

February, 2007



The Instructor's Dispatch

Commission on Fire Prevention & Control

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House Speaker Amann, Caucus Members Welcomes Firefighters to the Capitol

Speaker of the House Jim Amann (D-Milford) and 14 members of the House Democratic caucus welcomed representatives of the Joint Council of Connecticut Fire Service Organizations on Tuesday, January 23, 2007 to the State Capitol for a legislative breakfast.

Rep. Amann urged the group to advocate with a unified voice and develop relationships among Democrats and Republicans in the House and Senate. "Firefighters are critical first responders in every town," the Speaker said. "That's a powerful message and an ideal grassroots opportunity." Also discussed was the desire of the Joint Council to see the General Assembly establish a bi-partisan Fire Service Caucus within Connecticut's Legislature.

Rep. Amann is a co-sponsor of proposed House Bill No. 6338, An Act Concerning Increased Funding for Fire Service Training, which if passed would fund entry-level training for volunteer, career and state agency fire departments in order to boost and standardize firefighter training statewide.

Other House Democrats attending the breakfast were:

- ☑ Rep. Andres Ayala (D-Bridgeport)
- ☑ Rep. Betty Boukus (D-Plainville)
- ☑ Rep. Don Clemons (D-Bridgeport)
- ☑ Rep. Linda Gentile (D-Ansonia)
- ☑ Rep. Tony Guerrero (D-Rocky Hill)
- ☑ Rep. Bryan Hurlburt (D-Tolland)



- ☑ Rep. Claire Janowski (D-Vernon)
- ☑ Rep. Tom Kehoe (D-Glastonbury)
- ☑ Rep. Russ Morin (D-Wethersfield)
- ☑ Rep. Frank Nicest (D-Bristol)
- ☑ Rep. Peter Panaroni (D-Branford)
- ☑ Rep. Tom Reynolds (D-Gales Ferry)
- ☑ Rep. Kelvin Roldan (D-Hartford)
- ☑ Rep. Elissa Wright (D-Noank)

Philip J. Roche Retiring after 23 years with the State of Connecticut

A letter was received from Philip J. Roche, CFA Instructor announcing his retirement. Phil wrote "it is with great pleasure to announce that after 23 years with the State of Connecticut, I have put in my paperwork for retirement effective March 1, 2007. I have taken a job with the City of Winsted as their full-time firefighter and the Rank of Captain. Because of my new job and hours, I will also have to retire from the Connecticut Fire Academy.

I would like to take this

opportunity to thank you and your entire staff at the Connecticut Fire Academy. I would also like to say a special thanks to Ed O'Hurley and Denice Fortin in the Certification Division for their years of support.

It has truly has been a great experience working with all of you. As much as it's a happy time for me, it's also a sad time for me having to leave.

I will miss working with all of you, and may our friendships last a lifetime."



Phil J. Roche

Picture taken by Jim Carroll

The Connecticut Fire Academy wish Philip the very best of health and happiness long into the future.

Adam Piskura
Director of Training

"Most firefighters (thankfully) come on duty to fight a fire... not to write a memo".

By Alan V. Brunacini

2007 Seminar Series

The first installment of the 2007 Seminar Series was presented on Friday, February 9, 2007. The presentation was held at the Connecticut Fire Academy with 68 students present. The presenters were Dr. Denise Smith and Chief Craig Haigh who spoke on Implementing Effective On-Scene Rehabilitation.

Dr. Smith and Chief Haig provided research data documenting the physical and physiologic stresses of firefighting. They reviewed current recommendations for on-scene rehabilitation, including procedures for medical monitoring, used to minimize

the detrimental effects of heat stress. They also examined strategies for forming outside partnerships and collaborations enabling fire departments to implement effective rehabilitation programs to meet firefighter's needs while recognizing that most fire departments have limited human and financial resources.

