

# 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 2019.

The first few months of the year provides ample educational opportunities for IAFFD members. The Annual Administrative Trustee Sessions (ATS) are currently underway as I write this message with two more events to attend: March 2 at IFSI and March 23 in Cherry Valley. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Conference is February 15 & 16 in O'Fallon, Illinois and includes a couple timely topics and a few vendor displays. Each educational program presents legal and legislative updates and other timely information related to your role and the administration of a fire protection district.

Also in 2019, we will continue expanding the online learning offerings. The education page of the website contains a library with ten webinars as well as notices on other upcoming sessions.

The Board of Directors met January 12 and 13 for the first quarterly meeting of the new year. One of our discussions and actions was to review the proposal by the Illinois State Fire Marshal to adopt NFPA 101, Life Safety Code (2015 edition). The life safety code currently being used is NFPA 101 (2000 edition), has been in effect since 2002. The changes and improvements in technology and safety innovations make it necessary that this code be maintained on a current basis. The Board of Directors of the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts voted unanimously to support the Fire Marshal's proposal. The IAFFD Board feels that having an updated Code is important in maintaining and achieving

the highest level of safety for the residents and property owners throughout the State of Illinois.

There are links on the Fire Marshal's website to the text of proposed rules as well as fact sheets that relate to the proposed rule changes that everyone can review (I encourage you to take a few minutes and look at the rule changes). (<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/Resources/Pages/Proposed-Rule-Changes.aspx>), the fact sheets are What is the Life Safety Code? And Why is the OSFM updating the Life Safety Code? And Where Does the Life Safety Code Apply? These fact sheets will give the reviewer a better sense of the impact that this change may have on your community or fire district.

The Board of Directors also welcomed newly appointed Area Representative, Art Kilburg from the Fulton Fire Protection District to serve a one-year term representing the Quad Cities area of the state. Kilburg served as a Volunteer Fire Officer & Ambulance EMT-B for 15 years and became a member of the Fulton FPD Board of Trustee in 2015. We look forward to his involvement and leadership with IAFFD in 2019.

Don't forget to save the date. What date? The date of the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Peoria on June 27, 28 and 29, 2019. The conference committee has been conducting monthly meetings since August 2018 to assure we will have another great conference you won't want to miss. The IAFFD Conference also includes the Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, June 28 and each District is entitled to a vote which can be conducted

with the Credentials Certification on the facing page of this message. Please have this form completed at your next Board of Trustee meeting.

I want to thank each of your fire protection districts and Associate members for renewing your IAFFD membership for 2019. Membership is an important component to any organization, the IAFFD is fortunate to have a stable and growing membership base. ■

Best Regards  
Michael Dillon, Braidwood FPD  
IAFFD President



*Secretary of the IAFFD board swears in  
New Area Rep Appointee Art Kilburg*