

# THE INSIDE TRACK

A Quarterly Newsletter  
for Members of Local 478

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 1 WINTER 2026



**LOCAL 478**  
Operating Engineers



## Looking Back, Moving Forward

Capturing Moments  
& Embracing Change

*Demolition of PSEG coal plant in Bridgeport, Connecticut*

*Photo by: Krane Digital*

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# Business Manager's Report

By Business Manager Nate Brown

## New Year Brings Changes to Local 478

As we begin 2026, I want to take a moment to share some important updates and changes within Local 478. These changes will support our continued growth and strengthen our ability to serve you, our members, more effectively.

First, Scott Swick will be stepping into the role of Assistant Training Director at the Training School. Scott began his career with Local 478 in the field. In 2003, he became an instructor at the school, followed by becoming the Apprenticeship Coordinator. He then took on the role of the Hartford/Tolland County Business Agent in 2015. His familiarity with the program, combined with his dedication and leadership skills, will be a tremendous asset. I am confident that this move will provide Training Director Gregg Strede with the support needed to focus on the expansion of our training initiatives, especially at South Mountain Road.

As Scott shifts into his new role, Kevin Hartshorn will assume the role of Business Agent for Hartford/Tolland County. To ensure a seamless handover, Scott will remain available to support Kevin during the transition.

Additionally, many of you may have recognized a new face during the January membership meeting. Kimberly

Glassman has joined Local 478 as the Director of Compliance and Government Affairs. Some may know her from her previous role as the Director of the Foundation for Fair Contracting of Connecticut, where she worked to enforce prevailing wage laws, ensure proper worker classification, and support compliance with state standards. Her efforts helped protect workers' rights and ensured that contractors on

public works projects received the wages and protections guaranteed by law. In her position here with Local 478, Kim

will work with the Business Agents to ensure our signatory contractors comply with CBAs, wage rates, workplace safety standards, and member rights. She will also be up at the capitol advocating for legislation that benefits our members while monitoring local government activities and engaging with elected officials. Her expertise and passion will be instrumental as we work to protect our industry and advance policies that benefit IUOE Local 478.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to recognize and thank Michele Young for her dedicated service to Local 478



over the past 26 years. Michele officially retired on January 1, 2026. Throughout her career, she has had the opportunity to work alongside five different Business Managers, and her contributions have been nothing short of invaluable. Michele's legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire us all. We wish Michele the best as she embarks on this new chapter

of her life. We thank her for her ongoing support and commitment to Local 478!

As Michele steps into retirement, we are fortunate to have had a seamless handover of her responsibilities. Many of you have already had the opportunity to meet Kasey Cornwell, who has worked closely with Michele over the past year and a half and has now officially taken over as Executive Administrative Assistant. Over the past 10 plus years myself and others from the trades have had the privilege to work with Kasey through her roles with the United Labor Agency, AFL-CIO and most recently the Building Trades Training Institute (BTTI).

These changes mark a new chapter for our union, and I am confident that we will achieve great things in the year ahead. Thank you all for your hard work and commitment.



# Referral Report

## By Referral Manager Tiana Ocasio

I hope everyone is enjoying the winter season. In this article I'd like to focus on some referral processes and member responsibilities.

### Reporting your layoff and return to work dates:

It is your duty to report your layoff and return to work dates. Your SUB payment will be denied if we do not have your dates. If your return to work date is missing and your contractor is delinquent, we will not know until there is a problem. Additionally, unemployment audits our records to ensure that you are/were on our out of work list.

### Please report your layoff/return to work ASAP by:

- Calling the Hall (203) 288-9261 ext. 241 or 242
- Reporting on the Local 478 Website
- Emailing [tocasio@local478.org](mailto:tocasio@local478.org)
- Texting/calling me on my cell (203) 815-8877

### Updating your records:

I recently mailed the yearly referral record letter showing you what we have on file for your work history, skills, licenses and certifications.

### If anything is missing, please update by doing one of the following:

- Going online at [local478.org](http://local478.org)
  - Go to Referral Office and then click on resume to access your file
  - You can upload the images directly online
- Take pictures and text them to me (203) 815-8877

### Reminders:

- DO NOT quit a job! Call your agent and/or myself to try and fix the issue you are having.

