



# BOX ALARM



Winter 2026



**Boston 123 Oliver St, Downtown**

**Division 1, Ladder 8, Engine 25, Rescue 1**

# PRESIDENTS REPORT

---

Members ,

I am excited for muster season, which will be here in just a few short months. It's always something to look forward to, and we're getting closer every day.

I also hope everyone had a great Christmas and a very happy New Year. As we move into the 2026, I'm really looking forward to seeing everybody at our annual muster in June.

There will be several meetings scheduled before then, and we truly hope to see more folks able to attend. Attendance has been low, and your participation makes a big difference. These meetings are important for planning and staying connected, and it would be great to have more voices and involvement, especially ahead of our National Muster in August. We are going to need all the help we can get.

Thanks again, and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

—President Boudrow

# TRUSTEES REPORT

---

Hopefully all SPAAMFAA members have received their ballots for the upcoming election. Participating in this process is vital to the continued strength of our association, and I encourage everyone to make their voice heard.

As my term as District 1 Trustee comes to a close, I am very much looking forward to assisting the next trustee in any way I can to ensure a smooth and successful transition. It has truly been an honor to serve, and I remain committed to supporting District 1 and SPAAMFAA as a whole.

I will be heading to San Antonio for the National Convention and am excited to connect with members from across the country. If you haven't finalized your plans yet, there is still time to do so. The convention is shaping up to be a great event filled with valuable networking, education, and camaraderie.

I hope to see many of you down there and to thank you in person for the support and collaboration throughout my time as trustee.

Brian Anderson Jr.

SPAAMFAA

District 1 Trustee

# NEWSLETTER UPDATES

---

Happy New Year and winter is upon us. Hope everyone is doing well. The National Summer Convention will be in Marlborough in August (see the events list). Details to follow in the next issue.

As always any stories or photos are greatly appreciated. Mike Zarrella,

Newsletter Editor, MAFAA [newslettermafaa@comcast.net](mailto:newslettermafaa@comcast.net)

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

---

All meetings are at 10 AM

**Feb 1** Brockton Fire Museum

216 N. Pearl St

Right off of Route 24

# MAFAA RADIO CALL SIGNS

MAFAA radio frequency can be used by any member for communication to and from events, and during parades. Contact Ralph Harris for car assignments @ [CFD24Cl@charter.net](mailto:CFD24Cl@charter.net)

Car 1 Doug Boudrow	Car 6 Ralph Harris Jr.	Car 11 Jay Chatterton	Car 16 Mike Damato
Car 2 Jim McGonagle	Car 7 Daniel Harris	Car 12 Brian Huss	Car 34 Rich Hamilton
Car 3 Tom Fitzgerald	Car 8 Gary Fleischer	Car 13 Don Lennerton	Car 37 Gordon Holstrom
Car 4 Chris Clark	Car 9 Joe Lennerton	Car 14 Kevin Beaulieu	Car 121 Justin Holstrom
Car 5 Ralph Harris Sr.	Car 10 Dave Amiot	Car 15 Brian Anderson	Car 196 Bob Brusket

Here are some rules that will make radio conversations better and more effective:

1. The golden rules to follow are CLARITY, BREVITY, SIMPLICITY and SECURITY.
2. Remember, that you can either listen or you can talk... not both.
3. Identify yourself at the beginning of each transmission by giving your call sign.
4. Listen before transmitting. Don't cross talk.
5. When multiple people are in range, do not answer a transmission unless you know the call is for you. Listen for your call sign.
6. Spell out key words and phrases using the NATO Phonetic Alphabet.
7. Do not say YES or NO. Always use the words "AFFIRMATIVE" or "NEGATIVE".
8. Know what you are going to say before you press the PTT button.
9. Wait for at least a second after pressing the PTT button and before beginning your message.
10. Keep the microphone at right angles to your face. Don't talk directly into it.
11. Speak slowly, distinctly, clearly
12. Do not let your voice trail off at the end of words or sentences.
13. Only acknowledge a message when you fully understand it. Or ask to repeat message with "SAY AGAIN" and not REPEAT.
14. When you have received and understood the message, respond with "10-4", ok on the message, etc.
15. Always acknowledge. Silence is not the completion of a conversation.
16. Talk slowly, do not shout and use a professional tone... emotions are a bad idea.
17. Keep messages shorter than 20 seconds.
18. Use plain English. (No ten codes)

On two-way radios, the common protocol to spell out critical words is to use NATO's phonetic alphabet.

