



# 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)

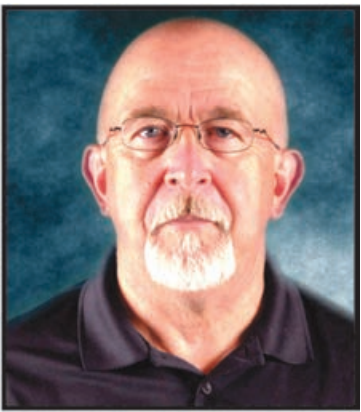
VOLUME 73 NO. 4

Organized and Trained for the Protection of Life and Property

NOVEMBER 2024

## From The President

Jerry Liston



### Greetings

Wow! Where has 2024 gone? Soon to be 2025 and with the start of 2025 there will be new leadership leading the Association. Ross Emery and Larry Curl will be President and Vice President, respectively. I know we will be in good hands going forward as these two leads the Association into the future.

Since this is my last article as your President, I want to take a moment and reflect on my two years as President of this wonderful Association and the highs and lows that come with it.

The lowest of all must be the number of Line of Duty deaths that we have seen and suffered across the State over the last two years or when you learn a firefighter has taken their own life by suicide. The last one really hurts when there is so much help available to help them through whatever is causing their issue or problem. We need to do a better job at being observant, and that includes me, at identifying the signs, symptoms and offering or getting those individuals help or assistance

they need.

The highs have been meeting with so many people across the State that have a passion for the fire service in our great State, as I do. This includes state officials, state legislators, fire chiefs, firefighters, spouses or significant others, organizations, individual people, family and friends, and career personnel and departments, and everyone in between that all work together to better the fire service in the State of Indiana. We are truly lucky to have this working relationship amongst everyone. It amazes me when attending a department fundraiser or event and seeing the turnout of people supporting their department.

The 2025 Annual Meeting or better known as State Convention will be in Madison at Clifty Falls State Park. The Convention will be held in June and hosted by District 14. Rick Cannon and his committee is working hard planning it to ensure all attendees have a good time in 2025. If you never have attended a state convention, please consider it you just might have a good time. Follow the website at [ivfa.org](http://ivfa.org) or google IVFA for more information on the upcoming convention in June of 2025.

I will close with a huge THANK YOU to my wife, Maureen, my two daughters, Emilee, and Brenna and all my extended family, friends and fellow IVFA Officers for supporting me through these last two years as President. It was an honor to serve in this position and I am FOREVER GRATEFUL for having this opportunity.

Best Regards and Stay Safe!  
Jerry



## I.V.F.A. Benefits

### BRIDGEPORT SCHOLARSHIP

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

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

years and with the last year, being paid on time.

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

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

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

### I.V.F.A. SPECIAL LICENSE PLATE

The I.V.F.A. plate is to recognize those that are members of the Association and to allow their communities to know who among them are volunteer firefighters.

This began back in 1990 when the Association petitioned the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for a special plate.

We were granted the special plate and 1991 was the first year of issue.

The Association began distributing the plate forms required to get the plate.

To cover the cost of administering the paper work associated with the plate we attached a \$5.00 fee.

After close monitoring of the postage and printing costs, it was decided to use any fees



left over to assist in the maintenance of the Bridgeport Scholarship Fund.

Our members deserve to be recognized by everyone and we are proud to offer this special plate to our members.

Please support this program by continuing to purchase the I.V.F.A. Plates.



## Determined to Serve, Determined to Protect

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



# February 2025 DEADLINE IS January 1, 2025



# November 2024 “Political” talk



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 behind the scene we are actively engaged in preparing for the next session of the Indiana General Assembly. I think this is probably the calm before the storm, just a matter of speaking Don’t forget...

**ITS ELECTION TIME... FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF THOSE RUNNING FOR STATE OFFICES YOU CAN COPY AND PASTE THIS SITE IN YOUR SEARCH BROWSER**

[https://www.in.gov/sos/files/Candidate\\_List\\_Abbreviated-09.11.24.pdf](https://www.in.gov/sos/files/Candidate_List_Abbreviated-09.11.24.pdf)  
**REMEMBER VOTING IS NOT ONLY YOUR PRIVILEGE BUT YOUR**

### RIGHT. DON’T PASS IT UP

So by the time you read this addition 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.

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 fund raising. 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 addressed many times about our need to retain and recruit members so let’s get **SERIOUS**.

What can, should, might we do to encourage our members to stay and continue to serve their communities and their departments for a much longer time: we have addressed some type of a benefit, is that what will cause a 10,15,20, year member to extend his / her time serving their community? If so lets do all we can to try to get that “benefit” for our members. The big question is what is that benefit. I have heard from some of you but if you would like to weigh in simple send me an email addressed to [lobbyist@ivfa.org](mailto:lobbyist@ivfa.org) and in the subject box just type BENIFITS.

As well what do we need to being doing to encourage new and younger folks to become members. What do we have to

encourage them, to make them want to be a part.

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

Think about it, all the time that we dedicate to fund raising could drastically reduce the time we take away from our families with training, 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.

We have a printed document, a study that shows we save out taxpaying citizens over \$4.5 Billion annually because of our service and after five years we are going to revisit that savings number as in five years the cost of everything we buy, use, and need has gone up drastically so we are attempting to see what our cost savings are after five years.

We are fast at work on a legislative package for 2025 and welcome your input, thoughts, concern 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.

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 2024

Be safe and thank you for your services

Larry Curl  
IVFA Lobbyist



## EVERY SECOND COUNTS.

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**THE INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER**

(USPS 262-480) Published February, May, August and November. All articles to be published should be in the Editor's office no later than the 5th of the preceding month.

**Publisher:** Jack Kerney, P.O. Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724  
**Editor:** The Paper of Wabash County  
 606 N State Rd 13 - Wabash, IN 46992  
**Phone** 260-563-8326 - e-mail: IVFD@hurdmedia.com  
 Periodicals postage paid at Indiana Volunteer Firefighter's Association, P.O. Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724, and additional mailing offices, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1897. Subscription part of dues. Please send all correspondence to:  
**The Indiana Volunteer Firefighter**  
 c/o Sherri Chaney - 573 S. Western Heights Loop - Monticello, IN 47960  
**Phone:** 574-870-5101  
**Email:** IVFD@hurdmedia.com

Postmaster send all address changes to:  
**I.V.F.A. Central Office**  
 P.O. Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724/info@ivfa.org

**INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER OFFICERS**

**President - Jerry L. Liston**  
 P.O. Box 83  
 Cicero, IN 46034  
 Cell : (317) 385-2309  
 E-mail: president@ivfa.org

**Vice President - Ross Emery**  
 11350 S. Brookview Ct.  
 Haubstadt, IN 47639  
 Cell : (812) 459-4062  
 E-mail: vicepresident@ivfa.org

**Secretary - Leighanne Ellis**  
 4034 N. 150 E.  
 Camden, IN 46917  
 Cell (765) 564-0256  
 E-mail: secretary@ivfa.org

**Board Chairman - David R. Israel**  
 2070 S. Co. Rd. 700 W. - Greensburg, IN 47240 Cell: (812)593-1564  
 Home: (812) 663-8952 - E-mail: boardchair@ivfa.org

**Treasurer - Luke Kluender**  
 61 Sherwood Lane  
 Bedford, IN 47421  
 Home (812) 508-8476  
 E-mail: treasurer@ivfa.org

**Sergeant-At-Arms - Wm. Brent Bush**  
 8504 S. SR 71  
 Dana, IN 47847  
 Cell (812) 243-0140  
 E-mail: sgtatarms@ivfa.org

**Chaplain - David Elick**  
 725 North Canal Street  
 LaGrange, IN 46761  
 Cell : (260) 336-2246  
 E-mail: chaplain@ivfa.org

**PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTORS - ELECTED**

**Northwest - Jeremy Reef**  
 4780 S. 20 W  
 Cutler, IN 46920  
 (765) 237-7414  
 e-mail: PRNW@ivfa.org

**East Central - David R. Israel**  
 2070 S. Co. Rd. 700 West  
 Greensburg, IN 47240  
 Cell (812) 593-1564  
 E-mail: PREC@ivfa.org

**Northeast - Sam Bisel**  
 6734 E. 1100 S.  
 Keystone, IN 46759  
 Cell: 260-849-0193  
 Email: prne@ivfa.org

**West Central - Larry L. Bartlow**  
 P.O. Box 12  
 Montezuma, IN 47862  
 (765) 245-2125 (Home)  
 e-mail: PRWC@ivfa.org

**Southwest - Steve Nolan**  
 4012 State Road 446  
 Heltonville, IN 47436  
 (812) 834-6384 [Home]  
 Cell (812) 583-4592  
 E-mail: PRSW@ivfa.org

**Southeast - Ed Scheele**  
 1161 Sawmill Rd.  
 Batesville, IN 47006  
 (812) 934-2779 (Home)  
 Cell (812) 212-5766  
 e-mail: PRSE@ivfa.org

**DISTRICT CHAIRMEN AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**District 1 - Marshall Neese**  
 4908 Cleveland St.  
 Gary, IN 46408  
 (219) 688-8272 (Home)  
 e-mail: district1@ivfa.org

**District 2 - Tom Fentress**  
 P.O. Box 248  
 DeMotte, IN 46310  
 (219)798-3371  
 e-mail: district2@ivfa.org

**District 3 - Les Jensen**  
 7150 S. 450 E.  
 Knox, IN 46534  
 (574)806-6970 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district3@ivfa.org

**District 4 - Elton Schafer**  
 17601 Shively Rd.  
 Bremen, IN 46506  
 (574) 292-2143 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district4@ivfa.org

**District 5 - John Grolich**  
 411 Franklin St.  
 Plymouth, IN 46563  
 574-933-3352 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district5@ivfa.org

**District 6 - Mack Grobis**  
 221 S. Poplar Street  
 Lagrange, IN 46761  
 (260) 585-3213 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district6@ivfa.org

**District 7 - Richard Sorg**  
 11218 N. 600 E.  
 Ossian, IN 46777  
 (260)438-0580 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district7@ivfa.org

**District 8A - Rex Maynard**  
 312 E. 12th Street  
 Jonesboro, IN 46938  
 (765) 517-1937 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district8a@ivfa.org

**District 8B - Tony Dalrymple**  
 6582 S. Stateline Road  
 Portland, IN 47371  
 (260) 251-1415 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district8b@ivfa.org

**District 9A - Pascal Moon**  
 8181 East St. Rd. 16  
 Twelve Mile, IN 46988  
 Cell (574) 725-5351  
 e-mail: district9a@ivfa.org

**District 9B - Randy Denton**  
 301 S. Milton St.  
 Rensselaer, IN 47978  
 (219) 866-4166 (Home)  
 (219) 964-1717 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district9b@ivfa.org

**District 10 - John Ray**  
 9303 N. Co. Rd. 1050 E.  
 Hope, IN 47246  
 (812) 343-5304 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district10@ivfa.org

**District 11A - Ralph "Pete" Taylor**  
 721 E US Highway 40  
 Brazil, IN 47834  
 (812) 448-3232 (Home)  
 (812)236-0955 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district11a@ivfa.org

**District 11B - John "Scott" Peebles**  
 260 N. Hawthorne Street,  
 P. O. Box 734, Dana, IN 47847  
 765-826-1739  
 e-mail: district11b@ivfa.org

**District 12 - Larry Curl**  
 3047 N. Raceway Road  
 Indianapolis, IN 46234  
 (317) 605-6669 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district12@ivfa.org

**District 13A - Don Cushman II**  
 233 Hamilton Street  
 Fortville, IN 46040  
 (317) 440-3920 (Home)  
 e-mail: district13a@ivfa.org

**District 13B - Anthony Smith**  
 504 W. School Street  
 Centerville, IN 47330  
 (765) 439-0911 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district13b@ivfa.org

**District 14 - Richard Lee Cannon Sr.**  
 1714 Schindler Drive  
 Charlestown, IN 47111  
 (502) 523-2665 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district14@ivfa.org

**District 15 - Paul Campbell**  
 4814 Martin Road  
 Newburgh, IN 47630  
 (812) 573-9473 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district15@ivfa.org

**District 16 - Nick Faulkenburg**  
 5462 E. Valeene Rd  
 Marengo, IN 47140  
 Cell: 812-572-1721  
 e-mail: district16@ivfa.org

**District 17A - Sam Emery**  
 779 E. Harvest Church Road  
 Bloomfield, IN 47424  
 (812) 384-8748 (Home)  
 e-mail: district17a@ivfa.org

**District 17B - Tammy Wright**  
 740 Glendale Way  
 Bedford, IN 47421  
 (812) 545-1758 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district17b@ivfa.org

**District 18 - Nicholas Waninger**  
 308 E. Locust St.  
 Chrisney, IN 47611  
 (812) 686-3772 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district18@ivfa.org

**District 19 - Ben Sieverding**  
 1485 W. Tanglewood Road  
 Versailles, IN 47042  
 (812) 621-1150 (Cell)  
 e-mail: district19@ivfa.org

**District 21 - Blaine B. Butler**  
 6113 West Old Rd 28  
 Frankfort, IN 46041  
 Cell: 765-242- 2217  
 e-mail: district21@ivfa.org

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

Paul Holcomb  
 207 Conner St.  
 New Albany, IN 47150  
 Home (812) 945-4111 -  
 Cell (502) 664-5736  
 E-mail: pholcomb@ivfa.org

Steve Anderson  
 1526 Reiter Drive  
 Evansville, IN 47712  
 Home (812) 425-0727 -  
 Cell (812) 480-5014  
 E-mail: sanderson@ivfa.org

David R. Israel  
 2070 S. Co. Rd. 700 West  
 Greensburg, IN 47240  
 (812) 663-8952 (home)  
 (812)593-1564  
 E-mail: disrael@ivfa.org

Tim Deckard  
 13419 E Edwards Road  
 Solsberry, IN 47459  
 (812) 325-5636 (cell)  
 E-mail: tdeckard@ivfa.org

Larry Ketchem P  
 .O. Box 6, 117 Chestnut St.  
 Montezuma, IN 47862  
 (765) 245-2482  
 E-mail: ldketchem@yahoo.com

Jack Kerney, Sr.  
 2412 S. E. Browning Rd.  
 Evansville, IN 47725  
 (812) 867-2641 (Home)  
 E-mail: JKerney@ivfa.org

L.E. "Buz" Koehler  
 6225 Swallow Dr.  
 Harrison, MI 48625  
 Cell: (219) 866-1128  
 E-mail: lkoehler@ivfa.org

Jack Zeeks, Jr.  
 6147 State Road 37  
 Mitchell, IN 47446  
 Home (812) 849-2606  
 Cell (812) 583-6187  
 E-mail: jzeeks@ivfa.org

Richard "Dick" Glant  
 619 South East St.  
 Bremen, IN 46506  
 (574) 546-3509  
 E-mail: RGlant@ivfa.org

Willie M. "Mitch" Parish  
 P.O. Box 15  
 Francesville, IN 47946  
 Billy J. Sunday  
 2256 White Tail Run  
 Warsaw, IN 46582  
 (765) 468-6412  
 E-mail: bjskofish2@gmail.com

James C. "Jim" Parker  
 403 N. 11th Ave.  
 Beech Grove, IN 46107  
 (317) 783-9293

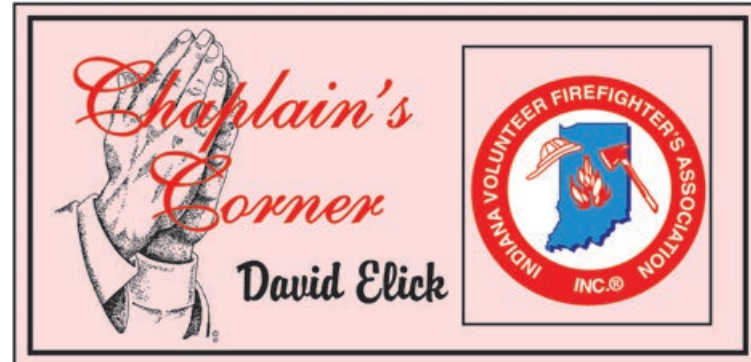
Norman L. Crocker  
 13432 State Road 23  
 Granger, IN 46530  
 (574) 340-1663

**IVFA LOBBYIST - Larry Curl**  
 3047 N. Raceway Road  
 Indianapolis, IN 46234  
 Cell :(317) 605-6669  
 E-mail: lobbyist@ivfa.org

**HISTORIAN - L.E. "Buz" Koehler**  
 6225 Swallow Dr.  
 Harrison, MI 48625  
 Cell: 219-866-1128  
 Email: historian@ivfa.org

**MISS FLAME**  
 E-mail: MissFlame@ivfa.org

**WEBMASTER - Josh Reisert**  
 5817 Harmony Woods  
 Memphis, IN 47143  
 (502) 643-2114  
 E-mail: admin@ivfa.org



Greetings all. Summer is over, Fall is in full swing, and before long, the holidays and winter will be here before we know it. As we approach the holiday season, let's not forget the true meaning these celebrations are for.

