

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

October
2019

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

60th Year
(1959-2019)

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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
 Vice President: Deputy Chief Christopher Kelley, Concord Fire Department (Retired)
 Secretary: Captain Edward (Ted) D. Quinn, Jr., Peabody Fire Department
 Treasurer: Lieutenant / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Olivet Fire Department

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

Lieutenant / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Olivet Fire Department (Past President)
 Chief James M. Vuona, Shrewsbury Fire Department

EDITOR

Firefighter / Instructor Scott D. Maker, Olivet Fire Department

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

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216
 2020 Membership Application & Invoice
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2020**

**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) _____

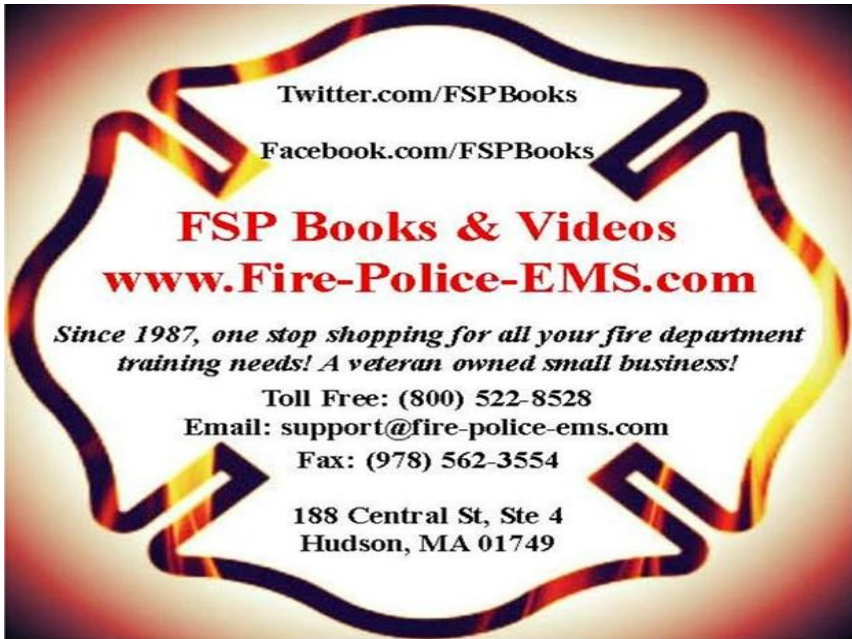
Work Information

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



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OCTOBER MEETING

The October meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, October 23, 2019** hosted by the Burlington Fire Department courtesy of Interim Chief Michael Patterson and MIFDI member Captain Andy Connerty. We will meet in the training room of their new Station 2 which opened this past June located at 114 Terrace Hall Ave near Middlesex Turnpike.

The training program will be provided by “15-40” with a presentation on “Cancer Prevention for Firefighters”. This important topic will also focus on early detection and offer information on the way that departments can establish a program for cancer prevention and detection for their members.

Following the training program, members will be offered a brief tour of the new Station 2 which includes some training props designed into the building.

SCHEDULE:

0930 Coffee, **1000** Presentation, **1100** Meeting & Info Sharing, **1130** Station Tour, **1200** Lunch

DIRECTIONS:

From Rt.128/I-95 take Exit 32 A/B, continue to 32-B toward Burlington onto the Middlesex Turnpike. Follow Middlesex Turnpike approx 1.5-miles to Terrace Hall Ave. on your right. The Station will be on the right. The parking and entrance is on the B-side of the station.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/02/2019
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$389.96
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$ 48.77
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$1,202.30
 Total: \$2,179.00

Bills Paid May - September, 2019:
 October 2019 Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 09/30
 TOTAL: \$120.00

50/50 Raffle = \$52.00

Winner = Capt. Steve Persson (retired) - Cambridge - \$30.00
 Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$22.00

Account Transfers:
 None

Total active members = 100

Dues paid thru 2025 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2022 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2021 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2020 = 10
 Dues paid thru 2019 = 59
 Dues paid thru 2018 = 20
 Dues paid thru 2017 = 7

Mailings
 E-Mail - 62 Home - 26
 Work - 12
 Total: 100

Balances as of 10/09/2019

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 552.31
 Less uncleared checks: \$ (0.00)
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 552.31
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 548.89
 CapitalOne Sav. Balance: \$ 1,205.92
 Total \$ 2,307.12

Membership Totals: 100
 59 Active - 37 Retired - 4 Associate

We welcome this new member who has joined MIFDI:

- Jamal Hamilton - Firefighter / Training Officer – Athol

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 2019 dues were due in January, 2019. Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2019 for your 2019 dues.**
- (b) You may now use the 2020 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

10/09/2019

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

978-346-4731

Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

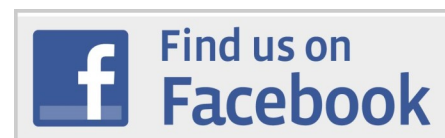
Thank you for your continued support and for the prompt payment of your dues!

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, 2019. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2019.

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, 2019.



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RECALL OF MEETING #2019-09

The September meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 hosted by the Department of Fire Services – Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. This was the 60th Anniversary meeting of MIFDI which was established in September 1959.

The training was provided by Deputy Chief Dave LeBlanc of the Harwich Fire Department. Dave offered members his very popular program on “Critical Thinking for the Fire Service”. This excellent presentation is recommended for everyone if you have the opportunity to hear it.



MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik offered greetings on behalf of the MFA and gave an update on Academy happenings including progress and goals on the new MFA-South located in Bridgewater.

