



# SmokeSignalsII

*Smoke Signals is a Publication of the Kentucky Firefighters Association*

## **Fire Act Bill! Kentucky winners to date!**

By Woody Will

As time passes more and more departments strike pay dirt in the race to see which departments become winners in the great Federal Fire Act Grant giveaway. Listed below are winners as of Septembers 16, 2002.

**Fire Act Grants to Kentucky Totals \$2,268,653**

Fire Department	Category	Federal Share
Anderson Co Fire Prot. Dist.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$143,303
Blackberry Vol. Fire Dept. Inc.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$16,621
Buckeye Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$74,136
Calvert City Fire Department	Fire Prevention	\$21,357
Campbell Co Fire District One	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$208,185
Central City Vol. Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$47,790
City of Lewisport - VFD	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$9,000
Coon Creek Vol Fire and Rescue	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$53,370
Cornettsville Fire Department	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$101,065
Dawson Springs VFD	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$29,160
District 3 VFD	Firefighting Vehicle	\$167,400
Eagle/Sawyer Fire Prot. Dist.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$34,236
Falls of Rough VFD	Firefighting Vehicle	\$106,200
Franklin County	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$230,760
Garrison VFD	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$24,138
Grahn Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$51,705
Hyden-Leslie Co	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$34,344
Lotts Creek VFD	Firefighting Vehicle	\$180,000
McCreary Co Fire Pro. District	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$150,760
North Oldham Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$80,305
Orangeburg Vol. Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$40,155
Owensboro Fire Department	Fire Prevention	\$24,444
Salvisa Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$15,300
South Eastern Fire District	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$66,807
Southgate Vol. Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$56,237
Stanley Fire Dept. Inc	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$33,493
Waco Vol. Fire Dept.	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$117,540
Woodbine Fire & Rescu, Inc	Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety	\$150,842
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,268,653</b>

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## From the President

Randy Lawson

Here we GO! As I address you for the first time as your President I promise to be brief. If I may, I'd like to begin by commending Bill Carver and the Barren River Firefighters Association for all their worry, effort and hard work. The conference was great.

At the risk of repeating what I'm sure has been mentioned to you before, please take advantage of the KFA web site. It provides a wealth of information such as who's who in the Executive Board, Committees and Committee Chairpersons, Regional Associations and Regional Directors, meeting minutes, training information, even copies of past Smoke Signals (another priceless information tool). Our web masters and editors are greatly appreciated. They alone are worth what you pay in dues. It seems that we, as always, have a lot of things going on. We deal with legislative issues on a yearly basis now. It is no simple task to look out for the interests of the firefighters of KY with so much activity. The State Government Committee has already begun hearings pertaining to the insurance reform we have hoped would go away. As in the past the KFA will be present and active in fire and emergency service issues. In the meantime get familiar with your legislators. The old adage "there are strength in numbers", is especially true in the fire service community. The conference produced a little reorganization and a couple of new committees for this year. A PAC Committee was established to pursue the establishment of an independent political action committee. A Funding Research Committee was formed to research funding mechanisms available to firefighters in the State of KY. The Hall of Fame Committee will establish criteria and select recipients for induction of individuals annually into the KFA Hall of Fame. Finally, the Ethics Committee will be charged to study the Constitution & By Laws, operation of the KFA as they pertain to membership, election of officers and any other section or article pertinent to the ethical operation of our organization. Ethical, simply referring to our ability to function within the scope of the KFA Preamble and to avoid conflicts of interest. The membership committee was restructured somewhat to

improve effectiveness and track membership efforts. The Vice Presidents and Regional Directors will work more closely with the Regional Associations to recruit non-member departments and to promote active participation of departments that are members. I know I said I'd be brief..... Let me close by stating that I am very proud and honored to serve you. I am anxious about getting things to come together not only at conference time but also from now until then. The Executive Board and myself will work very hard to accommodate the needs of the Kentucky Firefighter. Work with us, while we work for you. Finally, allow me to thank Chief Reckner and the Board of Trustees of the Jeffersontown Fire Department for not only allowing me the latitude to actively participate in the KFA, but also for their support and encouragement Thank you and wish me luck.

*Randy Lawson* President

## Just A Reminder

The KFA will no longer send Smoke Signals to any department that has not paid its dues. Dues are \$75.00 per department per year and are due the first of each year. Dues statements for next year will go out soon. Personal memberships have increased to \$25.00 per person. If you would like a copy of Smoke Signals delivered to your home you must pay a personal membership.

If you did not see any information about your area in this edition it's because no one from your association submitted any!



## FIRE COMMISSION

Walter J. Lage  
Division Director  
State Fire Commission

Three new members have been appointed to the Fire Commission. Judge Denny Noble of Perry County will represent County Judges. Chief John Renn of Shively Fire Department will represent Chiefs of a paid department. Mr. Malcolm Franklin, Executive Director of Kentucky Division of Emergency Management will represent disaster and emergency services. Additionally, Walter Lage has been appointed as the Fire Commission's Executive Director.

The Fire Commission offices have been relocated. **Our telephone numbers, mailing address and e-mail addresses have remained the same.** Our new physical location is 805 –B Newtown Circle, Lexington, Kentucky. Please feel free to stop in and say hello.

All fire departments should have received a print out of their 2002 year-to-date training hours. Please remember that to qualify for state aid, a minimum of 50% of a department's members must be certified and receive 20 hours of training annually and this requirement must be completed annually by December 31.

For those that participate in the incentive program, please remember that in order to receive your incentive funds in a timely manner, your request should be in the Fire Commission office by the 5<sup>th</sup> of each month. Should you fail to submit your request on time, payment for that period may be delayed for several months.

If you are applying for a low interest loan from the Fire Commission, the Loan Committee strongly recommends that you do not commit any funds (down payment) towards any purchase prior to your loan being reviewed and approved by the Loan Committee. A decision on your part to commit funds to a project prior to loan approval will not impact the decision of the Loan Committee. The loan application is being updated and additional information will be required to allow the Loan Committee to better evaluate the applications. Additionally, should a department pay off an existing Fire Commission loan, that department will not be considered for another loan

for a period of 6 months. All loan application information must be received in the Fire Commission office by the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding the month of the Fire Commission meeting. Fire Commission meetings are normally held in even numbered months.

