IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2020 COCKTAIL RECEPTION

ASBESTOS SCREENING

JANUARY 2020 UNION MEETING

MICHAEL KING
2020 IRISH CUSTODIAN OF THE YEAR

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING BROOKLYN

Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
K650 - 257 North 6th Street Brooklyn, NY 11211

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.

VARIABLE RATE

Unit Value for January 2020:
$119.003
Brothers and Sisters,

It was great to see so many of you at our Cocktail Reception on January 24th at Russo’s on the Bay. Everyone had a really good time. Many members in attendance went out of their way to mention that they enjoyed the new format this year and hoped that we would continue to plan the event this way going forward. People seemed to like the less structured format, the ability to eat at your own pace, to move around between tables and spend time with different friends throughout the evening. I would like to hear more from people who attended as well as those who were unable to attend. We want to make next year’s event as enjoyable and affordable as possible.

As previously mentioned, we moved the event from the spring to the winter for several reasons. First, we plan to continue the Local 891 Picnic that we started last summer. The Picnic will now be held in June. Hopefully, many more members will be able to attend on June 20, 2020 at Plattduetsche Park in Franklin Square, NY. Talk to anyone who attended and they will tell you what a wonderful day it was. This year we will be adding additional activities for young children. Secondly, by moving our dinner to the winter, we can get much more for our money. The event this past January was paid by the union, as approved by the membership at General Membership meeting in June of 2019. The donations that were made added almost $19,000 to the Local 891 Beneficiary Fund. I thank all of you for your generosity.

Many Provisional members were deemed by The Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) to be disqualified for the Custodian Engineer exam #9013. These members passed the exam and were found to be qualified by DSF, or they would not have been hired. Many of these members submitted an appeal. The union working together with DSF was able to convince DCAS to allow these disqualified candidates to submit a second appeal, which replaced the first appeal that had been submitted. These members and other qualified candidates were guided by our union and were offered a training session by DSF. They were instructed on how to prepare their appeal with the hope that they were submitting the appeal in the format required by DCAS. We have been notified by DCAS that they hope to have the entire process completed by sometime in March. We look forward to having our Provisional members being hired into a permanent civil service position, as well as a list being promulgated for future Local 891 members.
IN MEMORIAM

JAMES WAGNER
RETIRED CE, K425
CONDOLENCES TO MARY WAGNER

MAURICE JONES
ACTIVE CE, K335/907
CONDOLENCES TO PAULETTE JONES
COMMITTEE REPORTS

PAYROLL & PERMITS  Andrew Foti

On October 10th, 2019 the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that the 2020 social security wage base will be $137,700, which is an increase of $4,800 from $132,900 in 2019.

Maximum social security tax. The FICA tax rate remains 7.65% for 2020 up to the social security wage base. The maximum social security tax employees will pay in 2020 is $8,537.40, an increase of $297.60 from $8,239.80 in 2019.

There is no limit and no change to the Medicare portion of FICA for 2020. Should you have any questions concerning your City paycheck please feel free to contact me anytime,

Respectfully,
Andrew Foti

Payroll & Permits Committee Chairman
Lafayette Educational Complex
2630 Benson Avenue - Room 143
Brooklyn, NY 11214

Mobile #: 917-280-2082   Fax #: 718-333-7615
e-mail #: ck400@schools.nyc.gov
Local 891 Phone: 718-455-9731 ext. 267
L.E.C. CE Office #: 718-372-3480 ext. 1431

PENSION  Christopher Attianse

New Required Minimum Distribution Rule
Effective January 1, 2020, the new age at which Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) must start has increased from 70.5 to 72 years old. Participants who turned 70.5 in 2019 need to take the first RMD no later than April 1, 2020. If you turned 70.5 in 2019 or if you are already receiving RMDs, the new rule does NOT apply to you.

Tax Deferred Annuity
Any members who are not currently taking advantage of the Tax Deferred Annuity Program and you are interested, please contact me at Pension@local891.com to receive an enrollment kit and assistance.
GRIEVANCES 32BJ/94

Marvin Rodriguez
Committee Chairman

Theresa DiCristi
Committee Member

Dear Brothers and sisters,

When communicating directly with NYCSSS either by e-mail or telephone be advised that all communications with them are considered “on the record”. Local 891 members, in their capacity as direct supervisors of their employees, are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner when telephoning NYCSSS offices. We have all experienced frustration in dealing with organizations outside of the Department. I'm not diminishing the frustration we have at times when dealing with NYCSSS. I am just asking you to be mindful of the fact that this organization is only looking out for their employees as much as Local 891 is looking to protect your interests in dealing with your employer. If you have a problem, please contact this committee as well as your Borough Chairperson and we will assist you in resolving the issue.

