
ENGINEERS NEWS REPORT

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS - LOCAL UNION NO. 428

6601 N. Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix AZ 85015-1027

(USPS 833-340)

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REPORT FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Gary Teel

*Business Manager and
Recording Corresponding Secretary*



Our economy continues to challenge us going into the summer months. The AGC has issued us a letter stating that they would like to sit down and discuss ways in which we can work together to get our signatory contractors through these times. They are currently at the time of this writing putting together a proposal that I will bring to the membership that works under the construction industry agreement or has a parent (428A) charter card. Some of you may wonder why I do not make a decision as far as a wage freeze or worse yet a slide backwards in scale during this economic recession. Surely, as Business Manager there are certain tools written into our contract that give me the ability to make economic adjustments to our contract in order to accommodate poor economic environments like the one we find ourselves currently in, however, I feel that because this decision affects so many of our lives that I want to have your input. There are other trade unions in Arizona that have made the decision for their membership without calling for a meeting before hand, and that is fine for their Unions, but I want your commitment going forward with what we decide. We have recently received calls from our members, after finding no raise on their checks, which ranged from wanting to strike to wanting to help our contractors even more. I believe the way to a sound decision is to begin by looking at the situation around us. Our contractors are not making this situation up, there is a serious situation right now for our contractors and for our Union. We currently have about a third of our work force without jobs, which is much higher than the near 10% unemployment that is reported in the news. For those of you that are working, we must not forget about our brothers and sisters sitting on the out of work list, and we must be grateful for the work that we currently have today.

We do not work in a vacuum; there are external pressures on our market with which we must contend. The last thing we want to do is lock ourselves in for an extended period of time and watch our economy climb out of a recession while we continue to have stagnant wages. We find the true characters of people in the bad times, not the good ones, and this is the time to put our differences behind us and pull together. We absolutely must remember our brothers and sisters that are not working when we make this decision. We are one Union and we will not be divided.

I would like to thank Brother Doug Dillman for his outstanding contribution to our Local and to St. Mary's Food Bank. Without his initiative the food drive would never have happened. I would also like to thank, one of our very own, Sister Lorraine Tritschler for her efforts in conducting our first two successful Operator Qualification

pipeline classes for our members. These were the first classes put on by our Local, and we will continue to have them as long as there is demand.

I would also like to thank our members for showing up to support our brothers at Veolia. The Phoenix City Council recently held a meeting where they took a motion to send out a Request For Proposal (RFP) to accept bids from other companies to run the North and South shops for the city's public transportation system. I believe that we had enough of a presence between the Operating Engineers, ATU and the Teamsters at the council meeting to get our point across. Our main objective is to keep the council from splitting our shops into different companies because it would absolutely affect our members' lives in a negative manner. It would affect the cost of their health insurance, pensions and their accumulated seniority rights. Before the meeting the council was to send out an RFP that would almost definitely split the shops, but the RFP was modified to include bids for both shops to run together. I would like to add a quick thanks to Ed Bennett for all of his research and efforts in this matter. Under his own initiative he is done his fellow brothers a great service. We are cautiously optimistic going forward, but we will need everyone's support for the December's council meeting where they will have a decision as to the future of our members at those shops. We did have some support from our construction members at this recent meeting, but I will be asking for many more of you to show your support come December.

HOLIDAY NOTICE

**Please note that the Phoenix and Tucson office's
will be closed on Friday, July 3rd in observance
of the FOURTH OF JULY HOLIDAY**

PENSIONS AWARDED

ANNUITY ONLY IN JUNE 2009

**Robert C. Dillman - Charles P. Dupont
Guadalupe M. Delgado - James M. Blake - Reggie A. Wilkes
Irl H. Morehouse - Jerry M. Davis - Allen S. Thornton Jr.
Gerald W. Brady - Monique T. Montero - Mark S. Bennett
Bobby R. Nalley - Ben R. Tso - Troy M. Huffman**

DEFINED BENEFIT AND ANNUITY PLAN

IN JUNE 2009

Donald D. Archer - John H. Sipes - Stanley C. Squyres

Congratulations to our new retirees!



