



Fire Marshal's Association of Minnesota

POST INDICATOR



Quarterly Newsletter

September 2003

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Bob James

Hello from your FMAM Board members! We hope everyone had a pleasant and safe summer. As we begin focusing on additional fire prevention duties this fall, with the start of school and fire prevention week, I would like to report on the progress the board has made with the management of the association.

As you remember, we all left our last quarterly meeting looking forward with hope and high expectations for what would be in store for FMAM. Using the professional facilitation services of Kevin Fox and Ellen Hatfield, members were able to directly provide input on the current services FMAM is providing, and discuss their ideas on the direction the Association should take in the future. All members that attended the meeting should be commended for the effort and honest feedback they provided to the board. I speak for each of the board members when I say, "Your comments, suggestions, criticisms and response were vital in our effort to meet the future challenges of FMAM".

The results of the meeting were compiled by Mr. Fox, and his summary and

recommendations were used to guide a special meeting of the board this summer. The first and leading task of this meeting was to develop and mission statement for our association. This new mission statement will help us focus the future tasks and direction of the association. The board approved mission statement is:

"Dedicated To Providing Leadership and Resources For Fire Prevention and Life Safety."

After deciding on the mission statement, the board discussed the future direction for the association. To do this, we first developed an operational budget. Since the board has monitored the operational funds and income over many years, it was not difficult to arrive at a yearly budget. The board will review this formal budget annually. Continued evaluation and modification over the years will assist in keeping our dues low and service high. It will also ensure that we continue to look at creative means to fund the association and help to keep members active. Please review the proposed budget and be prepared to provide the board members with your comments at the quarterly meeting.

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We as a board are committed to provide the membership an association with which we are all proud to be affiliated, and are excited to volunteer our efforts in making a difference in each and every community. I'd like to send a special "Thank You" to the board members for the extra hours they provided in developing a strategic direction for the future of FMAM. We look forward to seeing everyone on September 10th.

Bob James

**Fire Marshal's Association of Minnesota
Board Meeting
May 22, 2003**

Present: Bob James, Phil Owens, Robbie Floyd, Butch Gervais, John Powers, Kip LaMotte, George Magdal, and Bill Calder.

President Bob James called the meeting to order at 9:05.

Motion to approve the February 12, 2003 Board meeting minutes by Bill Calder and 2nd by Kip LaMotte, motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

John Powers reported that we have \$21,263.18 minus outstanding expenses. We still have approximately \$9000.00 of unpaid bills for the Code Seminars, \$4800.00 to Jon Nisja. Motion by Robbie Floyd and 2nd by Butch Gervais to approve the treasurer's report, motion passed unanimously.

Membership report from Robbie Floyd is 195 paid members for 2003, and 29 unpaid members from 2002. The board will contact those unpaid members. President James asked to have the Retired and Life members separated but counted. An updated roster will be available at the June 2003 General Membership Meeting.

PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT:

Bill Calder reported that the Hennepin County Juvenile Fire Prevention Program has been discontinued due to budget cuts. Hennepin County had been funding the program coordinated by Minneapolis Fire.

The MSFCA Public Education Group is accepting nominations for awards. Fire Prevention Day at the Minnesota State Fair is August 22, 2003 and is expected to be another success. Fire Prevention week is October 5 – 11, the NFPA slogan this year will be "When Fire Strikes: Get Out! Stay Out!".

Trish Van Pilsum has been working on additional fire safety/education pieces; we want to keep involved with getting those on videotape for our members. We still have some of the previous ones for sale to the members and anyone else interested.

The board discussed how to provide more information to our members on fire safety. Suggestions were using State and National information on Public Education News, Consumer Product Safety, Minnesota Safety Council, Kid's Safety, and Risk Watch updates.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT: No Report.

TRAINING/EDUCAION:

The quarterly meeting in June will be the independent consultant to act as a facilitator for our members to determine what direction the Association should strive for in the future. The intent is to determine what short term and long-term goals we would like to achieve. Create a mission statement that best describes who and what FMAM is.

It will be the each board members responsibility to make sure that the following areas are addresses:

Education – Butch
Public Education – Bill
Information Exchange – George
Legislation – Bob
Budget – John Powers
Certifications – Phil
Codes and Standards local – Vance

Codes and Standards National – Kip
Post Indicator – Robbie

Motion to pay up to \$500.00 for the Independent Consultant to include prep time, facilitator time, and report by Phil Owens and 2nd by Bill Calder, motion passed unanimously.

The board will meet and go over the results of the consultant and bring the final results and board's discussions to the general membership in September.

The new fire code classes are completed and the estimated to have a slight profit.
Other classes: NFPA 13 and 72 was an overwhelming success and the Pyrotechnic class went very well.

