

# IMPACT

VOL. 10

NO. 10

JUNE 2014

## FIRE DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

**Local 246 Vice President James Grillo recently attended the FDNY Annual Employee Recognition Awards Ceremony where several union members were honored.**

Grillo represented the Union at the event to congratulate those Local 246 members who were recognized for their commitment to the job, as well as to greet some former members attending to show their support. The annual event took place on May 16 at the FDNY Headquarters.

At the ceremony, Chiefs and Captains spoke about how without the Fleet civilian workforce, the uniform workforce could not do their job saving lives.

"It was an honor to partake in this celebration and stand with our members whose contributions and service were being recognized," Grillo said.

President Joe Colangelo said it's a privilege to represent members who shine such a positive spotlight on the Union and all it stands for.



"As with so many of our members, those honored by the FDNY are a true example of the dedication and commitment we show every day on the job."

Pictured from left: Supervisor (Former Local 246 Auto Mechanic) Edward Boharsik, Auto Mechanics David Brownstein and Edward Topak, Shop Steward Robert Lucey, and Supervisor Brian Muskopf.



## New York City SEIU Local 246

217 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10007

Phone: (212) 233-0616 • Fax: (212) 385-1859

Outside NY: 1-800-903-0246

Web site: [www.nyclocal246.org](http://www.nyclocal246.org)

**PRESIDENT . . . . . JOSEPH A. COLANGELO**

**VICE PRESIDENT . . . . . JAMES GRILLO**

**SEC/TREAS. . . . . RAYMOND S. SCHACOR**

**RECORDING SECRETARY . . . . . ANTHONY REYES**

**SENTINEL . . . . . PHILIP MAZAL**

### Union Trustees

John Cox . . . . .(718) 217-8947

Wayne Esposito . . . . .(718) 734-3718

Andrew Weinstein . . . . .(718) 393-7323/24

Business Agent

Thomas Graziano . . . . .(212) 233-0616

### Shop Stewards

Mark Bardes . . . . .(718) 818-8723  
Sheet Metal Citywide Representative

Jeff Blond . . . . .(718) 334-9113  
Sanitation, 4th Floor CRS

Salvatore Brucculeri . . . . .(718) 334-9171  
Sanitation, 5th Floor CRS

Joe Buzzell . . . . .(917) 501-5590  
DOT — MGO Field Representative

Dominick Caracciolo . . . . .(718) 393-7321/7324  
Parks

Edward Clas . . . . .(718) 546-1308/1725  
Correction

Michael Faix . . . . .(718) 892-5992  
Sanitation, Bronx Area

Robert Lucey . . . . .(718) 571-7248  
Fire Dept.

Richard Mazza  
Sanitation - Great Kills Area . . . . .(718) 984-4803

Jack Minerva . . . . .(718) 334-8977  
Sanitation — Queensboro

Chris Olsen . . . . .(718) 743-6925  
Sanitation — Brooklyn & Cioffe Area

Anthony Piazza . . . . .(718) 649-8256  
Sanitation & Cioffe

Stanley Pirpinias . . . . .(718) 495-5410  
Police

Roy Rodriguez . . . . .(212) 926-1033  
Sanitation

Michael Tsangarakis  
DEP . . . . .(718) 461-2969

Edward Wojcik . . . . .(646) 210-7932  
Dept. of Education

Joseph Yovino . . . . .(718) 476-7543  
Police

Mordechai Ziv . . . . .(212) 839-2585  
DOT

### Office Staff

Rosemary Aragona, Maureen A. Byrne, Pat Cruz

NEWSLETTER DESIGN/PRODUCTION:

Marci Rosenblum ♦ RWD Group

(845) 364-0222 ♦ [marci@rwdgroup.com](mailto:marci@rwdgroup.com)

# Message from President JOSEPH A. COLANGELO



It's hard to imagine that I'm writing my last President's message before we enter our summer hiatus. But having said that, I'm happy to report that we have confirmed our first date for contract negotiations to begin — Wednesday, June 17. This has obviously been a long time in the making and something I know everyone is anxious to hear about.

