Greetings from the Northwest. I hope everyone had a great Holiday season and are enjoying the bitter cold weather lately.

We have several blocks of training starting in January and February—Clay county, Detroit Lakes area, Halstad/Ada area and New York Mills. If you need other classes in the region, please contact us.

Registrations for the Detroit Lakes Fire School are coming in steadily, so register early to ensure you will get the class you would like to take. New Chiefs and Officers should consider the “I am a Chief Officer—What’s Next?” class. This class is designed from the Chief’s Association class information.

The National Fire Academy will be hosting “Introduction to Wildland/Urban Interface Firefighting for Structural Company Officers” on April 26 & 27, 2008 at the Holiday Inn in Detroit Lakes. A flyer for this class will be mailed the end of February.

Jeff Swanson & Rick Loveland continue to serve on the Governor’s Board for Fire Training. Steady progress is being made and we hope to have more money for reimbursement starting by July.

Congratulations to the departments in the region who have received Fire Act Grants: Moorhead, Perham, Audubon, Climax, Rothsay, Underwood, Borup, Twin Lakes, Carsonville, Hitterdal, Ada, Dilworth, Glyndon & Hawley.

There will be a Fire Grant workshop in Detroit Lakes on February 21 at 7:00 pm at the Detroit Lakes campus. There is no charge for this workshop but please contact Denice with the number of people from your department that will be attending.

The next Regional Fire Advisory Board meeting will be held February 28 at 7:00 pm at the Detroit Lakes campus. If you would like to become a member of this board or would like to attend the meeting, please contact Denice.

We are trying to get everyone’s e-mail so we can send out information to the region more effectively. If you would like to be added to the list, please contact Denice.

Vergas, Dent and Detroit Lakes Fire Departments will be holding Firefighter I Review classes (for the members of their respective departments only) along with the Certification Test over the next few months. For more information, contact Rick at mfld@arvig.net. If you want to register for the certification test, you can get the information at their website—www.mfscb.org. Battle Lake, Wolf Lake and Park Rapids have already completed the Firefighter I Review class along with the certification tests for their entire departments.

If you have ideas for future classes or have any other training needs, please feel free to contact us.

For additional information on classes or to register for classes, contact Denice at:
800-426-5603 ext. 6576 or 218-477-4452 or by e-mail at denice.brewer@minnesota.edu

Rick Loveland  Denice Brewer
Fire Program Manager  Fire Program Assistant
701-261-5363  800-426-5603 ext. 6576 or
mfld@arvig.net  218-477-4452
Denice.brewer@minnesota.edu