

The MIFDI BULLETIN

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

January
2007

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

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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 - 2007

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department
 1st Vice President: Captain Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department
 2nd Vice President: Vacant
 Secretary: Vacant
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department

THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS

Terms Expire 2008

Deputy Chief John Sullivan, Billerica Fire Department
 Assistant Chief Robert MacKendrick, Lynnfield Fire Department (Retired)
 Chief Richard Gomes, Norton Fire Department
 Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Past President)

Terms Expire 2007

Lieutenant George Churchill, Brockton Fire Department (retired)
 Captain Kevin Breen, Swampscott Fire Department
 Captain Barry Aptt, Gloucester Fire Department

EDITOR

Firefighter / Instructor Scott D. Maker, Merrimac Fire Department

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

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors
 Membership Application
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2007**

**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> \$ 25.00 |
| <u>Active</u> | <u>Home</u> | <u>Retired</u> \$ 12.50 |
| <u>Retired</u> | <u>Work</u> | <u>Associate</u> \$100.00 |
| <u>Associate</u> | <u>E-mail</u> | |

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) 864-2015 or (978) 346-4731, ext. 1
 E-mail: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

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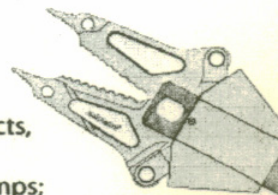
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ED LYONS
President



JANUARY MEETING

The 502nd meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, January 24, 2007.** (NOTE: We are back on our schedule of the **FOURTH** Wednesday of each month)

We will be the guests of United Plastic Fabrication (UPF), 165 Flagship Drive, off Rt.114, North Andover. An informative presentation and facility tour is scheduled. UPF is the major manufacturer polypropylene water and foam tanks for firefighting apparatus. The Poly-Tank has become the industry standard due to its strength, lightweight, and lifetime warranty. The Poly-Tank is a major improvement from the old steel tanks which were heavier and prone to corrosion.

It has been 8-years since MIFDI visited UPF and many of our newer members have not had the opportunity to view this side of firefighting technology. UPF has also developed many new products constructed of polypropylene for use in the fire service which will also be of interest to our members. Special thanks to member Robert MacKendrick for arranging this meeting for us.

SCHEDULE:

0900 Coffee

1000 Presentation & Tour

1130 Business Meeting

1200 Lunch (Off Site)

DIRECTIONS:

From Rt. 495; Take Rt.114 East approx 2.5 miles. Turn right on Willow St. (traffic light) to first left onto Flagship Drive to the end.

From I-95/Rt.128; Travel North to Rt.93 North (Exit 37B), follow 93 to Rt.125 (Exit 41) towards N. Andover, follow 125 to Rt.114 (Turnpike St.) turn right, follow to 1st traffic light and turn right onto Willow St. to first left onto Flagship Dr. to the end.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 1/1/2007

Checking 138.26
Savings 887.66
9 Mo. CD 515.44
Total \$1,541.36

50/50 Raffle = Collected

Winner =

Deposit from 50/50 Raffle =

Total active members = 102

Dues paid thru 2009 = 1
Dues paid thru 2008 = 3
Dues paid thru 2007 = 30
Dues paid thru 2006 = 68

Balances as of 01/10/2007

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 325.76
Less uncleared checks: (\$ 209.96)
Checking Balance: \$ 115.80
Certificate of Deposit: \$ 515.44
Savings Balance: \$ 887.66
Total \$1,518.90

New Member:

Tom Conway - Deputy Chief - Billerica

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 2007 dues are due in January.**
- (b) If anyone needs an invoice for their city or town to pay their membership dues, or if you have any other questions about your membership, please feel free to contact me directly.
- (c) The Holiday Plants (listed above) were ordered from FTD and sent to Judy O'Brien - MFA & Barbara Steele - DFS from MIFDI in appreciation for all that they do for this organization. Approved by President Roche & ordered by Treasurer McLeieer.

Respectfully submitted 01/10/2007

Michael McLeieer

Treasurer

978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or

978-346-4731, ext. 1

Thank you for your continued support and for those of you who have already paid your 2007 membership dues! Happy New Year!

