



## 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 70 NO. 4

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

NOVEMBER 2021

## Who we are and how we got here

Fire Company No. 1  
Organized on  
September 15, 1841

The City of Madison, Indiana was founded in 1809 and quickly developed into a busy steamboat port on the Ohio River. In 1832, many changes for the small town were occurring, in part due to the Madison, Indianapolis & Lafayette Railroad, Indiana's first railroad, and construction on it began in 1836. The population of the small town swelled due in part to many Irish immigrant laborers coming to the area for work as one of the major aspects of the construction was a cut in the bluff for an incline to overcome a 413 foot elevation change that immediately occurred when leaving the Madison port and headed north. This boom brought with it more shipping/transportation, construction and other business to the area. The growing community needed other city services and as such, Fair Play Fire Company No.1 was organized on September 15, 1841, just a few months before the first trip up the incline on the new rail line.

The town had made attempts in the past to provide fire protection for the residents. In 1824, the town records show that the citizens organized a "Bucket Brigade". Late the next year, the Madison Town Trustees passed a resolution to supply the volunteers with ladders and three fire hooks. The citizens became more organized and in the summer of 1830 they formed the first fire company in Madison and it was named, "United Volunteer Fire Company".

As time passed, the organization of the fire company continued to change to the point where a chief was appointed. The town board voted in 1835 for a paid fire department. C. B. McCullough was given a contract to get 12 able bodied men to take

over the equipment for fire protection. The dozen firemen would be paid \$6.00 per year. Severe penalties were imposed on a fireman who didn't have a valid excuse for missing a fire. The cost to the fireman was 75 cents for each dereliction. The contract with C. B. McCullough was cancelled after around 10 months and the fire equipment was turned over to United Volunteer Fire Company.

Many apparatus served the town in those early years. In 1831, the town purchased a hand pumper, built in Philadelphia, PA and it was called "Little Red". A few years later, a second, but larger version was built by a local wagon maker, Fleming Durham and it was named "Alpha" as it was the first to be made in Madison. In 1845, the city received a larger hand pumper named "Hoosier" from Paddock and Campbell of Cincinnati and it was capable to throw water 175 feet. A few years later in 1847, the fire company was allowed to sell the smallest engine and purchase a new one that was also built by Fleming Durham and this one was named "Madison". In 1851, received "NEPTUNE", a hand drawn fire apparatus which was built by Ez. Green (of Green and Myers, Madison Indiana) and painted by William Peddie. The total cost was \$450. This apparatus is still in possession of the fire company and is on display in their engine bay.

As the popularity of United Volunteer Fire Company increased, a more formal organization was needed and thus on September 15, 1841, Fair Play Fire Co. No.1 was formed with a role of some 80 individuals. They began the task of formulating a suitable constitution and by-laws, which took some time to complete. They also adopted the motto, "Help One Another". They continued to meet at the fire hall that was initially used by United Volunteer Fire Company, but moved to a new fire house, built by

the city, just a few blocks away in 1848.

After the Civil War in 1870, the fire company purchased their first horse drawn steam engine from Ahrens and McGrew of Cincinnati, OH, and was the first ever manufactured by veteran Chis Ahrens. The cost to the fire company was \$4,700 and this engine could pump 400 gpm. The engine had been exhibited all over the country and had beaten every other make of engine in every test. This engine was in service for almost 50 years when it was replaced by a 1920 Ahrens-Fox Model J-M-2.

The current location of Fair Play Fire Company No.1 was originally constructed as a Trolley Barn on land purchased from John Kirk, the first president of the fire company. In 1888, the fire company purchased the building and erected a 55 foot high bell tower on the southwest corner of the building. The following year, Little Jimmy, a weather vane made out of tin, was installed on top of the tower for the price of \$28.85. Little Jimmy was made by Peter Hoffman, a member of the fire company and employed at John Adams Repairing. The original Little Jimmy was retired in 1997 when a new weather vane, made out of copper by Don Felix of Seabrook, NH was commissioned.

The city of Madison has always been proud and thus supporting of all their firefighters, especially in September of 1886 when the firemen from Fair Play Fire Company went to a tournament being held in Cincinnati. The tournament was attended by fire companies throughout the Midwest and South.

The firefighters of the fire company almost didn't reach Cincinnati. They were traveling on a river steamer which hit a snag and began to sink.

Jumping to action, the firefighters stoked their Ahren's steamer, built up pressure and pumped the boat dry.

Because of the accident, the firefighters from the fire company arrived late in Cincinnati and missed the parade. However, they went on to win all the other events including water throwing contest which paid \$400 to the winner and the mayor of Cincinnati presented the 1's with a broom to signify a "clean sweep".

A 1920 Ahrens-Fox replaced the Ahren's steamer and it served the fire company until a Mack was purchased in 1947. This turned out to be the first of two Macks that were purchased by the fire company with the second one purchased in 1969. This second one was yellow and turned out to be the first yellow apparatus put in service in Indiana. The fire company continued with that color theme in 1994 when they purchased an E-One also painted yellow.

Although some things have changed over the years, the motto of the fire company continues to be "Help One Another". It is emblazoned on front of the engine house with a metal arch installed over the engine bay door in 1969.

Fair Play Fire Company proudly serves with many other fire companies located in Jefferson County Indiana, of which a total of six serve the City of Madison. Three others serving the city have been around for a very long time also. They are Washington Fire Company #2 (founded on January 20, 1846); Western Fire Company #3 (founded May 23, 1850); and Walnut Street Fire Company #4 (founded March 17, 1873).

Madison's Fair Play Fire Company No.1 is celebrating 175 years of service this year. A reception for all firefighters and those in other public safety organizations was planned for Saturday, September 17 starting at 4:00 p.m. An open house for all was planned for October 9

between 1:00 and 5:00 where all of the fire company memorabilia was on display.



John Knoebel  
Fair Play Fire Company #1

John Knoebel joined the Fair Play Fire Company #1 in Madison, Indiana September 15, 1955. He was invited to join when there was an available opening on the membership role. He had been opening up the engine bay doors at night as he lived four doors down the street from the fire house so when he turned 18, he was invited to join. He currently is the president of the fire company, and served many years prior as the Secretary /Treasurer.

John was initiated into the fire company in rather a cold way. Upon his election as a member, he was told to come on down. Harold Lohrig, the fire chief of that time, met him at the door and gave John his \$10 initiation fee and said "you're in." He was then bodily picked up by four of the members and taken back to the horse trough which was full of ice water and beverages. He was told to put his billfold in his front pocket and then they lowered him into the trough. They then picked him back up out of the frigid water and upon inspection they obviously didn't deem him fully initiated as they just dropped him back into the trough.

- see 'knoebel' - page 2



### Determined to Serve, Determined to Protect

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



## FEBRUARY 2022 DEADLINE IS JANUARY 5, 2022

From the Fire House to the State House

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



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

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

Things are relatively calm at the moment, but I think this is probably the calm before the storm, just a matter of speaking...

So by the time you read this edition of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters' newspaper it will have turned from summer to fall and moving toward winter.

Not to worry, we should always be looking forward to the four seasons as a natural part of our Hoosier heritage.

Your IVFA Association just finished hosting the National Benefit Summit in September 2021 with eleven states and nearly 40 attendees. This is a summit that is convened either annually or every two years depending on the need or the necessity. It was a two and a half day gathering to share and discuss benefits and concerns at your state level. I must say after hearing some of the other states we have some work to do but by and large for the most part Indiana is doing fairly well with regards to other like organizations.

On a more personal note I just finished participating as I have for the last 21 years at the National Fire Academy with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

(NFFF) where we honored the families of 215 LODD fire service members who during 2019 and 2020 paid that ultimate sacrifice giving of their life in the service of saving others. We shared with three Indiana families, the family of Matthew D. Bennett, a member of the Indianapolis Fire Department (and former member of the Wayne Township Fire Department under my command as Fire Chief), Robert G. Cree with the Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Department in District 9A, and Donald P Thefen from the Lafayette Fire Department sharing with them and all 215 families a beautiful Candlelight Service on the evening of October 2<sup>nd</sup> and a memorial service on a bright sunny (little warm) October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Both services were extremely heartfelt and breath-taking. If you have never had an opportunity to visit or to watch the National Fallen Firefighter's Foundation Memorial and Candlelight services, I encourage you to put it on your calendar as a must watch event next year.

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

As I travel the state addressing many of you at your district meetings you often hear me talk about the issue of fundraising. I hope there will come a day when we do that as a community project

and not as a means of keeping the lights on, the doors open and the apparatus' running. I hope we can see a day when the federal, state, and local governments and our citizens we protect realize our responsibility should be to provide a professional and quality service to our communities and the cost of providing that service should be the responsibility of those we serve.

We have a printed document, a study that shows we save our taxpaying citizens over \$4.5 billion annually because of our service and I challenge anyone; citizen, local government, state or federal to find just one member or our service that will tell you they joined the local fire department for the purpose of doing fundraising. I have yet to find anyone, but I can show you hundreds if not thousands who regularly must participate in such activity just to be able to provide their services.

Think about it, all the time that we dedicate to fundraising could drastically reduce the time we take away from our families with trainings, work details, making the calls.

We will be talking with our friends at the General Assembly as you should be talking to our friends at a local level about this issue.

The IVFA has pushed hard to gain some benefits for our members and we remind everyone we have two great educational

benefits: IVY Tech is still providing us as a member of a volunteer fire / EMS provider an opportunity to participate in a "free" degree program to obtain your Associate Degree if you just fill out the paperwork and apply.

Also Purdue Global is offering serious discounts towards a Bachelor degree. Both of these opportunities can be found on the IVFA website at [www.ivfa.org](http://www.ivfa.org)

We are fast at work on a legislative package for 2022 and welcome your input, thoughts, concerns as we draft our proposals that will help us serve our community and our members. You can contact your District Chair, your Public Relations member, the IVFA officers or me, your lobbyist. All our contact information can be found in this edition of the newspaper or on the website.

There is still funding (reimbursable) to those who had to spend funds to take care of items needed during COVID 19. If you are interested in what is available or how to claim it go to the DHS website.

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

be involved and stay involved in your IVFA district.

Wishing you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving & a Merry Christmas 2021.

Be safe and thank you for your services.

Larry

*'knoebel'*

- continued from page 1

John continues to respond to the fire house for alarms. In the 66 years of service, he has seen his share of fires, small and large, good and bad. One of the worst fires was the Hillside Hotel in 1964 where there was one civilian casualty. Other major fires were the Elks Building (2006) and the Courthouse fire (2009).

John's twin brother, Joe, also became a member of Fair Play Fire Co in 1960. Both have seen their fair share of changes in the fire service over the years. They both have seen three apparatus operated out of the firehouse and have seen it go from jumping on and riding the tailboard to the fire, to the fully enclosed cabs of today. They have seen gear go from long coats and hip boots to the structural fire gear that we have today. Other innovations is the capability of SCBA, radio communication, along with improvements in dispatch / alarm notifications. They also have seen the improved training of fire fighters along with the expansion of the types of services that the fire companies perform for the citizens.

- see 'knoebel' - page 4

**Safety is our business too.**

**Get to know your local gas operators and their facilities in your area, all while learning about the basics of gas safety and Indiana 811 digging practices.**

**INPAA** Indiana Pipeline Awareness Association **Indiana 811**

**Ways to Get in the Know:**

- INPAA Sponsored Emergency Responder Training Meetings in January & February
- Independent Gas Safety Firehouse Trainings
- Visit [inpaa.org](http://inpaa.org) & [indianas11.org](http://indianas11.org)

For all training requests contact INPAA Program Manager, Lauryn Luckey at [lluckey@inpaa.org](mailto:lluckey@inpaa.org)

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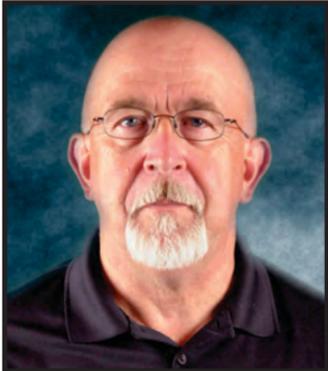
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**L.E. "Buz" Koehler**

# From The Vice-President

Jerry Liston



I hope everyone has had a safe and enjoyable summer as we move into fall.

I get tired of always bringing this COVID-19 issue up, as the COVID-19 pandemic has consumed our lives since the beginning of 2020. Unfortunately, our lives as first responders during the pandemic have certainly changed from our normal method of operations over those last eighteen months. Please remain vigilant in the execution of your duties, jobs, and continue to take the necessary precautions.

I feel it is not my job to tell you to get or not get the vaccine shot, as that is certainly a personal decision. However, I urge each of you to continue to take the time to study the vaccine information and if need be, ask questions with your health care professionals, to protect yourselves, your family, and your co-workers.

If your department had to purchase COVID-19 supplies or equipment at some point over the last eighteen months FEMA is reimbursing at 100%. You will need to provide proof of the purchases. If you have questions as to what is reimbursable please reach out to [pa@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pa@dhs.in.gov) with your questions. The deadline for reimbursements has been extended to December 31, 2021.

In September our association hosted the National Benefits Summit in Indianapolis for the first time. This is an ad hoc group that tries to meet annually to discuss topics, issues and concerns associated with the fire service. We had eight state fire associations in Indy with us and two more joined on-line for parts of the meeting. There was a lot of good information shared over the two days with the attendees.

If your department or you know of a department in your area that has not received a copy of the Economic Cost Savings Study completed by our association please let me, the district chairman or public relations directors know and one of us will get a copy to you or that department. The study shows the volunteer fire service saves Indiana taxpayers 4.5 billion dollars yearly. The study also breaks down by township what the costs would be if the volunteer fire service went away in the State of Indiana.

How is your department recruiting or marketing itself? In September, I attended the NVFC Recruitment and Retention Experience in Cleveland, Ohio. There were 28 states in attendance at the two-day meeting. It was interesting hearing what was working or being done in the

different states to recruit and retain new members.

One thing worth mentioning was how a department put a QR Code on the back of their department issued t-shirts with the words "To Volunteer Scan Here". When you scanned the QR Code with a smart phone it told you where to go and find an application for the department. This thinking outside the box has been successful in that department's efforts to recruit and market itself to potential members.

I want to hear from you or your department on what has worked for your department. Please send an e-mail to [vicepresident@ivfa.org](mailto:vicepresident@ivfa.org) telling me about your recruiting and marketing efforts in your areas.

There are several awards listed on the IVFA website. These awards are for the members. Please take the time to check out the awards and nominate a deserving department member for one of the awards. Nominations are due by February 1, 2022.

The MacQueen Excellence Award, formerly known as the Global Award, is a district award. If you have a deserving member on your department, an organization that has helped your department or an individual in your area that has helped your department, that would be an excellence deserving recipient of the award, please make the nomination to your district chairman. Nominations are due by February 1, 2022.

Remember the association gives out three Bridgeport Scholarships each year at our State Convention in June. Each scholarship is fifteen hundred dollars. For more information about the scholarships and to find the application go to the IVFA website. The deadline for the Bridgeport Scholarship applications is March 1, 2022.

Please go to the IVFA website and check the contact information for your department. The information can be found under the department directory tab by alphabetical, by IVFA district or by county. If you need to update the information, please contact your district chairman for assistance. This information is used by the state officers in getting around the state. But more importantly, the information could be used by an individual that has moved into an area and is seeking a department to volunteer.

I will end with please continue to be safe as you protect your citizens and make sure you take care of your own!!!

Jerry L. Liston  
IVFA Vice President

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

### CLASSIFIEDS

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

# 'knoebel'

- continued from page 2

John owned Madison Dry Cleaners for 20 years while his brother Joe worked in the family clothing store. John had worked at other local industries prior to that. At the Dry Cleaners, John could stop and respond when an alarm came in. He had a few employees that kept the business running for him in his absence, including his daughter, Kim who is married to the Deputy Chief of the City of Madison Fire Department.

John loves being able to serve the community in this way. The citizens of Madison recognize John as a key member of the fire service and appreciate all that he has done for the city.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS

### Public Relations Director Northeast Jean Smith



award program that they need nominations for these awards every year; Lois Boaz Award, Miriam A. Schaekel Award.

The IVFA also has a Bridgeport Scholarship Program. There are four \$1,500 scholarships available.

You can go to the IVFA website for additional information. [ivfa.org](http://ivfa.org).

Hope to see you at your District meetings.

Jean Smith  
Public Relations Northeast

### Public Relations Director Southwest Steve Nolan



I attended New Haven Adams Township, Emergency, The Ultimate First Responder Event. Commemorating September 11th - on the 20th Anniversary of 9/11. A great event on a beautiful day! The First Responder Event was a big success. Over 130 units participated in the parade. The event included 5K Run, Bag Pipers, Honor Guard, Trade Center Beam, New and Antique Apparatus, Demonstrations, Displays, Live Props, Competitions, Kids Activities, Flea Market and many more events. A great opportunity to meet and greet with fellow firefighters that I haven't seen in a while.

Once again we start Fire Prevention Week October 3rd-9th. This year's theme is "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety!" which aims to educate about the different sounds that smoke and carbon monoxide alarms make. A continued set of three loud beeps means there is smoke or a fire. A continuous set of four loud beeps indicates that carbon monoxide is in your home. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm! Half of home fire deaths happen between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m., when most people are asleep. This is a reminder to prepare the community along with our school children the proper techniques of fire safety.

The IVFA has an award program that they need nominations for these awards every year. Angel Award, Global District Award, Ivan Nevil Fire Service Leadership Award, Junior Firefighter Award, Mr. IVFA Award, Ollie Sandberg Award.

The IVFA Auxiliary has an

Greetings,  
I hope this finds everyone well at this time with the COVID going around, with some departments not having meetings or fundraisers.

Since the last quarterly meeting I have attended the FDIC, 911 memorial, station dedication, fundraiser, 2 memorials and 3 district meetings and have traveled 1100 miles.

Remember, only you can protect yourself from CANCER and the COVID. Please clean your gear and trucks after every run and get your COVID vaccine shots.

Steve Nolan,  
Southwest Public Relations Director



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# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 1 REPORT



**Marshall Neese - Chairman**

District 1 & 2 meeting on July 21, 2021 held at Merrillville Fire Station #1 started at 7:00 p.m. and ended at 8:10 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Walley Cook.

