



INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

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

THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

(USPS 262-480)

VOLUME 69 NO. 4

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

NOVEMBER 2020

Awards presented to members of McCutchanville FD



From left to right – Chief Nick Adams,
Past Chief Jack Kerney,
Firefighter Barbara Kerney,
Assistant Chief Brandon Elliott

McCutchanville Fire Department would like to congratulate Jack and Barbara Kerney on receiving the following awards. Thank you for your dedication to the McCutchanville Fire Department.

Barbara Kerney: Certificate of Achievement – Lifetime Member Recognition of 34 Years of Dedicated Service to the Citizens of Center Township as a Member of the McCutchanville Fire Department.

Jack Kerney: Fire Chief Emeritus Award Recognition of 55 Years of Dedicated Service to the Citizens of Center Township as a Member of the McCutchanville Fire Department. Honoring his contributions to the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association, National Volunteer Fire Council, and Supporting Heroes Memorial Team.

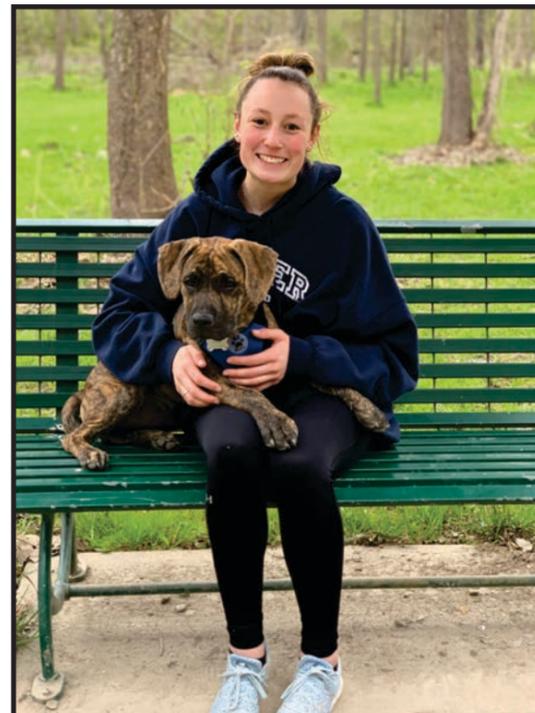
Fire Chief Emeritus is an Honorary Title for Retired Fire Chiefs who have Meritorious Service to their Community and the Fire Service Profession.

Fire Chief Emeritus is reserved for those retired Fire Chiefs who have had distinguished Careers, regardless if Career or Volunteer, and whose significant contributions set them apart from their peers.

Bridgeport Scholarship winners announced



2020 Bridgeport Scholarship winners are: (pictured at left) David King, (center) Martin Ruiz-Bussey, (right) Taylor Mirowski.



Determined to Serve, Determined to Protect

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



FEBRUARY 2021 DEADLINE IS JANUARY 5, 2021

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS

Public Relations Director Southwest Steve Nolan



Greetings,
The world has changed, wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, food should be served, only a certain amount of people to be in dinners, meetings, etc., flu season around the corner, please get the FLU shot. When will we be able to get back to our normal life or will we???

This quarter I have only attended 2 district meetings and a couple of fundraisers.

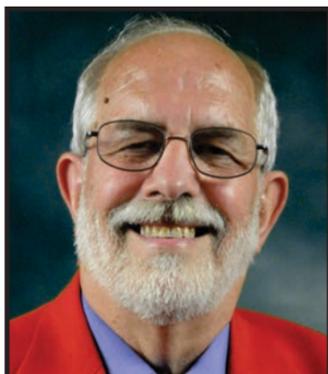
The IVFA trailer is now available to use and we would like to see it out and visible to the public.

Please keep your trucks and gear clean, only YOU can help to prevent yourself from getting CANCER.

Keep yourself safe this winter and do what you can to keep

yourself safe from COVID. Till next quarter,
Steve Nolan, PRSW

Public Relations Director Northeast Jean Smith



Hello Everyone,
Once again we start Fire Prevention Week October 4-10th. This year's theme is "Serve up Fire Safety in the Kitchen". Nearly half (49 percent) of all home fires involving cooking equipment; unattended cooking is the leading cause of these fires. As the public may continue to avoid restaurants for some time and opt instead to do more cooking and entertaining at home, the potential for home cooking fires will likely increase as well. Keep a close eye on what you're cooking; never leave

cooking unattended.
* Keep anything that can catch fire -- oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains -- at least three feet away from your stovetop.

* Be on alert. If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the stove or stovetop.

Due to the pandemic our quarterly meetings have been held as a Zoom meeting to keep in contact and keep everyone updated.

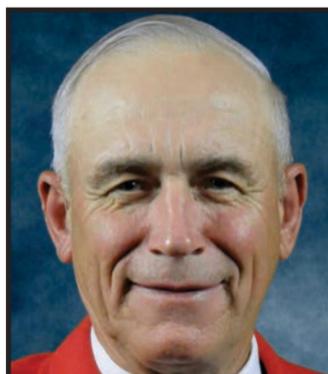
Meetings in PRNE have been limited. District 7 has held a couple of meetings.

District 4, 5, and 6 have not held meetings due to the Pandemic severity in those areas. I feel as essential personnel in public safety that we get enough exposure. I feel we need to be a leader not a follower in this pandemic. If we can help you limit your exposure, I feel this is what we should do to be safe. If you need anything please contact your Public Relations representative or your District Chairman. We are still here for you!

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

Jean Smith
Public Relations Northeast

Public Relations Director Southeast Ed Scheele



I thank President Israel and vice-president Liston for coming to Eagle Fire Dept. to present the three life saving awards to the Batesville Fire and Rescue members. I also thank the staff from the DHS and Fire Marshal Thacker for presenting the Fire Marshal's Life Saving Award.

I also thank representative Randy Frye for presenting the American Flag that was flown at the Statehouse to me and the 3 EMS personnel.

It is getting colder and soon it will be wintertime. Be extra careful when the weather is bad.

At the time of writing this, the convention is still on for November at a smaller scale. Be careful with the coronavirus and

it is also getting to be flu season. Be safe.

Ed Scheele
IVFA PRSE

Candidates for election

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| President | David Israel |
| V President | Jerry Liston |
| Secretary | Leigh Anne Ellis |
| Treasurer | Luke Kluender |
| Sgt@arms | Brent Bush |
| Chaplain | Ed (Ski) Gerdowsky |
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JANUARY 11 Middlebury • 5:30 p.m.	JANUARY 28 Danville • 5:30 p.m.
JANUARY 12 Plymouth • 5:30 p.m.	FEBRUARY 2 Covington • 5:30 p.m.
JANUARY 13 Michigan City • 11:30 a.m.	FEBRUARY 3 Terre Haute • 5:30 p.m.
JANUARY 14 Merrillville • 12:00 p.m.	FEBRUARY 4 Bloomington • 5:00 p.m.
JANUARY 19 West Lafayette • 5:30 p.m.	FEBRUARY 9 Richmond • 5:30 p.m.
JANUARY 20 Kokomo • 11:30 a.m.	FEBRUARY 10 Aurora • 5:30 p.m.
JANUARY 21 Wabash • 5:30 p.m.	FEBRUARY 11 Starlight • 5:30 p.m.
JANUARY 25 Fort Wayne • 5:30 p.m.	FEBRUARY 16 Odon • 5:30 p.m.
JANUARY 26 Muncie • 5:30 p.m.	FEBRUARY 17 Huntingburg • 6:30 p.m.
JANUARY 27 Indianapolis • 11:30 a.m.	FEBRUARY 18 Evansville • 5:30 p.m.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT INPAA'S HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES, VISIT INPAA.ORG/EMERGENCY-OFFICIALS

Limited registration opens in December. Virtual training available at the end of the tour.

THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

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I.V.F.A. Central Office
P.O. Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724/info@ivfa.org

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OFFICERS

President - David R. Israel

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

Home (812) 663-8952

E-mail: president@ivfa.org

Vice President - Jerry Liston

P.O. Box 83

Cicero, IN 46034

Cell (317) 385-2309

E-mail: vicepresident@ivfa.org

Secretary - Leighanne Ellis

4034 N. 150 E.

Camden, IN 46917

Home (765) 564-0256

E-mail: secretary@ivfa.org

Treasurer - Luke Kluender

61 Sherwood Lane

Bedford, IN 47421

Home (812) 508-8476

E-mail: treasurer@ivfa.org

Sergeant-At-Arms - Wm. Brent Bush

8504 S. SR 71

Dana, IN 47847

Cell (812) 243-0140

E-mail: sgtatarms@ivfa.org

Chaplain - Ed (Ski) Gerdowsky

41 Six Pine Ranch Road

Batesville, IN 47006

Cell (812) 212-7415

Home (812) 934-4356

E-mail: chaplain@ivfa.org

Board Chairman - Paul Holcomb

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

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

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTORS - ELECTED

Northwest - Jeremy Reef

4780 S. 20 W

Cutler, IN 46920

(765) 237-7414

e-mail: PRNW@ivfa.org

Northeast - Jean Smith

16721 Thiele Road

Ft. Wayne, IN 46819

[cell] (260) 413-3041

e-mail: PRNE@ivfa.org

West Central - Larry L. Bartlow

P.O. Box 12

Montezuma, IN 47862

(765) 245-2125 [Home]

e-mail: PRWC@ivfa.org

East Central - Don Cushman, II

233 Hamilton St.

Fortville, IN 46040

C - 317-440-3920

E-mail: PREC@ivfa.org

Southwest - Steve Nolan

4012 State Road 446

Heltonville, IN 47436

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

E-mail: PRSW@ivfa.org

Southeast - Ed Scheele

1161 Sawmill Rd.

Batesville, IN 47006

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

e-mail: PRSE@ivfa.org

District 14 - Richard Lee Cannon, Sr.

8617 US Highway 111

Memphis, IN 47143

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

E-mail: district14@ivfa.org

District 15 - Ross Emery

11350 S. Brookview Ct.

Haubstadt, IN 47639

812-459-4062 (Cell)

E-mail: district15@ivfa.org

District 16 - John Gott

182 Lost Creek Rd NE

New Salisbury, IN 47161

(812) 596-0233 (Cell)

E-mail: district16@ivfa.org

District 17A - Sam Emery

799 E. Harvest Church Road

Bloomfield, IN 47424

(812) 384-8748 (H) - 812-381-0107 (C)

E-mail: district17a@ivfa.org

District 17B - Heather McGlocklin

7849 S Harmony Rd

Bloomington, IN 47403

812-583-9201 (Cell)

E-mail: district17b@ivfa.org

District 18 - John "Bull" Smith

109 Oak Street

Huntingburg, IN 47542

(812) 639-0697 (C) / (812) 683-3697 (H)

E-mail: district18@ivfa.org

District 19 - Ben Sieverding

1485 W. Tanglewood Road

Versailles, IN 47042

(812) 621-1150 (cell)

E-mail: district19@ivfa.org

District 21 - Lewis (Ed) Watson

609 South Main St.

Otterbein, IN 47970

(765) 586-3330 (Cell)

E-mail: district21@ivfa.org

**INDIANA VOLUNTEER
FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
PAST PRESIDENTS**

Steve Anderson

1526 Rieter Drive

Evansville, IN 47712

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

E-mail: boardchair@ivfa.org

David R. Israel

2070 S. Co. Rd. 700 W.

Greensburg, IN 47240

(812) 663-8952 (home)

Tim Deckard

13419 E Edwards Road

Solsberry, IN 47459

(812) 325-5636

E-mail: tdeckard510@gmail.com

Larry Ketchem

P.O. Box 6, 117 Chestnut St.

Montezuma, IN 47862

(765) 245-2482

E-mail: ldketchem@yahoo.com

Jack Kerney, Sr.

2412 S.E. Browning Rd.

Evansville, IN 47725

(812) 867-2641 - Home

E-mail: JKerney@ivfa.org

L.E. "Buz" Koehler

6225 Swallow Dr. *(Display ad rep. and Editor's Assistant)*

Harrison, MI 48625

Cell: (219) 866-1128

email: LKoehler@ivfa.org

Jack Zeeks, Jr.

6147 State Road 37

Mitchell, IN 47446

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

e-mail: JZeeks@ivfa.org

Richard "Dick" Glant

619 South East St.

Bremen, IN 46506

(574) 546-3509

e-mail: RGlant@ivfa.org

Willie M. "Mitch" Parish

PO Box 15

Francesville, IN 47946

Billy J. Sunday

402 North Main

Farmland, IN 47340

(765) 468-6412

e-mail: bjsgofish2@gmail.com

James C. "Jim" Parker

403 N. 11th Ave.

Beech Grove, IN 46107

(317) 783-9293

Norman L. Crocker

13432 State Road 23

Granger, IN 46530

(574) 340-1663

IVFALOBBYIST - Larry Curl

3047 N. Raceway Road

Indianapolis, IN 46234

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

lobbyist@ivfa.org

HISTORIAN - Paul E. Smith

565 W. Green St.

Montpelier, IN 47359

Cell: 765-348-9314

e-mail: district8b@ivfa.org

MISS FLAME

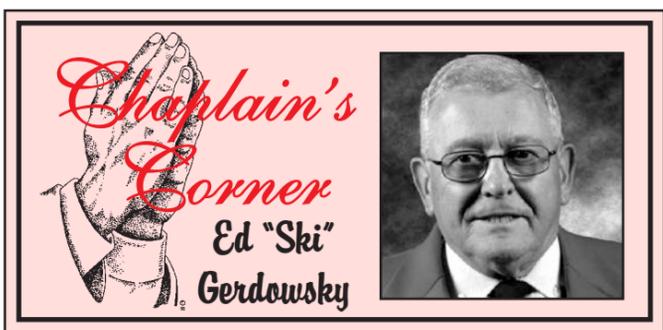
e-mail: MissFlame@ivfa.org

WEBMASTER - Josh Reisert

2236 Park Ave., New Albany, IN 47150

(502) 643-2114 (Cell)

e-mail: admin@ivfa.org



As we still deal with the pandemic and cancellations, I really don't have too much to report on.

I have attended a few District meetings with Ed Scheele. We had one Thursday, Sept. 24 at Oldenburg Fire Firehouse.

Being home has helped me realize I have more time to do my readings from different devotions that give good insight to what can help us not get too depressed or caught up in the ways of the world. God has a plan and I know it will be a good one as He always knows what is best for us. Prayers are so important and can give us a blessing.

I have sent out many Bibles to those who were in need. If you are in need of Bibles and grave markers, please let me know and if the November state meeting is still on, I will bring them along. If you need ahead, just call me and I will get them to you. Asking God to Bless each and every one of you for all the help you provide to make our Chaplains run so smooth.

