
From: Gelinas, John
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2008 07:45
To: *All Fire Employees
Cc: *All ECC Employees
Subject: Company Journal - Issue 47



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

Fire Department News
Cambridge, Massachusetts
A Class 1 Fire Department

From the desk of
Chief Gerald R. Reardon

Issue #47
Thursday, 19 June 2008

What's New

Ladder 3's apparatus is currently at the Pierce factory in Wisconsin undergoing a total refurbishment. The truck should be back in the fall. Ladder 3 is running spare Ladder 5 temporarily. Specifications are being drawn up for a new ladder truck to replace Ladder 1 in the upcoming fiscal year.

Pending the final stages of processing, approximately 6 firefighter candidates will be appointed as FFOPs in early July.

All Companies Working

Companies operate at a van fire at JFK and Winthrop on 30 May 2008.





- photos above by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU)

Box 3-413: The value of experience is proven again as Truck 2 members maneuvered the tower-ladder apparatus into the alley on the "Charlie" side of the fire buildings. The judicious placement of Truck 2 gave them the tactical advantage to help stop this rapidly extending fire. The same members, under similar conditions, maneuvered the apparatus into a very tight spot in the alley on the "Charlie" side of the fire at Box 3-42, 360 Broadway in February.



Truck 2 in the alley on the Charlie side of the fire buildings



Firefighters Joe Johnson and Dan Lewicki (Truck 2) - nearly 60 years of firefighting experience

*- photos above by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins (FIU)***

Cambridge Dive Rescue Team worked with Saugus Fire Department members to search for a car in the Saugus River in March of 2008.



FF Walter Grace (Division 2, Group 4) coordinated water search





Chief Blanchard (Saugus) with **FF Ken Souza** (Rescue) and **F.Lt. Steve Brown** (Tech Services/Dive Master)







- photos above by **Doug Boudrow**

Working Fire Somerville Box 45-224 for 99 Prospect Street - April, 2008





Photos above: Cambridge companies operated at the Somerville Working Fire on Prospect Street

- photos above by **Jim Swanton**

Mutual Aid to Brookline Third Alarm on 16 April 2008



Tactical Aide **Firefighter Fran Gallagher** and **DFC Steve Leonard** (Division 1) coordinating operations



All hands assist in 4" hose line stretch to feed Ladder 1's ladder pipe



F.Capt. Ed Morrissey (Truck 1) and **FF Fran Gallagher** (Division 1)



Truck 1 set up in alley at "Charlie/Delta" corner

- photos above by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU)

Faces of the Fire Service

Members operating at Chelsea Second Alarm Box 2-133 for 80 Willow Street - March, 2008



F.Lt. Tom Cahill (Squad 4)



Tactical Aide FF Howie Conrad (Division 1)



FF Jeffrey Turner (Ladder 1)



FF Kyle Hood (Ladder 1)



FF Jay Martell - (Squad 4)



FFs Ryan DeCoursey and Kyle Hood (Ladder 1)

- photos above by Jim Swanton

Members operating at Somerville Working Fire Box 45-224 for 99 Prospect Street - 25 January 2008



F.Lt. Chris Towski (Fire Prevention/Incident Electrical Safety Officer)



DC Ed Mahoney (Division 1)



F.Lt. Bob Bell (Engine 5)

- photos above by Jim Swanton

More Faces of the Fire Service

Members operating at Third Alarm Box 3-413 for Amory Street – 28 May 2008 at 1528 hours:



*Incident Commander **DFC Lester Bokuniewicz** (Division 1, group 2)*



Chief of Department Gerry Reardon



F.Capt. Greg Carter (Squad 4/covering at Engine 3)



F.Lt. Steve Mitchell (Boston Truck 24) reports to **Chief Reardon** for orders



F.Lt. Brian Higgins (FIU) briefs C1 on cause and origin investigation



C2 Chief John Gelinis



FF Bill Noonan (Boston K7)

- photos above by **Jimmy Daly**

More Faces of the Fire Service



FFs Michael Davis and David Crooker Engine 4



F.Capt. Greg Carter



F.Lt. Sean White (Rescue 1)



FF Pedro Gonzalez (Rescue 1) and FF Jay Martel



Chief of Department Gerry Reardon

- photos above by Jim Swanton

Wheels of the Fire Service



Ladder 1



Division 1



Squad 4

- photos above by **Jim Swanton**

Tip of the Helmet

A "Tip of the Helmet" is in order for our people who support our own. There was quite a showing by Cambridge people at the benefit for the Milton FF Antonio Pickens on March 28. Cambridge Firefighters in attendance included:

Captain Bill Braithwaite

Lt. Brian Higgins

Lt Paul Mahoney

FF Matt Ansello

FF Brian Albert

FF Ken Souza

FF Mark Tiede

FF Steve Kelley

FF Shawn Flanagan

FF Phil Paris

FF Howie Smith

FF Andy Carrigan

FF Kurt McLaughlin

Many more bought tickets and didn't attend. Other members sent in donations.

