Gelinas, John

Subject: Company Journal - Issue 55

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 #55
Summer - Wednesday, 14 July 2010

What's New

A New Technical Services Motor Squad truck **M-3** has been placed into service. M-3 is a 2010 Ford F-450 utility truck. The former M-3 has been designated as M-4.

M-3

- *Photo by **DFC Dan Turner** (Fire Prevention)*

The screening process is underway to hire 7 to 8 firefighters to fill existing vacancies due to retirements. Ideally these new firefighters would start recruit training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in late September, 2010.

Funds have been allocated to purchase a 1250 gpm pump to replace Engine 4's pump. The bidding process will start shortly.

Who's New

FFOP Kyle Schweinshaut graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Class #187 on Friday, 11 June 2010. He has been assigned to Ladder Company No. 3.

- *Photo above by* ***Bruce Gauvin***

All Companies Working

Working Fire Box 45-291: On 19 June 2010, the working fire was ordered from Box 291 for the fire in the 3 story, duplex, OMD at 222 thru 226 Elm Street - East. Companies contained and knocked down the fire on floor #3. All occupants were evacuated with one civilian injury. Five engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, and 3 chiefs operated under command of **Division 1 Chief Michael Morrissey** (Division 1). The box was transmitted at 0132 hours. The signal "45" was transmitted at 0142 hours. The "all-out" was sent at 0332. Group 3 was on duty.

Working Fire Box 45-41: On 16 May 2010, the working fire was ordered from Box 41 for the fire at 196B Hampshire Street. The fire in this 2 ½ story, wood-frame, OMD was quickly contained by the assigned companies. Fire had started on the rear porches and extended in. Five engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, and 3 chiefs operated to control this fire, establishing water supplies, completing the searches, and evacuating occupants. **DFC Bokuniewicz** (Division 1) was the IC. Group 2 was on duty. Time of the box was 0322 hours, the working was ordered at 0330 hours. The all-out was transmitted at 0637 hours.

Working Fire Box 45-234: On 12 May 2010, the working fire was transmitted from Box 234 for the fire at 115 Hampshire Street. This fire in a 3 story mixed occupancy, wood-frame building originated in a laundromat on floor #1 and extended to apartments on floor #2 above. Aggressive action by the assigned companies above the fire stopped the fire at the floor #2 level, preventing extension above. On arrival, companies simultaneously established water supplies, effected the interior searches for occupants, stretched attack lines, ventilated, opened up to expose concealed fire, contained and knocked down the fire. Four engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, and 2 division chiefs operated under command of **DFC Stephen Leonard** of Division 2. Group 3 was on duty. The box was transmitted at 1025 hours and the "45' at 1038 hours.

Box 3317: On 16 March 2010, following the automatic alarm from Box 3317 and arriving with a smoke condition present, the full assignment on the box was ordered by **FLT. Paul Mahoney** of Truck 3. The fire was contained to one apartment on floor #5 of this 18 story hi-rise apartment building and one occupant was quickly removed by the fire department and transported to a medical facility. Sprinklers had operated to control the fire. Unfortunately this victim died from his injuries at a later date. Three engines, 2 trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, and one division chief operated. **DFC Edward Mahoney** was the IC. Group 4 was on duty. The automatic alarm box was transmitted at 0833 hours. The full assignment was ordered by Truck 3 on scene at 0836 hours.

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Deputy Fire Chief Gerry Mahoney** on being awarded the Outstanding City Employee award, one of nine awards given in 2010.

DFC Mahoney accepts the award from **Deputy City Manager Richard Rossi** and **City Manager Robert Healy.**

Deputy City Manager Richard Rossi, City Manager Robert Healy, Deputy Fire Chief Gerry Mahoney, and **Mayor David Maher**

Front row: **Mrs. MaryJane Mahoney, DFC Gerry Mahoney, Patty Mahoney,** and **Anne Ruffing**
Back row: **Chief Gerald Reardon, Krista Mahoney, Courtney Mahoney, FCAPT. Michael Mahoney** (Fire Prevention – retired), **FLT. John Ruffing** (Engine 5 – retired)

- *Photos above by **Bob Coe***

Out and About

High Angle Rescue: Headquarters companies and Ladder 2 practice their high-angle rescue skills. In this group 1 drill, members package and secure a simulated victim in the Stokes stretcher, and after setting up the rigging and hauling system, lower the "victim" safely to the ground level.

