

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

February
2010

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 - 2010

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department
 1st Vice President: Captain Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department
 2nd Vice President: Chief Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., Malden Fire Department (retired)
 Secretary: Vacant
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department

THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS

Terms Expire 2010

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

Terms Expire 2011

Lieutenant George Churchill, Brockton Fire Department (retired)
 Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Past President)
 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

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**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216
 2010 Membership Application & Invoice
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2010**

**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) _____

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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
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 E-mail: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

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FEBRUARY MEETING:

The February meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, February 24, 2010** hosted by the Wilmington Fire Department courtesy of MIFDI member Chief Edward Bradbury and MIFDI member Lt. Rick McClellan. We will meet in the Training Room of Wilmington's Public Safety Building, #1 Adelaide St @ Church St. (Rt.62). There is ample parking behind the station. We last met in Wilmington 2-years ago in January 2008.

The training presentation will be provided by our own resident elevator expert Chief John O'Donoghue. John will give us an overview of elevator use during fire department operations as well as an update on the elevator changes that have been implemented since our last elevator class offered by John. Elevator operations is a subject that we can never get enough of.

SCHEDULE:

0900 Coffee, **1000** Presentation, **1130** Business Meeting, **1215** Lunch (Off Site)

DIRECTIONS:

From Rt. I-495; Take Rt. 93 South to Exit 40 (Rt.62), turn left at the top of the ramp, follow Rt. 62 approx 2-miles and the station will be on the right.

From I-95/Rt.128; Take Rt.93 North (Exit 37B), follow 93 to Exit 38 (Rt.129), turn right at the top of the ramp onto Rt.129. Rt.129 will merge onto Rt.38. Follow Rt.38 a short distance to Rt. 62. Turn right onto Rt.62 and the station will be on your left.

IMPORTANT REMINDER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS TO CHECK THE MIFDI WEBSITE FOR MEETING CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER @ WWW.MIFDI.ORG

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/01/2010

Economy Bank Cking. \$100.02
 Economy Bnk. Savings \$168.63
 Consumers Checking \$158.00
 Consumers Savings \$145.36
 ING Savings \$685.01
Total \$1,257.02

Bills Paid January 2010 (Checking):

Jan 09 Newsletter - Michael \$120.00 - 01/31
 Jan. Coffee & Rolls-M. Roche (Cash) \$ 48.00 - 01/27
TOTAL: \$ 168.00

Account Transfers:
 None

50/50 Raffle = \$48.00

Winner = Bob Washburn (Donated winnings back to MIFDI of \$48.00).

Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$96.00 - \$48.00 to President Roche for Coffee/Rolls (cash).

Total active members = 107

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2013 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2012 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2011 = 5
 Dues paid thru 2010 = 74
 Dues paid thru 2009 = 24

Mailings

E-Mail - 51 Home - 44
Work - 12
 107

Balances as of 2/12/2010

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 1,362.53
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 120.00)
 Economy Cking. Balance: \$ 1,242.53
 Economy Savings Balance: \$ 168.69
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 685.65
 CD/None
 Consumers Stmt. Cking.: \$ 112.50
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Consumers C.U. Checking \$ 112.50
 Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 417.47
Total \$ 2,626.84

Membership Totals: 107

68 Active - 31 Retired - 8 Associate

We welcome these new members:

- Paul D. Cronk, Jr. (rejoined) - Lieutenant (Retired) - Lowell Fire Department
- Kenneth H. Burnham - Captain - Lynnfield Fire Department

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 2010 dues are due in January, 2010.**
- (b) You should now be able to use the 2010 membership application as your invoice. It has MIFDI's tax ID number listed, for your accounts payable department to process the dues payment.

Respectfully submitted

02/12/2010

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer
 978-346-4731

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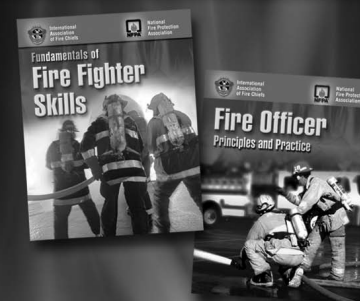
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS
may be addressed to:

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Merrimac, MA 01860-0510
Phone: (978) 346-4731

***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 #531

The 532nd meeting of MIFDI was held on January 27, 2010 hosted by the Newton Fire Department courtesy of Chief Joseph E. LaCroix. The meeting was held in the training room of the newly renovated Fire Station 4, 195 Crafts St.

