



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 #81
Winter 2016



What's New

The new Engine 3 placed in service on September 2, 2016



– Gelinas photo

Rescue 1 placed in service on October 2, 2016 at 1310 hours. Rescue 1 was established on March 25, 1932.



Photo credit Pierce Mfg.

COMBAT FLAGS



EACH AND EVERY COMBAT FLAG IS CUT FROM UNIFORMS GRACIOUSLY DONATED BY U.S. SERVICE MEMBERS WITH HALF OF EVERY SALE DONATED DIRECTLY TO STOP SOLDIER SUICIDE... WITH AN AVERAGE OF 22 VETERANS AND 1 ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBER PER DAY COMMITTING SUICIDE, WE FIND OURSELVES AT A CROSSROADS OF PASSIVE ACCEPTANCE OR ACTIVE DETERRENCE.

www.combatflags.com

Brothers and Sisters,

I was scrolling through social media and found some Veterans doing something that we can all appreciate, helping other Vets.

Check out the website If you think you would like to help, I had an idea for some of us to contribute.

If you're like me you have 4 different sets of camouflage uniforms from different eras or different operations. I have contacted the owner/operator to send my old uniforms. I talked to a couple of guys to see if they were interested, they were, so I said let's put it out to all the Veterans on the job. I have received support from like 6 guys as of right now.

If you have one or more camouflage uniforms to spare, contact me in at charliedonnellyjr@gmail.com, this way if people do not want to donate or do not have anything to donate, they will be left alone in email chain. Please bag them in preparation, but also include a typed note with the following for the Owner/Operator. This will ensure your two free combat flags for your donation. Then drop them off at Engine 5 office.

First Name, Last Initial
Rank
Branch
Time in Service
Deployments
Anything else you find meaningful about your service (schools, lessons, friends, etc.)
Instagram/Facebook handles (this will not be shared, but I will use it to follow up with any questions).

Thank You,
Chuck Donnelly Engine 5 / Group 4

Boston Bruins Foundation

Local 30 will be joining the Boston Bruins Foundation in promoting health and fitness for First Responders, while raising money for the 100 Club of Massachusetts. If anyone is interested in joining our team, please contact Brandon Hugh for more information. The link to sign up or donate is on the home page of the Local 30 website. Also, please share the link to anyone that you think would be interested in supporting us. Thank you



BOSTON BRUINS FOUNDATION

FIRST RESPONDER CHALLENGE

SUNDAY JANUARY 22, 2017

TD GARDEN

START TIMES: POLICE 8:30AM ~ FIRE 10:00AM

*** STAIRCLIMB FOR FIREFIGHTERS, EMT's, & POLICE OFFICERS ***

PARTICIPANT FEE: \$300 (OR COMBINED TEAM DONATION EQUIVALENT TO \$300 PER PERSON)
CFD TEAM WILL BE DIVIDED INTO GROUPS BASED ON COMPETITIVE LEVEL

*** FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT ***

* APPEARANCES BY BRUINS ALUMNI & BLADES * FOOD & DRINKS * GAMES *
* TOUCH A TRUCK * KIDS OBSTACLE COURSE * OTHER FAMILY ACTIVITIES *

**PLEASE JOIN OUR TEAM OR JUST COME OUT TO SUPPORT LOCAL 30
HELP RAISE AWARENESS TO HEALTH & FITNESS**

**CONTACT BRANDON HUGH (E5/G3) TO JOIN TEAM
DONATION LINK CAN BE FOUND @ WWW.CAMBRIDGELOCAL30.ORG**

\$10 REDUCED PARKING AVAILABLE IN GARAGE BELOW TD GARDEN

**ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE MASSACHUSETTS FAMILIES OF
POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS THAT ARE KILLED IN THE LINE-OF-DUTY**



Engine 7

Engine 7, a 1971 Maxim S model was put out to surplus bid in October 2016. There were several bidders and the bid was won by a subsidiary of Minuteman Trucks of Walpole. This apparatus (that was housed at Engine 6's quarters) was last in service as Engine 7, but was originally assigned to Engine 9. Engine 7 which was disbanded in 1993. It was used for training and testing the standpipes in the MBTA subway stations. Cambridge had four Maxim fire engines all purchased in 1971 that were originally assigned to Engine 1, Engine 4, Engine 7 and Engine 9.

All Companies Working

Thanks to Lt Chuck Lowe for the Group 4 updates. Looking for representatives from Group 1 and 3 who are interested in passing along notable incidents via department email.

August 30, 2016 – Construction Accident/Tech Rescue, 1868 Mass Ave. – companies found a construction worker that fell into a hole with significant injuries.

August 31, 2016 – Tech Rescue, 795 Mass Ave. – Rescue 1 & Division 1 assisted CPD Tactical Team with a group of protesters at City Hall. Units were tied up several hours before arrests were made. Engine 1 was dropping supplies off to the scene when they were flagged down for a medical emergency. One of the TV news crews opened a door on their van resulting in a bicyclist being injured.

August 31, 2016 – MVA, 195 Albany Street – responded to 195 Albany Street for a car that hit a bicycle and a building. CFD extricated the driver who was transported to MGH by ALS & Squad 2.

September 5, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Waltham, 2nd Alarm, 15 Highland St. - Ladder 1 covered Waltham Ladder 2 on their second alarm fire.

September 7, 2016 – Hazmat, 810 Memorial Drive – A nitric acid explosion resulted in one victim with 1st and 2nd degree burns to his arms and was transported ALS to MGH. This lab was being conducted in a residential unit and follow-up through EPAC.

September 8, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Watertown, 9 Porter St, Box 329 – Engine 9 covered Watertown Station 2.

September 8, 2016 – Rescue, 90 Fawcett Street – CFD dispatched a Technical Rescue assignment to remove an injured construction worker from a 30 foot deep trench.

September 16, 2016 – Hazmat, 555 Tech Square - Engine 2 responded to 555 Tech Square for a female with Hydrochloric Acid splashed on her arm.

September 16, 2016 – Public Assist, MIT - Ladder 3 responded to assist Police in removing students refusing to come off the roof of MIT W16, Kresge Auditorium. The students fled after the aerial was placed.

September 19, 2016 – Haz mat, 28 Sacramento Street – Engine 1 & Ladder 1 responded to 28 Sacramento Street for the alarms. On arrival, Engine 1 was advised by Leslie University that they pulled the alarm to evacuated because of an irritant in the bldg. The call was upgraded to include Rescue 1, Squad 4, Division 2 & EMS. The investigation determined pepper spray was released in the building.

September 22, 2016 – 1 Alarm Fire, Box 51, 1426 Mass. Ave. – small fire in a ventilation fan in a bathroom.

September 22, 2016, 1 Alarm Fire, 16 Shea Road, Box 79 – Companies responded to 16 Shea Rd for a laptop that caught fire in the house. The laptop was charging and the homeowners had to use a dry chemical extinguisher to extinguish the fire.

