

Gelinas, John

From: Gelinas, John
Sent: Tuesday, September 26, 2006 09:32
To: *All Fire Employees
Cc: *All ECC Employees
Subject: Company Journal - Issue 40



The Company Journal ***and "The Feederline"***

Fire Department News
Cambridge, Massachusetts

From the desk of
Chief Gerald R. Reardon

Issue #40
Tuesday, 26 September 2006

All Companies Working

The **Working Fire Box 45-8** at 150 Chilton Street is shown below. Quick work by the assigned companies confined the fire to the cellar of this 1 1/2 story wood-frame dwelling. Four engines, 3 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, and 2 division chiefs operated under command of **DFC Bob Scott** of Division 2. Group 3 was on duty. The box was transmitted at 0945 and the working fire at 1004 hours.





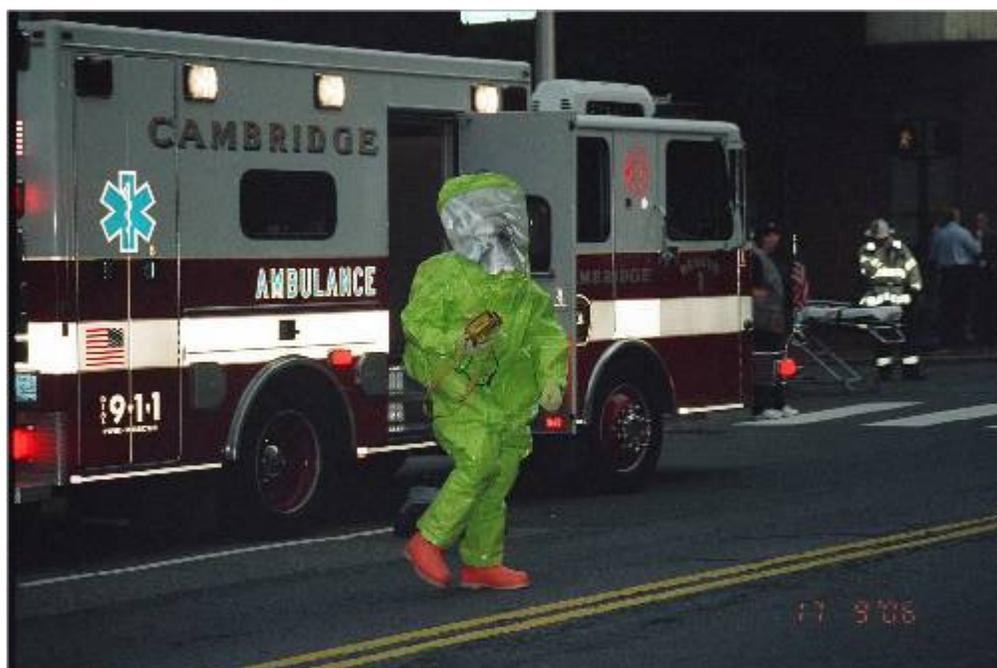


- photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1, group 4)

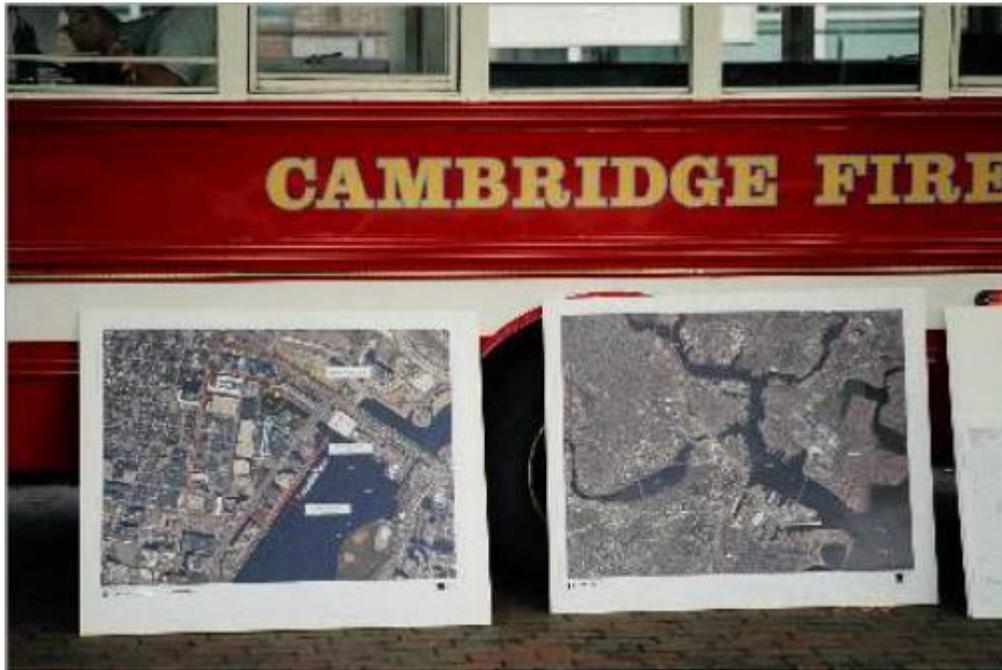
Operation Poseidon

Thanks to our members, the men and women of the Cambridge Fire Department, both uniformed and civilian, for making Operation Poseidon a successful drill. The Operation Poseidon terrorist attack drill was one of the largest drills conducted in the country and involved participation of a multitude of city, regional, state, and federal, and private sector agencies. Cambridge and other UASI/Boston fire companies have spent countless hours on technical training in preparation. A tip of the helmet again to **DFC Bob Rossi** for his professional and diligent work in coordinating this drill with all agencies.

