

IFIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MESSAGE



The IFIA Board would like to thank all of our members, vendors and organizations who participated in our events this past year. Without your support we would not be able to provide the networking, quality education, seminars, meetings and training that we do.

We would like thank Past President Mike Toika for his time and dedication these last four years. His commitment to the important legislative issues went above and beyond. He has helped our organization tremendously and he has been an asset to all of our members. We are pleased that he will be assisting in many future endeavors and we look forward to continue to work together with him on improving our organization as a whole.

We held a very successful 2016 planning meeting last month and would like to thank all that attended. We plan on continuing to communicate with our members and organizations throughout the coming year and look forward to your input and feedback.

The IFIA Organization offers the following services to its members;

- Monthly listing of upcoming events such as training and legislative issues
- Informational E-mail blast regarding new and important events and information
- Distributor of IFSTA training manuals, NFPA materials, Delmar/Cengage, Jones & Bartlett Publishers, and ICC Code manuals
- Provide quality educational seminars for our members at reasonable costs to our members
- Partner with OSFM to develop quality training
- Participate with the Illinois Fire Services regarding important legislative issues throughout the state
- Provide annual educational conference for all to learn, network and share comradery, all in one location

Please feel free to contact anyone of our board members with ideas regarding any issue we can address. We will be glad to review your request and respond accordingly.

This organization cannot succeed without your participation and contributions, so please continue to help us serve you as best we can in the coming year.

Education, training, networking and comradery is the basis of our IFIA Organization.

We hope you have a safe and healthy Holiday and New Year.

Thank you for your support and involvement.

Joseph Welter
IFIA President

The Board would also like to thank all those that attended our holiday party and swearing in of the 2016 officers last month. They will have a busy year.

With regard to the holiday party, we'd like to publically thank those that donated a gift:

Andrea Barghini
B & F Technical
Chicago Metro Fire Protection
Fire & Security Systems
Fox Valley Fire Protection
George Michehl
Knox Company
NFSA
NIFSAB
Promos 911
Rick Marek

Our sincere thank you to all of you. If we somehow missed anyone, our apologies, and please let us know. We would like to thank you.

At our planning meeting last month it was decided that certification class costs must increase. The cost for everything we do continues to go up in price, while the certification class fees have not had been increased in many, many years.

The changes taking place in 2016 will be:

- IFIA member costs will increase \$25 – members also have a preference in registration
- Non-IFIA member cost will increase \$100
- The student textbook will not be provided with the class.

It was felt that most departments have the book needed, or the student has access to one. Should the student desire their own book, it can be ordered through the IFIA office.

Don't forget that an IFIA member is the Department, not an individual.

We hope to see everyone on January 22nd, for our next mini-seminar and monthly meeting. The topic of the mini-seminar is on Fire Stopping. Registration is available on the website.