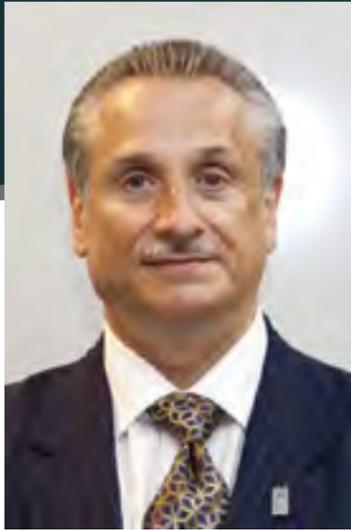




The
CUTTING EDGE
Newsletter

Happy Holidays



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Let's Celebrate Our Blessings and
Not Forget Those Being "Scrooged"*

Kuba J. Brown

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As we open this holiday season our brothers and sisters of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 94 have much to be thankful for, our members are fully employed, earning decent wages and enjoying health care and other benefits.

So while there is much for us to give thanks we should also remember the more than 14 million American workers who are currently unemployed. And let's not forget the millions of others who are underemployed and struggling to feed their families; keep a roof above their heads; and who live in fear of getting sick or injured.

For too long we quietly went about our business as the scales of justice increasingly tilted in favor of bankers, the barons and power brokers.

Working-class America could not remain quiet forever.

Within our city the anger and resentment over the economic inequality has stirred and started a movement that took shape with Occupy Wall Street protests that has now grown and spread nationally.

Despite the early portrayals of Mayor Michael Bloomberg and many news sources, we learned these mostly young protesters who gathered at Zuccotti Park are not anarchists. These are men and women who are finally standing up to the injustice that has infected our country.

The Wall Street barons caused this economic fallout by making horrible, senseless and irresponsible investments in the name of big profits. By the time their greed-driven schemes inevitably failed they had wiped away trillions of dollars from our economy; destroyed countless pension plans and retirement accounts; decimated the value of people's homes; and nearly caused the global economy to collapse.

What was their penalty? A government bailout funded with taxpayer dollars, and a Congress which promises to never raise their taxes.

Today the Wall Street barons continue to make their money while the rest of our country struggles with a 9.1% unemployment rate and a "we'll never raise taxes" Congress that refuses to pass the American Jobs Act which would put people back to work.

Making that unemployment rate all the more despicable, is the knowledge that American corporations are currently sitting on more than \$2 trillion -- yes, that is Trillion with a "T" in assets that remain untouched.

The Zuccotti Park protesters have announced that they have had enough, and they have taken to the streets to bring awareness to these injustices. They are speaking up for the bottom 99% of the population that has seen the American

dream become almost unattainable and calling for the top 1% (who control nearly one-fourth of the nation's wealth) to be held accountable.

They have called for an end to corporate welfare, the preservation of Medicare and Social Security, collective bargaining, the right to organize -- all issues our unions support.

Yet, rather than honor these peaceful voices calling for economic and social justice those young protesters were at first met with a Mayor who used the same oppressive, strong-arm techniques that were used against our fore-brothers and fore-sisters of the labor movement.

The city's initial response came with pepper spray and Billy clubs, confinement within orange-netting as if they were cattle and then placed under arrest for exercising their First Amendment Rights.

My brothers and sisters this movement -- not unlike the early labor movement -- was born of oppression.

The earliest organizers of unions were beaten and killed for exercising their rights to organize and form a union. From the Great Railroad and Pullman Strikes of the 1800's, to the Coal Strikes and Steel Strikes that followed to the Auto Workers Strike in Flint that changed America forever, the oppression that our fore-brothers and fore-sisters faced provided them with the resolve to make workers rights a movement.

And, now Mayor Bloomberg's early oppression has also created a movement. The Occupy Wall Street protests have spread across the country to Washington, Los Angeles, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Miami, Portland, Oregon, Seattle and Denver. On October 5, 2011 we saw more than 10,000 members of labor unions and regular Americans march in solidarity with the protesters at Zuccotti Park.

They marched because they understand the message and know it is time for Americans to demand economic equality. Now, is our time to seize this movement and work toward obtaining true economic equality and preserve the middle class!

While there is much work to do, remember to take the time to celebrate your families and have a safe, joyous and blessed holiday season!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

In solidarity,

Kuba J. Brown

If you would like to make a donation to the Occupy Wall Street protesters or visit Zuccotti Park please visit the following website: www.occupywallst.org



Tom Costello

1325 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS

Teamwork, Continuity Key in 1325 Avenue of the Americas Pursuit of LEED Certification

Constructed in 1989 1325 Avenue of the Americas is a premier, Class A office building that has strived to be a market leader in energy efficiency and sustainability managed by the Paramount Group, Inc. The 35-story, 771,049 SF building has completed a number of projects at the building to reduce energy usage while maintaining a high level of satisfaction with tenants and occupants.

The Local 94 engineering team, led by Paramount's Director of Engineering Paul Hitzel, and his staff of Assistant Chief Engineer Anthony DeDonna, and Eric Sullivan, Larry Bilali, Ray Utter, and John Blenman, has played an integral role in achieving these results. Hitzel joined the engineering staff before construction was completed and has been the chief since 1992.

