

The **MIFDI** BULLETIN

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

April
2006

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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 - 2006

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 2006
 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!
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E-MAIL- info@mifdi.org

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors
 Membership Application
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2006**

**It's Time to Renew
 your MIFDI Dues...**



**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:	Send Bulletin To:	Membership Dues:
<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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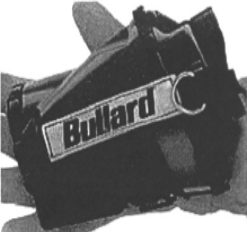
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APRIL MEETING:

The 495th MIFDI meeting will be held **Wednesday, April 26, 2006** at the New England Sinai Hospital and Rehabilitation Center, 150 York Street, Stoughton. Our host will be member Chief David Jardin of the Stoughton Fire Department.

The presentation will be provided by Dr. Robert Schlesinger, Director of Urologic Services at N.E. Sinai. Dr. Schlesinger will be speaking on a new test kit for screening bladder cancer called "BladderChek" developed by Matritech, Inc. of Newton, MA.

Bladder cancer is considered an occupational hazard for firefighters due to exposure to hazards throughout their careers. The test is non-evasive, voluntary, and confidential. Every year, approx 55,000 people are diagnosed with bladder cancer and 12,500 die from it. Bladder cancer is three times more common among men than women. Common symptoms of bladder cancer are blood in the urine and pain during urination. Early detection is considered an important way to increase the chances of survival. Several fire departments, including Cambridge, Everett, and Stoughton, have screened members using this test.

A Bill sponsored by State Senator Richard T. Moore (D-Uxbridge) is aimed toward encouraging firefighters to get screened for bladder cancer every year. According to the American Cancer Society, firefighters and inspectors may be at risk of exposure to dangerous levels of toxins when they remove their masks after a fire.

We encourage all members to invite their Chief's and Union Officers to attend this meeting and listen to this very important presentation pertaining to the health and safety of all firefighters.

DIRECTIONS:

The New England Sinai Hospital is very easy to get to. Take Rt.128/I 95 to Rt.138 South (Exit 2A) in Canton. Follow Rt.138 south approx 4-miles, York St. is the 1st. left after entering Stoughton. There is plenty of free parking on site, enter via the main entrance of the Kaplan building to the conference room.

SCHEDULE:

0900 Coffee, **1000** Presentation, **1130** Business Meeting, **1200** Lunch

Lunch will be at the nearby Albert's Restaurant on Rt.138 in Stoughton.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 1/2006

Checking 172.36
Savings 1,327.88
 Total \$1,500.24

50/50 Raffle = Collected
 Winner =
 Deposit from 50/50 Raffle =

Total active members = 107

Dues paid thru 2008 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2007 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2006 = 84
 Dues paid thru 2005 = 19

Balances as of 04/03/2006

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 368.14
 Less unleared checks: (\$ 120.00)
 Checking Balance: (\$ 248.14)
Savings Balance: \$2,187.26
 Total \$2,435.40

New Members:

None

Treasurer Notes:

- (a) *Reminder, your dues are DUE now for 2006. Please remember to look at your mailing label for the PAID THROUGH date. Thank you to all of you who have paid your dues.*
- (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.*

Respectfully submitted 04/03/2006

Michael McLeier

Treasurer

978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or

978-346-4731, ext. 1

Thank you for your continued support!

Bills Paid March (Checking):

April 06 Newsletter \$120.00 Mike

Account Transfers:

\$300.00 transfer from Savings to Checking

Mailings

E-Mail - 31 Home - 62
Work - 14
 107

Membership Totals

73 Active - 29 Retired - 4 Associate


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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 #494

The 494th meeting of MIFDI was held on March 22, 2006 hosted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fire Services at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stow courtesy of State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan and MFA Director Larry McDonald.

The training presentation was provided by Director Timothee Rodrique from the Office of the State Fire Marshal. Tim provided an informative overview of the new Carbon Monoxide Alarm Requirements for residential properties in the Commonwealth.

Following the C.O. presentation, our resident expert on elevators, retired Assistant Chief John O'Donahue, gave us an update and review on recent elevator code changes.

