



Smoke Signals II

Smoke Signals is a Publication of the Kentucky Firefighters Association

A Firefighter Project YOU can Help With!!

Charlie Shaw the KFA Special Events Coordinator is asking for your help. The Fire Service of Kentucky does not have compiled in one place a brochure of all the Firefighter Memorials across the state. In order to compile that list we need to know where they are located and what they look like. So we are asking you to do three things if you have a firefighter memorial in your local community:

1. Write down an exact location of your local memorial or monument. Be as specific as possible and if possible include a GPS location so the coordinates can be put into a location device (Garmin or TomTom).
2. Take a picture in a digital format such as JPG. You may want to take more than 1 picture to make sure the lighting is right to present your memorial in the best light to be put in a brochure.
3. Email your information to fireresq@kyol.net and woodrow.will@kyfa.org. If your email provider will not allow pictures to be sent, copy it to a disk and send to Charles Shaw, 385 Old Greensburg Road, Campbellsville KY 42718

Please do your best to help with this project. It would be nice to be able to allow families a document that would give them directions to travel across Kentucky visiting the various sites that honor our fallen brothers and sisters. Thank you in advance for your help and support!



INSIDE

2	President & VP at Large Notes	9-10	Code Moment
3	3rd VP & Dixie	10-11	Firewise Community
4-5	Dixie Cont. & NFPA	12	New Arrivals
5	Clothesline of Quilts & Chaplains Corner	12-13	Legislative Report
6-7	Educational Opportunities	14-15	Sustaining Members
7-8	Owensboro Convention Center, CPAT Testing	16	Legislative Cont. & NVFC
8-9	Notes from Fireman Joe		



Notes From The President's Desk Sam Stacy

It is with great pride and honor that I am allowed to serve the Commonwealth of Kentucky's firefighter as your KFA President for the 2012-2013 year. I look forward to meeting and discussing issues that are important to the firefighters of Kentucky during my travels this year. The KFA Executive Board and I are going to be out in the state working hard on behalf of the fire service to meet the needs of fire departments and members alike. If I can be of any assistance to you or your department or association please feel free to contact me at any time. I may not have the answer but I assure you that I will find someone that does.

I would first like to thank Van and Sherry Taylor, along with the CKFA for hosting a great conference in Lexington. No one really knows how much work goes into making a conference successful until you have to put one on yourself. It was a great pleasure getting to work with and becoming friends with such a great couple over the past 3 years. Serving with all the members of your KFA Executive Board is a great honor and these people are truly looking out for the best interest of the fire service in Kentucky.

Like with any new job you have to hit the ground running, and as incoming KFA President it is no different. Within the first week after the Lexington Conference I have already jumped into the State Fire School Committee as we are in the planning stages for next year's school. Also I have met with the task force formed by KBEMS looking into alternatives for EMT testing in the Commonwealth. This is a very important task force and with cooperation from both the fire and EMS communities I'm sure that it will do nothing but improve EMS in our state.

By the time you are reading this article we will have had the Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service in Frankfort honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. I will have also had the honor to represent the KFA at the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and present a set of framed KFA prints to the National Fire Academy. I believe that the President's job is to promote the KFA in as many events as possible

and to let not only the Commonwealth but the entire nation know who we are and what we stand for. I also have had the pleasure of promoting the KFA at my own Mountain Firefighters Association school held here in Hazard on August 25th & 26th.

It is time now that we start getting geared up for the upcoming legislative session. I know one of the biggest items will be the ongoing battle over pension reform. This is one item that we will be watching very closely and I promise that we will keep everyone informed of over the next few months. This is an item that affects just about everyone in the Commonwealth either directly or indirectly. Howdy and Gerald have already been attending meetings in Frankfort on this and will be keeping us updated all throughout the process. I am sure that at some point they will need the firefighters of Kentucky to come to Frankfort and let our voices be heard on this very important matter. When that time comes we will let you know and would appreciate a strong showing in Frankfort.

As you can tell it's going to be an interesting year and we need everyone to jump on board and help us make the KFA the best you ever seen in 2013. The Ashland conference is well into the planning stages and make sure to start planning to join us in August of 2013.
Sincerley President

Sam Stacy



Michael E. Hulsey Vice President at Large

The KFA is a strong voice for the entire Fire Service within this Commonwealth. I recently sent out a survey to try to see the direction we needed to go to increase membership. There is always a few negative responses on any survey that is sent out, but some of them were not only negative, they were viscous.

Some members of the KFA can party with the best of them. But, what I have seen is yes they party, but when it is time for work they come together to better the Fire Service in an awesome manner. I felt like the members that attacked the KFA only looked at the times that members were having a good time and judged the whole of KFA

based solely on the partying.

Right now the KFA and the other Fire Service associations are looking at one of the most important issues they have faced in years. While many say that retirement only affects the paid service, they are so wrong and they misunderstand the whole issue. The retirement issue affects any State, local, or school system employees in this Commonwealth. We are fighting not only for the fire service but the coalition that has been formed is all inclusive.

One of the largest hindrances to accomplishing legislation is the number of departments that are not members. Currently we have an increase in membership but we still have not gained at least 50% of departments in the State.

The KFA is a strong lobbying organization for several reasons;

1. The respected lobbyist we have in Gerald Stewart and Howdy Kurtsinger. These two hard working people have earned the respect they receive from our legislators.

2. The coalition we have formed even before this test we are currently in, with the KFCA, the KPFA and the Fire Commission.

Even if you don't believe the current issue is affecting you, remember that in the past when issues came up that didn't effect special groups the Fire Service still banded together and worked for our betterment, and that's what we need to do now.

