



“Challenging Fire in America for 25 Years”

NETCLAC31

***This 25th Anniversary
Commemorative Booklet is
dedicated to all the past and
present employees of the
United States Fire Administration.***

***....many have come and many have
gone; some of us remain.....***



Did you know that...



The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 originally established the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration (now the USFA) as an agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce!



Among the key events leading to the creation of the United States Fire Administration were the enactment of the Fire Research and Safety Act of 1968, the America Burning Report from the National Commission on Fire Prevention & Control issued in May 1973, and the enactment of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974.



The name of the first campus of the National Fire Academy was Marjorie Webster College. It was never permanently occupied. It was purchased for \$2,500,000 and sold for \$1 to Galludet College through a Congressional action.



The Emmitsburg campus was purchased on March 6, 1979 for \$3,514,000. The campus was formerly known as St. Joseph College.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE FIRE ADMINISTRATION

by Joe Clark

Note: Joe Clark was the first Acting U.S. Fire Administrator. He served from November 1974 until August 1975 when the first permanent Administrator was appointed. Joe Clark wrote this piece on the early history of the Fire Administration on October 8, 1998.

Pre- 1974

In the 1950's there was considerable media coverage of several deaths and injuries due to flammable clothing, with national publicity on brushed rayon "torch sweaters". In response Congress passed "The Flammable Fabrics Act" in 1953, which restricted interstate commerce in specific types of highly flammable clothing. This began to raise the awareness in fire safety Nationwide.

In 1955 the National Academy of Sciences established the Committee on Fire Research, which continued until 1978. The Committee made many recommendations in the area of needed solutions to various fire research problems, many of which were undertaken by the National Bureau of Standards (NBS). By the early 1960's NBS had requested more funding for fire research, but Congress would not fund significant expansion. In 1966, NBS relocated from Connecticut & Van Ness to Gaithersburg, MD, and increased their research efforts on building fires, and flammability of various materials. NBS (now known as NIST, the National Institute for Standards and Technology) had been doing fire safety research since its founding in 1901.

During the 1960's a fire in California destroyed over 600 buildings; the six days of televised fires as the results of riots in Los Angeles; and 1967 fires from riots in many of the Nation's large cities focused attention on the hardships endured by the firefighters. All were widely covered in the national media and further raised public awareness of fire safety and the needs of the firefighting community.

The fire services made their voices heard in Congress which led to the passage of "The Fire Research and Safety Act of 1968." This act established the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, which published "America Burning," in 1973. During the same period, in 1969, President Johnson and Congress joined to amend the Flammable Fabrics Act; the amendment strengthened coverage on flammable fabrics and gave research authority to the Department of Commerce and NBS, data gathering authority to HHS, and regulatory authority to the Federal Trade Commission.

Autumn 1974

"America Burning" served as a strong motivating influence in the fire service community and generated a nationwide effort to reexamine fire issues. This culminated in President Ford's signing of "The Fire Prevention and Control Act", Public Law 93-498, on October 29, 1974. On October 30, 1974, Secretary of Commerce Fred Dent, called me into his office (I had been working on passage of the Act) and asked me to serve as Acting Administrator, a job I held until August 1975. The next day we held a press conference announcing that the agency was established, and I spent an hour answering reporters' questions on the legislation, the politics of fire safety, the technical basis for improving fire safety, and more.

My first request of Secretary Dent was for a budget expert and an attorney. I needed immediate assistance in building the agency "from scratch"; Jim Rita and Joe Moreland were it. The National Fire Prevention and Control Administration, NFPCA, (now known as the U.S. Fire Administration) needed a budget, space, and personnel to start work. We succeeded in transferring the Fire Service Technology Program from NBS to NFPCA, and began activities to establish programs in training (the National Fire Academy), public education, accident data collection, research and planning.

1975

I traveled throughout the nation speaking to fire groups, and explaining the first steps the Fire Administration would take. I made up a standard set of visual aids and distributed copies of them to local authorities across the nation so they could help spread the word. I got a wonderful reception at each stop. In one town, I was asked to ride down Main Street, in a convertible, waving to folks like a sports hero! The fire community was pleased with the new Agency and proud of their accomplishments.

I began pulling together the first budget and took it to OMB for review. They were concerned that the new Agency would turn into a bottomless reservoir of grants and funds to be passed on. I was told that the Fire Academy would be "a closet at 2400 M Street", our first headquarters. Therefore, only a modest budget (under \$10 million) without the training component, was approved for the first year. Nevertheless we pursued the legislated national search for a Fire Academy site. This culminated in purchase of the Marjorie Webster College campus in D.C. near 16th & Kalmia Streets. Politicking during the next two years resulted in purchase of the St. Joseph's College campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland for the Fire Academy.

1976

The first permanent Administrator, Howard Tipton, was nominated in late 1975 along with the first Deputy Administrator, David Lucht. At that time, both the Administrator and Deputy Administrator were nominated by the President and received Senate confirmation. I believe the first time they met each other was in my office, on the day they began preparations for their Senate confirmation hearing.

