

FIRE LINK

• COLORADO • IOWA • KANSAS • MISSOURI • NEBRASKA • NORTH DAKOTA • SOUTH DAKOTA • WYOMING •

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

by Mark Young

It seems only like yesterday when I took the oath of office as your President of the Missouri Valley Division. In reality, it has been 11 months and, during this time, the Division has remained productive through the leadership of its Board of Directors and the energy and involvement of its members. This past year the MVD has been directly involved in the FRI Conference in Denver; the IAFC Leadership Summit, numerous State Chief Association meetings, the MASTF (Mutual Aid System Task Force) Project, the IMAS (Intrastate Mutual Aid System) Project, IAFC Leadership Orientation, monthly Board of Director teleconferences, providing educational stipends, preparation for the upcoming annual division conferences and public education section conference, updating our mission statement and strategic plan, developing and growing our new EMS section, providing grant peer reviewers for the Assistance to Firefighters and SAFER grant programs, supporting a mentorship program for Fire Corp participants, and continuing to enhance our communication efforts to all MVD members.

Looking forward to my remaining term as President and into next year we have a great deal of work ahead of us. As a division, the Board of Directors will finish its revision of our Mission Statement and will work toward the successful completion of our existing strategic plan. The Board of Directors and State Chief Association Presidents will work in concert with one another in developing a new strategic plan that falls into the same planning cycle as the IAFC Strategic Plan. This work will be done at the next Board meeting in February of 2007. Vice President Jerry Rhodes and the MASTF Division Task Force will continue to work aggressively to complete its work assign-

ments; identified MVD State Representatives will work with other Rocky Mountain and Gulf area States to develop a proposed National Fire Service Intrastate Mutual Aid System, and developing premier continuing educational opportunities for our membership.

None of our initiatives and accomplishments would be successful without the hard work of your MVD Officers. As I close out my term, I would first like to thank the Executive Board: 1st Vice President Robert Dahlquist and 2nd Vice President Jerry Rhodes, you have both provided me with outstanding support and have taken on very important projects within the Division. I look forward to your insightful and energetic leadership over the next two years. International Director Richard Carrizzo has provided a critical communication channel between the IAFC and our division. In doing so, he has enhanced our communications and continues to assist us in providing "One Voice" between the Division, our State Chief Associations and the IAFC. Past President Jim Keating, who is somewhere in the State of Colorado, thanks for your continued support our Division and its goals. Next I would like to acknowledge the Board of Directors. These are the folks that make things happen within the Division. VP John Mullin (CO), VP Brad Sarff (WY), VP Jack Taylor (KS), VP John VanGorkum (MO), VP Mark Wessel (IA), VP Peter O'Neill (ND), VP Gary Shepherd (SD), and VP Jim Rowell (NE). It has been a joy to work with each of you and thanks for everything that you have done for the Division!

I would like to say thanks to the Missouri State Chiefs for their gracious hospitality this past February while I attended their conference and meeting
(continued on page 5)



Calendar of Events

MVD Public Education Conference

June 13-16, 2006
Lawrence, KS

MVD Leadership Partnership

July 17-18, 2006
Omaha, NE

MVD Annual Conference

July 19-21, 2006
Omaha, NE

Colorado Fire Mechanics' Assn. Emergency Vehicle Maintenance Academy

July 31-August 4, 2006
Greeley, Colorado

IAFC-FRI

September 14-16, 2006
Dallas, TX



The Missouri Valley Division 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.

Recruitment and Retention of Paramedics

In this installment I will touch on a simple but very effective method of not only attracting quality Paramedics to your agencies, but keeping them there once you get them in the door. That method and practice is simple, like I said.....but seems so very difficult for us to do, and that is...DON'T WORK THEM TO DEATH.