Prayer by Phyllis Vargo.

Present were: state officers Vice President Jerry Liston and Jeremy Reef, N.W.D.R.

Wally Cook spoke about Merrillville Fire Department - start up to now including that they run about 3000 called a year.

Visitor: State Miss Flame Sydney Moon from District 9A; talked about her experience and how she made it to be Miss Flame.

Vice president Jerry Liston spoke about the 15 Bills in Legislation and that 10 were passed.

Northwest DR Jeremy Reef talked about the 2021 convention and 2022-2023.

No old business.

New business: Schererville FD golf outing scheduled for September 2021 in Crete, IL.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by  
Marshall Neese,  
District 1 chairman

## DISTRICT 2 REPORT



**Paul Watland - Chairman**

District 1 & 2 IVFA meeting  
Sept. 15, 2021  
Crown Point Fire Rescue

Meeting called to order at 7:40 p.m. Pledge was recited.

Guests: Dave Polkow, MacQueen Emergency Services, Jeremy Reef, PRNW, Marshall Neese, District 1 Chairman, Steve Anderson, Past President IVFA.

Dave Crane, CPFR Chief: Thank you for coming, talked about how the fire service is changing. CPFR has now 13 on staff, 3 ambulances, approximately 6000 calls a year of which 80% are ambulance calls. We have a TRT team, Dive team, structural collapse, trench and rope teams. Also we have Project Lifesaver program available also. Also Schererville FD No band Lowell VFD have similar programs.

Motion made and seconded to

dispense with reading of minutes. Passed.

Jeremy Reef: Volunteer departments are looking for new members. State has passed law for training for exterior fighting and a lead instructor is needed due to computer system. Larry Curl is looking at trying to get a benefit package for volunteers based on a National Guard program. 2 year college degrees are still available thru Ivy Tech and Purdue Global. Information on the awards available is posted on IVFA Website.

Steve Anderson: Booklet containing info on value of volunteers and how much money they save the state & public have been mailed all departments. COVID reimbursement after March 2020 to December 2021 with receipts. Info available on State Fire Marshal's website. Convention in June 2022 in Evansville.

Old business - none. New business - none.

Roll was held with 5 departments and 20 members present.

Thanked CPFR for hosting and the meal from Mission BBQ. Thanked Dave Polkow, of MacQueen Services for providing the dessert.

Moment of silence held for members who had passed away: Rob Dowling, Mark Baumgardner and Bub Wise. Also for the 343 firefighters killed on 9-11.

Fundraiser: Lowell VFD - Flannel Fest at Freedom Park, Lake Ridge VFD open house Oct. 9.

Next meeting: TBA.  
50/50 won by Wally Cook and returned to the district.  
Adjournment at 8:15 p.m.

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

## DISTRICT 3 REPORT



**Bob Uryga Sr. - Chairman**

District 3 held their meeting at Noble Twp. V.F.D. on August 19, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The pledge to the flag was said. Chaplain Dave Robb started the meeting with a prayer.

Roll call was answered by 11 members present representing four departments.

Guests were: State I.V.F.A Miss Flame Sydney Moon, P.R. Northwest Director Jeremy Reef and Jack Runion from Spenser Fire Equipment.

The minutes were read and accepted. The treasurer's report was read.

The MacQueen Excellence Award was presented to Rick

Bradford from Coolspring Twp. V.F.D. by Chairman Bob Uryga.

Chairman Uryga presented a 25 year pin to Noble Twp. Chief Scott Klemz.

Election of officers was conducted by Jeremy Reef. The following officers were voted on: Chairman Bob Uryga, Sec.-Treas. Rick Bradford and Chaplain Dave Robb. A white ballot was used.

Chairman Uryga talked about State Laws, Tax Cost saving book from the I.V.F.A and from the American Recovery Act.

Jeremy Reef spoke about letters to the Chairmen by February 1 for the MacQueen Award. Anyone can receive the award even if they are not in their fire department.

Chairman Bob Uryga recognized Leona Uryga in having 50 years in both I.V.F.A and the I.V.F.A.A.

The meeting ended with a prayer from Chaplain Dave Robb.

Submitted by  
Leona Uryga

The District 3 held their meeting on September 16, 2021 at Kingsbury V.F.D.

The pledge to the flag was conducted by Chief Mark Ritter.

Chaplain Dave Robb opened the meeting with a prayer.

Roll call was answered by 11 members representing 5 departments.

Guest was Jack Runion.

The minutes were read. The Sec.- Treas. Rick Bradford could not attend.

Chairman Bob Uryga presented Kingsbury Chief Mark Ritter his 25 year pin.

Bob brought up the American Recovery Act and the State Fire Marshal has information on this.

The Tax Saving book was discussed and it is to help get members and money for the fire departments.

Ivy Tech and Purdue was brought up. The District Chairman was informed that a lot of younger firefighters in LaPorte County have gone to Ivy Tech.

The drawing for district attendance to the meetings is \$100.00 from the I.V.F.A.

Mark Ritter won the door award.

Events: Kingsbury - October 9 a Pancake Breakfast, Coolspring Twp. - Craft show and open house on October 9. Also on October 16 a Fall Raffle, Michiana Shores - Pancake Breakfast on October 10.

The next meeting is November 18 at Long Beach V.F.D. 6:30 refreshments with meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Chaplain Dave Robb closed the meeting with a Prayer.

Submitted by  
Leona Uryga



## 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.

Happy to say we are having meetings again in person. At our meeting in September we had a great turnout. Thanks to all that were able to attend.

Special thanks to our State Fire Marshal Joel Thacker for attending and giving us all a presentation on what the Marshal's office is doing for us.

Also want to thank Bryan Peterson of One World Medics for a presentation on what his organization does for the medical communities. Want to thank Jen Cole of Supporting Heroes for her presentation on this great organization and what they do for the Police, Fire and EMS in Indiana.

Thanks also goes out to Jerry Liston, IVFA V.P. for attending our meeting.

A special thanks to Terry Bradner of 1-800 Board-up for attending and supplying a lunch for us.

The next meeting as of this publication will be on November 23rd, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. As of this publication, it is tentatively to be held at Washington Twp. Fire Department on the north side of Fort Wayne. We will be having our judging for the District 6 Miss Flame at this meeting.

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](mailto:spiralawn@ligtel.com).

Our next meeting as of this printing, is scheduled tentatively for Tuesday, November 23rd, 2021 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 23rd. Please visit the IVFA web site ([ivfa.org](http://ivfa.org)) as I am hoping the meetings for District 6 will be posted.

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

## DISTRICT 7 REPORT



**Sam Bisel - Chairman**

Indiana Volunteer  
Firefighter's Association  
District 7

May 17, 2021  
Uniondale Volunteer  
Fire Department

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bisel at 7:43 p.m. Chairman Bisel led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 23 members representing 12 departments.

Minutes R/A.

GUESTS: Jean Smith - PRNE, Larry Curl - IVFA Lobbyist, Jim Cash - IVFA Photographer, Terry Brandner - 1-800-BOARD-UP, Brandon Taylor - Taylor'd Equipment, Lorelei Seip - California Casualty and Alan Bieberich - Adams Co. Training Representative.

Chairman Bisel - One death in the district since the last meeting; Kenny Scott of Poneto Vol. Fire Dept.

Our district Miss Flame had to step down due to scheduling conflicts. If anyone has a young lady that would be interested in running next year let Sam know.

The MacQueen Award for the district is selected and will be presented after convention.

Get your convention registration in to beat price increase. Do not send payment at this time, it will be collected at convention. Convention this year is in Clarksville and next year it will be in Evansville.

Chairman Bisel presented 50-year Gold Card to Walt Reiter of Decatur Fire Dept.

Chairman Bisel thanked all of our guests for attending and gave them the floor to speak.

Lorelei Seip, California Casualty - Discussed benefits and savings available to IVFA members.

Posters available up front giving tips on cancer prevention best practices.

Jean Smith, PRNE - Distributed hand outs and discussed end of legislation session.

Alan Bieberich, Adams Co. Training Representative - Haz-Mat and FFI&II academy possibly starting in August.

Terry Bradner, 1-800-BOARD-UP- Still have 8 openings for upcoming golf outing.

Brandon Taylor, Taylor'd Equipment - Still here and available to sell anything from gear to apparatus.

Jim Cash, IVFA Photographer

# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

## - district 7

(continued from page 5)

- If anyone has pictures of past conventions please email them to Jim. He is putting a slide show together to show at convention.

Larry Curl, IVFA Lobbyist - Looking to put together a volunteer firefighter benefits package for proposal next year. Going to pattern it after the Indiana National Guard with additional input from other states that have something in place. Hopefully this will help with recruitment and retention.

Going to try to continue the education benefit that Ivy Tech started.

Purdue Global is still offering deep discounts for Bachelor Degrees.

Indiana's Next Level Jobs Program is also available to use.

Local fire departments need to be getting out to high schools and vocational schools and promote these educational benefits to school counselors.

Chairman Bisel - Thanks again for your donations to the IVFAA District 7 Fund.

Next district meeting will be at Warren July 19. It will be the election of officers.

Second roll call answered by 23 members representing 9 departments.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Richard Sorg  
District 7 Secretary

Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association  
District 7  
July 19, 2021  
Warren Volunteer Fire Department

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sam Bisel at 7:35 p.m. Chairman Bisel led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First roll call was answered by 26 members representing 9 departments.

May Minutes R/A.

GUESTS: David Israel - IVFA President, Jean Smith - PRNE, Diane Harrison - IVFA Angel Award Committee.

Chairman Bisel paused the meeting and brought guests forward for award presentations.

Diane Harrison, IVFA Angel Award Committee, read letter describing a member's involvement in her department, community and Hoosier Burn Camp. The 2020 Angel Award was presented to Becky Sorg of Poe Vol. Fire Dept.

Suzie Lewis, IVFAA Sgt.-At-Arms, called Diana Gray forward and presented her Past President Pin.

Bev Vanlandingham, IVFAA District 7 Chairman, presented 25-year pin to Sheila Nevil Rodgers,

Geneva Vol. Fire Dept.

Chairman Bisel presented 25-year pin to Ed Sorg, Poe Vol. Fire Dept.

And 10-year pins to Shane Eltzroth and Aaron Hartman of Warren Vol. Fire Dept.

Chairman Bisel continued the meeting.

There were no deaths in the district since the last meeting, but he was able to deliver memorial to the family of James Moore, Berne Vol. Fire Dept. James passed during COVID and was not able to have presentation then.

Chairman Bisel was able to meet and make the presentation of the MacQueen Award to the Berne City Clerk/Treasurer Gwenn Maller. She was nominated for her continued financial support of the fire service for over 20 years.

### Convention highlights

Election of IVFA State Officers was held. Our new Chaplain is Rachel Bussey and new PREC is Jeff Biehl. All other offices remained the same.

Award presentations were made for 2020 and 2021.

It was announced that Ivy Tech would be continuing their education benefit for another 2 years.

During the BFFPSE Meeting, Marshal Joel Thacker proposed a 30-hr. exterior firefighter program to be offered. After discussion the Board approved that the program moves forward on a trial basis. President Israel was able provided more information to the body concerning this during our meeting.

Anyone with a daughter interested in running for Miss Flame next year please contact Sam.

The FF I&II/Haz-Mat Op's Academy being held in Monroe is a go! Get on Acadis to register.

Jean Smith, PRNE - The legislative session is over for the year. Going to continue working on a benefits package for volunteer firefighters to present next session.

The state is getting ready to start its first Fire Chief Orientation Training.

IDEM has a new program available for fire departments.

Dove has offered a hand sanitizer to be distributed to first responders.

From the NVFC they are looking at a few bills that have been presented. HB 3728 is Fire Station Construction, covers new and refurbishing stations. HB 2936 Protecting First Responders. And SB 231 Protecting Firefighters from Adverse Substance Act.

President Israel - This was the 75th IVFA Convention! Still have challenge coins commemorating the 75th Convention.

Convention registration is now open for next year. There was a

problem but it was corrected.

Public Safety funds are available out there but you have to ask for them and work to get them!

Make sure that your department's SOG's and By-Laws are up-to-date! The IVFA is currently reviewing theirs.

Armed Forces Benevolent has a new rep.

Chairman Bisel turned the floor over to Jean Smith for the election of district officers.

For chairman Sam Bisel was nominated. No further nominations, Sam Bisel, Dist. 7 Chairman.

For vice-chairman Len Smith was nominated. No further nominations, Len Smith, Dist. 7 Vice-Chairman.

For secretary Richard Sorg was nominated. No further nominations, Richard Sorg, District 7 Secretary.

Chairman Bisel - I recently had a health scare. So, if someone thinks that you need to go in and be seen LISTEN!! Go in and be seen and try to figure out what may or may not be going on!

There is a Sexual Harassment Webinar that is available in September. Contact Sam for more information.

It is important to get more younger members involved in YOUR organization and attend convention. Want to challenge every department to have a representative at convention next year.

Next district meeting will be at Andrews September 20 and then Berne November 15.

Second roll call answered by 26 members representing 9 departments.

Berne has a breakfast coming up on July 31st.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Richard Sorg  
District 7 Secretary

Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association  
District 7  
September 20, 2021  
Andrews Volunteer Fire Department

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

First roll call was answered by 23 members representing 10 departments.

July Minutes R/A.

GUESTS: Jean Smith - PRNE, Terry Bradner - 1-800-BOARD-UP.

Chairman Bisel - Had no deaths reported in the district since the last meeting.

Cost savings survey was discussed.

Anyone with a young lady that would be interested in running for Miss Flame needs to get in touch

with Sam. Selection for district Miss Flame will be at the November meeting.

Double check your address when the dues packet is available. Addresses must be spelled out, no abbreviations like E instead of East. The postal system will not read the abbreviations and will flag it as a bad address.

Also, double check beneficiaries. Reminder that beneficiary must be at least 18.

The Bridgeport Fund received a donation to the fund. The increased fund will allow for 4 scholarships to be awarded instead of 3. Any member who has a child or returning to school themselves is encouraged to apply. Application is available on the website.

Per the BMV, if you have a license plate stolen that number will be retired for 5 years.

The 2022 convention will be in Evansville and 2023 will be in Muncie.

Inquired what benefits the membership would like to see offered by the organization. If you have any thoughts get in touch with Chairman Bisel.

Get award nominations in by Feb. 1. Applications are on the website.

For the MacQueen award get your nominations to Sam by Feb. 1.

10-year pin presented to Michael Young, Andrews VFD.

Terry Bradner - 1-800-BOARD-UP - With the upturn in COVID would like to remind departments that he is able to come and disinfect your station or meeting area prior to an event.

Jean Smith, PRNE - Presented 2 handouts. The first on requirements for stopping for school bus.

The second is the guideline from BFFPSE on the new Emergency Response Support. This allows persons to operate on the fireground with the exception of interior firefighting.

Chairman Bisel - Please fill out the meeting attendance cards for the drawing at quarterly meeting.

Last meeting the drawings went to District 5 and District 6.

A reminder that Ivy Tech has extended its education benefit for another 2 years. Please spread the word to schools in your area and also to your membership.

Next district meeting will be at Berne on November 15.

Second roll call answered by 20 members representing 10 departments.

Andrews Fish and Chicken Dinner Nov. 6, Markle Chili Supper Oct. 16, Berne Soup and Sandwich Supper Nov. 6.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Richard Sorg  
District 7 Secretary

District 7 had a meeting on September 20th at Andrews Volunteer Fire Department.

Our next meeting will be on November 15th at Berne Volunteer Fire Department at 7pm. This meeting will be Miss Flame judging as well as our white elephant Christmas gift exchange. Gifts should be no more than 5 dollars.

District 7  
Recording Secretary,  
Kaitlyn Bisel

## DISTRICT 8A REPORT



Rex Maynard - Chairman

Greetings,

I hope everyone is well and had a good and safe summer.

Last meeting was held at Washington Twp. Volunteer Fire on September 22, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

I would like to thank IVFA Vice President Jerry Liston and Jeff Biehl for attending the district meeting. I would like to thank Sharpeville VFD for letting me help with their fundraiser.

We have lost a 50 year Gold card member Dave Marshall of Center Twp. Volunteer Fire.

The newest 50 year Gold card is John Metzger of Fairmount City Fire Dept.

A new in-house training program has been introduced by the State Fire Marshal to get members on your trucks faster, attend your District Meeting for more information. The next District Meeting will be November 17, 2021, 7:00 p.m. at Wildcat Twp. VFD at 206 South Independence Street, Windfall, Indiana 46076.

Stay Safe,  
Rex Maynard  
District 8A Chairman

**FEBRUARY 2022  
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**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!!**

# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 8B REPORT



Lloyd E. Wright - Chairman

District 8B held their meeting on September 8, 2021, at the Parker City Fire Department. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. with all saying the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Roll call was taken with 6 members from 5 departments present. There were two guests present Jerry Liston and Jeff Biehl.

Secretary and Treasurer's reports were read and approved.

Jerry told the group about different things that were going on in the state.

He also reminded them that they needed names for all the awards that were given out at convention. Told them that they could do them online or give them to Chairman Wright before February 1st.

Chairman Wright told them about the convention coming up in June. The convention will be held in Evansville in 2022. More information to come later.

Second roll call was taken with the number of fires and EMS runs. There were 17 fires and 67 EMS runs.

There will be fish fries, chili suppers and hog roasts going on in the district.

The next district meeting will be held on November 10, 2021, at the Pennville Volunteer Fire Department at 7:00 P.M. This will be the district Miss Flame contest.

Lloyd thanked the Parker City Fire Department for having the district meeting.

Meeting was adjourned.

Lloyd E. Wright,  
District 8B Chairman

## DISTRICT 9A REPORT



Pascal Moon - Chairman

Well, another year is almost over! Just seems time is just flying!

I have passed out all my 50 year cards and in the next paper I will have all the pictures in it!

The District meeting numbers are starting to come up, and that's what I like to see!

Thanks.

Our State Miss Flame is still out and about, she is trying to make every District. Hopefully she can make it to them all!

