

Letter from the President



I hope everyone's Holidays were happy! This year's Board of Directors is excited to welcome each of you to our up and coming conference this February. We have a full agenda to cover and hope that you will be there to share your insights.

The Election for Directors will take place at the Annual meeting Saturday morning. Interested members should contact Marshall Gray Jr. of Bloomingdale or the office to participate. The NIAFPD Board members are selected from the trustees of our membership Districts. We encourage each District to participate! All your current officers are willing to continue on your behalf. Unfortunately, Dale Karlson of Orland FPD has now retired thereby causing an opening to be filled by appointment. Cindy Nelson-Katsenes of Orland FPD has agreed to fill this position through the next election.

A new set of Bylaw revisions are also scheduled to be voted on at the February 2006 Annual Meeting. Draft copies will be mailed to each member district. Primarily, the Board's focus is directed on our Education and Legislation involvements and is working to fund them accordingly but, needs the ability to move items forward when the membership does not meet quorum requirements.

The final conference meeting has been completed. The committee has produced a curriculum of applicable and beneficial presentations that will help each of us to improve the facilitation of our Districts. We wish to thank all of you who supplied ideas and information to make up the conference program. In addition, we feel that it is equally important to have peer recognition and who better than our membership to help us choose. Your input has been considered and nominations have been evaluated based on participation, progress, leadership and support. We are very excited to announce these years' recipients.

Look for the March Legislative Day announcement coming soon! Final arrangements are underway to make this year's Legislative Day a bigger success than the last one. Out of 22 bills submitted, we are happy to announce that 17 were passed this year. Great work by all involved in our united front! The NIAFPD is always striving to represent your Fire District and its needs in the best way possible. Help us educate your administrations and Fire Protection Districts. Be a part of determining each of our futures! "Stay safe", have fun, and thanks for doing what you do!

*Jack L. Mancione, President
Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts
Darien Woodridge Fire Protection District*

Message From Executive Director



The Holiday Season is behind us now!

As we begin a new year I want to say how much I enjoy working with all the members of the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts. If we look at the last year I can say we have made accomplishments:

- Our conference continues to grow and members are truly part of the conference team by calling with workshop topics and giving us suggestions on how our conference can better serve our membership.
- Our membership has increased due to our Board and membership encouraging non-members districts to join.

Continued on page 2

Fire Guard






PARAMEDIC SERVICES
of Illinois, Inc.

Earl J. Field
Chairman of the Board

9815 W. Lawrence Ave., Schiller Park, IL 60176
Phone: (847) 678-4900 Fax: (847) 678-2854



ANDRES **PATRICK J. MANNIX**
Chief Executive Officer

MEDICAL BILLING

3323 North Ridge Avenue • Arlington Heights, IL 60004
Phone: 847-577-8811 x227 • Fax: 847-577-9515
Cell: 847-507-6645
Email: pmannix@ANDRESMEDICAL.com • www.ANDRESMEDICAL.com

Message From Executive Director

Continued from page 1

- Our Annual Legislative Day with the IAFFPD and IFCA continues to be successful. Legislators continue to call our office and members to ask our stance on issues.
- The Margaret Schofield Memorial Fund contributions to our Education Fund will sponsor Administrative Training for Trustees on April 8, 2006, in Lisle, IL.
- The Board of Directors voted to participate in the Illinois Funds Partnership Program.
- The NIAFFPD participated in the Legislative Summit and identified issues to be presented to the Fire Caucus.

These are just a few of our accomplishment. We all need to thank President Jack Mancione, the Board of Directors, and Committee Chairmen who work through the year to meet the goals of the NIAFFPD.

If I can be of help to anyone please give me a call at 847-945-4120. I look forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming conference.

*Kathleen Haage, Executive Director
Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts*

FIRE SERVICE LEGISLATIVE DAY / RECEPTION



Presented by:
Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts
Illinois Fire Chiefs Association
Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts

March 28, 2006

Luncheon Program
Springfield Hilton
Noon – 2:00 PM

Meet With Your Legislators
2:00 PM at the Capitol

Legislator Reception
Place TBA
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Hotel Room Blocks
The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Hotel
(Formerly the Renaissance)
March 27, 2006 and March 28, 2006
\$ 95.00 Single
\$107.00 Double



FGM
ARCHITECTS • ENGINEERS

Experience • Service • Integrity
Since 1945

ALCONQUIN, IL 847.458.0890	Mt. Vernon, IL 618.242.5620	Oak Brook, IL 630.574.8300
OTFALON, IL 618.624.3364	PROBIA, IL 309.669.0012	

www.fgm-inc.com

New Laws Affecting Fire Protection Districts

by Karl Ottosen, Ottosen Trevarthen Britz Kelly & Cooper, Ltd.