The drill was initiated in the early morning hours of 17 September 2006 and continued into the afternoon. Coincidentally after working for several hours in PPE and under mentally and physically fatiguing drill conditions, many of the same members and fire companies were assigned to and worked at a building fire (fire on the top floor of a 3 story, 6 unit, wood-frame duplex OMD) in East Cambridge later in the afternoon - a typical day for CFD!





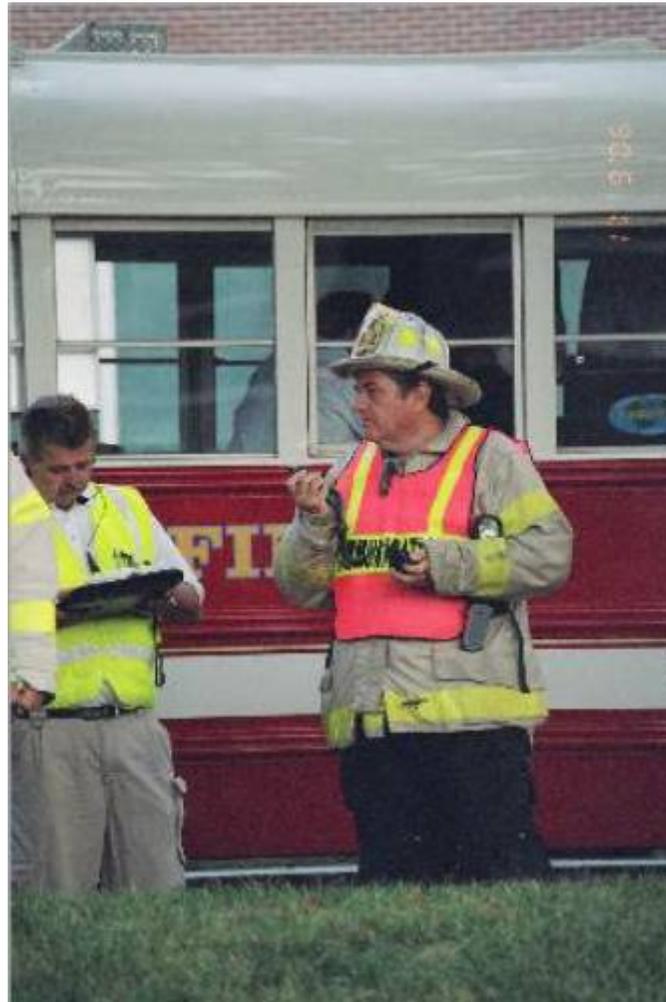












- photos above by **FAO Ron Richard (ECC)**

Cambridge Firefighters Local 30 Summer Outing

Canobie Lake Park - 8 August 2006



Al Coipel (Rescue 1) and company



"L'Artiste"



Bob Paone (Fire Prevention - retired)



Ed Morrissey (Truck 1) and **Ed Mahoney** (Division 1) and families



Brian Casey (Squad 2) and family



Crab Race



Steve Landry (Rescue 1), Janice Landry, and Catherine Melendy



Chris Melendy (Truck 1) and family



"Uncle Galvin" and admirers



Morrissey clan



Pie Eating Contest - **Rick Feliciano** (Truck 2), **Jeremy Walsh** (Squad 2), and **Steve Landry** (Rescue 1)



Mike DeAmbrose (Engine 1), **Al Coipel** (Rescue 1), **Laura Prunty** (Engine 4), and families



The Lawson's



The Walsh's



Thanks to **F.Lt. Galvin Murphy** (Engine 9) organizer and master of ceremonies

- photos above by **Glenn Turner** (Tech Services)

What's New

According to a ***Boston Sunday Globe*** narrative by **Jeffrey Krasner** on 22 September 2006, "A joint biotechnology research venture by two Dutch companies is creating an even tighter real estate market in Cambridge's Kendall Square.

"The companies, Crucell N.V. and Royal DSM N.V., decided to lease buildings at 1 Hampshire St. after considering locations in Maryland and the Research Triangle Park in North Carolina, according to Dr. Marco Cacciuttolo, chief executive of the joint venture.

"Cambridge is the real gravitational center of biotechnology," said Cacciuttolo. "It's really the premier location in the world to engage in these research activities."

"In recent years, companies including Schering-Plough Corp., Akzo Novel N.V., Novartis Pharma, and Merck and Co. Inc. have set up substantial research operations in Cambridge or Boston.

Just two years ago, there was a 26.2 percent vacancy rate in Cambridge laboratory and research-and-development space, according to Mark J. Winters, executive director of Cushman & Wakefield of Massachusetts Inc., a real estate firm that represented Draper Laboratory. In the second quarter of this year, the vacancy rate dropped to 11.5 percent. Excluding space available through subleasing, the rate was even lower, 5.5 percent."

Congratulations

Congratulations to **FF Pedro Gonzalez** (Truck 3, group 1) and **Brenda Hagen**, on the birth of **Tyler Oscar Gonzalez**. Tyler Oscar was born on the 6th of July 2006 at 0340 hours. Tyler weighed in at 8 pounds, 5 ounces and was 21 inches long.

