After 25 dedicated years at NEIEP, Administrative Assistant Joan Davlin will be retiring; her last day is March 31, 2011. Joan has been with NEIEP since its early days in Rochester, New York when she was hired through a temp agency. Arriving at the building on her first day she wondered, “Gee, what’s in this white house?” because at the time, NEIEP’s entire program was supported by a small staff in a converted residential home.

When NEIEP moved its offices to Massachusetts, Joan followed her path east to train newly hired administrative assistants. She was soon convinced to make a permanent move to Attleboro Falls after “they [her colleagues] said it would be the best thing for me.”

Joan has been witness to nearly all of NEIEP’s significant milestones including the shift from a paper-based student record keeping system to a computer database. She observed the gradual development and accessibility of computers so that the total office count went from three machines to one being provided to each employee. She was here through the creation of NEIEP’s website, the development of several hands-on student labs, and the construction of NEIEP’s video production studio. Most recently, she assisted students and instructors in navigating the change from a year to semester format academic schedule.

Upon retirement, Joan, along with her daughter, plan to move back to Rochester to join the rest of her family including two other daughters, two sisters, two brothers, and all of their families. When asked about retirement, Joan says she’s very much looking forward to it. “Every time I get up on those cold mornings, I keep saying, I’m gonna retire soon, I’m gonna retire soon.”

Outside of the NEIEP office, few may know how much festive energy Joan brings to the office. Christmas is her favorite holiday, and she takes that opportunity to create handmade ornaments for each person in the office. She also dresses in full costume every Halloween.

Colleagues of Joan speak of her fondly. Diana Chaffalo says, “You can always count on Joan for brutal honesty—no need to sugar coat anything! That aside, Joan has always been an encyclopedia of NEIEP knowledge and a genuine warm-hearted individual.” Liz Alves, who has worked with Joan for 11 years, says, “It has been an absolute pleasure! She has made my experience at NEIEP very memorable, whether it was at Halloween with her funny costumes or the holiday cheer she brought to NEIEP at Christmas time.”

When asked to reminisce about her time at NEIEP, Joan thinks for a moment before saying, “I’ve met a lot of nice people through the years, all different kinds of people. This is the longest anyone’s stayed here, at least out of the people here now.” Joan’s favorite part of her job is the computer and learning how to do new things and use new software. Through it all, she’s stayed flexible during leadership and technological transitions. She is particularly excited about the new welding trailers. “They’re kind of neat, I’d like to try that!”

Joan talks about how she’ll miss everyone in the office. “You’re all like my second family. I’ll miss everyone, but there’s always email.” Even though it took some convincing for Joan to move to Massachusetts, she happily admits, “They said it would be the best thing for me, and they were right.”

Joan’s hard work, dedication, and sense of humor is greatly appreciated by everyone in the office and will be missed. From all of us at NEIEP, we wish you the very best on your retirement!

Assistant National Director Joe Devlin says, The steady influence and stability Joan gave to our staff will be as missed as her sense of humor. As we approach the end of March many of us will start to realize how much we will miss Joan in our lives.
James McGoldrick, Region 1, New York City and nearby New Jersey

Local 1 had its Journeyman’s Exam on November 10. It went well. I would like to thank Joe Devlin, Ed Krull, and Tom Breindel. The apprentices and staff have adjusted to the semester format. I would also like to thank Kerri and Stan for all their help. May you all have a safe and wonderful holiday.

E Ray Roche II, Region 2, Northeast

As new construction work remains stagnant, there have been no recruitments held in Region 2. I continue to take online applications from Helmets to Hardhats candidates as they leave military service. I have attended job fairs, vo-tech centers and pre-apprenticeship seminars to demonstrate the skills needed to become an elevator constructor apprentice.

The DOL has conducted audits of our outreach programs in each Local JAC. Mechanic’s Exams have been completed in Region 2 resulting in a 78% pass rate. Congratulations to those new mechanics and the instructors who worked very hard preparing their students.