September 27, 2016 – 1 Alarm Fire, Box 752, Clay Street – fire on 2nd floor of a 3 story residential. Light smoke showing on arrival. Had to force entry into unoccupied apartment. Found fire in a dishwasher had extended to cabinets.

October 2, 2016 – MVA, River Street – Engine 6 responded to a head on MVA at River St & Kelly Rd. One patient was transported.

October 2, 2016, Hazmat, 220 Banks Street – Ladder 3 for the CO alarm at 220 Banks St found >20 PPM in the building from a defective stove.

October 4, 2016 – Rescue, Haskell @ Pemberton Street – child stuck in a trash receptacle. Squad 4 was able to remove the child

October 5, 2016 – Pedestrian Accident, White St. @ Somerville Ave. – a bicyclist was struck by two vehicles resulting in a fatality.

October 9, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Belmont, W/F, 48 Stults Road, Box 369 – basement fire in a residential building. Engine 1, Squad 4 and Division 1 responded as RIT company. Squad 4 assisted with overhaul, Engine 1 replaced as RIT and conducted searches.

October 13, 2016 – 1 Alarm Fire, 808 Memorial Drive – Companies responded to 808 Memorial Drive for the box alarm. Companies found an oven fire on floor 11. Two engines & 1 truck handled

October 14, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Arlington, Dive Incident – The Dive Team and Marine 2 responded to Spy Pond in Arlington to assist with a car in the water.

October 18, 2016 – Pedestrian Accident, Mass. Ave. - Engine 1 responded to a bicycle vs a pedestrian at Mass Ave & Waterhouse St. Members worked two ALS trauma patients. Ladder 1 & K2 assisted with patient care.

October 29, 2016 – Mutual Aid, 64 Beacon Street, Somerville - Engine Co. 5 and Ladder Co.1 responded to 64 Beacon St. Somerville for alarms sounding. At the time, Somerville had a Working Fire at 20 Memorial Drive in their city. Corrected address was 11 Cooney St. and a smoke condition that was caused by a tenant while using the oven.

November 7, 2016 – Water Rescue, Memorial Drive at River Street – as a result of an MVA, one car ended up in the Charles River. Divers entered water to confirm the report that the vehicle was empty.

November 8, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Brookline, 2nd Alarm, 30 Cypress Street – Ladder 1 covered Brookline Ladder 2 during their fire in 2.5 story residential

November 12, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Belmont, W/F, 11 Hurd Road – Ladder 1 covered during the fire in a residential structure.

November 14, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Belmont, 2nd Alarm, 115 Mill Street – vacant building at the former McLean Hospital. Cambridge response included Engine 9, Ladder 1, Squad 4 and Engine 1 as the RIT Company. Companies were used for a defensive operation to include water supply and application via Ladder 1. During the call Division 1 special requested Tower Ladder 2 to assist.

November 17, 2016 – Rescue, 16 Raymond Street - Tower Ladder 2 was requested to remove a DPW electrical worker from a malfunctioning bucket truck while he was stringing up Christmas lights at Raymond Park

November 25, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Belmont, W/F 54 Old Middlesex Rd – Ladder 1 covered during the Working Fire in Belmont.

November 26, 2016 – W/F, 46 Fairfield Street, Box 722 – companies dispatched to 46 Garfield Street for a fire in the ceiling. Due to an error, redirected to 46 Fairfield Street. Companies found a fire in the ceiling between the 2nd and 3rd floors. Working Fire declared.

December 1, 2016 – Working Fire, 210 Sidney Street, Box 34 – Call for fire in bedroom in apartment # 2. Light smoke showing on arrival. Three attack lines stretched, ground ladders thrown to attic and roof (aerial unable to be used due to power lines). Primary and secondary searches negative. RIT companies assigned and stood by. Fire in the attic extinguished in a 2.5 story woodframe

December 2, 2016 – 1 Alarm fire, Box 9145, 735 Concord Ave. – Reported fire in the lab. Light smoke showing on arrival. Plasticware in lab hood caught fire. Sprinkler extinguished initial fire. No chemicals involved.

December 3, 2016 – 10 Alarms, Box 236, Berkshire Street @ Vandine – companies arrived to find a building under renovation fully involved. Windy conditions spread the fire to several other exposures in a matter of minutes. Deputy Chief Mike Morrissey (Division 1) struck 6 alarms in 9 minutes, with a 5th alarm on arrival.

December 14, 2016 – 1 Alarm fire, Kendall Square MBTA – broken steam pipe resulted in steam and fire inside the station.

December 15, 2016 – Rescue, 135 Alewife Brook Parkway – female trapped in an escalator with traumatic arrest

December 16, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Boston, 6 Alarms, Box 4161, 144 Bunker Hill St – Engine 2 and Ladder 1 covered in Boston during their fire in Charlestown

December 16, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Somerville, W/F, 17 Cutter Street – Engine 4, Engine 5 and Ladder 1 responded and covered during this fire.

December 19, 2016 – 1 Alarm fire, 3 Ames Street, MIT – fire in a lab injured 2 persons requiring a haz mat response and transport.

December 25, 2016 – Mutual Aid, Boston, 6 Alarms, 50 Hull Street, Box 1232 – Engine 2 covered in Boston during this Christmas Day early morning fire.

10 Alarms, Box 236, Berkshire Street @ Vandine

Some more basic statistics on Box 236:

- Damage to a total of 16 buildings
- Thirty-three engines and 16 trucks worked at the fire
- Companies working at the fire were from 21 mutual aid communities (including MassPort).
- 170 Firefighters
- 60 families displaced
- Five engines and two trucks were covering in the city. These included companies from three additional outside mutual aid communities.

Social Media during the fire:

During the fire, on one scanner app alone, there were over 3,500 people listening to the radio traffic broadcast via that one app.

