Volume 14.5 October 2009

Smoke Signals I

Smoke Signals is a Publication of the Kentucky Firefighters Association

For The First Time The KFA Memorial Service Is Held At The Kentucky Firefighter Memorial In Frankfort and No Line of Duty Deaths!

For the first time since the building of the memorial in 1997 the KFA memorial service was held at the Ju-

niper Park Memorial Site in Frankfort Kentucky. This is also the first time in a decade we have not had a line-of-duty death. If you and your family have not taken the time to visit this beautiful fitting monument to those who have fallen in the line of duty it is time that you do. In the backdrop of trees and beautiful landscaping sets the monument you see in this picture. Black and red granite polished to a reflective shine with a center scene of firefighters doing the things



firefighters do is very impressive and fitting for those who have passed before us. The names of those comrades who have fallen in the line of duty are inscribed on either side of the center scene.



The walk way leading up to the memorial is made up of pavers with

individuals as well as departments names on them. Your time would be well spent if you make the trip. The memorial is located on US 60 at the entrance to the Juniper Park Golf Course. If you would like to purchase a paver for the walk way you can download a brochure from the KFA web page at www.kyfa.org. Hopefully we will never have to add another name to the wall. However, if we must then I am



glad we have such a fitting place to inscribe those names. At the pin-

ning of this article the above information was and is correct. However, in the early morning hours of September 13th firefighter Terry Sharon of the Monterey VFD was killed in the "Line of Duty" during a motor vehicular accident as he was returning to the station from another motor vehicular accident call. The fatal accident occurred in front of the Monterey VFD located just outside the city of Owenton in Owen County. Please remember this family and department in your thoughts and prayers.

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From the Desk of the President



I would like to introduce myself, my name is Bobby Cowherd. I am from Shelby County Fire District, where I have been a member since 1979 and

have been Chief since 1991. I am very honored to serve as president of the Kentucky Firefighter's Association this coming year. I look forward to serving you in this capacity and assisting you in any way possible.

The 89th Annual Kentucky Firefighter's Association Conference was a great success. Big congratulations go out to Past President Randy Courtney, his conference staff, the Pike County Firefighters Association along with the Fire Commission Staff and Sandy Day for their hard work, great job and good old hospitality.

We can not go without mentioning the entertainment we had Sunday night from the Moron Brothers and of course the wedding of the century of "Mr. and Mrs. Baby". Good luck to you all in the future!

I just returned from the **Mountain Firefighters Association 31st Annual Fire School in** Hazard,
KY. This excellent school was held August 29th
and 30th. Thanks to KFA 3rd Vice-President Sam
Stacy for inviting me to come speak to everyone at
the school. The Mountain Firefighters Association put on a terrific school and excellent hospitality. I encourage all departments to take advantage of the outstanding schools that are offered
throughout the state. Training is the best way to
keep our firefighters safe.

All of us are feeling the economic crunch, whether it is at home, at the fire department or the workplace. The Kentucky Firefighters Association is no exception, which is why it is so important for your department to join the KFA. We also offer personal memberships. The membership dues go toward the KFA's efforts to support the firefighters of Kentucky. Please encourage the departments in your area to join also. With all of the fire departments in Kentucky as members, we will be a stronger organization.

Our association works very close with the Kentucky Professional Firefighters, Kentucky Fire Chiefs Association, Kentucky Fire Commission and State Fire Marshal's Office to better the lives of Kentucky's firefighters.

Become a member today. Help shape the future of the Kentucky Fire Service and help us help you. For more information, check out the website at www.kyfa.org.

This year's session is a long one in Frankfort and our lobbyists will be working hard to make our voices heard. We look forward to their reports on their work. I'm sure they will call on us to assist them with attendance in Frankfort or with phone calls to our legislators. I encourage you to step up when they ask and show our legislators that the fire service is strong in Kentucky.

My committee has been working hard on the upcoming 2010 KFA conference. We are excited about hosting the conference in Louisville July 31-August 3, 2010. Please visit our website www.kfa2010.com for more information. Our host hotel, Holiday Inn Hurstbourne is ready to take reservations. There is a link to the hotel to make reservations on our webpage or you can call 502-426-2600. Use the block code **KFA**. We hope everyone will join us for a great time!

In closing, I am excited to have this opportunity to serve you as President of the Kentucky Firefighter's Association. The Executive Board and I are here to serve you. I encourage you to stay in contact with us and keep us informed of happenings in your area. We are here to help you but cannot help if we don't know what you need. If you would like me or one of the Vice-Presidents to come to your area to visit and speak with your associations or departments, we would be happy to do so. Please feel free to call or email me anytime I can be of assistance to you.

Stay Safe out There

Sincerely,

Bobby Cowherd

President

Words of Wisdom

No student ever attains very eminent success by simply doing what is required of him: it is the amount and excellence of what is over and above the required, that determines the greatness of ultimate distinction.

Charles Kendall Adams



Treasurer's Notes
by Terry Keller
DUES NOTICE!!! Hello to all.
The dues for 2009 - 2010 are now
due. Please make a copy of the

dues notice from your Smoke Signals II or go to the web page kyfa.org and print off a copy. There will not be a direct mailing for dues this year. In an effort to save money and use the mailing of Smoke Signals II, the E-Board voted not to do a direct mailing. Please encourage your department to join the K F A.

There are 812 departments in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, both paid and volunteer, combination and industrial. K F A needs the support of all fire departments and firefighters to be able to send Legislative people to Frankfort and protect the benefits firefighters and their families have. United the fire service can accomplish almost anything. Ask your department if they are a member, and if not please join.

The conference was a success and the legislative program has been set for the upcoming session starting in January. K F A will be represented there to watch bills that could effect the fire service. A new budget was passed during the conference that asked for \$101,007.00 to keep all the programs going forward. The Executive Board along with the appointed finance committee felt this was a workable budget. Also, at conference a financial standing committee was appointed to assist the treasure in preparing budgets in the future. This should help the Executive Board make some long range planning decisions and provide for a more accountable budget spending plan.

The working of the KFA comes down to membership. KFA needs more departments to join. The KFA does have a fundraising company trying to raise money, but in this economy those funds have been drying up as people are losing their jobs. In past years about half of the 812 departments have supported the KFA, it is now time that we all band together and increase the number of departments that help support the programs for all firefighters in the Commonwealth.

