The year 2003 will be the most memorable one for all of us. The Lincoln Fire Department responded to 171 alarms consisting of a variety of emergencies. The one that will stay with us for a very long time and the most exhausting for all involved was the search for 10-year old Patric McCarthy. Our small community pulled together, along with hundreds of volunteers from all over, to help in this extensive search. When Patric was found, the outcome was devastating to everyone. God bless everyone involved.

The second tragedy occurred on the day Patric was found. A 39-year old man, Bryan Richards from Peabody, Massachusetts, drowned at the falls in the Lincoln Woods area. He was found several days later, approximately five miles downstream, where the Lincoln firefighters assisted in recovering his body.

On a happier note, the Lincoln Fire Department aided the Woodstock Fire Department in rescuing young boys from the swollen Pemigewasset River. Everyone was returned to shore without incident.

Two firefighters, Ed Peterson and Eugene Davis, are taking Level 1 courses at the Waterville Valley Fire Department. Jay Blaisdell has completed Fire Inspection 1.

This year I made the following appointments: Leo Kenney and Jay Blaisdell: Deputy Fire Chiefs; Ron Beard: Captain; Ronnie Emerson: Lieutenant Safety Officer. We will all be working close together.

I would like to thank the Woodstock Fire Department and Auxiliary for their back up assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Nate Haynes