

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

April
2007

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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 - 2007

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
 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!

www.mifdi.org

E-MAIL- info@mifdi.org

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors
 Membership Application
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2007**

**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
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 Phone: (978) 864-2015 or (978) 346-4731, ext. 1
 E-mail: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

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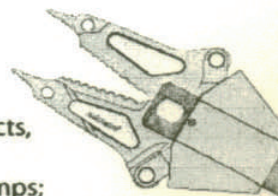
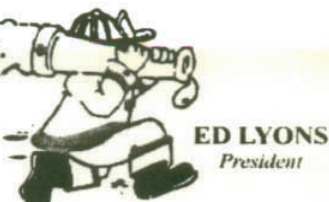
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APRIL MEETING:

The 505th MIFDI meeting will be held **Wednesday, April 25, 2007** at the headquarters of the Massachusetts Task Force Urban Search & Rescue FEMA Team located on the grounds of Beverly Airport.

The presentation will be provided Mr. Mark Foster, leader of the MTF-1 team. Mark will provide a power-point presentation on the many responsibilities of the Team as well as some of their missions including their role on 9/11. Following the presentation, we will get to see some of the state-of-the-art equipment used by the Team as well as the training area including some of the props used by the members for their continuous training drills.

This should be a fascinating and rare opportunity to view this facility and equipment. Members should keep in mind that this is a secure facility and should carry some form of identification. Special thanks to MIFDI member Acting Deputy Chief Mike Acciavatti of the Beverly Fire Department for arranging this presentation and tour for our members.

DIRECTIONS:

FROM RT.128: Take Exit 20B (Rt.1A, Beverly) Turn right onto Rt.1A (Dodge St.). Turn right onto Rt.97 (Cabot St.) Fire Station on your right. Follow Rt. 97 approx 1 mile to the Beverly Airport east side entrance. Turn onto Airport Rd. and continue approx 1/4 mile until you see Sam Fonzo Drive on the left, TAKE THE NEXT RIGHT, the entrance to the site is at the end.

There will be a gate at the entrance, if it is not open then press the button and say MIFDI.

SCHEDULE:

0900 Coffee, **1000** Presentation, **1100** Facility Tour,
1130 Business Meeting, **1200** Lunch (Off Site)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 1/1/2007

Checking 138.26
Savings 887.66
9 Mo. CD 515.44
Total \$1,541.36

Bills Paid March (Checking):

April 07 Newsletter \$120.00 Michael - 3/30
Handout copies-Meeting \$ 48.30 Mark - 03/30
Coffee/Muffins/Postage \$ 58.08 Mark - 03/19
TOTAL: \$226.38

Account Transfers:

None

50/50 Raffle = \$80.00 Collected

Winner = John O'Donoghue - \$40.00

Deposit from 50/50 Raffle = \$40.00

Total active members = 114

Dues paid thru 2009 = 1
Dues paid thru 2008 = 5
Dues paid thru 2007 = 83
Dues paid thru 2006 = 25

Mailings

E-Mail - 39 Home - 59
Work - 16
114

Balances as of 04/05/2007

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 342.72
Less uncleared checks: (\$ 48.30)
Checking Balance: \$ 294.42
Savings Balance: \$ 2,308.81
Total \$ 2,603.23

Membership Totals

78 Active - 30 Retired - 6 Associate

We welcome these New Members:

- Brian H. Smith - Lieutenant - Gardner
- Colin D. O'Connell - Deputy Chief - Brookline
- John Radley - Lieutenant - Brookline
- Captain of Training - Brookline
- Mark T. Munroe - Lieutenant - Massport Fire/Rescue

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 2007 dues are due in January.**
- (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 04/05/2007

Michael McLeier

Treasurer

978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or

978-346-4731, ext. 1

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

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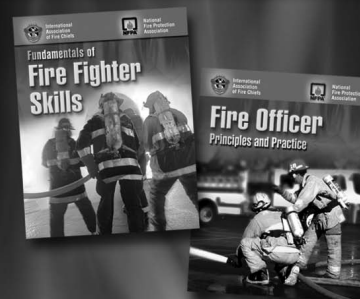
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS

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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 .

RECALL OF MEETING #504

The 504th. meeting of MIFDI was held on March 28, 2007 hosted by the Department of Fire Services at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy courtesy of State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan and Interim Fire Academy Director Kevin Partridge.

The training session was provided by our own resident elevator expert John O'Donoghue with a power-point presentation on "Firefighter's Emergency Operation" (FEO 3502). The program included changes to A17.1 Emergency Operations Code, Phase I (Firefighters Recall), Phase II (Firefighter Operations), Hoistway Door Opening Tool, Lock Out/Tag Out, and MRL's.(Machine Room-less Elevators).

The presentation concluded with an update from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Interim Director Kevin Partridge. Director Partridge highlighted some of the changes expected at the MFA with construction improvements due to begin shortly. A brief business meeting followed by President Roche. Training Council member Persson gave an update from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting.

Members adjourned for lunch at the nearby Piccadilly Restaurant

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Do You Live In A Heartsafe Community?

If someone in your community suffers a sudden cardiac arrest tomorrow, how likely is he or she to survive due to rapid access to life-saving treatment?

Now that all cities and towns in Massachusetts have enhanced 9-1-1, how many residents and public safety officials in your community can recognize the symptoms of cardiac arrest and know how to get help "on the way, right away"?

