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International Vice President



SEAN JEFFRIES
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JASON ALWARD
Vice President



LAKE WILLIAMS
Treasurer



JACOB H. BLACK
Recording-Corresponding-Financial Secretary

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Corey Baxter, Shane Linse, Mike Bosse'



#### ON THE COVER

Apprentice Marvin Blackwell at the controls of the gantry crane lowering the next tunnel segments 80 feet down to an awaiting rail car for Seattle's Ballard to Wallingford sewer project

#### OFFICE LOCATIONS

#### **DISTRICT 1 – BOTHELL, WA**

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Dave Padon, Field Representative

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Bill Albin, Field Representative

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#### **DISTRICT 2 – BELLINGHAM, WA**

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Tony Zempel, Field Representative, Conductor

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#### DISTRICT 4 – ELLENSBURG & WENATCHEE, WA

403 S Water St Ellensburg, WA 98926

Phone: 509-933-3020

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Phone: 509-545-1811

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> 510 S Elm Spokane, WA 99201 Phone: 509-624-5365

Carl Cope, Field Representative

Kaylan Rogers, Field Representative, Dispatcher

456 N Arthur Ave Pocatello, ID 83204 Phone: 208-232-8492 Joe Perry, Field Representative Melissa Williams, Dispatcher

225 N 16th St Suite 211 Boise. ID 93702 Shane Linse, Field Representative, Executive Board

#### **DISTRICT 286 – AUBURN, WA**

18 E St SW Auburn, WA 98001 Phone: 253-351-9095

Anthony Frascone, District Representative, Trustee

leff Frazier, In-House Counsel

Bryan Raby, Field Representative, Organizer

Ryen Young, Field Representative

Larry Kratz, Field Representative

Jose Miranda, Field Representative

Shelly Filippi, Field Representative

lim Gower, Field Representative

Julie Rogel, Field Representative

John West, Field Representative

#### DISTRICT 6 – ANCHORAGE, AK

4001 Denali St Suite A Anchorage, AK 99503

Phone: 907-561-5288

Jason Alward, District Representative, Vice President

Jamie Mack, Field Representative

Kyle Virgin, Field Representative, Auditor

Bill Sims, Field Representative, Trustee

Nathan Hall, Dispatcher

#### **DISTRICT 7 – FAIRBANKS, AK**

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Phone: 907-452-8131

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Crystal Tidwell, Field Representative, Auditor

Ben Johnson, Field Representative

Jacob Carlson, Field Representative

Kim Vincelette, Dispatcher, Trustee

#### **DISTRICT 8 – JUNEAU, AK**

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Phone: 907-586-3850

Corey Baxter, District Representative, Executive Board

#### TRAINING CENTERS

#### **ELLENSBURG, WA TRAINING CENTER**

www.oetraining.com | 509-968-3203

#### SPANGLE, WA TRAINING CENTER

www.wsopen.org | 509-235-9393

#### PALMER, AK TRAINING CENTER

https://aoeett.org | 907-746-3117

#### **AUBURN, WA STATIONARY TRAINING CENTER**

www.iuoe302.org | 253-351-0184

#### **CALENDAR**

## DISTRICT MEETINGS ALL MEETINGS CONVENE AT 7 P.M.

#### **DISTRICT 1 – BOTHELL**

1st Thursday of each month Union Hall, 18701 120th Ave NE

#### **DISTRICT 2 – BELLINGHAM**

3rd Thursday of each month 1700 North State St

#### **DISTRICT 3 – HOQUIAM**

2nd Thursday of each month Elks Club, 624 K St

#### **DISTRICT 3 – SILVERDALE**

3rd Wednesday of each month
Union Hall, 3525
NW Anderson Hill Rd

#### **DISTRICT 3 – PORT ANGELES**

3rd Thursday of each month Eagles Hall Aerie No. 483, 2843 E Myrtle St

#### **DISTRICT 4 – WENATCHEE**

2nd Thursday of each month

Veterans Hall,

1206 N Wenatchee Ave

#### **DISTRICT 4 – ELLENSBURG**

2nd Wednesday of each month Union Hall, 403 S Water St

#### **DISTRICT 5 – BOISE**

4th Tuesday of each month IBEW Hall, 225 N 16th St

#### **DISTRICT 5 – LEWISTON**

2nd Wednesday of each month Central Labor Council, 1618 Idaho St Suite 102

#### **DISTRICT 5 – POCATELLO**

4th Wednesday of each month Labor Temple, 456 N Arthur St

#### **DISTRICT 5 – SPOKANE**

2nd Monday of each month Union Hall, 510 S Elm St

#### **DISTRICT 5 – KENNEWICK**

2nd Tuesday of each month Union Hall, 2637 W Albany Ave

#### **DISTRICT 6 – ANCHORAGE**

4th Thursday of each month Union Hall, 4001 Denali St

#### **DISTRICT 7 – FAIRBANKS**

4th Wednesday of each month Union Hall, 3002 Lathrop St

#### **DISTRICT 8 – JUNEAU**

4th Tuesday of each month Union Hall, 9309 Glacier Hwy, Suite A-105

#### **DISTRICT 286 – AUBURN**

2nd Tuesday of each month Union Hall, 18 E St SW

#### **AUGUST**

6<sup>th</sup>

IUOE Local 302 Chartered 1905

#### **SEPTEMBER**

**⊿**th

Labor Day UNION HOLIDAY





## **BUSINESS MANAGER'S** REPORT

elcome to the new Loadline magazine. After much discussion we're proud to roll out the new design and enhanced content. You'll notice this also includes a refreshed look of our classic steam gauge logo which now features a mountain range to represent the rugged and strong states of Washington, Idaho, and

Alaska our membership works hard to build and maintain. Keep an eye out for this new branding as we start to incorporate it into our website, social media, and other materials. Thank you to staff and members who provided valuable feedback to guide this project.

As we enjoy the nicer weather the summertime brings consider joining us for the Charity Golf Classic on August 19 in Tacoma, WA. This annual event is a fun way to raise money for the Local 302 Hope Fund, Sunrise Dental's charity Sunrise for Children, and the Puget Sound Labor Agency Food Bank. Look for how to register on the back of the Loadline.

