



The Fire Plug



Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
P.O. Box 1363 Columbus, IN 47202-1363
www.harrisonfire.org

November 2006
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All Harrison Township residents and property owners are strongly encouraged to attend the
Fire Company Annual Meeting and Open House
Monday, January 8, 2007
7:00 p.m.
at the fire station, 9441 West Old Nashville Road

Activities will include a tribute to Jim Klamo, an active HTVFC firefighter who passed away on August 25, 2006.

Election of two Board of Directors will also be held. Completing three-year terms are Tammy Mocus and Karl Kuehner. If you would like to serve on the board of the fire company, call Karl Kuehner at 342-6638 or Dick Knobloch at 342-3774 to have your name added to the ballot or to submit another name. Nominations may also be made from the floor during the meeting. Be sure to have permission before submitting a name.

Other items on the meeting agenda include:

- ⇒ January 2, 2006, Annual Meeting minutes
- ⇒ Operations Report by Fire Chief David Dwyer
- ⇒ Announcement of Firefighter of the Year
- ⇒ Announcement of Honorary Firefighter
- ⇒ Treasurer's Report
- ⇒ Proposed budget for 2007

A Dedicated Firefighter



Jim Klamo, an active Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Company firefighter, passed away suddenly on August 25, 2006, at his home.

Jim served as training officer and in many other capacities during his 20 years with the fire company. In recognition of his dedication to the work of the fire

company, Jim was named "Firefighter of the Year" in 1990 and again in 2005. He was also elected to the board of directors where he served as treasurer.

Jim was the "voice" of the annual food drive for Love Chapel. Many will remember him driving the fire truck through the neighborhoods of Harrison Township encouraging residents to donate groceries and paper goods to Love Chapel. Jim also devoted many hours to other HTVFC events including our spring cookout, many years of the omelette brunch, and the Beyond the Brunch concert and silent auction.

Jim's last alarm was in response to a medical emergency on West 100 South on August 23, 2006.

HTVFC has lost a good and faithful comrade. He will be greatly missed. **We will include a special tribute to Jim at our annual meeting January 8, 2007**

CONTRIBUTIONS

Carol Rumble (in memory of Jim Kiamo)	Steve and Linda Elmerick	Charlotte Jenkins
Phillip and Sandy Voss	John and Charlotte Prohaska	Carol Rumble
Jeanine Berkshire	Jim and Bev Baker	Vaden and Grace Fitton
Midge Wilson	Harrel and Joan Cohron	Arnold and Catherine Hatton
Max and Cheryl Stroud	Mount Olive United Methodist Church	Bennis and Charlene Baute
Max and Sara Kuhns	Shiloh Separate Baptist Church	Edna J. Howe
Ruey and Rosetta Adams	Kenneth and Joellen Schreiner	Irma R. Helstrom

Contributions received after October 6, 2006, will be reflected in the next issue of *The Fire Plug*.

Your direct support and contributions are a key success in our ability to continue to grow and BE PREPARED to serve you if the need arises. We truly appreciate the support you provide with your contributions.

2006 Donation to Support the HTVF Company

Mail to: Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., P.O. Box 1363, Columbus, IN 47202-1363

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

Enclosed is my 2006 donation in the amount of \$_____. Do you need a receipt? ___yes ___no

I am also interested in volunteering for (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a Firefighter | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with the Love Chapel Food Drive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping with our Fund Drive | <input type="checkbox"/> Serving on the Board of Directors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chairing or serving on a committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering time for Fire Station projects |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |

Thank You

from the Mickels

Thank you, Harrison Twp. Volunteer Fire Co., for all the time, effort, patience, and countless hours you put into our community. Thank you for the safety and peace of mind that we so often take for granted. Thank you for being a vital unsung hero. You're awesome!

Ed and Anne Mickel and family

Keep us Updated on Addresses and Names

We want each household, business, and property owner in Harrison Township to receive *The Fire Plug*. If you know of anyone who is not receiving this newsletter or of new residents/businesses in your neighborhood, please notify us. Also, if the name or address is incorrect on your issue, please notify us. Your help is appreciated in keeping our residents and businesses informed of the activities of our fire company.

Send changes or additions to Ruth Thomas, 1705 W 550 S, Columbus, IN 47201, or email her at laruthomas@yahoo.com.

BEYOND THE BRUNCH III

Our third annual concert and silent auction on September 9 at Harrison Lake Country Club, Beyond the Brunch III, was an evening of great music and our largest-ever silent auction. We want to extend special thanks to 40 Years of College for performing three hours of crowd-pleasing favorites. Concert goers enjoyed dancing, visiting and looking through the variety of interesting items in the silent auction area.