Retirements

Per G.O. # 23 of 2006, effective 17 August 2006 at 1900 hours, **Firefighter Harold G. Rosenberger** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Rosenberger was appointed on March 4, 1973 to Engine Company No.1. His other assignments were as follows:

- December 6, 1976 Engine Company No. 3
- July 2, 1978 Engine Company No. 5
- January 5, 1992 Engine Company No. 4
- September 11, 1996 Aide to Division Chief

Firefighter Rosenberger was commended for his actions at Box 436 of 1 August 2003 and also at Box 2-215 of 6 August 2005.

Per G.O. # 24 of 2006, effective 31 August 2006 at 1900 hours, **Firefighter Leonard T. Daniluik** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Daniluik was appointed on January 4, 1970 and assigned to Engine Company No. 9. His other assignments were as follows:

- March 5, 1972 Rescue Company No.1
- October 29, 1972 Aerial Tower Company No. 1
- December 5, 1976 Engine Company No. 3
- January 2, 1983 Ladder Company No. 2

Firefighter Daniluik also served in the United States Marine Corps from 1959 thru 1963.

Transfer and Assignment

Per G.O. # 25 of 2006, effective Sunday, 17 September 2006 at 0700 hours, **Firefighter Francis X. Gallagher** is transferred from Rescue Company #1 to Division 1, Group #1.

Promotions

Per G.O. #20 of 2006, effective 9 July 2006 at 0700 hours:

Acting Fire Captain **Peter A. Donovan**, to Fire Captain, Fire Prevention Office

Acting Fire Lieutenant **David S. Walles** to Fire Lieutenant, Ladder Company No. 1

Per G.O. #26 of 2006, effective Sunday, 17 September 2006 at 0700 hours:

Firefighter **Charles E. Lowe** to Acting Fire Lieutenant, Engine Company #8.

Assignment

Per G.O. #27 of 2006, effective Sunday, 1 October 2006 at 0700 hours:

Firefighter on Probation **Eric D. Moore** is assigned to Ladder Company No. 1.

Out and About



FF John Mulligan, A/Lt. Kurt McLaughlin, F.Capt Ed Morrissey, FF Ed Fales, FF Jay Martel, and FF Jeffrey McGourty
at the Tech Rescue training site in South Boston.

- photo by Tara Bithia



Boston Tower Ladder 3, Boston Rescue 2, and Cambridge Rescue 1 at the Moon Island Training site.

*- photo by **Bill Noonan***

The latest MIT event included a Fire Engine on top of the dome



- photo by **Glenn Turner** (Tech Services)



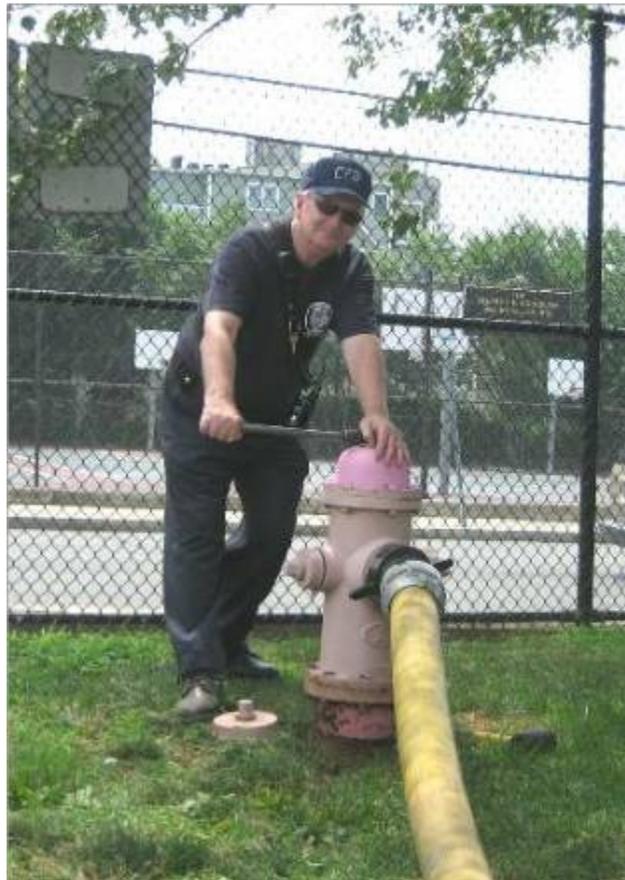
- photo by **Matthew Weldon**

National Night Out

Engine 4, Squad 4, Engine 1, and Ladder 3 participated in the recent National Night Out Against Crime program coordinated by John Serwecinski.



FF John Kenney, FF Laura Prunty, F.Capt. Larry Brogan (Engine 4), and FF Matthew Wood, and F.Lt. Matthew Brannelly (Squad 4) at the "National Night Out."



Engine 4 Firefighter/Pump Operator **Jack Kenney** opens the hydrant for Engine 4's water supply at the "National Night Out."

What is the flow from a "pink" hydrant?

- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

On Duty in Iraq



407th Air Expeditionary Group - Fire Department - Ali Base, Iraq

Steve Jeffres (Engine 3, group 1) is in the front row, right.

