



Smoke Signals II

Smoke Signals is a Publication of the Kentucky Firefighters Association

Indian Hills first Kentucky municipality to pass ordinance requiring fire sprinklers in all new homes

By Russel E. Sanders

October 26, 2007 (Indian Hills, Kentucky) — In an effort to increase fire safety and protect its citizens, the Indian Hills City Council approved an ordinance requiring the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems in all newly constructed homes. While the passage of residential fire sprinkler ordinances is a growing trend nationwide, Indian Hills is the first municipality in Kentucky to pass such an ordinance.



According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), eight out of 10 fire deaths occur in the home. Fires in one- and two-family dwellings caused \$5.7 billion in direct property loss. Fire safety experts believe fire sprinklers are the next generation in home fire safety because they save lives, reduce property loss and help cut homeowner insurance premiums.

According to the non-profit Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC), smoke alarms warn people when there is smoke in their home, fire sprinklers can contain and may even extinguish a fire in less time than it would take the fire department to arrive on the scene. Only the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate spraying water directly on the fire. Ninety percent of fires are contained by the operation of just one sprinkler.



According to Tom Eifler, Sr., Indian Hills Mayor and Chairman of the St. Matthew's Fire Department, the city council passed the ordinance to protect its residents and firefighters. "Although we don't have a lot of new construction, we do have a number of old structures that are being torn down and replaced with new structures that are much larger. This ordinance sends a message that we care about the lives of our residents and firefighters," Eifler said.

NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. Visit NFPA's Web site at www.nfpa.org

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Notes From The President's Desk

John Daley

Since our last edition of "Smoke Signals" your KFA Executive Board met in Maysville during the Buffalo Trace Fire School. Thanks to Duane Suttles and everyone associated with the school for being great host.

During the E-Board meeting I stressed the importance of increased membership to the KFA. There are many fire departments around the state that will join the KFA if they are only contacted and explained the mission and benefits the KFA offers. I presented each Vice-President with a letter and informational flyer to present departments so they may physically see the importance of the KFA and how their participation will aid their departments and others. Please promote the KFA and show the way for others to join. Membership dues are now being accepted. Make sure your department is a KFA member (\$75.00) and you can join via a personal membership (\$25.00). For more information on membership in the KFA, contact any E-Board member or Regional Director or visit our website, www.kyfa.org.

We are continually participating in the planning sessions for this year's State Fire School in June. The school will be bigger and better than ever. Please make plans now to travel to Lexington, June 12-15 for the new and enhanced State Fire School and Homeland Security Conference.

KFA legislative lobbyist Mike Kurtsinger attended our meeting in Maysville and provided us a preliminary update on this year's General Assembly which will convene in January, 2008. All of the legislative resolutions passed at our annual conference will be presented to legislators for sponsorship. With your help we may be able to pass some of these initiatives. Once again, we will be working closely with the KPF, KAFC, and the Fire Commission with a united front to pass legislation for the benefit of Kentucky's Fire and Emergency Service.

Obviously, with any legislation, we will need the support of the entire state-wide fire service community. Be prepared and if called upon, be ready to contact your legislators, and make those phone calls.

I wish to congratulate the Fire Commission, Fire Service Training and the Lexington Fire Department for hosting the "Combat Challenge" on August 11, 12. This event brought participants nationwide and showcased our states fire service and organization. The KFA looks forward to enhanced involvement when the "Challenge" returns to Kentucky. Good luck to all the participants from Kentucky who will be traveling to Las Vegas for the world championships.

Under glorious skies on October 3 we gathered at our Firefighter Memorial in Frankfort and honored those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. This year's event was well attended and I want to thank those who took time from their busy schedules to attend. We also unveiled our newest addition to the site, our monument for Kentucky firefighters who give their lives in military service to our country. This memorial is dedicated to our departed brother Sylvan Smith. "Smitty's" wife Jan and family were present and honored in recognition of Sylvan's efforts in the creation of our state memorials. Special thanks to our "keynote" speaker Major General Donald Storm of our Ky. National Guard for his inspiring tribute. Plan to attend next October for this day of remembrance and inspiration.

Participating at the memorial service was the KFA Honor Guard. This is a new unit, organized this summer by immediate KFA Past-President Troy Newcomb. Primarily consisting of members from the Western Kentucky area, we hope to expand the membership of the Honor Guard with members encompassing the entire state. They have already been called upon numerous times to participate in funerals and events around the state. I want to take this opportunity to thank Troy and each member of our Honor Guard for their dedication and support of the KFA.

In September, I had the privilege of attending the annual Pikeville/Pike County Regional Fire and Rescue School, speaking at the opening session. I want to thank KFA Vice-President Randy Courtney, Regional Director Lewis Ratliff, and everyone associated with the school. I was truly impressed by the attendance, dedication, support, and hospitality of our firefighters from the mountains. I look forward to attending the KFA conference in this area in 2009.

Speaking of conferences, our KFA 2008 conference is on the fast track with fundraising and planning. Meetings are held regularly and a great staff is in place to make your visit to Northern Ky. beneficial and enjoyable. Remember the dates, August 2-5, 2008 at the Drawbridge Inn in Ft. Mitchell. For more information go to www.kfa2008.com.

Your KFA E-Board will hold its next meeting in Owensboro at the Green River Officers School on February 23. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Once again, see you down the road and remember..... BE SAFE OUT THERE !

Sincerely,

John W. Daley

John W. Daley, KFA President



Treasurer's Notes
by Terry Keller

Cool air has come to Northern Kentucky. I guess winter will be right behind it. Remember to be eligible for the \$2,000.00 accidental life insurance policy, your department must be a current dues paying department. We hope no one ever has to collect on this policy, but it is free to all members and would be a shame if your department was not a dues paying department and your family lost out on this benefit.

