



# The Fire Trailer News



SUMMER 2008

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## *Fire Trailer News*

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*The Fire Trailer News is the official publication of the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association and is published four times a year: Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring. Views and opinions expressed in articles herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the officers or membership of the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association. Articles, manuscripts and photos are solicited for this publication. No payment is made for contributions. Submissions should be sent to the editor. Appearance of advertisements in the Fire Trailer News does not constitute endorsement by the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association. Advertisers shall not use the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association name or image in its commercial activities in any manner.*

## President's Message

I would like to thank the membership for the opportunity to have served as President of the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association this past year. It has truly been a honor.

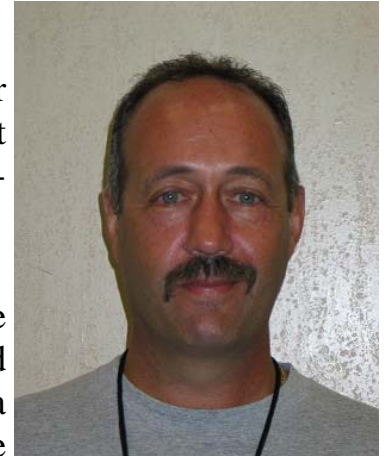
The spring seminar in Helen was a huge success. We had 108 attendees. I would also like to thank the Northeast Georgia Chapter for all their assistance with the seminar. The Training and Education Committee did an excellent job putting together the program for the seminar and the speakers were well received.

The 44th Southeastern Arson Seminar in Savannah is approaching very quickly and I look forward to seeing you there. The Training and Education Committee has put together another great program. Please make your hotel reservations at the Marriott as soon as possible because the discounted rate runs out on July 11, 2008.

Again, let me express my gratitude for serving as your President of this organization. Thanks to all of you for your help and cooperation through this past year.

See you in Savannah,

Zane Newman, GFIA - President



## News from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 31, 2008

Release #08-181

Firm's Contact Number: (800) 241-0448

CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772

CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

# Campbell Hausfeld Recalls Air Compressors Following Fires

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

**Name of Product:** Campbell Hausfeld and Husky Air Compressors

**Units:** About 233,000

**Importer:** Campbell Hausfeld, of Harrison, Ohio

**Hazard:** Protective covers on the compressor's motor are not made from proper flame retardant material and can ignite, posing a fire hazard to consumers.

**Incidents/Injuries:** The firm has received 11 reports of fires. No injuries have been reported.

**Description:** The recall involves the following Campbell Hausfeld and Husky brand air compressors:

Capacity	Model Numbers	Serial Numbers
8-15 gallon	HL410100, HL421000 HL421500,	The first four digits of the serial number indicate a date code from July 2005 (0705) through March 2007 (0307)
4 gallon	HL5402	Have a prefix of HY, KB, or HU followed by a date code from November 2006 (1106) through November 2007 (1107)

The model and serial number are located on the back of the tank.

**Sold at:** Home improvement and hardware stores nationwide from September 2005 through November 2007 for between \$170 and \$200.

**Manufactured in:** China

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the air compressor immediately and contact Campbell Hausfeld for a free repair kit.

**Consumer Contact:** For further information, contact Campbell Hausfeld at (800) 241-0448 between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.chpower.com](http://www.chpower.com)



## Past Presidents of the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association

1964-1966	Arthur Hutchins	GBI
1967-1969	Milton Rose	Georgia Forestry Service
1970-1971	Clyde Bowden	State Fire Marshal's Office
1972-1974	Bobby Cato	State Fire Marshal's Office
1975-1976	Eddie Smith	INS Investigations, Inc.
1977	Bruce Potts	
1978-1980	David Page	Atlanta Gas Light Company
1981-1982	R.L. "Buck" Kennedy	Kennedy & Kennedy, Inc.
1983-1984	Johnny Locke	Columbus Arson Squad
1985-1986	Walter J. Campbell	State Farm
1987	Kevin Cunningham	Cunningham Investigation Services
1988	Ralph Newell	Newell Investigatiive Services, Inc.
1989	Ron Kibble	Georgia Farm Bureau
1990	I.J. Kranats	Kranats & Company Investigations
1991	Miles Waters	State Farm
1992	Mike Weaver	Georgia Farm Bureau
1993	Tony Nix	State Farm
1994	Ralph Newell	Newell Investigative Services, Inc.
1995	Steve Sprouse	Douglas County Fire Department
1996	A.W. "Wes" Durham	Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services
1997	Thom Burruss	AGL Resources, Inc.
1998	Sandra VanLandingham	State Farm
1999	Barry Slotter	Slotter & Associates
2000	Gary Kendrick	Spalding County Fire Department
2001	Paul McGahee	Georgia Farm Bureau
2002	David Herndon	Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services
2003	Teresa McAfee	State Farm
2004	Laurel Waters	Analytical Forensics Associates
2005	Thom Burruss	AGL Resources, Inc.
2006	William "Bill" Barrett	Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency Services
2007	Alan Wade Crider	Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency Services