President Roche asked for a moment of silence for former Farmington ME Fire Captain Michael Bell who died in the line-of-duty on September 16 after a propane explosion. Member Andy Connerty gave a brief report from the MFTC. Member John O'Donaghue spoke about some recent elevator accidents. Member Jim Belliveau mentioned the recent explosion and fire at a condo complex in Fitchburg. President Roche mentioned about the benefit of a thermal camera when searching for a missing person in the woods. The 50/50 was won by longtime member Steve Persson surprisingly claiming it was his “First time ever!” We will be doing some “fact checking on that!”

Members adjourned for an anniversary celebration buffet lunch in the DFS Cafeteria courtesy of Pat O'Connor of Northeast Rescue Systems.

EMS Run

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month



BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

Brought to you by the
International Association
of Fire Fighters

BREAST CANCER IN MEN

It is estimated that among U.S. and Canadian men in 2019, there will be

2,900
NEW CASES
OF BREAST
CANCER

560
BREAST
CANCER
DEATHS

For men, the lifetime risk of getting breast cancer is about
1 in 883

Less than 1% of all breast cancer develops in men; however, men carry a higher mortality rate due to lack of awareness

BREAST SIZE
Because men have very little breast tissue, it is easier for men and their health care professionals to feel small masses (tumors). On the other hand, because men have so little breast tissue, cancers do not need to grow very far to spread to nearby tissues or lymph nodes.

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of the following firefighters that died in September;

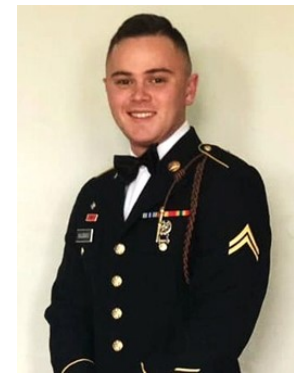
Firefighter/Paramedic Shawn Samanica (ACTIVE) of the Fairhaven Fire Department died suddenly on September 2, 2019 at age 46.

Firefighter/Paramedic Luke T. Magnant (ACTIVE) of the Acton Fire Department died unexpectedly on September 7, 2019 at age 25.

Firefighter Randy R. Pouliot (ACTIVE) of the Leominster Fire Department died while off duty from an accident involving an ATV on September 21, 2019 at age 52.



Shawn Samanica



Luke Magnant



Randy Pouliot

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

CONGRATULATIONS

Nothing to Report

Instructors Corner, Continued From Page 8

Presidents Note: After hearing about this horrific incident, my thoughts were, “this could happen to any department”. We respond to gas calls all the time and with winter on the way we can expect more of these calls due to heating systems malfunctioning and ground frost causing cracks in the street piping. We should never become complacent, nothing is routine.

- Always wear PPE when investigating inside gas odors.
- Your dispatcher should notify the gas company immediately after sending apparatus. They often have an extended ETA and you can always cancel them if it is determined that they are not needed.
- Building maintenance people can be very helpful with locating utilities and shut-offs but remember that they have no protective equipment if something goes wrong.
- Use a limited amount of members during the investigation and always have someone outside to call for additional resources if things turn bad.
- It is good to use more than one CGI if available in the event that the calibration is off.
- Gas seeping through dirt can cleanse the odorant. You must rely on your CGI for readings.
- Avoid parking the engine directly at the front door. Treat it like a structure fire and park beyond the building.
- When venting a gas filled building, evacuate all members BEFORE the gas reaches the flammable range. That is the most dangerous time of the incident.
- Avoid the habit of turning on a light switch when entering a dark gas filled structure and do not transmit on your portable radio inside, leave the building to give a report.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 23, 2019: MIFDI

November 3, 2019: End Daylight Saving Time

November 8, 2019: Women Firefighter's Health & Safety Conference
Florian Hall, Boston www.takenosmoke.org/women

November 16, 2019: Statewide Exam – Lieutenant & Captain
Good Luck!

November 20, 2019: MIFDI



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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 September meeting was the 60th Anniversary meeting hosted by the Department of Fire Services – Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, Stow Campus. It was a great meeting with a very informative presentation by Deputy Chief David LeBlanc from Harwich. I thank Dave for taking time from his schedule to offer this program for MIFDI. Special thanks to Pat O’Conner of Northeast Rescue Systems for his help with arranging this presenter and for providing the buffet lunch in celebration of our 60-Anniversary.

Stay safe, I hope to see you in Burlington.



Deputy Chief Dave LeBlanc & MIFDI President Mark Roche
(Michael McLeier photo)

*“To Promote Fire Department Training & Education by the Mutual
Sharing of Knowledge”*

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

Propane Explosion in Maine

On September 16, 2019, Farmington ME firefighters responded to a gas odor in the LEAP Center (Life Enrichment Advancing People). The building maintenance supervisor noticed that the previously full 400-gallon outdoor propane tank was empty and he could smell an odor of propane. Firefighters arrived to investigate with the maintenance supervisor just prior to the explosion.

The blast was heard for miles and totally destroyed the building leaving a large debris field. The explosion killed Captain Michael Bell and injured six others including Captain Bell’s brother, Chief Terry Bell. As of this writing, Chief Bell and another captain remain hospitalized at Maine Medical Center. The maintenance supervisor remains in critical condition at Mass General Hospital. Three other injured firefighters have been treated and released. Investigators continue to determine what caused the leak in the underground propane line and what the ignition source was that triggered the explosion.



****In Memory of Captain Michael Bell****

Continued on Page 9