Any correspondence should be sent to:

2750 Research Park Drive- Barn Annex  
P.O. Box 14092  
Lexington, Kentucky 40512-4092

Our telephone numbers are:

1-800-782-6823

Fax – 859-246-3484

Web page address – [www.kctcs.net/kyfirecommission](http://www.kctcs.net/kyfirecommission)

To enter training hours via the internet –  
<http://kyfiretraining.kctcs.net>

## REGIONAL EMBERS



### JACKSON PURCHASE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

**Troy Newcomb President**

Greetings from the JPFA and "Far Western Kentucky". As this article is being written the good folk in Western Kentucky are making preparations to join people from across this great nation of ours in remembering September 11, 2001. And this is as it should be. We must never forget the events and the aftermath of this terrible day in our nations history. There was so much tragedy, so much death and destruction, so many injuries and so many lives shattered that it is almost unbearable to try and remember. But we must remember and we must never forget those that lost their lives. Rather than dwelling on the death and the destruction we should focus on the events that occurred immediately following the tragedy. We should remember the heroic efforts of the firefighters, the police officers, the medical personnel and the extraordinary citizens at ground zero that worked tirelessly in an attempt to ease the pain and suffering of those that were killed and injured. We should remember those in leadership positions that attempted to make some sense

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**'Fire Commission' continued . . .**

out of this tragedy and mounted the initial rescue and recovery operations. We must remember the multitude of Americans, across these United States, that came together as one to pray, donate their money, their time, their efforts and their heartfelt support for all of those involved. And last, but not least, we must continue to support our President and his staff as they strive, through the political upheaval, to ensure that a tragedy of this nature never befalls our great nation again. Surely then this should be the crux of our 9/11 celebration. **GOD BLESS AMERICA**

Congratulations to KFA Past President Bill Carver and all of his support personnel that provided a great conference in Bowling Green, Kentucky. I am sure that everything did not go exactly as planned or as perfectly as these folks would have liked for it too, but they were probably the only ones that knew the difference. On the surface it ran like a well-oiled machine and that is the way it will be remembered. We all had a wonderful time and enjoyed and sincerely appreciated your hospitality. On behalf of all KFA members, thanks again.

Congratulations also to newly elected KFA President Randy Lawson. We wish him the best of luck during his tenure in office and pledge our support to him and his efforts. We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Chief Bill Robbins of the Pineville Fire Department as 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice President of the KFA. (Pending E Board Approval) Chief Robbins will fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Chief Earnest Clark of the London Fire Department.

Congratulations are in order for Chief Troy Newcomb of the Grand Lakes Fire Department in Grand Rivers, Kentucky. Chief Newcomb was elected 4<sup>th</sup>. Vice President of the KFA, representing the West Region, at the conference in Bowling Green. He currently serves as president of the JPFA. I know that Chief Newcomb would want me, on his behalf, to be the first to invite everyone to mark your calendars now and plan on being in attendance at the KFA conference in the West Region in 2007.

Congratulations are in order to the Calvert City and Owensboro Fire Departments in the West Region on being selected to receive Federal Fire Grants. Calvert City was selected in the first round and Owensboro was selected in the third round. Chief

Fred Ross of the Calvert City Fire Department indicated that the \$21,000.00 grant that his department received would be used for fire prevention. The Calvert City Fire Department plans to install a fire extinguisher and a smoke detector in every home in Calvert City that would like to have these items. Chief Ross said that the members of the volunteer fire department would not only deliver the extinguishers and detectors to the residence but also will install the units and provide the family members with instruction on the use and care of these items. That is a tall order for a volunteer fire department. However, Chief Ross says that the members of his department are committed to this operation and will see it through.

Remember to mark your calendars now for the JPFA Annual Fire School to be conducted March 22<sup>nd</sup>. & 23<sup>rd</sup>., 2003 at Kentucky Dam Village State Park in Gilbertsville, Kentucky. Kentucky Dam Village State Park is located 21 miles Southeast of Paducah, Kentucky just off of I-24. You will not want to miss this school!



Photo by Glen Ivey - The Fulton Leader - Fulton Ky

**NEAR TRADGEY AVERTED****By the Grace of God**

Friday, August 30, 2002 at approximately 1100 hours the Fulton Fire Department responded to a structure fire at the C & E Bar on Fourth Street in Fulton, Kentucky. The rear of the structure was fully involved on arrival. The first in engine was directed to the East side of the structure to protect a 500-gallon propane tank that was within ten feet of the building. The ladder truck was assigned to the South West corner of the structure to begin the firefight.

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*'Regional Embers' continued . . .*

The ladder truck was set up and Firefighter Deb Hartz donned her protective gear, including her SCBA and ascended the ladder to operate the ladder pipe. Deb Hartz got into position and signaled the pump operator to charge the three-inch line to the ladder pipe. As the line was charged, the ladder pipe came loose from the tip of the ladder and knocked Deb off. She fell 43 feet to the concrete driveway below. Firefighter/EMT's on the scene rushed to her aid immediately. The initial assessment revealed that she was unconscious and unresponsive but had a pulse and was breathing. During the process of stabilization with C collar, long back board and spider straps Deb regained consciousness. She was able to respond to verbal stimuli but was disoriented. She did realize that she was at the fire scene and gave the Firefighter/EMT's attending her hell because they had her restrained and would not permit her to continue the firefight.

Deb was transported to Parkway Regional Hospital in Fulton where she continued to improve. Test and x-rays revealed that she suffered a fractured pelvis, a chip fracture of the sternum, two broken teeth, a concussion, multiple contusions, a 4" laceration to the inside of her left knee and a fracture of the left elbow. She remained in the hospital until Monday, September 9, 2002 when she was allowed to go home. During her hospital stay she received therapy, was able to walk a short distance with the aid of a walker, take a good shower and sit in a wheel chair for short durations. Her condition is rather miraculous considering the nature of her accident. Her doctor indicates that complete recovery should take 12-13 weeks.

