

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

February  
2018

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

*59th Year*

*(1959-2018)*

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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 - 2018**

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department  
 1st Vice President: Deputy Chief Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department (Retired)  
 2nd Vice President: Vacant  
 Secretary: Captain Edward (Ted) D. Quinn, Jr., Peabody Fire Department  
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department

**THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS**

**Terms Expire 2018**

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**

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

**EDITOR**

Firefighter / Instructor Scott D. Maker, Merrimac Fire Department

**VISIT US ON THE WEB!**

**www.mifdi.org**

**E-MAIL- michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com**

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216**  
**2018 Membership Application & Invoice**  
**Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2018**

**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** \_\_\_\_\_

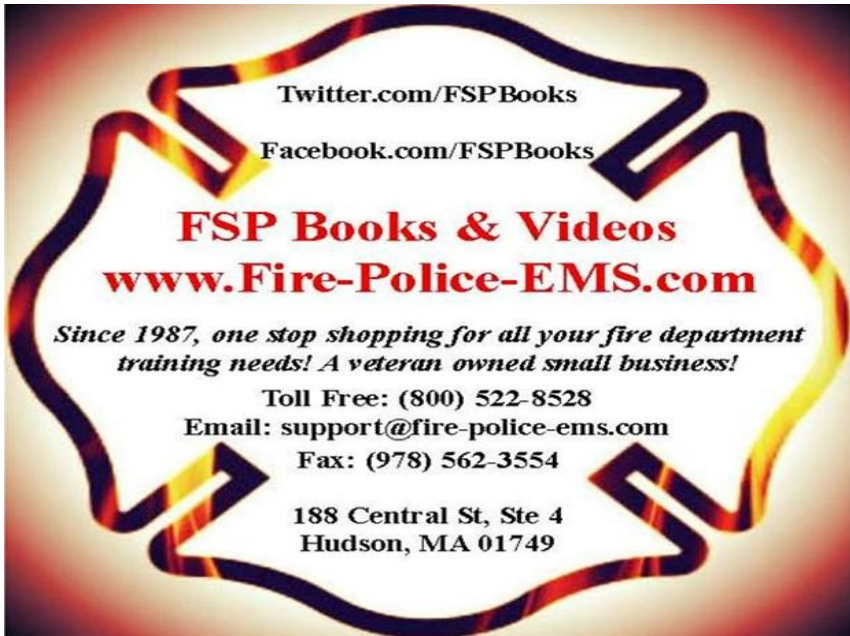
<b><u>Membership Type:</u></b>	<b><u>Send Bulletin To:</u></b>	<b><u>Membership Dues:</u></b>
<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>Active</u></b> \$ 30.00
<b><u>Active</u></b>	<b><u>Home</u></b>	<b><u>Retired</u></b> \$ 15.00
<b><u>Retired</u></b>	<b><u>Work</u></b>	<b><u>Associate</u></b> \$100.00
<b><u>Associate</u></b>	<b><u>E-mail</u></b>	

**Dues will increase to \$35 after April 1st for Active Members only.**

**There is 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: michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com



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## FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018** (NOTE: This is the Third Wednesday due to the FCAM Conference in Worcester on the fourth week).

We will be hosted by UPF (United Plastic Fabrication) located at 165 Flagship Dr., North Andover. UPF is a major manufacturer of the "Poly-tank" for fire apparatus. In addition, they manufacture foam trailers, utility body's, "wet-side" tankers and brush trucks, custom equipment boxes and accessories. Our last visit to UPF was in January 2007.

### **SCHEDULE:**

0930: Coffee, 1000: Presentation & Tour, 11:30: Business Meeting, 1200: Lunch (Off site).

### **DIRECTIONS:**

Take Rt. 93 north to Rt. 125 (Exit 41). Follow Rt. 125 to Rt. 114. Turn Right on Rt. 114 and take a right on Willow St. a short distance off Rt. 114 just past the Stop & Shop. Turn right on Flagship Drive to the end and you will see UPF.



