

## From the President

by Buck Hartley

I would like to thank all the members of the Missouri Valley Fire Chiefs Association for supporting me through the chairs of the Association. It is my honor and pleasure to serve as President of our Association. I would also like to say thank you to the City of Joplin and the Joplin Fire Department for hosting an excellent conference.

Someone asked me what the agenda of this administration would be. My response was that future goals have already been determined for officers

by the executive board when we met in Kansas City, January, 2000 and formulated the first-ever strategic plan for our Association. The strategic plan establishes the future development of our Association for many years. My goal as your President is to make sure that the Plan is implemented, improved upon, and carried out.

MVAFC continues to carry strong influence within the fire service and, with our current work plan, we will become stronger. The MVAFC Board

of Directors will meet again in January to update and work on the strategic plan.

The Board of Directors will continue to work with the Public Education Section and help sponsor another symposium in Olathe, Kansas in 2001. Past President Rick Beaty will chair the EMS section and I encourage members to support this new section. The Board of Directors continues to encourage State's to use the the educational stipend program. Please check out our website: [www.mvafc.org](http://www.mvafc.org).

Again, thank you for your support. I will see each of you in Dallas, August

## Thanks, Joplin, for a Great Conference!

The Missouri Valley Association of Fire Chiefs held its 58th Annual Conference in Joplin, Missouri, July 12-14. The hospitality was great and Chief West and his staff were always available to solve any problem or answer any question.

The Joplin Honor Guard started off the Convention with a memorial service for the many chiefs who passed away this past year.

The Mayor of Joplin welcomed attendees and Dr. Farnsevertl gave the morning keynote and stressed the challenges we all face in keeping up with changing technology. Times are changing and we must change as chief officers.

The educational sessions covered physical fitness, NFPA 1710 & 1720, America Burning Recommisioned and Chief Ron Coleman on the Chief Fire Officers designation program.

The MVAFC division's Strategic Plan was given to attendees and President Beaty gave an update on what has been accomplished.

A summary on the Wichita public education seminar and the state chief's seminar was presented to the members. President Beaty discussed the importance of the new MVAFC website and its ability to link with many other organizations' web sites. MVAFC will continue to build our web site.

Julian Taliaferro and Ron Siarnicki, candidates for Treasurer of the IAFC, addressed the membership. Members passed a resolution to endorse Taliaferro for Treasurer of the IAFC.

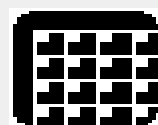
Past President Beaty is going to work with EMS personnel to get the MVAFC-EMS section up and running. Monies are budgeted to assist in the organization of the section.

Castle Rock, Colorado, was selected as the host city for 2002's Annual Conference. Casper, Wyoming is the destination for the 2001 Annual Conference.

The Joplin Conference was a great opportunity to renew acquaintances, network with others, hear great speakers, enjoy a relaxing '50s theme night

with friends, to install new officers at the Annual Banquet, and hear a closing speech by Chief Ron Coleman on leadership, teams, and the future of the fire service.

Great conference, Joplin! ☐



### Calendar of Events

**Executive Leadership Skills**  
October 7, 2000  
Topeka, Kansas

**Missouri State Chiefs Meeting**  
October 13-15, 2000  
Branson, Missouri

**Kansas State Chiefs Meeting**  
October 18-21, 2000  
Ellis County, Hays, Kansas

**Iowa Professional Fire Chiefs Annual Conference**  
October 31-November 2, 2000

**Missouri Labor Management Seminar**  
November 12-14, 2000  
Big Cedar Lodge, Missouri

**Colorado Leadership Challenge**  
November 30-December 2, 2000  
Breckenridge, Colorado

**Missouri Valley Association of Fire Chiefs Board Meeting**  
January 26-28, 2001  
Kansas City, Missouri

**Iowa Chiefs Mid-Winter Conference**  
February 6-8, 2001

**North Dakota Chiefs**  
February 21-25, 2001  
Bismark, North Dakota

**Missouri Labor Management Service Part II**  
April 29-May 1, 2001  
Big Cedar Lodge, Missouri

**Missouri Valley Assn. of Fire Chiefs Annual Conference**  
Casper, Wyoming  
July 11-13, 2001  
Board Liaison:

**1st VP Steve Westermann**  
Ph 816-229-2522  
**Chief of Casper-Mark Young**  
Ph 307-235-8222

**International Association of Fire Chiefs - FRI**  
August, 2001  
New Orleans, Louisiana

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.