Deb's husband, Fulton Fire Department Assistant Chief Jim Hartz is also doing fairly well. Jim was in command at the South East corner of the structure when Deb fell. He watched her come off of the ladder and hit the ground. I can not even imagine what he has gone through.

Also injured in the incident was Lieutenant Chris Fulcher of the Fulton Fire Department. Chris was operating the turntable at the time of the accident. When the ladder pipe came off of the ladder tip, the three-inch hose knocked Chris off of the turntable. He was wearing full turnout gear minus his SCBA.

Chris hit the ground running and was one of the first firefighter/EMT at Debs side. He assisted in transporting her to the hospital. It was not learned, until he was at the hospital that he too had been involved in the accident. Chris was x-rayed, treated and released the same day.

The South Fulton, Tennessee Fire Department had been requested for mutual aid early on in the incident. Following the accident, mutual aid was requested and received from Union City, Tennessee, Martin, Tennessee, and Water Valley, Kentucky.

The accident is under investigation at this time. There is no apparent reason, at this juncture, for the ladder pipe coming loose.

Deb Hartz will mend and she will fight other fires simply by the Grace of God. There is no other explanation. This accident reinforces what we all know and often times become complacent about. We work and live in a dangerous profession. And we should never forget this. Maybe, the good Lord is using Deb and this accident to give all of us a wake up call. Think Safety, Preach and teach Safety and BE SAFE.

*Paul S. Billings***Dixie Firefighters Association**

Randy Skinner – President

Greetings from the land of the Dixie. It looks from the landscape around us that fall is in the air. It is one of the prettiest times of the year. It is also the beginning of wildfire season. Wildfires claim the lives of more firefighters than any other fires we fight. Make sure your people have refreshed their training on this killer before they respond.

October is host to "Fire Prevention Week". This year it is October 6-12. October is also the month the Dixie has its memorial service and awards program. This year it will be held October 24 at the Bowen Training Center 630 College Street Road Elizabethtown. We will be dedicating the second phase of the memorial. Phase II we will erect two more posts to bring the total to four posts. The two new posts will feature two additional segments of our response community. The new post on the right will feature a police and sheriff badges side by side to symbolize law enforcement. The new post on the

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**'Regional Embers' continued . .**

left side will feature a tractor, factory, and meshed gears symbolizing our farming and industrial communities and those who have given their lives in those endeavors. The service will begin at 6:30 with the reading of the names of all service personnel who have passed away. Next the meal will be served and awards will be presented to those who have gained a new certification in the last year. We are planning a wonderful experience for all who attend. Please come and join us.

Plans for the Dixie Fire School are now under way. We had our first fire school meeting September 19 and we are excited about what we are doing. Plans are still very fluid but we will be offering a EMT Transition course that will begin on Friday March 8<sup>th</sup> and finish on the 10<sup>th</sup>. This course is necessary for those EMT FR that have not had the new First Responder course. You must take the transition before July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003 to stay certified. It is not too late for you to have input into the classes we offer. We will be meeting many more times before the classes are set. If you would like to offer a comment or suggest a class you can e-mail me at [rskinner@kvnet.org](mailto:rskinner@kvnet.org), fax 270-766-5251, or mail to Randy Skinner, 630 College Street Road, Elizabethtown KY 42701. We would like to thank the 800 plus that attended last year's school and look forward to serving in 2003. Be safe and remember the person with the most influence on your safety is YOU!

Randy Skinner,  
President , Dixie Firefighters Association



## Jefferson County Fire Service

Jefferson County Fire Service WEBSITE  
wins prestigious Design Award

Jefferson County Fire Service has been awarded the Award of Distinction for Overall Website Design. The recognition comes from The Communicator Awards, an international awards competition founded by communication professionals to recognize excellence in the communication field. Entries for the competition come from all 50 states and

numerous foreign countries. The Communicator Awards gives winners the recognition that the work they are producing is outstanding and highly regarded by their peers. All work is judged solely on its own quality, creativity, resourcefulness and high standard of excellence. The Award of Distinction is presented for projects that exceed industry standards in quality and excellence.

### Jefferson County Fire McMahan Fire Protection District receives Commemorative Quilt

The members of the American Sewing Guild presented McMahan Fire Protection District with a handmade quilt, commemorating the September 11th tragedy, on Wednesday August 28, 2002.

The quilt was a project promoted by their National Organization, as a Community Service project to remember those who died on September 11th, and to honor Fire-Fighters. According to Joanna Crenshaw, American Sewing Guild President, the quilt is red, white, and blue, and carries a portion of the speech from President Bush announcing the bombing of Afghanistan, with the words

**"We will not waiver, we will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail".**

The quilt kit was donated by Joann Fabrics. The American Sewing Guild is made up of 65 members, and they participate in many community service projects such as making baby items for University Hospital, and Christmas stockings for children of inmates. According to Fire Chief Paul Barth, since the September 11 tragedy, the outpouring of love and recognition of Fire-Fighters has been a bit overwhelming at times, but the Fire-Fighters truly appreciate the acknowledgement and recognition. The quilt will hang in the fire station, as a constant reminder and remembrance of all emergency service workers, and civilians, who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11th.

## Pennyrile Fire and Rescue Association

Red Howton-President

By the time you are reading this article the Pennyrile fall school will be history. I have no way of knowing how successful this school will be but I do know that there has been many hours of hard work put into its planning.

The school as well as the Pennyrile Area Training Center has been moved to Princeton. The new Center is progressing nicely but will not be finished in time to use for this year's school. For those of you who have not seen the new facility it is located on Hwy 62 west in Princeton. I urge everyone to take the time and go by and get a close up look at it.

This has been a very exciting as well as a rewarding year for me as president of one of the fast-moving associations in the state. We are relocating the training center, we have moved our school to reflect the new home of the training center, we changed the dates of our school and we have tried to bring firefighters of our area and surrounding areas the classes that they want and need to safely perform their jobs as fire and rescue workers.

