

Gelinas, John

From: Gelinas, John
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2008 8:01 AM
Subject: Company Journal - Issue 48



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 #48
Wednesday, 1 October 2008

What's New

Ladder 3 will be delivered back into the city next week. Ladder 3 was completely disassembled and totally rebuilt at the Pierce factory in Wisconsin. The bids for a new truck for **Ladder 1** should be advertised shortly.

Who's New

Per G.O. #11 of 2008, effective at 0700 hours on Sunday, 6 July 2008, the following are appointed as Firefighters on Probation:

Stephen A. Capuccio

James M. Encalada
John L. Magee
Matthew R. McDonald
John T. Pasquarello

Per G.O. #16 of 2008, effective at 0700 hours on Sunday, 3 August 2008, the following is appointed as Firefighter on Probation:

Joseph A. Hallissey

All Companies Working

Cambridge Fire Companies assisted the **Arlington Fire Department** at third alarm **Box 3-131**, for the fire in the 3 story, wood-frame, OMD at 260 Broadway, Arlington. Dispatch time was 1320 hours on Wednesday, 2 July 2008. Ladder 1, Squad 4, and Division 2 operated at the fire. Engine 4 covered. Group 1 was on duty.



Cambridge Ladder 1 set up in the alley on the "delta" side of the fire building.



Division 2 Tactical Aide Firefighter Craig Yearwood and Division Chief John Cotter



Rehab sector: **FF Michael Francis** (L1), **FF Kenneth Cunningham** (L1), **FF Bill Barry** (E4 detailed to Squad 4), **F.Capt. Ed Morrissey** (L1), and **A.Lt. Michael Donovan** (Squad 4).



Always on duty: **Mark Cunningham**, the Captain of Engine 5, who happened to be in the neighborhood, gives his progress report.



Quick work by firefighters contained the fire to the "charlie/delta" corner of floor #3. Arlington, as well as Somerville and Cambridge FD operated at the fire.

- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

In the early morning hours of 14 Sept 2008, **Working Fire signal Box 45-29** was ordered for the cellar fire in the 3 story, wood-frame building, commercial on floor #1 and OMD on floors 2 and 3. Due to the aggressive tactics of the assigned companies, working under high heat and zero visibility conditions, the fire was confined to the cellar area of the East Coast Grill, 1271 Cambridge Street, Inman Square. The Still alarm was at 0415, the box was transmitted at 0419, and the working fire was ordered at 0427. The "all-out" was transmitted at 0753 hours. Five engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, and 3 chiefs operated at the fire. Group 4 was on duty.



Members advancing attack lines into the cellar.



Chiefs discuss strategy.

DFC Edward Mahoney (Division 1) was the IC.

DFCs Frank Murphy (Division 2) and **Dave Salvi** (Somerville C2) also operated at the fire.

- *Photos above by Jimmy Swanton*

On 21 Sept 2008, a Second Alarm was ordered, **Box 2-463**, for the fire on floor #4 of the 4 story, brick and wood, occupied multiple dwelling at 371 Harvard Street.



FF Dave McCaffrey (Ladder 1)



F.Lt. John Kotowski (Ladder 1)



Chief Gerry Reardon and DFC Ed Mahoney



F.Lt. Patrick Haggerty (Ladder 3)



FF Kevin Lawson (Ladder 3)



F.Lt. Brian Casey (Squad 2)



F.Lt. Brian Higgins (FIU)



DFC Michael Morrissey (FIU)

- Photos above by **Jimmy Swanton**

Faces of the Fire Service

Engine 5, Engine 4, Truck 1, Squad 2, and Division 1 operated at the third alarm fire, Box 3-132 for 50 Flint Street in Somerville on 17 August 2008. Dispatch time was 1457 hours. Engine 9 covered.



F.Lt. Bob Bell – Engine 5



FF John Hathaway – Engine 5



FF Andy Carrigan – Engine 5



FF Charles Donnelly - Engine 5



DFC Ed Mahoney – Division 1



Engine 5 Pump

- *Photos above by **Jimmy Swanton***

Retired Engine 1 member, **Donald Gonzalo**, visits Engine 1 to check out the new pump. FF Gonzalo spent nearly 20 years working on Engine 1. Shown with FF Gonzalo is **Fire Captain Brian Gover**, the captain of Engine 1.



- photo by **Tara Bithia**

Engine 2 and Squad 2 with Cambridge Marine 1 recently participated in a multi-agency drill with Massport Fire Rescue. Cambridge Marine 1 travelled through the locks into Boston Harbor to meet Massport units at the Massport Logan Airport station.



Massport Marine Unit 1 – *Howard Fitzpatrick*



Cambridge and Massport small fire/rescue boats



Massport Marine 1 – the *Howard Fitzpatrick*



FF Kevin Conroy operates Massport Marine 1's heavy stream appliance delivering 1500 gpm



FF Kevin Conroy (Engine 2), **FF Michael Travers, Jr.** (Engine 2), **F.Capt. Robert Morrissey** (Engine 2), **F.Lt. Steve Brown** (Tech Services), **F.Lt. Brian Casey** (Squad 2), and **FF Jay Martel** (Squad 4).

- *Photos above by **F.Capt. Eric Warren** (Massport Fire and Rescue)*

The **Cambridge Firefighters Local 30 Annual Summer Outing** took place at Canobie Lake Park on the 12th of August. The weather turned out fine, and as usual, a good time was had by all at this well-needed, summer refresher! Thanks to **F.Lt. Galvin Murphy** for coordinating this event.



Hula Hoop contest



F.Lt. David House (Engine 1, group 1) attempts to defend himself.



Pie eating contest



"Big kids" pie eating contest



The winner!!



Hula Hoop competition



Nicole Zedalis (Rescue 1, group 1) makes a strong finish in the Hula Hoop event. **FF Morgan Sheaffer** (Ladder 1 - retired) is in the background.



