



Smoke Signals II

Smoke Signals is a Publication of the Kentucky Firefighters Association

Robert (Bob) Barringer Retires After 31 Years of Service

Bob entered the fire service in 1968 with the Lyndon Fire Department. When he left there in 1977 he was a fire inspector and headed up their Public Fire Education program.

He became a part time instructor under Bill McClain in late 1975 and was hired fulltime January 30, 1977 and at that time Area Eleven had 19 fire departments in its 5 county area.

About that same time then Pike County Judge Wayne Rutherford would call and say to Bob; "I just built a fire station now organize & train a fire department to put in it". During his tenure he helped establish some 20 or so fire departments in area 11.

Today Area Eleven has 80+ emergency service agencies serving about 179,000 people. Bob said "It has been a great ,if not rough ride, I have truly enjoyed every minute of it and will always keep the emergency services in my heart".

Governor Brereton C. Jones was going out of office in 1995 when funding was made available for various trailers to be used for mobile training across the Commonwealth. One such trailer was constructed as an "Incident Command/House Burn" trailer used in the SFRT system. Bob used and maintained that trailer and traveled across the state to help insure the accountability and safety of fire fighters learning to fight fire.

Bob has no immediate plans. There are several projects within the Island Creek Fire Department (where Bob is a member) that he plans to tackle including building a bridge and a second station.

Bob said "I was kind of scared about the future. You see Fire Rescue Training is about the only thing I know and, outside of emergency service I don't really have too many marketable skills. But then I remembered a saying that I have on my living room wall, it goes like this; "THE WILL OF GOD WILL NEVER LEAD YOU WHERE THE GRACE OF GOD CANNOT KEEP YOU" With this in mind and the love and support of my wife Kathy who I love very much I think I'll do just fine."

The KFA wishes you all the luck in the world Bob. Have a great retirement!!!



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Notes From The President's Desk Allen Johnson

Spring is finally here and most of the grass fires are finally over, at least in our community!

So, what have I been doing since the last Smoke Signal? I have traveled to Washington, D.C. with the members of the Chiefs Association, Fire Commission and other members of KFA. During our trip we met with seven U.S. Representatives and Senators. Almost all of them listened to our concerns about the cuts being made to the Fire Act Grant with great interest, concern and voiced a desire to help. However, U.S. Representative Anne Northup from Jefferson County asked us to pass the information along that the Fire Act Grant was only to have been a temporary grant. She stated that most, if not all cities have excess revenue in surplus and should use that money to help subsidize their fire departments. We tried to explain to her that most fire departments are volunteer departments in Kentucky and are not governed by city or are covered under a city budget. She stated that she was only worried about Jefferson County. I do not know how you feel about this, but I believe that being a U.S. Representative for Kentucky that she needs to look at the needs of the entire state if not the entire country.

As I write this, it is with great sadness that I have been informed that another dear member of our fire service has lost his battle with cancer, Bob Hebbeler. Therefore, I will be traveling to Northern Kentucky for the mass being held to honor our dear friend and brother. For those who are new to the fire service, Bob was the one who always read the names during the Memorial Service at our annual Conference. To my knowledge he had not missed a Conference in many, many years, if ever. He will be greatly missed at this year's annual Conference.

August is rapidly approaching if you have not made your reservations for the KFA Conference and are planning on attending please do so as soon as possible by calling 1-800-EMBASSY (362-2779).

If you have already made your reservation you will need to contact Embassy Suites Hotel directly at (859) 455-5000 to receive your confirmation number. The hotel will not be mailing out these numbers as originally thought.

The 2006 KFA Conference ad book's pages are

being rapidly filled. If you wish to place an ad in this book representing your department please send it in as soon as possible or contact John Harris at the State Fire School at the KFA booth.

If you have not registered for the Conference you can access the registration form online at www.lcafa.com or www.kyfa.org/. Please mail your form and check to KFA Conference, 100 W. Broadway, Campbellsville, KY 42718. Early registration will close on July 15, after this date registration will increase \$5.00 per person.

See you at State Fire School.

Your President.

Allen Johnson



Treasurer's Notes

by Terry Keller

Everytime I say greetings from the North, I think of the North Pole. Here we are in May, the April showers have come and gone and the flowers are coming out. Weather here is good.

Let me get on my song and dance for finance. There are a total of 348 departments paid dues since the last conference. This is somewhat behind last year. The KFA budgets for 400 departments to pay their dues. As you can see dues payments are way behind. The KFA needs to increase membership. This is the only way our organization can continue to have two people in Frankfort and for the Executive Board to maintain the programs the KFA has. Please people ask your department to pay their dues. If your department is low on funds, try a Saturday bake sale and I am sure your department could raise the \$75.00 to pay one year's dues.

There have been 13 people who have paid for Personal Memberships. This was a brain child of our former treasurer Brian Stiles, who's idea was to have people donate \$25.00 and receive their own copy of Smoke Signals II and a winter hat and decal from the KFA. There have been 12 to 13 people each year who have supported this project. Thank you to those people.