Once the Administrator had been confirmed by the Senate, I became head of the Research and Master Planning Division. We became heavily involved in research and technology development that led to the development of viable home smoke detectors and home sprinkler systems, as well as improved breathing apparatus and turnout gear for firefighters. Cooperation with NBS, the National Science Foundation and NASA enabled us to greatly stretch our resources, our knowledge and our impact.

During President Carter's administration, from 1976-1980, the White House gave considerable attention to many state and local problems including fire protection. So we worked with the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP) to leverage our resources further. In 1979, after Gordon Vickery was appointed Administrator, I left the Fire Administration for OSTP. There I worked for the President's Science Advisor, Frank Press, and a group of Governors and Mayors to help solve a set of their key problems including fire protection. This federal-state-local technical cooperation was terminated when President Reagan took office, but re-surfaced briefly at the end of the Bush Administration in 1992.

The Fire Administration, 25 years after its founding, continues to make significant impact on the nation's fire safety problems. I feel proud to have helped at its birth.



Did you know that...



The National Fire Academy's first classes at the Emmitsburg campus began on January 21, 1980. The first classes offered included Educational Methodology with 26 students; Executive Development III with 45 students; and Arson Investigation with 23 students.



The first U.S. Fire Administrator was Howard D. Tipton, appointed in August of 1975. Mr. Tipton, of California, had served as full-time executive director of the America Burning Commission Staff.



The first National Fire Academy Superintendent was David McCormack, appointed in January of 1976. At the time the doors opened on this campus in January of 1980, Dr. B. J. Thompson was the Superintendent.



An alternative to the Emmitsburg site for the National Fire Academy was land on Wards Island just off the northern tip of Manhattan, New York!! There were a total of 269 sites offered nationwide!

***A Message from
Federal Emergency Management
Agency Director
James L. Witt***



Federal Emergency Management Agency

Washington, D.C. 20472

A Message from Federal Emergency Management Agency Director James L. Witt:

October 29, 1999, marks the 25th Anniversary of the signing of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 by President Richard M. Nixon. Since that time, the staff of the United States Fire Administration (USFA) and its predecessor, the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration, have made great strides toward reducing the injuries and loss of life and property due to fire.

As an integral part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), USFA serves as the Federal focal point for fire prevention and control activities. The USFA's fire prevention and public fire safety education, arson prevention, fire safety research, data collection and analysis, and training and education programs have become an important part of FEMA's efforts to make our Nation's communities more disaster-resistant. USFA works with governmental and volunteer organizations, and private industry, at all levels to maximize available resources and continue to reduce the loss of life and property due to fire.

I congratulate the past and present USFA staff on behalf of all the people who have benefited from their efforts in the areas of fire prevention and control. While much continues to be done, much has already been accomplished through their dedication and devotion to duty. May the first 25 years be the catalyst to continue leaping forward and making a positive impact on the fire problem.

Sincerely,

James L. Witt
Director



Did you know that...



The oldest known photo (actually needlepoint) of the campus is in Bassett Hall at Williamsburg, Virginia. Bassett Hall was the residence of the Rockefeller's during the early restoration of Williamsburg. Inside the Parlor at Bassett Hall, the needle stitching title proudly proclaims "St. Joseph near Emmittsburg - 1806" (Note that the town had 2 T's in its name until 1906)



Voice mail was established on campus in the Spring of 1996.



The Learning Resource Center collection exceeds 50,000 books, reports, magazines, audiovisual materials, etc.



The Hotel/Motel Fire Safety Act of 1990 dramatically improved fire safety in America's Hotels and Motels.



The 1st USFA Web Page was launched in November of 1995.



The 1st EENET Broadcast from the NETC campus was in April of 1988.

***Messages from U.S.
Fire Administration
Senior Staff***

***....the last 25 years;
the next 25 years....***



Federal Emergency Management Agency
United States Fire Administration
Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727



A Message from United States Fire Administrator Carrye Burley Brown:

On October 29, 1974, the legislation that created the United States Fire Administration (USFA) became public law. This was the culmination of years of intense work by a diverse group of fire service organizations and the fire service community that had dared to dream about a Federal focus to fire prevention and control.

I am pleased to be the 12th Administrator/Acting Administrator and to work in partnership with the fire/emergency service community to make our Nation a more fire safe place in which to live and work. I am also proud that on October 26, 1999, I began my 66th month as Administrator, which makes me number one in length of service.

The partnership between USFA and the fire community has been successful in reducing fire losses nationwide. On this our 25th Anniversary, we wish to reaffirm our commitment to provide programs and services that are of the highest quality and will meet the needs of the Nation's fire and emergency services personnel and the American people. I thank all of those who have made contributions to USFA's 25 years of success and we are committed to continuing this record of success into the new millennium.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carrye Burley Brown".

Carrye Burley Brown
U. S. Fire Administrator

The U.S. Fire Administration is poised, on this the dawn of the new millennia, to have a significant impact on the fire problem of our Nation. Federal Emergency Management Agency Director James Lee Witt has made strengthening the USFA for the new millennia both a personal and organizational goal. Congress has also made known its wishes to strengthen the USFA in supporting Director Witt's budget initiatives for the Fire Administration. Their support, as well as the support of the Nation's fire service bodes well for USFA's future.