Attendees of the 2006 Seminar Series acknowledged that the seminars were an enormous success. The 2007 Seminar Series speakers promise to be just a engaging, relevant and informative to their audiences.



Dr. Denise Smith on the right and Chief Craig Haigh on the left providing research data to students

Picture taken by Mark Salafia

2007 Connecticut Fire Officer Weekend

Save the date...

Applications are now available for the 2007 Connecticut Fire Officer Weekend at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg Maryland March 30, 31, and April 1. This weekend is a chance for numerous Connecticut fire service personnel to experience the superior level of fire related education available at the National Fire Academy. Applicants have their choice of one of seven classes, this year including two pilot classes never offered before.

The cost for the weekend is \$125.00 which includes lodging and meals.

There is no bus transportation available this year. The Connecticut Fire Officer's Weekend agenda includes a Memorial Service on Friday evening at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial, followed by an orientation and a social gathering in the Student Center. Saturday is a full day of classes with a barbecue in the evening. Classes run through mid-afternoon on Sunday prior to dismissal.



The Connecticut Fire Officer's Weekend is not only a tremendous learning opportunity but, also a great way to network with fire personnel and instructors.

Interactive Instruction for Firefighters

Save the date...

The 2007 Fire Service Instructor Development Seminar is Interactive Instruction for Firefighters presented by: Kevin Milan, Division Chief of Training for the Golden Colorado Fire Department to be held on Saturday, March 24, 2007.

Kevin is a 16-year veteran of the fire service, Kevin has progressed through the ranks with a constant focus on training. He maintains a professional educator's license in addition to extensive fire service credentials.

Milan currently serves as President of the Colorado Training Officers Association and a Western Regional Director for the International Society of Fire Service Instructors. He actively brings research based instructional strategies to the fire service.

This presentation focuses on the use of Interactive Training with emergency responders. Milan received the 2005 Executive Fire Officer Outstanding Research Award for his applied research project



Kevin Milan, Division Chief of Training for the Golden Colorado Fire Department

comparing Interactive and Direct Instruction. The results of the experiment have far reaching implications to fire service trainers.

**"Every time I say,
"It can't get any
worse than
this" ...It does.**

**By Alan V.
Brunacini**

Emergency Care and Safety Institute Approval

Emergency Care and Safety Institute has accepted our application to deliver the following programs:

- ☑ Standard Level First Aid, CPR, and AED
- ☑ Advanced Level First Aid, CPR, and AED
- ☑ First Responder
- ☑ Professional Rescuer CPR

- ☑ Wilderness First Aid
- ☑ Blood borne Pathogens
- ☑ Skill Testing for Online Courses

We look forward to working with Emergency Care and Safety Institute to ensure the customers' needs are met.

If you involved in EMS programs and would like more information contact me at



860-627-6363 Ext. 250 or
email me at:
bill.auclair@po.state.ct.us.

Bill Auclair
Program Manager

"42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot".

-Unknown Author

Fire Departments are seeking a Job Description

Fire Departments in the Winsted area are seeking a job description for "exterior" fire fighter.

Numerous fire departments make use of personnel who cannot (or choose not to) pass the annual physical for use of SCBA and interior structural

firefighting.

These members serve as Drivers, Fire Police, or perform other outside support activities.

The contractor who provides annual physicals to area departments wishes to have a more definitive list of duties those personnel are expected

to perform so that a physical can be tailored to them.

Please pass along any descriptions you might have, or other suggestions to Marquam Johnson of the Barkhamsted Fire District at:
marquam@hotmail.com.

Coffee Break Training

Fire and building inspectors with busy daily schedules often don't have time to attend valuable skill-enhancing training sessions, so the United States Fire Administration (USFA) is providing Coffee Break Training bulletins



for you to read and enjoy during your daily break.

