



# The Extinguisher

A Publication of the Holden Fire Department



November/December  
2011

1370 Main Street, Holden, Ma 01520. [Holden Fire Department website](#) (508)210-5650

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
FF/EMT JAMES HANNA

### TRAINING SCHEDULE

**FD – November 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**19:00-22:00**

**FD - November 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**19:00-22:00**

**EMS – November 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
**19:00-21:00**

**FD - December 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**19:00-22:00**

**FD Christmas Party -**  
**December 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**(Tentative date)**

**EMS – December 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**19:00-21:00**

## Chief's Corner

*By Chief Jack Chandler*

October 29<sup>th</sup> brought our region an unexpected snow storm which dropped over a foot of snow and left the town without power for several days. However the strong response from all town departments showed how dedicated our employees are, a true testament to the town. Thank you to all that responded to calls and helped with storm coverage and clean up!

As winter months approach make sure you are able to respond to calls and make sure your gear is prepared and outfitted for the weather.

We have department trainings prepared for the months of November and December, including a **Live Burn on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**. There are sign-up sheets at both HQ and Chaffins; please sign up as these trainings do not come around often!

Holden Fire has received Ambulance 3. The lettering has been completed and equipment has been installed. It is anticipated to be in service by the middle of the month.

## EMS Events

*By Lt. Russ Hall*

Holden Fire has received Ambulance 3 from Specialty Vehicles/Custom Works. A3 is anticipated to be in service by middle of November 2011. The plan is to run A3 as primary ambulance. For those who are EMT's it would be good to come in and get familiarized with A3 and where equipment is stored.

All call-FF/EMT's are encouraged to work the weekend shifts (7am-2pm and 2pm-9pm). Sign-up sheets are at headquarters.

For all new EMT's please contact the Lt's for scheduling 3<sup>rd</sup> ride shifts.

EMS Training will be held on Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at Fire Headquarters at 19:00.



NEW Ambulance 3



## Deputies Desk

By Deputy Chief Peter Bergstrom

Thanks to Jim Hanna for picking up the organization and publishing of the newsletter. I'll be trying to contribute information as I have it.

Recent Academy graduates Josh Johnson, Ryan LaPrade and Ryan Mouradian have each successfully completed FF I/II Certification. Congratulations to them! Brian Rushlow and Jason Matthews have both received their EMT Certification and are currently working on their ride time to become qualified to work on the ambulance. Congratulations and good luck to them as well!

We currently have three Recruit Firefighters attending the Mass Fire Academy FFI/II class. Kevin Harmon, Derek Dagostino, and Erik Bishop have been attending since July and are scheduled to graduate just before Christmas.

Interest in joining the Holden Fire Department remains high. We receive 1 - 2 applications a month from people interested in becoming Firefighters. Interviews for 7 more applicants have been scheduled in November with the goal of adding another group of Auxiliary Firefighters in January.

Mass Call / Volunteer membership roster has been sent in for 2011. I will soon be looking for 2012 dues. Anyone interested in joining, who is not currently a member, see me.

Winter Hats are available no charge. See the administrative staff to receive one. As the winter months approach, be sure to have warm clothing available. Winter can be our most busy time for fires. Please respond when available so we can work efficiently and safely. Thanks for everyone's efforts.

### Fire Department Clothing

#### *Embroidered Maltese and Holden Fire on back*

Champion Crewneck Sweatshirt: \$21

Gildan Hooded Sweatshirt: \$31

Gildan Short sleeve T-shirt: \$14

Gildan Long sleeve T-shirt: \$17

Gildan Sleeveless T-Shirt: \$14

#### *Embroidered Maltese, Name/Title*

5.11 Long Sleeve Polo: \$46

5.11 Short Sleeve Polo: \$43

Charles River Short Sleeve Polo: \$31

Charles River Wind shirt: \$33

Game Ruben: \$51

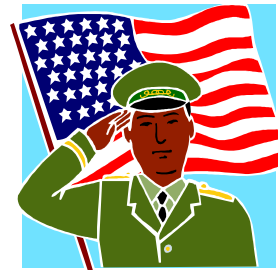
Game Mock Neck Work shirt: \$54

Charles River Duck (canvas) W/ Maltese: \$66

Charles River 3 season jacket W/Maltese: \$50

Pacific Headgear Flex Fit Hat: \$13

Pacific Headgear Adjustable Hat: \$11



*HFD Salutes and Thanks our current members who have served our Country proudly:*

*Assistant Chief Alexander Belisle - Army*

*Captain James Oberg - Army*

*Lt. Mike Rosen - Air Force*

*Firefighter Dave Eddy - Army*

*Firefighter/Paramedic Dave Cobb - Coast Guard*

*Firefighter/Paramedic Richard McGinn - Army*

*Firefighter/EMT Jason Matthews - Marine Corps*

*Firefighter Mike Braley - Army*

*Photographer Ira Hoffman - Army*

*If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.*

*John Quincy Adams*

## Administration Staff News

By Leah Francese-Wood

### HFD Merchandise

- ✓ Heidi will be placing another order for screened t-shirts. If anyone is interested in ordering a particular color, size and/or gender t-shirt, please let Heidi know ASAP. She will not be ordering anything again before X-mas.
- ✓ If you need long-sleeved shirts or sweatshirts, please call Heidi at 508-210-5656 or email at [hmcalice@holdenma.gov](mailto:hmcalice@holdenma.gov)
- ✓ PLEASE REMEMBER WE NEED A MINIMUM ORDER OF 24 SHIRTS TO PLACE AN ORDER, SO THERE MAY BE A LITTLE WAIT.