- photo forwarded by **Paul Jacques**, TSGT, USAF



"It's a team effort"

From the Archives

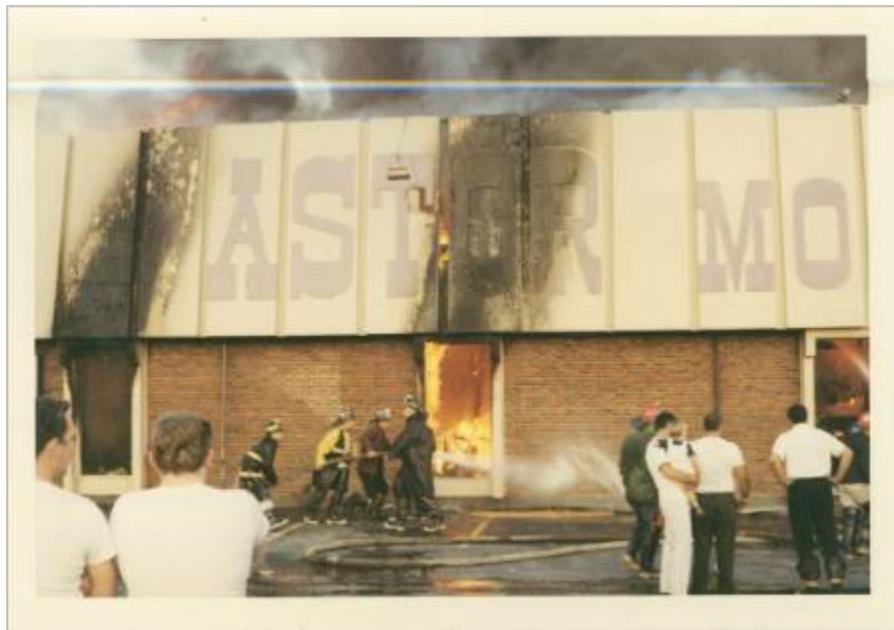


Early 70s: Fire Lieutenant **Francis Lawson** (Engine 8 retired, now deceased), Deputy Fire Chief **Jim Harrington** (Fire Prevention retired, now deceased), Firefighter/Inspector **Edward Fowler** (FIU, now deceased), and Firefighter **Richard Dahl** (Ladder 3 retired.)

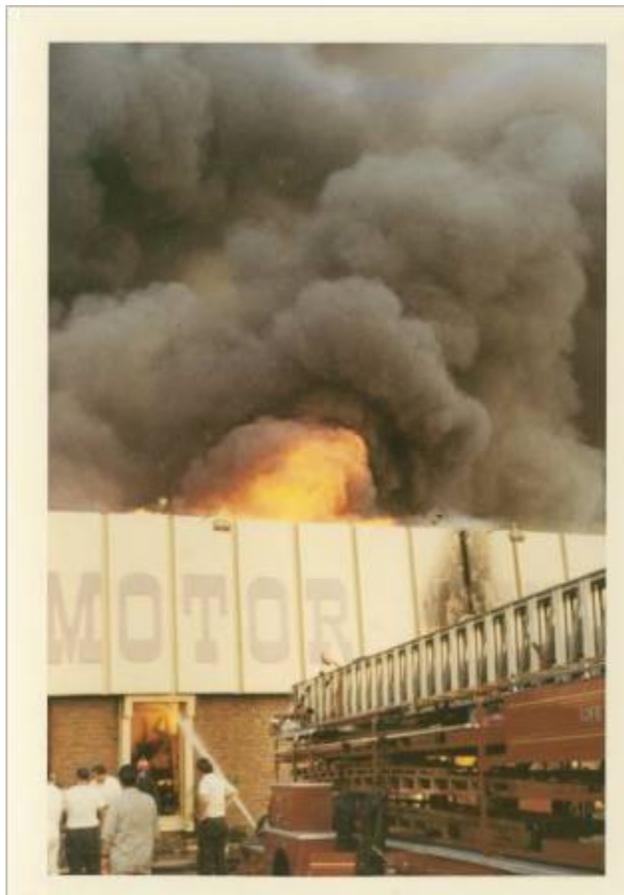
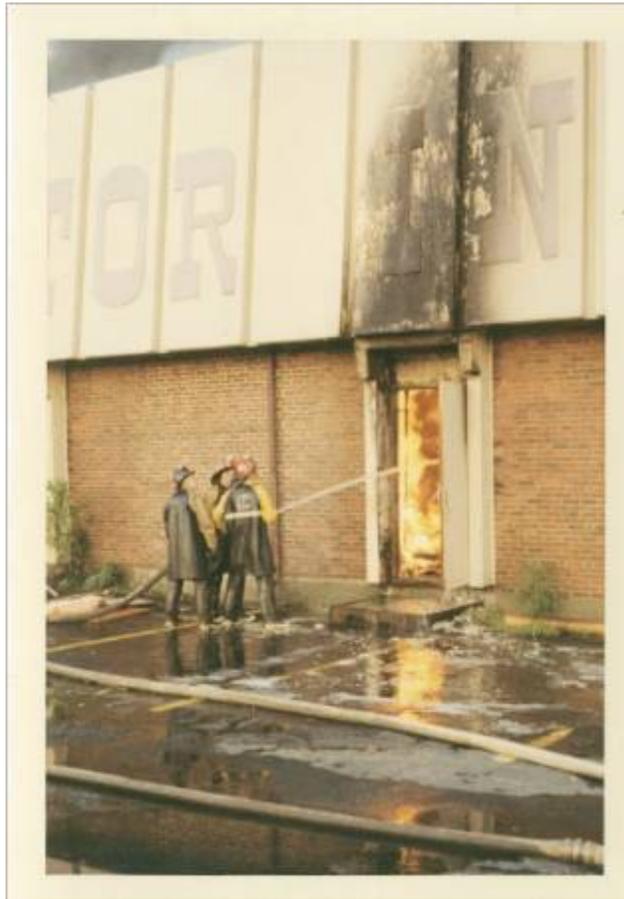
- photo by **Bill Noonan**, BFD

Photos below depict the fire at the old **Aku Aku** restaurant on Concord Turnpike. The box was 7561 and was transmitted at about 1800 hours on 21 August 1970. Group 4 was on duty. At that time, the water supply at the end of Concord Turnpike was poor.

