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 #58
Spring 2011

What's New

The 12 new FFOP's that were appointed to the department on November 28, 2010 started the Recruit Program at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy on January 3, 2011. Pictured below after Physical Training in Cambridge on December 28, 2010 in no particular order they are: **Murphy Aquaro, Travis Barnes, John Bernard, Joseph Bokuniewicz, Phillip Chandler, Michael Donnelly, Tyler English, Candice Murphy, Robert Sullivan, Kevin Thompson, Keith Thorne-Bingham and Martin Townsend**

Photo by Tara Bithia

Photo by Lt. M. Wood (Training Division)

Photo by Lt. M. Wood (Training Division)

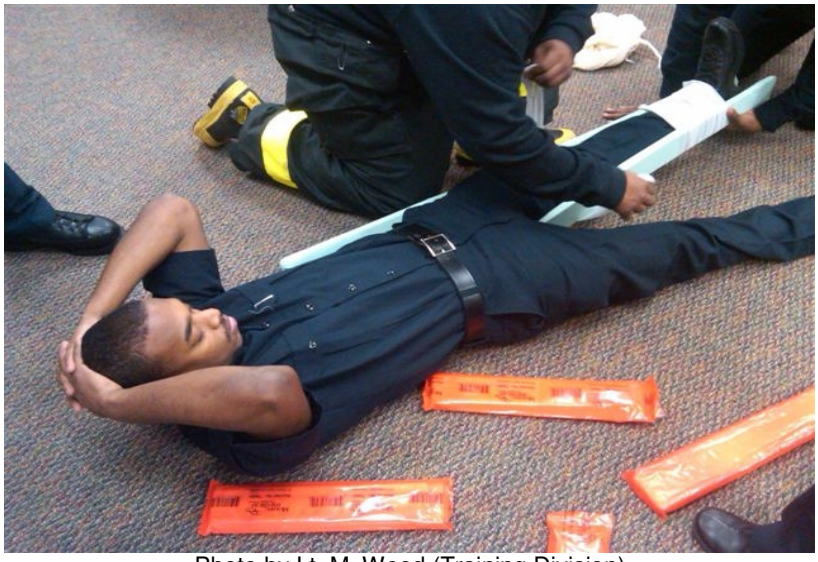


Photo by Lt. M. Wood (Training Division)

Undoubtedly, they received top-notch preparation from the Training Division and are well prepared for their 12 weeks of training ahead!

Photo by Tara Bithia

Training Division officers **Deputy Chief Rossi** and **Lt. M. Wood** hard at work.

Engine 2 Patch - In keeping with the Fire Company patches, Engine Company 2 is the latest addition to join the ranks. If interested in patches or stickers, please contact **FF Matt McDonald, E2 Grp3.** FF McDonald still has the remaining stash of Taylor Square patches also.

Engine 4 – The new Engine 4 is still in the assembly stage and is expected to be delivered in April if all goes as planned. It will look similar to Engine 5.

With warmer weather coming up, MDA Chairperson, **Howie Smith (Ladder 1)** will once again be asking for the support of department members. Just an hour of your time at one of the half dozen Fill-the-Boot events planned for the spring/summer/fall would make huge difference!

Parade - The Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association will hold their 34th Anniversary Fire Truck Parade and Firematic Flea Market on June 11, 2011 in Lynnfield. There is NO admission charge! Antique and modern fire apparatus on display as well as food vendors. This is a great family day for those future firefighters.

Cardio-Cerebral Resuscitation

Some interesting facts from Captain David Walles (Training Division) regarding the trial in Cambridge replacing traditional CPR with CCR:

Cambridge EMS has been performing CardioCerebral Resuscitation (CCR) since March 8, 2010. CCR was first developed at the Sarver Heart Resuscitation Group (U. of Arizona) in 2003. In a quote from Dr. Gordon Ewy, one of the pioneers, CCR is, “A new approach to the resuscitation of patients with Cardiac Arrest that significantly improves neurologically intact survival.” CCR has had great success in Arizona, Kansas City, MO, and Rock and Walworth Counties in Wisconsin. CCR has improved out of hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) survival by as much as 250-300% (Barrow et al. (AZ) from 4.7% to 17.6%) when compared to traditional CPR. (However, new American Heart Association (AHA) guidelines have changed recently (Oct. 2010) to reflect the importance of continuous chest compressions (CCCs).

CCR emphasizes the importance of CCCs and deemphasizes the importance of ventilation.

CCR is done on adults (18 or older) with a cardiac or unknown cause for the Cardiac Arrest. Children, Respiratory, or Trauma caused Cardiac Arrest victims receive traditional CPR instead of CCR.

Cambridge and Norwood Hospital EMS (which covers 7 or 8 communities) are the only EMS services doing CCR in Massachusetts.

When comparing data here in Cambridge, Cardiac Arrest survival rates have improved significantly from 2009 to 2010:

In **2009** the overall Cardiac Arrest rate survival was **9.3%** and the Utstein (witnessed arrest with an initial shockable rhythm) was **16.7%.**

In **2010** the overall Cardiac Arrest survival rate was **20.9%** and the Utstein was **70.0%.**

The numbers show a huge improvement in Cardiac Arrest survival here in Cambridge. Although the numbers show great improvement from 2009 to 2010, we are looking into how we can improve OHCA even more. One of the areas we can improve is educating the public to perform bystander CPR (done only 22.0% of the time in 2009 and 21.6% in 2010).We are working with Pro EMS to improve these numbers.

All Companies Working

December 31, 2010 – Mutual Aid – Engine 5 and Ladder 1 provided mutual aid to the City of Somerville during their working fire at Box 266 for 33 Bailey Road. Engine 5 covered at Somerville Engine 7 and Ladder 1 covered in Teele Square.

