

# THE INSTRUCTOR'S DISPATCH



Commission on Fire Prevention and Control  
Connecticut Fire Academy



## Introduction to the Fire Service Graduation Class # 19

On June 28, 2006, the Connecticut Fire Academy graduated its nineteenth (19) Introduction to the Fire Service Class. The class consisted of forty-three (43) kids representing sixteen (16) Connecticut Fire Departments.

The class was ushered onto the Training Ground by William Seward at the Connecticut Fire Academy. Kaitlyn Poitras, Public Information Officer acted as the class spokesperson. After the ceremony, a reception was held.

### Members of Class # 19:

#### Broad Brook F.D.

Nathan Arrowsmith  
Erik St. Germain

#### Colebrook F.D.

Richard Sullivan  
Stephanie Thibault

Amanda Winn

#### Derby Co. # 4 F.D.

Adam Biggs

#### East Brooklyn F.D.

Shayna Atsales  
Kyle Kisner

#### Griswold F.D.

Christopher Brunelle  
Jayson Hebert  
Zachary King  
Kaitlyn Poitras

#### Mohegan F.D.

James Reese

#### Norfolk F.D.

John Better  
Adam Marchi  
Tony Peterson  
Brianna Whalen

#### North Branford F.D.

Christopher Carboni

#### Old Mystic F.D.

Brandon Gauthier  
Craig Mateyov, Jr.

#### Old Saybrook F.D.

Holland Ahern  
Anthony Ruitto

#### Redding Ridge F.D.

David Curtis  
Derick Kitson

#### Southbury F.D.

Sean Littleton  
Kyle Mahaffey

#### Southend F.D.

Rachael Hart  
Ryan Walton



Introduction to the Fire Service Class # 19

#### Westbrook F.D.

Jeremy Buck

#### West Redding F.D.

Christopher Berry  
Gannon Herbert  
Dan Korin

T.J Landwehr

Malcom Migel

#### Willington Hill F.D.

Peter Trueb

#### Windsor F.D.

Samuel P. Savelli  
Daniel Yeomans

#### Windsor Locks F.D.

Samantha Blais  
Rob Magleora

#### Winsted F.D.

Ki Choi  
Allyce Liutermoza  
Brian Viel  
William Viel

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## Introduction to the Fire Service Graduation Class # 20

### Channel 3 Coverage

Volunteer fire departments statewide have struggled to find enough members, but officials hope a summer camp will help fill the void. When Glastonbury junior firefighter Sean Matthews reported for five days at the State Fire Academy, he was claustrophobic and wouldn't dream of climbing through the facility's training maze. Now, he's learned that it's no big deal. "They push you to your limit, they knew I could do it, they pushed me through it, they made me do it," Matthews said.

Channel 3 Eyewitness News reporter Eric Parker reported more than 40 teenagers are spending five days and nights at the Academy this week learning the necessary skills for the role of firefighter. In many cases, the students learn responsibilities they can't even perform at a fire until they turn 18.

The camp offers training in tasks beyond running into a burning building. Essex volunteer firefighter Matt Boulem is the public information officer, and his job is to deal with reporters. "I've gotten a lot more confident since I've been here," Boulem said. The goal is to give the kids some skills they can use when they get back to their department, but also to give them some skills they want to use for the rest of their life.

"We can do an awful lot of training that an individual department cannot do," said Carlo Piacentini, an instructor at the camp. "They'll come in and do it, and when they're out of here in five days, they're beaming and can't wait to do it when they turn 18."

The summer camp was started 10 years ago and has graduated nearly 1,000 cadets. The students attend the Academy for free thanks to sponsorships from local departments.

### Graduation

On July 9, 2006, the Connecticut Fire Academy graduated its twentieth (20) Introduction to the Fire Service Class. The class consisted of forty-three (43) kids representing nineteen (19) Connecticut Fire Departments.

The class was ushered onto the Training Ground by Ian Tenney at the Connecticut Fire Academy. Matthew Boulem, Public Information Officer acted as the class spokesperson. After the ceremony, a reception was held.