Last thing to think about, is if you are reading this article it could be your last if your department is not a member of K F A. The Executive Board passed a motion that only dues paying departments, legislators, Personal Memberships, directors, fire commission members and Sustaining Memberships would continue to receive copies of the Smoke Signals II. I for one like receiving the

newsletter to see what is going on in the rest of the state.

The fire service can only be a strong as its membership. Please Join.

Terry Keller, KFA Treasurer

James A. Riddle, Jr. Chairman & Volunteer Representative Kentucky Fire Commission

While Visiting a Fire Station recently I came across these words of wisdom pinned to the bulletin board. I thought they were so important, that I would like to pass them on.

TEN WAYS TO KILL A VOLUNTEER FIRE DE-PARTMENT

- Don't go to meetings or drills
- If you go, go late
- If the weather doesn't suit you, don't go
- If you attend a meeting or drill, find fault with the rest of the members
- Never accept office; it's easier to criticize than to do things
- Get sore if you are not appointed to a committee; if you are appointed, don't go to meetings
- If asked by an Officer to give your opinion on some matter, tell him you have nothing to say. After the drill is over, tell everyone how things should have been done
- If you have a suggestion to offer, go straight to the Chief. Do your best to mess up the chain of command.
- Be sure to complain if you don't get paid for being a volunteer
- Do nothing more than absolutely necessary, and if someone else does, be sure to lay on the ridicule.

No one is perfect, and I'm sure all of us have been guilty of one or more of these items without really thinking about it. I'm not sure who wrote these words, but everyone will recognize the behaviors that it talks about.

Let's do our best to remember that we are all in this together, and do our best to not to be this kind of Volunteer Firefighter.



Fireman Joe Says Joseph Stambush

A MESSAGE FROM THE OLE FIRE DOG:

Hard to break old habits so I hope you will bear with me as I, on occasions partake in some fire and life safety conversations utilizing this exceptional publication. Wanted to thank the great folks from the Mountain Firefighters Association who so graciously offerred their hospitality on the weekend of August 28th thru August 30th in Hazard, KY during their excellent fire school. Special thanks to Chief Stacy and Chief Friley who invited me down to Hazard, Chuck Caldwell who does so much for the Mountain FF's. I enjoyed teaching at the Fire School and again met and made some new Public Education Contacts.

October is Fire Prevention Month and this year's theme, "Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned" encourages all of us to make sure our homes and those of our communities are kept safe from fire and preventing burn injuries is a healthy change we can make happen. Take a good look around your home and be familiar with the facts about the leading cause of fires in the home.

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and injuries. Cooking equipment is involved in 40% of the reported home fires each year. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires. Pay attention to your cooking. Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. Smoking is the leading cause of fire deaths. One out of four victims of fatal smoking related fires is not the smoker whose cigarette started the fire. Electrical fires on average, 21,200 electrical and lighting home fires each year, resulting in 370 deaths. It is hard to imagine but intentional set home structure fires occur resulting in 320 deaths and \$542 million in property loss each year. Heating is the second leading cause of fire deaths. Half of all heating-related fires happen in December, January, and February in the winter months when things are closed up. And of course burns, the most common types of burn injuries are fire/flame burns, scalds, and contact burns. Burns are painful and can result in serious scarring and even death.

I know you have heard me mention this many times but it bears repeating over and over again. Smoke Detectors, we have got to have a warning, and when they go off does everyone know what to do and where to go, that is why home escape planning is so important. Appoint that safe meeting place outside and make sure everyone knows how to call for emergency help. These suggestions are vital to survival but being prepared and preventing fires could make the difference for you and the members of your community.

Until next time, BE SAFE!

Fireman Joe

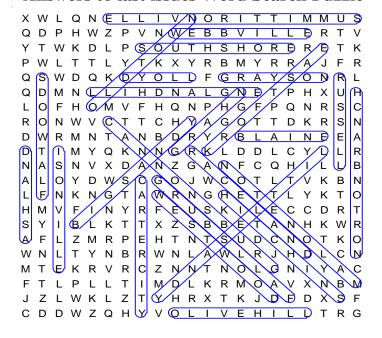


Chaplain's Corner

Spending time with those you love.

When I first got involved with the Fire Service I was like a little puppy with a new master. I couldn't get enough of the fire house, the camaraderie, time spent fixing up old equipment, rook games, and just hanging around with the guys. I wouldn't take anything for some of those memories. I do however regret not spending more time with my little children when they were small. I can't get that time back but you can if you will take time to be with your family when they are young.

Answers to last issues Word Search Puzzle







Smokey Bear Celebrates 65th Birthday Reminding Americans That... "Only You Can Prevent Wildfires"

FRANKFORT, KY - (August 5, 2009) - Governor Steve Beshear, along with the Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) and Daniel Boone National Forest (DBNF), recognized one of America's beloved icons today. The governor officially proclaimed Sunday, August 9, 2009 as Smokey Bear Day in Kentucky in an effort to celebrate Smokey Bear's 65th birthday and provide critical information about wildfire prevention.

Since his "birth" on August 9, 1944, Smokey Bear has been a recognized symbol of conservation and protection of America's forests. His message about wildfire prevention has helped to reduce the number of acres burned annually by wildfires, from about 22 million (1944) to an average of 7 million today. However, wildfire prevention remains one of the most critical environmental issues affecting our country. Many Americans believe that lightning starts most wildfires. In fact, on average, nine out of 10 wildfires nationwide are caused by people. The principle causes are campfires left unattended, debris burning, senseless arson, careless discarding of smoking materials or BBQ coals, and operating equipment without spark arrestors.

Smokey Bear has been communicating his well-known message, "Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires," since 1944. In 2001, he introduced the term 'Wildfire' to include all unwanted, unplanned fires in natural areas such as grass fires or brush fires. Today, his campaign continues to be a critical tool specially designed to ask for every citizen's commitment to be responsible with fire. "Smokey Bear is one of the longest-running and most successful public service advertising campaigns in our country's history," said Leah MacSwords, director of KDF and president of the National Association of State Foresters. "His message has helped forestry agencies across the U.S. raise awareness about wildfire prevention," she added.

