



Smoke Signals II

Smoke Signals is a Publication of the Kentucky Firefighters Association

A Tribute to a Northern Kentucky Fire Service Legend

March 7, 1932 - December 19, 2005



Sylvan "Smitty" Smith enjoyed a good argument with anybody, especially his wife, Jan. Although he enjoyed teasing others, he was a dedicated family man, friend, and community servant. Smitty always kept "service to the community" as a large part of his life. Smitty was known for his warm smile and generous nature.

Smitty joined the Army in 1949 and served as a paratrooper during the Korean Conflict. It was during his military time stationed at Fort Campbell he went to Northern Kentucky and met Jan.

Sylvan Smith will be affectionately remembered by the Northern Kentucky Community for his tireless service, most of which revolved around his second love, the Erlanger Fire Department. Smitty was known for his ability to bring volunteer and career firefighters together. Throughout his 51-year career at the fire department, Smitty held the rank of firefighter, engineer, lieutenant, captain, battalion chief, chief assistant, and chief. He was a Volunteer Fire Service Representative on the Kentucky Fire Commission from 1982 to 2005, and he was past President and retired legislative agent of the Kentucky Firefighters Association. His statewide efforts culminated in the Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Frankfort, Ky. He was the recipient of the Firefighter of the Year Award from the Northern Kentucky Area Development District in 1999. He was also inducted in to "First Class" of the Kentucky Firefighter's Association Hall of Fame in 2003. Erlanger Fire Engine 51 and Erlanger Station One were also named in his honor. Up until his death, Smitty was an active member of the department.

Smitty will be remembered as an icon in the Erlanger community. He was a model citizen, filled with goodness and love for his fellow neighbors. He worked hard and played hard. He had many medical issues, but it seemed as if he was given at least nine lives. Smitty underwent so many surgeries for cancer and "other" repairs, it was thought God should have made him with a zipper. Despite his battle with cancer, Smitty maintained his "on-the-go" life-style, fiercely fighting his illness and continuing to enjoy life, especially if a party was involved. Smitty leaves behind his wife of 53 years, five children, nine grandchildren, four great grandchildren, and his extended "family" at the fire department. To his friends and family, Sylvan Smith represented everything good in a man. His lighthearted spirit and tender sincerity remain with us all in our memories of Smitty. Early Monday morning, December 19, 2005, he received his final run to the Master's house.

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From the KFA Presidents Desk

Since our last newsletter we have had several deaths of firefighters throughout the State of Kentucky, but the KFA has had a loss of one of its own that has touched me greatly, the loss of Sylvan Smith (Smitty). The fire service and KFA has lost a very dear friend who, as most of you know who have been in fire service for any length of time, that Smitty was a firefighter with the Erlanger Fire Department and for many years was the KFA's lobbyist in Frankfort. He also was very instrumental in the memorial to firefighters located in Frankfort. Smitty personally oversaw its construction and to its maintenance. He also did work to aid and benefit all firefighters in the State of Kentucky. Smitty was a personal and dear friend to me and to my family and will be sorely missed. I feel that Woody will say much more than I can in this edition of Smoke Signals.

On a lighter note, once again I would like to encourage everyone to be watching for information about State Fire School. The school will be held at Heritage Hall adjacent to Rupp Arena. I cannot express how excited I am and the State Fire School Committee is about this change. Also, watch for the several training opportunities coming up across the state.

The next KFA Board meeting will be at the Officer's School being held in Owensboro. I am looking forward to all the reports from all the committee chairmen. These chairmen and their respective committees are what make the KFA the great organization that it is.

As I write this letter I am also making plans to meet with several people concerning the politics going on in Frankfort and on what we can do to aid all the firefighters in the State of Kentucky. If you have issues that concern improvements for the firefighters of Kentucky that need to go before our legislators in Frankfort please let me know as soon as possible.

Mark your calendar for the KFA Conference to be held August 5 – 8, 2006 at the Embassy Suites in Lexington. Registration forms are available on the KFA website: www.kyfa.org or the Lake Cumberland Firefighters Assoc. website: www.lcafa.com. Rooms are still available at the Embassy Suites by calling 1-800-EMBASSY or register on-line from our website link www.lcafa.com.

We are currently in the process of putting together our ad book. Be looking in the mail for your copy of the ad form to place your department's ad in the 2006 Conference book. Remember, this book is a great opportunity to advertise your department across the State of Kentucky. This book will be distributed to each attendee, to fire departments across the state, and will be displayed at the Fire Marshal's office and the Kentucky Fire Commission office.

Looking forward to seeing you at one of these functions.

Allen Johnson

President



Treasurer's Notes

by Terry Keller

Sylvan "Smitty" Smith - What can one say about a man who's life was donated to the betterment of the Fire Service. Words can not express all the good this man was able to do for us. Northern Kentucky will miss this man. I knew Smitty for 30 some years and although I did not agree with him all the time, I knew somewhere down the road his program would benefit the fire Service in some manner. As of this date friends and family have donated \$879.00 to the fallen firefighter memorial in remembrance of Smitty. Thank you for this support.

Here we are in another year. The Legislators are in Frankfort and the battle begins to protect everything we have. Many issues face our Legislative Lobbyist. David Jackson and Gerald Stewart will do everything possible to keep what we have and try to get bills passed to help our membership as a whole. Remember, that when David or Gerald send out an E-Mail asking you to call your legislator, it is very important that you do.

This is the only way your legislator knows what you want. Each one of us has a duty to call.

The second dues notice will be going out soon. There are 293 dues paid departments, a long way from the 400 that normally pay. Vice Presidents, Directors and membership departments, please keep bringing this up at your local regional meetings. This legislative session will cost the K F A a lot of money. This is good money spent to protect the benefits we enjoy.

Treasurers Notes continued on next page . . .

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Your E-Board will be meeting again in February at the Green River Officer School. Many items will be discussed to outline the programs K F A is involved in. We need your input. Talk to your directors and vice presidents if you have a problem. Your board does listen to what you say. We may not be able to fix a problem right away, but you can bet that we will address it.

