MEMBERSHIP MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2018, 7 P.M.
BAYSIDE HIGH SCHOOL
32-24 Corporal Kennedy Street
Bayside, NY 11361

VARIABLE RATE
The Pension Committee reports that the Unit Value for October 2018 was $112.785

PRINCIPAL RATING
Members will be receiving their Fall, 2018 Principal Rating the first week of December. Members are reminded they only have 30 days to grieve a rating and should contact their Borough Chairman. Please contact your Union immediately upon receiving a Principal's Rating you wish to grieve.

LOCAL 891'S NEWEST MEMBERS
Local 891’s newest members got sworn in by Business Manager/President Robert J. Troeller at the October 4, 2018 union meeting.

LOCAL 891 HONOR ITS RETIREES
Left to right: Kevin Joyce, Ed McNamara, Mike Finerty, Guy Tedaldi, Frank Franchi, Neil Donovan, and Pedro Arroyo with Bagpipers. Local 891’s Business Manager/President Robert J. Troeller and Bronx Borough Chairman Michael King addressed attendees at the retiree’s dinner.

THE FUTURE IS NOW
President’s Report

Brothers and Sisters,

I recently had a very productive meeting with the new Schools Chancellor, Richard A. Carranza. He stated he was very impressed with the physical condition of the schools, particularly the older buildings. We discussed several issues including the current method of custodial operations. While he agreed with me that direct employees provide better services than a contractor, the Chancellor felt it was important to have the custodial workers employed by a central entity over which he had control. I described to him the problems associated with the transition toward a more direct system of custodial operations.

Among the problems we discussed was the difficulty our members were having in procuring equipment and supplies, particularly emergency purchases. I explained that the school communities we serve were accustomed to our being able to resolve certain issues quicker in the past. In prior years, we could contact a vendor to purchase materials or pick up a part we might need. We are working on a solution. The arbitration regarding the continued inappropriate use of the PO2 form has begun and is moving forward. I also brought to his attention the various issues we faced in the schools we displaced Temco from.

It was great that we were able to end the outsourcing of our work to private contractors. Unfortunately, many of the schools we took back were in awful condition and it’s wasn’t just the facilities. In many of those schools the custodial staff was used to having little to no supervision. This has created problems for our members who are seeking to restore order and put those school buildings back in shape. Additionally, many of the Principals in those schools did not want a Civil Service Custodian Engineer (CE). They had explicitly chosen to have their school operated by a contractor. In some of those schools someone else assumed certain duties of the CE.

These circumstances have made it extremely difficult for those members who inherited Temco’s mess. CEs have encountered friction from the crew and/or whoever had assumed the role of the CE, whether that was the Principal, Building Manager or some other school employee. Many Principals in those former Temco operated sites simply resent having a CE. This has attributed to a spike in Principal Rating grievances. The Department has exacerbated the problem by dragging their feet and cancelling many scheduled rating grievance hearings. When a Principal’s Rating grievance goes unresolved for an extended period, it leads to additional contested ratings. I pressed the Chancellor on these issues.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we should have had our first bargaining session with the NYC Office of Labor Relations regarding our new collective bargaining agreement. I will work as quickly as I can to get you the raise you deserve. Please do not hesitate to let me know of other demands you think we should make, keeping in mind, this is supposed to be an expedited process. You can do so at a Union meeting or any other event as well as through email or a phone call.

Local 891 Outreach

Local 891 donated the remaining food from the Labor Day Parade to The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin located across the street from Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis High School, the staging site for Local 891’s annual Labor Day march. The staff at the church used the donated food as part of their feeding program for the needy.
MEMBERSHIP PINS FOR 2018
Submitted by Kieran M. McKivergan, Financial Secretary
Members who were active in 2018 received their membership pins at the October union meeting for their years of service

