

Gelinas, John

From: Gelinas, John
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2006 15:41
To: *All Fire Employees
Cc: *All ECC Employees
Subject: Company Journal - Issue 41



The Company Journal
and "The Feederline"

Fire Department News
Cambridge, Massachusetts

From the desk of
Chief Gerald R. Reardon

Issue #41
Thursday, 14 December 2006

Chief Engineer Gerald Reardon wishes all members of the Cambridge Fire Department extended family and all friends of the Cambridge Fire Department a
Happy and Safe Holiday Season.

Thanks to all members, uniformed and civilian, for their hard work and diligent and professional service throughout the past year.

All Companies Working

Box 3-1591: This hi-rise third alarm occurred on Friday, 8 December 2006. Wind chill was about zero degrees. Photos below show the arrival of fourth-due Truck 4, setting up to rescue civilians who had taken refuge on the parking garage which is attached to the 17-story fire building. The members of Truck 4 rescued about 30 people from this roof. Between 900 and 1000 occupants were evacuated from the hi-rise building by Fire Department members.





MCI - EMS triage and staging on Broadway at the Marriott Hotel

- photos above by **Dan O'Neill**

Box 3-382: Three alarms were transmitted for the fire in this 2 /12 story, wood-frame, OMD at 90 Western Avenue. The fire was discovered and the box ordered transmitted by F.Captain Persson at 1528 hours on 3 October 2006. The working fire was ordered at 1531, the Second Alarm at 1548, and the Third Alarm at 1617 hours. DFC Bokuniewicz was the Incident Commander. Group 2 was on duty. Ten engines, 5 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, 2 division chiefs, and staff and support units operated. Simultaneously, there was a structure fire in progress on Richdale Avenue in North Cambridge.





- photos above by **Dan O'Neill**







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



- photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1, group 4)

Who's New



FFOP Eric Moore was appointed to the Cambridge Fire Department on 5 July 2006. He completed Recruit Firefighter Training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy and is now assigned to Ladder Company #1. Firefighter Moore is a United States Army veteran who recently served in Iraq. He is also a paramedic.

- photo by Tara Bithia

Congratulations

Congratulations to **FF Mike Coffman** (Squad 2, group 3) and wife, **Kim**, on the birth of **Lacey Coffman**. Lacey was born on 11 September 2006 at 1656 hours. She weighed 7 pounds 14 ounces and was 19 inches long. Lacey joins sisters Kylie and Keirstanne as the newest member of the Coffman family.

Congratulations also to **FF Mark Davis** (Engine 1, group 1) and wife, **Tracy Dianna Davis**, on the birth of Grace Olivia Davis. Grace was born on 13 October 2006. She was 15 1/2 inches long and weighed 2 pounds 11 ounces.

Congratulations to Acting Fire Lieutenant **Chuck Lowe** (Engine 8, group 1) and his wife **Amy** on the birth of their son, **Cameron Michael**. He was born December 1st at 1543 hours, weighing in at 5 pounds 4 ounces and 19 inches long

FIREFIGHTERS...THEY DO IT EVERY DAY!

By the Honorable Eileen Minehan

I have childhood memories of our family coming here with my father, Al Minehan, to honor those who had sacrificed their lives so that others may live. In those days, this ceremony never seemed sad to me – we were here in the sunshine, spring was turning into summer – and there was a happiness associated in being here with family. Although my father had then retired from the Boston Fire Department, it was a chance for him to be with *his* friends of so many years and to remember those that had died in the line of duty; among them two of his closest friends from Engine 39 and Rescue 1.

Like those of you here today, we lived lives steeped in the traditions of this Fire Department. Growing up

hearing names like Chauncey Street and Coconut Grove, which had special meaning to my Dad who had witnessed firsthand those tragic events. A family photograph album included snapshots of my grandfather, Michael Minehan, in the uniform of this Department – some as far back as 1898 – and one of him standing knee deep in molasses in the North End of Boston during the catastrophe of 1919.

And then, of course, there were the Sunday morning drives to the motorsquad with Dad and my brothers, armed with coffee and donuts for Dad's friends; and summer afternoons with families of other Boston firefighters out on Boston Harbor on a boat called the "Bunker Hill" (owned by a Captain of this Department) – first to Thompson's Island for a picnic, and then a stop on the 'fireboat' before returning home.