Stay Safe,

Pascal  
District 9A

## DISTRICT 9B REPORT



Randy Denton - Chairman

Hey everyone, hope everything is going good.

I know it's been a long time to see me writing something.

Just to let you know it is getting close to another year ending.

If you are having award's dinner, I would like to come and do the 10 and 25 years pins to the firefighters that have put alot of work into your department.

I want everyone to be safe over this holiday season and new year.

So until next time, be safe and be proud of what we do.

Thanks,

Randy

## DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

Greetings from District 10,

August started with IVFA quarterly meeting at the Windham Hotel in Indianapolis on Sam Jones Drive.

We learned about the Emergency Response Support training to get new firefighters trained thru a 30 hour course. This course can be done within your local department and by your Fire Chief and Lead Instructor. Board Of Firefighter Standards and Education approved this at their June meeting at IVFA Convention.

August 8<sup>th</sup> Connie and I attended a retirement in Carthage for Ronald Smith who was a member of the fire department for 25 years. Ron held many offices, worked on the trucks to keep them operating. On one occasion he started a portable pump with his belt when the rope broke.

We attended drive thru fish fries at Flat Rock Citizens Fire Dept. and Clifford VFDs.

The August district meeting was at Wayne Twp. Fire Dept.

Steve Pumphrey, a member of Hartsville and Comm. VFD, was presented with his 25 year pin. Steve was Chaplain and one of the first firefighter EMT's for Hartsville VFD. Although he has recently had many health problems, he still is an active member.

In September, I assisted Wade Walling from the Fire Marshal's office in presenting William Clark with his 50 year Gold Card and Meritorious Service Award. William is still an active member of the Flat Rock Citizens Vol. Fire

Dept.

The September district meeting was held at Manilla Vol. Fire Dept. with one of my favorite meals, fried chicken and all that goes with it! Andrew Drydan and Susan Raisor from IDEM spoke on the open burning rules and regulations for Indiana.

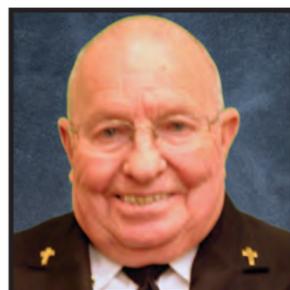
It's time to be thinking of those you might honor with awards that IVFA has available. These can found on the IVFA web site at [www.ivfa.org](http://www.ivfa.org). These are due in the Central Office or District Chairman's hands by February 1, 2022.

Fall is here and harvest is underway, so watch out for BIG equipment on the roads and the potential for equipment and field fires.

Be safe, and Be Blessed to be a Blessing!

John M Ray,  
District 10 Chairman

## DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Pete Taylor - Chairman

Hello to all,  
Welcome from District 11A.

2021 is flying by at an amazing pace as the year is almost over. Things seem to be getting back to somewhat normal. Hope everyone has their flu shots.

Fall has settled in; we are looking for cooler weather and holidays right around the corner. A few departments are able to hold a few fundraisers which is great. Hopefully things will get to being as close to normal or the new normal.

Our last meeting was a joint picnic with 11B District at Forest Park. They had a surprise reception on Bev and me for getting our awards at convention. Lois Boaz and Mr. IVFA. Winning the awrds is still a great surprise. The day was great. We had a lot of state officers and many guests.

Our next district meeting is at Center Point, IN on November 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. Try to attend as this is where you learn what is happening on the state level. We need to come together to bring information, education and opportunity and all I ask is to attend, participate and be active. IDEM will have a program on open burn.

If you have any fundraisers, let me know.

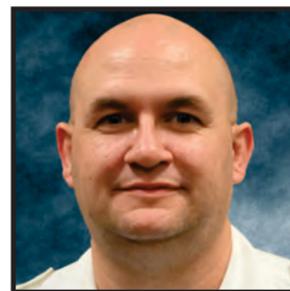
If any departments or firefighters have any problems or concerns, please give me a call or send me an e-mail, I will try to help you if I can.

Till next time,  
Stay alert,  
Stay safe,

Pete Taylor  
11A chairman

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## DISTRICT 11B REPORT



Jason Ryan - Chairman

Hello to everyone out there!!! I hope you all had an excellent summer!!

Well, we had an awesome Convention in June!! Congratulations to all of the winners!!! Can't wait until 2022!!!!

I would like to say I was humbled to be awarded the MacQueen Excellence Award for District 11B!!! Thank You to whoever nominated me!!

Don't forget that the IVFA has a lot of awards that are given out at the Convention, and even if you win and don't attend, we will bring it to you and present it!!! Most of these awards are due in by February 1<sup>st</sup>!! Please go to the IVFA website and look at the awards.

District 11B held its July meeting on Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at Fairview Park Volunteer Fire Department.

The meeting was opened up with the Prayer by Chaplain Pete Taylor and Pledge was led by Fire Chief Chad Moore. Chief Moore spoke to everyone about the recent funeral of member Harold Benskin; after this we broke for a delicious meal provided by the host department. After the meal all of the guests were introduced. We were honored to have some award winners with us from the June Convention, they were Mr. IVFA Pete Taylor (Chairman 11A), Lois Boaz Award winner - Bev Taylor, and MacQueen Excellence award Jason Ryan (Chairman 11B).

Roll call was taken with 4 departments and 15 members. Last meeting minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's report was given by Larry Bartlow and it was approved. State Lobbyist Larry Curl spoke about the Supporting Hero Gala, and Bills that have been spoken on. He also spoke on a new insurance package similar to what the National Guard has for all IVFA members; this is only in the planning stages.

All other guests were given a chance to speak.

The district waterball equipment was brought up as to who has it and the condition it is in; it was stated that it needs new cable and nozzles, which the district does not have the funds to fix at the current time.

50/50 drawing was done; fundraisers were discussed. Pins were passed out to members of the Fairview Park Vol. Fire Department.

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, September 19 at Forrest Park in Brazil at 1:00 P.M. as a joint meeting with

District 11A, this will be a pitch in picnic.

Hello, we met on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> for the picnic, no meeting was held but we did have lots of good food and good times meeting with other members from different departments. Thank You to District 11A for hosting this.

District 11B next meeting will be Sunday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M at Reelsville Vol. Fire Department; this will also be our Miss Flame contest.

We are looking for host departments for 2022 meetings; here are the dates and times needed:

Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M.  
Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M.  
Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M.  
Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 P.M. (Joint Picnic with 11A, 11B to Host)

November meeting at Reelsville.

Please let me know if you would like to host a meeting!!

Stay Safe,

Jason Ryan  
Chairman 11B

## DISTRICT 12 REPORT



Larry Curl - Chairman

"Hello!" and Greetings from District 12,

"Good morning." "Good afternoon." "Good evening." depending upon the time you are reading these updates from our district.

We are nearing the holiday season with Thanksgiving just around the corner quickly followed by Ole Saint Nick himself so let me begin with saying H A P P Y THANKSGIVING TO ALL & WISHING EVERYONE THE M E R R I E S T O F T H E CHRISTMAS SEASON.

I hope to discuss with all our district members the possibility of getting our families together during the upcoming holidays (Thanksgiving and/or Christmas) to share in the festivities. Any thoughts from any of you are not only welcome but encouraged. Just reach out to Jim or myself and let's see if we can pull this off for our members and their families.

I want to personally thank Jamestown Fire Department and Lizton "Union Twp" Fire Dept for hosting our July and September District Meetings.

As well I want to thank the members, the IVFA Districts and State Officers, as well as the Vendors who were in attendance at the last two meetings.

And a special thank you to

# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

## - district 12

- continued from page 7

Jim Leaver the District Vice Chairman for chairing the September meeting, (good job Jim,) while I was in Emmitsburg, MD at the National Fire Academy attending a Memorial Weekend command meeting to address issues and logistics for hosting this year's National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial Service. Been a busy couple of months and doesn't seem to be slowing much as we move into October and November.

I hope to be in attendance at our November meeting if I can get away from the "Symposium in the Sun" conference in Florida early enough, if not I will again ask our District Vice Chairman to chair the meeting, but in either case I encourage participation from every department in District 12 in all four counties to attend, participate, be involved and be active.

We are still attempting to pass out the 10 and 25 year pins to those who have achieved those years of service. If you have or think you have a pin coming please let me or Jim Leaver know and we will try to get with you at a department or district meeting.

We should all congratulate Chief Harry Green from the Wayne Township Fire Dept., Chief James Caldwell with the Advance Vol. Fire Dept and John W. Zielska, Jr. Madison Twp. Fire Dept. for their 50 years of service (and we still have two more to present). We also want to thank and congratulate Larry Bruner for being our District 12 MacQueen Excellence Award winner for 2021. District 12 congratulates and thanks all four District 12 members receiving awards this past quarter.

And speaking of awards we are quickly coming upon the deadline for entry for all awards, February 1 for the IVFA State Awards,

- [Angel Award](#)
- [Bridgeport Scholarship](#)
- [MacQueen Excellence Award](#)
- [Ivan Nevil Fire Service Leadership Award](#)
- [Junior Firefighter Award](#)
- [Legislator of the Year Award](#)
- [Lois Boaz Award](#)
- [Miriam A. Schaeckel Award](#)
- [Miss Flame](#)
- [Mr. IVFA](#)
- [Ollie Sandberg Award](#)

Nominations for all these awards are done on-line by folks like you and I, by going on the IVFA website and nominating someone you feel is deserving. I am sure we have someone in District 12 that would / should be deserving of each of these awards. Please think about those working with you, near you or for you and let's get our folks in District 12 recognized in 2022. If you will visit the IVFA website at [www.ivfa.org](http://www.ivfa.org) you will find a full description of each award as well as past winners and be able to nominate for 2022.

The MacQueen Excellence Award is a District award and I know we all have someone that has gone the extra mile, provided some

special services, or may be even a business or citizen that has helped us provide our service. Please get those names into myself and Vice Chairman Leaver so we can make sure a person worthy of recognition gets it.

As you are at work, at church, at a community event talk with them about the pride of being a Volunteer Firefighter and share with them the feeling you have when you're able to help or assist a person in our community. Let's start a movement in District 12, "see someone, ask someone" many folks would be willing to join if we were just willing to "ask them". How many new fire service and IVFA members can we get in District 12 within the next 12 months? I challenge every member in our district to at least try to recruit a new member over the next 12 months. I will be asking during our District Meetings about new members, be ready.

Hope to see you (and bring a fellow member or two) at the next District 12 meeting.



Happy Thanksgiving

- and -

Merry Christmas



### DISTRICT 13B REPORT



Anthony Smith - Chairman

Greetings,

I want to first off thank Jeff for representing District 13-B for the last several years and prior to him, Chief Dennis Spears.

A little about me, my name is Anthony Smith, I am on my 14th year in the fire service, proudly serving on Centerville Fire/Rescue as a Captain and Training Officer. I work full time on a 911 ambulance for Reid Health. I have been attending IVFA district meetings, state meetings and the state conventions for roughly the last 10 years. I have a wife and 3 kids, now teenagers. My wife is a firefighter, our oldest daughter and youngest son are cadets with Centerville Fire/Rescue and my father-in-law is the Chief. My oldest brother is the Fire Chief of

Williamsburg Volunteer Fire Department and our Uncle is the Assistant Chief.

I am excited to serve as your District Chairman for 13-B and have Dave Reeder by my side as my Vice Chairman. We will continue to meet bi-monthly, hosted at different departments around the district. My personal goal is to get more of the younger generation firefighters involved in the association and build up the meeting attendance.

Unfortunately, since I've taken over as district chairman, our district has lost a few members. One do to age and the other was LODD. Please take a moment each day and remember the ones we've lost and also give thanks for another day to be with our loved ones.

Please send me an email of any fire department events so I can do my best to attend to give my support to your departments. Just a reminder to all departments, do your absolute best on record/report keeping by making sure everything is filled out correctly and in a timely manner. In these times of COVID-19, proof of exposure will help you God forbid anything happens to you or your firefighters/EMS folks.

I look forward to seeing all of you soon!!

Please feel free to reach me with any questions or concerns at [district13b@ivfa.org](mailto:district13b@ivfa.org)

### DISTRICT 14 REPORT



Richard Cannon - Chairman

Welcome from District 14,

We have been trying to get out to departments and anything going on in our district.

We are looking for departments that we can come by and speak at one of your meetings so we can come and talk on benefits and if you are a paid member to get pins out to your members.

We are also looking for departments to host any of our meetings which is the 3rd Thursday of every other month.

Don't forget to start writing in for next year's convention award winners where the convention will be held in Evansville.

Our next meeting will be held on November 18, 2021 at Lovett Fire Department at 19:00 hours.

Thanks.

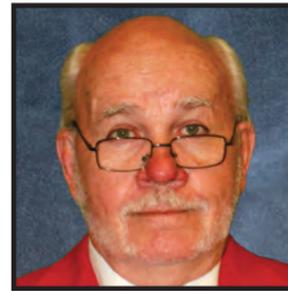
Rick Cannon  
District 14 chairman

**FEBRUARY 2022**

**DEADLINE IS**

**JANUARY 5, 2022**

### DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Sam Emery - Chairman

Hello from 17A,

July 14th Steen Twp. VFD Tim Yochum was presented the MacQueen Excellence Award. Congratulations!

A good meal was enjoyed by all.

July 21st District 17A meeting was hosted by Loogootee VFD. Elections were held and all officers stayed the same for the coming year. I presented 10 and 25 year pins to department members. A great pork chop meal was enjoyed by all.

July 30, 31 and August 1st I attended the state officer's meeting in Indianapolis. Many items were discussed.

August 5th I attended Taylor VFD meeting and looked over some of our new equipment.

August 16th sympathy to the family of Jeffrey Jackson, Palmyra VFD fireman. A Bible and grave marker were presented.

September 11th Bloomfield VFD fundraiser.

September 18th I went to the Lyons VFD and presented Paul R. Baker his 50 year Gold card and pin.

September 18th I attended Taylor VFD fundraiser at Scotland.

September 26 an IVFA memorial service was held for Patoka Twp. VFD member Danny Ray Drew. A Bible and grave marker were presented to the family.

My sympathy to the family of Matthew R. Bowan, Vincennes Twp. VFD fireman.

I was notified that the annual Vincennes sausage supper for January 2022 has been cancelled.

### DISTRICT 17B REPORT



Tammy Wright - Chairman

Hello, hi, howdy!

I'm so excited to be your new Chairman. I'm a member of Shawswick Township Fire and I was your Secretary/ Treasurer for several years.

I went to my first quarterly meeting in August and was blown away at all that our IVFA does!

I encourage you to come to the meetings; you are missing out on lots of information!

I look forward to meeting everyone!

So far I have attended a Golf Scramble, Fish Fry, and a Countywide meeting.

Given out several 10 and 25 year pins and (1) 50 year Gold card.

Stay Safe and see you soon!

Tammy Wright,  
17B Chairman

### DISTRICT 18 REPORT



Nick Waninger - Chairman

Greetings from District 18!

The District 18 meeting of 16 September was held by the St. Meinrad Vol. Fire Dept.

Forty-three members representing 12 departments answered roll call and reported answering to 203 runs. Guests included, Steve Nolan, Steve Anderson and Rachel Bussey.

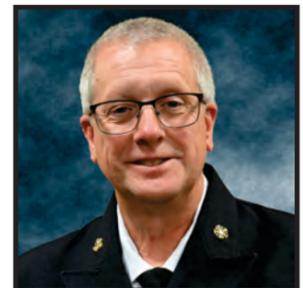
On Sunday, September 12, the Birdseye Fire Dept. held an open house in their newly built station. District 18 presented an "IVFA" clock plaque to chief David Smith and his department to end the day.

As of writing this, in one week Chrisney Vol. Fire Dept. and the IVFAA will host this year's parade and Miss Flame contest. Good luck to all contestants.

The next meeting will be held 18 November at 33 Brick St. Restaurant hosted by Orange County Rural One Fire Dept. Meeting will start at 1930 hours eastern time. I look forward to seeing you there.

Nick Waninger - District 18

### DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Ben Sieverding - Chairman

District 19 has held two meetings since the last issue of the IVFA paper.

In July the district held their meeting at the Sunman Rural Fire Department station. The meeting was well attended with 32 members from 6 departments in attendance.

Officers for the coming year were elected: Chairman Ben Sieverding, Vice Chairman Harold Scanton, Secretary Cassi Hornsby and Chaplain Ski Gerdowsky.

Retired Sunman Fire Chief Bill Craig received the 2021 MacQueen Award. Chief Craig has served the Sunman community for many years and

see 'district 19' page 9

# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

## - district 19

(continued from page 8)

has left his mark on the Sunman Fire Department.

In September the district held their meeting at the Moorefield VFD fire station. Moorefield firefighters were presented with 10 year and 25 year pins for their service to their community. Mark Driver from the East Enterprise VFD was presented with the 2020 MacQueen Award for the district. The presentation of this award was delayed due to COVID 19 issues.

IDEM was present for the meeting and gave a presentation related to the Open Burning rules for the state. Members also discussed the new Emergency Response Support certification from the state. The Indiana Mandatory Firefighter certification is being phased out and replaced with this new certification.

The Safer Grant awarded to the Indiana Fire Chief's Association was discussed. This grant was awarded for recruitment and retention for volunteer fire departments. There are 11 departments participating in the process and these departments have recruited over 100 new firefighters so far. Through this grant a training course is being developed for volunteer fire officers. The first beta courses are planned to take place in January 2022. This will provide free officer training to volunteer fire departments. Recruitment & Retention is a major concern for the volunteer fire service in our state. All of us should get involved and help make this a success.

We will be traveling to Franklin County for our next meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup> at the New Trenton VFD fire station. Hope to see a big turnout in Franklin County.

## DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Don Fultz - Chairman

Our district meeting was held at Perry Twp. Vol. Fire Department at Colfax. A meal was served.

The Fire Marshal and the EMS Director attended the meeting. They talked about grants and general information.

Had elections at the meeting. Don Fultz was elected District 21 Chairman and George Buck was elected Secretary and Treasurer.

Ed Watson was elected vice chairman.

