

The **Bulletin**



Publication of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

Volume 69, Number 3

July - August 2015

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

IFA Receives Donation from AT&T



The Bulletin

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Please send address changes or 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

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IFA Officers, Directors, Support Staff and Consultants

Officers

President (2016)

John Swan

23288 Green River Rd.

Colona, IL 61241

309.792.3011-work

309.792.4551-fax (work)

309.792.3231-station

309.792.3250-fax (station)

309.792.2793-home

309.314.0939-cell

Colonachief@AOL.com

Vice-President (2016)

Terry Ford

1214 Douglas Street

Alton, IL 62002

217.785.7487-work

618.977.2843-cell

618.463.5701-home

tlford9@yahoo.com

Secretary/Treasurer (2015)

Kerry Federer

70 Arbor Crest Dr.

Highland, IL 62249-3899

618.654.3852-home

618.830.3961-cell

federer@charter.net

IFA Office

PO Box 77

Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Phone 618-882-4783

Fax 618-882-7287

editor@illinoisfirefighters.org

Directors

Ed Allsman (2016)

1314 Gonterman St

South Roxana, IL 62087

618.781.4630-cell

618.254.1088-station

618.254.8802-fax (station)

eallsmann@srfire.org

Jeff Bryant Sr. (2017)

PO Box 165

Amboy, IL 61310

815.994.6184 cell

jbryant9962@gmail.com

Joe Heim (2017)

341 Gramercy Street

East Dubuque, IL 61025

563.599.3356 cell

edfire18@yahoo.com

Joseph Mandarino (2017)

24403 Arrowhead Dr.

Manhattan, IL 60442

815.680.6020 home

708.935.2893 cell

Corky2700@aol.com

Ronald Mulach (2018)

304 Wolf

P.O. Box 26

Hamel, IL 62046

618.633.2376-home/fax

618.973.5871-cell

samrjm10@aol.com

Edward Myers (2015)

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 (2016)

600 Beattie St.

Elwood, IL 60421

815.423.6967-home

815.423-5224-station

815.423.6323-fax

BillCh601@krausonline.com

Robert Reason (2018)

55 North Street

East Peoria, IL 61611

309.694.6678-home

309.699.5252-fax

breason@sbcglobal.net

John Schott (2018)

609 Mayfield St.

Carlinville, IL 62626

217.556.2122 cell

jschott88@hotmail.com

Kevin Schott (2015)

17739 Macoupin Club Road

Carlinville, IL 62626

217.854.2179-home

217.971.8196-cell

schottkd@frontiernet.net

Jeff Stuck (2017)

404 Partridge Lane

Cartersville, IL 62918

618.985.8060-work/fax

618.925.4915-cell

stuck915@hotmail.com

Gary Turnbaugh (2016)

506 Maple Avenue

Roxana, IL 62084-1017

618.254.9820-home

618.531.2480-cell

greyhounds1947@sbcglobal.net

Support Staff and Consultants

Chaplain

Kevin Coffey

1117 N 1000 East Road

Onarga, IL 60955

815.457.2007 - home

kc9526@yahoo.com

Legislative Lobbyist

Margaret Vaughn

9211 Waterfall Glen Blvd.

Darien, IL 60561

217.280.0206-cell

630.908.7311-fax

mvaughn@springnet1.com

Attorney

Robert J. Britz

OBKCG&D, LTD

303 N. Main St.

Elburn, IL 60119

630.365.6441 Phone

630.365.6451 Fax

rbritz@ottosenbritz.com

www.ottosenbritz.com

Mission Statement

Dedicated to the advancement of the Fire Service by providing leadership. The Association will proudly support 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,

The summer is moving along very fast, but our state's budget is at a standstill. Hopefully, by the time you get this issue of *The Bulletin*, the state's budget will have been approved. 23 million dollars of the Fire Prevention Fund has been frozen. We all have deep concerns that this money will not be released for our benefit. I asked for a meeting with our Lt. Governor, Evelyn Sanguinetti, and that meeting was approved and held in her office Thursday, July 9 at 10 am. Chairman Steve Iovinelli of the Illinois Fire Services, representatives from the Chief's and Professional Fire Service and I attended. Representative Donald Moffitt, Chairman of the Fire Caucus and Representative Carol Sente Co-Chair also stopped by during the meeting. The meeting pretty much addressed the importance of the Fire Prevention Fund and what it supported in our behalf. I believe she truly understands why we are so concerned and what it would do if we lost that revenue for programs that it supported. We wanted to let her know that we supported the Turn Around Program that the Governor is promoting, but cutting funding to the Fire Service will most defiantly increase costs to all of us in lives and property. The Fire Service does not need general revenue to support our needs. I hope that the representatives in our current administration can see that we can stand alone. If not, we are being used as a slush fund for the general revenue fund on the backs of Insurance Industry and ourselves.

There are many changes that are taking place in the Firefighter Certification Program as well. If you did not know, the new Basic and Advanced Firefighters Program has been rolled out effective July 1st. What you have already achieved as a Firefighter II or III will continue to apply as your current certification and that will not change. Anyone that has not achieved that certification must now achieve the Basic or Advanced certification with the curriculum outlined by the Illinois Fire Marshal's standards. The Illinois Firefighters Association has supported continued adjustments to the program and we still lead the nation in firefighter training.

For those fire departments that just cannot certify their firefighters with the Fire Marshal's program, you now have a guideline you can follow with the Recommended Minimum Standard of Firefighter Training Requirements. We have been working on this for years and now finally have approved that standard. The State Fire Marshal's Office will be sending out information in regards to those guidelines. These recommended training standards will follow NFPA 1001 standards and give your firefighters a means to properly certify them in the tasks they operate under on the fire ground. The certification remains with your employer, the Fire Department or Fire District. We are also looking at the Illinois Department of Labor to recognize these minimum standards as approved standards for firefighters to work on the fire ground.

In closing, this issue of *The Bulletin* contains all the information about our upcoming Annual Conference. Please get started now and book your rooms and register for the Down & Dirty Training classes. I want to thank all of our sponsors and partners that are helping make this year, our 125th anniversary, special.

“Train smart, stay safe” (Director Mortenson IFSI)

God Bless

John Swan President IFA



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Margaret Vaughn, IFA Legislative Lobbyist

Appointment of Perez as New State Fire Marshal

Matt Perez took over as the new State Fire Marshal on April 1st. Perez, a resident of Sugar Grove, most recently served as Aurora's Fire Marshal and was with the Department for 27 years. Before he became a firefighter, Perez served as a Kane County sheriff's deputy for two years. Perez has a degree in Fire Service Management from SIU. Perez received final confirmation by the full Senate.