Sincerely

Michael Hulsey



**3rd Vice President
Jeff Pohlman**

Greetings, I am honored to be serving as your 3rd Vice President. I would first like to thank the many supporters in Northern Kentucky and throughout the Commonwealth that I represent in my new position as third Vice President. I started my long firefighting career at the young age of 14 at the Bromley FD in 1972. I had a short absence from

1976 through 1979 while I served as a medic with the 197th Infantry Brigade located at Ft. Benning, Georgia. I returned to the Bromley FD in 1979 and left in 1985 after I was employed by the Newport FD where I attained the rank of Lieutenant until my "short" retirement in 2003. In 2003 I became the Fire Chief of the Alexandria Fire District where I am still employed today. If you are counting, I'm up to 40 years in the fire service.....and still enjoying my service! Along the way, I have attained an Associate's Degree in Fire Science, a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Safety and Engineering, and a Master's Degree in Executive Fire Service Leadership. I could not hold any positions or work as hard as I do without the support of my lovely wife Dottie! And speaking of work, we have many upcoming legislative issues that will need the utmost attention of all of our firefighters throughout the Commonwealth. These issues will affect ALL firefighters. WE want to make sure WE are heard on these issues. WE have some great people working in Frankfort for the fire service. I plan on being right there with them when they need OUR assistance. Please check our website regularly for areas that need your help and support. Again, thank you for allowing me to introduce myself and serving as your KFA 3rd VP.

Jeffrey H. Pohlman



Dixie Firefighters Association

As the Fall of 2012 approaches, the Dixie Firefighters Association is very busy planning for two very important events. The first event we are working on is the 2013 Dixie Fire School which will be held March 8, 9 and 10, 2013 on the beautiful KCTCS campus in Elizabethtown Kentucky. Current plans call for as many as fifty (50) class of instruction to be offered during this three day event. Plans are underway to offer walk in programs on Friday afternoon and evening, as well as two full days of classes on Saturday and Sunday.

Currently class offerings will include hard to get hours, live fire training, leadership classes, EMS continuing education classes, Chaplin class and many other interesting topics. The first Fire School planning meeting was held on August 30, 2012. Our meetings will continue throughout

the coming months to make the 2013 Dixie Fire School the very best it can be. If you are interested in helping with the Fire School, please contact President Froman Peters, First VP Chuck Helm or Second VP Ryan Slaybaugh and they can fill you in on what help is needed. Our goal is to have the 2013 fire school brochures out to the fire service community by late December early January time frame. Please watch you mail for the information.

The second major project underway is the planning of the 2014 Kentucky Firefighters Association conference when the Dixie's own Chris Crawford will be the President of the statewide organization. Already established as chairman of the 2014 KFA committee is Chief Freddy De-witt. At our first real meeting held on August 30, 2012, assignments have been given out for such projects as the women's outing, the banquet, the Olympics, hotel accommodations and the golf outing. These assignments still need a great deal of assistance in order to make this conference a success. **YOUR HELP IS WANTED AND NEEDED!!!** Just because a job has been assigned to a person, your individual help is encouraged and needed. Please consider attending a meeting and helping out. This is an opportunity to showcase the entire Dixie Region as being supportive and involved in this conference. A strong Kentucky Firefighters Association is important to each and every Department or District in the commonwealth. Our next meeting will be on October 17th, 2012 at 6 PM at the Elizabethtown Fire Training Center.

The Dixie Firefighters Association as part of our continuing KFA fund raising activities will raffle off another hand gun. A Ruger SR 1911 45 caliber semi automatic hand gun has been secured and ticket are now available from most Dixie Officers. This hand gun is the second one offered as a fundraiser for the conference. This is a very sought after hand gun and there is an approximately six month wait at most gun shops. Tickets are only five dollars (\$5) each. Tickets will be sold through the 2013 Dixie Fire School with the drawing being held during the Firefighter Olympics on Saturday March 9th, 2013. Winner must meet all requirements to own a hand gun in the commonwealth of Kentucky.

The Dixie Firefighters Association will host its

yearly memorial service and dinner on October 25th, 2012 starting at 6 PM at the Elizabethtown Fire Training Center on the campus of KCTCS. This year's event will include an honor guard, roll call of the dead, dinner and presentation of awards earned since the last memorial service. The meal is free and all Dixie members and family are invited to attend. To insure there is enough food for all, please RSVP to Secretary Larry Naser at lnaser@mcfpd.com or 502-376-1915 before 5 PM on October 19th, 2012.

Sincerely

Larry Naser, Secretary
Dixie Firefighters Association



NFPA's Commitment to the Kentucky Fire Service: An Introduction

By Russ Sanders

NFPA's Central Regional Director

I appreciate this opportunity to write a series of articles outlining some of the programs, projects and services that NFPA offers to the Kentucky Fire Service. This first article is intended to serve as an introduction of both myself and the NFPA. In future editions I will address subjects such as Sprinklers, Wildland Urban Interface, Code Adoption and Training, Forums and Committees, Research and Reports, Public Education and more.

Who am I?

I have spent my entire adult life in the Kentucky Fire Service, so I believe I know most of you. However, for those I don't know, my name is Russ Sanders and I serve as NFPA's Central Regional Director, Executive Secretary of the NFPA/IAFC Metropolitan "Metro" Fire Chiefs Association and as the President of the United States Delegation to the International Technical Committee for the Prevention and Extinction of Fire (CTIF), also known as the International Fire and Rescue Services Association. Prior to joining the NFPA staff in 1995, I served 29 years in the Louisville Fire Department, my last nine years as Chief of the Department.

For more than 45 years I have been working with the Kentucky Fire Service. Over the past 17 years, since I joined the staff at NFPA, I have been working on code adoption and training is-

sues and advocacy projects such as RIP cigarette legislation, residential sprinklers and much more. In every situation it has been a pleasure and honor working with the Kentucky Fire Service.

Who is NFPA?