### Members of Class # 19:

**Avon F.D.**  
Anthony Mears  
Lauren Papa  
Thomas Reller  
**Bethel F.D.**  
Todd Angell  
Ben Gerstenmaier



Introduction to the Fire Service Class # 20

### **Branford F.D.**

Jake Cudgma  
Chris Mullen

### **Colchester F.D.**

Ian Emerling  
Danny Fitzgerald

### **Crystal Lake F.D.**

Shane Lamb

### **Derby F.D.**

Thomas Biggs

### **Essex F.D.**

Brianne Boulem  
Matthew Boulem  
Michael Dunn  
Bryan Mucke

### **Trenton Rodriguez**

### **Flander F.D.**

Peter Levanti

### **Gales Ferry F.D.**

Justin Meyers  
Alex Sawicki  
Stephen Weiss

### **Glastonbury F.D.**

Sean Matthews  
Ryan Watras

### **Hartford F.D.**

Kenneth Moran

### **Hazardville F.D.**

Jake Lake  
Mike Sheehan

### **Litchfield F.D.**

Greg Rein  
Ryan Walton

### **Mortlake F.D.**

William Skene

### **Niantic F.D.**

Thomas Redden  
Frank Summers

### **North Farms F.D.**

Jennifer Ferrari

### **Northfield F.D.**

Kimberly Berry  
Rebecca Legendre

### **Oakdale F.D.**

Maxwell Anderson  
Duane Kelley

### **S. Windsor F.D.**

Kevin Manuck  
C.J. Myska

### **Willington F.D.**

Rob Magleora  
Joshua Strickland

### **Winsted F.D.**

Joshua Harris  
Nicholas Sartirana  
Courtney Toomey

## Protecting our Students

Recently, we had a student get injured during a vehicle extrication class. He was picking up a door that had been removed from a vehicle so that it could be placed inside the vehicle when he received a laceration on his forearm. The laceration was severe enough to require seven stitches. When asked how badly his turnout coat was damaged by this sharp car part he indicated that he was not wearing his coat at the time. He then explained that the instructor had told the class that they could take off their coats just prior to his accident because they were just cleaning up and it was hot out.

This indicates that the instructor was concerned for his students' well being and that he wanted to protect them from the adverse effects of the weather. Unfortunately, the action taken to prevent one problem ultimately resulted in a student injury that

required medical treatment. Most of us would not instruct anyone to pick up car parts that had been removed from a car during an extrication class without wearing the proper protective gear and we would hope that the students would know better than to do this, but as this example brings to light, not all of our students will recognize the hazard.

As instructors, we need to recognize that this can happen during our classes and more closely monitor student activity during the clean up phase of the program. If you are going to allow the students to lower the level of protective gear, please make sure you specify when and for what activities this applies.



If the possibility of injury is still present than the proper level of protective gear must be maintained. If the weather conditions are a concern than it is better to give the students a break where they can gear down, seek shade, and hydrate. They can then gear up to the proper level to complete the clean up.

Please remember that your responsibility to maintain a safe training environment continues until the clean-up is finished and all equipment returned to service.

*Jim Carroll*

Program Manager

"There aren't any "time outs" on the fireground...the only way the IC can put the fire in the penalty box is to put it out."

By Alan V. Brunacini

## Outstanding work with the June Fire School

During June 27th Commission on Fire Prevention and Control monthly meeting, Commissioner Johnson (Chief of West Haven) made a motion to recognize the Training Division for their outstanding work with the June Fire School.

The Commissioners unanimously voted, then applauded YOUR efforts to deliver a quality event to our students. Specifically noted was the increasing attendance numbers on the June Fire School.

Please add my thanks for your individual and team efforts that earned this recognition. Good for you, good for us and good for the Connecticut Fire Service.

*Adam D. Piskura*

Director of Training

## Developing Fireground Decision-Making Skills

The fourth installment of the Fireground Seminar Series is scheduled for August 11, 2006 at the Connecticut Fire Academy.

The presenter will be Chief Robert Halton speaking about Developing Fire Ground Decision-Making Skills. Robert Halton, Chief (ret), Editor in Chief Fire Engineering will deliver a presentation on "Developing Fireground Decision-Making Skills".

Chief Halton will present a comprehensive decision skills training program based on the latest research in the field of intuitive decision-making.