The Turners
Glenn Turner (Tech Services), **Jessica Turner**, **Allison Torres**, and **Robin Turner**



The Landrys: **F.Lt. Steve Landry** (Engine 8, group 4) and wife, **Janice**.

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

Congratulations

Congratulations to proud new grandparents, **Chief Gerry Reardon** and **Anna**. Granddaughter **Brooke** arrived at 1909 hours on Friday, 1 August 2008. She weighed in at 6 pounds 11 ounces and was 18.5 inches long. Congratulations to mother and father, **Val and AJ Quigley**, parents of a very happy and healthy baby.

Congrats also to another new grandfather, **F.Capt. Mike Mahoney** (Fire Prevention - retired). Mike's granddaughter, **Maeve Mahoney White** was born on 5 August 2008 at 0949 hours. Maeve weighed in at 8 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21.5 inches long. Congratulations also to mother and father, **Kristen and Ed White**.

Congratulations to **F.Lt. David McKinley** (Engine 9, group 4) and wife, **Tricia**, on the birth of **Lily Elise McKinley** on 22 July 2008 at 0310 hours. Lily Elise weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce and was 22 inches long. (See the letter from David and Tricia McKinley below.)

Congrats to **FF Bryan O'Neil** (Engine 4, group 4) and **Kerrie** on the birth of **Delaney Faith O'Neil**. Delaney Faith was born on 3 August 2008 at 0930 hours at South Shore Hospital in Weymouth. She weighed in at 6 lbs. 9 ozs. Delaney Faith joins brothers **Zachary** (11) and **Brendan** (6) as the newest member of the O'Neil family. Everyone is doing great.

Retirement

Per G.O. #14 of 2008, effective at 0700 hours on 12 July 2008, **Deputy Fire Chief Michael E. Kuhn** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Deputy Fire Chief Kuhn was appointed on 1 May 1966. His assignments were as follows:

- May 29, 1966 Engine Company No. 5
- January 12, 1975 Ladder Company No. 2
- December 5, 1976 Acting Lieutenant Engine Company No. 8
- March 13, 1977 Promoted to Lieutenant Engine Company No. 8
- April 9, 1978 Fire Headquarters
- September 10, 1978 Ladder Company No. 2

- January 24, 1982 Acting Captain Ladder Company No. 2
- May 9, 1982 Promoted to Captain Ladder Company No. 2
- January 2, 1983 Engine Company No. 6
- October 12, 1986 Engine Company No. 9
- March 1, 1988 Acting Deputy Chief Property Officer
- March 15, 1988 Promoted to Deputy Chief
- December 3, 1989 Fire Suppression Division Group 4
- April 9, 1995 Division No. 2
- April 7, 1996 Division No. 1
- August 23, 1998 Training Division
- July 11, 1999 Division No. 2 Group 2

Deputy Chief Kuhn served the citizens of Cambridge and the Cambridge Fire Department for more than 42 years, longer than any member in modern history. Congratulations and Best Wishes to DFC Kuhn on his retirement.



DFC Michael Kuhn shown in the Division 2 office, working diligently until the very end.



F.Capt. Edward Morrissey, DFC Michael Kuhn, and F.Capt. Stephen Persson visit The Deputy on his last tour of duty.

- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

Per GO#15 of 2008, effective 27 July 2008 at 0700 Hours, **Fire Lieutenant Alan S. Beggelman** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Lieutenant Beggelman was appointed on May 7, 1978. His assignments were as follows:

- July 2, 1978 Engine Company No. 3
 - May 5, 1985 Engine Company No. 7
 - April 28, 1991 Engine Company No. 9
 - January 18, 1998 Acting Lieutenant
 - February 24, 1998 Promoted to Lieutenant, Pivot Officer
 - May 9, 1999 Engine Company No. 8
 - January 6, 2008 Headquarters
-

Transfers and Assignments

Per G.O. #13 of 2008, effective at 0700 hours on Sunday, 13 July 2008:

Fire Captain Gerard E. Mahoney from LEPC to **Acting Deputy Fire Chief** Division 2, Group 2

Fire Lieutenant Sean P. White from Rescue Company No. 1 to **Acting Fire Captain** LEPC/Training – Special Projects

Firefighter Michael J. Francis from Ladder Company No. 1 to **Acting Fire Lieutenant** Engine Company No. 3

Fire Lieutenant Thomas F. Cahill from Squad No.4 to Rescue Company No. 1

Fire Lieutenant James Gomes, Jr. from Engine Company No. 3 to Squad No. 4

Fire Lieutenant William C. Hugh from Ladder Company No. 2 to Headquarters

Firefighter Kevin M. Kelly from Engine Company No. 9 to Headquarters

Firefighter Stephen M. Ryan from Ladder Company No. 3 to Engine Company No. 9

Firefighter Edward M Fales from Rescue Company No. 1 to Ladder Company No. 1
Firefighter Andrew G. Carrigan from Engine Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 5
Firefighter Howard T. Smith from Ladder Company No. 2 to Ladder Company No. 1
Firefighter Kevin P. Mercer from Engine Company No. 6 to Rescue Company No. 1
Firefighter Nathan M. Dubovsky from Engine Company No. 1 to Ladder Company No. 3

Firefighter on Probation Stephen A. Capuccio to Engine Company No. 1
Firefighter on Probation James M. Encalada to Ladder Company No. 2
Firefighter on Probation John L. Magee to Engine Company No. 1

Per GO #17, effective Sunday, 10 August 2008 at 0700 hours:

FFOP Joseph A. Hallissey to Engine Company No. 8
FF Timothy C. Latson from Engine Company No. 8 to Headquarters

Per GO #21, Effective Sunday, 28 September 2008 at 0700 hours:

Fire Lieutenant Robert J. Bell from Engine Company No. 5 to Engine Company No. 4
Fire Lieutenant Daniel M. Flaherty from Engine Company No. 4 to Engine Company No. 9
Fire Lieutenant Miguel A. Torres from Engine Company No. 9 to Engine Company No. 5

Firefighter Michael J. Lynch from Engine Company No. 1 to Ladder Company No. 1
Firefighter Wayne P. Ferguson from Engine Company No. 8 to Engine Company No. 1

F.F.O.P. Matthew R. McDonald to Engine Company No. 8
F.F.O.P. John T. Pasquarello to Engine Company No. 8

Per GO #22, The following F.F.O.P.'s have reached the status of Firefighter effective 23 September 2008 at 0700 hours:

Jerry J. Bernardo
Daniel Caceres
Nathan F. Dubovsky
Peter J. Mickiewicz
Ryan T. Murphy
Marvin E. Ramos
Darron R. Smith
Matthew J. Terenna

Transfers and Promotions

Per GO #20, effective Sunday, 31 August 2008 at 0700 hours:

Acting Deputy Fire Chief Gerard E. Mahoney from Division 2, promoted to **Deputy Fire Chief**, Emergency Preparedness and Coordination (EPAC)

Fire Captain Paul Sheehan from Engine Company No. 8 promoted to **Deputy Fire Chief**, Division 2
Acting Fire Captain Sean P. White from LEPC/Training promoted to **Fire Captain**, Engine Company No. 8

Acting Fire Lieutenant Steven J. Landry promoted to **Fire Lieutenant**
Acting Fire Lieutenant Miguel A. Torres promoted to **Fire Lieutenant**
Firefighter Robert A. Bruno from Division 2 to Engine Company No. 8

Firefighter Edward P. Oliver from Engine Company No. 8 to Division 2
Firefighter Michael T. Coffman from Squad No. 2 to Engine Company No. 6
Firefighter Jeremiah D. Hart from Ladder Company No. 3 to Squad No. 2
Firefighter John R. DeCoursey from Ladder Company No. 1 to Ladder Company No. 3

Through the Lantern Lens

By Mose Humphrey

With the upcoming Promotional Exam for Lieutenant and Captains, the study books, high-lighters and study groups have been out in full force. Let's take a look back at some real exam questions found in an exam held for Lieutenant in the City of Cambridge on June 1, 1935:

- 1.) After a fire in a garage due to an explosion of gasoline, state in detail what investigation you would make to determine whether there had been a violation of the law at the premises.
- 2.) Tell what you know of the following chemicals – whether combustible, explosive, poisonous, the kind of business and when they are used: (a) Hydrocyanic gas; (b) Hydrogen; (c) Benzol
- 3.) Give the causes of defective fire streams when operating at fires and state the conditions under which heavy streams are justified.
- 4.) Discuss the value of the following as a fire prevention measure in exposure fires, stating the advantages and the disadvantages in the use of each: (a) water curtain; (b) sprinkler over windows; (c) tin-clad shutters; (d) wire glass
- 5.) Under what circumstances would you feel justified in sending in a second or third alarm? If there were another fire in another part of the city requiring a multiple alarm, how would this affect your decision?
- 6.) Write a letter of about 150 words addressed to the Commissioner of Civil Service on the following subject: "The inherent dangers of an undermanned fire department."

Those 80 or 100 multiple choice questions don't look so bad after all, do they?

From the Archives



Ladder Company No. 3 - group 2 - 2000
"For Duty and Humanity"

FF Chris Towski (now F.Lt. Fire Prevention), **FF Sam Coleman** (Ladder 3), and **FF Frazier Proffitt** (now retired)

- photo by Inspector Ed Fowler

Engine Company No. 4



In 1846, Hand Engine 4, named "Hydrant 4," was established and was located in a wood building at Western Avenue and River Street. In 1852, the company, now equipped with a Hunneman engine, moved into a brick building at the same location. Due to the steam department and due to lack of manpower in 1866, the company was confined to police district station 2. On 7 March 1871 Hand Engine Company Number 4 was disbanded. It was the last hand engine company in the department.

Also on 7 March 1871, "Daniel Webster Engine Company #5" was renumbered to Engine 4. The company was located on Russell Street, North Cambridge in a building built and occupied on 28 May 1869. Engine 4 was equipped with an 1869 Hunneman Steamer and a 2 wheel hose wagon with 900' of hose. In January of 1896, Engine 4 received a new Amoskeag 550 gpm steamer. On 20 November of 1896, the company moved to new quarters at 2029 Massachusetts Av., the corner of Blake Street. A Somerville tapper was placed in service in this house and Engine 4 was also assigned to respond to Somerville line boxes.

On 14 December 1901, a new Abbot and Downing hose wagon was placed in service with 800' of hose. In July of 1917, Engine 4 became motorized when a new American LaFrance 750 gpm, triple combination pump was placed in service. Engine 4 became a single unit company. In 1922, another new American LaFrance 750 gpm triple combination pump was placed in service. The 1917 pump became a spare. On 1 September 1931, a new Mack hose wagon was placed in service, making Engine 4 a two piece company again.

In June of 1948 a new Pirsch 1000 gpm pump was placed in service. In July of 1948, a new GMC/Robinson hose wagon was placed in service. In July of 1967, a new International/Farrar wagon was placed in service. In January, 1972, a new Maxim 1250 gpm pump was placed in service. On 1 April 1984, a 1982 (former Engine 2) International/Maxim wagon was placed in service. On 12 May 1988, the 1986 (former Engine 2) International/Saulsbury wagon was placed in service. On 27 April 1995, a 1995 Pierce Saber 1250 gpm pump was placed in service. The wagon was placed out of service on 27 May 2000. Engine 4 became a single unit company at that time.

