

**International  
Union of Operating  
Engineers**

**LOCAL 25  
MARINE DIVISION  
AFL-CIO**



# THE DREDGEMAN

Millstone Township, NJ • Tampa, FL • Philadelphia, PA • Lucama, NC

WINTER 2021

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**JERRY ABELL**  
*President /  
Business Manager*

## President/Business Manager Report

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this newsletter finds everyone well and recovered from the Christmas and New Year holidays. I am hopeful that 2021 will be a brighter year for our country as a whole and that our lives can start looking a little more "normal" again. I am sure I don't have to tell you that this whole COVID-19 pandemic has been exhausting. While we have not seen any outbreaks or widespread positive cases on our rigs or jobsites, we have all been affected in some way or another. Many of us have had family members and close friends battle the disease and some have not made it. Our hearts go out to everyone who has lost a loved one or has a loved one that is still fighting this disease. I am immensely proud to represent a membership that acts as professionally and compassionately as you have during this kind of adversity. You have managed to keep the dredging industry on the East Coast and Gulf regions up and running without any major disruptions in day-to-day operations. If this year has proven anything, it is that the "essential workers" in this country are the ones in the trenches, with dirt under their fingernails and aching backs from being on their feet all day. The fact that each of these "essential workers", including every Local 25 member, has kept this country running while also coping with the mental toll of worrying about getting infected and possibly taking it back to their families, should be respected more than it is. I applaud every one of you. I must also acknowledge that while Local 25 has been generally lucky this year with our COVID cases, it does not mean we have been absent of tragedy. We have lost many members, active and retired, this year. While we will honor them each in our In Memoriam section of this newsletter, I would be remiss to not express my deepest condolences to their families, friends and Union Brothers and Sisters.

*continued on page two*

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

JERRY ABELL – *President/Business Manager*  
ANTHONY GONSIEWSKI, JR. – *Vice-President*  
SCOTT REEVES, SR. – *Rec. Corr. Secretary*  
ANTHONY STEWART – *Financial Secretary*  
MELSON GOODLOE – *Treasurer*  
JAMES MCDONNELL – *Conductor*  
MICHAEL CUTHBERT – *Guard*  
RYAN WELLS – *Trustee*  
BRYAN JOHANSON – *Trustee*  
GREG TANTIMONICO – *Trustee*  
HEATHER BAWGUS – *Auditor*  
ALLAN WALKER – *Auditor*  
WILLIAM LINDSAY – *Auditor*  
JOHN ROGERS – *Executive Board Member*  
RICHARD STARLING – *Executive Board Member*  
JOHN HUFTALEN – *Executive Board Member*  
JOHN ZAPPALA – *Executive Board Emeritus (non-elective)*

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# President/Business Manager Report *from page one*

We are continuing to see tremendous growth in manhours worked. 2020 was a difficult yet successful year and 2021 is on track to be just as busy. Our Benefit Plans are in exceptionally good shape; I credit Plans Administrator Meghan Brodowski and the Plans Department employees with another job well done in managing and executing our Plans in such an effective and efficient manner. While ensuring the financial health of our Plans is of the utmost importance, the level of service that is given to our members is just as important and the Plans Department manages both of those priorities masterfully. Your Union treasury fund is also in good shape. While we have made some substantial investments in different areas this year, including new software to modernize and protect our record keeping, continued enhancements and additions to our Training Center and some much-needed repairs to the NJ Headquarters, we have managed these investments in fiduciarily responsible ways, and our Treasury Fund reflects that. The Local 25 staff have learned new ways of conducting business since March, including balancing remote working and in-office working for the Halls and Plans Department. It was quite a learning curve, but the entire staff stepped up and never missed a beat. Some of them had to rearrange their homes to set up remote offices so that our members never lost contact with critical services. I would like to recognize the sacrifices, flexibility, and “can-do” attitude of our Local 25 and Plans Department staff members. Though during the early days of the COVID pandemic, one of our Hall employees (name withheld) said they were “OVER” all the quality time with their beloved family members while trying to work! It sounded just like when we get a phone call from one of our member’s significant other or parent, saying “They’ve been home too long, they are driving me crazy! Please get them back to work!”