The establishment of a Chief Operating Officer for the USFA by Director Witt is a significant first step in providing continuity of leadership for the future. In accepting the position of Chief Operating Officer, I bring 23 years of fire service experience, as well as a unique perspective, to the direction of this agency. My vision is to bring about an integration of the Fire Administration into other FEMA programs and activities. Through this integration, the USFA will become the focal point for the Federal fire initiatives. I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for the USFA and join with each member of the USFA in pledging our support and untiring efforts to reduce the tragic loss of life and property in our country as a result of fire and disaster.

*Ken Burris
Chief Operating Officer*

One of the interesting ways to contemplate the future is to look at past journeys. Sixty or so years ago, there were fire departments basking in the accolades of their colleagues because they had fully motorized apparatus—the horses were gone. It was within my career that wearing an SCBA went from questioning your firefighting ability if you wore one, to questioning your sanity if you didn't. In the early 1980's many fire departments were wearing T-shirts while washing hazardous materials down sewers. Training requirements, EMS, terrorism, community risk reduction, code enforcement, public education, labor/management issues, PPE, liability, legislation and probably more than a hundred other things have and will continue to drive and influence the American Fire Service. The outcomes of that influence are unpredictable, but the one tool you'll need to deal with them is no mystery. It's education.

In some ways, fire chiefs and firefighters in 2025 will be dealing with issues familiar to their year 2000 predecessors; resources, organizational demands, external demands for fire services and two-to-four year changes in government. They'll get the unpleasant problems—the fun issues will already be decided. The education needed to deal with these problems is relatively easy to acquire; it's available today. It is unlikely that there will be a 100% perfect answer to every challenge, but there are processes you can learn that will help you work through solutions.

In other ways, chiefs and firefighters will face brand new issues, and their solutions, good or bad, will be the first ones tried. When they face these challenges, there won't be a process to follow—and they can ill afford to use the old 'try and succeed/fail' methods. They will have to *know how to know*. They'll have to *learn what they don't know*. And the biggest challenge they'll face is *not knowing what they don't know*—dealing with the unpredictable. Read that last sentence again; it is as useful today as it will be twenty-five years from now.

Knowing how to know; and seeking to learn what you don't know is the process of education. It isn't training, it isn't a course or a lecture; it's a journey of disciplined self-discovery. Dealing with the unpredictable will never be easy, but those with an education have a base of discovery techniques that serves them in uncertain times. They know how to know; and discovering what it is 'they don't know they don't know,' is an old familiar path to them.

If there's one thing I can predict for the year 2025, it is that the successful fire chief or firefighter in 2000 or in 2025 will have the same thing in common: education.

Dr. Denis Onieal
Superintendent
National Fire Academy

In looking at the possibilities for the next 25 years, it may be of value to review the accomplishments of the first 25 as a starting point. Sometimes we get so wrapped up in the day-to-day demands of the present that we fail to recognize past accomplishments that should be celebrated—accomplishments of us all. While the progress made in reducing America's fire problem cannot be solely claimed by the United States Fire Administration, there are major parts of those successes in which USFA played significant roles. We've seen the rate of fire deaths in this country cut by more than half, firefighter deaths and injuries reduced significantly, special at-risk populations being addressed with regard to their special needs, a major increase in the educational levels of our fire officers and firefighters, and technological advances that help us continue to reduce our national loss of life to fire.

Did USFA bring about any of these successes by itself? Probably not, but stop and think about how our programs have blended into the overall success of many efforts to achieve these results. As members of FEMA's USFA, you have pushed the fire service to recognize and support higher educational requirements for those seeking to promote to the senior officer ranks. You have been closely involved in the development of technologically advanced fire protection that now reaches into individual homes to improve fire safety. You have supported professionally and personally the effort to bring together numerous segments of a diverse American fire service. You have been a part of great change in America's response to fire.

Very recently we have seen USFA becoming more of a part of this Agency's disaster response effort. The fire service, as this Nation's primary first responder, is a part of the national response and recovery effort for any disaster. Director Witt has promised to make USFA an appropriate part of FEMA's response as well. He is keeping that promise and, in doing so, we will see additional changes to the way we do business and the order of our priorities.

During those first 25 years of USFA involvement in addressing the American fire problem, you dedicated your professional and personal efforts to finding ways to make significant contributions. What will the next 25 years of USFA hold? At holiday parties over the past years we've sometimes read a listing of former USFA staff members. This list is read to recognize those who made contributions to the successes of USFA but have now moved on. Each of these individuals has contributed to our collective success. To each we are grateful. Chances are that during the next 25 you and I will become members of that list.

The next 25? More change? Sure! But the effort to stop suffering and death due to fire will continue and the United States Fire Administration, an integral part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, will continue to make significant contributions to those efforts.

*Steve Hill
Division Director
National Fire Programs*



Did you know that...



In the summer of 1863, during the Civil War, the former St. Joseph College was used to care for wounded soldiers on both sides.



In 1979, all U.S. Fire Administration Staff were located on the 1st floor of Building E—including the Learning Resource Center!