The Negotiating Committee will include the four Officers, as well as Shop Stewards from our Executive Board. As you are probably aware, we have nine separate contracts to negotiate, and the first meeting always sets the tone for what follows. Our largest contract, the one for Auto Mechanics and Machinist titles, is where we will begin.

The last bargaining session with the City was on January 30, 2012 more than two years ago. At that point, the former Mayoral Administration already had stopped any real negotiations so even though we went to the bargaining table in good faith to present our demands, it was all for naught.

So much has changed in the last two years, though, including fleet consolidation and the Citywide parts contract. These two items alone drastically impacted each Agency where our members work and changed the way we are able to get anything done. If you have been a member of Local 246 for even several months,

## MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE & PARTY BEFORE THE SUMMER BREAK

Come join us for the customary June General Membership meeting and summer celebration that includes hot dogs and refreshments. We will also have our traditional summer gift raffle consisting of 25 door prizes, plus a 50/50 raffle. You must be present to collect prizes. This is also your final chance to get your picture in the newsletter before we go on our summer hiatus. Remember that meetings for July and August are suspended, as is the newsletter. Be sure to check the Local 246 website on a regular basis for the most up-to-date information. Hope to see you at the June meeting!

you don't need to be told how poorly both initiatives have been managed; you live it on a daily basis. The lack of parts availability by itself has increased costs and out-of-service rates have climbed as well.

In the last two years, while the entire labor force has been on hold awaiting the new Administration, Local 246 has spent significant time with members both in groups and on an individual basis, talking about what's most important in a new contract. While there were the obvious topics of salary and benefits, other important issues surfaced, too.

At our first meeting with the City, we will present a list of those proposals that our members have expressed are important to them, including day-to-day working conditions. It's disheartening for our members when management does not take training and health and safety matters seriously.

Both economic and non-economic issues will be tackled at the bargaining table. The economic demand of course means money in the pay check. The most recent agreement on health care was a major victory for our members because it will not require them to pay any portion of premiums. In the longrun, this helps both active and retired members.

We must also not lose sight of the non-economic demands that affect our day-to-day lives. I was recently in Brooklyn with Mechanics at a Sanitation garage. After speaking with them, it was clear that there is an urgent need for specialty training on new equipment and the computer programs to diagnose problems with City vehicles. This is just one example of the numerous issues our members have expressed as important enough to be brought to the bargaining table.

I visited many shops throughout the year and listened to the needs of our members. Topics ranged from lack of heat and hot water in the winter to inadequate shop lighting and from lack of parts to the fight to get high temperature washers and dryers

in the locations servicing DEP equipment. These items are all considered non-economic, but all play a role in our ability to get the job done.

As you can see, the negotiating of contracts is far more complex than just fighting for higher salaries. Without tools to do the job right and without proper working conditions, our members' health and safety are on the line every day. Other topics are recognition for Auto Body Workers, upstate DEP Mechanics and Machinists, Auto Service Workers working outside their job duties, Sheetmetal Workers laid off, and Rubber Tire Repairers who need changes to contract language. These are all issues that will be discussed starting June 17.

As we begin to bargain, I want to reassure everyone that we will not lose sight of the issues that you all talked to us about. I am asking all members, however, to keep in mind that the bargaining process could take some time. The City has 150 contracts to deal with but they have kept their promise so far to come to the table open minded and actually listen to what we have to say. We will negotiate on your behalf with one thought in mind — to gain the respect for the service you provide to the citizens of New York City regardless of job title you hold.

Since this is the last meeting before our summer hiatus, know that as contract negotiations develop, we will keep you updated via the website. As soon as anything reaches conclusion, you will be notified via a letter. Feel free to approach your Shop Stewards with any questions or concerns you might have. You can also contact the Union office. We know you are all anxious for regular updates and we will do our best to provide them.

I hope you enjoy the summer months of warmer weather. It was a long winter that brought tremendous cabin fever. Get out and enjoy the great outdoors while you can.