An Interview with Mike Mathis Business Representative Stationary / Aggregates

Brother Mike Mathis has been an Operating Engineer for 36 years and was preceded by his father Francis who retired from the Operating Engineers Local 428. He has worked

approximately 21 years in the aggregate industry and 15 years on the construction side. A rare moment happened recently when we were able to sit down and ask him a few questions.

Why did you decide to take a job as a Business Representative?

I wanted to try and right some of the wrongs that I have seen working out in the field. I have worked in both the aggregates and construction and they have their differences. On the construction side, you are by nature moving between jobs, starting new ones and finishing completed ones. On the aggregates there can be more tension between employees because you see the same individuals day in and day out; this would explain why the majority of our grievances over the last couple of years occur in the stationary and aggregate industries, and not nearly as many in the construction side.

How many successful grievances have you completed for our members?

There are many at this point. You have to remember the best way to solve grievances is to try and work with management and handle them before they get to paper. There are many of them that I, and my fellow business agents, have solved before they had a chance to get on paper. If you are looking at dollar amounts, I believe our administration has brought in \$130,000 in total for our members, and some of the money wasn't even for our members. The NLRB just awarded the largest settlement, in the time of our administration, from a non-union company for over \$50,000, of which two \$25,000 checks went to two non-union individuals who dared to discuss Union activity. It is because of these situations that Business Manager Teel keeps talking about the Employee Free Choice Act.

Other than grievances what have you been working on?

I think it is unfair to just say me because we all do truly work as a team, that being said, we have not only got back-pay, sub-pay, unemployment and

retirement fringes back for our members, but we have also been working hard to keep the other trades off our forklifts, tuggers, etc., being proactive with organizing efforts, political events, scheduling training classes for our journeymen, and the occasional special events like Brother Doug Dillman's Food Drive for St. Mary's.

What are you most proud of accomplishing in the time you have been working as a Business Representative? I think I am most proud of being there for our members. I know what it is like being in the field from day to day and year to year, and sometimes our members just need to vent, and they can vent on me. The important thing is they know that I, or we, will be there to listen to them vent. Some day it may be something much more serious than venting and they know that they can trust us with whatever that is, too.

The second thing I am most proud to be a part of, is doubling the number of stewards in our Local. I think over many years our stewards took a diminishing role in our Local, but Business Manager Teel continues to stress the importance of stewards and their roles in helping to alleviate challenges in the field before they become real problems. There is no substitute for a knowledgeable steward on a job. They help keep tension from building up, and they can be a valuable asset not only to their fellow operators, but to management, too.

What do you see in the near and long term for our Local?

Well, right now the economy is killing us. Our out-of-work numbers are far from acceptable, something is going to have to happen with the economy before our Local begins to put numbers back up on our per capita. I believe our situation would be a lot different if we have not been so committed to internal organizing. We have lost many members during this recession, but the numbers would have been drastically worse if we had not been working with our members in all industries, but especially the stationary units.

As for long term, we all need to keep our eye on the ball. We are a Union of many participating individuals, and as we rise and fall together we need to make sure that we continue to train ourselves to be the best skilled operators around, as well as the safest on any job site. We need to commit to being the best, so that our contractors can whip the non-union off our jobs.

St. Mary's Food Drive was Successful!



President and CEO of St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance, Terry Shannon, presenting a plaque to Business Manager Teel thanking Local 428 for its efforts. The plaque now resides on the wall in our Phoenix Meeting Hall

Haven, Pattie LeGendre, Mike Lee, Shawn Williams, Duane Miller the "Photography," Wayne Moorhouse, Cherie and Savannah Keeney, the Apprenticeship training site, KDKB Radio Station, The Cross of Church Youth Group in Anthem and Dwight Peattie of AAA. **And Local 428 would like to thank Brother Doug Dillman!**

