

News from the NFPA
By Teresa Grooms

Strategic Planning Session:

I recently returned from a strategic planning session for the NFPA in Kansas City, Missouri. It was an intense day and a half session. The NFPA Board of Directors and other interested NFPA members brainstormed and created an exciting and attainable plan for the future of the NFPA. While the plan has not been finalized, the goal areas identified were: 1) Financial Stability; 2) Membership Growth and Service; 3) Setting Standards for Education and Regulation; and 4) Strategic Alliances. I worked on the "Setting Standards for Education and Regulation" portion of the plan. In keeping with MTPA's membership request, NFPA will be providing more information on the regulation process. In fact, they plan on having a workshop at the Nashville Convention on how a bill is created and the process it goes through before being passed.

NFPA is working to establish goals that can be accomplished and that will provide our members with trust and pride in the NFPA.

Management Company:

Hangley Management Service (HMS) gave notice that they were terminating their contract with the NFPA. The Board and HMS attempted to negotiate a new contract, but the negotiations failed. As of June 30, 2003, HMS is no longer the management company for the NFPA. The NFPA Board of Directors reviewed proposals from several management companies and choose Cantrell & Associations as the new management company. It is hoped that the contract will be finalized and effective as of August 1, 2003.

Committees:

The Board has agreed that an Editorial Committee is needed to assist with themes, ideas, etc. for The Reporter. A representative from each region is needed to serve on this committee. The committee will report to the President of NFPA. This committee needs to be working as soon as possible as the themes need to be developed for the 2004-05. Themes are very important to advertisers who will be setting their advertising budgets for the coming year. If you would be interested in being suggested for this committee, please contact me as soon as possible and I will get your name to Region III Director.