Of course, we had to cancel classes at the Training Center in Lucama, NC and our monthly Union meetings starting in March 2020. By the time summer rolled around, we were able to hold classes and meetings some months and had to cancel them in other months as we followed the constantly changing restrictions and guidelines throughout our jurisdiction. This is how we are continuing to deal with this fluid situation and classes and meetings will be scheduled as we are able. We will notify the members of scheduled classes and meetings through text message, our Facebook page and website. While this year has made it difficult to move forward as quickly as we expected on some of our big projects at the Training Center, we have managed to work around those slowdowns and have been able to take this time to outline in more detail what we want to accomplish in the future. I am so proud of what we have been able to create with our Training Program over the last few years. Local 25 never had a Training Program, much less a Training Center, and we have managed to build it from scratch in a short period of time. If you are interested in seat

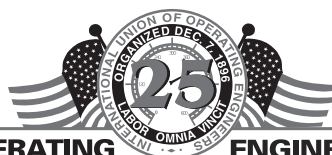
time on the bulldozer, frontend loader or crane, give Training Director Heather Bawgus a call to discuss the available options. We are hoping that 2021 will allow our training classes and our monthly Union meetings to get back to our normal schedule. We have been able to hold our monthly Executive Board meetings without interruption by conducting them remotely when in-person meetings are not feasible. It has taken some adjustment, but we are making sure the business of Local 25 gets done.

I must also announce some bittersweet news for the staff and membership of Local 25. In December 2020, after 20+ years as Administrative Assistant and Due Coordinator, Patty Colson retired. As of this writing in January 2021, we miss her already. She has been trying to retire for some time now, but I kept talking her in to staying just a little longer and then a little longer and then a little longer until I finally ran out of “little longer’s”. She has been an asset to me, the rest of the staff and the entire membership of Local 25. As Patty and her husband Dan start this next chapter of their lives, we wish her all the best. We have hired a very competent young man by the name of Adam Reeves to take Patty’s place. Please show him the same respect as you have shown Patty for all these years as we excitedly welcome him to the Local 25 family as a member of our Administrative staff, joining Devin Shereshevsky, Gabby Baselice and Lindsay Abell in keeping our Halls up and running.

Fraternally Yours,  
Brother Jerry Abell

## **CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS: WE NEED YOUR INPUT**

As you know, our Standard Master Agreement expires on September 30, 2021. Negotiations will begin in the coming months and that must begin with feedback from the membership. In order to ensure that we approach the negotiating table with the membership’s biggest priorities and issues at hand, we are asking all members to fill out our CONTRACT 2021 FEEDBACK FORM on the website, [www.iuoe25.org](http://www.iuoe25.org), under Members Only, Contract Negotiations. Are there issues that you feel need to be addressed in our next contract? Are you looking for higher wages, additional retirement contributions, etc.? Please make your voice heard as we prepare our negotiating team to represent the membership fairly and effectively. Once negotiations begin, we will keep the membership updated on the progress. Let us remember that we are LOCAL 25 PROUD, LOCAL 25 STRONG. UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL.



# A Personal Message from Jerry Abell

After 48 years in this crazy dredging business and as a proud Local 25 member, it is time to hang up my hard hat and life jacket for the last time and start the retirement process. My last day as your President & Business Manager will be March 31, 2021. When I followed my father into this business all those years ago, starting as an Oiler with Eastern Seaboard Pile Driving in Hoboken, NJ in 1972, I could have never imagined that I would end my career as President & Business Manager of this great Local. I did not have any big plans to end up here; I just kept speaking up in protection of myself and my Union Brothers & Sisters as we worked side by side each day because it was the right thing to do. It is what I was taught by my dad and fellow Local 25 member, Cody Abell. He was the catalyst for everything I have done and accomplished in my career. While my dad was my biggest influence, he was far from the only one. There were so many friends, coworkers and bosses that were a lot smarter than me who went out of their way to teach a young, hardheaded kid what dredging was all about. Even more important than learning how to be a solid dredgeman, many of these people taught me to how to be a good Union Man. I don't know whether I will be remembered as a good President/ Business Manager or not, but I do know that I was pushed in this direction for a reason and I never lost sight of the fact that, without this great Union, we would be at the mercy of some entities that could care less if we made a decent salary and benefit package or had anyone in our corner. Local 25 has been blessed with some good signatory contractors throughout my 48 years and I've had the privilege to work for many of them. Once I was in a position to sit across the table from those in charge, I realized that what made the difference many times was that most of us on both sides of the table came up through the ranks. For those of you I have had the honor of sitting at these tables with, on both sides, for those who have kept the best interests of Local 25 members in mind even when we have disagreed, I appreciate your cooperation throughout the years.