The Illinois General Assembly enacted several initiatives clarifying and augmenting existing laws designed to protect students while they attend school. Although these new provisions directly affect school districts, the fire service should be aware of the new requirements in order to provide more efficient service to the schools and to properly coordinate drills and safety plans with school officials.

School Safety Drill Act (P.A. 94-0600)

The School Safety Drill Act, effective as of August 16, 2005, is designed to clarify requirements pertaining to school safety drills. Prior to this legislation, the law appeared to be unclear as to what type, how many, and when evacuation drills were to take place. The new legislation eliminates any uncertainty, as it sets forth drill and scheduling requirements that will give both the schools and fire departments and districts a better idea of what is required.

Under the new legislation, schools will be required to conduct three (3) school evacuation drills, one of which requires the participation of the local fire department or district. The Act requires that the local fire officials contact school officials by September 1st of each year, and the school officials must respond to the fire official by September 15th with a list of four (4) available days in October (during at least two (2) different weeks) to conduct the drill. The fire official then may choose from one of the four suggested dates, but if no date is selected at that time, the requirement to have local fire department or district participation will be waived. Once the fire officials have made the initial contact with the school, however, the subsequent scheduling requirements may be waived by mutual agreement between school and fire officials. Once the drill with fire service participation has occurred, the appropriate fire official shall certify that the school evacuation drill was conducted. School Districts then will be required to invite first responders, including fire district officials, to an annual review of each school's compliance with the school safety drill plans.

Fire officials should be mindful of the September 1st deadline each year to contact their local school officials to initiate the coordination of a date when the fire department or district will participate in the school evacuation drill. The new act, however, is flexible in that it allows school and fire officials to work out an appropriate time for both parties to conduct the drills.

Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act (P.A. 93-910)

The Physical Fitness Facility Medical Emergency Preparedness Act, effective as of January 1, 2005, generally requires schools to develop a written plan for responding to medical emergencies and requires schools to obtain automated external defibrillators (AEDs) for placement in indoor fitness facilities. Schools are required to notify 911 dispatch centers (or other emergency dispatch service) that it has an AED, the type of AED it has, and where it is located. The Act also requires schools to provide at least one staff member who is trained in the use of an AED at all times. Although the Act does not place any new requirements on fire departments and districts, emergency personnel should be aware that AEDs are now required to be in indoor athletic facilities in schools, and be prepared to answer questions that school officials may have regarding the use of AEDs.

Safety Inspection and Education Act (P.A. 94-0477)

The Safety Inspection and Education Act, effective January 1, 2006, places new requirements on public employers to provide records of exposure to harmful physical agents or toxic materials. Public employers must allow current and former employees access to these records, and will be subject to penalties for discriminating against employees who may file a complaint against the employer for violating work safety laws. This new act affects school and fire officials alike.



I promise...

...to design buildings that really work for the people who use them.

For fire station clients, "really work" means designing a building that helps facilitate their firefighter/EMS to get out the door fast and respond to emergencies. To learn more, please call 847.272.9500 or visit our website at www.srbllarchitects.com.

The Power of Promises Kept.



Sente-Rubel Borman-Lee



The Law Firm of
Ottosen Trevarthen Britz
Kelly & Cooper, Ltd.

Dedicated to helping the fire service operate effectively and productively.

300 S. County Farm Rd., Third Floor, Wheaton, Illinois 60187
630-682-0085 www.otbkc.com
Also offices in Elburn, Joliet and Woodstock

The Board of Directors Voted to Participate in the Illinois Funds Partnership Program

This new program is designed to allow the State Treasurer's Illinois Funds program to build a closer relationship with government professional associations and their members for a mutual benefit.

Some exciting and beneficial features to the Illinois Funds Partnership Program are:

- Provide \$5,000.00, paid annually, to NIAFPD for education and training purposes.
- Provide, upon NIAFPD curriculum approval, an annual seminar exclusively for fire protection district Public Finance Training at Illinois Funds expense.

Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts

13th Annual Conference

February 16-19, 2006

Doubletree Hotel - Oak Brook

Registration Due Date is January 13, 2006

Administration Training Session

April 8, 2006

Lisle-Woodridge

Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts

63rd Annual Conference

June 22-25, 2006, Springfield, IL

2006 Administration Training Sessions

January 21, 2006 - Coal Valley

February 11, 2006 - Collinsville

February 18, 2006 - Bloomington Twp.

February 25, 2006 - Effingham

March 11, 2006 - Byron

Illinois Fire Chiefs Association

56th Annual Conference

October 15-18, 2006

Hotel Pere Marquette, Peoria, IL

Annual Symposium

May 12-14, 2006

Hotel Pere Marquette, Peoria, IL

ILLINOIS FIRE SAFETY ALLIANCE BURN CAMP "CAMP I AM ME"



June 18 - 24, 2006 marks the 16th anniversary of "Camp I Am Me"

A special and unforgettable summer camp experience for children and teenagers who have experienced injuries from burns is being offered by the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance.

Burn Camp provides the setting for burn survivors to share their common experiences while being able to play and not feel self-conscious about what others may be thinking of their scars. Burn Camp provides campers with some of the best friends they will ever make. After camp, the children will continue on with their own lives but it will be different—they will have new friends and realize they are not the only one with a burn injury.

Burn Camp is open to children ages 8-16 that have experienced a burn injury requiring hospitalization. Enrollment is subject to medical approval.

If you know a burn survivor who would benefit from Burn camp; would like further information, or have questions about Burn Camp call 1-800-634-0911.



Ron Dukes

Vice-President



VFIS / Midwest

Ideal Insurance Agency

3041 Woodcreek Drive, Suite 200

Downers Grove, IL 60515

(630) 852-5500 / Fax (630) 852-5696

(630) 852-5333 / 1-800-422-1431

Cell phone - (630) 235-9465

rdukes@vfil.com



Illinois Public Risk Fund



NIAFPD BOARD OF DIRECTOR NEWS



Dale Karlson advised the NIAFPD Board of Directors that his term as trustee with the Orland Fire Protection District expired and he will not be able to finish his term as a director. Dale served on the NIAFPD Board of Director from 2002-2005. The Board of Directors extends a thank you for all the support and dedication Dale has given the NIAFPD and Fire Service.

The Board of Directors voted to appoint Cynthia Nelson-Katsenes of the Orland Fire Protection District to fill Dale Karlson's unexpired term.



Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts

Legislative Agenda - 2006 / 2007

Priority - A-4 Lead - MABA & IFCA	Authority to Collect Technical Rescue Team Fees
Problem	Currently there is no legislation for reimbursement of fees to Technical Rescue Teams. The cost to train and provide equipment for these teams has a significant impact on the providing fire department. Technical Rescue includes, but is not limited to, high angle rescue, confined space rescue and below grade rescue. Cost of these types of specialized rescues can be exorbitant.
Solution	Enact user fee legislation for cost recovery from the proximate or responsible party who generated the need for TRT services.
Priority - A-6 Lead - IAFFPD & NIAFFPD	Authority for Fire Protection District to Collect Impact Fees
Problem	Currently fire protection districts do not have the ability to assess impact fees.
Solution	Enact legislation that allows other special purpose units of local government including fire protection districts to assess impact fees.
Priority - A-8 Lead - IAFFPD & NIAFFPD	Amend Section 7 of the FPD Act (701ILCS 705/7)
Problem	Currently fire protection districts are required to publish lengthy budget, appropriation and code ordinances. Other governmental agencies are NOT required to publish as extensively as fire protection districts.
Solution	The amendment could be made to strike the words "or making any appropriations" from the first sentence. Fire Protection Districts would save considerable dollars.
Priority - A-8 Lead - IAFFPD & NIAFFPD	Amend Section 16 of the FPD Act (701ILCS 705/15)
Problem	Currently fire protection districts affected by a disconnection are bit required to be notified to participate in the hearings for disconnection.
Solution	Require that all parties concerned in a hearing be notified of the hearing.
Priority - A-8 Lead - IAFFPD & NIAFFPD	Amend PTEL Legislation.
Problem	Fire protection districts are faced with uncontrolled pension costs.
Solution	Remove pension and tort out from under tax caps.
Priority - A-8 Lead - IAFFPD & NIAFFPD	Notification of Lawsuit for Property Tax Rebates / Refunds Amend (35 ILCS 200/16-70)
Problem	Cook County fire protection districts are not notified of a lawsuit after the appeal process for property tax rebates / refunds. Fire protection districts have no way to plan for future losses of property tax revenue and possible property tax refunds of up to three years of back taxes owed from the date a property tax exemption is granted when a taxpayer files for a "certificate of error."
Solution	The amendment (35 ILCS 200/23-20) could be amended to eliminate the exception for Cook County. The amendment (35 ILCS 200/16-70) could be made to add fire protection districts.
Priority - A-9 Lead - IAFFPD & NIAFFPD	Amend FPD Act (70 ILCS 705/14) to raise the maximum rate to .60% from .40%, and allow for a partial increase. Amend FPD Act (70 ILCS 705/22) to allow for a rate less than .30%.
Problem	Municipalities can increase their maximum "fire protection rate" to the .60%. Fire protection districts desire to levy a special tax to provide an ambulance service must use specific referendum form asking for a special tax at a rate not to exceed .30%.
Solution	Amendment to (70 ILCS 705/14) increase fire protection districts maximum rate to .60%. Amend (70 ILCS 705/22) the specific referendum form asking for a rate less than .30%.

