The Gauge

LOCAL 891 AFL-CIO

INTERNATIONAL UNION
OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

VOLUME 73 NUMBER 7

February 2016

PRESIDENT TROELLER SWEARS IN NEW MEMBERS AT JANUARY UNION MEETING

P.S. 4 Duke Ellington School

Adam Stevens, Principal (I.A.)

500 West 160th Street ·New York, NY 10032 Tel.(212)928-0739 · Fax (212)928-4142

Luisa Martin, Assistant Principal Gilberto Batiz, Assistant Principal

December 23, 2015

International Union of Operating Engineers, Business Manager/President Mr. Robert Troeller,

As our students, teachers and staff prepare for the holidays, I wanted to take an opportunity to say thank you for your generosity. Last Wednesday, you hand-delivered a gift to more than six hundred students! Your team was organized and made the process go smoothly. The auditorium was festive and decorated beautifully. Because of you, our scholars will never forget this holiday season. I appreciate all that you have done. Thank you for choosing our school as the recipient of your generosity.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank Manhattan Borough chairman, Mr. Kieran McKivergan and Queens Borough Chairman, Mr. Peter Maddaloni for their hand in making the giveaway a success. Their hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed. Let's not forget Mr. Maddaloni's elves from each of those boroughs! As they assisted Santa, they were all very kind to our students and patient with our staff. We truly appreciate all that you have given to our children. More than the gifts, we appreciate that you care about the girls and boys of PS4.

To show their appreciation, many of our scholars have written letters and decorated cards to simply say "Thank You" for giving them each a gift this holiday season. As you know, many of our students come from, low-income homes. The gift you gave them last week, may be the only gift some of them receive. On behalf of my administrative team, the teachers, support staff and especially our young scholars, thank you and happy holidays.

Sincerely,

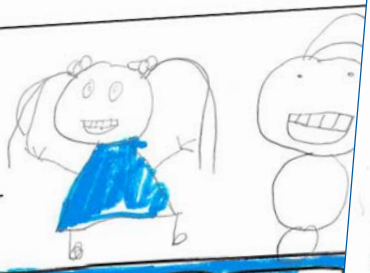
Adam Stevens
PS4M Principal

Class 202 12/17/15

Dear Santa

Thank you for the gifts. It was very nice of you for bringing joy to my class. Santa you are the best and I hope I can get another gift. Please come back soon. Love Kaleesha.

Love
Kaleesha



Class 202 12/17/15

Dear Santa

I am writing this letter to you because I want to thank for that Amriken Dog. I just love it So Much! So I am giveing this latter in return I hope you give me another toy next December 16. This time I hope you give me an Anna doll, and an Elsa doll and an Elsa castle. So I hope you like this letter.

Love Luna Rondon
to Santa

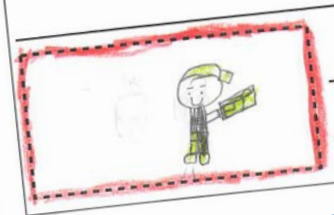
December 21 2015
Date

Dear Local 891 member
Opening

Thank you very much for my present. I was happy to get this cool gift.

You are nice person.

Merry Christmas!



Thanks again,
Joseph

December 21 2015

Local 891 Member

Today, I received a basketball. Thank you very much for this cool gift. I felt very happy to receive this bouncy brown, and amazing toy.

Happy Holidays to you and thanks again.

Love,
Adrian Paulino

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS

LOCAL 891

Cordially Invites You to Attend Our

88th Annual Dinner Dance

Friday, May 20, 2016

at

Russo's on the Bay
162-45 Cross Bay Boulevard
Howard Beach, New York 11414

Early Bird Tickets for Active and Retired Members only. Don't miss out on getting your Early Bird Tickets or attending this great event.

Two "Early Bird" Tickets are $160 during the month of February.

Two "Early Bird" Tickets are $180 during the month of March.

Tickets are $120 each for all members during the months of April and May.

Checks made payable to the: Local 891 Beneficiaries Fund

Send checks to:
Local 891
63 Flushing Avenue – Unit 358
Brooklyn, New York 11206

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

A date is not set for the next Medical Examination as of the printing of this month's issue of "The Gauge".

Any member desiring an Asbestos Screening appointment should send a completed Asbestos Medical Request Form to:

John Shea
Division of School Facilities
44-36 Vernon Blvd. 5th Floor
Long Island City, N.Y. 11101

Copies of the asbestos medical examination request form are available from the Local 891 website, your Borough Chairman and at the next Local 891 Union meeting. When submitting these request forms, please fax a copy to me at 212.587.3002. This will enable the union to monitor participation in the program.

