

Fire Fighter



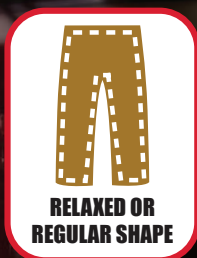
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contents

JULY/AUGUST 2012

JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS/VOL. 95 NO. 4

FEATURES

ON THE COVER:

IAFF Takes Fight to Philly

51st Convention shows union is ready to rumble.....12

Hazards of Hoarding

More fire fighters are facing dangerous hoarder fires22



Country music artist
Bucky Covington:
Raising awareness for
the IAFF Charitable
Foundation

P. 20



P. 26

Colorado
Wildfires



P.12

IAFF 51st Convention

General President's Message

An Opportunity to Turn the Tide.....5

General Secretary-Treasurer's Message

Per Capita Changes.....7

Letters to the Editor8

Local Scene9

Always on the Frontline24

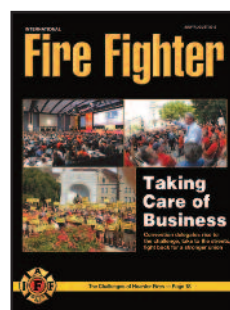
Across the IAFF26

Fully Involved30

On the Road32

Retirees33

In Memoriam/Last Alarm38



On The Cover

Convention delegates
"taking care of business"

Clockwise from left: Delegates at work;
Philadelphia rally; Scranton march.

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Elections Are an Opportunity to Turn the Tide

This union has had two years of brutal struggles and challenges. We've also notched some inspiring victories.

Whether it was in New York City, Toronto, Kansas City or Scranton — we have fought together, and we have won together.

But our struggles aren't over. With political and legislative attacks continuing, we need lawmakers at all levels who are willing to work with us. It matters who's in office. And it's not just about electing the right person. It's about who they appoint and who we have to work with at the local, state, provincial and federal agencies that distribute the funds or establish the programs that affect your lives every time you put on your turnouts and roll out of your station.

Nothing is handed to us, and we have to work for every right and every benefit. And, as we have found out over the past two years, we have to work to retain every right and benefit that we've already fought for.

For so many of you, the next legislative sessions are only a few months away. It's no secret that our opponents are gearing up for another battle and will do everything they can to chip away at the rights and benefits that our members in both countries have created. If our enemies didn't get what they want in 2012, you can bet that they will try again in 2013 and beyond.

Our political principles are simple, but they are steadfast. **We support those who support us.** Your union will never tell you how to vote, but it is our responsibility to make it crystal clear which candidates support you on the job, want to keep you fully staffed and support your right to have a voice in the workplace. It is our responsibility to make it crystal clear which candidates support protecting your bargaining and worker rights and will work hard to protect your retirement security so you are able to retire with dignity after a career serving your community.

Here in the United States, voters will elect 11 governors this fall. It is important that we make sure no more Scott Walkers, John Kasichs, Rick Snyders or Rick Scotts have the opportunity to sit in a governor's mansion. We need more lawmakers who have consistently demonstrated their interest and willingness in working with our members — like Governor Brian Schweitzer in Montana, who must retire due to term limits, and Governor Peter Shumlin, who is running for re-election in Vermont and is the incoming chair of the Democratic Governors' Association.

Voters will also cast crucial votes to determine who controls the state legislatures, the mayoral seats and city and county councils in countless jurisdictions. So we have opportunities all across the map to end the attacks like those coming daily from the extremists in the New Hampshire legislature. We have a chance to elect friendly lawmakers and derail attacks by preserving the firewalls like the ones in the Iowa Senate or the Washington state House and Senate. We have the chance to win labor-friendly majorities in state legislatures, including Oregon and Minnesota, where there are governors who are willing to work with our members.

Voters will elect 33 U.S. senators, and the outcome will have a significant impact on the direction of our nation because the majority dictates the legislative agenda of that chamber.

The outcome of the elections will determine who chairs the Senate Finance Committee. We can elect a friend like Max Baucus, who is an advocate for our retirement plans, or we can elect a self-described opponent like Orrin Hatch, who in his own words has vowed to eliminate defined benefit pensions.

The outcome of elections will determine who chairs the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. We can elect a friend in

power like Tom Harkin, who has been by our side for more than 40 years, or we can elect someone like Mike Enzi, an avowed opponent of collective bargaining who takes every opportunity to trash unions.

All 435 members of the U.S. House of Representatives also are up for election, representing perhaps our single-most important opportunity to derail the extremist agenda.

We have a chance to ensure that ideologues like Eric Cantor and Darrell Issa are out of the majority and unable to undermine your rights in the workplace or kill critical programs. We have a chance to remove bitterly partisan politicians like Allen West and Dan Lungren, who don't value your service or your sacrifice and want to destroy labor.

We will also elect a president and vice president of the United States.

On one hand we have Mitt Romney, who repeatedly attempted to cut local aid to communities while he was governor of Massachusetts. He attempted to use his line item veto to eliminate resources for equipment and staffing for the Massachusetts fire service and attempted to strip away the collective bargaining rights of fire fighters in cities like Springfield, Massachusetts.

He even had the cold-hearted audacity to veto funding to build a living memorial for the six of our own who died in the 1999 Worcester Cold Storage warehouse fire.

Romney has said that as president he would zero-out the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) and Assistance to Firefighters (FIRE Act) grants.

He called Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker a "national hero" for stripping bargaining rights from that state's workers, said he was "110 percent" behind Ohio Governor John Kasich's attempt to end fire fighter collective bargaining, and expressed his full support for Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels' implementation of Right to Work laws in Indiana and added that he would work to impose Right to Work nationally, if elected.

On the other hand, we have President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, who have supported us by approving \$1.3 billion for SAFER grants since taking office. That historic investment has put thousands of our members back to work and kept thousands more from losing their jobs. It has helped them keep their homes and provide for their families.

The president has also proposed a jobs bill that would create a veterans preference for hiring and help the members of our Armed Forces find jobs in the fire service upon returning home as they transition from protecting our nation abroad to protecting communities at home.

The president and vice president also are working hand-in-hand with us to shore up the rules and funding for wildland fire fighting to keep the unskilled, untrained opportunists off the fire line, where they put our members at risk.

This election isn't about party labels.

This is about killing the momentum of our opposition so we can turn the tide.

This is about electing our friends so you don't have to struggle every day just to protect what you've earned — your pay, your rights and your benefits.

This is about your jobs and your futures.

The past two years have been a constant struggle for so many of you. Now we have a chance to change that by supporting those who support us.



Harold A. Schaitberger

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Looking at Per Capita Changes Approved at Convention

I want to thank every delegate who attended the IAFF 51st Convention in Philadelphia. I have attended 19 conventions, and I am convinced the 51st was our best.

It was our best because of the efforts of our amazing staff at the IAFF, and I would be remiss if I didn't thank them publicly for everything they did. It was also our best because of the efforts of Philadelphia Local 22 President Bill Gault and the hospitality of the members of Local 22.

And it was our best because of the difficult decisions that our 2,300 delegates made.

So first of all — thank you, delegates. There were very difficult decisions before you in Philadelphia. I know how hard it is to step up to the plate, especially in an economy like this.

But the fact of the matter is that passage of the per capita resolutions will ensure that this IAFF — *your IAFF* — will continue to run smoothly and continue to have the resources it needs to fight for the men and women on the frontlines.

For everyone who was unable to attend, I want to offer an explanation of the major per capita resolutions approved by Convention delegates.

First and foremost, Resolution 1, Budget Adjustment for Inflation, authorized a per capita increase for active members of 35 cents, effective September 1. For active retired members, the per capita became 18 cents. Both will be in effect throughout fiscal year 2012-2013.

That per capita is nothing less than an investment in the IAFF because the funds will go toward general operating expenses. In effect, this money keeps the lights on and the doors open at the IAFF so we can continue to do the important work on behalf of our members.

The passage of Resolution 11, IAFF Health Care Specific Resources, will provide access to experts on staff, a web-based resource to educate our members who are health care trustees to combat attacks against health care and a preferred provider list of labor-friendly actuaries and health care insurance providers. The per capita cost of this resolution is 2 cents.

Another important per capita resolution is Resolution 25, Cancer Awareness. The passage of this resolution at 5 cents the first year and 1 cent thereafter will enable the IAFF to launch an awareness campaign to educate our members of the daily cancer-causing hazards that they face. That training will include awareness of the exposure hazards of diesel exhaust in the fire station and contaminants at fire scenes, including the importance of post-incident

decontamination and wearing SCBAs during overhaul. This resolution will also ensure that fire fighters have the tools necessary to affect a personal commitment and organizational accountability to at least minimize the contraction of occupational-related cancers.

And, finally, my heartfelt congratulations to the three retiring District Vice Presidents who were awarded Emeritus status by the delegates. Jim Fennell was first elected in 1984 to serve the members of the 15th District — which includes Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick in Canada. Kevin Gallagher has represented the 1st District, which includes New York and New Jersey, since 2000; and Bruce Carpenter became the District Vice President for the 13th District, serving Ontario and Manitoba, Canada, in 1998. All three of these men faithfully and diligently served not only their members but the members of the entire IAFF. Their leadership will be missed, and I personally wish them a long, happy and healthy retirement.

And to colleague, Joe Conway, with whom I have served since 2000 and who has faithfully served the 5th District, I wish him all the best in the future.

I would also like to congratulate the four new District Vice Presidents: Bill Romaka in the 1st District; Tom Thornberg in the 5th District; Fred LeBlanc in the 13th District; and David Burry in the 15th District. Welcome to all of you, and I look forward to working closely with you in the coming years.

Adding all the per capita resolutions passed at this Convention, there will be an increase of 42 cents for active members and 21 cents for active retirees. So, beginning on September 1, 2012, the new monthly per capita will be \$12.36 for active members and \$6.18 for active retirees.

Once again, I want to thank our delegates for making the hard decisions to ensure that the IAFF is fully resourced. While our members are on the frontlines, we will remain on the frontlines for you.

With the 2012 Convention behind us, the General President and I, along with our staffs, already have begun to discuss the details of the 2014 Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio. We want to ensure that it runs as smoothly as our 2012 Convention.

Stay safe.

Thomas H. Miller



Thomas H. Miller

"We must educate our members regarding cancer causing hazards that fire fighters face every day."

Frontline Safety in Action

Dear President Schaitberger:

I recently attended the IAFF Frontline Safety class in St. Louis, Missouri, and soon after the class I was able to put the lessons learned in class into action on the fire ground.

It was overwhelming how quickly I was able to make the fire ground safer not only for myself but all my brothers and sisters just by attending the class. The lessons in this class are invaluable to fire departments across America and can be quickly used without overwhelming changes to policies or S.O.G.s.

I believe continuing classes like this at no cost to members of the IAFF will decrease the number of line-of-duty deaths each year.

Below is the original e-mail sent to Fire Chief Blohm of Hoboken, New Jersey, the instructor for class.

Dear Chief Blohm,

I was recently in your IAFF Frontline Safety class in St. Louis, Missouri. The Sunday after the

class I walked in to work at 6:42 and by 7:10 was arriving on scene of a working house fire. I could not help but notice how quickly the things discussed in the program came into focus on the fire ground.

My coworker also attended class with me and was also on the same fire and noticed he was doing much of what we talked about, including paying closer attention to gas monitoring during overhaul and staying on air during the overhaul operations.

Our actions encouraged others not only in our department but others to do the same, including stubborn old smoke eaters. I am now encouraging many other members of the department to attend your class.

The fire was set by the brother of the owner after he had robbed the house while the owners were out of town. We found three separate fires in the home (kitchen, living room and upstairs bedroom). The suspect was apprehended at the scene and arson charges are pending.

Thank you again for your devotion to teaching and safety. I enjoyed the class and your enthusiasm very much.

Respectfully,

PVT Nick Robben
EMT/Professional Fire Fighter
University City Fire Rescue
IAFF local 2665

When We Needed You Most

Dear President Schaitberger:

On behalf of the members of the Colorado Springs Professional Firefighters, IAFF Local 5, thank you for taking the time to visit Colorado Springs and express your support and appreciation for the work our members did during the Waldo Canyon Fire.

The outpouring of assistance from the International and our brothers and sisters representing locals across Colorado aided tremendously in mitigating this unprecedented incident. In times of great difficulty, it's

inspiring to know that we have the resources and voice of a great union behind us.

Your dedicated members from Local 5 are proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with this IAFF and our brothers and sisters across North America.

Fraternally,

Jeremy M. Kroto
President
Colorado Springs
Professional Firefighters
IAFF Local 5

Correction:

On page 5 of the May-June 2012 edition of the International Fire Fighter, Worcester was misspelled by mistake. We apologize for the error.

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Kansas State Law Ensures Benefit Protections

Families of Kansas fire fighters who are killed in the line of duty now have health insurance protections after Governor Sam Brownback signed SB 250 into law.

Championed by the Kansas State Council of Fire Fighters (KSCFF) and Wichita Local 135, SB 250 requires the premiums for a surviving spouse of a fallen fire fighter to continue to be paid for up to 18 months or until the spouse remarries or reaches age 65.

Dependent children will be covered for 18 months or until the child reaches age 18. A child who reaches age 18, but is enrolled full-time in an accredited high school or postsecondary educational institution, will continue to receive coverage for up to 18 months or until the child reaches age 24.

Kansas fire fighters were inspired to propose the law after Wichita Local 135 fire fighter Urban Eck died in the line of duty in 2010. Eck's family went from paying \$300 to \$1,700 per month for health care.

"We immediately knew something needed to be done not just for the Eck family, but for all families of our fallen," says Local 135 President Matt Schulte. "It is a tremendous relief to have these protections in place." ■

Surrey Local Award Honors Lorne West

Not only is IAFF 6th District Vice President Lorne West being honored with Surrey, BC Local 1271's Axe Award, the local is also renaming the award after him. The award — now called the Lorne West Silver Axe Award — honors Local 1271 members who have a minimum of 10 years of service and who have shown their dedication to professionalism, have worked to assist Local 1271 on and off duty and promoted goodwill among union brothers and sisters.

