

IFIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE



The Holidays are fast approaching and we especially need to promote fire safety through the holidays. Make sure you reach out through newspapers, cable channels, Village newsletters, church bulletins, and any other means you can think of. We need to remind the public that fire safety during the holidays is paramount.

Our Awards Luncheon was a success with over 70 in attendance. Many well deserving people were recognized. Thanks to the committee members and office staff that helped put that event together. Great Job! If you did not have a chance to attend, the people recognized on October 28th were:

Lonnie Jackson	Linda Brady – Skokie FD
New Horizon	Renee Grzeskiewicz - Tinley Park FD
	Sandy Dominik – Lemont FPD
Achievement	Mark White – Franklin Park FD
Fire Chief	Ronald Kleinhaus – Evergreen Park FD
Youth Hero	Natthew Kackert
Adult Hero	Joseph Baber
	Larry Heath

Community Risk Reduction Survey; A Bolingbrook Deputy Chief is asking for our assistance with a project he is doing for a project at the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer Program. The course is on Executive Analysis of Community Risk Reduction.

This simple survey focuses on identifying the hazards associated with the improper disposal of smoking materials. All of the information gathered from the survey is anonymous and completely confidential. Please complete no later than December 5, 2016.

Community Risk Reduction is something that will help all of us in doing our jobs of making our communities safer. That this is taught at the EFO program at the National Fire Academy says a lot. Please help him, and the fire service, by completing this short survey. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B7JBJK3>

The annual fire services legislative summit was held in Champaign. There is an attached report from Mike Toika, our Legislative Liaison, which details the events of that day.

In an effort to clean up the office a bit, we have several old code books and training manuals. These will be sold at discount prices. While these might not be the most current books, many are only one edition old, and still contain much good useful information. See the attachment for a complete listing of books and prices. If you pick up the books from the office, or at one of our meetings, there is no additional cost. If however you need them shipped to you, we will add whatever the shipping costs to us are.

The Combined Conference is March 22 – 24. Our keynote is Tim Sandelbach with Firehouse Magazine. Those who have heard him previously will know he is not to be missed. Now would be a good time to begin securing a room for this event. That can be done through the following ways: By calling 1-800-547-0711 and referencing code **0321FIR**, or by going to <http://www.paradicecasino.com/groups> and typing in **0321FIR**. In the next few days a one page flyer will be out highlighting the topics for the conference.

Our earliest records show that the IFIA has been around since 1967. So in recognition of that fact, next year (50 years of the IFIA) the Board has decided to offer a FREE seminar to IFIA members. If you are not a member of the IFIA, the cost to attend is only \$25. The class will be held the afternoon prior to the combined conference to make it convenient for anyone that would like to attend both. This will be taught by NFPA, and the topic will be Teaching Strategies for Effective Public Education. The course description is:

This interactive workshop will provide data-driven guidance to both new and seasoned educators who want to work with a variety of different age groups and backgrounds. Participants will learn about the prevalent fire risks across age groups, and key characteristics to consider when planning instruction. They will also gain an in-depth knowledge of NFPA educational materials and be able to confidently select appropriate materials and strategies for audiences of different ages and demographics. Participants will leave the workshop ready to tailor fire prevention presentations to meet the needs of each audience.

You can sign up for this now at our website. It is one of the choices when registering for the Combined Conference. You can, however, just register for this class. As an incentive, if you register by December 31, you will be eligible for a raffle by NFPA for a Sparky 65th anniversary challenge coin.

For our members in central and southern Illinois, **Fire Team USA is coming to Illinois!** It will be held November 17th, from 9:00 – 4:00, with lunch served, in Springfield. The workshop, lunch, and resource information is provided **free of charge**. Registration is easy, log on to www.fireteamusa.com and register today.

It is a pleasure to report that RB 129, the proposal that would have moved residential fire sprinkler requirements in one and two family dwellings to the appendix of the International Residential Code (IRC), has been defeated. The fire service and our allies were present to ensure the vote was as positive as Baltimore, just with a lot less people. Our IRC Project team and Residential Committee is to be commended for their diligent efforts in making sure the information was distributed to the right people who would ensure their voices were heard. We cannot thank all our dedicated fire service friends who traveled locally and nationally to ensure they were present for another challenge to all our efforts in the past. We will now prepare for the online vote, which will start in a couple of weeks. The positive to this outcome is that our opponents will have to have a 2/3rds majority to overcome what we just ensured in Kansas City.

