

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy 2015 Everyone,

Here is hoping that all your holiday plans were successful and enjoyable. I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association over the past years. Without your support this great organization could not have accomplished what it has.

For those who may not know me, my name is Mike Toika and I have been with the Addison Fire Protection District for over 36 years. I have been a part of the Addison Fire Protection District's Fire Prevention Bureau for 22 years, the last 4 as full time Fire Marshal.

I am honored to be the President of IFIA for the 2015 calendar year. To be in this position is very humbling to me and I could not have achieved this accomplishment without support from the Administration of the Addison Fire Protection District, my inspectors, and some very special friends who's support has been so very much appreciated (and yes you know who you are).

In 2015 I am hopeful that we can keep IFIA moving in a positive successful direction. Over the past few years we have attempted to become more active in Central Illinois, beginning with moving our Annual Fire and Life Safety Conference to East Peoria in 2014. The success of that conference has encouraged us to combine our Fire and Life Safety Conference with our Codes and Standards Fall Safety Seminar for our First Combined Education Conference. Included in this Conference is a partnership with the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance to include Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention educational tracts, and the IFIA Investigator Strike Force to include Fire Investigator educational tracts. As with any change there is confidence, but also uneasiness and tension. A conference of this size cannot succeed without the continued support of you, our membership, attendees, vendors, sponsors, other local and/or national organizations, and our existing partnerships. Our 2015 Conference promises to bring you great speakers, great topics, and the opportunity to expand partnerships, relationships, and friendships. For example, our Thursday Keynote speaker will be Walter Bailey. Mr. Bailey was a busboy the night of the Beverly Hills Supper Club Fire, and was credited with stopping the warm up act for headliner John Davidson, and assisting people in evacuating the club. He will be speaking on his experiences during that evening, and how it has impacted him throughout his life.

IFIA, however, isn't just about educational opportunities. We provide discounted manuals from NFPA and IFSTA, we are part of the Fire Advisory Committee of the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and the Fire Services Association which includes attending quarterly meetings in Champaign and Springfield. We are active in several legislative issues impacting the Fire Service as a whole, and in 2015 we will be presenting several legislative issues in Springfield which will impact the Fire Prevention arena in what we believe is a very positive way.

Speaking on behalf of the entire Board, I cannot thank you enough for your support. Without this support we would not be as successful as we are. We look forward to serving all of you as best we can. 2015 will be an exciting year for IFIA.

On another note you will start to see changes in our electronic monthly newsletter. As a Board we feel very strongly that we are a team, and that we cannot succeed without the support of each other. Therefore, you will no longer see a President's Message or Executive Directors Report in our newsletter. You will see a "Message from the Board of Directors".

In closing, I again want to thank each and every one of you for your continued support in 2015. THANK YOU!!

Respectfully,
Michael Toika
President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Tank you to all who attended our holiday party. It was great to see so many people, and to swear in our new elected board. Pictured below is Chief Markowski from Addison swearing in Mike Toika, Addison as President; Joe Welter, Buffalo Grove as Vice President; Ed Dunne, Evergreen Park as Secretary; and Dan Riordan, Tinley Park as Treasurer. I look forward to a lot of exciting things to happen this year.



We had a number of guests join us last month, but of special note was our lobbyist Chip Humes, and State Senator Tom Cullerton, who is pictured below with the Board. Thank you for your support.



We are extremely close to presenting a full schedule for the combined conference in East Peoria in April a partial listing of programs is shown in the flyer below. As you can see this partial list has something for everyone. Registration is available on our website, and hotel reservation information is listed below. The Embassy Suites said that if anyone would like to stay Friday evening, they will offer the same room rates. Just make sure you let them know you will be staying the additional night. Also, do not forget that rooms at the Embassy are limited. To ensure you staying there, reserve one now.

Join Us!

The Illinois Fire Inspector Association invites you to attend our 1st Annual Joint Spring Conference. This conference will include education classes for both Codes & Standards and Fire & Life Safety.