Brother Doug Dillman led Local 428 to a successful conclusion with 3,633 pounds of food accumulated from our signatory contractors and neighborhood drives. Royden Construction needs to be singled out as the largest contributor of all our companies, and a warm thanks goes out to Tom Royden and all of those at Royden Construction who helped make this first food drive for our Local a success. St. Mary's Food Bank Alliance was very appreciative of all of our efforts, and in response they extended to our Local 428 a plaque thanking us for our contribution. Terry Shannon, President and CEO of St. Mary's Food Bank, told us that although demand is up over 70% from normal, the supply from people like us has also risen 70%. We were able to present our contribution on June 9th, which was National Hunger Awareness Day, and also the kick-off of their "Send Hunger Packing" campaign. We will continue to have boxes at our Phoenix and Tucson Halls for those of you that would still like to contribute. Brother Doug Dillman would like to thank the following for their hard work and compassion in this year's food drive: his girlfriend Carleigh Harper, Tom and Sue



The FOOD!



Top: Food Drive with KDKB
Right: Doug Dillman thanking our participants while wearing a "hunger awareness" Hawaiian lei



Operating Engineers Local 428
 6601 N Black Canyon Hwy
 Phoenix AZ 85015-1027



PERIODICALS
 POSTAGE
 PAID AT
 PHOENIX AZ

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Carry your dues card

Business Manager, Recording-Corresponding Secretary Gary Teel wishes to remind all members to carry their paid Local 428 card. When attending a Semi-Annual, District or special called meeting of the Union, your paid up dues card is proof of your good standing status as a member of IUOE Local 428 and your right to vote in such meetings and/or participate in the business of the union.

MEETING CALENDAR

Membership

District No. 1

First Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM,
 6601 N Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix

District No. 2

Third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM,
 1949 East Eastland, Tucson

District No. 3

Second Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM,
 QUALITY INN AIRPORT, 711 E. 32ND ST, Yuma

District No. 4

Fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM,
 Camp Verde Comfort Inn, 340 N Goswick Way, Camp Verde
 Take the AZ-260 exit, Exit 287, toward AZ-89A/Cottonwood/Payson.
 Turn Right onto AZ-260. Turn Right onto N Goswick Way.

Advisory Board

District No. 1

Thursday, July 23, 2009 at 6:00 PM,
 6601 N. Black Canyon Hwy, Phoenix

District No. 2 - On Call.

District No. 4 - On Call

Executive Board

Friday, July 24, 2009 at 7:00 PM
 6601 N Black Canyon Hwy., Phoenix

DUES SCHEDULE

NOTE: There may be changes in the Dues Schedule depending on outcome of further discussions of wage increases.

In order to be in good standing, dues must be paid through the Third Qtr 2009. Dues more than 30 days in arrears – **NO DEATH BENEFITS!**

	1stQtr Dues 1/1/09	2ndQtr Dues 4/1/09	3rdQtr Dues 7/1 /09	4thQtr Dues 10/1/09
Charter				
428	\$165.21	\$165.21	\$166.71	\$166.71
428A	\$165.21	\$165.21	\$166.71	\$166.71
428B	\$141.27	\$141.27	\$141.27	\$141.27
428C*	\$137.85	\$137.85	\$137.85	\$137.85
428D*	\$126.27	\$126.27	\$126.27	\$126.27

428R APPRENTICESHIP DUES AS FOLLOWS:

428-R (Registered Apprentices)

1st year periods 1 & 2 = 1/3 Journeyman Group 2 Wage Rate Plus Per Capita - \$72.57 – 3rd & 4th Qtr - \$76.05

2nd year periods 3 & 4 = Journeyman Group 2 Wage Rate Plus Per Capita - \$118.89 – 3rd & 4th Qtr - \$124.35

3rd year periods 5 & 6 = Journeyman Group 2 Wage Rate Plus Per Capita - \$165.21 – 3rd & 4th Qtr – \$172.71

*Stationary industry dues may be different than those above.

A \$5.00 administration fee will be assessed on all payments received more than 30 days after due.

*** We accept Visa, MasterCard & Discover credit cards for payments with no additional processing fees**