On 10 July 2008, Engine 4 placed a 1999 Pierce Saber 1250 gpm pump into service. This is the former Engine Company 8 pump. Engine 4's 1995 pump became a spare at this time.

The Company is staffed by 20 men and women under command of **Fire Captain Lawrence Brogan**. Engine 4 shares quarters with Squad 4.

Squad 4

Squad 4 was organized on 1 May 2005 with the inception of Cambridge Fire Department Tactical Paramedic service in the city. In addition to Emergency Paramedic Service Advanced Life Support supplies and equipment, the squad is equipped with firefighting, forcible-entry, and search-and-rescue tools, rabbit tool, thermal-imaging -camera, Class A and Class BC fire extinguishers, SCBA, HazMat entry suits, hydraulic rescue tools and cutters, and air sampling devices and meters. The squad enhances our firefighting capability, as well as our capability to mitigate hazardous materials incidents and provide defense against terrorist attack. Fire department medics participate in our ongoing training to operate as tactical firefighter/paramedics in various types of special hazards, homeland defense, and technical rescue missions.

Squad 4 is staffed by eight Firefighter/Paramedics and Officers under command of **Fire Captain Gregory Carter**.



The current quarters of Engine Company No. 4 and Squad No. 4 at 2029 Massachusetts Avenue - built 1896

- photo by **F.Lt. Brian Higgins**



The current apparatus:

Engine 4: 1999 Pierce Saber pump, 1250 gpm, 500 gallon water tank

Squad 4: 2005 Ford E-350 van

Pictured above: **FF Laura Prunty, FF Ed Friel, F.Lt Dan Flaherty** (Engine 4), **FF Hugh Devlin, and F.Capt. Greg Carter** (Squad 4.)

- photo by **Tara Bithia**



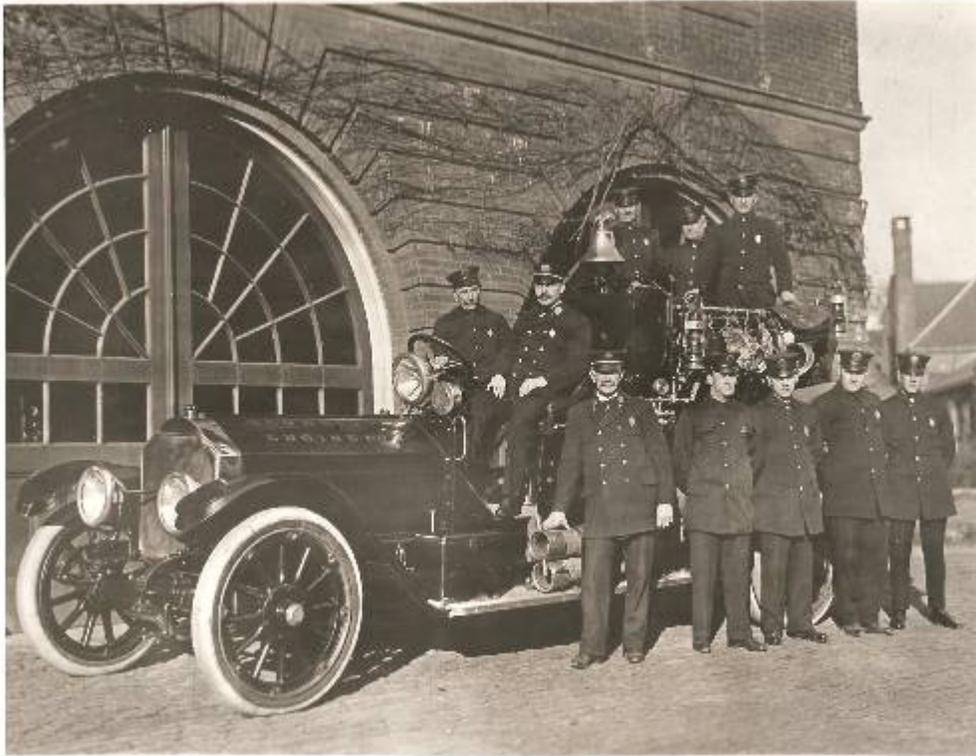
One-hundred-seven years earlier: The quarters, apparatus, and members of Engine 4 circa 1901

Note also the fire dog in the photograph

*- photo from the collection of **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey***



Engine 4's Abbot & Downing hose wagon circa 1901
Note the dog sitting next to the driver.
- photo above are from the collection of **F.Capt. Ed Morrissey**





Engine 4's 1917 - 750 gpm American LaFrance triple-combination, rotary gear pump
This was the first gasoline pumping engine purchased by the Cambridge Fire Department.
Members pictured are John Henderson (driver), Captain Church (officer), Private John Ford (overcoat) and Private John Lucey.
Photo was taken in 1921.



1931 Mack hose wagon
- photo above from the collection of **DFC Ralph Chapman** – retired



Engine 4's 1948 Pirsch 1000 gpm pump
- photo from the collection of **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey**



1948 GMC/Lacey hose wagon and 1948 1000 gpm Pirsch pump



Engine 4's 1948 GMC/Lacey hose wagon
- photo by **Robert Washburn**



Engine 4's 1966 International/Farrar hose wagon
- photo from the collection of **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey**



Engine 4's 1971 Maxim "S" model - 1250 gpm
- photo from the collection of **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey**



Engine 4 Wagon - 1986 International/Saulsbury
- photo by **Ed Fowler**



Engine 4 two-piece company
1986 International/Saulsbury wagon, 1995 Pierce Saber 1250 gpm pump
The wagon was placed out of service on 27 May 2000
Engine Company No. 4 was the last two-piece company in the city.
- photo from the collection of **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey**

*Historical information for this narrative was provided by **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey***



Engine 4 quarters on Russell Street
built 1868

- Cambridge Historical Commission photograph

National Night Out Against Crime

Again this year, FD units participated in the annual **National Night Out Against Crime**. Engines 4 and 6, Squad 4, and Ladder 4 participated in this year's event which was held on Tuesday, 5 August 2008.