Terry Keller, Your Treasurer

REGIONAL EMBERS



Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association

Deb Hartz, President

Greetings from "Far Western Kentucky" and the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association. Old man winter has finally reared his ugly head and it looks like the cold temperatures, wind and precipitation have set in. The good news is that we live in a part of the country that we know these conditions will not last long and we can look forward to spring and more pleasant conditions. Thanks be to our creator for providing us with all four of our magnificent seasons.

The Kentucky Fire Service has lost another "good one" with the recent death of Sylvan Smith. Smitty meant so much to so many people and there is no way to even begin to calculate what his demise will mean to his family, his friends, his fellow firefighters and to the Kentucky Fire Service. We will survive and we will continue on with heavy hearts and fond memories. The road will seem a little steeper and the task at hand will seem tougher without his presence and his leadership. "Gone But Never Forgotten" No truer words have ever been spoken about Sylvan Smith. Please keep Smitty's family, friends and fellow firefighters in your prayers.

The 2006 legislative session in Frankfort will be in full swing as you read this article. The 2006 session began on January 3, 2006 and legislators have 60 days to complete their job. (Hopefully) David Jackson and Gerald Stewart will be in Frankfort on a daily basis looking out for the Kentucky Fire Service. Other members of the KFA and the fire service will be in attendance when they can and on an as needed basis. Those of us that can not attend the session owe all of these people our sincere

thanks and appreciation for what they are attempting to get done for the Fire Service. Folks, that includes all of us. The very least that we can do to support their efforts is to stay abreast of pending legislation and respond to their request for emails, letters and phone calls when they are needed. It really is that simple!

February brings with it the beginning of the area fire schools in Kentucky. We normally start off with the Officers School in Owensboro, KY. the last of February and then it is non stop the rest of the year. If you enjoy these schools and the training that they provide get started now making plans to attend. The dates are posted and many of them have class listings ready to go. The Officers school is scheduled for February 24th, 25th, & 26th in Owensboro. The Dixie School is scheduled for March 10th, 11th, and 12th in Elizabethtown. The Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association Annual Fire School is scheduled for April 7th, 8th, & 9th at Kentucky Dam Village State Park in Gilbertsville, KY. The Kentucky State Fire School is scheduled for June 8th, 9th, 10th, & 11th in Lexington. These are just a few of the many offerings from across the state. Watch the KFA web site for other announcements and details as they become available.

If your department did not pay their KFA dues for the 2005-2006 year by December 1, 2005 your KFA dues are delinquent. Never the less I can guarantee you that if you send Terry Keller, KFA Treasurer, a \$75.00 check today, for your dues, it will not be rejected. Forget the excuses; go to the KFA web site at www.kyfa.org and click on the MEMBERS tab in the left hand column. You will find everything you need on this page to submit your dues today. Check with your Chief or your treasurer to ensure that your department's dues have been paid. I realize that you might find it hard to believe but sometimes they forget or simply over look things, especially when dollars are involved. Support the Kentucky Firefighters Association and all of their efforts to assist all Kentucky Firefighters. **PAY YOUR DUES** !

And last but certainly not least I would ask that you continue to remember and pray for all of our service personnel where ever they may be. We must never forget them and all of the sacrifices that they make so that we can live safely in these United States of America. May God Bless and Protect Our Troops.

Paul S. Billings

'Regional Embers' continued . . .



Dixie Firefighters Association

The Dixie Firefighters Association held its final regular meeting of 2005 in November at the Meade County Fire Department. It was a very difficult day for the host department due to an early afternoon response to a structure fire with a fatality which was a child occupant of the home. Meade County personnel handled the response and its aftermath including meal preparation with a great deal of professionalism. Our thanks to them for all of their work on that most difficult day.

Dixie Fire School 2006 is all set for March 10-12 at Elizabethtown. Brochures were mailed out by January 7th. If you do not receive one before this issue of "Smoke Signals" is in your hands contact the Area 5 office 1-888-234-7201. Classes will be held on Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday. There is a lawn & home equipment safety program Friday night and a firefighter challenge on Saturday night. A large vendor area will be set-up for attendees. Make plans to join us again this year.

I am sad to report to you the death of one of the founding members of the Dixie Firefighters Association. Retired Chief Arch Pendergrass of the Bardstown-Nelson County Fire Department passed away in December 2005. In 1963 Arch was among those present at an organizational meeting for this association held in a church basement in Bardstown. Our living charter members are down to a very few, and we are proud to have them. A fire service funeral was conducted for Chief Pendergrass in Bardstown.

The business year is winding down for the current elected officers in our group. Nominations will be made in February and newly elected members will be installed at the monthly March meeting following our regional school earlier in the month. Thanks to all those who have served with me this year. We have automatic succession with the vice-presidents so an experienced group is waiting to come on board. I look forward to working with them in the future after my term as president has ended.

Larry Fore

President
Dixie Firefighters Association

Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association

Joseph Stambush, President

This will be my final report as President of the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Assn. I am not sure where the last two years went but as I sit at my desk today looking at piles of reports that need to be done and with upcoming projects that need attention I often wonder how I fitted this additional duty in among all the things Fireman Joe does each week. I must tell you I have no regrets. It has been an honor for me to serve as President of the NKFA and represent my association at the many events celebrated during the tenure as President. At our January 24th meeting in Erlanger, Ky my good friend and comrade Bruce Smith (Son of Smitty) will be installed as President for 2006. This meeting will be difficult, this will be the first meeting in 2006 were I won't be looking out to see our Friend, Sylvan Smith. I could fill the entire pages of the Smoke Signals with things about "Smitty", what he meant to Fireman Joe, what he meant to NKFA, KFA, Fire Commission, the fire service and the entire Northern Kentucky community. I will miss him terribly, when I think of our comrades who have passed the last two years, I can only wonder what a fabulous Fire Dept God has put together.