- *Photos above **by FF Howie Smith** (Truck 1)*

Operation Ready: Cambridge Fire Department Marine 1 with the Dive Rescue Team worked as part of the UASI response group to rescue victims of a simulated commercial airliner crash into Boston Harbor. The drill was sponsored by MassPort under direction of Logan Massport Fire Rescue Department **Chief Robert Donahue.** Numerous agencies participated in the drill, including Logan Massport Fire Rescue, Massachusetts State Police, Boston Police, United States Coast Guard, Boston Harbor Pilot, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Boston Fire, Cambridge Fire, and many private ferries and other public and private agencies participated.

FFs Todd Koen and **Paul Morrison**

FF Todd Koen, FF Paul Morrison, and **DFC Lester Bokuniewicz**

FF John Bell and **Smith Marine member**

Cambridge Fire Marine 1

Massachusetts Maritime Academy students volunteered as “victims”.

MMA student “victim” is a North Cambridge resident.
All “victims” were successfully rescued.

Logan Massport Fire Rescue members **Joe Houghton** and **Assistant Chief Ted Costa**

Boston Fire Marine unit.

Logan Massport Fire Rescue Marine Unit

Boston Harbor Pilot boat

United States Coast Guard – 41 foot boat

Massachusetts State Police

- *Photos above by **FLT. Steve Brown** (Tech Services)*

From the Archives

Ladder Company No. 1 group 4 – early 1980s

Standing: **FLT. Joseph Schifferdecker** (deceased), **FF Phil Paris** (Ladder 2 – retired), **FF Stanley Fabianski** (Truck 4 - retired)
Front row: **FF John Watson** (Ladder 1 – retired) and **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1 – retired)
The apparatus is a spare truck, the former Ladder 4, a 1959 Pirsch 100' aerial ladder.

- *Photo above from the collection of **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1 – retired)*

The photos below were taken at the 100th anniversary Cambridge Firefighters Ball.

FF Ron Mattos (Engine 2 – retired), **FLT. Joe Keohane** (Engine 2 – deceased), **FLT. Brad Tenney** (Ladder 4), and **FF Michael Murphy** (Engine 4)

Lena Teas, FLT. Richard Teas (Engine 1 – retired), **Ruth Fitzgerald, FF Jim Fitzgerald** (Division 2 – retired), **Mary Grace, and FF Walter Grace** (Division 1 – retired)

FF Jack Sousa (Engine 5 – retired), **FF Denis Tevlin** (Engine 2 – retired), **FF Dan Maloney** (Division 1), **FCAPT. Joe Dynan** (Engine 3 – retired), and **FF Ron Mattos** (Engine 2 – retired)

FCAPT. Steve Boyle (Engine 6 – retired) and **Chief of Department Gerald Reardon**

FF Thomas Connarton (Ladder 4 – deceased), **FLT. George Bennett** (Engine 4 – deceased) and **FCAPT. John Clark** (Ladder 3 – retired)

FLT. Jim Nagle (Engine 4 – deceased), **Chief Thomas Scott** (Chief of Department – retired), **FF Frank Bransfield** (Engine 5 – deceased), and **FLT. Richard Teas** (Engine 1 – retired))

- *Photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1 - retired)*

History and Tradition

Rescue Company No. 1

Rescue 1 was organized on 25 March 1932 and was located in the quarters of Engine 4 at 2029 Massachusetts Avenue. The Rescue was established as a result of the death of Fire Lieutenant **William J. Atkinson** of Engine 4. Lt. Atkinson died while attempting to rescue 2 men who had been overcome in a grease-pit manhole. Lt. Atkinson and both civilian victims died in the incident. The Lieutenant had been wearing an "all-service" type canister filter mask. (The all-service mask filtered contaminants in the atmosphere but did not provide a supply of air or oxygen.) The purpose of the rescue company was to provide a fire company for specialized rescue incidents and to provide a mechanism to "rescue the rescuers" when necessary.

Chief of Department Herman Gutheim, with the support of city officials, organized this new fire company in spite of the economic depression in the country at the time. Fire Captains Arthur Marshall and George Friel were assigned to train the company. Captain Friel went to New York City, riding and working with the Fire Department of New York City's Rescue 1 to learn about heavy and special rescue procedures. While riding with Rescue 1, Capt. Friel was involved in a rescue of persons from a fire. Capt. Friel received an FDNY medal for this incident. After a period of training, Rescue 1 began service in August of 1932.

