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***IFCA Monthly Information***

***May 2021***

***Diversity, Communications, Training, Education, Safety***

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| [***Illinois Fire Chiefs Association***](http://www.illinoisfirechief.org) |
| ***From President Don Shoevlin, Harlem-Roscoe FPD;***  We are all set for the 50th IFCA Annual Symposium. I recently had the opportunity to look at some previous planning session notes and many things remained as a constant reminder as to who we are as an organization, All good things creditable, integrity and dedication to name a few and along with our challenges of increasing active membership, provide education that is relevant and timely. Well, this year’s gathering will provide you with great speakers addressing current topics. I am also going to ask attendees what they are looking for in terms of topics, speakers and events for the conference in October and future symposiums. I have taken this on to maintain a commitment of doing what I can, what we can do for you. I look forward to hopefully seeing you at the symposium and I end with a congratulations to Jim Keiken as being named IFSI Director carrying on the message and delivery of programs as our state academy. To Colonel Royal Mortenson congratulations on a great run with IFSI. You leave us with a lasting impression of professionalism and dedication. Stay safe and see you all soon. |
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| **From Chief Jim Grady III (retired) IFCA-ED:**  As President Don stated we are set to go for this year’s symposium. I want to thank Eric Norlin, Tim Leidig, Tom Kruger, Joe Henning and Maureen for their work on this gathering. They had some curve balls thrown at them, but I feel all in all this will be an excellent gathering with excellent topics as well as speakers.  It is hard to believe that we are just short of 2 years with our financial transition to Governmental Accounting with James Howard and his team (September 2019). We have made great strides as well as we approach with our one-year anniversary with MemberClicks. The next step will be merging these together to provide for a smooth registration process, a more detailed inventory for our organization’s membership and make up plus an electronic aspect to all our financials. Also, this will enable payment online with a credit card with no convenience fee.  To assist in this merge please make sure your Accounts Payable departments have updated our contact information so that **all payments** are remitted to: **PO Box 4424, Lisle IL 60532** for both the **Illinois Fire Chiefs and the Illinois Fire Chiefs Educational & Research Foundation**. PO Box 7, Skokie IL 60076 will remain for all mailings and non-billing correspondence. The PO Box in Mundelein IL will be closed.  Invoices and Registration forms for remittances for dues, conferences, classes and misc. items are being updated to reflect the PO Box 4424 for payment. Maureen will work directly with me and all Foundation items as well as committees producing flyers, mailers and new materials. Now understand all accounting will be processed through James Howard and Governmental Accounting, , but Maureen is our direct liaison to Governmental Accounting and MemberClicks as she has the Information and knowledge, we will all need. Maureen will work hand in hand with Cathy Hojek who is assigned to the IFCA along with additional members of James’ team. This is being done to become more efficient and timelier in all areas of the IFCA TEAM. Much more to be out in the monthly news and in The Gong.  I want to acknowledge the great work of the Foundation my - gosh 80 scholarships- talk about commitment. Special events planned to include playing golf in July!!!!  I to want to thank Colonel-Director Royal Mortenson for all he has done. His leadership and presence have made us all better in what we do and who we are. Over the years RPM has been a friend and mentor, & The institute is going to remain in good hands with Jim Keiken taken over as our Director. I am sure Jim will continue with the mission at hand and will develop a new team of leaders that will take the IFSI to the next level locally and nationally.  Ok enough said see you in East Peoria, but if you cannot make the event please never hesitate in calling, texting or emailing me. Honored to serve the IFCA. Jmg3 [jgrady3@illinoisfirechiefs.org](mailto:jgrady3@illinoisfirechiefs.org) |
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| **50th IFCA Symposium**  **Please visit our website for complete program and online registration.** [**https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education/annual-symposium/**](https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education/annual-symposium/) |