The next meeting will be held November 29 at Oxford Vol. Fire Department at Oxford, Indiana. Meal to be served at 7:00 p.m. and meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully,  
Don Fultz  
District 21 Chairman

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## From The Secretary

Leighanne Ellis



INDIANA VOLUNTEER  
FIREFIGHTER'S  
ASSOCIATION  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
April 30-May 2, 2021  
HILTON GARDEN INN  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN

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

Roll Call was taken with District Chairman present and absent, Public Relations Officers and absent, past presidents, the Lobbyist and Executive Council.

Reading of the minutes from the last meeting, made a motion to accept minutes as printed. Second the motion. Motion was passed.

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Treasurer Luke Kluender. Covered balance sheet and costs incurred for 2020 and under budget due to pandemic. Paid out worker's comp. insurance and RT insurance bill.

**Guest Speakers:** Tanya Grigsby from California Casualty came to speak. Brought posters to pass out in districts. Rolling out some new programs.

**Old Business:**

**Executive Committee Report:** David Israel, gave committee report.

**Central Office Report:** Jack Kerney, no American Income Life, license plates sales 1511 plates sold in first quarter.

### Committee Reports:

**Awards - Vice President** Jerry Liston - names are prepared for 2020 and 2021. Still need to submit list for MacQueen award.

**Angel Award:** Diane Harrison - one nomination received.

**Jr. Firefighter Award:** Jack Kerney - nothing to report.

**Mr. IVFA:** Ed Gerdowsky - ready for convention.

**Bridgeport:** Past President Richard Glant, all names received and selected and ready for convention.

**Budget:** Treasurer Luke Kluender - covered in treasurer report.

**By-laws and S.O.G.'s:** PRWC Larry Bartlow, talk of succession of officers for Board Chairman, no action taken. We will be reprinting the bylaws to be handed out at August meeting.

**Clothing Claims:** District 5 John Grolich - 2 claims, one eyeglass claim approved and more investigation into the other claim before approval.

**Convention:** President David Israel, change made to convention guideline about rooms provided to officers with an addendum made to include the covering of registrations for the officers.

**2021 Convention:** Paul Holcomb, Rick Cannon, John Gott, need convention forms turned in; phone number has changed for the hotel.

**2022 Evansville:** Jack Kerney, Ross Emery, June 15-17, 2022 at the Casino.

**2023 Jeff Biehl:** waiting to contact hotel.

**EMS:** Vice President Jerry Liston, talking about community paramedicine. An advisory committee was laid out to cover this program.

**Insurance:** Luke Kluender, nothing to report.

**Legislation:** Lobbyist Larry Curl and Past President Buz Koehler, session is completed. Half of our bills dropped and watched 6-7 bills going through. 5 of the bills we were watching are currently signed into law and can be found on the website. Legislative session was recessed and planning to reconvene in the fall to work on redistricting. 50-year resolution was passed and signed and the program is still

being planned for possibly a late summer program. Plan for next year to look at a benefits package for our volunteer service. Need to look into other state's programs and do a comparison and present to the legislators to create the program. Look into current benefits law and see what needs to be updated and made current. IC 36-8-12.

Ivy Tech program has spent close to \$450,000 on the program and thought to be out of money for the rest of the program. They have requested a meeting with the committee to discuss the program future.

Cost savings study, lobbyist will discuss with state leaders. It is the district chairman's responsibility to speak to the departments. There needs to be a regional meeting set up for leaders to be able to come and present information.

Purdue Global program available for a bachelor's degree at a cost savings rate. Program can be found on the website.

**LODD:** Chaplain Ski Gerdowsky, nothing to report.

**Logo:** District 18 John Smith, no requests made this quarter.

**Membership and Marketing:** Leighanne Ellis, start to create a list for mental health resources and publish to our website and to the state fire marshal office.

**Newspaper:** Past Pres. Buz Koehler, 36 pages, 13,802 member count, 14,026 papers printed. New advertisers listed in the paper.

**Public Relations and Education:** Don Cushman, FDIC discussed, spoke on religious preference of members when presenting during the memorial service.

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

**Special Projects:** Past Pres. Buz Koehler, still working on history books.

**Training:** Past President Steve Anderson, looking at AFG grants and obtainment for training programs. Veterans coming back into the civilian world and how to assist with transitions.

**Younger Membership:** District 6 Jerry Sprague, continue to look at youth camp. What can

we do to retain younger members in our departments?

### Representative Reports

**Board of Firefighter Standards and Education:** John Smith, nothing to report.

**Fire Alliance:** Steve Anderson, Buz Koehler, Larry Curl, nothing to report.

**Hero's Competition:** nothing to report.

**IN-Time:** Jack Zeeks, nothing to report.

**National Volunteer Fire Council:** Jack Kerney and Jean Smith, covered their zoom meeting information. Covid vaccination talks, membership numbers, legislation package proposal covered. Transportation safety survey and natural gas vehicles.

**Red Cross Workgroup:** Don Cushman, nothing to report.

**Benefit's Summit:** David Israel, we will be hosting the summit in September 2021.

### Officer's Reports:

**President,** David Israel, nothing reported.

**Vice President,** Jerry Liston, nothing reported.

**Chaplain,** Ed Gerdowsky, get funeral vouchers in.

**Secretary,** Leighanne Ellis, pass.

**Treasurer,** Luke Kluender, pass.

**Sergeant-At-Arms,** Brent Bush, has supplies in his truck.

**Historian,** Paul Smith, absent.

**Chairman of the Board,** Paul Holcomb, pass.

**Webmaster,** Josh Reiser, pass.

**PRNW,** Jeremy Reef, pass.

**PRNE,** Jean Smith, pass.

**PRWC,** Larry Bartlow, pass.

**PREC,** Don Cushman, pass.

**PRSW,** Steve Nolan, pass.

**PRSE,** Ed Scheele, pass.

**Asst. Treasurer,** Bev Harker, absent.

**Asst. Secretary,** Diane Harrison, absent.

### Past President's Reports:

**Richard Glant,** absent.

**Jack Zeeks,** absent.

**Buz Koehler,** pass.

**Jack Kerney,** absent.

**Larry Ketchem,** absent.

**David Israel,** pass.

**Steve Anderson,** pass.

**Paul Holcomb,** pass.

### District Reports:

**District 1,** Marshall Neece, pass.

**District 2,** Paul Watland, absent.

**District 3,** Bob Uryga, pass.

**District 4,** Elton Schaffer, pass.

**District 5,** John Grolich, pass.

**District 6,** Jerry Sprague, pass.

**District 7,** Sam Bisel, absent.

**District 8A,** Rex Maynard, pass.

**District 8B,** Lloyd Wright, pass.

**District 9A,** Pascal Moon, pass.

**District 9B,** Randy Denton, absent.

**District 10,** John Ray, pass, David Israel passed out Gold card.

**District 11A,** Pete Taylor, pass.

**District 11B,** Jason Ryan, pass.

**District 12,** Larry Curl, department meeting, pins passed out, IVFA president, vice president, PR rep., Districts 11A, 11B, Sgt. At Arms, 7 dept. and 21 members in attendance.

**District 13A,** Jason Greene, absent.

**District 13B,** Jeff Biehl, 4 Gold cards presented.

**District 14,** Rick Cannon, will be giving out 2 Gold cards.

**District 15,** Ross Emery, zoom district meeting went well, gave opportunity to others who can't attend in person to be there. Consider using zoom for cost saving explanation.

**District 16,** John Gott, absent.

**District 17A,** Sam Emery, pass.

**District 17B,** Heather McGlocklin, pass.

**District 18,** John "Bull" Smith, will be having parade.

**District 19,** Ben Siverding, pass.

**District 21,** Ed Watson, absent.

### New Business:

1. Supporting Hero's Gala, check email for

- see 'secretary' page 16



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E-mail:	ivfaadistrict14@ivfaa.org / jsmith19513@yahoo.com		
<b>DISTRICT #15</b> .....	JERRI JOHNSON	1743 IU Dr., Evansville, IN 47720	Home (812) 456-6311
E-mail:	ivfaadistrict15@ivfaa.org		
<b>DISTRICT #16</b> .....			
<b>DISTRICT #17A</b> .....	MARIE EMERY	799 East Harvest Church Rd., Bloomfield, IN 47424	Home (812) 384-8748
/ Cell:	(812) 381-0107 - E-mail: ivfaadistrict17a@ivfaa.org		
<b>DISTRICT #17B</b> .....	DAWN HILLENBURG-HARRIS	7197 Bartlettville Rd., Heltonville, IN 47436	Cell: (812) 508-5913
E-mail:	ivfaadistrict17b@ivfaa.org		
<b>DISTRICT #18</b> .....	KATHY SMITH	109 Oak Street, Huntingburg, IN 47542	Home (812) 683-3697
/ Cell:	(812) 631-1501 / E-mail: ivfaadistrict18@ivfaa.org		
<b>DISTRICT #19</b> .....	PAM GERDOWSKY	41 Six Pine Ranch Road, Batesville, IN 47006	Home (812) 934-4356
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<b>DISTRICT #21</b> .....	PATTI FULTZ	1007 Haan Dr., West Lafayette, IN 47906	Home (765) 463-2970 / Cell (765) 426-6615
E-mail:	ivfaadistrict21@ivfaa.org / dpfultz@gmail.com		

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

DIANA GRAY.....	2011-2013	801 Huntington Ave., Warren, IN 46792 - (260) 224-0774	didagray@yahoo.com
BETH CAUDILL.....	2009-2011	15120 Lucas Rd., Brookville, IN 47012 - Cell (765) 309-2940	
MARTHA THOMAS (Deceased).....	2007-2009		
JOANN HAYS.....	2005-2007	4430 South 8th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802 - (812) 299-1574 / Cell (812) 230-5506	
BARBARA KERNEY (Deceased).....	2002-2005		
MARY MACKIN (Deceased).....	2000-2002		
FAYE SALLEE (Deceased).....	1998-2000		
LOU BARTLOW.....	1996-1998	Box 12, Montezuma, IN 47862 - (765) 245-2125 / Cell (765) 593-2227	
E-mail:	larry_bartlow@att.net		
PHYLLIS VARGO.....	1994-1996	7756 Durbin Street, Schererville, IN 46375 - (219) 322-4286	
/ E-mail:	pavargo1@yahoo.com		
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994		
NANCY NEAL.....	1990-1992	749 Walnut Street, Hope, IN 47246 - (812) 764-1852	
TONI SORG (Deceased).....	1988-1990		
LORETTA NULLINER.....	1986-1988	10830 Cape Coral Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46229 - (317) 622-2863	
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994		
NICKIE SUNDAY (Deceased).....	1984-1986		
BARBARA PARKER (Deceased).....	1982-1984		
BARBARA SURBER.....	1980-1982	2003 Flamingo Way, Franklin, IN 46131 - (317) 614-5669 - Cell (317) 519-4445	
LUCY STOFER.....	1978-1980	718 South Ingomar Street, Indianapolis, IN 46241 - (317) 241-1946	
VICA MCGILL (Deceased).....	1976-1978		
MARY BOYD.....	1975-1976	92 Golfview Circle, Umatilla, FL 32784 - (352) 669-2062 - Cell (407) 495-8249	

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

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

**Please support the advertisers!!**

**February 2022 deadline is January 5, 2022**

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

**Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews**



Quarterly IVFAA Meeting Sunday, August 1, 2021 Wyndham Indy West, Indianapolis

Meeting called to order at 8:32 a.m. by President Christina Reef. Chaplain Judy Wirth opened the meeting with a prayer. The group was led in the Pledge to the Flag by Sergeant-at-Arms Suzie Lewis.

**Announcements:** President Christina Reef congratulated the award winners from the Convention, "each one well deserved, we have many deserving

members in this group." Christina informed the group that her vision for the organization is to push & encourage everyone to rekindle the fellowship within the organization. She posed a challenge to district chairmen to adopt a Saturday of a quarterly meeting to hold a type of event that all can join in on. November there will be a cookie exchange & white elephant Bingo game/exchange. Please bring a dozen cookies & a wrapped white elephant gift to participate in the exchange. Beverly Taylor thanked the group for the support of her Lois Boaz award. She encouraged & challenged other district chairs to turn in their meeting minutes to the newspaper when they have them. She also encouraged the group to submit letters for awards to those that are deserving. The list of the available awards are listed on the website that someone can be nominated for.

**Recording Secretary:** Beverly Vanlandingham took roll call for the meeting, it was answered by 20 officers, 6 IVFAA members today. Organization count as of today is 124 individuals, 586 paid by department members, and 30 life members for a total of 740 members.

**Correspondence Secretary:** Janet Matthews read the meeting minutes from the meeting that was held May 2, 2021. Suzie Lewis made a motion to accept the minutes as read, seconded by Tammy Smith. All in favor, motion carried to accept the minutes as read. Janet informed the group that she went through the past minutes that was given to her when she took over the position & put them in chronological order by years & into binders, will give them to the historian when she is here next. Also presented the returned convention minutes that were returned with bad addresses so the chairmen can reach out to those members to get correct addresses.

Tammy Williams from American Income Life came to the meeting and explained to the group that there has been an added coverage of an All Plus Card. Field representatives still have the option to visit you in person or do a virtual visit so the benefit can be explained to you.

Buz Koehler came in with the newspapers, he thanked everyone for their submissions as there was a lot of information in the paper. Business cards for officers can be ordered, if anyone wants any, get in contact with

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**IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2021 / 2022**

**AUDIT**

Carol Curl - Chair  
Suzie Lewis - Co-Chair  
Kristi Bisel  
Sue Glant  
Connie Ray

**CHINESE AUCTION**

Lori Baxter - Chair  
Bev Vanlandingham - Co-Chair  
Bev Taylor  
Chara Leaver  
Kimberly Smith  
Marie Emery  
Connie Ray  
Sue Glant

**MIRIAM SCHAEKEL AWARD**

Joyce Nevil  
Martha Thomas  
Phyllis Vargo  
Eula Bush

**LOIS BOAZ AWARD**

Leona Uryga  
Beth Caudill  
Bev Taylor

**HISTORIANS**

Phyllis Vargo - Chair  
Joann Hays - Co-Chair

**MEMBERSHIP**

Diane Stapleton - Chair  
Kimberly Smith - Co-Chair  
Leona Uryga  
JoAnn Smith  
Kathy Smith

**MISS FLAME**

Janet Matthews - Chair  
EJ Smith - Co-Chair  
Tammy Smith  
Jaelyn Matthews  
Leighanne Ellis - IVFA Rep.

**JEWELRY**

Suzie Lewis - Chair  
EJ Smith - Co-Chair

**MARY MACKIN SCHOLARSHIP**

Kimberly Smith - Chair  
Beth Moon - Co-Chair  
Bev Taylor  
EJ Smith  
Patti Fultz  
Kay Shumaker

**BUDGET & FINANCE**

Kathy Smith - Chair  
Martha Biehl - Co-Chair  
Chara Leaver  
Kristi Bisel  
Bev Vanlandingham  
JoAnn Smith  
Brenda Shafer

**PARLIAMENTARIAN**

Lou Bartlow - Chair

**VICE PRESIDENT'S PROJECT**

EJ Smith - Chair  
Dawn Harris - Co-Chair  
Kay Shumaker  
Leona Uryga  
Brenda Shafer  
Jude Wirth  
JoAnn Hayes  
Phyllis Vargo

**NOMINATING**

Carolyn Zeeks - Chair  
Marie Emery - Co-Chair  
Sue Glant  
Carol Koehler  
Patti Fultz

**INSTALLATION**

Pam Gerdowsky - Chair  
Betsy Howe - Co-Chair  
Phyllis Vargo

**PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY**

Lou Bartlow  
Phyllis Vargo  
Carol Curl

**BYLAWS & SOGs**

Christina Reef - Chair  
Tammy Smith - Co-Chair  
Janet Matthews  
Lou Bartlow  
Carol Curl  
Joyce Nevil  
Kristi Bisel  
Beth Moon  
Diane Stapleton  
Bev Vanlandingham  
EJ Smith

**SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION**

Tammy Smith - Chair  
Dawn Harris - co-Chair  
Jude Wirth  
Lou Bartlow  
Carolyn Zeeks

**MEMORIAL THROW**

Carol Curl - Chair

**CHAPLAIN'S ASSISTANTS**

Jude Wirth - State Chaplain  
Phyllis Vargo - Northwest  
Suzie Lewis - Northeast  
Janet Matthews - East Central  
Joan Hayes - West Central  
Kathy Smith - Southwest  
Pam Gerdowsky - Southeast

**CHAPLAIN EMERITUS & COMMUNICATIONS**

JoAnn Hayes

\* Committee meetings will follow the I.V.F.A.A. By Laws & Robert's Rule of Order



## 'secretary'

(continued from page 13)

Buz & he can assist you. The cost of the cards will be at the officer's expense.

**Treasurer's Report:** Martha Biehl reviewed with the group the account information that was passed out by Suzie Lewis. Diane Stapleton made a motion to accept treasurer reports as reviewed, Connie Ray seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried treasurer report accepted and is subject to audit.

**Chaplain Report:** Judy Wirth updated the group of her activities since convention. Has sent 2 sympathy cards, 5 get well cards, sent flowers to Christina when she was in the hospital. Organization has had 5 deaths since convention. She has given out 3 Bibles to chairmen that needed them. Judy discussed price options with the group of being able to get engraving from the organization on the Bibles. Will research more options & will bring them back to a future meeting. Judy informed the group she is working on updating the funeral form that the chairmen have in their possession. If angels/crosses are needed to let her know as she & Pam Gerdowsky can get them & distribute them to anyone that needs them.

**Vice President's Report:** E.J. Smith informed the group that she plans to attend district meetings as she is able. Encouraged everyone to use the IVFAA Facebook page to post when & where meetings are being held.

**Sergeant-at-Arms:** Suzie Lewis reports that she has placed the order for the standard officer bars. She let the group know that anyone that is wanting to purchase an officer bar with their name on it, the cost is \$16.00 & at your own expense. Please let Suzie know & those that order one will pay Suzie for them.

10-minute break taken.