Charlie Shaw has sold 18 Sustaining Memberships since January 06. Charlie sends out dues notices to our vendor friends in preparation for State Fire School. These vendors pay dues of \$150.00 per year, to help support the KFA. Please

look at the vendors list in the Smoke Signals II, and ask your department to get quotes from these business. Give them a chance to recup the money they spend to support the KFA. Many of these vendors also provide food and drinks during State Fire School. Please support them.

By the time you read this article, State Fire School will be in full swing or will have just finished. I hope everyone who attended received some good training. The KFA supported the changes to make this one of the best fire schools ever. There were more courses to choose from and many new topics. The fire service is changing daily and we the firefighters must change with the times. If the fire service does not keep telling the State and Federal Governments how much we need funds to train our first responders then we are not doing our job.

Until conference in August, keep safe and stay or get involved with your local fire schools, area associations and most of all your department.

Terry Keller

REGIONAL EMBERS



Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association Deb Hartz, President

Greetings from "Far Western Kentucky" and the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association. It seems as though spring was short lived in Far Western Kentucky. Winter was barely over, the spring flowers were just starting to bloom, the spring storms hit quickly and hard and summer appeared rather abruptly. As is usually the case, with the arrival of June comes the heat and the high humidity of our summer season. Plans should already be in place to keep our personnel hydrated during the entire year. But particular attention must be given to this phenomenon during the heat of summer. New personnel should be closely monitored but the seasoned veterans often need a gentle nudge also. A little (or a lot) of preventative maintenance on our most valuable asset (our personnel) will pay huge dividends when we need them most. Keep those folks hydrated!

The 2006 version of the JPFA Annual Fire School

at Kentucky Dam Village State Park was a large success by all accounts. The student enrollment keeps increasing and the JPFA Annual Fire School Committee continues to work harder and harder to provide new, up to date, hands on classes that everyone seems to enjoy. Of course it helps tremendously that the Annual Fire School is conducted at one of the most beautiful locations in the State of Kentucky. And we are not the least bit prejudice.

The JPFA has a multitude of people that contribute to the success of the annual fire school each and every year. There is no way that I could begin to name all of them and I will not even attempt to do so. They all know who they are and they continue to serve to help promote the training of the emergency services personnel in our area and across the Commonwealth. I must, however, offer a special thank you to all of the students that attend our school. Without these very special people all of the efforts of all of the people involved would be for naught. Thank you for attending the 2006 JPFA Annual Fire School and we look forward to seeing each and every one of you next year. The dates for the 2007 JPFA Annual Fire School are April 6TH, 7TH and 8TH, 2007.

The 2006 Kentucky State Fire School in Lexington, Kentucky will have been completed as you are reading this issue of Smoke Signals II. With the new location, the new format and all of the preplanning that has been done I am sure that this year's school will be the best of a long line of schools to come. The JPFA offers a very special thank you to everyone that had a hand in staging this event. All firefighters across the Commonwealth owe you a debt of gratitude.

The dates for the 2006 KFA conference in Lexington, Kentucky (August 5TH - 8TH, 2006) get closer with each passing month. You will not want to miss this one. Remember to submit your ads for the conference program book and get your registrations in early. This is another "must do" for your list. Visit the KFA web site for all of the details and support the Kentucky Firefighters Association.

The JPFA extends sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Bob Hebbeler. Bob served the fire service and the Kentucky Firefighters Association for many years. I will always remember Bob standing at the KFA memorial services each year and reading the names of the deceased firefighters in the State

continued on next page . . .

'Regional Embers' continued . . .

of Kentucky. Bob reminded me so much of the old solemn Judge Hayes as he read each and every name with the sincerity and the dignity that each person deserved. Bob Hebbeler will be sorely missed and remembered by the Kentucky Fire Service.

The JPFA extends our sincere sympathy to Chief Jerrial McKenzie and his family of the Water Valley Fire Department in Water Valley, Kentucky. Chief McKenzie's 2 year old granddaughter, Kaylee French, was accidentally killed on April 12, 2006 at her residence. Apparently, Kaylee and her friends were playing in an automobile at the residence. The vehicle was accidentally knocked out of gear, rolled down the driveway and hit a tree. Kaylee was thrown from the vehicle and run over by one of the vehicles tires. Kaylee French celebrated her second birthday on April 11, 2006, the day before the accident.

This tragic accident should serve as a reminder to everyone that we must be ever vigilant over all children. The summer season is upon us and children of all ages will be out of school and enjoying their summer vacation. Often these children are not aware of their surroundings and fail to take notice of moving vehicles. There have already been several instances reported, just this year, of children being run over while walking or playing in the blind spot behind the family vehicle. This could happen to you.

I encourage everyone to take that extra minute to check behind your vehicle before backing up. Reduce your speed in any area that there are children playing or where children might be playing. Always remove your keys from your vehicle when you exit, even for a brief moment. The welfare of all children rest squarely on our shoulders.