There are 302 departments who have paid their dues. This is good, but there are 850 departments in the state. Please talk to the departments in your area and tell them how important it is to be a dues paying member of the K F A. I have sent letters to the Regional directors asking them to talk to the departments in their Region. Let's try to increase our membership 10% this year. That would be an additional 40 departments, since the K F A usually has 400 departments that pay dues.

I know some of the departments pay dues on a calendar year, January thru December. Just remember that dues are due October 1, of each year and are considered delinquent 90 days later or January 1, of the following year. I will be sending

out the second dues notice in January. Just a note to those departments that normally pay their dues in January or February, if at all possible pay your dues by the end of this year, that way your department would continue to be current and would have no delinquent time. This would greatly help in the case of an accidental death, God forbid.

The Executive Board met at Maysville and heard an update on the legislative issues that were passed at conference. Gerald and Howdy are working very hard to get the resolutions supported by House and Senate people. This could be one of the most important years for legislation, as we know something has to happen to the pension system for new hires. K F A is hopeful that the legislators do not try to bother the existing pensions.

Until I see you at Green River Officer School stay safe. Have a very happy holiday season, however you may celebrate it, most of all remember our brothers and sisters in the armed services.

Terry Keller, Treasurer

REGIONAL EMBERS



Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association
Richard Tapp President

We send you greetings from your West Kentucky Neighbors and the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association. As temperatures turn from hot and dry to cold and moist, we hope this season will prove to be successful, safe, and enjoyable. It seems as if Western Kentucky went from drought conditions with warm weather to cold and blustery with very little "Fall" season.

The Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association conducted their normal membership meeting on November 6th, 2007 at Reidland, Kentucky. Outgoing president Richard Tapp and his department hosted the meeting with a number of members present. Everyone enjoyed the home made lasagna dinner and fellowship with other departments. All 2006-2007 officers were thanked for their dedication. Paul Billings was recognized for his tireless efforts over the years to assist the JPFA. For those who don't know, Paul has previously not only

"Regional Embers" continued on next page . . .

'Regional Embers' continued . . .

been JPFA treasurer, but as mentioned by several in attendance the "glue that has held us together." Paul has retired from Fulton County Emergency Services, and is now ready to begin a new adventure in his life with his wife, Marcelene, and his motorcycle! Richard Tapp was also recognized for his vital and tireless efforts as JPFA president. New officers for 2007-2008 were elected as follows:

President	David Jackson
1 st Vice President	Chad Campbell
2 nd Vice President	John Smith
Secretary	Randy Harris
Treasurer	Missy Newcomb
Sgt. At Arms	William Joyce
PIO Officer	Willie Kerns

County Directors were elected as follows:

Ballard:	Mike Steele
Fulton:	Adam Lyons
Graves:	Jimmy Walker
Hickman:	Matt Walker
Livingston:	Joe Fowler
McCracken:	Teresa Joyce

Charles Lott, Area 1 SFRT Coordinator was in attendance and updated the membership on items of interest in Area 1 and State Fire Rescue Training. The JPFA always appreciates Charlie's attendance and participation in our organization and the support that he and State Fire Rescue Training provide to our membership.

The annual Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association fire school will be here before you know it. The JPFA website, at <http://www.jpfakey.com/>, will have complete and updated information, including an online application you will be able to fill out. You're not going to want to miss this annual spring school – it's one of the best fire schools in the state, and we want to see you there.

As a reminder, now is the time to get in on those final 2007 grants! The Department of Homeland Security has opened the window for 2007 fire prevention and safety grants. More information can be obtained from the KFA website at <http://www.kyfa.org/>. This is a good chance for your department to get some funding for those prevention

activities that can help you build goodwill throughout your community.

We also would like to remember Jerry Sirls, former chief of the Aurora-Ross fire department in Marshall County. Jerry passed away recently. He was a great man and an honorable, sustaining member of the far western Kentucky fire service community. A special thanks to our honor guard for providing an exceptional showing at Chief Sirls' service.

As we round out 2007 and get ready for a busy 2008, please take time during the Holiday season to remember our fallen brothers and sisters in the fire service, and our military personnel. Please take time to remember the "reason for the season", and may your department have a wonderful and **safe** holiday!

Happy Holidays from far Western Kentucky!

Willie Kerns

Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association Public Information Officer



Dixie Firefighters Association
LuAnn Mink President



Central Hardin Fire Department Open House

by Capt. J. C. Landford

The Central Hardin Fire Department ended Fire Prevention Week with an Open House, on Saturday October 13, 2007, at their Station #1. There was a booth with Fire Prevention Information and Halloween bags filled with treats & balloons for the kids. Also there were drinks and cookies and a slide show of CHFD in action. CHFD also showed off their trucks purchased earlier in the year, a 1998

E-One Tanker Pumper and a 1998 E-One 75' Quint. Kids and Adults alike climbed all over the trucks and took the day pretending to be a firefighter going to the Big One.

Central Hardin Fire Department also used the day to provide information about the new changes in paying for subscription service in Hardin County. Hardin County Fiscal Court earlier this year passed a new Ordinance putting the subscription fee on the tax bill with an Opt Out Clause. Before, each Fire Department had to go to the PVA Office and get a list of properties in their area and mail out a subscription letter, usually missing several properties. With the new system, every property owner will have a chance to enroll with the subscription service for their fire department. Fiscal Court and the fire departments are hoping this will as much as double the money each department receives.

Mountain Firefighters Association

Roger Friley President

The Mountain Firefighters Association held its annual elections for officers. Roger Friley, Jackson Fire Department Chief, was elected President. Mike Strickland, Krypton Fire Department, was elected Vice President. Don Duff, Grapevine-Chavies Fire Department, was elected Treasurer. Leonard Toler, Avawam Fire Department, was elected Secretary. During the election a new Director for KFA was elected and that was Sam Stacy from Hazard Fire Department. The association also discussed the upcoming 30th Annual Fire School and wanted to make it a very special event for all firefighters that attend.

