

FOURTH QUARTER 2018

Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association

Proudly Serving:

Alexandria Alton Andover Ashland Barnstead

Bridgewater

Bristol

Campton

Center Harbor

Danbury

Dorchester

East Andover

Ellsworth

Franklin

Gilford

Gilmanton

Groton

Hebron Hill Holderness Laconia Meredith Moultonborough **New Hampton** Northfield Plymouth Rumney Sanbornton Sandwich Strafford Thornton Tilton Warren Waterville Valley Wentworth



62 Communications Drive Laconia, New Hampshire 03246 603.528.9111 www.lrmfa.org

From the desk of

Chief Coordinator Jon Goldman, RPL

The fourth quarter of 2018 was extremely busy, with lots of significant progress. 2018 Brought many challenges with the radio system due to repair and maintenance issues which seemed to culminate during the fourth quarter. We are continuing to work with vendors to design and build a system that will meet the needs of the mutual aid district at a reasonable cost to the membership. We hope to present a design and build out a timeline, and of course funding options to the Board of Directors at our May meeting. Over the next few weeks and



months, Deputy Steele and Chief Goldman will be speaking with the mutual aid district Chiefs to get an understanding of what their goals are in the system rebuild, after all, it is their system.



During 2018 we replaced antennas and feedline at Mt. Belknap. The site at Mt. Belknap in and of itself is a treacherous site due to the weather conditions and required several hikes up the mountain. Chief Goldman, Deputy Steele, Lieutenant Parker, **Dispatcher Rice and Sandwich Chief Ted** Call (20C1) made one such hike in October after several days of rain, and during a rainy day. It was a tough hike, and we were lugging 150' of rigid 7/8" feedline to the top of the mountain in anticipation of the radio vendor and tower crew replacing the feedline and antenna when the antenna arrived. Due

to weather and delivery factors that project was delayed but finally completed in December. We are grateful that the radio site is back to functioning as it was designed. As we roll into 2019, we will be making the same repairs to Mt. Tenney, which is a little more challenging due to the terrain, and access issues.

We are also working on some additional repairs to Mt. Kearsarge and are exploring additional radio sites for the eventual rebuild of the radio system.

We continue to develop the simulcast site in Warren NH as voted on by the board in 2018. Currently, the tower has been erected, and the E-Line has been installed at both, the Warren Fire Department, and the Communications Center. We are now waiting on ordered equipment, and once it is in and installed, we will have an additional simulcast radio site colocated with the Warren Fire Department, at their station. This has been a lengthy but much-needed project, and we know no one is looking forward to it more than Chief Heath, of the Warren Fire Department.

Lt. Dave Parker is our CAD Project manager and has been working closely with the CAD vendor to prepare the database, equipment, and staff Continued on Page 4 – From the Chief

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Chief Arthur Heath Warren

Chief Chris Hodges Waterville Valley

Chief Jeff Ames Wentworth

FACTS ARE STUBBORN, STATISTICS ARE MORE PLIABLE -Mark Twaín

		Admin- Phones	Emergency- Phones	Incidents
L	January	1,900	2,886	2,449
Quarter	February	1,425	2,376	1,977
lar	March	1,310	2,080	1,825
Q	Total	4,635	7,342	6,251
-	Average/Day	51.5	81.5	69.5

	Admin- Phones	Emergency- Phones	Incidents	
April	1,454	2,291	1,942	Q
May	1,802	2,649	2,211	Quarter
v	,	,	,	F
June	2,027	2,936	2,315	te
Total	5,283	7,876	6,468	r
Average/Day	58.7	87.5	71.86	

		Admin- Phones	Emergency- Phones	Incidents
	July	2,110	3,112	2,668
	August	2,142	3,116	2,663
	September	1,934	2,705	2,253
,	Total	6,186	8,933	7,584
	Average/Day	67.24	97.09	82.4

	Admin- Phones	Emergency- Phones	Incidents	
October	1,934	2,691	2,259	Qua
November	2046	2647	2360	lar
Decamber	1726	2275	2035	rter
Total	5,706	7,613	6,654	r
Average/Day	62.02	82.75	72.33	

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st

THE START OF A NEW CHAPTER

Chief Kevin LaChapelle of the Franklin Fire Department retired on 12/28/18, but not before taking in one last fire. The Franklin Fire Department responded to a home on the evening of 12/27/18 and there were reports of two burn victims. A second alarm was struck, and multiple mutual aid responded. Knowing it was Chief LaChapelles last fire, many neighboring chiefs also responded to assist. Franklin Fire, and mutual aid companies made quick work of the fire, and it was determined to have been started by accidental cooking. The next day many well-wishers attended a sendoff ceremony for Chief LaChapelle. Commissioner Barthelmes, as well as many from the NHFMO attended along with many well-wishers from the City of Franklin, and the neighboring departments.



FRANKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES PASSING OF CAPTAIN ROBERT BROWN



Chief LaChapelle and the members of the Franklin Fire Department regret to announce the passing of Call Captain Robert J. Brown. The memories from your 36 years of dedicated service will never be forgotten. We've got it from here Brownie. Stay low and let it blow!



From the desk of - Continued from Page 1

for the XCAD deployment which is scheduled for February 2019. We held a Powerusers training class over three days for all of our Lieutenants. The Powerusers training was an opportunity for them to get into the meat and potatoes of the new CAD program.

As 2018 came to a close, during the fourth quarter we also worked through the budget process to approve a budget for 2019. In the previous Rural Hitch, we spoke about the insurance costs, and at press time we did not know what those costs would be. The insurance company issued the renewal rates in late October, and our rates went up this year by 10%. This was after last years reduction of 6%. Employee contributions also increased, and Chief Goldman along with the Executive Board presented a proposed 2019 budget to the Board of Directors with only a 1.76% increase over 2018, or \$22,499 which can directly be attributed to the insurance increase. Due to the increase in some community valuations, and the way the funding formula is calculated some communities saw a reduction in their assessments.

In October of 2018 Chief Goldman was chosen to sit on the Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee (SIEC) representing the NH Emergency Dispatchers Association and was subsequently selected as the Chair of the Interoperable Frequency Working Group Committee. The SEIC was legislatively created to oversee and guide interoperability amongst all NH first responders and stakeholders.

The fourth quarter seemed to be as busy, or busier than the rest of the year, especially as we wrapped it up, and rolled into the new year. We look forward to what 2019 will bring for the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association.

2019 MEETING SCHEDULE

BOARD OF D	DIRECTORS	
(1900 @ the Comm	unications Center)	
01/16/19	05/08/19	
09/25/19	10/30/19	
EXECUTIVE (COMMITTEE	
(1400 @ the Commi	unications Center)	
01/16/19	03/05/19	
04/02/19	05/08/19	
06/04/19	08/06/19	
09/25/19	10/30/19	

2019 ALS Breakfast

LVAD Case Review and Anaphylaxis

Dr. Josh Rudner Hosted by Franklin Fire Department February 6, 2018 0830-1030hrs Quality Management Meeting

There will be a QM meeting immediately following the ALS Breakfast.

2019 ALS Quality Management Meetings

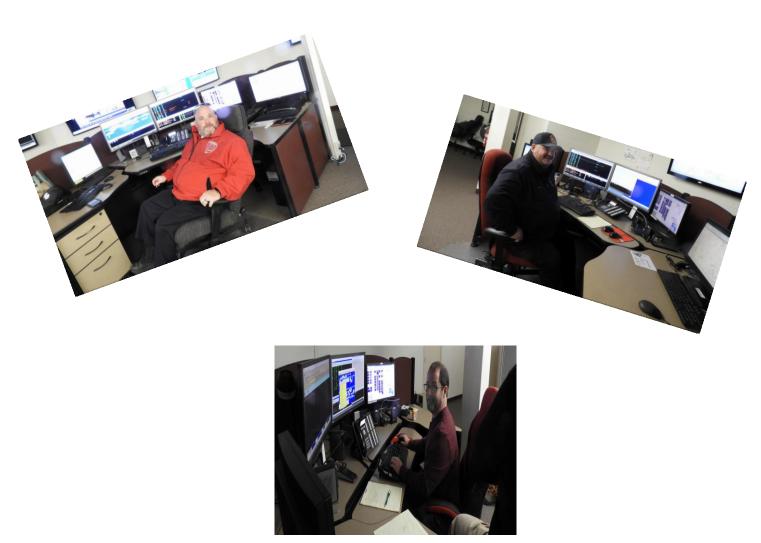
DATE	HOST		
January 2 nd	Laconia		
February 6 th	Franklin		
March 6 th	New Hampton		
April 3rd	Stewart's		
May 1 st	New Hampton		
June 5 th	Gilford		
July 3rd	Off		
August 7 th	Off		
September 4 th	Laconia		
October 2 nd	New Hampton		
November 6 th	Laconia		
December 4 th	Gilford		