In 1933, the Rescue was involved in a serious accident destroying the apparatus. The company ran with a spare wagon. On 25 February 1934, Rescue 1 relocated to the new Fire Headquarters building at 491 Broadway. This is the current home of the Rescue Company. In October of 1935, the company placed a new Seagrave rescue wagon in service. In 1947, a 1943 International high-pressure fog wagon (former U.S. Navy) was placed in service. The Rescue became a two-piece company.

In January of 1949, a new GMC/Lacey rescue apparatus was placed in service by the company. Rescue 1 began transporting victims. The company placed a new Ford rescue in service in August, 1960. Also in 1960, the fog wagon was reassigned to Engine 1.

A new Mack CF/Gerstenslager rescue was placed in service in October, 1969. In March, 1979, a Chevrolet/Kurbmaster/Wolf Coach rescue was placed in service. The Cambridge Fire Department Hazardous Materials Task Force was organized under the Rescue Company in 1986. The Mack apparatus was refurbished for use as the HazMat vehicle.

In October of 1989, a new Ford/Saulsbury rescue was placed in service. On 23 May 1994, a new Ford/3-D HazMat rescue apparatus was placed in service. In 1995, the Department disposed of the 1989 Ford/Saulsbury rig. Engine 4's wagon was reconfigured and was operated as the HazMat vehicle temporarily.

On 16 May 1996, Rescue 1 placed in service a new Emergency One/Freightliner apparatus.

On 29 September 2003, a new Spartan/Road Rescue apparatus was placed in service as Rescue 1.

Effective 1 May 2005, paramedic service was initiated in the City of Cambridge Fire Department. Rescue Company #1, Engine Company #1, Squads #2 and #4 are Paramedic Response Units.

high-angle rescue and rappelling

water rescue and recovery

supplied air system

chemical foam system

irons – search and forcible entry

all-service breathing apparatus

Rescue 1 – group 3 – early 1970s

FF George Gibson (retired), **FLT. Joseph Roberts** (deceased), **FF Fred Donahue** (retired), **FF Robert Ranstrom** (retired)

Rescue 1's apparatus is the 1969 Mack CF/Gerstenslager

Rescue Company No. 1 – group 3 - circa 1990

FLT. Galvin Murphy (now Engine 9), **FFs John Hathaway** (now Engine 5), **Stephen Ryan** (now Engine 9), and **Kenneth Souza** (Rescue 1)

Rescue Company No. 1 – group 4 – 2010

FF Eric Moore, FF John Mulligan, FCAPT. Bill Brathwaite, and **FF Jeff McGourty**

The apparatus is the 2003 Spartan/Road Rescue.
In addition to providing fire protection and heavy rescue services, Rescue 1 of 2010 is a paramedic company.

- *Photo above by **Tara Bithia***

Stats and Fires

The company runs and basic statistics for Fiscal Year 2009/2010 are below. There were 13,538 emergency incidents which generated 31,907 fire unit responses. There were 111 code 111 building fires. (One hundred eleven 111s – this is not a misprint.)

	Total runs	Building Fires
Engine 1	2090	52
Engine 2	3065	72
Engine 3	1569	31
Engine 4	1529	23

Engine 5	2027	74
Engine 6	1345	66
Engine 8	1200	22
Engine 9	1041	16
Truck 1	1916	78
Truck 2	1231	44
Truck 3	2184	76
Truck 4	1656	33
Rescue 1	2448	76
Squad 2	3080	72
Squad 4	2062	51
Division 1	1641	79
Division 2	1281	44
Special Units	315	
Mutual Aid Units	197	
TOTAL RUNS	**31907**	

Incidents	13,538
Div 1 Incidents	7773
Div 2 Incidents	5765
Responses	31,907
EMS	6126
Bldg Fires	111
Inside Fires	891
All Fires	995
HazMat	206

Working Fires	8
2nd Alarms	4
3rd Alarms	0
4th Alarms	0
5th Alarms	0

Congratulations

Congratulations to **FF Matthew Ansello** (Rescue 1, group 3) and his wife, **Kerri** on the birth of **Gemma Mary Ansello**. Gemma was born on 3 March 2010 at 1428 hours. She weighed in at 8 lbs, 10 ozs. and was 20 inches long. Gemma is little sister to **Libby Ansello**.