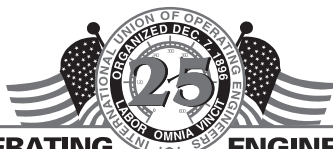
There are many people I would like to thank individually, but my limited space here makes that impossible. Though I can't sign off for the last time without thanking my right-hand gal, Lindsay Abell. Since her start with Local 25 in 2003, she has had my back every single day, through thick and thin, perhaps in the way only a daughter could. There is so much she does for me and only rarely complains about it. Throughout these years, she has also become one of the fiercest defenders of Local 25 and our membership and many of us have benefited from her tireless efforts. She has brought me into the computer age and kept my feet to the fire more times than I can count. Lindsay, you are the best and I know you will continue your work with the enthusiasm and passion that is in your gut, doing what is best for Local 25 every day. Most of our members will never know how much you do behind the scenes and on your own time.

Many of the ones I give thanks and credit to are no longer here on this earth, but I am sure they are looking down on us and steering this organization from above. To the current and former Executive Board members that have helped me in directing Local 25 since 2016, thank you doesn't begin to express my appreciation for each of you. You will never know how much I appreciate the family we have created over these years. Your selfless contributions to Local 25 can't be overstated and every member owes you a debt of gratitude. To my Team, which consists of Line Officers/Business Agents Anthony "Ski" Gonsiewski, Scott Reeves, Anthony Stewart and Melson Goodloe as well as Training Director/Auditor Heather Bawgus: I couldn't have done any of this without you. I am so proud of the progress we have made together in these last 5 years. I am confident that I am leaving Local 25 in good hands and I look forward to watching what you continue to accomplish together from the comfort of my recliner in Florida. The Line Officers have voted to appoint Anthony Gonsiewski as President / Business Manager and Scott Reeves, Sr. as Vice President upon my departure. Effective January 1, 2021, I appoint Vice President Anthony Gonsiewski as Assistant to the Business Manager as we work together on the transition.

My most important shout out, though, is to you, the hardworking member of Local 25 who shows up for work each day, many of those days being hundreds of miles from home, and provides our signatory contractor with the best workforce in the dredging industry. I would like to thank you all for entrusting me to represent you in the roles I have been honored to hold over the years, starting with Shop Steward in 1975, elected to the Executive Board for the first time in 1988, becoming Vice President and Business Agent in 1998 and, finally, being elected as your President & Business Manager in 2016. I hope that I have made a positive mark, no matter how small, on the Union that gave me and my family so much over the years. While some of us might not have always seen eye to eye on every issue, please know that I have always and will always respect each of you. I hope the path that my team of Line Officers, Executive Board Members and Office Staff have paved these past 5 years will continue to be supported by you and built upon as Local 25 continues to move forward in a positive direction.

Thank you, Brothers and Sisters, from the bottom of my heart, for allowing me the privilege of representing you and working beside you throughout these years. It has been an honor.

Fraternally Yours,  
Brother Jerry Abell





# Business Agent Reports



**ANTHONY GONSIEWSKI**  
*Vice President /  
Business Agent /  
Assistant to the  
Business Manager*

My fellow Brothers and Sisters of Local 25,

First and foremost, I would like to wish you and your families health, happiness, and prosperity in this New Year.

Reflecting on 2020, the year of COVID-19 and “survival,” traveling from state to state and being confined to motels and trailers, our brotherhood continued to support their families from a distance. You worked continuously around the clock, keeping our ports open and our economy running, and we thank you!

In addition, work in the north continues to slow down. However, the current and upcoming northeastern storms in our area will lead to beach erosion, creating more work opportunities. Additional work will be available, such as the Boston Harbor drilling and blasting, which is another two-year project, as well as deepening other ports. I am looking forward to another successful year.

In the upcoming months, we will start negotiations for the Master Agreement. This will be another tough negotiation as the Union is working toward better wages and benefits. I have no doubt that if we remain united, as we did three years ago, we will once again come out on top.

In conclusion, I would like to acknowledge two important members of I.U.O.E. 25 as they retire. Patty Colson has been part of our family for over 25 years. While it is with great sadness that we say goodbye, we are excited for her new adventure. Patty, your hard work is appreciated, and I speak for all of us when I say you will be greatly missed. Congratulations on your retirement!

Also, congratulations to our current President & Business Manager Jerry Abell. Jerry has been with I.U.O.E since 1972. When the International took over in 2015, Jerry became President/Business Manager. Jerry has been a great asset to I.U.O.E, pushing through tough times and leading to success. Thank you for all you have done. We wish you all the best in the beginning of this new era in your life!