### On the horizon...

*Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>* - Veteran's Day (Town offices closed)

*Thursday, November 24<sup>th</sup>* - Thanksgiving Day (Town offices closed)

*Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>* - HFD family Christmas Party

*Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>* - HFD Christmas Party (Tentative date)

*Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>* - Christmas Day Observed (Town offices closed)

- ✓ Did you move? Do you have a new email address or phone number? Please give Leah your new information.
- ✓ WE NEED YOUR UPDATED EMAIL! If you have a new email address, please give it to Leah.

### November Birthdays:

Derryl Dion  
Kevin Fagerquist  
Eric Fasshauer  
Dan Hazen  
Tom Morin

### November Anniversaries:

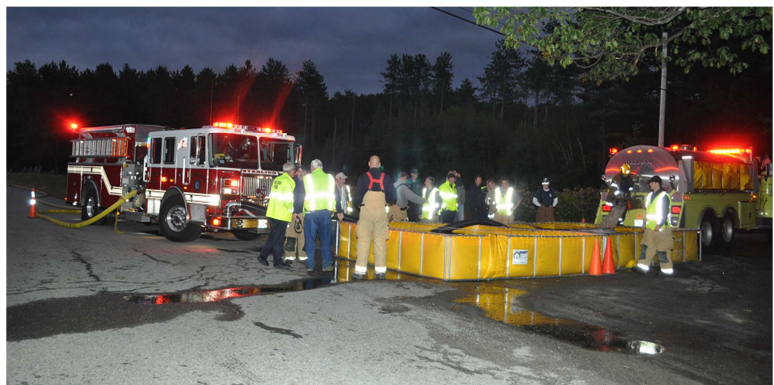
Peter Bergstrom - 33 years  
Mike Rosen - 33 years  
Steve DeWitt - 17 years  
Peter Benoit - 10 years  
Tom Morin - 10 years  
Josh Poznanski - 5 years  
Rob Nickerson - 3 years  
Matt Tadry - 3 years

### December Birthdays:

Chief Jack Chandler  
Dave Chapin  
Nicholas Kakalecz  
Sean Smith

### December Anniversaries:

John Whipple - 19 years  
Kevin Fagerquist - 19 years  
Mike Himmer - 12 years



Tanker Shuttle Drill 9/20/11

*Happy Holidays*



## Coffee Break Training - Special Blend

**A**re there abandoned buildings in your jurisdiction? Honor the fallen by taking some time to inspect these dangerous conditions so we don't repeat history.

1. Visit all abandoned buildings and perform a risk assessment. Develop a pre-incident action plan in the event of a fire.
2. Communicate the risk assessment and action plan to all emergency response personnel; including whether the structure is unsafe for search and rescue operations. The risk assessment should evaluate what action may be taken should the presence of an inhabitant be confirmed on size-up.
3. Check fire protection systems for operational status, especially sprinkler and standpipe fire department connections. If they are not operational, have them repaired or at least note their status in your pre-incident action plan.
4. Assure that the building is secure from trespass and adequately boarded up. Board up procedures and techniques can be found at <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/napi4.pdf>
5. Mark the building with "Keep Out" and special warning signs, such as the Urban Search and Rescue Structure Hazards Evaluation Marking at <http://www.ksimt.org/USARMarkingSystem.pdf>
6. Verify that all utilities (electric, water, gas) have been shut off and properly secured.
7. Verify that all combustibles, flammables, and hazardous materials have been removed from inside and outside the building. Have vegetation trimmed back to allow emergency access and improve visibility and security.
8. Ask neighbors to report any suspicious activity or additional deterioration right away.
9. Pursue appropriate legal action to have the hazard abated through repair, renovation, or demolition.
10. Schedule regular company inspections to verify conditions have not deteriorated, and to take action if they have.

Abandoned buildings, especially in the current economic climate, provide an easy target for firesetters. Don't let these hazards kill or injure firefighters.

This abandoned building is boarded up to prevent unlawful access.

**Eligible for Continuing Education Units (CEUs)  
at [www.nfaonline.dhs.gov](http://www.nfaonline.dhs.gov)**

**For archived downloads, go to:  
[www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/coffee-break/)**