The Kentucky Firefighters Association 87TH Annual Conference will be conducted on July 28TH - 31ST, 2007 at Kentucky Dam Village State Park in Gilbertsville, Kentucky. Mark this date on your calendar now. Watch for additional information as it becomes available.

REMEMBER 911 – WAVE THAT AMERICAN FLAG – GOD BLESS AMERICA

REPEAT THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PRAY FOR OUR SERVICE PERSONNEL

Paul S. Billings

**DIXIE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

Heath Ryan, President

Casey Hall SFRT Area 5 and the Dixie Association are proud to report a Dixie Fire School attendance of 685 students. We wish to thank all who attended for their support of this year's school. We are also seeking your help with next year's school. We normally begin working next school in August but we are asking you at this time to send us suggestions of how we may serve you better next year. If you have suggestions for classes, support activities or vendors you would like us to invite just drop us a note. You can email us at nancya.wheeler@ky.gov.

The Kentucky Federation of Fire Chaplains is a non-profit association operating for the benefit of fire departments all over Kentucky. Last issue of Smoke Signals Chaplain Karl Lusk wrote a wonderful article explaining what a chaplain does. At our April meeting the Dixie Association presented Karl a check for \$197.98 collected during Dixie Fire School for this wonderful organization. They now have a fully operational web page hosted by and part of the KFA web Page. To view and access its resources go to the KFA web page at www.kyfa.org on the left hand pane slide the bar down to "Fire Chaplains".

The KFA web page also has a listing of all approved Dixie minutes and future meeting dates and places. To find this information go to the KFA web page and click on associations on the left pane.

The picture below is that of Karl Lusk receiving the check from the Dixie President Heath Ryan and Chaplain members Jim Burns and Buford Stapleton.



"Regional Embers" continued on next page

'Regional Embers' continued . . .

Bluegrass Emergency Services Association

Nathan Nation, President

The Bluegrass Emergency Services Association held its election of officers for the 2006 officer term. They are:

President-Nathan Nation Spencer County Fire Dist.
1st Vice-President -Garry Key Zoneton Fire Dist.
2nd Vice-President-Walter Jones Simpsonville Fire
Secretary/Treasurer-Tom Foster Publisher's Printing Fire

The association is looking forward to a prosperous year under the guidance of this excellent group of leaders.

Northern Ky Firefighters Association

Bruce Smith President

Hello. I would like to introduce myself. My name is Bruce Smith and I am the newly elected president of the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association. I took office at our January meeting held at Erlanger. I would like to thank outgoing president Joe Stambush for his very fine leadership over the last two years. The newly elected officers of the association are myself as President, Vice President Greg Buckler, Secretary Monica Rath, Treasurer Bud Lederer, and Trustees John Daly, Rick Hopple and Tim Kleier.

On a personal note I would like to thank all the departments and the firefighters in the Commonwealth for the all the kind words that were written about my father Smitty in the last issue of the SMOKE SIGNALS.

K.F.A. 2nd Vice President John Daly and his conference committee members are busy planning for the 2008 conference.

Congratulations and good luck goes out to retiring Newport Fire Chief Larry Attwell who retired on February 28.

We have two new fire stations in Northern Kentucky which have just open the Impendence Fire District open their new station 3 on Turkeyfoot Rd. and the Edgewood Fire District move in the newly remolded city building, police headquarters and fire station on Dudley Rd.

I would like to congratulate Donald Messingsclager of the Indenpence Fire District for

the 50 years of service.

Our legislative lobbyist Dave Jackson and Gerald Stewart have just wrapped up another busy legislative session in Frankfort. The bills that were passed will help to assist the fire service for years to come. And one of these years we will with the help of all the firefighters in the state calling and writing and e-mailing their representative we will pass the HEART BILL.

I would like to offer my sympathy to the family or Bob Hebbeler past secretary of the K.F.A. Bob was a retired captain with the Fort Wright Fire Department and was active in many social and athletic clubs in Northern Kentucky. Bob was a true friend of the K.F.A. and the Fire Service in the state of Kentucky and he will be surely miss by all of us.

Pike County Firefighters Association

Randy Courtney, President

Hey there firefighters, I hope this finds everyone well and surviving yet another election. We here in Pike County are busy laying out our fire school which will be held July 14, 15, 16 2006. If you have not attended a Pikeville / Pike County Regional Fire School then we extend a special invitation to you to check us out. If you have attended, then we hope you learned something and also had a great time.

Everyone knows that ATV are being used more and more each day and when that happens that can only mean one thing. Yep that the need for emergency services will be on the rise because of accidents. In Pike County about 7 fire departments have gotten together and formed a ATV Rescue Team for Pike County and after just a couple of meetings they are well on there way. I will tell you more as this develops.

Classes for our school included all your basic classes, such as Basic FF, Hard to Get Hours, EMT and Paramedic in service, we will offer the NEW ATV Driving and Rescue course, and we are working on others at this time and a complete list will be available at state fire school in Lexington. We will be there around the KFA booth so stop by and see us until then see you there.

