

Spring/Summer

2014

# Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors

## ISFSI 50th Anniversary t-shirt

Pre-order the 2014 50th anniversary t-shirt today!



## this issue

Letter from the board **P.1**

Effective Instructors **P.2**

Effective Instructors cont'd **P.3**

Instructor of the Year **P.4**

Nomination Information

2014 Instructors Conference **P.7**

## Message from the President

I like to begin by mentioning that the Society Board is continuing to work hard on the 2014 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Instructors Conference and Banquet November 14-15 featuring Billy Goldfeder. The conference agenda is in the final stages of being completed. We are very thankful to have several sponsorships to make the conference and banquet memorable and exciting. And we can't forget about some unique door prizes that will be given out during the banquet.

But, before all of that happens, Society members will have several opportunities to be engaged in your organization.

1. Instructor of the Year- It not too early to nominate the Iowa Fire Service Instructor of the year. "2014" The deadline is Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. Articles- Would like to show case our Society members in the Firefighter News. We are asking if anyone would like to contribute an article that would cover the topics of professional development, training, or anything that Training Officers/Instructors across Iowa would benefit from. This past year we share articles from Fire Instructors across America. The 12 articles that we submitted is running out. This next run we like to share article from Iowa Instructors to Iowa Instructors/Training Officers. If anyone would like to contribute an article you can send it to me at [dougekolkman02@gmail.com](mailto:dougekolkman02@gmail.com).
3. Fire School Class- It's important that our organization offer some form of a professional development class during our annual state fire school. The dates for the 2015 Fire School are February 27<sup>th</sup>- March 1<sup>st</sup>. We are looking for Society members who are extremely knowledgeable in the various topics of FF1 and FF2. I am titling this fire school class "How I teach - A unique approach to teaching the essentials of firefighting". You would present information as either a lecture or hands-on teaching format to instructors/training officers who are students in this class. You will share your motivational techniques and unique methods of approaching that subject. You will be presenting new ideas and ways for the attendees to improve their instructional skills when teaching FF1 & FF2. So if you have a unique approach or specific prop you use when teaching any of the essentials of firefighting topics, we want to hear from you. Depending on the number of responses we get, we could offer a 3, 6, or 12 hour class. Your segment can be of any length. The deadline for submissions is September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.
4. Hall of Flame- August 14 at the State Fair and help with manning the Hall of Flame.

I encourage you to take part in any of these events or activities.

Thank you,

Douglas Kolkman, President  
Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors

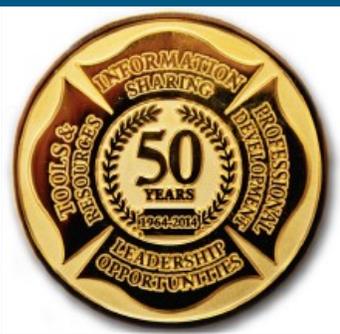
### Our Mission Statement

*"The Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors provides effective and continuous leadership in training and education to the Iowa Fire Service instructor."*

## CHALLENGE COINS

Commemorate the 50 year anniversary of the IaSFSI with a challenge coin!

\$10 Donation to purchase.



# To be an Effective Fire Instructor, you MUST have the Following Traits and Characteristics

### ***Dedication:***

You have to be dedicated to the task at hand. You must, therefore, be a good student. It cannot be overstated enough. It is essential that you have not only the basic knowledge of theory and the skills to demonstrate to your students, but also learn about the new techniques and technology that is changing on a day-to-day basis. Have you ever taken a class where the instructor claims to be a guru in his field, but is teaching techniques that are over 20 years old and outdated? Dedication also means that you are accessible to your students, even after class has ended.

### ***Motivation:***

You must find a way to motivate your students. This means that you show up and can show them how passionate you are about the job. You cannot teach people everything that there is to know. But you can give them a strong foundation when you teach the classroom theory, and then the basic skills required to do that job. You have properly motivated someone, if when after they have left your class they continue to learn, to drill and train, and to develop.

