

The **Bulletin**



Publication of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

Volume 76, Number 1

January - February 2022

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

GENESEO FIRE DEPARTMENT DONATES TO IFA



**Geneseo Fire Department presenting a \$10,000 check to the IFA.
They held a 911 stair climb event AND proceeds went to the IFA**

The Bulletin is published digitally every other month and placed online at www.illinoisfirefighters.org.

Please send email addresses and articles to:

The Bulletin

Kerry Federer, Editor

PO Box 77

Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Office 618-882-4783

Fax 618-882-7287

Cell 618-830-3961

editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

www.illinoisfirefighters.org

Bulletin Deadlines:

**January 15, March 15, May 15, July 15,
September 15, and November 15**

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IFA Officers, Directors, Support Staff and Consultants

Officers

President (2022)

John Swan
23288 Green River Rd.
Colona, IL 61241
309.792.3231-station
309.792.3250-fax (station)
309.314.0939-cell
john.swan@colonafire.com

Vice-President (2022)

Terry Ford
6404 Godfrey Rd
Godfrey, IL 62035
618.977.2843-cell
tford9@yahoo.com

Secretary/Treasurer (2023)

Kerry Federer
70 Arbor Crest Dr.
Highland, IL 62249-3899
618.654.3852-home
618.830.3961-cell
kdfederer@gmail.com

IFA Office

PO Box 77
Glen Carbon, IL 62034
Phone 618-882-4783
Fax 618-882-7287
editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

Directors

Roger Agpawa (2022)
16629 Plainview Dr
Markham IL 60426
708-210-1320
ragpawa@countryclubhills.org

Ed Allsman (2024)
1314 Gonterman St
South Roxana, IL 62087
618.781.4630-cell
618.254.1088-station
618.254.8802-fax (station)
callsman@srfire.org

Mitch Althoff (2023)
415 W Kentucky Ave
Effingham IL 62401
217-821-1754
mitchalthoff@yahoo.com

Jeff Bryant Sr. (2025)
PO Box 165
Amboy, IL 61310
815.994.6184-cell
jbryant9962@gmail.com

Joe Heim (2025)
341 Gramercy Street
East Dubuque, IL 61025
563.599.3356-cell
edfire18@yahoo.com

Rosemarie Arvia-Malone (2024)
16056 Crystal Creek Dr
Apt 3A
Orland Park IL 60462
708.600.9896
raarvia@yahoo.com

Joseph Mandarino (2025)
24403 Arrowhead Dr.
Manhattan, IL 60442
815.680.6020 home
708.935.2893-cell
Corky2700@aol.com

Curtis Miller (2023)
3011 Dalmation Rd
Pinckneyville IL 62274
618.237.0900-cell
pvfire19@gmail.com

Ronald Mulach (2022)
304 Wolf
P.O. Box 26
Hamel, IL 62046
618.633.2376-home/fax
618.973.5871-cell
samrjm10@aol.com

Edward Myers (2023)
2171 E. 221st Street
Sauk Village, IL 60411
708.983.9102-cell
708.758.2225 xt. 430-work
708.753.0901-work fax
acmyers502@comcast.net

Bill Offerman (2024)
600 Beattie St.
Elwood, IL 60421
815.423.6967-home
815.423.5224-station
815.423.6323-fax
Chief.offerman@elwoodfpd.com

Robert Reason (2022)
55 North Street
East Peoria, IL 61611
309.265.6472-cell
309.699.5252-fax
breason@sbcglobal.net

Kevin Schott (2023)
1710 N Harrison
Litchfield, IL 62056
217.971.8196-cell
kschott316@gmail.com

Jeff Stuck (2025)
1002 Jeffrey Dr
Carterville, IL 62918
618.925.4915-cell
stuck915@hotmail.com

Support Staff and Consultants

Chaplain

Chaplain Josh Ehrler
157 Century Hill Dr
Oregon IL 60101
608-234-3793
prjoshehrler@gmail.com

Legislative Lobbyist

Margaret Vaughn
9211 Waterfall Glen Blvd.
Darien, IL 60561
217.280.0206-cell
630.908.7311-fax
mvaughn@springnet1.com

Attorney

Shawn Flaherty
OBKCG&D, LTD
303 N. Main St.
Elburn, IL 60119
630.365.6441 Phone
630.365.6451 Fax
sflaherty@ottosenbritz.com
www.ottosenbritz.com

Mission Statement

Dedicated to the advancement of the Fire Service by providing leadership. The Illinois Firefighters Association will proudly support the health and welfare of the community of firefighters in Illinois through education, training, benefits and information networking at the local, state and national levels.

President's Message



Dear Fellow Firefighters

I would like to start with what Firefighters always seem to bring up during any type of critique after an incident or a executed planned event. One of the most often topics brought up is communications, either the lack of or too much communications. I think most of the communications can be mitigated through pre planning and training before an event takes place. Everyone must be on board with an understanding that you are working in a team operation and gearing for a ever changing environment. This could be at social events, working in the station house, or at an emergency where overall safety takes priority. The complete understanding of the command system and the responsibilities in each position is essential from the Fire Chief down to the boots on the ground. There must be line of communications going in both directions from top down and the bottom up. Once the event takes place, there will be a better understanding of things that are trying to be accomplished. At any emergency scene, it has the potential to be changing in the operating environment and everyone must have the knowledge and skills necessary to mitigate any life threatening situation. Listening is just as important as communicating and acknowledging the orders that are given. In the Fire house, you may ask, why is communications that important? Missing out on training and other events does not put everyone on the same page. It divides the Firefighter of the knowledge they need to be a team player. It is especially important in a volunteer department where communication is vital when everyone may not meet on a regular basis. You can set up the means of getting that communications and put the responsibility right back on the individual Firefighter or on the Fire Chief. In our department, each firefighter has their own mailbox for dissemination of communications. We also have a bulletin board for training, all the training must be posted at least 30 days prior to give Firefighters due notice. Everyone should know their regular training dates and be expected to adhere to their departments training protocols. I personally post all outside training events available for our Firefighters to attend. One of our biggest assets for communications is the I AM RESPONDING program that is available to your department. There are also a few other programs similar to this one out there that may be just as good. I highly advocate using these types of assets. We have come along way in communications and, with social media sources, there should be no reason not to be informed.