**ALPHA**  
**BRAVO**  
**CHARLIE**  
**DELTA**  
**ECHO**  
**FOXTROT**

**GOLF**  
**HOTEL**  
**INDIA**  
**JULIET**  
**KILO**  
**LIMA**

**MIKE**  
**NOVEMBER**  
**OSCAR**  
**PAPA**  
**QUEBEC**  
**ROMEO**  
**SIERRA**

**TANGO**  
**UNIFORM**  
**VICTOR**  
**WHISKEY**  
**XRAY**  
**YANKEE**  
**ZULU**

# MAFAA CLUB STORE



**Short Sleeve Shirts**  
Sizes Youth Large to Adult 2XL \$20



**Baseball Caps (Adjustable- One size fit all. \$20**



**"New" Patches \$5**



**Vinyl Decals \$4**



**2023 Dash Plaque  
\$3**



**2024 Dash Plaque  
\$5**



**2022 Convention Challenge Coin  
\$5**

Items can be ordered by emailing: [mafaatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mafaatreasurer@gmail.com)

Orders can be picked up at a meeting or shipped for a nominal fee.

# 2026 EVENTS

**March 3-7** San Antonio, Texas The San Antonio Fire Museum is proud to host the 2026 SPAAMFAA Winter Conference.

**April 18-19** Allentown, Pennsylvania Union Historical Spring Melt.

**August 26-29** Marlborough, Mass. Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Assoc. (MAFAA) has been awarded the bid to

host the SPAAMFAA Summer Convention in 2026. The host hotel will be the Best Western Royal Plaza Hotel

Trade Center, 181 Boston Post Road West. Bus trips to area firehouses (including Worcester MA), a tour of the Hudson American Military Museum, nightly speaking programs, as well as an on-site Muster highlight the event.

## **TENATIVE DATE**

**November 3** - Concord, New Hampshire

Amoskeag Reserve Engine Co, fire truck show & parade. More details when available.

## The Fire Extinguishing Grenade

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, a compact type of “fire grenade” was invented. For a few decades, **glass fire suppression spheres** could be found all over in homes, schools, factories, even in cars and on trains. These globes contained firefighting chemicals like *carbon tetrachloride* and were designed to be thrown at the fire, break on contact and suppress conventional or electrical fires.

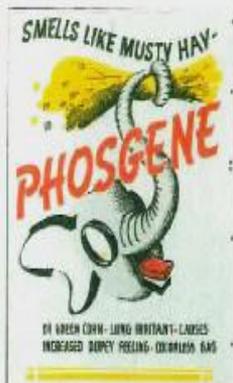


*Shar-Stop Kit of thrown ball extinguishers from International Fire Equipment Corp*

Some were made to break on impact, while others featured spring-loaded triggers that would melt when heated and either drop or break the glass sphere.

Versions of these fire grenades were made by a variety of manufacturers, including the Harden Hand Grenade Fire Extinguisher Company, Acme Fire Extinguisher, Red Comet, International Fire Equipment Corp, and Little Giant.

Unfortunately, the carbon tetrachloride liquid used in many of these contraptions is not only toxic to humans on its own, but also converts into a dangerous gas when exposed to extreme heat: *phosgene*, a deadly chemical weapon used in the first world war. In turn, when exposed to water (that stuff also commonly used to combat fires), phosgene breaks down into hydrochloric acid (corrosive to the touch) and carbon dioxide (the stuff humans prefer to breath out, not in).

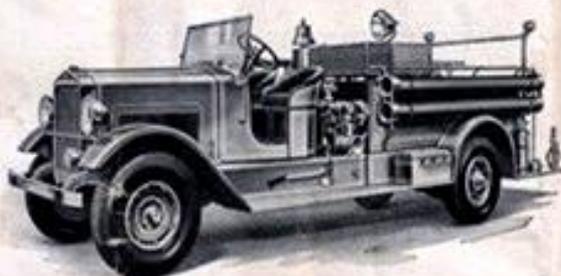


*World War I educational phosgene poster explains how to identify the deadly gas by smell.*

With the rise of modern fire extinguishers and sprinkler systems (and in light of aforementioned chemical dangers), fire grenades once again became a lesser-used technology for most of the 20th Century. Today, a number of (less-problematic) grenade-style extinguishers are still used, generally designed to open up or self-destruct when they encounter fire and disperse dry chemical powder over the flames.

# BE FIRE MINDED

A most desirable state of mind that will result in greater thought  
and better protection against Fires — before Fires occur.