### ***Approachable Personality:***

Let's face it... Some of us come across as military drill instructors, either from past experience or from the projected idea that this is how it is done. It is important to let the students know that you are approachable, and that you care about their development and absorbing as much of the course content as possible. Whether they are paying for your course, or they were assigned to your course, you must treat them as the internal customers that they are. That being said, that does not mean that you go soft on them, or they get the certification just because they may have paid to be there. That degrades our craft, and is outright dangerous for all parties involved.

### ***Desire to be an instructor:***

This applies especially to those who are seeking that full time role. It is one thing to be an "in-house" instructor, where you are still assigned to operations and running calls. It is an entirely different animal to make the transition to a full time training position. The work schedule changes, the job responsibility changes, and there is less of the camaraderie and adrenaline than you have in the station. You have to WANT to be the very best that you can be. This applies to either type of instructing. You will never take a class again, if you keep finding bad instructors who act as if they do not want to be there.

### ***Ability to Adapt:***

This includes learning all you can about the subject that you are teaching, but also means finding ways to relate the material to your students in ways other than what the book says. You had better know how to think on your feet. Not everyone is brought up the same way, and we all learn differently. Just because you were taught a specific way, does not mean that you are successful in delivering it the same way.

### ***Reinforce the idea that training is where we make the mistakes:***

It is said that some people do not like to train because it will show everyone how much they do NOT know. Mistakes on the training field or in the classroom are where we can take these and use them for learning and comprehension. It is the basic principle of Cause and Effect. Of course, we must monitor these to ensure that safety in training is always of the utmost importance. The real world is an unforgiving place, and even when we do everything right, sometimes things go badly. It is crucial to drive home the message of the VALUE of making mistakes in training.

*Continued on next page...*

# Instructor Traits and Characteristics Continued...

## Do not BS:

Seriously, when a student asks you a question that you do not have the answer to, do not make it up if you are not completely sure. This is one of the fastest ways to lose all credibility with your students. This can take you from a perceived subject matter expert to a complete fraud in a matter of seconds. If you do not know, you can tell them that. But reinforce it with telling them that you will find out what the correct answer is. WARNING: Follow through is critical here! Do not just tell them that to blow them off or buy time. There are some who may criticize you for not having all of the answers as an instructor. I do not believe that anyone knows everything. Research the right answer, and then pass it along in the manner you deem appropriate.

Regarding hands on skills abilities...you had better be able to perform. There are several old saying that would be appropriate here, but "Practice what you preach" is probably the most relevant. If you are teaching a ropes and knots class and cannot tie a bowline knot, then there is a problem.

Above all, be a good student. Try to place yourself in a student's position before you teach a class. Know what you would want to get from it, how you would want the instructor to interact with you, and how relevant the material is going to be. Find ways to inspire and motivate students to continue learning after they have left your class. After all, we are all brothers and should continue sharing knowledge and experience with each other to help us operate as effectively as we can.

Article from [www.leatherheadmafia.com](http://www.leatherheadmafia.com)

## Contact the Board

Visit our website at [www.iasfsi.org](http://www.iasfsi.org)

OR

Contact us by email at [iasfsicontact@gmail.com](mailto:iasfsicontact@gmail.com)

OR

<b>President:</b>	Doug Kolkman	<a href="mailto:dougekolkman02@gmail.com">dougekolkman02@gmail.com</a>   319-931-0136
<b>Vice President:</b>	Patrick Daly	<a href="mailto:asstchiefdalysfd@hotmail.com">asstchiefdalysfd@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	J Maulsby	<a href="mailto:jdotfire@yahoo.com">jdotfire@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Shaun Ryan	<a href="mailto:musigryan@netscape.net">musigryan@netscape.net</a>
<b>Director:</b>	Doug Allen	<a href="mailto:dallen@city.ames.ia.us">dallen@city.ames.ia.us</a>
<b>Director:</b>	Jerry Eslick	<a href="mailto:eslick@prirescue.com">eslick@prirescue.com</a>
<b>Director:</b>	Jack Runge	<a href="mailto:jackrunge911@hotmail.com">jackrunge911@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Director:</b>	Joe Zittergruen	<a href="mailto:jzittergruen@guttenbergfiredept.com">jzittergruen@guttenbergfiredept.com</a>
<b>Immediate Past President:</b>	Lynn Manhart	<a href="mailto:lmanhart1@cox.net">lmanhart1@cox.net</a>   ph: 402-290-3418