If you're looking for work go north to Alaska. We haven't seen work like this since the Trans Alaska Pipeline. The workload is booming and will substantially increase over the next 5 years. District 7's report will fill you in on the details.

We have received numerous reports

50, 55, 60, 65, 70 and up year members receive a pin at the District 1 meeting; Business Manager Daren Konopaski on the right

about issues with Washington State **Employment Security Department** unemployment insurance claims. We want to make sure you have the best information to ensure your claim is processed correctly. Check out the article in the "For the Good of the Order" section for helpful tips.

Thanks to the delegates who attended the 40th IUOE General Convention in Florida themed "Seize the Moment". This was a great op-



portunity for IUOE locals to come together and manage the business of our Union. I had the honor of being re-elected the 1st International Vice President for IUOE. This is a responsibility I don't take lightly. I am proud to represent Local 302 at the table and help lead our Union forward.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the summer. Stay safe out there.

Daren Konopaski **Business Manager and** International Vice President

# DISTRICT REPORT

# Operators essential to Seattle's Ballard to Wallingford sewage tunnel project

ou wouldn't know there's been a massive project underway to burrow a 2.7-mile-long, 19-foot-diameter tunnel from Seattle's Ballard to Wallingford unless someone told you.

The Ship Canal Water Quality Project, hidden behind fencing and mostly underground, began in 2021 with the purpose of holding up to 30 million gallons of untreated sewage and stormwater during heavy rains. The \$15 million drill (named "Mudhoney" after the Seattle grunge band) began digging the deep-bore tunnel in 2021. It was delayed when it had to break up a "mega boulder" at 12 feet tall.

At the core of this work are Local 302 members who operate Mudhoney and the micro drill, and provide a variety of other functions like welding, fabricating, mechanics, locomotive, grout plant, dirt separation, drill rigs, and more.

They've been working through contractors such as Lane Construction Corp., Northwest Boring, Malcolm Drilling, Prospect Construction Inc, Grady Excavating, Pivetta Brothers Construction, J.W. Fowler, and more.

This work is greatly impactful and will keep polluted water from spilling into the Lake Washington Ship Canal, Lake Union, and Salmon Bay when Seattle's old drainage system is overwhelmed.

Today, when downpours flood that system, the contaminated mix spews through overflow pipes into public waterways, causing environmental and public health harm. The entire project should reduce polluted spillage by more than 75 million gallons each year.

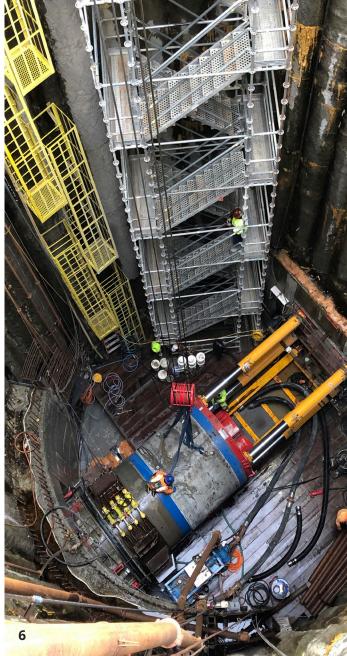
While Local 302 workers have completed a significant portion of the construction work — boring through the ground to build a tunnel from Ballard to Wallingford — the remaining work likely won't be complete until 2026.











- 1. Standing at the very end of the tunnel boring machine at shift change
- 2. Jan-Michael Allen and Michael Floresca, 18 and 40 year employees of Northwest Boring
- 3. Superintendent John Short, 32-year member, 30 year Northwest Boring employee, on the way down the shaft staircase
- 4. Apprentice Marvin Blackwell standing at the hook of the 35T gantry crane
- 5. Steward Stacy White and member Raquel Breckenridge standing in front of a stack of tunnel segments
- $\,$  6. Northwest Boring operators lowering in and setting the next pipe segment for the micro tunnel  $\,$

## Prepare to make good money at the oil refineries

t's important to get all the cards and training you need to secure work. This includes the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) card, the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) card, and the new High Hazard Refinery Safety Overview (RSO) training. The High Hazard RSO is designed to educate workers on the health and safety hazards associated with working in high hazard facilities, such as oil refineries.

There is currently a big backload of work at the 4 refineries up in District 2 at British Petroleum, Phillips 66, Tesoro, and Shell. Although the days may be long, you can make good money at the refineries.

We are gearing up for additional work next fall and spring. Unfortunately, we have had a hard time filling all the seats because not all of our brothers and sisters have gotten the safety cards and training required to work at the refineries.

#### Get prepared for work now:

• **TWIC card:** There are a variety of places to obtain your TWIC card. Do an internet search to identify the closest location to you. You can also find more information at www.tsa.gov/for-industry/twic. If you're paying into training make sure to keep your receipt as the training center will reimburse the

cost.

- **NCCCO card:** Contact the Ellensburg Training Center at www.oetraining.com/.
- The High Hazard Refinery Safety Overview (RSO)
  training schedule is still being developed and will be
  announced soon on the Local 302 website: www.
  iuoe302.org.



- 1. Ryan Mack rigging water line for the Judy Reservoir in Skagit County, working for Scarsella Brothers, Inc
- 2. Darren Schmidt is early to work waiting for shift change at SR542 culvert replacement for ICI Interwest Construction on the Mt. Baker Highway Culvert Replacement Project

# Peninsula work replaces fish barriers and protects against earthquakes

# Puget Sound Naval Shipyard seismic enhancements in Bangor, WA

Over 100 Local 302 operators have finished seismic repairs to one of its Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility dry docks in Bangor, WA. This included drilling holes for the installation of anchors inside the dry dock walls to enhance structural integrity and ensure the safety of the workforce, community, environment, and submarines. The mitigation efforts updated existing emergency response plans to better address the chance of a catastrophic earthquake, along with improved early-warning employee notification systems in the dry docks.

# Work underway to correct fish habitat under US 101 in Quilcene, WA

Local 302 operators are working for Scarsella Brothers to replace fish culverts that are barriers to native fish at Leland Creek and two unnamed tributaries near Quilcene, WA. According to the Washington State Department of Transportation, "The new bridge at Leland Creek will open 14 miles of upstream habitat to improve fish migration. The new box culverts at the northern and southern tributaries will produce nearly four miles of upstream habitat. Construction is expected to be complete in early 2024."