West is retiring this year after 35 years in



IAFF 6th District Vice President Lorne West and Surrey, BC Local 1271 President Mike McNamara.

the fire service, 25 of which were spent as a Local 1271 executive officer. "West exemplifies what leadership is all about," says Local 1271 President Mike McNamara. "His dedication to the Surrey Fire Fighters' Association is unmatched and will set the bar for all of our future affiliate leaders."

The list of what West has done to improve the livelihood of Surrey fire fighters is endless and includes improving the local's financial stability, building an effective political action model, negotiating strong contracts, advocating for safe staffing and serving as a mentor to others.

Local 1271 presented West with the award during the its recent 55th Anniversary celebration. ■

IAFF Fire Fighter to Compete in the Olympics

Kern County, CA Local 1301 member Jimmy Watkins put his fire fighting career on temporary hold to represent the United States in the 2012 Summer Olympics, which began July 27 in London. Watkins took a spot on the U.S. Olympic Cycling team, competing in track cycling events.



Jimmy Watkins

At press time, Watkins was getting ready to take on Shane Perkins of Australia for the gold medal.

"Kern County Fire Fighters Local 1301 is proud to have one of its own participate in the Olympics," says Local 1301 President Derek Robinson. "Local members have been supporting him by covering his shifts as necessary."

Watkins, 29, started cycling eight years ago to keep up with the physical demands of fire fighting.

He quickly combined his interest in cycling with his love for competing.

His cycling accomplishments include four national titles and three national records. ■

Two IAFF Members in Olympics Opening Ceremony Chevy Ad

If you watched the 2012 Opening Ceremony, you may have caught a glimpse of two Alameda, CA Local 689 members. Video of fire fighters Juan Medrano and Brandon Baley putting on their turnout gear was included in the latest Chevy ad.

The commercial film crew was in Alameda looking for citizens who make sacrifices in

Continued on Page 10

Brandon Local President Back to Work

Brandon, MB Local 803 President Wade Ritchie is back to work as a Lieutenant in the Brandon Fire and Emergency Services Department following a successful grievance arbitration and a comprehensive agreement with the City to settle all issues arising from his termination.

The saga began in the fall of 2011 when, during contract negotiations, the City announced it was investigating Ritchie over vague allegations that he made "deceitful" comments in an email to a City official. Ritchie was subsequently suspended and demoted to the rank of fire fighter-paramedic.

With assistance from the IAFF, the suspension was immediately grieved and an unfair labour practice complaint was filed with the Manitoba Labour Board (MLB). A majority of the legal expenses Local 803 incurred as a result of the case were covered by the IAFF Guardian Policy.

When the City posted the lieutenant position made vacant by Ritchie's suspension, it violated the promotion provisions of the collective agreement. When Ritchie acted to protect the union's position in the promotion process, he was terminated by the City.



Wade Ritchie

In mid-March, the MLB issued a rare interim order requiring the City to reinstate Ritchie at the lower rank pending its review of the case. On April 30, an arbitrator ruled that the City had violated the promotions policy.

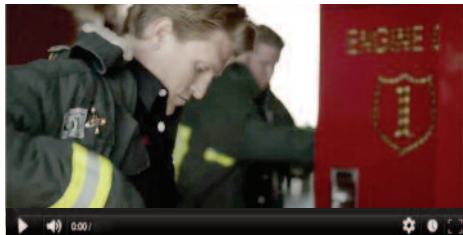
Shortly afterward, the City and the union reached a settlement on all outstanding issues before the MLB. As part of the settlement, Ritchie was reinstated at the rank of lieutenant and recovered any wages lost due to the City's discipline.

Ritchie, who has since been promoted to captain, expressed thanks to the IAFF for its assistance during the dispute, including the representation under the IAFF Guardian Policy. "I am pleased that all parties can call the settlement a victory and move forward in a positive manner."

The agreement with the City also resolved issues arising from the discipline of two other Local 803 executives. The City issued disciplinary letters to the two over matters related to the local's response to the crisis. ■

Continued from Page 9

order to keep America safe. “Baley and I just happened to be on shift when they stopped by and asked if they could film us,” says Medrano. “We said, ‘sure,’ and the rest is history.” ■



Watch Medrano and Baley at <http://youtube/FITmqjDeqVY>



Bayou Charter

Bayou Cane Professional Fire Fighters Association Local 4898 in Houma, Louisiana, is one of the newest IAFF affiliates. The Bayou Cane Fire Protection District was formed as a volunteer fire department in 1962, but it has since grown to a mostly career department — 98 percent are full-time, career fire fighters.

FIRE OPS 101

First Federal Fire Ops Held in Illinois

In Lake County, Illinois, Great Lakes Naval Training Center Local F-37 members held the first Fire Ops conducted by a federal IAFF affiliate in the United States. Commander Randall Lynch and Executive Officer Robert Sullivan attended.

The one-day event included a live burn where the officers first watched a demonstration and then took turns performing fire suppression tasks. Additionally, the participants completed extrication and high angle rescue evolutions.



In post Fire Ops debriefings, both officers said it opened their eyes to just how challenging fire service jobs are. The U.S. Navy had announced in February 2012 that, due to a budget shortfall, it would eliminate \$35 million from its fire service budget. Commander Lynch and Executive Officer



PHOTOS BY F-37 MEMBER MATT TODD

Sullivan were tasked with deciding where to make the cuts at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

F-37 fire fighters are also hoping U.S. Representative Robert Dold (R-IL) — who visited the facility in July — can help stop the cuts. ■

Omaha Fire Fighters Host Successful Fire Ops

Omaha, NE Local 385, with the help of Papillion, NE Local 3767, hosted a successful Fire Ops 101 event at a local training center. Participants included: Local 385-endorsed candidates for the state legislature Sara Howard and Judy Domina; State Senators Jeremy Nordquist and Burke Harr; Former candidate for City Council and state legislature Tim Lonergan; City Council negotiator Mark McQueen; Metropolitan Board of Governors member Crystal Rhoades; Papillion Human Resources Department Representative Carrie Svendsen; local reporters Hannah Pickett, Maureen Wertz and



Carrie Svendsen; and Citizens for Omaha's Future advocacy group representative Dave Nabity.

After opening comments from IAFF 2nd District Vice President Mark Woolbright, Local 385 President Steve LeClair and Fire Chief Michael McDonnell, participants engaged in four scenarios, including live burn,



PHOTOS BY DAVE UHLIG WITH PHOTO OMAHA

extrication, search and rescue and cardiac arrest.

“The participants were all amazed at what it takes to be a fire fighter and many commented on how they never understood why we need the resources that we ask for, but now they do,” says Local 385 Treasurer Trevor Towey. ■

Worcester Fire Ops Educates City Leaders

Worcester, MA Local 1009 recently hosted a Fire Ops to educate state and City leaders about the challenges they face every day on the job. One state senator, two state representatives, Worcester's city manager, two city

councilors and two members of the local media agreed to participate.

At Worcester's live burn building, participants donned full turnout gear and SCBA and were escorted through several areas as the most recent recruit class demonstrated various tasks, including search and rescue.

“We asked the recruit class to complete

each evolution as our guests observed,” says Local 1009 President John Dwyer. “Our state and local leaders were still able to witness how hot it gets and how difficult it is to see and hear in a burning building.”

Among the 31 recruits, 17 were hired thanks to a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant. ■



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The **EXO** - because in a real fireground survival situation, you can't just press the ESCAPE key.



EXO *Personal escape system*

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Taking Care of Business

Delegates arrived in Philadelphia for the IAFF 2012 Convention
ready to fight back and fight back hard for their union

In Philadelphia for the IAFF 51st Convention, thousands of delegates from across the United States and Canada came prepared to address some of the greatest and most urgent challenges in the IAFF's history and to fight back against the ongoing attacks by anti-worker politicians on the rights, benefits and retirement security of fire fighters and other public employees. Looking ahead, delegates also spent the week making decisions to help build a more united and powerful union for the future.

Philadelphia Local 22 President Bill Gault, welcoming delegates at the opening business session, said, "I'm proud to welcome you to Philadelphia. We worked hard to get you here." He also thanked his membership, executive board, staff and the Local 22 Convention Organizing Committee before presenting the gavel to IAFF General President Schaitberger to be used to preside over the Convention.

In his State of the Union address, IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger reflected on the Convention theme — Fighting Back for a Stronger Union. "We know our adversaries aren't going to stop attacking and this union won't stop fighting back," he said.

From Alabama to Wisconsin and all across Canada, Schaitberger highlighted many of the places where the entire union has fought back to protect collective bargaining, our political voice, pensions and other rights and benefits.



PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

Philadelphia Local 22 President Bill Gault turns the gavel over to IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger to begin the opening business session.



PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

The IAFF Convention began with a riveting Opening Ceremony that included the Philadelphia Fire Department Honor Guard and the Philadelphia Police and Fire Pipe and Drum Band's Presentation of Colors. The ceremony also included a solemn tribute to the 241 IAFF members who have made the ultimate sacrifice since the last Convention.

Prior to Schaitberger's State of the Union speech, the Opening Ceremony highlighted fighting back efforts with a rally of IAFF members representing many of the battles and victories. The IAFF also paid a solemn tribute to the 241 members who made the ultimate sacrifice since the 2010 Convention.

The power of the IAFF was put in action during the 2012 Convention. Busloads of IAFF members drove to Scranton, Pennsylvania, in a strong show of support for Scranton Local 60.

Just weeks earlier, Mayor Chris Doherty implemented his plan to slash public workers' pay to the minimum wage — \$7.25 per hour. More than 100 IAFF members carrying gold-and-black signs swarmed the local courthouse where the City tried to defend the pay cut (see sidebar on page 17).

Two days later, 3,000 IAFF members marched on Philadelphia City Hall to demand that Mayor Michael Nutter implement an arbitration award that the Philadelphia Fire Fighters and Paramedics Union Local 22 won — twice — and

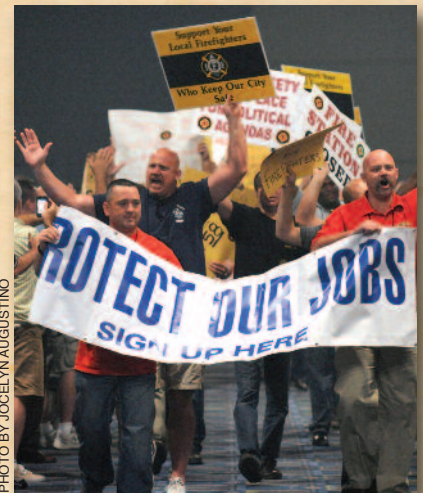


PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

IAFF members marched through the aisles at the Opening Ceremony, demonstrative of the fighting back efforts by affiliates across North America over the last several years.

which the mayor continues to refuse to implement (see sidebar on page 15).

On the national level, Vice President Joe Biden spoke to delegates, stressing the

Continued on Page 14

Delegates Decide IAFF Leadership

The leadership of General President Harold Schaitberger and General Secretary-Treasurer Tom Miller was confirmed by delegates at the 51st Convention who re-elected them by acclamation. In addition, four new district vice presidents were sworn in on the final day of the Convention following elections.

"These last 12 years have been something I could never, ever have dreamed of, could never have imagined," Schaitberger said in his acceptance. He also promised that he will work with energy, commitment and passion to do the work of the IAFF. "You're going to always know where to find me because I'll be taking care of business," he said.

In his thank you remarks, General Secretary-Treasurer Miller said, "I am the luckiest guy in the world. I am truly honored to have been acclaimed."

Also re-elected by acclamation to four-year terms are 2nd District Vice President Mark Woolbright, 3rd District Vice President A. Michael Mullane, 6th District Vice President Lorne West, 7th District Vice President Ricky Walsh, 8th District Vice President Paul Hufnagel, 9th District Vice President Randall Atkinson, 11th District Vice President Roy "Sandy" McGhee, 12th District Vice President Larry Osborne, 14th District Vice



Delegates re-elected General President Harold Schaitberger and General Secretary-Treasurer Tom Miller by acclamation.

PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

President Danny Todd and 16th District Vice President James Johnson.

In the 13th District, Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association President Fred LeBlanc was elected to represent Ontario and Manitoba.

Contested elections were held for 1st District Vice President, 4th District Vice President and 5th District Vice President.

Uniformed Firefighters Association (UFA) Local 94 Health and Safety Director William Romaka was elected 1st District Vice President and will serve affiliates and members in New Jersey and New York.

IAFF 4th District Vice President William Taylor was re-elected and will

continue to represent affiliates and members in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

Minnesota Professional Fire Fighters President Thomas Thornberg is the new 5th District Vice President and will represent affiliates and members in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

In the IAFF 15th District, St. John's, NF Local 1075 President David Burry was elected to represent affiliates and members in New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec. ■



PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

IAFF officers, including four new district vice presidents, were sworn in on the final day of the Convention.

IAFF Honors Eight With Local Leadership Award

The IAFF honored eight dedicated members with the 2012 IAFF Local Leadership Award on the Convention floor.

The awards acknowledge affiliate leaders who have gone above and beyond their duties in representing their brothers and sisters at the local, state or provincial level over the course of many years.

"Our greatest strength can be found among our local leaders," said IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "They fight for us in every statehouse, every city hall with a mix of intelligence and passion. I am so glad these local leaders are on my side of the table."

The winners are: Eddie Pugh, Tuscaloosa AL Local 403; Arnoldus

Janssen, Puget Sound Federal Fire Fighters Local F-282; David Stephenson, Ottawa, ON Local 162; Ray Snodgrass, CDF Firefighters Local 2881; Theresa Lloyd, Prince George's County, MD Local 1619; Robert McCarthy, Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts and Watertown, MA Local 1347; Richard Ternes, Chicago, IL Local 2; and John Sandella, Newark, NJ Local 1860.

Each received a round of applause from the 3,000 delegates and alternates.

