

# FIRE LINK

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## From the President

by Rob Brown

Although I may be a little biased, I think the 60th Annual Missouri Valley Fire Chiefs' Conference was a huge success. I mean, if you can hold a conference that pleases Columbia Fire Chief Bill Markgarf, you have accomplished something!!! Bill, I thank you for your kind comments from the floor and those that you made to me personally.

As I begin my tenure as President, I know that I have my work cut out for me. While serving as President, Chief Steve Westermann raised the bar for all of us. Under Steve's leadership, the MVAFC organization made improving our relationships with the state fire chiefs' associations a priority. To that end, Steve traveled to each of the annual meetings or the state fire chiefs' organizations within the Missouri Valley states. This was the beginning of a tradition that I plan to honor as well. Additionally, I would like to see our Division take our partnership with the states one step further. With the approval of our Board, I would propose including the state chiefs' organization(s) in the planning and execution of our yearly conference. We all know how important it is to network with our fellow chief officers – furthering our partnership through conference collaboration will strengthen the bond that we should have with members in the state fire chiefs' association and provide us with more opportunity for networking and attracting new members.

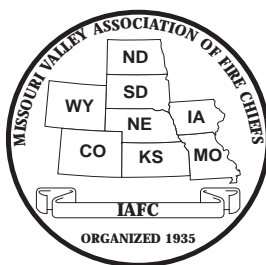
Although it is a well-known fact that the Missouri Valley Division of the IAFC is certainly well respected and looked upon as a leader in the IAFC, we must continue to build our organi-

zation. Through our new partnerships with the state fire chiefs' organizations, the member of our Public Education and EMS sections and the opportunity we will have to include our junior officers as members through the IAFC Board's recent decision to allow non-chief officers to join, we can become even more effective in voicing our Midwestern emergency service values.

In closing, I would like to congratulate Chief Steve Westermann on his election as our new Missouri Valley Director. Steve, too, will have large shoes to fill with the departure of our former Director, Chief Bob Pottberg. Good luck, Steve! ☐

## Fire Service Loses a Friend

The Missouri Valley Association of Fire Chiefs lost a great friend and supporter with the death of Chief Van Warrick of Booneville, Missouri. Van has been attending MVAFC conferences for the past 20-plus years and was at the Castle Rock Conference. Van was a friend to everyone and enjoyed he networking with Fire Chiefs. We will all miss Van. ☐



### Calendar of Events

**October 24-26, 2002**  
State Chiefs Meeting  
Topeka, KS

**October 24-26, 2002**  
State Chiefs Meeting  
Osage Beach, MO

**October 29-31, 2002**  
State Chiefs Meeting  
Ames, IA

**December 4-6, 2002**  
Wildfire 2002  
Kansas City, MO

**December 5, 2002**  
State Chiefs Meeting  
Breckenridge, CO

**December 6-7, 2002**  
Colo. Fire Leadership Challenge  
Breckenridge, CO

**January 3, 2003**  
State Chiefs Meeting  
Riverton, WY

**February 28, 2003**  
State Chiefs Meeting  
Bismark, ND

**April 5, 2003**  
State Chiefs Meeting  
Riverton, WY

**July 11-13, 2003**  
MVAFC Annual Conference  
Kansas City, MO

**July 13-15, 2004**  
MVAFC Annual Conference  
Sioux City, IA

# Castle Rock Hosts a Great Conference

Hats off to the Castle Rock Fire Department, Chief Rob Brown, and the City of Castle Rock for their hospitality, great programs and facilities and the great view of the Colorado Rocky Mountains.

The conference kicked off with the opening ceremonies and outstanding memorial service put on by the Casper and Denver Fire Departments under the direction of Division Chief Norris Croom. The keynote speaker that set the tone of the conference was James O. Page, retired editor and publisher of JEMS magazine, who spoke on "Main Street EMS." Page discussed the evolution of the EMS system and pointed out the challenges that face the Fire Service in its EMS future.

The vendors who supported the Castle Rock Conference had interesting displays of fire equipment that were visited by Fire Chiefs throughout the conference.

Incoming IAFC President Randy Bruegman welcomed the Chiefs and laid out his plan of work for the coming year and challenged the Missouri

Valley to help him make this the greatest year of the IAFC.