OVERTIME SESSION & BUDGET

Though the House and Senate officially adjourned for the "spring session" on May 31st. The entire summer has been spent with weekly "special sessions" trying to reach agreement on the budget. The budget the Legislature sent to the Governor was \$4 billion less than state revenues and Governor Rauner wants labor reforms pushed through as a condition of a budget agreement so there has been a major stalemate and the Dems want a tax increase. Two judges issued two totally different opinions on whether state employees' checks could be issued without a budget and the General Assembly went back into session last week to pass an emergency 30 day budget for vital services that the Governor plans to veto. I wish I had something more definitive to report but at this point no bills at OSFM are being paid and there does not seem to be an end in sight anytime soon.

Highlights of fire service legislation include:

HB 152 sponsored by Rep. Kathleen Willis and Sen. Andy Manar would **require carbon monoxide detectors or alarms in schools**. The bill passed the House and is on 3rd Reading in the Senate. **LAST ACTION: WAITING GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE**

HB 219 Sponsored by Rep. Verschoore and Sen. David Koehler would provide that the voters of the entire fire protection district may vote on whether a territory of that district may be disconnected and transferred to another district (rather than just the voters of the territory sought to be transferred). **LAST ACTION: WAITING GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE**

HB 220 sponsored by Rep. Moffitt and Sen. Sullivan would provide that a board of trustees of a fire protection district may submit a question to increase the current special tax rate for the purpose of providing funds to pay the costs of emergency and rescue crews and equipment to the voters of the fire protection district by referendum. Provides the special tax rate may be raised to a maximum of .10%. Provides the language to be used in the referendum. **LAST ACTION: SIGNED INTO LAW TOOK EFFECT MAY 31, 2015.**

HB 246 – Sponsored by Rep. Stewart and Sen. Koehler would commemorate Dec. 23rd each year as "**Scott's Law Day**" to honor public safety workers and remind motorists to slow down and change lanes away from a stationary authorized emergency vehicle. **LAST ACTION: WAITING GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE**

SB 740 – Sponsored Sen. Holmes and Rep Pritchard - Amends the **Fire Hydrant Act**. Provides that whoever fails to comply with any of the provisions of the Act, after 30 days receiving written notice of noncompliance or violation from a fire protection district or municipality in whose jurisdiction a fire hydrant is located, shall be responsible for all reasonable costs that the fire protection district or municipality incurs to correct the noncompliance, including attorney's fees and legal expenses incurred by the fire protection district or municipality in recovering the costs from the responsible party. **LAST ACTION: WAITING GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE**

HJR 1 –Sponsored by Rep. Willis and Sen. Rose. Creates the **Emergency Responder Roadway Safety Task Force** to address coordination between the fire service, first responders and law enforcement to prevent first responders from being injured when responding to emergencies on roadsides. **LAST ACTION: ADOPTED BY BOTH CHAMBERS**

LOSAP defined contribution plans

by William R. Thomas

Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd.

“Length of Service Award Programs” -- also known as LOSAP -- are monetary award programs being used in a limited capacity across the United States to assist communities in their recruitment, retention and rewarding of volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel. With limited applicability known to exist in New York, New Jersey and Maryland, LOSAP is being implemented to financially reward volunteers based upon the number of years that they serve.

Illinois provides only nominal power to financially reward such volunteers in Section 6(f) of the Fire Protection District Act (70 ILCS 705/6(f)). It states, “To encourage continued service with the district, the board of trustees has the express power to award monetary incentives, not to exceed \$240 per year, to volunteer firefighters of the district based on the length of service. To be eligible for the incentives, the volunteer firefighters must have at least 5 years of service with the district. The amount of incentives may not be greater than 2% of the annual levy amount when all incentive awards are combined”. It is important to note that the Illinois statute does not include either former or retired volunteer firefighters, and uses the language “incentive” and “award,” rather than defining it as a benefit.

While Illinois recognizes the nominal authority to provide these monetary incentives, it appears that no fire protection district or municipality actually offers a pure monetary incentive to volunteer firefighters or EMS personnel. Instead, what is commonly done in Illinois to show appreciation for such individuals is to provide service pins, certificates, plaques and appreciation dinners. One fire protection district grants a limited life insurance policy after the volunteer firefighter retires that provides a financial payment associated with a death benefit plan and funeral costs.

In New Jersey, the LOSAP are strictly voluntary, and can be established by a sponsoring agency such as a governing body, municipality or a fire district. The LOSAP was designed to provide tax deferred income benefits to active volunteer members of an emergency service organization. These tax deferred income benefits come from contributions made solely by the governing body of the municipality or fire district on behalf of volunteers who meet a certain set of criteria of a plan created by that governing body. In the New Jersey program, these contributions are deposited in a plan similar to that of a deferred compensation plan that would be permitted for other county or municipal employees. The governing body or the volunteer may directly invest those funds into available investment vehicles approved by the governing body. Examples of those investment options in New Jersey could include different types of municipal funds or annuities.

In New Jersey, the first step to creating the LOSAP is the adoption of an enabling ordinance or resolution. The ordinance or resolution only takes effect if voters of that jurisdiction vote to approve it as a public question at the next general election. If approved by a majority vote, appropriations for the LOSAP would then be included as a separate line item in the budget of the sponsoring agency. The New Jersey program defines two important terms: “Active Volunteer Member” means a person who has been so designated by the governing board of a duly created emergency service organization and who is faithfully and actually performing a volunteer service in that organization; and “Year of Emergency Service” means a 12-month period during which an active volunteer member participates in the fire or first aid service and satisfies the minimum requirement of participation established by the sponsoring agency on a consistent and uniform basis. The New Jersey program provides that if an active volunteer member meets the service requirement, the LOSAP must provide a benefit between a minimum contribution of \$100.00 and a maximum contribution of \$1,150.00 per year. This maximum is set by statute.

The Bulletin

Two of the benefits associated with the LOSAP is that it allows municipalities and districts to financially reward their valuable volunteers, and to avoid a significant tax dollar hit associated with the creation of a paid full-time fire and emergency service. The New York program states that its LOSAP would pay eligible volunteers cash “service awards” at an “entitlement age.” This entitlement age would be typically between 55 and 67 years of age and would provide cash benefits if a volunteer should die or become disabled before reaching this entitlement age.

There have been three different types of LOSAP identified. One type of program is a defined contribution plan where the governing body defines a set cash contribution it makes each year to a volunteer’s LOSAP account. The second type of plan is a defined benefit plan in which the governing body defines what the cash payout to the volunteer would be at the entitlement age and then makes contributions determined by an actuary each year. The third type of LOSAP is much like a private sector profit sharing plan where the governing body reexamines the total cash contribution it makes to the LOSAP based upon available funds. Each volunteer’s account is then credited with a share or shares based upon years of service of the total contribution.

While the Illinois Fire Protection District Act provides authority for a nominal LOSAP monetary incentive, it does not appear to be widely utilized in the state. However, as municipalities and districts struggle with their funding and budgets, the monetary incentive to reward, retain and recruit volunteers would be a small gesture and pale in comparison to the cost of providing a paid, full-time fire and emergency service.