FF Craig Yearwood (Division 2, group 1) volunteered at the Rindge Field site, North Cambridge.



ECC staff member **David Harmon** helps to set up.



Morgan Sheaffer (Truck 1, retired) and **FF Stanley Fabianski** (Truck 4, group 2) participated in public information and public relations.

- Rindge Field photos above by **Leslie Carroll** (ECC)



FF Jody Greenidge (Engine 6, group 2) shows the apparatus to interested young citizens.



FFs George Cotter and Francis Mullen (Engine 6, group 2) provide good public information at Riverside Press Park.

- Riverside Press Park photos above by **Liz Belmonte** (ECC)

Lynnfield/Wakefield fire apparatus display

Engine 5 participated in the annual fire apparatus parade and display in Lynnfield and Wakefield on Saturday, 14 June 2008.



Engine 5, group 4: **FF John Hathaway, F.Lt. Bob Bell, and FF Charles Donnelly**



Engine 5's 2008 Pierce, 1250 gpm pump

- photos above by **Shahriar Khan**

Danehy Park Family Day



The Fire Department was a popular attraction on this beautiful day for the Danehy Park Family Day Festival on Saturday, 20 Sept 2008.

- photo by **Linda Turner**

Signal 10-15

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Fire Lieutenant Robert J. Morrissey** of Ladder Company No.1 -retired. Lieutenant Morrissey was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 19 March 1958. His assignments were as follows:

9 March 1958	Ladder Company No.3
15 March 1967	Promoted to Fire Lieutenant Engine Company No. 3
12 November 1967	Ladder Company No. 1

Fire Lieutenant Morrissey retired on 31 October 1998. He died on 1 July 2008. He was born on 3 October 1932. Lieutenant Morrissey is a United States Air Force veteran.

His son, **Michael**, is a Deputy Fire Chief assigned to Division 1. Son, **Bill**, is a Watertown Firefighter.

Brother, Ed, is a retired member of Ladder Company 2. Brother **Lawrence**, since deceased, was a member of Engine Company 7. Nephews on the job include **Edward** (Captain of Ladder 1), **Robert** (Captain of Engine 2), and **Brian** (Chief of Department - Nashua).

Excerpts from the eulogy delivered by Deputy Fire Chief Michael Morrissey for his father, Fire Lieutenant Robert Morrissey at his funeral on 8 July 2008 are included below:

In 2001 after 9/11, my father was not really well enough to travel to NYC for any of the funerals. It really bothered him. I was able to take him over to visit FF Jack Dewan @ Brookline Engine 6. Jack is an old friend and fire buff. He too is from a large firefighting family. His brother Gerry ended up on FDNY and perished at the World Trade Center. That was as close to things as I could get him. I think that soothed him a bit.

My father enjoyed going to work and looked forward to most every tour for 39 years. He was no shrinking violet at work. He was known to be LOUD. You could hear him on the fire ground with or without a radio. Many ranking members of today's fire department, including the chief and chief of operations, spent part of their early careers with my father on Ladder 1. Every new guy there got the same speech. He would tell them to "stay close and if I stop short you better run right into me." He was light on his feet for a big guy and when the bell hit he would hustle. The crew would hustle too for fear of being left behind in the station if you weren't ready to go when he was. There were many comments over the years from people having trouble keeping up with him.

My father was active in the union in his day and held elected office during some of the years that local 30 rose to the top in terms of wages and benefits. They had a great team representing them then. Some of those union meetings got "loud" too.

He made good friends all over the fire community. He formed a study group with a small group of Boston Fire guys who got together to go over the many volumes of material required to prepare for the fire promotional exam. That bond has lasted for 50 years now.

My father and I spent 15 years together on the CFD. He spent all but a couple of years on ladder trucks, 30 years on Ladder 1. I was never officially assigned to a ladder truck. People who work on ladder trucks are called "truckies." He used to get peeved when I would state that "truckies" are known, with affection as "the firefighters helpers." I could always get him going with that remark.

He was a husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, neighbor, classmate, a control tower specialist in the United States Air Force and a ladder company fire officer. They'll have to make a spot for him on a truck company in heaven. He'll want to be assigned to the truck that does the mutual aid to hell because they must do a lot of fire duty and I think that would be his idea of nirvana.



Fire Lieutenant Bob Morrissey-1986

- photo by Mark Roche

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Robert Ruffing** of Engine Company No.3-retired.

Condolences to:

- **FF Ryan DeCoursey** (Ladder 1, group 2) on the death of his nephew.
- **FF Raymond Vaillancourt** (Engine 4, group 3) on the death of his mother, **Mrs. Florence Vaillancourt**.
- **F.Lt. John Lund** (Engine 8, retired) on the death of his mother, **Mrs. Elizabeth Lund**.
- **Massachusetts State Police Sergeant John Reilly** on the death of his mother, **Mrs. Dolores R. Reilly**. Mrs. Reilly is the widow of the late **Fire Lieutenant John Reilly** (Engine 6, retired).
- **F.Lt. David Pierce** (Ladder 2, group 1) on the death of his wife, **Diane Hulliston Pierce**. Diane is also the sister-in-law of **FF Ken Souza** (Rescue 1, group 3).
- **FF Timothy Foley** (Division 2, retired) on the death of his wife, **Joan Foley**
- **F.Capt. James Ferreira** (Engine Company 1, retired) on the death of his wife, **Margaret Ferreira**. Margaret Ferreira is also the mother of **F.Lt. James Ferreira** (Engine 6, group 4) and the sister-in-law of **FF Philip Dooley** (Truck 4, group 3)
- **F.Capt. Joseph Leary** (Engine 6, retired) on the death of his wife, **Agnes Leary**. Agnes Leary is the mother of **F.Lt. Joseph Leary, Jr.** (Engine 4 – deceased) and the mother-in-law of **DFC Lester Bokuniewicz** (Division 1, group 2).