Randy Courtney

President

FIREMAN JOE SAYS:

WOW! I can hardly believe half of 2006 is already over, and I must wonder where the time goes, but what is the old saying, "Time goes by when you are having Fun". Most of the time it is fun but there are times, well you know what I mean.

Congratulations to our Kentucky Communities who expressed a desire to me to become NFPA Risk Watch Safe Communities, I received a very nice letter from Judy Comoletti, Vice President from NFPA Public Education acknowledging these communities. Judy writes,

" On behalf of NFPA I would like to congratulate the communities below on achieving Risk Watch Safe Community recognition status. Your dedication to keeping the children of Kentucky safe from unintentional injury is remarkable. We salute:

Point Pleasant - Bellevue-Dayton - Edgewood - Erlanger - Georgetown - Elsmere-Fort Thomas - Hebron - Somerset - Elizabethtown - Campbellsville - Zoneton-Mt Washington - Louisville - Madison County - Paris - Neon - Hazard - Ft Mitchell-Independence - Flaherty and more to come.

The Public Education Committee is very excited and looking forward to this year's new State Fire School Format and will be offering two exciting classes at the State Fire School.

Thursday and Friday we are offering a Juvenile Fire Setters Course and on Saturday and Sunday our Risk Watch Train the Trainer Workshop. We have lots of ideas, programs, materials and assistance to offer our Kentucky Communities in our fight to make Kentucky Free of Unintentional Injuries. Please check the Fire School Program for more information and registration forms.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Lexington and in making this the best State Fire School EVER!

Fireman Joe

**NEW ARRIVALS**

The following pieces of apparatus were manufactured and delivered by Wynn Fire & Rescue Equipment:



Cutshin Fire Department



LaRue County Fire Department



Milton Fire Department



Staffordsville - Johnson Co. Rescue

'New Arrivals' continued on next page

The following pieces of apparatus were manufactured and delivered by Bluegrass Fire Apparatus.



Hodgenville Fire Department



Rolling Fork Fire Department



Caneyville Fire Department

The Caneyville truck has

- Freightliner M2 Chassis
- 1250 GPM Darley Pump
- Elliptical Stainless Steel Tank - 1500 Gallons
- 1080 Newton Electric Dump Valve
- On Spot Chains
- Halogen Lighting

The adventures of the Cross + Roads Fire Department

By Woody Will Jr. and Sr.

It was a day like any other spring morning when the shift started I got to work on time for a change. We did our house keeping activities like any other morning. Then the chief ask us to "Be Visible" in the community today. I knew what that meant. Its election time and the county judge is running on a platform of community service and his improvements in public service. We are part of those improvements and he wants to show us off. That

means we take the new truck to the Mall and "Be Visible". Well I guess it's not too much for him to ask us to show off his three hundred thousand dollar county investment.

As we pulled back in the station late that Saturday afternoon the clouds were beginning to darken and Sergeant O'Donnell said "John, Looks like we might get some rain later on tonight" I answered back "Ya serg looks like we might". It was a quiet Saturday and we watched a little TV that ended with the Weather Channel which showed a cold front moving in on what was a warm spring Saturday.

The tones dropped at about 02:45 to a tornado warning for our end of the county. We got up and dressed just in time to hear the weather siren go off at the same time dispatch informed us that a twister had just hit the mall, high school, Wal-Mart, and all the houses in a subdivision east of Wal-Mart. We pulled the rescue pumper out on the apron to try to figure out the best way to get to where we needed to be. We decided to turn left on Main and avoid what we thought would be the path of most destruction when a second twister took the roof off the station and pushed us sideways turning us over and sliding us into the front glass window of the coffee shop across the street. As we were being pushed around by the wind I just knew this was it for me. In what seemed like seconds we went from being the rescuers to being the ones in need of rescue.

We were now on our side. The windshield and side windows on the side next to the floor of the coffee shop were broken out. The drivers side of the truck was now the top and 3 2"x"8s were pinning Sergeant O'Donnell and Captain McCoy to what was the right side but now was the bottom. Myself and firefighter Joe Simmons were okay but a large part of the former roof of the fire station was now on the door of Simmons jump seat. Smoke was coming from the engine compartment and I was beginning to worry. I called out to the captain and sergeant but got no answer. I was now suspended from the seat belt but could see that Simmons was okay. I cut my seat belt and climbed part way through the window between the front seats and jump seats to see if I could find a pulse from either of my comrades in the front seat.

"Cross + Roads" continued on next page . . .

Both had a pulse but were unresponsive. I said "Joe, we got to get help and find a way out of this truck". I squeezed back up to the window and fished the portable radio out of the captain's radio pocket on his turnout coat. I keyed the portable and heard the repeater in the truck key up and I knew I was in business. By now the engine had stopped and it was silent. I could hear only the sound of the pouring rain as it hit the door of the engine which was now the roof above us. "Control this is engine seven we have been turned over and are inside the "Hit the Spot" Coffee Shop across the street from the station. Please send help!" From the radio came a garbled crackling sound but I could tell it was dispatch and hoped they could understand me.

