



SmokeSignalsII

Smoke Signals is a Publication of the Kentucky Firefighters Association

NEW SAFETY HOUSE FOR GREEN RIVER

The Green River Firefighters Association has taken delivery of a new mobile Safety House. The fund raising for the Safety House was a long term project, with the new unit being delivered almost three years to the day from the initiation of the project. The Safety House is a 29' unit produced by Surrey.

The Green River Firefighters Association is an organization of 69 fire departments serving eight counties.

The Safety House will be used to teach more than just fire safety, as the Association begins to teach safety from all hazards. This follows the lead of the Kentucky Firefighters Association with the Risk Watch Program, which addresses all hazards.

Severe Weather is a major concern in Western Kentucky, from storms with heavy lighting to tornadoes. The new Safety House has a Storm Awareness package that uses a sound system, strobe lights, and other resources to simulate different types of storm events.

The new house is a single level unit which will allow safety education to be delivered to adults as well as children. This allows the Association to address the USFA priorities of both children under 14 and adults over 65. The single level still has the same components of the traditional two level, including kitchen, living room and bedroom.

The Safety House cost just under \$35,000. The Association received a 2002 USFA Fire Prevention Grant award in the amount of \$20,000 and raised the additional \$15,000 through donations.

The Association will continue to operate their original Safety House, which was purchased in 1998. This unit has been highly successful and continues to be on the road on a weekly basis. Having two units will allow the Association to better serve the 69 member fire departments and the communities they serve.

Both the existing and new Safety Houses will be stationed at the Area 3 Training Center in Calhoun. The State Fire Rescue Training Staff coordinates scheduling of the Safety Houses. Robin Long places her magic touch on the scheduling process. Training of fire department personnel on the use of both safety houses is a joint effort between Association personnel and Area 3 Fire Rescue Training staff.

As part of the new Safety House being placed in to service, the Green River Association's tow vehicle, a 1984 International truck, has received new paint courtesy of a local auto body collision center. New gold leaf lettering finished out the new look. This truck is funded by the Association and operates side by side with the Area 3 Fire Rescue Training truck. The Green River truck carries a three bottle cascade system which becomes beneficial when it is towing the burn trailer or smoke maze trailer.

Many Association personnel have been involved in the Safety House project. The current officers of the Association include President Harvey Henderson, Daviess County FD; 1st Vice President Robert Cooper, Thruston Philpot FD; 2nd Vice President Danny Froehlich, Owensboro FD; Secretary George Caskey, Central City FD; and Treasurer Pat Thompson, Airport Sorgho FD.

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President Dale Harshbarger

Greetings once again fellow brothers and sisters of the Kentucky Firefighters Association. I hope this issue of "**Smoke Signals II**" finds you and your family doing well. As we begin another winter season of cold and dreary weather, I hope that the upcoming holidays will brighten your spirits as we wish you and your family happy holidays.

It is also that time of year that the KFA will be diligently working for you, the membership. Sylvan Smith and Gerald Stewart have already begun to meet with our friends in Frankfort.

Sylvan has assembled an email list that he sends out with the legislative actions and the action that is needed by the membership. If you are not on that list and wish to be, please contact Sylvan at ssmithky1@aol.com and he will be delighted to include you on that list. I would also like to remind each of you that when legislative issues need action and our legislators need to be contacted we must make our voice heard as one.

Sylvan and I have had the good fortune of traveling to various association meetings. We have heard your concerns and I can assure you that we will do everything in our power for what is most beneficial and advantageous for the Kentucky Fire Service. We would like to continue meeting folks and attending regional association meetings. If the association president or regional director could send either Sylvan or I your meeting schedule, we will try and work it into ours.

On another note, by the time the legislative session rolls around, the Commonwealth will also have a new governor. We encourage you to get to know the new governor and his staff and invite them out to your regional association meetings as well as keeping them informed about the important legislative issues facing the fire and EMS services of our great state.

The KFA membership will soon see some very positive and upbeat programs coming your way. First we are excited about some of the future changes regarding this publication. In January 2004 Mrs. Melanie Hillard will assume the responsibility of the KFA web site and Smoke Signals publication. Melanie is a very talented young lady with a

vision and technical purpose in communicating our message to the membership. Melanie will have some big shoes to fill and we believe that she is up to the challenge.

Partially putting the cart before the horse, it should be noted that Mrs. Hillard will take over a project that has been managed by our very good friend Woody Will. Woody has advised the Executive Board that he would like to retire from the management of the web site and **Smoke Signals II** by the end of the year. On behalf of the Executive Board and the KFA membership we applaud you Mr. Will for your efforts, hard work and the love and inspiration you have given each of us. Your contributions will certainly be missed but not forgotten.

In closing, we are taking and making reservations for the 2004 conference in Northern Kentucky. The Northern Kentucky team has an awesome task ahead of them and they are very capable of making your visit to Northern Kentucky a pleasant one.

The next KFA Executive Board meeting will take place at the Green River Officers School in Owensboro. This meeting is an open meeting and we invite each of you to join us and hear the committee reports of the hard work the committee members have been carrying out.

Until then, Take care and please, BE SAFE!

Yours in Service

Dale A. Harshbarger, President



KY FIRE COMMISSION

Ronnie Day, Director

It's time once again for State Aid, please make sure that you have your proper documentation in to the office, if you are doubt please contact Jean Casey at 1-800-782-6823. Also if you have a private loan please let Jean know.

Our phone number is still 1-800-782-6823 however our extensions have changed, Ronnie Day 63478, Steve Calhoun 63479, Wayne Mullannix 63180, Sherry Spradling 63472, Mary Adams 63475, Jean Casey 63476, Betsy Watkins 63480, Vicki McDonald 63481.

We want to welcome a new staff member to our team, Betsy Watkins. Betsy is the Business Affairs Assistant.

We will be sending out updates for the Fire Commission Red book. Please be looking for these in the near future, if you need a red book please let us know.



Treasurer's Notes

by Terry Keller

Greetings everyone. Hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and are looking forward to a Mary Christmas and a well deserved New Year.

