

THE INSTRUCTOR'S DISPATCH



Commission on Fire Prevention and Control
Connecticut Fire Academy



Recruit Firefighter Class # 36

On September 20th, the Connecticut Fire Academy graduated Recruit Class # 36. The class consisted of thirty-two career firefighters representing ten Connecticut fire departments.

The Connecticut Firefighters Pipe and Drum Band, accompanied by the Connecticut Statewide Honor Guard ushered the recruits onto the Training Ground at the Connecticut Fire Academy.

Fire Chief Ron Natrass delivered the keynote remarks to the class, while Recruit Firefighter Nicola Tamburro, of the Stamford F.D. acted as the class spokesman.

After the ceremony, a reception was held.

Members of Recruit Class # 36:

Danbury F.D.

Nicholas Cabral
Robert Hanson
Kyle Houser

East Hartford F.D.

Michael Desilet

Fairfield F.D.

Finn MacDaniel
Michael Schumann

Manchester F.D.

Richard Antonelli
Shawn Cervera

Robert Turkington

Milford F.D.

Eric Mohr
Daniel Talaniec

Norwich F.D.

Andrew Beliveau
Dennis Blanchard

Southington F.D.

Eric Chase
Richard Molleur

Stamford F.D.

Marc Breault
Jonathan Brenes



Recruit Class # 36 accompanied by the Connecticut Statewide Honor Guard along with the Pipe and Drum Band.

Kevin Connell
Dan Demasi
Don Huot
Peter Lyden
Brian Malloy
Robert Procaccini
Shawn Sasser
Ryan Szirmay
Nicola Tamburro
Joseph Terenzio
Stratford F.D.
Michael Apatow
Douglas Ashe
Adam Hittinger
Willimantic F.D.
Colin Martin
Peter Santiago

We would like to take this time to thank all of the instructors who were assigned to this program for a job well done!

Volume 9 Issue 9
September, 2006

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Tom McGowan New Contact Person for NIMS and ICS Course Offerings

Tom McGowan is the new contact person for the NIMS and ICS course offerings. Tom's position as NIMS/ICS coordinator is to schedule classes and instructors for all NIMS /ICS related courses. Once the class is completed, packets are returned to him for the processing of certificates at the state and Federal level. Additionally, exams for the courses are processed for review and sent to Emmitsburg, MD for correction before Federal certificates are issued. Other responsibilities include the monitoring of any updates from the NIMS Integration Center (NIC) and DEMHS, maintaining inventories of NIMS/ICS related classroom materials, and reporting to the Director of Training and the State Fire Administrator. Tom's position is funded by DEMHS and is durational. He can be reached at 860-627-6363 ext. #285 or you can email Tom at:

thom.mcgowan@po.state.ct.us.

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 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 is formerly a teacher with an Undergraduate Degree in Physical Education and Minor in Special Education. He has a Master of Education in Elementary School Administration and is currently working towards his second Master of Education in Early Childhood Education at Westfield State College. Tom is a three term School Committee Member in East Longmeadow. Tom is married and has four children.



Tom McGowan

"Only the mediocre are always at their best".

-Jean Giraudoux (1882-1944)

Adjunct Instructor's Assignment Posting

In the January Instructor Meetings, we introduced and described a new method for advertising and filling teaching assignments based on electronic mail.

While we have gone to great lengths to test the system, we do expect there to be some minor 'glitches' during the introduction and ramp up of the new system.

To assist you with basic use of the automated email system, please follow steps listed:

Step 1: Set up a folder for letters from the Academy

Set up a folder on your local hard drive to store the attachments that you receive requesting instructors. To do this:

1. Click on the "Start" button in the lower left hand corner of the screen. A window should open that includes a number of items; in the upper right quadrant you should see an item labeled "My Computer".

2. Click on the item labeled "My Computer." A window should open showing a number of items. In the pane on the right hand side should be an icon depicting your local disk – your "c" drive.

3. Double-click the "c" drive item. A window should open showing the contents of the drive. At the top of the window should be a menu bar – the leftmost item

on the menu bar should be labeled "File".

4. Click on the "File" item. A list of available functions should drop down – one of which is "New".

5. Click on the "New" item. A list of options should drop down, one of which is "Folder".

6. Click on the "Folder" option. At the BOTTOM of the list in the right-hand pane a new item – named "New Folder" – should appear.