# Work ahead to correct fish barriers at State Route 305/Sam Snyder Creek

The State Route 305/Sam Snyder Creek fish barrier removal will remove two existing 270-foot-long, 36-inch-diameter concrete pipe culverts on State Route 305 outside of Poulsbo, WA and replace them with a single 239-foot-long steel girder bridge. General work activities include clearing and grubbing, earthwork structure installation, paving, stream profile realignment, and streambed restoration. This is important work to correct fish passage barriers to protect and restore fish runs negatively affected by outdated culverts under state highways.

- 1. Local 302 members work on the Quilcene fish culvert project
- 2. Member Jeremy Wolfgang operating a dozer for Scarsella Brothers for the Quilcene fish culvert project

# Welcome to our new signatory contractors Ascent Excavation and Mass X Construction

he work across District 4 is going well with multiple data center projects and the expansion of I-90 Snoqualmie Pass from Cabin Creek to Easton underway.

On top of more projects than normal, we also added signatory contractors. Ascent Excavation from Cle Elum, WA was mainly working in the Cle Elum area, but after adding employees, they are bidding work across our jurisdiction and expanding. They will do all types of projects from small residential, to commercial, to large infrastructure projects. Currently they are working in Suncadia and on a water line project over in Connell, WA with a couple other projects about to start.

Another new employer is Mass X Construction from Ellensburg, WA. They travel and bid work throughout central Washington and do all types of projects from small residential to commercial and infrastructure projects. Currently they are working on the Stuart Meadows Affordable Housing project in Ellensburg and will soon start a city street improvement project in Kittitas County.

We would like to welcome the crews and employees that joined our membership when these employers became signatory with us. Please welcome them and help share what it means to be in a Union and the pride we all have for each other and this organization. Stay safe.



# OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 302



Ascent Excavation (left to right): Owner Jeff Schafer, Members Joe Standish, Jake Hahn, Rees Jewett, Morgan Poulin, Carl Engle, and Vince Glondo



Mass X Construction (left to right): Randy Davis, Blake, Jim Pfeffer, Palmer Brown, Craig Larimer-Owner, Andy Dirks, Tucker Anspach, and Dustin Fewel

## Members at core of radioactive waste treatment and disposal

he U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) is a world-class radioactive waste treatment facility with a highly experienced and innovative workforce located at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL).

Local 302 members employed by the Idaho Environmental Coalition at the AMWTP are at the core of the work to safely dispose of the waste generated during the Cold War.

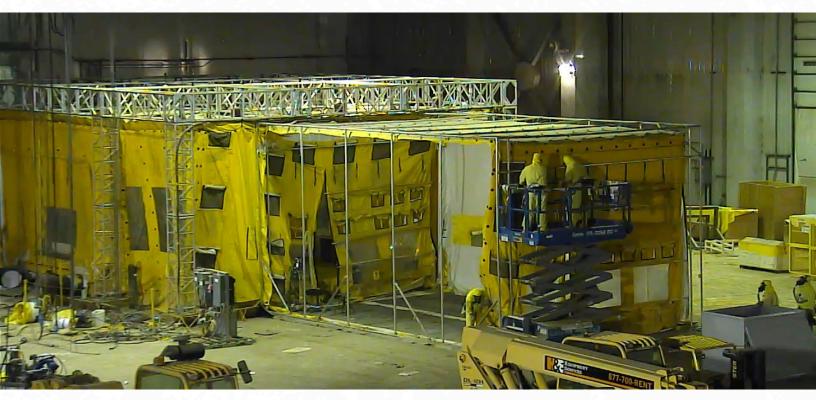
Workers at the AMWTP retrieve, treat, and ship for disposal 65,000 cubic meters of transuranic and low-level

waste. The signature piece of equipment is the Supercompactor, a giant hydraulic ram capable of exerting 4 million pounds of force that can reduce a 55 gallon barrel to a five inch puck.

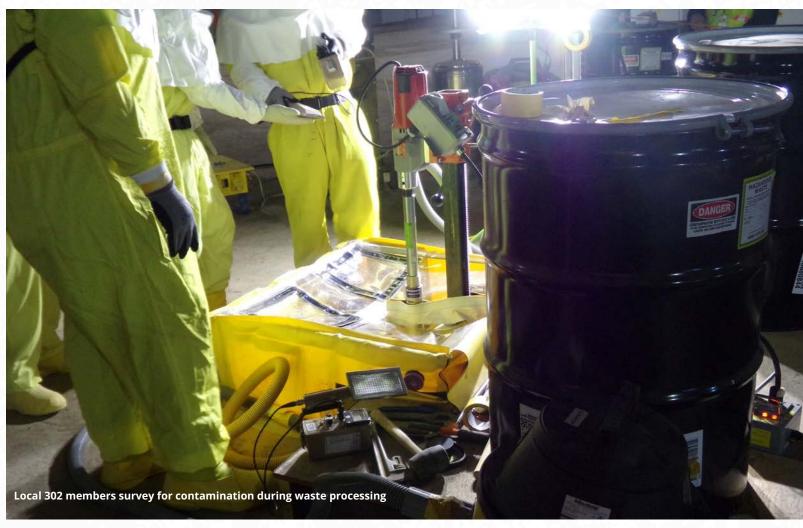
By reducing the size of the waste, more of it can be stored in the limited space of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico.

Photos above and below: Local 302 members work in the Transuranic Storage Area – Retrieval Enclosure. This large enclosure was built to retrieve waste without releasing contamination. All of the waste in the Transuranic Storage Area has now been retrieved and the process to remove the interior engineered safety controls has begun.

Photos courtesy of the Department of Energy.







# **DISTRICT REPORT**

Tatalina snow blower clearing the runway; the runway supports up to C-130 size aircraft

## Mechanics run remote Alaskan long range radar sites

ining the coast and dotting the interior of Alaska are 15 long range radar sites known as the Alaska Radar System. ARCTEC Alaska maintains and operates these site for the United States Air Force. Many are so remote they are accessible only by aircraft.