Thanksgiving. A time to give thanks for all we have, and who we are. Christmas. The celebrations of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Another opportunity to give thanks. Sometimes it's really easy to lose sight of the true meaning of these holidays. There are all of the activities, parties, and celebrations that can distract and take away, or tend to diminish what is truly important.

Take a little time this year to slow down and "smell the roses" as they say. Savor the smells of the holiday dinner cooking, wafting through the house. Enjoy the company of family and friends as we gather together, and never lose sight of God's many blessings which are all around us.

Along with the associate chaplains, I would like you wish all of you a very happy Thanksgiving, a joyous Merry Christmas, and a safe, prosperous start to the new year.



**ASSOCIATE CHAPLAINS:**

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

**PREC - BRAD SCOTT** - 209 E. HENRY ST., FARMLAND, IN 47340 - Cell: (765) 278-0562 - E-mail: bcad03@yahoo.com  
**BRAD BRANDT** - 8415 N. COUNTY ROAD 100E., SPRINGPORT, IN 47386 - Cell: (615) 540-0263 - E-mail: pastorbenbrandt@gmail.com (Districts 8A - 8B - 10 - 13A - 13B)

**PRSW - JADON HINKLE** - 8538 WEST U.S. HWY. 150, WEST BADEN, IN 47469 - Cell: (812) 508-4378 - E-Mail: jhinkle68@gmail.com (Districts 15 - 17A - 17B - 18)

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

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

**PRNE - DAVID ELICK** - 725 NORTH CANAL STREET - LAGRANGE, IN 46761 - Cell: (260) 336-2246 - E-mail: dave\_lick@yahoo.com (Districts 4 - 5 - 6 - 7) **JOSH WATTS**, 2875 N IN-3, LAGRANGE, IN 46761 - (260) 577-0752 - josh.watts@shieldsunderfire.org

**I.V.F.A. CENTRAL OFFICE**  
**P.O. BOX 4797 - EVANSVILLE, IN 47724**  
**877.606.4832 ~ 812.867.3293**  
**812.867.3471 - FAX**  
**STATE SECRETARY**  
**LEIGHANNE ELLIS**  
**4034 N. 150 E. - CAMDEN, IN 46917**  
**PHONE - 765-564-0256**



# From The Vice-President

Ross Emery



Greetings! Fall is here, the leaves are starting to turn, and temperatures are cooler. Soon we will be gathering to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas with our friends and family. Let's take the time to enjoy these special moments and create new memories. Well, here we are in the home stretch of 2024, and we begin to look forward to 2025. We are only about 4 months away from the deadline to submit nominations for the 2025 awards, I know I sound like a broken record but please nominate. At your next department, Dist. County chiefs meeting, wherever you are look around the room and I bet you can find someone who goes a little bit above and beyond every department has someone that is deserving of an IVFA award. To find a list of the

IVFA awards, how to nominate and qualifications for each award go to [www.ivfa.org](http://www.ivfa.org) click on the association tab and click awards, it will list all the IVFA awards, click an award it will give you a description, who is qualified and a link to nominate. All awards nominations are due by February 1st, 2024. Another great benefits the IVFA provides is the Bridgeport Scholarship, each year the IVFA provides 4 \$1,500 scholarships, for information on the Bridgeport Scholarship program visit the IVFA website, you can find the information and instructions on applying under the awards section on the website.

I know we have spoken about the OSHA rewrite for some time now, at this time everything is still in a holding pattern. This is a very important issue for the volunteer service. The IVFA will continue to monitor this situation and work with local, state, and national elected officials and organizations.

I have enjoyed the last 2 years as your Vice President and look forward to serving as your State President in 2025, we have a lot to do to continue to improve the fire service, and work to take care of our membership.

In closing I want to thank each and every one of our members for their service and dedication to their communities, and from my family to yours a joyous Holiday Season. If there is anything I can do to help, please reach out God Bless, and Stay Safe

Ross Emery  
IVFA Vice President



# From the Historian's Desk

L.E. "Buz" Koehler  
Historian



## Historian Report, November 20, 2024

As we continue to gather items for the History of our organization, I started thinking about the program we already have for departments to tell their story.

How many of you know the History of your departments?

If you would like to tell the story of your department and can put it in about 300 words and 2 photos in jpg format, you can do so by submitting the article to me at: [lkoehler@ivfa.org](mailto:lkoehler@ivfa.org). Each article will be reviewed and placed in the newspaper.

Please give your contact information in case we have questions.

The 75 Year History book is now in the final design process. It will need to go through the proofing to a final proofing, then it will be printed.

Shortly after the proofing it will be printed, bound and readied for shipping. This whole process will put the shipment of the books into the new year. I apologize for this long delay. Thank you for your patience.

L.E. Koehler  
IVFA Historian



2024 Miss Flame Grace with members of the Montpelier Harrison Twp. Vol. Fire Dept.



2024 Miss Flame Grace Lyle from District 1



Northwest PR Director Jeremy Reef, 2024 Miss Flame Grace Lyle and IVFAA President Christina Reef



2024 Miss Flame Grace Lyle from District 1 with District 8B Miss Flame Hannah Armstrong.

## A Word from Miss Flame

Can you believe we're almost done with 2024? This year has been a rollercoaster and I

absolutely have enjoyed the ride that the year has surprised me with, and it's all thanks to you. As I prepared for the convention this past June, I genuinely thought I would go as District 1 Miss Flame to honor my family and to meet new people, and I have. As I hold the title for IVFA Miss Flame, I've met so many incredible people as I travel across the state of Indiana and have seen different ways of life from my own. I want to thank


those who have invited me and have given me the opportunity to meet you and your departments. As my reign continues please feel more than welcome to invite me to any to all events that you have coming up, I ask to please give me at least a week to two week notice ahead of your event so I can plan accordingly. Have a great rest of your year!!

Grace Lyle  
Miss Flame 2024




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Departments are entitled to 1 (one) free 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.



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# PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS

## Public Relations Director East Central David Israel



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

WE THE OFFICERS OF THE IVFA WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US THE IVFA. HOW DID YOU LIKE BEING ABLE TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD BY CALLING THE CENTRAL OFFICE. NOT SURE WHAT WAS GOING. WE HAD LOT OF DEPARTMENTS NOT GETTING THEIR PACKETS. MAY JUST HAVE TO HAVE CHAIRMAN AND PR'S HAND DELIVER THEM NEXT YEAR.

I KNOW SOMEONE IS GOING TO BLOW ME SOME SMOKE FOR NOT ATTENDING ALL MY DISTRICT MEETINGS. I BELIEVE THERE ARE A FEW OF US THAT HAVE A REGULAR DAY JOB PLUS SIDE JOB. DO YOU KNOW

WHAT SEASON IT IS RIGHT NOW HARVEST SEASON. DO KNOW WHAT SEASON IS IT NEXT YEAR LATE MARCH, EARLY APRIL 2025 IT IS CALLED PLANTING SEASON.

SAM AND I TRY TO COVER EACH OTHERS DISTRICTS WHEN WE CAN. THIS LAST MONTH NEITHER ONE OF US COULD MAKE THE MEETINGS. WE BOTH CALLED OUR DIST. CHAIRMAN AND SAID SORRY. WE WORKING IN THE FIELDS TODAY. HOPE YOU UNDER STAND.

Some of the District Chairman in PREC have made changes on how, when and where there meetings are with Training on Saturday Mornings and a short Meeting. That's right 10AM on Saturday Mornings (8B) will be having Saturday morning meetings and a training meetings in 2024. You don't have to look them up. They are already posted on the IVFA Calendar. You don't have to wait to find out when they are, there on line. Where THE IVFA CALENDAR ivfa.org. DIST. 8B IS GOING TO STEP BACK AND SEE IF WE CAN LOOK AT THIS A DIFFERANT WAY TO HIT THIS HEAD ON. YOUR DIST. CHAIRMAN WILL BE IN TOUCH.

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

THIS WINTER I AM GOING TO TYPE ALL MY DEPARTMENTS EMAIL ADDRESSES IN AND THOSE

ADDRESSES THAT COME BACK, YOUR CHAIRMAN AND I ARE COMING TO YOUR YOUR DEPT. MEETING.

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

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

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

We have Twp Trustee's that don't even have a tax base to be able to fund a Fire Dept BY LAW.

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

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

District Chairman need two contact people from each Dept. so we can communicate to see what you need. We all have more going on in our lives than we can handle. Hey Ron and Bill THANKS FOR LETTING ME PICK ON YOU TWO IN 2024? BUT DON'T WORRY MAYBE WE CAN TALK RON

INTO MAKING IS FAMOUS LASAGNA, Maybe Ron will let us ride in that new to him Jeep to the store. Thanks for the Memories Phil.

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

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

IVFA Convention Chairman District 14 Clifty Falls, Madison, IN

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE CANCER SURVEY ON THE WEB SITE: ivfa.org. WE REALLY//REALLY need you to have more of you to go to the IVFA web site and fill out the Cancer Survey. THIS MIGHT BE OVER, GO TO OUR WEB SITE AND SEE IF IT IS STILL THERE AND FILL OUT THE CANCER STUDY.

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

ON BEHAVE OF PEGGY AND I, WE WISH YOU A WONDERFUL THANKSGIVING AND A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

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

See you at the next District Meeting.

PREC  
David R. Israel  
prec@ivfa.org  
(812) 593-1564

## Public Relations Director Southeast Edwin J. Scheele



As I am writing this it is 90 degrees and very dry in Southeast Indiana. By the time everyone read this it probably will be cold and possibly some snow. We will be wishing for some of the warm weather. As the roads get bad be very careful. We don't want accidents and emergency responders get injured.

The state convention is June 18 – 21 at Clifty Falls State Park Lodge. I would like to have a 4 hour instructor refresher on Thursday June 19th. Come for the training and visit the vendors in the afternoon. This training is open to any instructor, you do not need to attend convention to attend training. I need to know if you are attending training, so I can let John Shafer know how many will be there. Text me at 812-212-5766. I am also working n other training possibilities. If anyone has any training they would like to see text me that also.

Have a safe winter season and hope to see everyone at the convention. Be sure to get your award nominations in.

Ed Scheele



# I.V.F.A. Benefits

## www.ivfa.org

The Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association was established many years ago to support the needs of Indiana's volunteer firefighters.

Throughout the years the IVFA has continued to grow in size, and continues to provide members with quality information on a wide range of various issues. Providing timely and useful benefits has also been one of our goals.

Having been "off-line" for almost a year, the IVFA returns "on-line" with the re-introduction and complete overhaul of the www.ivfa.org website. This site has several new features including:

- Department Listing page, which allows departments to post current department information in a directory (i.e. address, contact name, phone, e-mail, website addresses, etc.)
- IVFA Officers, District Chairmen and Public Relations page which provide you the necessary details to contact them (address, phone, e-mail).

- Training Events Calendar that allows you to submit electronically your "open enrollment" training programs and courses to be held, including class description, location, dates, contact person(s), e-mail contacts, etc. This list would be maintained by date. Users can view what training is available in their area and how to contact the related "host" department to schedule people to attend.
- Events Calendar that follows the same structure as the Training Events Calendar. Having a fund-raiser, muster or other "public" event to raise funds? Then post it here so others can see and attend.
- For Sale page that provides space for departments to post "sale" items that other departments may be interested in purchasing (firefighting related only, not personal items), and sorry, but NO trucks, please.
- The Department Spotlight page

to provide special recognition to fire departments around the state. The "Spotlight" information would be provided by the department via e-mail, based on the number received, (along with pictures), would run on a monthly or quarterly cycle. Information is included in the site as to how to "nominate" your department.

- Forms page, which contains many of the forms used to submit information for the web-site, as well as the IVFA License Plate and Change of Information forms. Other forms will be targeted to be included soon as well.
- "Links" page to many emergency related websites, both at the state and federal levels.
- Finally, a Benefits Information page that describes the benefits you receive as an IVFA member.

While this provides a good starting point, there are many other ideas being considered for the site – such as, being

able to post some of the articles found in the newspaper version, along with, other special recognition pages for award winners, an advertiser/sponsor page that will provide links to many of the same emergency service vendors. Also a guest book, an Indiana map which pinpoints the locations of the departments who have submitted information, and special pages for Fire Schools and the IVFA convention.

But . . . we know that you may have ideas as well as to what you want to see on the site. We want your ideas, they can be e-mailed to the IVFA webmasters at webmaster@ivfa.org. Also, please note that NO information on any department will be posted without their consent, via use of one of the electronic forms or via e-mail.

The IVFA Website – another benefit to the IVFA and its members. www.ivfa.org



# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

## DISTRICT 1 REPORT



Marshall Neese

**IVFA District 1 Meeting  
22 AUGUST 2024 / 1900 HRS  
/ MUNSTER FD STATION 2**

### Attendees

District 1 chair - Marshall Neese  
Lobbyist/VP elect - Larry Curl  
Northwest PR - Jeremy Reef  
IVFAA President - Christina Reef

IVFAA Past President/Chairman of the Board - Carol Curl

### Notes

Meeting called to order by Marshall Neese  
Prayer led by Lake Ridge Chief Marvin Pyle.  
Roll call by Marshall.  
Munster Chief welcomed everyone, he talked about recent changes to the department and their addition of 2 new pieces of apparatus. They also had 3 retirees in attendance.

A motion was made for the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Larry Curl spoke about this year's convention. Larry mentioned the Jr. FF comp. And the 4 participants. Larry said they are the future of the volunteer firefighters.

Larry spoke the following topics.

State Fair agriculture news.  
#1 in duck production, #2 in popcorn, #3 in pumpkins, #4 in eggs

Larry asked what can the IVFA do for you?

Larry said we need to advertise more aggressively of what we are and what we do. People need to know we are volunteer more. We need a better standing with career departments and working together with unions.

The blue light law was mentioned to have been modified to include optics?.

Benefits for volunteers.  
How to encourage new younger members?. Tax break/credit as an option?

Illinois just passed for the first 10k to apply.

New OSHA rewrite. Write a letter with your concerns.  
OSHA zoom call is being held on November 12th. Watch IVFA website for future information.

Indiana next level jobs through IVY tech. State will pay for it.  
Cost saving report being redone from 5 days ago. 4.5 million being saved which is

20% of the budget.

State turnout gear program.  
March 25th the state house will honor 50yr members.

House bill 1454 county council to support volunteer departments. Departments have to ask for it.

Jeremy Reef spoke on the following.

The 2025 convention will be at Clifton falls. 3 delegate vote/reimbursement for mileage just over 200 miles on Waze.

