



***June 24, 2024—June 26, 2024***

***Walkers Bluff Casino Resort  
Carterville, IL***



***2024 ANNUAL CONVENTION***

***Registration Guide***

## 2024 IFDA Annual Convention at a Glance



2024 IFDA Annual Convention  
Walkers Bluff Casino Resort  
777 Walkers Bluff Way,  
Carterville, IL 62918  
June 24, 2023 - June 26, 2024



[ifda.org](http://ifda.org)



### Why stay at the host hotel?

- ♦ Save time! Zero commute, no traffic, no need to look for parking.
- ♦ If you forget something, you can simply walk back to your room in a few minutes.
- ♦ Maximize networking opportunities!
- ♦ Enrich the Mind, Nourish the Body, & Soothe the Spirit! Book a service at The Spa at Walker's Bluff.
- ♦ Did we mention the Casino - Game on!

### Walkers Bluff Casino Resort

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Walkers Bluff Casino Resort

777 Walkers Bluff Way,  
Carterville, IL 62918

Call 618-993-7777 for Reservations.

Group Name/Number:

Illinois Funeral Directors Association  
100539

**Hotel Reservation Deadline is  
May 25, 2024!**





# Sponsorships



Member & Vendor Appreciation Party

Entertainment



Photobooth

Early Arrival Meet & Greet



FUNERAL  
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Keynote Address

Keynote Address (Secondary Sponsor)



ELCO MUTUAL  
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Convention Lanyards



## 2024 Convention Schedule

### Monday, June 24, 2024

Cremation Certification Program	(7FD)	8:00am—4:00pm
IFDA Golf Outing		11:00 am—4:00pm
IFDA Wine & Whiskey Tour		11:00am—4:00pm
Early Registration		7:00pm—9:00pm
Early Arrival Meet & Greet		7:00pm – 10:00pm

### Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Registration Desk Open		7:30am – 7:00pm
Opening Session		8:00am—8:45am
Break		8:45am—9:00am
Keynote – John O’Leary	(1FD)	9:00am – 10:00am
Break		10:00am—10:15am
Session 2 —Anthony Fleege	(2EMB)	10:15am—11:55am
Lunch On Your Own		11:55am – 12:30pm
“The President Died Some 38 Minutes Ago”—Duane Hills	(2FD)	12:30pm—2:10pm
Exhibit Floor	(1FD/1EMB)	2:30pm—5:30pm
Member & Vendor Appreciation Party		6:30pm—9:30pm

### Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Registration Desk Open		7:30am – 5:00pm
Service of Remembrance		8:15am—8:50am
Break		8:50am – 9:05am
“Dealing with Decomposition”— John T. Hill	(2EMB)	9:05am—10:45am
Break		10:45am—11:00am
Exhibit Floor	(1FD/1EMB)	11:00AM—2:00PM
Lunch on Your Own		
Illinois Sexual Harassment Prevention Training—Deborah McPhee	(1FD)	2:00pm—2:50pm
Break		2:50pm—3:05pm
“Mortuary Law for the Modern Funeral Director”—Michael D. Sharkey	(2FD)	3:05pm—4:45pm

Registration for the CCO Training Program is not included in the 2024 IFDA Convention Registration.

\*You can only receive credit for the exhibit floor one time and must be on the exhibit floor a minimum of two hours.

A multi-day registration can achieve 12 hours of CE. Depending on session selection, the maximum CE achievable by category is as follows: 7FD, 5EMB

To receive credit you will need to be scanned in to each session. Certificates of Attendance will be emailed for each session attended. **Please note that all CE Sessions and Exhibits will be held at Walkers’ Bluff Resort and Casino unless otherwise noted below.**

Event Locations: Cremation Certification Program—SIU Carbondale, IL

Early Arrival Meet & Greet— Walker’s Bluff Winery, 14250 Meridian Rd, Carterville, IL 62918

### Connect

Meet with familiar colleagues and fresh faces at the largest gathering of funeral professionals in Illinois. Convention provides an in-person opportunity to build a professional community of like-minded individuals who experience similar challenges and successes.

### Learn

The endless Continuing Education opportunities offered throughout the year can be overwhelming and expensive. Between seminars, webinars, institutes and workshops, no one can take advantage of every opportunity. We know you must be judicious with your time and funds devoted to continuing education. With 12 credits offered in our sessions, we think you will find the 2024 IFDA Annual Convention a valuable return on investment.