Congratulations to **FFOP Kyle Schweinshaut** (Truck 3, group 1) and his wife, **Chloe** on the birth of **Oliver Schweinshaut**. Oliver was born on 13 May 2010 at 0058 hours. He weighed in at 8 lbs, 6 ozs. and was 22" long. Oliver has a big sister, **Isabella**, who is 20 months old. Everyone is healthy and doing great.

Congratulations also to **FFOP R. Nicholas Menard** (Engine 3, group 1) and wife, **Lindsey** on the birth of **Emily Elizabeth Menard.** Emily was born on 28 May 2010 at 1233 hours. She weighed 7 pounds 15.7 ounces and was 20 inches long. Emily Elizabeth joins big brother, **Bryan** as the newest member of the Menard family.

Congratulations

Congrats to **Fire Captain Peter Donovan** (Truck 3) on completion of his Bachelor's Degree in Fire Science (summa cum laude) from Anna Maria College.

Promotions

Per GO # 18 of 2010 and effective July 1 at 0700 hours, Fire Lieutenant **David S. Walles** is promoted to Acting Fire Captain.

Retirements

Per GO # of 2010 and effective, June 30, 2010 at 1700 Hours, **Fire Captain Stephen G. Persson** retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Captain Persson was appointed on May 9, 1971 and assigned to Engine Company No. 8. His other assignments included:

- March 5, 1972 — Rescue Company No. 1
- February 12, 1978 — Acting Lieutenant, Engine Company No. 4
- July 2, 1978 — Engine Company No. 2
- July 9, 1978 — Promoted to Lieutenant, Engine Company No. 2
- October 12, 1986 — Acting Captain, Engine Company No. 4
- November 30, 1986 — Promoted to Fire Captain, Engine Company No. 4
- May 10, 1987 — Engine Company No. 2
- March 31, 1991 — Training Division

Fire Captain Persson is a long time member of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council and the unofficial Fire Department Historian.
He is also a United States Navy veteran, a submariner serving aboard the submarine, ***USS Corporal SS346.***

Transfers and Assignments

Per **GO #13 of 2010** and effective on Sunday, 13 June 2010 at 0700 hours:

FF Matthew G. Wood from Squad 4 promoted to Acting Fire Lieutenant, Training Division
FF Reneau Cherant from Engine Company No. 2 to Squad No. 4
FF Brian D. Gallant from Ladder Company No. 3 to Engine Company No. 2
FF Paul F. Morrison from Squad No. 2 to Rescue Company No. 1
FF Nathan W. Jarvi from Engine Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 6
FF Thomas A. Casey from Ladder Company No. 1 to Ladder Company No. 4
FF Paul J. Finnegan from Ladder Company No. 3 to Ladder Company No. 4
FF Timothy C. Latson from Engine Company No. 4 to Headquarters
FF Dennis J. Shine from Engine Company No. 2 to Engine Company No. 8
FF Matthew R. McDonald from Engine Company No. 8 to Engine Company No. 2

FFOP Kyle M. Schweinshaut to Ladder Company No. 3
FFOP Peter Melo from Engine Company No. 6 to Engine Company No. 1
FFOP Jose T. Lora from Engine Company No. 8 to Squad No. 2
FFOP Ian S. Moynihan from Ladder Company No. 4 to Ladder Company No. 3
FFOP Jeffrey C. Keefe from Ladder Company No. 4 to Ladder Company No. 1

Per **GO #14 of 2010** and effective on Sunday, 20 June 2010 at 0700 hours:

FF George L. Thompson from Division 2 to Headquarters
FF Robert A. Bruno from Engine Company No. 8 to Division 2
FF Gary Nangle from Engine Company No. 9 to Engine Company No. 8

Per **GO #17 of 2010** and effective on Sunday, 4 July 2010 at 0700 hours:

FLT. Raymond E. Vaillancourt from Engine Company No. 3 to Squad No. 4
FLT. Michael A Donovan from Squad No. 4 to Engine Company No. 3

Through the Lantern Lens

Through the Lantern Lens

by Mose Humphrey

There have been several recent earthquakes in New England with the most recent taking place in central Massachusetts in June of 2010. Most people don't realize that there are several major faults that run through New England and one through the eastern coast of Massachusetts. It has been almost 200 years since we had a good shakeup, but experts predict it could happen at any time. Hopefully it's nothing compared to the San Francisco Earthquake of 1989 or 1906.