These radar sites provide 24/7 airspace surveillance 365 days a year for both military and civilian aircraft for over 3.3 million square nautical miles. One of their main tasks is identifying when an outside aircraft leaves international airspace and enters U.S. sovereign air space. For example, given the proximity to Russia, monitoring and intercepting Russian aircraft when necessary. Sixty Local 302 mechanics maintain nearly all aspects of

the radar sites. "Think about the services it takes to run a small city, that's us," said Jamie Rine, Northern Sector Facilities Lead. "We perform pretty much all that's needed including operation, maintenance, and repair of power generation and facilities systems, vehicles, and equipment at the radar sites."

Although ARCTEC's primary mission is radar equipment and tactical radio capabilities, additional services include maintenance of 47,000 feet of runways and over 50 miles of roads, as well as fuel systems, 139 structures and facilities, and 46 prime power and emergency power generation systems including all major overhauls.

Photos courtesy of ARTEC Alaska







# DISTRICT REPORT

## Go north to Alaska, we haven't seen work like this since the Trans Alaska Pipeline

he continental United States is busy, so fewer workers are headed north to Alaska for work, but the workload is booming and will substantially increase over the next 5 years.

Recruiting Alaskan workers has been our number one priority. We have increased the number of apprentices accepted into the training program. We have gone from 1 to 2 apprentice intake classes per year for operators and we're taking applications year-round for mechanics and service oilers. Agents are working hard to recruit non-Union workers. Help get the word out. Talk to potential members about the benefits of joining Local 302 or bring them to the hall — we'll take it from there.

This season's boom is only going to increase as dollars from the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure bill flow in. Beyond federal and state work, there are large private projects such as Granite Construction's project at Fort Knox and Qayaq's mine development work in Tok. Mine development work is expected to increase as prospects like Donlin Gold in Southwest and the Tower Hills project in Livengood start their development phase.

On the North Slope, Alaska has multiple oil projects under development. ConocoPhillips' Willow Project should produce 180,000 barrels of oil per day. The construction

of Willow stretches over the next 5 years and includes nearly 200 miles of pipeline. Conoco announced funding was approved for development of the Nuna project in Kuparuk and is expected to add an additional 20,000 barrels per day in early 2025.

Next winter, Local 302 starts work on Santos's Pikka project, a \$2.6 billion investment expected to produce 80,000 barrels daily starting in 2026. Both Price and Houston were awarded multi-year pipeline projects needing more than 500 craft workers apiece. This staggering number doesn't include support workers needed to build ice roads, mine gravel, and build pads. Price has a pipeline project for Hillcorp, installing a 24" crude oil line between DS-18 to Flow Station 1. Additionally, Hillcorp has an aggressive capital improvement plan over the next decade with projects out to bid scheduled to start this winter.

We are expecting work on the North Slope to boom over the next 5-10 years. Be ready to go north to Alaska, and get or renew your North Slope training card at www. alaskasafetyalliance.org.

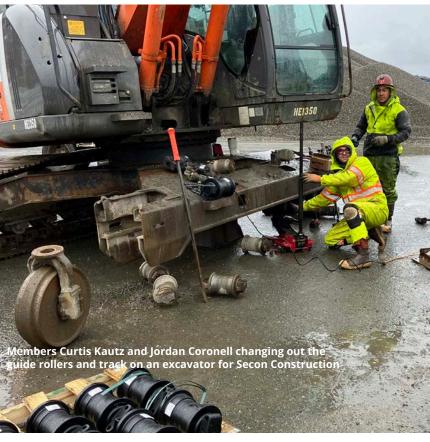
Top photo: Apprentice Shane Johnston, Fisher, HC Contractors, loading material for Richardson Hwy overpass project, Fairbanks AK

## **DISTRICT 7 PHOTOS**





# DISTRICT 8 PHOTOS





## Get the facts about Alaska per diem

id you know the Alaska Department of Labor,
Wage and Hour has a fact sheet for contractors
on how to pay per diem to employees? Here
are a few facts under the Alaska administrative
code in Pamphlet 600.

#### How much is the current per diem rate?

The per diem rates are periodically reviewed and published in Pamphlet 600. The per diem rate you can pay to eligible workers is the rate published in the issue of Pamphlet 600 that applies to your project.

Example: Effective May 11, 2019, the per diem rate increased to \$100 per day for all projects bid on or after that date. If you provide lodging only, you must also provide eligible workers \$48 per day for board.

# When must board and lodging be provided? What about per diem?

Board and lodging must be provided to all workers employed on a public construction project who are entitled to prevailing wages under the following conditions:

The project is located 65 or more road miles from the international airport in either Anchorage,
Fairbanks, or Juneau, or is inaccessible by road in a two-wheel drive vehicle. If it is a highway/road project, the distance is measured from the center of

- the project; and
- The worker's permanent, physical residence must be more than 65 road miles from the project for the worker to be entitled to receive board and lodging. Per diem is an allowable alternative to board and lodging under certain circumstances. Per diem must be paid at the minimum rate listed in Pamphlet 600.

For more information about board and lodging/per diem, including alternative arrangements, refer to 8 AAC 30.051 – 8 AAC 30.056.

### I'm paying my workers per diem. Do I need to pay them on days off, such as on weekends and bad weather days?

You must pay the per diem whenever the worker performs work on-site, is required to remain at or near the job location for your benefit, or if the worker cannot reasonably return home during the time off. You must also pay per diem if the employees were not informed of the day off at least seven days in advance.

Questions? Reach out to any of the Alaska Field Representatives.

Top photo: Member Trent Hooten loading the crusher with an excavator for Secon Construction, Ketchikan AK

# What happens after it goes down the drain? Take a tour of the City of Sumner Wastewater Treatment Facility

echnology has revolutionized things we hardly ever think about. Like, what happens to waste after it goes down the drain?

Every time residents in Sumner, WA send water down a drain or flush a toilet Local 302's 10 stationary members who maintain Sumner's Wastewater Treatment Facility use a combination of technology, biology, and even gravity to clean the water, protect the environment the public from disease.

Sumner is a progressive city whose technologies you may not see in other waste water facilities.

Local 302 stationary members lead the City of Sumner's 6-step process that transforms wastewater to biosolids, or fertilizer, the public can get for free to restore soil health and provide much needed slow release (non-burning) nitrogen to lawns, shrubs, trees, and gardens.

The remaining water is treated to meet the Environmental Protection Agency and Washington State Department of Ecology standards and then released into the Puyallup River.

#### Step 1

Screen out all foreign objects like rags and wipes.

