

BOB HEBBELER

Bob Hebbeler's fire service career commenced when he joined the Ft. Wright Volunteer Fire Department in 1953, which initiated a long and distinguished career in emergency service. Mr. Hebbeler immediately became active in the Northern Ky. Firefighters Association and the KFA. He chaired the NKFA's Ways and Means Committee for ten years where many successful dances were held throughout the 1950's and early 60's. These fundraisers greatly assisted this regional association and enabled it to grow into the prosperous association it is today. Bob was elected to the position of NKFA vice-president in 1968 and served as Northern Kentucky President in 1969, while continually serving committee roles to this day.

Bob attended many state and national schools and conferences throughout the years and regularly attended the FDIC in Memphis with his Chief and good friend, Pete Nienaber.

Throughout his life, Bob served his community and state in many capacities. Just a few of the highlights include Bob serving as the very first varsity basketball and baseball coach at Covington Catholic High School in 1944 and 45. In 1956, he chaired the Kenton County Polio Foundation Drive and raised a record \$ 26,000.00. Bob is the only person to serve 3 terms as President of the Ft. Wright Civic Club where he is a lifetime member. He has served the Covington Turners Society for 65 years. Bob has compiled a lengthy list of awards and recognitions.

Bob attended his first KFA conference in 1955 in Covington and had attended every one since. His attendance at this conference is his 48th consecutive. In 1962, he was elected to the position of KFA secretary, succeeding Henry Bogenschutz of the Covington Fire Department. Many committee appointments including finance preceded this position in the KFA. Bob held the position of secretary of the KFA for 16 years retiring at the 1978 state conference in Bowling Green. Chief Don Roberts from Florence continued the Northern Kentucky tradition and followed Bob as secretary of the KFA.

Bob has been recognized in recent years at KFA conferences through his involvement in memorial services and swearing-in ceremonies. You will always see Bob on the convention-meeting floor sitting in the back of the room offering advice to anyone who is smart enough to ask him. It is a highlight for many of us to annually see and talk with Bob and his lovely wife of 63 years, Evelyn, at these conventions.

Robert Hebbeler has been a credit to the KFA and the Kentucky Fire Service for half a century. It is with sincere gratitude that we thank him and induct Robert "Bob" Hebbeler of the Ft. Wright Fire Department to the KFA "Hall of Fame".

Presenting this Hall of Fame Award was present KFA Secretary Dave Jansing:

