



# Alumni Dispatch



## Holiday Party



Scott Halligan, IT Supervisor at MPD, spoke at our December CPAAA Meeting. He explained how communications between the patrol cars and dispatch has changed over time. From two way simplex radios and 800 MHz repeaters to the State Police Radio system and wireless cards in laptops (above), the ability to reliably connect the patrol cars and dispatch is vital for the safety of the officers and the public.

## Different Vehicles Require Different Winter Driving Habits

Motorists should be aware that different types of vehicles have particular operating characteristics that change the way they handle on icy or snow-covered roads, according to AAA Southern New England.

"Knowing the different winter-weather capabilities of a vehicle can mean the difference between a safe trip and serious trouble," said John Paul, AAA's Car Doctor. "Motorists should carefully read their owner's manual for information on their vehicle's equipment and handling characteristics."

Front-wheel-drive vehicles generally handle better than rear-wheel-drive vehicles on slippery roads because the weight of the engine is on the drive wheels, which im-

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The CPAAA Holiday Party was held at the Sons of Italy Hall on Thursday, Dec. 4. We had a great turnout! Many Members provided a variety of appetizers to start off the evening. We shared great conversation and laughter as we dined on delicious Italian food. The Yankee Swap topped off the evening as 42 presents were unwrapped and a few swapped! Chief Collins and Lt. Read joined us for part of the evening. Many thanks to all attending for making our Holiday party such a festive time. **Happy Holidays!**



## Upcoming Events:

- ♦ **Jan. 6** - Monthly CPAA Meeting, 7pm  
Take down the holiday decorations in the lobby at the end of the meeting.
- ♦ **Jan. 20** - Steering Committee meeting
- ♦ **Jan. 24** - CPR Class, 10am-2pm, MPD conference room



Tuesdays, January 6 to March 10, 2008, 6 - 8:30 pm  
except Wed., Feb. 17, 2008.

**Community Emergency Response Team Training**  
**This class is full.**

For information about future classes, please contact Deputy Sheriff David Vieira at [dvieira@bsheriff.net](mailto:dvieira@bsheriff.net) or 508-563-4320.

**Different Vehicles Require Different Winter Driving Habits**

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proves traction. The back end of rear-wheel-drive cars tends to slide from side-to-side during turns on icy roads.

While many motorists are now driving sport-utility vehicles and light trucks that can be excellent for driving in difficult conditions, AAA warns drivers not to become over-confident.

"Four wheel drive pickup trucks and SUVs, as well as, all-wheel-drive sedans and wagons to get moving on snow-covered roads, but they don't stop any quicker than other vehicles," Mr. Paul said. "Drivers still need to slow down and keep a safe distance behind the vehicle in front of them."

Drivers of pickup trucks with rear-wheel-drive need to be especially cautious on slick roads because these vehicles have very little weight over the wheels that are propelling the vehicle and are prone to rear-wheel skids on slippery roads.

A vehicle's braking system also determines how motorists should operate in winter weather. Anti-lock brake systems (ABS) can provide a significant stopping advantage on slick roads, but are only effective if properly used. When stopping a vehicle with anti-lock brakes in slippery conditions, motorists should apply steady pressure to the brake pedal. The ABS will automatically pump the brakes to keep the wheels from locking and the vehicle from skidding.

Drivers of cars without ABS should gently apply pumping pressure to the brakes on slippery conditions to avoid wheel lock-up.

Additionally, many new cars feature traction control, which prevents wheel spin during acceleration. This is very helpful when initially trying to get moving on slippery roads.

**AAA Southern New England**

**CPAA UPDATES**

◆ New teams are being formed for Members to join: Radar Team, boat cleaning/painting team, greeters in the lobby team, handicap parking team. If you are interested in joining please sign up at a meeting or email [MashpeeCPAA@comcast.net](mailto:MashpeeCPAA@comcast.net). Training for each new group will be held in February, members will be notified, and training will be on-going throughout the year for new members. Chairs of these teams are also being sought.

◆ Jane Stockbridge, who lives in Deer Crossing, needs a ride to our meetings. If you could give her a ride, please call Jane at 508-477-1611.

◆ The next MCPAAA CPR class will be held on Saturday, January 24 from 10:00-2:00 at the station in the conference room. There are two spots available if any member is interested in joining the class, and a sign up sheet will be at the January meeting. Text-book cost is \$12.00 and lunch will be provided.

◆ Any member who is heading South for the winter, and won't be able to receive the newsletter by email, please leave a self-addressed envelope(s) with a board member, so you can receive the newsletter by mail while you are away.

◆ The Steering Committee Members are developing ideas for the new year, ie, fund-raisers, guest speakers, dinners, field trips. All MCPAAA Members are invited to attend the steering committee meetings and participate in the planning of events for the up-coming year.

◆ On Wednesday, April 8, 2009, the Mashpee Police Department will hold the spring session of the Citizen Police Academy. The academy is open to all Mashpee residents including high school students, and will be held at the station from 7:00-9:30 every Wednesday. Applications are available in the MPD lobby and at the resident center in Southport. Please tell your friends and family about the academy.

**CPAA Meetings**

*Tuesdays, 7:00 PM*

**Jan. 6** ☞ **Feb. 3** ☞ **March 3**

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