Condolences also to **Lorna Rutkauskas** (Headquarters Admin) on the death of her Great Uncle, **George Gray**. George Gray was born in Cambridge and was a graduate of Cambridge High and Latin School, but was most recently

a resident of Ipswich, MA. He served his country in the United States Navy In World War II and was active in the D-Day invasion.

Technical Rescue Training

In addition to the ongoing fire, EMS, Hazmat, and homeland defense training, members of Rescue 1 and Engine 1 participated in 24 hours (each group) of rope rescue refresher training. The pictures below from Monday, 18 August 2008, show the training at the training tower in the rear of the quarters of Engine 2 and Ladder 19 in South Boston. In addition to Cambridge Rescue 1 and Engine 1, Boston companies included Engine 42, Tower Ladder 10, and Rescue 1.





F.Lt. James Drewicz (R1), FF Donald Calvert (E1), FF Matt Ansello (R1), FF John Magee (E1), FF Adam Shuman (R1), FF Mark Tiede (R1), DFC Lester Bokuniewicz (Div 2), and FF Ken Souza (R1)



F.Capt. Martin Andrews (Boston FD Tech Rescue Instructor) and **DFC Lester Bokuniewicz** (Cambridge Tech Rescue coordinator)

- photos above by **Tara Bithia**

Letters

The following was received via e-mail:

From: Santos, Shirley [mailto:ssantos@cambridgema.gov]
Sent: Thursday, August 14, 2008 15:26
Subject: Many thanks

Dear Chief Reardon,

Many thanks to you and your staff for a splendid display of your Fire apparatus at our National Night Out!

Special thanks to volunteers Reggie Pagan and John Serwecinski. They are spirited, hardworking folks who give of themselves generously.

Again, our thanks to Cambridge Fire for pitching in to make our event a great success!

Shirley Santos, Coordinator
North Cambridge Crime Task Force
PO Box 400948
Cambridge, MA 02140

The following was received via e-mail:

Monday, September 15, 2008 12:33 PM

Chief Reardon,

Once again I would like to thank all the personnel in the Fire Department that help us to offer the Animal Rescue League's "Spay Waggin" for low cost spay and neuter of animals in the city. This would not be possible without the support that your department gives us. It's not just the space that makes this a successful event on a bi-monthly basis it is also the hospitable atmosphere that the firefighters at the station create. Everyone feels welcomed and it is good display of team work, with two departments working together to offer a much needed service, at a very much reduced price, to the residents in the City of Cambridge.

Thank you,
Mark W. McCabe,
Director Cambridge Animal Commission

The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, Inc.
555 Technology Square
Cambridge, MA 02139

July 25 2008

John J. Gelinis
Chief of Operations
Cambridge Fire Department

Dear Mr. Gelinis:

Thank you very much for arranging to have Engine 2, Squad 2, and firefighters at Draper Laboratory's 2008 Family Day on June 14. The opportunity to climb into the engine and speak directly to the firefighters about their work and equipment was engaging for both our employees and their children and other guests. We received many favorable comments about this event on our program from our employees.

We realize that the Fire Department's resources are much in demand, and we appreciate your participation.

Please pass along my thanks on behalf of the laboratory and its employees to the firefighters.

Best Regards,

Kathleen Granchelli
Director, Communications and Community Relations

August 6, 2008

Cambridge Fire Department
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Chief Reardon,

On the evening of July 21, 2008, my wife went into labor and I needed to request emergency services to have her transported to the Mount Auburn Hospital. I would like to first thank the dispatchers in the Emergency Communications Center who handled my telephone calls and dispatched the Rescue Company per my request. My wife and I would like to further extend our thanks to the following members of the Rescue Company who took care of Tricia while transporting her right up to the fifth floor of the Bain Birthing Center:

Lt. Matthew Brannelly

FF Gary Gannon

FF Nicole Zedalis

FF Kevin Mercer

Tricia and I are happy to report that all went well as she gave birth to our daughter, Lily Elise McKinley, on Tuesday, July 22nd at 3:10 a.m.

Retired Engine 9 FF Robert McKinley is now a grandfather!

Thank you,

David and Tricia McKinley

August 4, 2008

Dear Lt. House,

Thank you for taking the time to provide our rising eighth grade students with an opportunity to look into your profession during our annual Career Day (July 18, 2008). Part of our mission is to "inspire excitement for learning, and create paths to college." Your station helped support our mission by spending the afternoon educating Cambridge youth who had an interest in your profession. Your staff also helped encourage our students to pursue college, as they were able to see the connection between education and success.

The students greatly appreciated learning about the different careers within the fire department and about the protocol that is followed when there is an emergency situation. The students mentioned in their post-site questionnaire that they learned about the behind the scenes action that takes place at the station which keeps everything running smoothly. Your staff had a major impact on our youth, and they shared in a very formative experience.

Thank you,

Daniel Hikes
Career Day Chair, 8th Grade Literature Teacher
Summerbridge Cambridge, A Breakthrough Program

(editor's note: Lt. David House and the members of Engine 1, Truck 1, and Rescue 1 provided this opportunity for Cambridge's young citizens)

Saints Constantine and Helen
Greek Orthodox Church
14 Magazine Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

July 20, 2008

Cambridge Fire Department
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

The Board of Directors, Father Asterios, and the entire community of the Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for the assistance and support from the City of Cambridge in organizing our Annual Grecian Festival.

As you may know, the Festival of 2008 was a tremendous success. As always, the tireless efforts and collaboration of the Cambridge Police Department, City Hall, the Mayor's Office, Cambridge Fire Department, Cambridge Public Works, and City Councilors are instrumental to the success and prosperity of this annual event. There is an enormous amount of logistics and planning that takes place prior to and during the event.