LEGISLATION: Nothing to Report.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Inspector 1 and 2 skills tests need to be updated to reflect the adoption of the new fire code, Phil will reconvene the group to make the changes.

Fire Code amendments are completed and will be available at the June general membership meeting.

Motion by Bob James and 2nd by Phil Owens to pay Jon Nisja for the difference between the fire code amendments fees and his code comparison chart, motion passed unanimously.

Merchandise Sales: Butch brought in the beige pullover jackets with the FMAM logo. Motion by Phil Owens and 2nd by John Powers to charge \$38.00 for the jackets, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

The board needs to go through the committee appointments and board assignments and update them.

Bylaw and Constitution Changes will be done next March at the Annual Meeting.

Vance will put together information for future

teaching/instructor contracts.

A budget will be worked on for 2004.

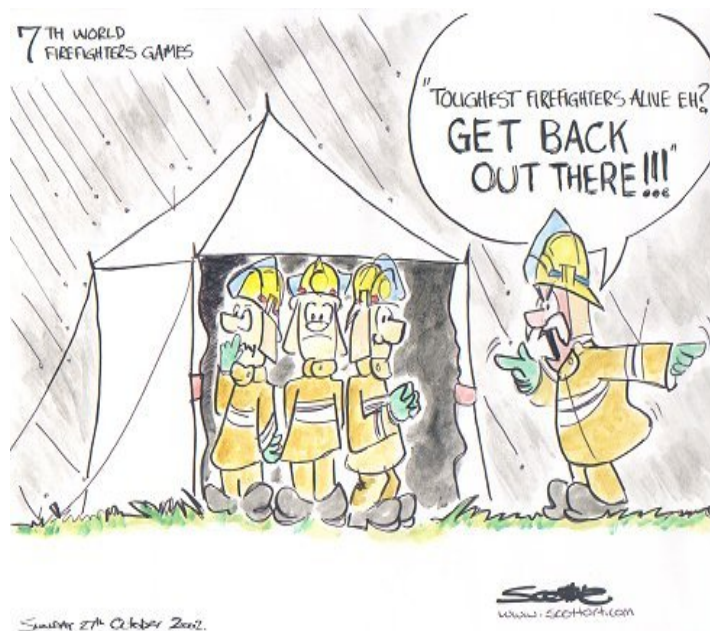
Motion by Butch Gervais and 2nd by Phil Owens for Robbie to purchase Adobe Acrobat 6.0 software to put the Post Indicator in a PDF format, motion passed unanimously.

The \$1000.00 check sent to the MSFCA for the lobbyist in 1999 has not cleared the bank. The board has authorized the check to be cancelled and that old account be closed.

As a non-profit organization we need to have an audit completed, motion by Phil Owens and 2nd by Butch Gervais to have the audit done. When John Powers notify the board on the cost of the audit and receive approval, motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Kip LaMotte and 2nd by Vance Swisher to adjourn, motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 12:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robbie Floyd Secretary



**Fire Marshal's Association of Minnesota
MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2003**

CALL TO ORDER: President Bob James called the meeting to order at 12:30 a.m. at the Bloomington City Hall. Introductions of members were made and a short business meeting will be held prior to planning session.

No motion to approve the March 12, 2003 minutes until next meeting. Membership roster is being passed around, please review and update your information.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

Our newly appointed State Fire Marshal Jerry Rosendahl addressed the members and provided his background information for the members. State Fire Marshal Rosendahl is working with his acquired staff and learning about the State Fire Marshal's Division staffing and budget issues.

Treasurer John Powers informed the members the approximate balance is \$17,408.60 with some outstanding debts. No motion to accept the treasurer's report.

We currently have 195 members and approximately 22 unpaid 2002 members. If your name is missing from the roster you need to see Robbie or John Powers.

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Dan Bernardy is working on Fire Prevention Day at the Fair, August 22, 2003. If you're interested in volunteering contact Dan Bernardy and if you're interested in staffing the FMAM booth contact Bob James. As in previous years FMAM will pay for your parking to staff the FMAM booth.

Risk Watch is having great success; Perham, Minnesota was nationally recognized for their full day event.

Juvenile Fire Setter Conference will be held February 2004 at St. Cloud; mental health will be the emphasis.

**TRAINING AND EDUCATION
COMMITTEE:**

Approximately 300 people, not as many as we hoped, attended the Fire Code Classes. FMAM did make a small profit. Jon Nisja and Rich Pehrson did a great job, thank you both for your hard work and expertise.

President Bob James has received numerous phone calls regarding the NFPA 1124 Standard. He will be putting together a class on 1124 and how it will affect your city, in the next couple of weeks.

Coking under tents at outdoor events was brought up. Rich Pehrson informed the members that the Department of Agriculture has those requirements and on page 50A of the Minnesota State Amendments has more information.