***William R. Thomas** is a partner with Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd. at the firm’s Elburn office. He received his J.D. degree from Valparaiso University School of Law in 1991. Mr. Thomas focuses primarily on the general practice of law.*



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Friday, Oct. 16, 2015

- **Fire Track** (Gordon Graham) or **EMS Track** (Pete Lazzara & Steve Murphy)

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2015

- **Fire Track** (Eddie Enright & Pete Van Doorp) or **EMS Track** (Pete Lazzara & Debra Von Seggern)

Each Day Includes:

- *National, local and regional vendors*
- *Networking with fire and EMS colleagues from IA, IL, WI and MN*
- *Entertainment at Mississippi Moon Bar - Diamond Jo Casino: Dueling Pianos (Friday) and James Otto (Saturday)*

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On or after Sept. 1: \$109/one day or \$198/two days

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Or, talk to counselors trained and experienced in
the firefighter and EMT culture by calling the national
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Find resources to Share the Load at www.nvfc.org/help.

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Cool Insurance Tips for Hot Auto Sales

American consumers shifted into high gear in May, purchasing 1.6 million new cars; the fastest pace in nearly a decade. The hot sales are attributed to low interest rates, consumer confidence and low fuel prices.

At this rate, U.S. auto dealers hope to sell almost 18 million vehicles in 2015.

If you've purchased a new vehicle, or if you plan to soon, you'll want to keep it well maintained, washed and waxed, and make sure you have adequate auto insurance. Here's what you need to know:

Liability

Liability pays for injuries to others and property damage from an accident you caused. While most states set a minimum of required liability, you should consider increasing the coverage to protect your assets. Liability limits usually have an amount paid per person, total maximum paid for each occurrence and property damage liability per accident. It is often listed as 100/300/50, meaning \$100,000 bodily injury per person up to \$300,000 and \$50,000 for property damage.

Comprehensive and Collision

This is protection for your vehicle. Collision pays for the physical damage caused when your auto collides with another vehicle or object, such as a tree.

Comprehensive pays for damage from almost any loss other than collision: theft, fire, vandalism, flood, hail, falling objects, animals and glass breakage.

Both of these usually come with a deductible – the amount you agree to pay before insurance kicks in – the higher the deductible the lower your premium will be.

Optional Coverages

These include:

- Medical payment – for medical and funeral expenses for you or others injured or killed in an accident while riding in or driving your auto
- Uninsured/underinsured motorist – reimbursement of medical costs and damage caused by someone driving without insurance who hits you, or from a hit-and-run driver
- Rental reimbursement – payment for a rental car if your vehicle is damaged by a covered loss. It usually has a daily and total maximum, such as \$40 a day up to \$800
- Towing or Emergency Road Service

Here are some ways drivers can lower their auto insurance costs:

- Combine it with your home or renters insurance
- Increase your deductibles
- Qualify for good driver/good student discounts
- Install anti-theft devices like alarms
- Park your vehicle in a garage
- Complete a driver education course
- Check insurance costs before buying a new vehicle



An easy way to make sure you have adequate auto insurance is to give a California Casualty advisor a call for a policy review or no hassle quote today at 1.800.800.9410 or visit www.calcas.com/IFA.

Also, don't forget a lucky first responder will win a Harley-Davidson Road King from California Casualty's Work Hard/Play Hard contest. The deadline to enter is coming up, so visit <http://go.calcas.com/Harley>.

Sources for this article:

<http://www.automobilemag.com/features/news/1506-may-2015-auto-sales-big-picture-growth/>

http://www.naic.org/documents/consumer_alert_understanding_auto.htm

This article is furnished by California Casualty, providing auto and home insurance to Illinois firefighters. Get a quote at 1.800.800.9410 or www.calcas.com/IFA.

IFA Receives Grants, Sponsorships & Donations to help support the IFA Annual Conference

The Illinois Firefighter's Association has received grant, sponsorships and donations to help the IFA pay for some of the costs involved in the Annual Down & Dirty Firefighting Training Conference. The IFA receive a grant from the CHS Foundation, a donation from AT&T, and sponsorships from California Casualty, Iowa Interstate Railroad Ltd, MidAmerican Energy, and Zoll.

The IFA subsidizes the majority of the costs of the conference, compared to the registration fees. If not for the grants, scholarships and donations, the conference would not be possible. A big thank you goes out to the donors. Donors are listed on page 27.

IFA launches updated website

The Illinois Firefighters have launched an updated website that allows payment of dues (new members or renews), donations and ways to contact members. A database of members has been uploaded to the site and members can be connected with their organization.

Check out the new site at www.illinoisfirefighters.org. If you have any problems, contact the webmaster at editor@illinoisfirefighters.org.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Illinois Firefighters Association website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: WELCOME, ABOUT IFA, MEMBER BENEFITS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, LEGISLATION, MEMBER LIST, RESOURCE LIBRARY, THE BULLETIN, DONATE, JOIN THE IFA, and CONTACT US. In the top right corner, there are links for SIGN IN, TWITTER, FACEBOOK, and EMAIL. The main header features the IFA logo and a large banner image of two firefighters silhouetted against a fire. On the left side of the banner, there is a circular emblem celebrating the 125th Anniversary of the Illinois Firefighter's Association. Below the banner, there are three main sections: JOIN OR RENEW, ANNUAL CONFERENCE, and CONTACT US. On the right side, there is a section titled SIGN UP TO GET THE LATEST UPDATES, which includes a text input field for an email address and a SUBSCRIBE button.



California Casualty *Hidden Dangers in Decks*

Decks; they come in all sizes, shapes and age. They're an extension of our living space as the weather warms and we spend more time outdoors. They can also be an accident waiting to happen.

A study by the Consumer Product Safety Commission estimated that close to 50,000 people are injured each year from falls off decks, porches and stairs; about 15 percent of those were from a structural failure or collapse.

Summer is when most deck collapses are reported. The International Association of Certified Home Inspectors says of the more than 45 million existing decks in North America, only 40 percent are absolutely safe.

Most collapses take place while the decks were occupied and approximately 90 percent were a result of separation of the house and the deck ledger board. While age can be a factor, deck collapse can take place on any deck that was not properly installed.

Here are five deck safety and inspection tips from the North American Deck and Railing Association (NADRA) that can keep the summer BBQ from becoming a trip to the hospital:

1. Search for split or decaying wood including support beams and joists below
2. Test railings and banisters to make sure they are firmly attached
3. Check fasteners to make sure they have not come loose or corroded
4. Step carefully looking for loose boards or spongy areas
5. Clean up debris like leaves branches and other things that can cause slipping and mildew

NADRA also urges homeowners to test deck stairs, make sure grills and fire pits are on a non-flammable pad and away from walls and overhangs, and to consider proper lighting for nighttime use.

