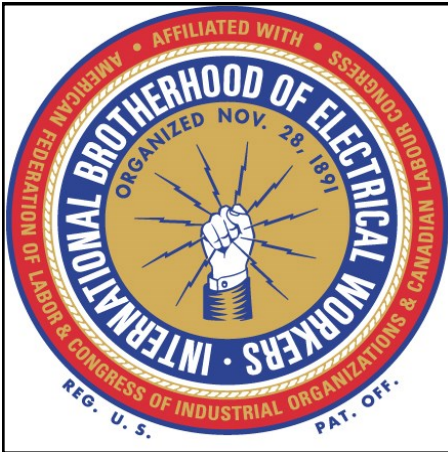


TAILGATING

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IBEW LOCAL 204

39th IBEW International Convention

First I would like to say thank you to all my brothers and sisters for giving me the opportunity to attend the 125th Anniversary and 39th International Convention in St. Louis, it was truly an honor to serve Local 204 as a delegate at this Convention and an experience I will not forget.

125 years ago in a St. Louis boarding room above a dance hall, what we now know as the IBEW was formed from 10 delegates representing 286 members. Due to Local 1's efforts and contributions from many Locals including Local 204 you can visit the Henry Miller Museum the site where it all started. Local 1 has done an impressive job displaying our history and preserving this site for future IBEW members to visit, this was one of my favorite activities on this trip and a place I recommend everyone visit. The Local 204 paver is displayed in the

courtyard next to the eternal flame. *(see page 5 of this issue of Tailgating)*

The Convention started Monday September 19th where 2000 Delegates from almost 700 locals representing 632,015 members, unanimously elected IBEW's 17th International President Lonnie R. Stephenson, International Secretary-Treasurer Salvatore "Sam" Chilia, and reelected Local 3 Business Manager Christopher Erikson as chairman of the International Executive Council. Throughout the week we would vote on various resolutions and changes to the constitution, where there was spirited debate on several subjects. We would hear from various speakers with a common theme to their stories, we need to continue fighting for equality, dignity, the right to organize, the need to speak with one voice, to remember our past as we fight to preserve our future. Although we were there to work we also took time out to have a little fun and meet new people. There was a picnic and a concert by the Steve Miller Band, and an entertainment night in Ball Park Village next to Busch Stadium. These were excellent opportunities to get to know people and enjoy yourself. The Convention concluded on Friday, September 23rd.

I want to thank you all again for sending me to St. Louis for the 39th International Convention we have come a long way in 125 years. I leave you with this thought and something I felt while among the almost 5000 IBEW delegates, guests and family members. If we all stick together there is nothing that we cannot accomplish. There is a reason we call each other brother and sister, we are a family, a group of people that is devoted to the betterment of all in the family. I am proud to call myself an IBEW member and even more proud to call you my brothers and sisters.

In Solidarity,

Rob Pitcher
Delegate to the 39th IBEW International Convention
Assistant Business Manager

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November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Area Meeting Spirit Lake 6:30 PM	3	4	5
6 Fall Back 	7	8 Election Day	9 Area Meeting Centerville 6:30 PM	10	11 Veterans Day	12
13	14	15	16 Area Meeting Iowa Falls 6:30 PM	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 EXECUTIVE BOARD	24  Thanksgiving Day	25 	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 Area Meeting Washington 6:30 PM	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Area Meeting Council Bluffs 6:30 PM	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 1st day of Winter Area Meeting Oelwein 6:30 PM	22 EXECUTIVE BOARD	23	24 Christmas Eve 
25 Christmas Day 	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve 

Messages From The Executive Board

"Practice What We Preach"

Recently we had an "all employee" conference call at Alliant Energy about the state of the company. Where "we" are at and where "we" are going. One of the main highlights of the call was about "giving back" to the communities we serve and live.

I believe a lot of us do that. By either volunteering our personal time of countless hours of work for a myriad of several different causes. Whether it be community groups, charities, food pantries, homeless shelters, church groups etc. etc.. I applaud and thank these many people and am proud to not only know them, but to work alongside many of them.

One of my community's many attractions is the Burlington Bees minor league baseball team, which not only provides great family entertainment of the great American pastime, but also "gives back" to our city by having an annual Iowa's Largest Community Basket raffle. Each year area non-profit organizations sell two dollar raffle tickets. For each ticket sold that the non-profit organization sells, they get to keep one dollar for themselves. For just two dollars you get a chance to win ten thousand dollars, plus thousands in other prizes and gift certificates. If you are present at the drawing and your number is picked you get an additional one thousand dollars from the "Friends of Community Field".

Tens of thousands of fans, supporters and Alliant Energy customers attend these games every year. When I attend, especially when my daughter was younger, she would point to the Alliant Energy sign on the outfield fence and say "look daddy that's the place where you work". This gave me great pride in knowing that the company I work for, along with many others, provided sponsor donations to help run this fine organization.

Recently I became disheartened when I learned my company no longer sponsors this great organization, nor is it going to support the Cedar Rapids Kernels, Clinton LumberKings or Wisconsin Timber Rattlers. But I am a little baffled as I just happened to call the Kernels and asked if "we" still sponsored them. "Sure do" was the response, then I called the LumberKings. Yep, the signs still up, still waiting on the Timber Rattlers to call me back.

As an interesting note, I'm sure many of you have seen the "Company" logo in the background during interviews with a coach and players from a Central Eastern Iowa College. In a town where we have no customers, but yet we "give back". Along with another college west of there, but hey at least we sell natural gas in that town. Many of these franchises rely on these donors to meet the bottom line. (God knows the players aren't getting rich!)