These one-page training notices, posted every Tuesday, provide technical training in fire protection systems, building construction, codes and standards, inspection techniques, hazardous materials and administrative tips. Each

notice includes a photograph or drawing that illustrates the point of the training lesson. If you would like more information go to <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/index.shtm>

2007 Grant Writing Workshop

The Commission on Fire Prevention and Control and the Connecticut Fire Academy in cooperation with the Office of Grants and Training in the United States Department of Homeland Security presented six separate Grant Writing Workshops throughout the state from February 20 – 24, 2007. The six workshops were held at the following locations:



☑ Tuesday, February 20th at

the Connecticut Fire Academy

☑ Wednesday, February 21st at the Westport Fire Department

☑ Thursday, February 22nd at the Department of Public Safety

☑ Thursday, February 22nd at the Willington Public Library

☑ Friday, February 23rd at the Mashantucket Pequot Public Safety Building

☑ Saturday, February 24th at the Winsted Fire Department

There were a total of 125 students that attended the workshop.

Director of Certification

I am pleased to announce the selection of Tom McGowan to fill the vacant position of Director of Certification (Fire Service Analyst) for the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control. Tom will assume his new duties with the Certification Division on Friday, March 16th.

Tom comes to us with fourteen years of experience from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. In that time he has taught courses in Recruit, Fire Officer, Hazardous Materials, Flammable Gas, and Firefighting Skills. He was also a Certification Examiner. After the events of September 11th, Tom became

Assistant Coordinator in Hazardous Materials and Counter-Terrorism training. For the past three years he has been the Coordinator for Research and Development for Programming.

For over fifteen years, Tom has served as a career Firefighter/EMT with the Longmeadow Fire Department, Longmeadow, MA. Tom has just completed thirteen years as a Haz-Mat Technician with the Massachusetts Hazardous Materials Statewide Response Team, District Four stationed in Chicopee, MA.



Tom McGowan

Picture taken by Jim Carroll

He will certainly be an asset to the agency in his new role. Please extend to him your support, cooperation and best wishes.

Jeff Morrisette

State Fire Administrator

"Plan to be spontaneous tomorrow".

-Unknown Author

Survival, Safety and Our Loved Ones

We all know the scenarios, for they are on TV all the time, either as “headline news” or as “anniversary” items—school shootings, hostage situations, home invasions, road rages or “going-postal” style events at work. Yet, for all of this “in your face” reality, what are we doing to protect our loved ones, those close to us? I venture to say “damned little.” As an emergency management professional (who has spent the major part of a career trying to convince the government to stick with the local hazard, local risk, local response paradigm in face of international terrorist threats), I believe it is time that we prioritize just what it is that those around us need to know and need to do to stay safe.¹

Using a simple hazard/risk analysis process and starting with reality and statistics rather than fear itself, we should worry about lower respiratory lung infections and drunk drivers for they are killing millions every decade.

Thus, we and our loved ones should, at a minimum where applicable, get flu and pneumo-

nia shots and take defensive driving courses. Along with those, I would suggest an OSHA Level I Hazardous Materials Awareness course. Such a consciousness raising class is critical for personal safety in our wonderfully creative, chemical-based world. Unfortunately, those previously noted cultural phenomena (school shootings, hostage situations, home invasions, road rages and ‘postal’ events at work, have forced me to add one more “must have” module to my “basic training” courses—Personal Survival Training. After consultation with security, safety and law enforcement personnel from around the country, I have added the following concepts to a variety of my training courses. I hope you find them useful.

Assess, evaluate: Are people being shot or killed right off? If yes, running away and trying to escape might be a very good risk management option.

Survive: Remember, your goal is survival. It is not to be a witness or a hero. If you try to look closely at the gunman/

gunmen (or gunwomen?), you may set them off. If you try to attack them, they will react, perhaps with lethal force. It is highly probable that they are on speed, meth, cocaine or other drugs or are somehow otherwise chemically overloaded—or are perhaps suffering from psychosis or paranoid schizophrenia. Loud noises, bright lights (like flashlights) and other things (like badgering questions) might overload their heightened sensitivities.