So until our next meeting I will ask God to keep everyone healthy and safe.

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, Because God is love.

1 John 4:7-8
Chaplain Ed (Ski) Gerdowsky
9-21-2020

**Happy Holidays
to one and all!**

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAINS:

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

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

PREC - BRAD SCOTT - 209 E. HENRY ST., FARMLAND, IN 47340 - Cell: (765) 278-0562 - E-mail: bcad03@yahoo.com
(Districts 8A - 8B - 10 - 13A - 13B)

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

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

ED (SKI) GERDOWSKY - 41 SIX PINE RANCH ROAD, BATESVILLE, IN 47006 - Home: (812) 934-4356 - Cell: (812) 212-7415 - E-mail: firefighterski1@etczone.com

(Districts 14 - 16 - 19)

PRNW - RON DEVENPORT - 3585 SOUTH 925 EAST, WALKERTON, IN 46574 - (219) 363-6825 - E-mail: rldevenport@juno.com

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

PRNE - JOSH WATTS, 2875 N IN-3, LAGRANGE, IN 46761 - (260) 577-0752 - shieldunderfire@gmail.com / mongofirechaplain@gmail.com

DAVID ELICK - 725 NORTH CANAL STREET - LAGRANGE, IN 46761 - Cell: (260) 336-2246 - E-mail: dave_lick@yahoo.com
(Districts 4 - 5 - 6 - 7)

DISTRICT CHAIRMEN AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

District 1 - Marshall Neese

4908 Cleveland St.

Gary, IN 46408

(219) 688-8272 (Home)

E-mail: district1@ivfa.org

District 2 - Paul F. Watland

255 E. Greenwood Dr.

Crown Point, IN 46307

(219) 663-7103 (Home)

E-mail: district2@ivfa.org

District 3 - Bob Uryga, Sr.

402 El Portal Drive

Michiana Shores, IN 46360

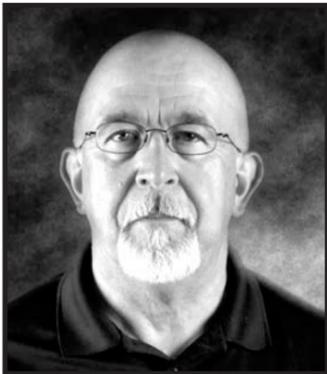
(219) 872-6245 (Home)

(219) 229-5663 (Cell)

E-mail: district3@ivfa.org

From The Vice-President

Jerry Liston



Greetings!

Here we are at the first of October as I write this article. I should be writing to thank you for the fantastic year that I spent as your Vice President. It has been a great year.

I should also be relaxing with my wife, Maureen and reflecting on what a great time everyone had at the 2020 Convention in June. As all of you know we had to postpone our State Convention.

However, I have learned that things do not always work out the way you wish they would. As I am sure you are aware, this thing called COVID-19 showed up six months ago, was a huge gamechanger for our Association and totally changed the way we did things in Indiana.

Hopefully when I am writing the next article, things will be back to normal or the new normal as I keep hearing. I look forward to

seeing an end to quarantines, social distancing and masks.

Back in July, we started holding district meetings again across the state following the guidelines of the CDC and the State of Indiana pertaining to meetings and assembly of people. Adjustments were made in order to hold the meetings and I am so proud of our District Chairmen, departments and our members for making it happen across our great State.

Please continue to check the Event Calendar on the Association website for meeting updates and meeting times. The Association has a Facebook page, as do the majority of the districts. Locate and Like them as a lot of good information is shared on those pages. In these unprecedented times, we have asked the District Chairmen to reach out to their departments in their districts. If you have not heard from your District Chairmen, call them and invite them to your department meetings or events.

Make sure your department's contact information is up-to-date on the Association website. Please check it – if it needs to be updated, contact your District Chairman with the needed changes.

Ivy Tech has announced it will continue with the Public Safety Scholarship Program into 2021. Departments are encouraged to talk with the school systems in their response area about the program. The program is intended to recruit new members but can also be used to retain members by offering a free two-year education from Ivy Tech.

It is time to start thinking about nominating someone for the many Association Awards. These awards can be found on the Association website along with the nominating

forms. If you have questions, contact your district chairman.

The District Global Award has been renamed the MacQueen Excellence Award. If you have someone in your department deserving of this district award, nominate him or her. This is a good award to give to an organization

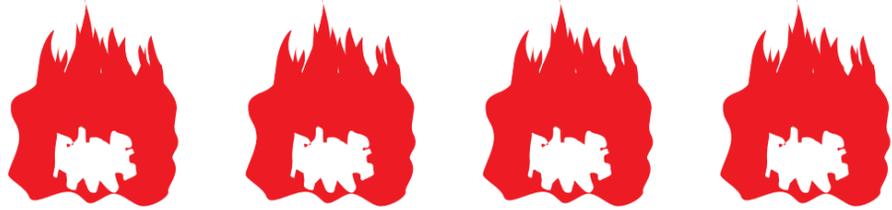
that has made a donation to your department or to a Trustee that brought that new truck for you. Nominations should be given to your District Chairman by February 1st.

The Officers of this Association continue to work hard for you. If I can be of help,

please do not hesitate to contact me as my contact information is in the paper.

Stay safe!

Jerry L. Liston,
Vice President



NOTES FROM THE FLAMES

Fall has arrived and the holidays are not far behind. Hard to believe that almost a year is gone. Hope you all have been spending quality time with your family while staying at home during the Covid.

We regret that we were unable to have our convention in Evansville in 2020. As you all know everything was put on hold due to the virus and we all need to abide by the rules to keep us safe. At this time we don't have definite plans for when a partial convention will be held.

Hopefully we will be able to meet at some time before the year ends. Stay tuned for details.

We have had some confusion as to the Miss Flame Program. With discussion by our executive committee, we wanted to try to be fair to the girls who were selected to run at this year's convention and did not get to participate. A decision was made that those girls that were going to participate in 2020, that they will be able to remain as the candidate from their district for the 2021 convention. We also decided that if the girl is over the age limit at convention time, she still may participate. If for some reason she chooses not to run, the district may hold a contest or select a new participant to the 2021 convention. I hope that this clears up any questions on the selection of your Miss Flame for 2021. If you have additional questions, please call me – (812-867-2641).

Our project for the year was to collect pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Evansville, and stuffed animals for the children hospitalized. If you have collected the tabs and you want to still help in the project, please take them to some school or etc. that can use them or take them to a recycle facility and then send the money to the Ronald McDonald House in Evansville. I want to congratulate District 18 as they out-did themselves in their collection.

They did the collection as a district to help their Miss Flame. They had buckets full. They have decided to take to recycle and get the money and then send to the Ronald McDonald House in Evansville.

Our 2019 Miss Flame has chosen not to participate due to conflicts. Our 2019 Miss Flame Runner-Up Shelby Butler will be filling in for her. Thanks to Shelby for being our ambassador until a new Miss Flame is selected.

To those of you who so generously offered to provide items needed for our contest, thank you and we hope that you will continue to do so in 2021. We couldn't provide the girls with all we do without you. Thanks for your support. Thanks to the members of the IVFA & IVFAA for their continued support for this contest each year. It is always a part of our convention that everyone looks forward to. Hopefully over the years we have provided some things that will be valuable information that they can use in the future. Thanks to the parents who have supported your daughter and the program.

Stay Safe! Blessings to you and your families for the holidays.

Barb Kerney
Miss Flame Chairman

Bridgeport Scholarship recipients announced

The Bridgeport committee has selected 3 recipients of the 2020 Scholarship Award. They are in District order:

>From District 2 is David L King, son of Bradley and Stacy King of Morgan Twp. Vol. Fire Dept., Valparaiso, going to Ivy-Tech-Valparaiso Campus in the field of Paramedic/Firefighter.

>From District 13A is Taylor L Mirowski, daughter/step of Robert Day and Sherry Day of #1 Green Twp. Vol. Fire Dept., Greenfield, going to Anderson University, Anderson, IN in the field of Nursing.

>From District 14 is Martin Ruiz-Bussey son of Rachel Bussey of New Washington Vol. Fire Dept.,

New Washington, going to Oakland City University in the field of Elementary Teacher with Special Needs.

Congratulations and GOOD LUCK to all of the Scholarship Award winners, with success in all of your future endeavors, and "Thank You" to the parents for your service.

Past President/
Bridgeport Chairman
Richard Glant

(re-printed from August 2020 IVFA issue. Photos can be found on front page of this issue.)

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From The IVFA Secretary

Leighanne Ellis



INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING MAY 2020

Via Zoom Virtual Meetings

Meeting called to order by President David Israel on Zoom. Vice President Liston led Pledge of the Allegiance. Invocation was

given by Chaplain Gerdowsky.

Roll Call was taken with 16 District Chairmen present and 9 absent, 5 Public Relations Officers and 1 absent, 6 past presidents, the Lobbyist and Executive Council.

Two guests were to be present, Director Steve Cox and Fire Marshal Joel Thacker. Director Cox was unable to attend meeting. Fire Marshal Joel Thacker spoke on the pandemic and the daily changes and plans built to assist departments, military and hospitals for possible surges. Still continuing trainings and also sharing resource information daily through the state website. They have a program that is going to be able to disinfect N95 masks (70,000 masks daily) through a FedEx contract and cleaner that has arrived in Indianapolis. Advised the number of Covid-19 first responders' cases are very low. Code enforcement regulations and enforcement discussion has been held for reopening restrictions. Fire investigation website has a new dashboard launched. Keep a documentation list of costs incurred for Covid-19; you can email: pa@dhs.in.gov (Mary Moran) to assist with possible reimbursements of supplies.

Reading of the minutes from the

last meeting. Past President Jack Kerney made a motion to accept minutes as printed. District 15 Ross Emery seconded the motion. Motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Luke Kluender. Sent out balance sheet and budget and actual all through April. They should be in your email. Tax accountant is working to get taxes filed in proper deadline. Past President Buz Koehler motion to accept treasurer's report, District 8A Rex Maynard gave second, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mention of Supporting Hero's Gala attendance.

Executive Committee Report: David Israel, cancelled all May meetings. Discussion was held on conference calls and costs and have decided to change from current provider which was costing Association about \$3000 to zoom video/call program which is about \$150 yearly. Attempt to find a district chairman for District 12. Going to attempt to cover it with a few different personnel until a new one is found.

Central Office Report: Jack Kerney, sent out new reports for pins, website has been updated.

Bad address report went over. Current dues count at 650 members paid and updated report will be sent out.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Awards - Vice President Jerry Liston - video conference and have winners chosen. Waiting for Ollie Sandburg winner.

Angel Award, Diane Harrison - sent a voicemail to Jerry Liston.

Jr. Firefighter Award, Jack Kerney - on hold until convention plans finalized.

Mr. IVFA, Ed Gerdowsky - winner chosen.

Bridgeport: Past President Richard Glant - waiting for 3 committee members to send in numbers, then the winners will be finalized.

Budget: Treasurer Luke Kluender - nothing to report.

By-laws and S.O.G.'s: PRWC Larry Bartlow - Convention 2020 recommendation to have the convention by Dec. 1, 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Past President Buz Koehler votes to have convention by Dec. 1, 2020, PRSW Steve Nolan seconds motion, roll calls votes 27 yay, 1 nay, 3 abstain, 10 absent. Plan to hold convention during quarterly,

working on dates and it will be a modified convention.

Clothing Claims: District 5 John Grolich - nothing to report.

Convention: President David Israel - 2020 Evansville cancelled but 2021 convention will remain the same, and then 2022 will be in Evansville and then 2023 will be bid at Convention 2021. It will be a modified convention this year.

2021 Convention - Paul Holcomb, Rick Cannon, John Gott - nothing to add.

EMS: Vice President Jerry Liston - met on video conference and Craig Kenny is new director. Meeting dates have been shared, March cancelled, and May meeting will be video conference.

Legislation: Lobbyist Larry Curl and Past President Buz Koehler - updated on cost savings program, finalizing release and going to get Charles on for conference. Purdue Global program is currently on hold due to trying to get more information with the program. Ivy Tech still accepting program applications. Need to think about bills and

- see 'secretary' - page 7

Stay safe!!

When on a fire run remember ...

IT'S THE LAW - you must wear your seat belts in trucks.

When approaching an intersection, slow down and make sure the coast is clear.

When approaching an intersection and the traffic light is red -- STOP and make sure all of the traffic has seen you and has stopped before proceeding.

BE ALERT, BE CAREFUL -- our motto is everyone comes home. Think safety, safety, safety.

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I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 1 REPORT



Marshall Neese - Chairman

DISTRICT 2 REPORT



Paul Watland - Chairman

District 1 & 2 IVFA Meeting
Lake Ridge VFD
January 15, 2020

Call to order 7:30 p.m. Pledge led by District Chairman Marshall Neese.

Roll call taken: District 1 - 23 members, 3 Departments - District 2 - 10 members, 4 Departments.

Guests: Jerry Liston, IVFA Vice President, Jeremy Reef, PRNW, Robert Walker, LC EMA Director, Paul Petrie, Assistant Director, 80 Kaiser Fire Service, Bill Missal, LC Haz Mat.

Chief Mike Redd gave history of Lake Ridge VFD.

Program: Robert Walker, Director of LC EMA and Bill Missal, LC Haz Mat talked about new direction of departments and working with the departments in the area. Said they are always available for calls and giving talks and training. Half of Hazmat team is from Lake Ridge VFD.

Motion made to dispense with reading of minutes. Passed.

Jeremy Reef, PRNW talked about IVFA and Ivy Tech working together to promote the 2 year college degree to be used as a recruiting tool. Convention in Evansville at the Holiday Inn Airport, June 17 - 20, 2020.

Jerry Liston, IVFA V.P. talked about Clayton Kender as interim Fire Marshal, Steve Cox went to Indiana Homeland Security. March 28 & 29, Indiana weekend at Fire Academy in Emmetsburg, VA.

Purdue Global announced free classes to be offered. Details to

follow. Central Office now tracking causes of FF deaths by cancer, suicide, natural. IVFA website now mobile and tablet friendly. All forms are available on website. Nominations are needed for all awards; forward them to Jerry. Format change for Jr. FF award. Due February 1. Legislation: IVFA following 12 to 13 bills. Doing cost study on volunteers and how much money they save municipalities. Paul talked about Bridgeport Scholarship Fund.

Old business: None.

New business: 50 year Gold cards given out: Lake Ridge - Ronald DeYoung, Schererville - Bo Kaiser. Five other members were not in attendance.