With the passage of Resolution 19, the number of Local Leadership Awards given each Convention will expand from eight to 16. ■



PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

The IAFF announced the eight winners of the 2012 IAFF Local Leadership Award during the 2012 Convention. The Local Leadership Award was created by Convention Resolution 18 as adopted at the 49th Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. The award was established to champion the standard of leadership set by Dennis J. Murray, who is one of the longest-serving local presidents (Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri Local 2665) in IAFF history and the first recipient of the award at the 2008 IAFF Convention.

"We know our adversaries aren't going to stop attacking... if it's a fight they want, then by God it's a fight they're going to get."

—General President Harold Schaitberger

Continued from Page 12

stark contrast between the Obama administration and Mitt Romney on the role of fire fighters in protecting the public (see sidebar on page 16). The following day, President Barack Obama surprised IAFF delegates with a phone call thanking them for their support and vowing to continue efforts to protect public safety and collective bargaining.

General President Schaitberger, who introduced President Obama from the podium, said, "This union stands with those who stand with us. Our current president has been standing with us. Now it is time for us to be with him." He encouraged affiliate leaders to get involved in the November elections. "There is a lot at stake," said Schaitberger. "This election isn't about party labels," he said. "It's about an extremist opponent that is hell bent on destroying us; an opposition led by Mitt Romney, whose end game — in his very own words — is to kill us and our union."

The IAFF Executive Board voted unanimously at its June Board meeting to endorse President Obama and Vice President Biden for re-election.

Other featured speakers included Canadian Ambassador Gary Doer, former premier of Manitoba, former union leader and a true friend of professional fire fighters, and Shaun Probert, a member of Shaker Heights, OH Local 516 and the new IAFF spokesperson for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA).

Because of his close ties with Manitoba affiliates during his time in office, Doer understands the importance of protecting fire fighters from the ravages

Continued on Page 16



Thousands of IAFF members rallied at City Hall chanting, "Binding is Binding, Honor the Award!" and "Shame on you Mayor Nutter!" Mayor Michael Nutter has refused to honor an arbitration award in favor of Philadelphia Local 22.

Fire Fighters Deliver Clear Message to Philadelphia Mayor

Three thousand IAFF Convention attendees marched on Philadelphia City Hall to demand that Mayor Michael Nutter implement an arbitration award that Philadelphia Fire Fighters and Paramedics Union Local 22 won — twice — and which the mayor continues to refuse to implement.

IAFF members from across the United States and Canada, their families and supporters mustered outside of the Pennsylvania Convention Center and marched to City Hall. Along the way, they chanted "Binding is Binding, Honor the Award!" and "Shame on you Mayor Nutter!"

"This is a mayor who has no respect for the people who save lives for a living. This is getting old," Local 22 President Bill Gault said from the steps of City Hall. "The people who save your life deserve better treatment. It's the same award as the cops. It's doable. What he's doing is completely wrong and he is breaking the law."

It was a fitting end to the IAFF 51st Convention in Philadelphia, where the theme of the meeting was "Fighting Back for a Stronger Union."

"All our members expect is fair

**"This is a mayor who
has no respect for
the people who save
lives for a living.
The people who save
your life deserve
better treatment."**

—Bill Gault, President

Philadelphia Local 22

treatment and for the mayor to obey the law," General President Harold Schaitberger said from the steps of Philadelphia City Hall.

Fire fighters from across the United States and Canada reinforced the message that Local 22 has repeated since the arbitration award was handed down — that Mayor Nutter has a legal obligation to obey the award and put into force the fire fighters' contract.

The union's contract expired in July 2009. Arbitrators awarded a contract in 2010. The City appealed. After a year, a common pleas court judge sent

the case back to the arbitration panel for reconsideration. In July, the panel awarded 3 percent raises and denied the City the right to furlough fire fighters and medics. It gave Mayor Nutter until July 31 to implement the arbitration. However, shortly after the rally, Nutter announced he will appeal the arbitrator's decision, claiming the City cannot afford the raises.

"This is a terrible way to treat people who save lives for a living," says Gault. "We did not make the economic crisis being felt in Philadelphia and across the country, but we are being punished for it."

As Local 22 determines its next steps in this ongoing battle with the City, the IAFF stands at the ready to assist.

Gault says, "The IAFF has been great throughout this ordeal, giving me everything I have asked for. Now, we are exploring all of our legal options to determine the most effective way to move forward in this fight."

Meanwhile, Mayor Nutter has released a five-year budget plan that includes no raises for municipal workers. "We have already gone four years without a raise — to go another five would be ridiculous," says Gault. ■



Before he was premier of Manitoba, Doer was president of the Manitoba government employees union. He was appointed Canada's Ambassador to the United States in October 2009.

Continued from Page 14

of occupational diseases such as cancer.

"The lack of presumed coverage is denied coverage," Doer thundered. "Every fire fighter in North America should have presumptive coverage."

During his 10 years as Manitoba Premier, Doer and his NDP government enacted numerous advances on behalf of the Manitoba Professional Fire Fighters Association, including Canada's first

presumptive cancer and heart legislation in 2002. Schaitberger thanked Doer for his remarks and for his friendship. "You have shown who you are with your deeds, not your words," he said. "You are a brother to this union."

In an emotional presentation, Shaun Probert, visibly struggling with advanced stages of ALS, told his story and forcefully urged his brothers and sisters to do more for MDA. "I may not be up on the rig anymore, but I am still a fireman; I'm still going to help these kids," said Probert. "I will never give up this fight and I am up here asking for

"The lack of presumed coverage is denied coverage. Every fire fighter in North America should have presumptive coverage."

— Canadian Ambassador Gary Doer

more. I know it is hard for you to ask others to donate. But if they ask you why, just tell them you have a brother with ALS who asked you for help."

Probert replaces MDA spokesperson Kelly Crush, a member of Wichita Falls, TX Local 432 who died in March from ALS. Before retiring from the fire service in 2010, Probert spent 18 years participating in MDA's Fill-the-Boot program.

Over the past six decades, MDA has become a huge part of the mission of the IAFF and its 300,000 members across the United States and Canada. The IAFF is by far the largest donor to MDA, delivering more than \$275 million in contributions collected by individual members through local Fill-the-Boot campaigns since 1954.

The IAFF also is the biggest sponsor of MDA's Labor Day Telethon and contributed more than \$27.2 million in 2011. Probert, who was greeted with a standing ovation, choked up a bit as he told his story. Probert's introduction as the new IAFF spokesperson for MDA

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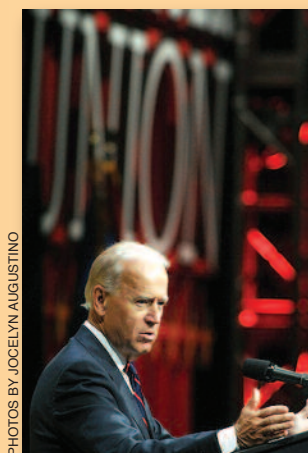
Obama, Biden Thank IAFF for Support

President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden took the IAFF 51st Convention as an opportunity to thank the IAFF and its members for their support and promised to continue to champion labor issues.

In an emotional and somber speech, Biden praised fire fighters for their heroism and commitment to community. "I think I know you guys. Your job is more than just a job. All those people whose lives you intervened in, my own included, we owe you," he said.

Biden also recognized the efforts of IAFF members during the horrific movie theater shootings on July 20 in Aurora, Colorado, that killed 12 people.

"We are grateful for what you guys do every day," President Obama told IAFF Convention delegates in an unexpected phone call thanking them for their support and vowing to continue efforts to protect public safety and collective bargaining. "As



PHOTOS BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO



Vice President Joe Biden, who spoke at the IAFF 51st Convention, has supported fire fighters in virtually every major legislative priority that has come up during his 35 years in the U.S. Senate and as vice president. Delegates on the Convention floor rallied in support of the IAFF endorsement of Obama and Biden for re-election.

long as I and Vice President Biden serve we will keep fighting for what matters to fire fighters and for the middle class," Obama said.

Throughout their term in office Obama and Biden have made \$1.3 billion available to communities to

keep fire fighters on the job.

"It is time that we do all we can to make sure that they have four more years to continue to do their hard work on behalf of working Americans," said Schaitberger. ■

Court Restores Full Pay for Scranton Fire Fighters

A settlement agreement reached July 31 requires the City of Scranton to reimburse fire fighters after the mayor's illegal decision to cut their pay to minimum wage.

The agreement ended a nearly month-long battle between Scranton, PA Local 60 and Scranton Mayor Chris Doherty, who ignored a judge's orders to pay fire fighters and other City workers in Scranton their full wages.

The settlement agreement was a major victory for Local 60. Fire fighters led the charge against Doherty for his unilateral decision to cut wages to just \$7.25 per hour.

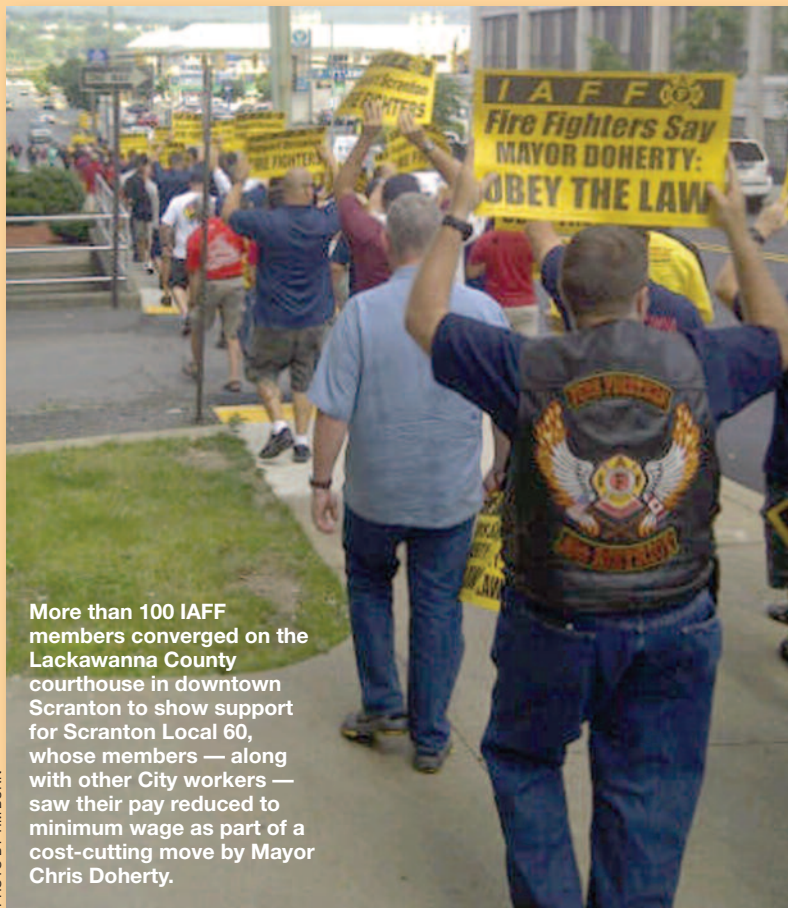
"We knew we had to take a stand. Our members are raising families and paying mortgages. They can't live on \$7.25 per hour," says Local 60 President John Judge.

Mayor Doherty was using City workers as a pawn in a budget dispute with the Scranton City Council as the two sides fought over a new budget for the City. Fire fighters and other employees were caught in the middle while the mayor tried to pressure the City Council to cave in to his demands.

The July 31 settlement agreement ended the mayor's charade and restored the wages of public employees. Under the terms of the three-page settlement agreement, the City must pay employees the wages — plus 6 percent interest — that were withheld. In return, Local 60 and other public employee groups agreed to drop a contempt charge against the mayor.

The mayor's political ploy backfired dramatically. Local 60's fight gained worldwide attention, with reporters focusing on the financial plight of fire fighters.

During the IAFF 51st Convention in Philadelphia, more than 100 fire fighters joined their brothers and sisters with Local 60 to hold a rally outside the Lackawanna County Courthouse calling on Mayor Doherty to obey the law.



More than 100 IAFF members converged on the Lackawanna County courthouse in downtown Scranton to show support for Scranton Local 60, whose members — along with other City workers — saw their pay reduced to minimum wage as part of a cost-cutting move by Mayor Chris Doherty.

PHOTO BY TIM BURN

"We knew we had to take a stand. Our members are raising families and paying mortgages. They can't live on \$7.25 per hour."

— John Judge, President
Scranton, PA Local 60

"The members of Local 60 stood together and sent their mayor a strong message," says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "They prevailed in this important fight, and with the help of their

brothers and sisters who stepped up during our Convention and joined them at their rally in Scranton, they let Mayor Doherty know that if you mess with one of us, you're messing with all of us."

Local 60 has had a tumultuous relationship with Doherty for 11 years. Scranton fire fighters have pledged to lead the charge to remove him from office next year.

Judge said that the legal victory doesn't entirely resolve the local's issues with the mayor because he still must secure long-term financing, but the settlement agreement establishes an important legal precedent and will help fire fighters if the mayor tries to unilaterally cut wages again.

"We are not out of the woods, but this is a good start," Judge says. ■

FIREPAC Donors Honored

FIREPAC donors who are Chairman's Council and Leadership Trust members and their guests were treated to a reception and concert during the IAFF Convention.

In conjunction with the reception, the 2011 FIREPAC Century Club "Best in Class" winners were honored with special awards. IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger, who presented the awards, praised the award-winning affiliates (listed below) and the 404 affiliates at the district, state and local levels that reached or exceeded their FIREPAC target in 2011.

"It's because of your commitment to FIREPAC that the IAFF has one of the top PACs in the country and is recognized as a political force in our Nation's Capital," he said.

The FIREPAC Century Club was created to generate friendly competition between affiliates by giving each local a goal for that year.



The 2011 FIREPAC Century Club "Best in Class" winners were honored with special awards in recognition of their contributions to FIREPAC.