Dues have been coming in slow. A second mailing will be done the first of the new year. Each Vice President is asked to contact the directors in their area to encourage departments to join the state association. I know that for some departments \$75.00 is a lot of money, but the benefits that the department receives from these dues outweigh the expense. Firefighters must convince their department to get involved. The state association can only do what the membership asks.

Firefighters must be heard in Frankfort. Our professional and volunteer status cannot stay status quo. Smitty and Gerald will only be able to do so much. It will take all of us talking to our senators and representatives so our voices are heard. Even if you only say "Hi" when you see them at home, they will remember you as a firefighter. If you do talk to one of them, let Smitty and Gerald know.

The state will have elected a new governor this month. Our new governor must be reminded of the needs of the fire/EMS service. Our service needs funding to train our people and update equipment. No longer can we in the fire service stand by and not have our programs funded.

The Executive Board along with the Fire Commission must see that all departments training records are in order, so that every department qualifies for state aid and incentive pay. Every fire department should take advantage of the training KCTCS provides and their local regional fire schools. Support your local fire and EMS seminars.

Should your department have any questions or concerns give your vice president a call, or E-Mail them. The only way for the Executive Board to know of your concerns between conferences or E-Board meetings is a phone call or E-Mail. The upcoming Executive Board meeting in February will be a full committee Chairman and Executive Board meeting. Tell us your concerns. Until then, stay safe.

Terry Keller, Treasurer

REGIONAL EMBERS



Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association

Steven Kyle, President

Greetings from "Far Western Kentucky" and the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association. We hope that everyone had a wonderful & bountiful Thanksgiving. We send our best wishes to the entire Kentucky Fire Service for a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year in 2004. We would take this opportunity to remind you to remember those that are less fortunate during this holiday season. Do not assume that all is well within your community just because most of us are blessed with wealth and are prosperous beyond our means. Remember that wealth is not always associated with having lots of money. In my opinion, being wealthy includes having a wonderful family with a good wife and being blessed with children; having good health; enjoying good friends during the entire year; having a job with a paycheck; having a roof over your head and food on the table; having clothes to wear; living in a free and God fearing land. The list goes on and on and on. We really are blessed beyond our means.

The JPFA Bi Monthly meeting and election of officers was conducted on Wednesday, November 5, 2003 at the Symsonia Fire Department in Symsonia, Kentucky. The men and women at the Symsonia Fire Department pulled out all of the stops to make this a meeting to remember. There was enough delicious food to feed the entire fire service. These personnel know how to prepare a feast and it is evident that they enjoy every minute of it. It is also evident that they enjoy eating! Thanks to Chief Lynn Howell, JPFA President Karen Freeman and all of the Symsonia personnel for their efforts and for inviting the JPFA to their house. If you missed this meeting, it was definitely your loss. And if you ever again get an invitation to eat with the Symsonia Fire Department, do not pass it up.

State Fire Rescue Training Area One Coordinator Charlie Lot was in attendance and updated the group on upcoming events in our area and across the state. As always we welcome Charlie to our meetings and appreciate his attendance. Charlie and SFRT are an integral part of the JPFA.

'Regional Embers' continued . . .

Treasurer Beverly Brown presented her report in a new format that is extremely detailed and much easier to comprehend. The JPFA appreciates her efforts and her dedication to keeping our finances straight. Thanks Beverly!

The election of officers for the 2003-2004 year was conducted with the following results:

President	Steven Kyle	Paducah FD
1st VP	Lynn Howell	Symsonia FD
2nd VP	Deb Hartz	Fulton FD
Sec.	Teresa Gough	Clear Springs
Treasurer	Beverly Brown	Symsonia FD
Sgt. at Arms	Luther Ray	Symsonia FD
PIO	Jim Hartz	Fulton FD

Congratulations to all of these personnel on their selection as officers of the JPFA. They deserve and will need the help and support of every member of every department in the JPFA. Good Luck to this excellent slate of officers.

Out going JPFA President Karen Freeman, of the Symsonia Fire Department, was presented a plaque for her dedication and service during the year. New JPFA President, Steven Kyle, of the Paducah Fire Department, made the presentation.

The next JPFA meeting is scheduled for January 6th, 2004 at the Hickman Fire Department in Hickman, Kentucky. Mark this date on your 2004 calendar now and plan on being in attendance at this meeting on the banks of the mighty Mississippi River.

Congratulations are in order for two Fire Departments in "Far Western Kentucky". Both departments have received notification that they will receive grants from the Federal Fire Act Grant Program as of November 6, 2003. In the twentieth round, Chief Mike Powers and the Viola Fire Department will receive \$63,926.00 for Firefighter Operations and Firefighter Safety. In round twenty-one, Chief Jerrial McKenzie and the Water Valley Fire Department will receive \$58,000.00 for Firefighter Operations and Firefighter Safety. Congratulations to Chief Powers and Chief McKenzie and all of their personnel on being selected to receive these much-needed

grants. Rest assured that the funds will be put to good use in both of these departments.

The Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association is on line at www.jpfake.com. The web site is still under construction and is not complete but we are working on it. (I have had a lot of help.) From my perspective it may never be complete. This is my first stab at building a web site and I learn something each and every time I open the site. . Usually I learn what not to do. I have a completely new insight on web sites and tremendous respect for anyone that produces one of these animals. Our goal for this site is to get current and informative information out to all of the departments in the JPFA. We invite you to visit our site often.

The JPFA Annual Fire School is scheduled for April 3rd & 4th, 2004 at Kentucky Dam Village State Park in Gilbertsville, Kentucky. Mark this date on your calendar now and make plans to attend. Watch the JPFA web site at www.jpfake.com and click on **FIRE SCHOOL** for additional information as it becomes available.

Last, but certainly not least, we would ask that you remember all of our service personnel and their families during the holiday season. Many of our military personnel have arrived back home and we are grateful for their safe return. Numerous others are still in Iraq and various other theaters around the world, facing the constant threat of danger on a daily basis. Countless other personnel and their families are facing the prospect of mobilization in the coming months. Many families are facing the holiday season without loved ones that have lost their lives protecting these United States. Keep all of these personnel and their families in your prayers. Be ever cognizant of their needs and provide help and support in any manner that you can.

