

THE INSTRUCTOR'S DISPATCH



Commission on Fire Prevention and Control
Connecticut Fire Academy



Commission on Fire Prevention and Control receives donation of Honda alternatively fueled vehicle

At their January 31, 2006 meeting, the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control received the donation of a 2001 Honda Civic GX fueled by compressed natural gas.

The vehicle will be used exclusively for firefighter training at the Connecticut Fire Academy. Representing American Honda Motor Company Inc. were Roger Quandt, Assistant Zone Manager for Honda, John Larabee, Founder and President of Manchester Honda, and Craig Peters from Manchester Honda.

Representing the Commission was Chairman Peter Carozza, Jr. Manchester Honda is the area Honda dealer certified for compressed natural gas powered vehicle repairs.

This vehicle will be a valuable asset to the Connecticut Fire Academy in demonstrating safety concerns associated with alternatively fueled vehicles during firefighter training scenarios.

It is anticipated that the vehicle will be used in the recruit firefighter program, car fire, vehicle extrication, and alternatively fueled vehicle classes.



The future promises more vehicles fueled by other alternative fuels like hydrogen, stored and regenerated electricity, and fuel cells.

Firefighters will learn how to extinguish fires and safely remove occupants from vehicles powered nontraditionally.

consider further training for themselves and their staff. Your service and commitment to CASHO and its mission are gratefully acknowledged and appreciated.”

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Recognizing Members of our Staff

Michael Turner, Chairman, of the Connecticut Association of State Highway Officials (CASHO) Engineering Seminar, wrote to thank

Mark Salafia for his superb presentation on NIMS at their recent program. He stated that "... our members have surely benefited from listening and hopefully would

Russ Emons Retiring As Public Fire and Life Safety Coordinator

Russ Emons has recently retired from his Program Coordinator position, for Public Fire and Life Safety Educator , effective March 1st, 2006. Russ has been the Program Coordinator since Feb. 1, 2000. He has also been instrumental in the development of our Certified Fire Service Instructor programs. As a former school principle he has contributed significantly to the Academy curriculum research, development and delivery.

The Academy have mutually agreed that he should continue to teach within the Fire Service Instructor program working for Jim Carroll, Program Manager and Bill Tessier, Program Coordinator

The Staff at the Academy wish to thank Russ for all his help with the Public Fire and Life Safety program.



Russ Emons
Photo Courtesy of Mark Salafia-CFA

Alan Zygmunt Public Fire and Life Safety Coordinator

The Connecticut Fire Academy is pleased to announce that Alan Zygmunt has taken over as Public Fire and Life Safety Education Coordinator effective March 1st

Alan is currently a Lieutenant in the Southington Fire Dept. and has been there since 1988. He has been an Adjunct for the Connecticut Fire Academy since 1993. His new duties include:

- Scheduling the Kid's Fire Safety House.
- Public Fire and Life Safety Education certification classes.

Alan is interested in training Adjuncts as operators for the Fire Safety house. If anyone is interested, please give Alan a call at 860-627-6363 ext 222 or email him at:

Alan.Zygmunt@po.state.ct.us.



Alan Zygmunt
Photo Courtesy of Mark Salafia-CFA

2006 Fire Act Grant Writing Workshops Held throughout Connecticut

The Commission on Fire Prevention and Control's Connecticut Fire Academy, and the Department of Homeland Security held six (6) separate "Grant Writing Workshops" throughout the state on February 14 thru 18, 2006.

The six workshops were identical, so attendance at any one site was sufficient.

There were a total of 133 people who attended this workshop throughout the state.

Bob Waters, Fire Program Specialist was available for questions and answers. He also explained changes to expect in 2006.

Symtron Train-the-Trainer

We will be offering an initial training program for instructors wishing to become operators of the Symtron Live Fire Training Equipment. The program will be held here at the CFA on June 10th and 11th and will be taught by Instructor John King.

New burn operators are required to attend both days of training (8:30 AM-4:30 PM) and then to spend a day during a live burn operating the system with a experienced operator to demonstrate the knowledge skills and abilities required to be certified as a burn operator. All burn operators are required to attend an annual refresher training program to continue to be on the list of active operators. The training program covers the operation of the pump house, tank farm, burn building,

and outside props. The burn building is computer controlled so familiarity with windows based computer programs is beneficial.

