

New England Division of International Association of Fire Chiefs Secretary's Annual Report

I hereby submit the annual report of the Division Secretary to the members of the New England Division of International Association of Fire Chiefs, Incorporated, for the fiscal year May 1, 2014 through May 5, 2015.

The Board of Directors met three times and had two teleconference calls during the past year to conduct the general business of the Division.

In addition, the board met during the August Fire-Rescue International Conference in Dallas, TX for the annual luncheon meeting.

The board voted while in Dallas to have the annual meeting and elections of officers the day before the seminars on May 5, 2015. The Division Executive Board attended a NEAFC quarterly meeting in September. At that meeting the NEAFC Board voted to do the following; allow free entry to the Expo for all attendees, not to have professional development seminars, reduce the conference to two days, and reduce expenses where possible.

At the Division's quarterly meeting in November 2014 the executive board reported the results of the NEAFC meeting. After a considerable amount of discussion the Division board voted to exercise the 90 day separation section of the agreement between the Division and the NEAFC. The vote was contingent upon and only if the NEAFC did not feel that it would be detrimental to the conference. The joint conference has been struggling with revenue and low attendance during the past couple of conferences. To help reduce expenses and the fact there will not be much for the Division to participate in during the conference; the board voted to separate from the joint conference with NEAFC and return to doing a conference on their own moving to the sitting president's State for their annual meeting and seminars each year.

This year the meeting and seminars will be held in South Portland, Maine at the Sable Oaks Marriott as the sitting president is Chief William St. Michel. The annual meeting will be held May 5, followed by a 1 ½ day seminar ending May 7, 2015.

Communications between board members to conduct Division business continued throughout the year using email and telephone conference calls. The president and secretary performed the task of completing the daily business of the Division.

Past President Fred Stanley attended all the quarterly meeting and coordinates the activities for the Division booth at the annual conference. He announced that this would be his last year.

The Board of Directors encourages you all to visit the web-site for information regarding the Division and view the links attached. The board also has a Facebook page New

England Division, IAFC. Please forward any suggestions you might have to Secretary Wood; you can view the site at nediafc.org.

The annual meeting and conference was held June 18-22, 2014. This is a joint conference with the New England Association of Fire Chiefs. The officers of the Division participated in all events and worked the four days of the conference along with the New England Association of Fire Chiefs officers. The conference lost money for two consecutive years. The president or his representative, first vice president or his representative, and secretary/treasurer attended the quarterly meetings of the New England Association of Fire Chiefs that follow the Division quarterly meeting to assist with the joint conference. Division board members participated in joint committee meetings throughout the year to help plan for the annual New England Fire Chiefs Conference. The committees that are active during the year are; the education committee, conference site and format committee, registration committee, exhibit committee, and advertising committee.

There are Division members and officers that participate with committees for the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC). These committees are constitution and by-laws committee, building and fire prevention code committees, elections committee, FRI program planning and site committee.

The secretary attended the annual secretary's meeting at Fire Rescue International in Dallas, TX to prepare for the FRI conference registration and programs. The secretary worked the registration and membership booths and assisted with other duties of the conference. The FRI Convention was well attended by New England Division members; the luncheon meeting, hospitality room, and presidential celebration had good representation by the Division members who attended FRI. Officers of the Division attended testimonials and memorials services throughout the year.

On behalf of the officers and members I would like to thank the New England Association of Fire Chiefs, the Exhibitors Association, and the Mechanic Association for all their assistance throughout the year. Together we have united to build a conference that is respected throughout the Northeast. We would also like to thank the many vendors and exhibitors that have made donations, and have helped sponsor the Division events throughout this past year.

In closing, I would like to thank President William St. Michel, the Board of Directors, and the members of the Division for their support. I have enjoyed working for and with them throughout the year. I consider the opportunity to serve you in this capacity a privilege and look forward to doing so in the future.

That concludes the Secretary's report.