Submitted By: Joanne O'Neill
Occupational Health / Safety Chairwoman

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION EMERALD SOCIETY

Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance, Friday, March 11, 2016

Terrace on the Park, 52-11 111th Street Flushing, NY
7:30 PM to 12:30 AM
$100 Per Person

2016 Honorees

Irish Pro deo et Patria	*Alice O'Neil, UFT*
Irishwoman of the Year	*Margaret McMahon, Ass't. Leg. Dir., Local 891*
Irish Teacher of the Year	*Kathleen Travers, P37R*
Irish Principal of the Year	*Margaret Russo, Principal PS160K*
Irish Administrator of the Year	*Barbara Joseph, Deputy Superintendent Dist. 75*
Irish Ombudsman of the Year	*Raymond Gregory, Ass't. Field Director CSA*

Reservations will be accepted until March 7, 2016
Please complete and return the form below

cut here

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email address _____

# of guest in party _____ @ $100 per person $ _____ (total)

Name(s) of guests _____

At which Honoree's tables would you prefer to be seater? _____

Please make checks payable to: NYC DOE Emerald Society
mail to:
NYC DOE EMERALD SOCIETY, 181 MOODY AVENUE, FREEPORT, NY 11520

Tickets can also be purchased online at: 2016emeraldsocietydinner.eventbrite.com

Any questions contact: Jeanne Bradley @ 1-516-286-5802
or
jeannebradley23@gmail.com

CATASTROPHIC MEDICAL PLAN
LOCAL 891 WELFARE FUND

The Catastrophic Medical Plan which is available from the Local 891 Welfare Fund is available to all members enrolled in the GHI/CBP medical plan, (GHI-Type C for Retired Members) and in addition to also must purchase the Optional Rider which is available from the City. The Catastrophic medical plan supplements the major medical benefits provided under the city's GHI/CBP and GHI Type-C plans in the event of catastrophic illness. The plan pays 100% of eligible expenses after a $2000. annual deductible has been reached. Under the City plan, eligible members and their dependents have the option of receiving medical services from a non-participating medical care provider at a reduced rate of reimbursement. The Funds catastrophic medical coverage is provided to protect those members who select this option from any large out-of-pocket expenses which may occur. The plan does not cover any charges that are covered under the City's optional rider, such as prescription drug charges, and any charges that are excluded under the basic medical plan are also excluded under the Funds Catastrophic Medical Plan. For further information and forms for reimbursement please contact the Funds Chairman Kevin J. Gallagher, at (718) 455-9731 ext. 301.

Submitted by: Kevin J. Gallagher
Welfare Fund Administrator

SCHOOL BUILDING PLAN

As per your Collective Bargaining Agreement (page 34-section 2-iii), the annual custodial performance plan will be formulated by the Principal consistent with the available manpower and resources. If a new plan is not formulated, the prior year's performance plan with any written amendments by the Principal shall be the controlling plan.

Be reminded the School Building Plan is between the Principal and the Custodian. Therefore, your Plant Manager cannot dictate or formulate your building plan. Again, that is between you and your Principal. Do not formulate a building plan that you cannot live up to. Do not use the generic plan on the DSF website. Only the signature of the Principal (only one Principal's signature) and the signature of the Custodian should be on the building plan. Additionally, you should adjust your building plan according to your budget cuts.

CHECK STATEMENT

CEs can now view and print their pay check statement from the DoE web page as early as the Tuesday before payday by following these instructions:

- Go to DoE web page and click on Employees.
- Under employees services click on 3rd bullet -salary, payroll and check information.
- Go to the bottom left side of the next page and click on "Custodians click here".
- Sign in using CPS Racf ID, Password and Social Security number.
- Your name should appear on the next page on left side.
- Above your name click on "Employee self Service".
- Screen will now open various payroll options. Click on Payroll Register.
- Again your information will appear, click on Payroll Register at lower right side.
- Check list will appear going back 3 years, click on pay period you wish to view.
- Click on Pay Statement at lower right.
- Scroll down to bottom of page and click on Print Pay Stub.
- Log out when complete.

CHECKS RE-ORDER

Custodian Engineers re-ordering HSBC checks through Superior Press should speak with Javier Estrada. Rosa Santos is currently on leave. Javier Estrada can be reached at 1-888-590-7998 ext. 1019, fax number 1-877-805-0179. Only your name and Custodian Engineer can appear on the check. Do not list the school and/or school address.

Submitted By: Andrew Foti
Permit & Payroll Committee Chairman

DO YOU KNOW WHAT ITEMS GO ON A PO 27A?

