



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 68 NO. 1

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

FEBRUARY 2019

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 2019 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.

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 member's 10 or 25

year pins presented at, please contact 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
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Our Worst Nightmare!

Thinking back on fifteen years of service I never thought my worst nightmare would ever come true. Being a first responder, as well as a parent, I had two worries upon my shoulders. First, responding to the needs of our community and second, the worries of a parent with a teenage son driving for the first time.

Every time the pager went off, I jumped inside. Where was my son? What time is it? Does he drive down that road? These were the questions that would run through my mind.

Our son, as all teenagers do, went on the defensive whenever Dad got onto him about driving around with his friends. I always worried about him and was afraid that one day I would roll up on him in an accident. I always told him that it wasn't just him I was worried about, but even more so, the people that drove around him; the ones who never pay attention, the distracted drivers, and those who shouldn't really have a driver's license. I always assured him that it was those people that scared me most, not him.

Those thoughts slowly faded from my mind as years went by. Our son was now 25. I knew he was a safe and smart driver. We never expected what the night of November 27, 2018 had in store for us.

Monday afternoon, the 26th, Zach had tripped over our cat, Sheldon, doing the cat version of stop/drop/and roll in front of him as he made his way back to his basement lair. When he fell, he smashed into the front window, tried to catch himself, and jammed his hand. Dad, being the

family fixer-upper, wrapped his hand and told him to put ice on it to help reduce the swelling. He was finally feeling better the next morning and the swelling had gone down quite a bit.

Tuesday night was like any other night in our household. I work 3rd shift, so I was slowly coming back to life. We were getting dinner ready, setting the table and waiting for Zach to come home from work, usually between 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. Zach would come bouncing in the kitchen door asking what was for dinner while heading straight towards the bathroom. This was the norm in our little part of the world.

At 6:28 p.m. my Walton Community Fire Department pager went off, "Walton Fire, Cass County Medics, you have a run. C.P. [Calling Person] said that there are 2 people lying in the middle of U.S. Highway 35, possibly a hit and run". This really got me going. I looked at my wife and we instinctively knew that this was going to be a bad one. She handed me my keys and coat, I grabbed my shoes and out the door I went. Just before I stepped out the door, dispatch gave us an update on the patients, "Update: C.P. advises that neither patient has a pulse." I immediately realized that this call was not going to be good at all.

We live just 2 blocks from the fire department so I headed there to pick up our rescue truck. As I turned the corner my partner had beaten me to the station and was already rolling out. At the stop sign I decided to follow him, P.O.V., to the scene. I knew we had everything in the rescue truck

for this incident so I followed closely behind him.

The incident was just blocks from our house. Walton, Indiana is a very small town. Our last census count was a mere 1021 residents. Like I tell everybody who comes to our town for the first time, "Do not sneeze, blink or look down at your radio, you will miss our town completely".

Upon arrival at the scene, Dan positioned the rescue truck so that all southbound traffic was stopped. I parked on the west side of the two lane highway, far enough out of the way so that the medics could get in and out as fast as possible. I ran to the rescue truck to grab a warmer pair of gloves. The ones I had in my truck were cold and I didn't want to care for a patient with cold hands.

Dan took the patient who was closest to the rescue truck and I went to the patient just south of him.

Please understand that relating this event is going to be incredibly hard for me. My NIGHTMARE is just about to begin.

As I bent down to check the carotid pulse on my patient, I was slightly kneeling over him with my back facing south. The lighting was extremely bad, the evening chill had settled in and I could barely see my patient's face. As I gently moved his head to check his pulse, I started to look away so I could concentrate. My eyes moved up my patient's torso and I noticed his shirt and jacket were pulled up just a bit.

That is when I noticed something very strange. A tattoo

- see nightmare page 2



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



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, 2019 DEADLINE IS APRIL 5, 2019 - 12:00 p.m.



From the State House to the Fire House



by Larry Curl

Welcome to 2019, even though by the time you read this article we will be a couple of months into 2019, deep into the winter and possible weather that we hope will change sooner rather than later.

The Indiana General Assembly will have been in session since January 03, 2019. We will see several bills that will have a direct impact (some positive and some not so positive) on the fire service and particularly Volunteer Fire Services.

Today I had the first chance to look at some proposed legislation; some will be very nice while others will be of concern. A big job ahead of us!

You can see the entire bill list on the IVFA website at www.IVFA.org and look at the legislative page listed on the left hand side of the home page. Once on the legislative page you will have the opportunity to review the entire bill list with every bill filed during this session as well as viewing an IVFA Bill watch list, those bills we are watching, monitoring and have an interest in.

As of the writing of this article we are hoping for some benefits for our members, education for our recruits and possible different ways or options for funding.

We will stay vigilant and

watchful about other legislation that may not be so friendly to our needs or desires.

While looking at the IVFA website, check out some other interesting items on the website including convention dates & information, the calendar with meeting, training, and fund raising dates and locations. You can find a full listing of all departments who are members of the IVFA, information for members, interesting facts about the Association, the IVFAA and see a listing of our corporate sponsors, those who help fund some of our special activities such as the gas card giveaway and the station clean up kit that is awarded quarterly.

As you are looking at your IVFA website, mark it as one of your favorites and visit it often for updates, changes, information and pictures of the IVFA activities and its members.

As we start out the new year we should do so with excitement, enthusiasm and pride, proud to be able to serve, excited about serving and enthused about the possibilities of serving and helping others.

As your State Lobbyist, my duties include being present at the State House during each day the members are in session or when committee hearings are being conducted, to watch,

listen, learn and communicate between our elected officials and our membership, keeping both informed as to what will serve our firefighters and EMS personnel the best and make it easier and better to serve our constituents, families, neighbors and friends that we pledge to do each and every day, not only when it's convenient, but when it's not as well.

I will be calling upon you from time to time asking for your opinion, thoughts, and direction on issues and I will be asking that you meet with, contact and share your thoughts with your State Senators, Representatives and even the Administration (Governor and Lt. Governor) when the opportunity is presented.

Hearing from you, the folks who they work for (believe it or not), those who elect them and those who they serve makes a BIG difference in the way they vote.

So learn who they are (you can do that by going to the IVFA website and looking up your office holders from the President of our country to trustee of our local units of government and all offices in-between. Learn to identify them and don't be afraid to speak with them.

Hope you (we) have a great 2019 as we chart the way and

continue to serve our communities.

I am looking forward to seeing you as I attend as many district meetings as possible and bring you updates and information

Nightmare . . . (continued from page 1)

that looked very familiar. It was black Japanese writing and it looked very, very familiar. I instantly turned to look at his right hand and that is when it hit me. THIS WAS MY SON!

The white bandage wrap that I had given him was glowing like a beacon in the middle of the night. I looked down at my patient and finally realized that it was my oldest son lying there in the middle of the highway, lifeless. Every emotion I had experienced in my entire lifetime hit me all at once. Loss, anger, sadness, pain, fear, shock and love, exploded in my mind. Once that explosion went off in my head, everything turned into one massive blur.

I remember looking up at Dan and just telling him that, "this is my boy, Dan, and this is my son." I screamed this over and over. Dan quickly grabbed me and moved me off scene as fast as he could. I remember sitting on the ice-covered ground, lost. Everything I had been trained for was gone. I couldn't think of what to do next. It was as if someone had erased all

regarding legislation during this long session of our General Assembly.

Larry

of my training from my brain. I couldn't do anything but see my son's face looking up at me. I swear to this day he was smiling at me as if he somehow knew that dad was there to be with him for the last few seconds of his life.

This is the image I still see every day. I know that with time that image will begin to fade away but for now I still see him looking up and smiling at me. I think about why did I not know what to do. Is it normal for our brains to shut down when tragedy like this happens to us? Or was it just me? I do not know. With the tsunami of emotions that swept over me my mind had completely shut out everything as I grappled with the loss of our oldest son.

How many people have asked you this one question, "How do you do what you do, seeing all that chaos, tragedy, and sometimes violence?"

All I can say is this. I disassociate myself from what is going on. I focus on what is needed to be done to help those

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INPAA

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER
 (USPS 262-480) Published February, May, August, and November. All articles to be published should be in the Editor's office no later than the 5th of the preceding month.
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 Phone 219-866-5000 or Fax 219-866-5000 - e-mail: printco@rhsi.tv
 Periodicals postage paid at the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association, P.O. Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724, and additional mailing offices, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1897. Subscription part of dues.
 Please send all correspondence to:
 Rensselaer Printco
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 Rensselaer, IN 47978-2644
 E-mail: printco@rhsi.tv
 Phone/fax - (219) 866-5000
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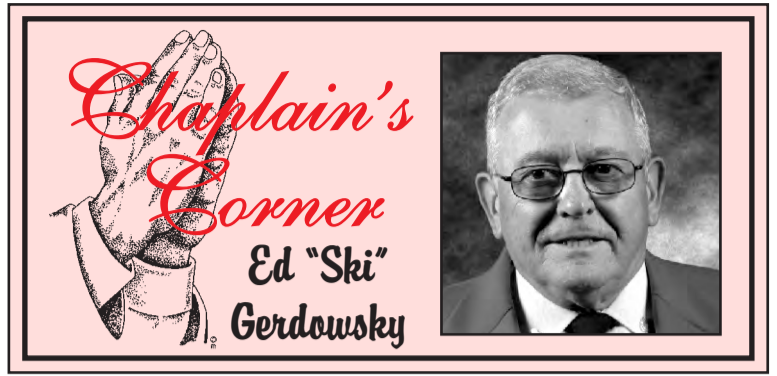
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Hope the past Thanksgiving and Christmas have been a blessing to all. I am happy to serve you all as State Chaplain along with my many associates. I thank God for each and every one of you who bless our IVFA with your many talents and willingness to serve others. Asking God to be with all of us and our families this coming 2019.

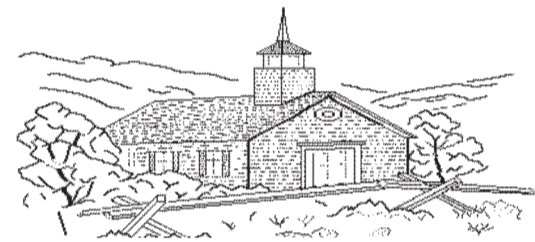
Heavenly Father, we thank you for the year that has passed and the many blessings You have showered upon us. We beg Your pardon in our many failings and trespasses. Make the new year a more fruitful and blessed one. We also thank You for every test of time that has brought us stronger in faith and trust in You. Bestow upon us the gift of the Holy Spirit. We call upon our Lord Jesus Christ for His intercessions, His guidance and His light to shine our path.

Isaiah 40:31:

"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me or any of my associates. We will be glad to help you whenever we can. God Bless all of you!

Chaplain,
 Ed (Ski) Gerdowsky



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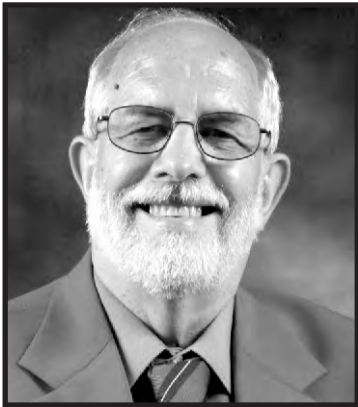
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Public Relations Director Northeast
Jean Smith



Hello Everyone,
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:
Jason Giszewski, 25 years.
Aboite Fire Department Service Award Recognitions:
Jarod Burke 10 years, Robert Pearl 10 years, Michael Meyers 10 years.
New Haven Adams Township is hosting some good training in our Public Relations area.
Allen County Leadership & Development Training. Register at newhavenadamstwptraining.com. Classes are free to attend.
March 1, **Michael Torres, Talking Taps, Round Table**

Discussion. 5:30 P.M. doors open. Presentation 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. New Haven-American Legion Post #330, 330 Entrance Drive, New Haven, IN 46774.

March 2, **Mark VonAppen, Fully Involved.** 8:00 A.M. doors open. Presentation 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. (Lunch provided). New Haven High School Auditorium, 1300 Green Road, New Haven, IN 46744.

March 3, **Mark O'Shaughnessy, MD, Cardiac Events in the Fire Service.** 8:00 A.M. Doors open. Presentation 8:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. New Haven High School Auditorium, 1300 Green Road, New Haven, IN 46744.

Joe Kitchen, Fire & EMS Customer Service. Presentation 10:45 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. (Lunch provided 12:30 P.M.). New Haven High School Auditorium, 1300 Green Road, New Haven, IN 46744.

"You Can Make A Dent". Presentation 1:15 P.M. to 2:45 P.M. New Haven High School Auditorium, 1300 Green Road, New Haven, IN 46744.

"Pushing the Reset Button". Presentation 3:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. New Haven High School Auditorium, 1300 Green Road, New Haven, IN 46744.

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

Jean Smith, PRNE

Public Relations Director Southwest
Steve Nolan



Greetings,
I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Near the end of 2018 several lives were lost in home fires, PLEASE check your smoke detectors and please pass this message along to the residents in your communities.

Building in the urban interface is also common in Indiana and we can learn from the fires in California that we need to promote fire safety to our residents in these areas. They need to know how to protect their homes and property from these devastating fires.

- see prsw page 5

who are in need at the time. We are trained to only focus on the incident at hand, to respond quickly and efficiently, to save life, property, and the environment while protecting the safety of all first responders as our number one priority on each and every run. But when one particular incident affected me as this one has, I am lost. How am I to keep this mind frame of disassociation when my patient is my own son? I honestly can tell you that you cannot no matter how hard you try.

I have found that there are so many resources out there to help us. Even if you have the call on one of the worst tragedies in your area, you have people out there to help you. Our state has helped our little community in ways that have tremendously amazed me. Indiana Department of Homeland Security provided the resources needed for my fire department, our family and services we needed to help us get through these darkest times in our lives. They not only stepped up to help us at the Walton Community Fire Department, but they have been here helping all of our first responders in Cass County, Indiana which has suffered such great loss in the last few months. These services have been a Godsend to all.

If you ever find yourself in a similar situation, being the first

responder to an incident that rips you apart, stabs your heart, brings you to nightmares, makes you question your abilities or brings pain to the community you serve, please, reach out to the resources available. These are provided for the first responders throughout the state. Don't go it alone. Don't let these incidents affect your family, friends, co-workers and others. The help is there. Just ask! I can attest to the compassion, professionalism and expertise that are offered.

I would like to close with the last and most important memory I carry of my son. That morning as I was getting ready to head to bed and he was getting ready for work, we walked down the hallway of our house together. I turned left to our bedroom and he turned right to the bathroom. I looked in on him as he started the shower and yelled over the sounds of the water, "I love you son. Have a good day and be safe out there."