REMEMBER 911 – WAVE THAT AMERICAN FLAG GOD BLESS AMERICA – REPEAT THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE PERSONNEL

Paul S. Billings

We Americans of today, together with our allies, are passing through a period of supreme test. It is a test of our courage - of our resolve - of our wisdom - of our essential democracy.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

'Regional Embers' continued on next page

*'Regional Embers' continued . . .***Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association**

Bill Berkle - President

Hello from Northern Kentucky, as 2003 is quickly coming to a close, Chief Dale Harshbarger, President of KFA and his conference committee are busy preparing for the 2004 Conference which will be held in Northern Kentucky this year. We are confident our members and their families will enjoy visiting the Greater Cincinnati Area with many exciting things to do and see.

On October 11th the third Memorial Mass for the victims of 9-11 and all fallen firefighter and emergency workers was held at Mother of God Church in Covington. It was a moving experience for all who attended, special thanks to Mike Fronimos for heading up this special program.

What a beautiful day in Frankfort for our annual Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service which I felt was well attended and a most fitting tribute to our brave comrades. I was particularly impressed with the representation from the families and the dignitaries who attended and spoke so elegantly.

Congratulations to the Women and Men of the Hebron Fire Dept who were awarded the Firehouse of the Year Award for 2003 from Gold Star Chili. Hebron received this award from Eighteen nominees from the Greater Cincinnati Area at a Luncheon held at Union Terminal in Cincinnati on October 24th. Special congratulations to Public Educator Micheal Fronimos and Fire Chief Dale Harshbarger (KFA President).

The Fire Departments from Northern Kentucky have completed a very successful Fire Prevention Month Program with many Open Houses, School Programs, Demonstrations at local shopping centers and community centers. We are confident our communities will be safer and better prepared against any emergency thanks to these life saving programs.

We want to wish a very special Holiday Greeting to all our Friends, Comrades and Emergency Service Personnel throughout all of Kentucky. Merry Christmas and may 2004 bring all of us the best it can bring. GOD BLESS! BE SAFE!

Vice President

Joseph Stambush**Dixie Firefighters Association**

Mike Mather – President

article by Woody Will

On October 23 the Dixie held its annual Memorial Service and Banquet for its membership. The purpose for this event is to remember those who have served in the past and honor those who have just begun their service. The remembrance portion of the program is held at the memorial in front of the Bowen Training Center. All the names of members of local departments who have passed on are read and the bell tolls for each department. When this concludes everyone moves inside for a fantastic steak meal and fellowship. At the conclusion of the meal the names of all of the new members who have become certified within the last year are read and they are given a certificate of achievement. This year the certificates were handed out by Senator Virgil Moore and Representative Jimmy Lee. We were also able to pull off a surprise to one of our beloved friends. Otto Mock was on hand to give his son Ben his certificate but while we had him front and center stage the Dixie presented him with a life time achievement award of a Officer's Speaking Bugle for his contribution of training he has given to the departments in service area 5. A grand evening was had by all.

Dixie Firefighters' KFA Director

Michael E. Hulsey

The Dixie Association wishes to thank Mr. Woodrow Will on the fine job he has done with this Newsletter. Mr. Will has produced a quality piece of work ever since he took over the task of editor of the Newsletter. You will be surely missed.

While I have always believed that there are many people that can do whatever job is required, it is going to be very hard to replace Mr. Will. Woodrow has worked diligently on the Smoke Signals for several years; in fact I believe he and a small core group resurrected the journal.

Knowing Mr. Will I believe that he will make himself available to help whoever takes over, in keeping the Smoke Signals a professional and quality piece of work.

With Mr. Will's departure all KFA members should heed the signal. In the past year Bryant Styles

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'Regional Embers' continued . . .

and now Woodrow Will have stepped down from their duties with the KFA. The membership needs to realize that the doers of the KFA are getting older and that we must find some energized young people to take over. There is someone out there that can do every job, sometimes we have to give gentle pushes for them to realize it, and then we must step back and let them do their job.

Michael E. Hulsey, Director Dixie FF Assn.

Green River Firefighters Association

Harvey Henderson, President

Greetings to everyone from the Green River Association.

As with most of you, things have been busy here in the Green River Area. Several of our member departments have received USFA/ FEMA Fire Grants and we congratulate the other departments in Kentucky that have received grants. We must all continue to emphasize to our leaders in Washington the importance of this program.

The Webster County Firefighters held their Fire School on the Weekend of October 3rd and 4th. The Webster County High School at Dixon is the site for this school. We thank the departments that provided apparatus and equipment for the school and the leadership of the Webster County Association for coordinating the School.

Our neighbors to the west, the Pennyrile Association and Area 2 Fire Rescue Training provided an excellent school the first weekend of October. Area 3 was pleased to be involved with Area 3 Instructor Leon Boarman conducting one of the larger classes.

Thanks to Area 13, Greg Gray and others that were involved in hosting the 2nd Annual Fire and EMS Instructors Weekend in London. We believe this program will grow just as the Officers School has grown. Two Area 3 instructors, Danny Froehlich and Rick Cox, served as instructors at the School.

We are beginning the process of implementing the CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) program in our Area. Two Train-The-Trainer programs were held, one in Owensboro and one in Henderson, with both being well attended. A CERT community class is already underway in Owensboro.

This program is becoming another good partnership between our fire departments and Kentucky Emergency Management. We finished our first Level I Instructor Methodology Course on November 15th.

We hope everyone is making plans to attend the 2004 Officers School. We thank all those agencies, organizations and individuals that are providing help in the organizing and planning of the School. The Officers School will be held at the Executive Inn Rivermont in Owensboro on February 27-28-29. The School will not be a success without you being with us!

We hope everyone has a great holiday season and we look forward to seeing you next year!

Harvey Henderson, President

**Chaplain's Corner****The Bumps are What You Climb On**

I have a devotional book by Warren Wiersbe with this title that I have really enjoyed down through the years. In my life I have seen a lot of bumps in people's lives. The bumps are the losses of special people, the heartache of a child gone awry, or the consequences of our own foolish choices. There are bumps when we have seemed to fail at some noble task. Whatever it is or has been in your life that has caused a "jar" or a "jolt" in your apple cart, it doesn't have to upset the apple cart to the extent that you can't recover. The bumps are what you climb on.

