

IFIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE



The Board and some of the membership have noted that the website we currently use is a bit difficult to navigate and does not always display properly on mobile devices. Consequently, the Board has hired a company that will make it more manageable. This work should fix the major concerns which we hear voiced. We would like to do a major revamp, but that is expensive and might be a year or more out due to the expense. If you have any comments or suggestions about our website, please send them to the office.

Our membership, like many other fire service groups, is seeing a decline in membership. The Board is looking into that in an attempt to find the reason(s) and to offer better incentives for memberships. Our dues have not increased in many years, and membership dues are one of the ways that the IFIA is able to continue to offer what we do.

We held our last month's membership meeting at a different location, Top Golf, in Naperville. This was a bit of an experiment for us and comments heard by the attendees were that it was a good time. Prior to the golfing was a seminar by Ret. Chief Alan Purdue on in-building communications. Many people walked away with a new appreciation for what is involved in communicating in many of the newer buildings.

It is very early, but also safe to say to plan for the 2018 Combined Conference on March 21 – 23 to be held at the Par a Dice Hotel in East Peoria. Our opening day keynote will be Gordon Graham. Many Chiefs and safety personnel will want to see him. Our second day keynote will be Rick DeAngelis. While the name may be unknown to most, he was the principal of Columbine High School at the time of the horrific shootings there. It is safe to say that this incident changed the way that police respond to active shooting incidents. Save the date, and invite your school administrators. This is a program that is not to be missed.

A reminder, in October we hold our annual Fire Prevention Awards luncheon. It is also the time we recognize deserving individuals in fire departments throughout the State. Unfortunately we just do not know who those people are. If you have someone deserving in your organization, submit them. The awards and forms can be [found at the IFIA website](#).

On May 24, from 9 a.m.—12 p.m. The New Lenox Fire Protection District is hosting a free class on Fire Alarm Off Premise Signaling class. The class will be presented by Tom Presnak, Lead Engineering Associate from Underwriters Laboratories. The class will be located at the New Lenox Fire Protection District, Station 1. See the attachment for more information.

Fire Team USA is coming to Illinois with a workshop for Illinois and Wisconsin participants on Thursday, May 25, 2017. The time will be from 8:30 – 4:00 and lunch will be served. This will be held at Gurnee Fire Department Station 2.

The Fire Team USA seminar is an initiative to bring fire marshals, fire chiefs, elected officials, building officials, and other stakeholders from our area together to learn and share fire prevention methods and alternatives that affect our quality of life. Public policy on fire protection is important in our communities for lots of reasons and a main concern is the well-being of our citizens as well as controlling the rising cost of providing such services. Policy makers, fire service officials, and other stakeholders must partner together to ensure that quality of life is maintained as our communities grow and transition. See the attachment for more information.

On June 5th, the OSFM will be offering a public school inspection class from 1:30 – 6, at the OSFM office in Springfield. See the attachment for more information.

Our Legislative Liaison, Mike Toika, offers the following comments from what he has been working on and following:

Senate Bill 1682 – Fire Alarm Professional Licensing Act did not make it out of committee. All bills that haven't made it out of committee are now "dead". We will keep you posted if any developments, such as resubmittal of the bill, etc.

House Bill 0531, Rep. Willis - Criminal Building Management Bill passed the House and is now moving to the Senate. IFIA worked with Rep. Willis on this Bill early on. This creates the offense of first responder endangerment, and provides that a person commits the offense when he or she knowingly creates a dangerous condition and intentionally conceals the dangerous condition in a commercial property under his or her management or operational control and the dangerous condition is found to be the primary cause of the death or serious bodily injury of a first responder in the course of his or her official duties. This would mean the violation is a Class 4 felony.

HB 3148, Rep. Hurley - Dilapidated Structures. Executive Director Morris went to Springfield on April 25th to testify in support of this bill. This bill would allow firefighters or police officers to place a large red "X" on a building found to be dilapidated and unsafe. It would then require the appropriate building department to make an inspection within one day to verify the situation. For Fire Districts, this should be a big asset for them.

HB 3773, Rep. Willis - Smoke Detector Act passed the House and now moves to the Senate.

The IFIA is looking at different ways to expand its Fire Inspector 1 and 2 offerings. As a result, we will need to expand the instructor base. If you have an interest to teach either of these classes, send the office an email expressing your desire, and include a short bio of yourself.

With the recent storms in our area, UL and NEMA have made available many brochures that may help you in your educational efforts. See the attachments for those materials.

Note of the ICC monthly chapter report attachment. There are many good items in it.

Take note of the recalls done by the Consumer Product Safety Commission:

Marin Mountain Bikes Recalls Bicycles Due to Fall, Crash Hazards: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Marin-Mountain-Bikes-Recalls-Bicycles>

Xootr Recalls Adult Kick Scooters Due to Fall Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Xootr-Recalls-Adult-Kick-Scooters>

Teavana Recalls Flip Tumblers Due to Burn Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Teavana-Recalls-Flip-Tumblers>

Anaheim and Moen Recall Garbage Disposals Due to Impact Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Anaheim-and-Moen-Recall-Garbage-Disposals>

Target Recalls Water Absorbing Toys Due to Serious Ingestion Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Target-Recalls-Water-Absorbing-Toys>

Customatic Beds Recalls Adjustable Beds Due to Electric Shock Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Customatic-Beds-Recalls-Adjustable-Beds>

Target Recalls Water Absorbing Toys Due to Serious Ingestion Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Target-Recalls-Water-Absorbing-Toys>

Bosch Solar Services Recalls Solar Panels Due To Fire Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Bosch-Solar-Services-Recalls-Solar-Panels>

Polaris Recalls Ranger 900 Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles Due to Fire and Burn Hazards: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Polaris-Recalls-Ranger-900-Recreational-Off-Highway-Vehicles>

Cost Plus World Market Recalls Windsor-Style Dining Chairs Due to Fall Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Cost-Plus-World-Market-Recalls-Windsor-Style-Dining-Chairs>

Food Dehydrators Recalled by Greenfield World Trade Due to Fire and Burn Hazards: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Food-Dehydrators-Recalled-by-Greenfield-World-Trade>

Razor Recalls RipStik Motorized Caster Boards Due to Fall Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Razor-Recalls-RipStik-Motorized-Caster-Boards>

Horizon Hobby Recalls Remote-Controlled Model Vehicles Due to Fire Hazard: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/horizon-hobby-recalls-remote-controlled-model-vehicles>

Women's Sweaters Recalled by FatFace Due to Violation of Federal Flammability Standard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Womens-Sweaters-Recalled-by-FatFace>

Chromag Bicycle Stems Recalled by Riser Holdings Due to Fall and Injury Hazards: <https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Chromag-Bicycle-Stems-Recalled-by-Riser-Holdings/>

HoMedics Recalls Massagers Due to Electric Shock and Burn Hazards: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/HoMedics-Recalls-Massagers-Due-to-Electric-Shock-and-Burn-Hazards>

Goodman Recalls Furnaces Due to Electrical Shock Hazard: <https://cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Goodman-Recalls-Furnaces>

Check the website for the following upcoming events:

May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 – Fire Inspector II Class

May 4 – Outdoor Events

June 12, 13, 14, 19 & 20, 2017 – FSLE Class

June 23 – Monthly Mini Seminar and Meeting

Aug 20 – IFIA State Fair Day

Until next month...