



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)

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Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

FEBRUARY 2025

From The President

Ross Emery



Greetings,
I hope that since the holiday season has passed us and as we begin 2025, that all reading this article had a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and quality time was spent with family and friends. If not, take the time to do so. Life is too short to have any regrets.

Please keep those members struggling with medical and other issues in your thoughts and prayers as those individuals negotiate treatment and advice to deal with those issues.

First, I want to say how humbled and honored I am to be writing this article as this Association's 42nd President. Never in my wildest dreams if someone would have said back in 1995 when I started my fire service career that I would be in this position today, I would have said "you're crazy". But here I am 30 years later into this journey and ready to take on this responsibility head on, wholeheartedly and lead this

Association as your President.

Second, I want to take this opportunity thank outgoing President Jerry Liston for his wisdom, leadership, and friendship over the last couple years while I was serving as Vice President.

I have no intent to bore you with a long biography about me, but I would like to give you a little background on myself.

I have been a member of the IVFA for 30 years and I am a second-generation volunteer firefighter. I soon will have 30 years in the fire service. I have served three departments over the last nearly 30 years, Richland-Taylor (Greene County Bloomfield, IN), Haubstadt (Gibson County Haubstadt, IN), and Elberfeld Fire (Warrick County Elberfeld, IN). Yes, I am truly a southern (gentleman) Indiana born, Indiana raised and still live in southern Indiana. The wife might have some thoughts about the gentleman part. I currently live in Haubstadt, Indiana with my wife Jenny (who is a saint for putting up with me) and we have been married since 2003. We have 2 sons, Lucas, who is 19 and Nathan who is 15 and a sophomore at Gibson Southern High School. I am currently employed at Kaiser Aluminum in Warrick County as a Firefighter/EMT. In 2014 I was elected Dist. 15 Chairman a position I served till being elected Vice President in 2022, and elected President in 2024.

Our association is a member driven association, we will continue to explore and work on benefits for our membership. Benefits for our members is a key to retaining membership and

See President page 2

Attention Members!

On June 19, 8:00am - 12:00pm at the State Convention there will be an instructor adult education class. The class is open to all instructors attending the convention or not. Text 812-212-5766 with your name and PSID number. Please visit the vendors in the afternoon.



Photos by Dist. 18 Vice Chairperson John Smith



Joint training session held by three departments

By John Smith
District 18 Vice Chairperson

On Saturday 2 November members of the Holland, Huntingburg, and St. Henry (Dubois Co.) VFDs, came together for a joint training session on automobile and school bus extrication. The event was conducted by Tim Shott of Hurst Tools and held at the

Huntingburg Airport. Lunch was provided by McDonald's Team Mann, and a school bus was provided by Holland Firefighter Greg Englert. KARS of Huntingburg and Toyota Manufacturing provided vehicles for the training. The event is the second time the three departments have come together for such training. Holland Fire Chief Corey Weiler recounted

"all three of our departments have students that attend the same schools (Huntingburg and Holland Elem. and Southridge Middle and High School). Chances are that if an incident involving a school bus were to happen, more than one of our departments may need to be called. The more that we train together, the better we will work together".

2025 CONVENTION : CLIFTY INN at CLIFTY INN STATE PARK, MADISON, IN - JUNE 18-20, 2025



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MAY DEADLINE IS APRIL 1, 2025

President continued from pg 1 recruiting new membership.

Our Association is blessed to have so many talented professionals as members and although very few of us ever act with the desire to be singled out and awarded for what we do please review the different IVFA and IVFAA awards on the website and make a nomination before the February 1 deadline.

While you are reviewing those, you might also look at the available Bridgeport scholarship information and even if you do not need that educational financial assistance reach out to your fellow department members or a graduating high school student meeting the requirements and encourage them to apply. The Association gives out Four \$1500 dollars scholarships annually at our State Convention in June. The deadline for submitting the Bridgeport application and application is March 1.

One goal as President is to continue to execute and direct the mission of this Association and be fully transparent in doing so. My Officers and Committees will be working to continually pursue what is best for this Association and more importantly yet, for the volunteer and combination fire and emergency personnel across the state of Indiana.

I have enjoyed traveling the state the last 2 years as I served

as Vice president and look forward continuing that. Our new Vice President Larry Curl and I look forward to the challenge of leading this great organization to greater heights.

I would like to thank Larry Bartlow, and Steve Nolan for their years of service to the IVFA. They both have served in various roles for the association and decided to step back from an active role with the association.

On January 8th one of my first duties as President I had the privilege of was helping present service awards to members of the English Volunteer fire Department. We presented 10- and 25-year pins to some members of their department. We also had the privilege of presenting a SO-year certificate to Don Burnham, he will receive his IVFA Gold card at a later date, but the crowning moment of the night was getting to present Linden Roberts with a 75 year award. I cannot even wrap my head around volunteering for 75 years. Linden is one of only a handful to have made it to this milestone and joins a very exclusive club of IVFA members.

In closing I want to thank each member of this association for their service and dedication, till next time, be safe and God bless each and every one of you.

Ross Emery
IVFA President
president@ivfa.org,
812-459-4062



“Political” talk

Greetings my Fellow officers and members, firefighters, emergency service responders, EMT’s, Paramedics and IVFAA members.

Another quarter has passed by since my last newspaper article; “From the Fire House to the State House”

Things are starting to shape up for an exciting legislative session for 2025, and by the time you are reading this edition of our IVFA Newspaper we should be in “full swing” as to proposed bills, and potentially new laws.

To date there has been nearly 500 bills filed and still have a week to go for filing bills.

We have several new Legislators and a new Governor so we will have a learning curve getting to know all of them. I am excited about the opportunity for some new faces and new opinions and to see if we can get support for them to better serve our communities.

If you have a new legislator please let me know and please reach out them and introduce your self. Remember they are all elected to serve and would like to hear from you as to your needs, desires, and interest. If you will

share with me who your newly elected legislators are I will personally reach out to them and extend an invitation for them to stop by the fire house to have a little meet & greet.

So by the time you read this addition of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters’ Newspaper it will have turned from Fall to Winter. Winter is just one of our four seasons and we should always be looking forward to the four seasons as a natural part of our Hoosier heritage.

So let’s talk about some legislation, education & information my three favorite topics.

As I travel the state addressing many of you at your district meetings we have talked about every thing from funding, services, training, and personal benefits. I have shared many of our conversations with many of the members of the general assembly and by the time you are reading this quarters newspaper we will know if all or any of the subjects have been or are being addressed in the 2025 session of the Indiana General Assembly.

I will be talking with our friends at the General Assembly

as you should be talking to our friends at a local level about our issue and concerns.

We are fast at work with the legislative agenda for 2025 and welcome your input, thoughts, and concern

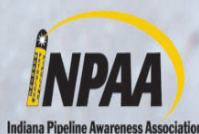
You can contact your District Chair, Your Public Relations member, the IVFA officers or me, your lobbyist. All our contact information can be found in this edition of the newspaper or on the website.

I hope to see you, talk with you, visit, and share and learn with and from you as I continue to visit the District meetings. You can find most of them listed on the calendar page of our website. Please take the time to be involved and stay informed in your IVFA district

Hope you and your family had a great holidays in 2024 and are now ready to meet / greet the challenges, excitement, the opportunities of 2025

Welcome to 2025

Be safe and thank you for your services,
Larry Curl
IVFA Lobbyist



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Find more information at
www.inpaa.org

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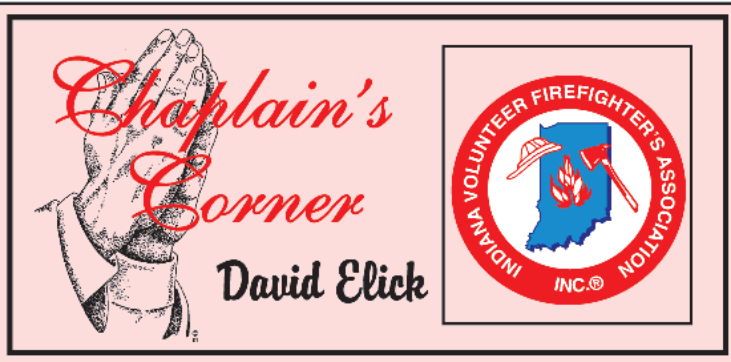
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Greetings one and all, and welcome to 2025! As we start a new year, it gives us time to reflect on the past twelve months and the blessings we have received, as well as look forward to what the coming year potentially has in store. As you look both in the rearview mirror and the windshield, what are your thoughts on where you've been, and where you're going?

Change. Change is an ever-evolving pain that none of us like. We're humans, creatures of habit, that do not always adapt well to change. Some of us will experience new officers, new or reworked administrations, while others will continue with the same old, same old. Each of us can offer and provide ideas to positively move our lives and organizations forward through the coming year. There are a couple of ways to accomplish this. Demand change, a kind of my way or the highway attitude, OR simply ask for help to reach the goal.

How does one ask for help? And from whom?? Well, why not ask God's help. Then there are your peers and mentors. Do NOT be afraid to ask for help, ask questions, get input, hints, tips, suggestions. All the people are not going to be happy with you all the time. If most everyone is happy most of the time, that's a win, a compromise, if you will. And as long as you try to do what's right, even when you make a mistake, we're all human, we are going to make mistakes. Own each and every one, don't be bashful, that's how we learn, and become better humans.

The Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association has an AMAZING group of chaplains and associate chaplains that are at your disposal. Please, don't be afraid to reach out. From all of us, to each and every one of you, a happy, safe, and prosperous 2025!

Stay safe –
Dave Elick, Chaplain

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From The Vice-President

Larry Curl



Greeting to the members of the IVFA & IVFAA

First, I want to thank all for the opportunity to serve as the next Vice President. When I agreed to run as your Vice President, with the election being held at our annual meeting each year during our State Convention, I soon began to think of where we are and where we should / could / might be in the year(s) to come.

I want to share with all that I pledge my full support to our newly elected President Ross Emery, and will work diligently with him to move our association forward and to reach the goals set for our future.

I know many of you know me but I would like to share some of my family information with you as a new incoming part of the IVFA leadership team.

So, yes my name is Larry

Curl and I have served in the fire service for 50 plus years. I began my career as a Junior Firefighter at the age of 17, and climbed through the ranks until I rose to the level to the rank of Fire Chief. I served as Fire Chief of one of (if not the largest) Volunteer Fire Department back in day when it was all Volunteer, the Wayne Township Volunteer Fire Department in Marion County Indiana. When I joined the WTFD back in 1968, yes still in high school, at the age of 17 we had nine stations, 54 pieces of rolling stock (motorized pieces of fire fighting or rescue apparatus) and over 400 members. We had our own Communications Center, receiving calls and dispatching runs, had a training grounds (although it came a little later) with a six story training tower, a pond where we could learn to draft (yes we served areas where there were no hydrants and sometimes need to draft) and do our own pump tests. We eventually started our own apparatus maintenance facility, and still did annual events for our members such as graduation ceremonies, picnics, held dances and dinners to select our Miss Flame contestants, and even occasionally held a friendly water fight with our neighboring stations (or at least until we got caught, yes those were the days and yes I'm old enough to remember them.

So a little about my family; at the age of 17 I met the love of my life and made her my wife (at



From the Historian's Desk

L.E. "Buz" Koehler
Historian

From the Historian's Desk, We have continued to add items into the archives the last quarter. I would like to give thanks to President Liston in helping to get 18 copies of old newspapers from the The State Library. I would also like to thank, Monique Howell, who

made the collection of these issues possible. I would like to thank all of our members and officers, that collected items to be included into the archives. At our last quarterly meeting I received several issues of newspapers and convention books to add to or history.



We will continue collecting, as we still have some gaps to fill. If anyone that may have or acquires newspapers printed before 1985, please contact me.

Buz Koehler
Past President
Historian

the age of 18 and she at 17 with parental permission). We lived in a community called Mars Hill (within Wayne Township) and I was employed at the time by American Can Company. This was during the time the Vietnam war was going strong, the reason that was important is that there was also a thing called the "draft" which would send out certified letters addressed to young men with the heading of Greetings you have been selected by your local draft board. The outside of the letter would have a return address of the draft board so when Carol got the mail that day before I got home from work she was standing in the doorway to greet me with tears in her eyes and the letter unopened in her hand. Yes I was drafted and served in the US Army for two years as an MP (leaving behind the fire service temporarily) and I took up residence in Ft. Campbell KY.

A few months into my service life Carol came to be with me while I was stationed in Ft Gordon Ga. So as we were "enjoying" the military life we also found out that we serious about starting a family when we learned it was happening. Our daughter, Kimberly was born while we were serving in Ft. Belvoir Va. (yes the military moved you often). So after my time in the military it was time to return to Indy and the fire service. As we were settling back in it became civilian life and all that comes with that and within the next couple years came our son, Larry Jr. So we have now become a family of four with an agreement there would be no more.

Well fast forward several years with both the kids married we soon become grandparents as we now have two grandsons and a granddaughter of which are all

three in college.

So for those who may have wondered about the life of Larry Curl there you have it, 70 plus years all in a couple of paragraphs.

BACK TO THE IVFA

Second, I want to say to our newly elected IVFA President Ross Emery, I am glad to be on board with you, to serve along side you, to encourage growth and meet the challenges for our association.

With out growth and challenges we become stagnate and no one wants to be a part of a stagnate organization. I hope we (all the leaders within the Association) can do an assessment of where we are, and where we want to be in 1, 5, 10 plus years and establish a plan as to how we get there.

Now having said all of that I think we have a great opportunity to take an already good association to the next step but; it takes more than upper leadership, it takes all leadership and all the membership. We would like to think and we certainly hope all 13,000 plus members are on board with growth, service development, and a strong desire to better serve our constituents, our Mrs. Smith's of our communities. {for those of you that heard or read from the late Chief Alan Brunacini speak or read any of his writings in a humorous conversational style, Chief Alan Brunacini explains the application of common-sense customer service concepts to the fire service using the term Mrs. Smith as our customer}

So how do we kick off or jump start 2025?

First as an association we have contracted for a revisit of our 5 year old cost savings study. Remember in 2020 we commissioned a study to be done by a company named American Economics Group, Inc., a firm of professional economists serving clients in business, government, financial services, with headquarters in Washington, D.C. titled:

TAX SAVINGS OF INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS...

This Special Report Prepared for the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association with

our goal five years ago to determine "due to our services as Volunteers" what we were saving our customers, the taxpayers of Indiana showed the results then was a total savings with in our state of \$4.5 Billion by the services you the volunteers provide. So here we are five years later and we have contracted with the same firm to prepare a document with the savings after five years. We will share the details of the revisit once we have the results.

Remember last year we were encouraged by the results of funding included in our State Budget that allowed the building of several new training facilities across Indiana making it easier and closer for our member to do live fire training's and we were blessed to have had the opportunity for 66 volunteer fire departments across Indiana. The \$10 million PPE investment allowed for 946 sets of turnout gear (PPE) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and we look forward to and hope the state can see fit to continue the same turn-out gear replacement this year. We have nearly 13,000 members and even though we know not all department need the assistance of new turnout gear, we are still way short with the 946 set purchased last year. This is a topic every department and every firefighter should be discussing with their members of the General Assembly

We have addressed many times about our need to retain and recruit members so let's get SERIOUS. What can, should, might we do to encourage new and younger folks to become members or our members to stay and continue to serve their communities and their departments for a much longer time: I have heard from some of you but if you would like to weigh in simple send me an email addressed to vicepresident@ivfa.org and in the subject box just type members.