**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning Balances for 01/02/2018  
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$212.07  
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$195.58  
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$1,771.35  
 Total: \$2,179.00

**Bills Paid January 2018 (Checking):**  
 February 2018 Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 01/31  
 Robt. Blomquist Scholarship Fund \$ 50.00 - 01/29  
 TOTAL: \$170.00

50/50 Raffle = \$57.00  
 Winner = Capt. John Bonadio, Waltham \$29 None  
 Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$28 deposited - PCU Savings

Account Transfers:

Total active members = 103

Dues paid thru 2020 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2019 = 5  
 Dues paid thru 2018 = 36  
 Dues paid thru 2017 = 56  
 Dues paid thru 2016 = 3  
 Dues paid thru 2015 = 2

Mailings

E-Mail - 64 Home - 29  
 Work - 10  
 103

Balances as of 02/10/2018

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 334.81  
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)  
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 334.81  
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 223.58  
 CapitalOne Sav. Balance: \$ 1,771.95  
 Total \$ 2,330.34

Membership Totals: 103

58 Active - 41 Retired - 4 Associate

Please welcome these new members who has joined MIFDI.

- Brooke Green - Lieutenant - Wilmington
- Richard Connelly - Captain - Boston

*Treasurer Notes:*

- 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 2018 dues are due in January, 2018. Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2018 for your 2018 dues.**
- You may now use the 2018 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

02/10/2018  
 by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer  
 978-346-4731  
 Email: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

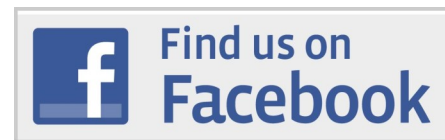
Thank you for your continued support and for the prompt payment of your dues!

The Membership voted to INCREASE Active Member dues to \$35 effective April 1st, 2018. MIFDI will also accept credit card payments effective April 1, 2018.

Retired Member dues will remain \$15  
 Associate Member dues will remain \$100

Please remember to still add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2018. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2018.

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](http://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](http://www.mifdi.org)



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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

**\*Dues are \$30.00 per year for Active members \*(\$45 after April 1st)**

**Active member dues will increase to \$35 effective April 1st (\$45 w/late fee)**

**\$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, 2018.**

**RECALL OF MEETING #2018-01**

Monthly Meeting: January 24, 2018

National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA

Meeting was opened at 10:05 a.m. and President Roche introduced Tracy Vecchiarelli, P.E., one of the Fire Protection Engineers at the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). January's training topic was a presentation on the latest edition (2016) of NFPA 80: *Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives*. The presentation, titled Barrier Management and Opening Protectives, was informative and well delivered. Ms. Vecchiarelli explained the many aspects of NFPA 80, as well as NFPA 1, 101, 252, and 5000. Ms. Vecchiarelli also gave a presentation on the material used in, and the devastating fire at, Grenfell Towers (England) last year. The topics covered are too many to list, but included Fire Doors, Curtains, Field Modifications, etc. Ms. Vecchiarelli stressed the fact that at NFPA there are many resources at our disposal, such as technical question hotlines, email contacts, and a wide array of other useful information. President Roche thanked Ms. Vecchiarelli for her educational presentation and continued support and passion for fire safety. There was a Moment of Silence for retired Arlington Fire Chief Robert Blomquist who passed away last year on December 26<sup>th</sup>. Report from Treasurer McLeieer was read and approved and he mentioned that dues checks were due. Treasurer McLeieer made a motion to increase the due (starting April 1, 2018) from \$30 to \$35 to cover any costs associated with the use of credit cards for annual dues. Motion passed. Biennial Elections were held and the elected officials were once again voted in for another term. Another motion was made to send Treasurer McLeieer to this year's annual Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC). Motion passed. New members, DC Pratt (Waltham) and DC Woodside (Weston), were introduced. Andrew Connerty gave a report from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council (MFTC) regarding online classes being placed online, the Recruit Training wait list (now June & July), the retirement of Christine Juda, and Paul Medieros as the Council's Chairman. The 50/50 raffle was won by John Bonadio. Next month's meeting, scheduled for February 21<sup>st</sup>, will be held at United Plastics in Andover. The meeting was adjourned and libations were had at the Café Teria.

**EMS Run**  
**Flu Symptoms**

According to the CDC, Influenza (also known as the flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by flu viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times lead to death. The flu is different from a cold. The flu usually comes on suddenly. People who have the flu often feel some or all of these symptoms;  
Fever or feverish chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue. Some may experience vomiting and diarrhea (more common in children)

Most people who get influenza will recover in a few days to less than two weeks, but some will develop complications such as pneumonia as a result of the flu, some of which can be life-threatening and result in death. Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus and ear infections are examples of complications from flu. The flu can make chronic health problems worse. For example, people with asthma may experience asthma attacks while they have the flu, people with chronic heart failure may experience worsening of their condition triggered by the flu.