A massive earthquake in 1906 resulted in a major fire that destroyed much of the city of San Francisco. It tore up the water system and severed gas mains, collapsed overhead electrical lines, tumbled chimneys and overturned stoves. The gas fires were what started the fires and due to the broken water mains, extinguishing any gas fed fires was all but impossible. Realizing that the only hope they had was bringing in new supplies to rebuild the city, firefighters concentrated on saving the wooden wharves which lined the shore so that supplies could be landed safely by ship.

More recently in 1989, The Loma Prieta Earthquake, also known as the "World Series Earthquake", was made famous because everyone was watching the televised World Series between the Oakland A's and

the San Diego Padres when it occurred. It resulted in almost 60 deaths when an elevated highway in Oakland collapsed as well as gas fed fires in San Francisco's Marina District. Fireboats pumping ocean water from the bay was the only way to get water to the fires due to collapsed water mains.

Don't think it can't happen to us! To learn more about New England are earthquakes, check out the following websites:

http://www.nesec.org/hazards/earthquakes.cfm

http://quake.bc.edu:8000/index.htm

Signal 10-15

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Fire Lieutenant Guy E. Brown, Jr.** of Aerial Tower Company No. 1 - retired**.** Fire Lieutenant Brown was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 1 June 1952. His assignments were as follows:

1 June 1952	Engine Company No. 1
25 Oct 1953	Ladder Company No. 1
9 March 1965	Aide to Deputy Fire Chief
15 Mar 1967	promoted to Fire Lieutenant – Ladder Company No. 4
18 Jan 1970	Ladder Company No. 2
5 March 1972	Aerial Tower company No. 1

FLT. Brown retired on 6 December 1986. He was born on 13 March 1925. He died on 10 April 2010.

Fire Lieutenant Guy E. Brown was a Untied States Navy veteran of World War II. As a radioman, Third Class USN, he served on the destroyer, ***USS Strong.*** He was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theatre Medal, the American Theatre Medal, and the WWII victory Medal.

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Joseph A. Perroni** of Ladder Company No. 4 - retired**.** Firefighter Perroni was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 29 June 1952. His assignments were as follows:

29 June 1952	Ladder Company No. 4

29 Jan 1956	Engine Company No. 1
10 Sept. 1961	Ladder Company No. 4

Firefighter Perroni retired on 30 April 1984. He was born on 14 February 1922. He died on 30 May 2010.

Firefighter Perroni was a United States Navy veteran of World War II. As Storekeeper, First Class USN, he served on the ***LST 1036, USS Creon.*** He was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theatre Medal, the American Theatre Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and the WWII victory Medal.

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Firefighter Francis J. Higgins** of Engine Company No. 4 - retired**.** Firefighter Higgins was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 15 April 1956. His assignments were as follows:

15 April 1956	Ladder Company No. 2
19 Jan 1969	Engine Company No. 8
15 April 1979	Engine Company No. 4

Firefighter Higgins retired on 28 January 1981. He was born on 1 July 1923. He died on 5 July 2010.

Firefighter Higgins was a United States Navy veteran of World War II. As Gunner's Mate Second Class, he served on the ***Liberty Ship Benjamin Rush*** and on the ***USS LST-706***. LST-706 participated in the Leyte landings in November 1944 and the Lingayen Gulf landing. He was awarded the Asiatic-Pacific 2 star bronze Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theatre Medal, the American Theatre Medal, the Philippine Liberation Medal 1 star, Good Conduct Medal, and the WWII victory Medal.