The presentations concluded with a brief business meeting held by President Roche. Treasurer Michael McLeieer gave an encouraging report on the organizations finances as well as an update on the MIFDI website which to date has had over 13,000 hits! Captain Steve Persson gave a report from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council. One new member, Captain Jim Vuona from Shrewsbury was introduced. Member Eddie Lyons introduced the new Northeastern Regional Manager of Holmatro Rescue Equipment, Mr. Mark Laigle. The meeting adjourned for an enjoyable lunch at the Piccadilly Pub Restaurant.

EMS RUN:

"Dealing with the Stroke Patient"

There are two main types of strokes, the most common type is the "Ischemic" stroke which accounts for 80% of all strokes. Ischemic strokes are caused by a blockage in an artery preventing blood from flowing which deprives the brain of oxygen. The other type of stroke is less common and called a "Hemorrhagic" stroke which is caused by a rupture in an artery causing blood to leak into the brain disrupting brain function.

A quick rule for field diagnosis of stroke patients includes;

- Ask the patient to SMILE (*Crooked smile*)
- Ask the patient to RAISE BOTH ARMS (*Weakness in one arm*)
- Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (*Slurred speech*)

Stroke warning signs also include; sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm, or leg, especially on one side of the body. Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding. Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes, sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination, or a sudden severe headache.

There is an intravenous drug called "tissue plasminogen activator" (TPA) that can dissolve the clot and reverse the symptoms of stroke. The challenge is the drug must be administered within 3-hours of the stroke onset. This drug should only be administered to patients suffering from an ischemic stroke. It therefore becomes vital that stroke patients are brought to special stroke centers with highly trained staff.

EMS professionals must be aware of the hospitals designated as "primary stroke service" hospitals that are equipped with 24-hour CT scanner access and on duty neurologist which few of the smaller hospitals do.

Remember, the clock is ticking for these patients.

LAST ALARM:

NATIONAL L.O.D.D. (March)

B.C. Robert Schnibbe	Westchester, NY	(V)	03-03-06	U/K	(57)
Lt. Wayne Yarborough	Waynesville, NC	(V)	03-05-06	Heart	(59)
F.F. Mike Davenport	Parchman, MS	(V)	03-09-06	Asphx.	(39)
Lt. Jeffery Bowman	Chattanooga, TN	(C)	03-11-06	Heart	(42)
F.F. George Jackson	Camdon, NJ	(C)	03-13-06	Burns	(67)
Capt. Patrick Henry	CFD, CA	(C)	03-13-06	Heart	(--)
F.F. Michael Vivone	Des Moines, IA	(C)	03-14-06	Cancer	(53)
Capt. Will Petrosino	Auburn, NY	(C)	03-15-06	Cancer	(54)
F.F. Kelly Kincade	Morganton, NC	(V)	03-19-06	Heart	(41)
F.F. Barry Levin	Glen Richey, PA	(V)	03-21-06	Heart	(58)
Capt. Rob McLaughlin	Ocean Shores, WA	(C)	03-21-06	Drowning	(40)
Lt. Franklin Cook	Baltimore Co., MD	(C)	03-22-06	Cancer	(49)
F.F. John Horton	Chickaska, OK	(C)	03-24-06	Burns	(32)
F.F. Shon Rice	Georgetown, SC	(C)	03-31-06	Heart	(34)

CONGRATULATIONS:

Congratulations to Acting Chief Michael Murphy, Senior Deputy Chief of the Malden Fire Department, on his recent appointment to Chief of Department. Chief Murphy, a 28 year veteran of the M.F.D., was guest host of the December 05' MIFDI meeting at Anthony's Restaurant in Malden. The officers and members of MIFDI wish him great success in new position.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Get well wishes are offered to member Chief Randell Sherman of the Yarmouth Fire Department. Randy was injured last month from a fall while doing tree pruning at his home. We hope for a full recovery for Randy who is a long time and devoted member of MIFDI.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 24, 2006: Application Deadline for the June 10 Firefighter Exam
Contact: www.state.ma.us/hrd

April 24-29, 2006: F.D.I.C. 2006
Indianapolis, IN Contact: www.fdic.com

April 24-26, 2006: FIRE-RESCUE-MED 2006
Las Vegas, NV Contact: www.IAFC.org

April 26, 2006: **MIFDI** - Stoughton

May 2,3,4, 2006: WMD Incident Command Training Course
DPH, Canton, MA Contact: DFS/MFA