In addition to the IRC, there were many votes throughout the International Fire Code that were critical to fire sprinklers and I am pleased to say that all votes have been positive to the property and life saving benefits of fire sprinklers

A Consumer Product Safety Commission Recall; Sherwood Marketing Recalls 3 Squares Rice and Slow Cookers Due to Fire, Electric Shock Hazards
<https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Sherwood-Marketing-Recalls-3-Squares-Rice-and-Slow-Cookers>

For those communities building new fire, police, or educational buildings should be aware of requirements in the 2015 IBC on storm shelters. See the info that follows. To help with that, there is a seminar on the requirements found in Section 423. A link to the flyer is http://masonryadvisorycouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/DEC-7_seminar_flyer.pdf

423.3 Critical emergency operations. In areas where the shelter design wind speed for tornados in accordance with Figure 304.2(1) of ICC 500 is 250 MPH, 911 call stations, emergency operation centers and fire, rescue, ambulance and police stations shall have a storm shelter constructed in accordance with ICC 500.

423.4 Group E occupancies. In areas where the shelter design wind speed for tornados is 250 MPH in accordance with Figure 304.2(1) of ICC 500, all Group E occupancies with an aggregate occupant load of 50 or more shall have a storm shelter constructed in accordance with ICC 500. The shelter shall be capable of housing the total occupant load of the Group E occupancy.

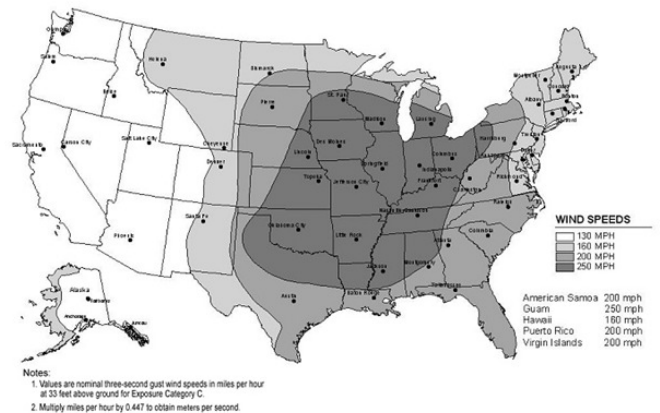


FIGURE 304.2(1) SHELTER DESIGN WIND SPEEDS FOR TORNADOES

For many communities, your fire alarms are being monitored by central stations. In the event some of you did not know, ADS had a service disruption issue that might be affecting some of your accounts. You may want to check with your businesses and make sure they are aware of the potential issue, and if it affects them that they take any needed action.

Excerpts from their email that discuss the problem and the anticipated correction time follows:

“As you likely know, we've been working to correct a service disruption that could be affecting the transmission of alarm signals in your community. The issue is the failure of two AES radio communication networks that allow our company to monitor alarm signals. AES is the manufacturer of the mesh radio technology utilized by many private alarm companies in our area, including units deployed under the Keltron brand name.

The total number of affected radios is approximately 10,500. The alarm systems will still operate at the protected premises, but may fail to communicate alarm signals to our central station.

To restore service, we must initiate in-person, service visits for every non-functioning radio. Not all affected properties are without monitoring. Many locations have redundant communication paths that allow alarm signals to reach our monitoring station. Our other

20,000 customers remain unaffected by the outage and continue to transmit alarm signals without issue.

We are working with AES (the company that supplies transmitters) and have recruited the help of other alarm companies to accelerate the replacement process. As of October 21, we had completed approximately 3,800 service visits to repair affected radio units with an emphasis on high risk facilities (schools, daycares, hospitals, etc.), as well as locations that are important for expediting the restoration of service. We are on track to restore service to an overwhelming majority of our customers by mid-November. However, a setback due to product shortages, technical issues, weather events or other circumstances would affect our timeline.

We understand that this service disruption has added strain to your efforts in protecting your communities, and we apologize for the inconvenience we've caused. We also thank you for your support, and for your vigilance in ensuring the safety of your residents and businesses.

If you have questions, you can contact our company, and we will try to respond as quickly as possible. But, as you can understand, our entire focus is on resolving this problem and so we might not be immediately available to respond.”

It has come to our attention that there is a company in the west suburbs that is selling a faux sprinkler head - preliminary patent pending. Its purpose is to serve as a dual band antenna. It is white and made of plastic. To help locate it, the fusible element is not a glass bulb. Rather it appears to give the appearance to two small arched bars attached to a larger straight one that goes down to the "deflector". We have not seen an actual product, only a diagram. You should be aware that this product could be in your buildings. Common thinking is that this is not allowed, as the codes do not allow anything that gives the appearance of fire protection equipment, but actually is not.

Please note an attachment from the OSFM. It is their November newsletter. It talks about their new Fire Prevention Division Manager, Dale Simpson. Welcome aboard.

Our next mini-seminar and meeting is November 18th . Note that we are one week earlier due to Thanksgiving. Our Holiday Party is December 16th, please see the website to sign up for both.

Check the website for the following upcoming events:

Mini seminar and meeting November 18
Fire Inspector II in October/November in New Lenox
Public FLSE in November in Downers Grove
Fire Alarm ITM December 6 in Buffalo Grove
Holiday luncheon December 16

Until next month...