The Wildfire Prevention campaign was developed in partnership with the Ad Council, a private, nonprofit organization that marshals talent from the advertising and communications industries, the facilities of the media, and the resources of the business and nonprofit communities to produce, distribute and promote public service campaigns on behalf of nonprofit organizations and government agencies. Smokey and his wildfire prevention campaign continue today as a partnership between the Ad Council, the US Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. The Ad Council will be distributing new public service announcements (PSAs) to media outlets nationwide. Per the organization's model, the new Smokey Bear PSAs are airing and running in advertising time that is donated by the media. KDF and DBNF are encouraging media outlets throughout Kentucky to provide support for the new ads. For more information about wildfire prevention

efforts or Smokey Bear PSAs, contact the Kentucky Division of Forestry at 1-800-866-0555 or visit the Smokey Bear Web site at www.smokeybear.com. Editor's note:

The Kentucky Division of Forestry is the state agency responsible for preventing and suppressing wildfires on state and private land. Its mission is to protect and enhance the forest resources of the Commonwealth.

The USDA Forest Service is the agency responsible for overseeing the use of Smokey Bear in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the Advertising Council. The Daniel Boone National Forest consists of 707,000 acres of national forest property in eastern and southeastern Kentucky Its mission is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area in western Kentucky is also managed by the US Forest Service.

The National Association of State Foresters is a nonprofit organization that represents the directors of the state forestry agencies from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories. The State Foresters provide management assistance and protection services for over twothirds of the nation's forests. As a partner with the USDA Forest Service, State Foresters are committed to the continued delivery of Smokey Bear's message of personal responsibility in wildfire protection.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Members of Fire Service Wanted for Crisis Response Team

Submitted by Rev. C.J. Wright, CTR, CTSS - Team & Training Program Coordinator

The Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board (KCCRB) has been providing peer support services to the Fire Services for over 11 years. Currently the Fire Service, EMS/EMT/Paramedics, and Fire Service Chaplains make up almost 46% of the trained and credentialed State Team. The Team has provided services to almost 1500 firefighters/EMS in just the past two years alone.

Trained and credentialed Peer Teams are available to every Fire/EMS/SAR department after a critical incident to assist crews in getting back to normal operations after a particularly tough run. Comments from Satisfaction Surveys include: "The support these individuals provided to our crews during this event was priceless. They were a calm and assuring presence. Thank you so much for the support," and "you can't imagine how helpful it is to have someone on the scene to address family questions & concerns."

KCCRB is a state resource which means response services and consultations are available at no cost. Call one of the numbers below or the state EOC for 24 hour Response Teams.

The KCCRB needs seasoned Fire Service career and volunteer personnel to serve on the Crisis Response Team. Membership requirements include the completion of an approved crisis intervention course. While these courses cost \$150 each, there is an opportunity to take the Psychosocial Impact of Disasters & Catastrophic Events (PIDCE) Trained Community Crisis Responder Course for free to meet minimum course requirements. Once a person is a team member in good standing, the rest of the courses offered are free.

For more information, contact KCCRB at kccrb@ky.ngb.army.mil or call 502-607-5781 or 888-522-7228 (24-hour).

Oct. 5 Psychosocial Impact of Disasters & Catastrophic Events (PIDCE) Lexington, KY

Oct. 6 Psychosocial Impact of Disasters & Catastrophic Events (PIDCE) Jackson, KY

Oct. 7 Psychosocial Impact of Disasters & Catastrophic Events (PIDCE) Prestonburg, KY

Oct. 26-27 Individual Crisis Intervention & Peer Support Lexington Police Dept.

Nov. 4-5 Pastoral Crisis Intervention I
Holiday Inn Express 96 Daniel Dr., Danville, KY

All of the above classes have deadlines for registration as well some have prerequisites. For more information on class requirements call 502-607-5781.

Meade County Fire School October 3 – 4

Registration begins at 7 AM all classes begin at 8:00 AM. The school is held at the Meade County High School, 938 Old State Road, Brandenburg, KY. For more information call Meade Co. FF Association 270-980-0881. Classes for this year's school include:

- 1. Basic 16 Hours Sat & Sun
- 2. Firefighter Survival & Rescue Sat & Sun
- 3. Haz Mat Operations Update Sat Only
- 4. Handling Propane Emergencies Sun Only
- 5. EMS Continuing Education Sat & Sun
- 6. Drivers Training Sat & Sun
- 7. Chaplain Training Sat Only
- 8. Fire Behavior & Control Sat & Sun

Buffalo Trace Regional/Dale Jackson Memorial Fire School October 23 – 25

Registration begins from 4:30 – 5 PM Friday, 7:30 – 8:45 AM Saturday, and 8 – 8:30 AM on Sunday at the Maysville Community and Technical College. For more information concerning the school contact Duane Suttles, Regional Fire Training Coordinator E-mail: duane.suttles@kctcs.edu or call Region 9 – State Fire Rescue Training 1-888-301-2946. Classes begin at 9 AM to 5 PM Saturday & Sunday unless otherwise noted.

- 1. Basic Firefighting
- 2. Hard to Get Hours
- 3. EMT Continuing Education Fri (5PM) Sun
- 4. Firefighter Survival Sat Only
- 5. Firefighter Rescue Sun Only
- 6. Handling Propane Emergencies Sat Only
- 7. Flashover Sun Only
- 8. Water Supply Sat Only
- 9. Advanced Foam Sun Only
- 10. High Pressure Air Bags 3 hours Fri Only

- 11. Grant Writing Class 3 hours Fri Only
- 12. Wildland Awareness 3 hours Fri Only
- 13. Responding to Hybrid Vehicle Incidents. 4 hours **Sat Morning Only**
- 14. Occupant Protection Systems 4 hours **Sat Afternoon Only**
- 15. Highway Crash Site Management 3 hours **Sun Morning Only**
- 16. Emergency Traffic Control for First Responders 4 hours **Sun Afternoon Only**

3rd Annual Marion County Fire School October 24 – 25

The headquarters and registration location for the Marion County Fire School is at Center Square, 239 North Spalding Avenue, Lebanon KY 40033. Free cookout Saturday Night 6:00 pm all you can eat. If additional questions or if assistance is needed, please call (270) 699-5908. You may also contact via email at candttech@windstream.net. Classes begin at 8 AM to 5 PM Saturday & Sunday unless otherwise noted. Schedule for this years classes include:

- 101. Fire Behavior & Control (Live Burn)
- 102. Firefighter Survival & Rescue
- 103. Drivers Training Sat Only
- 104. Hard to Get Classes
- 105. Advanced Rope Rescue
- 106. First Responder and EMT Con Ed
- 107. Meth Lab Awareness Sun Only
- 108. Arson Invest. & Crime Scene Mgt.
- 109. Intermediate Search & Rescue Tactics

2009 Dixie Drills

Saturday December 5th 8AM – 5 PM SFRT Area 5, Regional Bowen Training Center, Elizabethtown

Participants will rotate through all skill stations on both tracts. Students will be challenged to use their existing technical skills in the following subjects: Vehicle and Equipment Stabilization, Vehicle Recovery, Cutting/Prying, Rope Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Haz Mat Decontamination. This program is not for the beginner. For more information contact: Dale Dobson 270-872-9570 or email dale.dobson@ky.gov or Rusty Todd 270-307-4799 email russelle.todd@kctcs.edu or Casey Hall 888-234-7201 casey.hall@kctcs.edu.

West Kentucky EMS Weekend

West KY EMS Weekend is scheduled for October 17-18, 2009. Receive 16 hours of mandatory CEU's. Pre-registration fee is \$35.00 - after October 14 fee is \$40.00. Classes begin at 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. For more information call our office at (270) 534-3444 local or (888) 306-7901 toll free.

Dry Ridge Fire Dept. "Fire Symposium" Jan. 16-17,2010

- Sat. Jan 16 "Truck Company Operations/ Today's Fire Service
 By Michael Dugan, New York City FD
- Sun. Jan 17 "Air Management: The Point of NO Return and How FF's are Dying in Structure Fires

By Mike Gagliano, Seattle FD

\$75.00 Before Jan. 1st and \$85 After Jan 1st. Information and on-line registration at www.drfd.com. Hotel Info: Dry Ridge Hampton Inn 1200 Cull Road Dry Ridge KY 41035 phone 859-823-7111

2009 IFSAC SKILLS TESTING SCHEDULE

Date	Area	Location	Phone
10/10-11/09	6	Louisville	888-306-8064
10/17-18/09	5	Elizabethtown	888-234-7201
10/31-11/01	7	Highland Heights	888-306-8101
11/7-8/09	15	TBA	888-234-3961
11/21-22/09	1	Calvert City	888-306-7901
12/5-6/09	12	Hazard	888-234-6759
12/12-13/09	4	Bowling Green	888-234-5760

Written testing information is available on the IFSAC web site at http://www.kyffcert.com. Tests are given at the system office usually on the third Monday of the month. Each time you take the written test you must pay a \$15.00 charge. Contact Duane Suttles for more information about written test location and dates at 888-301-2946. RE-MINDER: Candidates must be at least 18 years of age and be a member of a Kentucky FD or a fulltime student of Fire Science at EKU or KCTCS to be eligible for firefighter testing. Candidates must bring state issued drivers license or ID card to skills testing site for positive identification and verification of age eligibility. Candidates under 18, may complete any of the written exams, and may certify to Haz Mat Awareness only. All Certifications are based on the Professional Qualification standards set forth by the NFPA for Firefighters, except Haz Mat, which is a Job Performance standard. Our accreditation is through the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).

Policies and Procedures By Dave Denniston Client Education and Training Manager Emergency Services Insurance Program

During my tenure as chief of our department, I always dreaded walking through the door and finding someone looking through our big green policy manual. Now some of you are out there thinking "what's wrong with that"? "After all don't we want our people to read the policies"? The answer to those questions is of course, YES, we do want our members to read and understand our policies. The problem is I knew most people read them either after they did something wrong and they wanted to find out just how much trouble they were in, or when they were mad at another member of the organization and were trying to figure out how to get someone in trouble because they did not follow a policy.

NFPA standards require us to have a risk management plan and policies to cover the dangerous functions of our jobs. So here we go again, another one of those darn standards and someone else telling us what to do. Is that a good reason to have them? Sure it is, but it is not the best reason. The best reason to have policies in your organization is so that everyone is on the same page, doing the same task, the same way, every time. Without policies our members get complacent, confused and yes, even downright lazy sometimes. A good set of policies will reduce the confusion, build teamwork and will most likely cause your organization to become more efficient and a safer place for all of us. As emergency services organizations shouldn't we be most concerned with safety?

If you are like our department, many of your policies have become outdated. Just looking at the task of reviewing them and making necessary changes can seem like a huge task. It is easy to let this slide to the bottom of the task list, but we must move ahead and get it done. One way is to assign the task to several people, have them review, bring suggestions and then finalize the revised policy with the leader of the organization. Not only does this help to spread the work load, but it also helps to get "buy in" from the group when they are presented. We tend to accept things better that we all had a hand in helping to develop.

After you have your revised policies, present them, train with them and most importantly enforce them. When something goes wrong in your orga nization, one of the first documents that will be asked for by outside agencies is a copy of your policies and procedures. If written properly and followed they can be your greatest ally. However if they have not been followed they can be used build a case against your organization.

Policies are one of the most important tools in your organization and often one of the most neglected and underutilized tools that you have. Get them out, dust them off, make revisions, distribute and follow them. I have talked to far too many leaders of organizations who wish they had done all that only after it was too late and something went wrong. In the long run well written, enforced policies will make everyone's job easier and safer at a fraction of the cost of most of the other tools of our trade

Daviess County Volunteer Firefighter Extreme Home Makeover

Steve Mattingly is a Volunteer firefighter in Daviess County for the Yelvington Fire Department. Steve was injured at a structure fire December 2007. Steve had the road shut down and was directing traffic. Steve was hit by a vehicle, and sustained serious injuries. Since this time Steve has been off work. Steve was chosen from five candidates by Extreme Home Makeover board to have a 3200 square foot home built for Steve and his family.

Steve, Melisa and his two daughters will get the keys to their new home this weekend 9/12/2009

The work started last Saturday and the home was constructed in seven days. The community has pulled together to assist with the construction of their new home. The Mattingly family left for a vacation in the Bahamas on Saturday night courtesy of the show. Volunteers from Daviess county and surrounding countys have volunteered their time to build the Mattingly family a new home. Daviess County Fire departments have assisted with the construction of the new home along with providing medical care for the workers; the coverage was 24/7 for the week.