## 2014 LABOR DAY PARADE

Local 246 will be marching in this year's Labor Day Parade scheduled for Saturday, September 6, 2014. We are encouraging as many members, friends and family as possible to attend this event and show your support for both the Union and the labor movement.

There will be hats and t-shirts for everyone. Food and refreshments will be served at the staging area. Bring your antique cars and motorcycles. We plan to assemble at 9 a.m., with the parade to kick off at 10:00 a.m. Call the Union office in August for the exact location. Mark your calendars now so you don't forget.

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING & BBQ

Thursday, **JUNE 19, 2014**

6:00 p.m.

St. Stanislaus Church

61-17 Grand Avenue

Maspeth, NY 11378

- ▶ 50/50 Raffle
- ▶ Door Prizes
- ▶ Refreshments

## IN MEMORIAM

### Louis Gurrieri

Ret. Auto Mechanic — DOT

### Merlyn Seubert

Ret. Auto Mechanic — Fire

# GOOD & WELFARE



## IN MEMORIAM FAMILY

### Richard Cook (Mother)

Auto Mechanic — Police

### Stephen Groenert (Wife)

Auto Electrician — San

### Briana Schneider (Father)

Auto Mechanic — San

### Allen Smieya (Mother-in-law)

Auto Mechanic — San

### Raymond Stanczuk (Mother-in-law)

Machinist — BOE

## RETIRING MEMBERS

### Marc Abrams

Auto Electrician — San

### William Curiel

Auto Machinist — San

### Denis Gordon

Auto Mechanic — DOT/Police

### Paul Hinds

Auto Mechanic — San

### Andrew Kille

Auto Mechanic — DEP

### Ronald Pacheco

Auto Mechanic — San

### James Pugliese

Auto Mechanic — San

### Damiano Sciove

Sheet Metal Worker — San

## GIFT CARD WINNERS

**Congratulations to the following May gift card winners:**

### Michael Antonette

Auto Electrician — San

### Gayah Jagdharry

Ret. Auto Mechanic — DOT

### Joseph Lam

Auto Mechanic — San

### Matthew Reno

Sheet Metal Worker — DOT

### Javier Valentin

Auto Mechanic — Police

## NEW MEMBERS

### Luciano Alcantara

Auto Mechanic — Police

### Dean Bender

Auto Mechanic — DOT

### Luis Cabano

Sign Painter/Letterer — DOT

### Ernest Caplanson

Auto Mechanic — Police

### Anthony Cicero

Auto Mechanic — DOT

### Barry Dookie

Auto Service Worker — Police

### Michael Figlozzi

Auto Mechanic — DOT

### Antonio Napolitano

Machinist Helper — DEP

### Vito Portuesi

Auto Service Worker — Fire

### Rohan Ramdas

Machinist — BOE

### Neil Rikkhi

Machinist — DOT

### Andrzej Zukowski

Auto Mechanic — Fire

## REPORTING ILL:

### Jean Pierre Buon

Ret. Auto Machinist — San

## RETIREE VISITS Washington, DC Sites

On May 3, 2014, I went on an Honor Flight with 49 other WWII veterans and their "guardians" to the WWI Memorial and other historic sites in Washington, D.C. It was a thrilling and memorable experience. It made me feel so proud to have served my country from 1945-46 in the South Pacific. This picture shows me with the multitude of people greeting us, both when we left MacArthur and when we arrived in D.C. The same thing on our return flight. I strongly recommend this flight, which is free with all the food and bus transportation, to all WWII veterans.



If you are interested, the phone number is 631.702.2423. Ask for Virginia Bennett.

Sincerely,

Joe Dell'Aquila

Retired Auto Mechanic, Sanitation

# NEWS & NOTES

**NO SUMMER MEETINGS** — General Membership meetings for July and August will be suspended, as is our newsletter. In the event that a special meeting is necessary, we will inform the membership.