25 year pin: Mike Talbert, Schererville.

Deaths in Districts: Vince Casboni, St. John VFD, Mike Horvath, Munster.

Good of the order: Lake Ridge VFD, Spaghetti supper, February 22, 4-7 p.m. Pancake breakfast before Easter.

South Haven challenge coins for sale. They will be having a class on mental health and suicide of FF's on February 22. Class is free. For info contact South Haven VFD.

Fire Museum is now open at Tri Town Safety Town in Schererville. Opened in December. For questions contact Bill Howe at Schererville VFD.

Next meeting - March 18, 2020 at Lowell VFD.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Notes by Bob Szot.

Submitted by Paul Watland,
District 2 Chairman

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



Jerry Sprague - Chairman

Greetings from District 6,

Greetings everyone. Hello to all from up here in the northeast.

Fall is here and it is starting to cool off. Hope everyone has had a good year so far. Since this pandemic is here, we have not been able to have district meetings or State Officers meetings since January. Hopefully this is cleared up so things can get to somewhat normal sometime soon.

The next meeting as of this publication will be tentatively on November 17th, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. Of course, this depends on the clearing up of this Covid thing. As

of this publication, we do not have a specific location. Have not been able to attend very many fundraisers in the district as almost all the departments have been forced to cancel or postpone their fundraisers and events do to the covid 19 pandemic.

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

Our next meeting as of this printing is scheduled tentatively for Tuesday, November 17th, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. All District 6 departments should have received a flyer on the meetings. If any of the departments or individual firefighters in District 6 have problems or concerns, please call or e-mail me. I will do my level best to help you out. Better yet, bring them to our next meeting on November 17th.

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

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

DISTRICT 8A REPORT



Rex Maynard - Chairman

Hello,
Hope you have been safe through this time.

We are back having district meetings; would like to see you there.

I would like to thank Wayne Township VFD. of Noblesville for letting Vice President Jerry Liston and I help in their move from their old fire station to their new fire station.

Sorry I was not able to attend the open house, but I would like to thank Public Relations Rep. East Central Don Cushman for presenting the clock to the new station.

The Miss Flame candidates need to be turned in by the November meeting so we can vote. The Global Award is now the MacQueen Emergency Award. I need nominations by the end of the year. Voting will be in January.

The next District meeting is November 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at Swayzee VFD. Hope to see you there.

As the Holidays are coming up, may you stay safe.

District 8A Chairman
Rex Maynard

DISTRICT 9A REPORT



Pascal Moon - Chairman

Good Day to all,

Well, summer is gone and fall is already almost gone! The time of year when all of us are thinking about what we are going to bake, cook or serve for the holiday meal?

The year has had its up and downs for all of us in one way or another, let's hope that all will stay safe over the winter.

Our last district meeting was held at Camden - Jackson Twp., attendance was down but what do you expect when most of the departments are from rural farm areas.

The next meeting is one week early, due to Thanksgiving, that's right I said Thanksgiving! Then before you know it we will be into 2021.

Area departments are having their fall fundraisers, most have adopted the drive-thru, carry-out and limited seating type of event.

If you have time to travel for another department fundraiser, do it, meet some of the members, talk about the equipment and the troubles of 2020. Maybe it is what all of us need after this year!

Stay safe and remember when the call is over we all go home safe!

Pascal Moon
District 9A Chairman

DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

Greetings from District 10,

It's great to be back in the swing of things with district meetings every month and fire departments having regular meetings.

We have attended several department fish fries and even a chicken dinner event, which

have been "drive thru only". From what we are hearing, they have been very successful! Congratulations fellow firefighters for being creative during these very unusual times!

The Association has moved the deadline to October 31 for departments to get their dues paid. The reason being, many departments have not been meeting due to Covid 19.

Our August district meeting was at Anderson Twp. (Milroy). A great meal was served by the firefighters from Anderson Twp. Larry spoke on legislation and noted there will be no funding bills passed for 2021. The Ivy Tech program is available for 2021; and they will be funding it.

In August we presented several pins and awards at monthly meetings. Rushville Twp. firefighter Phil Dearing received his copy of the resolution from the General Assembly recognizing 50 year members. James Engmark and Garrett Geiseking of Needham Comm. VFD received 10 year pins. From Hope VFD, Chad Emmitt, Levi Garrison, Adam Mathis, Christopher Mathis and Christopher Wood also received their 10 year pins.

In September District 10 met at Clarksburg Community VFD for another great meal! Fire Marshal Joel Thacker was at the meeting along with Wade Waling of the Fire Marshal's office. Marshal Thacker, Larry Curl and myself presented awards of the Fire Marshal's Meritorious Service Award, pin and Gold Card to Robert Haunert. We also presented a 25 year pin to Steven Geis and a 10 year pin to Robert Duckworth. All are members of Clarksburg Comm. VFD.

Marshal Thacker gave updated information from his office.

Be safe and enjoy the beauty of the changing of the seasons.

John M. Ray
District 10 Chairman

DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Pete Taylor - Chairman

Hello everyone,

These are unprecedented times in the history of our state. As we have just moved into Stage 5 of the pandemic, I am hoping things will come together for the good of the order.

Due to the pandemic, our country and state are experiencing uncertainty and challenging times. Tough decisions are being made about convention and life in general with the IVFA.

Our last district meeting was July 19th in Hymaria. We had eight departments present, 13 members and five guests. Rob

- see 'district 11A' page 8

**FEBRUARY 2021
DEADLINE IS:
JANUARY 5, 2021**

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

- secretary

(continued from page 5)

legislation we want to introduce.

LODD: Chaplain Ski Gerdowsky - nothing to report.

Logo: District 18 John Smith - nothing to report.

Membership and Marketing: District 7 Sam Bisel - still working on a few things.

Newspaper: Past Pres. Buz Koehler - 32-page paper released; 15 advertisers. Miss Flame pictures were included in this edition.

Public Relations and Education: PRSW Steve Nolan - FDIC was cancelled, unsure if new date will be held. IERC held in September and currently still a go. Trailer is in the paint shop to get inside painted. Once completed, the new wrap will be put on trailer.

Social Media and Website: Webmaster Josh Reiser - zoom meeting switch over, nothing further to report.

Special Projects: Past Pres. Buz Koehler - still collecting information for the history book.

Training: Past President Steve Anderson - nothing to report.

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

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

Board of Firefighter Standards and Education: John Smith - nothing new to report, meeting to be held after this meeting.

Fire Alliance: Steve Anderson, Buz Koehler, Larry Curl - no meeting held.

Hero's Competition: Mike Dzuba - no meeting held and postponed to next year.

IN-Time: Jack Zeeks - absent.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Jack Kerney and Jean Smith - discussion on the number of career firefighters has increased for populations from 5-25,000 pop. while volunteers have decreased.

Benefits Summit: David Israel - this year is postponed, plan on holding it next year in May 2021, will stay in contact with Harrison.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

President, David Israel, attended a 50-year presentation, Statehouse presentation, Bible and grave marker for Jim Abrams, meetings, gala, conference calls.

Vice President, Jerry Liston, attended the gala, district meetings.

Chaplain, Ed Gerdowsky, absent.

Secretary, Leighanne Ellis, pass.

Treasurer, Luke Kluender, pass.

Sergeant-At-Arms, Brent Bush, flowers for memorial are in and have to send in a name for Ollie Sandburg award.

Historian, John Davies / Paul Smith, absent.

Chairman of the Board, Steve Anderson, absent.

Webmaster, Josh Reiser, pass.

PRNW, Jeremy Reef, attended the gala and a few meetings.

PRNE, Jean Smith, spoke with some departments for PPE supplies, meetings.

PRWC, Larry Bartlow, 2 fundraisers and 3 district meetings.

PREC, Don Cushman, absent.
PRSW, Steve Nolan, pipeline meeting, 2 memorial services, gala, 50-year celebration, contacted several departments.

PRSE, Ed Scheele, fundraisers.
Asst. Treasurer, Bev Harker, absent.

Asst. Secretary, Diane Harrison, absent.

PAST PRESIDENT'S

REPORTS:

Richard Glant, pass.

Jack Zeeks, absent.

Buz Koehler, pass.

Jack Kerney, pass.

Larry Ketchem, absent.

David Israel, pass.

Steve Anderson, attended gala, Jim Abram's memorial service.

Paul Holcomb, pass.

Jim Parker, updated he is doing well and spending time away with family.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 1, Marshall Neece, absent.

District 2, Paul Watland, absent.

District 3, Bob Uryga, absent.

District 4, Elton Schafer, absent.

District 5, John Grolich, nothing to report.

District 6, Jerry Sprague, attended few fundraisers, contacted department for PPE.

District 7, Sam Bisel, attended gala, spoke on phone with department.

District 8A, Rex Maynard, attended gala, presented to Kempton a couple of Bibles, drive-thru fundraiser.

District 8B, Paul Smith, absent.

District 9A, Pascal Moon, attended gala, memorial presentation, department meeting, and fundraiser.

District 9B, Randy Denton, absent.

District 10, John Ray, nothing to report.

District 11A, Pete Taylor, district meeting, memorial service, 50-year celebration, department contacted.

District 11B, Jason Ryan, district meeting, hand out pins, Miss Flame fundraiser.

District 12 Scott Butrum, absent (no chairman).

District 13A, Mike Dzuba, district meeting, handed out pins, contacted department.

District 13B, Jeff Biehl, district meetings, pins handed out, attended gala.

District 14, Rick Cannon, meeting, handed out pin, 50-year card and AD&D check presented.

District 15, Ross Emery, meetings, attended gala, memorial service in 17A, Jim Abrams memorial.

District 16, John Gott, absent.

District 17A, Sam Emery, absent.

District 17B, Heather McGlocklin, nothing to report.

District 18, John "Bull" Smith, January district meeting, attended gala, memorial service.

District 19, Ben Siverdin, absent.

District 21, Ed Watson, contacted department and had question come up with how soon meetings could start again and it was left at what the Governor requires and to department discretion.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Should be able to have August meetings as scheduled unless unforeseen circumstances come up. Hotel concerns were addressed, and we have been assured a thorough cleaning will be completed.

2. No district meetings are to be held in May 2020.

Reports to be sent to Secretary and President and vouchers sent to Treasurer.

District 8A Rex Maynard motion to adjourn, second from District 10 John Ray. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING Board Action Meeting May 2020 Via Zoom Virtual Meetings

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

No items were brought before Board for any actions at this meeting.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Past President Jack Kerney, second by PREC Larry Bartlow. Meeting adjourned.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING AUGUST 9, 2020 Zoom Meeting

Meeting called to order by President David Israel at 1800. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice President Jerry Liston. The Invocation was given by Associate Chaplain Pete Taylor.

Tonya Rigsby with California Casualty spoke and gave updates on their staffing, current company state to department meetings. The company has done some rate reductions so if there are any questions please contact them directly. If freebies are needed for handouts let Tonya know.

Tammy Williams with American Income Life spoke and gave updates on the change with contracted members due to the pandemic. They offer a virtual option to continue the service to our members. Food bank has slowed down but if there is a need, let her know and she can figure out a solution.

Kraig Kinney, State EMS Director, spoke on change at state level with director and Marshal changing. Volunteer agencies have a different reporting service for NIFRS that have been updated. Long term training goals which are planning to be online are being worked on. Grant with the health dept. being worked on for education for Covid, fit testing and have foggers available to services. They are doing more audits to gauge and educate departments on EMS changes for the past year.

Roll call was taken with 19 District Chairmen present and 6 absent, 4 Public Relations Officers and 2 absent, 6 past presidents, the Lobbyist and Executive Council.

Reading of minutes suspended for the meeting.

Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Luke Kluender. Reports were emailed out to all officers. If there are comments or

questions, contact Luke. A CD is maturing in September so a decision will need to be made. 2021 Budget will be covered in the November meeting. District Secretary vouchers need to be sent into Luke. Jack Kerney made a motion to accept treasurer report, Larry Bartlow gave second. Motion passed.

Old Business: no old business to report.

Executive Committee Report: David Israel, 3 life saving awards to review.

Central Office Report: Jack Kerney, Dept. paid/not paid list sent out. Waiting on pin list update. Dues are entered. Deceased reports being updated. Updated rosters will be updated after dues entered. 14,236 addresses sent to newspaper. 342 bad addresses returned, 311 corrected. 440 bad addresses on hold. Please update if not receiving membership benefits. 10,221 current dues entered, over 3,000 still pending. AIL paid out \$190,000 in claims.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards: Vice President Jerry Liston - spoke with MacQueen group and awards are ready for district awards. The district chairmen will decide on when to present winners convention or meeting.

Angel Award, Diane Harrison - nothing to report at this time.

Jr. Firefighter Award, Jack Kerney - currently cancelled for this year.

Mr. IVFA, Ed Gerdowsky - winner chosen.

Bridgeport: Past President Richard Glant, 3 winners chosen and placed onto Facebook as an announcement.

Budget: Treasurer Luke Kluender, will be reported in November.

By-laws and S.O.G.'s: PRWC Larry Bartlow, nothing to report. Holding off on reprint until updates complete.

Clothing Claims: District 5 John Grolich - one claim for eyeglasses

Convention: President David Israel, three options were emailed out to holding convention. Option 3 is a one day convention with registration from 8-? This is planning to be held during a quarterly meeting weekend to comply with by-laws. 1230-1500 annual meeting to be held, still tentative times and dates being planned and decided due to covid. 2021 - Clarksville, 2022 Evansville hosting. Bids are French Lick and Muncie to be voted on.

EMS: Vice President Jerry Liston, went to a virtual meeting forum. IERC has been cancelled. Mobile Integrated Health Committee formed under IDHS. Plans involve paramedics and shortages to deal with 911 services. FSSA line item approved for Naloxone reimbursement. Go to Indiana EMS Commission online for updates on the meeting.

Lona Huffman into meeting to check in with officers, nothing new to report.

Insurance: Luke Kluender, nothing to report.

Legislation: Lobbyist Larry Curl and Past President Buz Koehler discussed last year's bills. 13 bills introduced and

passed, 3 particular to the membership. Forwarded email to officers with list of bills and if there are questions please contact the legislation committee. Ivy Tech program still going on. If there are questions they can find answers on the website with the Ivy Tech FAQ's. \$250,000 grant was renewed for another year. We need to push for students to use grant money. Purdue Global program still being discussed. General Assembly will not be looking at bills with new money or needing money for proposals. Still have cost-saving survey to distribute at an appropriate time.