DISPATCHERS HELPING DISPATCHERS

Asking for help is not always easy but when you are trying to get your entire department together for a photo you need someone to answer the calls. On November 30, 2018 we held our annual Grafton County Sheriff's Department Potluck and used the event as a chance to take a department picture. We were lucky enough to have two NH Telecommunicator Emergency Response Team members Chief Jon Goldman and Deputy Chief Paul Steele from Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid and Dispatcher John Miller from NH State Police Troop-F come and man our communications center. The trio worked the phones and radios for approximately two hours giving our staff time to mingle and get a group photo taken. We are truly lucky to work in an industry where your neighbors lend a helping hand whenever needed. The entire staff at the Grafton County Sheriff's Department would like to thank Jon, Paul and John for stepping in and answering the calls!

By Thayer Paronto



PROMOTIONS & RECOGNITIONS

On December 17th 2018, Laconia Fire Chief Kirk Beattie was sworn in as the Fire Chief of the Belmont Fire Department, and at the same ceremony, Belmont Deputy Chief Mike Newhall was promoted to Belmont Assistant Chief. Chief Beattie had been sworn into his new position as the Laconia Fire Chief on November 26.



Laconia & Belmont Fire Departments promoted Kirk Beattie Fire Chief





Laconia Fire Department promoted Jay Ellingson Assistant Chief



Belmont Fire Department promoted Michael Newhall Assistant Chief



Franklin Fire Department promoted Michael J. Foss Fire Chief



CHIEF AIKEN RECOGNIZED

Former LRMFA Chief Aiken chaired the Enhanced 9-1-1 Commission since its inception. He was appointed to the commission as a representative of the NH Association Of Fire Chiefs. Thank you for your service Chief Aiken.

Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid



Coming in 2019



Join us for a 4-Part series devoted to keeping emergency responders healthy. This series is presented by Veteran and First Responder Healthcare in conjunction with NH FST&EMS.

"Keeping your Department Healthy: Physically & Emotionally" January 2, 2019: 9:00 am–11:00 am & 6:30 pm–8:30 pm

"Self-Care After Critical Incidents"

April 3, 2019: 9:00 am-11:00 am & 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

"Avoiding Burnout & Compassion Fatigue"

August 7, 2019: 9:00 am-11:00 am & 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

"Stress Management & Self-Care"

November 6, 2019: 9:00 am-11:00 am & 6:30 pm-8:30 pm

Registration Information coming at a later date!

SPONDER



PROUDLY SERVED BY



LRMFA HEADS TO RESPONSE TO BOMBING TRAINING

During the midsummer of 2018, the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association Training Division posted a Training Division, sponsored program to the Energetic Once the students were settled in their rooms, they reported to the college campus Monday morning at 7:00 AM. There was a safety briefing, issuance of class iPads, and

Materials Research and Testing at New Mexico Center. Technical College in Socorro New Mexico. The Training division had coordinated and made available to LRMFA and NH Fire Service members attendance at the "Incident Response Terrorist to Bombings Course" which was to be held September 24, 2018 through September 27, 2018. The IRTB course provides first



responders with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely respond to terrorist incidents involving explosives. The IRTB course focuses on first responder health and safety by addressing personal protection issues that arise when responding to terror incidents involving commercial and homemade explosive. Additionally, the course includes information on the recognition of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs); terrorist organizations, both foreign and domestic; and lessons learned from past terrorist incidents. This information better prepares first responders to safely recognize and respond to terrorist bombing threats. The identification and response to IED's, and homemade explosives was of interest to the training division. Attendees traveled the Sunday before the program started leaving Manchester Boston Regional Airport at approximately 6:00 AM, and arriving in Albuquerque, New Mexico during the late afternoon. From there they traveled by rental cars to Socorro, New Mexico. If you have ever seen the Pixar Studios/Walt Disney movie "Cars" then you know what Socorro, New Mexico is reminiscent of. It looked much like Radiator Springs and was a small town out in the middle of the dessert with a restaurant or two, and the college. Overlooking the town was a large dessert mountain with a large manmade M at the top made from stones. The college offers many degree programs, but was founded as a mining, mineral engineering, and metallurgical engineering college. The students hike up the Mountain each year and replace stones as needed to keep the large M at the peak of the mountain.