**AUTO SERVICE WORKER EXAM** — Please be advised that the filing period for the next examination for Automotive Service Workers Title Code No. 92508, Exam Number 4069 is open from June 4-24, 2014 (subject to change). The filing fee is currently \$47. Please refer to the DCAS website to apply for the examination for this position. Anyone interested in taking the exam is encouraged to sign up as soon as possible in order to avoid missing the filing date.

**KOMNICK SCHOLARSHIP WINNER** — Congratulations to Thomas A. Ferriello, son of John Ferriello (Auto Mechanic, San) and his wife Mary, on being selected as this year's winner of the \$1,000 Lawrence Komnick Scholarship Award.

**GOLD COAST CRUISERS CAR SHOW** — The Gold Coast Cruisers Waterfront Car Show 2014 is scheduled for Sunday, June 29 at Glen Cove's Morgan Park. Rain date is July 20. The event is open to all "show quality" cars, trucks, classics, street rods, muscle cars and antiques. There is free admission for spectators. There will be live entertainment, a food court, clowns, children's games, door prizes and raffles. All vehicles must be on the premises by 12:00 noon. For information or an application, go to [goldcoastcruisers.org](http://goldcoastcruisers.org).

**COBRA APPLICATIONS** — If you are no longer in active pay status you may not be eligible for health benefits and/or welfare benefits. You must purchase these benefits directly through the COBRA program for welfare benefits you should contact the union office. For health benefits you should contact the agency benefits coordinator. You must enroll within 60 days from the qualifying event.

**CLASSIC & CUSTOM CAR SHOW** — On Sunday June 15, Automotive High School will be hosting its next Classic and Custom

Car Show. Last year's show brought out so many cars that some had to be turned away at the gate once the lot was full. As a result, Automotive is looking for a bigger venue near the school to host this year's events and allow it to grow even further. Please mark the date of the show on your calendar and pass the word along.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR MEDICARE-ELIGIBLE RETIREES ENROLLED IN APPROVED HMOs** — NYC Local 246 will prepare the first half of 2014's reimbursement payments for those Medicare eligible retirees currently enrolled and/or who have opted to purchase their drug rider through deductions in their pension checks. In order to receive reimbursement from the Retirees Welfare Fund, eligible retirees must forward to the Union Office copies of their pension stubs for the period of January 1-June 30, 2014.

**DENTAL CLAIM SUBMISSION** — All dental claims should be filed with the Union's Dental Administrator. Claims should be sent to Healthplex, Inc., 333 Earle Ovington Blvd., Suite 300, Uniondale, NY 11553. Claims must be submitted within one year after completion of dental treatment. You can also visit their web site at [www.healthplex.com](http://www.healthplex.com) at any time to view your account, or call their customer service department at 1-888-468-5178, option 1.

**ANNUITY FUND STATEMENTS** — Annuity Fund statements and transactions should already have been received by members. If you have not yet received yours, please contact ASO at 877.999.3555 ext. 5520 or check your account online at [www.asonet.com/annuity/signin.asp](http://www.asonet.com/annuity/signin.asp)?

**DORNEY PARK & WILDWATER KINGDOM** — For discounted Dorney Park tickets for Local 246 members, please visit the 2014 E-Tickets Program Website at [www.dorneypark.com/nyclocal246](http://www.dorneypark.com/nyclocal246)

**THE MERMAID PARADE** — Saturday, June 21, 2014. Come join the fun at the Mermaid Parade of Coney Island, an annual, ocean-themed parade that

takes place each June down by the sea on Coney Island in Brooklyn. This year's parade is scheduled for June 21, 2014. Along with kicking off the summer, the Mermaid Parade originated to help continue the tradition of Mardi Gras like events that were often held on Coney Island in the first half of the 20th century. Artistic self-expression is also a highly encouraged part of the parade, and Mermaid Parade observers are likely to see mermaids, mermen, and a wide variety of other sea creatures. The Mermaid Parade also features local celebrities who take on the coveted roles of King Neptune and a Queen Mermaid each year. After the Mermaid Parade, the Mermaid Parade Ball takes place, in which parade participants and observers can get together and mingle, enjoy live music, and watch the many sideshows and burlesque acts that come out to entertain. Although the organizers say otherwise, it might be best to leave the kids home ... but definitely bring the camera.

