

The **Bulletin**



Publication of the Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

Volume 68, Number 5

September - October 2014

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

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**CUSTOM FIREFIGHTER FIRE RING
TO BE RAFFLED AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Story Page 24

September - October 2014 Vol. 66 Number 5

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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 Illinois Firefighter's Association Conference is rapidly approaching. If you have not registered, please do so right away. The Down & Dirty training classes are filling up fast. The training is just one portion of the conference. Our annual membership meeting is scheduled Friday morning, along with our keynote speaker Chief Robert Shaw, Duquoin Fire Department. His presentation will open your eyes on fire ground safety and the events that took place during a fire call that forever change his life and changed the fire department. The conference is also supported by our vendors and we hope that you will be able to support them with your attendance. As firefighters, the coming together with camaraderie and the exchange of ideas will also bring us closer together as one. The highlight of the conference will be our Sunday morning memorial service, which will recognize all our fellow Illinois firefighters that have passed during the last year.

As we all know, over 70% of the firefighters in Illinois are volunteers and that percentage is shrinking due to many factors. The vast majority of our communities can not support a paid fire department, so many are merging fire services and sharing each other's resources. They are trying to reduce response times and provide a grade of service that will not hinder fire protection. We are also supported by the Fire Marshal's Office and our Fire Academy. Their commitment to provide training at no cost through Cornerstone, and Small Equipment Grants has helped reduce burdens put upon our communities. But, it does not matter if we are not supported by the firefighter. We must maintain retention and recruitment to provide the necessary protection for our communities. I believe this can only be done if we can help provide the time and commitments necessary to do the job through benefits given to each firefighter. This can be done by giving stipends, property tax abatements, income tax credits, college tuition assistance and other forms of benefits that will entice volunteer firefighters to join and to remain active in their communities.

Not forgetting the career firefighters, they also have gone through some hard times in recent years. The staffing issues have hit them hard and has brought on safety issues for them and the communities they serve. We need to support each other whether we are volunteer or career. There has been a division drawn between the two groups even though we protect our communities for the same reason. The two hatter issue must go away if we are going to support each other's mission. We have become each other's enemies instead each other's brothers. As your president of the Illinois Firefighters Association, I recognize all firefighters whether you are Career or Volunteer. So let's work and unite together as one.

God Bless and be Safe

John Swan President IFA



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Margaret Vaughn, IFA Legislative Lobbyist

GET TO KNOW LOCAL LEGISLATORS

Now that it is fall, the Governor's race and legislators are in full campaign mode, as I am sure you can tell from commercials and mailings. Though it is easy to say "I don't like politicians" and "I don't want to get involved", the decisions elected officials make impact the lives of the fire officials. It is important for everyone to be proactive and get to know their legislators in their districts during this time of year when the legislature is not in session so when an issue comes up during session they are familiar with you when you contact them.

Oppose Legalization of Fire Works proposed by Sen. Chapin Rose – Though fire service was able to convince by Rep. Reis not to advance HB 5902 to legalize fireworks Sen. Rose has made it clear he plans to introduce his own version of the legislation to bring in additional revenue to the State during the 2015 spring session. IL Fire Service feels that any additional revenue will be offset by increased cost to first responders for fireworks related accidents and injuries and increased Medicaid costs to treat injuries (burn injuries can be one of the most expensive to treat). There is already a mechanism in current law if locals unit of government want to pass ordinance to issue permits for Class C fireworks and inspect site. States which have legalized Class C fireworks have seen 400% increase in injuries. It is important that the fire service let their legislators know this is something they will be opposing strongly when it is introduced.

ADDITIONAL ONGOING & FUTURE ISSUES

HB 5485 – STAFFING Passed House/ Stalled in Senate – AFFI initiative which allows staffing capacities to be determined by arbitrator if agreement cannot be reached by labor and management. Though all for safety, many chiefs fear this will lead to budget challenges resulting in potential layoffs.

SB 3287- SAFETY ADVICE LIABILITY sponsored by Sen. Raoul and Rep. John Bradley – Signed into law 06/06/14. Initiative of Trial Lawyers to remove exemption in law that granted third parties providing safety advice or training on behalf of employer for his employees to have immunity from being sued by employee in workers comp case. We are working on proposing amendment to exempt government entities, apprenticeship programs and non-profits which provide safety training (such as state associations at conferences) and allow the rest to only be liable if the injury was a direct result of advice given.

