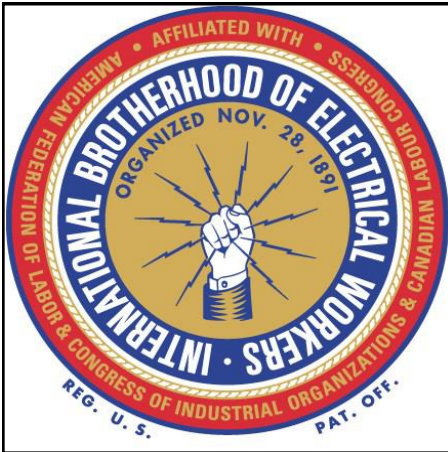


TAILGATING

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Volume 37 Issue 1



IBEW LOCAL 204

COPE CORNER COPE

What does that mean? COPE is an acronym that means, Committee On Political Education. So let's get started. First of all, none of your union dues go into our COPE fund. The COPE fund is a voluntary contribution from our members, and a BIG thank you to our members that do participate.

Secondly, what is your voluntary contribution used for? We send out questionnaires to people running for political office. These are the people "if elected" that will be making the laws that you will live under "like it or not." Many people do reply back to our surveys, and some do not. I guess that the ones, who do not reply back, could care less about Union workers. Oh; buy the way; if you are reading this, congratulations, you are a Union worker.

Thirdly, The candidates for office that support Union workers "hence all working people, because Unions raise the standard of living for all", we will try and help get elected with a contribution to their campaign, working phone banks, and knocking on doors of union members and encouraging them to vote.

So in a nut shell, that is what COPE is all about. So, if you would like to see elected officials that care about YOU " a Union worker" please talk to a COPE member, union steward or the union hall at (319) 366-3434 and ask to be signed up. We will be more than happy to help you.

In solidarity;
Randy Drummer

inside...

February Calendar	2
March Calendar	3
Messages from the E-Board	4
Local 204 Steward's School	5
IBEW Motorcycle Ride	6
DALMC Scholarship Grant	7
25-Year Watch	8

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> Union Meeting Mason City 6:30 PM	<i>2</i> Groundhog Day	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> Union Meeting Ottumwa 6:30 PM	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i> Valentine's Day	<i>15</i> Union Meeting Dubuque 6:30 PM	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> President's Day	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> Union Meeting DAEC 3:00 PM	<i>23</i> Executive Board	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>				

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> Union Meeting Ames 6:30 PM	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> Union Meeting Atlantic 6:30 PM	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> Start of Daylight Savings Time	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> Union Meeting Manchester 6:30 PM	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> St. Patrick's Day	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> First Day Of Spring	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> Union Meeting Grinnell 6:30 PM	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> Executive Board	<i>25</i> Steward's School
<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>	

Messages From The Executive Board

2016 has been a year full of negativity, especially since it was an election year – it is now coming to an end and we can now look forward to 2017 and hope that it is a safe and happy year. I would like to share a story about something positive.

“My name is Tyler Rosonke. I am a traveling lineman working out of Marshalltown and would like to talk to you about my experience at The International Lineman Rodeo held in Kansas City. This is my second year attending this event. Last year, I went as an apprentice and placed 150th out of 303 overall and had a blast!

This year, I gathered a team of three – all of us have been journeymen for less than a year each. We placed 27th out of 206 teams and 14th out of all investor-owned utilities. My teammates were Joe Tass working out of St. Ansgar and Kory Meyer working out of DeWitt. With the assistance of the Alliant Energy and IBEW Local 204, we had three teams participating, along with one apprentice. I would encourage more employees to attend in the future.

2016 J Man Events:

- 1st event – Hurt Man Rescue
- 2nd event – Speed Climb (egg in mouth)
- 3rd event – Vibration Damper Change Out with Hot Sticks
- 4th event – Transformer Change Out

2015 Apprentice Events:

- 1st event – Hurt Man Rescue
- 2nd event – Speed Climb
- 3rd event – Connector Change Out on Deadend
- 4th event – Three Splices (1-Crown Knot, 2-Short Splice, 3-Eye Splice)

If interested in attending, contact your manager. The dates for 2016 were October 13-17th. You really felt the brotherhood and craftsmanship of the other teams and the pride in the trade of being a lineman.”

Tyler Rosonke

One thing that concerns me is that every year we put in a great deal of overtime to complete projects.

I feel there is pressure placed on the foremen and crews. Managers talk about deadlines which conflicts with the speech Linda Mattes made during Safety Days and with our greensheets/tailboards.

I have expressed my concerns to my manager about rushing and sending more crews and contractors to finish projects by their deadlines. I told her that we are trying our best to complete them but, with short days and the cold weather, the jobs become much harder to finish. I expressed that mindset of having deadlines can lead to someone getting hurt or lack of communication between crews could also set up potential for bad situations.

We all need to stay focused on our jobs and to remember WE ARE OUR BROTHERS’ KEEPERS. Stay safe.

Happy New Year
Doug Kott, Area #1 Executive Board

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 OR provide a hotel room (Friday night) if you live between 20 and 120 miles from Cedar Rapids. For those who live MORE 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.**

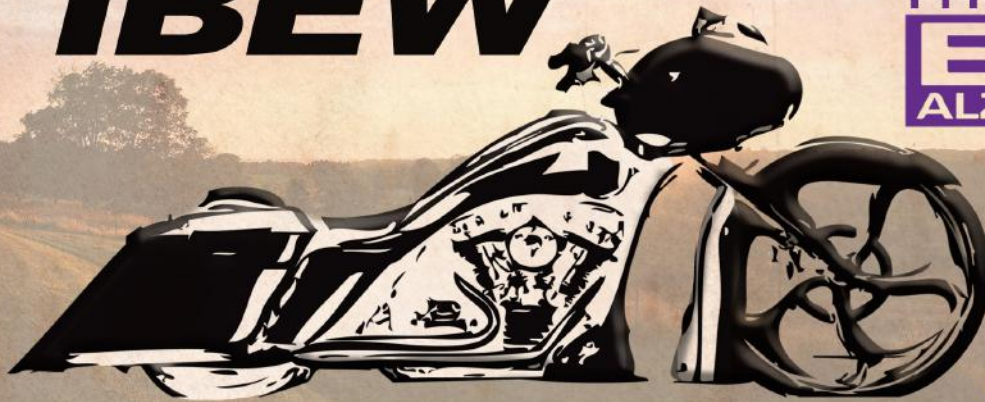
Participants MUST make
reservations to the Local 204 office
at (800) 397-IBEW OR (319) 366-
3434 BEFORE February 24, 2017

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2017 IBEW EAST COAST MOTORCYCLE RIDE

July 22, 2017

Canaan Valley Resorts Golf Course
Canaan Valley Resort State Park
230 Main Lodge RD
Davis, WV 26260

Registration:

Friday, July 21 at 1:00p.m.

Meet-&-Greet:

Friday, July 21 at 6:00p.m.

Free refreshments.

Registration:

Saturday, July 22 at 8:00a.m.

Open for 1 hour and will close promptly at 9:00a.m.

Saturday, July 22 at 9:30a.m. Riders meeting place to be announced.

Saturday, July 22 at 10:00a.m. Riders leave Canaan Valley Resort for the ride.

Saturday, July 22 at 6:30p.m. Gifts given out and buffet style dinner with free refreshments.

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Leroy Brown, a Line Mechanic for Alliant Energy in Centerville, IA, receives his 25-year watch from Business Manager Dave George