#### Step 2

The waste water enters the clarifying tank. Solids settle to the bottom of the tank and are pumped out. The water is sent to the next stage of the process.



Local 302 member Andrew Silveria and IUOE District 286 District Representative Tony Frascone view a primary clarification tank in operation

#### Step 3

Water is sent to an aeration basin where a population of microorganisms are grown. The microorganisms feed on the organic matter in the water, essentially cleaning it.

Extensive lab testing is done in an on-site laboratory to ensure the above process is running smoothly and regulatory requirements are being met.



Local 302 member and Laboratory Analyst Lucas Zackaj inspects a sample of microbial floc using a microscope

#### Step 4

Microorganisms are settled out and returned to the aeration basin while clean water flows out and is sent to the next step in the process.



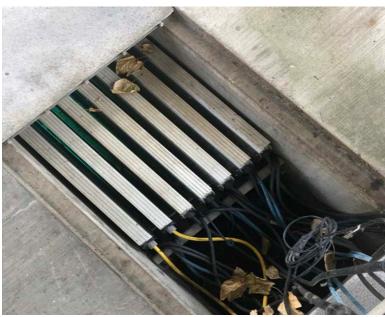
Operator Andrew Silveria and IUOE District 286 District Representative Tony Frascone standing on a catwalk within a covered secondary clarification tank

#### Step 5

Water passes through a series of ultraviolet light rays that disrupts any remaining microorganisms so they can't reproduce.

#### Step 6

The treated water which meets all water equality set by EPA and Ecology is released into the river.



A bank of disinfecting UV lights within a channel of flowing water

All solids removed during the process are thickened and heat-dried in order to produce "biosolids" which can be used as a soil amendment or fertilizer.



Operator Andrew Silveria holding a bag of dried biosolids ready to be used as a soil amendment or fertilizer

# FROM THE DESKOF FROM THE DESKOF THE DISPATCHERS Operator Zack Rice pumping concrete for Brundage Bone in the University District of Seattle, WA

### Prevent heat stroke and heat exhaustion

ctivity in the construction industry is very high during summer, but working under extreme heat can be dangerous. The two most significant summer risks for construction workers are heat stroke and heat exhaustion. Both conditions can have severe consequences if left unattended. It's important for members to know the symptoms and signs for each case, and how to react.

#### **Heat Stroke**

Heat stroke occurs when the body has overheated to a point where it is unable to cool down by itself. If heat stroke is not treated on time, it can cause damage to the brain, kidneys, and heart, even leading to death in severe cases. The main symptoms are confusion, fever, nausea, vomiting, red skin, rapid heart rate, and headaches.

#### **Heat Exhaustion**

Heat exhaustion is a less extreme version of heat stroke. It also happens when the body overheats, but the symptoms are less severe. Heat exhaustion can turn into heat stroke if untreated. The main symptoms are intense sweating, goosebumps, cool skin, fatigue, pulse alteration, nausea, headache, and low blood pressure. These top summer safety practices can help keep construction workers safe when the heat is intense:

Avoid long periods of work in direct midday sunshine. If possible, complete portions of work that
must be performed out in the open early or late in

the day.

- 2. Stay hydrated. Do not wait until thirst sets in to drink fluids, drink them regularly throughout the day. Avoid caffeinated and sugary beverages as they can add to dehydration. Instead, focus on mainly drinking water.
- 3. Eat smart. Eating a heavy meal can make the body sluggish, especially in the heat. Instead, try to choose a lighter and healthier option for lunch to keep you energized throughout the afternoon. In addition, salty snacks throughout the day can help to replenish sodium lost through sweat.
- 4. Wear sunscreen and lightweight breathable clothing, in lighter colors. Not only will this protect your skin from the sun's ultraviolet rays but it will also help keep your body temperature down.
- **5.** Take regular breaks, preferably in shaded areas. While resting, use that time to drink water, eat a small snack, and reapply sunscreen.
- **6. Be aware of signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.** If after excessive sweating you begin to feel dizzy, nauseous, confused or disoriented, have slurred speech, get a throbbing heading or worse, or you suddenly stop sweating altogether, you need to hydrate immediately. If you recognize these symptoms in yourself or anyone else, get immediate medical attention, as this can result in death or disability.

# TRAINING CENTER UPDATES

#### **ELLENSBURG, WA TRAINING CENTER**

hank you to everyone who attended the June 24 Top Hand Competition at the Ellensburg, WA Operating Engineers Training Center. This was a great time to come together and try your hand at backhoe, dozer, excavator, loader, forklift, crane, grader, and truck and trailer competitions. There was food, music, and fun events for the kids too. Congratulations to the Local 302 members who placed in the events!

Apprentice graduates from the previous year received their certificates and their Operating Engineers coats at the District 1

John Schoenfelder at the Top Hand event in Ellensburg

meeting in May. For those who couldn't make it coats are at the Bothell Hall.

39 entry level apprentices completed their training at the end of June. Members, keep your eye out and support them in the field.



Local 302 Top Hand Winners

Loader
Rick Wharton
William "Pat" Beavers
Phil Pedersen Jr
David Jones

**Excavator**Rick Wharton

**Backhoe**Matt Parker
Vern Pritchard

Truck & Trailer Randall Pritchard Holt Morris

**Dozer**Phil Pedersen Jr

**Forklift**James Tobin
Adrian Diaz

**Lattice Crane**Holt Morris
William "Pat" Beavers

**Hydraulic Crane** Tyler Ulsh ur 2023 Spangle Training Center graduates can pick up their coats at their respective union halls. If you haven't received your coat, please call the Spangle Training Center at (509) 235-9393. Sixteen entry level apprentices recently completed their training. Journeymen, please look out for them on the job and help them.

Sign up for the next round of apprenticeship classes. Excavator, Loader, and Dozer are scheduled through the Spangle Training Center: www.wsopen.org All other classes are scheduled through the Ellensburg Training Center: www.oetraining.com/.



#### **ALASKA TRAINING CENTER**

echanics and Service Oilers are the heartbeat of our trade — they keep equipment running and ready for each workday. Service Oilers are the eyes and ears of the master mechanic. They are the ones that come in after the workday is done and crawl over all equipment to make sure everything is ready for the next day. They make sure everything is topped off, and ready to roll for the next operator. They are indispensable.