NORTHWEST SUBURBAN LEGISLATIVE FORUM

I recently worked with the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance (IFSA) to coordinate hosted a Northwest Suburban Legislative Forum in conjunction with the September MABAS I meeting.

Rep. Carol Sente (D-Vernon Hills), Rep. Michelle Mussman (D-Schaumburg) and Sen. Michael Noland (D-Elgin) were the keynote speakers and provided an update of the current state of affairs in Springfield and its impact on the fire service. George Korda, Legislative Liaison for the Office



of the State Fire Marshal and I provided an overview of fire service legislation. The event was wrapped up with a question and answer session in which fire officials were able to have an open discussion with their legislators about specific legislation and local concerns.

Pictured 1st Row Seated: Illinois Government Affairs Director Margaret Vaughn, Rep. Carol Sente (D-Vernon Hills), Rep. Michelle Mussman (D-Schaumburg) and Sen. Michael Noland (D-Elgin). 2nd

Row Standing Palatine Deputy Chief Patrick Gratziana, Rolling Meadows Deputy Chief Terry Valentino, Palatine Deputy Chief William Gabrenya. Wheeling Deputy Chief Dave Palmeri, IFSA Executive Director Phil Zaleski, Schaumburg Deputy Chief William Spencer, Elk Grove Chief Rich Mikel, Hoffman Estates Chief Jeff Jorian, Streamwood Chief Chris Clark, Streamwood Deputy Chief Marv Kramer, IFSA Board Member Terry Pluta, Mt. Prospect Chief John Malcolm, Arlington Heights Chief Ken Koeppen and Elk Grove Village Chief Mike Nelson.



IFA Day at the Illinois State Fair

Dear Fellow Firefighters

Again, the Illinois State Fair all went very well. And the reason for that was the Firefighter personnel that put in the long hours that they give, and their outstanding effort.

As the chairman of the IFA State Fair day every year, I find those Firefighters that give their time are a real asset to the public that enters that tent. And in the case of my Department and all fire personnel that have worked in the tent in the past. They have fun and more importantly, how rewarding it always is to come back. I would like to thank the firefighters for their outstanding effort in trying to make it to the Fair this year, I wish them well and hope to see them back next year. In closing, I would like to add the last Saturday of the Fair in August 2015 will be the date you will want to mark on your calendars as a reminder to contact me at least 45 Days ahead of that date so I can get your Gate and Car passes out to you in time for the Fair. Stay safe in all you do for the Fire Service and I hope to see you all back, and even more Firefighters back next year. Please go to the IFA web site every chance you get. And read the IFA Bulletin, the IFA has a lot to offer to all Firefighters in Illinois. Thank all of you for your outstanding effort at the Fair.

Your Truly,
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Chaplain's Corner

Kevin Coffey - IFA Chaplain

The Hall of Faith

Often we firefighters compartmentalize our experience of God. In other words, what I do when I am in fire service mode is real life...faith and God is all about what goes on at church – and I know plenty of firefighters who avoid darkening those doors! But there is a famous chapter in the Bible that is often called “The Hall of Faith” (Hebrews chapter 11, check it out!). I love this chapter because it tears down the walls between God/faitth and real fire service life “on the scene” where we experience it. It helps us to see what is unseen and often not identified - the rich and deep gift of faith operating in its powerful and mysterious ways at the core of our hearts.

The chapter reads a bit like this:

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the old-timers in your fire department were commended for.

By faith we understand that the fire service is not merely a career path, but a response to the command and call of God to love our neighbor in his or her time of greatest emergency need.

By faith, as a resident in your community, when called to serve on your local fire department, obeyed and joined, even though you did not foresee where you were going or what you would be doing.

By faith you accepted the humble position of a probationary firefighter, living like a stranger in a foreign land, as did others before you, because you were looking forward to achieving full firefighter status as a member of a fire service team whose architect and builder is God.

By faith, when warned about the countless varieties of emergency responses and their associated perils that you would be dispatched to, you accepted and pursued training opportunities, fitting them in to your over-booked schedule – at times even to the neglect of so many other things that needed to be done.

