



## Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association

*Dedicated to the prevention of fire through  
Fire Inspection and Public Education*

Progress has been made in regards to the code package, it has been sent to the legislators for review. There is still hope for adoption by September or October. As of the last word from the Department of Commerce things are going very smoothly. With the anticipation of the adoption of NFPA 1 UFC we have completed the first round of training on it. There are other training dates coming in the future.

The conference committee has been work hard on wrapping up the final detail for the combined conference in October 29 – November 02 in Eau Clair. Please reference the pre-conference document at the end of this article. As you will see there are numerous enhancements to this year's conference based on the majority of responses from last year's survey. Once again my appreciation to our conference committee for their hard work and creative thinking.

At this year Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Conference it was my honor to present the Inspectors Association Fire Chief of the Year award to Bob Schaefer of Slinger Fire Department. In reading the letter of recommendation from his department, it was very evident of Chief Schaefer years of dedicated service. The thing that really emphasized this point was the number of members from his department that made the trip up to the Kalahari to be present for this award. There was no question in anyone's mind how much that had meant to him. This is again an example of how the fire service truly is a family. Again congratulations to Chief Schafer.

Back in May I had the privilege of representing the State of Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association Chapter of International Fire Marshall's Association at the PARADE (prevention advocacy resources and data exchange) conference at the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg. This conference focuses on the public education aspect of the fire service. It was a 3 day conference packed with seminars and information exchange. There will be more detailed information presented at the conference, because of the amount of information it would take up over half of this magazine. I would encourage all of you to join the e-mail group by subscribing at [EPARADE-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:EPARADE-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). Be aware that you will on average receive 15 – 20 e-mails per day from this group. There is so much information exchange and problem solving it is amazing.

Another opportunity that I had as Wisconsin's Chapter President of IFMA, was to attend the NFPA Midwest Technical Committee meeting in La Cross. This experience really showed the work that is done at the committee level for code revision to the NFPA documents. As I was sitting in this meeting I witness the great deal of work that goes into the modification or drafting of new code language. We constantly use these documents, but really do not understand the complex procedure that goes into writing them. It does not stop there; someone may propose a change or new language, but the committee then as a whole scrutinizes and adjusted it so that it becomes a viable document. Again I felt intimidated but when I did voice an opinion they were very receptive. This is why the process works. While I attended the annual conference in Boston I saw the columniation of many groups works as they come before the body for voting on the changes or establishing of new codes. The membership body voted on each and every change. Some of them were successful while others failed. Again this is why the system works, it is a concessive of the membership, not just a ruling body these experiences were great and will definitely benefit the State of Wisconsin.

The time has passed very quickly over these past three months; there have been numerous opportunities to enhance our Association. You will be getting more details in the upcoming months. Again please start to plan on attending the combined conference. As always be diligent and safe in your duties.

Respectfully submitted  
Tod Doebler  
President Wisconsin Fire Inspectors Association