### Listen

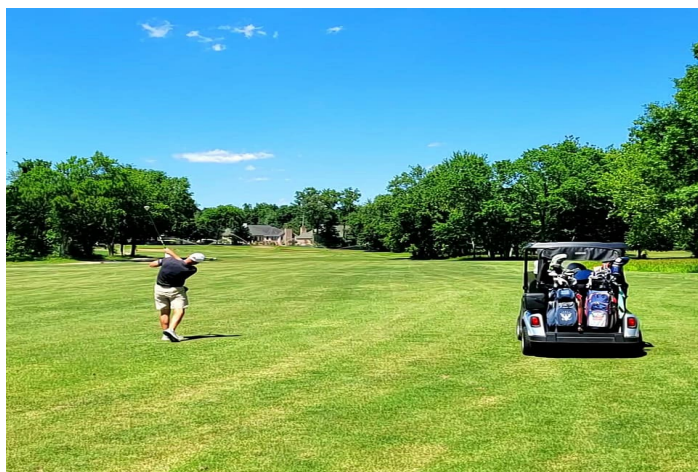
Our speakers are proven business leaders, strategists, practitioners, and peers. Many of them are current funeral care professionals; others are well-respected professional leaders who know what you need to know. You will gain a thorough understanding of tried-and-true funeral care fundamentals and unique insight.

### Engage

Our exhibitors are industry experts and solution-providers with extensive experience in the funeral service profession. Embrace the present world of funeral care by learning the latest trends, strategies, and innovations in the field. No matter how long you have been in the business or what position you hold, there are always new things to learn.

Get ready to tee off for the ultimate day of swings and fun at the IFDA Golf Outing! Join us on Monday June 24th for 18 holes of pure golfing bliss at Kokopelli Golf Club! We will kick off the day with registration and lunch at 11:00 AM to fuel your swing.

As the clock strikes 11:30 AM, it's tee time! Whether you're a seasoned pro or not, this event promises fun and camaraderie for all skill levels. Pricing will be \$70 per golfer.



## Wine & Whiskey Tour

Join us on Monday June 24th for a Wine and Whiskey Tour! The cost of your ticket will go towards transportation and the Webb A. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship. The tour will start at Walker's Bluff Winery at 11am and will end at 4 O'clock. It will take you to 4 other Southern Illinois Gems and back to Walkers Bluff Casino Resort. It will be a great time to network and be around your peers in funeral service.

## Exhibit Hall

The **IFDA Exhibit Hall** is the ultimate destination for funeral home innovation. Our exhibitors are on the cutting edge of the newest trends and technology in Funeral Service, Financial Planning and Transportation, to name a few.

The Exhibit Hall features the leading brands and services on display for you to see, try out, and compare. Visiting is a great way to:

- Stimulate new ideas for you and your funeral home.
- Get a hands-on feel for new products, equipment, technology, and best practices.
- Review offers from multiple suppliers at one time.

## Early Arrival Meet & Greet

The **Early Arrival Meet & Greet** is the first official get-together of the Convention. Held on Monday evening, attendees include IFDA leadership, funeral directors, funeral home owners, guests, and industry representatives. This is a can't miss opportunity for anyone looking to get quality face-time with attendees while having fun.

Event Location:

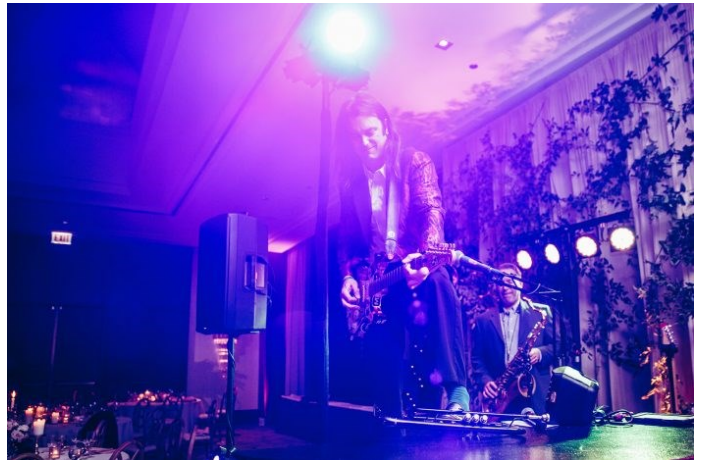
Walker's Bluff Winery - The Legends Room

14250 Meridian Road

Carterville, IL 62918

## Member & Vendor Appreciation

Join us Tuesday evening for the Member & Vendor Appreciation Party! The Member & Vendor Appreciation Party has become the social highlight of the Convention and is attended by funeral directors, interns, students, guests, and industry representatives. Enjoy our party entertainment with Dueling Pianos!



## Service of Remembrance



**Service of Remembrance**

**Wednesday, June 26, 2024**

**8:15am — 8:50am**

Join us on Wednesday as we take time to honor and remember our colleagues, friends, and family.