You know all of us have some kind of bump that was caused by our own foolishness. We have made some pretty bad choices and sometimes it is hard to recover. People seem to want to keep us "on the hook" and always guilty or condemned – until **they** are in the same or similar situation. One of satans favorite tools is to try to keep us "on the hook". He never wants us to forget what we have done. He wants to hold it over our heads and even beat us with it if he can. Folks we need to understand that our Heavenly Father is not this way at all.

A friend shared this little story with me that he received in an e-mail.

There was a little boy visiting his grandparent on their farm. He was given a slingshot to play with – out in the woods. He practiced in the woods, but

'Chaplin's Corner' continued on next page

'Chaplin's Corner' continued . . .

could never hit the target. Getting a little discouraged, he headed back to dinner.

As he was walking back, he saw Grandma's pet duck. Just out of impulse, he let the slingshot fly, hit the duck square in the head, and killed it. He was shocked and grieved. In a panic, he hid the dead duck in the woodpile, only to see his sister watching. Diane had seen it all, but she said nothing.

After lunch the next day Grandma said, "Diane, let's wash the dishes," But Diane said, "grandma, Johnny told me he wanted to help in the kitchen. "Then she whispered to him, "Remember the duck?" So Johnny did the dishes.

Later that day, Grandpa asked the children if they wanted to go fishing and Grandma said, "I'm sorry but I need Diane to help make supper." Diane just smiled and said, "Well that's OK because Johnny told me he wanted to help." She whispered again, "Remember the duck?" So Diane went fishing and Johnny stayed to help.

After several days of Johnny doing both his chores and Dianes, he finally couldn't stand it any longer. He came to Grandma and confessed that he had killed the duck. Grandma knelt down gave him a hug and said, "Sweetheart, I know. You see, I was standing at the window and I saw the whole thing. But because I love you, I forgave you. I was just wondering how long you would let Diane make a slave of you."

That's how it is with our Heavenly Father. Because He loves us, He forgives us. He is just waiting for us to repent and to confess to Him and get on with the life that He has given us. We are to learn from our mistakes (sins) and failures and climb to higher places.

Whatever is in your past, whatever you have done that the devil or others keeps throwing up in your face (lying, debt, fear, hatred, anger, unforgiveness, bitterness, unfaithfulness, sexual sins, etc) whatever it is, you need to know that God was standing at the window and saw the whole thing. He has seen your whole life. He just wants you to know that He loves you and that you are forgiven. He's just wondering how long you will let the devil make a slave of you.

When you turn from your sin and ask God to forgive you, He not only forgives but He forgets. And if you are holding someone else condemned because of their past, Jesus says to you, "Judge not, that ye

be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure you judged, you will be judged likewise. Why do you look at the stick in your brothers eye when you have a log in yours?' Matthew 7:1-3.

The Bumps are What you Climb On. We all got bumps. Let's climb together.

Stewart Dawson, Chaplain

Lexington Division of Fire

Special Event

Central Kentucky Firefighter Competition

The proceeds from this event will go to help two departments purchase updated trucks.

When: Saturday April 24, 2004

**Where: Bourbon County Fairgrounds
Paris, Kentucky**

Team Entry Fee: \$150.00 due by February 15

Teams consist of 5 members from the same department. 50 teams will be accepted. Competition consists of Stair Climb w/Hotel Pack, Hose Hoist, Forcible Entry, Hose Advance, and Victim Rescue. Each team will receive an event T-Shirt, evening meal, goodie bag, trophies, raffles will be held and door prizes will be awarded after the pig roast.

Other Items of Interest

Farm & Home Safety Program
Kentucky Department of Ag
Bourbon County Fair Clowns
Bullard Educational Program/Thermal Imagers
Smoke House/Sparky the Fire Dog
Fire/EMS Vendors
Color Guard
Bagpipes & Drum Corp
Antique Fire Trucks
New Apparatus Displays

For more information contact Vicki Fryman Event Coordinator at 800-444-3473 from 7 AM - 3:30 PM. After 4 PM 859-987-1758

When we are in need of wisdom

In the swift rush of great events, we find ourselves groping to know the full sense and meaning of these times in which we live. In our quest of understanding, we beseech God's guidance.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

I would like to submit to the Smoke Signal a few thoughts in appreciation for my inclusion as an inductee in the first "KFA HALL OF FAME." Certainly I can think of many whom have contributed to the fire service in manners that would dwarf mine. I would certainly identify the other recipients in that category.

There are many highlights for me in my career and I would not take the space here to identify them all and I probably would leave something or someone out. However, becoming a member of Paducah Fire Department facilitated everything else that followed and that certainly is a highlight worth mentioning. Also, my tenure with Kentucky Fire/Rescue Training was a tremendous highlight. That was the avenue that gave me an opportunity to associate with fire and EMS folk across the state.

Kentucky Fire/Rescue Training has had many Directors and Coordinators and all have done a splendid job. I think that we made tremendous gains under Steve Calhoun because of the solid association he welded with the KFA, Fire Commission, and the people in upper levels of KCTCS. But most of all the manner in which he interacted with the coordinators and their response to his leadership. So that would make his coming to KFRT a recognizable highlight.

The years I spent with The Kentucky Professional Firefighters, and Kentucky Firefighters Association, Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association, and the Kentucky EMT Instructors Association in some leadership role, are on the list of greater highlights of my career.

I want to thank the Gerald Stewarts, Karen Freeman's, and Charlie Shaw's, and each and every individual with whom I made contact, for the years of wine and roses and the way we were. I have had persons who came my way for only a day and contributed much to the good pleasures of my life. To everyone of you - "Thanks For More Than Just One Day."

Pat Trevathan

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

FIRE FIGHTER I & II PREP REVIEW CLASS SCHEDULED FOR LONDON

State Fire/Rescue Training Area - 13 will be hosting an I.F.S.A.C. Fire Fighter I & Fire Fighter II review class for testing purposes. The first session of review is schedule for Jan. 06, 2004 with additional session scheduled for every Tuesday & Thursday night for the remainder of the month. Session will start at 6:00PM and will be offered at the Training Center in London.