State Fire Marshal Thacker spoke on Back on Track plan, if there are questions contact office for assistance. Gave information on fire drills and hand sanitizer storage for schools max of 240 gallons in sprinkler buildings and 120 gallons for non-sprinkler buildings at school. Request for public assistance is located on IDHS website for Covid related incurred costs. FEMA reimburses up to 75% has to be signed up by end of August. Attempting to stock PPE for this fall. Online Mandatory, FF 1/2, Hazmat Aw. and Ops are online. Will set up skills days separate in person. Contact Wade Walling for more information on online training. Some changes to departments were made, visit the website for updates.

LODD: Chaplain Ski Gerdowsky.

Logo: District 18 John Smith, nothing to report. Luke reported trademark was up for renewal. He had company update and completed paperwork to renew.

Membership and Marketing: District 7 Sam Bisel, discussed membership benefits not being relayed out to members. A condensed version of membership packet is planning on being printed into the paper. A marketing group information was emailed out on how to get membership information on companies and prices for lower cost to buyers and kick back to the organization.

Newspaper: Past Pres. Buz Koehler, discussion about May and August issues due to lack of content being submitted. District Chairmen need to submit items to increase content. Advertising vendors are still advertising with us.

Public Relations and Education: PRSW Steve Nolan, IVFA trailer has new wrap, painted inside, LODD names in place with room for others, new tires, and back in service. Total came back under budget. Contact Don Cushman for scheduling.

Social Media and Website: Webmaster Josh Reiser, nothing to report.

Special Projects: Past Pres. Buz Koehler, nothing to report.

Training: Past President Steve Anderson, IFSTA book changed for FF 1/2 change discussion. For Public Assistance paperwork you need DUNS number and EIN number to file.

Younger Membership: District 6 Jerry Sprague, push the Ivy Tech program.

- see 'secretary' page 8

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

- secretary

(continued from page 7)

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Board of Firefighter Standards and Education: John Smith, next meeting August 10, 2020 with choice of in-person or through Webex.

Fire Alliance: Steve Anderson, Buz Koehler, Larry Curl, talked about what Fire Marshal and EMS director and Homeland Security Director spoke on. Discussion on what General Assembly will look like.

Hero's Competition: Mike Dzuba, nothing to report.

IN-Time: Jack Zeeks, absent.

National Volunteer Fire Council: Jack Kerney and Jean Smith, meeting was cancelled. Zoom meeting will be in October.

Red Cross Workgroup: Don Cushman, nothing to report.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President, David Israel, 7 District meetings, 2 department meetings, Gold card presentation, 1216 miles.

Vice President, Jerry Liston, 7 district meetings, 7 business meetings, 3 department fundraisers. Co-chair for District 12. (23) 10-year pins, (12) 25-year pins, Gold card presentation in 8A, 1987 miles.

Chaplain, Ed Gerdowsky, not present at this time.

Secretary, Leighanne Ellis, not logged to this portion of meeting.

Treasurer, Luke Kluender, nothing to report.

Sergeant-At-Arms, Brent Bush, has Mr. IVFA and Ollie Sandburg award ordered and waiting for build to keep nice.

Historian, John Davies / Paul Smith, absent.

Chairman of the Board, Paul Holcomb, nothing to report.

Webmaster, Josh Reisert, nothing to report.

PRNW, Jeremy Reef, nothing to report.

PRNE, Jean Smith, district meeting, contact with local department and district chairman.

PRWC, Larry Bartlow, 3 district meetings, contact 3-4 departments.

PREC, Don Cushman, attended all his district meetings, discussion on what to do with the cart for the hose and cart races. One set of waterball equipment on the trailer, other set of equipment in Don Cushman's shed. Jason Ryan has a possible storage place for awhile.

PRSW, Steve Nolan, attended all district meetings, 1 fundraiser, worked with trailer.

PRSE, Ed Scheele, memorial service, 5 department visits, fundraisers, 400 miles.

Asst. Treasurer, Bev Harker, absent.

Asst. Secretary, Diane Harrison, absent.

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORTS:

Richard Glant, pass.

Jack Zeeks, absent.

Buz Koehler, pass.

Jack Kerney, pass.

Larry Ketchem, absent.

David Israel, nothing to report.

Steve Anderson, Fire Alliance and district meetings, funerals.

Paul Holcomb, nothing to report.

DISTRICT REPORTS:

District 1, Marshall Neece, nothing to report.

District 2, Paul Watland, 3 memorial services.

District 3, Bob Uryga, district meeting, (8) 10-year pins, (2) 25-year pins.

District 4, Elton Schafer, nothing to report.

District 5, John Grolich, absent.

District 6, Jerry Sprague, nothing to report.

District 7, Sam Bisel, district meeting, 2 department meetings, 2 memorial services.

District 8A, Rex Maynard, 3 memorial services, 3 fundraisers, 3 meetings, district meeting.

District 8B, Paul Smith, absent.

District 9A, Pascal Moon, district meeting, memorial service, (4) 25-year pins, (9) 10-year pins.

District 9B, Randy Denton, absent.

District 10, John Ray, 2 district meetings, 5 fundraisers, 6 department meetings, county meeting, memorial service.

District 11A, Pete Taylor, district meeting, memorial service,

fundraisers.

District 11B, Jason Ryan, district meeting, 2 fundraisers, memorial service, passed out pins.

District 12, David Israel and Jerry Liston, 10-year pin and (2) 25-year pins.

District 13A, Mike Dzuba, district meeting, station visits, 3 fundraisers, Gold card presentation.

District 13B, Jeff Biehl, not present at this time.

District 14, Rick Cannon, district meeting.

District 15, Ross Emery, district meeting.

District 16, John Gott, not present at this time.

District 17A, Sam Emery, not present at this time.

District 17B, Heather McGlocklin, not present at this time.

District 18, John "Bull" Smith, district meeting, memorial service, Bible presentation, pins passed out, AIL check presented, 3 department fundraisers, 680 miles.

District 19, Ben Siverdin, absent.

District 21, Ed Watson, absent.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Budget for 2021 - will be brought up in November.

District 11A Pete Taylor made a motion to adjourn meeting, Seconded by Sgt.-At-Arms

Brent Bush. Meeting adjourned.

INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING August 9, 2020 Zoom Meeting

Board Action Business Meeting called to order by the Chairman of the Board Paul Holcomb, assisted by Past President Steve Anderson following business meeting.

Board Action - Business:

1. Funding for 2020 convention, possibly able to fund from funds made during 2018 convention or with costs saved from missed in-person quarterly meeting. Steve Anderson discussed to use \$4,000 that is the startup money for conventions to hold 2020 convention. District 13A Mike Dzuba made a motion to spend up to \$5000 for convention, PRSW Steven Nolan made a second. Motion passed.

2. Jumbo CD maturity, unable to get rate due to dates. Past President Richard Glant made a motion for Treasurer to renew CD when it matures. Past President Buz Koehler gave second. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn meeting by PRWC Larry Bartlow, second by Don Cushman. Meeting adjourned.

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

'district 11A'

(continued from page 6)

Bahna was the guest speaker on mechanical CPR demonstration.

Election of officers was conducted and all officers retained their same positions.

We have attended some drive-thru fish fries including our own. It was successful and good to get out a little bit.

I am encouraging everyone in District 11A to either e-mail me or call if they need anything for your fire department. I will do my best to take care of your needs.

Hope everyone has paid dues and in good standing with the IVFA.

You can visit District 11A Facebook page and the IVFA Facebook page. You can get a lot of information -- ivfa.org. If your department has any event, you can post it.

Our next meeting will be November 15th in Jasonville at 1:00 p.m.

I would like to see someone from every department there.

Till next time,
Stay safe!

Pete Taylor
Chairman, District 11A

February

2021

deadline:

January 5, 2021

DISTRICT 11B REPORT



Jason Ryan - Chairman

Hello Everyone!!

Hope all is going well with you and your family. It seems fall is creeping in on us.

As of this time the District is looking for a new Secretary, so if you might know someone or if you, yourself are interested, please contact me, we would like to get this position filled.

I know some departments were able to hold a few fundraisers which is great!! Hopefully things will get back to being as close to normal soon, or the new normal anyway.

The District did lose a Lifetime member of the IVFA. Firefighter Herman Robert Cox of the Cloverdale Township Volunteer Fire Department. Herman was a previous Chief of the Department also. I would like to give District Chairman of 11A, Pete Taylor a big Thank You for handling the service for me.

Remember the holidays are coming up, I am still working on getting pins out to departments, so please let me know on meetings or trainings so I can try to come in and talk to your department.

The next meeting will be November 8th at Reelsville /

Washington Township Fire Department. The meeting will be at 1:00 p.m.

We are also looking for departments that are willing to host meetings in 2021, so if you are interested please let me know and we will see what dates are open.

Everyone Please Stay Safe,

Jason Ryan
District 11B Chairman

DISTRICT 12 REPORT



Scott L. Butrum - Chairman

Greetings from District 12,

We are slowly getting back to normal and so are our meetings.

July 14th meeting was held at Eel River Twp. Fire Dept. with 5 departments and 11 members present along with 9 guests.

President David Israel presided over the meeting. Director Steve Cox from Indiana Dept. of Homeland Security talked about Ivy Tech commitment of \$250,000 towards free education for volunteer firefighters which is a very good deal and you can use it as a recruitment and retention tool and you also receive a 2 year

degree.

Joel Thacker, Indiana State Fire Marshal talked about web-based training that is coming out. Also, commented on the Ivy Tech program. President Israel presented 1 - 10 year service pin and 2 - 25 year service pins.

President Israel brought up wanting to do a condensed convention in November if possible. Lobbyist Larry Curl went over some legislative issues.

September 21st meeting was held at Fire Dept. of Liberty Twp. with 3 departments and 17 members present along with 5 guests. Vice-President Jerry Liston presided over the meeting. President Liston brought up about the condensed convention may not happen.

IVFAA President Carol Curl talked about the Miss Flame contest and that District 12 does not have a Miss Flame. If you know of someone, contact Carol.

Lobbyist Larry Curl talked about legislative issues. If you haven't heard, there was a study done to see how much we as volunteers saved the taxpayers of the state of Indiana and it's a huge amount around \$7.5 billion. It also breaks it down for each County and Twp. It'll be printed and sent to volunteer depts. You can also take it to your Twp. Trustee and show them the savings.

District 12 has a Facebook page which is Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association District 12 that you can post things like fundraisers or any information that you want to get out there.

Remember, your IVFA dues have been extended to October 31st.

If you have a fundraiser and need the IVFA trailer, contact Don Cushman. IVFA Awards are due by February 1st and the Bridgeport Scholarship is due by March 1st. You can find on the IVFA Website.

District 12 is looking for a District Chairman and if you are interested or know of someone, contact President David Israel or Vice-President Jerry Liston.

We would like to see more people to attend these meetings even if it's just one person from each department so they can receive the information that can be beneficial to take back to your department.

Next District meetings will be Monday, November 16th at Brown Twp. Fire Dept., January's meeting at Green Twp. Fire Dept. with a date to be announced and Monday, March 15th at Gregg Twp.

Stay Safe.

Brian Edwards
District 12 Secretary

Greetings!

Back in July, President David Israel and the IVFA Executive Board allowed the District Chairmen to resume holding meetings in their Districts. There were conditions attached to re-opening these meetings across the State, such as, following CDC and State of Indiana guidelines.

Since that time there have

-see 'district 12' - page 9

I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

- district 12

(continued from page 8)

been two meetings in District 12. The first meeting was held at Eel River VFD in July and the second meeting was held in September at the Fire Department of Liberty Township.

Both meetings had a light turnout of members from the district. In order for the Chairmen to conduct official business at these meetings there needs to be at least five departments present to constitute a quorum.

When your department receives the meeting notice, please post the meeting notice and encourage your members to attend a meeting. If your department is not receiving a meeting notice, President Israel or myself needs to know and we will see that your department receives one.

Currently as I write this article IVFA District 12 does not have a District Chairman. Steps are being taken to find and appoint a Chairman for the District. Until that occurs President Israel and Vice President Liston are chairing the meetings.

District Secretary Brian Edwards is mailing meeting notices for those meetings.

Which reminds me, please check your department contact information on the IVFA website. If something needs to be changed or corrected, please let President Israel or myself know and one of us will get the information corrected for your department. If the contact information is incorrect it makes it difficult to reach a department.

Vice President Liston has been tasked with traveling to departments within the District presenting service pins to members. Presently, Vice-President Liston has presented approximately fifty service pins across the District. There are still

several more service pins to hand out within the District.

Vice President Liston will be contacting those remaining departments soon and making arrangements to present those remaining pins.

The next meeting for District 12 will be held at Brown Township Fire & Rescue on November 16, 2020. The meeting will begin at 7 P.M.

Stay safe.

Jerry L. Liston
IVFA Vice President

DISTRICT 14 REPORT



Richard Cannon - Chairman

How's everyone doing; we are trying to get out to our departments when you have anything going on.

Please contact me if you need us to come to one of your meetings to talk to your department.

Please get on the Website and make sure the address and E-mail are correct and the meeting days and times.

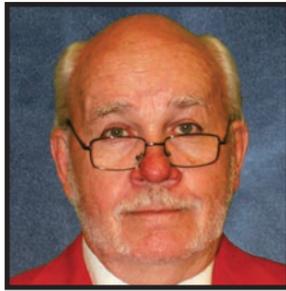
If you have anything as a fundraiser, please put it on the Website or send it to me and I will get it on there.

Our next IVFA district meeting will be on November 19 at Vernon Fire Department's new fire house at 19:00 hours located across the street from the old firehouse at 260 E. Brown St., Vernon, Ind. 47282.

Thanks.

Rick Cannon
Chairman

DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Sam Emery - Chairman

July 15th District 17A meeting was held at the Loogootee VFD. Several state officers and others were on hand and had information for those in attendance.

Elections were held and those elected were: Sam Emery - 17A chairman, Scott Byers - 17A vice chairman and Courtney Byers, secretary/treasurer. We hope to continue to serve you.

Many thanks to the Loogootee VFD for hosting us and the meal served.

July 31st a graveside IVFA memorial was held for Beech Creek fireman Robert "Larry" Corbin who had 43 years of service. Bible and grave marker were presented. Condolences to all.

August 6th I attended Taylor VFD meeting.

September 3rd I attended Taylor VFD meeting.

September 16th District 17A meeting was hosted by Washington Twp. VFD (Washington, IN).

Remarks were made by those state officers in attendance including Steve Nolan, PRSW and a special thanks to IVFA vice president Jerry Liston for his presentation.

Thanks to Washington Twp. for hosting us and the meal served.

Condolences to the Spurgeon VFD due to the passing of firefighter Gary Allen Young. A

celebration of life will be held at a later date.