I understand many of you feel you have done all you can do but if its not working, I understand the feeling but we can not give up.

As your Vice President I have only one voice, but it some times is a loud voice and I want

See Vice President page 5

SPENCER

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Vice President cont. from pg 4
that voice to be speaking for you the member.

Please visit our website often as we attempt to share valuable information with upcoming events such as your district meeting, convention information. You can download our new IVFA App, find details about the Association and our history, keep up with the legislative session, find information on everyone of our member departments. You can check out the Quarterly Newspaper on the website, minutes of our quarterly officers meetings, and calendar of events happening at our departments, find our Annual Awards and nominate members of your department for an award. You can find a listing or vendors who are sponsors of the IVFA and you can register your MISS FLAME and or YOUR JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER for our annual contests in those categories

If you have ever had and thoughts about how the IVFA got started or our accomplishment of the years we have an IVFA History section, you can even find out our members that are serving in the military, our life time (50 year) members and our 25 year member plus a list of all (that our central office has been made aware of) INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION DECEASED MEMBERS

Our website is loaded with information just waiting for you to explore.

Remember this is your Association, please read about it, be active in it, and share information that we can put on our website for all to see.

We can only grow as much as you the members will allow it to happen. If we want to be the best we (all of us) have to work at it. Nothing in life ever comes easy but rest assured if we plan to succeed we can and will, however if we fail to plan, well you know the results

We have a lot to be thankful for and a lot left to do. Sorry for the length of this article but I seem to write like I talk, very long.

Welcome to winter 2025
Larry Curl
IVFA Vice President

“You don’t get any medal for trying something, you get medals for results.”

-Bill Parcels

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS

Public Relations Director East Central *David Israel*



IVFA PREC David Israel Report

Mark the date for the June 2025 IVFA Convention at Madison at the Clifty Falls State Park in 2025. You need to get registered early too guarantee you a room and meals at the Banquet and all that the 2025 Convention Committee has to offer.

HAS YOUR BENIFCIARY CHANGED IN THE LAST YEAR get it corrected?????

WE THE OFFICERS OF THE IVFA WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US THE IVFA. I believe this year will be the year of the Volunteers to get the respect we need to support our Communities. Lobbing is not free. We read electric meters for 30 years and people thought we got our electric for free.

HOW DID YOU LIKE BEING ABLE TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD BY CALLING THE CENTRAL OFFICE. NOT SURE WHAT WAS GOING. WE HAD ALOT OF DEPARTMENTS NOT GETTING THEIR PACKETS.

MIGHT JUST HAVE TO HAVE DIST. CHAIRMAN AND PR’S HAND DELIVER THEM THIS YEAR.

I BELIEVE THERE ARE A FEW OF US THAT HAVE A REGULAR DAY, JOB PLUS A SIDE JOB. DO YOU KNOW WHAT SEASON IT IS IN LATE MARCH, EARLY APRIL 2025 IT IS CALLED PLANTING SEASON.

SAM AND I TRY TO COVER EACH OTHERS DISTRICTS WHEN WE CAN. THIS LAST MONTH

NEITHER ONE OF US COULD MAKE THE MEETINGS. WE BOTH CALLED OUR DIST. CHAIRMAN AND SAID SORRY. WE WORKING IN THE FIELDS TODAY. HOPE YOU UNDER STAND.

Some of the District Chairman in PREC have made some changes, to a short a Meeting and a possible short training. They are already posted on the IVFA Calendar. You don’t have to wait to find out when they are, there on line NOW. Where THE IVFA CALENDAR ivfa.org. DIST. 8B will be having District Meetings on the second Wednesday of the month. We are GOING TO STEP BACK AND SEE IF WE CAN LOOK AT THIS A DIFFERANT WAY TO HIT THIS HEAD ON. YOUR DIST. CHAIRMAN WILL BE GETTING IN TOUCH WITH YOU.

Since the District Chairman can’t seem to get your DEPT. email address, WOULD YOU THE Fire Chief or someone. PLEASE SEND ME YOUR CURRANT FIRE DEPT EMAIL ADDRESS and MEETING NIGHT TO David Israel at prec@ivfa.org.

THIS WINTER I AM GOING TO TYPE ALL MY DEPARTMENTS EMAIL ADDRESSES IN AND SEE WHO’S ADDRESSES COMES BACK, YOUR CHAIRMAN AND I ARE COMING TO YOUR YOUR DEPT. NEXT MEETING. (TO CORRECT THE DEPT. EMAIL ADDRESS SEND ME YOUR, CORRECTED EMAIL AND I WILL GET IT CORRECTED)

I have a plan. HOW MANY OF YOU EVEN ASKED YOUR TRUSTEE FOR MORE MONEY?? HEY I COULD JUST LOOK IT UP ON THE ITA’S WEB SITE.

NOT SURE IF ALL THE TURNOUT GEAR AND SCBA’S HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTED, BUT WE SURE HOPE THE NEW INCOMING GOVERNOR LEAVES THAT LINE ITEM IN THERE.

Congratulation’s to those Departments RECEIVING NEW TURN OUT GEAR which is very much need to our Indiana Fire Departments.

We have Twp Trustee’s that don’t even have a tax base to

be able to fund a Fire Dept BY LAW.

I hope our New Governor whom ever it is continues the 10 million for SCBA’s and Turnout Gear. Next year will be a Budget year hopefully the IN COMING Governor will keep the SCBA/ Turnout Gear, line Item in the next two years.

We need the PREC District’s input (all of them not just one or two, all of you) to make things better, on the training side, did you know you can down load all the IFSTA books from the book store?

District Chairman need two contact people from each Dept. so we can communicate to see what you need. We all have more going on in our lives than we can handle. Hey Ron and Bill THANKS FOR LETTING ME PICK ON YOU TWO IN 2024? Thanks for the Memories Phil.

But could we at least try to make an effort to have two people at a District Meeting from each Department. Please go to the IVFA web site (ivfa.org) look up your Dept. INFO and make sure your INFO is correct IF not, send me the corrections that need to be done and I will correct them on the web site for you. Thank You

Now is the time to start THINKING about the 2025 IVFA Awards.

IVFA Convention Chairman District 14 Clifty Falls, Madison, IN

DON’T FORGET ABOUT THE CANCER SURVEY ON THE WEB SITE. That was pretty sad, ONLY 400 MEMBERS FILLED OUT THE SURVEY. Wecouldn’t get 800 people out of 13,000 people to participate in a survey to help us, get funding for cancer study funding.

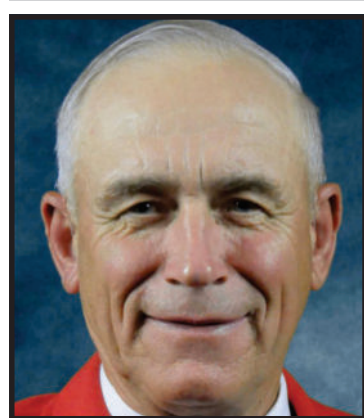
Here is what we need from you. Participation it’s a two way street. I will get off the soap box NOW it’s going to be a fun 2025.

ON BEHALF OF PEGGY AND I all of PREC, WE WISH YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR in 2025.

OH!! If I don’t answer PLEASE leave a message or TEXT me!!

See you at the next District Meeting.
PREC
David R. Israel
prec@ivfa.org
(812) 593-1564

Public Relations Director Southeast *Edwin J. Scheele*

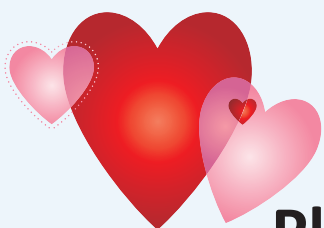
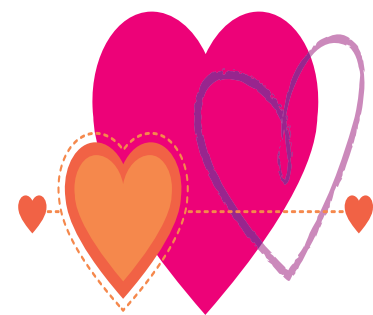


It has been a very hard time in District 19 this quarter. We lost a very young firefighter, Landen Comer, in a vehicle accident. A very short time later we lost, Ralph Meyer, a 58-year member and good friend in a line of duty death. Our hearts and prayers go out to their families.

We are in the cold winter months now. Be very careful when responding to incidents when roads are slick.

We are preparing for the state convention at Madison Clifty Falls, June 18-20. On Thursday, June 19 we will be having a 4-hour instructor adult education refresher class for instructors from 8-12. Come for the training and visit the vendors in the afternoon. Also the Board of Firefighters Standards and Education will meet in the morning. Anyone interested in attending the instructor refresher please text me 812-212-5766 with your name and PSID number. Sign up for dinner, call Rick 502-523-2665 for tickets, attend opening meeting and memorial service in the evening. Make it a day at the convention. You do not need to register for convention to attend training.

Edwin Scheele
IVFA PRSE



Happy Valentine’s Day!
Deadline for May issue is April 1.
Please send all copy and photos to Sherri at:
ivfd@hurdmedia.com



I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 2 REPORT



Tom Fentress - Chairman

Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association District 2 Hosts Quarterly Meeting By Tom Fentress, IVFA District 2 Representative

The Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association (IVFA) District 2 gathered on November 14, 2024, at the Lake Township Volunteer Fire Department for its quarterly meeting. The evening began with the Call to Order, the Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call, followed by introductions of state officers and acknowledgments of lifetime members and service milestones. Jeremy Kalizae of Lake Township was honored with a 10-year service pin.

IVFA Updates and Awards

Key discussions during the meeting included updates on IVFA initiatives and recognitions. Members were reminded of the June 18-20, 2025, IVFA Convention in Madison, Indiana, and encouraged to submit nominations for various awards, such as the Angel Award, the Life-Saving Award, and the Mr. IVFA Award.

The IVFA phone app is up and running smoothly, providing a convenient way for members to stay informed. Legislative updates included efforts to secure a \$1,000 income tax credit for volunteer firefighters and funding for departments serving Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts.

Old and New Business

Reports from previous and ongoing initiatives were shared, including the results of a recent cancer survey and the Fire Marshal's push for more accessible training. Members also discussed upcoming changes in fire service data reporting, transitioning to the National Emergency Response and Information System (NERIS), and the addition of cancer coverage under Provident Insurance policies.

District 2 Miss Flame Run-Off

On December 16, 2024, District 2 held a Miss Flame run-off between reigning Miss Flame, Ms. Lilly Postma, and former titleholder Ms. Miranda Ruvalcaba. Both contestants demonstrated exceptional

preparation and composure, making the decision remarkably challenging for the judges. One judge remarked that it was the hardest decision he had ever faced, even with extensive experience as a paramedic, fire chief, and coroner.

Ultimately, Ms. Miranda Ruvalcaba was named the 2025 District 2 Miss Flame. Congratulations to Miranda for her achievement, and heartfelt thanks to Lilly Postma for her outstanding service and representation of District 2 throughout 2024.

Looking Ahead

The next District 2 meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2025, at the Keener Township Volunteer Fire Department. IVFA members are encouraged to attend and continue their commitment to improving fire service and safety across Indiana.

DISTRICT 5 REPORT



John Grolich - Chairman

I.V.F.A. 5th District Meeting November 14, 2024 Noble Twp F.D Fire Department Station # 2 Wabash IN

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

The meeting was called to order at 1930 hrs by chairman Grolich with the pledge to the flag following. Meeting was attended by 26 firefighters representing 6 departments. The October minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

GUESTS

Don Glover Nowak Supply
Jerry Listen IVFA President
Don Kissinger

Don Glover discussed the products available through Nowalk Supply.

President Jerry Listen discussed the OSHA rewrite. He remarked on the volunteer firefighter cancer survey. The survey response was NOT as great as they were hoping. The survey is now closed. He talked about the IVFA awards and nominations. Those need to be received by the first of February each year. He asked "WHAT CAN THE IVFA DO FOR YOU" Please be in contact with your district chairman with any questions or comments. He commented on fire

department funding. Fund raisers should not have to be used to keep the doors open and lights on.

FDIC April 7 to 12 this year.

Instructor meeting in Pierceton on December 6. Discussed several other training opportunities available.

Bourbon FD has a gun raffle of a choice of 4 different guns, a few \$20 tickets still available.

A pair of leather F.F. boots were won by Charles Zin supplied by Don Glover of Nowak Supply.

Next meeting January 9, 2025@ Kewanna-Union FD.

Meeting was adjourned at 2055 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Martin
District 5 Secretary

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



Mack Grobis - Chairman

"The Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association District 6 gathered for its November meeting at the Northeast Fire District in Allen County. Members from across the district came together to discuss updates and celebrate achievements.

A highlight of the evening was the recognition of Roger Beedy, who was honored for his 50 years of dedicated service. Roger was presented with the prestigious 50-Year Gold Card, Gold uniform pin, a State House Resolution commemorating his contributions, and the 50-Year Challenge Coin. These accolades are a testament to his remarkable career and unwavering commitment to the firefighting community.

In addition to Roger's recognition, several members received service pins during the meeting, marking their dedication and milestones in the fire service.

District 6 also proudly announced that Madison Tigner of the Albion Fire Department will represent the district in the Miss Flame competition at the upcoming IVFA State Convention. The Miss Flame competition highlights the leadership and community spirit of young women connected to the fire service. District 6 wishes Madison the best as she prepares to showcase her talents and dedication on the state stage.

The officers of District 6 had been invited to a few Christmas gatherings to pass out awards to

members!

Thank you Southwest Fire District, Howe Fire Department and Orange Township Fire Department.

Stay safe, and thank you for your service to our communities!"

Chairman Mack Grobis
District 6
Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association
email: district6@ivfa.org
cell: 260-585-3213

DISTRICT 9A REPORT



Pascal Moon- Chairman

Good Day to all!

Another year has come and gone!

With 2024 in the books, I look back at year and want to Thank a few People for Helping me through it all!

PRNW Jeremy, and Christina Chaplin Tom Keller, also Asst Chairman Mark Ancill.

My Wife Beth! She knows what i do during the year and she is still with me!

The Departments for allowing us to have a meeting at their stations.

To All I say THNAK YOU!
2025 Bring the District a new Miss Flame, Claire Ellis. Its going to be a Busy and Eventful year!

Thank you to our 2024 Miss Flame Leighann Mcknight, we all are going to miss you.

The Miss Flame program, i have watch our last 2 ladies grow and become more confident as the year go by.

The all started out the same way, could barely get them to talk so you could here them and now they are able to speak to a crowd with the confidence and poise that helps them in their futures.

2025 Will bring each one of us our ups and downs, but that is part of life.

We know that its not going to change unless we make a change!

Thanks For allowing me to be your Chairman for another year!
Pascal

DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

Greetings from District 10

Happy New year 2025! I hope all of you had a safe and blessed Christmas with your, families and loved ones and look forward to what the New Year has ahead!

Our last meeting for 2024 was held in November with Hope Volunteer Fire Dept. as hosts.

Ken Chandler, who also happens to be a longtime friend and EMT, was presented an award honoring his 44 years as an Advanced EMT with Hope VFD. Ken & Nancy moved to nearby Columbus some years back and is now retired from making runs; but remains a faithful neighbor, and help to those in time of need.

Natalie Israel was again selected District 10 Miss Flame for 2025. Natalie will be senior at North Decatur High School this year; and we look forward to her representing the District in various events and activities. The community activity in 2025 for the Miss Flames, will be "shop with a firefighter." Natalie will have more information about this event, in the near future.