Make yourself small: That is, a small target! Lie on the floor if there is nothing to hide behind, with your head away from the gun and stay face down. Thus, you will be no threat to the gunman.

Be polite, respectful: Be quiet! Speak when spoken to. Some people say to use their first name, but that is your call. Honor their pain, their anger. You don’t have to think it’s justified, but surely see that it is real. And for heaven’s sake (and yours), don’t belittle them. Humanize yourself: Speak of your future, your kids, your family, whatever might make you of more a person and less of an object in their eyes.

“If you aren’t interested in doing the things required to get ready to fight before the fire (plan, train, think), you’ll never be much good at firefighting when you have to do it”.

By Alan V. Brunacini



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Survival, Safety and Our Loved Ones

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Follow their lead if they talk about their family members, lovers, etc.

Drink water, eat, breathe, and relax: If the hostage situation becomes long term, be sure to take care of your self, your body. Eat.

Don't get dehydrated. Do isometrics and breathing exercises. Maintain a perspective and a good sense of self, you



will need it.

There may be more things too, but people can't learn too much, too fast. They need a great strategy and a few good specifics. I hope these help and make sense. It's too bad we have to teach these to our kids and family members, but it's worse if we don't!

© 2006 Frederick J. Cowie,
Ph.D.

fredcowie@aol.com

fredcowie.com

Note: Fred Cowie was a keynote speaker at the 2006 SERC Conference coordinated by the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control

Leadership Excellence

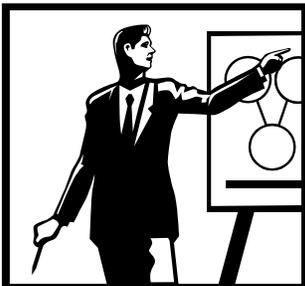
Save the date...

The second Installment of the 2007 Fire Service Seminar

is Leadership Excellence presented by Ronald E. Kanterman, Chief Merck Emergency

Services to be held on Friday, April 27, 2007.

Ron Kanterman entered the fire service in 1975 in Brooklyn, New York, he was assigned to the FDNY Fire Prevention Bu-



reau where he served as an Inspector, Senior Inspector, Deputy Chief Inspector and

Assistant Chief Inspector. In 1989, he took a position as the Assistant Chief of Fire Protection for a Fortune 100 pharmaceutical company, in New Jersey and was promoted to Chief of Emergency Services in 1994 where he currently still serves,

For anyone aspiring to be a leader, learn to develop yourself, your people, your organization, and your ability to com-

municate. Through lecture, role playing, and hands-on activities this program focuses on taking the students through different phases to get to "Excellence in Leadership."

"Firefighters and elephants never forget".

By Alan V. Brunacini

Recognizing Members of Our Staff

Email from Bob Klancko, Town of Woodbridge

An email was received from Bob Klancko, Town of Woodbridge CERT Team who praised the efforts of Tom McGowan who provided an overview of NIMS for members of that town's newly formed team. He wrote "...Tom...did a fabulous job, very professional, insightful, direct



and very easy to understand-it was great to be there listening to him."

Email from Commissioner Rich Morris

Commissioner Rich Morris sent an email recognizing the efforts of Chip Chapman and Marquam Johnson with their delivery of an Aerial Tactics program. He wrote, "The training that Mark setup for me at

Niantic went over like gangbusters, everyone enjoyed and learned a lot of good information. They have asked if I can get both Chip and Marquam to return latter in the spring." Thanks both for the great job!

Jeff Morrissette

State Fire Administration

"On the fireground stay away from anything that sags, leans, creaks, sways, droops, shakes, or makes goofy, unusual noises."

By Alan V. Brunacini

National Honor Guard Academy Course at the CT Fire Academy

The Connecticut Commission on Fire Prevention and Control will once again host the National Honor Guard Academy at the Connecticut Fire Academy, May 20-25, 2007

For additional information please see page 10 and page 11.