Off Duty Rescue

A "Tip of the Helmet" for a job well done to **FF Ray Vaillancourt** (Engine 4, group 3). On Sunday, 8 June 2008, off-duty FF Vaillancourt, along with 2 Boston Police Officers, searched and rescued civilians from a fire building at 134 Fawndale Road in Roslindale. Ray entered the building to complete the primary search under a heavy smoke condition, with reported people trapped. This was done before the arrival of fire department. companies. Ray was officially commended for this action on the request of Boston District Fire Chief Bemhard. Nice job, Ray!

Congratulations

Congratulations to **FF David Garcia** (Engine 9, group 3) and wife, **Carol**, on the birth of **Sarah Elizabeth**. Sarah was born on 12 May 2008 at 0857. She weighed in a 9 pounds 15 ounces and was 21 inches long. Sarah is the first child of David and Carol.

Congratulations to grandfather **F.Lt. Galvin Murphy** (Engine 9, group 2.) Daughter **Kristen** and her husband **Christopher** are happy to announce the arrival of **Kaylah Rose** Graham. She arrived April 5th @ 02:22 hrs. Best wishes to Kristen, Christopher and Kaylah Rose.

Galvin's wife **Barbara** and Galvin are very happy and proud grandparents.

Semper Fi

Congratulations to **F.Lt. Brad Tenney** (Truck 4, group 2.) His son was promoted to Lt. Colonel USMC in April, 2008.

Transfers and Assignments

Per General Order # 04 of 2008, Effective Sunday, April 27, 2008 at 0700 hours:

Fire Lieutenant David J. Pierce from Ladder Company No. 3 to Ladder Company No. 2
Fire Lieutenant Ian Massiah from Engine Company No. 9 to Ladder Company No. 3
Acting Fire Lieutenant Miguel A. Torres from Ladder Company No. 2 to Engine Company No. 9

Transfer and Promotion

Per General Order #09 of 2008, Effective Sunday, 25 May 2008 at 0700 hours:

Firefighter Michael A. Donovan from Rescue Company No 1. to **Acting Fire Lieutenant**, Squad No. 4

Retirements

Per General Order#08, effective May 9, 2008 at 1900 Hours, **Firefighter Carolyn Domond** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Domond was appointed on July 1, 1993. Her assignments were as follows:

- September 12, 1993 Engine Company No. 3
- January 13, 1996 Engine Company No. 5
- April 30, 2000 Engine Company No. 8
- January 6, 2008 Headquarters

Commendations

Per General Order No. 06 of 2008: Unit Citations for actions at Still Alarm, Incident #7009724 for Massachusetts Avenue and Essex Street, at 0658 Hours on March 17, 2008

On the recommendation of Incident Commander, Deputy Fire Chief Lester M. Bokuniewicz, the following members and units are commended:

Engine Company No. 2:

Fire Lieutenant Charles M. Anderson, Firefighter Ariel A. Rodriguez, Firefighter Charles P. Babineau

Ladder Company No. 3:

Fire Captain Peter A. Donovan, Firefighter Sam F. Coleman, Jr., and Firefighter Robert J. Jutras, Firefighter Jeremiah D. Hart

Squad No. 2:

Fire Lieutenant Philip G. Arsenault, and Firefighter Paul F. Morrison

Rescue Company No. 1:

Fire Lieutenant Sean P. White, Firefighter Christopher S. Haynes, Firefighter David M. Croak, Firefighter Pedro O. Gonzalez

Professional Ambulance PM 8:

Paramedic Nate Dubreuil and Paramedic Michael Pieretti

Division No 1:

Firefighter Harold B. Conrad, Jr.

Deputy Fire Chief Lester M. Bokuniewicz is also commended for his leadership, command and control, and coordination of emergency services at this incident.

At 0658 Hrs on March 17, 2008, Division 1, Rescue, Squad 2, Engine 2, Ladder 3 and Pro ALS Unit PM 8 were stilled out to Mass. Avenue and Essex Street for a pedestrian struck by a truck. On arrival Division 1 took command, Squad 2 was assigned as EMS Sector and Ladder 3 and Engine 2 Scene Safety. We found a male in his twenties stuck between the rear dual tires of an 18-wheel tractor-trailer. Pro ALS and Squad 2 were administering ALS to the victim when the Rescue arrived and was assigned as Extrication Sector. The Rescue immediately went to work with the airbag system to lift the truck so we could extricate the victim. Ladder 3 and Engine 2 were assisting the Rescue and securing the truck. As a backup we had a crane that was on scene hooked up to the rear of the truck in case the Rescue was unable to lift it.

The Rescue was able to lift the truck, we extricated the victim, and Pro ALS and Squad 2 transported him to the Mass General Hospital.

