

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

March  
2013

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

54th Year  
(1959-2013)

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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 - 2012**

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department  
 1st Vice President: Deputy Chief Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department  
 2nd Vice President: Chief Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., Malden Fire Department (retired)  
 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 2012**

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

**Terms Expire 2013**

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  
 2013 Membership Application & Invoice  
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2013**

**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

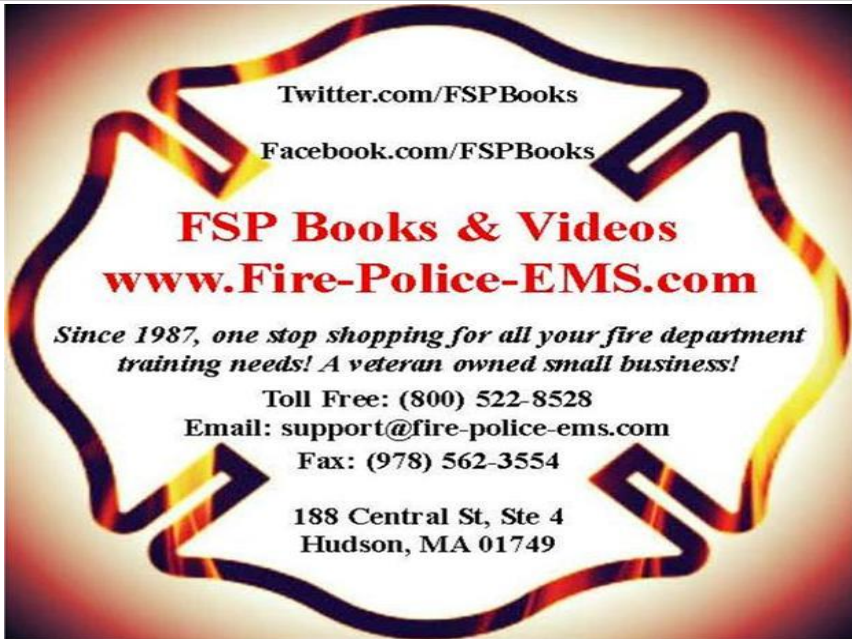
**Retired** \$ 12.50

**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  
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 Merrimac, MA 01860-0510  
 Phone: (978) 346-4731  
 E-mail: michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com



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**MARCH MEETING:**

The March meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, March 27, 2013** and is our annual visit to the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services and the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy courtesy of State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and MFA Director Edmund M. Walker.

We will meet in the "Link classroom" located on the first floor between the original MFA building and the DFS building next to the cafeteria. We will be greeted by Marshal Coan and MFA Director Walker with an update on the happenings at the Department of Fire Services and the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. We will also hope meet the new Deputy Director of the MFA.

The training portion will be a focus on FESHE (Fire & Emergency Services Higher Education) a professional development program for educational opportunities geared towards those in the fire service.

**SCHEDULE:**

**0900** Coffee, **1000** Introduction, **1020** Presentation, **1140** Business meeting, **1200** Lunch.

**DIRECTIONS:**

**FROM RT.128/I 95:** Take Rt. 20 West to Rt. 27 in Wayland. Turn right on Rt. 27 and continue until Rt. 27 makes a right towards Maynard, **DO NOT TURN RIGHT**, continue straight for approx 3-miles and the Academy will be on the right.

**FROM RT. 495 North:** Take Rt. 85 (Exit 25) towards Hudson. At the traffic light turn left onto Rt.85. Turn right on Broad St. (First traffic light), and at the second traffic light turn right on Rt.62. Continue straight until Rt. 62 takes a left towards Stow, **DO NOT TURN LEFT**, continue straight for approx 4-miles and the Academy will be on your left.

**FROM RT. 495 South:** Take Rt.62 (Exit 26) into Hudson Center. Continue halfway around the rotary and continue on Rt.62 East. Continue straight until Rt.62 turns left towards Stow, **DO NOT TURN LEFT**, continue straight for approx 4-miles and the Academy will be on your left.