## Bill to Expand U.S. Homeownership

The United States House of Representatives approved H.R. 1776, which is aimed at increasing home ownership among low- and middle-income families. In an effort to give municipal employees an incentive to live in the communities they serve, H.R. 1776 would allow firefighters, rescue personnel, teachers, police officers, and other municipal workers who make up to 115 percent of the median income made by those in their areas to buy homes at 50 percent of the appraised value with a \$100 down payment. □

## Colorado—Web Announcement

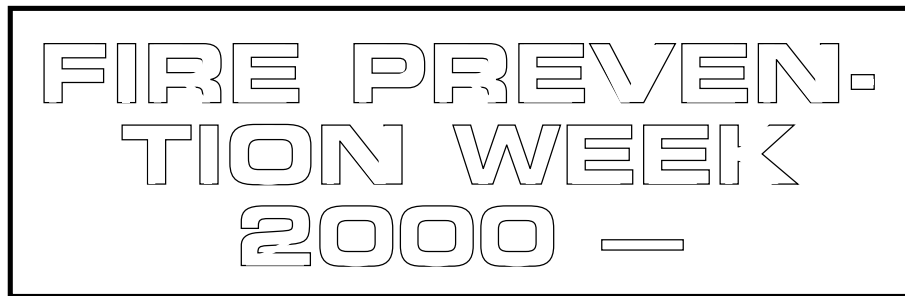
The Fire Marshal's Association of Colorado would like to announce the creation of their web page, which will provide information on Association meetings, training opportunities, and links to related agencies' web pages.

Check it out at [www.co-fmac.org](http://www.co-fmac.org).

## NFPA Regional Managers

NFPA's Central regional manager is Russ Sanders. His territory includes Iowa and Missouri. Telephone him at (502) 894-0411; fax him at (502) 894-0519; or e-mail him at [rsanders@nfpa.org](mailto:rsanders@nfpa.org).

NFPA's Denver regional manager is David Nuss. His territory includes Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Telephone him at (303) 663-5550; fax him at (303) 663-5551; or e-mail him at [dnuss@nfpa.org](mailto:dnuss@nfpa.org). □



## The FPW 2000 Tool Kit is Coming Soon!

The Fire Prevention Week 2000 tool kit, distributed to North American fire departments this past July, provides all the materials needed to conduct "The Great Escape" locally. For the first time, a pull-out home fire escape planning poster was also included; it can serve as an interactive

tool for teaching people of all ages how to develop and practice a home fire escape plan. Virtually all the tool kit materials, as well as the official FPW 2000 logo artwork, are now available on NFPA's web site at [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org). □

## WFCA & IAPMO Update

As a result of their recent agreements with NFPA to cooperate on joint code development, the Western Fire Chiefs Association (WFCA) and the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) have established plans to correlate their codes by the year 2003. The joint WFCA/NFPA fire code effort is well underway. A ten-person joint committee has been reviewing NFPA 1 and the *Uniform Fire Code* since April to

develop a draft of a correlated fire code, which will be published for public comment later this year.

IAPMO and NFPA are currently developing plans to include the *Uniform Plumbing* and *Uniform Mechanical Codes* in the new *Consensus Codes™* set being developed by NFPA.

Both IAPMO and WFCA will be strong players in the *NFPA Building Code™* development process. □

## College Fire Safety Forum... Final Report

The U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) and NFPA have signed a cooperative agreement to look at the issue of fire safety at colleges and universities. On August 25 and 26, 1999, a forum was held at NFPA headquarters in Quincy, MA. The participants represented a variety of disciplines and include fire chiefs, college administrators, college fire safety specialists, representatives from the insurance industry and the Greek system, as well as USFA and NFPA staff members.

To stimulate discussion, the participants devoted the first part of the forum to presentations. The remainder

of the forum focused on identifying what actions will improve the level of fire safety across the country in academic institutions, what materials are needed, and how fire safety programs can be implemented. The final report, including attendees, related organizations, and Internet resources, may be found at [usfa.fema.gov/usfapubs/colfsf.htm](http://usfa.fema.gov/usfapubs/colfsf.htm). □

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

## Understanding the Performance-Based Design Process – A Workshop for the Enforcement Community

Presented by Society of Fire Protection Engineers, in collaboration with FEMA, the US Fire Administration's National Fire Academy, the International Code Council and the International Fire Marshal's Association.

