

# Local 4 OPERATING ENGINEERS



Louis G. Rasetta  
Business Manager

office@iuoelocal4.org

16 Trotter Drive  
Medway, Massachusetts 02053  
Telephone (508) 533-1433  
Fax (508) 533-1430

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## NOTIFIED MEETING

THE QUARTERLY NOTIFIED MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 8:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2005, AT FLORIAN HALL, 55 HALLET STREET, DORCHESTER, MA. THE OFFICERS WILL READ THEIR QUARTERLY REPORTS.

## DUES REMINDER

DUES FOR THE CURRENT QUARTER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2005, ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE. Failure to maintain your good standing in regard to dues may cause your suspension from the Local Union and your removal from the job site.

*Members are encouraged to remit dues payments on an annual basis (\$120).* Quarterly dues may also be paid in three, six, or nine-month increments. Dues payments can only be credited to your account on a quarterly basis, and must coincide with the calendar quarters.



## BUSINESS MANAGER LOU RASETTA'S REPORT

Greetings Brothers and Sisters:

I hope that you and your families are well and that you are gainfully employed.

As I have just completed my first year as your Business Manager, I would like to take this opportunity to give a brief outline of the major occurrences of this past year.

First and foremost were the negotiations and ratification of a new three-year agreement with our major Contractor groups. As I have said, this agreement provides major

increases over the next three years, and the funding necessary to stabilize our fringe benefit funds into the future. I will be looking for input as to the allocation of our substantial December 1 raise, and will keep everyone apprised of these discussions.

On the organizing front, we have brought about the signing of many new Contractors. A number of these are established Contractors, who have hired our operators and mechanics. In addition, we also continue to cultivate new and upcoming Companies, that will hopefully be with us into the future.

Our Apprenticeship and Training Department has also made great strides over the past year. We have purchased many state-of-the-art pieces of equipment, including a brand new Potain Tower Crane, which is now fully operational at our Medway Facility. Also, we are continuing to provide courses for licensing and certificate updates. I would urge everyone who has not signed up for the OSHA 10-hour course to do so immediately, as we only have until next July to be in compliance.

I am happy to announce that we have made great strides in restoring stability to our Health & Welfare Fund. The new Blue Cross initiative, additional contributions, and some belt tightening have enabled us to have stemmed the losses of prior years. My intent, of course, is to continually strive to improve the plan, and make it as accessible as possible. The Annuity & Savings Plan is conducting a number of seminars this fall in order to further educate our members on the most effective investing of their monies.

In conclusion, and most important, I believe that the work situation will continue to improve throughout the remainder of this year, and throughout next year. As I have stated in past letters, I am very proud of the skill and professionalism of our members, and I am equally proud to serve each and every one of you as your Business Manager.

Sincerely,

Louis G. Rasetta





**WILLIAM MCLAUGHLIN**

With autumn now upon us, I hope all is well with you and your families and everyone enjoyed the summer. As I have just surpassed my first year as President and Business Representative, I would like you all to know that this is a great honor for me to be able to represent you in this capacity.

Work in the Route 128 perimeter remains relatively steady. Site developers, paving contractors and water and sewer companies carry the majority of employment in this area. These projects include the construction of schools, road work and private housing development. Opportunity for crane operators in the area remains minimal.

Northeast Contractors have just started construction of a new addition and parking garage at the Newton-Wellesley Hospital. They are also present at a similar project at Millipore Company in Bedford. They currently employ several operators at both sites. Marois Brothers is highly visible with site work on two sizable projects in the area. A large private housing development is now underway in Burlington as well as the Natick Mall expansion project. Derenzo employs several operators in Burlington at a new retail shopping plaza that should extend through the winter. The Bond Brothers utility project is now in full swing and should carry us into the new year. A.J. Welch is still present at the Leahy Clinic where a multi-million phase II project is in the planning stages. E.T.& L. Corp. is in Bedford developing a roadway construction project. Aggregate Industries, D&R General Contracting, D. Clifford Paving, Northeast Reclamation and Don Martin Corp. are paving on several major roadways throughout this area.

The State has announced plans to build a \$106 million courthouse complex on Federal Street in Salem. This court project will also be coordinated with the MBTA's plan to construct a 1000-car garage at the commuter rail station. The State hopes to begin construction next year.

I would like to encourage all our members to attend the upcoming MassMutual Investment seminars to be held in various locations of our jurisdictions.

