

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Michael Dillon, President
Braidwood FPD*

The 2017 Southern Illinois Mini Conference and Annual Administrative Training Sessions (ATS) have just been completed. Thank you all the attendees, our hosts and members for their support and participation at these educational programs. The Education Committee has started to review the evaluations and using your input to plan for the 2018 events.

The IAFFPD Board has appointed a new Area Representative, Dave Payla is President of the Lockport Township Fire Protection District Board of Trustees. I look forward to working with Dave as he gets acclimated in committee assignments and has the opportunity to provide input to the Board. WELCOME Dave

The IAFFPD 2017 Conference will be June 22-24, 2017 in Peoria. The conference theme this year is "**Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders Today**". The Conference committee and staff have finalized presenters, demonstrations, and vendors for the Conference. One of the IAFFPD goals is to continue to strive to be the best fire service conference in Illinois. The 2017 conference is one that you won't want to miss. Remember this is your opportunity to improve your plans and future plans by creating relationships with suppliers, share practical innovations and important new trends which will result in improvements to your fire district. Additional conference information is available in this issue of *The Fire Call* and on newly built website www.iaffpd.org.

We also are celebrating the our 75th Anniversary throughout the conference and have special gifts, displays and guests.

If you have a conflict with attending our conference, there are two items I am requesting you do. One is complete the credentials and proxy forms and send them to the IAFFPD Office this will assist us in assuring we meet our requirements for the annual meeting. If you have a change and can attend our conference the proxy can be "pulled" and you can express your vote in person.

I want to thank the IAFFPD members, and our Fire Service partners, that attended the annual Fire Service Legislation Day activities March 8, 2017. The event is an important day to be recognized as a member of the Illinois fire services. Also important is to be sure the members of the General Assembly know who we represent as an organization (70% of the total number of fire departments in the state are fire districts).

Next is the 2017 Recognition and Awards Program. Years of Service, Outstanding Trustee Recognition and Fire Service Recognition awards will be presented during the annual banquet on

Saturday evening. It is always gratifying to see our member District Trustees recognized for their years of service and the dedication and devotion to their fire district. This issue of *The Fire Call* contains award forms to be completed and submitted. The forms are also available on the IAFFPD web site (www.iaffpd.org) and can be completed on-line, faxed or US mailed to the IAFFPD Office. If there are any questions about the forms please call the IAFFPD Office.

As always, I, the IAFFPD Board and Staff will continue to attend training sessions, open houses, dedications and other activities. If any Fire District would like a Director or Area Representative to meet with them or attend any of your fire district functions, please reach out to us via the Office Staff and arrangements will be made.

See you all in June! ■

Michael Dillon, Braidwood FPD
IAFFPD, President

Notice to IAFFPD Members:

The Annual Membership meeting will be held in conjunction with the 74th Annual Conference on Friday, June 23, 2017 at 5:00 pm at the Peoria Civic Center.

Membership Credentials Certification is required to vote at the Annual Meeting.

One vote per District by Credentials or by Proxy.