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The Newsletter of the Amalgamated Lithographers of America
GCC/IBT Local One-L
Winter 2019

HAPPY 2019!

Local One-L officers and staff wish you a wonderful 2019.

We are thankful for our members and their families, as well as our shops and friends, for your support and solidarity throughout the year.

We look forward to continuing to provide you with our highest level of service in the coming year!



STAFFING CHANGES AT HEADQUARTERS

Several important staffing changes have taken place at Local One-L:

- John Zoccali has voluntarily stepped down from his Secretary-Treasurer role to become an organizer/business agent focusing on organizing and union business dealings on Long Island.
- President LoPresti has appointed long-time controller James Santangelo to replace John Zoccali as Secretary-Treasurer.
- Chief Building Engineer Michael Minieri retired in June 2018 after thirteen years of working for the union and taking care of every aspect of the 113 University Place building.
- Russell Glukhoy has been promoted to fill Minieri's role, and Russell Kordit was recently hired as assistant building engineer.
- Emily Perez joined our office from the union's law firm,



*Our newly appointed Secretary-Treasurer
James Santangelo*

where she worked for our legal eagle, Thomas Kennedy, and assists in multiple departments at Local One-L.

- Ron Allen is another new face at the union. He started working at the local in May 2017 in the pension fund department.
- Ella Dikovskiy is our bookkeeper and started at Local One-L in March 2016 with many years of experience under her belt.
- Venus Temple joined the team in November 2016 as fund administrator and office manager.

We congratulate Michael Minieri on his well-deserved retirement and thank him

for all he has done for us. A warm welcome is extended to all of the new additions to our union family!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Brothers and Sisters,
As we enter 2019, Local One-L is engaged in a full slate of activities to assist and strengthen our membership. On January 10, 2019, the Council Board voted to accept the resignation of our current Secretary-Treasurer John Zoccali so he can concentrate on organizing new members into our local union. The Council Board unanimously endorsed the selection of James Santangelo as our new Secretary-Treasurer. Since James is a Certified Public Accountant, who has been a member and the controller of our union for more than 23 years, he brings to his new position a wealth of experience and knowledge.

John is anxious to spend his time representing our membership and engaging in organizing. Since John is taking a reduction in salary to become our Director of Organizing, we will see a savings in salary costs from this appointment as well.

We have a lot on our plate for 2019. We are still in the midst of negotiations at Sandy Alexander and we are engaged in negotiations at the Daily News. We were able to obtain very substantial wage increases for the Pressman at the Star-Ledger. We also have negotiations at the Albany Times Union ongoing.

We were also happy to provide a financial benefit to our members in 2018 and 2019 based on the superior economic performance our assets achieved in 2017. I would like to thank the many members and retirees who reached out to show their appreciation for the 2018 check that we were able to send you. Both the GCC and the IBT Legal Officers approved this benefit so we were happy to provide it to you, our members.

Labor, as always, must fight on many fronts to support our members. Like all unions, we struggle to contain the high cost of health care for members. We know the challenges facing our pensions especially in the economic climate. Collective bargaining to protect and improve our conditions of labor are never easy. But our union has stood strong for 136 years and with your support it will continue for another 100 years to be a beacon of craftsmanship and fair wages and benefits for our members.

Please accept my best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Fraternally,

Patrick LoPresti, President

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Members of GCC/IBT Local One-L

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Patrick LoPresti, President
Gene Kreis, Executive Vice President
James Santangelo, Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE 2019

Members are required to attend three membership meetings per year to remain in good standing.

New York	Jan. 22	New Jersey	Sept. 24
New Jersey	Mar. 26	New York	Oct. 22
New York	June 25	New Jersey	Nov. 26

All meetings will begin at 6:00pm.

New York Meetings:
113 University Place, New York, NY 10003

New Jersey Meetings:
Quality Inn Meadowlands/Lyndhurst
10 Polito Avenue, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

GENE KREIS RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Executive Vice President Gene Kreis was awarded the Samuel Gompers Distinguished Service Award in October. The award, from the Central New York Labor Council, was presented to Kreis, at the eleventh annual distinguished service dinner at Hart's Hill Inn in Whitesboro, NY.

"I'm honored to have been included among such notable recipients of the award," Kreis said. "I've committed the better part of my life working to better the lives and working conditions for the men and women at Local One-L." A total of fourteen unionists were recognized this year, including leaders of Upstate New York teachers' associations and the first female president of the CNY Labor Council. Local One-L President



Gene Kreis at the Samuel Gompers Distinguished Service Awards Dinner in October.

Patrick LoPresti was among last year's recipients.

Kreis is currently serving his sixth term as Executive Vice President/Vice President of Local One-L. He has been a proud union member since 1971 when he started as a press tender at

Duenewald Printing Corporation. Six years later, in 1977, Gene employed his engineering training to become plant engineer for the MacNaughton Lithograph Company. He worked there for the next 12 years, until the plant relocated in 1988. Prior to taking office in 2002, Kreis was a lead pressman at Sandy Alexander in Clifton, New Jersey, where he was the elected union delegate for eight years.