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| **Legislation by IFCA-JB;**  Welcome to May, the height of legislation season. Last week, the deadline for moving bills from one chamber to another passed. This means that bills (with a few exceptions) that did not pass one chamber will not be considered during the spring session this year. Since we are in the first year of the 102nd General Assembly, it is possible some of these bills will be revived next year. As we always try to remind everyone, no legislation is ever dead in Springfield!  This means that some bills we supported won’t be considered, but other bills we are opposed to won’t be considered either. The Foreign Fire Tax and Fireworks Expansion bills we strongly opposed were not called for a vote. We are continuing to work on a few significant bills:  [HB220](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=220&GAID=16&DocTypeID=HB&LegId=128088&SessionID=110&GA=102) – Currently, labor statues effectively exclude most FD shift commanders from joining the Union representing the firefighters they supervise. This bill would allow these supervisors to join the rank and file Union membership. We are opposed to this legislation.  [HB351](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=351&GAID=16&DocTypeID=HB&LegId=128255&SessionID=110&GA=102) –The current bill would require the additional notification of secondary employer information to Department of Insurance. We are concerned that this redundant notification that could expose a firefighter’s personal information while serving no real purpose. We are working to oppose this legislation.  [HB2784](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=2784&GAID=16&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=131638&SessionID=110&GA=102) – This bill would change the response to mental and behavioral health incidents. We have been working extremely hard to influence this (and other similar) bills. We are concerned that this bill will pose a substantial hardship on EMS providers. While we would like to find some common language, we have been unable to get there yet. This bill has strong legislative support.  [HB2860](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=2860&GAID=16&DocTypeID=HB&LegID=131744&SessionID=110&GA=102) – This is a trailer bill we introduced to allow Deputy and Assistant Fire Chiefs to have the same authority as Fire Chiefs when responding in personal vehicles.  [SB0561](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=561&GAID=16&DocTypeID=SB&LegID=133149&SessionID=110&GA=102) – This is a bill to restrict the use of firefighting foam containing PFAS. The result is language that will allow the use of this foam for emergency incidents.  Thank you to the legislative committee for all their work and to each of the Chiefs who have reached out to their local legislator. Much is possible in Springfield during the month of May and things can change very quickly. For links to the legislation we are watching, visit the legislation tab on our [website](https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/legislation/legislation-watchlist-/).  **IT Update MemberClicks ---**  We continue to work to keep our membership database updated. It is very important that your organization information is correct, including the information on those members within your fire department or fire district. To update your information, log in to our [members website](https://ilfca.memberclicks.net/login#/login). It may also be accessed from the “Member Login” button on our public [website](https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/).  If you have not logged in and checked out the Member Documents, take a look! If you know of other documents that would be helpful, let Executive Director Jim Grady know and we will see if they can be added. |
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| **VCOC Programs & News:**  **VCOS Fire Equipment collection:**  If you are doing end of the year cleaning of closets and storage areas don’t forget - The VCOC Committee is collecting equipment to donate to departments in-need throughout the state. Contact Chief David Weiss – [dweiss@westmont.il.gov](mailto:dweiss@westmont.il.gov) for additional information. |
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| **Assessment & Consulting**  For information on the IFCA Assessment & Consulting Services please contact: [dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org](mailto:dslivinski@illinoisfirechiefs.org) |
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| **Basic Assessor Certification Course Scheduled**  **The Joint Labor Management Committee** plans to offer a **BASIC ASSESSOR CERTIFICATION COURSE** commencing on June 7, 2021 and ending on June 9, 2021. The class will be held at the Normal Fire Department located at 606 S. Main Street in Normal, Illinois 61761. For more information and registration: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/jlmc-approved---basic-assessor-certification-course-scheduled/> |
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| **Fire Chief of the Year**  Application period is open to nominate this year’s candidates for Illinois Fire Chief of the Year. Applications are due August 6, 2021. For information and application go to: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/fcoy/> |
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| ***IFCA Educational & Research Foundation*** |
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| **2021 Scholarship Competition –** The Scholarship Committee has completed the review of this year’s applications. There were 170 applications submitted and 80 scholarships were awarded. Letters |