Using incident scene simulations, case studies and post-incident reviews, Chief Halton will demonstrate proven methods to hone the rapid decision-making skills necessary for today's fire officer.

**Target Audience:** Instructors, incident commanders, company officers and firefighters. Anyone responsible for managing the fireground, making rapid decisions on the fireground or for preparing incident commanders will benefit from this presentation. In addition, this course is invaluable for those individuals responsible for evaluating command skills and developing assessment tools.



"Do not think you are communicating just because you are talking...there must be some information exchange "sign" that the message got through.

By Alan V. Brunacini

## Statistics on FY2006 SAFER Grant Application

(Washington, DC) July 6, 2006  
- The U.S.

Department of Homeland Security has made available the statistics on the grant applications received during the second Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) application



period which closed on June 30th. Although small changes may occur to the posted statistics, the percentages are not expected to change significantly. To view this information, go to: <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/safer/statistics.aspx>.

The grants program office also wants to remind eligible applicants that the Fire Prevention and Safety application period is

scheduled for the fall.

Potential applicants will be able to access the Program Guidance, Frequently Asked Questions, and applicant tutorial later this summer. Questions regarding the fire grants or SAFER can be directed to the grants program office help desk at 1-866-274-0960 or at [firegrants@dhs.gov](mailto:firegrants@dhs.gov).

The help desk is presently operating Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (EDT).

## Lead Training Coordinator

The attached examination announcement for Lead Training Coordinator may be important to certain individuals seeking career advancement possibilities.

Far too often someone approaches me about a state position (like trainer) and they are not on the current DAS list. In order to be considered for such positions you must qualify via examination for the titled position.

If you ever wish to be considered for Lead Training Coordinator, a full time position currently used here and by other agencies throughout state government, then you should submit materials for consideration. Good luck in your career pursuits.

*Adam D. Piskura*

Director of Training

*(See Exam Announcement on page 6)*



“By your badge men will know you, by your loyalty, by your behavior, and by your technical skills they will judge you as men and measure your efficiency as firefighters.”

By Alan V. Brunacini

## Examination Question Review Panels

The Certification Division of the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control will be administering local Examination Question Review Panels in the very near future for the following Written Exams:

Confined Space Rescue

Trench Rescue

Other Question Review Panels will be formed to accommodate other certification levels at a later date.



The Question Review Panel Members will be strictly on a volunteer bases. The Commission on Fire Prevention and Control will provide lunch to the panel members.

The review sessions will last from one-to-two days based on the level. You must be certified to the level that is going to be reviewed.

If you wish to be a member on one of the Question Review Panels, please email Certification Coordinator Ed O’Hurley at: [ed.ohurley@po.state.ct.us](mailto:ed.ohurley@po.state.ct.us) by August 15, 2006.



**Exam Announcement**

**EXAMINATION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC  
LEAD TRAINING COORDINATOR**

**ANNUAL \$57,971 SALARY APPLICATION CLOSING EXAM**  
**SALARY: \$72,698 GROUP: AR 24 DATE: AUGUST 1, 2006 NO: 061620OCFD**

**SPECIAL APPLICATION AND EXAMINATION INSTRUCTIONS APPEAR BELOW**

**PURPOSE OF CLASS:** In a state agency this class is accountable for acting as a working supervisor for trainers engaged in preparing and conducting training programs.

**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 AUGUST 1, 2006:

**GENERAL EXPERIENCE:** Seven years' technical experience in inservice training, human resource development or adult education.

**NOTES:** (1) For positions at the Department of Public Safety, Division of State Police Collect Unit, one year of the General Experience must have been technical experience working with a teleprocessing system. (2) For positions at the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, applicants must be certified as Fire Service Instructors.

**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.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** Considerable knowledge of principles and techniques of inservice training and staff development; considerable knowledge of educational methods and techniques; considerable interpersonal skills; oral and written communication skills; considerable ability to assess training needs and determine objectives; some supervisory ability. (For positions at the Department of Public Safety Division of State Police Collect Unit, applicants must also have considerable knowledge of Connecticut Law Enforcement Communication Teleprocessing (Collect) System programs.)