## Keynote Address - John O'Leary



**John O'Leary**

At 9 years old John O'Leary survived an accidental explosion in his garage which left him with burns on 100 percent of his body. Now a dozen or so years later John has told his story to millions of people across 49 states and 17 countries. John's mission is to inspire others to harness the power within their own stories and to wake them up from accidental living with his three simple truths.

In March 2016, John published his first book, *On Fire: The 7 Choices to Ignite a Radically Inspired Life*, which became an instant #1 national best-seller. John's second book, *In Awe: Rediscover Your Childlike Wonder to Unleash Inspiration, Meaning and Joy*, was also an instant #1 national bestseller when published in May 2020.

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This presentation delves into effective treatment strategies for embalming Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) cases to safeguard embalmers and the public, emphasizing proper identification and stringent safety protocols.

Additionally, it addresses complications arising from embalming refrigerated cases, such as challenges with firmer tissues and time-sensitive procedures.

### **“Embalming Complicated Cases” - Anthony Fleege**



This presentation offers insights into the historical and emotional aspects of President John F. Kennedy's 1963 state funeral. It explores the collaborative efforts of diverse participants and agencies, emphasizing the significance of precise scheduling and timing. Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the intricate orchestration involved in executing high-profile funerals for sitting presidents.

### **“The President Died Some 38 Minutes Ago” - Duane E. Hills**



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### **“Dealing with Decomposition”**

**Presented by:**

**John T. Hill**

**Sponsored by:**

**Medxwaste**

## Wednesday Speakers



**This presentation offers a comprehensive exploration of embalming techniques tailored for individuals who have undergone significant decomposition. Through addressing common concerns and misconceptions, attendees gain confidence in presenting decomposed cases for viewing while highlighting the dangers of improper embalming. By mastering these techniques, funeral professionals can make a profound difference in serving grieving families, providing closure and peace of mind during difficult times.**

**“Dealing with Decomposition” - John T. Hill**



**Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Continuing Education (CE) requirement to renew licenses issued by IDFPR beginning January 1, 2020.**

**A law passed in 2019 requires individuals with licenses issued by IDFPR that require CE to renew their licenses also complete 1 hour of CE on the topic of sexual harassment prevention training.**

**“Sexual Harassment Prevention Training” - Deborah McPhee**



**The presentation provides a comprehensive overview of Mortuary Law, focusing on the crucial aspects of liability insurance and legal pitfalls for funeral directors. Attendees will gain insights into the nuances of selecting a Commercial General Liability (CGL) policy, ensuring a more informed approach to safeguarding their businesses and clients.**

**“Mortuary Law for the Modern Funeral Director” - Michael Sharkey**



## IFDA Mobile APP

### Download the IFDA Mobile App from your favorite App Store!

Get the most from your convention experience with the mobile IFDA App! You will find features like daily schedules, speaker information, attendee networking, exhibitor details, local area information and more. The App will also be used to track your continuing education hours with a unique QR code that will be scanned after each session.

Search IFDA in your App store. Accessing the convention App is easy. Just use the unique email you used to register for the Convention to sign in. No password required! We will always be on-hand to help you get started, should you need help. Note: there may be a delay between the time you register and when you have access to the App. Communication will be sent out when the App is available for download.



### THANK YOU

### To the Continuing Education Session Sponsors





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This program offers a must have certification for everyone offering cremation to the families they serve. Whether you currently own or operate a crematory, are thinking of opening one, or want to evaluate a third-party crematory, this training is necessary for your success.

### SIU Certified Crematory Operator Training

Presented by:

Robert Broomfield M.S. Ed.  
With Guest Speaker Anthony  
Fleege M.B.A.

Monday, June 24, 2024

Southern Illinois University

1365 Douglas Drive

Carbondale, Illinois 62901

Parking Passes will be Provided to Registered  
Participants

Lunch will be provided

On Site Crematory

We will be utilizing both classroom and  
crematory facilities for training. Casual dress is  
recommended as we will be cremating a cadaver  
and going through each step of the process.

CCO training during the 2024 IFDA Annual Convention  
is being offered for 7 hours of funeral directing continuing  
education credit.

**\*Registration: send an email to:  
[msfsceu@siu.edu](mailto:msfsceu@siu.edu) requesting a  
registration form.**

American Coach Sales

ASD—Answering Service for Directors

Baldauff Family Funeral Home

Carl Sandberg College

CFL Pre-Need

Chicago Cremation Supplies

Compassion Funeral Service

Contemporary Concepts, Inc

Cooperative Funeral Fund, Inc  
Cutco

The Dodge Company

ELCO Mutual Life & Annuity

Express Funeral Funding

Federated Insurance

Futura Funeral Trust

MedxWaste

The Messenger Co.