The U.S. Fire Administration was officially removed from the U.S. Department of Commerce and placed with the newly established Federal Emergency Management Agency on April 1, 1979.



Toms Creek was named after “Toms Indians” who were here 250 years ago!



According to past employee Mike Trout, there are eight different kinds of fish in Toms Creek. They are: Trout, Sucker, Bass, Catfish, Carp, Fall, Walleye, and Crappie.



O’Leary’s Emporium opened on January 9, 1984.

***United States Fire Administration
Staff Listing***

1974 – 1999

**United States Fire Administration Staff
1974 – 1999**

Cynthia Adams	Retsy Adelsberger	James Ahern
Carolyn Alderman	Larry Allen	Phineas Anderson
Walter Anthony	Herbert Antzes	Joe Bachtler
Thomas Baileys	Ralph Baker	Mary Baldwin
Mary Bare	Gerry Bassett	Don Bathurst
Patricia Baughman	Charlotte Beal Mandragos	Nancy Beauchamp
Donald Begg	Kim Benjamin	Anne Bergner
Jeanie Berner	Jeanne Berner	Carol Berry
Tom Berry	Joe Bertoni	Megan Carroll Beyer
Polly Birdsall	Bill Blair	Greg Blair
Lou Bloom	Eric Blum	Chuck Boehne
Rosie Bollinger	Genhi Bollinger	Carol Bouma
Jo Ann Boyd	William Boyd, Jr.	Tom Bradley
Kevin Brady	Clyde Bragdon	Carolyn Brasswell
Thomas Brennan	John Brenner	Richard Brenner
Romey Brooks	Cathy Broughton	Carrye Brown
Laura Buchbinder	Al Burke	Chuck Burkell
Bonnie Butler	Tim Butters	Vic Buyny
Michele Carley	Gene Carlson	Bob Carpenter
Loretta Carpenter	Holly Carter	Kathleen Carter
James Casey	Iris Cheatum	Adele Chiesa
Burt Clark	Joseph Clark	Trina Clever
Diane Close	John Cochran	Harold Collins
Doug Cook	Louis Cool	Susie Cooper
John Corcorran	Dan Cosgrove	Deb Coshun
Jim Covington	James Coyle	Jim Craig
Melanie Crampton	Jim Crawford	Mary Crilley
Tim Crilley	James Criswell	Dennis Crosby
Lou Cuneo	Anne Currier Fabyan	Jane D'Amico
Donald Dahlquist	James Dalton	Jack Daniels
Agnes Daniels	Julie Davis	Frank Davis

Roxane Deardorff	Ted Delozier	Julie DeMarr
Dave Denne	Bill Denton	Teresa Dingle
Dora Donaldson	Joe Donovan	Elizabeth Dorsey
Sue Downin	Beverly Driver	Pauline Drury
Carole Dunaway	Ross Duncan	Jeff Dyar
Becky Eiker	Mary Ellis	David Endicott
Rose Ensor	Doris Face	Ronald Face, Jr.
Phyllis Fadeley	Denise Fair	John Fannin
Michael Fay	James Feld	John Ferguson
Paul Flannigan	Dorothy Flemings	Wendy Forbis
Gene Fortrell	Anne Foster	Robert Frank
Geraldine Fristrom	Mary Furlong	Alexandra Furr
Sophia Galifaro	Paul Gallagher	Timothy Ganley
Tom Gardner	Clarita Gavin	George Geralis
Stacey Gerard	Kathleen Gerstner	Andrew Giglio
Debbie Gioia	Terry Gladden	Terry Gladhill
Joyce Glass	Terry Glunt	Annie Gordon
John Gott	Joseph Gott	Karen Graff
Anthony "Chick" Granito	Tom Green	Olin Green
James Greene	Alan Greenwald	Jim Grinder
Bill Grom	Maury Grundy	Paul Gunther
Edwin Hackett	Karen Haines	John Hall
Linda Hall	Norie Hamilton	Dorothy Hamilton
Bill Hanbury	Eileen Harrison	Noel Hart
John Hart	Ed Hartin	Marlene Hatterman
Marlene Hattermann	Tom Hawkins	James Heeschen
Colleen Heilig	Jean Heims	Susan Hernandez
William Hertel	Kim Hildebrand	Steve Hill
Tom Hirt	Bruce Hisley	Barbara Hixon
Dan Hladio	Pat Hobbs	Clay Hollister
Wayne Hooper	Daniel Hooper	Norman Horn
William Horwath	Kimberly Howard	Tom Hughes
Cheryl Hungerford	Millie Hunt	Linda Hurley