**THE EXAMINATION WILL BE COMPOSED OF:**

<b>PART</b>	<b>WEIGHT</b>
<b>EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING</b>	<b>100%</b>

**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 supplemental 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 Lead Training Coordinator, include a 1-2 page (typed or printed) description detailing your duties and responsibilities. (Applicants serving provisionally or temporarily in the title of Lead Training Coordinator 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 identifying training needs and planning training courses. Describe experience participating in the development of in-service training and staff development courses. Include information indicating any responsibilities for assessing the need for training, preparing formal training plans, and developing evaluation criteria to assess the effectiveness of training courses. Clearly indicate whether responsibility was for individual courses or for organization-wide staff development and identify the student audience of these courses. (2) Experience preparing/developing training courses. Detail your experience in regards to the variety and complexity of training courses you have prepared. Identify whether curriculum and course development was a high percentage of your job duties or whether most preparation activity was revising and updating existing materials. Be specific as to the type and number of courses you have prepared/developed. (3) Experience conducting training courses. Be specific as to the variety and complexity of training courses you have conducted. Include a list of the training courses you have conducted, type of audience, number of participants, instructional format and approximate number of times you have given the course during a given period of time (specify the time period). (4) Lead/supervisory experience. Indicate your specific lead/supervisory/administrative responsibilities. Also, include the numbers and job titles of those persons you led/supervised on projects. (Although lead/supervision of training programs will be the most relevant, you may also list significant lead/supervisory experience which is not in the staff development area.) **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 supplemental examination materials are complete and separate documents not referencing the other, as your application form and 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 supplemental examination materials are date stamped by DAS/Human Resources or postmarked by August 1, 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) Due to the large number of applications received, we cannot confirm receipt of applications. (7) Examination scores will be mailed by August 31, 2006. (8) A separate application/examination package must be submitted for each exam you are applying for.

**Note:** The immediate position is at the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

**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, Room 110, Hartford) or at any one of the Offices of the Connecticut State Job Centers.

4944

April 5, 2004

**AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**

The State of Connecticut is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and strongly encourages the applications of women, minorities, and persons with disabilities.

## Health and Fitness

Last time out, we covered motivation and discipline as the main course, and had a little goal setting for dessert. This time around, it probably makes sense to talk a little bit about our history, and how it's meaning applies to our current health and fitness goals, particularly those pertaining to the all-important weight management category.

It all started a couple of years back with my son Shawn. He and I were reviewing parts of his homework that pertained to our ancestors, the hunter-gatherers. The short version of the long story is that during the Late Paleolithic era (50,000 – 10,000 BC) our ancestors were required to endure constant cycles of feast and famine. They hunted or gathered, feasted, and then experienced periods of famine as they searched again for food. Shawn's homework coincided well with some research that I was doing at the same time on some of what has come to be known as our thrifty genes. The sum total of both of our efforts revealed that our great aunts and uncles a very long time ago had to have adapted the physical ability to go long periods of time without food – needing great physical fitness over extended periods of physical activity in order to survive. They did this in a climate of consuming little (food) and expending a lot (energy). The conclusion that Shawn and I came

to is that this is just the opposite of what we have today in first-world countries; we have the opportunity to feast often, on the greatest tasting foods with the greatest variety, while comparatively expending far less energy. Paul Ribisl, Ph.D., an Exercise Physiologist from Wake Forest University, terms our current set-up as “feast and rest”, versus our genetic make-up that evolved for times of “feast and famine”. Essentially, our current genome, as they call it, and a thrifty one at that, developed through natural selection over a great period of time, and has gone unchanged since.

Now you may be wondering why this is important. Well, there is a math part of the story that begs to be told, and is relatively simple to comprehend: It is fairly well known that 3,500 calories equals one pound of body weight for the average adult, meaning that if you adjust what you consume or expend to a difference of 3,500 calories, then your body weight will be one pound different – to gain or lose. If I want to lose one to two pounds per week, which is regarded as the maximum safe amount, then I have to do one of three things:

- Eat 3,500 to 7,000 calories less per week
- Exercise to a level that expends 3,500 to 7,000 calories per week

- Do a combination of both to have a deficit of 3,500 to 7,000 calories per week

Anyone who knows me could tell you that I am one of the last people to have you add math work to your already busy schedules. What I will do, however, is tell you that for nearly every complex system that exists, there is a simpler version, like how fire ground hydraulics are applied compared to the science behind them. With this calorie equation, you just have to find *your* simpler version. One version might be that if you are currently not exercising at all, then start and you will be expending more calories than you had been before. Another version might be to clean up what you eat by going for less calorie dense, non-healthy foods, one at a time (a little oil and vinegar dressing versus that blue cheese concoction for instance). Factor in one change at a time that you can figure out quickly, and build from there at whatever pace you want. Just remember that if you can eat an elephant one bite at a time, so too can you become one. You are what you eat, and based on our history, genes, and culture, that can easily become a bad thing.

