



INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

"Aiming to foster and promote unity and harmony among volunteer fire departments throughout Indiana"

THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

(USPS 262-480)

VOLUME 71 NO. 3

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

AUGUST 2022

From The President

David Israel



Are we having fun yet, what a weather year 2022, snow, ice, heat, rain, no rain in places, what a roller coaster of a ride in the weather department?

I would like to thank the 2020 Take 2 IVFA Convention Committee for a great Convention in Evansville, Indiana.

Highlights from the 2022 Awards: 2022 Miss Flame Mackenzie Elliott, District 15; Angel Award - Ashley Armstrong; Bridgeport Scholarship winners, Nicholas Kolanowski - District 2, Collin Dublin - District 9A, Morgan Adams - District 11B, Kimberly Smith - District 6, our own District 10 winner Jonathon Ralston from Greensburg. CONGRATULATIONS to all of you.

How about some more Award winners: Ivan Nevil Award Fire Service Award - Tim Smith, Lois Boaz Award - Suzie Lewis, Miriam Schaeckel Award - Pam Gerdowsky, President's Award: *Rensselaer Printco*, printers from Rensselaer, Indiana for printing our IVFA quarterly paper for 22 years - THANK YOU and finally 2022 Mr. IVFA Edwin Stone, Hope Fire Department from District 10.

Congratulations to all the winners; you can start NOW NOMINATING for 2023.

How many of you have ever watched the *Newlywed Game* show? How many of you got to watch the not so *Newlywed Game*

show, live at 2022 Convention Central?

At the Friday morning business session, a lot of info was shared; Director Steve Cox has retired from DHS Directors position. Thank You for all that you have done for the State of Indiana. Fire Marshal Joel Thacker is going to move up to the DHS Director's position. We have a new State EMS

Director, Dr. Eric Yazel.

We are going forward with the Cancer Study for Volunteers; this a NO COST SURVEY. We hope that you will participate. We are looking into having some Mental Health classes put on across the state with John Buckman.

We are also taking the Cost Savings Study on the road July 9, 2022 and across the state to educate

our Legislators and Cities and Towns and Townships that we as a Volunteer Fire Department SAVES taxpayers 4.5 Billion Dollars a year. We are hoping for a good turnout at the sessions; watch the IVFA Calendar. I believe a benefit package for Volunteers is just around the corner for us, stay tuned.

New IVFA officers for 2023

January 1, 2023: President Jerry Liston, Vice President Ross Emery, Board Chairman David Israel, Chaplain Dave Elick.

Be Safe, see you at the next IVFA meeting.

David Israel
President

2022 Convention award winners



Lois Boaz Award
Suzie Lewis



Angel Award
Ashley Armstrong



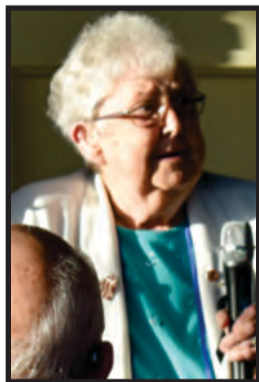
Convention Host Plaque
presented to Jack Kerney



Mr. IVFA Award
Edwin Stone



IVFA President's Award
Rensselaer Printco - printers



IVFAA President's Award
Lou Bartlow



Miriam Schaeckel Award
Pam Gerdowsky



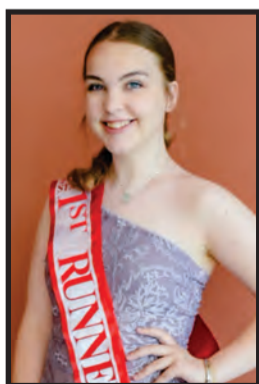
Ivan Nevil Fire Service
Leadership Award 2021
Mark Jones



Ivan Nevil Fire Service
Leadership Award - 2022
Tim Smith



IVFA Miss Flame
Mackenzie Elliott



IVFA Miss Flame
Runner-up
Madilynne Reeder



Miss Flame
Miss Congenialty
Larissa Butler



Bridgeport Scholarship
Jonathon Ralston



Bridgeport Scholarship
Kimberly Smith

Bridgeport Scholarship winners 3 -4 -5 were unable to attend

Ollie Sandberg Award was not handed out at the convention

Congratulations to all of the winners!!

photos submitted by Steve Anderson



Determined to Serve, Determined to Protect

Sponsored By The Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association To Create And Promote Good-Will Among Its Members



NOVEMBER DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1, 2022



From the State House to the Fire House

by Larry Curl

Some "Political" talk and more
By Larry Curl,
IVFA Member and Lobbyist

Greetings my Fellow Officers, Members, Firefighters, Emergency Service Responders, EMTs, Paramedics and IVFAA Members.

As I sit here putting the Lobbyist's newspaper article together in the cool of the office, it's predicted to reach nearly 100 with a heat index of nearly 110.

If my memory serves me in the last newspaper article we were still talking about some cool nights and looking forward to some warmer days, be careful what you wish for...

Another quarter has passed since my last newspaper article "From the Fire House to the State House". So let's talk about some legislation, education and information, my three favorite topics.

We've talked about what it takes to provide a quality service, the need for staffing and funding. The many opportunities we have and the opportunities we need to build a stronger, better staffed, well-funded Volunteer fire service in Indiana, and the dream is still alive at least in my eyes.

We have talked about the money we save our taxpayers as is shown in the "cost savings study" we had commissioned, how to best utilize the data and who to share it with.

So here is the game plan: We are (and you might have read about this

somewhere else in this paper) but I want to expand and share the details, yes we are taking the talk to the street, to our elected officials, our communities via the media, and even you if you will allow us to.

We are doing a "road show" delivery of the Cost Savings Study as well as talking about our current fire service delivery including two major components, STAFFING & FUNDING or FUNDING & STAFFING. Both items seem to be top line items or struggles for nearly every volunteer fire department in not only Indiana but our country, and truth be known I don't think we are alone. I am sure there are career departments that are sharing in our struggles. Staffing shortages is not isolated to the volunteer fire service, just look around. You cannot drive anywhere in this country where there are businesses without seeing a "help wanted" sign in the window, in the yard, or somewhere close to a business. So the reality is we are not alone but that doesn't change the feeling of helplessness or even hopelessness that we as leaders and members or our departments feel.

So as we take the issue on the road we ask that you join us as we come to a location near you to talk, listen, share and hopefully get our message out.

At the end of the day we want our communities, our local & state

elected office holders, and the media to hear our message, yours and mine. We will be hosting six such meetings within the state of Indiana (with the first one already having been done by this reading) in each of our Public Relations areas.

Look at the IVFA website to find your Public Relations Reps., and the Districts within your PR area; Northwest, Northeast, West Central, East Central, South East, South West. Then ask your District Chairman & your PR rep when a meeting is coming to your area.

We have addressed a benefit package for our members as a tool for retention and recruitment (remember the more we can retain, the less we have to recruit, the better trained we are as a department and the less it will cost us overall). Ask me and we can talk more about this item in the future. We have addressed concerns about training our members, both new and old and how to best accomplish the skill set and experience needed to service our communities.

During this year's State Convention (and thank you District 15, third time was a charm) hosted in Evansville, Indiana, we had some guest speakers; during our opening meeting State Representative Wendy McNamara, House District 76, of which Evansville is part of her district, welcomed everyone to the City along with Mayor Lloyd

Winnecke, Representative Randall Frye, House District 67, Greensburg, Indiana and an Honorary Lifetime Member of the IVFA addressed the group during our Banquet, but one I want to expand upon is the message from Dr. Carolyn Muegge who shared with us during the IVFA annual meeting; Cancer involving volunteer fire service members.

Dr. Carolyn Muegge, a Research Scientist with the National Institute for Public Safety Health has done many studies, research projects and reports about this topic and now wants to assist the Indiana Volunteer Fire Service by conducting a survey about cancer related to volunteer firefighter's service.

Dr. Muegge has written about how Firefighters are exposed to carcinogens, toxic agents, and other risks for Cancer and Cardiovascular disease. The odds of death due to malignant cancers are significantly higher among firefighters than non-firefighters.

So I ask that you watch for a Survey that may be coming to you electronically addressing the topic and asking for your input.

Also we were honored to have Dr. Eric Yazel the newly-appointed Chief Medical Director for Indiana EMS, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, introduce himself and speak about his newly-appointed office. Dr. Yazel at the time of the convention had just been appointed but had not yet started his new duties but we want to welcome him as he brings to the

office his background as the Clark County Health Officer and Chief Medical Officer of Life Spring Health Systems. I am sure Dr. Yazel will be eager to meet and speak to our Volunteers throughout Indiana.

Just one more benefit the IVFA has helped bring to you the member.

We have addressed many times the benefits of being an IVFA member, the insurance, the award recognitions, the sharing and camaraderie among fellow members' experiences, knowledge and support and simply the opportunity to help our neighbors. We have celebrated together, laughed together, even cried together but that is all a part of being a family together.

And yet another benefit worth mentioning is the grant to attend IVY TECH for those who serve as a volunteer fire or EMS member, so if you, a member of your family, or a member of your community wants this opportunity to take advantage of a "free" grant, with very few exceptions please visit the IVFA website and click on the Still Accepting Applications IVFA and IVY TECH Public Safety Scholarship box. Remember you must be an active member to participate in this grant program.

The Purdue Global offer of a reduced cost on tuition for a Bachelor Degree is also still on the table. Please take full advantage of either or both. They are two very good benefits for being or becoming a volunteer firefighter and serving your community.

- see 'legislator' - page 4



Join emergency officials, facility operators, excavators and other industry professionals at The French Lick Resort **Wednesday, Nov. 9 - Friday, Nov. 11**, to learn about best safety practices and trends in damage prevention. Register for the 2022 MWDPTC at www.midwest811conference.com.

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116 N. Cullen Street, Rensselaer, IN 47978-2644

Phone 219-866-5000 or Fax 219-866-5000 - e-mail: printco@rhsi.tv

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P.O. Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724/info@ivfa.org

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OFFICERS

President - David R. Israel

2070 S. Co. Rd. 700 W.
Greensburg, IN 47240

Home (812) 663-8952

E-mail: president@ivfa.org

Vice President - Jerry Liston

P.O. Box 83

Cicero, IN 46034

Cell (317) 385-2309

E-mail: vicepresident@ivfa.org

Secretary - Leighanne Ellis

4034 N. 150 E.

Camden, IN 46917

Home (765) 564-0256

E-mail: secretary@ivfa.org

Treasurer - Luke Kluender

61 Sherwood Lane

Bedford, IN 47421

Home (812) 508-8476

E-mail: treasurer@ivfa.org

Sergeant-At-Arms - Wm. Brent Bush

8504 S. SR 71

Dana, IN 47847

Cell (812) 243-0140

E-mail: sgtatarms@ivfa.org

Chaplain - Rachel Bussey

1701 Kettle Bottom Rd.

Nabb, IN 47147

Cell: (812) 406-9968

E-mail: chaplain@ivfa.org

Board Chairman - Paul Holcomb

207 Conner Street, New Albany, IN 47150 - Home (812) 945-4111

Cell (502) 664-5736 - E-mail: boardchair@ivfa.org

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTORS - ELECTED

Northwest - Jeremy Reef

4780 S. 20 W

Cutler, IN 46920

(765) 237-7414

e-mail: PRNW@ivfa.org

Northeast - Jean Smith

16721 Thiele Road

Ft. Wayne, IN 46819

[cell] (260) 413-3041

e-mail: PRNE@ivfa.org

West Central - Larry L. Bartlow

P.O. Box 12

Montezuma, IN 47862

(765) 245-2125 [Home]

e-mail: PRWC@ivfa.org

East Central - Jeff Biehl

P.O. Box 186

Mooreland, IN 47360

Cell: (765) 524-7718

E-mail: PREC@ivfa.org

Southwest - Steve Nolan

4012 State Road 446

Heltonville, IN 47436

(812) 834-6384 [Home] [Cell] (812) 583-4592

E-mail: PRSW@ivfa.org

Southeast - Ed Scheele

1161 Sawmill Rd.

Batesville, IN 47006

(812) 934-2779 (H) / cell (812) 212-5766

e-mail: PRSE@ivfa.org

Districts 1, 2, 3, 9A, 9B

Districts 4, 5, 6, 7

Districts 11A, 11B, 12, 21

Districts 8A, 8B, 10, 13A, 13B

Districts 15, 17A, 17B, 18

Districts 14, 19, 19

District 14 - Richard Lee Cannon, Sr.

8617 US Highway 111

Memphis, IN 47143

Cell phone (no land line) 502-523-2665

E-mail: district14@ivfa.org

District 15 - Ross Emery

11350 S. Brookview Ct.

Haubstadt, IN 47639

812-459-4062 (Cell)

E-mail: district15@ivfa.org

District 16 - John Gott

182 Lost Creek Rd NE

New Salisbury, IN 47161

(812) 596-0233 (Cell)

E-mail: district16@ivfa.org

District 17A - Sam Emery

779 E. Harvest Church Road

Bloomfield, IN 47424

(812) 384-8748 (Home)

E-mail: district17a@ivfa.org

District 17B - Tammy Wright

740 Glendale Way

Bedford, IN 47421

812-545-1758 (Cell)

E-mail: district17b@ivfa.org

District 18 - Nicholas Waninger

308 E. Locust St.

Chrisney, IN 47611

(812) 686-3772 (cell)

E-mail: district18@ivfa.org

District 19 - Ben Sieverding

1485 W. Tanglewood Road

Versailles, IN 47042

(812) 621-1150 (cell)

E-mail: district19@ivfa.org

District 21 - Don Fultz

1007 Haan Dr.

West Lafayette, IN 47906

Cell: (765) 714-4515

E-mail: district21@ivfa.org

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION PAST PRESIDENTS

Paul Holcomb

207 Conner St.

New Albany, IN 47150

Home (812) 945-4111 - Cell (502) 664-5736

E-mail: pholcomb@ivfa.org

Steve Anderson

1526 Reiter Drive

Evansville, IN 47712

Home (812) 425-0727 - Cell (812) 480-5014

E-mail: sanderson@ivfa.org

David R. Israel

2070 S. Co. Rd. 700 West

Greensburg, IN 47240

(812) 663-8952 (home)

E-mail: disrael@ivfa.org

Tim Deekard

13419 E Edwards Road

Solsberry, IN 47459

(812) 325-5636 (cell)

E-mail: tdeekard@ivfa.org

Larry Ketchem

P.O. Box 6, 117 Chestnut St.

Montezuma, IN 47862

(765) 245-2482

E-mail: ldketchem@yahoo.com

Jack Kerney, Sr.

2412 S.E. Browning Rd.

Evansville, IN 47725

(812) 867-2641 - Home

E-mail: JKerney@ivfa.org

L.E. "Buz" Koehler

6225 Swallow Dr.

Harrison, MI 48625

Cell: (219) 866-1128

Email: lkoehler@ivfa.org

(Display ad rep. and Editor's Assistant)

Jack Zeeks, Jr.

6147 State Road 37

Mitchell, IN 47446

(812) 849-2606 - Cell (812) 583-6187

E-mail: jzeeks@ivfa.org

Richard "Dick" Glant

619 South East St.

Bremen, IN 46506

(574) 546-3509

E-mail: RGlant@ivfa.org

Willie M. "Mitch" Parish

PO Box 15

Francesville, IN 47946

Billy J. Sunday

402 North Main

Farmland, IN 47340

(765) 468-6412

E-mail: bjsgofish2@gmail.com

James C. "Jim" Parker

403 N. 11th Ave.

Beech Grove, IN 46107

(317) 783-9293

Norman L. Crocker

13432 State Road 23

Granger, IN 46530

(574) 340-1663

IVFALOBBYIST - Larry Curl

3047 N. Raceway Road

Indianapolis, IN 46234

(317) 605-6669 (Cell) - (317) 347-0368 (Home)

E-mail: lobbyist@ivfa.org

HISTORIAN - Paul E. Smith

565 W. Green St.

Montpelier, IN 47359

Cell: 765-348-9314

E-mail: district8b@ivfa.org

MISS FLAME

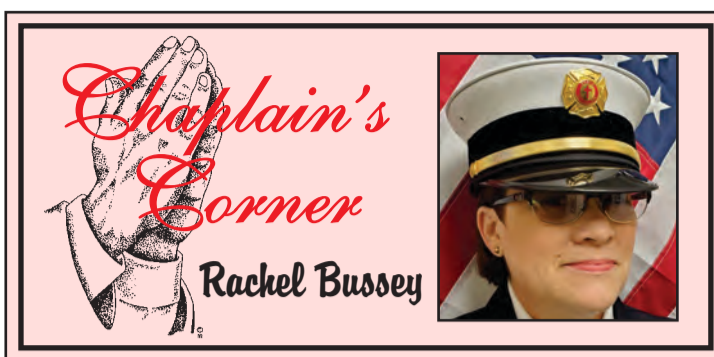
E-mail: MissFlame@ivfa.org

WEBMASTER - Josh Reiser

5817 Harmony Woods - Memphis, IN 47143

(502) 643-2114 (Cell)

E-mail: admin@ivfa.org



Summer has begun and soon we will all be celebrating Independence Day. July Fourth makes me think about my personal history in the fire service, and the volunteer fire service history of our country. We have our American pride, deep roots, traditions in the fire service that are historically significant with many Christian founders. On July 4, 2022 we will be celebrating 246 years of Independence. Even though we are one of the younger countries we have a long history of volunteer firefighting. The Union Fire Company in Philadelphia was created by Benjamin Franklin in 1736 with 30 volunteers. Many famous founding fathers you may have studied about in history were volunteer firefighters. Some were signers of The Declaration of Independence: John Hancock and Benjamin Franklin. Some U.S. Presidents were as well: George Washington, Millard Fillmore and James Buchanan. The first recorded female volunteer was Molly Williams in 1818, who was also African-American. 1820 recorded Marina Betts who served in Pittsburgh. Then there was Lillie Hitchcock in San Francisco, California. I invite you to read about our history; learn how we have grown from a mere start of 30 volunteers to (according to NFPA IN 2019) 722,800 volunteers in the United States alone.

As you read the history you will learn about the different backgrounds, titles, education, and religions: Episcopalian, Deism, Presbyterian, etc. The one common factor that they all shared was their devotion to help others despite the dangers that may await them. They put others before themselves just as Jesus did for us. He knew what awaited Him yet He didn't choose to turn away. Instead, He gave His life willingly for everyone; even those who hated Him. Romans 5:8, "God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

For those that missed the I.V.F.A. Convention in Evansville I hope you can make it next year as we travel to Muncie. I appreciate all the

[see 'chaplain' page 4](#)

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAINS:

PRWC - GEORGE BUCK - 3324 CHAUCER DR., LAFAYETTE, IN 47909 - Home (765) 474-0503 - Cell (765) 426-8071 - E-mail: buckd523@aol.com

RALPH "PETE" TAYLOR - 721 E. U.S. HWY. 40, BRAZIL, IN 47834 - Home: (812) 448-3232 - Cell: (812) 236-0955 - E-mail: district11A@ivfa.org (Districts 11A - 11B - 12 - 21)

PREC - BRAD SCOTT - 209 E. HENRY ST., FARMLAND, IN 47340 - Cell: (765) 278-0562 - E-mail: bcad03@yahoo.com
BRAD BRANDT - 8415 N. COUNTY ROAD 100 E., SPRINGPORT, IN 47386 - Cell: (615) 540-0263 - E-mail: pastorbenbrandt@gmail.com (Districts 8A - 8B - 10 - 13A - 13B)

PRSW - MELVIN D. CAMP - 219 TERRE VISTA DR., TERRE HAUTE, IN 47803 - Church: (812) 232-2319, Cell: (812) 766-3275 (Best way to reach me) - E-mail: melvindcamp@aol.com
JADON HINKLE - 8538 WEST U.S. HWY. 150, WEST BADEN, IN 47469 - Cell: (812) 508-4378 - E-Mail: jhinkle68@gmail.com (Districts 15 - 17A - 17B - 18)

PRSE - RACHEL BUSSEY - 1701 KETTLE BOTTOM RD., NABB, IN 47147 - Cell (812) 406-9968 - E-mail: volunteerfirechick@gmail.com

ED (SKI) GERDOWSKY - 41 SIX PINE RANCH ROAD, BATESVILLE, IN 47006 - Home: (812) 934-4356 - Cell: (812) 212-7415 - E-mail: firefighterskil@etczone.com (Districts 14 - 16 - 19)

PRNW - THOMAS L. KELLER - 410 S. DEER CREEK ST., GALVESTON, IN 46932 - Cell: (989) 254-0307 - Email: thomaskeller@hotmail.com (Districts 1 - 2 - 3 - 9A - 9B)

PRNE - JOSH WATTS, 2875 N IN-3, LAGRANGE, IN 46761 - (260) 577-0752 - josh.watts@shieldsunderfire.org
DAVID ELICK - 725 NORTH CANAL STREET - LAGRANGE, IN 46761 - Cell: (260) 336-2246 - E-mail: dave_elick@yahoo.com (Districts 4 - 5 - 6 - 7)

I.V.F.A. CENTRAL OFFICE
P.O. BOX 4797 - EVANSVILLE, IN 47724
877.606.4832 ~ 812.867.32

'legislator'

(continued from page 2)

So as you can see the IVFA continues to work for the betterment of our members, with promotional education opportunities, legislation and keeping you informed as to information to help you the member.

