

ILLINOIS FIRE SERVICE INSTITUTE UPDATE (2-5-'10) (David F. Clark, Deputy Director)

Cornerstone classes are now available.

Thanks to the efforts of numerous people and organizations, the state legislature passed a bill restoring the Cornerstone funding, and the Governor signed it. IFSI is once again able to deliver Cornerstone classes. Contact your local IFSI field instructor or Regional Rep to set up classes. We have added a number of new subjects to the classes available.

Work is progressing on the new IFSI Learning Resource & Research Center building. I urge you to **become a part of the project by donating an engraved paver brick in the Memorial Plaza** to honor a special firefighter, your fire department, or your individual fire company. Information about the paver brick options and affordable prices is available on our website www.fsi.illinois.edu. I suggest you submit your order ASAP this spring so your memorial paver can be included in the first group put in place when the building is finished this summer. We plan to add additional bricks to this permanent firefighter memorial each year at Fire College.

Duane Bales will be retiring in April. We hate to see him leave, but hopefully we will get him back on a part-time basis as a field instructor. Three field instructors will assume Duane's program duties. John Nichols will be our new Regional Rep handling Cornerstone and other classes in the Southwestern Region. Dave Newcomb will take over the Agricultural Program, and Joe Drennan will take over the Vehicle/Machinery Program.

Winter Fire School was a success. We have moved some NFA classes from Winter Fire School to stand-alone NFA sessions over the next couple years. We will still offer NFA classes at Fire College.

IFSI is hosting two 2-day NFA classes in Champaign on March 26-27, 2010. They are: Strategy & Tactics for Initial Company Operations and Courtroom Preparation & Testimony for First Responders. There is **NO Charge** for these classes. See the IFSI website for details. Sign up now, since we need a confirmed number of students ahead of time or the NFA will cancel the classes.

Fire College is June 3-6, 2010. See our website for details, and April 5 registration start.

The sea-land containers have arrived for our new trench rescue prop. It will have various widths and depths of trenches. It and the street-scope prop will be finished as soon as the spring weather allows.

Visit our website map for information about classes near you. IFSI also offers a number of **classes on-line**. Remember, you can now print out your own IFSI class completion certificate for virtually all courses.