I am recommending all of the members listed be considered for a commendation for their actions at this scene. From the time the call was received to patient delivery to the Mass General Hospital was thirty-six minutes, which was exceptional considering the multiple tasks that the members had to complete under extremely stressful conditions. The knowledge of the members along with the training that they receive on a daily basis was evident at this scene.

All members operated in the highest tradition of the Cambridge Fire Department and are hereby commended for their professional actions.

Per Order,

Gerald R. Reardon
Chief of Department

GENERAL ORDER NO. 10, SERIES OF 2008

TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER

RE: **Commendation of Firefighter Raymond E. Vaillancourt
For actions at Boston Box 2621
Upon recommendation of Boston District Fire Chief Thomas E. Bemhard**

Box 2621 was transmitted at 1338 hours on June 8, 2008 for 134 Fawndale Road. Fire Alarm notified responding companies of the possibility of people trapped in the building. Upon arrival, District 12 reported smoke showing. Also upon arrival off-duty Cambridge Fire Fighter Ray Vaillancourt, who lives in the neighborhood, informed District 12 that he had performed a primary search of the fire floor and that all occupants had been evacuated. During this search Fire Fighter Vaillancourt was subjected to heavy smoke condition. Boston Emergency Medical Service treated him on scene.

Request is made that the Cambridge Fire Department be notified of the professional way Fire Fighter Ray Vaillancourt of Engine Company No. 4 acted at this fire. He not only performed a primary search under trying conditions but also reported the results to the Incident Commander thus influencing the tactics used on the fire ground.

Fire Fighter Vaillancourt's actions without the benefit of Personal Protective Equipment or Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus are in the highest tradition of the fire service and of the Cambridge Fire Department. Upon the recommendation of District Fire Chief Thomas E. Bemhard of the Boston Fire Department, Fire Fighter/ Paramedic Raymond E. Vaillancourt is hereby commended for his immediate and courageous action.

Per Order,

Gerald R. Reardon
Chief of Department

Through the Lantern Lens

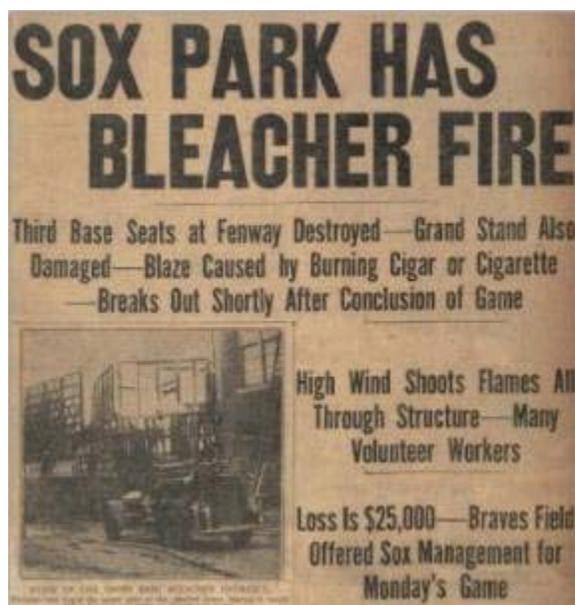
by Mose Humphreys

Red Sox nation has been rooting on the Boys of Summer the last few months as they look to continue their run for yet a third World Series Championship in five years. But how many of you Jakes/diehard Sox fans know about the many fires that have occurred at Fenway Park over the years and how it has made Fenway Park the ballpark we know today? There have been a few fires over the years – just a few to note:

The most recent fire occurred just last year in November 2007. Box 2342 for Boylston @ Jersey St. was struck for a fire at Fenway Park. A Boston firefighter working a fire detail at the park discovered the fire as welders were working to construct new seats in the "old press box section" where the 3rd base

line meets the Green Monster wall. Companies going into the box were instructed by fire alarm to put the stick to the roof on Lansdowne Street and run a line up on top and meet the detail officer. Engine 37 and Ladder 26 arrived quickly and a line was stretched to the roof area and they quickly knocked down the small fire. As they were about to begin overhauling a second fire was discovered underneath a separate work area. Smoke began to get thicker as firefighters were able to open up the bleacher area and quickly knockdown the second fire.

Not really a fire inside the park, but another historical note worth mentioning was when the lights needed to be turned on during an afternoon game in 1950 due to smoke coming from large forest fires burning in Canada.



On January 5, 1934, a major fire tore through the park (which was under construction) lasting five hours and leaving very little undamaged. The fire also spread from the park to several buildings on Lansdowne Street eventually taking 5 alarms to bring under control. Workers were able to finish reconstructing Fenway Park in time for the season opener on April 17, 1934, and a new Fenway greeted baseball fans that attended that game. Among the revisions caused by the fire was a 37-foot sheet metal structure where the wooden left field wall had been. In 1936 they added a 23-foot tall screen to the top of the wall to help protect the windows of Lansdowne Street buildings, and in 1947 they covered over the wall's advertisements with green paint creating one of the defining features of Fenway Park: the Green Monster.