Eric Mathis, Hope firefighter, was presented his 10year pin.

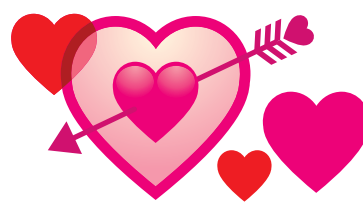
A reminder, that it is time to be thinking about IVFA awards for 2025, which will be presented at the upcoming Convention, to be held in Madison, IN.

Hartsville Vol. Fire Dept. held its 20th annual, Breakfast with Santa, December 7. We had a great turnout; everyone enjoyed the food, fellowship; and the opportunity to let Santa know what was on their wish list!

It was sad time for District 10, recently, with the passing of Walter "Wally" Dietz, who was 34 year firefighter and Paramedic with Harrison Twp. Fire Department. He also was very involved in community volunteer efforts, as well as mission work with the Asbury Methodist Church in Columbus.

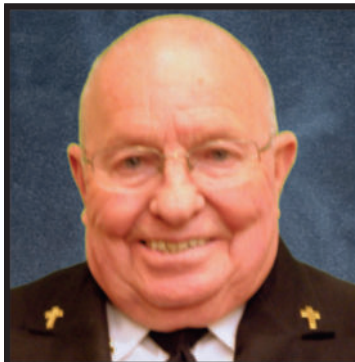
Another District 10 firefighter, Mark Taylor of Westport Volunteer Fire Dept. was presented his 50year Gold Coin a local department meeting by Westport Chief, Jay Maddux. Congratulations and thank you for your service, firefighter Taylor!

Wishing you a Happy, Safe and Prosperous New Year,
John M. Ray District 10 IVFA Chairman



I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Pete Taylor - Chairman

Hello from District 11A. Hope everyone had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year .

Our last District meeting was at Center Point Fire Dept. We had 6 Depts. 12 Members and one guest. Our guest speaker was Todd Armstutz, from Hoosier Fire.

Convention is in Madison, June 18 - 21 at Clifty Falls State Park in 2025. You need to get registered early to guarantee room at Banquet and all they have to offer.

Now is the time to start thinking about the 2025 IVFA awards. Never to soon

50 Year Celebration is March 25, 2025 at the State House to honor this year 50 Year members.

Sad to say I have been busy with several Memorials.

When the roads get bad be very careful. We don't want accidents and emergency responders getting injured.

Our next District meeting is January 19, 2025 at Van Buren Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. 1:00 PM.

chairman's position for District 12. I have been in the fire service since October of 1977, starting as a volunteer with Hazelwood Vol Fire Dept.(which is now part of Fire Dept of Liberty Twp.) I retired from Plainfield Fire Territory in March of 2022, serving 37 years and 5 months.

I am currently the fire Chief of Stilesville Vol Fire Dept..

Rick Rusie was elected to the vice chairman's position.

Rick recently retired from Pittsboro Fire Dept. and currently volunteers with North Salem Fire Department and is also a past member of Wayne Township Fire Department.

12th District Secretary Charla Lever was reelected into the Secretary position.

District 12 November found us at Paragon Vol Fire Dept. for our annual awards dinner and meeting. A wonderful meal (as usual) was served by the auxiliary members of the fire department.

2- 10 year awards were handed out to Lowell Farthing of Stilesville fd and Clint Wheeler of A&A twp fire dept.

2- 25 year awards were handed out to Charla Lever from Wayne twp and Amo fire department and to Tim Greene from A&A twp fire dept.

Our next meeting will be Jan 6 at Stilesville Fire Dept.

Hope 2025 is good to everyone!

Steve Kershaw
Chairman
District 12

Madison a great time.

We are looking for sponsors or door prizes or vendors if you know of anyone.

Thank you,
Rick Cannon
District 14 Chairman

DISTRICT 15 REPORT



Paul Campbell - Chairman

Welcome to 2025! I hope everyone had a safe and great holiday season!

I want to start by congratulating the new executive board. We have a new President and Vice President to lead the IVFA into the next few years.

Its that time of the year to get your nominations in for all the awards that are handed out at the convention. Every department must have someone that is worthy of the recognition they deserve even though we do our jobs for the community and not the recognition.

The legislative session will be beginning shortly and the IVFA has a few things to work on this year so follow the legislative notes and be prepared to help if needed. The IVFA works hard every year to try and get things passed to help benefit our members and to entice others to join the fire service in their communities.

The convention will be here before we know it so, please join us in June and be a bigger part of the IVFA. The district Miss Flame contests should be under way soon if not already so if you have someone interested in the contest encourage them to join in the fun. The jr. Firefighter competition will be held again this year so get you cadets/jr firefighters interested. We had 4 contestants last year at the convention so let's try to have more this year. Visit the IVFA website for all the rules for the contests and all the award information.

Have a great start to 2025 and hope to see everyone soon.

DISTRICT 16 REPORT



Nick Faulkenburg - Chairman

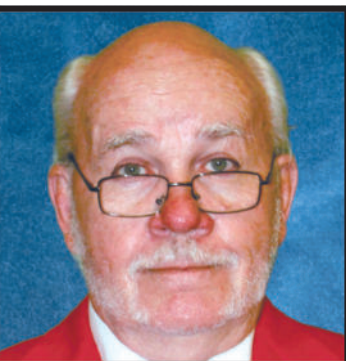
Hello All,

On Nov 2nd Ava Gray the 2024 Miss Flame for District 16 and Nicholas Faulkenburg the District 16 Chairman assisted in the chicken bbq event for Milltown Vol. Fire Department.

On Nov 16th Palmyra Fire Department opened a new station, and we had the honor of presenting the new station clock and numerous 10 & 25 yr pins. Nov. 19th we had our first official meeting in a very long time. We would like to someone from very department to act as a liaison to our next district meeting on Jan 21st at 7pm at Ramsey Fire Department Station 2, we will have food and drinks. November 23 was a sad day for our district as we laid one of our own to rest, RIP Gerald Saulman, and you will be missed by many. We would also like to thank your family for their sacrifices. On December 8 at Livonia Vol Fire Department Annual Christmas Dinner, Chairman Nick came and presented 10 & 25 yr pins! December 12th our new Vice-Chairman Jon Gott presented Brian "Chop" Farris, Mark Jones 25 Years, and Benji Farris there 25 years of service pins.

Questions,
Nick Faulkenburg
812-572-1721

DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Sam Emery - Chairman

Greetings once again,
I hope every had a good Christmas and the New Year

comes in good also.

Congratulations to Natalee Rickard (Oaktown – Busseron) our District 17A 2025 Miss Flame.

I have visited several Departments and passed out Pins and Awards.

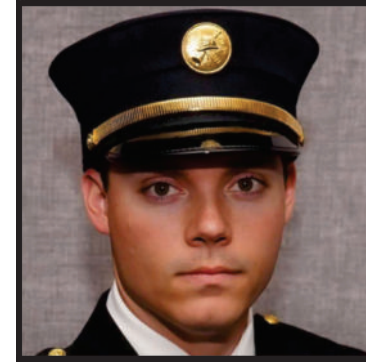
I would like to congratulate Larry Waggoner (Lyons VFD) and Ron Bell (Odon – Madison VFD) on their retirement.

Thanks for your years of service. Sympathy to Washington VFD on their loss of Tony Wickman for whom I held a memorial service.

I hope to have seen everyone Jan. 18th at the 17A meeting at the Vincennes Sausage Supper. Until next time stay safe.

Sam Emery
District 17A Chairman

DISTRICT 18 REPORT



Nicholas Waninger - Chairman

Happy New Year! If you haven't been to a district meeting in a while, I'd like to challenge you to come to one this year. Meetings are the 3rd Thursday, every other month starting in January.

District 18 IVFA

The last meeting of the district 18 was held on November 21st 2024 and hosted by Ireland Fire department.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM by Chairman Nick Waninger

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all members present.

Chairman Waninger gave the opening prayer.

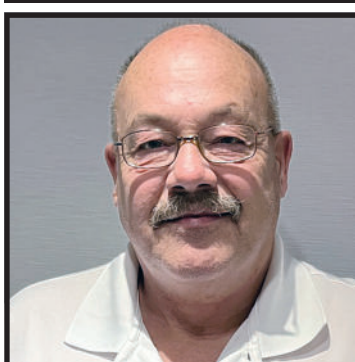
The business meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm by Chairman Waninger and welcomed everyone has joined us tonight.

Roll call was taken with 52 members representing 12 departments answering 382 alarms.

Vice Chairman Smith introduced the guest present.

See District 18 page 9

DISTRICT 12 REPORT



Steve Kershaw - Chairman

Hello and good day, evening, night, depending on when you are reading this.

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season

District 12 has had a couple meetings since the last issue.

The September meeting was hosted by Lizton Vol. Fire Dept. with 6 departments represented along with distinguished guest. The meeting was capped off with elections for new Chairman and vice chairman. We would like to give a huge thanks to Larry Curl for his leadership the last few years and wish him the best as he moves into the Vice President's position of the IVFA.

My name is Steve Kershaw and I was elected into the

DISTRICT 14 REPORT



Rick Cannon - Chairman

Welcome from District 14, As you know we are having the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Convention Firefighters Convention June 18-20 2025 in Madison at Clifty Inn.

We only have 70 rooms in that hotel that we with getting all of our men officers and Miss Flames in there.

I know a lot of you wanted that hotel but the Confort Inn is 2 miles up the road and I locked in 50 rooms there plus we have camping if you have a camper and want to camp.

This is not the first time we have stayed at 2 locations or drove off site to a convention hall we are doing our best to put on a great convention.

So please be patient with us as we make your stay in beautiful





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I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

District 18 continued from pg 7

Ava Verkamp District 18 Miss Flame, Mike Foley McQueen Equipment, Ross Emry IVFA present elect for 2025

State Officer's report

Ross Emry talked about the OSHA rules that are unknown what is going to happen.

Talked about State Parks in your fire territory that there could be money available to you.

Also talked about the State awards please go on line and nominate someone.

District Chairman's report Chairman Waninger handed out the McQueen award to Scott Uebelhor from St. Anthony

Nomination of awards are due February 1 st . 2025 ,Bridgeport Scholarship is due March 1st and Handed out IDEM posters.

District officer's report

Vise Chairman Smith talked about the changes in the Fire Instructor certification.

Check the dates of your EMS and Fire recertification's.

Committee reports.

Parade will be on Oct 12th, 2025 looking for a host department for the parade.

Old business

None presented

New Business

Chairman Waninger handed out 3- 25 years pins, Craig Greulich, Kurt Bleemel, and Josh Wehr all from Ireland Fire Dept.

Announcement- good of the order.

2025 State convention will be held in Madison IN. at the Clifty Fall State Park.

FDIC will be held in Indy on April 7-12 2025

Chairman Waninger thanked the host department for the meal.

Announced the date and location of the next meeting. It will be on

January 16th 2025 in Dale with the Carter Fire District fire department host. March meeting will be hosted by the Dubois Vol. Fire Dept.

Last call for any other business to be brought before this body. There was none.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Ben Sieverding- Chairman

District 19 News

I hope everyone enjoyed their time with friends and families over the holidays. Sometimes we take the ones we love for granted and don't realize it until they are gone. Our district has suffered two significant losses since the last printing of the paper.

First the Holton community lost a young man, Landen Comer. Landen tragically lost his live in a vehicle accident. He was a volunteer firefighter for the Otter Creek Township VFD. He served there with his father, Chief Dale Comer and his brother. Then just a few weeks later the Napoleon VFD lost a firefighter in the line of duty. Firefighter Ralph Meyer gave his life in the service of other on December 4th , suffering cardiac arrest after fighting a structure fire. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Otter Creek and Napoleon fire families as well as the Comer and Meyer families.

I was also humbled to attend the presentation of the Medal of Valor to two Aurora firefighters from the Indiana State Fire Marshal. Our volunteer firefighters are putting themselves out there every day for their communities. They serve with honor and distinction every day and I could not be prouder to call them my brothers and sisters.

Our next meeting in District 19 will be held at the Otter Creek Township VFD station in Holton IN on Thursday, January 23rd. We hope to see another big crowd. All of us should take the time to ponder the privilege we have being a firefighter and always remember to honor those who came before us.

Ben Sieverding
District 19
Chairman

DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Bryant Butler - Chairman

Shadeland Vol Fire Dept hosted the District 21 IVFA Quarterly meeting on November 25, 2024. A light meal was served. There were six departments represented with 8 members and ten guests. The meeting was called to order at 1930 hrs by Chairman Blaine Butler with the pledge of allegiance following. Minutes from the August meeting were read and approved. Tatum Moore was crowned District 21 2025 Miss Flame representing Perry Twp Vol Fire Dept.

Blaine discussed the new IVFA Mobile App. The Providence Insurance is adding cancer benefits to the polices. There is a 2025 Pipeline Emergency Response Exercise on January 13,

Larry Curl spoke about the Jr. Firefighter competition. He discussed the OSHA rewrite.

Guest Ryan Thoma from IDHS talked about District 4 trainings and Fire 1 & 2 classes. He also talked about the phasing of the National Emergency Response Information System.

Our next meeting will be held at Washington Twp / Buck Creek Vol Fire Dept. On February 24, 2025 at 7:30pm. A light meal will be served at 6:45 pm. The address is 7400 Railroad St. Buck Creek, IN 47924.

2025 schedule of quarterly meetings. *Feb 24, 2025 Washington Twp / Buck Creek Vol Fire Dept
***May 19, 2025 Wabash Station 1**
***Aug 25, 2025 Michigantown Vol Fire Dept**
***Nov 24, 2025 West Lebanon Vol Fire Dept**

From The Secretary

Leighanne Ellis



INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING November 8-10, 2024 Crowne Plaza Hotel INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Ross Emry at 1330. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Liston. The Invocation was given by Chaplain David Elick.

Roll Call was taken with 21 District Chairman present and 4 absent, 5 Public Relations Officers present and 1 absent, and 7 past presidents.

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

Guests: Lona Huffman, RT Insurance spoke on starting to speak about extended benefits with association. Josh Watz came speak, talking about his coverage in the northern area of the state. Associate chaplain of the association, also executive with Shields Under Fire. She spoke about a life insurance policy instead of an AD&D Policy. Spoke on Provident Insurance and their age limit. ESIP has a program that does not have an age limit. We would need the date of births of members for these programs. Talked about the F.R.A.T. Program available with Provident Program. Provident policy is a 3-year policy. Coverage starts January 2025 and is cancer coverage for certain cancers. Trying to keep A&H Policy rates low so this can be added, and the premiums try and not change. Only for departments who have Provident Accident and Health Policies. Discussed how to get updated information so we can look into making this program work for the members.

Destiny Ballenger, from the Grove, a treatment facility that is for drug and alcohol use catered for professionals. Retreat style facility, equine, fishing, with group therapy and individual therapy. Accepts

commercial insurance. Help with detoxing, FMLA Paperwork, breaking barriers into treatments. Private rooms in a townhome which program together. MAT medication programming.