The following businesses and residents were key to the success of this event, and we wish to thank them again for their generous support:

Sponsors

40 Years of College
 Johnson Ventures, Inc.
 Marvin Johnson and Associates, Inc.
 TST Products, Inc.
 Zeller Insurance Agency, Inc.
 Ed and Anne Mickel and family

Donors

Alan Industries, Inc.
 Bartholomew County Beverage Co., Inc.
 Century 21 Breeden Realtors
 Jim Gordon, Inc.
 Hilliard Lyons
 The Kroot Corporation
 Tom and Lynn Bigley
 Rex and Kathy Breeden
 Carl and Betty Coleman
 Ron and Wilberta Deaton
 William Gale and Karen Sue Hardwick
 Gene and Benita Genth
 Charles and Sandy Hainz
 Gary and Linda Hallum
 Bob and Juanita Harden

James Holland
 Eric and Abby Howe
 John and Elizabeth Kestler
 Dick and Ann Knobloch
 Karl and Susan Kuehner
 Jim and Marcia Lyons
 Frank and Terie McDonald
 Mark and Maureen McNulty
 Gregory and Barbara Millis
 Stuart and Tammy Mocas
 Matt and Erin Morrill
 Duane and Maribelle Mottier
 Tom and Mary Lu Orr
 Jim and Jennifer Rumsey
 Roy and Marilyn Schwartzkopf

Our silent auction featured a wide variety of interesting items provided by local businesses and residents and regional artists. Thank you for your generous donations that contributed not only to the financial success of the event but to the evening's entertainment:

One-Week Stay for Four in Marco Island Condo in December ~ Ted and Elaine Marston
 Spa for a Weekend (Thursday - Monday) ~ Bradbury's Waterin' Hole
 Gift Certificate for Professional Photography ~ Carolyn Peterson Photography
 Two Bottles of Wine ~ Hickory Hills Reserve from Kuehner Vintners
 Harrison Lake Cruise and Dinner for Six ~ Greg & Julia Marshall
 Two Six-Month Memberships at Tipton Lakes Athletic Club ~ Vern Yorck of Tipton Lakes Athletic Club
 Gift Certificate for Two Bottles of Wine ~ Brown County Wine Company, Inc.

Six-Week Karate Membership, including Uniform ~ Chushin Academy of Martial Arts
Hors d'oeuvres, Wine and Dessert Cruise on Grandview Lake ~ Ed & Dolores Krome
Haircut and Basket of Hair Care Products ~ Rabbit's Hair Care
Saturday Morning Brunch for Eight ~ Juanita Harden & Maribelle Mottier
Season Tickets to Columbus Symphony Orchestra ~ donated by Columbus Symphony Orchestra
Golf for Four at Harrison Lake Country Club ~ donated by Dick & Ann Knobloch
Four Tickets to a Cincinnati Reds Game ~ donated by Karl & Susan Kuehner
Three Hours of Computer Assistance ~ donated by Gary Totten, HTVFC Firefighter
Three Hours of Physical Work ~ donated by Wally Dietz, HTVFC Firefighter
Three Hours of Yard Work ~ donated by Garrett Mocas, HTVFC Firefighter, & Tammy Mocas
One Week of Homemade Meals ~ donated by Jean House, professional chef
Ten-Foot Christmas Tree ~ Tower Family Christmas Tree Farm
Mystery Dinner for Six ~ John & Elizabeth Kestler
Four Seasonal Homemade Pies ~ Marilyn Jerman
Luncheon Class for Four ~ Chef James Gregory
Framed Needlework ~ Terie McDonald
Columbus Philharmonic Tickets ~ Columbus Philharmonic
Basket of Aveda Personal Care Products ~ Studio B at Tipton Lakes Athletic Club
Two Gift Certificates ~ Jordan-Ellison Jewelers
Ink Sketch of Your Home ~ Karl Kuehner
Basket of Tupperware and Homemade Canned Goods ~ Cindi Schwartz
Indian Cuisine for Six ~ Norbert and Kari Nusterer
Custom-made Knife Set ~ Dr. Alan and Jo Watanabe
Four Hours of Computer Assistance ~ Steve Audretch
Portrait by Professional Photographer ~ Tim Ostrander
Four Framed Photography Prints ~ Chris Chambers, HTVFC Firefighter
Gourmet Wine and Coffee Gift Basket ~ Pat Gorbett, Cuppa the Jitters Cafe
Ten Hours of Genealogy Research ~ Carol Breeden
Two Handcrafted Wooden Lamps ~ Keith & Janet Maus
Herb Delights Set of Salts ~ Mary Lu Orr
Herb Delights Raspberry Vinegar ~ Mary Lu Orr
Bay Leaf and Boxwood Wreath ~ Mary Lu Orr
Home Accessory ~ donated by Sarah Schwartzkopf
Blue Chalcedony Ring ~ Indy Jeweler
Lap Harp ~ William Berg of Mountain Made Music and Sue Breeding of Art in the Heartland
Vera Bradley Tote Bag and Accessory Bag ~ Lockett's
One Evening of Babysitting ~ Hannah and Grace Kestler
Photography Note Cards ~ Erin Morrill
Two Firefighter Theme Birthday Parties ~ HTVFC Firefighters
Handcrafted Greeting and Note Cards ~ Carol Rumble
Six Mums ~ Nienaber's Market
One Office Visit with Vaccinations ~ Hope Veterinary Clinic
Quilted Wall Hanging ~ Gabrielle's Quilts and Comforts
Golf Lesson ~ Harrison Lake Country Club
Dinner for Two ~ Harrison Lake Country Club
Thirty-Minute Massage ~ Michelle Carman, Studio B at Tipton Lakes Athletic Club
Thirty-Minute Manicure ~ Katrena Haney, Studio B at Tipton Lakes Athletic Club
Set Up, Tear Down and Usage of 20 x 20 Tent ~ donated by David Dwyer, Harrison Township Trustee
Gift Certificate for Photographic Print ~ Bob Anderson, Stillframes Photography
Set of Mystery Novels ~ Bob Schwartzkopf
Set of Romance Novels ~ Bob Schwartzkopf
Butterfly Boutique Purse ~ Lynn Essex of Butterfly
Print of Columbus Landmarks ~ Gretchen Sigmund Marks