7. Right click on the "New Folder" item. A list of options should open; click on the "Rename" option. Doing so will "open" the "New Folder" item so that you can key in a new name.

Rename the folder "Instructor Letters". Hit the "Enter" key to make the new name "take".

Step 2: Add the Academy "address" to your email address book

The specific steps involved in adding an entry to your email address book depends upon the email system. The address to be added is cfta.db.mailmgr@po.state.ct.us; the entry should be named CTFADBMailMgr.



Step 3: What to do when you get a solicitation

When you get a solicitation email with a Word document attached to it, save the attachment into the "Instructor Letters" folder you created. (The process for saving attachments depends upon the email system that you are using.)

Open the document and fill it out; then SAVE it and close it. Then go back to the email and Reply to it; make sure you attach the document that you filled in and saved in the "Instructor Letters" folder to the reply. Send the reply and the attachment.

The attachment you return is read by the CFA automated email system. If you wish to add information, or to make a comment, you may do so by typing your message into the body of the reply itself; that text will be made available to the Program Manager by the automated email system.

If you attempt to modify the attachment itself and send it back by replying to the solicitation email, most (if not all) email systems will strip the attachment from the reply before returning it to the sender – that is, the automated email system will get the reply but no attachment.

Letter to the Staff and Adjuncts from Fred Piechota, Director of Certification

An Open Letter to the staff and adjunct faculty of the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control and Connecticut Fire Academy from Director of Certification Fred Piechota:

On September 11, 2006, the Board of Directors of the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications extended to me an offer to assume the position of Accreditation Manager of the Pro Board and Chairman of its Committee on Accreditation.

That position affords an opportunity for me to have a real and meaningful impact upon the Fire Service Certification programs not

only of Connecticut's firefighters, but those of the entire fire service of North America and beyond as well.

It is in my mind the pinnacle of progression within the fire service certification field and would be a fitting way for me to conclude my fire service career.

Consequently, it is my intention to retire from full-time state service on November 1, 2006.

My time spent with the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control has been the highlight



of my professional career. I am extremely grateful to each of you for the cooperation and support that has been shown to me.

I thank you all and extend my best wishes to you and all of Connecticut's fire service.

Fire Service Analyst (Director of Certification) Position

Greetings from Human Resources!

As you may or may not be aware, many positions in State Government are classified/competitive and require qualified applicants to have taken and passed a state administered examination.

This can be a confusing process for those who are not familiar with the state examination and/or recruitment process.

For example, the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) recently announced the Fire Service Analyst (Director of Certification) Exam.

To be qualified for the position of Fire Service Analyst (Director of Certification) you must have taken and passed the state administered Fire Service Analyst Examination mentioned above.

The deadline to apply for this exam is October 25, 2006.

Please visit the DAS website at <http://www.das.state.ct.us/exam> for a list of current examinations

and job postings

If you have any questions about the state examination and/or recruitment process, please do not hesitate to contact me at (860) 713-5166.

Respectfully,

Carolyn Underwood
Human Resources Representative
DAS / Small Agency Resource Team

(See special Application/Examination Procedure on page 5)

EXAMINATION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FIRE SERVICE ANALYST

ANNUAL \$57,971 SALARY APPLICATION CLOSING EXAM
SALARY: \$72,698 GROUP: AR 24 DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2006 NO: 062150CJR
SPECIAL APPLICATION AND EXAMINATION INSTRUCTIONS APPEAR BELOW

PURPOSE OF CLASS: In the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, Administration this class is accountable for performing as a specialist in developing and administering statewide fire certification examinations.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED

IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ADMITTANCE INTO THIS EXAMINATION, YOU MUST INDICATE ON YOUR APPLICATION THAT YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING BY OCTOBER 25, 2006:

GENERAL EXPERIENCE: Seven years' experience in education and testing.

SPECIAL EXPERIENCE: One year of the General Experience must have been in test development of firefighting procedures and techniques at the level of Trainer.

SUBSTITUTIONS ALLOWED: (1) College training may be substituted for the General Experience on the basis of fifteen semester hours equaling one-half year of experience to a maximum of four years for a Bachelor's degree. (2) A Master's degree in a closely related field may be substituted for one additional year of the General Experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Incumbents in this class may be required to travel.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: Considerable knowledge of modern firefighting procedures and techniques including state fire regulations; considerable knowledge of firefighter qualifications and certifications and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Professional Qualification Standards; considerable knowledge of principles and techniques of test item development and administration; interpersonal skills; oral and written communication skills; ability to evaluate practical skills in firefighting techniques.