Visit the IVFA website to stay in touch, in tune and informed about the IVFA Cost Savings Study Round Table and legislation for 2022.

Please stay safe, stay protected, and continue to serve.

Remember I am but a phone call, email, text away should you have a question or concern about anything I have shared with you, or fire service related concern you might have.

Welcome to summer 2022!!!

Larry

'chaplain'

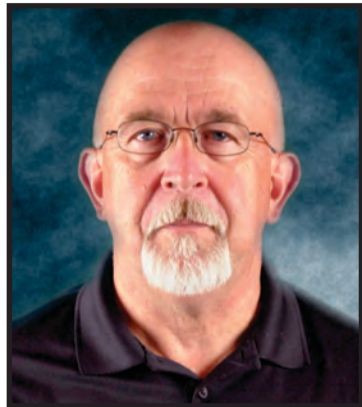
(continued from page 3)

Chaplains who were able to attend and participate in the Memorial Service. Thank you to our hosts this year for the food, entertainment, tour of the USS LST 325 Ship, and so much more. Last, but not least, congratulations to Chaplain-Elect Dave Elick. Enjoy your summer, stay safe, stay hydrated, and have fun.

**November
Deadline is:
October 1, 2022**

From The Vice-President

Jerry Liston



Greetings from Central Indiana!

It is hard to believe we will be halfway through summer by the time you are reading this article. I hope everyone had a good Fourth of July and survived the numerous fireworks shows across the state. I hope all our members are continuing to be healthy and safe. Even though the Covid restrictions have lessened, we still need to continue to monitor Covid-19 figures and practice due caution.

This year's convention was hosted by District 15 in Evansville in June. I want to commend the convention committee for putting together a good convention. I heard a lot of positive comments during and since the conclusion of the convention. Also, I want to thank the vendors and sponsors for their participation. Without the vendors' and sponsors' participation, it would be very difficult to plan and

host a convention. Planning a convention takes a minimum of two years. The Evansville committee faced several obstacles during the last three years including Covid-19 cancelling the 2020 convention. Hats off to the committee for a job well done.

The IVFA voted at the May officer's meeting to partner with the Savik Buying Group. This will give our members a new benefit opportunity. Savik is the nation's largest non-public safety group purchasing organization (GPO), with over 14,000+ agency members who have access to competitively bid and publicly awarded vendor contracts. Savik has over 80 vendor programs with access to over 2 million products, an online store, and Savik is a 5.11 national distributor for uniform and gear needs. IVFA members will have access to this full vendor portfolio.

There are no requirements, restrictions, or fees to use these programs. You simply piggyback on the contracts in place, so your department never has to go out to bid. Savik has done that for all its members. There are other programs like Savik Perks, AT&T, Staples, FedEx, and Grainger just to name a few that service employees and individual IVFA members can utilize as well.

A portion of what is spent by our group using a Savik contract comes back to the IVFA, so every time you save time and money using Savik, you are helping our association as well. Stay tuned for other information to be released soon on this new program.

The IVFA is in the early planning stages to participate in a volunteer firefighter cancer survey. A few months ago, Dr. Carolyn Muegge of the National Institute for Public Safety Health (NIPSH) approached our association at a Fire Alliance meeting. We are working through some minor issues but hope to soon have more information for our members about information needed for a successful survey result.

One of those issues is how we survey our membership to get that information. If the survey is pushed out to our entire membership, we would need 70% or better participation, let's face it, that is unlikely to happen. So, we are looking at randomly selecting members or departments to complete the survey. If we do randomly select for the survey, our percentage of return can be much smaller, and we will still achieve what information is needed for the survey to be successful. So, if you or your department is randomly selected in the future to receive and complete the survey, it is imperative that you complete the survey and return it to the National Institute for Public Safety Health.

Governor Holcomb has appointed State Fire Marshal Joel

Thacker to be the next Executive Director of the Department of Homeland Security. Marshal Thacker is replacing Director Steve Cox who is retiring to pursue other interests. I wish Director Thacker and his family well on this new endeavor and look forward to continuing our relationship forged over the last two to three years with former State Fire Marshal Thacker and his successor.

I recently read an interesting article about technology and its future. The article states how technology is changing the way we live, work, and interact with the world around us. The article mentions we do not go online anymore; we exist there. Our smartphones and tablets are connected, of course, but soon things like traffic lights, machines, appliances, and even autonomous vehicles will be all online. New advancements like 5G, edge computing and more are on the horizon, and in some cases, already here.

I will be the first to tell you I struggle with technology. So where am I going with this, as individuals, departments and yes, as an association, we need to accept and embrace technology. Technology can be a good thing in utilizing it for recruitment and retention, and other needs in the fire service. I find it amazing to sit in my house in Cicero and talk with someone in Evansville or other parts of the state using the Zoom or Teams format on our computers. Technology is here to stay, whether we like it or not and we all need to accept that and utilize it to the best of our ability.

It is time to start thinking about submitting nominations for 2023 Association Awards. If you know of an individual that would be worthy of an Association Award, please nominate the individual. All Association Awards with a brief description can be found at www.ivfa.org.

We all know we are in a dangerous occupation and we all must fall back on our training and the ability to work together as a team. In closing, I challenge you all to never stop training, to be creative in your training regimen, to be a team member and to function together as one so you all go home safe.

"Train Smart, Be Safe".

Jerry L. Liston
IVFA Vice President

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS

Public Relations Director East Central
Jeff Biehl



Greetings,

I had the honor and privilege to present Mr. Tim Fluty & Mr. Bill Sergeant of the Everton area with Life Saving Certificates and Plaques from the Everton Fire Department for rescuing a girl from a burning house, a heroic job by neighbors.

Congratulations to Jack Kerney, Ross Emery and Steve Anderson of District 15 on a job well done hosting the 76th convention in Evansville. Hope to see everybody next year in Muncie for the 77th convention hosted by 13B.

Congratulations to the 2023 elected officers Jerry Liston - President, Ross Emery - Vice President, Leighanne Ellis - Secretary, Luke Kluender - Treasurer, all six Public Relations remain the same.

Thanks to these young ladies for running as District Miss Flames, 8B Hannah Armstrong & Madilynne Reeder, 13B.

Congratulations to new State Miss Flame Mackenzie Elliott, District 15 and my home District 13B Madi Reeder, 1st runner-up & District 21 Larissa Butler, Miss Congeniality.

Please continue to put your fund-raising events & meetings on the IVFA calendar and your Facebook pages.

If you need help don't hesitate, call your District Chairman, Public Relations Officer or any other State Officer, we will be glad to help you.

Jeff Biehl
Public Relations East Central

Public Relations Director Northeast
Jean Smith



I just returned from the IVFA annual Convention held in Evansville. Congratulations to Convention Chairmen Jack Kerney and Ross Emery and their Committee for putting on a great Convention. Congratulations to the 2022 IVFA and IVFAA award

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PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS

'prne'

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winners.

I would like to congratulate President David Israel and Vice President Jerry Liston for a job well done.

I would like to congratulate Jerry Liston as our new President and Ross Emery as our new Vice President for the upcoming year.

I would like to thank those that support me as Public Relations Northeast. I am honored to serve another term as your Public Relations Representative. Thank You.

Director Cox is retiring from public service. Fire Marshal Joel Thacker has moved into the Executive Director of Homeland Security as of June 27. A new Fire Marshal has not been announced at this time.

I am looking forward to meeting you at your District meetings and working with you. If you need any assistance please contact me, your Public Relations Representative or your District Chairman.

Jean Smith
Public Relations Northeast

Public Relations Director West Central Larry Bartlow



Another great IVFA Convention is in the books. A good job by the District 15 crew, with a lot of good times had by everyone.

Congratulations to all the Award winners, they are all very deserving individuals.

As I am writing this article the temperature is near 90 degrees and no breeze. It's time to be extra careful and get plenty of drinking water and stay as cool as possible. Also keep an eye on your fellow firefighters to make sure they are not overdoing it. Keep everyone safe.

Now is the time to discuss next year's Legislation with your IVFA leaders as they prepare for the next session.

Hopefully we will have a Cost Saving Round Discussion with Trustee, Legislators and Fire Chiefs in the PRWC area this summer or early fall. Your department's input is important for this to work.

Be safe and have a good

summer.

PRWC Larry Bartlow

Public Relations Director Southwest Steve Nolan



Greetings,

I hope this finds everyone well at this time with the COVID going around, with some departments not having meetings or fundraisers but good news is covid is going down.

I have attended all my district meetings and visited (1) fire department this month.

Remember, only you can protect yourself from CANCER and the COVID. Please clean your gear and trucks after every run and get your COVID vaccine shots.

District 15 put on a very nice convention; congrats to all who worked on putting it together.

Steve Nolan,
Southwest Public Relations Director

Greetings,

I hope this finds everyone well and having a good and safe summer and 4th of July.

COVID has caused a lot of changes in what we can or can't do and where we can go to enjoy ourselves. We must still be safe in the public and wear our masks in certain places or when asked to.

Still need help for the FDIC so please contact me if you are able to help.

I want to thank those that helped put on the Convention this year with everything going on with Covid, good job.

Please keep safe out in the public.

Till we meet again,

Steve Nolan,
Public Relations Director Southwest



Watch for school busses and the school children!!

From The Treasurer

Luke Kluender



Risk Management

We all practice Risk Management at emergency scenes. We watch for the hazards and consider what tactics we can use to produce the desired outcome.

Managing money requires those same skills. We need to assess our risk tolerance and what we want our savings to do for us. If our window of opportunity is long, we may take greater risk for greater rewards. For shorter terms, less risk is more prudent.

Don't fret about money management. You already have the skills as a first responder to manage your treasure, as well as your time and your talents.

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 1 & 2 REPORT



Marshall Neese - Chairman

IVFA District 1 & 2 Meeting
May 18-2022
Held at Griffith Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 7:28 P.M. by District 1 Chairman Marshall Neese.

Pledge to the flag of the United States of America was given by all in attendance.

Roll call was held. District 1 Members: 18; District 2 Members: 3.

Introduction of Guests: Jeremy Reef - IVFA PRNW, Christiana Reef - IVFAA President, Past President IVFAA, Phyliss Vargo - District 1 & 2 IVFAA, District 1 Miss Flame Mia Cheseman.

Fire Chief Roy Schoon of the Griffith Fire Dept. gave a brief history and welcomed everyone and thanked the IVFA for their continued support of the fire service. Griffith Fire Dept. has a roster of 38 and responds on average to 600 calls a year.

Reading of Minutes: Minutes read and approved of the March meeting. Motion R. Schoon. 2- B. Deney.

Communications:

July 15th Four Seasons FD Golf Outing. Info is on the Four Seasons FD Facebook.

July 22nd is the Griffith Fire Dept. Night at the Railcats Game. See Griffith FD Facebook for more information. Tickets are \$10.

Jeremy Reef, IVFA PRNW gave updates and information on the following:

IVFA 2022 convention is June 15-17 at Bally's Hotel & Convention Center located in Evansville, Indiana. Anyone interested in more information should contact Jeremy Reef. Dates for the 2023 convention are June 14-16 and it will be held in Muncie, Indiana. (1) Delegate from each Fire Dept. will have mileage paid.

Old Business: None.
New Business:

Marshall Neese voted in as District 1 Chair. No other nominations made.

Discussion was had to create a PayPal account to receive donations made to the District. Members may forget to bring money for raffle or etc., and this would allow those who wish to donate to simply do so. Creating an Amazon Smile account was also mentioned. District 1 Chair advised he would look into the matter.

Program from T-Mobile of Connecting Hero's was discussed, information was presented by Jeremy Reef and for further information members can investigate on the T-Mobile website.

District 2 Deaths:

Paul Watland: 50 year IVFA member, District 2 Chair.

Dave Crane: Fire Chief of Crown Point Fire Rescue and 41 year member of the IVFA.

Bill Howe: Schererville Fire Dept. longtime member and past "Mr. IVFA" as well as many positions held within the IVFA.

Joseph Pittman: Member of the Merrillville Fire Department.

Announcements: Next District 1 and 2 meeting will be held at Lincoln Township Fire Dept. on July 21-2022.

Minutes taken by C. Gamblin
District 2 Chair

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

There has been a Chairman change in IVFA District 2 due to the passing of Paul Watland. I have been selected by the IVFA as the new District 2 Chairman. Paul left behind some big shoes to fill, but I am working hard to ensure that I fulfill those shoes, and to bring value to the IVFA District 2 meetings and lay solid ground work for the District in 2023 and beyond. The focus going into 2023 is bring back the value to the IVFA District 2 meetings, and uphold the mission and goals of the IVFA as a whole. I am working hard to secure speakers for presentations at each meeting that are relevant to the needs of Fire Depts. in the District and address topics such as Membership Recruitment, Membership Retention, Grant Resources, Specialty Response Teams, and bringing in Elected Officials.

We have had two meetings for District 2 this year. Lowell Fire Dept. hosted the March meeting and Lake Township Fire Dept. is hosting the July meeting. There will be one more combined meeting to be held in September 2022 at Ogdan Dunes Fire Dept.

The strategy for 2023 will be for IVFA District 2 to host a combination of hybrid meetings that will have a Webinar component with the in-person traditional meetings. This will allow each In-Person meeting to not only focus on the program offered for the evening, but to bring value to those members who can only attend "virtually" when their schedule does not allow for an in-person attendance.

Strengthening the Volunteer Fire Departments and the harmony between them is the hallmark of why the IVFA was created many years ago. District 2 will look towards the future layout of a new program to help bring knowledge and ideas to the Departments that are located in the District. I look forward to working with all in the District and those beyond for a strong and engaging 2023.

DISTRICT 3 REPORT



Bob Uryga Sr. - Chairman

IVFA District 3 Meeting
May 19, 2022

Meeting held at Cass Clinton Vol. Fire Dept. in Wanatah, Indiana.

Meeting called to order at 1930 hours.

Duane Tate led the pledge to the flag.

Jeff Hamilton from LaPorte County Haz-Mat spoke about hazards of storage batteries and showed a cover that can be put over battery on a forklift or car fire.

Minutes of March meeting were read and approved.

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I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

- district 3'

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Treasurer's report read and approved.

District Chairman Bob Uryga had 10 year pins for 7 Cass Clinton Firefighters: Joanna Clindaniel, Herman Hendricks, Nick Mayo, Greg Mohlke, Joshua Mohlke, Bryant Ohlmen, David Waffler. Congratulations and Thank You all.

Chairman Uryga reminded everyone to look at and use the IVFA website.

He said t-Mobile has a program for volunteers to be able to get free and discounted phones.

Many recognition awards are listed. Let's nominate our deserving firefighters for the recognition they have earned.

Some interesting statistics:

Indiana Volunteers save the state of Indiana 4.5 Billion dollars every year.

Seven of every 10 firefighters in the state are volunteers.

LaPorte County has more Volunteer Fire Departments than any other county in our state.

Thank you Cass Clinton for hosting our meeting. Great refreshments.

Next meeting July 21 at San Pierre.

Meeting adjourned at 1955 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary Rick Bradford

DISTRICT 5 REPORT



John Grolich - Chairman

I.V.F.A. 5th District Meeting
May 12, 2022
Winona Lake Fire Department,
Winona Lake, IN

Guests:

E.J. Smith, V-Pres. IVFAA
Kay Shumaker, IVFAA District
5 Chairwoman.

Savannah Lyon, District 5 Miss
Flame

Madyson Shumaker, former
District 5 Miss Flame

Don Kissinger

Larry Curl

Carol Curl

The meeting was called to order by PRNE Jean Smith at 1928 hours with the pledge of allegiance following. March minutes were read and approved as submitted.

Larry Curl reported on current legislative bills. We discussed possible IVFA benefits in the works.

Jean commented on electric and hybrid vehicles and passed out some fliers on same.

Larry touched on the scholarships available to volunteer firefighters. Take advantage of these opportunities while available as they may not last.

Jean discussed the funds for emergency services that come out of fireworks sales.

IVFA convention on June 15 thru 17 in Evansville at the Bally's Hotel and Casino.

Savannah Lyon, 5 District Miss Flame was introduced and had a brief chat with us.

Next meeting at Aubbeenaubee Twp F.D. in Leiters Ford, IN on July 14.

Meeting adjourned 2030 hrs.

Paul Martin
5 District Secretary

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



Jerry Sprague - Chairman

Greetings from District 6,
Greetings everyone.

Hello to all from up here in the northeast. Hope everyone had a safe spring. Need to thank the Topeka VFD for hosting the District 6 meeting in March and the Stueben Twp. VFD for hosting the District 6 meeting in May. Your hospitality was greatly appreciated.

A special thanks to Terry Bradner of 1-800 Board-up for attending and supplying a lunch for us at both of these meetings. Congratulations go out to our 2022 District 6 Miss Flame, Kaylee Knight from Noble Township Volunteer Fire Department. She did a wonderful job representing District 6 at the IVFA Convention in Evansville. Kudos Katie! Please let her know about department events so she can attend. She is on Facebook!

The next meeting for District 6 will be on July 26th, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. It will be held at the Ligonier Fire Station. Flyers should go out the first week of July. It will also be on the IVFA website on the calendar. (ivfa.org)

Again, it would be great to see better attendance at our District 6 meetings. Come on guys and gals. It is only one night every other month! There may be a few departments that are not receiving the meeting fliers. Please take the time to send your department's e-mail address to:

spralawn@ligtel.com.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 26th, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. All District 6 departments should have received a flyer on the meetings. If any of the departments or individual firefighters in District 6 have problems or concerns, please call or e-mail me. I will do my level best to help you out. Better yet, bring them to our next meeting on July 26th.

Please visit the IVFA website (ivfa.org) as I am hoping the meetings for District 6 will be posted.

STAY SAFE!!

E.G.H.
Jerry Sprague (Spook),
District 6 Chairman

DISTRICT 8A REPORT



Rex Maynard - Chairman

Hope everyone had a great summer.

Our last district meeting was at Edgewood VFD May 25, 2022.

The 2022 convention was held at Bally Casino-Hotel Evansville; we had a great time. The 2022 convention will be held in June at Muncie. Hope to see a lot of District 8A department at the 2023 convention. If any departments have AFFF Foam, it can no longer be used as it is a cancer agent. The Fire Marshal offices will pick it up free of charge. Just fill out the paper work. I'm seeing that some departments have new officers, please send me updated list, name, phone number and e-mail address for these new officers.

June 7, 2022 Firefighters' Award, Medal of Valor from Center Township Fire, Rescue: Captain Jason Love, Thomas Miller, Earstle Rigby.

Grant County Sheriff's Deputies Award Life Saving Award - Sergeant Ryan Troyer, Sergeant Anthony Purdy, Deputy Jalen Ward.

The next district meeting is September 28, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at Fairemout VFD. I encourage you all to attend. We always learn a lot at these meetings.

Rex Maynard
District 8A Chairman

DISTRICT 8B REPORT



Lloyd E. Wright - Chairman

Convention has come and gone for another year, hope everyone had a good time. Thank you to the convention committee for a job well done.

District 8B held their meeting on May 11th at the Ridgeville Volunteer Fire Department. Meeting was opened with Chairman Wright leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll call was taken with 15 members from 4 departments in attendance. There were 3 guests present: Jeff Biehl, Larry and Carol Curl. Secretary and Treasurer reports were read and approved.

There was no old business. New business: Convention to be held in June at Evansville. Next year's convention will be held in Muncie, Indiana. Start thinking of people to nominate for all the

convention awards for next year.

Good of the order: Pancake breakfast at the Bryant Fire Station, Fish fry at the Lynn Fire Station, Tractor & Truck pull put on by the Redkey Fire Department.