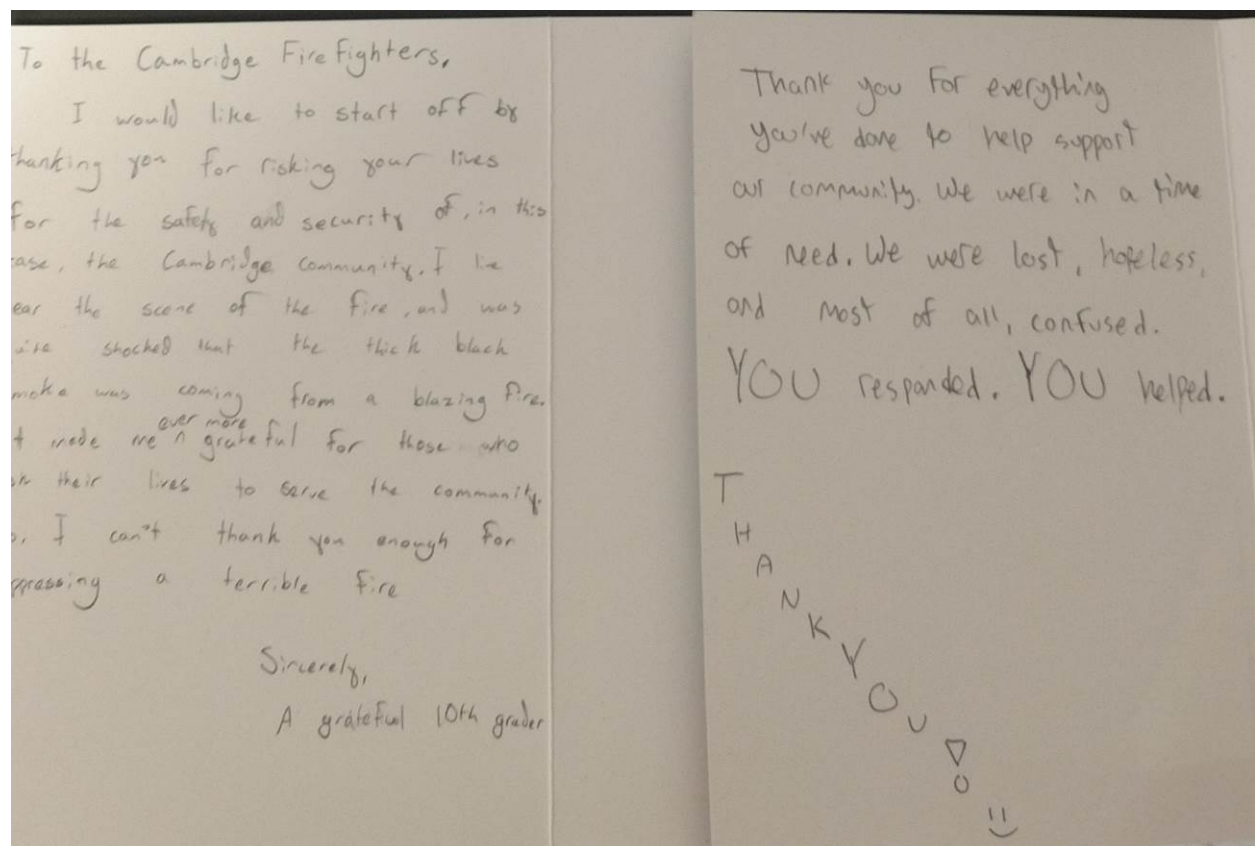
According to Administrative/Information Aide and Retired Chief of Operations; Jack Gelinas, in the 24 hours following the fire. The Cambridge Fire Department Twitter feed had over 560,000 hits, more than ½ million!

There were numerous, positive comments about CFD and the members posted on several social platforms such as Twitter and Facebook, including one from Susan McGovern:

Susan McGovern
December 6

*I will never forget the kindness that **LT Casey (Lt. Brian Casey; Engine 9)** afforded me, my daughter and of course those 2 cats who after a very scary night huddled somewhere in a burnt building, they were carried to safety by the finest. Thank you so much!*

The Department also received approximately 100 Thank You cards from students at Cambridge Rindge & Latin School.



Wishing you a magical
and memorable Christmas.

Dear First Responders/Cambridge
Fire Fighters,

Thank you for helping
this city in a time of
unfortunate events. Without
your contributions who knows
how much worse the situation
would have been. Your bravery
and courage is noted and
appreciated by everyone in
our community.

Even though I was not directly affected
by the fire but I thank you for
your dedication during this time.
Thank you so much for keeping
our community safe on a day-to-
day basis.

- Mary Walsh

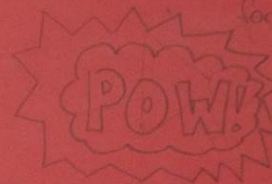
Thank You for
Your service

- From Andrique

THANK
YOU!!!



you're my
HERO!



Thank you
for your
service.

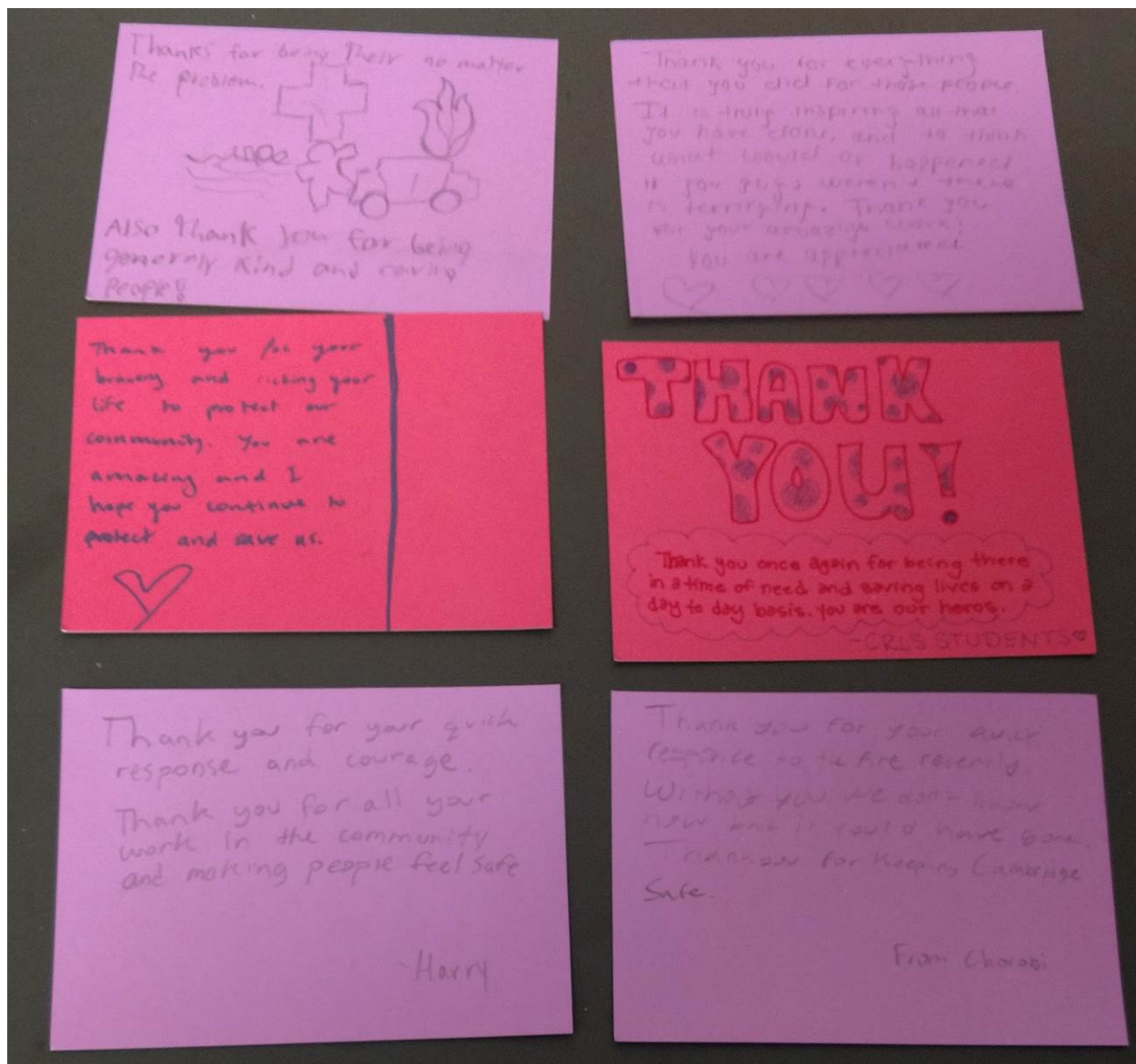
I think that not everyone ^{is able to} ~~must~~ do
your job. You have to be really
determined and brave and I think
that all of you showed those features
that day.