All initial and refresher training for the Symtron equipment is voluntary but there is a constant need for burn operators throughout the year. I currently have live burns scheduled for every month for the rest of the year with new requests being received on a regular basis. Live burns are conducted on weekdays, weekends and evenings so we need operators for all these time periods. Please e-mail Jim Carroll at jim.carroll@po.state.ct.us to indicate your interest in becoming a live burn operator. **Seats are limited.**

Save The Dates...

**June 5th-9th, 2006
June School**

**June 9, 2006
The Point of No Return Breathing Apparatus Air Management
Speaker: Phil Jose, Captain
Seattle FD**

**August 11, 2006
Developing Fireground Decision-Making Skills
Speaker: Robert Halton
Chief (ret), Editor in Chief Fire Engineering**

"The harder I work, the luckier I get".

By Alan V. Brunacini

Improving Presentation & Training Skills

The Connecticut Fire Academy presented the 2006 Fire Service Instructor Development Seminar on March 11, 2006 with 45 students attending.

The presentation entitled Improving Presentation and Training Skills was delivered by Kim Allyn. She is a professional trainer and owner of "Perfect Presentations" a company

dedicated to training seminars and specializing in the fire service. Kim has been a presenter at Firehouse World, FDIC, FDIC West, Fire Rescue Conference, and Fire Tech Reno.

The seminar was intended for fire department training officers, company training officers, certified instructors, and anyone who lectures to groups of people.



Kim Allyn given Presentation to a group of certified officers on March 11, 2006

National Honor Guard Academy

The National Fire and Public Safety Honor Guard Academy, Inc. in cooperation with the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control is offering the National Honor Guard Academy to be held at the Connecticut Fire Academy May 21-26, 2006.

This full week course is expressly designed to assist fire service and public safety organizations in developing and enhancing their organization's honor and color guard units. You can download the information from our website at www.ct.gov/cfpc.

Additional details are available from Jim McLoughlin, Commander. 860-930-3250.

"I need one guy who can jump ten feet, not ten guys who can jump one foot".

By Alan V. Brunacini

Fire Chief Position Description Sought

The Suffield (CT) Fire Commission has established a sub-committee to develop a new position description for the position of Fire Chief..

Suffield is a small combination department serving a population of 14,000 covering 42.9 square miles.

Fire Departments willing to share their current position descriptions or information related to developing an updated position description are requested to forward the information to:

Chief Tom Bellmore
Suffield Fire Department
73 Mountain Road
Suffield, CT 06078
(860) 668-3888
tbellmore@suffieldtownhall.com

Legislative Proposal Update for Fire Service

H.B No. 465 (Raised)

Environment - An act concerning the underground storage tank petroleum clean-up account', to revise the Commercial Underground Storage Tank program provisions.

Ref. Environment

H.B. No. 5648 (Raised)
Labor and Public Employees - An act concerning leave for municipal employees responding

to fire calls', to authorize municipal employees who are volunteer firefighters to miss work without prejudice while responding to fire calls.

Ref. Labor and Public Employees

H.B. No. 5670 (Raised)
General Law - An act concerning price gouging and notification of a declared state of emergency to notify certain persons, trade

associations, corporations or other entities when the governor declares a state of emergency.

Ref. General Law

"If you love your job, you'll never work a day in your life".

By Alan V. Brunacini

2006 Assistance To Firefighters Grants

Beginning March 6, 2006, at 8:00 a.m. eastern standard time, the Department of Homeland Security (**DHS**) will begin accepting applications for Assistance to Firefighters Grants (**AFG**).

The deadline for receipt of the AFG "fire grant" applications is 5:00 p.m. eastern daylight time on April 7, 2006. AFG applications are automated and accessible via the AFG web site: www.firegrantsupport.com.

The web site contains important information on the AFG, including the FY2006 funding priorities and program guidance, a web based tutorial on the application process, a listing of frequently asked questions, and other materials.

Fire departments that have questions regarding this grant opportunity should contact the Help Desk at 1-866-274-0960 or at firegrants@dhs.gov.

During the application period, Help Desk hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Additional help desk hours may be added if demand is high.



2006 Firefighter Safety Stand Down

Fairfax, VA...Building on the success of the first National Firefighter Safety Stand Down in 2005, the Board of Directors of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) has called for the "Second Annual Stand Down" to be held starting Wednesday, June 21, 2006, and continued until all personnel and duty nights have been covered. Fire departments are urged to save this date and plan to participate in the event.



Last year, an estimated 10,000 fire departments participated in the National Firefighter Safety Stand Down. Activities were posted on the IAFC and its partner's Web sites.