He turned, smiled that quirky little smile of his and replied, "Love you too, dad, have good dreams."

Those were the last words we ever spoke to one another. I will cherish them forever.

Paul Wines
WCFD 106

(submitted by Pascal Moon, District 9A chairman)

SPENCER MFG.

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

IVFA Convention 2019 Registration Form

Come and play, we'll light the way
Blue Chip Casino, Hotel and Spa
777 Blue Chip Drive, Michigan City, In.

June 12 – 15, 2019

Pre-registration Fee: \$75.00 per person – Post marked by June 1, 2019

Registration after June 1, 2019 fee \$85.00
(All registration fees are non-refundable)

Name : _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Phone: ()- - IVFA District: _____

Fire Department/Company: _____

Name of Spouse or Guest (if registering): _____

Number of children attending (under 12): _____

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

Extra banquet tickets can be ordered: Need _____ Extra tickets@ \$40.00 each

Total amount Enclosed \$ _____ Make checks payable to IVFA Convention 2019

(Circle One) Master Card or Visa Card Number: _____

Expiration Date _____ Code: _____ Signature: _____

For E-mail confirmation of your registration Please list your e-mail address: _____

Mail Completed Form and Payment: 2019 IVFA Convention Attn: Marge Wozniak, 2505 Ohio St. Michigan City, In. 46360 Cell: 219-898-1633

For information please call Bob Uryga at (219)872-6245 Date received _____

Convention HDQTRS: Blue Chip Casino Michigan City 46360 777 Blue Chip Drive

For Reservations call (888)879-7711 Hotel Website: www.bluechipcasino.com/groups
Blue Chip Tower \$89.00 Spa Tower \$109.00
Group Code: GIV0613 Reservations made to get group rate deadline is May 21, 2019

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 3 REPORT



Bob Uryga Sr. - Chairman
IVFA District 3 Meeting
November 15, 2018

Thank you to Michiana Shores Volunteer F.D. for hosting our November meeting and providing refreshments.

Chairman Robert Uryga called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Michiana Shores Chief Garry Bendix led the pledge to the flag.

Coolspring Chaplain Rick Bradford started the meeting with a prayer.

Roll call was called and showed 3 departments present represented by 15 members.

Volunteers responded to 474

calls in LP County in the month of November.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and treasurer's report was made. Garry Bendix made a motion to approve and Dave Robb was a second. Motion carried.

Chairman Uryga reported on state quarterly meeting. There is a bill in Senate (SB2207) that proposes to forgive student loans for volunteer firefighters and first responders.

Contact your Indiana State Senator to support this bill.

Chairman Uryga gave an update on Convention 2019. We meet once a month at Blue Chip Convention Center and all committees are busy at this time. We still need someone to step up to run a waterball competition.

Marge Wozniak made a motion and seconded by Garry Bendix to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

A bake sale was held after the meeting. Thanks to all who

brought items and to those who brought goodies to take home.

We have all been blessed. Have a very Merry Christmas.

Respectfully submitted,
District 3 Secretary
Rick Bradford

DISTRICT 5 REPORT



John Grolich - Chairman

I.V.F.A. 5th District Meeting
November 8, 2018
Kewanna-Union Fire
Department, Kewanna, IN

Refreshments were served by the host department prior to the meeting.

Guests: Jean & E.J. Smith.
The meeting was called to

order by Chairman Grolich at 1931 hours with the pledge of allegiance to the flag following. The meeting was attended by 12 firefighters representing 8 departments. The September minutes were read and approved as submitted.

Jean discussed with us the First Responder Forever stamp that has been released by the U.S. Post Office. He touched on F.F cancers again. He discussed with us on Burn Saver Thermal Sensor used at fire scene and respiration protection during overhaul operations. He remarked about improved changes in glove structure. He passed out literature for these issues.

Jean advised that the eyeglass allowance is now \$100 and glasses with a hearing aid is \$150.00.

The clothing allowance is \$100.00 per claim. Bunker gear **IS NOT** covered by the IVFA. Damaged clothes must be presented to the committee with the claim and will not be returned.

Still working out bugs on the

ACADIS reporting system.

Larry Curl met with Brian Bosma and is proposing legislation through Ivy Tech and Vincennes University for an Associates Degree.

2019 Miss Flame for District 5 was introduced as Madison Shumaker from the Bremen F.D.

Next meeting January 10, 2019 at Etna Twp. F.D., Etna Green, IN.

Meeting was adjourned at 2014 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Martin
District 5 Secretary

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, 2019 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, 2019 at 7:00 P.M.

Again, it would be great to see better attendance at our District 6
- see district 6 page 6

prsw . . .
(continued from page 4)

Cancer is big within the firefighting lives, but we can help ourselves by cleaning our gear before leaving the scene. Changing and cleaning our hoods and please do not put your dirty gear in your personal vehicle and expose your families to this disease.

Till next time,
Steve Nolan, PRSW

BOB POYNTER

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 6 . . .

(continued from page 5)

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, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. All District 6 departments should have received a flyer on the meetings. If any of the departments or individual firefighters in District 6 have problems or concerns, please call or e-mail me. I will do my level best to help you out. Better yet, bring them to our next meeting on 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
July 16, 2018
Chester Twp.
Volunteer Fire Department

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bisel at 7:34 p.m. Chairman Bisel led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 27 members representing 10 departments.

May Minutes R/A.

Guest: Jean Smith - PRNE.

Chairman Bisel - There were two deaths in the district since last meeting. James Herring, Chester Twp. and James "Butch" Gilbert, Decatur.

There were 125 voting delegates at convention. District 7 had 11 delegates. Thanks guys, nice district representation.

Lists of state officers and award winners were read. Congratulations to Bev Lockwood and Joyce Nevil for their awards!

Chief Bobby Hulton, Tulsa, OK, and Editor in Chief of Fire Engineering was our keynote speaker at the banquet.

The new IVFA website is up and running.

Hoosier Burn Camp Auction raised over \$8,000!

Indianapolis Airport provided a tour of their fire station and equipment.

2019 Convention will be in Michigan City and 2020 will be in Evansville.

State award nominations are now available on the website. Get your district chairman nominations for the Global Award.

Make sure that you and your department get dues paid by end of July.

50 year resolution was presented to James Parrish, Chester Twp.

Jean Smith, PRNE - President Trump signed HR 931 into law.

Chairman Bisel - Gave the floor to Jean Smith to conduct elections.

Sam Bisel nominated for chairman. No other nominations, Sam Bisel, district chairman.

Len Smith nominated for vice-chairman. No other nomination, Len Smith, vice-chairman.

Richard Sorg nominated for secretary. No other nominations, Richard Sorg, secretary.

Next district meeting will be Sept. 17 at Decatur FD.

Second roll call answered by 27 members representing 10 departments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Richard Sorg
District 7 Secretary

Indiana Volunteer
Firefighter's Association
District 7
September 17, 2018
Decatur Fire Department

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bisel at 7:40 p.m. Chairman Bisel led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 23 members representing 7 departments.

July minutes not available.

Guests: Larry Curl, IVFA Lobbyist and Dave Polkow, Global Fire Equipment.

Chairman Bisel - Two deaths in the district since last meeting, Michael Witter and Donald Pickford.

Larry Curl, IVFA Lobbyist was given the floor.

Convention is your opportunity to award people.

Come to convention and enjoy the opportunity.

Shortage of firefighters in Indiana.

Benefits package proposal for volunteer firefighters.

HB 1005 merger bill.

Chairman Bisel - The IVFA has 529 Life members.

Chairman Bisel presented 50 year Gold Cards to Jan Smith and Alford Plue.

25 year pins read off.

Presented one 10 year pin.

Be thinking about award nominations for next year.

Get Chairman Bisel names for the Global Award.

Fill out your attendance tickets. Last quarterly meeting cleaning kit went to District 6 and gas card went to District 13B.

Next district meeting will be Nov. 19 at Geneva and it will be

district Miss Flame Judging.

PR training.

Second roll call answered by 25 members representing 7 departments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Beverly Lockwood
Acting District 7 Secretary

Indiana Volunteer
Firefighter's Association
District 7
November 19, 2018
Geneva Volunteer
Fire Department

Meeting called to order by vice-chairman Len Smith at 7:48 p.m. Vice-chairman Smith led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 29 members representing 10 departments.

September Minutes R/A.

Guests: David Israel - IVFA Vice-President, Jean Smith - PRNE, Larry Curl - IVFA Lobbyist and Brandon Taylor - Taylor'd Equipment.

Vice-chairman Smith - One death in the district since last meeting, Dave Lyons of Geneva.

Would like to welcome Huntington Township Volunteer Fire Department to the IVFA District 7.

Currently the IVFA has 13,400 members and 3400 license plates for 2019.

To date American Income Life has paid out over \$183,000 in benefits to members and families of the IVFA.

Jean Smith PRNE - Attended NVFC meeting in Bismarck, ND.

New Forever US Postage Stamp was unveiled.

Handout of Best Practices to Prevent Cancer is available up front. Also handouts on cleaning tips for gloves and turnouts and recommendations for overhaul respiratory protection.

On page two of the IVFA paper is the schedule for upcoming pipeline awareness classes.

The NVFC has an ad in the paper with a link for pipeline safety and tips.

Larry Curl, IVFA Lobbyist - Staffing shortages are occurring all over with all departments!

General Assembly is looking at a benefits package to help fund education. It would provide anyone who is a member of a public safety department or employee of a career department with a 2 year degree to Ivy Tech or Vincennes University. It would not limit an individual to one degree!!

Volunteer fire departments are continuing to provide services across the state while still being underfunded. Conversations have been held with Speaker of the House Bosma on the issue of funding the fire service. Funding for the volunteer fire service has not changed in 50 years, it is still based on how the township trustee chooses to allot funding. Proposing a change at the state

level to base funding on assessed valuation.

Presumptive cancer policy, still looking for funding.

Also would like to provide a volunteer incentive to include benefits and pension fund.

Hoosier Lottery website says that they give back to the community. This could be a possibility for funding.

Fireworks tax is supposed to go towards funding fire service education.

Vice-President Israel - Ask for your First Responder Stamps at the post office!

David's county got four new township trustees this year. This led to discussion about departments not getting enough staffing and what they were going to do about it.

Let's all help get the education benefit! Contact your representatives when called upon to do so!

Townships are looking at ways to be able to use funds in different accounts to fund emergency services.

Townships have to ask for their share of Public Safety LOIT tax from their county council.

Accident and health insurance is a major expense for departments. Departments in Decatur County are going together to get a countywide insurance policy. By doing so insurance rates have gone down.

Look at the new IVFA website. There is a lot of information available there. While on the website double check that your department is listed in the correct district and that the included information is correct.

Get your award nominations in by Feb. 1. This can now be done on the website.

The link for 2019 convention room reservations had a problem but believe it to be corrected now.

PR Day of Training has not yet been scheduled for our PR territory. The training has been well received in other parts of the state.

Vice-Chairman Smith - FDIC is coming up April 8-13 in Indianapolis.

Firefighter Board of Standards and Education meeting will be held December 3 at Wayne Twp., Indianapolis.

2018 District 7 Global Award was presented to Troy McDonald of Hoagland VFD.

Any department having a young lady interested in running for Miss Flame, let Chairman Bisel know.

Last quarterly meeting attendance prizes went to District 2 and District 10. Make sure to get your attendance card turned in for your chance to win.

Next district meeting will be at Hoagland January 21.

Second roll call answered by 30 members representing 10 departments.

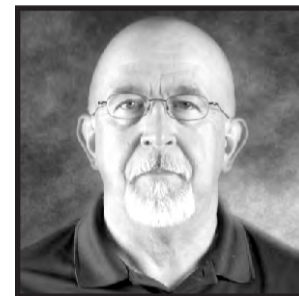
Monroe has Breakfast with Santa Dec. 8, also tickets for gun raffle available.

Hoagland Christmas Tree sale will be starting.

Poe peanut brittle available after the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

DISTRICT 8A REPORT



Jerry Liston - Chairman

Greetings from District 8A!

Where did 2018 go? I swear each year keeps going by faster and faster, especially as I advance with age.

I want to thank Chief Quinten Shipley and the members of the Jonesboro Volunteer Fire Department for hosting the District 8A meeting in November. There were 5 departments and 23 members present at the November meeting. A total of 187 Fire and EMS runs were reported at the meeting.

I have put together the district's meeting schedule for 2019. All meetings will be held on the 4th Wednesday of the stated month and begin at 7 p.m. unless noted otherwise on the meeting notice mailed out to all departments in the district prior to the meeting.

The list of 2019 dates and meeting locations are as follows:

- January 23, 2019
Lafontaine-Liberty Twp.
- March 27, 2019
Lapel-Stony Creek Twp.
- May 22, 2019
Gas City Rescue Squad
- June 12-15, 2019
IVFA State Convention:
Michigan City
- July 24, 2019
Lafayette Twp.
- September 25, 2019
Madison Twp.
- November 27, 2019
Mill Twp.

Between the 6 required meetings in 2019 is the IVFA State Convention. The convention will be in Michigan City at the Blue Chip Casino in June. The dates are June 12-15.

In past articles I have spoken about the impacts of cancer in the fire service and what is being done to address or combat it. The NVFC/VCOS has released the Lavender Ribbon Report. This report addresses occupational cancer in the fire service and suggests 11 ways to mitigate those suggestions for your department. If you would like to find and learn more about the Lavender Ribbon Report go to www.nvfc.org.

By the time you are reading this article the 2019 legislative session will be underway at the Statehouse. Larry Curl, IVFA Lobbyist, has already started

- see district 8A page 7

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 8A ...

(continued from page 6)

following proposed legislation that might again impact the volunteer fire service in the State of Indiana during the upcoming session.

Our Association is expecting to see some form of 2018's HB 1005 again. This was the bill proposed last year that would have forced smaller townships of 1200 residents or smaller to merge with a larger township.

Recently a Fire Chief in my district made me aware of an article in a local Anderson newspaper, titled *Township Government in Indiana: "It Makes No Sense"*. What this tells me is there will be another attempt this legislative session to do away with or modify township government in the state.

Another legislative issue the IVFA will be looking to address this session is increasing funding for volunteer fire departments. There is a huge funding disparity across the state between volunteer fire departments. There are some departments that operate on budgets of \$5,000 dollars or less a year. These underfunded departments go without needed equipment or worse yet have to hold multiple fundraisers a year just to keep fuel in the trucks, the lights on in the station and insurance premiums paid.

I have been told there will be a proposed bill this session that will offer free education to emergency first responders, both volunteer and career members. I believe the intent of the bill will be used as a recruiting tool on the volunteer side and to provide educational opportunities on the career side as well. More to come on this bill.

