lima
- 20 District 6 Info. mtg. – Guernsey County Fairgrounds
- 25 Christmas Day

### JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Day
- 3 All Districts – Advisory Board mtgs.
- 10 All Districts – Membership mtgs.
- 17 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 29 Executive Board mtg. – Columbus District Office, 1 p.m.
- 30 Semi-Annual State mtg. – Hilton Columbus/Polaris 8700 Lyra Drive, 10 a.m.

## RETIREE CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

- 1 District 3 Christmas Party D-3 Union Hall, Noon
- 1 District 4/5 Christmas Party D-4/5 Union Hall, Noon
- 9 District 2 Christmas Party D-2 Union Hall, Noon
- 15 District 6 Christmas Party D-6 Union Hall, Noon
- 16 District 2 mtg.

## REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

by Michael R. Bertolone, Business Manager

Brothers and Sisters of Local 18, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

On behalf of the officers and staff of this great organization, we wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season.

We are happy to report that Christmas came early for the men and women of the entire IUOE and all of our fellow trades. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act has finally been passed and signed into place with bipartisan support in the middle of last month.

This legislation will now provide a historic investment in our nation's infrastructure – repairing and upgrading our crumbling roads, bridges, and more while improving productivity, growing our economy, and creating well-paying jobs.

For Ohio, our nearly 123,000 miles of roadway and bridges will now be repaired and made safer for all of us while creating thousands of jobs. Ohio is second in the nation for the number of bridges, with 44,736 bridges, nearly half of which are not in good condition. The most notable project discussed in Ohio has been the Brent Spence Bridge Corridor Project, which can move forward once and for all. Ohio is projected to receive approximately \$10 billion in highway funding, plus more than \$33 billion in competitive grant funding for highway and multi-modal projects.

Getting this infrastructure bill over the finish line was not pretty and certainly did not happen overnight. However, the bill made it and is finally here. We want to thank all of the politicians who supported this bill and



Have a safe and happy holiday season with your family and friends.

helped get it into place. We would also like to thank our International for the countless hours they spent lobbying and rallying all of the IUOE locals across the nation to get involved. As they say, there is strength in numbers, and everyone's voice mattered to get the job done.

As 2021 comes to an end, Local 18 will finish the year with above-average organizing numbers of newly signed contractors. As you know, we have a full-time organizing department here at Local 18 led by our Director of Organizing Scott Stevenson. Along with the district representatives and business representatives, we continue to grow the number of signatory contractors and the total membership numbers.

The future of organizing looks bright, and the sky is the limit with the worker shortage most employers are experiencing. Construction companies have been turning to Local 18 for their need of certified, trained, and safe equipment operators. We will be ramping up our efforts into 2022 to capture as much as possible and continue towards our goal of 100% of the market share.

We have also noticed an increase in groups within a workplace who desire representation by a union due to the current worker shortage. These employees have watched the workload increase and the coworker number decrease. Their conditions have been sacrificed for production, and their wages have not been adjusted for the additional responsibilities they have taken on. Employees have watched the company's profits soar over the

*continued on page 25*



# *Season's Greetings from*



**BUSINESS** Manager Michael Bertolone with U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh.



**SETTING** a pool for the Waterford Bluffs at W. 20th and Lorain Rd. in Cleveland is General Crane.



**BUSY** for Fechko Excavating on Boone Rd. in Columbia Station is Gerald Miller.



**WORKING** for Mosser Construction at the new Firelands High School in Amherst is Sheryl Blair.



**DISTRICT 1** Retiree's Thanksgiving/Christmas luncheon.





# *the Members of District 1*



**BUSY** for Nicholson Construction on the Shoreline Storage Tunnel Project in Cleveland is Eris Williams.



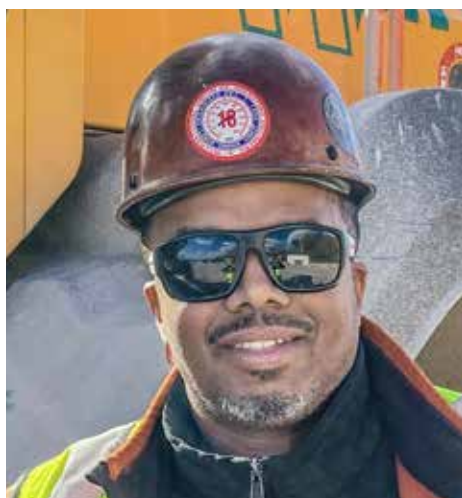
**OPERATING** an asphalt plant for Allied Stone Corp. in Bedford is Nick Dean.



**FRONT** end loader operator for Allied Stone Corp. in Bedford is Tom Zimmer.



**OPERATING** a skidsteer loader for Allied Stone Corp. in Bedford is Jason Stefancin.



**OPERATING** a front end loader for Walsh Construction on the I-480 bridge in Valley View is Cortrell Lowe.



**ON THE JOB** for InfraSource on Lincoln St. in Bellevue is Joe Ball.



**WORKING** for Nicholson Construction on the Shoreline Storage Tunnel Project in Cleveland is Tim Pulley.



**WORKING** for Triad Engineering are (l-r) Tylor Bentz, Dave Blankenship, Frances Peck, James Forsythe, Jeff Taylor and Tony Earhart.