"A major part of our success is due to the teamwork and continuity amongst our engineering staff. Many members of the team have been in the building for more than 20 years, which is a rarity in this industry," Hitzel explained. "I've been fortunate to work with a group who is dedicated and committed to excellence."



1325 Avenue of the Americas

Hitzel noted their successful teamwork approach is validated twice a year. "Every six months we are audited by a third party inspector, who consistently rates our mechanical spaces and our maintenance practices among the top in the country."

Since the team began benchmarking their energy use in 2008, the total energy usage has been reduced 10%. These results have been achieved through a series of energy efficiency projects and an ongoing proactive, best practices maintenance program. They include:

- A \$41,000 lighting retrofit of the building's common areas. The retrofit has saved the building more than \$70,000 a year.
- Recently installed variable frequency drives (VFDs) on



Chief Engineer Paul Hitzel monitoring the building's energy consumption on the Energy Dashboard

condenser water pumps that is projected to save \$80,000 annually. Payback on the project is projected to be less than a year.

- Installation of a real-time energy monitoring system that allows Local 94 engineers to monitor the building's energy consumption in real time. This program has allowed the engineers to alter the operation schedule to maximize efficiency without affecting tenant comfort.
- Participation in an energy demand response program that will generate approximately \$50,000 per year in revenue for the building. This past summer, 1325 exceeded their energy reduction commitment by 10% due to the efforts of the entire building staff.

Recently, 1325 received their 2011 Energy Star Designation for the second time in three years.

Up next is a three-year capital project to upgrade the coils in the HVAC units to more energy efficient models. Spearheaded by Hitzel and DeDonna the project will, according to DeDonna, "generate significant cost savings on both the electric usage side and the refrigerant cost supply. The new coils will utilize 60% less refrigerant."

Furthermore, they are exploring the possibility of purchasing renewable energy credits to offset carbon emissions. The team is also working with Paramount's leasing team to develop a standardized green lease document. All of these projects have been part of the building's natural progression toward LEED Certification for Existing Buildings: Operation and Maintenance (EBOM). Outside of 1325, Mr. Hitzel is working extensively on Paramount's portfolio-wide pursuit of LEED Certification. Recently, two Paramount properties achieved certification: 900 Third Avenue in New York received LEED EBOM Certification and 425 Eye Street NW, Washington, D.C. received Gold Certification for LEED Core and Shell (CS).



111 EIGHTH AVENUE

Preparing for Big, Green Improvements

John Kramer



Built in the era of Flash Gordon as the first home of the Port Authority, the engineering plant at 111 Eighth Avenue today conjures up images of walking through a Star Wars-era engine room.

Located above one of New York City's main fiber-optic highways on full-city block between 15th and 16th Streets and Eighth and Ninth Avenues and rising 17-stories the nearly three million

square-foot property is the second largest building in Manhattan. With 200,000 s/f floor plates, 15-foot ceilings and located in the Chelsea/Meat Packing District, 111 has attracted a diverse collection of telecom, advertising, publishing, retail, healthcare and high-tech clients ranging from Google to the Banana Republic.

Operating on Con Ed steam and with 34 generators at the ready to keep the building humming the 13-member team of Local 94 engineers has plenty to keep them busy. The biggest challenge is generating cost savings and becoming more energy efficient.

Working within a gargantuan, 24/7 building with large telecom tenants including Verizon, Level 3, and Sprint, Thomas Lambe, Director of Engineering for Taconic Management acknowledged attaining LEED recognition is out of reach. "We could never get there with these large volume users," said Lambe.

But, under the direction of Chief Engineer Rich Lavino the Local 94 crew, "has and is doing everything possible," said Lambe.

Additional cost savings are on the horizon thanks to a constant flow of ground water that pours into the building's sub-sub-basement. Plans are currently underway to use



Tom Callahan, Jean Laroché, Rich Lavino (Chief Engineer), Tony Cimino (Asst. Chief), Sal Pilato, Tom Lambe (Director of Engineering) and Kevin Trent.



Sal Pilato walking under pipes on rooftop engine plant.

Roof top building plant looking from 8th to 9th Ave.

9/11 Memorial Mass

Local 94's Fallen Heroes Remembered at 10th Anniversary Mass



Father Richard Baker offers prayers for 9/11 heroes and recently deceased members of Local 94.

The families and friends of our four Local 94 brothers killed in the September 11, 2001 attacks and representatives representing numerous other IUOE locals joined officers and members of Local 94 at a Memorial Mass at St. Malachy's R.C. Church.

Vito DeLeo, John Griffin, Charles McGee and David Williams all made the ultimate sacrifice as they valiantly led the evacuation of Twin Towers during the horrific attacks.

St. Malachy's pastor, Father Richard Baker once again celebrated the Mass and once again offered prayers and intercessions for our Local 94 September 11 heroes and those who have died in the past year.

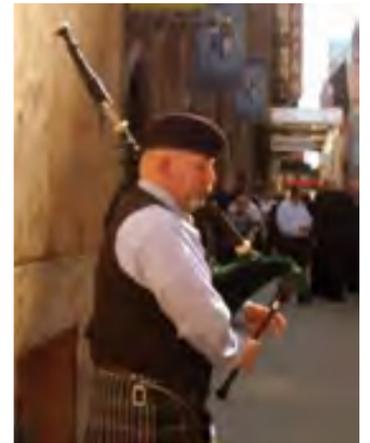
At the conclusion of the Mass Local 94 Business Manager and President Kuba Brown thanked our "sister unions" including the leaders from all New York City IUOE Locals as well as numerous other unions and all others "who have been with us throughout this whole thing."