Mid-America College of Funeral Service

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NFDA

Pekin Life Insurance Company

PFA Tax and Accounting Professionals

Precoa

Premier Preneed Marketing

Riviera Tailors, Ltd.

United Heritage Life Insurance Company

Urns Etc. Inc.

Wellabe/Great Western Insurance Company

Wilbert Vault Companies of Illinois

Worsham College of Mortuary Science



## Registration Information

### Fee Structure

Our **registration fee structure** allows you to pay one fee to attend both days or any single day of the Convention. Multi-day registration includes all social events and educational programs for every day of the Convention. Single-day registration includes all educational programs and all social events offered for the day on which you register unless otherwise stated. SIU CCO program not included in registration fees.

### Refund Policy

All requests to cancel must be made in writing to IFDA by emailing [info@ifda.org](mailto:info@ifda.org). Your registration can be cancelled at any time before June 17, 2024 for a full refund without any penalties. This policy is in place for the 2024 IFDA Annual Convention only. No refunds or cancellations will be issued after June 17, 2024. No-shows will not receive a refund.

All refunds will be processed after the 2024 IFDA Annual Convention. Registration may not be transferred to another attendee. Registration may not be transferred to any future IFDA events.

### Liability Waiver

By registering for the IFDA Convention, you agree and acknowledge that you are participating in IFDA events and activities on your own free and intentional will. You acknowledge this freely and knowingly and that you are, as a result, able to participate in IFDA Convention events and hereby assume responsibility for your own well-being. **This acknowledgement includes your guest(s)' participation in any events.**

### Attendee List

By registering for the Convention, you acknowledge that your contact information will be included on the attendee list made available to all meeting registrants. If you do not want your contact information included in convention materials, please initial to opt-out from attendee list on the registration form or contact IFDA at 217-525-2000.

### Photography Waiver

By registering for this event, you consent that photos and videos of you at the event may be published in print or posted online in online photo albums; on photo/video-sharing sites such as YouTube; on social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram; and in other web-based media at the sole discretion of IFDA.

### Americans with Disabilities Act

IFDA only uses facilities that are in compliance with the ADA. If you require special assistance while attending the Convention, please visit the IFDA Registration Desk.

Thank you for supporting  
IFDA—we look forward  
to seeing you in June.

Game On!



## Registration Form—Only One Licensed Funeral Director per Form

Please print clearly and fill out the form COMPLETELY.

First Name	Last Name	Phone
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License Number	Unique Email Address (Required)
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Firm Name
-----------

Address	City	State	Zip
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☐ Please Check here if you have any ADA needs. Please Specify: \_\_\_\_\_

By registering for the Convention, you acknowledge that your contact information will be included on the attendee list made available to all meeting registrants. If

### I would like to register for the following:

IFDA Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Day \$225 <del>\$175</del>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday \$200 <del>\$150</del>
Licensed Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Day \$540 <del>\$490</del>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday \$315 <del>\$265</del>
Non-Licensed Guest	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Day \$200 <del>\$150</del>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday \$150 <del>\$100</del>
Child	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Day \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday \$0
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Day \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday \$0
Licensed Intern	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-Day \$0	<input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday OR	<input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday \$0

Discounted rates apply  
through May 31, 2024.

Better Late Than Never price applies to all registrations received after close of business May 31st. After June 10th, registrations will be on-site only and accepted on a space-available basis.

### Please indicate the meal functions you plan to attend:

<input type="checkbox"/> Early Arrival Meet & Greet (6/24)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wine & Whiskey Tour \$55 (6/24)
<input type="checkbox"/> Member Appreciation Party (6/25)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golf Outing \$70 (6/24)	

### Is this your first year being licensed for:

<input type="checkbox"/> 40 years	<input type="checkbox"/> 50 years
<input type="checkbox"/> 60 years	

How many unlicensed guests will be attending with you? \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the name(s) of your guest(s):

By submitting this registration form, you agree and accept the Liability and Photography Waiver listed as part of the registration brochure.

PAYMENT			Check Enclosed <input type="checkbox"/>	Credit Card: <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MC <input type="checkbox"/> AE <input type="checkbox"/> Discover
			Amount Due:	Return To: IFDA 3 Lawrence Square, Suite 2 Springfield, IL 62704
Credit Card #	EXP:	CVV:		
Cardholder Signature				

2024 GAME ON

# IFDA ANNUAL CONVENTION

🎲 JUNE 24–26, 2024

WALKERS BLUFF CASINO | CARTERVILLE, IL