Leadership is the key word now to make things happen. With the aging of the fire service, many of the seniors in the leadership may not be as fluent with the mechanics of operating in the social media world. This does not mean their knowledge, experiences and skills are inferior to your level. That's where leadership across the board comes into play as a team member. The Fire Service is changing fast in the ways communications is being disseminated. The young Firefighters are adapting faster to those growing changes. You should be helping your department with those changes that will lead you to the forefront bringing everyone on board together.

Our IFSI Director Keiken has been doing monthly updates which has been a great asset in keeping us all informed about your Fire Academy. With social media sources and on-line programs available, Firefighters should have very little reason to not take training. Time, along with work and family commitments, can now be adjusted to get that training. With this type of on-line training, Basic Operation Firefighter (BOF) is being conducted around this state. Our State Fire Marshal has made that BOF training available through a grant from his Office. He knows that Firefighter safety is paramount so all Firefighters can come home after the call. There is no where around this nation I know that has as much training available to us in all the different forms. Cornerstone has been our foundation for all of us to build on where in house training may have some limitations. It's up to YOU to meet the challenge of being properly trained. The Illinois Firefighters Association will be right at your side assisting where we can. We have lost far to many Firefighters already and just one saved through training is money well spent. We may never know the amount of Firefighters or the public that has been saved through training, but we know one big thing, without proper training more would perish !

“Train Smart, Be Safe”

God Bless

John Swan President IFA



Legislative update

By Margaret Vaughn, IFA Legislative Lobbyist

2022 Legislative Spring Sessions Begins Early

The House Speaker and Senate President had an aggressive legislative calendar set 2022 ready to hit the ground running on January 4 and be in session just about every week through April 8th. It turns out COVID had different plans and the legislature only met one day during the first two weeks in January and hearings will continue to be held remotely and no in-person days are scheduled until further notice. Technically the legislature has until May 31st to finalize a budget before a super majority of votes are needed but the legislative leaders wanted to let their members get out in early April in hopes of giving them additional time to be better acquainted and campaign in their newly drawn legislative districts leading up to the June 28th primary this year.

The bill introduction deadline is January 21st in the Senate and January 28th in the House. Below is a list of bills introduced so far, impacting the fire service.

HB 4328 - INCOME TAX-VOLUNTEER FIRE-EMS – SUPPORT

House Sponsors: Rep. Thomas M. Bennett and Will Guzzardi. Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Provides that each individual who serves as a volunteer firefighter or a volunteer EMS provider during the taxable year is entitled to a credit in an amount equal to \$500. Effective immediately.

HB 4346 –INCOME TAX CREDIT-VOLUNTR FIREFIGHTER – SUPPORT

House Sponsors: Rep. Amy Elik. Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Creates a tax credit for individual taxpayers who were members in good standing of a volunteer fire department for at least 6 months during the taxable year. Provides that the amount of the credit is \$1,000. Provides that the credit may not be carried forward or back and may not reduce the taxpayer's liability to less than zero. Exempts the credit from the Act's sunset requirements. Effective immediately.

HB 4353- EMERGENCY WORKER TRAINING

House Sponsors: Rep. Frances Ann Hurley, Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the First Responders Suicide Prevention Act. Provides that emergency services providers and law enforcement agencies shall provide training and ongoing education to personnel on psychological fitness, depressive disorders, early detection techniques, sleep, nutrition, and substance abuse and post-traumatic stress disorders. Provides that this training shall be incorporated into reoccurring annual or biannual training. Provides that emergency services providers may seek sponsorships, grants, gifts, or other private donations to support and enhance that training. Amends the Illinois State Police Law of the Civil Administrative Code of Illinois and the Illinois Police Training Act. Provides that this training may also include training for police officers on psychological fitness, depressive disorders, early detection techniques, sleep, nutrition, and relief from firearms prohibitions under the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act and the Uniform Peace Officers' Disciplinary Act.

HB 4395 - FIRE DEPT CONTRACTOR LOGOS – OPPOSE

House Sponsors: Rep. Lawrence Walsh, Jr. Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the Counties Code, the Township Code, the Illinois Municipal Code, and the Fire Protection District Act. Provides that a nongovernmental entity with which a county, township, municipality, or fire protection district contracts to furnish fire protection services that displays a logo of the unit of local government on the entity's vehicles or uniform shall conspicuously display on all vehicles and uniforms a disclosure with specified information. Defines "vehicle". Provides that a violation is a business offense with a \$1,000 fine per occurrence. Limits home rule powers. Effective immediately.

HB 4461- FIRE DIST-DISCONNECT PAYMENTS – SUPPORT

House Sponsors: Rep. Lawrence Walsh, Jr. Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the Fire Protection District Act. In provisions relating to amounts a municipality must pay to a fire protection district after disconnection of district territory, provides that a municipality that does not timely make the payment required and which refuses to make such payment within 30 days

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following a written demand by the fire protection district entitled to the payment or which causes a fire protection district to incur an expense in order to collect the amount to which it is entitled shall, in addition to the amount due, be responsible to reimburse the fire protection district for all costs incurred by the fire protection district in collecting the amount due, including, but not limited to, reasonable legal fees and court costs.

SB 2982 –FIREFIGHTER/EMS-NO VEH REG FEE – SUPPORT

Senate Sponsors: Sen. Win Stoller. Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that the standard registration fee for electric vehicles shall be waived for any vehicle owner who is a volunteer firefighter or emergency services personnel. Provides that the new provisions do not apply to the fee set forth for electric vehicles.

SB 3027 - INC TX-FIREFIGHTER-EMS – SUPPORT

Senate Sponsors: Sen. Christopher Belt. Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Creates an income tax credit in an amount equal to \$500 for individuals who serve as volunteer emergency workers for or on behalf of a volunteer fire protection association. Effective immediately.

