



Keith Paffrath (AZ)

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF THE IAAI? I have been a member of the IAAI since 2005 and a member of my AZ state chapter since 2002.

HOW MANY ANNUAL MEETINGS HAVE YOU ATTENDED; WHICH YEARS? I have attended 7 of the last 8 International Training Conferences and have attended 6 Annual General Meetings in 2019, 2018, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2011.

WHAT IAAI COMMITTEES HAVE YOU SERVED ON; WHICH YEARS?

I have served and currently serve on the sub-committee for the Fire & Arson Investigator Journal (2018/2019).

DO YOU REGULARLY ATTEND YOUR STATE/PROVINCIAL CHAPTER MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES? YES

OFFICES HELD STATE/PROVINCE CHAPTER? I have served the AZIAAI Chapter as a Board member, 2nd VP, 1st VP, and President. I have also served on the Training and Education Committee for many years, becoming actively involved soon after I joined the Chapter in 2002.

PLEASE LIST ANY INTERNATIONAL OFFICES HELD, SPECIAL PROJECTS OR COMMITTEE WORK, INDICATING YEARS OF SERVICE. I was appointed by Past President George Coddling to represent the IAAI on the NFPA Responder Forum in 2017 and continue to serve in that appointment. In February 2018, I was appointed by Past President Scott Bennett as the principal IAAI representative to the NFPA Technical Committee for Fire Investigation Units (FIUs). I also serve on the IAAI Foundation's ITC Fund-Raising Committee.

DESCRIBE, IN 100 WORDS OR LESS, WHY YOU FEEL YOU ARE QUALIFIED FOR THIS POSITION: My ability to effectively communicate, develop consensus, and my determination to deliver results, best qualify me as your Director. When I started my career, our fire department had not yet adopted fire codes. I utilized my skills to persuade the District to adopt fire codes, implement inspections and begin competent investigations. I bring that same passion to the IAAI. I have been a small business owner or manager for the past 30 years. This experience affords insight into the daily operations, personnel management, budgeting, and long-range planning necessary for an organization to thrive. I humbly ask for your confidence.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A DIRECTOR OR OFFICER OF THE IAAI? I offer a *Fresh Perspective* as someone who is passionate about every task undertaken, whether assigned or envisioned. I had a unique start in fire investigations as I created our department's Fire Investigation Unit based on a paper napkin idea which evolved into a successful program that I was told not possible. I have brought that passion to the IAAI already through my involvement with special programs and appointments by past Presidents Bennett and Coddling. As your Director, I will channel that to further the IAAI mission..

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE YOUR BEST LEADERSHIP TRAITS, AND HOW WOULD YOU USE THEM AS A DIRECTOR OR OFFICER OF THE IAAI? As an Eagle Scout, Military Veteran, Business Owner and Fire Service Professional, I embody the important leadership qualities which will enable the IAAI to continue its mission. I believe Integrity, Accountability, Communication and Innovation are a few key essentials of a good leader. I will use these traits, along with others, to enhance strategic partnerships worldwide.

WHAT STEPS DO YOU BELIEVE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO GROW MEMBERSHIP? I believe the IAAI can grow our membership by reinforcing what we offer to professionals in our field. It is key to develop new avenues for growth; however, that must be balanced with current membership maintenance at the Chapter levels. Education is critical but so is value of IAAI membership. We should explore options to create more awareness of the IAAI at local levels through venue sponsorships or booth space with affiliated groups, such as insurance, corporate, military and law enforcement. This creates potential aid in generating revenue streams for CFITrainer.net also.

HOW WOULD YOU PROPOSE TO IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL AND CHAPTERS? I would track the quarterly Chapter conference calls and trend the attendance to assess any deviation to the negative. Follow-ups with non-participating chapters, to determine how the IAAI can help, will be required. The IAAI offers a variety of training classes which could include regional classes sponsored through chapter liaisons. Increasing the activity level of chapter liaisons to be more integral with the membership, directors and officers of each chapter, may prove to enhance the joint partnerships by validating trends in participation. Effective communication begins with the organization and must encourage two-way flow for current events and trends.

WHAT ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE FUNDING OF CFITRAINER.NET?

I would seek to create a strong partnership with the IAAI Foundation to discover new ways for a guaranteed revenue stream which has little to no restrictions on use of CFITrainer.net. I would work with their board to create a task force and develop a process and means of seeking significant donations from partners in the industry. These partners could include other government agencies, private agencies or corporations, and Native American or tribal entities. Registration fees and/or access charges and the impact should be explored in-depth

OTHER THAN TRAINING FIRE INVESTIGATORS, WHAT TWO OR THREE OTHER ELEMENTS DO YOU CONSIDER AS CRITICAL TO THE MISSION OF THE IAAI? Effective communication. One element that remains critical to our success is the continued development of cutting-edge, scientifically-based research into fire dynamics and its relationship to investigations. The broad spectrum of fire science is and will be continually challenged and tested. Additionally, we must focus on the health and wellness of our members through initiatives and the inclusion of fire investigators in presumptive cancer legislation. Lastly, strengthening existing partnerships while creating new strategic alliances is key to promoting our brand and validating our membership.