THE EXAMINATION WILL BE COMPOSED OF:	PART	WEIGHT
	EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING	100%

APPLICATION/EXAMINATION PROCEDURE

APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT: (1) Completed Application Form (PLD-1)
 (2) Supplemental Examination Materials (see instructions below)

In order to be considered for admittance into this examination, you must complete all parts of the examination application (PLD-1) detailing how you meet the minimum experience and training requirements stated above AND complete the required examination materials as detailed below. Applicants who do not submit the required application and examination materials by the closing date will not be admitted into the examination and will not have the right to appeal this decision. Resumes and/or vitas will not substitute for the required application form or for the required examination materials.

EXAMINATION INSTRUCTIONS: **Section 1.** For each job (maximum of three) which you feel has best prepared you for the job of Fire Service Analyst, include a 1-2 page (typed or printed) description detailing your duties and responsibilities. (Applicants serving provisionally or temporarily in the title of Fire Service Analyst cannot include this as one of the three jobs.) Each job description should begin on a separate page and begin with your job title, company name and location, dates of employment, and number of hours worked per week. This should be followed by a description of your duties and responsibilities organized and formatted around the numbered items that follow. (1) Experience in modern firefighting procedures and techniques. Describe in detail the specific responsibilities and/or experiences that you have had that would demonstrate your knowledge of firefighting procedures and techniques. Also, describe any experience that you've had that would demonstrate that you have knowledge of NFPA standards and/or certifications. (2) Experience developing, administering and evaluating examinations. Describe what examinations you have developed, general information about the content of those examinations, particularly exams related to firefighting, as well as the type of examinations (i.e. written multiple-choice, practical/performance, essay, oral, etc.). Make sure you describe your role in the process (oversaw a team of professionals, worked independently, worked as part of a team of professionals, functioned as a trainee/assistant). Describe your experience conducting job analysis, developing test items, evaluating examinations as well as exam validation experience. Describe your experience monitoring practical/performance exams. Make sure to include a brief description of the exam events/tasks. (3) Interpersonal/oral communication experience. Identify types of oral presentations you've given, specifying the target audience and number of attendees. Describe your experience providing technical assistance to fire service groups, conducting training sessions, communicating needs to outside contractors, communicating with representatives of media and/or municipalities and any experience dealing with difficult individuals. **Section 2.** On a separate page, include a list of degrees, certifications, licenses and courses that you have completed which have prepared you for the job. **Important Notes:** (1) Make certain both your application form and your examination materials are complete and separate documents not referencing the other, as your application form and supplemental examination materials may be separated during the scoring process. (2) Examination materials should be clearly marked as such and each page should contain the examination title, exam number and your social security number (do not include your name). (3) Do not include materials other than those requested above. (4) Your examination will only be scored if you meet the minimum experience and training requirements outlined above and your PLD-1 and examination materials are date stamped by DAS/Human Resources or postmarked by October 25, 2006. (5) Mail applications/examination materials to DAS/Human Resources, Room 422, State Office Building, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1658 (**Secure Fax #860-622-2875**). The preferred method of submitting application/examination materials is via fax. When faxing materials, keep a copy of your completed application/examination materials and the fax transmittal receipt for your records. Do not mail a copy of your application form and exam materials if you have faxed the materials. (6) Examination scores will be mailed by November 28, 2006. (7) A separate application/examination package must be submitted for each exam you are applying for.

FORMS: Application forms (PLD-1) and exam announcements are available from the Department of Administrative Services (<http://www.das.state.ct.us/exam>; 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford) and at the Offices of the Connecticut State Job Centers.

National Fire Academy Classes

Please read carefully. The greatest impacting is in the second and last paragraph.

Starting in Fiscal Year 2008 (for classes starting in October, 2007), we will institute a blanket policy that applicants for ALL National Fire Academy Resident Courses must complete the Q-462 and Q-463 classes on-line courses.

For years, applicants were admitted to National Fire Academy classes with little dependence on prerequisite training. As our courses become shorter or more intense, prerequisite competence in some areas will become critical to student success.