The final legislative item the IVFA is investigating is a benefits package that will include presumptive cancer coverage for volunteer members. This will be a daunting task to achieve but is needed for all volunteer firefighting personnel across the state. The key to make this happen will be finding a funding source for the benefits package and some agency to manage the package at the state level.

In November I sent out an e-mail to all departments in the district asking for Global Award nominations. The district Global Award is sponsored by Global Emergency Products.

Last year's District 8A Global Award recipient was the Campbell Family Foundation in the Kempton, Indiana area. The Campbell family operate a seed corn company in Tipton County that helps fire departments and service organizations across the county with funding for equipment and other things.

As I write this article I have received only 2 nominations for

the award so far from departments in the district.

There are several awards available for IVFA and IVFAA members. The information for these awards can be found on the re-tooled and re-built IVFA website under Annual Awards. The available awards are as follows.

- Mr. IVFA Award
- Ivan Nevil Fire Service Leadership Award
- Ollie Sandburg Award
- Angel Award
- Junior Firefighter Award
- Lois Boaz Award
- Miriam A. Schaeckel Award
- Bridgeport Scholarship

If you have someone on your department or know of someone on a neighboring department who qualifies for one of the above awards, please nominate them. All it takes is a little of yours or your department's time to nominate an individual. Members are able to fill out the nomination form for each award on the website and submit the form to the appropriate committee. Deadline for written submittals is February 1, 2019. The deadline for the Bridgeport Scholarship is March 1, 2019.

As previously mentioned the Association's website has been re-tooled and re-built for you. The new version is compatible with new smart phone and tablet technology. Check out the new website at www.ivfa.org to navigate and become familiar with the site.

If you have not liked the IVFA and District 8A Facebook pages, please do so, there is a lot of good information posted and shared on the pages.

Before closing, I want to take the time and congratulate Mr. David L. Marshall I of the Center Twp. VFD in Grant County. Senior as he is better known as around the department and Grant County will be given his 50 year Gold card and pin in 2019. All 50 years have been spent with the Center Township Fire Department. Congratulations Senior on your 50 years of service to the citizens of Center Township and surrounding area.

Stay safe and make the effort to keep your gear and equipment clean in 2019. In doing so, the life you save might be your own.

Jerry L. Liston
District 8A Chairman

**May 2019
deadline:
April 5, 2019
e-mail news
and ads to
printco@rhsi.tv**

DISTRICT 8B REPORT



Lloyd E. Wright - Chairman

District 8B held their November meeting at the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Department on November 14, 2018 at 7:30 P.M. Chairman Wright opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll call was taken with 14 members from 3 departments present. One guest was in attendance Larry Curl.

Larry Curl gave an update about the legislation that would be going on in the next session.

Chairman Wright presented Lisa Manor from the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Department with the Global Award which was handed out at the June convention.

Second roll call was taken with the number of fires and EMS runs. There were 12 fires and 78 EMS runs.

Next 8B district meeting will be held on January 9, 2019 at the Blountsville/Stoney Creek Volunteer Fire Department at 7:30 P.M.

Meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served.

Hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday. Wishing everyone a safe and Happy New Year.

**Please support
the
advertisers!!**

DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

Greetings from District 10, Our final district meeting for the year was a short trip for secretary Jim Davis and me, as we traveled about 3 miles to the Hope Vol. Fire Dept. for our District 10 meeting. We congratulate Ms. Kristen Mathews on being selected another year as 2018/2019 Miss Flame for District 10. We were also happy to present Rev. Ed Cottrell with his 25 year pin. Ed is a member of the Hope Fire Department and serves as an EMT and department Chaplain. IVFA President Paul Holcomb was present for a special presentation and to bring greetings from the State Association.

President Holcomb, Vice President Israel and myself presented Ed Stone, a member of Clifford Fire Department his 50 year Gold Card and Fire Marshal Meritorious Service Award. Ed was unaware he would be receiving this honor and was also surprised with members of his family being present.

In December Vice President Israel and I traveled to Southwest Fire Department for their appreciation supper and to present a 50 year Gold Card and Fire Marshal's Meritorious Service Award to Danny Strasser in behalf of his late father, Carlos Strasser, who was a founding member of the Southwest Fire Department.

Connie and I attended Hope Fire Department's appreciation

supper on December 15th where we enjoyed a delightful meal and time of fellowship with department members. Hope Fire Chief, Chad Emmitt presented the Outstanding Firefighter/EMT of the Year to Rev. Ed Cottrell. Rev. Cottrell has been a member of Hope Department for one year but previously served on the Wayne Twp. Dept. prior to coming to Hope to serve as Pastor of the United Methodist Church. He is also a 25 year member of the IVFA.

It's hard to believe that Christmas has come and gone and another year has ended. District 10 Secretary Jim Davis and I wish everyone a Happy, Healthy, and Blessed New Year.

John M Ray, District 10

DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Pete Taylor - Chairman

Greetings from District 11A,

Welcome to the new year of 2019. Hope everyone stayed safe and happy.

Our last district meeting was at Otter Creek Twp. We had 14 members and 3 guests. Thank you Otter Creek for hosting. We had a delicious meal of fried chicken and all the trimmings. Great job!

Thank you to the state officers that were there. We appreciate their presence.

Don't forget the FDIC. It's

- see district 11A page 9

RPI

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

CALIFORNIA
CASUALTY

**LOOK FOR OUR AD
IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE**

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 11A

(continued from page 7)

April 8-13, 2019 in Indy.

Please visit the I.V.F.A. website, (ivfa.org) as a lot of information is being posted.

Convention is June 12-15, 2019 at Michigan City. Please try to make it. We need a good show. Room cut-off date is May 1, 2019.

Next district meeting will be at Posey Twp. in Stanton, IN. January 20, 2019. Miss Flame contest will be then.

If anyone needs me, call the number in the paper or e-mail me.

Until next time, stay safe.

Chairman 11A
Pete Taylor

(EDITOR'S NOTE: In past issues, Otter Creek has been printed as Otto Creek. We sincerely apologize for the error and any inconveniences that may have been caused!)

DISTRICT 14 REPORT



Richard Cannon - Chairman

Greetings,

I hope everyone had a great holiday.

Been busy this quarter getting out and handing out pins.

Trying to make all fire department functions.

If you have anything going on, please contact me; if you need me to talk at a meeting I would be glad to come out.

Also let me know if you would like to host a district meeting, we meet every other month on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Thanks.

Rick Cannon,
District 14 chairman

DISTRICT 15 REPORT



Ross Emery - Chairman

Greetings from Southwest Indiana,

Hope everyone had a safe and happy holidays.

As we start the new year we are faced with some challenges, recruitment and retention, mental health awareness and cancer awareness.

On recruitment and retention the IVFA is constantly looking at ways to help departments; we

hope there will be legislation this year to assist in this. Mental Health Awareness is something people sometimes want to look away on; unfortunately suicide rates of emergency responders is rising at an alarming rate. On the Cancer Awareness we must continue to implement policies and procedures to protect our people. The NVFC published a Lavender Report that has a ton of information. To view the report please visit their website.

We held our November meeting at Somerville Fire Department, thanks goes to PRSW Steve Nolan and President Paul Holcomb for attending. We gave out several 10 year pins. We will hold our January meeting at Marrs Twp. Fire Department, we will be having our Miss Flame contest that night.

I want to thank all the departments in the district that have invited me to different events. I try to make it to as many as possible.

I know a few departments in the district have taken delivery on new fire apparatus. I look forward to seeing these new additions to your departments as I travel throughout the district.

I am very proud of the way the fire service came together to help a southern Indiana department who lost their station and most of their equipment. I know several area departments offered to assist.

Lastly, I am looking very forward to the 2020 IVFA convention that will be hosted by District 15. The convention will be held at the Holiday Inn near the Evansville airport. District 15 has a reputation for having great conventions and in 2020 it will continue that reputation. Please stay tuned for further details.

DISTRICT 17B REPORT



Robert "Bobby" Brown - Chairman

We have had two meetings in the district since last reading. One was held at Shawswick VFD and the other was at Orange County Rural District II.

Would like to thank both fire departments for being a great host. Special guests were our president from the IVFAA and Vice President from IVFA and other IVFA and IVFAA officers.

Next meeting will be at Pleasant Run VFD on January 9th, 2019. The second meeting will be at Orleans VFD on March 13, 2019 and May 8, 2019 at Morgantown VFD.

I would like to thank Hoosier Fire Incorporated for bringing

door prizes along with new demo engine for us to look at and admire.

Our 2019 Miss Flame has not been filled at this time; any girl that has a dad, mom or grandparent that is in 17B District, please get ahold of Bobby Brown district17b@ivfa.org or Dawn Hillenburg-Harris ivfaadistrict17b@ivfaa.org; between the ages 15 - 18 before June convention can apply. They need to apply as soon as possible. And like always we are looking for some help with funding for the Miss Flame representing 17B at the convention. So please make sure and talk to your departments to consider helping with sponsorship.

We talked about local government issues and other legislative issues facing all VFD in the state. Also talked about awards for IVFA and IVFAA. One of the big issues that we talked about was what precautions that we as firefighters need to take from preventing cancer.

I would like to thank all of 17B for allowing me to represent you.

Thanks,
Bobby Brown

DISTRICT 18 REPORT



John C. Smith - Chairman

Greetings from District 18.

The 15 November meeting of the District 18 was hosted by the Haysville VFD.

Roll call was answered by 43 members representing 17 departments. A total of 368 runs were reported answered. Guests included Abby Ruxer, District 18 Miss Flame. District Chaplain Jadon Hinkle gave the opening prayer and remembrance of members who have passed since the last meeting.

Chairman Smith informed the members present of legislative issues for the coming year. It was announced that the Dubois Co. Fire School will be the second and third weekends in March. The school will be held at Vincennes University Jasper Campus this year. The IVFA website will have a link to the Fire School with all information.

Our area has suffered some horrific tragedies involving the loss of life in fires, including 3 children all under the age of 12 in one fire this week. The worst part is that no working smoke alarms were present.

The Fire Marshal's Office has a program for departments to obtain free smoke alarms for

distribution in their areas. Look into it and let us reinforce to the public the importance of smoke alarms in the home.

As the new year begins, keep informed as to the legislative efforts of the Association. All members should be ready to make those important phone calls and emails to your State Representatives in Indianapolis.

Hey, it's winter out there! Stay vigilant for signs of hypothermia in our members during extended operations in cold weather.

Clean your gear, stay alert, stay safe, and until the next time, "keep the wet stuff on the red stuff".

John "Bull" Smith,
Chairman District 18

DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Steve Macke - Chairman

Hello everyone, hope all of you had a Merry Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

As we finished 2018 with our

meeting at Milan Fire which had to be moved due to Mother Nature giving us some ice to bring down power lines, we finally held the meeting the last Thursday in November. We held the district Miss Flame contest. We had two wonderful contestants, Olivia Knueven from Sunman Fire and Kayla Scranton from East Enterprise Fire. The winner was Kayla Scranton. Kayla is the daughter of Harold and Lisa Scranton. Kayla attends Switzerland County High School where she is a junior. If you have any events you would like to have her at, contact me at 812-212-5647. We now have a Facebook page - District 19 IVFA; if you have anything to post, they can be sent to district19@ivfa.org or see christopher@yahoo.com. Be sure to check out the new I V F A w e b p a g e .

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



Miss Flame News

Happy New Year!

Hope everyone had a good New Year and are ready to begin 2019 with renewed energies, a kindred spirit and have a desire to donate some extra hours to our organizations, to provide support to the men and women who serve in our fire service every day and offer assistance in our communities when it is needed.

Plans are underway for the 2019 convention to be held at the Blue Chips Casino in Michigan City. Have you selected your Miss Flame?

Your Miss Flame committee is working and planning for the upcoming event. Hopefully you all have notified all the departments in your district when and where you are going to have your district contest. REMEMBER the DATE: MARCH 10th. All applications, \$25.00 fee and two pictures must be in the hands of the Miss Flame chairman by this date. It is important that the girls receive a copy of the rules upon entering. It is important that the girls know when they make a commitment to enter that they will be expected to stay and participate the entire convention.

As the committee works to ensure a good experience for each girl, we need to put emphasis on the contest as a way to learn to communicate, develop friendships, learn more about the volunteer fire service and how to plan for their future. There are also plans being made for fun activities so you will have a well rounded experience during the week.

Thanks to the district chairmen that have assisted us in getting your representative and to the Miss Flame committee for their work toward another successful year. Remember if you haven't selected your candidate as yet, there is still time.

Any questions or concerns you may contact Barb Kerney at 812-867-2641.

EDITOR'S NOTE When submitting articles and photos, either by mail, e-mail or fax please include the District # along with the submission. THANK YOU!!

GLOBAL

**LOOK FOR OUR AD
IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE**

GLOBAL

**LOOK FOR OUR AD
IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE**

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 4

- photos submitted by E.J. Smith and Jean Smith, PRNE



Memorial service held

Kay Shumaker, District 4 IVFAA chairman, E.J. Smith, District 6A IVFAA chairman, Chief Rochford, Concord Township Fire Department, perform an IVFAA memorial service at Concord Township Fire Department, presenting the Bible and a rose to the Bechtel family in memory of Ella May Bechtel. - submitted by E.J. Smith.

***May 2019 deadline is:
April 5, 2019***

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



District 4 Miss Flame

Chief George Schafer, Rose Adams - District 4 Miss Flame, Elton Schafer - District 4 IVFA chairman, Jean Smith PRNE. (Submitted by Jean Smith PRNE)

District 4 Global Award winner



District 4 Global Award presented to Kenneth Nemes of Penn Township Fire Department.

Left to right:

PRNE Gene Smith, Kenneth Nemes, District 4 chairman Elton Schafer, and Global Emergency Products Rep. Dave Polkow. - submitted by Elton Schafer, District 4 chairman.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

- submitted by Jerry Sprague, District 6 chairman

10 year pin awarded



Caleb Phillipps of Northeast Allen County Fire and EMS received his 10 year IVFA pin from District 6 chairman Jerry Sprague and P.R. Northeast Jean Smith.

Three generations



Three generations have proudly served the St. Joe VFD and the Northeast Allen County Fire and EMS.

Twenty-five year pins awarded

Three members of the Northeast Allen County Fire and EMS received their 25 year IVFA pins from District 6 chairman Jerry Sprague and P.R. Northeast Jean Smith.



