

A note during Arson Awareness Week, this years Arson Awareness Week theme is "Arson for Profit" how fitting during these trying economic times. Some 2007 stats reflect 295 civilian deaths and 900 million in property loss, not counting our brothers and sisters who I ask that you keep in your prayers. None of these numbers are acceptable.

Those of you who were able to get away for our AGM in AC in March I'm sure had a wonderful educational and social experience, at without question one of the better seminars in the country. The committee and the board did a great job.

Presently the reshaped Training and Education Committee, headed by co-chairs Rod Meyer and Dave Meisberger and with the additions of Fred Dispensiere and Bob Czarniecki are working on next years AGM along with some seminars for this calendar year and Fred in particular working with the Division of Fire Safety and DCJ to give re-birth to the re-cert seminars. Bob Czarniecki EE, is working on some highly requested one day electrical seminars, and we are attempting to form a partnership with several Volunteer Fire Chiefs Associations to present a nationally recognized program which address' firefighter involved arsons known as HERO TO ZERO. Please keep an eye on our website for dates and locations

The Internationals ATC will be held this month in Arlington, Texas and will be attended by three members of our Board, Rod Meyer representing T&E, Bill Reiger, representing the Association and Central Regional VP Brian Veprek, to assist the family of our own Phil Payne, who is being honored posthumously as the IAAI Investigator of the Year (Brian originally nominated Phil).

We want to be about education, but need each of you to be heard, if you want or need something SPEAK UP; contact a Director or VP without communication not to much can get done.

I would like to thank all of you for your kind words of encouragement, calls and well wishing e-mails.

NJ is more than fairly represented by some of the finest fire and arson investigators both private and public in the country, due to training education and experience. The International is constantly improving educational opportunities as are we; again they like us can't do it without you. Embrace the changes and challenges.

I want to thank Immediate Past President (now AGM Chair) Paul Boerner for a smooth transition, former T&E Chair Nick Palumbo for his work and support and wish new Board Members Jim Varick and Barry Dubrosky the best.

Don't let cold scenes fool you, they are dangerous places filled with both sudden acute pitfalls and chronic respiratory failures.

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND INVOLVED!

REGARDS,

BARRY GRIMM
PRESIDENT
NJ CHAPTER - IAAI