SB 3039 - PYROTECHNICS-1.3G FIREWORKS – OPPOSE

Senate Sponsors: Sen. Thomas Cullerton. Synopsis As Introduced - Amends the Pyrotechnics Use Act. Provides that "consumer fireworks", "display fireworks", and "flame effect" do not include 1.3G fireworks.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS PRELIMINARY
EXPOSURE REDUCTION PROJECT**

 **IFSI
RESEARCH**  

**FREE DECON EQUIPMENT
IS NOW AVAILABLE TO
ILLINOIS
FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

**TO ORDER, VISIT:
FSI.ILLINOIS.EDU**



IFA has partnered with SAVVIK Buying Group to provide our members with access to equipment, supplies, apparel and even vehicles at group buying prices. We have sent SAVVIK a list of our members and their contact information and once SAVVIK has set up the list, our members will be receiving a notification like below. You will not be able to register your account until you receive this notice. The notice is being sent to the main contact the we have on file for our member departments.

If you do not receive your notification or if you are having problems creating your account, contact Secretary Treasurer at 618-830-3961 and he will assist you in setting up your SAVVIK account.

Once you are signed up with SAVVIK, there is another benefit for your members at SAVVIK Perks. SAVVIK Perks provides discounts for your members on entertainment, food, travel and many other personal discounts.

Illinois Firefighters Association- IFA Member

Welcome to the Savvik Buying Group!

Savvik Member # 28828

(Please note, the above Savvik member # 28828 is exclusive to the Association record only. Each member will have their own unique number. This is how we track vendor sales for revenue share back to the Association.)

Savvik Membership:

Your agency is a new member of the Savvik Buying Group through the IFA. This membership is FREE as a benefit from your association.

Savvik is a Public Safety GPO with over 13,000 agency members who have access to volume discount pricing on various products and services. Our vendor programs are competitively bid and publicly awarded. As a Savvik member you now have access to over 80+ vendor programs.

Savvik will give back 1/3 of your association sales revenue to the IFA

Member Login Instructions:

Go to <https://savvik.com>

Click on LOGIN, follow the instructions to set up your personal username and password.

About SAVVIK Buying Group

Our Beginnings

The Savvik Buying Group, formally known as the North Central EMS Corporation, is a non-profit organization owned by its members and formed to reduce the financial impact of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 within the EMS industry. Our mission is to provide members with a mechanism to achieve cost reductions, which has evolved into a group-purchasing program. Savvik values quality supplies and equipment for the members, at the industry's best prices.

The phrase "at the industry's best prices" plays an even more important role today than in previous years as the Medicare Fee Schedule took effect on April 1, 2002. Ambulance services across the country have seen a drastic reduction in their Medicare reimbursements which accounts for up to 75% of their revenue. This drastic reduction in revenue decreases their capital budgets and curbs their purchases if not determine their entire existence.

Where We're Going

Membership is comprised of ambulance services, fire departments, first responder groups, police/sheriff departments, industrial emergency response teams, and other organizations related to the EMS industry. Savvik is proud to focus on membership nationwide. Our intent is to offer the Electronic Patient Care Reporting and Data Collection contract to all Savvik members regardless of their physical location.

An amazing result of our success was the formation of The Savvik Foundation in 2000. Savvik invests back into the industry! A portion of our excess revenues are returned to regional, state and national EMS associations as well as being donated to The Savvik Foundation so that it can complete its mission of leading industry efforts in such areas as safety, efficient operations, education, research and national consensus building.

We're dedicated to improving the general wellbeing of the public safety industry as a whole. Our effectiveness increases with commitments from our vendor partners to provide Savvik members with quality products and services at the industry's best prices.

Savvik has enjoyed significant growth over the last few years by developing partnerships (including revenue sharing relationships) with regional, state and national EMS associations. Savvik has fifty-one group affiliates that include membership to the Savvik Buying Group as part of their group dues structure. The associations that participate in our group membership program receive quarterly reports and payments from our office. Payments reflect a portion of the contract management fee of the total sales their members purchased from our vendors.

Membership Includes:

Access to National Public Bids – you can piggyback for free!

Large vendor contracts – save time and money!

Online marketplace – 5.11 Gear at the lowest prices!

Individual savings programs – benefits you can share with everyone in your agency

All of this for FREE!

If you have not received your registration email from SAVVIK, contact Secretary/Treasurer Kerry Federer at 618-882-4783 or by email at editor@illinoisfirefighters.org.

special PROJECT #2412:

ursa major

2000-GALLON TANKER



At Alexis Fire Equipment, if you can dream it, we can build it. Our quality custom-built fire apparatus are engineered specifically for each of our customers to enable them to fight the battles ahead in full capacity. Built to endure for optimal efficiency and safety, Alexis trucks are completely customer driven. From brush trucks and mini pumpers to tankers, pumpers and aerials, your needs are our commands.

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URSA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT URSA, ILLINOIS



FEATURES: FREIGHTLINER M2 106 CONVENTIONAL CHASSIS, HEAVY-DUTY 304 STAINLESS-STEEL BODY & SUB FRAME, INTERMEDIATE STAINLESS STEEL PUMP MODULE, DARLEY PSM 1500 GPM SPLIT SHAFT PUMP, FRC PUMP BOSS PRESSURE GOVERNOR, ROBINSON STATIN FINISH ROLL UP DOORS, 2000 GALLON POLY TANK, NEWTON STAINLESS STEEL SWIVEL DUMP WITH EXTENSION, WHELEN WARNING LIGHT PACKAGE, AND MORE.