Council survey August 30th last day.

A new phone app is coming soon. Ios already out.

### EMS runs

Miss flame was introduced and had a raffle offer. Munster won the raffle.

1 - 10yr pin given to Sean Gore from Munster FD

2 - 25yr pins Fredrick Hearman and Scott Milin, both from Munster FD

10 - 50yr coins given out to the following Munster FD members

- Richard Thomas
- Thomas R Milne
- John Peerbolte
- Ronald Milne
- John Shutka
- Jack Klee
- Kenneth Keilman
- David Pelc
- Steve Preslin
- Richard Scheffel

2 donations given from a uniform company 1 class A uniform to Jr. FF. 1 Munster winner, 1 Burnadette Cope.

Meeting Adjourned @20:38 hrs

Motion made by Chief Piptka, 2nd by Munster FD. motion carried

Next Meeting Date/Location  
December 12th, Liberty Township

## DISTRICT 2 REPORT



Tom Fentress - Chairman

### District 2 IVFA Meeting Highlights and Local News

Morgan Township Volunteer Fire Department hosted the District 2 IVFA Quarterly Meeting on August 15, 2024. The meeting began at 7:00 PM, with members participating in the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. State officers were introduced, and distinguished lifetime members were acknowledged. We were pleased to recognize Elias Zikkos, who was awarded his 25-Year Service Pin.

The meeting included a presentation by 1-800-Board Up,

followed by a robust discussion led by IVFA officers on several key topics:

### Old Business Highlights:

• Cancer Survey: The IVFA stressed the importance of participation in the cancer survey, with a goal of reaching 1,000 participants before the August 30th deadline. So far, only 458 members have responded. This survey has major implications for the presumptive cancer law.

• HB 1302 & HB 1456 Updates: HB 1302 mandates townships to submit their EMS coverage by July 2024, while HB 1456 involves the optional LOIT tax, with an inquiry into departments that have successfully implemented and collected on it.

• IVFA Mobile App: Beta testing for the new IVFA phone app is underway. It is available in the Apple Store, and the Android version is expected to be published soon, though further development is needed.

• OSHA Standards - NFPA 1956.156: A key focus was on the impact of new OSHA standards, including requirements for preplans of all buildings annually, establishing a RIT team before interior firefighting, and physicals that meet NFPA standards—costing \$1,200-\$2,000 per firefighter. Concerns were raised regarding the average volunteer fire department budget, which was estimated at \$291,000, this is far from the average budget for volunteer fire departments, which means these departments cannot meet these new requirements with their current budget. The IVFA has been advocating on behalf of departments by engaging local legislators and the General Assembly.

### New Business Highlights:

• The IVFA is seeking input on legislative priorities, including improvements to the presumptive cancer law, potential tax breaks, and establishing a statewide discounted rate for firefighter physicals.

• EMS Updates: The IVFA is striving for improved data reporting, particularly among fire departments, which currently have a reporting rate of 71%. Additionally, new NREMT standards and updates to Acadis for continuing education tracking were discussed.

### Events and Recognitions:

• The IVFA has been actively recognizing the dedication of its members across District 2. On August 14, 2024, Firefighter Lane Rodrick of Kouts Fire Department received his 10-Year Service Pin, and Fire Chief Jeremy Gettler was honored with the MacQueen Emergency Award.

• On July 30, 2024, at the Keener Township Volunteer Fire Department, several firefighters

were recognized for their service: Assistant Chief Michael Orsburn, Andrew Farina, Spencer Guerrero, and Bradley White each received 10-Year Service Pins, while Lieutenant David Kaminski was awarded a 25-Year Pin.

• Our hearts are with the family and friends of Morgan Township Firefighter Jimmy Polarek, who passed away unexpectedly. The District 2 IVFA leadership attended his funeral on September 9, 2024, to pay their respects and support his department during this difficult time.

### Upcoming Events:

• Registration is open for the Indiana Emergency Response Conference (IERC), scheduled for October 2-5, 2024, in Noblesville, IN.

• The IEMSA Crossroads Conference will take place from November 21-22, 2024, in French Lick, IN.

Next District 2 IVFA Meeting: The next meeting will be hosted by Lake Township Volunteer Fire Department on November 14, 2024. We encourage all members to attend to stay informed and engaged.

## DISTRICT 5 REPORT



John Grolich - Chairman

### I.V.F.A. 5th District Meeting October 9, 2024 Macy/Allen Fire Department Macy IN

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

### GUESTS

Chaplain Brandon Kuhnz  
The meeting was called to order by Chairman Grolich at 2030 hrs. with the pledge of a allegiance to the flag following. The meeting was attended by 7 firefighters representing 4

departments. September minutes were read and approved.

John advised that Providence Insurance will have a cancer clause next year. IVFA still working on getting cancer insurance.

Instructor update meeting in Argos and Bremen starting October 10.

Talked about several training opportunities.

Macy/Allen FD open house October 19, 1 to 4 PM. Fall Party October 26 at 4 PM.

Next meeting November 14, 2024 @ Noble Township FD. Station #2, 4181 South 150 West Wabash IN.

Meeting was adjourned at 2115 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Martin  
District 5 Secretary

## DISTRICT 6 REPORT




Mack Grobis - Chairman

Greetings, members of the Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association District 6! At the time I'm writing this, fall has crept up on us and harvest is taking off!

At our July meeting at the Ligonier Fire Department, we conducted our annual election of officers. We're pleased to announce that all our dedicated officers will continue in their roles for the current year. Thank you so much to Terry Bradner from 1-800-BOARDUP for providing us with a meal. Their company is so supportive of the IVFA!

I would like to extend a special thanks to Dave Elick for presiding over our September meeting at the Larwill/Richland Township Fire Department, stepping in when all district officers couldn't make it due to the weather event in the area.

The IVFA APP is ready for download in both the Apple App Store and Google Play. Be



**February 2025  
DEADLINE IS  
January 1, 2025**



# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

sure to download it and we will be pushing out updates from the Association and legislation updates as well through the app.

If you'd like for me to come to your Department's awards dinner/Christmas party and present years of service pins to your members, please get ahold of me ASAP!

God Bless you all, and be safe!

Mack Grobis  
District 6 Chairman

## DISTRICT 7 REPORT



Richard Sorg - Chairman

### Dist. 7 meeting July 15, 2024

Meeting called to order @ 1937 by Chairman Richard Sorg with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Richard Sorg presented a 50 yr. Gold card to Jerry Sager's, 25 yr pin presented to Bev Vanlandingham, and Suzie Lewis.

Roll Call answered by 11 Depts., 25 members, and 2 guests.

Dist. 7 had 3 deaths: Leo Martin Monroeville VFD. 50 yr member, Bob Jackson Markle VFD 50 yr member, and Greg Banta Geneva VFD 45 yr member.

Special guests this evening include Sam Bisel PRNE, and IVFAA President Christina Reef.

Sam took the floor asking everyone to please complete the cancer survey no matter age they need info for the study. They need 600 surveys to be completed.

He brought up the new OSHA standards 600 pages of new fire standards. Adding more training standards which is harder for Volunteer departments. New tires every 7 years on all trucks.

Larry Curl will be bringing up OSHA standards at the legislation. Larry will also possibly be bringing up more benefits for volunteers. Sam then asked for ideas to bring up with Larry for him to take to the next session.

Convention Recap: IVFA convention held a Junior Firefighter competition this year and they have been working on this for 7 years now.

Hoosier Burn Camp Auction Brought in \$19000.00 which will bring 11 children to camp.

Truck Raffle went to Dist 9A Rural CTR., they took the 30K instead of the truck. There are challenge coins available for \$20.

Betty Schroeder from Poe won the Lois Boaz award.

Congratulations Betty. The full list of award winners can be found on the IVFA website. We need to really try to nominate people for the awards in the IVFA and IVFAA, there are a lot of deserving people out there.

IVFA is trying to put a group together to focus procedures and policies. If anyone in your department is good at policy writing see Sam or Richard.

The Training Director spoke to keep track of inservice hours, CEU hours must fall under guidelines on these. Sept 28, 2024 there will be training at the PSA at South town, all day program free of charge.

PFASS testing on the state website please sign up for it. It only takes a minute to help ourselves and brothers of the fire service.

The Indiana Fire Marshall spoke at convention about adding more training centers.

Next District 3 Instructors meeting will be in Columbia City on Aug 20th Jefferson Ctr.

Sam Bisel brought up election for District 7 chairman

1 unanimous vote for Richard Sorg for Chairman, and 1 unanimous vote for Len Smith for Vice Chair. 1 unanimous vote for Caleb Vanlandingham for Secretary.

Richard Sorg advised everyone to please keep in mind that we need younger blood to step up for District 7 Chairman and other offices. This helps to keep the young involved.

Miss flame contest will be at the November meeting at Preble FD. If your Department has anyone interested, please be sure to notify Richard Sorg

Next meeting of the Dist 7 will be held at Poneto VFD on September 16, 2024 at 7 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 20:12  
Caleb Vanlandingham  
Secretary

## DISTRICT 8A REPORT



Rex Maynard - Chairman

### Greetings from District 8A

To All Department's I hope you have been Keeping an eye on the new Osha rules.

They want to put on the Volunteer Fire Department. It could cost your department lot of money you do not have. I would like to thank Sharpeville letting me help with your fundraiser and I would like to thank IVFA Miss Flame Grace Lyle for coming to Sharpeville Fundraise.

On September 16, 2024 Van

Buren Township Fire Department had a dedication for their new Fire Truck.

I give 10 year and 25-year pin and two 50 years challenge coin. The next District meeting will be at Mill township Volunteer Fire department on Wednesday November 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. it will be an open house for their new edition on the Fire Station. 2113 East Old Kokomo Road Marion Indiana 46953

District 8A  
Rex Maynard

## DISTRICT 10 REPORT



John Ray - Chairman

### Greetings from District 10

The August District meeting was at New Point VFD. Two New Point Firefighters received pins for years of service Nathaniel Kessens received for 10 years; and Joe Riley for 25years. Ideas suggested for Legislative topics for next session were: Income tax reduction for Volunteers and paid Physicals. Larry Curl will work on that.

In September we met at Clifford VFD. A reminder was noted for the Cancer Survey, which needs to be filled out and sent. Cancer is the leading killer of firefighters. Also, if your department has not sent in their dues, please do so ASAP. Susan Raisor from IDEM talked about open burning laws. Susan said we need to be careful during especially dry conditions. The recent rains have eased that danger, somewhat, as many counties have been under a BURN BAN.

I attended the New Point VFD September meeting to present the MacQueen Award to Ryan Kegley, owner of TDS Towing in New Point, for his support and assistance to the Decatur County Fire Departments.

Connie and I attended the Flat Rock Community Firemen's Festival and Fish Fry; where we enjoyed great food and fellowship with the firefighters and community. There were several events and activities to entertain all!

Following the October meeting at Needham Vol. Fire Dept, we will meet November 20 at Hope Volunteer Fire Dept.

Be safe and have blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

John M. Ray  
District 10 IVFA Chairman

## DISTRICT 11B REPORT



Scott Peebles - Chairman

### Greetings from District 11B

I'd like to start by introducing myself. My name is Scott Peebles, I'm honored to be the New District 11B Chairman. I have been in the fire service for 25 years. I am currently the Fire Chief of Helt Fire & Rescue. My hopes are being the new chairman of our district I can bring renewed interest in the IVFA with some departments and bring new departments to the IVFA. While my short time as chairman I have got to meet some new faces. I have had the privilege of hosting our annual picnic with district 11A this was a good time with some good food. Since taking office in August I have been able to hand out a few 10 year and 25 year pins. I look forward to getting some more pins out here in the near future. Our next meeting will be November 3rd at the Helt Fire Station in Dana at 1 p.m. at this meeting we will hold our Miss Flame contest. It is sure to be a nice meal with some fellowship. I look forward to getting out to more departments real soon.

Scott Peebles  
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.

So by the time you are seeing this addition of the IVFA Newspaper, summer will be gone and the fall 2024 will be leaving us soon.

Winter is the coldest and darkest season of the year in polar and temperate climates. It occurs after autumn and before spring. The tilt of Earth's axis causes seasons; winter occurs when a hemisphere is

oriented away from the Sun. The beginning of Winter this year will be Sat, Dec 21, 2024 Thu, Mar 20, 2025. Some of us like Winter and some of not so much, but now you know when it will be here and when it should move on.

During our last District Meeting hosted by & at Lizton-Union Twp. Vol. Fire Dept. in Lizton Indiana we had 10 Departments in attendee represented by 22 members. During our elections we had three members run for the Chairman's position, two run for Vice Chairman and one for Secretary Treasurer.

So the big news out of District 12 is we have a new District Chairman and Vice District Chairman.

Chief Steve Kershaw, Chief of the Stilesville Volunteer Fire Department and retired member of the Plainfield Fire Territory Fire Department was elected as our new District 12 Chairman and Chief Rick Rusie with the North Salem Fire Rescue/Eel River Township Fire, and retired member of the Pittsboro-Middle Twp. Fire Dept. and a life member of the Wayne Township Fire Department is our new Vice Chairman. We retained our Secretary / Treasurer Chara Leaver (need someone to keep an eye on the two new leaders). Congratulations to all of you, and I am sure you will take our District to the next level with members and participation, family events, and member activities. If you know either of the newly elected reach out to them and congratulate them and offer to help them continue to grow our district and to host a district meeting.

I want to thank PR Larry Bartlow for running our elections as one of his last official duties as Public Relations Director West Central. Thank You Larry for your many many years of serving in the various positions for the IVFA. Your Leadership, Guidance, and friendship will be sorely missed (but our Saturday Evening Dinners at Nu Day will continue on) So with that we would like to welcome our new Public Relations Director West Central Don Fultz and wish him well on in his new position. Welcome aboard Don.

So what happens to Larry Curl, our previous District 12 Chairman, well I'm not going anywhere but since I was elected as the Vice President of the State Association at our 78th IVFA State Convention I needed to step down from the leadership role of a District. I will be working closely with our Newly elected State President Ross Emery. Hopefully you will see us both, very actively working for the betterment of our State Association, working with the departments and the members to



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# I.V.F.A. DISTRICT MEETINGS

## From The Secretary

*Leighanne Ellis*



### INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING July 26-28, 2024 Crowne Plaza Hotel INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Meeting was called to order by President Jerry Liston at 1332. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Liston. The Invocation was given by Chaplain David Elick. Roll Call was taken with 22 District Chairman present and 3 absent, 4 Public Relations Officers present and 2 absent, and 6 past presidents. Reading the minutes from the last meeting, Don Cushman made a motion to accept the minutes as emailed. Jeremy Reef seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Guests: Old Business:

1. Membership list of obsolete departments- break out session held to identify those dept. now going forward to identify departments to rejoin the association.
2. IVFA App-ready to do beta testing and be ready to release to the public
3. OSHA Rewrite- make preparations and be ready for results. Will discuss later.
4. HB1545- make sure to continue to push in your area for your dept. to get their benefits.

**Treasurer's Report,** Treasurer Luke Kluender, 4 reports were emailed out. Balances between June 2024 and June 2023 are close to same, so path is steady. District Secretary vouchers are due during this meeting. Mack Grobis made a motion to accept treasurer's report as emailed, John Ray gave second. Motion passed unanimously.

**Central Office Report:** Jack Kerney, working on inputting updated dues information. Paid/ Not Paid lists emailed out. Dept. rosters emailed out. Pin reports emailed out. Gold Cards are being updated and completed to have current list. deceased members- reported from rosters. Have to order name badges for new chairmen, Gold cards ordered in Nov. will be given

*See Secretary page 10*

### DISTRICT 15 REPORT



*Paul Campbell - Chairman*

Welcome to the last few months of 2024. Time is sure going by fast. It has been a long hot year so far, hopefully everyone has made it through without too much trouble.

