

Gelinas, John

From: Gelinas, John
Sent: Wednesday, September 05, 2007 07:17
To: *All Fire Employees
Cc: *All ECC Employees
Subject: Company Journal - Issue 44



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 #44
Wednesday, 5 September 2007

What's New

The new pump for **Engine 5** has been delivered to the city and the new Rescue Pumper for **Engine 1** is at the local Pierce distributor, Minuteman Fire Apparatus, in Walpole. Both pieces of apparatus will go in service after final outfitting by the Department shops and training by the respective company members.

The hiring process for ten new firefighters is in progress. They have been tentatively scheduled to start recruit training on 1 October 2007.

All Companies Working

Photos below, taken by CAFD member **Doug Boudrow**, show Cambridge companies laying in to the 4th alarm, **Waltham Box 52**, for the fire in the taxpayer at 468 thru 472 Main St., Waltham on 15 July 2007. The time of the alarm was 0534 hours.



Engine 5 lays the 4" feeder line on approach to the fire.



Engine 5: FF Victor Clarke and F.Lt. Bob Bell



F.Lt. Michael Travers (Squad 4, group 4)



Division 1 DFC Michael Morrissey

- photos above by **Douglas Boudrow, CAFD**



Defensive attack



Engine 9 Pump



Engine 5 Pump

Photos above: Both Engine 9 and 5 pumped at the 4th alarm, Waltham Box 4-52, at 468 thru 472 Main St., Waltham. Squad 4 and Division 1 worked at the fire. Ladder 1 covered. The fire was in the early morning hours of 15 July 2007.

*- photos above by **Jim Swanton**, SFD*



Engine 5 also pumped at the 2nd alarm in Somerville, Box 2-36 for 20 Vernon Street on 28 July 2007, 1012 hours. Engines 5 and 4, Truck 1, Squad 2, and Division 1 operated at the fire.

- photo by **Jim Swanton**, SFD

Out and About



F.Capt. Steve Persson (Training Division) briefs the members of Engine 8 prior to annual pump testing on 24 July 2007. All ten department pumps are tested at draft annually.



Engine 5 and Engine 8 pumping at draft.



Engine 5 - Group 1: **F.Lt. Jim Desrosiers, FF Ramon Perez, and FF Jack Rose**



Engine 8 - Group 1: **F.Lt. Jeff Howard**, **FF Dan Mahoney** (Truck 3,) and **FF Bryan Chatelle**



The Fire Department drafting site is in North Point, at the Charles River, adjacent to the Amtrak and commuter rail track drawbridge to North Station.

The Downeaster enroute to Portland, Maine passes behind **F.Capt. Steve Persson** at the drafting site.

- photos by **Tara Bithia**



Ladder 2 is shown operating on Cambridge Street investigating a possible lightning strike following a recent lightning storm.

- photos above by **FF Howie Smith (Truck 2)**





First due Engine 1 (group 4 on duty) operated at the 2 Car MVA on Soldiers Field Road on 24 June 2007. The initial calls reported that the accident was on Memorial Drive IVO Ash Street. The members of Engine 1 provided medical care to 3 occupants, stabilized the car, and mitigated the fluid spill. Boston Engine 41 & Ladder 14, as well as Professional Ambulance, Armstrong Ambulance, BEMS, and MSP also operated.

- photos by **Mark Hershon**

Technical Training

Photos below: Cambridge and Boston Technical Rescue companies train at Boston Fire Department training facilities in Allston and in South Boston.

Training included homeland defense radiation emergency operations well as confined space rescue.





Mitch Galanek (MIT Radiation Officer,) shown in civilian clothes above, is a long-time supporter of Fire Department radiation and hazardous materials training. Mr. Galanek shares both his time and his tremendous radiation expertise with firefighters.







Boston and Cambridge Companies are shown training in Confined Space Rescue, using the training tower at the quarters of Engine 2 and Ladder 19 in South Boston.

- photos above by **Shelley Terrizzi**

Congratulations

Congratulations to **FF Mark Tiede** (Rescue 1, group 3) and **Melissa** on the birth of **Max Tiede**. Max was born on 1 May 2007 at 1212 hours. He weighed in at 8 pounds 14 ounces and was 21 inches long. Max joins brother, Jake, as the newest member of the Tiede family.