## 44<sup>th</sup> Southeastern Arson Seminar

August 11-15, 2008  
The Marriott Riverfront  
Savannah, Georgia



*Hosted by*  
***Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John W. Oxendine***  
***And***  
***Georgia Fire Investigator's Association***

*The 44<sup>th</sup> annual Southeastern Arson Seminar provides an excellent means to stay abreast of the latest techniques and theories in the investigation of the crime of arson.*

*The seminar provides attendees with training hours that exceed the minimum annual requirements of the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training Council, the Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training Council, and the Georgia Property and Casualty Insurance Agents Continuing Education Program.*

*Featured speakers this year include:*

*John W. Oxendine, Georgia's Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner*  
*James Randall Lawson, NIST*  
*Jack Ward, Jack Ward Fire Consultants*  
*Scott Barnhill,*  
*David McLaughlin,*  
*Tony Nix, State Farm*  
*Jim Fisher, Hall Booth Smith & Slover PC*  
*Jamie Novak,*

### General Information and Registration

**Registration:**

*The registration fee of \$200 provides training, handouts, morning and afternoon refreshments, giveaway item, and one ticket to the Awards luncheon on Thursday. **Certificates will be mailed after the seminar.***

**Lodging:**

*To make reservations at the Marriott Riverfront, please call 912-233-7722. The seminar room rate is \$123.00 per night (includes parking). Reservations at the Marriott Riverfront must be received no later than July 11, 2008. Reservations will be accepted after July 11, 2008 on a space-available basis and may be charged at the normal hotel rate*

### Bob Gore & K.G. Davis Scholarships

The Georgia Arson Control Board is sponsoring the Bob Gore Scholarship to individuals who reside in Georgia and work in a public-safety-related field. The Georgia Fire Investigator's Association is sponsoring the K.G. Davis Scholarship to members of the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association who live in Georgia and work in a public-safety-related field. Applicants must mail, fax, or email a one-page essay entitled "**Why I Want to Attend the 44<sup>th</sup> Southeastern Arson Seminar.**" along with a completed Southeastern Arson Seminar registration form by July 11, 2008 to GFIA, PO Box 382, Snellville, GA 30078, Fax: 770-978-8782,

Email: cis1234@comcast.net. The two winning essay applicants will each receive complimentary registration and four nights lodging at the Marriott Riverfront.

*~Former scholarship recipients are ineligible to win.~*

**Schedule of Events**

**Monday, August 11**

3:00pm Early Registration

**Tuesday, August 12**

7:00am Registration  
 8:00am Opening Ceremonies and Keynote Address  
 8:30am WTC Disaster Emergency Response Investigation  
 12:00pm Lunch (on your own)  
 1:00pm Stove Top Fires  
 4:00pm NFPA 921 and 1033 Update

**Wednesday, August 13**

8:00am Mortgage Flipping  
 10:00am Fraud Investigations  
 12:00pm Lunch (on your own)  
 1:00pm Daubert Qualifications/Testimony/Legal  
 4:45pm GFIA Annual Meeting and Election Results\*  
 \*GFIA Annual Elections 12:00-4:00pm

**Thursday, August 14**

8:00am Burn Patterns/Natural Gas/Propane Explosions  
 12:00pm Awards Luncheon (Provided)  
 1:30pm Burn Patterns cont'd

**Friday, August 15**

8:00am Manufactured House Fires  
 12:00pm Examinations (required for GA firefighter credit but not for GA POST)

**1st Annual Sandra VanLandingham Memorial Golf Tournament**  
**at the 44th Southeastern Arson Seminar**

**When?** Shotgun start Monday, August 11, 2008 at 12:00 noon.  
**Where?** Southbridge Golf Club  
**Game?** Handicapped Lauderdale Format  
**Cost?** \$50.00 per person

All golfers must pre-pay and must call Charlie Mangan at 404-386-3786 to register and choose golf partner(s). Make check or money order payable to GA Chapter IAAI.