If you look at a large number of EMS agencies across this country, fire-based, non-fire-based, for-profit, third-service, etc., work overload for Paramedics happens way more often than it doesn't happen. And when it does happen, managers typically seem mystified why Paramedics don't want to come to work there, and don't stay once they join the ranks. If you're a Chief in a Department that has a reputation as a "meat grinder" for Paramedics, you will either never see those bright young Paramedics or they will come to work for you just long enough to get some experience and then they will be gone. When that happens, when you are nothing but a training ground for Paramedics, you have done nothing but waste your money.

911 is the second most frequented contact point for unscheduled medical care in most of this country and everybody pretty much knows that, our EMS systems are very busy. Your Fire Department runs about 70-80 percent medical calls and the rest fall loosely into a category of fire or rescue related incidents of some type. Everybody pretty much knows that too, my point here is, given this knowledge that seems to be commonplace about how busy we are in this country providing EMS, we chronically and knowingly under staff with EMS personnel, with Paramedics being number one on the list. We just plain try to run too many calls with too few ambulances and Paramedics. We do it, and then scratch our heads when Paramedics don't want to stick around or stay functioning as Paramedics.

So how do we know when we are working Paramedics too hard? well, there are a couple of ways how to measure that. One way is with the unit hour utilization ratio (UHU). The UHU is calculated by dividing the number of trans-

ports (not calls) initiated during a given period of time, by the number of unit hours (hours of service) produced during the same period of time. This is a bit of a touchy subject with a lot of people (me included), simply because it has traditionally been used for the wrong kind of measurement. It works fine to calculate how hard your Paramedics are working and what ratio of work to rest they are getting, but it is a very poor indicator of how well an EMS system is "performing". In the past (and still to some degree today), some EMS providers (mostly for-profit services) have used a UHU figure to market themselves as "high performance" EMS systems. The marketing scheme was, they deployed with a relatively high UHU figure, which was usually around 0.5, which meant that they were doing one transport with one ambulance every two hours. The term "high performance" meant that they were doing the greatest number of calls with the smallest possible number of ambulances, which obviously adds up to the least amount of money spent to provide the service. Now, if you're a bean counter, that sounds great...sounds fiscally responsible. If you're a Paramedic, it sounds terrible, it means you get your brains beat out all shift long doing calls with virtually no rest, no time to eat, etc., etc. and it's not someplace you will stay long (if you're smart). The "high performance" part of the equation that these providers tout, has a lot to do with how much money they can make (spelled p-r-o-f-i-t), and very little to do with how well they actually "perform." "Performance" in an EMS system if you want my humble opinion, has a lot more to do with clinical performance, adherence to protocol, response time compliance, customer service and the like, rather than how much work you can squeeze out of people. Do you need to consider how much money you're spending to provide your service, of course you do, and you have to provide the best service you can within your budget dollar, but it's only one thing on the list, not the only thing.

If you look at the UHU figure of 0.5 and have no experience in the field, it

doesn't sound too bad, one call (transport) every two hours; until you consider the fact that even in a very urban system with a short return time to the hospital, statistically, most calls from time received to arrival at the hospital will take about 45 minutes or so. If you add another 30 minutes for paperwork, some time for re-fueling, re-stocking and the like, your two hours is about shot, it doesn't leave much time for even going to the bathroom, much less eating or god forbid, sleeping. It also doesn't take into account the calls that don't result in transports, all of those things take time out of a day. A lot of providers have finally come out and said that a UHU figure of 0.5 is acceptable for a 10 or 12 hour ambulance but too high for a 24 hour ambulance. The rationale is that eating and resting are of less importance to an ambulance crew that only works half a day. I'm not too sure that I agree even with that. Those same providers have further stated that a UHU figure of 0.4 is acceptable for a 24 hour ambulance. That means that you do 1 transport approximately every two and a half hours. Is that better, yes it is, but still, if you take a hard look at it, you have crews that are very, very busy and have minimal time for eating, resting and the like between calls.