The next District 17A meeting will be held November 18th at the Taylor VFD in Scotland. Hope to see you there.

Until next time -- stay safe.

Sam Emery
District 17A chairman

DISTRICT 18 REPORT



John C. Smith - Chairman

Greetings from District 18, Things around here are starting to get back to some degree of "normal"!

The District 18 meeting of 16 July was held on schedule with the Jackson Twp. VFD as our host. Our guests included Jack and Barb Kerney, Carl Deel from the State Fire Marshal's Office, Steve Nolan - PRSW, Larry and Carol Curl and District 18 Miss Flame Kira Jones.

Election of District Officers was conducted; as a result all incumbent officers were re-elected. 41 members representing 16 departments answered roll call and reported answering a total of 487 alarms.

The District 18 meeting of 17 September was hosted by the Dubois VFD. Our guests included Jack and Barb Kerney, Steve Anderson, District 18 Miss Flame Kira Jones and Zach Westfall from the IDHS District 10.

It was sadly announced that

due to the risk of exposure from the COVID 19, that both the Annual Memorial Service and the Annual Parade and Miss Flame contest are canceled. Kira has agreed to continue to serve as our Miss Flame and will represent us at the 2021 Convention.

Zach Westfall discussed some of the changes that have come to the Mandatory/Firefighter I courses. These changes are to stay in line with new changes that have come from the NFPA.

40 members representing 10 departments answered roll call.

National Fire Prevention Week is about to start at the time of this writing. Even with the restrictions that I am sure that we are all facing, I hope that everyone is trying to make efforts to participate in those activities that we do at this time of year. Remember that the education of the public about Fire Safety and Prevention is our First Duty!

Until next time, stay alert, stay safe, and "keep the wet stuff, on the red stuff"!

John "Bull" Smith
Chairman, District 18

**Everyone
stay safe
and stay healthy!**



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

- submitted by PRNE Jean Smith



Honoring 911 - Aboite Fire Department proudly displays American Flag on the anniversary of 911.



Southwest Fire District Active Shooter donation

UAW Local 2209 giving back to the community. Donating over \$20,000 to Southwest Fire District for supplies to aid in active shooter and other emergency situations. This donation not only helps keep the responders safer, however, it will also benefit the community around Southwest Fire District. They have assembled a response team not only with other fire departments, but also surrounding police agencies in and around Allen County. With this support, the response team has now grown within Southwest Fire District as well as neighboring department and counties.




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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

- submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District Chairman



Portland Fire Department awards banquet held



On October 1st the Portland Fire Department held their annual awards banquet. Honored for their years of fire service were Chad Aker for 25 years, Chuck Denney for 20 years, Bryan Jellison for 10 years and Justin Detro for 10 years.

Pictured from left to right are: Chuck Denney, Bryan Jellison, Chad Aker and Lloyd E. Wright. Not present was Justin Detro.



Honored for his 50 years of fire service was Jim Stipp. Thank you for your years of service.



Presenting Jim with his 50 year Gold card was District 8B chairman Lloyd E. Wright. Jim's family was able to be in attendance to see him get his award.

Salamonia VFD receives MacQueen Excellence Award



On September 10th Bruce Manor from the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Department received the MacQueen Excellence award for District 8B. Pictured is Lloyd E. Wright, Bruce Manor and Jerry Liston.

Salamonia VFD holds drive-thru supper

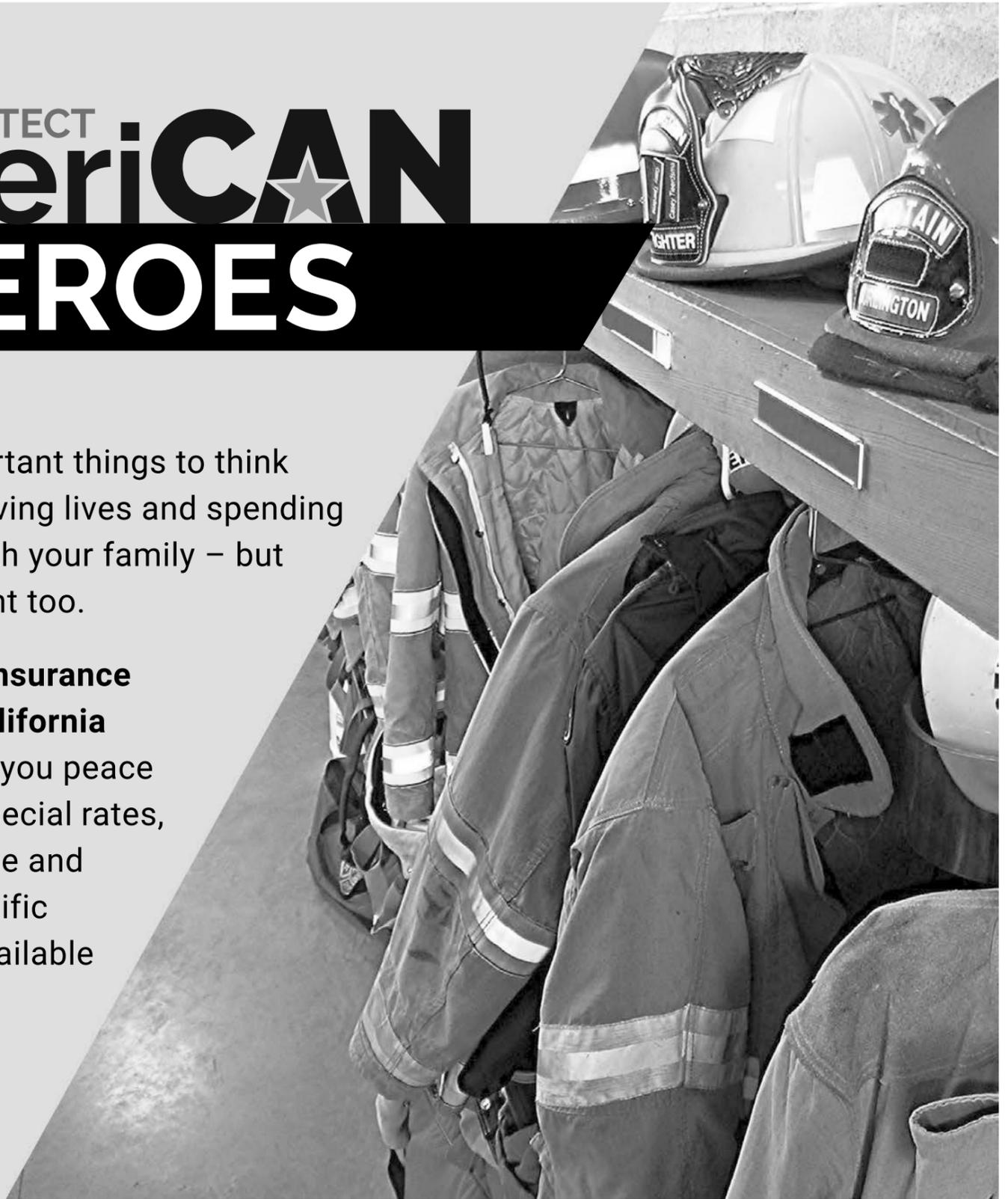


On September 19th the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Department held a drive-thru fish and tenderloin sandwich supper. Had a great turn out.

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CHAPLAINBETH CAUDILL 15120 Lucas Rd., Brookville, IN 47012 E-mail: ivfaachaplain@ivfaa.org	Cell: (765) 309-2940
SGT.-AT-ARMSSUZIE STOUT LEWIS 2627 N. 400 E., Lagro, IN 46941 E-mail: ivfasgtatarms@ivfaa.org	Cell: (260) 571-7923
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I.V.F.A.A. DISTRICT CHAIRMEN REPORTS

**IVFAA
President
Carol Curl**



*A chat from Carol ...
November 2020*

Greetings fellow Auxiliary members,
And "Happy Holidays" to each of you and your families,
Yes, it's that time we need to be thinking of the Thanksgiving Day dinner, the family gatherings and how blessed we are to be able to assemble and celebrate this event, oh wait, we still have to be concerned about the "VIRUS", social distancing and protecting

our health; but hopefully we can still share with our family all that we have to be thankful for.

Thanksgiving Day this year will be on Thursday, November 26, 2020.

Thanksgiving Day, a holiday in which we celebrate the harvest and other blessings of this past year. Americans generally believe that their Thanksgiving is modeled on a 1621 harvest feast shared by the English colonists (Pilgrims) of Plymouth and the Wampanoag people.

The American holiday is particularly rich in legend and symbolism, and the traditional fare of the Thanksgiving meal that typically includes turkey, bread stuffing, potatoes, cranberries and pumpkin pie. Hope your plans include much of the same.

As I sat here this evening pinning this article I took a look back at some of my articles from past quarters and even though we all have been living a very different lifestyle during 2020 (a year for vision or maybe some would say, no vision) we are still very blessed.

We have an auxiliary with sharing, caring and thoughtful members; we have enjoyed the

opportunities to be with each other and we have been able to work for the common good to grow, build, and make a difference.

We have learned much (and in some cases maybe too much) about Covid-19, social distancing, washing your hands, and yes, politics. The things that have controlled and consumed our lives in 2020 have been crazy.

Also the year of "2020" will go down in our history book as the year with "NO" State convention and very few meetings, although we have conducted some of our business virtually by electronic means such as ZOOM, a brand new term for me in the sense that it is a way to communicate, (back in my days of growing up and raising our family Zoom was a term meaning "fast" as in a car or motorcycle), life has changed and so must we, I guess.

Additionally, speaking of conventions, the annual auxiliary awards for 2020 will be presented in 2021 as will all the awards for 2021, so start thinking about your nominations for the Lois Boaz Award nomination and the Miriam A. Schaeckel Award

- see 'ivfaa president' - page 14

IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2019 / 2020

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Connie Ray
Sue Glant

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East Central - Janet Matthews
West Central - Joann Hayes
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Northeast - Suzie Lewis
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East West - Joann Hayes
Southwest - Kathy Smith
Southeast - Pam Gerdowsky

** Meeting will follow By-Laws
and Robert Rules of Order*

**February 2021 deadline
is January 5, 2021
E-mail news
and photos to
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I.V.F.A.A. DISTRICT CHAIRMEN REPORTS

DISTRICT 6 REPORT



E.J. Smith - Chairman

Hello Everyone,
 Fall is here; enjoy the fall colors and crisp nights.
 Fire Prevention Week October 4-10. The theme is "Serve up Fire Safety in the Kitchen". Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States.
 Please plan and practice your escape.
 Unfortunately due to the Covid-19 we have not been able to have meetings since the middle of March.
 I hope everyone is healthy and doing okay. Please stay safe.
 If your Auxiliary has any questions or concerns or functions you would like me to attend, please contact me at 260-413-3040, EJS6District@aol.com.

E.J. Smith
 District 6 IVFAA Chairman

DISTRICT 11-A REPORT



Beverly Taylor - Chairman

Hello everyone,
 The weather is getting cooler; before long winter will be here. Yuk!
 Our last District 11A meeting was in Hymaria on July 19th. They had a delicious lunch as always. Thanks, everyone!
 We had election of officers and everyone stayed the same, as usual!
 We are looking forward to a mini convention in November. Everyone is working hard to make it the best with what they have to work with. The Covid pandemic has changed all usual plans.
 Hope everyone has paid dues. I haven't received a roster to know, so I can't contact anyone to remind them.
 Our next District 11A meeting will be November 15th in Jasonville Fire Department. Please try to attend as there will be a lot of information about IVFAA.
 Enjoy each day as the Lord gives us many blessings to be thankful for.
 Till next time,
 Stay well!

Beverly Taylor
 Chairman District 11A

DISTRICT 14 REPORT



Judy Wirth - Chairman

Hello to all and hope everyone is staying safe during our troubled times.
 It was good to see a lot of you at Tri-Township at the last District 14 meeting.
 Congratulations to Willie Stoffregen receiving the 2020 MacQueen Award.
 It is time to start writing Award letters for 2021. If anyone needs information or me to visit a meeting, let me know. I am always ready to help.
 Happy Fall to ALL!!!!

As ever, Jude

DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Pam Gerdowsky - Chairperson

Hope everyone is still hanging in there with all this mess we have to deal with these days. I do believe God is trying to send us a message and let us know that He is still in charge and prayers are what we need to do to see us through. My cousin said, "who thought our golden years would be spent in lock down?" I am sure none of us did but God has a plan and hopefully with our faith and prayers He will show us the answer.
 Been disappointing not getting to see everyone in August and hopefully November will work out. Who knows it might all be okay in 2021 and we will be blessed to enjoy each other's company and have some good state meetings and a wonderful convention. In the meantime try to keep in touch by e-mail, Facebook, calls and send cards. That can really brighten our days. We will get through this and hopefully enjoy the year 2021.
 I haven't done too much besides get dues sent to Tammy for those who remain in the IVFAA. It is a great organization and helps support our Firefighters and Rescue members.
 So in the meantime let's keep praying and ask God to bless us all as we look ahead for a better New Year!

District 19 Chairperson,
 Pam Gerdowsky

DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Carolyn Watson - Chairman

Hello everyone.
 Fall has arrived and the color of the trees are beautiful.
 Our last District 21 meeting was at West Point Vol. Fire Dept. We had 7 members and two guests.
 I asked the IVFAA members to let their IVFA Departments know that their members can join the IVFAA.
 Our Miss Flame for 2019, Shelby Butler won one of IVFA Bridgeport Scholarships. She is attending Ivy Tech.
 Shelby was first runner-up for the 2019 State Miss Flame contest. The original State Miss Flame had to step down. Shelby has now been crowned the State Miss Flame. Her term will last until the IVFA convention in 2021.
 Our Miss Flame for District 21 for convention 2021 is Larissa Butler. Good luck to Larissa.

Carolyn Watson
 District 21 chairman

- IVFAA president ...

(continued from page 13)
 nomination. Nomination forms for both of these, as well as all the annual awards, can be found on the IVFA website under the tab marked for members and then click on Forms. As well, the Miss Flame contestants from 2020 (if they choose to) will carry over for 2021 regardless whether they have already reached their 18th birthday.
 Hopefully, by the time you are reading this issue of the paper we will have had our first face-to-face meeting as a State Auxiliary in a year. Plans right now are for a one day (few hours) of meeting to share, plan, discuss and attempt to implement a course of action for 2021.
 Fall is in the air meaning winter is close behind. As I am writing this article, looking out my patio door, I'm seeing some remains of what once was a backyard garden, still a little green grass and temps in the 50's and 60's; I'll take that for this year's winter; but we all know the outlook for winter 2020/2021 will be much different.
 I hope each of you have a most enjoyable and pleasing holiday season, from the hustle and bustle of Christmas (the shopping, the cooking and the gathering of family) to the countdown of the New Year, sharing it with family and friends and a year without masks, social distancing, or fear of a deadly virus.