The training portion was provided by Mr. Peter Kmiec of ADTECH Systems and Mr. Robert Leclerc of PolyVision. Their presentation showed the features and capabilities of the PolyVision “ENO Board”. This remarkable new product is considered the classroom training tool of the future. For more information go to: www.adtech-sys.com or www.polyvision.com

Following the presentation, paramedics from Cataldo EMS provided a demonstration of the “AUTO-PULSE” cardiac resuscitation device.

A business meeting conducted by President Roche followed the two very informative training presentations. The following election of officers were approved for the 2010 year; **PRESIDENT** – Mark W. Roche, **1st VICE PRESIDENT** – Brian F. Belliveau, **2nd VICE PRESIDENT** – Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., **TREASURER**- Michael O. McLeieer.

Member Steve Persson provided a report from the MFTC meeting. He also gave a brief update on a tragic incident in Cambridge where an elderly woman was struck by a dislodged fire hose from an engine company responding to an incident.

Member Bob Washburn won the 50/50 and donated it back to the organization.

Following the meeting, members were offered a tour of the totally renovated 1955 fire house updated to meet the needs of the 21st Century fire service.

Members adjourned for lunch at West Street Tavern Restaurant in Newton.

EMS RUN:

Home Oxygen Hazards

A recent campaign by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services and the Massachusetts General Hospital will raise awareness to patients, caregivers, and health providers about the dangers of combining smoking and home oxygen.

Twenty-four people have died in fires related to home oxygen use in Massachusetts since 1997. The awareness campaign will be funded by fines collected under the state's fire-safe cigarette law enacted in 2008.

The campaign will raise awareness that oxygen from tanks lingers in hair, clothing, and furniture even after the flow is turned off. Products such as hair spray and ointments which are used to salve around noses where oxygen tubing is placed are also flammable causing facial burns to people dependent on oxygen. The primary message to patients is that it's not OK to smoke just because the oxygen is turned off.

Nationally, an average of 200 home fires per year were related to oxygen use resulting in 63 deaths and 79 injuries (not including firefighters) according to the NFPA. Fires burn hotter and quicker when fueled by 100% oxygen and there are a rising number of people using home oxygen.

As difficult as it is to imagine, people on home oxygen with COPD often continue to smoke which is why they have COPD and are on O2 in the first place. This irrational behavior is a vicious cycle and justified in their mind as *"the damage is already done so what difference does it make"*.

Patients on oxygen are already fragile and suffer numerous medical issues. If they become victims of burn injuries, they are susceptible to infection and damage to already impaired lungs. One in every eight intensive care unit beds is often filled by a patient from an oxygen related fire. This should be totally preventable!

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **FIREFIGHTER ROBERT J. BERGERON**, ACTIVE member of the Waltham Fire Department. Firefighter Bergeron died December 28, 2009 at age 48. May he Rest in Peace.

Instructors Corner, continued from page 8

All drivers and officers must be vigilant of this potential hazard and look for signs of the hose sliding in the bed, and nozzles or coupling too close to the edge. Remember, gravity is trying to pull that hose out each time we turn a corner or encounter a street with a steep hill. The tragedy in that Pennsylvania community could have happened to any one of our departments. Let us be mindful of this hazard to avoid it from happening anywhere again.



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CONGRATULATIONS:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations and best wishes to MIFDI member **Chief Kenneth Galligan** upon his retirement from the Brockton Fire Department effective February 6, 2010. Ken has been a member of the B.F.D for over 40 years and has been Chief of Department since 1993. Ken is one of MIFDI's longest active members and we hope to see more of him now that he will have the time. We must also congratulate the MIFDI member who will take over for Ken as Acting Chief of the Brockton Fire Department **Deputy Chief Richard Francis**. Best wishes to both of these fine men.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 10-12, 2010: FCAM Professional Development Conference
Leominster, MA Contact: fcam.org

February 24, 2010: **MIFDI** - Wilmington

February 28-March 4: FireHouse World, San Diego, CA - Contact: firehouseworld.com

March 14, 2010: Daylight Saving Time begins -
"Change your clocks, Change your Batteries"

March 20, 2010: Statewide Exam – District/Deputy Fire Chief - *Good Luck!*

March 24, 2010: **MIFDI**

April 10, 2010: Retirement party for Deputy State Fire Marshal Thomas P. Leonard - Doubletree Boston Milford, 11 Beaver St., Milford, MA - **COST: \$45.00 per person** (includes dinner & gifts). For questions & to request a reservation form, call Kerry Duffy @ 978-758-0488. Reservations must be made by April 1, 2010.