Congrats also to **FF Matt Ansello** (Rescue 1, group 3) and **Kerri** on the birth of **Libby Joy Ansello**. Libby was born on the 4th of July and weighed in at 8 pounds 10 ounces. She was 20 inches long.

Transfers and Assignments

Per General Order No. 21, effective Sunday, 15 July 2007 at 0700 hours:

Firefighter **Ian Massiah** from Ladder Company No. 4 to Acting Fire Lieutenant, Engine Company No. 9

Per General Order No. 22, effective Sunday, 29 July 2007 at 0700 hours:

Fire Lieutenant **Charles F. Murphy** from Engine Company No. 3 to Acting Fire Captain, Engine Company No. 9

Per General Order No. 24, effective Sunday, 19 August 2007 at 0700 hours:

Firefighter **James M. Gomes, Jr.** from Squad No. 4 to Acting Fire Lieutenant, Engine Company No. 3

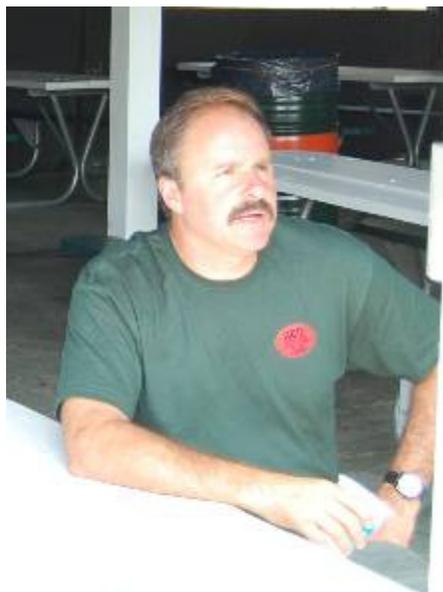
Firefighter **Sean M. Williams** from Ladder Company No. 3 to Squad No. 4

Local 30 Summer Outing

The 2007 Summer Outing held at Canobie Lake Park on the 8th of August, under direction of **F.Lt. Galvin Murphy**, was again a resounding success. More photos are available on the shared "S" drive via department computers.









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

From the Archives



Contract signing in mid 80's

***Standing:* Chief Thomas Scott (retired), FF Robert McCleery (Engine 9, deceased,) Attorney Neil Rossman, FF John "Spike" Lawless (Rescue and Tech Services, retired/Local 30 past President,) John Rocca (Engine 4, retired/Local 30 President Emeritus,) Chief Kevin Fitzgerald (retired,) F.Lt. William Hugh (Truck 2, group 1,) and F.Capt. Lawrence Hodgdon (Fire Prevention, retired.)**

***Seated:* FF Edmund Gildea (Engine 9, retired,) and City Manager Robert Healy.**

- photo from the collection of John Rocca

Trucks





Ladder Company #3 in front of quarters - circa 1894
American LaFrance - Hayes 75' Aerial Ladder

- from the collection of **F.Capt. Ed Morrissey**



Ladder Company # 3 in August, 1983
International tractor/1963 Pirsch 100' stick/Pirsch trailer ex-Ladder 2

- photo by **Robert Washburn**



Ladder Company #3's current apparatus - 1994 Pierce Arrow
105 foot aerial ladder

- photo by **Tara Bithia**



Ladder Company #4 - 1905 - in front of quarters

- from the collection of **F.Capt. Ed Morrissey**



Ladder Company #4 in April,1990 - 1980 Pirsch 100' stick

- photo by **Robert Washburn**



Ladder Company #4 - 2002 Pierce
105' heavy-duty, rear-mount aerial ladder

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

Rescue





Rescue Company #1
1960 Ford/Lacey in service until 1969

- photo from the collection of **John Rocca**

EMS/Paramedic service

Janet Crystal donated 3 breathing air face-mask setups for dogs, cats, and small animals. These face-masks, of various sizes, are designed to allow small animals to receive optimal oxygen during medical treatment. FD units in the past have treated dogs and cats for breathing difficulties including smoke-inhalation, following fires and emergencies. One each of these units will be carried on Rescue 1, Squad 2, and Squad 4.



F. Capt. Greg Carter, Janet Crystal, and FF Hugh Devlin in front of Squad 4.

- photo by **Tara Bithia**

Signal 10-15

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Fire Lieutenant Joseph A. Schifferdecker** of Ladder Company #1, retired.

