

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

January
2009

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

**50th Anniversary
(1959-2009)**

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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 - 2008

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 (Retired)
 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 2009

Lieutenant George Churchill, Brockton Fire Department (retired)
 Chief Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., Malden Fire Department (retired)
 Captain 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- info@mifdi.org

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors
 Membership Application
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2009**

**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 _____

Membership Type:

circle one

Send Bulletin To:

circle one

Membership Dues:

Active \$ 25.00

Retired \$ 12.50

Associate \$100.00

Active **Retired** **Associate** **Home** **Work** **E-mail**

Please mail completed Application with check or money order payable to:

MIFDI
 Attn: **Michael McLeieer, Treasurer**
PO Box 507
Merrimac, MA 01860-0510
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 E-mail: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

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JANUARY MEETING:

The January meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, January 28, 2009** hosted by the Franklin Fire Department courtesy of Chief Gary McCarraher. The meeting will take place in the first floor training room of Franklin's impressive new fire headquarters located at 40 West Central St. (Rt.140).

Our presenter will be Sgt. Thomas Fitzgerald of the Massachusetts State Police C.V.E.S. (Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Section) commonly known as the "Truck Team". Sgt. Fitzgerald will address the important and often controversial topic of CDL license requirements for fire apparatus operators. He will also cover subjects such as apparatus height and weight due to the ever increasing size of newer fire apparatus. This is a topic that affects every community and should prove to be an interesting meeting.

SCHEDULE:

0900 Coffee, 1000 Presentation, 1130 Business meeting, 1200 Lunch.

DIRECTIONS:

The Franklin HQ Station is easy to get to. From Rt. I-495 take Exit 17 to Rt. 140 South toward Franklin. Follow Rt. 140 approx 1.5-miles and the station will be on the right. There is plenty of parking in the rear of the station.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/01/2009

Eastern Bank Cking. \$ 38.98
 Consumers Cking. \$ 0.00
 Consumers Savngs. \$233.47
 ING Savings \$342.39
 18 Mo. CD CCU \$1,007.30
 Total \$1,622.14

50/50 Raffle = N/A

Winner = N/A

Deposit from 50/50 Raffle = None

Total active members = 108

Dues paid thru 2010 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2009 = 42
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 64

Bills Paid December (Checking):

Jan 09 Newsletter \$120.00 Michael - 12/29
 Flowers for Judy O'Brien \$ 55.00 Michael - 12/29
 Flowers for Barbara Steele \$ 55.00 Michael - 12/29
 TOTAL: \$230.00

Account Transfers:

CCU Checking to Savings - \$88.21 - 12/30/2008

Mailings

E-Mail - 43 Home - 51
Work - 14
 108

Balances as of 01/16/2009

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 38.98
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Eastern Checking Balance: \$ 38.98
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 342.39
 Consumers C.U. 18Mo.CD: \$ 1,007.30 - Matures 05/02/2010 - 4.22% APY
 Consumers C.U. Checking: \$ 537.50
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 110.00)
 Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 233.47
 Total \$ 2,049.64

Membership Totals: 108

74 Active - 28 Retired - 6 Associate

No New Members for December:

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 2009 dues are due in January, 2009.**
 (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) If you receive your bulletin via the U.S. Postal Service and it is damaged, please let me know. Recently, a few members, have received their MIFDI Bulletin severely damaged by the Postal Service.

Respectfully submitted 01/16/2009

Michael McLeieer

Treasurer

978-346-4731 or

978-864-2015

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

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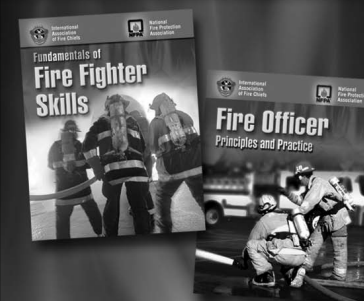
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS

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 #521

The 521st meeting of MIFDI was held on December 17, 2008 hosted by Fire Tech & Safety in Chelmsford courtesy of Mr. Larry Guerette.

The training presentation was provided by Mr. Jim Cottrell. Jim is a nationally recognized speaker and advisor on foam and associated foam products. Jim offered an excellent and very informative explanation on foam including; types of foam, proper use and application.

President Roche conducted a business meeting following the training presentations. Treasurer Michael McLeieer provided a treasurers report and update of MIFDI finances. Member Steve Persson provided an update from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council. Member Bob MacKendrick expressed concern over the expected reduction in State Aid and the drastic effect it will have on the fire service suggesting the need to become pro-active in ways to create additional sources of revenue. There was additional discussion over the November 24 mandate by the Federal Government on the use of "High-Visibility Apparel" when working on Federal-Aid Highways and how it will conform to firefighting PPE.

Following the meeting, members adjourned for lunch on site courtesy of Fire Tech.

EMS RUN:

Ambulance Diversion Policy Change

“Ambulance diversion” is defined as an active statement that patients who are arriving by ambulance will NOT be accepted by a receiving facility. Effective January 1, 2009, ambulance services may honor diversion requests **ONLY** when a hospital’s emergency department (ED) status is “Code Black” which means that it is closed to all patients due to an internal emergency.