There are no words to express our thanks to every public servant in the City of Cambridge. Just know that you are appreciated and respected by this community. We look forward to working with you again next year, for an even better Grecian Festival 2009.

The Board of Directors

Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church

August 15, 2008

Dear Friends,

Last night I called 911 for help - and almost immediately the Fire Department responded. We had a thunderous rumbling and shaking in the house and couldn't identify the source. I worried about the possibility of an explosion.

Will you thank the crew who responded.

Appreciatively,

Jean Little

Brewster St.
Cambridge

Editor's note: Engine 9 and Truck 4 were assigned to this incident at 2249 hours on 14 August 2008, I#08001837, the appliance malfunction - a garbage disposal.

Group 1 was on duty.

*Ladder 4 members included **F.Lt. Thomas Carroll, FF Robert Mahoney, and FF Edrice Vincent.***

*Engine 9 members included: **A/Lt. Brian Trelegan, FF Arthur Moy, and FF Ken Hugh (det. from Engine 4).***

July 6, 2008

Chief Gerald R. Reardon
Cambridge Fire Department
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

Chief,

Please find enclosed pictures of my grandson, Brian Starling of Natick on Sunday outside Harvard Square with the 3 firefighters from Ladder 1.

Brian is an autistic child and as you can see by his smile he was totally enraptured with the bell and the truck. The gentlemen involved were patient, professional, and very understanding of Brian and it shows in his smile.

Please share these photos. Your willingness to allow the fire companies to "press the flesh" is an admirable and worthy endeavor. And also to any of the firefighters who may wonder if it is worthwhile, just look into his eyes. He is my world and thanks for brightening it for a few moments.

Respectfully and thank you all,

Brian Keefe
Natick, Ma 01760

I walk someday so my grandson will talk.

Autism Speaks. It's time to listen.



Editor's note: Group 3 was on duty this date, 6 July 2008.

*Members working on Ladder Company No. 1 were **A/Lt. Tom Casey, FF Ken Albert, and FF Ken Souza** (detailed from Rescue 1).*

A "tip of the helmet" to them on this worthwhile neighborhood walk-through.

Stats and Fires

The statistical summary for **Fiscal Year 2007/2008** is shown below. In FY 2008, Cambridge Fire responded to 13,778 emergency incidents which generated 33,207 runs. There were 93 code 111 building fires during the fiscal year.

	Total runs	Building Fires
Engine 1	2124	49
Engine 2	3045	48
Engine 3	1518	24
Engine 4	1663	31
Engine 5	2054	56
Engine 6	1501	43
Engine 8	1308	32
Engine 9	1095	26
Truck 1	2163	66
Truck 2	1301	38
Truck 3	2126	50

Incidents	13,778
Div 1 Incidents	7882
Div 2 Incidents	5896
Responses	33,207

Truck 4	1655	35	EMS	6385
			Bldg Fires	93
Rescue 1	2338	66	Inside Fires	692
			All Fires	859
Squad 2	3304	48	HazMat	206
Squad 4	2327	54		
			Working Fires	8
Division 1	1649	55	2nd Alarms	4
Division 2	1384	45	3rd Alarms	3
			4th Alarms	0
Special Units	449			
Mutual Aid Units	203			
TOTAL RUNS	33207			

Recent fires include:

Working Fire Box 45-29, for the cellar fire at 1271 Cambridge St., the 3 story, wood-frame, commercial on floor #1 with apartments above. Aggressive action by companies in high heat and zero visibility conditions confined the fire to the cellar of the East Coast Grill. The date was 14 Sept 2008. Engine 5 and Truck 2 received the Still Alarm to investigate the fire alarm at 0415. The box was transmitted at 0419 and the working fire signal "45" at 0427 hours. Five engines, three trucks, 2 squads, the rescue company, and three chiefs operated under command of DFC Edward Mahoney. Group 4 was on duty.

Working fire box 45-472, for the fire at 1246 Massachusetts Avenue, a 5 story, brick and wood, commercial on floor #1 with apartments above. The fire in the grease chute had extended into the walls. The date was 20 Sept 2008. The box was transmitted at 1033 hours and the working fire was ordered at 1042 hours. Five engines, three trucks, 2 squads, the rescue company, and two division chiefs operated under command of A/DFC Kenneth Jenness. Group 1 was on duty.

A Second Alarm was ordered, Box 2-463, for the fire on floor #4 of the 4 story, brick and wood, occupied multiple dwelling at 371 Harvard Street. Fire was confined to the top floor. Six engines, three trucks, 2 squads, the rescue company, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units operated to complete searches, contain and extinguish this fire. One victim was transported to a medical facility. The date was 21 Sept 2008. Engine 1 and Truck 1 were initially dispatched to investigate the fire alarm activation at 2127 hours. Upon receipt of telephone calls, the box was transmitted at 2128 hours. The working fire was ordered at 2134 hours and the Second Alarm was ordered at 2151. DFC Edward Mahoney was the IC. Group 4 was on duty.

Training Tips – CO2

The primary extinguishing agent to use in **mailbox fires** is **CO2**. Carbon dioxide will displace the oxygen in the enclosed mailbox, extinguishing the fire while preserving the mail from water damage. Do not force entry into the mailbox. Notify United States Postal Service authorities who will respond to open the receptacle and take custody of the mail. A suspicious mailbox fire will be investigated by Postal Investigators working with the Cambridge Fire Investigation Unit.



FF Jerry Bernardo of Engine 1 demonstrates mailbox fire extinguishing technique. Note that the CO2 extinguisher is placed on the ground to prevent any static shock while the agent is discharging.