the filling out of government forms and reimbursement requests. Class was held each day, usually culminating with a trip to "the range." A trip to the range began with students going to their cars to leave their cell phones, cameras, and smart watches behind. These items are not allowed on the range for safety, and the fact that other government contractors use the range for testing and research

as evidenced by the "restricted access" structures, and other evidence of explosives littered throughout the range. Then the students pile into an old bus with no air conditioning. Once on the bus, and after being counted, and recounted, and again warned to triple check that you had no cell phone or camera with you we were off on a 15minute drive through the desert. Once arriving at the range, we went through a guard shack and then drove another 15-20 minutes in the dessert though hills and valleys that appear to be where the old western "Gunsmoke" had been filmed at. Once at the range the students are broken back up into groups and meet with their individual instructors to go over the different evolutions. While at the range, many of the explosive materials discussed during class time, were shown, and demonstrated. The live demonstrations were so that students could see the explosive material in action, but also how it caused damage to humans, structures, and

personal belongings depending on how it was "packaged." Students were able to see how explosives such as



Detcord, Dynamite, ANFO, C4 and many others were used and could be identified by the damage left behind in the real world. They saw how they could be packaged such as a briefcase bomb, letter bomb, or pipe bomb. New Mexico Tech hosts these types of classes every other week, and during the off weeks they rebuild the



props, such as the two offices built to New Mexico building code, to demonstrate the letter and briefcase bombs effect on a human, and the office in which it would be opened. After four days of class time, range time, and a mandatory computer-based test in which you need to score an 80% or better the students assembled at the range for the final exercise in which 600 pounds of Ammonium Nitrate, and Fuel Oil (ANFO) was placed into the back of a pickup truck, next a concrete structure to be exploded. This particular evolution "wow" factor depends a lot on the weather, as New Mexico Tech has a formula as to how much ANFO is used depending on the ceiling, cloud cover, and other weather factors. The blast is so large that the shockwave has the potential to effect air traffic flying in the area, as well as windows in downtown Socorro. After this evolution, what was once a Ford Ranger Pickup truck was nothing more than scrap metal with very few identifiable parts strewn all over the range.

The class was attended by LRMFA Chief Jon Goldman, LRMFA Deputy Chief and CTFR Lieutenant Paul Steele, LRMFA Lieutenant and Meredith Captain Dave Parker and Sandown NH Deputy Chief Mike Devine. Due to previous credentialing Chief Goldman, Deputy Steele, and Lt. Parker are now certified as instructors and can bring this training back to the local area (without the actual range time and explosions).

These programs are 100% funded by the Federal Government in cooperation with the State of NH. All Travel,



lodging and perdiem is fully funded. The LRMFA Training Division will host and coordinate an additional program in 2019 for those who may be interested in attending a program

such as this please contact Deputy Chief Paul Steele at psteele@lrmfa.org



Publication of Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Assocation

THE RURAL HITCH

Send us your news: ruralhitch@lrmfa.org





DISPATCHERS – THE PEOPLE YOU TALK TO FIRST IN AN EMERGENCY

Thousands a time a day people call 911 or local emergency services to get help. The first people you interact to help you are the dispatchers, they gather information and dispatch who is needed.

Dispatchers are also the vital group who communicates your critical needs to those responding to your emergency. They remain on the phone giving critical directions to the caller while getting the information to the responders.

The NH Emergency Dispatchers Association (NHEDA) is a group who helps coordinate the information, training, and tools needed for the dispatchers to constantly improve the process.

NHEDA held a Supervisors seminar in Concord to bring in several speakers to bring the most current information to the members. Due to an overwhelming response we needed to move the location from the Manchester Fire Department, to the NHFA as we had over 60 people registered for the day long program.



Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) John Stevens Photo by Frame of Mind Photo



Emergency Services & Communications Director Mark Doyle Photo by Frame of Mind Photo



State Police Support Services Bureau Commander Captain Jeffrey Ladieu Photo by Frame of Mind Photo

CONGRATULATIONS LRFMA LT. NUGENT

LRMFA Lt. Nugent graduated with his master's degree in emergency management from the University of New Haven on December 15, 2018. After years of hard work, and a 3.8 GPA Congratulations is well deserved Lt. Nugent.



HE RURAL HITCH

BOATING EDUCATION HOSTED BY GILMANTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Gilmanton Fire Department will be sponsoring a Boating Education Course taught by the New Hampshire Marine Patrol on February 18 and 20 from 1800 - 2130 hours at the Gilmanton Iron Works Fire Station at 1824 NH Route 140, Gilmanton Iron Works.

