

# IOWA POLICE JOURNAL

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## SECRETARY/TREASURER UPDATE

By Rick Host, Secretary/Treasurer



Well another conference has come and gone. I would like to congratulate and thank the men and women of Iowa State Police Association (ISPA) Local #19, Ames, for all of their efforts in hosting another wonderful Annual ISPA Conference. I believe all who attended had a great experience. The educational presentations were very well done and enlightening.

The first Purple Heart Award ceremony at this year's conference banquet was a very moving experience for the recipients, families and delegates. This is something all of the members of ISPA can be proud of.

It is again time to remind everyone their 2015 ISPA membership renewal is fast approaching. Membership in ISPA runs on the calendar year. Dues are payable on January 1 of each year. As always, I will be sending out a reminder letter to all of the local secretaries along with the roster for your respective local and a contact sheet for you to update your contact information. I will also be sending out a reminder postcard to those members who pay their own dues.

Over the past several years, you have all been very prompt in getting your membership renewals to me. I appreciate that very much. I look forward to another year like the last few. According to our by-laws, membership dues are considered delinquent 60 days after they are due. At the end of February or March 1, I will send out past-due notices to those who have not renewed by then. Then I will send a second past due notice on April 1. Any dues not received by the end of April will result in suspension of the member from membership.

ISPA is a 501(c)(5) corporation. This is a non-profit labor organization status, which means we are not a charitable organization. Therefore, your dues are not deductible from your income tax as a charitable contribution.

In my report at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual ISPA Conference, I updated the delegates on the financial condition of ISPA. At the end of the 2013-2014 fiscal year, August 31, 2014, our net worth was \$2 million. Much of the success for this past year can be attributed to the recovery of the stock market. As you all know, however, the market is a continual up-and-down roller coaster ride. The first 1½ months of our 2014-2015 fiscal year saw a considerable drop in the market. A fair portion of that has been made up in the last week or so.

Membership dues bring around \$74,000 into the ISPA treasury. In 2013-2014, I paid out 37 death benefits to the named beneficiaries of those deceased members. That amounted to \$55,500. As you can see, that does not leave any room for the other operations of ISPA. In the past, we've received a fair weekly revenue stream from our telephone solicitation. You are all aware that has been discontinued and we have yet to make up that lost revenue stream. Consequently, I have had to draw down on the annuity investments we have with Central Financial Group. Over the last several years, these investments have dropped from a high of \$800,000 to about \$300,000 today.

The ISPA Board of Directors is very concerned with this situation. We have employed the services of a non-profit marketing firm, (c)3 Marketing, to help develop a case statement for ISPA. We will use the case statement to solicit donations so we can provide the best service possible to our members. We will continue to pursue this avenue for fundraising.

Another step the board took to help with our financials was developing the sponsor program. Currently, we have two Premier Sponsors: Brownell's and California Casualty — and one Gold Sponsor: Upper Iowa University. Please check these sponsors on our website, where we have links to the sponsors' websites. If you need these types of services, please give our sponsors a hard first look. Likewise, if you have any suggestions for fundraising for our association, let any one of the board members know.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season this year. Enjoy your families and, as always, be safe.