In a week or so after this year's school I will pass the gavel on to Josh Thomason the Chief of the Smithland Fire Dept. I have nothing but Thanks and Praise for everyone who has helped me in any way during this past year. I have not asked anyone to work on a project or help in any manner that they did not respond in an over whelming way. I will not try to mention everyone's name because I would surely leave someone out. I would like to thank all the Departments who hosted the meetings and provided us with great food and meeting rooms.

When you can have the presidents from three regional associations in attendance at the same meeting working together to see that firefighters and rescue workers receive the training that they need I believe that you can say that everyone in this area is truly unified. Again I would like to say thanks to everyone who attended the meetings and who did anything to make this a great year for the Pennyrile Area Fire and Rescue Association.

**United We Stand and God Bless America**  
*Red Howton*

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**I am only one, but I still am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.**

**(Edward Everett Hale)**



## **Fireman Joe Says** **Joseph Stambush**

KFA Pub Ed Committee Chair  
I wanted to begin by congratulating Bill Carver and the entire staff from Barren River Firefighters Assn. for an excellent conference, I for one had an excellent time but enjoyed the fellowship and comradeship more than anything. I can't remember a Firefighters Olympics that was any hotter than it was Saturday Night, special congratulations to the participants, especially Faubush FD, Thanks for the excitement and your dedication.

Our Fire and Life Safety Education Teams are the center of this year's Fire Prevention Month campaign. This year's theme, "Team Up For Fire Safety", encourages everyone to support your efforts to ensure safer families and safer communities. Many of our fire departments are planning, Shopping Center Displays, Open Houses, School and Day Care Facility Presentations and many more exciting activities. Please support and start Fire Prevention Activities in your community and "Team Up For Fire Safety".

Our friends at National Fire Protection Association have prepared an outstanding web site this year which is open to everyone. There is useful and helpful information which can be downloaded without cost to your department. Check out this great Fire Prevention resource at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org).

I hope everyone who wanted took the opportunity to attend our Fire and Life Safety Education Workshop in Elizabethtown September 14th and 15th. 28 Life Safety Educators were in attendance. It was a resounding success. I wish to thank E-town Chief Mike Hulse and Inspector Rusty Todd for their efforts to make the seminar a success. Peg Carson from NFPA conducted the workshop which helped everyone better understand the great value of the "Risk Watch" program. We are working very hard to make this program our new "State Wide" initiative. Risk Watch is the first comprehensive injury prevention program that links teachers with community safety experts. Developed for children in pre-school through eight-grade, Risk Watch provides age appropriate lesson plans in every module. In addition to lesson plans, every module includes activity sheets

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**'Public Life Safety Education' continued . . .**

that help get students excited about learning and reinforce life-safety messages. Workbooks that extend the program with fun, interactive activities are also available. Risk watch is a cost-effective resource that not only meets educational goals, but also saves lives. Pictures from the workshop as well as minutes from the Pub Ed Committee meeting September 15, 2002 are available on the KFA website [www.kyfa.org](http://www.kyfa.org). To find out more about Risk Watch visit the Risk Watch website at [www.riskwatch.org](http://www.riskwatch.org) or use our link on the KFA website under Public Education.

I like many Fire and Life Safety Educators throughout Kentucky, are preparing our busiest time of the year. We need lots of help from our friends, firefighters and EMT's, Paramedics and Fire Officers, teachers, safety advocates everywhere, roll up our sleeves, be part of our team! "Team Up For Fire Safety" in your community today. Good Luck with your campaign!



## National Volunteer Fire Council

Ken Nipper, Director      Bryant Stiles, Alternate

### NVFC Releases Report on the Role of the Volunteer Fire Service on 9/11

The NVFC has released a 119-page report entitled, *"The Role of the Volunteer Fire Service in the September 11, 2001 Terrorist Attacks"*. This is the first report that focuses on the actions of thousands of volunteers who responded on that tragic day and the days afterward.

During the course of the study, 375 volunteer fire departments were identified as being involved in the response to and recovery from the terrorist attacks in New York City, NY, Arlington, VA, and Somerset County, PA. In total, more than 3,000 volunteer firefighters and emergency medical technicians provided more than 75,000 hours of service.

"The volunteer fire service played a major role in the response and recovery of the events on that horrific day," said NVFC Chairman Philip C. Stittleburg.

"The report clearly demonstrates the spirit of volunteerism, patriotism and professionalism that exists in the fire service."

The volunteer roles varied by incident:

- In New York City, an estimated 2,600 emergency services personnel from 285 volunteer fire rescue departments provided more than 43,700 hours of service in the response to and recovery from the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Volunteers performed search, rescue, and recovery operations, were involved in fire suppression activities, and backfilled fire stations of FDNY companies that were operating at the disaster site.
- Over 100 volunteer departments participated in the response to the attack on the Pentagon with a force of approximately 1,930 volunteers who provided nearly 30,000 hours of firefighting, search and rescue, backfilling fire stations throughout the region, and other critical roles.
- The crash of United Airlines Flight 93 in rural Somerset County was handled by an all-volunteer fire rescue service that was made up of 55 volunteers from 10 departments. These emergency services personnel provided more than 1,500 hours of service.

Undoubtedly, the events of September 11, 2001 have changed America's fire service. Some departments, particularly those in and around the affected metropolitan areas, noted some increase in volunteer membership, but the rise has not been enough to counteract a 20-year downward trend in volunteerism nationwide. Nonetheless, volunteers were shown to be critical to the successful mitigation of terrorist attacks. Volunteer departments must be better prepared in equipment and training to handle homeland security responsibilities. Much of the nation is protected solely by volunteer fire departments.

The report emphasizes the fire service's need for specialized equipment and training in hazardous materials incident mitigation, weapons of mass destruction (WMD), and high-rise firefighting. Fire

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'NVFC' continued . .

departments must train with surrounding jurisdictions on a regular basis to build trust and become familiar with one another's operating procedures. Fire department communications and the ability for firefighters to communicate with other emergency services personnel from surrounding jurisdictions must be unimpeded (the issue of interoperability). Equipment such as air cylinders and hose couplings must be compatible among departments providing mutual aid to each other.