Alaska is booming with over \$1.2 billion awarded to union contractors in 2022. Encourage people you know to consider a career in the trades and apply for apprenticeships at the Alaska Training Center: https://aoeett.org/.



Michael Weigel working on trailer brakes

#### WESTERN WASHINGTON STATIONARY ENGINEERS TRAINING PROGRAM

he Western Washington Stationary Engineers Training Trust is looking at ways to bring customized training to our units. We believe while learning in a classroom is beneficial, hands-on training brings so much more to the table. Boiler Refresher classes are filling up quick. Call the Training Trust office to check out the class schedules today. If you are unsure if your employer participates in the Training Trust reach out to our office.

Do you have a passion for Stationary Engineer work? Do you want to help bring up the next generation? The Western Washington Stationary Engineers Training Trust is looking for instructors. Examples of classes to teach: Boiler Refresher, Basic Electricity, General Engineering, Locksmithing, etc. Inquire directly with the Trust if you are interested.

The phone number remains the same at 253-351-0184, but office e-mails have changed:

- Andrea Major, Training Coordinator Amajor@wwsett.org
- Heather Forseth, Administrative Staff Hforseth@wwsett.org







# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## SHANNON WATSON

APPRENTICESHIP COORDINATOR

OPERATING ENGINEERS REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

## Why did you join IUOE Local 302? How long have you been a member?

I was working in an unrelated field and just couldn't get ahead in life no matter how hard or how many hours I worked. I was ready for a life change. Joining Local 302 as an Apprentice Operator was a way for me to have great benefits and a living wage without spending years in college. I received my 20-year pin over last summer.

## What are your favorite things about being a union member?

Being part of a brother/sisterhood and of course the great benefits and pay.

My current position is Apprenticeship Coordinator for the Operating Engineers Regional Training Program. It is inspiring to meet the apprentices when they first start out and watch them progress through the program and graduate to Journeyman Operators.

# What are the top things you wish you would've known

I wish I would have known that making connections in the industry goes a long way and you never know who you might work with on the next job.

# in the trades?

Do your research. No matter how good the pay is you must really love going to work and have a passion for what you're doing to show up every day and give it your all.

Is there an active Local 302 member you think we should feature in the Loadline? Email mainoffice@iuoe302.org.

## FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

# NLRB SIDES WITH EMPLOYEES, MODIFIES THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR STANDARD UNDER THE NLRA

n a decision issued on June 13, 2023, in The Atlanta
Opera, Inc., the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)
returned to the 2014 FedEx Home Delivery (FedEx II)
standard for determining independent contractor status
under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), and overruled
SuperShuttle (2019). In applying the FedEx II standard, the
Board found the makeup artists, wig artists, and hairstylists
who work at the Atlanta Opera — had filed an election petition with the Board seeking union representation — are not
independent contractors, excluded from the Act, but rather
are covered employees.

In its decision, the Board reaffirmed longstanding principles — consistent with the instructions of the Supreme Court — and explained its independent-contractor analysis will be guided by a list of common-law factors. The Board expressly rejected the holding of the SuperShuttle Board that entrepreneurial opportunity for gain or loss should be the "animating principle" of the independent-contractor test.

"In today's decision, the Board returns to the independent contractor test articulated in FedEx II, and reaffirms the Board's commitment to the core common-law principles that the Supreme Court has determined should guide the Board's consideration of questions involving employee status," said NLRB Chairman Lauren McFerran. "Applying this clear standard will ensure that workers who seek to organize or exercise their rights under the National Labor Relations Act are not improperly excluded from its protections."

This decision, along with several others, underscores the importance of electing politicians who put workers' rights and access to union representation above corporate profits. This decision will provide greater access to union representation for employees across the country. Local 302 is committed to organizing the unorganized and applauds the decision rendered by Chairman McFerran and NLRB members Gwynne Wilcox and David Prouty.

#### TIPS FOR WASHINGTON STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS

e have received numerous reports about issues
with the Washington State Employment Security
Department (ESD) processing of unemployment
insurance claims. Read these tips to ensure your
unemployment benefits are approved and/or you are responsive to issues that may arise for your claim:

- Always be sure you are on the out-of-work list as soon as you leave employment, and your membership dues are in good standing.
- Choose "regular layoff" as opposed to the "stand-by" option. Stand-by claims are often rejected when there is not a specific return to work date.

- If you are at the training center do not check you are in "school". ESD interprets this as you are going to college and are not ready, willing, and able to return to work. You should always check the "union shop" training option and that you are available for work.
- If you encounter situations where you are over 6 weeks of pending claims, contact your Field Representative for assistance
- If you receive an overpayment statement (you owe money)
  do not let the appeal timeframe lapse and be sure, if you
  believe they are incorrect in their findings, to be timely in
  filing the appeal. Again, contact your Field Representative
  if you have any questions.

For more information on unemployment claims from the Employment Security Department scan this QR code.



#### **IUOE 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL CONVENTION**

#### BUSINESS MANAGER DAREN KONOPASKI RE-ELECTED AS 1ST INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

he 40th Convention of the International Union of Operating Engineers was held in Hollywood, Florida May 1 through May 3. The theme of the Convention was "Seize the Moment", with an emphasis on the historic investments in infrastructure and the increasing demand for skilled Operating Engineers which are creating gains in IUOE market share and driving the commitment to expanding training opportunities. The International, chartered on December 7, 1896, has been in existence ever since. The Convention had its vote of the General President, officers, and trustees. The delegates unanimously approved the current slate, including our Business Manager, Daren Konopaski, who was re-elected to the 1st Vice President position in the International.

Among the topics discussed at the Convention were the current state of affairs in politics, improvements and infrastructure investments in transportation, offshore wind, and transitioning into more carbon neutral investments. We were well represented both by our Local's turnout of elected delegates as well as a few of our state political representatives. Congressman Rick Larsen (WA) and the Washington Secretary

of State Steve Hobbs spoke to the relationship we have with them in improving the current political climate in our jurisdiction. These partnerships are equating to increased construction and jobs for our Local.

The closing messages were the IUOE is well positioned going forward, we are doing our best to ensure job creation, and sustainment is critical to our future. From climate change issue response to autonomous equipment operation, we are at the forefront of building the relationships necessary to ensure our longevity and success going forward in both construction and stationary operations.