Beyond the Brunch III continued from page 4)

Four Dozen All Natural Brown Eggs ~ Lucille Kestler
 Haircuts and Styles ~ Stephanie Rout and Jane Pringle of Studio B at Tipton Lakes Athletic Club
 Meal Gift Certificates ~ Papa's Deli
 Two Autographed Prints ~ Tony Stewart Foundation



Thank you to Maureen McNulty and Folger's Four Seasons Florist who outdid themselves with beautiful, unique table arrangements that were available for sale at the event. We would also like to thank Elizabeth Kestler, Music in the Heartland, Folger's Four Seasons, Lockett's, the Arts Council and the HTVFC Board for selling tickets to the event, the businesses that helped with publicity and all the behind-the-scenes people who helped plan for this event. Thanks also to all who attended the event and those who purchased silent auction items. We are very fortunate in Harrison Township to have such wonderful community support.

Paid Firefighters

Across the nation volunteer firefighter numbers have been declining. We all are busy with our families, work, and friends, more so now than ever before. Some may want to blame cell phones or computers but the reason makes no difference. The fact remains nationwide we have fewer volunteer firefighters available today than a decade ago. Harrison Township is no different and we are in a crisis situation. Even though we have conducted successful firefighter drives the number of firefighters responding to calls has declined.

Normal working hours are the times we have the fewest firefighters available to respond. Probably due to the fact that most are working. We have exhausted all our options and with no others available we have decided to provide paid firefighters on the Harrison Township Fire Station. Three firefighters will staff the fire apparatus Monday thru Friday from 7am to 5pm except for Holidays.

The Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. will not change in anyway except for the paid staffing during weekdays.

More information will be coming in the near future.



Paramedics and hospitals may turn to the cell phone of an injured person to determine the victim's identity. The ICE (In Case of Emergency) system saves time and ensures that your family will be contacted quickly.

This idea was conceived by Bob Brotchie, a British paramedic. It is a very simple process: Enter the names of your emergency contacts into your cell phone directory with the prefix ".ICE" in front of their names, for example, .ICE-Mom. (The period preceding the acronym makes the name appear at the top of your list.) Remember to keep your ICE directory up to date.

annual meeting
 January 8, 2007



Nationwide children under age 5 are twice as likely as the rest of us to die in a fire. Each year, thousands of children are injured or killed in home fires, and 40 percent of them are under age five. To help protect babies and toddlers from the devastating effects of fire, the Harrison Township Fire Department would like to share some information with you.

- **PREPARE** — make your home safer from fire.
- **PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY** — especially your home fire escape plan.
- **PREVENT THE UNTHINKABLE** - When it comes to your family's smallest members, remember: Love alone won't save them. Practicing fire safety will.

Children And Fire Facts:

Matches, lighters, and other heat sources are the leading causes of fire-related deaths for children under age 5. In fact, toddlers actually cause a large number of home fires by playing with lighters and matches. Children have a natural curiosity about fire and you can't underestimate their ability to strike matches or start a lighter.