Our association is not really much different from the many outstanding firefighter associations throughout our great Commonwealth but I will always treasure the very special projects, meetings, discussions, events and activities that went on during 2004 & 2005. Thanks to the many people who not only work hard and support the NKFA but who also take the time to serve the KFA and Fire Commission Projects. These are the special things I treasure and am proud to be a part of. Aren't you glad the fire service is such an important part of your life? Next to God and Family there is no better.

I will still be around doing my Public Education things and being involved in the safety of Kentucky. I wish Bruce all the best in 2006 and to all my friends and comrades, God Bless! Be Safe!

Joseph "Fireman Joe" Stambush

President,
Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association

'Regional Embers' continued . . .

Pike County Firefighters Association

Randy Courtney President

Below is pictured a Kenworth Cab & Chassis with a 336 HP diesel engine, a 1250 gpm pump, 1250 poly tank, stainless steel body, through the tank ladder & storage. It was it was purchased from Fire Pumps & Equipment, Allen Kentucky and delivered to Lookout Fire & Rescue Department Ashcamp, Kentucky located in Pike Co. Its purchase was made possible through a FEMA Fire Act Grant.



From the Editor Good-bye Smitty

It is difficult to loose a Life-Long Friend that I have known and loved for some 22 years. That is the bulk of my professional career. I have had to say good-by to several lately and I don't like doing it. I have worked with Smitty on some of the most important legislation in the last 2 decades. Smitty was among 4 of us that penned House Bill 4 that legalized some where around 70% of the Commonwealth's Fire Departments. His work with the KFA was invaluable. He has meant a lot to me. I didn't always agree with him on every issue and he was quick to speak his peace but that never stood in the way of our friendship. The Commonwealth's Fire Service was a sadder place this Christmas because of his passing. His voice will be missed this legislative session and those to come. I was unable to attend his funeral but my sincere sympathy goes out to his family to include the Erlanger Fire Department and the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association.

Bye Smitty



FIREMAN JOE SAYS:

November 28, 29 30th we received our annual review and visit from NFFPA Field Advisor Linda Stuckey. To facilitate the visit and cover everything we needed to show off, I had two specific reviews, one in Northern Kentucky and one in Central Kentucky. During the Northern Kentucky visit, we were able to show off some of our local Risk Watch Programs, visit schools, fire houses and Ms. Stuckey was briefed and received reports from our key CMT Personnel. Thanks to Greg Schultz, Bob Douglas, Adam Fuller, Meghan Estabrook and our local schools for the splendid job and presentations they made. The next day we went to Richmond, Ky and visited Madison County's Safety City and held a Pub Ed Comm. Mtg and Ms. Stuckey received an exceptional report from Madison County Team on Risk Watch and a tour of Safety City. NFFPA was extremely impressed with our projects and Champion Management Team Kentucky. My special thanks to Major Butch Kirby and Chief Murphy for hosting the meeting and the Madison County Team who are doing such a fabulous job with Risk Watch in their county.

We had a special meeting this week to prepare what I think will be an outstanding class for the Green River Officers School in Owensboro, Ky Feb 24-25-26. A concentrated presentation showing new and exciting ideas for your community fire & life safety programs using the latest materials, programs and projects available today will be demonstrated. Plans were also discussed to prepare an exceptional class for State Fire School in Lexington, Ky June 8-9-10-11. Combining the skills, resources and networking of our top fire and life safety educators this will be an educational experience you won't want to miss!

Thanks to the Fire Commission and KFA we have Risk Watch materials available for our project expansion for 2006. For more information please contact Fireman Joe or attend our class in Green River and at the State Fire School. We want to expand Risk Watch in Kentucky for 2006 and offer more fire and life safety assistance to our departments and communities throughout Kentucky.

Please visit the KFA Web Site, (www.kyfa.org) click Pub Ed for news and information on what is happening with Public Education in Kentucky. Be sure to subscribe to and read Smoke Signals for updates. Until next time, Be Safe and God Bless!

NEW ARRIVALS

The **Wynn Fire & Rescue Equipment Company** is pleased to announce the delivery of the following apparatus to these Kentucky Fire Departments.



Jake's Branch Fire Department



Gilbertsville Fire Department



North Magoffin Fire Department



Richland Volunteer Fire Department



Dunnville Fire Department



Mackville Fire Department



Tateville Fire Department



Fairdealing-Olive Fire Department



Palma-Briensburg Fire Department



Viola Fire Department

The adventures of the Cross + Roads Fire Department

By Woody Will Jr. and Sr.

It was a morning like any other morning at the fire station. Breakfast was over, the station cleaned, dishes put-away and time for the morning assignments. I sometimes looked forward to this part of my job because I strive every day to make a difference. But today we were assigned to go to the local grade school and use the area's Child Fire Safety House. I never liked the job because it consisted of working in a two story trailer with 5 foot ceilings. I would either end up on my knees most of the day or supporting the biggest back ache in the world. Yea I know as a firefighter I am supposed to love my job no matter how dumb an activity might seem. But to spend my day answering questions from some 150 elementary school kids seemed to me to be a waste of my time.

When we got to the school our engine was the first to arrive. The captain stopped at the office and went inside to talk to the principal which gave the rest of us a little time to talk. Firefighter Joe Simmons always road in the jump seat across from me and we began to talk.

"Hey Joe, How do you like these school gigs? I don't think much of them myself it seems like a waste of good manpower."

