

# TURN OUT

## IFBA **2015** CONVENTION

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

AUGUST 2015



*Photos by Chuck Leidtke*

# TURN OUT

## The Official Newsletter of the IFBA

*Published Twice Yearly  
Spring and Fall*

“To serve as a  
common ground  
for Fire Buffs, active  
in promoting the  
general welfare  
of Fire Departments,  
allied emergency  
services, their  
officers and  
members.”



### EDITORIAL STAFF

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Jerry Traub, *Editor*

Ed McMichael, *Production Editor*

Rodger Birchfield, Tod Parker, Jack Finney, and Peter  
Boule, *Photographers*

Paul McMichael, *Proof Editor*

Jim Williamson, *Circulation Coordinator*

### SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

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**TURN OUT** is available free of charge via internet website at [www.ifba.org](http://www.ifba.org). You may download and print each edition free; however, you may not sell or otherwise profit from selling printed copies.

### SUBMISSION POLICY

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**TURN OUT** has an “open submission” policy. We encourage immediate submission of stories on fires and events “when they happen.” More than one submission per issue is welcomed and encouraged.

Authors are strongly encouraged to submit articles electronically to the email address noted below. As an alternative, articles may be submitted on CD or disk, or as a last alternative, in written form.

Electronic files should be prepared using a major word processing program, such as Word or WordPerfect. You may always submit an article in “text” format also.

Pictures should be digitized at 300 dpi resolution to allow for sizing. All photographs must be captioned and acknowledge the photographer. Of course, photos should be sharp and clear. Full color photos are encouraged.

Once submitted, all articles and pictures become the property of **TURN OUT**.

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# IFBA 2015 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

## HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



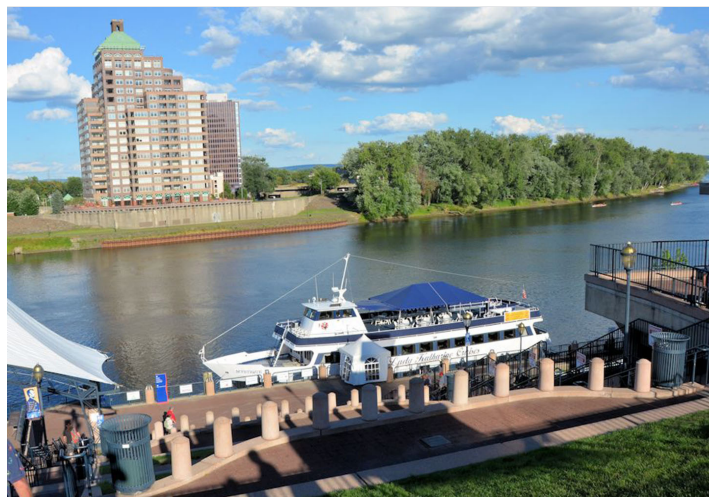
The men and women of the IFBA came to New England in August, 2015, for the first time since Cambridge/ Boston, MA in 2007. The Connecticut Fire Photographers Association celebrated its 40th anniversary while hosting the 63rd annual Fire Buff convention in Hartford.

Directly across from the new baseball home of the AA league Hartford Yard Goats (farm team of the Colorado Rockies), accommodations at the Radisson Hotel Hartford provided for the Executive Board meeting Tuesday, August 11. President Ken Bliveau presided. Spring Board meeting minutes were approved as published. There were slightly more than one hundred full and partial registrations by this meeting. Committee reports and reports from the Regional Vice presidents were shared. Future convention status determined that Baltimore/ Washington area clubs were not able to proceed with 2016 hosting. 2017 was mentioned as a trial date for a convention/ meeting at a recreational location, rather than a club city. Mentioned most prominently were Arizona and Florida.



Marine 1, New Haven FD

*Photo by Chuck Leidtke*



Lady Katherine Dinner cruise vessel at downtown Hartford port on Connecticut River.