January 5, 2011 – 1 Alarm – Box 4951 struck for fire in the trash barrel Arts building. Upon arrival, companies discovered a fire in a paper-towel dispenser inside a bathroom on the basement level. Extinguished fire with water extinguisher. Area ventilated with two fans from Ladder's 2 and 4.

January 5, 2011 – Haz Mat, Level 1 – MIT Building 66, 25 Ames Street in the basement. Small quantity spill of approximately 4 to 5 different chemical solvents spilled from a cart in the basement tunnel interconnecting Buildings E66; E68; E17. Buildings were evacuated. One exposure victim evaluated and refused any assistance. Level 1 working ordered and resources deployed. Spill was absorbed and placed into container. MIT clean-up contractor on scene to complete clean-up and removal of products.

January 6, 2011 – Rescue – Harvard Square MBTA Station, Headquarters companies (with Division 2 and Squad 4) responded to the Harvard Square MBTA station for a person with their arm caught in the escalator. Companies removed patient and he was transported to the hospital.

January 11, 2011 – Mutual Aid – Somerville, 16 Chester Street, Engine 4 responded to Somerville line box 446 for smoke in the building. Somerville struck a Working Fire which brought Squad 4 and Division 2 to the scene and sent Engine 5 to cover Somerville Headquarters and Ladder 1 covered in Teele Square. Group 1 on duty.

January 13, 2011 – 1 Alarm – Companies dispatched to Holworthy Street for an unknown type fire. On arrival, companies found an outside greenhouse fully involved to the rear of 46

Holworthy Street and Deputy Chief Leonard requested a box alarm. Box 9 was transmitted bringing Belmont Fire to the scene along with Cambridge units. The fire was quickly knocked down by Engine 9 and units were dismissed upon making up.

January 14, 2011 – 1 Alarm - Box 234, 52 Portsmouth Street – Fire Alarm received calls for odor of smoke. Companies found a bag of wood dust from a floor refinishing project smoldering in a vacant apartment. Fire was extinguished. Group 3 on duty.

January 17, 2011 — **Mutual Aid, Brookline 3rd Alarm** for Box 196, 71 Griggs Road. Ladder 1 responded to the fire on the 3rd alarm with Division 1 and Squad 2. Engine 2 covered in Brookline Village. Group 4 working.

January 17, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Somerville 3rd Alarm, Box 725, 56 Fairfax Street. Ladder 3, Engine 4, Engine 5, Squad 4, Division 2 responded. Engine 5 covered at Highland Ave. This fire resulted in two civilian fatalities despite the best efforts of all members working at the fire. Group 4 working.

January 24, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, W/F. Box 286 was a 2.5 story wood frame at 7 Loring Street. Ladder 1 and Engine 5 both covered in Teele Square. Group 1 working.

January 25, 2011 – Gas Leak, Museum of Science. A Bobcat tractor struck the gas meter outside the building resulting in a high pressure gas leak. Division 1 requested an additional engine company to stand by due to high readings of gas inside the parking garage with lower readings in the interior. An extended arrival time from Nstar made the call especially tense. Group 1 working

January 31, 2011 – Box 1252, 1 Alarm, 1 Leighton Street - Fire in the dumpster at the base of the trash chute in this 22 story residential occupancy. Fire was at ground level on the B side loading dock. Sprinklers were operating in the chute. Fire was knocked down by Engine Co. 5 using portable extinguishers and a standpipe line. Dumpster & debris removed to the exterior. Group 3 on duty.

February 1, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, 1 Alarm. Ladder Co. 1 covered Somerville Ladder 3 quarters in Teele Square for Somerville Box 29 for 17 Perry Street, fire in the ceiling. Group 1 on duty.

February 6, 2011 – Box 3461, 150 Erie Street, 1 Alarm. After receiving the box alarm, companies found a fire in apartment 1010 that was extinguished by one activated sprinkler. Fire involved some papers that were too close to the stove. Occupant was evaluated and refused treatment or transport.

February 9, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Belmont, 2nd Alarm. 20 Trowbridge Street. Ladder Co. 11,Engine Co. 9, Engine Co. 5, Squad 4, Division 2 responded and assisted Belmont at their 2nd alarm fire. Ladder 1 used their aerial master stream for heavy fire through the roof of a 2.5 story wood frame home.

February 11, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Watertown, 3rd Alarm. Box 213, 27 Pequossette Street. E-9 responded to cover Watertown E-2. Watertown special called Rescue 1 (with the Tactical Rescue for Air Supply), Squad 4 and Division 2 to fire on Second alarm. Companies assisted on defensive attack after command had called for building evacuation. Engine 9 responded

to the fire on 3rd alarm and supplied a feeder line to the Watertown ladder truck. Cambridge Engine 5 covered Watertown Engine 2 on the 3rd Alarm.

February 11, 2011 - Mutual Aid, Watertown, 2nd Alarm. Box 318, 131 Boylston Street - Engine 5, Rescue 1, and Squad 4 to a second fire in Watertown, which was also a 2nd Alarm fire. Fire through roof on arrival. Engine 5 utilized a 2-1/2" hose stream on side C exterior, before joining with Rescue 1 and Squad 4 and advanced a line to third floor using the rear stairwell and extinguished fire on floor three.

February 14, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Brookline, 3rd Alarm. Box 141 for 5 Wellington Terrace. Ladder 1, Division 1 and Squad 2 to the fire. Engine 2 covered in Brookline Village.

February 15, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Chelsea, 3rd Alarm. Box 311 for 102 Marlborough Street for two three story wood frame structures. Ladder 1, Division 1 and Squad responded to the fire and Engine 5 covered.

February 16, 2011 – Hazardous Condition, 100 Smith Place. A 2" gas line on the roof of Cambridge Landscaping was displaced by the heavy snow load still on the roof. Gas vented to exterior only until utilities could be turned off.