So as a Chief, what's right, how hard can you work Paramedics and still expect them to stay and work for you and be happy, productive, long-term employees? I personally believe that a UHU figure of 0.25 to .03 for a 24 ambulance is about right. Most Fire Departments that do transport field 24 hour ambulances so I won't get into the 12 hour versus 24 hour issue right here, but it is something to consider when you're talking about employee longevity. A UHU figure of 0.25 to 0.3 will allow your Paramedics to do enough calls to maintain their skillsets, but will still allow them enough time to get some rest, eat and interact in down time with the engine and truck companies that they work right along side of. The engine and truck companies that are doing a half, to a quarter (or

(continued on page 3)

"EVERYONE GOES HOME"

by Jerry Rhodes, MVD 2nd VP

Everyone goes home is the goal of America's fire service. It is the goal of every fire chief, every company officer, firefighter, and family member. The objective of this article is to reach the chief, company officer, and the apparatus committee members.

When it comes to safety, you talk the talk, but do you walk the walk? Billy G. and Gordon G. have shown you the way, Dave Daniels, IAFF & Company are doing the heavy lifting for you, and Mary Beth and the IAFC EMS Section have told you what to lookout for. As tough as this bunch is, I found a chick who is even tougher.

Nadine Levick is an Australian-born hard-hitting woman from down-under. First a little background:

Nadine Levick MD, MPH, is the recipient of the prestigious International Society for Automotive Engineers WEC/Breed Women's leadership award in 2003 for her contribution to EMS transport safety research and practice. Dr. Levick, who holds a Masters in Public Health from Johns Hopkins in Health Policy and Management focused in Injury Prevention and Control and an Australian-trained board certified Emergency Medicine Physician, has conducted key research internationally in the field of safety and injury control. Dr. Levick has published the lead engineering papers globally on EMS vehicle safety, and has a leadership role in EMS safety, coordinating the first international vehicle safety symposium and contributing to the field in the USA, Australia, Europe and the UK.

Here are a couple of body blows from Nadine. If you and your people do not stop at red lights and stop signs when running hot, you are STUPID! Only an idiot can ignore the current data on intersection

accidents. For EMS transport, check your "Code Three" return saves verses the number of people we kill and injure in intersection motor vehicle crashes annually in the United States.

The front of your ambulance has to meet federal standards. The interior patient compartment does not. But you love unpadded edges, lack of four-point harnesses, and seats that cannot adjust to get our medics closer to the patient while still seat-belted. A high percentage of head injuries sustained by our personnel in the back of an ambulance could be avoided by wearing a bicycle helmet. Imagine what a stylish, well-constructed helmet could do for them.

Can all the stuff in the back of our ambulance or the ambulance you people ride in withstand a 20 MPH impact? A lot of this stuff injures and kills our people. This includes patients blasting forward into the attendant's crotch because lateral cot straps alone will not arrest the forward movement of the patient. It is called physics, check it out sometime.

Company Officer, EMS Chief and Fire Chief get off your butt; go check your equipment, your SOPs, and what your people are really doing in the streets.

You might want to check out this website as well: www.objectivesafety.net

We can fix vehicles, most of the time we can fix bones, but you just can't fix STUPID.

EMS and the Fire Service must push for standards to improve patient compartment safety. Why would you buy an ambulance with design flaws when most of the engineered solutions are not very expensive?

Dr. Levick has a tough message for us. Maybe it's because we just don't get it! ☐

Recruitment ...

(continued from page 2)

even less) of the calls that the ambulances are doing are a part of the equation also. Your Paramedics while they are rushing out the door to do their 15th call of the day see those other firefighters sitting in their recliners while they are leaving, and believe me, you as a Chief need to consider that. Anything you can do to "level the playing field" so to speak, will do nothing but make your job as a manager easier and will give you the best chance at recruiting and retaining Paramedics.

There is the concept of reducing by prevention the number of EMS calls we do. There is the alternative transport or treatment types of systems that are being tried in different places, these all have some degree of merit and can all potentially be effective at reducing Paramedic workload and increasing retention. There is also the issue of money; how many Paramedics and how many ambulances can you flat out afford to put on the street? Well, without going into a lot of complicated funding and budget discussion right here, we have to put enough resources on the street to accomplish our stated mission and still be able to keep happy, productive, long-term employees (Paramedics for purposes of this article). If we can't do that, we will always have difficulty accomplishing the mission and in some cases may not be able to accomplish it at all. There are Fire Departments out there, both large and small, that have completely failed at the EMS mission simply because of their inability to put the pieces of the puzzle together. It's our job as Chiefs to analyze the situation and put the mechanism together to make it happen.