Lt. Schifferdecker was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 8 December 1953.

Fire Lieutenant Joseph Schifferdecker was born on 12 December 1926. He was born in the house at 238 Huron Avenue and lived in the same house for his entire life, except for the time he was in the Navy. He retired on 30 November 1987 and died on 3 July 2007.

After graduation from Rindge Tech, Joseph Schifferdecker entered the United States Navy at the age of 17. He actually observed his 18th birthday while shipboard enroute to Okinawa. As part of his navy training, Joe completed boot camp in San Francisco and was trained as a Seabee in Rhode Island and California. As a Seabee, he saw service in the Pacific Theater, including Okinawa.

While aboard ship in San Francisco harbor in 1943, Joe witnessed the police activity in the harbor, the prelude to the Great Escape from Alcatraz, as prisoners made their getaway via the waters of San Francisco Bay.

The Chief of Department regrets to announce the death of **Fire Lieutenant Joseph D. Keohane** of Engine Company #9, retired.

Lt. Keohane was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 25 October 1953 and assigned to Engine Company #6. His other assignment were as follows:

22 May 1960	to Rescue Company #1
29 Oct 1963	to Engine Company #6
24 November 1964	to Aide to Division Chief
5 March 1972	to Acting Fire Lieutenant, Engine Company #2
7 May 1972	to Fire Lieutenant, Engine Company #2
31 March 1991	to Engine Company #9

Fire Lieutenant Joseph Keohane was born on 29 May 1929. He retired on 10 January 1994 and died on 21 August 2007.

He was a United States Army veteran of World War II.

Condolences

Condolences to **FF Thomas Levins** (Fire Investigation Unit, retired) on the death of his brother, **Richard J. Levins**.

Condolences to the **Cremins Family** on the death of **Mrs. Dorothy L. Cremins**, wife of deceased **Chief of Department William J. Cremins**.

Condolences to **FF Bryan O'Neil** (Engine Company #4) on the death of his father, **David A. O'Neil**.

Condolences to **F.Lt. Pat Haggerty** (Truck Company # 3) on the death of his mother, **Kathleen Haggerty**.

Never forget

Keep in your thoughts and in your prayers **Boston Firefighters Warren J. Payne** (Ladder 25) and **Paul J. Cahill** (Engine 30) who died in the line of duty at the fire in West Roxbury and **FDNY Firefighters Robert Beddia** and **Joseph Graffagnino** (Ladder 5) who died in the line of duty at the fire in lower Manhattan.

Also remember the brave men and women who were murdered in the attacks on the World Trade Center, on the

Pentagon, and on board the aircraft over Pennsylvania on **September 11, 2001**. Remember the 343 FDNY Firefighters, the 23 NYPD Police Officers, and 37 PAPD Police Officers.

Letters

Brothers and sisters,

As you know the annual convention of the International Fire Buff Associates, Inc. was held last week at The Royal Sonesta Hotel in Cambridge. Over 200 fire buffs from the United States, Canada and even the London Fire Brigade participated in the event.

All week long I received numerous compliments about how well received these visitors were at our fire houses and when they met you "on the street" at incidents.

I especially want to thank the members of the Color Guard who performed at the Opening Ceremonies. Lieutenants Haggerty and Walles and Firefighters McLaughlin, Souza, Yearwood, and O'Neil.

Special thanks also to Firefighter Sean Williams for securing the Worcester Fire Department Pipes & Drums.

This convention was a huge success thanks in large part to the hospitality of the men and women of the Cambridge Fire Department.

For your hospitality, your cooperation and your participation in the 55th Annual IFBA Convention I will be forever grateful.

Fraternally,

Gerry Mahoney

Stats and Fires

The annual fiscal year run and activity totals for FY 2006/2007 are shown below. There were nearly 13,000 emergency incidents during the year which generated 32,436 responses.

Squad 2 was the busiest unit with 3050 runs. **Engine 2** was the busiest company with 2987 runs. **Ladder 1** was the busiest truck with 2173.