I spent a week at the NEIEP office with Area Coordinators Ray Francesconi and Earl Baker working on videos for the recruitment program.

The State Legislature of Pennsylvania will be voting in the fall to adopt a State License Law for Elevator Mechanics. IUEC Mechanics can participate in the NEIEP Continuing Education Program on the computer. Computer-Based Training (CBT) is a useful tool for our work force to remain the smartest and safest.

I would like to wish Joan Davlin well in her upcoming retirement. I worked with Joan for many years, starting in Rochester.

Happy holidays to the NEIEP Staff and to all Region 2 JAC members. Thank you for your cooperation and dedication.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and never forget to count your blessings every day.

Paul Johnson, Region 3, Southeast

Season’s greetings from Region 3.

As the first semester comes to a close, things seem to be running smoothly.

Mechanic’s Exams went well and the second semester will be starting soon.

I have been beating the drum in my Region about getting some continuing education classes going in each Local. Mechanics and apprentices that meet the requirements can attend these classes. It would be great to see these classes grow in the future as Elevator Constructors continue their reputation as the best educated and most qualified in the trades.

As always, a special thanks goes out to the Local Administrators and JACs for their hard work and dedication to our program.

Raymond McCann, Region 4, Midwest

Region 4 wishes to congratulate Joan Davlin on her retirement. Thank you Joan for your dedicated support over the years, may you enjoy all the fruits of your labor.

The implementation of the semester format has been received well, thanks to the dedicated staff that sought its success. There are no expected recruitments in the near future and recent audits all went well.

As always, to the staff, committees, and instructors, thank you. In closing, congratulations to those who successfully challenged this year’s Mechanic’s Exam. Well done!

David Aranda, Region 5, Southwest

Congratulations to all the elevator apprentices who earned the opportunity to challenge and pass NEIEP Mechanic’s Examination.

Mrs. Joan Davlin recently celebrated 25 years of employment at NEIEP and will officially retire in the coming few months. On behalf of my locals and myself, we have a great retirement.

Renee Sitton is the new Part-Time Administrator for Local 21. She was appointed at the beginning of the semester and has done an outstanding job for the local.

She is currently registering mechanics for continuing education classes. The following classes will be offered:

CE001 - DC Generators and Motors
CE004 - Microprocessor Based Control
CE005 - Solid State Motor Control

Local 31 Houston celebrated their 100th anniversary in October.

Local 140 recently participated in the 50th annual outstanding apprentice awards held by the Arizona Department of Commerce. Robert Boyle II was selected by the JAC and named Elevator Constructor Apprentice of the year. We are currently registering Mechanics for continuing education classes in Phoenix. Please contact Matt Johnson.

As the semester is coming to an end, I wanted to thank all Joint Apprenticeship Committees for doing a great job in setting up and assisting during the Mechanic’s Exams. Your dedication to the Apprenticeship Program is commendable and I know it is appreciated by your members.

I have received positive feedback about the fall semester format. Remember you can contact me directly, to answer any questions you may have. I want to wish everyone continued success in the Apprenticeship program and on their upcoming final exams. We all may not have equal talents, but remember we all have an equal opportunity to develop those talents.

Earl Baker, Region 6, Northwest

The Mechanic’s Examinations were held in my area: Salt Lake City, UT and Boise, ID during the week beginning on September 13, 2010; Milwaukee, WI on November 2, 2010 and Madison, WI on November 3, 2010; Omaha, NE on November 15, 2010 and Denver, CO on November 19, 2010. As of this writing, I haven’t administered the exams in Denver, CO and Omaha, NE, but the Salt Lake City, UT, Boise, ID, Milwaukee, WI and Madison, WI locations did very well on the exam. Congratulations to all the apprentices who were successful on their Mechanic’s Exam.

I heard Joan Davlin is going to retire. I have been working with Joan since August 2002. Joan has always been kind and a pleasure to work with. I will miss her. Happy retirement Joan!