The Firefighters of Daviess County would like the thank all who participated in the Extreme Makeover for Steve and his family. This new home will help the Mattingly family during this difficult time.

Thanks to all who Serve and protect your Communities. Thank you Extreme Makeover.

Bob Newman, Chief

Thruston Philpot Fire Department, First VP KFA



In recent months in the Dixie Region, we have had a few new things going on. The largest among these, the ribbon cutting for our new farm safety trailer. This took place on August 20th at the Kentucky State Fair. This event was attended by Governor Steve Beshear and Ag Commissioner Richie Farmer, along with Ronnie Day Fire Commissioners office, among others. From the Dixie Firefighters Association, President Steve Sheets, Vicepresident Dale Dobson, 2nd Vice-president Richard Peters, and Secretary Lisa French. Casey Hall SFRT area 5 Coordinator was also in attendance. There were others there as well and we appreciate each and every one of them.

Also we want to remind everyone of the annual Dixie Firefighters Association Memorial and Awards Banquet. The banquet will take place on October 22 at 6 PM at the Bowen Training Center in Elizabethtown.

Plans are already under way for the 2010 Dixie Fire School.

Lisa French Secretary

News from Northern Kentucky

N.Ky. Firefighters Assoc. selects a firefighter of the month, and he/she is displayed on our local TV. Firefighter for August is Joy Cutter/McVey and for September is Retired Chief Joe Messmer of Edgewood. Southgate F.D celebrated their 100th Anniversary, Petersburg F.D is celebrating their 50th Anniversary on September 12th. Walton F.D. will host a parade and open house of their new station September 26th.

Words of Wisdom

An eye for eye and a tooth for a tooth only ends up making the whole world blind and toothless. Mohandas Gandhi

FOR SALE

1979 GMC **Emergency One** Midi Pumper



a 500 gallon pump and 500 gallon tank. It has a 5kw ONAN generator with 2 500 watt grtz lights and only has 36,000 miles on it with a new 427 engine being installed less than 3000 miles ago.

allison auto transmission. Electric hose reel with 100 ft. of hose on truck, Ladders, fire ext. Front jump line, mid-ship cross lay and hose bed preconnect.

Possum Trot/Sharpe Fire Protection District will be accepting bids on this truck thru October 2009. Possum Trot/Sharpe Fire Protection District reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

For additional information contact Possum Trot/ Sharpe Fire Department (270) 898-6230.

It's Not Too Late to Support the KFA

It's no secret that the KFA needs your support. But have you considered how bad you need the KFA? Don't think for a moment that our Big Brother government is in the business of looking out for you! Yes there are pubic servants in state government that care. However, for the most part you can count on one thing what they are looking out for is whatever they can get out of your wallet. Their saving grace is they need your vote to stay on the receiving end of your taxes. They listen to groups like the KFA, Chiefs Association, and the KPF because they know how powerful of a voting group firefighters are.

You need the voice of the KFA to speak up for you in situations where no one else can or will. It's hard to say the KFA represents the 800 + departments in the state when only a little over 300 departments are members. If your department is a member we thank you. If you are not then take the time to mail in this application with your check so you can be part of the solution instead of part of the problem. We need your support but then in turn you need the support of the KFA.

In an effort to conserve money, paper, and postage the application for you to renew your dues is printed on the next page. You will **NOT** receive your normal renewal notice in the mail as in years past. You may make a copy of the dues notice or simply cut it out, enclose a check for \$75, and mail it to Terry Keller at the address provided. If you have any question please call Terry at 859-261-9986.

Kentucky Firefighters Association Membership

KFA By-laws regarding Membership

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP; All individuals, shall by virtue of their membership in their respective fire departments, be members of the KFA, so long as said organization remains a member of this association.

Eligible KFA membership shall be limited to public and private emergency response organizations including, fire departments and fire districts "structural" Fire Brigades, hazardous material response team, Fire authorities, Fire Insurance or other salvage corps, {1} Structural fire brigades as defined by KOSHA and or NFPA {2} Meeting minimum requirements of tech level by KOSHA and NFPA

SECTION 3: Active membership may be obtained in the KFA by paying annual dues of \$75.00 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. A copy of the KFA Newsletter is sent to each active membership member on a bi-monthly basis. To receive a personal copy of the newsletter, to an address of your choosing, include a check or money order for \$25.00 with the form below to:

Terry Keller, Treasurer PO Box 16194 Ludlow KY 41016 859-261-9986

KFA Membership Application

lease print clearly and indicate the type of membership by checking the box below				
Organization/Individuals Name	ividuals Name			
Address				
Phone	Fax			
E-mail	Chief			
Department Membership (include chec	k for \$75.00)			
Smoke Signals II (Newsletter personal	I membership, include check for \$25.00)			

Our organization is only as strong as its membership!

Feel free to duplicate and distribute this form

THE COURAGE TO BE SAFE

www.everyonegoeshome.com Chief Marc A. Muench, EGH State Advocate marc.muench@florence-ky.gov Cell 859 991-0721

I recall the story many years ago of two young firefighters who were ordered to advance a handline into the front door of a well involved residential structure. As they entered the building they attempted to stop to fight the visible flames before advancing but the young officer behind them ordered them forward, physically pushing them from behind. Eventually, they got into an area where the environment was untenable, even with their full PPE in place. Finally, the two firefighters bailed out. Should they have been disciplined for their actions? This month's topic, within the "16 Fire Fighter-Life Safety Initiatives", looks into the roles and responsibilities of each firefighter in avoiding and dealing with "unsafe practices":

Initiative #4-"ALL FIREFIGHTERS MUST BE EMPOWERED TO STOP UNSAFE ACTS."