With the emergence of the performance-based design option as a state-of-the-art tool for building design, members of the enforcement community need tools to be able to work in this new environment.

Performance-based design concepts are not new. Alternatives to a strict application of prescriptive code requirements are often proposed by designers and reviewed by authorities having jurisdiction. The performance-based design option takes this common practice and provides a well-documented framework. This framework can help both those who seek alternatives when a particular building design does not strictly match prescriptive code requirements, and the authorities having jurisdiction who are faced with these new designs.

This one-day workshop will review in detail the performance-based design process and will introduce some of the technical details of that process. One of its objectives is to provide the National Fire Academy with information to design future in-depth courses on the technical details of performance-based design for authorities having jurisdiction.

Among the subjects covered:

- The principle differences between prescriptive and performance-based design options.

- Defining fire safety goals and objectives and performance criteria for a specific building.

- The selection of design fire scenarios.

- Developing and evaluating trial designs.

- The role of documentation in the design process.

- Practical case studies.

The workshop is intended for fire and building officials who have responsibility for performing plan review functions. Workshops are free of charge for fire and building officials.

- **Overland Park, KS**  
**September 28, 2000**
- **North Washington, CO**  
**October 10, 2000.** □

## Nebraska Firefighters Wind Up Work

by Phil Rooney, *The Associated Press (Lincoln Journal Star, August 7, 2000)*

A bone-weary crew of 20 Nebraska firefighters is about to return home after a 14-day trip battling the wildfires that continue to rage across the western United States.

The crew, led by Steve Lenzo, deputy director at the Pine Ridge Job Corps near Chadron, includes ten of his students plus firefighters from the Nebraska National Forest.

They left July 25 to fight a 100-acre fire near Dinosaur, CO, on the Utah border in northwestern Colorado, Lenzo said.

They then moved to Rangely,, CO, where they flew in by helicopter to work for two days on a 200-acre Hard Rock fire.

After going on standby at the junior college in Rangely, the Nebraska team was sent July 30 to Meeteetse, WY, where they helped fight the Enos Complex fire on 14,000 acres southeast of Yellowstone National Park.

"It's been just a fantastic trip, because half of our crew are Job Corps students, and it's their first experience," Lenzo said Saturday from the base camp at a high school in Meeteetse.

Lenzo, 46, is a 23-year veteran of fighting wildfires and is one of five crew members with previous experience.

The other 15 members are getting their first real firefighting experience.

The crew has done a little bit of everything on the trip, Lenzo said. That included taking the initial attack and cutting the line to helicopter rides

and bucket drops, he said.

Fire crews are required to take a break after 14 days of firefighting.

As the Nebraska crew neared the end of that stretch, Lenzo said fatigue was a concern and safety became a major focus.

With the fire surrounded and the firefighting almost done, the crew will be working mop-up, which involves going over burned areas and looking for sparks, Lenzo said.

The crews must watch the ground for smoldering fires, he said, but thunder cells can quickly bring 40 mph winds and blow over snags – firefighter lingo for burned-out trees.

The base camp now has Doppler radar, which makes sudden storms less of a concern than they once were, he said. □

## Newton Deputy Chief Dies

The Newton Fire/EMS Department mourns the loss of Deputy Chief Mike Metzler on August 18, 2000. Chief Metzler died as a result of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident the previous night. His wife, Gina, was also killed in the accident. They had five children ranging in ages from 11 to 21. Chief Metzler has served the Department for over 25 years, and has been a Deputy Chief since 1992. Our prayers and sympathies go out to his family and friends. □

Member Type	Count
Active Life Subscriber	7
Active	686
Associate	75
Active Life	91
Associate Life	9
Life Past President	4
Departmental	21
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>893</b>

## Burn and Fire Safety Expo 2000 Wichita, Kansas

by Janet Cusick

The Burn and Fire Safety Expo held in Wichita, Kansas on April 7 and 8, 2000 was a great success. The conference attendance goal of 35-50 people was met with 29 paid registrants from Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Ohio; nine planning team members; and eight speakers. Representatives from Wichita SAFE KIDS Coalition, Boeing Airplane Group Fire Department, Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office, McConnell AFB Fire Department, Sedgwick County Fire Department, Via Christi Burn Center, and Fire Educator's Association of Kansas actively served on the planning team.