*Photo by Chuck Leidtke*

Future meetings could impact Presidential elections, and a possible two-year term for officers was proposed for review. Further discussions would be resolved at the annual business meeting.

Following Wednesday's lunch at the Radisson, two seminars were available (1) **Hartford Circus Fire**, 07-04-1944 with author Don Massey (co-author Rich Dav-ey). (2) **Out of Reach, the Day Hartford Hospital Burned** (12-08-61) by F. Mark Granoto. These gatherings presented very compelling information and effects these tragedies had on building safety codes going forward.

Thursday started with tours of Hartford and West Hartford Fire Departments. Many photos were taken. The evening ended with a pleasant dinner cruise on the Connecticut River from downtown. East Hartford, Rocky Hill and South Windsor departments' marine units provided water salutes as we passed on the Lady Katherine cruise. A multiple-alarm fire in the nearby town of Waterbury later that evening drew at least nine buffs, some of whom were interviewed by the local press.

# IFBA 2015 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

## HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



Following a tasty hotel breakfast on Friday, conventioners visited the Meriden FD, South Meriden station, and Wallingford FD on the way to displays and lunch at the city of New Haven FD. Photos and apparatus facts were regular and repeated. South Meriden had an impressive 1931 Ahrens Fox ladder.

New Haven Fire Department explained that their white apparatus paint schemes are traditional, having been needed during the blackouts during WW II. Possible enemy boats were feared present in Long Island Sound. New Haven is a strategic point for fuel supply offloading, since 90% of Connecticut's supply comes through this port. Marine 1, (The Nathan Hale) search and rescue vessel was demonstrated, providing "jet propulsion", a foam nozzle and three deck guns. We exited through a downtown City Hall visit to view the 1909 City of New Haven Westinghouse fire apparatus on display. Regional vice-president at large Bill Celentano Jr. was instrumental in getting this done.

Saturday's activities began with visits to East Hartford FD and Manchester FD. Connecticut Firemen's Historical Society at 230 Pine Street hosted an apparatus display and outstanding museum items in their 1901 2-bay firehouse. Three floors of display are available to visitors. Membership and group visits are available at [www.thefiremuseum.org](http://www.thefiremuseum.org).

Saturday evening's reception and banquet completed a busy day for convention goers. 2015-16 President **KAREN HOSKINS** was sworn in, as were the other Executive Board members and the Regional vice-presidents. Friendship Fire Association of Washington, DC was presented their 75 year award. And, finally, the Fire Buff of the Year award for 2015 was presented to Tom McDonald from the Greater Houston Fire Buffs. A former IFBA president and active with the national fire museum group, he retired from the Houston Fire Department.

### CONGRATULATIONS, TOM!



Westinghouse Fire apparatus, New Haven City Hall

*Photo by Chuck Leidtke*





# IFBA 2015 CONVENTION PHOTOS

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



Connecticut Firemen's Historical Society, Manchester.  
*Photo by Chuck Leidtke*



Hartford, CT Fire Dept Water tower at Manchester, CT  
Fire Museum  
*Photo by Jerry Traub*



New haven CT Fire Dept. white engine  
*Photo by Jerry Traub*



# **IFBA 2015 ANNUAL MEETING** *MINUTES*

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



## **IFBA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING RADISSON HOTEL HARTFORD, CT WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12, 2015**

9:30am Called to Order by President Beliveau

Roll Call of Officers, Delegates and Alternates.

Dispense with reading of minutes of 2014 Business Meeting.

Fire & Life Safety Committee Report. Proper documents are on file.

President's Report, Ken Beliveau

Executive Vice-President Report by Bill Mokros.

Treasurers Report, Paul Schaetzle. Report accepted as read.

Turn Out Magazine; Jerry Traub. Most recent pdf issue had 56 pages. Clubs/Members encouraged to submit articles and photos.

Web Site/Social Media; Bill Mokros Nothing to report.

Fire Buff of the Year; Stu Nathan. Award to be made at banquet.