Michael Beaudry, executive vice president of the NADRA wants people to know about the importance of annually inspecting their decks. "Outdoor structures like decks are exposed to sun, rain, snow and extreme temperature changes over the years. The need to maintain and inspect them is critical for keeping decks strong and safe."

You can find an extensive point-by-point deck inspection check list from the International Association of Certified Home Inspectors at <http://www.nachi.org/deck-inspections.htm>.

Another piece of protection is to inspect your home or renters insurance. Now's a great time to review your policy and make sure you have the proper liability coverage if someone gets hurt at your home. Call a California Casualty advisor today at 1.800.800.9410 or by visiting www.calcas.com/IFA..

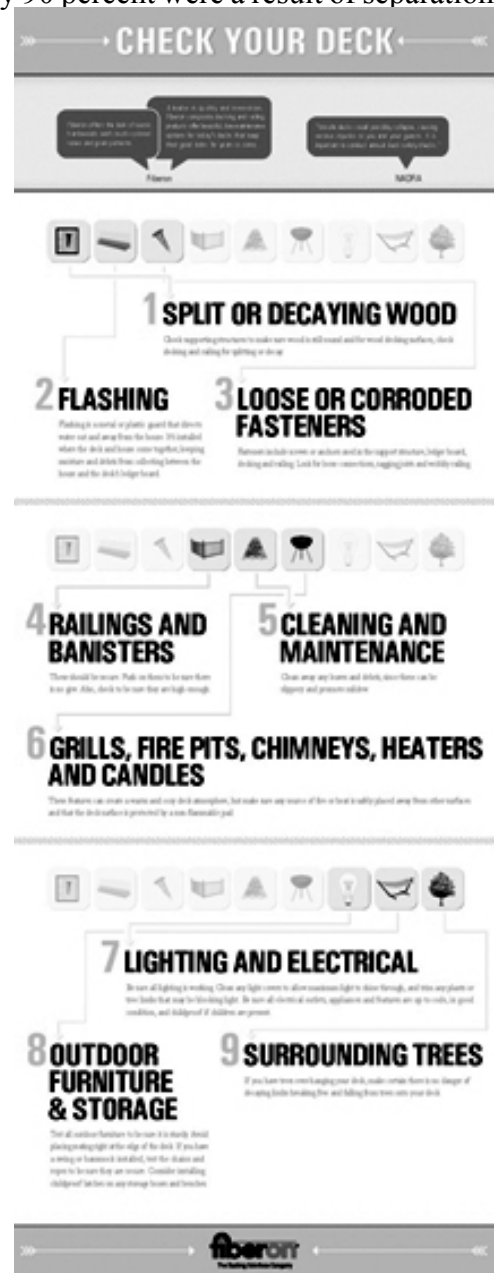
Resources for this article:

<http://nadra.org/>

<http://www.buildingonline.com/news/pdfs/Outdoor-Deck-and-Porch-Injury-Study.pdf>

<http://www.nachi.org/deck-inspections.htm>

<https://www.fiberondecking.com/blog/2015/how-safe-is-your-outdoor-deck-space>



This article is furnished by California Casualty, providing auto and home insurance to firefighters for over 40 years. Get a quote at 1.800.800.9410 or www.calcas.com/IFA.



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Illinois Firefighters Association

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- You are likely overpaying for your prescriptions even if you have a low insurance co-pay. The Illinois Firefighters Association offers you the opportunity to purchase your prescription at the guaranteed lowest price by comparing your insurance co-pay price to a negotiated discount price through the Discount Drug Network (DDN). *Pricing examples are on the back of this page.*
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- This program is accepted at almost every pharmacy in the U.S.
- There is no cost to the patient and there is no patient information required to participate.
- Discounts are available to all participants regardless of current insurance status. (Insured, Uninsured, Medicare)
- All FDA approved brand name drugs and generics are covered by the plan.
- The program is HIPAA compliant requiring no patient data for participation.
- Generic drugs offer substantial savings over their brand equivalent. Ask your doctor if there is a generic drug alternative that provides you with the same medical benefit of the brand drug.

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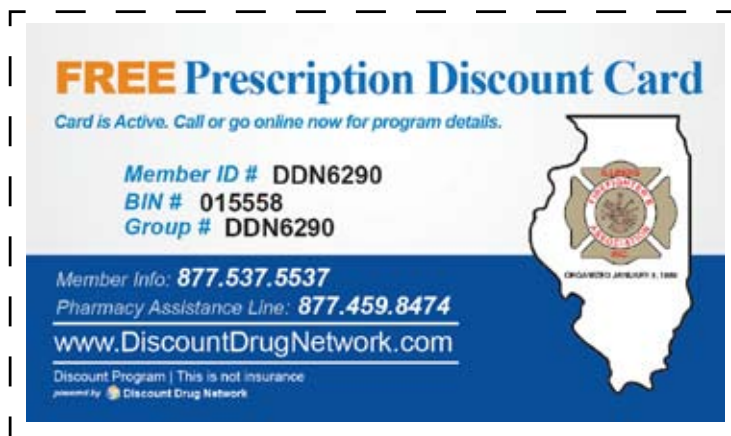
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Illinois Firefighters Association receives a donation from the Discount Drug Network each time a patient receives a discount. Everyone participating in this free program benefits. Thank you for your participation.

Department Spotlight



Antioch Fire Department First Fire Protection District

John R. Nixon, Fire Chief
835 Holbek Drive, Antioch IL 60002
Phone (847) 395-5511 Fax (847) 395-1018

Mission Statement of the Antioch Fire Department and the First Fire Protection District of Antioch Township

“To protect our residents, visitors and their property from the adverse effects of fires, medical emergencies and other dangerous, life threatening emergencies through public education, training, prevention, planning community interaction and safe, efficient professional emergency response.”

The Antioch Fire Department (AFD) operates as a paid-on-call / paid-on-premise department with over 130 firefighter/paramedics and paramedic/EMT's responding from our three fire stations covering 36 sq. miles located in Lake County, IL. We are located approximately 40 miles north of Chicago and 40 miles south of Milwaukee. In 2013, the Department celebrated 100 years of serving the Antioch area as a community-based fire department. There were approximately 2,700 calls responded to in 2014, of which 2,000 were for ambulance and 700 were fire responses: with 48% of our EMS calls overlapping between the first and second calls, and 37% resulting in third and fourth calls.



Currently, we staff three (3) stations around the clock using a combination of contract EMS and Paid-on-Premise, using our own personnel in all three cases. Current staffing consists of an EMT & Paramedic on the ambulance and Fire Apparatus Engineer and Officer /Acting Officer on the engine. There is also a Shift Commander staffed from 6pm-6am during the week and 24 hours on weekends. The Fire Department Command Staff consists of the Fire Chief, 2 Deputy Chiefs, and our Captains and Lieutenants who function as company officers and Shift Commanders.

