Meet the Executive Board & the Local 94 Staff

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Another REBNY Sweep
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Welcoming the Holiday Season with Thanks and Gratitude

Brothers and Sisters,

With Thanksgiving and the Christmas season upon us there is no better time for reflection and thanks.

With that in mind allow me to begin this message by thanking you, the members of Local 94. I cannot tell you how proud I am in the knowledge that I represent the finest engineers in the world.

I am forever grateful for the opportunity to represent you.

I never could have imagined I would have the privilege to have been here for 48 years and 16 of those years as your Business Manager!

Believe me, I could not have imagined when I began my career as a Helper that one day I would be sitting in this office. I assure you no one knows what this job is about until you walk through that office door.

When you build relationships, engage solid and committed leaders, it works. Your continued support tells us we have the right people in place to get things done. Every member of your Executive Board Tom Hart, Ray Macco, Mike Gadala, Jack Redden, Kelly Drummond, Phil Buffa, John Cancul, Vincent Curcio, Bill Caravancio, Anthony Fasulo, Rocky Ferrigno, and David Rodriguez, are committed to you and your families.

It is a commitment we fulfill every day, and one we will continue to honor.

You have placed your trust in us as a team. You have placed your trust in me. I do not take that lightly. I will be here for as long as you will allow me to stay.

We are not going anywhere.

Commitment throughout our union

The membership of Local 94 is justifiably proud of our reputation as the premiere engineers in the New York City building industry. It is a reputation that has been built on a shared commitment to training. It was not that long ago, when engineers were considered little more than glorified janitors.

It was a perception that was never true. Rather than ignore that slight, the Local 94 leadership, with the full support of the membership made an investment to training. That commitment made 33 years ago is an investment that continues to pay dividends today.

The evidence of that success can be found throughout the pages of this newsletter. On pages 4-6 is a story on Local 94 Chiefs and Engineers who once again swept REBNY’s Engine Room of the Year Awards.

Turn to page 29 and you will find a story on the purchase of new hands-on training aids for the Training Center. You can also read (pg. 21) about the initial graduating class from an innovative “apprentice program” created within the Training Fund by Howard Styles and David Hawkins.

These things do not happen without the support of you the members.

Allow me one final word of thanks to the men and women of the Local 94 staff. Each week hundreds of members call our offices or come through our doors with any variety of issues. Maybe there are issues with dues payments, health care or pension issues.

Any of a hundred of clerical issues or oversights life can throw at you and need to be addressed.

When those issues do arise, there is someone, or sometimes more than one person here at 331-337 West 44th Street, who is ready — and more importantly able to resolve the problem.

For most of you, they are the faceless voices on the telephone. Or, you may see them at our Family Picnic, or Scholarship Dinner-Dance.

So as we come to the end of another year, we decided to put a face to voice; and names to the faces.

These dedicated men and women are the engine that keep this union running.

Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas.

In Solidarity,

Kuba J. Brown
Business Manager and Financial Secretary

Local 94 Business Manager Kuba Brown and the Local 94 Executive Board take the oath of office in ceremonies at HTC Auditorium.

“When you build relationships, engage solid and committed leaders, it works. Your continued support tells us we have the right people in place to get things done.”
Local 94 Engineers Once Again Sweep Top REBNY Honors

3 Times Square Named Engine Room of the Year

In what has become a rite of spring, Local 94 engineers have once again swept REBNY’s top awards for engine room operations. Congratulations to Small Building Engineer Chief Joseph Brigante, and his crew at 655 Third Avenue; Large Building Engineer, Chief Nicholas Ricigliano and the crew at 100 Park Avenue; and Chief Jeffrey Dietz and his team at 3 Times Square who’ve earned the title as Best Engine Room of 2019!

Located between 42nd and 43rd Streets, the 885,000 square foot, 560-foot glass and steel tower known as 3 Times Square has been New York home to Thompson Reuters for nearly 20 years. As one of the largest communications and information providers in the world, Dietz and his crew of Assistant Chief Joe Ahrens, Engineers: Avni Velic, Ariel Rodriguez, Rob Kreppein, Raj Singh, Juan Lantigua, Bill Poole, and Eric Quintana must keep the plant and building running 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

The Best Engine Room honor is a recognition of the 3 Times Square team’s daily efforts in switching from “mechanical cooling, with two 1365-ton centrifugal chillers and two 650-ton duel-fired absorption machines that provide both cooling and heating simultaneously, in addition to free-cooling through two 1200-ton plate heat exchangers.”

All while maintaining specified chill water flow and temperatures for critical operations.

In fact, over the past two years Dietz and crew have also retrofit the chillers with new variable frequency drive lines. “With the ability to run the centrifugal chillers at minimum speeds during low load conditions, rather than running the absorption machines it’s allowed us to reduce our carbon footprint as well as save energy,” Dietz explained.

Dietz also credited the addition of the cloud based building operating system Nantum by Prescriptive Data, which was introduced five years ago. “Nantum is a system that goes way beyond a BMS, it integrates with existing building technologies and aggregates building data, historical performance, occupancy, weather and energy use predicting occupants consumption by tracking their real time data, it has improved comfort levels and delivered energy and cost savings for both tenant and owner.”

Going Above and Beyond at 100 Park Avenue

REBNY’s Large Building Engineer of Year honors were presented to Nicholas Ricigliano Chief Engineer at 100 Park Avenue. Ricigliano has been responsible for the installation of a full building management system, chiller replacement & chiller control package upgrades, coil replacements, Plate frame heat exchangers, variable frequency drives, green roofs, and LED lighting, among others.