Among those Brown were referring to were members of IUOE Local 147 in Richmond, Va., which dedicated a plaque to honor the memory of Local 94's "Fallen Four." A replica of the plaque was delivered to our Local with a vow from Local 147 Business Manager Darrold Kemp that "they will never be forgotten."

Kuba Brown made sure our fallen comrades would be remembered for their sacrifice with the creation of a tee shirt featuring Mt. Rushmore-like images of DeLeo, Griffin, McGee, and Williams. Brown, who unveiled the new shirts at the end of the Mass, informed the families that it would be distributed and worn by all Local 94 members as they marched up Fifth Avenue in the Labor Day Parade.

Brown also reminded everyone that there are hundreds of other first responders, rescue workers and others who are still sick, and dying from the toxic poisons they were exposed to in the aftermath of the attack.

"This fight is not over for those workers," said Brown. "I want to thank you for the work you have put in, and we have been with you and we will be with you through this whole thing. We are going to fight the fight and we are going to be with you until everyone who has been affected by this is taken care of," promised Brown.



A lone Local 94 piper skirls "Amazing Grace" outside St. Malachy's R.C. Church.

Local 94 Walks Tall and Proud in Labor Day Parade

A few scattered rain showers could not dampen the spirits of the 100 or so members of Local 94 who marched up Fifth Avenue in the September 10th Labor Day Parade.

Nearly all of our members wore the newly created tee-shirts honoring the memory of our four Local 94 heroes we lost in the September 11, 2001 attacks. President Brown unveiled the shirts which have Mount Rushmore-like images of Vito DeLeo, John Griffin, Charles McGee, and David Williams -- the previous day at the conclusion of the 10th anniversary Memorial Mass.

Led by President Brown, Vice President Tom Costello and our union banner and the Pipes and Drums, Local 94 joined the thousands of other brother and sister locals within the IUOE and men and women from unions large and small from across New York City.





Thomas Hart

340 MADISON AVENUE

At 340 Madison Avenue they Cut Costs One Kilowatt Hour at a Time

To look at 340 Madison Avenue today one would never imagine the 22-story glass and steel building that runs the length of 43rd and 44th Streets was built in the 1920's as an odd E-shaped masonry building.



Property manager Anthony Chang, Charles McNamara, Heather Diamond, Visar Bellcishta, John Giordano, Carlos Leon, chief engineer John Hatton, Mynor Escobar, Richard Shiel, Dennis Lawler, assistant property manager Mitchell Grant, Juan Jimenez.

Just as a \$50-million renovation a decade ago transformed the exterior look, and added an additional 50,000 square-feet, the Local 94 engineering crew is constantly making equally spectacular, although unseen, changes.

Currently owned and operated by RXR Realty, John Hatton was named Chief Engineer in July of last year. Since taking control of the engineering room Hatton wasted no time in identifying ways to improve efficiencies and cut costs.

With the hard-work of his five-man engineering team of John Giordano, Mynor Escobar, Richard Shiel, Visar Bellcishta and Dennis Lawler, as well as the constant support of RXR property manager Anthony Chang, numerous improvements were rapidly introduced. And the results were almost instantaneous, the 84 year-old building was recently awarded the Energy Star Rating.

Hatton built his conservation plan on a watt by watt basis. Larger savings were produced by consolidating the start times of the building's 88 Florida Heat Pump Package Units from 2 am to 6:45 a.m. It resulted in the building remaining properly cooled in time for its 8 a.m. opening yet operating run time was reduced by 91,520 hours a year.

The crew was also able cut costs by free cooling with condenser water. As part of this new strategy the condenser water is not only used in the colder months but also in the early mornings in early and late summer.

Maintenance of the HVAC system has also led to greater efficiencies and savings.

The water cooled condensers are acid washed once a year which increases heat transfer and lowers compressor discharge pressures. The result: lower energy use and extended life expectancy of the equipment.

Hatton makes no secret that these results could only be attained through the efforts of a supportive management and the work of a well-trained, highly motivated crew. Hatton also credits his class work at the Local 94 Training Center as playing a major role in his success.

"I believe that the Energy Management Course with Zach Stern should be mandatory for everyone going through our training site," said Hatton. "I would also encourage all our members to participate in the BOMI classes."

Overall, Hatton credits the team's low-tech approach of shutting things down, keeping records with pencil and paper, using information to constantly raise and lower HVAC setpoints, according to climate demands, outdoor conditions, tenant comfort demands and occupancy levels.

"Believe me," said Hatton. "These savings add up."



Visar Bellcishta, Richard Shiel, Mynor Escobar, Dennis Lawler, John Giordano, chief engineer John Hatton



Ray Macco



Jack Redden

Make Our Voice Heard

Get Involved in Your Community!

We would like to take this time to thank the many members who come out every year to support the Union events and the Union's agenda into the future. With many battles on the horizon it is imperative that we all are involved in all aspects of our industry.

It is just as important that we are all involved in our communities and our government.