By faith you have responded to each alarm, not knowing what you would find when you arrived on the scene, because you consider Him faithful who promised to give you strength and wisdom for the situations you encounter.

By faith, when God tested you, you dragged a charged line into the smoke and heat, not seeing where you were going (forgot the thermal imaging camera again!), in order to quench the fury of the flames down the hall and around the corner.

By faith, in order to reflect the God who called you, you have responded with skill, compassion, and grace to EMS emergencies as though every patient were your own mother, father, sister, or brother.

By faith, when you had gained years of experience, you willingly took younger firefighters under your wing, patiently mentoring them by your example and instruction because you sensed their God-given potential.

By faith you accepted promotion to ranks of officer and chief, along with its increased responsibilities and burdens, even though there were so many more lucrative ways you could have marketed your God-given talents and skills. Those who do such things consider the call of God to be of greater value than the treasures of this world.

And what more shall I say? I don't have the time to tell about how **by faith** you washed rigs, maintained tools and equipment, conducted building inspections, prepared school fire safety presentations, went to classes, achieved certifications, and generally put in the extra effort and the extra hours that no one but God even knows about.

And what about those who refused to shrink back from danger, accepting the risk of possible injury and even those who have given the ultimate sacrifice in a line-of-duty death? These were all commended for their faith. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He is a rewarder of those who earnestly seek Him.”

May God bless your service and your faith.

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

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Annual Meeting and Election held

Friday, October 17 at 9am Holiday Inn, Urbana, Illinois
in conjunction with the

Annual Down & Dirty Firefighting Training Weekend

Training held Friday, October 17 from 1 to 5 pm and
7:30 to 9 pm and Saturday from 8 am to 5 pm

Breakfast and Lunch provided both days.

Basket Auction Friday Night

Free Entertainment Saturday Night

Registration info and conference brochure available
online at www.illinoisfirefighters.org



Always ready.

You never know when the call will come in - you just know that you need to be ready when it does. As the largest provider of insurance to over 15,000 emergency service organizations throughout the United States and Canada, we look at it the same way. We're ready to help when the need arises.

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2014 Conference Classes

Hands-On Firefighting Classes

Down & Dirty Basic Firefighter - 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 fire ground. 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 Basic Pump Operations - Limited to 40 students

This class covers the mechanical principles of pumps, operation of a pumping engine and hands-on pumping activity. Students practice computing the friction loss for a variety of evolutions and receive hands-on training in operating different types of pumpers with municipal and tender water supplies. This is a valuable class for those who have recently been promoted to driver/operator, or are seeking a better understanding of how a pump moves water from hydrants, tanks and static sources through the pump to extinguish the fire.

Myths and Realities - Limited to 30 students

The class returns this year by popular demand. Observe and experience first-hand fire behavior, proper stream application, plus the effects of straight and fog streams. Techniques for easily handling 2-1/2" hose and hand tools will be demonstrated. Note: this class may be taken in addition to Friday's classes at hotel.

Down & Dirty Rapid Intervention Team - Basics

Limited to 50 students

This Cornerstone version introduces students to the basics of Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) operations and tactical and strategic operations related to downed firefighters. Discussion covers firefighter case studies, RIT tools, staging, RASP, size up, accountability, equipment demonstrations, victim extrication/disentanglement, and managing the "Mayday." Preventive or proactive methods of avoiding situations where fire fighters are trapped are highlighted. Practical reactive techniques or mitigation of a downed responder are demonstrated and practiced as a part of this "hands on" class.

Equipment Requirements For All Hands-On Classes

All firefighters participating in the three 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).

Classroom Firefighting Classes

Chaplain's Workshop - Friday and Saturday at the hotel

A Chaplain at the scene of a fire can play a number of significant roles – from providing information to bewildered onlookers and family members through delivering comfort and guidance to fire victims. This 12-hour workshop focuses on what you can do at the scene.

