



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 67 NO. 1

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

FEBRUARY 2018

From The President

Paul Holcomb



I hope everyone had a great holiday season and I am looking forward to working with you all in the new year!

The 2018 Heroes Gala is just a month away. If you have never attended the Gala before you should definitely consider doing so. Our Association has worked with Supporting Heroes for several years now and the support they provide to the families of our members in their time of need is outstanding. The program during the Gala is a great tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. For more information and to sign up please visit the Supporting Heroes website.

Please also take the time in the near future to consider attending our state convention this year. All of the information is on our website. The committee has been working hard to ensure it will be a remember-able one, isn't that right Larry?!?!?

With that all said I would also like to ask you all to please take the time to visit our legislation page on the IVFA website and stay current on the issues that we are working on to better the fire service.

And as a reminder if you have an event that you would like to have your members' 10 or 25 year pins presented at, please contact

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Jeff-Craig Fire & Rescue shaves heads to support Auxiliary member with breast cancer



In October our fire department learned that Auxiliary member Erin Schmitt had been diagnosed with breast cancer.

Our department immediately sprung into action starting a fundraiser for her selling "Erin Inspired" fire department T-Shirts.

But our membership decided to go one step further. At the direction of Board President Lewis Fritter, hair stylists Heather Thomas and Halie Gault of H&CO, and Rocky McKenzie of High Spirits Salon, were on site donating free haircuts to fire department members. So before our November business meeting 17 members of Jeff-Craig Fire got their heads shaved with Erin.

"Our department is one big family, no one goes through anything by themselves," said Lewis Fritter. "Erin is a big part of our fire department family and we wanted to let her know how much she means to us."

Fundraising T-Shirts are on sale for \$20 any size at Creative Images, American Legion, both in Vevay or through any Jeff-Craig Fire Department member. - submitted by Christopher See



Determined to Serve, Determined to Protect

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



MAY 5, 2018 DEADLINE ~ APRIL 5, 2018 - 12 PM (CST)



From the State House to the Fire House



Fellow Departments, Officers, & Members

As of the writing of this article, the current temperature “here in Indianapolis” is still way below freezing and has been as low as -2°. I hope everyone has all the proper equipment to not only serve but to protect yourself. I guess my greatest hope is that by the reading we are finally looking at some reasonable seasonal weather.

With the holiday season behind us I hope you had a blessed Thanksgiving, and Merry and Cheerful Christmas and eagerly embraced 2018 and already began to make it a GREAT year.

By the reading of this edition of our newspaper we will have ramped up this year’s session of the Indiana General Assembly and possible nearing our half way point.

While this is the so-called “short session” we will not be short on topics or negotiations. The IVFA will have a couple of things to discuss. We have gotten a bill drafted addressing our lack of coverage from an “occupational” cancer, but I think we need to be looking at the bigger picture when it comes to benefits, occupational cancer coverage that could roll over into a retirement benefit, funding for a physical, possible fit testing, increased medical / injury weekly benefit and other items that we should be looking at from a current cost prohibitive position and then seek support and funding for a complete benefit package. This will take some serious study, thought, input and preparation and support, but if we could put such a package together and get it funded it could be the biggest issue we have addressed in years for our members.

We have asked for a summer study committee to “review and address” our current funding system. I have shared with many of you my belief that any funds we get for our services that comes via contract has to be based on assessed value of the property we protect.

If that is accurate (and I think it is) then I find it strange, unreasonable and I will even say unacceptable that our funding is not fair and equal, and in some cases not even reasonable. I have asked that we be afforded proper time to present our views and values before a committee of selected legislators to see if we can break the cycle of current funding that has not really changed in my nearly 50 years of volunteer fire service participation, not to mention in some cases increases are nearly the same for that same period of time.

Some other items that will impact our service and service delivery will be listed in my bill list on our website as they become public such as the hot topic of Township Consolidation for those who serve less than 1000 population, contracts for our services and much more.

I will have our website updated and current on legislative issues at the time you are reading this article and I encourage you to visit it for current and up-to-the minute bills, changes, and process. Search on www.ivfa.org and on the left hand side of the home page scroll down to the tab marked Legislative.

While there, take the opportunity to use our website for all the other great opportunities offered by our website, such as the valuable and useable information including legislative matters, policies, events, and just sharing of our State Calendar, Committees, Departments, District maps the IVFA Store and information on our current leadership and activities including our Annual Convention.

Once again a quick and easy way to locate or identify your legislator is to visit the IVFA website at www.IVFA.org and go to the legislative page and look for the tab that addresses locating your legislator.

It is easy and simple and I encourage everyone to seek out your legislator.

I would like to hear from departments that are really concerned and looking at our future and have youth or junior programs in your department, if your department currently has a Junior program in place I would like to hear from you, as I am interested in finding out how many and what type of programs we have in Indiana. Junior members are the future of our service.

Also addressing the future please look at our website for information on the 2018 State Convention. It will be held in Indianapolis in June 2018. We will be adding educational opportunities, competition, a great vendor display, and an opportunity to attend your annual meeting, the annual memorial service, and the banquet and in short, enjoy a great couple of days while we train and learn. Sure hope to see you there.

My personal goal is to inform you during this year’s General Assembly session, share with you information on our convention, and learn more about your youth programs.

Should you have any questions, need assistance or just wish to speak with me I am listed both on the website and in this newspaper so feel free to reach out to me.

Look forward to seeing you, talking with you, and assisting you in whatever way and whenever I can.

Larry

From the Flames

Happy New Year!

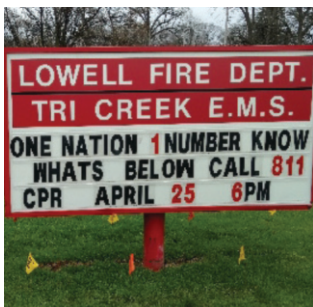
As you made your New Year’s resolutions or thought about your calendar for the new year, I hope you save time for activities in your fire department and the IVFA and IVFAA. Your fire department family can become a very vital part of your own family.

Work is already in progress on the Miss Flame program. I know some of you have already held your district contests and others have scheduled. Please, if you have had your contest and you have your candidate, get your application, check (made out to IVFAA), 2 photos and a signed consent form (signed by parents), to chairman Barb Kerney as soon as possible. All applications are due by MARCH 10TH.

We would like to get the information needed to the candidates as soon as possible. If you are in need of paperwork, please give Barb a call (812-867-2641) or (812-449-7698). We have a great committee this year and they are willing to assist you if you need them.

The convention will be in Indy this year at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



Help celebrate National Safe Digging Month in April by participating in the INPAA Firehouse 811 Contest! Indiana 811 and INPAA are asking fire stations across the state to show their support by reminding communities to contact Indiana 811 before any digging projects. Submit a picture of your fire station promoting National Safe Digging Month in Indiana for a chance to win a donation to your organization. The first 100 fire stations to submit a picture of their marquee, sign of any sort or social media post featuring a “call before you dig” message will receive a \$50 donation for their organization.



\$200 GRAND PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FOR:
MOST CREATIVE | BEST 811 MESSAGING | BEST SOCIAL MEDIA POST

The best overall grand prize winner will receive 2 two-night packages to the 2018 Midwest Damage Prevention Training Conference at the French Lick Resort in French Lick, Indiana, for their organization.

Submit your photo, station name and contact information to ind811fire@gmail.com by May 31, 2018 to enter the contest.



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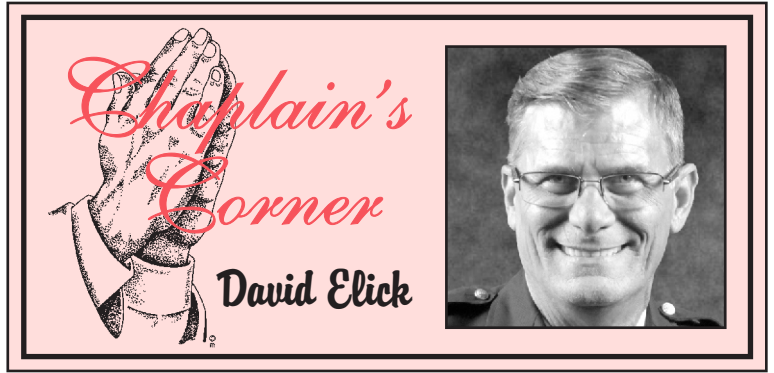
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God will listen to your prayer at any time or place.

There are many misconceptions about prayer as well as many misuses of it. Some people think that the only time and place for it is at their House of Worship or at bedtime. The truth is God is always on hand to listen if the prayer is of the right kind and for any good purpose. A prayer should begin with an expression of gratitude for our blessings.

Next, it should never be a "shopping list" of the material things we would like to have, but instead a material plea for the recovery of someone who is ill, the comfort of a person who has just lost a loved one, help for the unemployed, or any number of unselfish requests.

We may well find those prayers answered and possibly receive some unasked for blessings for ourselves.

More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of. Let thy voice rise night and day.

- Alfred, Lord Tennyson

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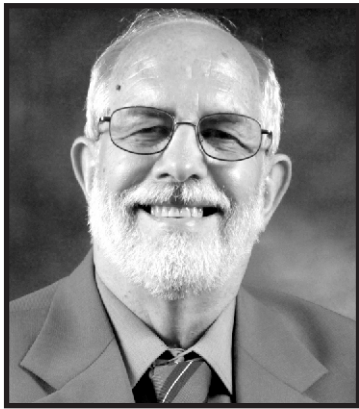
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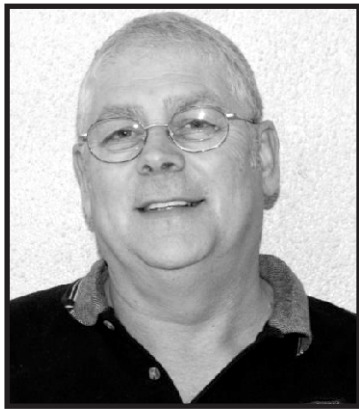
**Public Relations
Director
Northeast
Jean Smith**

please contact me, your Public Relations Representative or your district chairman.

Jean Smith
Public Relations Northeast



**Public Relations
Director
Southwest
Steve Nolan**



I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season as we look to the new year.

I had the honor to attend some Christmas parties to present some IVFA Fire Service Awards; Southwest Fire District Service Award Recognitions.

Bradley Wilson 11 years, Eric Fetcho 12 years, Mitch Fireoved 15 years, Nick Clark 25 years.

Washington Township Fire Department Service Award Recognition. Robert Roy 19 years, Gail Balliet 50 years.

The 2018 IVFA State Convention will be June 20-23 at Crowne Plaza Hotel, Indianapolis. Please look on IVFA.org for Convention information.

If you need any assistance

Greetings,
I hope all is well for you and your families after the holidays.

As of this letter I have attended two IVFA Memorial Services, paid respect to a firefighter in a LODD, attended four district meetings, county meeting and visited with a fire department.

Cancer in the fire service is something we all need to be concerned with and work to reduce its hold on us. We can help ourselves by using WIPES

on our bodies before leaving the fire scene, washing off our gear before getting in our vehicles and by cleaning our vehicles inside and out before leaving the scenes. We must protect ourselves and our families from this disease. Documentation, we must keep records of what we did on the scene and what atmospheres we were introduced to, smoke, gasses, etc. This will be very important if we get a cancer BILL passed.

Remember, the IVFA Convention will be in Indianapolis this year and it will be a good one and I look forward to seeing you there.

Thank You,
Steve Nolan, PRSW

**Public Relations
Director
West Central
Larry Bartlow**



Welcome to 2018,

As I am writing this it seems the deep freeze is going to be letting up later this week. It will be a big relief to everyone. It

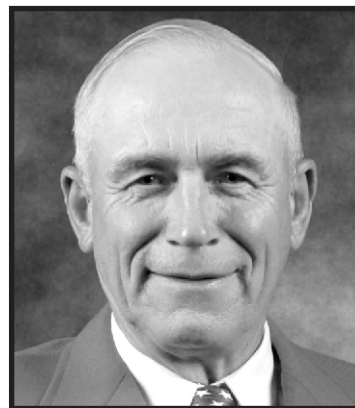
seems we had several weather-related fires in the area; but hopefully no injuries to anyone. Very trying time for everyone.

By the time this article is published the January district meetings in the PR area will be over, but the March meeting will be just ahead so watch the calendar on the Website for the date and place for your district meeting. We need someone from every department to attend the meetings. We need to know what you think about the issues that face our Association and what problems you think we need to take a look at. We all have to work for a better Fire Service in Indiana and it will take everyone to get that done.

Be careful and be safe.

PRWC
Larry Bartlow

**Public Relations
Director
Southeast
Ed Scheele**



I hope everyone had a joyous Christmas and a safe New Year.

As I am writing this we are supposed to have 3" of snow tonight and very cold temperatures to start the new year. Be very careful with the poor weather conditions.

I congratulate and thank Vi Bruns on 50 years in the IVFAA. I also thank Diane Harrison for her service to the IVFA as state secretary.

Make plans to attend your state convention June 20 - 23 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel by the airport in Indianapolis.

It is time to get the Bridgeport Scholarship applications filled out. There are new forms on the IVFA website. These forms are shorter and easier to fill out. they must be postmarked by March 1st and sent to the IVFA office.

The IVFA gives three \$1500 scholarships at the convention.

Be safe,
Ed Scheele
PRSE

Miss Flame

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Dates will be June 20th thru the 23rd. Make sure that your candidate will be able to compete in all events during this time. This is very important for the success of the program. We realize it is a busy time of the year for our young people, but sometimes choices have to be made.

Thanks to all who have contributed and supported this great and valuable program. We hope to see all of you at our convention. We promise you will be glad you decided to join us.

Barb Kerney, chairman

Never burn toxic materials!

Burning toxic materials is illegal, and extremely dangerous!

Burning household trash and outdoor waste, such as plastics and building materials, is illegal because it's extremely dangerous. Even if you take special precautions to protect against smoke exposure, pollutants will be left behind in the ashes. These pollutants pose a risk to health and contaminate soil and water. Burning tires, treated wood or asbestos is illegal and particularly dangerous.

Tires: We need tires for transportation. But their resilience and indestructibility make disposal difficult. If you've ever seen the thick, black plumes of smoke from a tire fire, you know why state law prohibits burning tires.

When tires burn, they release toxic gases into the air and leave behind a hazardous, oily residue that can pollute streams and groundwater.

Tire fires are difficult to extinguish and can burn out of control for months.

President . . .

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

your district chairman or just attend your next district meeting. Once again I would like to thank you all! And as always if you should need anything please feel free to contact me at any time.

Paul Holcomb
President, IVFA
Cell: 502-664-5736
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**MAY DEADLINE IS:
APRIL 5, 2018**

**2018 Convention
June 20 - June 23
Indianapolis Airport
at the Crowne Plaza**

SPENCER MFG ADVERTISEMENT

**LOOK FOR THE
AD IN THE
FEBRUARY
PAPER**

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 1 REPORT



Marshall Neese - Chairman

District 1 & 2 IVFA meeting
Beverly Shores VFD
September 20, 2017

Meeting called to order 7:30 p.m. by District 1 Chairman Marshall Neese.

Pledge was recited.

Roll call: District 1- 14 members - 5 Depts., District 2 - 6 members, 3 Depts.

Tom Carlson, Safety Officer, gave brief history of department. Started in 1951, 26 members, 250 calls a year. Pine Twp. is also covered by Beverly Shores.

No program.

Motion by Wally Cook, seconded by Bub Wise to dispense with reading of minutes. Passed.

Treasurer's report: \$352.00.

Old business - None.

New business: nothing going on at Statehouse. Class on cancer awareness given at Munster FD. Class is given by Joe Martin and Ryan Cusak, 3 hour program. Clean your gear after a call, keep your gear in separate room - out of truck bay if possible.

Ladies' auxiliary is having a fundraiser on Nov. 13 sponsored by Texas Roadhouse in Dyer, IN. Flyer available.

Oct. 7 open house and dedication at Lake Ridge VFD, 2301 W. 47th Ave., Gary, IN at 1:00 p.m.

Pins handed by out District 1 Chairman - 50 year Gold card to Henry Schultz, 25 year pins to Tom Carlson, Carl Zarnis, all of Beverly Shores VFD.

Deaths in District 2 - Bill Kozlowski of CPVFD. Moment of silence held.

Good of the order - Lowell VFD - Octoberfest 10/13/17 - Free admission.

Beverly Shores VFD - Open house 10/8/17, CPFR open house 10/8/17.

50 year Gold card members: Bub Wise, CPFR, Bill Casbon, Porter Twp.

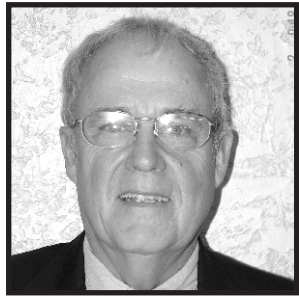
Next meeting November 13, 2017 at Lake Twp., Lake Village, Route 41 & 10.

Thanks to Beverly Shores for hosting meeting.

Adjournment at 7:58. Motion made & seconded. Passed.

Notes by Bob Szot and submitted by Paul Watland, District 2 Chairman.

DISTRICT 2 REPORT



Paul Watland - Chairman

District 1 & 2 IVFA Meeting

Lake Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.,
Lake Village, IN
Nov. 15, 2017

Meeting to order at 7:43 p.m. Pledge led by Jeremy Reef.

District 2 Chairman Paul Watland thanked all veterans in attendance for their service. Also thanked Lake Twp. for hosting meeting and for the excellent food provided.

Roll call taken: District 1 - 3 members - 2 depts., District 2 - 23 members - 6 depts.

Guests: District 1 Chairman: Marshall Neese, District 9B Chairman: Randy Denton.

Larry Curl, IVFA Lobbyist, Carol Curl, IVFAA President, Buz Koehler, past IVFA president and his wife Carol, Lee Kleist, Hoosier Fire Sales, Larry Polas, Global Emergency Sales, PRNW Jeremy Reef.

50 year Gold card members: Bub Wise, CPFR, Harvey Lanigan, Schererville FD.

Allan Corning, Chief of Lake Twp. introduced members of his department that were present and gave a brief history of department.

No program.

Motion made and seconded to dispense with reading of minutes. Passed.

Communications: Buz talked about the problems with bad addresses with this issue of the paper. Said we have had same issue with previous issues. Asked that everyone to check their address and information when dues packets are received. Said that the paper will not be forwarded if gone for the winter.

Larry Curl talked about the cancer bill proposed and would bring to legislators again this session. Problem is that there is no funding for it. Talked about funding for departments.

Also talked about blue light law. There is a difference between state law and driver's manual.

Also about number of lights allowed on vehicles. Going to be a tough year for legislation and will need our help. Suggestions for laws need to be sent to district chairman.

State convention this year at Crowne Plaza Hotel at Indy Airport. Trying to bring back water ball. Going to try and have more education sessions. Said everyone needs to get their reservations in now as space is limited in ballroom for banquet. Convention dates are June 21, 22, 23, 2017.

Carol Curl - IVFAA

President: IVFAA membership is available for men. Said to get award nominations in by February.

Guest comments: Randy Denton will have a cancer prevention class at Rensselaer VFD in 1st week of January 2018.

PRNW Jeremy Reef: No comment

Larry Polas of Global Pierce brought literature about Pierce and said Dave Polkow is new sales rep. for this area. Said the company is working with a grant company and info is in literature.

Treasurer's report: \$377.00.

Old business - none.

New business - District 2 Global Award for 2017 was presented by Larry Polas of Global to Lori Postma of Lake Twp. VFD.

Dustin Thibedeau of Cedar Lake VFD won the Station Supply kit.

January 22, 2018 Pipeline presentation will be held at Fair Oaks Farm.

Deaths in district: None.

