

**Determined to Serve,  
Determined to Protect**



(USPS 262-480)

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Firefighter's Association To Create And  
Promote Good-Will Among Its Members**

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# INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

VOLUME 60 NO. 4

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

NOVEMBER 2011

## From The President

Tim Deckard



earned factor not a DEMAND. When we demand it we will get NOWhere with our members. Training, are we really training like we should and are we keeping up with the times? What about our discipline? Where is it and why has it gone out the window? Why do we let the tail wag the dog here?

Qualities of a good effective leader is

- High integrity
- Good communications
- Openness and willingness to listen
- Fairness and consistency
- Respectful of others
- Visionary and shares that vision to others
- Problem solver NOT a Problem creator
- Adapt to change
- Takes advantage of new opportunities

Remember strengthening the department requires an honest understanding of the existence of both those with halos and horns.

Remember that leadership is role-based...not rank-based 5 Bugles Only Makes Them Call You Chief

I read a saying once that said, "That badge only covers a small part of your chest, it doesn't cover your a\_\_!"

Remember we have to lead by example.

As I write my last article I want to Thank You for allowing me to lead the IVFA for 3 years and I hope that we have moved in the direction our Association needs to go. There have been some walls to climb and MORE ahead. There are areas that need very much attention and major hard work to get this organization moving forward. WE, the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association has to move and change with the times. It's the bottom line. Change is not always easy but we canNOT stay stagnate. As the fire services changes so must we.

As we prepare for another year I know that the IVFA we stand up for the volunteers of this state and fight for you as we have done in the past years. Training is always an issue and we are trying to help you and getting the online testing closer to YOU. If that's the way we are going then we need to have a site close to you not away from you.

Local government will not be a dead issue this year and we will stand with the Chiefs, Union, Professionals and the Trustees to help keep our local government in place. One thing to remember, when we are in positions we ARE accountable to others and we should be. OUR communities expect us to be wise and to be ready.

Thank you for filling out our Fire Service information survey. This is MUCH needed to help us fight the battles with GOOD numbers and facts from YOU.

We are Neighbors helping Neighbors. I wish the upcoming administration the very best as they lead us into the next step as volunteers.

Thank you for all of your dedication to serving your communities and being a volunteer firefighter with passion and pride. Thank you for protecting your communities and the time you spend doing it.

Bring everyone home and be safe. Dedicated in serving you, and sharing the voice of the volunteers to others.

Tim Deckard, President

## Plan now for 2012 cruise!

The first Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's cruise is history.

We had a wonderful time on Carnival Ship Destiny. We sailed to Key West and Cozumel. A great time was had by all.

The Membership and Marketing Committee is planning another cruise destination Alaska!

Look for details found elsewhere in this issue.

We are looking at late summer, early fall 2012, so start making plans to come cruise with us.

Thank you,  
Diane Harrison

## Huntingburg donates to Special Olympics



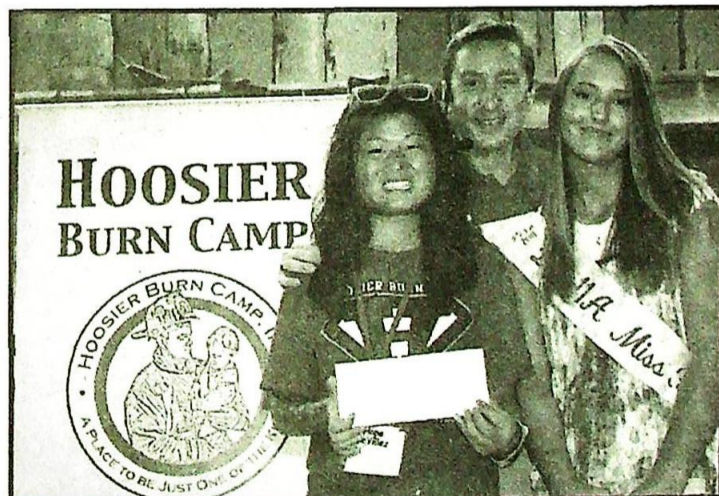
At the 21 September meeting of the Huntingburg Vol. Fire Department (Dubois Co., District 18) HVFD members Gary Beadles (left) and John Beadles (right) presented a donation check in the amount of \$735.00 to Miss Allison Werne of the Dubois Co. Special Olympics.

The funds were raised during the department's annual roadblock.

Miss Werne serves as the Secretary of the Athletic Leadership Program (ALP), is a member of the Special Olympics Varsity Club, and is a Special Olympic swimmer.

She is the 30-year-old daughter of Terry and Gail Werne of rural Huntingburg. - Photo and article courtesy of John "Bull" Smith, District 18 Chairman.

## District 11-A Miss Flame presents check to Hoosier Burn Camp



Pictured: Left - Hope DeVillez, camper. Middle - Mark Koopman, director. Right - Amber Graham, District 11-A Miss Flame.


Amber Graham, Miss Flame District 11-A, presented a check to the Hoosier Burn Camp on Visitor's Day for \$1,131.00.

Amber organized and carried out two fundraisers with all proceeds going to the Hoosier Burn Camp.

The first fundraiser was a corn hole tournament held on May 15, 2011. The other fundraiser was a two hour Zumba-Thon held on May 22, 2011. Both fundraisers were a great success.

Amber would like to thank the members of Seelyville Fire Department for their \$100.00 donation and the use of their facilities.

Also, she would like to thank the Zumba instructors who donated their time for a great cause and everyone who attended. - submitted by District 11-A chairman Jack McFarland.



## 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

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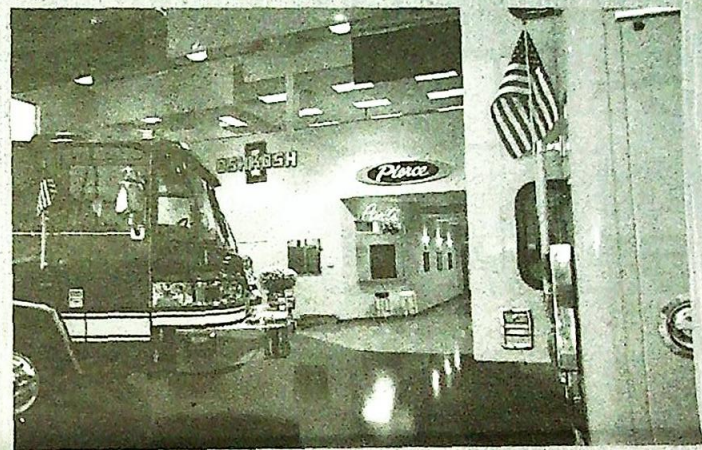
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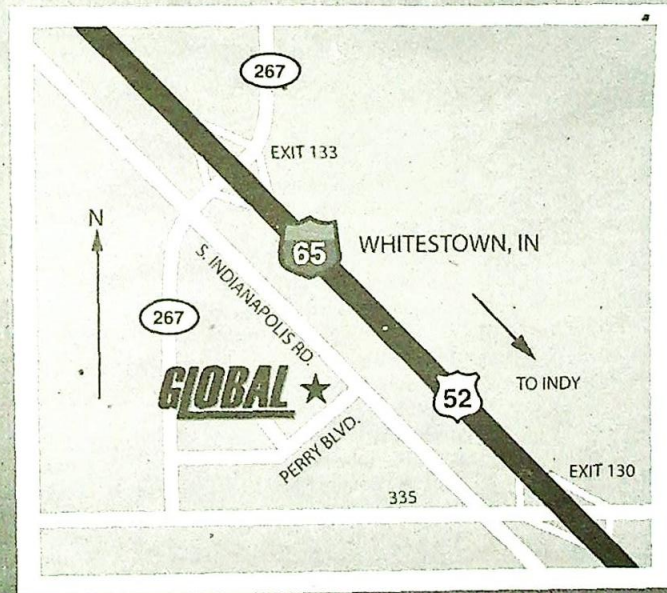


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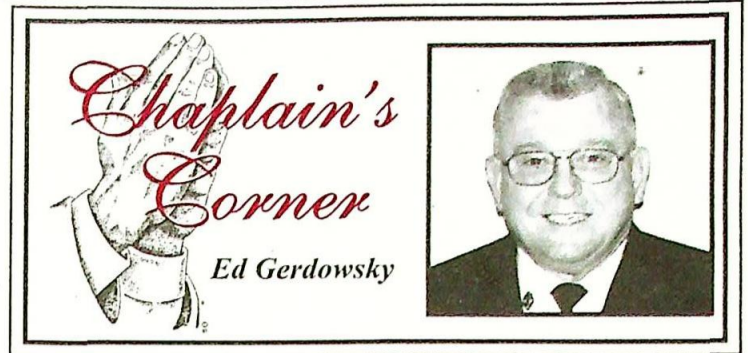
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Hope you are all enjoying the summer and doing many fun things. I have attended many fire festivals this summer and enjoyed the good food and visiting with my fellow firefighters. I have also done several funerals and have had many associate chaplains help with services, too. Without all of you we could not fulfill these very important services for the families of our fellow firefighters. We truly are a brotherhood who care deeply about each other. May God's blessings be with each one of us as we walk our daily walk of life.

I know there are many 9-11 services to be held throughout the state and I hope you will all be able to attend one of these very meaningful services for our fallen firefighters. I will keep you all in thought and prayer as I will be back in my home state of New York with my nephew who is a New York firefighter and was involved in 9-11. He lost 12 of his station's men during that horrific event. It will be forever embedded in our minds and hopefully God will see us through all of this as we relive this horrible day. Please pray for all the families and our future in the United States of America.

I will be attending the November 5-6 meeting in Indianapolis so if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. I want to leave you with this message:

#### Take The Best

Take the best in what you have  
And go from day to day,  
Know that God will understand  
And hear just what you say!

If you seek His highest good  
And if you do His will,  
You shall see gates open wide,  
For His voice is never still!

He will walk and talk with you  
And lead you every day  
Until it's time to journey home  
On that narrow, upward way!

So take the best and journey on,  
Be happy every day,  
Just read His Holy Bible  
Then follow God's own way!  
By Dorothy Koeller Wildt

If we live in the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit. - Galatians 5:25

Chaplain Ed (Ski) Gerdowsky  
Sept. 1, 2011

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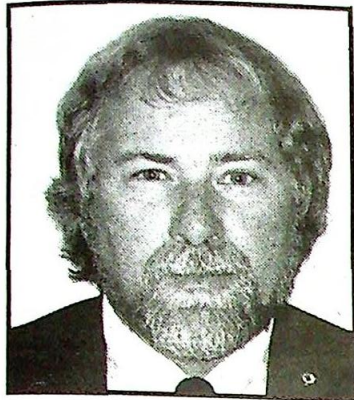
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# From The Vice President

David Israel



IVFA awards for 2012, we need your nominations by February 1, 2012 to the Central Office.

We have an IVFA paid membership of 16,500 plus and only receive 4 to 7 nominations per award. That's sad.

Surely someone on your department is deserving of some recognition. Here is all it takes, a letter (typed letter is easier to read, but we will accept handwritten) from you to nominate an individual. We will need your contact info in the letter to let you know if your nomination is the winner.

What awards you say, just read on and I will tell you, any questions about the awards, contact me or any IVFA district chairman for more info.

1. Angel Award: is given to a female firefighter that is instrumental in going out of her way, and takes that extra time to help and support her community and her fellow firefighters.

2. Ollie Sandberg Award: is given to an individual that is instrumental in going out of their way to help support their community and their fellow firefighters. The person that may be mentors to the younger firefighters and is that person that keeps everyone's spirits up when things seem bad. A person with a positive attitude.

3. Mr. IVFA: that individual that everyone from the firefighters to the community respects, goes to for help and looks up to and makes things better, that person you would hope to be like someday.

4. District Global Award: that individual from your district that has helped make a difference in the betterment of the fire service in your district.

For the above Awards you must be a paid IVFA member to receive the Award.

5. Bridgeport Scholarships: We give out (3) \$1500.00 scholarships. The guidelines were set by the Bridgeport VFD. You, your spouse and kids can apply for this scholarship to further your education. But you or your spouse must be an IVFA member paid on time the last (3) years to be able to receive it. This needs to be sent to the IVFA Central Office and/or postmarked by March 1, 2012. They cannot be late.

Legislation will be starting soon, stay in touch with the people that represent you at the Statehouse. If you know them personally, let us know. Last year by one Fire Chief by knowing his Legislator personally and making that call before a vote on a bill, defeated that bill that would have hurt the fire service. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Start now making plans for the

2012 IVFA convention at the Horseshoe Casino. Paul and Rick and the crew have worked hard. They have a fun-packed time planned for you.

We will have some new benefits for you, our members in 2012 to take advantage of.

Website as of this writing is work in progress; hope you like it when it's done.

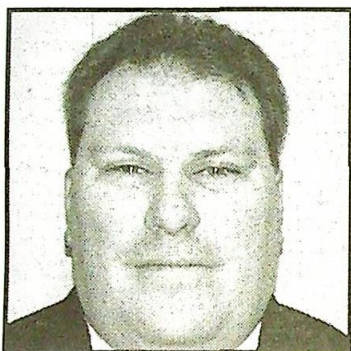
Attend your district meetings. Hope to see you there.

Be safe and happy holidays.

IVFA Vice President  
David Israel

# From The Vice President - Elect

Steve Anderson



First off, I want to thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve in this role starting in January. I have had the chance to start getting my feet wet working with our current administration, so I look for a smooth transition. As of September 30<sup>th</sup> I had visited 28 different fire departments, and had contact with another 100 departments at the 42 events I have attended.

I hope all chiefs have completed the Indiana Fire Alliance Survey that came out in September. We should be able to use this information as a guide for future projects to assist our members in their work. If your Fire Chief has not received an email with the link to the survey, contact your district chairman or the IVFA Central Office.

I want to welcome our new chairmen (especially District 15 Harry Logan) to our Board, and look forward to working with them in the upcoming years.

As the holidays approach, I wish everyone a great end to 2011. Stay Safe!

S. Anderson

## Lois Boaz Award letters due by February 1, 2012

It is time to think of a deserving lady in your district for the Lois Boaz Award.

Please send your letters to:

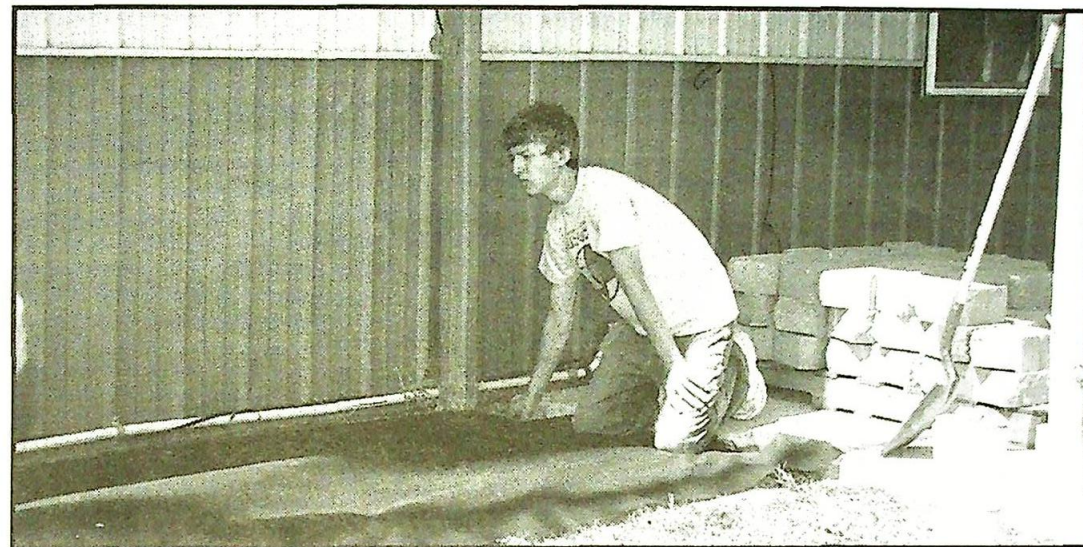
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Decatur, IN 46733

The deadline is February 1, 2012.

# Many Hands . . .



Walnut Township Fire Department was the lucky recipient of a major landscaping makeover Sunday afternoon by Boy Scouts of America Troop 350 out of Boone County.

Sixteen-year-old Christopher Dillon designed the layout and procured the materials as part of his Eagle Scout project.

Christopher sought cash and material donations for the job from area businesses, as well as friends and family.

Christopher is the son of Tom and Kathy Dillon. - photo courtesy of Troy Tucker - Walnut Township Fire Department.

# Sellersburg FD participates in parade



The members of the Sellersburg Fire Department take time out to join in the parade at Henryville.

Members are: JD Hacker, Miss Flame Rebecca Cannon, Jordan Arnholt, Richie Cannon, Martin Kirkgessner.

(At right) - Miss Flame Rebecca Cannon on the back of the fire truck. - submitted by Rick Cannon, District 14 chairman.



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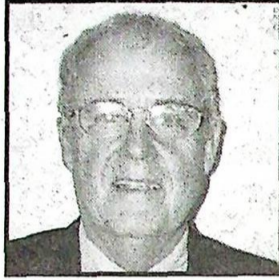
# DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 1 REPORT



Tom Orrell - Chairman

## DISTRICT 2 REPORT



Paul Watland - Chairman

Lowell Fire Department  
July 20, 2011

District 2 chairman Paul Watland called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Pledge was led by Clint Gorbali, chief of Lowell Fire Department.

Chairman Paul Watland thanked Lowell Fire Department and auxiliary for hosting this month's meeting.

Roll call was taken with District 1 with 5 members and 1 guest representing 4 departments, and District 2 with 32 members and 1 guest representing 6 departments.

Clint Gorbali, chief of Lowell Fire Department gave department history.

Program tonight was presented by Master Trooper Maggie Shortt of the Indiana State Police about Meth Labs.

Chairman Watland introduced guests in attendance: 50 year Gold Card members: Bub Wise of Crown Point, Bill Casbon of Boone Grove Vol. Fire Dept., Jim Bradford - PR Northwest, Tom Orrell, District 1 IVFA chairman, Marge Baumgardner - secretary pro-tem, Buz Koehler, past president IVFA, Jack Eskridge - 1-800-Board-up, Mitch Parish, ad taker for IVFA, Jim Crowell from Sklarewitz Uniform.

Motion by Keith Anderson and seconded by Bob Szot to dispense with reading of the minutes - passed.

Jim Bradford talked about edition of the IVFA newspaper which will be out the first week of August. Next deadline for the next issue will be October 5th.

This year's Burn Camp had 74 kids attend and one the most motorcycles for that day with approximately 600. Weather was perfect and cooked lots of hamburgers.

Buz Koehler does have some 9/11 coins for sale. They are \$12 a piece.

Buz had a copy of the legislation form. He would like every department to have someone he can contact by e-mail when items come up downstate that could affect your departments. As of today he has none back. He has copies if you need one.

Deaths to report -- Henry "Buddy" Cagle of Lake Station and Johnny Schavey of New Chicago.

Treasurer report: \$175.63.

Old Business: none.

New business: Paul reminded all departments that dues packages were out and please get your department dues turned in.

Elections were held: District 1

chairman - not enough members present; District 2 chairman - Paul Watland was only nomination for chairman and was re-elected.

Paul announced the District 2 Global Award is Ray Chambers; Paul presented Ray with the award.

Jack Eskridge of 1-800 Board-up talked about the Boot Drive Challenge for the Hoosier Burn Camp. He presented the departments with their new wide screen TV, the winner for Lake County-New Chicago and Porter County was Beverly Shores.

Good of the order -- Lake Dale Vol. Fire Dept. is having a Poker Run/Hog Roast on July 30th; Cedar Lake is having a Car Show July 31st.

Trophy winners: District 1 - Lake Station, District 2 - Lincoln Township.

Mark Baumgardner Sr. is 50/50 winner for \$66.00.

Next meeting will be at Liberty Twp. Department on August 17th.

Motion by Bob Szot, seconded by Bub Wise to adjourn. Motion passed at 9:30 p.m.

Marge Baumgardner  
Pro-tem Secretary

Liberty Township Fire Department

August 18, 2011

District 1 chairman Tom Orrell called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Pledge was led by Buz Koehler. Chairman Tom Orrell thanked Liberty Twp. Fire Department for hosting this month's meeting.

Roll call was taken by District 1 with 19 members representing 6 departments and District 2 by 11 and 2 guest members representing 4 departments.

Brian Duncan, Chief of Liberty Twp. Fire Department gave department history.

Program tonight was presented by Dr. John Kostidis of Kostidis Chiropractic Clinic on Health, Fitness & Injury Prevention for Firefighters.

Chairman Orrell introduced the guests in attendance -- 50 year Gold Card members: Bub Wise of Crown Point, Bill Casbon of Boone Grove Vol. Fire Dept., Jim Bradford - PR Northwest, Tom Orrell, District 1 I.V.F.A. chairman, Marge Baumgardner - secretary pro-tem, Buz Koehler, past president I.V.F.A., Mitch Parish - ad taker for I.V.F.A., Jim Crowell from Sklarewitz Uniform, Jim Daley from Hoosier Fire, Larry Stott, past chairman of District #2, Ed Morales, trustee of Porter Township, Morgan Eastridge, District 1 Miss Flame, and Rita and Larry Stiegner of Cedar Lake Fire Dept.

Motion made by Bob Szot and seconded by Bub Wise to dispense with reading of the minutes -- passed.

Buz Koehler talked about the new legislator calendar has not been set yet, he is sure Local Government Reform will be on there. Buz also talked about investigating insurance coverage is the same for all firefighters, are they covered from the time your pager goes off, once you arrive on station, or if you respond to calls in your personal vehicle, all should be covered the same. I.V.F.A. website is being rebuilt. It should be up in the next couple of weeks. September 23, 2011 is the Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Indianapolis, there will be 6 names added to the memorial this year.

Mitch Parish asked the membership to please check your addresses of your members. There were 300 bad addresses on the newspaper this time.

Jim Bradford had hand-outs about the anniversary of 9/11 for this year. If your department does not have an event planned, the hand-outs have some suggestions. Also had a hand-out about training requirements for firefighters. Also had information regarding 2 jobs posting at local mills. Jim also talked about the \$38,000 that 1-800-Board-up helped raise for Hoosier Burn Camp.

Jim also held election for District #1 chairman, since there was no quorum at the last district meeting. Jim took nominations from the floor. Tom Orrell was the only nomination from the floor. Tom was voted as District #1 chairman. Congratulations, Tom!

Deaths to report: Johnny Schavey of New Chicago, Rich Wagner of Schererville, Art Bills of Merrillville Station #1, Tim White of Cedar Lake and Charles Black of Superior Ambulance Service. Moment of silence was held.

Larry Stenger from Cedar Lake wanted to thank all the departments who came to Tim White's funeral. Also they are holding a fund raiser for Tim's family. They have tickets tonight with them if you would like to purchase one.

Treasurer report -- \$233.73

Old business -- none.

New business -- none.

Good of the order -- none.

Trophies winner: District #1 Ainsworth-Deep River; District #2 Lincoln Township.

Ray Chambers is 50/50 winner for \$47.

Next meeting will be at Hebron Fire Department on September 21st.

Motion by Bill Casbon, seconded by Mark Baumgardner, Sr. to adjourn. Motion passed at 8:25 p.m.

Marge Baumgardner  
Pro-tem secretary

Hebron Fire Department

September 21, 2011

District 2 Chairman Paul Watland to call the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Pledge was led by Buz Koehler.

Chairman Paul thanked Hebron Fire Department for hosting this month's meeting and Larry Polus from Global for sponsoring the food for tonight's meeting.

Roll Call was taken by District 1 with 7 members representing 6 departments, and District 2 by 34 and 1 guest members representing 9 departments.

Chief Chad Franzman of Hebron Fire Department gave department history.

Program tonight was presented by Mark Baumgardner, Sr., Division Chief of Operations for Crown Point Fire Rescue on Project Lifesaver.

Chairman Watland introduced the guests in attendance. 50 year Gold Card members: Bub Wise of Crown Point, Bill Casbon of Boone Grove Vol. Fire Dept., Jerry Stewart of Merrillville, Pete Monix of St. John Fire Dept., Jim Bradford - PR Northwest, Tom Orrell, District 1 I.V.F.A. Chairman, Marge Baumgardner - Secretary ProTem, Buz Koehler, Past President I.V.F.A., Mitch Parish - Ad taker for I.V.F.A., Ed Morales, Trustee of Porter Township, Jack Eskridge from 1-800 Board-up, Aric Kaminski from Merrillville Station #1 just home from Afghanistan.

Motion made by Gerard Abraham & seconded by Bob Szot,

to dispense with reading of the minutes -- passed.

Buz Koehler talked about I.V.F.A. benefits thru AFLAC for members. He has information. Also talked about Memorial Service on Friday Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> for the Indiana Fallen Firefighter Memorial at 11:30 A.M.

Jim Bradford had information about job posting for firefighters. Also had the list for pre-requisites for classes and a hand-out for new rules for Haunted Houses.

Treasurer's Report -- \$281.73

Old Business -- None

New Business -- None

Good of the order -- Larry Curl, Lobbyist for the I.V.F.A. talked about things they will be working on and watching during the sessions this year:

- Local Government Reform
- Novelties lighters
- Road Closures - to get local dept. notified

- Fire Territory/District

Larry also talked about the only survey for fire service. He is asking every chief to please take the time and take this survey. He talked about how the I.V.F.A. has 17,000 members statewide.

Trophies winner: District #1 - Merrillville Station #1

District #2 - Cedar Lake

Aric Kaminski is 50/50 winner for \$47.00.

Next meeting will be at Dyer Fire Department on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

Motion by Bob Szot, seconded by Mark Baumgardner, Sr. to adjourn. Motion passed at 8:25 p.m.

Marge Baumgardner,  
Pro-tem Secretary

## DISTRICT 3 REPORT



David G. Kaufman - Chairman

Long Beach Fire Department  
July 20, 2011

Program: The program for the month was on "Target Safety" presented by the Chief Dave Albers. The program was extremely educational and oriented to emergency responder safety when responding to all types of incidents. The program is computer based so that individuals can proceed at their own pace. The program can also be customized to the individual need of each department. Pizza and ice cream was served for the refreshments.

Meeting: The meeting started at approximately 7:35 with the pledge led by Chief Albers and the prayer led by Tim Sandy.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Guests present: Buz Koehler, past IVFA president, Mitch Parish, past IVFA president, Jim Bradford, PRNW.

Communications:

Buz Koehler: The 2012 Convention registration forms are available. There is a form from the Fire Marshal in reference to insurance billing. The web-site is having problems and will be down for approximately 30 days. They are looking for a new webmaster. Get the legislative forms to Buz.

Mitch Parish: Glad to be here.

Jim Bradford reminded us that the newspaper articles must be submitted no later than October 5. There were 84 kids at the Burn Camp this year. The trustee bill was defeated this year and David Israel will be our new president.

Old Business: None.

New Business: An attempt will be made to pursue a regional grant to upgrade fire communications in LaPorte County.

There will be First Responder Class (EMR) this fall that will be free to all participants and sponsored by the DPC.

Good of the Order:

Springfield Fish Fry -- August 27  
Michiana Shores 5K Run -- September 5

Lincoln Twp Steak Fry -- September 3

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 20:30 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Sandy  
District #3

Hanna Fire Department  
September 15, 2011

Refreshments: Refreshments were served prior to the meeting consisting of chicken, potato salad, mac & cheese and soft drink of your choice.

Program: The program for the month was on Extrication Safety and was presented by Tom Thode of 5 Alarm Fire and Safety. The program was extremely educational and oriented to emergency responder safety when responding to all types of incidents involving extrication. Some of the highlights of the program included an in-depth look at air bags, their types, the actuators, and how to work safely around them. Also reviewed were several different techniques on how to gain entry to a vehicle effectively without causing further harm to the patient.

Meeting: The meeting started at approximately 7:45 with the pledge led by Chief Tony Wallace and the prayer led by Tim Sandy.

Initial roll call found 20 members from 8 departments present.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read and approved. There was \$406.70 in cash and bank deposits.

Guests present: Buz Koehler, past IVFA president, Mitch Parish, past IVFA president, Larry Curl, IVFA Lobbyist, Jim Bradford, PRNW.

Communications:

Jim Bradford: There were 84 kids at the Burn Camp this year. The trustee bill was defeated this year and David Israel will be our new president. NFRS reports are showing that about 67% of the calls are medical related. Seat belt use is now mandatory. In April of this year we achieved a first, in that all firefighter deaths that month were volunteers. The average cost of a firefighter physical is approximately \$350.00.

Larry Curl: Larry spoke on a variety of issues concerning the fire in Indiana. As Larry is the IVFA Lobbyist, he was very versed in legislative issues. He reviewed the billing law and encouraged fire departments to start billing if they already haven't. The IVFA is in favor of the online testing but opposes having to pay for it. Government reform bill was defeated but we should look for it to resurface in the next session. We need to get out and talk to our State Representatives and our State Senators to reaffirm our position that we are not in favor of anything that would negatively affect the fire service, such as the elimination of Township Trustees. They tried to back door this through the Marion County Consolidation Bill.

Buz Koehler: There will be a survey being sent to the fire chiefs and it is extremely important that it be filled out and returned. Also the

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

# DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 3 REPORT

legislative contact forms need to be filled out and returned. As soon as you take a new member on he must be given a PSID number. This can be completed online at the DHS website. The Indiana Fallen Firefighters Memorial ceremony will be held at the Capitol on September 23 at 11:30 A.M. They are going to be looking into legislation requiring that fire departments be notified of road closures. Several areas are having trouble being notified in a timely manner.

Mitch Parish: Glad to be here and a reminder that the FEMA - AFG Grant deadline has been extended to September 23 at 5:00 P.M.

Old Business: EMR Class will begin on October 3 at Kingsbury Fire Dept. It is free and books will be on loan to the students.

LaPorte County chiefs are pursuing a countywide grant to update the VHS communications system. There will be three transmitters in the system, located at the Summit, Rolling Prairie, and Sullivan's tower in the south part of the county. There will also be district sites that will enhance fire ground communication through the use of tactical channels. Estimated cost is approximately \$750,000.00 compared to \$1.2 million dollars when this was proposed 6 years ago. All departments will have to report NIFRS for at least one year after we receive the grant.

There is a push for all the men to join the IVFAA. It is only \$5.00 per year and you can have double insurance by doing so. IVFA is also looking into AFLAC insurance for the membership to be able to purchase at extremely reasonable rates.

Narrow band radio switchover is scheduled for April 1, 2012 in La Porte County.

New Business: Kenny Freeland from the Kingsbury VFD was awarded the "2011 Global Award" for District 3.

Good of the Order: Larry Curl asked that all departments contact their local churches for "Bell Across America" to be held on October 16, 2101. Information can be found at: [www.BellsAcrossAmerica.com](http://www.BellsAcrossAmerica.com)

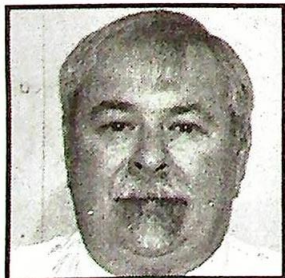
50/50 of \$24.00 was won by Jeff Barkow from Coolspring Township.