I have been busy handing out service pins to a lot of people the last few months and attend a few fund raisers. I also had the privilege along with Glenn Hall, our Macqueen Rep. in presenting the District 15 Macqueen award to Chief Mike Sokeland from Ft. Branch Fire Department. Mike does a lot of great things for the department and the residents of FT. Branch and Gibson County. Congratulations Chief Sokeland!

As we near the end of the year, it's not too early to start thinking about next year's awards and who might be the next recipient of the many awards that are available. Please go to the IVFA website and take a look at the awards and requirements to be nominated. The awards are presented at the annual convention in June so take a look and nominate someone. There are deadlines for the submissions so don't wait too long.

I would like to thank President Liston for his leadership this past year as President of the IVFA. Congratulations to President elect Ross Emery and Vice President elect Larry Curl and the rest of the elected members. I would also like to thank the members of my District for reelecting me as chairman for another year.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Enjoy the time we have with our families at home and at the fire stations. Always remember to keep an eye out for the person next to you and make sure everyone goes home safe!

See you in 2025!

### DISTRICT 17A REPORT



*Sam Emery - Chairman*

#### Greetings once again.

District 17A meeting was held at the Loogootee VFD on July 16th. Election was held and

officer's as follow, Sam Emery Chairman, Courtney Byers Secretary/Treasurer and Anthony Wadsworth Vice-Chairman. A good meeting, a great meal and pins presented. Thanks for being our host.

July 29th, I went to Oaktown and presented Richard Dillon his gold card, pin & 50-year Gold Coin. Thank you for your years of service. Pins (10-25 years) passed out to those on hand.

August 1st, I attended Taylor VFD meeting, training was held.

August 20th, I went to Bloomfield VFD and presented Tom Montgomery District 17A, MacQueen Excellence award, he has 43 years of service. Other members present 10 & 25 year pins.

September 3rd, I took a bible & grave marker to Dept. Chief Jeremy Inman to take to the Family of Tim Deckard, condolences to the family.

September 5th, I attended Taylor VFD meeting and training.

September 16th, 17A Meeting with Steen Township VFD in Wheatland and presented Fred Davis his 50-year coin. He had 59 years of service. Other members on hand received pins.

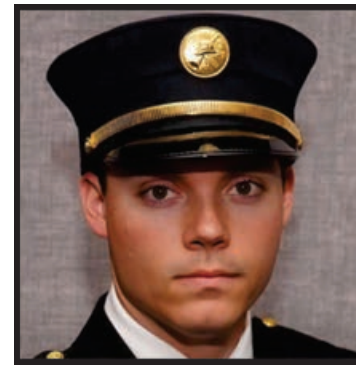
September 21st, I attended a 50-year celebration for Washington Township VFD for their work. I also passed out 10 & 25 years' pins to those on hand.

Notice to young ladies ages 15-18 interested in running for Miss Flame 2025. Applications are available on IVFA website or call me and an application will be mailed, after application is filled out mail to me no later than December 1, 2024. For more information call me at 812-384-8749.

Next District 17A meeting will be hosted by Vincennes VFD & Sausage supper January 18, 2025.

Sam Emery  
District 17A Chairman

### DISTRICT 18 REPORT



*Nicholas Waninger - Chairman*

#### District 18

#### September 19th, 2024

The last meeting of the district 18 was held on 19th September and hosted by the Jackson Twp. Fire department.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Nick Waninger. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all members present.

The business meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm by Chairman Waninger and

welcomed everyone has joined us tonight.

Roll call was taken with 44 members representing 14 departments answering 469 Alarms.

Vice Chairman Smith introduced guest present; Larry Curl -IVFA state lobbyists, Steve Grundhoefer -Grundhoefer Forensic Engineering, and Daryl Schmitt- state senator.

To start the meeting off, Steve Grundhoefer with Grundhoefer Forensic Engineering gave a short presentation over how he can recreate a crash scene. He showed different types of tools used including vehicle black boxes, a drone and AI scenery software.

Larry Curl talked about the New OSHA rules possibilities and also postponement.

District Chairman's report Chairman Waninger stated if any departments has fundraisers coming up, to please post them on the IVFA website.

Committee reports. Carter Fire will host the 2024 District 18 parade and miss flame contest Sunday, October 13th with the District 18 memorial service to follow.

Chairman Waninger thanked the host department for the meal.

Announced the date and location of the next meeting. It will be on November 21st with the Ireland fire department hosting at the Catholic Church hall.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM  
Nicholas Waninger  
District 18 Chairman

### DISTRICT 21 REPORT



*Don Fultz - Chairman*

There were 7 departments and 38 people present.

Election was held with Blaine Butler from Madison Township Vol Fire Department being elected District 21 Chairman.

George Buck was elected Secretary and Treasurer.

There was a short business meeting.

A 50-year coin was presented to Richard J Smith. He is from Johnson Township Vol Fire Department

Our next meeting will be at Shadeland Vol Fire Department, 3209S 250W, Lafayette, IN 47909

Don Fultz  
District 21 Chairman

continue to grow our association and build upon the legacy left by our previous administration.

So what else is new with the District. We are very glad to see our 78th State convention come to a very successful close, we hope to recruit a Miss Flame and a Jr. Firefighter to compete in the 79th Annual State Convention that will be held in Madison Indiana in June 2025. We hope to see many, OK some, well a few of our District 12 families attend.

Don't forget its time to begin thinking about the awards offered by the IVFA and seek out folks to nominate for all of the awards.

Thank you to our District 12 Officers during the last few years  
Chara Leaver  
Jim Leaver  
Rick Rusie  
ED Orr

Be Safe, during the winter months, (and all other times too) and from District 12, Myself and my wife Carol we hope you have a Happy Thanksgiving, and a very Merry and Pleasant Christmas

It's been a real pleasure serving all the members of District 12 and I think each of you for you friendship, support and camaraderie.

Larry Curl

### DISTRICT 14 REPORT



*Rick Cannon - Chairman*

#### Welcome from district 14

We are trying to get out a visit departments so if you have anything going on or a event or want us to stop by at your meeting just reach out to us we would be glad to stop by.

Also for those who don't know we are having the 2025 Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Convention in June of 2025 in Madison at Clifty Falls State Park.

So if you would like to help with the convention or know of a company that wants to sponsor let us know.

Also at the convention on the Thursday when the vendors are there we are going to try to get a instructor inservice

Class if we can get at least 14 people who need instructor hours this will be a 4 hour class put on by the state.

Next meeting November 21 2025 at 19:00 hours at Clark County Central Alarm put on be Clark County EMA.  
Rick Cannon 502-523-2665



## Secretary

*continued from page 9*

to V.P. and presented to District Chairman. 13330 addresses prepared for newspaper, 367 total bad addresses. Dues expiring 7/31/24- 13,552 Active members, Dues expiring 7/31/25-6,203 entered. 390 new members have been added, 45% of dues have been entered. 2 pending AIL Claims, \$220,064.53 paid out to date from AIL. License plates 377-Jan., 569-Feb., 593-March, 649-April, 596-May, 532-June total license plates Jan-June 3,316.

### Executive Committee

**Report:** President Liston, received update on Miss Flame Program, Cancer update, and

### Committee Reports:

#### Awards -

Vice President Ross Emery-Angel Award, Diane Harrison-Jr. Firefighter Award, Jack Kerney-Mr. IVFA, Brent Bush-Ivan Nevil Leadership Award-Larry Curl- nothing to report. Miss Flame- Leighanne Ellis-**Bridgeport:** Past President Richard Glant, **Budget:** Treasurer Luke Kluender, covered in treasurer's report.

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

Chaplin Dave Elick, spoke on changes with District Chairman elections guidelines, will present something

**Clothing Claims:** District 5 John Grolich, claim for pair of lost glasses.

**Convention:** David Israel-2024-Indianapolis- Larry Curl- Check presented to winning department for the truck drawing, \$2,500 dollars will be drawn from the profit of the truck raffle to be presented back to a participating department. 274 attendees in attendance at the banquet

2025- Madison, Rick Cannon-make sure registration forms are filled out.

2026- don't have a place to go for committee consider at staying in one place for the time being.

**EMS:** Tom Fentress, EMS Ready, talked at commission meetings, needs pushed out to dept. about pediatric care for bls non-transport survey at the national level. Indiana has agreed to pay half setup for Hantevy. Data reporting 71% departments are reporting electronically.

Wants to push harder for monthly or bi-monthly reports. Dr.

Yazel with working on Mental Health program and wants a network of statewide providers. Came out with some ideas that came up about some leadership training and identifying mental health issues. National registry changes were discussed about the paramedic program.

#### Health and Wellness

**Committee,** Tom Fentress, Cancer Survey is at 417 surveys completed since convention. Wants to have 100 more by

September. Fire Marshall is looking for PFAS Survey. Baseline physicals- going to reach out to Savvik to find funding to help with baseline physicals and try to get a lower price point through one group to cover the state.

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

**Legislation:** Lobbyist Larry Curl and Past President Buz Koehler, OSHA rewrite was discussed. Discussion on Legislation agenda for this year-presumptive cancer, physicals for firefighters. OSHA discussion-spoke with all representatives while out in D.C., letter sent to judge with signatures of the 5 representatives we spoke to. McNiel insurance did a presentation about the OSHA rewrite, have had meetings with state representatives about the OSHA rewrite. It will be a law for Indiana with NFPA Standards attached. We are looking at the day of the opening meeting on Nov. 12, 2024 virtual meeting, and we need to be on the meeting. Legislative agenda topics- retirement package, presumptive cancer, tax credit, physicals, we have a legislator looking into Lottery monies for funding. Cost Savings study has been around for 5 years, looking to do an update with three options- complete redo-\$85,000, option 2 \$20,000, option 3 doing a background study with background study and give a one page update with percentages for under \$10,000. Anthony Smith gave a motion on updating the cost savings study at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. And be sent to board action Tom Fentress gave a second. Discussion was held on what has been a benefit. Motion passed unanimously.

**LODD:** Paul Holcomb, one service was done in the past quarter.

**Logo:** District 18 Nick Waninger, nothing to report

**Membership and Marketing:** District 7 Sam Bisel, completing the department memberships tasks.

**Newspaper:** Past Pres. Buz Koehler and Sam Bisel, 40-page issue, 15 ads, 13,550 copies printed. Worked on getting convention photos in.

#### Public Relations and

**Education:** Steve Nolan and Don Cushman, trailer has been going out and has been sending requested information out.

#### Social media and Website:

Anthony Smith and Mack Grobis, app is on apple still working on development. Google should be published soon. Please do not advertise until ready to go live. Mack Grobis made a motion to allocate \$200 to development fees and reimbursement if paid out of pocket, sent to board action Rex Maynard second. Motion passed unanimously. Website working on hyperlinking to the YouTube Channel and see videos from events.

**Special Projects:** Past Pres. Buz Koehler, editor assured we

would have the book this fall. We are waiting for the first proof to review.

**Training:** Steve Anderson, discussion on the new district chairman powerpoint and presentation, Emergency response state training, doing something for our membership and getting our instructors updated through a 4 hour presentation and have the state approve it.

**Younger Membership:** District 6 Mack Grobis, Jr. Firefighter Program discussed. Wanting to know how many are actually in the state. Get a skills list to implement into the program. Will be done in the district level prior to coming to state. Cut off date of March 30th of the years. Created sub-committees within the program to complete tasks.

#### Representative Reports

#### Board of Firefighter

#### Standards and Education:

Steve Anderson, nothing to report.

**Fire Alliance** Steve Anderson, Buz Koehler, and Larry Curl, working on legislative agendas across the members of the alliance

**Hero's Competition,** District 11B Jason Ryan- Buz Koehler made a motion to move the line item from this competition into the Jr. Firefighter Program and create that line item, rescinded, and he now makes a motion to send to board action taking \$1000 to create a line item for the Junior Firefighter Program, Anthony Smith gave second. Motion passed.

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

**IDHS Senior Advisory Committee,** Jack Zeeks, nothing to report.

**National Volunteer Fire Council,** Jack Kerney and Jean Smith, has a goal to get to 50,000 members by end of year. AFG was reauthorized and signed by president. OSHA hearing Nov. 12, 2024, 9am central time. You must submit a request to make a comment by Sept. 27, 2024. State Farm giving out grants to departments, get onto the NVFC Website for information.

**Red Cross Workgroup** Don Cushman, public safety day at Indiana State Fair August 7, 2024.

#### Officer's Reports:

**President,** Jerry Liston, 2477 miles, gala, Michigan state meeting 28 members attended most were past presidents, Hoosier Burn Camp cooking with 1-800-Board-up, attended their gold fundraiser to help them. 7 district meetings attended

**Vice President,** Ross Emery, reminder of Committee requests need to be sent back in.

**Secretary,** Leighanne Ellis, nothing to report.

**Treasurer,** Luke Kluender, attended burn camp this year.

**Chaplain,** David Elick,

deceased list sent out, if there was no service done, make sure to notate it, if not, put who completed the service. If there a per roster make sure to follow-up with the benefit available to them of the bible and grave marker. Make sure family and dept. are in contact to have the benefit before someone shows up nothing is wanted from the IVFA.

**Sergeant-At-Arms,** Brent Bush, attended burn camp.

**Historian,** Buz Koehler, has obtained 2006 and 2007 issues, still looking for old papers and convention books.

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

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

**PRNW,** Jeremy Reef, gala, burn camp, district meetings, LODD service

**PRNE,** Sam Bisel, all district meetings but 1, 2 memorials

**PRWC,** Larry Bartlow, all district meetings, new district chairman in the area.

**PREC,** David Israel, all district meetings, look at changing meeting days, district 8b is increasing with Saturdays. And district 13b is hosting on Friday evenings.

**PRSW,** Jack Kerney, memorial service, training session, district meetings, gala, 1517 miles driven

**PRSE,** Ed Scheele, nothing to report.

**Asst. Treasurer,** Bev Harker, nothing to report.

**Asst. Secretary,** Diane Harrison, nothing to report.

**Webmaster,** Josh Reisert, nothing to report.

#### Meeting reconvened Sunday May 5, 2024.

Meeting was called to order at 0830 by President Liston.

Sunday Morning message was given by Chaplain Elick.

#### Past President's Reports:

Richard Glant, nothing to report.

Jack Zeeks, nothing to report

Buz Koehler, nothing to report

Jack Kerney, nothing to report

Larry Ketchem, absent

David Israel, nothing to report

Steve Anderson, nothing to report

Paul Holcomb, nothing to report

Tim Deckard, absent

#### District Reports:

**District 1,** Marshall Neece, meeting held at Burns Harbor, fundraisers, meeting with ladies to start auxiliary in Lake Ridge Fire Dept.

**District 2,** Tom Fentress, meeting held at Lake of Four Seasons, 20 members present, Presentation from Darling that is selling the EV Tarps, looking into creating a fundraiser out of that, 2 EMS Commission meetings, Hoosier Burn Camp. Gala, MacQueen award will be handed out August at Kouts Fire Dept.

**District 3,** Les Jensen, district

meeting at Bass Lake, 14 members, memorial services, North Judson dept. is rejoining,

**District 4,** Elton Schafer, meeting on August 11 to present the MacQueen Award at Jefferson Fire. Dept,

**District 5,** John Grolich, fundraiser, service pins passed out, Gala, several memorial services. Went to a 2 day recruit and retention course. Chiefs and district meetings. Sept. 19 MacQueen award presentation.