- Psychological first aid
- Fireground communication and culture
- An introduction to Technical Rescue
- What the Chief expects of the Chaplain
- L.O.D.D. review and ICFC update
- Case Studies, if time is available

Getting to know OSFM and IDOL

This Saturday afternoon program will focus on the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) and how the agencies interact with fire departments throughout Illinois. The class takes a close look at current issues and recent developments in areas such as code enforcement; fireworks regulation; life safety code adoption efforts; minimum training standards and inspection practices of IDOL. Fire department programs offered by OSFM and IDOL will be highlighted. Kevin Schott of the OSFM and Cheryl Neff of IDOL will make the joint presentation.

New This Year:

Understanding Today's Dynamic Fireground

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 - 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.

**Get a free registration for every three
from the same organization**

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

The Bulletin
Registration Form
IFA Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend
October 17-19, 2014

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 3 \$ 50
Non-IFA members before October 3 \$ 75
Received after October 3 and at door \$100
Non-IFA members after October 3 \$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

FRIDAY/SATURDAY CLASSES

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 Down & Dirty class, you must participate in all portions and have your gear with you. (Maximum number of students per class)

HANDS-ON FRIDAY/SATURDAY CLASSES

___ Basic Firefighter (50)
___ Basic Pump Operations (40)
___ Rapid Intervention Team - Basics (50)

FRIDAY EVENING CLASS AT IFSI

___ Myths and Realities (30) Note: class can be in addition to Friday class

HOTEL CLASSES

___ Chaplain's 2-day Workshop (Fri 1-5/Sat 8-5)
___ Getting to Know OSFM/IDOL (Saturday 1-5)
___ 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 3

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

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. 1



Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

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

Registration Form – 2014 Annual Conference *Firefighter Down & Dirty Fire Fighting Weekend*

October 17-19, 2014

**Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center
1001 Killarney Street, Urbana, IL 61801-1036
217-328-7900**

Name _____

Department _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

County _____

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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: Holiday Inn and Conference Center, 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 3, 2014.



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Department Spotlight

Western Springs Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services

The Western Springs Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services was founded in 1894 with Elmore Patterson as its first Fire Marshall and 10 volunteer firefighters. The Department started with a rented barn and equipment that cost \$155. In 1937 a national firefighter tournament was held at Soldier Field in Chicago and the Western Springs Fire Department won the National Championship in the volunteer firefighter division, defeating Colorado Springs, CO. In 1948 Western Springs became the first fire department in the area to provide emergency ambulance service with the acquisition of a new Cadillac ambulance acquired with funds raised through scrap drives. In 1972, the Department adopted the State Emergency Medical Technician program and began training personnel as EMT's. In 1979 the Western Springs paramedic program was created with support from the community and a group of volunteer members trained as paramedics. The paramedic program was the very first in the area and is now the standard of care throughout the United States.

As of December 31, 2013, 53 people staffed the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services. Included in this number are the Director, one Deputy Chief, one Assistant Chief, one full-time Paramedic/Code Enforcement Officer, and six contractual Firefighter/Paramedics – one of whom also serves as the EMS Coordinator. Line officers include three Captains and six Lieutenants. Non-line personnel include a Training Officer, Public Education Director, CPR Coordinator, and the Chaplain.

Western Springs Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services exists to provide personnel and equipment at a state of readiness to protect the lives and property of the residents of the Village from the adverse effects of fire, medical emergencies or disasters. Current programs include: Fire Suppression and Rescue, Emergency Medical Services, Public Education, Hazardous Materials Response, Cause and Origin Determination (fire investigation), Technical Rescue/Dive Rescue, and Emergency Management.

Fire suppression and rescue operations include response to and control of emergencies involving fire (structure, automobile, grass/brush, electrical wires, etc.), hazardous materials, vehicle rescue, sub-surface rescue, fire alarm activation/investigation, smoke/odor investigation/mitigation, natural gas emergencies, electrical distribution system emergencies, weather-related emergencies, carbon monoxide alarms/investigations, elevator rescue, home lock-out, vehicle accident wash down, and investigation of alarm system trouble signals. Emergency Medical Services operations include response to and treatment of medical emergency cases that involve trauma, including accidents (vehicle, home, sports), cardiac emergencies, strokes, respiratory emergencies, weather-related emergencies, other medical emergency cases (seizure, diabetes, etc.), and mutual aid requests. In 2013, the Department responded to 1,708 incidents which included automatic fire response to 17 different neighboring communities through M.A.B.A.S.