**SCOTT REEVES, SR.**  
*Recording Corresponding  
Secretary / Business Agent*

Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to thank you for hard work and commitment throughout the past year. It has not been an easy year for many reasons, but Local 25 is thriving because of your dedication and unity. We have also signed with a few new signatory contractors recently which has produced more work and new job opportunities. I am looking forward to a bright future for Local 25. I would like to congratulate President and Business Manager Jerry Abell on his upcoming retirement. Jerry has been dedicated to Local 25 since his time in the field. He took on a significant role in Local 25 when we needed it the most and has been an excellent boss and friend throughout the years. Wishing you still waters, calm seas, health and happiness in your retirement!

The work in this area has been steady, with current projects in the Upper Chesapeake, Maryland, GLDD Dredges 54 & 55 and Unloader; Atlantic City, NJ, GLDD Dredge Texas; Camden County, NJ (Newton Lake), Mobile Dredging/Video Pipe with 2-year project, as well as Pittsburgh, PA and Maryland; Tullytown, PA (Delaware River), SumCo EcoContracting, Dredge Bering Sea; Long Island, NY, Atlantic Subsea, Inc.; Philadelphia, PA (Schuylkill River), Atlantic Subsea, Inc. is currently shut down, but might restart in the near future. Also, the Staten Island GLDD yard continues to operate with some Local 25 members.

I would like to remind you that if you or your fellow union brothers or sisters are ever in need of assistance, please reach out to me or any of your business agents for help. You can reach us at our respective Hiring Halls or cell phones. Stay safe, Local 25!



# Business Agent Reports



**ANTHONY STEWART**  
*Financial Secretary /  
Business Agent*

What has been obvious since the pandemic hit is that the members of Local 25 are the ones that keep these dredging projects running and are the most “essential” workers our signatory contractors have. I hope the companies have been paying attention to that. I’m proud of our members for stepping up to the plate and looking out for their Union Brothers and Sisters this year. We have been lucky that our work hasn’t slowed down. We currently have GLDD, Weeks, Norfolk, Dutra, Cashman, and Gore Marine working in our FL/GA area with hydraulic dredges, bucket dredges, clamshell dredges, boosters, and multiple fill sites.

I want to remind everybody that your safety and your Union Brothers/Sisters’ safety must come first. It is up to you to be aware of company and OSHA safety policies and to make sure that you are always following them, even if someone else is telling you to ignore it “just this one time”, whether that person is a fellow Union Brother/Sister, a Captain, a Supervisor, or even a company safety officer. This is not only for your own safety, but also so that the company can’t come back to you if something happens and say, “You shouldn’t have done that, it is against policy”. For example, if a task needs 2 or 3 people to do it safely or according to company policy, **DO NOT DO THAT TASK UNTIL THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARE AVAILABLE.** And if you see a Union Brother or Sister doing something that might be unsafe or might violate a policy, go help them out and educate them. This isn’t a “who can rat the most people out” contest, no matter what a company man says. We are a Union Brotherhood for a reason, and we need to act like it all times.

On another note, I have worked with Jerry Abell for more years than either of us can probably remember. We’ve rode tows together, walked off jobs together, stood up for our Union together and had a lot of good times together. During the time that I was a Shop Steward and he was a Business Agent, I was sometimes a rebel without a cause and he was the “big brother” that had to rein me in. Once I became the Business Agent and he became President/Business Manager, I suddenly realized how many of us rebel shop stewards he was trying to control at a time! I am grateful for his friendship, leadership and mentorship through the years and I will make sure to keep him up to date on Local 25’s antics when we get the Harleys together for a ride in the future. Happy Retirement, Jerry. You will be missed.



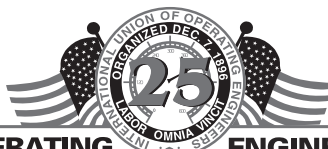
**MELSON GOODLOE**  
*Treasurer /  
Business Agent*

Hey Everybody,

Local 25 has been amazing through these trying times with the pandemic and all the craziness this year. Ya’ll have left your homes, traveled up and down the east coast, made the sacrifices it takes to work in this industry and persevered with all the adversity out there. It makes me proud to be a part of Local 25 to see how strong our membership is.