In closing, let me share with you some lyrics to a song from Andy Williams.....

*Happy Holiday,
 Happy Holiday,
 While the merry bells keep ringing, May your every wish come true...*

*Happy Holiday,
 Happy Holiday,
 May the calendar keep bringing, Happy Holidays to you...*

I look forward to the next time we meet, either at your district meeting, our quarterly state meeting and hopefully CONVENTION 2021.

GOD BLESS and continue to be Safe.

Carol Curl

IVFAA Chaplain Beth Caudill



Prayer

Psalm 47:6 "Sing praises to God. Sing Praises. Sing praises to our King. Sing Praises."

God, we give You our praise in all that You have given us.
 Thank You for our health and for keeping us safe.
 Lord, we pray for our world. Pray that You will bring peace and healing to all the nations.
 We pray for those dealing with the Covid virus: patients, families, healthcare workers and friends. We pray that we will see an end to this soon and that we can enjoy our new "norm" of life.
 We pray for the those living in the wildfire areas and the ones fighting the fires.

For those living in the hurricane areas.
 We pray for those living in the areas of protesters and war. Where there is violence, make it cease.
 We pray for those that are abused, trafficked, malnourished, injured.

Psalm 10:14 "But You, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; You consider their grief and take it in hand. The victims commit themselves to You; You are the helper of the fatherless."

We pray for Your church. Pray that we may be one no matter the nation, denomination, ethnic or racial. We are all Your children no matter the circumstances.
 Bring peace, justice, healing and hope to our nation and the world.

AMEN

Wishing each and everyone a happy and blessed holiday season!

EDITOR'S NOTE IT IS VERY IMPORTANT that when submitting articles and photos, either by mail, e-mail or fax please include the District # along with the submission.

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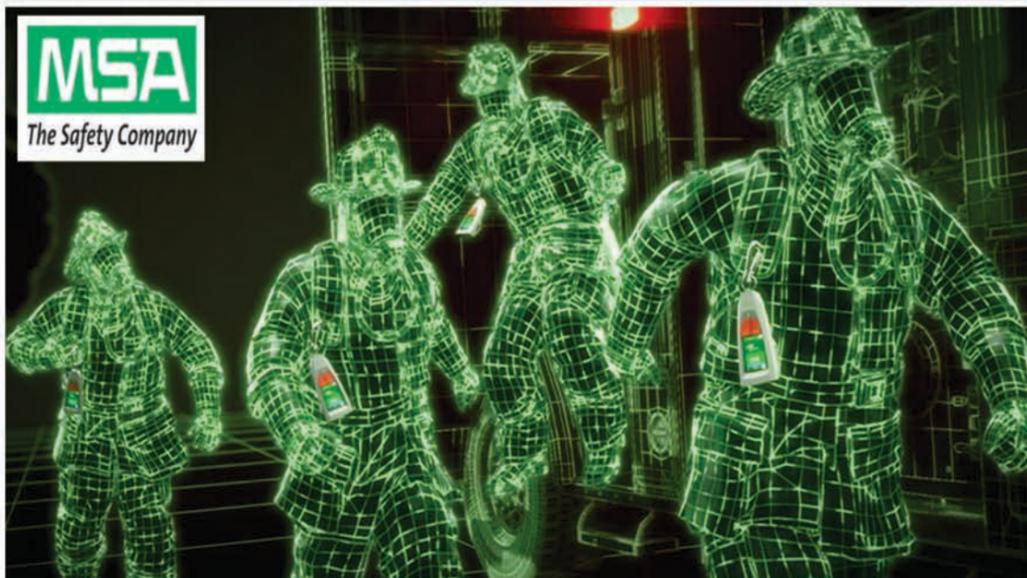
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From the State House to the Fire House




by *Larry Curl*

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

Greetings Fellow officers and members, firefighters, emergency service responders, EMTs, paramedics and IVFAA members.

Another quarter has passed since my last newspaper article "Fire House to the State House".

So let's talk about some legislation, education and information, my three favorite topics.

We have had some conversations with a few legislators and this next session does not look real promising as to new legislation especially if the proposal includes "new" funding. We have been told the State has "no" new funding as it is attempting to recover from the devastation of a financial hardship due to Covid 19 just as many of our departments are having to do. If your department is, or feels it will experience a financial hardship due to the lack of "fundraising" activities, please know we are attempting to address that issue with state as well as federal means.

However, that does not mean no legislation as we are preparing to offer a proposal to address road closures to help address the concern many of us find ourselves in when we are responding to a call and reach a place in our travels where we find a road, street, drive,

bridge or RR crossing has been unexpectedly (or at least to us) closed. We are asking that an advanced notification of any type of "planned" closure be given to us at least 72 hours in advance of such closing, share with our 911 operators who then would pass that information along to the first responders, be it Fire, Police, EMS. The bill is currently being (or may be) drafted as of this writing. We would like to hear from you on this or other matters that have an impact on your ability to safely and quickly respond to or care for your residence. Please reach out to your District Chairman, State Officer or myself. (Contact information is available in this edition of the newspaper).

As of this writing things are still very much up in the air on how best to handle such things as date, time and location of Organizational Day which usually would occur mid November as well as Opening Day for the 2021 session, the same not known yet.

There is talk about splitting up some of the House members or moving to a complete meeting location due to the closeness of the desks for the 100 House members, so I guess we will just stand by to see when and where we go for the next session of the Indiana General Assembly.

To address some educational opportunities we are still actively pursuing members of our Volunteer

Fire Service to take full advantage of the grant offer by IVY TECH. You might recall nearly a year ago a partnership was formed between IVY TECH and the IVFA, offering a "free" 2-year associate degree to any active member of a Volunteer Fire or EMS department and we have learned that same offer will be extended for another year. If you are interested in achieving such a degree, please visit the IVFA website and click on the IVFA icon for full details. Join the many of your fellow volunteer members who are currently taking full advantage of this offer. The staff at Ivy Tech has developed a two page frequently asked Q & A as well as providing as much guidance as possible for your department to use this as a much needed "RECRUITMENT" tool. If you have questions about this program please reach out to an officer of the IVFA or visit the IVFA website.

We are currently in the process of working on an MOU with Purdue Global for some sort of an Educational package to offer to our membership as well. We hope to have some details by or before 2021.

Lastly, we should remind everyone that the State of Indiana has a program in place as well that offers "free" education/training.

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Visit the NextLevel Jobs website at <https://www.nextleveljobs.org>

Let's make 2021 the year for education for all our members or those who want to be members of a Volunteer FIRE or EMS organization.

Lastly, let's talk information. The IVFA has recently completed a very lengthy, very detailed study on the savings we are Volunteers, save our communities we serve. The release of this information will be out soon. Be prepared to be totally shocked at your net worth in a dollar savings to your community. We hope you will see and share the tax dollar savings you bring to your community thought this report

Lastly, life has changed as we have all seen / experienced during the last nine months. The calls we make we have to exercise even greater cautions for both ourselves as well as those we serve. The simple routine things have also changed; our meetings, our fund raisers, our trainings, how we protect our families. With new buzz word(s) that we have come to

know is Mask, Gowns, Gloves and caution, sanitizing even more than we ever have and even the simplest things in life such as reminders to "wash your hands" and social distancing.

Another means of the new normal includes a Zoom platform to conduct meetings vs. face-to-face.

Let's hope we can someday soon return to the old normal or something close to but until then, please be safe and protect yourself, those we serve and with high priority, our families and loved ones.

So until we meet again, let me close with this – have a great Thanksgiving with family and remember 'ole Saint Nick will soon be knocking at your door.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Larry

Stay Safe and Stay Healthy

February 2021 deadline is January 5, 2021



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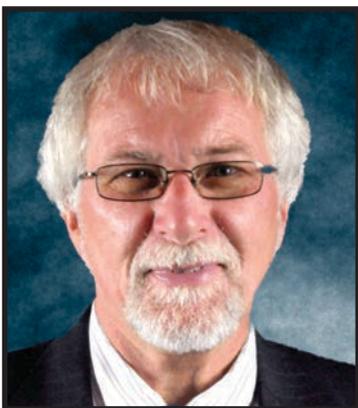
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From The President

David Israel



Hello IVFA Friends and Family:

It's hard to believe that it's November already and another year is almost over. Have you ever felt like the mouse in the cage running on the wheel and going NO where? That's kinda how I feel. Covid 19 the fallout has made it rough on all of us.

Like every Past President, I didn't quite get everything done I wanted to accomplish in my first 3 years; it's tough to get everything lined up and done during a pandemic.

If there are members out there that have not received their 50 year Gold cards and pins within the year they had 50 years of service and/or other awards 10 and 25 year pins; if you have a problem getting Service Awards presented to your department members (but you know what would help us even more is if every member would correct their

info on their department list), contact myself and/or VP Jerry Liston; we would be delighted to come to your department awards' night or meeting to present Awards and Service Pins. The only thing I ask is that you make sure the family and local news media are present also.

When you are reading this it will be November and then December. Remember to give Thanks for all the Blessings we received this past year during this trying 2020 year, big or small. Remember the reason for the season for the hope to keep going. Congratulations, Bill for 50 years of service to your community.

Let's hope the Covid19 virus doesn't return like some think it will. Let's be safe and prepared with plenty of PPE and training. If you need something, give me call. This article was a lot longer until I let Ron proofread it and he deleted half of it.

On behalf of all the IVFA officers, Peggy and I thank you for your support. Have a great Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and may 2021 be a better year for all of us.

Be Safe.

Hope to see you at the next district meeting.

David R. Israel

president@ivfa.org



NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

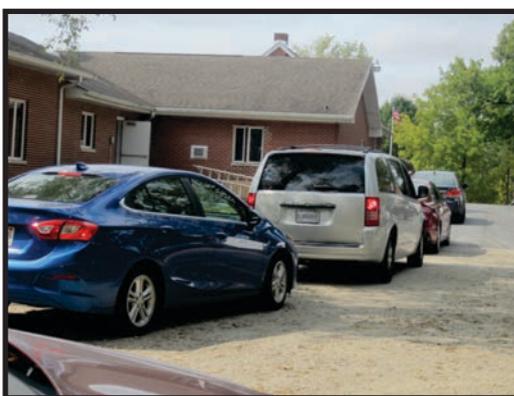
— submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, District Chairman



Gone RED

Lynn Volunteer Fire Department has gone RED for Light the Night for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation; here they remember our fallen firefighters.

Drive-thru dinner held



On September 26th the Blountsville/Stoney Creek Fire Department held their annual Pork Chop dinner. This year they had to do a drive-thru. Men do the cooking and the women do the packing. Everything was good.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 9A

— submitted by Pascal Moon, district chairman



District 9A Miss Flame

District 9 A Miss Flame at Camden Jackson Twp. Fire.

Season's Greetings to one and all!

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

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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 9B

- Submitted by Justin Bednar - Rensselaer Vol. Fire Department, Lieutenant / Safety Officer

Drive-thru fish fry held at Rensselaer VFD

On August 28th, 2020, the Rensselaer Volunteer Fire Department hosted their first ever drive-thru fish fry.

Due to COVID-19 a traditional fish fry could not be hosted.

The fish fry was a great success as approximately 840 meals were served. The firemen would like to thank all the supporters who attended the fundraiser as well as Dan's Fish Fry Service.



Happy Thanksgiving!

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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 9B

- Submitted by IVFA Vice-President Jerry Liston



September breakfast fundraiser held

Members of Buffalo-Liberty Twp. VFD in District 9B preparing food for their breakfast fundraiser in September.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

- Submitted by John Ray, district chairman



Fifty year presentations made

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50 year Gold card presentation was made to Clarksburg firefighter Robert Haunert. (Pictured from left to right): State Fire Marshal Joel Thacker, Brad Speer - Chief of Clarksburg, Robert Haunert, Mrs. Haunert, 10th District Chairman John Ray, IVFA Lobbyist Larry Curl.



Phil Dearing, 50 year member of Rushville Twp. VFD member, receives a copy of the State legislature's resolution honoring all 2020 50-year members. From left: Chairman John Ray, 50 year member Phil Dearing, Chief Johnny Singleton.

February 2021 deadline: January 5, 2021

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

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

- Submitted by John Ray, district chairman



Ten year pins awarded



NEEDHAM FIREFIGHTERS - (Pictured from left) Chief Ryan Slevin, James Engmark, Chairman John Ray. Not pictured Garrett Giesekeing.



HOPE FIREFIGHTERS: (From left) Christopher Wood, Levi Garrison, Chairman John Ray, Adam Mathis, Chad Emmert and Chad's son.



AMITY FIREFIGHTERS: (Pictured from the left) Chad Monson, Reed Monson, Chairman John Ray, Chad McGaha, not pictured Matthew Bray, Brandon Sheppard.

25 year pin awarded



Robert Duckworth receiving his 10 year pin from Fire Marshal Joel Thacker.



(Left) State Fire Marshal Joel Thacker is shown presenting a 25 year pin to Steve Geis, member of the Clarksburg Comm. VFD.



BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

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NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11B

- Submitted by Jason Ryan, district chairman



Ten year pin presentation



Jason Ryan, District 11B Chairman (left), Casey Stonebraker, Veedersburg-Van Buren Fire Department (right).

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13B

- Submitted by Jeff Biehl, district chairman



MacQueen Excellence Award presented

District 13B MacQueen Excellence Award was presented to Casey Biehl of Mooreland Fire Dept.



(Pictured left to right) Garry Davis of MacQueen, Casey Biehl and Jeff Biehl, 13B Chairman.

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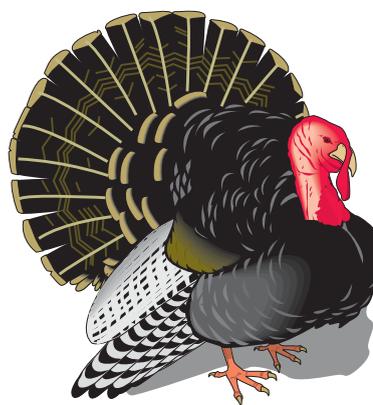
- Submitted by Rick Cannon, district chairman



Recognized for 65 years of service

John Knoebell of FairPlay Fire Company #1 was recently recognized for 65 active years of service.

Congratulations!!