Adjournment: Final roll call found 22 members from 8 departments present.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 20:30 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Sandy, District #3  
Secretary / Treasurer

## DISTRICT 6 REPORT



Jerry Sprague - Chairman

Greetings from District 6,

Hello to all. It has cooled off up here in the north. The fall season is upon us and the leaves have started to turn to their fall colors.

Thanks to the Laotto VFD for hosting our meeting in September. My sincere thanks to the men and women from Laotto VFD for their hospitality. Congratulations go out to Jim Neumann and Martin Reed of the Johnson Township VFD on receiving their 50 year cards and

pins at this meeting. Also at the meeting Jim Neumann received the Global Award for District 6 in the presence of his peers. Thanks to both of these men for their dedication and guidance to the Johnson Twp VFD and the fire service.

A big thank you goes out to Bob Sterling who represents Paul Davis Restorations for the food and refreshments they provided for this meeting. They were great! Due to the funeral in Waterloo, the meeting for the month of July needed to be canceled. My heartfelt sympathy goes out to the men and women of the Waterloo Volunteer Fire Department and the family of Travis Miller in their untimely loss of Travis. I am sure this loss will leave a large void in the department as well as the community. I wish you all God's speed in recovering from this tragic loss. There are still at least two departments in District 6 that I do not have an e-mail address for. You know who you are and if you don't, here they are: Spencerville VFD, and Washington Township VFD (Allen County). There may be a few other departments that are not receiving the meeting fliers. Please take the time to send your department's e-mail address to [spralawn@ligtel.com](mailto:spralawn@ligtel.com).

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday November 22, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. It is going to be held at the Columbia Township Volunteer Fire Department in Columbia City. Columbia Twp. VFD is located one block west of State Road 9 on Radio Road.

At our November meeting a new District 6 Miss Flame will be chosen. Please bring your candidates! If any of the departments or individual firefighters in District 6 have problems or concerns, please call or e-mail me. I will do my level best to help you out. Better yet, bring them to our next meeting on November 22, 2011.

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

In closing, I hope everyone had a good summer. Also wishing everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please be safe out there!

E.G.H.

Jerry Sprague (Spook),  
District 6 Chairman

## DISTRICT 7 REPORT



Walt Reiter - Chairman

July 18, 2011  
Chester Twp. Volunteer Fire Department

Meeting called to order by Chairman Reiter at 8:15. Chairman Reiter led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 23 members representing 10 departments. Minutes of the May meeting read and approved.

Guests: Jean Smith - IVFA Public Relations North East, Chris Walker - IDHS District 3 training coordinator and Dawn Sorg - Nature's Way Emergency Animal Response Team.

Chairman Reiter stated that convention at South Bend was a success. Walt announced the state officers for next year as well as award winners. Special notice was put on Lois Boaz winner, his wife Dorothy Reiter, and state Miss Flame, Kaylea Kongar from our own district! A new award was presented this year in honor of Ivan Nevil, it was awarded to Larry Curl. Mount Etna Vol. Fire Dept. will have station dedication and open house Sept. 12 at 6 P.M.

Jean Smith, PRNE stated not much to report on legislation at this time. True North is offering a \$3,000 grant for fire department training.

Les Markle, Decatur Fire Chief spoke on his experience of working on the validation process of the test bank questions at the state.

Chris Walker, IDHS Dist. 3 Training Coordinator stated that \$71,000 is budgeted for 32 classes this upcoming year. The money for the classes is funded through the fireworks tax. The new website will soon be up and running to access this information and enroll. A one day command training center class is offered at the PSA at no cost. Chris noted that there is a \$4,000 grant from the state that is available to fire departments.

Becky Sorg spoke briefly on this year's visit to Hoosier Burn Camp.

Chairman Reiter presented 25 year pin to Paul Thieman of Nottingham Twp. Chairman Reiter also presented the District 7 Global Award to Jerry Helvie of Bippus VFD.

Chairman Reiter opened the floor for election of officers. Walt Reiter nominated for District Chairman. Motion/second to close nominations. Walt Reiter is Dist. 7 Chairman. Floor was opened for secretary. Richard Sorg was nominated. Motion/second to close nominations. Richard Sorg is District 7 Secretary.

Swiss Days July 29 and 30, Liberty Center Golf Outing Aug. 21, Poe Days Aug. 26 and 27. Decatur will host a golf outing to benefit Hoosier Burn Camp on Sept. 10.

Following the meeting will be a short program from Chris Walker, District 3 Training Coordinator and Dawn Sorg, Nature's Way Emergency Animal Response Team on their involvements in NLE 11 exercise at Muscatatuck Training Facility in southern Indiana.

Next meeting will be at Decatur FD on September 19.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 with 25 members representing 10 departments.

Richard Sorg  
District 7 Secretary

September 19, 2011

Decatur Fire Department  
Meeting called to order by Chairman Reiter at 8:20. Chairman Reiter led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 32 members representing 9 departments. Minutes of the July meeting read and approved.

Guests: Jean Smith - IVFA Public Relations Northeast, Larry Curl, Legislative Representative for the IVFA, Buz Koehler, Past President IVFA, and Cindy VanGorden, Donley Safety.

Chairman Reiter asked for help from the guests on information from the last quarterly meeting as he was unable to attend.

Buz Koehler, past president IVFA. Information from the quarterly meeting, Jack Kerney will continue operating the central office. The new IVFA website is still in the works and hopefully will be up in the next month. The IVFA

trailer has been refurbished and is available for your department's fund raisers and festivals. AFLAC insurance will soon be made available to IVFA members. Legislative issues that the IVFA will be watching are government reform, what insurance considers "on duty" injuries for volunteer firefighters and novelty lighters. The IVFA is working on a statewide notification of road closures to all agencies. Sept. 23 is the fallen firefighters' memorial in Indianapolis.

Larry Curl, IVFA Legislative Representative addressed last year's session asked for help and support in the future legislative session. IVFA is going to oppose government reform and a push to put the EMS service under the State Board of Health instead of the DHS. IVFA opposed a bill presented to consolidate fire departments in Marion Co. IVFA helped to influence the outcome of 5 bills. There is a survey being e-mailed out to be filled out by every fire chief or his designee in the state. Oct. 16 will be the Fallen Firefighters' Memorial at the National Fire Academy.

Chairman Reiter  
Jean Smith, PRNE. Smoke Symposium coming up at the PSA Sept. 23 & 24.

Mort Sorg talked about the American Healing Field that was set up in Bryant over Labor Day and Board of Firefighter Standards coming up in Muncie.

Cindy VanGorden, Donley Safety, thanked for the chance to be present and is willing to help with any equipment needs your department may need.

Chairman Reiter presented 25 year pins to Jeff Sheets and Woodow Stout of Decatur FD. 50 Year pin and card presented to Finley Lane of Poneto VFD.

If you have an upcoming event that you would like the State Miss Flame to attend, please contact her father at (260)301-6337.

New Fire Chief at Ossian is Ben Fenstermaker.

Monroe VFD Soup Supper Nov. 4, Poe Peanut Brittle starting in Oct.

Next meeting will be at Geneva November 21.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 with 30 members representing 9 departments.

Richard Sorg  
District 7 Secretary

## DISTRICT 8B REPORT



Lloyd E. Wright - Chairman

On September 14, 2011 District 8B held their meeting at the Albany Volunteer Fire Department at 7:30 P.M. Meeting was opened with all saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll call was taken with 25 members from 8 departments present. There were three guests present, Cindy VanGorden, Larry Curl, and Jim Cash. The secretary and treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Larry Curl told the group about a survey that would be going out to all the departments and asked that they please fill them out. The survey has to be done online. It is a survey about ways that they could help the departments with different things. He also asked if any of the departments were having trouble with be told

about different roads being closed. He also brought up about government reform.

Old business: Reminded them about the Miss Flame raffle which will be held in November at the Miss Flame contest. Lloyd asked if any of the departments have a girl that would be eligible to run for Miss Flame and to please let him know. The Miss Flame contest will be held on November 9, 2011 at the Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department.

Second roll call was taken with how many fire and EMS runs. There were a total of 86 fires and 120 EMS runs.

Chairman Wright welcomed the Albany EMS to District 8B.

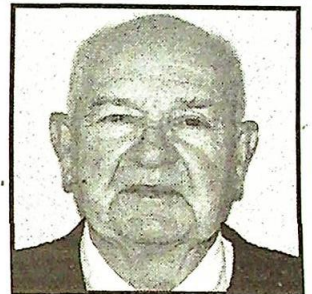
The next district meeting will be held on November 9, 2011 at the Dunkirk Fire Department located on 400 S east of Dunkirk at 7:30 p.m.

Thank you, Albany Fire Department, for hosting the district meeting.

The meeting was adjourned and a light snack was served.

Lloyd E. Wright,  
District 8B chairman

## DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

It was election time at our August meeting, which was held at Clay Township in Bartholomew County. We welcome Jim Davis back as District 10 secretary; and I am honored and appreciative that you have elected me to serve another term as your District 10 Chairman. The program for the evening was given by Master Trooper, Martin Mead, who presented a very informative presentation on Meth. A short summary of highlights from the recent IVFA Conference in South Bend followed by yours truly.

In September our host was the Marietta Fire Dept., where David Gabbard, Chief of Whiteland Vol. Fire Dept. was presented his 25 year pin. Congratulations, Dave on your dedication to fire service and your community! The program was presented by Jared Parker, who critiqued an earlier serious fire, in which the Fairland Vol. Dept. was involved.

Also, in September, we were pleased to present the 2011 District 10 Global Award to Mike Gasper of the Westport Vol. Fire Dept., for his commitment to fire department and community service. It was a "double award" night for Mike, as he also received his 25 year pin. Having known Mike for many years, we found this to be one time that left him speechless!! Congratulations, Mike, and thank you for your dedication and hard work!

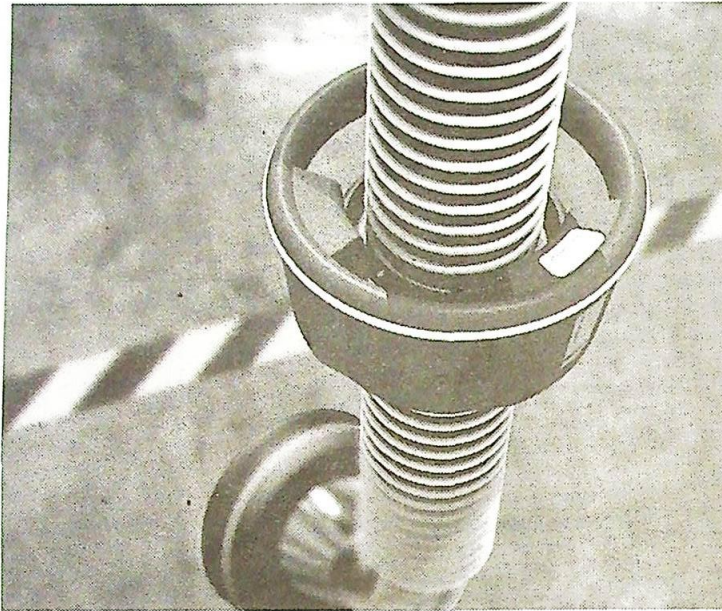
Autumn is here and activities in all areas of our community are picking up - watch out for those kids playing outside, school busses, and all the farm equipment making its way toward the fields for harvest. Be observant of your surroundings, and patient while you and everyone else is out and about! Take time to stop and absorb the beauty of God's handiwork with the changing of the colors to fall; and listen as the crisp cool air swirls and crunches the falling leaves at our feet! We are blessed! See you next time!

John M. Ray, chairman  
10<sup>th</sup> District

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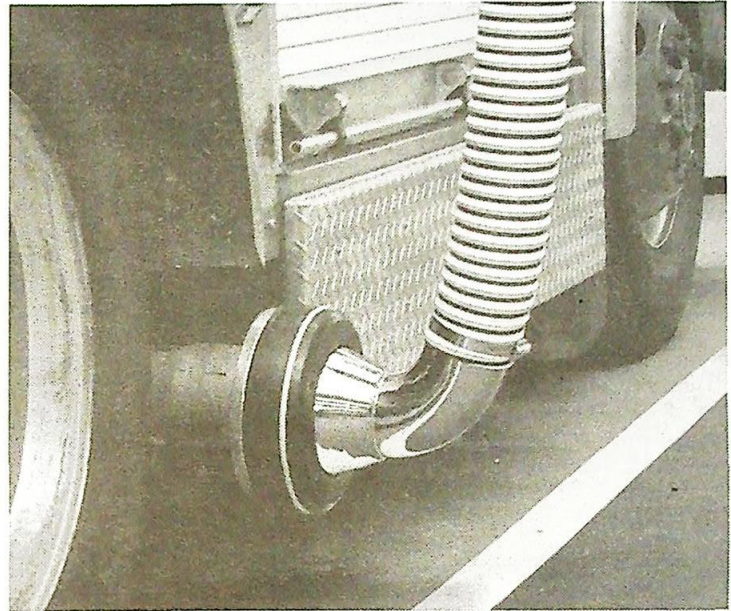
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# DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Jack McFarland - Chairman

Greetings from District 11-A. Thanks to Chief John Quiliam and the folks at Thunderbird Fire Department for hosting our July meeting.

Jack talked about death and planning. The fire department needs to have a list of contacts; also your wishes in writing on file at the fire house.

The elections were held Jack McFarland - Chairman, Dave Phelps - Vice Chairman, Bernie Anderson - Secretary, Don Vermillion - Sgt. At Arms, Pete Taylor - Chaplain.

A discussion was held about the State Fire Marshal's office.

District 11-A Miss Flame Amber Graham talked about her fundraisers for the Hoosier Burn Camp.

The 11-A picnic will be held Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at Fowler Park.

The Miss Flame Dance will be held at the Plumbers and Steamfitters Hall on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

The picnic was held and everyone had a great time. Congratulations to Larry Dunford for receiving the Global Award. Thanks to Dave Phelps and Larry Dunford for cooking the food. Thanks to Bernie and Sandy Anderson for the door prizes and everyone else who helped make the picnic a success. Micky, I promise next year no midnight calls.

Our next meeting will be at Seelyville Fire Dept. November 20<sup>th</sup>. We have a guest speaker. See you there.

Brothers and Sisters be careful out there.

Jack McFarland, District 11-A Chairman

## DISTRICT 11B REPORT



Larry Southard - Chairman

Veedersburg  
July 10, 2011

The meeting was called to order by chairman Southard. The Pledge to the Flag was led by state Sgt.-at-Arms Brent Bush and the opening prayer was given by district auxiliary chairman Barbara Ketchem.

IVFA vice president David Israel presented chairman Southard with a dozen colored eggs followed by chairman of the board Larry Ketchem presenting chairman Southard with a plaque for his vehicle. Larry Bartlow, state secretary, presented Larry Southard with the Global Award for District 11-B for 2011. Chairman Southard presented Dick Rusk of the Veedersburg Fire Dept. with his 25 year pin.

Chairman Southard introduced the guests present followed by the district auxiliary chairman Barb Ketchem introducing her guests.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved; the treasurer's report was read and approved. Roll call was taken with 16 members from 10 departments answering the roll call and there were also 9 guests present.

Vice president Israel spoke on the bills that passed in the last legislature. Buz Koehler passed out a legislature data information form and spoke on the current status of the IVFA website. Bev Harker, state treasurer, announced that dues are to be paid by July 31st and that there were a lot of departments not paid yet. Brent Bush spoke on the recertification forms on-line. District 11-A chairman Jack McFarland announced his next meeting date and place.

Don Klinge from Fairview Park spoke about the narrow banding of the county programs for radios. The needs for funding to complete this project. Several in attendance also commented on this same subject. Diane Harrison, West Central PR, stated that she is working on the 2nd annual cruise for 2012.

Chairman Southard spoke on the schedule of activities within the district for the coming months. He stated that training programs being improved by the state. He also commented on several items of interest concerning training.

Chairman Southard opened the floor for nominations for the district officers for the coming year. The following were elected:

Chairman: Larry Southard  
Vice chairman: John Morphy  
Secretary-treasurer: John Davies  
Sgt.-at-Arms: Jeremy Mankin  
Chairman Southard requested department individual announcements at this time and presented Bob Burgner of the Veedersburg Fire Department with the host certificate.

Miss Flame thanked all of those who supported her at this year's convention.

With no further business to transact, the meeting was adjourned by chairman Southard.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Davies  
Secretary

September 11, 2011 - District 11B annual picnic and meeting.

Guests: Larry Ketchem, chairman of the board, state IVFA, state IVFA outgoing secretary and incoming West Central PR director Larry Bartlow, incoming state secretary and outgoing West Central PR director Diane Harrison, Beverly Harker, state IVFA treasurer, Brent Bush, state IVFA Sgt.-at-arms, Jack McFarland, District 11A chairman, Mike Eslinger, Parke Co. sheriff, who spoke of the courage and honor in being a volunteer firefighter and his pleasure in working with us, Darla Eslinger, past Parke Co. EMA, 11B Miss Flame Paige Getter, District 11B IVFAA chairperson, Barbara Ketchem, and District 11A IVFAA chairperson, Debbie Vermillion.

Liz Thompson, Montgomery County Red Cross director, thanked the volunteers and stated as a group we were helpful in nearly every emergency incident -- be it flood storm or other emergency. She also passed out Red Cross pins. Meridith Addison, state emergency medical board member and emergency nurse, thanked the volunteers for what they do. Bill Webster, 18 year volunteer firefighter, thanked us and talked about volunteers and why we need to support emergency personnel who are running for public office.

Jack McFarland talked on the importance of getting the state fire marshal away from IDHS and back

in charge of firefighters and answering to the governor.

Stewart Windham, an independent communications dealer, gave a talk on narrowbanding radio problems - why we are doing this and some things we can do to simplify it. He also suggested some things we could do to make this easier and explained a little about licensing. He will be at other meetings in Parke and Vermillion counties. He also thanked the volunteers.

The district had a fine meal with the ladies bringing a covered dish and the district furnishing swissed meat, hamburgers, brats, hotdogs. It was excellent with the district chair losing several pounds. I did not know we had so many fine cooks.

Chairman Southard thanked chief/brother Jim Southard for running the grill again and also Hillsdale FD Jr. firefighters who, as usual, make me look good in spite of myself.

I wish to close by thanking ALL IVFAA members in general and especially those in 11B, without you ladies -- our fire departments would suffer, our districts would suffer and besides you are a lot better to look at than a bunch of grumpy old firemen. Thank you.

Reminder: Winter is upon us and well greased steering and brake components, well lubricated pump controls and door latches and locks sure will make life a lot better.

If both steer tires have the same air pressure and all rear tires have the same air pressure, steering and braking in slick conditions will be straighter and safer. SLOW DOWN, be safe and thank firefighters and EMS for what you do.

Next meeting - Reelsville - November 13.

Thanks,  
Larry Southard,  
District 11B chairman

## DISTRICT 13A REPORT



Carol Thrawley - Chairman

Hello everyone,

It's been a LONG, hot summer and the departments in 13A have been busy. Fish fries, pancake breakfasts and free fairs, to name a few.

On September 13th we presented Warren Todd of the Jackson-Blue River Township Volunteer Fire Department in Hancock County his 50-year-pin and Gold card. Warren has been with several departments in 13A over the years and desires to complete his service with the Jackson-Blue River Twp. VFD. He spends time daily at the station covering the radio for the guys and

has the trucks ready to go when a run does come in. Thanks, Warren!

September 13th also found us at the Navistar Plant in Indianapolis for our District 13A meeting. Chief Duane Booth welcomed us and gave a presentation of their plant and apparatus. After the business meeting, several members took a tour of the factory. In honor of our meeting, Chief Booth presented everyone in attendance a challenge coin made by the Skilled Trades at Navistar. Chief Booth said after the meeting that the mold will be destroyed so no more are made. That makes the coin a rare collectable for sure.

Several guests and vendors were in attendance as well. Vice president David Israel and his lady Peggy, past president Buz Koehler and past president Mitch Parish, as well as IVFA Lobbyist Larry Curl, are working on honorary 13A membership status. We do enjoy their coming to our meetings and letting us know what is happening with training and legislative issues. A big THANK YOU to all our vendors that stopped by as well. Without them we would not have a great meeting.

The next meeting of the district will be November 15th at 19:00 at the Adams Twp.-Markelville Fire District.

January 17th Pendelton VFD will host us at 19:00.

March 20th will find us at #1 Green Twp. VFD again at 19:00.

Carol Thrawley  
District 13A chairman

Greetings!

Sorry it's been so long since I submitted a news article. Recent health issues have contributed a lot to that. I am doing better now. Thanks to all who have sent cards of encouragement and prayers.

District 13A has picked up two new departments, J. Evert Light Carrier Center and Navistar Fire Brigade, both in Indianapolis. Welcome them when you see them at our meetings.

Our most recent meeting of the district was held in May at the Henry County Emergency Services Training Grounds. Mt. Summit VFD hosted the meeting. A tour of the facility was conducted by Roy Willey, Captain of the department. Larry Curl came and gave us a brief, but detailed legislative wrap-up for the year. IVFA vice president David Israel and his lady Peggy stopped by as well.

Our next meeting is (or was) July 19th at McCordsville VFD. We will be announcing our Global Award winner at that time. Election of officers for 2012 will take place as well.

By the time this article is printed George Gard from Mooreland VFD shall have received his Gold card. Pictures to follow in later editions. I have two more Gold cards to present but have not been able to get in contact with the chief for the presentation dates at this time. More on them as well in future articles.

September 13th we will be in

Navistar in Indianapolis for our September meeting. It will be at 19:00 Indianapolis time. This meeting will be our remembrance, too. Duane Booth, chief of the Fire Brigade at Navistar, has promised a special surprise for those who attend. It's a long way for some of you to travel but that's why we move around; so we can tour different stations and industrial brigades.

Many vendors come out to our district meetings. Carson Engineering and Hoosier Fire are two who attend and support us quite often. They are both in 13A's area. Support our vendors as they support us. Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson lives in our district as well and he drops by whenever time allows for him, also.

Anyone want to host a meeting let me know or I may be drafting. Looking forward to seeing you all at the meetings in the future.

Carol Thrawley  
District 13A chairman

## DISTRICT 14 REPORT



Richard Cannon - Chairman

Greetings to all District 14 members,

It has been a good quarter for me and your Miss Flame Rebecca. We took the new IVFA trailer to Sellersburg Fair for three days.

Also, we went and served food at Spencer Twp. Fire Dept. at their chicken dinner. Then we went to two memorial services for 911 where we started the day at New Albany for the first 911 stair climb where I climbed in memory of Lt. Michael Quilty from New York Fire Dept. Ladder 11.

Then we went to Jeff Fire Dept. for the dedication of a memorial statue carved out of a 150-year-old pin oak that was at the old McCulloch Fire Dept. on Allison Lane.

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

## IVFA MEMORIAL FLAGS

Order From:  
**JACK GILES**  
District 11B  
Sergeant-At-Arms

Home Phone  
765-653-4823  
Cell Phone  
765-720-5967

ONE-SIDE  
**\$10.00**

TWO-SIDES  
**\$15.00**

SHIPPING  
**\$3.00**

## MOVING?

SEND OLD ADDRESS  
ALONG WITH NEW ADDRESS TO:  
IVFA CENTRAL OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 4797 - EVANSVILLE, IN 47724  
**NOTE: PLEASE DO NOT CALL  
RENSELAER PRINTCO  
WITH ADDRESS CHANGES!**

# IVFA QUARTERLY MEETING REPORT

## From The Secretary

Larry Bartlow



INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING CROWNE PLAZA HOTEL INDIANAPOLIS, IN AUGUST 6 & 7, 2011

President Deckard called the meeting to order at 2:10 P.M.

President Deckard called on past president Jack Kerney to lead the Pledge to the Flag.

Chaplain Gerdowsky gave the invocation.

President Deckard called for the reading of the minutes of the last meeting. PR East Central Don Cushman made a motion to accept the minutes as printed. District 8A Chairman, E.W. Pape Jr. made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

President Deckard introduced the new District 15 Chairman, Harry Logan with Marrs Twp. Fire Department.

President Deckard introduced Lona Hoffman, from the Ezell Group Insurance.

Lona presented an overview of a Critical Care Insurance policy. This policy is only available to Fire and EMS. It is provided by AFLAC. This would only be available to IVFA members. This policy has benefits available up to \$15,000. This covers heart attack and cancer and is available in addition to any other insurance of this type that the individual has. If accepted for our membership this policy would have 90 grace period for members to sign up without medical questions.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**CENTRAL OFFICE - JACK KERNEY:** Have 13,945 members paid on time as of August 4, 2011. Still receiving dues in the mail. Only those pick up on August 5, 2011 not entered into computer. License plate applications for 2011 are 2326 to this date.

**MEMBERSHIP AND MARKETING - DIANE HARRISON:** Looking at the need to partner with insurance companies for our members. Looking at different ideas to improve membership. Have another cruise in the making -- more information at the November meeting.

**PUBLIC EDUCATION - CAROL THRAWLEY:** Gave report on repairs to the trailer. Inquired into a complete paint job for approximately \$3500. Also got a quote from a company to wrap the trailer with color wrap. Passed around pictures of how graphics would look and any changes that need done. This action will be Board action. The trailer will be at the Indiana Emergency Response

Conference on August 19, 2011.

**HISTORIAN - JOHN DAVIES:** Glad to be here. He is putting together a list of what material he has.

**WEB SITE - TIM DECKARD:** Part of web page is back up after many problems. Looking at a complete rebuild of the Website.

**LOGO - JOHN SMITH:** Several requests from Convention 2012 to use the Logo have been granted.

**EDITOR'S ASSISTANT - JIM BRADFORD:** The paper this quarter was 40 pages and we printed 16,755 copies. All officers please check your information in the paper to see if it is right.

**CONVENTION - DAVID ISRAEL:** Convention 2012, Paul Holcomb would like to see printable forms made available on Website. Convention 2012 has purchased a new credit card machine for conventions and Paul gave the treasurer a check for \$250 that was the rebate for the machine.

Convention 2013 is getting their committees put together.

**TRAINING - STEVE ANDERSON:** Rewrite of the training rules are starting again. He needs the districts to work on the problems that they are having and submit ideas as to how to correct them. Send any problems with the rules that you are having to your district chairman.

**BOARD OF FIREFIGHTER STANDARDS AND EDUCATION - JACK KERNEY:** The board met in June at Buck Creek Fire Department, Mount Comfort. They had 7 Board members, 6 Staff and 20 guests. Approved 21 variances, denied 12 and tabled 2. The next meeting was August 1 at Winchester Fire Department with 6 Board members, 5 Staff and 6 guests. Getting ready to rewrite the Training Rules. Beta testing is being done now for Firefighter I and II. Three or four Volunteer Fire Departments applied to do Beta testing and did not receive a response. The next meeting is September 26, 2011 at 421 East Jackson Street, Muncie.

**NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL - WILLIE PARISH:** No meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE - LARRY CURL:** Objectives for the next Legislative session are: 1. Monitoring Local Government Reform; 2. Insurance coverage the same for everyone. When does your coverage start for the Fire Department; 3. Novelty Lighters. Submit any ideas from our members. We also need names of anyone with personal contact with their Legislator. Sometimes a one-on-one contact with your representative can make a difference in a vote.

Also there is to be a Summer Study on Fire Territory/District funding.

On Friday, September 23, 2011 at 11:30 AM will be the Indiana Fallen Fire Fighters Annual Remembrance. It will be held on the west side of Indiana State House in Indianapolis.

### OFFICER'S REPORTS

**PRESIDENT - TIM DECKARD:** Read Thank You note from Larry Curl family.

**VICE PRESIDENT - DAVID ISRAEL:** Pass.

**CHAPLAIN - ED GERDOWSKY:** Pass.

**SECRETARY - LARRY BARTLOW:** Read letter of apology from the Century Center for the loud music during the Banquet.

**TREASURER - BEV HARKER:** Pass.

**SGT-AT-ARMS - BRENT BUSH:** Pass.

**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD - LARRY KETCHEM:** Pass.

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

#### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**PRNW - JIM BRADFORD:** Attended 8 District meetings, 3 County meetings, 1 Memorial Service, 1 IVFA Memorial Service, 3 Fundraisers, the Burn Camp and one trip to Printco.

**PRNE - JEAN SMITH - PRWC - DIANE HARRISON:** Attended 3 District meetings, 2 Fundraisers and 1 Memorial service.

**PREC - DON CUSHMAN:** Attended 5 District meetings and 1 County meeting.

**PRSW - JIM ABRAMS:** Attended 6 District meetings and 1 Memorial service.

**PRSE - AL WILLIAMSON:** Attended 3 District meetings and 2 county meetings.

### DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

#### REPORTS

**DISTRICT 1 - TOM ORRELL:** Next meeting is August 17, 2011 at Liberty Twp. Fire Dept. at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 2 - PAUL WATLAND:** Next meeting is September 21, 2011 at Hebron Fire Dept. at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 3 - DAVE KAUFMAN:** Next meeting September 15, 2011 at Hanna Fire Dept. at 6:30 CDT.

**DISTRICT 4 - TERRY SMITH:**

**DISTRICT 5 - TONY FARRER:**

**DISTRICT 6 - JERRY SPRAGUE:** Next meeting September 27, 2011 at Laotto Vol. Fire Dept. at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 7 - WALT REITER:** Next meeting September 19, 2011 at Decatur Fire Dept. at 8:00.

**DISTRICT 8A - E.W. PAPE JR:** Next meeting September 17, 2011 at Washington Twp. Fire Dept. at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 8B - LLOYD WRIGHT:** Next meeting September 14, 2011 at Albany Fire Dept. at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 9A - LEIGHANNE ELLIS:** Next meeting September 22, 2011 at Harrison Twp - Lucerne at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 9B - RANDY DENTON:** Next meeting September 8, 2011 at Star City at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 10 - JOHN RAY:** Next meeting August 17, 2011 at Clay Twp Fire Dept. at 7:00.

**DISTRICT 11A - JACK McFARLAND:** Next meeting September 18, 2011 at Fowler Park Vigo Co. at 1:00.

**DISTRICT 11B - LARRY SOUTHARD:** Next meeting September 11, 2011 at Hillsdale Fire Dept at 1:00.

**DISTRICT 12 - LARRY BRUNER:** Next meeting September 26 at Advance Fire Dept. at 7:00.

**DISTRICT 13A - CAROL THRAWLEY:** Next meeting September 13, 2011 at Navistar Indianapolis at 7:00.

**DISTRICT 13B - JEFF BIEHL:** Next meeting September

8, 2011 at Liberty Twp.. Fire Dept. at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 14 - RICK CANNON:** Next meeting September 15, 2011 at New Washington Fire Dept. at 7:00.

**DISTRICT 15 - HARRY LOGAN:** Next meeting September 20, 2011 at Toyota at 6:30.

**DISTRICT 16 - PAUL HOLCOMB:** Next meeting September 18, 2011 (TBA) at 6:30.

**DISTRICT 17A - SAM EMERY:** Next meeting September 21, 2011 at Bloomfield Fire Dept. at 6:30.

**DISTRICT 17B - STEVE NOLAN:** Next meeting August 10, 2011 at Shawswick Vol. Fire Dept. at 6:30.

**DISTRICT 18 - JOHN SMITH:** Next meeting September 15, 2011 at Dubois Fire Dept. at 7:30.

**DISTRICT 19 - ED SCHEELE:** Next meeting September 22, 2011 at Dillsboro Fire Dept. at 7:00.

**DISTRICT 21 - DON FULTZ:** Next meeting August 29, 2011 at Sugar Creek/Thorntown at 7:30.

Meeting recessed until 8:30 AM.