Jane Huwig	Lucien Imundi	Ken Isman
Michelle Jackson	William Jacobs	Juanita Jiles
Bennie Johnson	Richard Johnson	Grace Jones
Melvin Jones	Lee Joy	Perry Joy
Teressa Kaas	Charlotte Kahn	Diane Kane
Edward Kaplan	Linda Kaplan	Richard Katz
Sue Kauffman	Tom Kazykynas	Veronica Keane
Karen Keefer	Vernon Keilholtz	Pamela Kemenyas
Richard Kemenyas	Robert Kemp	Garry Kennedy
Ann Killillay	John Kimball	Ralph King
Albert Kirchner	George Kitchen	Tom Klem
Richard Knott	Robert Kraft	Phyllis Krietz
Jan Kuczma	Joe Kuhn	Tonya Kuhn-McClain
Kenneth Kuntz	Chuck Lakin	Cathy Lambert Wivell
Roger Lanahan	Roger Land	Arlene Lawson
Don LeBlanc	Mary Leonard	Mary Leslie
Marla Levine	Sherry Levy	Andy Levy
Bill Lewis	Peggy Linden	Wayne Lingg
Maureen Linthicum	Martin Lively	Kim Logue
Wayne Long	Tonya Long	David Loughrey
Steven Lowe	David Lucht	Barbara Lundquist
Dave Lurty	John Lynch	Robert Lynch
Lisa Makar	Peg Maloy Dunnigan	Don Manno
Steve Marini	Richard Marinucci	Howard Markman
Leonard Marks	Sally Marr	Bruce Marshall
Dave Martin	Larry Maruskin	Joe Massa
Wanda Mathias	Linda Matticks	Tim May
Rose McAllister	Robert McCarthy	Dave McCormack
Bryan McCreary	Ed McDonald	Michael McDonald
Bradley McGroantz	John McKay	Paula McMann Ayers
James McNeill	Jeryl McRae Jackson	Alice Megles
Glen Merback	Marjean Meyer	Beth Miller
Thomas Minnich	Gerald Mitchell	Mike Mitchell

Myrna Mood	Joe Moreland	Jeff Morrisette
James Mullen	Robert Mumma	Kenneth Mumma
Robert Murgallis	Louis Murphy	Kathy Myers
Laura Ness	Bill Neville	James Newby
Virginia Nocon	Tim O'Dowd	Mike Olsen
Denis Onieal	Marilyn Osborn	John Ott
Richard Ott	John Ottoson	Bill Overbey
Dennis Ozment	Brad Pabody	Noel Padden
Victor Palumbo	Barbara Patasce	Bill Patterson
Guy Patterson	Ken Pauken	Frank Payne
Rita Pennington	Carolyn Perroni	Ray Perry
Cheryl Phelan	James Phelan	John Pickett
Bruce Piringer	Tom Pitotti	Rose Poole
Pam Powell	Wayne Powell	Ed Prendergast
John Price	Delores Quesinberry	Kristy Reh Young
Joan Revak	Mark Richards	John Rickard
Betty Riffle	Virginia Riley	Jim Rita
William Rock	Ed Rollins	Gloria Ross
Caesar Roy	Rebecca Ryan	Gordon Sachs
Steve Sachs	Walter Satterfield	Jim Scala
Philip Schaenman	Carl Schram	Debbie Schribner
Susan Schulman	Andy Sears	Scott Sedar
William Seifried	Duncan Sells	Mary Sergeant
Karen Setz	Carol Shaeben	Rima Shaeffer-Myer
Carol Shannon	Kay Shaw	Harry Shaw
Cheryl Shew	Beverly Shockey	Fred Shriner
Charlie Sickle	Fred Singer	Sharon Skeels
Esther Slemmer	Jim Smalley	William Smith
Janet Smith	Tom Smith	Debbie Smith
Juanda Smith	David Snyder	Merril Sollenberger
Sue Soper	Jane Sorenberger DeKay	Nita Spielberg
Dorothea St. John	Lorraine Staufenberg	Cheri Steffeck
Frank Steiner	Sandra Steinhorn	Paul Stern

Al Stevens	Stanford Stewart	Bob Stewart
Gloria Stine	Ed Stinette	Nancy Stone
Sandy Storms	Ann Stratton	Richard Strother
Ron Sweeney	Ann Swing-Kelly	Mary Lou Terpstra Doyle
Barry Thoma	Jan Thomas	B.J. Thompson
Howard Tipton	Rhonda Toms	Susan Topper
Henry Tovey	Peg Tranen	Ken Travers
William Troup	Michael Trout	Helen Troxell
Mae Tucker	Katherine Tunney	John Turley
Mary Underwood	Jim Upperman	Sue Urban
Denny Vaughn	Barbara Vaughn	Darlyn Vestal
Gordon Vickery	Fred Villella	Lillian Virgil
Anita Vollmer	Carol Vougugolis	Ed Wall
Harry Walsh	Mary Walter	Tammy Ware
Dawn Warehime	Harold Washington	Chris Waters
Paul Watson	Joe Weakland	Angela Weathers
Michelle Weaver	Robert Weiderhold	Herman Weisman
Karen Wells	Bill Westhoff	George Wetherington
Clarence White	Joe White	Tom E. White
Kirby White	Debbie Wiles	Shirley Williams
Doug Williams	Sarah Williams	Elizabeth Willis
Sharon Wilson	Mary Wingert	Cindy Wivell
Hugh Wood	Tom Wright	Alta Wright
Shirley Wright	Randi Yates	Danny Young

Although the compilation of this list has been as thorough as possible, we recognize that some may have been missed. The efforts of all USFA staff members, past and present, are appreciated, and we apologize if someone's name has been omitted.