"Well John, I used to feel just like you. All this equipment and personnel out of service for a day on the tax payers dime what a waste! Until about two years ago we worked a school in the southern end of the county. I didn't pay much attention to the students it was just another school. I did remember thinking that the school was located in a more rural part of the county and wondered how well off most of the parents of these kids were? There was one chubby little girl who got my attention. She was very

attentive during our Stop Drop and Roll segment and our Crawl Low in Smoke portion. She really got my attention when we asked how many students had smoke detectors in their homes and she and five other students didn't raise their hands. We took down the names of those households without detectors and turned them in to a local group trying to place smoke detectors in all houses in the county. I had all but forgotten about the girl and that school when about three months later we got toned out about two in the morning to a trailer fire in the south end of the county. I knew it was going to be too late for a rescue by the time we got there 20 minutes later. As we pulled up I could see a man, woman and three children standing out front of what used to be a house trailer. The trailer was all but on the ground and I knew that about all the good we could do was clean up. We were finishing up and I had pulled off my coat, helmet and SCBA when I looked over and saw that same chubby little girl. I was somewhat amazed that they had gotten out of that older trailer so I went over to the father and asked how they were doing and he said about as good as could be expected considering what had just happened but they would have been much worse if a local group had not installed a smoke detector in the trailer for them. He said after you guys visited my daughter's school she drove us nuts until we called about the free smoke detector program. When that blame thing went off my daughter come running to our bedroom and told us to get down on the floor and crawl out so we did. I guess that smoke detector thing saved our lives. I have never looked at one of these school gigs as you call them the same way since."

As he finished his story I got a better perspective about the importance of fire prevention. I guess no part of our job is trivial. It is all important to the lives of those we serve.

Words of Wisdom

I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, and stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong.

[Abraham Lincoln](#)



A letter from 2nd Vice President John Daley

I trust this reaches all of you in good health and spirit. As we start a new year, I'm sure you all look forward with anticipation of a safe 2006 filled with accomplishment and progress.

Looking back on the year 2005, I have bitter-sweet feelings. I mourned with you from far and near as we lost many of our friends. From presenting the KFA bible to the grief stricken widow at a firefighters funeral in Flemingsburg to feeling the pain over reading another e-mail I hoped to never see, we the fire service of Kentucky shared in sorrow.

The KFA, our Northern Kentucky community, and myself personally saw three very dear friends move on to greater glory in 2005. Florence retired Fire Chief and longtime KFA secretary Don Robert's death was the first to shock us as we attended the same business that Don did for many years at State Fire School. Shortly thereafter we were saddened to learn of the passing of Retired Chief Bernie Marshall of the Pt. Pleasant department. A regularly attendee and active participant at KFA conferences, Bernie had the distinction of his fire station being named after him. Then in December as we anticipated the blessings of Christmas, we mourned the death of one of our great leaders, Sylvan Smith.

Smitty meant so much to me personally and to many of you. A former President of the KFA and inductee in its first Hall of Fame class, Smitty's passing affected us greatly. I know that the love and support of all of you from throughout the state sustained Jan, and Sylvan's immediate and firefighter family. I could speak forever on Smitty's accomplishments, awards, and involvement in legislative and other issues of the KFA, Fire Commission, NKFA and other organizations, but suffice it to say that through his actions, we personally, and all of our fire departments are better.

Through these times of sorrow and grief I have seen the greatness of the Kentucky Fire and Emergency Service. It has reaffirmed to me that boundaries do not exist within this state. I have once again seen that in hard times, just like in good times, we the fire service of Kentucky, pray, work and play together, as one.

The KFA has many talented and dedicated individuals leading us into the future. President Allen "AJ" Johnson has been solid in providing leadership and working to resolve many issues. 1st VP Troy Newcomb will prove a valuable asset as he takes over the Presidency in August. Our newest VP Randy Courtney has shown ability and enthusiasm during his short time in office and VP-at-Large Bob Newman has continued with his steady, intelligent approach in serving your KFA. Secretary Dave Jansing and Treasurer Terry Keller continue to perform in outstanding, professional, manners in their vital roles.

A note of thanks should also be expressed to former President Bill Robbins for the outstanding job he did for the KFA over the past years. Bill's conference in Corbin and his work as President for nearly 2 years was a memorable time for the KFA and especially me. The KFA continued to move forward in large part to Bill's effort.

As we embark on another legislative season and a year that will bring great changes in our service, I see the good and the promise for the future. I see the friendships that exist from north to south and east to west. Let it be our mission to carry on the work of all who have left our physical world in 2005. Let it be our mission to work tirelessly together. Let it be our mission to never forget but move forward, and let it be our mission to individually work to enhance the greatness that we call the Fire and Emergency Service of Kentucky.

Please have a safe and prosperous 2006 and may God bless you all,

John Daley

COMMEMORATIVE FIRE SERVICE PRINTS

For just \$99.95 you can own a piece of Kentucky Fire Fighting history. Order your set of four (4) beautiful 18" x 24" color, signed and numbered commemorative fire service prints by Chas Fagan, renowned fire service artist.

\$99.95 per set of four prints \$6.00 KY. Sales tax

(Or a copy of your tax exempt ID #)

\$3.95 shipping & handling

CONTACT PAUL S. BILLINGS

223 FOURTH STREET, FULTON, KY.

Home 270-472-1340

Fulton FD 270-472-1423

EMAIL - pmbillings@ziggycom.net

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Kentucky Fire Commission to Host IFSAC Accredited Written Exams Every Month Through June 2006!

The Kentucky Fire Commission will be offering an opportunity for Kentucky firefighters to take any of the Kentucky IFSAC Accredited written certification exams on a monthly basis. Once a month through June 2006, the fire commission will be giving the written exams at their central office in Versailles. Test dates are listed below. Testing begins at 9 am each day, and candidates can take multiple exams throughout the day, based upon the time limits set for each exam level, and to allow for a break at lunch for staff and candidates. Testing will not continue past 4pm each day. Candidates will not be allowed to test unless they register with **Christy Rodgers** of the IFSAC Certification Program by calling toll-free, **888-301-2946**. You must register before the Friday immediately preceding the exam date. Candidate must bring their Drivers License or Official state issued ID card to the test site for identification. Candidates should plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early to locate the facility, visitor parking area, and the room where the testing is being conducted. Further, more detailed information can be obtained from the fire commission via their web site at <http://www.kctcs.net/kyfirecommission/index.htm>. Firefighter IFSAC Accredited skills' testing has been scheduled for each of the State Fire Rescue Training service areas for the 2005-2006 fiscal year. That schedule is available in this edition of Smoke Signals or it can be downloaded via the web at <http://www.kctcs.net/kyfirecommission/IFSAC2005-2006Schedulepdf.pdf>. If you have any questions concerning the IFSAC Certification process or procedures, you may contact either **Duane Suttles**, Area 9 Coordinator or **Christy Rodgers**, Area 9 Office Coordinator at **888-301-2946** or you may contact your local Area SFRT Coordinator.