Meeting reconvened at 8:40 AM

Invocation by Chaplain Gerdowsky.

President introduced Art Booth who spoke on the upcoming "Midwest America Healing Field" that will be held September 2-11, 2011 at the Bearcreek Farms in Bryant, IN.

The Healing Field is a flag display set up in recognition of a particular event or group of people. The Bryant display will consist of approximately 3,000 flags representing the military personnel and veterans who have fought to protect our freedom in the present as well as the past along with law enforcement, firefighters, EMS, and first responders. What better way to honor those who protect our lives and freedoms.

President Deckard brought up for discussion the proposal by Provident/AFLAC insurance and what we wanted to do with it. After some discussion past president Jim Parker made a motion to accept the proposal from AFLAC after a security contract was made that no phone numbers would be given out. Carol Thrawley, District 13A made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

President Deckard introduced Michelle Baxter with American Income Life Insurance. Nothing new to offer at this time. Just checking on any problems we have had.

Vice president David Israel brought information on a survey for the Fire Service that will be finalized in the next two weeks. It will be in electronic form for every Fire Chief in the state. There will be follow-up phone calls to those that don't respond. This is a very important survey.

This information is being compiled by the Fire Alliance.

Past president Jim Parker made a motion to close the meeting and proceed to the Board of Directors' meeting. Past president Willie Parish made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2011

Chairman of the Board Larry Ketchem called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

1. Carol Thrawley presented his findings on upgrading the Public Education Trailer. To sandblast the trailer and replace all exterior screws

with stainless steel screws would cost \$3500.

T. Maxx Graphics of Muncie proposed to wrap with a plastic wrap design from gutter line to bottom of trailer and replace all exterior screws with stainless steel for \$2516 including all art work. We would have to do the roof with a Rhino lining type paint for about \$200.

Past president Buz Koehler made a motion to proceed with the plastic wrap and roof coating not to exceed \$2700. Larry Southard, District 11B made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

2. Retractable banner for public education trailer. Banner \$150 and stand \$210 with free graphics.

John Ray, District 10 made motion to purchase one not to exceed \$400. Jerry Sprague, District 6 made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

John Smith, District 18 made a motion to have our Mission Statement on the banner. Larry Southard, District 11B made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

3. Vice president David Israel presented the recommendation of the committee for the Central Office contract. We had four bidders. The committee recommends the contract of Jack and Barb Kerney for the price of \$39,500 for the three year contract. Jerry Sprague, District 6 made a motion that we accept the committee's recommendation. Larry Southard, District 11B made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

4. President Tim Deckard has recommendation for total reconstruction of the Web Site. Have proposal for ETC Web Management from Sunman, IN to completely rebuild the site and maintain the site for one year \$4800. Past president Jack Kerney made a motion for ETC Web Design to design and maintain the Website for \$4800. Past president Richard Glant made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

5. Past president Jack Zeeks made a motion that we give \$500 to the Fallen Firefighters Memorial. Sam Emery, District 17A made the second. Motion passed.

6. E.W. Pape, District 8A made a motion that the IVFA purchase the 2011 and 2012 Commemorative Coins to be placed with the Historian. Carol Thrawley, District 13A made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

Past president Jack Zeeks made a motion to adjourn after the benediction by Chaplain Gerdowsky. Past president Buz Koehler made the second. Motion passed by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry L. Bartlow, Secretary  
Next meeting November 5 & 6,  
2011



# DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 14 REPORT

Then we out on the first Supporting Heroes softball tourney in memory of Keegan Adkins where we had 6 teams and made money for Supporting Heroes.

Then we went to the Memphis Fair for three days.

So, if you have any events, call us and let us know as we are starting to fill up our weekends.

Also, anyone that wants to help with our convention, let me know ASAP.

Rick

## DISTRICT 15 REPORT

Harry Logan - Chairman

Let me start off with a big "thank you" to Steve Anderson (past chairman of District 15) who has stepped up to Vice-Chairman of the IVFA. Steve has done an excellent job for the district and we all know he will continue to be a strong asset to the organization. Good Luck, Steve!

District 15 IVFA met on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 at Poseyville Fire Department with 17 members representing 8 departments and 4 guests. Les Lantaff was surprised when his family arrived for the presentation of the District 15's Global Award and his 50 year Gold Card. Congratulations to Les.

Elections were held by (PR Southwest) Jim Abrams with the results as follows.

Chairman: Harry Logan  
Vice Chairman: C. L. Mitchell  
Secretary-Treasurer: Barb Kerney

Sgt. at Arms: Jack Kerney  
Chaplain: Heather Martin

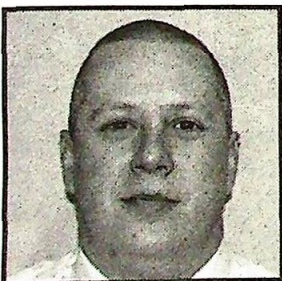
Our Sept. 20 meeting was held at Toyota. Roll call was answered by 16 members representing 7 departments and 4 guests. President David Israel, Vice President Steve Anderson and Lobbyist Larry Curl presented the Indiana Fire Alliance Survey for discussion. Lonna Huffman presented and discussed a new insurance benefit that is being put together for the IVFA.

Next meeting November 15, 2011 at Newburgh Fire.

Our district suffered a great loss this past week with the passing of Division Chief Don Neel. He was a dedicated husband, father, brother and grandfather. Don was a 30 year member of the German Twp. Vol. Fire Department and an IVFA member for over 23 years.

H. Logan

## DISTRICT 16 REPORT



Paul Holcomb - Chairman

I would like to take the time to remind everyone that our 2012 convention is being hosted next year by District 16 along with District 14 at the Horseshoe Casino in southern Indiana.

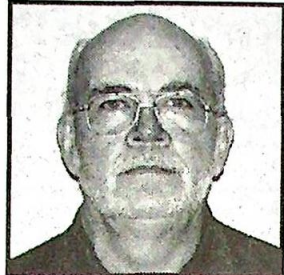
We have a lot of great things planned along with a few twists.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please feel free to contact me at: 502-664-5736 or by e-mail: Convention2012@aol.com.

And remember, it is never too early to start making your plans to attend.

Paul Holcomb  
District 16 Chairman  
2012 Convention Chairman

## DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Sam Emery - Chairman

Hello to all again.

July 7th I attended the Richland-Taylor VFD meeting at Scotland.

July 11th I attended the Greene County Firefighter's Assoc. meeting at Lewis Twp.

July 20th a District 17A meeting was held at Loogootee VFD. IVFA and IVFAA state officers present included Jack Kerney, past president, Bev Harker, IVFA state treasurer, Barb Kerney, IVFAA past president, June Cahill, IVFAA state recording secretary, Jim Abrams, PRSW and Marie Emery, IVFAA District 17A chairperson.

Terry Pielemeier, retiring chief of the Loogootee VFD was presented a plaque from new chief Morgan Huebner. I also had the pleasure of presenting him the Global Award for District 17A with thanks for his many years of service.

Loogootee Mayor Boling also spoke and thanked him also.

Remarks were made by the various state officers present.

Mark Messmer, State Rep. District 63, spoke on legislative

issues and how they pertained to the Fire Service; a very informative talk.

Stan Cullison, a volunteer fireman injured on a run, spoke about what a firefighter needs to do; the main thing was to keep all paperwork up-to-date.

Cameron Wolf, Chief of the Martin County C.D. Fire and Rescue was presented a clock for their new station.

Elections were held and the 17A officers elected were Sam Emery - chairman, Scott Byers - vice chairman, Courtney Hasler - secretary/treasurer, Bev Harker - chaplain and Johnny Johnson - Sergeant-at-Arms.

Many thanks to the Loogootee VFD for hosting our meeting and for the meal.

August 4th I attended the Richland-Taylor VFD meeting at Scotland.

August 8th I attended the Greene County Firefighters Assoc. at the Lyons VFD.

August 18th a Memorial Service was held for Petersburg CFD member Bill Thomas, a 57 year member. A Bible and grave marker were presented to the family to be presented to his widow. Condolences to the family.

August 28th I attended the Greene County Firefighters Assoc. Field Day at Bloomfield. A great meal was had and a good time by all.

Sept. 1st I attended the Richland-Taylor VFD meeting at Scotland.

Sept. 12th I attended the Greene County Firefighters Assoc. meeting at the Switz City.

Sept. 17th I attended the Scotland Festival and held the Richland-Taylor rifle drawing and assisted in our horseshoe contest due to Larry "Red" Blackmore, one of our firemen being the Grand Marshal.

Sept. 21st, District 17A meeting was held at the Bloomfield VFD, IVFA and IVFAA present included Dave Israel - IVFA vice president (president-elect), Bev Harker - IVFA state treasurer, Jim Abrams - PRSW, Jack Kerney - past president, Barb Kerney - IVFAA past president, June Cahill - IVFAA state recording secretary, and Marie Emery, IVFAA District 17A chairperson.

Also Jerry Johnson of Donley Safety was on hand with information on items for the Fire Service.

Remarks were made by various state officers in attendance. A very informative amount of information on many items pertaining to the fire service and what we will be doing in the new year was presented by vice president Dave Israel.

Many thanks to the Bloomfield VFD for hosting the meeting and providing the meal.

September 24th I attended Madison Twp. VFD's fish fry at Ragelville; a very good meal. I also presented Madison firemen Vernon Graber and Roger Wagler their 25 year pins with Chief Greg Clark assisting.

District 17A will have their next meeting November 16th at the Washington Twp. VFD in Washington on Donaldson Rd. Hope to see you there.

Sam Emery  
District 17A chairman

## DISTRICT 17B REPORT



Steve Nolan - Chairman

We held our election of officers at our August meeting at Shawswick VFD Station #3, and our 2012 officers will be the same: Chairman - Steve Nolan, vice-chairman - Robert (Bobby) Brown, secretary/treasurer - Luke Kluender, Sergeant of Arms - L.D. Martin. We had 7 departments with 20 members present.

Our guests included: Rod Pressell of Hoosier Fire Equipment, vice president David Israel, Public Relations Jim Abrams and past presidents Jack Kerney and Jack Zeeks and Larry Curl as a special guest.

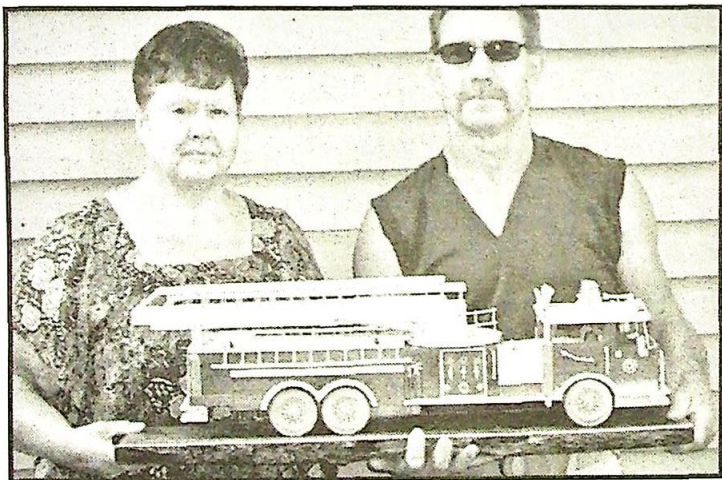
Our next meetings will be at Van Buren FD in Bloomington on October 12, and Indian Creek VFD in Lawrence County on December 14.

Food served at 6:30 p.m. and meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Please keep in mind that if you have had a change in your family, you may wish to update your beneficiary on your life insurance.

Steve Nolan

## Neil Brooks, winner of wooden fire truck



Diana Gray, president of the IVFAA, is shown presenting the first place winner of the VP Project, a wooden scale model fire truck to Neil Brooks of Markle VFD, District 7. - submitted by Diana Gray, IVFAA president.

## District 19 IVFAA members receive 25 year pins



District 19 held their IVFAA meeting at Morris Fire Department August 9, 2011 and several members were presented 25 year pins.

Front row (left to right) are Rosie Weisenbach, Roberta Struewing, 19th District chaplain, Jean Meer, Pam Scheele, 19th District secretary/treasurer.

Back row - 19th District chairman Pam Gerdowsky, 19th District Miss Flame/Miss Congeniality Tatijana Marsee, Elvera Wissel, Ann Hartman.

Not present and receiving pins are Loretta Bedel, Doris Doll, Pat Moster and Edith Zimmer. - submitted by Pam Gerdowsky, District 19 chairman.

## Roy Gabbard, Whiteland VFD, presented 25 year pin



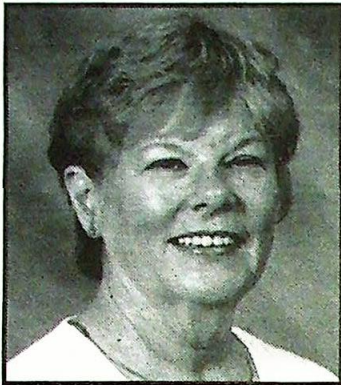
(At left) - Pictured is the presentation of a 25 year pin for Roy D. Gabbard, chief of Whiteland Vol. Fire Dept.

The award was presented at the September district meeting at Marietta. Pictured from left are: Danielle Matthews, 10th District Miss Flame, John M. Ray, 10th District chairman and Mr. Gabbard. - submitted by John Ray, District 10 chairman.

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

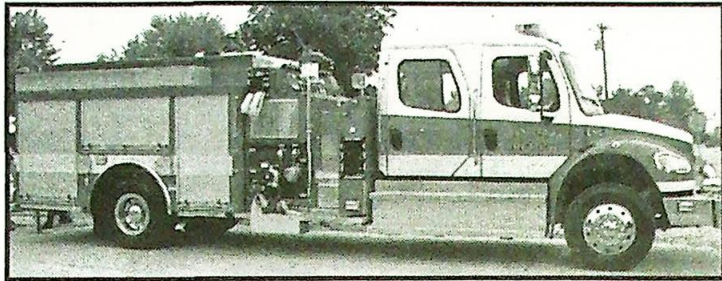
### From The Treasurer

Beverly Harker



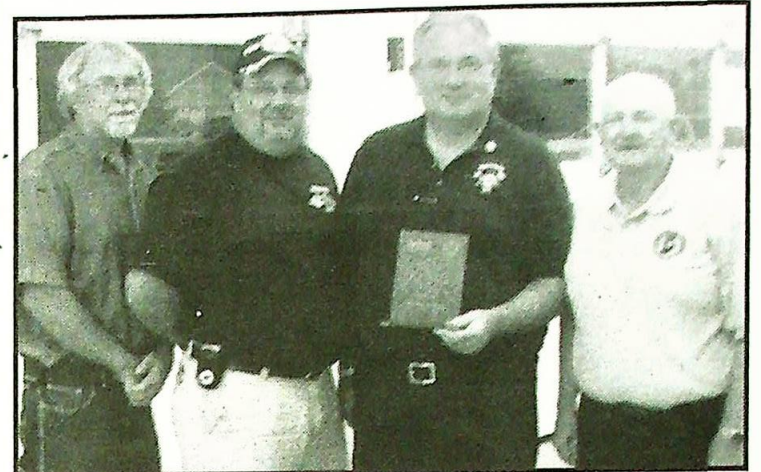
Hi everyone!  
 Hope you all had a good summer. We are well into fall now.  
 This past quarter I have attended four district meetings, two county firefighters meeting, one memorial, one parade and one fund raiser.  
 We will be starting into legislation session real soon. If your district chairman or your fire chief does not have your e-mail address, you might let him know what it is. That way when we need e-mail support to contact our legislators, we can let you know.  
 Happy Holidays to all!  
 Submitted by: Beverly Harker, IVFA Treasurer

## Thunderbird Fire Protection Territory holds truck dedication

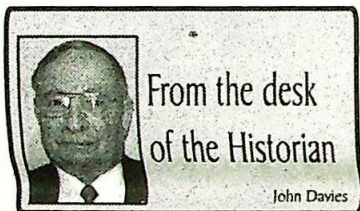


On August 6, Thunderbird Fire Protection Territory replaced a 1989 FMC two door GMC fire engine with a new 2010 Freightliner five person cab.  
 The truck was placed in service in a "wet down" ceremony held at Station 1 in Farmersburg.  
 The new engine was dedicated in honor of members who had been placed on the department's Honorary Life Memorial for service to the community.  
 The new Smeal "Engine 74" was purchased in the spring of 2011. The truck is housed at Station Two in Shelburn, Indiana. It features front suction, a top mount 1500 gpm, LED lighting, PTO generator, and provides much more room for extrication equipment and other supplies.  
 Neighboring departments participated in the "wet down" ceremony by spraying water from their trucks onto the New Engine.  
 After the ceremony, an open house was held to celebrate their ten year anniversary as a Fire Territory.  
 Thunderbird Fire was formed in July 2001 by merging the town of Farmersburg's Fire Department and the Curry Township Fire Department. - submitted by Jack McFarland, District 11-A chairman.

## Mike Gasper Global Award winner for District 10



Pictured from left: IVFA vice president David Israel, Jay Maddux - Chief of Westport Fire Dept., Mike Gasper - Westport Fire Dept. and Global Award winner and John M. Ray, District 10 chairman.  
 The presentation was made to Mr. Gasper at the New Point Fire Station at the Decatur County meeting in August, 2011. - submitted by John Ray, District 10 chairman.



From the desk of the Historian

John Davies

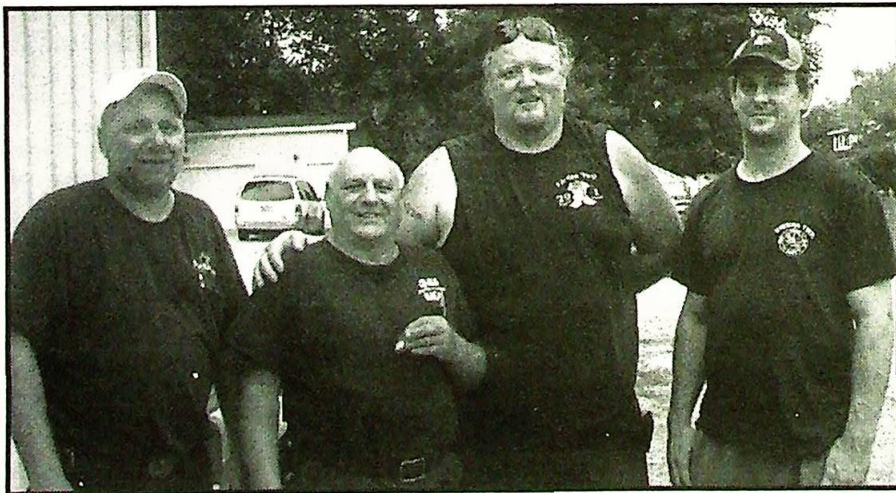
To all of the firefighters in the state of Indiana:  
 Due to the fact that I have a serious health issue right now and have been confined to bed for rest, I will not have an article for this issue of the newspaper.  
 I want to wish each and everyone and their families a very happy and joyous holidays.  
 Your historian,  
 John Davies

## Strassenfest hosts Wassenspeile



During the annual Strassenfest held in Jasper, the Jasper Fire Department (DuBois Co., District 18) hosted the "Wassenspeile" (waterball).  
 Placing first and pictured with the Strassenfest royalty, was the team from Ferdinand. - photo and information provided by John "Bull" Smith, District 18 chairman.

## Vienna fireman receives pin; station accepts clock



Vienna Township VFD John Derarakelian receives his 25 year pin from District 14 chairman Rick Cannon.

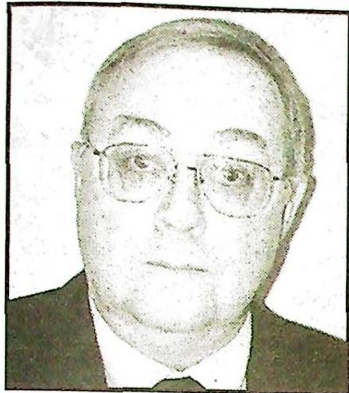


Vienna Township also accepted a clock for the addition to their fire station. Posing for pictures are chairman Rick Cannon, John Derarakelian, Chief Tony Bager and Mike Thurman. - photos submitted by Rick Cannon, District 10 chairman.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of our firefighters and families!

# PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS

**Public Relations Director Northwest**  
*Jim Bradford*



I hope all of the Chiefs out there completed the Indiana Fire Alliance survey. If you haven't received it, please contact your district chairman, PR director, Larry Curl or myself at jbradfordmsncom@msn.com.

As the cover letter states, this is the survey that put together by all of the Indiana Fire Service Associations. The survey must be completed electronically. Paper copies will not be accepted.

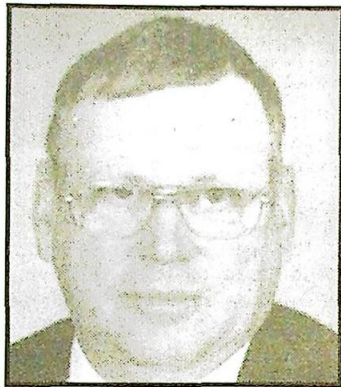
With the time change in place, it's getting darker out there a lot earlier. Watch out for the kids.

It's great attending new station dedications. By the time you get this paper, I've attended three of them, one of them my own.

Before the next issue of the paper, we will be in the middle of winter. Although this is a little early, have a very Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New Year.

*Jim Bradford  
PRNW*

**Public Relations Director Southwest**  
*Jim Abrams*



I attended District 15's meeting at Poseyville on July 19th.

I attended District 17A's meeting at Petersburg on July 20th.

I attended District 18's meeting on the 21st of July hosted by Jackson Twp. Vol. F.D. at Community Center.

I attended memorial service for Bill Thomas at Petersburg on August 18th. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and Petersburg Vol. Fire Dept.

I attended District 18's meeting at Dubois on September 15th.

I attended District 15's meeting at Toyota on September 20th.

I attended District 17A's at Bloomfield Vol. Fire Dept. on September 21st.

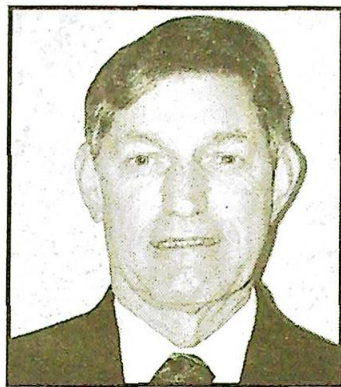
My thoughts and prayers go to the family of Randolph Tinker Wehr of Jefferson Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. I was unable to attend his memorial.

I attended the memorial service at Dale Carter Vol. Fire Dept. October 7th.

District 17B's meeting will be held October 13th at Van Buren.

Have a great holiday season!  
*Jim Abrams, P.R.S.W.*

**Public Relations Director Southeast**  
*Al Williamson*



Greetings,

I have traveled to district meetings, observed a haz-mat training exercise in Clarksville with Clark County Emergency Management, and has the P.R. Trailer in Sellersburg for Sellersburg Celebrates.

Have attended Clark County Fire Chief's meetings including a special meeting to discuss 1st Responder protocols.

Had the privilege of attending the Indiana Firefighter and Kentucky Firefighter fallen memorial services.

Took in as many F.D. events as I could. The P.R. trailer has been wrapped and looks more like a fire department trailer now. Looks really great and if you would like to have it at an event in your area, contact your P.R. director or district chairman and one of us will have it there.

We need coloring books for the kids so if you have any or can get some, please get them to us for these events.

District 14 and 16 are working really hard on the 2012 convention and it looks to be a really fun event, start making plans to attend.

*Thanks,  
Al Williamson  
P.R.S.E.*

**Public Relations Director West Central**  
*Diane Harrison*



Well, the summer sure went fast. I hope everyone had successful fundraisers.

I hope everyone reads the information in this issue of the paper on our second annual cruise to Alaska.

Hope you will be able to join us. We had a ball last March in Cozumel and Key West and hope this Alaska cruise will even be better.

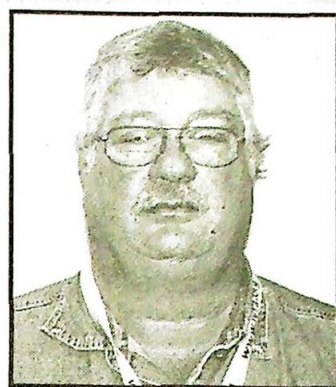
Fire Prevention Week is just around the corner even though it will be over by the time the paper comes out. I hope everyone was able to do something in their schools and/or communities. Even if it only saves one life, the time we invested in it was worth it, plus it is great public relations.

Remember, February 1st is the deadline for all awards. It only takes a few minutes to sit down and write a letter to nominate someone you feel deserving of an award. I know that every department and/or district has someone deserving of an award, unfortunately we don't take time to sit down and write the letters. I challenge you to write those letters!

I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

*Stay safe,  
Diane Harrison  
West Central Public Relations*

**Public Relations Director East Central**  
*Don Cushman*



Thanks to Carol T. for all his calls. Some know what has happened to me as the paper goes to print.

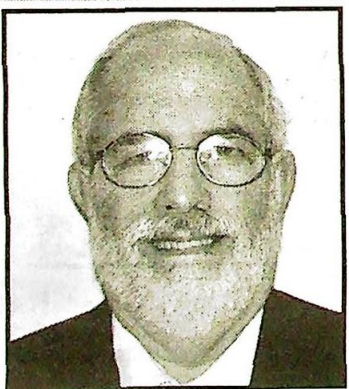
I am on the way to recovery from tearing all 4 in the roater cuff.

So we will make it short and sweet.

Let's all be safe with winter coming on.

*Don Cushman  
PREC*

**Public Relations Director Northeast**  
*Jean Smith*



Once again we start Fire Prevention Week, October 9th-15th.

This year's theme is "Protect Your Family From Fire". This is a reminder to prepare the community along with our school children the proper techniques of fire safety.

I would like to thank Tony Farrer for all of his hard work and dedication to the IVFA as District 5 chairman over the past years.

It has been a pleasure working with you Tony. THANK YOU!

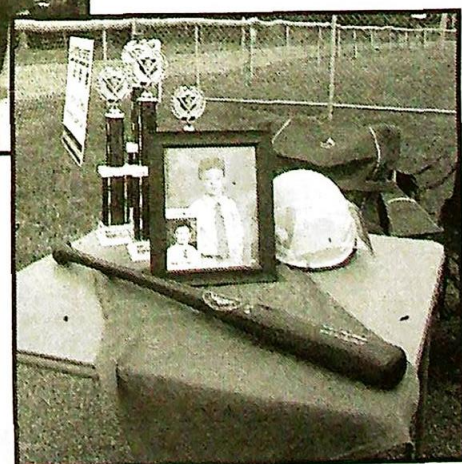
*Jean Smith  
Public Relations Northeast*

## Happy Holidays!

# First annual softball match in memory of Keegan Adkins



Scott and Shannon Adkins pose with all the teams along with district chairman Rick Cannon and Miss Flame Rebecca Cannon. — photos submitted by Rick Cannon, District 10 chairman.



# INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

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

## IVFA SPECIAL RECOGNITION LICENSE PLATE APPLICATION

When you have completed the information below, print this page.

The State of Indiana provides Special License Plates to qualified members of organizations such as the IVFA. This program is administered through the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The IVFA Central Office coordinates the program for members of the association. You will not be able to obtain license plate request forms unless you complete the following instructions. **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!**

**To Obtain Your License Plates You Must:**

1. Be a paid-up member of the IVFA when your license plate(s) are due for renewal.
2. Return your Individual Plate Requests for the IVFA Central Office no later than 30 days before the month you wish to receive your license plates. This form must contain the number of plates you are requesting, along with \$5.00 for each license plate requested.

Beginning	Ending	
Corporate fleet vehicles		Saturday, January 31
AAAA	ARNN	Saturday, February 7
ARNO	BATE	Saturday, February 14
BATF	BLAI	Saturday, February 21
BLAJ	BRID	
Rental fleet vehicles		Saturday, February 28
Heavy vehicles		
Trailers		
BRIE	BUSD	Saturday, March 7
BUSE	CHAN	Saturday, March 14
CHAO	CONN	Saturday, March 21
CONO	CURL	Saturday, March 28
CURM	DICE	Tuesday, April 7
DICF	EDDY	Tuesday, April 14
EDEA	FERG	Tuesday, April 21
FERH	FRYA	Tuesday, April 28
Personalized license plates		Thursday, April 30
FRYB	GLOR	Thursday, May 7
GLOS	GUMZ	Thursday, May 14
GUNA	HART	Thursday, May 21
HARU	HILE	Thursday, May 28
HILF	HUCH	Sunday, June 7
HUCI	JERR	Sunday, June 14
JERS	KEEL	Sunday, June 21
KEEM	KNUD	Sunday, June 28
KNUE	LAWR	Tuesday, July 7
LAWS	LOPE	Tuesday, July 14
LOPF	MART	Tuesday, July 21
MARU	MCKI	Tuesday, July 28
MCKJ	MILL	Friday, August 7
MILM	MUND	Friday, August 14
MUNE	NUNG	Friday, August 21
NUNH	PATT	Friday, August 28
PATU	PONT	Monday, September 7
PONU	REDM	Monday, September 14
REDN	ROBE	Monday, September 21
ROBF	SANC	Monday, September 28
SAND	SERM	Wednesday, October 7
SERN	SLON	Wednesday, October 14
SLOO	SPRI	Wednesday, October 21
SPRJ	SUCE	Wednesday, October 28
SUCF	THOP	Saturday, November 7
THOQ	VANO	Saturday, November 14
VANP	WALD	Saturday, November 21
WALE	WATT	Saturday, November 28
WATU	WILK	Monday, December 7
WILL	WRIG	Monday, December 14
WRIH	ZZZZ	Monday, December 21

3. The application contains a space to write the number of license plates requested, making necessary to fill out only the one application per person not per license plate.
4. You only need to send \$5.00 per each license plate requested.
5. The license plate form(s) will be sent to each individual at their home address.
6. This application form can be copied and kept in a file for further use throughout the year.
7. Refer to the BMV procedures below:

**BMV PROCEDURES**

After you have completed and mailed in your license plate form application you will receive the number of license plate forms you ordered. At that time it is necessary to submit the form(s) to the BMV.

1. Submit or mail (1) license plate request form to the BMV for each license plate requested.
2. This form must be the 'original' form (with the raised seal on the bottom right hand corner).
3. Forms are computer printed; copies are not acceptable.
4. Pay a fee of \$15 for each plate requested in addition to all other registration fees and taxes.
5. Follow ALL directions supplied to you by the BMV.