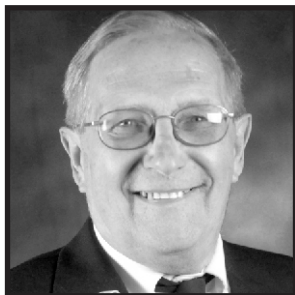
50/50 won by district chairman Paul Watland.

Additional door prizes were passed out by Lilly Postma and won by various people.

District 2 chairman Paul Watland again thanked Lake Twp. for hosting meeting. Motion and seconded for adjournment. Passed.

Notes by Bob Szot and submitted by Paul Watland, District 2 chairman.

DISTRICT 3 REPORT



Bob Uryga Sr. - Chairman

I.V.F.A District 3 Meeting
November 16, 2017

The meeting was held at Lincoln Township Vol. Fire Dept.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Bob Uryga.

Coolspring Chaplain Rick Bradford opened the meeting with a prayer and asked for a moment of silence to remember firefighter Norm Carpenter who had passed on Nov. 14, 2017. Norm joined the Hanna Vol. Fire Dept. in 1950.

Lincoln Chief Bill Duttlinger led the pledge to the flag.

Secretary Bradford called the roll. There were 12 members present, representing 5 departments.

Guests present included: Buz Koehler - Past President, Jeremy Reef - PR Northwest and Jack Runion - Rep. for Spencer Equipment.

Minutes of the September meeting were read and approved and treasurer's report was made.

Buz Koehler spoke about our newspaper and the problems with bad addresses. If you are not receiving a paper, contact your district chairman (Bob Uryga).

Buz also spoke about legislative issues. IVFA is trying to get our state to cover the cost of cancer screenings and to add volunteers to the presumptive cancer law. The turnout gear continues to "off gas" for 72 hours after exposure. As a minimum safety measure, firefighters need to put on a clean nomex hood before every exposure incident. Also a change to wording of blue light law has been put forward that would reflect pulling over for a blue light becoming a requirement rather than a courtesy.

Another item is the funding mechanism for volunteer departments. We are hoping to get 1/10 of 1% as a minimum. Currently there are about 120 departments that function on less than 10,000 annual budget.

Jeremy Reed spoke about the 2018 convention in Indianapolis. The convention is June 20 - 23. Register early.

Chairman Bob Uryga spoke about convention 2019. Next meeting will be Nov. 30 at Blue Chip Convention Center at 7:00 p.m. We need more participation, several committees still need a chairman. The more ideas we have, the better we can make the outcome. We need ideas as well as donations. It would be nice to have at least one person from each department to attend our meetings.

Jeremy Reed suggested sending reminders to all departments to encourage better attendance.

Leona Uryga suggested a bake sale to help our district treasury.

Announcements: Funeral for Norm Carpenter will be Monday, Nov. 20. IVFA convention 2019 meeting is Nov. 30 at Blue Chip at 7:00. Miss Chloe Perkins will be the 2018 Miss Flame representative from Dist. 3.

Chairman Bob Uryga asked Rick Bradford to inform members about a call at Coolspring Twp. V.F.D. earlier this month. Rick Bradford said that on November 7 at about 10:30 p.m. their department received a newborn infant at their department's "Baby Box". According to Indiana's Safe Haven Law, this is a designated safe haven surrender site. Coolspring installed the state of the art "box" in April of 2016. This was the first time it was used.

The Fire Chief Mick Pawlik and Asst. Chief Warren Smith along with LaPorte County EMS personnel took the 1 hour old baby to the Franciscan Saint Anthony Hospital in Michigan City where the child was given to hospital care.

The baby was called "Hope" by the firemen and appeared to be normal and healthy.

There are only 2 of the so-called "baby boxes" in the country and both of them are in Indiana.

Our prayers are with both the

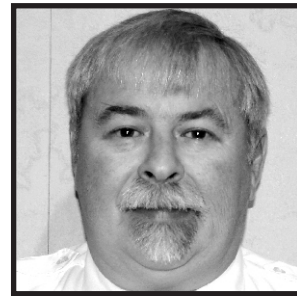
baby and the mother, Chaplain Bradford said.

The next district meeting is January 18, 2018 at Bass Lake Fire Dept.

Diana Stapleton made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Dave Robb. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
District 3 Secretary
Rick Bradford

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



Jerry Sprague - Chairman

Greetings from District 6

Greetings to all. Sincerely hope everyone had a great Christmas and was able to have a safe and happy New Year's Eve. Up here in the northeast, winter is upon us. Had enough of this fifteen below 0 weather.

Would like to thank the Thorncreek Twp V.F.D. for hosting our meeting in November. Was able to present several 25 year pins at this meeting. Their hospitality and fellowship were enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Kenn Kunze and 800 Board Up for supplying our meals for the meetings.

I also want to thank our District 6 Miss Flame Bailey Sheley for representing our district at the many fundraisers she is attending. Great job, Bailey! She had a great time at the convention in Columbus and is looking forward to running for the district Miss Flame again this year. Congratulations to Bailey for her participation and being the District 6 Miss Flame for 2018.

The next meeting will be on January 23rd, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. It will be held at Washington Twp. VFD in Allen County. Our next meeting as of this publication will be in Dekalb County on March 23rd, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.

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 spiralawn@ligtel.com.

Our next meeting, as of this printing, is scheduled for Tuesday, March 23rd, 2018 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

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

MAY 5, 2018
DEADLINE IS:
APRIL 5, 2018

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 6 . . .

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

my level best to help you out. Better yet, bring them to our next meeting on March 23rd. Please visit the IVFA web site as I am hoping the meetings for District 6 will be posted. (ivfa.org)

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

DISTRICT 7 REPORT



Sam Bisel - Chairman

Indiana Volunteer
Firefighter's Association
District 7
November 20, 2017
Andrews Volunteer Fire
Department

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bisel at 7:32 p.m. Chairman Bisel led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 32 members representing 11 departments.

September minutes R/A.

Guests: IVFA Past President Buz Koehler, Jean Smith – PRNE, Jeremy Reef – PRNW, Brandon Taylor – 1-800-BoardUp, Tom Wall – Huntington Co. Commissioner, Ron Kline – Huntington Co. Council, Jenny Newton – Huntington Co. Superior Court Judge.

Chairman Bisel – No deaths to report in the district.

As of quarterly meeting the IVFA had 13,696 members and over 3,400 license plates.

Armed Forces Benevolent has divided the state into three sections, will get the north representatives information out when available.

Discussed at the meeting importance of cancer prevention and how to decon with wet wipes.

CLASSIFIEDS

Departments are entitled to 1 (one) free ad of 50 (fifty) words or less per issue. One (1) item only. Additional items or words will be billed at current rate. **RATES:** Twenty-five (25) words or less, including name and address = \$9.40. **TERMS:** CASH with advertising copy. Include name and address in your ads. Submit legible copy. Publisher is not responsible for errors caused by illegible copy. Type or print all ads. *Your co-operation is appreciated.*

Would like to encourage departments to ask local businesses to advertise in our paper.

Fentanyl safety sheet was handed out.

The state organization is making upgrades to their computer system to get quarterly minutes out in a timely manner.

Added Sect. 7 to the by-laws to spell out how district elections are to be held.

Pipeline safety class schedule is out.

Does your department administer Narcan? There is a grant available to get your Narcan resupplied.

Supporting Heroes Gala is March 3.

Be sure to fill out your attendance cards clearly. It helps the state track attendance and gives you the chance to win attendance prizes. This quarter prizes went to Dist. 2 and Dist. 18.

Jean Smith, PRNE – Drone law went into effect July 1.

NFPA is working on new standards for Drones and Active Shooter. They should be out by the end of the year.

The state is looking at possibly funding cancer law to include volunteers through lottery.

Please read flyers on cancer prevention, it is for your own good. Tips include thinking about having a second pair of station shoes to prevent bringing contaminates back into your living quarters, trying to keep pump operators out of the way or protected from smoke and rig fumes and install and keep functional station exhaust systems.

NFPA has an App available to track responses and exposures.

Buz Koehler – IVFA Past President – Please keep up with current addresses of your members. The postal service has a new address program that results in a lot of bad addresses.

Let Buz know if you have any suggestions for changes or additions to the paper.

Buz and Larry Curl attended the National Cancer Symposium in Phoenix. A big point of interest is how to prevent taking contaminants home to your family.

Brandon Taylor – 1-800-BoardUp – Keep us in mind that we can help no matter how small or large the needs are.

On behalf of Taylor's Equipment see me for any equipment or lighting needs you may have.

Chairman Bisel invited our Miss Flame judges to address the body.

Tom Wall – Huntington Co. Commissioner – “Would like to thank all of you for all of your support and all that you do. The

two candidates were very close and well versed about their departments and communities. He would like to challenge the departments in the district to bring more candidates next year.”

Ron Kline – Huntington Co. Council – “Thank you for the invitation to be involved tonight.”

Jenny Newton – Huntington Co. Superior Court Judge – “Thank you for inviting me here tonight to participate in your judging. The ruling that we made tonight was the hardest ruling decision that I was involved in today.”

Chairman Bisel continued the meeting with the presentation of 10 year pins to Andrews VFD members.

Chairman Bisel – Convention 2018 will be in Indianapolis at the Crowne Plaza Airport.

Awards nominations need to be in by Feb. 1st. See the website or contact your chairman for a listing of awards and guidelines.

Please submit applications for Global Award to Chairman Bisel. I would like to see more nominations this year for the award. Keep in mind that the Global Award can go to any deserving person or business in your community that supports your local fire service; they do not need to be a member of a department.

This year the Global Award went to Don Kuhn of the Berne VFD.

The IVFA Website is still being rebuilt, should be done next year.

District meetings for 2018 Berne – January, Bippus – March bake sale, Bluffton – May, Chester Twp. – July district officer elections, Decatur – September and Geneva – November Dist. 7 Miss Flame competition.

Second roll call answered by 32 members representing 11 departments.

Chairman Bisel invited Joyce Nevil, IVFAA District 7 chairperson to address the membership.

Miss Flame candidates were introduced - Olivia Lockwood of Poe VFD and Maggie Kilsby of Geneva VFD.

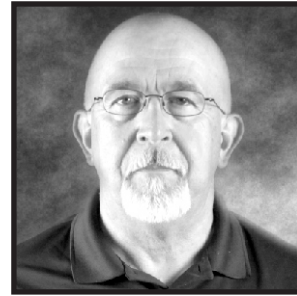
Olivia Lockwood was awarded District 7 Miss Flame and Maggie Kilsby Runner-Up.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Richard Sorg
District 7 Secretary

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DISTRICT 8A REPORT



Jerry Liston - Chairman

Greetings from District 8A!

Sitting here on New Year's Day writing this article I would like to begin by wishing all departments and members in District 8A a Happy New Year! I hope all had a great holiday season and thank you for what you do for your communities.

I am going to devote most of this article to what I believe is the most important topic in the fire service today, cancer prevention. So I will start by asking the following question, “How can you stop cancer from infesting your department?”

As many of you know and are aware of, firefighter cancer has been the hot topic recently in the fire service. You cannot go online without reading an article on the latest information, hearing about a line-of-duty death or a retiree's death that was related to it, or learning about legislation that has been passed for a presumptive health care bill. This upcoming legislative session your Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association will again make it a priority to add volunteers to the existing presumptive cancer law in Indiana.

Your IVFA Lobbyist and Legislative Committee will again work hard this upcoming session to make it happen. Hopefully, Indiana will pass needed legislation and start covering volunteers like they do career firefighters in our great state.

So until then what can we do as departments to help stop cancer in its tracks? One way could be as simple as spending around \$50 to \$60 dollars at your local hardware or home do-it center. A simple Firefighter Cancer Decontamination Kit that includes a five-gallon pail with lid, a short garden hose with a light spray setting nozzle, Dawn dish detergent or gear wash, spray bottle, scrub brush, 42-gallon (minimum) garbage bags, decontamination wipes, and a 2.5- or 1.5- inch garden hose adapter. The kit can be kept on the apparatus and be readily available when needed by the department members.

After each hot zone entry, departments must ensure their members clean or decontaminate themselves from the harmful toxins that could be brought back into the fire truck, firehouse, personal vehicle and worse yet, your home. Hose off the gear to get rid of the loose particles, spray with light soap, scrub and rinse again. Once complete, take off the gear and place the gear in a

contractor-style garbage bag to prevent bringing the gear into the fire truck and having chemicals/toxins soak into the seat in the fire truck or getting chemicals/toxins into the heating and cooling systems ducts.

Take the baby wipe-style decontamination wipes and wipe down your head, neck, jaw, throat, under arms and hands.

Once back at the station, change your clothes and shower within an hour after each fire. Ensure your gear is thoroughly cleaned. Do not transport or take contaminated gear home or store it in a vehicle, especially the passenger compartment. Remember replacing contaminated gear in the passenger compartment is subjecting your family to those chemicals and toxins as well.

Cancer does not care if you are a volunteer and career firefighter; we are all or can be exposed to cancer causing chemicals and toxins and we must all take the same precautions to reduce our exposures. The first crucial step in stopping cancer in it tracks starts with you. Change those bad habits on the fire ground by wearing all of your PPE all the time. Departments and members need to start thinking proactively! Because if we do not who else is going to protect us.

Things we take for granted today on incidents didn't even enter our minds 20, 30 or 40 years ago. If you were thirsty and wanted a drink you cracked a nozzle, if you were cold and needed to warm up you stood by the exhaust of the engine for a minute or two. If food was brought to the scene you just grabbed a fast food burger with your dirty glove or hand and shoveled it in. You would never consider washing your coat or helmet because that dirty, soot stained gear was a “badge of experience or honor”. If you even wore a hood it went right back into your coat pocket for the next call. Today it is strongly recommended each firefighter be issued two hoods and to keep the hoods clean.

As you can see we did not make the smartest of choices back then but we really didn't know any better. Today firefighters have endless resources available to them to reduce the risks they face and to help them live long happy lives.

Departments and members can find additional resources to reduce their risks of firefighter cancer at www.nvfc.org/cancer.

The 2018 IVFA State Convention will be held in Indianapolis at the Airport Crowne Plaza Hotel. The dates are June 20-23. If your department has never attended a convention this is a great opportunity for your department or you to attend a convention close to home.

I want to thank Chief Jeff

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

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 8A ...

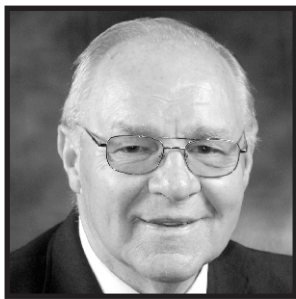
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Sowders and the Cicero Twp. FD for hosting the November district meeting. Also a big thank you to Kevin DiSano of Pelican for being the program that night and showing the attendees the latest Pelican products for the fire service.

In closing, back in December I was invited and honored to attend a special presentation for Dennis Jones at the LaFontaine-Liberty Twp. FD in Wabash County. The department honored Dennis for 50 years on the department. Dennis joined the department back in 1967 and served as fire chief for many of those years. In those 50 years Dennis also was the town marshal and also headed up the street and utility department for the town. Congratulations Dennis on your 50 years of service to the citizens of LaFontaine and Liberty Twp.

Stay safe!
Jerry L. Liston
District 8A Chairman

DISTRICT 8B REPORT



Lloyd E. Wright - Chairman

The District 8B meeting was held on November 8, 2017 at the Parker City Volunteer Fire Department. The meeting was opened up at 7:30 P.M. with all saying the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag. Roll call was taken with 28 members from 8 departments present. Guests were Don Cushman - PR Director, Buz Koehler - Past President, and Kylee Hashell, District 8B Miss Flame 2017.

The Miss Flame contest was held. Kylee Hashell, District 8B Miss Flame 2017 crowned Kristen Cox from the Parker City Volunteer Fire Department as District 8B Miss Flame for 2018. Macey Weitzel from the Portland Fire Department was named runner-up. Congratulations to both of these girls.

Chairman Wright told the members about all the awards that are given out at the IVFA convention which is held in June. And that they needed to get all the letters in by February 1st. He hopes that a lot of the members can attend the convention this year as it will be held in Indianapolis.

Second roll call was taken with the number of fire runs and EMS runs.

There were a total of 62 fires and 193 EMS runs.

Chairman Wright thanked all the members for coming and also

a big Thank You to the Parker City Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the meeting.

The next District 8B meeting will be held at the Pennville Volunteer Fire Department on January 10, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.

Meeting was adjourned and pizza was served.

Lloyd E. Wright,
District 8B Chairman

DISTRICT 9A REPORT



Pascal Moon - Chairman

Greetings to all I.V.F.A. members,

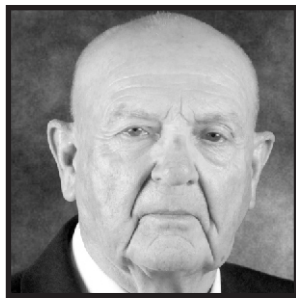
Well, the holidays have gone by so quick and now we are dealing with the cold northern Indiana winter. I am tired of clearing snow and dealing with the cold!!

The November district meeting was held at Georgetown Fire Department with 5 departments being in attendance. The numbers are starting to come up, that's a plus for a new chairman. By the time you get the newspaper we will have had our January 2018 district meeting at Greentown Fire. This was a joint meeting with District 8A and Chairman Jerry Liston. Jerry has done most of the work to get this done and I thank him and Greentown for hosting it.

I have been sending all the department's Emails and trying to get the pins passed out. If I have not gotten to you yet, I will. I have enjoyed going to the parades, fundraisers, and meetings over this holiday season and will continue to make as many as I can. Thanks to all the departments I have been to. With this cold weather, try to keep safe and remember we will be complaining in July that it is too hot!

When I look back at the last six months since I started I thought, what did I get myself into. But it has been a lot of fun going to these different departments, quarterly meetings, and the Convention, and look forward to the 2018 year. Thanks and remember "After The Call We All Go Home, Safe!!"

DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

Greetings from District 10 Happy New Year! I hope your Christmas and New Year celebrations were safe and blessed!

In November, we crowned a new Miss Flame for District 10. She is Kristin Mathews from St. Paul Vol. Fire Dept. Her sisters, Danielle & Jaylen were previous Miss Flames. Nineveh Fire Dept. provided the meal and hosted the meeting. T. C. Cook from First Responder Task Force was the program for the evening

District 10 had a very busy year in 2017 and a highlight was hosting the IVFA Convention in Columbus at the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus, IN. We had thirty-three vendors and 340 attend the Friday evening banquet. We also hosted a Waterball Contest and five teams participated.

The new year is starting out on a very cold note with temperatures hovering at zero or below for several days. Please remember to check your firefighting equipment and make sure it is in working order and ready to roll in the event of an emergency. Also, take precautions to make sure you are properly dressed for the subzero temps while working those emergency situations.

We look forward to the coming legislative term, as our organization lobbies to keep you and your departments safe and operational. There is also a very important concern, presumptive cancer, that we are working to address.

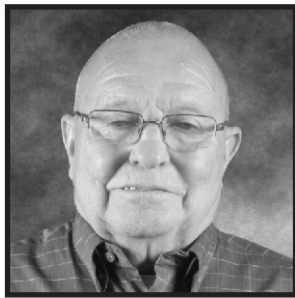
Begin planning now to attend the 2018 IFVA Convention which will be held at the Airport Crowne Plaza Hotel in Indy on June 20-23.

Upcoming 2018 meetings for District 10 are: Jan. 17, Posey Twp. Fire Dept.; Feb. 21, Clifford Fire Dept.; March 21, Carthage Fire Dept.; April 18 Clay Twp. Fire Dept. (Barth. Co.) & May 16, Amity Fire Dept. All meetings begin at 7 p.m.

Have a healthy, safe and prosperous 2018. Hope to see you on January 17 at Posey Twp.

John M. Ray,
District 10 Chairman

DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Pete Taylor - Chairman

Greetings from District 11A,

District 11A had their meeting at Jasonville Fire Station on November 19, 2017 at 1:00 with eight departments, 22 members and seven guests present. We had a delicious lunch and we would like to thank our host.