Unfortunately our participation in various community and political events has historically been small. With virtually 6,000 members in our local it is a shame that many of our members don't see the need to participate.

For example, several months ago we asked our school workers to be more involved in their communities and to reach out to their elected officials and community leaders.

To date we have received only one call. Our effort resulted in one member calling to tell us he had contacted his local elected officials.

Our still pending prevailing wage law suit is a cause that all our members should rally to join with our school members in their fight for justice. Thus far, it would appear our members are not up for the fight.

We asked for you to be involved so that your neighbors, politicians and other local community leaders understand that we are part of their communities; and we are not being paid fair wages for the work that we do.

Political and community activism is an important part of the process in spreading the word and is extremely important. We need to send out the message that Local 94 members are willing to do whatever is necessary to address this, and the many other issues confronting our entire membership, and our communities.

As a member of Local 94 you must recognize that our strike captains and executive board can't carry our messages by themselves. Our union is only as strong as its weakest member, and we need your help in committing your time to our agenda.

If every member would give up a small amount of time to participate in the few, but always important events, it not only gives us positive exposure – it serves to show our great Union strength.

Once again, we urge all our Local 94 brothers and sisters to be more involved in our union. Learn the issues, be aware of our agenda and help to strengthen our position in the labor market for the future. We need you to be involved politically and in community action.

Please take this time to find out who your council members and State and Federal representatives are. Make an appointment to sit with them and explain who we are and explain our issues.

Visit to the Local 94 website: www.local94.com and click on Union Information then Political Action. You can find your City Council Member online at: <http://council.nyc.gov/html/members/members.shtml>; your NYS Assembly Member at: <http://assembly.state.ny.us/>; and your NYS Senator at: <http://www.nysenate.gov/>

Those members who have not joined the Political Action Fund should consider joining and do so now. We need all the political muscle we can muster to win to today's battles and continue the fight tomorrow.

If you have any questions please contact Ray Macco (212) 586-7633 or Jack Redden (212) 245-7935.

Why Our PAC is Important

There is no doubt both President Brown and Tom Hart are overwhelmingly qualified to serve on their respective Construction Code Committee (see story on page 11). It is more than likely it is no coincidence that the appointments have been made at a time when Local 94 has elevated its political presence.

Through the efforts of the Local 94 Political Action Committee (PAC) Fund we are able to support candidates who share our interests and support our union and organized labor. "I think our interaction with elected officials certainly made them aware that we are here," said Brown.

By supporting the PAC you not only help ensure our voice will continue to be heard, but you also help support and sustain numerous community and charity events throughout the year.

If you haven't made your 2011 PAC donation, please do so now. Make your check payable to: Local 94 PAC and bring or mail to: Local 94, 337 W. 44th St., New York, NY 10036.

For more information about the PAC call Ray Macco (212) 586-7633.

2011 Family Picnic!

Provides Great Family Fun and Helps Fund Scholarships

Hot dogs and burgers; a petting zoo and pony rides; super-slides and train rides; hoops and hollers, races and raffles; and prizes galore. Add some music and merriment, sunshine, family and friends and you have another picture perfect Local 94 Scholarship Family Picnic!

On Saturday, July 31 hundreds of Local 94 members, their families and extended families enjoyed a day bright sunshine and brighter smiles on the grounds of Platzl Brauhaus Picnic Grounds in Pomona, NY.

Whether tossing horse shoes, cheering the children as they raced across the meadow, or sharing a story with friends, the picnic once again provided an opportunity for all

of our members to support the Scholarship Fund, and have some fun along the way.

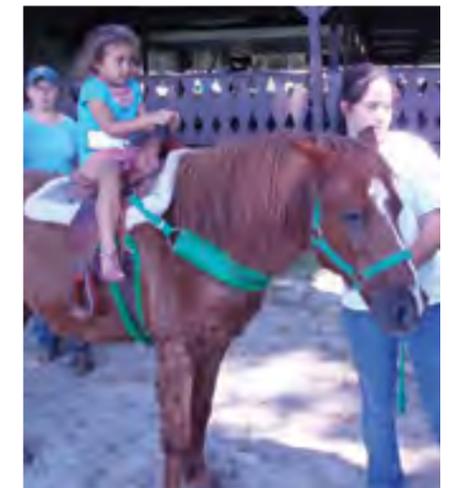
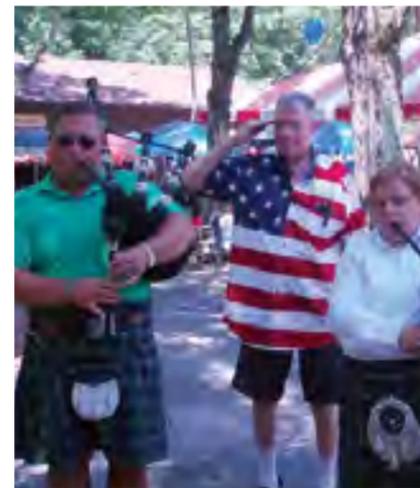
Not only did some winners carry home medals, bicycles and other prizes, everyone went home with memories they'll carry for a lifetime.

There were no bigger winners than our 2011 scholars. Congratulations once again to Troy Cathey, Nicole Coffey, Taylor Di Benedetto, Steven Fowler, Erica Golaszewski, Gabrielle Grancio, William Hurd, Jr., Alexandra Parise, Samantha Parlato, and Daniel Raykhlin.