Perhaps it holds true for all of us that it was not one singular event, but rather a slow, gradual process over time that brought us to accept the striking contrasts of this profession: on the one hand, a wonderful appreciation of the closeness that the extended family of this Department provides, not only to its members, but also to their families; and yet, on the other hand, the overwhelming pain, the devastation we experience when those we love so dearly – those who we remember here today – die in the line of duty.

The tragic loss of life, which has touched this Department, has been consistent in only one respect: the random and sudden nature of each death. It is then, perhaps not more or less ironic that my brother Stephen, who, some 35 or more years ago, was one of the children that mingled in this very gathering of people, who later, as a member of this Department, paid tribute to these heroes year after year, who is now added to the long list of firefighters who have died in the line of duty.

The contrasts of this profession are perhaps the result of the very nature of the work: an acceptance of the personal danger and risk to one's life so that others can be saved. There is a true nobleness, even sacredness, to the work of firefighting. When an emergency strikes, be it fire, accident or otherwise, the firefighter does not stop to ask names, age or nationality of those that are to be saved. And, as to each of the heroes who have died in this endeavor, not one hesitated to put the life of another before that of his own.

I once experienced an event which, perhaps, serves as an example of the very essence of this job and our society's dependence on it. It was April 22, 1976, a warm, rainy spring morning nearly 20 years ago. As a law student, I found the law school library crowded due to impending exams. For that reason, my law school friend Nancy, and I sought the quiet isolation of the county law school library – a little known spot, tucked away on the 12th floor of the Suffolk County Courthouse. I remember the first floor lobby of the building was crowded with people that day – employees, jurors, witnesses, members of the public. The building was not as it is today, equipped with metal detectors at the entrance. After all, disputes between people were to be resolved peacefully in the courtrooms of the floors above.

Unknown to any of us who entered the courthouse in Boston that day, a briefcase loaded with dynamite had been left against an interior wall of the second floor, which housed several offices, and served as the base for 12 elevators within the building. Presumably, this location had been selected as the site most likely to result in the greatest loss of life and to inflict the most significant structural damage to the building.

We crossed the crowded ground floor lobby, chatted about our pending exams, entered the first available elevator, and proceeded to the floors above. On the 12th floor, the elevator doors opened, we stepped out, and the doors closed behind us. What followed was an explosion that shook the building so violently, we thought for a moment that an earthquake had occurred. The power went out, and at 9:12 a.m., we were plunged into darkness twelve stories above the ground. It took only seconds for the sulphur-based smoke to pour into the upper floors – through the stairwells, elevator shafts and ventilation system.

Nancy groped along the wall to press the "elevator down" signal. It stuck me as strange that she did not know the danger of elevators in burning buildings. Although my father's life ended in the first decade of mine, he had more than once warned me never to take that chance.

Instead, I convinced her that we would head for the only stairwell at the center of the 12th floor. I had used these stairs before and was aware that once inside the stairway, the door would close behind us, leaving twenty or more flights of stairs to the street. As we approached, I opened the door a few inches and noticed smoke pouring out through the cracks between the door and the doorjamb. Dad had always said, if you are ever in a building that is on fire, make sure you know what's behind a door before opening it all the way. Nancy reached to open the door. As before, I found it strange she was unaware of the risk of opening such a door with so much smoke and possibly fire behind it. I convinced her that the stairs were cut off as a means to escape.

So through the smoke and darkness, we retraced our steps to the library itself. We joined a small group of bewildered people. By now the smoke was overwhelming. I climbed up a few feet to a wide ledge along one of the

many recessed windows along the wall of the library and pulled it open. Fresh air and sunlight flooded in. Nancy climbed up onto the ledge with me, and others did the same at the remaining windows around the library.

Nancy and I sat on the ledge, facing each other and sharing the same source of air. At least for now, I felt safe. I could breathe and I could see. Oddly enough, though, when I glanced at Nancy, her expression was one of sheer panic. She asked me, "What are we going to do now?" The answer was simple enough to me: "We wait for them", I said. "To my surprise, *she* seemed confused. "Who are we waiting for?" she said. To understand the answer, she needed only to look out the window. From the vantage point some twelve stories above the ground, we could see east across the city to the Custom House, and to the harbor beyond. Looking down across city streets, we could see them, and those we could not see, we could hear: the distinct sound of the fire apparatus – cars and pedestrians clearing out of the way – as vehicles of the Boston Fire Department streamed from every direction toward the Courthouse. I said to Nancy, "You see...we'll wait for the firefighters to come in and get the situation under control."