Every IAFF affiliate is assigned a fundraising goal for raising voluntary contributions for FIREPAC based on its membership size. The goal is

determined by taking the local's membership number each January and multiplying it by \$12 (or one dollar a member per month). ■

FIREPAC CENTURY CLUB 100% CHALLENGE 2011 WINNERS

BEST IN CLASS - HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

District 2.....	407%
State	
Nebraska	3,011%
Century Club Group One	
L2068 – Fairfax County, VA	804%
(1,000 or more members)	
Century Club Group Two	
L157 – Oklahoma City, OK	906%
(750 to 999 members)	
Century Club Group Three	
L385 – Omaha, NE	4,693%
(500 to 749 members)	
Century Club Group Four	
L644 – Lincoln, NE.....	1,671%
(250 to 499 members)	
Century Club Group Five	
L1882 – Lawton, OK	2,988%
(100 to 249 members)	
Century Club Group Six	
L3144 – Taylorville, IL	7,411%
(Under 100 members)	

BEST IN CLASS - TOP DOLLARS RAISED

District 2.....	\$527,447.80
State	
Nebraska	\$441,186.30
Century Club Group One	
L493 Phoenix, AZ	\$180,559.19
(1,000 or more members)	
Century Club Group Two	
L157 – Oklahoma City, OK	\$102,328.39
(750 to 999 members)	
Century Club Group Three	
L0385 – Omaha, NE	\$348,019.40
(500 to 749 members)	
Century Club Group Four	
L0644 – Lincoln, NE.....	\$57,356.84
(250 to 499 members)	
Century Club Group Five	
L1882 – Lawton, OK	\$48,046.52
(100 to 249 members)	
Century Club Group Six	
L506 – Berwyn, IL	\$27,360.47
(Under 100 members)	

PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO



IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger introduced Shaun Probert, a member of Shaker Heights, OH Local 516 and the new IAFF spokesperson for MDA.

Continued from Page 16

was an emotional roller coaster for all who listened, moments filled with sadness, frustration, pride and also laughter.

Delegates Conduct Important Union Business

When the IAFF Convention concluded, delegates had adopted 21 resolutions, six of which came with a cost per capita amounting to a 42 cent increase for active members and a 21 cent increase for retired active members, effective September 1, 2012.

"I will never give up this fight and I am up here asking for more. I know it is hard for you to ask other to donate. But if they ask you why, just tell them you have a brother with ALS who asked you for help."

— Shaun Probert

Shaker Heights, OH Local 516
MDA Spokesperson

PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO



Linda Bollon, wife of the late Vinnie Bollon — who served as IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer from 1988-2010 — joined the New York delegation for Resolution 16, which names the IAFF Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS) after him.

Delegates unanimously adopted Resolutions 7, 8 and 9, which respectively bestowed Emeritus status on 1st District Vice President Kevin Gallagher, 13th District Vice President Bruce Carpenter and 15th District Vice President James Fennell. In each case, the resolutions were preceded by heartfelt tributes on the Convention floor from members of their home locals and districts and fellow Executive Board members describing their dedication to representing their members and advancing the IAFF's mission.

In a touching moment, rules were dispensed to allow Linda Bollon, wife

of the late General Secretary-Treasurer Vinnie Bollon to sit on the Convention floor with New York delegates for Resolution 16, which names the IAFF Affiliate Leadership Training Summit (ALTS) after him. The resolution was adopted unanimously and the event is now officially the Vincent J. Bollon Affiliate Leadership Training Summit.

Delegates also adopted late Resolution 27, which paid tribute to former Warren, OH Local 204 President Mark Titus, who was killed tragically in a motorcycle accident in

Continued on Page 21

PHOTOS BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO



NASCAR driver Jeremy Clements with IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger at the IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC) booth during the IAFF 2012 Convention. Clements, with the #51 NASCAR Nationwide Series car, was sponsored by Nationwide as a show of support for the IAFF-FC, as well as professional fire fighters and paramedics.

Country Music Star Bucky Covington's CD Sales Benefit IAFF Charitable Foundation

Over the past year, American Idol finalist and country music artist Bucky Covington has been working closely with Help The Good Guys and the IAFF Charitable Foundation to provide support to fire fighters and their families, hosting benefit events, visiting burn centers and burn camps and making donations from his music and merchandise sales.

He recently attended the IAFF 51st Convention in Philadelphia, greeting delegates at the IAFF Charitable Foundation booth and performing at the FIREPAC Reception.

Covington will be releasing his sophomore album, "Good Guys," on September 11, with a portion of the proceeds from the first week's sales benefiting the IAFF Charitable Foundation.

In addition, Covington has authorized a special IAFF edition "Good Guys" CD containing two bonus tracks, which can be purchased exclusively through the Help the Good Guys web site. All proceeds from the sale of this special edition CD and T-shirts sold



PHOTO BY JOCELYN AUGUSTINO

IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger presented country music artist Bucky Covington with a personalized fire helmet in appreciation for his work on behalf of the IAFF Charitable Foundation. Covington performed at the FIREPAC Reception held during the IAFF Convention and also met with delegates at the IAFF Charitable Foundation booth.

Jennings — had an epic debut, making it the number 1 clip on YouTube's "Popular Around The Web" music chart.

The IAFF encourages members to let their Facebook and Twitter friends know to vote and push Covington to

American Country (GAC) and on Country Music Television (CMT).

Follow Help The Good Guys on Facebook and Twitter and share the promotional packages listed on the Facebook page. Friends of friends purchasing the promotional packages can add thousands of dollars to the Charitable Foundation. IAFF members also can follow Covington on Facebook and Twitter.

The IAFF Charitable Foundation's mission is to support IAFF members and their families in their time of need, promote fire and burn prevention, advocate for fire fighter health and safety and provide public education on how to prevent and recover from traumatic events.

Money raised for the IAFF Charitable Foundation benefits the IAFF Burn Fund, Disaster Relief Fund, McClennan Scholarship Fund, Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Fund or John P. Redmond Fund. ■

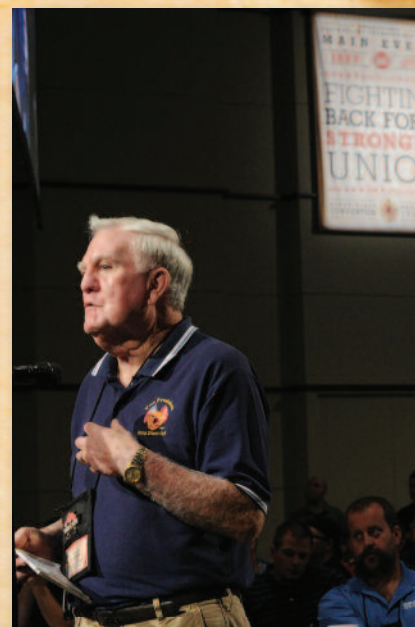
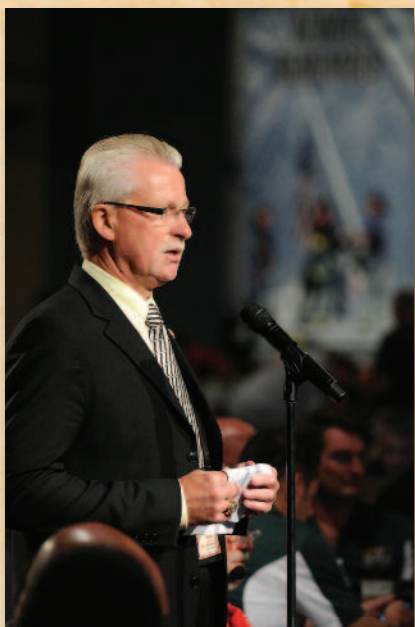


through the Help The Good Guys web site will be donated to the IAFF Charitable Foundation. Visit <http://helpthegoodguys.com>.

Help the Good Guys was created to honor and support the nation's professional fire fighters.

Covington's single, "I Wanna Be That Feeling," is number 2 on CMT Pure Country 12 Pack. And his newest music video, "Drinking Side of Country" — a duet with Shooter

the top of the charts — the more Covington's music sells, the more the IAFF Charitable Foundation will benefit. Members are also encouraged to show support for Covington by helping to increase his popularity and reach. IAFF members are encouraged to vote and ask their friends to vote every day for "I Wanna Be That Feeling" and "Drinking Side of Country" on Great



New IAFF Emeriti (from left); 13th District Vice President Bruce Carpenter, 1st District Vice President Kevin Gallagher and 15th District Vice President James Fennell.

Continued from Page 19

June at the age of 46. Titus served as president of Warren Local 204 for eight years and was a leader in the fight to repeal SB 5, legislation that would have significantly reduced collective bargaining rights for Ohio public workers, including fire fighters. Speaking in favor of the resolution, Local 204 President John Jerina described Titus as “a great friend and a great father who will never be forgotten.” The resolution was adopted unanimously.

A complete list of resolution action is online at www.iaff.org.

In the final business session, President Schaitberger reported on the venue for the 2016 IAFF Convention.

Though the IAFF received three bids from affiliates, none met the detailed criteria laid out in the requirements for hosting an IAFF Convention; therefore, the 2016 Convention will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the MGM Grand Hotel. The 52nd Convention in 2014 takes place in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Before the 2012 Convention

adjourned, Local 22 President Bill Gault thanked delegates warmly for coming to Philadelphia for Convention, and also thanked his Executive Board for their hard work.

In closing the 51st Convention, General President Schaitberger bade delegates well and thanked them for doing the work of the union. “I appreciate all you do. You are the IAFF,” he said, before calling a moment of silence for the fallen fire fighters whose names adorned the walls during the week. ■

IAFF Collaborates With Operation Warm to Help Children in Poverty

Community outreach efforts can have long-term and lasting impact on the local communities IAFF members serve and protect. Delegates at the IAFF Convention passed Resolution 20 to support Firefighters Coats for Kids, a branded program in collaboration with Operation Warm designed specifically for the IAFF and its members to provide brand-new, made-in-the-USA and Canada winter

coats to needy children and their families.

Through collaboration with Operation Warm, Inc., the turnkey program will help inspire hope for the more than 17 million children living in poverty in the United States and Canada, as well as help bring coat manufacturing back to North America.

Operation Warm is a national 501 (c)3 nonprofit created in 1998. It has



since grown significantly, and recently provided its one-millionth coat in 2012.

Operation Warm serves hundreds of thousands of children annually and today operates in 37 states.

For more information, visit <http://firefighterscoatsforkids.org>. ■

Hoarder Fires

POSE SPECIAL RISKS FOR FIRE FIGHTERS

One man's trash is often another man's treasure. But fire fighters are discovering that — treasure or trash — too much of it packed into a structure will turn all of it into one thing: dangerous fuel.

Fire fighters from Allentown, Pennsylvania, to Tempe, Arizona, and towns in between are increasingly battling fires made vastly more dangerous by hoarding. The phenomenon has certainly become more publicized, thanks to television shows like “Hoarding: Buried Alive” on TLC and “Hoarders” on A&E.

Fire fighters in communities across the country say they are seeing more home dwellers packing their living spaces with stuff. And while a television show on hoarding might offer light and brief entertainment, the trend is no laughing matter. Hoarding poses a dangerous challenge for fire fighters professionally committed to saving lives and property.

Members of Central Kitsap, WA Local 2819 learned just how dangerous a hoarding fire can be when they responded one morning to a reported house fire. According to Local 2819 President Steven Davison, area police called this particular homeowner a “frequent flier” because sired vehicles frequently respond to the address for various reasons.

“The dispatcher said there was a woman trapped in the basement, so we had to figure out how to get to her,” says Davison. “The house was small and we could see from the outside there were tiny rectangular windows just above the ground in the basement, where black smoke billowed out.” Fire fighters entered through the front door and used thermal imaging cameras to navigate the home, which was so packed with junk that



Hoarders collect and keep large amounts of stuff, such as newspapers, clothes, household items — even trash — that can cause unique challenges for fire fighters.

there were winding trails the occupants had made over time.

Much of the debris was smoldering and the paths were so narrow that the debris was falling onto the fire fighters as they squeezed further into the home.

It took what seemed like several minutes to find the basement stairs and descend. In the basement, there was more junk, black smoke and a room behind a closed door. The female occupant, who was heavy set and about 35 years old, was behind the door and unconscious. Fire fighters worked in pairs taking turns carrying and at times leapfrogging each other to get her upstairs and out the front door, with more debris falling as they went.

Davison says they got her out alive and paramedics sped her to hospital, but she died after two days on life support. Though the victim perished, Davison says his department gathered

valuable information and tactics for dealing with what is becoming a more widespread problem.

“We are definitely seeing more of these hoarder fires, and I can really only speculate why it's happening,” he says. “Part of it is a general trend in our society of individuals becoming more isolated with the growing use of communications technology. Maybe the tough economy is also making people want to keep stuff.”

Hoarding is the collection of and failure to discard or organize a large amount of stuff — stuff that can be anything anyone would want to buy or collect and keep, including newspapers, mail, clothes, tools, chemicals or just trash.

Often it is a massive combination of all of those things. IAFF members are responding to what looks from the outside like a normal structure fire, but inside rooms are packed floor to ceiling with junk — so much that — as Davison describes — there are only narrow passageways between walls of refuse leading from room to room.

“Hoarding fires are much more dangerous than a typical fire,” says Elby Bushong, deputy chief at the Phoenix Fire Department and a member of Phoenix, AZ Local 493. “We are taught early in our careers how to go in and attack a fire. But with a hoarding fire, it is extremely difficult not just to get in and locate the seed of the fire, it is also extra hazardous trying to figure out how to get out.”

Bushong says fire fighters from a number of Arizona locals have responded to so many hoarding fires in the past several years that they have created hoarding task forces. Bushong says those fire departments train regularly on dealing with these





Hoarding is the collection of and failure to discard or organize a large amount of stuff — stuff that can be anything anyone would want to buy or collect and keep, including newspapers, mail, clothes, tools, chemicals or just trash.

challenging and tactically unique fires.