Did you know that...



Public Law 95-422 provided that the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration name be changed to the United States Fire Administration in October of 1978.



Don Begg designed the Fallen Firefighter monument. Richard Johnson was instrumental in the planning for the 1st Fallen Firefighter Memorial event in 1981.



In 1979, all activities were handled by government employees – there were no contractors; even the facility maintenance was performed by government employees!



The first Acting Director of FEMA was Gordon Vickery of Seattle, Washington. Gordon Vickery was the U.S. Fire Administrator at the time as well.



The National Fire Academy Superintendent with the shortest tenure of less than one month was Ray Perry. Ray was Acting Superintendent in June of 1979.

The Circle of Oaks

***The History of the Indian Burial
Ground located behind Building J.***

Circle of Oaks

Long before the white man came to the Monocacy Valley the Susquehanna and the Conewaugha Indians, the least warlike of the five Great Tribes of the Iroquois, roamed its fields, fished its streams and hunted in the dense forests covering the Catocin spur of the Blue Ridge mountains.

The Conewaughas moved westward but the Susquehannas stayed in the valley and the smoke of their camp fires by day and their signal fires by night were plainly visible to the scouts who watched friend and foe from the Indian Lookout at the top of the mountain. On the banks of Tom's Creek, a tributary of the Monocacy, dwelt a portion of the tribe ruled by Chief Ottowanta, a brave and fearless warrior but a gentle and kindly man. Here, with his squaw, six stalwart sons and a daughter, the chieftain lived and ruled the destinies of his people wisely and well.

It is said that sometime after the Jesuit, Father White, landed with the first colonists in Southern Maryland in 1634, some of his fellow-priests traveled through the western part of the State and up through Pennsylvania and New York in missionary activities among the Indians.

Telling the Indians the story of Christ and His Mother, Mary, he stirred their interest, their confidence and their faith. Ottowanta and his people were baptized before the coming of the snows.

A hard winter and a great sickness ravaged the Indian villages in the Monocacy Valley, and Ottowanta's was not spared. One by one, the plague carried off his six sons, his daughter and his wife, and Ottowanta buried each in the clearing at the top of a small hill above the creek where the missionary had erected a tall cross. At the head and foot of each grave, as was the Indian custom, the Chief planted a young oak tree. Eight graves and 16 young oak trees now encircled the clearing—a living memorial to his beloved dead.

The Circle of Oaks is located high up on the bank of Tom's Creek, between Building J of the National Fire Academy and Route 15. A gravel path skirting the field leads the way to the spot. Thirteen trees now make up the circle. Daffodils and jonquils and other flowers rim the area, placed there by the Daughters of Charity.

Many times, so the legend says, as he climbed the hill to the clearing, the memory of the missionary's teaching returned to Ottowanta, of the Land of Promise, where Christ and His Mother waited to welcome His Indian children came to his mind. He longed for his day of release from his lonely life on earth.

One night, according to the legend, as the Chief prayed to Mary and told her of his sorrows, a soft light suffused the darkness and a beautiful lady stood, smiling gently at him and beckoning him close to her side. She spoke these words in a silver cadence:

*Where now the stag and prowling panther lead
A glittering convent spire shall pierce the skies.
At early morn, at noon, at eve my praise
Shall rise to heaven in fervent loving lays,
Where now the wild flowers to the breeze incline
My children oft shall gather round my shrine.
Yon rugged peak my name shall bear
A temple to my praise shall flourish there;
Whence mitred heads and Levites shall go forth
To bear the torch of faith o'er all the earth
Yes, here where oft my Indian child has knelt
And poured into my heart the woes he felt
I here shall become, the Lily of the Vale
A lily fair, when other flowers are pale
The honored Queen, the Blossom of the Field
I here shall be, all hearts to me shall yield.*

Before many moons had passed, Ottowanta sickened and died and was laid to rest in the clearing where stood the tall cross surrounded by the graves of his dear ones. Ottowanta had come home at last. (The cross is not at the Circle of Oaks at present.)

The size of some of the trees puts their age at more than 250 years, though several of them may be more recent replacements. A statue of the supposed vision of the Lady of the Field was erected in 1900 but has since been removed.



Did you know that...



There is a time capsule in the "Widow's Walk" on the roof of Building N? Inside the capsule there are photographs, pieces of currency, and campus literature. The items were placed there in 1997.



On February 4, 1998, the NETC Chapel was dedicated as the *Chief A. Marvin Gibbons National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Chapel*.



The U.S. Fire Administration sponsored the first Harvard Fellowship Program in the Summer of 1984. The Executive Fire Officer Program was created in 1985.



In 1996 there were 3 consecutive government shutdowns!



The 1st Food Service Vendor on campus was the Marriott Corporation. Today's vendor, Guest Services, has been at NETC since October 1994.



The Senior Executive Policy Center was established in 1985 in Building L. Former President Ford was on hand to cut the dedication ribbon.