**Ample parking is available in the upper-lot on the "D-Side" of the MFA campus.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT****Beginning Balances for 01/04/2013**

GVCCU Checking \$ 9.99  
 GVCCU Savings \$563.28  
ING Savings \$1,686.50  
**Total: \$2,259.77**

**Bills Paid February 2013 (Checking):**

March 2013 Newsletter - Michael \$120.00 - 02/28  
 Feb. meeting coffee / donuts - M. Roche \$ 45.35 - 02/27  
**TOTAL: \$165.35**

**Account Transfers:**

NONE

50/50 Raffle = \$90.00

Winner = \$45.00 to Captain Marc Pare - Chelmsford

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$45.00 deposited to GVCCU Checking

**Total active members = 130**

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2017 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2015 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2014 = 4  
 Dues paid thru 2013 = 89  
 Dues paid thru 2012 = 33  
 Dues paid thru 2011 = 1

**Mailings**

E-Mail - 83 Home - 34  
Work - 13  
**130**

**Balances as of 03/14/2013**

GVCCU Checking: \$ 845.14  
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)  
 GVCCU Cking. Balance: \$ 845.14  
 GVCCU Savings Balance: \$ 1,238.28  
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 1,687.59  
**Total \$ 3,771.01**

**Membership Totals: 130**

90 Active - 34 Retired - 6 Associate

**PLEASE WELCOME THIS NEW MEMBER WHO RECENTLY JOINED MIFDI:**

- Joseph Tierney, Jr. - Lieutenant / Training Officer - Tisbury 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 2013 dues were due in January, 2013. Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2013 for your 2013 dues.**
- (b) You may now use the 2013 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****03/14/2013****by Michael McLeicer , Treasurer****978-346-4731****Thank you for your continued support and for your prompt payment of your dues!****Remember to add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2013.**

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 \$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. Add a \$10.00 Late Fee after April 1, 2013.**

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## RECALL OF MEETING #563

The 563<sup>RD</sup> meeting of MIFDI was held on February 27, 2013 hosted by the Wilmington Fire Department courtesy of MIFDI member Chief Edward Bradbury and MIFDI member Deputy Chief Richard McClellan.

The training was provided by Robert Carroll of Drager with a very informative presentation on the hidden hazards of Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN). [www.draeger.com](http://www.draeger.com) Following Bob's program, Rick McClellan provided a glimpse of the multiple-alarm fire which occurred at the Avalon Oaks apartment complex during the blizzard on February 8. Rick pointed out some of the challenges faced by arriving crews as well as the dangers of collapse hazards with the lightweight construction.

Following the presentation, a business meeting was conducted by President Roche. Treasurer Michael McLeieer provided a report of MIFDI finances. Training council member Andy Connerty reported on the concerns about the growing waiting list for the recruit class. It was also mentioned that a new deputy director of the MFA has been appointed. President Roche shared an incident regarding firehouse hazards. Member Marc Pare from Chelmsford won the 50/50. At the conclusion of the meeting, members were given a look at Wilmington's new mini-pumper with an explanation on this concept for Wilmington. Members adjourned for lunch at nearby Rocco's Restaurant to continue the never-ending subject regarding Hose Wagons!



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## SPECIAL TRIBUTE

*It is with profound regret to announce the passing of one of the last remaining founding members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors, **Chief James F. Rogers** of the Falmouth Fire Department.*

*Jim Rogers was appointed a Call Firefighter at age 15 in 1942, appointed permanent firefighter in 1949, promoted Deputy Chief at age 28 in 1955, appointed Chief of Department in 1978. He retired in 1986 after 44-years of service to the Town of Falmouth. Jim passed February 27, 2013 at age 85.*

*Chief Rogers was one of the founding members of MIFDI and served as President from 1961-1962. His son Glen is also a member of MIFDI and served as our representative on the Massachusetts Fire Training Council until his appointment as Chief of Department in Manchester-By-The Sea in 2012.*

*Chief James Rogers served our country, served his community, and has made great contributions to the fire service regarding training and safety for firefighters. May he now be at Peace.*



Chief Jim Rogers sporting his MIFDI baseball hat

## LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter PATRICK E. GERMAIN**, ACTIVE member of the Worcester Fire Department. Pat died suddenly on February 9, 2013 at age 60. May He Rest in Peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter PAUL CHIPPENDALE**, ACTIVE member of the Fall River Fire Department. Paul died on February 10, 2013 at age 37 from occupational cancer. May He Rest in Peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the friends and family of Ashby **Firefighter/EMT Michelle Hansen-Martens** who along with her son Justin died on February 17, 2013 from injuries received in an automobile accident in Fitchburg. May They Rest in Peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to MIFDI Past President (1969) Robert Blomquist on the passing of his wife Connie on February 6, 2013. May She Rest in Peace.