What she next said to me explained perhaps the world of difference between us. As a member of the extended family of this Department, I knew well the caliber of people those ladder trucks and engines carried. Perhaps she did not, because she said to me, "This building is on fire. What if a bomb has gone off? Maybe there are more bombs set to go off in here. The firefighters will never come inside."

I knew then that I could never explain to her the confidence I had in the courage, the experience, and the dedication of the members of this Department. I simply said, "Nancy, this is a building full of people. Those firefighters will never just leave us here. They will come into this building - bombs, fire or not..."

Below us we could see the equipment. Hoses were rolled out. Soon after the firefighters entered the building, we began to see streams of people coming out; people like ourselves who were trapped inside the building, and who were waiting, expecting, depending on the Boston Fire Department to come in – in the face of great personal risk – to get them out safely. Within minutes we heard this voice, and then we saw him – a firefighter, then 2, then 3, commencing an orderly evacuation. They collected everybody, directed us past the smoke filled stairwell, to yet another set of stairs that I have never seen or used before or since that day. I thought to myself – if there was another way out – they would find it.

In that narrow stairway, I saw something I shall never forget...I saw people descending the stairs, people from all parts of the building; a cross-section of humanity – judges, jurors, court employees, women with children, police officers, even the Boston Police Commissioner – all taking direction from the firefighters and all reduced to one common denominator: people rescued by the Boston Fire Department; people who were no different than those that are rescued every day by Boston Firefighters; people trapped on floors above the fire, not knowing what to expect, what has happened, but all so grateful to see those firefighters, who at every turn that day, through the darkened building, reassured us as to where we were and what to expect.

The building's evacuation was so professionally accomplished, it looked as though it had been rehearsed – but I knew that it could not have been so. Nancy said, "It looks as though they have done this before." "They do it every day," I said proudly. Once outside, I turned to thank the firefighters who stayed with us for twelve stories, but they were gone without a word, back into the building. Although they were strangers to me, I felt as if I had known them all my life; as if they were family.

The second floor had been largely destroyed by the blast and those that had the misfortune to be near the explosion suffered critical and permanent physical injuries. But for the thousands of people on the floors above the explosion, those in the courtrooms, the offices, those in the elevators suspended in midair, the event was a little more than a frightening experience with a happy ending: everyone evacuated safely and without incident by the Boston Fire Department.

No firefighter died that day. But on other days, at other fires, 168 men of this Department, my brother among them, have lost their lives performing their jobs as firefighters. And surrounding each death, there is a story of heroism, a testimony of courage and love of fellowman.

Perhaps it is right that we search for the meaning, the lessons to be learned from each death. It may be impossible to summarize the lives of each of these heroes and extract one meaning. But if a message is to be found in such tragic, untimely, loss of life, the death of each of these Boston Firefighters confirms one eternal truth: that man's courage and love of fellowman is the *purest* and *strongest* force of good on the earth. It triumphs over fear, hate, adversity in its most oppressive forms, and yes, it triumphs over death itself.

It is fitting on the 102nd Memorial Sunday, that we turn our gaze from the road traveled by these brave men, to the path which lies ahead, a vision of the future: to those firefighters of today and tomorrow as you carry on in the courageous traditions of the Boston Fire Department. As you protect the lives of the people of this great City,

the family of Lt. Stephen Minehan offers to you our heartfelt wish in the words of a simple Irish prayer:

*"May, God's love protect you and may He keep you well!
And until we meet again, good friends,
May He always see you safely home..."*

God Bless, safe home.

Judge Rosemary Minehan was a guest orator at the 102nd Memorial Service for Boston Firefighters on 11 June 1995.

Judge Minehan's brother, Lt. Stephen Minehan of Ladder 15, died in the line of duty at box 9-4113. 24 June 1994.

This narrative is reprinted from the September/October 1995 issue of *The Feederline*. It was printed with permission, from *Local 718 Boston Firefighters Digest*.

Consider and reflect that Judge Minehan's words were delivered more than six years before the attack on the World Trade Center where 343 firefighters were murdered in a terrorist attack.

Consider the reality of her words after our own recent hi-rise third alarm Box 3-1591 on 8 December 2006.

Out and About



E-2 covering E-33 on the Boston 4th Alarm 17 August 2006.
The incident was a church fire in Hyde Park, the time was approximately 19:20.