As I sat there trying to figure out what to do next I strangely remembered thinking about just earlier today we were in this very coffee shop after morning chores having a donut and a cup of jo. I remembered how happy we were telling war stories and lying about how brave we were. Well I sure didn't feel brave now I only felt scared. My thoughts were broken by the cracking of the radio "engine ssssss thisssssssssss havingsssssssss" boy now I am really beginning to wonder if anyone is going to help us. I looked at Joe and he looked as scared as I felt. "Joe we my be here for a while. Let's see if we can move any debris far enough to squeeze out this window." We pushed but in vane nothing moved. The smoke coming from the engine compartment had a sweet smell to it and I could tell it was antifreeze. It was now beginning to dissipate.

I could hear a faint moaning sound coming from the front seat so I slipped back up to see about the rest of the crew. They were both beginning to come around when I noticed that one of the 2x8s had apparently broken Capt. McCoy's left arm. It was pressed against the seat and was at a strange angle. Joe and I maneuvered McCoy around and released the seat belt and could just get enough leverage to get him in a more comfortable position but could not free his arm. By now he was awake enough to be in excruciating pain. I looked at Joe and he at me and at the same time we said "We got to do something".

Continued next edition....



Chaplain's Corner

Too Much of a Good Thing

By: **Sgt. Kenneth W. Bayens Jr. Chaplain**

My name is Kenneth W. Bayens Jr. and I am one of two chaplains at the Highview Fire Protection District in Louisville, Kentucky. I'm writing you today to spark some thought and discussion about the delicate balance between the fire service and family life. The fire service, according to some statistics, has a current divorce rate near 80%. Why do you think this is? I would like to tell you my story and see if any of it hits home.

The firebug bit me about six years ago. After recruit class, I became one of the most active members of that fire department. I was making about 85% of the fire runs, 100% of trainings, and even attended numerous outside trainings. I was in heaven!!! I maintained that pace for about two years. One day my wife and I were having dinner and she told me she had some concerns about our relationship and she would like to discuss them with me. She explained to me that she felt second best to the fire department and that she was really lonely. I heard her concerns, but I was too blinded by my passion for the fire service. I didn't see that I was slowly losing my family. I continued to give the fire department all of my free time despite my wife's cries for attention and eventually it caught up with me. At the end of that year I received two things for all the time and hard work that I put in at the firehouse. I received the firefighter of the year award, and I received a divorce from my wife. Was it all really worth it? What fire run or training is worth more than spending time with your wife and kids? The answer is simple. NONE.

I'm telling you this story because I do not want anymore of our brothers and sisters falling into this same trap. Make sure that you always make your family first, communicate with your loved ones, and try to involve them as much as they want to be. I'm posing this challenge to all firefighter. Lets put the fire service in its proper place and put as much effort into our relationships as we do our community service. Together we can lower that horrible divorce rate and truly have the best profession in the world.

If you have any comments or suggestions for articles, please email them to me at www.kbayensjr@hotmail.com.

From the Desk of Randy Courtney.

When you look back at a career in the fire service, we were just starting in the Emergency Service field at the age of say around 15 or 16. You train and hang out at the station and then at about the age of 18 you legally join the department and start riding the trucks and attacking the fires and have that big rush we all get about saving life and property, it's so great.

Then there comes the thing about age and experience when you are no longer the "Rooky" and you can pass along this information and experience to the younger firefighters that are just starting their way up the ladder. That's the way it's suppose to work, but I never thought that I would see the day that Bob Barringer would be retiring, tossing in the SFRT hat, not driving to Paintsville, Ky and arguing with Cheryl, Bob or Don just to name a few.

I have heard Bob speak of this retirement thing several times in the last 10 years and every year we say come on Bob you're kidding, you're not going anywhere you love us, and sure enough he would stay on yet another year. I have had the pleasure of working for Bob and SFRT since 1993 and have known Bob since 1978 and we have been thru a lot together. Bob and Kathy moved back to Pike County and he joined Island Creek Volunteer Fire Dept where I became Fire Chief in 2002. I promoted Bob to Assist Chief and Senior Fire Service Instructor shortly there after and he has done a great job for this community. Bob tells me that he is retiring in July of this year, and I think his last day of work is June first and he will be taking some leave time until July. I not sure if you know it or not but Bob tells me that he has almost 30 years in the fire service and I hope to get another 30 out of him at Island Creek Fire Dept.

As a personal friend, employee, brother in the fire service I want to say Happy retirement buddy enjoy it for a few months and then I got all kinds of stuff for you to do at ICVFD since you will have all this free time on your hands. In my opinion the fire service has retired a valuable resource in Mr. Bob Barringer. From all us in Area 11 and the Pike County Firefighters Assoc we want to say good luck in your retirement and don't drive Kathy crazy.