What more unsafe practice is there than advancing a hand-line into a burning building or working a crash on the Interstate or coming into contact with a patient afflicted with who knows what kind of communicable ailments? Let's face it; what we do is by nature dangerous. Sometimes, it is very dangerous. Although we all would appreciate a foolproof process for staying safe, the purpose of the fourth Firefighter initiative is not for us to avoid every dangerous situation that we encounter. It is simply a plan to allow for all firefighters to have input when it comes to personal safety. In a past article it was noted that line officers have the ultimate responsibility for the safety of those firefighters working under them. Line officers must be trained to identify all situations that may endanger those under their command however there is an old adage that "four eyes are better than two", hence "six are better than four and so on...... On the fire scene, we should all strive to have as many eyes as possible looking for unsafe conditions and preventing unsafe practices. What this means is that the line officer and this crew must constantly communicate with each other as to what they see, what they hear, what they feel and what they think. "Did you see that flash of flame across ceiling? I heard wood cracking? It's getting too hot back here. Captain, something doesn't look right." Line officers need all of the input you can give them in order to make decisions and to carry out the tactical end of their mission in an ultimately safe manner.

OK. Here comes the inevitable question. What if your officer is inexperienced or perhaps not totally confident in a particular situation? The fire ground is not the place to learn or debate these issues. While it is your responsibility to follow your officer's orders, you are not required to participate in unsafe practices. However, if you make the decision to disregard an order for safety sake, you must be fully prepared to defend your actions. Your decision must be based on factual information and not your opinion. Needless to say, your decision will cause controversy so be prepared to defend your actions. None the less, personal safety must be paramount

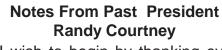
The absolute best way to stop unsafe acts is to not have them occur in the first place. Good solid training in fire ground strategies and tactics that are carried out with safety in mind should allow you to avoid most situations where unsafe acts might come into play. And here we go again... What do your SOG's/SOP's instruct you to do in particular situation. If you have them, they should guide you through. If you don't have them, the chances of things going wrong increase dramatically.

So, imagine that instead of one Safety Officer on the scene of an incident, every firefighter who has responded takes on the role of "Deputy Safety Officer", responsible for keeping their officer "Situationally Aware" of their surroundings and any hazards that might exist. I am confident that taking on this role will increase the chances that each of us "Keeps Going Home, After Each Run and After Each Shift."

FY 09 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants

DHS has posted the FY09 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grants Program Guidance on the Fire Grants Program Website. The application period began on September 21, 2009. Applications for these grants must be received by October 23, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. (EST).

An applicant tutorial for the fire prevention activity will be available through the www.firegrantsupport.com Website. The tutorial provides you with valuable grant information and will walk you through the preparation and submittal of competitive applications. In addition, it will provide an overview of the fire prevention funding priorities and evaluation criteria. Applicants who have questions regarding the Fire Prevention and Safety Grants opportunity should contact the help desk as soon as possible at 1-866-274-0960.



I wish to begin by thanking everyone who attend the 89th Annual KFA Conference. I will tell you one thing it

wasn't easy to pull off but it was fun. I know you have probably already heard the story of why we needed to move it, so I won't bore you with that again. I do however have some people I need to thank for their help. I am not talking about the kind of help that says oh sure whatever you need and then you never see them again. No sir I am speaking of the help that takes the bull by the horn and runs with it all the way to the finish line. I first want to thank Lewis Ratliff and Joey Little for being there all year for me. If they weren't helping me out in a KFA activity they were picking up my slack in our association. I know if you have been to any of our functions for the past 4 years you know who these two gentlemen are. Then I had a KFA Conference Committee that was made up of people that resembles a who's who in the Kentucky Fire Service, Ronnie Day, Charlie Shaw, Jamia Skaggs, Bobby Cowherd, Rick Bobo, John Daley, John Wiseman, John Beatsch, Therese Chaney, Howdy Kurtsinger, and Troy Newcomb. Most of these folks were the ones that met with me every Wednesday for 5 weeks at the motel to check the progress or to see what else needed to be done before all of you arrived at the conference.

With a group of leaders and people like this you could rest assured you were going to have a great conference. The conference wouldn't have been such a great success if it hadn't been for three main people Howdy, Therese, and Charlie. Howdy was asked to do the golf outing and I am so glad he did because from what I have heard it was a great success. I am not a golfer but I didn't hear the first complaint from the outing. He had several of the Fire Commission staff working with him such as Tim, Jeremy, and Tom to name a few. Next would be Therese Chaney my savior of this conference. She was asked to take on the Ladies Program on Monday and did so even after she saw how screwed up I had made it so let me tell you this woman jumped in and saved my conference. No, she wasn't alone, of course, because there was too much to do for one person so I think she had everyone in the FC office doing something. I would like to thank each of those ladies and I owe them a lot. Thank you Mary, Lisa, Casey, Rebecca, Brenda, and Sandy Day. We even got work out of Brice Day as well. These ladies would sometimes work all night just to have things ready for the next morning.

Now there were also folks in charge of different things like the Olympics, Memorial service, Hillbilly Welcome Party, Ladies luncheon, The Conference, Banquet Dinner, Hall of Fame. They all had assistants or helpers working with them and everything was a great success. I truly am forever indebted to them for their help. All of these folks helped me give you a great 89th Annual KFA Conference. I hope I didn't leave anyone out and if I did it is purely by mistake and I ask for your forgiveness. This conference was truly a miracle in the making from several different people and organizations, and I am so grateful that they will never ever know. I love each and every one of them and so glad that I can call them my friend and ex wife!!!!!!!!! Thanks to all of you all for attending and making our work pay off. See you in 2010.

Thanks for Everything Randy Countney

Past President 2008-2009



Kentucky Foresters Join Other Area Fosters to Help With California Wildfires

FRANKFORT, KY – (Aug. 6, 2009) – An interagency crew of

40 firefighters are on their way to Redding, Calif., where they will be assigned to a fire to assist with suppression efforts. Numerous large fires are currently burning in northern California and in other areas of the Northwest. The crews assembled at the Southern Interagency Fire Cache in London, Ky., and were ordered through the dispatch office of the Kentucky Interagency Coordination Center of the Daniel Boone National Forest on Wednesday. The crews consist of firefighters from the Daniel Boone National Forest, the Kentucky Division of Forestry, the National Park Service and the Tennessee Division of Forestry.

Although wildfires have not posed a problem for Kentucky this summer, forestry officials want to remind private landowners, public land managers and homeowners to help prevent wildland fires. Kentucky's fall fire hazard season begins Oct. 1 and officials are concerned about the potential for increased wildfire activity due to the accumulation of wood debris from last winter's storms. To find out how you can prevent a wildfire from striking your home, visit the Kentucky Division of Forestry Web site at http://www.forestry.ky.gov/. For more information about national wildfires, visit http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/index.htm.