Finally, the study found that self-dispatch and freelancing especially in the absence of a strong unified incident command system can cause myriad problems, though well intentioned. Among the problems identified as a result of self-dispatch and freelancing are: lack of accountability; inappropriate personal protective equipment; and the inability to communicate with incident commanders and other firefighters.

This study was funded by the National Guard Bureau under a project called the *Comprehensive Reference Resource Report on the September 11, 2001, Terrorist Attacks* (CRR). Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), an international consulting firm based in San Diego, CA, is developing the CRR in support of the National Guard Bureau. TriData Corporation, a public safety management consulting firm located in Arlington, VA, performed the research and analysis for this study; some of its study staff were among the emergency responders on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

For more information and to download a copy of the report, visit [www.nvfc.org](http://www.nvfc.org).

### **FREE Wildland Fire Homeowner Education Material Available Help your Constituents Create Defensible Space Around Their Homes**

SAFECO is pleased to offer you these important consumer education pieces for your constituents who live in urban interface areas. Your constituents love the natural beauty in which they live but they also know that the danger of wildfire striking their home exists if they choose to live in heavily forested areas that also contain urban development.

SAFECO Community Relations developed these materials for FireFree, A Golden Smokey Award winning program, in conjunction with fire prevention professionals in Bend, Oregon. The brochure and presentation video outline the 10 steps that homeowners can take to create defensible space around their home thereby reducing the risk of their home being destroyed by wildfire.

These materials are available free of charge by emailing [jensil@safeco.com](mailto:jensil@safeco.com). Just reference which materials you would like to receive, where they should be shipped and how you plan to use them in your community. FireFree trifold brochure Item #AR-5187 Free Limit 500. FireFree presentation video Item #AR-5221 Free Limit 2

### **USFA Offers New Information Module on Ambulance Fee Schedule Final Rule and Reimbursement Strategies for Fire and EMS Departments**

The United States Fire Administration (USFA), part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is providing an information module regarding the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Ambulance Fee Schedule Final Rule.

The new Ambulance Fee Schedule Final Rule has raised many questions among providers. This module provides timely information to improve understanding of the Rule's requirements and present ideas for strategies that will assist departments in optimizing reimbursement within these requirements and limitations. The viewer will need the following programs to view the entire module: Adobe Acrobat 4.0 or greater and PowerPoint 2000. In the event that the viewer does not have PowerPoint, the module can be completed without it.

The module contains an overview of the history of Medicare, a description of Medicare Part B requirements applicable to ambulance providers, an explanation of the new Rule, methods and considerations for strategies to optimize reimbursement, and several helpful resource links. In addition, an Instructor Guide, Student Handout, and PowerPoint slide show covering the main points of the module is available through the Resources link for downloading and use by the department's training division.

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The Instructor Guide and Student Handout files are provided in both Word 2000 and Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) and are formatted for double-sided printing. The viewer may read the module content in its entirety or use the links to access specific sections. Several sections contain internal links to other documents or self-paced activities. This module takes approximately 1 hour to complete. The Resources link provides access to other documents, additional useful web sites, and the PowerPoint slide show. The slide show takes approximately 15 minutes to view in its entirety.

To view this material, go to: <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/dhtml/fire-service/ambulance/intro.cfm>

### **National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Announces Schedule for Memorial Service**

The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation Memorial Weekend will move to Washington D.C. and plans to host about 100,000 participants. The program normally is held in Emmitsburg Maryland at the National Fire Academy. Because of the number of deaths associated with the 9-11 murders and the number of associated persons attending the move became necessary. The event will be held at the MCI center in Warshington. The center will hold 20,000 people and and the rest of the estimated 100,000 will be able to view the ceremony on large projection video screens set up outside the center.

The schedule for the weekend includes:

**Friday** October 4 families arrive with welcome receptions at each hotel.

**Saturday** the Red Helmet Motorcycle Ride will begin with a ceremony at the Pentagon and follow with a ride through Washington. At 7 p.m. there will be a candlelight service at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception.

**Sunday** will begin with a non-denominational prayer service at each family hotel. The Procession of Honor involving the many department honor guards that attend the memorial each year will march down Constitution Avenue at 11 a.m. to the MCI center.

## **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

### **6TH Annual NEXT STEP Heavy Rescue SCENARIO BASED HANDS ON TRAINING CLASS**

Time is RUNNING OUT!! October 12-13, 2002 don't be LEFT OUT!!! Class will be held in Middletown Kentucky at the Fire Training Site.

Your cost per participant is \$325.00. We only have room for 22 more students in the class.

Get information from our WebSite [www.hightechrescue.com](http://www.hightechrescue.com). Call today or register online and fax it to us 502-633-0659. You can phone us at 888-848-6144. High Tech Rescue is a proud Sustaining Member of the KFA



We hope to see your department represented on this exciting weekend.

## **MEADE CO. FIRE SCHOOL**

**OCTOBER 5-6, 2002  
BRANDENBURG KY**

Courses offered include:

1. **EMT First Responder Transition**
2. **Fire Officer ICS - FRT 159**
3. **EMT Continuing Education**
4. **Hard to Get Hours**
5. **Farm Rescue**

For more information call 270-766-5238 e-mail [woodrow.will@kctcs.edu](mailto:woodrow.will@kctcs.edu) or visit our website at [www.sfrtarea5.org](http://www.sfrtarea5.org). Don't miss this excellent opportunity to attend one of the last fire schools of 2002.



**“Chief Brunacini Comes to Northern Kentucky”**

Chief Alan Brunacini of the Phoenix, Arizona Fire Department will be presenting a seminar in Northern Kentucky on Saturday, November 23, 2002. This seminar will cover “Boss Behaviors” & “Customer Service”, as many are aware Chief Brunacini is very well known for his outstanding candor and commitment to simplifying the fire service and increasing departments effectiveness.