On May 8, 1926, a different portion of the ballpark was destroyed by fire. Due to a lack of finances, then Sox owner John Quinn decided to pocket the insurance money and he didn't rebuild the bleachers along the third base line, a decision that ultimately pleased left fielders since it allowed them to catch foul balls for outs behind the stands.

The first major fire to note occurred way back in May 1894. Boston and Baltimore were playing. When a bench-clearing brawl ensued. A number of fistfights occurred in the stands. The umpires had just gotten everything back to order when someone smelled smoke. Some unruly fans had set fire to the bleachers. This small fire went on to destroy 170 buildings and caused a third of a million dollars in property damage (in 1894 value). Over two thousand people were left homeless.

So if you don't feel like singing "Sweet Caroline" during the seventh inning stretch, you can astound your friends and family with those interesting facts! Go Sox!

History and Tradition

Quick Hitch Harness invented at Engine 3

In July, 1873, Charles E. Berry, a Cambridge, Massachusetts firefighter, came up with a hanging harness with quick-locking hames. When the apparatus driver pulled a cord, the harness dropped onto the horses' backs and the hames were quickly hooked by other firefighters. When the harness dropped, a system of pulleys, counterweights, and springs lifted the holders out of the way.

Before the quick-hitch, harnessing required several minutes. The new system enabled firefighters to shave two to three minutes from the time it took them to roll out of their stations.

Berry's system became so popular that he quit the fire department and sold his patented Berry Hames and Collars throughout the United States and Canada.

Berry was a firefighter assigned to Engine Company No. 3.

- from *Fire Engines, Firefighters* by Paul C. Ditzel

Out and About

Fire Department units recently participated in another of the MCI/Hazmat/Mass DeCon drills. This drill was held in cooperation with the Mount Hospital.



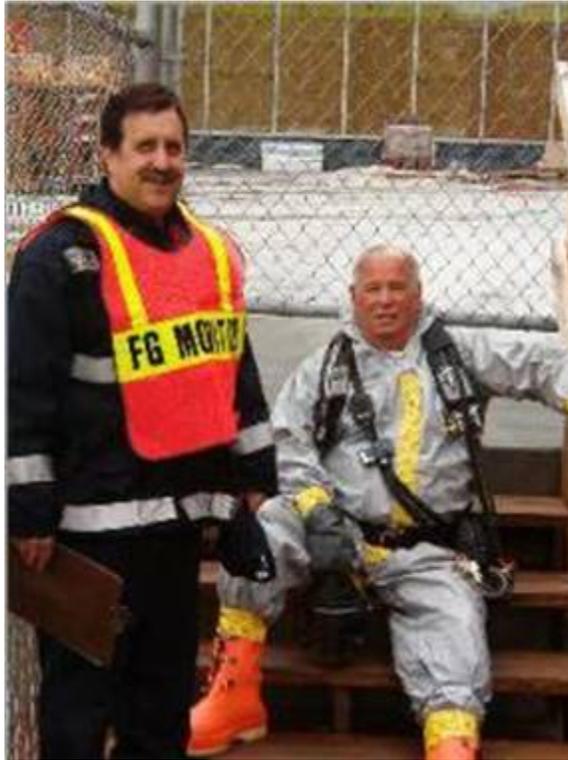
Engine 5 members: **FFs Gene Myrttil, Bill McGovern, and Bob Walsh**



DFC Bob Rossi supervises his men and women during the drill







Tactical Aide FF Bob Bruno (Division 2) and FF Bill McGovern (Engine 5)

- photos above by **FF Ed Oliver** (Engine 8)

Signal 10-15

We regret to announce the death of **Recruit Training Coordinator Valmore Denault**. Val was a Chicopee Deputy Fire Chief (retired) and served as coordinator of Recruit Firefighter Training for many years at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. Val was a good friend to the Cambridge Fire Department and its members.

Condolences

Condolences to **F.Lt. Dan Finn** (Engine 7 - retired) on the death of his brother, **Cambridge Police Officer James J. Finn** (retired). Jim Finn is also the brother-in-law of **F.Capt James Ferreira** (Engine 1 - retired), **FF Phil Dooley** (Ladder 4), and the uncle of **F.Lt. James Ferreira** (Engine 6). PO Finn was the walking route officer in Inman Square for many years. He also played on the Police Department softball team.

Condolences to **FF Jeffrey McGourty** (Rescue 1) on the death of his grandfather, **John J. Walsh**. John J. Walsh is a retired Boston Firefighter (Engine 3).

Condolences to **Melinda Camara** (Headquarters Admin) on the death of her grandmother, **Elisa Camara**. Mrs. Camara was 102 years old.