OLD BUSINESS:

Merchandise sales are going well. Anyone interested in purchases the new pullover jackets should see Butch Gervais; the price is \$38.00 no matter what size. We only have a limited supply at this time and we are looking for ideas on what type of clothing the membership wants, so get a hold of Butch.

We still have videos and cds for sales; they're great for public education.

NEW BUSINESS:

FOR THE GOOD OF THE MEMBERSHIP:

The planning session for today is to determine where the members want FMAM to be in the future. Kevin Fox will be our facilitator and guide us through the process. We divided into four smaller groups and then brought the information discussed back to the main body for additional discussion. Kevin will compile all the information from today and send the board a report. The board will meet and go over the report and discuss the finding at the September general membership meeting.

Adjourned at 4:00pm
Respectfully submitted,
Robbie Floyd, Secretary

FMAM Board Retreat

July 30, 2003

Present: Bob James, Phil Owens, Robbie Floyd, Butch Gervais, Kip LaMotte, John Powers, Jerry Rosendahl, Jon Nisja, Bill Calder and George Magdal.

To review and discuss the reports from Kevin Fox from our June membership meeting, the board is meeting to determine what direction the membership wants and complete tasks, such as the mission statement, budget, and set goals.

The board reviewed the Facilitation Report and discussed the findings.

Do we want to actively solicit new members and how that should be accomplished? Various suggested included using the MSFCA and MSFDA regional meetings, conferences, etc.

We also discussed public education and how we wanted to be involved and to what extent.

Define who and what FMAM is and establish a mission statement.

Prepare a 2004 Budget.

It was decided by the board we need to be more visible and get information out to anyone interested on who and what we are. Suggestion being that having informational booths at other conferences such as the League of Minnesota Cities, Minnesota State Fire Chief's, and Minnesota State Fire Department Association.

We would like to have members that attend smaller groups that get together such as East Metro Fire Marshal, North Suburban Fire Marshals, Southern Fire Marshals, etc. bring that information forward to other FMAM members, who's doing what, what else is happening out there, if not at a general membership meeting, put it in the post indicator or on the web site. Or if you're at a regional meeting and something of interest to FMAM comes up, share it.

We want to be able to provide our members with more resources for Public Education. Information on where they can get the tools they need to implement Public Education in their Cities. It was determined

that FMAM is a resource of information and would be beneficial to our members to share. Provide information on the Web Site and in the Post Indicator where you can go to get supplies, informational updates and news, etc.

We want to work with the MSFCA Pub Ed Committee and provide support to them. We do not want to set up conferences or events but we do want to promote them. We need more membership participation in sharing of information: What's working in their city, where they got a good deal on supplies, how to get donations, examples of successful grants, what's free out there, who their contacts are, etc.

When providing classes we may need to look at different locations and times to accommodate out state members and other interested parties.

We need to find out more information on who's who (new people, retired, who's coming and going). We can only get that information from our members.

Mission Statement: Dedicated to Providing Leadership and Resources for Fire Prevention and Life Safety. Motion to accept the mission statement as is by Jon Nisja and 2nd by Bob James, motion passed unanimously. This will be the Mission Statement for FMAM.

The Board did a great deal of discussion, revision, more discussion, and final revision of the 2004 Budget and it will be available at the September Meeting for the members.

The Board went through the committee and board assignments, some changes had to be made, vacant positions etc. Bob James will contact some individual and ask if interested. He will forward a final copy to Robbie.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Robbie Floyd, Secretary

CALIFORNIA ADOPTS NFPA 5000™, BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY CODE™ AND NFPA 1, UNIFORM FIRE CODE™

NFPA codes will serve as basis for statewide model codes

July 30, 2003 – The state of California has adopted model building and fire codes of the nonprofit NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) to protect public safety in the nation's most populous state. The California Building Standards Commission voted last night to adopt NFPA 5000™, Building Construction and Safety Code™ and NFPA 1, Uniform Fire Code™ (NFPA 1, UFC). As a result of the Commission's action, the NFPA codes will provide the basis for the 2004 California Building Code and the 2004 California Fire Code.

"We are pleased that NFPA's model building and fire codes will be an important part of public safety in California," said James M. Shannon, president and CEO of the NFPA. "In addition to the codes themselves, we are committed to providing quality support services that will aid the state in the transition to these updated model codes."

The California state fire marshal recommended the adoption of NFPA 5000 and NFPA 1, UFC after determining that NFPA codes would provide California with "higher levels of safety" than would building and fire codes developed by the International Code Council (ICC). The state fire marshal's office had conducted a detailed and extensive review of the building and fire codes developed by NFPA and ICC. That review pointed to specific code provisions and NFPA's consensus-based code development process as key reasons that California should use NFPA's model codes.