Outstanding speakers and topics were presented by Bruce Perring, Director of Missouri Fire and Rescue Training Institute, who spoke on "Mission Based Staffing" which discussed justifying the four-person Engine crew with referencing NFPA standards. Danny Trusdale of the US Forest Service gave a report on the National Fire Plan and discussed many of the fire that have occurred in the United States this year. Garry Briese, Executive Director of the IAFC, presented on "Meeting Future Challenges of the Fire Service" and discussed where the fire service has been and laid out many challenges for the future that included firefighter safety, leadership, training, recruitment and diversity of new firefighters, how EMS has changed the fire service and the fire service needs to play our own game using our strengths to meet the future challenges of the fire service. Chief Steve Paulsell of Boone County, Missouri, and Task Force Leader Doug Westhoff gave a stirring account of the

deployment of Missouri Task Force One to the World Trade Center tragedy and gave each of us an appreciation of what the rescuers went through at the scene and what they felt and learned. Hats off to MO-TF1 for a great presentation.

Wings over the Rockies took the Fire Chiefs to the Lowry Air and Space Museum for dinner and a tour of over 30 historical aircraft and some networking and socializing with other Chiefs and their families.

The Conference ended with a banquet and recognition of past Officers, the installation of new Officers for 2002-2003 with Chief Rob Brown being sworn in the new president for 2002-2003. □

## ***New Missouri Valley Officers:***

New Missouri Valley Officers elected for 2002 are:

- President . . . . . Chief Rob Brown  
Boone County, MO
- 1st VP . . . . . Chief Andy Rocca  
Iowa City, IA
- 2nd VP . . . . . Chief Jim Keating  
St. Marys, KS
- Int'l Dir . . . . Chief Steve Westermann  
Blue Springs, MO

### **New State Vice Presidents:**

- Missouri . . . . Chief Richard Carrizzo  
Kansas City, MO
- South Dakota . . Chief Gary Shepherd  
Rapid City, SD

***For entire listing of all MVAFC officers, go to the web page under Officer MVAFC.org***

## ***Bill Killen Announces Candidacy for 2nd VP of IAFC for 2003***

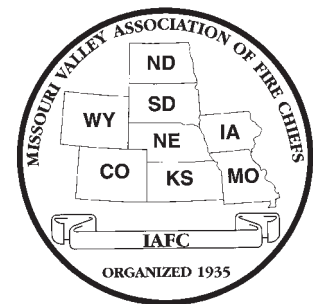
The IAFC election for 2nd VP in 2003 started with the announcement by Chief Bill Killen that he would seek the Office in 2003. Chief Killen met the MVAFC Board of Directors at the FRI conference in Kansas City. Chief Killen has experience in career,

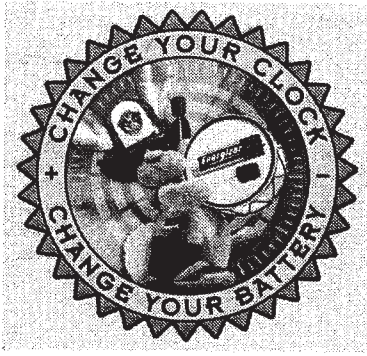
volunteer, military and federal fire departments that span 46 years of activity and is committed to growth and participation of all groups in the IAFC process. If you want more information on Chief Killen, check his e-mail at Nschsto@aol.com. □

## ***Mark Young Announces Candidacy for MVAFC 2nd VP for 2003***

Chief Mark Young of the Casper, WY Fire Department announced his candidacy to run for 2nd VP of the MVAFC in 2003 at the Kansas City Conference. Mark is a 23-year veteran of the fire service and is currently serving as the Missouri Valley Association of Fire Chiefs State VP for Wyoming. Chief Young said he is committed to

providing quality leadership, maintaining and improving the MVAFC Strategic Plan and working to improve relationships with the State Chief organizations. Mark's campaign slogan is "Think Young." If you want to reach Chief Young, contact him at his e-mail myoung@cityofcasperwy.com. □





## Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery™

**...Your Participation in 2002**



Your department's participation in the **Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery™** program is easier than ever with informational kits available online and banner orders and battery requests a phone call away.

For 15 years, fire departments across the country have encouraged communities to adopt the life-saving habit of changing smoke alarm batteries when changing their clocks during daylight savings time. Together with the International Association of Fire Chiefs and *Energizer®*, your participation continues to educate children, adults and senior citizens, and most of all – helps save lives.

Just follow these three steps to prepare yourself for a successful fire safety awareness campaign!

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### HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE:

#### ✓ **ONLINE**

Everything you need to execute a successful program this year is available to you online. You'll find helpful information to download including: program background information, tips to help execute a successful program, fact and statistic sheets, press releases, PSA text, letters to the editor, children's worksheets, and artwork.

Kits are available online after September 15, 2002. For information on how to access your online kit, please email us at [CYCCYB@blickandstaffcommunications.com](mailto:CYCCYB@blickandstaffcommunications.com), or call the Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery hotline at **314-995-3939**.