With only a couple of months remaining in the year, I would just like to remind all of the members who are still in need of hours to contact and inform the agents. As always, our goal is to assist in providing wages, conditions and benefits to the members and their families.



**JOHN PANARO**

Autumn is here as our contractors attempt to finish as much work as possible before the cold and snow settle in. Our dirt merchants are busy throughout the North of Boston area. Crane operators and mechanics are finding that there are fewer work opportunities this year as compared to previous years.

Roads Corporation is moving forward on their seven million dollar road project in Cambridge. Roads is also working in the town of Belmont doing another road project worth eight million dollars.

Charlestown has work underway at the Naval Base. Hallamore, Donaldson and A.J. Welch are working for the General Contractor Turner at the Naval Base. RDA is finishing up a repair and replace pier project in Charlestown. This job site was great for as many as eight operators working to acquire their hours this year. Walsh of Illinois will attempt to work through the winter on their 10 million dollar Storage Conduit project in Charlestown.

Medford is very busy with three projects at Tufts University. The Flett Company has the excavation on the new Music Hall and the new Residence Hall. Guigli Construction started the excavation on a new parking lot being built at Tufts. The Mystic Center project at Wellington Circle is almost done. WL French had the contract for the excavation on phase one of this project. There are more phases to this project coming next year.

Cavalieri Construction is finishing up the new YMCA in Malden and the YMCA in East Boston. Universal Steel is moving forward with the steel erection on a new 11 story building at Exchange Street in Malden. W L French has almost completed the excavation on site.

The new 60 million dollar Everett High School is underway. The excavation by Bay State Engineering goes forward with five operators on the site.

This winter is a great time to visit the training center. Remember you must acquire the ten-hour OSHA certificate that is mandatory on all construction sites in Massachusetts by July of 2006. Call the training center at (781) 821-0306 for more information.

## **SAFETY CORNER**

### **Occupational Safety and Health Administration 10 Hour Safety Training & Thank you**

Some members have received the O.S.H.A. card through their employers. Please send to the Canton Engineers Training Center a copy of your O.S.H.A. card in order for us to keep our records up to date for the business agents when the requirement becomes law August 2006.

On behalf of the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee and the Local Union, I want to publicly acknowledge and thank Arnold Demus for his very generous donation of a 100 Ton American Crane to the Engineers Training Center. It will be put to good use and we are very appreciative of Arnold thinking of the Engineers Training Center and the Operating Engineers.



On October 1-8, 2005, the Town of Medfield asked the Engineers Training Center, if we could assist the town on an ABC-TV's "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition." Instructor Bill O'Neil was the contact person between the Training Center and the Town of Medfield. The Training Center donated the 35 Ton Grove from the Medway Training site. I would like to thank the following Operating Engineers in assisting the Town of Medfield and the ABC-TV's "Extreme Makeover: Design Team" to make the Dreams of this Disadvantaged Family become a reality.



Len Boddy owner of Northeast Riggers Crane Service for donating an 18 Ton Boom Truck with Operator Brian Dowd.

Peter Bernazzani, Pat Crowley, Mike Mooney and Bill O'Neil who operated the 35 Ton Crane.

Peter Bernazzani, Brooks Johnson, Bob Marshall, Don Miller, Steve Rasetta, Curt Roberts and Charlie Tangerini, for manning the forklifts. It is times like this that make me especially proud to be an Operating Engineer.

Thank you,  
Bill Mooney



### **KEVIN BENNETT**

As we enter the fall season, work in the Boston area is progressing well. The Charles Street Jail Hotel, a \$77,000,000 project, is under way with Vynorius Pile Driving. Battery Wharf Hotel Residential, a four building, \$50,000,000 project has Phil/RDA driving piles. Bovis Lend Lease is working on the foundation of a new condominium project in South Boston, and the Bio Square medical garage is under way with Trevi-Icos installing caissons and James Flett doing the site work. The Big Dig continues to employ many of our members, especially on the 320 rubber tire excavators. As a business agent, it appears that the 320 rubber tire excavators have become the most requested machine.

Moving to the other side of town, Suffolk Construction has begun work on two fourteen story towers at the Prudential Center. The Kenmore Square T station has been demolished and new construction is under way. At Brigham & Women's Center for Advanced Medicine, a \$175,000,000 undertaking, Trevi-Icos is 75% complete on the slurry walls with J.F. White doing the excavation. One block over Hub Foundation and East Coast Slurry have begun work on a new High Rise in the Hospital district. Looking at the Dodge reports, the future looks bright with several large building projects in the planning stages. Hopefully we will see many of these breaking ground soon.