Not surprisingly, in accepting the award Ricigliano credited his mentors and his Local 94 colleagues. Under his leadership, the Local 94 team of Assistant Chief Roger Kennedy and Engineers Roderick Cauchi, Jacob Rahimian, Andre Shkoza, and Saviour Vella have achieved both Silver and Gold LEED Certification, earned Energy Star recognition since 2010, all on top of being named BOMA International’s Renovated Office Building of the Year in 2009.

In presenting the award REBNY noted Ricigliano and 100 Park Avenue team, “generated an in-house labor savings average of $220,000 annually. Among many capital projects managed at SL Green, (Ricigliano) has been responsible for the installation of a full building management system, chiller replacement & chiller control package upgrades, coil replacements, Plate frame heat exchangers, variable frequency drives, green roofs, and LED lighting, among others.”

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94 crew, “I have the best engineering staff in the city,” said Ricigliano. “They all understand the goal and go above and beyond every day.”

**Good People are the Key at 655 Third Avenue**

The Local REBNY Award sweep was complete when Joseph Brigante, Chief Engineer at 655 Third Avenue, was presented with the Small Building Engineer of the Year Award. Brigante and his team of Assistant Chief Jose Machin, and Engineers Alipio Rojas, Fausto Guzman and Timothy Mahoney. Located on the outside of Third Avenue at 42nd Street, 655 is a glass and steel 425,000 s/f tower.

In presenting their award Brigante and his crew were cited for maintaining “all the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems including two, 500-ton Murry steam turbines; implementing system operational strategies that have reduced steam and electric consumption by 20 percent, while increasing tenant satisfaction; and installing new cooling towers and a duplex domestic water system, among other upgrades.”

The building was an Energy Star Award winner in 2017, and was just earned LEED Gold recognition.

Brigante is not shy in crediting his crew. “We have a crew of multi-talented people who have been with the Durst Organization. They know what needs to be done and know how to do it. Getting good people is the key,” said Brigante.

**A Chopper Crashed onto the Roof — Local 94 Crew Stepped Up**

The world changed for everyone on September 11, 2001. None more so than for Local 94 chiefs and engineers. Along with all the certifications and skills related to energy efficiency and safe operations, engineers must now be trained, tested and certified in fire life safety operations.

Chief Engineer Erik Fisk and his Local 94 crew at 787 Seventh Avenue were put to the test on June 10th, when shortly after 1 p.m. a helicopter crashed onto the roof.

“The alarms went off and the diesel fuel pumps for the emergency generator started up. We had no idea what had happened,” Fisk recalled. What he did know was that one of engineers, Chris Dadah was one floor below the roof checking chemicals readings.

Beyond concerns for Dadah, Fisk was also thinking about damage to the building and especially the cooling towers. “The cooling towers are up there. We need to see if anything happened to those towers,” Fisk recalled.

As Fisk and the others raced up they were met by Dadah who told them that fuel from the damaged chopper had begun leaking down off the roof.

Amid all the turmoil and confusion Fisk also knew the most important issue was to ensure the safe evacuation of the thousands of tenants and assist the arriving firefighters. They all knew and did their job.

**Critical to that task is knowing the height of the building.**

“Knowing the height in stories is not always helpful. What is important is the engineers know the building is 720-feet tall,” Carlsen explained. “They keep that information on the building information card. The engineers keep that information on the building information card.”

**The evacuation went very well,** added Fisk. “We helped to write the FDNY set up a communications center in the lobby with Fisk standing at their side. And for a good reason. “The engineer knows everything about the building. The interior, mechanical specs, the catwalks. They are the experts on the site,” said Carlsen. They provide the guidance and direction.”

Fisk agreed. “We helped to write the Emergency Action Plan for the building. We are familiar with all the tenant spaces. And, this is a 1.8 million square-foot, 54 story building,” said Fisk.

Brookfield Retrofit Cuts Costs, Saves Energy & Earns Rebate

Sitting at his desk in the some 60-feet below the Brookfield Place complex, Chief Engineer Mike Cama talked about the remarkable savings realized within the first six months of a recently initiated project to optimize energy use. "5.3 million kilowatts of power and $750,000 saved," said Cama.

The retrofit project was launched in March 2019 under a Con Edison’s Demand Management program. First introduced in 2017, the program required building engineers to demonstrate a reduction in peak power demand.

Providing the heating, cooling and comfort for the 8-million square-foot complex of offices, high-end shopping, a marina and dozens of restaurants and public space stretching along West Street and the Hudson River to Vesey Street, requires a lot of energy. Providing that energy are 10 1,500-hp turbines; 48 pumps; and 3-million gallon thermal storage system. The plant uses water from Liberty to Vesey Street, requiring a lot of power demand.

According to Cama, in order to earn the Con Ed grant engineers needed to show a major reduction (4,100 Kw) during peak months of a recently initiated plant optimization project. "5.3 million kilowatts of power and $750,000 saved," said Cama.

Cama credits Nick Giannak (V.P. of Engineering), his entire engineering staff, the contractors, and Travis Smith of Smith Engineering for coming up “with a super-aggressive plan,” plan to reach the energy savings goals.