Second roll call was taken with 19 fires and 83 EMS calls.

The next District meeting will be held on July 13th at the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Department at 7:00 P.M.

Chairman Wright thanked the Ridgeville Fire Department for the light lunch and for hosting the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Lloyd E. Wright,
District 8B Chairman

DISTRICT 9A REPORT



Pascal Moon - Chairman

Good Day to all,

Sorry for not getting anything in the newspaper!

Since the last time I had an article in the paper, here is what's going on.

The next District meeting will be on July 28 @ Rock Creek meeting at 7:00 p.m.

The September meeting will be on September 22, 2022 @ Royal Center @ 7:00 P.M.

Since we have that out of the way, now what has happened lately, Convention, Supporting Hero's and quarterly meetings.

Convention! Evansville! Great time and the convention committee did a super job.

Miss Leighann McKnight, Georgetown VFD, represented the District 9A as our Miss Flame. She did a wonderful job with this first year and she wants to go to Muncie next year. Be sure to contact me with any upcoming events she can go to.

Leighann's family even made the trip down to Evansville with it being the first Convention and from the look on their faces and the good time they had, I think they will go in 2023!

The 2021 Miss Flame Sydney Moon gave a very good farewell speech along with some awards, The Best Dessert Award went to District 9A, it was for the pies at Greentown! Don't expect a trophy!

Sydney has some pretty big shoes to fill, after the 5000 miles of driving to attend all 25 District meetings in the last year.

So let's talk about District meetings. What is the biggest reason we can't get more to show up for them?

Day of the week?

Time it takes?

Too busy?

Here is what I would like to see in the future. How about 1 person from your department?

With that being said, 1 person from your department = to having

22 people at a meeting! Can it be done? Will it be done? Only if someone takes the time to do it.

Well, I hope to see some of you at the next District meeting in July or September.

Thanks,
Pascal

DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

Greetings from District 10,

Our May District meeting was in Westport and a highlight was the IVFAA Bake Auction to support the Miss Flame representative toward Convention expenses. A total of \$375.00 was raised and many went home with some really good treats! Chuck Gunter, Field Program Manager for the State Fire Marshal's office was guest speaker and shared updates and new programs forthcoming.

Connie and I attended the 76th IVFA convention in Evansville at Bally's Hotel. Congratulations to Jerry Liston, newly-elected President, Ross Emery, Vice President and Dave Elick, Chaplain. The IVFA is participating in a survey of cancer in the volunteer fire service. If you receive a survey in the mail, PLEASE complete and return it.

Connie and I have attended fundraisers at Flat Rock, Marion Twp. Hartsville, and Morris Fire Dept. and enjoyed good food and fellowship.

Ivy Tech program is still going strong. I have visited with Carthage and Edinburgh; both of whom have firefighters enrolled. Please let me know if your department is interested or has any firefighter who would like more information or enroll.

Wishing you all a safe, enjoyable and blessed rest of summer!

John M. Ray,
District 10 Chairman

DISTRICT 11B REPORT



Jason Ryan - Chairman

Greetings from District 11B!! Well, we have wrapped up the Convention for the year, hope all had a great time!!

District 11B would like to congratulate Miss Flame Mackenzie Elliot of District 15!!! And to all the other award

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I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

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winners. Congratulations!!!

District 11B held the May 18th meeting at a tad different location this time around, we held the meeting at Benjamin's Restaurant in Rockville. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Anthony Rohr leading us with the pledge of allegiance, roll call was 7 members and 4 departments. Minutes were read from last meeting with them being approved, with the motion of Larry Southard and 2nd by Kenneth Ryan Sr. The treasurer's report was given by Larry Bartlow with no changes from the last meeting. We had Vice President Jerry Liston on hand to speak; spoke of the upcoming convention in Evansville, also wanted to remind everyone to start thinking of awards for the 2023 Convention, Hoosier Burn Camp on June 1st, and Camp Tecumseh where the IVFA does the grilling of the food, spoke of the Supporting Heroes Gala on July 16th in Owensboro, KY, talked of how all 25 districts had names turned in for the MacQueen Excellence Award, and spoke of the T-Mobile phone program.

State Lobbyist Larry Curl spoke of the cost savings study and how they are trying to set up in each PR district to go and speak of this with departments, elected officials and media. Spoke of upcoming fundraisers and the next meeting date. Chairman Ryan is needing departments to host, so if you are interested, please reach out. The meeting was concluded.

Chairman Ryan was able to attend the trip to Washington D.C., April 5th -8th, with other members of the organization. We were able to make many stops, Gettysburg Battle Field, the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, we were able to attend meetings in Washington with elected officials and attend the National Fire and Emergency dinner on April 7th. This was a very wonderful trip and learned a lot of information.

Convention was held in Evansville at the Bally's Casino June 15th thru 17th. This was a very good time for all that was able to attend.

I want to congratulate Morgan Adams from District 11B, she was one of the Bridgeport Scholarship award winners.

Jason Ryan
Chairman 11B

DISTRICT 12 REPORT



Larry Curl - Chairman

"Hello!" and greetings from District 12,

"Good morning." "Good afternoon." "Good evening." depending upon the time you are reading these updates from our

district.

Well it's summer 2022 and if you question that step outside.

We are still attempting to regroup, rebuild and grow District 12 into the district it once was but we need every department and every member to make that happen. Let's make 2022 the year to rebuild.

As we shared in the last newspaper a membership update for 2021, District 12 had a total of 308 district members representing 15 Departments.

We have: A & A Twps. Vol. Fire Dept. with 20 members, Advance Vol. Fire Dept. with 37 members, Brooklyn Vol. Fire Dept. Inc. with 24 members, Brown Twp. Fire & Rescue with 27 members, Coatesville Vol. Fire Dept. with 13 members, Eel River Vol. Fire Dept. with 17 members, Fire Dept. of Liberty Twp. with 31 members, Green Twp. Fire Dept with 1 member, Gregg Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. with 19 members, Jamestown Vol. Fire Dept. with 28 members, Lizton-Union Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. with 25 members, Madison Twp. Fire Dept. with 2 members, Paragon Vol. Fire Dept. with 31 members, Stilesville Vol. Fire & Rescue with 12 members, Wayne Twp. Head Quarters with 21 members.

In 2022 we hope with your help we can bring those numbers of members and departments up as we know we have both in our district that are not currently members. Please reach out to the District 12 leadership if you would want a speaker from the district to attend your meeting or department function.

We attempt to present service pins at every District meeting but if you believe you have as of 2022 - 10, 25, 50 or more years please let us know so we can verify and get a service pin to you.

We typically attempt to hold a "special gathering" for our lifetime 50 year members when we present them with their "Gold card, for a lifetime membership. Eel River Vol. Fire Dept. of North Salem hosted a celebration for their newest 50 year lifetime member in May. The IVFA and the State Fire Marshal were both present and presented to Steve Miller, past chief his Gold card, a fifty year pin and a plaque from the state of Indiana honoring Steve for his many years of dedicated service, leadership and friendship. He was joined by family, friends and his community.

Check out the IVFA website, as it is loaded with great information as well as a calendar of activities and events. Look to see when and where our next District 12 meeting is and please try / plan to join us for a district update.

This past June we were in Evansville attending the State Convention. With all the tried attempts (three to be exact) IVFA District 15 was able to successfully put into the history books the 76th State Convention. Thanks to all the hard work, effort and energy; I'm sure all who were there would say CONGRATULATIONS for a job well done.

Now it's time to look toward convention 2023, hosted by IVFA

District 13 B in Muncie, Indiana. Good luck District 13 B; you have a challenge as District 15 set the bar pretty high for 2022 but I'm sure you folks are up to the challenge and then some.

The leadership of District 12 wants to hear from its members. Please share with us your thoughts, concerns, desires and wishes to bring interest back to the district and a larger audience at the district meetings.

We are here for you the departments, the members and the families. We encourage you to let us know when your department is having an event or activity and would like to have a representative from the IVFA attend, speak, help you celebrate a special occasion, we want to help wherever and whenever we can.

Remember my challenge to each of you during 2021 and I want to continue the same during 2022. Let's start a movement in District 12, "see someone, ask someone" many folks would be willing to join if we were just willing to "ask them". How many new members have you taken on in the last few months, remember the challenge is for a full year so you still have time to recruit.

Our District 12 management team now includes:

Larry, Jim, Chara & Rick and Ed,

Your District 12 Leadership.

Larry Curl - District 12 Chairman, Jim Leaver - District 12 Vice Chairman, Chara Leaver - District 12 Secretary / IVFAA District 12 Chairperson, Rick Rusie - District 12 Chaplain, and most recently Ed Orr - District 12 official Photographer.

Reach out to any of us if there is anything we can help your department with.

Welcome to summer 2022!!!

Larry

DISTRICT 13B REPORT



Anthony Smith - Chairman

Good morning, afternoon or evening, depending on when you are reading this.

I hope everyone is in good health and recovered from a wonderful time at the convention. How about that "Not so newlywed" game?! We learned that we have some charming spouses HAHA! With that said, I would like to say, JOB WELL DONE to the 2022 committee!

Congratulations to Mackenzie Elliot on being crowned the State Miss Flame and to the runner-up, our very own Madi Reeder!!! We are proud of you!!!!

Congratulations to all of the newly elected officers!

District 13B will be full steam ahead on preparations for our convention in Muncie and we hope to see all of you there. We now have

challenge coins available for purchase, please get ahold of us to get yours, they are selling fast!

Our district will meet July 23rd at 7 p.m. at Dublin Fire Dept., Station #2, 498 N Johnson St.; August 13th, Milton Fire Dept. will have a breakfast fundraiser from 8am-11am at their station. Webster is having their 7th annual car show and hot breakfast August 27th from 8am-1pm. September 9th & 10th, West College Corner Fire Dept. and Liberty Fire Dept. will have their Union County Fireman's Festival, located at West College Corner Fire Dept.

I have a large supply of 16.9 oz. pump hand sanitizer on hand for any District 13B departments. Please reach out to me if you would like to have some to give away at fundraisers or just to have available on station. They make good PR giveaways for your functions.

I look forward to seeing and hearing from you all soon! As always, feel free to call, text or email me anytime for your needs. 765-439-0911, dist13b@ivfa.org

Anthony Smith

DISTRICT 15 REPORT



Ross Emery - Chairman

Greetings from District 15, WOW where do I start. Convention has come and gone, and I think our convention committee knocked it out of the park.

Congratulations to all the award winners at the 2022 Convention; a special congratulations to District 15's own Mackenzie Elliott for being crowned the 2022 IVFA Miss Flame; I know you will represent the Association well this next year.

I wish I could pick a favorite part of convention, but I cannot. From the fire truck display and BBQ on Wednesday night to the tacos and the Memorial Service and a pretty cool entrance and exit by the bagpiper. And who could forget the awesome food trucks.

I could go on about the convention but probably the best part is spending time with our fire department friends and family and making new friends from across the state.

A huge shoutout to the Convention committee; like I have said many times we were small in numbers but large in heart and passion.

As many of you might know this will be my last article as District 15 Chairman; at the annual meeting at convention I was elected to serve as the IVFA Vice President for 2023. We will

be electing a new District Chairman in July.

The past seven or so years have been a blast; I have enjoyed representing Southwest Indiana. I have met some very incredible people who I now consider friends, every fire department I have walked into made me feel very welcome and I have gotten to present service year awards and IVFA awards to some of the best firefighters around.

None of this would have been possible without some help and I feel like I should recognize a few of them.

First off, Harry Logan and C.L. Mitchell who have both passed on but your support was great. I know I give Steve Anderson a hard time, but you have been a great friend the last few years. To all the IVFA officers who encouraged me to run for Vice President, I thank you. I have to mention Paul Campbell who always has my back and helps me out anytime he can.

The next group is not from District 15 but they are my fire department family and my family which serves as my unofficial advisory committee. The next two will always hold a special place in my heart. Jack and Barb Kerney, when I moved to Evansville in 2003 you said I was going to be your adopted son, I don't think any of us knew what we were in for, but thanks for everything even though Barb has passed but your friendship through the years is immeasurable.

I would like to thank my parents for always being there for me. Thanks to my rock star family Jenny, Lucas and Nathan for allowing me to do this.

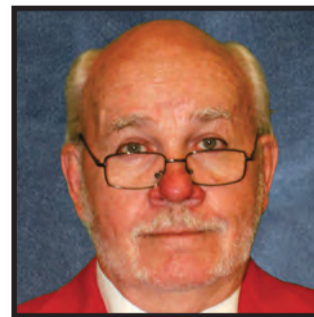
I look forward to this new position; it will be challenging but I look forward to traveling the state and seeing old friends and making new ones. I plan on trying to start making it to meetings and events throughout the state soon.

If there is anything I can do to assist you please feel free to contact me.

Thanks.

Ross Emery
812-459-4062

DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Sam Emery - Chairman

March 2nd I attended a fish fry at the Bloomfield VFD; good eats and a good turnout.

April 5th I presented Larry Waggoneer of the Lyons VFD a 50 year Gold card for his years of service.

April 16th I attended a bar-b-que dinner at the Plainville VFD. Good food and I presented David Willis and Chief Steven Hesheman their pins for 25 years of service.

April 23rd I attended Vigo
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I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

- district 17A

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Twp. VFD festival which kids could see and touch much equipment on display. A big turnout and several of the Miss Flames were there. I hope you will do this again another year.

April 23rd a memorial service was held for Steen Twp. VFD member Harold Baker, a 60 year member of the IVFA.

May 5th I attended the Taylor VFD meeting.

May 11th I took a Bible and grave marker for Vincennes Twp. VFD member James Teising, a 54 year member of the IVFA.

May 18th IVFA District 17A meeting was hosted by City of Petersburg Fire Territory; great meal, a good discussion of several items.

June 2nd I presented a Bible and grave marker to the family of Robert Showalter, a 66 year member of the Montgomery Vol. F.D.

June 12th I attended Mel Camp's retirement from the IVFA.

June 14th-18th I attended the 76th IVFA Convention. A great group of people were presented the awards. Check to see who they were.

In closing, I would like to thank Rylee Lemons, District 17A Miss Flame for all she did.

Sorry, Rylee, your district chairman still does not know how to dance. Sorry!

Sam Emery
District 17A IVFA chairman

DISTRICT 18 REPORT



Nicholas Waninger - Chairman

The last meeting of the District 18 was hosted by Anderson Twp. Vol. Fire Department.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Chairman Nicholas Waninger.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all members present.

Gave the opening prayer.

The business meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by chairman Waninger and welcomed everyone joining us tonight.

Roll call was taken with 61 members representing 10 departments answering 158 alarms.

Sec. Stan Seifert introduced guests present: Steve Nolan - PRSW, Cathy Smith - IVFAA District 18 Chairman, Aubrey Leubbusen - Miss Flame.

Chairman's Report:

Chairman Waninger announced Ohio Twp. will host the 2022 IVFA Parade and the IVFAA put on the 2023 Miss Flame (Oct. 16, Rockport, IN).

Chairman Waninger gave out (1) 10-year pin to Travis Kleaving of Anderson Twp.

State Officer's Report:

Steve Nolan, PRSW talked about making sure the beneficiary is up-to-date, also talked about doing run reports at home; use caution so no one else sees it. Need help at the FDIC to work the booth.

Cathy Smith, IVFAA District 18 Chairman wished Miss Flame good luck at the upcoming convention and said that the IVFAA District 18 will take care of the 2023 Miss Flame competition at the 2022 parade in Rockport.

Miss Flame talked about if any department has something coming up to let her know and she will try to make it to your department's event.

Chairman Waninger thanked the host department for the meal.

Announced the date and location of the next meeting. It will be on July 21, 2022 at the Otwell Community Center hosted by the Jefferson Township Fire Department.

DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Ben Sieverding - Chairman

District 19 held their May meeting at the Manchester Township VFD station in Dearborn County.

There was a good crowd in attendance as well as our state Miss Flame stopping by to visit our district. The next meeting for the district will be held at the Friendship VFD station in July and we will be traveling to Brookville VFD in September.

The volunteer fire service faces many challenges today and into the future. The IVFA is an essential part in our department's future and it represents all of us at the Statehouse. Becoming involved is important not only for our departments but also for the communities we serve. All of us face the challenges of recruitment, retention and funding. These issues will be a large part of what we discuss at our district meetings. We would love to see every department represented, get involved and send a couple of your members to the district meetings. The larger the group the better the discussions, this will help us help you. By attending the meetings you can share your concerns and ideas that we can use to help further the cause of the volunteer fire service.

As our departments head into the dog days of summer and into the fall all of us need to remember to spend time with our families and friends. Sometimes we get so caught up in the operation of our departments, we need to take time to wind down and enjoy those we love. Enjoy the warm weather and we hope to see you at our next district meeting.

**November deadline
October 1, 2022**

DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Don Fultz - Chairman

Our May meeting was held at the Kirklin Vol. Fire Department. We had nine departments with 31 people present. I presented 10 year and 25 year pins.

We had discussions on several subjects. Our State Miss Flame, Sidney Moon and our District 21 Miss Flame Larissa Butler were present at the meeting.

Our next meeting will be at Pine Village Vol. Fire Department in Pine Village on August 29, 2022. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and we eat at 6:45 p.m.

Don Fultz
District 21 Chairman

Retirement celebrated



On June 12, Mel Camp was presented with an award of appreciation for his many years of service as an Associate Chaplain for the Southwest area. We were able to present the award in front of his congregation at Centenary United Methodist Church in Terre Haute where he was surrounded by family and friends there to celebrate his retirement. Thanks to the generosity of his congregation, we were able to surprise Mel. Memories and joy were shared with those in attendance of his many years of devotion to the families of those he has served. Those in attendance to present the award were: District 17A Sam Emery, District 15 Ross Emery and Chaplain Rachel Bussey. Mel appreciated all the messages he received from everyone who was unable to attend. (submitted by Rachel Bussey, IVFA chaplain).

From The Secretary

Leighanne Ellis



INDIANA VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER'S
ASSOCIATION
QUARTERLY MEETING
March 11-13, 2021
HILTON GARDEN INN
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Meeting called to order by President David Israel at 1:46 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Jerry Liston. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Rachel Bussey.

Roll call was taken with 22 District Chairmen present and 3 Absent, 6 Public Relations Officers and 0 absent, 5 past presidents, the Lobbyist and Executive Council.

Reading of the minutes from the last meeting; Richard Glant made a motion to accept minutes as printed. Don Cushman seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Luke Kluender. Sheets were handed out and discussed on items spent, transactions, income. Letter of engagement with accountant was signed and 2021 accounts were turned in. Motion to accept report given by Buz Koehler. Second given by Jeremy Reef. Motion passed.

Guest Speakers: Tanner Sizemore, Zach Jordan, Corey Carlson with Stryker in to speak with American Rescue Plan. Looking at putting member departments into buying group so they get bigger discount with group discounts IVFA members. Covered American Cares Act. Testimony given by John Grolich about obtaining funds and equipment bought and uses for their area.

Old Business:

Mileage for November 7, 2021 to December 31, 2021 is \$.45 per mile. January 1, 2022 the mileage changes to \$.50.

Executive Committee Report: David Israel, Leighanne covered changes to the Medal of Valor and Life Saving Award. Listed names of upcoming recipients.

Central Office Report: Jack Kerney, dues processed that have come into office. Paid and not paid lists have been sent out. Service pins have been updated. 50 year pin shipment has been received. 81 new Gold card members for a little over 700 lifetime members. Deceased report emailed out. 103 members on this list. 14,220 addresses sent for newspaper. 315 bad addresses sent back. 14,302 is association member count. Breakdown of type was listed. 1,012 new members have joined the association. 2 AIL claims, District 15 and District 9B, have paid out a total of \$200,585.16. License Plates sold in 2021-5,862 plates sold. Donation to Bridgeport scholarship in Memory of Jim Parker.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards: Vice President Jerry Liston - all MacQueen award names have been turned in, Ollie Sandburg name has been chosen.

Angel Award, Diane Harrison - two nominations received.

Jr. Firefighter Award, Jack Kerney - planning to have it for convention.

Mr. IVFA, Lloyd Wright - plan to meet after board meeting.

Bridgeport, Past President Richard Glant, 16 applications received, 14 accepted, will grade at May meeting on Friday night.

- see 'secretary' page 9

'secretary'

(continued from page 8)

Budget: Treasurer Luke Kluender - nothing to report.