Your Friend

Randy Courtney

KFA Conference 2006

The KFA Conference 2006 is just around the corner August 5th through the 8th. The Embassy Suites Hotel in Lexington reports they still have rooms available with additional guest rooms at some of the local hotels only minutes away. President AJ has lined up some impressive events all within walking distance from the hotel. The tentative schedule includes:

- 5th State Firefighter Olympics (Walking Distance from the Hotel)
- 6th Commission Meeting, Memorial Service (Held at the Hotel)
- 7th General Session (Held at the Hotel)
- 8th General Session & Banquet (Held at the Hotel)

You still have time to make arrangements to attend. Embassy Suites Hotel is located at 1801 Newtown Pike in Lexington. The reservations phone number is 859-455-5500. The hotel will prepare a full cooked breakfast for registered guest each morning. The bar will host a happy hour from 5:30 to 7:30 daily. The only time the body of the KFA gets to express their collective view is during the conference. The officers get their marching orders for the next year from the body collective during this meeting. Don't miss the opportunity for your voice to be heard. Plan now to attend!

Answers to last issues Word Search Puzzle

A 15x15 word search grid with words highlighted in blue. The words are:

- DAWG
- RENAPSRK
- ELVAVPMUD
- REKNAAT
- BUNKERPAINTS
- HODOLGANTDOLRKS
- INTEORWJNMFADRKPNONE
- SAHBRPCRNZEWRJMON
- EIOH NKD H KRTWIODLWHO
- HOCS CVWYA EVMQORLRT
- YNTI VHK RML EWJFE TEN
- DLUB OBAOU RYP GLTTTF
- RAOBXIHIDNUAZALMSB
- ADNUFC DN NMGZR DHMAL
- NDRR ANHAPS D SLD FTLN
- TEUTRVMDB NATGERRPV
- PRTTPLKKLNWVKRTLYT

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**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.

July 14th - 16th, 2006 - 17th Annual Pikeville / Pike Co Regional Fire & Rescue School. For more information call 888-302-8935 or email sfrrt11@bellsouth.net.

September 5th - 7th, 2006 - Ky Emergency Services Conference (Owensboro, KY) For more information call 888-306-8015 or email jimmy.vancleve@kctcs.edu.

September 19-23, 2006 Ky EMS Conference and Trade Show (Owensboro, Ky) For more information call 888-306-8015 or email jimmy.vancleve@kctcs.edu.

September 23-24, 2006 Jefferson Co. Regional Fire School U of L Shelby Campus. For more information call 888-306-8064 or email richard.jordan@kctcs.edu.

September 23-24, 2006 IFSAC FF1 and 2 Test Calvert City Ky. For more information call 888-306-7901 or email charles.lott@kctcs.edu.

September 30 October 1 Area 10 Fall Fire School Ashland Kentucky. For more information call 888-302-2833 or email mark.hammond@kctcs.edu.

October 20-22, 2006 Buffalo Trace Fire School Maysville Ky. For more information call 888-301-2946 or email duane.suttles@kctcs.edu.

October 20-22, 2006 Southeastern Ky FF Assoc. Fire School London Ky. For more information call 888-234-0100 or email sfrrt13@kih.net.

October 28-29, 2006 Bluegrass Emergency Services Fire School JCTC Shelby County Campus. For more information call 888-306-8064 or email richard.jordan@kctcs.edu.

November 17-19 5th Annual Instructor Weekend London Ky. For more information call 888-234-0100 or email sfrrt13@kih.net.

December 9-10 IFSAC FF 1 and 2 Test Bowling Green Ky Public Service Training Center. For more information call 888-234-5760 or Email bill.carver@kctcs.edu.

Robert (Bob) Hebbeler Passes Away

The Fire Service has lost another good friend. At approximately 9:00PM on Saturday 5/6/06, Bob Hebbeler lost his battle with cancer. Bob's fire service career commenced when he joined the Ft. Wright Volunteer Fire Department in 1953, which initiated a long and distinguished career in emergency service. Bob immediately became active in the Northern Ky. Firefighters Association and the KFA. He chaired the NKFA's Ways and Means Committee for ten years where many successful dances were held throughout the 1950's and early 60's. These fundraisers greatly assisted this regional association and enabled it to grow into the prosperous association it is today. Bob was elected to the position of NKFA vice-president in 1968 and served as Northern Kentucky President in 1969, while continually serving committee roles.

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

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

Bob has been recognized in recent years at KFA conferences through his involvement in memorial services and swearing-in ceremonies. It was a highlight for many of us to annually see and talk with Bob and his lovely wife Evelyn, at our conventions.

Robert Hebbeler was a credit to the KFA and the Kentucky Fire Service for half a century. You will be missed Bob.

New Resource for Kentucky Fire Chaplains

Kentucky Fire Chaplains now have an additional resource for information and on-line PDF format documents. That resource is a web page. The page can be accessed one of two ways. You can type in the address direct <http://www.kyfa.org/KFFC/KFFC.htm> or you can go to the KFA web page and click "Fire Chaplains" on the left hand scroll bar. Either way will take you to a helpful resource.