Cama also offered high praise for his Local 94 team of Assistant Chiefs Luigi Borgia, Mike Siri; Lead Engineers Dino Lascaris, Ned Blackwood, Steve Pontone, Nick Alameda, Lou Metcalf; Engineers William Agoglia, William Cullen, Joe Maddalena, Mike Napoli, Alex Pineda, Nino Kontonis; Christian DiGiacomo, Frank Zupcich, Lou Rivera, Dom Napolitano, TJ Bottiglieri, Alex Wallace, Carl Rodgers; and Helpers Mike Napoli, Alex Pineda, Chief Engineer Michael Cama, Bill Agoglia, Frank Zupcich, Steve Pontone, and Kyle Twohig. Left, Brookfield Place complex.

According to officials at Con Edison the team was performing under a pretty tight timeline. Brookfield committed to the project in April of 2019 and the project was completed by end of August 2019. "We went in with high expectations," said Cama. "It was a rocky road for a good portion of the summer, but at the end of the day it was accomplished thru hard work from contractors (Hatzel and Buehler, Carrier as well as Schneider, which overaw automation). I couldn’t be more proud of the results and my crew.

Results that according to Con Edison will provide Brookfield with an incentive of $250,000 and my crew. "We did the work that really helped us get the building ready. “They’re a great group of very talented individuals.”

Assistant Director of Engineering Bill Rios echoed Wang’s assessment and provided his insight as to why the crew has come together so quickly. “Nearly everyone on the team has come from other Marriott hotels. They know and understand the issues working in a hotel environment.”

While helpful, previous hotel experience will only take you so far. “There are always lingering issues when you’re dealing with new construction,” Wang explained. “They did the work that really helped us get the building ready. “They’re a great team of very talented individuals.”

The opening of the Times Square Edition Hotel has added brightest of bright lights to the Crossroads of the Universe. And, we’re not just talking about the 18,000 square foot LED screen which wraps around the sparkling new lake hotel at the corner of Seventh Ave. and West 47 St.

Officially opened this past spring, the Times Square Edition is Ian Schrager’s latest venture designed to fulfill the hospitality, dining and entertainment needs for “A” list clients. Or, those seeking an extravagant escape in the heart of Manhattan.

Boasting 452-rooms, an indoor garden, a rooftop bar with spectacular views, first class restaurants, and signature dance clubs, the Edition has it all. There are even stunning Times Square views from the hotel’s gym.

Along with Hershey’s Chocolate World sitting on the corner, there is an additional 18,000 square feet of commercial space on the floors beneath the hotel lobby which is located on the 10th Floor.

Behind all scenes in the engine room making it all run are a team of Local 94 engineers. That team of Charly Diaz, Raymond Fernandez, Enrique Gutierrez, William Kennedy, Petr Nikitin, Tristan Skeene, Uzziel Taveras, Oral Bascoe, Joseph Patti, Bryant Roman, Albert Sallack, and Cesar Varela have actually been at the hotel long before the first guests checked-in.

A Great Group

According to Director of Human Resources Operation Eric Wang some of the members of the crew have been with the hotel since last summer. "We had a soft opening in February so most of the team has been here since last July.

"There’s a lot of trouble-shooting when you’re dealing with new construction," Wang explained. “The did the work that really helped us get the building ready. “They’re a great team of very talented individuals.”

Assistant Director of Engineering Bill Rios echoed Wang’s assessment and provided his insight as to why the crew has come together so quickly. “Nearly everyone on the team has come from other Marriott hotels. They know and understand the issues working in a hotel environment.”

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Local 94 2019 Service Awards

- 50 Years of Service:
  - David Nielsen
  - Joseph Brayuha
  - John Byers
  - Michael Cofane
  - Stephen Costello
  - Joseph Cuvucci
  - Zeqir Demiraj
  - John Dobbins
  - Richard Dowling
  - Anthony DuBose
  - Joseph DuPace
  - Danny Spitfaden
  - Mark Sullivan
- 40 Years of Service:
  - Richard Harty
  - Patrick Lambert
  - Lawrence Mannasano
  - Ronald Moccio
  - Lawrence Morton
  - Robert Naegely
  - Frank Oerly
  - John Orlando
  - Joseph Pantano
  - George Piccinini
  - Brennan Quintano
- 35 Years of Service:
  - Cullen Philip Dalessio
  - Kevin Daly
  - John Doeleger
  - Anthony Fasullo
  - Eric Bassin
  - Scott Bowen
  - Joseph Frittola
  - Dominick Galluccio
  - Peter Gavin
  - Kevin McCarville
  - James McGinley
  - Robert McMahon
  - Kevin Millerick
  - Joseph Muzzi
  - Joseph Piatto
  - William Prue
  - Joseph Scapicchio
  - William Segale
  - Brian Shearer
  - Joseph Tornaghi
  - Joseph Trimboli
  - Joseph Tymoczko
  - Joseph Wagner
  - Michael Weissman
  - Bernardo Woods
- 30 Years of Service:
  - Christopher Aigli
  - John Agosta
  - Thomas Aldi
  - Nicholas Anzalone
  - Antonio Arauso
  - Edward Atkinson
  - Perry Basile
  - Bruce Berger
  - Michael Biglin
  - Jacinto Borgado
  - John Bowden
  - Brian Burns
  - Kevin Byrne
  - Reuben Cabral
  - Michael Cama
  - Kevin Campbell
  - Joseph Caracciolo
  - Thomas Carney
  - Jack Chin
  - Thomas Collarino
  - Raymond Colonna
  - Lucien Coppola
  - Vincent Corsi
  - Christopher Court
  - Anthony Crissa
  - Robert Crivici
  - Michael Downing
  - Philip DuKer
  - Kieran Edgan
- 45 Years of Service:
  - Grantley Ewart
  - Patrick A. Feeney
  - Patrick J. Feeney
  - Raymond Feliciano
  - Charles Fisher
  - Tony Ford
  - Vincent Frasca
  - Richard Frisch
  - Mark Fernandez
  - Esteban Garcia
  - Edward Garcia, Jr.
  - Raymond Garry
  - Rafael German
  - Jose Gonzalez
  - James Grace
  - Jose Gregorio
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  - John Byers
  - Michael Cofane
  - Stephen Costello
  - Joseph Cuvucci
  - Zeqir Demiraj
  - John Dobbins
  - Richard Dowling
  - Anthony DuBose
  - Danny Spitfaden
  - Mark Sullivan
  - Lawrence Mannasano
  - Ronald Moccio
  - Lawrence Morton
  - Robert Naegely
  - Frank Oerly
  - John Orlando
  - Joseph Pantano
  - George Piccinini
  - Brennan Quintano