This is the general outline of the steps needed to renew Special License Plates. The IVFA only supplies the necessary authorization form(s) to obtain the IVFA Special Recognition License Plates. Upon receiving the form(s), members must follow and complete all BMV regulations in order to receive the plates. **Please do not send vehicle registrations to the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association, only to the BMV.**

**ATTENTION: IVFAA  
AUXILIARY MEMBERS**

YOU MAY PURCHASE IVFAA SHOULDER  
PATCHES FROM DISTRICT 11-B  
PATCHES \$1.50 / PLATES \$10.00  
CONTACT: MAXINE DAVIES  
5 BROOKSIDE STREET, FILMORE, IN 46128  
(765) 246-6220

## Guidelines for submitting news articles

1. Permission/authorization needs to be obtained from the newspaper that the article is being submitted from.
2. This information will need to come from the editor/publisher of that newspaper stating that the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association has permission to re-print said article.
3. The authorization needs to be sent along with the article or can either be e-mailed to Rensselaer Printco: printco@rhsi.tv or faxed to: (219) 866-5000. Phone calls cannot be taken regarding the authorization - the information needs to be in writing.
4. The newspaper article being submitted will be held until the authorization has been received.
5. The authorization needs to be dated and signed by the person giving the permission to re-print.
6. The person submitting the article for publication is responsible for obtaining this information for re-print.

**FEBRUARY 5, 2012  
DEADLINE IS:  
JANUARY 5, 2012  
12:00 P.M. C.S.T.**

Top of Form

IVFA Individual License Plate Request Form Application (Print off and mail to the address below)

Name  IVFA Membership #

Department #

Home Address

City  State  Zip Code

Month Your Plates Renew  Choose Month

Day Time Phone  Evening Phone  # Plates Requested

County Of Residence  Amount Paid \$  Check #

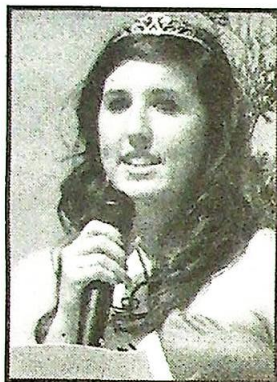
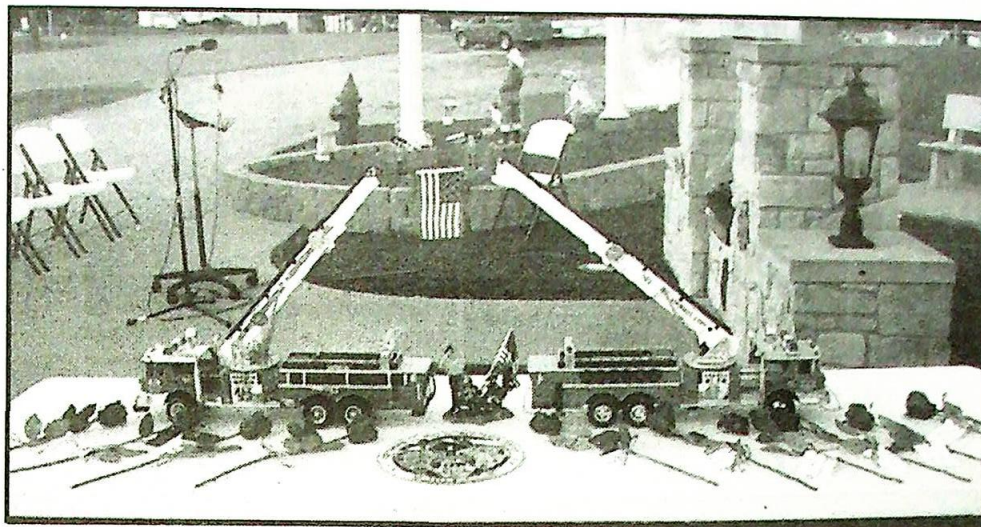
(\$ 5.00 Per License Plate Request)

Bottom of Form

Mail Checks to:  
IVFA Central Office - Barb Kerney  
P.O. Box 4797  
Evansville, IN 47724  
1-877-606-4832

\*Indicate on the envelope you plate renewal date.

# Annual District 18 memorial service held October 7



Friday, October 7 brought a beautiful fall evening and witnessed the Annual District 18 Memorial Service.

The event was hosted by, and held at the Carter Fire District in Dale (Spencer Co.). The crossed aerials of Carter Fire and the Ferdinand VFD held aloft the flag of the United States above the ceremonies.

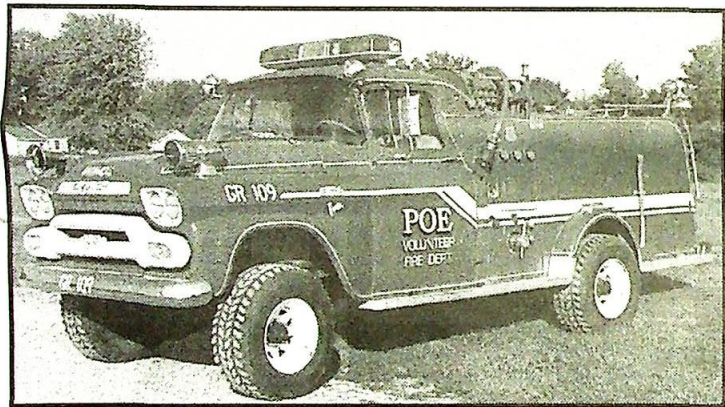
The memorial display held the roses that were laid for each of the 10 members of the District 18 that answered their last call since the last year's service. The roses were distributed to the families and departments by District 18 Miss Flame Megan Kloeck.

Frank Daunhauer served as Master of Ceremonies, while IVFA past president Jack Kerney was the keynote speaker.

Music on the bagpipes was performed by John "Bull" Smith, while Andy Dewitt sang the National Anthem and "Amazing Grace."

Photos and article provided by 18<sup>th</sup> Dist. Chairman Smith

## Poe FD takes delivery of new grass rig



THE OLD UNIT IS A 1959 GMC WITH A HOWE HIGH PRESSURE PUMP.

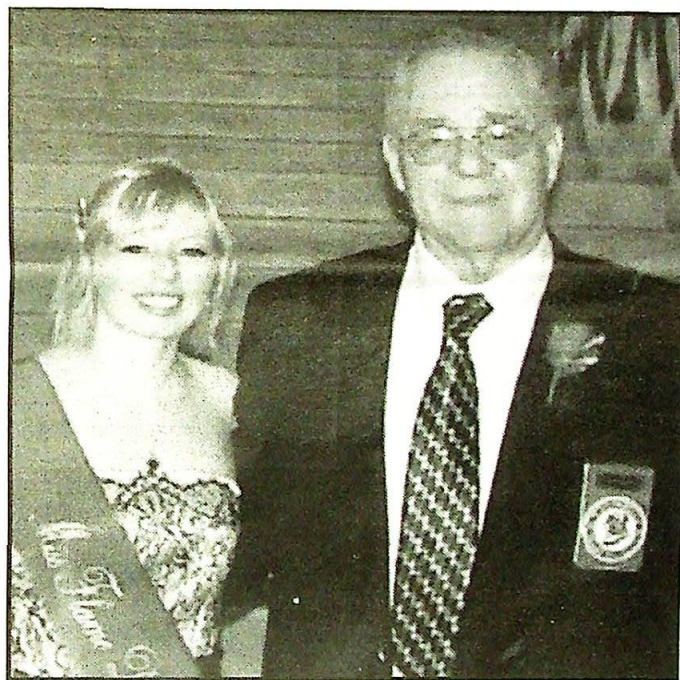
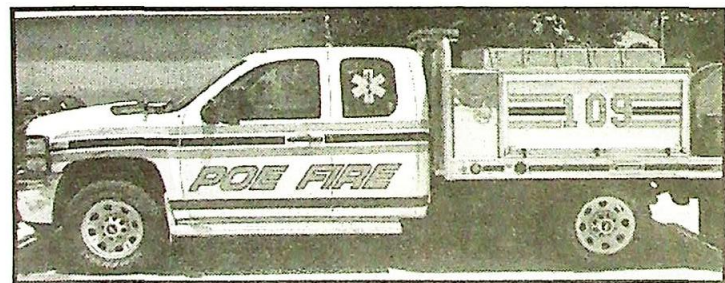
The Poe Fire Department took delivery of this new unit in May 2011. The truck is a 2011 Chevy 3500 Series with a flat bed and storage cabinets.

The Unit carries 200 gallons of water, we have tool cabinets that hold hand tools, chain saw, basic Haz-Mat equipment, yard sprayers. It also carries 500 feet of weeping wild-land hose and 400 feet of 1 1/4 fire hose to supply the wild-land line when working in wooded areas.

The unit also runs as the backup EMS response unit fully equipped with medic supplies along with an AED.

The unit is equipped with 4 bumper nozzles that can be controlled from inside of the cab.

The unit was built by W.A. Jones in Columbia City, Indiana. - submitted by Jean Smith, Public Relations Northeast.



## Chelsey and her convention escort

Escorting District 8B Miss Flame Chelsey Gettinger at the IVFA convention held in June is Lloyd E. Wright, District 8B chairman. - submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District 8B

**2012  
Convention  
June 13 - 16  
Elizabeth, IN**

**e-mail news  
articles, digital  
photos  
and advertisements  
to [printco@rhsi.tv](mailto:printco@rhsi.tv)**

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ IVFA # \_\_\_\_\_

**OLD ADDRESS**

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW ADDRESS**

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

### IVFA LOGO COMMITTEE

THE FOLLOWING DISTRICTS HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO THE LOGO COMMITTEE:

*District 18 Term:* Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2011

*District 4 Term:* Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2011

*District 14 Term:* Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2011

*District 17A Term:* Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2010

*District 11A Term:* Jan. 1, 2009 - Dec. 31, 2010

Anyone interested in using the IVFA Logo should contact one of the above District Chairmen for information.

**IVFA AUXILIARY OFFICERS - 2011 - 2012**

PRESIDENT.....	DIANA GRAY
737 N. Colorado St., Andrews, IN 46702	(260) 786-3896
/ cell: (260) 224-0774 - E-mail: didagr@yaho.com	
VICE PRESIDENT.....	SUZIE LEWIS
2627 N. 400E, Lagro, IN 46941	(260) 571-7923
RECORDING SECRETARY.....	JUNE CAHILL
1971 N. Ooley Road, Bloomfield, IN 47424	(812) 384-3442
/ Cell: (812) 384-3442 - E-mail: jcahill@bloombank.com or junecahill24@yahoo.com	
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.....	HEATHER MARTIN
P.O. Box 186, Poseyville, IN 47633	(812) 568-9590
E-mail: ivfaa15@insightbb.com	
TREASURER.....	DOROTHY REITER
2935 E. U.S. Hwy. 224, Decatur, IN 46733	(260) 724-7666
E-mail: wpdjreiter@yahoo.com	
CHAPLAIN.....	JOANN HAYS
4430 South 8th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802	(812) 299-1574
/ Cell (812) 230-5506	
SGT.-AT-ARMS.....	MIRIAM SCHAEKEL
5789 W. 300 N., Greenfield, IN 46140	(317) 894-7252
E-mail: delschackel@aol.com	
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT.....	BETH CAUDILL
15120 Lucas Rd., Brookville, IN 47012	(765) 647-3483

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010 - 2011**

DISTRICTS #1 & #2.....	PHYLLIS VARGO
7756 Durbin St., Schererville, IN 46375	(219) 322-4286
E-mail: pvargo@iescmail.com - OR pavargol@yahoo.com	
Secretary - Marge Baumgardner - Phone 219-662-1977	
DISTRICT #3.....	LEONA URYGA
402 El Portal Dr., Michigan City, IN 46360	(219) 872-6245
E-mail: rluryga402@comcast.net Cell: (219) 229-5603	
DISTRICTS #4 & #5.....	AMBER FARRER/DIANE FARRER
723 W. Plymouth St., Bremen, IN 46506	(574) 301-9145
E-mail: MissFlame5@yahoo.com	
DISTRICT #6.....	MARLENE POLING
7410 Moeller Rd., Ft. Wayne, IN 46806	(260) 749-0580 / Cell: (260) 502-0805
DISTRICT #7.....	JOYCE NEVIL
230 East Shore Dr., Geneva, IN 46740	Cell (317) 407-4012
E-mail: jnevil@embarqmail.com	
DISTRICT #10.....	JANET MATTHEWS
204 High Street., St. Paul, IN 47272	Cell: (317) 512-8687 / (765) 525-7125
E-mail: jmatthews@tols.net	
Secretary: Cozette Howell, 7332 Harrison St., Hope, IN 47246 - Cell: (812) 764-0393	
/ (317) 704-4078, Treasurer: Carol Moody, 1079 S. 845 W. Burney, IN 47240 -	
Cell (815) 344-0193 / Work: (812) 373-3040	
DISTRICT #11A.....	DEBBIE VERMILLION
5761 Yuma Road, West Terre Haute, IN 47885 -	H. Phone (812) 535-3748
Cell Phone (812) 230-7149 E-mail: Deb7346@verizon.net	
DISTRICT #11B.....	LOU BARTLOW
P.O. Box 12, Montezuma, IN 47862	(765) 592-2227
E-mail: larry_bartlow@att.net	
DISTRICT #13A.....	MARLENE THRAWLEY
3830 South State Rd. 3, New Castle, IN 47362	(765) 529-5139
/ Cell: (785) 545-0980 - E-mail: MThrawley@yahoo.com	
DISTRICT #13B.....	TAMMY DAVIS
315 Linden Dr., Centerville, IN 47330	(765) 960-7010
E-mail: wfd25-18@hotmail.com	
Chaplain for 13B - Amy Elizabeth Parker, P.O. Box 222, Fountain City, IN 47341 (765) 993-5084	
Secretary - Diana Griffin, 312 E. School St., Centerville, IN 47330 - (765) 855-1323	
DISTRICT #14.....	JANET WOODFILL
217 Hooton Blvd., Apt. 4, Madison, IN 47258	Cell: (812) 265-2377
E-mail: j_woodfill@hotmail.com	
DISTRICT #15.....	SANDRA J. HILE
4775 Ford Road N, Mt. Vernon, IN 47620	(812) 453-7525
E-mail: sjhile@sbcglobal.net	
DISTRICT #16.....	LAURA DURBIN
1672 W. Walnut Ridge Rd., Salem, IN 47167	(812) 883-4240
E-mail: fireangel@hotmail.com	
DISTRICT #17A.....	MARIE EMERY
779 E Harvest Church Rd., Bloomfield, IN 47424	(812) 384-8748
/ Cell (812) 381-0107 - E-mail: ka9eah@yahoo.com	
DISTRICT #19.....	PAM GERDOWSKY
41 Six Pine Ranch Road, Batesville, IN 47006	(812) 363-2017
/ Cell (812) 209-9258 - E-mail: coltsfanpam@etczone.com	
DISTRICT 21.....	DENISE ROUTZAHN
1008 S. Terry St., Attica, IN 47918	(765) 762-0510

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

MARTHA THOMAS.....	2007-2009
7150 Madison St., Merrillville, IN 46410 -	(812) 769-5256
JOANN HAYS.....	2006-2007
4430 South St., Terre Haute, IN 47802 -	(812) 299-1574
Cell: 812-449-7698 - E-mail: MCFDChief@aol.com	
BARBARA KERNEY.....	2002-2005
2412 S. E. Browning Rd., Evansville, IN 47725 -	H: (812) 867-2641
MARY MACKIN (Deceased).....	2000-2002
FAYE SALLEE.....	1998-2000
434 S. Maple Street, Galveston, IN 46932 -	(574) 699-6545
LOU BARTLOW.....	1996-1998
Cell: 765-593-2227 - E-mail: larry_bartlow@att.net	
PHYLLIS VARGO.....	1994-1996
7756 Durbin Street, Schererville, IN 46375 -	(219) 322-4286
MAXINE DAVIES.....	1992-1994
5 Brookside Street, Fillmore, IN 46128 -	(765) 246-6220
NANCY NEAL.....	1990-1992
749 Walnut Street, Hope, IN 47246 -	(812) 546-5391
TONI SORG.....	1988-1990
14430 Comer Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46819 -	H (260) 639-3969
LORETTA NULLINER.....	1986-1988
3091 Dumas Ave., Spring Hill, FL 34609 -	(352) 686-8905 Cell: 260-450-9649
NICKIE SUNDAY (Deceased).....	1984-1986
BARBARA PARKER.....	1982-1984
403 N. 11th Ave., Beech Grove, IN 46107 -	H (317) 783-9293
BARBARA SURBER.....	1980-1982
2003 Flamingo Way, Franklin, IN 46131 -	(317) 560-5093 Cell: 317-519-4445
LUCY STOFER.....	1978-1980
718 South Ingomar Street, Indianapolis, IN 46241 -	(317) 241-1946
VICA MCGILL (Deceased).....	1976-1978
MARY BOYD.....	1975-1976
92 Golfview Circle, Umatilla, Florida 32784	Cell Phone: (352) 223-2972
JOAN (SHANABARGER) KELLER.....	1973-1975
108 Windsor, Churubusco, IN 46723 -	(260) 693-3645
CAROLYN McCARTY.....	1971-1973
P.O. Box 57, Union Mills, IN 46382 -	(219) 767-2549
ROSELLA BOUSMAN.....	1969-1971
MARY STAFFORD.....	1967-1969
10890 N. Interurban Ln., Mooresville, IN 46158 -	(317) 834-9249

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

**DISTRICT 1 & 2 REPORT**



Phyllis Vargo - Chairman

The meeting was called to order by Phyllis Vargo, District #1 & 2 chairman at 7:06 p.m.

Pledge was recited. Prayer was given by Lake Dale auxiliary member.

Chief Ryan Kennedy gave department history.

Roll call was taken with 15 members in attendance representing 5 departments and 1 individual along with 3 guests.

Phyllis thanked the Lake Dale Auxiliary for hosting this month's district meeting.

Phyllis introduced the guests in attendance this evening: Rachel Streger, Miss Flame District #2 and Jim Bradford, PR Northwest.

Minutes were read by Marge Baumgardner. No corrections or additions to the minutes.

Correspondence: Phyllis gave an update on Ann Moss who is now a resident of the Sheffield Manor, 601 Sheffield Ave., Room 184, Dyer, IN 46311. Looking for people to visit and send cards.

Treasurer Report: Phyllis gave treasurer's report with \$546.00 in checking. A report stands as read for audit.

Old business: none. New business: Phyllis talked to the members regarding fund-raiser for the district. It takes approximately \$500 to have the Miss Flame each year if we have one girl from each district to go to state.

Phyllis asked the membership what was their wishes. After some discussion Pat Missel made a motion to create a district due of \$5 per member payable to the District 1 & 2 and is due by Sept. 1st. Seconded by Julie-Smith. Motion passed. The checks should be made out to I.V.F.A.A. 1 & 2.

Pat Missel made a motion to give the Miss Flame from District 1 & 2 \$250.00 each (which included their \$25 entry fee that was already paid) to represent the district for state convention. Seconded by Deb Feeley. Motion passed. Also Cathy Watkins, from Lake of Four Season auxiliary offer to cover \$100.00 the

district was short for the Miss Flame money.

State raffle tickets money needs to be turned in tonight.

Phyllis talked about your state dues, since we just passed the district dues, each auxiliary will need to submit 2 checks to Phyllis, one for state payable to I.V.F.A.A. @ \$5.00 per member, then one payable to I.V.F.A.A. 1 & 2 @ \$5 per member for district dues. Please send both checks to Phyllis first. Please do so by September 1st.

Department announcements: No 50/50.

Next meeting is September 8th at Crown Point.

Motion by Deb Feeley, seconded by Dee Kennedy to adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Marge Baumgardner  
I.V.F.A. Secretary  
District 1 and 2

Minutes of the Sept. 9, 2011 District 1 & 2 Meeting of the I.V.F.A.A.

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

Pledge was recited. Prayer was given by Melissa Valsi of Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept. Ladies Auxiliary.

Phyllis also asked for members to remain standing for moment of silence for the following members:

Mary Klym - Auxiliary member of Lake Station Auxiliary, Tim White - Member of Cedar Lake Fire Dept., Don Hess - from St. Anthony EMS Academy.

Roll call was taken with 13 members in attendance representing 5 departments and 2 individual along with 2 guests.

Phyllis thanked the Crown Point Ladies Auxiliary for hosting this month's district meeting.

Phyllis introduced the guests in attendance this evening: Paul Watland, I.V.F.A. District #1 chairman, Rachel Sterger, Miss Flame District #2.

Minutes were read by Marge Baumgardner. No corrections or additions to minutes.

Correspondence: Phyllis gave an update on Ann Moss, who is now a resident of the Sheffield Manor, 601 Sheffield Ave, Dyer, IN 46311. Has been moved to Room 163. Looking for people to visit and send cards. Marge read a Thank-you note from David Klym, husband of Mary Klym from Lake Station who passed away.

Treasurer's report: Phyllis gave treasurer's report with \$546.00 in checking. A report stands as read for audit.

Old Business: District Dues - if your department has any questions please see Phyllis.

New Business: Motion by Donna Szafranski, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jackie Rench to have Silent Auction at the November meeting. Each department is to supply 3 items for auction.

Phyllis passed out the dates for the 2012 meetings. All dates were confirmed except for Sept. meeting. They are as follows: March 1, 2012 - Lake of Four Season; May 3, 2012 - Lowell; September 6, 2012 - Lake Station; November 1<sup>st</sup> - Crown Point.

Program presented by Mark Baumgardner, Sr. - Division Chief of Operation for Crown Point Fire Rescue on Project Lifesaver.

Department announcements: Stop, Drop & Donate at Lake of Four Season - December 3<sup>rd</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Pancake Breakfast on October 9<sup>th</sup> at Lake of Four Season - 7 a.m. - 12p.m.

Crazy Bunco at Lake Of Four Season November 4<sup>th</sup> - 6pm - doors open; games begin at 7:30. \$15.00

Cedar Lake Boot Drive - Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Raffle for Tim White Family tickets available, drawing will be Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>.

Scary Bunco at Lowell Fire Dept. by auxiliary, Sunday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1:00 doors open, games begin at 2:00, tickets \$10.00 in advance, \$12.00 at door.

Crown Point Fire Prevention Open House 11:00-2:00.

Crazy Bunco at Crown Point Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> tickets \$10.00.

Crown Point Fire Dept. Annual Food Drive Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-2.

No 50/50. Next meeting is November 3<sup>rd</sup> at Lake Station.

Motion by Melissa Valsi, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Louise Patenaude to adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Marge Baumgardner  
I.V.F.A.A. Secretary  
District 1 & 2

**DISTRICT 3 REPORT**



Leona Uryga - Chairman

Minutes of the Sept 26, 2011 District 3 meeting:

The meeting was held at the Michiana Shores Volunteer Fire Department on September 26, 2011, with the auxiliary members enjoying sandwiches & desserts. The meeting was called to order by chairperson Leona Uryga and began at 7:15 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Dorothy Moffitt said a prayer.

Roll Call was taken: 9 Michiana Shores; and 3 Coolspring.

The minutes of the July 20, 2011 meeting were read and will stand as read. The treasurer's report ending July 20, 2011 was read and will stand until audit.

Ruth Duetscher made a motion to pay Leona Uryga \$8.80 for postage stamps; seconded by Sue Utpatel; motion carried.

District 3 Miss Flame: Chair Leona Uryga stated if anyone knows of a young lady who would like to compete for District 3 Miss Flame, let her know. Chair Uryga read a letter from District 3 Miss Flame, Maggie Levendoski thanking us for our support.

**IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2010/2011**

<b>AUDIT</b> Beth Caudill - Chm. Barb Ketchem Joann Hays	<b>PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY</b> Beth Caudill - Chm. Barb Parker	<b>BY-LAWS</b> Amber Farrer - Chm. Leona Uryga Janet Matthews
<b>BUDGET &amp; FINANCE</b> Toni Sorg - Chm. Dorothy Reiter Lou Bartlow Marie Emery	<b>LOIS BOAZ</b> Sue Glant - Chm. Lou Bartlow Dorothy Reiter	<b>MISS FLAME</b> Barb Kerney - Chm. Miriam Schackel Tammy Davis Debbie Vermillion
<b>CHINESE AUCTION</b> Lori Parker - Chm. Barb Parker Marlene Poling Heather Martin	<b>NOMINATING</b> Pam Gerdowsky - Chm. Joyce Nevil Amber Farrer	<b>JEWELRY</b> Marlene Poling - Chm. Sandra Hile
<b>PARLIAMENTARIAN</b> Lou Bartlow	<b>HISTORIAN</b> Joann Hays - Chm. Phyllis Vargo	<b>MARY MACKIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND</b> Phyllis Vargo - Chm. Barb Ketchem Pam Gerdowsky Marlene Thrawley
<b>VICE PRESIDENT PROJECT</b> Suzie Lewis - Chm. E.J. Smith Alice Saunders Janet Matthews	<b>INSTALLATION</b> Toni Sorg - Chm. Janet Woodfill	<b>MEMBERSHIP</b> Leona Uryga - Chm. Marlene Thrawley Tammy Davis

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

## DISTRICT 3 REPORT

State Information: Anyone wishing to recommend someone for the Lois Boaz award contact Leona Uryga for submitting a nomination.

The picture album from the year 1951 was empty. In hopes of filling the empty book, anyone who has pictures or articles that they would like to donate can give them to Chair Leona and she'll forward them.

The new by-laws have been sent to a new printer. We should have them by the November meeting.

The 2012 Convention will be held at the Horseshoe Casino in Elizabeth, IN (near New Albany).

Next meeting will be November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Coolspring Township Volunteer Fire Department. The District 3 Miss Flame will be selected at this meeting. Also, the 50/50 raffle, which help supports our Miss Flame, will be drawn.

50/50 was won by Bob Uryga \$7.00.

The fall centerpieces were raffled, earning \$16.00.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jodi Barkow, seconded by Bob Uryga; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

Respectfully submitted by:  
Joan M. Lewis  
Secretary-Treasurer

## DISTRICT 15 REPORT



Sandra Hile - Chairman

Hi,  
My name is Sandra Hile, and I would like to introduce myself as your new District Chairman! Let me begin by telling you just a little about myself... First and foremost, I am a wife and mother of three. I am also a home-based business owner. My husband has been a volunteer firefighter for over 8 years now, so our family has always been very involved in volunteering, either with the fire department, the school system, or otherwise.

I am a past president of the Marris Township Ladies Auxiliary. During the time that I have served, we have accomplished much with our ladies auxiliary, and I plan to expand on that with the IVFAA. I have had the honor of volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House, where we hosted a brunch for family members; our ladies auxiliary has successfully brought back safe Halloween trick or treating at the fire stations; I always enjoy participating in the local parades, whether it be throwing candy to kiddos, or just riding atop the fire truck waving a flag; all this and much more we have accomplished along with our number one duty, which is serving and support our fire department in numerous ways, from handing out cold bottles of water on fire runs, to helping at open houses, chief's dinners, and appreciation dinners, just to name a few.

Last year I created an elementary school event called "Bicycle Blastoff", a bicycle safety program geared towards getting the kiddos and their bikes ready and safe for the upcoming summer. This was a huge success and we have been asked to make this an annual event. I would like to continue this project, as well as get the IVFAA involved in other

projects, including a smoke detector giveaway, adopting a nursing home for the holidays, and of course, being there to support our firefighters, to name a few.

If you have any questions, or would like to meet with me at any time, please contact me at your earliest convenience. It is going to be a pleasure working with each and every one of you!

Sincerely,  
Sandra J Hile  
sjhile@sbcglobal.net  
(812) 453-7525

## DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Marie Emery - Chairman

Greetings:  
June Cahill and myself attended the Greene Co. fire meeting at Lewis Township Fire Department on July 11.

Our July district meeting was held at Loogootee VFD due to number of officers in attendance. We postponed our meeting and elections until September meeting. Those present sat in on the men's meeting which was very interesting.

We would like to congratulate Terry Pielemeier on his retirement as their chief for many years and thanks to all who fixed and served the evening meal; you did a great job.

I attended the Richland-Taylor auxiliary meeting August 8th at Joe's Pizza. We discussed upcoming events and things we could do for fundraisers.

Several members attended the Greene Co. firefighters family picnic at the Bloomfield Park on August 28th. A pitch-in dinner was enjoyed by all and the afternoon was spent by visiting and taking pictures.

September 21st our district meeting and election of officers was held at the Bloomfield VFD. Officers for the year are Marie Emery - chairman, Kathy Ferguson - vice, Annette Baker - secretary, Janet Hardgrave - treasurer and Stella Abrams as chaplain.

The group discussed of having a raffle and cookie sale at the annual Vincennes sausage supper. Also the Miss Flame contest will be held January 15, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the Richland-Taylor VFD in Scotland, IN. Girls between 15 and 18 before June and is a member of a fire service or auxiliary or a parent who is a member is interested, contact me for rules and application. Deadline is December 1, 2011.

Next meeting will be held November 16th at Washington VFD at 6:30 p.m.

Marie Emery  
District chairman



## DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Pam Gerdowsky - Chairman

Hi Ladies,  
Hope your summer has been filled with many fun things to do. I know there have been many Firefighters' Festivals around and we have attended many. The state meeting in Indianapolis at the Crowne Plaza August 6-7 was very nice.

Leona Uryga hosted a nice get-together for all to enjoy with food, drinks and games. Thank you, Leona.

We discussed new committees and appointments to them. We also talked about how much fun the Convention in South Bend was and thanked the committee for a job well done. It was really a nice place to have a Convention and everyone had a wonderful time. Then the Convention for 2012 was discussed to be held at the Horseshoe Casino in Elizabeth, IN. Hopefully everyone will be able to go and have a good time.

August 9, 2011 we had our District 19 meeting at the Morris Firehouse. We had a nice luncheon and re-elected the following officers -- President Pam Gerdowsky,

Secretary/Treasurer Pam Scheele, and Chaplain Roberta Struewing. Talked about state meeting and gave out 25 year pins to Loretta Bedel, Doris Doll, Ann Hartman, Jean Meer, Pat Moster, Pam Scheele, Robert Struewing, Rose Weisenbach, Elvera Wissel and Edith Zimmer.

Upcoming events are Blooming Grove 25 year auxiliary anniversary, Morris breakfast November 13, Sunman ladies' night out September 22.



Passed out membership lists and state financial report. Sent lists to Aurora and Rising Sun and asked if they would be interested in hosting an

IVFAA meeting next year. Our next District 19 meeting will be November 8th at Milan Firehouse. Hope you can come.

Will be attending the November 5-6 officers' meeting in Indy at the Crowne Plaza. If you have any questions or concerns for me to take to the meeting, please let me know. My e-mail and phone number is in the IVFA newspaper.

Have a good day with God's many blessings.

District 19 chairman  
Pam Gerdowsky  
Sept. 1, 2011

**2012 IVFA coins now available**

The 2012 IVFA Convention coins are now available. If you would like to purchase one for \$10.00 each, please contact: Paul Holcomb (502) 664-5736, Rick Cannon (502) 523-2665 or Al Williamson (502) 299-1046.

