

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

March  
2017

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

58th Year  
(1959-2017)

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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 - 2016**

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department  
 1st Vice President: Deputy Chief Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department (retired)  
 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 2016**

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

**Terms Expire 2017**

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  
 2017 Membership Application & Invoice  
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2017**

**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** \$ 30.00

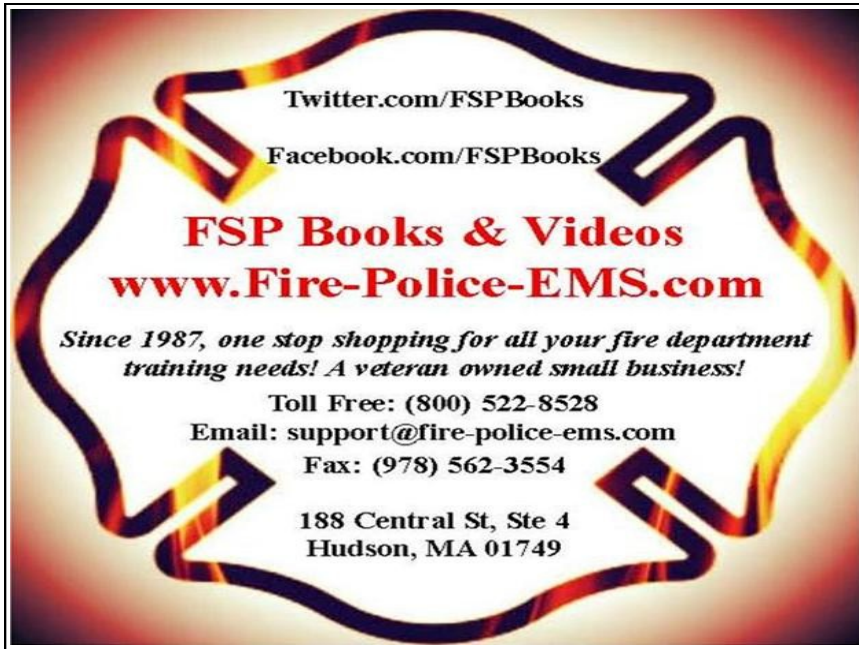
**Retired** \$ 15.00

**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  
 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 22, 2017** which is our annual visit to the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services and the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy courtesy of State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey. We will meet in the Boards & Commissions Conference Room, (Check the welcome screen in the lobby in the event of a room location change).

Our presentation will be offered by David DiGregorio, Acting Director of the DFS Haz-Mat Division. Dave will provide an overview and update on the Statewide Haz-Mat Operations which offers support, technical advice and mitigation of hazardous material incidents throughout the Commonwealth. We expect to also have State Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey stop in and offer greetings on behalf of the Department of Fire Services.

### **SCHEDULE:**

**0900:** Coffee (Available in the cafeteria), **1000:** Presentation, **1130:** Business meeting, **1200:** Lunch (On our own in the facility cafeteria on site).

### **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 aprox 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 aprox 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 aprox 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 01/03/2017

Preferred C.U. Checking \$194.14

Preferred C.U. Savings \$315.22

CapitalOneSav. Balance \$1,764.29

Total: \$2,273.65

**Bills Paid February 2017 (Checking):**

March 2017 Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 02/28

Dunkin Donuts - Coffee - Roche - Mtg. \$ 32.51 - 02/23

TOTAL: \$152.51

**Account Transfers:**

None

50/50 Raffle = None

Winner = N/A

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

**Total active members = 117**

Dues paid thru 2020 = 1

Dues paid thru 2019 = 3

Dues paid thru 2018 = 4

Dues paid thru 2017 = 63

Dues paid thru 2016 = 23

Dues paid thru 2015 = 23

**Mailings**

E-Mail - 76 Home - 29

Work - 12

117

Balances as of 03/14/2017

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 572.53

Less uncleared checks: (\$ 100.00)

PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 472.53

PCU Savings Balance: \$ 315.22

CapitalOne Sav. Balance: \$ 1,765.43

Total \$ 2,553.18

**Membership Totals: 117**

74 Active - 38 Retired - 5 Associate

Please welcome this new member who joined MIFDI this month.