By-laws and S.O.G.'s: PRWC Larry Bartlow, have a new form to assist with making a By-Law or S.O.G. change; this will be posted online with forms. Changes being made are making verbiage change to By-Law or S.O.G. for gender neutral titles. Sending out drafts of these documents to committee for 30 day review then will discuss at May meeting and then plan to be sent to printer. Reminder covered on process of how to make changes was discussed. Policy and Procedure Manual - Larry is working to compile a list of policy to review and discuss at future meetings.

Clothing Claims: District 5 John Grolich - 2 glasses claims were approved for \$100 each.

Convention: President David Israel, 2022 Evansville - Jack Kerney, Ross Emery - planned and on track to be ready to go. Registration forms are available, and information is on the website. Convention coins are available. Buz is starting to build ad space in the convention book; May 10 is book deadline. New district chairpersons need to send in a picture for the convention book and newspaper.

2023 Jeff Biehl - work in progress.

2024 Convention - 2 bids received from District 14 and District 12.

EMS: Vice President Jerry Liston - Departments will not be able to get grants if not reporting and be penalized. Departments not using ImageTrend need to reach out if they need help. Your district EMS rep should be able to help with this program. BLS/ALS waivers were discussed. EMS Guideline awards and how to apply through the commission.

Insurance: Luke Kleunder, policy was signed and given back to Lona. Insurance had increased due to some claims.

Legislation: Lobbyist Larry Curl and Past President Buz Koehler, discussed tort claims with a rep.; 50 year members honored at Statehouse; 86 honored and 32 present at the presentation. Meet and greet was held at Statehouse. Monitored 35 bills and 9 that were passed dealing with public safety. Now we are planning on starting on a benefit package to make legislative proposal at the state level. Need to continue to share cost savings book with everyone. Township trustees' summer study coming together, Larry is on the committee to assist with the process.

LODD: Chaplain Rachel Bussey, nothing to report.

Logo: District 18 Nick Waninger, nothing to report.

Membership and Marketing: District 7 Sam Bisel, Savvik group meeting will meet with them at FDIC. Dues packets going out on April 15, thinking about placing an information sheet to place in recruitment and retention and explaining membership quickly. Meet with Tatijana about marketing strategies, will meet with her on zoom 3/15/22 at 2000. Getting more fire chiefs' email addresses to keep them current on matters. Propose a line item of

\$1000 to assist with mailer and advertising of association on different platforms to retain membership. Look at putting awards on back of paper right before deadline is due and send out a mailer reminder for awards applications. Ross Elmore would be willing to do a recruiting video.

Newspaper: Past Pres. Buz Koehler, 40-page edition sent out. April 1 deadline is for the next paper. Trying to get information from paper to website, newspaper editor will be done in November and we are looking for a new editor. A new prospect is being looked at from Wabash.

Public Relations and Education: PRSW Steve Nolan, FDIC is April 28-30, 2022, we still need helpers for the booth space. IVFA Trailer is needing supplies and the names for LODD have been updated. IERC Conference is Sept. 21, 2024 at the Holiday Inn on 21st St. More notebooks will be ordered for district chairmen to pass out at district meetings.

Social Media and Website: Webmaster Josh Reisert, when filling out calendar meeting notices, make sure that items are spelled right. Make sure to check for emails being sent out. Log into the IVFA email account to check emails.

Special Projects: Past Pres. Buz Koehler, Acclaim Press will be attending the May meeting and we might need a list of questions to ask them for the books, email to Steve or Buz. Discussion was held on the content of the 75-year history book. Concern discussed with change of editor affecting postal requirement.

Training: Past President Steve Anderson, 30-hour update was discussed and planning for a follow-up. Looking to pick back up on the PR Training, send training topics to committee.

Younger Membership: District 6 Jerry Sprague, nothing to report.

Member Benefit Committee: looking to possibly pull officers from membership and legislative committees possible to make this committee. Will discuss more options later.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Board of Firefighter Standards and Education: nothing.

Fire Alliance: Steve Anderson, Buz Koehler, Larry Curl, spoke on the cancer study, 30-hour class update.

Hero's Competition: Jason Ryan, nothing to report.

IN-Time: Jack Zeeks, nothing to report.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Jack Kerney and Jean Smith, nothing to report; will be going out to Washington, DC for meeting.

Red Cross Workgroup: Don Cushman, nothing to report.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President, David Israel.
Vice President, Jerry Liston, 17 district meetings, 5 fund, 9 visits and meetings.

Chaplain, Rachel Bussey, memorial service, and fundraisers.

Secretary, Leighanne Ellis, spoke on difficulty with CISM team information collection.

Treasurer, Luke Kluender,

nothing to report.

Sergeant-At-Arms, Brent Bush, 3 district meetings, memorial service, need to get station clock ASAP due to health issues at distributors.

Chairman of the Board, Steve Anderson.

Webmaster, Josh Reisert, nothing to report.

PRNW, Jeremy Reef, 3 district meetings, 3 department visits, 50-year presentation, memorial service, and Miss Flame event.

PRNE, Jean Smith, 19 department visits, 2 memorial services, service pin awards.

PRWC, Larry Bartlow, all district meetings.

PREC, Jeff Biehl, 13 departments meetings, 6 dept. meetings, fundraisers, memorial service.

PRSW, Steve Nolan, 3 memorial services.

PRSE, Ed Scheele, 3 district meetings, 2 memorial services, 50-year Gold card.

Asst. Treasurer, Bev Harker, absent.

Asst. Secretary, Diane Harrison, absent.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORTS:

Jim Parker - remarks given on behalf of his memory.

Richard Glant, pass.

Jack Zeeks, pass.

Buz Koehler, memorial service.

Jack Kerney, pass.

Larry Ketchem, update shows decline in health.

David Israel, pass.

Steve Anderson, memorial service, chief's meeting.

Paul Holcomb, absent.

Tim Deckard, absent.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 1, Marshall Neece, district meeting at Union Twp. Fire with info given by host dept. chief, 6 departments and 44 members present. 1 member passed in district.

District 2, Chris Gamblin, same as District 1 report.

District 3, Bob Uryga, district meeting, 2 memorial services.

District 4, Elton Schafer, district meeting at Concord Fire Dept. with 6 departments and 18 members present, district meeting at Nappanee with 5 departments and 22 members present. Service pins handed out, 2 fundraisers.

District 5, John Grolich, district meeting at Syracuse, Urbana/Warsaw. Service pins, Fire Marshal presentation.

District 6, Jerry Sprague (Mack Grobis), District meeting at Huntertown Fire, 6 dept. and 16 members present. One memorial service and program was Miss Flame judging. District meeting held at Waterloo, 12 departments and 24 members present, program given by State Miss Flame, presentation of service pins. 2 memorial services.

District 7, Sam Bisel (Richard Sorg), nothing to report.

District 8A, Rex Maynard, district meeting at Amboy, 4 dept. and 15 members present, 7 memorial services.

District 8B, Lloyd Wright, district meeting at Pennville, 3 dept. and 21 members present. Program was Miss Flame, one memorial service. District meeting at Portland, 4 dept. and 10

members present, one memorial service. District meeting Redkey, 4 dept. and 16 members present. 3 fundraisers upcoming in district.

District 9A, Pascal Moon, 2 district meetings, service pins passed out.

District 9B, Randy Denton, absent.

District 10, John Ray, district meeting at Carathage, 9 dept. and 17 members present, program on forceable entry, service pin presentation. District meeting at Flat Rock, 10 dept. 22 members present, service pin presentation. District meeting at Morristown, 6 depts., and 17 members present. Program on history of your fire dept.

District 11A, Pete Taylor, District meeting at Van Buren Twp., 6 Depts. present, program was Miss Flame contest. Memorial service, service pins handed out.

District 11B, Jason Ryan, service pins handed out, memorial services.

District 12 Larry Curl, 2 district meetings, service pins passed out.

District 13A, Don Cushman, service pins passed out.

District 13B, Anthony Smith, 2 memorial services, convention meetings, Statehouse presentation.

District 14, Rick Cannon, District meeting at Lovett Fire, 7 depts. and 25 members present, update from quarterly meeting discussed. District meeting at Vernon Fire, 5 depts. and 30 members present. Miss Flame crowning held, updates from past meetings.

District 15, Ross Emery, district meeting at Newburgh, 7 dept. and 29 members present. Miss Flame contest and update from Larry Curl. Handed out two Medal of Valors and 2 Life-Saving Awards, Statehouse presentation.

District 16, Ashley Armstrong, nothing to report.

District 17A, Sam Emery, Dept. meeting at Beech Creek, 4 dept. and 18 members present, service pins passed out. 2 memorial services.

District 17B, Tammy Wright, 2 meetings, 2 memorial services.

District 18, Nick Waninger, District meeting at Birdseye Cons. Club, 12 dept. and 38 members present.

District 19, Ben Siverding, district meeting at Bright VFD, 8 dept. and 32 members present, program on review of emergency response support certification, 2 memorial services.

District 21, Don Fultz, district meeting at Oxford Fire, 6 dept. and 13 members present, one memorial service. Service pins presented. June 1, 2022 is Visitor Day at Burn Camp.

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 Budget.

2022 Mileage.

Vincennes Sausage Supper has been cancelled.

Make sure to turn in District Secretary allowance for 2021.

Cards are needed for Supporting Hero's Gala being held on July 16, 2022. Must turn

in at May meeting if anyone wants to go.

FDIC workers please contact Steve Nolan to sign up and work.

Washington D.C. trip is on April 6-7, 2022.

Committees should be using zoom if there are updates that need to be done in-between quarterly meetings.

Benefit's Summit will be held in Ohio for 2022.

Anthony Smith made a motion to recess the meeting, Larry Curl seconded. Recessed at 1700.

Sunday March 13, 2022

Business meeting continued

Meeting reconvened at 0838 by President Israel.

Chaplain Bussey gave morning message.

Tammy Williams with American Income Life came in and spoke on the state of the program and how the partnership is going with the IVFA.

Appointment of Nancy Cushman to District 13A Secretary and given her 25-year pin by State Fire Marshal Thacker.

Presentation of Honorary Membership to State Fire Marshal Thacker.

Marshal Thacker introduced Wade Walling and Robin Stump from the state. He spoke on legislative and budget cycles. Senate Bill 381 oversight of radioactive and nuclear energy, spoke how Indiana is becoming the top in the states for nuclear medicine. House Bill 1112 Medicaid Rate, spoke on billing on runs and Medicaid rates have to match Medicare rates. Also spoke on how to get reimbursement on medical runs even if not transporting. House Bill 1246, Fire Territories, includes Fire Territories in with Township Fire Dept., Fire Districts, and obtaining money due to growth of population. This bill included an amendment with county ambulance services. House Bill 1314 includes language on National Guard and EMS organizations, and it passed. Office is looking at verbiage on EMT and Paramedic, NIFRS Reporting requirements and reporting. Imagetrend and ESO already completes these requirements on reporting. Imagetrend is the suite package so additional reporting is available in this program. Completed first Fire Chief Training, had 6 volunteers in the training, and there are 2 additional set up. Communicating with elected officials is a new program they have set-up to roll out and available to be presented when requested. PFAS have had over 200 fire depts. Reply to survey and have collected 50,000 gallons of foam and a \$1.5 million contract to pick up and discard appropriately. Spoke on annual physicals and annual health screenings for firefighters and making sure to get those screenings done to keep healthy. Showed state website and new additions to it, shows upcoming training calendar, Imagetrend reporting, get alarmed program for fire alarms (have 3 companies who will offer community service hours to help install



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E-mail:	ivfaapresident@ivfaa.org		
VICE PRESIDENT	EJ SMITH	16721 Thiele Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46819	Cell: (260) 413-3040
E-mail:	ivfaavicepresident@ivfaa.org / ejs6district@aol.com		
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	JANET MATTHEWS	204 High Street, St. Paul, IN 47272	Home (765) 525-7125
/ Cell: (317) 512-8687 / E-mail:	ivfaacsecretary@ivfaa.org		
RECORDING SECRETARY	BEVERLY VANLANDINGHAM	9411 Minnick Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46816	Cell: (260) 450-1821
E-mail:	ivfaarecsecretary@ivfaa.org / lockwoodba5@gmail.com		
TREASURER	MARTHA BIEHL	P.O. Box 186, Mooreland, IN 47360	Home (765) 766-7042
Cell (765) 524-9665 / E-mail:	ivfaatreasurer@ivfaa.org		
CHAPLAIN	JUDY WIRTH	7673 N. 1000 W., Commiskey, IN 47227	Cell: (812) 592-7317
E-mail:	ivfaachaplain@ivfaa.org		
SGT.-AT-ARMS	SUZIE STOUT LEWIS	2627 N. 400 E., Lagro, IN 46941	Cell: (260) 571-7923
E-mail:	ivfasgtatarms@ivfaa.org		
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/ Cell (765) 592-2227 - E-mail:	ivfaadistrict11b@ivfaa.org		
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E-mail:	ivfaadistrict13a@ivfaa.org / ivfaadistrict13b@ivfaa.org		
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E-mail:	ivfaadistrict14@ivfaa.org / jsmith19513@yahoo.com		
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E-mail:	ivfaadistrict15@ivfaa.org		
DISTRICT #15	MARIE EMERY	799 East Harvest Church Rd., Bloomfield, IN 47424	Home (812) 384-8748
/ Cell (812) 381-0107 - E-mail:	ivfaadistrict17a@ivfaa.org		
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/ Cell (812) 631-1501 / E-mail:	ivfaadistrict18@ivfaa.org		
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E-mail:	ivfaadistrict21@ivfaa.org / dpbfultz@gmail.com		
DISTRICT #18			
DISTRICT #19			
DISTRICT #21			

PAST PRESIDENTS

DIANA GRAY.....	2011-2013	799 Hippensteel Drive, Warren, IN 46792- (260) 224-0774	didagrady@yahoo.com
BETH CAUDILL.....	2009-2011	15120 Lucas Rd., Brookville, IN 47012 - Cell (765) 309-2940	
MARTHA THOMAS (Deceased).....	2007-2009		
JOANN HAYS.....	2005-2007	4430 South 8th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802 - (812) 299-1574 / Cell (812) 230-5506	
BARBARA KERNEY (Deceased).....	2002-2005		
MARY MACKIN (Deceased).....	2000-2002		
FAYE SALLEE (Deceased).....	1998-2000		
LOU BARTLOW.....	1996-1998	Box 12, Montezuma, IN 47862 - (765) 245-2125 / Cell (765) 593-2227	
E-mail:	larry_bartlow@att.net		
PHYLLIS VARGO.....	1994-1996	7756 Durbin Street, Schererville, IN 46375 - (219) 322-4286	
/ E-mail:	pavargo1@yahoo.com		
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994		
NANCY NEAL.....	1990-1992	749 Walnut Street, Hope, IN 47246 - (812) 764-1852	
TONI SORG (Deceased).....	1988-1990		
LORETTA NULLINER.....	1986-1988	10830 Cape Coral Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46229 - (317) 622-2863	
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994		
NICKIE SUNDAY (Deceased).....	1984-1986		
BARBARA PARKER (Deceased).....	1982-1984		
BARBARA SURBER.....	1980-1982	2003 Flamingo Way, Franklin, IN 46131 - (317) 614-5669 - Cell (317) 519-4445	
LUCY STOFER.....	1978-1980	718 South Ingomar Street, Indianapolis, IN 46241 - (317) 241-1946	
VICA MCGILL (Deceased).....	1976-1978		
MARY BOYD.....	1975-1976	92 Golfview Circle, Umatilla, FL 32784 - (352) 669-2062 - Cell (407) 495-8249	

PAST PRESIDENTS

JOAN KELLER (Deceased).....	1973-1975
CAROLYN McCARTY (Deceased).....	1971-1973
ROSELLA BOUSMAN (Deceased).....	1969-1971
MARY STAFFORD (Deceased).....	1967-1969
BARBARA KERNEY (Deceased).....	2013-2016

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NOVEMBER DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1, 2022

I.V.F.A.A. DISTRICT CHAIRMEN REPORTS

Corresponding Secretary

Janet Matthews



Quarterly IVFAA Meeting Sunday, May 08, 2022 Crowne Plaza Hotel, Indianapolis

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Christina Reef. Chaplain Judy Wirth opened the meeting with a prayer. The group was led in the Pledge to the Flag by Sergeant at Arms Suzie Lewis.

Announcements: President Christina Reef reminded everyone that Joann Hays is recovering from illness at home but is still wanting recipe cards mailed to her.

Dave Elick came & delivered a

Mother's Day message to the women in the room & confirmed that the memorial service for convention is all planned out.

Recording Secretary: Beverly Vanlandingham not present at today's meeting; President Christina Reef took roll call & it was answered by 27 IVFAA members & 1 guest today.

Correspondence Secretary: Janet Matthews was asked to read meeting minutes from 3/13/2022, Tammy Smith made motion to dispense the reading of the minutes & accept them as written, Kay Schumaker seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. President Christina Reef asked if there were any corrections that needed to be made to them, no corrections needed made.

Treasurer's Report: Martha Biehl reviewed with the group the account information that was passed out by Suzie Lewis. President Christina Reef asked if anyone had any questions regarding the accounts. Treasurer's report is accepted & is subject to audit.

Chaplain Report: Judy Wirth reports she has traveled 193 miles since last quarterly meeting.

She is sending a card around the room for everyone to sign

that she will be sending out to those that are under the weather.

Vice President's Report: E.J. Smith reports she has attended several district meetings/functions since the last quarterly meeting & will continue to as she can.

Sergeant at Arms: Suzie Lewis delivered 2 Gold cards & pins to district chairmen for members in their districts to receive.

Committee Reports: Line officers will continue to meet each Saturday of quarterly meetings at 1 p.m. The chairman of any committee can post in the IVFAA Facebook group of a time that they would like to meet up on these Saturdays as well.

Audit: Carol Curl reports will be ready for August meeting audit.

VP Project: E.J. Smith reports that committees are ready, doing 50/50 for VP Project. Lori Baxter present at meeting & will be taking home any items that were brought today for Chinese auction with her. Encourages everyone to bring baskets to the table on Wednesday upon their arrival to the convention. Lori reminded everyone that submitting baskets to ensure that you label what is in it & the amount spent on it as we

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IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2021 / 2022

AUDIT

Carol Curl - Chair
Suzie Lewis - Co-Chair
Kristi Bisel
Sue Glant
Connie Ray

CHINESE AUCTION

Lori Baxter - Chair
Bev Vanlandingham - Co-Chair
Bev Taylor
Chara Leaver
Kimberly Smith
Marie Emery
Connie Ray
Sue Glant

MIRIAM SCHAEKEL AWARD

Joyce Nevil
Martha Thomas
Phyllis Vargo
Eula Bush

LOIS BOAZ AWARD

Leona Uryga
Beth Caudill
Bev Taylor

HISTORIANS

Phyllis Vargo - Chair
Joann Hays - Co-Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Diane Stapleton - Chair
Kimberly Smith - Co-Chair
Leona Uryga
JoAnn Smith
Kathy Smith

MISS FLAME

Janet Matthews - Chair
EJ Smith - Co-Chair
Tammy Smith
Jaelyn Matthews
Leighanne Ellis - IVFA Rep.

JEWELRY

Suzie Lewis - Chair
EJ Smith - Co-Chair

MARY MACKIN SCHOLARSHIP

Kimberly Smith - Chair
Beth Moon - Co-Chair
Bev Taylor
EJ Smith
Patti Fultz
Kay Shumaker

BUDGET & FINANCE

Kathy Smith - Chair
Martha Biehl - Co-Chair
Chara Leaver
Kristi Bisel
Bev Vanlandingham
JoAnn Smith
Brenda Shafer

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Lou Bartlow - Chair

VICE PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

EJ Smith - Chair
Dawn Harris - Co-Chair
Kay Shumaker
Leona Uryga
Brenda Shafer
Jude Wirth
JoAnn Hayes
Phyllis Vargo

NOMINATING

Carolyn Zeeks - Chair
Marie Emery - Co-Chair
Sue Glant
Carol Koehler
Patti Fultz

INSTALLATION

Pam Gerdowsky - Chair
Betsy Howe - Co-Chair
Phyllis Vargo

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY

Lou Bartlow
Phyllis Vargo
Carol Curl

BYLAWS & SOGs

Christina Reef - Chair
Tammy Smith - Co-Chair
Janet Matthews
Lou Bartlow
Carol Curl
Joyce Nevil
Kristi Bisel
Beth Moon
Diane Stapleton
Bev Vanlandingham
EJ Smith

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION

Tammy Smith - Chair
Dawn Harris - co-Chair
Jude Wirth
Lou Bartlow
Carolyn Zeeks

MEMORIAL THROW

Carol Curl - Chair

CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANTS

Jude Wirth - State Chaplain
Phyllis Vargo - Northwest
Suzie Lewis - Northeast
Janet Matthews - East Central
Joan Hayes - West Central
Kathy Smith - Southwest
Pam Gerdowsky - Southeast

CHAPLAIN EMERITUS & COMMUNICATIONS

JoAnn Hayes

* Committee meetings will follow the I.V.F.A.A. By Laws & Robert's Rule of Order



'corresponding secretary'

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need to know its value.