The IAFC Safety, Health and Survival Section will be updating the recommended activities, and when those details are developed, they will be distributed. Sadly, 106 firefighters died in the line-of-duty last year. Since many of the accidents occurred in department vehicles, we have decided to focus this year's stand down on emergency vehicle safety, where we can have the most impact.

We must take dramatic steps to reduce the alarmingly high firefighter death and injury rates," said IAFC President Chief Bill Killen. "While firefighter safety must be part of everyday life in the

fire service, the "Safety Stand Down" raises awareness of the issue and calls national attention to the unacceptable number of firefighter line-of-duty deaths".

Once again, the IAFC will be reaching out to other fire service organizations to join forces and involve the entire fire service in the event. Last year, 19 organizations partnered with the IAFC for the first stand down.

Everybody has something they can't handle.

By Alan V. Brunacini

NIMS Alert

NIMS-IntegrationCenter@dhs.gov
202-646-3850 WASHINGTON –

The NIMS Integration Center's five most frequently asked questions, which are posed primarily via e-mail, focus on required NIMS training, lost or delayed NIMS/ICS training certifications

from the Emergency Management Institute, and NIMCAST temporary passwords.

In the interest of providing the information most relevant to our audiences, we have decided to repeat those questions and our answers in this NIMS Alert.

We also urge you to check our FAQ site, which is directly accessible from the NIMS Homepage at www.fema.gov/nims; it is updated frequently based on your questions.

Office of the Director of Training

Folks:

A new feature has been added to the Connecticut Fire Academy. Wireless internet access has been installed throughout the facility, but works most effectively in the upstairs and in the public areas such as the multipurpose room (cafeteria), auditorium, and classrooms. In the future, additional transmitters will be installed to yield facility-wide coverage. This means the complete administrative building and classrooms, not the training grounds.

We have added this convenience to become more user friendly for our seminar speakers and people that rent the facility. Another long standing request has been answered by supplying our lodging guests, primarily recruit students, with internet access for e-mail accounts etc. If you have a wireless equipped computer it will find the network and you may connect to the internet.

Shortly, Adjuncts will be receiving copies of the following by email:

- ☑ State Code of Ethics for Public Officials and State Employees
- ☑ Internet Acceptable Use Policy
- ☑ Electronic Mail Acceptable Use Policy

These must be reviewed and acknowledged to Carolyn Underwood, who is our new personnel contact, at the Department of Administrative Services.

Another long awaited activity is the employment of some new Adjunct instructors. Some of you may have already learned of our advertisement located on the **DAS** website. It is the beginning of our intake process to select upwards of thirty (30) new Adjuncts. To ensure selection of the “best of the best” we are actively soliciting candidates.

Current, PSAs (contracted employees) will be given the opportunity to interview and build upon their current activities as a Connecticut Fire Academy contractor. Instructors and Program Coordinators are encouraged to supply the Director of Training with comments related to observed contractor performance in the field. This will be considered during the interview process.

Ultimately, the use of contracting will be held to CPAT specific assignments and occasional random jobs that require assistance from outside the Adjunct instructor ranks.

The process of Adjunct selection will include the delivery of a practice lesson assigned by the Academy. We invite existing instructors to participate in the interview process and help us role play within the class delivery and interview candidates.

Once an interview schedule is posted it will be shared via the instructor notification system. Those available and interested may indicate their availability to Elaine Mancino by contacting her at 860-627-6263 ext. 226 or email her at: elaine.mancino@po.state.ct.us. This will be an unpaid activity.

Please welcome Alan Zygmunt as our replacement Public Fire & Life Safety Educator for the retiring Russ Emons. Russ is going to remain active in our Fire Service Instructor I and Station Evaluator programs as a retire rehire. Russ took over a stagnate program and reinvigorated it. His experience as a Fire Marshal allowed networking connections and knowledge that benefited our efforts in “Public Fire & Life Safety Education” for all age groups.

Another personnel change is that Robert Massicotte has relinquished his Fire Officer Programs Coordination position due to his workload. Bob will continue to instruct for us. While coordinating the Fire Officer programs he was well respected by the teaching cadre and stayed on top of the standards and relevant curriculum. His contributions will be missed.

As you can observe, personnel changes abound, and that makes opportunities for all of us.

Adam D. Piskura

Adam D. Piskura, Director
Connecticut Fire Academy

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We're on the
Website at:

www.ct.gov/cfpc