Wishing each and every one a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

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

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Please e-mail your name, phone number, department and which book(s) you are interested in to prwc@ivfa.org. Sending the e-mail does not commit you to purchasing, there will be official order forms in the future.

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 14

- Submitted by Rick Cannon, district chairman

Fish Frys held in District 14



Dupont Lancaster Fire Department fish fry



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MacQueen Award recipient

Willie Stroffegan (left) of Monroe Twp. Fire Dept. is shown receiving the District 14 MacQueen Award from president David Israel (center) and chairman Rick Cannon (right).



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

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 16

- Submitted by John Gott, district chairman



District 16 Miss Flame



Allysen Armstrong, daughter of Leavenworth firefighters Ashley and Greg Armstrong was crowned District 16 Miss Flame.

Allysen is a Sophomore at Crawford County High School. She is currently on track to graduate in 2023 with an Academic & Technical Honors Diploma. After High School she plans to attend college for forensic psychology.

During her downtime she enjoys hunting, fishing and helping out the Leavenworth Volunteer Fire Dept. She plans to join the department as a Junior Firefighter as soon as she is able.

In 2017 Allysen was diagnosed with idiopathic scoliosis. The following year she traveled to St. Louis to undergo her spinal correction surgery which consisted of twenty eight anchors, two titanium rods and a bone graft. Even during this difficult time she remained confident and never lost her drive to help and support others.

Leavenworth VFD members awarded years of service pins

The following members of the Leavenworth VFD received their "Years of Service" award pins for 10 and 25 years.

10 year

Greg Armstrong, Zechariah Berry, Duane Coomer, Dustin Goss, Jeff LaHue, John Lahue, Julie Lahue, Kristopher Schultz, Travis Stout.

25 Year

Garry Kemp, Carl Lahue, Hank Ruff, Ryan Smith, Gary Wiseman.



(Pictured from left to right): Hank Ruff, Josh Smith, Carl LaHue, Gary Wiseman, John Gott - District 16 Chairman.



(Pictured from left to right): Greg Armstrong, Kris Schultz, Jeff LaHue, Duane Coomer, John Lahue, John Gott - District 16 Chairman.

Congratulations to all and thank you for your dedication to your community!

Respectfully,

John Gott
District 16 Chairman

February 2021 deadline is January 5, 2021

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17B

- Submitted by Tim Deckard, Past President



Van Buren Township Fire Department of Monroe County reached its 50 years of service.

Started in October of 1970 on the base of the Monroe County Airport it has grown servicing the residences with 2 fire stations, 15 Career firefighters, 12 part time firefighters and 12 volunteers.

Prior to the fire department, the Van Buren Township trustee paid a contract to Bloomington City Fire Department for fire protection for \$3,000.00 a year.

In its 50 years we have seen 14 different Fire Chiefs and many men and women who have and are still serving.

In the beginning we started with 4 pieces of apparatus growing to a total of 10. In the mid '80s we began running EMS incidents which like many departments are 87% of our calls.

Many great things have happened over our department's history. January of 2021 our fire department and its members became a part of the Monroe Fire Protection District; a move to better our firefighters and able to serve our community better.

Submitted by
Tim Deckard, Past President



Congratulations!!



February 2021 deadline
is January 5, 2021



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

Support Hoosier Burn Camp

DISFLP63200

NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

– submitted by John Smith, district chairman



Founding member of Lost River Twp. VFD retires

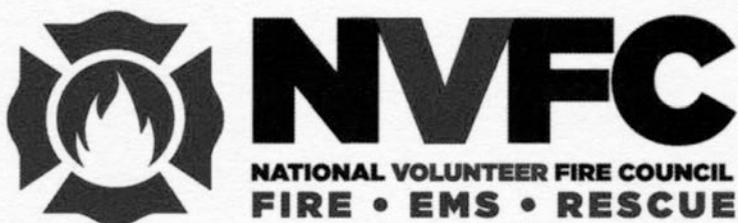
Earlier this year, Gene Sherfick of the Lost River Twp. VFD (Martin Co.) announced his retirement.

Sherfick, helped found the Department in 1998 and owned the “Hog Barn” in which the Department started. Sherfick served as the Department’s Treasurer during his entire career with the Department and also as its Secretary for the past five years as well.

Sherfick additionally served on the Department’s Board of Directors his entire career. Then on 30 July, Sherfick was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the IVFA in recognition of his service to the Department and the Community. When asked why he was retiring Gene said, “Well when you get to be 93 years of age, you just don’t move as fast as you used to!”

May we all be doing as well as is Gene at 93!

Congratulations!



It Could Never Happen Here: Preventing Suicides in the Volunteer Fire Department

By Hersch Wilson

I want to start with an emotion. Imagine, right now, in your department, that you get the call that one of your members has killed him or herself. It might be someone who you're close to, gone on hundreds of calls with, shared dark fire department humor. Maybe someone you thought of as a rock. Maybe (like in our department) you responded to a 911 call that was the suicide of a member.

I promise you two things. First, there is the deep and numbing grief, the pain of losing someone to suicide, which is a pain like no other. Second — and I again promise this — is the search for clues. Why, as an officer, didn't I figure this out? What did I miss? Did she say anything? Was there a change in how he was acting? Could we have done anything?

Nights of this, I promise.

You're gut reaction on hearing this scenario may be, “That could never happen here.” But that is like holding the belief that a line-of-duty death could never happen in your department. We know because our work is often dangerous that we don't believe that.

The [facts](#) are that more firefighters die from suicide each year than in the line of duty. Since 2009, LODDs have steadily decreased while deaths by suicide have increased. In fact, in 2019, deaths by suicides represented 30 percent more fatalities than LODD's. And these are just the suicides we know about through the [Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance](#) (FBHA) reporting system — it is likely there are more.

Yet, in most volunteer departments, the time spent training on emotional health and suicide prevention is pale or non-existent compared to the time spent training to be safe on the fireground.

Like understanding the factors that lead to exertion deaths and deaths by vehicle crashes, we need to know how suicides happen and what we can do to prevent them. Our goal as officers and firefighters should be reducing death and harm for our brothers and sisters no matter where it may arise.

The Sea We Swim In

Firefighters swim in the same sea as the rest of society, so it is essential to understand what is going on in the rest of the country before we dive specifically into the firefighter world.

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), in the United States, suicide is the SECOND leading cause of death for individuals between the ages of 10 and 34 (unintentional injuries are the leading cause) and the fourth leading cause for individuals between 35 and 54. In 2017, over 47,000 individuals died via suicide (almost twice the number of homicides).

In [data](#) obtained by the American Psychological Association, the rate of suicides has increased by nearly 33 percent since 1999, with a sharp uptick in 2006. Further, suicide rates tend to rise during times of recession, especially in middle age and older men.

It is too early to understand how the pandemic, recession, and social unrest we are now experiencing might affect the suicide rate. But [one report](#) out of Cook County, Illinois, found the 2020 suicide rate in their community is “on pace to double” last year's, with an alarming increase in the number of suicides among African Americans.

There is another way that individuals are taking their lives, and it is just as tragic. These are the [deaths of despair](#). As our economy and society are transforming, many individuals feel left behind and are killing themselves by drinking, overeating, and unintentional overdosing on drugs, in addition to suicides. One source noted that 65,000 deaths a year could be categorized as deaths of despair (and a concurrent decline in life longevity in the U.S.).

Why Individuals Attempt Suicide

Researchers mostly agree that there is rarely one reason why someone might attempt suicide. It is usually a confluence of factors. Common reasons are changes in life circumstances like:

- Being laid off or fired
- Divorce
- Economic hardship
- Addiction (and alcoholism)
- Depression (and PTSD)
- Abuse

The Firefighter World

Against that backdrop, look at the unique set of circumstances that we face as firefighters. In the civilian world, firefighters, EMS providers, police, doctors, nurses, and social workers experience the world differently. Although it is a choice we make, it comes with a set of similar challenges, emotional and psychological, that put us at a higher risk for depression, PTSD, and suicide.

According to [an article](#) in *Law Enforcement Today*, “PTSD and depression rates among firefighters and police officers have been found to be as much as five times higher than the rates within the civilian population, which causes these first responders to commit suicide at a considerably higher rate (firefighters: 18/100,000; police officers: 17/100,000; general population 13/100,000).”

An important note is that first responder suicides are likely undercounted. According to Jeff Dill, founder of the FBHA, only about 40 percent of

firefighter suicides are reported. For volunteers, this is probably even more of an understatement because only one profession is listed on death certificates.

What Can We Do?

Let's cut to the chase. We have a mental health crisis in the country. [Over 46 million Americans](#) report some kind of mental illness, from severe depression to PTSD to schizophrenia. Unfortunately, as a culture, we are in denial that we have a problem.

The fire service, in many ways, is a microcosm of this. As firefighters, we deal with some of the worst circumstances, the life-changing crises that people encounter. What we see, a single terrible call or the years of cumulative tragedy, can cause us temporarily (or sometimes permanently) to lose our bearings. If left untreated, it can lead to depression, PTSD, and even suicide. These are just the facts.

And yet, we as a culture, an old and proud culture dating back to 1736, are largely in denial of this. If you listen to our culture, the message is to be superhuman, suck it up, not be affected, and not admit “weakness.”

Generation after generation of firefighters have absorbed this message. Although we've always paid the price in depression, substance abuse, and suicide, it is now 2020, and we have come a long way in our understanding of the stressors that plague us and what we can do to help.

Denial is not the answer.

I've written [previously](#) about what we can do as individuals to help minimize the possibility of getting and reducing the symptoms of PTSD. In this article, I want to suggest a few ideas for officers

- see 'it could never happen' - page 29

- it could never happen ...

(continued from page 27)

about preventing suicides.

1. First, as officers, we need to educate ourselves on the facts about suicides in the fire service.
2. We need to educate our firefighters and EMS personnel about suicides, the causes, what the signs are, and where and how they can get help.
3. Remember, "Leaders go first." As officers, we need to be open about our experiences with hard calls and how they affected us. We want to give firefighters permission to open up and talk about what they've gone through or are experiencing. When leaders go first, it provides "air cover" for others to talk.
4. Depression, PTSD, and suicide ideation are NOT SIGNS of weakness. As officers, we need to hammer this message home. We need to be "tough" on scenes, sometimes detached, but having an emotional reaction to what we see is normal. Expressing those feelings, not repressing them, is healthy.
5. The best way to communicate all of this to firefighters is through stories. When you tell a story about a call, how it affected you, and what you did about it (or didn't) is how we learn.
6. Have an informal and formal process for firefighters to get help. Most importantly, make sure that [peer counseling](#) is available. Firefighters (like police and military) are reluctant to talk to individuals who don't "get it." Talking to other firefighters is more comfortable and often more productive.
7. For those who need to talk to a behavioral healthcare professional, the National Volunteer Fire Council maintains a [directory of local providers](#) who are ready and equipped to help first responders. Providers are vetted by the FBHA and either have firsthand experience with the emergency services or have taken a course through the FBHA. The directory is updated monthly as more providers are added.
8. Our responsibility is to ensure that there is no bullying, abuse, or sexual harassment in our departments. They have no place in a professional volunteer department.
9. Finally, I've listed resources at the end of this article that we can have readily accessible as officers in case we need them.

We know that firefighting and EMS are not just "normal" vocations. They come with a risk to both our physical and emotional health. As officers, it is our responsibility to ensure that our firefighters and EMS personnel are as safe — physically and emotionally — as possible. We want them to stay in the vocation for a long time and retire intact.

A large part of that equation lies in having vibrant, healthy, open, and trusting cultures. You know those cultures as soon as you walk into the bay. Firefighters greet you, they're happy and purposeful, there is little blaming and lots of stories. Those cultures make you want to belong there.

It takes work as officers to build and sustain those kinds of departments. But the payoff is immense. The right culture, where it is "normal" to talk and share about bad experiences, does a lot of the work for us. The right culture, where we are looking out for others' emotional safety, will help us spot and be able to help those in trouble. The right culture, where we are open about the emotional risks of firefighting and EMS, will help everyone stay healthy.

The goal is not to get that call in the middle of the night that one of our brothers or sisters has taken their own life. In the end, it is not about statistics. It is about looking each of your firefighters and EMS members in the eye and letting them know you have their back. That no matter how hard it can be, no matter how painful, there is a way back.

Finally, in the Talmud, it's written that all men are responsible for one another. For us, it starts with our brothers and sisters. We can be the difference makers. Learn about mental health and suicides. Have the conversation about suicide. Do the trainings. Organize a peer counseling program. Remember, leaders go first. We are the ones responsible for starting.

Be Brave. Be Kind. Fight Fires.

*This is dedicated to Travis Ashkee Daily, Hondo VFD LT. 1970-2009, and Nate Blaser, Hondo Firefighter, 1993-2014. Rest in Peace, Brothers, we'll take it from here.

Resources:
[FFBHA.org](#)
[NVFC.org/help](#) (Share the Load program)
[codegreencampaign.org](#)

Note: For more on this topic, watch the webinar [It Could Never Happen](#)

[Here: Suicide and the Volunteer Fire Department](#), presented by Hersch Wilson and available in the NVFC's Virtual Classroom.

Hersch Wilson is the assistant chief of the Hondo Volunteer Fire Department in Santa Fe County, New Mexico. Read his new book, *Firefighter Zen: A Field Guide to Thriving in Tough Times*, available at your local bookstore or at [Amazon.com](#)

DripDrop Hydration and the National Volunteer Fire Council Team Up to Provide Dehydration Relief to Volunteer Firefighters

Leading rehydration therapy company will donate up to 100,000 units of new DripDrop ORS to volunteer firefighters across the U.S.

[DripDrop Hydration](#), a leading rehydration therapy company, and the [National Volunteer Fire Council](#) (NVFC), the leading association representing the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services, have announced a new partnership to provide dehydration relief to the nation's volunteer firefighters. The need has never been greater amid a wave of summer heat, wildfire season, and a COVID-19 pandemic that has pushed our healthcare system to the limit of its capacity. DripDrop ORS will provide a one-to-one "buy one, give one" product donation to volunteer fire departments across the U.S. for every 80-count, multi-flavor DripDrop ORS box purchased by consumers.

The partnership coincides with the expansion of DripDrop's leading Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) lineup to now include an 80-count, multi-flavor box of berry, lemon, watermelon, and orange flavors. This product is the latest in DripDrop's arsenal aimed at combating dehydration, a condition affecting up to 75 percent of the U.S. population at any given time. Volunteer firefighters can request two 80-count multi-flavor packages of DripDrop ORS to use in their department during wildfire response, long incidents, or other strenuous work. Up to 100,000 units of product will be donated.