additional D-1 on page 18





# *Season's Greetings from*



**MILLING** Buckeye St. in Lima for Ebony Construction is Trent Stevenson.



**TILTING** up walls at the First Solar facility in Perrysburg is Capital City Crane Rental.



**ON THE JOB** for Beaver on the Ohio Turnpike in Edon is Wallace Groves.



**DRILLING** for guardrail for Lake Erie Construction on the Ohio Turnpike is David Springer.



**OPERATING** a backhoe for Miller Pipeline in Curtice is Angelo Peake.



**LOADING** trucks in Forest, Hardin County for IRG is John Chamberlain.



**WORKING** for Shelly in Perrysburg is Doug Reinhard.



*the Members of District 2*



**WORKING** for Great Lakes Demolition in Vickery is Charles Warner.



**ON THE JOB** for Shelly Company in Perrysburg are (l-r) Timothy Stump, John Kerbel, and Mark Boss.



**MILLING** Buckeye St. in Lima for Ebony Construction is new member Jamie Scott.



**KEEPING** busy for Beaver on the Ohio Turnpike in Edon is Gary Schoettley.



**BUSY** for Bowers Asphalt on a resurfacing project in Perrysburg are (l-r) Tim Krohn and Steven C. Kiefer.



**RESURFACING** Buckeye Rd. in Lima for Gerken Paving is Grant Romstadt.

additional D-3 photos on page 19



# *Season's Greetings from*



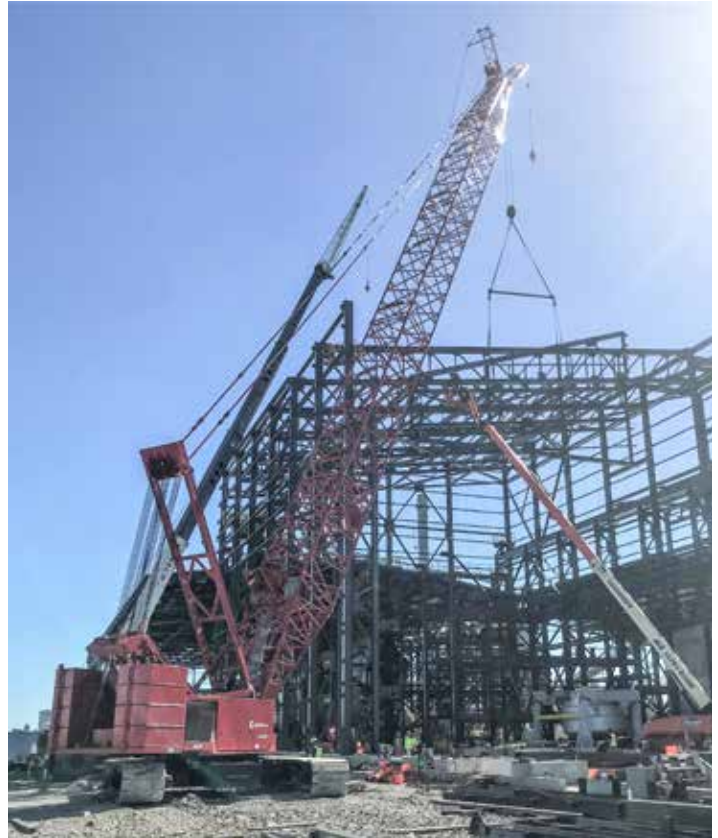
**SETTING** bridge beams for Shelly & Sands on S.R. 37 is Capital City Group.



**WORKING** for George J. Igel & Company at Project Mustang in New Albany is Brian Coleman.



**RECONSTRUCTION** of Hargus Lake Dam in Pickaway County being done by Ruhlin Construction.



**BUSY** at the Vanadium site in Zanesville, Muskingum County is AMG.



**ON THE JOB** for Capital City Group on Hamilton Rd. in Groveport, Franklin County is David Dials.



**KEEPING** busy for Shelly & Sands on Watson Rd. in Pike County is Josiah Kennedy.



# the Members of District 3



**WORKING** for Capital City Group in New Albany is Andrew Crapyou.



**BUSY** for Strawser Leasing on Princess St. in Etna, Licking County is Phillip Cadle.



**OPERATING** a RT crane for Atlas Construction at Project Mustang in New Albany is Ryan Milner.



**ON THE JOB** for Complete General in Duncan Falls, Muskingum County is Corey Susil.



**OPERATING** a water truck for George J. Igel & Co. on the Facebook Project in New Albany is Robin Sullivan.



**WORKING** for Shelly on I-70 near Kirkersville, Licking County is Michael Haendiges.



**KEEPING** busy for Maxim Crane in Lockbourne, Franklin County is Shane Penwell.



**OPERATING** for Loewendick Demolition on Hill Rd. in Pickerington, Fairfield County is Eric Newsome.

*additional D-3 photos on page 20*



# *Season's Greetings from*



**WORKING** as a lube technician for Columbus Equipment in Cincinnati is Austin Thacker.



**KEEPING** busy for Ohio CAT in Richwood is Blake Scott.



**OPERATING** a crane for Schumacher Crane in Huber Heights is Ira Lewis.



**BUSY** for Complete General in Montgomery is Brad Donathan.



**BUSY** for Kokosing in Clermont County is William Fugett.



**WORKING** for Eagle Bridge in Dayton, operating a track hoe is Brandon Sherwood.



**ON THE JOB** for John R. Jurgensen in Wilmington is Brendon McKee.



**KEEPING** busy as lube technician for Ohio CAT in Hamilton County is Cody True.



**OPERATING** a crane for Midwest Steel Erectors in Vandalia is Donald Washington.



# *the Members of District 4/5*



**FIRST Place Winner in the backhoe competition at the District 4/5 picnic is Clayton Oaks.**



**FIRST Place Winner in the crane rodeo competition at the District 4/5 picnic is Craig Ballard.**



**OPERATING an asphalt roller for John R. Jurgensen in Hamilton County is Michael S. Green.**



**ON THE JOB for Ohio CAT in Richwood is Joey Benton.**



**WORKING for RECO Equipment in Florence, KY is John Steve Thomas.**



**OPERATING an asphalt roller for A&B Asphalt in Dayton is Tina Lightfoot.**



**CONGRATULATIONS to Mt. Carmel Stabilization on 1 million tons of lime/cement installed this year.**



# *Season's Greetings from*



**OPERATING** an excavator for Blackhorse Bridge Construction on S.R. 18 is Adam Schemrich.



**INSTALLING** a wall at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton is ALL Crane.



**OPERATING** a broom for NLS Paving in Smithfield is Antonio Sanchez.



**BUSY** for Gabes Construction in New Franklin, running an excavator, is Brandon Fugett.



**ON THE JOB** for Badger Daylighting is Braden Crumley.



**WORKING** on a levee in Massillon is DRS.







# *the Members of District 6*



**SWINGING** iron for Mull Iron at the Lexington High School project is ALL Crane.



**OPERATING** a forklift for Grae-Con at the Guernsey County Powerhouse Project is Derek Christman.



**ON THE JOB** for Fechko Excavating in Richfield is Jeff Fedor.



**KEEPING** busy for Stanley Miller at the West Salem WWTP is Ronald Holland.



**WORKING** for Reumac Stabilization on I-77 in Akron is Brenton McGarry.



**TOPSOILING** at the Lexington High School project is Beaver Excavating.



**BUSY** for Otis Eastern in Noble County are (l-r) Kevin Soles and Dave Snode.

*additional D-6 photos on page 22*



# *Season's Greetings from*



**WORKING** for the City of Painesville is Brian Walker.



**GETTING** the job done at National Gas and Oil is Zachary Hill.



**RECENTLY** retired after 37-years is Clay Hart, who worked at One Cleveland Center.



**ON THE JOB** for Solvay is Dennis Sole.



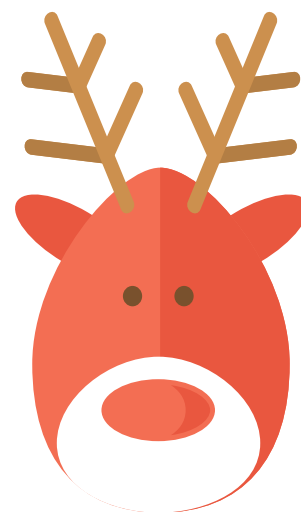
**BUSY** for CBRE is Bryan Macklin.