Other fires in August, 1970 include the multiple alarm at the old City Stables at Richdale Av. and Raymond St. at 2000 hours on 19 August 1970 (group 3); a second alarm at 311 River Street on 27 August 1970; and a second alarm from Box 215 for the all-night fire at Cambridge and Lambert Streets on 8 August 1970 (group 3.) There was also a fire on Elmwood St. in North Cambridge involving several buildings along the railroad tracks. Both Cambridge and Somerville transmitted three alarms for this fire. *Thanks to **John Hathaway** (Truck 3, group 2) for the research on the historical information.*







- photos above from the collection of **Ron Richards**, ECC Fire Alarm Operator

Letters

Deputy Chief John Cotter
Division 2
Engine 8 Fire House
113 Garden Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

cc:
Mayor Kenneth E. Reeves
Chief Gerald R. Reardon

Dear Deputy Chief Cotter,

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all the firefighters for their quick response to the fire at 17 Norris Street on July 5, 2006. Our special thanks to the firefighters who were hurt fighting the fire. This house was built in 1873 and still has many old details. Your firefighters's quick and caring actions prevented a much worse fate for this beautiful old house and saved the best features of the house. There are numerous examples of how they tried to minimize the damage to the house. From our family to yours, we cannot begin to thank you enough for your efforts.

The tenants were also very appreciative of the firefighters's caring efforts. One couple who lived in the house are planning for an upcoming wedding, and your quick response saved her wedding gown! And her fiancé had an in-home office and as soon as the firefighters realized this, they quickly covered the office equipment with one of their heavy tarps saving the equipment from further damage.

We would like to highly commend all the firefighters who responded to the fire. Please convey our sincerest, albeit belated appreciation to them.

Very gratefully yours,

Chung and Young Kim
Wayland, MA 01778
August 15, 2006

*Editor's note: Second Alarm Box 2-793, was transmitted for the above fire in the 2 1/2 story, wood-frame, OMD at 17 Norris Street, North Cambridge. Six engines, 4 trucks, the Rescue Company, 2 squads, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units operated under command of Division 2 Chief **John Cotter**. The box was transmitted at 1724 hours, the signal 45 at 1732, and the Second Alarm at 1742 on 5 July 2006. Group 1 was on duty.*

August 3, 2006 via e-mail

Dear Deputy Chief Gelinis,

Hats off for Cambridge Fire's considerable display and contribution to this year's

National Night Out in North Cambridge! Cambridge Fire always answers the call!

After these last few years of my service at NCCTF and interaction with Cambridge Fire,

it is abundantly clear to me why the occupation of Firefighter is perennially on the list of "Most respected people."

Your men and women are "can do" and cheerful. They take initiative as well as offer helpful suggestions. Perhaps most important, they project a very positive image in front of our kids and they enjoy talking with the kids! And let me say further that there is not one event when an adult doesn't come over to me and say "That display (the U.S. flag) is terrific!" The Ladder truck w/flag always evokes powerful emotions. As a life long resident, born in the City of Cambridge, I'm here to tell you how proud I am of Cambridge Fire!! Many thanks, DC Gelinis, for what Cambridge Fire does.

Three Cheers,

John Serwecinski- NCCTF Coordinator

Editor's note: Engine 4, Engine 1, Squad 4, and Ladder 3 participated in this exercise. Group 1 was on duty.

September 25 2006 via e-mail

Dear Friends,

Your cards, e-mails, expressions of sympathy and presence at my mother's services has meant more to me than words can express.

A special thank you to the rescue crew of Acting Lt. Kurt McLaughlin, FF Dennis Vigilante, FF John Mulligan and FF Jeff McGourty.

Their kindness and gentle manner was just what my mother needed and it was a great comfort to me at such a sad time.

Thank you all for your support and concern.

Sincerely,

Steve Gagalis

Training

All groups of the Rescue Company and the Squads have been taking part in this ongoing, intense Technical Rescue

9/26/2006

training program with the Boston Fire Department Special Operations Command. Cambridge Rescue 1 has been regularly training with Boston Engine 42, Tower Ladder 3, and Rescue 2 under the direction of **FF Frank Rogiers** and **Fire Captain Martin Andrews**. Pictures below show confined space rescue and rope training exercises in progress both at Moon Island and at the tech rescue prop at Engine 2 and Ladder 19's quarters in South Boston.