February 20, 2011 – **Rescue, Central Square MBTA Station**. Engine 2, Ladder 3, Rescue 1, Tactical Rescue, Squad 2 and Division 1 responded to the station for a report of a person hit by the train. Companies verified electrical power to the third rail was disconnected and found an unviable patient under the cars.

February 20, 2011 – Mutual Aid, Newton. Engine 9 responded to Newton on a cover assignment for their 4th alarm fire on Waverly Ave.

February 23, 2011 – Box 297, 2nd Alarm, 205 Elm Street. Box struck for a structure fire. Engine's 5, 3, 2, Trucks 2 and 3, Squad 2, Rescue 1 and Division 1 responded in the initial call. The working fire was declared by DFC Mahoney bringing Engine 1, Ladder 1, Squad 4 and Division 2 to the scene. Companies found heavy smoke on arrival as well as fire showing on the Charlie side roof area of a 3 story wood frame dwelling. Companies went to floor 3 and pulled the ceiling and realized quickly that the entire cockloft was engulfed in flames. A 2nd alarm was transmitted shortly thereafter bringing Engines 6, 4, 8 & 9 and Ladder 4 to the scene. Companies had a difficult time accessing the fire in the cockloft due to many voids and construction features.

Photos from Box 297 – 205 Elm Street

All three photos taken and provided by Peter Ostroskey Jr.

February 23, 2011 – Box 381, W/F, 28 Howard Street. Box transmitted for a building fire. First arriving companies reported smoke and fire showing upon arrival. Fire originated from the third floor window casing on the alpha side of a three story occupied commercial/residential building with a mansard style roof. Fire extended into the mansard and attic. All occupants evacuated and were accounted for upon arrival. Engine 6 operated their hand line on the fire while other companies effected searches and ventilation. Fire was caused by careless disposal of smoking materials.

February 24, 2011 – Box 78, 2nd Alarm, 1 Tyler Court. Engine 4 and Squad 4 arrived reporting heavy fire and smoke showing from Bravo side of roof of 6 bay concrete block one-story building garage. The Box assignment was Engines 4, 8, 1, Ladders 4 & 1, Squad 4, Rescue 1, Division 1 and Somerville Engine 6 (on a line box). Engine 4 declared the working fire which brought Engine 9, Ladder 2, Squad 2 and Division 1 to the scene. Division 2 arrived on scene and assumed Command requesting the 2nd alarm at 2126 hours bringing Engine 5 and Engine 6 to the scene. Engine 3 was special called for foam. Companies forced entry through the steel overhead doors and vertical ventilation performed until roof was declared unsafe. Fire was contained to mostly one truck cab inside the building and the roof of the building. The estimated damage was $250,000.

Photos from Box 78, 1 Tyler Court on 24 February 2011

Photo courtesy of DFC D. Turner (Division 2)

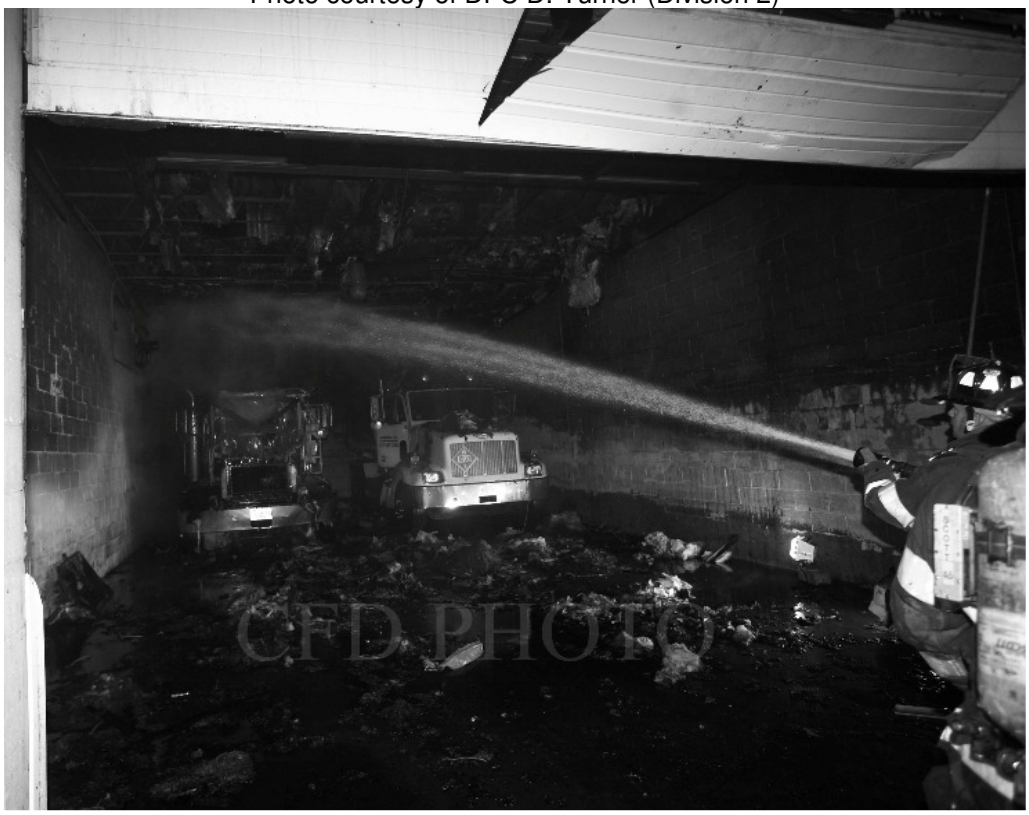


Photo courtesy of DFC D. Turner (Division 2)

(EDITOR NOTE: In a "history tends to repeat itself" moment, there are some interesting facts in regards to this Tyler Court incident.)***

-On 29 March 1938, there was a fire at Fawcett Oil on Portland Street.