What you can do:

- Store matches and lighters out of children's reach and sight, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Teach toddlers to tell you when they find a match or a lighter.
- Remember that even child-resistant lighters are not childproof, and store them safely. When a child is curious about fire or has been playing with fire, calmly and firmly explain that matches and lighters are tools for adults to use carefully.
- Never use matches or lighters as amusement.
- Children may imitate you. Prevent fires by practicing and teaching fire safe behaviors in your home.
- Keep children 3 feet away from the stove when cooking, don't overload outlets, have your heating systems checked annually and use deep ash-trays and soak the ashes in water, if you smoke.

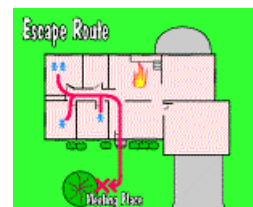
SMOKE ALARMS FACTS:

- Two-thirds of home fires that kill children occur in homes without a working smoke alarm. When fire breaks out, you have only seconds to escape its heat, black smoke and deadly gases. Families can dramatically increase the chances of surviving a fire simply by installing and maintaining working smoke alarms. Most hardware, home supply, or general merchandise stores sell smoke alarms and their batteries.



What you can do:

- Install and maintain smoke alarms on every level of your home and outside sleeping areas.
- Test your smoke alarms monthly and replace the batteries at least once a year.
- If you keep the door of your baby's bedroom closed, keep a working smoke alarm in the room and use a baby monitor so you can hear if the alarm sounds.
- When your children are ready, familiarize them with the sound of the smoke alarm. Teach them that when one goes off, they must leave the home and go outside to the designated family meeting spot.
- For Harrison Township Residents Contact the Harrison Township Fire Department at 343-0662 and make arrangements for you to get a free smoke detector.



FIRE ESCAPE PLAN

Most of the families who have fire escape plans do not practice them. Consider that it takes just a few minutes, sometimes only seconds, for a fire to spread out of control. Then consider the difference that a well-rehearsed fire escape plan can make. Children as young as 3 can follow a fire escape plan that they have practiced often, and it can mean the difference between life and death.

What you can do:

- Draw a basic diagram of your home, marking all windows and doors, and plan two routes out of each room.

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- Consider various fire scenarios, from easiest to most difficult. Imagine a fire starting and spreading from your kitchen, from the basement, and from the hallway outside your bedroom. Develop your escape plan with options for a safe escape in each scenario.
- If you are escaping smoke, crawl low under the smoke. Touch doors to see if they are hot before opening. If so, use the alternative escape route.
- Designate a safe meeting point outdoors and teach your children never to go back inside the house.
- Practice your fire escape plans regularly— at least twice a year, more often is better. Include a strategy for times when one parent is out of the home.
- When practicing the fire escape plan, show children how to cover their nose and mouth to reduce smoke inhalation.
- Keep exits clear of debris or toys.
- When you have babies and toddlers in the home, these extra escape options are necessary: –Keep a baby harness by the crib in case of emergencies. The harness, worn like a body brace, allows you to comfortably carry your baby and leave your hands free to escape the home.
- Keep your child's bedroom door closed. If a hallway fire occurs, a closed door will hinder smoke from overpowering your baby or toddler, giving firefighters extra time for rescue.
- Teach toddlers not to hide from firefighters. Uniforms can be scary in times of crisis. Teach children that firefighters are there to help in an emergency.
- If you have older children have them practice crawling, touching doors, or going to the window, according to your escape plan.

Fireplace Safety



Fire Prevention Fireplace Safety Tips:

Being good to the environment also means making sure your fireplace habits are safe and will not pose a danger to your home or your neighborhood. Remember:

1. Clear the area around the fireplace and chimney. Debris too close to the fireplace could cause a fire. Check the flue for obstructions like birds' nests, and trim any overhanging branches or large trees near the chimney.
2. Always use a fireplace screen.
3. Never overload the fireplace with too many logs. Don't use the fireplace as an incinerator, and never burn garbage, Christmas trees, or piles of paper.
4. Keep a fire extinguisher on hand and place smoke detectors throughout the house. Test the smoke detectors and batteries regularly. See that the extinguisher is in good working order and that all family members know how to operate it.
5. When building a fire, place logs at the rear of the fireplace, preferably on a grate.
6. Never leave fire unattended. Be sure the fire is extinguished before you go to bed.
7. Keep wood stacked, covered, and out-of-doors, away from the house and off the ground. Bring in only as much as you need for one evening to prevent insects that may be in the wood from entering your home. Manufactured firelogs, which are packaged to eliminate insects and mess, can also prevent this problem.
8. Have your fireplace inspected annually and cleaned when necessary by a chimney sweep certified by the Chimney Safety Institute of America. A dirty fireplace can cause chimney fires and inhibit proper venting of smoke up the flue.

Annual Meeting
January 8, 2007
7:00 p.m.