

It is hard to believe another year is almost over, and the holiday season is upon us. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you were not able to attend the 2024 ISPA Annual Conference hosted by Sioux City Local # 7, you missed a great conference. The food, training and venue were amazing. The hard work by Local # 7 members really showed. They have set the bar high for next year's conference hosted by Davenport Local # 2.

I want to welcome newly elected Jr. Director Caitlin Carlyle, Fort Dodge Local # 8, to the board. She was elected at the conference in October. In this newsletter there is an article from Caitlyn introducing herself. She looks forward to serving the ISPA members on the board.

Our fiscal year ended on August 31, 2024, and at that time we had 3,126 ISPA members. This is a slight decrease from last year. Unfortunately, I am not sure when this trend will turn in the other direction. Almost every department is having trouble hiring new officers and retaining their current officers. Also, many departments are anticipating a big influx of retirements in the next 3-5 years.

By now your local and/or you should have received a reminder that your 2025 ISPA membership dues are payable January 1, 2025. Remember dues are considered delinquent at the end of February. If you have not received anything or are not sure if your dues have been paid, please send me an email. Also please remember to update your beneficiary. It only takes a few minutes, and it could save your loved ones a lot of trouble and hurt feelings when you die. The Change of Beneficiary form can be found on the website under the ISPA Membership tab. Once completed you can email it to me.

If you know of an officer in need, please remember the ISPA Officer Assistance Program (OAP). This program was created in 2018 to provide temporary financial aid, up to \$1,250, to our members during difficult times. ISPA Members in good standing at the time of the incident/injury may request financial assistance for reasons which may include, but are not limited to, debilitating illness or injury to a member, spouse, or their dependent children, disaster relief, such as needed in the aftermath of a tornado, house fire or flood. Since inception the OAP has donated over \$55,000 to over 40 ISPA Members.

Unfortunately, in 2023-2024 the Officer Assistance Program saw a record number of requests for assistance. Thankfully due to very generous past donations by ISPA Locals, ISPA Sponsors and our ISPA Members we had the funds to assist the officers and their families during their time of need. This would not be possible without everyone's support. More information about the OAP can be found on the [Officer Assistance Program](#) tab on the website.

The Board continues to seek out business partners and sponsors to provide more benefits to our members. This year we are happy to report we have two new Premier Sponsors: ZeroEyes and Axon. Our other sponsors are: Zanotti Armor, FirstNet, Serve Credit Union and Upper Iowa University. All these sponsors not only provide great benefits to our members, but without their support, our financial situation would be a bit worse. You can find more information about all our sponsors by going to the website- [HERE](#)

This newsletter, which replaced the printed magazine, is our primary means of communication with our members. If you know of officers in your department not receiving this newsletter, please have them send an email to [ispaonline@gmail.com](mailto:ispaonline@gmail.com). Also make sure to send us your department's promotions, community outreach events, training opportunities and other news we can share.

Lastly, I would like to thank Past President Becki Sammons for her dedication and hard work during her time on the board. We will miss having Becki on the board. I also want to thank the entire Board of Directors, and all the members of the Iowa State Police Association for your support and dedication. You are the ones that make this association not only the largest police association in Iowa, but also the best!

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please do not hesitate in contacting me.

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