Often, there are no outward signs that a home dweller is hoarding in a dangerous manner. The Phoenix Fire Department responded to a fire call in May at a home where the only sign that something might be amiss was an abandoned hearse in the front yard.

“The home was packed with just about everything you could think of — clothes, paper, trash and animal feces, all of it in dense mounds from floor to ceiling as well as underfoot,” says Bushong, adding that the female occupant claimed to be a witch.

The good news is that Phoenix fire fighters were able to do their jobs safely with no injuries and the woman was brought safely out of her home. But Bushong says containing the fire took twice as many fire fighters, twice the apparatus and twice as much time.

“We could not just go in the front door and attack the fire,” he says. “It took us a long time to find the source of the fire. We had to approach with hoses from several doors and windows. It was a mess. But our jobs are to protect people and property, and that is what we did.”

Psychologists say that hoarding often is a symptom of deep-rooted mental trauma, such as the loss of a loved one or loneliness. Sometimes it’s just laziness and messiness gone out of control. Hoarders hail from across the economic spectrum.

President of Valley Local 1352 David Cook was recently asked by a member of his community in Auburn, Washington, to visit the home of her grandmother who she feared was a hoarder.

“The home was one of these really beautiful mansion-like homes, probably worth about \$2 million,” says Cook. Most of the home seemed perfectly normal, but when the homeowner led him to one of the

bedrooms, it was so packed with large packages of toilet paper — still in plastic — that it was impossible to enter.

In fact, five of the bedrooms, as well as the crawl space in the attic, were similarly stuffed with 24-packs of toilet paper. The homeowner explained, “I like to keep an eye out for sales, and when toilet paper is on sale, I buy it.”

Cook cautioned her that storing it was a dangerous fire hazard. “She thanked me but

said she intended to keep it all,” he says.

Cook has made a note of the house and informed the rest of his department about what is inside and the floor plan, which could well save lives if a fire does start in that home. All of that toilet paper will most certainly cause flames to spread much faster, but fire fighters will be better prepared to respond. ■

Hoarding Lessoned Learned

Nothing teaches like experience, and IAFF members are learning more about hoarding and hoarding fires to help improve safety. Below are some tips collected from IAFF members who have responded to fires where hoarding was an issue:

- Make lists of homes that are believed to have hoarders.
- Consider the building construction and likelihood of dramatically increased fuel load.
- Visit potential hoarder homes to speak with the occupants and offer help.
- Rotate fire fighters through the home because tackling hoarder fires can be more exhausting.
- Make sure each fire fighter is equipped with a thermal imaging camera.
- Keep a close eye on air supply as exiting will be more difficult than entering.
- Conduct debriefings to discuss tactics.
- Conduct training in small spaces and disentanglement procedures.
- Consider upper floor egress as lower floor clutter will likely block exists.



Liberal MP Advances IAFF Canadian Legislative Issues

The IAFF's key federal legislative priorities in Canada will likely be debated in the House of Commons in Ottawa later this year due to the efforts of Saskatchewan Liberal MP Ralph Goodale.

Goodale has tabled private members' motion M-388 in the House of Commons, which states that the federal government should establish a Public Safety Officer Compensation (PSOC) benefit in the amount of \$300,000, give fire fighters priority access to vaccines and antivirals in the event of an influenza pandemic and amend the National Building Code of Canada to improve fire fighter safety.

Based on Goodale's standing in the order of preference for private members' business, M-388 will likely come up for first debate in the House of Commons in early fall, and for second debate in November. A vote on M-388 should come before the end of the year.

Goodale and his staff worked with the IAFF Canadian Office on the wording of



Liberal MP Ralph Goodale has introduced a private member's motion that asks the Canadian government to act on the IAFF's top legislative priorities. M-388 will be debated and voted on in the House of Commons later in 2012.

M-388. When the motion was tabled, Goodale told the IAFF he will try to muster sufficient support among MPs to get it

adopted in the House of Commons. The Canadian Office met with Goodale on June 18 to further discuss how to generate support for the motion among other stakeholders and among Canada's members of Parliament.

While non-binding, private members' motions focus important attention on issues and capture the interest of parliamentarians from all sides of the House. The adoption of a private member's motion signifies that a majority of MPs representing a majority of Canadians agree that the government should act on an issue. This is the first time three IAFF issues have been addressed in a single private member's motion.

The IAFF is grateful to Goodale for acting decisively to help advance issues affecting Canada's professional fire fighters and their families, and pledges to continue working with him toward the adoption of M-388 in the House of Commons.

Goodale, the Liberal Party Deputy Leader who represents the Regina-area riding of

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PAPER2012

“You are the nation’s first responders to all manner of emergencies. Fire fighters are typically first on scene. Peoples’ lives depend on how well you do your jobs.”

—Ralph Goodale, Liberal Party MP

Wascana, met with members of Regina, SK Local 181 during the 19th Canadian Legislative Conference and also spoke during the Conference’s opening session. He commended the IAFF for its lobbying, stating, “It is professional, it is focused, it is relevant, it is persuasive and it is very well done.”

He also thanked fire fighters for their roles in society. “You are the nation’s first responders to all manner of emergencies. Fire fighters are typically first on scene. Peoples’ lives depend on how well you do your jobs.” ■

2013 Political Training Academy Scheduled for February 9-15

The IAFF will hold its 17th annual Political Training Academy February 9-15, 2013, in Baltimore, Maryland. Online applications will be accepted beginning Tuesday, September 4, 2012. The deadline for submitting an application is Tuesday, November 13, 2012.

The Political Training Academy teaches IAFF members — or immediate family members — who are running or plan to run for public elected office how to develop a winning campaign plan. For local leadership or political directors, the Political Training Academy will teach them how to engage with campaigns in leadership roles and how to assess the strengths and weaknesses of campaigns seeking union support.

The Political Training Academy offers training on a variety of campaign topics, as well as a campaign simulation exercise. The training portion includes workshops on campaign planning, targeting, fundraising, polling, messaging and

get-out-the-vote, as well as other campaign related topics. Trainers include high-level operatives and consultants from the campaign world, most with decades of campaign experience at all levels of elective office.

Applications will only be accepted online and all applicants must submit a letter of recommendation from their local president to be eligible for consideration.

Due to the nature of the training provided at the Political Training Academy, class size is limited to 50 participants, and only one person from any local will be considered for acceptance. Successful applicants must also commit to attending the entire Political Training Academy to receive the full benefit of the program. While the IAFF covers the cost of lodging, meals and conference materials, participants are responsible for their own transportation costs to and from Baltimore and any additional lodging days outside of the Political Training Academy period. ■

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Oregon Fire Fighters Win First Cancer Case

IAFF members in Oregon have won an important victory in a work-related testicular cancer case. The Administrative Law Judge Review Panel ruled in favor of Tualatin Valley Local 1660 fire fighter Steve Fisher in a workers' compensation case in which the insurance company, SAIF, failed to rebut the presumption that Fisher's testicular cancer resulted from his employment as a fire fighter.

Dr. Francesca Litow, occupational medicine specialist and former IAFF occupational medicine resident, successfully refuted the claims made by physicians testifying on behalf of SAIF by providing the Review Panel a thorough and convincing testimony on Fisher's behalf.

"This was our first cancer case under our presumptive legislation, and our first appeal to the workers' compensation board," says Kelly Bach, president of the Oregon State Fire Fighters Council (OSFFC). "We are grateful and proud of the IAFF's and Dr. Litow's assistance, without which Brother Fisher would not have been awarded his just benefit."

Fisher, an advocate for fire fighter cancer issues, says, "I wanted to have this case publicized in hopes that it will help other members in Oregon and throughout the IAFF."

Based on a systemic review of the medical literature on fire fighter exposures to carcinogens and the medical literature concerning the relationship between fire fighting and testicular cancer, Dr. Litow illustrated to the Review Panel that the weight of evidence in this case supported Fisher's claim that his cancer was a result of his occupation as a fire fighter.

"These wins will provide the peace of mind to all fire fighters who each day in the performance of their duties are exposed to potentially carcinogenic agents," says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "This was an extremely important victory for our member, Steve Fisher, as well as all fire fighters and their families across the United States and Canada." ■

Campaign for Breast Cancer Awareness

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the IAFF encourages affiliates to participate in fundraising and awareness campaigns in support of women in their fight against breast and other cancers.

Over the last several years, IAFF affiliates across North America have participated in events throughout October, prompting a movement to wear and sell pink T-shirts as

part of their breast cancer awareness efforts. Inspired by the success of these campaigns, in 2010, the IAFF passed a resolution that supports and encourages IAFF members to develop campaigns to benefit local and national organizations dedicated to finding a cure for cancer.

In 2011, the IAFF collaborated with Susan G. Komen for the Cure to introduce a "Passionately Pink for the Cure" campaign for U.S. affiliates that conduct campaigns benefiting Komen and its affiliates. More than 130 IAFF affiliates participated in the Passionately Pink program, which offers various resources and activities to use in their campaigns. Donations collected by affiliates through the Passionately Pink program — totaling \$89,594.60 — were shared equally by Susan G. Komen and the IAFF Charitable Foundation.

This year, the IAFF and Susan G. Komen are again working together to offer the Passionately Pink for the Cure program for October 2012. Affiliates in the United States

can sign up online using "IAFF" in their team campaign name and create a personalized fundraising web page for secure online donations and access to free resources and tools, including downloadable posters and flyers. Additional lapel pins and other breast cancer awareness items are available through the IAFF Online Store. Funds raised will be split equally to benefit Komen and the IAFF Charitable Foundation.

To get started, visit

www.passionatelypink.org. For more information or questions, email passionatelypink@komen.org or passionatelypink@iaff.org.

The IAFF also encourages affiliates to share photos and stories from their breast cancer awareness campaigns. The November-December issue of the *International Fire Fighter* will include highlights from campaigns throughout the United States and Canada.

In addition, the IAFF will hold its third annual online "Best Pink T-shirt Design"



Fire Fighters Work to Control Colorado Wildfires

More than 1,500 fire fighters, including IAFF members, were on the ground in Colorado fighting wildfires that burned for weeks in June and July, including the Waldo Canyon Fire located west of Colorado Springs. Fire fighters from across the state and from other states were called out as well.

Fire fighters saved homes caught in the middle of a ring of fire, and saved entire neighborhoods and homes when everything around them was burned to the ground.

On July 2, IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger traveled to the Mountain Shadows area to survey the wildfire. "Fire fighters never blink when they've got a job to do, no matter how imposing," he says. "Once again, our members are in the eye of the storm, putting their lives on the line for their communities."

The blaze began June 23, and became so

The Colorado Springs region was devastated by the worst wildfire in the state's history.



dangerous that Colorado Springs' emergency management called for the mandatory evacuations of 32,000 citizens, including the cadets and staff at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The cause of the fire is under investigation, but officials believe a lightning strike smoldered for days and then ignited the fire. ■



IAFF Welcomes New Locals

The new IAFF affiliates listed below joined the International in May and June 2012.

Local 4902

Bedford County Professional Fire Fighters and Paramedics
President Mark W. Carter
21 members
Bedford County, VA

Local 4903

Professional Fire Fighters of Hampden
President Jared LeBarnes
9 members
Hampden, ME

Local 4904

Northampton Township Career Fire Fighters Association
President Nicholas Pasqualone,
4 members
Northampton Township, PA

contest beginning October 1. Prizes include free registrations to the IAFF Vincent J. Bollon Affiliate Leadership Training Summit in January 2013 in Phoenix, Arizona, and the John P. Redmond Symposium/Dominick F. Barbera EMS Conference in August 2013 in Denver, Colorado. Details will be available on the IAFF web site beginning in September.

Initiatives for Canadian Affiliates

In Canada, the IAFF has partnered again with the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research. Canadian locals are invited to participate in the annual Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure, scheduled for September 30, 2012. Canadian affiliates can run or walk 5k or 1k, or register a run team under the IAFF national team, staff a water station at a local CIBC Run for the Cure event or organize a pink T-shirt campaign. To register, visit www.cbcf.org/Pages/default.aspx. IAFF members can sign up under the team name "International Association of Fire Fighters" (be sure to search for the full name when registering).

For information on how to be a team captain, or if you have already registered and want to join the IAFF national team, contact Jennifer Wong at jwong@cbcf.org.

The CBCF is also providing space at CIBC Run for the Cure locations for the IAFF to sell branded pink T-shirts, with the proceeds going to the CBCF.

T-shirts must comply with both the IAFF Logo Policy and the CBCF Logo Agreement.

For more information about Breast Cancer Awareness Month initiatives in Canada, contact IAFF Team Coordinator Sandy Hamamoto at shamamoto@iaff.org or CBCF-IAFF Team Steward Jennifer Wong at jwong@cbcf.org. ■

Legislative Victories for British Columbia, Alberta Fire Fighters

IAFF affiliates in western Canada are celebrating a series of hard-fought legislative victories at the provincial level.

In May, the British Columbia government passed Bill 14, which amends the province's *Workers' Compensation Act* to better recognize work-related mental disorders, such as those caused by a reaction to one or more traumatic events or caused by work-related stressors such as bullying and harassment.

The legislation addresses compensation for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) claims for all workers, including fire fighters.

British Columbia Professional Fire Fighters Association (BCPFFA) President Mike Hurley says the BCPFFA worked closely with Labour Minister Margaret McDiarmid to ensure this important legislation was enacted, despite great opposition from employer groups, and adds that the PTSD component is a huge step forward in recognizing workplace injuries caused by traumatic events.

"Our provincial organization in recent years has been able to gain new safeguards for the fire fighters of British Columbia. This in large part has been due to the effective political work being carried out by our affiliates at the grass roots level, and it's also a testament to the IAFF model of political action," Hurley says.

In neighbouring Alberta, the provincial government has also introduced legislation for PTSD coverage, making the two provinces the first in Canada to formally address the issue directly in workplace compensation regulations.

Alberta's PTSD legislation states that if a fire fighter, EMT or peace officer is diagnosed with the condition, it shall be presumed to be a result of their duties unless proven otherwise.