Membership; Ira Rubin, Vickie Mokros. No applications pending.

Newsletter; Ira Cohen. Award at banquet.

Strategic Planning. No report.

Education. No report.

Finance; Chuck Liedtke. All is in order.

Member Services and Fire & Life Safety. Nothing additional to report.



## REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS:

- Region 1-Bob Sherwood, Clubs continue to do well. Meeting held in Hartford, CT on 8-11-2015.
- Region 3-Chris Oliphant regrets to announce that Central Alarmers have withdrawn the bid for 2016 convention. Much activity in Region 3 including Box 414 Canteen Operations. Central Alarmers in negotiations to merge with White Marsh Vol. Fire Department to stay solvent. Central Alarmers canteen is available for sale. Joe Sullivan of Friendship Fire has been nominated to be Region 3 VP.
- Region 4-Frank Novak. Joint Regional meeting, (with Region 6) was held in Indianapolis, IN. Western Reserve Fire Museum has improvements.
- Region 5- Mike Hoskins. Regional Meeting held in Houston, TX, hosted by Tom McDonald. Box 4 in Dallas is actively recruiting new members by way of Dallas Fire Citizens Fire Academy. Renovations underway at Dallas Fire Museum, including a new program with Dallas Schools to bring 3rd and 4th graders into museum.
- Region 6-Vickie Mokros. Joint meeting with Region 4 in Indianapolis. Five clubs from Region 6 attended. Status reports on all regional clubs. Box 55 Nashville seeing resurgence. Milwaukee Fire Bell Club has purchased a 2001 Freightliner from Box 55 in Nashville and it is being rehabbed.
- Region 7-Steve Fickenscher. There is a challenge to visit the region's clubs due to large geographic area. Tacoma and Seattle clubs have seen increase in canteen response due to dry conditions. Five of the seven regional clubs in attendance at this convention.
- Region 9- Conni Spellman. Submitted electronically.
- Region 10-Ian Duke. Club Appel '99 in Quebec doing well. GTMAA celebrated 40th anniversary and has a new website. Ontario Fire Buff Associates has over 130 members and is thriving. Montreal Auxiliary Firemen took delivery of a new Freightliner Rehab Unit. Box 43 in Hamilton is continuing.
- Region 11-Peter DeJesse. No report.
- East Coast Regional VP Bill Celentano. Assisted the host committee and will be welcoming the convention to New Haven.



# IFBA 2015 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT



## ASSORTED COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Various committee chairs submitted assorted Committee Reports, including Publicity, Turn-Out, IFBA Social Media, Resource & Canteen, Insurance Advisory, Club Newsletter/Website Award, Convention Facilitator, Fire Buff of the Year, Membership, CFSI, and Historical.

## FUTURE CONVENTIONS:

- Executive Board voted on August 11, 2015 to proceed with a convention in New Orleans, LA in 2016.
- Executive VP Mokros has been in discussions regarding a convention in Orlando, FL in 2017.

Old Business. None.

New Business. None.

Election of Officers. Bill Celentano.

The following nominations have been submitted.

- President-Karen Hoskins
- 1st Vice-President-Ian Duke
- 2nd Vice-President-Mike Hoskins
- Immediate Past President-Ken Beliveau
- Secretary- Gerry Mahoney
- Treasurer-Paul Schaetzle
- Region 1 VP-Bob Sherwood
- Region 3 VP-Joseph Sullivan
- Region 4 VP-Frank Novak
- Region 5 VP-Mike Hoskins
- Region 6 VP-Vickie Mokros
- Region 7 VP-Stephen Fickenscher
- Region 9 VP- Conni Spellman
- Region 10 VP-Ian Duke
- Region 11 VP-Peter DeJesse

President Elect Hoskins has appointed Wally Banks of Box 4, Dallas, TX as Vice-President at Large.

Good & Welfare.

Rick Cutts reports that Keith Franz is in a facility near St. Louis, MO. Family hopes to move him back closer to Milwaukee, WI.

