

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

Second Quarter
2021

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

63rd Year

(1959-2022)

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The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors is a non-profit organization and was established on September 30, 1959. MIFDI's mission is "to promote fire department training and education by the mutual sharing of knowledge".

THE MIFDI OFFICERS - 2019

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department (Retired)
 Vice President: Deputy Chief Christopher Kelley, Concord Fire Department (Retired)
 Secretary: Captain Edward (Ted) D. Quinn, Jr., Peabody Fire Department
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired)

THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS

Terms Expire 2020

Chief Thomas Conway, III, Billerica Fire Department (Retired)
 Assistant Chief Robert MacKendrick, Lynnfield Fire Department (Retired)
 Chief Richard Gomes, Norton Fire Department (Retired)

Terms Expire 2019

Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired) (Past President)
 Chief James M. Vuona, Shrewsbury Fire Department

EDITOR

Firefighter / Instructor Scott D. Maker, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired)

VISIT US ON THE WEB!
www.mifdi.org
E-MAIL- mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216
 2021 Membership Application & Invoice
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2021**

**Your MIFDI Dues
 are due Jan. 1st**



**or Join MIFDI for
 the first time.**

Membership Information

Name _____
Address _____
City & State _____
Zip Code _____
Phone (Home) _____
E-mail Address _____
Fax (Home) _____

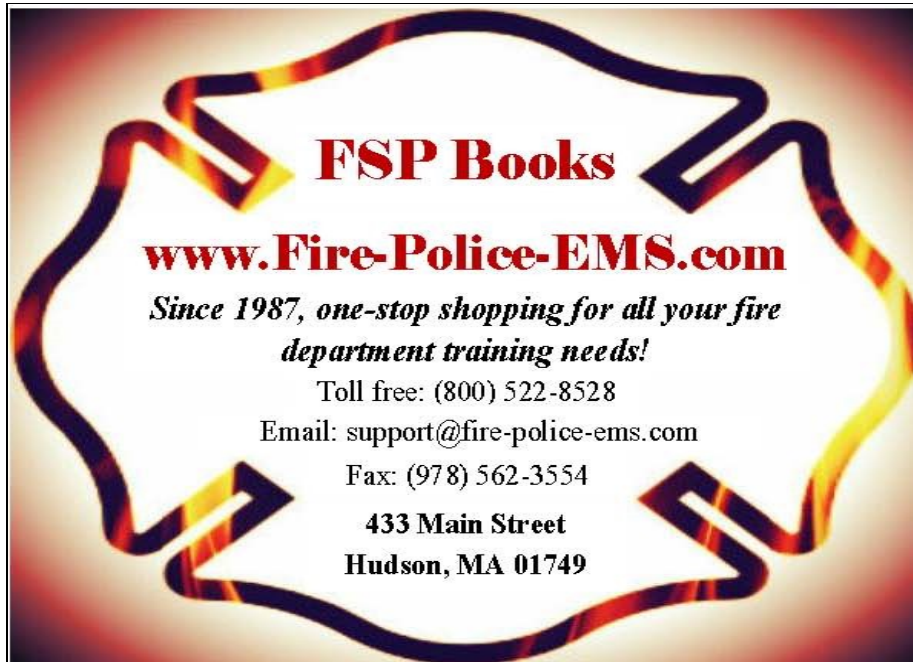
Work Information

Department _____
Rank _____
Phone (work) _____
Fax (work) _____
Address (work) _____
City & State (work) _____
Zip Code _____

| <u>Membership Type:</u> | <u>Send Bulletin To:</u> | <u>Membership Dues:</u> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <u>circle one</u> | <u>circle one</u> | <u>Active</u> \$ 35.00 |
| <u>Active</u> | <u>Home</u> | <u>Retired</u> \$ 15.00 |
| <u>Retired</u> | <u>Work</u> | <u>Associate</u> \$100.00 |
| <u>Associate</u> | <u>E-mail</u> | |

There is also a \$10 late fee if dues are paid after April 1st
Please mail completed Application with check or money order payable to:

MIFDI
Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer
PO Box 507
Merrimac, MA 01860-0510
Phone: (978) 346-4731
E-mail: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org



MEETING NOTICE

Due to the state Covid restrictions finally lifted on May 29, I am delighted to report that MIFDI will be able to meet once again for our June meeting!

The meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY JUNE 23** hosted by the Lexington Fire Department courtesy of Chief Derek Secabaugh. We will meet in the first floor training room of their NEW fire HQ located at 45 Bedford St (Rt.4/225).

Our presentation will be provided by retired ATF Special Agent Wayne Miller, author of the book "**Burn Boston Burn**". Agent Miller was involved with the arson investigation in the Boston area during the difficult cutbacks caused after Prop 2.5 in the early 1980's. His fascinating presentation walks us through the challenging process and finally to an important brake in the case to arrest and convict the group responsible for the destructive and dangerous rash of 264 building fire's over a 2-year period.