Marine 1 returning from a water Rescue on The Charles.
The incident occurred at Memorial Drive and Ames St. on 2 Sept 2006 at approximately 12:00 hrs. ECC received several calls for an overturned vessel with people in the water. The response included E-2, L-3, R-1, DR-1, SQ-4, and Division 1. Marine 1 arrived moments after a civilian vessel removed the victims from the water. The victims then boarded MB-1 and were evaluated by CFD Paramedics. They refused treatment and were subsequently returned to their marina on the

Boston side of the river.
MB-1 was operated by members of SQ-2 and SQ-4.

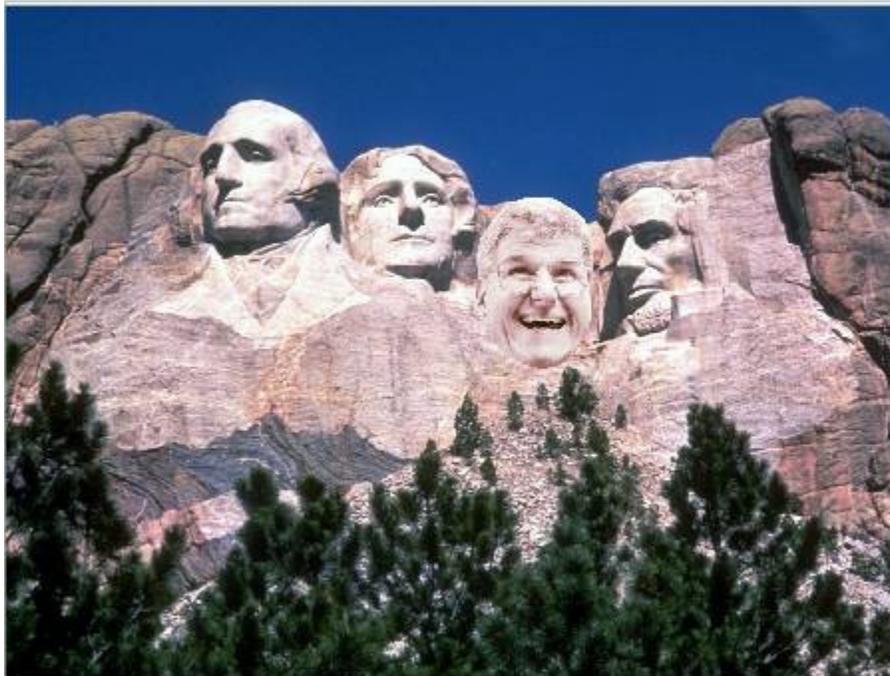
- photo above by **FF Bill Dusablon** (Engine 3, group 1)



Cambridge Engine Company #5, with Medford Ladder 1, covered Reading fire headquarters on their recent 4th alarm fire.

- photo above by F.Capt. **Brian Gover** (Truck 3)

See the U.S.A.



Deputy Fire Chief Dave Salvi (C-2, group 3, Somerville FD)
left a lasting impression on the American landscape during his recent visit to Mount Rushmore, South Dakota.

- image courtesy of **F.Lt. Barry Hyvarinan**, Fitchburg FD

Head of the Charles Regatta



Members of the Fire and Life Safety Sector for the Head of the Charles Regatta are shown above. The day was cold and windy.

Pictured are **FF Nicole Zedalis** (Rescue 1, group 1), **F.Captain Peter Donovan** (Fire Prevention), **FF John Bell** (Squad 2), and **F.Lt. Bob Walsh** (Engine 8.)

- photo by **Sam Mark**

Faces of the Fire Service





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

More Faces of the Fire Service





Working Fire Box 45-43 for 99 Hancock Street - 10 Oct 2006

- photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1, group 4)



Western Avenue







Third Alarm Box 3-382 for 90 Western Avenue - 3 Oct 2006
- photos above by **FF Walter Grace** (Division 1, group 4)

From the Archives



Ladder Company #4
1935 Pirsch - 85 foot wooden stick



Fog Unit #1

1943 International/1947 Lacey high-pressure fog unit, former United States Navy Hingham Shipyard FD
This high-pressure fog unit ran out of headquarters as the second section of Rescue #1 and later as the 3rd piece of Engine Company #1.
The fire location is unknown.

- photos above courtesy of **DFC John McLaughlin** (Clinton FD)



Bargaining committee mid 1970s

Back row: **FF Andrew Bosworth** (retired), **FF Larry Hodgdon** (retired as Captain), **FF Jack Sousa** (retired), **Fire Lieutenant John O'Donoghue** (retired as Chief of Operations), **Deputy Fire Chief Thomas Scott** (retired as Chief of Department), and **Fire Captain Walter Ellis** (retired as Chief of Operations)
Front row: **Donald Hawkes** (City Personnel Director), **Mayor Walter Sullivan**, **Local 30 President/Firefighter John**

Rocca (retired), City Manager James Leo Sullivan, and City Councilor David Wylie.