- John Nash - Winchester Fire (\*Please send me your membership application. It was not attached with your dues payment. Thank you\*)

*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 2017 dues were due in January, 2017.**

**Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2017 for your 2017 dues.**

(b) You may now use the 2017 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

03/14/2017

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

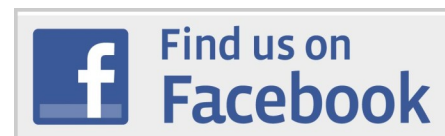
978-346-4731

Email: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

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

**Please remember to add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2017. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renew before April 1, 2017.**

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](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 \$30.00 per year for Active members \*(\$40 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, 2017.**

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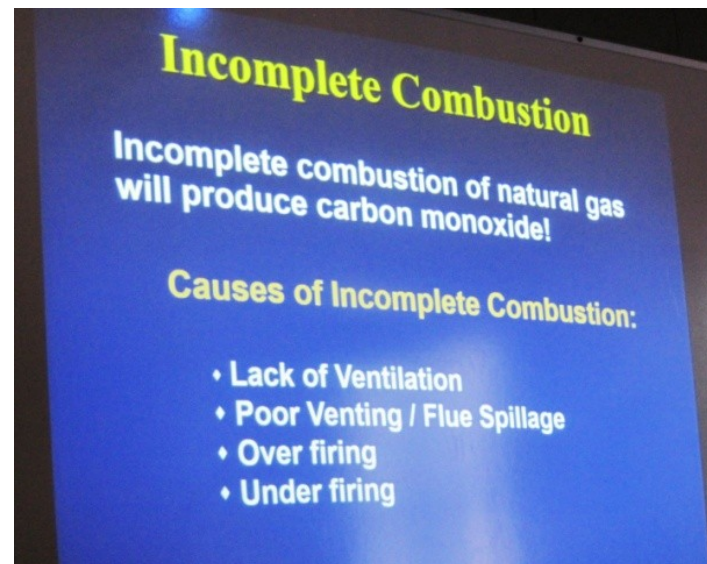


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## RECALL OF MEETING #2017-02

The February meeting of MIFDI was held on February 22, 2017 hosted by the Shrewsbury Fire Department courtesy of MIFDI member and Chief of Department James Vuona

Our training was presented by Mr. Larry Dinofio of National Grid with a very informative program on Gas & C.O. Emergencies for the Fire Service. Larry began with a dramatic video showing the effects of a major gas leak in a residential neighborhood causing an explosion in four dwellings. The presentation continued with a look at the gas distribution system, the basic properties of gas including the explosive range of 5%-15%, the valves that we should and should not shut off, and shared some extraordinary experiences witnessed by him during his career in the gas company. The presentation concluded with an overview of carbon monoxide and the importance of using your multi-gas meters whenever C.O. is suspected in a structure.



## EMS Run

### *Signs of C.O. Poisoning*



### LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **Call-Firefighter Ronald A. Aseltine, Jr.** of the Onset Fire Department. Ron died on February 26, 2017 at age 49. He previously served as a Call-Firefighter in Millis and worked several years as a Fire Warden for the Massachusetts DCR. May He Rest In Peace.





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**PARATECH**

## CONGRATULATIONS:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations and best wishes to **Chief Gerald Reardon** upon his retirement from the Cambridge Fire Department after 40-years of service. Former MIFDI member **Assistant Chief Gerard Mahoney** has been appointed as Acting Chief of Department. Congratulations to both!



(L. to R.) A.C. O'Donoghue (Ret), A.C. Sheehan, Chief Reardon, A.C. Mahoney, A.C. Burns (Ret), A.C. Gelinas (Ret) (CFD photo).