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California Casualty
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Office of the State Fire Marshal



A message from Illinois State Fire Marshal Matt Perez,

I want to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year! As we put 2021 in the rearview mirror, the OSFM was proud to continue our dedication to the Illinois Fire Service by providing funding for training, equipment, and other needs during the pandemic. As we fast forward to 2022 our commitment remains the same. We are dedicated to helping to provide training to career and volunteer departments across the state so that the members of the Illinois Fire Service are the most well trained in the world.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues, and we are seeing a surge again in cases across the state and the country. I want to stress the importance of making sure you have an up-to-date continuity of operations plan (COOP) for your department. If you don't have

a plan or just want to refresh yours, there are resources available through MABAS and the Illinois Fire Service Institute that can help guide you through this process. These plans can help to reduce the strain on staffing issues and helps to set guidelines to follow when certain officers or staff are out due to illness or injury.

January is Firefighter Cancer Awareness Month. Cancer is the most dangerous and under-recognized threat to the health and safety of firefighters according to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network. It is also the leading cause of line-of-duty deaths. From 2015-2020, 75% of the fire fighters added to the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial died from occupational cancer. The importance of getting screened and doing your yearly physicals can't be stressed enough. Taking this time can help to spot something early, that if not found or treated, could lead to more serious issues in the future, or worse, loss of life. If we all work together to limit our exposures, get screened and improve our lifestyles, we will beat cancer and come out a healthier fire service community.

In 2019, the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI), the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), and State of Illinois Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) partnered in the creation of the State of Illinois Preliminary Exposure Reduction Training project. This joint venture was developed to deliver critical firefighter health and life safety research, education, training and basic equipment to fire departments across the state. The intent of the project is to provide departments with free basic equipment that can be used for preliminary exposure reduction (gross decontamination or decon) of personnel on incident response scenes, as well as training on how to use those tools. The recommended decon equipment includes common household items that are easily obtainable and fit into a space the size of a standard 5-gallon bucket. If your department hasn't completed this training and received your buckets, I highly encourage you to do so. There are still buckets left and this training is always good to review. You can find the training by visiting: <https://fsi.illinois.edu/decon/#!/index>.

The 2022 Medal of Honor Ceremony and The Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, May 10th at 10 AM in Springfield. If your department is interested in participating in the fire truck muster this year, please email Robin Sudduth at Robin.Sudduth@Illinois.gov.

Nominations for the Firefighting Medal of Honor is open through February, 1st and can be found by visiting our website at: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/FFMoHNominationForm.pdf#search=Firefighting%20Medal%20of%20Honor>. The Firefighting Medal of Honor Annual Award program established by Public Act 86-1230, will place emphasis and priority on the consideration of firefighters who have been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty and those who have displayed exceptional bravery or heroism while performing their duties as a firefighter.

The State Fire Marshal Life Safety Award is in recognition of the extraordinary efforts performed by individuals in furtherance of fire prevention and life safety. If you know someone who deserves this award you must fill out a nomination and submit the form to us. The form can be found on our website: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/SFMDocuments/Documents/NominationForm.pdf>.

Previous nominees will also be considered, so please resubmit those applications! Provide a brief summary of how this person/department has shown extraordinary efforts in the furtherance of fire prevention and life safety. (i.e. redeeming character, act of kindness, circumstance becoming, particular incident, etc.). The Nomination deadline is close of business on Tuesday, March 1st, 2022.

Nominations should be submitted to Robin.Sudduth@illinois.gov or, by regular mail,

Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal

Attn: Robin Sudduth

1035 Stevenson Drive

Springfield, Illinois 62703

All nominee names will be published in our agency newsletter and on our website.

Recipients will be presented the award during the Fire Fighting Medal of Honor ceremony in Springfield, Illinois on Tuesday, May 10th.

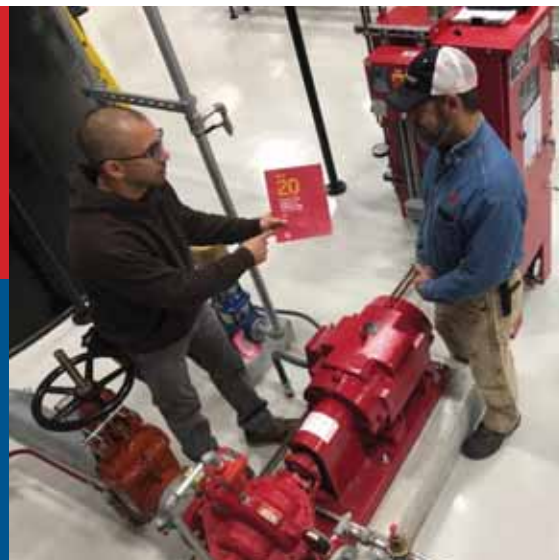


NORTHERN ILLINOIS FIRE
SPRINKLER INITIATIVE
NIFSI

NFPA 20 FIRE PUMP CLASS

presented by

Lockport Township Fire Protection District
Homer Township Fire Protection District
and Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Initiative



DATE:

MARCH 28TH, 2022

LOCATION:

**LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**
19623 W. Renwick Road, Crest Hill, IL 60441

SCHEDULE:

7:00AM CHECK-IN * Continental
breakfast provided

8:00AM CLASS STARTS

11:30AM LUNCH (PROVIDED)

12:30PM CLASS CONTINUES

4:30PM OVERVIEW

INSTRUCTOR: **DAVID LOWREY**

HOSTED BY:

LOCKPORT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
CHIEF JOHN O'CONNOR
DC DAVE BRICKER
CAPT ANDY FITZGERALD

CLASS INFORMATION

NIFSI is working with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to provide a one day certified fire pump class following NFPA 20 at no cost to fire officials. NFPA 20 Fire Pump handbooks will be provided to each participant. The class uses NFPA's curriculum, powerpoints and certification.

One Day Certified Fire Pump Class:

- Separate requirements for vertical and horizontal shaft centrifugal pumps
- Automated inspection listing requirements
- Mechanical seals requirements
- Maximum time to achieve design pressure

Learning Objectives:

- State the purpose of fire pumps
- Differentiate between fire pump types and applications
- List the requirements for fire pump performance
- Identify the requirements for the installation of fire pumps and peripheral equipment
- Identify requirements for fire pump enclosures
- Define critical terms and design considerations such as "balanced flow" and "unbalanced flow"

PREREQUISITES:

To qualify your municipality must have adopted a model code (ICC, IBC, IFC, NFPA, 1, NFPA 101, etc.), and engage a 3rd party management company for code compliance and/or actively enforce annual code requirements.