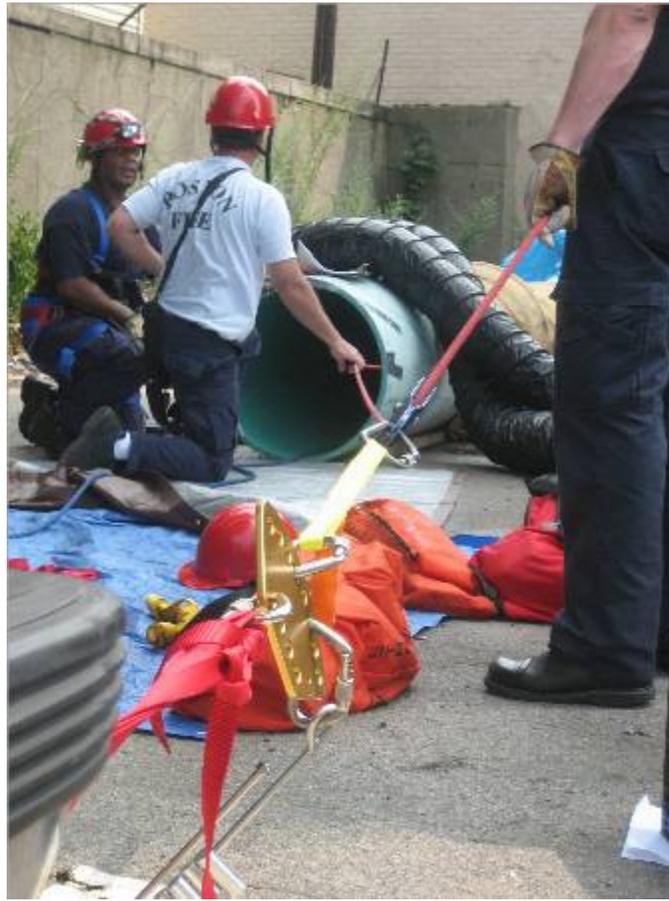
















View from the training tower at Engine 2/Ladder 19 in South Boston

- photos above by Tara Bithia

Companies participate in vehicle extrication drill in the rear of the Cambridge Armory.







- photos above by F.Lt. **Steve Brogan**, Engine 6

Stats and Fires

During the month of **July, 2006**, **Squad 2** was the busiest unit with **253 runs**. Engine 2 finished with 237, Engine 5 with 234 runs, and Engine 1 with 184. **Truck 1** finished the month with 211 runs and Truck 3 with 187. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **163 runs**. **Division 1** finished with a total of **159 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 129 incidents. Squad 4 completed July with 153.

There were 1174 emergency incidents during the month, which generated 2868 emergency responses. There were 6 building fires, 26 inside fires, and 41 fires of all categories. There were 2 multiples in July, both second alarms.

A second alarm was ordered from **Box 2-793** for the fire in the attic at 17 Norris Street on 5 July 2006. The box was transmitted at 1724, the signal 45 at 1732, and the second alarm at 1742 hours. Six engines, 4 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units operated to contain and knock down the fire this 2 1/2 story, wood-frame, OMD. **DFC John Cotter** was the IC. Group 1 was on duty.

Two alarms were transmitted for the fire at 182 Upland Road on 26 July 2006, **Box 2-693**. The box was transmitted at 0506, the working fire at 0517, and the second alarm at 0519 hours. Arriving with fire showing from the "bravo" side, companies made an aggressive attack to contain this fire to the cellar, while simultaneously completing searches, and ventilating this 2 1/2 story, wood-frame, OMD. Six engines, 4 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units operated. **DFC Bob Scott** was the IC. Group 3 was on duty.

On 28 July 2006, there was a working fire in the 4 story, wood-frame, OMD at 270 Norfolk Street, **Box 45-283**. The box was struck at 1901 hours and the signal 45 at 1913. Five engines, 3 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, and 2 division chiefs operated under command of **A/DFC Michael Bruno**. Group 3 was on duty.

During the month of **August, 2006**, **Engine 2** was the busiest company with **275 runs**. Engine 5 finished with 198 and Engine 1 with 184 runs. **Truck 1** finished the month with 200 runs and Truck 3 with 180. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **189 runs**. **Division 1** finished with a total of **182 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 132 incidents. **Squads 2 and 4** completed August with **261 and 170 runs** respectively.

There were 1110 emergency incidents during the month, which generated 2843 emergency responses. There were 9 building fires, 30 inside fires, and 44 fires of all categories.

There was a working fire from Box **45-8** on 18 August 2006. The box was transmitted at 0945 hours and the working fire signal at 1004 for the cellar fire in the 1 1/2 story wood-frame dwelling at 150 Chilton Street. Four engines, 3 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, and two division chiefs operated under command of **DFC Bob Scott**. Group 3 was on duty.

A working fire, **Box 45-692**, was also transmitted for the fire at 1815 Massachusetts Avenue, a fire in the loading dock area of this 5 story, commercial building. Four engines 2 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads and Division 2 operated. **DFC Frank Murphy** was the IC. Group 4 was on duty.

Fiscal Year 2006 Stats

The totals for the fiscal year ending 30 June 2006 are shown below. **Engine 2** was the busiest company with 2783 runs. Squad 2 finished with 2657 runs. Truck 1 was the busiest truck with 2050. Truck 1 also worked at the greatest number of "code 111" building fires, 74 total. Somerville Engine 3 responded to 80 incidents in Cambridge.