The first classes with emerging issues are R-317 / R-821 (Command & General Staff Functions in the Incident Command System) and R-227 / R-827 (Fire Protection Systems for Incident Commanders) which require substantial understanding of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Shortly there will be two more classes (updates of EMS- Special Operations and Command & Control of Fire Department Operations at Natural & Man-Made Disasters) with equally rigorous prerequisite NIMS training.

To help everyone comply with NIMS requirements, we produced on-line and handoff classes to meet the NIMS-100 and NIMS-200 competencies. Other federal agencies and many State partners have also developed and delivered similar courses.

Our Admissions Office is now receiving applications with different titled courses listed in Box 10 as having met the prerequisites. Sometimes, it is easy (Q-462 or 463); other titles are more difficult to verify (NIMS update). To help speed the application and selection process, we developed a list of equivalent courses from the Coast Guard, Department of Agriculture and others.

Where we run into problems is when an applicant lists a course that was developed or delivered locally. Without knowing the objectives, outcomes and other key facts about the course, we cannot ensure that the student will be ready to participate in the class.

Under these circumstances, we may call asking for information about one or another of your

courses; I just ask that you understand. We're not "checking up;" we just want to make sure that students have the skills they need to succeed when they get here. Once we know that a course meets the NIMS

requirements, we will add that title to our list and we won't need to bother you again.

Taking the longer view, starting in Fiscal Year 2008 (for classes starting in October, 2007), we will institute a blanket policy that applicants for ALL National Fire Academy Resident Courses must complete the Q-462 and Q-463 classes on-line courses.

Even if the applicant has completed other NIMS training, the hour spent on the refresher will be time well spent for all concerned. It's one way to ensure keeping everyone up to speed.

"If I had been present at creation, I would have given some useful hints".

-Alfonso the Wise (1221-1284)



Annual Memorial Service at the Connecticut Fire Academy

The Connecticut State Firefighters Association Memorial Foundation will hold its 4th Annual Memorial Service at the Connecticut Fire Academy on Sunday, October 15th beginning at 2:00 PM.

Those planning to attend should RSVP to Yvonne Lewis at (860) 627-6363 Ext. 231 no later than October 6, 2006.

The Memorial Foundation is also seeking the assistance of fire departments statewide to review and verify the historical line-of-duty death information that is posted by department. In the event any discrepancies are noted, you

are asked to notify the Foundation to ensure all of those who paid the supreme sacrifice are appropriately honored.

The information may be viewed on the Commission's web site by visiting:

<http://www.ct.gov/cfpc/cwp/view.asp?a=1069&q=249384> and click on the CT Fallen Firefighter Line of Duty Death Listing. To download an application to submit a name of a deceased firefighter for consideration of being honored as a LODD, click on the CT Line of Duty Death Submission Form.

Questions concerning this



Firefighter Memorial

initiative may be directed to Jeff Morrisette, State Fire Administrator at: jeff.morrisette@po.state.ct.us or (860) 627-6363 Ext. 230.

Thank you for your assistance. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, October 15th!

Stratford Fire Department Seeking Information

The Stratford Fire Department is looking for information on Emergency Operation Centers.

- What special equipment do you have in your EOC?
- Have you done any sort of special training?
- Who can open your EOC?

- What protocols /policies - procedures?

Please contact:

Deputy Chief John Cybart
Stratford Fire Department
203-385-4071

"The only reason some people get lost in thought is because it's unfamiliar territory".

-Paul Fix

Connecticut State Firefighters

Association Memorial Foundation

Annual Memorial Service

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2006 2:00 PM

Connecticut Fire Academy

RSVP to Yvonne Lewis at
860-627-6363 Ext. 231 no later than October 6, 2006

SAVE THE DATE

Please consider making a tax deductible donation and return this portion with your check to:
**Connecticut State Firefighters Association Memorial Foundation 34 Perimeter Road,
Windsor Locks, CT 06096**

Please make your check payable to:

Connecticut State Firefighters Association Memorial Foundation

DONATION: \$ _____

DATE: _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

Contact Person _____

Phone _____

The Connecticut State Firefighters Association Memorial Foundation is a non-profit project 501 (c) (3), 509 (a) (1) under the National Heritage Foundation and shares its tax status (Tax Identification Number 58-2085326)

Incident Commander Simulation Software

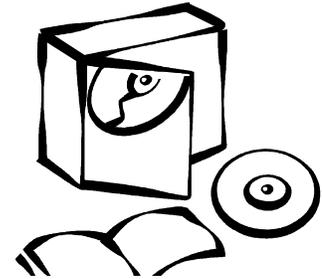
Incident Commander is a PC-based software simulation that models real-world situations within a community, allowing for training at the management level for a critical incident.