Written Exam dates for KCTCS-Fire Commission Central Office in Versailles:
2-27-06, 3-20-06, 4-17-06, 5-15-06, 6-19-06.

ANNOUNCING THE 77TH ANNUAL KENTUCKY STATE FIRE SCHOOL & HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE JUNE 8th-11th, 2006

To be held at:

**LEXINGTON CONVENTION CENTER,
 RADISSON PLAZA HOTEL, &
 HYATT REGENCY**

The 2006 school will begin on Thursday the 8th of June and end on Sunday the 11th. Registration information will be posted soon on websites such as the Fire Commission www.kctcs.edu/kyfirecommission and KFA www.kyfa.org. An expanded exhibit program will be set up inside Heritage Hall which is a part of the HyattRegency/Rupp Arena/Lexington Center complex located at West High St. at South Broadway in downtown Lexington. This will make the school more convenient for attendees to plan their lodging, parking, class attendance, and social/entertainment needs. Several statewide associations including the State Fire Commission and Kentucky Fire Chiefs Association have been invited to hold meetings during the school. Please check with your organization to see if they are participating. An opening session will be held on Thursday morning with class sessions beginning shortly thereafter. Course offerings are being expanded to provide training for a wide range of fire and emergency service needs. As much as possible, courses will be scheduled to accommodate the needs of career and volunteer personnel. A conference wide gathering for all interested attendees is planned to provide everyone with up to date information on current issues as well as the opportunity to hear a keynote speaker. A preliminary fire school program will be available in February.

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

Radisson Plaza Hotel
 369 West Vine St.
 1-800-333-3333

Hyatt Regency-Lexington
 401 West High St.
 1-800-233-1234

The rates at both hotels are \$79 per night for single or double.

'Educational Opportunities' continued ...

2006 Kentucky Officers School

Owensboro KY February 24 - 26, 2006

The 2006 Officers School is just around the corner and it looks like another outstanding program. Many new classes are being offered including a class on Simplifying Fireground Strategy and Tactics by Frank Schaper and Gregg Gerner from Missouri; Thermal Imagers by Jonathan Bastian building on his Firehouse Magazine series; Quality Customer Service by Barry Henby from the Illinois Fire Service Institute; the first look at the tornado that took multiple lives in southern Indiana by John Buckman; and the list goes on.

The Kentucky Firefighters Association has always been a strong part of the Officers School and 2006 is no exception. KFA will hold their Board meeting on Saturday and their display booth will be a part of the "Saturday Evening With The Vendors". We are proud to have Joe "Fireman Joe" Stambush and the KFA Fire and Life Safety Educators Committee presenting a class this year.

The Kentucky Fire Commission continues to be a strong partner in providing the Officers School each year. The Commission will meet on Friday afternoon at 1:00 pm and the Commission members and staff will be in their booth in the Expo Center on Saturday evening. Executive Director Ronnie Day and his staff will present the Fire Commission Operational Update class on Sunday and with all that is going on in the fire service, every department should be a part of this class.

The Officers School is pleased to welcome the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs as they are a big part of the 2006 Officers School. The Chiefs will hold their meeting at 3:00 PM on Friday afternoon and they have opened the meeting to everyone, whether you are a current member or not. The Chiefs will sponsor the class "Office of the Chief – Journey or Destination" on Saturday and repeated on Sunday. The Chiefs will have a booth in the "Saturday Evening With The Vendors" where you can learn more about the Association of Fire Chiefs.

The Kentucky Office of Homeland Security will be a part of the 2006 Officers School by providing two classes and having a booth in the Expo Center.

The FEMA Fire Grants Seminar will again be held on Friday evening of the Officers School, with

Vicki Murphy from the Grants Staff being the instructor. There is no cost or pre-registration required for this part of the Officers School.

If you have questions or need additional information about the 2006 Officers School contact the Area 3 Training Center at 888-306-8015. Complete brochure information is available on the internet at www.sfrtarea3.org or by calling the Area 3 Training Center.



2006 Dixie Fire School

March 10 - 12, 2006

An On-Line brochure can be found at www.sfrtarea5.org or use the link from the KFA Web Page. February 24th is the deadline for advanced registration. The school begins on Friday afternoon at 3 PM with pre-registration. At 5 PM vendor booths open, at 6 PM three day classes begin and at 7 PM is the free Lawn & Home Equipment Safety Symposium.

Courses offered this year include:

1. Spanish for Emergency Responders
2. Instructional Methodology (Bridge Course)
3. Managing the Mayday
4. Weather Spotter & Disaster Animal Management
5. Truss Construction
6. Special Responses - Electrical Safety/Aircraft R.
7. Firefighter Protocol & Procedures
8. Responding to Propane Emergencies
9. Firefighter Rehabilitation
10. EMT First Responder Continuing Education
11. Hard to Get Hours
12. Chaplain Training
13. Managing Co. Tactical Ops: Decision Making
14. Firefighter Survival & Rescue
15. Fire Control
16. Farm Rescue
17. Industrial Fire Brigade Training
18. NFPA 1670 - Technical Rescue Awareness
19. Rope Rescue
20. Boot Camp - Basic Firefighter Hours
21. Psychology of Disaster and Terrorism
22. Vehicle Rescue
23. EMT - Continuing Education
24. Basic Search and Rescue (BSAR)

Included for your registration fee is refreshments Friday evening and Breakfast and Lunch on Satur

*'Educational Opportunities'
continued on next page*

'Dixie Fire School' continued ...

day and Sunday. The Firefighter Challenge will begin on Saturday evening March 11 at 6 PM at the Pritchard Community Center. Registration for the challenge deadline is Friday March 3rd. For more information you can email: kimberly.todd@kctcs.edu or phone 270-766-5238 or toll free 888-234-7201. Instructors will award all certificates/training hours at the completion of the course for actual hours attended. Dixie certificates will be awarded for attending entire courses only.