I want to thank you for the amazing
job that you did and for saving all those
lives!

Thank you!

Thank you for helping my friends
and their families. You guys were
also risking your lives to save
others, and even though it's
part of your job, you're still out
in dangerous situations just to help
others.

Tenzin



Rodrigo G. Thank you! To your dept. and all the neighboring communities who pitched in. I live on that corner and feel incredibly fortunate and thankful for the prompt response and heroic efforts of all the firefighters. While so many have tragically lost so much that afternoon, so many others such as myself were spared because of your efforts. I cannot express my gratitude enough.

flyingtaco63 Dec 3

Godspeed to all jakes and other first responders in harm's way fighting the #cambma fire and attending to residents. Stay safe and strong.

Abby Burns

Thinking of @CambridgeMAFire & mutual aid who ran towards fire and danger to make sure 11 buildings were empty and then fought 10 alarm fire



Photo by Brian Michael

Enroute to the daytime fire, companies could see a visible plume of smoke pre-arrival and were met with heavy fire conditions on arrival.

Thanks to **Administrative/Information Aide and Retired Chief of Operations; Jack Gelinas** for the following stats on Box 236 (next page)

3-Dec-16	10 - 236		16 bldgs			33-16-1-2-x
	Box @ 1453	E5,3,2 - TL2,L1 - R1, SQ2 - D1	22-24	Berkshire St.		
			25-27	Berkshire St.		DFC M. Morrissey
	2nd @ 1457	E1,4,8 -L4 - SQ4 - D2	26	Berkshire St.		
			28 .	Berkshire St.		
	3rd @ 1458	E6,9,Som3 - L3,Som TL1 - SomC3	30	Berkshire St.		
			32-34	Berkshire St.		
	4th @ 1503	Wat E1, Bel E1, Bkl E1	35-37	Berkshire St.		
		Bos L15	11-11A-13	Plymouth St.		
			15-17	Plymouth St.		
	5th @ 1505	Wal E1, Bos E10, Arl E2	19	Plymouth St.		
		Bkl L2	25-27	Plymouth St.		
			31	Plymouth St.		
	6th @ 1508	Che E1, Med E5, New E1	35	Plymouth St.		
		Wal L1	37	Plymouth St.		
			26-30-50	York St	(former church)	
	7th @ 1516	Mal E3, Lex E4, Sau E1	40	York St		
		Med TL1				
	8th @ 1519	Mspt E1, Eve E1, Rev E4				
		Mal L3				
	9th @ 1520	Win E2, Lyn E7, Mel E2				
		Che TL1				
	10th @ 1600	Wak E1, West E1, Qui E2				
		Eve L1				
	Spec Calls	Bos E4,21; Som E1				
		Bos TL3, L26				
		Mspt TL1, New L1				
4-Dec-16	A/O @ 2038					

	Covering	Bos E22, 51	N.B.: In addition to the firefighting forces, numerous municipal, state, and federal agencies provided additional assets during and following the fire.			
		Sto E2				
		Wal E2, Wob E2,				
		Rev L2, Wat L1, Wel L1				



Photo credit Christina Morrissey

Tower Ladder 2 going to work at St. Patricks Place on the corner of Berkshire and York Street



Photo courtesy of Doug Boudrow

Lieutenant Mike Donovan and FF Renrick Clarke (Engine 4) prepare to make entry into one of the fire buildings at the 10 alarm fire.



Photo from Cambridge Local 30 Facebook page

Fires burned in multiple buildings throughout the afternoon and into early evening.



Toys for Tots

Once again the Cambridge Fire Department and Cambridge Firefighters Local 30 IAFF are pleased to join together to support the annual Toys-For-Tots Drive.

A note from **Assistant Chief Gerard E. Mahoney**: I was pleased to report this year was one of the most successful Toy Drives in recent years. He wishes to thank the members of this department for your help as always.

A special debt of gratitude goes to a few Cambridge businesses as well. **Draper Labs, CambridgeSide Galleria, PRO-EMS, Andy's Diner, The Mt. Auburn Hospital** and others who organized collections within their own establishments.

FF Jim Bergin; Tech Services collected toys from all the firehouses. Those toys were delivered to the USMCR.

As always I am grateful for your cooperation and assistance with this endeavor.

I hope you and your families have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!

Thanks,
Assistant Chief Gerard E. Mahoney
Cambridge, MA Fire Department



Photo credit unknown

Ladder 2 and Engine 3, Group 2 at the Cambridgeside Galleria Mall.



Photo courtesy Cambridge Local 30 Facebook page

Headquarters, Group 2, Lt. Chris Haynes; Rescue 1 (and Local 30 President) along with Assistant Chief Mahoney, Assistant Chief Sheehan load toys for delivery to the USMCR. Thank you to the residents and businesses for their donations and also to **Deputy Chief Tom Cahill; Division 1** for donating the box truck for the delivery! Merry Christmas!

Never Forget – Worcester Six, December 3, 1999



Cambridge Firemen's Relief 129th Ball

Cambridge Firemen's Relief Association

Incorporated March 19, 1892
167 LEXINGTON AVENUE CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

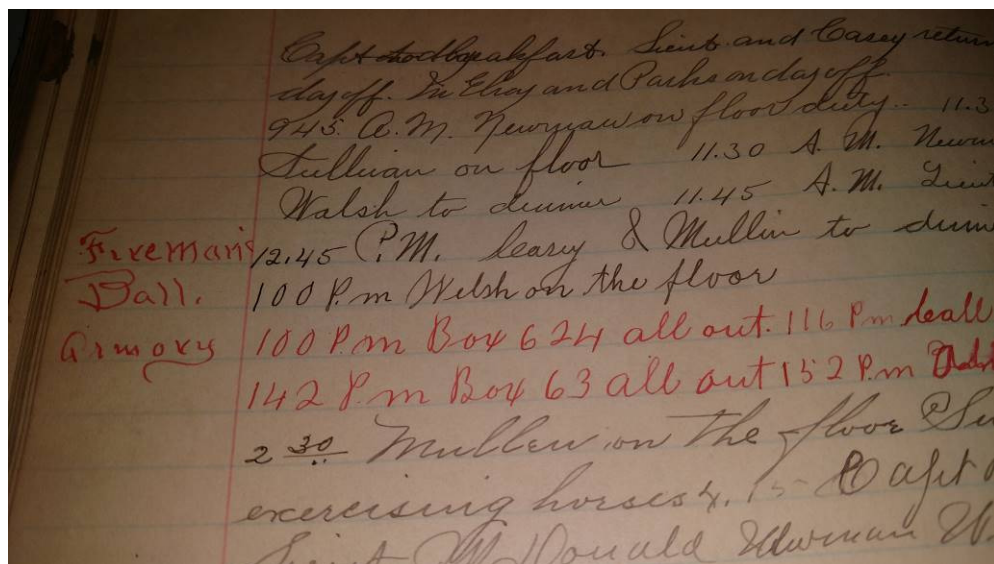
ONE HUNDRED & TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL BALL

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2017 (GROUP 4 WORKING)
ROYAL SONESTA, CAMBRIDGE

If you have any questions, please contact your company directors.