**BUSY** for CBRE is Chris Heyman.



**WORKING** for CBRE is Chris Heilbrunn.







# *the Members of 18S*



**WORKING** for CBRE – Columbus is Matt Adams.



**NEW member** Ethan Dobler working for Canton Drop Forge.



**KEEPING** busy for Zanesville Metropolitan Housing Authority is Dale Price.



**BUSY** for AQUA - Franklin is Edward Diserio.



**WORKING** for Zoetis is Robert Malchiodi.



**ON THE JOB** for CBRE is Stephen Hunter.



**BUSY** for Solvay is Wesley Lester.



**AFTER** almost 37-years with National Gas and Oil, Russell Carr, Jr. retired in November.



# *Season's Greetings from*



**WORKING** for Gallo Equipment – Cleveland is District 1 member Brody Powers.



**ON THE JOB** for Ohio CAT – PSD Cleveland is District 1 member Bryan Hale.



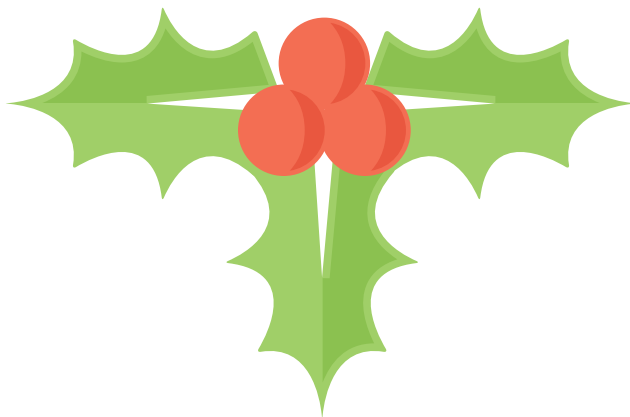
**BUSY** for Columbus Equipment – Cadiz are District 6 members (l-r) Kenneth Baker and Steve Pearch.



**KEEPING** busy for Ohio CAT – Cadiz is District 6 member Steve West.



**WORKING** for Ohio CAT – North Canton is District 6 member Nicolli Dragovich.







# Local 18 Shop Members



**WORKING** for Ohio CAT – Perrysburg are District 2 members (l-r) Nathan Merillat and Jeff Dickmann.



**BUSY** for W.W. Williams – Lemoyne is District 2 member Joe Hammer.



**VOTING** for the last time is 40-year District 1 member of Cummins – Cleveland, Joe Koenig.



**ON THE JOB** for Ohio CAT is District 1 member Joe Mikalacki.



**KEEPING** busy for RECO Equipment – Belmont are District 6 members (l-r) Kevin Kip Neiswanger and Tyler Saffell.

additional shop photos on page 30



# Additional District 1 photos

continued from page 5



**OPERATING** a crane for Nicholson Construction on the Shoreline Storage Tunnel Project in Cleveland is Damien Chavez.



**LIFE** member Mike Lauria working for Platform Cement in Mentor.



**ON THE JOB** for H.M. Miller on Seville Rd. in Wadsworth is Ray Tasker.



**WORKING** for Ohio Bridge in Waite Hill is Mark Naugle.



**KEEPING** busy for 21st Century Demolition on Sawmill Parkway in Huron is Lynette Fields.



**MAKING** equipment repairs for Ohio CAT on the I-480 Union Workers Memorial Bridge in Valley View is Scott Kirchner.



**OPERATING** a skidsteer for McNally on the Shoreline Storage Tunnel Project in Cleveland is Stephani Schoewe.



**ON THE JOB** for B&B Wrecking at the Lorain County VA Clinic is Sylvester Hodge, Jr.



**OPERATING** a crane for Vantastic Crane Service on Aurora Rd. in Warrensville Heights is Joe Edwards.



# Additional District 2 photos

continued from page 7



**WORKING** for Capital City in Perrysburg is Rachel Pacheco.



**ON THE JOB** for Capital City in Perrysburg is Jacob Upright.



**KEEPING** busy around KMI in Woodville is Jeremy Shelley.



**DOZER** operator on I-75 in Toledo for E.S. Wagner is Lloyd Belmon.



**OPERATING** the KMI Asphalt Plant in Woodville is Kyle Chamberlain.



**BUSY** for Roese Pipeline in Columbus Grove is John W. Solomon II.



**LAYING** asphalt on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway in Findlay for Helms & Sons are Jarrid Miller on the paver and Jonnell Harrison on the roller.