Every year, we have about 30 students and expect this class to fill quickly and want to offer it to Gilmanton residents and our Facebook friends first.

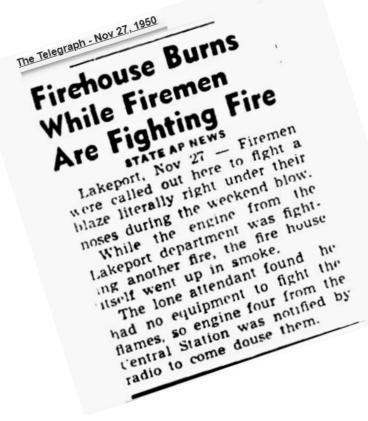
For CIVILIAN registration, please contact Nancy at NH Marine Patrol at 267-7256, The cost for the license will be \$40.00 (to include their license) and the registration has to go through Marine Patrol.

The instructor is the same as last 2 years and is outstanding and holds a very interactive and informative class. Polling students after the program each year, we always receive very positive comments about both the instructor and the course.

We will open this to the general public if we don't get 30 fire department, police department and community members and will start the public registration on Friday, January 18, 2019 so please, guarantee a spot by contacting us and registering before January 18.

New Hampshire law has a mandatory boating education law and requires anyone 16 years and older who operates a motorboat over 25 horsepower to have a boating education certificate and this course fulfills that requirement.

For FIRE AND POLICE personnel, please contact our fire department, there is no charge for your course however there is a \$10.00 fee for your license. For any questions about the course, please contact us through Facebook or contact the Fire Department at 364-2500 and someone will get back to you with information.





lew Hampshire



GILMANTON FIRE DEPARMENT Receives new bottle filling station with a \$47,00 FEMA grant!





Managed Services for Receiving & Reporting



Number of calls handled to date in 2018 for LRMA Radio System by Property Protection Monitoring, Inc. & Kingfisher Company, inc.

2,041 SUPERVISORY/TROUBLE CALLS and 822 FIRE ALARM CALLS

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ACROSS THE REGION

At 7:30 PM on Monday November 12th, Campton-Thornton Fire Rescue responded to Snowood Drive in Thornton for an animal rescue.

Upon arrival, crews found an approximate 145 lb. Saint Bernard, who had slid down an embankment approximately 20 feet and was unable to get back up.

A crew was able to make contact with the dog, who was still wearing his harness and connected to his lead. The crew was able to assist him into the stokes basket, while other personnel rigged up a safety rope system.

"Fudge" the dog was brought up the embankment, found to be uninjured and helped into the house.



NOV 30–DEC 2, 2018 Meredith, Danbury & Warren

The weekend of November 30th 2018 was a very busy weekend for Lakes Region Departments as well as Deputy Chief Paul D. Steele Jr. The C1/C2 tones were struck three times in two days. The weekend started like any other weekend, until the evening of Friday November 30th Meredith Fire Department was dispatched to a building fire. The fire was held at a second alarm.

No sooner had companies cleared and returned in service when, on December 1st the Danbury Fire was dispatched for an alarm activation at their highway department. A Highway Department member was the first to arrive and confirmed a building fire. A total of three alarms was struck to hold the fire in the building.

Then on the evening of December 2nd the Warren Fire Department was dispatched for a reported building fire. This fire proved very challenging due to its location. Multiple companies responded to this fire, two patients were transported to the hospital, and one subject was found deceased in the building. The NHFMO was called to investigate.



Meredith 2nd Alarm Fire – November 30, 2018



Warren Fatal Fire - December 2, 2018

CAMPTON-THORNTON FIRE DEPTARTMENT

Near Miss Incident

At approximately 11:30 am on Friday December 28, 2018, CTFR Rescue 1, NH State Police and a local towing company were operating at the scene of a Motor Vehicle Accident on Interstate 93 Northbound in Campton. Rescue 1 had its emergency lights activated and traffic advisor light on, to warn traffic.

While the tow truck operators were in the process of loading the vehicle onto a ramp truck, in snow and freezing rain, a vehicle approached the scene and failed to "move over."

The crew of Rescue 1 had returned to the truck and were awaiting the removal of the vehicle, so they could respond to an additional call, when the Rescue driver observed a vehicle approaching the scene, and not moving over. The vehicle missed a collision with Rescue 1, by less than 3 feet.