State Fire Marshal Stephen Jones came and spoke. Talking to IOSHA about the OSHA rewrite, keep legislators active in talks. Marshal Jones and John Shafer are working to hire someone to place courses online to have a more accessible trainings to all responders. Work to get our information out to more departments with their contact systems. Questions on Waivers used at training centers and gear that is non-compliant and being used was discussed. Going to have the legal team review contract due to some questioning on what is correct for the purchase of equipment through the grant. Look to build a 9-story high rise training building at Plainfield training facility. Fire Training Weekend in Feb. 2025. NIFRS is going away, using Jan. 1, 2026 it will be turned off. NIRS will be used now.

Old Business: nothing to report back on.

Treasurer's Report, Treasurer Luke Kluender, Prepared a proposed budget for 2025. 2 CD's mature soon and needs to be renewed. The accountant we have been using for audits has been bought out by another company. He is still working but just under a new company. We are planning to retain the company. JL Systems which is the office management systems was also bought out. No changes in the office are going to be made currently. Quarterly Report sent out as of Oct. 31, 2024. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report made by Mack Grobis, second given by Dave Elick, motion passed

Central Office Report: Jack Kerney, Paid/Not Paid lists emailed out. Dept. rosters emailed out. Pin reports emailed out. Gold Cards are being updated and completed to have current list. deceased members- 27 reported from rosters, 48 total deceased: 6 from cancer, 1 LODD, 10 natural, 1 accidental, Name Badges for new chairmen passed out, Gold cards ordered in Dec. will be given to V.P. and presented to District Chairman. 12,378 addresses prepared for newspaper, Post office form prepared, 207 total bad addresses. 12,598 total membership count, 11650 Active members, 38 military, 2 honorary, 123 associate, 708 life members, 18 past president, 43 individuals. 900 new members were added. 1 pending AIL Claim 1 denied, \$220,064.53 paid out to date from AIL. Total license plates Jan-Sept. 4,496. New computers for the system have been bought but have

See Secretary page 10

Deadline for May issue is April 1.

Please send all copy and photos to Sherri at:

ivfd@hurdmedia.com

Secretary continued from pg 9 not changed from the old ones since the change in computer management systems.

Executive Committee

Report: President Liston, updates on Miss Flame Program, 75 year Book, Cancer Study, Phone App, Savvik Program Use, Cost Savings Study Update, State House Gold Card Program in Feb. 2025, and Provident Insurance. Booth Space equipment update with a source through the State DOC. Central office questions answered, and the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service with sharing the cost of the program. AIL conversation and new programming.

Miss Flame Program:

Leighanne Ellis, Pre-Convention meeting is May 4, 2025 from 12p-3p, Community Service Project is raising funds for Shop with a Firefighter, Grace sent a letter to be read.

Committee Reports:

Awards- Vice President Ross Emery- Gold Card Presentation at the State House presentation in Feb. 2024.

Angel Award, Diane Harrison-Jr. Firefighter Award, Jack Kerney- shifted to younger member committee

Mr. IVFA, Brent Bush- nothing to report.

Ivan Nevil Leadership Award- Larry Curl- nothing to report.

Bridgeport: Past President Richard Glant- 4 scholarships will be presented.

Budget: Treasurer Luke Klunder, covered in treasurer's report.

By-laws and S.O.G.'s:

Chaplin Dave Elick,

Current S.O.G. with Mr. IVFA reads:

XIV. ANNUAL AWARDS 1. Mr. Indiana Volunteer Fireman: This award recipient is selected by the five (5) most recent recipients. (The oldest recipient is retired from the committee upon presentation of the award at the Annual Meeting). Nominations for the award must be in the hands of the committee by February 1 preceding the Annual Meeting. The award shall include a red blazer with Mr. I.V.F.A. patch and golden numerals of the year. It will include a trophy as mandated by the Annual Meeting of 1966: a) No less than two (2) feet in height. b) Fireman at top to be in full fire fighting attire with hose coming under and out of right hand with legs spread as though there was pressure on the nozzle, and the left hand on the fore part of the nozzle. c) The object of the trophy is to instill our members to work harder, and any member of the Association may win this award on the merits of the work he has done in the past year. d) Letters of nomination should be sent to the IVFA Central Office: Mr. IVFA

Awards Committee P.O. Box 4797 Evansville, IN 47724

Proposed Change:

XIV. ANNUAL AWARDS

Mr. Indiana Volunteer

Fireman: This award recipient is selected by the five (5) most recent, **able, available, and willing recipients.** (The oldest recipient is retired from the committee upon presentation of the award at the Annual Meeting). Nominations for the award must be in the hands of the committee by February 1 preceding the Annual Meeting. The award shall include a red blazer with Mr. I.V.F.A. patch and golden numerals of the year. It will include a trophy as mandated by the Annual Meeting of 1966:

a) No less than two (2) feet in height.

b) Fireman at top to be in full firefighting attire with hose coming under and out of right hand with legs spread as though there was pressure on the nozzle, and the left hand on the fore part of the nozzle.

c) The object of the trophy is to instill our members to work harder, and any member of the Association may win this award on the merits of the work he has done in the past year.

d) Letters of nomination should be sent to the IVFA Central Office:

Mr. IVFA Awards Committee
P.O. Box 4797
Evansville, IN 47724

Motion to accept changes to S.O.G. made by John Grolich, second given by Richard Sorg. Motion passed unanimously.

Current S.O.G. Reads:

8. IVFAA Miss Flame Award a. The purpose of the Miss Flame Contest is to select a Miss Flame and Runner-up to represent the IVFA and the IVFAA. The Miss Flame Contest is held annually at the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association Convention. The girls are judged by a committee of judges who are selected by the Convention Miss Flame Committee. The girls will be judged based on the rules, qualifications, and score sheets dated 10/02. b. The State Miss Flame and Runner-up are selected from District Miss Flame winners (one from each district). The District winners applications, along with two (2) photos (black & white – preferred or a professional grade color) will be sent to the IVFAA Committee Chairman by March 10. This will be the responsibility of the IVFA District Chairman. The girls selected will be representing the state, district, and their local department. They will act as public relations representatives all over the state. On a best efforts basis, they will attend as many departmental, INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION STANDARD

OPERATING GUIDELINES 24 district, and state activities as possible. It is the responsibility of the departments, districts, and state to advise and invite them to their activities.

The district winners will represent their districts and departments. c. The behavior of all Miss Flame candidates and winners will always be becoming and appropriate to such representation. d. When attending the convention, motel rooms are set aside for the Miss Flames. They must however, make their own reservations and advise the e. Reservations Committee that they are a candidate. Each contestant will have a chaperone (parents or designated person) that will stay in the same room. Miss Flame and their chaperones may camp and again, they must make their own arrangements. They are responsible for paying for their own accommodations. f. The itinerary for Miss Flame at the convention will be sent to the candidates by the IVFAA Miss Flame Committee Chairman. Along with this, they will be advised to the recommended clothing to be worn at each activity. All Miss Flame candidates will attend the mixer, judging, and luncheon on the days to be announced. The judging will consist of personal interviews and final judging on the day to be announced. Winners will be announced and crowning of the Miss Flame will be at the Opening Meeting to be announced. All girls will be expected to attend the IVFA meetings and the IVFAA meetings, Memorial Service, and the Banquet to be announced. They will attend the waterball games and ride in the parade to be announced. They will sell raffle tickets for the IVFAA raffle throughout the convention. g. District Chairman (IVFA and IVFAA) will be responsible for providing rules and information to the Miss Flame Candidates. If the chairman needs information, they should contact the IVFAA Miss Flame Chairman.

Proposed Change:

8. IVFAA Miss Flame Award

a. The purpose of the Miss Flame Contest is to select a Miss Flame and Runner-up to represent the IVFA and the IVFAA. The Miss Flame Contest is held annually at the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association Convention. The girls are judged by a committee of judges who are selected by the Convention Miss Flame Committee. The girls will be judged based on the rules, qualifications, and score sheets dated 10/02. (Need to add a year to this! 2023 I think.)

b. The State Miss Flame and Runner-up are selected from District Miss Flame winners (one from each district). The district winner's applications,

along with two (2) photos (black & white – preferred or a professional grade color) application, resume, parental consent form and one (1) digital color photo will must be sent to the IVFAA IVFA Committee Chairman by February 1. This will be the responsibility of the IVFA District Chairman. The girls selected will be representing the state, district, and their local department. They will act as public relations representatives all over the state. On a best-efforts basis, they will attend as many departmental, district, and state activities as possible. It is the responsibility of the departments, districts, and state to advise and invite them to their activities. The district winners will represent their districts and departments.

c. The behavior of all Miss Flame candidates and winners will always be becoming and appropriate to such representation.

d. When attending the convention, motel rooms are set aside for the Miss Flames. They must however, make their own reservations and advise the Reservations Committee that they are a candidate.

e. Each contestant will have a chaperone (parents or designated person) that will stay in the same room. Miss Flame and their chaperones may camp and again, they must make their own arrangements. They are responsible for paying for their own accommodations.

f. The itinerary for Miss Flame at the convention will be sent to the candidates by the IVFAA IVFA Miss Flame Committee Chairman. Along with this, they will be advised to the recommended clothing to be worn at each activity. All Miss Flame candidates will attend the mixer, judging, and luncheon on the days to be announced. The judging will consist of personal interviews and final judging on the day to be announced. Winners will be announced and crowning of the Miss Flame will be at the Opening Meeting to be announced. All girls will be expected to attend the IVFA meetings and the IVFAA meetings, Memorial Service, and the Banquet to be announced. They will attend the waterball games and ride in the parade to be announced. They will sell raffle tickets for the IVFAA convention raffle throughout the convention.

g. District Chairman (IVFA and IVFAA) will be responsible for providing rules and information to the Miss Flame Candidates. If the chairman needs information, they should contact the IVFAA IVFA Miss Flame Chairman.

Rex Maynard made the motion

to accept the change, John Grolich gave the second, Motion passed unanimously.

Will be emailing out Policy and Procedure Manual for the officers to review and bring back to vote on in February.

Additional conversation was held on possibly changes of residency to a district chairman.

Clothing Claims: District 5 John Grolich,

Convention: David Israel-

2024-Indianapolis- Larry Curl- ready to close the convention books

2025- Madison, Rick Cannon- reduce the auction length of time.

2026- Paul Holcomb-

EMS: Tom Fentress,

Health and Wellness

Committee, Tom Fentress,

Legislation: Lobbyist Larry Curl and Past President Buz Koehler, Legislation List 2025: income tax credit has a bill proposed for this session \$1000 credit under the prescribed duties listed, potentially look at doing a % instead of set limit. Funding for response in TIF district. Retirement Package for Volunteer Firefighters.

Washington D.C. Trip- dates are February 12 and 13th, 2025. Plan is to reduce attendees, fly out, and go to capitol to meet new reps.

OSHA rewrite, Nov. 14 is testimony date for IVFA, 3 will be speaking from Indiana. US. Senate, House of Representative, Secretary of State have all sent in letters of opposition as well.

Cost Savings Study have a contract for the study we are going to pay \$10,000 but we have to reach out to approx. 30 paid dept. to identify increase in pay and apparatus costs. Deadline for information due will be the end of November.

LODD: Paul Holcomb, nothing to report.

Logo: District 18 Nick Waninger, nothing to report

Membership and Marketing: District 7 Sam Bisel,

Newspaper: Past Pres. Buz Koehler and Sam Bisel, 40-page issue, 13 advertisers, 13,380 addressed. Talked about advertising in the paper. Need to get back up to 16-18 advertisers into the paper. Donating newspapers to the Indiana State Library. They have some early ones, but we are going to start giving them a copy again.

Public Relations and Education: Steve Nolan and Don Cushman, trailer is closed and stored, need to redo the LODD names on the front.

Social media and Website: Mack Grobis, app is up and running.

Special Projects: Past Pres. Buz Koehler, 75-year book is in editing, we have asked to start having proofs sent to us to start reviewing when each of the sections are finished. More than likely start shipping books out around the end of January.

Training: Steve Anderson, discussed last BFFPS meeting, Training CEU's for instructors 16 hours in 2 years. Go into Acadis and check your account, Instructor I/II/III, and change to Fire and Emergency Instructor. Look at expiration dates on new certification listed in the portal. Instructor recertification need to submit proof of recertification hours. Potential Fines will be implemented if falsification identified in recertification audits.

Younger Membership: District 6 Mack Grobis, Jr. Firefighter Program, came up with a guideline outline completed by the end of November, need some legal forms for liability waivers, create a skill book to pull from along with allow for the juniors having the ability to practice throughout the year. April 1st entry deadline for districts entries, one per district.

Representative Reports

Board of Firefighter Standards and Education:

Steve Anderson, call from Gov. office, term was filling for someone, and he has been reappointed to position. Dealing with some disciplinary issues. Look in the meeting minutes from meeting.

Fire Alliance Steve Anderson, Buz Koehler, and Larry Curl, putting legislative package together.

IN-Time Jack Zeeks, nothing to report.

IDHS Senior Advisory Committee, Jack Zeeks, approved applications will be meeting next year.

National Volunteer Fire Council, Jack Kerney and Jean Smith, instituted a 5-member response team during meeting since they had 2 members with issues during meetings.

Meeting reconvened Sunday November 10, 2024.

Meeting was called to order at 0830 by Vice President Ross Emery.

Sunday Morning message was given by Chaplain Elick.

Guests: Nicole Johns, American Income Life, new no cost benefit, letters out in the mail, health discount program with vision, dental, pet meds, still have child safe kit and an added benefit of a will kit. Gives durable power of attorney and advanced directives. Free benefit and can call and be walked through it. Once you turn your beneficiary card then you will get the will kit. An agent will contact you to meet and help you fill it out. You can request the kit to be delivered however you would like. Ending door knocking campaign at 7pm at night.

Matt Scheidler, Website

Developer, brought forward and idea to make a system of fire dept. websites for all departments and make it cost effective for both the developer and the department. Take department information, contact information, and calendar for events for each department on their own page so when leadership changes, the department's page does not change. This is to help keep information current and to continue to be maintained and up to date. Wanting to work on a price point and wanted our input thoughts.

Aarohi Gherkar, Srikar Kolla, Micah Morikuni, and Prachi Tanna, Purdue University Biomedical Engineering First Responder App Research group, creating an app called MedWeb that will provide pt. medication and medical history that will be available to give information to first responders and forward the information to the hospital while enroute.

Officer's Reports:

President, Jerry Liston, 1933 miles, 7 dept. meetings and events, 3 district meetings, fallen firefighters service, 2 department events to try and return, World Caucus meetings, IN. Farm Bureau meeting,

Vice President, Ross Emery, District meetings, AIL Meeting, Hotel meetings, district 18 meeting, 75 Newburg anniversary, district 16 chair position, meeting notices and committee list out for 2025. District 11B turned over hose cart to Sgt. At Arms, not in the best condition and needs to identify what we should do with it.

Secretary, Leighanne Ellis, nothing to report.

Treasurer, Luke Kluender, registration for lobbyist has been filed. Need to refile corporation paperwork.

Chaplain, David Elick, need to follow-up on the deceased list that has the member listed per roster and make sure that the vouchers we are doing are being turned in. need to have middle names or at least a middle initial.

Sergeant-At-Arms, Brent Bush, nothing to report.

Historian, Buz Koehler, working on collecting quarterly and convention minutes to be added to the master drive.

Chairman of the Board, Paul Holcomb, nothing to report

Webmaster, Josh Reisert, absent, Paul Holcomb- nothing to report.

PRNW, Jeremy Reef, nothing to report.

PRNE, Sam Bisel, absent

PRWC, Don Fultz, fundraisers, picnic, service pins, station visits, dept. return visit, Matt Commons meeting at Williamsport to help better fund fire dept.'s, 1 station dedication clock.