National Volunteer Fire Council

Ken Nipper, Director Bryant Stiles, Alternate

NVFC Fall Board Meeting Focuses on Relief Efforts; Legislative Priorities

The National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) held its Fall meeting in Galveston, Texas from October 19 - 22. Forty-three state associations, sustaining members, and special guests attended the productive meeting where NVFC leadership focused on the fire services' role in hurricane relief efforts in the Gulf coast and reaffirming legislative priorities. Nearly 20 committees met on topics ranging from EMS, homeland security, legislation, communications and volunteer advocacy. The committees made recommendations to the full NVFC Board on important legislation, regulations, standards, and other significant issues affecting the nation's emergency services volunteers.

Mr. Les Bunes, Director of the Emergency Services Training Institute at Texas A&M, welcomed the group at the Chairman's luncheon on Friday. Bunes provided an overview of the demanding fire school the institute offers each July. Several NVFC Directors attended the recent school and provided testimonials on the superb training the institute offers. Bunes donated four Texas A&M fire school scholarships to the NVFC Foundation auction.

Dr. Bill Jenaway presented the results of the USFA/NVFC Vehicle Safety project which is now available on the NVFC website. The project is aimed at reducing the number of firefighters killed while responding to or returning from the emergency scene and operating on the roadway.

Mr. Frank Florence of NFPA, Steve Austin of State Farm and the International Association of Arson Investigators gave updates on their respective organizations. Mr. Mike Bazinet of UST reported that the application period for the Ranger program was open and to visit their website at www.ustinc.com

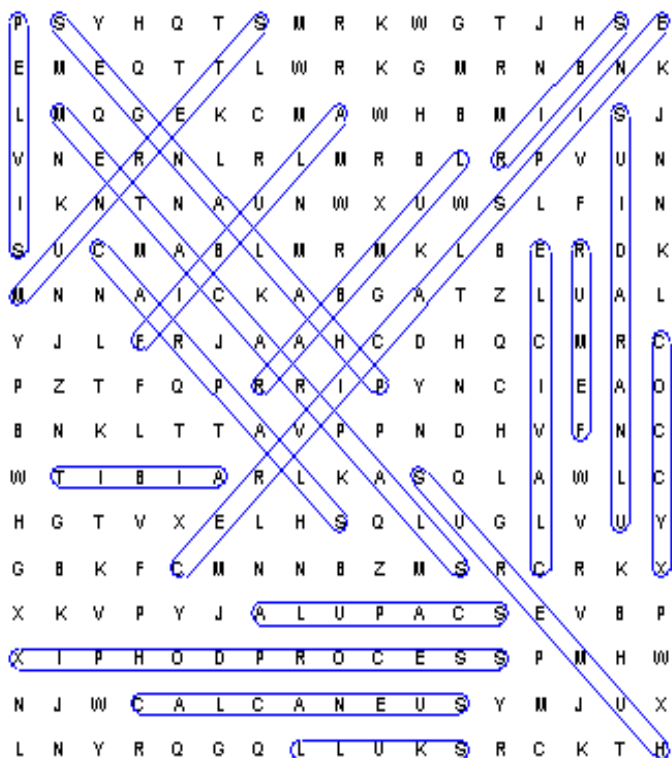
Friday afternoon included a panel discussion on hurricane relief efforts on the Gulf Coast. NVFC

2006 FF I & II Skills Testing Schedule

March 11-12	Ashland	Area 10	888-302-2833
March 18-19	Morehead	Area 9	888-301-2946
April 1-2	Owensboro	Area 3	888-306-8015
April 1-2	Hazard	Area 12	888-234-6759
April 22-23	Jessamine Co.	Area 15	888-234-3961
May 6-7	Princeton	Area 2	888-306-7986
May 11-12	Versailles	FC Office	888-301-2946

For more information related to the testing dates and exact locations contact the numbers listed with the dates above.

Answers to last issues Word Search Puzzle



'NVFC' continued . .

Directors from Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi provided a compelling overview of their experiences in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Several state associations stepped forward and offered donations to the NVFC relief efforts. An astounding \$51,000 was raised to benefit volunteer and combination fire departments and volunteer firefighters. The total to date is more than \$200,000.

On Friday evening, the Galveston County Firefighters Association hosted a southern seafood feast for all attendees at the Lone Star Flight Museum. The NVFC Foundation Auction followed the dinner and raised nearly \$7,000 to be dedicated toward firefighter health and safety projects such as the NVFC Heart Healthy Firefighter program.

Heather Schafer NVFC Executive Director, and various NVFC staff members made presentations to the Board regarding the Council's many projects. Maggie Wilson, NVFC Director of Health & Safety, updated the attendees on the NVFC Heart Healthy Firefighter program. To date, the program has provided health screening for more than 10,000 firefighters at trade shows across the country. The program will expand its focus in the coming year to engage firefighters on fitness, nutrition and smoking cessation.

The Board also adopted an updated Strategic Plan and the organization's legislative priorities in the 109th Congress. They are:

- √ Assistance to Firefighters Grant program funding.
- √ Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act (H.R. 1131/ S. 512)
- √ U.S. Fire Administration funding.
- √ Citizen Corps funding.
- √ Good Samaritan Volunteer Firefighter Assistance Act (H.R. 1088/S. 766).
- √ Hometown Heroes Survivor Benefits Act implementation.
- √ Supporting Emergency Responders Volunteer Efforts (SERVE) Act (H.R. 934/S. 625)
- √ Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act (H.R. 1405)

The awards banquet on Saturday evening concluded the nearly week-long conference. Awards were presented to Patrick Hlavaty, NVFC Volunteer Firefighter of the Year, Mr. Barry Balliet of Provident

and Mr. Mike Bazinet of UST for their Chairman's Club level membership. Mr. David Wywras of VFIS received recognition for the Champion level membership. A special award presentation took place for the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals Association of Texas for hosting the meeting.