*Class is free and limited to the first 40 fire or building officials.



Sign Up / Contact:
Tom Lia, NIFSI
sprinktoml@aol.com
(708) 377-7754 or (844) 441-4443



NORTHERN ILLINOIS FIRE
SPRINKLER INITIATIVE
NIFSI
WWW.NIFSI.ORG



CLASS DATE:
MARCH 28TH, 2022

NFPA 20 FIRE PUMP CLASS

REGISTRATION FORM

FULL NAME:

ORGANIZATION NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

MODEL CODE ADOPTED:

NFPA 20 FIRE PUMP CLASS

INSTRUCTOR **DAVID LOWREY**

CLASS DATE

MARCH 28, 2022

LOCATION

LOCKPORT TOWNSHIP FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT
19623 W. RENWICK ROAD
CREST HILL, IL 60441



CLASS SCHEDULE:

7:00 AM **Check-In**
Continental breakfast provided

8:00 AM **Class Begins**

11:30 AM **Lunch Provided**

12:30 PM **Afternoon Class**

4:30 PM **Overview**

*** Participants receive 2022 Version of
NFPA 20 Handbook!**



Contact: Tom Lia, sprinktoml@aol.com
PHONE: (708) 377-7754; NIFSI, P.O. Box 370, Palos Heights, IL 60803

The Bulletin

Get your department involved with the Be Alarmed! smoke detector installation program to install 10-year battery smoke alarms in home in your community.

This program combines fire prevention education and action to help keep Illinois citizens safe.

Help make your community safer by becoming a partner for local smoke alarm installation today.

Details are available at: www.ifsa.org/programs/alarms



Illinois Fire Safety Alliance



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WITH AN ALCOHOL OR DRUG PROBLEM?



24-Hour Helpline | 877.505.4673 (HOPE) | GatewayFoundation.org

YOU'RE NOT ALONE

Almost half of adults have a close friend or family member who's been addicted to drugs.¹ Fortunately, there is help. Gateway Foundation has been the solution for those suffering from substance use disorder for over 50 years.

PERSONALIZED TREATMENT CLOSE TO HOME

We are committed to providing a variety of programs to meet the needs of our patients and families including:

- Residential/Inpatient Treatment
- Virtual Outpatient Treatment
- Adolescent Virtual Outpatient
- Withdrawal Management (Detox)
- Transitional Housing/Recovery Home
- Family Involvement & Support
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Being a firefighter or EMS provider is tough. Remember that you're not alone.

Most people are aware of the physical demands that emergency responders face. But it's important to realize the impact on your mental wellbeing, too.

Taking care of your mental health is just as important as managing your physical health. The National Volunteer Fire Council is here to help with resources to Share the Load.

Share the Load™ Program

nvfc.org/help

A program that provides access to critical resources and information to help emergency responders and their families manage and overcome personal and work-related behavioral health challenges.

Directory of Behavioral Health Professionals

nvfc.org/phfd

A listing of local providers who are equipped and ready to help emergency responders, rescue workers, dispatchers, and their families with their behavioral health needs.

Psychologically Healthy Fire Departments Toolkit

nvfc.org/phfd

A comprehensive toolkit designed to help fire department leaders promote and support mental wellbeing among their members and create a successful, high-performing department.





Chief Jeff Bryant Sr.

AMBOY FIRE DEPARTMENT

25 N. East Ave.

P.O. Box 165

Amboy, IL 61310

Phone (815) 857-2325 * Fax (815) 857-2066

BFFA and Amboy Fire Protection Hosts:

Staging a Comeback: How an Organization and Community Evolved After a Tragedy

April 8th, 2022 6pm with dinner

Chief Garrison will walk through the events of July 10, 2018, the loss of not a firefighter and its effect on the department and community. Garrison will discuss the resilience of his organization and their commitment to building a better model fire department and honor the sacrifice made that day.

Chief Garrison's professional fire service career spans over thirty years. Beginning as a volunteer Firefighter/Paramedic with the Libertyville Fire Department, Chief Garrison enjoyed a 21 year full-time career with the Lake Forest Fire Department retiring at the rank of Deputy Chief.

Chief Garrison led his community through the tragedy of a horrific gas main explosion which levelled a significant portion of Sun Prairie's downtown in 2018. This incident caused transformational change in both the department and the community and has caused unexpected ripples of change in every aspect of how the department exists requiring new thoughts, building new relationships, and active management to help the wider fire department community make it through.

NO COST for Attending: RSVP via email: jeffbryant@amboyfire.com

If you have any questions, please call me at 815-994-6184 or email me at jeffbryant@amboyfire.com

Respectfully,

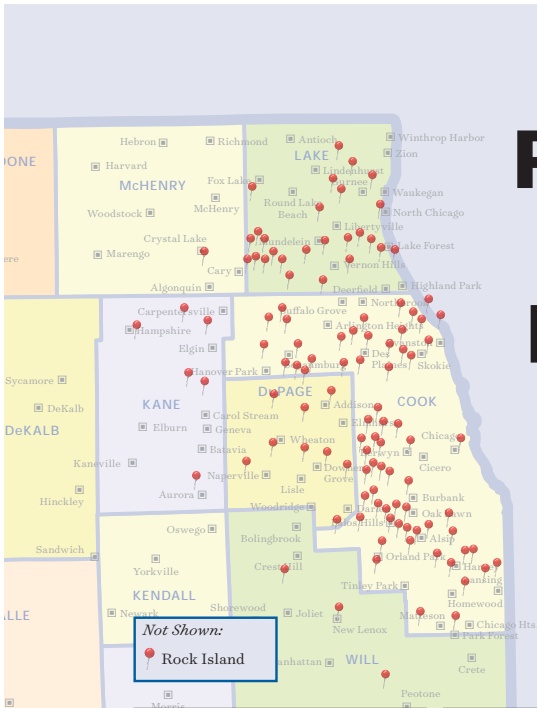
Jeff Bryant, Sr.

