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SECRETARY/TREASURER UPDATE

By Rick Host, Secretary/Treasurer



I hope you all are having a wonderful summer so far. I believe we deserve a nice summer after the winter we just had. As I write this, we are getting ready to head up to Minnesota for our annual fishing vacation. All of our daughters and the grandkids will be with us for the first week. It should be fun.

I would like to thank all of you for being so diligent in sending in your 2014 dues. As a result, I sent out the fewest past due notices in my tenure as your Secretary/Treasurer. I only had four members not renew their membership in 2014. This is another record low. Thanks again.

On a sadder note, this had been another bad year for deaths of our members. There are two-and-a-half months left in the 2013-2014 fiscal year. At this time, we have lost 32 members. One of those members had his father listed as his beneficiary. The father predeceased the member. Additionally, there was no estate for the member. To date, I have not been able to pay out a death benefit for this member. I would again like to underscore the importance of keeping your beneficiary information current. If you are not sure who you have listed as your beneficiary, give me a call or send an email or a letter. I will let you know who you have listed and what you need to do if you wish to make a change.

At this point, the ISPA membership stands at 3,175. A long-term goal of the Board of Directors has been to increase our membership. We have been around the 3,175 mark for a number of years. We have made a couple runs at the 3,200 mark, reaching 3,210 on a couple of occasions during the renewal periods. We have always dropped back under the 3,200 mark soon after. It has been a struggle to find the time to visit the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy to talk with the new recruits there. We also have a number of locals whose active membership has dropped. These locals are now primarily retired members.

The board has made it their goal to push the membership recruitment harder during the next year or so. To that end, we have redesigned our recruitment brochure. The board members will be visiting the locals I talked about above in an effort to get these back up. The goal set by the board is to reach and maintain a membership of 3,250.

Local 19 — Ames is working very hard to prepare for the Annual ISPA Conference. The conference will be held at the Quality Inn and Suites Starlite Village Conference Center, 2601 E. 13th Street, Ames, Iowa. The conference dates are October 13–15, 2014. The Quality Inn is

located at I-35 exit 113. The cost of the conference will be the same as the last several years — \$85 for a single delegate and \$150 for a delegate and spouse/guest. I will be sending out conference information and registration forms to the local secretaries in mid-August. The educational presentation will be very interesting and one you will be glad you attended. I look forward to seeing many of you in Ames.

As always, be safe.