Thank you CHS for sponsoring the Down & Dirty Training.
Dear IFA Members and Illinois Firefighters

This year as we head to Champaign-Urbana, we bring a new dimension to our annual conference – 125 years for the Illinois Firefighter’s Association. We celebrate 125 years of IFA and enter our 13th year that the Illinois Firefighter’s Association is working in partnership with the Illinois Fire Service Institute to bring you hands-on training during our annual October conference. This year we welcome a new sponsor: CHS Foundation, which is providing support for the conference and training.

Returning this year is the Certified Firefighter exam being held on Thursday and Friday night at our conference hotel – the Wyndham Garden in Urbana (formerly the Holiday Inn). On Friday evening – Myths and Realities returns and takes firefighters into live-fire scenarios to observe fire behavior and its relationship to streams. Also on Friday evening – “Fireman, Fire Engine, Firehouse” – appropriate as we celebrate 125 years.

This year we are again offering a special registration fee for those departments sending multiple members. For every three registrants from the same organization, that organization will receive a fourth member free. To assure the safety of all and to have an appropriate student to instructor ratio, we are limiting the number of students per class, making it necessary to register in advance for hands-on classes. Once registrations reach the class maximum, additional registrations will not be accepted for those classes. There will be no walk-in registration for hands-on classes.

The registration form can be found by visiting our web site at www.illinoisfirefighters.org for a copy to download. We look forward to seeing you in October.

John Swan, President

Schedule

**Thursday, October 15**
- 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vendor set-up
- 1:00 p.m. IFA board meeting
- 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Registration
- 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Visit with vendors
- 6:00 p.m. Certified Firefighter exam at the hotel

**Friday, October 16**
- 6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- Vendors open
- 7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Registration
- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Opening ceremonies
- Presentation of colors
- President Swan
- Updates from the Illinois Fire Service Institute and Office of the State Fire Marshal

**Saturday, October 17**
- 6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Breakfast buffet
- 7:15 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Buses depart hotel for IFSI Registration
- 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Live-burn training at IFSI and hotel classes
- 9:00 a.m. Chiefs Roundtable
- Regional Chiefs and Chief Officers are invited to a round-table discussion at IFSI with Acting State Fire Marshal Matt Perez and IFSI Director Mortenson.

- Noon - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- Live-burn training at IFSI and hotel classes
- A night of entertainment, games and raffle.

**Sunday, October 18**
- 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Memorial Service
- Conclusion of 2015 Conference

Parking is not available at the IFSI training grounds. Shuttle bus service will be provided from the Wyndham Garden to the training grounds.

Get a free registration for every three from the same organization.
Equipment Requirements For All Hands-On Classes
All firefighters participating in the two hands-on classes and Friday night’s Myths and Realities MUST have an SCBA (with current hydrostatic test date and a complete set of their own, properly fitting, protective clothing (as prescribed in NFPA 1971, 1972, 1973, and 1974).

Hands-On Firefighting Classes
Down & Dirty Foundations of Firefighting
Limited to 50 students
Are you ready to get in there and fight the fire? This hands-on class is designed for the new firefighter and covers extensive fundamental firefighting skills necessary to function on a fireground. Subjects include some, but not all, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), small tools, hose, ladders, fire stream management and basic fireground operations. Students from this class will participate in the live-burn exercise as members of a fire fighting crew.

Down & Dirty Essentials of Fires on the Farm
Limited to 40 students
Rural and farm emergencies can present unique challenges to emergency responders. This 12-hour class identifies common rural emergencies and prepares responders with the information and skills to safely set up the scene. Topics include: farm fires, farm hazardous materials incidents, farm building collapse, machinery entanglement and entrapment, confined space emergencies, farm electrical emergencies, and lost persons. Note: Protection clothing required for this class. Participants must furnish approved helmet, eye protection, gloves, leather safety boots or fire boots, and overalls or turnout gear.

Crude Oil by Rail
Illinois has more miles of rail than all the surrounding states and a high percentage carries crude oil in rail cars. This four-hour class covers the basic chemical and physical properties of the types of crude being transported. Students also learn basic rail car design features, unit vs. manifest trains, common railroad terminology, and techniques for contacting and working with the railroad. The class touches on tactics and strategies for handling crude oil train derailments, but will not teach the student how to employ these tactics. Lastly, the course looks at case studies of recent crude train derailments and discusses lessons learned.

Grain Bin Awareness
This four-hour class educates students about grain storage facility types, their construction, and operating features. OSHA regulations, physical-environmental hazards and potential rescue resources are identified to ensure the response falls within the requirements minimizing fire department civil or criminal liability. Scene management and safety are discussed in conjunction with locating and making contact with the victim. Appropriate non-entry rescue efforts are identified. Various cutting tools are discussed for a simulated rescue to assist in the removal of grain from the system.