Miriam Schaekel Award: Joyce Nevil reports we are ready.

Lois Boaz Award: Leona Uryga reports we are ready.

Miss Flame: Janet Matthews reports that committee members met yesterday & all is ready for convention. There are 15 girls competing at convention. Reminded that the community project is collecting pop can tabs for Riley Hospital. The outing at convention will be spent at a shelter & the girls will be volunteering their time there.

Budget & Finance: Kathy Smith reports to the group that her committee met yesterday & copies of proposed budget have been passed out to all by Suzie Lewis so everyone can review them. Group discussion was had about the chaplain's allotment as a line item on the budget, since the chaplain does get mileage for her travels. The group will investigate this line & bring information to the group. Kathy encouraged everyone to review the proposed budget as well; want to get this voted on today in meeting business.

Mary Mackin: Kimberly Smith reports her committee met yesterday & that their committee made \$291.00 from the silent auction at March meeting. Today there is a bake sale going on in the back of the room, thank you to everyone that donated items to this event.

Nominating: Carolyn Zeeks confirmed that the current slate of officers is planning to run again for their same offices at convention.

Installation: Christina Reef reports that the electric candles have been picked out & purchased, will be ready for convention. Lou Bartlow & Beth Moon will be assisting & learning the process this year.

Membership: Diane Stapleton not present but submitted report to President Christina Reef.

The committee is reviewing membership pamphlet & working on it to help boost membership to the organization. Christina brought up to the group about IFVA asking if the IVFAA would like to join them at FDIC next year to help promote the organization. Discussion was had by the group about this offer.

By laws & SOG: Christina Reef reports the committee met yesterday for 2 hours & was able to get through the SOG's. Committee will work on getting revisions typed up for review at August meeting.

Historians: Phyllis Vargo says all is ok.

Parliamentarian: Lou Bartlow, nothing to report.

Social Media Communication: Tammy Smith nothing to report.

Chaplain Assistants: Judy Wirth reports committee met & that IVFAA has had 12 deaths since last convention. Encourage everyone to be utilizing the funeral vouchers that they have in their district chair paperwork, when a member passes.

Jewelry: Suzie Lewis reports that she does have past president pins with her & the past 6 presidents will be given them. If not

present today, then pins will be sent with the chairmen to present to the person or family of the past president. Carol Curl, Barbara Kerney, Beth Caudill, Martha Thomas, Diane Gray, Phyllis Vargo are the recipients of these pins.

Buz Koehler brought newspapers to the room for anyone that wants/needs one. Steve Anderson came to the room to remind everyone of the convention registration & hotel room reservations. Steve informed the group that there will be a photo booth at convention this year & if you had any props you would like to donate to please bring them. Feel like this will be a fun event for all. Steve will be around after the meeting if anyone has questions or wants to check their status of registration.

Old Business: President Christina Reef asked if anyone has any old business to discuss as she did not, no old business to discuss.

New Business: President Christina Reef reports that Beverly Vanlandingham has scanned all the past minutes & financial reports that she had into electronic records. She has proposed a new form to be completed with each new member as well as with renewal of dues from existing members. Suzie Lewis passed out an example of the new form for all to review, discussion was had about the form & benefits of using it. Carolyn Zeeks made a motion to accept the new membership/beneficiary form, Connie Ray seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Beverly Vanlandingham will be sending this form out with the yearly dues letter to everyone and it will be added to the website as a fillable form. Christina brought up to the group that since the Mary Mackin is under the umbrella of the organization & no longer have their own federal ID number that the organization does not technically have to continue to donate to another organization yearly when \$100 donation is given to Mary Mackin. Group discussion was had & everyone agrees to continue to donate to another organization yearly. In past years the IVFAA has donated to help support whatever community project that the Miss Flames are supporting that year at convention. Lou Bartlow made motion that the IVFAA donate \$100 to the animal shelter that the girls are going to on their outing in Evansville; Judy Wirth seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Janet Matthews will find out the name.

I.V.F.A.A.
State Officer's Meeting
Thursday, June 16, 2022
Bally's Hotel & Casino
@ Evansville, IN

President Christina Reef called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. Chaplain Judy Wirth gave opening prayer for the meeting. Sergeant at Arms Suzie Lewis led the group in the Pledge to the Flag.

Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham took roll call for the meeting and it was answered by 26 members.

Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews was asked to read the minutes from the Thursday state officer's meeting from 6/10/2021 to the group. Beth Moon made a

motion to suspend the reading of the minutes & accept them as submitted, Beverly Taylor seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Minutes accepted as they were written & submitted.

Chaplain Judy Wirth informed the group that all is set for the memorial service this evening.

Reported that she has completed 1 funeral service since May quarterly meeting. The cake for the 70th year celebration has been ordered & will be here for the banquet.

Treasurer Martha Biehl gave financial report to the group. No corrections or additions and is available for audit.

President E.J. Smith reports that 50/50 tickets are being sold. Tomorrow evening at the banquet the Miss Flames will be selling more tickets & we will draw for the winner at the closing of the banquet. Reminded everyone that the Chinese Auction is set up in the registration room & encouraged everyone to get their tickets.

Sergeant at Arms Suzie Lewis passed out the updated name/office bars that she has received.

JoAnn Hays was presented with a corsage from the organization. JoAnn thanked the group for all the cards/thoughts & prayers during her recent illness.

Immediate Past President Carol Curl presented President Christina Reef with her convention corsage. President Christina Reef presented Carol Curl with her corsage. Christina thanked the group for everyone's hard work throughout the year & she noted increase in fellowship amongst the group.

President Christina Reef called for committee reports; Lou Bartlow made a motion that the reports on the committees be put off until tomorrow, Beverly Taylor seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. All committees will report tomorrow. Carolyn Zeeks reminded everyone that tomorrow will be election of officers, that current line officers are seeking re-election & will be taking nominations from the floor. Lou Bartlow & Beth Moon confirm that they will be ready for the new installation process with the use of battery-operated candles.

Janet Matthews informed the group that Miss Flame judging has went well today & requested that all pop-tabs that have been collected to be taken to the Evansville room. The girls will have a group photo taken with them before donating them to the Ronald McDonald House tomorrow.

President Christina Reef asked if anyone had anything for the good of the order? Martha Beihl announced that next year's convention will be in Muncie June 14, 15, 16, 2023 & they will be taking early registrations tomorrow. Registration will be \$90 & room rates will be \$96 per night.

Chaplain Judy Wirth gave closing prayer to the group. President Christina Reef asked for motion to adjourn. Tammy Smith made motion meeting be adjourned, Kay Schumaker seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Matthews
Corresponding Secretary

I.V.F.A.A Convention
Meeting
Friday, June 17, 2022
Bally's Hotel & Casino
@ Evansville, IN

President Christina Reef called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Chaplain Judy Wirth opened meeting with prayer. Sergeant at Arms Suzie Lewis led the group in the Pledge to the Flag.

Christina Reef asked the group to ensure that everyone has signed into the meeting at the back table upon entering the room, if not please do so & please silence your cell phones.

Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham took roll call answered by 22 IVFAA members, 2 Guests, 26 Officers for a total of 50.

President Christina Reef congratulated the award winners from last night. Lois Boaz Award winner Suzie Lewis; Miriam Schaekel award winner Pam Gerdowsky; Miss Flame 2022 Mackenzie Elliott, District 15; Runner-up Miss Flame Madi Reeder, District 13 B.

Miss Flame contestants came to the meeting and were introduced to the group. 2022 Miss Flame, Mackenzie announced that the total collected to donate to the shelter, "It Takes a Village" was \$505 dollars & they will give it to them today.

Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews was asked to read 2021 IVFAA convention minutes to the group. Lou Bartlow made motion to accept the minutes as read, Kimberly Smith seconded the motion, all in favor, minutes approved as read.

Vice President E.J. Smith reports that 50/50 tickets are still being sold as well as tickets for Chinese Auction.

Treasurer report given by Martha Biehl. No corrections or additions, is subject to audit.

Chaplain Judy Wirth reports that there have been 11 deaths in the IVFAA since last year's convention. The funeral voucher has been updated & will be available on-line. Social media is being used to keep updates on members & life events.

President Christina Reef called for committee reports.

Auditing: Carol Curl that reports will be ready for audits at next quarterly meeting.

Budget & Finance: Kathy Smith reports budget was approved at last quarterly meeting.

V.P. Project: E.J. Smith reports that \$900 has been turned in so far & that the drawing will be tonight at the banquet.

Chinese Auction: Lori Baxter reports that \$700 has been turned in so far & that the drawing will be at 3 p.m. today. Hopes to sell many more tickets today.

Lois Boaz Award: Leona Uryga congratulated Suzie Lewis on her accomplishments as the most recent recipient of the award. Reminded group that February 1st is the cut off for next year's nominations.

Miriam Schaekel Award: Phyllis Vargo congratulated Pam Gerdowsky on being selected as the recent recipient of the award.

Mary Mackin: Kimberly Smith reports that 2 essay winners have been selected & will be announced tonight at banquet. Kimberly thanked her committee for all their support & hard work.

Miss Flame: Janet Matthews reports this competition has been a success this year. Each girl seems to be having fun & definitely gave their all & making new friends. Forms for next year's applicants will need to be on the most recent updated forms. These will be available on the website. Thank you to my awesome committee for all your hard work.

By Laws/SOGs: Christina Reef reports that all have been reviewed by the committee & are getting closer to completion. A lot of work has gone into these by many people & will be nice to have them updated.

Jewelry: Suzie Lewis reports all is ok. She does have a 25-year & 50-year pin that needs to be presented.

President Christina Reef presented Melinda Bell with her 25-year pin. President Christina Reef presented 50-year pin & Gold card to Jacqui Rench. Congratulated both ladies on their years of membership to the IVFAA.

Membership: Will be working on a new IVFAA flyer.

Nominating: Carolyn Zeeks reports that her committee is ready for today.

Installation: Lou Bartlow reports they are ready & will be using flameless candles this year. The installation ceremony has been shortened as well.

Historians: Phyllis Vargo has nothing to report.

Parliamentarian: Lou Bartlow reports all is ok.

Social Media Communication: Tammy Smith reports all going ok.

President's Advisory: Lou Bartlow reports all is going well.

Chaplain Assistants: Judy Wirth thanked each one for the work they do.

Chaplain Emeritus & Communications: JoAnn Hayes thanked everyone for what they do & appreciates the prayers.

Memorial Throw: Carol Curl says all is ok.

Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham took roll call again. Verified that there are 48 voting members in the room.

Nominations for line offices conducted by Carolyn Zeeks, she announced there are 48 voting members in the room.

President - Christina Reef slated, Carolyn Zeeks offered nominations from the floor x 3. No floor nominations, Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham cast one unanimous vote for Christina Reef as President.

Vice President - E.J. Smith slated, Carolyn Zeeks offered nominations from the floor x 3, No floor nominations. Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham cast one unanimous vote for E.J. Smith as Vice President.

Recording Secretary - Beverly Vanlandingham slated. Carolyn Zeeks offered nominations from the floor x 3.

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No floor nominations, President Christina Reef cast one unanimous vote for Beverly Vanlandingham.

Corresponding Secretary - Janet Matthews slated. Carolyn Zeeks offered nominations from the floor x 3. No floor nominations, Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham cast one unanimous vote for Janet Matthews as Corresponding Secretary.

Treasurer - Martha Biehl slated. Carolyn Zeeks offered nominations from the floor. Carol Curl nominated Dawn Harris, District 17B chairmen, Dawn accepted. Offered nominations from the floor x 2. No further nominations. Election conducted & counted. Martha Biehl won the vote.

Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham cast one unanimous vote for Martha Biehl as Treasurer.

Chaplain - Judy Wirth slated. Carolyn Zeeks offered nominations from the floor x 3. No floor nominations. Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham cast one unanimous vote for Judy Wirth as Chaplain.

Sergeant at Arms - Suzie Lewis slated. Carolyn Zeeks offered nominations from the floor x 3. No floor nominations. Recording Secretary Beverly Vanlandingham cast one unanimous vote for Suzie Lewis as Sergeant at Arms.

Carolyn Zeeks thanked her committee for their help during the elections today.

Lou Bartlow & Beth Moon conducted the installation of IVFAA officers for 2022 - 2023 term.

President Christina Reef made everyone aware that the quarterly meeting for August will be held at the Crowne Plaza & will be the last weekend in July 29, 30, 31, 2022. Christina also announced that the District Chairman class will be held at the November quarterly meeting.

President Christina Reef asked if anyone had anything for the good of the order? Chaplain Judy Wirth gave closing prayer. Christina asked for a motion to adjourn, Chara Leaver made motion meeting be adjourned, seconded by Patty Fultz. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m. by President Christina Reef.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Matthews
Corresponding Secretary

NOVEMBER
2022
DEADLINE IS:
OCTOBER 1,
2022

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IVFAA President

Christina Reef



Hello Everyone,

I hope the summer is hot enough for everyone & you are getting some fun but relaxing family time in.

We had an amazing time at the IVFA-IVFAA 2022 convention in Evansville this year. A huge thank you to the convention committee for all the hard work they did putting on the convention. Next year's convention will be in Muncie June 14- 16, 2023. If you have never been to a convention, I strongly encourage you to attend one. I promise you will have a good time & meet some amazing people.

At our annual IVFAA meeting we elected our 2022-2023 officers. President - Christina Reef, Vice President - EJ Smith, Recording Secretary - Beverly Vanlandingham, Corresponding Secretary - Janet Matthews, Treasurer - Martha Biehl, Chaplain - Judy Wirth, Sergeant at Arms - Suzie Lewis. I look forward to working with all these ladies again in the upcoming year.

Moving into this next year, we will continue to work on & build out the IVFAA side of the website. The SOG & By Law committee worked extremely hard last year to review all the SOGs & By Laws. There will be some revisions going out to all the districts to be voted on in the upcoming months. As I have been working on assigning committees this past month, I am still looking for some more members to join the membership committee. This committee is to come up with ideas & ways for us to build our membership & organization. I think it's important that we have a good blend of members who have been in our organization for a long time & a short time on this committee. If you are wanting to join, please let me know.

Any young lady between the ages of 15 to 18 years old, interested in running for Miss Flame for the upcoming year, should contact their IVFA &/or IVFAA district chair. The application & information about the program is on the website.

Also, it is that time again to pay your annual IVFAA dues. Dues are \$10 per year. This year we do have a new form (Auxiliary Membership & Beneficiary Form) that we are asking everyone to fill out. This is on the IVFAA website. If you do not have access or you cannot find it please ask your district chair or our Recording Secretary Bev Vanlandingham for a copy to be mailed to you.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone for being so nice & helpful to me in

my first year as president. I had a great year & met some wonderful people as I went to meetings all over the state. I look forward to getting to as many districts as I can this year as well. If you would like for me to attend an event or meeting please let me know.

Please continue to post your meeting date, time, and location on the website calendar & on the IVFAA Community Facebook page. Please also post any events happening in your district. This will not only help me know when your meeting is but will also let others know in your surrounding areas.

Please let me know if you need anything or have any questions. I'm always happy to help.

Sincerely,

Christina Reef
IVFAAPresident@IVFAA.org

IVFAA Vice President

EJ Smith



Hello Everyone:

I attended the annual IVFA 2022 Convention June 15th-17th at Bally's Hotel and Casino Evansville. I would like to congratulate all of the IVFA-IVFAA and Bridgeport winners. I would also like to congratulate the Miss Flames on their Community Service Project, job well done! The 2022 Miss Flame is Mackenzie Elliot - District 15, Runner-up is Madi Reeder - District 13B, Miss Congeniality Larissa Butler - District 21.

State IVFAA officers for 2022-2023: President Christina Reef, Vice President E.J. Smith, Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews, Recording Secretary Bev Vanlandingham, Treasurer Martha Biehl, Sergeant-at-Arms Suzie Lewis, Chaplain Judy Wirth, Board Chairman Carol Curl.

We have an IVFAA Community Facebook Page. Please post your meetings, events and other communications on this page. You also can post meetings and events on the ivfa.org website calendar.

Next year's convention will be in Muncie, June 14th-17th, 2023.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at 260-413-3040 or e-mail me at: ivfa vicepresidente@ivfa.org. Stay Safe and Healthy.

E.J. Smith
Vice President IVFAA



IVFAA Chaplain

Judy Wirth



I hope I have given you an idea of some of my duties. If traveling the state to bring comfort and peace to the families who are mourning the passing of their loved one, I feel I am fulfilling God's work, helping others in a difficult time. But I also feel I am comforting us as the IVFAA family. Because WE have lost a fire member, too!

Please have a safe and fun and COOL summer. If you need anything or have any questions give me a shout out. I'll help as best I can.

Jude

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



Kimberly Smith - Chairman

Hello All!

I hope everyone is getting a chance to enjoy the warm summer weather. It was great seeing everyone at the annual IVFA Convention in Evansville. District 15 put on an amazing convention. Thanks for all of your hard work.

Congratulations to the following winners for 2022:

- Lois Boaz - Suzie Lewis;
- Miriam Schaeckel - Pam Gerdowsky;
- Miss Flame - Mackenzie Elliot (District 15);
- 1st Runner-up - Madi Reeder (District 13B);
- Miss Congeniality - Larissa Butler (District 21);
- Mary Mackin Essay Award Winners - CheyAnn Rolston (District 4) and Meya Cheeseman (District 1);
- Mr. IVFA - Ed Stone;
- Angel Award - Ashley Armstrong.

Please continue to submit nominations for these awards. There are many deserving people in District 6 or your own fire department and auxiliary that should be recognized for their hard work and volunteerism.

I was honored as one of the Bridgeport Scholarship recipients in Evansville. As some of you may know, I enrolled in accelerated online classes at Indiana Tech, after graduating high school over twenty years ago. I am working towards earning a Bachelor's Degree in Business with a concentration in Human Resources. It has been a challenge to balance school, working a full-time job, and raising an athletic pre-teen. But I know that all of the hard work is worth it to provide a better life for myself and son. Thank you to everyone who has supported me on this journey so far, especially my parents. You are never too old to chase your dreams. Thank you to the Bridgeport Committee for taking the time to read my story and consider me for this award.

Please continue to invite our District Miss Flame Kaylee Knight to any functions that your fire department is hosting. Also

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Many thanks to the 2022 Convention Committee for a fantastic Convention! Congratulations to all the awards winners! I guess now is a good time to start thinking about 2023 Convention Award nominees. I am sure every department and auxiliary have very deserving folks to write letters for. Let's get to writing those letters!!!!

As State Chaplain I get asked what all do I do in my position. Here are a few things - I say prayer at the opening and closing of quarterly state officer's meetings. I send *sympathy, thinking of you* and *get well* cards to the membership. I keep track of all the deaths that have occurred within the state auxiliary membership from one year to the next. I say prayer at the convention opening meeting closing and convention banquet closing. I have been invited to the Miss Flame Luncheon the past 2 years where I say grace. I try to help Brent Bush, the IVFA Sgt-At-Arms and Suzie Lewis, IVFAA Sgt-At-Arms, set up the beautiful lighted cross at Convention for the Memorial Service. (And taking it apart and packing it away until next Convention.) There are 180 "candles" on the cross where I place a rose as the name of the member of IVFA who has passed is read off. And the IVFA Chaplain places a rose for each IVFAA member who has passed as I read their names off.

There are forms to fill out when an Auxiliary member passes away. When there is a death and the family requests, I travel to that area and perform a Memorial Service where I present the family a Bible, a Red Rose and a Candle. If there is an IVFA member who is an Auxiliary member as well, and I am asked, I will do a presentation to the family of a Memory Cross or a Memory Angel or a Bible. These are some of my duties as State Chaplain.

I ask of you District Chairmen to let your Auxiliary members or District Individual Members know as part of their membership they are entitled to a Memorial Service at their passing. I am finding out there are a lot of these gals have NO idea this is available. I wonder how many ladies we have missed???