- Photo by **Tara Bithia**



Another use of the CO2 extinguisher was demonstrated by Ladder 1 under actual conditions at the flag pole at Flagstaff Park. As members attempted to raise the colors to full-staff following the Patriot Day September 11 observance, a swarm of hostile, yellow-jacket wasps took exception to Ladder 1's opening the control box for the halyard. Ladder 1 members used the CO2 to stun the wasps and continue with the task at hand. There were no injuries to members.

FF Matt Ansello is operating the extinguisher, backed up by **FF Aaron Young**.

- Photo by **F.Lt. Chris Melendy** of Ladder 1

America's Heroes

Michael J. Daly



Michael J. Daly was a World War II veteran and a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor. He was born in New York City on 15 May 1924 but lived in Fairfield, Connecticut for most of his life. He died on 25 July 2008. Michael J. Daly is one of America's heroes.

Michael J. Daly was appointed to West Point, the United States Military Academy, but as a mediocre student with some disciplinary problems, he resigned from West Point after one year. He promptly enlisted in the United States Army as a private. Following training in England, he participated in the landing at Omaha Beach on D-Day with the First Infantry Division. Serving on the front lines through France, he was later wounded in Aachen, on the Belgium/German border. He was promoted to Second Lieutenant and rejoined the American forces at the front. He was then promoted to First Lieutenant in command of Company A, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, 7th Army.

On 18 April 1945, as his unit moved through a city square in Nuremberg, Germany, a German machine gunner opened fire. His unit took several casualties. Singly, Lieutenant Daly rushed the German position and killed the three Germans manning the machine gun post. Advancing further ahead of his men, he encountered another German patrol setting up rocket launchers to attack the American tanks. In spite of overwhelming odds and in spite of being outgunned and outnumbered, he advanced on and attacked the German patrol, killing all six patrol members. Another German machine gun immediately opened up on him. He then picked up a German rifle, and while drawing continuous fire, advanced onto this second machine gun post, killing the two man crew.

Lt. Daly was not physically wounded in this firefight but on the following day, 19 April 1945, he was shot in the head, a bullet entering his ear and exiting through the opposite cheek. After this injury, he was sent back to a hospital in England and ultimately evacuated back to the United States for medical care and rehabilitation. On 23 August 1945, Daly was promoted to Captain and was awarded the Medal of Honor in a ceremony at the White House by President Harry S Truman. Captain Daly was also the recipient of 3 Silver Stars, a Bronze Star with "V" for valor, and 2 Purple Hearts.

Capt. Michael Daly's father, Colonel Paul Daly, was a West Point graduate and was a highly decorated veteran of World War I. Colonel Daly had twice been nominated for the Medal of Honor. Capt. Daly's grandfather, Thomas Gilroy, an Irish immigrant, had been the mayor of New York City in the 1890s.

Captain Michael Daly's official Medal of Honor citation is as follows:

Early in the morning of 18 April 1945, he led his company through the shell-battered, sniper-infested wreckage of Nuremberg, Germany. When blistering machinegun fire caught his unit in an exposed position, he ordered his men to take cover, dashed forward alone, and, as bullets whined about him, shot the 3-man gun crew with his carbine. Continuing the advance at the head of his company, he located an enemy patrol armed with rocket launchers which threatened friendly armor. He again went forward alone, secured a vantage point and opened fire on the Germans. Immediately he became the target for concentrated machine pistol and rocket fire, which blasted the rubble about him. Calmly, he continued to shoot at the patrol until he had killed all 6 enemy infantrymen. Continuing boldly far in front of his company, he entered a park, where as his men advanced, a German machinegun opened up on them without warning. With his carbine, he killed the gunner; and then, from a completely exposed position, he directed machinegun fire on the remainder of the crew until all were dead. In a final duel, he wiped out a third machinegun emplacement with rifle fire at a range of 10 yards. By fearlessly engaging in 4 single-handed fire fights with a desperate, powerfully armed enemy, Lt. Daly, voluntarily taking all major risks himself and protecting his men at every opportunity, killed 15 Germans, silenced 3 enemy machineguns

and wiped out an entire enemy patrol. His heroism during the lone bitter struggle with fanatical enemy forces was an inspiration to the valiant Americans who took Nuremberg.



References: *The Boston Globe*; *Boston.com*; *HartfordCourant.com*; *tholdcoot.blogspot.com*; *en.Wikipedia.org*; *dailynightly.msnbc.com*; *armytimes.com*.

Red Shirt Fridays - Support our Troops



Red Shirt Fridays - Support our Troops

Per S.N. 02 of 2008, effective Friday, June 6, 2008 at 0700 hours, the Class B uniform of the day will be amended to include the approved red golf-type shirt. This shirt will be cotton, with Fire Department logo and rank on the left breast, "Support our Troops" logo on the left sleeve, and branch of service (if applicable) on the right sleeve.

The red shirt will be the official uniform shirt on **Fridays from 0700 hours until 1900 hours**.

The red uniform shirt will be a public show of support for our servicemen and women who are currently serving in the military and who have served previously. The Cambridge Fire Department honors the sacrifices made by our men and

women in the military services. We remember those who have made the supreme sacrifice in defense of our country. We remember our POWs and MIAs.

Pictured above are **FF Howie Smith** (L1), **F.Lt. David House** (E1), **FF Todd Koen** (E1), **FF Gary Gannon** (R1 detailed to Div. 1), **F.Capt. Edward Morrissey** (L1), **FF Michel Dwyer** (L1), **FF Andrew Mello** (Engine 1), and **A/DFC Kenneth Jenness** (Engine 6 detailed to Division 1).

- photo by **Tara Bithia**

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



“We all lose our courage at times. It is something we pray for in the morning, that God will give us the strength and courage to do what is right.”

- Captain Michael J. Daly

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. Gelinis
Chief of Operations
Cambridge Fire Department
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138
617-349-4970*

-jjg