FY 2006/2007 RUN TOTALS

	Total runs	Building Fires
Engine 1	2154	46
Engine 2	2987	52
Engine 3	1563	31
Engine 4	1536	29
Engine 5	2136	65
Engine 6	1373	54
Engine 8	1173	34
Engine 9	1020	28
Truck 1	2173	71

Incidents	12,925
Div 1 Incidents	7271
Div 2 Incidents	5654

Truck 2	1394	40	Responses	32,436
Truck 3	2134	62		
Truck 4	1727	37	EMS	5674
			Bldg Fires	112
Rescue 1	2208	77	Inside Fires	585
			All Fires	723
Squad 2	3050	62	HazMat	287
Squad 4	1979	64		
			Working Fires	7
Division 1	1866	65	2nd Alarms	4
Division 2	1399	46	3rd Alarms	4
			4th Alarms	0
Special Units	344			
Mutual Aid Units	220			
TOTAL RUNS	32436			

There was a **Working Fire** from **Box 45-625** on the 4th of July in the 3 story, wood-frame/stucco OMD at 106 thru 110 Oxford Street. The assigned 5 engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, rescue, and 3 chiefs quickly contained and knocked down this fire on floor #3. The box was transmitted at 1722 hours and the signal "45" at 1737 hours. The Incident Commander was **DFC Michael Morrissey**. Group 3 was on duty.

There was also a **Working Fire** on 11 August 2007 at 1500 Cambridge Street. The fire from box **45-418** was contained to the basement of a restaurant in a 1 story taxpayer. The box was transmitted at 0349 hours. The working fire signal was transmitted at 0359. Four engines, three trucks, 2 squads, the rescue, and 2 division chiefs operated at this fire. The Incident Commander was **DFC Ed Mahoney**. Group 4 was on duty.

The **Working Fire Box 45-67** was transmitted for the fire in the cellar of the taxpayer at 135 Huron Avenue on Saturday morning, 1 September 2007. The box was transmitted at 0437 and the "signal 45" at 0453 hours. After forcing entry and opening-up, companies were able to confine this fire to the Charlie/Delta area of the basement of this 100 X 30, 1 story, ordinary construction taxpayer. Four engines, 2 trucks, 2 squads, the Rescue, and 2 division chiefs operated. FIU and Fire Prevention units, with city ISD (Inspectional Services Division) representatives investigated the cause and origin. The IC was **Acting Deputy Fire Chief Robert Blake** of Division 2. Group 4 was on duty.

Protecting Our Freedom - Serving Our Country

The Company Journal salutes **F.Lt. Brian Higgins** (FIU) for his service in Iraq.



On the streets of Baghdad



You think it's hot here? 120 degrees?



Sgt. Brian Higgins (Fire Lieutenant, FIU) is awarded the "CAB," Combat Action Badge by **Colonel Piggee** (1st Cavalry Division.)

Criteria for CAB: Awarded to United States Armed Forces personnel after the date of September 18, 2001 performing duties in an area where hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay is authorized, who is personally present and actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy, and performing satisfactorily in accordance with the prescribed rules of engagement. Award is not limited by serviceman's branch of service or military occupational specialty, but is only authorized for wear on U.S. Army uniforms. The emblem features both a M9 bayonet and M67 grenade wrapped with an oak wreath supporting a rectangle bearing the bayonet surmounting a grenade.

A tip of the helmet to **F.Lt. Galvin Murphy** (Engine 9, group 2) and family for an ongoing job well done. The following narrative appeared in *The Malden Observer*:



- Photo by **Ian Hurley**/Malden Observer Staff

Recent Iraq War veteran Sgt. Mark Wyman, of Sudbury, looks for items to place into a care package for U.S. troops stationed overseas. Wyman joined other volunteers at a "Local Heroes" event on June 27 in Malden. The group barbecued, shared company and packed boxes to support military personnel serving around the globe.

Malden -

It was a cookout for sure: burgers, dogs and buns blackening on the grill, drinks sweating ice beads in a cooler, friends swapping war stories...actually, make that literal war stories.

At Galvin and Barbara Murphy's Malden home, ever since their son joined the Marine Corps, barbecues have become more than just a reason to flip some meat or mix a drink. For a few years now, backyard gatherings have evolved into readying care packages to send to troops overseas – and, at times, have developed into a support group for families of deployed soldiers and recent-returns.

"A lot of the people there have loved ones overseas, so it's kind of like a support group that meets every Wednesday night," said Wilmington Veterans Services Agent Lou Cimiglia, a Gulf War veteran who formed the non-profit "Local Heroes" group three years ago. They now meet every Wednesday, and with help from Galvin and Barbara Murphy, they pack care boxes to send to deployed troops.