This simulation offers a realistic representation of crisis management with scenarios, time delays and resource limitations all set in the arena of the players' local region.

Focusing on smaller (less than 500,000 residents) jurisdictions, players can experience a school hostage situation; a natural disaster and a possible terrorism incident, while you fill the shoes of the "incident commander" and his or her Operations team.

Multiple simultaneous roles for player interaction will be available allowing independent action in any role or as a part of a group of players over the Internet or on a local network. Solo play is also possible.

Register to receive Incident Commander - available soon free of charge to all authorized public safety agencies! Simply email register@incidentcommander.net <<mailto:register@incidentcommander.net>> and include your name, job title, organization, work address, work phone number, work email, and badge number if applicable.



"There is more to life than increasing its speed".

-Mahatma Gandhi

Appointment of Bill Higgins to the Durational Position of Fire Service Planning Analyst

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Bill Higgins to the durational position of Fire Service Planning Analyst in support of the Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association State Fire Rescue Disaster Response Plan.



While Bill will be the primary staffer for this project, he will be supported by Kerry Flaherty who recently left DEMHS as the state Director of Emergency Management.

Together, we expect Bill and Kerry will average approximately 40 hours per week supporting the Plan in a variety of research and planning functions.

The CT Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security has made federal funds available for this initiative.

Please extend to both Bill and Kerry your support and cooperation.

Jeffrey Morrissette

State Fire Administrator

DAS Procurement Training

Representatives from DAS Procurement will visit the Academy on Friday, October 20th at 1:30 p.m.

They will provide, for those interested, an overview of state procurement regulations. In addition to an update on how new ethics rules apply in some scenarios.

I would encourage all employees involved **anywhere** in the procurement chain (from initiating a purchase requisition to putting something out to bid) to attend.

If anyone has any questions they would like to supply in advance of the training, please send them to me by email at: jeffrey.morrisette@po.state.ct.us and I will forward them on.

That way the presentation may be built around issues of importance to you.

Jeffrey Morrisette

State Fire Administrator

The Appointment for Superintendent of the Emergency Management Institute

FEMA Director Dave Paulison, has announced the appointment for Superintendent of the Emergency Management Institute will be the National Fire Programs Division Director, Dr. Cortez Lawrence, with the effective date of October 1st, 2006.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Lawrence on his selection as the EMI Superintendent, wishing him every success as he joins an outstanding organization.

All of us collectively look forward to working together in helping America's Emergency Managers and Fire Service in their effort to better prepare the Nation in such volatile times.



"He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I ever met."

-Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865)

The Remaining Upcoming Seminars for 2006

The Connecticut Fire Academy proudly announces the remaining 2006 Fire Ground Seminar Series. This initiative will bring renowned nationally known speakers to Connecticut. Attendees of previous presentations this year report that the seminars were a huge success.

The remaining speakers promise to be just as exciting and add to the knowledge of attendees.

On Friday, October 13, 2006
Developing Fireground Decision-Making Skills Presented by: Robert Halton Chief (ret), Editor in Chief Fire Engineering

On Friday, November 3, 2006
Firefighter Close Calls
Speaker: Billy Goldfeder, Battalion Chief

On Friday, December 1, 2006
The Art of Reading Smoke
Speaker: Dave Dodson, Response Solutions, LLS

Look for an announcement soon detailing the 2007 Seminar Series.

The Fiscal Year 2006 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants

The application period for the Fiscal Year 2006 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants will open within the forthcoming weeks. As in the past, the application period will be open for at least 30 days.

Notification of the official application start date will be posted on the www.firegrantsupport.com website as well as distributed through this e-newsletter. Thank you.

"Life is like playing a violin in public and learning the instrument as one goes on."

-Samuel Butler (1835-1902)

The Stratford Fire Department Thanks Fire Departments and Firefighters

The Stratford Fire Department would like to thank the many Fire Departments and Firefighters who have offered their condolences and/or services to us following the line of duty death of Firefighter Michael Reilly.