FY 2005/2006 RUN TOTALS

	Total runs	Building Fires
Engine 1	2067	55
Engine 2	2783	52
Engine 3	1416	30
Engine 4	1540	24
Engine 5	1920	62
Engine 6	1333	39
Engine 8	1249	26
Engine 9	941	22
Truck 1	2050	74
Truck 2	1269	41
Truck 3	1976	54
Truck 4	1601	30
Rescue 1	1944	71
Squad 2	2657	62
Squad 4	1787	54
Division 1	1747	61
Division 2	1429	46
Special Units	346	
Mutual Aid Units	223	
TOTAL RUNS	30278	

Incidents	11,894
Div 1 Incidents	6599
Div 2 Incidents	5295
Responses	30,278
EMS	5165
Bldg Fires	99
Inside Fires	442
All Fires	574
HazMat	248

Working Fires	5
2nd Alarms	2
3rd Alarms	1
4th Alarms	1

Massachusetts Largest Loss Fire - Calendar Year 2005

As reported through the MFIRS (Massachusetts Fire Incident Reporting System) fire statistical information report, the largest dollar loss fire in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 2005 was in Cambridge. On 4 February 2005, at 2300 hours, Cambridge Fire Department fought the fire in an underground laboratory at 16 Divinity Avenue, a Harvard University facility, that was under construction but nearly completed. The fire began in a storage area on the third sub-level. The box was 2-622 and group 3 was on duty. The fire loss was estimated at **\$23 million**.

IFBA Convention - Seattle



At the recent convention in Seattle, IFBA (International Fire Buffs Association) Executive Vice-President **Bill Mokros** presents the gavel to new IFBA president, **Gerry Mahoney** (LEPC). In 2007, the IFBA convention will be held in Cambridge.



Photo above, **Fire Lieutenant John Ruffing** (Engine 5 retired) and **Anne Thibodeau** with IFBA president **Gerry Mahoney**

Harris Poll - Firefighter Rated #1

According to the annual nationwide survey sample taken by **HarrisInteractive** of the **Harris Poll**, Firefighter is rated the #1 prestigious profession among 23 occupations and professions in the survey. Sixty-three percent of people surveyed rated Firefighter as having "very great" prestige. The occupation and profession prestige ratings, based on the survey sample, are as follows:

Occupation	Very Great Prestige %
Firefighter	63
Doctor	58
Nurse	55
Scientist	54
Teacher	52
Military Officer	51
Police Officer	43
Priest/Minister/Rabbi/Clergy	40
Farmer	36
Engineer	34
Member of Congress	28
Architect	27
Athlete	23
Lawyer	21
Entertainer	18
Accountant	17
Banker	17
Journalist	16
Union Leader	12
Actor	12
Business Executive	11
Stockbroker	11
Real Estate Agent/broker	6

Retirees

Join the **Retired Firefighters Breakfast Club**. The club meets at 0730 hours on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at Andy's Diner (across from Engine 4's house) in North Cambridge. Call John O'Donoghue at 781-483-9217 or e-mail him at jod3502@aol.com for more information. All retired members are welcome. Stay in touch. Have breakfast with good company.

Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events:

Fire Photo Night

New England FireCon '07 presents A Fire Photo Night featuring **Chris Mickal, District Chief** of the **New Orleans Fire Department**. The photo night will be held on Friday, 20 October 2006 at 2000 hours at the Malden

Emergency Center, Jackson Suite, 114 Centre Street, Malden, MA. Tickets are \$10. Parking is \$1. A portion of the proceeds will benefit members of the NOFD.

Contact Captain Gerry Mahoney for tickets.

IFBA Convention

The annual convention of **The International Fire Buffs Association** will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts in **August of 2007**. The convention site will be the Royal Sonesta Hotel.

MDA Drive

A quick note of thanks:

To all who helped out with Fill-The-Boot Drives or the Golf Tournament

The total proceeds from our fundraising for MDA was \$5187.70

A check was mailed to MDA last week.

A special thank you to **Bill Hugh** for organizing the Fill-The-Boot events.

TO ALL OF YOU:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

- **Gerry Mahoney**

Condolences

Condolences to **FF Robert Byrne** (Engine 4 retired) on the death of his mother, **Jean (Graham) Byrne**, on 16 August. Jean Byrne was the wife of the late **Fire Captain Thomas Byrne** (Ladder 4 retired.)

Condolences also to Fire Alarm Operator **Steve Gagalis** (ECC) on the death of his mother, **Stella (Hanos) Gagalis**, on 21 August.

Condolences to **FF Joe Thorp** (Ladder 4 retired) On the death of his grandson, **Rocco D. Magliozzi**, on the 28th of July.

Fundraiser for Brian Fontaine, United States Army 4th Division

Support our American heroes.

This is a very good cause. Brian's dad is a Firefighter with Rescue Co. 2 in Egleston Square. Brian's grandfather was on the job and a "Ladderman" at Ladder Co. 24.

Brian was on his 2nd tour in IRAQ, and was injured when a roadside bomb went off and Brian lost both legs...a true American hero!

Contributions can be made to:
Sgt. Brian Fontaine Fund
Boston Firefighters Credit Union

60 Hallet Street
Dorchester, MA 02124

The following letter was forwarded by **Bill Noonan**:

Greetings from Iraq!

Many have asked what I do, where I am at, how do you manage type questions since been deployed. With your permission, I will try to answer some of the questions.