If you have a member pass away PLEASE call me and I'll help you gather the information we need. Then pass this information along where it is needed.

'ivfa secretary'

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alarms in areas), and special recognition nominations. Spoke on writing a grant for fire stop in tubing for people on oxygen who are smoking and how to create a prevention program for this issue.

Wade Walling, spoke on Fire, EMS and EMA training all located in one area on the website. Need to have at least an Instructor 1 to bring on the ERS Training. Spoke on Fire Chief Academy, next program is September 26-30, 2023, and will be capped at 30 attendees. Looking at a Junior Volunteer Firefighter Program. They are looking to partner with the IVFA to match them with departments when they start to show interest of make contacts in the state. Courses in Acadis are coming up so check out the dates.

Megan, spoke on get alarmed program and still have smoke alarms available for departments to request under the get alarmed tab on website. Spoke on ERS and getting people on your dept. to assist with operations on scenes not related to fire attack. It needs to have a Fire 1 Instructor and fire chiefs' signature to get this course completed. The office can help you to get an instructor if needed. Have about 80 students in the ERS Program and approx. 20 who have received the certification. If you are having issues with the Autism and SIDS from LMS being attached and confirmed, then contact the certification staff so they can attach it to the course to have them completed.

Chaplain Rachel Bussey provided update in Funeral Vouchers and them being posted onto the website now.

Bob Uryga brought up concern about gas prices and reimbursement. Discussion was held on changes, and it was recommended that the cost stays as is. Will be brought up in board action.

Buz Koehler made motion to adjourn, Jeremy Reef seconded. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 10:26.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING March 11-13, 2022 HILTON GARDEN HOTEL INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Board Action Business Meeting called to order by Past President Steve Anderson at 10:27.

Reading of the minutes; Buz Koehler made a motion to accept them as emailed, second was made by Don Cushman, motion passed.

Board Action - Business:

1. Election of board chairman, Jack Zeeks made motion to keep Chairman of the Board as currently elected, Marshall Neece gave second. Motion passed.

2. Jason Ryan motioned on making a \$1000 line item in the budget for marketing committee. Jeremy Reef gave second, motion passed.

3. John Grolich made a motion to have a 75-year award created, Larry Bartlow gave a second. Discussion was held on where the award should be placed, will go to executive committee. Motion passed.

4. Mileage increase. Lack of motion kills action.

District ticket drawing \$100 gas card winner, Jack White, Concord

Fire Dept., District 4.

Chaplain gave benediction.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Jack Zeeks, second by Ski Gerdowsky. Meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING May 6-8, 2022 Crowne Plaza Hotel INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Meeting called to order by President David Israel at 1:25 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Jerry Liston. The Invocation was given by Associate Chaplain Dave Elick.

Roll Call was taken with 21 District Chairmen present and 4 Absent, 6 Public Relations Officers and 0 absent, 6 past presidents, the Lobbyist and Executive Council.

Reading of the minutes from the last meeting, Paul Holcomb made a motion to accept minutes as printed. Don Cushman seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Luke Kluender. Balance sheet and Expense versus Budget passed out and discussed. Audit committee will be reviewing taxes and books at convention. Motion to accept treasurer report made by Jeremy Reef, second given by Richard Cannon, motion passed.

Guests: Mickey Schulte with Savvik Buying Group. They are a group that advocates for savings to members who buy through their program. They are able to drive down costs with their 15,000 partners and bring cost savings to departments. When they use the

group, 1/3 of the money made comes buy-in or contract terms that are required to fulfill during the term. Individual members can use the program along with departments and use the buying group to get the discounts or lower costs.

Old Business:

Mileage, nothing further to bring forward.

Central Office Report: Jack Kerney, dues packets have been mailed out. Reports are going to be processed and emailed out as requested due to getting dues packets sent out. Monday, May 9 will be deadline for names to be included in this year's memorial service. Name badges are going to be needed for associate chaplains and new chairmen. Website has membership numbers listed and updated. 488 addresses on hold from newspaper, need to make sure our members are getting their papers. 13,138 active members, 51 military members, 102 associate, 2 honorary, 67 individual, 663 life members. 14,811 total membership counts. New dues are being currently processed with 1,049 new members added to date. \$270,736 paid out to members from American Income Life benefits. License plates 2022 - 1422 plates sold in first quarter.

Executive Committee - Digested the past year's convention minutes to be printed into the paper.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards - Vice President Jerry Liston - Ollie Sandburg has been chosen, has been discussion held on Medal of Valor and Life Saving Medals with the colors

associated. MacQueen District Awards have been chosen for all 25 districts.

Angel Award: Diane Harrison - 4 nominations.

Jr. Firefighter Award: Jack Kerney - waiting for participants. Program has changed to more of a Junior Firefighter Contest with practical skills and an interview process.

Mr. IVFA: Lloyd Wright - going to have a meeting after business meeting to discuss selection of the winner.

Bridgeport: Past President Richard Glant, 4 winners have been chosen. Will have to decide what to do with Jim Parker money. 14 applications were scored.

Budget: Treasurer Luke Kluender, nothing to discuss.

By-laws and S.O.G.'s: PRWC Larry Bartlow, making sure all things are ready to go for printing of new copies from updated changes.

Clothing Claims: District 5 John Grolich - no claims.

Convention: President David Israel, Dist. 14 and Dist. 12 plan to have bids at convention.

2022 Evansville - Jack Kerney, Ross Emery - convention walk-through will be happening for setup on May 15. Name has been changed from Tropicana to Bally's. Convention Coins are available for sale. Tour on working warship has been slated for Friday of convention at 1:30 p.m. Business card ads are due to editor assistant this weekend.

2023 Jeff Biehl - early registration at convention \$90. Coins have been ordered.

see 'secretary' page 17



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'secretary'

(continued from page 16)

EMS: Vice President Jerry Liston, moved EMS Commission meetings to Plainfield. Group is going to log on to team's meeting to make sure they are up-to-date during meetings. Discussed next chairman of the committee.

Insurance: Luke Kleunder, have been involved in some tort claims recently and have had to pay to have name removed from claim so insurance costs have increased due to covering attorney fees. Possibly looking into some legislation for listing a group in a claim and being listed on a claim; there are repercussions for no action against the group.

Legislation: Lobbyist Larry Curl and Past President Buz Koehler, need to start promoting the cost savings book. Plan on setting up geographical area to present to local governments and elected officials. Spoke on benefits package for a proposed legislation. This year is a budget year, and we need to start looking for topics to place into the package for us. Possibly follow package that the Indiana National Guard benefits have.

LODD: Chaplain Rachel Bussey, nothing to report.

Logo: District 18 Nick Waninger, nothing to report.

Membership and Marketing: District 7 Sam Bisel, Mickey gave presentation on Savvik Group, we need to figure out what we want to do with the Savvik Group; Larry Curl made a motion to move on the Savvik Group. Jerry Sprague made a second. Motion passed.

Newspaper: Past Pres. Buz Koehler, will be interviewing new printers and editors for the newspaper. This is due to the retirement of the current printer. Business card ad in the convention book is still available until May 9, 2022. Start looking at inviting guest columnists to write articles into the paper.

Public Relations and Education: PRSW Steve Nolan, FDIC was a good turnout, approx. 40,000 attendees. 2023 registration is completed April 26-29, 2023, unsure of location of booth at this current time. Clock drawing, Joe DeKemper from Dubois V.F.D.

Considering having the IVFAA participating in the FDIC, this could help with their membership and getting information out about them. There will need to be some restock for the trailer. New QR code is going to be placed on the trailer. Expose advertising and exposure with clothing items. Need to look for a new T.V. due to outdated equipment.

Social Media and Website: Webmaster Josh Reisert, needs updated version of bylaws and S.O.G. to website. All committee chairmen need to review their forms along with all other forms that wish to be placed onto the website send to Josh so he can have them placed on the website. 15,000 unique visitors to the website. Considered adding pictures to website of officers. New emails are being worked on and updated. Work on fillable forms online to print better.

Special Projects: Past Pres. Buz Koehler, spoke on the history book and getting it put together, getting final quotes, and also getting orders fulfilled. About 160 show interest in ordering, but unsure what printers' minimum requirement is; going to find out. The printer can build, print, and package and ship to individual orders. Can get 2000 copies for about \$40,000, this is not appropriate for us, we will continue to explore options to complete this project and be effective for us to provide to members.

Training: Past President Steve Anderson, discussion about 30 hour classes being completed around the state. Also discussion on leadership level training and how they are interacting with other courses offered. LMS on Acadis, the training that was completed beforehand, and their certs were completed, but it was not recognizing the completion for the whole course and had to make calls to state to get certifications released. Webforms are now located on Acadis.

Younger Membership: District 6 Jerry Sprague, discussion on Youth Camp, we are waiting on insurance information for our liability to hold the camp. We have a short training information on social media and how to effectively use it to boost

posting.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Board of Firefighter Standards and Education: Steve Anderson will be sitting on this committee. Will have a succession plan for this position.

Fire Alliance: Steve Anderson, Buz Koehler, Larry Curl, nothing to report.

Hero's Competition, nothing at this time.

IN-Time: Jack Zeeks, nothing to report.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Jack Kerney and Jean Smith, Lavender report passed out. Jean's report was sent out. Electric cars were a topic of discussion.

Red Cross Workgroup: Don Cushman, nothing to report.

Benefit's Summit: David Israel, nothing to report.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President, David Israel, 4 district meetings attended, make sure to have updated information listed for meetings due to guests and visitors coming to these meetings. Attended Washington D.C. trip, FDIC, Fire Marshal's Foam Kick-off, 2 dept. meetings. E-mails are going to be sent out to decide on which hotels to stay at for next quarterly meetings.

Vice President, Jerry Liston, Fire Marshal Foam Kick-off, 5 district meetings, 2 fundraisers, Washington D.C. trip, FDIC. Will need to know if MacQueen winner will be at convention to receive award or will it be presented at district meeting. 1100 miles driven.

Chaplain, Rachel Bussey. Report given by Dave Elick, went through funeral vouchers, make sure spellings are correct. All vouchers should be turned in on May 7, 2022 so those names will be placed into the memorial service. Making sure communication within the organization is streamlined and President, Chaplain, and Central Office are notified immediately when LODD happens.

Secretary, Leighanne Ellis, pass.

Treasurer, Luke Kluender, pass.

Sergeant-At-Arms, Brent Bush, thank organization for ability to go to Washington, D.C.

Historian, absent.

Chairman of the Board, Paul Holcomb, memorial service, FDIC, travelled over 800 miles.

Webmaster, Josh Reisert, absent.

PRNW, Jeremy Reef, 3 district meetings, 8 dept. visits, Watland and Howe Memorials, LODD at Lacrosse.

PRNE, Jean Smith, 3 district meetings, 2 dept. visits.

PRWC, Larry Bartlow, district meetings, fundraisers.

PREC, Jeff Biehl, 3 district meetings, 8 dept. visits, fundraisers.

PRSW, Steve Nolan, 50-year card, 3 district meetings, 2 fundraisers, FDIC, Medal of Valor presentation.

PRSE, Ed Scheele, 3 district meetings, memorial service, fundraisers.

Asst. Treasurer, Bev Harker, not present.

Asst. Secretary, Diane Harrison, not present.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORTS

Richard Glant, pass.

Jack Zeeks, pass.

Buz Koehler, pass.

Jack Kerney, if member passed away from covid from LODD, collect the death certificate and run report that was if there is a poss. of LODD we can get these members their benefits.

Larry Ketchem,

David Israel, pass.

Steve Anderson, FDIC and Bible issue is being covered.

Paul Holcomb, pass.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 1, Marshall Neece, dist. meeting at Lowell F.D., 5 dept. and 50 members present, memorial service, presentation from chief of Lowell F.D. and Miss Flame spoke. Attended 3 memorial services.

District 2, Chris Gamblin, dist. meeting at Lowell F.D., 5 dept. and 50 members present, 3 memorial services, presentation from chief of Lowell F.D. and Miss Flame spoke. 2 visited dept. to speak about IVFA and 3 fundraisers. Service pins awarded.

District 3, Bob Uryga, dist.

meeting at Kingsford Union, 5 dept. and 9 members present. Recruitment and retention is noted at problem within the district. 1 memorial service. 1 dept. meeting.

District 4, Elton Schafer, (Jean Smith), meeting held at Madison Twp. FD, service pins passed out.

District 5, John Grolich, dist. meeting at Warsaw, 3 dept. and 7 members present. Attendance listed as problem within district. 2 county meetings, FDIC, Washington D.C. Trip.

District 6, Jerry Sprague, dist. meeting at Topeka V.F.D., 7 dept. and 24 members presented. Program was service year pins awarded. Memorial service, FDIC, 50-year member presentation at Statehouse. Fundraisers, service pins awarded.

District 7, Sam Bisel, district meetings, service pins awarded, (5) 50-year Gold cards, FDIC.

District 8A, Rex Maynard, district meeting at Cicero Twp. V.F.D., 6 dept. and 20 members present. State Fire Marshal gave a program. FDIC, fundraisers, Mutual aid meetings,

District 8B, Lloyd Wright, 50-year Gold card, service pins awarded.

District 9A, Pascal Moon, dist. meeting at Howard Co. EMA. 6 dept. and 12 members present. Program was Miss Flame. Dist. meeting at Miami Twp./ New Waverly, 5 dept. and 11 members present.

District 9B, Randy Denton, absent.

District 10, John Ray, district meeting at Moral Twp. 5 dept. and 11 members present. Wade Walling training was the program. One memorial service. District meeting at Scipio/Geneva 5 dept. and 16 members present. Program was 50-year Gold card presentations. 1 candidate meeting, 3 county chief's meetings, 5 dept. meetings.

District 11A, Pete Taylor, dist. meeting at Clay City/Harris Twp. 7 dept. and 10 members present. Program was service pins presentation. One memorial service. Washington D.C. trip, FDIC.

District 11B, Jason Ryan, district meeting held at Helt Fire, 3 dept. and 14 members present. General information was covered. Dist. meeting held at Marshall V.F.D., 3 dept. and 8 members present. General information was covered. Attendance was reported as a problem in the district. One memorial service. Washington D.C. trip.

District 12 Larry Curl, Dist. meeting at Advance Vol. Fire Dept. 7 dept. and 29 members present. State Fire Marshal, Brandy Brandenburg with RT Insurance, and Tanner Sizemore from Stryker gave programs. Service pins were awarded. Dist. meeting at Stilesville F.D., 7 dept. and 22 members present. Program was U.S. Congressman Jim Baird, Liberty Twp. Chief Brian Russell, and Tanner Sizemore from Stryker gave program information, along with service pin presentations.

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(continued from page 17)

Gov. and State Fire Marshal discussion on PFAS Foam. Station Dedication, FDIC, Washington D.C. trip. 5 dept. chief visits, 50-year Statehouse celebration.

District 13A, Don Cushman, no district meeting held.

District 13B, Anthony Smith, nothing to report.

District 14, Rick Cannon, district meeting held at Vienna Twp. Fire, 6 dept. and 17 members present. Program on featured fire dept., service pins, fire marshal's report, convention and fire school.

District 15, Ross Emery, district meeting held at Newburgh, 7 dept. and 28 members present. Miss Flame contest was the program. FDIC, service pins awarded.

District 16, Ashley Armstrong, absent.

District 17A, Sam Emery, district meeting held at Taylor V.F.D., 4 dept. and 15 members present. Comments from State Officers was the program. 50-year celebration, service pins awarded. Celebration of Life.

District 17B, Tammy Wright, Washington D.C. trip, district meeting, 2 dept. meeting, service pins awarded.

District 18, Nick Waninger, absent.

District 19, Ben Siverding, dist. meeting held at Bear Branch VFD, 8 dept. and 36 members present. REMC Line Safety was program given. One memorial service.

District 21, Don Fultz, dist. meeting held at Rossville F.D., 8 dept. and 34 members present, dept. picture slide show was presented as program. Memorial

service, fundraisers, service pins awarded. Burn Camp is June 1, 2022. Plan for 800-1100 visitors. Recessed at 1615.

Sunday May 8, 2022, Business meeting continued.

Meeting reconvened at 0830 by President Israel.

Chaplain Dave Elick gave morning message.

New Business:

1. Hero's Gala list was read on who will be submitted for the tables; July 16, 2022 is the date.

2. Washington D.C. trip, those who attended the trip spoke on their experiences while on the trip. Be prepared for those who want to go next year. Date is the week of May 22, 2023.

3. Zoom program is still available for district meetings; get with Josh to have them be set up.

4. Benefits summit is in Ohio in September.

5. Buz Koehler made a motion to use the Jim Parker memorial money to give a fifth Scholarship this year. John Grolich gave the second. Motion passed.

6. Steve Anderson needs assistance with getting host locations cost savings presentation. We need to make sure we invite news and media plus elected officials to attend these meetings. Dates for June 25, July 9, August 22, Sept. 17.

7. PP Holcomb gave presentation on free cell phone service program available through T-Mobile to firefighters. Agency has to set up an account and be managed by the agency for it to be a free service. Jon Slack, 614-439-0504, Jonathan.slack@t-mobile.com.

Motion to adjourn meeting to

board action made by Sam Emery, second given by Ed Scheele, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 0945.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING May 6-8, 2022 CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Board Action Business Meeting called to order the chairman of the board Paul Holcomb at 0945.

Reading of the minutes. Don Cushman made a motion to accept them as emailed, second was made by Jeremy Reef, motion passed.

Board Action - Business:

No actions to be taken.

District ticket drawing \$100 gas card winner, Chad Geiger, District 6, Avilla Fire Dept.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Richard Glant, second by Don Cushman. Meeting adjourned at 0937 a.m.

'district 6 ivfaa'

(continued from page 15)

remember to check out the District Facebook page for upcoming events and meeting reminders.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 260-413-6444 or ivfaadistrict6@ivfaa.org.

Thank you,

Kimberly Smith
IVFAA District 6 Chairman

DISTRICT 14 REPORT



JoAnn Smith - Chairman

Hello again.

Hope everyone had a great time at the convention this year. I would like to congratulate all of the award winners. The memorial service was beautiful as always. It's a great way to honor all the loved ones that we have lost this past year. It was especially special to me because my auxiliary lost two very special ladies.

Like to remind everyone that your membership dues are due by Aug. 1st. So if you haven't sent them in, please do so.

DuPont Fire Company has a Fish Fry the last Saturday of each month. If you can support them by coming out for dinner they would greatly appreciate it.

Hope everyone is having a safe and fun summer.

If you have any questions or I can help anyone, please contact me.

JoAnn Smith
District 14 Chairman
502-380-7532
jsmith19513@yahoo.com



DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Marie Emery - Chairman

Greetings one and all,

Thanks to District for hosting a great convention. Congratulations to all the award winners and our new Miss Flame. All the Miss Flames did a wonderful job. I personally want to thank Rylee Lemons for representing District 17A; you did a great job for the last two years and our past Miss Flame Sydney Moon for attending every district in the state.

Congratulations to all the new officers that were elected. I think the Hoosier Burn Camp Auction was a great success. The food was great and I think everyone enjoyed the entertainment.

I attended the Bloomfield fish fry, Plainville BB and Vigo Twp. "Touch a Truck"; a good time was enjoyed by all.

I attended the memorial service of Steen Twp. member Harold Baker; as some know him as "the homemade ice cream man". Sympathy to his wife and family.

Congratulations to Larry Waggoneer (Lyons VFD) on receiving his 50 year Gold card. Sorry I couldn't make it.

Happy retirement to Mel Camp.

Hopefully summer sports will

see 'district 17A ivfaa' page 19

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'district 17A ivfaa'

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be finishing up and we can get together for a district meeting.

Marie Emery
IVFAA 17A chairman

DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Patti Fultz - Chairman

The monthly meeting of the District 21 IVFAA was held on May 23rd at 1930 hours at Kirklin Vol. Fire Dept. with Patti Fultz presiding. There were 8 members present at the meeting including Patti Fultz, Diane Buck, Christina Reef, Carol Curl, Melinda Butler, Shelby Butler, Larissa Butler and Misti Moore.

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and accepted.

New Business

We would like to send a huge thank you out to Kirklin Volunteer Fire Department for hosting us and providing dinner tonight.

When the members of Kirklin Volunteer Fire Department were picking up dinner for tonight the young gentleman working at Subway asked that they share their thanks for all the volunteer firefighters do for their community

and that it was their pleasure to be making our dinner for the night.