(Cont'd)
Local 94 2019 Service Awards

Paul Loughran
Edward Maciej
Eugene Madine
Desmond Maguire
Thomas Mahoney
Christopher Marley
Robert Marone
John Marzella
Brian Matthews
Terence McGonigle
Patrick McGue

Paul Carty
John McCue
Matthew McNell
Anthony Meli
Joseph Mendez
Michael Mezzo
John Mile zero
Edwin Morales
Joseph Murphy
John Murphy
Carl Musco
Frank Olsen
Luis Pabon
Tsambigos
Papaikou
Jeffrey Passafaro

Michael McDonald
John McKee
Matthew McNell
Anthony Meli
Joseph Mendez
Michael Mezzo
John Mile zero
Edwin Morales
Joseph Murphy
John Murphy
Carl Musco
Frank Olsen
Luis Pabon
Tsambigos
Papaikou
Jeffrey Passafaro

Edward Pekarik
Herman Perez
Steven Petruzzo
Anthony Polito
Joseph Primi
Noel Seeston
Joseph Shearin
Kevin Smith
Brett Sotag

Karl Bascombe
Sean Blackwood
Arthur Boyland
Jason Breischard
Vincent Bruno
Stephen Buckley
Jesus Burgos
Paul Caban
Mark Callo
Vincent Caputo
Rodolfo Castillo
Frank Catalano
John Chadwick
Johnny Christian
Antonio Cimino

David West
William Zickl
Pete Zupich

Philippa Afon
Glenn Albektsen
Keith Angengrich
Wais Ayoub
David Azzopardi
Gaetano Azzopardi
Joe Baco
Joseph Barry

Michael Crosby
Janusz Czech
Benedict Dailey
Terry Daniels
Dominick DeBortentiis
Frank Driscoll
Andrew Dunlea
Jeffrey Dunmich
Ismael Echevarria
Mark Estrada
Marvin Fowler

Paul Gallagher
Orlando Garcia
James Geanotis
Ernest Grant
Thomas Gross
Frederick Hamilton
Kirk Harry
Zhong He
Michael Heaney
John Herron
Raymond Hirsch
Gregorio Ienes
Gregory Jardine
Keith Jarva

Paul Jessup
Robert Jurman
Leonid Kaplan
Yan Kaplun
Michael Keaveney
Patrick Kelly
Sean Kenney
John Keough
Joseph Korsak
Glen Lannan
Pasquale Licciardi
Jim Leslies
Paul Lowe
Joseph Lundy
Scott Lung

Luis Malave
Charles Mancuso
Sean Mariali
Patrick Maloro
Michael McLaughlin
Andres Meirama
Vincent Melli
Zaldy Mendoza
David Merced
Phllip Mincione
Avi Az Misi
William Monetti
Dennis Mooney
Michael Moore

Peter Morley
Patrick Mullée
John Muller
James Mullins
David Naylor
Nick Ng
Gregory Noll
Marc Norato
Noel Orefino
Kevin Pellukan
Gary Reuter
Thomas Rhodes
Samir Riaf
John Russell
James Savage

John Shinnick
Vincent Simpson
Larry Smith
Anthony Spinico
Richard Sushko Jr.
Frederick Teich
James Torres
Charles Towns
Bruce Turner
Lawrence Vega
Glen Wagner
Anthony White
Michael Wilson
Patrick Woods
Local 94 2019 Scholarship Picnic
Local 94 Executive Board

L to R: David Hawkins, John Cancel, Vincent Curcio, Bill Caramico, Philip Baffuto, Kelly Drummond, Tom Hart, Kuba Brown, Ray Macco, Mike Gadaleta, Jack Redden, Rocco Ferrigno, David Rodriguez, Anthony Fasulo, Howard Styles
Local 94 Executive Board

Kuba Brown
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Ray McGuire began his Local 94 career in 1980, working in the City's Steam and Conduit Department. He is currently Chief Engineer and as President from 2015, serves as Assistant Business Manager and Vise President. In his role as Executive Board member, he has been a part of the Local’s negotiating teams for the past 30 years. He resides in Old Bridge, New Jersey with his wife, Edna, and their two daughters, Sabrina and Victoria.