Some of the sessions being offered...

- Beverly Hills Supper Club Fire
- Vision 20/20
- Mass Evacuations
- Are You Missing 20% Of Your Population When Planning For Emergency Evacuations?
- Where We've Been, Where We Are At, And Where We Are Heading
- Kitchen Hoods
- Social Media
- Expecting The Unexpected
- International Building and Fire Code Updates
- Backflow - That's Not My Department
- Hoarding
- Internal Sprinkler Pipe Inspections, And What You Can't See On Sprinkler Heads
- Smoke Control - It's Not Just For High Rises
- Teacher Panel - Preschool And Elementary
- Teacher Panel - Jr High And High School
- Fire Detection Technology Advancements
- Fire Investigation Classes
- Photography For The Fire Investigator
- Safe Schools: Partnerships To Prevent Arson And Prank Fire Incidents
- Mental Health Help Five Cents: How To Get Mental Health Services In Your Network With Limited Availability Or Resources

www.illinoisfireinspectors.org

2015 COMBINED CONFERENCE
1st Annual
April 29th - May 1st

Registration Information
To register for the conference please click here.

Conference Fees

Before March 15th	Beginning March 15th
Full Conference - \$275	Full Conference - \$350
Daily Rate - \$150	Daily Rate - \$150

Hotel Accommodations

A block of rooms has been reserved with Embassy Suites East Peoria Hotel and Riverfront Conference Center at a rate of \$124 plus tax for single/double occupancy.

The cost of the hotel room is not included in the registration fee. To make a hotel reservation please contact the hotel directly by phone or website. Payment for the hotel must be paid separately and sent directly to the hotel.

Embassy Suites East Peoria
Hotel and Riverfront Conference Center
100 Conference Center Dr.
East Peoria, IL 61611
309.694.0200
www.embassysuiteseastpeoria.com

To make a reservation online
Visit their website. Select check in date and check out date. Click the blue link that reads "Add special rate codes". Enter INS into the Group Code box; choose your room; checkout

To make a reservation by phone
Call 1-800-EMBASSY;
Ask for Global
Reservations; State your check in and checkout date;
Mention your block IL Fire Inspectors and code INS

To make reservations on-line:
by phone:

Visit www.embassysuiteseastpeoria.com

Select check in date and check out date
Reservations

Click the blue link that reads
checkout Enter **INS** into the
"Add special rate codes"

Fire

Enter INS into the Group Code box
code **INS**

Select Check Availability

To make reservations

Call **1-800-EMBASSY**
Ask for Global

State your check in and
dates

Mention your block **IL**

Inspectors and

For those looking to get OSFM certification for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator, this class will be run in February at Countryside Fire District, in Lake County. If you are interested please contact the office to reserve your space.

- PFLSE at Countryside Fire District in Feb 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 2015



Now that we are in the new year, we "officially" are using our logo. It will be some time until everything gets changed over, but you will be seeing more and more of it now.

For anyone interested in the ICC COMMISSIONING CONSENSUS COMMITTEE, a teleconference will be held on January 26 on the development of the ICC 1000, Standard for Commissioning. The committee meeting will be at 1:00 pm Eastern Time.

The call in number for the meeting is: 1 800 910 8278
Conference code when prompted: 7896875

The purpose of this meeting is for the committee to continue the standard development.
The agenda will be posted on the ICC website at www.iccsafe.org.

One final item is dues. The office has sent out electronic dues reminders to our members. If you can click on the link, you can fill out the form and send it through to the office. We try to keep our costs low to you, and your prompt payment helps us do that. It will also allow you a lower cost to some of our classes, and a priority for when we have more registrations than a class can take.

Also, helping with the costs are books. Remind your training officers, and anyone else, that when IFSTA, NFPA, or other publisher's books are needed, we can provide them at the same cost as you are paying now. Delivery time is no different. So keep us in mind when it come to your libraries.

I hope you all have a great new year and I look forward to seeing many of you at our events.

Until next month...