Discussion on Associate Memberships and/or making club publications available to the public.

Respectfully submitted by Gerry Mahoney

# IFBA MADAM PRESIDENT **KAREN HOSKINS**

By: Jerry Traub



Karen Hoskins was sworn in as the newly-elected president of the International Fire Buff Associates Saturday, August 15, 2015, in Hartford, CT. By a unanimous vote of the 63rs IFBA convention, she will follow Ken Beliveau, of the host Connecticut Fire Photographers.

She was born in Dallas, TX, the oldest of three girls in the family. Their father was a 32 year member of Dallas Fire/Rescue, serving as second driver at Engine 19 for the last 27 years. She graduated from North Mesquite High School in East Dallas County.

Karen had four children with her first husband, three daughters and a son. They and four grandchildren reside in Texas. In 2005, she was reacquainted with her husband Mike Hoskins. She had known him for many years, since

he used Dallas F/R station 19 for report writing as a city of Dallas policeman, retiring from that department in 2002. (Station 19 was Karen's father's station, you may recall.)

In March, 2007, Karen and Mike married, blending their families. Mike was a full-time firefighters in the city of Seagoville, until leaving to become chief of police at the city of Talty. He maintains part-time firefighter status at Seagoville FD.

Karen's work experience began at Dallas' Fujicolor photo processing lab. 32 years later, the digital photo age led to the closing of the lab and she was severed from her last position as Administrative Assistant to the plant manager. Since September, 2007, she has been the Administrative Assistant in the COMERICA Bank, North Park Mall. She aids two trust officers and one trust specialist.

Karen's buffing history began six years ago when Mike Hoskins' uncle suggested the couple join Dallas' IFBA Box 4. She has served as Club secretary for the last five years and co-chaired the very successful 2014 IFBA convention in Dallas.

She also serves on The Salvation Army rehab unit, which is supported by Dallas F/R "Pass the Hat" and other private donations. Dallas Charitable Campaign also supplies partial funding.

Karen is looking forward to serving as national president. Equally exciting is preparing for the 2016 national meeting in New Orleans, hosted in Region 5. Her contact is **ksd573@aol.com**.



# IFB ASSOCIATES *NECROLOGY REPORT*

2014 / 2015



- André Beaumont, Member Club Appel 99, Québec, Canada
- Robert Carpenter, Life Member Box 52 Association, Boston, MA
- Bob Connell, Member Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assn.  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Frank Dorer, Life Member Central Alarmers, Baltimore, MD.
- John Edelen, Charter Member Bell & Siren Club, Newark, NJ.
- Edmund T. Girard, Member Box 52 Association, Boston, MA
- Donald Hoffses, Founder Box 61 Club, Portland , Maine
- Sherman M. Hunt Jr.,  
Member  
Member  
Member  
Past President  
Essex County Fire Wardens Assn.  
Middlesex Firefighter & Fire Wardens Assn.  
Box 41 Association  
Box 52 Association, Boston, MA
- Deborah Jakobson, Member Box 234 Assoc, Pikesville MD.
- Thomas L. Lake, Member Box 414 Association, Baltimore MD.
- Martin Litowitz, Life Member Bell & Siren Club, Newark, NJ.
- Jim MacDonald, Member Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Assn.  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Bob McAdow, Member Box 42 Associates, Detroit, MI
- Kenneth Pogan, Member Gong Club, Jersey City, NJ
- Richard Schneider, Member Seattle Fire Buff Society, Seattle WA
- Brian Starkey, Member Southern Maine Fire Notification
- Judy Stehle, Member Box 4, Dallas, TX.
- Will Stoll, Member Central Alarmers, Baltimore, MD
- Phillip Way, Past President Massy Shaw Preservation Society  
London England

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

# TURN OUT 2015

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please Contact:  
Jerry Traub

[turnout@ifba.org](mailto:turnout@ifba.org)

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