BLISS MCKNIGHT

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

IVFA AUXILIARY OFFICERS - 2017 - 2018

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JOANN HAYS2005-2007
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BARBARA KERNEY2002-2005
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/ Cell (812) 449-7698 / E-mail: bkerney39@gmail.com
MARY MACKIN (Deceased)2000-2002
FAYE SALLEE (Deceased)1998-2000
LOU BARTLOW1996-1998
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/ E-mail: jmdavies@tds.net
NANCY NEAL1990-1992
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TONI SORG (Deceased)1988-1990
LORETTA NULLINER1986-1988
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NICKIE SUNDAY (Deceased)1984-1986
BARBARA PARKER (Deceased)1982-1984
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BARBARA SURBER1980-1982
2003 Flamingo Way, Franklin, IN 46131 - (317) 614-5669 - Cell (317) 519-4445

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MARY BOYD1975-1976
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JOAN (SHANABARGER) KELLER1973-1975
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CAROLYN McCARTY1971-1973
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ROSELLA BOUSMAN (Deceased)1969-1971
MARY STAFFORD (Deceased)1967-1969
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I.V.F.A.A. DISTRICT CHAIRMEN REPORTS

IVFAA Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews



Quarterly IVFAA Meeting
Sunday, November 4, 2018
Crowne Plaza Hotel,
Indianapolis

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Carol Curl. Opening prayer given by Chaplain Beth Caudill. The flag was led in the 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 20 officers, 13 IVFAA members

and no guests. Organization count as of today is 188 Individuals, 637 paid by department, 47 departments and 26 life members for a total of 851 members.

President report: Carol Curl reports that Jenny Giles, district chairman for 11B has been in hospital with heart issues, has had a surgery and may have to have more. Joann Hayes not able to come to this meeting and is down about it. Cards are being passed around to sign for the both of them. Carol informed the group that District 16 has not paid any dues at this time, not even the individuals, so essentially we have lost a district.

Correspondence: Corresponding secretary Janet Matthews was asked to read the minutes from the August 2018 quarterly meeting. Lou Bartlow made a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes & accept the minutes as they were posted in the paper, Christina Reef seconded the motion. All in favor and motion carried. Janet informed the group that we are down to 1/2 box of envelopes. Diane Stapleton made a motion that the organization gets the new dye made to create our own envelopes with the auxiliary logo

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

on it since we are in need of envelopes. Diana Gray seconded the motion, all in favor, motioned carried. Suzie Lewis will make contact with printing options to get this accomplished.

Treasurer's Report: Martha Biehl informed the group that she received another "free" check for the organization of \$10. Carolyn Zeeks made a motion that the check be destroyed instead of depositing it into the account, as the check is from an unknown source. Diana Gray seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried to destroy the check instead of depositing. Martha passed around a form to have all those on the list to check their personal information to ensure accuracy of it, as it is for the gaming department. Suzie Lewis passed out account information to the group and Martha reviewed the balances. Lori Baxter made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as reviewed, Pam Gerdowsky seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried; treasurer's report accepted and is subject to audit.

Chaplain Report: Beth Caudill informed the group that

- see corresponding secretary page 14

IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2018 / 2019

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Barbara Kerney - Chairman
Diana Gray - Co-chair
Kathy Smith
Carolyn Zeeks

CHINESE AUCTION

Lori Baxter - Chair
Pam Gerdowsky - Co-chair

Leona Uryga
Jerrri Johnson
Suzie Lewis
Carolyn Scheele
Diane Stapleton
Carolyn Watson
Beverly Taylor
Diana Gray
Martha Thomas
Joyce Nevil
Tammy Smith
Kay Shumaker

MIRIAM SCHAEKEL AWARD

Suzie Lewis - Chair
Barbara Kerney - Co-chair
Joyce Nevil

LOIS BOAZ AWARD

Joyce Nevil - Chair
Diana Gray - Co-chair
Beverly Lockwood

HISTORIANS

Phyllis Vargo - Chairman
Joann Hays

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Leona Uryga - Chair
Barbara Ketchem - Co-chair
Carolyn Scheele
Stephanie Perkins
Carolyn Watson

50/50 COMMITTEE

Beth Caudill - Chair
Janet Woodfill - Co-chair
Joyce Nevil
Leona Uryga
E.J. Smith
Beverly Taylor

MISS FLAME COMMITTEE

Barbara Kerney - Chair
Danielle Matthews - Co-chair
Jill Ketchem - Van driver
Sharon Wright
Carolyn Watson
Janet Matthews
IVFA Representative
Jessie Sosa - 2019 Convention

JEWELRY COMMITTEE

Suzie Lewis - Chair
Janet Woodfill - Co-chair

MARY MACKIN SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Christina Reef - Chair
E.J. Smith - Co-chair
Beth Moon
Beverly Taylor
Jenny Giles

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Christina Reef - Chair
Kathy Smith - Co-chair
Sharon Wright
Dorothy Reiter
Leslie Spears
Beth Caudill
Connie Ray

PARLIAMENTARIAN

Barbara Kerney - Chairman
*All meetings will follow By-Laws & Roberts Rules of Order

VICE PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

Lou Bartlow - Chair
Christina Reef - Co-chair
Danielle Matthews
Kay Shumaker
Jean Parish
Dawn Harris
Carol Koehler

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Carolyn Zeeks - Chair
Carol Koehler - Co-chair
Sue Glant
Jean Parish
Marie Emery

INSTALLATION COMMITTEE

Betsy Howe - Chair
Pam Gerdowsky - Co-Chair

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY

Joann Hayes - Chair
Lou Bartlow - Co-chair
Martha Thomas

BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Tammy Smith - Chair
Carolyn Watson - Co-chair
Diane Stapleton
Beverly Taylor
Janet Matthews

SOG COMMITTEE

Joyce Nevil - Chair
Phyllis Vargo - CO-chair
Beth Caudill

MEMORIAL THROW COMMITTEE

Carol Curl

CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANTS

Beth Caudill - State Chaplain
Northwest - Phyllis Vargo
Northeast - Suzie Lewis
East Central - Janet Matthews
West Central - Joann Hayes
Southwest - Kathy Smith
Southeast - Pam Gerdowsky

COMMUNICATION & TECHNOLOGY

Carol Curl - Chair

CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANTS

Beth Caudill - State Chaplain
Northwest - Phyllis Vargo
Northeast - Suzie Lewis
Central - Janet Matthews
East West - Joann Hayes
Southwest - Kathy Smith
Southeast - Pam Gerdowsky

Corresponding secretary . . .

(continued from page 13)

the new Bibles have arrived and each district chairman should have only 2 Bibles, one of each denomination. She encouraged the chairmen to check with departments in their areas to see that retired member's dues are paid up.

Sergeant-at-Arms Suzie Lewis had nothing to report.

Tammy Williams from American Income Life Insurance was present and spoke to the group. Discussed their website, accepted questions & concerns from the group. President Carol Curl requested enrollment packets for any new members that chairmen may have.

Committee Reports:

Audit: Barb Kerney - reports will be ready. Barb discussed of requesting to transfer the yearly

amount of \$400 from the general fund to the Miss Flame account. Christina Reef made a motion for the \$400 be added to the Miss Flame account from general fund; Carolyn Zeeks seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried and Martha Biehl will make the transfer into the Miss Flame account.

VP project: Lou Bartlow informed the group that first prize will be set of corn hole boards with IVFA logo and third prize will be \$100 cash. Lou is working to get the axe donated for the raffle. Committee will meet on Saturday, February 2nd from 2-2:30 p.m.

Miriam Schaekel Award: Suzie Lewis reports there will be a committee meeting on Saturday, February 2nd at 10 a.m.

Lois Boaz Award: Joyce Nevil reminds everyone that letters must be postmarked by February 1st.

Historians: Phyllis Vargo

says all is going well.

Membership: Leona Uryga presented the pamphlet that was put together for the group to review of organization information. Many people liked the idea and purpose of the pamphlet for chairmen to have information at their fingertips to give out about our organization. Each district chair can make copies as they are needed. Christina Reef made a motion that the context be reviewed and typographical errors be corrected and brought back to the February meeting. E.J Smith seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Miss Flame: President Carol Curl reported to the group that there was a meeting on Friday night with the IVFA president and vice president along with IVFAA president and committee chairman Barb Kerney. There were letters written to the IVFA president with complaints and concerns of the Miss Flame

program and how it was conducted at previous convention. Carol informed the group going forward, the organization will pay the extra money and have any and all letters that are sent to the Miss Flames be sent with return receipt requested. This way the committee will know that the contestants get each letter sent out to them. District chairs, men and women, will also get the same letters that the contestants get as well so they too can keep their Miss Flame informed of convention events. Carol also reported that district chairmen, men and women, will need to be more attentive of their Miss Flames at convention, it cannot be the committee's responsibility to know their every moment whereabouts. Each Miss Flame is to have a chaperone at convention to be responsible for them when the girl is not with the committee for an event. Barb Kerney reports the committee meeting yesterday was successful. Committee

requests that each district sign up their Miss Flame contestant for the IVFAA. Once they are a member this allows them to be eligible to sell IVFAA tickets at the banquet. Only for the IVFAA not the IVFA. Each contestant will need to have a state ID and get their personal information to Martha Biehl so she can submit them on the gaming information by April 1st. Barb is working with the convention committee and the first letter to the girls will be sent out in February. The posters that the girls make will be judged anonymously on the girl's presentations. Poster contest is not a monetary contest therefore prizes can be awarded for top 3 posters. Barb reports the committee will meet Saturday, February 2nd 4:30-5 p.m.

Jewelry: Suzie Lewis reports all is good.

Mary Mackin Scholarship: Christina Reef reports that the awards for the Miss Flame contest will be paid out as well as the essay winners from this committee. Christina spoke of ideas to help get donations for the committee, making of crafts at quarterly meetings or convention, having baked goods for donations. Next meeting Saturday, February 2nd 4-4:30 p.m.

Parliamentarian: Barb Kerney reports all okay.

Budget & Finance: Christina Reef reports that what was budgeted for the year, funds have not been taken in as planned to cover the budget. Gaming account will be used to pay for convention stays. Up to \$50 per day at convention for officers. Rooms/Gas/Meals for a max. of \$50 per day for max. of 3 days can be reimbursed to officers. Kay Shumaker made a motion that the SOG under finances be changed to read: up to \$50 per day for max. of 3 days at annual convention for officers. E.J Smith seconded the motion for all to take back to their districts to vote on this change, all in favor, motion carried. District chairs need to take this back to their districts and get a vote from them and bring it back to the February meeting of changing this SOG. Next meeting Saturday, February 2nd 3-4pm.

Chinese Auction: Lori Baxter reports to the group that with the gaming license rules that no one under the age of 18 can purchase tickets, cannot put their names on the tickets and they cannot put tickets in the buckets. Everyone that donates a basket for the auction must have the amount spent on the basket and its contents and give it to Lori. Have to have the amount spent on the entirety of the basket being donated or cannot accept the basket. Discussion was held of the impact that this change in the auction will have on the youth that come to convention. Diane Stapleton made a motion that we have a kid prize table for those kids that come to convention; tickets will be issued to each child and they will have a chance to win a prize. Martha Thomas seconded the

- see corresponding secretary page 15

FIREFIGHTERS CREDIT UNION

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

Corresponding secretary . . .

- continued from page 14 -

motion, all in favor, motion carried. Lori Baxter agreed to take care of the prizes for the kid table and manage it as well. All donations welcome.

Nominating: Carolyn Zeeks reports all okay.

Installation: Pam Gerdowsky reports she has the items for this.

President's advisory: Martha Thomas reports all is okay.

Bylaws: Tammy Smith reports District 3 will submit and request change in the date that dues are to be paid.

SOG: Joyce Nevil reports will have a vote back from districts on the SOG change of officer's pay for convention in February.

Chaplain's assistants: Beth Caudill reminds everyone to reach out if a chaplain is needed in your area.

Memorial throw: Carol Curl reports all is okay.

President Carol Curl reminds her line officers that we will meet 1-2 p.m. on Saturday, February 2nd.

New Business: Lou Bartlow addressed the group regarding cases/wheeled bags for the officers as some bags are wearing out and breaking. Lou showed the group that she personally purchased for herself for \$60.00; Beth showed the group the shoulder bag she purchased for \$10 that she uses. Jesse Sosa made a motion that the state purchases wheeled bags for officers and chairmen that are in need of new bags and if the individual wants a carry bag they purchase them on their own. Joyce Nevil seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Barb Kerney made motion that the state purchase 5 wheeled bags, Barb resends her motion after discussion is had that not all wheeled bags need replaced at this moment. Some bags are in worse condition than others and we can slowly replace. Diane Stapleton made motion state buys 2 wheeled bags at this time to replace any broken ones. Kay Shumaker 2nd the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Anyone that wants to order a carry bag can do so on their own, let Carol Curl know.

Carol asked if there is any other new business for the good of the order. Motion to close the meeting made by Carol Curl, Jesse Sosa 2nd, all in favor, motion carried. Meeting closed at 10:25 a.m. with Happy Holidays from President Carol Curl and closing prayer by Beth Caudill.

Respectfully Submitted,
Janet Matthews
Corresponding Secretary

**REMEMBER TO
MOVE YOUR CLOCKS
AHEAD 1 HOUR AT
2:00 A.M. SUNDAY
MARCH 10, 2019
(C.S.T.)**

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

DISTRICT 1 & 2 REPORT



Phyllis Vargo - Chairman

Minutes of the November 1, 2018 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 and prayer was given.

Roll call was taken by Secretary Rachel Suggs with 7 members and 10 guests in attendance.

Minutes were read by Rachel Suggs, passed as read with no corrections.

Treasurer's report - Phyllis gave treasurer's report. Report stands as read for audit.

Old Business - None.

New Business - Miss Flame was introduced and she told everyone a little bit about herself.

Silent Auction was held during meeting to help raise money for the Districts 1 & 2.

Lake Station was thanked for hosting. Silent auction winners were announced and dessert was had.

Our next meeting will be March 7, 2019 at Lake Dale Fire Department.

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Becky, seconded by Martha. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Rachel Suggs
I.V.F.A.A. Sec. District 1 & 2

DISTRICT 3 REPORT



Diane Stapleton - Chairman

IVFAA District 3 Meeting
November 14, 2018
Coolspring Twp.
Vol. Fire Dept.

The October 14 meeting was held at Coolspring Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.

Chairman Diane Stapleton opened the meeting with a pledge to the flag. Chaplain Jodie Barkow recited a prayer.

Diane crowned the District 3 Miss Flame Chloe Perkins with a ribbon and a crown.

Send any information you want in the IVFA paper to Leona Uryga.

Officers for this year are: Chairman Diane Stapleton, Sec.-Treas. Nichole Zemen, Chaplain Jodie Barkow.

There were no reports on the minutes or treasurer's report with the absence of the Secretary.

Diane read information from the state meeting she had recorded. The dues will be due by August 1 to be on time. The Chinese Auction basket is to be made for the convention.

A call is to be made for everyone if there is a member who has passed and information on their funeral.

The next meeting is January 16 at Michiana Shores.