In 1895 a small group of concerned citizens representing sprinkler and fire insurance interests gathered in Boston, Massachusetts, to discuss the different approaches being used to size pipe and determine sprinkler spacing. The group created a standard for the uniform installation of sprinklers, which eventually became NFPA 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems. This first standard prompted the creation of NFPA as an organization in 1896.

Today NFPA develops some 300 codes and standards that deal with a range of subjects related to fire, electrical, chemical, building and life safety. NFPA's mission is accomplished by advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education for safety and related issues. NFPA's National Fire Codes® are administered by more than 250 Technical Committees comprised of approximately 8,000 volunteers and are adopted throughout the world. NFPA is a non-profit membership organization with more than 70,000 members from over 100 nations, all working together to fulfill the Association's mission.

Mission and Leadership are Important...

Above is the official definition of who NFPA is. However, if you really want to know what an organization is all about, look to its mission and top leadership. For 116 years NFPA has been serving the fire service. NFPA's mission is clear: 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.

Every fire chief understands the importance of leadership. Of NFPA's current 22-member Board of Directors, nine members represent the fire service. These members come from the ranks of both paid and volunteer chiefs, fire marshals and labor. The current Chair, Phil Stittleburg, is a Wisconsin volunteer fire chief.

In the next edition of Smoke Signals II I will talk about NFPA's #1 goal – sprinklers – and how NFPA can support the Kentucky Fire Service's efforts to expand the use of sprinklers throughout the state.



Clothesline of Quilts

A "Clothesline of Quilts" 8' X 8' block, titled "Courageous" was presented by the community of Cecilia, to the KY 86 Fire & Rescue Dept., in honor of their infinite brave & courageous service. The quilt block contains the Maltese Cross pattern that represents valor, bravery, courage, dedication, loyalty, respect, generosity, & honor - all qualities the KY 86 Fire & Rescue Dept. possesses.

The "Clothesline of Quilts" trail began in Ohio in 2001, by Donna Sue Groves, in honor of her mother. The early vision was to have an imaginary clothesline connecting communities. Hardin Co. has nearly 80 quilts in the "Clothesline of Quilts" trail! Currently, there are over 2000 painted quilt squares on barns in 22 states and in Canada! The "Clothesline of Quilts" project has become a source of pride & joy both for rural America's barn quilt owners and for the visionary, Donna Sue Groves.



Chaplain's Corner

TAKE THE TIME TO BE AN ENCOURAGER

There are things in our everyday lives that tend to pull us down. Depression is one of the most diagnosed problems facing our culture today. Some of the problems come from issues in our youth and some from our experiences as an adult. You will not be able to help solve everyone's problems but you don't have to add to their stress. You can look for positive things to say about your brother and sister emergency service workers. A pat on the back and a "Well Done" or "Good Job" will go a long way boosting someone's self esteem. Think about it and put it into action!

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

2012 IFSAC SKILLS TESTING SCHEDULE

Date	Area	Location	Phone
10/6-7	6	Middletown	888-306-8064
11/3-4	5	Leitchfield	888-234-7201
12/1-2	7	Cold Springs	888-306-8101
12/8-9	4	Bowling Green	888-234-5760

Written testing information is available on the Ky IFSAC testing 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. REMINDER: Candidates must be at least 18 years of age and be a member of a Kentucky FD or a full-time 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).

Coming Events At a Glance!

East Kentucky Rescue School

Olive Hill October 13-14

Southeastern Fire School

London October 19-21

Buffalo Trace Fire School

Maysville October 26-28

Marion County Fire School

Lebanon October 27-28

Green River Fall Fire School

Owensboro October 26-28

Instructors School

London November 16-18

Kentucky (Green River) Officer's School

Lexington February 22-24

Words of Wisdom

The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.

-George Washington

East Kentucky Technical Rescue School

Olive Hill Fire & Rescue

October 13 & 14

List of Classes

- 1 Trench Rescue
- 2 Confined Space Rescue
- 3 Heavy Lifting, Rigging and Moving
- 4 High Angle Rope Rescue

Southeast Kentucky Firefighters Association

2012 Fall Fire School London Kentucky

October 19 – 21, 2012

List of Classes

Friday Evening

- 010 Operation Lifesaver
- 020 Meth Lab Awareness
- 030 Kentucky Wildland Awareness
- 040 NFPA Hybrid Car Response
- 050 Courage to Be Safe

One Day Saturday

- 100 Response to Bus Emergencies
- 110 Foam Fire Streams
- 120 Firefighter Survival
- 130 HazMat Awareness
- 140 Chaplain
- 150 Driver Simulator
- 160 Basic Firefighting I AM
- 165 Basic Firefighting II PM
- 180 Hard to Get I AM
- 185 Hard to Get II PM

One Day Sunday

- 105 Response to Weather Emergencies
- 115 Rural Water Supply
- 125 Firefighter Rescue
- 135 Emg Traffic Control/Hwy Crash Site Management
- 145 Thermal Imaging Operations
- 155 Driver Simulator
- 170 Basic Firefighting III AM
- 175 Basic Firefighting IV PM
- 190 Hard to Get III AM
- 195 Hard to Get IV PM

Saturday & Sunday

- 205 So Goes the Chief...
- 210 Health and Safety Officer
- 215 Arson I
- 220 Leadership II
- 225 Fire Scene ICS for Rural FFs
- 230 Pumps Ops and Maintenance

- 235 Truck Company Ops with LIVE Fire
- 240 ATV Rescue and Safety
- 245 Arson/Crime Scene Investigations
- Three Day Class**
- 305 EMT Continuing Education

**BUFFALO TRACE REGIONAL FIRE SCHOOL
Maysville October 26 - 28**

List of Classes

Friday Night Only

- 15 Fitness Principles Of Firefighting
- 16 First Ten Minutes of Initial Fire Attack with Limited Man Power
- 17 Kentucky Wildland Awareness
- 18 Auto Extrication
- 19 Electrical Safety and Gas Line Emergencies
- 20 Whats in Your Air?