~Cancellation Policy~  
**To receive a refund, seminar registration must be cancelled by August 6, 2008.**

**Registration Form**

Name:	
Phone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
Address:	
City/State:	
County/Zip:	
Employer:	
<b>Credit Hours:</b> [ ] Firefighter [ ] Peace Officer [ ] Insurance	
Georgia Certification/license number(s):	
Golf Tournament: # tickets needed:	
If playing golf, what is your handicap?	
<b>PRICE LIST</b>	
Registration	\$200.00 ea
Golf Tournament	\$50.00 ea
~Make check or money order payable to~ <b>GA Chapter of IAAI</b> Please mail your registration to: Georgia Fire Investigators Association Post Office Box 382 Snellville, Georgia 30078	

**Program Information Contacts**

April Hayes ISF Commissioner's Office Phone: 404-656-0533 Fax: 404-657-9831 Email: ahayes@sfm.ga.gov	Susan Cunningham GFIA Phone: 770-978-1251 Fax: 770-978-8782 Email: cis1234@comcast.com
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## News from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Originally issued April 3, 2008  
Release #08-241

Firm's Contact Number: (866) 880-4661  
CPSC Recall Hotline: (800) 638-2772  
CPSC Media Contact: (301) 504-7908

### A.O. Smith Recalls Gas Water Heaters Due to Fire and Carbon Monoxide Hazards

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

**Name of Product:** Natural and Propane Gas Water Heaters

**Units:** About 1,500

**Manufacturer:** A.O. Smith Water Products Co., of Ashland City, Tenn.

**Hazard:** The water heater's flue gas temperatures can exceed safe limits and produce excessive temperatures in the venting unit, posing a fire hazard. Also, the water heater's exhaust can leak into the surrounding room, posing a carbon monoxide hazard.

**Incidents/Injuries:** None reported.

**Description:** This recall involves 75 gallon natural and propane gas water heaters. "A.O. Smith" or "State" is printed on the side of the unit. A.O. Smith and State model and serial numbers included in this recall are listed in the chart below. Model and serial numbers are printed on the water heater's rating plate.

**Sold by:** Independent contractors and plumbers nationwide from November 2007 through January 2008 for between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

**Manufactured in:** United States

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled water heater and contact A.O. Smith to arrange for a free repair.

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact A.O. Smith toll-free at (866) 880-4661 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. CT, or visit the firm's Web site at [www.hotwater.com](http://www.hotwater.com)

Brand Name	Model Number	Serial Number Ranges
A.O. Smith	FCG-75 300	L07A071460 through L07A144966
	FCG-75 301	
State	GS6 75 XRR S	or M07A009387 through M07A072884
	GS6 75 CRR S	



## 2008-2009 GFIA Officer Election Mail in Balloting Procedure



Nominations Committee Chair Dennis Ellerbee has reported that two individuals have been nominated for the office of GFIA Secretary. A brief description of each nominee (provided by the nominees) can be found on the following page.

The annual election will be held at the 44th Southeastern Arson Seminar in Savannah, GA on August 13, 2008. If you don't plan on attending but would like to vote, you can use the mail-in ballot on Page 9 of this issue of the Fire Trailer News and follow the below instructions carefully to mail in your absentee ballot or your ballot will not be counted.

***Use the ballot (on Page 9) to cast your vote ONLY if you will not be present to vote at the annual meeting in Savannah, Georgia on Wednesday, August 13, 2008.***

- 1 - Mark your choices for Officers on the ballot (Page 9) in this issue of the *Fire Trailer News*. Only original ballots will be accepted (NO photocopies or faxes).
- 2 - Place the ballot in an unmarked envelope (no logos or company names on the envelope)
- 3 - Place the unmarked envelope in a second envelope.
- 4 - Remove the reusable label with your name and address from this issue of the *Fire Trailer News* and place it in the return address section of the second envelope.
- 5 - Address the second envelope, affix postage and mail to:  
**GFIA, PO Box 382, Snellville, GA 30078**

**All mail in ballots must be RECEIVED by August 8, 2006 in order to be counted.**

## 2008-2009 GFIA Officer Nominees



### **James M. (Mike) Kennedy, IAAI-CFI - Nominee for Secretary**

Mike Kennedy is a second generation Fire Investigator that has been working with Kennedy & Kennedy, Inc. since April 1994. Mike has been a member of the GFIA since 1994 and the IAAI Since 1993. He served as a member of the IAAI- Vehicle and Transportation Fire Committee, and is a Past President of the Metro Fire Investigators Association.