Our program was presented by Micheal Blairvelt from the A.F.B.A. He talked about insurance benefits. We also had Tim Raun from Station Supply. He talked about the new Decon product available.

After our meeting we held our Miss Flame contest. The winner was Zoe Larsen from Wright Twp. Looking forward to you representing us this year.

It was nice to have Paul Holcomb, our I.V.F.A. president at our meeting. Thanks for coming so far.

The new SOG changes were read. Larry Curl, our lobbyist, gave us an update report on legislation. He also gave us a report on this year's convention. Everything is going good. Convention is June 2018 at Crowne Plaza in Indianapolis.

I have been to several department Christmas parties where I have presented 10 and 25 year pins.

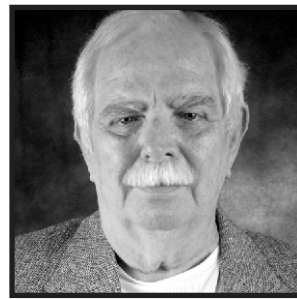
Cold weather is here, be safe and stay warm.

Our next meeting will be January 21, 2018 at Posey Twp. in Staunton, IN.

Hope to see you there.

District 11A chairman
Pete Taylor

DISTRICT 11B REPORT



John Morphy - Chairman

Montezuma Reserve
July 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Morphy. The opening prayer was given by Chaplain Taylor. The pledge to the flag was led by state Sgt.- at-Arms Brent Bush.

Roll call was taken with 10 members from 6 departments present. Chairman Morphy introduced the guests present. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved.

Larry Bartlow gave a 2016 convention update. Larry Curl spoke on the legislative session just held. Chairman Morphy presented John Davies with the Indiana State Fire Marshal's meritorious service award. Larry Curl spoke on the 2018 convention and the need for the younger members to take part in the events.

What is needed to have a convention that everyone will remember. Space is limited. Registering early is highly recommended.

Time for elections. Larry Southard made a motion to retain John Morphy as district chairman and John Davies district secretary-treasurer. Seconded by

Brent Bush. The motion carried. John Morphy made the announcements upcoming. The meeting was dismissed by Chaplain Pete Taylor.

Respectfully submitted,
John Davies
Secretary

DISTRICT 13B REPORT



Jeff Biehl - Chairman

I would like to thank everyone for the cards & calls during my mother's passing, it was greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to Centerville Fire/Rescue Chief Dennis Spears, he was honored with the Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year at the Indiana Emergency Response Conference.

Congratulations to Kevin Johnston of the West College Corner FD. He competed in the New York Marathon and finished very well for his age category.

Please keep a watch on the legislative issues, there is legislation coming out wanting to do away with trustees who have less than 1000 population. If that passes I am sure the 1000 mark will probably grow to a larger number. Please be ready to help the legislative committee if called upon to do so.

I have started passing out 10 & 25 year service pins. I will be visiting departments to get this task completed.

If you have any events coming up, please let the district officers know so we can get it put on the IVFA website calendar and send it out to the whole district.

Please keep the Brothers and Sisters we lost in 2017 in our prayers and make 2018 a safe year.

Please pray for our military men and women and bring them home safe.

David, sis says "hi".
Attend your district meetings.

Jeff Biehl 13B

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I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 14 REPORT



Richard Cannon - Chairman

Been a busy quarter in District 14. We have been passing out 10 and 25 year pins.

If any departments need pins handed out, please call me and we can set up a time.

By the time the paper comes out we will have crowned this year's Miss Flame.

If you have anything going on at your stations, call me.

Thanks,
Rick Cannon

DISTRICT 17B REPORT



Robert "Bobby" Brown - Chairman

I hope everyone had a happy New Year.

We have had two meetings since November quarterly meeting. They were hosted by Nashville VFD in Brown County and Indian Creek of Lawrence

County. At Nashville we had 13 different fire departments represented. There were several topics discussed but two major issues were fire departments and contracts between the trustees. The other was cancer bill and what we as fire departments can do to protect ourselves and our family members. JJ Johnson from Bob Poynter Chrysler Columbus was there talking about the Dodge First Responder Program. He stated that FIRE, EMS, POLICE receive a special discount on Dodge vehicles.

Second meeting was Miss Flame night. We were to elect a young lady to represent District 17B for the year of 2018. We had two young ladies running for Miss Flame, Sierra Ford and Lauren Brown. Sierra is from Van Buren Fire Department and Lauren Brown from Shawswick VFD. We had a panel of three ladies to screen the young ladies. I would like to thank Barb Kerney, Lona Huffman and Valerie Luchauer for serving on our panel. Lauren Brown was elected to represent 17B for the 2018 year. I would like to thank Sierra for serving as 2017 Miss Flame. Sierra is a wonderful young lady. I am sure she will have a great future in whatever she decides to do. I know her parents must be very proud! Thank you for everything you did for 17B in the past year.

Lauren Brown can be reached at:
Lbrown17bmissflame@gmail.com
Please contact Lauren for your fundraiser or me at district17b@ivfa.org or call me

at 812-583-6845. The next two meetings will be at Northern Monroe Territory (Bloomington Township) on January 10, 2018. Hamblin Township March 14, 2018. Food will be served at 6:30 p.m. and meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Thanks,
Bobby

DISTRICT 18 REPORT



Joe DeKemper - Chairman

I hope you had a merry Christmas and were able to spend time with your families and friends.

District 18 held their November meeting in Bristow hosted by Anderson Township VFD. The meeting started at 7:30 p.m. opening with The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll call was taken with 46 members, 1 individual member and sixteen departments. runs were reported. The Secretary/Treasurer report was read and approved. Guests present were President Paul Holcomb, past president Steve Anderson - Public Relations SW, Steve Nolan - DNR, Lynn Krodel and Miss Flame Aubry Ruxer, St. Meinrad Fire Department.

Ten year pin was presented to Bill Raetz, Anderson Township Fire Department.

Flyers on decontamination scenarios by Action Wipes were distributed.

Past president Steve Anderson spoke on cancer and how it

relates to firefighters. The best way to prevent this is by keeping yourself, your turn out gear and fire equipment clean.

A memorial service was held for Assistant Chief Ray Vaal, St. Meinrad Volunteer Fire Department on November 24, 2017. I would like to thank Chaplain Pete Taylor for a wonderful memorial service.

I presented pins to the following for their years of service in the IVFA:

- * English Volunteer Fire Department
- Stuart Sturgeon, 25 years
- Chris Lahue, 10 years
- Jacob Mitchell, 10 years
- Paul Reyling, 10 years
- Chad Riddle, 10 years
- Noah Schultz, 10 years
- Abe Schwartz, 10 years
- Enos Schwartz, 10 years
- Joey Schwartz, 10 years
- * Jasper Volunteer Fire Department
- Mike Theile, 25 years
- Matthew Allen, 10 years
- Brad Hochgesang, 10 years
- Kerry Kinder, 10 years
- Zach Lichlyter, 10 years
- Greg Vonderheide, 10 years
- * Shane Wagner, 10 years
- * Ferdinand Volunteer Fire Department
- Craig Lindauer, 10 years

Our next meeting will be held January 18, 2018, hosted by Jefferson Township (Otwell).

- 2018 Upcoming Events:
- * Jasper Fire School (Dubois County)
 - March 17th and March 18th
 - March 24th and March 25th

The IVFA Convention will be held June 20th thru 23rd. We're hoping everyone can join us.

District 18 Chairman
Joe Dekemper

DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Steve Macke - Chairman

Hope everyone had a great holiday.

I was unable to attend the November meeting due to knee replacement. We did not have anyone run for Miss Flame; if any department has a young lady that would like to run contact myself or Pam Gerdowsky.

If you are having any special events let me know so that I can get them on the IVFA calendar.

Convention this year is in Indianapolis at the Crowne Plaza at the airport. The dates are June 20, 21, 22. There will be some training opportunities for hours. If you are interested in attending, register early as space is limited. We are trying to bring some fresh ideas to the convention. Check the web site at ivfa.org for updated information.

Stephen Macke
Chairman District 19
812-212-5647
district19@ivfa.org

MAY
DEADLINE:
APRIL 5, 2018



I.V.F.A. Benefits

www.ivfa.org

The Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association was established many years ago to support the needs of Indiana's volunteer firefighters.

Throughout the years the IVFA has continued to grow in size, and continues to provide members with quality information on a wide range of various issues. Providing timely and useful benefits has also been one of our goals.

Having been "off-line" for almost a year, the IVFA returns "on-line" with the re-introduction and complete overhaul of the www.ivfa.org website. This site has several new features including:

- Department Listing page, which allows departments to post current department information in a directory (i.e. address, contact name, phone, e-mail, website addresses, etc.)
- IVFA Officers, District Chairmen and Public Relations page which provide you the necessary details to contact them (address, phone, e-mail).
- Training Events Calendar that allows you to submit electronically your "open enrollment" training programs and courses to be held, including class description, location, dates, contact person(s), e-mail contacts, etc. This list would be maintained by date. Users can view what training is available in their area and how to contact the related "host" department to schedule people to attend.
- Events Calendar that follows the same structure as the Training Events Calendar. Having a fund-raiser, muster or other "public" event to raise funds? Then post it here so others can see and attend.
- For Sale page that provides space for departments to post "sale" items that other departments may be interested in purchasing (firefighting related only, not personal items), and sorry, but NO trucks, please.
- The Department Spotlight page to provide special recognition to fire departments around the state. The "Spotlight" information would be provided by the department via e-mail, based on the number received, (along with pictures), would run on a monthly or quarterly cycle. Information is included in the site as to how to "nominate" your department.
- Forms page, which contains many of the forms used to submit information for the web-site, as well as the IVFA License Plate and Change of Information forms. Other forms will be targeted to be included soon as well.
- "Links" page to many emergency related websites, both at the state and federal levels.
- Finally, a Benefits Information page that describes the benefits you receive as an IVFA member.

While this provides a good starting point, there are many other ideas being considered for the site - such as, being able to post some of the articles found in the newspaper version, along with, other special recognition pages for award winners, an advertiser/sponsor page that will provide links to many of the same emergency service vendors. Also a guest book, an Indiana map which pinpoints the locations of the departments who have submitted information, and special pages for Fire Schools and the IVFA convention.

But . . . we know that you may have ideas as well as to what you want to see on the site. We want your ideas, they can be e-mailed to the IVFA webmasters at webmaster@ivfa.org. Also, please note that NO information on any department will be posted without their consent, via use of one of the electronic forms or via e-mail.

The IVFA Website - another benefit to the IVFA and its members.
www.ivfa.org

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IVFA QUARTERLY MEETING REPORT

From The Secretary

Diane Harrison



INDIANA VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
QUARTERLY MEETING
CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
INDIANAPOLIS, IN
November 4 & 5, 2017

Meeting called to order by President Holcomb at 2:01 p.m.

President Holcomb called on Vice President Israel to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Invocation was given by Chaplain Elick.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Harrison.

President Holcomb introduced our guests, Bev Harker, John Smith, Jeremy Reef, Vice Chairman 16 Lance Perkins, Vice Chairman Charlie Heisman District 14, Vice Chairman 8A Rex Maynard, Vice Chairman Dennis Spears who was named Indiana Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year.

President Holcomb called for the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. Jeremy Reef made motion to accept minutes as printed. Past President Buz Koehler made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

President Holcomb called for the Treasurer's report. Treasurer Kluender - Last meeting you requested a detailed report of the spending that was put on our credit cards, at this time we are passing that report out and he reviewed it with us. Jeremy Reef made motion to accept treasurer's report. Past President Buz Koehler made that second. Motion passed by voice vote. Please remember to sign your vouchers when turning them in.

Armed Forces Benefit: T C Cook, David Reece, Mike, LODD \$5,000.00 non line of duty \$2,000.00. We do not give your information to anyone and there will be no phone calls and emails. We offer scholarships to spouse or child \$10,000.00 a year 4 years in a row for \$40,000.00, for LODD only. Emergency death benefit, once a member has been with us for 2 years all it takes is a call from Chief, Captain or beneficiary about the death and we will pay out the first payment within the first 48 hours. Thanked us for the time and effort we put into making our communities better.

Cancer Summit: Larry Curl - It was a 2 day jammed pack summit. 32 different presentations, including research, development, and equipment care cleaning and protecting, transporting our equipment, we addressed the way we decon and what we do with our turn out gear, how we remove our

gloves. How do you address the issue when one of your firefighters comes to you with the news that they have been diagnosed with cancer? Reassure the firefighter it's a team effort.

Buz Koehler - There were salesman that sell wipes. We have to get our members to understand how important it is to decontaminate ourselves after each run. They had a video that showed how far contamination traveled from a firefighter after a fire run, and everything that he did with the rest of his day. He contaminated his family and friends by the end of the day. Decon, decon, decon, make sure you do not carry this stuff home.

NVFC: Jean Smith, Jack Kerney - 2 pairs of shoes at station, wear the uncontaminated pair home, pump operators being exposed to exhaust fumes, air condition and heat are these turned off at scene or are we pulling contaminates into the cab, showering after each run as soon as possible, don't wear your hood around your neck. It can also affect your reproduction; testicular cancer is growing at an alarming rate. Some signs that something is going wrong in your body are changing sleep habits, if this happens go visit your primary physician. Second trucks should be specked with vinyl seats and rubber mats so can make decontamination easier.

Past President Steve Anderson - Beginning talks of when you're ordering gear you order 2 outer shells. After fire you would bag your dirty outer shell in a bag and put on your second shell. Gear is usually stored in apparatus bay and the exhausts from trucks are contaminating our gear that way. Any change of day to day normal health could be a sign. Bryan McQueen from New York fire has cancer and has been doing videos. You can see them at Fasnyc.com.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Central Office: Jack Kerney - District meetings on website. Reports emailed out, 10 and 25 year pin, department paid, department not paid, prepared addresses for California Casualty, mailed 36 new dues packages. License as of September 3, 441. Bad addresses 87 from post office; corrected 61 of those. We corrected 214 bad addresses with the corrections that I have received from you. We will be on vacation and unavailable November 15-22.

Newspaper: Buz Koehler - 25 district chairmen, I sent letters to you concerning bad addresses and I only got 8 replies. If bad address showed up on Harmony list they were put on hold so these people will not be getting a paper. 40 page issue this time; 13,555 papers and 17 ads in this issue. Open for suggestions on the newspaper; if you have any let me or one of the committee members know.

Executive Board: President Holcomb - we met last night; everything that was discussed you will be hearing about today.

Awards: Chairman David Israel - need letters due February 1, 2018. Global Award e-mail winner to me, please check names and spellings, we do ask for only 1 name per district; if you have an exception please let me know.

Angel Award: Diane Harrison - Write those letters; every district has someone that could be nominated.

Jr. Firefighter: Jack Kerney - We are working on it.

Mr. IVFA: Richard Glant - send letters.

Bridgeport: Richard Glant - It's on line now, deadline is March 1, 2018.

Budget Treasurer Kluender - Passed out paper of 2017 versus 2018 and reviewed it with us.

By-laws and SOG's: Chairman Larry Bartlow - By-law change Article 9 Section 3: How it reads now - an annual audit shall be performed and presented at the annual meeting of the Association. Change - A Certified Public Accountant shall engage by the Board to provide accurate and appropriate financial statements to the Association at the annual meeting.

Passed by roll call vote.

Next change to SOG's - Reads audit change to report.

Motion passed by voice report.

We have had much discussion and questions; there is no direction or guidelines in our SOG's for the conduction of a district election, nothing says how to do it, what should be done and what shouldn't be done so By-law committee has put together a proposal; it would go in Section 9 of the SOG's under district chairman. The proposal: add 7. District election requirements:

A) District officers shall meet guidelines of Article IV Section 13 of the By-laws;

B) All active members of Association shall vote;

C) Nominations can be made from the floor;

D) All votes other than those running unopposed, shall be by paper ballot;

E) A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for the election to any office.

President Holcomb: all in favor of adding item 7 to section 9 signifying by yea, all opposed same sign. Motion passed by voice vote. Take to your district meetings and bring back for next quarterly meeting.

Clothing Claims: Chairman Lloyd Wright - 2 claims both approved.

Convention: Chairman Dave Israel - 2017 Convention has wrapped up and we made \$7,100.00 that should run our District Miss Flame way past my time.

2018: Chairman Larry Curl - We need to market our convention, we have a limited number of banquet tickets (325) so early reservation is very important.

2019: Chairman Bob Uryga - Went over contract, Attorneys looked at it and there are a couple of changes we're going to make.

Anyone wanting to bid on 2020 convention, I need your bids in writing by February meeting.

EMS: Chairman Jerry Liston - In 2016 90 people died every day from opiate overdoses across the US, every 25 minutes a baby is born with addiction issues, more people died from overdoses last year than died in the Vietnam War, 1 in 16 patients will become addicted when prescribed a opiate. November 17 Zionsville town hall at 10:00 a.m. By July 1, 2018 training for suicide prevention, I've heard it's going to be online training.

Insurance: Chairman Luke Kluender - Pass.

Legislative Committee: Chairman Buz Koehler - Pass.

Lobbyist Larry Curl - We've talked to 4 legislatures about different aspects were looking for. Presumptive cancer is still very high priority item that we're looking at. We have a big job ahead of us making our members aware. Talked about way we are currently funded or lack of. We are trying for lottery money to help us with our Presumptive cancer.

Logo Committee: Chairman Joe De Kemper - Granted 1 department logo use.

Membership and Marketing: Chairman Leighanne Ellis - At our meeting today discussed newspaper; too many pictures not enough articles, trying to get a guest writer to write an article, daytime coverage for departments use utility workers to volunteer, benefit sheets back in dues packets, clothing inventory, the older inventory use as raffle items at district meetings. I have a marketing associate will be talking to her to see about getting discount tickets, etc.

Public Education and Relations: Chairman Steve Nolan - Purchase items for trailer; we are working on getting prices, discussed getting a new wrap for trailer, and still working on LODD names to be on the wrap, order items for FDIC and 1 door prize next year.

Past President Jack Zeeks - Tom Hanify is okay with the idea of putting on all LODD names.

Social Media: Chairman Josh Reiser - November 7,600 sessions, face book 5,803 likes.

LODD: Chairman Dave Elick - Pass.

Special projects: Chairman Buz Koehler - target date February 1 - changes in redistricting, recommendation of committee not to change numbers.

Training Committee: Chairman Steve Anderson - PRSW training - it was a success, we had to cancel 1 class. We should be done with PR training for this year.

Benefit Summit: Steve Anderson - 16 states attended. Grant for New York was for \$350,000.00 to study firefighter cancer in the volunteer service in New York. Keep in mind half of their volunteer departments are basically career guys who are spending their days off to volunteer. Provident representative was there and spoke about mental health; Nebraska had a \$250.00 tax break that was just passed. Nebraska has a last wish form to fill out, put in a sealed envelope and is kept in their file; you can find this on their website. Maryland does an annual cancer walk at their State House and they use this as their fundraiser. Do you have a plan for the what if's, treasurer dies, chief dies, etc. We have offered to host the summit in Indiana, we should find out towards end of year.

Younger Membership Committee: Chairman Jerry Sprague - Next meeting training session on face book. Jr. Firefighter program appointed a 5 member subcommittee. All the forms we have online we would like to see them where we can fill them out electronically and send them in online.

Johnson & Williams: Lona - Workman's comp. does not cover you until you are enroute to the station or scene, it does not cover you while you are inside your house. Provident will cover this.

Board of Firefighter's Standards and Education: John Smith - Next meeting November 27, 6:00 p.m. at North Monroe Fire Territory.

Fire Alliance - Next meeting will be November 16 at 10:00 a.m. at the Union Hall.

Fire Academy Work Group - Pass.

Heroes Competition: Chairman Mike DZuba - They should have insurance next year for under \$1,000.00 and it will be the first weekend in May.