Judy Brown
Assistant Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Judith Brown began her Local 94 career in 1980, serving as a Business Representative for the NYC Health & Hospitals Corporation for 12 years prior to becoming a Financial Secretary. She is currently Chief Financial Officer at 1301 Sixth Avenue, and the NYC Building Trades Local Committee. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband, Kenny, and their two sons.

Michael Gudaitis
Vice President/Business Manager

Mike started at Local 94 in 1987 at 522 Fifth Avenue and was named Assistant Chief Engineer in 1991. He was appointed Training Director in 1999 and served on the Executive Board as President for two terms. Currently, Mike and his wife, Linda, have two children and nine grandchildren.

Rocco Ferrigno
Auditor/Business Agent

“Rocky” was hired as an auditor to 111 Wall Street in 1981, rose to Chief Engineer in 1991, and where remained until being hired to Local 94 Business Representative in 2012 and Business Director in 2013. He is currently Chief Engineer for the Hotel Division and has served on the Executive Board for 25 years. Mike and his wife, Karen, have two sons and a daughter.

Jack Redden
Business Representative

He is a member of Local 94 for nearly 30 years. He lives in Aberdeen, NJ, and is the parent of a son and daughter.

Bill Caramico
Auditor/Engineer

He entered Local 94 at 100 Wall Street and was appointed as an Auditor on Executive Board in 2001 as a Steward. He is currently Chief Engineer at 111 Wall Street and has served on the Executive Board for 20 years. Bill and his wife, Deirdre, have two children and four grandchildren.

Vincent Cogro
Assistant Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Vincent joined the Executive Board in 2018. Vincent has been a member of Local 94 for 34 years and has been a Bears’ Line Engineer since 1988 and is currently working at Hudson Yards. He is married to Joanne and the couple have five children and grandchildren.

Rocco Ferrigno
Auditor/Business Agent

“Rocky” was hired as an auditor to 111 Wall Street in 1981, rose to Chief Engineer in 1991, and where remained until being hired to Local 94 Business Representative in 2012 and Business Director in 2013. He is currently Chief Engineer for the Hotel Division and has served on the Executive Board for 25 years. Mike and his wife, Karen, have two sons and a daughter.

Bill Caramico
Auditor/Engineer

He entered Local 94 at 100 Wall Street and was appointed as an Auditor on Executive Board in 2001 as a Steward. He is currently Chief Engineer at 111 Wall Street and has served on the Executive Board for 20 years. Bill and his wife, Deirdre, have two children and four grandchildren.

Anthony Fausto
Clerk/Recorder

Anthony has been a member of Local 94 for 36 years and has been a Bears’ Line Engineer since 1988 and is currently working at Hudson Yards. He is married to Anna and they have five children and grandchildren.

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Clerk/Recorder

Anthony has been a member of Local 94 for 36 years and has been a Bears’ Line Engineer since 1988 and is currently working at Hudson Yards. He is married to Anna and they have five children and grandchildren.

David Rodriquez
Auditor

David began his Local 94 career as a Helper in 1998, working in the City’s Steam and Conduit Department. He is currently Chief Engineer at 111 Wall Street and has served on the Executive Board for more than 20 years. Anthony, lives on Long Island with his wife, Dena.

Howard Styles
Local 94 Training Director

Howard started his career as an instructor more than 10 years ago. Appointed co-director with Dottie Farrow in 2006 as a unit Chief Engineer at 115 and 117 5th street. He was named as President of the Training Center for the past 4 years. Along with three adult daughter, Vanessa and Mckayla, 1.

Local 94 Staff

Sandra Chin
Chief Financial Officer

Sandra has been with Local 94 for nearly 20 years. She is the mother of three children and lives in Long Island.

Christopher Baffuto
Building Engineer/Shift Instructor

Chris, a native Local 94 Helper at 321 W. 40th Street Building Engineer for the past six years. In addition to his engineering duties, he also teaches the Unit 11 Local at the Training Center. Chris is single and lives in Scarsdale.

Kathy Fischer
Health & Benefit Trust Fund Administrator

Kathy has been with Local 94 since 2004. She and her husband Marco live in Old Bridge, New Jersey. They have two adult sons.

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Sarah Cole
Sack Fund/Executive Committee

Sarah joined the staff of Local 94 as a clerk in 2008. She lives on the Lower East Side with her husband, Charles, and their three daughters, Charlotte, Grace 2 and Mckayla, 1.

Lucy Del Valle
Training Fund/Student Services

Lucy has been growing and assisting Local 94 trainees and engineers through their Training Fund experience since the doors opened some 27 years ago. She lives in Staten, Ll
Local 94 Staff

Jillian Loughnane
Assistant to Business Manager, Kuba Brown

Judy Luzano
Medical Claims Examiner

Diane Macco
Assistant Controller

Rachel Martinelli
Communications Clerk

Michael O’Connor
Controller and Annuity Fund Administrator

Judy Owens
Full Charge Bookkeeper

Chris Pollard
Office Assistant

Marika Rios
Data Clerk

Milagros Rivera
Claims Representative

Laura Scatola
Receptionist

Teresa Sieber
Housekeeping

Theresa Sieber
Housekeeping

Some of the first graduates of the Local 94 Apprentice Program are joined by family members following graduation ceremony.

Training Center Honors Apprentices with Graduation Ceremony

Local 94 is proud of its reputation for excellence. Earning and maintaining that reputation begins in the Training Center under the leadership of Howard Styles and David Hawkins.