A motion was made by Leona Uryga and seconded by Laura Peo to pay for the crown.

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Barkow

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



E.J. Smith - Chairman

Hello Everyone,

Winter is here with cold, crisp nights, please be careful when using alternate heaters and candles, etc. this time of year and all year long.

I helped perform a memorial service with district chairman Kay Shumaker for Ella Mae Bechtel from District 4 Concord Township.

Our last District 6 meeting was held in Allen County at Northeast Fire Department where our Miss Flame contest was held. I would like to congratulate Bailey Shelby for representing District 6 for 2019. Bailey is representing the Ligonier Fire Department. If you have any activities planned for your fire department, please let Bailey know so she can attend.

I attended the Southwest Fire District and Aboite Township Fire Department Christmas parties.

I attended the Memorial Service for Rick Kaylor, Firefighter, Newhaven Township Fire Department.

Our next district meeting will be January 22, 2019 at Coruna Fire Department. Please try to attend if possible. Please look on District 6 Facebook page for the location of future meetings. It was nice to see one of our past district chairmen Bud Grogg at our last district meeting.

The 2019 IVFA Convention will be held in Michigan City, Indiana at the Blue Chip Casino Hotel and Spa, 777 Blue Chip Drive, Michigan City, Indiana - June 12-15, 2019.

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 IVFAA Chairman

DISTRICT 7 REPORT



Joyce Nevil - Chairman

District 7 minutes from November 19 at Geneva VFD

The District 7 meeting was held at Geneva on November 19. They served us a nice dinner before the meeting.

Meeting was called to order by Joyce Nevil. The meeting began with the pledge to the flag. Roll call was 8 members, 2 individuals and IVFAA President Carol Curl. Minutes were read and approved, treasurer's report was given.

No Miss Flame contestant.

We had our Christmas gift exchange which was fun.

Our next meeting is at Hoagland VFD, on January 21, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Joyce Nevil
District 7 Chairman

DISTRICT 11-A REPORT



Beverly Taylor - Chairman

Hello Everyone,
Welcome to 2019. Another year has begun. Family was home for Christmas and we enjoyed having everyone home.

Membership is down. We are losing members. Our last meeting was at Otter Creek Twp. We didn't have enough members for a quorum. We stayed in the men's meeting with them.

I made a couple of mistakes introducing our state officers. I announced the president was here but didn't say her name, Carol Curl. I introduced Lou Bartlow as chairman of 11B and she is our vice president. To both of these lovely ladies, I apologize. That won't happen again, love you both!

IVFAA would like for all auxiliary to pay their dues by August 1st. Dues are \$10.00 for each member.

Zoey Larson represented us this year as Miss Flame. We will have our contest for Miss Flame on January 20, 2019 at Posey Twp. Fire Department in Staunton, IN.

Cold weather is here. Remember to turn off all heaters and candles before you leave.

Safety first.
Until next time,
Chairman 11A
Beverly Taylor

(EDITOR'S NOTE: in past issues, Otter Creek has been printed as Otto Creek, we apologize for the error and any inconvenience this may have caused.)

DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Pam Gerdowsky - Chairman

Hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas!

I have had so much going on with Nov. 21st the death of my good friend's husband, my mom fell the same day and was in the hospital with fluid on lungs and other issues, moved her to St. Andrews nursing home day before my knee replacement surgery, so I have been way behind on getting things taken care of.

I usually have everything done, early with cards, etc. but didn't get it done this year so I apologize to all for not sending cards. Hope the dear Lord blessed you with family time together during the holidays.

We had our IVFAA meeting in Milan for our Miss Flame contest which was changed from original night due to weather knocking down power lines. Held it on November 29th when I was in for surgery so Steve Macke, Ed Scheele and judges took care of it for me. Thanks to all of them.

We crowned Kayla Scranton from East Enterprise as Miss Flame 2019 and runner-up was Olivia Kneeven. I was told both girls did a nice job. Congratulations to both!

They served a very nice meal at Milan Firehouse.

Hope to see everyone at the February 2nd/3rd meeting.

God Bless all of you in the coming new year!

Pam Gerdowsky
District #19

CLASSIFIEDS

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

IVFAA President

Carol Curl



Greetings fellow Auxiliary members and Happy New Year to each of you and your families,

I hope each of you had a most enjoyable and pleasing holiday season, from the hustle and bustle of Christmas (the shopping, the cooking, and the gathering of family) to the countdown of the New Year, sharing it with family and friends.

Winter... is in the air, but it's not necessarily everywhere. As I pen this article looking out my patio door, I'm seeing some green grass and temps in the 50's, I'll take that for winter but we all know probably by the time you are reading this the outlook will be much different.

However, I will continue to think "spring" and hopefully it will arrive soon, but until that happens I hope each of you will be comforted by the warmth of a fire, the heat of the furnace and the love of family and friends.

Speaking of a new year (and by the reading of this article we should be a couple of months into it) I just want to share that I should be over my knee replacement and I hope to be on my way back to a full and speedy recovery. It's been quite some time since I have been able to stand, walk and do things without pain and I hope that is where all this is taking me, with the hands of a great surgeon, his competent staff, your prayers and some real hard work on my part I pray it all works.

While recovering, just a few things I am asking each of you to think about:

Our membership, as each of you know is the success of our auxiliary and our strength depends upon our membership. I know we can all do better and work harder to build up the numbers of folks willing to assist, help and grow our auxiliaries.

I am asking that each officer, each district officer, each current member, reach out to your family, friends and fellow department or community members and just ask them to consider giving us a one year membership to see what we can do and how we can help.

Today I am asking that we start a campaign (not original, borrowed from another organization) called "JUST ASK EM" to see what we can do to

increase our number of members for 2019 and beyond. If every member brings a new member we can offer twice as much, do twice as much and be twice as strong as we were in 2018, "JUST ASK EM". Becoming a member of the IVFAA is about much more than a \$10 membership cost. Membership is about Identity, Feedback, Support and Strength, all of which makes for a strong Auxiliary.

Even though we are in the middle of winter 2019, it is not too early to begin planning and thinking about Convention 2019. I know the folks planning our 2019 convention are working hard to bring to us the best convention ever and we need to be thinking about helping them make that happen by planning on being at our 2019 State Convention. I am sure there will be much to do, much to see, much to be a part of; it only takes being there to make it happen.

For our auxiliaries now is the time to begin thinking about your "District Baskets" for our annual fund raiser. Putting together something different, special and hopefully unique to your hometown will encourage the bidding and bring up the value.

Talking about Convention and planning, I hope you have made your reservations and gotten your registration. Conventions can be a lot of work but also we always seem to find time to have a good time and this year hopefully is no different.

Conventions are where memories are made and friendships are grown. I invite you to attend our business sessions, get involved, stay informed and share with old friends as well as make new ones. Remember this is the time we select our leadership for the upcoming year. I am sure our nominating committee will bring to us a most worthy slate of those willing to "step up" and be a part of our leadership team.

This is also our time to show our love to all those beautiful young ladies as we are blessed with, all our Miss Flame contestants, those returning and those new to the challenge. We wish each of you the best of LUCK as you attend, participate, show / share your skills and excitement with us during all of your events as contestants this year. Remember to look at your schedule of events and be ready to have some fun as you greet your returning friends and meet new ones; this is not only a convention experience but a lifetime experience as well. To each of you GOOD LUCK and as the director of the Miss Flame event Barb Kerney always says, you are all winners in our eyes.

Ladies, we should all have some assignments and duties during the convention; please check with your committee to get your assignments, your responsibilities and support our association while at the 2019 IVFA STATE CONVENTION.

In closing as I share with you at every opportunity, I am always happy to assist and your calls are always welcome.

From The IVFA Secretary

Leighanne Ellis



INDIANA VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER'S
ASSOCIATION
QUARTERLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 2-4, 2018
CROWNE PLAZA
INDIANAPOLIS AIRPORT
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Meeting called to order at 2:06 P.M. by President Paul Holcomb. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President David Israel. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Dave Elick. Larry Curl gave a presentation on Veteran's Day and the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day.

Roll call was taken with 23 district chairmen present and 2 absent, 5 Public Relations officers and 1 absent, 5 past presidents, Lobbyist and Executive Council.

Reading of the minutes from the last meeting, PREC Don Cushman made a motion to accept minutes as printed. District 17A Chairman Sam Emery seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Luke Kluender. Passed out two forms for budget and balance updates. Created Jumbo CD in September from expiring CDs. Passed out tentative budget for the next year for review by Board. Will be brought up at Board Action meeting. Lobby registration renewed and secretary of state filing paperwork due in December. Past President Jack Kerney made a motion to approve, second was given by District 14 Rick Cannon. Motion passed.

Old Business:

Miss Flame Program, met with women's group for discussion of program and have resolved issues and plan to move forward with program.

Benefits Summit, Larry Curl and David Israel, May 19-21, 2019 in Minnesota. This program allows for us to meet with groups from across the country to provide better programs to our organization. We will send 4 delegates.

Executive Committee Report: Paul Holcomb - Given with old business and was covering Miss Flame issue.

Central Office Report: Jack Kerney - District paid/not paid list sent out October 18. Mailed 18 dues packets out on Oct. 24. 12,956 addresses to newspaper. Spent time calling to get bad addresses corrected, for a 456 of total bad addresses. For 2019 membership totals, 12,715 active members, 45 armed services, 86 active, 77 individual, 478 life members, 25 past presidents, for a total membership count of 13,426. License plates totals are up for the year. 2 American Income Life claims were filed, one was paid, one was denied.

Committee Reports:

Awards: David Israel - The website forms are working for nominations. All awards are due by February 1 with exception of Bridgeport which is due on March 1. District awards must be turned into the district chairmen but can also be submitted on-line.

Bridgeport: Past President Richard Glant, pass.

Budget: Luke Kluender - waiting until tomorrow for budget approval.

By-laws and S.O.G.'s: PRWC Larry Bartlow, newspaper from May 2013 says that we raised eyeglasses claim to \$100 but it cannot be found in any of the minutes. The committee has made a proposal to make the change to correct it and to take effect January 1. Past President Buz Koehler made a motion to accept the recommendation of the committee. District 3 chairman Bob Uryga made a second. Discussion was held about pending claim on whether or not to pay it, the previous motion and second was withdrawn. Chaplain Dave Elick made a motion to accept the proposal making it effective immediately. PREC Don Cushman made the second. Treasurer Luke Kluender stated that there is enough to pay the claim. Motion carried.

Clothing Claims: District 5 John Grolich - one claim for eyeglasses, unable to produce item due to being lost in a field fire, committee approved claim.

Convention: David Israel, covered convention costs for 2018 convention. Total income from convention after bills paid are \$14,277. Discussion on whether or not need to seek attorney to write a letter for a vendor with outstanding fee. This will be left up to the convention committee. Convention 2019 - May 21 will be the last day to reserve a room before the block is released. Convention 2020 - their next meeting will have room assignments made, their budget has been made. Convention 2021 which currently received one bid and a letter of intent needs to be turned in by February 1, 2019.

EMS: District 8A Jerry Liston, last meeting was at IERC. 836 rewrite is still being proposed. Discussion on patient report with the hospital the trend is going to computer tablets, paperwork needs to be completed within 24 hours. Discussion on EMT

programs within schools and getting permission from parents before seeing certain things. Also discussion on providers reporting and not reporting.

LODD: Chaplain Dave Elick, pass.

Logo: District 18 John Smith, pass.

Membership and Marketing: Secretary Leighanne Ellis, going to look into other organizations to find out what they do for membership drives to increase our membership.

Public Relations: PREC Don Cushman, trailer has been busy since October, completing inventory list. FDIC is April 8 through the 13th 2019, there will be a list for helpers. It was noted the trailer is having break systems issues, will be checked into.

Social Media and Website: District 16 Josh Reisert, Facebook has 6,656 likes, website has 7,920 new sessions in three months. It's been requested to push the calendar within the districts, anyone can submit anything to the calendar.

Training: Past President Steve Anderson, discussion on issue with board of firefighter personnel standards and education with a driver not being a department but driving to the scene in a department truck and not having any certifications. PR training days were also reviewed, PRSW training day had 58 members present, PRWC are trying to plan a day after Thanksgiving.

Younger Membership: District 6 Jerry Sprague, still districts that are not Facebook, please try to make a district page for your membership. Looking at getting a speaker to come in and do presentation on generational speaking. Also working on youth camp timeline is at least two years minimum for planning.

Special Projects: Past President Buz Koehler, they're going to build the next 25 years in the new history book. Going to the checklist into paper on what the interest is for the history books and reprinting past issues or just a new one to add to it. Please ask your district's membership who is interested and possibly getting a history book.

Newspaper: Past President Buz Koehler, if you submit an article and it is something special and needs placed in the newspaper immediately, email it to the paper into Buz Koehler to make sure it does get into next edition of the paper.

Legislation: Larry Curl and Buz Koehler, working on benefits package to present to legislation but trying to define logistics within package. We are not introducing this but should support the following bill being introduced. Discussion on legislation about education being introduced stating if you are employee or member of volunteer service and chief will sign off on paperwork and it continued to be active you can

IVFA secretary . . . *(continued from page 16)*

apply and be awarded an Associates degree from Ivy Tech or Vincennes University at no cost to student. This is provided funding from the state. Discussion on tax incentives for volunteer service we just need to be prepared for anything that could possibly come up.

Representative Reports

Board of Firefighter Standards and Education: John Smith, last meeting on Monday, October 29, letter variances from career centers. Variance granted for mobile water from down south. Changes to the Acadis program were discussed during this meeting. Board positions will stay the same if you have a request for a meeting spot, contact Donna to get your location and date on the list for potential meeting. Next meeting December 3 at Wayne Township.

Fire Alliance: Steve Anderson, plan to have a meeting with the director of Homeland Security in a meeting with the Governor to talk about the fire service position. Questioned when survey on status of fire service in the state of Indiana would be complete. Could see an expected timeline at the beginning of next year.

Hero's Competition: Dave Elick, no meeting since last competition, could possibly make this traveling to other career centers.

IN-Time: Jack Zeeks, update on I-69 construction.

Red Cross Workgroup: Don Cushman, attempting to get more smoke detectors, all detectors are spoken for, for this year.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Jack Kerney and Jean Smith, Forever stamp for first responders was released. Handout on best practice to prevent firefighter cancer and lavender ribbon report was provided to the board. Rest of report was emailed to board and available on NVFC website.

Officer's Reports:

President, Paul Holcomb, approximately 1000 miles, district in chief's meetings and department meetings to attempt new membership.

Vice President, David Israel, 2 district meetings, county meetings, legislative meetings with Larry Curl, stood in for John Ray to provide memorial services, sent out information for armed services benefit; there is only one in Indiana now.