National Volunteer Fire Council

ken knipper, Director Bryant Stiles, Alternate

NVFC Establishes Health and Safety Priorities to Keep First Responders at their B.E.S.T.

The health and safety of our nation's volunteer fire service is a primary concern for the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC). Each year, first responders are killed or injured due to factors that could have been avoided with the proper safety and health precautions. To help keep firefighters and emergency personnel strong and prevent tragedies, the NVFC has released a series of health and safety priorities to more effectively address the critical health and safety issues impacting the volunteer fire service.

The NVFC has always been active in promoting and implementing initiatives to keep first responders healthy and safe. This includes launching the Heart-Healthy Firefighter Program in 2003 to proactively combat the leading cause of line-of-duty firefighter deaths – heart attack. In addition, the NVFC teamed up with the United States Fire Administration to address the second leading cause of firefighter fatalities with the Emergency Vehicle Safe Operations for Volunteer and Small Combination Emergency Service Organizations program.

Building on these and other efforts to protect first responders, the NVFC Board of Directors established a Health and Safety Committee in the spring of 2008 to further the NVFC's initiatives in the areas of health and safety. The Committee pro duced the Volunteer Firefighter Health and Safety Priorities to provide departments with guidance on key issues that need to be addressed in order to keep department members safe and eliminate cases of preventable injury and death.

The Volunteer Firefighter Health and Safety Priorities are set forth in a series of B.E.S.T. practices for the volunteer fire and emergency services, divided into four main focus areas. The priorities are as follows:

Behavior

- Support the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of all personnel.
- Operate all emergency apparatus and privately owned vehicles to conform to the highest road safety standards and enforce the use of seatbelts.
- Develop, practice, and enforce recommended health and safety standards for all personnel.
- Monitor and ensure that all active emergency scenes maintain the utmost level of safety and fireground accountability.

Equipment

- Provide and require the proper use of full personal protective equipment.
- Maintain all equipment based on established safety recommendations.

Standards

- Encourage the use of all smoke, fire detection, and fire suppression devices, including fire sprinkler systems, in all structures.
- Vigorously enforce all fire safety codes and ordinances.
- Obtain apparatus and equipment that meet national safety standards.

Training

- Utilize fire training programs that conform to the highest professional standards.
- Operate a safe fire training ground at all times.
- Establish, maintain, and deliver fire safety programs for all age groups.

These priorities will guide the direction of the NVFC's initiatives to keep first responders safe and healthy. The NVFC highly encourages departments to adopt and adhere to the B.E.S.T. Practices to protect their personnel from harm.



KCTCS/SFRT/Fire Commission Unveils it's New Fire History Trailer at State Fair

Visitors at the Kentucky State Fair got a special treat this year with the unveiling of the new Kentucky Fire History Trailer. This new addition to the mobile fleet is to be used to help local departments as a recruitment tool. Pictures of local Departments Fire History are being sought by SFRT Director Bryant Stiles. If you have pictures you would like to share call the Fire Commission Office at 1-800-782-6823.



Ag Safety Display Dedicated to Louis Crosier

This year's AG Safety Display at the State Fair was dedicated to one of my dearest and closest friends, my former chief Louis W Crosier. His untimely death in December of 08 was difficult on

his friends and department. However he has not and will not be forgotten. He was a firefighter, farmer, Agricultural Mechanic, Chief of KY 86 Fire & Rescue from 1984 – 2008 and most of all a friend and mentor in the world of Agricultural Rescue. He never met a firefighter or farmer he didn't like. He along with Dale Dobson wrote most all of what we call one of the best AG rescue program in the nation. When an AG rescue has to be preformed the persons doing the rescue were more than likely trained through the State Fire Rescue Training "Farm Rescue Program".

The Fire SUV

by Dawn Vail

Loss Control Safety Representative Emergency Services Insurance Program

When I first joined the fire service, I had no idea what I was getting myself in to. Unlike many people that join, my family was never in the fire service or in law enforcement. I was 29 years old, had decided to take an EMT class and I realized in that EMT class that what I was really interested in was rescue - technical rescue, extrication, etc; tasks that are considered Fire Department responsibilities. In our area, the fire department is dispatched to all emergency medical calls along with the ambulance service so it seemed logical for me to join. I walked into my local fire department and asked for an application. Over the next several years, and many training classes later, I fell in love with the fire service but I still remember how little I knew of what the fire department did on a daily basis until I walked through those doors. Honestly, I rarely ever saw a building on fire in our community - maybe a couple of times each year. I often wondered what they did with the remainder of their time. Now I wonder how many other people in our community also have absolutely no idea what our fire department does every day. Do they only see members of the fire department when they are raising money and fighting for additional funding or during a person's darkest hour? It should be part of every fire department and emergency service organization mission statement to disseminate information and education to the public in which they serve. To not include this as part of the organization's mission would be the greatest disservice both to the community and to the organization.

The other day, one of our seasoned loss control field reps with years of experience in the fire service sent me an email with a link to a comedic skit just to lighten my day. You may have seen it, too – it's titled the 'Fire SUV' and may be found at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fn CGZhvSRjO for those of you who have not had the pleasure of a good chuckle today). After I stopped laughing to myself, I realized most people probably have the same perception! The only way to change public perception is to speak out and

educate the people in your community about your department. Before you get nervous thinking that you do not have *time* to do any more than you are already doing, I will give you a few simple examples of little things that can be done to enhance your public image.

- 1) The media can be viewed as friend or foe but establishing a relationship with local media outlets can be an asset. Check with local newspapers and radio stations. Many of them offer free public service announcement (PSA) opportunities to community businesses. What a great way to pass along a fire safety message or a 'Did you know' tidbit about your department! Most PSA are short, often less than 50 words and can be aired or published on a regular basis.
- 2) Become involved with community events. A local seasonal festival is a great way for the public to meet and greet firefighters and shows the community that you are one of them. It is a great way to recruit new members, too!
- 3) Open House does not have to be reserved for once a year in October! Invite the public to monthly meetings or host a special event. Youth groups are often looking for places to visit within the community and the fire department is a great opportunity to introduce young people to the fire service and all it has to offer.