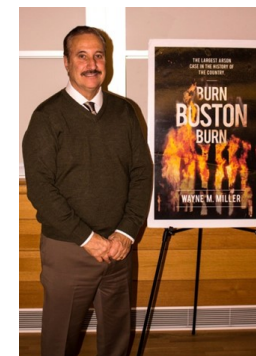
In addition, just prior to Wayne's presentation, we will have a brief "Show & Tell" of a Firefighter RIT board created to assist with the removal of a down firefighter.

SCHEDULE:

0930 Coffee, 1000 RIT Board Demo, 1015 Training Presentation, 1130 General Meeting & Discussion of Events, 1200 Lunch (off site).

DIRECTIONS:

From Rt.128/I-95, take Exit 49A (This is a new Exit Number for Rt. 4/225). Head east on Bedford St and the fire HQ will be located aprox 1-mile of the left. There is parking in the rear and if you have a "company vehicle", you can park in the Walgreen's lot across from the firehouse.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/02/2021
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$123.03
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$386.21
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$2,314.28
 Total: \$2,823.52

Bills Paid March-May 2021:

June MIFDI Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 05/31
 TOTAL: \$120.00

50/50 Raffle = None

Winner = N/A

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

Account Transfers::

04/20/2021 - Checking to Savings - \$200.00

Total active members = 88

Dues paid thru 2027 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2022 = 3
 Dues paid thru 2021 = 32
 Dues paid thru 2020 = 39
 Dues paid thru 2019 = 12

Mailings

E-Mail - 55 Home - 19
 Work - 14
 Total: 88

Balances as of 06/01/2021

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 107.37
 Less uncles checks: \$ (0.00)
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 107.37
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 886.44
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,317.35
 Total \$ 3,311.16

Membership Totals: 88

53 Active - 31 Retired - 4 Associate

There were no new members who joined MIFDI from March - May, 2021

Treasurer Notes:

(a) Please remember to look at your mailing label for the PAID THROUGH date. Thank you to all of you who have paid your dues. **Your 2021 dues are due in January, 2021.**

Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2021 for your 2021 dues
NOTE: (this fee has been waived due to COVID-19 for 2020 & 2021).

(b) You may now use the 2021 membership application as your invoice. It has MIFDI's tax ID number listed, for your accounts payable department to process the dues payment. Simply use the dues year or payment date as your invoice number.

Respectfully submitted

06/01/2021

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

978-346-4731

Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

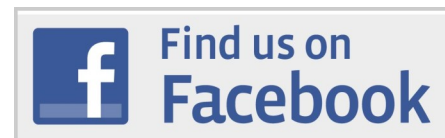
Thank you for your continued support and for the prompt payment of your dues!

MIFDI will also accept credit card payments. Contact Michael McLeieer for details.

Active Member dues is \$35 / Retired Member dues is \$15 / Associate Member dues is \$100

Please remember to still add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2021. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2021 (the fee has been waived due to COVID-19).

MIFDI is now on Facebook. Login to your Facebook account and search for **Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors** or visit **www.facebook.com/mifdi**. Become a Facebook friend to MIFDI and receive up to date announcements right to your PDA, Blackberry or computer. You may also select the MIFDI Facebook link on the MIFDI website home page at www.mifdi.org



Like MIFDI on Twitter @MIFDIFIRE





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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS may be addressed to:
MIFDI - Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer
PO Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860-0510
Phone: (978) 346-4731

PLEASE NOTE NEW Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

*Dues are \$35.00 per year for Active members *(\$45 after April 1st)
\$15.00 for Retired members *(\$25 after April 1st)
*100.00 per year for Associate members

(which includes a 1/4 page of advertising in the MIFDI Bulletin and on the MIFDI website).

* Membership dues are for one calendar year (January 1 through December 31).
Dues are due by January 1st. Add a \$10.00 Late Fee after April 1, 2021.

RECALL OF MEETING #2021-01, 02, 03, 04





OHS Training & Consulting, Inc.
9 Faun Bar Ave.
Suite #2
Winthrop, MA 02152
www.ohstrainconsult.com

Nancy Hughes
President
P: 617-959-4414
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E: Nancy.ohstc@gmail.com



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- ☐ Mustang Survival
- ☐ Stearns
- ☐ Mercedes Textiles Hose
- ☐ BW Technologies
- ☐ Genesis Rescue System
- ☐ Koehler-Bright Star
- ☐ Paratech

Our New Location
280 Milton St
Dedham, MA 02026
617-325-3993










EMS Run

Longer Turnover Times (Captain Mark Roche - Retired)

Every year, there seems to be another hospital merger by a large health care system to address reducing health care costs and elimination of duplication of specialized medicine. Boston has always been blessed with some of the world's best hospitals. In addition, there were numerous community hospitals located in cities and towns throughout the commonwealth.