In Time: Mike DZuba - Discussed the weather.

License plates: Jack Kerney -

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BLISS MCKNIGHT ADVERTISEMENT

LOOK FOR THE AD IN THE FEBRUARY PAPER

IVFA AUXILIARY OFFICERS - 2016 - 2017

Table listing IVFA Auxiliary Officers for 2016-2017, including President Carol Curl, Vice President Heather Holcomb, Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews, Recording Secretary Tammy Smith, Treasurer Martha Biehl, Chaplain Beth Caudill, SGT.-AT-ARMS Suzie Stout Lewis, and Immediate Past President Barbara Kerney.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016 - 2017

Table listing the Board of Directors for 2016-2017, organized by district from #1 & #2 to #21, including names like Phyllis Vargo, Diane Stapleton, Kay Shumaker, E.J. Smith, Joyce Nevil, Sharon Wright, Danielle Matthews, Beverly Taylor, Lou Bartlow, Connie Bruner, Leslie Spears, Janet Woodfill, Jerri Johnson, Heather Holcomb, Marie Emery, Dawn Hillenburg-Harris, Kathy Smith, Pam Gerdowsky, Carolyn Watson, and others.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Table listing Past Presidents from 2011-2013 to 1986-1988, including Diana Gray, Beth Caudill, Martha Thomas, Joann Hays, Barbara Kerney, Mary Mackin, Faye Sallee, Lou Bartlow, Phyllis Vargo, Maxine Davies, Nancy Neal, Toni Sorg, Loretta Nulliner, Nickie Sunday, Barbara Parker, and Barbara Surber.

PAST PRESIDENTS

Table listing Past Presidents from 1978-1980 to 2013-2016, including Lucy Stoffer, Vica McGill, Mary Boyd, Joan (Shanabarger) Keller, Carolyn McCarty, Rosella Bousman, Mary Stafford, and Barbara Kerney.

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

IVFAA Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews



Quarterly Meeting-Sunday 11-5-17 Crowne Plaza Hotel, Indianapolis

Meeting called to order at 8:35 a.m. by President Carol Curl. Opening prayer given by Chaplain Beth Caudill. The group was led in Pledge to the Flag by Sergeant-at-Arms Suzie Lewis. Recording Secretary Tammy Smith took roll call for the meeting and it was answered by 23 officers, 7 IVFAA members and 0 guests. Treasurer's report was given by Martha Biehl. Account proof was copied for members and was given to them per Suzie Lewis as they

could follow along with the report as given. No additions or corrections made, stand approved as read and subject to audit.

Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews was asked to read the minutes from last meeting. Lou Bartlow made a motion we suspend the reading of the minutes and approve them as they were presented to all via email and/or mail, Christina Reef seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried and minutes were approved as they were presented.

President Carol Curl apologized to the group for the meeting starting late. Thanked the committees for all the work and the productivity of the meetings that were held on Saturday 11-4-17. Informed the group that it was brought to her attention that the letters to the individual members did not get mailed out this year and the individual membership is down as a result of this oversight. Pam Gerdowsky made a motion to have the letters mailed out and allow individuals to have until Dec 31, 2017 to have their dues paid without losing their continuous membership status in the organization. Bev Taylor seconded the motion, motion carried. Tammy Smith will be sending out the letters to individuals.

Suzie Lewis informed the group that she has found a place to make the pins that we need for the past presidents and Gold cards, however, we have to have a new mold made and have to order 25 at first order. Barb Kerney made a motion that we have Suzie to allow this place to make a mold and place an order for the pins

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

and Gold cards as we are behind on those that have earned them. EJ Smith seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried and Suzie Lewis will take care of this business for the organization.

President of IVFA Paul Holcomb came and talked to the group, informed us that the 2018 quarterly business meetings of IVFA/IVFAA will be held here at same hotel location, Crowne Plaza and passed out to the group a paper for room reservation forms for all to select arrival dates of each meeting for next year. February meeting will be 2nd, 3rd, 4th 2018, May will be 4th, 5th, 6th 2018, August will be 3rd, 4th, 5th 2018, and November will be 2nd, 3rd, 4th 2018. Forms can be filled out and given to Heather Holcomb at the conclusion of our meeting. Carol did tell Paul that the IVFAA has discussed and will be willing to start our meeting at convention 30 minutes early to allow and help with voting of all members in the men's and women's meetings. Paul voiced his understanding and purpose for the issue to be worked out before voting next year. Carol told him we would continue to work on a solution. Buz Koehler addressed the group and discussed the number of bad addresses for our group. He said that for the IVFA and IVFAA combined we have nearly 512 with bad addresses and encouraging all to have correct addresses for papers to be delivered to them. Buz will get a list of IVFAA bad addresses to Tammy Smith for her to review and correct any that

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2016 / 2017

Table listing various committees and their chairs, including Audit Committee, Chinese Auction Committee, Miss Flame Committee, Installation Committee, President's Advisory, Bylaws / SOG Committee, Jewelry Committee, Mary Mackin Scholarship Committee, Budget & Finance Committee, Miriam Schaeckel Award, Lois Boaz Award, Historians, Membership Committee, Nominating Committee, and others.

Corresponding secretary . . . - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

may be wrong. Extra newspapers were brought over for those who wish to take back to their districts can do so. Buz will meet with the new district chairmen after the meeting to get their photos.

Tammy Williams from American Income Life Insurance came and spoke with the group about the benefits that members get when joining. She informed us that the company does have a food bank that will be collecting food to give out this holiday season.

Martha Thomas personally thanked the group for all the cards and well wishes when she was sick.

Chaplain's report from Beth Caudill, reported 3 deaths since last quarterly meeting of Carolyn McCarty - past president, Lois Morgan Zukunft from District 11, Ella Mae Bechtel from District 4. Beth explained to the members of the purpose of her assistant chaplains and about contacting them if a death is in your district and you are not able to get ahold of Beth herself, call the assistant for that area. A list of assistant chaplains is on the committee assignment list that was given. Beth also went over the district funeral report that each district should have and when one passes away in your district fill it out and mail it to the Chaplain.

President Carol Curl now addressing and asking each committee for a report.

Auditing - Barb Kerney reports all okay.

Financial Study - Verbal review of the budget that Martha handed out to them. Christina Reef explained to the group the need for our organization to donate \$100 to another Non-for-Profit organization along with the Mary Mackin Fund to meet our obligation of our 501C3. An amendment was made in the budget

for this to comply with the tax changes that was made in July of this year. Committee will meet again in February.

Miss Flame - Barb Kerney informed that all is on track and that the major change is when paying Miss Flame dues to make the checks out to IVFAA with Miss Flame written in the memo line of the check.

VP Project - Heather Holcomb reports that she has not been able to get the axe donated; did get a year's worth of radio services donated. Heather asked what she has to do when she is in need of money to buy what she needs for the raffle and how the group feels best way to take care of this. Suggested for her to get a quote for the cost of the axe and give to the treasurer to purchase. Heather informed everyone Lori Baxter will be handling the Chinese auction at convention.

By Laws - Tammy Smith reports there will be a meeting on Saturday, Feb. 3rd at 12 noon.

Jewelry - Suzie Lewis informed the group that she still has old jewelry that is on clearance sale. Has a 50 year card and pin for Viola Bruns. Barb Kerney made a motion that Suzie get ahold of those districts that hosted the convention of those years of the old jewelry that she has and see if they are interested in any of it and that we should add a piece to our history as well. Carolyn Watson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Nominating - Carolyn Zeeks reports there is nothing to report at this time.

Historian - Phyllis Vargo told the group they are always interested in anything old that anyone has pertaining to the organization. Carol has the CD from last year's convention that was given to her by

the IVFA to put with the history.

President's Advisory - Nothing to report.

Lois Boaz Award - Carol Curl encouraged the group to look around and think of those women that are deserving of it.

Parliamentarian - Lou Bartlow reports all is going as it should.

Membership - Leona Uryga reports there will be a meeting Saturday, Feb. 3rd at 2:30 p.m. District 10 new chairman Danielle Matthews will be added to this committee.

Mary Mackin - EJ Smith reports there will be a meeting at 2 p.m. on Feb. 3rd.

Miriam Schaekel Award - Sharon Wright told the group to get the letters written and be sure that they are signed and send a copy to each member on the committee.

Carol Curl informed the group she is going to start a Committee Study Group that is made up of past presidents and longtime members to review and advise if new changes need to be made to them. If additions of responsibilities need to be added, have it added along with description of the committees as well. Chairman will be Martha Thomas and will consist of Phyllis Vargo, Barb Kerney and Lou Bartlow.

Old Business:

Tammy Smith is still looking for a firesafe file cabinet to fit in the budget. Tammy did say that she is still searching for one.

New Business:

Recording Secretary's computer has quit, screen went black as she was gathering rosters for this meeting and it cannot be revived. Tammy had her fire department computer man look at it; he told her the computer is not working as the video card is out of it. Tammy was told by her computer man that the

information in the computer can be retrieved and converted to a new computer and he is willing to do that for her so none of our records will be missing. Tammy also described to the group of the printer going out as well, new ink was bought and it will not print or even make copies. Tammy Smith did address the group with an idea of in the near future of doing a thumb drive switch with the district chairmen instead of having to print off rosters each quarter. This is happening between the President and I and it is working and it does save paper; suggested even emailing the rosters to the chairmen. Carol suggested to the group of the need to get a new computer for recording secretary in order for her to continue to do her duties for the organization. Carol also told us that she did discuss with the insurance company representative and we do have coverage for the computers that we have. Carol reminded all line officers that the IVFAA computers are to be used for IVFAA business and are not the individual's personal computer and is to be used accordingly. Discussion was held of the idea of having each officer that is in possession of IVFAA equipment sign a liability waiver for the contents in their possession. Barb Kerney made a motion to get a laptop with a printer for recording secretary to be purchased with a budget of \$800.00 for what is needed. All in favor, motion carried. More discussion of the purchasing of the laptop went on and then Diane Stapleton made a motion that an external memory box be purchased to go along with the new laptop and printer, Joyce Nevil seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried to add memory box with it. Tammy went on to explain that with the computer and printer failure is why the district chairmen do not have their

membership rosters this time and if and when she is able to get a computer up and running she can email them out to them. Carol Curl then addressed the group that anyone having issues with the IVFAA emails to please see Heather Holcomb and allow her to assist you in getting that fixed for you.

A 10 minute break was taken by the group.

Beth Caudill informed the group that she had received a phone call from a family of a life-time member that had passed away from Charleston area and they want the IVFAA to pay tribute to her when they have her memorial in May 2018. Beth has researched and cannot find where this individual was a member and no dues have been paid for her since 2012-2013. Martha Biehl also received a phone call from the family as well about the same situation and that family wanted to pay and update her dues and family told them that the individual was a Gold card member. Lou Bartlow did inform the group that there were records that have been lost at one time and that if family is requesting a memorial service from us to represent her then one needs to be done. Barb Kerney acknowledged this as well of an agreement that was made many years ago when records were lost. Beth Caudill will make contact with the family and will pay tribute for her at the memorial.

Martha Biehl made a motion to suspend the rules for the expressed purpose of passing the two SOG's regarding the Mary Mackin and Miss Flame accounts, Barb Kerney seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried. Barb Kerney made a motion to resume meeting

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NOWALK SUPPLY ADVERTISEMENT

LOOK FOR THE AD IN THE FEBRUARY PAPER

IVFA QUARTERLY MEETING REPORT

Pass.

NVFC: Jack Kerney and Jean Smith will email everyone their reports.

Red Cross: Don Cushman – Pass. Meeting reconvened Sunday at 8:31 a.m.

Chaplain Elick gave the minute message. A moment of silence was held for the upcoming Veteran's Day.

American Life and Income: Tammy Williams – Letters have been sent out earlier this year and a second letter was sent out to those who didn't reply. You do not have to meet with one of our representatives to have the coverage for being an IVFA member. We are still doing food baskets so if you know of any of your members that might need help please let me know.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President Paul Holcomb – I have attended several district and department meetings and State memorial service.

Vice President David Israel – I attended Benefit summit, 1 memorial, meeting at Statehouse, 4 district meetings, went to Centerville where Dennis received his award.

Chaplain Dave Elick – Attended Memorial Service at Indianapolis, also attended memorial service at IREC. Deceased list has been sent out; look over, a lot of names say "per roster" this means office got notified at dues time, be sure you're filling out your funeral vouchers.

Secretary Diane Harrison – Thanked everyone for the last 16 or 17 years, was proud to serve the Association.

Secretary-elect Leighanne Ellis – Pass.

Treasurer Luke Kluender – CD maturing, worked on budget,

talked to some accountants.

Assistant Treasurer Bev Harker – Pass.

Sergeant at Arms Brent Bush – Reported on Bill Bush, found a spot of cancer on his left lung and will be doing surgery on the 13th. John Davies is doing better; Maxine is in a nursing home.

Chairman of the Board: Steve Anderson – PRSW training taken care of, attended Benefit summit.

District 11B Chairman John Morphy resigned September 2.

PRNW Leighanne Ellis – Pass.

PRNW Elect Jeremy Reef – Attended District and Department meetings, passed out 10 and 25 year pins.

PRNE Jean Smith – Attended all meetings except 1, fundraisers and fire muster.

PRWC Larry Bartlow – Attended 2 district and 1 department meetings.

PREC Don Cushman – Attended district meeting, moving trailer around a lot.

PRSW Steve Nolan – Attended district meetings, fundraisers, station dedication at Petersburg, 50th anniversary celebration at Lewis Twp., PRSW training and a fire prevention.

PRSE Ed Scheele – Absent.

PAST PRESIDENT'S

REPORTS

Past President Richard Glant – Pass.

Past President Jack Zeeks – Pass.

Past President Buz Koehler – Attended a few district meetings, the cancer symposium and a couple of memorials.

Past President Steve Anderson – Pass.

Past President Jack Kerney –

Attended last quarterly meeting, 3 district meetings, 2 open houses, 1 firehouse dedication and a department visit, and NVFC meeting.

Past President Dave Israel – Josh and I got all the updates on the website.

DISTRICT CHAIRMEN

REPORTS

District 1 Chairman Marshall Neese – Absent.

District 2 Chairman Paul Watland – Passed out 2-50 year resolutions and 10 and 25 year pins.

District 3 Chairman Bob Uryga – Attended 1 funeral.

District 4 Chairman Elton Schafer – Passed out Global Award, 1 25 year pin, 1 10 year pin and a 50 year pin, attended fundraisers, 65 year celebration for a department, 1 memorial.

District 5 Chairman John Grolich – Attended appreciation dinner, fundraisers, station dedication clock, passed out 10 and 25 year pins.

District 6 Chairman Jerry Sprague – Passed out 50 year Gold card, several 25 and 10 year pins.

District 7 Chairman Sam Bisel – Passed out 1 50 year gold card, attended 2 funerals, Randall is in need of a new wheel chair. President Paul Holcomb passed around the nametag money jug for donations. \$258.74 was collected for Randall.

District 8A Chairman Jerry Liston – Attended 8 department meetings, 10 fundraisers, 2 district meetings, 2 Chiefs meetings, 1 memorial and 1 opiate summit.

District 8B Chairman Lloyd Wright – Passed out 10 and 25 year pins, station clock, attended fundraisers.

District 9A Chairman Pascal Moon – Passed out 50 year

resolution, 10 and 25 year pins attended 4 fundraisers and a 9-11 memorial service.

District 9B Chairman Randy Denton – Attended a tanker dedication and a breakfast, a lot of county meetings and fundraisers.

District 10 Chairman John Ray – Passed out Global Award and 10 and 25 year pins, attended 2 memorials, 6 county meetings, fundraisers, department meetings.

District 11A Chairman Pete Taylor – Visited 14 departments, passed out Global Award and 10 and 25 year pins.

District 11B – PRWC Larry Bartlow – Pass.

District 12 Chairman Anthony McClure – Attended 6 department meetings, fundraisers.

District 13A Chairman Mike DZuba – Attended fundraisers, 1 district meeting and a station visit.

District 13B Chairman Jeff Beihl – Attended department meetings, passed out Bible and grave marker.

District 14 Chairman Rick Cannon – Next meeting the 16th

District 15 Chairman Ross Emery – Attended a few fundraisers and Chief's meetings.

District 16 Chairman Josh Reisert – Passed out pins and attended funeral.

District 17A Chairman Sam Emery – Passed out 50 year resolution, Global Award, passed out 10 and 25 year pins, attended a station dedication. January 20th is the Vincennes Twp. sausage supper at Highland Woods Community Center at 5:30 p.m.

District 17B Chairman Bobby Brown – Attended 3 county meetings, 2 fundraisers, PRSW training and fire prevention.

District 18 Chairman Joe De

Kemper – Attended 1 district meeting, 6 department meetings, station dedication at Petersburg, passed out pins.

District 19 Chairman Steve Macke – Passed out 10 and 25 year pins and Global Award.

District 21 Chairman Ed Watson – Attended department meetings, 2 truck dedications, passed out pins.

NEW BUSINESS

At the IERC – Daniel Huff was named the EMT Primary Instructor of the Year, unfortunately in his bio it was read that he was only a career firefighter but he wrote the Association to pass on the fact that he is also a volunteer. He is the second assistant chief at the Sheffield Fire Department.

President Paul Holcomb – I and Vice President Israel received a letter to our homes with no return address, postmarked out of Indianapolis. This letter read – Sir, as many issues that we are having with the current office why have we not put this out for bid??? As stated in our own May 2014 paper. They also attached the clip out of the May paper and highlighted the section. Executive committee met Friday night and pulled in the council of Larry Bartlow to go over by-laws and SOG's. As it reads currently bylaws article 1 section 1 – Registered Office. The Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Inc. (hereinafter, the "Association") shall have and continuously maintain a registered office in the State of Indiana with a registered agent whose business office is identical with such registered office. The address of the registered office may be changed from time to time by the Board of Directors. We have looked

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PROVIDENT ADVERTISEMENT

LOOK FOR THE AD
IN THE
FEBRUARY PAPER

Quarterly report . . .

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

through all the by-laws and pulled council and there is nothing in our SOG's and by-laws that states the office has to be changed or bid. What it does as a common and past practice is we have entered into a contract with the people who run the office; this is the office contract along with the past bids. The current contract or last signed contract of record right now was signed and dated to run through August 2011, from that point the contract was extended after a bid to run 2011 - 2014, from that point the contract was bid again and extended to run 2015 - 2017. Prior to expiration of the contract as was pointed out in this letter the contract was extended and it can be overturned, changed or whatever by this body. With my executive committee and council I extended the contract for up to another year, because this Association can't function without a Central Office. That is what has been done to this point; the question of the matter is do we extend the contract another full 3 years at this point and time or does the Board of Directors wish for this to go back to a bid? Keeping in mind that this contract does not have to be bid nor any other contract this Association enters into. We do not bid the paper, our clearing house that does the mailing, our lobbyist contract.

District 15 Chairman Ross Emery - If we bid the office we need to bid all contracts.

President Holcomb stated that Jack Kerney or the Association has 6 months notice if either side wants out of the contract.

Past President Buz Koehler - If we are not legally required to bid any of those contracts then it is a dead issue.

President Holcomb would like a new contract dated to reflect the new running dates, for all new and renewed contracts.

President Holcomb said executive board recommends we extend office contract to run 2017 - 2020, we do want a new contract drawn. If Jack wants an increase he

needs to give us that and it will go to board action today. We need a motion for this.

Chaplain Dave Elick so moved, District 6 Chairman Jerry Sprague made the second. Motion passed by voice vote, it will go to board action.

President Holcomb: all Association contracts, we need SOG's and by-laws for guidance. Chairman Larry Bartlow will work on this.

2018 budget - District 15 Chairman Ross Emery would like to see items broken down; just a suggestion.