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday

- 1 EMT Continuing Education
- 2 Basic Fire Fighting

Saturday & Sunday

- 3 Hard To Get Hours
- 4 Preparing to Test For Firefighter 1 and 2
- 5 Junior Firefighting Class (EXPLORER)
- 6 National Fire Academy course MCTO:D

One Day Saturday

- 7 Hazmat Awareness
- 8 Introduction to Fire Inspections
- 9 FF Survival
- 10 Fire Control
- 11 Pump Operations and Water Supply for the Engineer
- 21 Kentucky Fire Training Records System PM Only

One Day Sunday

- 12 FF Rescue
- 13 Flashover Recognition and Survival
- 14 Advanced Foam

6th Annual Marion County Fire School

Lebanon October 27-28, 2012

List of Classes

- 101 Fire Behavior/Fire Control
- 102 Hard to Get Hours
- 103 Firefighter Survival & Rescue
- 104 EMS Con Ed
- 105 Advanced Vehical / Heavy Rescue
- 106 Arson/Crime Scene Management
- 107 Basic Chaplain
- 108 Drivers Training

Owensboro Convention Center Books First Convention

Owensboro, KY, July 26, 2012 — Global Spectrum, managers of Owensboro's soon-to-be-opened Convention Center, announced today the official booking of their first convention. The Green River Firefighters Association signed a multi-year contract to host the GRFA Officers School at the Owensboro Convention Center beginning in February 2015.

The Officer's School, hosted by the Green River Firefighters Association, is one of the Commonwealth of Kentucky's largest training conferences boasting nearly 1,200 attendees over a three and a half day period. GRFA signed a three year contract for the school for 2015, 2016 and 2017.

The official signing took place July 26, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at a public event held in downtown Owensboro near the construction site of the center. Several local firefighters, GRFA members and elected officials were in attendance for the announcement.

The school started in Owensboro 24 years ago (1988) and was held at the former Executive Inn. Upon the closing of the Executive Inn, the GRFA was forced to make a very difficult decision and moved the school to Lexington. Ever since the first Lexington school in 2009, the GRFA worked to bring the event back. Their initial call to the Owensboro/Daviess County CVB was followed by a series of meetings and presentations by the local sales team comprised of the Owensboro Convention Center, Owensboro/Daviess County CVB and City of Owensboro. The "Team Owensboro" group worked closely with GRFA to make it happen.

"We never wanted the Officers School to move from Owensboro in the first place and it was unfortunate that we had to move it once the Executive Inn closed," said Ricky King, President of the Green River Firefighters Association. "The opening of a new convention center in Owensboro was great news all around and we are excited to have the Officers School back home in the Green River district. Thanks again to the City of Owensboro, Global Spectrum, the Kentucky Fire Commission, State Fire Rescue Training, and the **"Owensboro Covention" continued next page**

member departments of the GRFA for your help in bringing this event back to Owensboro. ”

The four day convention will use nearly 1,500 local hotel room nights annually. According to the Owensboro/Daviess County CVB, this equates to over \$400,000 in direct economic impact to the Owensboro/Daviess County community and surrounding areas based on spending estimates of convention delegates.

“This type of event is precisely why Owensboro is building this first class facility, to host these types of positive economic events in the community,” said Dean Dennis, Global Spectrum’s General Manager of the Owensboro Convention Center. “We are thrilled to have our first signed convention contract and look forward to many more as we move closer to the 2013 opening.”

Bill Parrish, Owensboro City Manager added, “There is great anticipation in the air and it is so exciting to see our convention center start to fill bookings a full 17 months before its scheduled opening. It is also heartwarming to see old friends come back home to Owensboro; the firefighters of the Green River Firefighters Association have been long missed and are happily welcomed back

Operational Changes to Smoke Signals II

Decisions have been made to help better promote individual memberships in the Kentucky Firefighters Association. In the past the color version of the newsletter has been posted to the webpage even before it went to the printer for publication. Since the newsletter is now being published in color a decision has been made to post the online version when the next month’s issue goes to press. In other words the October issue will not be posted to the web page until the 15th of November. If you want to receive a printed copy addressed to you and sent to your residence instead of reading the newsletter sent to your fire department go to the webpage (www.kyfa.org) click on membership on the left of the page print a copy of the personal membership application fill it out and send it along with a check for \$25 to the address on the application. The Kentucky Firefighters Association is the only association in Kentucky that individual firefighters can have a voice and impact the direction of the fire service in Kentucky!



NEW LAW REQUIRES ADDITIONAL TESTING FOR ALL CAREER KENTUCKY FIREFIGHTER CANDIDATES

Versailles, KY – Beginning **January 1, 2013**, all career firefighter candidates will be required to undergo a physical ability test.

The candidate physical ability test (CPAT) will be designed to assess a candidates’ ability to handle the physical demands of fighting fires and shall include exercises that stimulate the most common tasks involved in fire suppression.

“Today’s firefighters have to be prepared to handle a variety of situations,” said Ronnie Day, executive director of the Kentucky Fire Commission. “This test will allow us to evaluate career firefighter candidates well before they begin recruitment training and/or on-the-job training.”

Exercises for the CPAT will include, but are not limited to: stair climbing, hose drag, equipment carry, ladder raise and extension, forcible entry, search, rescue, ceiling breach, and pull.

The Kentucky Fire Commission will charge a fee of \$125 for all out-of-state firefighter candidates participating in the CPAT. In-state participants will not be required to pay a fee.