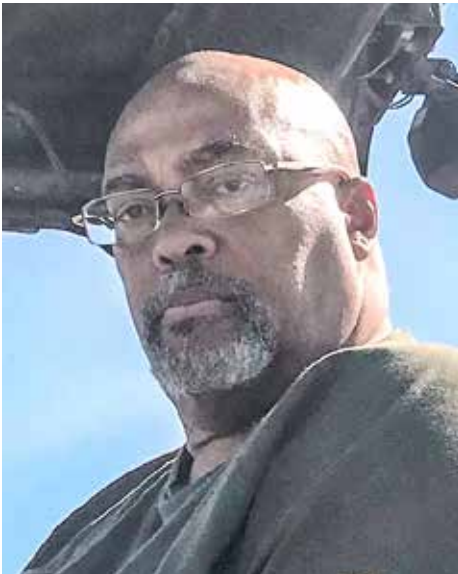


**RESURFACING** Buckeye Rd. in Lima for Gerken Paving is Amy Townes.



## Additional District 3 photos

continued from page 9



**BUSY** for Phenix Stabilization on Hamilton Rd. in Columbus is James Beatty.



**OPERATING** an asphalt roller for Columbus Asphalt Paving on Harlem Rd. in New Albany is life member Jamey Gillilan.



**ON THE JOB** for Complete General in Duncan Falls, Muskingum County is John Milligan.



**WORKING** on a water line on Church St. in Newark is Fabrizi Trucking & Paving.



**INSTALLING** sanitary sewer in Grove City, Franklin County is Trucco Construction.



**SETTING** bridge beams for Kokosing at OSU, Franklin County is Capital City Group.



# December and January Local 18 Training Schedule

## Richfield (800) 842-9419

November 29- December 3	40-Hour Directional Drill	December 18	8-Hour Skidsteer Refresher
December 1	8-Hour Tier IV Emissions	January 7-8	16-Hour OSHA 10/STP
December 2-3	16-Hour Crane Rigging	January 8	8-Hour MSHA Refresher
December 4	8-Hour Signal Person	January 15	8-Hour Forklift Combination
December 6-10	40-Hour Pipeline Distribution & Locating	January 17-21	40-Hour Crane I
December 6-10	40-Hour Plan Reading	January 18-19	16-Hour Crane Rigging
December 13-17	40-Hour Welding	January 21-22	16-Hour OSHA 10/STP
December 16-17	16-Hour Trench Safety	January 24-28	40-Hour Deep Excavation and Pipe Crew
December 17	8-Hour HAZWOPER Refresher	January 29	8-Hour ICRA
December 18	8-Hour MSHA Refresher	January 31- February 3	32-Hour Asphalt Milling

## Cygnnet (888) 634-6880

November 29- December 3	40-Hour Articulated Boom Crane	December 18	8-Hour First Aid/CPR/AED
December 1-3	24-Hour Skidsteer	December 18	8-Hour MSHA Refresher
December 4	8-Hour Signal Person	January 6-7	16-Hour Crane Rigging
December 4	8-Hour Skidsteer Refresher	January 8	8-Hour HAZWOPER Refresher
December 6-8	24-Hour GPS Grade Control	January 8	8-Hour Signal Person
December 9-11	24-Hour GPS Grade Control	January 15	8-Hour Forklift Combination
December 11	8-Hour Forklift Combination	January 22	8-Hour MSHA Refresher
December 13-17	40-Hour Lift Director	January 29	8-Hour Skidsteer Refresher
December 16-17	16-Hour OSHA 10/STP	January 31- February 4	40-Hour HAZWOPER
December 16-17	16-Hour Trench Safety		

## Logan (888) 385-2567

December 4, December 11	16-Hour: 8-Hour Each CCO Refresher (2 Saturdays)	January 3-7	40-Hour HAZWOPER
December 6-8	24-Hour GPS Grade Control	January 8	8-Hour Forklift Combination
December 8-9	16-Hour Crane Rigging	January 8, January 15	16-Hour: 8-Hour Each OSHA 10/STP (2 Saturdays)
December 9-11	24-Hour GPS Grade Control	January 10-13	32-Hour OSHA 30/STP
December 10	8-Hour Signal Person	January 10-14	40-Hour Lift Director
December 10-11	16-Hour OSHA 10/STP	January 15	8-Hour First Aid/CPR/AED
December 11	8-Hour Forklift Combination	January 17-21	40-Hour Crane I
December 13-17	40-Hour Directional Drill	January 24-28	40-Hour Support Equipment & Maintenance
December 16-17	16-Hour Trench Safety	January 29	8-Hour Tier IV Emissions
December 17	8-Hour HAZWOPER Refresher	January 31- February 2	24-Hour Skidsteer
December 18	8-Hour CCO Exam		

## Miamisburg (800) 635-4928

November 29- December 2	32-Hour OSHA 30/STP	December 13-17	40-Hour Drones in Construction
December 3-4	16-Hour Crane Rigging	December 14-16	24-Hour MSHA
December 6-10	40-Hour Crane I	December 17-18	16-Hour OSHA 10/STP
December 6-7	16-Hour Remote Control Equipment	January 8	8-Hour MSHA Refresher
December 8-10	24-Hour Skidsteer	January 15,	16-Hour: 8-Hour Each OSHA 10/STP
December 11	8-Hour Forklift Combination	January 22	(2 Saturdays)
		January 29	8-Hour HAZWOPER Refresher





## Additional District 6 photos

continued from page 13



**WORKING** on gas lines for H.M. Miller in Portage County is Joe Kohler.



**ON THE JOB** for Matt Winters Excavating in Edinburg, operating a skid steer, is Josh Hershberger.



**FORKLIFT** operator Kat Comshaw Arnold working for Grae-Con at the Guernsey County Powerhouse Project.



**OPERATING** an elevator for Grae-Con at the Guernsey County Powerhouse Project is Kelly Boals.



**OPERATING** a farm tractor at the Shelly Co. property in Portage County is Marcus Turner.



**ON THE JOB** for Fechko Excavating is Michael Cowhick.



**OVERHEAD** crane operator Mary Oliver working for Grae-Con at the Guernsey County Powerhouse Project.

additional D-6 photos on page 23



# Additional District 6 photos

continued from page 22



**OPERATING** a backhoe for Karvo at the Edinburg rest stop on I-76 is Mike Krebs.



**EXCAVATOR** operator for Gabes Construction in New Franklin is Nick Seeling.



**ON THE JOB** for for Fechko Excavating is Steve LaTampa.



**WORKING** at the new tractor supply distribution center near Navarre is Northstar Paving.



**OPERATING** a boom truck for Shippers in Akron is Art Walsh.



**BUSY** in District 4/5 near Mason on a meter station is InfraSource.



**OPERATING** an elevator for Grea-Con at the Guernsey County Powerhouse Project is Duff Carpenter.



# Apprenticeship and Training

Don Black, Administrator

Brother and Sister Operators,

We hope everyone has had a safe and strong work season. Our workplace is constantly changing, and we have two choices available to us: adapt, adjust, and grow, or remain still. The Apprenticeship and Training Program is a resource for all our members that will assist with adapting, adjusting, and growing. We are always looking for new information and better ways to help our members get what they need to stay competitive, productive, and safe in our world of heavy construction.

Technology is an area that is constantly changing at a rapid pace. Our equipment is faster, stronger, and smarter than ever before. The equipment requires an operator trained and knowledgeable in the new operating systems used to use those pieces of equipment efficiently and effectively on the job site. We will see more green technology and different safety systems. Our methods will need to adjust to continue performing the work we have always done.



## Ohio Operating Engineers Apprenticeship and Training

The Apprenticeship and Training Program continues to add new classes embracing these changes in the workplace to help our members increase their knowledge and skill for the changing job sites. We have added Hydro-Excavation, Directional Drilling, and Tier IV courses to our catalog of classes. These classes address the changes in how we approach work in the 21st century. Hydro-Excavation and Directional Drilling allow us to use less invasive methods to locate, install, repair, or replace utilities. The Tier IV course introduces our members to the new engine systems that have been designed and built to address the pollution in our environment. With these systems, we must change how we operate the equipment, or we will cause extensive and expensive damage to the equipment!