***A Listing of National Emergency
Training Center Personnel who
have gone on before.....***

**National Emergency Training Center
Personnel Who Have Gone on Before**

Rich Adams
Paula McMann Ayers
Brian Bergstrahl
Jean Bolton
Jim Covington
Suzanne Faulkner
William Hanbury
Dan Hladio
Jerry Horner
Ann Kililliy
Rich Knott
John LaBarr
Chuck Lakin
Roger Lanahan
Wayne Lingg
Jim Mullen
Guy Patterson
Alex Perisada
Jim Rita
William Rock
Allen Ruffin
Carol Schaben
William Seifried
Roger Stemply
Gordon Vickery
Gene Weatherly
Wally Weaver
Edna Zimmerman



Did you know that...



The first buses for student transportation were retired from the Washington National Zoo AND had animals painted on the sides!



The Fallen Firefighters Memorial was dedicated on campus on October 4, 1981. The Fire Administration Authorization Act of 1992 established the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.



The Stone House, originally located next to Building G, was the first site of St. Joseph College and was started by Sister Elizabeth Ann Seton in 1809. The house was moved next door to the Daughter's of Charity in 1979.



The U.S. Fire Administration and the National Fire Academy were organizationally and programmatically separated in 1980 and remained so until 1991.



Building O – Chapel is the oldest building on campus, dating back to 1839. Building I – Warehouse is the newest building on campus, having been completed in 1996.

***A Listing of the Six Official
U.S. Fire Administrators***

...and...

***A Listing of the Six Official
National Fire Academy
Superintendents***

SO WHO'S BEEN RUNNING THE PLACE FOR THE PAST 25 YEARS??

United States Fire Administrators:

Howard D. Tipton	August 1975 – October 1, 1978
Gordon Vickery	March 1, 1979 – January 1981
Dr. B. J. Thompson	November 1981 – September 1982
Clyde A. Bragdon	June 20, 1984 – November 1989
Olin L. Greene	July 1990 – January 1993
Carrye B. Brown	May 1994 – Present

National Fire Academy Superintendents:

David M. McCormack	January, 1976 – December 1978
Dr. B. J. Thompson	January 1980 – July 1981
Joseph L. Donovan	January 1982 – July 1986
William M. Neville	December 1986 – July 1988
Albert G. Kirchner, Jr.	June 1991 – January 1993
Dr. Denis Onieal	July 1995 – Present

Note: There have been many Acting Administrators and Acting Superintendents over the past 25 years. This list is only of those who have held the official title.



Did you know that...



The National Fire Academy was officially dedicated on October 8, 1979. The Maryland State Firemen's Association held a welcoming ceremony on September 10, 1979 to welcome the NFA to Maryland. The Governor of Maryland and Senator Paul Sarbanes were among the attendees. Current EMI Superintendent and former U.S. Fire Administration employee, John McKay, was responsible for the planning and coordination of this dedication ceremony.



The National Emergency Training Center is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Specifically, Buildings N, O, and Q (the barn) are also listed on this National Register.



An Indian Burial Ground is located on this campus behind Building J? Be sure to see the story in this booklet on the "Circle of Oaks".



The U.S. Fire Administration's Publications Center has over 200 publications available to the public through its office on the third floor of N-Building (and more are on the way!).

***Current U.S. Fire Administration
Staff Listing***

**Current United States Fire Administration Staff
Enter on Duty Dates**

Below is a listing of current United States Fire Administration Staff and the Enter on Duty Date for each. The listing is alphabetical by first name. Check out how long some of your co-workers have been around here!

Name	Enter on Duty Date
Adele Chiesa.....	July 6, 1976
Alexandra Furr.....	September 15, 1990
Alice Megles.....	November 4, 1979
Allan Burke.....	January 20, 1987
Andrew Giglio.....	January 15, 1984
Angela Weathers.....	August 31, 1997
Barry Thoma.....	May 14, 1995
Beverly Shockey.....	September 29, 1986
Bradley Pabody.....	July 12, 1992
Bruce Hisley.....	April 2, 1984
Burton Clark.....	March 24, 1980
Carol Bouma.....	May 3, 1992
Carrye Brown.....	May 26, 1994
Cathy Broughton.....	May 15, 1993
Charles Burkell.....	December 1, 1980
Cheryl Phelan.....	February 24, 1991
Clarence White.....	February 25, 1979
Colleen Heilig.....	July 5, 1997
Cynthia Wivell.....	August 11, 1991
Darlyn Vestal.....	December 27, 1992
Deborah Coshun.....	December 27, 1992
Denis Onieal.....	July 17, 1995
Diane Close.....	April 28, 1980
Donald Begg.....	September 6, 1981
Donald Dahlquist.....	March, 1992
Douglas Williams.....	January 25, 1981
Edward Kaplan.....	January 30, 1979
Elizabeth Miller.....	June 8, 1980
Elizabeth Riffle.....	April 20, 1980
Elsie Davis.....	August 16, 1999
Esther Slemmer.....	May 31, 1992
Gerry Bassett.....	August 28, 1977
Hugh Wood.....	February 21, 1993
James Heeschon.....	August 31, 1998
Jan Kuczma.....	January 4, 1981
Jeffrey Dyar.....	August 23, 1992