Ultimately, the fire department or emergency service organization is a public service entity. Involving the department in the community in non-emergency ways will show the spiritual rewards associated with volunteerism and the good feelings of doing for others. Budgets are tighter than ever before and everyone is being asked to do more with less. However, developing a positive rapport with the members of your community is priceless and should be viewed as an operational priority. amples of little things that can be done to enhance your public image.



The fire truck at the bottom of the column to the left was delivered by High Tech Rescue, Shelbyville Ky. to the Waddy Fire Department in Shelby County it is a 2009 Toyne on a International Chassis with 1000 gal. Poly tank. The unit also features a 1250 GPM Hale Pump, and a Honda EM5000 generator set.

The Following Trucks Were Delivered by Bluegrass Fire Apparatus



Campground VFD - London, KY

International 7600 2-door Chassis, 3500 gal ss elliptical tank, 1250 hale pump, NFPA led light package, deck gun, Newton electric dump, extended front bumper with built in storage, SCBA sliding trays, hose bed storage.



Kyrock VFD - Kyrock, KY

2000 gallon ss elliptical tank, International 4400 chassis, 500 Darley PTO pump, telescoping FRC lights, side and rear electric dumps, NFPA LED light package.



Spencer Co FD - Taylorsville, KY

2250 Gallon Elliptical Stainless Tank, Kenworth T300 Chassis, Darley Portable Pump, Dual Rear Newton Dump Valves, NFPA LED Lighting package

Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members

<u>Please</u> remember these members when you have purchasing needs.

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ESIP Emergency Services Insurance Program 20 Church St Cortland, NY 13045 800-822-3747 Fax 607-756-6225 wdixon@mcneilandcompany.com	Excellance, Inc. Thomas Pugh 453 Lanier Road Madison, AL 35758 256-772-9321	FAAC Inc. Bill Martin 1229 Oak Valley Dr. Ann Arbor MI 48108 734-761-5836 Fax 734-761-5368 wbmartin@faac.com
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GBC Customized Calanders Kathy Whitmore 420 Rosebud Lane Winchester, KY 40391 859-737-8237 kwhitmore@gordonbernard.com	Heritage Fire Equipment Inc. 15400 Hwy 231 Union Grove AL 37175	Hilliard Enhanced Learning Programs (HELP) Mike Hilliard www.4-help.org sales@4-help.org 888-504-4357 Fax 502-532-0800
High Tech Rescue Inc. James Riddle 2116 Frankfort RD. Shelbyville, Ky. 40065 502-633-0149 Fax 502-633-0659 james.riddle@insightbb.com	Inspection, Testing, & Maint. I.T.M. Inc. Jim Doyle Firehose, Flow, & Hydrant Fordsville KY 270-903-1230 itminc67599@bellsouth.net	Innovative Business Concepts Printing and Marketing Items 845 W Steve Warner Dr. Russell Springs, KY 42642 800-489-3434
Kentucky Assn. of Fire Chiefs 1400 Evelegreen Rd Anchorage, KY 40223 502-245-6755 Fax 502-245-9029 chief@anchoragefireandems.com	Kentucky Fire Comm. SFRT KCTCS Director Ronnie Day 300 N Main Street, Versailles KY 42353 (800) 782-6823 (859) 256-3478 Fax (859) 256-3125	Larry Sparks, 2060 E. Harbor Road
Kentucky Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators Rusty Todd, 630 College Street Elizabethtown KY 42701	Kentucky Office of Homeland Security 300 North Main Street Versailles, KY 40383	MagneGrip Group, Cheryl Toney 11449 Deerfield Rd. Cincinnati OH 45242 513-489-4440 X112 Fax 513-247-2502 ctoney@magnegrip.com

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The Deadline for December issue submission of articles is November 10, 2009

J O H N S C R E E K D T E G T R B P L N L M Q Q P H LJRLVANLEARMLEAPAINTSVILLE ENOBWORRAMYNRLRRARPLHBMJHY G R J N T H K N T B X L R G F H R K Z H N T P X B R RRLIVMEMQYPGBMBJTELEECPRKQ AEYFKLEWRHQYFEJXCTTANLRNBN D T F M B R A D X A T C T T B V C C T E I P C D W E B I O K G C R Y Y M R O P N S R Q C I Y H O S R Y V U N G B M D F W N L Q A J Y L Y S N T R W T C M Q ISUATPNIMYECLXPVHLNICTANVN NHMMKMAEKCHYRRTEKUARTSSRMC EPMHVCLLGATLUDLEOSEYTRIINZ TYOTQRSDTKLKNBECGEDLNVABDH RTCRBCIFKNELYRNNKBETEEHMYL KINOPJIGCEOVCOINTIVRHKLYNG RCENREZTROADSRPJTPMMGXEGGT RNLTLGNCKLNNPCFPXJRPXMFHRH LRLDXTSOLOOSGFKQRZCLETTYXX QOAYTDUEPHLAERADIVADZRBTTR KHHTETYRJIRPLNMNKKMJFMECJL GKQFLBEJOEBKCRWQCTJNRDAQGP B L R Z W P F R I K N G N X Z G Y L J L X R V Y T D TENTPRXXLXQTFERRELLSCREEKJ M G B U M X U B N B E L F R Y Q G L M R Q Q R L R F MJTYQAFNXELLIVSREYLASZNNKX MKKEERCENACIRRUHYZLVKNYKVL

The column to the left is an Area 11 Fire Department Name related word search. Circle the Name to the left from the list below. The solution will be posted in next month's issue.

ALLENCOMMUNITY AUXIER BELFRY BETSYLAYNE COALRUN COWCREEK DISTRICTTHREE DAVIDAREA ELKHORNCITY **FEDSCREEK** FERRELLSCREEK **GARRETT GRAPEVINE HATFIELD** HURRICANECREEK **INEZ ISLANDCREEK** JHONSONCOUNTY **JOHNSCREEK KIMPER** LEFTBEAVER LOOKOUT MARROWBONE MARTIN NORTHMAGOFFIN OILSPRINGS PAINTSVILLE **PHELPS** REDBUSH **RIVER** SALYERSVILLE SHELBYVALLEY THEALKA **THELMA** UPPERPONDCREEK VANLEAR WARFIELD WRCASTLE