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SECRETARY/TREASURER UPDATE

By Rick Host, Secretary/Treasurer



I hope this finds all of you well and enjoying another Iowa summer. It appears it is going to be a hot one.

Here is an update on the condition of the Iowa State Police Association (ISPA). As of 14 June 2016, membership stands at 3,146. This is down from last year. We have had a few members choose not to renew their membership and there is the usual turn over with the locals. Some of the locals' losses have been countered by new members but not all. Additionally, we have lost 28 members to death so far this year. Over the long run, we average about 30 deaths per year. The last two or three years have been exceptional with numbers in the mid-to-upper 30s. I hope this trend discontinues. It would be nice not to have any more this fiscal year.

The financial condition of the Association is a constant topic at ISPA Board meetings. We currently have a net worth of \$1.7 million. This is down from the end of the last fiscal year but this year is not over yet. We will see what the rest of the year brings.

As you all know, we stopped our phone solicitation program a number of years ago. Therefore, our only revenue is derived from membership dues and the performance of our market investments. Our dues bring in about \$78,000 per year. We have started to draw some interest from our market investments to help with cash flow. We have had to withdraw funds from our annuity investments and cash some market investments to meet year-end operating expenses. The Board has done an admirable job of trying to reduce our expenditures, but, as with your local departments, there is only so much fat you can cut out before you get to the meat.

At last year's annual conference, the subject of a possible dues increase was brought up. The Board has determined it is necessary to propose an amendment to the bylaws to increase the dues at this year's conference for the delegates to consider and vote on. The proposal will be to increase the dues by \$10 per member per year. That means dues will go from \$30 per year for active members to \$40 per year, and from \$20 per year for retired active members to \$30 per year. Additionally, there will be a proposed amendment to the bylaws increasing the paid-up active membership dues from a one-time payment of \$150 to \$200. The paid-up active membership class was established and approved at the 1999 Annual Conference at the \$150 fee and has changed since. A copy of the proposed amendments is included below.

The ISPA Conference this year will be Monday–Wednesday, October 3–5, 2016, in Sioux City. The conference hotel is the Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center. The address is 300 3rd Street, Sioux City, Iowa. The cost for this year’s conference is the same as last year: \$90 for a single delegate and \$155 for a delegate and guest. The break down again is \$20 for registration, \$30 for the Tuesday evening buffet, \$35 for the Wednesday evening banquet and a \$5 donation for the Purple Heart Award.

Please consider contacting California Casualty for a comparison quote on your auto and/or home-owner’s insurance. CalCas is endorsed by ISPA and our only premier sponsor. They are now offering a rate reduction for policies to our members. Please, at least contact them for a quote. If they can’t beat what you have, stay with your present company. It never hurts to shop around.

I hope to see many of you at the upcoming Rabiner Treatment Center (RTC) Open Golf Tournament in Fort Dodge or at the ISPA Conference in Sioux City. As always, be safe.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

BYLAW VIII. FEES AND DUES

SECTION 1.

The annual dues for active members currently employed by a police department, or division of the Iowa Department of Public Safety designated in Bylaw I, section 2 (b), or peace officers designated in Bylaw I, section 2 (e) shall be ~~thirty~~ **forty** dollars (**\$40**). The annual dues for active members who have been pensioned, vested, and/or retired from a police department, or division of the Iowa Department of Public Safety designated in Bylaw I, section 2 (b), or peace officers designated in Bylaw I, section 2 (e) shall be ~~twenty~~ **thirty** dollars (**\$30**). All dues shall be payable on January 1, of each year.

An active member who has been pensioned, vested, and/or retired from a police department, or division of the Iowa Department of Public Safety designated in Bylaw I, section 2 (b), or peace officers designated in Bylaw I, section 2 (e), and has reached the age of fifty-five (55) may apply to the Secretary-Treasurer for a one-time paid up active membership at a cost of ~~one hundred fifty~~ **two hundred** dollars (**\$200**), due within sixty days (60) after approval by the Board of Directors. A paid up active membership is not considered a life membership as outlined in Bylaw I, section 4.

The annual dues for active membership shall be set by two-thirds majority vote of the delegates at the annual conference. Persons admitted to active membership after the beginning of a calendar year shall pay dues for that entire year. Members of local units shall pay their dues to this association through the Secretary of their local units. Under no circumstances shall any portion of the stated dues be refundable.