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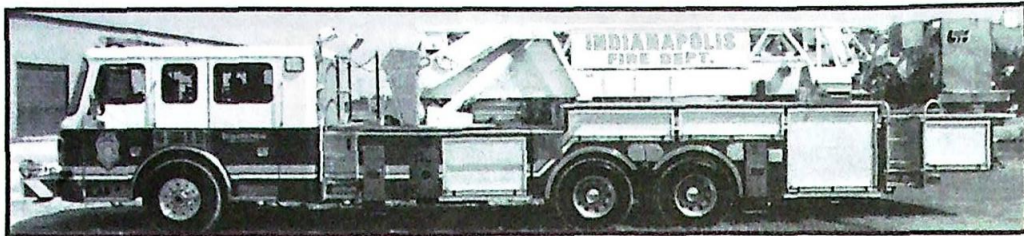


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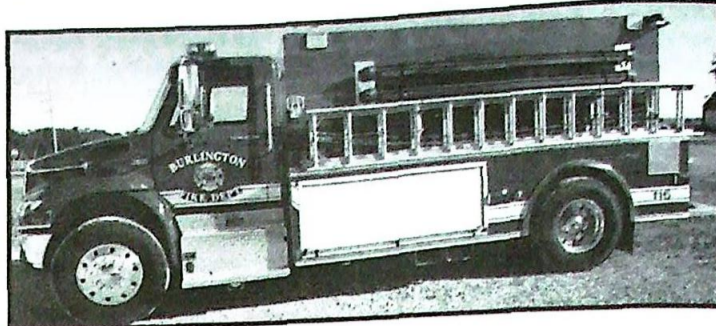
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Thanks to Elkhart FD

# IVFA equipment trailer now the IVFA Public Relations trailer

The IVFA has taken the Equipment Trailer that was used to store and transport the waterball equipment and given it a new purpose.

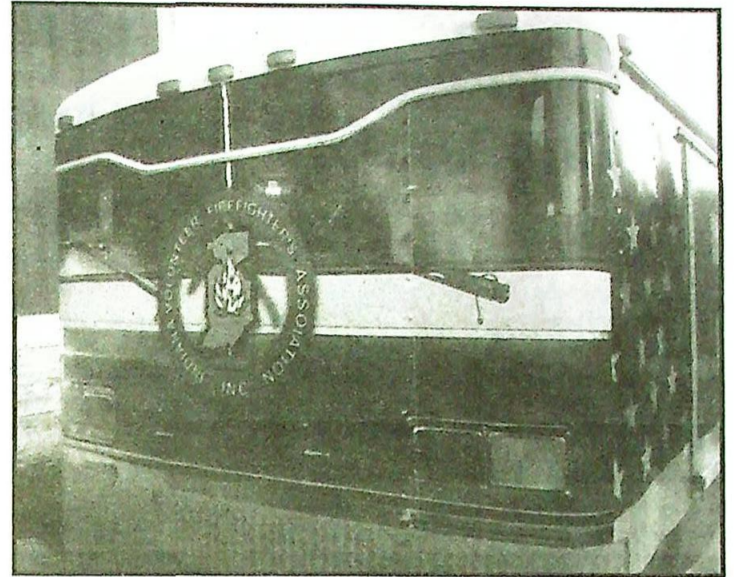
Last summer all the equipment was removed from the trailer and it was used as the IVFA Public Relations trailer. It went to several events across Indiana and was received well by those departments and organizations that used it.

This summer it had new tires installed on it as well as a new rubber roof. The biggest make-over was a "wrap" that was done by T-Max Graphics of Muncie, IN. All of the lettering and IVFA Logos were removed from the surface of the trailer. A rust inhibitor was applied to every screw on the trailer and the "wrap" was applied over that. The sides show two (2) firefighters in turnout gear sitting on their apparatus. A large American flag is on both sides as well.

On the front is a printing of a custom pumper, including the windshield, lights and even the mirrors and radio, which are visible in the print. On the rear of the trailer is a photo of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial at Emmetsburg, MD. Inscribed on the trailer door is "honoring those who have fallen before us." Remembering the ultimate sacrifice many have given in the IVFA.

The IVFA Logo is on all four sides of the trailer as well as the IVFA.org website address.

The trailer has been to the HERO's event in Lebanon, IN, the IVFA convention in South Bend this summer, over to Richmond for the Wayne County Fair, down to Sellersburg twice for events by departments in the area, also to Mooreland, IN for their week-long fair, up to Bryant, IN for the Healing Field of Flags 9/11 Memorial Week



as their Command Point, and most recently to Plymouth, IN for their open house. Local departments help man the trailer when it comes to their area.

The trailer has an external electrical plug to run electricity to 12 plugs inside. It has 200 feet of extension cord so that it can be plugged in while it is set up for an event. There is a 4-foot fluorescent light that can be hung from the ceiling, a 20-inch stand fan to move the air when it's hot and four folding chairs that people working in the trailer can sit on.

There also is a 32-inch LCD flat screen TV/DVD player with extra cables to hook up a laptop (not provided, sorry) for departments to present Power Point programs for fire safety, etc. Also included is an HP printer with a CD that departments can use to make their own personalized safety coloring sheets. Paper is also included to make it more convenient. Two spare tires as well as a floor jack and four-way lug wrench are in a tote. Five orange cones and dish soap and wash cloth to use to wash the trailer round out the supplies.

Fire safety coloring books are provided by various fire departments and businesses to be passed out. Fire Safety tips and checklists are handed out from material that the IVFA has printed. Membership application forms, license plate applications and Member Benefit Booklets are also on the trailer to be passed out.

If any department or community organization wishes to have the trailer at their event, contact Carol Thrawley, IVFA District 13A chairman and state public relations chairman. You can also contact your local district chairman or the IVFA office, who can forward the information as well. -- submitted by Carol Thrawley, District 13A chairman.



## District 8B Miss Flame rides in the Pennville VFD parade



Chelsey Gettinger, District 8B Miss Flame, is shown riding in the Salamonia VFD First Responder truck at the Pennville VFD parade.

The parade was held on July 9th in Pennville, IN. -- submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District 8B

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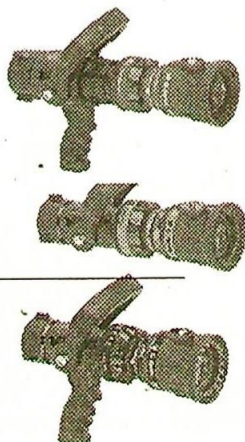
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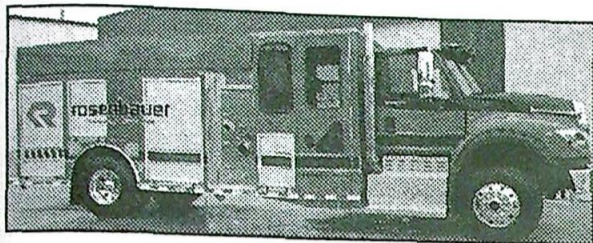
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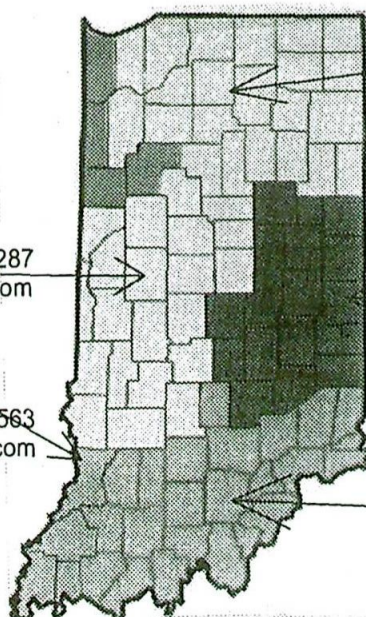
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**Tom Boehm**  
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Email . . . . . tboehm@towersfa.com



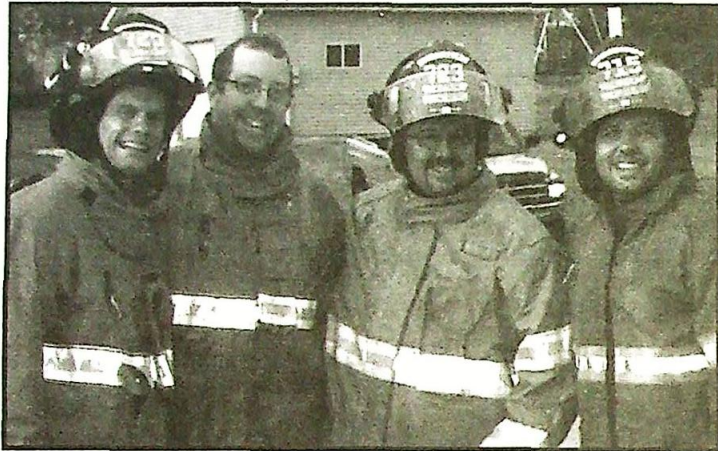
# Holland VFD hosts waterball contest at Holland Fest



1st place Ferdinand



2nd place Holland

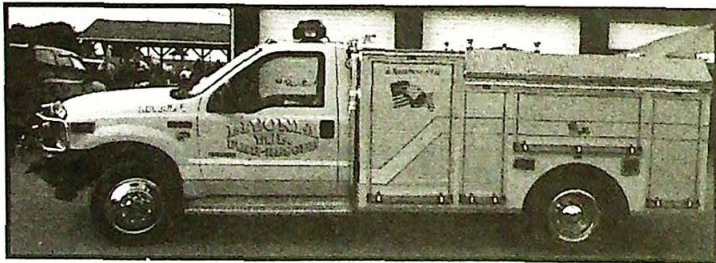


3rd place Huntingburg

During the annual Holland Fest on September 16, the Holland VFD (Dubois Co., District 19) hosted their annual Waterball contest.

The winners were: Huntingburg - third place, Holland - second place, and Ferdinand - first place. — photos and information provided by John "Bull" Smith, District 18 chairman.

## Livona VFD takes delivery of new Rescue/Mini Pumper



photos by Paul Holcomb  
District 16 chairman



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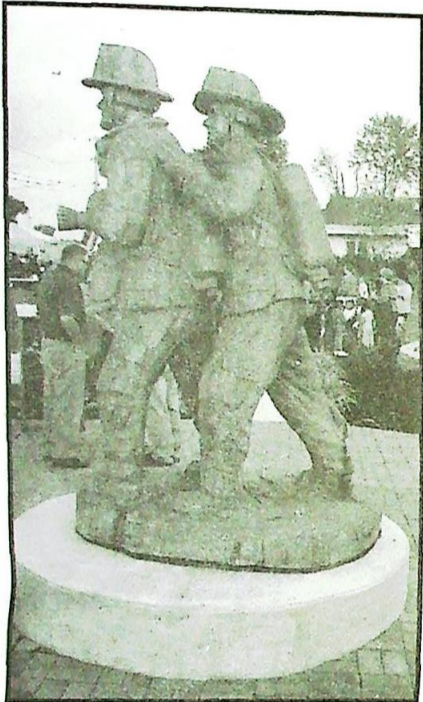
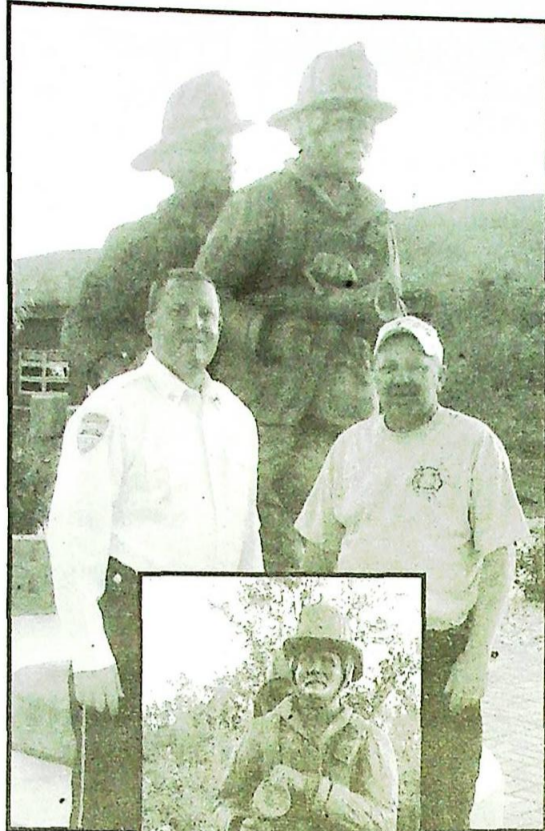
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# Tree carved into firemen moved to new location

In a memorial service held on 9/11, a 150-year-old pin oak tree that was in front of the McCulloch Fire Station on Allison Lane, was cut down and moved to its new location in front of the Jeffersonian Fire Department on Hwy. 62 and carved into two firemen.

Here are some of the photos of that statue.

District 14 chairman Rick Cannon was there and poses with Mike McCutcheon. - photos submitted by Rick Cannon, District 10 chairman.



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## Fire chief receives 25 year pin



Campbell fire department's Chief Don Biehle received his 25 year pin from District 14 chairman Rick Cannon and Miss Flame Rebecca Cannon. - submitted by Rick Cannon, District 14 chairman.

## Campbell FD hosts fish fry



Campbell Fire Department held its annual fish fry and members of their department pose here with District 14 chairman, Rick Cannon and Miss Flame Rebecca Cannon. - submitted by Rick Cannon, District 14 chairman.

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# Sellersburg FD participates in 9/11 service



In a 9/11 memorial service, these men and women from Sellersburg Fire Department, along with several other area departments climbed a 15 story building in full turnout gear carrying the name of a fallen hero.

Pictured are district chairman Rick Cannon, Dacoma Zielsdorf, Casey Nanez, Richie Cannon, Kelly Williams and Danny Jacobs. - photos submitted by Rick Cannon, District 10 chairman.

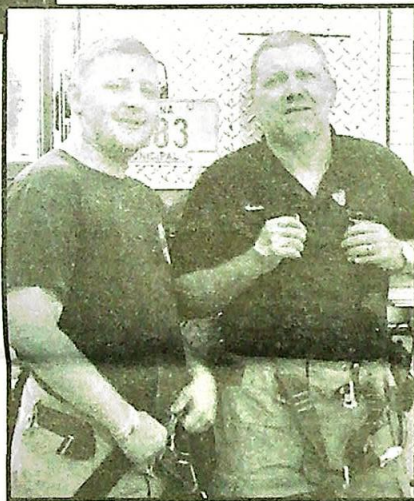


The building they climbed.



9/11 display table

(At right) - Father and son participate in the 9/11 service - Rick and Richie Cannon.



**Happy Thanksgiving to all IVFA members and their families!**

## RATE SCHEDULE FOR INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

*EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2011*

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 Mitch Parish **BY THE 5TH OF THE MONTH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH OF PUBLICATION.**

**ALL AD SIZES ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

<b>QUARTER PAGE SIZE - 4" WIDE x 7" TALL:</b>	
BLACK AND WHITE .....	\$190.00
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**INFORMATION:**  
75 COLUMN INCHES PER PAGE... A FULL PAGE AD IS 10" WIDE x 15" DEEP.

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## BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

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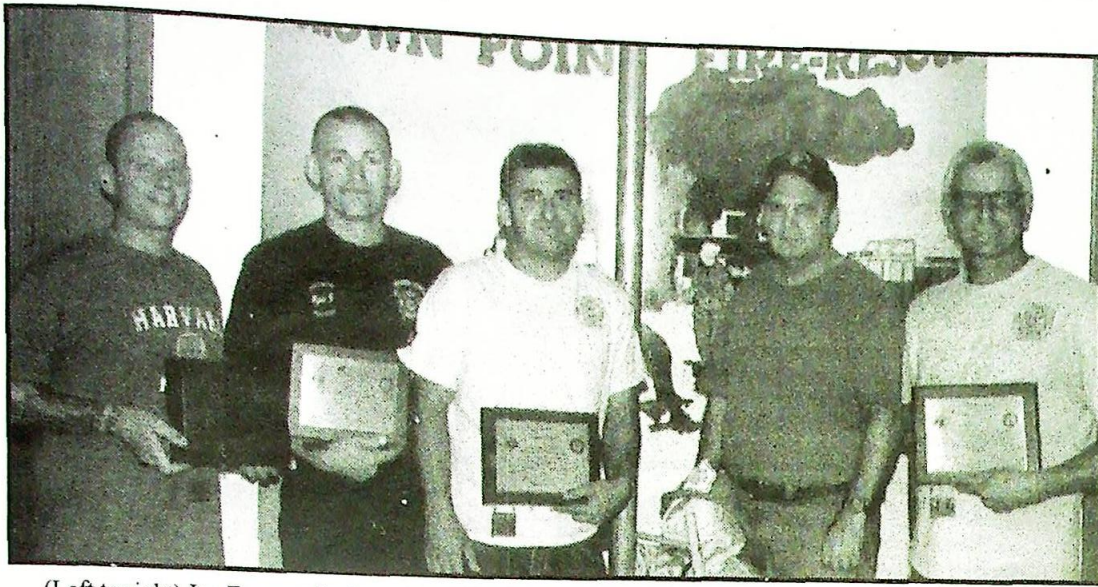
**Applications sent by Certified Mail MUST have a postmark no later than March 1, 2012.**

*Applications are available from all district chairmen, elected officers of the IVFA, or the Scholarship Chairman.*

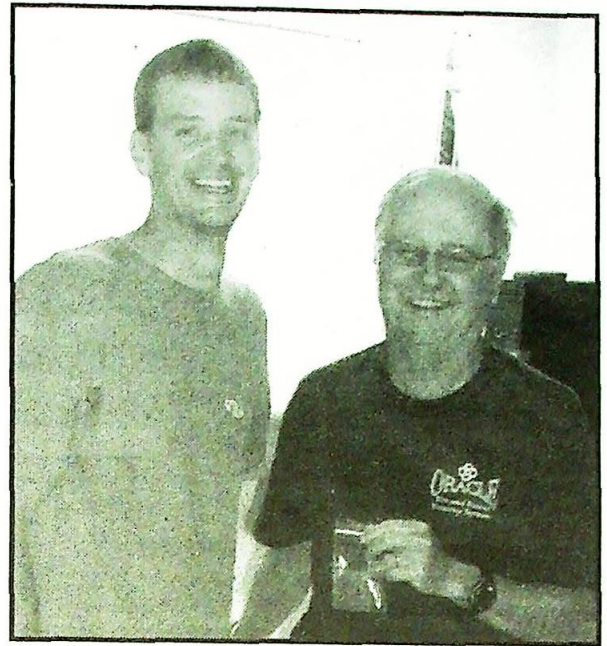
Please send all applications to:  
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# Crown Point VFD members presented awards



(Left to right) Joe Fcarantella, Ryan Cusack, Mark Reed all received their 5 year membership plaque with the Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.  
Steve Tobias received a watch for 15 years membership on Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.  
(Far right) Terry Ciciora received his 5 year membership plaque with Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept. - Photos submitted by Paul Watland, District 2 chairman.



Greg DeLor, (right) chief of Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept., is presented with his 20 year membership plaque by president Kevin Pederson of the Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.



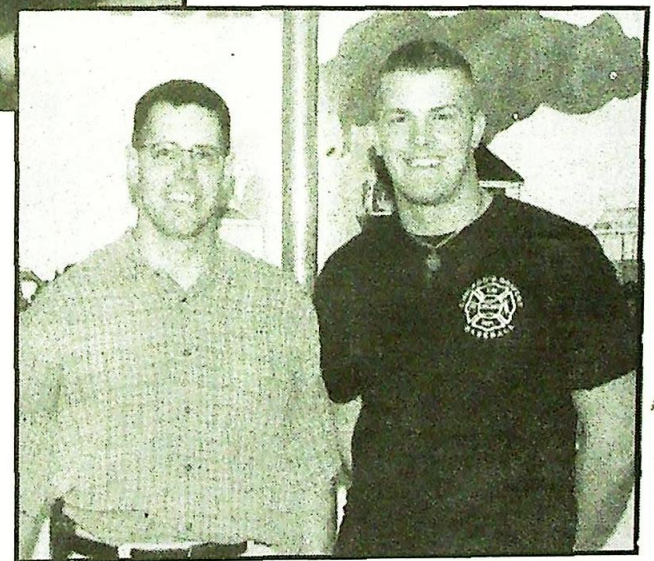
(Above photo) - Aaron Wirtz (right) is presented with his 5 year membership plaque by president Kevin Pederson of the Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.



Jeremy Gettler (right) is presented with his 5 year membership plaque by president Kevin Pederson of the Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.



(Photo at right) - David DeLor (right) is presented his 5 year membership plaque by president Kevin Pederson of the Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.



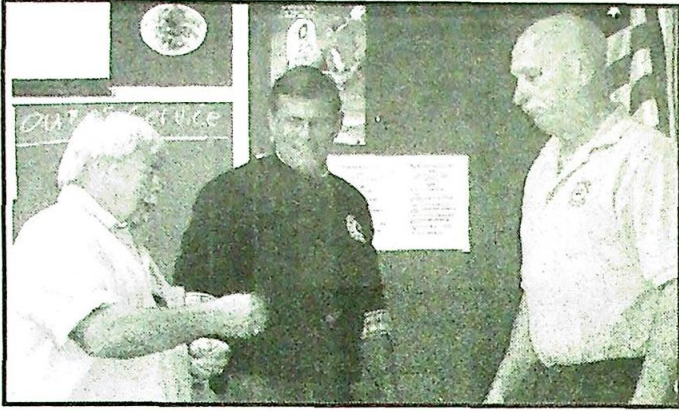
John Pisowicz (left) and Jordan Bucy are new members of Crown Point Vol. Fire Dept.



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# Support Hoosier Burn Camp

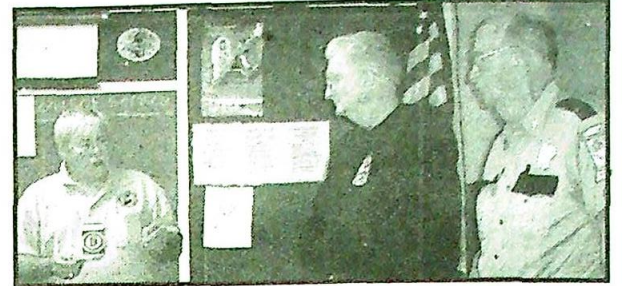
# Several awards presented at District 6 meeting



Firefighter Gary Leis of Laotta VFD receives his 25 year pin from District 6 chairman Jerry Sprague with the assistance of vice chairman David Elick.



Firefighter Chris Hart of Laotto VFD receives his 25 year pin from District 6 chairman Jerry Sprague.



Firefighter Martin Reed of Johnson Twp. VFD receives his 50 year Gold card and pin from District 6 chairman Jerry Sprague and vice chairman David Elick with firefighter Jim Neumann looking on.



District 6 chairman presents firefighter Jim Neumann with his District 6 Global Award in the presence of his peers.



District 6 vice chairman David Elick, 50 year Gold card and pin recipients Martin Reed and Jim Neumann, and District 6 chairman Jerry Sprague.



Firefighter Martin Reed of Johnson Twp. VFD receives his 50 year Gold card and pin from District 6 chairman Jerry Sprague and vice chairman David Elick with firefighter Jim Neumann looking on.

All photos were taken by David Beaty and submitted by Jerry Sprague, District 6 chairman.

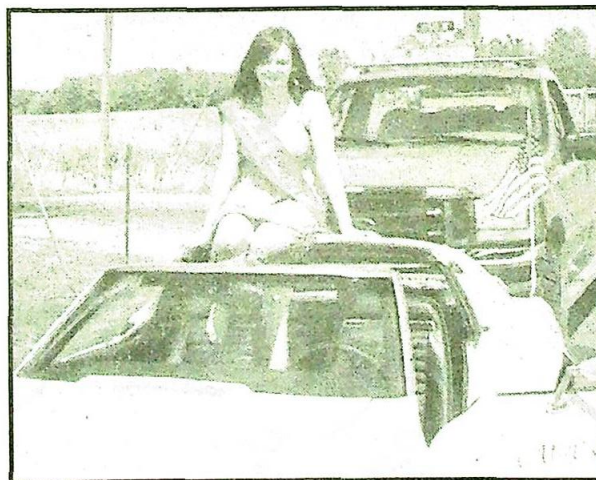
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## District 8B Miss Flames ride in parade

District 8B first place runner-up Miss Flame Courtney Willoughby, riding in the Glass Days Parade held on June 4th at Dunkirk, IN.  
Nice car!

District 8B Miss Flame Chelsey Gettinger also takes part in the Glass Days parade.

She is riding in the Salamonia VFD First Responder truck driven by Lloyd E. Wright.

- submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District 8B chairman



# 9/11 memorial service held by Osolo Township Fire Department in Elkhart, Indiana



Osolo Township Fire Department committee for the Project 9/11.

Authority's Hanger 17 at New York's JFK Airport. The welcome in Angola was spectacular—thousands turned out to see the arrival of Osolo's artifact, and the Angola Fire Department graciously hosted the beam, its escorts and several Osolo firefighters who made it there Friday night.

The homecoming motorcade took place the next day, beginning at the Country Fair shopping plaza in Angola, where over fifteen thousand motorcyclists, firefighters, law enforcement, EMS, and other public safety personnel converged to escort the beam to its final resting place at Osolo's station. The motorcade, consisting of an Indiana State Police Motorcycle Unit escort, fire apparatus from Elkhart County's Osolo and Cleveland Townships as well as from the town of Bristol, Indiana, county police vehicles from Steuben, Lagrange, and Elkhart counties, and literally thousands of Patriot Guard Riders, American Legion Riders, and various firefighter and police motorcycle clubs, left the plaza at 10:28 a.m. —

the time the north tower fell — and began the beam's final journey home. Along the nearly 70 mile route on State Road 120, through the communities of Orland, Bright, Howe, and Bristol, IN, an estimated one hundred thousand spectators lined the road; waving the American flags, whistling and applauding as a piece of national history rolled by. As the motorcade travelled through each county, their respective law enforcement agencies kept intersections shut down and traffic rerouted in a well choreographed effort to assist the passing of the motorcade in a safe and expedient fashion. The motorcade ended with a brief welcoming ceremony at Osolo's station, where the township's residents mingled with motorcade participants as everyone had a chance to view and touch their township's newest acquisition. Just under ten thousand participants made the entire trip from Angola, and no mishaps, accidents, delays, complaints, or criminal acts were reported. Many of the motorcycle enthusiasts who attended said that it was well

organized event that was enjoyed thoroughly.

The final event of the Osolo firefighters project, was the unveiling of the 9/11 memorial scheduled at 2:00 p.m. Since the arrival of the beam on July 2, the monument site has slowly been taking form as workers hurry to complete the finishing touches before September 11. The memorial service included conjoining their ceremony with the city of Elkhart Fire Department, who received a steel 9/11 artifact earlier this year. The Osolo firefighters have been selling commemorative caps, shirts, mugs, and event patches in an effort to raise money to fund their monument, and anyone interested in acquiring Osolo's 9/11 merchandise may call the station at 574-264-1066. The completed memorial erected on the department's grounds will be open to the public 24 hours a day. — submitted by Doug Stone of Osolo Township Fire Department and Terry Smith, District 4 chairman. - (see page 33 for more photos)



Transporting the Twin Tower Beam to Osolo Township Fire Department.

## Space heaters the leading cause of home fires in winter

**BOTH FIXED AND PORTABLE DEVICES REQUIRE CAREFUL ATTENTION** — Space heaters are the leading cause of home fires during December, January and February — but such disasters can be prevented with a few simple precautions.

Two out of every three home fires associated with heating equipment involve devices other than central furnaces or water heaters, according to the latest statistics from the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association). When used improperly, space heaters—gas-fueled, kerosene-fueled or electric, fixed or portable, wood stoves and fireplaces can all lead to fires.

Portable kerosene heaters, which are illegal in some states, have the highest rate of fire deaths per household. Room gas heaters pose a similar risk of death from unvented carbon monoxide.

In 1998, all forms of home heating caused 49,200 reported fires, 388 deaths, 1,445 injuries, and \$515 million in property damage. Typically these fires occurred because the devices weren't cleaned regularly, were placed or installed too close to combustible materials, had basic flaws in construction or design, or were improperly fueled.

"As winter approaches, we want to get the message out that space-heating devices require special care to be used safely," said Meri-K Appy, NFPA's vice president for public education. "Simple steps can prevent a tragedy in your home."

NFPA recommends these safety measures:

- When buying a new unit, make sure it carries the mark of a nationally-recognized testing laboratory. Be sure that a qualified technician installs the unit or checks that the unit has been installed properly.

- If you use a wood or coal stove or a fireplace, have a professional inspect your chimney, chimney connector and other related equipment every year, and have it

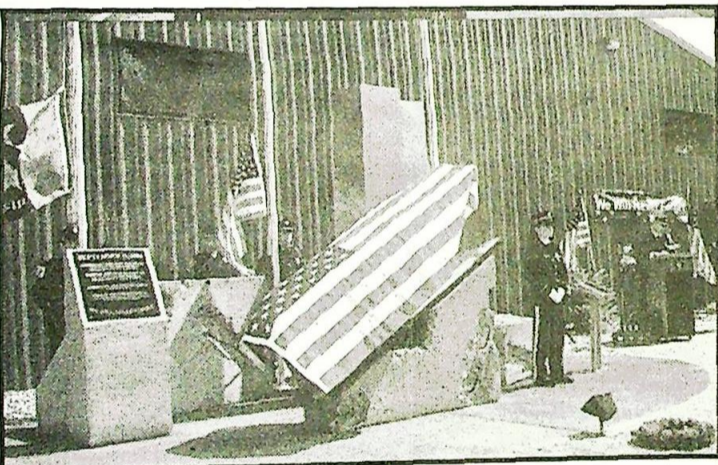
cleaned as often as the inspections indicate.

- Keep space heaters at least three feet (or one meter) from anything that can burn.

- Fuel portable kerosene heaters in

a well-ventilated area away from flames or other heat sources, and only when the device has cooled completely. Use only the type of

— CONTINUED ON PAGE 40



Before the unveiling at the 9/11 monument and memorial service at Osolo Twp. Fire Department.

On Sunday, September 11, 2011, the Osolo Township Fire Department remembered the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks in a uniquely special and memorable way... by dedicating a monument at their station commemorating those who gave their lives that day using an 8 foot steel beam that was part of the World Trade Center's north tower as the monument's centerpiece.

Known as "Osolo Fire Department Project 9/11: America's Heartland Remembers", the northern Elkhart county fire department completed a journey that has lasted nearly two years and has taken many of their firefighters literally hundreds of hours to organize and execute.

Beginning in December of 2009, the Osolo firefighters contacted the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey requesting the steel piece, known as a "9-11 artifact". After many months of correspondence, phone calls, and

the submission of scores of legal documents, the department learned in March of this year that they would receive their steel beam on June 29th.

Using what little time they had, the Osolo firefighters set about organizing a homecoming for their beam that would be a fitting tribute to such a venerated and revered artifact. After conferring with the Indianapolis Fire Department, who also received steel beams for a monument there, the Osolo firefighters decided to bring their beam home in grand fashion with a homecoming motorcade that would officially begin in Angola, IN and would wind up at Osolo's fire station.