The driver of the Rescue then saw a tow truck operator in the path of the oncoming vehicle and repeatedly activated the air horn. The tow company employee, alerted to the approaching danger, was able to jump out of the way, narrowly escaping injury or death.

The Trooper observed the incident unfold and was able to stop the vehicle. (We presume a lengthy discussion and ticket ensued)

Fortunately, no injuries were reported.

The moral of the story, slow down and move over when you see Red, Blue or Amber (yellow) lights! Not only is it the law, but it's the right thing to do. No one needs to lose a life over an inattentive driver.





#EveryoneGoesHome #MoveOver

ACROSS THE REGION

On the evening of Wednesday, November 21, 2018, the Town of Belmont, along with many other departments, worked hard on a building fire on Province Road. Three police officers were sent to the hospital as they had entered the structure searching for occupants prior to the arrival of the fire department. They were released from the hospital a short time later with minor injuries.

Crews from Belmont, Laconia, Gilford, Tilton/Northfield, Gilmanton, Alton, New Hampton, Bristol, Ashland, Plymouth, Holderness, Barnstead, Boscawen, Franklin, Meredith, Center Harbor, Moultonborough, Loudon, Concord, Sanbornton, Stewarts Ambulance and Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid all worked hard covering the station and working the building fire. The fire eventually made it to a 5th alarm. Due to the extreme cold, 5th alarms companies were called in from as far away as Plymouth and were staged at the Belmont Fire Station to keep warm and dry while an excavator was brought in to assist in dousing the flames. Once the excavator arrived, the 5th alarm companies were dispatched from the Belmont Fire Station to the scene. At the height of this fire the Plymouth Fire Department was providing station coverage in Belmont.





NOVEMBER 21, 2018

Belmont Fire Department

On December 30th at approximately 4:00 AM Barnstead Fire Department was dispatched for a reported Building Fire. On arrival to the home on Beauty Hill Road, crews found the home, an attachment, and a garage fully involved and requested a second alarm. Deputy Chief John Drew was the incident commander, and the home did not have working smoke detectors. The occupants were awoken to the fire by one of their dogs who is reported to be blind. Deputy Drew credits the dog for saving the homeowners lives.

DECEMBER 30, 2018 Barnstead Fire Department

ALTON TAKES DELIVERY OF AMBULANCE 2

Christmas came a few days early at Alton Fire as they took delivery of the new Ambulance 2! This vehicle replaces a 2005 Freightliner which is no longer in service. Ambulance 2 is the first 4 wheel drive ambulance in Alton and will serve as the primary ambulance in the winter months. This truck was purchased with funds from the ambulance revolving fund and no money was raised from taxes. Finishing touches, stocking, and training has be completed and the ambulance has been put in service, serving our community.

Special thanks to PL Custom & our dealer Sugarloaf Ambulance/Rescue Vehicles!



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



GRIN: GROUP CRISIS INTERVENTION & ASSISTING INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS (2 CISM COURSES IN 1)

March 20-22, 2019

The Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy

98 Smokey Bear Blvd Concord, NH 03305

Cost: \$220

(Includes Materials, CEU's, Lunches & Snacks)

This course is designed for anyone in the fields of business & industry crisis intervention, disaster response, education, emergency services, employee assistance, healthcare, homeland security, mental health, military, spiritual care, and traumatic stress.

Register Today!

Registration Deadline: March 1st

NHCISD@aol.com

76 Janet Court, Manchester, NH 03103 (603) 315-0304

STATEWIDE ALL-HAZARDS MOBILIZATION PLAN OVERVIEW

The Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Training Division in cooperation with the NH Federation of Mutual Aid Districts, and the NH Fire Marshals Office will be hosting "An Overview of the Statewide All Hazards Mobilization Plan." This program is open to any member of the NH Fire and EMS Services, and is geared towards Chiefs, Chief Officers, or anyone who may have Incident Command of a scene where additional Resources are needed. A follow up program will be released this spring for those who may be placed as "Strike Team" or "Task Force" Leaders.

The program will be hosted throughout the Lakes Region, and department members from outside the mutual aid district are invited to attend.

- Laconia Fire Department Central Station January 31, 2019 1800-1900
- Franklin Fire Department February 21, 2019 1400-1500 AND 1900-2000



• Campton-Thornton Fire Rescue – February 27, 2019 1900

If your department is interested in hosting a program in or out of the LRMFA Mutual Aid District, contact Chief Jon Goldman at jgoldman@Irmfa.org



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