*If you do not have internet access, kit information can be mailed or faxed to you by calling the Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery hotline.*

#### ✓ **ORDER YOUR BANNER**

Banners are available this year at cost by calling the Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery hotline. **Orders must be placed and payment made by September 16, 2002.**

#### ✓ **BATTERY DONATION REQUESTS**

Battery donations from *Energizer* are available to program participants to help low-income and at-risk families. For a battery donation request form, please call the Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery hotline.

**CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERY™:**

**Email: [CYCCYB@blickandstaffcommunications.com](mailto:CYCCYB@blickandstaffcommunications.com)**

**HOTLINE: 314-995-3939**

# Convention Snapshots





# International Director's Report...Steve Westermann

Chief Bruegman made a motion to accept the advisory ballot and appoint Chief Robert DiPoli as 2nd Vice President. This motion was approved.

Chief Taliaferro, IAFC Treasurer, said the IAFC is continuing in a very stable financial condition and received a favorable audit report for 2001 with total revenues slightly up and expenses down. FRI 2002 should produce revenues better than budgeted.

One of the new initiatives that was discussed is the concept of subsidiary organizations. IAFC's currently at a high of 12,259 members, the income from that membership stays at around 19 percent of our total budget and conference income remains the biggest source of income at 63 percent. The dues increase that was passed three years ago has enabled us to keep up with inflation costs but we continue to look for additional sources of revenue. The goals of the subsidiary organizations are to: 1) to grow the membership, 2) cultivate bonds with new subsections of fire and emergency services, and perhaps most important is, 3) to form relationships with future IAFC members by preparing them for chief officer roles. The Board authorized staff to begin the formation of three subsidiaries starting with a company officers association, a wildland fire association and a fire instructors' association. The IAFC will provide management services and, while the members of these associations will not be IAFC members, they will receive certain select benefits. The first subsidiary association will be the Wildland Fire Association who will hold a first conference in Kansas City this December.

One of the most discussed topics was the formation of a political action committee (PAC). While our "white hats" get us to a certain level in the federal political arena, they do not get us the access that is needed for fire service initiatives, particularly when comparing to other non-profit organizations. the level or size of a PAC will

determine the success and amount of access gained. The Board directed staff to prepare a more formal report with more research into the types and advantages of different types of PACs. Ultimately the success of our legislative service will be determined by your input and comments on this topic. Please forward your thoughts and comments to your state vice president in order for me to provide Missouri Valley's input **by October 1**. If you have any suggestions on how solicitations should be made, please pass that along also.

Another project that staff has been working on is the formation of a system for national EMS billing. This would be a system where the IAFC would "certify" and form relationships with various billing firms in the nation. The certifications would set certain requirements for billing, provide specific reports to the local department and the IAFC, promote the best possible collections and reduce the billing liability for the local departments. This process would also open the door for departments that are at the first responder level, to bill for those services. Staff will be developing a business plan for the Board's consideration.

The Implementation Guide for NFPA 1710 is now in print and for sale from IAFC. This is a joint project between IAFF and IAFC. The book comes with a CD and a VHS tape as an

introduction and can be purchased for \$75 or for non-IAFC members, \$105. The next cycle for changes in the actual standards are beginning so if you have any suggestions for technical changes, please get prepared to submit them. There are about seven to eight IAFC members now on the Technical committee for NFPA.

In certain areas of the country, the IRS is focusing on volunteer departments and on how volunteers are compensated. This may not be in direct monetary avenues but LOSAP's, mileage, any form of taxable income including property tax incentives for volunteers that have been approved in some regions. Departments may be required to file 1099s on their volunteers.

The IAFC will hold its biannual Strategic Planning Process October 18-19 in Colorado Springs, CO. I would **strongly urge** each state to send a representative from their state chiefs' organization. This is important not only to strengthen the relationships between the IAFC, the Divisions and the States but particularly since it is in our Division, it gives us a perfect opportunity to show the strength of the Missouri Valley Division and truly impact the direction of the IAFC.

I would like to take this opportunity and thank everyone for their kind thoughts and comments of support. I am deeply honored to serve the Missouri Valley in this capacity and I will do my best to represent you on the IAFC Board. □

## NFPA's Education Web Sites Go Surfing

Sparky the Fire Dog and *Risk Watch* Web sites were selected to participate in the Winter, Spring, and Summer 2002 "CyberSafari" program, a free Internet treasure hunt that lets students, teaches, parents and kids of all ages safely explore more than 100 educational Web sites, solve clues, and

win prizes. CyberSafari is sponsored by Lycos, Adobe, AOL@School, DiscoverySchool.com, TIMEforKids.com and the National Education Association (NEA). Visit [www.cybersafari.org](http://www.cybersafari.org) for more information and to sign up to play! □