The Boston Building Trades have endorsed Mayor Thomas Menino, a long-time friend of labor, for re-election. He tells us there are 12 billion dollars of construction on the books for the City of Boston. I attended his campaign kick-off meeting where he asked for our help. If you're interested in supporting Mayor Menino's campaign, please call me at 978-667-3097.

In the weeks to come there are going to be educational seminars on pension, annuity, and 401(K) programs in each of the business agent territories. This is a great opportunity to better understand all the self-directed funds and make intelligent choices for you and your family's future. Please come with your spouse and meet your Union officials.

Time is running out for the required OSHA 10-hour course. For information on classes, call the training center at 781-821-0306.

As always, thank you for all your help and support.



**NORMAN TEED**

The fall season is in full swing with good weather promoting work opportunities with excavation, water and sewer, asphalt lay down and quarry and plant operations in the South of Boston area. Hopefully this will continue and allow members to work the hours needed to qualify for benefits before this

year end. I know many members will have to work late into this year to get the 1200 hours needed. If mother nature cooperates with a mild winter, many projects will continue to work. One noticeable change this year is that few job sites work much overtime.

Sevenson Environmental has finally gone back to work on the New Bedford Harbor Cleanup Project once the new Federal Highway Bill was signed, providing funding for continuing this contamination cleanup work. This project is working many hours per week which is helping some members who normally operate cranes work toward getting their hours. While trying to man this job in late August, too many members who were unemployed were ineligible to work there because their Hazmat certification had expired or they never trained for it. There is going to be a lot more Hazardous contaminated sites cleaned up in the future. I encourage our members to get certified this Winter when courses are offered at our Training Center.

One discouraging concern I have are reports in the news media of the Federal Government asking states to forego starting as many projects as possible with funding from the new highway bill and other federal dollars. This will allow the money to be used in states damaged by the devastating hurricanes. The trouble I have with this is that organized labor has been shut out of this clean up and rebuilding effort by President Bush excluding this work from Davis Bacon rates. In my mind, this is a shameful action.

I wish to acknowledge the help Don Oakley and Peter Bernazzani gave to all the members of our Local union during our campaign to get the development plan passed for the former Weymouth Naval Air Station. They worked diligently as our Craft Captains in the three towns of Weymouth, Rockland and Abington to help get members and their registered family members and friends out to hearings, meetings and voting nights. I cannot thank them enough for their efforts. Also, thanks to all our members who participated when called on. All of the Building Trades did their share to get the plan passed.

The Department of the Navy turned over about 550 acres of the former Base to The Tri Town Commission more than three years ago. The Navy has told the developer they want payment for the remaining more than 700 acres of land. The Developer, L.N.R. Company has been in negotiations with the Department of the Navy for more

than five weeks. Hopefully the deal will be finalized soon. Construction should start some time next year once the permit process is worked through. The project is scheduled to be developed over a 12 to 15-year period.

The Brayton Point Power Plant, Somerset Emissions Improvement Project is progressing along providing jobs for about 20 to 25 members. The Brightman Street Bridge Project over the Taunton River in Somerset/Fall River is progressing. The \$100,000,000 super structure contract for the bridge is supposed to be bid in February. Hopefully a signatory contractor will be low bidder and win this contract, but it will not be easily done.

I encourage members and their spouses or guest to attend the upcoming Investment Education Seminar to be provided by Local 4 and Mass Mutual Financial Group on Tuesday, October 18, 7:00pm at the Holiday Inn, 700 Myles Standish Blvd., off the Bay St., Taunton Rt. 495 exit. Come to learn the important information about investing for your future and answers for any of your questions.

Work safe and stay healthy.



East Coast Slurry is pushing hard to complete the project at Harvard University.



**DAVID FANTINI**

As another construction season comes to an end, I hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health.

This season has been a good one for all of the site, utility, and paving contractors. You can't go too far without running into one of our contractors. In Wilmington E.T.&L was already working on the Rte. 125 interchange and has started the reconstruction of Rte.129, which should be ongoing through 2006. Dow is in Amesbury and has moved out of the streets and begun work on a park. Zoppo has gone back to work in Hampton, NH and is expecting to work through the winter.