*Bill DeFord*

**PT Instructor**

	Fire Protection Spending Per Capita Rank
1	Rhode Island
2	Nevada
3	Alaska
4	Massachusetts
5	New York
6	Florida
7	Washington
8	Ohio
9	Connecticut
10	Illinois
11	California
12	Oregon
13	New Hampshire
14	Colorado
15	Maryland
16	Virginia
17	Arizona
18	Wisconsin
19	Louisiana
20	Missouri
21	Oklahoma
22	Hawaii
23	New Mexico
24	New Jersey
25	Indiana
26	Wyoming
27	Michigan
28	Tennessee
29	Georgia
30	Kansas
31	Maine
32	Texas
33	North Carolina
34	Kentucky
35	Idaho
36	Nebraska
37	Utah
38	Alabama
39	Mississippi
40	Vermont
41	Montana
42	South Carolina
43	South Dakota
44	Arkansas
45	Minnesota
46	Iowa
47	North Dakota
48	Pennsylvania
49	West Virginia
50	Delaware

### Fire Protection Spending

	State & Local Total (in millions)	State Share (vs. Local)	Total Per Capita	Per Capita Rank	Total as % Personal Income	% Personal Income Rank
ALABAMA	\$300	0.0%	\$66	38	0.2%	36
ALASKA	89	0.0	135	3	0.4	3
ARIZONA	555	0.0	97	17	0.3	12
ARKANSAS	159	0.0	58	44	0.2	38
CALIFORNIA	4,232	0.0	118	11	0.3	11
COLORADO	504	0.0	110	14	0.3	17
CONNECTICUT	415	0.0	119	9	0.2	28
DELAWARE	22	0.0	27	50	0.1	50
FLORIDA	2,169	0.0	125	6	0.4	5
GEORGIA	717	0.0	80	29	0.3	24
HAWAII	112	0.0	89	22	0.3	23
IDAHO	99	0.0	71	35	0.2	30
ILLINOIS	1,505	0.0	118	10	0.3	9
INDIANA	517	0.0	83	25	0.3	20
IOWA	156	0.0	53	46	0.2	45
KANSAS	216	0.0	79	30	0.2	33
KENTUCKY	300	0.0	72	34	0.3	26
LOUISIANA	412	0.0	91	19	0.4	6
MAINE	101	0.0	77	31	0.2	31
MARYLAND	588	0.0	106	15	0.3	27
MASSACHUSETTS	863	0.0	135	4	0.3	14
MICHIGAN	828	0.0	82	27	0.2	29
MINNESOTA	282	0.0	55	45	0.1	47
MISSISSIPPI	187	0.0	64	39	0.3	25
MISSOURI	520	0.0	90	20	0.3	18
MONTANA	58	0.0	63	41	0.2	39
NEBRASKA	122	0.0	70	36	0.2	41
NEVADA	329	0.0	141	2	0.4	2
NEW HAMPSHIRE	144	0.0	111	13	0.3	16
NEW JERSEY	728	0.0	84	24	0.2	42
NEW MEXICO	164	0.0	86	23	0.3	13
NEW YORK	2,493	0.0	129	5	0.3	10
NORTH CAROLINA	624	0.0	73	33	0.2	34
NORTH DAKOTA	29	0.0	46	47	0.1	48
OHIO	1,372	0.0	120	8	0.4	4
OKLAHOMA	315	0.0	89	21	0.3	15
OREGON	413	0.0	115	12	0.4	7
PENNSYLVANIA	525	0.0	42	48	0.1	49
RHODE ISLAND	223	0.0	206	1	0.6	1
SOUTH CAROLINA	252	0.0	60	42	0.2	40
SOUTH DAKOTA	45	0.0	58	43	0.2	44
TENNESSEE	479	0.0	81	28	0.3	21
TEXAS	1,682	0.0	75	32	0.2	35
UTAH	168	0.0	69	37	0.2	32
VERMONT	39	0.0	63	40	0.2	43
VIRGINIA	749	0.0	100	16	0.3	22
WASHINGTON	749	0.0	121	7	0.3	8
WEST VIRGINIA	73	0.0	40	49	0.1	46
WISCONSIN	509	0.0	92	18	0.3	19
WYOMING	42	0.0	83	26	0.2	37
DC	158	0.0	285	—	0.5	—
<b>US</b>	<b>28,330</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>—</b>