Hazard Fire Department held the 3rd annual Safety Day at Perry County Park to kick off Fire Prevention Month. During the day citizens were given tours of the Fire Safety Trailer where fire prevention material was handed out. Also, the departments Ladder truck was available for kids to sit in and look at. The Department of Transportation allowed us to use their rollover simulator so that we could show those that attended what happens in the event of a rollover when passengers are not wearing seatbelts. PHI aero medical services brought in a helicopter as part of this event as well. The event which was a huge success raised money for the "Shop with a firefighter" program for underprivileged kids in our area.

The Mountain Firefighters Association has a busy year planned and hope that all firefighters in our region come out and help, enjoy and join in on the brotherhood of firefighters here in Eastern Kentucky.

The Importance of Saying "Thanks"

This is the time of year many people use to say thank you to those they usually take for granted. I don't mean that in a negative way. I just mean that the fire service is a hectic and busy business. Quite often we don't get around to saying THANK YOU as often as we should.

I'm going to take advantage of this time of year and say a few words to a man I came to depend on since I published my first newsletter April of 1996.

I met Paul at a KFA meeting I think in Owensboro back in the late 80s. But I didn't really get to know him until my friend Otto Mock moved to Fulton Kentucky. Over the years I came to look upon him as a great source of articles, jokes, stories, hard work, and one of the strongest supporters of the KFA I have ever known. There were times I felt like just giving up on the KFA because of individuals with their own agendas. However, a long talk with Paul and I saw why I needed to go on with my work.

He has done an excellent job with the KFA Scholarship Program since heading it up several years ago. It would not have been the program it is today without his leadership and guidance.

I have seen him work a conference until he could just barely walk. In 1993 when Tommy Kimbro was President and the conference was held in Paducah he was every where working with everyone. In 2000 when Gerald Stewart was president he was a very sick person but worked on Gerald's conference just the same. Again last year at Troy Newcombs conference in Gilbertsville he was there working every minute.

When no one else took the time to send in an article for the newsletter I could always count on Paul Billings. So to sum up my comments I will just say "Great Job Paul I will sorely miss you my friend"

If you have a Paul Billings type person in your department who comes through when no one else can or will remember to say thanks and really appreciate them to their face.

2008 Conference Notes

The 2008 KFA Conference will be held in Northern Kentucky. One of the projects for the conference is to make quilts, for each Region of the State. To help us with this endeavor, we would like to receive a patch from each department in the state (approximately 850 departments). If possible please send one of your department patches and a note stating which regional association you are a member of (ie: Green River, Dixie, JacksonPurchase, etc.) so we will get your patch on the appropriate quilt.

The quilts will be on display at the conference. To help us, we would like the patches as soon as possible, so that we can get started on this project immediately. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

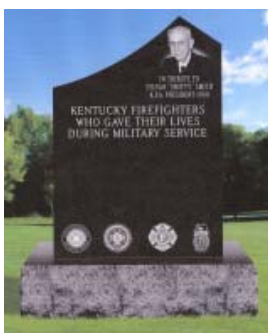
Send the patches to:

Ryland Heights Fire/EMS, 10041 Decoursey Pike
Ryland Heights KY 41015, Attn: Captain Rick Hopple

Yours in the Fire Service,

Rick Hopple

Captain Rick Hopple



Firefighters Killed in Military Service

Your KFA in conjunction with the Fire Commission, Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs, and Kentucky Professional Firefighters Association have built a memorial for those firefighters from KY killed while serving in the military. Each organization has split the cost of the memorial. The memorial was finished last month and will be ready for the October 2007 Memorial Service.

We now need your help. We are looking for the names of Kentucky firefighters who died in the line of military duty while serving in our military after 1990. Send your information to: Wallace Possich, 314 W. 2nd Street, Frankfort, KY 40601 or E-Mail: wallace.possich@kyfa.org

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Department of Justice Implements Plan to Enact Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefit Act

The Department of Justice unveiled a new strategy to streamline the claim review process and address the backlog issue related to the Hometown Heroes Survivor Benefits Act at a recent hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The Hometown Heroes Act of 2003 states that the families of public safety officers who suffer a fatal heart attack or stroke while in the line of duty may qualify for survivor benefits under the Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Program.

Families of three fallen firefighters testified at the hearing, detailing the difficulties they faced in attempting to claim survivor benefits from the Department of Justice (DOJ). The result: two denied claims, one pending claim and a combined five years of delay.

In a statement issued at the hearing, Domingo Herraiz, Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance which administers the PSOB program, vowed, "We have taken and will continue to take steps to decrease the time it takes for survivors to be given an answer on their claims." Those steps include additional PSOB staff, a case management system that enables claimants to track the status of their case, outreach to public safety agencies and—most importantly—a plan to expedite the claims process.

As of October 4th, DOJ reported 202 pending cases, 21 approvals, 57 denials and 26 appeals. The department has been criticized for major delays in processing claims and for rulings that, in the words of Herraiz, are "too restrictive."

Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, stated that the DOJ is "delaying implementation of the law and disregarding the clear will of Congress to grant surviving families death benefits in a timely, fair manner."

Herraiz recently addressed the semi-annual meeting of CFSI's National Advisory Committee regarding the issue. "I am not pleased with our progress over the last year," stated Herraiz, who

admits that the claim review process has taken longer than expected. "It's time for me to accept responsibility. I can take charge of my organization and I will fix it," he promises.

The department states that the initial backlog is the result of a complete revision of PSOB regulations following the implementation of the Hometown Heroes Act. The regulations were finalized in September of last year. DOJ maintains that most claims currently under review are waiting to receive additional evidence from the agency for which the public safety officer worked, causing additional delay.

Herraiz calls the internal issues at the DOJ a long-standing problem—one that he plans to resolve. "You will see a big change. In three months, I guarantee a difference with the Hometown Heroes claims. We can do better and we will do better."