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 22, 2017: **MIFDI** – Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

April 5 & 6, 2017: **National Fire & Emergency Services Symposium**  
Washington DC [www.cfsi.org](http://www.cfsi.org)

April 17, 2017: **BAA Boston Marathon**

April 24-29, 2017: **F.D.I.C. 2017**  
Indianapolis, IN [www.fdic.org](http://www.fdic.org)

April 26, 2017: **MIFDI** – Arlington

May 13, 2017: **Statewide Exam; Deputy Chief, District Chief**  
*Good Luck!*

May 13, 2017: **Statewide Exam for Fire Alarm Operator**

May 18-19, 2017: **Michael Mullane Health & Safety Symposium**  
Florian Hall, Boston [www.bostonfirelocal718.org](http://www.bostonfirelocal718.org)

May 24, 2017: **MIFDI** - Merrimac - F.D.I.C. Annual Review

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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**

The February meeting of MIFDI was an excellent presentation on handling gas and carbon monoxide emergencies. I thank Larry Dinofio of National Grid for sharing his years of knowledge and experience with MIFDI on the subject of gas and C.O. I also thank Edward Donovan of National Grid for arranging this presentation. Thanks and gratitude to Chief Jim Vouna and the members of the Shrewsbury Fire Department for again hosting MIFDI at their facility.

A final reminder for members to continue your membership with MIFDI by paying the 2017 dues. Dues checks made out to **MIFDI** may be brought to the meeting or mailed to: MIFDI, P.O. Box 507, Merrimac MA 01860. Dues remain at \$30 for Active, \$15 for Retired, and \$100 for Associate.

Stay Safe and I hope to see you at the Academy on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**A REMINDER DURING THE WINTER MONTHS TO CHECK THE MIFDI WEBSITE @ [www.mifdi.org](http://www.mifdi.org) FOR MEETING CANCELLATIONS DUE TO INCLIMATE WEATHER.**



Mr. Larry Dinofio presenting on Gas Emergencies & Safety

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER:**

***Knox SecureCap*** Captain Mark Roche - MIFDI President

The manufacture of the Knox Box has recently developed a new item called "SecureCap". The Knox SecureCap is designed to be placed on the Fire Department Connection (FDC) of a sprinkler/standpipe feed. The SecureCap is available for both the 2.5" connections and the 4" or 5" Stortz connection. The SecureCap is also available with a female end to secure the standpipe discharge connection inside the building.

The purpose of these devices is to; (1) Prevent theft of the brass fittings, (2) Prevent trash from being stuffed inside the FDC, (3) Prevent rodents from building nests inside the FDC, (4) Reduce the risk of damage to the connection threads, (5) Prevent vandals turning on the standpipe discharge valve inside a stairwell causing water damage to the building.

An orange colored Knox Keywrench should be provided to every fire company (Recommend having TWO, one for the MPO and one with the high-rise hose). Buildings equipped with these devices should also be required to place a keywrench in the Master Box. Unlike the Knox Box key, the keywrench for the SecureCap is universal so when responding on mutual aid you have the ability to use the key in any community.

**REMOVAL:** (1) Inspect the lock head and remove any debris including snow or ice. (2) Rotate the head to a detent position until a click is heard. (3) While holding the cap with a spanner, use the keywrench to turn the lock counter clockwise until it stops, aprox 2-3 turns. (4) Use a spanner to unscrew the cap counter clockwise from the connection.

**NOTE:** Always use caution when removing caps that may have water pressure behind them. **ALSO:** The handle of the keywrench is equipped with two small holes that fit the two protrusions on the FDC SecureCap to allow removal of the cap counter clockwise while holding the swivel with a spanner.

A final note; there are many opinions and concerns regarding these SecureCaps that I will not get into for this article. The most important thing here is to be sure that every company is equipped with at least one keywrench that is accessible to everyone on the crew. As always, if you are unable to unlock the locks from the FDC or if the FDC is blocked, damaged, or inaccessible, you can always feed the system from the interior standpipe connection. If the interior discharge connection is equipped with a SecureCap and you do not have a key, you are out of business. It is important to check the buildings in your district for these during inspections and pre-plans and to add the information in your dispatch CAD system. For more information, go to [www.knoxbox.com](http://www.knoxbox.com)