## IAFC Fire Code Section

The IAFC is in the process of establishing a new section dealing with Fire Codes that may be called the Fire Marshal section. Petitions were circulated at the IAFC Conference in KC and more than enough signatures were signed to authorize the IAFC Board to take action at the October Board Meeting to establish a new Section in the IAFC. □

## International Code Council (ICC)

The ICC made a presentation to the IAFC Board of Directors to organize a process that would give Fire Chiefs and the IAFC more involvement in the future development of Fire Codes and to provide financial support to make the process work. The IAFC Board authorized the Executive Director to enter into discussions to bring back a formal agreement to the IAFC Board meeting in October for action. □

## Randy Bruegman Sworn in as President of IAFC

At the IAFC convention in Kansas City, Randy Bruegman was sworn in as President of the IAFC, and the Missouri Valley wants to congratulate Randy and remind Missouri Valley members that Randy got his start in the Fire Service in the Missouri Valley. Missouri Valley wishes Randy a successful year as President. □

## Westermann Elected Missouri Valley International Director

In a close election with Chief Larry Donner, Chief Steve Westermann was elected to the position of International Director to represent the Missouri Valley on the IAFC Board of Directors. The IAFC Board is composed of one International Director from each Division, several Sections and the elected Officers of the IAFC. Chief Westermann will be our voice on

the Board in dealing with policy matters, budgets and in establishing the future image of Fire Chiefs worldwide.

The position of International Director is one of the most important IAFC elected positions and the Missouri Valley is sending a proven leader to serve in this position. Congratulations to Chief Steve Westermann, our new International Director. □

## Wyoming News

The City of Cheyenne has a new Fire Chief. Scott Alvord was recently appointed as the new Fire Chief of Cheyenne Fire Rescue.

Chief Alvord began his career as a firefighter with the Logan Fire Department in Logan, Utah. He was promoted up through the ranks and ultimately served as their Assistant Chief. Scott has also served for 3.5 years as Fire Chief for the Sun River Fire Department in Oregon, 3 years as Fire Chief for the Sedona Fire District in Arizona, and as Fire Chief in Provo, Utah, where he worked hard in the planning and delivery of services during the Olympics. Chief Alvord has hit the ground running in Cheyenne and is developing a proposal to provide ALS engine service and ALS transport service within the City and County. AMR is the current provider of ALS in Cheyenne. Chief Alvord is from the Western Fire Chiefs Division and looks

forward to working with us in Missouri Valley. Welcome to Wyoming and the MVAFC Scott!

The Buffalo Hunt is rapidly approaching September 26-28, 2002. Raffle tickets are sold for this hunt with the proceeds going to the Wyoming Fire Academy. The Wyoming Fire Chiefs Association will be conducting a business meeting during this hunt with a following business meeting in Riverton, Wyoming, on January 3, 2003.

On the legislative front, the Wyoming Fire Chiefs Association is working with the State Emergency Response Commission on the development of a Regional Hazardous Materials Response Plan for the State of Wyoming. We are also closely following an interim study being conducted on fire and building code adoption. □

## New Requirement for Propane Tanks

Before you fire up your gas grill this summer, make sure it has the safety device now required by the latest edition of NFPA 58, *Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code*. As of April 1, 2002, a new provision to the code requires 4- to 40-pound propane tanks

be equipped with an Overfilling Prevention Device (OPD) before they can be refilled. A typical gas grill cylinder holds about 20 pounds of propane. To learn more about the new requirement, visit [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). □

**MVAFC Web Site: [www.mvafc.org](http://www.mvafc.org)**

**Missouri Valley Association of Fire Chiefs**

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## New Section Added to [www.homefiresprinkler.org](http://www.homefiresprinkler.org)

The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition's (HFSC) Web site, [www.homefiresprinkler.org](http://www.homefiresprinkler.org) has developed a new "Builder Section." It includes general information about residential fire sprinkler systems for builders, trade-up benefits builders can experience when they install fire sprinklers in entire developments and and builder testimonials. The Web site also includes information for public educators, an animated fire timeline that can be down-

loaded, "The Solution" newsletter, consumer information and general information about the HFSC.

HFSC was founded in 1996 by the NFPA, American Fire Sprinkler Association and the National Fire Sprinkler Association. HFSC's mission is to increase awareness about the life- and property-saving benefits of automatic fire sprinkler systems in one- and two-family dwellings. □

The Missouri Valley Association of Fire Chiefs is dedicated to supporting professional development of its members through educational, leadership, and networking opportunities, while serving as a liaison between State Chiefs' organizations and the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

**MVAFC Web Site:**  
**[www.mvafc.org](http://www.mvafc.org)**

