

TAILGATING

April 2021

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Unit Meeting Update

With the 2021 Officers and Executive Board Nominations coming to a close on April 30th, we are holding a Unit Meeting at the Hall where nominations will be read.

The meeting will be on May 5th at 5:30 at 1009 Longfellow Dr. Hiawatha, IA 52233.

Mask will be required and we are asking that you please RSVP to ssconyers@ibew204.org ASAP if you plan on attending as there is limited space available.

Thank you to all who have put in nominations for positions within the Local and good luck in your race!



Kennedy High School Cougar Electric Car



The Cougar Electric Car Company first race of the 2021 season, which was ran in West Point, Neb. on April 17th, went well. Competition in Nebraska was stiff, but the 985 car managed to snag a third place trophy in standard class endurance for running 47 laps in 90 minutes. During the heat, the 985 car was able to keep a steady pace with only one pit stop to fix an internal controller. Additionally, our 984 car got fourth place in advanced class endurance, despite a crash into a concrete pole and a thrown chain, while our newest car, the 983, received fourth place in standard class endurance. Special thanks to our sponsors at IBEW 204 for sponsoring the 985 car and supporting our program!



These are NOT the same Scholarships from February Tailgating



Dubuque Area Labor Management Council Scholarships

\$1,000 - Education Scholarship

\$1,000 - Skilled Trade Scholarship

Important Dates

Applications Available– April 12, 2021

Applications Deadline– May 14, 2021

Recipients Announced– June 11, 2021

Recognition Dinner– November 23, 2021

For a full list of Guidelines and Applications visit
www.dalmc.com or contact the Hall @ **(319) 366-3434**

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Lessons from Retirement

From our first day of our work career we all long for the day when we can retire. Well, mine came Nov. 1, 2020. I would like to share some things I learned along the way getting to this milestone.

Build a team of professionals - doctors, lawyers for wills and estates, friends, financial people, trusted advisors,, etc... Because as you progress in retirement you will need people you can trust and know they have your back. This will help with some of the stress as things come up.

Looking for help with the money end, know how they will be paid. You may want to find a CFP, certified financial planner. This will help in conflict of interest, a lot of people who say they are retirement planners are just insurance salesmen. So you really want to make sure they have your best interest in mind. You will need to build a tax strategy, and many other plans, so you can enjoy the fruits of your labors. Always remember no one cares about your money more than you.

First start early putting away money in your 401K for that day, make sure you are getting all the company match. Goal of getting to the max of what you can put in your 401K. If you are on the other end and getting close to retirement, like in 10 years or so, start looking at all the questions you need to understand and have answers for. Like: do you have nursing home insurance or can you even get it? Lump sum or monthly, if monthly what percentage? When do I start Social Security and why? How will insurance work? This is just a start to all the questions that you will want to answer.

Understand our health insurance, we have the mantra of “what ever contract you retire under you can keep making payment as a current employee”. It is true, unless your spouse is older than you and is already 65 or beyond. As an employee you can cover them as a retiree, no, they will be kicked off your insurance and need to go Medicare. SO YOU NEED TO START TO INVESTIGATE HOW MEDICARE WORKS. You will definitely want help

Look into VIA health, it is an account that will be open for you when you turn 65. It helps to cover supplement insurance you will need on Medicare. I'm still sorting this one out. So look into the rules on it.

This brings me to another thought, you may want to hang onto your company badge, so you can have access to company computers. Once you turn in your badge it gets real quiet, you have no access to company e-mail or bulletins. There is a space between retirement and working, for me it was about 2 months. So if you give up your badge make sure you have someone who will let you know if things change. For example for me days after I turned in my badge the company quit Virgin Pulse. If someone wouldn't let me know to get my money out I would have lost \$800. I still have-not received any communication on that.

Last thing talk to people who have retired and ask questions they are a great resource of knowledge and listen. Couple books I used were, “Personal Finance after 50 for Dummies”, “Back to Basics Retirement Planning” by Eric Tyson at Barnes and Noble, “The Ultimate Retirement Guide For 50+” by Suze Orman. There are tons of them out books on this subject, just become a student again. I just want to thank everyone for helping me get to this milestone with all my fingers and toes and in good health. THANK YOU !!!

Thanks Gary
Thompson Substation CROP

May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 <u>Unit Meeting</u> <u>Cedar Rapids</u>	6	7	8
9 <u>Mother's</u> <u>Day</u>	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 <u>Executive</u> <u>Board</u>	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 <u>Memorial</u> <u>Day</u>					

Local 204 and COVID-19 Update

The office is staffed but will be available by appointment only. We can be reached by the contact information below:

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