President Massiah, along with the officers and directors of the CFRA ask you to mark your new fire department calendars with this date. If you know or see any retirees, please let them know the date, **February 18, 2017**. Look forward to seeing you there. More info will follow about room rates and ticket prices,

*If you have any questions, please call
Secretary David M Croak, Rescue 1, G-2 (617-908-2238)*



A note in the left margin of Ladder 2's Company Journal, dated 1921, notes the Fireman's Ball was being held at the Armory.

Out and About



Photo J. Gelinas

Engine Co. 2 showed complete support for their new firefighters by attending the badge and promotion ceremony held on Friday September 9, 2016, 2 with 100% company attendance!



Photo J. Gelinas

New Firefighters take oath of office, while newly promoted officers await their turn during Badge Pinning Ceremony in September 2016.



Photo Stacia Joyce

Stacia Joyce (EPAC) shared some photos of her 7 year old grandson, Mason Radtke. While visiting, they made a stop at the motor squad to see some of the apparatus. We may have a budding firefighter in the family!



Photo credit Capt Vaillancourt

FF/Paramedic Hugh Devlin; Squad 4 gives a tour to a group of future firefighters at Engine 4 in November 2016.



Photo credit Capt Vaillancourt

Halloween Open House



Photo by Earl Howard

A family of minions visited Engine 9 during the Halloween Open House on October 31. Thanks to **Lt. Earl Howard** for sharing the photo.



Photo credit, Captain Ikels

On the other end of town, at Lafayette Square – Engine 2, Ladder 2 and Squad 2 also joined in the Halloween festivities.



Photo Credit Captain Ikels

During this holiday season, don't forget that our members at Cambridge Fire, Cambridge Police and the ECC don't get to go home! Members at Lafayette Square enjoy a nice Thanksgiving meal with their work family. The meal has been donated by Craigie-on-Main.



Photo credit Captain Ikels

The staff of Craigie-on-Main who generously donate their time on the holiday. They have been providing holiday meals for the Lafayette Square companies for several years.



Photo credit Gelinas

Engine 6; Group 3 after the 10 alarm fire on December 3, 2016. **L-R, Lt. Bob Jutras, FFOP Cam Moyer, FF Charlie Stewart.**



Photo J. Gelinas

First due to Box 236, on December 3 – Engine 5's crew. **L-R, Aide to Division 1, Henry Sisco, A/Lt. Ameer Moustafa, FF Jon Powers and FF Joe Pinto**



Photo credit Gelinis

Ladder 2, Group 2 at headquarters retrieving new portable radios – L-R, FF Bill Dusablon, FF C.J. Roberts, Lt. Marvin Ramos

MDA - Update

Brothers and Sisters,

FF Patrick Sullivan (E6/G4) has joined MDA's Team Momentum and represented Cambridge Fire in the Chicago Marathon on October 9, 2016. Our MDA rep has informed me that his fundraising efforts will count towards our annual "Fill The Boot" total. Congratulations and thank you Pat!!

GUNS N HOSES Hockey Game

The Local 30 hockey game for charity will be held on **February 11, 2017. 5PM** at the Buckingham, Brown and Nichols rink. Flyers will be psoted in the stations soon. Please save the date!

SUBMISSIONS

Do you have department news? Family news or photos? Do Captains or Deputy Chiefs have a recent experience that everyone can learn from?

Did you send it to FF Howie Smith at hsmith@cambridgefire.org?

Irish Times Magazine

Captain Bob Walsh; Engine 5 was recently interviewed (in October 2016), along with some other Irish-Americans for the Irish Times Magazine. Following are some excerpts from the rather lengthy article.



Photograph by Kael Alford

How Irish-America sees Ireland - By Rosita Boland

Ireland: a land of 100m people where abortion is legal and Protestants are 'devils'. We visit Boston to meet Irish-Americans whose views of Ireland are a mix of confusion and piercing insight. Friday, Oct 21, 2016

We in Ireland might think we know who Irish-Americans are. They're the visitors who arrive each year before the swallows, to travel the country on buses, to golf, to look for their roots. They search out traditional music, castles, scenic countryside, the Book of Kells and something far more abstract: an attempt to connect with their past.

But there are millions of Irish-Americans who never make it to Ireland, whose stories we do not know. Usually only the economically privileged can afford to travel to Ireland. And the sheer volume of people who identify as Irish-American might in any case make it hard for all of them to visit Ireland in their lifetimes.

The US Migration Policy Institute has recorded 39 million people as claiming Irish ancestry. The US Census Bureau data collected in 2011 recorded almost 33.1 million people, or just over 10 per cent of the population, in 2014. The disparity shows how hard it can be to define identity. In September The Irish Times travelled to Boston, Massachusetts, where 21.5 per cent of the state's population say that they are of Irish descent. I talked to eight people who claim Irish ancestry but who have never been to Ireland. I wanted to learn why their Irish heritage was so important to them and what their views were on a country they had never been to; how their lives had been shaped by a religion, culture and education that had been handed down. In the course of these interviews I discovered that when Irish-Americans talk about identifying with the Irish they mean the Irish who came to settle in the United States and their descendants, not those of us living in Ireland. Ireland itself, the country, is the abstract, romanticised receptacle of dreams and green fields, and the place that will soothe a lifelong ache.

I learned much about Irish America, but I did not solve the mystery of why they eat corned beef on St Patrick's Day.

Rob Walsh lives in Medford, Massachusetts. The 45-year-old is a firefighter, "an occupation which is, at least in this part of the US, a sounding board for Irish-heritage pride".

On Northern Ireland: 'We thought Protestants were devils'

Rob Walsh: "There was no lack of support here in Boston for the IRA when I was growing up. There was a tin on the counter of our local pizza place that collected money for Noraid. There were a lot of them around. There were pins for sale that would say 'Sinn Fein Provisionals', and people had Bobby Sands shirts; '26 + 6 = 1' – you'd see that on stickers a lot, and now and then you still see it. I think if you were to ask most Irish-Americans what they think of Northern Ireland they'd say they are in favour of an united Ireland. I imagine that's what the population of Ireland wants, too."