Your PO-27A should include only items purchased by you out of your budget that were subject to the 2% or 3% limitation, since January 1, 1992 and costing in excess of $250. These items transfer with you when you move. Equipment that you have obtained approval to be exempt from the 2/3% limitation or purchased with your annual supply allocation should be listed on the schools PO-27 and not your 27-A.

LOCAL 891 WISHES THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS A HAPPY RETIREMENT

NAME	SCHOOL	NAME	SCHOOL
FREDERICK ARNEBOLD	M477	KEVIN LAFAYE	M480
JOHN BOBKO JR.	R016	TERENCE MADIGAN	X055
MICHAEL BROGNA	K458	WILLIAM MCBRIDE	Q455
RICHARD BROWN	R060	THOMAS MCHUGH	M440
THOMAS BURKE	X162	JOHN MCCABE	Q425
JULIUS CALDARI	K302	ANDER MONSEN	R061
RICHARD CARTER	Q126	JOHN ORLANDO	K655
THOMAS D'ALLESSIO	R435	WILLIAM O'KEEFE	Q036
JOSEPH DELLARIA	R069	RAYMOND POLLACK	K271
MICHAEL DESTEFANO	X455	GILBERT RIVERA	K259
THOMAS ESPOSITO	K002	MICHAEL RUGGERIO	M125
KENNETH FIELDER	Q194	ROGER SCOTTO	Q138
STEVEN FRICIONE	R460	MICHAEL SCHAEFFER	Q721
ANTHONY GIGANTIELLO	Q149	LUIS TORRES	X405
PAUL HANRAHAN	Q485	FRANK VALDEZ	X400
FRANK KAVALER	Q138	PETER WEBER	X071
JOHN KIELY	M098	JAMES WIIG	K218
PETER KOVAK	R042	WARREN WYGAND	Q064
ANTHONY LACHTARA	K650	EDWARD ZARNOCH	M092

Submitted By: Kevin J. Gallagher Local 891 Financial Secretary

PENSION

I received questions regarding the Death Benefit provided to your beneficiaries and I have provided some excerpts from the Plan booklets.

The plan calls for a return of the contributions with interest that you made toward your pension also known as the MCAF. In addition to this, your beneficiary will receive a Lump Sum Payout as follows:

Number of Years of credited service	Amount of Lump Sum Benefit
1 year but less than 2 years	1 year of current salary
2 years but less than 3 years	2 times the current salary
3 or more years	3 times the current salary

There are reductions in the death benefit while in active service after age 60. Each year after the age of 60 the death benefit is reduced by 5% of the original amount that would have been paid. So if you are in active service and die at the age of 61, the benefit that would be paid is reduced to 95% of the original benefit; at age 62 the benefit would be reduced to 90% and so forth. But if you die at age 70 or older the benefit would not be reduced below 50% For Retirees, the death plan gives your beneficiary a benefit in the event of your death. If you die during your first year of retirement the benefit is reduced to 50% of the benefit in effect immediately prior to your retirement regardless of your age. If you die during your 2nd year of retirement it is reduced to 25%, after 3 years of retirement it is reduced to 10%.

More detailed information can be found in the summary plan description booklet on the retirement websites

www.nycbers.org www.nycers.org

Submitted By: Joe D'Amico Pension Committee Chairman

IN MEMORIAM

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

Walter Malar (Retired CE Level II)
Condolences to:
Malar Family
52 Cuba Avenue
Staten Island NY 10306

James Cunningham
CE Level II George Washington HS (M465)
Condolences to:
Marianne Cunningham
343 East 240th Street
Bronx NY 10470

EDUCATION

The next BOMR (Building Operation Maintenance and Record keeping) course will be held at Local 891 on Tuesday, February 23rd and Wednesday, February 24th from 8:00am to 12:00pm.

There will be a Cooling Tower Training for those members that have Cooling Towers in their buildings. The course will be held on Tuesday, February 16 and Thursday, February 18th.

Local 891 will conduct a Pool Operator Certification Course on Wednesday, March 30 and Thursday, March 31st. The priority for registration will be for those with swimming pools in their buildings. We will have additional Pool Operator Certification courses in the future for those that do not currently have a pool.

Contact Frank Byrne for more information

ADDRESS CHANGES

Please send any change of address information as soon as you have it to:

Frank Byrne, Recording-Corres. Secretary
IUOE Local 891
63 Flushing Avenue; Unit 358, Brooklyn, New York 11205

VARIABLE RATE

The Pension Committee reports that the Variable Unit value for the month of January 2016 is 87.559

INDOCTRINATION

The following is a list of School Custodian Engineers Level I and Level II who were appointed on January 4, 2016, and their selected schools.