Condolences to **F.Lt. Bill Hugh** (Truck 2) and **FF Ken Hugh** (Engine 4) on the death of their father **Doland D Hugh**. Condolences also to **F.Lt. Brandon Hugh** (Engine 3). Mr. Doland Hugh is his grandfather.

Condolences to **F.Lt. Timothy O'Leary** (Truck 4 - retired) on the death of his brother, **Police Lieutenant James M. O'Leary**.

Condolences also to **FF Brian Joyce**, (Truck 3, group 3) on the death of his paternal grandfather. He passed away on 5/22 at the age of 101.

Condolences to **FF Craig Yearwood** (Division 2, group 1) on the death of his father, **John W. Yearwood**.

Stats and Fires

In the month of May, 2008, there was a total of **1158 emergency incidents** which generated **2690 responses**. There were 8 "code 111" structure fires, 62 inside fires, and 81 fires of all categories.

Engine 2 was the busiest engine company with **247 runs**. Engine 1 followed with 185 and Engine 5 with 147. **Truck 1** was the busiest ladder company with **164 runs**. Truck 3 responded 152 times during the month. **Rescue 1 had 193 runs**. **Squad 2** was the busiest fire department unit with **300 runs**, followed by Squad 4 with 209. **Division 1** responded **122 times** followed by Division 2, with 105. The FY 2007/2008 company statistical total will appear in the next issue.

On 28 May 2008, three alarms were ordered from Box 3-413 for the fire at 104 thru 118 Amory Street. Arriving first-due with heavy fire showing, Engine 5, under command of Fire **Captain Mark Cunningham**, immediately established a water supply, stretched a 2 1/2" attack line, and contained the large volume of fire, 40 feet high, in the rear alley among several buildings. The judicious placement of the first hose line undoubtedly stopped the rapid spread of the fire and allowed other companies to effect a quick search and rescue. A total of five buildings (2 - 3 story, wood-frame OMDs and 3 - 2 1/2 story, wood-frame OMDs) were ultimately damaged by fire. All companies worked aggressively to stop the rapid extension of fire and extinguish same. Simultaneously with the placement of several hose-lines, truck company members opened up and ventilated, while the rescue and squads performed the primary searches under severe conditions. **DFC Lester Bokuniewicz** was the Incident Commander. Group 2 was on duty.

Box 413 was transmitted at 1528 hours; the signal 45 at 1530; the 2nd alarm at 1533 hours; and the 3rd at 1537 hours. Nine engines, 6 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, 4 line chief officers, and staff and support units operated.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Fire Department and Emergency Communications Department members who received City of Cambridge Outstanding City Employee Awards. Firefighter Craig Yearwood and ECC Supervisor Fred Hart were recognized by City Manager Robert Healy for their outstanding work as city employees.



Robin and Craig Yearwood



Chief Reardon and FF Craig Yearwood



Emergency Communications Supervisor Fred Hart, Fred's mother Marie, and ECD Director George Fosque

*- photos above by **Leslie Carroll**, ECC*

Letters

A few of the many letters and e-mails received are shown below.

Cambridge Health Alliance
Department of Surgery
1493 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

April 4, 2008

John J. Gelinis
Chief of Operations
City of Cambridge Fire Department

RE. Firefighter CJ Roberts

Dear Chief Gelinis:

Last Sunday evening, March 30, I found myself around the area of Cambridge and 3rd Streets, trying to find the Cambridge Multicultural Theater. I thought, wrongly as it turned out, that I had reservations for a performance of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. The streets were deserted, and I could not locate Theater.

I came across the Fire Station at the corner of Cambridge and 2nd Streets, and knocked on the window. A young firefighter signaled for me to come to the entrance on 2nd Street, whereupon he gave me directions to the theater. I thanked him, and turned down 2nd Street, then turned in at what appeared to

be a courtyard. Problem was, I stood there uncertainly. No lights appeared to be on , and I couldn't see any signs of theater life. AS I stood there puzzled, the firefighter appeared at my elbow, having run down the street when he realized I had made a wrong turn. He guided me personally to the proper place. Unfortunately, the theater was closed; I had the wrong date. When asked, he introduced himself to me as CJ Roberts. After directing me back to Cambridge Street, he departed quickly to return to his post.

I just wanted to let you know how much I value this Cambridge public employee's kind and attentive care and direction. Though obviously not in his job description, his friendliness and concern for a lost stranger (and Cambridge citizen) were very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Ronald M. Weintraub. M.D.

Somerville, Ma 02144

Cambridge Fire Department
Fire Headquarters
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

Thank You!