My message here is, if you are having difficulty attracting qualified Paramedics, if you are having trouble keeping them, if you are having trouble getting bright, young EMT's within your organizations to step up to the plate and go to Paramedic training, take a good, long look at how hard you are working your Paramedics and just exactly what you are asking them to do on a daily basis. Put yourself in their shoes for a second, you may find out you are creating your own problem. ☐



MVD Web Site

The Missouri Valley Division
web site is
www.mvdiafc.org

International Director's Report

by Chief Richard R. Carrizzo

The International Association of Fire Chiefs' Board of Directors recently met in McLean, Virginia for their Spring Board meeting. All of the Divisions' and Sections' Board members were in attendance along with the Association's Executive Director and staff members. This meeting also included a number of guests from other Divisions and Sections.

One of the most interesting items and themes that came from the staff was that if you show up at IAFC Headquarters during this year, don't be surprised if the staff are all in running shoes or sneakers. The Association has accomplished a great deal over the last nine months and continues to be on the same fast paced run for the rest of this year.

Some of the accomplishments that have been achieved by the IAFC since August are:

Immediately after the hurricane in New Orleans, the IAFC began to look at alternative locations, after the amount of devastation was realized. As you can imagine, New Orleans Convention Bureau was not pleased with that possibility. In the end the IAFC was able to move the FRI 2007 location to Atlanta, GA. This will be the same year that our own Chief Steve Westermann will be annotated to IAFC President.

With regards to FRI, one of the greatest concerns this year is what happens on the exhibit floor and the key issue of getting people on the floor and getting them engaged with the vendors. FRI is in a competitive market with other fire service conferences and seminars. FDIC and FRI are the two biggest shows of the year. Some of the regional shows num-

bers are starting to exceed FRI numbers. Dallas will be a key city this year that needs to be supported. FRI has had good attendance there in the past, but everyone needs to work, and I mean everyone in the Division, on keeping people engaged on the floor this year.

It should be the mission of all of us to assist in achieving the goal of Job #1 = Getting and keeping attendees on the exhibit floor in Dallas this year.

Our Treasurer, Chief Julian Taliaferro presented his annual Financial Report. The IAFC achieved operating revenues of 97% of the budget and contained operating expenses at 95% of the budget for 2005. It appears by unaudited financial statements that the IAFC will end the budget year with a positive increase in the net assets. IAFC continues to be financially sound.

A presentation was given by Past President Ernie Mitchell on findings and recommendations from the Sections Task Force. One of the major items was the elimination of ICHIEFS from all IAFC policies/procedures. It was also determined by the Board to have the By-Laws and Resolution Committee review and report back to the Board the issue of addressing expectations of member conduct.

The Mutual Aid System Task Force (MASTF) presented their report to the Board. MO-Valley's 2nd Vice-President Jerry Rhodes sat on this committee and we should be expecting a future article on the MASTF project.

A review of President Bush's proposed 2007 Budget was given: \$43 mil for DHS, 47 mil for US Fire Administrator (this is a new line item and up 2 mil from last year), \$293 mil for

Fire Act (down from \$535 mil this year), \$0 for SAFER (down from \$110 mil), 5.3 billion for FEMA (up from \$2.7 mil for 2006). Again this is his proposed budget and then the budget will go to the House and Senate for the actual Appropriation Bill. This is when IAFC will be working to increase the amounts for SAFER and Fire Act.

The Board supported the principles that FEMA should remain within DHS and that the Director should report directly to the President during a Stafford Act emergency. We also are having the Elections Committee develop guidelines for conducting section elections with uniformity and recommend the Divisions do the same. This will then lead to everyone in IAFC conducting elections the same. IAFC will work to affiliate with the National Association of Counties. This will be done with caution due to the UASI Grants.