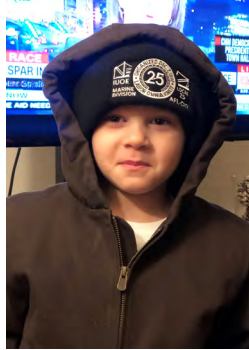
I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jerry Abell for his leadership as he has guided us through these trying times in 2020. Jerry has been

a great leader and boss through the years and a man I’m proud to call my friend of over 30 years. He has guided Local 25 in a great direction in a short period of time since taking the reins in 2016, such as getting the Training Center in NC up and running and reestablishing relationships with our sister locals and the International. I wish Jerry a great retirement! I would like to congratulate Tony Gonsiewski on his up-coming role as he takes over the President and Business Manager position. It is well deserved. I look forward to a better 2021 for all of us. Stay safe, Brothers and Sisters.

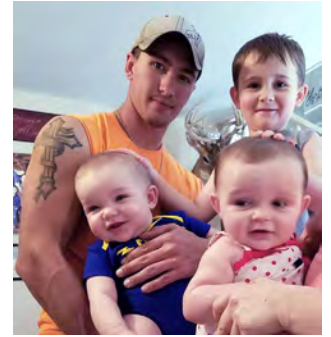




# FAMILY... the Most Important Reason for the Union Brotherhood



  
**FAMILY**

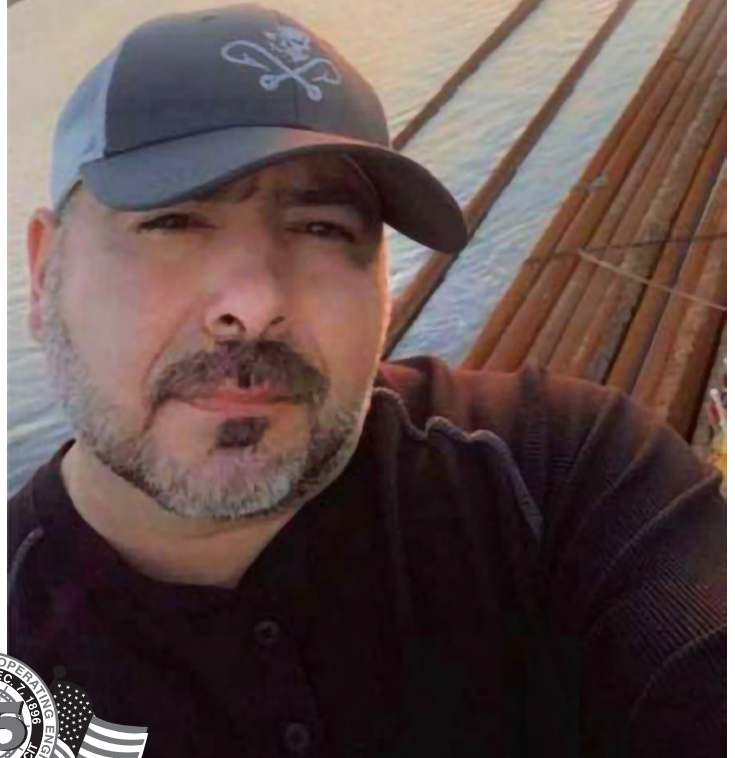




# Rest in Peace

## Oziel "Ozzy" Martinez

Brother (and Captain) Oziel "Ozzy" Martinez fell overboard on Sunday, November 22 while working for Gore Marine on a GLDD project in Jacksonville, FL. After two days of constant searching, not only by law enforcement and the USCG, but also by his Union Brothers/Sisters and company personnel, Brother Ozzy's body was recovered. It is always tragic when we lose a member of our Union family, but deadly jobsite accidents are especially jarring to everyone involved. Brother Ozzy joined Local 25 in 2014, though his relationship with Local 25 members started long before then as he worked around our jobsites and members prior to getting on himself. If you were working beside him on the tug or were on the other end of the line or pipe as he would make up with the derrick or dredge, you knew you were in good hands. He was an exceptional boat captain, but an even more exceptional friend and family man. He was deeply committed to his wife Martina, his children Ozzy III and Angeline, and his large extended family and friendship circle. One of Brother Ozzy's proudest moments was when he was able to have his son Ozzy III join him on the tugs. We are proud to call them both our Union Brothers. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Martina, Ozzy and Angeline and everyone who knew and loved Brother Ozzy. Fair Winds and Following Seas, Primo. **You will not be forgotten.**





# Training Director Report



HEATHER BAWGUS

Brothers and Sisters,

2020 was definitely a history maker! My pride in Local 25 has grown even more, if that is possible, with the amount of dedication and professionalism each and every one of the Local 25 family has shown through these trying times.