13th Annual NIAFPD Conference

Doubletree Hotel • 1909 Spring Road, Oak Brook, IL

Preliminary Program

Thursday, February 16, 2006

5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting
(Ogden Lower Level)

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Open Forum
(York 1-2-3 Lower Level)

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Health Insurance Issues and Retirement Impact
Marty Lyons - Gallagher Benefit Services

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Break

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Discipline for all Employment Classifications
Steve DiNolfo - Ottosen, Trevarthen, Britz, Kelly & Cooper

Friday, February 17, 2006

8:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Registration
(Business Center)

Fire District Administrative Workshops **(Spring Room)**

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. **Ten Ways to Reduce Your Fire District Lawsuit Exposure**
Darcey Proctor - Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Rolek, P.C.

4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Open Forum with Attorneys

8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.

Reception / Social Network Door Prizes
(Spring Room)

10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. **Break**

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Illinois Workers Compensation... New Law Update**
Michael Rusin - Rusin, Maciorowski & Friedman, Ltd.

7:30 a.m.

Registration and Continental Breakfast
(Oak Brook Hallway)

8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

NIAFPD General Membership Meeting and Legislative Update
(Spring Room)

9:15 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Keynote Address
Carl Hawkinson (TENTATIVE)
Deputy Chief of Staff Public Safety
(Oak Brook Ballroom)

LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

Saturday, February 13, 2006

PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS

	COMMISSIONER TRACK OAK BROOK 1	TRUSTEE TRACK OAK BROOK 4	GENERAL TRACK OAK BROOK 2 & 3	ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK SPRING ROOM
10:00 to 10:55	Fire Commissioners / Board Trustees / Labor Unions... Roles in Collective Bargaining Jim Baird Seyfarth Shaw	Legal Updates for Trustees OTBKC	FEMA-IEMA-MABAS Hurricane Katrina Jay Reardon MABAS Mike Chamness IEMA (TENTATIVE)	Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information and Records Anna Harkins DuPage States Attorney
10:55 - 11:05 A.M. BREAK				
11:05 to Noon	Legal Updates for Commissioners Shawn Flaherty OTBKC	Contemporary EMS Issues Dan Hermes Pleasantview FPD	Collective Bargaining James Baird Seyfarth Shaw	Real Estate Revenue Challenges Ronald Broida Broida and Tullis

PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS

	COMMISSIONER TRACK OAK BROOK 1	TRUSTEE TRACK OAK BROOK 4	GENERAL TRACK OAK BROOK 2 & 3	ADMINISTRATIVE TRACK SPRING ROOM
NOON - 1:45 P.M. AWARDS LUNCH - REGENCY NEW ORLEANS DEPLOYMENT - CHIEF DON MOBLEY, GRAYSLAKE FPD AND CHIEF DAN HERMES, PLEASANTVIEW FPD				
2:00 to 3:00	Candidate Physical Ability Testing CPAT Conducting Oral Interviews Dan Hermes Pleasantview FPD Oral Interviews - TBA	The Good, Bad, and Ugly... Your Fire District Finance Bob Porter Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCanni & Rolek	Public vs. Private - Wages, Benefits & Contracts Greg Ford PAR Group TBA - FMCS	Legislative Updates and Open Forum Chuck Vaughn Vaughn Consultants Tim Deutsche
3:00 - 3:15 P.M. BREAK				
3:15 to 4:45	OAK BROOK 1 2 & 3			
	Mock Disciplinary Hearing Karl Ottosen OTBKC			