Fire Office I Program

The Enfield Fire Training Association in conjunction with the Connecticut Fire Academy will be conducting the Fire Officer I Program beginning Saturday April 14th and running for twelve consecutive Saturdays until July 7th 2006.

Attendance is mandatory to be able to sit for the written certification exam. Cost will be \$325.00 per student with a min. of 20 need to run the program. If interested contact John Alexander at juvfire@hotmail.com.



2006 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced \$15,992,602 in direct assistance grants to 163 fire departments and first responder organizations through the department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program.



Congratulations to the following Connecticut Fire Departments on receiving a grant award in the latest round:

Suffield Fire Department— Operations and Safety \$133,570.00 Equipment (\$13,850) Personal Protective Equipment (\$126,750) 01/26/07

Ansonia Fire Department Ansonia CT— Operations and Safety \$81,130.00 Equipment (\$85,400) 02/09/07
Town of Mansfield Fire and Emergency Services Mansfield CT— Operations and Safety \$185,003.00 Equipment (\$43,000) Personal Protective Equipment (\$151,740) 02/09/07

Town of Somers Volunteer Fire Department Somers CT— Operations and Safety \$42,038.00 Equipment (\$44,250) 02/09/07

North Coventry Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. Coventry CT— Operations and Safety \$66,999.00 Equipment (\$12,525) Personal Protective Equipment (\$58,000) 02/09/07

North Windham Fire Department Inc. North Windham CT— Operations and Safety \$42,246.00 Equipment (\$44,469) 02/09/07

The Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded two grants totaling more than \$385,000 to the **Enfield Fire District**.

The first grant, awarded in November, provides \$70,000 to pay for a planned five-year effort to recruit volunteer firefighters.

The second grant, awarded in December, provides about \$315,000 to buy a training apparatus to allow firefighters to practice in live-fire conditions.

The apparatus is expected to cost about \$350,000 according to a press release. The fire district is contributing the remaining \$35,000 not covered by the federal grant.

Brookfield Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. Brookfield CT— Operations and Safety \$141,645.00 Modify Facility (\$149,100) 02/16/07

Middlefield Volunteer Middlefield CT— Operations and Safety \$55,917.00 Equipment (\$16,500) Personal Protective Equipment (\$42,360) 02/16/07

Plainville Fire Department Plainville CT— Operations and Safety \$154,827.00 Personal Protective Equipment (\$162,976) 02/16/07

North Branford Volunteer Fire Department North Branford CT— Operations and Safety \$296,457.00 Personal Protective Equipment (\$312,060) 02/16/07

Scotland Volunteer Fire Department Scotland CT— Operations and Safety \$27,930.00 Personal Protective Equipment (\$29,400) 02/16/07

"The state with the highest percentage of people who walk to work is Alaska".

-Unknown Author

Honor Guard Academy

This course is designed to provide fire service and public safety organizations the basics to develop their honor guard and color guard units. This course is intended to offer a unique training environment that will provide basic guidance for the standardization of training methods, instruction in proper drill movement and techniques, leadership enhancement, and team confidence building.

The course will cover the following material: basic drill and ceremonial movements, church and casket protocol, developing department SOPs for honor guards and color guards, public safety officer benefits, flag etiquette, honor guard commander leadership training, various types of funeral services, and honor guard and color guard history.



Commission on Fire Prevention and Control
34 Perimeter Road
Windsor Locks, CT 06096-1069



May 20-25, 2007

Hosted by

**CONNECTICUT FIRE
ACADEMY
34 Perimeter Rd
Windsor Locks, CT 06096**

application on page 11



**NATIONAL HONOR GUARD ACADEMY
REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME *(Last, First, MI)*

Home Address *(Street, P.O. Box)*

City State Zip Code

Home Phone / Cell Phone

Email Male Female

Organization Name

Organization Address

City State Zip Code

Work Phone

Professional Status

- Career
- Volunteer
- Industrial
- Other _____

Academy Course Fees:

\$475.00 Course Tuition - Tuition includes student manual, reference material, two Academy uniform shirts, uniform hat and Certificate of Completion.
\$ 75.00 On-site Breakfast/Lunch *(optional)*
\$ 75.00 On-site Lodging *(optional)*

Please indicate T-shirt size:

Med Large Extra Large XXL
Other (specify) _____

All payments must be made 30 days prior to the beginning of the course.