Friday Night Activities: 7pm-9pm
Myths and Realities: Fog nozzle vs. Smooth Bore Nozzle
Limited to 30 students
This one-hour class (7pm – 8pm) focuses on one of the most historic debates in the fire service – the use of smooth bore nozzle or a fog nozzle during fire attack. Which is better and/or safer? The class will explore different hose stream selection for fire attack and the pros and cons of each.

Fireman, Fire Engine, Firehouse
For two hours students focus on the history of the fire service and the values and beliefs passed down from generation to generation. The class explores the fire service from all perspectives – past, present and future. Instructors present a brief look into the history of the fire service, then discuss how to assess the current state of your fire department and the fire service in general. The class concludes with a focus on proactive and supportive ways to encourage positive change at your home department.

Saturday at IFSI
Reading Smoke Know Your Smoke
There are a number of factors to evaluate when deciding whether to initiate an interior attack. One critical factor is smoke conditions. “Reading smoke” skills can prove vital when it comes time to assess a fire burning inside a structure. This eight-hour Saturday class simply covers how to read smoke conditions and how you can use this information to determine the sequence of steps for initiating (or not initiating) an interior attack.

At the Hotel
Understanding Today’s Dynamic Fireground
Firefighters responding to structure fires today are faced with many challenges – from building construction to operating with limited manpower. They are challenged by changes in fire behavior, but will gain much from the research that has gone into making the fireground safer for all. We will look at the testing that UL and NIST have conducted and its relation to fire attack, building construction, legacy and modern furnishing, along with what needs to be relayed for size up. This class is beneficial for all members of the fire service from the newest firefighter to the chief officer. This class will be held on Friday and Saturday from 1-5 pm at the hotel.

Traffic Incident Management & Responder Safety Workshop
Limited to 40 students
This six-hour hands-on training workshop is based on the National Unified Goal for Traffic Incident Management and provides an overview of the safety hazards at highway incidents. Topics include strategies and tactics designed to help save lives and prevent injuries of emergency response personnel. The class is taught by Brad Sprague, Deputy Chief of Operations for Minooka Fire Protection District and a Sergeant with Illinois State Police District 05. This class will be held on Saturday from 8am - 4pm at the hotel.

Testing for Firefighter Certification will take place on Thursday and Friday nights.
Easy To Register

There are two separate forms to register: one for the conference and a separate form for registering for the hands-on workshops. For extra copies visit our website at www.illinoisfirefighters.org

Conference Fees

**Advanced registration for conference**

Advanced **PAID** registrations must be received by **October 2, 2015**. Please call the treasurer to charge your registration on your credit card.

- Conference fees (if received before 5:00 p.m. October 2) $50
- Non IFA members $75

Conference registration (received after October 2) $100
- Non IFA members $125

**Again this year. Get a free registration for every three from the same organization.**

**Again This Year**

**Payment must accompany registration forms.**

A check for the full amount of Conference registration must be included with registration forms. IFA will not invoice for registration or accept purchase orders. If your department requires a receipt for CASH TRANSACTIONS, we will provide receipts at the door.

Conference fees include lunch on Friday and Saturday.

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**There will be no walk-in registration for hands-on workshops.**

On-site registration is limited to classroom workshops only.

Hotel reservations can be made by contacting: Wyndham Garden (217-328-7900). A block of rooms has been reserved until September 19 at $70 for single or double (plus 5% city and 6% state hotel taxes). **Please mention the IFA or Illinois Firefighter’s Association when making reservations.**

**IFSI Hands-On Classes Participation Requirements**

**SCBA Policy**

- SCBAs must be in working order and NFPA compliant.
- Only current hydro-static test dated cylinders will be allowed in class.
- Students must have their own equipment.
- **NO SHARING ALLOWED.**
- Loaner Protective Clothing or SCBA **WILL NOT BE** available.
- IFSI **WILL NOT** provide repair services for SCBAs. Repair service may be available from vendors.

**Facial Hair Restrictions**

Facial hair, except mustaches, is not permitted in live-fire training or toxic area where breathing apparatus may be utilized, per 1910.134 g1A.

**Age Requirement**

You must be 18 years or older and a member of a fire department to register for hands-on training.

**Consumption of Alcohol or Illegal Drugs**

Any indication of the consumption of alcohol or illegal drugs by participants during any of the hands-on training classes will result in denial of participation in the activities. Instructors will have full discretion in enforcing this policy.

**Send registration form & payment to:**

Illinois Firefighter’s Association
Kerry Federer, Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 77
Glen Carbon, IL 62034
Phone: 618-882-4783

**Conference questions? Contact:**

Illinois Firefighter’s Association
Joe Mandarino, Conference Director
24403 Arrowhead Drive
Manhattan IL 60442
Phone 708-935-2893
Email: corky2700@aol.com

**Shuttle service to and from the Wyndham Garden and IFSI’s training ground will be provided.**