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Ottosen Trevarthen Britz Kelly & Cooper Hospitality
(Spring Room)

Sunday, February 19, 2006

6:30 p.m. Dinner Doors Open / Cash Bar
(Oak Brook Ballroom)

8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Buffet Breakfast
(Spring Room)

7:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Dinner and Entertainment
(Oak Brook Ballroom)

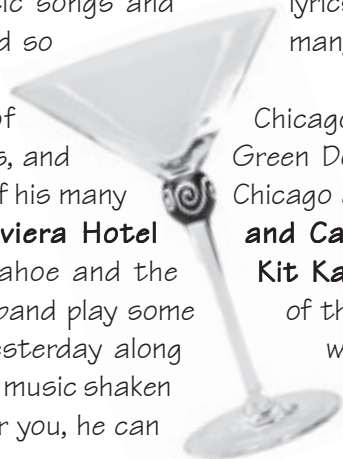
***Come See Tony Ocean . . .
Appearing next at the NIAFPD Dinner***



Tony Ocean, known as the **Voice of Choice** for Chicago, has been singing in the area for several years. Tony Ocean's upbeat style embodies a time from the past that will be popular as long as we still enjoy the music of Sinatra, Martin, Davis, Darin, Tony Bennett, Tom Jones and others whose romantic songs and lyrics have affected so many of our

lives through the years.

He has played some of night spots such as Jilly's, and Street. In addition to all of his many Tony has played **The Riviera Hotel Vegas, The Cal Neva** in Tahoe and the NYC. Tony, along with his band play some pop hits of today and yesterday along originals. So if you like your music shaken stirred, Tony is the one for you, he can well as swing!



Chicago's top Green Dolphin Chicago dates, and **Casino** in **Kit Kat Club** in of the great with some not rock as

MIKE VIOLA

MIDWEST AIR PRO, INC.

Nederman[®]

Phone 773-622-4566
Fax 773-637-2216

2054 N New England
Chicago, Illinois 60707

Hastings Air-Energy Control, Inc.
Air Quality Management Solutions Since 1969

Jim Axt Corporate Office
Phone: (800)236-8450
Fax: (800)260-9199

CALL US FOR YOUR 2004 FEMA GRANT REQUIREMENTS

PLYMOVENT[®]

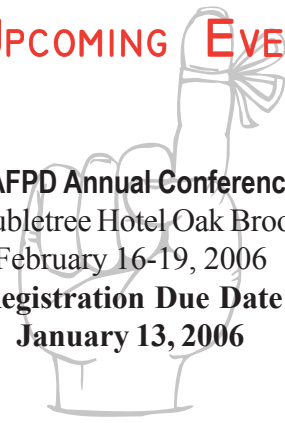
NIAFPD Officers

President	Jack Mancione	630.417.1649
Secretary/Treasurer	Nicholas Kosiara	630.682.4165
Immed. Past Pres.	Ronald Kubicki	708.354.6567
Directors	Patrick Amerena	630.285.9060
	Marshall Gray, Jr.	630.894.9080
	William Hoffmeister	815.469.1700
	Dale Karlson	815.463.0400
	Zachary Lawrence	630.968.0755
	Marie Rollene	847.356.2992
Executive Director	Kathleen Haage	847.945.4120

Fire Guard is a quarterly publication of
NIAFPD
500 Waukegan Road
Deerfield, IL 60015
847.945.4120

UPCOMING EVENTS

NIAFPD Annual Conference
Doubletree Hotel Oak Brook
February 16-19, 2006
Registration Due Date
January 13, 2006



DAN LITTLE
President
Co-Owner

MID-AMERICA

TRUCK and EQUIPMENT CO.



625 South Route 83
Elmhurst, IL 60126
Web: www.mid-america-truck.com

Phone & Voice Mail :
630-834-7300 Ext. 219
Fax: 630-834-4390
E-Mail: dlittle@mid-america-truck.com

*Newsletter design & editing by Bright Ideas
Marketing Solutions • mbuhr8@sbcglobal.net*