With that being said I still encourage my fellow employees to "give back". Who knows, maybe "we" can change our opinions on "giving back". Oh, and as a last note, the advertising fee for the Bees outfield fence was three hundred dollars, but don't quote me. Thank You. God bless America.

Jeff Denz
Executive Board
Area 8

IBEW "A" Membership Service Awards



Retiree James Allerdice from Fairfield, IA receives his 55-year Service Award from Business Manager Dave George



Business Manager Dave George presents a 50-year Service Award to retiree Keith McIntosh of Ottumwa, IA

IBEW Local 204 Granite Paver (24" X 24")

**This paver has been laid
in the courtyard of the
Henry Miller Museum in St.
Louis, Missouri.**

**The Henry Miller Museum
is the location of the
birthplace of the IBEW.**



Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993

Many of you may have not had to use the Family and Medical Leave Act, but those of us that have; we thank the Legislators and President that made this great bill become law. The FMLA act started out as H.R.1 introduced by Congressman William D. Ford (D-MI) on 1-5-93, the bill passed the House on 2-3-93, and was passed in the Senate on 2-4-93, and was signed into law by President Bill Clinton on 2-5-93.

The FMLA Act of 1993 is a federal law requiring covered employers to provide employees job protected, unpaid leave for qualified medical and family reasons. Eligible employees can take up to 12 work weeks of time off in any 12-month period to attend to the serious health condition of the employee, parent, spouse or child, or for pregnancy or care of a newborn child, or for adoption or foster care of a child. So no longer do you need to choose between losing your job, or taking care of a loved one.

And yes it is an election year, and yes politics does affect your life so here is a breakdown of how those original votes were tallied. In the House, 265 yes and 163 no, of those, 224 Democrats, 40 Republicans, and 1 Independent voted yes. The no's were 124 Republicans, and 29 Democrats. In the Senate, 71 yes, and 27 no, 57 Democrats and 14 Republicans voted yes. Of the no's there were 25 Republicans, and 2 Democrats. Our longtime Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley, sad to say, was one of those No's.

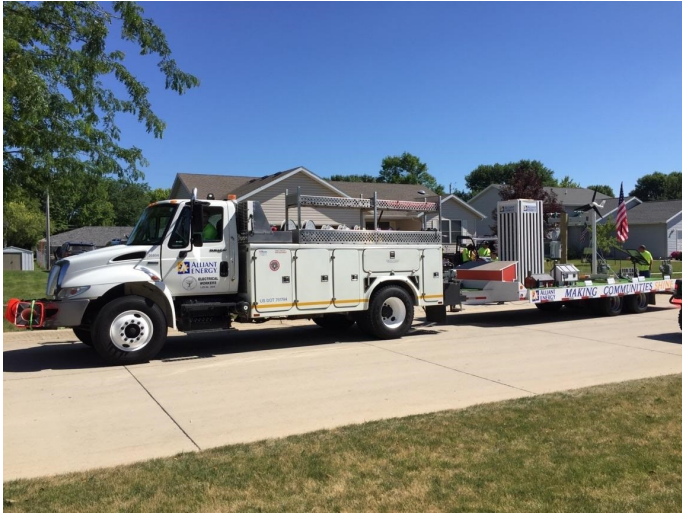
So brothers and sisters educate yourselves on what really matters for you and your family, look up the voting records of the people that want to make the laws that you will live under, and get out there and do your duty and vote this year!

In Solidarity,
Randy Drummer
Vice President, Local # 204

Participate In The Process, VOTE!

It's your right as an American!

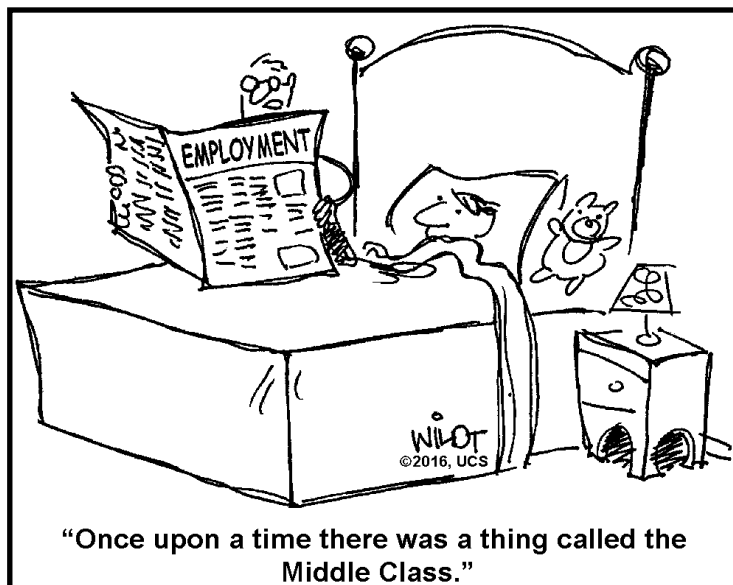
IBEW Local 204 members employed by Alliant Energy, and their families, participate in the Fourth of July Parade in Garner, Iowa



IBEW Local 204 members employed by Utility Lines Construction Services, and their families, take part in the Dubuque Labor Day Parade in Dubuque, Iowa



(more on page 8)



TAILGATING

IBEW, Local 204
4837 1st Ave SE, Ste 203
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-3226

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Dubuque Labor Day Parade