Anyone can get the flu and serious problems related to the flu can happen at any age, but some people are at high risk of developing serious complications if they get sick. This includes people 65-years or older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions (asthma, diabetes, heart disease), pregnant women, and young children.

**EMERGENCY WARNING SIGNS OF FLU SICKNESS:**

*(Adults)* Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, pain or pressure in the chest or abdomen, sudden dizziness, confusion, severe or persistent vomiting, flu symptoms that improve but then return with fever and worse cough.

*(Children)* Fast breathing or trouble breathing, bluish skin color, not drinking enough fluids, not waking up or interacting, being so irritable that the child does not want to be held, flu symptoms that improve but then return with fever and worse cough, fever with rash.

In addition to the above signs, get medical help right away for any infant who has any of these signs; Unable to eat, trouble breathing, no tears when crying, fewer wet diapers than normal.

**LAST ALARM:**

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of former MIFDI member and MIFDI Past President (1969) **Robert C. Blomquist**. Bob died on December 26, 2017 at age 92. After serving in the U.S. Navy, Bob was appointed to the Arlington Fire Department in 1948. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1958, Captain in 1962, Deputy Chief in 1965 and Chief of Dept. in 1968. In 1974, Chief Blomquist was appointed as Director of Public Safety for the Town of Arlington. He retired in 1981. Chief Blomquist also served as Chairman of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council. *MAY HE REST IN PEACE*



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**CONGRATULATIONS:**

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations and support to the following members;



**Deputy Chief Charles Breen** appointed Provisional Chief Engineer of the Somerville Fire Department on January 16, 2018.

MIFDI member **Deputy Chief Chris Major** is now serving as Chief of Operations.



**Captain Justin Woodside** has been promoted to the newly established position of Deputy Chief for the Weston Fire Department on January 7, 2018.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

February 21, 2018: **MIFDI** – UPF North Andover

February 27- March 1: FCAM Professional Development Conference  
Worcester Centrum [www.fcam.org](http://www.fcam.org)

March 4-8, 2018: FireHouse World 2018 Expo  
San Diego, CA [www.firehouseworld.com](http://www.firehouseworld.com)

March 11, 2018: Daylight Saving Time  
“Change Clocks/Change Batteries”

March 24, 2018: Statewide Exam: Municipal Firefighter  
APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 7, 2018

March 28, 2018: **MIFDI** – DFS/MFA Stow

April 23-28, 2018: F.D.I.C. 2018 Conference & Expo  
Indianapolis, IN [www.fdic.com](http://www.fdic.com)

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

**269-492-3341**

**REPORT of the PRESIDENT:**  
**Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department**

Our first meeting of 2018 was hosted by the NFPA at their headquarters in Quincy. I thank Senior Fire Protection Engineer Tracy Vecchiarelli for stepping up to offer two informative presentations for MIFDI, one on NFPA 80 which addresses building compartmentation and barrier management, the other on the Grenfell Tower fire in London on June 14, 2017. I also thank Barbara Dunn of the NFPA Field Operations for helping to arrange our visit.

As we approach a new year, it is again that time when we ask members to pay their dues for 2018 to avoid a lapse in membership. We do not mail out dues notices so members should refer to the back of their bulletin or the MIFDI roster under "Paid" for the date of their membership expiration. Dues are **\$30 for Active, \$15 for Retired, and \$100 for Associate.** (NOTE: It was voted at the January meeting to increase the dues to \$35 for Active Members ONLY to offset the cost of allowing members to pay on-line with a credit card. The increase will take effect on April 1, 2018 so an early payment is beneficial this year).

Stay safe and warm, I hope to see you at UPF on February 21.



**INSTRUCTORS CORNER:**  
***Firefighter Cancer Rates***

**Firefighters face cancer rates substantially greater than most Americans**

- Testicular cancer - 2.02 times greater
- Multiple myeloma - 1.53 times greater
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma - 1.51 times greater
- Skin cancer - 1.39 times greater
- Brain cancer - 1.31 times greater
- Malignant melanoma - 1.31 times greater
- Prostate cancer - 1.28 times greater
- Colon cancer - 1.21 times greater
- Leukemia - 1.14 times greater

**The most likely causes are the chemicals emitted from regular household products when they burn.**