

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Michael Dillon, President
Braidwood FPD*

I hope everyone's holiday season was enjoyable and safe. I want to extend our best wishes to all in 2018.

The 2018 IAFPD Administrative Trustee Training Sessions (ATS) are underway and the on-line registration is available, dates and locations are provided for all sessions in this issue of *The Fire Call* and on the IAFPD website.

The 2018 Winter Conference is February 16 and 17 in Fairview Heights. For the fourth year, this is another opportunity to get the legal and legislative update and hear about a few other timely topics, meet other fire trustees, visit with vendors, to openly discuss fire service issues.

After the ATS are completed, our attention will be on the 75th Annual Conference. The Conference Committee has been working on securing the speakers and vendors for the Conference. This year's theme is **"FOCUS ON THE MISSION"**. The conference will again be held in Peoria June 21 through June 23, 2018. As always, the annual conference provides education, member recognition, entertaining social events and a great tradeshow. This is one event you don't want to miss.

A reflection on 2017 activities:

On-line Learning Programs are established, the first webinar was conducted in November 2017 with 25 participants. This webinar received good reviews from the attendees. I want to thank the Education Committee, IAFPD staff and PSI (the webinar sponsor) for their work in developing the online learning programs. All programs are available to view at your leisure and can be ordered

through the education tab of the IAFPD website.

December 18th Governor Rauner signed the opt-in resolution for Illinois to join the FirstNet nationwide interoperability communications network. At past conferences we have had presentations on FirstNet and the nationwide system. As of December 28th all 50 states had signed into the FirstNet program. There is still a lot of work to do to get this program initiated, we have an article in this issue of *The Fire Call* that starts to explain FirstNet. I will make sure we provide future articles in *The Fire Call* to keep our members apprised of the program and its progress.

The Awards and Recognition committee calls on the members to submit names and nominees for the Trustee's Years of Service recognition and Outstanding Service Awards. Information is included in this issue and on the IAFPD website.

As we begin 2018, I want to THANK all our members for renewing their membership. Membership is an important

component to any organization, the IAFPD is fortunate to have a stable and growing membership base.

As a member of IAFPD, you are entitled to a vote at the Annual Membership Meeting held on Friday, June 22, 2018 (in conjunction with the Annual Conference) at the Peoria Civic Center at 5:00pm. Each district gets one vote and may be done by Credentials Certification or by Proxy. Please get your form completed at your next board of trustee meeting.

As always, I, the IAFPD 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 let the Office Staff know and arrangements will be made. ■

Best Regards
Michael Dillon, Braidwood FPD
IAFPD, President

IAFPD 33rd Annual 2018 Administration Training Sessions (ATS)

Presented by:

*Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts; Illinois Fire Service Institute and the
Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal*

Two sessions Remaining:

March 3 - IFSI, Champaign - legal training by: John Brady & Jim Sinclair

March 24 - Cherry Valley FPD - Legal training by Shawn Flaherty

Visit iafpd.org for more information!