Rescue Company #1 - mid-1960s

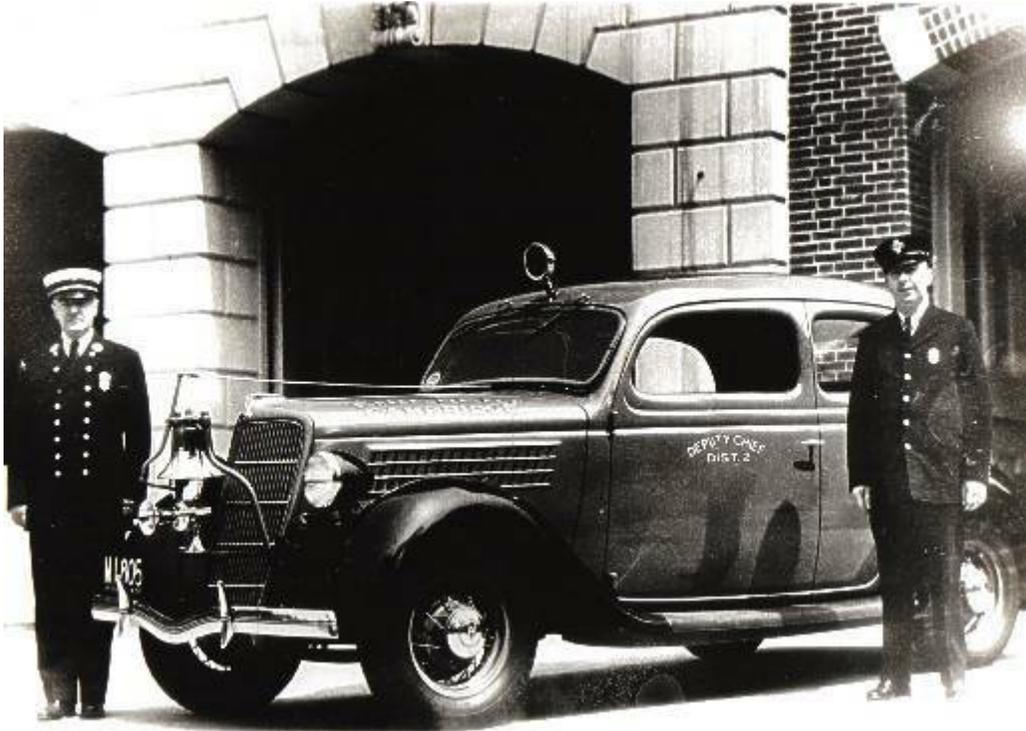
Firefighter John Rocca, Firefighter Joseph O'Hare, Fire Captain Andrew Murphy, Firefighter Ed Fowler, and Firefighter John Watson

*- photos above from the collection of **John Rocca***

The Division



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



Cambridge Fire Department District 2 Deputy Fire Chief
Can anyone identify the Chief or the Firefighter?
The car is probably a 1935 or 1936 Ford.

- photo above from the collection of **Ed Fowler**



Division 2's 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe



Division 2 - 2006 - **Division Firefighter Bob Bruno** and **Division Chief Michael Kuhn**

- two photos above by **Tara Bithia**

MDSC Buddy Walk

13 November 2006

Dear Deputy Gelinas,

My family and I would like to send a big thank you to all of the CFD members and staff that generously donated to the Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress in honor of our son Patrick. The outpouring of support that the members and staff of the department has shown has been truly moving. As of this date, we have raised a total \$2,315.00 for the MDSC. Much of this is thanks to the kindness of department members and staff.

On Sunday, October 8, 2006, our family and friends joined us in a show of support to our son Patrick at the MDSC Buddy Walk. This year's walk as with last year was located at Lake Quannapowitt in Wakefield, MA. It was an absolutely beautiful day with sunny clear weather in the 70's. We walked around the lake on a 3.2 mile route. The final count turned out to be about 1500 participants. It was a great sight seeing all of the participants in their red Buddy Walk t-shirts walking around the lake. In true toddler spirit, both Patrick and his twin brother Connor slept in the stroller for most of the walk, waking up in the food line at the picnic after the walk... They definitely take after their father!

On a serious note, we are happy to report that Patrick is doing very well. We just visited the cardiologist and were told that the hole in his heart wall has healed and he was given a clean bill of health. He is such a trooper at all of his doctors visits. We are a truly lucky family!