We have also added the Drones in Construction Course, covering the FAA Part

107 regulations for small unmanned aerial systems (sUAS). The number of drones on the job site and the ways they are used is increasing every day. This course instructs our members to help them understand the regulations in place and prepares them to take the FAA Part 107 Exam, enabling them to become licensed and authorized unmanned aircraft pilots. We will also fly the drones, learn how to maneuver them, and program them during the class. We will collect information to use in a survey to create maps, models, and designs relating to a job site and project. Companies are using this same information on their job sites to make safety and operating decisions.

We at the Apprenticeship and Training Program would like to thank our Brother and Sister Operators for everything they do. Without our members, we would not be able to do all that we do. We want to wish all of you a happy and safe holiday season. We look forward to seeing you next year!

## Act before December 31 to increase your tax breaks

Whether you are having a good year, rebounding from recent losses, or still struggling to get off the ground, you may be able to save a bundle on your taxes if you make the right moves before the end of the year. As we edge closer to the end of the year, it's a great time to reassess your tax planning for 2021. An important part of this process is to know the likely tax bracket you'll be in, the limits that could impact you, and the potential deductions available. Here are five tips to keep in mind as you prepare to file your 2021 taxes.

### 1. Defer your income

Income is taxed in the year it is received—but why pay tax today if you can pay it tomorrow instead?

It makes sense to defer income if you think you will be in the same or a lower tax bracket next year. If additional income could push you into a higher tax bracket, you don't want to be hit with a bigger tax bill next year. If that's likely, you may want to accelerate income into 2021, so you can pay tax on it in a lower bracket sooner rather than in a higher bracket later.

### 2. Take some last-minute tax deductions

Just as you may want to defer income into next year, you may want to lower your tax bill by accelerating deductions this year.

For example, contributing to charity is a great way to get a deduction. And you control the timing.

For 2021, this amount is up to \$600 per tax return for those filing married filing jointly and \$300 for other filing statuses. In 2020 you could deduct up to \$300 per tax return of qualified cash contributions if you took the standard deduction.

- You can supercharge the tax benefits of your generosity by donating appreciated stock or property rather than cash.
- Better yet, as long as you've owned the asset for more than one year, you get a double tax benefit from the donation: You can deduct the property's market value on the date of the gift, and you avoid paying capital gains tax on the built-up appreciation.

You must have a receipt to back up any contribution, regardless of the amount. (The old rule that you only had to have a receipt to back up contributions of \$250 or more is long gone.) Other expenses you can accelerate include:

- an estimated state income tax bill due January 15
- a property tax bill due early next year
- or a doctor or hospital bill.

Don't miss out on valuable tax deductions if you can itemize rather than claiming the standard deduction. According to the IRS, about 75% of taxpayers take the standard

deduction, but could be missing out on valuable tax deductions if they can itemize.

If you're on the itemize-or-not borderline, your year-end strategy should focus on bunching. This is the practice of timing expenses to produce lean and fat years. You cram in as many deductible expenses as possible in one year, using the tactics outlined above. The goal is to surpass the standard deduction amount and claim a larger write-off.

In alternating years, you skimp on deductible expenses to hold them below the standard deduction amount because you get credit for the full standard deduction regardless of how much you actually spend. In the lean years, year-end planning stresses pushing as many deductible expenses as possible into the following year when they'll have more value.

### 3. Sell loser investments to offset gains

A key year-end strategy is called "loss harvesting"—selling investments such as stocks and mutual funds to realize losses. You can then use those losses to offset any taxable gains you have realized during the year. Losses offset gains dollar for dollar.

And if your losses are more than your gains, you can use up to \$3,000 of excess loss to wipe out other income.

If you have more than \$3,000 in excess loss, it can be carried over to the following year. You can use it then to offset any 2021

*continued on page 25*



# Right-to-Work does not create a right to work!

Despite the misleading title, Right-to-Work laws do not create a right to work, nor do they protect workers from being fired for unjust reasons.

What Right-to-Work laws actually do is allow workers in union shops to accept the benefits of unionizing without paying their share of the costs. The National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) requires unions to represent all employees in the bargaining unit.

All workers in the unit receive the increased wages and benefits negotiated by the union. All workers receive protection from unjust discharge under the collective bargaining agreement and representation in arbitration challenging unjust terminations at no charge. It is only fair that all workers who receive these benefits share the costs. That is what the NLRA provides.

State Right-to-Work laws, which are permitted by the NLRA, change this arrangement. Under such laws, workers are permitted to receive the benefits of the collective bargaining agreements without paying their share of the costs. This forces fellow employees to pay more than their fair share to make up the loss.

Right-to-Work laws also weaken unions by forcing them to provide services to workers without being reimbursed for their costs.

This is exactly what proponents of Right-to-Work want. The champions of Right-to-Work are not supporters of workers' rights. The National Right-to-Work committee was founded in 1954 by a group of ultra-conservative businessmen, including Whitford Blakeney, one of the best known anti-labor lawyers of his time, whose career included representing the J.P. Stevens textile company, whose campaign against unionization was found by the National Labor Relations Board to include "excessive and egregious labor practices."

(The movie "Norma Rae" is based on that strike. Sally Field's role, which won her an Oscar, was based on Crystal Lee Sutton who was fired at a Stevens plant for trying to organize the employees.)

To this day, the NRTWC functions as an arm of organized business. It did not support civil rights laws protecting workers from racial and gender discrimination. It does not support increasing protection against retaliation for workers who try to organize. It does not

support protecting workers' lives by improving enforcement of occupational safety and health laws.

In fact, the committee's leadership works closely with those who oppose improving the rights of workers.

Advocates of Right-to-Work laws claim that such laws protect workers' right to freedom of association by preventing them from being forced to join unions against their will. This is not true.

Workers already have this right under the National Labor Relations Act. Section 7 of the Act prohibits discrimination against any employee because he or she has chosen to join or not join a union. No new state law is needed to protect workers in this area.

Right-to-Work laws allow workers to accept the benefits of union membership without sharing the cost. This is a right no one should have – the right to get something for nothing and make others pay the bill.

## Act before December 31 to increase your tax breaks

*continued from page 24*

gains, plus up to \$3,000 of other income. You can carry over losses year after year for as long as you live.

### 4. Contribute to an IRA

- You usually have until the April 18, 2022 filing deadline to make IRA contributions, but the sooner you get your money into the account, the sooner it has the potential to start to grow tax-deferred.
- Making deductible contributions also reduces your taxable income for the year.
- You can contribute a maximum of \$6,000 to an IRA for 2021, plus an extra \$1,000 if you are 50 or older. Use our IRA Calculator to see how much you can contribute.