Bills Paid in December (Checking):

Jan. 06 Newsletter \$120.00 Michael
Dec Meeting Coffee/Rolls \$ 55.00 Mark Roche
MFA/DFS Holiday Plants \$ 89.96 Michael
TOTAL: \$264.96

Account Transfers:

Transfer from Savings to Checking - None

Mailings

E-Mail - 33 Home - 55
Work - 14
102

Membership Totals

68 Active - 29 Retired - 5 Associate

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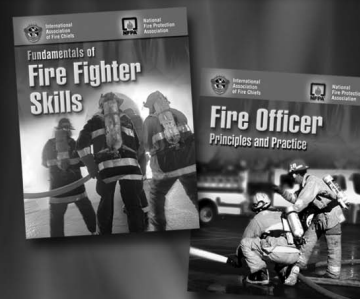
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS
may be addressed to:

MIFDI - Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer
PO Box 507
Merrimac, MA 01860-0510
Phone: (978) 864-2015 or (978) 346-4731, ext. 1

***Dues are \$25.00 per year for Active members**
\$12.50 for Retired members

***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 .

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RECALL OF MEETING #501

The 501st meeting of MIFDI was held on December 20, 2006 hosted by the Belmont Fire Department courtesy of Chief David L. Frizzell. The meeting was held in the second floor training room at Belmont's impressive new fire headquarters.

The training session was provided by Chief William Middlemiss of the Lexington Fire Department. Chief Middlemiss provided an informative power-point presentation on the gas explosion which occurred in Lexington in November 2005 when a Keyspan sub-contractor inadvertently connected a 60 psig gas main into a 2 psig system. This error led to an explosion which destroyed a historic 2.5 house and created numerous incidents for gas leaks and odors effecting one-third of the community.

Following the presentation, Chief Frizzell provided members with a tour of Belmont's new fire HQ which opened in September. This spacious new facility is also equipped with a few training props including a rappelling area and manhole vaults for confined space rescue training.

The presentation concluded with a brief business meeting held by President Roche. Member John Sullivan of Billerica was recognized and congratulated due to his upcoming retirement. Vice President Brian Belliveau offered a motion to wave the By-Laws and allow President Roche to serve another term as MIFDI President which was voted and accepted. President Roche then asked the members to accept the current slate of MIFDI Officers and Directors to be included to serve another year in their respective positions which was also voted and accepted by the membership. Two new members were introduced, Deputy Chief Thomas Conway from Billerica, and Deputy Chief Philip Cargill of Malden. Training Council member Persson gave an informative update from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting. The meeting adjourned for an enjoyable lunch at nearby Brothers Pizza & Grille in Cushing Sq.

EMS RUN:

What is Conjunctivitis?

Conjunctivitis (also known as pinkeye) is an inflammation of the eyes. It most often is caused by viruses but can also be caused by allergies or bacteria. The whites of the eyes may become pink or red with associated pain or itch as well as producing tears and discharge. In the mornings, the discharge may cause the eyelids to stick together making the eyes difficult to open.

Although conjunctivitis is not dangerous and not considered a medical emergency, it is infectious especially among young children who tend to wipe their eyes and touch everything, seldom washing their hands.

We in the EMS profession may see cases of this illness, especially in day care centers and pre-schools that are crowded with children in close contact with one another. Safe to say that universal precautions are necessary. The child's eyes should be wiped free of any discharge using a clean gauze. The recommended treatment is an antibiotic ointment prescribed by a physician and administered by a parent.

LAST ALARM:

CONGRATULATIONS:

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to MIFDI member **Deputy Chief John Sullivan** of the Billerica Fire Department due to his retirement after 30 years of service. John was appointed on December 19, 1976, promoted to Lieutenant December 22, 1985, promoted to Captain March 23, 1987, promoted Deputy Chief November 27, 2000, retired effective January 5, 2007. We wish you the best Sully and hope that you remain active with MIFDI for many years.

The organization also congratulates and welcomes into membership Sully's replacement, **Deputy Chief Thomas Conway** of the Billerica Fire Department.



MIFDI President Mark Roche congratulates Deputy Chief John Sullivan upon his retirement from the Billerica Fire Department.