April 17, 2010: Retirement Testimonial for Brockton Chief Kenneth F. Galligan - Shaw's Convention Center. Tickets available soon.

April 19-24, 2010: FDIC 2010
Indianapolis, IN Contact: fdic.org

April 24, 2010: Statewide Exam – Municipal Firefighter
(Application Deadline is March 16) Contact: mass.gov/civilservice

April 28, 2010: **MIFDI** - Billerica

May 26, 2010: **MIFDI Annual FDIC Recap** - Merrimack

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REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

The first meeting of 2010 was well attended and very informative. The presentation by Robert Leclerc and Peter Kmiec provided a fascinating look at the future of classroom presentations with the use of the ENO-Board.

The demonstration of the CPR Auto-Pulse at our January meeting by members of Cataldo EMS was also well received and informative to witness the simplicity of this life-saving device.

The current slate of MIFDI officers for 2010 was re-elected unopposed for another term. In addition, Director Frank Fitzgerald moved into the unfilled position of 2nd Vice President. I thank all MIFDI Officers and Directors for their commitment to help MIFDI continue to be an important training and educational resource for the fire service.

Another reminder to all that it's that time again when we ask our members to pay their Annual Dues for 2010. MIFDI remains a great investment for the information, educational material, and resources provided each month to help us be the best that we can be for our profession. Checks should be made out to MIFDI and mailed to the treasurer at;

MIFDI

P.O. Box 507

Merrimac, MA 01860

See you on the 24th, until then stay safe!

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

How Secure Are Your Hose-Loads?

Captain Mark Roche, Newton Fire Department

NOTE: We re-publish this important Instructors Corner article from the MIFDI Bulletin of October 2008 due to the recent tragic incident which occurred in Cambridge on January 26, 2010 where an 82 year-old woman was struck by a fire hose from a passing engine company. We remind everyone that this incident could happen in any of our own communities.

Many apparatus manufacturers are delivering new apparatus with netting over hose cross-lays as well as the rear hose storage area. The nettings are similar to those used in the back of SUV's and pick-up truck beds. New safety standards recommend these nettings to ensure the hose remains in place however, it's the first thing to come off upon delivery, after all who needs another obstacle to encounter in our quest to battle the beast?

Every department at one time or another has experienced the embarrassment of accidentally "dropping-a-line" down the street. The slippery surface of new hose combined with the smooth surface of the aluminum hose bed is a recipe for the unexpected "laying a line". These unfortunate incidents can be more than just an embarrassment. Hose lines flying off a rig with heavy nozzles and couplings can be very damaging and even worse, deadly!

A settlement was recently awarded in Pennsylvania from an incident in which a hose-line dislodged from a moving fire truck and became caught under a parked vehicle. The hose-line with nozzle then whipped through the air and struck two 10-year-old girls standing nearby on a lawn. The line killed one of the girls after striking her in the head and seriously injured the other girl after striking her face. Prior to striking the girls, the hose-line with a 6-pound nozzle whipped through yards and bounced off vehicles during its chaotic journey. The jury awarded the families \$4.5 million.

Not only can this be a financial disaster for our communities, this preventable accident is something that we would have to live with forever. In the future, I suspect that manufacturers will build apparatus to include shoulder-height compartmentalized hose-beds with sliding trays and roll-up doors. Another option would be to place a pressure switch on the hose-bed tray that would trigger a light and buzzer in the cab similar to when a compartment door is open. All of this would of course increase the price of an already expensive piece of apparatus.

As far as our current fleet, retrofitting with spring-type netting is an option. Nozzles are often found too close to the edge for easier reach, however, they should be placed an arms reach inside the bed to prevent them from falling out. Another problem is the "loops" or "ears" which are often created to provide a grab for an extra length or two when stretching a line. These folds are sometimes found sticking out from the sides, some even hanging down to the running boards creating a hazard of being hung-up on the mirror of another vehicle during a tight squeeze on the street.

Continued on page 10