All Department members engage in a wide range of training activities with a recent focus shifting to a

small group training format wherever possible. New recruits complete their basic proficiency training and also go on to achieve specialized training in Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Most certainly another highlight is the amount of hands-on skills training that Department members accomplish through the donation of structures slated for demolition within the village. The homes being torn down in order for new construction to take place provide an opportunity to perform



The Bulletin



forcible entry, hose line advancement, search/rescue, coordinated ventilation, ladder placement, pumping operations, aerial ladder truck operations, and various other practical skills.

The Director of Fire and Emergency Medical Services serves as the Director of Emergency Management. The Director, the Deputy Chief, and an appointed Director of Planning and Preparedness are regular members of the Village Emergency Management Team. In a major emergency affecting the Village, the Team – which includes members from all Village departments – is assembled in the Village's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to execute emergency management of Village operations during the crisis.

The emergency management team has recently revised the Village Emergency Operations Plan to meet new NIMS requirements and best practices.

Fire prevention operations includes new commercial and institutional fire alarm systems plan review and approval, sprinkler system plan review and approval, fire and life safety compliance inspections, inspection and approval of special event fire and life safety compliance, and response to complaints of fire code violations.

Public Education activities includes comprehensive fire safety training for children in Western Springs' schools and pre-schools, the Fire Prevention Week Open House in October, fire extinguisher training for targeted groups, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training for citizens, Automated External Defibrillator (AED) training for citizens and first responders, safety visits and smoke detector checks for senior citizens, fire station tours for children and citizens, summer block parties, in station birthday party education sessions and participation in special community events such as Gathering on the Green and the Memorial Day parade where fire prevention topics and techniques can be emphasized.

Apparatus include Engine 1711 (2001 Spartan/Luverne Rescue Pumper), Engine 1721 (2005 Crimson Pumper), and Engine 1722 (1982 Pierce Arrow), - all three being 1,500 gpm pumpers with 750 gallon water tanks. Truck 1719 (1993 Pierce) has a 105-ft hydraulic aerial ladder carrying rescue, forcible entry, ventilation, salvage and overhaul tools. It also has a 1,500 gpm fire pump and 300 gal. water tank. ALS ambulances include Amb. 1715 (2008 MedTec) and 1714 (2002 Ford E450 MedTec).

The Western Springs Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services began with volunteers and it continues today, under the leadership of Chief Pat Kenny, with a cost-efficient and highly effective combination of career firefighter/paramedics and local residents who serve as paid-on-call personnel. For more than 100 years when someone in Western Springs has had a fire or a medical emergency their neighbors have come to help them. It is one of the things that makes Western Springs such a special place and why the Department mission states: ***“Neighbors protecting neighbors through the delivery of emergency and non-emergency services.”***





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Illinois Fire Services

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Illinois Fire Service Institute Updates

Jim Keiken, Deputy Director



Mark Your 2014 Training Calendar

Program	Start	End	Location
IFA Weekend	10/17/2014	10/18/2014	IFSI
Light and Fight- One day event	10/18/2014		IFSI
F0455 - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations	10/25/2014	10/26/2014	North Park Fire Protection District, Machesney Park IL
Engine Company Operations	10/28/2014	10/31/2014	IFSI
Light and Fight- One day event	11/1/2014		IFSI
Truck Company Operations	11/4/2014	11/7/2014	IFSI
Fire Service Women of IL	11/8/2014	11/9/2014	IFSI
Fire Ground Officer	11/10/2014	11/14/2014	IFSI
F0455 - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations	11/8/2014	11/9/2014	Western Illinois University - Stipes Hall, Macomb IL
Rapid Intervention Team	11/17/2014	11/21/2014	IFSI
F0729 - Incident Safety Officer (Revised)	12/20/2014	12/21/2014	Somonauk Fire Department, Somonauk IL
F0455 - Strategy and Tactics for Initial Company Operations	1/17/2015	1/17/2015	Lake Sara Community Building, Effingham IL
F0457 - Decision Making for Initial Company Operations	2/18/2015	2/19/2015	Quincy Fire Department, Quincy IL
F0803 - Leadership I for Fire and EMS: Strategies for Company Success	3/5/2015	3/6/2015	Peoria Fire Department, Peoria IL