Jo Ann Boyd	June 7, 1987
John Cochran.....	June 26, 1995
John Kimball	October 12, 1999
John Ottoson	November 21, 1976
John Price	January 18, 1980
Joyce Glass.....	June 4, 1989
Julie Davis.....	March 9, 1980
Karen Haines	June 8, 1987
Kathleen Carter.....	May, 1992
Kathleen Gerstner	April, 1992
Kenneth Burris.....	September 26, 1999
Kenneth Kuntz.....	June 24, 1984
Laura Ness	April 9, 1989
Linda Hall	April 24, 1983
Lisa Makar	March 24, 1999
Louis Bloom.....	May 15, 1989
Marjean Meyer.....	August 11, 1991
Mary Bare.....	May 14, 1995
Mary Leslie	October 17, 1982
Mary Walter.....	October 20, 1986
Mary Wingert.....	January 28, 1990
Maury Grundy.....	September 20, 1992
Merril Sollenberger.....	May 20, 1990
Michael Maruskin	April 4, 1992
Myrna Mood	November 17, 1975
Pamela Kemenyas.....	May 27, 1979
Patricia Baughman	June 18, 1989
Perry Joy	January 4, 1981
Phyllis Krietz.....	June 10, 1979
Polly Birdsall	September 8, 1991
Ralph King.....	May 10, 1998
Rebecca Eiker	May 27, 1979
Rebecca Ryan.....	June 9, 1980
Richard Kemenyas	February 5, 1979
Robert McCarthy.....	October 24, 1983
Robert Murgalis	August 29, 1999
Ronald Face.....	March 1, 1985
Roxane Deardorff.....	October 6, 1991
Stanford Stewart.....	September 10, 1989
Steven Hill.....	April 17, 1978
Susan Topper	June 14, 1982
Teressa Kaas	August 13, 1989
Terry Gladhill.....	January 14, 1980
Terry Glunt.....	January 5, 1997



Did you know that...



John Kimball holds the record for the shortest, continuous service, active employee. John began his career with the U.S. Fire Administration as the National Fire Academy's Hazardous Materials Program Chair on October 12, 1999. Welcome to USFA John!



The original location of the USFA was 2400 M Street, Northwest; Washington DC.



Myrna Mood is the U.S. Fire Administration's longest, continuous service, active employee. Myrna began her career with the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration in 1975 and was the only secretary on staff responsible for coordinating the move from M Street to Emmitsburg. Congratulations to Myrna!



The "longest" State Weekend Program occurred in 1993 when the group from New York was stranded on campus for four days due to a severe snowstorm along the East Coast. Dining Hall staff spent the night and worked overtime to feed everyone!



Pam & Rick Kemenyas got married on May 16, 1981 in the Chapel in Building O!

United States Fire Administration

Staff Photo

taken on September 2, 1999.

United States Fire Administration Staff Photo

Left to Right; Bottom to Top

Row 1: Wayne Powell, Carol Bouma, Alex Furr, Clarence E. White, Jr., Ron Face, Jr., Denis Onieal, Steve Hill, Pamela Kemenyas, Hugh Wood

Row 2: Polly Birdsall, Terry Gladhill, Roxane Deardorff, Karen Haines, Mary Wingert, Mary Leslie, Becky Ryan, Esther Stemmer

Row 3: Eisie Davis, Rebecca Eiker, Tonya Long, Virginia Nocon, Darlyn M. Vestal, Maury Grundy, Cynthia Wivell, Cathy Broughton, Bev Shockey

Row 4: Linda Hall, Angela Weathers, Alice Megles, Romey Brooks, Timothy Patrick O'Dowd, Betty Riffe, Phyllis Krietz, Mary Walter

Row 5: Susan Topper, Teressa Kaas, Julie Davis, Barry A. Thoma, Laura Ness, Diane Close, Lisa Makar, Merrill Sollenberger

Row 6: Cheryl Phelan, Lou Bloom, Jo Ann Boyd, Myrna Mood, Joyce Glass, Pat Baughman, Kathleen Carter

Row 7: Jim Heeschen, Al Burke, Mary Bare, Robert P. Murgallis, Donald Begg, Kathy Gerstner

Row 8: Tim Ganley, Chuck Burkell, Jeff Dyar, Terry Glunt, Bruce Hisley, John Turley, Rick Kemenyas

Row 9: Burton A. Clark, John L. Cochran, Perry Joy, Brad Pabody, Andrew M. Giglio, Edward J. Kaplan, Kenneth Kuntz

Missing From Photo: Gerry Bassett, Carrye Brown, Adele Chiesa, Trina Clever, Deb Coshun, Donald Dahlquist, Colleen Heilig, John Kimball, Ralph King, Jan Kuczma, Larry Maruskin, Robert McCarthy, Tonya Kuhn-McClain, Wanda Mathias, Marjean Meyer, Beth Miller, Thomas Minnich, John Ottoson, Thomas Pitotti, John Price, Stanford Stewart, William Troup, Douglas Williams



United States Fire Administration

25th ANNIVERSARY
September 2, 1999