-On 24 May 1961, there was a major fire at Metropolitan Ice, Oil, and Coal on Cottage Park Ave., the same property which is now Fawcett Oil.
The exact alarm level of this fire at the time is unknown, but it would've been a 5 alarm fire using today's running cards.

-On 25 February 1979, there was a 4 alarm fire on Tyler Court in a Fawcett Oil Building. Allegedly a much colder night then.

*Thanks to **Chief of Operations J. Gelinas** and **FF J. Hathaway (Engine Co. 5)** for the information!*

February 28, 2011 – Animal Rescue – 700 Memorial Drive. Personnel of Division 1, Ladder 3, Engine 6, Rescue Company, and the Dive Rescue Team effected a water rescue of a dog that ran onto the ice on the Charles River chasing geese and could not get off on its own power. The dog was successfully rescued and transported to Angell Memorial Animal Hospital in Boston. Group 1 on duty. Members in suits were **FF K. Mercer, FF B. Peebles** and **FF K. Schweinshaut**

Photo by DFC D. Turner

FF B. Peebles pulls **FF K. Mercer** and "Maggie" to safety

Out and About

Some may recall in a past issue of the Feederline when we recognized Captain Mary Jo Majors a North Cambridge native and resident. The following photo was taken at the state house when USNR Captain Mary Jo Majors was honored as woman veteran of the year.

L-R Deputy Police Superintendent Christine Elow, Captain Majors,
Police Lieutenant Maureen Carter-Wells, and **Chief of Operations J. Gelinas**.

Fire Lt. John O'Leary, Ladder Co. 2 worked his last shift on December 28, 2010. The members of Engine Co. 3 and Truck Co. 2, Group 2 celebrated his last shift.

Photo by Tara Bithia

L-R, members of Ladder Company No. 2
FF W. Dusablon, Lt. J. O'Leary, FF D. Lewicki

Photo by Tara Bithia

L-R, members of Ladder Company No. 2 and Engine Company No. 3
FF D. Lewicki, FF W. Dusablon, Lt. O'Leary, Lt. M. Donovan, FF R. Thorne

Lt. O'Leary now holds the distinction of being the last active Cambridge Fire Department member to be depicted in the mural painted on the side of Engine 5's quarters in Inman Square. The mural was painted by Ellery Eddy in 1976 to celebrate the Nation's Bicentennial. The artwork featured current Cambridge firefighters (at the time of the painting) as well as two historical figures were included in the photo. The two historical figures were George Washington and Benjamin Franklin, both volunteer firefighters in their own communities in their time.

Depicted in the artwork are from L-R, Fran Dudley, George Washington, Buff the Fire Dog, Bob Carroll, Arthur Largeton, Bill Rose, Arthur Souza, James Nagler, Walter Ellis, Tom Sullivan, John O'Leary, Ben Franklin, Mickey LaRose, Ronnie Ring, Frank Oliver, Frank Bransfield and Don McElearney

Cambridge Fire Hockey Team

Monday, 3/14, 9:00 PM vs. Diablo at Cambridge Rink

Monday, 3/21, 9:10 PM vs. Firecats at Hockeytown (Saugus)

The first major snowstorm of the 2010-2011 winter season started in full force in Cambridge on Sunday, December 26, 2010 and snowed into Monday dumping almost a foot of snow. Companies were out before noontime on Monday making sure hydrants in their respective districts were accessible.

Photo by Tara Bithia

Engine Company No. 2 – **FF. P. Amenkowicz, FF M. McDonald, LT B. O'Regan and FF B. Gallant**

Photo by Tara Bithia

Engine Company No. 5 – **CAPT K. Jenness, FF T. Whitney, FF C. Pinto, FF M. Massiah**

The winter of 2010-2011 has been a memorable one. By the end of January 2011, snow accumulation totals in the Boston area totaled 78.8 inches resulting in many building collapses in early February 2011.

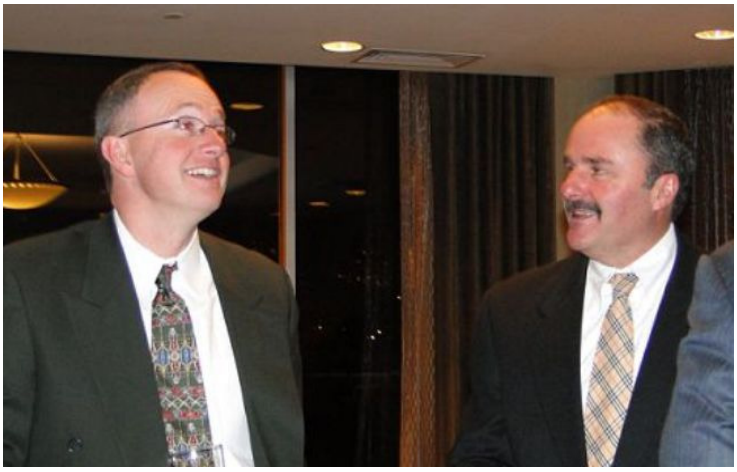
Photo by Tara Bithia

Engine Company No. 6 – **FF D. Harrington, FF L. Houston, LT T. Kotowski, FF P. Neal** *(with broken shovel)*

Fireman's Ball – The Cambridge Fireman's Relief Association held their 122nd Annual Retirement Ball at the Royal Sonesta Hotel, Grand Ballroom on January 29, 2011. Congratulations to Ball Chairman **Peter Mickiewicz** and the rest of the Executive Board of the Relief Association: President **George Thompson**, Vice President **Mark Massiah** (Engine Co. 5), Director at Large **Peter Mickiewicz** (Ladder Co. 1), Director **Ameer Moustafa** (Engine Co. 5) and Director **Mike Franks** (Engine Co. 1).