Our training program is moving forward with new curriculums coming on board at a steady stream. Even amidst the pandemic, we managed to hold 12 on site training classes this year, including OSHA 30 Construction, Rigging, Signalperson and First Aid/CPR/AED/Bloodborne Pathogens, not to mention the numerous one-on-one dozer, loader and crane trainings. We have also acquired another crane, two flatbed trailers and pieces of pipe this year. I want to thank Vice President/Business Agent Tony Ski for securing the pipe for us. This equipment is helping us expand our upcoming training. I want to thank the membership for making our Training Program a success even during this difficult year.

In 2021, we will be adding Confined Space training, Dozer classes, Loader classes, Forklift classes, Deckhand training, NCCCO written test prep, and OSHA 30 Maritime training.

I would like to take a moment to say a sad farewell and congratulations to Jerry Abell on his retirement plans. Some of you may know that Jerry dispatched

me to my first job with Local 25. He likes to say it was just for his own well being because I wouldn't stop calling him for work and he figured I would last a few days and he wouldn't have to deal with me anymore. The joke was on him! 16 years later and I still blow up his phone. He was always great to work with as my Business Agent and Vice President when I was in the field as a shoreman, operator and shop steward and has been even better to work FOR since I was brought on as a Trainer and Training Director. He has always been fair and the voice of reason, especially when I did not want to be reasonable. I have always known I can count on him to give me an honest and educated answer to the situations I was dealing with in the field. Even if I didn't always understand or agree with his stance, I always trusted that he was looking at a bigger picture for the membership. Jerry, you are man of great character and integrity and have made an exceptional leader for Local 25. I look forward to continuing to work with Anthony Gonsiewski, Scott Reeves, Anthony Stewart and Melson Goodloe as we move forward. Congratulations to Ski and Scott on their new, upcoming titles. It is certainly well deserved and I am excited for our future under their leadership. Be safe and keep looking out for each other!

## OPTICAL PLAN ENHANCEMENTS

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce a benefit enhancement for 2021. Effective January 1, 2021, the Optical Benefit for single vision increased to \$400 (currently \$300) and bifocal vision to \$500 (currently \$350). In addition to the increases, the optical benefit is now payable every year rather than every two years. These increases, as always, pertain to you, the participant, as well as your dependents.

## NEW OUT OF WORK LIST RULES

In October, we mailed a Bylaws and Out of Work List Rules book to every member in good standing. The updated Bylaws and new Out of Work List Rules were approved by the Executive Board and are intended to ensure that all members are treated fairly and our standards of conduct are adhered to. The Out of Work List Rules outline our expectations for our members looking for work as well as the requirements you must meet to register on the Out of Work List. These requirements cover issues such as failed drug tests, violations of Bylaws and being available and reachable for work. If you did not receive the Bylaws/Out of Work List Rules book, contact any Hall to request one.





# Plans Administrator Report



MEGHAN BRODOWSKI

This past year was a challenging year and one we will not soon forget. As the new year begins, IUOE Local 25 Plans Office continues to address all the new challenges COVID-19 has brought and we continue to serve you and your families to the best of our abilities in this ever-changing world.

First, I would like to thank Jerry Abell for getting me through my transition period over the last two years. It has been a pleasure working with him and we will miss his Southern sayings always brightening up our days in the Plan's Office. Cheers to a happy & healthy retirement! Secondly, I would also like to wish Patty Colson all the best in her retirement adventures as well.

IUOE Local 25 takes great pleasure and pride in offering the membership and their families the very best benefit packages in the industry. The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce a benefit enhancement for 2021. Effective January 1, 2021, the Optical Benefit for single vision will increase to \$400 (currently \$300) and bifocal vision to \$500 (currently \$350). In addition to the increases, the optical benefit will now be payable every year rather than every two years. These increases, as always, pertain to you, the participant, as well as your dependents.

