

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Michael Dillon, President
Braidwood FPD*

Well, masks, COVID-19 vaccinations and testing are still issues facing everyone in Illinois. Like a broken record, for those who remember what records are, I feel I must re-remind all that we must stay vigilant in protecting our first responders and continue to work to get things somewhat back to normal. Your association is doing its best to keep everyone informed, through blast emails and website postings. If anyone needs additional covid information let us know and we will try to put you in contact with people that might be able to further assist you.

Education and Training – Throughout this issue of the Fire Call and on the IAFFPD website, you can find the educational activities being conducted around the State. Our education committee has developed the 2022 schedule the upcoming training programs. The Essential Trustee Training (ETT) is being offered at West Chicago FPD on November 12 & 13, 2021. The Continuing Trustee Education (CTE) sessions are being planned for January 29, 2022 (virtual only), February 5 at John Wood Community College hosted by Tri-Township FPD, on March 5, 2022 at IFSI Champaign, (in-person only), and finally March 26, 2022 at Cherry Valley FPD (in-person only). The 8th Annual Winter conference is returning to an in-person event at the Regency Conference Center in O'Fallon in February 11 & 12.

Visit the IAFFPD website for a look at many select topics available on-demand in the Online Learning Library. Thank you to Damon Schuldt and Ken Yeakley as the cochairs to the Education and Conference Program committees for their leadership

and to the staff for their work on logistics for all of the above programs.

Resources – the IAFFPD still has useful publications available to assist your fire district and their respective duties. This magazine always contains timely content on real issues we all face as local governments in Illinois. Thanks to the publications committee and office staff for the jobs they do. The IAFFPD website (iaffpd.org) is loaded with great resources and information including links to other agencies who are navigating us through the pandemic, various grant programs and so much more.

Communications – We rely heavily on our members to update the fire district's contact information. This is an ongoing project that urges you to inform the office of any changes, when your trustees retire or take another seat within the district. It is also helpful for us to know which members have a pension board or fire commissioners so they too receive the communications sent out from our office. The office staff puts out regular blast email messages and other information between

the printed and mailed magazine. If you are not receiving them, you can subscribe on the home page of the website or simply send an email to the office (info@iaffpd.org).

Legislation – The legislation committee has been meeting and working on issues to be submitted to the General Assembly in January 2022. The annual Legislative summit with the Illinois Fire Services Association will be held on November 9th at the Office of the State Fire Marshal. This issue of The Fire Call has an report on the legislative activities for the year.

Membership renewals have been sent out. Please renew your membership to continue receiving The Fire Call, member discounts on training sessions and many other valuable benefits. If you need more information on ways your district can work with the IAFFPD or questions on how the IAFFPD can assist your district, the Board of Directors, Staff and I are interested in hearing from you. ■

Michael Dillon, Braidwood FPD
IAFFPD, President

Thank You for Your Commitment and Leadership with the IAFFPD



Charles Swanson, Albany FPD retired 7/1/21



Mike Hinz, Lake Egypt FPD retired 10/1/21