Many thanks also to Chief of Department **Gerald Reardon** and Cambridge Local 30 for their assistance. **Captain David Walles** (Training Division) prepared a great slideshow showing some of the many fires and firefighters in Cambridge over the years. It was nice to see many of the newest members of the department in attendance including some of the new recruits.

Ice Sculpture



Capt B. Gover (Engine Co. 1) and **FF J. Shinkwin** (Aide to Division 2)

DFC L. Bokuniewicz (Fire Prevention) and wife

Fire Alarm Operator **Steve Gagalis** (ECC) and wife

FF K. Mercer (Rescue Co. 1) and **FF T. Koen** (Engine Co. 1) with friends

Retirees honored at the ball this year were **FF Joe Johnson** (Ladder Co. 2 Retired), **Capt. Joe Dynan** (Engine Co. 3 Retired) and **FF Kevin McGonigal** (Engine Co. 9 Retired). Also recognized was **FF Carolyn Domond** (Retired) who retired a few years ago but did not attend the last Ball. Carolyn was the first female firefighter in Cambridge.

Retirees honored were **FF Kevin McGonigal**, **Capt Joe Dynan** and **FF Joe Johnson**

Several members also received "25 Year Awards" for 25 years of service to the department. Those members were:

All CFRA Ball photos by Mose Humprey

L-R, FF Sullivan (Ladder Co. 1), DFC E. Morrissey (Division 1), FF P. Headley (Engine Co. 9), Capt. G. Carter (Squad 4) and **FF J. Brogan (Engine Co. 9)**

RACE UP BOSTON PLACE - Several members participated in the “Race up Boston Place” to raise funds for cancer research and climbed in honor of the Late **FF Phil Paris (Ladder 2**) who lost a hard fought battle with cancer**.**

L-R are **FF M. Ansello (Rescue 1), LT D. House (Engine 1), FF N. Zedalis (Rescue 1), FF J. McGourty (Rescue 1),**
FF J. Magee (Engine 1), FF M. Tiede (Rescue 1) and **FF J. Hallissey (Engine 1)**

FF N. Zedalis climbing the stairs in bunker gear. Nicole won a
Bronze medal for having the 3rd best time for a female firefighter. Congratulations!

From the Archives

Just to show you that some things don't change, a few snowy scenes from yesteryear. First two photos were of a fire on corner of Watson Street and Brookline Street.

Photo from DFC E. Morrissey Collection

Photo from DFC E. Morrissey Collection

Photo from DFC E. Morrissey Collection

Photo from DFC E. Morrissey Collection

Engine 1 Circa
L-R, FF R. Byrnes, FF. L. Hodgdon, Lt. J. Harrington, FF. H. Rosenberger, **FF. Dan Maloney**
(Now Aide to Division 1)

Photo from late Ed Fowler Collection (CFD FIU)

History and Tradition

FF K. Souza (Rescue 1, Group 3) provided the following three photos. The first two are believed to be taken at a promotional celebration for Cornelius (Connie) O'Brien from Private to Lieutenant. Connie would later go on to become Deputy Chief of the Cambridge Fire Department. For the newer members of the department, Connie also wrote two books in the 1990's detailing the many stories of his long (42 year) career in the Cambridge Fire Department. Although the names in his books may have been changed to protect the "innocent," I'm sure many of the senior members of the department can relate to the stories. Connie was one of four published authors that came from the ranks of the Cambridge Fire Department.

L-R (standing) Frank Oliver (CFD Retired and father of **FF Ed Oliver, Division 2 Aide**), Jim Nagle (LT Ret.), George Carpenter (LT Ret.), Leo McDonald, Ralph Underwood (Engine 5 Ret.), Frank Bransfield (Engine 5 Ret.), Tom Herlihy (Engine 8 Ret.), John ??? and Don McElearney (Engine 5 Ret. and Uncle to **FF Dan Maloney, Division 1 Aide**)

L-R (seated) Tom Sullivan (Engine 5 ret.), Archie Brown and Connie O'Brien (Deputy Chief Ret.)

L-R, George Carpenter(LT Ret.), Maitland (Mickey) LaRose (Engine 5 Ret. and father-in-law of **FF. W. Mahoney L-4**), Tom Herlihy (Engine 8 Ret.), Leo McDonald, Frank Oliver, Manuel (Manny) Souza (Ret. and father to **FF K. Souza R-1**) and Connie O'Brien (DFC Ret.)

Third photo taken at quarters of Engine 5. from unknown. Seated on left (with backs turned) is Tom Herlihy and Tom Sullivan (Engine 5 Ret.). Seated from L-R is Archie Brown, Frank Bransfield, Ed Morrissey Sr. (L-1 Ret. and father to **DFC E. Morrissey Division 1** and **Capt Robert Morrissey Ladder 1**), "Mickey" LaRose and Bill Sullivan.

Through the Lantern Lens

Through the Lantern Lens **by Mose Humphrey**

Instead of the usual column, we thought we would look back and share some excerpted rules taken from the Cambridge Fire Department Rules and Regulations book circa 1954:

Fire Department
City of Cambridge, Massachusetts
Rules and Regulations 1954

Section 1. General Rules

Each member shall:

a. salute a superior officer when they meet or pass on the street or elsewhere in public, and the salute shall be acknowledged by a superior.

g. When permitted to ride free on railroad or street cars and buses within the city limits, strictly comply with the regulations under which this privilege is granted by the transportation companies.

No member is permitted to leave the city without permission from an officer in charge of his command, and will be excused from reporting to multiple alarm fire during this period.

Section III. House Patrol

3. The regulation uniform shall be worn on house patrol between the hours of 8:00 am and 6:00pm with the following exceptions:

If the temperature outdoors exceeds 70 degrees, the house patrol may discard the sack coat and cap, and wear only the regulation blue shirt, black necktie and either black belt or black suspenders, with the Department badge on the center of left breast.