KFA Legislative Report

By David Jackson

The 2006 General Assembly went into session January 3rd, 2006. As Legislative Agents, Gerald Stewart and I are working hard on behalf of the firefighters in Kentucky. There will be times that we will need everyone to contact your Senator and / or Representative regarding support about certain Legislation that will benefit the fire service.

In January I began sending out E-mails to keep you informed. Those documents will be posted on the KFA WebPage. You can contact me if you have any questions or comments at the following:

David Jackson

535 State Route 385n

Wingo, KY 42088

Home Phone 270-382-3172

Cell Phone 270-705-2985

E-Mail dejdcj@netzero.net

Listed below and on the next page are current bills the KFA Legislative agents are tracking. Those with a **(+)** in behind the bill number the KFA is taking a **FOR** stance. Those with a **(-)** behind the bill number the KFA is taking a stance **AGAINST** the bill. Those with a **(=)** in behind the bill number the KFA has a **NEUTRAL** stance.

HB 38 **(-)** (BR 199) - S. Lee, J. DeCesare

AN ACT relating to contracts. Amend KRS 336.130 to prohibit mandatory membership or financial support of a labor organization as a condition of employment, and to name this Act as the "Kentucky Right to Work Act"; amend KRS 336.180 to conform; amend KRS 336.990 to make a violation of this Act a Class D felony, award damages, and provide injunctive relief; create a new section to exempt existing contracts or agreements; and amend KRS 67A.6904, KRS 67C.406, KRS 70.262, KRS 78.470, KRS 78.480, and KRS 345.050 to conform. (Prefiled by the sponsor(s).)

[HB 88](#) (+) (BR 377) - B. Montell

AN ACT relating to volunteer fire department fuel expenses. Amend KRS 138.344 to allow motor fuels taxes paid by volunteer fire departments to be reimbursed.

[HB 119](#) (=) (BR 449) - R. Meeks

AN ACT relating to the provision of services by county interlocal agreement, making an appropriation therefor and declaring an emergency. Amend KRS 65.250 to specify certain criteria for the approval of interlocal agreements; amend KRS 65.260 to grant the Department for Local Government the right to review all interlocal agreements; amend KRS 95A.262 to allow a \$1,650 payment to volunteer fire departments that have entered into a valid interlocal agreement for the provision of fire protection services across county boundaries; require preferences be given to those volunteer fire departments that have entered into valid interlocal agreements.

[HB 241](#) (+) (BR 320) - J. Gray

AN ACT relating to hunting and fishing licenses. Amend KRS 150.175 to provide for discounted combined hunting and fishing license for 50% or more disabled firefighters.

[HB 256](#) (+) (BR 1169) - J. DeCesare, J. Richards

AN ACT relating to volunteer firefighters. Amend KRS 337.100 to prohibit employers from terminating a volunteer firefighter who is absent from work because of injuries incurred in the line of duty; allow employers to request specified information about an injury from the appropriate fire chiefs and physicians.

[HB 224](#) (+) (BR 891) - D. Graham, J. Barrows, C. Belcher, J. Crenshaw, C. Hoffman, J. Jenkins, C. Miller, R. Rand

AN ACT relating to retirement and declaring an emergency. Amend KRS 61.691 to provide that recipients of a retirement allowance from a retirement system administered by the Kentucky Retirement Systems, who retired on or before December 31, 1979, receive an additional ad hoc retirement allowance increase on July 1, 2006; EMERGENCY.

[HB 19](#) (+) (BR 390) - R. Meeks

Urge a review of state and local plans for responding to a disaster; urge the Adjutant General to coor

dinate the review; include evacuation planning tailored to specific needs of geographic regions; urge wide dissemination of evacuation plans; recognize the problems of special needs populations; include plans for the care of families of first responders; urge creation of a volunteer corps; encourage regional planning; urge wide distribution of the final report.

[HB 155](#) (=) (BR 4) - R. Damron

AN ACT relating to emergency medical services. Amend KRS 311A.015, relating to the board of the Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services, to require the educator position on the board to be a person certified or licensed by the board; require the election of the chair and vice chair of the board to be done at the first meeting after September 1 of each year rather than in September; amend KRS 311A.020, relating to the duties of the board, to require the board to partner with other agencies in the development of trauma systems; amend KRS 311A.050, relating to training, to change reference to in house training to continuing education; change reporting of violations requirement to eliminate requirement that individuals licensed by the board report violations, retain reporting of violations by employers; amend KRS 311A.055, relating to complaints and discipline, to remove the executive director and board attorney from the preliminary inquiry board and replace them with a member of the board appointed by the chair and two persons representing the same classification of certification or licensure as the accused; require only emergency medical services employers to be notified of hearings rather than all employers of the accused; amend KRS 311A.060, relating to sanctions for violations, to add the requirement for an acceptable plan of correction; provide that a private reprimand be given to the defendant and to the emergency medical services employer, rather than all employers, of the defendant; amend KRS 311A.075, relating to immediate temporary suspension of license or certification, to permit such when an immediate temporary suspension is necessary in order to protect the public and specify the persons who must concur in the action; amend KRS 311A.125, relating to requirements for recertification, to use the term continuing education rather than in house conduct of emergency medical services training; amend KRS 311A.180, relating to medical protocols, to limit the review by the board to scope of practice issues, provide for alleged medical errors in protocols to be reported by the board to the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure.

Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members

Please remember these members when you have purchasing needs.