50 YEARS
ALEXANDER ANASTASIA

45 YEARS
TERENCE McCabe
MAURICE MOLLOY
GERARD BURNS

40 YEARS
OTTAVIO LAMANTIA
JOHN MITCHELL

35 YEARS
ROCCO CAPITINI
JAMES KELLY
MICHAEL REA
THOMAS ROM
DANIEL TOPPINO

30 YEARS
JOHN CARLONE
CELESTINO FERNANDEZ
GREGORY KOEHLER
STEPHEN LOPEZ
GERALD MCDONALD
KEVIN MCDONNELL
ROBERT RIOS
JOSEPH SANFILIPPO
THOMAS SMALLMAN

SCOTT SPRING
RICHARD VANVETTERING
ROBERT WICK
ROBERT ANDRESEN
STEPHEN CANN

25 YEARS
MIGUEL CRESPO
HUGH DOHERTY
JOSEPH FEMINELLA
ANTHONY FICHERA
DOUGLAS HAZEL
DINO HONDROULIS
CARLA LAMBERT
ANDREW LAPIERRE
CIARAN LEE
WILLIAM MAGSAMEN
DOMINIC MILAZZO
SCOTT MIRSKY
THOMAS MITCHELL
BRIAN MULLEN
HERMINO NEGRON

25 YEARS
WILLIAM NEVILLE
RICHARD PEDERSON
THOMAS BASICH
THOMAS CAPUTO
ANDREW CLEMENT

IN MEMORIAM
NILES B. HUNOLD
RETIRED CE, K490
Condolences to Daughter: Susan Heisler
157 West 19th Street
Deer Park, NY 11720

WILLIAM BRANDON
RETIRED CE, Q181
Condolences to Daughter: Katherine
157 West 19th Street
Deer Park, NY 11720

WILBERT FRAZER
RETIRED CE, Q84

WENDALL BROOKS
RETIRED CE II, K294
Condolences to Daughter: Kathie Russell
31 Zemek Street
Valley Stream, NY 11580

HOLIDAY PARTIES
STATEN ISLAND
The Borough of Richmond will be holding their Annual Custodian Engineers Christmas Party on Monday, December 10, 2018 at Canlon’s Restaurant; 1825 North Railroad Avenue, Staten Island, N.Y. 10306. Cocktails at 5:00 pm with dinner to follow. $75.00 per person. Contact Tim Thompson (718) 761-2155 Ext.1460 for details.

BRONX/MANHATTAN
The Boroughs of Bronx and Manhattan will be holding their Annual Christmas Party on Friday December 7, 2018 5:30pm to 9:30pm at Rory Dolan’s located at 890 McLean Avenue, Yonkers, NY 10704. For more information please contact:
Bronx – Sue Werner – X030
(718) 679-0063 or
Patrick McGovern – X158
(929) 303-3458
Manhattan – Theresa Dicristi
(212) 266-5806 or
Edward Irizarry (212) 876-4639

BROOKLYN HOLIDAY PARTY
Wednesday, December 12, 2018
Buckley’s Restaurant - 2926 Avenue “S”, Brooklyn, NY 11229 5:30pm
$80 per person. Contact information is Joseph Reilly, (718)258-9283 Ext. 1002
The greatest joy is the gift of giving. We, as a Union, will be giving gifts to school children in Staten Island. Many of these children are from modest or low-income homes. We want to make this our best holiday party ever and a memorable day for the children. Pedro Arroyo and I have the distinction of being Santa this year. We invite you to share in this wonderful event with a gift for a child or a monetary donation that the Union will use to purchase a gift for a child. Your willingness and commitment to share with these children is proof positive that you and your families are the true Santas of the season! Shop for a toy in the price range of $30 to $35. If you cannot personally shop for a gift, you can make a monetary donation. We need to have a gift for each child at the school. It is only a reasonable request that each child receives a gift of equal value. Shop early and submit your gift to your Borough Chairman. Each Borough Chairman will be working with me to make this party a tremendous success.

Your Borough Chairman and District Stewards have the ages and genders. Therefore, we can make sure each child gets a gift. Please give according to your assignment. If you have a merge, please give two gifts.