Please make check payable to:

Connecticut Fire Academy
34 Perimeter Rd
Windsor Locks, CT 06096
Phone: (860)627-6363
Fax: (860)654-1889

Course Number

07500

Method of Payment- Payment is required at time of registration. Faxes must include Credit Card or Purchase Order #.

- Check made payable to CFPC
- Purchase Order# _____
- VISA MasterCard Card # _____

Card Holder's Name: _____

Card Holder's Signature: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Registration can be made via mail or fax



Fire Department Honor Guards participating in the National Fallen Firefighters Annual Memorial Service



Fire Department Honor Guards participating in the National Fallen Firefighters Annual Memorial Service

National Registry Paramedic Testing

The Certification Division of the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control is pleased to announce a new service being provided to the Fire and EMS community.

We will begin offering the Paramedic National Registry Examination on April 21, 2007 on the Connecticut Fire Academy Campus.

This service will allow National Registry Examination candidates a convenient, in-

state venue to take the examination.

Our goal is to provide quality service to the Fire and EMS community and

to assist the National Registry and State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services in the examination process of qualified individuals.

Our professional team will examine candidates in a stan-

dardized non-partisan manner that conforms to those policies and procedures established by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians.

For further information, please contact National Registry Paramedic Coordinator, Brenda Tenney at 860-627-6363 ext 227.



"No one keeps statistics on close calls."

By Alan V. Brunacini

Health and Fitness

Not long ago I was talking with an academy administrator about physical training (PT) and wellness when the conversation turned toward the issues of time. It reminded me of my youth, and the sounds of the clocks at the beginning of the Pink Floyd song of the same name. As we spent a few minutes confirming that time comes in a limited quantity for all of us, particularly those of us working the two-job schedule, I suggested to him a concept called circuit training to improve his exercise adherence. Essentially, circuit training amounts to ar-



ranging a work-out session in a circuit format as a way to maximize time, when pressed for more, while covering all of the health-related fitness components quite well. If I remember correctly, this concept of circuit training has been around for some 50 years, and has always been pretty simple to understand. At its basic level, it simply means to work out in a circuit fashion where you move from one exercise to the next with little or no rest.

For instance, you can arrange a different exercise for each of the major muscle

groups, in some sequential order of larger muscles to smaller muscles, and then go to work. Over the years, plenty of more talented folks than I am have devised quite elaborate circuits. I continually use this concept, in both simple and elaborate ways, as a way of creating more variety along with managing infrequent PT time constraints. In that format, I come up with the different exercise stations (a combination of weights and/or calisthenics) mixed with running on the treadmill in between.

continued on page 13

Health and Fitness

continued from page 12

The one that I did the other day in the academy gym looked like this:

I completed a full body warm-up, followed by a 5-minute walk on the treadmill. I then ran for 5 minutes, left the treadmill running, and started the circuit. The exercise circuit was comprised of chin-ups, rows, off-set push-ups, shrugs, upright rows, shoulder presses, bicep curls, triceps dips, squats, and lunges. Between each set of the exercises, I ran and/or sprinted for about one minute. After completing three "circuits" of these exercises and the runs, I walked on the treadmill for a 5 minute cool-down. The total time of the workout was 60 minutes, not including flexibility stretching, and I had the combined benefits of a strength, endurance, and cardio workout. As you can imagine after reading my version, you are only limited by your creativity in terms of the exercises, sets, repetitions, time, and cardio choices, among many others. You also have a nearly unlimited variety of options in how to conduct the



exercise sessions themselves. For instance, my family can tell you stories of doing circuit routines with me where when one person is running on the treadmill while the other is performing the exercises. When the person doing one set of exercises is finished, she/he swaps on the treadmill.