Their efforts and those of the dedicated instructors inspire and open the door to a fulfilling and rewarding careers. In the past there was never any formal recognition of the hard work and effort of the men and women who have earned their “ticket.”

That changed in April with the first of what we hope will be many formal graduation ceremonies.

Congratulations to all and especially our first Valedictorian Eric Medina!

Apprentice Class of 2019

Labor Day Parade 2019
Having worked for several years as Local 32BJ "Floater" and various boiler rooms of Department of Education, Robinson Reyes set himself a career goal: an opportunity to become a member of Local 94.

That opportunity arrived in August 2018, when the long awaited new school in the West Village was about to welcome its first students. “I was working as a handyman at K-136 and I was up for a fireman position. But when I heard they were interviewing for a fireman for the new school I decided to go for it,” said Reyes.

Located at 75 Morton Street, MS 297 is a newly renovated 7-story, handicapped accessible building. Home to some 1,100 6th, 7th and 8th graders as well as a District 75 school. The school boasts a gym-atorium with retractable seats, numerous science, art and reading rooms, a large playground and even space on the roof for student gardening.

While already staffed with several members of 32BJ, Custodian Ed Brier needed to fill the fireman position.

Armed with his years of experience and having already collected several certifications, Reyes sat down for an interview. While confident, he was still unsure of the outcome. “With so many other candidates you never really know what will happen,” said Reyes. After sitting down with Brier and going over his experience and his certifications, he was still unsure even though he believed the interview had gone well.

“Ed has been great is allowing me the time,” Reyes said. “Right now I’m in Unit 3 with David (Hawkins). My goal is to get that done as soon as possible. I’m hoping I’ll be able to take the exam by April.”

Just as importantly, he is taking both pride and pleasure in his work at M-297. “Every day is interesting. I like being the person people need to turn to for help,” said Reyes.

While controls are monitored by outside contractors, it is Reyes who is in the building. Reyes confessed it is frustrating at times to see things run from the outside. “Then again, we have also been effective. But they have also been effective. Since 1980 the percentage of union workers has nearly been cut in half.”

The unions’ strength is its membership. “All I ever wanted was to be a member of Local 94,” said Reyes. “Now that he has attained that goal Reyes is reveling in that done as soon as possible. I’m hoping I’ll be able to take the exam by April.”

Not surprisingly, wages in right-to-work states were significantly lower. I won’t even go into numbers reported by Bloomberg: “In 27 right-to-work states, union members accounted for 6.5% of the workforce in 2018. In the 23 non-right-to-work states and the District of Columbia, the membership rate was more than twice as high: 13.9%”— Bloomberg Law, May 13, 2019.

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Protecting Our Union Rights is a Battle Without End

It wasn’t all that long ago when, carrying a unified message, Organized Labor successfully defeated a measure calling for a Constitutional Convention in New York State. By focusing on the threat New York becoming a Right-to-Work state, working men and women stood united and defeated the proposal.

While it was nice to win one in New York, those same anti-union forces won the bigger battle in the Supreme Court of the United States. To understand just how important that victory was consider these numbers reported by Bloomberg:

“In 27 right-to-work states, union members accounted for 6.5% of the workforce in 2018. In the 23 non-right-to-work states and the District of Columbia, the membership rate was more than twice as high: 13.9%”— Bloomberg Law, May 13, 2019.

Not surprisingly, wages in right-to-work states were significantly lower. I won’t even go into mentioning health care, pensions, vacations and other collectively bargained benefits.

Make no mistake, these attacks are not on our union leaders. They understand our leaders are always ready to stand and fight.

The attacks on unions have been waged on many fronts. The attack on unions have been waged on many fronts. The unions’ strength is its membership. “All I ever wanted was to be a member of Local 94,” said Reyes. “Now that he has attained that goal Reyes is reveling in that done as soon as possible. I’m hoping I’ll be able to take the exam by April.”

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The unions’ strength is its membership. So my question is this, what are we willing to do? Are we going to check out facts that both parties put out to see how it will affect our families? Are you going to be willing to go on strike if need be? Are we going to keep our PAC Fund strong so if we are asked for help from our friends we can support their fight? Are you going to keep paying your union dues if someone says you don’t have to?

Are you going to vote for the candidate who is looking out for us? Are you going to remind your friends and others that Labor Unions are important to them and their families? Are we willing to fight the way our grandparents did to get these benefits and keep them?

What we do or do not do to protect our union will be a question we will have to answer to our grandchildren someday. As for me, I want to stand proudly in the knowledge when, as my grandchildren sign their union cards, they know that while I did not win every fight, I never backed away from one.

We must stand together today, to ensure our unions will be around tomorrow. Only you can answer that question.
Time for a Heart-to-Heart Chat—About Our Hearts

Today, Americans live a more sedentary lifestyle than ever before. Our diets have a lot of salt, not enough nutrients, too much sugar and are packed with saturated and trans fats. All of these factors have serious consequences for the health of our hearts.

Coronary artery disease affects over 16 million Americans, and the number is growing every year. At Local 94, it affects about 5% of our participants—over 600 people—with claims of over $14 million a year—and that number’s even higher when you include the costs of their prescription medications.

Your coronary arteries are responsible for sending blood and oxygen to your heart; when the space for blood to flow is too narrow due to inflammation or blockages, you might feel short of breath or an uncomfortable pressure in the center of your chest. A completely blocked coronary artery can cause a heart attack.