And, if one picture speaks 10,000 words, 4 year-old River Sy'Ray DeMarco said it all after she was tucked into the back seat of the family car for the ride home.



2011 Family Picnic!



Special thanks to Joan DiMarco who provided the great photos.



Mike Gadaleta



Kelly Drummond

Roosevelt Hotel

Engineers are Bully for Ideals of Namesake Teddy

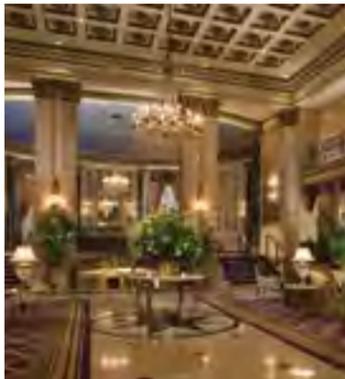


The Historic Roosevelt Hotel NYC

Theodore Roosevelt was known as much as a champion for conservation as his charge up San Juan Hill. So it is more than appropriate that the engineering team at the hotel that bears his name is keeping Teddy's green ideals alive.

"We have a great team that is always looking to do anything and everything to save energy and improve efficiencies, explained John Meade, assistant director of engineering at the 1,015 room hotel. "We have a great team and we've been able to do a many of the upgrades and improvements in house."

Opened in 1924 in the thriving Grand Central Zone and named for President Theodore Roosevelt, The Roosevelt Hotel, was designed by renowned architects, George B. Post & Sons, and continues to reflect the grandeur of old New York with its neo-classical lobby with gilded adornments. It rests on a full city-block between 45th and 46th Streets and has been called the Grand Dame of Madison Avenue.



The Grand Lobby

With more than 80 years of tradition and flawless service, the inventive 28-member engineering team is a mix of Local 94 and members of the Hotel Trades Council Local 56. "It's a good, solid team," said Local 94 delegate Seth Dzikunu. "Working with John (Meade), (assistant director) Shaun Panchoo, our team is always looking to add new technologies to the hotels great traditions."

Among their accomplishments this impressive team of engineers have overseen capital improvements including the addition of famed lunch spot, Vander Bar, 19th floor rooftop lounge, mad46, and most recently, a Billiards Room inside Madison Club Lounge, the hotel's lobby-level lounge.

"These projects inject fresh energy into the historic hotel which excites and attracts regulars and new guests alike," said Meade. "We have and will continue to focus on innovative ways to add relevant experiences to The Roosevelt Hotel's legendary reputation."

While these visually pleasing and guest-friendly improvements are easily recognized, other equally important and energy efficient improvements are unseen, yet enhance the hotel experience. For example the hotel's engineering team maintains the elaborate irrigation system that helps the hundreds of live plants thrive at mad46.

Engineers recently installed a Direct Digital Control system to replace the inefficient pneumatic ventilation system in each of the hotel's 14 meeting and ballrooms.

"It is not only more energy efficient, it ensures a more level distribution of cool air throughout the room," explained watch engineer James Woods. "It has practically eliminated all complaints about one section of the room being too warm, or too cold."

Other "green" initiatives include: replacing incandescent bulbs with fluorescent; installing occupancy sensors; recycling of fluorescent bulbs, batteries and cardboard; installation of electric hand dryers, low-flush toilets and motion activated sinks in the bathrooms.

While the engineering plant at the Roosevelt may not be state-of-art, "we do as much as we can to be 'green', and help make for a memorable guest experience," said Meade.



Assistant director of engineering John Meade and watch engineer James Woods

News & Notes

Kuba Brown, Thomas Hart Appointed to NYC Construction Codes Committees

Business Manager/ President Kuba Brown and Business Agent Tom Hart have been appointed to New York City Department of Buildings (DOB) Construction Codes Technical Committees.

Brown will join the committee overseeing and reviewing Mechanical, HVAC and Boiler codes, and Hart will sit on the Use, Occupancy, Classification and Egress committee.

Every three years the New York City Construction Codes must be updated based on the latest version of the International Code Council Code (I-Codes). As part of that process DOB organizes a series of technical committees to review changes in the 2009 I-Code and determine how and if these changes should be incorporated into the New York City Construction Codes.

Brown who was a member of the previous committee stressed the importance of the appointment. "The last time we met there was an effort to remove the (FDNY) refer-ticket as obsolete," said Brown. "With the support of the fire department we were able to demonstrate the value of keeping the ticket as part of the code."

According to Brown having a voice in the code review, "is in the best interest of everyone so that the development of code is not limited to design experts."

This will be Hart's first opportunity to serve on a committee.

In all there are nine technical committees: Accessibility, Construction and Demolition Safety, Construction Requirements and Materials, Elevators and Conveyors, Fire Protection Systems, Mechanical, HVAC and Boilers, Plumbing, Structural, and Use, Occupancy, Classification and Egress.

Members Show Commitment to Community and Education

The members of Local 94 have not only demonstrated their commitment to the labor movement but are also active participants in charity and community events.

On Saturday October 1, more than 20 Local 94 members and their families participated and helped raise more than \$65,000 during the third annual Brain Aneurysm Awareness 2 mile walk/4 mile fun run at Jones Beach State Park.