This workout still takes the same total amount of time, but has included two people. Other options have included doing group circuits out at the local track with calisthenics between bouts of running and sprinting.

Now, depending on your current fitness goals, using circuit training as your only system probably won't give you the best benefits for pure cardio or absolute strength (although, you would be surprised). For fire folks, however, the other advantage besides efficiency (time) is its potential for mimicking the pace of the fire ground and the development of those fitness components most related to our work. Think of both the fire ground and CPAT here. These are also the types of workouts you see advertised as "Boot Camp" workouts sold on DVDs around the globe.

Depending on your motivation, circuit training (and your own "boot camp") has its place and can be very effective. Train often, train hard, and be safe, but also call me if you have any questions (CFA 627-6363, ext. 243).

Bill DeFord

PT Instructor

**"Experience is
something you
don't get until just
after you need it."**

**By Alan V.
Brunacini**



NIMS/ICS Program

It has been awhile since the last NIMS report. The year-end report was submitted and showed that 6400 students attended the range of courses offered through the Connecticut Fire Academy. Additionally, we offered three opportunities for *ICS 300 and 400 Train-the-Trainer* to all the disciplines.

We are already on pace to break the record for the number of course offerings. Many disciplines and organizations are finding that the Connecticut Fire Academy instructors are well trained in methodology, adult learning and experienced users of the Incident Command System. Also, we may be proud that we make every effort to accommodate our customer's requests for timely delivery of these important courses.

Shortly, we will be offering Train-the-Trainer at all levels, to our contemporaries of law enforcement both local and state.

We are also purposing another Train-the-Trainer in ICS 300 and 400 in late April or early May. This will be in a central location. We will open this to all agencies and organizations.

Watch the listserv and website for more information.

We are also looking for guidance from the Federal government to train our Incident Management Team (IMT) Type 3 members. As it stands now, it appears there will be at least two courses needed. The *Unified Command for multi-agency and Catastrophic Incidents* (two day course) and the *Command and General Staff* (six day course) will likely be the courses. We are waiting for confirmation from the NIMS Integration Center (NIC).

Agencies are still booking *IS 700, ICS 100 and ICS 200* courses. From the first of the year through April, the Connecticut Fire Academy will be presenting courses just about every day somewhere in the state. We are now accepting requests for mid-May through the end of the year.

Many thanks have to go to all the instructors of the NIMS/ICS classes for the hard work and great effort they have shown.

On the surface these courses are not difficult, but in the climate they are presented historically, culturally, and politically. These folks have shown professionalism and represent the CFA well. You are all to be commended.

Finally, although my time at the Connecticut Fire Academy has been short, all of you have made me welcome as part of the Connecticut Fire Academy family. Many of you are aware that I have accepted the position of Director of Certification. Jackie Richards will be taking over as the NIMS/ICS Program Coordinator. She has been a great asset to the Connecticut Fire Academy and is well versed in the NIMS/ICS program. Welcome her. The extension for any NIMS/ICS concerns will continue to be extension 285.

Tom McGowan

NIMS/ICS Program Coordinator

"Big fire...big water; little fire... little water."

By Alan V. Brunacini

Office of the Director of Training

Congratulations to Tom McGowan for his appointment as Certification Director. His March 16th transfer from Training to Certification has resulted in the appointment of Jacklyn Kilby-Richards as NIMS Coordinator. Please join us in welcoming Jackie to the position and helping her acclimate to her new role.

Recruit Class #36 starts Monday March 6th with 56 students registered. While we think we are prepared for the increased class size, it is important that everyone pitch in and cooperate with any anomalies as they are discovered. We will do everything in our power to correct problems and ensure a positive and informative experience for our students.