## Looking for the Extremely Knowledgeable

As President of the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors, I feel it is important as a fire instructor's organization that we offer some form of a professional development class during our annual state fire school. The dates for the 2015 Fire School is February 27<sup>th</sup>-March 1<sup>st</sup>.

I am looking for Society members who are extremely knowledgeable on the different topics of FF1 and FF2. I am titling this fire school class "How I teach it-a unique approach when teaching the basics of firefighting". You would present information in either lecture or hands-on to instructors/training officers who are students in this class. You will share your ways to motivate their students on unique methods of approaching that subject. You will be presenting new ideas and ways for the attendees to improve their instructional skills when teaching FF1 & FF2. So, if you have a unique approach or a prop you use when teaching any of the essentials of firefighting topics, I want to hear from you. Depending on the number of responses I get, it could be a 3, 6, or 12 hour class. Your segment can be of any length. We will create a schedule so you will know when you need to be in the classroom to do your presentation. The deadline for this is September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.

## New Email 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 email your new contact information to

[iasfsicontact@gmail.com](mailto:iasfsicontact@gmail.com).

# Do you know an *Outstanding* FIRE SERVICE INSTRUCTOR?

## GOOD INSTRUCTORS:

- Know what they teach
- Like what they teach
- Like the students, and want them to succeed
- Will go the extra mile



If you know an Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructor you believe has made outstanding contributions in fire service training, please share your story and nominate them for the ...



*Floyd Wm. "Bill" Nelson*

*"Instructor of the Year"*

# AWARD

## ***Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors***

### *Floyd Wm "Bill" Nelson* ***Instructor of the Year Award***

#### **Guidelines**

- Nominees must be members of the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors, and be or have been a Fire Service Instructor in Iowa.
- The Award shall be based on the nominee's activities over the past years.
- The standard application form, as supplied by the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors must be used.
- Each Active member of the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors may nominate only one person per year.

This award is presented each year at the Iowa Fire Service Instructors Conference. Nominations are due by September 1<sup>st</sup>.



## ***Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors***

*Floyd Wm. "Bill" Nelson*  
***"Instructor of the Year Award"***

Nomination for: Floyd Wm. "Bill" Nelson "Instructor of the Year" award, sponsored by the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors. Please type or print all information.

Date:

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Department and/or Employer:

Explanation of why you think the above person should receive this award. Include any pertinent information which you believe the selection committee should know about this nominee. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

MAIL NOMINATION TO:

ISFSI  
Fire Service Training Bureau  
3100 Fire Service Rd  
Ames, IA 50011-3100

Or Fax to: 800-722-7350

DEADLINE: September 1<sup>st</sup>

---

Signature of Person Making Nomination

Typed/Printed Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone Number:



*Announcing*  
**Billy Goldfeder** *at the*

**Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors**  
**INSTRUCTOR CONFERENCE**

**November 14 & 15, 2014**

In celebration of *50 years* of the **laSFSI**, we are pleased to present **Billy Goldfeder** as our Guest Speaker at the **2014 laSFSI Instructor Conference**.

**Friday, November 14** (7:00 pm - after Hospitality)

Banquet Presentation - "The Instructor's Responsibility"

**Saturday, November 15**

Conference Keynote Presentation - "Safety & Survival"

A photograph of firefighters in full gear, including helmets and oxygen tanks, working at a fire scene. They are using hoses to spray water onto a large fire that is burning brightly. The scene is outdoors on a grassy area.