Respectfully,

John Bell and family (Karen, Nick, Patrick and Connor)



Patrick Bell



The 2006 Buddy Walk.

Letters

33 Fresh Pond Parkway
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

October 28, 2006

Chief
Cambridge Fire Department

Dear Sir;

On October 27th we had a fire at our home at approximately 11:00 AM. I am writing in awe at the response

by the Cambridge Fire Department. It was immediate, impressive, and above all caring and courteous. I felt that we would indeed be saved had the fire been worse. I cannot express my admiration and thanks adequately particularly to the Deputy Chief in charge. From now on I'll not complain about my taxes but cheerfully and most gratefully pay up.

Please convey Mrs. Wheelock's and my great thanks to all involved.

Sincerely,
Morgan Wheelock

*(editor's note: Engine 9 and Truck 4 were stilled to the above location to investigate the fire alarm activation at 1133 hours. On arrival, due to a smoke condition in the building, Box 863 was transmitted on the orders of **F.Lt. Brad Tenney**. Fire was contained to the kitchen area. One civilian was transported to a medical facility due to a smoke inhalation injury. The incident was #6004307. Engines 9, 8, and 1; Trucks 4 and 1; Rescue 1; Squads 4 and 2; and Division 2 were assigned. **Division 2 Chief Michael Kuhn** was the incident commander.)*

October 24, 2006

Chief Gerald Reardon
Cambridge Fire Department
Fire Headquarters
491 Broadway
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Chief Reardon,

I am writing to commend Lieutenant Stephen Boyle. On two separate occasions he has gone the extra mile to insure the well being of my infant twins. The first was a very stressful situation. We needed last minute guidance on installing two infant car seat into my parent's rental van, because our van went in the shop right before I went into the hospital for a scheduled Cesarean section. Lt. Boyle aided my husband and father in getting the seats in place on a moments notice at the firehouse. My twins were both around five pounds and had to do hour long testing in the car seats in the hospital before they could be discharged. Therefore we wanted to be assured that we had installed them properly before taking our infants home for the first time. Another firefighter contacted Lt. Boyle and he was on duty so my father and husband rushed to the firehouse and he helped secure them properly Lt. Boyle had to go out on a call, but returned to finish the job.

The second installation was this past weekend. We bought new convertible car seats since our children had outgrown the infant, but were still under a year old. We spent quite a bit of time reading the instructions and changing the belts and such. Our van is 1999, so it does not have LATCH. Lt. Boyle came off his twenty-four hour shift, drove to our home and spent a good deal of time teaching and training us on how to insure a snug fit. He explained things that were not even in the owner's manual! We are deeply appreciative of his effort to insure we are properly restraining our twins. I looked it up; the CDC says the leading cause of death for children under age fourteen is auto accidents. My family is more secure because of the expertise and compassion of firefighters like Lt. Stephen Boyle.

Sincerely,

Tanya Roselle Cafarella

Somerville, MA 02145

*(editor's note: **Lt. Stephen Boyle** of Squad #2, group 1 is a trained and certified child safety restraint and car seat technician. The members of the Cambridge Police Traffic Unit are also certified in this skill and can be contacted for safe child car-seat installations.)*

November 2, 2006

Mr. Gerald R. Reardon
Chief Engineer
491 Broadway
Cambridge, Ma 02140

Dear Mr. Reardon:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for your help and expertise in safely disposing of the donated chemicals that were housed at North Cambridge Catholic High School. In the past previous administrations often accepted donations from generous individuals and corporations. I assure you that as we move forward the administration will ensure that all chemicals for any school related programs and needs are in compliance with city and state guidelines and that they will be stored appropriately.

Again, thank you and your staff for your thorough assistance with this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert J. McCarthy
Principal/interim President

Nov. 29, 2006

To: The Cambridge Chronicle

Re: The response to a call to 911

On Thanksgiving afternoon, just previous to enjoying a sumptuous fest I fainted. Despite my protestations my niece, Martha Sieniewicz, called 911. Not only did they come within minutes (six comely men), they were extraordinarily gentle, kind, and cheerful as they carried me down stairs, into the ambulance and off to the emergency room. All this in the middle of a national holiday!

I thank them all and think Cambridge should be justly proud to have such a team. I was so well served.

Thank you.