On Catholicism and abortion: 'People probably use the rhythm method'

Rob Walsh: "As far as Catholicism goes I'd say that Ireland is very Catholic. I'd imagine the younger generation don't go to church much, but it's part of their identity – the saints and all that."

Their image of Ireland: 'What's the population? 100 million?'

Rob Walsh: "I think it's probably still quite rural and that there is still a lot of farming. I see it as lots of people living in small towns, with big, tight-knit families, about five or six kids a family. I have this idea that Irish families are very tight and stick up for each other. That's the sort of thing I hope hasn't changed, but some part of that is nostalgia. Dublin, from what I understand, is quite a worldly city; not quite like New York or Paris, but getting there. I hope people are still friendly there. You hear so much about that, especially friendliness towards Americans, because a lot of the time now Americans don't find that abroad

Congratulations

After more than 30 years of dedicated service to the Cambridge Fire Department
Firefighter Tom Casey of Ladder 4, Group 3 worked his last tour on Thursday,
September 22, 2016



Gelinas photo

Asst. Chief John O'Donoghue; Retired has become a grandfather – again. Jack entered the family in late September at 7 lbs, 14 ounces. Congratulations, John and family!



Photo provided

From the Archives

In the fall issue, we mentioned that **Assistant Chief John O'Donoghue; Retired** shared some photos from his collection that we were going to use. Below is one of those photos.



Headquarters, Group 4, dated April 9, 1979.

Five members on each company back then - a Deputy Chief and the aide, and the Inspector. Those were the days! The only member still working is **FF Jim Bergin; Tech Services** (*seated 2nd from left*). All the others are retired. Eight have passed on.

Front: FF Peter Reagan (TL1), FF Jim Bergin (R1), FF Bill Hugh (R1), DFC Andrew Murphy (Div 2), FF Bob Paone (R1), FF John Watson (TL1).

Back: FLt. Joe Schifferdecker (TL1), FF Larry Hodgdon , FF Kevin Kelly (E1), FF “Buffalo” Bill McMahon (E1), FF Bob Bell (E1), FF Walter Grace (TL1), FCapt. Bill Cantwell (R1), FF Dan Turner (L1), FLt. Jim Harrington (E1), FF Rich Dahl (R1), FF/Insp Ed Fowler (FIU), FF Paul Mahoney (E1).



Photo credit, Steve Perroni

Thanks to **Steve Perroni** who shared some Cambridge FD photos some time back. We were waiting for just the right time to use this one! Photo shows his Dad, **FF Joe Perroni** helping “Santa” distribute lollipops to children as part of the 56th Annual Christmas Seal Sale in 1962 sponsored by the Cambridge T.B. and Health Association.

Did you know?

Who invented the fire hydrant? It is widely believed that Frederick Graff Sr., Chief Engineer of the Philadelphia Water Works is credited with the first patent of a fire hydrant system resembling what we have today.

He had the foresight to obtain a patent on it in 1801. However, his patent was destroyed in a fire that occurred in the U.S. Patent Office in 1836 that destroyed all the patents up to that time.

The fire that occurred on December 15, 1836 was the last of several disastrous fires. Firefighting efforts to save the building were hampered by lack of personnel and old equipment.

Retirees Reunion

ATTENTION RETIREES

This year's CFD retiree reunion will be
Saturday February 18, 2017 @ 1PM
The location will be at Kenny O'Connor's
1424 SW 54th Terrace
Cape Coral, Florida 33914
Telephone: [\(339\) 222-2040](tel:(339)222-2040)

Through the Lantern Lens



Through the Lantern Lens

by Mose Humphrey

The 10 alarm fire that occurred on December 3, 2016 was certainly one that many members on duty that day will remember for the rest of their careers. It's been a long time since the city has seen a multiple alarm fire of this magnitude.

It is an old city, full of closely situated wooden buildings. Between the older construction methods and human error, the potential for large fires will always exist. Because of this, Cambridge is no stranger to large multiple alarm fires.

April 23, 1960 – a fire that started at the Carstein Coal company on Cogswell Ave spread to many homes. Newspaper estimates at the time range from 18-22 separate structures. The end result was a General Alarm fire.

Quick Hitch Harness invented at Engine 3 in July, 1873. Charles E. Berry, a Cambridge, Massachusetts firefighter, came up with a hanging harness with quick-locking hames. When the apparatus driver pulled a cord, the harness dropped onto the horses' backs and the hames were quickly hooked by other firefighters. When the harness dropped, a system of pulleys,

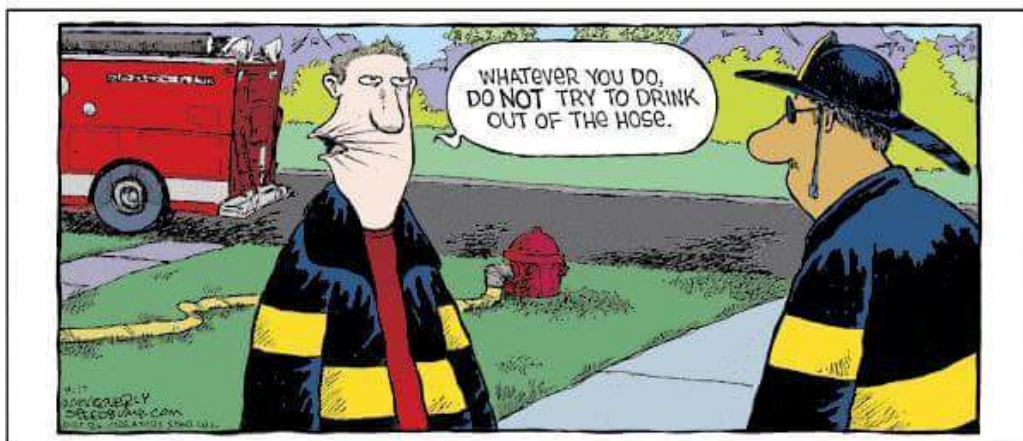
counterweights, and springs lifted the holders out of the way. Before the quick-hitch, harnessing required several minutes. The new system enabled firefighters to shave two to three minutes from the time it took them to roll out of their stations. Berry's system became so popular that he quit the fire department and sold his patented Berry Hames and Collars throughout the United States and Canada. Berry was a Cambridge MA firefighter assigned to Engine Company No. 3."



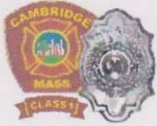
Funny

SPEED BUMP

BY DAVE COVERLY



Commendations



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE FIRE DEPARTMENT
491 BROADWAY
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138
www.cambridgefire.org
ISO CLASS 1 FIRE DEPARTMENT

Date: December 6, 2016

General Order No. 29; Series of 2016

Subject: Berkshire Street

TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER

On Saturday December 3, 2016 at 1452 hours, Emergency Communications transmitted Box 236 while receiving numerous calls for several buildings on fire on Berkshire Street near Vandine St.

Upon arrival companies encountered fire conditions unlike anything seen before in this city.

While faced with enormous challenges, under the command of Division 1 Deputy Chief Michael J. Morrissey companies initiated an aggressive attack to stop the spread of the fire.