"All and all it was a successful convention and I'm pleased Local 302 is leading the way in securing long-lasting relationships with our contractors and employers to further our market share and job opportunities for the members we represent," said Business Manager and International Vice President Daren Konopaski. "I look forward to leveraging the relationships we have to continue to grow this Local and the work for all of our members across the United States and in Canada."



#### WASHINGTON AND IDAHO LEGISLATIVE UPDATES



Left, IUOE Local 302 Political and Communications Representative Josh Swanson at the HB 1084 bill sign relating to freight mobility prioritization with Washington State Governor Jay Inslee

t was a productive legislative session in Washington with some wins in Idaho as well. We are now getting engaged in the mid-term races and already have several candidates in play vying for the Washington State Governor's seat. While we are vetting the local races, we have chosen our endorsement for Governor: Senator Mark Mullett. Our decision was based on several factors particularly his loyalty and commitment to support working folks and the Operating Engineers. While it's still over a year out and we will be providing you with additional information about him. We ask you consider supporting Senator Mark Mullett for Governor of the State of Washington. He's been there time and again for Local 302 and we intend to reciprocate in kind. Below is a summary of this year's legislative happenings and how Local 302 faired.

#### **Washington:**

The WA Legislature adjourned on Sunday, April 23. This long session we saw more gains than losses on all fronts. While we didn't get a few of our bills through on the prevailing wage issues we were attempting to correct, we

did see improvements on unemployment issues and a new provision that requires employers pay for sick leave benefits if a worker doesn't reach their 90th day for vesting. The overall budget includes \$70 billion in spending. Although much of this is to maintain governmental operations it includes benefits for our public sector and stationary members.

The big victory was in transportation, where the total expenditures (projects, maintenance, and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) personnel) was \$13.4 billion over the next 6 years. This was well above the Governor's budget and the initial budgets from both the House and Senate and reflects a great deal of compromise and money committed for the work of our members.

#### Idaho:

As always this is the most challenging area within our jurisdiction. That said, we did see a few victories and didn't take any major hits:

Universal Licensing. Passed. The bill to allow out of

state applicants to obtain a license if they have four years' experience and can pass a competency exam passed the House and the Senate.

- Unemployment. Failed. This bill would have limited unemployment benefits to 12 weeks per year, with incremental increases based on the unemployment rate. It met opposition from loggers, the construction industry, and the building trades and was held in committee. Expect a similar proposal next year.
- Workforce Development. Passed. This is the Governor's Launch Program which is designed to expand and fund training programs for in-demand jobs. Starting in 2024, the program gives \$8,000 to qualifying Idaho high school seniors to help them pay for enrollment in an Idaho-based education or training program. The original Bill (HB24) passed and a trailer bill (S1167) is sitting on the Governor's desk. The trailer bill included "sideboards" which

limit funding and (surprise, surprise!) gives greater oversight to the Legislature.

We are doing our level best to assist with dealing with unemployment issues in all states. In Washington, we were successful in both getting on the state's advisory committee as well as a legislative taskforce to improve processing time and administrative issues. We are hopeful, post Covid, we will be able to bring improvements to fruition so that our members don't continue to have the problems they are having with processing, overpayments, etc. We will keep you informed as developments occur via our website.

Should you have any questions, contact Josh Swanson, Political and Communications Representative, at 206-293-8350.

#### ALASKA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

he Alaska State Legislature adjourned on May 18 after approving a \$6.2 billion state budget less than 24 hours into a special session called by Gov. Mike Dunleavy.

Legislators failed to finish the budget during the state's 121-day regular session, but after an all-day session of negotiations behind closed doors, the leaders of the House of Representatives and Senate agreed to add more than \$34 million in capital projects to a Senate-drafted omnibus budget bill. Great news for Local 302 members.

It appears the wrangling involving capital project money being moved around and added had been enough to secure some of the votes needed to concur with the Senate's amended operating budget, which has a \$1,300 Permanent Fund dividend per recipient, a one-time increase of about \$680 to the state's per-student public school funding formula.

By a vote of 26-14 the House concurred with the Senate's budget which is a rare occurrence; almost always the differences are worked out in the conference committee. The special session ended in one day, with a victory for the Senate budget, which does not dip into savings to pay for the Permanent Fund dividend.



Alaska State Legislature

While lawmakers have adjourned for the spring, they expect to be back in Juneau before the end of the year. Governor Mike Dunleavy has indicated he will convene a 30-day special session this fall for legislators to consider legislation pertaining to a long-term plan to bring spending and revenue under state law into balance.

# **HEALTH &** WELFARE

## **WPAS HAS A NEW PHONE SYSTEM** INTENDED TO IMPROVE YOUR CUS-TOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE

Here are the phone numbers and options to connect you to the assistance you're seeking. Tip: If you are waiting in queue don't hang up and call back. You'll lose your place in line.

Phone (206) 441-7314 or (877) 441-1212

#### Option 1 - Provider

- 1 Medical and vision
- 2 Dental

#### Option 2 - Member

- 1 Health & Welfare
  - 1 Eligibility
  - 2 Medical and vision claim status
  - 3 Dental
- 2 Pension
  - 1 Pension
  - 2 Retiree medical premium
- 3 Hours and contributions

#### Option 3 - Employer

- 1 Member eligibility
- 2 Hours and contributions reporting

TIP: Most of your pension and health and welfare questions can be answered in the plan booklet. The booklet can be found on the Trust's websites, or call 877-441-1212 to have a hard copy mailed to you.

## PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS (PINS) ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO **ACCESS THE MEMBER PORTAL ON THE** TRUST FUND WEBSITES AT WWW.ENGI-**NEERSTRUST.COM (W. WA & AK) AND** WWW.WA-IDENGINEERSTRUSTFUNDS. **COM (E. WA & ID).**

Members can create an account and password to login via the websites to access personal benefits and more. You can view Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), enrollment forms, plan summary booklets, and other helpful information without a member login.

### THROUGH THE WEBSITES MEMBERS **CAN VERIFY:**

Personal Information - Ensure your current address, phone numbers, email, birthdate etc. are on file. Call or email WPAS to update any necessary information. WPAS mails updates regarding health/welfare/pension so make sure your correct address on file.