- If you are looking for work, make sure you contact the Referral Office at a minimum weekly until we can get you back out to work
- If you are going to work out of state:
  - Call us to clear you into that Local's jurisdiction before you get turned away at the jobsite
  - Check your dues card. If you are in arrears, you will also get turned away

### Unemployment:

- If you are having unemployment issues, check your dues
  - Your dues must be paid far in advance to be exempt from work searches
  - Unemployment receives our member dues record weekly
- You may receive a letter or email from DOL that you need to search for work
  - This is a standard message that is sent to everyone
- Once you submit your weekly certification it will take 10-14 Business days from the process date of that claim to start receiving payments
- Keep filing weekly

### Having issues with your claim?

Please call CTDOL  
(203) 941-6868  
or (860) 967-0493

Explore the 2026 Training School class schedule



## Volunteer Action Committee

This will be a very busy political year; make sure you are on our volunteer list!

### Upcoming walks that your family can join:

Walk for Autism in May | The Liver Life Walk in the Fall

Stay tuned, more information to come!!

If you have an idea for a volunteer event in your community—or if you'd like to join our **Volunteer Action Committee**—please reach out to me at **(203) 815-8877**.

# 2025 Members' Holiday Party

The 2025 Annual Members' Holiday Party was a great success, with proceeds from each ticket benefiting our Charities Fund.

"Thank You" to everyone who attended and an extra special "Thank You" to those members who were unable to attend but still supported our holiday giving efforts with their generous donations. Local 478 was able to make three meaningful donations: Connecticut Foodshare, The WTIC NewsTalk 1080 Holiday Store benefiting The Salvation Army, and the Manafort Brothers, Inc. Jon Manafort Memorial Bike Drive supporting the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program.

Looking ahead, the 2026 Holiday Party will be held at the Aqua Turf. This new venue will provide ample parking and space to accommodate everyone comfortably, addressing some challenges experienced in the past.







# Service Pin Recipients



## Congratulations to the dedicated Local 478 Members who received their service pins in 2025.

### 70 Years of Service

Peter Hnath Jr

### 65 Years of Service

Everett Campanelli  
Paul Festa  
Raymond Mallozzi  
Mark J Petruzzi

### 60 Years of Service

David J Alkas  
Joseph G Beaulieu  
Robert C Bottass  
Richard S Bull  
Irwin H Dawson  
James A Emerson  
Wesley Haines  
Carl Lapier  
Michael P Lato  
Samuel Morrone  
Frank P Naumec  
Anthony Nigro  
Frank Passarelli  
Russell D Phillips  
Donald L Velardi  
William Wysllick

### 55 Years of Service

Salvatore J Albano  
Aldo P Dedominicis  
John A Donaldson Jr  
Alan Embleton  
John A Epifano  
Roy Fargo  
Antoine P Guerrette  
Rudolph A Jason  
Richard J Lato  
James H Leonard  
Ralph E Longo  
Salvatore Panioto  
Bert T Pittman  
James R Romanella

### 50 Years of Service

Richard Crowther  
William R Hatstat  
Frederick G LaForge  
Donald J Moore

### 45 Years of Service

Harvey R Adkins  
Roger W Arnow Jr  
Robert Bozzuto  
Robert A Brown  
Robert L Carr  
Vincent E DeMorro  
Roger Harbour  
Rudy Itzek  
Paul B Lemire  
Daniel Mallozzi  
Alan P Tracy  
Peter J Zboray  
Mark A Zeiner

### 40 Years of Service

Anthony Alterio  
Paul N Aresta  
Eugene Arnold  
Richard J Bonzani  
Robert F Butcher  
Gary J Caron  
Louis F Cavaliere  
Eleuterio A Corsetti  
John Dostilio  
Steven M Ficara  
Craig A Fletcher  
Ronald A Foster  
Camilo Freitas  
David W Gregoire  
Keith G Hawes  
Curtis S Holtman  
Calvin Hutchinson  
Lloyd F Jacques  
Ronald W Johnson  
James S Koch II  
Eugene P Kozikowski  
Steven Levesque  
Peter A Lipeika Jr  
Anthony G Macek  
Jeffrey A Mann  
Michael J Marino Jr  
Jon Ouellette  
Thomas A Pardew  
Louis C Pettengill  
Robert Pirovane  
Barry Pokorny  
Joseph Portal  
Joseph M Raulukaitis