PREC, David Israel, rural caucus meeting, 3 district 10 meetings, district 8 meeting,

2 county meetings, memorial service.

PRSW, Jack Kerney, 1880 miles, Ohio Twp. Open house, training meeting, AIL check presentation at German Twp., McCutchanville open house, District 18 memorial service, Wadesville open house, Kansas City NVFC Meetings, Yankeetown Fundraiser, District 18 Miss Flame Parade, Newburg open house, assisted with disable vet in District 14, training facility ribbon cutting, Yankeetown open house.

PRSE, Ed Scheele, district meetings, district 16 meeting, Thursday convention day is an adult in-service training for fire instructors.

Asst. Treasurer, Bev Harker, absent

Asst. Secretary, Diane Harrison, absent

Webmaster, Josh Reisert and Paul Holcomb, Matt with website will update the website with our app information. If there is something members want added to the app anyone can email the webmaster at admin@ivfa.org to get items added.

Past President's Reports:

Richard Glant, nothing to report.

Jack Zeeks, nothing to report

Buz Koehler, nothing to report.

Jack Kerney, nothing to report

David Israel, nothing to report Steve Anderson, department event presentations, make sure that you finish the process of reporting delivered awards.

Paul Holcomb, nothing to report

Larry Ketchem, absent

District Reports:

District 1, Marshall Neece, 10 gold coins, and district meeting

District 2, Tom Fentress, district meeting, MacQueen Award, service pin presentations, Renssalaer training tower ribbon cutting ceremony.

District 3, Les Jensen, absent

District 4, vacant

District 5, John Grolich, dept. return visit at Mexico, county fish fry, service pin and coin presentations, station dedication clock, district meeting

District 6, Mack Grobis, Allen County meetings, dept. visits, district meeting,

District 7, Richard Sorg, attended several meetings for agreement with fire coverage areas.

District 8A, Rex Maynard, fundraisers, meetings, Van Buren Twp. transitions,

District 8B, Tony Dalrymple, fundraisers, district meeting

District 9A, Pascal Moon, district meeting,

District 9B, Randy Denton, LODD in area, had approx. 150 firefighters present,

District 10, John Ray, service pins presented, county meetings, memorial service

District 11A, Pete Taylor, joint picnic, MacQueen Award, fundraisers, service pin presentations, memorial service,

District 11B, Scott Peebles, joint picnic, fundraisers, service pins presented, dept. visits.

District 12 Steve Kershaw and Vice Chair Rick Kersey, attended meetings, memorial service, North Salem 100-year anniversary, Nov. 16 Paragon Christmas Dinner.

District 13A, Don Cushman, IERC Booth, Poster and information from IDEM Available

District 13B, Anthony Smith, absent

District 14, Rick Cannon, convention work, station dedication clock, fundraiser

District 15, Paul Campbell, service pin presentation, MacQueen Award, dept. 75-year anniversary, INDOT Vincennes district started a pilot program wanting input to make the roads safer while we are on scene. We are working to get information to attend meetings to help with program.

District 16, Nick Faulkenberg, took over end of September, first meeting on Nov. 19 in Ramsey, Service pins presented, and fire dept. dedication in Palmyra.

District 17A, Sam Emery, dept. returned, Washington Twp. 50-year service presentation, Jan. 18, 2025, Vincennes Sausage Supper.

District 17B, Tammy Wright, absent

District 18, Nick Waninger and Vice Chair J. Bull Smith, District 18 Miss Flame Contest and Parade, 9 contestants with 7 attendants, Nov. 21 in Ireland for MacQueen Award presentation and district meeting

District 19, Ben Sieverding, nothing to report.

District 21, Blaine Butler, attended District 12 meeting, meeting at Johnson Twp., Goal to get out to dept. to see what we can do to help them out, return dept. visit.

New Business:

1. District 9B, getting flags for each district to have at presentations, meetings, and events. Ross is going to get pricing on flags.

Announcement/Good of the Order:

1. Cost Savings Study survey emailed out, please have these filled out.

2. President Jerry Liston, Thanked the group for being allowed to serve as President of the Association.

Dave Elick made motion to adjourn meeting, John Grolich gave second. Meeting adjourned at 1058.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING Nov. 26-28, 2024 Crowne Plaza Hotel Indianapolis, IN

Board Action Business Meeting called to order the Chairman of the Board Paul Holcomb at 1112.

Reading of the minutes, Mack Grobis made a motion to accept them as emailed, second was made by Dave Elick, motion passed.

Old Business:

None

Board Action- Business:

1. 2025 Budget- Motion to approve budget Jeremy Reef gave motion, Richard Glant gave second. Discussion held with Steve Anderson suggesting to rename the line item of Benefits Summit to State Town Halls. Money has been moved from Hero Competition to Jr. Firefighter and increased by \$1000. Motion approved unanimously.

2. Matured CD's – Treasurer Kleunder would like to reinvest CD's once he finds an appropriate one that is beneficial to the organization. Richard Glant made motion and Dave Elick gave second. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Mack Grobis, Second by Dave Elick. The meeting adjourned at 1116.

*Hello all,
Please make sure that you get your Miss Flame Paperwork into Janet at jmatthews@tds.net by February 1. We will accept emails of the pictures and make sure they are labeled correctly before sending them to the newspaper. If you have any questions, please reach out to me.*



*Thank you,
Leighanne Ellis*

IVFA AUXILIARY OFFICERS - 2024 - 2025

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	CAROL CURL
3047 N. Raceway Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46234	Phone: (317) 557-2606 / E-mail: ivfaapastpresident@ivfaa.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2024 - 2025

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DISTRICT #4	VACANT
DISTRICT #5	VACANT
DISTRICT #6	VIRGINIA ELICK
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DISTRICT #7	CINDY KRUECKBERG
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DISTRICT #8B	VACANT
DISTRICT #9A	VACANT
DISTRICT #10	LORI BAXTER
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DISTRICT #11B	JODI ROHR
4720 Rohr Rd., Montezuma, IN 47862	Home (765) 592-0827
E-mail: ivfaadistrict11b@ivfaa.org	
DISTRICT #12	CHARA LEAVER
106 E. Wall Street, Advance, IN 46102	Phone (317) 445-6358
DISTRICTS #13A & 13B	HUNTER DAVIS
504 W School St., Centerville, IN 47330	Phone (765) 322-0014
E-mail: ivfaadistrict13a@ivfaa.org / ivfaadistrict13b@ivfaa.org	
DISTRICT #14	JoANN SMITH
25509 Gill Rd., Nabb, IN 47147	Cell (502) 380-7532
E-mail: ivfaadistrict14@ivfaa.org / jsmith19513@yahoo.com	
DISTRICT #15	VACANT
DISTRICT #16	VACANT
DISTRICT #17A	MARIE EMERY
799 East Harvest Church Rd., Bloomfield, IN 47424	Home (812) 384-8748
/ Cell (812) 381-0107 - E-mail: ivfaadistrict17a@ivfaa.org	
DISTRICT #17B	VACANT
DISTRICT #18	KATHY SMITH
109 Oak Street, Huntingburg, IN 47542	Home (812) 683-3697
/ Cell (812) 631-1501 / E-mail: ivfaadistrict18@ivfaa.org	
DISTRICT #19	VACANT
DISTRICT #21	PATTI FULTZ
1007 Haan Dr., West Lafayette, IN 47906	Home (765) 463-2970
/ Cell (765) 426-6615 / E-mail: ivfaadistrict21@ivfaa.org / dpbfultz@gmail.com	

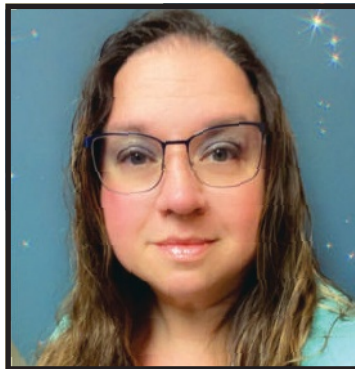
PAST PRESIDENTS

DIANA GRAY.....	2011-2013
799 Hippensteel Drive, Warren, IN 46792- (260) 224-0774 didagr@yaho.com	
BETH CAUDILL.....	2009-2011
15120 Lucas Rd., Brookville, IN 47012 - Cell (765) 309-2940	
MARTHA THOMAS (Deceased).....	2007-2009
JOANN HAYS.....	2005-2007
4430 South 8th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802 - (812) 299-1574 / Cell (812) 230-5506	
BARBARA KERNEY (Deceased).....	2002-2005
MARY MACKIN (Deceased).....	2000-2002
FAYE SALLEE (Deceased).....	1998-2000
LOU BARTLOW (Deceased).....	1996-1998
Box 12, Montezuma, IN 47862 - (765) 245-2125 / Cell (765) 593-2227	
E-mail: larry_bartlow@att.net	
PHYLLIS VARGO.....	1994-1996
7756 Durbin Street, Schererville, IN 46375 - (219) 322-4286	
/ E-mail pavargo1@yahoo.com	
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994
NANCY NEAL.....	1990-1992
749 Walnut Street, Hope, IN 47246 - (812) 764-1852	
TONI SORG (Deceased).....	1988-1990
LORETTA NULLINER.....	1986-1988
10830 Cape Coral Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46229 - (317) 622-2863	
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994
NICKIE SUNDAY (Deceased).....	1984-1986
BARBARA PARKER (Deceased).....	1982-1984
BARBARA SURBER.....	1980-1982
2003 Flamingo Way, Franklin, IN 46131 - (317) 614-5669 - Cell (317) 519-4445	
LUCY STOFER.....	1978-1980
718 South Ingomar Street, Indianapolis, IN 46241 - (317) 241-1946	
VICA MCGILL (Deceased).....	1976-1978
MARY BOYD.....	1975-1976
32933 Timberlake Dr., Mt. Dara, FL 32757 - Cell (407) 495-8249	

PAST PRESIDENTS

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

IVFAA President
Christina Reef



Hello Everyone,
I hope you all had a safe and wonderful holiday season with your friends and family. I am personally looking forward to warmer weather and spring flowers.

We have some districts that the

chairman position is vacant. We are looking for IVFAA members to fill these positions. The vacant districts are 5, 8B, 9A, & 17B. If you are interested, please contact one of the line officers.

It's never too early to talk about convention! The 2025 IVFA/IVFAA convention will be June 18th – 20th at Clifty Inn State Park in Madison. The convention registration and hotel information are on the website.

As I have traveled around the state attending as many meetings as possible, I want to thank you all for the amazing hospitality! It has been great meeting new people and visiting places that I have never been to in our beautiful state. I am looking forward to going to more departments, auxiliaries, and events that I have not been to yet. If there is something that you would like me or another line officer to attend, please let us know. We will do our best to be

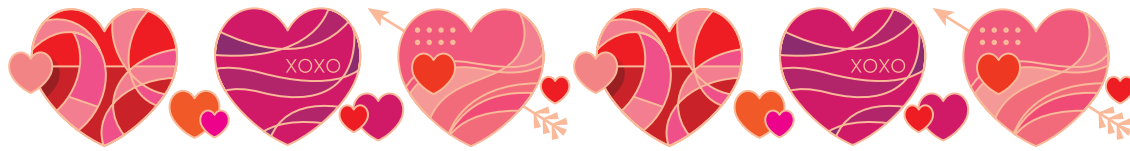
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there. I also want to personally let you all know that everyone is welcome to attend the state quarterly meetings. This is a great opportunity to learn about the IVFAA and to meet some amazing people. If you are interested in attending, please contact your district chairman or a line officer.

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

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

Sincerely,
Christina Reef
IVFAAPresident@IVFAA.org



Happy Valentine's Day!

IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2024 / 2025

AUDIT

- Carol Curl – Chair
- Suzie Lewis – Co-Chair
- Martha Biehl
- Dawn Harris
- Connie Ray
- Kay Schumaker
- Chara Leaver

CHINESE AUCTION

- Lori Baxter – Chair
- Madi Reeder – Co-Chair
- Joyce Nevil
- Joann Hays
- Phyllis Vargo
- Bev Taylor
- Kay Shumaker
- Martha Biehl
- Hunter Davis
- Tami Daily

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Dawn Harris – Chair
- Janet Matthews – Co-Chair
- Virginia Elick
- Madi Reeder
- Lori Baxter
- Kathy Smith
- Hunter Davis

VICE PRESIDENT'S PROJECT

- Bev Vanlandingham – Chair
- Suzie Lewis – Co-Chair
- Cindy Krueckeberg
- Judy Wirth
- Diane Gray
- Dorothy Reiter
- JoAnn Smith
- Patti Fultz
- Kathy Smith
- Diane Stapleton

MISS FLAME COMMUNITY

- SERIVE AWARD**
- Dawn Harris – Chair
- Suzie Lewis – Co-Chair
- Bev Taylor
- Connie Ray
- Patti Fultz

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION

- Virginia Elick- Chair
- Judy Wirth – Co-Chair
- Cindy Krueckeberg
- Diane Stapleton
- Lori Baxter

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY

- Phyllis Vargo
- Beth Caudill
- Carol Curl
- Diana Gray

MEMBERSHIP

- Cindy Krueckeberg – Chair
- Kathy Smith – Co-Chair
- Tammy Smith
- Tami Daily
- Jodi Rohr
- Chara Leaver

NEW DISTRICT CHAIR TRAINING

- Phyllis Vargo– Chair
- Joyce Nevil
- Beth Caudill
- Tammy Smith
- Joann Hays
- Judy Wirth

BY LAWS & SOGS

- Tammy Smith – Chair
- Bev Vanlandingham – Co-Chair
- Marie Emery
- Jodi Rohr
- Diana Stapleton
- Chara Leaver
- Kay Schumaker

JEWELRY

- Suzie Lewis – Chair
- Diana Gray – Co-Chair

INSTALLATION

- Joyce Nevil – Chair
- JoAnn Smith – Co-Chair
- Phyllis Vargo

LOIS BOAZ AWARD

- Suzie Lewis
- Judy Wirth
- Betty Schroder

BUDGET & FINANCE

- Jodi Rohr – Chair
- Carol Curl – Co-Chair
- Martha Biehl
- Kathy Smith
- Cindy Krueckeberg
- Virginia Elick
- Bev Vanlandingham
- Patti Fultz

MIRIAM SCHAEKEL AWARD

- Pam Gerdowsky
- Tammy Heishman
- JoAnn Smith

HISTORIANS

- Phyllis Vargo - Chair
- JoAnn Hays – Co-Chair
- Buzz Kohler

CHAPLIN ASSISTANTS

- Judy Wirth – State Chaplin
- Phyllis Vargo – Northwest
- Suzie Lewis – Northeast
- Leslie Spears – East Central
- JoAnn Hays – West Central
- Kathy Smith – Southwest
- Pam Gerdowsky - Southeast

NOMINATING

- Carolyn Zeeks – Chair
- Sue Glant – Co-Chair
- Marie Emery
- Dorothy Reiter
- Beth Caudill

MEMORIAL THROW

- Carol Curl – Chair

CHAPLIN EMERITUS & COMMUNICATIONS

- JoAnn Hays

*Miss Flame Committee is to be determined by the IVFA.



IVFAA Chaplain

Judy Wirth




loved the world: HE gave HIS Son, His one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in Him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life.'

We have just celebrating the birth of Jesus. Jesus love for His Father proves to us that He loves us unconditionally. Just like all firefighters and public service personnel, they put their lives on the line each time they are toned out, unconditionally, for love of their family, friends, and community they live in. Thank you for all you do to keep our country, state, and all local areas safe by spreading your love to keep us safe.