Chaplain Dave Elick made motion to move 2018 budget to board action. District 3 Chairman Bob Uryga made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

Washington DC trip will be April 18-20, 2018; at this time I will take cards from those who would like to attend.

Supporting Heroes Gala is March 3, 2018; at this time I will take cards from those who would like to attend. You can bring a guest; on back of your card write first and last name of your guest.

Treasurer Luke Kluender - Investments that we have at Old National Bank. We have a CD that is maturing this month. I talked to the bank, the rates are not favorable to reinvest that same CD, I think was about \$27,000.00 back into another 24 month regular CD term we would only be getting a half of a percent interest, so the banker made a recommendation. He said if we took that \$37,000.00 and added it to the money we had in the LLOP which is about \$50,000.00 and then maybe a little bit out of checking if we reached the principle amount of \$100,000.00 that qualifies for their Jumbo CD for 2 years, we would get 1.65%.

Past president Buz Koehler made motion that the Treasurer be authorized to reinvest that as he described. District 8A chairman made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

President Holcomb - Officer

record review - under SOG's Article 1, President #2 he shall chair a committee to audit the activities of all Association officers including District secretaries at least every two (2) years. Next quarterly meeting, all district chairmen will need to submit their district's minutes and financial records and bank statements for the past 2 years to be audited by my committee.

Supporting Heroes Gala - Steve Anderson 1, everyone else is 2, Josh Reisert, Randy Denton, Jerry Sprague, Sam Bisel, John Grolich, Steve Macke, Jack Kerney, Dave Elick, Ross Emery, Rick Cannon, Jerry Liston, Ed Watson, Mike DZuba, Jeff Beihl, Buz Koehler, John Ray, Anthony McClure, Jeremy Reef, Larry Curl, Lance Perkins.

Washington DC trip - Bob Uryga, Rick Cannon, Anthony McClure, Buz Koehler, Jerry Liston, Luke Kluender, John Grolich, Ed Watson, Joe De Kemper, Larry Curl.

Jack Kerney made motion to purchase a parade flag, pole, top, stand and case not to exceed \$2,000.00. Chaplain Dave Elick made the second. Motion passed by voice vote. Moved to board action.

Sergeant at Arms Brent Bush made motion to purchase 2 laptops not to exceed \$3,000.00. Jeremy Reef made the second. Motion passed by voice vote. 1 nay. Moved to board action.

\$100.00 gas card sponsored by the Johnson & Williams Group and California Casualty winner is Richard Schmitt - Haysville, District 18. Cleaning kit sponsored by Station Supply winner is Dustin Thibidean - Cedar Lake District 2.

2018 meetings will be at Crowne Plaza \$104.00 a night.

- February 2, 3, 4
- May 4, 5, 6
- August 3, 4, 5
- November 2, 3, 4

Chaplain Dave Elick made motion to adjourn. Past president Buz Koehler made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Harrison - IVFA Secretary

Corresponding secretary . . .

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seconded by Leona Uryga, all in favor, motion carried and meeting resumed.

Carol asked if anyone had anything else for the good of the order. All are invited to attend the convention meeting this afternoon upstairs. Today is Carolyn Watson's birthday and tomorrow is Barb Kerney's birthday.

Events to share: On November 18th @ 7p.m. in Terre Haute District 11A having a Miss Flame dance, all are welcome.

November 14th @ 7p.m. in Sunman will be honoring Viola Bruns for 50+ years of service, all are welcome.

Annual sausage supper January 20, 2018 at Vincennes.

Diane Stapleton made a motion that the \$100.00 donation go to the Hoosier Burn Camp. Sharon Wright seconded the motion. 3 nays and the rest are in favor of the \$100.00 to the Hoosier Burn Camp.

Sam Bisel is collecting money along with Burn VFD to raise money to get Randall Conger a new w/c for any of those who want to donate.

Prayers needed for Martha Biehl's mother-in-law as she is on Hospice and not doing well. Maxine Davies was in the hospital with a stroke, prayers needed. Bill Bush is having surgery on November 13th, prayers please. Carol Curl announces she is cancer free.

Carolyn Watson made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Leona Uryga, meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. by Carol Curl. Closing prayer given by Beth Caudill. Next quarterly meeting will be February 3rd 2018 at Crowne Plaza Hotel here in Indianapolis.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Matthews
Corresponding Secretary

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT CHAIRMEN REPORTS

DISTRICT 1 & 2 REPORT



Phyllis Vargo - Chairman

Minutes of the March 2, 2017 Meeting of the I.V.F.A.A.

The meeting was called to order by Phyllis Vargo, District 1 & 2 Chairman at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge was recited.
Food was served.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Marge Baumgardner with 14 members and 4 guests in attendance representing 6 departments and 2 individuals.

Phyllis introduced our guests Paul Watland, District #2 Chairman of the I.V.F.A. and Marshall Neese, District #1 Chairman of the I.V.F.A.

Minutes were read by Marge Baumgardner, passed as read with no corrections.

Correspondence - none.

Treasurer's report: Phyllis gave treasurer's report of \$731.61 in checking. Report stands as read for audit.

Old Business - Phyllis has copies of the I.V.F.A. newspaper if there are ladies who has got one.

Rachel Suggs will get ahold of Kelli from Lowell Auxiliary about information about McDonald fundraiser.

New Business - Phyllis talked about the state raffle. Asked the group what was their wishes to do for the state raffle. Motion was made by Rachel Suggs, 2nd by Martha Thomas to do the Mystery Box with gift cards. Motion passed. Marge will send out a notice to all departments and will put the box together for raffle.

Dues are due in July. Your auxiliary will be delinquent if not paid by September. Dues are \$10.00 per person per year. District dues are \$5 per person.

Phyllis asked Paul Watland if

he had anything for the meeting. He thanked everyone for all the well wishes from everyone! It meant a lot to him. Paul informed the group that the men's meeting will be on March 15th at Lincoln Township.

Anything else for the good of the order: Phyllis is looking for a department to host May meeting. She will call Lake Station to see if they are willing.

Department announcements were given.

Motion to adjourn by Rachel Suggs, seconded by Therese Bustamante. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted:
Marge Baumgardner
I.V.F.A.A. Sec., District 1 & 2

Minutes of the May 4, 2017 Meeting of the I.V.F.A.A.

The meeting was called to order by Phyllis Vargo, District 1 & 2 Chairman at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge was recited.

Prayer was given by Debbie Smit of Griffith Fire Department Auxiliary.

Food was served.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Marge Baumgardner with 14 members and 1 guest in attendance representing 5 departments and 1 individual.

Phyllis introduced our guests Paul Watland, District #2 Chairman of the I.V.F.A. and Marshall Neese, District #1 Chairman of the I.V.F.A.

Minutes were read by Marge Baumgardner, passed as read with no corrections.

Correspondence - none.

Treasurer's report: Phyllis gave treasurer's report which is the same as last meeting of \$731.61 in checking. Report stands as read for audit.

Old Business - Phyllis talked about convention. Reservations by May 15th, \$65 per person.

Burn Camp - Visitor Day is May 31st. If you want to participate please be at Crown Point Fire Department by 7:00 A.M.

Paul Watland - Talked about

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FIREFIGHTERS

CREDIT

UNION

LOOK FOR THE AD

IN THE

FEBRUARY PAPER

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

Districts 1 & 2

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

the men's district meeting will be at Lake Station on May 17th @ 7 P.M. Paul also talked about Mitch Parrish, who has passed away. He will be missed by both organizations.

Marshall Neese, District #1 I.V.F.A.A. had nothing.

Rachel Suggs will get ahold of Kelli from Lowell Auxiliary about information about McDonald fundraiser for the District.

New Business – Phyllis talked about the dues. They are \$10 for each member and are due in July. Also district dues are \$5.00 for each member. If paid after September they will be late.

Please send them to Phyllis first.

Phyllis asked the group what they would like to see some type of program at our district meeting.

Anything else for the good of the order: Nothing.

Department announcements were given.

Next meetings: Sept 7th – LOFS

Nov. 2 – Lake Station
50/50 winner of \$33 is Nadine Jabkowski.

Please get your gift cards to Marge by June 1st for the state raffle basket.

Motion to adjourn by Rachel Suggs, seconded by Becky O'Boyle. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Marge Baumgardner
I.V.F.A.A. Sec., District 1 & 2

Minutes of the September 7, 2017 Meeting of the I.V.F.A.A.

The meeting was called to order by Phyllis Vargo, District 1 & 2 Chairman at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge was recited.

Prayer was given by Cathy Watkuis of Lake of Four Season Auxiliary.

Food was served.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Marge Baumgardner with 11 members and 1 guest in attendance representing 5 departments and 1 individual.

Phyllis introduced our guest Paul Watland, District #2 Chairman of the I.V.F.A.A. who talked about the men's meeting on September 20th at Beverly Shores and November 15th at Lake Township. Also Marshall Neese, District #1 Chairman of the I.V.F.A.A. talked about the ribbon cutting for the new station at Lake Ridge on Oct. 7th at 1 p.m. Address is 2301 West 47th Ave., Gary, IN.

Minutes were read by Marge Baumgardner, passed as read with no corrections.

Correspondence – Phyllis read my email to the group stating that I will be stepping down as district secretary. Phyllis presented me with a thank-you gift!

Treasurer's report: Phyllis gave treasurer's report of \$664.61 in checking. Report stands as read for audit.

Old Business – Phyllis talked

about convention and how expensive it is for Miss Flames to attend convention. Phyllis would like to see our contribution to the Miss Flame to be increased in the future.

Phyllis talked about the state treasurer – Nothing will happen to her, nor will she have to pay back any of the money. She can never run for any office in the state organization. They have set it up with 2 people have to sign every check. There was a new treasurer elected at convention and she is a CPA. Some of the members in attendance believe the state should be spending some of the money the state has! Jackie Rench asked who votes on this at state level, Phyllis explained to the group how this is done.

New Business – We will be looking for district secretary. She asked the group, then she stated that there will be an email sent out.

There are 3 members from District 1 & 2 that have 25 years of service. Marge Baumgardner from Crown Point Fire Dept. Auxiliary, Linda Abraham from Crown Point Fire Dept. Auxiliary and Lori Sabo from Lake Station Fire Department Auxiliary.

Phyllis reminded everyone that your state and district dues are due. Please send them to Phyllis first. So far she has received Griffith, LOFS, and Lake Station.

Phyllis asked the group about silent auction at the November meeting. Rachel Suggs brought up a possible fund-raiser she looked into at the Texas Roadhouse in Dyer either Nov. 6 or 13th. The group decided to go with the fund-raiser rather than the silent auction. Rachel will set this up and get information out to the district. The more people you give the flyer to, the more the district can make off it.

Anything else for the good of the order: Nothing.

Department announcements were given.

Next meeting: Nov. 2 – Lake Station

Motion to adjourn by Martha Thomas, seconded by Rachel Suggs. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted:

Marge Baumgardner
I.V.F.A.A. Sec., District 1 & 2

DISTRICT 3 REPORT



Diane Stapleton - Chairman

District 3 I.V.F.A.A. Auxiliary Meeting of November 15, 2017

Chairman Diane Stapleton opened the meeting at 7:28 at

Coolspring Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. with the pledge to the flag.

A prayer was said by Leona Uryga.

Roll call was answered by 6 members and 2 guests present.

There was no report from the Treasurer or the Chaplain upon their absence.

Diane reported that Dorothy Moffitt from Coolspring had a stroke.

She reported that the treasury has \$652.49 in the checking account.

The Make and Take event made \$80.00 and the meeting bake sale made \$34.00.

Bob Uryga suggested that Diane bring some signs to the next meeting to show the women what it is all about before the next event.

A motion was made by Bob Uryga and seconded by Anne Marie Bunton to pay Laura Peo \$35.00 for the Miss Flame sash.

Chloe Perkins is the District 3 Miss Flame.

Diane passed out the schedule for the next year's meetings.

There was no report on the state meeting. Diane stated that she did not receive them.

The state computer crashed so there are no reports or dues being processed. A new laptop is being purchased.

The next meeting is at Michiana Shores on Jan. 17, 2018.

A motion was made by Chloe Perkins and seconded by Laura Peo to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Reported by Leona Uryga

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



E.J. Smith - Chairman

Hello Everyone,
Our next District 6 meeting will be Tuesday, January 23rd, 7 p.m. at Washington Township Fire Department - Allen County, please try to attend. We are working on our Chinese Auction project for Convention in June.

I would like to congratulate Bailey Sheley as our District 6 Miss Flame. She will be representing Ligonier Fire Department at our State Convention, Crowne Plaza, Indianapolis, June 20-23, 2018. Please remember to get registered and hotel reservations soon.

Keep safe and stay warm, the weather has been very cold.

Please remember to look at our District 6 Facebook page to see what is going on in the district.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 260-413-3040 or e-mail

EJS6District@aol.com.

E.J. Smith
District 6 Chairman

DISTRICT 7 REPORT



Joyce Nevil - Chairman

On November 20, 2017 Andrews VFD met for their meeting.

Meeting called to order by pledge of the flag.

Eleven members present.

Minutes were read and approved.

State IVFAA meeting was discussed.

The changes in the SOGs of Miss Flame and Mary Macklin were discussed.

We have two contests for Miss Flame contest: Maggie Kilsby from Geneva, and Olivia Lockwood from Poe.

We enjoyed our Christmas exchange.

Poe is selling peanut brittle to sell for fundraising.

We adjourned and joined the men for our Miss Flame selection. We had three judges from Andrews, judges said it was a hard decision and the campaigns were very close. The judges said they'd be happy to do it next year. Our Miss Flame is Olivia Lockwood from Poe.

Next meeting is in Berne on January 15, 2018.

District 7 Chairman,
Joyce Nevil

DISTRICT 11-A REPORT



Beverly Taylor - Chairman

Hello again,

Well, winter is here, holidays are over and everyone is back home. Hope you had a wonderful time with lots of family, food and good times.

Remember, safety first when you are using candles, fireplaces and heaters. Don't go away and leave them on.

I have attended Christmas parties at several fire stations as Pete has presented lots of 10 and 25 year pins. We have been very busy.

On November 19, 2017 we had our District 11A meeting at Jasonville Fire Dept. We had a lovely lunch, thanks for hosting! We had 18 people present.

After the meeting we held our Miss Flame contest. Zoey Larsen

will be representing us this year. Congratulations Zoe, I know you will do a great job!

Our next district meeting will be at Posey Twp. V.F.D. in Staunton, IN at 1:00. Hope to see you there on January 21, 2018.

Till next time, stay safe and warm.

District 11A chairman
Beverly Taylor

DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Pam Gerdowsky - Chairman

We had our state meeting at the Crowne Plaza in Indianapolis on Nov. 5, 2017 and enjoyed our time together with friends. The meeting went well and we will be back at the Crowne on February 4.

November 14, 2017 we held our District 19 IVFAA meeting at the Sunman Rural Vol. Fire House. It was a special celebration honoring Viola Bruns for her 50 plus years on the Sunman Auxiliary and many years with the IVFAA. Viola was very surprised as she and Carl were very dedicated to the fire organizations for many years serving in many capacities. State President Carol Curl presented Vi with her 50 year Gold Card and pin.

President Shannon Harpering and Holly Eckstein from Sunman presented her with a beautiful clock and bouquet of flowers. District chairman Pam Gerdowsky read a special tribute to honor her years of service. Other state members present were Larry Curl - our State Lobbyist, Larry & Lou Bartlow, Joyce Nevil and State Chaplain Beth Caudill. Kathy & Henry Eckstein catered a wonderful meal and Marilyn Smith provided a beautiful cake. A great evening was enjoyed by all and the surprise for Vi went well as Marilyn had hoped for.

Our next meeting will be held at Morris Fire Dept. at the Morris Fire House on February 13, 2018. Hope to see you all there.

We went to Miller-York FD Nov. 16, 2017 hoping for a Miss Flame but no one was able to run this year so we weren't able to crown a Miss Flame at this time.

Thanks again for all your hard work and dedication to our IVFAA organization. If I can help in any way please let me know.

God bless each & every one of you and your families! See you at the state meeting in February.

Pam Gerdowsky

2018 CONVENTION JUNE 20 - JUNE 23

IVFAA President Carol Curl



Greetings Fellow Auxiliary Officers & Members

At the reading of my article, we have completed our 2017 holiday season for which I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. I hope your New Year's resolutions are still being followed.

As I sit here this evening watching the news and writing my article, we have set records for "below zero" temperatures for an extended period and I am so over the brutally cold temperatures, but I bet I am not alone...

In keeping with my goal of moving our State Auxiliary forward during my term of office, I have appointed a "new" committee, an Oversight Committee, to review, look at, and make suggestions on all our committee rules, the way we operate and the task and challenges we face in managing our State IVFAA. My hope is that with this committee and the assistance of our committee chairs and members we will be able to take a serious look at the IVFAA.

As we go through the winter season if you know any district chairmen or past presidents who are under the weather let our State Chaplain or Assistant Chaplains know.

Remember one of our big projects is working with and selecting Miss Flame candidates. Those selected from our Districts

(which must be selected and name submitted by March 1-) will become a part of the State Miss Flame contest with the crowning of the 2018 Miss Flame at the state convention.

As we prepare for the 2018 State Convention, a couple of things we need to remember, this is a time to reunite with our current friends and prepare to meet and greet new ones and you need to be thinking about your District Basket for the Chinese Auction. Both are important parts of our being at and participating in the 2018 IVFA Convention that will be held in Indianapolis at the Indianapolis Crowne Plaza Airport - 2501 South High School Road, Indianapolis, IN 46241 on June 20-23, 2018.

I look forward to our continued meeting and our promoting and growing auxiliaries within our districts. As always I am happy to assist, and your calls are welcome.

Carol

IVFAA Chaplain Beth Caudill



Happy New Year to All!

Hope everyone is staying safe and warm!

I remember my grandma always saying how time flies and as a child I thought it was taking forever! But now I understand what she was talking about. At times it does feel like "time is flying".

Time is one thing which we cannot save or get back so in the new year we all need to try to use

it a little more wisely. Try not to be in a hurry and slow down so we can enjoy one another more. Family and friends are important but what about those that are not as fortunate? Take time to listen to others who are in need. Do good deeds for others either physically, emotionally or monetary. In the end hopefully they and yourself will feel better and enjoy life more.

Joshua 1:9

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Stay safe,

Beth Caudill
IVFAA Chaplain

MAY 2018 DEADLINE IS: APRIL 5

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 2

- submitted by Paul Watland, District Chairman

Eskridge receives Gold card



50 year Gold Card and certificate was presented to Jack Eskridge as a 50 year member of the IVFA and Lowell VFD. Presentation by District 2 Chairman Paul Watland (R) and Matt Van Drunen, Chief of Lowell VFD (L).

Postma Global Award winner



Lori Postma of Lake Twp. VFD was the 2017 Global Award winner for District 2. Presented by Paul Watland, District Chairman. Also, Larry Polas of Global Emergency Products and Alan Corning, Chief Lake Twp VFD. looked on.

I.V.F. A. Convention 2018 Registration Form Indianapolis Airport at the CROWNE PLAZA June 20 - 23

Pre-registration Fee: \$75.00 per person (after June 1, 2018 price jumps to \$ 90)
Price includes 4 meals (dinner Wed / Thurs / Fri & Fri breakfast)

Name: _____
(Print as you want it to appear on your badge)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) - _____ - _____ IVFA District: _____

Email Address: _____

Fire Department / Company: _____

Name of Spouse or Guest (if registering): _____

Registration Type	Yours	Spouse / Guest	Title
State Officer	_____	_____	_____
Auxiliary Officer	_____	_____	_____
District Chairperson	_____	_____	_____
IVFA Member	_____	_____	_____
IVFA Aux. Member	_____	_____	_____
Guest	_____	_____	_____

Number of children attending (age 12 and under): _____ (over age 12): _____
*older kids attending the banquet will require a ticket (unless they register for the full conference)

EXTRA Banquet Tickets Can Be Ordered: I need _____ EXTRA tickets at \$40 each

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____ (Make check payable to Convention 2018)

To register by credit card, circle type of card Mastercard or Visa Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____ Code _____ Signature: _____
(3 digit—back)

MAIL COMPLETED FORM AND REMITTANCE TO: Convention 2018- Registrations
1526 Reiter Drive
Evansville, IN 47712

For Information please call Steve Anderson at (812) 425 - 0727 Date received _____

CONVENTION HDQTRS: CROWN PLAZA INDY AIRPORT, 2501 S. High School Rd. (46241)

For Reservations call 317-244-6861 Hotel Website: www.crowneplaza.com/ind-airport

MENTION: INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S CONVENTION

What is included in your registration fee?