The Expo contained a good mix of general sessions and small group breakouts giving people ample opportunity to learn and share ideas, visit with presenters, and spend time with their public education peers. General session topics included:

- Progress and Priorities – Saving Lives in the New Millennium, presented by Sandy Sinclair from Washington, DC.

- Coalition Building – What Can Partnerships Do for You and Your Pro-gram, presented by Pat Mieszala, Director, Burn Concerns

- Funding and Creating Partnerships for a Successful Injury Prevention Program, presented by James Barber from the Via Christi Foundation.

Breakout sessions included sessions on Remembering When® and Great

Escape® presented by Carol Gross from Phoenix Fire and NFPA, juvenile firesetting presented by Elena Nuss from the Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office, working with the media, developing and evaluating programs for children, and measuring outcomes. One of the highlights of Expo 2000 was the pyrotechnic demonstration of the Hazard House by Captain David Fickler and Assistant Chief Greg Potter from Trotwood (OH) Fire and Rescue during the Friday evening social gathering.

A Brave New World presented by Sandy Sinclair and Janet Cusick ended the two days with some lively discussion about some of the controversies in burn and fire prevention such as "what do you do with your hands when you stop, drop and roll?", "do you feel the door with the front of your hand, the back of your hand, or does it even matter?", "is cooling the burn really the appropriate response for all burns?", fire safe cigarettes and accepting tobacco money for burn and fire prevention. Needless to say, there were more questions than definitive answers.

Following the Expo, 15 people completed the week-long NFPA 1035 I Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Level 1 class and certification class. Several of these people will be traveling to Oklahoma City in August to complete the Level II seminar and test. □

## IAFC Treasurer Endorsement

The Missouri Valley Association of Fire Chiefs, at the Annual Conference in Joplin, Missouri, voted to endorse Julian Taliaferro for Treasurer of the IAFC. Julian has a lengthy list of experience and service in the IAFC

from serving as a state and division officer to being on the IAFC Board of Directors. Julian is a man well qualified to manage the resources of the IAFC. □

## National Association of State Fire Marshals

The National Association of State Fire Marshals is developing an electronic service to periodically notify other fire officials of news and opportunities of interest on issues related to consumer product fire safety, catastrophic fire protection, juvenile firesetting, college and university fire safety, and a variety of legislative and regulatory matters.

If you would like to be a part of this service, please notify the NASFM Government Relations Office by mailing, faxing, or e-mailing the information below. Contact Karen Suhr at 202-737-1226 if you have questions.

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Title \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Department \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Return this information to:  
National Association of State Fire Marshals  
1319 F Street, NW, Suite 301  
Washington, DC 20004  
Fax 202-393-1296  
E-mail nasfmgovt@aol.com □

**Leadership**  
Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity.  
– George Patton

## Fire Officials Look at Team Idea

by The Associated Press

Who says special teams only work for football?

The Grand Island (Nebraska) Fire Department soon may have several special teams – elite groups of rescuers that specialize in everything from handling hazardous material to high-angle and water rescues.

Training officer Troy Hughes called the plan a good idea, adding it's impossible to train 60 people to be proficient in all aspects of fire and rescue skills.

The department still plans to train all firefighters with a basic awareness of specialty rescues, he said. But it also would work toward developing teams of about a dozen firefighters

each that would be trained in rescues involving ice, ropes and confined spaces.

The need for specialized team training was confirmed in a recent multi-state survey conducted by a Wittenberg University intern.

Drew Taylor contacted 24 fire departments – in towns about the size of Grand Island – in seven-state Midwest region. He found those communities generally have fire departments with one or two specialized teams. Fire Chief Jim Rowell said the department has considered creating such special teams for years, but has been focused on providing stringent

## Create an E-mail Policy

As e-mail becomes a prime mode of business communication, it's essential that companies develop policies regarding its use. Here are some Internet resources that can help:

- The *AITP Model Electronic Mail (E-mail) Policy* ([www.edfoundation.org/emailpolicy.htm](http://www.edfoundation.org/emailpolicy.htm)) offers a one-sheet directive that covers key areas.

