



Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors

Spring 2011

Message from the Board

Thanks to all the new members. It's great to see the membership list keep growing.

The Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors has started a raffle. The funds will be used to support the training of Iowa's Fire Service Instructors. The tickets can be purchased from any board member for \$1.00 per ticket. The grand prize will be a laptop computer, a projector, and a screen. In addition, there will be drawings for \$250, 2 - \$100, and \$50 gift cards. This would be great for any instructor whether you are a new instructor or one that has been teaching for awhile. The drawing will take place at the 2011 Instructors Conference on November 12th, 2011. Good luck to everyone!

Everyone train safe and we'll see you at the upcoming events! Don't forget your raffle tickets!

Patrick Daly, Director, Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors

Save the Dates!

Training Officers Workshop – **April 30, 2011**, Ames, IA
(See page 2 for details)

2011 Fire Service Instructors Conference – **November 11-12, 2011**, Ames, IA

Watch for the IaSFSI Booth at various upcoming Regional Fire Schools!!
For dates and locations of 2011 Iowa Fire Schools, [Click here.](#)

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2011 Membership Renewal

Remember to renew your membership to the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors for 2011.

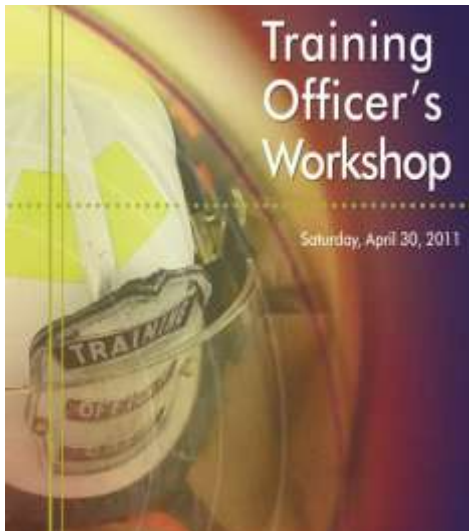
Click here for [Application!](#)

Be sure to get your nominations in for the 2011 Instructor of the Year Award!

[Click Here](#) for the application.
(Due by September 1st, 2011)

Training Officer's Workshop – April 30th, 2011

The Fire Service Training Bureau, in cooperation with the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors, has designed this workshop to assist training officers from volunteer, career, and combination fire departments as well as others interested in training at the local level.



Agenda

9:00 – 10:00 am - Registration/Continental Breakfast

10:00 – 10:25 am - Opening/Welcome

10:15 – 12:00 noon - Keynote Address:
"Street-Smart Habits for Effective Fire Training"
by Brian Cradell, Assistant Fire Chief, Central Valley (MT) FD

12:00 – 1:00 pm - Lunch/Networking (included with registration fee)

1:00 – 1:45 pm - Keynote Address (continues)

1:45 – 2:00 pm - Break

2:00 – 2:45 pm - "Facial Hair and Fire Service Training"
by Rich Rodewald, Drill Master, Council Bluffs Fire Department,
and FSTB Field Instructor

2:45 – 3:45 pm - "Current Issues for Today's Training Officer"
Panelists: Dave Zimple, Past President of IaSFSI; Denny Hansen, Training
Officer, Iowa City FD; Jerry Eslick, Training Chief, West Des Moines FD;
Mitch Nordmeyer, Butler County Emergency Management
Moderator: Lynn Manhart, President, IaSFSI

3:45 pm - Closing

[Click Here](#)

For Complete Brochure
& Registration Form!!

Instructor I Courses

Instructor I course is designed to prepare new instructors, or those wanting to be instructors, on how to organize and teach effectively, using existing lesson plans. In addition, instructor candidates will also learn how to use instructional aides and evaluation instruments, adapt lesson plans, organize the learning environment, and meet record-keeping requirements.