Condolences to:

- **FF Robert McKinley** (Engine 9 – retired) on the death of his wife, **Lois Trebino McKinley.** Mrs. McKinley is also the stepmother of **FLT. David McKinley** (Engine 9).
- **FF Henry Sisco** (Engine 6) on the death of his wife, **Virginia Faye Moore-Sisco**
- **Fire Acting Captain David S. Walles** (Training Division) on the death of his brother, **Brian M. Walles**
- **Fire Captain William J. Brathwaite** (Rescue 1) on the death of his uncle, **George Quinton Brathwaite, Sr.**
- **Fire Lieutenant Michael Francis** (Engine 1) on the death of his mother-in-law, **Mrs. Virginia M. O'Connor.**
- **FF William Dusablon** (Truck 2) on the death of his brother, **Chester.**
- **FF Donald J. Warren** (Engine Co. 5 - retired) on the death of his wife, **Mrs. Irene Warren.**
- **FF William Sullivan** (Truck 1) on the death of his mother, **Mrs. Mary E. Sullivan.**
- **FFOP Gary Plunkett (**Engine 1) on the death of his cousin, **United States Army Staff Sergeant Eric Shaw,** 327th Infantry, First Brigade Combat Team who was killed by enemy gunfire in Afghanistan.
- **Acting Fire Captain David Walles** (Training/Paramedic Coordinator) on the death of his aunt, **Marguerite Sheehan.**

Badge Presentation and Swearing-in Ceremony

On Friday, 28 May 2010, newly promoted Deputy Fire Chief, Fire Captains, Fire Lieutenants, and Firefighters were officially sworn-in by **City Clerk Margaret Drury**. **Mr. Carl Barron** also presented the Barron Administrative Award for Excellence to **Fire Captain Stephen Persson** and **Deputy Fire Chief John Cotter.**

Fire Department Chaplain Rabbi Rachmiel Liberman delivers the invocation**.**

DFC Edward Morrissey sworn-in by **City Clerk Margaret Drury**

Fire Lieutenant Raymond Vaillancourt's badge is pinned by his father **Firefighter Romuald Vaillancourt** (Nashua FD – retired)

Fire Captain Tom Cahill is pinned by his daughter.

Fire Captain Fred Ikels is pinned by his wife and daughter

The Albert family

From left to right: **Police Officer Keith** (CPD Traffic), **FLT. Ken** (Engine 8), **FLT. Brian** (Engine 3), **Firefighter Jules** (Truck 4 – retired and the patriarch of the Albert clan), **Police Sergeant/Detective Jim** (Holyoke PD.), **Deputy Superintendent Jack** (Cambridge PD), and **Police Officer David** (CPD. Patrol).

Mr. Carl Barron, **FCAPT. Stephen Persson**, and **Chief Gerald Reardon**

Mr. Carl Barron, the Cotter family, **DFC John Cotter**, and **Chief Gerald Reardon**

The Schweinshaut family, FF Kyle Schweinshaut, and **Chief Gerald Reardon**

ATF Special Agent Brian Higgins (former Fire Lieutenant – FIU) pins his nephew, **FF Joseph Fournier** while Joe's mother, **Cammy** (Fire Headquarters Administration) looks on.

- *Photos above by **DFC Dan Turner** (Fire Prevention)*

Additional photos of the swearing-in and badge pinning ceremony are available on the Fire Department website Photo Gallery.
Go to: http://www.cambridgema.gov/gallery/?AlbumID=383&dept=FIRE

FF R. Nicholas Menard *with wife,* ***Lindsey****, and* ***Emily and Bryan.***
FF Menard was sworn in separately by ***City Clerk Drury*** *on a different day since Emily was born on the 28th of May at the same time as the group swearing-in.*

Firefighters Memorial Sunday

Memorial Sunday was on 13 June 2010. The ceremony to honor our deceased members was conducted at the Cambridge Cemetery Firefighters Plot. Cambridge Firefighters and Fire Officers were joined by members of the **Worcester Fire Department**, as well as members of the **Cambridge Police** and **Somerville Police Departments.**

- *Photos above by **DFC Dan Turner** (Fire Prevention)*

Additional photos of the Firefighters Memorial Sunday ceremony are available on the Fire Department website Photo Gallery.
Go to: http://www.cambridgema.gov/gallery/?AlbumID=387&dept=FIRE

Letters

The following was sent to City Manger Healy and forwarded to the Fire Department.

From: Dick Pooley
Sent: Friday, April 09, 2010 8:47 AM
To: City Manager
Subject: Fire department response - 810 Memorial drive

Our sincere thanks to the fireman responding to the fire yesterday at 810 Memorial Drive.

The water damage coming from the sprinkler system upstairs from our office could have been devastating to us, but due to the quick response it was kept to a minimum.
The tarps the responders placed over several desks and file cabinets prevented a loss of computer equipment and files that would have been very difficult to replace.