### 5. Watch your flexible spending accounts

Flexible spending accounts, also called flex plans, are fringe benefits which many companies offer that let employees steer part of their pay into a special account which can then be tapped to pay child care or medical bills.

The advantage is that money that goes into the account avoids both income and Social

Security taxes. The catch is the notorious "use it or lose it" rule. You have to decide at the beginning of the year how much to contribute to the plan and, if you don't use it all by the end of the year, you forfeit the excess.

With year-end approaching, check to see if your employer has adopted a grace period permitted by the IRS, allowing employees to spend 2021 set-aside money as late as March 15, 2022. If not, you can do what employees have always done and make a last-minute trip to the drug store, dentist, or optometrist to use up the funds in your account.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) was signed into law on December 27, 2020, as a stimulus measure to provide relief to those affected by the pandemic. The CAA allows employers to extend healthcare FSA and dependent care FSA grace periods for up to 12 months into the following plan year for plan years ending in 2020 and 2021.

Even average taxpayers can decrease their federal income taxes with a bit of planning and research. As always, consult your investment, banking, or tax professional before taking any actions that may impact your finances or taxes.

## Report to the members

*continued from page 1*

past couple of years with zero workforce recognition. Local 18 is currently evaluating any and all opportunities to grow our market share in the construction industry and the stationary locations across the entire state.

In closing, I want to thank the entire staff of Local 18 for their dedication and hard work during this past year. I appreciate their support to the membership and myself with the transition into my new role. I could not do it without each and every one of them, from the clerical staff to the district representatives, business representatives, and organizers. Your entire staff puts in many hours, covering a lot of territories to ensure the members are being represented with their efforts. A special thank you to President Tom Byers is due for assisting all districts in their negotiations, grievances, and numerous issue that arise throughout the year.

I also want to thank the members of the Local 18 advisory boards and the Local 18 executive board for their willingness to be involved in their union and dedicate their time to keep us moving in the right direction.

We hope to see everyone at the December membership and satellite meetings, which will have food and giveaways in every district, so mark your calendars. Have a safe and happy holiday season with your family and friends – 2022, here we come!





# STAY INFORMED WITH THE IUOE 18 MOBILE APP

Your IUOE 18 APP is the best way for members of Operating Engineers 18 to stay connected on the go!



## CONTACT YOUR UNION

Find your Union Rep, Stay Informed, Download your Steward Handbook. All from your IUOE 18 Mobile App.



## MEMBER RESOURCES

Check your membership resources right from your mobile phone. Download a form, fill out a union survey, find member discounts around you.



## POLITICAL ACTION

Hold candidates accountable when members stand together, members win.



## REVIEW YOUR CONTRACT

Carry your digital copy of your contract with you at all times. Know your rights and stay informed when you are on the go.





# Introducing Member XG Portal at OOEXG.COM

## MemberXG IS NOW AVAILABLE!

ooexg.com web address will automatically redirect to <https://memberxg.gobasys.com/OOEFBP>

MemberXG is an internet-based product that links participants to their benefit information. It is a self-service tool that is available to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to view the current status of your benefits.

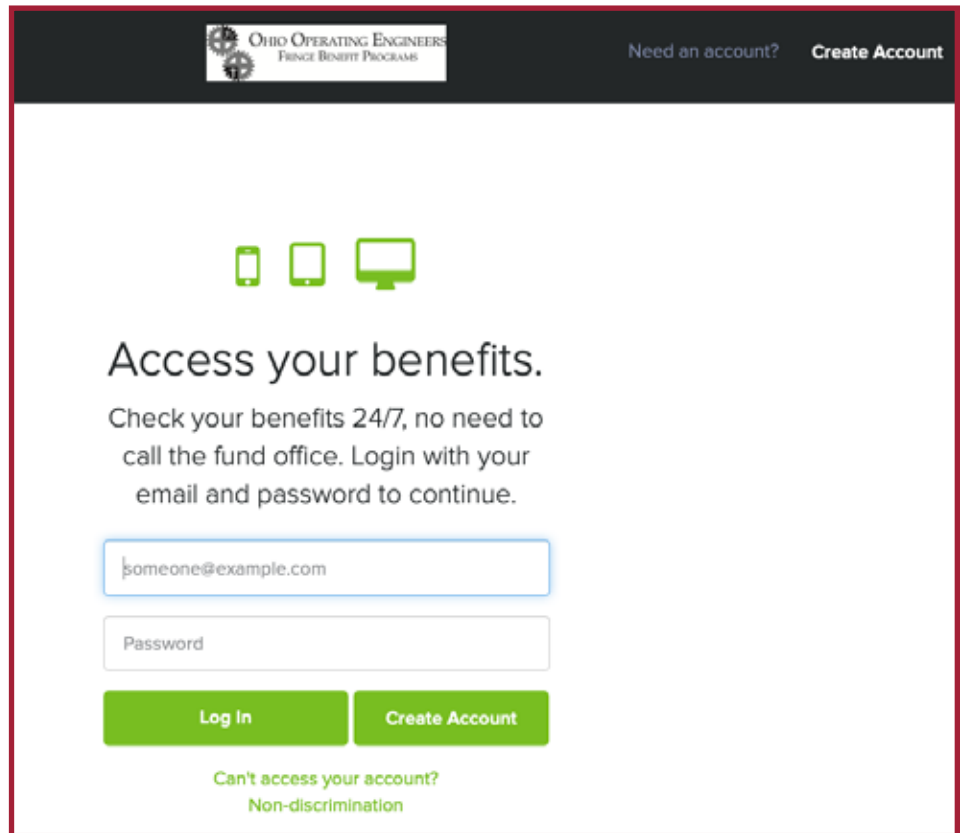
### All that you need is:

- an Internet connection
- a valid username, which must be an email address
- a password