Jeff Bryant

Fire Chief

"Everyone Goes Home"

Our Mission is to protect lives and preserve the property of all citizens of Amboy, their guests, and travelers coming through our community, in the most professional, courteous and efficient manner possible.



Put Your Community on the Map with Home Fire Sprinklers

Join more than 110 fire-safe communities in Illinois that protect the lives of residents and firefighters with fire sprinklers in new homes.



Addison	Flossmoor	Lisle-Woodridge FPD	Pleasantview FPD
Alsip	Forest Park	Long Grove	Prospect Heights
Aurora	Glen Ellyn	Long Grove FPD	River Forest
Barrington	Glencoe	Manhattan FPD	Riverdale
Barrington Countryside FPD	Glenside FPD	Matteson	Riverside
Barrington FPD	Glenwood	Mount Prospect	Riverwoods
Bedford Park	Green Oaks	Mundelein	Rock Island
Bellwood	Gurnee	New Lenox FPD	Rolling Meadows
Berkeley	Hanover Park	Newport Township FPD	Roselle
Berwyn	Harwood Heights	Niles	Roselle FPD
Bloomingtondale	Hazel Crest	Norridge	Schaumburg
Bloomingtondale FPD	Hickory Hills	North Maine FPD	Skokie
Blue Island	Highland Park	Northbrook	South Holland
Bridgeview	Highwood	Norwood Park FPD	St. Charles
Brookfield	Hodgkins*	Oak Brook	Streamwood
Burlington Community FPD	Hoffman Estates	Oak Forest	Sunnycrest FPD (Flossmoor)
Carol Stream	Homewood	Oak Park	Vernon Hills
Central Stickney FPD	Huntley FPD	Orland FPD	Warren-Waukegan FPD
Chicago	Indian Creek (Countryside FPD)	Palatine	Wauconda FPD
Chicago Ridge	Justice	Palatine Rural FPD	West Dundee
Clarendon Hills	La Grange Park	Palos FPD	Westchester
Country Club Hills	Lake Barrington	Palos Heights FPD	Western Springs
Countryside	Lake Bluff	Palos Hills	Westmont
Countryside FPD	Lake Forest	Palos Park	Wheeling
Crestwood	Lake Zurich	Park Forest	Wilmette
Deerfield	Lake Zurich Rural FPD	Park Ridge	Wood Dale
Deerfield-Bannockburn FPD	Lansing	Plainfield FPD	
Des Plaines	Lemont FPD		
Elgin	Libertyville		
Elk Grove Village	Libertyville FPD		
Elmwood Park	Lincolnshire-Riverwoods FPD		
Evanston	Lincolnwood		

FPD – Fire Protection District

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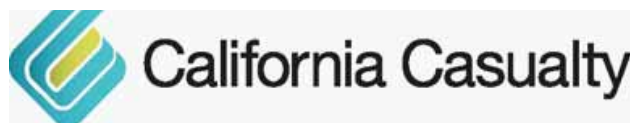
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New Year's Insurance Resolutions

Nearly 60% of Americans are underinsured or don't understand what is covered by their policies. Make sure you are properly covered going into the new year with these 6 New Year's insurance resolutions

1. Make sure you have the correct amount of auto coverage

Have your driving habits changed in the past year? Maybe you accepted a new job and your commute is longer or smaller, or you added a new driver to your policy. These life changes will all affect your insurance coverage and premium costs.

Making sure you have the right amount of auto coverage is crucial in case of an accident, so you don't have to end up paying the majority of your costs out of pocket. For example, make sure you have enough liability coverage on your current policy. If you cause an accident, you are responsible for damages (and if it is a serious accident loss of wages of the victim/their family). Liability coverage is used to pay for those damages that you caused.

Your insurance will only pay for the amount that you've designated for liability. The rest comes from your pocket, so don't skimp on this important coverage.

2. See if you qualify for any additional discounts

Did you know that if you have a teen driver they can take a driver's safety or education course to qualify for discounts on your auto insurance? You can also turn in their report card for a 'good student discount'.

You may qualify for insurance discounts for being part of the Illinois Firefighters Association. There are also discounts for being retired, for drivers turning 25, for paying via automatic bank payments, and for paying in full upfront. You may qualify for a new home discount, or a discount if you have updated your utilities (electrical, plumbing, heating, cooling) in an older home, or added a security system. There are also discounts for a new roof and an automatic sprinkler system. You can even be rewarded for being a loyal customer!

3. Create a home inventory checklist

A home inventory is a list of all of your possessions and their values. While creating one may sound like a waste of time, it's important to have an updated list of all of your possessions so that you can get fully compensated if there was a disaster like a fire or a tornado, or a burglary. Without a home inventory, you may have difficulty pinpointing all of your belongings and lose out on their value and it can even delay the claims process. Start fresh with all of your new belongings after the holidays and put the checklist in a safe space, in the event of an unexpected loss, you'll be glad you did.

4. Do you need additional coverage?

Did you know your home and/or renter's insurance doesn't include flood coverage? If you live in a flood-prone area you need to have Flood Insurance. The same goes for Earthquakes and Earthquake Insurance.

Do you have a pet that you love like a child of your own? While they will be covered if you are both in an accident in a covered vehicle thanks to Pet Injury Protection from California Casualty, make sure you will get reimbursed for any emergency surgeries, x-rays, labs, prescriptions, and more by adding Pet Insurance.

Need some extra coverage in case of an accident or disaster to ensure your family and belongings are safe? Ask your insurance agent if Umbrella Insurance or Scheduled Personal Property Coverage is right for you.