Please give our thanks to the responding companies for their professionalism.

Dick Pooley

Cambridge Water Technology
810 Memorial Drive
Cambridge MA 02139

Editor's note: Box 3561 was transmitted for the incident above, I# 09010365, at 1259 hours on 8 April 2010. Group 2 was on duty.
The fire was contained to a kitchen in an apartment on floor #3 of this hi-rise building. Salvage covers were spread and personal belongings and files were moved by FD members to avoid water damage on the floors below the fire.
Three engines, 2 trucks, 1 squad, and the rescue company operated under command of ***Division 2 Chief Paul Sheehan.***

Fayerweather Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

May 8, 2010

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

Dear Chief Reardon,

March of 2010 will be remembered forever here on Fayerweather Street as the month of floods. I'll refer only to the one in mid-March. On March 15, three of Cambridge's bravest came to protect me from what could be serious, life-threatening circumstances. My cellar was flooded for the first time and the gas and electric utilities were in danger. I called the Fire Department and three of the best came to the rescue, **Captain Fred Ikels, Firefighter Joseph Nunley,** and **Firefighter Jose T. Lora** shut off the gas and electric utilities. They did the job with skill and concern for me, the home owner. I want to thank them through you for their skillful performance.

Best to all members of the Department.

Sincerely,

Robert J.
O'Leary

Editor's note: Engine Company No. 8 was dispatched to the above still alarm at 1716 hours on 15 March 2010, Incident # 9009450.
Group 2 was on duty.

Dear Chief Reardon,

On behalf of my mother, brother, and myself, we would like to express to you and the entire Cambridge Fire Department our sincerest thanks for the wonderful show of support and respect at the wake and funeral for my dad., retired Cambridge Firefighter Joseph A. Perroni. It was appreciated more than words could ever say and I know my dad was looking down and smiling.

Thank you also for allowing Ladder 4, dad's company, to be part of the funeral procession and the wonderful salute given to him. It all meant the world to us and I know to my dad too. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you all so very much.

With warm regards and utmost gratitude.

Steve Perroni and family

Congratulations

Congratulations to **Lt. Paul Mahoney, USN** who has been awarded the **Bronze Star** for action during a mission in Afghanistan. Lt. Mahoney is the son of **FLT. Paul Mahoney** (Truck 3, group 4) and is the nephew of **DFC Gerry Mahoney** (EPAC).

The narrative is as follows:

> LT Mahoney, United States Navy, distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious service while deployed in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF 09-11 and the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Team 17, Romanian American Battle Group, United States Forces-Afghanistan, from July 2009 to February 2010. LT Mahoney's direct supervision resulted in the destruction of over 3,500 pounds of explosives. LT Mahoney personally oversaw the destruction of over 56,792 pieces of enemy ordnance, resulting in a decrease of enemy IED strikes in Northern Zabul by 52 percent. LT Mahoney's actions and expertise in conducting sensitive site exploitation (SSE) provided actionable intelligence that enabled the Romanian-American Battle Group, and two American battalions to counter the enemy IED threat. LT Mahoney's actions during Operation WALLA WALLA enabled the assault force of Special Operations Forces, a U.S. Infantry Company, and a Route Clearance Package 9RCP) to move 54 kilometers to the objective area. LT Mahoney cleared the route of IEDs in front of the RCP enabling the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) to secure the RCP and move them safely back to Forward Operating Base (FOB) LAGMAN. LT Mahoney by clearing an area north of FOB LAGMAN of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) provided support to the Task Force Zabul's, Civil Affairs team. This area is used by Afghan civilians as grazing land for sheep. The efforts of LT Mahoney strengthened the bonds between the local Afghan villagers and the International Security Assistance Forces (ISAF). LT Mahoney led the only force in Zabul Province capable of responding to IED threats and enemy caches by ground or air movement. Because of this, LT Mahoney was requested almost daily to support ISAF, Special Operations Teams, Romanian and Afghan National Security Forces to counter the IED threat. LT Mahoney's outstanding leadership and devotion to duty were instrumental factors in the disruption of enemy IED activity in Zabul Province, strengthening the US-Romanian partnership. His performance

of duty reflects great credit upon him, Alpha Company, 1-4Infrantry regiment, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT), and the United States Navy.