Stephen Sappo  
Arthur W Smith  
Isiah Talton  
Margaret A Thibodeau  
Carmelo C Tralongo  
Martin R Tubbs  
John P Vanzetten

### 35 Years of Service

Steven Allaire  
Todd Bodo  
Thomas M Couture  
Antonio Crespo  
Aric E Files  
William G German  
Thomas J Hardy  
Bartholomew Knox III  
Jeffrey S Lamoureux  
Robert E Lee  
Wallace F Lewis  
Robert J Lozyniak  
Willie Mccall  
Jeffrey P McIntosh  
Paul G Mullins  
Robert L Sansone Sr  
Scott M Shappy  
Joseph J Spadaccini

### 30 Years of Service

John L Andrews  
George F Barth  
Dennis F Brilla  
Patrick C Burns  
Chris Carbone  
Dino M Carbone  
Michael Catania  
Marcel Champagne  
James M Croke  
Kirk V Damboise  
Peter Doheny  
John Fernandes  
Donald C Frawley  
Mark T Garrison  
Arthur W Harrington  
Eric Harris  
Philip E Hazzard  
Eugene P Leger  
Bryan P Leslie  
Robert E Levesque

Kevin Macdougall  
Anthony Mancarella Jr  
Emanuel A Medeiros  
Scot A Moffat  
Corey V Paradis  
Peter D Rebuzzini  
Stanley Remiszewski Jr  
Michael Roja  
Michael A Rubino  
Jewett J Wilson

### 25 Years of Service

Arthur Abbott Jr  
Richard G Austin III  
William Bakaj  
Paul C Barbiero  
Michael Barton  
Richard R Battis Jr  
Richard S Baver  
Joseph Biro  
Jason D Boucher  
Thomas E Bradley  
Joseph Campoli  
Jeff Capizzano  
Craig Caron  
Stephen Casale  
Winfield Cheske Jr  
Joshua W Cozzi  
Henry J Czerwienski  
Antonio Damota  
Edward P Degray  
Jared Denis  
Martinho Dinis  
James Dion  
Shaun Dominy  
Joseph F DonAroma  
Larry Doyon II  
Scott T Dugee  
Sean Embleton  
Mary Lynn Frazier  
Anthony Furtado  
Michael E Gancarz  
Michael J Gardella  
Mark Guerrette  
Mathew Haeseler  
Gregory T Hagggett  
Todd Haines  
Michael Hazard  
Wilfred Hernandez  
James Hutchinson

Sean W Hyjek  
Clarence J Johnson  
William A Keenan  
Daniel M Korineck  
Gregory J Kranmas  
Luigi Lacedra  
Philip Lafleur  
Wayne Madore  
Carlos M Martins  
Sam Mcclelland  
Michael Mcdonough  
Michael W Miron  
Joseph Morin  
Kenneth M Murray  
Steven Oconnor  
Randall J Philbrick  
Lino Rivera  
Antonio A Rodrigues  
Bret M Romer  
Ronald D Ross Jr  
James Rush  
Charles J Schaub Jr  
Donald F Schmitt III  
Edward Shaw  
Angad O Singh  
Russell Smith  
Michael K Smith  
Frank Solla  
Scott P Spear  
Christopher S Spinella  
James Taylor  
Christopher Toscano  
Kevin C Trainor  
Santo Tudisca  
Tristan Tudisca  
Michael J Verbickas  
Curtiss A Whipple  
Marshall E White Jr  
Henry Zimmerman

### 20 Years of Service

Angel Angelov  
Howard Asal  
Sebastian J Bartolotta  
Corry Bayly  
James P Bender  
Mark G Bothwell  
Maurice Boucher Jr  
Randolph A Brush  
Bradford Cappiello