Section VIII. UNIFORM REGULATIONS

6. The sack coat (or overcoat) must be kept entirely buttoned on patrol and on the street, and the hands must not be carried in the pockets.

13. In stormy weather, the coat and boots may be on black rubber material.

Building Construction

At a recent building walk through, a Cambridge Fire Department member observed the following condition. This was found in a restaurant/eatery right in the city. The opening in the ceiling appears to be air intake for the HVAC system. With one of the plastic grates missing, one can see that there was a suspended ceiling (painted blue in the photo) above the above the plaster ceiling (the white part). The red arrow is pointing at one of the metal supports that hold the ceiling tiles in place.

Typically, it is the other way around when a building owner wants a cost effective alternative to covering an already deteriorated permanent ceiling. One can only wonder if there is yet another permanent ceiling above the suspended ceiling creating not one, but two void spaces for undetected fire to travel!

Condolences to:

Condolences to **FF John W. Shinkwin (Division 2)** on the passing of his mother Mrs. Marie Shinkwin, also the wife of the late Firefighter John F. Shinkwin

Condolences to **Lt. Ray Vaillancourt (Squad 4)** on the passing of his uncle, J. Normand Vaillancourt.

Condolences to **FF. Rick Feliciano (Ladder Co. 2)** on the passing of his father, Jose Feliciano

Condolences to **FF Dennis Shine (Engine Co. 8)** on the passing of his father-in-law, Frank J. Facey

Condolences to **FF Rodger Johnson (Engine Co. 1, Retired)** on the passing of his sister Roberta P. Campbell

Condolences to **FF Paul W. Gallagher (Engine Co. 4)** on the passing of his father Henry P. Gallagher

Condolences to **Lt. Robert Fitzgerald; Ladder Co. 2 (Retired)** and **FF James Fitzgerald; Aide to Division 2 (Retired)** on the
passing of their sister Alice Fitzgerald

Stats and Fires

FY 2010/2011 Incident Totals										
	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	SBTTL	Jan-11	Feb-11	**TOTAL**
Responses	2967	2757	2632	2838	2441	2646	**16281**	2999	2770	**22050**
Incidents	1311	1150	1155	1195	1025	1101	**6937**	1360	1070	**9367**
Division 1 incidents	734	644	647	657	574	606	**3862**	775	621	**5258**
Division 2 incidents	577	506	508	538	451	495	**3075**	585	449	**4109**
Building fires	8	8	4	6	9	6	**41**	8	7	**56**
Inside fires	48	50	69	73	81	82	**403**	83	88	**574**
All fires	64	62	77	79	89	89	**460**	88	94	**642**
EMS	545	524	554	534	503	514	**3174**	545	511	**4230**
Elevator Rescue	12	9	11	8	10	8	**58**	9	6	**73**
Hazardous materials	14	16	22	20	18	16	**106**	17	23	**146**
CO emerg	4	2	4	13	6	7	**36**	10	8	**54**
Electrical hazards	47	31	43	30	23	28	**202**	145	42	**389**
Malicious false	29	15	17	27	11	14	**113**	10	20	**143**
Malfunction	145	119	114	122	89	87	**676**	110	75	**861**
Unintentional	162	154	120	151	96	128	**811**	135	95	**1041**
Bomb threats	8	7	7	8	13	3	**46**	8	4	**58**
Bomb/expl removal	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	0		**0**
Structure collapse	2	0	0	0	0	0	**2**	0	2	**4**
Total Multiple Alarms	0	1	0	0	0	0	**1**	0	2	**3**
2nd Alarms									2	**2**
3rd Alarms		1					**1**			**1**
4th Alarms										
5th Alarms										
Working Fires	0	1			2	0	**3**			**3**
HM Lev 1 "Working"								1		**1**

FY 2010/2011 RUN TOTALS

	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	**SBTTL**	Jan-11	Feb-11	**TOTAL**
Engine 1	232	225	234	235	172	201	**1299**	208	218	**1725**
Engine 2	275	238	241	264	213	266	**1497**	285	248	**2030**
Engine 3	161	130	116	127	114	124	**772**	150	125	**1047**
Engine 4	151	126	129	133	128	135	**802**	143	128	**1073**
Engine 5	178	167	161	171	159	161	**997**	213	178	**1388**
Engine 6	128	112	97	113	97	96	**643**	141	111	**895**
Engine 8	122	112	105	110	85	105	**639**	100	102	**841**
Engine 9	114	86	81	81	84	86	**532**	107	79	**718**
Truck 1	173	199	189	201	149	172	**1083**	186	165	**1434**
Truck 2	108	103	87	111	95	97	**601**	125	117	**843**
Truck 3	205	167	155	200	146	165	**1038**	215	176	**1429**
Truck 4	160	143	140	143	118	147	**851**	148	115	**1114**
Rescue 1	169	205	190	199	205	203	**1171**	221	238	**1630**
Squad 2	247	239	249	263	254	260	**1512**	285	271	**2068**
Squad 4	236	184	182	161	151	178	**1092**	170	160	**1422**
Division 1	153	141	125	142	125	115	**801**	176	149	**1126**
Division 2	122	126	132	135	105	110	**730**	100	115	**945**
HazMat 1	0	0	0	2	4	0	**6**	4	2	**12**
Spec & HQ Units	26	24	9	37	17	10	**123**	17	47	**187**
Mutual Aid Units	7	30	10	10	20	15	**92**	5	26	**123**
TOTAL	2967	2757	2632	2838	2441	2646	**16281**	2999	2770	**22050**

Promotions

General Order No. 2, Series of 2011

Effective Friday January 21, 2011

Firefighter Eric Nugent, promoted to Fire Lieutenant, Ladder Co. No. 2

Transfers and Assignments

General Order #30, Series of 2010

Effective Sunday, January 2, 2011 at 0700 hours:

Fire Captain William J. Brathwaite from Rescue Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 8

Fire Captain Frederick B. Ikels from Engine Co. 8 to Engine Company No. 2

Fire Captain Robert M. Morrissey from Engine Company No. 2 to Ladder Company No. 1

Fire Captain Sean P. White from Ladder Company No. 1 to Rescue Company No. 1

Firefighter Nicholas Menard from Engine Company No. 3 to Engine Company No. 2

Firefighter Michael R. Travers. Jr. from Engine Company No. to Rescue Company No. 1

Firefighter Pedro O. Gonzalez from Rescue Company No. 1 to Engine Company No. 3

Retirements

General Order 01, Series of 2011

Effective January 2, 2011 at 1700 hours, Lieutenant John J. O'Leary retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Lieutenant John J. O'Leary was **appointed on February 17, 1974 and assigned to Engine Co. No. 7**.