David Israel came to the meeting & addressed the group. He announced that the November quarterly meeting will be the weekend of 5/6/7 & will be held at the Holiday Inn Ameriplax Drive. Dave discussed the changes in meeting hotels, different charges the organizations incur such as meeting room costs. Explained that at the Crowne Plaza the meeting rooms for the weekend were free but the other places we have been charge fees for the use of meeting rooms. He informed the group that he would be meeting with Christina to see if timing can be worked out on meeting times for yearly voting so members of both organizations can have opportunity to vote in both organizations in which they belong. John Smith came to thank the group for the calls, texts, & cards that were sent to him in the passing of his mother.

**President's Report:** Christina Reef presented Leona Uryga with her 50-year membership pin. Christina discussed social media with the group. The IVFAA Facebook group is a great communication outlet, encouraged everyone to post your district events & what's new in your area. She did ask that we be respectful & allow the state

chaplain to be the one to post of death notifications. Judy Wirth will be the one to make these formal notifications. Christina reports that the 50/50 at convention brought in \$1,211.00. Christina reviewed the new committee assignments for 2021-2022 with the group that Suzie Lewis passed out to them. She did tell the group that if you are totally unhappy with my selection for the committee you are on, please see me & I can explain my reasoning of why I put you there. She explained that the SOG/Bylaws committee is larger because this is a goal of mine to get these updated & to coincide as they should. Traceability of these changes will be obtained. Each member on the SOG/Bylaws committee please stay after this meeting so I can get you the information each member needs. The goal at the end is each chairman will get a new binder once completed. I will be asking all the chairmen to turn in any & all old versions that they have in their possession when the new version is dispersed to them. Christina reminded all district chairmen that they need to have 4 events/meetings a year. Can be a report of the IVFAA at your district's IVFA meeting. Turn in meeting reports/minutes from these events to the President & Corresponding Secretary, they can be turned in or emailed for verification. Christina thanked everyone for all the outreach to her during her hospitalization. Christina will work with recording secretary to create a 25/50-year pin list, to ensure that we are up to date with getting these distributed.

**Committee Reports:** Line officers met yesterday at 1 p.m. discussions were held of the new direction and fellowship that Christina has in mind for the organization. Line officers will continue to meet each Saturday of quarterly meetings at 1 p.m. The chairman of any committee can post in the IVFAA Facebook group of a time that they would like to meet up on these Saturdays as well.

**Audit:** Carol Curl reports the audit was done yesterday & was accepted with exceptions.

**Miss Flame:** Janet Matthews reports that committee members met yesterday & reviewed many documents that had been used in the past for getting information out to chairmen, departments & contestants. Each document was reviewed in depth & some combined in order to simplify the information. Christina will be putting the IVFAA logo on all forms. The age of your Miss Flame contestant must be 15 by convention & not older than 18 at convention. Discussed that the committee is trying to update all the forms so we all are using the most updated forms & also wanting to get the application available online. A new consent form is being created, if a Miss Flame's parent cannot come with their child & they have elected a chaperone for their child at convention. This form will be completed letting the committee know who the contestant's responsible party is. Christina is going to see if there is a way to get forms put on the website as well.

**New Business:** President Christina Reef informed the group that Josh Reiser continues to be

the webmaster & that the IVFAA owes him for last year & this year's website service. Leona Uryga made motion that the treasurer pay Josh \$100 per year fee for the 2 years owed \$200 total, Lou Bartlow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Martha Biehl will get a check for \$200 to Josh Reiser. Christina is talking with a few members about setting up another district chairman training class. She would like to have this course for the chairmen, both new & existing ones. Once this is set, she will announce it. Scam emails/text messages have already began going out asking for money & gift cards from the organization president. Christina wants to assure the entire group she will never reach out to anyone asking for money or gift cards. If you receive such emails, you can verify with her, but please do not send money or gift cards to anyone claiming to be her. Christina informed the group that any money that comes into the organization for any reason has a path that it must go through. The men's organization has been having this event to happen as well. All monies coming into the organization must be given to the recording secretary first, then she will record it. She will turn the monies over to the treasurer for deposit. This is the path in which ALL incoming funds must follow. Christina informed the group that at convention this was not followed but there were 3 signatures for the funds taken in, so she is just wanting to ensure everyone knows the correct pathway from here on out. Christina brought up about the meeting rooms are now costing the organization now so we will need to decide if we want to rent rooms for the committee meetings that we hold on Saturdays. Group had discussion about this & all the options of rooms/space that we can hold these. Lou Bartlow made a motion to not rent a room for meetings on Saturday at quarterly meetings, Kimberly Smith seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried that no meeting room will be reserved for Saturday meetings at quarterly meetings. Christina will ensure that she makes David aware of this decision. Christina wanted to let the group know that Joann Hays sends out many different types of cards to members & she has been paying this on her own. Suzie Lewis made a motion that the IVFAA buy her a roll of forever stamps to support the cards that she sends out; Tammy Smith seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Martha Biehl will purchase the roll of forever stamps & send them to Joann.

President Christina Reef asked if anyone else had anything for the good of the order? Beth Moon, mother of the current State Miss Flame wanted to let the group know that Sydney has a goal for herself. She wants to make it around to every district during her Miss Flame reign this year. Please reach out to her if you are having a special event in your district that you would like her to attend. Phyllis Vargo's husband will be having an upcoming surgery next week, please keep them in your prayers. No one else had anything to add. President Christina Reef asked for meeting to be closed with prayer. Closing prayer given by Judy Wirth. Carolyn Zeeks made a

motion the meeting be adjourned; Connie Ray seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Matthews  
Corresponding Secretary

## IVFAA President Christina Reef



Hello Everyone,

I hope you are all doing well & staying healthy.

I apologize for not making the rounds to meetings these past few months. As some of you already know I have been doing some special therapy that unfortunately has kept me pretty much housebound, except for going to & from therapy. Thankfully EJ has been making the rounds & keeping me updated.

I also have joined in on a few meetings via Facetime or over the phone, which worked out very well. If you are having a meeting, please let everyone know if the meeting will also be available via Zoom, over the phone, Facetime & etc. Having a meeting where others can join in other than in person may be very beneficial to some members who physically cannot travel, are too far away, or are unable to physically attend due to personal reasons but still want to be involved. Remember all districts must have at least 4 meetings per year.

As I mentioned at the last quarterly meeting, one of my biggest pushes for this is year is communication. I have created an email list for when I send out communication emails to our district chairs. I have included members to this list who also wish to receive the communication emails as well. If you want to be added to my email list, please email, call, or text me so I know to add you. I am also sharing this list with our Corresponding Secretary Janet Matthews for when she sends out the meeting minutes. If you do not have email, but still want the communication, please let me, EJ Smith or Janet Matthews know how you prefer your communication. We will do our best to accommodate.

We have a community Facebook page "The IVFAA Community". If you are on Facebook, please join this page to get updates on events & other communication. Anyone can post on the page, but please do not post any deaths to the page. Please contact our Chaplain Jude

Smith & allow her to pass that information to our members.

Please remember the deadline for our Awards is fastly approaching. All nominations must be submitted by February 1<sup>st</sup>. You can nominate members for the awards via the IVFA website under awards or mail/email your letters to all the members on the committee. If you are emailing in your letters to the committee, please title the email with the award you are nominating the person for.

Miss Flame deadline is also fastly approaching. The deadline to have your application, pictures & other paperwork sent in is March 10<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please reach out to our Miss Flame committee chair Janet Matthews or co-chair EJ Smith.

For our upcoming February quarterly meeting, the fellowship event, what we will be doing is a craft with Joann Hays. I am also asking for everyone to create a small list of 3 hobbies, activities, facts, & etc. about yourself. Please do not put your name on these, as we are going to play a little game with them. Joann Hays has also asked all the districts to please bring a recipe on a recipe card to the February & May quarterly meeting. She will be creating a cookbook for the Miss Flames. If you are unable to be at the meeting, please mail them to her.

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

I hope you all have a safe & happy holiday!

## IVFAA Vice President EJ Smith



Hello Everyone,

I hope that everyone is doing well. Fall is in the air, cooler weather and beautiful fall colors are upon us.

Please remember as the weather changes to cooler weather and we may use other heating sources and burning candles. Please be careful. October 3rd-9th Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety!"

I'm looking forward to working with our line officers and District Chairmen and membership. I have attended some district and department

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## 'ivfaa vice president'

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functions.

Awards - We have two Auxiliary awards. We have many deserving women for these awards.

Lois Boaz Award was started in memory of Lois Boaz, from Floyds Knobs. She was a founding member of the Greenville Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, and was also instrumental in getting an auxiliary started in District 16. She was their first Chairperson. When she passed away, her husband and family wanted to recognize her efforts within the District 16 Auxiliary, and community. Thus the Lois Boaz Award began at the annual convention. Nominations for this award are handled through a letter writing campaign. The letters should describe in detail the lady's involvement in her fire department auxiliary, her community and her family. Letter of nomination postmarked no later than the first day of February, to the last three recipients of the award. Leona Uryga, Beth Caudill, Beverly Taylor.

Miriam A. Schaekel Award is awarded to a member of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association Ladies' Auxiliary, for having set him or herself apart from his/her comrades by outstanding achievement or service to the Association. It is named in honor of Miriam A. Schaekel, who served as the Auxiliary's Sergeant-of-Arms for over 30 years. Her dedication to the betterment of the Ladies Auxiliary Association was unwavering. She performed her duties most honorably and efficiently with a smile and the good of the Association always in the forefront. Members may complete the nomination form online, or submit an original handwritten letter of nomination (no copies please) postmarked no later than the first day of February, to the last three recipients of the award. Joyce Nevil, Phyllis Vargo, Eula Bush.

Both awards can also be submitted online on ivfa.org web page. Click on For Members, Forms and then pick the award you want to nominate.

Please post on our IVFAA Community Facebook page, meetings or functions you are having.

If you would like me to attend your District Meetings and Department functions, please contact me.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at cell 260-413-3040, or e-mail me at ivfaaicepresident@ivfaa.org

Stay Safe and God Bless!

E.J.Smith,  
Vice President IVFAA



## IVFAA Chaplain

Judy Wirth



Hello!

I hope everyone has had a very safe summer. So hard to think of cooler temperatures and the Holidays getting closer!

A big thank you goes out to all of you, the state membership, for all you do to support our personnel. From having refreshments at an active scene, to making a dessert for an event, to cleaning the firehouse, THANK YOU. Team efforts are what it takes to make a department complete.

If there is anything I can do to help any of you I am here. Give me a call! 812-592-7317. If I do not answer, LEAVE A MESSAGE, I WILL CALL YOU BACK!!!!!!

Prayers for safety and good health for all of you our fire family.

From my heart to yours - Jude

## DISTRICT 6 REPORT



Kimberly Smith - Chairman

Hello all, happy fall!

I would like to start off by introducing myself. My name is Kimberly Smith and I was nominated as the new District 6 Chairman for the IVFAA. I have been a member of the IVFA Auxiliary for over 30 years. I was a past District 6 Miss Flame and State Miss Congeniality winner. I am a third generation District Chairman and come from a long line of firefighters and auxiliary members who have been very active within their own departments, districts and at state. I look forward to representing the members of District 6.

Please let me know if you have anyone interested in starting an auxiliary at your department. Or I would like to talk to you about becoming an individual member if you don't have enough interest for an auxiliary. District 6 is the largest in the state of Indiana and has 52 departments. I would love to have more involvement from those departments.

Please join us for our next meeting on November 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Washington Township Fire Department. We will be holding our Miss Flame judging at this meeting. We are looking for contestants between the ages of 15-

18 to represent District 6. Qualifications and an entry form can be found at www.ivfa.org. Or you may reach out to Jerry or I with any questions. Our contact information is located in this newspaper.

I ask that you continue to post your department's events on our District 6 Facebook page. Please also keep an eye on it for meeting reminders.

Kimberly Smith  
District 6 IVFAA Chairman

## DISTRICT 11-A REPORT



Beverly Taylor - Chairman

Hello everyone,

Fall is upon us. I have mums and pumpkins in our yard. They are pretty but a sign of cooler weather coming. Before you know it the holidays will be here.

This year we are going to encourage everyone to rekindle the fellowship within the organization. In November there will be a cookie exchange and a white elephant gift to participate in at state meetings.

Our last district meeting was held on September 19th with 11A and 11B combined at Forest Park in Brazil, IN. We have a picnic together once a year. We had several state officers there.

Our fire department and district surprised Pete and me with a reception for our awards at convention, Lois Boaz and Mr. IVFA. We had a beautiful cake and punch. Our son and his wife were there. He lives locally but our daughter and family live in Texas. They sent a big bouquet of flowers. It was a beautiful day spent with beautiful people. Thanks to Joann Hayes for spearheading it along with others.

We have been to a few fish fries; drive thru mostly. Still good to get out.

If you have any functions coming up, please put them on the website; we check it often.

If you need or want anything that I can help with, contact me at 812-448-3232 or email at vburen10@gmail.com

Until next time,  
Stay safe.

Beverly Taylor  
Chairman 11A

## DISTRICT 14 REPORT



JoAnn Smith - Chairman

Hello everyone.

I would like to introduce myself. My name is JoAnn Smith. I am with the New Washington Fire Dept. Auxiliary. I am your new District

14 Chairman. My contact information is phone #: 502-380-7532. Email: jsmith19513@yahoo.com. Please feel free to contact me any time with questions or concerns. I would like to thank Judy Wirth for all of her help during this transition and wish her the best with her new state position.

I hope everyone had a great summer. I would like to remind everyone that the Miss Flame contest is open to any young ladies that might be interested. They must be 15 years old and not over 18 by the June convection. If you know anyone that would be interested please contact me or any of our district officers for the information and forms.

I would like to remind everyone that the DuPont Fire Company has a Fish Fry the last Saturday of each month from 4-8 pm.; no credit - cash only. I know they would love to see you.

If you have any event coming up let me know and if you can't make it to the district meeting and will announce it for you. Our next district meeting will be at Lovett Fire Dept. in Lovett on November 18 at 7:00 p.m. Hope see you there.

I would like to thank everyone for making me feel welcome. I look forward to getting to know everyone and working with all.

JoAnn Smith  
District 14 Chairman

## DISTRICT 17A REPORT



Marie Emery - Chairman

Hello everyone,

Sorry I haven't written an article for awhile, but with everything going on it's hard to schedule a meeting.

On July 12th the meeting was held at Taylor VFD Station.

Meeting was called to order. Reports from the secretary/treasurer given and approved.

I gave a report of the good convention that was held in Clarksville and told about all the newly elected state officers and the meetings, Miss Flame and what a good time was enjoyed by all.

Jennifer Mendenhall was presented her 25 year auxiliary pin. Congratulations Jennifer and thank you for your years of service.

Dues were collected for the next year.

Election of officers was held and all officers stayed the same as last year.

We will try to have another meeting before the end of 2021.

Sorry to say but Sam was notified that the annual Vincennes sausage supper for January 2022 has been cancelled.

Marie Emery  
IVFAA 17A chairman

## DISTRICT 19 REPORT



Pam Gerdowsky - Chairman

I want to apologize for not getting an August newsletter in last time. With my son's wife passing suddenly in July, I have been pretty much on the go flying to be with him and trying to make sense of everything. I do appreciate the nice cards, gifts, texts, calls, prayers and concern for our family. Thank you all so much.

Morris Fire Dept. Ladies' Auxiliary held their meeting July 27th and one August 24, 2021. Morris did well in June with their chicken dinners.

Had our State meeting in Indy at the Wyndham Hotel on August 1st with our newly elected officers. All went well. Our next State meeting will be in Indy in November.

We are to bring some baked goods and hold a white elephant sale. There will be a District Chairman class in November or February for all to attend.

Miss Flames can be 15 by June and not over 18 at convention. Was really great getting to see everyone again.

Morris had August 24th meeting at the Fire House. They are selling Gun Raffle tickets really fast. They will be having a breakfast on November 14th. September meeting will be on the 28th.

Thanks again for all your help and let's keep the ladies IVFAA in strong standing with God's help!

Pam Gerdowsky  
District #19

## DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Patti Fultz - Chairman

Hello,

Welcome to Fall!

The IVFAA meeting was at Perry Twp. Vol. Fire Department in Colfax on August 30, 2021. We met at 7:30 p.m.

This was my first district meeting since returning as District 21 Chairman.

State President Christina Reef joined us on speaker phone since she was unable to attend the meeting. She filled the members in with her and the organization's goals for the year.

Our next meeting will be at Oxford Vol. Fire Department Monday, November 29 at 7:30 p.m.

If your fire department has any functions coming up, please post them to the website or to the

# 'district 21

(continued from page 15)

Group in Facebook, The IVFAA Community.

Take care,

Patti Fultz  
District 21 Chairman

# 'secretary

(continued from page 9)

information. If you cannot make it make sure to let president know so they can take care of your tickets.

2. Hoosier Burn Camp Visitors' Day June 2. The IVFA is going to be cooking. Will be downsized and isolated to protect campers.

3. FDIC times changed. Will be held in August and our quarterly meeting will be moved up a weekend.

4. Ross Emery brought up doing a featured department on your district IVFA pages to promote departments. Thought about doing highlights in the paper of featured departments.

Motion to recess until morning.

Sunday May 2, 2021 Business meeting continued.

Reconvened at 0830.

Message given by State Chaplain Gerdowsky.

District 9A chairman Pascal Moon presented with 25 year pin.

Guest State Fire Marshal Thacker spoke on supporting association and on the IEMSA meeting. Spoke about layout of IDHS and who is in the positions. Spoke on resources that are available throughout the state. There is information on the website and information is being

sent out through emails and to be added visit the state IDHS website to set up an account. Need to be working on NIFRS reporting. Sitting at 50% reporting. Training on acadis for fireworks training to help those understand the regulations for firework shows and permitting.

[firemarshal@idhs.in.gov](mailto:firemarshal@idhs.in.gov), [pa@idhs.in.gov](mailto:pa@idhs.in.gov) has funding available. American Rescue Act is providing funds to towns.

Eric Johnson from Supporting Heroes came and spoke on the Gala coming up. Approximately 35-38 names will be honored during the Gala. They will be holding a Friday night outdoor event. Spoke on the act Congress passed for Covid. If someone tests positive within 45 days of last day of service and pass they are considered LODD death. Need to make sure we are documenting and keeping records in case their cause of death later on is a result of Covid and line of duty could be considered in the case.