1. Access to all events on the convention schedule.

Exceptions: Miss Flame preliminary judging and luncheon
Also, games participants must sign-up with the Convention Games Committee

2. 4 meals are provided with each registration.

Wednesday: Dinner at the Welcome Party
Thursday: Dinner at the Hot Dog / Beer Bust
Friday: Breakfast at the Coffee Clutch
Buffet style Banquet Dinner

3. Drinks (beer & soft drinks) throughout the convention.

Drinks will be available in the Hospitality Room and with most meals. This does NOT include the hotel Lobby Bar. Cash bars might be available at certain events for other types of refreshments.

4. Kids Meals.

Kids age 12 and under can eat at all events except the Friday night banquet without a ticket. There will be a kids party Friday night during the banquet, with food and drinks provided, for those not attending the banquet. We encourage all older kids to register so all meals are included. Other options include the hotel restaurant, the hospitality room, or eating off site.

HASTINGS
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IN THE
FEBRUARY PAPER

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 4

– submitted by Jean Smith, Public Relations Northeast



District 4 2018 Miss Flame

Kay Shumaker - District 4 IVFAA chairman, Jean Smith - PRNE, Rose Adams - District 4 Miss Flame, Elton Schafer - District 4 IVFA chairman.

Concord Township Fire Department 65 years of distinguished service

Presented Certificate



Elton Schafer, District 4 IVFA chairman, presents Certificate of Congressional Recognition to Chief Rochford, Concord Township Fire Department, with Lori Barrick, daughter of Ralf Bechtel, one of the original founders of the Fire Department.



Concord Township Fire Department members present for award dedication.

Chief Rochford, Steve Kilmer, Gene Coney, Dwight Kime, Jeff Yoder, Ken Davis, Aron Ulrich.

CROSSROADS AMBULANCE ADVERTISEMENT

LOOK FOR THE AD IN THE FEBRUARY PAPER

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

Jerry Sprague - District Chairman – photos submitted by Jean Smith, PRNE

Ten year awards presented



Southwest Fire District members receive IVFA 10 year service award pins. Pictured from left to right are Bradley Wilson, Mitch Fireoved, Jean Smith PRNE.



Washington Township member receives IVFA 10 year service award pin. Pictured from left to right: Jean Smith PRNE, Robert Roy and Rex Bowlin, Washington Township President.

Twenty-five year awards presented



Southwest Fire District member receives IVFA 25 year service award pin. Pictured from left to right: Nick Clark, Jean Smith PRNE.



Thorncreek Fire Department member receives IVFA 25 year service award pin. Pictured from left to right: Bailey Sheley, Jerry Hinen, Jean Smith PRNE, Jerry Sprague, District 6 Chairman.



Thorncreek Fire Department members receive IVFA 25 year service award pin. Pictured from left to right: Bailey Sheley, Jerry Sprague - District 6 Chairman, Dennis Bennet, Carl Freewalt, Ted Hurley, John Workman, Jean Smith PRNE.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 7

Sam Bisel - Chairman / Photos submitted by Cal Thiele, Randall Konger and Richard Sorg, District 7 secretary

Ten year pins awarded



District 7 Chairman Sam Bisel is shown presenting members of Andrews VFD their 10 year pins. – Picture submitted by Randall Kongar

Miss Flame contest held



District 7 Miss Flame competition was held during our Nov. 20th district meeting at Andrews VFD. Pictured are Joyce Nevil - IVFAA District 7 Chairman, Maggie Kilsby (representing Geneva VFD) District 7 Runner-Up, Olivia Lockwood (representing Poe VFD) District 7 Miss Flame and Sam Bisel, District 7 Chairman. – Picture submitted by Richard Sorg



Christmas party time!

At left – District 7 Chairman Sam Bisel and wife Kristy enjoy the evening festivities at the Poe VFD Christmas Party. The guest of honor himself is in the background. – Picture submitted by Cal Thiele and Richard Sorg, District 7 Secretary.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8A

Submitted by Jerry Liston, District Chairman

Honored for 30 years of service

Chief Rob Columbus is shown presenting George Smith with a plaque recognizing his 30 years on the Center Twp. VFD.



Honored for 50 years of service



Members of the LaFontaine-Liberty Twp. FD are shown presenting past Chief Dennis Jones with a bronze fire axe plaque for his 50 years of service to the Town of LaFontaine and Liberty Twp.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

Submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District Chairman

Service awards presented to members in district



25 YEARS OF SERVICE: Devon Messersmith from the Dunkirk Fire Department was honored for his 25 years of service to the department. (Pictured from left to right) are John Willoughby, Devon Messersmith and chairman Lloyd E. Wright.



10 YEARS OF SERVICE: The Pennville Volunteer Fire Department held their annual Christmas party on December 20, 2017. Kylee (Corwin) Armstrong was honored for her 10 years of service to the department. Also honored but not in attendance were Amanda Westfall and Jason Westfall.



40 YEARS OF SERVICE: The Bryant Volunteer Fire Department held their annual Christmas party on December 10, 2017. Eldon Morrical was honored for his 40 years of service to the department. (Pictured from left to right) are Chairman Wright, Eldon Morrical and Eldon's wife Sylvia.

Miss Flame contest held



District 8B held their Miss Flame 2018 contest on November 8, 2017 at the Parker City VFD. Kirsten Cox from the Parker City VFD was crowned Miss Flame 2018 and Macey Weitzel from the Portland Fire Department was named runner-up. (Pictured from left to right) are Kylee Hashell, District 8B Miss Flame 2017, Chairman Wright, Macey Weitzel, runner-up and Kristen Cox, Miss Flame 2018.



Children enjoy Halloween party!!



The Modoc Volunteer Fire Department held a Halloween party at their station. Shown are some of the kids that attended the party.

Plan now for the 2018
IVFA Convention
June 20 - June 23
Indianapolis Airport
- Crowne Plaza

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 9A

Submitted by Pascal Moon, District Chairman

25 year pins awarded



Galveston Fire Department 25 year pin - PRNW Jeremy Reef, Buz Koehler, Galveston Firefighter Brian Henry, 9 A Miss Flame Sydney Moon, 9 A Chairman Pascal Moon.



District 9 A, 25 year pin Craig Nelson, Chief Jeff Zimmerman, vice chairman Mark Ancil, chairman Pascal Moon.



10 year pin awarded

Pictured at left: District 9 A, Harrison Twp. Alto, 10 year pins.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11-A

Submitted by Pete Taylor, District Chairman

25 year pins awarded

Receives 50 year Gold card



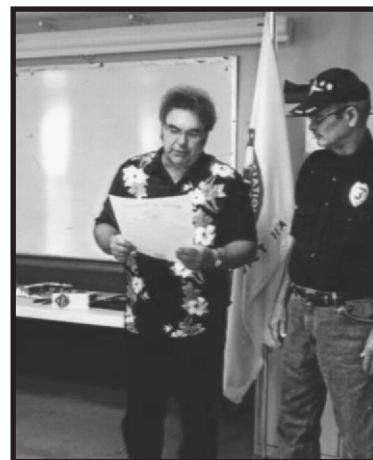
On December 3, 2017 Chris Fry from Thunderbird Fire Prot. Territory received his 25 year pin from chairman Pete Taylor, District 11A.



On December 9, 2017 Brad Colglazier and John Arnold received their 25 year pins from District 11A chairman Pete Taylor.



On October 15, 2017 Carl Conley Jr., Poland Comm. Fire Dept. received his 25 year pin.



On July 16, 2017 Kenneth Miller (from District 11A) received his 50 year Gold card from State Representative Bruce Borders.

Midwest Award winner



On October 12, 2017 Chip Dudley, Carisle-Haddon Twp., received the Midwest Award from District 11A chairman Pete Taylor and Timothy Learned from Global Emergency Products.

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

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13A

Mike Dzuba, Chairman - Submitted by Joseph P. Hilburt



Santa Claus comes to Jefferson Township VFD



12/16/17 - District 13A - Santa made his yearly visit to Jefferson Township VFD today. Request to Santa from the kids. Donuts provided by the Sulphur Spring Christian Church. Had some adults working on getting off of the naughty list also. Also had this little girl's first visit with Santa!

DISTRICT 5 REPORT



John Grolich - Chairman

I.V.F.A. 5th District Meeting
January 11, 2018
Henry Twp. Fire Department

Guests: Jean and EJ Smith, District 4 Miss Flame, District 5 Miss Flame Sydney Miller, Dave Reese - First Responder Task Force.

The 5th District meeting was called to order by Chairman Grolich at 1930 hours with the pledge to the flag following. The meeting was attended by 19 firefighters representing 9 departments. The minutes from November's meeting were read and approved as submitted.

Dave Reese discussed with us the program in which he represents.

Jean Smith discussed the upcoming 1686 legislative bills, HB 1172 is for a study of funding of volunteer fire departments. HB 1005 to combine townships under 1200 population and a few others that pertain directly to the Volunteer Fire service.

A funding source is still being researched for the presumptive cancer bill for volunteer firefighters.

John discussed some training opportunities available currently. ICS 300 and 400 training at the Marshall County Sheriff facility on January 25 and 26 and February 22 and 23.

Fire Investigation class in Plymouth on January 31 and February 5.

Tenderloin fry at RoAnn on

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

BOB POYNTER ADVERTISEMENT

LOOK FOR THE AD IN THE FEBRUARY PAPER

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13B

Submitted by Jeff Biehl, District Chairman

Liberty Fire Department's new brush truck in service



Liberty Fire Department put their new brush truck in service. This truck replaces the truck that burnt up in a field fire.

25 year service pins awarded



Ron Derrickson of the Straughn Fire Dept.



Glen Coffin of Mooreland Fire Dept.



Tammy Spears of Williamsburg Fire Dept.

10 year service pins awarded



Walter Evans of the Mooreland Fire Dept.



Eric Seibelt of West College Corner Fire Dept.



Joshua Smith of the Williamsburg Fire Dept.

District 5 ... - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

February 24 from 11 A.M. to 7 P.M.

For signing up for any training classes it needs to be through ACADIS portal.in.gov.

Sydney Miller was introduced as the 2018 5th District Miss Flame.

Next meeting is in Claypool on March 8, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 2036 hours.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paul Martin
District 5 Secretary

Receives award

Pictured at right – Centerville Fire/Rescue Chief Dennis Spears receiving the Volunteer Fire Chief of the Year Award.



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

Support Hoosier Burn Camp

**YOUR IVFA
STATE CONVENTION INFORMATION**

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU, YOUR FAMILY
and
MEMBERS OF YOUR FIRE DEPARTMENT
AT THE 2018 STATE CONVENTION
Indianapolis Airport - CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL
2501 S. High School Road
Indianapolis
June 20 – 23
WHERE YOU WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO
MEET & GREET
PARTICIPATE
SOCIALIZE
EDUCATE
VOTE
AND BE A PART OF **YOUR** 2018 CONVENTION
WHERE IT WILL NOT BE ROUTINE IN 2018

SOMEONE MENTION GAMES (COMPETITION)
“Bridging the Gap” between education and competition

Sign up your teams to Participate in
“WATERBALL” or “EMS”
Judged & Timed Events

Bring the younger ones and let them get involved

***Kid’s Modified Fire Fighter
Challenge/Competition***

Participate in

- Education (Both fire & EMS)
- Large Vendor Display
- ***Vendor’s Treasure Hunt***
- Attend the Annual Meeting of the Membership
- Attend the Annual Memorial Service
- Participate in the IVFA Golf Tournament – green fees on you.
- Witness the IVFA Miss Flame & the IVFA Junior Firefighter Judging
- Join us at the convention Hosted Hospitality Room – free drinks / refreshments
- Be a bidder & a buyer at the Hoosier Burn Camp Auction – Help send burn survivors to an annual summer camp
- Join us on at least one tour of a location of high popularity in Indianapolis
- Participate in the Games / Competitive Sports - Get your teams ready and show off your skills as you enter the Scenario Based EMS Competition and Fire Fighter Challenges

“Bridging the Gap” between education and competition

\$25 per team registration fee
To Register or find more information go to
www.ivfa.org

**2018 Convention Schedule
June 20 - June 23**

HAVE TO PROVIDE

Wednesday
Registration 8 AM – 4 PM
Golf
Dinner
Burn Camp Auction

Thursday
Registration – 8 AM – 4 PM
Dinner 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM
BFFE&S MTG - 9 AM
Opening Meeting 6:30 PM
Miss Flame
Vendor Show 10:00 AM – 5:00PM

Friday
Registration – 8 AM – 4 PM
Breakfast – Koffee Klutch
Men's Annual Meeting
Aux. Annual Meeting
Banquet

WANT TO PROVIDE

Thursday
Training(s)
JR FF Competition

Friday
EMS Commission Meeting
Competition Registration
Training(s)
Timed Training Competition FF
Timed Training Competition EMS

Saturday
Waterball
Hose Replacement

May deadline: April 5

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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 16

Joshua Reisert, District Chairman - submitted by Jack Kerney



Longtime Orleans fireman and Chief Brent Elliott recently retired after 34 years of outstanding service to the Town of Orleans and its citizens. Elliott was honored by the town officials in December with a special Resolution, plaque and badge presentation.

Orleans firemen recently honored



Longtime Orleans fireman Norman "Red" Cundiff recently stepped down after his many years of service to the citizens of the Orleans Community. Cundiff who most recently served as Safety Officer and Assistant Fire Administrator was honored by the town officials in December with a special Resolution and plaque.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17B

Submitted by Bobby Brown, District Chairman

Ten year pin awarded

District 17-B Miss Flame



17-B chairman Robert Brown presenting Luke Terrell of Indian Creek VFD (Lawrence Co.) 10 year pin. Not pictured - 10 year pin (for 11 years of service) is Josh Scherchel.



2018 District 17-B Miss Flame Lauren Brown pictured with District 17-B chairman Robert Brown.

District 17-B members



Pictured – Tammy Wright, Heather McGlocklin, new District 17-B Miss Flame Lauren Brown, chairman Robert Brown, District 17-B chaplain Jason Bell and District 17-B IVFAA chairperson Dawn Hillenburg.

More news from IVFAA District 1 & 2



25 year pins awarded

Phyllis Vargo, District 1 & 2 chairman presenting Linda Abraham and Marge Baumgardner from Crown Point Volunteer Ladies Auxiliary with their 25 year pins. – submitted by Marge Baumgardner

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

submitted by Joe DeKemper - District Chairman



10 and 25 year pins awarded

English Vol. Fire Dept. District 18 chairman Joe DeKemper presented 10 year pins to eight members and one 25 year pin on 11/01/2017. (Pictured left to right - front row: Jacob Mitchell - 10 year, Paul Reyling - 10 year, Stuart Sturgeon - 25 year pin, Joe DeKemper, Noah Schultz - 10 year. Not present for photo: Chris Lahue - 10 year, Chad Riddle - 10 year, Abe Schwartz - 10 year, Enos Schwartz - 10 year, Joey Schwartz - 10 year.



Jasper Vol. Fire Dept. District 18 chairman Joe DeKemper presented 10 year pins to six members and one 25 year pin on 11/02/2017. Pictured are Matthew Allen - 10 year, Brad Hochgesang - 10 year, Kerry Kinder - 10 year, Zac Lichlyter - 10 year, Greg Vonderheide - 10 year, Shane Wagner - 10 year. 25 year pin Mike Theile (not present for photo).

Awarded 25 year service pin

25 year pin presented to Charles Goffinet Central Perry VFD by Joe DeKemper.



More news from IVFAA District 6 2018 District 6 Miss Flame



From left to right, Jean Smith PRNE, Jerry Sprague - District 6 Chairman, Bailey Sheley - 2018 District 6 Miss Flame, Ligonier Fire Dept., E.J. Smith - District 6 IVFAA Chairman.

Submitted by E.J. Smith, District 6 IVFAA Chairman



California Casualty

Safest Cars and SUVs for 2018

If you are shopping for a new car or SUV over the new year, safety should be one of the criteria you use. There are all kinds of makes and models to choose from, and you could spend weeks reading specifics and reviews. However, there is an easier solution; the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) has done most of the work for you. They've just released their safest 2018 vehicles.

After subjecting hundreds of cars and SUVs to crash tests and evaluating them for headlight brightness and technology, just 15 vehicles qualified for the Top Safety Pick+ award. To achieve the highest rating, vehicles had to adequately protect passengers as well as drivers, and after IIHS testers found many new vehicles did not illuminate the road properly, the headlights had to meet new stringent standards.

When all was said and done, two automakers, Hyundai/Kia/Genesis and Subaru, had the most Top Safety Pick+ winners which included:

1. Kia Forte sedan
2. Kia Soul
3. Subaru Impreza 4-door sedan and wagon
4. Subaru WRX
5. Subaru Legacy
6. Subaru Outback
7. Toyota Camry
8. BMW 5 series
9. Genesis G80
10. Genesis G90
11. Lincoln Continental
12. Mercedes-Benz E-Class sedan
13. Hyundai Santa Fe
14. Hyundai Santa Fe Sport
15. Mercedes-Benz GLC

Another 47 vehicles qualified for the TOP SAFETY PICK list, led by Toyota and followed closely by Hyundai and Subaru. You can view the entire list at <http://www.iihs.org/iihs/sr/statusreport/article/52/9/1>.

Buying a vehicle that's included on the IIHS list not only increases your family's safety, it can also help your wallet. Passenger and driver protection is one of the many criteria insurance companies use to set premiums. Other factors are price, horsepower and the claims history of that make and model. You might be surprised that your insurance premiums don't go up much, or even go down, after you purchase one of the Top Safety Pick+ vehicles.

It's a good idea to contact your auto insurance company before you make a purchase to see how much it will cost to insure that new ride. A California Casualty advisor is available to give you a policy review or quote at 1.800.800.9410 or visit www.calcas.com.

Sources for this article:

www.iihs.org/iihs/sr/statusreport/article/52/9/1

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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 19

Stephen Macke - District Chairman - photos submitted by Chief Bill Craig, Sunman Fire Department

Sunman Fire Department service awards presented



On Saturday, December 2, 2017, Sunman Rural Fire Department had their annual Christmas dinner and awards banquet at the Sunman Fire Station. Awards were presented for Firefighter of the Year as well as years of continuous service and retirement.

Sunman Fire Department is located in Sunman, IN in Ripley County in District 19.



Beating Firefighter cancer may be a one day contract

By Past Chief Brian F. McQueen
Reprinted with permission from the NVFC Firefighter Strong newsletter

As my wife Sarah and I walked through a book store one day, I came upon a book by Coach Rick Pitino. It was the cover that struck me as it read: "A One Day Contract." Having coached high school football and basketball for 12 years, I was in awe of those words for many reasons. Trust me, winning high school games was much easier than winning my battle with cancer! Cancer has brought me to my knees and left me with the realization that every day is a one day contract. I use this contract to continue to fight the battle and to raise awareness of firefighter cancer so I can help save others from this terrible disease.