- **January 12, 1975 Engine Co. 5**
- **March 13, 1977 Ladder Co. 3**
- **May 5, 1985 Engine Co. 7**
- **April 12, 1997 Acting Lieutenant Engine Co. 1**
- **May 17, 1987 Promoted to Fire Lieutenant, Headquarters**
- **March 6, 1988 Aerial Tower**
- **October 11, 1992 Engine Co. 2**
- **June 27, 1993 Ladder Co. 3**
- **February 13, 2005 Ladder Co. 2**

Lieutenant O'Leary has faithfully served the citizens of Cambridge. We wish Lieutenant O'Leary much happiness and good health in his retirement.

General Order 04, Series of 2011

Effective March 4, 2011 at 1700 hours, Firefighter George J. Vendetti retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Vendetti was **appointed on April 24, 1988 and assigned to Engine Co. No. 6.**

- **June 12, 1988 Engine Co. 6**
- **March 14, 2010 Headquarters**

Firefighter Vendetti has faithfully served the citizens of Cambridge. We wish Firefighter Vendetti much happiness and good health in his retirement.

Although, not a member of the Cambridge Fire Department, the staff of the Company Journal would like to recognize and extend their congratulations and best wishes to **Deputy Fire Chief David Salvi** of the Somerville Fire Department on his recent retirement. Deputy Salvi's last day on the job was Friday, February 25, 2011. Many members of the department know Deputy Salvi either through our close working relationship with the Somerville Fire Department or their experiences with him as a Senior Fire Instructor at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy over the years. Many members have probably crossed paths with Dave in his long tenure at the Academy where he was worked for almost 30 years. He was with the Somerville Fire Department for 38 years! We wish you well on your retirement Chief!

Photo courtesy of Joe Morrissey

DFC D. Salvi, on his last day with Somerville Fire Department

Letters

The following letter was received in December 2010

December 15, 2010

Good afternoon,

I received a call earlier this afternoon from a friend of mine who is a former city employee to tell me about an electrical incident yesterday at the Hair Cuttery in Harvard Square. Her daughter Amanda, works there and said they had been having sporadic power outages so the manager called an electrician to check out the problem and the electrician said he'd be back in the morning to replace a wire and told the manager of the salon they could stay open. However, when Amanda went to flip one of the switches she received a small shock so she called her mother and on the advice of her mother, she called the CFD. She said the FD responded within minutes and she could not believe how many FF's there were. She also said they could not have been any nicer, making sure everyone was okay and taking the time to explain the situation to the employees. Mr. Nic (Mr. Nicoloro, Building Inspector) was called to respond and he ordered the shop closed until the proper repairs could be made. Marie, Amanda's mom said Amanda was very scared but once the FD arrived she felt much better so I was asked, on behalf of Amanda and her mom, to thank all those FF's who responded to the incident. Marie also told her daughter that this is just one of the many reasons why the CFD is one of the best in the country!

Regards,

Stacia Joyce
EPAC/Cambridge Fire Dept

Job well done to the Group 3 members of Engine 1, Capt B. Gover, FF M. Franks, FF D. Calvert, FF J. Magee and Ladder 1 was Lt. C. Melendy, FF A. Young, FF P. Mickiewicz and FF J. Keefe.

The following letter was received January 27, 2011

Dear Chief Reardon,

Very simply, this is a letter of thanks.

Earlier today a huge gutter on the front of my home at 195 Hamilton Street, in Cambridgeport, came loose from the weight of the snow and ice. It was hanging precariously, still partially attached to the roof only on one side (just above the main power wire into the house) and hanging on phone and cable wires on the other end. The loose end was also protruding dangerously above the front sidewalk.

I called NStar, Verizon and Comcast and my roofer to alert them and to ask for help. I also placed a 911 call to the Fire Department and in a short time a fire truck came by to assess the situation.

It was not clear how the situation could be resolved. After some consideration, the Chief stopped by as well (I'm not certain if it was you.) And a call to the City Inspector.

In the end, everyone decided that the best thing would be to wait for NStar to see what they might be able to do. (Shut down the power and then have a contractor remove the gutter? Or possibly NStar could remove the gutter? Etc.)

A short time after the Fire Department left, NStar arrived. The great guy on that truck was able to use his bucket to get up to the roof corner where the gutter was still attached. He was able to dislodge it and then lower the gutter to the ground. No wires came down. No one was hurt in the process. There was no more damage to the house.

I called a short while ago to tell 911 that NStar had successfully resolved the situation. And I also asked the operator to express my thanks to the great guys from the Cambridge Fire Company. Unfortunately, I don't have their names.

I decided to follow up with this note to be certain you and your company know how grateful I am for the support and concern you offered this morning.

We are fortunate to have such an excellent group of people in the Cambridge Fire Department and citizens like myself do certainly appreciate your fine work.

With many thanks,
Marty Ostrow

Job well done to the Group 1 members of Engine 6 and Division 1: Lt. M. Wood, FF R. Crooker, FF F. Mullen, FF M. Ramos, DFC E. Morrissey and Aide F. Gallagher.