Fortunately, your Local 94 benefits can keep your heart in good shape. Preventive care, which is low-cost to you, is critical to catching coronary artery disease in its early stages. You should discuss with your primary care doctor to determine if you should consider having a heart screening if:

- You’re experiencing symptoms of a heart attack
- You have a family history of heart problems
- You have high blood pressure, cholesterol or diabetes
- You’re a heavy smoker, or used to be
- You’re a frequent alcohol drinker
- You’re overweight

Of course, you’re responsible for your heart too. Empire BlueCross BlueShield has many resources to use—it’s just up to you to use them! Check our Empire’s Weight Center (www.empire-blue.com/theweight-center) to track your BMI and set exercise goals. Empire also has healthy recipes and other tips. If you’re a smoker, join thousands of other Americans dedicated to quitting this November and participate in the Great American Smokeout (https://www.cancer.org/healthy/stop-smoking/great-american-smokeout.html).

You owe your heart some TLC.

Remember to Sign Up for Local 94 Text Messaging

Last year, I.U.O.E. Local 94, 94A, 94B and the Affiliated Funds started a text messaging program to provide the latest news and updates to members and participants. The goal is to provide important updates to you in a timely manner. We will NOT be sharing any of your information with any entities outside of the Union and the Funds.

Before you can receive text messages from us, you must provide express written consent to join the program—and make sure we have your current mobile phone number. Once we receive your written consent, you will start to receive communications from us. You can choose if you want messages from the Union and all of the Funds—or from just one or some of our entities.

You will only need to provide us with the authorization once, and it will last for as long as you are a member or participant—or until you decide to opt out of the text messaging program.

If you have not already completed the Contact Information Form, you can find it on the Local 94 website on the Forms page (http://www.local94.com/forms.aspx). Sign up today!

Is There a Secret Formula for Financial Wellness?

There are many prescriptions to get to financial health. Here are four proven strategies to help you get there.

Setting and Sticking to a Budget

In 2017, 78% of Americans said they were living paycheck to paycheck, up from 75% three years earlier. Part of the reason may be that only 41% of us use a budget, even though it’s one of the best ways to keep track of where our money goes. Fortunately, it’s a pretty easy problem to fix. Try writing down what you spend every day for six months. At the end of six months, add up what you have spent and classify amounts into major categories: Fixed Expenses vs. Discretionary Expenses (see chart above). Then determine if you’re spending money on what brings you joy. If it doesn’t, time to create a budget! Budgeting is the process of taking control of your money, rather than trying to figure out where it went. Budgeting looks forward, not backward.

Saving for Emergencies

Just 39% of U.S. households have the savings for an unexpected $1,000 outlay, such as making out-of-the-blue house or car repairs. Many experts think you should have three to six months of living expenses stashed away. Saving up doesn’t need to be hard. Simply put $40 or $50 per month into an account, and let it build — it will help you feel more secure financially. See below for some helpful tips to increase your savings!

Paying Down Debt

High-interest rate credit cards. Every dollar you spend paying down a credit card that charges 19% per year is like getting a 19% return on that money.
Our independent auditors, Schultheis & Panettieri, LLP, prepared the following financial statements. The first statement outlines the assets held by the Local Union, and the second statement presents the income and expenses as they were incurred during the years 2018 and 2017.

### INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS
**LOCAL UNION 94, 94A, 94B**
**COMBINED STATEMENTS OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS - MODIFIED CASH BASIS**
**DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$1,130,583</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - at fair value</td>
<td>$5,783,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related organizations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>$6,914,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment</td>
<td>5,828,939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>11,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total assets</td>
<td>$7,001,125</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Related Organizations</td>
<td>$26,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other current liabilities</td>
<td>3,405</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total current liabilities</td>
<td>29,804</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>7,001,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>5,785,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>$12,786,909</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Revenue and support</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members dues and assessments</td>
<td>$6,720,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political action contributions</td>
<td>85,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net appreciation in fair value of investments</td>
<td>(100,428)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>restrictions:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of program restrictions</td>
<td>194,508</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>4,577,048</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
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### INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS
**LOCAL UNION 94, 94A, 94B**
**COMBINED STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS**
**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018**
*(WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2017)*

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Submitted By: Kelly Drummond, Treasurer

In the last issue of The Cutting Edge we mentioned our purchase of several new equipment trainers. Here is the promised story about the purpose of those three purchases.

**BOILER TRAINER**

When the leadership of Local 94 secured a contract with the Board of Education that parallels the commercial contract for our members those new members would require training. After all, one of the most important aspects of both contracts is the benefit of training. That means that all entry public school employees have to complete three (3) years of training. To specifically enhance the skills of the school worker, we purchased a boiler trainer to upgrade the school worker’s skill set. This trainer conveys steam to hot water, familiarizes the student with the components, and has troubleshooting features to enhance the student’s problem solving skills.

**FLUSHERMETER TRAINER**

Flushometers are used throughout the commercial, public schools and hotel facilities. Flushometers is one of the more common plumbing components we are asked to fix in any of our facilities. We purchased this trainer to provide realistic approaches to flushometer repair. Not only do we have actual flushometers which students can assembly and disassemble, our trainer uses water flowing through them that simulates the real application. The trainer uses single flush and dual flush for water saving capabilities, and also utilizes a pressure assist tank.