# Service Pin Recipients



## 20 Years of Service

*(continued)*

Glenn Carrezola  
 Robert F Chacho  
 Robert S Chernak Jr  
 Christian Cole  
 James Colitti  
 Andrew Cox  
 Clayton Deming  
 Diamantino Desousa  
 Manuel A Esteves Jr  
 Thomas J Fusco  
 Gary Gamble  
 Ryan Gath  
 Richard A Grenier  
 Jason M Hackling  
 Segundo Haro  
 Vincent Hughes  
 Abinadi Hyman  
 Vicente Jurado  
 Cameron Kehrein

Donald E Kennedy  
 Scott Krajewski  
 Michael A Lanzo  
 Jerry A Leblanc  
 Carlos Lopez  
 Joseph L Maggi  
 David John Mango  
 Christopher Mannella  
 Raymond Matos  
 John Mclean  
 Oscar Omar Mendoza  
 Keith M Murphy  
 Jeffrey Murray  
 Daniel J Nageotte  
 Matthew S Ouellette  
 Anthony F Polzella  
 Donald Primerano  
 Philip Prizio Jr  
 Michael Pronovost  
 Dustin T Rice  
 Jason E Rispoli

Russell W Robinson III  
 Ronald Saindon  
 Nicholas Sforza Jr  
 Thomas P Shaw  
 John Shopey  
 Darwin Silva  
 Mark Soliwocki  
 Kevin Stewart  
 Thomas W Trivaudey  
 David A Vailette Jr  
 James Walker  
 Sydney White  
 Jason Wigmore  
 Darrin Woodmancy  
 John J Wyzkowski  
 Mark Zambero  
 Frank Zeoli



## Volunteer of the Year



In 2025, Local 478 proudly introduced a new tradition: honoring a Volunteer of the Year. At the November Membership Meeting, Tom Yates was recognized as the inaugural recipient of this award. Congratulations, Tom, and thank you for your continued support, commitment, and dedication to your community and to the Local 478 Operating Engineers Volunteer Action Committee!

# 2025 Active Retirees' Holiday Party

**Our Active Retirees group gathered on Friday, December 5, 2025, for a wonderful Christmas celebration at Anthony's Ocean View in New Haven.**

With 100 guests in attendance, the day was filled with laughter, conversation, and holiday spirit.

Guests enjoyed a delicious four-course meal, along with drinks, music, and plenty of dancing. It was truly a day of friendship, tradition, and appreciation for the members who helped build our union into what it is today. A great time was had by all.

While the event was a success, we want to remind everyone that our Active Retiree group is getting smaller, and we are in need of new members and greater participation to keep this important group thriving. If you are retired or approaching retirement and would like to get involved, we would love to welcome you. For more information, please contact Ashley at (203) 288-9261, ext. 249.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt congratulations to Mike Briggs on becoming the new Active Retiree President. At the same time, we sincerely thank Gene Mantovani for his dedication, leadership, and hard work over the past decade. His commitment has meant so much to the Active Retirees, and we are truly grateful for all he has done.





Please remember to continue supporting the Active Retirees by participating in the 50/50 raffle at our monthly union membership meetings. For just \$5.00, you have a chance to win while also supporting a great cause- the Active Retirees who remain an important part of our union family.

**We wish everyone a happy, healthy, and safe winter season, and we look forward to seeing many new faces join the Active Retiree community in the year ahead.**

# Members Assistance Program

By MAP Director Ashley Dwyer

## When Winter Brings More Than Cold: Navigating Layoffs, Mental Health, and Resilience

For many in the construction industry, winter is not just a change of season, it is a change of livelihood. Seasonal layoffs are a reality for countless union members, bringing uncertainty that extends far beyond a paycheck. While the work slows, the bills, responsibilities, and emotional weight do not.

Financial stress is often the most immediate concern. A few months without steady income can mean difficult choices: stretching savings, postponing plans, or worrying about providing for family. Even with careful preparation, the pressure can feel overwhelming. But the emotional impact is just as significant. Losing the daily routine, sense of purpose, and connection to coworkers can leave members feeling isolated, anxious, or discouraged.

At the same time, it's important to acknowledge that not every member experiences winter layoffs the same way. Some see this period as a much-needed break, a chance to rest tired bodies, spend more time with family, focus on health, or reset before the busy season returns. For these members, winter can be a season of recovery and reflection. Both experiences are valid.