<p>10-33 EQUIPMENT, INC. Craig and Teri Hiser 540 Peterson Rd • Cave City, KY 42127 877-678-1033 270-453-3473 Fax 270-453-3474 Web site: www.10-33.com</p>	<p>Advanced Fire & Rescue Equipment Co. Inc. Nick Gapinski 365 Persimmon Circle Booneville, IN 47601 800-853-7675 Fax 812-897-7816</p>	<p>Air EVAC Barbara Emery Route #4 Box 432A Albany Ky 42602</p>
<p>Bluegrass Fire Apparatus Dewey Cruse 207 Peterson Drive Elizabethtown KY 42701 800-738-1006 Fax 270-737-0190</p>	<p>Bluegrass Fire Equipment John Baker 780 Enterprise Dr Lexington, KY 40510 800-526-8393 Fax 859-233-1167</p>	<p>Bluegrass Uniforms Inc. Jason Colson 3533 Dahlia Way - Bowling Green 961 South 2nd St. - Louisville Bowling Green - 42101 Louisville - 40203</p>
<p>Bound Tree Medical Diana Wertenberger 5200 Rings Rd Suite A Dublin OH 43017</p>	<p>Camp Safety of Louisville David Jones 3308 Bardstown Road Louisville KY 40218 502-479-8005 campsafe@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>City of Russell 410 Ferry Street Russell KY 41169 606-836-9666</p>
<p>Comtronics David Fried 2456 Fortune Drive Lexington KY 40509 859-299-9494 credit@comtronicsindustrial.com</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>	<p>///EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT MIKE BRADY RESCUE EQUIPMENT & VEHICLES (859) 359-4502 (859) 359-4503 FAX http://www.EEResQ.com E-Mail: EEResQ@cs.com</p>
<p>Emergency Service Insurance Program Bill Dixon 20 Church Street Cortland, NY 13045 800-822-3747 Fax 607-756-5051 www.mcneilandcompany.com</p>	<p>Ferrara Fire Apparatus Inc. Kevin Hardwick PO Box 249 Holden LA 70744 800-443-9006 www.ferrarafire.com</p>	<p>Finley Fire Equip. Co Inc. Brad Rice PO Box 149 205 5th Street McConnelsville OH 43756</p>
<p>Firecom Barry Jackson 4785 Pleasant Grove Rd. Lexington KY 40515 800-527-0555 x112 Fax 503-608-3474 http://www.firecom.com</p>	<p>Fire Department Service & Supply Al Sutt P.O. Box 20207 Louisville, KY 40250 800-321-6965 Fax 502-491-1487</p>	<p>Fire Pumps & Equipment Joe Reynolds 5252 Rt 1428 PO Box 475 Allen KY 41601 800-419-3475 Fax 606-874-3472</p>
<p>Firovac-Reberland Larry Reber 5963 Fountain Nook Road Apple Creek, OH 44606 330-698-5883 Fax 330-698-7723 sales@firovac.com</p>	<p>First In Rescue Equipment Inc. Jim Whitaker 113 Bessmer Lane Walton KY 41094 859-485-2870 Fax 859-485-2872</p>	<p>Hal Rogers Fire Training Center 180 Oak Leaf Ln. Somerset KY 42503 606-679-7075 Fax 606-679-4053</p>

Kentucky Firefighters Association Sustaining Members

Please remember these members when you have purchasing needs.

<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>Kentucky Fire Commission State Fire/Rescue Training KCTCS Director of Fire Commission Ronnie Day 300 N Main Street, Versailles KY 42353 (800) 782-6823 (859) 256-3478 Fax (859) 256-3125</p>	<p>Kentucky Public Entity Programs / VFIS Steve Sierveld P.O. Box 17374 • Dixie Branch Edgewood, KY 41017 800-753-6734 Fax 859-331-3734</p>
<p>Lab - Tronics Inc. 511 34th Street Catlettsburg KY 41129 606-739-4409 Fax 606-739-0023</p>	<p>Life Star Rescue Inc. John Ryder, President 1171 Production Drive Van Wert, OH 45891-9390 419-238-1459</p>	<p>McNeil & Company William Dixon Director of Marketing PO Box 5670 Cortland NY 13045 800-467-2118 Fax 607-756-6225 wdixon@esip.com</p>
<p>Mountain Valley Insurance Faye Rice 267 Terrell Lane, Suite A Barbourville KY 40906 888-332-3205 Fax 606-546-4146</p>	<p>M & S Fire & Safety Alex W. Smith 670 E Franklin Street Evansville IN 47711 800-467-2118 812-424-3863 FAX 812-421-3707 www.mandsfire.com</p>	<p>Orr Rapid Response Michael Kidwell 11601 Interchange Drive Louisville KY 40229</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 Michael Finke 2525 Harrodsburg Rd Suite 220 Lexington KY 40504 888-696-9620 Fax 859-296-4583 Email mfinke@roeding.com</p>	<p>Public Safety Equipment Co. Inc. Dennis Downes 9616 Seaton Brooke Lane Louisville KY 40291 502-239-2006 Fax 502-239-3322</p>
<p>Siegel's Uniforms Fred Levin 101 SE 4th Street Evansville IN 47708 800-352-2555 Fax 812-425-2268</p>	<p>Summit Fire Apparatus Joe Messmer P.O. Box 17128 Edgewood, KY 41017 859-331-0360 Fax 859-331-0399</p>	<p>Vehicle Systems Inc. John H. Burns 629 Shelby Street Lexington KY 40505 859-252-1377 800-444-FIRE (3473) Fax 859-255-5536</p>
<p>Vogelpohl Fire Equipment, Inc. William Vogelpohl 2756 Circleport Drive Erlanger, KY 41018 800-797-8317 Fax 859-282-1550</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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The left column is a Fire Fighter I related word search. Circle the word to the left from the list below. The solution will be posted in next months issue.

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- CANDIDATE
- DISCONNECT
- DOFF
- DON
- FACEPIECE
- HOOKS
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- PURGE
- RATINGS
- SCBA
- SOUNDING
- STANDING

KFA Smoke Signals II

This is a Publication of The Kentucky Firefighters Association.
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April issue deadline for submission of articles is March 10th, 2006

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