December 2016
National Association of State Fire Marshals

NASFM News

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Save the Date:

2017 NASFM
Annual Conference
July 31, August 1 -2
Charleston, SC

Twas the Night Before Christmas

(in the home of a State Fire Marshal)

Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
A fire marshal was looking for potential fires to douse.
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care
The firebox was empty, so they were safe there.

He extinguished the candles on top of the mantle
Not letting flames touch his robe made of flannel.
"This area is safe," he said to himself
As he patted the head of the elf on the shelf.

He crossed the room and upon bended knee
Unplugged the strand of lights from the tree.
He shook a large present while he was there
Thinking, "I hope I get new code books this year."

He strode to the kitchen and looked all around
No items were cooking, no heat sources were on.
He unplugged the space heater that was warming his den
And tested smoke detectors that hung overhead.

He turned off his outdoor holiday lights
With his house fire-safe, he slept well that night.
NASFM wishes its members, and friends in between
The merriest of holidays and the best in '17.

NASFM Holiday Schedule

So that staff can enjoy time with their families this holiday season, NASFM offices will be closed on Monday, December 26, 2016 and Monday, January 2, 2017.

Happy Holidays to our NASFM family! Our hope is that each of you will be spending the holiday season with loved ones.

NASFM Noteworthies:

STATE FIRE MARSHAL RETIREMENTS
This month we have received notifications of retirement from three of our Principle members. We will miss their interaction in NASFM and want to thank them for supporting NASFM's mission, and for their dedication in making our nation safer from fire.

NASFM staff, as well as your distinguished colleagues, wishes each of you the very best as you leave your State Fire Marshal positions.

Bill Kramer, New Jersey: "I am writing to let you know that after 33 years of service I have retired as State Fire Marshal for New Jersey, and have accepted a position heading up a new fire safety and emergency preparedness division with the Philadelphia School District. Due to the situation in our Division, including the loss of three of out of five senior executive staff, I was not able to participate with NASFM the way that I had in the past, and for that I apologize. I will remain a strong supporter of NASFM, and wish all of your staff and the other State Fire Marshals well, and wish everyone a wonderful and safe holiday."

John Standefer, New Mexico: "My official last day will be December 31st. It has been an honor to be a part of NASFM and the information gained has been very helpful in my tenure. I trust the next appointee in this position will value the opportunity and continue the relationship with the Association.

Thank you for allowing us to host the last conference. Those of our staff that assisted enjoyed the interaction with the attendees and were impressed by the professionalism demonstrated by the fire marshals and association staff. If any of you should ever be back in New Mexico, Marie and I hope to hear from you and would certainly be happy to answer any tour questions or help with any assistance you may need."

Bryant Stevens, New York: "I am writing to inform you that I will be retiring as New York State's Fire Administrator at the end of this month. While circumstances prevented me from participating in NASFM as much as I would have liked, I did enjoy the time spent with my colleagues. The organization is a great vehicle for information exchange and the collective knowledge and dedication of this group continues to increase the safety of all Americans. I was certainly proud to have been associated with you all."

Annual Renewals for Principle and Associate Members are Due

On December 2, 2016, NASFM annual membership renewal invoices were emailed to Principle and Associate members. If your invoice did not reach your inbox, please check your spam folder. If you need additional assistance, please email or call us at 202-737-1226.

2017 NASFM Annual Conference

We've been busy with initial preparations for our upcoming conference to be held in beautiful Charleston, South Carolina, and online registration is scheduled to open mid-January.

Please continue to check our website; conference information will be posted as it becomes available.

STEP Offers Solar PV Safety for Firefighters

With consumers going solar in nearly every state, the likelihood that firefighters will encounter solar electric systems on residential and commercial properties is increasing dramatically every year.

This free, self-paced, interactive online training course is designed to give firefighters the knowledge necessary to feel confident and safe when responding to fires on PV-equipped structures—and to better understand the potential hazards.

NASFM, along with other partner organizations, helped develop this valuable training program.

To find out more or inquire about bringing this training to your area, contact: step@irecusa.org or (518)-621-7379

Newsletters from Other Organizations

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
Fire Sprinkler Initiative - December 2016