"No one is immune to dehydration and the effects it can have on our bodies, particularly those who work in extreme conditions like firefighters," said Eduardo Dolhun, MD and founder of DripDrop Hydration. "We are proud to partner with the NVFC and provide these brave heroes with DripDrop's ORS to help them stay healthy and maintain proper hydration levels, especially as we head into peak wildfire season."

"Firefighters exert an extraordinary amount of energy when responding to long incidents such as wildfires, and dehydration is a very serious threat to their health and safety," said NVFC Chair Steve Hirsch. "We are pleased to partner with DripDrop to provide dehydration relief to our volunteer firefighters so they are able to respond at their best."

DripDrop ORS was developed by Dolhun, a Mayo Clinic-trained physician, upon return from a medical relief mission in Guatemala. The patented formula he invented is the most efficacious, great tasting dehydration remedy available to consumers, and an effective alternative to IV therapy for mild to moderate dehydration. DripDrop ORS improves on the World Health Organization (WHO) standard for an ORS with medical-grade electrolytes, making it both the ideal rehydration therapy for the general population and a mission-critical tool for firefighters and other public safety and emergency workers.

Volunteer firefighters can claim their two free 80-count multi-flavor packages of DripDrop ORS to help provide dehydration relief to their department by filling out the form at <https://dripdrop.com/pages/firefighter-relief>.

*The NVFC does not make any medical claims. Check with your physician if you are experiencing a medical issue.

About DripDrop ORS

DripDrop ORS is the first Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS) to combine medical standards of rehydration therapy and excellent taste. Our patented scientific formula improves upon international ORS standards, conforming to proven ratios of salts, sugars, potassium, and other ingredients. DripDrop ORS precisely combines all those ingredients to maximize both taste and efficacy; this golden ratio of ingredients means DripDrop ORS absorbs

faster and hydrates better than water and other hydration solutions. DripDrop ORS' innovative formula has been adopted early on by an elite group of users including Stanford University Medical Center, The Mayo Clinic, UCSF Medical Center, leading national pharmacies, US Special Forces, Olympians and top-flight athletes. To find a store location or for more information, visit www.dripdrop.com.

About the NVFC

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is the leading nonprofit membership association representing the



interests of the volunteer fire, EMS, and rescue services. The NVFC serves as the voice of the volunteer in the national arena and provides critical resources, programs, education, and advocacy for first responders across the nation. Learn more at www.nvfc.org.

NVFC Launches New Virtual Classroom for Online Learning

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is excited to bring to you a new Virtual Classroom to enhance your online learning. The updated classroom provides a more user-friendly experience with updated content, design, and navigation. Trainings feature on-demand and self-paced courses delivered by fire and emergency service subject matter experts.

All Virtual Classroom courses are free for NVFC members. Non-members will pay per course, or you can [join the NVFC](#) for just \$18 to take advantage of the free course member benefit. Recorded Train Strong webinars are also available through the Virtual Classroom platform at no charge regardless of membership status.

Courses cover a wide range of topics of interest to the fire, emergency medical, and rescue services. Categories include grants and funding, leadership, health and wellness, recruitment and retention, safety and equipment, junior firefighter programs, preparedness and prevention, and wildland fire.

Check out the new NVFC Virtual Classroom and start training today at <https://virtualclassroom.nvfc.org/>.



Avoid Holiday ID Theft

More of us will be using smartphones and laptops for our holiday shopping. While it may be more convenient than a drive to the mall, online shopping presents dangers to your credit and personal data. Cyber-Grinches are looking to steal your identity and get into your bank and credit card accounts. As you tap in and surf for deals, be cautious where you go and the information you give others – one-in-five Americans have been a victim of identity theft.

Facts

- There were 1.4 million fraud reports in 2018, resulting in \$1.48 billion – Federal Trade Commission (FTC);
- 16.7 million reported identity fraud in 2017, resulting in \$16.8 billion stolen – Javelin Strategy and Research;
- Robocall and phishing scams continue to rise – FTC;
- One-in-five adults have never checked their credit report – CNN Money.

Be Secure

Here are some important internet shopping safety tips to remember:

1. Don't open suspicious or unsolicited emails often taking you to dangerous sites;
2. Shop with familiar companies, looking for the secure "https" in the URL, and beware of copycat sites with slight misspellings;
3. Use strong, unique passwords for online accounts;
4. Avoid using debit cards for online shopping;
5. Refrain from shopping or banking while using free or public Wi-Fi;
6. Be aware of fake charity, pet adoption and lonely-hearts solicitations;
7. Check your credit card, bank and other accounts often for suspicious or fraudulent charges.

Find more ID theft protection information <https://mycalcas.com/?s=cyber+crooks>.

One of the many benefits that California Casualty offers IVFA members, with every auto and home/renters policy, is free ID theft resolution services from CyberScout. Learn more at www.calcas.com/identity-theft or call 1.800.800.9410.

This article furnished by California Casualty, providing auto and home insurance to firefighters since 1974 and to members of the IVFA since 2011. Get more information at 1.800.800.9410 or www.calcas.com/IVFA.

New Year's Resolution: Complete a Home Inventory

Here's an unsettling statistic – about half of us still haven't completed a home inventory. Of those who have done one, 40 percent haven't updated it in many years. It's a resolution that we urge you to make.

Here's why: you've worked hard to make your house a home. Now it's time to create a record of everything that you own. Trying to tally what needs to be replaced is not something you want to do after a major disaster.

That's why a home inventory is so important. It provides a list of your things in case there is a fire, destructive storm or someone breaks in and steals your valuable belongings. Without an inventory, many people have a difficult time pinpointing or recalling everything that might have been destroyed or taken. That could delay your claim or keep you from getting full compensation.

Whether you choose to write everything down or use a video camera (like your phone), now is a great time to get started. Just go room by room and document:

- ✓ Electronics
- ✓ Personal care items
- ✓ Jewelry
- ✓ Art
- ✓ Kitchen items and appliances
- ✓ Furniture
- ✓ Carpeting
- ✓ Beds and linens
- ✓ Clothing
- ✓ Sports equipment
- ✓ Yard and garden tools

Don't forget to take pictures of the exterior of your home from all sides (including the landscaping and any decks or porches), and all the stuff in the garage, attic or basement (holiday ornaments, lawn and yard equipment, tools).

Completing your inventory will give you some peace of mind if the worst should happen. We've got a handy home inventory guide that you

can download.

The New Year is also a great time to get review your policy or get a comparison from California Casualty. Contact an advisor today at 1.800.800.9410 or visit www.calcas.com/IVFA.

This article furnished by California Casualty, providing auto and home insurance to firefighters since 1974 and to members of the IVFA since 2011. Get more information at 1.800.800.9410 or www.calcas.com/IVFA.

Stay safe during these troubled times! Remember to wear a mask and to social distance!!

Tips to prevent fires caused by space heaters

As fire departments across the country battle winter home fires, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reminds consumers to demonstrate care when purchasing and using space heaters.

CPSC estimates that space heaters, including both fixed and portable heaters, are associated with about 21,800 residential fires every year.

About 300 people die each year in fires by these heaters. Fuel-burning space heaters also can cause carbon monoxide poisoning and indoor air pollution, because of improper venting or incomplete combustion.

Too many space heater fires are reported each year. The CPSC has worked hard with industry to improve safety standards for space heaters, and consumers must exercise care in their purchase and use.

Consumers should be aware that older space heaters might not meet the newer safety standards. The CPSC has worked to upgrade the industry standards on electric, kerosene and unvented gas space heaters. An automatic cut-off device is now required, which turns off electric or kerosene heaters if they tip over. More guarding around the heating coils of electric heaters and the burner of kerosene heaters also is required to prevent fires. CPSC worked to upgrade the industry standard on unvented gas heaters, as well, to provide an oxygen depletion sensor to shut off the heater if the oxygen level drops too low.

Here are some CPSC safety tips for buying and using space heaters:

1. Select a space heater with a guard around the flame area or heating element. Place the heater on a level, hard and nonflammable surface, not on rugs or carpets or near bedding or drapes. Keep the heater at least three feet from bedding, drapes, furniture, or other flammable materials.
2. Choose a space heater that has been tested and certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory. These heaters meet specific safety standards.
3. Keep doors open to the rest of the house if you are using an unvented fuel-burning space heater. This helps prevent pollutant build-up and promotes proper combustion. Follow the manufacturer's instructions to provide sufficient combustion air to prevent CO production.
4. Never leave a space heater on when you go to sleep. Never place a space heater close to any sleeping person.
5. Turn the space heater off if you leave the area. Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
6. Have a smoke detector with fresh batteries on each level of the house and a carbon monoxide detector outside your sleeping area.
7. Be aware that mobile homes require specially designed heating equipment. Only electric or vented fuel-fired heaters should be used.
8. Have gas and kerosene space heaters inspected annually.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR!

*Take advantage of a Holiday Loan at 5.9% APR**

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. May apply for up to \$1500.00 for a 12-month term. Payment sample based on \$1500.00 for 12 months at 5.9% is \$129.02 per month.

Terms and conditions subject to change without notice. Credit Approval required.

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By members' choice, this institution is not federally insured.

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We Proudly Offer the Following to our Valued Customers:

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Parts Department:

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

Loose Equipment & Rescue Gear:

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



USED 1998 E-One TM Pumper

- Cummins Engine
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- 1500 GPM Pump; 750 Gal Tank
- FRESH PAINT!



NEW! 2018 KME Challenger Pumper

- Cummins L9 450 HP
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Naperville, IL 60540 | 105 S. Industrial Dr.
Lake Mills, WI 53551 |
|---|--|--|--|---|



Do you know you have Benefits?

Your IVFA membership has lots of benefits and they are listed below:

[FIREFIGHTERS CREDIT UNION](#)

Members are eligible to join the Firefighters Credit Union. Founded in 1956, this 7,200+ member institution has over 90 Indiana locations, and 1,300 nationwide credit union service centers. More information can be found at www.fire-cu.org

[IVFA WEBSITE](#)

On-line location that members can access to get information on their IVFA Officers, District Chairmen, other Fire Departments in the state and much more. Your 24/7 source for IVFA information.

[LOCAL DISTRICT MEETINGS](#)

Held throughout the State to pass along information to members and promote the volunteers and provide an opportunity to discuss common problems and concerns among departments.

[MEMORIAL BENEFITS](#)

Consisting of memorial Bible, a grave marker, and services of the Chaplain for all members in good standing. (Memorial services can be scheduled through your District Chairman).

[NATIONAL VOLUNTEER FIRE COUNCIL](#)

Our association has a representative on the council to keep us abreast of changes and items that affect the volunteers.

[QUARTERLY NEWSPAPER](#)

Highlighting happenings and news from around the State, information for departments about the IVFA, contacts for questions and concerns, listing of all Officers, products and services and classified ads, and items for sale by Fire Departments. Deadline for articles: Jan. 5, April 5, July 5, and Oct. 5.

[SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES](#)

To recognize Indiana Volunteer Firefighters throughout the State of Indiana. The License Plate Fee collected by the IVFA, supports the Bridgeport Scholarship Fund, and the Line of Duty Death Benefit Fund. The License Plates can now be purchased by anyone wanting to show support for Indiana Volunteer Fighters. They can be purchased at any Local BMV or on-line at myBMV.com.

[SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS](#)

The below awards are presented at the district level by the District Chairman. They recognize our members for their total years in the fire service, not years of membership in the IVFA. To request award, contact your District Chairman.

10-year pins, recognizing members with a total of 10 years in the fire service.

25-year pins, recognizing members with a total of 25 years in the fire service.

IVFA Gold cards & 50-year pins, recognizing members with a total of 50 years in the fire service.

[STATION DEDICATION CLOCKS](#)

Clocks are available through the District Chairman, for any fire department that builds a new fire station or adds floor space to any existing fire station. Presentation will be made during the dedication ceremony.

[STRONG LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION](#)

Sponsor legislation to promote the volunteers and to defend against legislation that would be harmful to the volunteer

firefighters. Indiana fire caucus member, the largest legislative caucus in the State, it informs and advises legislators on fire-related legislation.

Stay safe during these troubled times! Remember to wear a mask and to social distance!!

Please wash hands for 20 seconds



[MEMBER BENEFITS](#)

[17,000+ MEMBERS](#)

The largest volunteer organization in Indiana. Membership dues are: (\$20.00), Associate Member (\$25.00), and Industrial Fire Dept. (\$20.00).

[AMERICAN INCOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY \(AIL\)](#)

AIL provides a \$3,500 Accidental Death & Dismemberment Benefit at **NO COST** to all members of the IVFA. Additional no-cost benefits include:

[Health Services Discount Card](#)

[Parent's Guide to Internet Safety](#)

[In-Home Needs Analysis](#)

- An AIL representative will contact members who return the reply card to arrange a convenient time to deliver their benefits and review other supplemental insurance benefits that may be available.

For more information contact Tami Williams at 317-828-1183.

[ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM](#)

The following IVFA awards are presented at our annual convention. The deadline for entry for all awards is February 1. Contact your District Chairman for more information or to nominate a worthy person for an award.

- ~ Angel Award
- ~ Global District Award
- ~ Ivan Nevil Fire Service Leadership Award
- ~ Junior Firefighter Award
- ~ Legislator of the Year Award
- ~ Mr. IVFA
- ~ Ollie Sandberg Award

[ANNUAL MEETING AND STATE CONVENTION](#)

Held each year to elect officers, display new equipment, provide instruction, present awards for outstanding service, memorial service for fallen firefighters, and have firefighter games.

[BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM](#)

Three (3) \$1500 scholarships are available yearly to members, spouses or their children. Deadline for application March 1, if the application is sent by registered or certified mail, a postmark prior to March 1 will be considered as eligible. Also provides for a \$3000 line of duty death benefit.

[CALIFORNIA CASUALTY](#)

California Casualty offers IVFA members auto and home insurance with group rate savings and exclusive benefits with exceptional customer service. Call 866-680-5143 today for a FASTQUOTE.

[CLOTHING REPLACEMENT](#)

Replace personal clothing of the IVFA member if damage occurs as a direct result, and/or during the performance of any emergency duty, up to a maximum of \$100 per claim. Contact your District Chairman for details.

[CO-SPONSORS INDIANA FIRE SCHOOLS](#)

The association provides a discount of five (\$5.00) on each class a member attends, provided they are a member in good standing and show their IVFA card.

[EYEWEAR REPLACEMENT PROGRAM](#)

Allowance for damaged eye glasses/contact lenses (\$75.00) except in the case of hearing aid in connection with eye glasses (maximum \$150.00). Forms are available through your District Chairman.

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PHIL SHREVES

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