In an attempt to enact these changes, DOJ released two policy memorandums relating to the processing of survivor benefit claims. The memos, signed by Director Herraiz, clarify the definitions of two terms contained in the Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefit Act of 2003.

The Hometown Heroes Act, which was unanimously passed by both houses of Congress and signed into law by President Bush in December of 2003, stated:

"if a public safety officer dies as the direct and proximate result of a heart attack or stroke, that officer shall be presumed to have died as the direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty, if—

- (1) that officer, while on duty—
 - (A) engaged in a situation, and such engagement involved ***non-routine stressful or strenuous physical*** law enforcement, fire suppression, rescue, hazardous material response, emergency medical services, prison security, disaster relief, or other emergency response activity; or
 - (B) participated in a training exercise, and such participation involved ***non-routine stressful or strenuous physical activity...***
 - (C) such presumption is not overcome by ***competent medical evidence to the contrary.***

The manner in which DOJ was defining the term "non-routine stressful or strenuous physical

activity" has caused some concern among survivors and the public safety community at large. In several cases, DOJ has denied benefits to the survivors of public safety officers who have died in the line of duty from a heart attack or stroke based at least in part on the assumption that the emergency activities the officers were undertaking were "routine" for a public safety officer.

"I believe it is safe to say that any firefighter or law enforcement officer will tell you no emergency situation is ever 'routine,'" stated Bill Webb, Executive Director of the Congressional Fire Services Institute. "Our nation's public safety officers put their lives on the line every day. A situation which they may encounter on a regular basis can quickly escalate into a catastrophic situation. While the men and women of our nation's fire service are often prepared for almost any situation, the stress involved in their jobs is anything but routine and can take an enormous toll both physically and mentally."

The new DOJ policy memorandum clarifies the meaning of the term "non-routine stressful or strenuous activity" and specifically states that "Responding to an emergency call shall presumptively be treated as non-routine."

Many survivors have also expressed concern over how DOJ has implemented the phrase "competent medical evidence to the contrary" in past decisions. The Department has often asked for as much as ten years of medical records and some survivors have reported infinite requests for more medical records from DOJ staff. The new policy memorandum clarifies that medical records shall only be requested if the information provided in the claim file suggests factors outside of the line of duty may be responsible for the heart attack or stroke. The memo further clarifies that "medical-history records requested of the claimant will be reviewed for mitigating evidence in favor of the claim."

"While we believe this a positive development in resolving this issue, there is still more work to be done," said Mr. Webb. "It is now up to DOJ to implement the new policy and to make it work. Too many families have been left out in the cold waiting for DOJ to do what Congress unanimously intended for them to do. It is imperative that fire service continue to monitor the situation to make sure the families of our public safety officers are treated fairly and their claims are processed efficiently and as Congress intended."

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Kentucky Fire Commission Meeting Schedule

The Kentucky Fire Commission is comprised of 19 members and the Executive Director Ronnie Day. Scheduled meetings are held across the Commonwealth to conduct the business of the fire service. Scheduled meetings are as follows:

Date/Time	Location
Dec 6/6 PM	Versailles

2007-08 IFSAC SKILLS TESTING SCHEDULE

Date	Area	Location	Phone
1/5-6/08	4	Bowling Green	888-234-5760
3/1-2/08	9	Morehead	888-301-2946
3/8-9/08	7	Highland Hgts	888-306-8101
3/15-16/08	10	Ashland	888-302-2833
3/29-30/08	12	Hazard	888-234-6759
Spring 08	6	Louisville Metro	888-306-8064
4/5-6/08	3	Owensboro	888-306-8015
4/26-27/08	15	TBA	888-234-3961
5/3-4/08	2	Princeton	888-306-7986
8/16-17/08	13	TBA	888-234-0100
9/4-5/08	6	IFSAC Site Visit	TBA
9/13-14/08	7	TBA	888-306-8101
9/20-21/08	1	Calvert City	888-306-7901
9/20-21/08	15	TBA	888-234-3961
9/27-28/08	11	Pikeville	888-302-8935
10/18-19/08	14	Campbellsville	888-234-1780
10/25 - 26/08	5	Elizabethtown	888-234-7201
12/13-14/08	4	Bowling Green	888-234-5760

Remember before you can be certified FFI you must complete Haz Mat Awareness and Haz Mat Ops before FF II. The above schedule is only the skills test schedule. Written test schedules will vary by area so make sure you contact the area office for written test schedule information.

As of March 1, 2007 the test fee schedule has changed. Each time you take the test you must pay a \$15.00 charge. Contact Duane Suttles for more information about written test location and dates at 888-301-2946.

Planning Ahead

Kentucky Officers School Owensboro
February 23-24 2008 for info call 888-306-8015

Dixie Fire School Elizabethtown
March 7-9 2008 for info call 888-234-7201

Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board (KCCRB) Class Schedule

02/26-27	Assisting Individuals in Crisis
04/3-4	Pastorial Crisis Intervention I
04/7-8	Assisting Individuals in Crisis(1)
04/10-11	Assisting Individuals in Crisis(2)
05/6-7	Group Crisis Intervention
05/8-9	Assisting Individuals in Crisis(3)
06/24-25	Strategic Response to Crisis
08/6-7	Assisting Individuals in Crisis(4)
08/7-8	Assisting Individuals in Crisis(5)
09/23-24	Pastorial Crisis Intervention II

All classes held at Middletown Fire Station 2 at 10217 Shelbyville Rd Louisville KY except those with numbers in parentheses and their locations are as follows:

- (1) Cannonsburg FD 200 Cannonsburg Rd Ashland
- (2) Natl. Guard Armory 4911 Hwy 801 N Morehead
- (3) River Valley B Hosp 100 Walnut St Owensboro
- (4) Erlanger FD 515 Graves Ave Erlanger
- (5) Richmond FD 255 Four Mile Ave Richmond

All classes have registration deadlines and fees. For more information go to the KCCRB website at <http://www.kccrb.ky.gov/> or click on the link at kyfa.org.