Notes From Fireman Joe

I hope everyone survived the summer and drought conditions and if you are like me you welcome the coming of fall. With fall comes Fire Prevention Month and all that entails. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Fire Prevention Month theme for 2012 is “Have Two Ways Out” with the emphasis being on Home Escape Planning. Get started now; make having two ways out your # 1 priority. It is bad enough when a fire strikes but when the fire department pulls in front of that burning structure and everyone is standing outside or at the safe meeting place, believe me, everyone is relieved. We can always rebuild but we can’t replace those precious lives. So we need to encourage our communities, when you hear the smoke alarm, get outside and stay outside! Leave immediately! Don’t stop to call for help. Go straight to your outside meeting place, never go back inside for any reason and then, once you’re safely outside, call the fire department from a neighbors’ phone or from your cell phone.

It was good to see everyone at the KFA Conference in August and it looks like many important and vital issues will be coming up within the next couple of months. I hope everyone is registered to vote and PLEASE VOTE! Check now to see which candidate will best support us in the fire service and be sure to know whom to contact when those vital issues need supporting. Get to know your local legislators so when you have to make a call in support of legislation they will know who you are.

I encourage all Fire Departments to support and assist in any and all fire prevention activities and promotions, not only during fire prevention month but as we prepare for the coming of the holiday season. Immediately following Halloween on November 4th is the return to Daylight Savings Time or the Change Your Clock Change Your Battery Day. I have in the past made it an important issue to visit the local Senior Citizen Club and always bring a box of batteries to remind our friends to put fresh batteries in those smoke alarms. It is also helpful to make a push on safety during those school visits or other activities we find ourselves involved in. As you can see, it never ends, fire prevention and public education is a year round adventure but I LOVE IT!!!

Until next time, as always, Stay Safe and GOD BLESS!!

Fireman Joe

A Code Moment:

Halloween and Haunted House events

Crop mazes, haunted houses and other seasonal events suffer fires from normal causes and even include intentional firesetting. The wise firefighter expects problems and coordinates with event operators to minimize risk. Fall festivals, carnivals and other activities that bring people indoors often include combustible decorations, and are often in community buildings and schools ill-suited for the numbers of people in attendance. Not many years ago, I walked into a school for the annual inspection and found a display in the lunchroom that included corn shucks and straw bales. Several years later the school play was being conducted when I made my visit and found (again) straw bales, but this time the “stage” was covered in loose straw for the farm effect. Different people were involved in each instance and they hadn’t

talked to each other about safety issues. To make matters worse the school was not protected with fire suppression sprinklers and the bleachers and chairs were capable of holding over 800 people with varied mobility.

People depend on us to help them do the right thing. If we don’t recognize these problems and address them, the event planners often don’t focus on the risk.

As Brian Ashton, Boise Fire Department, (Idaho) writes: “Professional fire inspectors carefully walk through businesses and public venues to ensure that exits are clear and easily located, aisle ways are unobstructed and wide enough, combustibles are not in the way or stacked too high, and that fire hazards are mitigated. But every fall, in communities across the globe, entrepreneurs sell tickets and profit from putting people in corn mazes which break every one of these fire prevention principles (B. Herbst). Customers line up and pay to walk into a field of flammable corn leaves grown 12 feet high, with exits blocked or non-existent, aisle ways which dead end and leave no way out, while campfires often burn on the perimeter of the maze for effect.” (From a National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer research paper which can be found at <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/pdf/efop/efo46029.pdf>)

Room limits the amount of information we can include in this article, however, Chapter 10 – General Fire Safety, of NFPA 1 – Uniform Fire Code (2006) has the basic information you should consider, especially the sections on Combustible Vegetation (10.14) and Special Outdoor Events, Carnivals, and Fairs (10.15).

Some key points for crop mazes are (Chapter 10.15.11 of NFPA 1):

- Portable fire extinguishers shall be available for each concession stand
- Electrical equipment shall comply with the National Electrical Code
- Concession stands shall have at least 10 ft. of clearance on at least two sides
- Employees of crop mazes shall be advised of fire and life safety regulations prior to them assuming their duties
- Crop maze visitors shall be informed of safety instructions prior to entering the

- maze
- A minimum of two employees shall be on duty when the maze is in operation
- One of the employees shall be on a platform 10 ft. above the maze. (Note that means 10 ft. above the top of the corn, this enables the employee to clearly see people as they move through the maze.)
- No open flame devices or equipment shall be permitted within the confines of the crop maze.
- No smoking within the maze.
- Motorized vehicles shall not be parked within 75 ft. of a crop maze.
- A public address system (bullhorn is acceptable) must be available for emergency instructions.
- Fireworks shall not be discharged within a minimum of 300 ft. of a crop maze.

Some key points for haunted houses include (from the KY State Fire Marshal's Office, mid-1990):

- Electrical equipment shall comply with the National Electrical Code (NFPA 70)
- Have competent (licensed) electrician install temporary wiring and lighting fixtures. Neither wiring nor lamp fixtures shall be in contact with combustible materials. Heavy duty cords are required when an extension cord is used.
- Have available to all staff emergency lighting in the form of approved battery pack emergency lighting units (generators or flashlights may be used to satisfy this requirement.)
- Suitable fire extinguishers for the hazard shall be available. Employees on duty shall be trained in the use of these extinguishers.
- All decorations shall be of flame-retardant type or effectively treated with fire-retarding materials or protected from lighting and tampering by suitable barriers.
- Have written Fire Emergency Plan available which contains at least the following procedures:
 - 1) Fire department notification

- 2) Evacuation procedures to include notification of building occupants.
 - 3) Required exits to include proper signage.
 - 4) Sufficient staff available to detect the outbreak of fire, or install AC/DC
 - 5) Powered smoke detectors throughout the complete area and test prior to operations daily.
 - 6) All exit doors shall be readily openable.
 - 7) Brief all occupants on fire safety prior to allowing them to enter the maze.
- There shall be NO SMOKING or any open flame device permitted in the haunted house area.
 - Limit occupant load, at any one time, to the number which can safely be managed by the staff.