## State Certification Automatically Awarded National Certification

The Commission on Fire Prevention and Control is pleased to announce that as of September 1, 2006, all candidates who achieve State Certification will also automatically be awarded National Certification for those levels that the Commission is accredited for by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications and the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress.

Prior to September 1, 2006, certified Connecticut fire service personnel who wished to pursue national certification are required to apply on their own to one or both national certifying bodies at a



cost of up to \$30 per level, per candidate. Bulk submissions of data for candidates eligible for national certification will result in an overall savings to the candidates. As a result of this initiative, the cost of a written certification examination will be raised from \$7.50 to \$15.00.

The Commission strongly believes that national certification provides a well deserved national and international level of recognition for members of the Connecticut fire service who have demonstrated proficiency in meeting NFPA professional qualifications standards.

Those standards are the foundation for improved fire service professionalism, the term “professional” representing a high degree of training and experience and applies to the volunteer as well as the career service.

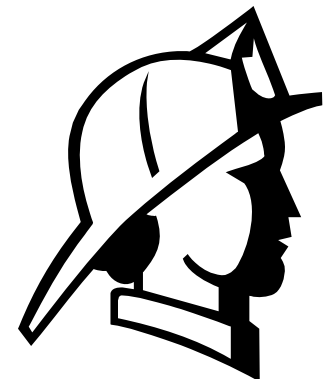
“There is a huge difference between “about to happen” and “just happened.”

By Alan V. Brunacini

## National Preparedness Month - Community Emergency Response Team Weekend

September is National Preparedness Month. As Community Emergency Response Teams you understand the necessity of remaining prepared for any type of emergency. To maintain the skills of our Connecticut Community Emergency Response Teams we will have a Community Emergency Response Team Weekend, on the weekend of September 9th and 10th, at the Connecticut Fire Academy in Windsor Locks.

The event will occur from 8:00 a.m. till 4 p.m. All Connecticut Community Emergency Response Team are invited to attend and practice some of the skills that they learned in Community Emergency Response Team training. Chief Elected Officials, Board of Education Members, and all Community Emergency Response Team members are invited to attend.



## Office of the Director of Training

Folks:

Most summers are filled with family, friends and fun. While this year is not different, the Connecticut Fire Academy continues to be busy despite the plethora of vacations and reduced meeting and business schedules.

Due to a recent personnel action within the Connecticut Fire Academy, Adjuncts have been selected to maintain the Recruit program. Ian Tenney and Tony Leca are coordinating the daily delivery of Recruit classes through graduation. Starting with my observation of Ed O'Hurley and continuing with each incumbent and leads through Eric, each Program Manager that takes responsibility for the Recruit program has improved it.

Already Tony and Ian are leaving their mark with enhanced student radio communications, and detailed observations of students attributes. Each Recruit class generally experiences a campus improvement while they are here. Slated for replacement during Recruit Class #36 is the day room stuffed furniture. The current couches and chairs did not stand up very well.

Since the training grounds gate required fixing from a broken hinge, we have elected to take the opportunity to install a long talked about cantilever rolling gate.

This gate will be electrically operated by vehicle transmitters and an in-pavement sensing wires on the inside. In addition, a key pad will be provided for pedestrian traffic. This project requires the coordination of several vendors and may take some time for completion.

Another enhancement that may not be completed before Recruit Class #36 leaves is the installation of two commercial dryers upstairs. The Cadet program has asked for greater drying capacity and we have noted a similar need for the Recruit classes. These two large capacity dryers will allow quicker processing of laundry as wash cycles are faster than drying cycles.