**UNION WEBSITE** — Visit the Union's website at [www.nyclocal246.org](http://www.nyclocal246.org) on a regular basis for updated information and important news, particularly during the summer months when membership meetings are suspended and there is no newsletter.

**COPE RAFFLE WINNER** — Winner of the 50/50 Cope Raffle for May 2014 was **Raymond Schmidt** — Retired Auto Mechanic, Sanitation. Pictured with Schmidt is Treasurer Ray Schacor and former Vice President Charles Pastorelli, making his final 50/50 presentation prior to his retirement.



# UNION ROUNDUP

**The 220 Trades Coalition** received the City's response to resolving the issue surrounding Executive Order 88. In part it said, "In light of the two lower court decisions, there is no way to restore the state of the law back to what it was before the litigation was brought, unless the Court of Appeals reverses. Consequently, the City will not withdraw its appeal of the decision in Floyd and related cases. However, the City will agree that if it prevails on the appeal, it will not implement Personnel Orders 2012/1 and 2012/2 or take any other action which will have the effect of removing any title from the coverage of Labor Law 220 without consulting with the MLC and CLC first."

**The SEIU International Conference** was held in early May in Washington D.C. President Joe Colangelo attended to represent Local 246. The focus of the two-day Conference was "Fighting Forward: Financial and Ethical Leadership in Turbulent Times," with topics ranging from financial to policy and politics. Speakers included Rocio Saenz, SEIU Executive Vice President; Mike Fishman, SEIU Secretary-Treasurer; and International President Mary Kay Henry.

**A recent change in our prescription company's** computer system caused some pharmacies to delete our plan; some members were told that their coverage lapsed. The issue was resolved quickly once it came to light. Any members still experiencing problems should contact the Union immediately. We apologize for the inconvenience.

## ANTHONY REYES

# APPOINTED NEW UNION RECORDING SECRETARY

Anthony Reyes, Shop Steward since 2006 for FDNY, was recently selected as the Union's new Recording Secretary. Reyes began his term on June 1, 2014, replacing James Grillo, who moved up to Vice President with the retirement of Charles Pastorelli.

Anthony started his career as a Senior Auto Service Worker on September 11, 1987, at Health & Hospital Corp., which eventually merged into FDNY. He was promoted to Auto Mechanic on November 25, 1991. He is a member of the Local 246 By-Laws Committee, and has been a member of the Union's Negotiating Committee for last two contracts. He is a Trustee for both the Active and Retiree Welfare Funds and was recently appointed as a Trustee for the Annuity Fund.



"Anthony has spent most of his time as a Shop Steward, Funds Trustee and active union member working to better the lives of those he represents," said Local 246 President Joe Colangelo. "He has always been someone we can count on and we look forward to having him as a member of our Executive Board."

"He has been a strong advocate for union causes, and a good voice for our membership on the labor front. Members will be able to count on him to best represent the Union at all meetings, especially as we are set to enter into a new round of negotiations."

"I'm looking forward to the challenges that come with this new position, and to working with Joe and the rest of the Board on any and all issues as they arise," Reyes said. "Members should know that I'm available for them at all times."

## DEP ISSUES

# UNION REQUESTS MEETING WITH OLR

The City's Fleet Consolidation project has caused yet another round of headaches for Local 246 as DEP light duty vehicles are being sent out for maintenance instead of the work being performed by our members at the Agencies those vehicles were assigned to, including NYPD.

President Joe Colangelo said the Union attended a recent DEP meeting whereby the issue was discussed. The increasing out-of-service rates are for DEP prompted them to request DCAS to intervene and the union believes the solution was to have all preventive maintenance go to private vendors. We know from experience the private contractors cannot provide the same quality of repairs that Local 246 members can.

"This seems to be yet another attempt at privatization," Colangelo said. "It's a remnant from the former Mayoral administration; however, we are still fighting this battle."