Continue to build and update emails to pass along important information to memberships when necessary.

Bob Uryga is proposing that those who drive long distances are able to come down on Friday night and be paid so they are prepared for Saturday meetings. Proposal written up to make change in SOG and be presented to committee. Will be written up for board action.

Mileage and distance will be typed up and listed for each officer and chairman.

Buz Koehler makes motion for Bylaw and SOG committee to make a study for cost impact to the budget and qualifications of attendees for this issue. Rescinded.

Steve Anderson made a motion

to table and allow for executive committee to discuss and decide how to move forward. Second made by John Smith. Motion passed.

Pete Taylor motion to adjourn, second from Jerry Liston. Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

## INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING April 30 - May 1, 2021 HILTON GARDEN HOTEL INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Board Action Business Meeting called to order by the chairman of the board Paul Holcomb.

Reading of the minutes; Buz Koehler made a motion to accept them as emailed, Don Cushman second, motion passed.

### Board Action - Business:

1. No board action to bring forward.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Jack Zeeks, second by Don Cushman. Meeting adjourned.

### 2021 National Benefits Summit

Welcome and Indiana representative introductions given by Larry Curl, Lobbyist from the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association.

Welcome from Indiana State Fire Marshall Joel Thacker. Spoke on agenda of the summit and benefits available with the state and the importance of obtaining benefits and engaging elected officials into obtaining the benefits.

Ron Roy with Washington State Firefighters Association, spoke on behalf of the summit and being a

mediator for the program. Ohio state has offered to host benefit for 2022 and New York offered for 2023.

Introductions of all attendees to the summit (23 representatives).

State presentations given:

1. Fireman's Association of the State of the New York.

a. 92 bed nursing home, Museum of Firefighting, FASNY Corporate office (across the street from the governor's office).

b. Types of membership: Associate Individual company Member, Associate Individual Member, Individual Company Member, FASNY Home Members,

c. Core Benefits: AD&D, Magazine, credit union, 25 scholarships, Cancer Program.

d. Training partnerships: State preparedness training center, VFIS, ESIP, Flashover training, Fire School, Fire Academy training and tours. 40 years of EMS training. FASNY.com

e. Educational Assistance: Help program- \$1500 tuition reimbursement program, Volunteer Fire Scholarship FASNY- 25 recipients up to \$1500 awarded.

f. Legislation- temporary total disability increase, point system as part of a service award program, "fair play" cost recovery for fire department ambulance service, regulation of chemicals in upholstered furniture, mattresses, and electronic enclosures.

g. Spoke on study that was completed to show benefits of volunteers to the State of New York. This is available on a

website.

h. Goal to move membership from 80,000 to 100,000

2. Ohio State Firefighters Association

a. Firefighter magazine published 6 times a year.

b. Legal Defense Trust Fund- established to protect firefighters who are driving to emergencies in personal vehicle or emergency vehicles, and they kill someone along the way, they are covered for legal fees. \$7.00 per person into a fund to obtain this coverage.

c. Youth Academy- one week camp, \$500-600/week, shows them what fire service is like and assists with recruit and retention in fire service.

d. Chaplain services available. \$1000 LODD Benefit. Educational Seminars and Continuing education hours available.

e. Quit holding state conferences, no longer able to fill state officers' positions. Membership at 19,000. If department joins for \$100 their members automatically become members under that cost.

f. Partnered with Savvik to fundraise for association. Wants more information for grant writing.

Discussion held on difficulty of trying to obtain or create a database of email addresses. South Carolina hired a marketing director to create information on social media and have had success especially with TikTok. Discussions on maintaining those contacts and relaying more information to the younger generations. Some states using

*'see summit page 17*



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# 'summit'

(continued from page 16)

Gross Zone to maintain databases of contacts. This program allows for verification of correct or incorrect email addresses.

Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association

g. Economic Study of the Tax Savings produced by the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters. Cost savings of volunteers to the State of Indiana. Cost savings at the local level broken down by township levels, done by property tax percentages. Then shared by senate and house district levels at the state to show tax savings of the elected areas.

h. Went over cost savings study and highlighted costs and savings in the booklet from the study.

i. Representatives from Resolution Economics presented on what is really looked at when developing a cost saving study to create study from what a run will cost a department or make the fire service run for the state.

Ron Roy brought up discussion on U.S. Census and what communication percentages were released with computers in homes and access to broadband in leading into how to recruitment of departments. Also brought up cultural diversity within the Census for marketing and recruiting.

Cares Act money-obtaining funds from program to recover from covid. There has been individual festivals to recover costs and found record numbers but there is concern that there will be a decrease in funds once attendance interest decreases. Found that there were

issues with obtaining the Cares Act funds due to the lack of filing paperwork from departments. Look into department of emergency management to find funds.

Illinois State Fire Association  
a. Health and Welfare added to the state mission. Created state green program for decon after Hazmat. Once online training is completed, there is product donated to the department for that decon program to initiate and promote the fire service.

b. Spoke on annual conference and longest running fire college in their state. Partnered with fire college and summer training programs. Also brought up getting younger people involved with fire service.

c. Illinois firefighter's health and wellness paperwork ability to be completed in house again. Also has tire program for firefighters so they can buy them at the government rate. Has the Illinois Rifle Association as a partnered member.

d. Utilizing fire academy and regional training grants to pay for members to attend to training and conference attendances.

e. Has small equipment program for fire departments to apply for monies to obtain equipment.

f. Creative Entourage is going to partner to create a membership survey and find out participation with the association and providing newer benefits fit to membership. Need to have a brand and style guide. Direct mail and social media and marketing video to recruit. Sending out annual report to membership to show cost of business to membership. When showing recruitment videos maybe look into movie theatres to

run videos for lower costs.

Legislations updates  
NVFC Action Alerts  
North Carolina- cancer insurance bill, attempting to coverage for career and volunteer. 36-month disability benefit. Trying to increase annual pension for higher pension holders due to year of services.

PTSD getting benefits for LODD deaths in suicide incidents from traumatic incidents. Washington state is allowing services to submit a blanket claim from incident that is followed for their lifetime of the personnel in workers compensation to cover services for the traumatic event or LODD event. There is confusion as to what the rules are for coverage. National Fallen Firefighters Foundation follows PSOB rules and there is not much coverage currently on this.

Recruitment who is actually leading the department recruitment for your department? Is it the right person? Where is the place you are recruiting? Why are you recruiting?

a. Marketing to membership or recruitment in the areas that need to recruitment.

b. "Make me Firefighter" program

c. Washington state receives sponsorship from local breweries with promotions and sponsorship to support association, in response to advertising who is giving advertisement or sponsorship promotions?

d. Recruit New York program- having one day where fire departments open their firehouses to recruit members to their departments.

e. Using fire prevention week to create interest for recruiting to departments. Getting the departments into the public eye and making sure the volunteers are recognized.

f. Recruitment table at schools with a peer-to-peer base.

g. Making sure that there is a person specifically assigned to this job. Also monitor applicants to make sure that they are a benefit to the department. Research as to why members are leaving the department when they leave. Who is in leadership.

National Fallen Firefighters Foundation

Sean spoke on purpose of foundation, memorial services for 2020 and 2021. Ceremony will be closed to general public; 1000 visitors will be allowed to attend.

California Casualty  
Spoke on member outreach during covid. Sent out direct mailers to help with recruitment and got great response rates. Field marketing managers are back into field and bringing back interest.

a. Held virtual and in person meetings

a. Provided member benefit information, new members, academy/cadet and training meetings

b. Digital communications e-newsletters, e-blast, social media, banner ads, web content, and web links.

a. Using QR codes again which will send those members to links to information

c. Held education webinars and consumer tips

a. Developed multiple different webinars that are 15-20 min in length to teach topics, i.e., emergency essential kits, wildfire prep and protection, renters do's and don'ts, bike safety tips. All free and available online.

d. Gave industry information, home safety

a. Provided article links to blogs on website as guest bloggers, "influencers in the field"

e. Community programs

a. Trainings from virtual conferences for industry specific leaders from industry leaders and sponsors

b. Wanting to provide more support in behavior and mental health areas

f. Have digital media advertising available as thank you to be mailed out to assist with marketing

Savvik Group

Non-profit buying entity that allows for promotion of organizations and in return will get money returned. All programs are at no cost to organizations that are members. They do all the work and customize to your organization. They give 1/3 of what they make back to the organizations they serve. [www.savvik.com](http://www.savvik.com) to check out more information.

a. Air gas, medical, Zoll, Stryker products available.

b. Individual perks to individuals. 5.11 clothing supplies

Nebraska

Received a \$1.5 million grant for recruitment and retention. Plan to use it for fire dept. physicals and if the member passes the physical, they will receive money from the grant. Also adding to AD&D program.

Day 2

Plan to attend conference in Ohio for 2021.

Vendor Presentations:

FirstNet- Created by Congress in 2012 from the 9/11 incident, to create a nationwide public safety broadband network. Coverage is provided through AT&T. Only those who are credentialed in the services are allowed to have access to the network. Should not cost more for the subscriber to obtain the services. If we have any needs from app, coverage, they can look at idea and attempt to create something to reinvest into the service industry.

VFIS- Working on Cancer Legislation and has Lobbyists working on writing legislation and funnel back to departments and states to assist with bills and laws. Has online course academy that can provide CE hours to department members. Also has a bank of SOP and SOG generalized that allows for departments write their own with a guideline to follow. [www.responderhelp.com](http://www.responderhelp.com) allows for a "google" in emergency services, researched and published documents and expert information to users. Anyone can use this program.

RT Emergency- has ESIP,

Provident, and fire pack that they partner with for insurance needs.

Provident Insurance- provide volunteer, career, combination, and emergency medical responders with multiple programs. Fire plus (fire trucks, buildings, cyber crime insurance), critical illness and cancer, AD&D, term life, and accident and health services. First Responder Assistance Program (FRAP) 24/7 hotline for help with mental health services. Stress, grief, depression, addiction, family conflict, provides income replacement, family assistance and financial protection. 24/7 AD&D Services on and off duty. FirePlus Academy- 24/7 access to online courses for fire and EMS, meets training mandates, can work with training coordinators, can also track training and credentialing, NFPA based courses.

Cancer Coverage:

South Carolina- started coalition to build foundation to create bill and eventually law for cancer for firefighters. Placed into governor budget as a health benefit. Has taken 4 years to build and create. Eligibility- continuous member for 5 years of a department, and then separated for 10 years from the department but must remain a resident of the state during that time. Covers 10 sets of cancer, \$20,000 one-time payout, then \$12,000 out of pocket reimbursement, and then \$75,000 beneficiary payment due to death from the cancer. Only good for the first cancer diagnosis. Cancer death benefit.

Has been working on peer program that derives from the Charleston 9 incident. Focused on Mental Health bases. Working on 15 years that has legislation to get funding for the services.

Indiana: Has a bill for career firefighters but there is nothing for volunteers. Currently working on a benefits package to bring to the legislation.

Washington: working on Cancer and PTSD research, looking at wildland firefighters and women in the fire service specifically new into the industry. For them it is hard to track due to short length of service or changes in demographics.

New York: has bill passed but working on more to get funding to cover the bill. In order to get coverage, they have to pay premium. It is an unfunded mandate for departments to have coverage.

State Presentations:

\*Washington: Long-term and Short-term disability benefits for worker's comp cases. LODD Benefit, must be linked back to services. Has a PSOB benefit, must pay into it and have length of services to receive. Can start to pull after age 60. Loosing about 250 volunteers a year and down to about 10,000 members.

Jack Bomar: Cancer bill passed with wanting to have city or governments paying the bill. There was no funding provided

- see 'summit' - page 18

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# 'summit'

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for this bill.

### Recruitment:

a. Safer Grant for recruitment, RecruitNY had about 2,500 new members, had a tuition reimbursement program.

b. Washington worked with chief's association not much of change seen. Resident programs provide housing, pay for college education and have them fill in shifts when needed on departments. They are contracted and pay back if they leave before finished.

c. Illinois looking at grant to hire 2 firefighters per day at minimum wage with benefits and using mutual aid and box alarm assistance to provide daytime coverage for fire departments. Using cadet programs as the best recruitment tools for them to increase numbers. Started "Special team", bringing older members out of retirement that are a support system to the active members to complete tasks.

d. New York: has a Recruitment and Retention team approved by the government legislation that has a 25-person team that consists of leaders in the state in which they are supposed to meet and brainstorm on how to retain.

e. Nebraska: has used grant for advertising, then \$4400 scholarships for education, then getting physicals and once physically fit they would receive gear in which was funded from the Safer Grants. They also used a grant writer that cost them \$1500 to write the grant and have

obtained it 10 different times.

f. South Carolina: used on call system and duty crews that would be supplied a vehicle for their shift to respond from home but then declined so they opened up their area, required to complete (7) 12-hour shifts per month, 3 are unpaid and 4 are paid shifts. They have 5 man staffed station, volunteers hanging out at station. Expanding their area to allow for more people to cover from outside areas of coverage assists with the Duty Crew shifts.

### Communication

a. Washington: Changed to gross zone for communications.

b. South Carolina: dues from Dec.- Jan. 15 and hold benefits until March 30 then they are suspended unless paid. Certified letters are sent out to give them past due notification

c. New York: using DocuSign to obtain documents and certifications in online version.

### Marketing

a. New York: uses multiple social media resources to give out information. Uses e-blast to send out information

b. Washington: registered with a mailing house to send out information because it is cheaper for postage, email verifications when subscribing to info is another way to collect email addresses. Website store to assist with marketing, this allows for people to be directed to the page to find store and then we can offer discount in store to receive email address and sell merchandise and market the organization. QR code t-shirt to market more use now than used to be.

c. Benefits to younger

members: gym memberships, childcare, discounted events, and tickets.

d. Delegating specific times to certain events, i.e., training from 7p-10p. with specific topics preselected

e. Getting into the schools to get high school students to provide community service hours, also getting them the education so when they turn of age they can test and transition into a full-time member

### Technology in the fire service

What new ideas or progress is the fire service seeing.

- Drones used for fighting fires

### Grant writing

- Obtain letters from legislators to go with the grant, also include them after receiving the grant in press releases.

- New York has a grant writer they pay to complete their grants.

- Check with corporate foundations to see if there is money available to obtain for your department. Create that corporate partnership to develop a relationship. Also need to check when donation windows are open so you don't miss.

- Need to read the grant guidelines to understand what is needed for the grant to actually write it to what the funding is wanting to see or hear for your grant funding.

- Need to be a 501c3 to get funding, use a CPA to assist with obtaining grants or getting the 501

What can we do to provide how to retain and recruit:

- College tuition, getting into high schools to get volunteers early on. Providing EMR to students. Providing year-round fire

prevention

- What are we doing to entice youth to want to become involved instead of joining

another service?

- What can we do to retain those who are now involved?



The Volunteer Firefighter Alliance is a national 501c3 not for profit organization committed to assisting Volunteer Fire Departments and Volunteer Firefighters across the country. The VFA was started in 2014 by a group of volunteer firefighters. The original mission was to provide local East Tennessee fire departments, schools and civic organizations with free fire prevention materials. The VFA realized, while fire prevention is a very important service that fire departments provide, a lot of times buying fire prevention materials can be a very hard sell at budget time. When a department has to choose between diesel fuel and fire prevention books, diesel fuel generally wins.

After a couple of years of working with fire departments and local organizations, the VFA started getting requests to receive fire prevention materials from outside of East Tennessee. In 2018 the VFA decided to expand its program services nationally. Since then, the VFA has provided over 1.5 million pieces of fire prevention materials across the United States. In Indiana alone, the VFA has provided over 82,000 pieces of fire prevention materials to over 150 fire departments and civic organizations.

Over the last few years, the VFA has expanded their program services to include a free ten thousand dollar Line of Duty Death Benefit to all volunteer firefighters that sign up; a volunteer firefighter recruitment program; a volunteer firefighter appreciation campaign; and a firefighter cancer prevention program. All of these programs are free to volunteers, the VFA has never and will never charge volunteer firefighters or departments for their services.

Another important program service that the VFA has developed is the Firefighter Cancer Alliance. Several studies have come out in recent years showing a greater risk to firefighters for certain types of cancers. The VFA has developed a firefighter cancer prevention classroom packet to help educate firefighters and departments to the

- see 'vfa' - page 19

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**'vfa'**

(continued from page 18)

risks and preventive measures of firefighter cancer. Through the programs tab on the VFA website, you can access the Firefighter Cancer Alliance program. From there, you can request to teach a class at your fire station, once the VFA receives your request they will mail you out a class packet for the amount of students you provide. The class packet contains a poster, student books, handouts and access to an instructor powerpoint. Several departments across Indiana have already received these materials, to help get the message out about firefighter cancer.

Your department can learn more about the Volunteer Firefighter Alliance and sign up for its programs at [www.volunteerfirefighteralliance.com](http://www.volunteerfirefighteralliance.com). or email them at [info@supportvfa.org](mailto:info@supportvfa.org)

**Hoosier Burn Camp Auction a success!**

Hoosier Burn Camp Auction 2021 is in the books and thanks to everyone who donated items, bided and purchased items, it was a great success!! all because of all the caring people who come ready to support the Hoosier Burn Camp and everything that they do throughout the year for the kids. Your kindness will never be forgotten. This year's auction raised \$5,408.50.

We also wish to thank the following for their donations:

- District 7 - \$250.00
- Greene County Firefighter's Association - \$2,418.92
- McCulloch Fire Department - \$5,000.00

– Topeka Volunteer Fire Department - Lagrange County - May 16th commercial structure fire. Firefighter Galen Bontrager was severely burned. In his name the Topeka, Shippshewana and Lagrange Fire Department and District 6 donated \$7,000.00.

In August 2019 Lawrence County Firefighters Association donated \$1,351.00.

Thank you to everyone that you do to ensure that these kids are taken care of year round!!

Diane Harrison

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 1

- submitted by Marshall Neese, district chairman



## Munster Fire Department awards given on August 31, 2021



### 25 year pins

(Pictured left to right) – Andrew Horbeg, Dave Strbjak, Marshall Neese - District 1 chairman, Jeremy Reef - Public Relations, Robert Collins. Two that were not at the meeting – John Harrigan and Sylvester Porras.