(MABAS), we have mutual aid agreements to respond to any of the 28 departments in Lake County, McHenry County to our west, and Kenosha County WI to the north. This MABAS agreement is utilized on a daily basis with mutual aid responses between the six area fire departments in our area including Lake Villa, Fox Lake, Round Lake, Grayslake, and Newport Township. Our Specialized Rescue Team needs (Dive/Haz-Mat/High Angle/Below Grade/Swift water) are covered by our participation in the MABAS system. Our response area covers a large portion of the Chain of Lakes, requiring our department to stand up a Dive/Rescue team as this body of water serves a large recreation population all year round.

As a member of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System



The Bulletin

Our apparatus fleet consists of the following:

Fire Station 1: ALS Engine, Two(2) ALS Ambulances, Tower Ladder, Tender, Brush Truck, Dive Rescue Team-Boat / Dive Van, Battalion Chief

Fire Station 2: ALS Engine, Two(2) ALS Ambulances, Reserve Pumper/Tender

Fire Station 3: ALS Engine, ALS Ambulance, Reserve Tender

In 2005 as part of the formal adoption of NIMS, all employees received training to the appropriate level for their position - as well as becoming State of Illinois Firefighter II or III, which meets and exceeds NFPA 1001. Our NIMS training is updated every year, and Firefighter training occurs through daily, weekly and monthly trainings. This includes a requirement to certify all of our personnel as Advanced Firefighters through the Office of the State Fire Marshall. Our Officers are tasked with obtaining Fire Officer I certification as part of Officer Development goals reviewed with each officer on a yearly basis.





★ FIREFIGHTER LIFE SAFETY INITIATIVE #15 ★

Advocacy must be strengthened for the enforcement of codes and the installation of home fire sprinklers.

“The environment is which firefighters operate today has dramatically changed over the past decade. Unfortunately, much of the change has put firefighters at greater risk.

Lightweight construction in residential buildings reduces cost, allows for open floor plans and provides the structural integrity needed in an everyday setting. However, they fail quickly and violently under fire conditions. To make matters worse, the furnishings in today’s homes consist of synthetic materials that burn at extremely high temperatures during fires. Together lightweight construction homes and synthetic furnishings have reduced the time it takes for flashover to occur, which all too often is happening as firefighters arrive.



On a positive note, the last decade has also seen an increase in the number of communities that require residential sprinkler systems. The awareness about the benefits of residential fire sprinklers is on the rise, but Illinois firefighters must continue to advocate for the lifesaving systems. Fire sprinklers ensure that ‘Everyone Goes Home.’”

Ralph Webster, Fire Chief, Woodstock Fire/Rescue District; Past President, Illinois Fire Chiefs Association; Illinois Advocate - “Everyone Goes Home” Program, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

For resources and more information regarding residential fire sprinklers, please visit **HomeLifeSafety.com**.

In 2004, the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation developed “16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives” as part of its “Everyone Goes Home” program designed to prevent line-of-duty firefighter injuries and deaths.



www.EveryoneGoesHome.com



www.HomeLifeSafety.com



Scan for in-depth document
on FLSI #15

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Illinois Fire Service Institute Updates

Jim Keiken, Deputy Director



For information on upcoming classes visit our web site @ www.fsi.illinois.edu

This weekend IFSI conducted the final Leadership Development and Decision Making (LDDM) workshop. This work shop brought fire service stakeholders in from across the state to provide the final opportunity for feedback for the new LDDM program which will be piloted at IFSI beginning in the fall of 2015.

In October 2012 at the request of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association, IFSI created a leadership development working group composed of IFSI instructors from various size departments (rural and urban) representing all fire service ranks. They were given the task of developing a leadership development and decision-making curriculum that focuses on training good leadership and decision making under stress and one that is not duplicative of existing courses or classes and one that is complimentary of current offerings. Our plan is to create a “cradle-to-grave” fire service leadership development/decision-making training and education curriculum that has consistent themes, priorities, and lines of education. The result will be the highest quality leadership in the fire service for the state of Illinois.

Levels of service: The working group broke down the fire service into three professional career paths/levels of experience and responsibility:

- **Firefighter or individual leader**
- **Company Officer or group leader**
- **Chief Officer or organizational leaders**

Line of Education: After considerable discussion and study, the working identified seven “Lines of Education” (LOE). It is acknowledged that this list of LOEs could be expanded or contracted later. These LOEs become the consistent blocks of instruction that are present in the leadership curriculum at each level of service. Each Line of Education is unique to each level in its scope, complexity, and specific elements. Example: What entry level firefighter needs to know about the role of communications (personal and electronic) in leadership is different than what a company officer or chief needs to know. Yet, what the firefighter is taught must be consistent with what a chief is taught. The former is the building block of the latter. The moral and ethical challenges faced by a firefighter are completely different than those faced by a battalion chief, yet they will both be forced to make moral and ethical decisions that can and will affect their lives professionally and personally.

The seven Lines of Education (LOEs) are

- **Leadership and followership**
- **History and traditions of the fire service**
- **Communications**
- **Morals and ethics**
- **Professional development/ Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs)**
- **Decision Making Thinking critically**
- **Command climate and culture**

Methods of Instruction: The working group has identified six primary “methods of instruction.” While there are other accepted and effective educational methods, some of which may be incorporated later, these six were determined to be the most effective and widely used in addressing decision-making and leadership development.

The Bulletin

The six methods are:

- Classroom presentations
- Small group discussions
- Ethical and moral decision games/discussions
- Tactical decision games
- Sand table exercises/discussions
- Practical application exercises

Not every Line of Education curriculum will use every method and some LOEs lend themselves better to one method over another.

Creating time pressurized decision making learning opportunities when given minimal information – making students comfortable with this concept. A key element in training decision-making is creating learning opportunities that combine time-pressurized exercises and/or discussions that provide less than the desired amount of information one thinks he/she needs to make the decision. This is exactly what you want in a learning environment! As much as possible, in a professional and well-intended way, this curriculum embraces this concept.

To participate in this exciting new IFSI program watch the IFSI web site for the pilot program dates to be announced later this fall and early in 2016.

IFSI Web site

IFSI has updated our web site! We have improved navigation, access to key info like “Class look up” and access to “Certificates” is on the front page. Current features items with quick like to access hot items. In the course info tab there is a Course Calendar drop down what list upcoming class for the month selected across the state. The Course search screen is improved and easier to use. You can also select by county from the drop down and look at all course for the year in that county. Check it out at www.fsi.illinois.edu

Fire College and Explore College

The 2015 Fire and Explore college programs have been complete and were a great success we had over 500 attendees to Fire College and nearly 200 attendees to Explore College. We changed up offerings and will be doing the same in the future. Our plan is to offer approximately 60% of the previous year’s content and 40% new content each year as we move ahead. Our goal is to have the hands on experiences everyone is looking for with new and refreshed materials to keep it interesting as well as current.

Blended offering

One of the new programs along with Fire College was the blended Fire Instructor 1. We offered two sessions that began the beginning of May and concluded at Fire College. We had 36 students complete the online portion of the program and all successfully completed the final exam.