The fire service picks up where common sense fails, as it is often set aside when people are pressed for that one extra effect, or a specific visual look, or someone doesn't show up that was supposed to. If we don't watch for those problems and help the public with this planning, who will?

Have a safe season!

Rusty Todd, Elizabethtown Fire Department

Lake Lewman – A Shining Example of a Firewise Community

By Lynn True

Smokey Bear says 'only you can prevent forest fires,' and the community of Lake Lewman in northeast Rowan County has taken this to heart. Lake Lewman is one of 33 communities in Kentucky to achieve the designation of being a Firewise USA community recognized by the National Fire Protection Association. The area is not only secluded, it is surrounded by the Daniel Boone National Forest; therefore, becoming 'firewise' and implementing practices to prevent wildfire was a natural fit.

Danny Blevins, Director of Emergency Management Services in Rowan County, who also serves as the Chair for the Northeast Rowan County Firewise Council and volunteers as a firefighter for the Route 337 Volunteer Fire Department, said the interest in becoming a Firewise

community grew out of necessity and concern for the safety of firefighters and homeowners.

“The tragic event of the Island Fork Fire was the catalyst for our community’s interest and involvement with the Kentucky Firewise program,” said Blevins.

In 1999, a wildfire in northeastern Rowan County – known as the Island Fork Fire – claimed the lives of two of firefighters – Kevin Rex Smith and Kenneth Allen Nickell. Both were members of the close-knit Route 337 Volunteer Fire Department and had responded to a wildfire approximately one mile south of the Lake Lewman area.

Since that time, the community has become very proactive about wildfire prevention, and in 2005, the Northeast Rowan County Firewise Council was formed. Through the Council, local firefighters were trained through the Kentucky Firewise Program to conduct Firewise assessments and community firewise workshops were conducted with assistance from the Kentucky Division of Forestry.

One of the biggest success stories for the Council is the Lake Lewman Association – a private residential area of approximately 40 homeowners who have been one of the most proactive communities in the area. Through assessments, workshops, education and mitigation efforts, the benefits to the Lake Lewman community have been immeasurable. Homeowners have learned firewise techniques such as why it is important to create a defensible space around their home, how to create ‘green’ landscaping and remove flammable vegetation near their home, and about how different types of flame-resistant materials can prevent or at least reduce potential damage from wildfire.

Lake Lewman residents have also worked with the Council to improve access to their properties along the narrow road, to reduce fuels by removing vegetation and pruning limbs, to install two dry hydrants, and to purchase metal reflective address signs along Lake Lewman Road. The Council is also currently working with the U.S. Forest Service to complete GPS mapping of old logging roads around the community that can be improved as fire breaks.

“Firewise practices not only help our commu-

nities protect their homes, they increase the margin of safety for firefighters,” said Blevins. “We know the danger of wildfire all too well in this area and we are very appreciative of the Firewise program and partners such as the Kentucky Division of Forestry who continue to help us raise public awareness and implement firewise practices.”

Firewise has a collection of resource materials for homeowners available online. For more information about firewise practices and the Kentucky Firewise program, please visit <http://forestry.ky.gov/wildlandfiremanagement/Pages/KentuckyFirewiseProgram.aspx>.



Danny Blevins (Northeast Rowan County Firewise Council), Todd Chlanda (National Fire Protection Association), and Floyd Willis (Kentucky Division of Forestry) discuss implementation of firewise practices at Lake Lewman.



One of many homes in the Lake Lewman Association showing ‘defensible space’.

NEW ARRIVALS

Three Departments in Pulaski Co Kentucky have taken delivery of three Toyne Apparatus sold by **High Tech Rescue, Inc.** in Shelbville.



Science Hill has taken delivery on a 750 GPM-3000 gal. Tank Aluminum Body



White Lilly-1250 GPM-1000 gal. Tank Class A foam System. Stainless Body.



Mt. Victory- 1250 GPM-1000 gal. Tank Class A foam System. Stainless Body.

Words of Wisdom

Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there.
Will Rogers



Legislative Report

I would first hope that everyone took time out of their busy day on September



11 to remember those that gave their life that day and their families that are still struggling without their loved ones.

I know that not every member department of the KFA can attend the annual conference each year to hear the important information that is given to the delegates. I know that they pass on as much information as they can, but I feel that the issue that we discussed about the pension is very important to all. So I hope that what I have to write about is just not a replay of the conference but very important to all KFA members. As I stated during the conference, the pension issue does not just affect Paid Fire Fighters, it could affect many of the family members of the KFA because the employers that are in the Kentucky Retirement System are Cities, Counties, State, and School Boards. These employers are the largest employees in most of the Counties in the State of Kentucky.

I discussed the issue of the Pension task force set up during the past legislative session, a task force which was made up entirely of legislators. In all the years that I have been following the state legislative process there have been few task forces that are made up that way. Usually a task force will have affected groups or experts from the issue that they are discussing on the task force to give guidance to the group. As discussion began both co-chairmen stated that everything was on the table for discussion to include changes to past, current and future employees even though there is an inviolable contract (With the inviolable contract, no changes can be made in pension benefits for existing participants in the KRS or KTRS.) with all who have made contribution toward their retirement according to state law. The task force has met four (4) times, twice in July, August and September. Future meetings are scheduled for the months of October, November and December. During the December meeting the task force will present recommendations for the 2013 session.

The first two meetings had presentations from the Kentucky Retirement System and the PEW

research group out of Washington DC. The retirement system presented that there has an unfunded liability of \$24 billion dollars and funding needs to be increased. There needs to be a system that is a sustainable pension plan for future members of the system. The PEW Group is being funded by the John and Laura Arnold Group who is a couple that made their money in the Enron problems. They want all State Pensions turned into the 401-K type of plans known as defined contribution plans. Currently all members of the retirement system are in the defined benefits plan which guarantees a certain income for members after a number of years in the system and contributions from both the member and their employer. I have sent emails with the information from all the meeting to as many of the members of the KFA as have ask to be placed on the list to keep members informed. If many of you do not receive my email, send your email to and I will add you to that list to keep you informed. There has been a large number of PowerPoints and additional information if you want that information please let me know.