One day later, several Local 94 members, including Vice President Tom Costello ventured to the Bronx Zoo to take part in the Walk to Cure Diabetes.



In keeping within the local's conservation mandate Local 94 has offered to help the White Roof Project in their efforts to paint New York City rooftops to help save energy costs. Not only has the local donated money to purchase paint and supplies, but dozens of our members have volunteered to help paint as well.

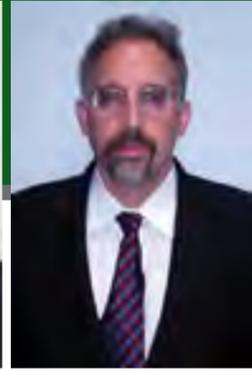
Twice in the past couple of months our members were prepared to give up a Sunday to help in the effort, but both times the painting parties were cancelled because of rain.

There were no problems with the weather for nearly 80 golfers who gathered at the Pelham Golf Course on October 3, for the Fall Golf Outing. Although no challengers to the professional tour emerged from the event, everyone had a great time, and the Scholarship Fund reaped the benefits.





Howard Styles



Bob Fantine

Training Center

LOCAL 94 EXPLAINS VALUE OF ENGINEERS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

We already know that having well trained experienced Local 94 engineers running the plant is as valuable to any building owner or manager as the installation of any expensive energy-efficient technology and equipment.

The importance of our role in that process was the subject of a presentation by Local 94 Training Center director Howard Styles during the annual International Conference on Enhanced Building Performance. Styles was one of more than 70 presenters from 17 countries to address this year's conference.

Hundreds of practitioners, policy makers, and researchers from throughout the world came together in Brooklyn for the three-day conference held October 18-21. The intent of the ICEBO is to seek ways to routinely improve the health and comfort and minimize the energy consumption, operating costs, and environmental impacts of buildings. ICEBO remains one of the leading forums for timely exchanges among individuals interested in the continuous improvement and maintenance of buildings, design, their energy usage and environmental impact.

In an effort to generate greater participation and involvement from the real estate/property management community, along with the hands-on operators engaged with the building system engineering, discounts were offered allowing organizations to send members of their operating staffs.

This provided yet another opportunity for those within the industry to learn the cutting-edge how-to's and the science behind them. These sessions were appropriate for the seasoned property managers, chiefs, and building engineers who have taken advantage of the advanced topics offered at our Local 94 Training Center (BOC, Energy Conservation and IAQ)

By the ICEBO efforts aimed at engaging the operating staff provided a fantastic way to motivate members of the building team around a single purpose and demonstrate leadership in the field.

In the course of the three-day program these prominent international and local experts in building commissioning, intelligent controls for energy efficiency, and enhanced building operations heard and exchanged ideas and new ways to apply engineering talent and tools to achieve related environmental and policy goals.

Training Center Graduation

Every year we have the opportunity to applaud the dedication and perseverance of our students who found a way to juggle their work schedules and personal obligations to attend class and pass their finals.

Congratulations to the graduates who met all the requirements and were awarded their certificates: Jairo F. Atanacio, Rashiek E. Barber, Joseph A. Burke, Robert R. Cilbrith, Christopher M. Colleran, Melford D. Davis, Angelo Dispirito, Ronald Huarneck, Tai Jance, Randall G. Lawson, Gaetano Ribauda, Antonio Rodriguez, John Sepe, Andrew L. Torio, Herbert A. Wright, Nick Zaratidis.

In recognition of their efforts Local 94 Business Manager/President Kuba Brown joined Training Center Directors Howard Styles and Bobby Fantine in honoring the class with a graduation ceremony on August 2.



Attending the graduation ceremony were: (Seated l to r) Jhon Valencia, Tai Jance, Rolando A. Moronta, Domingo Santana, Steven Delbrey, and Mark Vadala. (Standing l to r) Gaetano Ribauda, Training Director Howard Styles, Daniel F. Mazzoni, Daniel Dawson, Alvaro Santamaria, Jaime H. Gomez, Joseph M. Anello, Keshwar Prashad, Local 94 Business Manager/President Kuba Brown and Training Director Bobby Fantine.

Kudos for SMT Grads

The Training Center and all of Local 94 would also like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Thomas R. Reilly, Ralph J. Rispoli, and Alvaro Santamaria who earned their competency credits for the Systems Maintenance Technician (SMT) designation from the Building Owners and Management Institute (BOMI).

The SMT designation program from BOMI not only helps our graduates gain career-building skills and knowledge; they gain recognition as an integral part of your facilities team.

Designed to meet the needs of hands-on engineers, the SMT program will allow our members to increase the operating and maintenance effectiveness of their building and increasing their value to their organization. In addition, the SMT program will offer our members helpful information regarding Indoor air quality and energy conservation.

Old School Green

LOCAL 94 VOLUNTEERS PLANT 94 TREES



Make no mistake; the members of Local 94 are not afraid to get our hands dirty in our efforts in helping the "Greening" of New York. More than 20 Local 94 volunteers and their families spent a recent Saturday planting 94 new trees on Staten Island.

The saplings were all planted under the supervision of the New York City Parks Department and the Boy Scouts of America in conjunction with Mayor Bloomberg's MillionTreesNYC initiative. "We had no idea we would be able to plant so many trees in one morning," said School Division Business Agent Ray Macco, who, with Jack Redden coordinated the volunteer effort.