1. Make sure that you have updated your “snow call policy”. It may be added to the crew's work schedule, or as a separate written directive issued by you. The entire crew should sign the document.

2. If an employee needs a replacement ID card, they should contact thomas.smith@nycsss.org. The employee should present identification and the reason for needing a new ID.

3. When filling out the DAF (Disciplinary Action Form) you must fill out both sheets and SIGN the form. Make sure the form is SIGNED and witnessed. Forms without signatures will not be processed.

As always, when emailing NYCSSS, make sure to copy your borough chairperson and myself or Theresa at grievances32-94@local891.com
Local 891 would like to remind members that your union offers many training and educational opportunities. Many are offered in service for your convenience. Please contact me for more information at education@local891.com.

Retired CE Gil Garcia, a former student and now a member of the volunteer operating crew on the S.S. John W. Brown, would like to extend an invitation/opportunity to any interested Local 891 member to participate. The ‘Brown’ served as a New York City, BOE, vocational high school from 1946 to 1972. There are a lot of custodian engineers who got their high pressure time on board.

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**Project Liberty Ship**

**S.S. John W. Brown Steam School**

**Merchant Marine Experience**

Experience what it’s like to be an Engineer, Oiler and Fireman
Special Price of $950*
Class size is limited so sign up soon!

Join us in Baltimore aboard the SS JOHN W. BROWN
May 1-3, 2020

You will get hands on experience operating our 200 psi Babcock and Wilcox boilers and 2500 HP Triple Expansion Reciprocating Steam Engine on live steam while living aboard ship like the merchant mariners who manned her during her wartime career!

Topics include:
Marine boilers, steam cycle, auxiliary steam engines and pumps, steam steering gear, Liberty Ship history, cargo and line handling steam winches and the 2500 HP Triple Expansion Reciprocating Engine.

You will learn the duties of the engineering watch, as you light off the boilers, raise steam, start up the auxiliary equipment and operate the main engine and deck equipment.

All instructors are members of the SS John W. Brown Engineering Department
Steam school includes on board accommodations in original crew cabins Friday and Saturday night, secure parking on the pier, Breakfast, Lunch and Dinners on board the ship. Optional stay aboard Sunday night (meals included) for $50 extra.

Included with the steam school package, you will receive a one year membership in Project Liberty Ship and training manuals by e-mail in advance of the class.

For full details visit our website - www.ssjohnwbrown.org Contact us at 410-558-0646 or john.w.brown@usa.net
Safety Rules for Power Tools

Power tools get jobs done with efficiency and reduced effort. But with power comes responsibility. Power tools can cause injury and even death if they are not used properly. Appropriate training, safe work practices, and power tool maintenance are key to preventing accidents.

Only trained workers should use power tools on the job. Training should include reviewing the instruction manual, how to inspect the tools before each use, and following the manufacturer’s maintenance schedule.

When maintaining and inspecting power tools, keep the followings tips in mind:

- Use properly sized fittings and parts for the power tools.
- Keep tool cutting edges sharp and clean.
- Remove the adjustment keys and tools before operating the power tool.
- Check that power cords are intact (no nicks, frays, or kinks) to prevent shock and fire hazards.
- Always use safety guards and control switches to prevent accidental contact and activation. Failure to use all safety guards and devices can result in serious injury and substantial financial liability for employers.
- Remove damaged tools from use until they can be repaired or replaced.

Safe electrical work practices for power tools prevent electric shock and other injuries. Follow these electrical safety rules:

- Avoid using power cords in wet areas
- Use proper grounding or double insulation for power tools.
- Keep tools turned off and unplugged when not in use.
- Don’t carry or hoist power tools by their cords.
- Unplug tools at the outlet, not by pulling the cord from the wall.
- Coil power cords out of walkways to prevent trips and falls.
POWER TOOLS MAY SEND BITS OF MATERIAL FALLING, FLYING, EVEN SPLASHING AT A VERY FAST RATE. PERSONAL PROTECTIVE WEAR NEEDED WHEN USING POWER TOOLS INCLUDES:

- Safety glasses and/or face shields protect the eyes and face from flying debris.
- Goggles keep splashing liquids out of the eyes.
- Hearing protection minimizes exposure to noisy tools.
- A respirator protects against inhaling fumes and particulates.
- Snug fitting gloves.
- Anti-vibration gloves to prevent tissue damage from vibrating tools.
- Safety shoes to protect feet from falling materials and tools.