Our Fire Ground Seminars Series have been successful and continue throughout the year. On August 11, 2006 Bobby Halton, Editor of Fire Engineering Magazine will be here to discuss "Managing Fire Ground Decision-Making Skills".

However, he is well versed in many topics with a conversational style. I am confident that every participant will walk away with some new piece of information that they can immediately apply.

Mark Salafia is our Program Manager for special projects and is currently working on the 2007 Training Calendar and 2007 Fire

Ground Speaker Seminars Series. If you know of some platform speaker that may benefit the Connecticut fire service, please feel free to contact Mark at 860-627-6363 (Ext. 286) or via e-mail at:

**mark.salafia@po.state.ct.us** so that we may explore engaging that individual. We attempt to present a mix of ideas from throughout the United States so that our firefighters and officers may learn how others approach similar problems.

Meanwhile NIMS continues to be in demand as the federal government adjusts the courses designed to support implementation countrywide. Under development is a Connecticut Fire Academy water rescue courses to satisfy NFPA 1006 certification requirements. Adjunct Peter Towey and Steve Hallin, subject matter expert from Minnesota are putting together a course to complete awareness and operational expectations. A Train-the-Trainer will be conducted for Adjuncts interested in teaching the new course qualifying participants for certification.

Our well worn and ancient VHS video loop tape used primarily for trade shows is being replaced.

*(Cont'd on page 11)*

## Office of the Director of Training (Cont'd)

A nine plus minute DVD has been developed that repeats six times for an hours worth of Connecticut Fire Academy promotion. After some final production adjustments, it will be available as a DVD as well as on our server.

Congratulations to Pam Cooney for her recent upgrade to Bookstore Supervisor I in DAS parlance. But to us she is simply our CFA Bookstore Manager. Congratulations are also due to Art Howe; one of our Duty Dudes is now the Fire Chief in Ipswich, Massachusetts.

At their June meeting the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control approved the extension of our Recruit program to 14 weeks. The main purposes are to accommodate increased student practice rotations and additional operations days to hone skills. This schedule will be implemented fall of 2007. This allows both the Academy and the municipalities time to ramp up for the enhanced course.

As always, please do not hesitate to share ideas or concepts for improvement and enhancements to our programs.

Any Program Manager is available to discuss methods to develop greater student understanding of the concepts and ideas being presented. These incremental improvements are how we maintain interest in Connecticut Fire Academy courses.

Thank you for your experience and contributions to our continued success.

*Adam D. Piskura*

Adam D. Piskura, Director  
Connecticut Fire Academy

### Tips for Hot Weather

- ☑ Remind your firefighters FF to hydrate all day long, so they have fluids in them before the fire call, as well as during and after.
- ☑ When they are recycled out of the operation and go to a rehabilitation area, firefighters should take their bunker coats and bunker pants off completely - as soon as possible. Just taking off their coats will not be enough.
- ☑ Recycle your crews appropriately to ensure enough rest and cool-down time.
- ☑ Try and set up your RIT/On-deck area in the shade. Use the shadow of a building/fire truck if nothing else is available.
- ☑ Set up your rehabilitation/rest or personnel staging area in the shade. If you have to - construct a tarp to create shade or maybe use someone's garage if there are no trees.
- ☑ Call for additional personnel (mutual aid/additional stations) early so you don't have to beat up your firefighters by sending them in too many times.
- ☑ Don't let crews back inside unless they have been thoroughly rested and cooled.
- ☑ Crews not needed directly at the scene can stay inside an air conditioned fire truck or at an air conditioned fire station.
- ☑ Get crews off the scene and back to the station as soon as possible. Bring in fresh crews to continue work on the fire scene.
- ☑ Set up rehab and/or personnel staging officer early.
- ☑ Ensure medic rig and/or trained personnel and equipment are on scene.
- ☑ Have lots of water on-scene early.
- ☑ Remember - officers are not immune to the heat. Although many officers may not be doing the actual firefighting, they are still subjected to the temperatures, so they also need to keep hydrated, find shady or air conditioned places to stand/sit, and maybe even need to be recycled out so they can get rested and cooled.

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

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