Photo by Mike Curran

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 21-24, 2007: 19th Apparatus Specification & Maint. Conference
Orlando, FL Contact: www.fdsia.org

February 4-10, 2007: National Burn Awareness Week

February 15, 2007: MDA Firefighter Ski Muster 2007
Wachusett Mt., Princeton, MA Contact MDA@ 508-898-3375

February 28, 2007: **MIFDI** - Norwood

February 25-March 1, 2007: Firehouse World - Fire/Rescue/EMS
San Diego, CA Contact: www.firehouseworld.com

March 6-10, 2007: EMS Today Conference & Expo
Baltimore, MD Contact: www.iafc.org

March 11, 2007: Daylight Saving Time
"Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries"

March 11-15, 2007: IAFF Legislative Conference
Washington, DC Contact: www.iaff.org

March 24, 2007: Statewide Exam: Fire Chief / Deputy Chief / Dist. Chief

March 28, 2007: **MIFDI** - DFS/MFA

April 16-21, 2007: F.D.I.C. 2007
Indianapolis, IN Contact: www.fdic.com

April 25, 2007: **MIFDI** - TBA

May 23, 2007: **MIFDI** - Merrimac

June 20, 2007: **MIFDI** - TBA

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:
Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

As we begin another new year of MIFDI, I am humbled to serve as your President for an additional term and look forward to another year of informative and educational training presentations. As with every organization, it requires a nucleus of talented people working together to make this a professional establishment for learning and keeping our skills sharp. We are privileged therefore for the dedication of V.P. Brian Bellevau, Treasurer and Webmaster Michael McLeieer, Bulletin Editor Scott Maker, and the members of the Board of Directors who all contribute to this great organization throughout the year.

I want to thank Chief Bill Middlemiss from Lexington for his informative presentation on the 2005 gas explosion that occurred in Lexington. It is a sobering thought to learn how a simple human error could lead to such a devastating consequence. I also thank Chief Dave Frizzell and the members of the Belmont Fire Department for hosting our meeting in their new headquarters.

A reminder if we ever do have a winter this year (not that I'm complaining), be sure to check the MIFDI website @ www.mifdi.org before leaving for a meeting during an expected storm.

And another reminder that 2007 dues are due, \$25 for active, \$12.50 for retired. I am a little surprised at some of the names of long time members who still owe for 2006, many I'm sure they put it off for one reason or another, so as a reminder double check the date on the mailing label of your bulletin to be sure that you are up to date with your payment. As I mentioned last month, this organization provides a lot for the reasonable dues that help us operate throughout the year. Make out that check today to **MIFDI**, P.O. Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860-0510. Thank you for your support.

I hope to see you all in North Andover on the **24th**. Until then, stay safe.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER
"Mayday, Mayday!"

The term MAYDAY is listed as "the International radio/telephone distress signal used by ships and aircraft". In the fire service, MAYDAY signals a firefighter down and it is the most dreaded message a fireground commander will ever hear during command of an incident.

When should a MAYDAY be called? It comes down to six simple words; **FALL-COLLAPSE-ALARM-CAUGHT-LOST-TRAPPED**.

FALL - In need of assistance to get out.

COLLAPSE - Stairway, roof, floor, etc.

ALARM - Any situation where a P.A.S.S. device needs to be activated;
low air, poor conditions, distress.
(*Call MAYDAY before you activate PASS*)

CAUGHT - Entangled by wires.

LOST - Disoriented, off the line, confused.

TRAPPED - Fire, smoke, heat, debris.

When a MAYDAY is called, ALL non-emergency radio traffic shall cease immediately. All power tools, saws, PPV, generators and other loud noise equipment shall be shut down unless absolutely needed for control of the incident. In some cases, the Deputy Chief's Aide or the Safety Officer may relocate away from the noise of the fireground to listen for communications from the member in distress which often mumbled or garbled if the member is injured. A quick roll-call must be made to determine who is missing and where they were last operating. The R.I.C. Team must be deployed to search for the lost member and a back-up R.I.C. team needs to be staged. Most importantly, the I.C. must gain strict control of the rescue mission to prevent a free-lance search which is an automatic instinct of every firefighter wanting to locate their lost brother. The rush of members willing to attempt a rescue will be difficult to restrain, however, free-lancing firefighters could become additional victims should conditions rapidly deteriorate. Therefore a coordinated effort to locate and rescue the member in distress must be deployed and become the top priority until everyone on the fireground is accounted for.