It is recommended that if you plan to take advantage of this review opportunity that you purchase: "Essentials of Fire Fighting" 4th Edition from I.F.S.T.A., along with the Study Guide for 4th Edition of Essentials of Fire Fighting.

For additional information or to register, please feel free to Contact: Coordinator Greg Gray @ 606-862-0318 or 888-234-0100.

Kentucky Officers School

Hosted by Green River FF Assn.
Owensboro KY

This event is the annual premiere Officers School of the Commonwealth. It offers some of the most state-of-the art training available anywhere. This year's school will be held February 27-29 at the Executive Inn in Owensboro. For more information contact the Area 3 office at 888-306-8015. The hotel will fill up quickly so make plans no to attend.

Dixie Fire School

Hosted by the Dixie FF Assn.
Elizabethtown KY

The Dixie Fire School will be held March 5 - 7, 2004 in Elizabethtown. Class sizes are limited on each class and will fill up quickly. In region only early bird registration has already begun. State wide brochures will go out by mid January and this should prove to be a record year in attendance. A new class for the Dixie will be the NFPA 1403 live burn class. This class is not about being in a live burn but about conducting live burns. This class will meet the Fire Commissions new requirement for fire service instructor recertification. Don't miss this opportunity to upgrade your instructor skills.

NEW ARRIVALS**Fairdealing-Olive fire District**

The Fairdealing-Olive Fire Protection District, Marshall County, has taken delivery of a 2003 Central States Fire Apparatus. The unit is mounted on a Freightliner M-2 chassis with a Detroit Diesel MBE-900, 300 H.P. engine and an Allison EVS 3000 transmission. The M-2 cab is constructed of aluminum.

The body is constructed of stainless steel with roll-up compartment doors. The Hale Q-pac pump is supplied by a 1250 gallon UPF Poly Tank. The rear step compartment is equipped with a 10" dump valve. A 2-1/2" direct tank fill is provided on the rear of the body. A 5000 watt Honda generator powers the two 500 watt flood lights and the body mounted 110 volt plugs.

Body lighting, compartment lighting, FMVSS lighting and warning lights are all Weldon products. This was selected to reduce the inventory of replacement parts. The lower warning light package is Weldon's LED lighting system.

The unit is provided with an Akron deck gun and two (2) 1 3/4" cross lays. This allows the unit to perform a dual role as either a tanker or an attack pumper upon arrival at the scene.

Under the direction of Chief John Smith, Fairdealing Olive covers a diverse area from farm land to high value homes and resorts, in the area of Land between the Lakes region.

A love of Country

I therefore believe it is my duty to my Country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

William Tyler Page

**Decorated Soldier Hometown Firefighter**

By Chief Tom Pelle, Campbell Co. FPD 1

In the picture above, the Campbell County Fire District 1 firefighter stands with his hand on the controls of the engine, and looks back over his shoulder at the camera. But wait! That's not the uniform of District 1 he's wearing, and that sure doesn't look like one of District 1's engines!

That's Staff Sergeant Don Chandler, at the time serving in A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, U.S. Army, and the engine is one that he and his squad "liberated" from one of Saddam Hussein's palace complexes in Baghdad. In the "Improvise-Adapt-Overcome" spirit of firefighters everywhere, he's using the engine to provide showers for the troops.

Sergeant Chandler started his fire service career in 1987 as a cadet, and later as a firefighter, with the Silver Grove Volunteer Fire Department, which is now part of Campbell County Fire District 1. He later decided to make the U.S. Army his career, and has been serving for 16 years. While serving in the Army, he remains involved in the fire service by joining the local volunteer department wherever he is stationed. Upon his retirement from the Army, he says he intends to pick back up where he left off, serving at the Silver Grove station, where he visited his firefighting colleagues a couple of weeks ago. He was back home on leave for a few days from his base at Ft. Stewart, GA, where he was sent to recuperate from wounds that he received not long after this photo was taken.

On or about April 7, Chandler was wounded in the arm and leg by grenade fragments. This occurred

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'Chandler' continued . .

when Chandler and his squad were sent to block the movement of an Iraqi column moving Southward from Baghdad. During the operation they came under heavy fire.

Chandler's actions during this fire fight earned him the Purple Heart, but also a Bronze Star with a 'V' for valor.

The citation described how Chandler led his squad to block the enemy column, in the process destroying 12 enemy vehicles. "He continued to hold his position and lead his squad throughout the day from an exposed position" reads the award recommendation. In that battle, Sgt. Chandler directed two fire missions using the mortar platoon, and took out at least 20 enemy soldiers who had taken up positions in a building.

Besides his service in the latest Gulf War, Chandler has served in many other hot spots over the years, including the 1991 Gulf War, in Somalia, and in Afghanistan. In a few years he looks forward to participating in firefights of a different kind.

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National Volunteer Fire Council

Ken Nipper, Director Bryant Stiles, Alternate

Joe Stambush has been named as one of the three persons who will represent the NVFC to the USFA. They will develop the criteria for selecting departments to receive FEMA Fire Prevention Grants.

Of particular note is the fact that Kentucky departments were granted 3 of the 60 John Deere Gators that were presented by United States Smokeless Tobacco Company (USSTC). USSTC program management told me at the Little Rock meeting that they will offer 75 Gators next year. These units are quite expensive and very well equipped. Ask Charlie Shaw.

Also of note is that the NVFC Board budgeted \$25,000.00 to investigate IRS tax law changes that are necessary to offer a national Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP). Administrative costs negate the advantages of LOSAP programs to local departments. A national program could be very beneficial to them in recruiting and retaining members.

The NVFC is heavily involved in the development of the NFPA EMS Guide (NFPA 450) and the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) Core Content Group for the 2010 EMS Curriculum. The NFPA EMS Guide is in the final "Comment" period and has been well received to date.

I still chair the NVFC EMS committee and sit on the bylaws, and WMD/Terrorism committees. As a result I am involved in many of the NVFC activities, so, if anyone has any comments or questions regarding the NVFC, I would appreciate a call or correspondence from them.