The following *Instructor I Courses* are being offered through the Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau in the coming months:

Eastern Iowa Comm College – April 9-10, 16-17, 2011

Harlan – April 26-29, 2011

[Click Here](#)

For Applications and
Further Details

“Different Fires, Different Tactics” - “Different Students, Different Tactics”

Have you ever caught yourself saying “kids these days just aren’t the same”? As instructors trying to meet the needs of today’s students can be very frustrating. We expect them to have the same values and needs we had as students. We expect them to apply themselves in the same way we did. The reality is they have changed. I am not saying it is good or bad, it’s just a fact.

Over the past years the fire service has seen many changes. For increased safety, we no longer eat smoke, ride to fires hanging on the tailboard of a truck, and many other things. We have also seen many changes in the fires we fight. Building construction has required us to alter our tactics to deal with different hazards. Other changes include supplemental restraint systems in motor vehicles, hybrid vehicles, alternative fuels, and the list goes on. We have accepted these changes as facts and have rapidly developed classes to meet the services needs. We don’t stand on the curb looking at a fire wishing it would act the way we want it to, we adjust our tactics to achieve our goals.

“Different Fires, Different Tactics” Recognizing this as being painfully obvious, we somehow look at our students and expect them to be the same as they have always been. In fact if they aren’t willing to learn things the same way we have taught them in the past it’s their problem not ours. This makes as much sense as standing on the curb yelling at the fire to act like it used to. It is the responsibility of the instructor to motivate the student and provide the opportunity for learning to take place. Today’s students are fact motivated. They generally don’t have interest in the fluff of education. They want to know exactly what they have to and little more. It is important to not be seen as wasting their time. Many have driven a distance to attend your class. Some will be giving up paid work hours.

Here are a few things you can do to keep your class motivated.

- Clearly state the objectives of learning up front.
- Avoid lengthy war stories. Stories are good for establishing relevance but don’t brag.
- Don’t add a large amount of videos from the internet if they can view them on their own time.
- Make an email mailing list of your class. Send links to internet videos that are relevant to the class you are teaching. Students will often send back many you may not have seen. Keep them clean!
- Add pictures to all of your power point presentations that are relevant to what they are learning. This allows them to immerse themselves in what you are teaching.
- Keep your energy level as high as you can. If you’re bored teaching the topic, can you imagine how bored they are taking it.
- If you can teach a topic in a hands on application do it.
- Ask for input from your students while teaching, no free rides in the classroom.
- Provide worksheets for them to complete
- **Get to know your students. They want to know you care about them.**

Scott Meinecke, Instructor, Northwest Iowa Community College

Tips & Tricks of Members – Drill Evolution Training

When performing drill evolutions that only involve 3 to 5 firefighters at a time and the rest of the department is standing around twiddling their thumbs, try the following:

1. Have members sign up for time slots in groups. Time slots are 6, 7, 8, 9 PM. Members arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled time to get ready, and when they are done with their training, they can leave. Boat operation training, search and rescue drills, ladder skills training, pump operations skills training are a few examples of training that can be broken up into scheduled time slots.
2. Set up multiple stations, divide the members present into groups and have them rotate through the various stations. We normally set up 4 stations to rotate through. An example is: Station One – Knots, Station Two – Anchor system, Station 3 – Set up a 4 to 1 system haul system, Station 4 – Patient packaging.

Submitted by Denny Hansen, Training Officer, Iowa City Fire Department

In this section we would like IaSFSI members to submit tips and tricks they have found while teaching. Please submit your ideas to iasfsicontact@gmail.com.

New E-Mail Address or Mailing Address?!?!?!?

Help the IaSFSI keep you up-to-date on the current events and happenings in the Iowa Fire Service by letting us know if you have a new email address or have moved!

Please e-mail your new contact information to iasfsicontact@gmail.com

Our Mission Statement

“The Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors provides effective and continuous leadership in training and education for Iowa’s Fire Service.”

Contact the Board

Visit our Website at www.iasfsi.org

Or

Contact us by email at iasfsicontact@gmail.com

Or

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--|
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