GOOD WORK HABITS ENSURE POWER TOOL SAFETY, AND INCLUDE HOUSEKEEPING AND SAFE WORK PRACTICES. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THE FOLLOWING:

- Use the correct tool for the job.
- Keep the work area clean, organized, and well lit.
- Stay alert when you use power tools.
- Be aware of where you place your hands at all times and keep them away from moving parts.
- Tie back hair, wear snug clothing and remove jewelry that could get caught in tools.
- Clamp, secure, and support work materials to a solid surface.
- Don’t hold materials by hand or against your body while working on them.
- Let tools power up completely before contacting stock material.
- Don’t touch tool parts until they come to a complete stop and are completely cool.
- Don’t force the tool against the material or to do the work.

USING A POWER TOOL CAN MAKE YOUR WORK GO MORE SMOOTHLY AND EASILY. WITH GOOD TRAINING, PROPER MAINTENANCE, AND SAFE WORK HABITS, POWER TOOLS BOOST WORK EFFICIENCY WHILE MAINTAINING WORKER SAFETY.
Another Local 891 Asbestos Screening was held on January 11, 2020 at Wall Street Medical Associates. If you are a member with at least ten years of service, you are qualified to participate in this comprehensive medical screening. Please contact Joanne O’Neill at occupationalhealth@local891.com for information on upcoming screenings.
CONGRATULATIONS MICHAEL KING, ON BEING SELECTED AS THE 2020 NYC DOE EMERALD SOCIETY IRISH CUSTODIAN ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EMERALD SOCIETY

Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance
Friday, March 13, 2020
Terrace on the Park
52-11 111 Street Flushing, NY
7:30 PM to 12:30 AM
$110.00 Per Person

2020 HONOREES

Irish Pro deo et Patria
Kevin Moran - Sr. Advisor to the Chancellor on transportation
Irishman of the Year
Johnathan Daly - Principal of Eximius College Prep. Acad.
Irishwoman of the Year
Lorraine O'Shea - at 075 P168.X
Irish Teacher of the Year
Dennis Gault - UFT District I Representative
Irish Principal of the Year
Angela O'Dowd - Principal of D27-PS62Q
Irish Custodian of the Year
Michael King - Custodian Engineer X080/843
Irish Ombudsman of the Year
Barbara Tremblay - Principal of 721 K
Irish D75 Principal of the Year
Frank Cassidy - Bronx Director of School Renewal

RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MARCH 5, 2020
PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE.
Annual Scholarship Dinner Dance Form

NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
EMERALD SOCIETY

Reservations will be accepted until March 5, 2020
Please complete and return this form.

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

Email Address: ______________________________________________________

# of guests in party: ____________ @$110 per guest(s): ________________
Total $: ________________

Name(s) of guest:
_________________________________________________________________

At which Honoree's tables would you prefer to be seated?
_________________________________________________________________

Please make checks payable to: NYC DOE Emerald Society

and mail to: Jeanne Bradley, 181 Moody Ave. Freeport, NY 11520

Tickets can also be purchased online at:
https://2020emeraldsocietydance@eventbrite.com

$110 + $6 fee Late fee tickets: $120 + $6 fee

Any questions, please contact:
Jeanne Bradley - (516) 286-5802
or
Jeannebradley23@gmail.com
Thank you for attending the January 9, 2020 Union Meeting at M.S.101 in the Bronx. YOU MISS A LOT WHEN YOU MISS YOUR UNION MEETING. SEE YOU 2/6/2020 IN BROOKLYN.
WELFARE & ANNUITY FUNDS

Richard A. Gorgoglione
Chairman of Trustees
63 Flushing Ave. Building 292 – Suite 401
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 NY 10001
(212) 505-5050 ext. 229

BOROUGH PERSON

Bronx: Michael King ext. 220
Brooklyn: Rocco Marano ext. 221
Manhattan: John Brennan ext. 222
Queens: Peter Maddaloni ext. 223
Staten Island: Steve Ready ext. 224

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Annual Children's Party ext: 249
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E.P.E.C ext: 252
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Rating and Transfer ext: 270
Storekeeper ext: 271
Supplies ext: 272
Temporary Care Assign ext: 273
Watchdog Committee ext: 274
WebMaster ext: 275
NYC Central Labor Council Delegate ext: 276
NYC Central Labor Council Delegate

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