**District 6,** Mack Grobis, 2 district meetings, convention

**District 7,** Richard Sorg, 2 district meetings, convention, Gala, Burn Camp, LODD service

**District 8A,** Rex Maynard, visited a member in assisted living, handed out roses, Gala, district meeting. Memorial service

**District 8B,** Tony Dalrymple, nothing to report.

**District 9A,** Pascal Moon, district meeting

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

**District 10,** John Ray, memorial service, 2 county meetings, convention, dept. meetings, service pins handed out.

**District 11A,** Pete Taylor, district meeting 7 dept. 20 members present, 50-year challenge coins handed out, memorial services

**District 11B,** Scott Peebles, nothing to report, learning the new position, working with a fire department to return to the association

**District 12** Larry Curl, district meeting at Kirkland, Gala, Convention

**District 13A,** Don Cushman, passing out coins

**District 13B,** Anthony Smith, district meeting, services pins, MacQueen Award, challenge coins, Supporting Heros Training class, issue with American Income Life, complaint from district about description of the awards online and needing to update and change them. Convention, memorial service, July 30, station dedication to Dennis Spears.

**District 14,** Rick Cannon, 50 year gold card, memorial services, dept. in area having difficulty with trucks. Preparing for the next convention

**District 15,** Paul Campbell, next meeting and training day will have new equipment to test out. 6 students from IU School of Medicine that were part of Wildland Medical training class. Aug. 10 next meeting/training and elections. Service pins handed out, convention

**District 16,** Vacant position, talk about holding a meeting in area to find a potential chairman for the district

**District 17A,** Sam Emery, convention, memorial service, 3 station visits, elections held

**District 17B,** Tammy Wright, lets host departments choose meeting night and has had better outcomes for meetings, 50-year presentation



**District 18,** Nick Waninger, district meeting.

**District 19,** Ben Sieverding, nothing to report

**District 21,** Don Fultz, 2 district meetings, 3 fundraisers, service pins, convention, Gala, 50 year coin, burn camp cooking. Cooker from Perry Martin and identify needs if any for getting it updated in case 1800boardup has issues. We can rent if needed don't know if a budget item needs added to this. Looking into history of District 21, when started and why it was started.

Meeting Recessed at 1712. Will reconvene at 0830 Sunday, July 28, 2024.

Meeting called to order at 0831 by President Jerry Liston.

Morning message given by Chaplain Elick.

**New Business:**

- 1. Look at revamping the Hoosier Burn Camp Auction to shorten the length of the auction.
- 2. Three 75-year members this year. Get names for awards and to go to state house event.
- 3. We are looking for a permanent site for meetings, and conventions to be hosted.

**Announcement/Good of the Order:**

- 1. Make sure you are getting out to your district departments to make those connections.
- 2. Luke announced he has been camping recently with no service and encountered someone with an emergency and was hard to get help. He looked into devices that are satellite enabled and have installed it into the area where he was at in case anyone is interested for ones in their area. Its subscription based and hooked to a solar panel for power. You can contact him for more information at treasurer@ivfa.org
- 3. District truck drawing goes to Lizton-Union Twp Fire Dept. in District 12.

Buz Koehler made motion to adjourn meeting, Jack Zeeks gave second. Meeting adjourned at 0856.

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

Board Action Business Meeting called to order the Chairman of the Board Paul Holcomb at 0856.

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

**Old Business:**

Discussion held on convention room reimbursement for this year, it has been voted and approved but not update into the S.O.G.'s as of current, so the rate will remain at \$75 for 2024

convention and will in

**Board Action- Business:**

- 1. Luke Kluender made a motion to accept the motion from Anthony Smith and Tom Fentress for business meeting of updating the cost savings study at a cost not to exceed \$10,000. Dave Elick the second.

Discussion held on where the money would come from and the use of the study update and the importance of keeping it up to date. Role Call vote requested, 32-1in favor of updating the cost savings study.

- 2. Mack Grobis made a motion to allocate \$200 for apple and google development fees

annually and reimburse what was sent to treasurer from Mack Grobis for \$130.00. Pascal Moon gave the second. Motion passed unanimously.

- 3. Anthony Smith Made a motion to allocate \$1000 line item budget for the Junior Firefighter Program, Dave Elick gave the second. Motion passed

unanimously.

Chaplain gave benediction

Motion to adjourn meeting by Mack Grobis, Second by John Grolich . The meeting adjourned at 0923.

**Miss Flame Community Service 2025**

**Supporting: "Shop with a Firefighter"**

**ACCEPTING MONETARY DONATIONS AND WALMART GIFT CARDS**

**Your Donation will go to support over 150 Kids to receive Christmas in 2025.**





**IVFA AUXILIARY OFFICERS - 2023 - 2024**

<b>PRESIDENT</b> .....	CHRISTINA REEF	4780 S. 20 West, Cutler, IN 46920	Cell: (765) 237-7408
E-mail: ivfaapresident@ivfaa.org			
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> .....	BEVERLY VANLANDINGHAM	9411 Minnick Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46816	Cell: 260-450-1821
E-mail: ivfaavicepresident@ivfaa.org			
<b>CORRESPONDING SECRETARY</b> .....	JANET MATHEWS	204 High St., St. Paul, IN 47272	Home: (765) 525-7125 Cell: (317) 512-8687
E-mail: ivfaacsecretary@ivfaa.org			
<b>RECORDING SECRETARY</b> .....	DAWN HARRIS	7197 Bartlettville Rd., Heltonville, IN 47436	Cell: 812-508-5913
E-mail: ivfaarecsecretary@ivfaa.org			
<b>TREASURER</b> .....	MARTHA BIEHL	P.O. Box 186, Mooreland, IN 47360	Home (765) 766-7042
Cell (765) 524-9665 / E-mail: ivfaatreasurer@ivfaa.org			
<b>CHAPLAIN</b> .....	JUDY WIRTH	7673 N. 1000W., Commiskey, IN 47227	Cell: (812)592-7317
E-mail: ivfaachaplain@ivfaa.org			
<b>SGT.-AT-ARMS</b> .....	SUZIE STOUT LEWIS	2627 N. 400 E., Lagro, IN 46941	Cell: (260)571-7923
E-mail: ivfasgtatarms@ivfaa.org			
<b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT</b> .....	CAROL CURL	3047 N. Raceway Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46234	Phone: (317) 557-2606 / E-mail: ivfaapastpresident@ivfaa.org

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2023 - 2024**

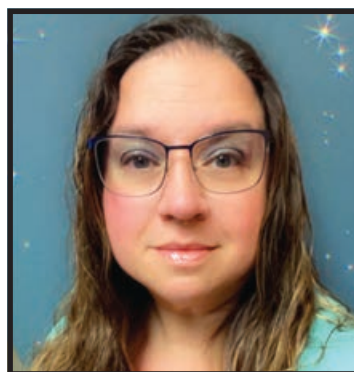
<b>DISTRICTS #1 &amp; #2</b> .....	PHYLLIS VARGO	7756 Durbin St., Schererville, IN 46375	Home (219) 322-4286
E-mail: ivfaadistrict1@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #3</b> .....	DIANE STAPLETON	2374 S 500 E, Mill Creek, IN 46365	Home (219) 608-7401
E-mail: ivfaadistrict3@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #4</b> .....	VACANT		
<b>DISTRICT #5</b> .....	KAY SHUMAKER	322 S. Jackson St., Bremen, IN 46506	Home (574) 546-5967
Cell (574) 274-8617 - E-mail: ivfaadistrict5@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #6</b> .....	VIRGINIA ELICK	725 North Canal St., LaGrange, IN 46761	Cell: (260) 336-3001
E-mail: ivfaadistrict6@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #7</b> .....	CINDY KRUECKBERG	9510 Hoagland Rd., Hoagland, IN 46745	Cell: 260-410-1192
E-mail: ivfaadistrict7@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #8B</b> .....	VACANT		
<b>DISTRICT #9A</b> .....	BETH MOON	8181 East St. Rd. 16, Twelve Mile, IN 46988	(574) 721-8446
E-mail: ivfaadistrict9a@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #10</b> .....	LORI BAXTER	810 N. Harvey Rd., Greenwood, IN 46143	Cell (317) 755-9648
E-mail: ivfaadistrict10@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #11A</b> .....	BEVERLY TAYLOR	721 E. Hwy. 40, Brazil, IN 46834	Home (812) 448-3232
/ Cell 812-236-0955 - E-mail: ivfaadistrict11a@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #11B</b> .....	JODI ROHR	4720 Rohr Rd., Montezuma, IN 47862	Home (765) 592-0827
E-mail: ivfaadistrict11b@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #12</b> .....	CHARA LEAVER	106 E. Wall Street, Advance, IN 46102	Phone (317) 445-6358
<b>DISTRICTS #13A &amp; 13B</b> .....	MADI REEDER	2236 South State Line Road, West College, IN 47003	Phone (765) 580-2894
E-mail: ivfaadistrict13a@ivfaa.org / ivfaadistrict13b@ivfaa.org			
<b>DISTRICT #14</b> .....	JoANN SMITH	25509 Gill Rd., Nabb, IN 47147	Cell (502) 380-7532
E-mail: ivfaadistrict14@ivfaa.org / jsmith19513@yahoo.com			
<b>DISTRICT #15</b> .....	VACANT		
<b>DISTRICT #16</b> .....	VACANT		
<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> .....	VACANT		
<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> .....	VACANT		
<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 / dpbfultz@gmail.com			

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

DIANA GRAY.....	2011-2013
799 Hippensteel Drive, Warren, IN 46792- (260) 224-0774 didagr@yaho.com	
BETH CAUDILL.....	2009-2011
15120 Lucas Rd., Brookville, IN 47012 - Cell (765) 309-2940	
MARTHA THOMAS (Deceased).....	2007-2009
JOANN HAYS.....	2005-2007
4430 South 8th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802 - (812) 299-1574 / Cell (812) 230-5506	
BARBARA KERNEY (Deceased).....	2002-2005
MARY MACKIN (Deceased).....	2000-2002
FAYE SALLEE (Deceased).....	1998-2000
LOU BARTLOW (Deceased).....	1996-1998
Box 12, Montezuma, IN 47862 - (765) 245-2125 / Cell (765) 593-2227	
E-mail: larry_bartlow@att.net	
PHYLLIS VARGO.....	1994-1996
77756 Durbin Street, Schererville, IN 46375 - (219) 322-4286	
/ E-mail pavargo1@yahoo.com	
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994
NANCY NEAL.....	1990-1992
749 Walnut Street, Hope, IN 47246 - (812) 764-1852	
TONI SORG (Deceased).....	1988-1990
LORETTA NULLINER.....	1986-1988
10830 Cape Coral Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46229 - (317) 622-2863	
MAXINE DAVIES (Deceased).....	1992-1994
NICKIE SUNDAY (Deceased).....	1984-1986
BARBARA PARKER (Deceased).....	1982-1984
BARBARA SURBER.....	1980-1982
2003 Flamingo Way, Franklin, IN 46131 - (317) 614-5669 - Cell (317) 519-4445	
LUCY STOFER.....	1978-1980
718 South Ingomar Street, Indianapolis, IN 46241 - (317) 241-1946	
VICA MCGILL (Deceased).....	1976-1978
MARY BOYD.....	1975-1976
32933 Timberlake Dr., Mt. Dara, FL 32757 - Cell (407) 495-8249	

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

**IVFAA President**  
*Christina Reef*



Hello Everyone,  
I hope you all have had a great fall. It is my favorite time of the year, bonfires, apple cider, the leaves changing colors, little kids in costumes at Halloween & all the mosquitos are gone! Don't forget it is also that time of the year to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.  
One of our goals this year is to update the contact information for all our auxiliaries & members. Your district chairman has a list of all members in

the district. Please review this information at your meeting. We especially need email addresses for our members. We have had a few issues with mailing items out. Plus, with the increasing cost of postage, an email address to communicate with would be greatly appreciated. If you are unable to attend your district meeting, please reach out to them or our Recording Secretary Dawn Harris.

We are continuing our IVFAA survey. We need feedback from our members on how we can better serve you. Your district chairman has surveys, they can give you at your district meetings. The survey is also on the IVFA website in the IVFAA Documents section.

It is time again to start getting your nominations turned in for the awards. In the past few years, we have seen extremely low nominations. I strongly encourage everyone to go to the website, review all the awards & nominate someone. You can even nominate the person on the website, or you can mail or email a nomination letter. If you have any questions or

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trouble nominating someone, please reach out to your district chairman or a state officer, we would be more than happy to help in any way possible. The deadline is February 1st.

Any young lady between the ages of 15 to 18 years old, interested in running for Miss Flame for the upcoming year, should contact their IVFA or IVFAA district chair. The application & information about the program is on the website.

Please continue to post your meeting date, time, and location on the website calendar & on the IVFAA Facebook page. Please also post any events happening in your district. This will help not only myself but other state officers & members in your surrounding areas know when your meetings & events are. If you have a meeting or event that you would like for me to attend, please contact me & I will do my best to attend.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!  
Sincerely,  
Christina Reef  
IVFAAPresident@IVFAA.org

**IVFAA COMMITTEES FOR 2024 / 2025**

**AUDIT**

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

**CHINESE AUCTION**

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

**SPECIAL PROJECTS**

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

**VICE PRESIDENT'S PROJECT**

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

**MISS FLAME COMMUNITY**

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

**SOCIAL MEDIA COMMUNICATION**

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

**PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY**

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

**MEMBERSHIP**

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

**NEW DISTRICT CHAIR TRAINING**

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

**BY LAWS & SOGS**

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

**JEWELRY**

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

**INSTALLATION**

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

**LOIS BOAZ AWARD**

- Suzie Lewis
- Judy Wirth
- Betty Schroder

**MIRIAM SCHAEKEL AWARD**

- Pam Gerdowsky
- Tammy Heishman
- JoAnn Smith

**HISTORIANS**

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





# IVFAA Chaplain

Judy Wirth



*James 5:16 Confess your trespasses to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*

IVFA Auxiliary and IVFA have had a rough year with the passing of some of our precious fire family members. Plus all our wonderful folks with illness and injury and hospitalization. I had a fella say that he almost hates to read my posts because I am always reporting sadness. Yes this is true but I figure in order for us to do God's will we need to say prayers in all situations "happy" or "sad". Galatians 6:2 says, Bear one another's burdens and so

fulfill the law of Christ. Just my opinion - when we pray for others, whether it is for healing a physical problem, OR helping carry the struggles of a loved one passing, OR for guidance in dealing with a work situation in needing to possibly changing jobs or even careers, we are helping that person carry that burden. Jesus carried our burdens to the cross and died, went to hell, BUT rose into heaven. HE has set the example for us to follow, to carry each others burdens to our Heavenly Father. Only our Creator God has the full picture of our whole life but helping HIM do HIS work here on earth is our job, Now! So we need to follow 1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing. Yes we all suffer sad times, but isn't it a comfort to know we are helping ease the pressure a little for our loved ones! I feel that Praying for others GLORIFIES GOD!  
Happy Holidays  
All My Love to All of You  
Judy  
P.S. Start writing those award nomination letters!!!  
February 1st deadline will be here before you know it!

# Corresponding Secretary

Janet Matthews



## Quarterly Meeting July 28, 2024

**Crown Plaza Indianapolis, IN**  
President Christina Reef called the meeting to order @ 8:35am. Chaplin Judy Wirth gave the opening prayer & Sergeant at Arms Suzie Lewis led the Pledge to the flag.

Recording Secretary Dawn Harris took roll call of those in attendance. 15 officers & 5 individuals present. Organizational count as of today there are 27 Life members, 179 Individual members, 560 Departments for a total of 766 members. Dawn reminded everyone that annual dues need to be paid if they have not been already.

Corresponding Secretary Janet

Matthews was asked to read the last quarterly minutes.

Martha Biehl made a motion to dispense of the reading of the minutes & accept them as submitted, Bev Taylor seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

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

- General Fund Amount \$30,964.99
  - CD #1 \$11,267.15
  - CD #2 \$20,185.90
  - Miss Flame Account \$4,116.44
  - Miss Flame Community Service Award \$2,513.37
  - Gaming Amount \$9,365.40
- All accounts/books are available & subject to audit.

