



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL NO. 18 • AFL-CIO

Business Manager Report

December 2023

Tony Gazzaniga

Work Picture

With Las Vegas completing large projects, unfortunately, the bench has been trending in the wrong direction. In addition, hiring mechanics have been slow due to 100-150 new mechanics completing their courses. San Diego has most of the new installation work and Local 18 has more than a handful of members traveling into that area for employment. If you are unemployed, stay in contact with the hall and make sure we have up to date contact information for you, apply for unemployment, and apply for Relief Fund Benefits. We are focusing our efforts to get everyone back to work as soon as we can.

IUEC 18 Stats

Mechanics 1906

Apprentices 500

Helpers 3

Total 2410

Probationary 125

Old Timers Meetings

IUEC Local 18 kicks off every December with our Annual Old Timers Meeting. Once a year, we call to order the retirees that built the foundation of this Local. With each year's meeting, we welcome some new members to the group, as well as pay our respects to those that have departed. Usually, we do not conduct much business at these meetings, just a pleasant afternoon with our brothers and sisters, sharing refreshments, talking about doctors' visits, and telling stories of the good old days. But this year was different, we asked our retirees to sit down with us and talk to members of Local 18 in front of a camera and microphone. We asked them to talk to the new generation of elevator constructors; they talked about what was going through their minds in 1972 when the IUEC went on strike and fought for the benefits we have today. They talked about safety conditions, prior to PPE, JHAs, and in some cases, OSHA. We are going to be using these interviews at our Mentor Meetings, Union Meetings, and our website. As this union looks to the future, it's important that we never forget where we came from, and we want to thank all the retirees that participated.

(800) 428-5226

2011 E. Financial Way, Glendora, CA 91741 • Fax (626) 577-1055

3301 Spring Mountain Road, Suite 1, Las Vegas, NV 89102 • Fax (702) 251-4832

4659 Mission Gorge Place, Suite A, San Diego, CA 92120 • Fax (619) 280-2826

iuec18.org



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Union Cards and Calendars

Thank you for your patience as we wait for the union cards to arrive from the International Office and the 2024 calendars from the printer. January mailings are typically one of the larger envelopes and are filled with important information. Our staff is working hard to get this mail out to you as soon as possible.

Mental Health Benefits

Mental health has been a topic of discussion at recent meetings and the concerns regarding our mental health benefits, as well as other related topics surrounding mental health. If any member has any concerns or issues with accessing their benefits, or issues with obtaining services covered by the Benefit Plan, please contact us directly. I am also working closely with our Benefit Plan Trustees to ensure our members' concerns are being addressed at the International level. We are handling each situation individually and finding each member the best health care option for them. We are currently using Lyra, a member assistance program, and I suggest every member visits neibenefits.lyrahealth.com, create an account, and explore all that Lyra has to offer.

Let's be clear, there are various levels of mental health needs and if you are in crisis, searching for help on a website is not what you need. In these cases, **call me or any Business Agent** & for more serious situations, call the Suicide Hotline at **988**. We have access to various resources and some within our own organization.

PAC and COPE Committees

With 2024 around the corner and another important election on the horizon, our PAC and COPE Committees are getting prepared to find and support candidates that are in step with labor and working people. Our committees are looking for volunteers to canvas precincts, make phone calls, raise money, and interview prospective candidates to support and elect labor friendly politicians. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Steve Bills at steve.bills@iuec18.org or Ken Michalik at ken.michalik@iuec18.org.

Continuing Education

If you completed your Mechanic Exam after July 9, 2022, and before January 1, 2023, this requirement has slightly changed since last reported. You must complete 8 hours of Continuing Education by December 1st to receive your pay advance on January 1st; this also includes mechanics who are on Assistant Mechanic Agreements. NEIEP (*National Elevator Industry Educational Program*) has created an online course to fulfill this requirement, and it is available at NEIEP.org. Once you have completed the course, you will receive 8 hours of the local mechanic rate. For assistance with your username or password, contact the NEIEP Administrator in your area.



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Shepard's Pantry Food & Clothes Drive

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to load two trucks worth of gifts and deliver them to Shepherd's Pantry in Glendora. They always express their gratitude toward IUEC Local 18.

Happy Holidays

As the holidays approach, I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge your hard work throughout the year and express my gratitude for your dedication to our Local. On behalf of everyone at Local 18, we extend our warmest wishes and Happy Holidays to you and your family. Have a safe holiday season and we look forward to seeing you in 2024.

Stay Safe

Tony Gazzaniga