Anne E. Brainerd

cc: City Manager
Cambridge Fire Department

(editor's note: The incident above, I# 06083895, occurred at 84 Magazine Street at 1600 hours. Engine #6 and Squad #2 were dispatched. **Fire Lieutenant Michael Clinton, Firefighters George Cotter, and Jody Greenidge** of Engine Company #6 and **Acting Lieutenant Jeremiah Hart** and **Firefighter Paul Morrison** of Squad #2 operated at this incident. Professional Ambulance Paramedic Unit #10 also worked at the incident and transported. (Group 2 was on duty.)

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Fire Department
266 Broadway

Somerville, MA 02145

December 8, 2006

Dear Chief Reardon,

I would like to thank you and your Department for all the assistance provided during the funeral service for Lieutenant Kevin Hough. Lieutenant Hough was a dedicated 33-year member of our Department who loved his profession.

Your help in covering our stations allowed members of the on-duty crew (Kevin's group) to attend the funeral. They are appreciative of your assistance.

Again, thank you for your support in our time of need.

Respectfully,

Kevin W. Kelleher
Chief Engineer

Halloween Open House - Community Relations



All fire houses received visitors during the Halloween Fire House Open House on the 31st of October.

- photo by **Stacey Wright**

Firefighter Combat Challenge

On September 23, 2006, 4 members from group 3 headquarters participated in the Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge in Augusta, Maine. The participants were **Mark Tiede, Adam Shuman, Kevin Pierre** and **Matt Ansello**. Both Adam and Mark have never participated in this event however Kevin and Matt competed last year in Haverhill, Ma. On this particular day it was 50 degrees with pouring rain which just makes the whole thing more complicated. There were 60 competitors who ran the course.

FF Mark Tiede's time was 03:04 placed 44 out of 60
 FF Adam Shuman's time 03:23 placed 49 out of 60
 FF Kevin Pierre's time 02:45 placed 31 out of 60
 FF Matt Ansello's time 02:40 placed 28 out of 60

Both Adam and Mark did extremely well for people who have never competed before.

Lawlor Memorial Road Race

Also on October 1, 2006 several members of CFD ran the Steven Lawlor Memorial Road race in South Boston. This is a 5k race. the participants were **FF Shawn Flanagan, FF Adam Shuman, FF Steve Kelley, FF Ken Souza** and **FF Matt Ansello**.

Boston Firefighters Road Race - 2006



FFs Jeff McGourty, Shawn Flannagan, Steve Kelley, and Jack Gelinas participated in the Boston Firefighters 10-K Road Race on Sunday, 15 October 2006. The Team Cambridge time was 2:27:13.

- photo by Melissa McGourty

Stats and Fires

During the month of **November, 2006, Squad 2** was the busiest unit with **235 runs**. **Engine 2** finished with 229 and Engine 1 with 187 runs. **Truck 1** finished the month with 203 runs and Truck 3 with 180. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **193 runs**. **Division 1** finished with a total of **139 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 124 incidents. **Squad 4** completed November with 161 runs.

There were 1019 emergency incidents during the month, which generated 2564 emergency responses. There were 18 building fires, 62 inside fires, and 66 fires of all categories.

During the month of **October, 2006, Squad 2** was the busiest unit with **269 runs**. **Engine 2** finished with 248 and Engine 1 with 175 runs. **Truck 1** finished the month with 181 runs and Truck 3 with 171. **Rescue 1** finished the month with **147 runs**. **Division 1** finished with a total of **178 runs**, while Division 2 responded to 110 incidents. **Squad 4** completed October with 157 runs.

There were 1114 Emergency Incidents in October, and 2781 emergency responses. There were 9 building fires, 53 inside fires, and 69 fires of all categories.

Three alarms, **Box 3-382**, were ordered for the fire at 90 Western Avenue on 3 Oct 2006. The fire was in a 2 1/2 story, wood-frame, OMD. Ten engines, 5 trucks, the rescue, 2 squads, 2 division chiefs, and support and staff units operated. Group 2 was on duty. **DFC Lester Bokuniewicz** was the Incident Commander.

A working fire was ordered from box "**45**"- **43** for the fire at 99 Hancock Street. The fire was contained to one apartment on floor #4 of this 4 story, brick and wood, OMD. Four engines, 3 trucks, 2 squads, and 2 division chiefs operated. The box was transmitted at 1216 hours and the signal 45 was transmitted at 1227. **A/DFC Robert Blake** was the Incident Commander. Group 4 was on duty.

