

Minutes of April 9, 2008

Next Meeting: May 14, 2008

Program: Report Writing Seminar

Location: **6133 River Rd. Rosemont, IL. (South of Higgins in the Riverway Office Complex.)**

Time: Registration 0800-0830

President Kushner opened the meeting at 0920 hrs.

?? Welcome to all members, new and old.

?? A motion was made, and 2nd, to accept the March Minutes. The motion passed.

?? A motion was made, and 2nd, to accept the Treasurers Report. The motion passed. A full copy of the report is available on our website.

?? Over 100 members were in attendance.

?? A moment of silence was held for all of our troops who have lost there lives in service to our country.

?? The training committee selected a recipient for this years Harry P. Schaefer Award. Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations.

?? We will present the Schaefer Award at the May seminar.

?? Promotions: John Escalante is now in charge of the Chicago Police Department (CPD) Bomb & Arson Unit and Ed O'Donnell is the new Commander of the CPD Cold Case Files Unit. Congratulations!

?? Mary Lacy is now 2nd in charge of the Cook County State's Attorney Special Prosecutions Division. Mary will still be handling arson cases until November. Congratulations Mary!

?? Arnie Witzke, Fire Marshal for the North Main Fire Protection District, and our membership chairman, was the recipient of the National Fire Sprinkler Association's Wayne Luecht Award. The award is given in the memory of our fallen comrade, Wayne Luecht, Fire Marshal of the Northbrook Fire Department, to "members of the local fire service who personify the spirit and dedication to fire prevention. The recipients are also recognized for their efforts to increase the use and knowledge of the life-and-property-saving benefits of fire sprinklers in their communities." Having known Arnie for many years I believe I speak for all of the members of the Board when I say I can't think of a more deserving person to receive this award. Congratulations Arnie!

?? Captain Tim Corcoran of the Chicago Fire Department, and last year's recipient of the Harry P. Schaefer Award, was named Fire Investigator of the Year by the International Association of Arson Investigators. Our congratulations to Tim.

?? Remember to register for the May Seminar. We need numbers for our caterer. **No walk-ins will be allowed.**

?? **Fires: Cicero** has had 6 fires in a nursing home. The fires are being investigated. **Division 10** had a fire involving a Ford vehicle in an attached garage. Apparently there is an issue with the cruise control on some Ford vehicles. **Streamwood** also had a fire in an attached garage with a Ford F-150. They believe the cruise control was involved in that fire as well. Information can be looked up at flamingcars.com

?? Beginning in September, our minutes will no longer be mailed. The minutes will only be on our web site. This means a potential savings of \$1500 a year in the costs associated with mailing the minutes every month. We still continue to mail out fliers for the seminars.

Our speaker was Terrence P. Sheppard of Rayburn Fire Scene Investigations. Terrence spoke in depth about fire scene reconstruction. Terrence emphasized the importance of photo documentation of your scene. The photos can help you prove whether you did what you claim to have done at a scene. Terrence also spoke about the importance of using proper terminology in your reports. Terrence also reminded everyone to examine, evaluate, and eliminate other casual causes at your scene.

Our thanks to Terrence, and to Rayburn Investigations, for taking the time to come and speak to our group.

Respectfully Submitted,
John T. Gilleran
Secretary F.I.S.F.