**February 2022 deadline:**  
**January 5, 2022**

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



### 50 year awards

Two 50 Year House Resolutions were given to: David Pelc, retired fire chief and Kenneth R. Keilman.

Pictured (left to right) - Jeremy Reef - NWPR, David Pelc (50 year), Marshall Neese - District 1 chairman, Kenneth Keilman (50 year).

David Pelc received the MacQueen Award.

### I.V.F.A. Convention "2020 II" Registration Form Tropicana Hotel & Casino Evansville June 15-17, 2022

**Pre-registration Fee: \$90.00 per person** (after June 1, 2022 price jumps to \$ 100)  
Price includes dinner Wed / Thurs / Fri & Breakfast Fri

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ IVFA District: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department / Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse or Guest (if registering): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print as you want it to appear on your badge)

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

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

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

Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ( Make check payable to Convention 2020 )

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

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(3 digit-back)

MAIL COMPLETED FORM AND REMITTANCE TO:  
Convention 2020 II - Registrations  
1526 Reiter Drive  
Evansville, IN 47712

For Information please call Steve Anderson at (812) 425 – 0727 Date received \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Headquarters:** Tropicana Hotel Evansville Address:  
421 NW Riverside Dr. (47708)

contact information: Phone #: 812 – 433 – 4000 Web site [www.tropevansville.com](http://www.tropevansville.com)

*Please wait until after the first of the year to make hotel reservations. They are in the process of a software update.*



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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 2

- submitted by Paul Watland, district chairman



## 100th anniversary for Kouts



A new IVFA clock was presented to Kouts VFD for their 100th Anniversary of service to the community of Kouts. Accepting the clock is Jeremy Gettler, Chief of Kouts VFD.



Jerry Liston, IVFA vice president, presents Jeremy Gettler, Kouts VFD Chief, the Meritorious Service Award from the State Fire Marshal's office for their 100th anniversary of service to the town of Kouts.

### 2020 MacQueen Award winner



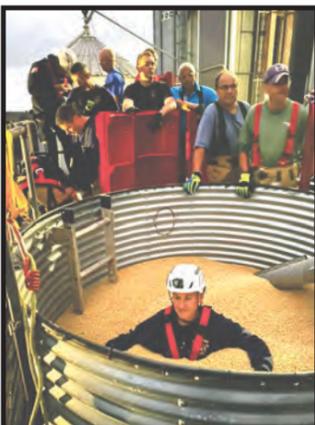
Tom Fentress, Keener Twp. VFD Chief, was the 2020 District 2 MacQueen Award winner. The award was presented by District 2 chairman Paul Watland and IVFA vice president Jerry Liston.



### 2021 MacQueen Award winner

Matt Kodicek, (at left), a member of CPFR, was presented with the District 2 MacQueen Award for 2021 for his involvement and starting Ben's Blue Bags. The award was presented by Paul Watland, District 2 chairman.

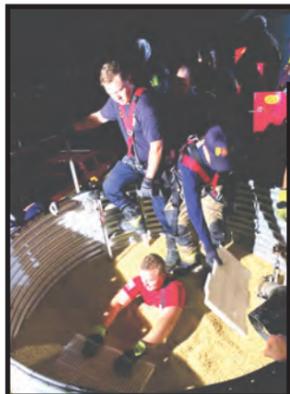
## Training held for grain bin rescue emergencies



This week (week of October 6, 2021) Crown Point Firefighters from all three shifts and the paid on-call members trained on grain bin rescue emergencies.

Thank you to Safety/Risk Coordinator Josh Kandel from Co-Alliance for providing the training prop and EJ Farms of Crown Point for supplying the soybeans and their farm for our training site.

Also, thank you to Co-Alliance Corp. for donating funds to CPFR to purchase six new class three rescue harnesses for the CPFR/MABAS 207/Indiana District 1 USAR Technical Rescue Team.



# IVFA offering shirts, caps and jackets for sale

## ORDER FORM

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**ORDER INFORMATION**

Quantity	Description	Size	Price Each	Total Purchase
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	Denim Shirt Short Sleeve - <b>\$25.00</b>			
	Wind Shirt - Black - <b>\$35.00</b>			
	Tee Shirt - Gray - <b>\$15.00</b>			
	Tee Shirt - Navy - <b>\$15.00</b>			
	Black Sport Shirt - <b>NEW - \$25.00</b>			
	Sky Blue Golf Shirt - <b>NEW - \$25.00</b>			
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	Olive Green Golf Shirt - <b>NEW - \$25.00</b>			

**SHIPPING INFORMATION**

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

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**VISA**       **MASTER CARD**

**CREDIT CARD NUMBER**

**EXPIRATION DATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **CVV #** \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_  
(As Shown On The Credit Card)

**DATE OF ORDER**

\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO IVFA**

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 3

- submitted by Robert Uryga, district chairman



## Members awarded 25 year pins



Chief Mark Ritter of Kingsbury V.F.D. receives his 25 pin from Chairman Bob Uryga of District 3.



Noble Twp. V.F.D. Chief Scott Klemz receives his 25 year pin.



### *MacQueen Excellence Award recipient*

District 3 Secretary/Treasurer Rick Bradford receives the MacQueen Excellence Award from Chairman Bob Uryga.



Some of the workers at the FDIC

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## The Volunteer Firefighter Alliance

is a national non-profit organization dedicated to assisting  
**Volunteer Fire Departments**  
and **Volunteer Firefighters.**

### We would like to assist you through:

**Free Fire Prevention Materials:** Your department can request free fire prevention activity books at [www.freefireprevention.com](http://www.freefireprevention.com)

**Free membership with 10k LODD Policy:** You can sign up at [www.freelood.com](http://www.freelood.com)

**Free recruitment public service announcement:** Your department can sign up at [www.nvffc.org](http://www.nvffc.org)

**Free firefighter cancer prevention resources:** [www.firefightercanceralliance.org](http://www.firefightercanceralliance.org)

For more ways that the Volunteer Firefighter Alliance can assist your department please visit us at [www.supportvfa.org](http://www.supportvfa.org)

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 4

- submitted by Jean Smith, PRNE / Elton Schafer, district chairman



## Earns 50 Year Gold Card



District 4 Chairman Elton Schafer presented John Hardy, Cleveland Township Fire Department, his 50 Year Gold Card with District 4 Miss Flame Cheyanne Rolston, Jean Smith, PRNE.

## Clock presentation



District 4 Chairman Elton Schafer presented Chief Richard Newman, Cleveland Township Fire Department their New Fire Station dedication clock with District 4 Miss Flame Cheyanne Rolston, Jean Smith, PRNE.

*Happy Holidays!*

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 5

- submitted by Jean Smith, PRNE / John Grolich, district chairman



## Ten year pin awarded

Jean Smith, PRNE presented Anthony McNeal, Silver Lake Fire Department his 10 Year IVFA Service Pin. Congratulations.

**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!!**  
**2022 convention**  
**June 15 - 17**  
**Tropicana Hotel & Casino - Evansville**

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

- submitted by PRNE Jean Smith, Gerald Sprague, district chairman



## Ten and twenty-five year pins awarded



District 6 Chairman Jerry Sprague presented Tammy Garman her 10 Year IVFA Service Pin.

Mack Grobis, Co-Chairman, District 6 Chairman Jerry Sprague, Chief Cory Garman, Tammy Garman, PRNE Jean Smith.



District 6 Chairman Jerry Sprague presented Jim Aaron and Mike Bartley their 25 Year IVFA Service Pin.

Mack Grobis Co-Chairman, District 6 Chairman Jerry Sprague, Chief Cory Garman, Jim Aaron, Mike Bartley, Jean Smith, PRNE.

## New Haven Adams Township Emergency, The Ultimate First Responder Event



One of the American Flags displayed at Ultimate First Responder Event.

**February 2022 deadline is January 5, 2022**

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 6

- submitted by PRNE Jean Smith, Gerald Sprague, district chairman



## 1885 steam engine



1885 Ahrens Fox Steam Engine drafting and pumping. Arcanum Ohio Fire Department.



Future Firefighters learning proper techniques.

## Junior Firefighter combat challenge



IVFA Auxiliary Vice President E.J. Smith and IVFA Auxiliary District 6 Chairman Kimberly Smith working the Junior Firefighter Combat Challenge.



### New Haven-Adams Township Fire Department Auxiliary Junior Firefighter Combat Challenge

On September 11, 2021, during the "Emergency! The Ultimate First Responder Event" (formerly the New Haven Fire Muster), the New Haven – Adams Township Auxiliary hosted its 5th annual Junior Firefighter Combat Challenge. This is an obstacle course for children aged 2-10 designed to mimic the obstacle course challenges that the firefighters do during their own combat challenges. There is a cone run, a tunnel crawl, a sled hammer, a door kick, and a giant teddy bear to pull to safety. In previous years there was also a giant tire flip. The auxiliary is always looking for ideas to add obstacles to the course to make it different for the children every year. Proceeds from this event benefit these same children throughout the year. The auxiliary uses proceeds to purchase candy for the department's Halloween giveaway downtown. The auxiliary also hosts a Christmas party for department children every year that these proceeds fund. Any additional proceeds go toward feeding firefighters on long calls. This event is also run during New Haven's Canal Days festival. (Submitted by New Haven Adams Township Auxiliary President Heather Williams)

February 2022

deadline: Jan. 5, 2022

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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 6

- submitted by Gerald Sprague, district chairman



## Bay to Brooklyn bicyclists visit Ligonier

Bay to Brooklyn Bicyclists visited Ligonier on their way to Brooklyn, New York. This group was riding bicycles from The San Francisco Bay to Brooklyn, New York in honor of the 343 Firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001. This year was the twenty year anniversary of that fateful day. Their goal was to reach Brooklyn and participate in the activities at the Memorial on September 11th, 2021.

The Ligonier Fire Department is proud that this group stopped at their Station in 2011 and again in 2021. They spent two days on August 28th and 29th at the Ligonier Fire Department and departed on their bicycles on August 30th to head for Brooklyn. – Photos by Jeremy Weaver, Chief of Ligonier Fire Department.



# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 7

- submitted by Richard Sorg, District 7 secretary - Sam Bisel, district chairman



## Ten and twenty-five year pins awarded

## 2020 Angel Award recipient



Aaron Hartman (left) and Shane Elzroth (middle) of Warren VFD receive 10 year pins from District 7 Chairman Sam Bisel. (Picture provided by Kaitlyn Bisel.)



Ed Sorg, Poe VFD, is presented his 25 year pin by District 7 Chairman Sam Bisel at the Warren district meeting. – Picture by Kaitlyn Bisel.



Becky Sorg, Poe VFD, receives the 2020 Angel Award. Award was presented by Diane Harrison, IVFA Angel Award Committee, at the Warren district meeting. – Pictures by Kaitlyn Bisel and Becky Sorg.

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

## The Tradition Carries On!

## 2021 MacQueen Award



In attendance at the July 19th District 7 meeting, hosted by the Warren VFD, were 3 of the 4 generations of the Sorg Family from Poe VFD.

Pictured are Bev Vanlandingham - IVFAA Recording Secretary, Mort Sorg, a 68-year member of the IVFA, Ed Sorg, Becky Sorg - the 2020 Angel Award recipient, Richard Sorg - District 7 Secretary, Terry Lockwood and (not pictured) Will Lockwood.

Herman Sorg, the first generation, was a charter member of the Poe VFD. (Picture by Kaitlyn Bisel.)



District 7 Chairman Sam Bisel presents the 2021 MacQueen Award to Berne City Clerk/Treasurer Gwenn Maller. She was nominated for her continued support of the fire service for over 20 years. (Picture provided by Sam Bisel.)

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 7

- submitted by Richard Sorg, District 7 secretary - Sam Bisel, district chairman



## 25 years as Department's fire chief!!



Poneto Vol. Fire Dept. held a presentation dinner on March 2. It was to surprise Chief Len Smith for serving as the department's chief for 25 years! Assistant Chief Tyler Moser presented Chief Smith, a 3rd generation firefighter,

a bronze bell to commemorate the occasion. District 7 Chairman Sam Bisel was also in attendance to offer additional congratulations. (Information and pictures provided by Susie Smith.)

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8A

- submitted by Rex Maynard, district chairman



John Metzger receives his 50 Year Gold Card and pin.



Jonesboro Fire & Rescue would like to thank Sheraton Volunteer Fire department for the donation of the use air packs.



A place to be "Just One of the Kids"™

# Support Hoosier Burn Camp

DISFOPR 8230

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

- submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, district chairman



## Departments participate in 9/11 Honor and Tribute Walk

**Jay County 9/11 Honor and Tribute Walk.** They walked from Redkey to Portland 11.74 miles. They paused 6 times in Remembrance of the timeline that morning. There were walkers from the Redkey VFD, Bryant VFD, Pennville VFD, and the Portland Fire Department. Pastor McRandy Davis surprised all the walkers with a dog tag.



Toby Swartzentruber from the Bryant Volunteer Fire Department walked the whole route in full gear in the Jay County 9/11 Honor and Tribute Walk.



Montpelier Volunteer Fire Department all ready with their display for 9/11 tribute.

On 9/11/2021 the Salamoniam Volunteer Fire Department was presented an Honor and Sacrifice Flag during the Jay County 9/11 Honor and Tribute Walk. Pictured from left to right are: Gabe Pinkerton, grandson of Lloyd Wright, Rich Theurer, Ronnie LeMaster, Lloyd Wright, and Austin LeMaster, son of Ronnie LeMaster.



Pictured are all the walkers for the Jay County 9/11 Honor and Tribute Walk. They walked from Redkey to Portland.





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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8B

- submitted by Lloyd E. Wright, district chairman



## 25 year pin awarded

On August 14, 2021 Chairman Lloyd E. Wright presented Jeremy Harris from the Saratoga Ward Township Fire Territory with his 25 year pin. Pictured from left to right are Jeremy Harris and Lloyd E. Wright.



## Farmland's Model T

Farmland Volunteer Fire Department's Model T at the Greenfield Village at the Henry Ford Museum.



## Participants in 5K run

Eaton Volunteer Fire Department Cadets getting read to participate in a 5 K run hosted by the Eaton Church of God.

**February 2022**  
**deadline: January 5, 2022**

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

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 9A

- submitted by Pascal Moon, district chairman



## Ten year members

10 year members of Burlington Fire.



## 2021 MacQueen Award winner

MacQueen 2021 Todd Trent, Flora Fire Department.



**25 year member**  
25 year member of Burlington Fire.



**Attention All Departments!!**  
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**Don Cushman II - PREC**

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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

- Submitted by John Ray, district chairman



## Williams awarded Fire Marshal's Meritorious Service Award; Also receives 50 Year Gold Card



Pictured on Left: William Clark of the Flat Rock Citizens Volunteer Fire Dept., Flat Rock, IN receives the Fire Marshal's Meritorious Service Award from Wade Walling, Indiana Dept. of Homeland Security, Academy Administrator, representing the Indiana State Fire Marshal's office.

Pictured on Right: Sons, Daniel and Amos Clark, both 25 year members of the Flat Rock Citizens Volunteer Fire Dept. award their Dad William, his 50 year Gold Card.

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11-B

- Submitted by Jason Ryan, district chairman



### FPARK PINS

Left to Right  
Jason Ryan (Chairman 11B), Chad Moore (25 Year Pin), Don Klinge (25 Year Pin), Neil Costello (25 Year Pin), Brad Hoke (25 Year Pin), Brian Laney (25 Year Pin).

## Richard Wood recipient of 50 year Gold card and pin

Left to Right  
Jack Giles (Vice Chairman 11B), Richard Wood (Fillmore Fire Dept.)

50 year pin and Gold Card were presented to Richard Wood at September 18, 2021 at Fillmore Fire Department by representative Jack Giles, Vice-Chairman of District 11-B Indiana Volunteer Firefighter Association. Richard has served the Fillmore Community for 61 years, 50 years in the fire service and is still active on the Fillmore Fire Department.



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

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 12

- Submitted by Larry Curl, district chairman



## Larry Bruner receives 2021 MacQueen Excellence Award

At a District 12 meeting recently in Jamestown, Larry Bruner, past District Chairman of District 12 was presented the 2021 MacQueen Excellence Award by Gary Davis from MacQueen Emergency and Larry Curl, District 12 Chairman. Also pictured is Larry Bruner's family who was able to surprise him by being at the presentation. "Thank You" Larry Bruner for all you have done for the IVFA.



## Receives Gold card and Proclamation

Chief Harry Green from the Wayne Township Fire Dept (Marion County) received his life time membership Gold Card and his Proclamation for having served 50 years as a member of the fire service.

Presenting to Chief Green is District Chairman Larry Curl and Vice Chairman Jim Leaver at a meeting of the Wayne Township Tailboard Riders quarterly gathering.

## Smoke damages health!

All smoke contains harmful pollutants, some of which are toxic. These pollutants can harm your family's and neighbors' health and the environment. This pollution doesn't stay on your property. It drifts away and other people suffer. Because smoke is usually close to the ground, it is breathed in before it disperses. In addition, fires and smoke often create a nuisance and can destroy property when they get out of hand.

Perhaps you know someone who has asthma, emphysema, bronchitis, pneumonia or allergies. They'll tell you how smoke makes breathing especially difficult. Older people, those with lung problems, and pregnant or nursing women may suffer more serious health effects than other adults.

Repeated exposure to smoke can also cause developmental problems in children and increase the chances of getting cancer. Even healthy children and adults are affected by small particles, molds, fungi and chemical pollutants in smoke.

### Open burning can cause . . .

- Eye, nose, and throat irritation;
- Lung irritation and congestion;
- Shortness of breath and coughing;
- Stomach or intestinal upset;
- Headaches or memory loss;
- Skin irritations or burns;
- Eye damage



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The paper is tabloid size, published quarterly.