Many hospitals have attempted to respond to ED overcrowding by diverting incoming ambulances to other hospitals, diversion creates its own problems and, of course, does not address the causes of ED overcrowding. Diversion may in fact increase crowding at neighboring hospitals, interfere with the patient’s choice of hospital and availability of medical records, increase ambulance transport times, and limit the availability of ambulances for other emergencies.

The Department of Public Health recommends that hospitals adjust to this policy change by examining their internal systems to be certain that they are configured for maximum efficient patient flow.

The DPH recognizes that there can be circumstances where an “advisory” to EMS can allow pre-hospital providers to make decisions that are in the best interest of patient care. An example of this “notification of status” would be informing an EMS system that a CT scan is not available or neurosurgery is unavailable due to a sudden and unanticipated staffing situation. Assuming there are equidistant facilities, EMS could use the information on a hospital status to make an appropriate transport decision. The decision to transport the patient would however remain with the pre-hospital provider and based upon the clinical situation and pre-hospital capability. It may still be in the best interest of the patient with head trauma and deteriorating mental status being transported by BLS to be transported to a facility even if a CT scan is not working in order to have airway control and stabilization prior to transfer to definitive care. Any such “notification of status” can be reviewed. Such considerations do not imply that “selective diversion” is an accepted designation.

The DPH understands that the elimination of diversion as a response to ED overcrowding will create large operational changes for many hospitals and are working with hospitals to share existing resources shown effective with overcrowding by reducing boarding rather than ambulance diversion.

LAST ALARM:

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Deputy Chief Peter Cutrone**, retired member of the Massport Fire Department who passed on January 7, 2009. Peter was an instructor at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy and was a key player with the establishment of the Flammable Gas program. 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 to former member **Captain Jason Gilliland** of the Marblehead Fire Department who has been selected as Chief of Department in Marblehead effective January 31, 2009. We offer you our full support for great success in your new position Jason!

And the officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer belated congratulations to long-time MIFDI member **Chief C. Randall Sherman** of the Yarmouth Fire Department upon his retirement on November 24, 2008. Best wishes to you Randy on a long and healthy retirement.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Nothing Reported

LOOKING BACK ON MIFDI

UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 18-21, 2009: FDSOA 2009 Apparatus Symposium
Orlando, FL fdsoa.org

January 28, 2009: **MIFDI** – Franklin

February 15-19, 2009: FIREHOUSEWORLD 2009
San Diego, CA firehouseworld.com

February 25, 2009: **MIFDI** - Billerica

February 26, 2009: MDA 2009 Ski Muster
Wachusett Mountain

March 21, 2009: Statewide Exam; Chief, Deputy & District Chief
Good Luck!

March 24-28, 2009: EMS Today Conference & Expo
Baltimore, MD iaff.org

March 25, 2009: **MIFDI** – Hudson

March 30, 2009: PFFM 2009 Annual Legislators Night
Florian Hall, Boston pffm.org

April 20-25, 2009: F.D.I.C. 2009
Indianapolis, IN FDIC.org

April 22, 2009: **MIFDI**

REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

Our December meeting once again was hosted by Fire Tech & Safety courtesy of Larry Guerette and as always, Larry and his staff went above and beyond with their hospitality. Our presenter Jim Cottrell provided an excellent presentation on foam products and proper application. We hope to have Jim back as a presenter for MIFDI in the future and strongly recommend his very informative presentation to everyone.

As we begin the 50th year of MIFDI it is time to look back and thank all of those who have helped in some way to keep this great organization strong. Vice President Brian Belliveau, Treasurer & Webmaster Michael McLeieer, Bulletin Editor Scott Maker, and the members of the Board of Directors. And to all members who have spread the word about MIFDI to continue an increase of our membership, and finally to all who have offered to host meetings for MIFDI as well as provide ideas for training topics and presenters, I thank you all on behalf of our members.

It's that time again to send in your dues for 2009 to continue your MIFDI membership. At \$25.00 for active and \$12.50 for retired members, this organization is a tremendous investment for what you receive as a member of this great educational resource. Thanks to our treasurer and our Associate Members, we are again able to prevent increasing membership dues. As always, I ask all of you to patronize the MIFDI Associate members advertized in our bulletin and on our website.

Our January meeting is expected to be very informative and generate a lot of discussion as we hear from Sgt. Fitzgerald of the State Police Truck Team regarding requirements for fire apparatus. A reminder that during the winter month's to check the MIFDI website www.mifdi.org for meeting cancellations due to storms and severe weather.

See you on the 28th. Until then, stay safe!

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

Proper Technique for Handling a Mailbox Fire

Courtesy of Cambridge Fire Dept. Training Division

A Co2 is the primary extinguishing agent for a mailbox fire. The Carbon Dioxide will displace the oxygen in the enclosed mailbox, extinguishing the fire while preserving the mail from water damage.

Do NOT force entry into the mailbox. Notify the U.S.P.S. to respond and take custody of the mail.

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NOTE: Place the Co2 extinguisher on the ground to avoid *static shock* during agent discharge.

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