After being diagnosed three years ago with occupational

cancer, my mission in life took the road less travelled. When my oncologist told me that my form of cancer – B-cell non-Hodgkin's lymphoma – is the fastest growing cancer in the fire service today, I knew I needed to help protect my brother and sister firefighters. Having in the back of my mind the cover from Rick Pitino's book, I know that every day I put my feet on the ground must be met with success and accomplishments, both personally by focusing on my physical, mental, and emotional health, and in the fire service by educating those firefighters who are most susceptible to the dangers of cancer.

One critical point we all need to remember is that the health and safety choices that we make as first responders impacts not only us, but our crew and those we come home to. We must realize that the healthier we are, the better off we will be in beating

cancer. And the more diligent we are in protecting ourselves from carcinogens and toxic exposures, the more we lessen our risks of contracting occupational cancer. These steps make us healthier and stronger, and they also enable us to be there for our families and our crew.

It may be hard for a lot of people to comprehend the magnitude of the fire service cancer epidemic. You might have heard the study data that shows firefighters are more likely to get cancer than the rest of the population. You might have seen the ultra-violet images of firefighters who have had carcinogens sitting on their necks and legs prior to their deconning and showers. To some these statistics and photos are unreal or questionable. To me, they are not.

Yes, I was once that "know-it-all firefighter" who believed that dirty, grimy, salty-looking gear

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 32

1ST ATTACK ADVERTISEMENT

LOOK FOR THE AD IN THE FEBRUARY PAPER

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 21

Lewis (Ed) Watson, District Chairman – submitted by Will Holycross



Santa Claus visits Williamsport VFD

On Saturday, December 9th the Williamsport Volunteer Fire Department hosted Santa Claus, Candy Cane Chris, reindeer Clarice and owl Whooigan. Approximately 220 children and their families visited the fire station. Photos by Tam offered photo packages with proceeds benefiting the fire department. Children received a goody bag, cookies and hot chocolate.

Students complete mandatory class



The Williamsport VFD completed a Mandatory Class in September 2017 with five students completing the class. Students represented Attica, Pine Village and Williamsport Volunteer Fire Departments.



Miss Flame at Burn Camp

District 21 Miss Flame Shelby Butler at the Hoosier Burn Camp. - Photo by Richard Lofland, Lauramie Twp.

Receives award for years of service

Firefighter Eddie Long presented a recognition award to Richard Lofland for his 37 years of service on behalf of the Lauramie Twp firefighters. - submitted by Laura Lofland.



ROSENBAUER ADVERTISEMENT

LOOK FOR THE AD IN THE FEBRUARY PAPER

IVFA offering shirts, caps and jackets for sale

ORDER FORM

Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association
 P.O. Box 4797
 Evansville, IN 47724
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SHIPPING INFORMATION

Ship To: _____
 Street Address: _____
 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- Tan - \$35.00			
	Tee Shirt- Gray - \$15.00			
	Tee Shirt- Blue - \$15.00			
	FF Tee Shirt- \$20.00			
	Black Golf Shirt Tan Collar- \$25.00			
	White Golf Shirt Navy & Tan Collar- \$25.00			
	White Golf Shirt Navy Collar- \$25.00			
	Yellow Golf Shirt- Discounted - \$15.00			
	Baseball Cap Blue - \$15.00			
	Baseball Cap Tan- \$15.00			
	Baseball Cap with Flames- \$18.00			
	Denim Jacket- \$48.00			

SHIPPING INFORMATION

BE SURE TO HAVE YOUR SIZE FOR EACH GARMENT INCLUDED	ORDER SUB TOTAL	\$
Shipping & Handling Charges		\$
Up To \$50 = \$7.00 \$51 to \$100 = \$15.00 Over \$100 = \$25	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$
Order Total Including Shipping & Handling		\$

PAYMENT INFORMATION

VISA MASTER CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

EXPIRATION DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____
(As Shown On The Credit Card)

DATE OF ORDER

_____ - _____ - _____

MAKE CHECKS
 PAYABLE TO
 IVFA

Beating cancer . . . - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

was a badge of courage. In my corrective steps to prevent cancer, fire station locker, you could you could be one of those sad find the dirtiest hood in the statistics! station. I was trying to be “one of Fire departments across this the boys”, and didn’t realize that nation can take a proactive in the long run these behaviors approach by building cancer could be killing me. Washing my prevention education into their hands, taking a shower, and training programs. On speaking cleaning my gear after an with fire service leaders incident were not important to throughout the United States me. That is, until I was during my educational programs, diagnosed with cancer at the age I emphasize that we need to build of 59. While you may think that a foundation in our departments 59 is old, statistics show that so that cancer prevention is part many firefighters are being of our culture. This can be tough, diagnosed at an earlier age, some as many firefighters, especially in their 20s. Cancer has no younger ones, generally believe limitations – young, old, male, that they are invincible and that, or female, if you don’t follow “Cancer only happens to older

people.” This misconception is generally due to lack of education. Implementing a cancer prevention educational program in every new firefighter recruit class is crucial to winning the battle with cancer. Safe and healthy practices must also be incorporated into standard operating procedures (SOPs) and guidelines. Enforcing SOPs that prevent or limit exposures and training all personnel in adherence to these SOPs will ultimately result in a shift in thinking and behaviors. Policies that enforce gear washing after every fire and no gear worn in the living quarters

should be immediately created. There are many other simple measures that should be standard practice as well, such as having some sort of wet wipes on each apparatus or in your personal vehicle to quickly wipe contaminates off your face and neck at a fire scene and wearing full PPE and SCBA through overhaul.

Protecting our firefighters from cancer also includes the department providing a physical to firefighters when they join the department as well as continual monitoring of firefighters’ health as they progress throughout their fire service careers. If the department does not provide annual medical evaluations, then the individual needs to alert their healthcare provider to the increased risks they face during their annual physical. This ongoing monitoring is crucial as early diagnosis and treatment can save one’s life.

One piece of the puzzle that strikes many nerves but is a critical step in prevention is that firefighters must quit using tobacco products. Whether smoking or chewing tobacco are the products of choice, you are increasing your chances of limiting your lifetime as a firefighter, husband, wife, father, or mother.

Another step that needs to be implemented is the use of a diesel exhaust system in your station. Diesel exhaust is a known carcinogen and is linked directly to several types of cancers. It baffles me when I walk into a fire station and see the diesel exhaust system dangling from the ceiling not even hooked to the apparatus. If you already have a system, make it a practice that your team hooks up the system every time the apparatus returns to the station. If you don’t have a system, get one. This is a life-saving measure that every department needs.

The fact is, cancer is a very real threat in our fire service lives. We need to be realistic in our development of actions within our fire departments that will alleviate the risk of cancer to our fire service family. Jim Kelly, the great quarterback of the Buffalo Bills, once told high school athletes at an All-Star Sports Award Ceremony in Utica, NY, “Make a difference today for someone who’s fighting for their tomorrow”. If we listen to this message, then we will succeed in beating the issues we face with cancer in the fire service. Our firefighters, young and old, need to take the cancer issue seriously to alleviate any pain and suffering that they and their families will go through being diagnosed with occupational cancer.

Brian F. McQueen is past chief of the Whitesboro Volunteer Fire Department, past director with the Firemen’s Association of the State of New York, board and founding member of the Believe 271 Foundation Inc., delegate from New York to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC)

and member of the NVFC Executive Committee, Life Member of the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs, and a retired school district administrator. His educational seminar on cancer has reached more than 3,250 firefighters and was one of the highlighted webinars hosted by the NVFC. Most importantly he is an occupational cancer survivor.

Sidebar What Immediate Actions Can I Take to Protect Myself from Cancer?

In the white paper *Taking Action Against Cancer in the Fire Service*, the nonprofit Firefighter Cancer Support Network outlines 11 actions firefighters can take to reduce their cancer risks.

1. Use SCBA from initial attack to finish of overhaul. (Not wearing SCBA in both active and post-fire environments is the most dangerous voluntary activity in the fire service today.)
2. Do gross field decon of PPE to remove as much soot and particulates as possible.
3. Use cleansing wipes to remove as much soot as possible from head, neck, jaw, throat, underarms, and hands immediately and while still on the scene.
4. Change your clothes and wash them immediately after a fire.
5. Shower thoroughly after a fire.
6. Clean your PPE, gloves, hood, and helmet immediately after a fire.
7. Do not take contaminated clothes or PPE home or store it in your vehicle.
8. Decon fire apparatus interior after fires.
9. Keep bunker gear out of living and sleeping quarters.
10. Stop using tobacco products.
11. Use sunscreen or sunblock.

The importance of annual medical examinations cannot be overstated — early detection and early treatment are essential to increasing survival.

Learn more about FCSN’s firefighter cancer support, awareness, and prevention resources at www.firefightercancersupport.org/who-we-are.

May Deadline: April 5, 2018

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.



First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	City	Department
Michael	R.	Dickerson	Sulphur Springs	Jefferson Township VFD
Daniel	Joseph	Simmons	Hayden	Spencer Twp. Volunteer Fire Dept.
Joseph	L.	Sunday	Farmland	Farmland VFD Inc.
Michael	B.	Dickey	Charlestown	New Washington VFD
Anthony	J.	Clayton	Henryville	Monroe Twp. VFD
Jeremy	Wade	Watkins	Forest	Forest VFD
Andrew	T.	Sparks	Petersburg	Petersburg VFD
Matthew	F.	Gaff	Ligonier	Sparta Twp. VFD, Inc.
Philip	J.	Murphy	Ft. Wayne	St. Joseph Twp. FD
David	C.	Perry	Merrillville	Merrillville VFD #2
Joel		Storm	Madison	Western Fire Co. #3
Darin	Ray	Scudder	Rising Sun	Rising Sun VFD, Inc.
Odis	Ray	King	Mitchell	Marion Twp. Rural FD
William	Jason	Goings	Boonville	Ohio Twp. VFD (Paradise VFD)
Cean	L.	Pemberton	Wahiawa	Sandborn VFD
Todd	Morris	Daniels	Alexandria	Richland Twp. Fire Dept.
Anne	Marie	Gilbert	Wawaka	Rome City Fire Dept.
Robert	Christopher	Nunez	Muncie	Monroe Twp. VFD
Brian	Lee	Hollingsworth	Poneto	Chester Twp. VFD
Blake	Charles	Forrester	Columbia City	Columbia Twp. VFD
James	Matthew	Groves	Newburgh	Ohio Twp. VFD (Paradise VFD)
William	M.	Kendall	French Lick	Orange Co. Rural Fire Dept. #1
Christopher	George	Miller	Patriot	Patriot Vol. Fire Dept. Inc.
Jerome	David	Brown	Bloomington	Benton Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.
Robert	Anthony	Whitaker	North Salem	Eel River Vol. Fire Dept.
Zachary	J.	Douglas	Crestview	Lafayette Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.
Dallas	William	Hutts	Rolling Prairie	Noble Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.
Spencer	Louis	Baumgartner	Milford	Milford Fire Dept.
Samuel	Adam	Fehrer	Indianapolis	Huntertown Vol. Fire Dept.
Brian	Douglas	Ervin	Coatesville	Floyd Twp. Fire Protection Dist.
George	Paul	Altepeter	Columbus	Southwest VFD
Chris	James	Moore	Columbus	Southwest VFD
Colin	Justin	English	Florence	Posey Twp. VFD
Brandon	Joe	Johnson	Mitchell	Marion Twp. Rural FD
Brock	Michael	Buchanan	Fort Belvoir	Vincennes Twp. VFD
Edger	Leonel	Lopez	Crown Point	Lake of Four Seasons Fire Force
Dallas	William	Hutts	Kingsford Hts.	Kingsford-Union VFD
Dustin	Thomas	Zehnder	New Albany	New Chapel FD
Zack	Steven	Vandergriff	Underwood	Monroe Twp. VFD
Frank		Galvan	Brooklyn	Ohio Twp. VFD (Paradise VFD)
Jered	Alan	Stettet	Dubois	Dubois VFD
Michael	Anthony	Sabo	Lake Station	Lake Station VFD
Casey	John	Maxwell	Fort Wayne	North East Allen County Fire & EMS
Jared	Patrick	Maxwell	Fort Wayne	North East Allen County Fire & EMS
Brandon	James	Duff	Georgetown	Lafayette Twp. VFD
Schyler	D.	Clark	Bicknell	Vigo Twp. VFD
Michael	Jacob	Collins	French Lick	Orange Co. Rural Fire Dept. #1
Rodney	E.	Pentecost	Greens Fork	Clay Twp. VFD Inc.
Kendall	Jacob	Kerzan	Vincennes	Vincennes Twp. VFD
Chad	Allen	Warner	Lewisville	Lewisville-Franklin Fire Dept.
Casey	W.	Foye	Paoli	Southeast Twp. VFD
Elizabeth	Nicole	Ireland	Kingman	Jackson Twp. VFD
Thomas	Michael	Bedway	Coal City	Coal City VFD
Bradley	J.	Zimmerman	Muncie	Hamilton Twp. VFD
Zachery	Michael	Powers	Chesterfield	Richland Twp. FD
Adam	David	Luecke	Seymour	Jackson - Washington Fire Dept.
Justin	L.	Yagel	Columbia City	Union Twp. VFD Inc.
Garrett	T.	Sheline	Millersburg	Millersburg-Clinton Fire Territory
James	Vincent	Clements	Paoli	Southeast Twp. VFD
Charles		Hay	Sulphur Springs	Jefferson Township VFD, Henry Co.
Robert		Ford	Farmland	Farmland VFD
Jeramy	D.	Shank	Cambridge City	Cambridge City VFD
Christopher	G.	Yoakum	Cambridge City	Cambridge City VFD

2017 Convention minutes continued from November - submitted by Diane Harrison, Secretary

that my company can do in tandem with fire marshal's office sponsored several the Legendary Entertainment for you. If you last couple of years or in cooperation with the have questions, give us a ring, Legendary correct terminology – but it was an excellent Entertainment. pyrotechnics class and I learned a lot.

Do we have any business cards here? At this time, as I said before, I believe we So, Julie in the back has got some business have a few guests that would like to come cards. If you're interested, see her. We will before you all. And I believe Barb is making not be at the booth directly after. As he said, her way to the stage.

Steve has another event to go to, and I've Ms. Kerney: Good morning. got another event to do as well. Okay. Any All: Good morning. questions? Any questions at all? Ms. Kerney: Have you ever seen such beautiful women? Let's give these ladies a

There was a question answered. round of applause. Mr. Holcomb: Thank you again, Steve, (Applause.)

Legendary, Mark. They have, as many of I want to thank Paul and all of you for you know in this room, they have dedicated and come to our conventions for the past your support that you give us each year and three years. We have a great partnership for the gifts that you donate to these young and I hope we can continue to grow that ladies. We couldn't do it without you. And I partnership over the years and offer that. thank Paul for his support, and David for the They've stepped in and went well above convention. They've been a great help this and beyond with Mark, the living statue – year. And a new thing this year, Leighanne let me get back to the correct terminology Ellis is your representative to our committee, now – as far as participating in our annual so I want to thank Leighanne also. I'm going memorial service and many, many other to let the girls introduce themselves starting things that go on behind the scenes. So, I with our queen.

appreciate them. At this time without 2018 Miss Flame and court introduce further delay – yes, sorry, Larry. themselves. (Applause.)

Mr. Curl: Larry Curl. Just to continue on Mr. Holcomb: At this time I'd ask Tonya what you said, it should be our responsibility then at state IVFA and our Rigsby to come to the podium. districts, try to utilize their services as much as we can in our social events, in our Richard Glant: Mr. President. carnivals, in our fish fries. Even if it costs Mr. Holcomb: Yes, sir. us a few bucks, they have really stepped up Richard Glant: Last call for mileage. for us. I think it's well worth what we can Mr. Holcomb: Last call for mileage.

give back to them. Ms. Rigsby: Good morning. My name is Mr. Holcomb: Agreed. Tonya Rigsby. I'm with California Casualty. I just wanted to thank everybody. (Applause.)

Rick Cannon, District 14: I believe that IVFA member benefits has been going extremely well with everyone's support. We a percentage. Is that true? just want to thank you guys for everything that you do and how you've helped us and

Mr. Holcomb: I believe they're offering a donation, if you will, to the association on helped me and my northern rep Lorelei Seip, fireworks sales. And that's corresponding how you've helped us make this program – they don't want to drive us off too much, successful. And we just want to make it but that's corresponding how big of a grow more and be a partner with you all and discount they give to the department who help you in any way we can.

buys the fireworks. So, it's kind of a teeter (Applause.) totter thing. But, you know, they are in Mr. Holcomb: As we had a little business, but they do give a lot to our augmented session earlier a few of the association and the training classes that reports I want to give the officers that were Mark puts on – I'm sorry – Steve puts on, pulling double duty this morning the officers are excellent. I've been to one. I know the to catch up on our reports. Past president's

report. Richard Glant. Mr. Glant: Pass. Mr. Holcomb: Jack Zeeks. Mr. Zeeks: Pass. Mr. Holcomb: Buz Koehler. Mr. Koehler: Pass. Mr. Holcomb: Jack Kerney. Mr. Kerney: Pass. Mr. Holcomb: Steve Anderson. Mr. Anderson: Pass. Mr. Holcomb: That should finish up our officer's reports and our committees.

Bridgeport? Richard Glant for Bridgeport.

Mr. Glant: We have three winners and they'll be announced tonight at the banquet.

Mr. Holcomb: Newspaper, Buz Koehler.

Mr. Koehler: I will pass.

Mr. Holcomb: Social media, Josh Reisert.

Mr. Reisert: Pass.

Mr. Holcomb: Special projects, Buz Koehler.

Mr. Koehler: I will pass at this time. Thanks.

Mr. Holcomb: Did you have anything in addition to legislation from Buz? Legislative?

Mr. Koehler: No, pass.

Mr. Holcomb: In Time, Jack Zeeks.

Mr. Holcomb: NVFC, Jack Kerney.

Mr. Kerney: Pass.

Mr. Holcomb: Central office report, Jack Kerney.

Mr. Kerney: Dues were mailed on or around April the 15th, so if you don't have one, make sure you get a hold of the office, make sure we have a good address.

Dues will be considered late after July 31st. They have to be postmarked July 31st.

If they are late, keep in mind that you lose your Bridgeport benefits, that are the three \$1,500 scholarships and the \$3,000 line of duty death. To get back in good graces you must be paid for two consecutive years with the current year being paid on time. So, that's what you have to do to get back in good graces.

Dues that expired on July 31st, 2017, we

had 15,036 members.

License plates sold in 2016 were 3,304. Most plates being sold are in the counties of Dubois, which has 128 to date, and the next one is Lake County, which has a total of 118 to date. And we do have counties that none of our plates are being sold. So, I encourage you district chairmen and you members that are sitting here to buy that IVFA plate and make sure that you tell them when you go to the license branch to get that plate that you want the volunteer fire plate and not the career plate.

The volunteer plate, the IVFA plate, does two things. Number one, it keeps the Bridgeport benefit solid. We keep that account at \$100,000. So, that account should always be there to take care of the scholarships and the line of duty death. So, I encourage you to buy that plate. That is my report.

Mr. Holcomb: Executive committee, I pass.

At this time I will call Mr. Curl and Mr. Anderson, I believe, to the podium for the fire alliance.

(A brief recess was taken at this time.)

Mr. Holcomb: At this time I would call our Chairman of our nominating committee Jack Zeeks to the podium.

Mr. Koehler: Mr. President.

Mr. Holcomb: Yes, Mr. Koehler.

Mr. Koehler: Absolute final call for mileage.

Mr. Holcomb: Final call for mileage. If you do not have your vouchers in, this is your last chance.

Mr. Zeeks: Good morning everyone.

All: Morning.

Mr. Zeeks: The nominating committee presents the name of Paul Holcomb for President of the IVFA. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Diane Harrison.

Ms. Harrison: I cast a unanimous vote for Paul Holcomb for President for year 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: The nominating committee presents the name of David Israel for Vice President for 2018. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast a unanimous vote for David Israel for Vice President for the year 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: The nominating committee presents the name of Jeff Biehl for secretary for 2018. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor?