Three alarms, **Box 3-1591**, were transmitted for the fire in the 17 story, office building at 1 Broadway, Kendall Square on Friday, 8 December 2006. The fire, initially involving a below-grade transformer, generated heavy smoke throughout the building. The automatic alarm box was transmitted at 1055. On receipt of calls for a fire, the full box response was assigned at 1058. The working fire signal was transmitted at 1102. The second alarm was transmitted at 1111 and the 3rd at 1114. During this incident, 900 to 1000 building occupants were evacuated by the fire department. Nearly 100 persons were transported to medical facilities for evaluation of smoke-inhalation, elevated carbon-monoxide levels, and other injuries. Unfortunately one NStar worker perished. Nine engines, 4 trucks, the rescue company, 2 squads, 2 division chiefs, 1 district chief (Somerville C3), and numerous support and staff units operated at the fire for an extensive period. The incident was also an MCI (mass casualty incident) requiring the response of a large number of ambulances and emergency medical personnel, and the set-up of organized triage, treatment, loading, and transport sectors. **DFC Michael Morrissey** was the Incident Commander. Group 3 was on duty.

Local 30 Children's Christmas Party

The Local 30 children's Christmas party was held at the Huron Avenue VFW Post on Sunday, 3 Dec 2006. Thanks as always to FF John Rocca for the use of the post.





Santa meets the **Jarvi** family.



Santa meets the **White family**.



Santa meets the **Wood family**.

- photos above by **F.Capt. Brian Gover** (Truck 3)

Retirees

Join the **Retired Firefighters Breakfast Club**. The club meets at 0730 hours on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at Andy's Diner (across from Engine 4's house) in North Cambridge. Call John O'Donoghue at 781-483-9217 or e-mail him at jod3502@aol.com for more information. All retired members are welcome. Stay in touch. Have breakfast with good company.

Mark Your Calendar - Upcoming Events:

IFBA Convention

The annual convention of **The International Fire Buffs Association** will be held in Cambridge, Massachusetts in **August of 2007**. The convention site will be the Royal Sonesta Hotel.

Condolences

Condolences to **Acting Fire Lieutenant Charles Lowe** (Engine 8, group 1) on the death of his grandmother, **Elizabeth Lowe**.

Condolences to **Fire Lieutenant Galvin Murphy** (Engine 9, group 2) on the death of his mother, **Mrs. Anna L. Murphy**. Mrs. Murphy was the widow of **FF Joseph Murphy** (Engine Company #6.)

Condolences to **FF Tom Toomey** (Engine 8, retired) on the death of his wife, **Julia M. (Carvalho) Toomey**.

Condolences to **Fire Captain Peter Donovan** (Fire Prevention) on the death of his father, Retired Police Lieutenant **George A. Donovan**

Telephones

There are approximately **253,000 physical telephone lines** in the City of Cambridge. This figure does not include cell-phones

In contrast, there are approximately 1 million telephone lines in Boston. There are 150,000 in Worcester.

*- information provided by **George Fosque**, ECC*

Defending Our Country

FF Gene Myrtil (Engine 5, group 2) is serving with the United States Army and has been on assignment in Kosovo. He is pictured below on patrol both on foot and via helicopter.



Never Forget - East 23rd Street Fire Fortieth Anniversary



The East 23rd Street fire in New York City occurred forty years ago on 17 October 1966. Twelve firefighters were killed in action in a floor collapse of a mixed occupancy commercial/residential building. The memorial plaque above is on the high-rise building which stands on the site of the fire.

- photo by *Tara Bithia*

Parting Shot



Bill Noonan (Boston FD K-7) and **Ed Fowler** (Cambridge FD C-9)
- the epitome of fire service knowledge, professionalism, and dedication

The date is unknown. The location is probably somewhere in the South End.

Unfortunately Ed Fowler passed away on 12 Oct 2001.

- photo courtesy of **Mark Roche** (Newton FD)

This exchange of words occurred in the early stages of the American Revolution. These parties met in an effort to mediate a peaceful solution to our differences. General Gage of His Majesty's Army was in command of all British Troops in America. At the conclusion of the failed meeting he spoke these words to Samuel Adams and Benjamin Franklin.

"Your fight is hopeless. I shall forever feel regret for destroying your country."

- *General Gage*

"General Gage, rest assured that our army will do everything in their power to spare you from that mortification."

- *Benjamin Franklin*



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>

**REMEMBER THE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING IN OUR ARMED SERVICES
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. THEY ARE PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY,
OUR LIBERTY, AND OUR FREEDOM.
THANK OUR VETERANS!**



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

*John J. Gelinas
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