As I come to the close of this article, my sister is in my thoughts with her family's move next month from Ford to Nissan and Ford's continued mission of Job #1, Quality. I would ask you to assist in the IAFC's BoD and Staff's goal of Job #1 = Getting and keeping attendees on the exhibit floor in Dallas this year.

As always, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support and if there is anything you may need, please let me know. □

Missouri Valley Officers

The following individuals have been elected as Missouri Valley Division Officers and will be installed at the July Convention in Omaha:

- International Director (three-year term): Richard Carrizzo of Kansas City, MO.

- 2nd VP of MVD: Mark Wessel of Keokuk, IA.

All State Vice Presidents will be elected for two-year terms by a caucus of members present at the Conference. □



MVD Web Site

The Missouri Valley Division
web site is
www.mvdiafc.org

Missouri Valley at FRI

*Fire Rescue International 2006
Dallas, Texas, September 14-16*

**The Missouri Valley Division Hotel
is the Hyatt Regency**

The 2006 FRI Conference will be in Dallas. The number-one goal of the IAFC this year is to increase attendance on the exhibit floor. If you have never attended, you are in for a surprise. There are educational sessions on a variety of fire service subjects and the exhibit floor is something to behold. Picture, if you will, acres and acres of fire service paraphernalia, gadgets, vehicles, equipment, books, etc. There are a lot of freebies. The vendors are very generous with their promotional handouts. The Missouri Valley Division will be housed in the Hyatt Regency. The Hyatt is next to the Convention Center, with access by the light rail system to the Westport entertainment district. Make your reservations early. Room blocks at the Hyatt will be held until June 15, 2006 and then released.

The 2006 FRI Spouse/Partner Program is designed to give you a taste of what Dallas has to offer, but also allows you some personal time on your own to explore and enjoy! This year, enjoy morning yoga or fitness walks, museums, shopping or just relaxing in the hospitality lounge. The hospitality lounge will be the place to meet new, or catch up with old friends. You will be able to enjoy light snacks and drinks throughout the day and stay connected in the new Internet cafe.

FRI-Dallas Luncheon

The Missouri Valley Division will hold our luncheon at the Dallas Convention Center on Thursday, September 14, 2006 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased from your State Vice President. The luncheon is for you and your significant other. Get your ticket(s) now to be assured of a seat. IAFC officers and candidates will greet you and you can renew old acquaintances from other states. For a great time - BE THERE!!!

The Division luncheon is hosted by 3M.

President's Comments

(continued from page 1)

at Big Cedar Lodge. I was honored to be in attendance and found the conference to be very informative and thanks for the opportunity to speak to you during your Association meeting. I am sorry that I could not attend the Iowa State Chief Association meetings the last part of February. The cancellation of my flight out of Casper kept me from attending.

Lastly, I would like to remind each of you that you can still register for the Annual MVD Conference. The conference is scheduled for July 19-21, in

Omaha, NE. Chief Dahlquist and his staff, has put together a great conference and we look forward to your attendance. In addition to the conference, the MVD, with support from the Omaha Fire Department, is hosting a Leadership Partnership Seminar on July 17th & 18th as well.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time spent as President and I appreciate all of your support. I look forward to seeing and meeting many of you in Omaha in July. Until then, stay safe! □

IMAS PROJECT

by Jerry Rhodes, MVD 2nd VP

Where MASTF is the national interstate mutual aid project, the Intrastate Mutual Aid System (IMAS) is the statewide project. MASTF is funded by the IAFC. IMAS is funded by FEMA.

IMAS had its kickoff meeting in Denver February 6 & 7th. Thirty-four state representatives were in attendance for the presentation. The IMAS Project was created by the IAFC to build templates that states can use to start statewide mutual aid systems. This includes system design, agreement templates, state legislation, etc.