The Forest Volunteer Fire Department's women's auxiliary has officially joined the IVFAA.

The State IVFAA will be donating \$100 to the No Kill Shelter in Evansville that the Miss Flames will be going to during convention for their outing and volunteering their time.

At FDIC this year the IVFAA will be hosting a booth along with the IVFA to get our name out there and have more members join.

There will also be a photo booth at the convention this year and everyone is encouraged to take pictures in it and share them with other people.

The IVFAA will be celebrating there 70th anniversary this year at the IVFA convention banquet with cake.

The Miss Flames will be doing the essay again this year. Larissa has been working on hers and is very excited for convention.

Also, a reminder that the Miss Flames are collecting pop tabs for their community service project this year so if you have any sitting around, please give them to Larissa Butler so she can take them to convention.

There will be 15 Miss Flames competing in the State Miss Flame contest this year.

We would like to send a huge Thank You out to Carolyn Watson for making a wreath for District 21 to put in the Chinese Auction.

The SOG and SOP are still being worked on, but they have decided that we will vote on them individually when they are completed.

They are also shortening the amount of time that you have to turn your dues in this year so please

pay attention to that.

Please fill out your beneficiary cards this year and send them back so we can have updated info.

The IVFAA budget has been passed for this year.

There are some new

changes coming to the IVFAA and IVFA such as being able to nominate people for awards on there until February 1st. There is also a calendar on there that you can add your department's events to and look at others.

Next meeting will be August 29th at Pine Village Volunteer Fire Department.

The meeting was adjourned at 2002 hours.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 1

- submitted by
Marshall Neese
District Chairman



New engine for Griffith Fire Department



New Engine put into service a few months ago by Griffith Fire Dept. is a 2005 Pierce Lance pumper, 500 gallon tank, 2000 GPM Hale QMAX pump powered by a Detroit Diesel Series 60 at 515 Horsepower with TAK 4 Suspension.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 2

- submitted by Christopher J Gamblin, district chairman

District mourns loss of two long-time firemen

IVFA District 2 has had two substantial losses in the early part of 2022. We lost long-time District 2 Chairman Paul Watland as he passed away on Friday, March 25, 2022.

After surviving myasthenia gravis 5 years ago, he lost his short battle with cancer at the University of Chicago Hospital surrounded by his family.

He was adopted by John and Frances Watland when he was 2 years old. Paul graduated from Glenbrook North High School in 1958 and continued his studies at William Penn College. He enlisted in the United States Navy and served 4 years at Glenview Naval Air Station.

He is survived by his wife Linda of 58 years; daughter Christine (Mike) Myers of Washington, Indiana; Erik Watland (Dora Mantis) of Crown Point; and daughter Brenda (Gary) Fox of Indianapolis. He is also survived by his sisters, Ruth Tadlock of Filer, Idaho; Marion MacDonald Young of Winter Haven, Florida; Anne MacDonald Bresset of Lakeland, Florida and brother, Donald MacDonald of Marble Falls, Texas. Paul is also survived by 5 grandchildren; Oliva Watland, Lucas Fox, Benjamin Myers, Alexander Myers and Hannah Fox.

Paul was employed by the City of Crown Point Street Department for 33 years. He was a member of the Crown Point Volunteer Fire Department for 50 years and the IVFA District 2 chairman for 27 years.



~ Paul Watland ~

Another loss for the District 2 was the current Fire Chief of Crown Point Fire Rescue. Crown Point Fire Rescue has grown over the decades as a Career Fire Department due to the growth of the City of Crown Point. Crown Point Fire Rescue employs some of the finest and dedicated professionals in the Fire Service today. However, Crown Point Fire Rescue has always remembered its Volunteer Fire Dept. roots and that was embodied in Fire Chief Dave Crane. Chief Crane was a supporter of the IVFA and the work it does to keep a voice out there for the Volunteer Fire Service in Indiana.

Fire Chief Crane, age 57, passed away on Friday, April 1, 2022. He is survived by his wife of 30 years Janet Crane; children: Julie (Joe) Replin, Nicole Karrson, Steven (Angela) Pruet, Jamie Crane, Shawn (Jessica) Crane, Kevin (Kristin) Pruet; 13 grandchildren; brother, John (Stacy) Crane; father-in-law, John Bond; and many nieces and nephews.

Chief Crane had 41 years in the fire service which started in his hometown of Lake Dalecarlia where he entered the firefighter cadet program at the age of 16. He served various communities throughout Northwest Indiana and joined the Crown Point Fire Department as a volunteer in 1992. In 2017, he became Crown Point's first full-time fire chief to also be a certified paramedic. David was instrumental in overseeing the installation of one of Northwest Indiana's first Safe Haven Baby Box at the Crown Point Fire Department and also implemented specific training for responding to calls involving children with autism in the greater region area.

He will be greatly missed.



~ Fire Chief Dave Crane ~



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1-877-606-4832 **FAX 812/867-3471**



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City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____
Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

ORDER INFORMATION

Quantity	Description	Size	Price Each	Total Purchase
	Denim Shirt Long Sleeve - \$25.00			
	Denim Shirt Short Sleeve - \$25.00			
	Wind Shirt - Black - \$35.00			
	Tee Shirt - Gray - \$15.00			
	Tee Shirt - Navy - \$15.00			
	Black Sport Shirt - NEW - \$25.00			
	Sky Blue Golf Shirt - NEW - \$25.00			
	White Golf Shirt Navy Stripe Collar - NEW - \$25.00			
	Olive Green Golf Shirt - NEW - \$25.00			

SHIPPING INFORMATION

BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR SIZE FOR EACH GARMENT INCLUDED	ORDER SUB TOTAL	\$
Shipping & Handling Charges		\$
Up To \$35 = \$12.00 \$36 to \$70 = \$25.00 Over \$100 = \$35		
Order Total Including Shipping & Handling		\$

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MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO IVFA

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 3

- submitted by Robert Uryga, district chairman



Seeking need for volunteer firefighters



Volunteer Firefighters from Coolspring Twp. Fire Dept., EMS and District 3 IVFA.

Other volunteers not pictured were NobleTwp., Springfield and Michiana Shores.

Picture submitted by Leona Uryga from Michiana Shores.

Worked at the LaPorte County Red Wine and Brew Fest on July 1, 2022 to publicize the need for volunteer firefighters.

Ten year pins awarded to members



Chairman Bob Uryga, Joshua Molhke, Joanna ClinDaniel and Nicholas Mayo were present to receive their 10 year pins. Absent were: Herman Hendricks, Greg Mohlke, Bryant Ohlmen, David Waffler.

November Deadline is October 1, 2022



The Volunteer Firefighter Alliance
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dedicated to assisting
Volunteer Fire Departments
and **Volunteer Firefighters.**

We would like to assist you through:

Free Fire Prevention Materials: Your department can request free fire prevention activity books at www.freefireprevention.com

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Free recruitment public service announcement: Your department can sign up at www.nvffc.org

Free firefighter cancer prevention resources: www.firefightercanceralliance.org

For more ways that the Volunteer Firefighter Alliance can assist your department please visit us at www.supportvfa.org

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

- submitted by Gerald Sprague, district chairman



IVFA service pin presentations



Topeka Fire Department members receiving 10 year service pins. (Photo by Mack Grobis, Vice Chairman, District 6.)



Topeka Fire Department members receiving 25 years of service pins. (Photo by Mack Grobis, Vice Chairman, District 6.)



Ligonier Fire Department members receiving years of service awards at our appreciation dinner. (Photos from the Ligonier Fire Department.)



Several District 6 members receiving years of service pins. (Photos by Mack Grobis, Vice Chairman, District 6.)



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Deadline for November 2022 is October 1, 2022

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8A

- submitted by Rex Maynard, district chairman



Three awarded Medal of Valor

Medal of Valor - Center Township Volunteer Fire Rescue Captain Jason Love, Thomas Miller, Earstle Rigsby.

Life Saving Award presented

Grant County Sheriff's Deputies Award Life Saving Award - Sergeant Ryan Troyer, Sergeant Anthony Purdy, Deputy Jalen Ward.



We Respond Because You Do.

Firefighters and EMS teams are dedicated to protecting those in need; saving lives and property.

And while you protect others, we respond with **Fire & Rescue Pro**, an insurance and risk management program designed for the unique needs of Fire Departments, Districts and EMS Operations.

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This insurance is underwritten by National Fire and Casualty Company and other fine companies, and provided through Bliss McKnight, Inc. and local independent insurance agents.



Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives. But pets can cause fires. We need to be careful with pets in the home.

SAFETY TIPS

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops.
- Keep pets away from candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents. Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.
- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles. They can look and smell like real candles.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a professional.

Pets and Wildfires

Make sure pets are included in your family's wildfire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.



FACT

Pets or wild animals have a part in starting about 750 home fires per year. These involve cooking equipment, fireplaces and chimneys, space heaters, lamps, bulbs, wiring, and candles.

SMOKE ALARMS

- Have working smoke alarms on every level of the home. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month.
- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

- submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, district chairman



District 8B Miss Flame's collection of pop tabs

District 8B Miss Flame Hannah Armstrong pictured with all of the pop tabs she collected for the Miss Flame service project for convention.



Proud father escorts daughter

District 8B Miss Flame Hannah Armstrong from the Pennville Volunteer Fire Department shown being escorted by her father Mikey Armstrong at the opening meeting of the convention.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 9A

- submitted by Pascal Moon, district chairman



District 9A Miss Flame Leighann McKnight



2021 Miss Flame Sydney Moon, District 9A with a proud father.



IVFA CENTRAL OFFICE

P.O. BOX 4797, EVANSVILLE, IN 47724
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Photos and Articles for
Publication, Please state
the District for
the Article or Photo!**

Thank you!!

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 9A

- submitted by Pascal Moon, district chairman



Ten, twenty-five and 50 year members



Brent Aherns - 25 years, Brian Henry - 25 years, Curtis Edens - 25 years, Tyler Thomas - 10 years, Daniel Alexander - 50 years.



25 year member Rob Gaylor

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

- Submitted by John Ray, district chairman



Awarded 10 year pin

(Pictured at left) - 10th District Chairman John Ray, recently presented Hope Volunteer Firefighter Glen Shireman his 10 year IVFA pin.



Please support the advertisers who help to make this publication possible!

Hoosier Burn Camp auction once again a great success!

Hoosier Burn Camp auction 2022 is in the books and another great success!! A special thank you to everyone who donated, bid, purchased items and to those who helped work the auction.

The auction and donations from Topeka Fire Department, LaGrange Fire Department, Vienna Fire Department and La Crosse Fire Department.

For a grand total of \$12,518.24!!

We could not do this Auction without all of you. Thank you for all you do.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Muncie.

God Bless!
Diane Harrison



A place to be
"Just One of the Kids"
TM

Support Hoosier Burn Camp

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11-B

- Submitted by Jason Ryan, district chairman



Clinton City pins awarded

(Left to right:) Chief Chris Strohm (25 year pin), Tommy Simms (25 year pin), Doug Curry (25 year pin), Jason Ryan - Chairman 11B, Jacquelynn Ryan - Secretary 11B, Ryan Smith (10 year pin) and Mike Curry (25 year pin).



11B Miss Flame

(Left to right) Jason Ryan, Chairman 11B and Miss Flame District 11B Jordan Peebles.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13-B

- Submitted by Anthony Smith, district chairman



Fish fry, hog roast, picnic held throughout district



Bentonville Firefighters served the community fresh fried fish.



Abington Fire Department hog roast where Firefighters and the community gathered in fellowship.



Members presented plaque for dedication to holiday food drive



Firefighters from Centerville Fire/Rescue and Centerville Police Department gathered for a joint picnic. Meat was provided by a community member as a "thank you" to each department for their dedicated service to the community. Firefighter Kevin Branson of CFR presented Fire Chief Dennis Spears and Police Chief Ed Buchholz a plaque recognizing their years of dedication to the annual Holiday Food Drive. For the last 5-7 years, CFR and CPD and recently firefighters from Abington have been able to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to families in need. They average around 50 families served each Holiday!

When Submitting Photos and Articles for Publication, Please state the District for the Article or Photo! - Thank you!!



Honoring our military

We are exceptionally proud of our members that are serving in the military; they not only place their communities first, they also place their country first. We would like to thank them for their service to their country. Below is a list of military personnel who are members of the Association and on active duty around the world.

Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association Members On Military Leave Updated 2/11/21



United States Coast Guard
U.S. Department of Homeland Security



MARINES
THE FEW. THE PROUD.

Member Name	Department	City	State
Andras, Jarred Jude	Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.	Merrillville	IN
Banter, Blake Andrew	Chester Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Liberty Center	IN
Barton, Steven Daniel	Prairie Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Brookston	IN
Blanton, Jake Thomas	White River - Hazleton V.F.D.	Hazleton	IN
Blevins, Toby	Clay Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. Inc.	Richmond	IN
Bloom, Stephen Michael	Huntertown Vol. Fire Dept.	Fort Wayne	IN
Colgate, Nicholas Michael	Huntertown Vol. Fire Dept.	Fort Wayne	IN
Dickerson, Michael Ryan	Jefferson Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Middletown	IN
Doane, Joshua Tanner	Shoals Vol. Fire Dept.	Shoals	IN
Garrett, Layton Christopher	Cloverdale Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Quincy	IN
Garver, Jeron Blaze	Clinton City Vol. Fire Dept. Inc.	Clinton	IN
Gill, Gary Dwight	Van Buren Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Bloomington	IN
Gillett, Matthew Steohen	Washington Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. Inc	Pacifica	CA
Holland, Rick L.	Utica Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Anderson	IN
Hollingsworth, Brian Lee	Chester Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Bluffton	IN
Johnson, Franklin Delano	Jefferson Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Goshen	IN
King, Jacob Davis	Highland Twp. Fire Dept.	Bloomfield	IN
King, Odis Ray	Marion Twp. Rural Fire Dept.	Mitchell	IN
Kirby, Michael S	Oolitic Vol. Fire Dept.	Oolitic	IN
McCoy, Jason Evan	Roanoke Volunteer Fire Dept.	Fort McCoy	WI
McCoy, Timothy Russell	Roanoke Volunteer Fire Dept.	Hubbard	OH
Miller, Tracie Jeanette	Columbia City Vol. Fire Dept.	Columbia City	IN
Mustin, Devin	Cambridge City Vol. Fire Dept.	Cambridge City	IN
Myers, Aaron Dean	Covington-Troy Mound Fire Dept.	Covington	IN
Osgood, Cody Michael	Farmland Vol. Fire Dept. Inc.	Farmland	IN
Pemberton, Cean L.	Sandborn Vol. Fire Dept.	Victoria	TX
Perez, Lidia Lizania	Porter Vol. Fire Dept.	Porter	IN
Pugh, James Christopher	Cambridge City Vol. Fire Dept.	Cambridge City	IN
Real, Christian Joe	Daleville-Salem Twp. Fire Terr.	Daleville	IN
Rhea, Owen Parker	Cambridge City Vol. Fire Dept.	Cambridge City	IN
Rickard, Bradley Edward	Nevins Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Brazil	IN
Robbins, Brett Allen	Concord Twp. Fire Dept.	St. Joe	IN
Rodgers, Travis Gene	Jackson TWP. Vol. Fire Dept.	Kingman	IN
Rohr, Heath	Helt Fire & Rescue	APO	AE
Schnebelt, Saben	Hogan Twp. Fire Dept. Co. 1	Lawrenceburg	IN
Scudder, Darin Ray	Rising Sun Vol. Fire Dept. Inc.	Rising Sun	IN
Sears, Matthew Douglas	Tippecanoe Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Battle Ground	IN
Service, Matthew Shane	Amity Comm. Vol. Fire Dept.	Edinburgh	IN
Skaggs, Andrew Thomas	Ligonier Vol. Fire Dept.	Marrero	LA
Snowden, Steven	Milton-Washington Twp. Fire Dept.	Fort Bragg	NC
Stewart, Jacob Donny	New Middletown Fire Dept.	Corydon	IN
Tharpe, Riley Cole	Trafalgar Vol. Fire Dept.	Mountain Home	ID
Thompson, Courtney Loraine	Bloomfield Vol. Fire Dept.	Beaufort	SC
Uffelman, Conner James	Poe Vol. Fire Dept.	Fort Wayne	IN
Vance, Eric Robert	Ligonier Vol. Fire Dept.	Ligonier	IN
Walters, Joshua	Culver-Union Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.	Culver	IN
Weaver, Michael D.	Ligonier Vol. Fire Dept.	Ligonier	IN
Williams, Clayton D.	Georgetown Vol. Fire Dept.	Logansport	IN
Willis, Emmanuel Syephen	Merrillville Vol. Fire Dept. #71	Merrillville	IN
Windle, Joey Cartell	Jonesboro Vol. Fire Dept.	Jonesboro	IN
Yoakum, Christopher G	Cambridge City Vol. Fire Dept.	Fort Belvoir	VA
Zehnder, Dustin Thomas	New Chapel Fire Company	New Albany	IN

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11-B

- Submitted by Jason Ryan, district chairman



Challenge coins now available



District 13B and the 2023 Convention committee are selling challenge coins. \$20 each. All proceeds go to assist with funding the convention. Get with District 13B Chairman/Convention Chairman Anthony Smith or the committee to get your coin while supplies last!

I would like to give a special thank you to Matt Bartlett from Interstate Towing. Matt sponsored our challenge coins as soon as he heard of the opportunity. Matt is also a firefighter with Cambridge City Fire Department. On behalf of the convention committee and District 13B, thank you!

Madi Reeder named Miss Flame runner-up



District 13B Miss Flame Madi Reeder shows off an item at the Hoosier Burn Camp Auction at the 2022 convention.



Congrats Madi Reeder on placing runner-up for the State Miss Flame competition, we are proud of you!!

District 13B Vice Chairman, Dave Reeder and his wife Deana Reeder, who are also the proud parents of their daughter, Madi Reeder watching Madi receiving her sash as Miss Flame runner-up!

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 14

- Submitted by Rick Cannon, district chairman



District 14 Deputy Fire Department Station dedication



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17A

- submitted by Sam Emery, district chairman



Fifty-year Gold card awarded



Lyon Volunteer Fire Department Chief Larry Waggoner receives his 50 year Gold card.

Twenty-five year pins



Plainville VFD members David Willis and Chief Steven Heshelman receive their pins.

Vigo Twp. Touch A Truck



Look who was here!



Your Fire Department Can Support COVID-19 Community Testing

The [National Volunteer Fire Council](#) and [Color Health](#), in partnership with the CDC, are supporting free COVID-19 lab testing for under-resourced communities across the nation. Your fire department can play a critical role to increase access in your area by becoming a testing location. It takes little effort from your team and no certification is required.

In exchange for your participation in this program, your department will receive \$250 for participating, \$50 for every month that your site is sending tests, and \$5 for every test at your site. You can also use the program to raise the profile of your department in the community as well as an opportunity to distribute public safety and recruitment literature to community members that come in.

Life saving certificates presented



Mr. Tim Fluty & Mr. Bill Sergent holding Life Savings Certificates presented by the IVFA & plaques presented by the Everton Fire Dept. of District 13B.

Pictured from left to right: Chief Chad Gronning, Tim Fluty, Bill Sergent, PREC Jeff Biehl.

(Photo submitted by Jeff Biehl, East Central Public Relations Office.)

color

You can help your community access care.

Join Color and the CDC in increasing access to COVID-19 testing.

In partnership with the CDC, Color is bringing free COVID-19 laboratory testing for at-risk people to under-resourced communities.

We are working with locations nationwide to set up COVID 19 testing sites -- and we'd like you to join us.

Low-effort. Minimal contact. No certifications needed.

- Host a pick-up and drop-off bin inside or outside your location.
- Easily and safely pack up samples to ship with provided materials.
- Participants collect their PCR kit, self-swab, and drop in the drop-off bin.

Fast support. Totally free.

We'll send you the materials you need to set up. Testing is free for you and for participants, too.

Questions? Get one-on-one support from a Site Manager, and browse resources and training on a program website.

Refer patients to our Patient Support team, who work 6AM to 5PM PST every day of the week.

There's more to benefits than supporting your community, too.

To cover the costs of your operations, we'll pay you a sign up bonus, a monthly fee, and a bonus for every test taken at your location.

Ready to partner with Color?