Thank you to the Cambridge Firefighters who responded to the 911 call at the (old) Matignon Church parking lot (corner of Alewife Brook Pkwy and Matignon Rd.) on Tuesday, Feb 26th at approximately 9 a.m. The call came from my sister, (who was driving white Toyota Sienna), to report that my labor contractions were now 2 minutes apart and we would not be able to make it to Mt. Auburn Hospital without an escort. I'm sorry I don't remember your names and barely recall your faces but your encouraging voices and support (and appropriate humor !!), I will not soon forget. This Thank You is long overdue but I hope not long forgotten for if it were not for all of your efforts, I might have a different story to tell! AS the caption below reads: my daughter Amanda was born at 944 a.m. My recollection is that I arrived at Mt. Auburn sometime before 9:30 a.m.! Thank you all, for all that you did!

Michelle Bemiller

*editor's note: Engine 4, Squad 4, and Professional Ambulance were assigned to this incident, Still Alarm I#7008985 at 0900 hours on 26 Feb 2008. Engine 4: **A/F.Lt. James Bergin, FF Michael Pearson, and FF Simon Camelo** (detailed from Engine 9); and Squad 4: **A/F.Lt. Sean Williams and FF Bryan O'Neil**; and Professional Ambulance PM7: **Paramedic James Griffith and EMT Jeremy Gartland** were on duty. Cambridge **Police Officer Stanley Gedaminsky** (Car 11R) also assisted.*



Michele + Amanda
(born @ 9:44am)

23 February 2008

Cambridge Fire Department
ATTN: Squad 4
2029 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02140

Hello Squad 4 ~

Just wanted you to know that Hugh Devlin was my heroic attendant during the FAST labor of my 7 week old son, Benny.

On January 4th of this year, I was fool enough to try and get to the hospital to deliver my second child (the first being just 1 - 1/2 years old) when the contractions were 4 minutes apart right out of the starting gate. And my fine friend who drove me was fool enough to try and take Route 16 near the Alewife T Station enroute to the Melrose Wakefield Hospital at 5:pm on a Friday night!

Needless to say, we didn't get but 1/2 mile through the usual nasty traffic on Route 16, with my mother hollering out the rear window "we're having a baby!. She's having a baby! when a policeman on duty there offered to call us "an escort". And Voila! Hugh and Squad 4 were there, as well as people from Professional Ambulance Company.

During just this short time, my labor was progressing FAST. Hugh rode with me the the back of the ambulance to the hospital , me swearing the whole way in a mad chaos of pain, and the driver getting stuck behind a train crossing the road.

(ohMy....God).

Benny was born just 6 minutes after I arrived in the Labor and Delivery.

My healthy 8.2 lb son was nearly born into the leg of my pants. Swear.

Thank You, Hugh for knowing what you were doing, and for giving me someone to be confident in during that crazy adventure. I would have been lost without you.

Best Regards,

Tracy Swyst

Arlington, MA

Editor's note: This incident, I#7007113 occurred at 1718 hours on 4 January 2008. Engine 4, Squad 4, and Professional Ambulance PM5 were assigned.

*Members working at this incident were Engine 4: **F.Lt. Daniel Flaherty, FF Edmund Friel, and FF Laura Prunty**; Squad 4: **A/F.Lt. Hugh Devlin and FF Raymond Vaillancourt**; and Professional Ambulance PM 5: **Paramedic Jay Starzynski and EMT Jeremy Gartland**.*

Saugus Fire Department
27 Hamilton Street
Saugus, Massachusetts 01906

Date: March 21, 2008
To: Chief Gerald R. Reardon
From: Chief Blanchard

At about 10 p.m. on March 21, 2008 (Good Friday), the Saugus Fire Department received a 911 call reporting a car with its headlights on, had just rolled into the Saugus River. We responded with our boat, filled out the box assignment, and called Cambridge Fire for the underwater dive team. Cambridge arrived promptly, received a briefing and began an underwater search. Thus began a long and arduous search that continued for several hours. Divers searched the murky bottom supported by boat crews and rope tenders. Compounding the task was a full moon, an exceedingly high tide, and gusty winds of up to 30 miles per hour that made everything more difficult. Divers, boat crews, and shoreline rope tenders were rotated in and out of rehab, in an effort to warm, hydrate, and feed them. The search was called off after several grueling hours.

The Saugus Fire Department searched the surface of the river everyday looking for signs of the vehicle. On March 24, our boat believed they had found the submerged auto. The Cambridge Dive Team was again called to the scene. Again with superior professionalism, the dive team launched their boat and entered the water. They forced entry to the vehicle and determined it to be empty. They applied a sling that lead from the vehicle to the surface of the water. They also coordinated with a nearby commercial fishing vessel that had to be used to hook up to the sling in order to move the car to a position where a tow truck could get a cable on it. The people of Cambridge are indeed fortunate to have such a splendid resource at their service every day. It was an honor to work with these brave men in this rescue and recovery effort.

On behalf of the citizens of Saugus and all the members of the Saugus Fire Department I would like to commend the members of the Cambridge Dive Team for their prompt, diligent, and professional service in a very difficult and dangerous search and recovery effort. Please accept my sincere appreciation.

