



Illinois Fire Inspectors Association

Serving Illinois Fire Departments Since 1967

A Message from the Board of Directors

The **State Fair** is almost upon us. The Fire Inspectors' day is **August 21st**, and we really need your help to staff the tent for our one day. This is the last day of the Fair, and we will be closed before 5 pm, so there is plenty of time to get home. Please become involved in another important part of your organization and join us as we spread the Public Education word in the State. We only ask that you spend a few hours in the tent to help out, so this can be a good day to bring the family down and everyone can enjoy the Fair.

It is important that you let the office know that you will participate, so we will have the proper parking and gate passes for you. Simply let the office know how many people will be coming and how many car passes you will need.

Our annual **golf outing** will be held on Aug 23rd at White Pines in Bensenville. This will be done in conjunction with the IL Automatic Fire Alarm Association. There will be raffles for a chance to win one million dollars and \$2,500, as well as many other par three hole-in-one games where people can win golf clubs, a vacation, cash, and even a car. Registration is capped at 144, and we have over 100 register already signed up, so don't wait. Registration is on our website as well as the IL-AFAA web page. To help ensure the success of this event, we would gladly accept any volunteers to work it, or anyone who might want to donate a prize. Remember that the IFIA is a 501c3 organization, so any donations are tax deductible.

The IFIA has planned a social event with a **Day at the Races** August 12th at Arlington Park Racecourse, 2200 W. Euclid, in Arlington Heights. Gates open at 2:00 pm, and the first post time is 3:15 pm. we will be at the Canopy's Winner's Circle. The cost of \$80 includes three hours of beer and wine starting at 2:30, and two hours of food at the Chef's Table also starting at 2:30. Registration is through the IFIA website, by phone 224-387-3340, by fax 224-387-3342, or email at ifiafire@illinoisfireinspectors.org

From August 24 – 29, from noon – 7 pm, there will be a 9-11 mobile exhibit at the Par a Dice hotel in East Peoria. All ages are welcome, and there is **No Charge**. The exhibit is a 53' trailer that turns into a 1,000 square foot exhibit. Don't miss out on this unique exhibit.

Speaking of the Par a Dice Hotel, it is not too late to plan for our 2017 Combined Conference. We are still taking calls for presentations for the conference. See the website or contact the Office if you know of anyone that might be interested, or have a topic that should be considered. **Remember that next year's conference has been moved up to March, so plan accordingly.**

You can start booking now! You can call 1-800-547-0711 and reference code 0321FIR, or you can book online by going to <http://www.paradicecasino/groups> and enter in code 0321FIR.

Community Risk Reduction(CRR) is defined in NFPA 1035, *Standard on Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist, and Youth Firesetter Program Manager Professional Qualifications*, as “programs, actions, and services used by a community, which prevent or mitigate the loss of life, property, and resources associated with life safety, fire, and other disasters within a community.”

Fire service leaders face a number of challenges getting the job done — protecting and serving the public, keeping up staff morale, maintaining safety standards for the department and community, facing budget cutbacks — all as resources become more limited. At times the job can seem daunting. However, there is a tool available to help fire service leaders keep pace with a constantly changing social, environmental, economic, and political climate: Community Risk Reduction. It’s the all-hazards solution to the all-hazards response that the modern fire service needs.

Many fire service organizations are hesitant to adopt a CRR approach because of the changes required within an organization. Fire service leaders need to keep in mind that CRR will make any fire service organization more efficient and effective in saving lives and property.

Attached is a NFPA document “Community Risk Reduction: Doing More With More”. CRR employs the full spectrum of risk-reduction tools. It allows you to identify your high-risk neighborhoods, determine your hazards, build partnerships, improve safety, and form effective strategies with limited resources. Pass this document around the station.

The IFIA will try to maintain current information regarding CRR on its website, so check it often.

ALERT: Did you know smoke alarms purchased online could be unsafe?

Help get the word out. Any alarms purchased from online retailers like Amazon may not carry testing labels from nationally recognized testing laboratories like Underwriter Laboratories (UL) or Intertek/ETL. Products without that label likely do not meet industry-accepted safety standards and may not accurately detect fire, notify you in a timely fashion, or operate for the desired time period or other critical functions.

Lastly don’t forget that we will not be having a monthly meeting in August. We will return to monthly meetings and mini-seminars on September 23rd.

Check the website for the following upcoming events:

Fire Inspector 1 class coming in September in New Lenox
Building and Fire Code Academy Plan Review Class in September in Elgin.
Fire Inspector 2 in October/November in New Lenox
Fire alarm plan review Oct 19 and 20 in Countryside
Public FLSE in November in Downers Grove
Fire alarm ITM Dec 6 in Buffalo Grove

Until next month...