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thaddeus Tomei, Region 7, Hawaii and Pacific Islands

Happy retirement to NEIEP Administrative Assistant Joan Davlin from NEIEP Local 126 JAC members.

We are completing our few apprenticeship classes for the fall semester in December 2010. While the employment outlook for 2011 is dismal, we need to fill our classrooms by having mechanics come to class. We are now currently teaching Continuing Education classes for our mechanics and the classes have been well received.

Classes such as welding, sequence of operations, and troubleshooting of various types of controllers have been requested by mechanics and are being developed and taught by our top-notch adjustors. We are striving to have “hands-on” training for mechanics who were not given the opportunity to work in the service/repair sector of our industry.

Remember, as our wage and benefits rise, we need to be able to meet the demands and expectations of our peers to protect this unique industry to make it become a career and not a job.

Roy Francesconi, Region 8, Northern California, Oregon, Utah

The Mechanic’s Examinations for Local 8 were held in September. Forty-eight Apprentices passed the exam giving an overall pass rate of 77.42%. Congratulations to all of the new Mechanics. The semester system is working well in the region with 94 students enrolled and attending. Seventy-five of the students are enrolled in Semester 600. Work is still slow in our area with no end in sight.

Local 8 has started a flooring class and has completed a welding school with six welding stations. Presently three of our welding instructors are attending a course to become certified welding inspectors. Classes are running two days a week but we’ll be increasing the number of days in the future.

The construction of two classrooms for NEIEP use has been completed. One remote site was closed and now all of the classes will be held at Local 8.

As always, I would like to end the year by thanking all of the Instructors for giving us another successful school year, and to Lindell, Tracey, and the rest of the NEIEP staff for all of the help in keeping the Region 8 area afloat and running.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all.

Ed Lackey, Region 9, Southern California, Nevada

Nothing much has changed, very few have been hired. The year is coming to an end and I am trying to catch up on all the loose ends. Two classes will start in the spring semester for failed mechanics in addition to those already planned. Mechanic continuing education is going well and the feedback is great.

To all, Happy Holidays and have a very good New Year.

Ron McKay, Region 10, Great Lakes

Greetings from the Great Lakes Region 10!

Mechanic’s Exams were completed late in October for Region 10. The pass rate was excellent this year. There is a direct correlation between the students who have been successful in passing the Mechanic’s Exam and those students who were enrolled in the Mechanic’s Exam Review course or other online study programs. If you are struggling with, or are concerned about passing this exam, help yourself by not only studying at home, but also actively engaging with others in a classroom environment. Also, do not forget about the wealth of online study support available on the NEIEP website.

There are no new recruitments scheduled in the near future for Ohio and Michigan. Those Locals with expiring 2-year lists are asking for extensions.

The fall semester has been progressing very well in this area. Part of the reason is due to a smaller enrollment, but another reason seems to be acceptance of the new
format. When the new system debuted in August, there were some complaints as there usually are with any change. Those complaints have been considered by NEIEP and either addressed, or reasons for the policies were explained. I look forward to a successful school season for the students, instructors and local committees. Everyone has a part in this program, and if we do our part, the industry will be better for it.

On behalf of the five Ohio Locals, I would like to congratulate Joan Davlin on her retirement. Our collective thanks go out to Joan for her years of service to our apprenticeship program. We have kept Joan busy through the years and she has never let us down. Joan’s persistence to ensure accuracy in paperwork has been unwavering. Joan’s diligence has helped to keep all of the committees, instructors, students and this Area Coordinator on track at all times with the required forms. We will all miss hearing Joan’s calming voice and informed advice.

Thanks Joan, we hope you have many happy years of retirement!

L. Thomas Breindel, Region 11, SEC

I would like to congratulate all of the apprentices that worked so hard on passing the Mechanic’s Exam. GOOD JOB TO ALL!!!

Thanks to all of the JAC members and instructors for their dedication to the program. The fall semester is near the end with the final in December. Good Luck.

