TAILGATING

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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

By Dave George - Business Manager

Another year, which brought about many changes, is about to come to a close

First, after a very long, contentious and unusual political season, we now have a new President of the United States and many other politicians in Federal, State and Local races. Donald J. Trump will take over as our new President in January of 2017. This is the first non-politician in modern times to be elected to the office of the President of the United States. Either way you may have voted, this will be OUR President for the next four

years. Hopefully, good things for working men and women will come from the newly elected President, Federal, State and Local politicians. Keep your fingers crossed.

Newly revised Labor Agreements were negotiated and ratified by the membership at Utility Lines Construction Services, Alliant Energy DDC, and Prairie Energy.

Continuing the negotiating process yet this year, as of this writing, is the first Labor Agreement for the Cedar County Deputies.

Also this year our membership has grown to 1440 to 1450 members. This fluctuates from month to month depending on new hires, retirements, etc.

During this holiday season, we all need to look back over the past year and realize all of the things that we should be thankful for. We, as a group of Union Brothers and Sisters, are very fortunate in

all that we have and all that we receive through our respective Labor Agreements. Many others in our communities are not so fortunate. This is the season of giving, so give back and try to do something nice for others that may not be as well off as you. The feeling that you will get from helping someone out is like no other.

On behalf of myself and the rest of the staff at IBEW Local 204, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

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January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
New Years Day	2	3	Union Meeting Creston 6:30 PM	5	6	7
8	9	10	Union Meeting Osceola 6:30 PM	12	13	14
15	Martin Luther King Day	17	Union Meeting Cedar Rapids 6:30 PM	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Executive Board	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Union Meeting Mason City 6:30 PM	2 Groundhog Day	3	4
5	6	7	Union Meeting Ottumwa 6:30 PM	9	10	11
12	13	Valentine's Day	Union Meeting Dubuque 6:30 PM	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day	21	Union Meeting DAEC 3:00 PM	Executive Board	24	25
26	27	28				

Messages From The Executive Board

Get Involved and Vote!

Isn't it nice to have the elections behind us? Personally, I don't think either party has the best interest of the working class at heart. Anyway, with voting in mind, I'd like to remind members that the large unit 204 contract expires in the fall of 2017. I'd like to urge all members to get involved and attend unit meetings. At contract time, the hall asks its members for suggestions for contract proposals. Start thinking of contract proposals and or possible contract language changes that you would like to see now. Start a list and write them down so when the appropriate time comes you'll have them. Remember, it's those proposals with the most interest that make the list. Exchange ideas with fellow brothers/sisters. If you have a proposal or suggestion, get as many brothers/sisters as you can to send that same proposal in. Again, those proposals with the most interest make the list to be sent out to the membership to see which ones the negotiating committee takes in. When thinking of proposals, put some serious thought and effort into it. I know it's hard for some of our members to do, but don't think of yourself, think of the group and or others.

Now here's the hard part, when the time comes, VOTE. Our local couldn't make it any easier. There is no reason what so ever that we don't have 100% participation. All you have to do is open the mailing envelope, mark an X on ballot , put said ballot in envelope, put ballot envelope in mailing envelope and put in mail. Pretty self explanatory and simple.

It never fails after a contract vote you hear everyone saying they don't understand how a contract passed when everyone voted NO. I'm here to tell you some individual's just plain lie. Having counted numerous contract votes, when the results are given, it is what it is.

Alliant continues to make money the way they are managed. I for one am tired of losing a little something every contract. There comes a time when this membership say's enough is enough and stands together. When our current contract expires, let's all stand together and get the best contract we can.

In Solidarity,

Tim Boyle
At Large Executive Board Member

VOTE, You've Earned It!

2017 LOCAL 204 STEWARDS' SCHOOL MARCH 25, 2017

AT THE KIRKWOOD HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER A hospitality suite will be open to participants at 5:00 PM on Friday evening March 24th

OPEN TO ALL IBEW Local 204 Stewards and other members, if space is available

Note: Local 204 will pay mileage <u>OR</u> provide a hotel room (Friday night) if you live between 20 and 120 miles from Cedar Rapids. For those who live <u>MORE</u> than 120 miles from Cedar Rapids, Local 204 will provide a hotel room (Friday night) AND pay mileage. You must pre-register, since there are a limited number of spaces available.

Participants MUST make reservations to the Local 204 office at (800) 397-IBEW OR (319) 366-3434 BEFORE February 24, 2017



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Burlington Gas Department Foreman Mark De Perrot receives his 25 Year Watch from Business Manager Dave George. Mark works at Alliant Energy in the Burlington, Iowa Gas Department.



DDC Senior Resource Coordinator, Dave Bulman is presented with his Retirement Watch by Assistant Business Manager Matt Fischer. Dave worked for Alliant Energy in the DDC in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.