For more information on upcoming classes visit our web site @ <http://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>

Director Mortenson of Illinois Fire Service Institute has established Seven Strategic Priority for IFSI. The are:

- **Training and Educating Firefighters in Hands-on skills**
- **Officer Training and Education**
- **Distance Learning**
- **Leverage Research**
- **NIMS and Command and General Staff training for Public Officials**
- **Ensure you have the best Live-burn Training Facility in the country**
- **Maintain IFSI as YOUR State Fire Academy**

To that end I wanted to report on the Institute's progress this year. In the past year we have initiate a major project of completing and updating all programs we deliver. In all we have created or revised over 166 different programs over the past year. Our task was to making sure that courses have the optimal level possible of hands on skill as well as making sure they have the most current information in industry. In addition we have a number of new programs in the works such as Ladder Tower tactics and Bakken Crude Oil response to name a few. IFSI is committed to meeting the needs across the state.

The New Leadership program is developing very well, we will have a "dress rehearsal" for the instructional staff to walk through the curriculum and practical application yet this year. We will begin to deliver pilot classes early next year, with full delivery of programs in the fall of 2015. Just a reminder on the Leadership Program, the program is really three different programs, Firefighter, Company Officer and Chief level officer. The Programs are focused at the development of the hand on skills and knowledge that fire service leaders need to be successful.

The Bulletin

This program is based upon Seven Lines of Education (LOEs):

- 1) Leadership and followership
- 2) History and traditions
- 3) Communications
- 4) Morals and ethics
- 5) Professional development
- 6) Thinking critically, decision-making/ Recognition Primed Decision-making (RPDM)
- 7) Nature of the environment, Command climate & Culture

This will be a Hand-on leadership program like nothing we have delivered before, look for more information next year.

On the On-line front we have a number of blended programs underdevelopment to make education available to firefighters when they want it and when they are available vs when the instructor is available. Programs under development include, Blended program on Basic Firefighter, Advanced Technician Firefighter, Rope Rescue Operations as well and EMS and basic Firefighting continuing education programs.

IFSI Research has a number of projects in the works, the most exciting may be the WASP, Wearable Advanced Sensor Platform, research project with Globe. Dr .Gavin **Horn and his** staff will be utilizing the system under live fire situations throughout the year. This system will provide physiological status and location/tracking of personnel on the fire ground.

We have a number of NIMS Position Specific as well as Command And General Staff programs schedule for 2015 and will continue to work to “Profess the Faith” to local officials on the need and value of the NIMS system and training. We are working Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) and Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) on a Simulation exercise for late 2015.

Throughout the Summer and Fall of this year we have been developing a number of new burn facilities at IFSI We have remodeled a number of the steel containers on the grounds for use in live fire training including the Streetscape prop. IFSI now has six different structures for live fire training on the grounds. We have also directed our Program Managers to develop weekend versions of some of our most popular weeklong programs. Watch for versions of Rapid Intervention Team Rescue Technician, Engine Company Operations and Truck Company Operations on weekends in the 2015 calendar.

Finally IFSI is your State Fire Academy. All of these ideas, changes, and improvements have come for you. You the firefighters of Illinois have requested them all and IFSI is working everyday to meet the needs of firefighters doing the job day in and day out. Training when you want it, training with more hands on, training on leadership, training at your department. We are committed to “Helping Firefighters do their work through Training, Education, Information and Research”.

It up to you to commit to developing yourself to being the best, to developing mastery of skills and knowledge, ultimately it is all up to you to commit and leverage the training that is provided by your State Fire Academy. IFSI is a world leaders in fire education, training and research, when was the last IFSI class you had?

Remember preparation is the key to prevent poor performance; the life you save may be your own.

Be safe - Jim

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
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South Region:	Tim Bragg,	217-962-1597





Illinois Firefighter's Association, Inc.

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

OFFICIAL FIRE DEPARTMENT CREDENTIALS 2014

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 2014 Annual Conference of said Association in Urbana, Illinois.