It shows what the Fire Service is really about and it is greatly appreciated.

Chief Ron Natrass



Health and Fitness

No one, including me, can imagine what it is like to commit yourself to the healthy habits of living and yet still find yourself experiencing a serious medical circumstance unknown to those seemingly less fit around you. Besides the obvious trauma and fear, it has to be profoundly unsettling and perplexing for the individual, and yet no one else escapes the thinking and talking about it either, however less seriously they are connected to it. Unfortunately, we all have the stories. Personally, I have seen it more than I would like to remember: the guy on my job, now retired after several heart attacks in his young thirties; the guy from my former job, a semi-pro athlete in both wrestling (Olympic) and football who was in his late 20's; Jim Fixx, the running guru, who died of a heart attack while out on a run; or, more recently, our good friend at the Academy who is a model of consistency with his training, yet barely escaped the inevitable end that the fire business threatened him with through a solid career in Hartford. These stories can make you wonder "Why bother?"

We know that there are no guarantees or warranties – ultimately, there is an inherent mystery to all of it, and we cannot get beyond that no matter how hard we try. But can we?

Not completely, but the academic answers are plentiful, and positive, and that is the best that we will get. Dr. Ralph Paffenbarger is one of those pioneers who have provided us with hope and answers through research. He was involved with the College Alumni Health Study (the Harvard Study) where they confirmed “. . . physically active people have a lower risk of coronary heart disease and live longer”. Another researcher of significant note is Dr. Kenneth Cooper, of the Cooper Institute, who espouses the philosophy that “It is easier to maintain good health through proper exercise, diet, and emotional balance than to regain it once lost.” Lastly, there is Dr. M.B. “Bud” Seretean, who is not a researcher at all, other than through his life experiences. He graduated from Oklahoma State University in 1949 and spent almost 30 years achieving financial success at the expense of his health. He then “. . . began making positive health choices concerning nutrition, physical activity, and stress management.” (From OSU print material.) He then went on to make generous contributions to the university, specifically through the Seretean Wellness Center where our PT instructors have earned one of their Fire Department Fitness Instructor certifications.



All three of these researchers, among many others, have been proven right about the importance of making healthy choices, and have been a part of a movement to create a culture of health and well-being over the past 50 years. That is something to take stock in, no matter what your situation.

As far as our friend is concerned, he is doing fine. Despite the fact that he is no more settled with the unanswerable questions than anyone else, he is thankful as heck, and working his way back. In fact, his attributes to get there are a suitable conclusion worth reflecting on for ourselves: he is here today only because of his healthy habits of living. Hands down, from anyone in the know, including his new best friend the cardiologist, he would not be here otherwise. He has defied his genetics, without any family history to prepare him for it, to tell us about it.

(Cont'd on page 10)

Health and Fitness (Cont'd)

He is strong and disciplined, and no one will have to teach him how to take care of himself now, because he has already done it so, religiously.

The end of the happy story is that there is no better example of the way it ought to be, despite the mysteries of it all, than what we have in him.

Bill DeFord

PT Instructor

"It is sometimes expedient to forget who we are."

-Publius Syrus (c.42B.C.)

Course Offering- Open Seats Remain

The Enfield Fire Training Association in conjunction with the Connecticut Fire Academy is hosting two programs:

☑ 40 hour EPA Hazardous Materials Tech. to be held on the following dates: October 7 & 8, October 21 & 22, November 11, 2006 at the Enfield Fire Station No. 1, Phoenix Ave. Enfield from 08:30 to 16:00 hours. Cost of the class is free and seats are still available.

☑ Fire Service Instructor 1 to be held on the following dates: Sundays October 15, 22, 29, November 5, 19 at the Shaker Pines Fire Department, 37 Bacon Rd. Enfield from 08:30 to 16:30 (successful completion of this class will allow you to sit for written certification). Cost of the class is \$225.00 which does not include text, but can be purchased through the Academy bookstore. Seats are still available.

For reservations and information contact Capt. John Alexander at 749-8344 or email: juvfire@hotmail.com or Deputy Chief Paul Januzewski at 741-3114

"How little you know about the age you live in if you think that honey is sweeter than cash in hand".