America's Heroes

Richard T. Curry

Waltham Fire Lieutenant (retired**) Richard T. Curry** died Sunday, 11 April 2010. He was 62 years old.

Fire Lieutenant Curry was born in Brighton on 5 September 1947, the family had moved to Waltham when he was five years old. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the **United States Marine Corps**, serving from October 1964 thru December, 1968.

He served with distinction in Vietnam and received the **Silver Star** and two **Purple Hearts** in addition to a Presidential Unit Citation; National Defense Service Medal; the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry; the Vietnam Service Medal with three stars and the Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Rich was nominated to receive the Silver Star, the nation's third highest military award, when he was a nineteen year old private first class and squad leader serving with 'A' Company, 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment of the 1st Marine Division. In August, 1967, Rich and his platoon were sent to establish a defensive ambush position 200 yards outside their base perimeter in Da Nang province. His squad came under heavy enemy attack before they reached their positions, receiving rifle and machine gun fire, in addition to a grenade attack.

Rich's Presidential Citation described the event: "In the initial moments of the attack, all members of the machine gun team were wounded . . . reacting instantly, PFC Curry ran fifteen meters under intense enemy fire to the team's position. While encouraging the wounded he boldly positioned himself in front of his wounded comrades with the machine gun in full view of the enemy and commenced to direct long bursts of fire into hostile positions." He continued to fire the heavy weapon from a standing position until the enemy ceased firing and after expending 600 rounds of ammunition, eventually running out, he repositioned himself with his personal weapon in the darkness to other wounded Marines, re-loading their weapons and directing their fire until enemy forces withdrew. One witness to the event, Sergeant Stephen Truss, USMC, attributed Rich's heroic actions "with saving the lives of the machine gun team and all the members of his squad".

After his discharge from the Marine Corps and returning from Vietnam he attended University of Massachusetts Boston. He was appointed to the Waltham Fire Department in September, 1976 and promoted to Fire Lieutenant in June,

1983. He was assigned to Rescue 6 on Lexington Street for the majority of his career. He retired in July, 1998.

Rich enjoyed traveling and the outdoors. He enjoyed golfing, fishing, scuba diving and mountain climbing. He was also a talented carpenter and a 'Friend of Bill W'. Rich was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1628 in Bedford and the Disabled American Veterans, Chapter No. 47 in Billerica.

He also left behind two adult children and their spouses; grandchildren; his former wife; his immediate family and extended family including his brothers and sisters in the Waltham Fire Department.

Fire Lieutenant and United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Richard Curry is one of America's Heroes.

For additional information, go to the web sites:

http://hosting-tributes-24123.tributes.com/show/Richard-Curry-88300971

http://www.walthamfirefighters.com/Special-Announcements-2

George T. Sakato

Private George T. Sakato distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action on 29 October 1944, on hill 617 in the vicinity of Biffontaine, France. After his platoon had virtually destroyed two enemy defense lines, during which he personally killed five enemy soldiers and captured four, his unit was pinned down by heavy enemy fire. Disregarding the enemy fire, Private Sakato made a one-man rush that encouraged his platoon to charge and destroy the enemy strongpoint. While his platoon was reorganizing, he proved to be the inspiration of his squad in halting a counter-attack on the left flank during which his squad leader was killed. Taking charge of the squad, he continued his relentless tactics, using an enemy rifle and P-38 pistol to stop an organized enemy attack. During this entire action, he killed 12 and wounded two, personally captured four and assisted his platoon in taking 34 prisoners. By continuously ignoring enemy fire, and by his gallant courage and fighting spirit, he turned impending defeat into victory and helped his platoon complete its mission. Private Sakato's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit on him, his unit, and the United States Army.

Neil Rossman and **George T. Sakato** are pictured above.

Private Sakato was honored at the Medal of Honor Society annual dinner in New York City on 23 March. George Sakato was a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team – "The Nisei" – all Japanese-American.

The above narrative was submitted by ***Neil Rossman.***

Senator Daniel Ken Inouye was also a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (later the 442nd Infantry) and also received the Medal of Honor for action in Italy. The 442nd, *"The Nisei",* was one the most decorated units in United States Military History.

"Because power corrupts, society's demands for moral authority and character increase as the importance of the position increases."

- *John Adams*
Second President of the United States

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

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!

-jjg

John J. Gelinas
Chief of Operations
Cambridge Fire Department
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Cambridge, MA 02138