Dated this _____ day of _____ A.D. 2014

Secretary (signature)

Fire Chief (signature)

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October 17-19, 2014

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Supporting Those Who Serve

New Guide Helps Families Navigate the Challenges of the Volunteer Fire Service Life

NVFC partners with FirefighterWife.com to provide family resource

Volunteer firefighters and EMTs have long hours, unpredictable schedules, and dangerous job responsibilities. For the volunteer, these negatives are outweighed by the pride they feel in contributing to the safety of their community, helping those in need, and bonding with their fellow volunteers. But when a volunteer has to run off in the middle of a family dinner, or misses another of their children's recitals or sports games, or is responding for hours to a raging fire without being able to provide their family back home with a status report on their well-being, it becomes clear that the volunteer lifestyle affects not just the individual volunteer but their entire family.

Adjusting to the lifestyle of a volunteer fire family can be difficult at best and can present on-going challenges that strain family relationships. Knowing what challenges lie ahead and having the tools and perseverance to address these challenges and adapt as a family is key to the overall well-being of a volunteer fire family. To help families adjust to the volunteer fire service life, the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) partnered with FirefighterWife.com to release *What to Expect: A Guide for Family Members of Volunteer Firefighters*.

"Many volunteer fire families struggle to find the balance between the fire service and home life," said NVFC Chairman Philip C. Stittleburg. "This lifestyle can put a strain on family relationships and cause an array of negative outcomes, from resentment, to the volunteer leaving the fire service, to divorce. Our goal with this guide is to help families adjust to the fire service lifestyle, know what to expect and how to deal with the challenges, and create open, supportive, and strong family relationships for all those who take on this exciting and rewarding life."

This new guide is designed to help spouses, children, parents, siblings, and significant others navigate the volunteer fire service life, keep family relationships strong, and become part of the fire department family. It includes first-hand advice from real fire service families that have faced and overcome the challenges as well as tips and resources to assist volunteer responders and their families in navigating this unique lifestyle.

"Family support is critical for a volunteer firefighter," a fire chief from New York notes in the guide. "Having a family that understands the oath you have taken to assist the community and be there for your fellow brother/sister firefighters when those tones go off allows you to respond and focus on the job at hand. Along with understanding, families too have to sacrifice time spent together in order for the volunteer to respond, but also to attend drills and trainings so we can keep our skills sharp. Without this support a volunteer is forced to choose between the needs of their family versus their commitment to the fire service."

What to Expect aims to help family members provide this support and embrace this new lifestyle with their volunteer so everyone can reap the rewards that the volunteer fire service life has to offer. Access the guide on the NVFC web site at www.nvfc.org.

About the National Volunteer Fire Council

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and provides invaluable tools, resources, programs, training, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. www.nvfc.org

About FirefighterWife.com

FirefighterWife.com is an online community for wives, fiancées, and girlfriends of firefighters. Their mission is to strengthen fire marriages and encourage fire families. www.firefighterwife.com



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Thank You Mike Simmons For Your Service to the Illinois Firefighter's Association

Mike Simmons has stepped down as a Director for the Illinois Firefighter's Association. He has accepted a job in Minnesota so will no longer be able to be a director. The Board of Directors of the IFA thanks Mike for his years of service to the IFA. Mike worked tirelessly on the annual Memorial Service to continue to make it the fine program that it is. He was also the Conference Raffle chairman. We will miss Mike and wish him well in his future endeavors.

Mike was presented a memento from the IFA. The presentation was made by IFA Conference Chairman Joe Mandarino.



IFA Conference Raffle

The Illinois Firefighter's Association is conducting a raffle during the Annual Conference. 1st prize is an iPad. Second prize is a customized Firefighter fire ring. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10. If you would like a chance on the prizes, contact one of the directors listed on page 1 of The Bulletin or you can send your payment to the IFA, PO Box 77, Glen Carbon IL 62034.



Governor signs bills that amend the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act

*by William R. Thomas
Ottosen Britz Kelly Cooper Gilbert & DiNolfo, Ltd.*

On August 13, 2014 and August 15, 2014, Governor Quinn approved HB 5828 (P.A. 98-0881) and SB 3414 (P.A. 98-0973) that will amend portions of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act and other correlated statutes.