Relying on his training and experience Deputy Chief Morrissey strategically assigned incoming companies to specific locations with the goal of preventing further destruction, while being conscious of his responsibility for his firefighters.

The efforts of all those members who responded were in the highest traditions of this department and the fire service. As tragic a situation as this was, it is due to the committed efforts of all members of this department, that it was not worse.

By the time the fire was under control we had transmitted 10 alarms plus additional special calls. Mutual Aid companies from 25 communities either responded to the fire or covered our stations. A tremendous cooperative and dedicated effort by all involved is a large factor in no loss of life and injuries kept to a minimum.

All members who responded are hereby commended for their actions.

Whenever this department has faced a serious significant incident we have risen to the challenge.

The City of Cambridge is grateful for and I am extremely proud of your heroic work.

Per Order,

Gerald R. Reardon
Chief of Department

Condolences to:

Firefighter Stephen Ryan; Ladder Co. 4 on the passing of his Brother,
Martin P. Ryan III in September 2016

Also the Son of the **late Captain Martin P. Ryan Jr.**

To the family and friends of Mrs. Mary E. "Betty" Dudley
She was the Widow of the **late Deputy Fire Chief Edward Dudley**

Firefighter Nicole Signoretti; Rescue Co. 1 on the passing of her Father,
Adolph "Joe" Zedalis III in September 2016

Firefighter Edward Devereaux; Ladder Co. 2-Retired on the passing of his Sister,
Mrs. Helen C. Pike

Captain Mark Cunningham; Engine Co. 8, on the passing of his Mother-In-Law,
Mrs. Elizabeth Miele

Lieutenant Steven Landry; Engine Co. No. 4 on the passing of his Father,
Mr. John Landry

FFOP Joseph Moore; Engine Co. 1 on the passing of his Brother,
Sean W. Moore

FF Alan Johnson, Ladder Co. No. 4; Retired on the passing of his Mother,
Mrs. Elisabeth Johnson

FF Murphy M. Aquaro; Ladder Co. 4, on the passing of his Step-Brother,
Mr. James R. Aquaro

Firefighter Kevin Conroy; Engine Co. 2, on the passing of his Father,
Mr. John Conroy - Mr. Conroy was a retired Cambridge Police Officer

FF Morgan Sheafer; Fire Headquarters-Retired, on the passing of his Wife,
Mrs. Joanne Sheafer who passed away in Florida on December 9, 2016

Ms. Christina Giacobbe; Director of the Emergency Communications Department
On the passing of her Father, Mr. Charles J. Giacobbe Jr.

Captain Robert Blake; Ladder 4-Retired on the passing of his Brother,
Firefighter George Blake; Somerville FD-Retired

Stats and Fires

FY 2016/2017 RUN TOTALS

	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16	SBTTL	Jan-17	TOTAL
Engine 1	168	175	226	214	194		977		977
Engine 2	321	329	284	296	266		1496		1496
Engine 3	152	131	129	150	124		686		686
Engine 4	131	111	138	118	128		626		626
Engine 5	177	150	178	179	174		858		858
Engine 6	137	129	151	120	91		628		628
Engine 8	101	100	127	117	76		521		521
Engine 9	85	98	92	86	73		434		434
Truck 1	160	141	194	199	175		869		869
Truck 2	105	127	99	118	99		548		548
Truck 3	193	200	207	211	152		963		963
Truck 4	120	133	126	145	110		634		634
Rescue 1	167	162	219	208	205		961		961
Squad 2	317	317	319	298	312		1563		1563
Squad 4	149	155	181	176	134		795		795
Division 1	158	163	189	192	113		815		815
Division 2	102	87	129	127	96		541		541
HazMat 1	0	1	2	4	4		11		22
Spec & HQ Units	8	21	14	15	6		64		64
Mutual Aid Units	13	7	13	12	12		57		57
TOTAL	2764	2737	3017	2985	2544	0	14047	0	14047

FY 2016/2017 Incident Totals

[illegible]

FY 2016/2017 "Code 111" Building Fire TOTALS

	Jul-16	Aug-16	Sep-16	Oct-16	Nov-16	Dec-16	SBTTL	Jan-17	TOTAL
Engine 1	3	1	5	3	4		16		16
Engine 2	1	2	2	4	0		9		9
Engine 3	2	1	2	1	0		6		6
Engine 4	1	1	5	2	2		11		11
Engine 5	2	2	3	1	3		11		11
Engine 6	1	1	1	4	3		10		10
Engine 8	2	1	4	3	2		12		12
Engine 9	1	1	1	2	0		5		5
Truck 1	3	2	7	5	4		21		21
Truck 2	2	2	2	0	1		7		7
Truck 3	1	1	2	5	2		11		11
Truck 4	2	2	6	3	3		16		16
Rescue 1	3	1	7	5	3		19		19
Squad 2	3	2	3	2	1		11		11
Squad 4	2	2	6	2	3		15		15
Division 1	3	4	2	4	3		16		16
Division 2	2	1	6	4	4		17		17

Thought of the day

A bar of iron costs \$3

Made into horseshoes it's worth \$12

Made into needles its worth is \$3500

Made into balance springs for watches it's worth \$300,000

Your own value is determined also by what you are able to make of yourself.

-unknown

New Hires, Transfers, Promotions & Retirements

Date: September 19, 2016

General Order No. 25; Series of 2016

Effective Date: September 25, 2016

Subject: Retirement, Firefighter Thomas A. Casey

Effective September 25, 2016, at 0700 hours, Firefighter Thomas A. Casey retired from the Cambridge Fire Department. Firefighter Thomas Casey was **appointed on April 6, 1986.**

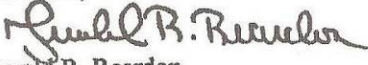
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| • May 18, 1986 | Ladder Company No. 3 |
| • October 12, 1986 | Ladder Company No. 1 |
| • June 13, 2010 | Ladder Company No. 4 |

Firefighter Casey has faithfully served the citizens of Cambridge.

We wish Firefighter Casey much happiness and good health in his retirement.

Please see that each member is present for a reading of this order.

Per order,


Gerald R. Reardon
Chief of Department

Date: September 19, 2016

General Order No. 26; Series of 2016

Effective Date: September 25, 2016

Subject: Transfers

Firefighter Murphy M. Aquaro from Engine Company No. 8 to Ladder Company No. 4

Firefighter Edwin Cruz from Engine Company No. 9 to Fire Headquarters

Firefighter Brian I. Collymore from Engine Company No. 3 to Fire Prevention

Date: December 14, 2016

General Order No. 30; Series of 2016

Effective Date: January 1, 2017

Subject: Transfers

Firefighter John R. Mulligan from Engine Company No. 2 to Engine Company No. 3

Firefighter David M. Pereira from Engine Company No. 5 to Engine Company No. 3

Of Interest...



With the revitalization of the Jefferson Park Housing complex this year, there is a great deal of transformation on Rindge Ave this year. But it wasn't always housing. North Cambridge had several clay pits that resulted in an impressive contribution to the brick industry.