STAFFING FOR ADEQUATE FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (SAFER) GRANTS

The Department of Homeland Security has posted the Program Guidance for the 2006 SAFER grants program which can be accessed from the KFA website. The SAFER grants are administered by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Grants and Training in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration. Through the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act of 2006, Congress provided \$110 million for the SAFER grants.

The Program Guidance is an important document for any interested applicant as it provides details regarding eligibility and priorities of the two activities that will be funded under the program, specifically, the Hiring of Firefighters Activity and the Recruitment and Retention of Volunteer Firefighters Activity. Eligible applicants for the Hiring of Firefighters Activity include fire departments (whether they are career, combination, or volunteer). Eligible applicants for the Recruitment and Retention of Volunteer Firefighters include volunteer and combination fire departments as well as state or local organizations that have interests. All interested applicants are strongly encouraged to read the program guidance, and review all other materials dedicated to the SAFER grants at the AFG website (www.firegrantsupport.com). Currently, the grant application period is scheduled to begin on or about May 30, 2006, at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT), for SAFER grants. The deadline for receipt of the SAFER grant applications will be 5:00 p.m. EDT on June 30, 2006.

Upon the opening of the application period, the applications will be accessible from the grant program's website at www.firegrantsupport.com. An applicant tutorial on the SAFER grant process, designed to instruct users on the preparation and submittal of competitive applications, will also be available at the website by Monday, June 5.

Applicants who have questions regarding the SAFER grant opportunities should contact the help desk at 1-866-274-0960 or at firegrants@dhs.gov. During the SAFER application period, the help desk will operate Monday to Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 p.m. EDT, but is prepared to revise hours of operation based on volume and demand.



National Volunteer Fire Council

Ken Knipper, Director Bryant Stiles, Alternate

In an attempt to report more of what happened at the Spring Meeting in Washington I recorded the various meetings I was able to attend and also recorded the speeches made by guest speakers and Tran scripted them.

The Spring meeting was held in Washington, DC and 41 states were represented. The atmosphere for this meeting was high as we had the cream of the emergency federal agencies meet with us during this meeting.

Committee meetings: As Chair of the EMS committee I have been involved in determining the future direction of the Council as it relates to EMS. After much discussion and meetings involving the EMS, Membership, and Bylaws committees, a plan was approved to bring EMS into the Council as full members.

Drew Dawson, the new Director of the Office of EMS addressed the membership and noted that the NVFC will now be involved in all National EMS projects.

Our relationship with NFPA continues to mellow as we have become participants in more of their projects. 1710/1720 has again reared its head as few volunteer or career departments are able to meet the standard.

We are now getting a more favorable reception to our efforts to change the IRC to enable the type of LOSAP presented to you last year by Ed Hollihan and Dave Rogers.

Our legislative priorities are many and by going to the NVFC site you can follow our progress on getting them passed.

The Council is in the best financial condition it has ever been in. We are the recipients of many Cooperative Agreements at a time when they are being scrutinized.

Comment All in all this meeting was very productive. Many issues of future direction were presented with our outreach to EMS being the pre-dominant one. It is impossible for me to attend all of the committee meetings but I make every effort

to keep up through the floor reports and outside discussion with committee chairs.

I thank the Board for the opportunity to serve the volunteer firefighters of Kentucky in this capacity. I also thank you for the night at the National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner with our KFA president.

NVFC EMS Committee

Mission Statement

To best serve the interests of the volunteer EMS community the NVFC EMS committee will:

1. Actively seek representation on all national EMS planning projects.
2. Attend such EMS related meetings faithfully.
3. Respond to any request for assistance or input from other committees.
4. Maintain communications with the NVFC office regarding the business conducted by those committees.
5. Maintain liaisons with other fire/EMS organizations on EMS matters.
6. Maintain awareness of federal and state developments as they affect volunteer EMS providers.

I would also like to announce that EMS has been elevated inside National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) to the Office of EMS and that Drew Dawson has been named the first director. This is a major change for EMS and gives us much better visibility and a person dedicated to the advancement of EMS.

Firefighter Safety Stand Down Scheduled to Start June 21

The second Firefighter Safety Stand Down will begin Wednesday, June 21, 2006, and continue until all shifts have been completed. The National

'NVFC' continued on next page

'NVFC' continued ...

Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) is joining the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), the IAFC Volunteer and Combination Officers' Section and 17 other partners in urging fire departments to suspend all non-emergency activity and focus entirely on fire safety.

The Stand Down calls attention to the number of preventable line-of-duty deaths and injuries among firefighters. Departments are encouraged to check all apparatus and equipment, discuss health and safety regulations, review fire ground safety issues and take stock of training and fitness goals. Last year, an estimated 10,000 fire departments participated in the event.