*For more information visit our website:* **[www.iasfsi.org](http://www.iasfsi.org)**

# CHIEF BILLY GOLDFEDER

Will be the Featured Speaker at the  
**2014 INSTRUCTORS CONFERENCE**  
November 14-15, 2014

*in Celebration of the  
50th Anniversary of the IaSFSI*



**Chief Billy Goldfeder, E.P.O.,** Deputy Fire Chief of the Loveland  
Syndes FD, Associate/Contributing Editor for FIRE ENGINEERING,  
FIRE-RESCUE & FIREHOUSE MAGAZINES, monthly columnist:  
Firehouse Magazine's "CLOSE CALLS" and co-host of  
[www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com](http://www.FireFighterCloseCalls.com)

## Fire Fighters & Fire Officers **SURVIVAL PROGRAM**

Chief Billy Goldfeder will present through video, audio and "WAKE UP" lecture, an in-depth program featuring specific and very recent fireground events with a strong focus on DWELLING FIRES that ended with tragic results. The program focuses specifically on the LESSONS LEARNED so that these incidents (and those involved) don't ever become forgotten. This very personal, high energy direct and frank operation and tactics program (updated regularly to assure timeliness) is presented, providing the attendees an excellent opportunity to apply the LESSONS LEARNED to their own departments...and themselves, when returning home...potentially avoiding "history tragically repeating itself."

The goal of the program is to have the Firefighters and Officers leave more knowledgeable, educated and informed but most importantly THINKING HARD about their role, their SIZE-UP responsibilities before, on arrival and while operating at FIRE and RESCUE operations; to themselves and their families. These factual "LESSONS LEARNED" and related CASE STUDIES will help insure that history is not repeated...and your department. NOT EVERYONE GOES HOME. Some firefighters do and some don't...this seminar will help you understand HOW AND WHY.



**FIREFIGHTER DEATH & INJURY**

# 2014 Instructors Conference Agenda

## Friday, November 14

12:00 noon Registration

1:00 – 4:15pm Concurrent Sessions (3 hours each)

• **Crew Resource Management in Training: This Safety Tool is Working in Iowa!**

Jerry Holt, Fire Chief, Urbandale Fire Department; and FSTB Field Instructor

• **Training the Next Generation**

Jerry Presta, Firefighter, East Norwich (NY) Fire Company; representing the National Volunteer Fire Council

• **Using the USNG as a "language of location" (Train-the-Trainer)**

Rob Inouye, Captain, Cedar Falls Fire Department; and FSTB Field Instructor

4:30 – 5:30pm IaSFSI Business Meeting

6:00 - ??? IaSFSI Hospitality and Banquet (Quality Inn & Suites)

## Saturday, November 15

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 – 10:00am **Keynote Presentation – Firefighters & Fire Officers Survival Program**

Chief Billy Goldfeder, EFO, Deputy Fire Chief, Loveland-Symmes (OH) Fire Department; Associate/Contributing Editor for Fire Engineering, Fire-Rescue, Firehouse.com, monthly columnist: Firehouse Magazine's "Close Calls" and co-host of [www.FirefighterCloseCalls.com](http://www.FirefighterCloseCalls.com)

10:00 – 10:15am BREAK

10:15-12:00 noon **Keynote Presentation** (continues)

12:00 – 1:00pm LUNCH and NETWORKING

1:00 – 1:15pm 2014 Instructor of the Year Presentation

Board of Directors, Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors

1:15 – 1:30pm ISFSI Update (Video Presentation)

Steve Pegram, President, International Society of Fire Service Instructors

1:30 – 2:30pm **Fire Service Training Bureau Update**

Randal E. Novak, Bureau Chief, Fire Service Training Bureau

2:30 – 2:45pm BREAK

2:45 – 3:45pm **Closing Presentation – Customized Video Based Training Made Easy**

Scott Meinecke, Rescue Captain, Sheldon Fire Department; FSTB Field Instructor; and 2013 "Iowa Instructor of the Year"

Iowa  
Fire  
Dept.  
HALL  
OF  
FLAME

Members, we  
need your help!

Let us know if you  
want to help the  
IaSFSI work the Hall  
of Flame booth at  
the Iowa State Fair

- August 14
- 1-5 PM