Quarterly issues are printed for February, May, August and November. **ALL COPY MUST BE** in the hands of Printco or Buz Koehler **BY THE 5TH OF THE MONTH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH OF PUBLICATION.**

### ALL AD SIZES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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2 COLOR (RED AND BLACK).....	\$235.00
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Ads are to be in one of the following formats:

- pdf
- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Publisher
- Corel Draw X18

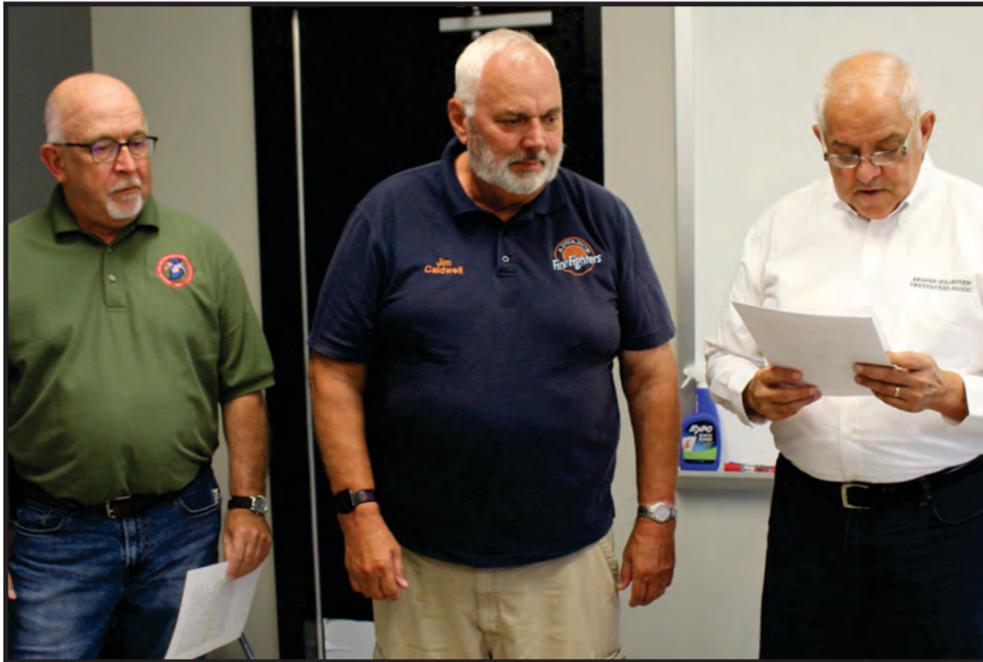
Full color ads: CMYK format - 300 dpi

Black and white ads: Grayscale - 300 dpi

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

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 12

– Submitted by Larry Curl, district chairman



## Chief Caldwell receives lifetime membership for 50 years of service

Chief Jim Caldwell with the Advance VFD receives his lifetime membership for 50 years of service. Pictured with Jim is his family who was able to surprise him by being at the meeting without his knowledge and presenting his lifetime membership is District 12 Chairman Larry Curl and IVFA Vice President Jerry Liston.



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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13A

- Submitted by Nancy Cushman - Don Cushman, district chairman



## Ten and twenty-five year service pins awarded

On October 5th, District 13A Chairman attended the monthly meeting of the Shirley Volunteer Fire Department and presented service pins to two members. Receiving pins were:

- 25 year pin to Jason Maynard (not pictured).
- 10 year pin to Larry Smith.



## MacQueen Award recipient

On Tuesday, October 5th, District 13A Chairman, Don Cushman, attended the monthly meeting of the Shirley Volunteer Fire Department to present the MacQueen Award of Excellence to Chief Andy Ebbert.



District 13A Chairman Don Cushman, presented a 25 year pin to Michael Rude at Fountaintown Fire Department. Pictured are Don Cushman, District 13A Chairman, Michael Rude and Dean Tyner, Chief of Fountaintown Fire Department.

## 10 year pins

(Pictured at right) - On September 20, District 13A Chairman presented 10 year pins to Bobby Miller and Adam Elrod. Also receiving pins, but not pictured were Ross Tappy and Jacob Gardner.



## 25 year pins

On September 20, District 13A Chairman Don Cushman presented 25 year pins to Chris Nodine and Kristoffer Gustin of the Pendleton Fire Department. Also receiving a 25 year pin but not pictured was James Stewart.

## Ten and twenty-five year pins

On Tuesday, September 14th, District 13A Chairman Don Cushman, presented a 25 year service pin to Shawn Fine and 10 year service pin to Brandon Whitfield at Fountaintown Fire Department.

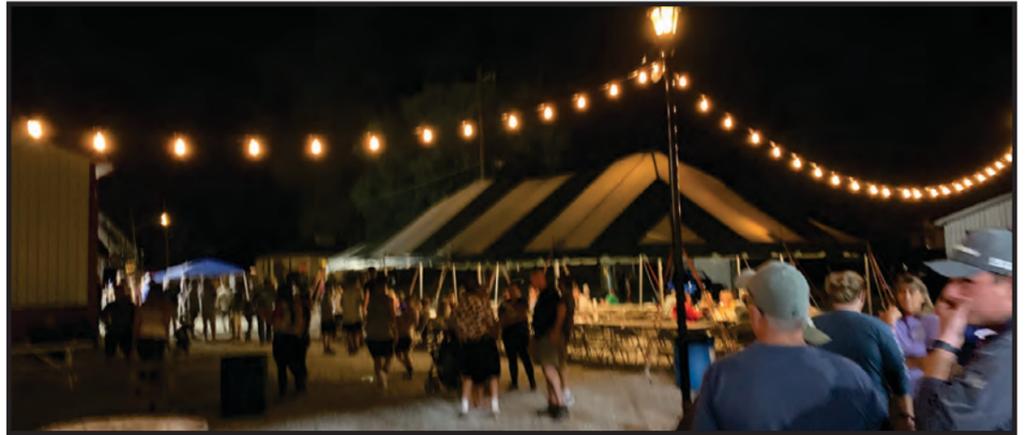


# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 13-B

- submitted by Anthony Smith, district chairman

## Second annual Firefighter's Festival held

West College Corner and Liberty Fire Departments hosted the 2nd annual Firefighter's Festival. Basket raffles, beer garden, car show, DJ and food.



## NEWS FROM DISTRICT 14

- Submitted by Rick Cannon, district chairman



### Vienna Twp. VFD awards presented



- Awards were:*
- John Derarakalian 50 years
  - Wayne Williams 25 years
  - Joe Lucas 25 years
  - Tyler Williams 10 years
  - Kenny Williams 10 years
  - Jeff Case 10 years
  - Chris Barnett 10 Years

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN AN IVFA HISTORY BOOK?**

# 75 anniversary

As the 75th anniversary of the IVFA approaches, we are trying to determine the interest level in a book covering the years 1997 - 2021. Your input will help us decide if this is a feasible project; and if there is interest in reprinting the 50th anniversary book.

Please e-mail your name, phone number, department and which book(s) you are interested in to [prwc@ivfa.org](mailto: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



*New sign for Vienna Twp. Fire*

## *Jim Ennis receives 50 year Gold card*



Chairman Rick Cannon with 50 year Gold card recipient Jim Ennis and wife Dinna Ennis.

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17A

– submitted by Sam Emery, district chairman



## MacQueen Excellence Award

## *Receives 10 year pin*



Timothy Yochum, Steen Twp., being presented award with Chief Charles Moore looking on.



Loogootee VFD members Jeremy Huebner and Ethan Mathies are presented their 10 year pins with Chief JD Flynn in attendance.



## Earns 25 year pin

J. D. Flynn, Chief of Loogootee VFD, is presented his 25 year pin with wife Lori, daughter Mary and father Danny in attendance.



## 50 year Gold card

Paul R. Baker, Lyons VFD, receives his 50 year Gold card and pin with Chief Larry Waggoner in attendance.

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
**DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS AND THE ABUNDANCE OF NEWS FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE, NOT ALL ARTICLES/PICTURES WERE PRINTED IN THIS ISSUE. LOOK FOR THEM IN THE FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE OF THE IVFA PAPER. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING!!**

## 25 year pin

Jennifer Mendenhall receives her 25 year pin from Marie Emery, District 17A chairman.



# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17B

- Submitted by Tammy Wright, district chairman

## 10 year pins awarded

Michele Knoy and Austin Brown of Shawswick Township Fire were both given their 10 year pins.



17B PRSW Steve Nolan, Vice Chairman JD Ramsay, Secretary/Treasurer Asia Ramsay, Chairman Tammy Wright, State Treasurer Luke Kluender, State President David Israel.



## Marshal Fire first annual golf scramble

29 teams entered and the team of GDIT won. (L to R Chris Walls, Chief Jason Lewis, Tim Aldrich, Billy Phillips and Tyler Kelley). GDIT was also a primary sponsor for the event! There's a ton of pics on department Facebook page, too.



## Grandson accepts 50 year Gold card for Grandfather John Kelp



50 year Gold Card and pin John Kelp; accepting was his grandson Nick Kelp.



Michael Leavitt, Chief of Cordy Sweet Water, 10 year pin.

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

## 25 year pin awarded

Mike White of Cordy Sweet Water, 25 years.

## 10 year pin



## 10 year pin



Shawn Fosnight, Brown County (Nashville) – 10 year pin.

# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

- submitted by John C. Smith, district chairman



## 2021 Dist. 18 MacQueen Emergency Excellence Award Presented

At the District 18 meeting of 15 July, the 2021 MacQueen Emergency Excellence Award was presented to Mark A. Fischer, Chief of the Schnellville Vol. Fire Department. Keeping the award a secret until the last, District 18 Chairman Smith recounted some of "this year's winner's" accomplishments. Fischer's 30 plus years of service to his department, his involvement with the committees that secured new trucks and the current fire station. Serving as the department's Training Officer, and Assist. Chief. Fischer is an active member of the Dubois Co. Trainers Assoc. and was instrumental in the formation of the Dubois Co. Hazmat Response Team and serves as its Co-Team Leader. He is very involved with his church, serving of the Church building & grounds committee and the Parish Council. He and his wife Sharon have raised two sons, one of whom is employed in the emergency services. Fischer was caught completely off guard by the award and was further surprised when members of his family came out of the crowd to join in the presentation. Pictured with Fischer are IVFA State Vice-President Jerry Liston and IVFA State President David Israel.



September 2021

Dear Firefighters of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighter Association:

My name is Johnny Butler, and I'm writing to you representing Honor and Remember - Indiana chapter. I would like to introduce Honor and Remember/Honor and Sacrifice and its purpose to those who may not know about the organization.

The Honor and Remember flag was created due to the death of U.S. Army Cpl George Anthony "Tony" Lutz II, KIA 29 December 2005, while on patrol by a sniper in Fallujah, Iraq. His Father, George Lutz, as part of his grief met with many families of our fallen military heroes to let them know they were not alone. In talking with the families, they wanted to know two things: Their sons and daughters did not die in vain and that they would not be forgotten! Mr. Lutz went on to create the Honor and Remember organization with a **Mission**:

To perpetually recognize the sacrifice of America's military fallen service members and their families. The organization pays tribute to all military lives lost, not only while "serving on active duty but also as a result of their service". Military deaths in all wars or conflicts and all branches of service from our nation's inception are recognized. The four pillars of our foundation: Establish, Educate, Present, Comfort.

Launched on Memorial Day 2008, the Honor and Remember Flag was established as a **specific and dedicated symbol of remembrance**. We educate those around us by visiting Veteran Service Organizations, presenting at memorials and as invited guests across the state. With its unique design, the flag can be personalized and presented to the family as a Thank You from a grateful nation, and to comfort them knowing their loved one will not be forgotten.

Since 2008, Mr. Lutz had been asked if the Honor and Remember flag could be presented to families of those who have given their lives in public service to their communities from a line-of-duty death. Even though many First Responders are former military or currently serving in the Reserves or National Guard, the answer was that Honor and Remember was created as a specific symbol for those **"Military service members who have died while serving, or as a result of serving"**

Over the past thirteen (13) years, we have seen an increase of inquiries from families about First Responder LODD's. As Americans, we realize that those who give their lives to preserve both our freedom and security through service in public safety must be individually recognized. As an organization, Honor and Remember Inc. has primarily been focused on our military-oriented mission. Nevertheless, our primary goal is to promote an overall message of honor toward all who unselfishly serve to protect our way of life.

It is with this same sincere intention that the Honor and Remember organization, working in conjunction with public safety professionals, designed an additional distinct, targeted and meaningful personalized symbol: the **Honor and Sacrifice Flag**: Unveiled in 2016 on the 15th Anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks, this flag was developed specifically to honor those fallen in all communities of public safety.

**The Honor and Sacrifice Flag** allows all Americans to express a specific statement of thanks in memory of those who heroically gave their lives and to those family members who grieve their loss. Our mission of honor will never waver and it is our hope that those public servants who stand in the gap preserving the rule of law and our personal safety will never be forgotten.

Flag Symbolism:

The **Blue Field** symbolizes nationally the law enforcement community.

The **Purple Field** respectfully signifies mourning for a loss in the firefighter community.

The **White Field** recognizes the purity of heart within each individual who serves and protects and is willing to face each day's challenges regardless of risk.

The **Black Star** represents those who wear the distinctive badge including sheriff and marshal services.

The **Red Maltese Cross** recognizes all who have fallen in the emergency response communities.

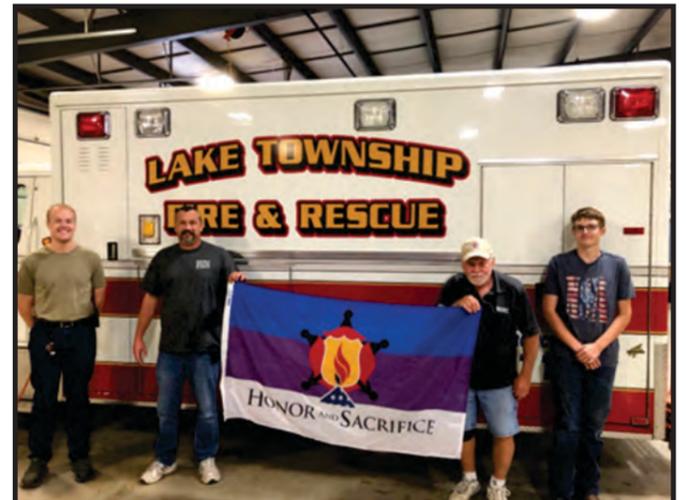
The **Gold Shield** recognizes all law enforcement and other public safety representatives who wear the shield, including EMT and have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Gold reflects the value of the life given.

The **Folded Flag** signifies the final tribute to an individual life that a family has lost for the sake of others.

The **Flame** is an eternal reminder of the spirit that has departed this life yet burns on in the memory of all who knew and loved the fallen hero.

**"We HONOR Their Selfless Service and Remember Their Individual SACRIFICE"**

Tiffany and Matthew Hall, a LODD Child (FF Sidney A. Hall 5 Jan 2007 Upland, Indiana), the 1<sup>st</sup> Recipient of a personalized Honor and Sacrifice flag in Indiana:



Fire Chief Jon Conley and Silver Lake / Lake Township Volunteer FD receiving a flag in September 2021.



Fire Chief Kevin Gelbaugh, Winona Lake Volunteer FD and the family of Mitch Titus, September 2021.

*Thank you for what you do each and every day, for when that tone comes thru and you have to leave your family, friends, work to go help those in need.*

Please contact us if you have questions and if you would like to discuss the sponsorship of a personalized flag for a LODD. If you or your department would like to purchase a screen print flag to fly at your home or headquarters, you may contact me or order directly from the national website below (click on "Store" tab).

Sincerely

Johnny Butler

Core Runner, Indiana Run for the Fallen 2018 - present  
574.527.5625

CC: Donald P. Finnegan

Honor and Remember Indiana – Director

Indiana Run for the Fallen – Run Director

Email: [Inchapter@honorandremember.org](mailto:Inchapter@honorandremember.org)

National website: <https://www.honorandremember.org/>

Indiana Run For the Fallen: [www.inrunforthefallen.org](http://www.inrunforthefallen.org)

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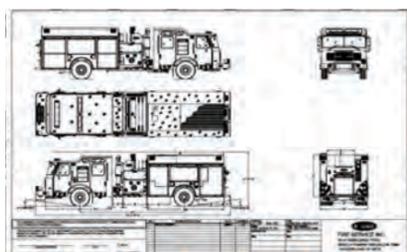
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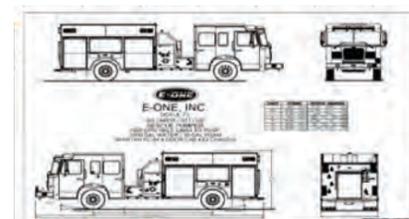
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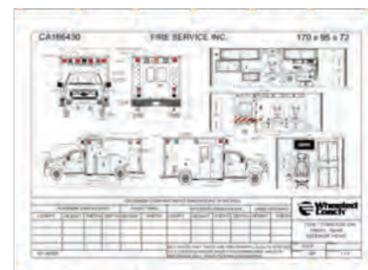
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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 19

- submitted by Ben Sieverding, district chairman



## 50 year Gold card member



Pictured (left to right:) East Enterprise Chief Jeff Darling, 50 year Gold Card member Don Covington, State IVFA president David Israel, District 19 Chairman Ben Sieverding.



## 2020 MacQueen Award

Pictured left to right: District 19 Chairman Ben Sieverding, PR Southeast Ed Scheele, Mark Driver, East Enterprise VFD 2020 District 19 MacQueen Award winner, IVFA State President David Israel.

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

## 2021 MacQueen Award

Pictured left to right: Retired Sunman Chief Bill Craig - 2021 District 19 MacQueen Award winner, Sunman Chief Tommy Burns, District 19 Chairman Ben Sieverding.



**Editor's Note:**  
 Due to the abundance of articles/photos for the November issue and space limitations, not all articles/photos were printed in the paper. Look for them in the February 2022 issue. Thank you so much for your understanding!

**Please support the advertisers!!**

**PLEASE NOTE: FEBRUARY 2022 DEADLINE IS JANUARY 5, 2022**

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<b>b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)</b>	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0	0
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<b>c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))</b>		13483	13715
<b>d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)</b>	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
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<b>e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))</b>		301	340
<b>f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)</b>		13784	14055
<b>g. Copies not Distributed (See instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))</b>		0	0
<b>h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)</b>		13784	14055
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