FIRE SYMPOSIUM - January 19 & 20, 2008 DRY RIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Topics:

- Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008
"Fireground Tactics" by John Salka, New York City Fire Department
- Sunday, Jan. 20, 2008
"Pride and Ownership: The Love For The Job" by Rick Lasky, Lewisville, Texas

Classes will begin at 9 a.m. with a continental breakfast.

Lunch will be provided.

Classes will end at 4 p.m. each day.

Door prizes will be given away.

Registration Information:

Individual Registration (before Jan. 1) \$75

Registration (after Jan. 1) \$85

Registration fee includes: symposium, continental breakfast and lunch)

For registration information go to:

<http://www.kychiefs.com>



WILDLAND FIRE BEHAVIOR AND FIRE SUPPRESSION DURING EXTENDED DROUGHT PERIODS

During drought conditions wildland fire suppression techniques may have to be altered to ensure for the safety of firefighters and to account for possible extreme variations in fire behavior. **In general wildland fires may be more active and extreme, and fire behavior may not follow the typical fire behavior rules.**

Listed below are factors to consider and some recommendations for wildland fire suppression tactics during drought.

Fire Behavior

- ✓ Lower humidity recoveries at night can occur resulting in more active burning conditions at night.
- ✓ In general fire behavior may be more active and extreme.
- ✓ The chance of more active fire behavior increases the chances for sudden and seemingly unexpected flare-ups. Personnel should be on the alert for more intense burning conditions that may cause flare-ups.
- ✓ Firefighter safety briefings should detail the worst case fire behavior expected for the day.

Fire Suppression Tactics

- The need for working from anchor points and the identification of safety zones/escape routes should be emphasized repeatedly.
- Fire suppression tactics used during normal fire weather periods may not be effective during drought periods.
- Dozer fire lines should be used wherever possible instead of hand lines or blower lines.
- Fires may burn underneath and across fire lines so fire lines may need to be checked for several days after fire is declared controlled.
- More intense fire behavior could require the use of more indirect fire suppression tactics increasing the need for anchor points.
- The amount and duration of mop-up is likely to increase to account for the need to mop-up a further distance inside fire lines. Fire

- lines may have to be constructed deeper. Great caution should be used in attacking the head of a wildland fire. Grass and field fires should be “attacked from the black” with water and/or foam.

Normal wildland fire “rules-of-thumb” during non-drought periods may be challenged during drought periods. Keep in mind the following:

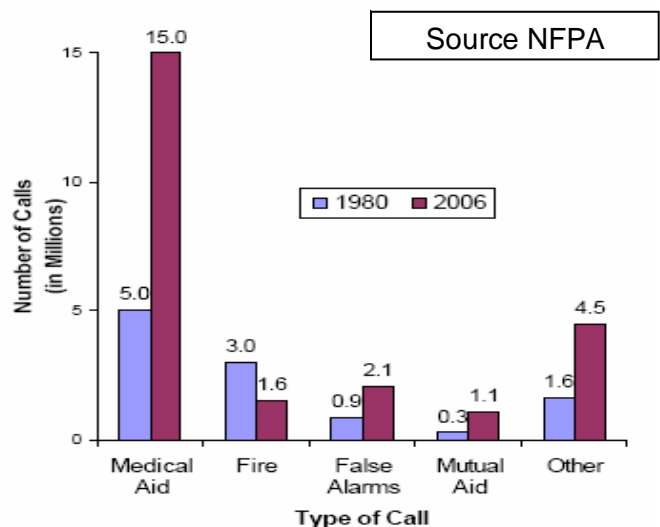
- 1 Staying in the black may not be as safe because of more chances for fuel to reignite. Be alert for snags and other fuels that can reburn. Roots are much more likely to burn out from under snags causing them to fall.
- 2 Fire may burn more actively at night because of lower humidity.
- 3 Fires may burn actively downhill because of less fuel moisture, more pre-heating, increased dead fuels, and sudden flare-ups.

The United States Fire Service

1,140,900 firefighters from 30,635 local fire departments protected the United States in 2006.

- **28%** (316,950) are career firefighters.
 - **72%** (823,950) are volunteer firefighters.
- The fire service does more than fight fires.
- Medical aid responses have tripled since 1980.
 - Only **7%** of fire department calls in 2006 were due to actual fires.

Comparison of Fire Department Calls In 1980 and 2006



The wise fire service administrator will take a close look at these statistics and plan the future of their service accordingly. Funding in the future will go to departments meeting the needs of their community. Are you meeting the needs of your people?



The many faces of your Kentucky Fire Commission Staff

My name is Casey Drury and I have been with the Fire Commission Office since August 2007. I work with the loan and hepatitis b programs. Previously I worked at Bluegrass Community and Technical College, Danville Campus as the campus assistant. I have been married for two and a half years to my wonderful husband Bryan; and we have one dog named Koda.



I graduated from Paul Laurence Dunbar High School in 2002 and am currently taking online classes with Bluegrass Community and Technical College to obtain an Associate in Arts degree.

I enjoy shopping, watching reality TV and spending time with family. I look forward to the opportunity to work with all the fire departments throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Web Based On-Line FRT Classes

All classes taught by Casey Hall and will run from 3/24 - 5/17/08.

Classes with * require a skills practicum that will be held on **5/3/2008** 9AM to 12 PM Room 601 at the Elizabethtown Bowen Fire Training Center.

FRT 100 FD Organization	.7 Credit Hrs
FRT 101 Fire Behavior	.3 Credit Hrs
FRT 102 Firefighter Safety	.4 Credit Hrs
FRT 103 PPE*	.8 Credit Hrs
FRT 104 Portable Extinguishers*	.2 Credit Hrs
FRT 105 Hose, Apli., Streams*	.6 Credit Hrs
FRT 108 Aircraft Rescue	.4 Credit Hrs

For more information call 270-766-5238 local or 888-234-7201 or on line at www.sfrtarea5.org or you may email Casey at casey.hall@kctcs.edu. These classes have fees associated with them.