Ken Knipper

KFA "Hall of Fame" Committee

Nomination forms for the 2nd class of the KFA "Hall of Fame" will be distributed soon after the first of the year. Look for applications in this newsletter, at the KFA web-page, and in your mail.

Any questions please contact any committee member.



Fireman Joe Says:

It is difficult for me to believe we are closing another year and I wonder where has the time gone and hopefully the time has been used to maximize the efforts of our Fire and Life Safety Programs. I honestly feel our Risk Watch Program is a success to this point, our county teams and the fire departments throughout all of Kentucky have begun this project with great expectations and much success.

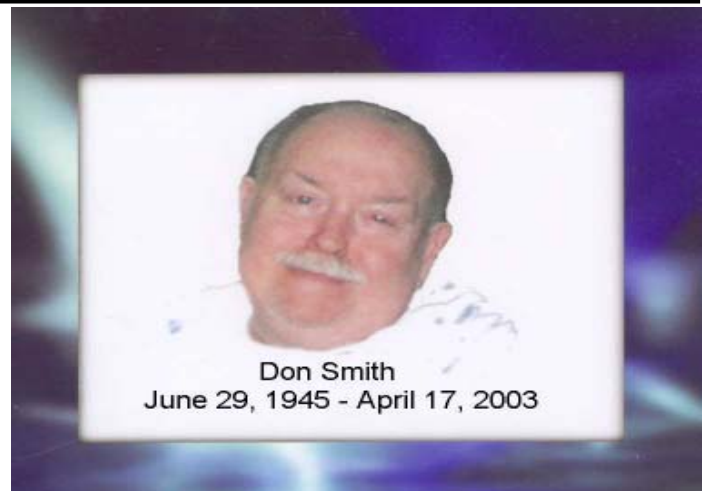
We want to expand the Program and provide assistance for ten counties for the 2004-2005 school year. We will offer enough materials for each county to do twenty classrooms, which includes curriculum and workbooks. We of course will offer technical assistance, workshops, and help guide each county through the beginning process. It is our hope by starting small we can build a strong coalition team, which will expand the classrooms, find resources for materials and advocate aids to supplement the process. I continue to be amazed with how well received Risk Watch has been to our schools and communities. I know many of our fire departments are doing admirable work with fire and life safety training but this program is so comprehensive, not only providing fire but life safety training in all areas of critical growth of our children.

I want to thank my coalition team who has worked so hard to bring Risk Watch to Kentucky. They are constantly looking and working to find ways of obtaining resources and materials for the CMT. We have many outstanding support agencies who have made significant contributions to the project in 2003. Sharon Rengers from Highway Safety Dept Child Safety Seat Program - Support and materials, Bob Douglas, Ky Crime Prevention Coalition - Support and Materials, Safe Kids of Kentucky, Kentucky Fire Commission, Ky Firefighters Assn, Ky Professional FF's, American Red Cross and Ky Injury Prevention Research Center at UK.

We want 2004 to be the big step we take to really bring Risk Watch farther into Kentucky than ever before. Please help make this happen by seeing how and what you can do to make Risk Watch work in your Community.

Of course I want to wish all my brothers and sisters the happiest of Holiday Season, may God continue to bless us and keep us safe!

Fireman Joe



Passing of an Old Friend

By Woody Will

In April of this year the fire service lost a friend and great champion. Don Smith was a friend of mine and did a lot to help departments all over the state. He was one of about 5 people who wrote House Bill 4 that later amended Chapter 75 to add section 400 which made all our nonprofit fire departments in the state legal entities. Now I guess one would say Woody why are you now writing something about Don. It has been 7 months and you have been silent. I was waiting for one of the Jefferson County people who knew him far better than I to say a few words about Don. However, He was my friend and I am proud to remember him. He loved South Dixie Fire Department with a passion. I know that because I would tease him every now and then about various aspects of Jefferson Co. and he would always agree with a lot of kidding but not about South Dixie.

He loved his family and grandchildren greatly and after his retirement spent most of his time loving them. Don will be missed and remembered. Below Don is pictured with Glenn Sharrard accepting money for the WHAS Crusade for Children May 13, 1970.



Keeping you Up-to-Date

by Woody Will

By the time this paper goes to press the hearing on 401 KAR 63:005 Open Burning will have already taken place (November 26, 2003). I will add the changes you may be interested in below.

I bring this up not to panic anyone because I am not sure if this will harm anyone's training program. I bring this up to remind you that someone will need to step forward and keep you informed about changes in KAR and KRS that effect the fire service. I am on EPA's mailing list so I am made aware of possible changes that will have an impact on the fire service. Smitty and Gerald are both talking about getting out of the business of being your watchdog. Believe me there are those in Frankfort who will eat your lunch in a heartbeat if you don't have someone you trust doing it for you. There are only so many dollars to go around do you want some one else taking the money that should go to the fire service and spending it on roads? Get involved, step out and make sure your part of the Commonwealth does not get left behind.

Section 1 Definitions (3) "Fire Training" means the instruction of industrial, public, and private firefighters conducted in accordance with safety standards and procedures as accepted by the Kentucky Fire Commission.

Section 5. Requires that burning debris piles must 2 (a) Have adequate fire lanes to allow access to fire and emergency vehicles and heavy equipment.

Section 8. Procedures for Fire Training. Burning conducted in conjunction with training for public, private and industrial firefighters is subject to the following criteria: (1) All fire training shall be conducted in accordance with safety standards and procedures as accepted by the Kentucky Fire Commission. (2) Any entity intending to conduct fire training shall submit written notification to the local Division of Air Quality regional office a minimum of 15 days prior to the scheduled training. The written notification shall state the location and date of the proposed fire training, the name and contact information for the on-site training coordinator, the goals and objectives of the training, and a brief summary of what is to be taught. No fire training shall take place without the Division for Air Quality's written approval. (3) Any

materials commonly known to contain asbestos shall not be burned unless the entity conducting the fire training can demonstrate that the materials do not contain asbestos. (4) Materials likely to produce hazardous toxic emissions must be removed prior to the fire training event, to the extent practicable, and properly disposed. (5) Entities conducting fire training shall be limited to one burning event related to training per year for every ten firefighters under their supervision. (6) Between May 1 and September 30, fire training shall not be conducted in any counties, or portions of counties, which are, or were previously, designated moderate nonattainment for ozone, or designated, or previously designated, nonattainment for the 8-hour ozone or PM_{2.5} (particulate matter) national ambient air quality standard, pursuant to 401 KAR 51:010. Again I did not provide this information to in any way alarm you but merely to inform you.