IMAS has four anchor states, Florida, California, Ohio, and Idaho. Phase one of the project concentrates on ten states in two parts of the country, the Rocky Mountain Region and completing the Gulf States. The intent is to assist all states if FEMA will continue to fund additional phases of the project.

IMAS and MASTF are coordinating to make sure the intrastate project integrates with the interstate project. More information is available on the IAFC website. □

In Memorial *Chief Robert Schick,* *Davenport*

Chief Robert L. "Bob" Schick, of Davenport, died Sunday, February 26, 2006. Chief Schick served with the U.S. Air Force in 1959. He was a member of the Davenport Fire Department from 1963 until 1990, and retired in 1990 as Fire Chief of the Department, after 27 years. Chief Schick was chosen for the first group of the Fellowship Study Program at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland, and was selected to participate in the People to People Exchange Program for Fire Chiefs in Korea, China and Japan. Chief Schick was a Past President of the Missouri Valley Division. □

MASTF Project

by Jerry Rhodes

Mutual Aid System Task Force (MASTF) AKA the National Fire Service Mutual Aid System Task Force had their third meeting. Every Division and Section of the IAFC was represented to work on this national project.

On January 5-6, 2006, the Task Force met at the IAFC headquarters in Fairfax, VA. On the first day, the group was briefed by IAFC President Bill Killen and IAFC Executive Director Garry Briese. The members were provided with a notebook that contained the USFA Credentialing Report, EMAC information and the 2004 After Action Report, the version of FEMA's Glossary & Definitions, and Typed Resources, President Killen's testimony before the US House of Representatives Homeland Security Subcommittee on Incident Command and Control, and copies of the state plans from Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, Kentucky, Virginia, and the Intermountain Regional Plan.

On the first day, the group received several presentations. Mike Dougherty and Doug Shinn from the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) in Boise, ID gave a presentation on the response, coordination, and function of the NICC. While their mission is primarily related to wild land fire response, much of their work has direct application to disaster response. Michelle McQueeney from the NIMS Integration Center gave a presentation on the continuing efforts at the federal level to assist state and local agencies with compliance of the deadlines for the use of NIMS. Charlie Dickenson from the National Fire Academy, reviewed the efforts from the last several years to develop a National Credentialing System. The final draft of the Concept Report was released on October 3, 2005. It includes the essential components of eligible participants, certifications and standards, the credentialing organization, the credential, and the record to develop consensus. The final presentation was given by Jerry Ostendorf and Leon Shaifer from the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) of NEMA. At the present time,

49 states and 3 territories have signed agreements within EMAC. Many have all been completed by EMAC. This system has been identified as an excellent resource for the IAFC and the Task Force to develop a partnership with to better initiate and deliver resources when a disaster is declared.

Several goals have been identified for the group to achieve.

Create a national system that integrates intrastate and interstate mutual aid

The fire and rescue response must be capable of responding from an all-hazards approach

Evaluate the integration of existing state mutual aid plans

Assist in the development of state plans where none currently exists

Strengthen the fire and rescue service response capability using mutual aid

Integrate and assist other disciplines in the development and use of emergency response plans

Develop a final draft for approval and adoption by September, 2006

A number of concepts will be reviewed and evaluated within this project. These include: assist 10 states with their individual state programs to prevent duplication of effort and ensure success (Intrastate Mutual Aid System-IMAS)

Study the potential for regional systems along pre-determined boundaries

Capture and evaluate existing systems (local, state, and national) to identify the methodology and operational issues that directly affect fire and rescue functions

Provide interface with other disciplines involved in response and mitigation

Maintain compatibility with federal efforts related to or required by the National Incident management (NIMS) and the National Response Plan (NRP).

Include the capability to expand to other allied and affiliated organizations that participate in disaster response

Work to gain consensus and voluntary compliance

On day two the group then spent

some time identifying the key issues and the factors that would need to be overcome as part of the solution. In the end, the group identified six key issues that they will each take back to their respective working groups for suggestions and possible solutions.

