

A note from our outgoing President:

I want to begin by thanking our members for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president this past year. My time on the executive board has been a very rewarding and at times, interesting experience. Just months into my tenure on the board, we had to make a decision regarding the 2020 Conference and the COVID Pandemic. The board decided to cancel the conference just prior to the governor shutting events down state-wide. We transitioned to a virtual conference in 2021, which gave us the tools to offer some other trainings virtually. Although not as compelling, we updated the association's bylaws and policies over the past few years. These updates better align with our current practices and will help us move forward.

Thank you to my fellow board members, committee chairs, and committee members who have volunteered their time to the association. I also would like to acknowledge the amount of time and energy that our Executive Director Bob Morris, Deputy Executive Director Dan Riordan, and Administrative Assistant Monica Halverson put in to run the day-to-day activities of the association. Bob and Dan attend countless meetings and events to represent the association. In December, we will be swearing in our new board with David Wheeler as president. I look forward to seeing the association continue to grow under David's leadership.

I want to encourage everyone to become involved with the association. I know you will find the experience rewarding and invigorating. We are always welcoming new members onto any one of our committees. These include codes and professional development, fire and life-safety education, certification, social, fire and life-safety conference, fireworks, and public school advisory. The time commitment required for these positions is very limited, and I promise the experience will greatly benefit you and your organization. Please reach out to a board member if you would like further information on any of these committees.

Lastly, our holiday party is Thursday, December 7th at Roberto's Italian Restaurant in Elmhurst starting at 6pm. Please come join us at this event. This is a great opportunity for all of us to socialize at an event outside of our normal working hours.

Sincerely,
Michael Rons
President, Illinois Fire Inspectors Association

Last month new officers were elected to the Board of Directors. They are David Wheeler, Oak Lawn – President, Scott McBride, Roselle – Vice President; Jason Staidl, Ek Grove Village – Secretary; Dan Medina, Addison – Treasurer. Welcome them when you next see them.

At the end of this report, you will see the dates of some upcoming Fire Inspector 1 and 2 classes, as well as the Public Fire and Life Safety Educator class. You can sign up for those now. **Please note: scholarships are available!** You can fill out an application, that is on our website, now.

There is still time to join us on December 7th, from 6 – 9- pm, when the IFIA will be having a holiday party. This is a good time to get together outside of work and enjoy the season. Appetizers will be provided, and there will be a cash bar. If you will be attending the party, please sign up on the IFIA website so we will have an idea of attendees. The location is Roberto's Italian Restaurant, in Elmhurst.

Recognizing that there are many not as fortunate as us, we will be collecting new or gently worn winter clothing – coats, gloves, hats, etc. to be donated for distribution. If you would like to make a clothing donation, and cannot attend the holiday party, simply contact the IFIA office and we will make contact with you to get the clothing



CONTACT PERSON: SOCIAL CHAIR
SAMMYG5781@GMAIL.COM



DATE: 12/07/2023

IFIA ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

The IFIA will be collecting new or gently used winter clothing to give to those less fortunate. Donations will be accepted at our holiday party. If you are unable to make the party, and would like to donate, contact a Board member or the IFIA for assistance.

Please come out and join your fellow Fire Inspectors and Fire & Life Safety Educators for a great holiday party. We will be serving food and soft drinks, and a cash bar available. We will also have some fun door prizes!

Location:
Roberto's Italian Restaurant
483 Spring Road, Elmhurst

PARTY TIME: 6 PM TO 9 PM

Please RSVP to ifiafire@illinoisfireinspectors.org by December 1, 2023

The Board will be holding an annual planning meeting on December 7th. If there are any items you feel the IFIA should do, or change, contact a Board member or our office.

Membership renewals for the 2024 have been sent out. Please include all of the personnel you would like listed. We know that many have changed positions or retired, so we will use the list of names you provide to supersede anything we now have.

The 2024 Fire and Life Safety Conference will be held at the Par-a-Dice hotel in East Peoria on March 20-22. There will be a “pre-conference” the afternoon of March 19th. This will be free to IFIA members. The early bird cost of the full conference is only \$350. You can sign up now on our website.

The Board has developed way for companies to sponsor the activities of the IFIA. These are good for a calendar year, and if one is able to commit prior to mid-December, we will be able to recognize them in our pre-conference program going out prior to the end of December.

Sponsorship levels:

a. Bronze

- i. \$500 – \$749 donation.
- ii. Recognition on the website.
- iii. Recognition in the weekly blasts.
- iv. Recognition in the pre-conference program for our annual conference.
- v. Recognition in the on-site program for our annual conference.
- vi. Certificate of recognition.

b. Silver

- i. \$750 - \$999 donation.
- ii. Recognition on the website.
- iii. Recognition in the weekly blasts.
- iv. Recognition in the pre-conference program for our annual conference.
- v. Recognition in the on-site program for our annual conference.
- vi. Certificate of recognition.
- vii. Eligible for ½ price booth at our annual conference.
- viii. A quarter page ad in on the on-site program for our annual conference.

c. Gold

- i. \$1,000 and above donation.
- ii. Recognition on the website.
- iii. Recognition in the weekly blasts.
- iv. Recognition in the pre-conference program for our annual conference.

- v. Recognition in the on-site program for our annual conference.
- vi. Certificate of recognition.
- vii. Eligible for free booth at our annual conference.
- viii. A half page ad in on the on-site program for our annual conference.

Upcoming events:

- Holiday party December 7th – Elmhurst
- Inspector 1 - Romeoville, Thursdays Jan 4 – Feb 1
- Virtual mini-seminar – January 26
- Virtual mini-seminar – February 23rd
- IFIA Annual Fire and Life Safety Conference – March 19 – 22, 2024
- Public Fire and Life Safety Educator, Huntley – April 8-10 and 15-16
- Inspector 2 - Romeoville, Thursdays Sept 5 – Oct 3

Save the Date

**47th Annual
Fire and Life
Safety Conference**

March 20 – 22, 2024
Par-a-Dice Hotel, East Peoria, IL

FREE
Pre-conference
for IFIA members
March 19.
Non-members \$30

To see the latest in the State for CRR, visit their website at www.illinoiserr.com.



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