**SPLIT-SYSTEM TRAINER**

It is no secret many of the new installations are moving away from central chillers and moving towards the smaller packaged systems. Some new installations are also going with split-systems. These split-systems or ductless installations are showing up in many facilities. This new trainer is a split system that uses refrigerant 410A. The trainer is also accompanied by a computer for proper diagnosis of the operation.
We Will Never Forget

Local 94 Family Gathers to Remember Lost Brothers

It has been 18 years since the deadly terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Among the first of the thousands lost were Local 94 Engineers Vito DeLeo, John Griffin, Charles McGee and David Williams.

In keeping with a tradition, dozens of Local 94 members, family members and friends gathered at St. Malachy’s Church on West 49th Street to remember and honor our heroes. “September 11th is time to look back at what we lost,” said St. Malachy’s Pastor, Father John Fraser. “We have changed, things are different, our lives didn’t end, but we will never be the same.” Fraser concluded his homily with a simple reminder: “...remember the great love, the great affection of those we lost on that day.”

At the conclusion of the Mass Fraser once again offered an intercession for all of our Local 94 members who have passed since last August.

Local 94 President Thomas Hart Honored by 9/11 Survivors Support Group

Local 94 President Thomas Hart (above, center) was honored by the Citizens for the Extension of the James Zadroga Act for his support in the fight to extend the compensation fund for 9/11 responders. The ceremonies were held in Lower Manhattan on October 10, less than a month after Congress extended the bill to 2090. Also honored were Congressmen Peter King (R-NY) and Jerrold Nadler (D-NY). Hart is also among the Board of Directors of Citizens for the Extension of the James Zadroga Act.

Justice for World Trade Center Volunteers & Workers with Zadroga Extension

Over the summer, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the Never Forget the Heroes: James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act.

Named for fallen responders, the Never Forget the Heroes Act provides funding for the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF) through 2090, including at least $10 billion to start.

Local 94 members may be eligible for the VCF if between September 11, 2001 and May 30, 2002 they were:
- Caught in the dust cloud
- At Ground Zero
- In lower Manhattan south of Canal Street (work, residence, school, etc.)
- At morgues (including temporary)
- Along debris removal routes (piers, barges, Fresh Kills Landfill)
- In garages where contaminated vehicles were cleaned
- Be advised for those who were exposed to 9/11 toxins, but do not suffer from symptoms or conditions- you are eligible to register a claim with the VCF. You may also be eligible for the World Trade Center Health Program, which provides free medical monitoring, treatment, and medication.

Local 94’s lobbying firm, Pitta Bishop & Del Giorno LLC (Pitta Bishop) is affiliated with Pitta & Baione LLP which represents individuals seeking 9/11 benefits. Pitta Bishop has diligently represented our union for many years and it is a firm in which we have the utmost confidence. For more information, call 844-WTC-COMP or visit 911benefits.com online. The firm offers free consultation for those who believe they may be entitled to potential 9/11 benefits and will not charge any legal fees unless and until those benefits are paid.

Everyone Counts So Let’s Ensure Everyone is Counted

As you may already know 2020 is a census year. Mandated by the U.S. Constitution, and conducted every year since 1790, every person, man, women and child, living in the United States, citizen or not, must be included.

It is critically important that you, your family, your friends and your neighbors are counted. Because once the state-by-state totals have been tallied on December 31, 2020 they will determine the number of representatives we have in government, and how much of our tax dollars come back to our city and state. According to the Census Bureau those numbers will also be used to decide:
- Distribution of more than $675 billion annually in federal funds back to tribal, state, and local governments
- Redistricting of state legislative districts.
- Forecasting future transportation needs for all segments of the population
- Determining areas eligible for housing assistance and rehabilitation loans
- Assisting federal, tribal, state, and local governments in planning and implementing programs, services, and emergency response
- Designing facilities for people with disabilities, the elderly, and children

Be sure to be counted.
**Local 94 2019-2020 Calendar**

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019**

**General Membership Meeting**
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM
Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019**

**Local 94 Annuity Fund Group and Individual Education Meetings**
Education meetings will be held at the Hotel Trades Council located at 305 W 44th Street, Mezzanine Floor on Wednesday, November 13, 2019. 8:30 AM (Group Presentation) FOLLOWING General Membership meeting, 2:00 PM (Group Presentation) FOLLOWING General Membership meeting, 4:15 PM (Group Presentation) BEFORE 5 PM General Membership meeting

**Thursday, January 2, 2020**

**New Member Initiation Ceremony**
Meeting will begin promptly at 4PM — Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street

**Wednesday, January 8, 2020**

**General Membership Meeting**
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM
Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street

**Friday, January 10, 2020**

**24th Annual Scholarship Dinner-Dance**
7 PM — Russo’s On the Bay, 162-45 Cross Bay Boulevard, Howard Beach, New York. Contact: Co-Chairs

**Wednesday, December 11, 2019**

**Holiday Toy and Coat Drive**
General Membership Meeting
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM
Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street (Members are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy or lightly worn coat)

**Wednesday, February 12, 2020**

**General Membership Meeting**
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM — Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street

**Monday, May 11, 2020**

**Local 94 Spring Golf Outing**
La Tourette and South Shore Golf Courses, Staten Island. Contact: Jack Redden (212) 245-7935

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020**

**General Membership Meeting**
8:30 AM, 2 PM, and 5 PM
Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street

Be sure to visit the Local 94 website at www.local94.com for updates