Some Adjuncts voice concerns about the recruit class size. I am perplexed. We can train as many students as the career fire departments can send us. That is one of our jobs. While some may look at limitations (i.e. facility accommodations, increased student to teach ratios) I envision the opportunity to expand existing capabilities. Massachusetts Fire Academy provides a couple of alternative models about how to accommodate large numbers of recruit students (i.e. two shifts, overlapping modules).

The recruit class brings renewed attention to our live burn training. One of the features of our Instructor Meetings and Professional Development sessions is

The Day the Impossible Happened. This is a presentation by full-time Pennsylvania State Fire Training Instructors about the death of Captain Gallardy during live burn training to instruct Adjuncts in live burn instruction.

The plan is to use the information presented to review our existing procedures and enhance them if appropriate. The next and final instructor meeting and professional development session is Sunday, March 25. Any Adjunct that fails to attend at least one of the dates (the previous was February 26) will be suspended from active teaching. You may attend both (and we advocate that) but we can only remunerate you for one session.

As of today, I have had notice from only 5 individuals that are having difficulty in attending. Some of them are investigating swaps or other family arrangements in order to participate. Our workshop instructors (Carol Stiles, Albert Bassett, Jim Turner, John Oats and Tim Archer (PA) Tim Schafer (PA) report positive experiences and comments. Please take advantage of their time and subject matter expertise to learn more about their topics.

Our intent in the format change is to move away from the talking head presentations and toward empowering you to perform more comprehensive presentations. While it appears we accomplished that goal, next year will

bring additional refinements to our instructor development efforts.

During our instructor meetings we solicited comments, suggestions and general input so we can all be better at delivering services to our respective customers (we to you and you to our students). Thank you for your thoughtful and salient words. In answer to some of you:

- If funding is available, yes you can travel out-of-state for professional development.
- Curriculum development is ongoing but not rigorous.
- Some new/revised subjects currently in development are: surface water awareness and operational, pneumatic rescue, new vehicle technology, Fire Service Instructor I & II, Fire Officer III, Emergency Vehicle Ops, Land Based Firefighters who respond to Marine Vessel Fires and Pump Operator
- If tools or equipment are broken or unavailable use the yellow repair ticket procedure to have it fixed/replaced.
- We are investigating a reduced price for Adjuncts to attend guest speaker programs.
- Some program instructor cadres *do* meet to discuss changes in their courses. Others should contact their

respective Program Managers to establish a group meeting to discuss relevant program specific issues.

I was rewarded to learn that at least one of you took advantage of the leadership development complimentary behavioral profile the very day of our meeting. Perhaps the instructor couldn't sleep after such a full day. I trust that each of you will take advantage of this gracious offer (from our facilitator) to establish a partial view of your own "operating style".

Perhaps the most significant thing happening during the Legislative session is House Bill 6338. It is frequently referred to as "*the fire training bill*". It has enjoyed favorable response from Legislators and fire officers. What it is intended to accomplish is fund the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control to provide tuition free access to firefighter I and II, Recruit program, Fire Service Instructor I and Fire Officer I from the Connecticut Fire Academy and the Regional Fire Schools.

With everyone on board, this might just happen this time. Good luck to all our students who will profit from such unfettered access to workforce development. We know that volunteer and career fire department Chiefs and their municipal officials will directly benefit from the elimination of entry level tuition charges.

Adam D Piskura
Adam D. Piskura, Director

 **State of Connecticut**

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We're on the Web!
at: www.ct.gov/cfpc

Agency Mission

To prevent or mitigate the effects of fire and disasters, either natural or manmade, on the citizens of the State of Connecticut. This objective shall be accomplished through the development and delivery of state-of-the-art educational programs designed to meet nationally recognized standards, certification of individuals to such standards and maintenance of up-to-date resources for use by fire service personnel, public educators and other first responders.