5. Know what benefits are available to you

At California Casualty we offer our insured exclusive benefits like:

- Affiliate Group Rates & Generous Discounts
- FREE ID Defense Resolution
- Summer or Holiday Skip Payment Options
- Reduced Deductible for Collision or Vandalism While Parked on or near the facility where you work or volunteer as a firefighter
- Personal Firearm Coverage & Fallen Hero Benefits – for First Responders

The Bulletin

- 24 x 7 Towing & Roadside Assistance
- \$1,000 Free Pet Injury Protection Coverage

6. Schedule your annual free policy review

When's the last time you took a look at your Insurance policy? Chances are if you haven't had an accident or a loss, it's probably been a while. And knowing more about your insurance could even save you money on your premiums. That's why it is recommended to speak to your insurance agent at least once a year for your annual policy review. They will answer all of your questions and make sure you have the correct amount of coverage. We know understanding your insurance coverage can be confusing, but we've got you covered! There is no better time to start getting the most out of your insurance protection than the new year. Call your California Casualty agent today, at **1.833.989.3597** or visit www.readyforquote.com/justine to make sure you are taking advantage of your coverage and benefits all year long.

Justine Sallee has been serving northern Illinois first responders as a California Casualty representative since 2012. She is dedicated to helping IFA members access this unique member benefit. Contact Justine at 719.532.8699 to have her attend an upcoming shift or volunteer meeting at your department.

This article furnished by California Casualty, providing auto and home insurance to firefighters for over 40 years.



FM Global



Fire Prevention Grants

Mark Blank, and Jed Bowen from FM Global worked with NIFSI during our fire safety classes with the AFFI in our pilot

classes on "Fighting Fires in Fire Sprinkler Protected Buildings" classes earlier this summer.

They are encouraging our Illinois Fire Service friends to apply for the fire service grants from FM Global.

Take a little time to think of items, products, or systems that can help improve your fire prevention efforts in your community. Hope you can give it a try! **[Click Here](#)** for a list of past grant recipients and frequently asked questions.

Tom Lia
NIFSI

Because FM Global believes that the majority of fire can be prevented, FM Global is pleased to offer financial support to organizations working to combat fire. Through our Fire Prevention Grant Program, fire departments and brigades, as well as national, state,

From the Chaplain's Rack

IFA Chaplain Josh Ehrler



138 Line of Duty Deaths in 2021.

5 LODDs in Illinois.

For 2021, I decided to track each LODD on a map in my office. The USFA and Firefighter Close Calls notifications have always been a lightly chaotic experience for me, coming in trickles and downpours with names appearing and going from my mind. It seemed too simple to read the notice, delete the post, and continue on.

I wanted to hold space and time for each of these names. I'm never going to remember all of them, or the nature of their death, and that is not the goal. For me, it is the simple acknowledgement that these women and men signed on, threw on their gear, grabbed their EMS

bags, and responded to someone else's distress.

For me, and maybe for you, each of these ribbons and every email represents a person no different from the ones I am privileged to serve alongside. Some have spouses and kids, some are flying solo. Some of these individuals accumulated decades of experience, others were brand new. Some were full time paid, others were paid on call or unpaid volunteers. They all showed up, the way our people show up.

We cannot know all their stories, even as we know that each one lived remarkably. We have all spent our time seeing the notification that grabs our attention and then falling down a rabbit hole of research and facebook pages and local news clips. We go looking for answers and information, clues in obituaries and initial reports, that remind us of the humanity of each LODD victim, and how their experiences compare to ours. We want to know whatever we can, in order to make something as senseless as death make just a little more sense.

We want these 138 people to matter, and they do. The way our companies, officers, families, this vital work of caring for our community, matters. One of the biggest challenges we face in the fire service is a feeling of futility. Firefighters and EMS personnel are doers, fixers, responders, type A's who always have a plan with a backup plan and a few more plans mapped out just in case. When our plans fall apart, when our best efforts are still not enough, when we are reminded of the limitations of our humanity, it can be deflating.

Honor the fallen by giving them a passing thought when the email comes. Honor these people by training and learning from NIOSH reports. Honor them by taking care of yourself. If one of these names cuts a little too close, talk to your faith leader or fire chaplain. Seek out peer support or professional care. Don't let those obnoxious thoughts, the ones that can slowly creep in through LODD stories, become too loud. We don't get to choose which incidents will affect us, yet we can choose to name our thoughts before they consume us.

The work will always be there, as will be the risks. As I am submitting this, 3 LODDs have appeared in my inbox. 3 new ribbons for 2022. 3 more reasons for us to be diligent with our skills, our situational awareness, and our health. Take care of yourself, take care of your company, watch out for each other.

Safe Call Now (24-7 crisis hotline for first responders)

206-459-3020

National Suicide Prevention Hotline

800-273-8255

Chaplain Josh's Phone

608-234-3793

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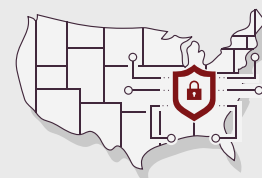
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Amboy Fire & Extrication School

April 9th, 2022

Class Fees: BFFA Member \$85/ non - BFFA Member \$100

The following classes are designed for the student, by using local, regional and national talented instructors. The goal is to provide students with leadership, administrative, and real life, hands on training. Last school exceeded 480 students and staff, from over 80 fire departments.

Opening Ceremony held at Amboy Fire Station

Start Time: 8 AM - Registration starts at 7 AM

Vendors will have equipment on display – indoor and outdoor starting at 7 A.M.

K-101 - Rapid Fire Keynote Lectures

Chief Rick Lasky (retired Lewisville, TX), Chief John Salka (retired FDNY), Chief Craig Haigh (Hanover Park), Lt. Tim Klett (retired FDNY), FF Jason Patton (Riviera Beach, FL/Fire Department Chronicles)

This class will be a break-out session of all listed speakers for this class, and then to conclude with a panel of all the speakers. The speakers will be discussing multiple administrative, and operational subjects.

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

F-102 - “Drop It Like It’s Hot” - First 30 minute successful fire ground w/ 30 minute bottles.