## \*\*\*\*REMINDERS\*\*\*\*

**In case you or your dependents are in an automobile/motorcycle accident, you should check to make sure your automobile and motorcycle insurance policies are the PRIMARY insurance for medical expenses for injuries sustained in an accident and that your policy meets the Plan's minimum criteria for medical related expenses. The specific criteria can be found on pages 42 & 43 of the SPD (Summary Plan Description) booklet or please call the Plans Office at (732) 446-0394.**

**If you get DIVORCED, it's your obligation to promptly notify the Plans Office at (732) 446-0394 within 60 days of the date of your divorce. Your former spouse's coverage will be terminated retroactive to the date of the divorce and you will be responsible for reimbursing the Plan for any benefits incorrectly paid after the divorce.**

**On behalf of the Local 25 Plans Department Staff, we are wishing everyone a happier and healthier New Year ahead!**

# Administrative Staff Reports



LINDSAY ABELL  
Hiring Hall  
Coordinator/  
Dispatch/  
Out of Work List

I hope that everyone is safe and healthy as we start this new year. I have missed being able to have our regular meetings, classes on the road and the other ways that allow us to come together and I look forward to getting back to that this year.

I am proud of the ways in which we have expanded our communications with the membership and that has certainly proven vital during this pandemic. Through text messages, our website, [www.iuoe25.org](http://www.iuoe25.org), and our Facebook page, IUOELocal25, we are continuing to find new ways to speak directly to you. Our Facebook page is a great place for the members and their families to send in pictures and other information you would like to share with the Brotherhood. Head to our website for the latest news and information effecting the membership, such as COVID precautions, updates to the Benefit Plans, Training schedules, etc.

There is no way for me to mention Jerry's retirement without becoming a blubbering idiot, so I am going to keep this short and sweet. When I came on staff in 2003, neither Jerry nor I had any intention of me staying; I was just filling in until a permanent replacement could be found. 18 years later and I guess I am just a chip off the old block. Every one of us in Local 25, whether working in the field or on staff, are better because of Jerry's leadership. He is the fairest man I know and he has shown us all what integrity, character and justice looks like in action. He has been the most transparent and available President & Business Manager Local 25 has ever had and I hope that we can continue his legacy of progress, transparency, and cooperation. It has been the honor of my life to work for and with Jerry Abell. Dad, thanks for everything. I will see you soon in Florida. Happy retirement!



# Administrative Staff Reports *continued*



**DEVIN SHERESHEVSKY**  
*Bookkeeping/  
Out of Work List*

Please remember to call the office every 60 days to remain current on the Out-of-Work list. If you currently have down time and want to excel your career by taking training courses and earning incentive pay, the JUETF is willing to reimburse you for those classes! Just be sure to get pre-approved before signing up for any of the approved courses to ensure your eligibility in the program. If you have any questions regarding this, please be sure to give me a call at the NJ hall so I can assist you through the process. Do you have a son or daughter who is graduating high school this year? Luckily for your child, Local 25 has the Stephen J. Leslie Scholarship Fund. Please call me for details and an application for them to complete!

Patty's career at Local 25 is truly incredible with her years of service to this fine membership and her retirement is well deserved. I have been working with Patty for over six years now and I am sad to see her leaving the Local 25 office, but I am happy for her because she will be able to enjoy retirement

with her growing family! Patty, working with you has truly been a pleasure and I am glad we were able to share time and stories together while you were here. Please be safe and enjoy every day because you earned it!

I will also be sad to see Jerry leaving the Local 25 office. I started working firsthand with Jerry four years ago and I have been thankful every day to have a boss that cares so much about his staff. Jerry's career at Local 25 is truly commendable for all the years of service he has given this membership. I wish you well in retirement and hope all your rides on your motorcycle are safe, all the donuts are sweet, and the sun is always shining! Enjoy every moment in retirement because you earned it!

I hope the membership and their families are all being safe during these trying times and were able to enjoy a happy and healthy holiday season!



**GABRIELLA BASELICE**  
*Administrative  
Assistant/  
Out of Work List*

Happy New Year, Brothers and Sisters! I think we can all agree that 2020 was a whirlwind in more ways than one. However, there was always one thing we could count on without fail - YOU! Your hard work and dedication to Local 25 never waivers, and for that, we admire you! You can find me on the other end of the phone in the Philly Hall to help dispatch you to jobs, take your questions, concerns, or just to check in and see how you are! Our new dispatch system has helped with record keeping tremendously. Don't forget to send us your current credentials and update your name on the Out of Work List if you are laid off. You will now receive a text message confirming your placement on the respective lists. Please be sure to update your contact information with any of our offices to guarantee you are getting important information via text message concerning upcoming meetings, training classes, and your credentials.