Sincerely,

Chief James L. Blanchard

editor's note: photos of this operation can be seen in the "All Companies Working" section above.

Cambridge Fire Department
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

March 23, 2008

Dear Chief Reardon

Thank you for personally dispatching the Rescue Company and Professional Ambulance service to our house on March 17 in response to David's medical condition.

In particular, we would like to thank the members of Rescue Company Group 2 that included:

Lt. Sean White
F.F. Christopher Haynes
F.F. David Croak
F.F. Pedro Gonzales

The members of the rescue kept Tricia informed of the procedures taking place and remained professional and courteous throughout their response. David especially enjoyed their bedside humor during both the incident and transport to Mount Auburn Hospital, which kept this mind off the situation.

Also, please extend our thanks to the two members of Professional Ambulance Service who helped throughout the incident.

Best,

David and Tricia McKinley

*editor's note: Rescue 1 and Professional Ambulance AM3 were assigned. The AM3 members working were **EMT Joseph Killion** and **EMT Travis Jones**.*

Thank You from the bottom of my heart.

May 6, 2008
Elm Street
North Cambridge

Dear Fire Dept.

I wish to thank the three young firefighters who came to my aid recently when I was locked out of my house, My own fault as I left without my purse). They removed the screen so they could enter. They were efficient and friendly. Thanks much again.

Ruth E. Catavolo

editor's note: Ladder Company No. 1 handled this call at 1115 hours on 25 April 2008. Group 3 was on duty.

F.Capt. Edward Morrissey and **FFs Ken Albert** and **Aaron Young** were working.

The following was received via telephone call.

Dr. James Manson called twice to thank the FD for excellent service given to him by the Fire and EMS responders. Dr. Manson was treated at Fresh Pond Place at 1906 hours on 5 March 2008, I#7009314. He called to talk about the "excellent care" given by all responders. He and his wife were extremely pleased by service given. He wishes to thank all the members who treated him.

Editor's note: Engine 9, Squad 4, and Professional Ambulance PM6 were assigned. Members working were:
Engine 9: **F.Lt. David McKinley**, **FF Simon Camelo**, and **FF Gary Nangle**
Squad 4: **A/Lt. Sean Williams** and **FF Nathan Jarvi**

Please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation for sending Engine 2 and the Squad to participate in our Family Day celebration. They were a big hit with all the employees and their family members. The Captain, Lieutenant, and the crew were very professional and may have inspired more than a few youngsters to consider future enrollment at the Fire Academy! (see below)

Cambridge Fire Department's participation was like the frosting on the cake!

Thanks again,

Bob Najjar

Director of Environmental Health and Safety
The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory
555 Technology Square, MS 64
Cambridge, MA 02139

From: Grant, Eric R.
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2008 9:37 AM
To: Najjar, Robert C.
Subject: CFD

Bob,

I had my boys over at the fire trucks during Family Day. The crew from CFD could not have been better ambassadors for the city or the profession. The boys were crawling around inside the truck, trying on the gear and asking a lot of questions. They did a great job with the kids!

Thanks,

Eric R. Grant
Physical Security Manager
Draper Laboratory, Inc.

Editor's note: Engine 2 and Squad 2 participated in the event above.
Members included Engine 2: F. Captain Robert Morrissey, FF Kevin Conroy and FF Michael Travers, Jr.,
and Squad 2: F.Lt. Brian Casey and FF Paul Morrison

A Tip of the Helmet

A Tip of the Helmet to **FF Al Coipel** of (Rescue 1, group 1) for his off-duty efforts in assisting an injured AAA baseball player! The youth was playing in the catcher position when he was struck on the head by the bat. The following letter was forwarded by e-mail.

From: Rich Laurendeau

Date: May 3, 2008

Subject: Matt Laurendeau says Thank You

Hi Red Sox and Dodger players, coaches, and concerned parents,

I want to say thank you to **Coach Coipel**, Mr. Jefferson, and the other father who attended to me during the accident last night at Buck Field. I also want to thank all the parents and players who called me to make sure I was OK.

I am doing fine this morning other than having a little headache and stiffness but that should go away after my first bowl of ice cream for breakfast. I do have to refrain from playing for a week but I will still be at the games to cheer us on on. Fortunately, I had my helmet on.

Is it true we (AAA Red Sox) came back and won the game 22 -21 or was I just dreaming?

In any case – PLAY BALL.

Thanks,

Matt Laurendeau
Mr. Rich Laurendeau

Memorial Sunday

Cambridge Firefighters Memorial Sunday was held on 8 June 2008. Thanks to all members, families, and friends of the Cambridge Fire Department who turned out on this warm Sunday morning to remember those firefighters who have gone before us. The text of Fire Captain Gerry Mahoney's Memorial Sunday address is shown below.