On Friday, July 1, 2011, Osolo's steel beam, draped with the American flag and resting on the flatbed trailer of a semi festooned with the department's commemorative logo and 9-11 graphics, rolled into Angola hours after it was picked up at the Port

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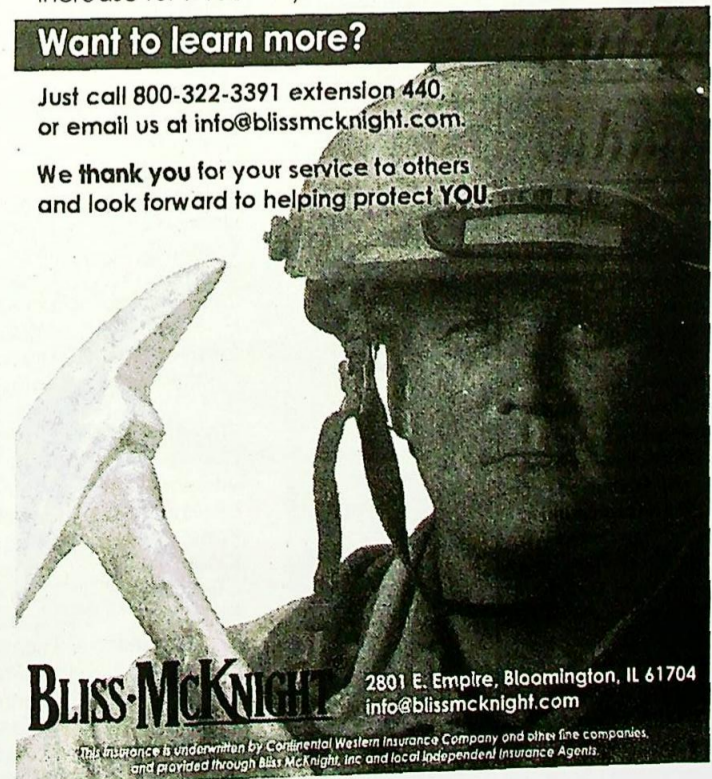
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	Tee Shirt - Blue - \$15.00			
	FF Tee Shirt - \$20.00			
	Black Golf Shirt Tan Collar - \$25.00			
	White Golf Shirt Navy & Tan Collar - \$25.00			
	White Golf Shirt Navy Collar - \$25.00			
	Yellow Golf Shirt - Discounted - \$15.00			
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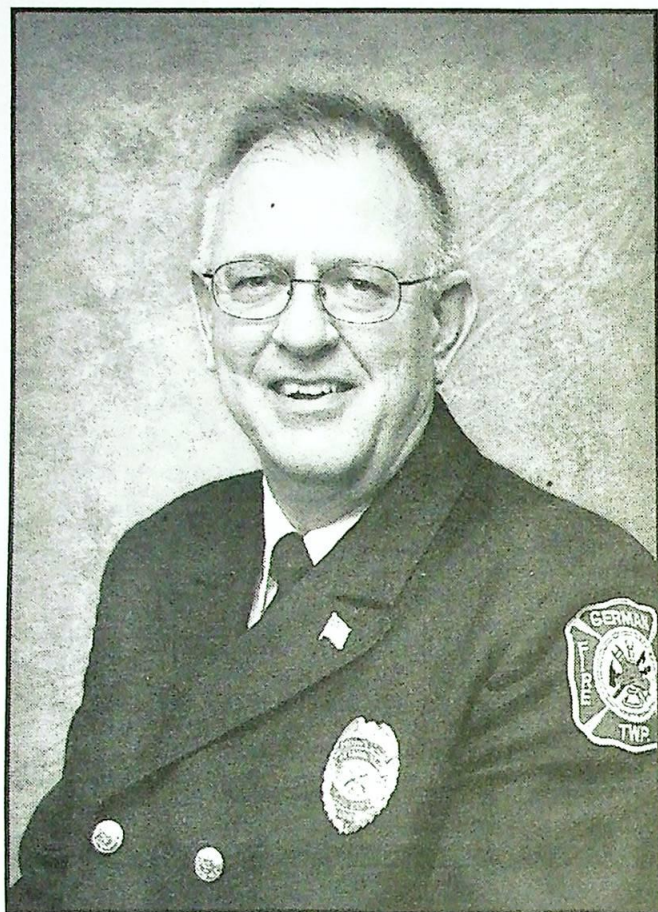
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# German Township FD loses a great man – Chief Donald Neel



Division Chief Don Neel  
By Captain Cindy Gries

German Township Fire Department celebrates the life and mourns the loss of Division Chief Donald Neel. Known to almost everyone as Donnie, Chief Neel gave more than 30 years of dedicated service to the residents of German Township and the surrounding townships. Chief Neel passed away on September 24, 2011 of natural causes at the age of 58.

Chief Neel joined German Township Volunteer Fire Department in June of 1968. He met and married his wife, Cassandra (Garrett), while on the department, as her father, Lester Garrett, was an active member. He and Cassie were married and had a daughter, Beth, at which time Donnie took several years off to be with his family. Beth grew up and married Michael Plumlee, who after a trip to the department to work on one of the apparatus with his father-in-law, also joined the department.

After returning to GTVFD, Donnie worked his way through the ranks to Division Chief, the position he held at the time of his passing. Also presently on the department are his father-in-law, Lester Garrett, and son-in-law, Michael Plumlee. His grandson, Zachary "The Dude" Plumlee, kept him busy and Chief Neel was quite proud of him. They were both in the process of learning to play chess so Zachary could be on the chess team at school.

Chief Neel became good friends with Jim "JR" Fechtmeister, and together they kept the fire apparatus in excellent running order. Dubbed "Wing Nut" because of his apparatus maintenance duties, Chief Neel was extremely proud of German's emergency equipment. Most times when anyone from the department called Chief Neel, especially at odd hours, he would answer with, "What'd you break now?" He always made sure things were fixed as soon as possible.

Having the personality Chief Neel had, sometimes you didn't know if he was serious or joking, but, you always learned something. He knew the job and the trucks and he wanted, and expected, you to know them also. There was

always a hug available to anyone who needed or wanted one, Chief Neel was always ready to console or to congratulate.

Chief Neel was a mentor to the newest members and the long-time members. He was always willing to teach, explain, fix, build. If a new truck was in the works, Chief Neel had his books and magazines to see what was available and what would be best for GTVFD. When training started, you could usually find him in the back of the room looking over new material, wanting to always be aware of changes and improvements.

The members of German Township Volunteer Fire Department will greatly miss Division Chief Donnie Neel. He was a great asset to the department and it will be hard to fill his shoes. We wish to extend our sympathy to his family and let them know their extended family is here for them.

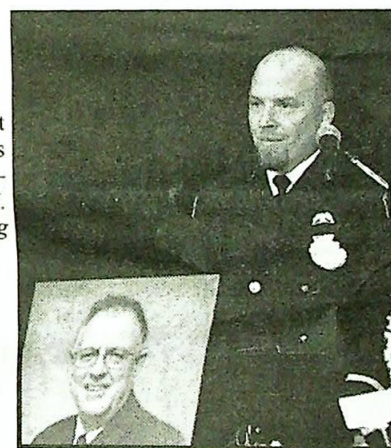


Pallbearers escort the casket of German Township Division Chief Don Neel about the engine to the gravesite. – photo submitted by John M. Buckman III, State Fire Training Director.



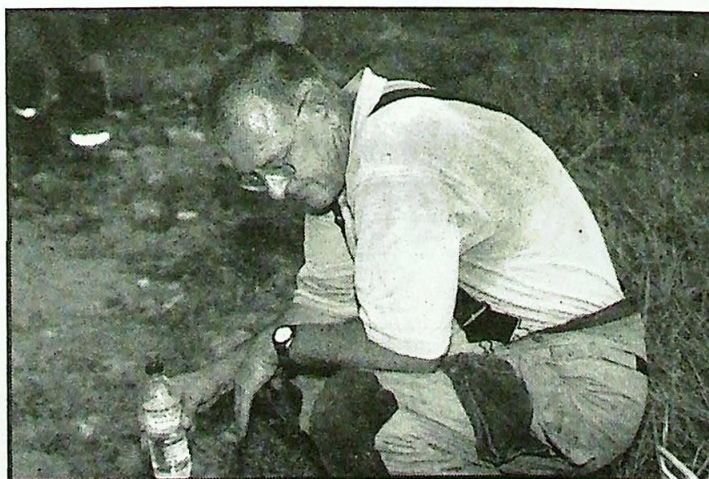
Beth (Neel) Plumlee, daughter, and Zach Plumlee, grandson, rode on the fire apparatus that carried her father, German Township Division Chief Don Neel. – photo submitted by John M. Buckman III, State Fire Training Director.

German Township Lieutenant Mike Plumlee spoke about his father-in-law Chief Don Neel. – photo submitted by John M. Buckman III, State Fire Training Director.

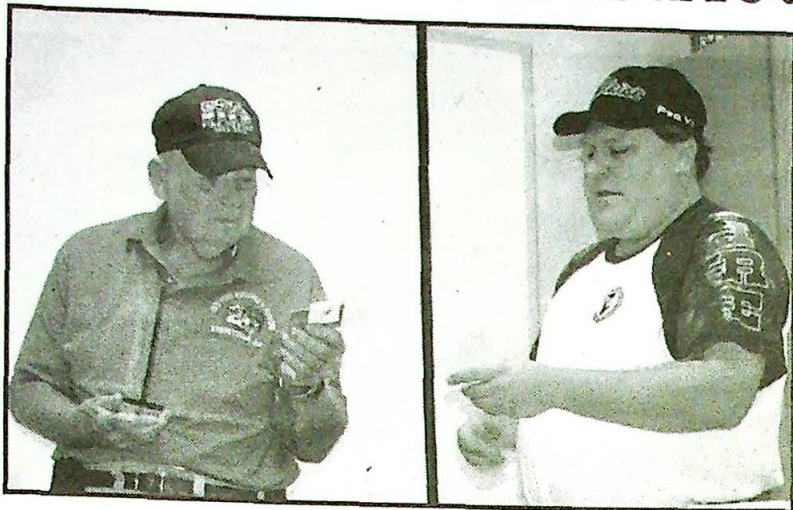


Gary Robison of the State Fire Marshal's office presented Cassie Neel with the Fire Marshal Meritorious plaque honoring her husband, Division Chief Don Neel. – photo submitted by John M. Buckman III, State Fire Training Director.

photos submitted by Captain Cindy Gries



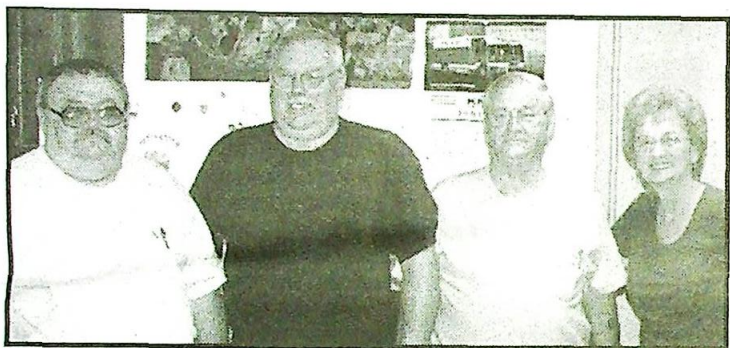
# Les Lantaff District 15 Global Award winner



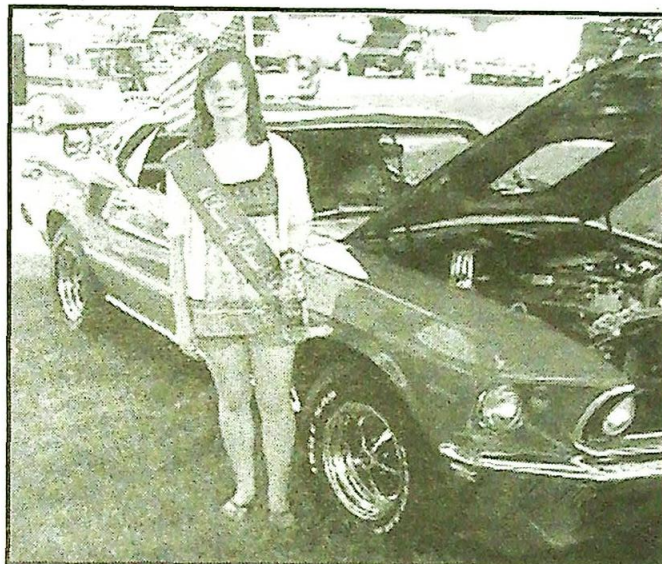
(At left) – Les Lantaff, Scott Twp. VFD, is shown receiving his 50 year Gold card from Steve Anderson, District 15 chairman.

(At right) – District 15 2011 Global Award winner Les Lantaff, Scott Twp. VFD, with members of his family that made a surprise visit when he also was presented his 50 year Gold Card. – submitted by Steve Anderson, vice-president elect.

## Yankeetown VFD members receive 50 year Gold Cards



Yankeetown VFD 50 year Gold Card members Charlie Christmas and Alan Wangler are shown with Chief Terry Snodgrass and Trustee Jan Snodgrass. – submitted by Steve Anderson, vice-president elect.

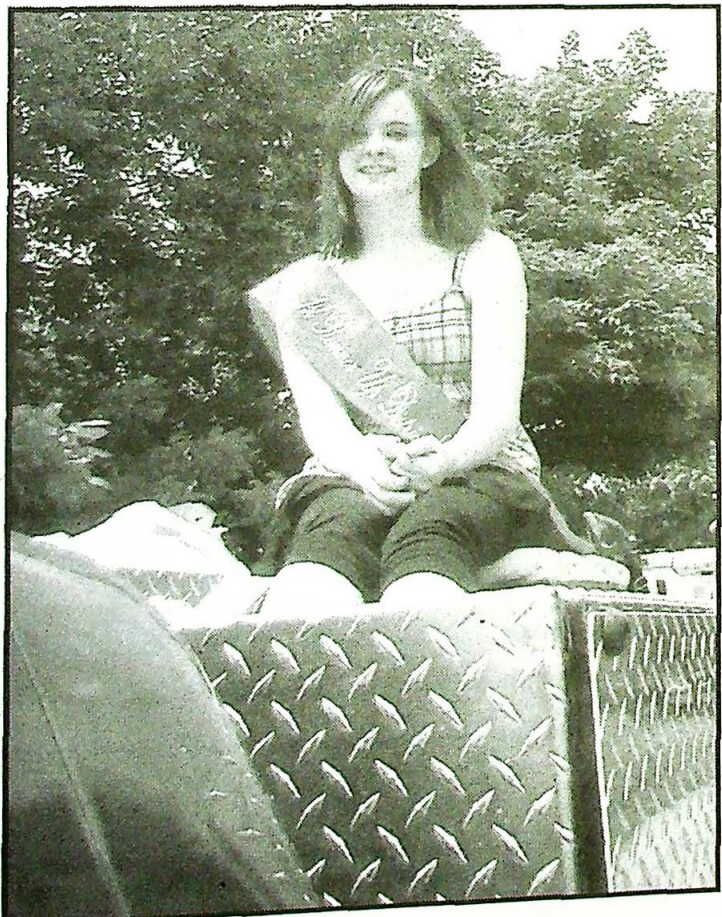


## Attends Eaton VFD. car show

Looks like Courtney Willoughby, District 8B Miss Flame 1st runner-up, has found her dream car at the car show held by the Eaton Volunteer Fire Department.

The car show was held on May 30th. – submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District 8B chairman.

## Rides in Parker City VFD June parade



District 8B Miss Flame first place runner up is shown riding in the Parker City Volunteer Fire Department parade held on June 25th at Parker City. – submitted by Steve Anderson, vice-president elect.

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Delegate	_____	_____	L _____	_____
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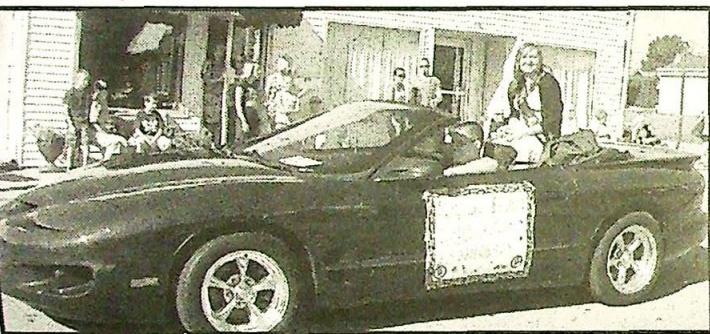
# Sellersburg celebrates with a parade and festival



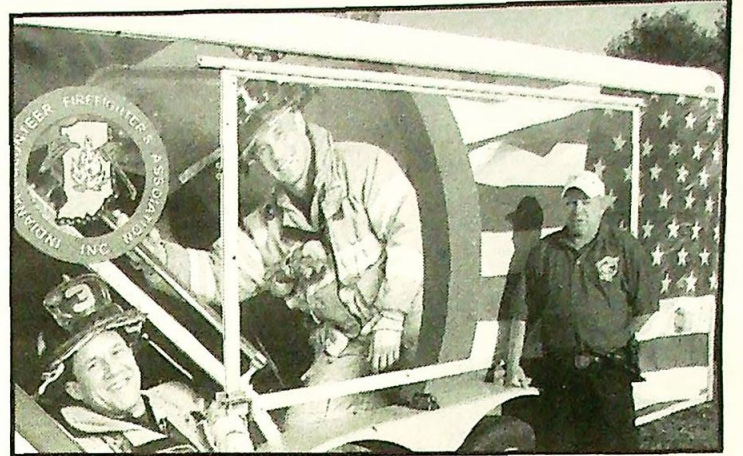
(Pictured, top left) – IVFA trailer in the parade.



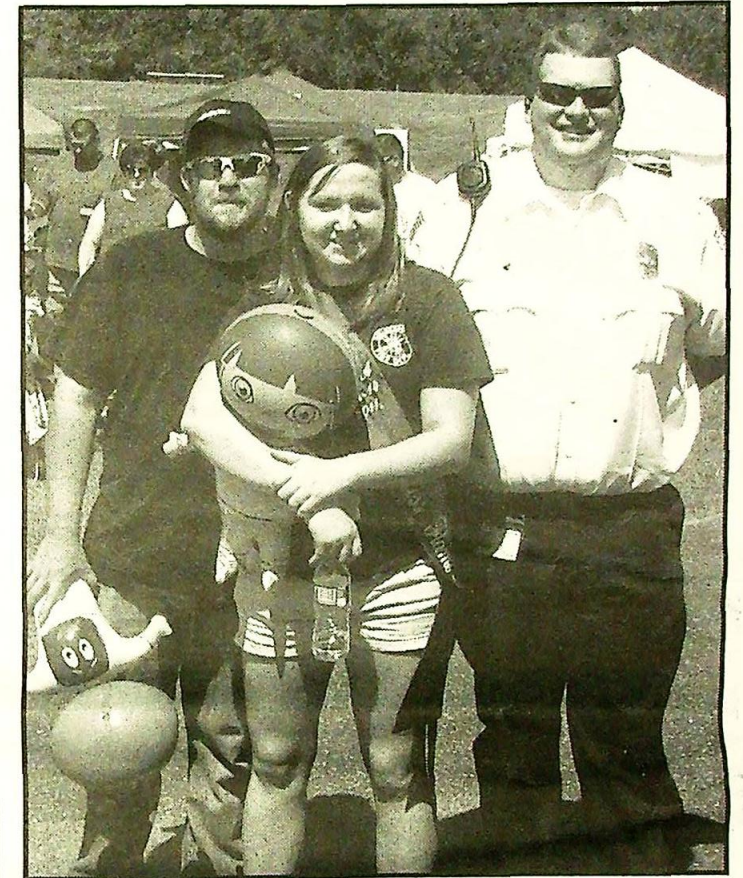
(Pictured, middle left) – District 14 chairman Rick Cannon gives a trophy to Charlestown Fire Department.



(Pictured, bottom left) – Miss Flame Rebecca Cannon rides in the parade.



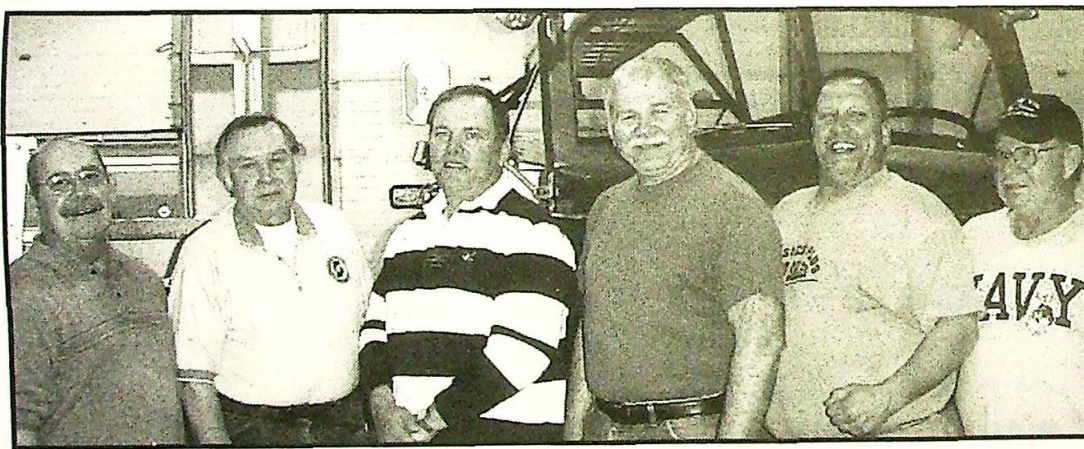
(Pictured, top right) – District 14 chairman Rick Cannon in front of the new and improved IVFA trailer.



(Pictured, bottom right) – Miss Flame poses here with firefighters JD Hacker and Jordan Arnholt to hand out Dora dolls to all the kids that were donated to the fire department from light up toys.

– submitted by District 14 chairman Rick Cannon.

## Berne FD members receive 25 year pins



Pictured are David Beitler, Walt Reiter (who presented the pins), John Crider, Chuck Padgett, Brian Grimm and Jerry Alberson.

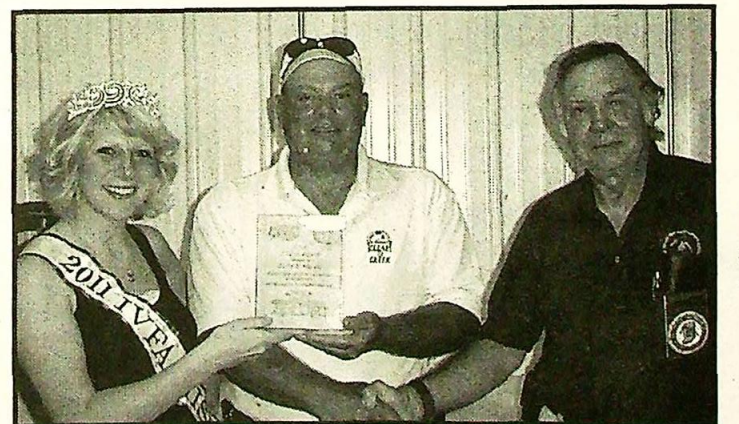
David Beitler accepted the 50 year pin for his father, Calvin Beitler. – submitted by Walt Reiter, District 7 chairman.

## Thieman receives 50 year pin



50 year pin recipient, Paul Thieman, Nottingham VFD. – submitted by Walt Reiter, District 7 chairman.

## Jerry Helvie named District 7 2011 Global Award winner

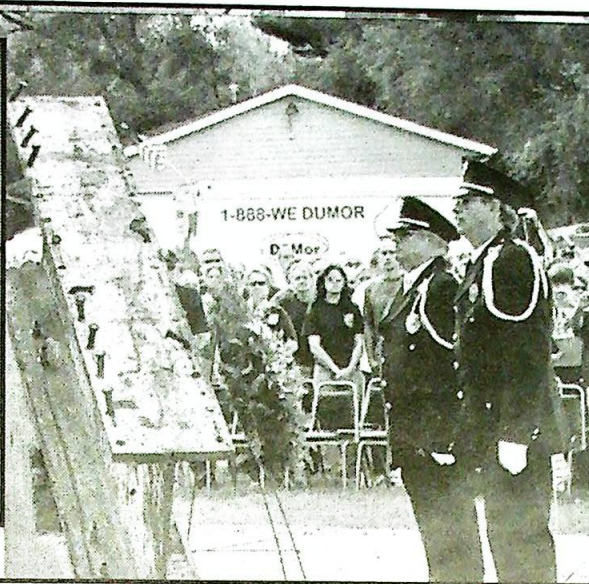
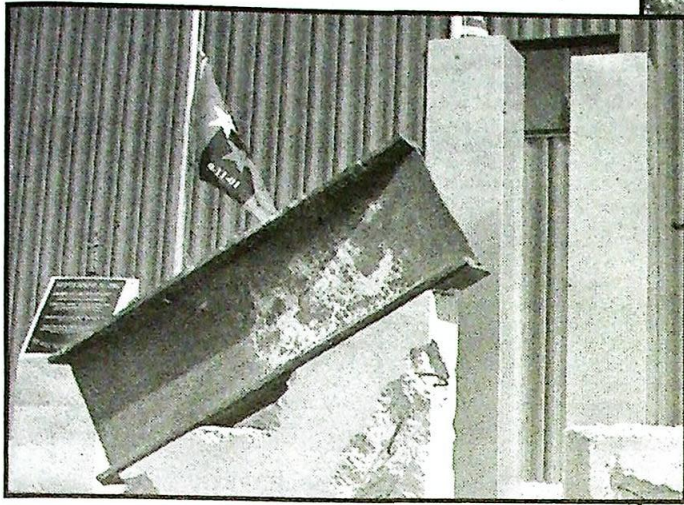


Jerry Helvie, Chief of Bippus VFD, received the Global Award for District 7.

With him is District 7 Miss Flame Kaylea Konger, 2011 state Miss Flame and Walt Reiter, District 7 chairman. – submitted by Walt Reiter, District 7 chairman.

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# Osolo Twp. Fire Dept. 9/11 memorial highlights



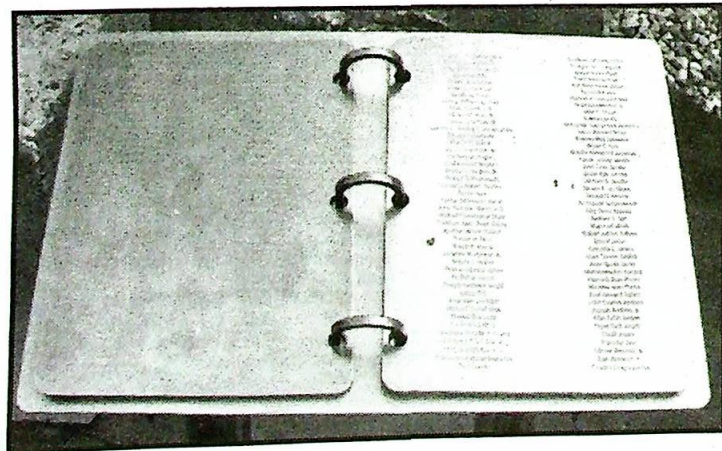
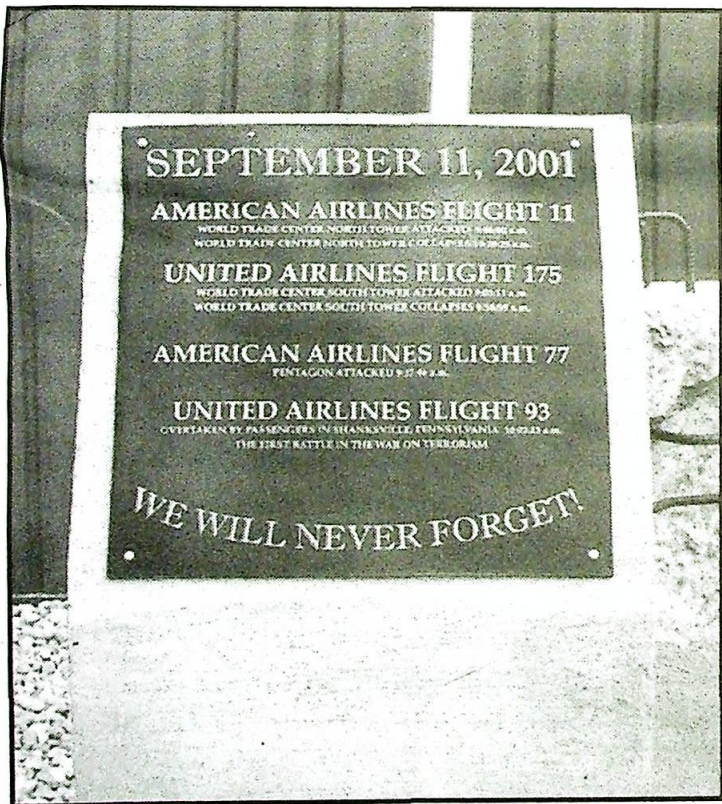
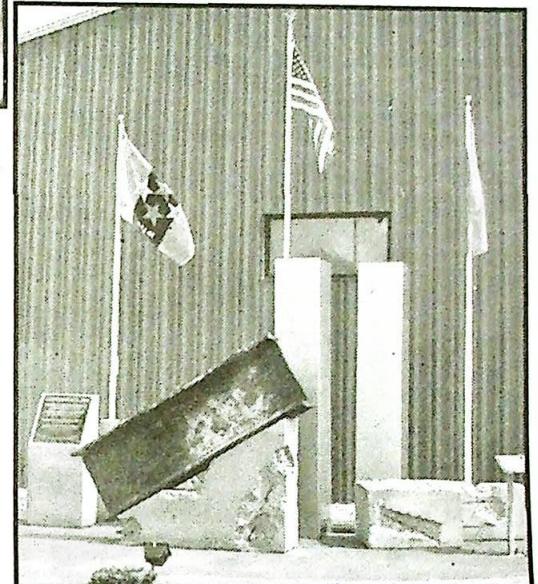
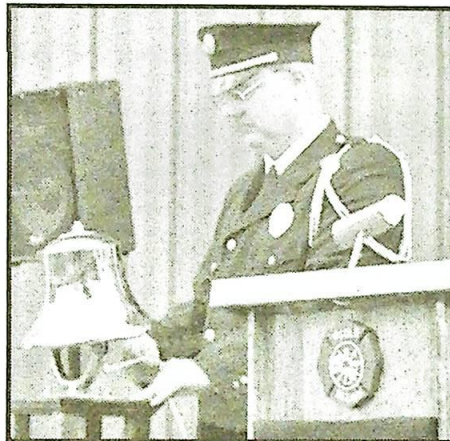
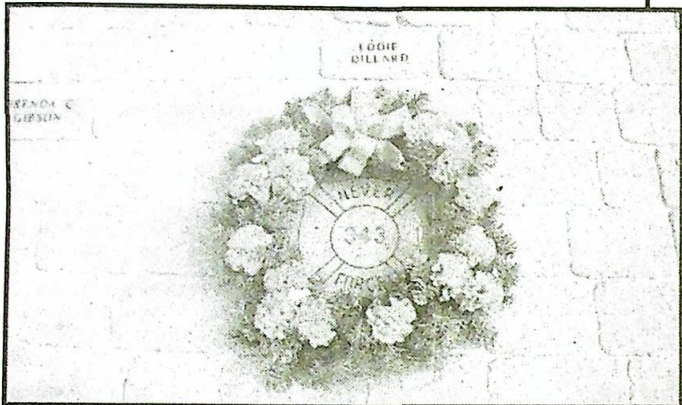
Top far left – Closeup of the beam from the World Trade Center's north tower with replica of the Twin Towers in the back.