Just a reminder, if there is something you think IFSI would be providing or you have ideas for the next great program please feel free to contact me at the institute.

Illinois Fire Service Institute Regional Representatives:

Northeast Region:	Randy Schlichter,	847-343-4039
Northwest Region:	Ray Palczynski,	563-468-8385
Chicago Metro Area:	Richard Stack,	773-988-0259
East Central Region:	Tim Meister,	217-202-4760
Central Region:	Jim Vaughn,	309-275-2499
Southwest Region:	John Nichols,	618-973-2059
South Region:	Tim Bragg,	217-962-1597

The Illinois Fire Service Institute Regional Representative can be your important link to bringing State Fire Academy training to your Fire Department.



Choose one of the following classes and register in advance to assure your spot in the class. Because skills build upon each other, when you choose a Down & Dirty class, you must participate in all portions of that class and you must have your gear, including SCBA, with you for all portions of the class.

Equipment Requirements For All Hands-On Classes All firefighters participating in the two hands-on classes and Friday night's Myths and Realities MUST have an SCBA (with current hydrostatic test date and a complete set of their own, properly fitting, protective clothing (as prescribed in NFPA 1971, 1972, 1973, and 1974).

Hands-On Firefighting Classes

Down & Dirty Foundations of Firefighting HF HS 15 Limited to 50 students

Are you ready to get in there and fight the fire? This hands-on class is designed for the new firefighter and covers extensive fundamental firefighting skills necessary to function on a fireground. Subjects include some, but not all, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), small tools, hose, ladders, fire stream management and basic fireground operations. Students from this class will participate in the live-burn exercise as members of a fire fighting crew.

Down & Dirty Essentials of Fires on the Farm HF HS 15 - Limited to 40 students

Rural and farm emergencies can present unique challenges to emergency responders. This 12-hour class identifies common rural emergencies and prepares responders with the information and skills to safely set up the scene. Topics include: farm fires, farm hazardous materials incidents, farm building collapse, machinery entanglement and entrapment, confined space emergencies, farm electrical emergencies, and lost persons. Note: Protection clothing required for this class. Participants must furnish approved helmet, eye protection, gloves, leather safety boots or fire boots, and overalls or turnout gear.

Crude Oil by Rail CF CS 15

Illinois has more miles of rail than all the surrounding states and a high percentage carries crude oil in rail cars. This four-hour class covers the basic chemical and physical properties of the types of crude being transported. Students also learn basic rail car design features, unit vs. manifest trains, common railroad terminology, and techniques for contacting and working with the railroad. The class touches on tactics and strategies for handling crude oil train derailments, but will not teach the student how to employ these tactics. Lastly, the course looks at case studies of recent crude train derailments and discusses lessons learned.

Grain Bin Awareness CF CS 15

This four-hour class educates students about grain storage facility types, their construction, and operating features. OSHA regulations, physical-environmental hazards and potential rescue resources are identified to ensure the response falls within the requirements minimizing fire department civil or criminal liability. Scene management and safety are discussed in conjunction with locating and making contact with the victim. Appropriate non-entry rescue efforts are identified. Various cutting tools are discussed for a simulated rescue to assist in the removal of grain from the system.

Friday Night Activities: 7pm-9pm

Myths and Realities: Fog nozzle vs. Smooth Bore Nozzle - HF 15 - Limited to 30 students

This one-hour class (7pm – 8pm) focuses on one of the most historic debates in the fire service – the use of smooth bore nozzle or a fog nozzle during fire attack. Which is better and/or safer? The class will explore different hose stream selection for fire attack and the pros and cons of each.

Fireman, Fire Engine, Firehouse CF 15

For two hours students focus on the history of the fire service and the values and beliefs passed down from generation to generation. The class explores the fire service from all perspectives – past, present and future. Instructors present a brief look into the history of the fire service, then discuss how to assess the current state of your fire department and the fire service in general. The class concludes with a focus on proactive and supportive ways to encourage positive change at your home department.

Saturday at ISFI

Reading Smoke Know Your Smoke CS 15

There are a number of factors to evaluate when deciding whether to initiate an interior attack. One critical factor is smoke conditions. "Reading smoke" skills can prove vital when it comes time to assess a fire burning inside a structure. This class simply covers how to read smoke conditions and how you can use this information to determine the sequence of steps for initiating (or not initiating) an interior attack.

At the Hotel

Understanding Today's Dynamic Fireground CF CS 15

Firefighters responding to structure fires today are faced with many challenges – from building construction to operating with limited manpower. They are challenged by changes in fire behavior, but will gain much from the research that has gone into making the fireground safer for all. We will look at the testing that UL and NIST have conducted and its relation to fire attack, building construction, legacy and modern furnishing, along with what needs to be relayed for size up. This class is beneficial for all members of the fire service from the newest firefighter to the chief officer. This class will be held on Friday and Saturday from 1-5 pm at the hotel.

Traffic Incident Management & Responder Safety Workshop CS 15

Limited to 40 students

This six-hour hands-on training workshop is based on the National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management and provides an overview of the safety hazards at highway incidents. Topics include strategies and tactics designed to help save lives and prevent injuries of emergency response personnel. The class is taught by Brad Sprague, Deputy Chief of Operations for Minooka Fire Protection District and a Sergeant with Illinois State Police District 05. This class will be held on Saturday from 8am - 4pm at the hotel.

CF = Classroom on Friday

CS = Classroom on Saturday

HF = Hands-On on Friday

CS = Hands-On on Saturday

15 or 20 = Minimum enrollment is required or class will be cancelled and enrollment shifted to other classes.

Testing for Firefighter Certification will take place on Thursday and Friday nights.



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 77, Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034 (618) 882-4783

Registration Form – 2015 Annual Conference *Firefighter Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend*

October 15-18, 2015

Wyndham Garden

1001 Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801-1036

217-328-7900

Name _____

Department _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

County _____

Check one ☐ Guest ☐ Delegate (Please complete delegate credentials form)

Conference fees (if received before 5 pm October 2, 2015)

IFA Member \$ 50

Non-IFA Member \$ 75

Conference registration fees (if received after 5 pm October 2, 2015 and at the door)

IFA Member \$ 100

Non-IFA Member \$ 125

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Early registration must be received by 5 pm October 2, 2015

NOTE: GET A FREE REGISTRATION

FOR EVERY THREE REGISTRATIONS FROM THE SAME ORGANIZATION

PAYMENT MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION FORM

Registration can be paid by credit card - Credit Card # _____

Name on Card _____ Expiration Date _____

Authorization signature _____ CVV _____ Billing Zip Code _____

Mail completed form with your payment to:

Illinois Firefighter's Association
Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77
Glen Carbon IL 62034
Phone 618-882-4783
Fax 618-882-7287
Email: editor@illinoisfirefighter.org

Questions about the conference, contact:

Joe Mandarino, Conference Director
24403 Arrowhead Drive
Manhattan IL 60442
708-935-2893
Email: corky2700@aol.com

Hotel reservations may be made by contacting: Wyndham Garden, 217-328-7900. Be sure to mention Illinois Firefighter's Association when making reservations. Rooms have been reserved for \$70 single or double per night (plus 5% city and 6% state hotel taxes).