Alberta Fire Fighters Association (AFFA) President Craig Macdonald says the PTSD issue came up at a time when the association was busy pressing another legislative priority involving fire fighters' hours of work, and got wings when the province's fire chiefs picked it up, as did then-Labour Minister Thomas Lukaszuk, an AFFA ally, who made it an election issue.

Alberta's Progressive Conservative government was re-elected in April and the PTSD issue was set to advance, but the AFFA was concerned it might overshadow the hours of work issue. Macdonald says he was elated when the government in the end acted on both issues.

"The hours of work win was huge, it was monumental for us," Macdonald says, noting that the win came despite objections from Alberta municipalities. "It's been an unbelievable year for us."

The hours of work regulation, adopted by the province in mid-June and set to come into force September 1, levels the playing field when it comes to determining the type of shift schedule used in the province's full-time fire departments. It will exempt fire fighters from the province's *Employment Standards Code*, which states that all workers' shifts must be confined to a 12-hour period.

Currently, any shifts outside that parameter, such as fire fighters' 10/14-hour shifts or the 24-hour shift, must be addressed through provincial work permits, which municipalities must request. As a result, a municipality can effectively block a union's attempt to advocate for other shifts. The issue affected a number of new Alberta locals in particular that have been organized in the past three years. ■

IAFF and NYC Locals Help Aurora Fire Fighters Cope

Following the shooting massacre at a midnight showing of "The Dark Knight" that killed 12 people and wounded 59 others, the IAFF immediately dispatched a team of IAFF peer counselors. Frank Leto and John Hemsley, both members of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association of New York Local 854 and Dr. Claire Cammarata from the FDNY Counseling Service Unit, traveled to Aurora, Colorado, to evaluate IAFF members' needs and to initiate a plan for long-term counseling for IAFF members involved in this tragedy.

One of the victims, Jessica Ghawi, a

reporter who was killed, is the sister of Jordan Ghawi, a member of Sequin, TX Local 4122.

The IAFF team, along with Aurora Local 1290 President Randy Rester and Aurora Fire Chief Mike Garcia, met with IAFF members who were on shift that day, as well as the dispatchers who took the civilian calls and dispatched the companies to the movie theater where the shootings occurred. The team also made station visits during other shifts to discuss counseling needs and resources.

They also were on the ground at the scene of suspect James Holmes' apartment building, which was wired

with numerous explosives, as well as timers, trip wires and other detonation devices.

IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger spoke to President Rester and met with the leadership of Aurora Local 1290 who attended the IAFF 51st Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in July. During the Convention, an email from Rester to General President Schaitberger was read to Convention Delegates thanking the IAFF for the immediate response to assist his membership. ■

IAFF Locals Wield Influence for MDA

Thanks to IAFF affiliates and their legislative representatives — along with MDA-appointed lobbyists — the MDA Fill-the-Boot program is more than kicking — it's alive and well.

City and state officials are making it easier for public safety officials to raise money for charity. It's happening in Illinois and Colorado, and making headway in Maryland with restrictions being loosened and bills being passed to accommodate more Fill-the-Boot Drive events.

In Illinois, Governor Pat Quinn saluted the Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois (AFFI) for its part in passing the new law that will allow fire fighters to "continue supporting organizations that improve the quality of life for the people of Illinois."

It's welcoming news to AFFI President Pat Devaney.

"We are very excited to be able to pass this bill and have it be the law of the land," Devaney says. "We've been working on this for several years, and will help us raise more money for MDA."

AFFI members believe in the cause 100 percent, raising between \$4 and \$5 million over the past five years.

MDA Interim President and Medical Director Valerie Cwik, M.D. also applauds the group's unwavering efforts at the local and state level to achieve these positive legislative results.

"From the beginning, the IAFF has been an integral part of MDA's mission to find treatments and cures for neuromuscular diseases," Cwik says. "The fire fighters have understood and embraced our mission, standing together with MDA to see it through. The IAFF and its thousands of members are the heart and soul of Fill-the-Boot, and the reason why it's so successful."

Earlier this year, the Colorado state legislature passed a bill to allow fire fighters to collect donations for the Fill-the-Boot program. Now fire fighters and municipalities can work together for a common good and for families in their communities.

Dennis Eulberg, MDA liaison to the Colorado Professional Fire Fighters, (CPFF) says, "It's a great moment, moving us forward and solidifying the relationship between fire fighters and MDA."

In Montgomery County, Maryland, state law didn't allow businesses to collect money on the street. But all that changed when the Maryland Attorney General office reversed the law, allowing MDA to solicit donations, ruling that the provision didn't intend for the "business" to include charitable organizations.

John Sparks, president of Montgomery County Local 1664, says his members have collected more than \$200,000 in donations, but because of the older law, donations fell dramatically.

"Obviously, this is great news for the Muscular

Dystrophy Association and the kids," Sparks says.

The more states and locations that begin to pass legislation to allow MDA to ask for contributions will no doubt help the cause.

Devaney says, "I know that in Illinois everybody wins because of it and it's a better place for it. We're out there helping people." He hopes other legislatures in other states will embrace the idea and see that it's the right thing to support.

Some IAFF affiliates are supporting the Crush Dystrophy program being conducted throughout the Southeast and parts of Texas. The program honors the late Kelly Crush, who spent more than 20 years as a fire fighter and as a member of Wichita Falls, TX Local 432 and was a strong advocate for MDA. Crush, who was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis four years ago, passed away in March 2012.

Fire fighters in Houston and Dallas will be dedicating their Fill-the-Boot drives to Crush, wearing orange in his honor at their respective events.

Ed Baker, director of Business Development at MDA's Dallas office, says, "It's a great and lasting tribute to him." ■



National Labor College Graduates Three IAFF Members

Three IAFF members are among the June 2012 graduates of the National Labor College (NLC). Kansas City, MO Local 42 Member Mark Fuller earned his degree in Labor Education and Labor Safety and Health; Park Ridge, IL Local 2697 Member Matthew Jarka earned his degree in Labor Studies; and Baltimore, MD Local 734 member David Zepp earned a degree in Labor Safety and Health.

"On behalf of the IAFF, I would like to congratulate all of our graduates this year," says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "I know all of you have worked hard toward your goals."

Fuller is an IAFF 2nd District State Field Service Representative and an IAFF HazMat training instructor. He also has a degree in Fire Science from Western Illinois University.

"I am always looking for ways to broaden my skill set so that I may better assist the IAFF membership and my community," Fuller says. "While earning these degrees, I learned a lot about distance learning, which will be very helpful as I get involved in various train-the-trainer type programs."

Former Local 2697 President Jarka also earned his degree to help his fellow fire fighters and other members of labor. When Jarka served as local president, he realized he had a passion for labor law. With his new degree from the National Labor College, he plans to start law school at the Chicago Kent College of Law in August.

"Even after I retire as a fire fighter, I still want to continue helping my brothers and sisters in the labor movement," says Jarka. "My NLC degree is a big stepping stone toward that goal."

Local 734 member Zepp plans to use what he learned while earning his Labor Safety and Health degree in his involvement with Local 734's Health and Safety Board.

The National Labor College is the only college in the United States with an exclusive mission to serve the educational needs of the labor movement. ■



Matthew Jarka



Mark Fuller

IAFF Members, Family Awarded Scholarships

Two IAFF members and two children of members have been awarded Union Plus scholarships. Union Plus grants scholarships annually to students attending accredited post-secondary institutions. Recipients are selected based on academic ability, social awareness, financial need and appreciation of labor.

The IAFF honorees include: Green Bay, WI Local 141 member Daniel Chatham; Waukegan, IL Local 473 member Henry Gruba; Salt Lake City, UT Local 1645 member Richard Boden's son Tanner Boden; and Buffalo Grove, IL Local 3177 member Randall Buttlere's son Rocco Buttlere.

Chatham is seeking a degree in fire and emergency response management to help the union become more proactive and improve internal and external communication.

"My desire is to be a service-minded leader and a positive force for change," he says.

Gruba, a 20-year veteran fire fighter, is pursuing a master's degree in fire service and homeland security management. He believes that advancing his education will expand his skill set so that he can help his fellow union members stay safe on the job.

Boden will be a freshman at Utah State, where he is majoring in marketing with minors in statistics and graphic design. "All this has been made possible by the lessons I have learned from my father," he says.

Buttlere is expanding his natural ability to build by going after an architectural degree. Rocco knows that families, like buildings, need a solid foundation, and he is grateful for the example that his parents' longtime union membership set. ■

SAFER Helps Jurisdictions Do the Right Thing

Several IAFF affiliates are among the jurisdictions that have been awarded Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants, allowing them to retain staff, hire new fire fighters and bring back laid-off fire fighters.

"At a time when communities are struggling to maintain public safety under these tight fiscal times — and when partisanship seems to hold sway — it is truly heartening to see so many city leaders do the right thing by helping to get more fire fighters back to work," says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger.

The struggling economy has hit hard in many cities across the country, including Detroit, Michigan, where the Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded the City with the largest SAFER grant in the history of the program — \$22 million.

"We have been fighting for years to apply for and receive a SAFER grant, and we were able to do that with the IAFF's assistance," says Detroit Local 344 President Dan McNamara. "Local 344 is ecstatic that 108 fire fighter jobs have been saved."

In Cincinnati, Ohio, perseverance has paid off for Local 48. Last year, fire fighters there were forced to turn down a \$6.9 million SAFER grant because the City said it could not financially meet the grant's requirements. This year, Local 48 became significantly more involved in the grant application process, using the services of the IAFF Grants Department to help with the application.

"Because SAFER grant restrictions have been loosened a bit, we were optimistic that the City would accept it this time," says Local 48 President Matt Alter. "Our efforts have been rewarded."

Cincinnati was awarded a \$5.9 million grant, and on August 1, the Cincinnati City Council Budget and Finance Committee voted unanimously to accept the SAFER money for the Cincinnati Fire Department.

These funds will be used to hire 40 fire fighters, and the new positions will reduce the number of brownouts — currently five companies per day. Drill school is expected to begin before October 1.

For Colorado Springs, CO Local 5, fire department staffing has been steadily declining as positions are lost through attrition — 50 since 2007. Local 5 President Jeremy Kroto says fire fighters have been trying to obtain a SAFER grant for some time.

"We have been working hard to encourage the City to apply for the grant," he says. Those efforts paid off this year with a \$2 million grant that will allow the department to hire new fire fighters and help staff a new station now under construction.

Other affiliates in cities receiving large SAFER awards include: Reno, NV Local 731 (\$13.4 million); San Jose, CA Local 230 (\$8.6 million); Kern County, CA Local 1301 (\$7 million); Austin, TX Local 975 (\$5 million); Broward County, FL Local 4321 (\$4.9

million); Phoenix, AZ Local 493 (\$4.4 million); Nashville, TN Local 140 (\$3.8 million); St Lucie County, FL Local 1377 (\$3.7 million); Fairfield, CT Local 1426 (\$3.3 million); Prince George's County, MD Local 1619 (\$2.5 million); South Metro, CO Local 2164 (\$1.5 million); and Medford, MA Local 1032 (\$1.4 million).

For a complete listing of SAFER awards, visit <http://www.fema.gov/>. ■

Are You Leaving Money on the Table?

Home and auto insurance are some of life's big necessities. The IAFF Financial Corporation (IAFF-FC) can help save IAFF members in the United States money on home and auto insurance — as much as \$300 or more per year — through Liberty Mutual. In addition to saving money, Liberty Mutual offers 24/7 claims service, after-hours policy service and convenient payment options, and guarantees rates for one year.

In these difficult economic times, where one phone call can potentially save you significant money, isn't it worth the time to call? Switching to Liberty Mutual Home and Auto Insurance is easy. Call 1-800-835-0984 to be directed to your local Liberty Mutual agent.

In some states, including Florida, insurance rules and regulations make purchasing home insurance a challenge. While those issues must be resolved at the State Insurance Board level, Liberty Mutual can still provide IAFF members in those states with auto insurance at competitive rates.

All quotes from Liberty Mutual are for 12 months — not six months, as most insurers provide. All IAFF members and retirees of any age in the United States are eligible for these savings, as are spouses or family members who reside in the same home as the member. For more information, call 1-800-835-0984 to reach the nearest Liberty Mutual agent.

IAFF members in Canada also have access to great group rates on auto and home insurance. The IAFF-FC offers Canadian members an auto and home insurance program through TD Insurance. While most insurers in Canada have chosen to raise their rates in the past few years, TD Insurance has kept its rates stable. This means that great rates and potential savings are available with one phone call to 1-877-636-6630. Coverage for auto, home and recreational vehicles is available at the group rate. Join the more than 5,000 IAFF members who have found this program to be a great benefit. ■



National City

National City, CA Local 2744 successfully added the IAFF-FC Frontline Plan as an option for its members' 457 savings. From left: Local 2744 member Paul Kane, NRS Representative Anna Ramos and Local 2744 member Benjamin Garcia.

Assessing Risks and Resources for Effective High Rise Building Fire Response

High-rise buildings present a unique threat to fire fighters. Once located almost exclusively in larger cities, high rises today are typical in small and mid-sized communities and are likely to become more common as urban sprawl continues.

In an effort to assess the risks and the necessary fire department resource deployment to assure safe, efficient and effective operations, the IAFF — along with study partners National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), the Urban Institute, International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) — has conducted field experiments to quantify the effects of crew size, effective fire fighting force assembly time and vertical response time on the effectiveness and safety of fire fighters during a working high rise, high-risk building fire on an upper floor.

Multi-floor fires present serious challenges for the operational capabilities of a modern fire department.

Unfortunately, fire and city officials currently lack quantitative data to support specific deployment configurations or building code requirements germane to effective high rise response.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), from 2003-2006 an average of 13,400 structure fires in high rise



Fire fighters participate in field experiments on the effects of crew size and response time during a high rise fire.

buildings were reported per year with associated losses of 62 civilian deaths, 490 civilian injuries and \$179 million in direct property damage each year.