Mr. Nolan: Steve Nolan, Public Relations, Southwest, I nominate Leighanne Ellis.

Mr. Zeeks: I need a second.

John Smith, District 18. I'll second that.

Mr. Zeeks: Are there in other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations from the floor?

Sergeant-at-Arms, secure the door. District chairmen, tally your votes.

Jeff, do you want to say something?

Mr. Biehl: No.

Mr. Zeeks: Leighanne, do you want to say something?

Ms. Ellis: No.

Mr. Zeeks: Once the district chairmen have their ballots taken to their committee we will continue.

Okay. While the committee back there tallies the ballots the nominating committee presents the name of Luke Kluender for Treasurer. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations from the floor?

And the doors are supposed to remain closed. If he goes out, he stays out. Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast a unanimous vote for Luke Kluender for Treasurer for 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Kluender: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the mileage committee for all their work.

Mr. Zeeks: For Sergenat-at-Arms the nominating committee presents the name of Brent Bush. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for Brent Bush for Sergeant-at-Arms for 2018.

Mr. Zeeks: For State Chaplain the nominating committee presents the name of David Elick. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations

from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for David Elick for Chaplain for year 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: PR Northwest. The nominating committee presents the name of Jeremy Reef for PR. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Is there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for Jeremy Reef for Public Relation Director Northwest for 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: PR Northeast. The nominating committee presents the name of Jean Smith. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Is there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for Jean Smith for Public Relation Director Northeast for year 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: PR West Central. The nominating committee presents the name of Larry Bartlow. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Is there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for Larry Bartlow for Public Relation West Central for the year 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: PR East Central. The nominating committee presents the name of Don Cushman. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Is there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Is there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for Don Cushman for Public Relation Director East Central for the year 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: PR Southeast. The nominating committee presents the name of Ed Scheele. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for Ed Scheele for Public Relations Southeast for year 2018.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: PR Southwest. The nominating committee presents the name of Steve Nolan. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Are there any other nominations from the floor? Third and final call. Are there any other nominations from the floor? Diane.

Ms. Harrison: I cast one unanimous vote for Steve Nolan for Public Relations Southwest for year 2018.

(Applause.)

Your Secretary for the year 2018 is Leighanne Ellis.

(Applause.)

Mr. Zeeks: Mr. President, I'm done.

Mr. Holcomb: Thank you, sir. Well, that's concluding the annual elections. At this time I would like to dismiss our credential and our mileage committees. Thank you all for your time and assistance. And now with no further ado I would ask that Vice President Israel, Chairman of the Convention Committee to come to the podium.

There is still a vote.

Mr. Israel: For 2019 we have two districts that are willing to pitch a bid for 2019. District 3 is going to be up first. Bob Uryga and Angela Gaghan from the Blue Chip Casino. Linda Simmons from the Michigan City Visitors Center. If you want to make your way up here.

Also District 14 and 16 are bidding for the convention in 2019 down at the Horseshoe, so they will be up after this.

Ms. Gaghan: Good morning. I'm Angela Gaghan with Blue Chip Casino. Thank you very much, Dave.

It has been a pleasure to be down here and certainly learning. What a business meeting you have had. And my colleague Linda Simmons is here with me with LaPorte County Visitor's Bureau. Just want to take a couple of minutes just to really thank you for the invitation.

District 3 Convention bid presentation. We're going to offer you \$89.00 on the Blue Chip Tower and \$110.00 for the Spa Tower. We offer complimentary meeting space. We will work with you on your food and beverage. We'll put aside a block of rooms. There are no penalties if you don't use that room. We don't have penalties, so you don't have anything, there's nothing hidden, everything is exposed.

Questions answered for members present.

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

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:

BLACK AND WHITE	\$275.00
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FULL COLOR	\$485.00

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INFORMATION:

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
 737 N. COLLEGE AVENUE
 RENSSLAER, INDIANA 47978

Phone 219-964-5221 or e-mail: buzkoe276@gmail.com

Ads are to be in one of the following formats:

- pdf
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Publisher
- Corel Draw X16

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

2017 Convention minutes

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

Rick Cannon and Josh Reiser, from District 14 and 16 Convention bid.

Mr. Cannon: Horseshoe with \$110.00 a night. Registration is \$70.00. We promise to bring back our famous southern hospitality, hospitality night.

Mr. Israel: Sergeant-at-Arms getting ready to vote for this, bar the doors. You've heard some bids for the 2019 convention, Michigan City Blue Chip or the Horseshoe, Elizabeth, Indiana. So, district chairmen poll your districts and see where we go.

Mr. Israel: Sergeant-at-Arms, you can release your doors. We are going to the Blue Chip Casino in 2019.

Mr. Curl: Okay. I think we're ready for the Indiana Fire Alliance report. If I can have the members of the Indiana Fire Alliance come up and have their seat on the stage, please. I want to introduce you to Chief Danny Sink out of Goshen Fire Department who is our Chairman of our Indiana Fire Alliance.

(Applause.)

Mr. Sink: Thanks, Chief, and thank you all for having us. And thanks to Larry and Buz and Steve for having us down and to go over the survey.

Just real quickly, the Fire Alliance started about six years ago and we all came together. And the members of the Alliance are Tommy Hannify, Mike Whitehead and Tony Murray (phonetic), who is not here today. Of course, Larry and Buz and Steve from the IVFA. Chief Brad Lucas from the Indiana Fire Chief's Association. Jimmy Roberts is our liaison, and he's currently in class and not able to attend today. And Chief Joe Kurzan (phonetic) is attending a funeral today, so Joe is not here, and he's from Schererville. Also attending with us is our lobbyist Mark Scherer (phonetic).

The IFA is also a member of the Indiana Firefighter's Association of our group, of the Indiana Fire Alliance. And then of course the Marshal's Office also attends with the Fire Marshal, Chief Mike Garvey who is Chief of EMS. And then, of course, Chief of Training Chief John Buckman.

So, that gives you an example of who represents the fire service in the State of Indiana when we have discussions about legislation and fire service issues.

Six years ago when we came together we had a dream, if you will, or an idea or a vision of how and where we would go, and

we've been fairly effective. I think that we've been able to build a spear of influence, especially at the Statehouse. We work really well with Representative Frye and some of the other legislators to do the very best we can for you all when it comes to fire service issues across the state.

So, with that, I'll quit talking and I'll introduce Chief Buckman to kind of give a short history of how we got here and then he can introduce Jamie.

Mr. Buckman: This whole process started about two years ago when Marshal Greeson was at a C-Task meeting, counter terrorism and Security Council meeting. When then Lieutenant Governor Sue Ellspermann said, she was reading a story that the suburban and rural community people are moving back to the urban areas. And the Lieutenant Governor's question the Fire Marshal was what impact is that going to have on recruitment and retention in the volunteer fire service in the State of Indiana?

So, we started doing a report internally within the office. We had about three days and, you know, as usual, most of the time it's we need that report next week, we don't want to wait two months. In our case a little over a year now. But we said, wait a minute, we need to do real research. It can't just be John's opinion or Larry's opinion or Danny's opinion. We need real research, data provided by you. And so we found Jamie Palmer. She's here to help explain the results of this data and how we're going to process this and how we're going to try to develop a plan to help the fire service in the State of Indiana. So, Jamie Palmer.

Jamie Palmer presented survey results.

Mr. Curl: Let's give Jamie a big hand.

(Applause.)

I can't imagine the scope of work involved in trying to collect that kind of data. Questions answered from the floor.

Mr. Curl: Jamie, thank you again very much. We appreciate it. Fine job, very proud of what you've done for us. Well now it's time for the 2018 convention hosts to change shirts.

Let me tell you about 2018 real quick. Our hope and our desire is that 2018 will not be routine in 2018. We want it to be a little bit different, we want it to be a little bit special, we want it to be for you, we want it to be for you and your members.

In 2018 we're going to Indianapolis. We'll be in Wayne Township. We'll be at the

Crowne Plaza. We're still in the forming stages. We want to get 500 of you sitting in the room as a beginning. It's going to take you and I to make that happen. You're going to have to go out and help solicit, help market, help drive people to the convention.

Why would I go to a state convention? Well, most people don't even know about. Most people don't know what we do at a state convention.

But in 2018 I want to bring back some educational opportunities. I want to give our members an opportunity to go to a class and get some in-service time while we're attending the conference. And then I want to wrap up the convention with going outside and doing some competitive sport

events. We're going to try to do an EMS competition that the Governor of the state is going to help sponsor. We hope that he'll be able to offer a Governor's Cup for the champion of the state EMS competition. We think it's important that we do things that will encourage our people to be a part of it.

So, okay, let's talk about the cost. We're going to charge you \$75.00 to be there. If you'll register this weekend, we'll just knock off \$5.00 right off the top. Thank you very much.

Mr. Holcomb: At this time I would like to present Jamie with our 2017 Convention Challenge Award for her time and her effort for this presentation today.

Mr. Holcomb: Alright. The moment you have all been waiting for. I want to take a

vote to adjourn.

Jerry Sprague, District 6 votes to adjourn.

John Morphy, District 11B seconds the motion for adjournment.

Mr. Holcomb: 11B seconds. All in favor signify by saying aye.

All: Aye.

Mr. Holcomb: All opposed. Motion carries. This adjourns the 2017 annual meeting of the IVFA.

(Meeting adjourned at 12:41 p.m.)

Convention digest committee: Diane Harrison, Steve Anderson, Luke Kluender, Paul Holcomb, David Israel and Leighanne Ellis.

National Volunteer Fire Council addresses diabetes in the Fire Service

By Chief Jeff Cash

It is with great pleasure that I get the opportunity to assist in rolling out a new position statement from the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC). The NVFC's mission is to provide a unified voice for volunteer fire and EMS organizations, and they always work to be on the front lines of supporting firefighter health and safety. The NVFC has taken on many positions and programs relating to firefighter health and safety, such as smoking cessation, the Heart-Healthy Firefighter Program, and the Share the Load™ behavioral health program. They have been on the forefront of pushing volunteer fire and EMS organizations into getting their members annual medical evaluations. The introduction of the NVFC's latest position to support and educate the emergency services on diabetes falls right in line with the goals and objectives of those initiatives.

Why is diabetes support and education so important? To answer that question, you need a little background on diabetes. Diabetes mellitus is a metabolic disease characterized by the inability to use glucose (sugar) effectively due to deficiencies or resistance to insulin. It is a situation that responders deal with on a regular basis when responding to diabetic medical emergency calls. Diabetes contributes to a number of other diseases including heart disease, eye complications, kidney disease, neuropathy, foot problems, skin complications and dental disease. The American Diabetes Association states that almost 30 million children and adults have diabetes and 86 million more are pre-diabetic in the U.S. today. That equates to nine percent of Americans in our country who currently have diabetes. Odds are one out of every 10 members on your department will be afflicted with the disease at some point in their life. That is why it is so important.

Why does it matter to the NVFC? It's important to the NVFC because one out of every five line-of-duty coronary heart disease (CHD) events occurred in a person suffering from

diabetes, according to the 2015 National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation report *Heart to Heart: Strategizing an Evidence-based Approach to Reduce Cardiac Disease and Death in the Fire Service*. CHD is the leading cause of firefighter line-of-duty deaths each year, and one of the contributing factors to heart disease is diabetes.

Diabetes is something that the fire service needs to recognize in its members to help prevent more line-of-duty incidents. Through the new position statement, the NVFC is prompting education, management, and prevention of the disease. The only way for fire/EMS organization members to get the proper diagnosis and treatment is through an annual medical evaluation and screening. It is one of the many medical ailments that can be found through an annual medical evaluation, providing further confirmation as to why annual exams are so important. Reducing the number of line-of-duty deaths will always be a priority of the NVFC, and urging departments to give members the benefit of an annual physical evaluation is a huge step in that process.

The issues of diabetes and medical screenings are important to the NVFC, but they are also important to me personally. During our annual physicals at the Cherryville Fire Department in 2014, the medical exam provider found an issue with my bloodwork relating to glucose issues. The medical provider urged me to visit my local physician who ran some tests to check the red flag that was found. I was diagnosed as pre-diabetic. I fall in that 86 million people in this country who are battling and fighting not to fall into the full-blown diabetic category. I would have never known I had an issue with my glucose without our annual physicals and my condition would have continued to progress unchecked.

Catching diseases and risk factors early are why the NVFC constantly urges the importance of providing those annual physicals. By discovering my pre-diabetic diagnosis early, my doctor was able to put me on a prescription and start working on management. It's been almost three years, and I have never had to result to taking insulin. I am exercising on a much more

regular basis, watching my food intake better and have lost 15 pounds. I am able to continue to serve my department and community without the health complications that full-fledge diabetes surely would have brought. It's an ongoing battle for me to keep from becoming diabetic, but it's a challenge I am glad to continue fighting thanks to getting an early diagnosis from our annual physicals.

The NVFC's position is this: "The NVFC supports and advocates for the education and prevention of diabetes and implementation of approaches to actively cope with the diagnosis for all firefighters and their families." It's a position that makes sense for the NVFC in continuing to promote firefighter health and safety. It's a position that makes sense for the firefighters already coping with the diagnosis. It's a position that is truly personal for me. We only have one heart; we have to do whatever it takes to take care of it and not become another statistic. Your family and your fellow firefighters are depending on you!

Chief Jeff Cash has been in the fire service for over 35 years serving in both the volunteer and career sectors. He has served as the fire chief of the Cherryville (NC) Fire Department since 1986 and is a North Carolina certified firefighter, EMT, rescue technician, fire officer, arson investigator, fire code enforcement officer, and instructor. He is a past president of the North Carolina Firemen's Association and serves as the North Carolina director to the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC). He sits on the NVFC Executive Committee, represents the NVFC on the NFPA 1021 Committee and the IAFC Safety Health & Survival Committee, and has testified before Congressional committees on fire service issues on two occasions.

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The Mission is Safety

By Hersch Wilson

There are typically two ways we come to a conversation about the health and safety of our departments. First, and often heart-breakingly, there is a preventable incident that “wakes up” the department. Second, the officers decide that they need to focus on health and safety before something happens. Of course there is often a third scenario, when a department, because they’ve never had an incident such as a firefighter getting clipped by a car while managing traffic at a rush hour crash, believes they are somehow magically protected and do not need to focus attention on health and safety.

The truth is that we can all improve in regards to our two highest priorities – the health and safety of the individuals on our departments.

In my non-volunteer life I’ve had the great fortune to work for companies all over the world as a culture and leadership consultant. This article is based on the best practices I observed.

Leading

The health and safety of your department starts with leadership the officers working in concert, on the same page.

But here is the problem. Depending on the day and the last call, the priorities of a volunteer fire department can change in a heartbeat. There’s that old truck that needs to be replaced, money that needs to be spent down before the end of the fiscal year. We need new recruits! We need to change the way we fight fires! No we don’t!

The list goes on.

The attention span of any group of people, including fire departments, is short and easily distracted. However, as Max Depree, former CEO of Herman-Mill, noted, “The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality.” This means helping an organization understand that no matter what today’s distractions are, the organization has a mission. The task of a leader is to define the mission and keep the organization focused.

Mission Driven

A mission statement is simply a statement of what is important to the organization. Most fire department mission statements start with “Our mission is to protect life and property.” But most miss this important clause: “Further, we will execute our mission in the safest way possible.” Next, there needs to be: “The health of our firefighters and first responders is the highest priority.”

A note: If you see tension between those statements, for example, “protect life” and “the health of our firefighters is the highest priority,” that’s great!

Why? Because in the resulting conversations you will have you will find ways to accomplish both.

Creating a Safety- and Health-Focused Mission Statement

The fact is that most organizations and leaders believe that the act of writing a mission statement is the end. Then, the mission statement goes on the wall or in a file and gathers dust. Might as well just toss it.

Writing it is the easy part. Making it come alive is the work. Here are some tips for incorporating the mission into the department’s every-day culture.

1. Be the thought leader. Understand it, be comfortable “selling it,” be comfortable explaining it.

2. Use it every time you can. It is a speech that you give over and over again until you are sick of hearing yourself talk. Just about then your department will get it, “Oh, you mean safety and health are a priority!”

3. Build the expectation that everyone on the department needs to know the mission and their role in executing it. As an example, a CEO friend of mine would randomly ask employees, “What is our mission and what is your role in executing our mission?” The word soon got around that not only did you need to know what the mission was, but your role had better be connected to it. Otherwise, the CEO might sweetly ask, “If your role is not connected to our mission... why are you here?”

4. If safety and health truly reflects the priorities of the

department, then regular meetings need to include time spent discussing the mission priorities. Simple as that. In an ideal world, the priority discussions ought to be: “How did we do on safety this month? What did we learn?” And the same for health.

A Culture Shift

The culture of an organization is something that can’t be touched or measured but you feel it as soon as you walk into a room of people. It is the ocean we swim in. A great culture is open, fun, curious, supportive, accountable, and can make the job of leading a joy. On the other hand, a toxic culture is back-biting, feuding, blaming, and can make leading miserable.

If you sit back and listen you can hear the culture working. Do we really believe safety is an issue? Do we care about our health? Do we openly discuss incidents and mistakes, or do we cover them up?

Driving mission into an organization, especially into our tradition-bound departments, is a cultural shift. Changing a culture (aka “the way things are here”) takes patience and over-communicating. It needs to be marketed, sold, and most importantly, led.

Yes, it circles back to the leader and the leadership team. You cannot tell adults “how to be.” Rather, first we need to be the change we want to create. For example, create a meeting agenda item such as, “Here is the safety mistake I made and what I learned” or “Here are the two things I’m doing to take better

care of myself.” Go first! Have your officers go next. Even if there is silence for months, keep the practice going.

Be patient and it will pay off.

The National Volunteer Fire Council recently released a training manual that can help departments learn the “hows” and “whys” of incorporating health and safety into all aspects of their culture and operations. *Volunteer Fire Service Culture: Essential Strategies for Success* is available for free download on the NVFC web site at www.nvfc.org, and

print copies can be ordered for your department.

Be Brave. Be Kind. Be Safe!

Hersch Wilson is the medical captain with Hondo Volunteer Fire and Rescue in Santa Fe County, NM. He has been with the department since 1987. In his “other life” he is a leadership and organizational culture consultant and a soccer coach. Visit him at HerschWilson.com or on Facebook at ‘Hersch Wilson-Firefighter.’

Gasoline refueling advisory and safety guidelines for consumers

Static electricity-related incidents at retail gasoline outlets are extremely unusual, but the potential for them to happen appears to be the highest during cool or cold and dry climate conditions. In rare circumstances, these static related incidents have resulted in a brief flash fire occurring at the fill point. Consumers can take steps to minimize these and other potential fueling hazards by following safe refueling procedures all year long.

Most important, they should not get back into their vehicles during refueling -- even when using the nozzle’s hold-open latch. This will greatly reduce and minimize the likelihood of any build-up of static electricity.

A build-up of static electricity can be caused by re-entering a vehicle during fueling, particularly in cool or cold and dry climate conditions. If the motorist then returns to the vehicle fill pipe when refueling is complete, the static may discharge at the fill point, causing a brief flash fire with gasoline refueling vapors.

Motorists who cannot avoid getting back into the vehicle should always first touch a metal part of the vehicle, such as the door, or some other metal surface, away from the fill point upon exiting the vehicle.

Here are additional consumer refueling safety guidelines:

- Turn off your vehicle engine while refueling. Put your vehicle in park and/or set the emergency brake.
- Do not smoke, light matches or lighters while refueling.

- NOTICE -

Starting after January 1, 2016 members and supporters of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter’s Association will be able to directly purchase Volunteer Firefighter license plates online from the BMV or from their local BMV.

This is a change in procedure from currently having to go through the IVFA Central Office with paperwork and a fee.

If you have any questions about the change, contact your District Chairman or Public Relations Representative.



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