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| **Fire Officer Course Offerings - *Upcoming Fire Officer Courses***  ***To register*** [***https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/fire-officer-courses/***](https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/fire-officer-courses/)  **Fire Service Instructor 2**  August 2-4, 9-10, 2021  **Incident Safety Officer (ISO)**  May 10-14, 2021, North Palos FPD, $300  Sep 20-24, 2021, Elk Grove Village  **Training Program Manager (TPM)**  Sep 27, Oct 4, 11, 18, 25, North Palos FPD  For additional class dates visit [www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education](http://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/education) |
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| **IFCA Foundation Fundraising Updates**  **Inaugural 5K, Hometown Hero’s Hustle** in cooperation with the VFW and American Legion. **9:00am May 22, 2021** at 645 S. River in Batavia ( Batavia VFW Post 1197). Check out the IFCA website for more information. Online Registration <https://raceroster.com/events/2021/46887/hometown-heroes-hustle> Entry fee: $45.00  **Fishing Tournament June 12, 2021** at Waukegan Harbor. 5am to Noon. Cost $150/person, 6 to a boat. Ten boats reserved. Online Registration Open: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/foundation/fishing-classic/> .  **Sporting Clays** – Looking at a June shoot South Event, watch for information.  **Golf Outing –** July 7, 2021 – Gleneagles Golf Course – Lemont IL. Information Available Soon  **Upcoming Blood Drives**  Cary Fire Protection District - June 26  Gurnee Fire Department - June 19  Mount Prospect, July 1  Mundelein Fire Department - July 3  ***SALE EXTENDED -* Shirts/Sweatshirts -** The Foundation is again taking online orders for the **IFCA Foundation “We’re In This Together Sweatshirts and Shirts**. New offerings and new colors. The deadline has been extended through May 31, 2021. $10.00 from each item sold will benefit the IFCA Foundation. The link to order: <https://ilfcf.itemorder.com/sale> |
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| **Officer Development Seminar Class**  It is a new decade, and the Foundation has updated and restructured the Senior Officer Development program. It is now being offered as a **one or two-day** program with topics chosen by the Host Department, so it is relevant to your department’s area.  Interested in hosting – contact DC Tim Leidig, West Chicago FD. [tleidig@wegofpd.org](mailto:tleidig@wegofpd.org) |
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| **Shopping?**  The IFCA Foundation is registered with AmazonSmile. Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com/) and select Illinois Fire Chiefs Association Educational & Research Foundation as the charity you would like to support. A percentage of your  purchase will be sent to the Foundation. Thank you. |
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| ***Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professionals (IFSAP)*** |
| The Illinois Fire Service Administrative Professional will be swearing in the 2021-2022 IFSAP board on May 19, 2021 at a recognition luncheon. Due to COVID, the Recognition/Awards Luncheon held in December was canceled. The IFSAP Board is pleased that they will be able to finally recognize the 2020 graduates of the ESP Program and the Illinois Fire Chiefs will be able to present their award to the 2020 Administrative Professional of the Year. The 2020 recipient was Kristin Wexell, Braidwood FPD. |
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| ***For the Good of the Association*** |
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| **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**Information is constantly changing. Visit the following websites for up-to-date information.Stay Safe. CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/first-responders.html>  EMS: <https://www.ems.gov/>  IAFC: <https://www.iafc.org/>  IDPH: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/>  IFCA: <https://www.illinoisfirechiefs.org/>  Illinois Coronavirus Response: <https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/>  IFSI: <https://www.fsi.illinois.edu/>  OSFM: <https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/sfm/Pages/default.aspx>  US Fire Administration: <https://www.usfa.fema.gov/> |
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| **IFCA - Chiefs Corner – One Stop Shop for all your IFCA Apparel**    IFCA has partnered with **Eagle Engraving** to sell a variety of apparel and other items with the IFCA logo. Please visit Eagle Engraving website. Go to [www.eagle-engraving.com](http://www.eagle-engraving.com) then click on Chief’s Corner and shop **OR** head right to the page at:<https://eagle-engraving.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=133_134>. Check out the “NEW” variety of apparel – Tall sizes now available. |
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| *You are receiving this correspondence as a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association* |

***IFCA Director Contact***

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