Office buildings, hotels, apartment buildings and facilities that care for the sick account for the majority of high rise fires. A memorable example is One Meridian Plaza, a 38-floor skyscraper in Philadelphia, which caught fire on February 23, 1991. The fire started on the 22nd floor and raged for 18 hours, gutting eight floors and causing an estimated \$100 million in direct property loss. More than 300 fire fighters responded and three were killed. The fire was described by Philadelphia officials as “the most significant fire in the century.”

In 1988, First Interstate Bank Building, a 62-story skyscraper in Los Angeles was one of the worst high rise fires in the city’s history.

Sixty-four fire companies and 383 fire fighters responded to fight the fire that lasted for more than three hours. The fire caused extensive window breakage, which complicated fire fighting efforts and caused an estimated \$200 million in direct property loss.

The results of the field experiments project will provide the NFPA 1710 Technical Committee data on the optimal crew size and total effective fire fighting force for a first alarm assignment to a working high rise or other high hazard fire. These high hazard response scenarios will also bracket the spectrum of fire response, acting as a complement to the recently published low hazard Residential Fireground Deployment Study.

For more information, contact Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell at (202) 824-1594 or lmoore@iaff.org. ■

Fire Fighter Becky Walachovic: Fit to Survive

Becky Walachovic, a fire fighter and member of Norton Shores, MI Local 2559, has gone above and beyond in the health and wellness field. She plays a very active role in the department’s wellness program and is an inspiration to many who work with her. Walachovic began her journey towards a lifestyle change and to lose weight in September 2005. “I used food for so much more than a meal,” she says. “I have struggled with my weight since childhood. Food was my comfort and safe thing to turn to.” Walachovic says the first couple weeks were the hardest, but once she began losing weight she was excited to see what the next week would bring.

In 2006, Walachovic became pregnant with her first son, Chase. She tried to stay on track by eating healthy. Then she became pregnant with her second son, Grady, in 2007. Walachovic was on weight restrictions during both pregnancies and eventually gave up on the gym. “I was upset with myself because I had gained

back all the weight I had lost before having the boys,” she recalls.

Walachovic knew she needed to make some major lifestyle changes. “My job, my health and my kids were all affected by my poor eating habits,” she explains. She joined Weight Watchers and learned about portion control and how to make healthier choices. After one year on the program, she joined a gym and continues to work out five to six days a week. “I love to work out and enjoy the new friends I have made,” she notes. Walachovic also uses the IAFF Fit to Survive Menu Planner to keep fit and healthy. “I find it very helpful — I am not struggling to come up with ideas on my own.”

As a member of the fire department Health and Wellness Committee, Walachovic wants to help others who are struggling with weight issues. The results of her lifestyle change have been the model for others to follow. Because of her, there are a lot more salads at the dinner table.



Her captain, Andy Caspersen, says, “She has been one of the greatest influences for our personnel. She has lost more than 100 pounds and made a lifestyle change that included diet and physical fitness without using gimmicks or supplements.” ■



"I went Passionately Pink for my wife."
-Mike, Dallas Local 58



"I went Passionately Pink for my family and friends."
-Shanetra, Dallas Local 58



"I went Passionately Pink for my sister."
-Steven, Dallas Local 58

You can help end breast cancer, too.

Join the IAFF in supporting Susan G. Komen Passionately Pink for the Cure® this October, and help raise funds and awareness in your community.

Your support makes a difference.

Donations received through this IAFF Passionately Pink campaign support Susan G. Komen's national initiatives, as well as education, screening and treatment programs through Komen's network of local Affiliates, and the IAFF Charitable Foundation.



You can help end breast cancer. Email passionatelypink@komen.org today.

Throughout his travels on behalf of the IAFF and its affiliates...

General President Harold Schaitberger visits firehouses and union halls and attends other state and provincial events.



IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger and IAFF General Secretary-Treasurer Tom Miller visited Richmond, BC Local 1286 President Corey Parker and his members at Station 4. Both were in Richmond for the Western Canadian Conference.



General President Schaitberger broke bread with members of the Bozeman Local 613, Great Falls Local 8 and Billings Local 521 executive boards while attending the Montana State Council of Professional Fire Fighters meeting in Bozeman.



IAFF General President Schaitberger visited with Colorado Springs, CO Local 5 President Jeremy Kroto and his members at stations 9 and 17 following a tour of the desolation caused by the recent wildfires — the most destructive in the state's history.



Retirees

A Salute to Dedication, Service and Courage

ALABAMA L1288 Homewood—Patrick Eskew, Johnny West, L1349 Mobile—William Hunter, L1444 Montgomery—Michael Davis, Robert Reeves, L2528 Dothan—Ricky Key, L3301 Hueytown—G. E. Pack, Jerry Stewart

ALASKA L1264 Anchorage—Lenora Blouin, Gary Bullock, Dean Fortain, Mayo Jack, Gary Mack, Dianne Rathburn, Brian Reed, Debra Tinkham

ALBERTA L0209 Edmonton Fire Fighters Union—Kevin Kinney, Richard Matsalla, Brian Plamondon, Richard Turner, L0255 Calgary—Kerry Berryman, William Besselink, Eric Cartwright, T. Michael Christie, Mike Dibblee, William Friesen, Kevin Haines, Dale McAllister, Vern McLeod, William Milton, Larry Ross, Daryl Skaug, Paul Smith, Donald Stephenson, J. G. Turuk, Larry Walper, Douglas Watkins, Lorne Webber, L0263 Medicine Hat—Terry Bush, Jim Clegg, Eric Nielson, Dave Voeller, L2494 Ft. McMurray—Doug Nicholson

ARIZONA L0493 Phoenix—Crystal Sorensen, L1234 Yuma—Richard Lineberry, L1505 Flagstaff—Ron Martinez, L2260 Mesa—Randy Rush, Dean Weinland, L3066 United Yavapai—Jay Fillingim, Bruce Martinez, L3504 United Pima Fire Fighters—Eddie Arevalo, Alexander Dunn, L3647 Colorado River Professional Fire Fighters—Joseph Zazzaro, L3690 Sedona-Verde—Kenneth Krebs, Tim Lefler

ARKANSAS L0034 Little Rock—Jimmy Woodward, L0502 Texarkana—Thomas Yates, L0879 Hot Springs—Bill Bradbury, L4496 Mountain Home Professional Fire Fighters Association—Terry Moore, S0024 Western Arkansas State—William Scott, Scott Tober

BRITISH COLUMBIA L0018 Vancouver—Douglas Bannon, Brian Dick, David Henderson, Vance Minosky, Frederick Murray, L0256 New Westminster—Jim Cornell, L0323 Burnaby—Tom Foreman, L0941 Trail—Richard Melnyk, L0967 Saanich—Keith Shields, L1253 Cranbrook—Ed Swanson, Robert Taylor, L1271 Surrey—Jocelyne Colbert, L1286 Richmond—Bud Smallwood, L1304 Kitimat—Rick Thompson, L1782 Coquitlam—Tony Burke, Randy Radonich, L2143 Fort St. John—Robert Bilodeau, Gregg Nicoll, L2399 Port Moody—Larry Cardus, L3253 Langley City—Stuart Christianson, Barry Vignal

CALIFORNIA F0033 San Diego—Christopher Januszewicz, Albert Leggs, Harold Mangum, F0085 Federal Fire Fighters Association—James

Carlier, Timothy Hatter, L0055 Oakland Alameda County And Emeryville—Chuck Accurso, Thad Ardell, Raymond Banks, Pablo Clemena, Gilbert Cody, Chris Colgan, Jay Comella, Gary Conley, David Crowder, William Dillon, Victor Dizon, Harold Epps, Alan Evans, Lisa Feldman, Thomas Gallinatti, Sylvester Grisby, James Gross, Donnie Harris, Gregory Harris, Aaron Horn, Johney Jackson, James Joseph, Stanley Killingsworth, Edward Kilmartin, Betsy Kimmel, Dwight Langford, Paul Leimone, Fred Little, Peter Martinez, Randy Molina, Daniel O'Hara, Christopher O'Rourke, Larry Padilla, Timothy Pandorf, Bradley Pieraldi, Preston Pleasants, William Potts, Howard Quinn, Jonathan Ramey, Leforis Robinson, John Roemer, Larry Rosso, Jason Sautel, Robert Schord, Joseph Silva, Donald Smith, Steve Sugar, Jose Vega, Ulysses Williams, Dennis Wylie, Steven Young, L0112 Los Angeles City—David Allen, Pedro Alonso, Scott Ames, Paul Angel, Aquil Basheer, Thomas Burroughs, Donald Cascio, Khai Cho, Frank Cosola, Charles Currey, John Cvitanich, Christopher Dale, George Deasee, Kirk Garber, Martin Garza, Steven Hofbauer, Gerald Horwedel, Gerald Hutchinson, Garry Ingham, Luis Jaramillo, Jason Kelley, Gail Martin, Jose Martinez, Rodolfo Martinez, Richard McClure, John Mitchell, Janet Morris, Wayne Nakamura, Vince Nixon, Rosemary Nord, Randall Opperman, Steven Owens, Wilfred Padilla, Patrick Perry, Lon Roberts, John Rojas, Jim Satterfield, Barry Sears, Richard Semsch, Damien Shilo, Gregory Stanton, Michael Svorinich, Steven Tamashiro, Gary Teadtke, Zane Testerman, Christopher Weinrich, Terry Wortham, L0145 San Diego—Randal Ballard, Steven Bixler, Lisa Blake, Conley Broome, Joi Carle, Tamarah Castaneda, Andrea Gaxiola, Lewis Guenaga, Christopher Kirchhofer, Jeffrey Larson, William Latham, David Leasure, Brett Miser, W. R. Modeen, Robert Najera, William Nelson, Kenneth O'Toole, Geary Pollard, Esequiel Sanchez, Douglas Schulte, James Shelby, Randon Strick, Stephen Valenzuela, Kevin Wakashige, Harry Woods, L0522 Sacramento—Tony DesCalso, Chris Gygi, Joseph Kitzero, Elise Ladd, James Lamkins, Frank Miranda, Edward Modeste, Gregory Pryor, Wendy Roof, Kyle Strickland, Michael Thornton, Robert Webber, L0753 Fresno—Richard Christopherson, Michael Taylor, Paul Urbano, L0798 San Francisco—Michael Bello, Joseph Cuff, Susan DeMartini, Eugene Eden, Kenneth Jones, Frank Kosta, Dean

Lundie, Steven Rascon, Jensen Rhodes, James Schrick, Anthony Smerdel, Theodore Tom, Keith Wong, Kathleen Zepada, Russell Zimmerman, L0935 San Bernardino County—Marty Brown, Gregory Griffin, Norman Hebert, Randy Randolph, Roger Saindon, Gerald Smith, L1171 Santa Clara—Joseph Kanaeholo, Sheri Kerr, Larry Lambert, Dave Picchi, Terry Reist, L1227 Berkeley—Myles Meier, Douglas Schultz, L1230 Contra Costa County—Franco DeMarinis, Joe Guadarrama, John Houseman, L1301 Kern County—Scott Davis, Robert Heimiller, Dennis Monahan, Luis Monterroso, L1364 Ventura County—Mark Carrillo, Michael Eul, Rick Frebe, Tom Retan, Daniel Rodriguez, Daniel Salas, L1401 Santa Rosa—Raymond Paula, L1434 San Miguel—Donald Upton, L1775 Marin Professional Fire Fighters—Ron Alves, Louis Lupo, Joe Morena, L2020 Santa Maria City Fire Fighters—Richard Smith, L2180 Chula Vista Fire Fighters—Carl Dollick, Steve Miller, L2197 San Gabriel City—Don Berry, L2400 San Mateo County—Jesse Cendana, Robert Consani, Gerald Nave, L2415 Monrovia—Kirk Bates, Greg Dellenbach, Steven Elmgren, Glen Faulk, Ronald Pelham, Ryan Phillips, Alice Robin, Brad Sandona, Rob Vita, L2881 CDF Fire Fighters—Kelley Cox, Ronald Finn, Gerald Gartin, Steven Gasaway, Magnus Jonsson, L Katuls, Romeo Mata, Brian McDonald, Tony Moran, Terrie Ridenhour, Dale Rodriguez, C Ruggle, Ronald Saletta, Marvin Wennekamp, Chad Zrelak, L3631 Orange County Professional Fire Fighters Association—Greg Boothe, L3793 Yuba City—Gary Garrett, L4029 Woodland—James Zuniga, L4317 Lathrop-Manteca—Kevin Anderson, Daniel Snyder, L4759 La Mesa Fire Fighters Union—Doug McClanahan, Stephen Pullen, Charles Strickland

COLORADO L0003 Pueblo—Timothy Colnar, L0858 Denver—Daniel Robinson, Stephen Schauer, L1002 Canon City—Erik Johnson, L2086 Littleton—Ray Rahne, L2808 Grand Junction—Chuck Thomas

CONNECTICUT L0786 Stamford Professional Fire Fighters Association—Peter Brown, Richard Gillespie, Neal Leary, L0834 Bridgeport—Stephen McSperrin, Brian Walker, L0892 Norwich—Paul Schroder, Dawn Smith, Paul Tetreault, L1198 West Haven—Richard Hally, L1205 East Haven—David Acker, L1241 West Hartford—Louis Glanz, S0015 Connecticut Police and Fire Union—Mark Diciancia, Craig Trent

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA L0036 Washington—Gerald Blanks, Kyle Boone, Shirley Campbell, Thomas Clark, Thomas Clark, Rawley Conley, David Del Balzo, Roger Delaney, Robert DeWitt, Ronnie Elam, Valerie Evans, Tyrone Farrow, Jack Foster, Timothy Heaton, Ronald Hines, David Hollinger, Ralph Richard Iacangelo, Alfred Jeffery, Shaun Jones, Christopher Jordan, James Kelley, Rick Knight, George Leahy, Harold McDonald, John Pignataro,