A crafty negotiator, Kreis was key to closing more than 60 contracts with shops as well as mergers with other locals. The mergers resulted in more than 500 members joining Local One-L. In addition to being a two-time Referendum Board member and three-time appointed member of the Master Contract Negotiating Committee,

Kreis has served as Pressman Representative Council board member, vice president of the North American Eastern Conference, and Allied Printing Trade delegate.

"Gene has been instrumental in the administration of union business for almost two decades and continues to excel in his role. For that we are all grateful," says President LoPresti. "But most

importantly, he's a great guy."

Gompers was one of the nation's most prominent labor leaders, founding the American Federation of Labor and serving as its president from 1886 to 1894, and again from 1895 to 1924.

The Central New York Labor Council is the oldest continuously functioning central labor organization in the United States, beginning in 1882 as the Utica Trades and Labor Assembly. It eventually became the Greater Utica Labor Federation, and in 1972 became the AFL-CIO Central New York Labor Council.



Joe Belleville, John Wagoner, Dave Bartlett, Gene Kreis, Patrick LoPresti, and John Zoccali were on hand to honor Gene Kreis in Whitesboro, NY

"WHERE TRADE UNIONS ARE MOST FIRMLY ORGANIZED, THERE ARE THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE MOST RESPECTED"

-SAMUEL GOMPERS
1850-1924

"GREAT DEAL" WITH STAR LEDGER

What do you call a three-year contract with a decreased work week and a \$15,000 signing bonus? President Patrick LoPresti calls it a "huge victory." Local One-L only recently began representing the 20 press operators after merging with Local 8-N, Newark.

Our Brothers and Sisters at the Star-Ledger in Newark, New Jersey, are celebrating the terms of their new contract which provides, in addition to the signing bonus and a workweek cut from 40 to 35 hours, a 2.5 percent pay increase in the first year, a \$5,000 bonus in the second year with a 2 percent increase, and another \$5,000 bonus in the third with a 2.5 percent increase.

"Whoever says it doesn't pay to be in a union should look at these numbers as an example of the power of collective bargaining," said LoPresti. The tenacious negotiators included members Bill Korines, as lead, Mike Tague, John Masterson, Ron Violand, and John Zoccali.

UPSTATE NEWS FROM DAVE BARTLETT

Sun Valley Printing: Four-year contract signed in January 2018 with a 1.5% increase across the board.

Rem Printing: Three-year contract signed in March 2018 with Rem Printing with a 2% increase each year of the contract.

Community Newspapers Holdings, Inc. (parent company of the Oneonta Star): Gene Kreis, John Wagoner, Joe Belleville and I secured a one-year deal with the Star in February 2018. [Community Newspaper Holdings, Inc. has been renamed CNHI, LLC, and recently merged with Raycom Media, operating as Raycom's subsidiary.] Details of the deal: The five days per year furloughs were eliminated when a pressman decided to only work four-day workweeks. This gained a week's pay back to the pressmen and the company gave us a \$200 tax-free bonus added to our clothing allowance. We secured two additional floating holidays. The new company wanted their handbook instituted into the contract, which took away the fifth week of vacation and set up new guidelines for accumulating vacation time. They also wanted new language for sick days, which turns into short-term disability. The workers made out with the changes because the company grandfathered all of them in with the original vacation schedule and the accumulated sick days. The workers also received the new short-term disability. Specifically, under the new terms they are eligible for 100% of their pay from the 9th through 20th calendar days, and 60% pay from the 30th to 90th days.

Allegra Marketing Print Mail: A newly organized shop, we secured a three-year deal with 2% increases the second and third year of the contract. The three full-time shop members will contribute to the Inter-Local Pension

Fund at the following rates: 4% in year one, 4% in year two, and 5% in year three. The two part-time members will not participate in the fund.

Vincy's Printing: A two-year deal was negotiated with 2% each year and Cell Phone and Smoking language added into the contract.

Albany Print: Their contract was extended by three years. Grandfathered shop.

A-1 Quality went out of business.

Gazette Newspaper: Joe Belleville, John Wagoner, and I secured a two-year deal with 2% and 1.55% increases along with some language changes.

Fort Orange Press: Gene Kreis and I negotiated a one-year contract extension with a 2.5% increase.

Rem Digital Print and Mail Center, Inc.: In September 2018 we signed the new shop to a three-year deal with 2% increases each year, adding three new members with a contribution of \$5 per week into the Teamster Members Retirement Plan.

AFL-CIO: Members received a three-year deal with 2% across the board and a 1% salary bonus each year of the contract.