Erlanger Fire/EMS is sponsoring the seminar, which begins with coffee & doughnuts at 08:00, seminar at 08:30 and lunch is provided for only \$60. If you are interested in attending please call (859) 727-5844 for more information.

**Grayson Co. Fire School**

**November 2-3, 2002  
Leitchfield KY**

This year’s school will be held at the new Grayson County Middle School in Leitchfield. Classes being held include:

- 1 Propane Emergencies**
- 2 EMT First Responder Transition**
- 3 Wildland Awareness/Hard to get hours**
- 4 Basic 16 hours of initial training**
- 5 Rural Water Supply**
- 6 Flashover Training**
- 7 Auto Extrication**

This is the last fire school scheduled in area 5 for 2002. Please don’t miss out on your State Aid money because one of your people did not take the time to get the needed training. You will not find a better opportunity to take the EMT FR Transition before the deadline of July 1, 2003. **WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? SIGN UP TODAY!!!**



**Fire School - London**

October 19, 20

Contact Greg Gray at (888)234-0100 or  
E-mail : [sfirt13@kih.net](mailto:sfirt13@kih.net)

**NEW ARRIVALS**

**High Tech Rescue**

High Tech Rescue made delivery on the following high quality pieces of equipment:

**Simpsonville Rural Fire Protection Dist.**

2002 US Tanker, International 330 horse, 2000 gallon tank, 1000 GPM pump, 3 10” Newton Dumps on rear, Stainless Steel Body. The new truck was delivered August 1st.

**Fire Commission Meetings**

October 3, Lexington  
December 5, Lexington

Phone 800-782-6823  
E-mail [Walter.Lage@kctcs.edu](mailto:Walter.Lage@kctcs.edu)

*‘New Arrivals’ continued on next page . . .*

'New Arrivals' continued . . .

### **Rescue Tools Deliveries**

Halifax Fire Dept., Scottsville Ky April 02  
New Castle Fire Dept., New Castle KY Jan. 02

### **Survivair SCBA**

Shelby Co. F&R Shelbyville KY July 02  
25 New Panther Packs

### **Mat Jack Airbags**

Camp Dick FD, Lancaster Ky July 02

### **Reidland-Farley FD Names Richard Tapp as new full time Fire Chief**

Reidland-Farley FD is the first volunteer fire department in McCracken County to have a full time paid chief. The new chief, Richard Tapp from Kosciusko Miss, took office on August 1st, 2002.

The hiring of the new chief was part of a ten-year plan to improve fire service to residents of Eastern McCracken County, according to Butch McKinney, chairman of the Reidland department's board of directors. He said the department averages 700 calls a year, most of which are car accidents and medical assistance.

The first big project for the new chief will be a new fire station. Construction will begin in about two years and will be a replacement for the current station on Park Road. It will be located on 2 1/2 acres adjacent to the Food Giant Supermarket on Benton Road.

The board also plans to spend about \$1,000,000.00 on new equipment. They currently own eight trucks including two new first-line pumpers, two backup pumpers, two brush trucks, a rescue truck and an air truck.

Tapp has a masters degree in fire administration and has taught fire subjects on the college level.

The KFA would like to offer a hardy WELCOME to our newest arrival to the ranks of the Kentucky Fire Service. We can always use another hand at our many state-wide endeavors. Please take the time to make Chief Tapp feel at home here in Kentucky. The department phone number is 270-898-3191.

## **Death by Training**

By Woody Will

In the August issue of this newsletter I wrote an article about the need for the adoption of NFPA 1403 any time we do an acquired structure burn. A New York firefighter was killed and the person in charge of the burn was convicted of second degree manslaughter. The ink from the printer was not even dry when two Florida firefighters were killed in a training fire. The two firefighters were Lt. John Mickel 32 who joined the department in 1993, and Firefighter Dallas Begg, 20 a new recruit who just started on the department on July 22 and was killed just 8 days later on July 30.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, in 2001, 12 firefighters were killed during training exercises including three career firefighters and nine volunteers.

Nine firefighters suffered fatal heart attacks, one fell from an aerial ladder, one suffered smoke inhalation during a live fire exercise, and one drowned during rescue dive training. These training deaths amounted to 12 percent of firefighter fatalities in 2001.

We must find a way to stop killing our people in training exercises. We must use every resource available when we set up burns. We must insist on full and complete Incident Command and Control. We must insure that our recruits have sufficient pre-training before they are allowed to fight a structure fire. We must have safety officers watching structures for signs of weakness or collapse.

The full report of the incident is not complete yet and as I frequently do I do not want to focus on that incident. Rather I would focus on the epidemic of firefighters killed in training exercises. When are we going to learn? Because as sure as there is a sun in the sky it is not a matter of if it will happen here in Kentucky. It is a matter of WHEN!

Before you ever agree to conduct a live burn with an acquired structure, please do these 17 things:

- 1 Read NFPA 1403 cover to cover.
- 2 Make sure that all participants have the minimum training as specified in 1403.
- 3 Conduct pre burn inspections to ensure a safe working environment.

*continued on next page . . .*

**4** If you do not have a copy of 1403 or other Fire Commission suggested pre burn information call 800-782-6823 and the commission will be happy to send you a copy.

**5** Make sure the individuals conducting the burns have the required certifications.

**6** Ensure that you have an adequate water supply with at least a 50% reserve.

**7** Use a main pumper with a second pumper with back up lines and a second source of water.

**8** Make sure EMS is on the scene with no other task for that day.

**9** Name a Safety Officer with no other task. That person must have the authority to stop the event if in His/Her judgement the operation is unsafe.

**10** Draw a sketch of the building showing means of egress and any building anomalies that could cause students problems.

**11** Have a predetermined evacuation signal and practice it on a dry run prior to using live fire.

**12** Use an effective accountability system. Not just tags but assign someone the task of knowing where everyone is at ALL TIMES.

**13** At the end of the session conduct a critique of the burn. Allow free expression of what went right and wrong.

**14** Find ways to implement the lessons learned during the burn in your every day response.

**15** DO NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES ALLOW FREELANCING TO TAKE PLACE!!!

**16** Establish a staging area and ensure that students stay within the staging area when training is being conducted they are not involved in.