Kentucky Board of EMS REMINDER

by Letch Day
Director of Operations

As of October 30, 2007 we have only received and processed approximately 1/4 (one fourth) of the renewals for 2007 in our office. If your EMS provider certification(s) and/or licensure are due to expire 12-31-2007, your completed application and fee(s) must be received in our office by November 30, 2007 to ensure processing prior to the expiration date. Our office will be closed on December 21, 2007 and reopen on January 2, 2008. We will process any application postmarked by December 31, 2007 on January 2, 2008. All applications received with a postmark later than December 31, 2007 will be returned to the sender. Pursuant to KRS 311A.095(6) you will not be allowed to function in those capacities in Kentucky following the above expiration date until you receive a current card from our office.

Your fee(s) must be in the form of a certified check, money order, or a check from an official governmental unit made payable to the KY Board of Emergency Medical Services. Note: When renewing Paramedic license, you do not pay a separate EMT fee. Also, when renewing Level II Instructor certification, you do not pay a separate Level I Instructor fee.

Extensions cannot be granted.

Please do not send your continuing education at this time. Your renewal requirements, as set forth in Kentucky Administrative Regulation 202 KAR 7:301, will then be subject to a random audit by the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services during the renewal cycle.

If you choose not to renew any of your certification(s) and/or license, then pursuant to KRS 311A.095(6) you will not be allowed to function in those capacities in Kentucky following the above expiration date. Letting a certification/license expire may or may not affect other certifications you hold.

If you have questions concerning this or any other matter, please contact the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services at (859) 256-3565.



State Fire Marshal's Office

Rodney Raby State Fire Marshal

Numerous incidents have occurred during the year 2007, some good and some bad. The Fire Marshal's Office is very fortunate to have a staff devoted to fire and life safety with unsurpassed efforts to protect.

We began the year with the Bullitt County train derailment which could have been a catastrophic event for the Zoneton Fire Department of Bullitt County and to the fire service. By working together and exercising extreme caution, disaster was ultimately averted. We can relate back to the Lexington crash of Flight 5191 and proudly identify Kentucky's ability to respond to these horrific incidents at an atmosphere of unified command and remediation. The first responders stationed in Lexington received a special recognition by the Transportation Safety Board which has never been awarded to a community before. This is an enormous achievement. By using the best resources that become available, incidents have a shorter life-span and a safer conclusion when unified management is applied.

Then we come to the tragic fire in Bardstown which snuffed the lives of 10 people; six children and four adults. What was learned in this fire enhanced the passage of the new Fire Safe Cigarette Program administered by this Division. As we all know, there is no jurisdiction on single family dwellings. We can, however, continue and improve an outreach program to the general public. We will use every mean possible to educate the public beginning at the kindergarten education level through mature adulthood.

In June of this past year, the State Fire School held in Lexington, Kentucky, revived an old tradition dating back to 1929. Student reports were favorable and several new classes gave new life to the curriculum. During the 2007 State Fire School, the Beverly Hills Supper Club Fire tragedy was revisited as a reminder of how the tragedy struck this state in 1977. Like the Bardstown fire deaths, the Beverly Hills tragedy did awaken and improve fire prevention. Fire Prevention is difficult to measure in terms of success but failure is sometimes a horrific reality.

Now, we will have Fire Safe Cigarettes, Campus Fire Safety programs, proper licensure of electricians statewide, mobile home parks and community inspections for fire and life safety, better and more accurate responses to hazardous materials incidents, an outreach program to the public and so on. Our main objective as a Division is to move forward progressively and endeavor to make Kentucky a leader, not a follower.

Be alert and be safe.



Chaplain's Corner

The True Meaning of Life

I don't know about you but for the longest time I searched for the reason for all we go through as fire fighters. Why do we do the things we do? Why do we risk our lives for complete strangers when we have loving families at home who care about us and would be devastated if anything were to happen to us. Why would anyone do that? I don't mind telling you it was a subject I struggled with for a long time. Frankly I had to resolve that issue before I could move on in my fire experience as well as personal growth.

John 15:13 says "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." The Message Bible puts it this way. "Put your life on the line for your friends." We as Christians are to "Be Friend" everyone so to do that we must be willing to love others unconditionally. No matter their social register, their financial status, the color of their skin, whom they are related to, or what language they speak. That takes in a lot of people. We must say at least to our selves "Christ died for that person who am I not to love them"? All at once it hit me "That is why we must be willing to lay it on the line for a stranger". Christ did that for me. I was a stranger and he died for me. He wants us to have that kind of love for all mankind. He wants us to love unconditionally. Just as He loves us. Then it all began to become clear. My mission as a firefighter was to just love people and keep them alive so they could get the opportunity to know Jesus in a personal way.



Fireman Joe says:

As I write this article I am reflecting on the great year our association has experienced. I think of the many fire and life safety projects our public educators have presented and I think of how much we yet have to accomplish. Like many fire and life safety educators all across the United States and especially our great state of Kentucky I am finishing up another fire prevention month of activities. What a great time I have had visiting the schools, day cares, community agencies, senior centers and talking our message of safety for all. I am especially grateful I am able to do what I do and for being a part of serving the great people of Kentucky. My prayer is that my God will allow me the ability to continue to do fire and life safety education for Kentucky.

NFPA has asked me to send two team members to CMT conference in Orlando, Florida; I have asked Greg Schultz and Adam Fuller to represent us. NFPA has advised me many changes are coming. We have been told the risk watch safe community program will continue. Sparky and the fire prevention week programs are stronger than ever and will continue their excellent web sites. So what will change? I expect the following; NFPA has told me they will expand their dissemination of audience appropriate materials with current information and technology. They will be creating a new public education web site. Develop three seasonal hazard campaigns and mail to every fire dept that will be available on this new web site. Launch a new monthly public education e-newsletter. Continue the remembering when senior citizen program. And begin to create a resource bank of training materials for educators.

