

# IFIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE



The 40th annual IFIA conference in East Peoria is almost here, and there is still time to register for the conference. While you will be supporting your IFIA organization, you also have the chance to participate in networking, education, camaraderie, and sharing stories with fellow members. Networking at events like this can pay huge dividends in the future for you if you ever needed some help on a local issue.

The IFIA Board looks forward to seeing you there.

We are a little bit away from the Fourth of July, but that does not mean we can wait. The IFIA will be presenting a fireworks seminar on May 9th. The class will be presented by Gregg Smith from the American Pyrotechnics Association. Bob Wetzel from the Office of the State Fire Marshal will join in and present requirements specific to Illinois. We have over 100 registered, so sign up soon on our web page.

Regarding the school carbon monoxide law, we still do not have any more information to report to you regarding what specifically will be required. There are two pieces of legislation that are working their way through Springfield that you should be aware of.

The first has to do with the injury or death of a first responder due to a building violation. In part, it says that ...a person commits the offense when, having personal or professional management or control of commercial real estate, whether as a legal or equitable owner or as a managing agent or otherwise, he or she recklessly permits or causes the physical condition or facilities of the commercial real estate to become or remain in any condition which endangers the health or safety of a first responder and: (1) the condition endangering the health or safety of a first responder was a building code violation or resulted from work done with a proper permit; (2) the condition endangering the health or safety of a first responder is determined to be a contributing factor in the injury or death of that first responder; and (3) the person recklessly conceals or attempts to conceal the condition that endangered the health or safety of the first responder that is found to be a contributing factor in that injury or death. Provides that criminal building management is a Class 4 felony...

The second is related to amending the smoke detector act to require long life batteries in smoke alarms for new construction. Proposed language talks about using 10 year batteries. At the recent Vison20/20 conference a Board member was given a white paper from some battery companies. In it they suggest to not use the term 10 year. They state that results are coming in that some batteries are not lasting for 10 years. Their recommendation is to use the term "longer lasting" for these batteries. The issue of 10 year batteries vs longer life batteries may be something you will need to discuss locally if you are having any kind of a smoke alarm campaign.

Obviously we do not know what will happen in Springfield regarding these proposed bills, but we will keep you informed regardless.

One of our partners, the National Fire Sprinkler Association, is hosting a Rough and Final Inspection for Fire Sprinklers class on April 13 in Mundelein. There will also be a Sprinkler System Plan Review class May 11-12 in Lockport.

We have a request from one of our members. The South Elgin Fire District is looking into making changes to the way it gives citation notices for violations. If you could help with these questions and any documentation, that would be helpful.

- Does your Department or District issue a ticket for a Citation form. If you use a form could you please send a copy of the form you use?
- What is your Department or District policy if the business/owner would like to fight or challenge the Citation? Does the complainant plead the case to the Village/District Trustees or is there a special Judicator that hears the case.

If you would send a copy of your policy of fining, issuing citations and adjudication again this would be very helpful

David Carlson, Fire Inspector, South Elgin Fire Prevention Bureau

[dcarlson@southelginfire.com](mailto:dcarlson@southelginfire.com)

### **Save the Date**

The IFIA day at the Illinois State Fair is August 21st. Please volunteer just one day of your time and bring your public education talents with us to Springfield. The 21st is a Sunday, which should make it easier for people to attend. To allow for plenty of time to go home, we are usually done by 4:30. We always look forward to this fun day of education and sharing of information with the visitors to the State fair.

Our golf outing will be held on Aug 23rd at White Pines in Bensenville. This will again 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 50 are already signed up. Don't wait. Registration is on our website as well as the IL-AFAA web page.

We will again offer the Fire Inspector 1 and 2 classes this fall. Inspector 1 will start on Sept 1st and go for five Thursdays. Inspector 2 starts on October 18th and runs for five Tuesdays. Registration information will be on our website soon.

Additionally, we are planning another PFLSE class in November. Next month we will have dates and a location.

Until next month...