"We were told we had planted 92 trees when one of our volunteers suggested we plant two more," said Macco. "It only made sense to plant two more and represent Local 94 with the planting of 94 trees."

That extra effort did not go unrecognized by Boy Scouts District Executive Gregory Mustoe, who took special notice of the "94" trees in a letter thanking the Local for its efforts.

"I would like to thank you for all your time and effort in planting the '94' trees around Camp Pouch, Staten Island. Through the efforts of Local 94 and the New York City Parks Department, you were able to help replenish many of the trees that were lost in the last several years as a result of heavy storms. The gracious gift of your time will help preserve the beauty and prestige of Camp Pouch for generations to come," wrote Mustoe.



Those 94 trees also helped to bring the Parks Department closer to an important milestone on the way to the goal of One Million Trees. Less than a week after the Camp Pouch effort Mayor Bloomberg helped in the planting of the 500,000th tree at St. Nicholas Park in Harlem.

MillionTreesNYC is a 10-year initiative to plant and care for one million new trees throughout the City's five boroughs and a key aspect of Mayor Bloomberg's PlaNYC to create a healthier, more livable city. MillionTreesNYC will ultimately expand the City's urban forest by 20 percent, provide New Yorkers important health, economic and environmental benefits, and create a more sustainable urban environment. Since its launch in October of 2007, public, private and non-profit organizations have rallied over 21,000 citizen volunteers to plant trees in what has become an unprecedented tree planting campaign and citywide environmental movement.



For Local 94 the tree planting initiative provides us with another way to clearly demonstrate our commitment to improving the environment – not only within our buildings, but by also setting an example for our friends and neighbors.



MONEY & FINANCE

Annuity Fund News

Patricia Sheehan

New Investment Opportunities in the Local 94 Annuity Fund

The Trustees of the Local 94 Annuity are dedicated to providing you with a retirement plan that can help you prepare for the future and your retirement. In this pursuit, investment options are reviewed to assess overall fund investment strategy, quality, and performance. As a result, and in consultation with fund professionals, three investment options were added to the Plan. Effective September 30, 2011, the following options were added:

BlackRock Inflation Protected Bond Instl Fund

Ticker Symbol: **BPRIX** Size: **Large-Cap**
Geography: **Domestic** Style: **Stable Value**

JHancock3 Disciplined Value Mid Cap Fund

Ticker Symbol: **JVMIX** Size: **Mid-Cap**
Geography: **Domestic** Style: **Value**

Prudential Jennison Mid Cap Growth Fund

Ticker Symbol: **PEGZX** Size: **Mid-Cap**
Geography: **Domestic** Style: **Growth**

For more information about the Plan or the investment option additions, please log on to www.ibenefitcenter.com or call 1-877-UNION-44 (1-877-864-6644). For help choosing your investments call J.W. Thompson Investments at 1-888-453-1869.

Before investing, carefully consider the investment options' or funds' investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses. Call 1-877-864-6644 or visit www.ibenefitcenter.com for an offering statement or prospectus and, if available, a summary prospectus containing this and other information carefully.

Financial Engines Online Investment Advice Termination

Please note that effective December 31, 2011, the online advice offered by Financial Engines Advisors LLC will no longer be available.

Dedicated Investment Advice Available to Participants of the Local 94 Annuity Fund

The Trustees of the Local 94 Annuity Fund have engaged the investment advisory firm of J. W. Thompson Investments, to provide you with personalized advice about your investments in the Local 94 Annuity Fund. These services range from answering questions about your account, to performing a comprehensive investment analysis that answers the question "What Funds should I be invested in?"

As a participant in the Local 94 Annuity Fund, you pay nothing out-of-pocket for these services, and there is no compensation to J.W. Thompson Investments based on their recommendations to you. All you need to do is contact the professionals at J.W. Thompson Investments to take advantage of these services. Email John Thompson (john@jwti.com) to request your Fact Finder or call 1-888-453-1869 to discuss the investment options in your account.

Important Note: Please be sure your beneficiary designation for your Annuity Fund is current and up-to-date. You may change your beneficiary at any time by logging on to www.ibenefitcenter.com or calling Mercer for a form at 1-877-UNION-44 (1-877-864-6644).



HEALTH & BENEFITS

Kathy Fisler

Take These Simple Steps to Heart Health from Healthy Solutions Magazine

Having a healthy heart is one of the best gifts you can give yourself and those you love. These few easy steps can help you get on track toward better heart health. Anyone can take these simple steps. Start with one or two. Then check them off until you reach your personal health goals.

GET STARTED TODAY. YOU AND YOUR HEART WILL BE GLAD YOU DID.

GET MOVING. Make time for at least 30 minutes of exercise each day. Start with walking fast enough to get your heart rate up. Living an active life will give you more energy, less stress and a better outlook on life.

EAT A HEALTHY DIET. Eat at least five cups of fruits and vegetables a day. Say no to fried foods. Eat more whole grains and low-fat dairy products.

GET TO A HEALTHY WEIGHT. Keep your BMI (body mass index) below 25. Being too heavy is a major cause of heart disease. Know your calorie needs and track them. Talk to your doctor about how many calories a day is right for you.