Scan the QR code or search this link to fill out the onboarding form:

bit.ly/colorsite15



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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

- submitted by Nicholas Waninger, district chairman



Ten and fifty-year pins awarded to members



10 year pin
Travis Kleaving



50 year pin
Frank Mafia



50 year pin
William Garret

Award pins distributed at Dubois Volunteer Fire Department Holiday party

- photos submitted by Jillian Eckerle



Joe DeKemper
45 years of service



Ed Freyberger
35 years of service



Mark Humbert
35 years of service



Zach Eichmiller
20 years of service



Derek Jones
10 years of service



Jesus Monarrez
5 years of service



Cory Voegerl
Fireman of the Year

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 19

- submitted by Ben Sieverding, district chairman



State Miss Flame visits District 19 meeting

IVFA State Miss Flame Sidney Moon visited the District 19 meeting at the Manchester Township VFD in May.

Josh Cellars releases limited-edition bottle of wine to support volunteer firefighter initiatives



The Josh Cellars brand is partnering with the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) again in 2022 to recognize and support volunteer firefighters by producing a Reserve Lodi Cabernet Sauvignon. This limited-edition NVFC-branded bottle of wine will be available for purchase from July 1 through September 30 in local retail stores across the

U.S. For every bottle sold, Josh Cellars will donate one dollar to the NVFC (up to \$120,000) for initiatives that support volunteer firefighters.

For Joseph Carr, founder of Josh Cellars, the volunteer fire service is a cause close to his heart. Josh Cellars wine was created by Carr as a

tribute to his father – a volunteer firefighter and U.S. Army veteran. “Growing up, my dad Josh, our family, neighbors, and friends were all volunteer firefighters,” explains Carr. “It is a civic duty shared and understood by all where I come from that you always take care of your community. That’s why Josh Cellars partners with the NVFC to provide assistance to volunteer fire departments and the dedicated responders across the country.”

“Josh Cellars’ partnership with the NVFC has been a tremendous asset for the volunteer fire service,” said NVFC chair Steve Hirsch. “We’re grateful they are continuing their support in 2022. This year’s limited-edition bottle is another great tribute to our nation’s volunteers.”

Josh Cellars and the NVFC have been working together since 2016 to provide critical resources to the fire service community, from essential training and recruitment tools to stipends that help volunteer responders who have been affected by hardships. This is the second year Josh has released a limited-edition NVFC-branded wine.

Lodi Cabernet Sauvignon is available for purchase in local retail stores nationwide until September 30. Visit the Josh Cellars [store locator](#) to find the nearest store that carries the 2022 edition and other great-tasting Josh Cellars’ wines.

About Josh Cellars
Josh Cellars was founded in 2007 by vintner Joseph Carr as a tribute to his dad, Josh. The brand started with one varietal, Cabernet Sauvignon, and today features a diverse portfolio of well-balanced and delicious wines made to exacting standards, including a more premium tier, Josh Cellars Reserve. Inspired by Josh’s work ethic and commitment to high standards, Josh Cellars Reserve is a collection of fine wines sourced from select vineyards throughout California’s North Coast and Paso Robles regions. Josh Cellars wines are available nationwide. Learn more at www.joshcellars.com.

About the NVFC
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 critical resources, programs, education, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. Learn more at www.nvfc.org.

The Josh Cellars Reserve

RATE SCHEDULE FOR INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2016

The paper is tabloid size, published quarterly.

Quarterly issues are printed for February, May, August and November. **ALL COPY MUST BE** in the hands of Printco or Buz Koehler **BY THE 5TH OF THE MONTH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH OF PUBLICATION.**

ALL AD SIZES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

QUARTER PAGE SIZE - 4" WIDE x 7" TALL:

BLACK AND WHITE	\$210.00
2 COLOR (RED AND BLACK).....	\$235.00
FULL COLOR	\$370.00

HALF PAGE SIZE - 10" WIDE x 7" TALL:

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2 COLOR (RED AND BLACK).....	\$335.00
FULL COLOR	\$485.00

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75 COLUMN INCHES PER PAGE ... A FULL PAGE AD IS 10" WIDE x 15" DEEP.

ALL ADS MUST BE PAID IN FULL - NET 30 DAYS

ALL CHECKS ARE TO BE MADE PAYABLE TO:
"INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION"
AND SENT TO:

L.E. "Buz" KOEHLER
AD SOLICITOR
6225 SWALLOW DRIVE
HARRISON, MI 48625

Phone 219-866-1128 or e-mail: lkoehler@ivfa.org

Ads are to be in one of the following formats:

- pdf
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Publisher
- Corel Draw X18

Full color ads: CMYK format - 300 dpi

Black and white ads: Grayscale - 300 dpi

Red and black ads: Black and PMS - 100% Red - 300 dpi

IVFAA 50 year Gold cards and pins



Nancy Miller, Jeannie Slaughter, Terri O'Leary, daughter of Mary Shain from Charlestown Fire Auxiliary. (submitted by Judy Wirth, District 14).



... for awarding Rensselaer Printco with the IVFA President's Award. It was such a surprise to us as well as an honor to receive the award!

We appreciate it very much and "thank you" to Buz Koehler for accepting the award on our behalf.

November 2022 will be our last issue as editors and receiving this award after 22 years of service to the IVFA/IVFAA means so much!

Pamela and Morris Barlow
Rensselaer Printco

Soon it will be harvest season, please



Dräger

"Providing the best, with the best"

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EXTRICATION

AMERICAN AIRWORKS

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Timm Grant

Timm@HowellRescue.com
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Evening Appointments Available!

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 21

- submitted by Shelby Butler and Don Fultz / Don Fultz, district chairman

Members awarded ten and twenty-five year pins



e-mail news and ads
to printco@rhsi.tv



***Attention All Departments!!
The IVFA Public Relations/Public
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Is Available To You!!!***

- Great event for any event ... Open House, Fund Raisers, etc.
- Promotion and recruitment for your Department.
- Promotion and recruitment for the IVFA.
- Free Fire Prevention material.
- Delivery and pick-up is free.

**48 HOURS
NOTICE IS
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BEFORE WANTING
TO USE
THE TRAILER**

**Contact your District Chairman
or ...
Mike Dzuba, District 13A and
Don Cushman II - PREC**



District Chairman Don Fultz is shown passing out a 10 year pin to Blaine Yaggie and 25 year pins to Randy Lynch, Brian Leazenby, and Kenny Harris.



**Next
deadline
is October
1, 2022
for
November**

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 21

- submitted by Shelby Butler / Don Fultz, district chairman

Visitor's Day at Hoosier Burn Camp



Pictured is District 21 Miss Flame Larissa Butler at the Hoosier Burn Camp on Visitor's Day with members of District 21.

Recipient of Meritorious Award



Firefighter Strong: The 2022 issue of the NVFC's annual *Firefighter Strong* publication is now available both electronically and in print. Articles focus on critical issues relating to firefighter health and safety. If you would like to order copies of *Firefighter Strong* for any upcoming state trainings or conferences, email Lorraine Higgins at lorraine@nvfc.org with your request, the number of copies you'd like, the mailing address to send them to, and if there is a specific date you need them by.

Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tom Smith as he received the Meritorious Award for his service and dedication of 37 years to Madison Township Fire Department.
Thanks Chief Tom Smith for all you do.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 21

- submitted by Shelby Butler / Don Fultz, district chairman

Perry Martin receives 50 year Gold card



Perry Martin is shown receiving his 50 year Gold card which is being presented to him by Larry Curl.



New Recruitment PSAs: The NVFC has released two new PSAs to help with volunteer recruitment. The first focuses on the closeness and camaraderie of the fire service family and is available on YouTube and Vimeo. The second highlights why volunteers do what they do and is also available on YouTube and Vimeo. Feel free to use these as part of your organization's recruitment initiatives and share with your audience to use in their campaigns.

Fire & Life Safety Messaging: The U.S. Fire Administration is spearheading a Fire and Life Safety Communicators Initiative to help public safety educators speak with one voice on fire and life safety issues by developing a calendar of monthly topics that everyone can incorporate into their messaging plans. A new web site is now available with these monthly themes as well as select resources to help with the current month's outreach campaigns. You can incorporate this messaging into your organization's public outreach and share with departments for their local outreach.

**READY FOR A NEW HOME?
NEED TO REFINANCE?**



Let Firefighters Credit Union help with your mortgage needs. Apply online at www.fire-cu.org or call 317-636-5581 to speak with a loan officer.

YOUR SAVINGS INSURED TO \$250,000 PER ACCOUNT
AMERICAN SHARE INSURANCE
By members' choice, this institution is not federally insured



WHAT I'VE LEARNED SO FAR...

Leading and Managing Volunteers

Brand New Release

JOHN M. BUCKMAN III
AUTHOR - GRANDPAW - PHOTOGRAPHER

Foreword by
RICHARD B. GASAWAY

- VOLUNTEERS**
- The future of the volunteer firefighter is different than the past.
 - It will not necessarily be better or worse but different.
 - If you are not willing to accept "different" it might be time for you to step aside.
 - Volunteerism has changed and volunteer expectations have evolved.
 - Today's volunteers may seem more demanding, but they really should be. It's no longer enough to just put out a generic call for volunteers and then treat them all alike once they show up. Volunteers expect to give, in order to get something back.
 - There are a lot of unknowns about the future role of volunteer firefighters.
 - Leaders who want to sustain the volunteer staffing component will have to address the problem head on, without hesitation and with a well thought out plan.
 - Benjamin Franklin started the first volunteer fire company in 1736 in Philadelphia. Ben organized the volunteers to prevent and suppress fires. That is a very finite definition of what they did. Today volunteers are expected to respond to Mrs. Smith call and take care of the problem. Excuses not accepted. That is our job today. Prepare for it. Realize that you won't be rescuing someone from a burning structure but you will be holding grandmas hand as your brother and sister firefighter are in the other room doing CPR on her husband of 60 years.
 - Today, the volunteer firefighter performs a whole host of tasks significantly different than those volunteers in 1736.
 - Many of our older members don't want to change the organizational structure.
 - They are comfortable with the organizational structure because that is the only way they have ever known.

\$30 includes shipping payable through PayPal, Venmo, or by check. Email jmbuckman3rd@gmail.com

John M. Buckman III - Grandfather, Author, Photographer, Fire Chief (Ret.) - 812-480-4339
Follow me on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Safety Posters <https://www.firefighterclosecalls.com/posters/>



2022 Convention Highlights

photos submitted by Steve Anderson



Memorial Cross



At left:
Evansville Mayor
Lloyd Winnecke

At right:
Rep.
Randy Frye





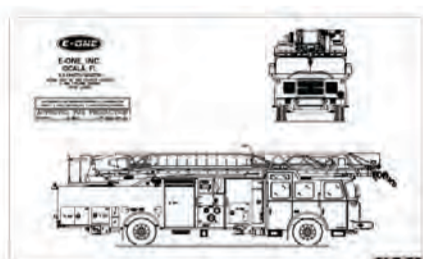
2022 Convention Highlights

photos submitted by Steve Anderson



Fire Service, Inc. is the largest Apparatus Sales Dealership & Service Center in the Midwest. We represent E-One & KME Fire Apparatus, Wheeled Coach & Road Rescue Ambulances. Since 1991, we have grown into 5 State-of-the-Art Facilities to provide Sales, Service, Repairs and Exemplary Customer Relations in Indiana, Illinois & Wisconsin.

We Provide a Promise of Trusted Solutions to Our Ever Expanding Mission Critical Family Because We Recognize We are a Partner in Your Ability to Save Lives



EONE HR100 Rear Mount Aerial

- Cummins L9 450HP/EVS 3000 Trans
- Cyclone 100" Wide Cab/12" Split Roof
- HALE 1500 GPM, 500 Gallon Tank
- Severe Duty Interior/5" Frnt Discharge
- Whelen/Pioneer LED Lighting Package

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We Proudly Offer the Following to our Valued Customers:

Service:

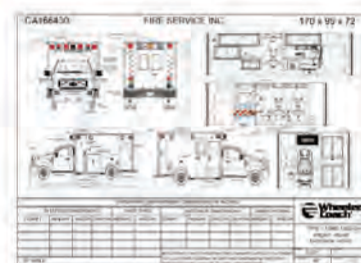
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- Dedicated Apparatus Body/Paint Facility
- Preventative Maintenance
- Pump Testing
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- Add-Ons and Installations
- Mobile/Road Service Technicians

Parts Department:

-We offer a variety of in-stock as well as Direct Ship Products to keep your apparatus running like new!

Loose Equipment & Rescue Gear:

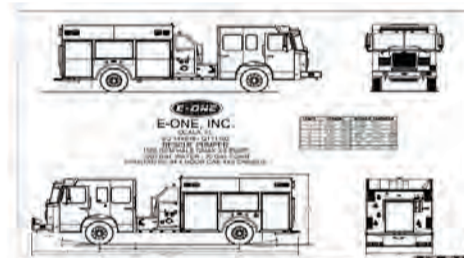
-We proudly offer a wide variety of resources and solutions from the a large list of trusted vendors, making it easier for you to answer to the call.



2023 Wheeled Coach F550 4x4

- 7.3L Gasoline Engine
- 170" Module—72" Interior Headroom
- Whelen LED Lighting Pkg/Firetech Brow Lts. Rear Chevron Light Package

◆ **AVAILABLE JUNE 2023**



EONE Top Mount Rescue Pumper

- Cummins Spartan MFD Cab, L9 450 HP
- HALE QMAX 1500 GPM Pump/750 Tank
- Amdor Roll-Up Doors—Satin Finish
- Whelen LED Emergency Lighting Package
- Alco-Lite Ladder Package

◆ **AVAILABLE SUMMER 2022**

Check us out online @ fireserviceinc.com & Like Us On FaceBook!



Our Locations:

- | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| 9545 North Industrial Dr.
St. John, IN 46373 | 1719 S. Franklin Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46239 | 1805 High Grove Lane
Naperville, IL 60540 | 1743 Quincy Ave.
Naperville, IL 60540 | 105 S. Industrial Dr.
Lake Mills, WI 53551 |
|---|--|--|--|---|

A Look Back at the NVFC: 46 Years of Providing a Voice for the Nation's Volunteer Responders

By Philip C. Stittleburg

I wasn't in the room where it happened back in November 1975, when representatives from seven state fire associations met in Chicago to discuss establishing a national organization to represent volunteer firefighters. My home state of Wisconsin was represented, though, and apparently drew the short straw, as it was tasked with preparing and filing the articles of incorporation for the newly minted National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC), thus creating the Wisconsin corporation that the NVFC remains to this day.

The organization's first official meeting as the NVFC was held 46 years ago, on March 15, 1976. The purpose of the organization was to provide a voice for the volunteers in matters of interest to the fire service, a mission that remains true today. According to minutes from the first meeting, "In the past, [the volunteer fire service] have had no influence on legislation, appointments to the National Fire Prevention & Control Administration, location selection and type of National Fire Academy, and other matters of importance to us. The council provides a forum for the state volunteer firemen's associations to speak for the members and thus assist in formulation of unified positions."

And the NVFC got off to a fast start. Thanks to the 1973 release of *America Burning*, the American fire service was beginning to enjoy a previously undreamt-of level of recognition from the federal government. Although only in formal existence for just a few months, the NVFC sent its vice chair (later chair) Jim Morgan (WI) to the White House in October 1976, where he spent 35 minutes meeting with President Ford and informing him about the volunteer fire service. It's likely that he mentioned our request for a \$750 federal income tax exemption for compensated volunteers, proving that the past sometimes predicts the future. Unfortunately, although the NVFC has testified before Congress on behalf of the volunteer fire service on numerous occasions, this presidential meeting was a feat that has never been repeated.

In 1979, an historic federally-sponsored meeting was held, ultimately known as the Stonebridge conference, a nod to the Colorado ski resort where it took place. For the first time, volunteers from all over the United States gathered for several days to plan the future of the volunteer fire service and the government's role in it. A second "Stonebridge" would follow a year or two later, this time at the recently dedicated

National Fire Academy.

By the time I arrived as a board member in the fall of 1979, the NVFC had already grown from 12 state members at the time of incorporation to 22 states. Jimmy Carter was president, and the nation was still suffering from a fuel crisis after Iran severely reduced its oil production. Considerable discussion at my first meeting was about the federal gas rationing system and the possible need to obtain an exemption for volunteer firefighters so that they could continue to respond to calls. Ultimately, as it turned out, no exemption was needed.

As membership increased, so did the workload, but there was still no staff or office, nor would there be for many years. Nonetheless, even then, the board met semi-annually as it has continued to do ever since, although it would be years later when Washington, DC, would be designated as the permanent spring meeting site.

Even in the early years, the NVFC enjoyed exceptional leadership and a remarkable board of directors. Jim Monihan (DE) had just begun what would become a 12-year long stretch as chair when I arrived, and the NVFC was still young enough to have members of the Greatest Generation among us. I sat spellbound as I listened to Pete Ackerman (NJ) share his experiences over Europe as a ball turret gunner on a B-17 with Walter Drinkard (AL), a radio operator with the Eighth Air Force. I was silently amused, imagining Walter, who spoke at glacial speed in his deep Southern accent, talking on the airplane radio. Only later did I learn that he used Morse code.

The NVFC's borders expanded dramatically when it became a member of the Federation of World Volunteer Firefighters Associations (FWVFA), organized in 1982 in Tokyo, Japan, financed by a subsidy from the Japan Shipbuilding Industry Foundation, and chaired by Ryoichi Sasakawa. In 1983, the NVFC hosted a regional meeting of the FWVFA in Seattle, but that was only the warmup. Three years later, in September 1986, the United Nations building in New York was the site of a world meeting of volunteer firefighters sponsored by the FWVFA. The goal was to bring together representatives from 180 nations, and while I don't know if that ambitious goal was achieved, I believe that well in excess of 100 nations were represented. The meetings were conducted in the UN General Assembly meeting

room, complete with translation services into a myriad of languages. Although the FWVFA continued for many more years, it never claimed another achievement to match this.

As the NVFC's reach expanded, so did its needs, leading to the establishment of the NVFC Foundation on January 13, 1989. This enabled us to engage in activities beyond the NVFC's usual scope, such as research and opportunity to increase our business contacts. As it happened, the timing was exquisite. Only a couple of years later, thanks to the efforts of Congressman Curt Weldon, Congress authorized the minting of the Ben Franklin Firefighters Silver Medal, with the sale proceeds designated to several fire service foundations. This wholly unexpected windfall resulted in about \$216,000 coming into the Foundation's coffers and funded many of its projects, as well as participation in several NFPA technical committees, for many years.

Just like the volunteer fire service at the local level, the NVFC has always struggled for funding. However, it received a big boost when US Tobacco arranged with then-chairman Fred Allinson (WA) for a series of large donations ultimately totaling over \$1.5 million to be used for education, training, recruitment and retention, and the purchase of personal protective equipment. In order to accommodate the receipt and administration of the funds, we incorporated the 21st Century Fund on February 20, 1996. The Fund was quick to share its good fortune, paying an initial sum of \$10,000 to one fire association in every state, whether or not an NVFC member, followed the next year by an additional \$4,000, a decision that resulted in several states soon applying for membership. The Fund also contributed \$50,000 to a new and relatively unknown organization, the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Fund, which had been founded in 1992. This was probably the largest donation that it had received to that point. And, of course, our 21st Century Fund continues to be an important component of the NVFC's financial stability.

Over the intervening years, the NVFC has continued to grow in influence and sophistication, maintaining a trajectory established way back in 1976. In 2001, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program began, and from that came the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants, both

of which have been important sources of support for the NVFC's initiatives. We now have directors from 47 state associations, an office staff of 11, and a membership over 25,000 strong. Our groundbreaking programs include Fire Corps, the Heart-Healthy Firefighter Program, the Make Me A Firefighter campaign, the National Junior Firefighter Program, the Share the Load support program, and the Wildland Fire Assessment Program. We have representatives on 20 NFPA standards-setting committees, participate in many national fire and EMS work groups and task forces, and fight for legislation that benefits volunteer responders. Our web site is filled with tools, resources, and training to assist responders and department leaders in addressing critical and emerging issues.

As an organization, the NVFC continues to identify and anticipate the needs of the volunteer fire and emergency medical services, and provide the resources, advocacy, and training to help our nation's volunteers in the ways that matter most. While it is sometimes daunting to consider future challenges, it is reassuring to see that we have overcome obstacles for nearly a half century. In the face of hard times, the volunteer emergency services will persevere, and the NVFC will be here to support them. History does indeed repeat itself.

Philip C. Stittleburg has been an NVFC director from Wisconsin since 1979 and served as chair of the organization from 2001-2015. He joined the volunteer fire service in 1972 and has served as chief of the LaFarge (WI) Fire Department since 1977.



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