Chaplain, Dave Elick, pass.

Secretary, Leighanne Ellis, in attendance of a committee meeting at time of report.

Treasurer, Luke Kluender, pass.

Sergeant-At-Arms, Brent Bush, pass.

Historian, John Davies, absent.

Chairman of the Board, Steve Anderson, Department open houses, over 2000 miles.

PRNW, Jeremy Reef, attended district meetings and fundraisers.

PRNE, Jean Smith, made most of the district meetings,

fundraisers, and fire muster.

PRWC, Larry Bartlow, two district meetings, two memorial services.

PREC, Don Cushman, most of meetings and fundraisers.

PRSW, Steve Nolan, absent.

PRSE, Ed Scheele, three district meetings, memorial service, PR Southeast training day and 842 miles.

Asst. Treasurer, Bev Harker, not in attendance.

Asst. Secretary, Diane Harrison, not in attendance.

Past President's Reports:

Richard Glant, Pass.

Jack Zeeks, Fallen Fire Memorial service held in Indianapolis; six names replaced on the wall, 103 names on National Fallen Firefighter Memorial and Maryland.

Buz Koehler, pass.

Jack Kerney, quarterly meeting, 1005 meeting, training, fundraiser, open house, attended NVFC, attended District 18 parade with state Miss Flame. Traveled 1505 miles.

Larry Ketchem, not present at time of report.

David Israel, Pass.

Steve Anderson, discussion and presentation on memorial flags to place with graves which were provided by District 11A at one time.

District Reports:

District 1, Marshall Neece, attended two memorial services, to IVFAA services, one IVFA service, two open houses, pulled trailer to department open house, two pin presentations.

District 2, Paul Watland, two memorial services, several fundraisers, couple of women's meetings.

District 3, Bob Uryga, two district meetings.

District 4, Elton Schafer, district meeting, handed out Global Award to 10 year pins, 1-25 year pin.

District 5, John Grolich, handed out Global Award, three Miss Flame parades, county meeting.

District 6, Jerry Sprague, (2) 25-year pins, retired firefighter service presentation, several fundraisers.

District 7, Sam Bisel, Chief's meeting, to funeral services, 2 50-year pins, 25 and 10-year pins.

District 8A, Jerry Liston, two district meetings, a memorial service, several fundraisers, page set up for assistant chief involved in severe accident.

District 8B, Lloyd Wright, several meetings, fish fries, and passed out some pins.

District 9A, Pascal Moon, department meetings, one district meeting, and fundraisers.

District 9B, Randy Denton, absent.

District 10, John Ray, absent, vice chair was present, three district meetings, five fundraisers and one Bible and grave marker presentation

District 11A, Pete Taylor, gave out Global Award, 10 25-year pins, two departments returned to IVFA.

District 11B, Jack Giles, 10 department visits, two memorial services and talking to department to return IVFA.

District 12, Jason Coffey, absent, Steve Anderson advised last meeting had low attendance.

District 13A, Mike Dzuba, couple department meetings, unable to hold last district meeting due to low quorum.

District 13B, Jeff Biehl, left to do 50-year pin presentation.

District 14, Rick Cannon, district meeting, one memorial service, one clock dedication, and one Global Award.

District 15, Ross Emery, few fundraisers, memorial service.

District 16, Josh Reisert, pass.

District 17A, Sam Emery, two memorial services, several fundraisers and one clock presentation.

District 17B, Bobby Brown, one Global Award, two district meetings, two dedications, three fundraisers and training day.

District 18, John "Bull" Smith, several fundraisers, handed out pins, District 18 Miss Flame parade, two deaths in the district.

District 19, Steve Macke, when district meeting, handed out Global Award.

District 21, Ed Watson, had to leave for personal matter.

New Business:

- 2019 budget has been presented, will allow board members to review overnight and revisit in the morning.

- 2019 mileage listed at \$.45, Past president Buz Koehler made a motion to leave it the same, Sgt.-of-Arms Brent Bush seconded. Motion passed.

- Sign up for Washington, DC trip must be turned in by tomorrow, please turn in your business cards. April 24 - 26, 2019 is the date.

- Heroes Gala is March 1, 2019, business cards will be collected for this event as well.

- IVFAA has requested to include a five-page mailer within our dues packet that explains their association and membership. District 15 Ross Emery made a motion to release the department membership list. PRNW Jeremy Reef seconded. Discussion held for additional information to be sent out along with the packet. We've agreed to provide labels and will be responsible for mailing postage papers and printing. We will also add a page from our association. Motion passed.

District 18 John "Bull" Smith made a motion to recess the meeting, PRNW Jeremy Reef seconded. Recessed at 1733.

Sunday, November 3, 2018 business meeting continued.

Meeting reconvened at 0836 by President Holcomb.

Chaplain Dave Elick gave morning message and farewell speech.

Michelle with American Income Life present to discuss updates on mailers and claims.

For discussion held on maintaining a balanced budget and making changes to make sure

that we cover costs and do not have a deficit. Present made a challenge to the board to have each member attempt to bring back the previous department by next quarter.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Director Bryan Langley, spoke on public safety portal, homeland security foundation, leadership training indicators, mental health, legislation, mapping of the district training locations, and district planning Council.

Lobbyist Larry Curl spoke on making sure that we are open to communication with not only the director but within ourselves, to make sure we are networking and making organization matter.

Chaplain Dave Elick spoke a making sure that funeral vouchers turned in so you will get Bible and grave markers in timely fashion.

Past president Richard Glant motion to adjourn, second from PREC Larry Bartlow. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 1032.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER'S
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CROWNE PLAZA
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Board Action Business

Meeting called to order by the chairman of the board Steve Anderson at 10:42A.M.

Reading of the minutes, District 13A Mike Dzuba made a motion to accept them as emailed, second was made by PRNW Jeremy Reef, motion passed.

Board Action-Business:

1. Past Pres. Jack Kerney made a motion to sell the photo CDs for the past year for five dollars. Past Pres. Buz Koehler made a second. Motion passed.

2. 2019 mileage, District 13A Mike Dzuba made a motion to keep the mileage at \$.45. PRNW Jeremy Reef seconded. Motion passed.

3. 2019 budget, past president Buz Koehler made a motion to go with the original proposed with the conditions there is some work to be done. Chaplain Dave Elick seconded, motion passed with voice vote.

District ticket drawing \$100 gas card winner, Roland Wise from Crown Point District 2. Cleaning caddy from Stations Supply, Jordan Noah from Adams Township Volunteer Fire Department District 10.

Chaplain Dave Elick gave benediction.

Motion to adjourn meeting by PRNW Jeremy Reef, second by District 13A Mike Dzuba. Meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

- submitted by Jean Smith, PRNE

Aboite FD members awarded pins



Aboite Township Fire Department members receive Aboite F.D. 5 year to 30 year service pins. Jared Burke and Michael Meyers also received IVFA 10 year service award pins.



Aboite Township Fire Department member Robert Pearl receives Aboite F.D. and IVFA 10 year service pins. Pictured from left to right are Jean Smith PRNE, Robert Pearl and Aboite Fire Chief Gale Stelzer.



Receives 25 year pin

Southwest Fire District member Jason Giszewski receives IVFA 25 year service award pin.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 7

—photos submitted by Jack Kerney and Joyce Nevil, District 7 IVFAA chairman



Markle VFD awards presented



Pictured from left to right: Assistant Chief Jon Gray, President Robert Gonser, Captain Jason Schindler, Chief Duane Brumbaugh. On December 12th, 2018 Robert Gonser and Jason Schindler of the Markle Volunteer Fire Department received plaques in appreciation for 20 years of service to the community.

Pictured left to right: Chief Duane Brumbaugh, Firefighter/EMT Mark Dinius, Assistant Chief Jon Gray.

On December 12th, 2018 Firefighter and EMT Mark Dinius was presented the award of Firefighter of the Year by the Markle Fire Department. Mark also serves as the Secretary/ Treasurer for the department and has gone above and beyond in his training efforts.

Awarded 25 year pin



Barbara Booth from Geneva Volunteer Fire Dept. Auxiliary receiving her 25 year pin from the IVFAA from IVFAA District 7 Chairman Joyce Nevil.

Fifty year Gold cards presented



Pictured are four ladies from Poe VFDA who received their IVFAA 50 year Gold cards and pins. (Left to right) Poe President Beverly Lockwood, Mary Gallmeyer, Sandy Sechler, Mary Ann Bradtmueller, Becky DeKoninck and District Chairman Joyce Nevil. These ladies have done a lot of work for their auxiliary and the district.

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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

Submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District Chairman



Ground breaking held

On October 27, 2018 the White River Volunteer Fire Department held their ground breaking for their new fire station.



Global Award winner

At the November 8B district meeting which was held at the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Department, Chairman Wright presented Lisa Manor from the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Department with the Global Award which was presented at the June convention.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

Submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District Chairman



Service awards presented

On December 8, 2018 Farmland Volunteer Fire Department held their annual Christmas party. Service awards were given out. Pictured (from left to right) are chairman Lloyd E. Wright, Melvin Nott for 30 years of service, Joe Frazier for 45 years of service, Mike Osgood for 30 years of service. Not present was Kirk Morris for 35 years of service.



Kids fun day at station

West Union Volunteer Fire Department showing their fire station and truck to the kids for a fun day.



Hog roast preparations

On October 20, 2018 the Pennville Volunteer Fire Department held their annual hog roast. Shown in the pictures are the firefighters and their helpers on the night before getting ready for the hog roast and some of the firefighters passing the time while waiting on the hogs to cook.

Annual fire safety day held



In November the Portland Fire Department held their annual fire safety day. Pictured (at right) is the Lutheran Air helicopter which people could learn about. Pictured (at left) are all of the Portland Fire Department trucks.

New fire station dedication held



Larry Curl (top photo) and David Israel (bottom photo) both gave a speech at the dedication of the new Blountsville/Stoney Creek Volunteer Fire Station.



Group picture of the Blountsville/Stoney Creek firefighters and the auxiliary taken at the dedication of their new fire station on December 1, 2018.



(Photo at right) – Chairman Wright is presented a new clock for the station. Pictured from left to right, accepting the clock are Carlos Riddle, chairman Wright and Mike Lykens.



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

Submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District Chairman



Fish and chicken fry held

The Hartford City Volunteer Fire Department held their annual fish and chicken fry at their station on October 27, 2018. Looks like they had a good crowd.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

– submitted by John Ray, District Chairman



Receives 25 year service pin

Rev. Ed Cottrell receives his 25 year pin from District Chairman John Ray.

District 10 Miss Flame



Pictured are District 10 Miss Flame for 2019 Kristin Mathews and District Chairman John Ray.

PROVIDENT

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

- submitted by John Ray, District Chairman



Ed Stone receives his 50 Year Member Meritorious Award from IVFA President Paul Holcomb, 10th District Chairman John Ray and IVFA Vice President David Israel.

50 year member Meritorious Awards given



Danny Strasser receives the 50 Year Member Meritorious Award on behalf of his late father Carlos E. Strasser; (from left to right) Billy Koons, Chief of Southwest Volunteer Fire Dept., 10th District Chairman John Ray and IVFA Vice President David Israel.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11-A

Submitted by Pete Taylor, District Chairman

Twenty-five year service pins awarded



Everett Long from Fairbanks received his 25 year pin on December 8, 2018.

Left - Pete Taylor, chairman 11A and right - Everett Long.



Gorden Becker received his 25 year pin at Wabash Valley Corr. on December 9, 2018. Left - Pete Taylor, chairman 11A and right - Gorden Becker.



On November 1, 2018 Christopher Shields received his 25 year pin at Cataract Fire Department. Left - Pete Taylor, Chairman 11A and right Christopher Shields.



Troy Hampton from Thunderbird Fire Department received his 25 year pin on October 8, 2018. Left - Troy Hampton, Right - Pete Taylor, chairman 11A.

2019 IVFA Convention
June 12 - 15
Michigan City, Indiana



At Hymera Fire Department Michael Sann and Randy Compton received their 25 year pins on October 15, 2018. Left - Pete Taylor, chairman 11A, middle - Michael Sann, right - Randy Compton.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11B

- submitted by Jack Giles, District Chairman

50 years and counting



Jack Giles and Gold card member Dorman Owens

Dorman Owen has become our third member to receive his IVFA Gold card and pin as a member of the IVFA and Reelsville-Washington Township Volunteer Fire Department. Along with Jimmy Proctor and Roy Haddon, our other fifty-year members, they have started a very unique fraternity in the fire service as volunteers for the Reelsville Fire Department.

Dorman, for the past fifty years, has served the department in many leadership roles, first as a lieutenant. From 1983 thru 1995 he served as the Chief eight of those years. For much of his time he has been our plumber when water lines needed fixed or extended, electrician for additional wall plugs when needed, wiring and installing new lighting throughout the station. He helped in building a kitchen addition on the existing building. On the ground floor when we started having a monthly breakfast twenty years ago to present day as a fund raiser.

There are a lot of stories and wisdom that can be told and shared by Dorman, just come to our monthly breakfast the second Saturday of each month and meet him. He's one of our bacon fryers.

All of Dorman's accomplishments were achieved while working a full-time job, married to his wife Juanita for fifty-three years, raising three children Donald, Joan and Nancy.

Wisdom comes a lot of times from experience, such as if your feet hurt after a long night on a fire scene, look down, you might have your boots on the wrong feet. Slow down, take a deep breath while downing your fire gear.

Congratulations Dorman Owen, Unit 504 of the Reelsville-Washington Twp. Vol. Fire Department.

The Membership: RWTVFD

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13A

- submitted by Mike Dzuba, District Chairman



Ferrell Global Award recipient

Pictured is Steve Ferrell, the chief of Greensboro Vol. Fire Department receiving the Global Award for all the hard work and dedication he has put in to helping and leading the fire department.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13B

submitted by Jeff Biehl, District Chairman



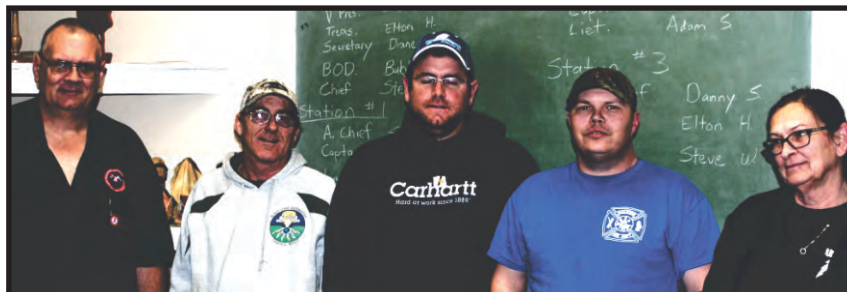
Engine dedication held

Centerville Fire/Rescue dedicates new Engine 17 in honor of the late Jack U Cox.