A couple of projects that have been on going and continue to provide jobs and hours for the men and women of Local 4 are: J.F. White in Haverhill, Carlin Contracting in Billerica, and Modern Continental on Rte.3. All of these projects will still be ongoing next year.

All four of the quarries in the area are still very busy and have winter maintenance scheduled. As I write every year, this can be a great way to get a jump on next years hours.

Seabrook Station was home for a handful of our people this year, which had an outage in the winter and went right into the construction of a new security fence. With almost \$60 million slated for construction, I hope this will continue next year.

Some work that I am watching for the up coming year is the Expansion of Rte. 93 in New Hampshire \$480 Million, Lowell Courthouse \$85 Million, Lucent Tech Park in Westford \$185 Million, and the construction of the interchange for the Tewksbury Mall \$250 Million.

I would like to congratulate Business Manager Rasetta on a great first year in office with our new contract, and improving the fiscal status of our health and pension funds. He has us headed in the right direction.

There are two dates of importance coming up. Local 4 will once again be holding Mass Mutual Seminars throughout the area. On Thursday Oct. 27 we will be at the Holiday Inn in Tewksbury 4 Highwood Drive from 7-9 pm. On Sunday, Nov.6 we will be holding a 10-hr OSHA class at the Portsmouth, NH laborers Hall 155 West Rd. If you are interested in this class please call me.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and I hope to see you at a meeting.



**ROD GILLESPIE**

I am sure most of you are following with great interest as I am the LNG tank farm proposals in Down east Maine. Down east LNG, Quoddy Bay LNG and BP LNG. According to our sources the company with the best proposal, site location and finances

will be the ultimate winner but even then there is no guarantee as the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will decide among the dozen or so proposed along the eastern seaboard. One is already under construction in Nova Scotia and Irving Oil of St. John, NB is moving on getting their permits. I'll keep you posted as we all know what kind of work a \$400 million dollar project could do for us in the state of Maine.

Otis Eastern pipeline company has approximately 6-8 weeks work in Portland and looking for more work in southern Maine. Costello Dismantling from Massachusetts has just finished a demolition job in Camden and is looking at more work in Brewer and Lewiston. Lane Construction crews are busy as usual this time of year. Next summer with the re-signing of the six year Federal Highway Transportation bill last month, we are looking for even a better year. Schnabel Construction from Rhode Island has a couple operators at Maine Medical Center in Portland working on the retaining wall for the hospital expansion. We are in hopes a good contractor will pick up the nine story parking garage coming out soon. Irving Equipment is busy this summer setting hundreds of modular homes with their hydraulic truck cranes, setting steel in Calais on the new hospital and at the Poland Springs bottling plant in Hollis. It's great to see Irving Equipment aggressively pursuing crane work in Maine, putting several of our operating engineers to work. ARC Erecting, a new union steel erector, has been employing operators as well erecting a shopping mall in Bangor, structures in Machias, Belfast, Orono and will soon erect the new police station in Bangor.

In closing, I want to thank Business Manager Lou Rasetta and Fund Administrator Gina Alongi for bringing Mass Mutual to Bangor on October 23rd for the continuing education seminar on your annuity funds. It's great to hear from the pros on investments. My thanks go out to you who attended. It's important we take advantage of these meeting's by attending. A lot of work is done before hand to prepare for these events and a good turn out will assure that they will come back to Maine in the future. Work safe and enjoy the fall weather while it lasts.



**CHRIS FOGARTY**

It has been a great first year of many challenges and every one has been met with the attitude of “*now it is time to get to work,*” a quote by Business Manager Lou Rasetta made from day one as a dedicated trade unionist. His total devotion toward the membership of Local 4 should be applauded. Just

a snapshot of the year would show that not only was the Master Agreement one of the best in the country, there are more than thirty other agreements in Shops, Paving and Utility industry that have been negotiated this year. The agreements all of which have terms and conditions that are second to none in this struggling economy. The health and welfare have been put back on a solid foundation and continues to look positive. The year had created a perfect storm of sorts with all that had been put before us, but through leadership, coordination and support of the members, Local 4 remains as strong as it has ever been.

With the recent ratification of United Rentals Aerial Equipment, Hertz Equipment and C.N. Wood/ WoodCo it gives me a great appreciation for the effort put forth by these members to stand and work together to have their voices heard. The shops are an intricate part of this Union and participation is paramount. Rentals continue to be strong late into this season, sales have dropped a bit but service and refurbishing of older equipment has filled the gap left by slower sales.

