

IFIABOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE



My first month as President has been very busy with the Board.

As far as our committees go, the Fire and Life Safety and Codes and Professional Standards people have been working hard on our annual Combined Conference, which is coming soon! The conference dates March 22 – 24. Our keynote is Tim Sandelbach with Firehouse Magazine.

You can secure a room for this event 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**. A full program of courses and descriptions is available on our website.

Or earliest records show that the IFIA has been around since 1967. So in recognition of that fact, 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 Tuesday 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. You need not attend the full conference to attend this half day class. 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.

Make sure you register before Feb. 15 th. After Feb. 15 th the cost of the conference goes up \$70. We already have over 83 registered for the conference.

Membership notices were emailed in Nov. 2016. As of February 2 nd , 92 fire departments and nine associate members have sent in their dues. This is important as it is one of two main ways we are able to provide quality education to inspectors and educators throughout the State. If you have not paid, please pay your dues now. It will save the office much work, and it helps the IFIA.

Our Awards Luncheon is in October, but we recognize a recipient at the Combined Conf. If you know of someone worthy of the Lonnie Jackson Award for Fire and Life Safety Education, submit that person now. The deadline is March 1 st . For a description of the award and the nomination form, go to our website. We know people are worthy of recognition, we just need those departments to forward the names to us for consideration.

Mike Toika, our Legislative Representative, he has been very busy watching two bills that the

IFIA is extremely interested in. Mike and our Lobbyist Chip Humes have been keeping a close eye on these bills, and as we know more details to pass on to our membership, we will do so.

Requests from our members:

If you have amendments to the fire code for editions 2012 or 2015 I would appreciate it if you could forward a copy of the amendments to the email or fax. If you have any questions you can call me at 847-368- 5594. Email (preferred) dlay@vah.com

- Is anyone aware of a State requirement to retain building plan reviews after the building is completed and occupied?
- If there is a requirement, how long do they have to be retained?
- How long does your department keep these plans?
- In what format do retain these docs., ie. original paper drawings, PDF, etc.?

Reply to mmurphy@alfpd.org

Note the attached ICC report for January.

Consumer Product Safety Commission recalls

- Country Home Products Recalls Field & Brush Mowers Due to Fire and Burn Hazards: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Country-Home-Products-Recalls-Field-and-Brush-Mowers>
- HP Expands Recall of Batteries for HP and Compaq Notebook Computers Due to Fire and Burn Hazards: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/HP-Expands-Recall-of-Batteries-for-HP-and-Compaq-Notebook-Computers>
- Pulse Performance Recalls Children's Electric Scooters Due to Fall Hazard; Sold Exclusively at Target: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Pulse-Performance-Recalls-Childrens-Electric-Scooters>

If you are a rural fire department, NFPA is seeking your assistance:

NFPA is hosting a fire and life safety symposium on May 12 & 13, 2017 in the Boston area to bring together representatives from rural fire departments across North America. The symposium will help NFPA assess fire and life safety education needs and gain a clear picture of rural fire department challenges related to prevention. Participants will help us better serve rural and volunteer fire departments in their public education, prevention, and Community Risk Reduction efforts.

Who should attend?

Symposium attendees will be members of rural fire departments within North America and should have an interest in fire and life safety education. We hope to bring together a dynamic group of representatives who span fire department roles, geographical regions, and levels of experience in education and prevention.

If you are interested in attending, please complete the online survey. Your input on this survey will help us invite the right mix of rural firefighters.

The survey will be open through March 15, 2017. Invitations will be extended to selected participants by March 20, 2017.

NFPA will cover travel, lodging, and meal expenses for invited participants.

For more information about the Rural Fire and Life Safety Symposium, go to nfpa.org/rural or contact Karen Berard-Reed at kbreed@nfpa.org.

Due to the price increases in lunch costs at the Shriners, we are forced to increase the lunch only price to \$25. If you register for the mini-seminar, which includes lunch, that fee will remain unchanged, as we will absorb that cost.

We are co-sponsors of a day-long workshop on Community Risk Reduction on February 21 st , in Addison. This event is limited to two people per department. It is strongly encouraged that a chief officer attend this workshop too. See the attachment for more details.

As number of U.S. multigenerational households continues to rise, NFPA and CPSC develop toolkit to address associated fire safety challenges.

Multigenerational households are on the rise: The number of Americans living under the same roof with at least three generations has doubled since 1980. While these living arrangements offer many benefits, they also present potential fire safety challenges. With that understanding, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) have developed a multigenerational toolkit featuring tips and recommendations to help increase multigenerational households' safety from fire.

"Multigenerational households may include older adults, very young children and people with disabilities who require added assistance in the event of a fire," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "Home fire safety planning and prevention is critical for all families, but for households with family members who have specific needs or limitations, advance planning is paramount to ensuring everyone's safety."

Campus fire safety grant legislation introduced:

At the end of January, the "Campus Fire Safety Education Act" was introduced in Congress. It will provide matching grant funds to colleges and universities to develop fire safety education programs for all students, throughout their academic career. This legislation was introduced by Congressmen Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) and Donald Payne (D-NJ) and Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ) at a press conference held at Seton Hall University in New Jersey, the site of the 2000 fire that killed three students.

You can read the press release from Congressman Pascrell's office here:

<https://pascrell.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/pascrell-menendez-payne-fire-safety-advocates-announce-bill-protecting>

Check the website for the following upcoming events:

Feb 24 – mini seminar on Bulk CO2 systems and NFPA 55, and membership meeting

March 21 – afternoon pre conf – FREE to IFIA members

March 22 – 24 – Annual Combined conference in East Peoria

No March meeting due to the Conference

Until next month...