- The *Cyberspace Law Institute* ([www.cli.org/emailpolicy/top.html](http://www.cli.org/emailpolicy/top.html)) is a good resource for e-mail policies.

- The sample policy at the *Society for Human Resource Management*

([www.shrm.org/hrlinks/emailsamp.htm](http://www.shrm.org/hrlinks/emailsamp.htm)) includes an acknowledgment form that employees must sign.

- *Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility* has an area devoted to e-mail policy ([www.cpsr.org/program/emailpolicy.html](http://www.cpsr.org/program/emailpolicy.html)). This site approaches the topic from the employee's viewpoint, providing a contrast for managers seeking to strike a balance between company needs and worker rights. □

## New Park to be Named After Firefighter

After a paramedic who lost his life in a training accident. The Lee's Summit Park Board voted Wednesday to name a new park at Lakewood Way and Bowlin Road after Bryan Pottberg. Pottberg drowned during an underwater rescue exercise July 15, 1999. He had worked for the Lee's Summit Fire Department since 1991.

Smokey Dyer, retired Lee's Summit fire chief, said Pottberg was an outstanding public servant. He showed good humor and enthusiasm for any job, from routine duty to volunteering in concession stands for a downtown music festival. Being a firefighter was Pottberg's life ambition, following his family example. His grandfather is a retired chief of the Fort Osage Fire

Protection District and his father is chief of the department at Buckner.

Pottberg announced at an early age that he'd make firefighting his career, and became a junior firefighter. While studying fire science and emergency medicine at Central Missouri State University, he served as a part-time firefighter for Fort Osage and Warrensburg departments.

A naming ceremony was held July 15 at the park. A memorial committee is donating \$10,000 to developing the park, which will include a monument in the shape of Lee's Summit Fire Department's insignia.

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training for firefighting and emergency medical work to the entire department.

He said the firefighting and emergency medical training will continue, but adding elite rescue skills training for everyone would be too big a load for the department.

Hughes said he would attend training next month on trench rescue – a skill that could prove useful considering the large number of construction sites in Grand Island.

The Grand Island department already has a jump on special training. Several firefighters have attended advanced rope rescue training and received the certification to teach other firefighters in the department, and five firefighters are trained in confined-space rescue, which refers to freeing people from tight spaces such as

## IAFC Update

by Bob Pottberg  
International Director

Work on FIRE ACT continues. On July 13, the Senate passed a \$309.8 billion Fiscal Year 2001 Defense Authorization Bill (S.2549) with the FIRE ACT language included as an amendment (S. AMDT. 3753). The amendment, introduced by Senator Christopher Dodd (D-CT) and co-sponsored by 16 other Senators, would authorize \$3.1 billion over six years. The Fire Bill authorizes \$1 billion per year in direct grants to the fire service.

The Fiscal Year 2001 Defense Authorization Act must now go to conference, where its future is uncertain due to questions over whether the Defense bill is the proper place to authorize spending for the fire service. The House passed its version in May without the FIRE ACT amendment.

The next draft of NFPA 1710/1720 is available as of July 28. It does appear that most of our suggestions have been incorporated. As usual, we will have additional questions after the new draft comes out.

FRI 2000 is looking good. Room blocks are up approximately 15 percent and registration is up approximately 39 percent. □

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

**Check out the MVAFC web site. There is more information than you care to know.**

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## **MVAFC Officers 2000-2001**

Chief H. A. "Buck" Hartley  
President  
Shawnee, Kansas

Chief Steve Westermann  
1st Vice President  
Blue Springs, Missouri

Chief Rob Brown  
2nd Vice President  
Castle Rock, Colorado

Chief Robert Pottberg  
International Director  
Buckner, Missouri

## **MVAFC State Vice Presidents 2001**

Chief Dennis Meyers  
Kansas – Overland Park

Chief Jim Rowell  
Nebraska – Grand Island

Chief Wally Dawson  
Missouri – St. Louis

Chief Bert Gray  
North Dakota – Jamestown

Chief Robert Taylor  
Wyoming – Worland

Chief Donn Hill  
South Dakota – Sioux Falls

Chief Frank Magsamen  
Iowa – Waterloo

Chief Larry Donner  
Colorado – Boulder

**For addresses and e-mail,  
check the MVAFC web page  
[www.mvafc.org](http://www.mvafc.org)**

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# **Snapshots from Joplin**