Chaplin's Report Judy Wirth informed the group that there are cards going around the room so members can sign them & she will mail them out to those in need of thoughts & prayers.

President Christina Reef asked for committee reports:

- Auditing- Carol Curl reports that the audit was postponed & will happen at the November quarterly meeting, encouraged all parties to be prepared with their receipts.
- Budget & Finance- Jodi Rohr reports all is good.
- Chaplin's Assistants- Judy Wirth reports all good.
- Chaplin Emeritus & Communication- JoAnn Hays not present.

• Chinese Auction- Lori Baxter not present, was reported that \$1,526.00 was made at convention from the auction.

- Historian- Phyllis Vargo not present
- Installation- Joyce Nevil nothing to report
- Jewelry- Suzie Lewis reports that she has supplies & let her know when/if you need any pins
- Lois Boaz- Suzie Lewis reports that there were 4 letters/nominations submitted for this past convention.
- Membership- Madi Reeder nothing to report.
- Memorial Throw- Carol Curl none have been made recently
- Miriam Schaekel- There were 3 nominations/ letters submitted for this past convention
- Miss Flame- Janet Matthews thanked everyone for their support of the Wheeler mission project & will be working with the next convention committee for next years community Miss Flame project.
- Parliamentarian- Beverly VanLandingham not present
- President Advisory- Phyllis Vargo not present
- Social Media Communication- Virginia Elick encouraged everyone to post events on Facebook & to put them on the organization calendar.
- SOG's & By Laws- Tammy Smith says the committee will meet at the November meeting. Reports she has a new SOG change request that needs to be

See Secretary page 14



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**Secretary**

*continued from page 13*

voted on during the new business section of the meeting.

• Vice President Project-Beverly VanLandingham not present, the 50/50 total was \$1,296

& the split was \$648, James Lilly was the winner.

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

Carol Curl informed the group that she did respond to the family of Mary Mackin with the decisions that the organization made regarding the funds in the Mary Mackin account. The letter described what donations were made to each of the non-profit organizations that they suggested. Carol read the letter to the group & a copy of the letter will be kept for our records.

Martha Biehl reports that she did receive Thank You's from the American Heart Association & the Breast Cancer Foundation for the donation of \$100 that was sent to them.

**New Business:** Tammy Smith read the proposed SOG change to the group that was received from District 11-B SOG Section X Article D Mary Mackin Memorial Fund Sub-Section 2. Currently the SOG reads: 2. This fund and any contributions will be part of the I.V.F.A.A general account, under a separate checking account which is

specifically designated for the Mary Mackin Memorial Fund.

The proposed change to this SOG is: The fund and any contributions will be part of the I.V.F.A.A general account, under a separate checking account which is specifically designated for the Miss Flame Community Service Award.

The SOG committee accepted the proposed change, all in favor, the name will now be Miss Flame Community Service Award.

President Christina Reef discussed the most recent convention gaming license that was obtained. It was noticed at the start of convention there was some people left off the license & could not sell tickets. This was an inconvenience but could not be corrected when the error was noticed. Many are aware that schedules of those that could sell tickets has to be rearranged because of this. Janet Matthews made a motion for all the line officers, district chairs at a minimum to be added to the gaming license yearly & any other members that attend regularly quarterly meetings so we will ensure to have plenty of people listed that can sell tickets, Judy Wirth seconded the motion, all in favor motion carried. All Drivers License information will need to be given to Martha before or at the November meeting so she can get a list made.

Christina brought up about

post office issues, as it is taking longer to get letters via USPS, so please keep that in mind when sending out your meeting notices in your district. Janet Matthews has the new printed reminder cards, please see her before you leave this meeting if you need these cards. Christina also informed the group if anyone wants to get items via email to ensure that they give her their email address so we can make this possible.

Christina then discussed that when district chairs are having their meeting to please take a copy of your district roster & membership forms to ensure that the information we have is current for them. If it is not, please have them complete a membership form. If the member or auxiliary does not have an email address, please make a note of that on your roster. Send all updates to Dawn Harris.

Buz Kohler is helping the IVFAA organize all the IVFAA history, he is looking for any & all history items for this project. The IVFAA will support the cost of the ink for this project. He is still looking for some convention books that he still does not have so if you may have some please contact Buz to find out he years he is needing. Buz brought newspapers to the room, informed the group that when articles/pictures are being sent to the paper that the paper has the right to alter/illustrate if needed due to the size of

it. Christina reported that the recording secretary now has a new computer & printer. David Camiso assisted in picking out the items that she needed for the job & both items were less than \$650 total. Conversation was had about what to do with the old computer that the new one replaced? It was suggested that if a district had a need for it to let us know. Tammy Smith informed the group that Centerville auxiliary needs one. Carol Curl made a motion that we donate the old recording secretary computer after it has been wiped & factory reset to Centerville auxiliary, Joann Smith seconded the motion, all in favor, motion

passed. Dawn will bring it to the November meeting.

Christina informed the group that a list of items that should be in each district case was sent to each chairman. Please look at what you do have & at the November meeting each chairman will sign off on the items that are in their possession. Also be thinking if you need a case or if you would prefer a tote bag instead or are in the need of a new one. The cases are \$42.00 & the tote bags are \$17.00.

Christina brought up about the special project of the survey for the members of what is wanted from the organization. There have not been many turned in but those that have been all discuss communication from the state level to the district level,

is not good. Conversation was had, meeting minutes are posted on the website. Ideas for special projects for this year are needed.

Please let Christina know if you have any. Rick Cannon came to the room to discuss convention in 2025. He has registration forms for anyone that needs one. The dates for convention are June 18-20, 2025. The registration fee is \$125 per person if postmarked by February 1, 2025. Encouraged everyone to get their reservations made either at the Clifty Inn or the Comfort Inn near the Clifty Falls State Park, Madison Indiana. Rick & his committee are working on ideas for the Miss Flame Project to benefit a need in the area.

Christina asked if anyone had anything good for the order? No one had anything. Judy Wirth provided a reminder that in November we will be doing the Christmas swap as our fellowship on Saturday also that JoAnn Hays will be turning 95 years old on November 13th & encouraged everyone to send her a card. Closing prayer was given. Tammy Smith made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Patti Fultz, all in favor, meeting adjourned @ 9:50am. November quarterly meeting will be on the weekend of 9th & 10th.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Janet Matthews  
IVFAA Corresponding Secretary

# Miss Flame applications due February 1

Hello all, I hope you have been well since Convention and are making it through the fall and harvest time safely. I have seen so many of our current District Miss Flames being active in their areas and I want to personally thank you for making this opportunity memorable to them. Please make sure to continue to invite them to your events to represent your department. State Miss Flame Grace Lyle has been active in the state attending events and representing the association very well. Please remember to invite her to your event. You can contact her at missflame@ivfa.org. Now is the time to begin selection of your next District Miss Flame. Please make sure to invite girls from all departments to participate in a district contest. Once you have completed your district contest, please submit the following information: Miss Flame Application,



Miss Flame Resume, Miss Flame Photo, and Miss Flame Consent Form. This can be submitted to Janet Matthews at jmatthews@tds.net. This information must be submitted by February 1, 2025. If you have any questions, please reach out to Leighanne Ellis at secretary@ivfa.org or Janet Matthews at jmatthews@tds.net. We hope to have every district represented this year in Madison at convention.

Thank you and stay safe,  
Leighanne Ellis and Janet Matthews



# I.V.F.A. Benefits

## “ANGEL” AWARD

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

### REQUIREMENTS FOR THE RECIPIENT:

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

### THE AWARD:

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

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

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

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





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

## DISTRICT 11A REPORT



Virginia Elick- Chairman

**Sept 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**  
**IVFAA Auxiliary Meeting**  
**Richland/Etna Troy Township**  
**VFD**

Roll Call  
 Dept total  
 Individual total 6  
 Mack Grobis, Jerry Sprague,  
 Jeff Schwartz, Andrea Weaver,  
 Vicki Harrison, Dave Elick  
 ,Virginia Elick Jenna Mackin,  
 Deanna Armstrong  
 East Central Fire & EMS  
 Thorncreek Township Fire  
 Guests total 2  
 Christina Reef – IVFAA  
 President

Aubrie Krueckeberg - District  
 7 Miss Flame/State Miss.  
 Congeniality

**Reading of previous meeting minutes**

Last meeting held July 23th at  
 the Ligonier VFD  
 Entertain motion to suspend

the reading of the minutes.  
 Motion by Dave Elick to  
 suspend the reading of the  
 minutes.

2nd by Deanna Armstrong  
 All in favor, all opposed,  
 motion carried.

Virginia has a copy if anyone  
 wants to read them.

**Treasurer Report**

Current balance \$64.50

**Old Business - ??**

**New Business**

50/50 – total \$ 58 Winner - \$  
 29 Dave Elick

District 6 Miss Flame – update  
 on Jenna’s activities..... Talked  
 to us about State Convention  
 and the service project they  
 completed. They filled a trailer  
 full of Non-perishables, hygiene  
 products, blankets, & cleaning  
 supplies.

New membership forms are  
 available. \$10 per year which  
 includes \$3500 Accidental Death  
 & Dismemberment Benefit.

**State quarterly meeting minutes highlights –**

Virginia has a complete copy if  
 anyone would like to read it.

Chinese Auction - \$1,526.00  
 was made at convention from the  
 auction.

Lois Boaz and Miriam  
 Schaekel Awards – there were  
 only 4 letters received for the  
 Lois Boaz Award and only  
 3 were received for Miriam  
 Schaekel Award. More letters  
 would be greatly appreciated.

Vice-President Project – 50/50  
 total was \$1,296.00. James Lilly  
 won \$648.

Thank you, letters were  
 received from, the American  
 Heart Association & the Breast  
 Cancer Foundation for the  
 donation of \$100 each that was  
 sent to them from the Mary  
 Mackin account.

Convention gaming license  
 – some people were left off of  
 the license so they could not sell  
 tickets. It was discovered too late  
 to get it fixed before this past  
 convention. A motion was made  
 for all line officers,

district chairs, at a minimum  
 be added to the gaming license  
 to be added to help ensure there  
 are plenty of people that can sell  
 tickets. The motion carried.

USPS costs have increased  
 again – if you would like to  
 receive your meeting notice via  
 email to help the district save  
 postage costs. Please get with  
 Virginia to make sure we have an  
 email address for you.

When you check on that, you  
 can also check to make sure the  
 contact information we have for  
 you is also up to date.

Buzz Kohler is helping the  
 IVFAA organize all the IVFAA  
 history. If you have any history  
 of the IVFAA, please get with  
 him to see if it’s something he  
 may need. He is still looking for  
 some convention books too.

The Recording secretary,  
 Dawn Harris, now has a new  
 computer and printer. Both  
 were less than \$650. A motion  
 was made and passed donating  
 the old computer after it is  
 wiped, and factory reset to the  
 Centerville Auxiliary.

Survey continues - attempt  
 to find out what people’s  
 opinions/ideas are to improve  
 participation. Please see Virginia  
 to fill out a survey.

Rick Cannon discussed the  
 2025 convention. Convention  
 dates are June 18-20, 2025 in  
 Madison,

Indiana. Registration is \$125  
 per person if postmarked by Feb  
 1, 2025.

**Any other business**

Christina Reef presented  
 Virginia and Dave Elick with  
 their 10 year IVFAA membership  
 pins.

Christina also mentioned the  
 many awards offered through  
 the IVFA and IVFAA. All of  
 these awards are listed on the  
 website and anyone is welcome  
 to nominate people for them.

We are also looking for girls  
 interested in being the District  
 6 Miss.Flame, contact Virginia  
 Elick, or Mack Grobis with  
 questions or concerns.

**Next meeting date -**

November 26, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.  
 Miss Flame contest will be held.  
 Host Department: ??  
 Volunteer Fire Department

## DISTRICT 11B REPORT



Jody Rohr - Chairman

It’s hard to believe that Fall  
 has arrived in West Central IN.  
 The kids have been in school  
 almost nine weeks now. Where  
 has the year going?

District 11-B has been pretty  
 quiet. Our July meeting was  
 held, Sunday, July 14 at the  
 Marshall Fire Department. We  
 enjoyed a wonderful meal of  
 chicken and noodles, mashed  
 potatoes, and green beans.  
 There were ten members and  
 two guests present. Our election  
 was held with no changes in the  
 officers. Discussion was held  
 regarding the proposed By-Law  
 change sponsored by the district  
 to increase dues for the 2025-  
 2026 year.

Our annual, joint picnic with  
 District 11-A was September  
 8 at the Boy Scout House in  
 Montezuma. The picnic is  
 always well attended with over  
 40 people in attendance this  
 year. Thank you to our Miss  
 Flame, Madi Ryan, President,  
 Christina Reef , Immediate Past  
 President, Carol Curl and District  
 21 Chairman, Patti Fultz for  
 attending.

On September 22, I was  
 honored to present a 10-year  
 membership pin to our son,  
 Heath Rohr from Hilmon  
 Firemen’s Auxiliary. (He is  
 currently a Captain in the US Air  
 Force stationed in New Mexico.)  
 It was pretty special to be able to  
 give it to him.

Our next meeting is Sunday,  
 November 3, 1:00 at the Helt  
 Township Fire and Rescue in  
 Dana. This is our Thanksgiving  
 dinner meeting and Miss Flame  
 contest. Mark your calendar and  
 plan on joining us.

Jodi Rohr  
 District 11-B

## DISTRICT 14 REPORT



JoAnn Smith - Chairman

**Hello everyone.**

We had our district meeting  
 Sept.19 at Western VFD in  
 Madison. We had five members

present and 2 guess. Our Miss  
 Flame, Miss Randi Palmer-Sipe  
 was also present.

I announced about the deadline  
 for all the upcoming awards  
 being Feb. 1, 2025 for the  
 convention.

Everyone is working hard  
 and looking forward to the  
 convention being in Madison in  
 2025.

Our next District meeting  
 will be on Nov. 21, 2024 at 7:00  
 pm a Clark County Emergency  
 Management, 309 Lentz Ave.,  
 Charlestown, IN.

Hope everyone has a happy  
 and safe holidays.

JoAnn Smith  
 District 14 Chairman

## DISTRICT 21 REPORT



Patti Fultz - Chairman

IVFAA District 21 meeting  
 for August 26, 2024 was held  
 at Johnson Township Vol Fire  
 Department. We had 2 members  
 present.

We joined the men’s meeting.  
 I was given some time to present  
 my information.

George Buck was presented  
 his 10 year IVFAA pin.

The Miss Flame funds were  
 funded by the Mary Mackin  
 Memorial Fund.

The family has decided not  
 to fund the account. The Miss  
 Flame funds will be part of the  
 IVFAA general account under a  
 separate checking account.

The name will now be Miss  
 Flame Community Service  
 Award.

The 2025 Convention will  
 be at Clifty Falls State Park,  
 Madison, Indiana on

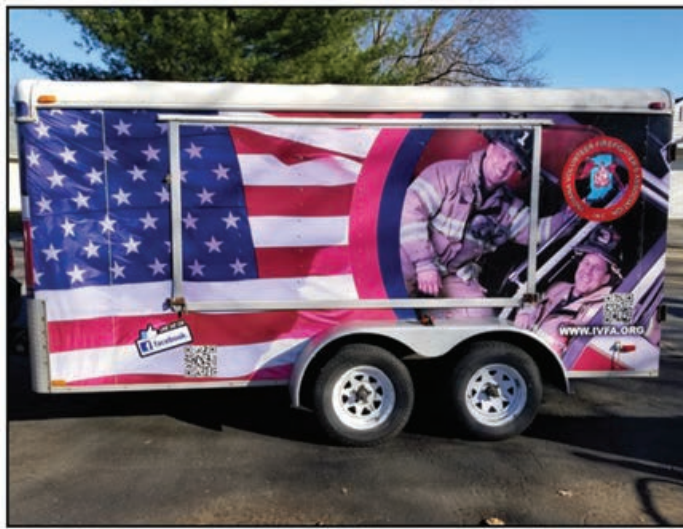
June 18-20, 2025. Registration  
 fee is \$125.00 per person due by  
 February 1, 2025.