2nd Annual Kentucky Fire & E.M.S. Instructor's Weekend a BIG SUCCESS

State Fire/Rescue Training and Kentucky Fire Commission hosted the 2nd Annual Kentucky Fire & E.M.S. Instructor's Weekend in London, Oct. 11th & 12th. With over 200 instructors & instructor candidates taking advantage of this training opportunity.

It was the goal of this educational opportunity to bring fire and emergency service instructors together for a weekend of training that was designed exclusively for them. It was the intent of this training sessions to advance the scope of instruction for all who attended. It provided the necessary tools to keep up with the ever demanding needs and changes for those who are training our frontline defense for, homeland security, firefighting, E.M.T.'s, and all other first responders.

There were 8 classes offered over the weekend, with 2 classes being offered for the very first time in Kentucky as Train the Trainers. The 1403 "Live Fire Training" and Kentucky's very own Emergency Vehicle Operations. I understand that as soon as the E & E Committee and The Fire Commission pass the new curriculum Greg Gray will be mailing out CD's and the instructor manuals. Other class that were offered were, Basic Computers & Intro. to Power

continued on next page . . .

'Big Success' continued . . .

Point, PowerPoint & Delivery Presentation, Teaching to Fire & Emergency Services, I'm an Instructor What's Next, Haz-Mat Operation Practicum, and 40 new instructor candidates gave up back to back weekends to start their pursuit to become a Level I Instructor.

Coordinator Greg Gray would like to say THANKS to Steve Calhoun, Ronnie Day, all the coordinators and all the Fire Commission for their support of this event. A big thank you goes out to Duane Suttles and the AREA - 9 field staff who prepared the meal Saturday evening. If you missed the meal Saturday night, you missed out on the best steak & chicken meal that I've eaten. Thanks to, last but certainly not least, all the dedicated instructors that took another weekend away from your homes and families to try to better yourself as an instructor, which will benefit your department and community.

Plans for the 3rd Annual Kentucky Fire and E.M.S. Instructor's Weekend have already started. If you would like to see a particular class or have any ideas to make it a better weekend you can share them with Greg by calling 888-234-0100 or by e-mailing him at sfrit13@kih.net.

**FEMA SPECIAL REVIEW OF FIRE-FIGHTER TRAINING UNCOVERS WAYS TO REDUCE THE RISK OF TRAGIC OUTCOMES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. - A technical special report on the risks of firefighting training and ways to reduce deaths and injuries is being released by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today. The special report underscores the inherent danger of such training but reiterates the importance of experience gained in real, rather than closely controlled training fires.

"It's important that fire departments train firefighters in as close to actual conditions as possible while also protecting them in the process," said Michael D. Brown, Homeland Security Under Secretary for Emergency Preparedness and Response. "This special report highlights how this challenge can be met by the nation's fire service educators and trainers."

The review, compiled by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), also highlights the importance of following currently accepted procedures and standards to avoid training deaths and injuries and the need for instructors to avoid situations for which the students are not yet prepared.

The challenge is very real. Since 1987, reported training-related injuries have increased by nearly 21 percent. In 2001 alone, almost 7,000 training-related injuries were reported. That year, a firefighter died and two were injured while participating in a live burn training situation.

At the same time, live fire training buildings and simulators fed by propane or natural gas have many built-in safety features but may not provide the same quality of realism as live fire training in acquired structures. The training buildings, for example, fail to teach students to react to the diverse conditions encountered in real fire operations.

In addition, the need to provide training in situations other than fires, such as hazardous material incidents, increases the danger to participants. In 1997, for example, a member of a unit training to respond to a chemical incident was overcome by a nerve agent and needed to be administered an antidote to stop the seizures.

"Safe and effective - but realistic - firefighter training is vital to meet our mission of preserving life and property," said US Fire Administrator R. David Paulison. "This special report reviews training issues, tragic mistakes of the past and determines ways fire-related training can be safer but effective."

Other lessons learned cited in the special report include:

- It is increasingly important that firefighters receive training in fire behavior and extinguishment methods for different types of buildings;
- Modern protective equipment may make life-threatening fire conditions less obvious and firefighters must be trained to recognize the visual and physical clues to impending danger;
- During training, a firefighter's physical stress level should be monitored continuously and departments should consider stronger physical screening programs and long-term health and wellness programs to reduce training-related heart attacks and strokes.
- USFA develops technical reports on selected

'USFA' continued on next page

'USFA' continued . .

major incidents, usually involving multiple deaths or a large loss of property. USFA also prepares periodic special reports to discuss events, drills or new technologies or tactics of interest to the fire service. The focus is on "lessons learned" or new knowledge that underscores ongoing issues in fire service. These reports provide detailed information on the nature of the fire problem in this country for policymakers who decide resource allocations, and within the fire service to improve codes and code enforcement, training, public fire education and building technology. This special report was based on meetings, informal interviews and a study of a wide array of fire training literature.

A copy of the full report can be found at: www.usfa.fema.gov/applications/publications/tr100.shtm

On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages Citizen Corps, the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.

**IFSAAC Report**

by Woody Will

I reported in the October issue about our additional levels of accreditation. I have been getting calls about how the process will work for the new additional levels of certification. We are currently at a basic standstill for issuing additional levels of certification. By the time you read this we will be much closer to issuing the new levels. On December 4th when the Fire Commission meets they will be voting on the new policy manual that will bring all of this new certification process into being. It's kind of like the question which came first the chicken or the egg? I decided to get the process approved by IFSAAC first so that if I had to change a policy because of the way they wanted us to do business I would only have to go before the Fire Commission one time instead of going to the commission then to IFSAAC and then back to the commission for any final changes.

Beginning in January the testing procedures will be changing. The Fire Commission will be sending out a testing schedule for Haz Mat Awareness & Ops as well as Firefighter I & II in early January. It is the commissions intent to have one test in each area of the state as close to a 12 month schedule as is possible. It may take closer to 15 months to get it all in but the goal is to get each area tested as soon as possible.