LEVEL II

LIST#	NAME	SCHOOL SELECTED
165	Alan Willaum	X020
255	Walter Heleno	X117

LEVEL I

LIST#	NAME	SCHOOL SELECTED
4	Corey Bragman	Q499
6	Frank Lossmann	K232
20	John Nolan	K174
21	Ernest Fuchs	K306/843
24	Louis Granato	K225
31.5	Eduardo Mejia	X090
35	Wayne Eckler	Q100
39	John Griffith	Q084
49	Robert Losasso	K057
55	Curtis Mark	K390
76	William Ferrara	K197
77.5	Luis Orellana	M058
77.7	Joseph Cantor	Q082
84	Daniel Purtill	K094
93	Abelardo DaSilva	Q105
94	Edward Canfield	M097
101	Kenneth Robare	K022
104	Richard Smith	Q181
109	Herold Jeannot	Q287
110	William Ittner	X026
111	Pueng Fung	Q064/823
118	Ryan Deforest	Q199
120	Stephen Santoro	M873/920
121	Albert Jeremiah	K108
122	Joseph Picciotto	M133
130	Carlos Reyes	Q520
130.5	Tobiasz Murdzek	M164

The Officers, Executive Board and fellow Brothers and Sisters of Local 891, would like to welcome the newly appointed and assigned School Custodian Engineers and offer any assistance you may need. Use your Borough Chairman and Committee Chairmen for assistance as well as your neighbor and remember to call your UNION FIRST.

Submitted by:
Steven Williams, Indoctrination Committee Chairman

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.

The Gauge
An Official Publication of
LOCAL 891 IUOE
International Union of Operating Engineers
Brooklyn Navy Yard • 63 Flushing Avenue
Building 292 • Suite 401 (Unit 358)
Brooklyn, NY 11205
Ph: (718) 455-9731 • Fx: (718) 455-9733
www.Local891.com
1-888-891-2226 (Outside NY area only)

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	John Brennan
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	Richard Jennings
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	Stevo 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
Legal Services (718) 895-7160
Daniel H. Cook Associates
welfare forms • eye care vouchers • claims information
253 W. 35th St., 12th Floor • New York, N.Y. 10001
(212) 505-5050 ext. 229
Newsletter Design & Printing: AliGraphics

® 515

HOLIDAY

Monday, February 8th (Lunar New Year), is DOE holiday for all CEs and their staff. Lunar New Year is not in the schedule and it is reimbursable up to three premium hours for one employee.

HSBC

A stop payment order on an HSBC check can be made by calling Mrs. Melissa Vacanti, HSBC Customer Service representative at (716) 841-2583. You can also email her at melissa.a.vacanti@us.hsbc.com. There is no fee when this procedure is followed. If the stop payment request is made through an HSBC branch, a fee will be charged.

F.I.C.A.

The annual earnings limit (Social Security tax) will remain the same in 2016 at $118,500. There is no limit and no change in the Medicare portion of FICA..

AMENDING PO 2'S

PO2s may be amended until the time they have been reviewed by the DDF. Once the DDF approves the PO2 any changes made by the CE will cause the PO 2 to revert to unapproved and the removal of the postings from your DAR. CEs should notify their DDF after making any changes to an already approved PO 2 so as to assure that he/ she is aware that it must be reviewed again.

MID-WINTER RECESS

Schools will be closed on Monday, February 15 through Friday, February 19 for Mid- Winter recess. Monday, February 16 (Presidents' Day) and Friday, February 20(Lincoln's Birthday) are DOE holidays for all CEs and their staff.

LEAP YEAR

Please be reminded that 2016 is a leap year (366 days). Building allocations will be calculated on 366 days rather than 365. In 2015, if the building allocation had been $300,000.00 it was calculated at $300,000.00/365 + $821.92 (per day). Multiply $821.92 x 14= bi-weekly allocation of $11,506.85. In 2016, take the same yearly allocation of $300,000.00/366 + $819.67 x 14 = a bi-weekly allocation of $11,475.41.

DISTRICT 75

District 75 (special education) Space sheets can be sent to Robert Tillman room 652A 400 1st Avenue, New York, NY 10010, Phone: (212) 802-1610, Fax: (718) 391–6048

DISTRICT 79

District 79 (Office of Continuing Adult Education) space sheets can be sent to: Jennifer Davilla (JDavilla@schools.nyc.gov) – Room 105 Brooklyn Adult Learning Center, 475 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11216 Business:(718) 638-2635, Primary: (718) 638-2635, Business fax: (718) 623-2080

Submitted By: Andrew Foti
Permit & Payroll Committee Chairman