"We must take dramatic steps to reduce the alarmingly high firefighter death and injury rates," says IAFF General President Harold Schaitberger. "While firefighter safety must be part of everyday life in the fire service, the Safety Stand Down raises awareness of the issue and calls international attention to the unacceptable number of firefighter line-of-duty deaths."

The 2006 Stand Down will focus on emergency vehicle safety, including seatbelt usage and safe driving through intersections. "Sadly, 106 firefighters died in the line of duty last year. Many of the accidents occurred in department vehicles," said IAFC President Chief Bill Killen. "We want to focus on areas of safety where we can have the most impact."

The NVFC has been a major advocate for firefighter safety and promotes heart attack prevention goals through its Heart-Healthy Firefighter Program. The campaign provides important fitness, nutrition and health information to firefighters in a proactive effort to reduce the number of firefighter deaths caused by heart attack and other heart-related conditions.

"The National Volunteer Fire Council is proud to partner with the IAFC and other organizations to support the Firefighter Safety Stand Down," said Maggie Wilson, Director of Health and Safety at the NVFC. "Firefighter health and safety is very important to the NVFC, and we will continue to work towards reducing the number of firefighter deaths."

For information on 2006 Stand Down, visit www.iafc.org/standdown.

Legislative Report**Kentucky Firefighters,**

Now that this year's legislative session has ended we have a lot to be proud of. We had five bills we worked hard on and we were able to pass three of the five. We lost the heart bill and a bill that would allow your Kentucky Death Benefit to go to a brother or sister if there are no surviving parents.

However we passed:

House Bill 256 which would 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.

House Bill 273(259 was rolled into 273) which adds Area Fire-Rescue Training Coordinators and civilian firefighter who work for the Department of Military Affairs into the incentive program. It would establish \$1,000,000.00 for year 2006 – 2007 and \$1,000,000.00 for year 2007 –2008 from the Firefighters Foundation Program Fund is authorized to be expended on firefighter training, equipment, and support activities. \$750,000 for year 2006 – 2007 and \$1,000,000 for year 2007 –2008 from the Firefighters Foundation Program Fund is authorized to be spent on a Comprehensive Physical Aptitude Test program for firefighters.

Firefighters Training Center Fund \$500,000 in Restricted funds is provided each fiscal year of the 2006 – 2008 fiscal biennium. For a more detailed look at what this bill does go to <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/RECORD/06RS/HB273/bill.doc>.

I want to thank each and every one of you that took the time to call or e-mailed your Senator and/or Representative in support of the bills that passed or were hung in committee.

Again **THANK YOU.**

David Jackson

Words of Wisdom

All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope.

Winston Churchill

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>America's Bravest Equip. Co. PO Box 197335 Louisville Ky 40259 502-493-5985 Fax 502-493-5986 Email daveg@abec1.com</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 www.bluegrassfire.com</p>
<p>Bluegrass Uniforms Inc. Jason Colson 3533 Dahlia Way - Bowling Green 42101 and 961 South 2nd St. Louisville, KY 40203</p>	<p>Bound Tree Medical Diana Wertenberger 5200 Rings Rd Suite A Dublin OH 43017 800-533-0523 Fax 800-257-5713</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>Division of Fire Prevention State Fire Marshal 101 Sea Hero Road Suite 100 Frankfort, KY 40601</p>	<p>Dove Designs Chris Hays Rt 1 Box 275 G Monticello KY 42633 www.dovedesigns.com 888-377-4459 Fax 606-340-9372</p>
<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 Reimbursement Service 215 McArthur Drive Louisville KY 40207 502-896-8080 Email debramurphy@bellsouth.net</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 Equipment John Baker, Eric and Jason Colson 20 S 5th Street McConnelsville OH 43756 www.finleyfire.com 800-545-3280</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>Gordon Bernard Company, LLC Community Birthday Calendar 22 Whitney Drive Milford Ohio 45150 513-248-7600 Fax 513-248-7606 http://www.gordonbernard.com/</p>	<p>Hal Rogers Fire Training Center 180 Oak Leaf Ln. Somerset KY 42503 606-679-7075 Fax 606-679-4053</p>	<p>High Tech Rescue Inc. James Riddle 250 Rockbridge Road Shelbyville, Ky. 40065 502-633-0149 Fax 502-633-0659 james.riddle@insightbb.com</p>

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<p>Kentucky Association of Counties 380 King Daughters Drive Frankfort, KY 40601 502-223-7667 Fax 502-223-1502 bobarrndd@kaco.org</p>	<p>Kentucky Fire Commission SFRT KCTCS Director Ronnie Day 300 N Main Street, Versailles KY 42353 (800) 782-6823 (859) 256-3478 Fax (859) 256-3125</p>	<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>
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<p>Safety USA David Joels 4810 Popular Place Drive Louisville KY 40213 502-810-0303 campsafe@bellsouth.net</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>Tech Med Industries 5230 Park Emmerson Dr. Suite C Indianapolis, IN 46203 317-783-6554 Fax 317-783-6901 igaines@pmrtechmed.com</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>You could advertise Here!</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 Service 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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