I would also like to congratulate Jerry Abell on his well-deserved retirement! Not only is Jerry an amazing boss, but an even better person. Jerry, thank you for your kindness, understanding, and dedication. Thank you for all you have done for both the staff and members of Local 25. It has truly been an honor to work for you throughout the last few years. We are so sad to see you leave, but

we know the Florida sunshine is waiting for you! Wishing you all the best in this new chapter of life! I am looking forward to the future with Local 25 and am grateful to continue working to help you all in any way I can! Talk soon!





## Welcome Ashore!

To our members who retired this year, thank you for your years of hard work and dedication.

**Art Fulton**

*Initiated 1985*

**Lawrence Harper**

*Initiated 1995*

**Michael Rice**

*Initiated 1999*

**Peter Blatchford**

*Initiated 1987*

**Roland Rogers**

*Initiated 2014*

**Borden Wade**

*Initiated 1989*

**Daniel Lloyd**

*Initiated 1995*

**Stewart Bradshaw**

*Initiated 1977*

**Donald Denmark**

*Initiated 1993*

**Ralph Fleming**

*Initiated 1995*

**Jerome Limehouse**

*Initiated 2002*

**Humberto Cantu**

*Initiated 1994*

**Bryant Trader**

*Initiated 1988*

**George Close**

*Initiated 2008*

**Isaiah Alston**

*Initiated 1989*

**Walter J. Burns**

*Initiated 1985*

**Richard C. Knowlton Jr.**

*Initiated 2002*

**Arthur Simmons**

*Initiated 2001*

**Edward W. Snover**

*Initiated 1995*

**Roger Thurling**

*Initiated 2002*

**Peter Wadelton**

*Initiated 2011*

**Mitchell Varnam**

*Initiated 1958*

**Richard Sherman**

*Initiated 1959*

## To Our New Members: Welcome Aboard!

Because of the amount of work we have been able to secure for our membership this year, we have initiated a number of new members into the Local 25 Brotherhood. It is imperative that we all do our part to make these new members feel welcome, but also to help educate them on the matters that are important to this Brotherhood. That includes the importance of adhering to our Bylaws, acting as a Brotherhood instead of an individual, watching out for each other on and off the jobsite and understanding the importance of informing your Shop Steward or Business Agent of any issues between each other or with company personnel. We are only as strong as our weakest link and that is never truer than when we are heading into contract negotiations. So, make sure you do your part to strengthen the Union Brotherhood as we continue to grow.



## In Memoriam

*Fair Winds and Following Seas to the Brothers & Sisters we have lost this year.*

Roberto Acosta.....Age 90	Joseph Harrington Age 81	Abba Romano.....Age 85
Daniel Adams.....Age 57	Oliver Heath .....Age 85	James Schrock .....Age 36
Phillip Anderson....Age 73	William Hemphill..Age 81	Ellis Snead .....Age 55
William Ashley .....Age 70	Joseph Hicks .....Age 64	Henry Sprague .....Age 64
Cordell August .....Age 79	Eugene Hilser.....Age 89	Kyle Stein.....Age 21
Marion Brown.....Age 80	Lenous Johnson ....Age 78	Michael Tanner .....Age 64
Jerry Burdsall.....Age 59	Alfred Lavergne.....Age 73	Wilbert Tanner .....Age 33
John Burke.....Age 56	William Luzetsky...Age 90	Eli Tatum.....Age 63
Larry Campbell .....Age 59	Marcelino Martel...Age 80	Joseph Tavella.....Age 79
Joseph Clinard .....Age 50	Oziel Martinez Jr..Age 41	John Toland .....Age 64
George Dallis.....Age 92	Robert Miller .....Age 88	Jack Truesdale .....Age 64
Bruce Deane.....Age 73	Louis Moore .....Age 73	Thomas Hill .....Age 62
Vincent Densen .....Age 53	John Old .....Age 44	Jose Verde .....Age 89
Einar Dyrland.....Age 99	Robert Parker .....Age 81	Thomas Watler.....Age 56
Allen Francis .....Age 79	John Patterson .....Age 82	Thomas Widmeier..Age 67
Raymond Frost.....Age 29	Phillip Powell .....Age 82	Keith Willetts .....Age 57
Francis Gabriel.....Age 88	Albert Reeves .....Age 88	
Joseph Harper.....Age 84	Richard Robert.....Age 74	



**OPERATING ENGINEERS**





**Operating Engineers Local 25  
MARINE DIVISION**

463 State Route 33  
Millstone Township, NJ 08535



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