Our Kentucky champion management team program has served as an opportunity to get risk watch expanded in as many schools as we can. We plan to continue this effort.

NFPA will be phasing out the risk watch field advisor program; frankly I am okay with that as all it did was create a lot of reports that I had to do. While our CMT has worked hard it is still frustrating we do not have sufficient financial resources to do what I really would like to do with risk watch.

The KFA, Fire Commission and the State Fire Marshal's Office do what they can but their resources are limited. NFPA has also told me they cannot fund risk watch in our state. So where do we go? I have put together a task force that will study the possibility of creating a state wide public educator for Kentucky. I am not sure what will come of this but, Fireman Joe will celebrate my 62nd birthday in January. I have no intention of being such a coordinator or leader in that capacity. The torch needs to be passed and the future of public education in Kentucky needs to be addressed. Our task force will evaluate and study what we need to do and what direction we need go. I want fire and life safety education to prosper and grow; we have invested too much for it to go anywhere but forward. I ask the executive board of the KFA, the Fire Commission, the Fire Chiefs Association, the Professional Firefighters Association and the State Fire Marshal's Office to consider what they can do to make this happen. For input, suggestions, ideas please contact the members of the task force, who are; Greg Schultz, gscultz@ftthomas.org, Adam Fuller, afuller@fortmitchell.com, Rusty Todd, russell.todd@elizabethtownky.gov Richard Peddicord, richard.peddicord@ky.gov Rob Volpenheim, volpenhr@lfd.lfucg.com. Your comments and suggestions are welcome. December brings the holiday season, it is my wish that all of you experience the joy and peace of the holiday season and that God may bless and keep you safe!

Joseph "Fireman Joe" Stambush, Chairman KFA Public Education Committee



National Volunteer Fire Council

Ken Knipper, Director Bryant Stiles, Alternate

The Fall Meeting was held in Providence, Rhode Island. The meeting was attended by 42 states and 62 directors and alternates.

You may recall that after Katrina the NVFC petitioned donations for a special fund to benefit volunteers and their departments. The KFA contributed to that fund. The NVFC distributed over \$400,000.00 to volunteers and their departments.

At this meeting the board voted to establish new disaster assistance program guidelines. If a volunteer department is a member in good standing of the KFA, every member in that department will be eligible for a disaster payment if they suffer a loss due to a disaster. Of course any member of the NVFC will also be eligible for the same benefit. With Kentucky's record of storms, floods, etc. every department should consider this benefit.

Couple the above with the free insurance program recently announced and it makes a lot of sense for volunteer departments to become members of the KFA. These benefits only add to the many other benefits the KFA offers.

Another interesting development was that the full board decided to place the EMS chairman on the Executive Committee. The reason was that they continue to expand their influence in volunteer EMS.

Ken Knipper

Other NVFC News

House Passes Tax Relief for Volunteer Firefighters and EMS Personnel

November 8th, the United States House of Representatives passed the Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax (HEART) Act, which excludes from taxable income all property tax benefits and up to \$360 per year of any other benefit paid to volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel by state and local units of government. According to the Joint Committee on Taxation, passage of the HEART Act (H.R. 3997) will result in \$994 million in tax savings for volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel over the next 10 years.

Volunteer firefighters save American taxpayers more than \$37.2 billion every year. Unfortunately, statistics show that the number of volunteer firefighters in the country have decreased over the last 20 years even as the average age of volunteer firefighters has gone up. Many communities have discovered that providing benefits to their volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel has a positive impact on retention and recruitment. Taxation of these benefits by the federal government reduces their value as an incentive to the volunteer and creates a significant administrative burden on small municipalities and townships.

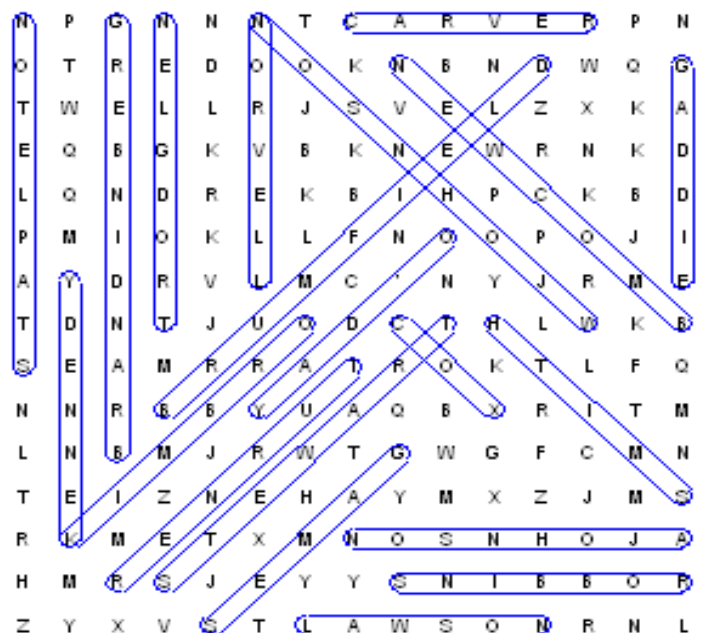
On October 17, National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) Connecticut State Director John McAuliffe testified before the House Ways and Means Committee about the need to prohibit the federal taxation of benefits for volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel. Since then, the NVFC worked closely with other organizations and members of the Ways and Means Committee to ensure that language providing tax relief to volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel was included in the HEART Act, which also includes various provisions regarding taxation of military income. On November 5, the NVFC, along with three other national organizations, sent a letter to the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee expressing support for passage of the HEART Act.

H.R. 3997 now goes to the Senate, where it will be considered by the Committee on Finance.