## A Message for Those Still Working

I also want to recognize our members who remain on the job through the winter months. While others may experience downtime, you may be carrying heavier workloads, longer hours, and increased pressure to keep projects moving. Without a break to reset physically or mentally, stress and burnout can build quietly.

Your mental health matters just as much. It is okay to admit that you are tired. It is okay to need support. Taking care of yourself is not optional, it is essential to your safety, your family, and your future.

## You Don't Have to Go Through It Alone

Support is available, and sometimes the most powerful step is simply showing up. Every Thursday night from 6:00–7:00 PM, we host confidential support groups at the Union Hall in Hamden. These groups offer a safe, judgment-free space for members to talk, listen, and connect with others who truly understand the pressures of seasonal work, stress, and life in our industry.

Whether you are dealing with financial worry, depression, anxiety, substance use, or just need a place to decompress, you are welcome.

If you or someone you know is struggling this winter, please remember help is available, conversations are confidential, and your well-being matters just as much as your skills on the job.

Winter may bring layoffs, or heavier workloads, but it does not have to bring isolation. Together, we can support one another through the season and into a stronger spring.

Please call Ashley at (203) 833-0194 for assistance.

# 25<sup>th</sup> Annual LOCAL 478 Education Trust Grant Request Form

The Local 478 Education Trust awards education grants to help defray the cost of higher education including our prestigious *Jack Horn Memorial Scholarship* and *Norman Zolot Memorial Labor Studies and Public Policy Scholarship*. Over the past several years, we have developed Trust Guidelines that ensure the longevity of the Local 478 Education Trust which, in addition to providing financial assistance for students who will be attending an institution of higher learning, establishes an endowment to guarantee future awards. Requests for 2026 applications are now being accepted.

## Eligibility:

- 1) Applicants must be a Local 478 active or active retiree member in good standing or be a member's spouse attending college or a child or grandchild who is a **2026 graduating high school senior**. In the past, scholarships were open to all college eligible students, but the parameters were changed in the fall of 2014 to ensure the Trust's longevity.
- 2) Grant awards must be utilized to help defray expenses associated with the applicant attending an accredited institution including a community college, a four-year college or university, or a vocational or apprentice program.

The first step in applying for an award is to request an application. You can do so by filling out the request at the bottom of this page and mail it to the address provided, drop it off to the Union Hall or scan the QR code below to submit it online. **The deadline to request an application for this year is March 13, 2026.** Once received and eligibility is confirmed, scholarship applications and instructions will be mailed to you on March 16, 2026.

After submitting your completed application and essay, a multi-member committee will conduct a blind review of all the applications and essays (applicant's name and other identifying information are removed from the application). The committee will rank the applicants based on a broad range of pre-defined criteria with the awards being distributed to the top applicants in June 2026. No award will be given to applicants who receive a full scholarship from their college, university, or vocational school.

**TO RECEIVE INFORMATION AND A GRANT APPLICATION, PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO:**

EDUCATION TRUST GRANT APPLICATION  
IUOE LOCAL 478  
1965 DIXWELL AVENUE  
HAMDEN, CT 06514

**We encourage you to send an email to [jessica.bonilla@local478.org](mailto:jessica.bonilla@local478.org) or [kasey.cornwell@local478.org](mailto:kasey.cornwell@local478.org) advising us that you have submitted a request.**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

478 Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a: 478 Member \_\_\_\_\_ 478 Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ 478 child \_\_\_\_\_ 478 grandchild \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



Scan here to fill out the  
Grant Request Form



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Operating Engineers

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## **Local 478 Calendar 2026**

*The following events will take place at the Local Union Hall, unless otherwise noted.*

**Sunday, February 8 (10:00 AM)**

– Local 478 Membership Meeting/Ratification vote (Berlin High School)

**Wednesday, March 4 (5:30 PM)**

– New Member Orientation/Examining Committee

**Friday, March 13**

– Local 478 Scholarship Request Deadline (see page 11)

**Friday, March 13 (7:30 PM)**

– Local 478 Membership Meeting

**Wednesday, April 1 (5:30 PM)**

– New Member Orientation/Examining Committee

**Friday, April 3**

– Good Friday Observed (HALL CLOSED)

**Friday, April 10 (7:30 PM)**

– Local 478 Membership Meeting