"Galvin's son was over in Iraq, and he comes on Wednesday nights to help us pack. He wanted to do a thank-you, so he said, 'let's have a cookout.' And it started growing and growing."

Last week, in the days before the Fourth of July, the group hosted a cookout and box-packing session that sent nearly 170 packages to troops, who hail from Malden and other area cities, and who now fight in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"It was fantastic. It's the most we've ever done on a Wednesday night. It was very good," said Cimiglia.

Boxes included toiletries, baby wipes, microwavable food, moisture-wicking socks and copies of local newspapers.

Volunteers and families of deployed soldiers gathered together for an evening of packing and sharing company. Cimiglia said the boxes will reach their destinations in about two weeks; past events have netted scrapbooks-full of thank-you letters from the nearly 4,000 enlisted men and women they've reached.

"A lot of them come back and thank us on Wednesday nights," said Cimiglia, who said he has received American flags that troops have flown over their bases to thank the Local Heroes group. "They fly them in our honor and send them back."

Galvin Murphy, himself a veteran, said the group often draws from concerned North Shore residents who don't have family in the military but who want to help.

"It's a way of bringing people together. Many troops have said it's the fact that people they don't know are

sending it that means so much,” Murphy said.

He had a moonwalk on hand, the grill fired up for cooking, and volunteer packing help from Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts last week. And – of course – parents of overseas troops.

“I watch some of these folks, and I had the experience being in myself. They don’t sleep for a year,” said Murphy. “They come down and get to talk about their concerns. It’s just not the kid himself, it’s the whole family that is deployed.”

Cimaglia said the group has a Web site – Mass-localheroes.org – that serves as a springboard for anyone looking to volunteer at upcoming events. There’s a motorcycle run scheduled for September, and the group assists families all year long.

“We’ve paid electric bills, given home repairs,” he said. “We do assist the families back home.”

As a non-profit, all money raised by the group goes to family aid, supplies for the care packages or posted – last week’s delivery alone cost more than \$2,000 in postage.

“We meet every week. We’ve done that since November 2004. We’re one of the only organizations that meets every week to send packages overseas,” said Cimaglia, who said the group has been so popular in part because many of the men and women deployed are reservists who don’t have a base to rely on for support and networking.

“Of all the things I’m very proud of it’s the fact we’ve turned into a support group,” said Cimaglia. “And it’s very therapeutic for them to pack packages.”

That’s why, he said, providing a place to commiserate has been the group’s defining feature. And that’s why, he said, they even met on Wednesday night – the Fourth of July.

“They don’t take a day off,” he said. “So we don’t take a day off.”

- by **Amanda J. Mantone**
Jul 05, 2007

American Flag Protocol

Veteran Salute Bill Passes - S.1877

110th CONGRESS
1st Session
S. 1877
AN ACT

To amend title 4, United States Code, to prescribe that members of the Armed Forces and veterans out of uniform may render the military salute during hoisting, lowering, or passing of flag.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONDUCT BY MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS OUT OF UNIFORM DURING HOISTING, LOWERING, OR PASSING OF FLAG.

Section 9 of title 4, United States Code, is amended by striking ‘all persons present’ and all that follows through the end and inserting ‘those present in uniform should render the military salute. Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute. All other persons present should face the flag and stand at attention with their right hand over the heart, or

if applicable, remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Citizens of other countries should stand at attention. All such conduct toward the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.'

Passed the Senate July 25, 2007.

Attest:
Secretary.

Fire Protection at sea



Ladder Company #3 visits the USS Wasp, LHD 1, at South Boston Naval Annex.

- photo by ***Lieutenant Commander John Kline, USN***

Massachusetts Fallen Firefighter Memorial

The unveiling and official dedication of the **Massachusetts Fallen Firefighters Memorial** will take place on September 11, 2007 in Ashburton Park at the State House at 1800 hours. All active and retired members are invited to attend. There will be a short procession from the corner of Beacon and Charles Streets to the monument prior to the 1800 hours dedication.

Information

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

E-mail list

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

Websites

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

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

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

THE PERSON IN THE ARENA

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

- **Theodore Roosevelt**, 26th President of the United States
Speech delivered in Paris, France on 23 April 1910

*The above selection is from the files of **John Rocca** (Engine Company #4, retired - Local 30 President Emeritus.)*

**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

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