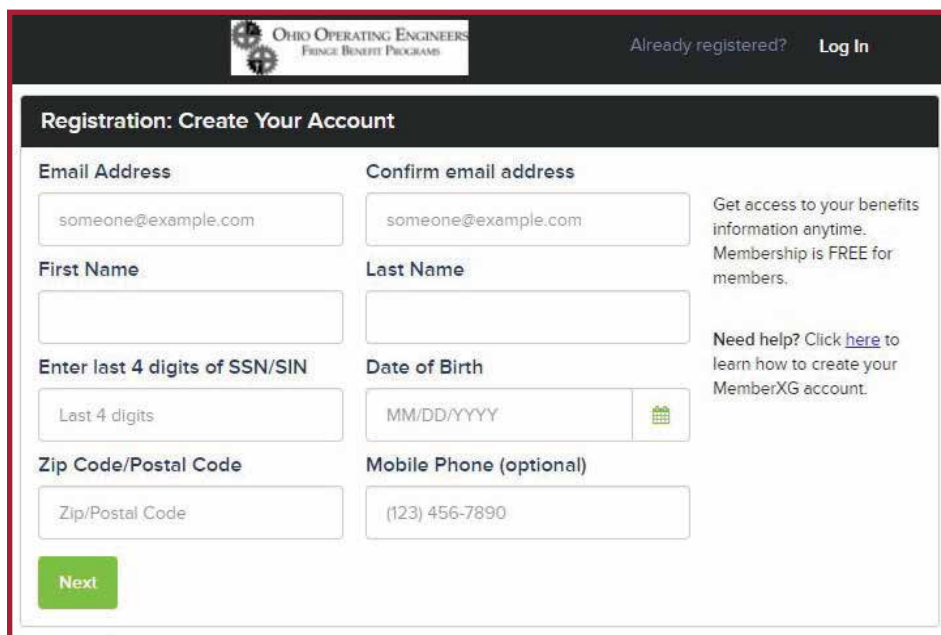
### All of the following are accessible via the MemberXG web portal:

- live demographic information for members and dependents
- eligibility
- contribution records
- pension credits
- pension options
- pension projections
- MRA activity

In order to establish your online account access, you will first need to click on the Create Account link or + sign if using your mobile phone or tablet located in the upper right corner of your screen.



After clicking on "Create Account", you will be directed to the following screen:



\* You will be required to use an email address as your login name.

### Once you submit your information:

- First Name
- Last Name
- Last four digits of your SS#
- Date of Birth
- 5 digit Zip Code that matches file at Fund Office
- Create a Password: 8 characters, 1 uppercase, 1 lower case, 1 number, 1 special character
- 3 Answers to Challenge Questions

The first time you login, you will receive a six digit access code via email for security verification. You will then be able to view your benefits.

### Please note:

"Private Browsing" settings could result in the receipt of an access code each time you login.

If you need help creating an account, click on the "here" link in the lower right corner.

You can still access your benefit information via Local 18's website at [www.oe18.org/members/fringe-benefits/](http://www.oe18.org/members/fringe-benefits/)

If you encounter any problems with the MemberXG website, please contact the Fund Office at (800) 282-1767 and select option 7 which will connect you to the Information Technology Department.



# All I want for Christmas is a union-made gift

It's not too late yet to find that perfect holiday gift that carries a union label and is made in America. Below is a wide range of gift possibilities, from clothes to games to sports equipment and more, made by members of UNITE HERE, Boilermakers (IBB), Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers (BCTGM), Machinists (IAM), United Steelworkers (USW), Teamsters (IBT), UAW, United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union/UFCW (RWDSU/UFCW) and United Farm Workers (UFW).

This list is compiled from Union Plus, the AFL-CIO Union Label and Service Trades Department (UL&STD) and the BCTGM website. Check them out for even more gift ideas.

## Apparel and Accessories

Brooks Brothers (UNITE HERE)  
Joseph Abboud (UNITE HERE)  
Majestic Athletic (UNITE HERE)  
Timex watches (IAM)  
Naturalizer shoes (UFCW)  
Nunn Bush shoes (UFCW)  
Red Wing shoes (UFCW)  
Beauty Products  
Avon (UFCW)  
Caress skin care (UFCW)  
ChapStick (USW)  
Dove beauty products (UFCW)  
Revlon (UAW)  
Old Spice (UFCW)

## Sports Equipment

American Athletic (Russell-Brands) (UAW)  
Louisville Slugger (USW)  
MacGregor golf clubs (IBB)  
Standard Golf (IAM)  
Top-Flite golf balls (IBB)

## Games

*(All made by RWDSU/UFCW)*

Barrel of Monkeys  
Battleship  
Candy Land  
Chutes and Ladders  
Clue  
Connect 4  
The Game of Life  
Hi Ho! Cherry-O  
Monopoly  
Mouse Trap  
Operation  
Pictionary  
Risk  
Scrabble  
Sorry  
Taboo  
Twister  
Yahtzee

## Stocking Stuffers

Rayovac batteries (IBT and UAW)  
Bic lighters (USW)  
Ghirardelli chocolates (BCTGM)  
Jelly Belly (BCTGM)  
Laffy Taffy (BCTGM)  
Tootsie Roll Pops (BCTGM)  
Allan peppermint candy canes (BCTGM)  
Hershey's chocolates (BCTGM)  
See's Candies (BCTGM)

## Wine and Beer

*(Wines brought to you by UFW)*

Chateau Ste. Michelle (IBT)  
Columbia Crest  
St. Supéry  
Charles Krug  
C.K. Mondavi  
Gallo of Sonoma  
Miller Beer (UAW and IBT)  
Miller High Life  
Miller Genuine Draft  
Miller Lite  
Milwaukee's Best  
Icehouse  
Red Dog  
Anheuser-Busch (IBT and IAM)  
Budweiser  
Budweiser American Ale  
Bud Light  
Michelob  
Shock Top  
Busch  
Rolling Rock  
O'Doul's

## If You're in the 'Big Spender' Category (UAW)

Jeep  
Ford Mustangs  
Cadillacs

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<https://aflcio.org/MadeInAmerica/holiday-gifts>.





## Health tips: Hydration and your health

Did you know your body is made up of 60% water? That is why it is so important to stay hydrated. If you aren't hydrated, things on the inside must start "drying" up and not running and functioning properly.

The best hydrator is water, but many other drinks are also suitable for hydration, such as milk or non-dairy milk, infused water: fruit, mint, cucumber are a few ideas (come on, even tough guys and gals infuse their water!), fruit juice (low sugar), sports drinks (low sugar), caffeine-free tea or drinks, and coconut water.

It's best to avoid too much sugar in your drinks when trying to stay hydrated. Beverages such as lemonade, some fruit juice, some sports drinks, soda, sweet tea, and smoothies can contain excessive sugar and should only be consumed in moderation.

It's also best to stay away from too much caffeine and alcohol when you need to keep hydrated or need to rehydrate—caffeine and alcohol can dehydrate you.

Staying hydrated has multiple benefits besides the obvious of keeping your whole body functioning properly, such as:

- You physically feel better and can think and function better. You maximize your performance when you stay hydrated.



- Your energy level stabilizes when you stay hydrated and should increase when you rehydrate.
- When you are dehydrated, your brain function decreases, affecting your thinking and your moods. You may find you have fewer headaches when you stay hydrated.