Please stay warm and safe going out there in this cold cold weather.

There are many different translations of the Bible and each person, I am sure, has their own favorite. My favorite is the King James version. But I also do reference to Eugene Peterson's THE MESSAGE. John 3:16 from the Message says 'This is how much GOD

Corresponding Secretary

Janet Matthews



Quarterly Meeting November 10,2024 Crown Plaza Indianapolis, IN

President Christina Reef called the meeting to order @ 8:30am. Chaplin Judy Wirth gave the opening prayer & Sergeant at Arms Suzie Lewis led the Pledge to the flag. President Christina introduced & welcomed new District 2 IVFAA chairman Tammie Ruvalcaba to the group. Suzie has already set her up with a case of items.

Recording Secretary Dawn Harris took roll call of those in attendance. 17 officers & 5 individuals present. Organizational count as of today there are 29 Life members, 147 Individual members, 496 Departments for a total of 672

members. Dawn reminded everyone that annual dues need to be paid if they have not been already.

Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews was asked to read the last quarterly minutes. Quarterly meeting minutes from July read, Judy Wirth made a motion minutes be accepted as read, Bev Taylor seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer Report Martha Biehl gave the account balances of the organization.

- General Fund Amount \$33,598.55
 - CD #1 \$11,267.15
 - CD #2 \$20,211.00
 - Miss Flame Account \$4,116.44
 - Miss Flame Community Service Award \$2,213.37
 - Gaming Amount \$9,365.40
- All accounts/books are available & subject to audit.

Chaplin's Report Judy Wirth informed the group that there are cards going around the room so members can sign them & she will mail them out to those in need of thoughts & prayers. She read the Thank you note to the group that she received from Leona Uryga for all the thoughts & prayers & cards that she received.

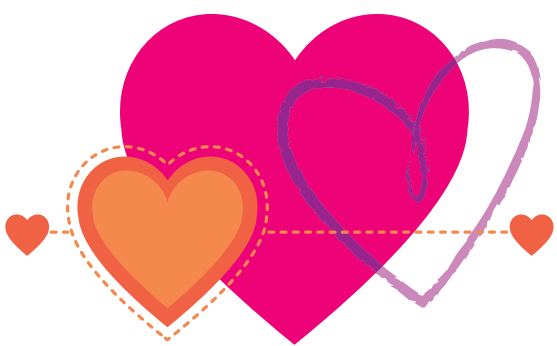
Ross Emery brought in Nicole Johns; American Income Life Insurance Specialist that now handles the IVFA & IVFAA

accounts. She informed the group that letters will be going out & a new "Will Kit" benefit is being offered. She left business cards for those that may want one.

President Christina Reef asked for committee reports:

- Auditing- Carol Curl reports that the audit is completed with no exceptions.
- Budget & Finance- Jodi Rohr reports met yesterday I will meet again in February
- Chaplin's Assistants- Judy Wirth Thanked all her assistants, nothing to report.
- Chaplin Emeritus & Communication- JoAnn Hays not present.
- Chinese Auction- Lori Baxter reports that the committee will have a meeting in February.
- Historian- Phyllis Vargo not present, Christina reports Buz Kohler is still gathering history & that he has decided to donate his time, paper & ink for this project.
- Installation- Joyce Nevil nothing to report
- Jewelry- Suzie Lewis reports that she has supplies with her today if anyone wants to get any pins to come & see her.
- Lois Boaz- Suzie Lewis asking for letters to be submitted for this award.
- Membership- Madi Reeder nothing to report.
- Memorial Throw- Carol Curl nothing to report.
- Miriam Schaeckel- Pam Gerdowsky is not present &

See Secretary page 14



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Secretary continued from pg 13

has sent a letter to Christina requesting to be removed from this committee. Ula Bush will resume as chair of this committee. Please send your nominations in.

• Miss Flame- Janet Matthews shared with everyone the 2025 Miss Flame community project this year for convention will be Supporting “Shop with a Firefighter” in District 14 where the convention will be held. Reminded that the Miss Flame registrations are due by February 1, 2025.

• Nominating- Carolyn Zeeks stated “be thinking about it”

• Parliamentarian- Beverly VanLandingham all is ok

• President Advisory- Phyllis Vargo not present

• Social Media

Communication- Virginia Elick encouraged everyone to post events on Facebook & to put them on the organization calendar. Discussion is happening of creating a new public group on Facebook to make the posting easier. Please post your Miss Flame winners after your district competition.

• SOG’s & By Laws-

Tammy Smith was absent, Bev Vanlandingham says the committee did meet yesterday. Reports she has a new SOG change request & 2 By Law request changes that the district chairs need to take back to their districts for discussion & to get their votes on them.

• Vice President Project- Beverly VanLandingham reports will be doing 50/50 drawing again at convention, has purchased 4 rolls of tickets for this since we ran out last year.

The bigger barrel has been made. Reminded everyone in the room to meet with Martha after the meeting to ensure that we have your Drivers License information for the gaming license as that will be submitted soon to get the license in time.

Old Business: President Christina Reef asked if anyone had any follow ups from old business?

Dawn Harris brought the old recording secretary computer that has been factory reset to Centerville Auxiliary.

New Business: Beverly Vanlandingham read the proposed submitted changes to the By Laws & SOG.

• By Law that the committee proposed. By Law Article 1, Section 6k: The treasurer shall provide the president with the password to the online account. The treasurer shall send the president copies of the monthly financial statements from the bank.

By Law submitted by District 12, Carol Curl: there is no current By Law regarding this subject it is proposed to be added to them. In the event of a lawsuit evolving the IVFA & the IVFAA there shall be a meeting or meetings that may consist of the Board of Directors of the IVFA, IVFAA, Insurance agent(s) and or insurance legal representative(s). The IVFAA President may also be required to attend said meeting(s).

• SOG change submitted by District 11 B, Jodi Rohr to change the current Article XI Dues. It currently reads Membership dues are dues & payable according to the By-Law Article 4, Section 1. Membership dues shall be \$10 per year. The proposed version is Membership dues are due & payable according to the By-Law Article 4, Section 1. Membership dues shall be \$15 per year.

President Christina asked the chairmen to please take these proposed changes back to their district & have open discussions about them & get the vote in your district & bring their votes back to the February meeting & we will take final votes then.

Buz Kohler came in with newspapers & then a break was taken from both organizations to partake in the treats that the IVFAA brought. After the break \$19 was donated from the IVFA members for the treats that they had. Dawn Harris made a motion that the \$19 be donated for the card/flower fund that Chaplin Judy uses, Bev Taylor seconded the motion, all in favor, the donated \$19 was give to Judy Wirth.

President Christina Reef said that she will search to get quotes & information on what we must do to create a new IVFAA cookbook & she will bring it back to the group. It would be a way for the organization to make some money if we can get enough involvement. She reminded everyone in the room to be sure to meet with Martha if you have not already so she can ensure that she has the required information that she needs to put you on the gaming license. Reminded the group that when they are made aware of the passing of an IVFAA member to please contact Judy Wirth ASAP so she can get in contact with the family to offer services for them. Services for our members are available & it is important that we give that benefit to the members & their families. Christina also reminded everyone to keep mentioning the awards that the organization offers as she is sure that there are deserving people in our organization that are worthy of them. Dawn Harris will put a flyer of the awards that are offered in the mailing she sends of the delinquent due reminders to help get the word out. A district case list was sent out to all chairman of what item everyone should have. Discussion was held & Suzie Lewis does not have any more miniature American flag or IVFAA flags & several chairmen do not have them. Carolyn Zeeks made a motion that Suzie be

able to purchase more of the flags as well as the holders for them, Beverly VanLandingham seconded he motion, all in favor, motion carried. Suzie will purchase more of these. Suzie brought up that she has no more cases to give to chairman. Last meeting there was discussion about tote bags v/s cases. Martha Biehl made a motion that 10 tote bags be ordered for those chairmen that want one & have some left for new district chairman when they come, Judy Wirth seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed. Chara Leaver made a motion that 3 cases be purchased, so Suzie would have both items when new chairman arrive, Jodi Rohr seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed. Suzie will place order for tote bags & cases. Suzie will also place orders for name tags for the district chairman that do not have one.

Christina made the group aware that the recording secretary stipend for the year is almost gone. She mails out a lot of letters/cards & with the price of postage rising the money is not going as far as it used to. Jodi Rohr made a motion that Dawn be given an additional allotment of \$200 today so she can continue to send out what is needed, Carolyn Zeeks seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Martha Biehl wrote Dawn a check today. Discussion was had by the group of ways to decrease cost of postage. It was discussed that online there is a place called stampsdeals.online.com that stamps can be purchased at a discounted rate & they are the forever stamps so they will not expire. Carol Curl made a motion that the organization purchases 1000 stamps from this site for the recording secretary, Chara Leaver seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Treasurer Martha Biehl will make this purchase tonight

& have them sent to Dawn Harris. Dawn informed the group that she will research a stamp machine the directions of use & charges one entails. She will bring that information back to the February quarterly meeting. Carol Curl brought up to the group about having our financial books checked by a CPA that is not a member of either organization. This would not have to be done yearly but could be done every other year. She is aware that the IVFA does have a person that does their books & she will see what the cost would be. She would like everyone to think about it & have further discussion at the February meeting. Holly Cannon was in the meeting & spoke on convention in 2025. Registration forms for anyone that needs one, reviewed the dates for convention are June 18-20, 2025. The registration fee is \$125 per person if postmarked by February 1, 2025. Encouraged everyone to get their reservations made either at the Clifty Inn or the Comfort Inn near the Clifty Falls State Park, Madison Indiana.

Christina asked if anyone had anything good for the order? Judy Wirth announced that at the February quarterly meeting the social hour event will be Valentine Bingo, bring a small, wrapped gift. Dawn Harris made a motion that the IVFAA sends Joann Hays a bouquet of flowers for her 95th birthday, Sue Glant seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Judy Wirth will order them & have them sent to her. Chara Leaver made a motion meeting be adjourned, Madi Reeder seconded the motion, all in favor, meeting adjourned @ 11:06 am.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Janet Matthews
IVFAA Corresponding Secretary

Please make sure that you get your Miss Flame Paperwork into Janet at jmatthews@tds.net by February 1. We will accept emails of the pictures and make sure they are labeled correctly before sending them to the newspaper. If you have any questions, please reach out to Leighanne Ellis: secretary@ivfa.org

Happy Valentine’s Day!

Deadline for May issue is April 1.

Please send all copy and photos to Sherri at: ivfd@hurdmedia.com

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I.V.F.A.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 7 REPORT



Cindy Krueckberg- Chairman

District 7 of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Auxiliary met on November 18, 2024 at Preble Fireman's park.

Meeting was called to order by IVFA PR North East Sam Bisel with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll call was answered by 8 members, 1 individual, and 4 guests.

Last meeting minutes were read and approved.

Treasurer's report, Check wrote to Cindy \$50 for quarterly meeting. Check wrote to Carol Curl \$25 for Miss Flame sash. Balance forward \$1994.74.

A card was passed around to be signed for Diana Gray as she has not been feeling well. Bev has peanut brittle for sale from Poe if anyone would like any. Cindy stated that you do not have

to fill out the beneficiary card. If you want a free will kit you would have to fill out the card. Cindy stated that we need Lois Boaz nominations; there were only 3 last year for the state. She also said that there will be 5 Miss Flame Service Awards, and Miss flames instead of collecting items for convention this year, They will be accepting monetary donations and walmart gift cards for shop with a firefighter. Your donation will go to support over 150 kids to receive christmas in 2025. Miss Flame information is due by February 1, 2025.

There has been one SOG change that needs to be approved by districts. And that is that instead of dues being 10 dollars a year they will be raised to 15 dollars a year to help with cost at the state level. BYLAW changes in the event of a lawsuit evolving the IVFA and IVFAA there shall be a meeting or meetings that may consist of the board of directors of the IVFA and IVFAA insurance agents or insurance legal representatives, President may be present. BYLAW changes Treasurer shall provide the president with the password to the online account. The treasurer shall send the president copies of the monthly financial statements from the bank.

Cindy stated that if there are any changes to your information to fill out the membership forms.

If there are no changes just mark no change. Buz is still looking for convention books and newspapers if anyone has any. Cindy stated that at the state level they are looking at doing a fundraiser, possibly a cookbook. The last time one was made was about 20 years ago. Bev stated that Tony Sorg sat for hours and typed everything for the last cookbook and then sent it off to be printed and it took her hours. We discussed how we would get them sold with the newer generations using online to get most of their recipes. If any one has any ideas on a fundraiser idea let Cindy know and she can bring it up at state. A fundraiser needs to be done due to the rising costs.

Notify Cindy or state chaplain about deaths so that way they can get the proper memorial service. Bev and Christina can also pass that information along to the proper people.

Make sure if you are planning to go to convention you look into getting your hotel room reserved. After officers and Miss Flames there will only be 4 rooms left in the one hotel.

Dennis Spears who was on the Centerville Fire Department and was also district 13b chairman passed away a few days ago.

Joan Hays still needs full time care. She turned 95 on the 13th, Cindy has a phone number for her. If anyone would like to call her she would love to hear from everyone, the phone number goes directly to Joan. Christina stated if she does not answer just to call back later she may be busy.

Larry Bartlow is in rehab.

Upcoming events Poe is selling peanut brittle, Monroeville santa parade November 22, Monroeville holiday event December 1st, Markle Breakfast November 23 6a-11a at the former Uniondale fire department.

Next meeting Roanoke January 20, 2025 7pm. We will need to vote on SOGs, BYLAWS. The March Meeting will be at Uniondale and this will be our bake sale.

Christmas gift exchange will happen after the meeting.

Aubrie was the only one running for Miss Flame. Aubrie Krueckberg District 7 2025 Miss Flame.

Logan Lockwood Motion to adjourn meeting seconded by Aubrie Krueckberg at 8:11

Kaitlyn Ritter-Butz District 7 Recording Secretary

DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Beverly Taylor- Chairman

Hi everyone from District 11A, At our last meeting, at Center Point Vol. Fire Dept. we didn't have a quorum so we stayed with the men and heard their meeting.

We had pizza for lunch.

I will say look around for someone to select for awards.

Remember Convention is June 18-21 be sure to register early for all the benefits. It's at Cliffy Falls State Park in Madison, Indiana for 2025.

Until we meet again,
Beverly Taylor

District 11A IVFAA Chairman

DISTRICT 11B REPORT



Jody Rohr - Chairman

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year. District 11-B met on Sunday, November 3 at the Helt Township Fire and Rescue. We enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving dinner.

There were eight members and one guest present. During old business, the joint picnic with District 11-A was discussed. All agreed it was an enjoyable time, and the facility was a great place to use.

Under new business was a reminder that all award letters need to be sent to their respective committees by February 1. A discussion was held regarding the district proposing a by-law amendment to increase dues from \$10 to \$15. All felt this was overdue and were in favor.

Also scheduled at this meeting was our Miss Flame contest. Unfortunately, we did not have young ladies interested at this time.

A get-well card was signed and sent to Larry Bartlow. Larry decided at the annual convention that he would step aside as PR West Central, a position he has held for the past several years.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 12 at 1:00 at the Cayuga Fire Department. We will also be crowning our Miss Flame. Since the November meeting, a young lady contacted me and stated that she was interested in competing for that honor.