In addition to the NEIEP Staff, thank you so much Kerri and Renee for your dedication and hard work. God bless you both.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Joan Davlin personally for all she has done for all of us over the years. What a well-deserved retirement, ENJOY!

God love ya, Joan!

P.S. When you get situated, call with your cell number and I’ll keep you in the loop!

Edward Krull, Region 12, New England

Region 12 has enjoyed a very successful Mechanic’s Exam season with wonderful passing rates, truly a tribute to our instructors and fine curriculum. The implementation Semester system seems to be a perfect fit for the NEIEP Apprenticeship from the curriculum layout to the class schedules, the entire system is being applauded by all.

Scaffold training is underway in most region 12 locals and the Brothers and Sisters are enjoying the challenge of this fine new certification program. Thank you Lester White and Jon Henson. We are currently scheduling Rigging and Hoisting informational seminars throughout the region. Courtesy of the Crosby Company, the entire region is eagerly looking forward to the arrival of the Welding Training Trailers.

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Tim Daly, Region 13, South Central

Greetings from Region 13

I want to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this year’s fall semester get started smoothly.

I think everyone agrees that this is a step in the right direction. The NEIEP program was designed to train our work force so don’t forget to use the continuing education. We all need to use the tools that we have to be the best trained and educated elevator constructors. Education is our edge so use what we have here at NEIEP. Log on, brush up, and use the tools that we have.

Frank Lopez, Region 14, Miami

I would like to wish everyone a warm welcome from sunny south Florida. I’d like to start by congratulating our new mechanics who successfully challenged this year’s Mechanic’s Exam. This school year started with a new semester format that everyone welcomed with open arms. They liked the idea of dividing the school year in half and having a final exam for each semester. Special thanks to everyone involved in turning an idea into a reality with the welding trailers. We are very lucky to have this mobile welding training facility, which is improving the experience of every elevator person who participates in this program. Everyone who enters this mobile welding training facility is amazed; they can’t believe how beautifully this trailer is set up. It’s great to see individuals who work hard for eight hours a day and are so excited to learn how to weld.

Thanks to NEIEP Area Coordinator Ed Krull whose hard work in making an empty trailer into a mobile welding training facility was amazing. This welding trailer was dedicated in memory of John Green who was very influential as a Vice President/Business Agent for Local One, Vice President of the International Union of Elevator Constructors and a Trustees Chairman for the National Elevator Industry Educational Program. I’d like to thank all the instructors, JAC members, Local union staff and NEIEP staff for their hard work and dedication to the program. A warm farewell to Joan Davlin who’s retiring. We will all miss you answering the phone and saying “Hello – welcome to NEIEP”.

Happy Holidays to all.

Sonny Yeatman, Region 15, Washington, DC

Region 15 is progressing smoothly with the new semester format. Congratulations to the new 78 mechanics of Local 10. Local 10 had its highest pass rate in recent years of the Mechanic’s Exam. Thanks to the instructors for their hard work and preparation for class; the pass rate on the Mechanic’s Exam is a direct reflection of that work.

Bailey Dowdy, Region 17, Dominion

Hey There from Region 17

Things haven’t changed. Work is hard to find these days; I hope everyone who can will consider taking a Continuing Education Course and make yourself more valuable to your employer. These courses can be taken online or you can ask your JAC to build a class site with an instructor. There are quite a few courses to choose from. Go online at neep.org and see what we at NEIEP have to offer.

I would like to say congratulations to the students in Locals 51 and 52 who were successful on their Mechanic’s Exam held in September. As of this writing, Locals 20, 34, and 48 have not taken the exam. I wish them the best of luck even though I know they have studied and will do just fine.

Hope everyone and their families have safe and happy holidays.

Kris

Arthur Rodgers, Region 19, Philadelphia, PA and Baltimore, MD

Greetings from Region 19.