**17** When the structure is at its usable limit make sure you stop the activity and allow it to finish burning.

Firefighting is a dangerous profession. I know we can never make a scene 100% safe for all to work in. But I also know and so do you that we can do a lot better than we have done in the past. Events out of our control will continue. It is therefore our responsibility to insure our policies are in place and enforced fairly for all. We must wear all required safety gear ALL the time. We must practice safety from the time we get up until the time we go to bed. It MUST become second nature if we are to begin to stem the tide of fire/training ground incidents and accidents. Firefighting is a tough job and safety is part of it.

## Results of the LaGrange Tanker Accident

On March 4th 2002 Firefighter Richard J. Drake was killed when the tanker he was driving was struck in the passenger side by a train. Whenever an accident of this nature occurs NIOSH usually will do an investigation on the accident and make recommendations. We offer the following as an excerpt from that report which is located at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/face200210.html> for the full report.

### SUMMARY

On March 2, 2002, a 48-year-old male volunteer fire fighter/engineer (the victim) was fatally injured when the tanker truck he was driving was struck by a freight train as he attempted to traverse a private, unguarded railroad crossing. The victim was returning to the station from a live-burn training exercise. The train struck the tanker truck on the passenger side just in front of the door. The victim was ejected and found lying approximately 75 feet from the track. He was transported to a hospital where he was pronounced dead.

NIOSH investigators concluded that, to minimize the risk of similar incidents, fire departments should

- ***Ensure that drivers of fire department vehicles come to a complete stop at all unguarded railroad grade crossings during emergency response or nonemergency travel***
- ***Revise or develop standard operating guidelines (SOGs) for safely driving emergency vehicles during emergency response and nonemergency travel addressing hazards fire fighters are likely to encounter, such as railroad crossings***
- ***Enforce policies that require that all fire fighters who ride in emergency fire apparatus are belted securely by seat belts***
- ***Provide fire fighter training on railway traffic safety in communities such as this where a high density of railway traffic exists***

## Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members

*Please remember these members when you have purchasing needs.*

<p><b>10-33 EQUIPMENT, INC.</b> Craig and Teri Hiser 540 Peterson Rd • Cave City, KY 42127 <b>877-678-1033</b> 270-453-3473 Fax 270-453-3474 Web site: www.10-33.com</p>	<p><b>Advanced Fire &amp; Rescue Equipment Co. Inc.</b> Nick Gapinski 6633 Springvale Court Newburg, IN 47630 <b>800-853-7675</b> Fax 812-853-7676</p>	<p><b>Akron Brass Company</b> Jeff Benson P.O. Box 86 Wooster, OH 44691 <b>216-264-5678</b> Voice mail: 800-228-1161 Box 3507</p>
<p><b>Bluegrass Fire Equipment</b> John Baker P.O. Box 23174 Lexington, KY 40523 <b>800-526-8393</b> Fax 859-233-1167</p>	<p><b>Camp Safety of Louisville</b> David Joels 3707 Bardstown Rd • Suite 7 Louisville, KY 40218 <b>502-479-8005</b> Fax 502-479-8002</p>	<p><b>Commonwealth Communication Systems, Inc.</b> Sam Owney 2347 Fortune Court • Suite 101 Lexington, KY 40509 <b>859-293-1675</b> Fax 859-299-8130</p>
<p><b>Comtronics Industrial Communication Systems</b> David Fried Barry Jackson 2456 Fortune Drive Lexington, KY 40509 <b>800-264-6021</b> Fax 859-299-9334</p>	<p><b>Dill's Fire &amp; Safety Equipment Company, Inc.</b> Kentucky Regional Manager Tony Johnson www.dillsfire.com <b>800-624-1964</b> Fax 304-273-3463</p>	<p><b>Division of Emergency Management</b> Malcolm Franklin EOC Bldg. Boone Center Frankfort, KY 40601 <b>502-564-8682</b> Fax 502-654-6251</p>
<p><b>Emergency One</b> Bob Burns 629 Shelby Street Lexington, KY 40505 <b>800-444-3473</b> Fax 859-255-5536</p>	<p><b>Emergency Equipment</b> Mike Brady P.O. Box 75321 Cincinnati, OH 45275 <b>859-371-7001</b> Fax 859-371-7003</p>	<p><b>Emergency Service Insurance Program</b> Peter Feid 20 Church Street Cortland, NY 13045 <b>800-822-3747</b> Fax 607-756-5051</p>
<p><b>EMS USA</b> Chip Brake P.O. Box 99 Shepherdsville, KY 40165 <b>800-264-2401</b> Fax 502-543-5032</p>	<p><b>Fire Apparatus DIV SDC</b> Bob Stark 8009 Beulah Church Road Louisville, KY 40291 <b>502-239-3120</b></p>	<p><b>Fire Department Service &amp; Supply</b> Al Sutt P.O. Box 20207 Louisville, KY 40250 <b>800-321-6965</b> Fax 502-491-1487</p>
<p><b>Gall's</b> Phil Scheible 2470 Paulmbo Dr • P.O. Box 5465 Lexington, KY 40555 <b>800-477-7766</b></p>	<p><b>High Tech Rescue</b> James Riddle, Jr. 250 Rockbridge Road Shelbyville, KY 40065 <b>888-848-6144</b> Local 502-633-0149 Fax 502-633-0659</p>	<p><b>Hilliard Enhanced Learning Programs (HELP)</b> Mike Hilliard www.4-help.org Email: firecds@cs.com <b>502-291-4357</b> Fax 502-228-4357</p>
<p>Jack L. Slagle Fire Equipment • Jack Slagle Main Office: 1100 Bill Tuck Hwy, S Boston, VA 24592 P 804-575-7905 <b>1-800-446-8896</b> F 804-572-3373 E-Mail: slaglefire@slaglefire.com WebSite: www.slaglefire.com Branch Office: 1818 Old Dunbar Rd Cayce (W. Columbia), SC 29171 P 1-803-791-4555 F 1-803-739-2327</p>	<p><b>Kentucky Fire Commission - State Fire Rescue Training</b> Division Directors: Steve Calhoun &amp; Walter Lage 2750 Research Park Dr. - Barn Annex • P.O. Box 14092 • Lexington, KY 40512 <b>(800) 782-6823</b> (859) 246-3484 Fax <i>The mission of the Fire Commission is to strengthen, upgrade and improve the fire service for the citizens and industry of the commonwealth through standardized education, training, communication and distribution of funds.</i></p>	

**Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members**

*Please remember these members when you have purchasing needs.*

<p><b>Kentucky Public Entity Programs / VFIS</b> Steve Sierveld P.O. Box 17374 • Dixie Branch Edgewood, KY 41017 <b>800-753-6734</b> Fax 859-331-4937</p>	<p><b>Kentucky State Fire Marshal</b> Dave Manley 1047 US 127 South Frankfort, KY 40601 <b>502-564-3626</b> Fax 502-564-6799</p>	<p><b>Louis &amp; Henry Group</b> Joy DeMoss 101 South Eighth Street Louisville, KY 40202 <b>502-589-5010</b> Fax 502-584-2820</p>
<p><b>MCA Incorporated</b> Tara Hardwick 845 4th Avenue • Suite 405 Huntington, WV 25701 <b>800-676-4785</b> Fax 304-522-4222</p>	<p><b>McCord Emergency Lighting</b> Mike McCord 525 Brookwater Lexington, KY 40515 <b>859-271-4311</b> Fax 859-273-1511</p>	<p><b>McCoy Miller</b> Brad Conover - Randy Herron 108 Ronaldson Court Campbellsville, KY 42718 <b>270-465-7642</b> Fax 270-384-5328</p>
<p><b>MSA</b> Mark Gustafson 5404 Seaton Lane Louisville, KY 40291 Phone/Fax <b>502-239-7223</b></p>	<p><b>Orr Safety</b> Dave Goldsmith P.O. Box 16326 Louisville, KY 40258 <b>800-669-1677</b> Fax 800-800-6774</p>	<p><b>Parr Emergency Products Sales, Inc.</b> Lisa Wright P.O. Box 300 Gallaway, OH 43119 <b>800-282-7904</b> Fax 614-878-3779</p>
<p><b>Public Safety Equipment Company, Inc.</b> Dennis Downes 9616 Seaton Brooke Lane Louisville, KY 40291 <b>502-239-2006</b> Fax 502-239-3322</p>	<p><b>Rugged Wear</b> Debrah Winkle 206 Big Hill Avenue Richmond, KY 40475 <b>606-623-1135</b></p>	<p><b>Service Plus</b> Jim Davis P.O. Box 673 Winchester, KY 40392 Phone/Fax <b>859-744-5949</b></p>
<p><b>Southeastern Emergency Equipment</b> Rob Waller P.O. Box 1196 Wake Forest, NC 27588 <b>800-334-6656</b> Fax 888-556-1048</p>	<p><b>Summit Fire Apparatus</b> Joe Messmer P.O. Box 17128 Edgewood, KY 41017 <b>859-331-0360</b> Fax 859-331-0399</p>	<p><b>Survivar Inc.</b> Gary Gray 3001 S. Susan Street Santa Ann, CA 92704 <b>714-545-0410</b> Fax 714-850-0299</p>
<p><b>Throughbred Air Systems, Inc.</b> Mike Stone 208 Westmoreland Way Lexington, KY 40324 Phone/Fax <b>502-863-6442</b></p>	<p><b>Vogelpohl Fire Equipment, Inc.</b> William Vogelpohl 2756 Circleport Drive Erlanger, KY 41018 <b>800-797-8317</b> Fax 859-282-1550</p>	<p><b>Wynn Fire Equipment</b> Charles &amp; Kathy Wynn P.O. Box 269 Woodbine, KY 40771 <b>606-523-9269</b> Fax 606-523-0591</p>
<p><b>Public Entity Insurance Inc. Roeding Group Companies</b> 2525 Harrodsburg Rd • Suite 220 Lexington, KY 40504 Toll Free <b>1-888-696-9620</b> Fax 859-296-4583</p>	<p><b>You could advertise Here!</b></p>	<p><b>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . .</b> contact Bryant Stiles at 270-273-3187</p>

# Kentucky Firefighters Association Membership

## KFA By-laws regarding Membership

SECTION 3: Active membership may be obtained in the KFA by paying annual dues of \$75.00 per year. Sustaining membership may be obtained in the KFA, by paying annual dues of \$150.00 per year. Personal membership dues are \$25.00 per year. Dues are payable on October 1 of each year. Dues not paid by December 1, of each year, render that membership delinquent. The fiscal year of this organization shall be August 1, through July 31.

SECTION 6: SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP - Every manufacturer and their representatives of fire department apparatus, fire prevention and protective devices and any other companies dealing with the Fire Service can become a Sustaining member. (Each sustaining membership will receive a listing type ad in five editions of Smoke Signals II and the conference directory)

A copy of the KFA Newsletter is sent to each active membership, personal or sustaining member on a bi-monthly basis. Please mail the form below along with your check to:

**Bryant Stiles, Treasurer, PO Box 700, Calhoun KY 42327-0700**

## KFA Membership Application

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

Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Chief \_\_\_\_\_

Department Membership (include check for \$75.00) •

Sustaining Membership (include check for \$150.00) •

Personal Membership (include check for \$25.00) •

### ***KFA Smoke Signals II***

This is a Publication of The Kentucky Firefighters Association. Send all comments and articles to:

**KFA Smoke Signals II** • P.O. Box 117 • Cecilia, Kentucky 42724

Voice (270) 862-9491 Fax (270) 862-9058 Email "wwill@kvnet.org" Editor . . . Woody Will

**December issue deadline for submission of articles is *November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2002***

### **KFA Smoke Signals II**

P.O. Box 117

Cecilia, KY 42724-0117

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