1) Validate the use of a national point of contact for interstate deployments, as well as who will monitor and support the system. (EMAC, NIFC, etc.) The Western Division will be the collection point.

2) Establish policies and procedures to enable rapid interstate deployment within 12 hours or less. The Metro Section will be the collection point.

3) Identify the aspects that will make you eligible to participate. (Resource typing, credentialing, interoperability, etc.) The Missouri Valley Division will be the collection point.

4) Determine the best methods to educate the participants on the system, provide training for the components, and guidelines for exercising the system on various levels. The New England Division will be the collection point.

5) Determine the linkages with other services that will connect they systems together. The Southeastern Division will be the collection point.

6) Determine who will be responsible to fund the development, monitoring, and support of the system. The Great Lakes Division will be the collection point.

The identified information was gathered and forwarded to the IAFC for use of the MASTF Committee.

The last meeting of MASTF was held during the Fire Rescue Med Conference in Las Vegas, NV. The group had two very productive days. FEMA is now sponsor of the project. A paper is on the way to the IAFC Board of Directors for their May meeting. The information will then appear on the IAFC website.

Each state of the MVD is participating in this project. Our deliverables were very useful for the committee. □

Missouri Valley Division Members Participate in I-Codes

Four members of the Missouri Valley Division recently participated in a meeting of the International Code Council (ICC) Midwest Code Action Committee (CAC). The purpose of the meeting was to develop code change proposals for the 2009 edition of the International Codes. The meeting was held in St. Louis, MO on February 2-3, 2006.

Attending on behalf of the Missouri Valley Division were: Gerald Ambrosecchia, fire marshal for the West Overland (MO) Fire Protection District; Jerry Cloin, fire marshal for the Rock Community (MO) Fire Protection District; Roger Jensen, fire marshal for the Iowa City (IA) Fire Department; and Marc Sampson, fire marshal for the Longmont (CO) Fire Department.

The Midwest CAC is one of four regional code action committees created under a joint venture of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the National Association of State Fire Marshals and the ICC. The ICC's Fire Service Joint Review Committee coordinates for proposals developed by the regional CAC's before submitting them to the ICC for further consideration.

Through the CAC's and the Joint Fire Service Review Committee, the International Association of Fire Chiefs has greater access and influence than any other code development system. In addition to participating on the CAC's and Joint Fire Service Review Committee, the ICC encourages individual IAFC members to become members and participate in the code development hearings.

Fire departments can become Governmental Members of the ICC whether their building department is already a member or not.

Information on becoming a Governmental Member of the ICC is available at www.iccsafe.org. At the website, the ICC is offering a free trial copy of the International Codes along with free Fire Code Inspector's Guide, both with no obligation. Visit www.iccsafe.org/iafcn to download the I-Codes and Guide, and to learn more about all the invaluable benefits of ICC membership. Call 1-888-ICC-SAFE (422-7233), x33804 with questions (REF 99-05-271). □

The Colorado Fire Mechanics' Association
proudly announces our
17th Annual Emergency Vehicle Maintenance Academy
July 31st-August 4th, 2006

Once again the Academy will be co-hosted by the Alms Community College in Greeley, Colorado, the Union Colony Fire Department, and the Colorado Fire Mechanics' Association.

Greeley, Colorado is located on the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains just east of Rocky Mountain National Park. Denver is one hour to the south and Cheyenne, Wyoming about an hour to the north by car.

The classes offered herein are designed to provide current information for maintenance, service, and repair of today's Emergency Vehicles and equipment.

Registration deadline is June 30, 2006.