Membership is Important

Your KFA is partially responsible for securing every benefit your department gets from State and Federal Government. There are KFA Committees working on State Aid through the Fire Commission to the Federal "Fire Act" Grants and the National Volunteer Fire Council. Legislative activity costs a lot of money. Don't let a few departments carry your department's load. Step up to the plate and hit the pitch thrown to you. Pay your department's dues when it comes in the mail. Support your KFA!

Answers to last issues Word Search Puzzle



Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members

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<p>Bluegrass Uniforms Inc. Jason Colson 3533 Dahlia Way - Bowling Green 42101 and 961 South 2nd St. Louisville, KY 40203</p>	<p>Bound Tree Medical Diana Wertemberger 5200 Rings Rd Suite A Dublin OH 43017 800-533-0523 Fax 800-257-5713</p>	<p>Command Fire Equip. Appar. Joe Barkey 8216 Blue Ash Rd. Cincinnati OH 45236 513-891-6120 Fax 513-984-4673 Cell 513-616-5867 Joebarkey@yahoo.com</p>
<p>Comtronics David Fried 2456 Fortune Dr. Lexington KY 40509 859-299-9494 credit@comtronicsindustrial.com</p>	<p>Division of Fire Prevention State Fire Marshal 101 Sea Hero Road Suite 100 Frankfort, KY 40601</p>	<p>Dove Designs Chris Hays Rt 1 Box 275 G Monticello KY 42633 www.dovedesigns.com 888-377-4459 Fax 606-340-9372</p>
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<p>Fire Department Service & Supply Jay Trautwein P.O. Box 20207 Louisville, KY 40250 800-321-6965 Fax 502-491-1487</p>	<p>Fire & Specialty Equip. Co. Mike Mudd 235 Rodgers Dr. Shepherdsville, KY 40165 502-957-2145 Fax 502-957-2146 Email mjmuddsr@windstream.net</p>	<p>First In Rescue Equipment Inc. Jim Whitaker 113 Bessmer Lane Walton KY 41094 859-485-2870 Fax 859-485-2872</p>
<p>Frontline Fire Equipment PO Box 1713 Hyden KY 41749-1713 606-899-1427 Fax 888-556-3473 Email frontline@tds.net</p>	<p>FTA Consultants Fire Training Assoc. PO Box 8271 Carlisle OH 45005-1304 937-746-3587 Fax 937-746-1304 Email hertelfta@juno.com</p>	<p>Gordon Bernard Company, LLC Community Birthday Calendar 22 Whitney Dr Milford Ohio 45150 513-248-7600 Fax 513-248-7606 http://www.gordonbernard.com/</p>
<p>High Tech Rescue Inc. James Riddle 250 Rockbridge Road Shelbyville, Ky. 40065 502-633-0149 Fax 502-633-0659 james.riddle@insightbb.com</p>	<p>Hilliard Enhanced Learning Programs (HELP) Mike Hilliard www.4-help.org Email: sales@4-help.org 888-504-4357 Fax 502-532-0800</p>	<p>INTERSPIRO INC. 10225 82nd Avenue Pleasant Praise, WI 53158-5801 800-468-7788 or 765-808-6017 Fax 262-947-9902 jeff.stigall@interspiro.com</p>
<p>Kentucky Assoc. of Counties 380 King Daughters Drive Frankfort, KY 40601 502-223-7667 Fax 502-223-1502 bobarndd@kaco.org</p>	<p>Kentucky Assn. of Fire Chiefs c/o Anchorage Fire&EMS 1400 Evelegreen Road Anchorage, KY 40223 502-245-6755 Fax 502-245-9029 chief@anchoragefireandems.com</p>	<p>Kentucky Fire Commission SFRT KCTCS Director Ronnie Day 300 N Main Street, Versailles KY 42353 (800) 782-6823 (859) 256-3478 Fax (859) 256-3125</p>

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<p>Life Star Rescue Inc. John Ryder, President 1171 Production Drive Van Wert, OH 45891-9390 419-238-1459</p>	<p>Mountain Valley Insurance Faye Rice 267 Terrell Lane, Suite A Barbourville KY 40906 888-332-3205 Fax 606-546-4146 Email frice@mviweb.com</p>	<p>NFPA Russell Sanders 3257 Beales Branch Road Louisville KY 40206 502-894-0411 Fax 502-894-0519 Email rsanders@nfpa.org</p>
<p>Orr Rapid Response Michael Kidwell 11601 Interchange Dr Louisville KY 40229 502-494-3687 Fax 800-800-6774 Email: michaelk@orrcorp.com</p>	<p>Paul Miller Mazda-Ford-Isuzu 975 E. Newcircle Rd PO Box 1435 Lexington KY 40588-1435 859-244-4253 Fax 859-244-4235 E-mail gwells@pmford.com</p>	<p>PHI Air Medical of Kentucky 1001 Monarch Street Suite 100 Lexington KY 40513 859-219-3053 Fax 859-219-3059 E-mail mposnter@philhelice.com</p>
<p>Plymovent Inc. 115 Melrich Road Cranbury, NJ 08512-3512</p>	<p>Provident Insurance C.J. Bens 272 Alpha Drive Pittsburgh PA 15238 800-447-0360 Fax 412-963-0415 Email: cbens@providentbenefits.com</p>	<p>Public Entity Insurance 1056 Wellington Way Suite 130 Lexington KY 40513 888-696-9620 Fax 859-296-4583 Email mfinke@roeding.com</p>
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<p>Wathen Sales & Service LLC 255 M. Cain Rd. Brandenburg KY 40108 270-828-8709 Fax 270-828-5128 jimrock@bbtel.com</p>	<p>Wynn Fire & Rescue Equipment Apparatus Manufacturers Charles & Kathy Wynn P.O. Box 1585 Corbin, KY 40702 606-523-9269 Fax 606-523-0591 cwynn@wynnfire.com</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Woody Will at 270-766-9946</p>
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- DANGER
- DECONTAMINATION
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- HARMFUL
- HIGHLYTOXIC
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