Our next meeting will be at  
 Shadeland Vol Fire Department  
 in Shadeland, Indiana on  
 November 25, 2024 at 7:30 pm  
 with a light meal served at 6:45  
 pm.

Come see their new station.  
 Remember dues are due for  
 24-25 year in the amount of  
 \$10.00.

Hope to see you there,

Patti Fultz  
 District 21 Chairman



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**[eli.haskett@emergencyvehiclesplus.com](mailto:eli.haskett@emergencyvehiclesplus.com)**

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**Type III Units - ~~5~~ 2 Currently Available - E450 Gas**

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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 1

Submitted by Marshall Neese, District Chairman



## Awards given out at Schererville Town Safety Meeting



50-year card and pin and 50-year gold coin give out at Schererville Town Safety Meeting right to left: Chief Patterson, Mike Talbert, Dist. 1 Chairperson Marshall Neese, John Vaught, George Turoci, Ed Cook, Jeff Kuhn, Gerry Denhartalk, Bill Howe, not pictured James Vargo.



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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 2



Submitted by Tom Fentress, District Chairman

## District 2 Chairman Tom Fentress hands out awards



10 Year Pin award - Kouts Firefighter Lane Rodrick



10 Year Pin Awards - Firefighter Brad White & Assistant Chief Michael Orsburn



25 Year Pin Award - Lieutenant Dave Kaminski



MacQueen Award for Excellence - Kouts Fire Chief Jeremy Gettler

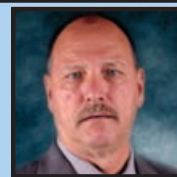


# Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!



# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 4

Submitted by Jean Smith, Elton Schafer, District Chairman



## MacQueen Excellence Award and 25-Year IVFA Service Award Mick Luce, Jefferson Township Fire Department.



*Elton Schafer District 4 Chairman presented Mick Luce the MacQueen Excellence Award and 25 Year IVFA Service Award. Accompanied by Matt Luce and members of Jefferson Township Fire Department. Congratulations Mick!*

This award is for some one that has made a difference in their Community and or Fire Department to help promote the betterment of the Fire Service in their Community.

Here is a list of some of his accomplishments:

- 1969-1974 Volunteer Fire Fighter, Edon Ohio
- 1975-1978 Youth Group Leader, Jackson Michigan
- 1980-1991 Youth Group Leader, Goshen Indiana
- 1989-Present Volunteers at Bashor Children's Home, Goshen Indiana
- 1983-1987 Volunteer Shoppers for the Window, Goshen Indiana
- 1996-1997 Little League Baseball Coach, Middlebury Indiana
- 2001- Youth Basketball Coach
- 1999-2021 Volunteer Fire Fighter, Jefferson Township Volunteer Fire Department, Goshen Indiana
- 2021- Present Volunteers Broadway Christian Parish Food Pantry / Soup Kitchen, South Bend Indiana

*Wishing Everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*





# Taking time for good training good for the Volunteer Firefighter, his family and for the department

Every Fire Department struggles to have a quality training program that develops firefighters who can perform the basic skills on the fireground. Training takes time. Time is limited for volunteers. Work - Life balance is something our younger members have conflicts internally and externally. Priorities in a work-life balance include the 5 F's. Faith - Family - Friends - Finance - Fire Department. These priorities are not established in numerical order. Work-Life balance priorities change based upon time and circumstances.

These training tips are designed based upon basic performance expectations. The expectations are that the firefighter is great at the following tasks. Get dressed - handline to the door - enter the building - perform primary search and rescue - apply water to the fire.

John M. Buckman III  
State Fire Academy Director (Retired)  
Fire Chief (Retired)

### Basic Training Program Session 1 PPE

Able to rapidly dress in 2 minutes including SCBA on air.

Able to perform a monthly inspection of PPE.

Able to perform a weekly inspection of SCBA including the facepiece.

Demonstrate the operation of the emergency by-pass valve.

Demonstrate the skip breathing or other air rationing technique.

Replace an SCBA air cylinder with their eyes closed.

Demonstrate cleaning and sanitizing SCBA.

Demonstrate gross deconing of turnout gear.

Demonstrate buddy breathing.

Demonstrate operation of a PDD device.

Return SCBA / PPE in service.

60 minutes total time



### Basic Training Program Session 2 Search and Rescue

Before a search can be conducted, priorities must be established.

Determine order of search areas, the areas most severely threatened by fire and the potential locations for large victim numbers are considerations for establishing and prioritizing search operations.

Immediate fire area and fire floor are the primary search areas. Next is the one floor directly above the fire spread.

Two main objectives in conducting a structural search: searching for life and assessing fire conditions.

Control the door and the flow path of air into and out of the structure.

Check door temperatures, watch for fire spread and have an exit strategy.

If it's hot get down / if it's not stay up.

Stay in contact with a wall.

Rapidly move through room making sure you are searching the entire room / under furniture - behind furniture.

Monitor smoke-heat-fire conditions.

Remain oriented to the structure (count doorways - look for windows).

Carry and use a TIC.

Have a fully charged and operable hand lights.

Carry some kind of tool to widen your search pattern.

Communications with other search team members and command is essential to search safety.

Search teams consist of two with visual, voice or physical contact, utilizing the recognized techniques of wall contact and directional turns. A search pattern for a room is conducted in either a clockwise or counterclockwise direction, keeping consistent throughout the search and rescue operation.

If a victim is located notify command of location.

Request additional resources to facilitate removal.

120 minutes total time

### Basic Training Program Session 3 Water Application - Fire Control

Demonstrate properly deploying a pre-connect to a front door of a structure.

Demonstrate properly loading a pre-connect on the apparatus.



Demonstrate making a forward lay of supply line from a hydrant.

Demonstrate properly turning on/off a hydrant.

Demonstrate the proper deployment of a skid load allowing for the maximum reach and smooth advancement of hand lines

Demonstrate and explain when to use a direct attack.

Demonstrate and explain when to use a combination attack.

Demonstrate and explain when to use an indirect attack.

Demonstrate and explain the use of a transitional attack.

Demonstrate the assembling and operation of a portable monitor off the apparatus.

Demonstrate the use of a portable monitor on the apparatus.

Demonstrate and explain the use of a portable monitor flowing 400 gpm.

180 minutes

### Basic Training Program Session 4

#### Engine Operations

Properly position apparatus near hydrant and/or properly position fold-a-tank for drafting purposes.

Make a hydrant connection using LDH.

Perform all in-cab procedures to engage pump.

Exit the cab and deploy wheel chocks.

Pump correct pressures to 1 3/4" - 200' preconnects in length with a fog nozzle using tank water.

Pump correct pressures to 2 1/2" - 200' preconnects in length with a fog nozzle using tank water.



## I.V.F.A. Benefits

### STRONG LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION

Your Association sponsors legislation on your behalf, to promote the volunteers and to defend against legislation that would be harmful to the volunteer firefighters throughout all the state.

Each session of the legislature we ask our members to submit their items and requests for bills to be submitted. Then we support those bills through our lobbyist and ask for support at district meetings.

Each district chairman or public relations director will pass information along to the members via e-mail, regular mail and at each district meeting.

The Association also is an Indiana Fire Caucus member. We assist in informing and advising legislators of fire-related legislation.



## I.V.F.A. Benefits

### ATTENTION: INCREASED BENEFITS

All active IVFA members now have a \$3,500 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit provided through the cooperation of your Association and American Income Life Insurance Company.

We hope that you are pleased that your IVFA has been able to obtain this benefit at NO COST TO YOU!

When you receive your benefit information in the mail, just fill out and return the postage paid card. A representative will contact you to deliver your certificate and designate your beneficiary.

We at American Income Life feel it's an honor and a privilege to work with the IVFA and would like to thank all of you for making our communities a better place to live.



# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 7

Submitted by Beverly Lockwood, Richard Sorg, District Chairman



## 10-year pins awarded in District 7



From left to right IVFAA District 7 Chairman Cindy Krueckeberg, Marissa Haviland, Kaitlyn Ritter-Butz and Sam Bisel PRNE. Cindy presented these three with their 10-year IVFAA pins.



Cindy Krueckeberg presented Terry Lockwood with his 10-year pin. Sam Bisel PRNE also congratulating Terry.

## Burn candles safely for the holidays and beyond

Candles are not in short supply come the holiday season. During Chanukah, candles are an integral component of celebrating the miracle of oil that burned in the Temple for eight days. Celebrants of Kwanzaa utilize candles to represent the seven principles of the holiday. Christians light candles during Christmas services and in their homes to represent the light Jesus brought to the world.

There is no denying the warmth and beauty candles can bring to a home when they are flickering delicately. But candles have open flames, so caution must reign supreme when they are in use. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission says 85 percent of candle fires can be prevented by following some key safety precautions. The National Fire Protection Association says Christmas is the most dangerous day for candle fires. Here is how to burn candles safely.

- Always trim wicks to 1/4-inch before burning candles. Long or crooked wicks can cause uneven burning, dripping or flaring.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.
- Use candle holders that are sturdy and will not tip over easily.
- Use a long match or long lighter to light candles to prevent fingers and hands from getting too close to the flames.
- Run used matches under water to cool them down and prevent fires from occurring after matches are disposed in the trash.
- Never leave a candle unattended. It should be in sight at all times.
- Place and store candles beyond the reach of children and pets where they will be less likely to get knocked over.
- Never touch or move a candle while it is burning or while the wax is liquefied.
- Place candles on stable, heat-resistant surfaces.
- Keep candles away from drafts, vents and air currents.
- Follow candle manufacturers' recommendations on burn time and proper use.
- When utilizing multiple candles, place them at least three inches apart from one another. This reduces the chances for the candles to melt one another, or create their own drafts that will cause the candles to burn improperly.
- Extinguish a candle if the flame becomes too high or flickers repeatedly.
- Refrain from burning a candle longer than three hours at a time, and never burn a candle when there is less than one centimeter of wax at the base.
- Use a candle snuffer to safely extinguish a candle, and make sure the candle is completely out (wick ember is no longer glowing) before leaving the room.

Candles can be awe-inspiring components of holiday decor. But caution must always be the top priority when lighting candles inside a home.



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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 8A

Submitted by Rex Maynard, District Chairman



## Awards passed out in District 8A



Van Buren township volunteer Fire Department 50-year challenge coin Billy J Yeagy and Keith Dale Barley.



Wayne township volunteer fire department Leslie k McKinsey 50-year challenge coin



Van Buren Township Volunteer Fire Department 10-Year pins



Van Buren township volunteer Fire Department 25-Year pins



Van Buren Township Volunteer Fire Department New fire truck.

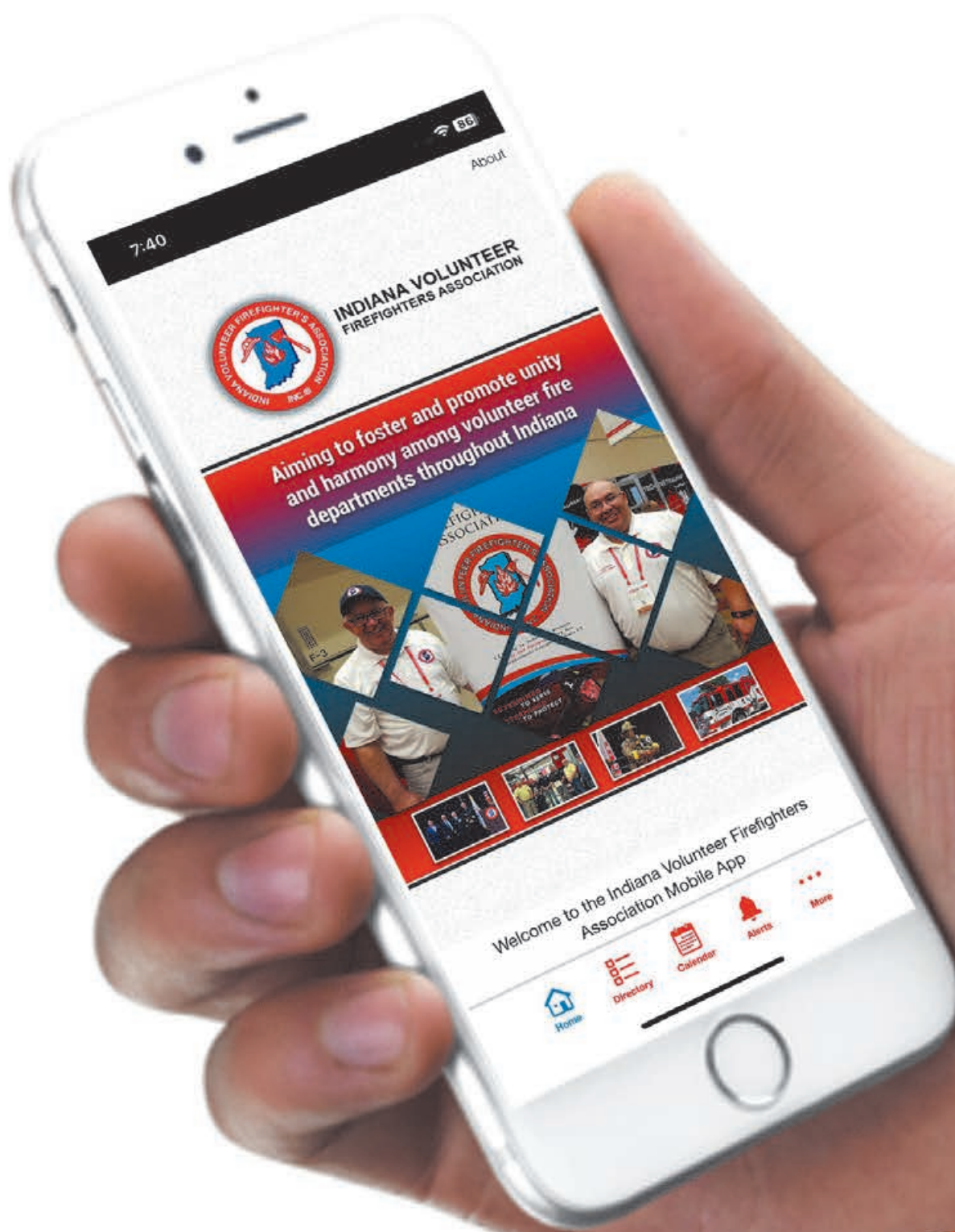




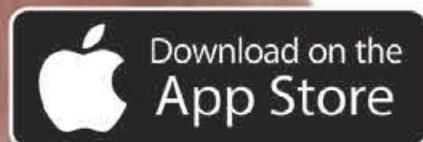


# Indiana Volunteer Firefighters Association

Text "IVFA" to (844) 745-4513 to have the app sent to your phone



Scan the QR Code to Download Our App





# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 10

Submitted by John Ray, District Chairman



## Awards passed out in District 10



John Ray District 10 Chairman presents Charles Emsweller his 50-year Gold coin.



Frank Hoban receiving his 50-year Gold Coin from David Israel ECPR



Ivan Shinolt of Elizabethtown Vol. Fire Dept. receives his 50-year Gold Coin from District 10 Chair, John Ray. Ivan has been a Firefighter for over 60 years.



John Tumilty retired Greensburg firefighter receiving his 50-year Gold Coin from John Ray district 10 Chairman.