Kapstone Corporation: The company was purchased by WestRock Corporation in October. After four rounds of votes we finally got a 4-year



From left to right: Glenn Read, owner, Dominick Bianchi, and Sharon Balthazard.

deal with 2%, 2%, 2.25%, and 2.5% increases. We also negotiated a short-term disability benefit of 26 weeks at 60% of salary up to \$600 per week maximum, more health savings dollars from the company, and a severance package of 480 hours. There were also some bump ups in some pay scales before the percentage increases.

MDR Printers: The contract was extended as is for two years. Grandfathered shop.

Benchmark Printing: We have a renewal of the last five-year contract for another five years with new language allowing the company to withdraw from the National Pension Fund if they choose. Should that happen, Benchmark and the union would negotiate a new pension possibility.

Times Union: As of January 2019, we are in active negotiations.

JUST A REMINDER!



The Labor Day Parade isn't just for members! It is open to all family and friends. Last year's parade was a great success. Please come and join us next time!

Pictured above are President Patrick LoPresti and his daughter Gianna on the left. From the right are former Secretary-Treasurer John Zoccali, his son Michael, his wife Gere, and his daughter Kylie.

RECENT RETIREES

Aquiles Lopez	Pressman
Henry Miller	Bindery
Jesus De La Cruz	General Worker
Roberto Rodriguez	Operator
Julio Cuello-Guzman	Local 447S
Yasir Bacchus	Local 5123M
Wallace Whitmer	Local 5123M
William McGuire	Local 5123M
Palma Guidi	General Worker
Salvatore Vetrano	Pressman
Pablo Sanchez	Pressman
Anthony Mastantuona	Pressman
Richard Landkammer	Stripper
Elias Garcia	Pressman
Donald Blair	Pressman
Michael Horetsky	Pressman
Raymond Alexander	Pressman
Michael Minieri	Bldg Engineer
Michael Pione	Paginator
Susan Nieves	Local 5123M
Peter Dunham	Platemaker
Mark Kmiotek	Platemaker
Freddy Valladares	Press Tender
Paul Precker	Pressman
James Harrington	Mechanic

TRI-STATE AND DOWNSTATE SHOPS NEWS

2018 was a busy year for contract negotiations. Following is a comprehensive list: 2018 Renewed Contracts:

C&R Printing	Service Press
Innovation	Xtreme Digital
DC #37	Mundial Publications
John Auguliario Printing	Official Offset Corp.
Platinum Printing	HP Salvatore
Printers Choice	Peregrine Graphics
Complete Graphics	Corso Printing & Engraving
Redix Media	P&S Service, Inc.
The Harty Press, Inc.	Campaign Print Specialist
H&H Graphics	Progress Printing Corp.

New Shops (First Time Contracts):

Mittera, New Jersey	Batres Creative Solutions, Inc.
Star-Ledger	Rem Digital Print & Mail
Printing & Graphics Concept	Table Tops Paper
The Pyne-Davidson Co.	True-Type Printing

Early 2019 Negotiations:

Times Union	Triboro Printing
Oneonta Star	District Council #37
Rome Sentinel	Official Offset Corp.
Sandy Alexander	Playbill, Inc.
Graphic Packaging	New York Daily News
Ideal Printing	

MEMBERSHIP ASSISTANCE BENEFIT ESTABLISHED

In 2017, Local One-L realized an unexpected financial surplus due to prudent management of its assets in addition to rental income generated from the ownership of 113 University Place. At the same time, many long-term retired members have seen the costs of their Medicare Part B rise substantially in 2018, while having had their pensions reduced. Active members, in keeping with the national trend, have likewise endured skyrocketing healthcare costs. To help defray these costs, the Local One-L administration, therefore, established the new Membership Assistance Program. These benefits do not vest, are not transferrable, and will be deemed void and forfeited six months after date of issue. The Local One-L Council Board may amend, suspend or terminate the program beginning in 2020. Following are the specifics:

- Union members active as of September 30, 2018, and who remain members in good standing as of the distribution date, are entitled to receive a one-time payment of \$700.00 for 2018.
- Union members active as of September 30, 2019, and who remain members in good standing as of the distribution date, are entitled to receive a one-time benefit for 2019.
- Retired members of Local One-L who obtained at least 20 years of vesting credit under the Local One-L Industry Pension Plan as of September 30, 2018, are entitled to receive a one-time payment of \$350.00 for 2018.
- Retired members of Local One-L who obtained at least 20 years of vesting credit under the Local One-L Industry Pension Plan as of September 30, 2019, are entitled to receive a one-time benefit for 2019.

All disputes regarding this benefit will be finally resolved by the Council Board. This fund has been approved by the IBT.

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113 University Place, NY, NY 10003

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Change Service Requested

Save the Date:

**General
Membership
Meeting**

March 26 – NJ

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HEADQUARTERS BUILDING UPDATE

113 University Place is, again, under major repairs. In 2018 one of the largest projects undertaken was the extensive and much-needed passenger and freight elevator upgrades. Looking forward into 2019, we plan to fully renovate the building's parapet on the roof to bring it up to code and replace the water tower, which is past its due date and needs to be replaced.