**Eligibility Information –** Do you have current eligibility? What is your current dollar bank and months of runout?

Are all your dependents listed on your insurance?

Hours and Contributions - What hours are being reported to the plan on your behalf? Who reported those hours?

Retirement - What is your normal retirement benefit amount? How many years and hours have you accrued towards your retirement?

**Beneficiary** – Is your beneficiary current for your health and welfare and your pension?

Claims Paid - You can view all your paid medical claims.

## **IUOE LOCAL 302 MEMBERS AND THEIR ELIGIBLE DEPENDENTS** ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 2023 COALITION HEALTH FAIR

These screening tests and flu shot are paid for 100% by your health plan at no out of pocket cost to you:

- Chemistry / Hematology Profile / A1C
- **Thyroid Screen**
- Prostate Disease Screen (for those age 40 and older)
- **Vitamin D Test**
- Flu Shot: The Quadrivalent flu vaccine is offered to eligible participants age 9 and over

Pre-register at www.coalitionhealthfair.org for the following events. Registration opens August 2, 2023.

#### **ALASKA**

Anchorage: September 16 and 17, 8 a.m. – noon

Dena'ina Center, 600 W 7th Avenue

Fairbanks: September 23, 8 a.m. – noon

September 24, 8 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Carlson Center, 2010 2nd Avenue

Mat-Su Valley: September 23, 8 a.m. – noon

Mat-Su Regional Medical Center

2500 S Woodworth Loop Palmer, AK

Soldotna: October 7, 8 a.m. - noon

Central Peninsula Hospital, 250 Hospital Place

Juneau: October 7, 8 a.m. - noon

Centennial Hall, 101 Egan Drive

#### WASHINGTON

September 23, 8 a.m. – noon Pasco:

Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 598

1328 N Road 28

Bothell: October 7, 8 a.m. - noon

**IUOE Local 302 Union Hall** 

18701 120th Avenue NE

Kent: October 28, 8 a.m. - noon

IBEW Local 46 Electrician's Hall

19802 62nd Avenue South

## **CONGRATULATIONS RETIREES**

#### **MARCH - MAY 2023**

**ALAN NASH** ANTHONY RIETH **CHARLES ATKINS CHARLES BRICKMAN CORY CLARK** CRAIG DELARM CRAIG HENKE DALE WAGNER DANNER MALMBERG DAVID FREEMAN **DEBORAH DAY DOUG MALLETTE DOUGLAS WILLIAMS** GERALD WALKER GLEN HAASL

**GREG HANKINS GREGORY SLOAN GUY PATRICK IACK MENDOZA IAMES GORZALKA JAMES JOHNSON** IASON MILLER **IOHN ORONA JOHN WAKEFIELD JOHN SCHWALLER** KEMAL BOURAOUI-KARO KENNETH EMERSON **KEVIN LOVAAS** LAWRENCE DONAHUE LEE BREITHAUPT MARK BOSLER MARTIN ARIAS MARTIN LINCECUM MARVIN MCANEAR MERICA HLATCU MICHAEL HEIMBIGNER MICHAEL BELFORD MICHAEL PRIOR **NOEL FEARS OWEN VANORMAN** RALPH REYES **RON HANSEN** SEAN HOPPE STERLING NICKERSON

STEVEN DOLLAHITE STEVEN ROWE THOMAS PATTERSON TIMOTHY BONNETT

# IN MEMORIAM —— MARCH - MAY 2023

AARON BRADSHAW ARDEN IOHNSTON ARNOLD HUDDLESON **CHARLES POULSON CHARLES PEDE CHRIS SHIER** DAVE WAYMIRE **DENNIS HANCOCK DON DAVIS** DONALD WAGGONER **ELMER TENISON EVERETT NATHANIEL** 

**GARY DECKER** ISAAC HOUSTON JAMES TRASK **JERRY COLVIN** JOSEPH JR SCHICK KARL GILECK **KENT PETTERSON KURT MARCY** LEE YOUNG LUIS CORNELIO DO-MINGEZ **M RON SHEETS** 

**MARTIN LODE NICHOLAS HANSEN ROBERT BINGLEY** ROBERT VADEN **ROBERT BELL ROBERT GLAZIER ROBERT JOHNSON** RUSSELL ATWOOD **RUSSELL PERLEY** RYAN CLARK **SONNY BYRD** STANLEY WELBORN STEVEN ANDERSON **TERRY ECONOMOS** TOM STRYCULA VAUGHN BELL **WAYNE BRUMM WILLIAM DONAIS** WILLIAM LA BORDE WILLIAM LYLE





#### **INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 302**

Daren Konopaski, Business Manager and International Vice President 18701 120th Avenue NE Bothell, Washington 98011-9514

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# A UNION BUILT ON SAFETY, RESPECT, AND SOLIDARITY

**IUOE LOCAL 302 AND SUNRISE DENTAL** 

# **GOLF CHARITY CLASSIC**

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS:

Saturday, August 19, 2023
Meadow Park Golf Course
7108 Lakewood Dr. W. Tacoma, WA
7 a.m. Registration
8 a.m. Shotgun Start

ACE - \$2,500 - Includes sponsor recognition at 3 holes, banner, 8 golfer registrations with carts, recognition at awards presentation

BEVERAGE - \$2,000 - Includes sponsor recognition at 2 holes, banner, 4 golfer registrations with carts, 10 drink tickets, recognition at awards presentation

LUNCH - \$1,500 - Includes sponsor recognition at 2 holes, banner, 4 golfer registrations with carts, recognition at awards presentation

EAGLE - \$1,000 - Includes sponsor recognition at 2 holes, 4 golfer registrations with carts

**BIRDIE - \$600 -** Includes sponsor recognition at 1 hole, 2 golfer registrations with cart

**HOLE - \$350 -** Includes sponsor recognition at 1 hole (does not include golfer registration)

### INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION:

INDIVIDUAL ENTRY - \$140
INDIVIDUAL ENTERY (LOCAL 302 MEMBER) - \$85

#### **DETAILS:**

- All registrations include: lunch, green fee, range balls, cart
- Mulligans
- Raffle prizes this is a cash only event
- Awards presentation



REGISTER ONLINE BY AUGUST 10: <u>https://sunrisedental.com/golf-charity/</u>

