

## KEDDO's Goals for 2008:

By Larry Morgan - KEDDO

Our goals this year are to benefit your fire departments. We are going to work extra hard too:

1. Try to get another \$2.5 million for more 1 ton – 4 wheel drive trucks;
2. Keep the 80/20 grant monies intact and stays in our fire funds;
3. Keep the 50/50 grant monies intact and stays in our fire funds;
4. Continue receiving \$5 million for our operational grant funds;
5. The State keeps paying for work comp and retirement for firefighters.

These goals are not easy tasks and we will assure you we will do everything in our power to keep those funds coming to you. Keep up the good work and may 2008 be a blessed year for all of us.

## Fire Fighter I Class Underway:

By Rick Couri

Sixteen firefighters from across LeFlore County and one from Sequoyah County are taking advantage of the FFI class which began in January 2008 and will complete on 05 April 2008. Firefighters from Spiro, Pocola, Ft. Coffee, Brent, Panama, Wister, Murry Spur and I probably missed someone, sorry. This has been a great group and a joy to teach and we look forward to graduating sixteen new FF1's in April or May. The group will complete their haz-mat awareness on 29 March 2008 at Kiamichi Technology.

**Support LCFA**  
– **Attend Meetings**

## Heavener Completes 30 Hour Volunteer:

By Rick Couri

Mark Morris has been teaching a 30 hour volunteer firefighter course in Heavener and will complete this class in the next week. The group will do a live burn on 11 March 2008 and then finish up their studies in the coming week. Congratulations to Heavener firefighters for furthering their education.

**Next Meeting:**  
**13 March 2008**

## New OSU-FST Part-Time Instructor, Jamie Johnson, of Poteau Fire Department:

By Rick Couri

Congratulations to Jamie Johnson of the Poteau Fire Department who is, as of 10 March 2008, a part time instructor for Oklahoma State University – Fire Service Training. Jamie has completed Instructor I and has joined the ranks and will be available for teaching assignments in this part of Oklahoma. Jamie is a FF1 and has additional training in haz-mat areas. Having worked with Jamie, I am thrilled that he has made the move to instructor and he will do a fine job helping you to meet your training needs.



## Training Opportunities:

By Deanna Crandell & Larry Morgan

May 2, 3, &4, 2008 Antlers Regional Fire Training Center is hosting OSU Fire Service Training. More information to come on times and costs.

Training the may be available includes:

- Mayday – there are props – go into building 0 floor and roof falls in – heard this was cool and firefighters had a blast with this one.
- Wildland Safety
- Water Shuttle
- Pumper Test
- LPG Gas
- First Responder Refresher
- Haz-Mat Awareness
- Haz-Mat Ops
- Vehicle Extrication
- Advanced Vehicle Extrication
- Bus (School) Vehicle Extrication

Don't miss out on this training! Mark your calendars now!

## Contact Numbers:

By Deanna Crandell

If you need to contact our President, his number is 479-719-5595. Publicity Officer, Deanna Crandell's email address is: [deannacrandell@yahoo.com](mailto:deannacrandell@yahoo.com). Send your news to Deanna and let's make sure we all know what is going on in the county.

## Congratulations:

By Deanna Crandell:

To Panama; Whitesboro, Howe and Post Mountain Fire Departments for receiving their 2008 four wheel drive, one ton trucks from the Oklahoma Forestry. Those departments will also receive a \$1,000 Bendeix King hand held radio to stay with the units. Some of the departments already have the new trucks.

## Recent Losses:

By Rick Couri

Poteau Fire Department in the past month has lost two of their retiree's. Retired Assistant Chief Randy Peters passed away 11 February 2008 and his funeral was held 14 February 2008. Then long time retired Chief, Ben Gedosh, passed away 15 February 2008 and his funeral was held 18 February 2008. We ask your prayers for those two families. I had the pleasure of serving with Randy Peters and he was one of a kind. Randy would do anything to help another person in need and he leaves a loving wife, one son and two step-daughters. His mother and sister both live in Poteau and we mourn with them.

## Benevolent Fund Activity?:

By Rick Couri

I have been made aware that maybe our benevolent fund has not been utilized as I thought we had set that up for. It appears that we lost a firefighter in the south part of the county and the family was told there would be an amount from the LCFA benevolent fund and now five months have passed and that gift has never been delivered to the family. The recent deaths in Poteau brought this to my attention and while neither family is Poteau is aware of the fund and they have not asked about any gift from that fund. However, where are we with the policy that was established and why has the money not been gifted when there is a death?

We really need to address this issue as it appears to be casting a problem for the Association.

