

Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors



Summer 2015 issue

Welcome new members to the IaSFSI

Please welcome to the Society Jason Corbin, Austin Fortsch, Julie Hartman, Mat Kahler, Jessica Lochart, Noah Reyman, Jeff Stensland, and Davis Zeisneiss. They were students from the Nevada FD Instructor I class. This brings our membership status to 213. I challenge every member to recruit at least one member before the end of the year! Your Society has grown every year as more leading professionals recognize the benefits of working together to advance the art and science of fire instruction.

Our Mission Statement

"The Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors provides effective and continuous leadership in training and education for the Iowa Fire Service Instructor."

Iowa State Fair Hall of Flame 2015



Members of the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors who volunteered at the Hall of Flame during the 2015 Iowa State Fair were Jack Runge, J. Maulsby, Douglas Kolkman, Dave Yeager along with Past IFA President Marvin Boldt.

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2015 Instructor's Conference

Friday, October 9

12:00 noon Registration

1:00 – 2:30pm Concurrent Sessions (1 ½ hours each, repeated)

- Training Today's Fire Service

Doug Cline, Assistant Chief, Horry County (SC) Fire Rescue; and Past President, International Society of Fire Service Instructors

- ResourceOne - Basics and Beyond

Janice French, Fire Protection Publications, Oklahoma State University

- Today's Fire Service Instructor and the Law: An Overview of Hot Topics

Skylar J. Limkemann, Attorney, Scheldrup Blades Schrock Smith PC; and former Fire Captain and Instructor

4:15 – 4:45pm HOSPITALITY

4:45pm – ??? IaSFSI Business Meeting

Saturday, October 10

8:00 – 8:30am Registration/Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45am Welcome

- Doug Kolkman, President, Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors

- Randy Novak, Bureau Chief, Fire Service Training Bureau

8:45 – 12 noon Keynote Presentation – Tactical Renaissance: "Making Sense of Modern Research and the S.L.I.C.E. – R.S. Acronym to be Successful on the Fire Ground" Doug Cline, Assistant Chief, Horry County (SC) Fire Rescue; and Past President, International Society of Fire Service Instructors

12:00 – 1:00pm LUNCH and NETWORKING

1:00 – 1:15pm 2015 Instructor of the Year Presentation

Board of Directors, Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors

1:15 – 1:30pm International Society of Fire Service Instructors "Update"

1:30 – 2:45pm Present Affirms Past: A Retrospective of the Rate-of-Flow Formula

George Oster, Fire Protection and Emergency Services Consulting, George Oster and Associates, LLC.

3:00 – 4:30pm Closing Presentation – Safety on the Drill Grounds

Rich Rodewald, Drill Master, Council Bluffs Fire Department: FSTB Field Instructor; and 2014 IaSFSI "Instructor of the Year"

Supper with the IaSFSI Board

A non-conference after hour activity at Bufford's in the Quality Inn and Suites complex. October 9th, 2015 after the Society membership meeting starting at 7pm.

A supper topic "Instructor mentoring." A board member will engage those at his table in the discussion about what should be involved in a mentoring program.

Role of the Fire Service Instructor

The purpose of this segment is to describe elements of professionalism in the industry and the role of the fire service instructor.

1. Describe the attributes of the fire instructor service's role:

As it is described in the Training Officer's Desk Reference manual, some of the vital attributes as listed is **Teamwork:**

Realizing that one trainee may have some experience and be more advanced than another trainees. Working together as we provide education to students. **Communications and interpersonal skills:** The way we communicate can help reduce confusion. Remember that communication is a two-way street. Interpersonal skills are acquired skills.

Learning to listen and communicate can be difficult. When communicating try to:

- A. Be short and concise, but clear.
- B. Consider the background, perspective, and culture of the listener.
- C. Check for understanding and allow for an open channel of communication.
- D. Consider your body movements and eye contact.
- E. Use tact.
- F. Remember that good communication is two-way.
- G. Remember that humor can break the ice, but it should not be at the expense of a student.

Time Management and Organizational Skills: Instructors juggle numerous priorities: personal life, fire department administration, fire fighters, and many more. In short, our time is stretched.

There are four areas:

- Urgent and Important: time sensitive or considered an "emergency" manage these items as they come up: do not delay.
- Not urgent but important: These items create value and generally apply to long term goals. This is the area where You want to spend most of your time.
- Urgent but not important: Routine task. These tasks are generally best to delay or delegate.
- Not urgent and not important: These tasks take away from where you create the most value. Eliminate these time Wasters.

More on the Attributes of the instructor/training officer can be seen by reading the Training Officer's Desk Reference manual.

What are the components of the best practice for the fire service instructor?

- a. Adherence to safety guidelines and creating a safe training session
- b. Successful learning outcomes for the students
- c. Classroom or training session set up
- d. Anticipation of the groups needs
- e. Ability to motivate the students
- f. Creating and/or implementing activities that are based on course objectives
- g. Ability to activate students' prior knowledge and learning during the training session
- h. Use of critiques to enhance student learning and outcomes

Next newsletter we will look at evaluating the fire service instructor and relate the role of the instructor to other members of the fire service

2015 Officers of the IaSFSI

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