Ten year pins awarded throughout the district



Jeremy Archie of Williamsburg Fire Dept. is presented his 10 year pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.



Thomas Hartenberger, Greg Amos, Steven Schott, Diana Cain of Raleigh Fire Dept. are presented their 10 year pins by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl. Not pictured is Jeffery Amos.



Steven Adams of Glenwood Fire Department is presented his 10 year pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.

Twenty-five year pins awarded throughout the district



Robert Seiple of Cambridge City Fire Dept. is presented his 25 year pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.



Phil Gard of Mooreland Fire Dept. is presented his 25 year pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.

Phillip Bedel of Centerville Fire Dept. was also presented his 25 year pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.

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

e-mail news and photos to: printco@rhsi.tv
MAY 2019 DEADLINE - APRIL 5, 2019

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13B

submitted by Jeff Biehl, District Chairman

Fifty year pins awarded throughout the district



Dennis Moore of Cambridge City Fire Dept. is presented his 50 year Gold card and pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.



William Claar of New Lisbon Fire Dept. is presented his 50 year Gold card and pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.



William Paddock of Abington Twp. Fire Dept. is presented his 50 year Gold card and pin by District 13B chairman Jeff Biehl.

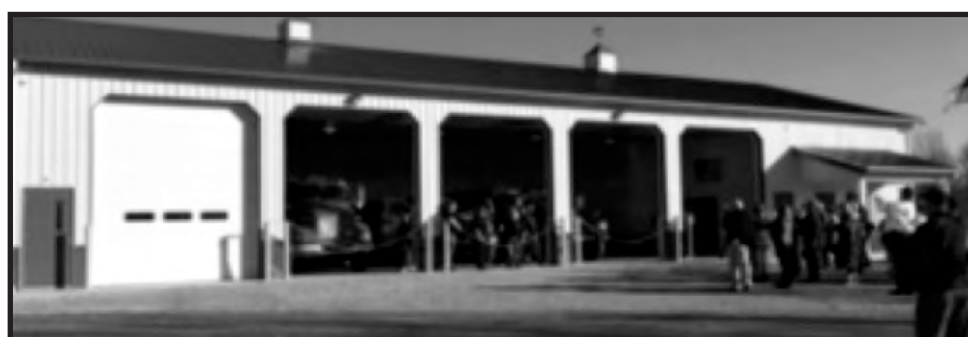
2019 convention
June 12-15
Michigan City, IN

MAY 2019
DEADLINE:
APRIL 5, 2019

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 14

- submitted by Rick Cannon, District Chairman

Campbell Twp. holds dedication of new truck and new station



FIRST ATTACK

**LOOK FOR OUR
AD IN THE
FEBRUARY
ISSUE**

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 14

- submitted by Rick Cannon, District Chairman

Vienna Twp. 50 year certificates and 10 and 25 year pins awarded



Vienna Twp. Firefighter of the Year



DuPont Fire Christmas party and 60 years



IVFA CENTRAL OFFICE

c/o BARBARA KERNEY
 P.O. BOX 4797, EVANSVILLE, IN 47724
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May 2019 deadline : April 5, 2019

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 15

- submitted by Ross Emery, District Chairman

Ten year service pins awarded in the district



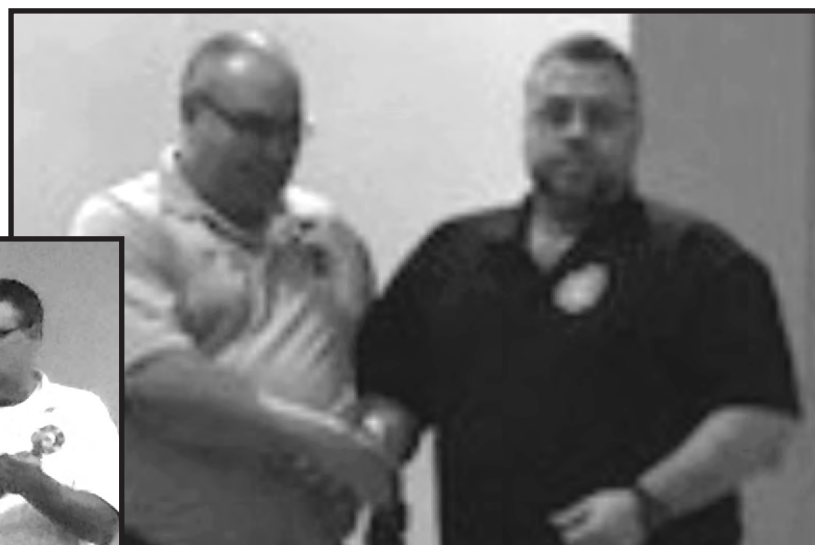
Brandon Wilson, Perry Twp. Fire Department received his 10 year pin.



Members of Somerville Fire Dept. receive their 10 year pins from District 15 chairman Ross Emery and President Paul Holcomb on November 20th, 2018.

Newburgh Fire Department dinner and awards

On December 13th Newburgh Fire Department held their Christmas dinner and awards.



A place to be
"Just One of the Kids"

Support Hoosier Burn Camp

HASTINGS

**LOOK FOR OUR
AD IN THE
FEBRUARY
ISSUE**

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 16

– submitted by Joshua Reisert, District Chairman



Ten and twenty-five year pins awarded

Palmyra Fire Department receiving their 10 and 25 year pins. Travis McAfee 10 year, Terry Frederick 25 year, Nathan McClure 10 year.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17B

– submitted by Robert "Bobby" Brown, district chairman

Awards presented at District 17B Christmas dinner



JD Ramsay Lt. FF/ Responder, Firefighter Award for 2018 Presented by Robert A. Brown Fire Chief



Adler Ramsay FF / EMT-B, Jim McFarlan Award for 2018 EMT Presented by Robert A. Brown Fire Chief



Firefighters Targets for Crime

It has occurred in [California](#), [Mississippi](#), [Maryland](#) and numerous times in Georgia: the vehicles of firefighters responding to emergencies have been targeted by thieves.

In one incident, personal items including laptops and a firearm were taken from vehicles while [Atlanta, Georgia fire crews](#) responded to a false report of a downed tree. This is the second time vehicles parked at the station were burglarized.

Many fire departments are increasing security and adding surveillance cameras around parking areas. California Casualty wants to add some extra security to firefighters and their personal property.

California Casualty protects American heroes, like firefighters, with auto and home insurance that includes these special benefits and coverage:

- \$500 for personal property (including turnout gear) damaged in a fire, collision or **stolen** from a covered vehicle
- Reduced or zero deductibles for collision and vandalism to a covered vehicle that occurs within 500 feet of the facility where a firefighter is employed or volunteers
- Free 911 Identity Defense with every policy
- Fallen Hero Benefit which waives the premium for the current year and the following year for the surviving partner or spouse of a firefighter who dies in the line of duty

California Casualty is 100 years strong, with four decades serving firefighters.

California Casualty has been serving firefighters for over 40 years. We maintain a 99 percent customer satisfaction rating and a claims satisfaction rating of 96 percent. We can't stop the deplorable crime of breaking into the vehicles of the men and women who protect us, but we can help if it happens to you. Find out more or get a quote from one of our advisors today at 1.800.800.9410 or visit www.calcas.com/IVFA.

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



Adler Ramsay, 2018 Jim McFarlan EMT Award - JD Ramsay 2018 Firefighter Award



Millard Jones, Bedford, Lawrence Co., Shawswick Township Trustee, presenting clothing allotment to Robert A. Brown Fire Chief, Shawswick VOI, Fire Dept

MAY 2019
DEADLINE:
APRIL 5, 2019

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

- submitted by John Smith, District Chairman

Ten and twenty-five year pins awarded in the district



At the awards dinner of the Santa Claus VFD, three members were presented with the IVFA membership pins. Pictured (l-r) receiving the 25 year membership pins are Bernard Stallman and Todd Arnold. Receiving the 10 year membership pin is Matthew Leslie.



At the District 18 meeting of 15 November, three members received their IVFA years of service pins. Pictured receiving the 10 year service pins are (l-r) District 18 Chaplain Jadon Hinkle, Orange Co. Rural One VFD, Byron Wening, Haysville VFD. Receiving the IVFA 25 year service pin is Bryant Kieffner (far right) of the Haysville VFD.



At the annual dinner of the Birdseye VFD (Dubois Co.) Todd Andry was presented with the IVFA 10 year membership pin from District 18 Chairman John "Bull" Smith.

NOWAK SUPPLY

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

NVFC Announces 2019 Training Summit in Oregon

Pre-registration and scholarship application now available for 2-day training event

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is pleased to announce that the fifth NVFC Training Summit will take place June 14-15, 2019, in Portland, OR. Attendance is limited; pre-register today to secure your space. In addition, applications are now being accepted for a travel stipend.

This two-day seminar will provide an opportunity to participate in valuable classroom training as well as exchange ideas and best practices with attendees from across the country. The conference is open to all volunteer firefighters, EMS providers, department leadership, and other fire department personnel nationwide. Attendees will be able to select six out of 12 breakout sessions to attend, with sessions addressing critical issues in first responder health and safety, recruitment and retention, and fire prevention. Full registration with course descriptions will be available in February 2019.

The registration fee for the Summit is \$99, which includes two days of training from industry leaders, a networking reception with vendor expo, and most meals. To help more first responders attend, a travel stipend is available for select attendees. Stipends will be awarded on a monthly basis, with deadlines on the first of

- see training summit page 32

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

- submitted by John Smith, District Chairman

St. Anthony VFD members awarded pins



At the annual awards dinner of the St. Anthony VFD (Dubois Co.) several members received recognition for their years of service. (Photo at right) - Receiving IVFA membership pins were (left to right) Jeff Lechner 10 years, Justin Vonderheide 10 years, Stan Fleck 25 years and Rick Fleck 25 years. Also receiving the 25 year pin but not present were Jeff Horsting and Pat Lueken. (Photo at left) Chief Scott Uebelhor then announced the formal retirement of three members with a total of 94 years of service to their community. Assistant Chief Nick Healy, Fire Chief Scott Uebelhor and Assistant Chief Brian Wissel are pictured behind (left to right) Tom Boehm - 34 years, William "Woody" Fischer - 30 years and Keith Welp - 30 years.

Wagner awarded service pin



At the December meeting of the St. Henry VFD (Dubois Co.) Adam Wagner was presented IVFA 10 year membership pin from District 18 Chairman John "Bull" Smith. Also receiving the pin but not present was Edward Meyer.

Celestine pins



At the awards dinner of the Celestine VFD on 14 December, three members were presented with the IVFA 25 year membership pin. Pictured (left to right) District 18 Chairman John "Bull" Smith, Kris Buechler, Jeff Sander, and Duane Thewes.

Jackson Twp. VFD pins awarded



At the 12 December meeting of the Jackson Twp. VFD, two members were presented with IVFA membership pins. Pictured (left to right) Nathaniel Hohll, 10 years and Donald Byers II, 25 years.

IVFA 2019 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

8:00am Tee Time	Golf Outing	Briar Leaf – LaPorte
12:00pm – 5:00pm	Registration	Sams Town A- 2 nd Floor
12:00pm – 5:00pm	Chinese Auction	Sams Town C- 2 nd Floor
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Seminar – TBD	Suncoast B – Stardust
5:00pm - 6:00pm	Miss Flame Mixer	Sams Town B - 2 nd Floor
6:00pm – 9:00pm	Dinner/Burn Camp Auction	Orleans Ballroom 2 nd Floor
10:00pm- 12:00pm	Hospitality	California Room-Blue

Thursday, June 13, 2019

7:00am – 9:00am	Vendor Set-up	Sams Town B & Blue Chip Lot
8:00am-5:00pm	Registration	Sams Town A- 2 nd Floor
8:00am- 12:00	Miss Flame Judging	Gold Coast A & B, Exec. room
9:00am – 5:00pm	Vendor Display	Sams Town B & Blue Chip Lot
9:00am – 11:00am	Board of Standards	Stardust 6
9:00am – 11:00am	(5) Seminars TBD	Stardust 1-5
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Miss Flame Luncheon	TBD
2:00pm – Close	Miss Flame Final Judging	Orleans Ballroom
3:00pm – 4:00pm	IVFA Officers Meeting	Stardust 2
3:00pm – 4:00pm	IVFAA Officers Meeting	Stardust 3
5:00pm – 6:30pm	Welcome Meal	Stardust 1,2,3
6:30pm – 8:30pm	Opening Mtg/Memorial	Stardust 4,5,6
9:00pm – 12:00am	Dance – D.J.	Stardust
9:00pm – 12:00	Hospitality	California Room

Friday, June 14, 2019

7:00am – 8:45am	Coffee Kutch	California Room
8:00am – 2:00pm	Registration	Sams Town A - 2 nd Floor
8:30am to Close	IVFAA Annual Business Meeting	Suncoast A&B
9:00am to Close	IVFA Annual Business Meeting	Orleans Ballroom
9:30am – 3:00pm	Miss Flame Outing	TBD
11:00am to 12:00	Craft Set up	Sams Town B
12:00pm to 5:00pm	Craft Show	Sams Town B
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch (on own)	
5:00pm – 9:00pm	Pizza Party – Children	Suncoast A&B
5:00pm	LaPorte County Canine Demo	Stardust Hallway
5:30pm – 9:00pm	Convention Banquet	Stardust
9:30pm – 12:30am	Dance/DJ	Stardust
9:00pm – 12:00am	Hospitality	California Room

Saturday, June 15, 2019

Waterball TBD

Times and locations subject to change

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 19

- submitted by Stephen Macke, District Chairman

Milan Fire 10 year and 25 year pins awarded



25 year pin for Milan Fire
Stephen Macke,
Mike Alloway, Ed Scheele

District 19 10 year pin Milan Fire
Stephen Macke, Mike Allen, Ed Scheele

District 19 Miss Flame

District 19 Miss Flame
Ed Scheele PR Southeast, Kayle Scranton,
Stephen Macke Chairman



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

Thank you!!

DONLEY SAFETY

LOOK FOR OUR AD IN THE FEBRUARY ISSUE

IVFA offering shirts, caps and jackets for sale

ORDER FORM

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Evansville, IN 47724
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Street Address: _____
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____
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ORDER INFORMATION

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

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

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MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO IVFA

Training summit . . . (continued from page 28)

the month from February-April. The stipend will reimburse up to \$600 for any combination of the following: hotel room nights, ground and air transportation, and the event registration fee. Full details and criteria are available on the application form. To be considered eligible for the travel stipend, you or your department must be a current member of the NVFC. Membership options and benefits can be found at www.nvfc.org/BeYourBest.