As always, stay safe out there.
Jodi Rohr

DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Patti Fultz - Chairman

IVFAA meeting for November 25, 2024 was held at Shadeland Vol Fire Department. We had 8 members present.

We joined the men's meeting. I was given some time to talk.

We crowned our Miss Flame for 2025, which is Tatum Moore. She represents District 21 from Perry Township Vol Fire Department.

Hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our next meeting will be at Buck Creek Vol Fire Department on February 24, 2025 at 7:30 pm with a light meal served at 6:45pm.

Hope to see you there
Patti Fultz
District 21 Chairman



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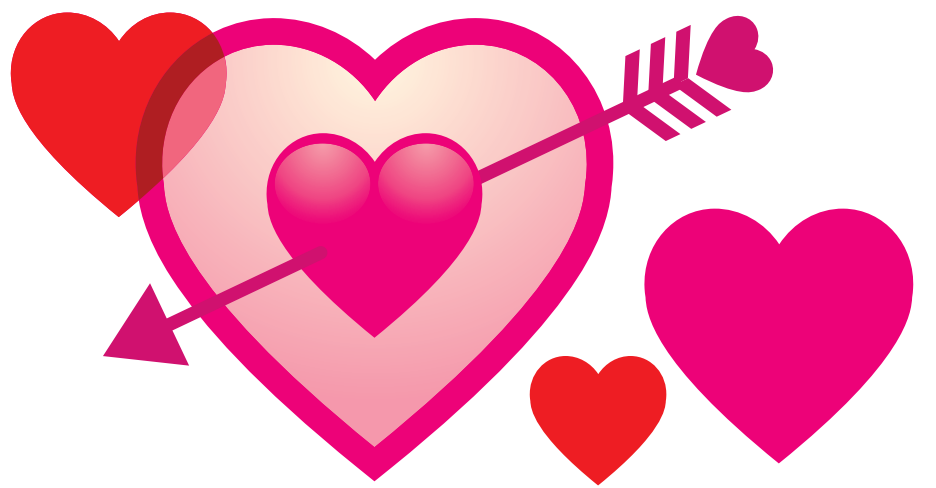
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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 1

Submitted by Marshall Neese, District Chairman



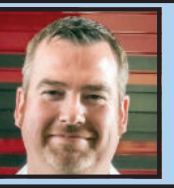
10 year pins awarded

Jody A. Jimenez and Timothy Pyle Received their 10 years pins awards pictured here with Dist.1 Chairperson Marshall Neese.



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 2

Submitted by Tom Fentress, District Chairman



10 year pin awarded



Firefighter Jeremy Kalizae from Lake Twp. VFD received his 10 years of service pin from Tom Fentress

Miss Flame run-off



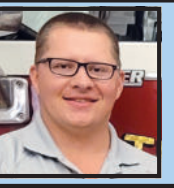
Lilly Postma - 2024 District 2 Miss Flame representing Lake Twp VFD and Miranda Ruvalcaba - 2025 District 2 Miss Flame representing Keener Twp VFD. with Tom Fentress and Christina Reef.



Miranda Ruvalcaba awarded Miss Flame for District 2, congratulations Miranda!

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

Submitted by Mack Grobis, District Chairman



Miss Flame



Newly crowned District 6 Miss Flame Madison Tigner (L) poses with out going District 6 Miss Flame Jenna Mackin (R) Submitted by Mack Grobis

10 year pins awarded



10 year pin recipients Tyler Junk (left), Steve Combs (middle), District Chairman Mack Grobis (Right) Submitted by Mack Grobis



“Orange Township Fire Department Christmas dinner” IVFA Presents 10 year pins. (L to R) Deputy Chief Arron Barker, Mack Grobis-D6 Chairman, Jonathan Beckley, Kyle Knepp, Chief Gene Landers” Submitted by Mack Grobis

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

Submitted by Jean Smith & Mack Grobis, District Chairman



50 years of service awards



Firefighter Larry Watson (L) receives 50 years of service awards from IVFA State Chaplain Dave Elick (R)
Submitted by Mack Grobis



Roger Beedy presented 50 Years of service awards from IVFA (L to R) Ben Schrock-President Northeast Allen County Fire and EMS, Mack Grobis-D6 Chairman, Roger Beedy, Jeff Berning- Fire Chief Northeast Fire District. Submitted by Mack Grobis



Firefighter Tom Reid (L) receives 50 years of service awards from IVFA State Chaplain Dave Elick (R)
Submitted by Mack Grobis



Stan Loos (center) presented awards for his 50 years of service to the Orange Township Fire Department.
Submitted by Mack Grobis



Southwest Fire District Larry Owen received his State Proclamation, 50 Year Gold Card, 50 Year IVFA Pin and 50 Year IVFA Challenge Coin. Congratulations Larry.
(Submitted by Jean Smith)



From Left to Right 1st Row: Jean Smith IVFA and NVFC, Gene Landers Chief (Grant Writer), Firefighter Melvin Bontrager, Firefighter Matthew Bontrager, Don Guran (State Farm), Jack Kerney (IVFA and NVFC) Second Row: Rob Russell EMS Chief, Firefighter Joe Campbell, Trustee Shawn Wilson, Arron Barker Deputy Chief, Firefighter Jaimie Leighty, JR Beckley Captain, Andy Skinner Safety Officer 3rd Row: Firefighter Jason Skidmore, Firefighter Brenden Fulk, Firefighter Kris Edwards, Kyle Knepp lieutenant, Ryan Leighty Engineer.

State Farm and National Volunteer Fire Council Grant

They were 1 out of 100 departments in the United States selected for this grant. Congratulations! First off, a huge Thank you to the community! We would also like to thank State Farm, NVFC, Indiana Volunteer Fire Association, staff, and all involved with this evenings grant award presentation. Our commitment to the people of our great communities opened an amazing opportunity for new equipment at the offering of State Farm.

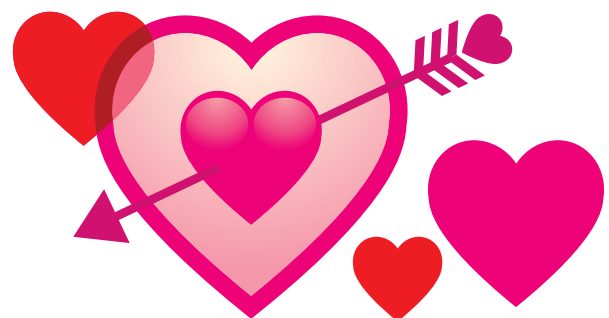
We want to thank all involved in the program and show our appreciation to the National Volunteer Fire Council and State Farm for promoting a safer community and those around it.

Our portable pump is already in and more to come!
(Copied from Orange Township Fire Department Facebook page) Submitted by Jean Smith

MacQueen Excellence Award



Roger Beedy presented MacQueen Excellence Award for District 6. L to R, Mack Grobis-D6 Chairman, Roger Beedy, Dax Snyder-MacQueen Group
Submitted by Mack Grobis



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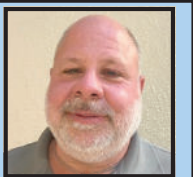
FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:

Doug Young at 800.236.8450

dougyoung@hastingsair.com

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 7

Submitted by Beverly Lockwood and John Petro, Richard Sorg, District Chairman



Firefighter Honored for 63 yrs of service

Firefighters from Liberty TWP Fire Department in Liberty Center, IN (Wells County) celebrated Fred Frantz's 63 years of faithful service to his community.

Frantz joined the volunteer department in July 1961.

In the last 25 years, fire departments have struggled to find volunteers willing or able to help, and Liberty TWP has not been excluded from this change. Years after a knee replacement surgery, Frantz has continued to stay on at the department and even go out to fires he couldn't physically fight, even providing advice that ultimately stopped one of the fires.



Frantz received a Henry Golden Boy Firefighter Tribute Edition .22LR Lever Action Rifle, Pictured L-R Frantz, Chief Josh Daugherty and Assistant Chief Trent Markley



Pictured- Frantz with Wells County Res4cue



Pictured- Frantz with Liberty TWP Rescue 4

Making peanut brittle with Miss Flame



Dist. 7 Miss Flame working hard helping g to make Peanut Brittle at Southwest Fire Dist. Station 5 which is located in Poe In. Traditions Continue!!!!



Dist. 7 Poe Fire Inc. with Southwest Fire Dist., had the pleasure spending the evening making Peanut Brittle with 4 generations of the Wilson family. From left to right Virginia Wilson, Dalene, Judy, and little Milo. The Wilson family has been one of the staples in our dept. since the beginning. Thank you for your dedication.

LCFD holds 2nd annual Pork Chop Dinner fundraiser



On November 9th LCFD held their 2nd annual Pork Chop Dinner fundraiser in conjunction with Veteran's Day, ALL veterans got to eat for FREE as a token of appreciation for their service to our grateful nation. LCFD served approximately 270 pork chop dinners and served 42 veterans.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

Submitted by Janet Matthews and John Ray, District Chairman



Kenny Chandler receiving award on his retirement from Hope VFD with 44 years of service as an EMT from Chief Adam Mathis



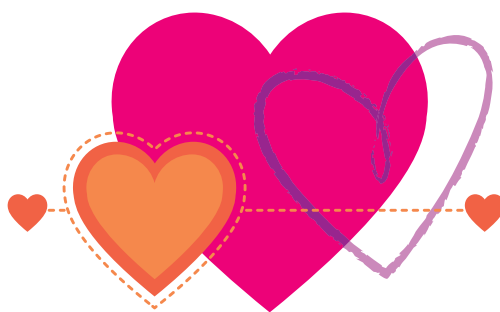
Mark Taylor receiving his 50-year gold coin from Chief Westport Chief Jay Maddux



Madeline & Carson Wilmer, grandchildren of District 10 Secretary Jim Davis. They were Santa's helpers at the annual Hartsville & Community Vol. Fire Dept.'s "Breakfast with Santa" on December 7.



November 20, 2024 Natalie Israel was crowned Miss flame for district 10 at the Hope VFD that hosted the meeting. Left to right John Ray IVFA chairman, Miss Flame District 10, Natalie Israel and Lori Baxter IVFAA chairman



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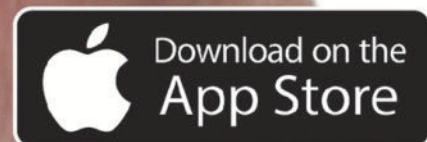


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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11A



Submitted by John Ray, District Chairman

10 year pins awarded



Andrew Duguay from the Jasonville Volunteer Fire Department, received his 10-year pin.



Katie VanLannen of the Shepardsville Volunteer Fire Department, received her 10-year pin.

25 year pin awarded



Leslie Reese of the Jasonville Volunteer Fire Department, received her 25-year pin.



Deadline for May issue is April 1. Please send all copy and photos to Sherri at: ivfd@hurdmedia.com

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13B



Submitted by Anthony Smith, District Chairman

Volunteer honored for 50 years of service

District 13B would like to congratulate Bill Powell of the Hagerstown Volunteer Fire Department on his 50 years of service and dedication! Thank you, Bill for your dedication and commitment to the fire service, and being there to aid those in need during their time of crisis!

I would also like to thank PREC David Israel for filling in for my absence and presenting Bill his 50 year Gold Card, Lapel pin, and 50 year Challenge Coin!

*Photoleft to right
Public Relations Officer David Israel, William (Bill) Powell, Hagerstown Fire Chief Rick Cole.*




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Happy Valentine's Day!

Please make sure that you get your Miss Flame Paperwork into Janet at jmatthews@tds.net by February 1. We will accept emails of the pictures and make sure they are labeled correctly before sending them to the newspaper. If you have any questions, please reach out to Leighanne Ellis: secretary@ivfa.org



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 14



Submitted by Rick Cannon, District Chairman

District 14 welcomes new Miss Flame Randi Palmer Sipes



We crowned our 2025 district 14 Miss Flame Randi Palmer Sipes with district Chairmen Rick Cannon And IVFAA Chairman Joann Smith



Randi Palmer Sipes district 14 Miss Flame with Vienna Twsp Fire Chief Wayne Williams and members of Vienna Twsp Fire Department



District 14 Miss Flame Randi Palmer Sipes with Santa and Mrs. Claus



2025 Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Convention coins now on sale \$20 contact District 14 Chairman Rick Cannon, district14@ivfa.org

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IVFA 2025 CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM
CLIFTY INN at CLIFTY INN STATE PARK, MADISON, IN
(ADDRESS: 1650 Clifty Hollow Road, Madison, IN 47250)
JUNE 18-20, 2025
June 21 I.V.F.A. Parade & Water ball fight

Pre-Registration Fee: \$125.00 per person – Postmarked by February 1, 2025
 Late and On-Site Registration fee: \$150.00 – All reservation fees are non-refundable.

Name: _____ (Print for badge.)

Name of Spouse or Guest: _____ (Print for badge.)

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Fire Department: _____ IVFA or IVFAA District Number: _____

Email Confirmation: _____

Number of Children attending age 12 and under: _____ Age 12 – 18: _____

Name type of registration:	Yours	Spouse/Guest	
State Officer	_____	_____	Title _____
Auxiliary Officer	_____	_____	Title _____
District Chairperson	_____	_____	
Delegate	_____	_____	
IVFA Member	_____	_____	
IVFAA Member	_____	_____	

Extra Banquet Meal Tickets for Wednesday & Thursday is \$40 and Friday is \$50 each

Number of children at attending child care Thursday and Friday 5PM-9PM _____ (\$5 per child ea. night)

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks or money orders payable to: **2025 IVFA Convention**
All registration fees are non-refundable

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Send Registration and payments to:
2025 IVFA Convention
1714 Schindler Dr
Charlestown IN 47111
Registration Chairman, Rick Cannon (502) 523-2665

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 15

Submitted by Misty Wallace, Paul Campbell, District Chairman



Yankeetown Volunteer Fire Department Hosted a Open House Reception For

Jay Davis the IVFA Ollie Sandberg 2024 Award Misty Wallace the Angel Award 2024 Morgan Davis District #15 Miss Flame



Dave Wallace with grandsons Campbell Wallace & Carston Wallace



Fire Chief Logan Snodgrass



Yankeetown Volunteer Fire Department Fire Fighter Ben Wallace was presented his 10 years of service pin by Steve Anderson



Firefighter Misty Wallace with Grandson's Campbell & Carston Wallace



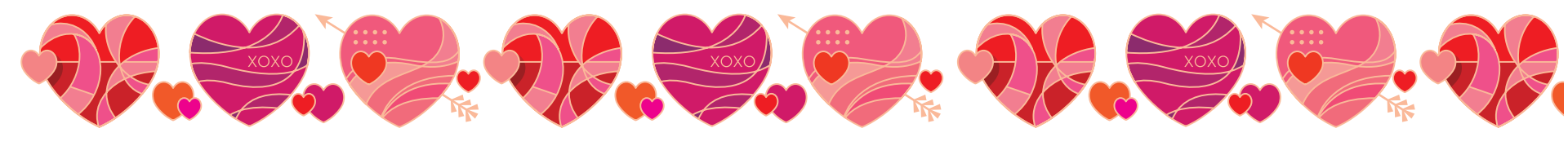
Kyle Clark Assistant Chief, Morgan Davis IVFA Dist# 15 Miss Flame, Logan Snodgrass Chief



Back row: Brock Ruffert, Tony , Kyle Clark, Kyle Davis, Dave Wallace, Ben Wallace, Chance Tedford Front row: McCormick Clark, Stacie Clark, Jaimmie Davis, District #15 Miss Flame Morgan Davis, Logan Snodgrass, Shelby Ruffett, Misty Wallace



Yankeetown Volunteer Fire Department Hosted its Annual Fire Safety Contests for each grade at Yankeetown Elementary School. Congratulations to all the winners.