The following letter was received February 8, 2011

Dear Chief Reardon,

Last Friday, February 4, 2011, we had an electrical fire in the file room of our law offices in the Bulfinch Building in East Cambridge. Thankfully, it turned out to be a switch that overheated in a heat pump. It was very unpleasant for awhile.

I wanted to thank the men of the Fire Department, through you, who responded. They were exceptionally competent, friendly, and cooperative. What was particularly important to us is how neat they were and concerned about not damaging the room in question, which stores our files and many medical records. When they were gone, it was really hard to tell that they had been there, as they left our offices in excellent shape.

Please convey our thanks and respect for a job well done.

Sincerely,

Edward McCarthy
Law Offices of McCarthy, Bouley & Barry

This goes to show that no matter how small the matter, our professionalism, competence and respect for personal property (ie., salvage) does not go unnoticed! Job well done to Group 1 – Engine 3, Engine 5, Engine 2, Ladder 2, Ladder 3, Rescue 1, Squad 2 and Division 1 (DFC E. Morrissey)

The following letter was received via email on February 28, 2011 regarding the animal rescue that took place that day (see All Companies Working)

Thanks, I was truly impressed with your rescue of this dog. I was very happy to have been able to watch it from the Boston side of the Charles River. You have an awesome team.
The dog was fine and the veterinarian from the league Dr. Erin Doyle released the dog back to the owner. I have been rescuing animals for 35 years and this was truly a very heroic event for me too. Great job. I called channel 7 news to alert them about your rescue too. I hope they call you.

Respectfully,
Lt. Alan Borgal
Animal Rescue League

Safety

We are fortunate in Cambridge to have two sets of turnout gear and adequate safety and suppression equipment. The least we can do is wear ALL of our PPE properly and not rely on a garden hose to get the job done! These photos **are NOT** Cambridge companies but used with permission from www.firefighterclosecalls.com

The public pays us to be professionals and they expect us to act like professionals when we respond to their emergency. The least we can do is look like professionals. Know your job! Know your equipment! Don't let this happen to you!

Both photos above from www.firefighterclosecalls.com

Of Interest…

FIRE CHIEF's CORVETTE??

Tuesday, October 26, 2010 Dennis (Cape Cod, MA) Fire Chief Mark Dellner loves his new chief's car, a classic fire-engine red 1978 Corvette Special Edition, which he's using as his command and control vehicle. "Isn't that a little extravagant?" asked Ophelia Smugbottom, head of the Cape Cod Taxpayer's League.

"Actually, no, it's just keeping up with the times," said Dellner. "Young people like to see that public officials are 'with it,' and the Corvette projects the image they expect." When told about it, Dennis Town Adminstrator Robert Canevazzi shouted, "Corvette? Even I don't have a Corvette! I'm calling an emergency meeting of the town Finance Committee right now!"

"Look," said Dellner, "when I have to get to a fire, I have to get there fast. We had a little trouble mounting the light bar just behind the T-top, but it fits beautifully. Also that massive chrome siren can be heard two miles away. This little baby will get me through town at 80 miles an hour. This car was the official pace car for the 1978 Indianapolis 500. Tell me, what better car is there in which to race to a fire?"

Ms. Smugbottom is calling a meeting of all members of the Cape Cod Taxpayers League to protest what she calls "an injustice to the conscientious hard-working taxpayers of our fair Cape." She is calling for them to meet at Fire Station Headquarters on Route 28 Friday night at 8pm with pitchforks and kerosene torches. "My ancestors handled Frankenstein like that," said Ms Smugbottom. "That's how we'll handle Dellner!" "Kerosene torches?" laughed Dellner, "She forgets this is a fire station."

A committee of concerned citizens rushed to police headquarters to warn Police Chief Mike Whalen of the impending riot at the fire station and of the prospect of the Corvette command car racing through our narrow town streets at 80 miles per hour.

Chief Whalen listened intently, but only had one question: "Does it come in blue?"
You can now take comfort in knowing that the next time you dial 911 to report a fire, the fire chief will be there before you can put the phone down.

Reprinted from Firefighterclosecalls.com

Quotes of the Day

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other.
Abraham Lincoln

Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition.
Abraham Lincoln

Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe.
Abraham Lincoln

America's Heroes

Editors note: 2010 marked the 60th anniversary of the Korean War that started on June 25, 1960. We must honor those brave men who endured the ordeals of war and the freezing temperatures of Korea, those who behaved so gallantly on the battlefields to which they were sent, those who were awarded the Medal of Honor.

Thomas Jerome Hudner Jr.

Lieutenant (junior grade) U.S. Navy, pilot in Fighter Squadron 32, attached to U.S. S. Leyte. Chosin Reservoir area of Korea, 4 December 1950

Citation Reads: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as a pilot in Fighter Squadron 32, while attempting to rescue a squadron mate whose plane, struck by anti-aircraft fire and smoking, was forced down behind enemy lines. Quickly maneuvering to circle the downed pilot and protect him from enemy troops infesting the

area, Lt. (jg.) Hudner risked his life to save the injured flyer who was trapped alive in the burning wreckage.

Fully aware of the extreme danger in landing on the rough mountain terrain, and the scant hope of escape or survival in subzero temperature, he put his plane down skillfully in a deliberate wheels up landing in the presence of enemy troops. With is bare hands, he packed the fuselage with snow to keep the flames away from the pilot and struggled to pull him free. Unsuccessful in this, he returned to his aircraft and radioed other airborne planes requesting that a helicopter be dispatched with an ax and fire extinguisher. He then remained on the spot, despite the continuing danger from enemy action and, with the assistance of the rescue pilot, renewed a desperate but unavailing battle against time, cold, and flames.

Lt. (jg.) Hudner's exceptionally valiant action and selfless devotion to a shipmate sustain and enhance the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service

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!

-hts