The fire marshal's report indicated that NFPA's process for developing the building and fire codes, "...has led to the promulgation of codes that our technical review has found to be superior with respect to the protection of public safety." NFPA's codes were also supported by the California Fire Chiefs Association, and the California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association, along with numerous other groups.

NFPA 5000 and NFPA 1, UFC are elements of the Comprehensive Consensus Codes (C3) set—the first

set of construction-related codes developed through processes accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The C3 set also includes the Uniform Plumbing Code™ and Uniform Mechanical Code™, developed by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials. NFPA facilitates the development of more than 300 building, fire, electrical and life safety codes and standards. More than 6500 volunteers serve on NFPA technical committees, writing NFPA model codes, standards, and recommended practices.

For this and other NFPA Headlines, please visit <http://www.nfpa.org/PressRoom/index.asp>.

NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating scientifically-based consensus codes and standards, research, training and education. Visit NFPA's Web site at www.nfpa.org.

Contact: Margie Coloian (mcoloian@nfpa.org), NFPA Public Affairs Office: +1-617-984-7275.

off the mark by Mark Parisi
www.offthemark.com



DEATH TOLL DOWN MORE THAN HALF SINCE 1977

August 11, 2003 - The number of people who died in home fires dropped an exceptional 14.1 percent last year compared to 2001, according to the annual report on fire loss by the NFPA (National Fire Protection Association). The NFPA study found that 2,670 people died in home fires in 2002, the lowest number that NFPA has ever recorded.

The latest results continue a decades-long trend toward safer homes. The home fire death toll in 2002 was 54 percent lower than in 1977 when comparable statistics were first developed. The reduction is especially significant because home is where one is most likely to die in a fire: Four out of five fire deaths occur in the home.

"We can thank fire professionals around the country who have worked to protect and educate the public," said John R. Hall, Ph.D., NFPA's assistant vice president for fire analysis and research, "and we can congratulate each other for our collective progress in choosing fire safety."

The NFPA analyzed survey results from 3,460 fire departments in the United States. The study found that 1.69 million fires were reported to America's 30,000+ fire departments in 2002, a decrease of 2.7 percent from 2001. About half the fires occurred outside, 30 percent in structures and 20 percent in vehicles.

Among the structure fires, three out of four happened in homes—that is, one- and two-family dwellings and apartments. Home fires were also responsible for 79 percent of total civilian fire deaths. Overall, there were 3,380 civilian fire deaths in 2002, a decrease of 9.8 percent from the previous year, exclusive of fires connected to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. ("Civilian" refers to anyone who is not a firefighter.) Nationwide in 2002, a fire department responded to a fire every 19 seconds, and a civilian died in a fire every 2½ hours.

"These statistics show that we have learned the lessons of fire safety, and hundreds of our friends and loved ones are alive as a result," Hall said. "But there is even more we can and must do, so that everyone complies with codes and standards, buys safe products and knows how to use them safely, makes sure homes have working smoke alarms, and practices home escape plans. And many lives could be saved if more homes were equipped with sprinkler systems."

Not only did fewer people die in fires in 2002, but fewer were injured. There were 18,425 civilian injuries in fires, a decrease of 9.2 percent from 2001 and the lowest number since 1977. Three-quarters of these injuries occurred in homes. Fire also caused an estimated \$10.3 billion in direct property damage, a decrease of 2.2 percent (excluding the events of Sept. 11). More than half the total property loss also occurred in homes.

A condensed version of the NFPA report, Fire Loss in the United States During 2002, also has information on intentionally set fires and can be obtained by logging on to <http://www.nfpa.org/Research/OneStopDataShop/OneStopDataShop.asp>.

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FIRE MARSHALS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

Fire Code Amendments

ORDER FORM

The Fire Marshal Association of Minnesota (FMAM) is printing the State Fire Code Amendments in conjunction with the adoption of the 2003 Minnesota State Fire Code. This publication includes the state fire code rules (i.e. state amendments), applicable fire protection statutes, code effective dates, and other helpful information (informal interpretations and application of the provisions).

These amendments are available in two formats:

- Insertable/loose-leaf – 7-hole punched for inserting into the appropriate location in the loose-leaf International Fire Code®.
- Bound – stand alone copy of the amendments.

Either Version is available for \$10.00 each from the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota.

Make the checks payable to: Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota

Mail to:

Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota
678 Pinewood Drive
St. Paul, MN 55126-4749

Detach and Mail

Please send me the following sets of the Minnesota State Fire Code – 2003 Amendments:

↑ Quantity: ___ Loose-leaf / insertable format - \$10.00 each \$ _____

↑ Quantity: ___ Bound version - \$10.00 each \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name: _____

Organization/Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Meeting
September 10, 2003
12:30pm
Bloomington Fire Station

Education:
Storage, handling and use of alcohol based hand sanitizers in
Institutional Occupancies

Membership Meeting to Follow