For Americans with Disabilities: If you plan to attend the IFA Conference and need an accommodation, please contact Joe Mandarino at 708-935-2893 by October 2, 2015.

Chaplain's Corner



“One-Another”ing

I entered the Chicago Fire Department Academy in January of 1980, just over a month before the infamous firefighter strike which some of you may still remember – and so I spent 23 days picketing around a burn barrel in front of a firehouse before I ever fought my first fire. When it was all over the brotherhood and morale of the fire dept. lay in shambles with deep personal conflict between those who aligned themselves on opposite sides of the dispute. That conflict expressed itself daily in every firehouse and every community – and sometimes the rift even ran through members of the same family. As an impressionable 21-year-old kid I certainly did not get a positive introduction to the famous “fire family” type of camaraderie and I am not proud to say that I did not manage myself very well in the midst of it. But, thankfully, by the grace of God, eventually the light of faith began to dawn and I was able to begin to rise above conflict to see and experience the best of healing and hope and the depth of brotherhood that moves firefighters to trust each other with their very lives. And I found my greatest source of inspiration and empowerment to be God’s call to us for authentic fire service camaraderie in the “one another” passages of the Bible. Here is a smattering of examples:

“Be at peace with **one another**...be devoted to **one another** in brotherly love...give preference to **one another** in honor...be of the same mind toward **one another**; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly...love **one another**, even as I have loved you...owe nothing to anyone except to love **one another**...let us not judge **one another**...pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of **one another**...may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with **one another**...accept **one another**, just as Christ also accepted us...admonish **one another**...through love serve **one another**...let us not become boastful, not challenging **one another**, not envying **one another**...wash **one another’s** feet? (how about we make that ‘wash **one another’s** bunker gear’)...bear **one another’s** burdens...with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for **one another**...laying aside falsehood, speak truth to **one another**, for we are members of **one another**...be kind to **one another**, tender-hearted, forgiving **one another**, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you...do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard **one another** as more important than yourselves...bearing with **one another**, and forgiving **one another**...increase and abound in love for **one another**...encourage **one another** and build up **one another**...live in peace with **one another**...always seek after that which is good for **one another**...encourage **one another** day after day...let us consider how to stimulate **one another** to love and good deeds...encouraging **one another**...do not speak against **one another**...do not complain against **one another**...pray for **one another**...fervently love **one another** from the heart...be hospitable to **one another**...as each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving **one another**...clothe yourselves with humility toward **one another**...have fellowship with **one another**...if we love **one another**, God abides in us”.

I hope you don’t mind that I skipped quite a few “love one another’s” - I figured you had probably caught that in the few I included. Your fire service circle of relationships is filled with people in process: people who are encouraging, people who are not...people you can’t wait to see, people you would rather avoid...people who are on top of the world, people who are going through some rough times...people with great experience and expertise, people who are going to make a lot of mistakes. Our faith tells us that God has called each of them and placed them in that circle so that He may do His work in and through their fire service lives – and He invites you and I to be His co-workers in that process. And it is we ourselves who are transformed by His grace as we open our eyes of faith to see Him at work in **ONE ANOTHER!**

Kevin Coffey, IFA Chaplain (815-457-2007, kc9526@yahoo.com)

Fire Service Representatives Meet with Lt. Governor



Chief Steve Iovinelli of the Franklin Park Fire Department would like to thank to Chief John Swan from the Illinois Firefighter's Association for his diligent efforts in arranging a meeting with Lt. Governor Evelyn Sanguinetti on Thursday, 09 July 2015. It was an extremely productive meeting and Lt. Governor Sanguinetti and her staff were well versed on the issues and understood all of our concerns. Thanks to Representatives Moffit and Sente for taking time out of their extremely hectic day to join us in our discussions about the Fire Prevention Funding. The picture is of the group and a special thanks to Tim Sashko from the Chief's Association and Greg Knowle from the Illinois Professional Firefighter's Association for taking the time to join the meeting.

The Bulletin
Registration Form
IFA Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend
October 15 - 18, 2015

Step 1

REGISTRATION INFORMATION (Please print clearly or type)

Driver's License No. _____

State of issue _____

Social Security No. --

SID # (FEMA Student ID) _____
(required for NFA class)

Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____ Sex: Male _____ Female _____

First Name _____ MI _____

Last Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home/Eve Phone (_____) _____

Day/Work Phone (_____) _____

Student e-mail address _____

Name of your local library _____

Dept./Organization _____

Dept. Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Dept. Phone # _____

Dept. e-mail address _____

Years of Service _____ Rank/Title _____

In case of emergency, notify: _____

Phone # _____

Step 2

REGISTRATION FEES

IFA members before October 2 \$ 50
Non-IFA members before October 2 \$ 75
Received after October 2 and at door \$100
Non-IFA members after October 2 \$125
Get a free registration for every three from the same organization.

Signature Required

*All registration forms **must** be signed **on the back side** ► by chief, training officer, or department head, regardless of who is paying the registration.*

Step 3

CHOOSE YOUR CLASS

Please rank your preference for these two days of training from 1 to 3, with number 1 being your first preference. If you choose a Hands-On class, you must participate in all portions and have your gear with you. (Maximum number of students per class)

HANDS-ON FRIDAY/SATURDAY CLASSES

____ Foundations of Firefighting (50)
____ Essentials of Fires on the Farm (40)

CLASSROOM FRIDAY/SATURDAY

____ Crude Oil by Rail (4 hours)
____ Grain Bin Awareness (4 hours)

FRIDAY EVENING CLASSES AT IFSI

____ Myths and Realities (20)
____ Fireman, Fire Engine, Firehouse

Note: evening classes can be in addition to Friday daytime classes

SATURDAY CLASS AT IFSI

____ Reading Smoke Know Your Smoke (Sat 8-5)

FRIDAY/SATURDAY HOTEL CLASSES

____ Understanding Today's Fireground (Friday 1-5)
____ Traffic Incident Management & Responder Safety Workshop (Saturday 8-4)
____ Understanding Today's Fireground (Sat. 1-5)

ALL HANDS-ON CLASSES HAVE LIMITED ENROLLMENT, PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE OCTOBER 2

For more information, contact:

Joe Mandarino, Conference Director
24403 Arrowhead Drive
Manhattan IL 60442
708-935-2893 corky2700@aol.com

Mail registration form with registration fee to:

Illinois Firefighter's Association
c/o Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77, Glen Carbon IL 62034 618/882-4783
Fax 618/882-7287 | editor@illinoisfirefighter.org
Make checks payable to Illinois Firefighter's Association
Call treasurer to charge your registration on credit card.