During his time at Kennedy & Kennedy, Mike obtained his Associates degree in Fire Science from DeKalb College, and has studied at Clayton State (Technology Management), Mercer University (Criminal Justice), Gwinnett Technical College, studying Automotive Technologies. Mike was Third in his Class at the Fulton County Public Training Center (Police Academy), and attained Firefighter certification through National Practical Qualifications.

Prior to his Employment with Kennedy & Kennedy, Inc., Mike spent 6 years with the United States Coast Guard as a Boatswains Mate, performing duties involving but not limited to Search and Rescue, Maritime Law Enforcement, and Drug Interdiction.

Mike is a life long friend of Keith Bell (Since the age of 7), and believes that he or Keith Bell would serve equally well in the capacity of Secretary of The Georgia Fire Investigators Association. He wishes Keith well in the upcoming election.

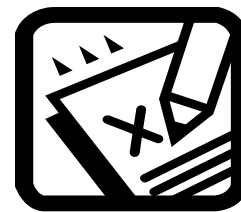
### **Keith Bell - Nominee for Secretary**

Greetings,

My name is Keith Bell. I am a private fire/explosion investigator working out of Gwinnett County, Georgia. I am running for the position of Secretary in the GFIA. I am a former investigator with the State Fire Marshal's office and before that I worked with Kennedy & Kennedy. I look forward to the chance to serve as Secretary of the GFIA if elected.

Keith Bell, IAAI-CFI

# Mail - In Ballot for 2008-2009 GFIA Officers



Mark an "X" beside your choice. To cast your ballot follow the instructions listed on Page 8

## Second Vice - President (Unopposed)

Ken LeCroy

## Secretary (vote for one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Keith Bell

\_\_\_\_\_ Mike Kennedy

## Treasurer (Unopposed)

Ed Canipelli

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Absentee Ballot on reverse side.



## GPSTC

*Georgia Public Safety  
Training Center*

The Georgia Police Academy provides training for Arson Level I and Arson Level II at the Georgia Public Safety Training Center. Burn cells aid the students in investigating accidental and arson fires by use of scenarios. The Georgia Police Academy accepts donations of furniture, furniture accessories, clothing items, toys, bed linen, and draperies. Cabinets and kitchen appliances are also needed. So, if you clean out your basement or do a remodeling job at home, don't throw away the old stuff. Donate it to the Georgia Police Academy. Your old stuff helps educate future fire investigators.

To make a donation, please contact Keith Howard at the following: Office: (478) 993-4455

Fax: (478) 993-4497

E-mail: [khoward@gpstc.state.ga.us](mailto:khoward@gpstc.state.ga.us)

### *How successful is the Georgia Arson Control Program in Fighting Arson?*

*Since its inception in 1979, GAC has approved 498 rewards totaling \$1,411,850. The average reward paid is \$2,835 (as of 05/12/08). Total property damage from arson fires that resulted in rewards since 2004 is approximately \$7,193,448.*

## Upcoming Events



August 11-15, 2008

The 44th Annual Southeastern Arson Seminar

Hosted by the Georgia Fire Investigator's Association and the Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John W. Oxendine.



The newest educational modules on CFITrainer.net, Understanding Fire Through the Candle Experiments and Investigating Fatal Fires, are now available on CFITrainer.net as featured modules.



November 4-7, 2008

Investigation of Gas and Electrical Fires.

Visit [www.firefindings.com](http://www.firefindings.com) for details and enrollment information.

**THE GEORGIA FIRE  
INVESTIGATOR'S ASSOCIATION  
PO BOX 382  
SNELLVILLE, GA. 30078**



## **44<sup>th</sup> Southeastern Arson Seminar**

August 11-15, 2008  
The Marriott Riverfront  
Savannah, Georgia



*Hosted by*  
*Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John W. Oxendine*  
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