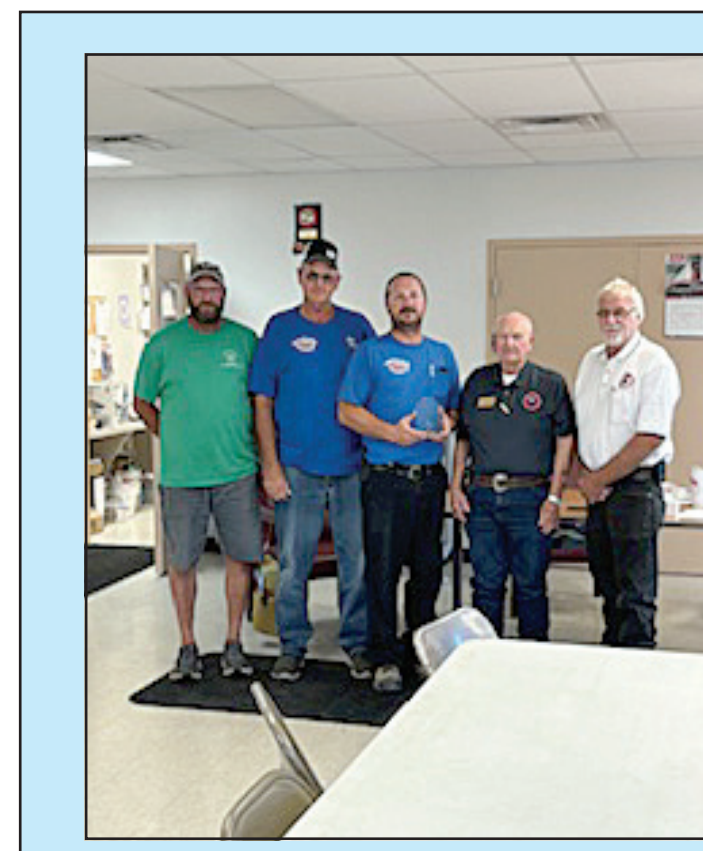
David Goff of Clifford receives his 10-year pin from 10th District Secretary, Jim Davis.



Scott Coombs of Clifford Fire Dept. receives his 25-year pin from 10th District Secretary Jim Davis



Steve Stone, Marion Twp Fire dept. receives his 50 Year Gold Coin from John Ray District 10 Chairman



### MacQueen Award

From left: Mark Baldwin, Chief of New Point Vol. Fire Dept., Gary Wolford, Firefighter, Ryan Kelley, owner of TDS Towing & recipient of the 2024 MacQueen Award for District 10; John Ray, District Chairman & David Israel, East Central PR.



# District 11-A & 11-B holds annual joint picnic, September 8, 2024




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**I.V.F.A. Benefits**

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

**What Is A District Meeting?**

- A place to gather information.
- A place to meet those departments around you and in your district to discuss things that you have in common and problems that you may also have in common.
- A place to meet your state officers and ask them questions and voice concerns.
- A place to see new equipment and receive training in the form of a short program.
- A place to discuss and vote on items that affect the Association and your departments as members.
- A place to voice your opinions and give direction to the Association.
- A place to let everyone around you know what fund raisers and events are going on in your department.
- District meetings are held every other month and in the evening at a time decided by the District and on a date set by the District.
- This allows each district to pick a time that will work the best for that general area.
- Each year (usually in July) a district chairman is elected to represent each district at the state level and this is a very important meeting.
- As members of the Association, we should look to one another for help to solve problems and lend support to each other.
- Please support your districts by attending your district meetings.



# District 11-A & 11-B holds annual joint picnic, September 8, 2024

Our annual joint picnic was September 8 at the Boy Scout House in Montezuma. The picnic is always well attended with over 40 people in attendance this year. Thank you to our Miss Flame, Madi Ryan, President, Christina Reef, Immediate Past President, Carol Curl and District 21 Chairman, Patti Fultz for attending.





# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 11B



Submitted by Jody Rohr & Melissa Hicks Giles, John "Scott" Peebles, District Chairman



President Jerry Liston and President elect Ross Emory presented Helt Fire and Rescue Chief and District 11-B Chairman, Scott Peebles with his 25-year pin.



District 11-A Chairman Pete Taylor presented Lyle VanLannen from Shepardsville Fire Dept.



District 11-A Chairman Pete Taylor presenting Heath Rohr, active-duty AirForce, from Helt Fire and Rescue with his 10-year pin. Pete and Heath's grandmother are cousins, so Pete's presentation was sentimental.



Jodi Rohr (mother) presenting Heath Rohr, member of the Hilmon Auxiliary with a 10-year IVFAA pin.



L-R 11B Vice Chairman Jack Giles, Fillmore Fire Department members Todd Zeiner, Nik Wood, and Jaimie Bunten receiving their 10-Year pins, along with Darrell Bunten (husband of Jaimie) and Chief Mike Davies.



Fillmore Fire member Richard "Woody" Wood receiving his 50-year Challenge Coin from 11B Vice-chairman Jack Giles.



Jack Giles, 11B Vice Chair, presented a 25-year pin presentation to Reelsville Fire Chief Brian Stearley. (Left to right Jack Giles, Kimberly Stearley (his wife), Brian, and Donna Dragon (his mom))



**February  
2025  
DEADLINE  
IS  
January 1,  
2025**





# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 14



Submitted by Rick Cannon, District Chairman

## District 14 Miss Flame hands out 50-year Gold Card & Pin



Don Thomas of Vernon fire getting his 50-year gold card and pin from past IVFA District 14 Miss Flame Reese Cannon and 2024 Miss Flame Randi Palmer Sipes and Chairman Rick Cannon

## District 14 Miss Flame Attends Blocher fish fry & Rykers Ridge Fish fry



Miss Flame Randi Palmer Sipes at Blocher fish fry with Blocher fire chief



Iyfa district 14 Miss Flame Randi Palmer Sipes at the Rykers Ridge Fish fry with Rykers Ridge Fire Chief



# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 15



Submitted by Misty Wallace, Paul Campbell, District Chairman

## Isaac Lindsay participates in the IVFA Jr. Firefighter Competition for District 15



IVFA State Convention Isaac Lindsay & Ross Emery



Isaac Lindsey is from Chandler Fire Department where he serves as a Cadet and is with District 15.



IVFA State Convention Jr. Firefighter Competition participants



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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17A



Submitted by Sam Emery, District Chairman

## 10-year Pins Awarded



Loogootee Vol. Fire Dept., Chief Eric Thomas, Daniel Shoultz, Thomas Jenkins and Jamey receive 10-year pins.

## 25-year Pins Awarded



Bloomfield Vol. Fire Dept., Bloomfield Fire Chief Eri Aland receives 25-year pin.



Oaktown-Busseron Twp. Fire Dept., David Brown and Kevin Hoke with 17A Miss Flame Natalee Rickard and Chief Hobbs receive 10-year pins.



Oaktown-Busseron Twp. Fire Dept., Joe Jilly with 17A Miss Flame Natalee Rickard and Chief Hobbs receives 25-year pin.



Bloomfield Vol. Fire Dept., Asst. Chief Randy Vest with members Donnie Shields and Austin Vester receive 10-year pins.



Oaktown-Busseron Twp. Fire Dept., Phillip Blann with 17A Miss Flame Natalee Rickard and Chief Hobbs receives 25-year pin.





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# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 17A



Submitted by Sam Emery, District Chairman

## 50-year Awards



Ron Bell receives his 50-year coin from Sam Emery.



Richard Dillion from Oaktown-Busseron received his 50-year gold card, pin and coin with 17A Miss Flame Natalee Rickard and Chief Hobbs.



William Alvarez presents a check to Chief Eric Thomas.



Bloomfield Vol. Fire Dept.



The MacQueen Excellence Award presented to Bloomfield VFD member Tom Montgomery.



Loogootee Chief Eric Thomas presents a New Fireman.



# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 18

Submitted by John Smith, Nicholas Waninger, District Chairman



## Dist. 18 holds Annual Memorial Service

On Sunday, 13 October the Annual District 18 Memorial Service was held at the Carter Fire District in Dale. District 18 Chairman Nick Waninger gave the opening address and welcome. Rev. Bob Duley conducted the service in which the eight names of the members of the Dist. 18 that have “answered their last call”. A candle was lit for, and a rose was presented to, family members of each of the departed members by the new Dist. 18 Miss Flame Ava Verkamp. The Flag was presented by the Carter Fire Color Guard, and music selections including the National Anthem was performed by TJ Xander. Article and photos provided by Dist. 18

## District 18 Parade and Miss Flame Contest



District 18 2025 Miss Flame contestants

Clear skies and beautiful weather brought people out lining the streets of Dale as the Carter Fire District and Auxiliary hosted the IVFA District 18 Parade and Miss Flame contest on Sunday, 13 October. District 18 fire departments, along with local businesses and civic organizations, paraded the streets of Dale as part of this year’s celebration.

Following the parade, District 18 Miss Flame 2024 Molly Goffinet, gave her farewell address. Molly then aided with the crowning of the new District 18 Miss Flame.

The 9 lovely ladies must have given the judges a “lot of work” trying to choose the finalists in the competition. The District 18 Miss Flame for 2025 is Ava Verkamp (center), Ava is the daughter of Heather and Kevin Verkamp. She is a junior at Forrest Park High School and represented the Schnellville Volunteer Fire Department. The First Runner-Up title Brooklyn Rasche (right), Brooklyn is the daughter of Jayme and Eric Rasche. She is a junior at Jasper High School and represented the Jasper Volunteer Fire Department. Sydney Meadors (left) was chosen by the other contestants as Miss Congeniality. Sydney is the daughter of Cassie and Scott Meadors. She is a senior at Heritage Hills High School and represented the Carter Fire District.

Article and photos submitted by Dist. 18 IVFA



District 18 2025 Miss Flame finalists.



District 18 Miss Flame 2024 Molly Goffinet, gives her farewell address.

## 25 Year Service Pin Presented



At the meeting of 14 August Daniel Weisman of the Haysville VFD was presented with the IVFA 25 Year Service Pin. Pictured are Dist. 18 Chairman Nick Waninger (L), Weisman, and Dist. 18 Vice-Chairman John “Bull” Smith (R).





# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 19



Submitted by Edwin Scheele, Ben Sieverding, District Chairman

## East Enterprise V.F.D. celebrates 100 years on Saturday, August 17th East Enterprise celebrated 100 years of service to the community.



Ed Scheele presented Chief Jeff Darling with a certificate



Members of East Enterprise V.F.D.



East Enterprise Station



Some of their apparatus.



# Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!





# NEWS FROM DISTRICT 21

Submitted by Will Holycross & Don Flutz, District Chairman



## 50-Year Coin Presented



District Chairman Don Fultz presented a 50-year coin to Richard J Smith from Johnson Township volunteer fire department along with Chief Gordon Phillips.

## 25-Year Pins Presented



District 21 Chairman Don Fultz presented 25 year pins to Annette Parsons & Chris Brown from Clarks Hill Lauramie Volunteer Fire Department



District 21 Chairman Don Fultz presented Blaine Butler and Ken Smith with 25-year pins. They are from Mulberry or Madison Township Volunteer Fire Dept.

## 10-Year Pins Presented



District 21 chairman Patti Fultz from the IVFAA presented George Buck with a 10-year pin



District 21 Chairman Don Fultz presented Brandon Dirbas & Shannon McIntire a 10-year pin. They are from Madison Township volunteer for department Mulberry.



District 21 chairman Don Fultz presented a 10 year pin to Nicole Barton which is from Clark's Hill Lauramie Volunteer Fire Department.

## Clock Presentation



District 21 chairman Don Fultz presented a Clock to Chief Allen Bol of the Shadeland Fire department at their new station dedication.

  
**February**  
**2025**  
**DEADLINE IS**  
**January 1,**  
**2025**  




# Honoring our military

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

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



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



**MARINES**  
THE FEW. THE PROUD.

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





# What you need to know about OPEN BURNING

## WHAT'S ALLOWED?



Clean Wood



Charcoal



Paper



Yard Waste

## WHAT'S PROHIBITED?



No Trash

No Chemicals  
or Plastics

No Tires



No Homes/Buildings



No Cardboard

No Demo/  
Construction Debris

## RESIDENTIAL BURNING

[www.idem.IN.gov](http://www.idem.IN.gov)



## Indiana Department of Environmental Management

### Residential Burning in Indiana

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

### These rules **must** always be followed:

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

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



Recycle  
when possible



Properly dispose of trash,  
chemicals and/or debris





## Prevent home electrical fires

A person's home should be a safe haven. Too often, however, there may be dangers lurking in a home that can compromise the safety of residents.

Electrical fires are no joke. The Hartford insurance company says electrical failure or malfunctions account for almost 34,000 home fires per year. The National Fire Protection Association says they can contribute to 440 deaths and \$1.3 billion in direct property damage annually.

Older homes may be most vulnerable to electrical fires, as such structures were not designed to handle the demands of modern living. The insurance experts at Nationwide say half of all homes in the United States have electrical systems that were installed before garage door openers, high-tech coffee makers, and many computers became must-have items. And the Electrical Safety Foundation International says homes built before 1973 with overloaded electrical systems pose a number of safety threats.

Overloaded circuits are not the only contributor to electrical fires. Damaged wiring characterized by worn, frayed or loose wires can cause fires. Malfunctioning appliances or those improperly maintained also can create home fires. Another contributor is poorly installed extension cords and power strips, as well as faulty outlets and switches around homes.

Homeowners can take various steps to reduce the risk of electrical fires at home.

- Install arc fault circuit interrupters. AFCIs are special types of circuit breakers that help prevent fires caused by nicked or frayed wiring.

An AFCI gets tripped and cuts off power when an electrical problem is detected before a fire can start. In 2022, the National Electric Code started requiring AFCIs in bedrooms, and by 2017 they have been mandated throughout homes.

- Conduct a home electrical inspection. All homes more than 40 years old should be inspected to ensure their electrical systems can handle modern demands, says Nationwide. A qualified electrician can make recommendations regarding replacing breakers and suggest other modifications to improve safety.

- Utilize a monitor. Ting from Whisker Labs monitors a home's electrical network using a smart plug-in sensor that is designed to detect hazards. The company indicates micro-arcs and sparks that develop are precursors to electrical fires.


- Turn to automatic shut-offs. Homeowners can utilize appliances and additional devices that automatically shut off after a set period of time. This can reduce the risk of overheating.


- Rely on timers or smart devices. Timers and smart home devices can give homeowners control of electrical components like appliances or lights from a remote area. This enables users to turn an appliance on or off to reduce overheating or avoid additional risk factors for electrical fires.

- Don't go DIY. Choosing to work with a professional electrician rather than doing electrical work oneself can help reduce electrical fire risk considerably. Electricians know how to work on electrical systems safely to prevent damage to wires and components, and also safeguard themselves against shock.

Risk for electrical fires at home can be reduced with technology and other strategies.

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1. Publication Title Indiana Volunteer Firefighter		2. Publication Number 282-480		3. Filing Date 09/26/2024	
4. Issue Frequency Quarterly		5. Number of Issues Published Annually 4		6. Annual Subscription Price \$0.00	
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) IVFA Office, PO Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724-0797				Contact Person Jack Kerney	
				Telephone (include area code) (812) 867-3471	
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) IVFA Office, PO Box 4797, Evansville, IN 47724-0797					
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)					
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Jack Kerney, PO Box 4797, Evansville, IN, 47724-0797					
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) The Paper of Wabash County, 606 N State Road 13, Wabash, IN 46992					
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Sheri Chaney, 573 S Western Heights Loop, Monticello, IN 47960					
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)			13316	13550	
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))			0	0	
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i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)			96.68	97.83	
16. Electronic Copy Circulation				Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)				13316	13550
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