In the Boston area, clay extraction for brickmaking began in the 1840s. The person principally responsible for the establishment of the brick industry in Cambridge was Nathaniel J. Wyeth, who purchased clay lands in 1844 and opened them up for development. In 1847, Wyeth opened his own brickyard. Thereafter, the brick industry in Cambridge expanded or contracted in response to changes in the political or economic climate.

Originally known as Bay State Brick Company, on November 23, 1900 the name was changed when the original company was purchased by the New England Brick Company. This company was incorporated in December, 1900, and had an annual output of 200,000,000 brick. It operated 31 yards all over New England, more than half of which are in the vicinity of Boston. The plants were distributed as follows:

Five in Cambridge, one in Belmont, one at Medford, Mass. The others being found at all over Massachusetts and New England. The five brickyards at Cambridge are of great interest to the visiting clay worker as they present the best type of New England brick manufacture.

Just where were Cambridge's major clay pits? First they were in Northwest Cambridge, and next more specifically in the Great Swamp near Alewife Brook, and finally, to be very specific, between Vassal Lane and Walden Street to Rindge Avenue and Alewife Brook. For a quick indication of where the pits were think of the St. Peter's Field, Jefferson Park, Jerry's Pond and the Tobin School which are all former clay sites.

The most extensive operations of the New England Brick Company were on the west side of Sherman Street. The clay bed is 30 acres in extent and the buildings, drying sheds and machine sheds cover 90 acres. The first view of the yard is well calculated to impress the visitor with its drying capacity, for there seem to be acres upon acres of drying sheds whose magnitude temporarily eclipses all the other parts of the plant. The clay is gray and plastic, extending 30 to 40 feet in depth and is mined by a Souther steam shovel.

The clay beds, excavated to a depth of 80 feet, were nearly exhausted by World War II; operations at those yards were suddenly ended in 1952 when a landslide buried the remaining

steam shovel. The New England Brick Company closed its operations and sold the land to the city which used it for a dump until 1971. Today it is Mayor Thomas W. Danehy Park. Another company, Union Brick, was in the same area.

"Harvard Alum, Eliot Canter '35 remembers going to the New England Brick Co. in North Cambridge to pick out bricks for the new Hemenway Gymnasium (Mass Ave across from Cambridge Common) whose construction he was overseeing. These were the special rough-textured bricks, the ones closest to the fire.

In addition to numerous construction projects around New England - everything from school buildings and post offices to shopping centers and racetracks – Canter's firm built or renovated dozens of structures at Harvard."

Today the area near the site of the old New England Brick Company "is an exciting new community of single level apartments and townhomes ...in a neighborhood rich with history."

Sources: www.brickcollecting.com, www.brickfrog.com and Harvard Gazette



An actual brick from the New England Brick Company. Photo submitted by **Lt. Steve Landry; Engine 4.**

Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award– FDNY



**Firefighter Michael Ryszetyk
Ladder Company 157
December 11, 2015, 2144 hours, Box 75-2441, Brooklyn**

Appointed to the FDNY on May 5, 2002. Recipient of several unit citations. Holds an Associate's degree in Nursing from St. Vincent's College. Resides on Staten Island with his family.

By the 11th of December, the holiday season has moved into high gear, with parties and people "shopping 'til they drop," In 2015, December 11th fell on a Friday, which meant New York City was going to be especially festive, given the moderate temperature.

However, in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, just before 2200 hours, holiday spirits were shattered by the report of a fire, with numerous reports of trapped civilians, at Box 2441. Fortunately, FF Michael Ryszetyk was working the outside vent position that night in Ladder 157.

At 2144 hours, the phone alarm alerted the "Jolly Rogers" of a fire at a two-story, Class 3, attached brick, private dwelling with an enclosed porch. Ladder 157 quickly left the Rogers Avenue firehouse and responded the half mile to the incident. The company was met with a street covered in smoke, heavy fire conditions coming from the second floor and onlookers screaming that people were still inside.

FF Ryszetyk, with experience-gained knowledge of this type of attached structure, wanted to position himself on the roof of the front porch as quickly as possible. He grabbed a 24-foot portable ladder and proceeded to the front of the building. FF Ryszetyk realized conditions were worsening as Ladder 157's forcible entry team reported encountering a heavy fire condition on the stairs and extending to the second floor. FF Ryszetyk set up the ladder and climbed to the roof of the porch. Reaching the roof, he found thick, black smoke emanating from the windows. Realizing the conditions inside were close to flashover, the Firefighter, relying on his personal protective equipment (PPE) to protect him, got low and slid through the window. FF Ryszetyk immediately met an intense heat and smoke condition. Getting as low as possible, he began a search and followed the wall until his hand was pushed back by the unchecked, advancing fire.

While members at the window called out for him evacuate, FF Ryszetyk moved to the other side of the room where he found a bed. Conducting a methodical search, he found an unconscious person at the foot of the bed. With no time for a radio transmission, the Firefighter called out to the members at the window that he had found a victim.

With fire raging all around, FF Ryszetyk could feel himself burning, but he unselfishly positioned himself between the victim and the unchecked fire. Using all his remaining strength, he dragged the victim up and onto the windowsill. Even though the fire began to lap overhead and out the window, FF Ryszetyk continued to shield the victim. FF Ryszetyk, with the assistance of Ladder 157's chauffeur, FF Chris Viviano, and Ladder 147's outside vent Firefighter, FF Sean O'Grady, moved the victim outside.

FF Ryszetyk then jumped out of the window with his bunker coat afire, indicative of the brutal conditions he faced. Engine 281 members opened a hose-line to extinguish the bunker coat, hold back the fire at the window and protect FF Ryszetyk, the victim and the other members on the roof.

While completely exhausted and suffering from his own burns, FF Ryszetyk began CPR and then worked with several other members to move the victim to the adjoining building and safety. FF Ryszetyk displayed tremendous skill, aggressiveness, determination and bravery, attributes that led to this successful rescue.

The Fire Department of the City of New York is proud to honor FF Michael Ryszetyk today with the Brooklyn Citizens Medal/FF Louis Valentino Award.

-reprinted from the Fire Department, City of New York • Medal Day 2016 booklet

Happy Holidays



Photo credit unknown

With the help of the **Dan Lopez; M4, Motor Squad** – the Santa and Reindeer were back up at headquarters in time for Christmas. These were longtime decorations that fell into disrepair. We believe they were built by **Lt. Bob Cauchon, Father of Lt Tom Cauchon; Ladder 4**. The backlighting is new but add a great look at night. Strong work for the crews at HQ for getting into the holiday spirit!

We wish everyone a happy holiday season and our best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year!



From the Tailboard...

The Darth Vader and C3PO costume designs from Star Wars were partly inspired by 19th century French firefighter helmets.



Information

Please submit any information, photographs, or narratives for inclusion in the ***Company Journal*** to hsmith@cambridgefire.org or Hmaxims@gmail.com

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