Once again, we turn to our retirees and strongly encourage them to help us attain this large volume of gifts that we will need for the party. Your participation is needed if we are to be successful in this endeavor. If you wish to send a check for a child’s gift, the check is made payable to Local 891. Kindly mail it to: Peter Maddaloni; Hillcrest High School, 160-05 Highland Avenue, Jamaica, NY 11432. If you need additional information, call Peter Maddaloni at (718) 658-5407, Ext. 1200.

I know we can count on each and every member of Local 891 to open their hearts this holiday season. A school full of children are counting on us. Let’s make their holidays happy ones. Thank you for your generosity and putting a smile on a child’s face with your holiday gift!

“A hundred years from now it will not matter what our bank account was, the sort of house we lived in, or the kind of car we drove, but the world may be different because we were important in the life of a child.”

Submitted By: Peter J. Maddaloni
Children’s Holiday Party Chairman
HOSPITALIZATION
November 1 - November 30, 2019 — Fall Transfer Period for retired members.

Submitted by Andrew Samberg, Hospitalization Committee Chairman

All retired Local 891 members will be able to change their health insurance coverage and add or drop optional riders during the Transfer Period will be held from November 1st thru November 30th. Remember, to be eligible for the Local 891 Welfare Fund Catastrophic insurance you must be enrolled in GHI/CBP (with optional rider.) If you are enrolled in any other plan you are ineligible for this benefit.

Each plan has its benefits and drawbacks, so I suggest three sets of considerations for members to evaluate as they search for the plan that will provide the best coverage for them at a price they can afford:

- Who are the physicians and what are the hospitals affiliated with the plan? If you want to continue treatment with a physician you have been seeing, you should check whether you could continue coverage through a plan. Another consideration is whether your local hospital, where your local physicians are likely to have privileges, is affiliated with a plan you are considering.
- How does the plan fit your budget? Cost factors are important considerations. For example, some plans require payroll deductions for basic coverage. The cost of optional riders differs. Some plans require a co-payment for each routine doctor visit. Some plans require payment of a yearly deductible before the plan reimburses the cost of using non-participating providers. If a plan does not cover certain types of services that you expect to use, you must also consider the out-of-pocket cost of these services.
- What are the individual medical needs of you and your family? If you have a young family, you might emphasize maternity or pediatric benefits. If you suffer from allergies, look for a plan that best meets your needs. As your needs change, you can change your plan during transfer periods.

To help members make decisions, please refer to the summary plan description booklet that can be accessed online at http://www.nyc.gov/html/olr/html/health/health_benefits_prog.shtml to compare the various plans available to NYC employees and retirees. The current rates can be viewed from the same location. The City will not be issuing new summary plan description booklets. The booklet is kept current and up to date on the Office of Labor Relations website. There is also a link to the SPD on the Local 891 website.

The same health plans that were available to members last year are again available during this transfer period.

The city offers the GHI PPO/Indemnity plan, eight HMO plans and two POS plans. Some of these plans have payroll deductions for basic coverage.

In the POS-type plan, members may receive care from doctors within the plan’s network, at little or no out-of-pocket cost, or they may choose physicians outside the network. If non-participating providers are used, members must first pay for services and then file a claim.

Reimbursements will be reduced by deductibles and co-insurance and is calculated differently for each plan. Also, out-of-network allowances vary by plan, as do procedures for going outside the network.

The POS plans are: HIP Prime POS; and Aetna/US Healthcare Quality Point of Service. The currently available plans-GHI-CBP/Empire Blue Cross, HIP/Prime, Cigna healthcare, GHI/HMO, Empire EPO, Empire HMO, Aetna/US Healthcare HMO, Vytra and HealthNet—will continue to be offered.

All plans provide basic coverage for unmarried, dependent children age 19 through 26. Coverage terminates at the end of the calendar year of their 26th birthday. Unmarried children under 19 are eligible for health benefits under the basic plan. Retirees wishing to switch or alter their health plans must submit applications no later than November 30th 2018. Changes will become effective January 1st 2019.