Lt. Joe Solcani (Chicago Fire Department), Robert Williams (Chicago Fire Department), Joe Santos (Chicago Fire Department), Kevin Schulz, Jason Greer (Bloomington Fire)

****Full gear, SCBA, & spare bottle needed****

F-103 - First Rung - 3rd Annual

Lt Michael Kucaba (Northwest Homer) & Assistant Chief Scott Wittenauer (Amboy Fire)

This class delivers hands-on live fire training in several different scenarios based on the student’s experience level. Rotations will include basic SCBA, Hose Handling & Advancement, Ground Ladders, and Search & Rescue. Instructors from several departments will bring different ideas and solutions for each evolution so the firefighter can sharpen and/or learn new skills. This will be an INTENSIVE HANDS ON CLASS

****Full gear, SCBA, spare bottle needed****

F-104 - Firefighter Primary Search Training - Searching as if their life depends on it, because it does.

Instructors: Jeff Bryant Jr - Aurora, IL & FireNuggets, Nick Ledin - Eau Claire, WI & FireNuggets, Jeff Rothmeier - Milwaukee, WI & FireNuggets, Matt Pieper - Hutisford, WI, Matt Acuff - Aurora, IL, Taylor Quinnell - Eau Claire, WI, Lane Zahourek - Cedar Rapids, IA”

****Full gear, SCBA, spare bottle needed****

F-105 - Basic Rope Technique and principles of sensible rope technology for the fire service.

Paul Benn - State & National Certified Rope Rescue Technician

****Helmet, gloves, safety glasses, hard toe shoes needed****

F-106 - Engine Ops/Pump Ops - Mastering the Panel and Rural Water/Ops Drafting - Successful tender operations, keep the water flowing.

Chief Joel Hallstrom (North Park Fire), Captain Jeremy Billeb (Sterling Fire)

****Helmet, gloves, safety glasses****

F-108 - Basic Wildland Firefighter- Mastering the Tools.

The Bulletin

Chris Bulta (Amboy Fire) & Jason Sartin (IL DNR)

****PPE, no airpack****

F-109 - Fire Service grants, funding, and excess property.

Jason Sartin (IL DNR) & Jeff Bryant (Chief Amboy Fire)

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

F-110 - Searching in the Skies & the Waterways - Drone & Rover utilization, and awareness.

Stephen Baxley (Airworx Drone)

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

F-111 - How to Protect your Firefighter through specking the correct gear, as well as cleaning and maintenance.

John Day (Lion Fire Gear Metro Account Manager)

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

F-112 - Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts - Trustee & legal training

Attorney Shawn Flaherty (Ottosen Law)

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

R- 201 - Street Smart Extrication - Maximize your extrication efforts while staying safe on the scene. Course is designed to increase speed and efficiency on an extrication scene.

Captain Mike Huffman (Harlem-Roscoe), Bill Pucket (Retired Deputy Chief South Beloit), & Jack Redieski (Retired Captain South Beloit)

****Full gear, no SCBA needed****

R-202 - Equipment & training requirements for firefighters engaged in water rescue operations - Are you Prepared?

Chief Ryan Buskohl (Dixon City Fire)

****No gear needed****

R-203 - Agricultural rescue training - grain bin, auger, & other entrapment incidents.

Mark Baker (Stateline Farm Rescue)

****Full gear needed, no SCBA****

E-301 - Kids & Sports Injury - Understanding sports injuries & how they occur, BLS & ALS treatment for specific sports injuries, will include injuries on the playground and on the field.

In addition, Managing Fire Firefighter Injuries, Treating Injured from Seatbelts, Responding to Kids in Hot Cars, Kids into Household Chemicals.,

Ken Bouvier (Retired Deputy Chief, New Orleans EMS)

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

E-302 - "Don't Be the Target" - Skill needed to survive during an active shooter incident, and how to make educated life saving decisions.

Tony Celletti (Paramedic Program Coordinator, Advocate Sherman Hospital- GEAEMS)

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

E-303 - Firefighter Psychological Support - How to cope after life threatening situations, before the pain becomes self destructive.

Sara Gura (The Self Care Path)

****Classroom only, no gear needed****

Brotherhood Event- following school held at the Amboy Fire Station

Amboy Fire & Extrication School 2022 Registration Form

Saturday, April 9th, 2022 at Amboy Fire Station, 25 N. East Ave Amboy IL 61310

Class Fees: BFFA Member \$75 / non -BFFA Member \$100. Lunch included.

PLEASE MAIL FORMS & CHECKS TO:

Amboy Fire & Extrication School, PO Box 165, Amboy IL 61310

Brotherhood Event following training start at 5pm at the Amboy Fire Station.

If you cant use link please use form below but it will place you in class until form and payment are received.

Student Name _____

Dept/Organization _____

Billing Address _____

Student Email Address _____

(to notify of their class location, required equipment, and if their class choice was cancelled or filled. Please provide an email address that is checked regularly)

PhoneNumber _____

Class Choice (all classes are full day classes)

1st Choice _____

2nd Choice _____

3rd Choice _____

Optional T-shirt purchase (\$25 per shirt): Small Medium Large XLarge2XLarge 3XLarge 4XLarge

Hold Harmless Agreement. I understand that my participation and/or involvement in the Amboy Fire and Extrication School hosted by Amboy Fire Protection District and the Amboy Volunteer Fireman carries with it the potential for certain risks, some of which may not be reasonably foreseeable. I further acknowledge that these risks could cause me, or others around me, harm, including, but not limited to, bodily injury, damage to property, emotional distress, or death. I am a willing participant in the Amboy Fire and Extrication School 2018. By signing this agreement, I agree to release, indemnify, and hold harmless Blackhawk Firefighter Association, as well as all their employees, agents, representatives, successors, etc. from all losses, claims, theft, demands, liabilities, causes of action, or expenses, known or unknown, arising out of my participation in Amboy Fire and Extrication School.

Signature _____ Date _____

Questions? Chief Jeff Bryant –jbryant9962@gmail.com, (815) 994-6184

Please use registration link to sign up for classes

<https://firenuggets.regfox.com/22-amboy-fire--extrication-school>