Local 7 Baltimore, MD is running classes four (4) nights a week; one Course 300, two Course 500s and two Course 600s with forty-five (45) apprentices attending school. Local 7’s Mechanic’s Exam was given on September 21, 2010. Thirty-two (32) apprentices were eligible to sit for the exam. Twenty-eight (28) showed up and eleven (11) passed. Congratulations to those eleven (11) new mechanics and thank you to the RVMX instructor for his hard work and dedication.

The Local 7 JAC collected seventy (70) applications for the welding trailer from its membership. Local 7’s members understand the value of this certification on an individual and local level as regards to protecting their Article IV work.

Local 5 Philadelphia, PA is running six Course 600s, and four Course 700s three nights a week with eighty (80) apprentices attending school.

Local 5’s Mechanic’s Exam was given on November 1, 2010. Fifty-three (53) apprentices were eligible to sit for the exam. Thirty-six (36) showed up and thirty-one (31) passed. Congratulations to these thirty-one (31) new mechanics and thank you to the three (3) RVMX instructors for their hard work and dedication.

The work situation is still bleak in both Locals at this time. There is very little new work on the horizon to get our unemployed brothers and sisters back to work. I hope that the next edition of the Conduit can be more upbeat from Region 19.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving with their families and as 2010 ends, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Dan Larzalere, Region 20, Las Vegas, NV and San Diego, CA

Greetings from Region 20.

Where has the year gone? We will be sitting for final exams followed quickly by Christmas and New Years, and then we start the process all over again.

Here in local 18 the work picture is not too good now as we have 600 members unemployed. One of the bright spots is that we have one of the welding trailers in San Diego. It arrived in late August and by this publication, we will have certified about 50 students. We also have other CE classes going. It’s nice getting some of the Mechanics that have been around for fifteen or twenty years back in the classroom, and we have received some positive feedback from them.

We held the Mechanic’s Exam in September. In Las Vegas, 31 sat for the exam and 25 passed for an 80% pass rate. In San Diego, we sat 36 and 32 passed for a 90% pass rate. I would like to take this time to congratulate all our new mechanics.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless

Scott McGinty, Region 21, North, Northwest

Greetings from the Pacific Northwest. Not too much to report about as far as work picking up, but the students who are working and attending class are performing well. The semester format is a step in the right direction based on the input that I have received from committee members, instructors, and students. Locals 19 and 23 performed well on the Mechanic’s Exam, with a combined average of 93% passing. Many thanks to the instructors in both locals for their dedication to the program. Keep up the good work.

Congratulations and best wishes for many happy and healthy years on a well deserved retirement to Joan Davlin. The members of Region 21 thank you for all that you have done for NEIEP.
Instructors who have completed the Advanced Train the Trainer Course are eligible to take the Instructor Professional Development Course. This 10-week asynchronous course is held completely online in order to accommodate instructors from across the country.

Course materials are provided in a web friendly format and are easily accessible at any time of day or night, making the completion of the course flexible to fit each instructor’s changing schedules and demands.

The course is a mixture of discussion, self-reflection, and exploration based on various videos, podcasts, and readings presented each week. This results in a highly engaging learning environment that the instructors themselves create with the assistance of a course facilitator.

The course will run from February through April. In January, instructors will see an announcement on their NEIEP home page stating that registration for the course is open. There will also be a NEIEPcast available at the same time providing further details on the course.

Please direct any questions to Linda DuBois ldubois@neiep.org ext. 6121 or Jon Henson jhenson@neiep.org ext. 6115.

W-2s FOR INSTRUCTORS

Forms W-2 for 2010 will be mailed by January 31, 2011, to NEIEP instructors who were paid during 2010. Forms 1099-MISC will be mailed by January 31, 2011, to anyone who received non-employee compensation from NEIEP of $600 or more during 2010. Non-employee compensation includes independent contractor fees and lost wages.

If you have moved and have not reported your change of address to NEIEP, please contact Jan at extension 6112 to ensure your tax form is sent to the correct address.

If you are expecting a W-2 or a 1099-MISC and do not receive one from NEIEP by the second week of February 2011, please contact Jan at extension 6112 to inquire about your tax form.

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