P.A. 98-0881 – Rural Vehicle Service Provider

P.A. 98-0881 added language and a definition to the EMS Systems Act. Where a “rural ambulance service provider” was previously defined, now a new category has been added, entitled “rural vehicle service provider.” (210 ILCS 50/3.87)

The amendment defines a rural vehicle service provider as:

[A]n entity that serves a rural population of 7,500 or fewer inhabitants and is licensed by the Department to provide emergency or non-emergency medical services in compliance with this Act, ..., utilizing at least an ambulance, alternate response vehicle as defined by the Department in the rules, or specialized emergency medical services vehicle. (210 ILCS 50/3.87)

The amendment provides the same upgrades and approval to provide an in-field service level upgrade based upon licensed personnel in the vehicle as was previously available to the rural ambulance service provider. If the new rural vehicle service provider is approved for an in-field service level upgrade, then that rural vehicle service provider is then authorized to function at the highest level of emergency medical technician license held by any person staffing that ambulance, alternate response vehicle, or specialized emergency services vehicle. (210 ILCS 50/3.87)

P.A. 98-0973 – Amendments to EMS Systems Act and Related Laws

P.A. 98-0973 makes changes as to terms previously used in the EMS Act:

- The old term “Paramedic” is now referred to as an “Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic (EMT-P)”
- “Emergency Medical Technician – Basic (EMT-B)” shall now be referred to as “EMT”
- “Pre-Hospital RN” will now be referred to as a “Pre-Hospital Registered Nurse”

The new law also adds a new category of licensure for “Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians (A-EMT).”

As a result of the revised terminology for these employees, P.A. 98-0973 not only amends the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act (210 ILCS 50/3.5, 3.10, 3.20, 3.25, 3.35, 3.40, 3.45, 3.50, 3.55, 3.65, 3.70, 3.75, 3.80, 3.130, 3.140, 3.165, 3.170, 3.180, 3.200, 3.205, and 3.210),

but also amends definitions and references to these employees in portions of the following laws:

- Definition of “fireman” in the Fireman’s Disciplinary Act (50 ILCS 745/2(a))
- Definition of “volunteer emergency worker” in the Volunteer Emergency Worker Job Protection Act (50 ILCS 748/3)
- Probationary employment period limitations, preference provisions and licensure requirements in the commission provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code (65 ILCS 5/10-1-7, 10-1-7.1, 10-2.1-4, 10-2.1-6.3, 10-2.1-14, and 10-2.1-31) and the Fire Protection District Act (70 ILCS 705/16.06b and 16.13b)
- Examination of contestants under the Boxing and Full-Contact Martial Arts Act (225 ILCS 105/12)
- Definition of “emergency medical professional” under the Abandoned Newborn Infant Protection Act (325 ILCS 2/10)
- Definition of “emergency medical technician under the Coal Mine Medical Emergency Act (410 ILCS 15/2)
- Informed consent and disclosure provisions under the AIDS Confidentiality Act (410 ILCS 305/7 and 9)
- Reporting of burn injuries under the Burn Injury Reporting Act (425 ILCS 7/5)
- Blood withdrawal and other chemical testing under the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/11-501.01 and 11-501.2)
- Definition of “emergency medical technician” and “first responder” in the Good Samaritan Act (745 ILCS 49/68 and 70)
- Occupational disease presumptions under the Workers Compensation Act (820 ILCS 305/6) and the Workers Occupational Diseases Act (820 ILCS 310/1)

Instead of certifications, the amendment now provides for the licensing of Pre-Hospital Registered Nurses and Emergency Communication Registered Nurses under the EMS Systems Act. (210 ILCS 50/3.80) The definition of a “First Responder” was repealed and further provides for the licensing of First Responders. A new category of license was created for Emergency Medical Responders and provides details of the necessary educational requirements for that category. (210 ILCS 50/3.50)

A definitional modification was made to the categories of Basic Life Support Services, Intermediate Life Support Services and Advanced Life Support Services which shall now include the services outlined in the National EMS Educational Standards in lieu of the United States Department of Transportation’s national curriculum. (210 ILCS 50/3.10) The new law also creates the authority within the Department of Health to suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew the licenses of Emergency Medical Dispatchers, Lead Instructors, Pre-Hospital Registered Nurses and Emergency Communications Registered Nurses. (210 ILCS 50/3.40)

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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