## MAXIM 750 PUMPER

Rotary or Centrifugal

*The Popular Pumper During 1934*

**Always Delivering Maxim-um  
Service and Efficiency**

*Sold By*

**ARTHUR H. BLANCHARD COMPANY**

**25 HAMPSHIRE STREET      CAMBRIDGE, MASS.**

**FIRE HOSE · SUPPLIES · EQUIPMENT FOR ALL CLASSES OF SERVICE**

*Kindly mention The New England Fireman when writing*

# MARKET PLACE

Welcome to the new Marketplace. Email me to list your wanted or sale items.

Email [newslettermafaa@comcast.net](mailto:newslettermafaa@comcast.net)

## WANTED

Wanted: photo or slide collections of fire apparatus .  
[mzcp@comcast.net](mailto:mzcp@comcast.net) Mike Zarrella.

Pair of 1955 Maxim Front fender inner panels & windshield panels  
for my 1982 American LaFrance

Contact: Bill Clark 248 Boretz Rd , Colchester ,CT 06415

860-537-0122. [wclark8@aol.com](mailto:wclark8@aol.com)

FD Patches from - Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and  
Maine. Best contact info is:

Tyler Yalian 508-981-8384 [T.yalian@yahoo.com](mailto:T.yalian@yahoo.com)

Mack E-Model/Type 45 Parts: including a Two-piece seat,  
gas tank, window regulators for half doors, Bulldog &  
Base, plus other misc items. Let me know what you have.

Also looking for any Andover, Mass FD memorabilia.

Contact: Dicky Krafton 978-375-6616. [dickykrafton@gmail.com](mailto:dickykrafton@gmail.com)

# FOR SALE

\*1933 Hahn Chemical hose wagon partially restored asking \$7,000

\*1956 Chev-American LaFrance Foamite-currantly being restored-make me an offer

\*Darley Champion front mount pump T model 500gpm Make me an offer-proceeds to benefit the Colchester Hayward Fire Museum fund

\*Hannay Hose reel-refurbished make me an offer proceeds to benefit the Colchester-Hayward fire Museum fund

\* 1000-gallon Waterous two stage pump-make me an offer proceeds to benefit the Colchester Hayward Fire Museum fund

\*Waukesha 145 GZ gas engine-heads need refurbishing included-Spicer 4753 transmission with clutch and pressure plate, Carburetor Magnito, Distributer and repair manual price-\$2500.00

Contact: Bill Clark 248 Boretz Rd , Colchester ,CT 06415

860-537-0122. [wclark8@aol.com](mailto:wclark8@aol.com)

Federal Signal Corp Siren - Model 77GA 12v DC

Dual-tone \$1000

Contact: ALFRED AVERIO 508-695-0713

Maxim bumper S series (some pit marks) \$75.00 Ralph

Harris [CFD24CI@Charter.net](mailto:CFD24CI@Charter.net)

Lynn 1951 Seagrave pumper. It has been sitting for a while but ran when parked. It comes with a lot of equipment. My phone number is 781-718-8489. Dave Chiaradonna



## Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Apparatus Owned: (If changed from previous years)

MAKE: \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN SERVED: \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE: \_\_\_\_\_ MODEL: \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN SERVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: (circle) NEW RENEWAL

Member Type: Active \$20 Affiliate \$50 Lifetime \$300 Additional Family \$5

Newsletter: EMAIL or MAIL I wish to be listed in the roster: YES or NO

The Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association (MAFAA) was founded as a local group in early 1977, as a chapter of SPAAMFAA. The purpose of the organization is to promote and preserve antique motorized fire apparatus. However, ownership of apparatus is not required, just a passion for them! A general membership meeting is normally held the first Sunday of each month throughout Eastern Massachusetts. The annual fire apparatus parade, show, and firematic flea market is held in June. A bi-monthly newsletter is published, "Box Alarm" which contains numerous articles, reports, photos and classifieds, and calendar of upcoming events.

Membership in SPAAMFAA is not required, but highly encouraged.

### The following classification of memberships are available:

**Active:** Any individual person 18 year of age or older. (\$20 per year, \$5 each additional family)

**Affiliate:** Any fire department, Museum, or Group owning vintage fire apparatus (\$50 per year)

**Life:** A one time payment available to individual members (\$300)

**Payments via check or money order (Payable to: MAFAA) can be mailed to:**

Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association P.O. Box 3235 Andover, Ma. 01810

**Online application and payments available :** [www.massmafaa.com](http://www.massmafaa.com)