Joseph Quander, Chris Roggeron, Willie Simpkins, Fletcher Smith, Nathaniel Smith, Hattie Tompkins, Ronald Valentine, Rolando Villars, **L3217 Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority**—Terry Wolverton

FLORIDA **L0122 Jacksonville Association Of Fire Fighters**—Randolf Ellis, Joe Grooms, Richard Lundy, Eric Parshall, Gordon Simms, Michael Williams, **L0587 Miami Association Of Fire Fighters**—Keith Becker, Douglas Brinson, George Lawrence, **L0727 West Palm Beach Association Of Fire Fighters**—Wayne Lentini, **L0754 Tampa**—George Broz, Lori Singleton, **L0765 Fort Lauderdale**—Juana Carreras, Ralph Madonia, Steve Radice, Dale Zimmerman, **L1102 Hialeah Association Of Fire Fighters**—William Parks, **L1375 "Hollywood Professional Fire Fighters Inc."**—Robert Bazy, Frank Emiliano, Gary Ethridge, Robert Montgomery, David Swick, Richard Tursi, **L1510 Fire Fighters Of Miami Beach**—Jerry Buechler, **L1549 Pompano Beach Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael DeBerry, Aaron Eferstein, Mark Starke, **L2057 Orange County Professional Fire Fighters**—Carl Long, Donna Reed, Kevin Wiltz, **L2135 Professional Fire Fighters Of Ocala**—James Ganter, Dennis Lawson, **L2292 Professional Fire Fighters Of Pembroke Pines**—Laurie Barnes-Zargo, Joseph Dennis, Larry Goode, Robert Newfield, **L2294 Hillsborough County Fire Fighters**—Jose Acebo, Michael Morbach, Zane Overstreet, Keely Riveiro, Roger Sartori, Brent Shearer, **L2297 North Naples Professional Fire Fighters**—Edward Gubala, Tracy Taylor, **L2315 Davie Professional Fire Fighters**—Karl George, Wales Martindale, **L2445 Professional Fire Fighters Of Titusville**—Christopher Hitt, **L2546 Suncoast Professional Fire Fighters & Paramedics**—Jack Balazs, Christopher Blackford, Christopher Casa, Stephen Cucci, Paul Ewers, Gerry Haisley, Paul Merucci, Chester Reed, Robert Rizzo, Mitchell Thorne, George Toms, Terry Wilson, **L2896 Seminole Professional Fire Fighters**—Jeff Crosby, Thomas Poucher, Michael Wall, Steven White, **L2980 Palm Harbor/Oldsmar Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael Kelzer, **L3080 Metro-Broward Professional Fire Fighters**—Michael Annese, **L3284 Osceola County Professional Fire Fighters**—Denny Bodden, Brennan Dearing, Dan Oliver, Tracy Stubbs, **L4420 Pasco County Professional Fire Fighters**—Amy Bellingar, Albert Dennison, Steve Hall, Ronald Jamieson, Mark Lamanna, Ronald Lane, Michael McCormick

GEORGIA **F0107 Warner Robins Air Force Base**—Rex Roberts, **L1460 Marietta**—Larry Garner

HAWAII **F0263 Federal Fire Fighters Of Hawaii**—Lance Ahulau, Joseph Guillaume, Kurt Kendra, James Lake, **L1463 Hawaiian Islands**—Brett Aweau, Kevin Chow, Samuel Hilea, Earle Kealoha, Stuart Minchew, James Oshiro, Luke Sakanashi, Willis Sanchez, Geoffrey

Shon, Matthew Takashige, John Yoshimoto

IDAHO **L0149 Boise**—William Stone, **L1821 Caldwell**—Duane Darbin, **L4667 Teton County Fire Fighters**—Christopher Ford

ILLINOIS **L0002 Chicago**—Lawrence Ahern, John Altenbach, Michael Cecich, John Gariti, Thomas Hincks, Robert Hoff, Francisco Martinez, Lorraine McCauley, John McGinty, Kevin O'Brien, Kyuug Pang, Thomas Power, Richard Reimer, Lionel Tally, David Welsh, **L0095 Oak Park**—Walter Olewinski, **L0413 Rockford**—Jeffrey Cowles, **L0506 Berwyn**—Ken Fron, **L0513 Kewanee**—Dennis Kenney, **L1255 Alton**—Brad Copeland, **L2340 Village Of Elk Grove Village**—Karen Benson, John Guglielmo, Fred Hanselman, Gerald Quinlan, **L3005 Bolingbrook**—Jason Long, **L3077 Anna**—Dale Russell, **L3272 Bloomingdale**—Glenn Stahl, **L3437 Darien-Woodridge**—James Hobbs, **L3598 Gurnee**—Daniel Dixon, **L4092 Schaumburg**—Thomas Connolly, **L4186 Glenview**—Brian Gaughan, **L4237 Romeoville Professional Fire Fighters Association**—Kenneth Till, **L4270 Mokena**—Jerome Johnson, **L4646 Associated Fire Fighters of Oak Brook**—Mark Bahnsen, **L4851 Westchester Professional Fire Fighters**—Rick Malik, **L4876 Wauconda Professional Fire Fighters**—Mark Abernathy

INDIANA **L0124 Fort Wayne**—Thomas Broxon, Gene Cowan, **L0470 Logansport**—Brad Helvie, **L0475 Michigan City**—Michael Moss, Michael Osborne, Mark Webber, **L0558 Jeffersonville**—Tim Conlen, Clark Miles, **L0680 Huntington**—Mark Landrum, **L2205 Connersville**—Gary Milholland, **L4214 Martinsville**—Robert Strader, **L4416 Hamilton County Professional Fire Fighters Union**—Leroy O'Dell

IOWA **L0004 Des Moines**—Lloyd Burt, Charles Cannon, Steven Chopard, Patrick Crane, Anthony Cuevas, Christopher Fabela, Richard Fite, William Harbert, Daniel Ide, Mark Judisch, Cory Macumber, Donald Wildrick, Thomas Wright, Russell Youngquist, **L0011 Cedar Rapids**—R. Scott Bemer, **L0015 Council Bluffs**—John Filbert, Jeff Hutcheson, Joseph Mass, Denny Petersen, **L0608 Muscatine**—David Courtois, **L0622 Fort Dodge**—Richard Newman

KANSAS **L0064 Kansas City**—Brian Manning, Norman Mullins, Daniel Ramirez, **L0179 Hutchinson**—Thomas Beier, **L1596 Lawrence**—Byron Miller, Ron Rushing

KENTUCKY **L1017 Frankfort Professional Fire Fighters**—Thomas Young

LOUISIANA **F0189 N.A.S. New Orleans**—Robert Mack, **L0514 Shreveport**—Dale Britt, Steve Hale, Randall Hodge, Michael House, Perry McDaniel, Kip Mourad, Randall Staggs, Jon Warren, James Wiggins, **L0561 Lake Charles**—Patrick Ardoin, Bryan Ballard, Joseph Reed, **L0632 New Orleans**—Eric Jackson, Ralph Junot, Jerry Magee, Robert Newman, Allan Ponsaa, Don Ponsaa, Robert Schomaker, Scott Zehner, **L3843 Saint**

Landry Fire Fighters Association—Leroy Andrus

MANITOBA **L0867 Winnipeg**—Norm Daly, Brian Mashinter, Robert Wares

MARYLAND **F0151 Walter Reed**—John Sherwood, **F0267 Aberdeen Proving Ground**—Philip Hines, **L0734 Baltimore**—David Fitzpatrick, Eugene Glascoe, Brian Hughes, George Kasey, Carlton Williams, **L1311 Baltimore County**—Samuel Abrams, Gary Logan, Stephen Wantz, **L1619 Prince George's County**—Francis Bauer, Brian Bellamy, Robert Mutchler, Grady Stewart

MASSACHUSETTS **L0030 Cambridge**—Brad Tenney, Ted Whitney, **L0739 Lynn**—Robert Costello, Lee Oliver, Michael Ortiz, Kenneth Turner, Donald White, **L0792 Quincy**—John Kinsley, **L0853 Lowell**—Joseph Dougherty, David McAleer, Robert St. Sauveur, Bernard Underwood, **L0863 Newton**—James Comeau, **L0925 Peabody**—Paul Lynch, **L0937 Chelsea**—Michael Connors, **L1009 Worcester**—Mark Shea, **L1691 Methuen**—James Mahoney, **L1706 Needham**—Donald Sullivan, **L1735 Dedham**—John O'Brien, **L1768 Plymouth**—Don DeCost, **L1795 Wellesley**—Joseph Indresano, **L1876 Easthampton**—John Phillips, **L1931 Seekonk**—Gilbert Ferreira, **L1992 North Attleboro**—Peter Nardelli, **L2519 Mashpee**—Stephen Bold, **L2712 Chatham**—Peter Connick, **L3128 Fitchburg**—Charles Pierce, **L4613 Shrewsbury Fire Fighters Association**—Donald Goodney, Jeffrey Marcimo, **S0002 Massachusetts Port Authority Fire Fighters**—Timothy Gover

MICHIGAN **L0102 Saginaw**—Joseph Bell, Robin Crook, Brian LaTarte, Robert Okeley, Maurice Patterson, Tyrone Ward, Juan Yrlas, **L0335 Battle Creek**—Tod Rush, **L0344 Detroit**—David Bantom, Louis Burden, Ronald Dodds, Tonia Hughes, Kelly McCarthy, Bernard Meier, David Parker, John Taylor, Osric Wilson, Manuel Zavala, **L0412 Dearborn**—Maniff Bajjey, Steve Coleman, Larry Dishaw, Paul Dowell, Larry Jones, Mark Mattern, Timothy Prokop, Mark Shantz, James Sheehan, Alexander Zawinsky, **L0615 Muskegon Heights**—Kevin McKinney, Darien Smith, **L0911 Birmingham**—Larry Winkelmann, **L1164 Livonia**—Thomas Clark, Robert Simmons, John Smilnak, **L1279 Westland**—John Valensky, **L1355 Dearborn Heights**—Ricky Bessega, William Branham, John Bundas, Anthony Charnock, Keith Day, Richard Dobrovich, John Guthrie, David Jeszke, Larry Kalczyński, John Klovski, Ronald MacDonald, Steven Nagy, Charles Nowicki, Daniel Pepera, Jeffrey Pierzynski, Thomas Rice, Jason Sawyer, Frank Sitek, George Stroud, George Zalucki, **L1410 Allen Park**—Patrick Beyer, Michael Wheeler, **L1414 Hazel Park**—Larry Prohaszka, **L1511 Adrian**—Craig Woerner, **L1577 Inkster**—Chaplain Bradford, **L1614 Roseville**—Michael Cracchiolo, Robert Ebenhoeh, Lawrence Huck, Eugene Sand, Steven

White, **L3232 Novi**—Michael Evans, Bradley McFaul

MINNESOTA **L0101 Duluth**—Tom Marshall, Richard Mattson, **L0665 Faribault**—Todd Rost, **L3486 Saint Anthony**—Donald Drusch, **L4481 Burnsville Fire Supervisors**—Douglas Nelson

MISSOURI **L0042 Kansas City**—Constance Guerrero, Rodney Robinson, Stanley Williams, **L0073 Union of Prof. Fire Fighters Paramedics EMT's and Dispatchers of St. Louis Mo**—Jeffery Suda, **L0077 Saint Joseph**—John Petrik, **L0757 Saint Charles**—Marty Risch, **L0781 Professional Fire Fighters of Independence**—Richard Andrews, **L1055 Columbia**—Boyd Arends, **L2618 Joplin**—Charles Copple, Kevin Jackson, Vincent Kidd, Kevin Theilen, **L2665 Professional Fire Fighters of Eastern Missouri**—Timothy Gremminger, Mike Williams, **L3133 Central Jack**—Chris Hayes

MONTANA **L0600 Miles City**—Keith Holmlund
NEBRASKA **L0644 Lincoln**—Michael Novak, **L1005 Norfolk**—Douglas Dekker, Dwight Lienemann

NEVADA **L1908 Clark County**—Holly Nicholson

NEW HAMPSHIRE **L0789 Nashua**—Gregory Bronson, Scott Martinage, Richard Wood, **L0856 Manchester**—Ernest Durand, Daniel Paradis, **L2664 Hampton**—James Correll, **L2892 Salem**—Kevin Blais, Fredrick Doucette, David O'Brien, Lindsey Rice

NEW JERSEY **L2004 Irvington**—Charles Weiss, **L4408 Mount Laurel Professional Fire Fighters & EMT's Union**—Brian Aylesworth, **L4687 Evesham Township Professional Fire Fighters Association**—James Beutel, Robert King
NEW MEXICO **L0244 Albuquerque**—Michael Drysdale, Patrick Feist, Chester Fuller, Danny Gallegos, Craig Lake, Wayne Lucero, Michael Mendel, Michael Ochoa, Richard Paz, Phillip Preciado, Richard Romero, Gabriel Sanchez

NEW YORK **L0094 Uniformed Fire Fighters Assoc. Of New York**—Mark Aglietti, Joseph Andryuk, John Baum, William Biggin, Michael Boccia, Thomas Brusca, Patrick Butler, William Byrnes, Michael Camarco, Joseph Degaetano, Robert DeMott, John Derosé, Joseph DiPierro, Mitchell Ducalo, Stephen Finkel, William Freese, Frederick Gallagher, Brendan Gebert, Keith Green, Thomas Guild, David Hulse, John Kavanagh, Glenn Knatz, Richard Leonard, Shaun Logan, John Malone, James Martin, Daniel McCauley, Michael McDonald, Charles McGroary, Joseph McManus, Brian Moloney, Vincent Monteleone, Ryan Moriarty, Paul Morongello, James Mulligan, Christopher Murray, Kevin O'Brien, Andrew O'Connell, Stephen O'Keeffe, Gerard Oriordan, Vaughn Peer, Daniel Powers, Stephen Rivelli, Richard Sak, Edward Scali, Edward Schmidt, Jeffrey Sentowski, James Sommers, Christopher Storch, Michael Triglianios, Vincent Yorks, **L0191**

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