Top left – Placing the wreath in front of the beam at the 9/11 monument and memorial service held at Osolo Twp. Fire Dept.

Middle photos (far left) – This walkway shows those who lost their lives from Indiana at the World Trade Center Towers.

Middle photos (middle left) – Asst. Chief Joe Johnston rings the bell for the final call ending the memorial service at Osolo Twp. Fire Dept.

Middle photos (right) – Permanent display of the beam from the World Trade Center's north tower at the Osolo Fire Department.



Pictured above – Remembrance of those who lost their lives on 9/11/01 on permanent display at Osolo Twp. Fire Department.

The names of all civilians, firefighters, EMT's, policemen, on the airlines, etc. are all listed on the tablet shown in the above photo. – All photos submitted by Terry Smith, District 4 chairman.

### 2012 IVFA CONVENTION VENDOR REGISTRATION FORM Horseshoe Southern Indiana Elizabeth, Indiana June 13-16

Vendor Setup:	Wednesday, June 13	8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
	Thursday, June 14	8:00 AM to 10:00 AM
Exhibit Hours:	Thursday, June 14	10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
	Friday, June 15	11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Vendor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: ( ) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: ( ) - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

We are offering three levels of vendor sponsorship:

Level 1: (1) 8x8 booth space or (1) apparatus display (up to 3 trucks)

Level 2: (1) 8x8 booth space or (1) apparatus display (up to 3 trucks), Co-Sponsor in the Vendors Hot Dog & Beer Bust that includes a small amount of speaking time with the entire group, during this time you will also draw for a door prize that your company provides. (Tickets will be provided and handed out at your booth).

Level 3: (1) 8x8 booth space or (1) apparatus display (up to 3 trucks), Sponsor of a meal or event during the convention that includes speaking time with the entire group at the meal or event. (All events will have only 1 or 2 sponsors per event depending on the cost of the event).

Extra 8x8 booth spaces or apparatus displays can be purchased also.

Level 1 sponsor: \_\_\_\_ (1) booth space or \_\_\_\_ (1) apparatus display (\$200.00 fee)

Level 2 sponsor: \_\_\_\_ (1) booth space or \_\_\_\_ (1) apparatus display (300.00 fee and door prize for raffle)

Level 3 sponsor: \_\_\_\_ (1) booth space or \_\_\_\_ (1) apparatus display (\$1000.00 fee)

Extra space: \_\_\_\_ (1) 8x8 booth space or \_\_\_\_ (1) apparatus display (up to 3 trucks) (\$150.00 fee)

Total Cost: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 50% deposit enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable and mail to: Convention 2012, P.O. Box 1521, New Albany, IN 47151

Signature below signifies that Vendor has read and understands the "Exhibition Rules, Regulations, and Conditions" sheet, and agrees to be bound by all terms listed.

Vendor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*To make room reservations call Horseshoe So. Indiana at: 866-766-2671 (Group code: IVFA)

----- Office use only -----  
2012 Vendor Chairman Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Ck #: \_\_\_\_\_ Booth #: \_\_\_\_\_

# 2011 CONVENTION REPORT . . . . .

by Larry Bartlow, secretary

## INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION 2011 ANNUAL CONVENTION

### BUSINESS MEETING

Date: Friday, June 17, 2011  
Place: Century Center  
South Bend, Indiana

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Good morning. I call the 65th Annual Meeting of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association to order. At this time I ask everyone to stand, and I'm going to ask the vice president to come and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

If you remain standing, I'm going to ask our Chaplain, Ed Gerdowsky, to come and lead us in our morning invocation.

District chairmen, I ask you to distribute your delegate vouchers and see that they are filled out properly. Remember that only one delegate from each department will receive mileage from their home to South Bend and back. Also, chairmen, please poll your districts and record them on the roll call tally sheet.

At this time, I'm calling the credentials committee to come forward. Credentials chairman is Larry Bartlow, members Larry Ketchum, Jim Parker, Jack Zeeks, and Mitch Parish.

Also calling the mileage committee, Chairman Beverly Harker, and members Jack Kerney, Richard Glant, Don Cushman and Jim Bradford.

At this time we'll have the reading of the minutes of the 2010 annual meeting.

**MR. WATLAND:** District 2 makes a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** We have a motion on the floor from District 2, Paul Watland, to dismiss the reading of the minutes.

**MR. PAPE:** Second.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** We have a second on the floor from District 8A chairman, Bill Pape.

All in favor signify by saying aye. (Audience response.) And oppose the same sign. (No response.)

Also, the rules of the floor this morning of the convention, annual meeting, is if you wish to speak before the body, we ask you to come to the center microphone. State your name, your district which you're representing and your business so that everything can be recorded clearly in our minutes of our annual meeting.

At this time we're going to ask for officers' reports, starting with the

### OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

To my fellow firefighters, today is my last opportunity to speak to you from the convention platform as your president. I am profoundly grateful to you for giving me the honor to serve and work for you over the past three years.

I am grateful to my past vice presidents, Buz Koehler and David Israel, and to my executive board who has served with me for the past three years, most of all the past presidents that I have called upon for the advice and for clarification. I want to thank my home district, 17B especially, the Lawrence County Firefighter's Association for their continued support while I served as district chairman and president. I didn't even dream when I met the first IVFA officer, Carl Davis, at my first IVFA district meeting that I would be standing here before you today.

It has been a time of transformation, and we have all risen to our new challenges. We have always said that the volunteer firefighter department is the fabric of our community. And we as an association over the past three years have made our social fabric stronger. You as an IVFA member have made your passage stronger and helped us see our goals and reach them to great efforts. I've tried to steer over my course as president by our ending values to continue to create and promote good will amongst our members. We are determined to serve and we are determined to protect. I have tried to examine the issues that affect us as volunteers, identify them and take a position, whether it's a popular one or not, and try to communicate that to our members, as well as other fire service organizations among the state, along with the state-elected leadership.

I have sought my best to give the association and its member's effective leadership with new ideas and policies to this new time in the fire service which changes every day. And I've always tried to focus on the future. I've tried to manage and control the affairs and the properties of the association to the best of my ability.

I have failed in the area of the association Web site. For the past five months, we have had major problems and are once again looking for a Web master. It has caused me personal problems and which has caused our association issues to where the Web site is now not current and lacking current information. I take sole responsibility for this failure, and I apologize.

As I leave the office, I feel good about the association and the steps we have made. We have continued to serve as a strong voice to you and us, the volunteers. We once again are known at the statehouse and are called upon often to come to the table to plan, discuss, and work toward the future of

the fire service of the state. This is not done by one person, but done by following the visions and goals.

Let me challenge you for the future. Stand up when called to share your heart's desire. Tell the leadership of the state what the need is of your local community. Educate the leaders who make the laws for us. Stand strong and stand proud. Change, sometimes it's time for a change when looking to the future. Come to the table with a vision for the future. Be willing to change, and if it comes to a sacrifice of the ways of the past or the ways that it has been always done.

I wish the next president and his administration the very best. As I leave this office, I'll leave more idealistically, more full of hope, and more confident. My days in this office are nearly through, but my days of the service are not up. In the years ahead, I will never hold a position higher or more confident, more sacred than the president of this association that I have been proud to serve you. Thank you and may God bless you.

**Mr. Vice President.**

**MR. ISRAEL:** Just a quick note. I made a lot of travels this past year, made a lot of new friends. I'd like to thank the districts and the members of the departments that make up those districts for all your hospitality. I have a lot of new friends. Tim touched on the legislation. Thank you once again for when we called you to make that call. And we look forward to next year and meeting some more new people. Thank you.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Have any report from the secretary?

**MR. SECRETARY:** Pass.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** A report from the treasurer.

**TREASURER:** Pass.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Report from our chaplain.

**CHAPLAIN:** Pass.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Report from our sergeant-at-arms.

**SGT-AT-ARMS:** Pass.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** At this time, I'd like to welcome Barb Kerney.

**MS. KERNEY:** Thank you, Tim. Just one thing, I want to introduce you to our beautiful young ladies that have been our court of Ms. Flame this year. Our winner Kaylea Kongar, and our runner-up, Megan Kloeck, and the rest of them will tell you their names and the districts they're from.

**MS. KERNEY:** I want to thank the IVFA for all your support, Tim for his support and helping this program. And every year you give us money to present the girls with a small token of appreciation. So thanks again for all your support and your help and hope you continue to do this.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you, Barb, and thank you, ladies.

Reminding our district chairmen from the mileage committee, our mileage is .40.

Returning back to officer reports.

**CHAIRMAN OF BOARD:** Pass.

**PR Northwest, Jim Bradford.**

**MR. BRADFORD:** I will pass.

**PR Northeast, Jean Smith.**

**MR. SMITH:** Jean Smith, PR Northeast. Thank you, everybody, for coming up here to our PR area. I hope you have a good time.

**PR West Central, Diane Harrison.**

**MS. HARRISON:** Pass.

**PR East Central, Don Cushman.**

**MR. CUSHMAN:** Pass.

**PR Southwest, Jim Abrams.**

**MR. ABRAMS:** Pass.

**PR Southeast, Al Williamson.**

**MR. WILLIAMSON:** Pass.

Past president's report,

**Past President Norm Crocker.**

(Didn't hear a response.)

Past president, Jim Parker.

**MR. PARKER:** Pass.

Past president, Mitch Parish.

**MR. PARISH:** Pass.

Past president, Richard Glant.

**MR. GLANT:** Pass.

Past president, Jack Zeeks.

**MR. ZEEKS:** Pass.

Past president, Buz Koehler.

**MR. KOEHLER:** Thank you, Mr.

President. It's been a pleasure working with the administration, and I look forward to working with the new one. Thank you all very much for allowing me to be with your meetings. Thank you.

Past president, Jack Kerney.

**MR. KERNEY:** Pass.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Starting in with our district reports.

District 1, Tom Orrell.

**MR. ORRELL:** Pass.

District 2, Paul Watland.

**MR. WATLAND:** Pass.

District 3, Dave Kauffman.

**MR. KAUFFMAN:** Pass.

District 4, Terry Smith.

**MR. SMITH:** District 4, Terry Smith.

Just want to thank all the guys here for your support and for allowing Districts 4 and 5 to put on this convention for you. We really enjoy doing it. Maybe somewhere down the line in the future we will try to do it again. They tell me the second time is a little easier. So thank you guys for allowing us to do this for you.

District 5, Tony Farrer.

**MR. FARRER:** All I want to say is just thanks everybody. Everybody's been a great support for us. Thanks for coming.

District 6, Jerry Sprague.

**MR. SPRAGUE:** Pass.

District 7, Walt Reiter.

**MR. REITER:** Just like to thank everybody for the support of my wife who won the Lois Boaz award. And also I'm very proud of Kaylea Konger from District 7. She's our state Miss Flame for next year.

District 8A, Bill Pape.

**MR. PAPE:** Pass.

District 8B, Lloyd Wright.

**MR. WRIGHT:** Pass.

District 9A, Leighanne Ellis.

**MS. ELLIS:** Pass.

District 9B, Randy Denton.

**MR. DENTON:** Pass.

District 10, John Ray.

**MR. RAY:** Pass.

District 11A, Jack McFarland.

**MR. MCFARLAND:** Pass.

District 11B, Larry Southard.

**MR. SOUTHARD:** Pass.

District 12, Larry Bruner.

**MR. BRUNER:** Pass.

District 13A, Carol Thrawley.

**MR. THRAWLEY:** Pass.

District 13B, Jeff Biehl.

**MR. BIEHL:** Pass.

District 14, Rick Cannon.

**MR. CANNON:** Pass.

District 15, Steve Anderson.

**MR. ANDERSON:** Pass.

District 16, Paul Holcomb.

**MR. HOLCOMB:** Pass.

District 17A, Sam Emery.

**MR. EMERY:** Pass.

District 17B, Steve Nolan.

**MR. NOLAN:** Pass.

District 18, John Smith.

**MR. SMITH:** Pass.

District 19, Ed Scheele.

**MR. SCHEELE:** Pass.

District 21, Don Fultz.

**MR. FULTZ:** Pass.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** At this time I'm going to ask our Vice President to come and to deal with our annual election of our convention for 2013.

**MR. ISRAEL:** If you want to do a convention, you need to have it in by February 1st. We have that set up. I know I had one wanting to come in to bid for 2013. But anybody for like 2014, that does have to be in to the committee by February 1st. So if you're planning, get started now. With us today, even though we only have one bidding, we still have to vote on it. Scott Harrison will come up here with his people from Muncie and kind of tell us what they got planned and maybe some rates, room rates and stuff. We still have to go through the formalities of it.

**MR. HARRISON:** Ed and I have been working on this for a while, putting this together. We're going to co-chair with District 8A and 8B. I'm going to turn it over to Jodi Massey. She is the director for sales and marketing for the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie, which would be the site.

**MS. MASSEY:** Good morning, everybody. As you know, we had a tragedy in Muncie and that facility will be the facility which we will see a lot of you guys on Monday and Tuesday. There is a lot of work to be done before that happens. The fact that I'm sitting up here with you guys today after this tragedy we had this week—we from Muncie have embraced Scott's family and recognize certainly all the heroes in this room as well as him who put your lives on the line every day.

We have been working for a couple years now trying to put this together for you. We have a lot of different attractions and entertainment in Muncie. We have the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Ball State University, different sports and recreational facilities, activities.

We have revitalized the historic downtown, which is where the Horizon Convention Center is. Since it was presented to you in 2009, we've added six different restaurants, and shops, just in those two years. So we've been working hard to try to keep that up. There are lots of different restaurants to which you guys will receive discounts, both before and after the convention, as well as during. We have nightlife down there. And I know you guys are a very family-oriented convention. We are attached to the second largest children's museum in the state. You saw Garfield here last year. It is very Garfield themed. For those of you who don't know, Jim Davis resides in Muncie. His studios are there. And so Garfield can be very present in everything we do. One of the fun things we do is a Garfield dinner where we have lasagna because of course you can't have Garfield in the building without it.

He'll do autographs. He'll sign, he'll dance with you and it's just a really fun night. Tours and destinations, discounts that you can get I'm going to go through this pretty fast. Top ten reasons to come, Academy of Model Aeronautics, it's located in central Indiana, so it's a quick drive. It's centrally located for everyone. Minnetrista, we can do a reception there. And they actually told me that they will do for one of their exhibits a firefighters exhibit. Cardinal Greenway, which is a walking/biking trail, it's conveniently located off of 69, about eight minutes in off the interstate. Vera Mae's Bistro which is where we can have one of our receptions. Ball State University, which we've talked about using its auditorium for some things, and there's an art museum. They've really

renovated a lot of Ball State. Revitalized downtown hospitality district, and then, of course, the convention center testimonials, which I know you can't read. But they're all saying how wonderful we are. So if you want to know, I'll be happy to tell you.

We have 47,000 square feet, so plenty of rooms to bring in your trucks. We have free parking, which I know is probably a big deal to you guys. We have self-operated catering. So we can work with you and try to keep your prices down.

Player's Club in Yorktown is one of the top ten golf courses under \$50 in the United States. It wins it every year, and that's where we'll have your golf outing. Scott and Ed will try to bring in Waterball so we can take care of that downtown and bring back that tradition.

We have two different tiers of hotels. Your first is going to be your more upper tier, which is your Holiday Inn Express, Fairfield Inn and a brand new Comfort Inn & Suites are \$90 for a standard, \$110 for a suite. And then your Signature Inn, which at that time will be a Jamison with full renovation, and your Lee's Inn are going to be \$80 for a standard room. And, of course, in anticipation, we already created a logo for your convention. Scott and Ed can talk more about their part of it.

**MR. HARRISON:** The meals will be included as of right now. And it could change. It would be added, not subtracted from it. It will be all of your breakfasts, and those will be hot breakfasts. You'll have dinner Wednesday, Thursday and Friday night and definitely a lunch on Friday. The registration cost is going to be \$.75 per person.

And we're looking forward to having a good time. And we're going to try some different things. So there will be a lot of different activities.

Transportation will be provided to and from the hotels. And all the transportation is private coaches that are all ADA compliant. So if you have scooters, power chairs, wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, whatever, they will be able to transport back and forth. I know the distance from the hotel to the convention center is one turn, and it's a total distance of like two miles, two-and-a-half miles. So if you bring your bicycle, you can get some exercise and ride down there. The Greenway is not too far from the hotels and the convention center.

**ED:** This is a joint effort between 8A and 8B. Scott and I have worked on this for the last couple of years. Two years ago we lost our bid, so we're going to try it again. We'd like your support. And enjoy it. Thank you.

**MS. MASSEY:** One thing I forgot to mention is we have partnered with Hoosier Park and they're going to run shuttles on your free nights back and forth to the casino if you're interested in that, and that will be a complimentary service.

**MR. HARRISON:** And that also includes the horse racing, if they're racing there.

**MS. MASSEY:** If you haven't been to Hoosier Park, they have live racing there. It's a lot of fun and they have a family venue and a casino.

**MR. HARRISON:** That time of year I believe it will be the harness racing. I think the thoroughbred race is later in the year, but they do race both of them there.

**MS. MASSEY:** You guys got me two years ago. I was ready for you today and now I have silence. Thanks so much, and we hope to see you in Muncie in 2013.

**MR. ISRAEL:** Since there is only one bidding, I don't know if it's proper or not—but I know they'll straighten me out if it's not—I should obtain the motion that we have 2013 convention at Muncie.

**SPEAKER:** Mr. Vice president, I make a motion that we hold the 2013 convention in Muncie.

**MR. ISRAEL:** Do I have a second?

Leighanne Ellis from 9A.  
I'm terrible with names. I'll do a roll call vote. As far as all those in favor, say aye. (Audience response.) All opposed? (Audience response.) Do a roll call vote? Was it that close? Okay. I figure you're just jacking with me, so we're going to Muncie.

**MS. MASSEY:** Thanks a lot, guys.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Now to our committee reports.

From our central office, Jack Kerney.

**SPEAKER:** A roll call vote has been called for, so we'll need to take one.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Moving back to our business, moving back to the annual meeting. The place for 2013, District 1, Tom Orrell.

Do a paper ballot, Mr. Parliamentarian, or do a vote by voice by district?

**SPEAKER:** Mr. President, why don't we let them cast a ballot.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** District chairmen poll your districts for a ballot vote for 2013.

**SPEAKER:** Mr. President, I may be the only dumb one here, but what are we voting yes or no for?

**MR. PRESIDENT:** To have our convention in 2013 in Muncie.

**SPEAKER:** So if it's not there, there's no convention?

**MR. PRESIDENT:** That's what's been brought up on the floor, and that's what we're voting for.

**SPEAKER:** Okay. Just wanted a clarification. If it's no, then the committee would have to look for another site.

**PRESIDENT:** It goes back to the

convention committee, and the convention committee will then decide where it's going.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** At this time we're going to continue our business. And I'm going to ask Jack Kerney to come forward to give his committee report.

Please, we have a lot of business to handle this morning. I'm going to ask the district chairmen to calm your districts down. Cast your ballot for 2013. And, Jack, continue your morning business on the committee report from central office.

**MR. KERNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Report from the central office: License plates that we sent out for the year of 2010 were 3,121. To date for 2011, we've already sent out 2,074. So I think with the questionnaire we sent out with the survey, the license plate form on there has really helped our license plate tremendously. And that include 40 individuals. To date, dues expiring for 2012, 135 departments, 3,262 members, that includes three associates' and 17 individuals. That concludes my report, Mr. President.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you. Membership and marketing committee, Diane.

**MS. HARRISON:** Our committee has been working really hard to find advantages for our members. We did in March this past year, we took our first annual cruise to Cozumel and Key West. We have plans on the table for 2012, sometime between July, August area timeframe to go to Alaska.

There will be more information coming out in the August paper, and we'd like to see you all on the boat with us.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you, Diane. Public relations and education, Carol Thrawley.

**MR. THRAWLEY:** Morning. I want to thank Districts 4 and 5 for hosting this convention. It's been a good convention. South Bend is wonderful. Marlene and I have traveled with the children that we have ever since 2006.

We've always talked about this being a lovely place. You guys have done a great job on this convention.

As far as public relations are concerned, you folks have had the opportunity to see the IVFA trailer. It's there for your use. If someone wants to set it up for a festival or a program, don't hesitate to call. A lot of your fire chiefs don't know it's available to come to your program. You can get a hold of us and let us know that you'd like to have it. It's available. Just tell us and we'll pull it up to you. We have public relations paperwork in there, and you guys just man the trailer and run it from there.

The emergency services program in August, sponsored by the I-Chiefs, we will be there. We've have a booth set up. Folks come on by and visit with us. Show your support both for the IVFA and the I-Chiefs. Let them know we are a force out here, and we're not some organization sitting behind and not doing anything. We're going to start coming to some conferences and make ourselves known that we are here and we are working for you as to the voluntary fire service in the state of Indiana.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Hero's Competition.

**MR. THRAWLEY:** Hero's Competition was held May 13 and 14 at the Boone County fire training ground. Anthis out of Fort Wayne, Anthis School, Career Center, was the winning team up there. We had roughly a hundred kids this go-round. So we've pretty much doubled what we had from last year. The one disappointment of the event was Evansville's school; those kids were on their way up. Their bus broke down north of Evansville about 20 miles. John Buckman and German Township Fire Department down there hustled around to try to get their fire department's vehicles lined up to get those kids transported up here. The school corporation down there said no, we will not use your vehicle; this is a school function, not your fire department function. So those roughly 20 kids did not get to come up. Very disappointing on that.

I want to thank Jeff Hayes and his group for getting it put together. You guys need to come out and support this. Their vendor attendance doubled from last year. And it's just a good time. David, where are you at? David was one

# Convention minutes continued . . . - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 34

**MR. HOLCOMB:** Mr. President, well underway. Hopefully I like to think we're ahead of schedule with everything in our planning. Horseshoe has been very generous in working with us and getting everything lined up to have a great convention next year. We'll talk about that later. I'd like to say that at the conclusion of the meeting today at the booth, in front of the booth here in the main hallway where you did registration, we'll have preregistration. And again following the banquet from 9:00 to 11:00 tonight and resuming tomorrow morning at the lobby of the hotel as you check out between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00, we're doing our preregistration. That's \$60 preregistration, \$75 after the May 1st deadline. And we will also be taking pre-orders for our shirts. Thank you, Mr. President.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you. Unfortunately this year the Board of Firefighter's Standards and Education cancelled their meeting that is normally held during the convention and has been rescheduled for this coming Monday night in Greenfield. At the annual convention, there always has been a great turnout for this meeting for volunteers as we voice our opinion to this board. And I encourage you to make all effort to attend Monday night's meeting and don't let them — that has caused the cancellation of that meeting to continue to cancel this meeting in the future, because of the attendance and the remarks and the statements that are being made at our convention.

This is an important part for the fire service, and I encourage you to voice your opinion to this board. They're not going to be able to hear us if we do not voice our opinion. And just because they backed out and did not show up for this convention meeting, does not mean that our voice does not need to be heard. So when it comes to the Firefighter Board of Standards and Education, I ask that you voice your opinion at these meetings.

**MR. THRAWLEY:** Mr. President, Carol Thrawley, 13A. I was in conversation last evening about quarter to 12:00 with Chairman Jeff Hayes, president of the Board for the Standards and Education. He asked me to express sincerely his apologies, the lack of control of the board for them not being here. He did ask me to express the urgency of having all the instructors that can possibly come to this meeting Monday night. There will be decisions made that will affect the instructors. It's very urgent that you folks

get there and voice your opinion and your desires and what you feel like the board needs to be doing, and the direction that the board needs to be going with the instructors. He said there are some serious issues and you need to be there. It will be at the Buck Creek Township Volunteer Fire Department. They're located at Indianapolis Regional Airport, Mount Comfort Airport in Mount Comfort, Indiana. You take I-70 to Mount Comfort Road and go north.

**MARSHAL GREESON:** There is one board member here from that board. That's myself.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** There's two. Jack Kerney.

**MARSHAL GREESON:** Jack, I'm sorry, I apologize. The reason I say that is if there's someone here who cannot make Monday night's meeting, if you have an issue that you would like me to carry back, I'd be glad to do that. We have a booth here in the hall in the Fire Marshal's Office. So come by and express yourself and I'll carry your mail.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you. Volunteer Firefighter Training Task Force, Steve Anderson.

**MR. ANDERSON:** Steve Anderson, District 15. If you remember, last year we went through some revisions of some of the training, especially on the Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2 and mandatory. And we had a group of individuals that were working on that. We are really right now looking for people that have gone through the pilot program with the new testing to hear their input and their feedback. The working group that was put together through Chief Buckman has not met lately. So if I do get any feedback or

Tim or any other district chairmen can bring it up to our meetings and we can get that, then we will move forward with that.

While I'm up here, I want to hit another topic that doesn't really fit in any category. Those of you in Terre Haute last year remember the green forms. What we collected last year from about 50 to 75 fire departments was information that can help us both in training, in legislation, that can give us the state of the volunteer fire service and the value of the fire service. Those of you that were not at Terre Haute last year, and your fire department did not get an opportunity to fill one of these out, I have new and improved yellow forms for this year. During any of the breaks that we have this morning while there's votes being taken and things like that, if you'll

come back to the little flag that says 15, I can give one of these to you and you can fill it out during your downtime and then turn it back in and we'll add that and compile it with the other information that we've obtained. Thank you.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** The annual 2010 audit has been taken and given to the audit committee, review of our audit committee yesterday, reviewed the audit of the association, and the audit committee has passed the audit given to the association. And at this time we'd like to take a vote to continue to accept the 2010 audit that was presented to the audit committee yesterday for your approval. Is there any question? I have a motion on the floor to accept the 2010 audit as given to the audit committee.

**MR. KOEHLER:** Past President Koehler makes a motion that we accept the recommendation of the committee to accept the audit.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** I have a motion on the floor. Do I have a second? Larry Bruner.

**MR. BRUNER:** District 12, Second.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** I have a second. All signify by saying aye for acceptance of the motion of accepting the 2010 audit, signify by saying aye. (Audience response.) Opposed to same. (No response heard.)

**MR. ISRAEL:** Tonight at the banquet we'll be presenting our Global Awards.

We'll have a representative from Global presenting those. Names will be read. If your recipient is present, when the name is called, they will be able to walk up there, and you and the district chairman and the representative of Global will present that award to them. We had a pretty good turnout for Global awards. On the other awards like the Ollie Sandberg and the Angel award, which is for the female firefighter, there are more than two or three ladies in the Association.

Same with the Ollie Sandberg Award, it's kind of like a mental aptitude award. There are more than four or five people out there that's deserving of that award. So those do have to be in by February 1st. Send them to the central office. We should be having numbers of 20 or 30 so we can work a lot harder. So for next year, let's try to get those numbers up. Thank you.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Waiting for the credentials committee for the vote that was taken on the floor. Paul Holcomb, come forward, please. I think you forgot something.

**MR. HOLCOMB:** Yes, I did. Thank you, Mr. President.

Also as part of our preregistration, after we collect our first 100 preregistrations, we will be giving away a gift basket, which will be on display at our table. It has a lot of good stuff in it, but it also has a free night's stay that can be used at the convention and dinner for two at Legend's Restaurant that will be available to be used during the convention. So minimum, probably at least a \$200 value, along with everything in the basket.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you.

**MR. KOEHLER:** Mr. President.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Yes, sir.

**MR. KOEHLER:** Past President Koehler. I would like to ask everyone in the room since we have a minute here, since our Web site is in a stalled position right now, I think we need to communicate a little bit better. So all of you folks have all of the e-mails for all of the officers in this association. And I would like if you have an event, a situation, or something that needs to get out, please use e-mails just to block that group of people off in one area. And you can shoot an e-mail out to every one of them, very easily. So if you would do that in the meantime, we can keep the communications open a little bit better for the future.

Thank you.

**SPEAKER:** Mr. President.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Yes, sir.

**SPEAKER:** The reports of the committees and members and district chairmen and PR and everything, there was no report given on John Davies, the historian. John is not in good health and his wife has been operated on. He said would you report that the doctor said for us not to travel to South Bend on account of his wife's health. But I think a lot of you people know her, but I think we ought to keep her in our minds and hope and pray they get better.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** John did e-mail me and say they would not be coming and Maxine was not in good health.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Marshal Greeson, do you have anything you'd like to fill in while we're in downtime?

**MARSHAL:** I don't know how many of you are aware. There's a group of us working on an analysis or an assessment of the fire services in the state of Indiana.

The president of IVFA is on that board, Larry Curl's been attending. The

Indiana Fire Chief's Association is represented. The Indiana Professional Firefighter Union is represented, the Fire Marshal's Office and the Indiana Firefighter's Association. We've been meeting now for right at a year and we've probably had six, eight meetings. The first

few meetings we brainstormed a lot of priorities that each one of us brought to the meeting. I think we started out with about 15 or 20, and we narrowed it to four. The four priorities that we agreed to go forward and work on as a team; the four priorities are the funding of the fire service, training, health and safety, and assistance or oversight for the Fire Marshal's Office.

Real soon you're all going to be receiving a survey that will ask you questions about those four areas. It will ask you questions about funding, ask you questions about training, about health and safety, about — when I say oversight and assistance, I don't mean somebody with a hammer.

I mean if you need assistance with apparatus specs, if you need assistance with grant writing, some type of assistance that the Fire Marshal's Office may be able to provide — we have a lot of resources up there — whether it's code enforcement or other things. I would hope that you would fill that survey out objectively and get that back to us because two things are

going to occur. One, we have to have a white paper to the governor here by the end of the summer, with what we find out in this assessment, where the fire service is and how we can go forward.

And, secondly, and maybe more importantly, we want to create a legislative agenda to make sure that proper funding is there for the fire service. None of us really know what's going to happen with government reorganization and how it's going to go. But what's more important is that the fire service is funded properly. And however we need to do that, we need to work together legislatively to do that. So when you receive that survey, take the time and read it. It's lengthy. I'll be honest with you. But we really want to get information from everyone out there so we can make some good decisions, really for the future of the fire service. So, again, I'm around today. So if you want to talk about that, I'll be glad to listen. Thank you very much.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you. Madame Treasurer.

**MS. HARKER:** The mileage committee would like to know if everybody has turned their delegates' vouchers in. If not, we need them right away.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** If you want your check, the treasurer is asking for your vouchers to be turned in, district chairmen, from your districts.

**SPEAKER:** Mr. President, can I have

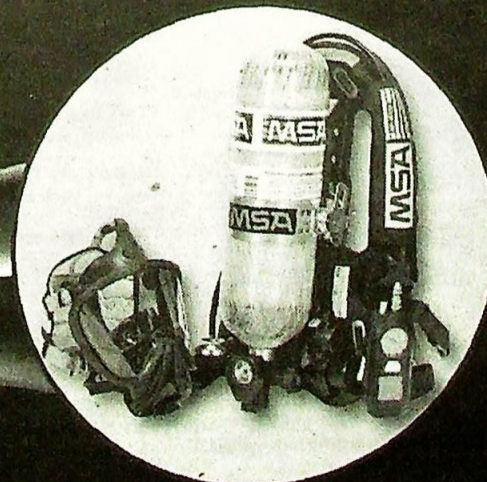
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# Convention minutes continued . . .