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## **CONGRATULATIONS:**

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations to **Captain Andrew Connerty** of the Burlington Fire Department who was appointed by Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick as the MIFDI representative on the Massachusetts Fire Training Council as of February 6, 2013.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations to **Joseph Klucznik** upon his appointment as Deputy Director of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy on February 25, 2013. His experience includes over 20-years with the East Providence RI Fire Department where he retired as Chief. Joe also served as an instructor at the Rhode Island Fire Academy and the Community College of Rhode Island. We offer Deputy Director Klucznik our support and look forward to working with him at the Academy.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

March 10, 2013: Daylight Saving Time  
ōChange Your Clocks/Change Your Batteriesō

March 20, 2013: Fire Training 2013 Symposium  
Auburn, MA [www.taskforce1.net](http://www.taskforce1.net)

March 23, 2013: Statewide Exam ō Chief, Deputy, District  
**GOOD LUCK!**

March 27, 2013: MIFDI ō DFS/MFA

April 22-27, 2013: FDIC 2013 Conference & Expo  
Indianapolis, IN [www.fdic.com](http://www.fdic.com)

April 24, 2013: MIFDI ō Cambridge

May 22, 2013: MIFDI ō Merrimac - Annual FDIC Recap

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## **Firesetting Intervention Resource Exchange**

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**[www.fire-exchange.org](http://www.fire-exchange.org)**

**Call Scott Maker, MFA Instructor,  
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 February meeting provided MIFDI members with an informative presentation on the hidden hazards of Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN). I thank Bob Carroll of Drager for this presentation as well as Associate Member Pat O'Connor of Northeast Rescue Systems for arranging this topic for MIFDI.

I also thank member Deputy Chief Rick McClellan for sharing a recent incident involving a fire at the Avalon Oaks Apartments in Wilmington. Finally, thanks to Chief Ed Bradbury and the members of the Wilmington Fire Department for again hosting MIFDI at the Wilmington Public Safety Training room.

As I prepare information for this bulletin, word has regretfully been received on the passing of retired Chief James Rogers of the Falmouth Fire Department. Chief Rogers was one of the founding members of this great organization and served as President 1961-1962. It was men like Jim Rogers who had the vision and commitment towards improving training that helped to make the fire service more professional and much safer for firefighters. Rest in Peace now Chief.

Another reminder for members to forward your 2013 MIFDI dues to Treasurer Michael McLeier at P.O. Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860. Dues remain at the bargain price of \$25.00-Active, \$12.50-Retired.

Stay Safe and I hope to see you at the Academy on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

***A REMINDER TO ALL: NOW THAT WE ARE IN THE WINTER SEASON TO BE SURE AND CHECK THE MIFDI WEBSITE@ [WWW.MIFDI.ORG](http://WWW.MIFDI.ORG) FOR MEETING CANCELLATIONS DURING PERIODS OF INCLEMENT WEATHER.***

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER:**

### ***Replace Aging CO Alarms "Beat the Beep"***

The Massachusetts Department of Fire Services has a life-safety campaign called *BEAT THE BEEP* which is an educational reminder focused on replacing aging carbon monoxide alarms every 7-years.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) alarms have been required in nearly every residence since March 2006. The life expectancy of carbon monoxide alarms is 5-7 years depending on the alarm manufacturer. Many CO alarms installed after the state's CO Law was passed are now reaching the end of their useful life and need to be replaced. No home appliance lasts forever.

The life of a CO alarm begins when it is first powered up. Most CO alarms have a date of manufacture stamped on them which can be used as a guide if the activation date was not recorded.

One sign that a carbon monoxide alarm should be replaced is a chirping sound that does not stop until the unit is powered off. Another sign that a CO alarm should be replaced is that it makes a low battery signal even after new batteries are installed. Models with a digital readout will show an ERR or EO9 or END message.

The purpose of the *Beat the Beep* campaign is to alert residents that their CO alarms may be reaching the end of their lifecycles and should be replaced BEFORE the beeps indicating end of life. This also provides continuous protection against possible CO poisoning and reduces the number of false alarms to local fire departments.

Since Nichole's Law took effect in 2006 requiring CO alarms in every Massachusetts residence, many people have been saved from CO poisoning. CO alarms notified them that something was wrong at the earliest possible stages of CO detection. There have still been deaths from CO poisoning, but in most cases those homes had no CO alarm.

Two of the most common CO alarm manufacturers for reference are;  
KIDDE [www.kidde.com](http://www.kidde.com) and BRK/FIRST ALERT [www.firstalert.com](http://www.firstalert.com)