The new certifications Airport Firefighter, Fire Instructor, Driver Operator Pumper, and Driver Operator Mobile Water Supply will happen as part of a class. The process will be as follows:

Fire Instructor - A firefighter wanting an international certificate must first meet Kentucky requirements (see Fire Commission Web Site) and complete the new 30 hour Instructional Methodology course and all required skill sheets. The local coordinator schedules a written test. Candidates application, skill sheets, and written test answer sheets, and \$15.00 check made out to KCTCS are sent in for grading and processing. The certificates will take between 2 to 4 weeks to be returned to the individual.

Driver Operator Pumper/Mobile Water Supply - A firefighter wanting an international certificate must first meet Kentucky driver requirements and complete the new 12 hour Drivers Training course, complete the take home skill sheet, attend the new 16 hour Pumper Operator course and all required skill sheets. The local coordinator schedules a written test. Candidates application, skill sheets, and written test answer sheets, and \$30.00 check made payable to KCTCS are sent in for grading and processing. The certificates will take between 2 to 4 weeks to be returned to the individual.

Airport Firefighter - This program is still in primary development and will require special location to test. If you are interested in this certification contact me at 888-234-7201.

All in all the certification program is moving along nicely. It is our intent for you to become internationally certified at your own pace, locally available, and requiring as little inconvenience to you as is possible. Future plans are for a needs assessment for international Certification for Ariel Apparatus Operator, Fire Officer, Public Fire Educator, Fire Inspector.



Cooking remains leading cause of home fires, NFPA data show

November 12, 2003 – Year after year, hundreds of people are killed and thousands are injured as a result of one of humankind's most essential and pleasurable activities: cooking. The pursuit of a home-cooked meal remains the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries, according to new data from the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association).

As the holidays bring a heightened emphasis on cooking, the NFPA wants to get the word out that people can enjoy a safe holiday — if they stay at the stove while they're preparing hot food. In six out of seven incidents in a study of home cooking fires, ignition occurred while the cook was out of the kitchen.

In 1999, the latest year for which statistics are available, there were 96,200 home structure fires attributed to cooking equipment, including 1,800 fires confined to a cooking vessel. These fires resulted in 331 civilian deaths, 4,183 civilian injuries, and \$511.3 million in direct property damage. Three out of four home cooking fires involve the range. And two-thirds of the time, according to one study, the fires start within the first 15 minutes of cooking.

"Cooking fires remain one of the toughest problems we face," said John R. Hall Jr., Ph.D., of NFPA's Fire Analysis and Research Division. "We have made less headway in preventing cooking fires than in preventing other kinds of home fires."

Home fires have been declining—but those associated with cooking have been declining at a much slower rate. For example, home cooking fires declined by 29 percent from 1980 to 1999, but home fires in general went down by 49 percent. Deaths from home cooking fires declined 21 percent during that period, but total civilian home fire deaths dropped 44 percent. And while injuries from home cooking fires went down 7 percent in those two decades, total civilian home fire injuries fell 19 percent. A study of 45 unattended-cooking fires in New Zealand, done by the New Zealand Fire Service in 1998, showed that distraction and forgetfulness

were the key reasons why devices intended to warm up food ended up starting a fire. About half the time, the study found, the cook was in another room, typically because he or she forgot that something was cooking or was distracted by children, phone calls, visitors, television or other interruptions. In eight fires, the cook was outside the house. In 14 fires, the cook was off the property (in eight cases having forgotten that something was cooking).

People often try to put out cooking fires on their own, and more than half of non-fatal cooking fire injuries occurred while fighting the fire. (That contrasts with total home fires, in which firefighting is involved in only one-third of non-fatal injuries.) With cooking fires, the safest response is not what may first come to mind. Using a fire extinguisher or applying water risk splattering and spreading the fire. A safer choice is to smother the fire by covering a pan with a lid or closing the oven door.

The NFPA advises these safety steps during cooking:

- ✓ Don't leave cooking food unattended.
- ✓ Roll up sleeves and don't wear loose clothing.
- ✓ Ban children and pets from a three-foot "safe zone" around the stove.
- ✓ Keep pot handles turned in to avoid spills
- ✓ Keep pot holders, dish towels, food packaging and other clutter off the stovetop.
- ✓ Clean cooking equipment; built-up grease can catch fire.

NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating scientifically-based consensus codes and standards, research, training and education. NFPA headquarters is located in Quincy, MA, USA.

Our ancestors established their system of government on morality and religious sentiment. Moral habits, they believed, cannot safely be trusted on any other foundation than religious principle, nor any government be secure which is not supported by moral habits.... Whatever makes men good Christians, makes them good citizens.

- Daniel Webster, at the bicentennial celebration of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock, December 22, 1820

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Kentucky Firefighters Association Membership

Membership in your association is critical to the development of the fire service in this great Commonwealth. Please respond to either this form or the one you will receive in the mail!

If you or your department hasn't taken the time to become a member **What are you waiting for?**

Fill out the application below, enclose a check and mail to:

Terry Keller, 237 Ludford Street, Ludlow KY 41016

KFA Membership Application

Please print clearly and indicate the type of membership by checking the box below

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-mail _____

Department Membership (include check for \$75.00) •

Sustaining Membership (include check for \$150.00) •

Personal Membership (include check for \$25.00) •

Final Farewell

As this issue of **Smoke Signals II** goes to press I must say good-bye to you as a reading audience. I have enjoyed providing this publication to you. If I have helped you in some small way to further your quest to become a better firefighter or person then I have met my objectives. If I can be of service to you in any way please don't hesitate to contact me. I will try to keep most of the information I think you would want on my webpage at www.sfrtarea5.org. I want to thank everyone who helped provide information used in this paper. May God grant our leaders wisdom as they try to lead us in the future. Your Friend *Woody Will*

KFA Smoke Signals II

This is a Publication of The Kentucky Firefighters Association.
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Phone 502-291-4357 or E-Mail at melanie@4-help.org

February issue deadline for submission of articles is *January 10th, 2004*

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