Color Guard and formation



FFs Steve Jeffres and Peter Mickiewicz



Master of Ceremonies F. Capt. Gerry Mahoney



Captains



F.Lts. Brandon Hugh and Bill Hugh – father and son



F.Lt. Fred Ikels and FF Ameer Moustafa – Engine 5



Connor Gover and Joe Morrissey



Retirees



Truck 1 displaying Old Glory

- photos above by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins (FIU)**

MEMORIAL SUNDAY 2008

On behalf of Captains Committee Chairman Robert Morrissey, Chief Gerald Reardon, Chief of Operations John Gelinas, Local 30 President John Shinkwin and Relief Association President George Thompson it is my honor to welcome you to the Annual Memorial Sunday exercises of the Cambridge Fire Department.

It is customary on the second Sunday in June for the fire service in greater Boston to pause and reflect on the members who have gone before us. Some of those we reflect on today have made the supreme sacrifice; they died in the line-of-duty. Others have departed this earth after a long career followed by many years of enjoyable retirement. And sadly some others have been taken from us far too soon at a young age.

The fire service is perhaps the single most tradition rich profession there is. The traditions we honor and celebrate serve a special purpose. They serve to remind us of our own mortality, to educate those beyond our ranks of the uniqueness of our profession and most importantly to honor those who have laid the groundwork to

provide us with what we have today. I am always impressed by the large turn-out of our retirees at this Memorial Sunday. I would ask that our active members now turn and honor them with a round of applause for what they have done for Cambridge and for each one of us.

Since late 2001 we have been a nation at war. I would ask that in addition to remembering the members of this department who have gone before us, that today we also pause and reflect on the brave men and women who so proudly wear the uniform of the United States of America. They stand watch today in dangerous places around the globe defending liberty and the cause of freedom. In a special way we also honor those heroes who have given their lives in the defense of our nation. It is through their valiant selflessness that we stand here today, a free and proud nation.

This past week we were notified of the brave sacrifice in Iraq of 24 year-old Sgt. Shane Duffy of Taunton, MA. Sgt. Duffy is the son of Taunton Firefighter Keavin Duffy. For all our brave service men and women let us now have a moment of silence.

In May 1962 while delivering the commencement address at the U.S. Military Academy, Gen. Douglas MacArthur gave his famous and eloquent “Duty, Honor, Country” speech.

“Duty, honor, country: Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be. They are your rallying point to build courage when courage seems to fail, to regain faith when there seems to be little cause for faith, to create hope when hope becomes forlorn.” He went on to say: “The unbelievers will say they are but words, but a slogan, but a flamboyant phrase. However, they teach you to be proud and unbending in honest failure, but humble and gentle in success; not to substitute words for actions, not to seek the path of comfort, but to face the stress and spur of difficulty and challenge; to learn to stand up in the storm, but to have compassion on those who fall; to master yourself before you seek to master others; to have a heart that is clean, a goal that is high; to learn to laugh, yet never forget how to weep; to reach into the future, yet never neglect the past;

These are principles we must adhere to. We must move forward, we must look to the future and aspire to lofty goals, but we must never neglect the past.

- Fire Captain Gerry Mahoney

Safety First

FF Tom Casey (Truck 1, group 3) demonstrates safe riding procedures to his niece, **Fiona**. Fiona is the daughter of **F.Lt. Brian Casey** (Squad 2, group 2.)



- photo above by **F. Lt. Brian Casey**

End of an era

Friends of **FF Kevin Kelly** gathered at Paddy's to wish him the best of luck on his upcoming retirement.



State Representative and City Councilor Tim Toomey presents a proclamation to **Kevin Kelly** as **FF David McCaffrey** looks on.

- photo by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins (FIU)**



This one's for you! - June, 2008

Bob Currier (Rescue 1, group 1 - retired) helps to celebrate his grandson's high school graduation

- photo by **Tara Bithia**

Canobie Lake Park Outing

Mark the date. The Local 30 Cambridge Firefighters Canobie Lake Park Outing is scheduled for Tuesday, 12 August 2008. Group 4 is on duty. Further details will be available later.



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 website at <http://www.cambridgelocal30.org/>

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

"...there are two things in which I had full confidence: our firefighters and our equipment. We have some of the finest people in the world in our job. Given the opportunity, they will overcome any obstacles put before them, and I trusted them."

- Captain (then Lieutenant) Patrick J. Brown

(4th Issue *WNYF*, "High Rise Fire and Rope Rescues," concerning the double rope rescue at 7th and 48th, Times Squire, 14 May 1991

Captain Brown was assigned as a covering officer on Rescue 1 that day. He was murdered in the line of duty at the World Trade Center on 11 Sept 2001.)

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!



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

*John J. Gelinas
Chief of Operations
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Cambridge, MA 02138
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-jjg