-Ovid (43? B.C.-A.D. 18)

Office of the Director of Training

The impact of FEMA Director David Paulison continues to benefit the fire service. He has recently appointed Dr. Cortez Lawrence as Director of the Emergency Management Institute (EMI). That is the institution that shares the National Fire Academy campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Cortez is a Marine and former career firefighter from Louisiana before commencing his job as Director of National Programs (curriculum development) for the National Fire Academy (NFA).

His being appointed as Director of EMI will contribute to the elimination of duplicate programs/courses and foster a more mutually supportive relationship between EMI and the NFA. FEMA Director David Paulison has placed another firefighter into the bureaucrats nest that has the best interest of firefighters in mind – not the continuation of policies and programs that do nothing. Congratulations again to David Paulison for not forgetting those who actually get the job done.

Speaking of getting the job done, please join me in wishing Fred Piechota well in his new adventure as Accreditation Manager of the Pro Board and Chairman of its Committee on Accreditation.

His experiences at the state level (both in Massachusetts and Connecticut) will help him and the entire fire service community understand the impact and benefits of the accreditation process.

Consequently, Fred's position as Director of Certification needs to be filled. Anyone interested in this position should visit the Department of Administrative Services website www.das.state.ct.us/exam or contact our agency Human Resources Representative: Carolyn Underwood at 860-713-5166. Please refer to Carolyn's article on page 4.

The Connecticut Fire Academy continues to interview candidates for adjunct instructor every Wednesday at the Academy. There are two sessions one at 1:00 p.m. and the second at 2:30 p.m.. Any current adjunct is welcome to participate in the interview process. Simply contact Elaine Mancino at 860-627-6363 (Ext. 226), Mark Lewandowski (Ext. 240) or me (Ext. 272) to let us know that you will be here. While there is no remuneration for participation, you will personally gain from the experience. It also allows a glimpse of the caliber of future Connecticut Fire Academy instructors.

In a collaborative effort with Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Wildland Firefighting Division we are co-sponsoring a one day ISO rating workshop on November 2nd. Please watch for additional details.

The extension of our Recruit Firefighter program to 14 weeks in the fall of 2007 is the result of several actions. Some receiving career Fire Chiefs were concerned that our product did not have sufficient skills to perform efficiently on the fire ground. Consequently, the program will be expanded to include an operations day EVERY week. In that manner, the students will commence training in the way that they will fight fires – as a team arriving on apparatus. Tools and equipment must come from where they arrive on an emergency scene – not the fire station tool crib. Recently radio operations were incorporated into the Training program. This is part of the continuing effort to make it real. Brian Hurst has constructed some great scenarios where the reality of the situation may cause one to weep. If the simulation can do that, we are accurately replicating the emotions and distress of a trapped firefighter.

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The point of the added operations days is to increase student rotations so that they gain additional practice. Their experiences here will serve them well on the fire ground when they return to their municipality. It will also provide for additional time to chart individual student's progress and report it to their department's Training Officer and Fire Chief, something we have not done timely or with consistency in the past.

While the expansion from 10 weeks two days to 14 weeks will give us some needed space for practice, it is not an opportunity to add subjects to the curriculum, nor will it eliminate our current night classes (i.e. NIMS 100 & 200, sexual harassment). Instead, we are completing the process that the ten week program starts. Churning out a firefighter capable of effecting fire ground and emergency scene evolutions completely, efficiently and safely under supervision of a Lieutenant or Captain.

Together we are developing a capable workforce for the future.

Adam D. Piskura
Director of Training

Recognizing Members of our Staff

John Oates, CFA Adjunct wrote recognizing Tony Leca and Ian Tenney for their performance acting as Lead Instructor/Program Coordinators for Recruit Firefighter Training program #36. He wrote "With very little preparation, Instructors Leca and Tenney have done an outstanding job. Their leadership is evident in the attitude and performance of the students, as well as the execution of each training day."

He also wrote that having a permanent lead instructor provides the students with a familiar face each day.

This provides for continuity of learning, consistent development of people, early recognition of problems, not to mention better organization and execution.

Thank you and congratulation to Ian and Tony and to all the instructors that made Recruit Class #36 so successful!

Special Note: On October 4, 2006, Ian and Tony's efforts were formally recognized with the receipt of a Special Achievement Award presented during the Connecticut Fire Department Instructors' Association Annual Dinner Meeting.

Jeffrey Morrisette
State Fire Administrator

**Commission on Fire
Prevention and Control
Connecticut Fire Academy**

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