You must be 18 years old or older and sign the form on the back side ► of this page to participate in hands-on training.

Acknowledgement of Risks and Release of Responsibility

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, through its Illinois Fire Service Institute, attempts to conduct its training programs in a safe and efficient manner. However, it is not possible to eliminate all of the potential hazards to a student's safety. Before any student participates in an Institute training program involving the teaching of emergency response skills, he/she should be familiar with the level of physical stress and other hazards involved. Please read the following explanations of the physical and mental requirements of this course and sign the form to acknowledge that you have read and understand the information. Students who cannot comply with these requirements will not be allowed to participate in parts of the training involving physical exertion, or the use of protective equipment. They may attend lectures and observe evolutions from a safe distance.

I acknowledge:

1. Practical skills training of all disciplines can be a physically and mentally stressful activity, requiring physical exertion; exposure to high temperature and humidity levels; toxic atmospheres; working at heights and in confined spaces; the possibility of elevated body temperatures, increased pulse, respiration, and blood pressures; and the ability to react quickly to emergency situations.
2. Persons with known heart or lung disease, hypertension, who are pregnant (Note: spontaneous abortion will occur with pregnant females when core temperature elevates), or have other medical or mental conditions which may affect their health and safety under these conditions, are advised to check with their personal, or fire department, physician before participating in the activity. The ability to meet the Illinois Department of Labor Respirator Wearers physical evaluation is the responsibility of the sponsoring department/agency and is a requirement for any course requiring the use of a self-contained breathing apparatus.
3. Protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus meeting the appropriate NFPA standards, at the time of manufacture, must be worn during most practical exercises and live fire training as directed by the instructor in charge. Protective equipment must be in serviceable condition.
4. Individuals with facial hair, jewelry, or other impediment to the proper seal of the face-piece on self-contained breathing apparatus will not be allowed to participate in evolutions where the atmosphere is toxic or may become so.
5. The use of alcohol, and other drugs, which affect mental or physical reactions, immediately preceding, or during training, is prohibited.
6. I am 18 years of age, or older, and an active member of a public or private fire department, public sector agency or authorized private corporation pre-approved by the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI).
7. For purposes of promoting the IFSI, I agree to allow IFSI unlimited use of my image, with no compensation.
8. By the signature of the Chief/Training Officer, the department acknowledges extension of its Worker's Compensation coverage to the student. In the event of injury during training, the student is responsible for notifying his or her department to initiate the process. IFSI does not provide insurance coverage for students. Any and all injuries, no matter how minor, will be reported to the IFSI staff who will have the final say in selecting the treatment disposition for the student. This may range from on-site treatment to ambulance transportation to a local emergency department or occupational medicine agency. If a student or department does not accept these terms, or refuses to comply with IFSI's treatment decision and disposition, the student will be dropped from the remainder of the class (or program) and will not be eligible for any refund.
9. IFSI will not sell nor distribute your email to any outside agency, except to Parkland College, as outlined in number 12, below. IFSI will, from time to time, provide you with organization updates, newsletters, surveys and the like. Providing your email address will serve as your approval for these periodic distributions.
10. **In order for the students, or their agency, to avoid being billed for the usual course fees, notifications of withdrawal must be made no later than 30 calendar days prior to the start of the course. This notification must be in writing. Failure to notify the Institute, as noted above, will result in you or your department being billed, regardless.**
11. No unauthorized cameras are allowed at IFSI training or IFSI sponsored training events. The unauthorized use of cameras may lead to confiscation of the camera.
12. IFSI has partnered with Parkland College to provide Vocational Skills and/or Academic Credit for courses attended, where applicable. Formal enrollment information and transcript information will be available for courses delivered by IFSI after July 1, 2010, at the Parkland web site: www.parkland.edu.

Chief/Training Officer Signature: _____
Title & Signature Printed Name

Participant's Signature: _____
Title & Signature Printed Name

Date: _____

*Use of Student Social Security numbers: Furnishing a Social Security number (SSN) is voluntary and not required for enrollment. However, the University of Illinois is required by federal law to report to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) the name, address and SSN for persons from whom class fees and related expenses are received. Federal law also requires the University to obtain and report to the IRS the SSN for any person to whom compensation is paid. Failure to provide such information may delay or even prevent your enrollment. The University will not disclose a SSN for any purpose not required by law without the consent of the student.



Our promise:

To be responsive to our nation's first responders.

That's why we've partnered with **IFA** to provide **auto and home insurance** designed exclusively for you and your fellow firefighters.

For 100 years, California Casualty has delivered trusted, personalized insurance for those who protect, strengthen and enhance the quality of life in American communities.

It's California Casualty's policy to do more for the people who give more, starting with you.

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California Casualty
Auto and Home Insurance
WE PROTECT AMERICAN HEROES®

For a free, no-obligation quote,
call 1-866-680-5137
or visit www.CalCas.com/Firefighters

The Bulletin

If your delegates are the same as what the IFA has on file, you do not have to fill out this form. To find out who your listed delegates are, contact the IFA at 618-882-4783 or email editor@illinoisfirefighters.org.



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 77, Glen Carbon, Illinois 62034 (618) 882-4783

OFFICIAL FIRE DEPARTMENT CREDENTIALS 2015

To the Officers and Members of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

This certifies that _____ and _____ are

Members of the _____ FIRE DEPARTMENT in good standing and that they were duly elected as delegates to represent the above department at the 2015 Annual Conference of said Association in Urbana, Illinois.

Dated this _____ day of _____ A.D. 2015

Secretary (signature)

Fire Chief (signature)

125th Annual Conference Firefighter Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend

October 15 – 18, 2015

Wyndham Garden

1001 Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801-1036

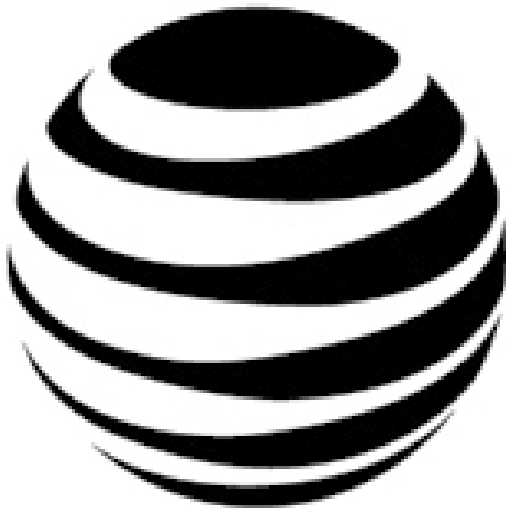
217-328-7900

Mail, fax or email completed form to:

Illinois Firefighter's Association
Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77
Glen Carbon IL 62034
IFA Phone: 618-882-4783
IFA Fax: 618-882-7287
editor@illinoisfirefighter.org



CHS Foundation



at&t



California Casualty
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