For additional information contact us at:

President & Financial Info: Jay Powell 720-865-3850
 Academy Coordinator: Larry Thompson 303-659-4101
 Asst. Academy Coordinator: Brett Dorland 970-213-3495
 E-mail k.roland@ssss.com Secretary
 Visit our web page WWW.CO-FMA.COM

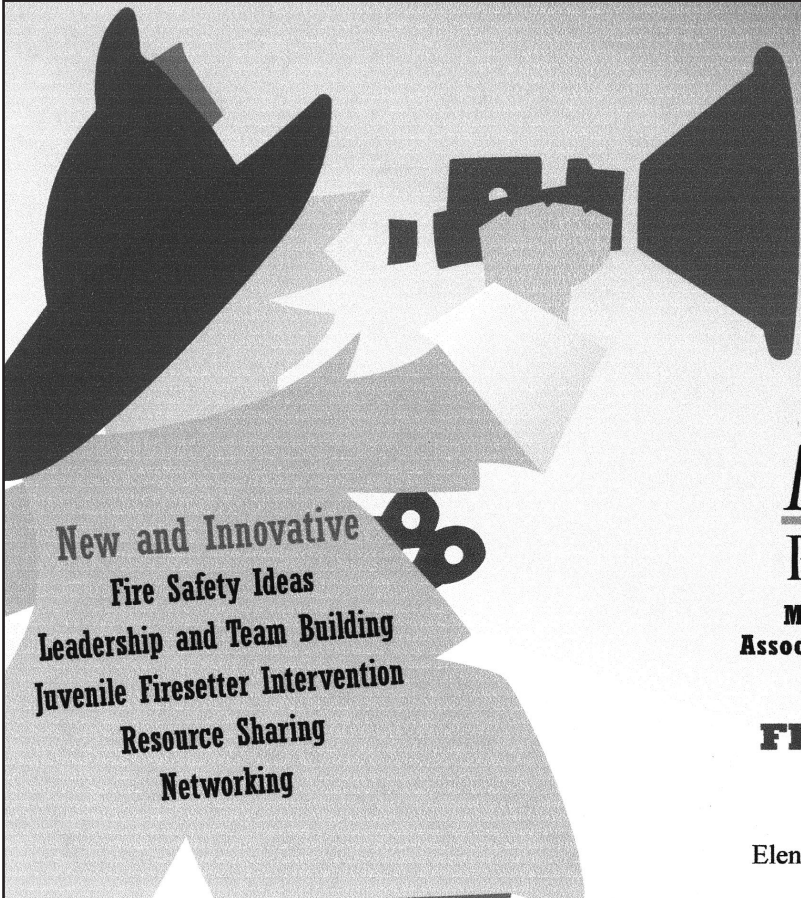
NEW MEMBERS

A BIG WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

- Dennis Hohl -Florissant, MO
- Matthew La Vancht-Bridgeton, MO
- Jim Fritz -Saint Louis, MO
- Dean Buffington -Fulton, MO
- Patrica Head -Bolivar, MO
- Brad Henson-Olathe, KS
- Tom Pedigo -Thornton, CO
- James Krohse-Johnston, IA
- Richard Zimmerman -DesMoines, IA
- Reylon Meeks -Plesant Hill, IA
- Michael Siegel -Fenton, MO
- Gene Shepherd - Kansas City, MO
- Dean Hefti -Columbus, NE
- Norm Rooker -Ouray, CO
- Mark Gan -Saint Peters, MO
- Joe Giudicessi -Des Moines, IA
- Steven Mitchell -Cedar Falls, IA
- William Jones -Perryville, MO
- Jerry Snyder-Manhattan, KS
- Anthony Buckland -Topeka, KS
- Mark Stevens -LaVista, NE
- Randall Mirowski -Fort Collins, CO

Missouri Valley Division
P.O. Box 80003
Lincoln, NE 68501

PRSR STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LINCOLN, NE
PERMIT NO. 1147



Save These Dates!
June 13-15, 2006
Historic Eldridge Hotel
Lawrence, Kansas

Extreme
MAKEOVER
PUB ED EDITION

Missouri Valley Division of the International
Association of Fire Chiefs Public Education Section

2006
FIRE, BURN & LIFE SAFETY
CONFERENCE

For more information contact
Elena Nuss at nusse@ksfm.state.ks.us or 785-296-3403.

New and Innovative
Fire Safety Ideas
Leadership and Team Building
Juvenile Firesetter Intervention
Resource Sharing
Networking