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the floor for a moment? I have an announcement to make, please.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Sure.  
**SPEAKER:** Tonight at the banquet we've got all the tables sold and everything. If you need to know your numbers, go to the trailer up there. Judy will have numbers for the table. Also, we got some extra tables we're putting out this morning. We did talk to Alex. So if you need to reserve a table go up and see Judy and she'll assign you a number for that. The numbers are on the trailer. Does anyone have any questions or anything? Okay people.

**MR. SMITH:** We have one district in here that wants nine at their table. Would they see my wife and notify her of that?

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Mr. Secretary, do you have a report from the credentials committee? Our vote has been tallied, and we will be going to Muncie in 2013.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Credentials committee has reported that there are 140 delegates casting votes this morning at our meeting.

At this time we're going to proceed with our annual elections. Let me introduce our nominating committee. Our chairman was our past president and the late Ivan Nevil. Members are Jim Abrams, Don Fultz and Ed Scheele.

We have checked out the validation of all the nominees, and they do meet the criteria established by the bylaws and any nominee from the floor will have to be verified before we can go on in the elections and make sure they are verified also by the established bylaws so they can hold the office and meet the same criteria.

At this time the nominating committee puts into motion the name of David Israel for our president. Are there any other nominations from the floor? (Called three times) Mr. Secretary.

**MR. SECRETARY:** Secretary Larry Bartlow. I cast one unanimous vote for David Israel for president next year.

**MR. ISRAEL:** Tim goes, "Do you want to say something?" And I said, "Oh, yeah, sure." Thanks, I think.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Nomination committee puts into motion the nomination, the name of Steve Anderson for vice president. Are there any other nominations from the floor?

**SPEAKER:** Walt Reiter, District 7, nominates Mike Mackin.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** We ask the sergeant-at-arms to bar the doors. Districts, we ask you to tally your districts. Now tally your districts.

**MR. MACKIN:** Mike Mackin, District 6. May I have the floor?

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Yes.

**MR. MACKIN:** Thank you. And the reason why I'm running for this office, I would like to make a proposal to the members. One, I would like to maybe present, say, six schools throughout the state, and that will be like in the PR areas. On this you will be able to decide where you want it in your PR area, what kind of classes. We can get of list of classes. And you the members will be able to decide what classes you want and the time, spring, fall, whatever. This way we can try to get some involvement from the members of the association. I think this is one thing that needs to be done is involvement from our membership.

Second thing I would like to maybe present, and that is maybe going with a mentor program. And that is us that are here right now go back to our departments, find a younger member that could be interested in the IVFA, have them — take them under your wings, bring them to the district meetings, bring them to the convention, try to get involvement with the younger members. Thank you.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Steve Anderson, would you like to have the floor?

**MR. ANDERSON:** I never pass an opportunity up. For those of you who don't know, I'm Steve Anderson from District 15. I've been involved in several conventions down there. We need people in this state to take initiatives like Mike just mentioned, not just officers. So I would challenge anybody in the room and anybody that can hear this through the minutes to come up with these ideas themselves. It doesn't have to be a state officer to do this. There's 18,000 of us, probably 20,000 if we got some members that we don't have officially listed. So there's a lot 18,000 people can do, not just 50. So thank you very much.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you. District chairmen, would you turn your votes in?

**MR. SECRETARY:** Vote count total, Steve Anderson for vice president.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Vice president, Steve Anderson.

Continuing on with our nominations. The nominating committee puts into nomination the name of Diane Harrison for secretary. Are there any other nominations from the floor?

**MR. KRUBZA:** Mr. President, Mike Krubza, District 13A. I'd like to put Carol Thrawley name in for secretary.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** I have a name of Carol Thrawley.

Sergeant-at-arms, will you open the door for just a minute?

Now, will you close the doors, please? At this time we close the nominations for

secretary. Districts tally your districts for either Diane Harrison or Carol Thrawley? Diane, would you like to say anything?

**MS. HARRISON:** Hi, everyone, I'm Diane Harrison. I'd like to thank Larry Bartlow. He has been the secretary of this great association for the past ten years. And I'd like to have the opportunity to follow in his footsteps. I've been a Lewis Township firefighter for 31 years and also a member of this association for that period of time. I'm a member of the Greene County Firefighter's Association, Supporting Hero's, and I'm on the Indiana Emergency Services Memorial team. I served as district chairman for 10 years and with public relations. I'm also a member of the IVFA auxiliary. If elected, I'll give you my hundred percent commitment to do my very best.

Thank you.  
**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you, Diane Carol Thrawley.

**MR. THRAWLEY:** Good morning. Some of you folks might know me as Carol. That's my middle name. My first name is Charles for you guys that might see it printed someplace else. Some of you might even see it in the Post Office with a number underneath it. That's another guy besides me. I've been a member of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association for roughly 20 years. I've held this position as a district chairman since 2005. I'm a fairly newcomer to this. There's a few younger than I am in here as far as being officers. But I've been around this association and watched this association grow under the leadership of the past three presidents I've served under. And we are spreading our wings and doing well. I'd like to continue with what Larry has done. We've got several things in mind we'd like to do with the secretary's office to help speed up some of the recording of the minutes and we've been talking about that. We'd like to see some things done here to help it out. I'd appreciate your vote. For you that don't know, I am a heart attack survivor of a house fire. So I'm here for the fire service. I'll do whatever I can for you folks, anytime, anywhere.

And if you try to call me on the telephone number printed in the paper, chances are it's probably wrong. E-mail is correct. Send me e-mail to communicate with me. And that's all I have to say.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Thank you, Carol.  
**SPEAKER:** Mr. President, the secretary is Diane Harrison.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** At this time I'd like to close out the mileage committee. Thank you for your effort, your dedication to the convention. You're now closed.

At this time we're going to continue the nomination.

The committee puts forth the name of Beverly Harker for treasurer. Are there any further nominations from the floor? (Called three times)

Mr. Secretary?

**MR. SECRETARY:** Secretary, I cast one unanimous vote for Beverly Harker as treasurer.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Nominating committee puts into nomination the name of Brent Bush for sergeant-at-arms. Are there any other nominations from the floor? (Called three times)

**MR. SECRETARY:** For sergeant-at-arms, I cast one unanimous vote for Brent Bush.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Nomination committee puts into nomination the name of Ed Gerdowsky as our chaplain. Are there any other nominations from the floor? (Called three times) Mr. Secretary.

**MR. SECRETARY:** As Secretary, I cast one unanimous vote for Ed Gerdowsky, chaplain.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Nomination committee puts in nomination the name for PR Northwest, Jim Bradford for Districts 1, 2, 3, 9A and 9B. Are there any other nominations from the floor? (Called three times) Mr. Secretary.

**MR. SECRETARY:** As Secretary, I cast one unanimous vote for Jim Bradford, PR Northwest.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Nominating committee puts in the nomination the name of PR Northeast, Jean Smith for Districts 4, 5, 6 and 7. Are there any nominations from the floor? (Called three times) Mr. Secretary.

**MR. SECRETARY:** As Secretary, I cast one unanimous vote for Jean Smith, PR Northeast.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** The nominating committee does not have a name for PR West Central, which is the Districts 11A, 11B, 12 and 21. Are there any nominations from the floor?

**LARRY SOUTHARD:** Mr. President, I wish to nominate Jack McFarland, 11A.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** We have a name of Jack McFarland on the floor. Are there any other nominations from the floor?

**MR. BRUNER:** District 12, Larry Bruner, I'd like to nominate Larry Bartlow.

**MR. FULTZ:** I'll second that. Don Fultz, District 21.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Are there any other nominations from the floor? Sergeant-at-arms, we ask that the doors be closed.

Districts 11A, 11B, 12 and 21 poll your districts for the nomination for the election of PR West Central, Jack McFarland and

Larry Bartlow. Only districts voting are Districts 11A, 11B, 12, and 21.

**MR. ZEEKS:** Mr. President, PR West Central, Larry Bartlow.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** The nominating committee puts into nomination the name of PR East Central, Don Cushman, Districts 8A, 8B, 10, 13A and 13B. Are there any other nominations from the floor? (Called three times) Mr. Secretary.

**MR. SECRETARY:** Cast one unanimous vote for Don Cushman, PR East Central.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** The nominating committee puts in nomination the name for PR Southwest, Jim Abrams, Districts 15, 17A, 17B and 18. Are there any other nominations from the floor? (Called three times) Mr. Secretary.

**MR. SECRETARY:** As Secretary, I cast one unanimous vote for Jim Abrams, PR Southwest.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** The nominating committee puts into nomination the name of PR Southeast, Al Williamson, Districts 14, 16, and District 19. Are there any nominations from the floor? (Called three times) Mr. Secretary.

**MR. SECRETARY:** As Secretary, I cast one unanimous vote for Al Williamson PR Southeast.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Ladies and Gentlemen, those are your 2012 IVFA state officers. At this time I'm going to ask our lobbyist Larry Curl to come forward. I've

said this before, and I'll say this on the convention floor once again. The IVFA is once again noticed in the halls of the statehouse as through the man that's coming to the platform at this time. Larry Curl is well known as our lobbyist at the IVFA. And when it comes to the issues and the matters at hand, the lobbyists and the leaders of the statehouse come looking for Larry for some questions and clarification. And it's been my pleasure to work beside Larry through the last couple of years. Larry, it's now time for your report.

**MR. CURL:** Thank you, Mr. President. Thanks for all your hard work and dedication. During this past session, we had the opportunity to be not only visible, but to be heard; and that is a great improvement, great opportunity and a welcome sight coming from the statehouse. We do have folks that will call upon us to share our opinions. Not always will they vote the way we share our opinions, but they ask for our opinion. They come seeking our advice, and they come raising hell with us, at least one of them.

Literally, I did have a senator chase me down the hall, not physically chase me down, but come looking for me and was mad because I was not promoting or supporting his bill. And I shared with him it's not that I'm not supporting your bill; you're not supporting our opinion. So if you support our opinion, we'll support your bill. We took the position last year not to introduce any — or

asked to have any legislation introduced. However, there was about 400 bills introduced that had something to do with fire, EMS, hazmat, emergency services. Now, if we didn't introduce any or cause any to be introduced, it must have been the marshal that did it all. That's the reason we brought him with us.

Let me share with you a few of the bills that we did. House Bill 1007 — and I think that's one that became 1004 or 1004 became 1007. I'm not sure. That was what I called the — it became 1004. That was kind of the catchall bill. If there was anything left at the end of the session that the senator or representative didn't have in a bill that was already defeated or passed, they stuck it into this bill. One of the things in this bill that had a big impact on us was fire territories. Fire territories and districts have a lot of controversy going on throughout our state right now, in some areas more so than others. We've got a couple of representatives who feel like the fire territories is getting too big, too costly, too much authority; and they want to take a serious look at that. The good part of it is they will call for a summer study committee on fire territories yet this year. So we'll have an opportunity to sit together and talk about it and see how we fare on that.

House Bill 1022 was the officer qualification and nepotism bill, and it failed. House Bill 1082 was an off-road

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# Convention minutes . . .

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vehicle bill. We were just tracking that because it had something to do with fire service in there, and it passed.

House Bill 1365, we're going to talk a lot about 1365 in just a few minutes. 1365 was actually the Volunteer Firefighter's Recovery Cost bill, but it turned out to be much greater and much larger than just a recovery of costs.

The House Bill 1393 is the firefighter certification testing. We talked to you all yearlong about that.

Everywhere we go, we hear that we are opposed to online testing. We finally come to the realization it's not the online testing we're opposed to it's the opportunity, the location, and the cost associated with that. Because of this bill, we had the opportunity to sit down with Homeland Security and some of the training division and try to work together to figure that out. And at the last quarterly officers' meeting, if I was awake and not mistaken and heard it correct, I thought John Buckman said they had worked it out that they could have a training site in every county or did he say every fire department?

**SPEAKER:** Firehouse.

**MARSHAL GREESON:** He said every firehouse?

**SPEAKER:** That's what he said, Marshal.

**MR. CURL:** I guess our position is we wanted one in every county. So, quite frankly, Marshal, if we get one in every county, we're still happy with that. And if John Buckman can get us one in every firehouse, that's just icing on the cake. I think they're taking a look at an opportunity to open it up to anybody that has a computer to be able to do that online testing. I'm not really sure. But, again, this bill and the coordination and the opportunity to work with the state training has brought us from the point of going to all Ivy Tech locations to do the online testing to possibly doing it one in each county.

We were able to pass a Senate Bill 0006, the Interstate Mutual Aid.

We were able to defeat a bill on local government, Senate Bill 0526. And that is the bill that was going to open the door for local government reform. It actually was a Marion County bill.

Once we could not get a statewide local government reform bill passed, we went back and tried to do a county, Marion County local government reform. That's where I got chased by the senator and wanted to know why I was not supporting his bill. My position, the leadership position, and I hope your position is that once we get our foot in the door in one county, the other 91 counties are going to follow or become part of that. As long as we can fight that off and stall that and hold off the local government reform in one county, the better off we have in the other 91 counties. Now, having said that, I'm not sure we're really 100 percent opposed to local government reform. We just don't understand it. We don't know what the heck they want. We don't know what it is we're looking for in local government reform.

So, once again, I would offer to those at the administration level, let's come to the table and talk about what is it you're looking for. When Attorney Shepard's report came out three years ago, we talked about dollar savings, didn't we. But yet we couldn't quite prove that, so we moved on to the next step. Better government, more efficient, and I'm not sure of that. But I will tell you in the early days of Kernan/Shepard, I recall very vividly as a part of a senate bill — I don't remember the number. Somewhere buried in the middle there it's talking about a county fire chief. I'm not the sharpest marble in the box, but I'm going to tell you something. In my years, a fire chief is that person who operates, controls, manages, and is overseeing a fire department. Are they not? But I'm told that they don't have any intent to do away with all the fire departments we have. But don't we have more than one fire department in the county? What is a county fire chief? Those are the kinds of questions we still want answered, and we still don't have answers for them. Again, I'm not opposed to it. I hope we're not opposed to sitting down at the table and talking about it. But don't give me the story about let's get this thing passed and then we'll fix it.

No. Not no, but hell no. We've been down that road before. Let's fix it, and then we'll vote on it. Tell us what we need to do and how we need to get there. Tell us the benefits of it and let's work on it. Let's work on it together. Let's don't vote on something until it's right.

Let's go to House Bill 1365. It started out to be simply a cost recovery bill from Representative Dodge. Representative Dodge covers an area up in this part of the country that has interstate traffic. They have accidents, they spend a lot of time on the interstate with the accidents; and they send the spiller or the hauler or responsible person a bill and they don't get paid. Maybe they're traveling through the state. Their home office is in California. They send a bill out there to get paid for it, and the home office says we're not going to pay you. So Representative Dodge introduced a bill that said if we take you to court, or if

we have to take you to court, we have the right if we win, we have the right to claim court costs and attorney fees, which makes it a little easier for us to take you to court now. If we have to take you to court to get paid, it makes it a little easier to do that. During the process of our vacation, right in the middle of the session, in the attempts to recapture or regain and to make sure we have the bills in that we wanted to, House Bill 1439 was a bill that dealt with the insurance billing that a lot of us are involved in; and it was about to die. Now, the marshal came over on our behalf, on the fire service behalf. We had — some of the marshals staff was there. We had members of the fire service there. That bill was about to die, so they put it together with 1365. So now what 1365 really does, first of all, it talks about the billing of an accident with a hazmat type incident.

It talks about a response to a residential type incident, and it talks about recovery of costs. So there's actually three parts of that bill now. We've always had the right to bill based upon state law through the Marshal's schedule of billing. This kind of reinforces that opportunity. But there are some parts of that that are new, different, and I hope interesting to you because there are some laws that are changed. And now it's time for the Marshal to share some of the new changes on 1365. And I'll be back.

**MARSHAL GREESON:** Larry's right. 1365 got to be pretty involved. And at one time they took the language out to bill for anybody. We had to get that back in there, which we were successful in doing. One of the things — I'll read as little as I can, but I want to make sure you understand it.

First of all, we're all aware of billing companies out there that was sending bills that were somewhat exorbitant. Down in Morgantown there was a shed fire and two goats died. She got a bill for like \$5,000. And there was a fire up in Crown Point, residence fire, and that family received a bill for over \$20,000. And the fire in New Castle, the bill was 27 or 8 thousand dollars. But what was going on, the company was using the Federal Circular law and turned everything into a hazmat incident. They were billing for gallons of water used, for firefighters' time, a lot of things that were outside of the Fire Marshal Schedule of Charges. And what that did was put the whole ability to charge for a response in jeopardy. So in the case — I know in the case of the fire in Morgantown, because I talked to the lady who owned the property, and fire chief, both, one thing the bill said that was sent to the lady, "Attempts to contact your fire department may result in additional charges."

Now, if anybody here doesn't think that's a threat, they're wrong. When I contacted the fire chief, he wasn't aware of the bill. So consequently that fire department ended their contract with that company. So those kinds of things that were going on was really in the long run was going to hurt the fire service tremendously.

So what this bill does is puts a little back on the fire chief, but also makes sure that fire chief knows what's being billed to individuals in their community that they do billing for or to.

So the other one was a hazmat, the response for the spill. And I'll read that. The all these Indiana codes are available now on the Web site. I just want to make sure I read it correctly because we had to get that language in there right. They initially wanted to on a hazmat or fuel spill, they wanted it to be — thank you — at least 40 gallons. Well, vehicles don't carry 40 gallons. I assume tractor-trailers carry 200 gallons or more. How are you going to determine, if there's fuel on the ground, how many gallons it is? So what we did was we were able to include language to allow that to continue. And it says that there may not be a charge to an actual person who resides or pays taxes within the boundaries of the unit, which would be your jurisdiction that's responding — and there's legal mumbo-jumbo — but the main thing here, "Unless the spill or chemical or hazardous material poses an imminent danger to threaten persons or property, determined by that incident commander."

So if you're out there on that fire scene and you have fuel running into a drainage ditch, an agricultural area or the highway that's hard to get cleaned up, if you feel that's an imminent threat, you need to note that on your report that you made that determination and why. That's the part that allows you to bill. That makes that decision yours. It keeps the control in your hands. And we thought that was important, that you're out there on the scene, you know better than anybody else what that incident is like. So you have to have the ability to make that decision to continue to charge for that.

Larry's correct that the overriding reason for this legislation was to allow you to collect attorney's fees when you decide if someone doesn't pay the charges that you submit, and you want to take them to court to try to recover that, any reasonable attorney's fees that you incur if you win that case, you prevail, any reasonable attorney's fees that you're charged can also be recovered by you. So you're not out

your Here's the part that really involves you. On any bill if you use a third-party billing company or if you have someone in your department do the billing for you, the bill must contain verification that the fire chief has reviewed and approves that bill. So if you're billing out there, every one of those bills you need to look at and approve, making sure what's on that bill is correct, and it doesn't exceed what the schedule of charges is of the Fire Marshal's Office.

**MR. CURL:** I'm telling every one of you now, the responsible fire chiefs within your districts, there's going to be somebody out here sitting in this room that will give that signature to a third-party billing and say, yeah, it's okay. You're personally held accountable for that bill by law. The fire chief is responsible for what the content of that bill is. So if you feel comfortable with that third-party billing, do what you want to do. But I'm telling you, you're responsible for it. If you allow your signature to be affixed to that bill or that process, and you don't look at that bill, then you better have a whole bunch of trust and faith in the people doing that for you because you're the responsible person. They're not coming back to the billing company. If that billing company charges \$10,000 and they end up in a lawsuit, they're not coming back to the billing company. You're the one that signs off on that bill. Just word to the wise.

**MARSHAL GREESON:** Larry's right. To expand on what he says, any questions about that bill goes to the fire chief. They don't go to the billing company. They go back to the fire chief for that homeowner or insurance company, whoever you bill, to explain those charges. So you have control, but you also have responsibilities. So you have to step up. Again, you're allowed to bill anyone you respond to, unless you have in writing — for whatever reason, a resident decides they don't want you to respond and don't want you to bill them; they have to provide you in writing. In the old days, in the old fire departments, if you didn't have that placard on your house, you didn't get service. Well, in this case, if a resident or a company does not want your service, they can give you a letter in writing that says don't respond here, just like a DNR, do not resuscitate, and don't respond. And then you can't bill them. But it has to be in writing. So if you provide a service and at the last minute somebody changes their mind and says we didn't want you here, they have to have given you that in writing prior to that response.

Again, the old language in the law is still there about you having to advertise that you're going to charge these charges. It also says that if you collect more than 25 percent of your budget from that jurisdiction, you're not allowed to bill either. So if you have a budget of \$10,000 and \$2,500 or more of that budget comes from that township either. But all these Indiana codes, I've walked some of you through this maybe on the telephone, and you've called and asked, but if you go on the IDH Web site on your computer, there's a banner — or the Indiana government Web site, there's a banner across the top that has a whole lot of bills or legislation.

If you click on that, it kind of starts walking you through where you come to codes. And as you come down to the Indiana code for billing, Indiana Code IC 36-8-12, that's the law that that's in. That law, along with the law that allows for the creation of the volunteer fire departments, they're all in that area of public safety. They're all available to you to read or print off if you get them. But I would take time to go through and print those and read them and understand them. If you have questions, don't hesitate to call our office. We'll be glad to try not to confuse you more, but answer your question. One thing I do want to talk to you about is mutual aid agreements that you may have, whether it's with your township trustee or contract or mutual aid with another department. What we discovered through some of the disasters we've had, any time we have a disaster in the state, we try to get enough dollar loss that we can apply for a presidential declaration. FEMA will come in and start reimbursing private citizens or businesses, and in some cases fire departments and public safety entities. If you just have — say the contract with your trustee says you'll provide a service for \$30,000, and then you list some of the services in that contract that's all encompassing, if there's a declaration and you don't have the subsection there that deals with in the event of a disaster, here are the additional charges this department will charge you for a response, FEMA is not required to reimburse you for your out-of-pocket expenses for that response.

So if you have a mutual aid agreement, either between departments or with your township trustee or with your local jurisdiction, a city or town or whatever it is, I would go back and lawyer up. But make sure there's language in there that's subsequent to normal response or normal practices that in the case of a disaster or a declared disaster for your response, you're charging for these services. That way when we get that presidential declaration, which it looks like we might for the events — FEMA has allowed us to bunch everything together from this past spring, the floods, tornados and all we've had; and it looks like we may make the threshold for a presidential declaration. Well, that helps

the citizens and businesses recuperate. And in the case of some of these fire departments — hopefully you're keeping good records on that — hopefully you can recoup some of your costs also. So please go back, review your mutual aid agreements, contracts. And I'll probably find some time to write an article and put that in your newspaper so you all know that. But that's really critical. We all know it's not if we have a disaster, but when, because we have them pretty regularly.

**SPEAKER:** How does that affect a combination department with the city being in control of the department's contract out to townships? Can the city bill?

**MARSHAL GREESON:** The only thing the city can bill for is a hazmat incident. They can't bill for firemen funds. They can still do that, yes, still bill for hazmat just like they did. I'll read this one paragraph. This law is 12 pages long, so I didn't think you wanted me to read this. Anyway, it says, "If at least 25 percent of the money received by the volunteer department, fire department, for providing fire protection or emergency services received under one or more contracts with one or more political subdivisions as defined in the code, the legislative body of the contracting political subdivision must approve the schedule of charges, established under the section that allows for the Fire Marshal Schedule of Charges."

So what this is reiterating, if you're going to charge, you must get approval from that jurisdiction or that government entity that you're going to charge for providing that service to. Do you know what the schedule of charges are? \$250 for the initial response for like an engine, a ladder, a tanker, tactical rescue unit, something like that; and \$150 for the initial response for your command vehicle, that's usually just one, like in my world what we call the buggy, but the chief's car, I guess. And then for the duration of that incident on a per hour basis, you can charge \$150 for the equipment for each additional hour, or part of, or \$50 for that command vehicle. So that's in a nutshell what the schedule of charges say. They're also out on the Internet. You can get them and print them off if you want. And we'll tell you how to get of that subdivision of the entity that you're going to serve that community in. I will tell you that Larry worked really hard this year for you guys, and he's able to get over there much more than I am. I try to avoid that if I can because it's politics. But we did do a good job working together this year. We had a couple times we all sat in a room with the legislators and tried to hammer things out and work through them. And I'm going to tell you there were a couple that were pretty serious who wanted to take the ability to charge away. Once we were able to explain the need to be able to do that, we were able to prevail in that area. So we were lucky this time. Thanks.

**MR. CURL:** The real problem we have — and we can do something about this — is we have — I'm not sure I want to put all this in the minute form, but go ahead — is that we have a lot of elected officials that are attorneys, but we have too few elected officials that are fire service. We could have a better understanding of what it takes to run the fire department if we had more legislators that are fire people. And we're starting to get there. Real quick now and I'll finish it up because it is my lunchtime.

I don't know about the rest of you. Why do we bill? Why would you even think about billing people that you serve? We're volunteers. Why would we bill? Anybody have an answer?

**SPEAKER:** We have to pay the bills.

**MR. CURL:** They don't pay enough taxes to provide the service. Now, let me give a little insight there. 99.9 percent of your people who have insurance have a clause in

the insurance policy that says if you have an incident, we will pay up to whatever that dollar may be, \$500, \$5,000, \$25,000, whatever the dollar figure is. So all those homeowners who are paying those policies, are they not paying for that billing? Why wouldn't we bill? Why wouldn't you bill?

Isn't it an opportunity to save tax dollars, keep the costs down, to generate — you can probably generate more money — and it's not all about the money. It's about the expenses of what it costs us to do the job. But you can probably raise more money to support that service by billing than you can by doing that fish fry or that pancake breakfast or that knock on the door and give me some money. And they're paying for it already. It's in the policy.

Now, we've worked with the Insurance Institute of Indiana over the last year. They're not opposing paying the premiums. What I would like to have from the Insurance Institute that I can't get is how much are we paying for that opportunity? I can't get that little line item, one figure from them. But we're paying for it. Our residents are paying for it. I got to tell you as a taxpayer, as a resident of Marion County and somebody who supports the fire service, if I have an opportunity to generate some funds for my local fire department based on my insurance policy, I would much rather do that than have somebody knock on the door and ask me for money. So I think there are good reasons to bill, but you got to do it properly. You got to do it the right way. And every year they're going to tighten up a little bit more as we try to bill in an incorrect manner, or improper legislation is going to come back. I'm telling you, senators down there would just assume we not have the opportunity to bill. And I think the marshal shared that. There's some just assume we not have that opportunity.

If we don't follow the rules, they may win. They may take that out of our ability to do that. So pay attention to that. Do it the right way. I'm not trying to discourage you from doing it. I'm encouraging you to do it, but do it the right way. Go get your legislators, talk to them, and make your presence known. Thank you.

**MR. PRESIDENT:** Real quickly, our last part, Larry Bartlow, where are you at? Mr. Secretary, come to the front, please. Our 2011 Mr. IVFA as he walks forward. Larry's been very dedicated to IVFA and the office of the secretary for the past ten years. The office of secretary is not an office that is taken very lightly. And Larry has diligently in all of our meetings made sure that the minutes and everything is recorded properly with the proper signature of everything that our association does.

And, Mr. Bartlow, on behalf of the IVFA, I'd like to present to you this clock. And every time that you look at the time, remember the time that you put in as secretary and we thank you for your dedication to the association.

**MR. SECRETARY:** Thank you.  
**MR. PRESIDENT:** At this time, if there's nothing else, we close the annual meeting of our convention. And there will not be an afternoon meeting. Thank you.  
(Ending time: 11:43 a.m.)

CONVENTION MINUTES DIGEST COMMITTEE  
LARRY BARTLOW  
TIM DECKARD  
DAVID ISRAEL  
BEVERLY HARKER

CERTIFICATE  
I, Angela J. Galipeau, a Notary Public, in and for the County of Porter and State Of

- CONTINUED ON PAGE 40

## NOTICE

### TO ALL IVFA FIRE DEPTS.

**A REMINDER TO ANY DEPT. BUILDING OR THINKING OF BUILDING A NEW STATION**

The IVFA presents a clock to a department at a dedication of a new station. We have been asked to make you, the chief, or other spokesperson, aware that the clocks are not an item kept on a shelf awaiting your order.

Our contact for obtaining a clock needs to receive your request for a clock with enough lead time to have it made and get it to you with some days to spare.

Please contact the District chairman at least ONE MONTH in advance of the day you need it presented. Or contact Bill Bush at 765-665-3213 or Brent Bush, 765-665-0149 / e-mail: bsb12@netzero.com. They will be able to assist you in getting the order placed.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

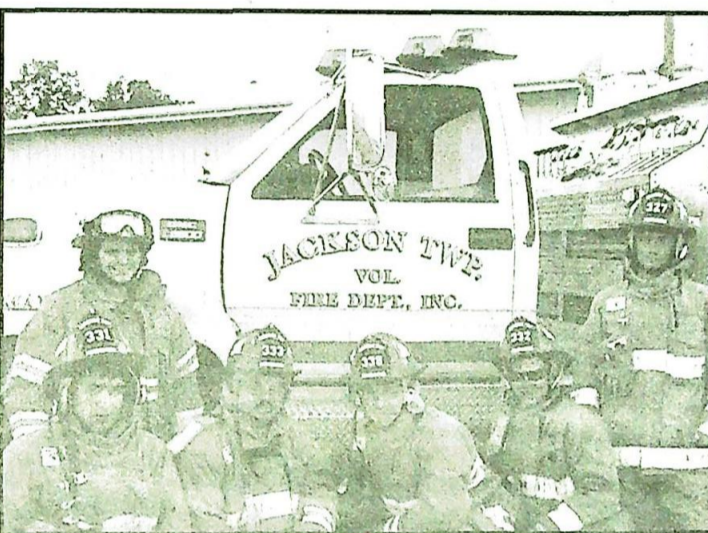


### Jackson Twp. VFD holds basic / mandatory class

Recently Jackson Twp. VFD held a Basic / Mandatory class for several of their newest members who are pictured here during a practice session of the hands-on portion of the class. - submitted by Paul Holcomb, District 16 chairman.

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### FEBRUARY DEADLINE

*Happy Holidays!* **JANUARY 5, 2012 - 12PM CST**

**PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS IN THIS ISSUE, SEVERAL ARTICLES WERE UNABLE TO BE PRINTED. THEY WILL BE PRINTED IN THE FEBRUARY 2012 ISSUE.**

**THANK YOU!**

### Convention ...

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

Indiana, do hereby certify: That on Friday, June 17, 2011, I then and there reported stenographically the proceedings at the said time and place; that the proceedings were then transcribed from my original shorthand notes; and that the foregoing typewritten transcript is a true and correct record.  
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my notarial seal this 20th day of June, 2011.  
Angela J. Galipeau, RPR, CSR  
Notary Public, State of Indiana  
Residence: Porter County  
Commission Expires: 4-23-17

### Space heaters ...

- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

kerosene specified by the manufacturer, and never use gasoline. Use only if such heaters are legal in your community.

- When turning a heating device on or off, follow the manufacturer's instructions. When buying heaters, choose devices with automatic shutoff features.

- Make sure any gas-fueled heating device is adequately ventilated. Unventilated gas space heaters in bedrooms or bathrooms must be small and well-mounted. Never use liquefied-petroleum gas heaters with self-contained fuel supplies in the home.

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