May 6, 2006: Statewide Exam for Fire Alarm Operator

May 24, 2006: **MIFDI** - Merrimac

June 1-4, 2006: Haz-Mat 2006 Conference
Hunt Valley, MD Contact: www.IAFC.org

June 4-8, 2006: NFPA World Safety Conference & Expo
Orlando, FL Contact: www.NFPA.org

June 10, 2006: Statewide Exam For Municipal Firefighter

June 10, 2006: MAFAA Fire Apparatus Parade, Show & Flea Market
Edgewater Park, Wakefield, MA

June 11, 2006: FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL SUNDAY

June 13-17, 2006: FDIC EAST **CANCELLED**
Atlantic City, NJ

June 21, 2006: **MIFDI** - TBA

June 23-25, 2006: New England FIRE/RESCUE/EMS 2006
West Springfield, MA Contact www.newenglandfirechiefs.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

Our March speaker, Mr Timothee Rodrique of the Department of Fire Services, provided our membership with an informative presentation on "Nichole's Law" which requires carbon monoxide alarms in all residential properties that contain fossil fuel burning equipment or have enclosed parking within a residential structure. I thank Tim for his presentation as well as Fire Marshal Stephen Coan for again hosting our organization. The new MFA Director, Larry McDonald was unable to address our membership due to a training commitment but does hope to meet with us the future.

A special thank you to Mr. Mark Laigle, the Northeast Regional Manager of Holmatro Rescue Equipment, for his generosity shown towards our members at the March meeting.

Beginning in this issue of the MIFDI Bulletin, a new feature called "EMS RUN" will be published periodically to provide articles and updates regarding emergency medical services. Whether we choose to accept it or not, EMS is an important part of the service provided by fire departments today and we must remain pro-active towards EMS training, education, and equipment.

I hope that most of you got a chance to view the PBS documentary "*Taking the Heat: The First Women Firefighters of New York City*". The program has been on PBS Channels 209 and 44 and I'm sure that it will be repeated. It was indeed an education to witness the struggle endured by the first group of female firefighters in New York City. Also on PBS is a very good documentary called "*Damrell's Fire*" which profiles the progressive leadership of Chief John Damrell of the Boston Fire Department who fought for a fire safe city and was in command of the Great Boston Fire of 1872. The program will be aired again on April 27 at 8pm on GBH 2.

I hope to see you all in Stoughton on the 26th. Until then, stay safe.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

"Emergency Vehicle Crashes Climb 10% Since '04"

(Excerpts from Boston Herald article, 3-19-06)

Police vehicles, fire apparatus, and ambulances responding to emergencies in Massachusetts with sirens and warning signals collided with civilian vehicles 560 times last year. That is roughly a 10% increase from the 511 emergency vehicle accidents in 2004. So far in 2006 there have been 37 accidents involving emergency vehicles.

According to James Soloman of the National Safety Council, the problem includes factors of motorists who don't pull over when they hear sirens, and the jolt that cops, firefighters and EMT's get when they turn on the siren and hit the gas. "*When you're running hot, there's an adrenaline rush to this, you can get in trouble from that rush*". "*The whole thing in the emergency services is that if you don't get to the fire or arrive at the hospital in one piece, you're not going to do anyone any good*".

Nationally, 170 people were killed and 18,772 were injured in emergency vehicle crashes in 2004, according to the National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration. The bulk of those killed in emergency vehicle accidents are the drivers and passengers of civilian cars, which are often lighter and smaller than emergency vehicles. Nine ambulance drivers and passengers were killed in 2004 compared to 24 occupants of civilian vehicles and two pedestrians.

(Note from MIFDI President)

The bottom line is that we all have a significant responsibility to make sure our drivers operate safely. We must provide for periodic driver training and driving rules reminders. We must ensure proper vehicle maintenance including tires, brakes, and front ends. And we must be watchful for the drivers who react with the siren by driving faster. On the other side, more and more civilians are driving with cell phones and not paying attention. The sound systems in newer vehicles can drown out electronic sirens on approaching emergency vehicles, and the tail-gaters who hook on to us to get through traffic create a serious hazard and must be reported. It can be hell out there so lets stay safe!



photo courtesy of Dick Bartlett