- Your intestines function better when you stay hydrated, which may lessen constipation.
- Your kidneys and liver stay "flushed" out better when you stay hydrated, which may lessen the chance of kidney stones and help flush out kidney stones that are forming.
- If you are trying to lose or maintain weight, hydrate, and stay hydrated! It may help your metabolism and help you to eat less if you have hydration shortly before mealtime.

The moral of the story: hydrate and stay hydrated. Your body and health depend upon it!

*(Some of the tips and information are taken from Healthline.com and Tasteofhome.com)*

### 2022 Labor History classes scheduled

**Classes are by reservation only.**

Date	Location	Instructor
February 12, 2022	District 4/5 – Middletown Union Hall	Michael Bertolone / Jason Baker
February 19, 2022	District 2 – Toledo Union Hall	Michael Bertolone / Jason Baker
March 5, 2022	District 3 – Columbus Union Hall	Michael Bertolone / Jason Baker
March 12, 2022	District 6 – Akron Union Hall	Michael Bertolone / Jason Baker
March 26, 2022	District 1 – Cleveland Union Hall	Michael Bertolone / Jason Baker

### 2022 Steward Training classes scheduled

Date	Location	Instructor
April 6, 2022	District 4/5 – Middletown Union Hall	Joe Casto
April 13, 2022	District 2 – Toledo Union Hall	Joe Casto
April 20, 2022	District 3 – Columbus Union Hall	Joe Casto
April 27, 2022	District 6 – Akron Union Hall	Joe Casto
May 4, 2022	District 1 – Cleveland Union Hall	Joe Casto





## Additional Shop photos

*continued from page 17*



*ON THE JOB for Gallo Equipment in Cleveland is Chris Gruber.*



*WORKING on a fire engine for Ohio CAT – Troy is Jeff Dietrich.*



*BUSY for Columbus Equipment – Dayton is Craig Starkey.*



*BUSY for Gallo Equipment – Cleveland is Joe Thomas.*



*KEEPING busy for Ohio CAT – Troy is mechanic Scott Bodekor.*



*SHOPS Statewide Steward Meeting in Columbus was well attended.*



## IN MEMORIAM

Local 18 extends its sympathy to the families and loved ones of the following members who have passed away.

LM Ray Barker (D-4/5)	December 8, 2020
Donald Everett (D-4/5)	February 4
LM Thomas Stropki (D-6)	September 22
LM Robert White (D-6)	September 22
Rex Fulmer (D-6)	September 23
LM Thomas Haegele (D-4/5)	September 23
Albert Unwin (D-1)	September 24
LM Thomas Winter (D-6)	September 26
LM Joseph Amedeo (D-6)	September 29
Latarsha Golden (D-1)	September 30
LM William Applegate (D-4/5)	October 1
LM Charles Browning (D-3)	October 11
LM Steve Hryb (D-1)	October 11
LM Raymond Roe (D-6)	October 13
Leo Scherman (D-4/5)	October 14
Brad Townson (D-1)	October 14
Cletus Nartker (D-2)	October 15
LM Robert Rogers (D-4/5)	October 15
LM Peter Desimone (D-1)	October 18
Brian Holzschuher (D-3)	October 19
LM Robert Rentas (D-3)	October 22
LM Mark Ventura (D-1)	October 24
Will Campana (D-1)	October 26

## Publications Available

The following publications are available through your District Office upon request.

1. International Union of Operating Engineers Constitution
2. Local 18 Bylaws
3. U.S. Department of Labor Publications
  - A. Election of Officers of Labor Organizations
  - B. Rights & Responsibilities Under the LMRDA

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with the authority vested in me as President of Local 18 and its branches, I am calling the Semi-Annual State Meeting of the members on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hilton Columbus/Polaris, 8700 Lyra Drive.

The Executive Board will meet on Saturday, January 29, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. at the Columbus District Office, 1188 Dublin Rd., Columbus, Ohio.

We urge all members to make every effort to attend.

**Thomas Byers**  
President

**IN ALL DISTRICTS:**  
**ADVISORY BOARDS WILL MEET**  
**1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.**  
**MEMBERSHIP WILL MEET**  
**2nd MONDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

## Recent Club 18 contributors

**\$100.00**  
**Clifford H. Snoke**, District 3

**\$18.00**  
**Robert A. Martin**, District 6

## Know your union

Founded in 1896, the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) today has approximately 400,000 members in 123 local unions throughout the United States and Canada. IUOE is the 10th largest union in the AFL-CIO.

Over 100 state-of-the-art training and apprenticeship programs ensure that IUOE members are the safest, most productive, and highly skilled craft workers.



## PEP'S Club 18

**Yes**, I would like to do my part to support candidates and issues that help promote work for Local 18.

"To comply with federal law, we must use best efforts to obtain, maintain and submit the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 per calendar year."

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Reg. No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **\$18.00**    ☐ **\$50.00**    ☐ **\$100.00**    ☐ **other \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **Money Clip** (\$100.00 minimum contribution)

Contributions or gifts to PEP's Club 18 are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Forms and contributions should be sent to P.E.P. Local 18  
3515 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.



# Buckeye Engineer



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International Union of Operating Engineers

Periodicals  
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Send Form 3579 and correspondences to above address

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## Changed your address?

If you have moved and have not notified Local 18, please send your change of address to:

**LOCAL 18  
3515 PROSPECT AVE.  
CLEVELAND, OH 44115**

**HELP US TO HELP YOU.** Advise us if, and when, you move!



## Survivor, pension benefits go to 22

### District 1

Robert W. Berquist, Dennis L. Hibbs, and Eugene J. Marous Jr., Joint & Survivor (normal retirements); Larry A. Thomas (normal retirement); and Tim A. Ways, Joint & Survivor (normal retirement).

### District 2

Alan F. Arps (normal retirement); Alan H. Hedge, Joint & Survivor (normal retirement); Michael D. Helminiak (normal retirement); and Tony L. Poling, Joint & Survivor (normal retirement).

### District 3

David A. Ellis, Joint & Survivor (normal retirement); Robert A. Lewis (early retirement);

Tina R. Low (early retirement); Mark W. McConnell and Dennis E. Sams, Joint & Survivor (normal retirements).

### District 4/5

Brett C. Baisden, Robert B. Childs and Casey J. Dwyer, Joint & Survivor (normal retirements); and Keith A. Moore (normal retirement).

### District 6

Phillip J. Brower (early retirement); Larry B. Dowdle, Joint & Survivor (normal retirement); Thomas E. Swishhelm (normal retirement); and David S. Young, Joint & Survivor (normal retirement).