Another issue is the purchase of 52 GEM electric cars. The outstanding question now is who will be servicing them. Local 246 is questioning whether these cars also will be outsourced and the reply was yes. Colangelo said the Union has requested a meeting with OLR to discuss all privatization issues. A meeting is scheduled for June.

# SEPTEMBER 22 GOLF OUTING BENEFITS WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT

The Civil Service Coalition of Building Trades is sponsoring a golf outing on September 22 to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project.

The Wounded Warrior Project is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to honor and empower Wounded Warriors. Programs are specifically structured to engage warriors, nurture their minds and bodies, and encourage their economic empowerment.

Warrior families and caregivers are provided comfort, care, and education to help support the recovery of their injured warrior. All programs are provided free of charge for warriors and their families. Whether through caregiver retreats, combat stress recovery programs, career and education services, or inclusive sporting opportunities, WWP empowers warriors with the tools essential to not

just survive their injuries but to thrive and achieve personal and professional success.

Registration for the golf outing begins at 7:00 a.m., followed by a Continental Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and Shotgun Start at 9:00 a.m. The event is taking place at Pelham/Split Rock Golf Course, 870 Shore Road in the Bronx.

Cost is \$600 per foursome (price includes continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, dinner and open bar). Individual golfer price is \$150 and also includes continental breakfast, lunch at the turn, dinner and open bar. For those who do not golf but want to attend the dinner, the cost is \$40.

Please make checks payable to: Civil Service Coalition of Building Trades, and send to 395 Hudson Street, 9th floor, New York, NY 10014, c/o Bill Lacey or



Martin Lydon. They can be reached at 212.366.7500 for those who have questions or who want to become a Gold, Silver or Tee sponsor.

"This is a great event that Local 246 is proud to partake in as part of the Coalition," said 246 President Joe Colangelo.



**We Put Members First**

## NORTHEASTERN ENGINEERS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

### "NO FEE" Mortgage Loan Program

- Application Fee . . . . . \$0
- Appraisal Fee . . . . . \$0
- Commitment Fee . . . . . \$0
- Credit Report Fee . . . . . \$0
- Loan Origination Fee . . . . . \$0
- Loan Points Fee . . . . . \$0
- Document Prep Fee . . . . . \$0
- Underwriting Fee . . . . . \$0

**Rates as Low  
as 3.50% APR**

**SAVE \$1000s**



**PHONE: 718.847.0202**

115-06 Myrtle Avenue  
Richmond Hill, NY 11418

For information about our Credit Union visit

**www.nefcuny.org**

**No Points...No Fees...No Kidding**



Borrower responsible for third party fees

ADVERTISEMENT

NEW YORK CITY LOCAL 246 • SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO

# IMPACT

SEIU Local 246 ~ 217 Broadway, Suite 501 ~ New York, NY 10007

Prsrt First Class Mail  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Albany, NY  
Permit #370

REMEMBER OUR TROOPS & PRAY FOR THEIR SAFETY

# PS/MS 43 ANNUAL CAREER DAY

## JOHN MATTHEWS JR. ARRANGES FOR UNION PARTICIPATION

President Joe Colangelo and John Matthews Jr. (Auto Electrician — DOT) were two of the guests at this year's 17th Annual Career Day at PS/MS 43Q in Far Rockaway, Queens. The event was a chance for students at the school to once again hear about the type of work Local 246 members do and ask questions about career opportunities.

Matthews' children attended this school, and his grandchildren currently attend as well. He is very involved in both the PTA and Career Day (he is on the Career Day Committee), where he's played an active role for more than a decade.

"This is a chance for students to talk about their future and hear firsthand what it might entail," Colangelo said. "Each year I attend I am always so impressed by how well behaved all the students are and by the challenging questions they ask. I always enjoy this part of being President of our Union as its a way of giving back to the communities where our members live and work."

Colangelo said he is glad that Matthews arranges for Local 246 to partake in this event. "It's something I look forward to from one year to the next," Colangelo said. Pictured with Colangelo and Matthews are three of the student chaperones for the day.