To enroll in a health plan, add or drop optional riders Retirees must complete an ERB 2000 form and submit it to Employees Benefit Program Retiree Unit 3rd Floor 40 Rector Street New York, NY 10006. Please note that if you are transferring into or out of a Medicare HMO it is important that you refer to the 2001 Summary Program Description booklet for instructions, which can also be viewed online at http://www.nyc.gov/html/olr/html/health/health_benefits_prog.shtml

DO NOT REMOVE ANY PAGES FROM YOUR ORIGINAL APPLICATION. The page labeled employee copy will be validated and returned to you. Make a photocopy for yourself before submission. You must include a copy of supporting documentation, such as a birth certificate, marriage license, etc., for any person that you are adding to your policy. Your application must be received in the Rector Street office by November 28th 2008.

Members and or their dependents that are currently on a COBRA Policy are eligible to participate in the transfer period also.

The ERB 2000 form can be downloaded from the above site and the Local 891 website for both active members and retirees.

If you have questions, need applications, forms, do not hesitate to call me at 718.366.1757 or, e-mail me at Hospitalization@local891.com.
THE GAUGE
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To Reach Anyone Listed Below, Dial the Main Union Phone
Number and then the Extension

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Vice President
Jeffrey J. Bilek

Recording- Corresponding Secretary
Francis J. Byrne

Financial Secretary
Kieran M. McKivergan

Treasurer
Richard A. Gorgoglione

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Brooklyn ................................................................ 221 ........................ Rocco Marano
Manhattan ................................................................ 259 .......................... Edward Brier, Jr
Queens ................................................................... 223 ........................ Peter Maddaloni
Staten Island .......................................................... 224 ........................ Steve Ready

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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

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


PAYROLL/PERMITS
Submitted by Andrew Foti
It is advisable to continue to make a list and running total of all permits and space sheets (regular and new). In the event you exhaust your 113 allocation, due to additional coverage, this record may stand as evidence to request additional funds or proof of over spending.

Pension
Submitted by Christopher Attianese
Both sessions for the BERS Retirement Seminar on January 31st 2019 filled up in a very short time. A total of 94 members will be attending between the morning and afternoon session.

There will be another retirement seminar sometime in March or April with registration in February. At this time, I do not anticipate limiting the next seminar to members eligible for retirement within five years.

EDUCATION
Submitted by Francis J. Byrne
5-12 8:5-13; Tuesday January 8, 2019 from 8:00am to 12:00pm

Building Operation, Maintenance and Record-keeping (BOMR) -
This course is required for all those renewing their Refrigeration license. It will be held on Monday and Tuesday, December 10 & 11, 2019 at 8:00am each day.

Certified Pool Operator - 16 hour course. The class will be held on Thursday and Friday, January 3 & 4, 8:00 to 4:00 both days.

Fire and Life Safety Director - 31 hour course.
Component #1 - General Topics and Fire Emergency Course (20 hours)
Tuesday, January 29, 2019 from 8:00am to 4:00pm (7 hours). Tuesday, February 12, 2019 from 8:00am to 4:00pm (7 hours). Tuesday February 26, 2019 from 8:00am to 4:00pm (6 hours plus exam time).

Component #2 - Non-Fire Emergencies (7 hours)
Tuesday, March 5, 2019 from 8:00am to 4:00pm

Component #3 - Active Shooter and Medical Emergency Preparedness (4 hours)
This class is required for those obtaining the Fire & Life Safety Director Certificate of Fitness. The FDNY encourages all to take this class. The next Active Shooter Class will be held on Friday, March 8, 2019 at 8:00AM.

The FDNY welcomes anyone who would like to participate in any component of the Fire and Life Safety Director Course. However, in order to receive a Certificate of Fitness your building must require this Certificate.

We will schedule an additional Galaxy/Famis course if there is enough interest. Please contact the Education Committee at education@local891.com.