Much has changed over the years with merges and closings. What was once a 10-minute run to the local emergency room has now doubled or actually tripled in some instances, especially when transporting to a Level I Trauma Center. Many fire departments today are also the primary EMS providers for communities. The impact of a local hospital closure has a ripple effect on our ability to provide services. As mentioned, the turnaround time for an ambulance from the time of the call until they are clear of the hospital and back in town can be an hour or more depending on the transport facility.

Smaller departments that cross-man their ambulances with manpower from a fire company are now at double the risk of reduced services due to the extended transport time. I have also witnessed larger department's that don't even operate an ambulance place an engine company out of service for over an hour when additional manpower is required during transport of a severe trauma or when working a cardiac arrest. Call/volunteer departments are especially stretched thin due to shortages nationwide with call-back coverage, particularly during weekdays.

It is important to track the longer turnaround time for not only the ambulances, but for fire companies as well when manpower is required during transport. This information can be valuable when justifying additional manpower for the future or fighting to keep what we currently have!



LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of retired **Boston Fire Commissioner/Chief of Dept. Leo D. Stapleton**. Chief Stapleton died on April 26, 2021 at age 93. He was appointed to the Boston Fire Department in 1951 and rose swiftly through the ranks; Lieutenant in 1956, Captain in 1961, District Chief in 1965, Deputy Chief in 1968. In 1984, Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn appointed Leo Stapleton as Fire Commissioner/Chief of Department. Chief Stapleton worked to restore the Boston Fire Department after the terrible effects of Prop. 2-1/2 in 1981 which resulted in layoffs, deactivation of fire companies and deplorable equipment. He was able to improve morale, restore some companies, and replaced almost the entire first-line fleet of the department. Commissioner Stapleton retired in 1991 after 40-years.

He was a strong advocate for improving firefighter safety and was instrumental in the NASA Firefighter Breathing System Program to create light-weight positive-pressure 4.5 SCBA with and an improved visibility face piece. He authored several fire service books which included humor, tragedy and lessons from his years of experience. Most firefighters have at least one of his books in their collection. Safe to say that Leo Stapleton was a true dedicated professional and it will be difficult to find a leader of his caliber again.



May He Rest In Peace

CONGRATULATIONS



Firesetting Intervention Resource Exchange

*An on-line networking
community for Firefighters,
Inspectors, Instructors, &
Juvenile Firesetting
Intervention Professionals*

- Fire, Police & Public Safety Personnel
 - Juvenile Justice & Court Personnel
 - Mental Health Professionals

www.fire-exchange.org

Call Scott Maker,
Firefighter/Merrimac Fire Department, with any questions you may
have.

269-492-3341

UPCOMING EVENTS:

FDIC will be back this year on August 2-7 in Indianapolis



REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is returning to a new normal after a difficult year with the pandemic. I am very hopeful that MIFDI can return to monthly meetings again beginning in June if the current trend continues. Hopefully everyone remained safe and healthy. I thank everyone for your patient's and understanding during the past year.

A reminder to those who have fallen behind, we ask members who would prefer to remain active in MIFDI to submit your dues payment for 2021. Many have already submitted their dues including our Associate members which is helpful for us to support the bulletin and payment for our website server each year. Again, I reassure you that MIFDI is alive and well and will continue into the future as an informative fire service training organization. Dues will remain at \$35 for Active, \$15 for Retired and \$100 for Associate. Send checks to: **MIFDI, PO Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860**



"To Promote Fire Department Training & Education by the Mutual Sharing of Knowledge"

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

Outdoor Dining Challenges (Captain Mark Roche – Retired)

During the covid-19 pandemic, outdoor dining became the solution for patrons to comfortably enjoy returning to dining out and it allowed many restaurants to survive a very difficult year. As we move forward to a new post-pandemic world, it appears that outdoor dining has become very popular and expected to remain permanent in many urban communities.

The challenges for the fire service posed by outdoor dining are the issues caused by seating areas now on sidewalks and into the streets creating difficult access. In some cases, streets are totally shut down to create a pedestrian friendly outdoor mall. The "Jersey Barriers" installed to protect seating areas may cause ladder company operators to override the safety sensor and "short-jack" to get the aerial out of the bed. Overriding safety features is considered a last resort but if you can't throw the stick when you need it, you might as well leave you \$1-million ladder truck in the station.



Will the length of the soft-suction from your front intake continue to reach the hydrant now? You may need a longer length of LDH to make the connection. What about the building fire department connections (FDC), are they now blocked or hidden? Also apparatus equipped with "barrier clearance doors" as opposed to full length doors enable safer egress from the cab with tools and SCBA.

Outdoor patio heaters are now very popular with outdoor dining. They are fueled with 20-lb propane tanks located in an access door at the base of the unit. These heaters stand 7-feet high and offer a heat radius of 16-feet. Ensure that they are a proper distance from table umbrella's and other combustibles. **MOST IMPORTANTLY, FIND OUT WHERE THESE PROPANE CYLINDERS CURRENTLY ARE BEING STORED**

Take a walk through these outdoor dining areas in your community and make a mental note of some of the new challenges for the fire service.