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 15



Submitted by Misty Wallace, Paul Campbell, District Chairman

Yankeetown Volunteer Fire Department participated in the Newburgh Christmas Parade.



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 16



Submitted by Paul Holcomb & Nick Faulkenburg, District Chairman

Palmyra VFD dedicates new station!



On Nov 16th Palmyra Fire Department opened a new station, and we had the honor of presenting the new station clock and numerous 10 & 25 yr pins.



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 16

Submitted by Paul Holcomb & Nick Faulkenburg, District Chairman



Livonia Vol Fire Department- year 10 pins

Service Pins Awarded

Vice-Chairman Jon Gott presented Brian "Chop" Farris, Mark Jones 25 Years, and Benji Farris their 25 years of service pins.



On Nov 2nd Ava Gray the 2024 Miss Flame for District 16 and Nicholas Faulkenburg the District 16 Chairman assisted in the chicken BBQ event for Milltown Vol. Fire Department.

Heth Township Celebrates 50 Years!





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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17A

Submitted by Sam Emery, District Chairman



Washington Township Pins Presented



Steen Township Pins Presented



Dist 17A Miss Flame



Natalee Rickard, Oaktown - Busseron Twp.

Retirement



Ron Bell of Odon Madison VFD retires



Retirement



Larry Waggoner of Lyons VFD retires

Pin presented



Carrie Shelton of Patoka Twp. VFD Receives a pin from Sam Emery.

50 Year Gold Coin



Fred Davis of Steen Twp VFD was presented with a 50 Year Gold Coin from Sam Emery.

In Memory



In memory of Tony Wichman who was presented a flag at the celebration of Washington Fire Dept.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

Submitted by John Smith, Nicholas Waninger, District Chairman



Awards and pins presented



At the business meeting of the Jasper VFD on 5 December, 4 members were presented with IVFA Service Awards. Pictured above receiving the IVFA 10 Year Service Award are (l-r) Leighton Hochgesang and Henry Calderon. Pictured to the right, receiving the IVFA 25 Year Service Award is Jason Eckstein. Also receiving the 25 Year Award, but not present was Keith Schnell. Photos and article provided by Dist. 18



At the IVFA Dist. 18 meeting of 21 November, three members of the Ireland VFD were presented with the IVFA 25 Year Service Pin. Pictured with Dist. 18 Chairman Nick Waninger (l) and IVFA Vice President Ross Emery (r) are Ireland VFD Firefighters Josh Wehr and Craig Greulich. Also, receiving the award, but not present was Ireland Firefighter Kurt Bleemel. Photo and article courtesy of Dist. 18

Huntingburg VFD hosts Halloween

Rain, rain, go away! And it did, just in time for all of the "Trick or Treaters" to come out! Huntingburg VFD again this year hosted "Halloween at the Firehouse" and was visited by over 400 area children (and a lot of grownups too) showing off their costumes, getting their pictures taken in the fire trucks, and with the firefighters. Treats, sticker badges, activity and coloring books were handed out to our guests. This year Huntingburg VFD was joined by members of the Huntingburg Police Dept. and members of the Dubois Co. Sheriff's Dept. and Dubois Co. Conservation Officers. "The kids came away with a lot of cool stuff" was said to this reporter by one of the parents. District 18 Miss Flame Ava Verkamp appeared at her first function as the newly crowned Dist. Miss Flame. Ava along with "Buckets", the HVFD mascot, greeted and posed for pictures with the visitors. Can goods were also collected to help the local food bank. Ava and "Buckets" even posed with HVFD firefighter and Dist. 18 Vice Chairman John "Bull" Smith. Article and photo provided by Huntingburg VFD



At the annual awards dinner of the Huntingburg VFD of 4 December, 3 Department members were presented with IVFA Service Pins. Pictured (l-r) Captain Chris Lee 25 Year Service Award, Firefighter Cole Meyer 10 Year Service Award, and Firefighter Ethan Trusty 10 Year Service Award. Photo and article provided by Dist. 18



At the District 18 meeting of 21 November, the MACQUEEN Excellence Award was presented to Scott Uebelhor. Uebelhor is a 40-year member of the St. Anthony VFD, and has served as Chief for the past 20 years. He owns Uebelhor TV, and is a member of St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church. Scott was surprised by wife, daughter and son-in-law who came for the presentation. They were joined for a picture by IVFA Vice President Ross Emery, Dist. 18 Chairman Nick Waninger, and MACQUEEN representative Mike Foley. Photo and article provided by Dist. 18



At the meeting of 27 November of the St. Anthony VFD, two of its members were presented with the IVFA 10 Year Service Pin. Pictured receiving the award from Dist. 18 Vice Chairman John "Bull" Smith are SAVFD Firefighters Marshal Lueken (center) and Tyler Allen. Photo and article provided by Dist. 18



At the meeting of 12 January of the Jefferson Twp. VFD, JTVFD Firefighter Shawn Kendall (r) was presented with the IVFA 25 Year Service Pin from John "Bull" Smith, District 18 Vice Chairman. Photo courtesy JTVFD



At the meeting of 3 December of the St. Henry VFD, SHVFD Fire Chief Rodney was presented with the IVFA 25 Year Service Pin from Dist. 18 Vice Chairman John "Bull" Smith. Photo & information provided by Dist. 18

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 19

Submitted by Edwin Scheele, Ben Sieverding, District Chairman



Aurora Firefighters attending the presentation at the Aurora City Council Meeting

Left to Right: Indiana State Fire Marshal Stephen Jones, District 19 Chairman Chief Ben Sieverding, Lt. Jason Skipworth, Lt. Zackery Gibbs, and Chief Jeff Lane Aurora Fire Rescue

Aurora Firefighters Receive Medal of Valor

By Ben Sieverding
District 19 Chairman

Two Aurora Firefighters recently received the Medal of Valor from the Indiana State Fire Marshal's Office for their efforts in saving a man from a fire. Aurora Fire was dispatched to an apartment fire above a business on 2nd Street in Aurora. Aurora fire units

arrived on scene, concerned citizens and Aurora Police knocked on the doors of all four apartments to alert anyone inside. They were unable to gain entry into the last apartment due to heavy smoke and extreme heat conditions.

Upon arrival Lt. Zackery Gibbs and Lt. Jason Skipworth advanced the attack line up to the 2nd floor of the structure

and gained entry into the apartment. Upon entry firefighters located the fire and began their fire attack. Lt. Zackery Gibbs discovered an occupant lying on the living room floor of the apartment. At this point Lt. Gibbs and Lt. Skipworth switched their tactics to rescue and lifted up the occupant and carried him out of the apartment, down the staircase and

out of the structure to safety. After the occupant was turned over to EMS Lt. Gibbs and Lt. Skipworth returned to the fireground.

These 2 firefighters went above and beyond, placing their lives in jeopardy to save another. The Medal of Valor was presented to these firefighters by Indiana State Fire Marshal, Stephen Jones.

50 Year Gold Card Member Gives His Life in the Line of Duty

Long time member of the Napoleon VFD and a 50 year Gold Card Member, Ralph Meyer, gave his life in the line of duty on December 4, 2024. Ralph Meyer responded with the Napoleon VFD for a structure fire and suffered cardiac arrest following the incident.

Ralph served the Napoleon VFD for 58 years in many different capacities. Ralph was also a past Chief for the department. Ralph was a member of the Smyrna Lutheran

Church and a member of the Southern Indiana Angus Association. Many spoke of Ralph's servant heart. He dedicated his free time to helping his community ways for many years. He was very active in 4H throughout his entire life and he could always be seen around the fairgrounds helping others. He shared his love of cattle with any youth who wanted to learn. Ralph's final act of service was to be an organ donor. Based on his donation, he was able to help

an estimated 100 to 150 people and their families.

Ralph instilled a love for the fire service in his family as well. Ralph's son, Steve, currently serves the department as Chief, his brother serves as Asst. Chief and his granddaughter and grandson serve on the department. Ralph has left a lasting legacy with the Napoleon VFD as well as with his community.

Rest easy brother, we will take it from here.



Otter Creek Twp VFD Firefighter Lost in Tragic Accident

Otter Creek Township VFD Firefighter Landen Comer tragically lost his life in a vehicle accident on November 26, 2024. Landen joined the Otter Creek Twp VFD department in April of 2020 as a Cadet. Landen continued with the department and recently completed his Emergency Response Certification as well as his Emergency Medical Responder certification

Landen was a dedicated member of the department and loved serving his community. Landen graduated from Jac-Cen-Del High School in 2023 where he enjoyed playing baseball for the Eagles. He completed the Building Trades program at the Southeastern Career Center in 2022 as well.

Landen was not only active with his fire department but he also loved coaching in the

Jac-Cen-Del Little League program. He was employed with Goodwin Landscaping and loved the outdoors, enjoying fishing, hunting and playing softball and baseball.

Landen's father, Dale Comer, serves the department as Chief and his brother serves as a Cadet as well.

Landen was laid to rest on December 1, 2024 at the Hopewell Baptist Church.



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 21

Submitted by Bryant Butler, District Chairman



District 21 crowns New Miss Flame



District 21 Chairman Blaine Butler, 2025 District 21 Miss Flame Tatum Moore, IVFAA District 21 Chairman Patty Fultz, PRWC Don Fultz



Misti Moore Crowning District 21 2024 Miss Flame Tatum Moore



PRNW Jeremy Reef, 2025 District 21 Miss Flame Tatum Moore, IVFAA President Christina Reef



I.V.F.A. Benefits

“ANGEL” Award

To be presented at the opening meeting at the annual convention by the President of the IVFA and the State Fire Marshal or an appointee representing the Burn Camp.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RECIPIENT:

- Female firefighter
- Member of the IVFA
- Can be a state officer (but not required)
 - Minimum of 5 years of service
- Involved with fire service, fire prevention, and community service
 - No posthumous awards
- Letters must be submitted by FEBRUARY 1 of each year

THE AWARD:

There will be a minimum of \$100.00 gift to the Hoosier Burn Camp in the recipient's honor.

Trophy – Acrylic flame with an angel engraved on the top. The bottom shelf will have a firefighter holding a child and the middle shelf will have a plaque that reads:

There have been times
 When you didn't have any time
 And yet you took the time.
 There have been times
 When you had enough cares
 Of your own,
 And yet you still cared.
 There have been times
 When you had given
 All you could give,
 And yet, you kept on giving.
 Thank you.

Letters of nomination should be sent to the IVFA Central Office:
Angel Award Committee
P.O. Box 4797
Evansville, IN 47724



I.V.F.A. Benefits

Bridgeport Scholarship

The Bridgeport program began through the generosity of the Bridgeport Fire Department after liquidating their assets. Your Association was asked to administer the program, which sponsors three \$1,500 Scholarships each year, to be awarded to volunteer firefighters, their spouses or children.

Each applicant must first fill out a scholarship form and submit it to their Bridgeport Scholarship committee by the deadline of March 1st each year. This benefit is available to members in good standing having paid their dues for three consecutive years and with the last year, being paid on time.

Each Scholarship may be used at the college of the recipient's choice.

The Association also supports this program through the special recognition license plate program in the form of a three (3) dollar fee that is used to maintain the program for the long run.

Also, there is a \$3,000 death benefit paid to the beneficiary of an active member killed while on an emergency response (autopsy required and testing for drugs and alcohol.)

**Happy Valentine's Day!
 Deadline for May issue
 is April 1. Please send all
 copy and photos to Sherri
 at: ivfd@hurdmedia.com**



Honoring our military

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

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



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



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



What you need to know about OPEN BURNING

WHAT'S ALLOWED?



Clean Wood



Charcoal



Paper



Yard Waste

WHAT'S PROHIBITED?



No Trash

No Chemicals
or Plastics

No Tires



No Homes/Buildings



No Cardboard

No Demo/
Construction Debris

RESIDENTIAL BURNING

www.idem.IN.gov



Indiana Department of Environmental Management

Residential Burning in Indiana

Indiana's air pollution control rules generally prohibits open burning. There are certain agriculture and maintenance exceptions to the open burning rule. Smoke from burning household trash, including plastic containers, is more toxic than the smoke from burning clean wood. Protecting your health is worth the small fee for proper waste disposal. IDEM always encourages alternatives to open burning such as recycling.

These rules **must** always be followed:

- Only clean wood products may be burned. Treated wood is not clean wood.
- Wood products coated with stain, paint, preservatives, glue or other coatings are not allowed to be burned.
- Residential open burning of clean wood products shall be in a noncombustible and ventilated container.
- Recreational or ceremonial fires, such as fires for scouting activities or cooking may only burn clean wood products, paper, or charcoal.
- Burning must be done during safe weather conditions, not during high winds or on pollution alert days.
- Fires must be attended until completely extinguished, and adequate fire suppression equipment present.
- Non-recreational burning must be done during daylight hours and extinguished prior to sunset.
- Open burning is not allowed at mobile home parks, apartment or condominium complexes or buildings of more than four dwelling units.
- Fires must be extinguished if they create a fire hazard, nuisance, pollution problem or threat to public health.
- Burning must comply with all other federal, state and local laws, rules or ordinances.
- Additional restrictions apply in Lake, Porter, Clark or Floyd counties. No open burning of trash, leaves or yard waste is allowed.
- Want to learn more? Visit IDEM's open burning site at www.idem.IN.gov/openburning.

To report illegal open burning, call the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (800) 451-6027, option 3.



Recycle
when possible



Properly dispose of trash,
chemicals and/or debris

Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association Annual Golf Scramble — Sunrise Golf Course

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

**Sunrise Golf Course
2136 Michigan Road,
Madison, IN 47250
812-265-8334**

Check In: 8:00am

Tee Time: 8:30am Shotgun Start

Registration Fee: \$28.00 per person
(payable at the golf course)

**Includes: 18 holes of golf with Cart
Lunch will be provided**

There will be 4 individuals per team.

If you do not have 4 people we will assign a team.



Name: _____	Address: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____
Name: _____	Address: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____
Name: _____	Address: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____
Name: _____	Address: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____

Return your Registration form to:

This is a must, we need to know how many to plan for.

**Rick Cannon
1714 Schindler Drive
Charlestown, In 47111**

Email: rcannon3301@yahoo.com

In order to accommodate everyone please register.

THIS IS A MUST we need to know how many to plan for
in order to accommodate everyone please register.

Registration must be returned by May 2, 2025 to play.



**For more
information
contact:
Rick Cannon
rcannon3301@
yahoo.com**

RATE SCHEDULE FOR INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 2016

The paper is tabloid size, published quarterly.

Quarterly issues are printed for February, May, August and November. **ALL COPY MUST BE** in the hands of "The Indiana Volunteer Firefighter", c/o Sherri Chaney or Buz Koehler **BY THE 5TH OF THE MONTH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH OF PUBLICATION.**

ALL AD SIZES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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FULL COLOR	\$370.00

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

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"INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION"

AND SENT TO:

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AD SOLICITOR
6225 SWALLOW DRIVE
HARRISON, MI 48625

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

Ads are to be in one of the following formats:

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- Microsoft Publisher
- Corel Draw X18

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

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PHIL SHREVES

Waterous Service Center



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