The concrete pump industry has had a very strong summer and a pretty respectable fall so far. A few issues in the industry were brought forth by the members and the Business Manager and I addressed these in detail and corrected any misnomers that have been brought to our attention. It takes a lot of intestinal fortitude to stand and oppose what you think is wrong, by keeping us informed we can better serve you.

The Field Engineers have had a good season so far and hopefully as more projects get going the demand for these skilled engineers will continue. The need for some training courses is being currently explored by two separate sources that should fill most of our needs. There continues to be excellent communication from the members in this front. The training and industry needs would like to be expounded upon with another meeting of the 4E members. The goal was to have a meeting by the end of the season, hopefully we can put it together by the end of this month.

Local 4 and MassMutual are putting on investment seminars all month at several locations. I urge you to attend one of these great seminars the importance cannot be understated. I attended these last year and was grateful to have such a great resource about money management at my fingertips. I would like to welcome aboard all the new apprentices and wish you all the success as you start your new journey in our fine Local.



**RON BURNAP**

First of all, our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Robert Amorello who tragically died in a work related accident. Every day we go to work and do things that are second nature to us, not remembering that what we do is very dangerous work. Accidents can happen in a split second, before we have time to prevent them.

Please take time to work as safely as possible and beware of all hazards.

Work in the Worcester area is going well, it has been a busy summer and the fall outlook looks busy as well. Downtown Worcester, with the new court house, Rte. 146, and the new hotel has kept a lot of our members busy. The future of Worcester looks like we should have plenty of work for a few seasons to come. New projects such as rebuilding Washington Square, with a new parking garage, the demolition of the Worcester Common Outlet Mall, and rebuilding of the big section of downtown. Road reconstruction, sewer, and water work, and now the repair of some dams in the area makes the future look bright.

Mike Bowes has a new agreement and shop agreement with J.E. Murray Construction Company from Auburn, MA. We welcome J.E. Murray into our Local, and thank Mike for his efforts.

Time is running out for the OSHA 10-hour safety course. OSHA will be mandatory in 2006. Call the training center as soon as possible to sign up for a class. You will need this certification to go to work next year. Also, sign up for the Hazmat and Forklift and any license upgrade you might need.



Local 4 Operator Jim Black is working at Harvard University in Cambridge for J.F. White.



Business Manager Lou Rasetta, President Bill McLaughlin presenting Training Coordinator Bill Mooney with a check representing Local 4's share of the cost of the new Potain Tower Crane that was erected at the Medway Training Center.

## *IN RETIREMENT*

We wish a long, healthy and well deserved retirement to the following:

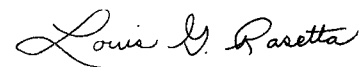
Ernest B. Baldwin	Keith D. Menzie
John M. Birdsall	David H. Nichols
Richard N. Bizier	Anthony Obregon
Charles S. Buco	Lawrence J. O'Keefe
John R. Carlson	Robert J. O'Keefe
James E. Coonan	Victor P. Padovano
Richard W. Crabbe	Rocco Palombo
David E DiCarlo	Richard J. Panaccione
Carmen Esposito	Ronald A. Poirier
William V. Giannangelo	Neal B. Randall
Robert S. Gomes	Robert A. Silvia
Richard M. Guziejka	Frank D. Silvio, Jr.
Albert Herman, Jr.	Robert M. St Laurent
Robert L. Letendre, Sr.	John K. Sullivan
Bobby Lighty	Melvin R. Sweatt
Ralph A. Lucia	James H. Thompson, Jr.
William F. MacClellan	Ronald J. Turcotte
Francis W. Maguire	Thomas V. Walsh
Neville I. McAlpin	Frederick J. White
Thomas F. McNamara	Robert M. Zechello

## *IN MEMORIAM*

The Officers and members of the Local offer their sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following:

Robert J. Amorello	Warren W. Miller
Norman E. Beaulieu	Torrey H. Mitchell
Stanley A. Brown	Paul B. O'Keefe
Sheldon D. Copeland	Robert Pimental
David J. Fish	Grant H. Starling
Albert G. Flater	Edward Vigue
John M. Komich	Colon J. Wakefield
	Louis P. Zona

*Fraternally yours,*



***Louis G. Rasetta***  
***Business Manager***