CONTROL CHOLESTEROL. Know your numbers and get control. Talk to your doctor if your total cholesterol is over 200mg/dL, or your LDL, or bad cholesterol, is over 100.

MANAGE BLOOD PRESSURE. Check your blood pressure often, and keep it under 120/80. If it is over 120/80, you could be at risk for developing high blood pressure. Talk to your doctor about ways to keep your blood pressure within a healthy range.

REDUCE BLOOD SUGAR. Limit soda, candy and sugary desserts. Get your blood sugar tested. Normal fasting blood sugar should be below 100. If your level is higher, create a plan with your doctor to get within your goal.

STOP SMOKING. Do whatever it takes to quit. Smokers have a higher chance of long-term problems, including heart disease. There are many tools for quitting smoking. Your doctor can help you find one that is right for you.

It is never too late to start getting on track to better health. Small lifestyle changes are the key to preventing and controlling the risk of heart disease.

Work every day to do something good for yourself. You will feel better, and your heart and your family will thank you.

Explanation of Benefits (EOB)

An Explanation of Benefits form (EOB) is sent to you each time a claim is processed on your behalf. The EOB shows what is being paid by Blue Cross Blue Shield, Sele-Dent or the Fund Office and identifies your share of the claim liability. If the claim is being denied it will show the reason for the denial or show a request for additional information that may be needed to complete your claim.

It is important that you open your EOB mail to ensure you receive the benefits and reimbursements you are entitled to. Make sure you agree with how the claim was adjudicated and that the services billed on your behalf were actually received. If you did not receive the services that are listed on the EOB or if you have any questions about the information on the EOB please contact the Fund office at 212 331-1800.

Please remember that the Fund office is available on a daily basis for any questions or issues concerning your benefits. Simply call (212) 331-1800 or stop by and speak to a representative at the Fund office.

Be sure to visit Local 94 at our website: www.local94.com

Sources: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Prevention. What You Can Do": www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/whatyoucando.htm, American Heart Association Nutrition Center, "Fruits and Vegetables": www.heart.org/LI/AR70RG/GettingHealthy/NutritionCenter/HealthyDietGoals/Fruits-and-Vegetables_UCM302057_Article.jsp, Web MD Cholesterol Management Guide: www.webmd.com/cholesterol-management/guide/understanding-numbers, Web MD Hypertension/High Blood Pressure Guide, "Understanding High Blood Pressure-The Basics": www.webmd.com/hypertension-high-blood-pressure/guide/understanding-high-blood-pressure-holies, Diabetes-Blood-Sugar-Solutions.com, "Guidelines Blood Sugar Levels": www.diabetes-blood-sugar-solutions.com/guidelinesbloodsugarlevels.htm

IUOE LOCAL 94 MEETING AND EVENT SCHEDULE

NEW MEMBER MEETINGS

NOTE: New Member Meetings are held at the Hotel Trades Council @ 305 West 44th Street (between Eighth and Ninth Avenues just west of Eighth Avenue)

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

New Members Meeting will start promptly at 4PM

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

New Members Meeting will start promptly at 4PM

Wednesday, October 3, 2012

New Members Meeting will start promptly at 4PM

Pipe & Drums Christmas Wreath Sale Last Chance! Sale ends November 28!

Wreaths (\$20) will be delivered to home or office.

Call Jack Redden 212-245-7935.

Local 94 Coat & Toy Drive

Drop off "gently worn" coats and new toys at Union Hall or bring to December 14 General Membership Meeting.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Times: 8:30AM, 2:00PM, 5:00PM

Meetings are held at Hotel Trades Council Auditorium, 305 West 44th Street (between Eighth and Ninth Avenues just west of Eighth Avenue)

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

Breakfast will served at 8:30 meeting; lunch will be served at 2 PM meeting; and Dinner will be served at the 5 PM meeting.

2012 Schedule

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

Wednesday, February 8, 2012

Wednesday, March 14, 2012

Wednesday, April 11, 2012

Wednesday, May 19, 2012

Wednesday, June 8, 2012- (Service Award Ceremony)

Closed for July/August

Wednesday, September 12, 2012

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Help Us Stay in Touch

From the I.U.O.E. Local 94-94A-94B Constitution and By-laws:

Article VII - Duties of the Members - Section 3: Any member, who changes his/her address and fails to notify the Local Union office of said change within two (2) weeks, may be subject to a fine of Fifty Dollars.

With this issue of The Cutting Edge we are also making a request. We are in the process of updating our records and we need your help. It is important to all of us that we are able to stay in touch with all of our I.U.O.E. Local 94, 94A, 94B members.

We ask you to please take a few minutes of your time and complete the Address Notification Form enclosed with this issue of the Cutting Edge. **PLEASE BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS(S)**, and return the form in the enclosed pre-stamped return envelope.

Remember it is OUR union. Help us keep it strong by helping us stay in touch with YOU.

Thank you, and may you all enjoy a healthy and holiday season!

Sincerely,



Kuba J. Brown

Business Manager/ President



The Cutting Edge, the Newsletter of Local 94, 94A, 94B, I.U.O.E. is produced quarterly at the Union's office, 331-337 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036. Copies are sent free to Union Members. Editor: Thomas Costello, Associate Editors: Pitta Bishop Del Giornò & Giblin, LLC.