About Ali Base. This is a former Air Base for Saddam Hussein. Back then it was know Air Base. It was his prime Base when he invaded Kuwait. The Airfield has several Har Shelters where his planes were parked during the first Gulf War. All of them have major damage from the bombs dropped by our planes. The Base is large and is pock-marked with craters. Several large lots with concrete pads where buildings used to be (before the bombs) are scattered about. Some of his buildings still stand and we now use them for work centers. We operate out of large and small tents. Everywhere we walk is rocky, not many concrete sidewalks here. In our (Fire Department) compound we have one trailer (called "The C") with 10 showers, 5 toilets and 3 urinals that approximately 40 (exact number is classified) share. We have one washer and dryer, it is located in the woman's Cadillac. We have a car with us, so we work around them to do our laundry. In the month of July the majority of days are over 120 degrees. We share the Base with a large contingent of Army, as well as British, Australian, Japanese, Bosnian and Romanian troops.

I am a firefighter. I work 24 hours on duty / 24 hours off. The days get blurred as I carry with me 24/7 and when a call comes in on my day off, I am basically on-call and end up doing something. I am a Crew Chief of a Truck and have 2 firefighters under me. We respond to Emergency at the Base. Rarely have we had a day go by that we haven't responded to one emergency, and multiple calls in a day are not uncommon. Mostly our calls have been medical emergencies, but we have had major fires, Hazardous Materials Spills, Aircraft Emergencies, and lots of standbys.

And we have had to be Combat Firefighters. We have come under rockets attacks from insurgents. More than once. While under attack and the rockets are exploding, we take cover as soon as the rockets stop, we head out. We disperse to pre-designated areas on the Base to investigate reports of explosions, damage and injuries. We are on the lookout for unexploded munitions and downed personnel. We up channel information we observe, treat injuries and transport to our Combat Support Hospital. We do our job in Body Armor and Kevlar helmets to protect ourselves. Thankfully, the only injuries physically that have occurred due to the attacks have been minor. We are taking Combat Medic courses to prepare for an attack that results in multiple serious injuries. Unfortunately, more attacks are possible.

Now, the ending of my story. "How are we coping" you may ask. What I have related to you is nothing that every Veteran can't relate to. We don't have it bad at all compared to many Veterans here. And much better than many Veterans before us. We do as they did, we rely on each other. We greet everyone with a smile and ask "How ya doin?" And we mean the question as we want to know. We watch each others faces, not walk along with our minds on our problems looking at the ground and ignoring all around us. We talk to our neighbor, be they Arm Aussie, Brit, Japanese, Bosnian or Romanian. We take care of each other. As every other Veteran has done. We are not doing anything hundreds of thousand Veterans haven't done before us. So I ask each of you to do me a favor, not to take anything away from Chris Easter, but please put Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Flag Day and the Fourth of July on your favorite holiday lists. And know this; when I get home and you see me on the street

smile and ask how you are doing, ask if there is anything I could do to help.... I will mean it! It's all about taking care of each other.

TSgt Kevin Schott
Ali Base, Iraq

America's Heroes

Dry-Fast Clothing Of Limits in Iraq

Marine Corps commanders in Iraq have prohibited troops from wearing synthetic athletic clothing containing polyester and nylon while conducting operations off forward operating bases and camps.

The ban on popular clothing from companies like Under Armour, CoolMax, and Nike comes in the wake of concerns that a substantial burn risk is associated with wearing clothing made with these synthetic materials.

Exposed to extreme heat and flames, clothing containing synthetic materials like polyester will melt and can fuse to the skin. This essentially creates a second skin and can lead to horrific, disfiguring burns, said Navy Capt. Lynn E. Welling, the 1st Marine Logistics Group head surgeon.

"Burns can kill you, and they're horribly disfiguring. If you're re throwing {a melted synthetic material} on top of a burn, basically you have a bad burn with a bunch of plastic melting into your skin, and that's not how you ant to go home to your family." said Welling.

For these reason, Marines have been limited to wearing clothing made with these materials only while on the relatively safe forward operating bases and camps when encounters with fires and explosions are relatively low. Burns have become a common injury in Iraq as the enemy continues to employ IEDs and roadside bombs.

- **LCpl. Stephen Holt**

reprinted from the July/August edition of ***Semper Fi***, the Magazine of the Marine Corps League

America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand.

- President Harry S Truman



Information

Please submit any information, photographs, or narratives for inclusion in the ***Company Journal***.

E-mail list

If any retirees or friends of the Cambridge Fire Department wish to be added to the ***Company Journal*** e-mail list, send us the e-mail address!

Websites

Visit the Cambridge Fire Department website at www.Cambridgefire.org

Check out Cambridge Firefighters Local 30's website at <http://www.cambridgelocal30.org/>

Visit the the Cambridge Retirement Board website at <http://www.cambridgeretirementma.gov/index.asp>

Thanks to our members who are serving overseas in the military in defense of our country, **FF Steve Jeffres** (Engine 3), **FF Gene Myrtil** (Engine 5), and **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU). Keep these members in your thoughts.



**REMEMBER THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED SERVICES
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THEY ARE PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY,**

OUR LIBERTY, AND OUR FREEDOM.
THANK OUR VETERANS!

Never Forget.

Remember the 3000 Americans murdered on September 11, 2001 at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania.

Always remember the 343 brothers murdered on September 11, 2001.



**Brothers and Sisters,
STAY BRAVE!
STAY VIGILANT!
STAY SAFE!**