We have sent to members the following information about the pension and ask them to meet with legislators to discuss the issue of pension reform. I have attached some facts about the pension and four questions that we need to know how they answer. Please review and if you have questions please contact a member of the legislative committee. If you meet with any of your State representatives or State Senators please report back. Please ask the four questions from the fact sheet below:

Pension Fact Sheet

Many factors have led to the discussion of pension reform in the country. Some of the factors that have brought the discussion to the forefront include:

- Extreme fiscal conditions for the state and municipalities
- The prolonged effects of the worst economic recession since the Great Depression and the investment losses of a few years present political reasons to make drastic changes without fully looking at the entire system.
- Concerns about the viability and sustainability of public pensions

- Political Landscape and the 2010 Elections

FACTS:

- Members of the Kentucky Retirement System have put their life savings into this fund. Most Firefighters and Police Officers do not get Social Security so for most this is their retirement.
- Defined benefit pension plans are a fair and cost-effective system of providing retirement security to workers. More than 80% of pension funds come from employee contributions and earnings on prudent investments, with tax dollars accounting for only about 20% of the funds.

Action Taken By KRS

- Employees hired after July 1, 2003 earn health insurance benefits based on dollar amount. Purchases made after August 1, 2004 changed toward health insurance and vesting. Savings from these changes were estimated by KRS staff to amount to \$2.25 billion dollars realized over 20 years.
- In 2006 the KRS modified actuarial assumptions.
- In 2008 House Bill #1 made benefit modifications by increasing employee contributions, increasing service requirements and eliminating lump sum payments.

Cost saings not estimated in this report.

WHAT WE NEED YOU TO DO!

Meet with your legislator to discuss the issue of pension and ask the following questions;

1. Will you support the inviolable contract language in current state law and maintain that language for future employees?
2. Do you support retaining a defined benefits pension for current and future employees?
3. Will you continue to support the current phase-in schedule for paying contribution rates established in 2008 HB1?
4. Would you support the COLA provision in HB 1 for retirees if funding can be secured for pre-funding for such COLA's?

Another issue is the election of Board members to CERS board. Ballots need to be mailed out to members by January 11, 2013 and ballots

“Legislative Report” continued on Page 16

Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members

Please remember these members when you have purchasing needs.

<p>911 Fleet & Fire Equipment Frank Glowatz 11 Lendal Dr Florence KY 41042 877-605-2378 fglowatz@911fleet.com</p>	<p>Advanced Fire & Rescue Equip. Nick Gapinski 365 Persimmon Circle Booneville IN 47601 800-853-7675</p>	<p>Air Evac Lifeteam Donald Hare 418 Airport Road Danville, KY 40422 859-854-0081 haredonald@air- evac.com</p>
<p>Bluegrass Fire Equipment John Baker 780 Enterprise Dr Lexington, KY 40510 800-526-8393 Fax 859-233-1167 www.bluegrassfire.com</p>	<p>Bluegrass Uniforms Inc. Jason Colson 3533 Dahlia Way Bowling Green, KY 42101 270-842-7700 jason@bluegrassuniforms.com</p>	<p>Dove Designs Chris Hays 94 Horizon Loop Monticello KY 42633 888-377-4459 www.dovedesigns.com contact@dovedesigns.com</p>
<p>///EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT MIKE BRADY Res. Equip./Vehicles (859) 359-4502 (859) 359-4503 FAX http://www.EEResQ.com E-Mail: EEResQ@cs.com</p>	<p>Excellance, Inc. Thomas Pugh 453 Lanier Road Madison, AL 35758 800-882-9799 Fax 256-772-8792 www.excellance.com</p>	<p>FAAC Inc. Bill Martin 1229 Oak Valley Dr. Ann Arbor MI 48108 734-761-5836 Fax 734-761-5368 wbmartin@faac.com</p>
<p>Finley Fire Equipment 5255 N. State Route 60 McConnelsville OH 43756 800-545-3280 www.finleyfire.com rebersole@finlyfire.com</p>	<p>Fire Apparatus Division S.D.C. Bob Stark 8009 Beulah Church Rd. Louisville KY 40291 502-239-3120 sdcfire@iglou.com</p>	<p>Fire Department Service & Supply Co. Jay Trautwein 1902 Campus Place Suite 2-3, Louisville, KY 40299 800-321-6965 Fax 502-491-1487</p>
<p>Firecom Corporation Barry Jackson 7340 SW Durham Rd Portland OR 97224 800-527-0555 barry.jackson@firecom.com</p>	<p>Firovac/Reberland Larry Reber 5963 Fountain Nook Apple Creek, OH 44606 330-698-5322 firovac@yahoo.com</p>	<p>GRA-KAT Enviromental Andy White 50 Cherokee Dr, Shelbyville KY 40065 502-321-3110 andy.gra-kat@insightbb.com</p>
<p>High Tech Rescue Inc. James Riddle 2116 Frankfort RD. 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 sales@4-help.org 888-504-4357 Fax 502-532-0800</p>	<p>Insti. for Preventive Strategies Jessica Melton 2292 South Hwy 27 St 300 Somerset KY 42501 606-677-6000 jmelton@centertech.com</p>
<p>KBEMS Bob Hammonds 300 N Main St. Versailles KY 40383 866-975-2367 Fax 859-256-3128 kbems@kctcs.edu</p>	<p>Kenwood Communications Dave BandKamp, 2060 E. Harbor Road Port Clinton OH 43452 419-734-4200 info@greatlakescomm.com</p>	<p>KY Emergency Management Charlie O'Neal 100 Minuteman Pkwy Frankfort, KY 40601 502-607-1601 charliem.oneal@us.army.mil</p>
<p>Landmark Chiropractic Dr Cole Bergeson 204 Bevins Ln Suite D Georgetown KY 40324 502-868-6008 landmarkchiro@yahoo.com</p>	<p>MapSync Tim Fields 149 Main Street Pikeville KY 41501 606-432-9188 tfields@mapsync.com</p>	<p>National Fire Sprinkler Assn. Ron Brown 1615 Cypress Spring Dr. Ft. Wayne IN 46814 845-661-6534 brown@nfsa.org</p>
<p>On Duty Depot/MPH Ind. John "Red" Noblitt 1040 Mosley St Owensboro, KY 42303 270-685-6423 red@shopmph.com</p>	<p>Orr Rapid Response Michael Kidwell 11601 Interchange Dr Louisville KY 40229 502-494-3687 Fax 800-800-6774 michaelk@orrcorp.com</p>	<p>Paul Miller Ford Inc./ Upfitters Brad Ferguson 975 East New Circle Lexington KY 40505 859-255-4242 bradferguson@paul.millergmline.com</p>

Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members

Please remember these members when you have purchasing needs.

<p>QDCIP Fire, LLC Cris Marley, 127 Weltmer Circle Perrysville, OH 44864 419-606-0085 qdcip@live.com www.qdcipfire.com</p>	<p>Royce Publications Robert Boyd 3320 Clays Mill Rd Suite 212 Lexington KY 40503 859-327-8595 rcbyd8898@live.com</p>	<p>Scheller's Fitness & Cycling Bill Goodwin 1987 Harrodsburg Road Lexington, KY 40503 859-873-0699 bgoodwin@schellers.com</p>
<p>Scott Health & Safety Tim Divine 119 Lakeridge Dr Richmond, KY 40475 859-353-5017 tdvive@tycoint.com www.scotthealthsafety.com</p>	<p>Summit Fire Apparatus Joe Messmer 11 Sperti Drive Edgewood KY 41017 859-331-0360 jmessmer@summitfireapparatus.com</p>	<p>Super Vacuum Mfg Command Light Tim Hodgson 3842 Redman Dr Fort Collins, CO 80524 970-290-2532 timh@supervac.com</p>
<p>The Public Safety Store, LLC Sean Lawson PO Box 12266 Lexington KY 40582 606-434-7980 sean@thepublicsafetystore.com</p>	<p>Vehicle Systems Inc. Gary L Williams 629 Shelby Street Lexington KY 40505 859-252-1377 800-444-FIRE (3473) gwilliams@vehiclesystems.net</p>	<p>Vogelpohl Fire Equipment, Inc. William Vogelpohl 2756 Cireleport Drive Erlanger, KY 41018 800-797-8317 Fax 859-282-1550</p>
<p>Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services Steve Siereveld P.O. Box 17374 • Dixie Branch Edgewood, KY 41017 steve@kpep.net 800-753-6734 Fax 859-331-3734</p>	<p>Ward Diesel Filter Systems 133 Philo Road West, Elmira NY 14903 800-845-4665 Fax 607-739-7092 www.warddiesel.com lisa.gray@warddiesel.com</p>	<p>Wynn Apparatus Johnathan Wise 326 Old Lynn Camp School Rd Corbin KY 40701 606-523-4497 jwise@wynnfire.com</p>
<p>Wynn Fire & Rescue Equipment 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 Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>
<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>
<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>
<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>
<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>	<p>To advertise in this space in the next issue of Smoke Signals II . . . contact Therese Cheney at 859-907-2108</p>

KFA Smoke Signals II
46 N Sunset Ave
Cecilia, KY 42724-9782

PRESORTED STANDARD US
POSTAGE
PAID
ELIZABETHTOWN, KY
PERMIT NO. 201

KFA Smoke Signals II

This is a Publication of The Kentucky Firefighters Association.
Editor Woodrow Will, 46 N Sunset Ave, Cecilia, KY 42724-9782
Phone 270-766-9946 or E-Mail at woodrow.will@kyfa.org

The Deadline for December issue submission of articles is November 10, 2012

“Legislative Report” continued from Page 13

must be postmarked on or before March 1, 2013. The ballots will be tabulated on March 15, 2013 and the elected officials begin their time on the board on April 1, 2013. I would recommend that you vote for the same people that have shown that they will speak for those in the system. I am supporting Dave Rich a retired Louisville Fire Fighter and Ed Davis a retired Jefferson County Police officer.

You might ask why this is so important and the answer is the board makes many decisions about health insurance for members over 65 and insurance for those below 65. The board also decides where money is invested and many other issues that affect the Kentucky Retirement System. Members need members who support members!

Remember this affects all families of the KFA please contact your representative and report back to us their answer for us to share with all members who support us!

Vote for members who represent you the members of the Kentucky Retirement System!

Stay Informed! Stay Connected!
Contact YOUR Legislators and Hold Them Accountable for THEIR VOTE!!!



Globe, DuPont, and NVFC Announce Recipients of First Round of Gear Grants

In honor of Globe's 125th anniversary this year, Globe, DuPont, and the National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) have partnered to give away 125 sets of turnout gear to fire departments in need. The program has had a tremendous response, with over 2,600 volunteer departments across the U.S. and Canada applying for the grants. Globe, DuPont, and the NVFC are pleased to announce the recipients of the first two grants: Consolidated Fire Association (Bordentown City, NJ) and Lostine (OR) Fire Department.

“The outpouring of applications from thousands of departments in need demonstrates the importance of a program such as this,” said NVFC Chairman Philip C. Stittleburg. “We are very pleased to join with Globe and DuPont to provide gear to struggling departments so they can offer the best personal protection to their members. Globe is an outstanding example of a company giving back and making a real difference in communities across the nation.”

For more information go to the NVFC website at www.nvfc.org.