Portland, OR, is located on the Willamette and Columbia Rivers on the border between

Oregon and Washington, providing easy access to both urban and outdoor activities. The NVFC Training Summit will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Portland, which is on the light rail line providing quick transport from the airport and downtown. The Doubletree is also within walking distance of shops, restaurants, and other attractions.

Attendance is limited! Reserve your spot today. Learn more about the Summit at www.nvfc.org/summit.

Questions? Contact Rachel Buczynski, conference planner,

at Rachel@nvfc.org or 202-887-5700.

####

About the NVFC

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



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

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title: **INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER**

2. Publication Number: **262-480**

3. Filing Date: **10/1/18**

4. Issue Frequency: **QUARTERLY**

5. Number of Issues Published Annually: **4**

6. Annual Subscription Price: **\$0.00**

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): **P.O. Box 4797, EVANSVILLE, IN 47724-0797**

Contact Person: **JACK KEENEY**
Telephone (include area code): **877-606-4832**

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer): **P.O. Box 4797, EVANSVILLE, IN 47724-0797**

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)

Publisher (Name and complete mailing address): **BARBARA KEENEY, P.O. Box 4797, EVANSVILLE, IN 47724-0797**

Editor (Name and complete mailing address): **MORRIS & PAMELA BARLOW, 116 N. CULLEN ST., RENSSAELER, IN 47978-2644**

Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): **MORRIS & PAMELA BARLOW, 116 N. CULLEN ST., RENSSAELER, IN 47978-2644**

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The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:

Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months

Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

13. Publication Title: **INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER**

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: **Aug 4th 2018**

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

FIRE FIGHTER NEWS

		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Not press run)		14,100	14,457
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	13,861	14,184
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0	0
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	0	0
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		13,861	14,184
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0	0
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	239	273
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		239	273
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		14,100	14,457
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		0	0
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		14,100	14,457
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		98.30	98.11

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a. Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	14,100	14,457
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)	98.30	98.11

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If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed Publication not required.

in the **FEBRUARY 2019** issue of this publication.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: **Jack Keene** Date: **10/10/18**

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IS YOUR DEPARTMENT PREPARED?

Is your department ready to respond to a pipeline incident?

Start preparing today at:
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Lifesaving Awards presented



Pictured are Thorncreek CFD members and a Whitley County Sheriff Deputy receiving IVFA Lifesaving Awards.

Pictured (left to right) – Scott Schmitt, Whitley Co. Sheriff Deputy, Adam Hurley - Thorncreek Twp. Fire Department captain, Greg Green, Thorncreek Fire Department Chief (at the time of the awards) and Jerry Sprague, District 6 chairman.

The photo credit goes to Doug DeWitt, presently the Chief at Thorncreek VFD.

submitted by Jerry Sprague, IVFA District 6 Chairman

MAY DEADLINE: APRIL 5

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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.**

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First Alert and the National Volunteer Fire Council Partner to Provide Online Training for Volunteer Fire Departments

Course and corresponding carbon monoxide alarm donations assist departments in increasing community safety nationwide

Known as the silent killer, carbon monoxide (CO) is especially dangerous because you cannot see, smell, or taste it. The only way to protect against the potentially deadly threat is with a CO alarm. For this reason, First Alert and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) have developed a new CO awareness and CO alarm training course for fire departments nationwide, supplemented by an alarm donation program for community members in need.

Called "Protect Against the Silent Killer," the course trains fire department personnel about the prevalence and symptoms of CO poisoning and proper CO alarm installation to help reduce the risk of CO incidents and deaths in communities across the country. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 20,000 emergency room visits and over 400 deaths are attributed to CO poisoning in the U.S. each year, making it the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in the country.

Awareness of carbon monoxide poisoning is coming at a crucial time. A survey* of Americans revealed that 40 percent reported not having one working CO alarm, and 90 percent of homes did not comply with established CO alarm recommendations. Current National Fire Protection Association guidelines recommend installing CO alarms on each level of the home, including the basement, and near every sleeping area.

"Carbon monoxide is a deadly threat, but steps can be taken to ensure loved ones are protected from this dangerous gas," said Tarsila Wey, director of marketing for First Alert, the most trusted brand in home safety.** "Firefighters provide a critical service, and we are proud to support their community risk reduction efforts through our CO alarm donation and equipping them with the education they need to reduce CO incidents in their communities."

The training provides insight about how carbon monoxide is created, the dangers it presents, and the symptoms and risk factors of CO poisoning. The course offers detailed information on proper installation of CO alarms, appropriate in-home placement, and maintenance. The training also emphasizes the importance of alarm and battery replacement and discusses the various types of CO alarms.

To complement the training, First Alert donated 500 alarms to volunteer fire departments to allow them to make an immediate impact in their communities. Departments that receive the alarms were part of the NVFC's Fire Corps program, which utilizes community volunteers to assist resource-constrained fire departments with non-operational tasks such as community education and smoke and CO alarm installations.

"We are proud of all the volunteer firefighters and Fire Corps members keeping communities safe from threats such as carbon monoxide," said NVFC chair Kevin D. Quinn. "By offering in-depth knowledge of CO safety and alarm installation and maintenance, combined with First Alert's alarm donation, we can help volunteer fire departments make our communities safer."

"Protect Against the Silent Killer" is now available in the NVFC Virtual Classroom. Access the course at www.nvfc.org/access-the-nvfc-virtual-classroom. The course will be free for the first 500 participants, compliments of First Alert, so sign up today! For more information on home safety, go to www.firstalert.com/.

*2009 Jarden Safety & Security Home Safety Survey

** First Alert Brand Trust Survey, February 2018 – Results are based on the responses of 1,000 adults, ages 25 and older, living in the United States who completed an online survey, February 15-19, 2018. Results are statistically significant at a 95 percent confidence level and can be generalized to the entire adult population in the United States within those statistical parameters. For more information or a copy of the complete survey results, contact Tim Young at LCWA: 312/565-4628 or tyoung@lcwa.com.

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BRK Brands, Inc. (Aurora, IL), is a fully owned subsidiary of Newell Brands. For 60 years, BRK Brands, Inc. has been the manufacturer of First Alert®-branded home-safety products, the most trusted and recognized safety brand in America. BRK® Brands designs and develops innovative safety solutions including Tundra™ Fire Extinguishing Spray, Onelink by First Alert smart home products, a comprehensive line of smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, fire extinguishers and escape ladders to protect what matters most. Such products are also marketed under the BRK Electronics® brand, The Professional Standard for the builder and contractor

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About the National Volunteer Fire Council

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

Submit Your Nominations for the 2019 NVFC Achievement Awards

Each spring, the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) honors a firefighter who has provided a lifetime of service, an outstanding junior firefighter, and an exemplary junior firefighter program. This year, with the addition of a new award, the NVFC will also honor a firefighter who has demonstrated leadership in the area of firefighter health and wellness. All recipients receive a

personalized award and national recognition.

The nomination period for the NVFC's four annual awards is now open, with applications due by **5pm EST on January 31, 2019**. Learn more about each award and submit your nominations at www.nvfc.org/awards.

The new **Chief James P. Seavey Sr. Health and Wellness Leadership Award**, co-sponsored by Ward Diesel and VFIS, will be presented to a volunteer firefighter, EMS provider, or rescue worker who has served as a leader in creating or promoting emergency responder health and wellness programs or initiatives in areas including, but not limited to, firefighter cancer, heart health, behavioral health, and overall health and wellness. The nominee must currently be serving as an active volunteer firefighter, EMS provider, or rescue worker and have made an impact in responder health and wellness at the local, state, and/or national level. The recipient will receive a trip for themselves and a guest to attend an awards banquet at the NVFC spring meeting on April 26, 2019, in Alexandria, VA, just outside of Washington, DC.

The **NVFC Lifetime Achievement Award**, sponsored by Rosenbauer America, recognizes a volunteer firefighter who has served at least 20 years and has made a major contribution or achieved significant accomplishments in the volunteer fire service at the local, state, and/or national level. The nominee must have demonstrated superior dedication

to the volunteer fire service, been active in their state firefighters' association, and have positively impacted the community through the fire service or other volunteer activities. The recipient will receive a trip for themselves and a guest to attend the awards banquet on April 26 in Alexandria, VA.

The **Junior Firefighter of the Year Award**, sponsored by California Casualty, honors a junior firefighter, cadet, or Explorer who has shown extraordinary dedication, commitment, and achievements as a youth member of the fire service. Nominees must have been a junior firefighter for at least one year and have gone above and beyond in their participation at the station. The recipient will receive a trip for themselves and up to two parents/guardians to attend the awards banquet on April 26 in Alexandria, VA.

The **Junior Firefighter Program of the Year Award**, sponsored by California Casualty, recognizes a department that has an outstanding junior firefighter program. The program must have been in operation for at least one year, and departments must demonstrate creativity and community impact for the program. The department will be presented with their award at the local level to allow the junior program members to participate.

Submit your nominations by 5pm EST on January 31, 2019 at www.nvfc.org/awards.

**MAY 5, 2019
DEADLINE IS
APRIL 5, 2019**

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c/o BARBARA KERNEY

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FIRE SERVICE

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The Art of Speed-Recruiting: Winning at Face-to-Face Volunteer Recruitment

By Tiger Schmittendorf
Reprinted from the NVFC Dispatch

If you had just 30 seconds to convince someone why they should join your volunteer fire department, what would you say?

What would your message be? Do you have a standard sales pitch that you use for just such occasions? Can you even say hello in 30 seconds?

I've had several opportunities to coach and practice some speed-recruiting exercises in a variety of settings, but one interaction with the Doyle Hose Co. 1 in Cheektowaga, NY, stands out. They had been invited to be a part of career day at the local high school in their response area, and they asked me to join them.

Each class of freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors came through the gymnasium, trying to connect with as many career opportunities as possible in just in 15 minutes. Their guidance counselors had coached them and given them a list of seven questions to ask each recruiter, regardless of the discipline they were representing. (Do an online search of "Career day questions to ask" or "Questions to ask before volunteering" for a list of sample questions people might ask.)

Doyle 1's challenge was to identify, qualify, and inform potential candidates as to why the volunteer fire service is right for them. Almost sounds like speed-dating, doesn't it?

So how do you connect with potentially 100 or more prospects in just 15 minutes? Let's review some basic tips I've developed off my "Recruiter's Cheat Sheet."

Know your audience.

Don't just know your audience, take that information and use it to determine who in your organization is best suited to do the recruiting. With no disrespect to our more experienced firefighters, does it really make sense to use retirees to recruit 16-year-olds? You will get a much better response if you match the recruiters with the audience.

One thing we've learned about Generation Y is that they are the best people to recruit their peers but look up to and trust those folks in the 30- to 40-year-old demographic. Be prepared with answers to the questions they might ask.

Secondly, you undoubtedly have the greatest firefighters that

ever existed in your department, but does that make them the best recruiters? Are your recruiters outgoing, engaging, and outwardly friendly with a good attitude about your department? If not, replace them as recruiters – Now.

Know your product.

Are you capable of quickly articulating your core mission and both the requirements and benefits associated with being a volunteer firefighter? Are you intimately familiar with all of the volunteering opportunities your agency offers? You need to be.

Many people may be deterred from volunteering as a responder when they hear how much time is required, so being able to adequately and succinctly talk up the benefits is critical. Also, those who definitely don't want to be a responder may be greatly interested in other less time-consuming or less-dangerous volunteer options with your department that they had previously not considered.

Know your competition.

Who are you competing with and what do they have to offer? How do you compare in terms of requirements, benefits, and being a "user-friendly" organization to join? If you think for a second that you're not in competition with every other volunteering, social, and career opportunity in your community, I have two

words for you: *Good Luck.*

Develop, know, and rehearse your opening line.

Have you ever thought about joining the volunteer fire service?

You look like someone who likes helping people...

Did you know that firefighting isn't for everyone, but volunteering can be?

Hey tough guy, try this gear on for size...

These aren't necessarily the best lines, but they're better than "Would you like a pen?" Regardless of what you choose as your opening act, it needs to encourage more than a one-word response to your question or statement.

Eliminate barriers.

Whether it's a table, a chair, or some other physical barrier between the prospect and you – get out in front of it or get it the heck out of the way. Look them in the eyes when you talk to them, but don't invade their "personal space." Create a presence that is open and inviting, not stand-offish. Be interactive with gear and equipment, audio and visual stimuli, and plenty of marketing materials to fit every audience. Your recruitment display and physical presence are the gateway into your organization. Ask yourself, what message is your presentation sending?

If you need recruitment materials that target a wide range of audiences and messaging, check out the free materials generator tool and PSAs available from the National Volunteer Fire Council's Make Me A Firefighter campaign at

<https://portal.nvfc.org>.

Ask for the sale or move on.

You don't have long to give your pitch and determine if there's any inkling of interest, or at least a sign of life, in the prospect you're recruiting. If you sense there is hope for furthering the conversation, "ask for the sale" by at least prompting the prospect to give you some basic contact info so that you can follow up in the near future (and be sure to follow through on that follow up). And remember, just like in speed-dating, "No thanks" means "No thanks."

In this world of increasing time constraints, remember that they don't have much time and you don't either. You need to be able to move from Point A to Point B and from prospect-to-prospect effectively and in a timely manner. That's not to say that your presentation should be so canned and rehearsed that you sound like a robot or a broken record. Be real.

And, be sure to send them home with something that reminds them of the opportunities you offer. Doyle 1 does a great job with this, handing out pens, magnets, postcards, and notepads with their recruitment theme smartly splashed all over everything. Ideas for giveaways are only limited by your imagination and your marketing budget.

Relax, have fun, and look and act like someone you would want to talk to. Body language can say more than spoken words. Be

engaging, and if the prospect is someone worth continuing a conversation with, they'll be engaging with you too.

As I say in my Top Ten Commandments for Recruitment and Retention: "When searching for the ultimate recruit – think of the person you would want to serve with ... or be saved by. Then **go out and get 'em.**"

Whatever you do, don't wait for them to come to you.

Tiger Schmittendorf is vice president of strategic services for First Arriving, a full-service marketing team supporting the public safety community. He served the Erie County Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Services (Buffalo, NY) for more than 20 years before retiring as deputy fire coordinator in January 2018. There he was responsible for the recruitment, training, and mutual aid operations of the county's 97 fire departments and 6,000+ firefighters. He created a recruitment effort that doubled his own fire department's membership and helped net thousands of new volunteers countywide. A frequent presenter on leadership, incident management, connecting generations, and recruitment and retention, he is a nationally-certified fire instructor and has been a firefighter since 1980. Connect with him at tiger@firstarriving.com.

**2019 convention
June 12-15
Michigan City, IN**

- 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.



WHAT COUNTY ARE THE MOST PLATES SOLD IN?

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