

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Michael Dillon, President
Braidwood FPD*

The year is approaching its end, and what a year it was for IAFFPD. The combined conference with the Illinois Fire Chiefs was undoubtedly one of the newest endeavors and will go on the books as a great partnership we are working to repeat in 2024.

The IAFFPD Day at the Illinois State Fair Fire Safety Tent was another great outcome, and I hope we can continue seeing new faces choosing to volunteer on our work day. We are very grateful to Brad Miller of the Springfield Fire Department for arranging a half dozen Fire Explorers for their participation and the Promos 911 staff (Erin & Jodi) for joining us for the first time. Thank you, Brett Kunkel, for his service to the Illinois Fire Services Association State Fair Committee.

We have a few other committees and members working together on plans for the fall season of education and the year ahead. The Strategic Planning Committee is focusing on meeting the needs of our membership and promoting the services to those who are not utilizing us.

The Education and Conference committees are hitting the ground running by developing timely program ideas for the webinar platform, pension training programs, the Continue Trustee Education (CTE), and Winter Conference details.

This time of year is great for reminding your trustees to review the Annual calendar and checklist, renew your IAFFPD membership, and calendar one of the upcoming trustee training sessions offered online and in person next year. These dates are listed in this issue of The Fire Call and on our website IAFFPD.org.

Since 2015, the IAFFPD has headed South each Winter, and we are pleased to announce the Winter Conference will be held February 16 and 17, 2024, in O'Fallon, Illinois. This two-day event offers about 6 hours of excellent training with plenty of time to socialize with other trustees, visit vendors, and converse with several exceptional speakers.

The Publications Committee wants to remind every fire district about this magazine (The Fire Call), which is the best way to stay informed on Association programs and emerging issues that impact the fire service and fire protection district administration. Every trustee is entitled to a subscription and should receive this at their home address every February, May, July, and November.

The legislative committee has been meeting and working on reviewing a few new and some repeat initiatives to submit to the General Assembly in January. This issue contains a nice recap of the recent legislative actions prepared by our lobbyist Brittan Bolin, and counsel James Sinclair. Please take a few minutes to review and discuss with your fellow trustees. Thank you to all who have supported our efforts

throughout the year and our legislative team for their work!

The IAFFPD Foundation Fundraising Committee brought back an event from the past that was a resounding success! Congratulations to Steve & Kathy Schultz, Larry & Debby Brown, and Don Loos for the work you put into the August Golf Outing held in St. Anne. We had record-breaking attendance and an incredible outcome for the Scholarship Program. Thank you for the dedication to the planning, and a friendly shout-out to those who supported the event!

Just recently, your district should have received the membership renewal packet. Thank you in advance for renewing your membership to keep receiving The Fire Call while showing support for what we do for you. If you need more information on ways your district can work with the IAFFPD or have questions on how the IAFFPD can assist your district, the Board of Directors, Staff, and I invite you to reach out to us. ■

Sincerely
Michael Dillon, Braidwood FPD
IAFFPD President

NEW DATE:

September 15-18, 2024 - Peoria Civic Center

Illinois Fire Service Conference
2nd Annual Combined Conference