Who knows CPR in your community and is prepared to administer it when necessary? Where are the automated external defibrillators (AED's) located, and who has been trained to use them appropriately?

The answers to these questions could determine whether or not your community qualifies as a Massachusetts *Heartsafe Community*.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, through its Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) and the American Heart Association, aim to help the Commonwealth's cities and towns improve the chances that anyone suffering a sudden cardiac arrest will have the best possible chance of survival.

Through the *Heartsafe Community* program, Massachusetts communities can strengthen what the American Heart Association called the "chain of survival", which has four critical steps:

A) EARLY ACCESS TO EMERGENCY CARE

Bystanders recognize the symptoms of cardiac arrest and call 9-1-1 immediately. EMS dispatchers are equipped with instructions for the caller and can get an Advanced Life Support response vehicle to the scene quickly.

B) EARLY CPR

CPR when properly administered, buys precious minutes until a defibrillator is available.

Public knowledge and awareness must be increased so that those trained in CPR will actually use it when needed.

C) EARLY DEFIBRILLATION

Defibrillation is the delivery of electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm.

Early defibrillation is considered to be the most critical link in the chain of survival.

New AED's are light-weight, sturdy, and easy to use by anyone who has been trained. AED's should only be used by individuals certified by defibrillation training programs that have medical oversight and are coordinated with EMS.

D) EARLY ADVANCED CARE

Advanced care is delivered by an Advanced Life Support vehicle staffed by paramedics.

Medications and oxygen therapy delivered by paramedics can be critical to the survival of cardiac arrest victims.

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Captain John F. Kenney**, active member of the Boston Fire Department, Engine Co. 24. Captain Kenney died on March 9, 2007 at age 48 after a long battle with a brain tumor. May he now be at peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter Leonard F. Delaney**, active member of the Cambridge Fire Department, Ladder Co. 4. Firefighter Delaney died on March 23, 2007 at age 63 after a battle with lung cancer. May he rest in peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter Brian Mello**, active member of the New Bedford Fire Department, Engine Co. 7. Firefighter Mello died on March 24, 2007 at age 43 from injuries due to a motorcycle accident in Middleborough while off duty. May he rest in peace.

CONGRATULATIONS:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our belated congratulations to **Captain Stephen J. Boyle** who retired from the Cambridge Fire Department on December 31, 2006 after over 35 years of service. Steve was no stranger to MIFDI and was known to pinch-hit as a presenter for MIFDI in the past. We wish him well in his retirement.

A New Approach to Teaching: Online Learning, continued from page8

How can you use online learning? Start small. Take a small block of curriculum that can be presented in a PowerPoint program. You could start with your annual sexual harassment training. Prepare your PowerPoint slides for the program, then click on the advance slides using the timer box under the slide show dropdown button. To determine the amount of time needed for each side, use the rehearse timing to determine the timing. You can also record a message to be played with some or all of the slides. At the end of the program you can have a post test that each student must submit after completing the program. You can make copies of the PowerPoint program and distribute the programs to each of the stations and the firefighters can complete the training during a convenient time or for call/volunteer firefighters they could take the program home and complete it at a convenient time.

You are sadly mistaken if you think online learning is easy and not credible. Look around you, most colleges and universities now offer online learning. When the online curriculum is developed with the individual needs of the student in mind it will be a success. One of the leading causes of failure in online learning is producing the “same old vanilla flavor program” to the students. No online system should be without an assessment system. We still need to know what the student has learned and continue improvement in the course.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 16-21, 2007: F.D.I.C. 2007
Indianapolis, IN

Contact: www.fdic.com

April 30-May 2, 2007: FIRE-RESCUE-MED 2007
Las Vegas, NV

Contact: www.iafc.org

April 25, 2007: **MIFDI** - Beverly

April 28, 2007: Worcester Fire Brigade Pipes & Drums In Concert
Bartlett High School, Webster, MA Contact: www.websterrescue.com

May 23, 2007: **MIFDI** - Merrimac

May 18-20, 2007: Pennsylvania Fire Expo
Harrisburg, PA

Contact: www.lcfa.com

June 20, 2007: **MIFDI** - TBA

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:
Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

Our March meeting was provided by our own elevator expert Chief John O'Donahue of the Cambridge Fire Department. John provided us with a great presentation on elevator code changes and the (FEO) "Firefighters Emergency Operation", formerly identified as "Firefighters Service"

And while on the subject of elevators, I feel compelled to give a plug for a new fire service publication which will be a great resource for every fire department library. "Elevator & Escalator Rescue" recently published by Pennwell and co-authored by John O'Donoghue and Ted Jarboe is one of the most comprehensive guides ever published on this subject specifically for the fire service. It is available through MIFDI Associate member FSP Books & Videos in Hudson @ www.fire-police-ems.com (See their ad on Pg. 13).

Thank you also to MFA Interim Director Kevin Partridge for addressing the membership of MIFDI during our March meeting and providing us with an update on the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy as well as the adjustments and challenges for the MFA during the upcoming expansion project.

On March 22, I was honored to represent MIFDI at a forum hosted by Fire Marshal Stephen Coan and the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services. Guests included Secretary of Public Safety Kevin Burke, Under-Secretary Juliette Kayyem, and Under-Secretary Kurt Schwartz. Those represented at the forum included Fire Marshal Coan, Deputy Marshal Thomas Leonard, DFS Operations Chief John Burke, MFA Interim Director Kevin Partridge as well as representatives from the Massachusetts Fire Chief's Association, Mass Fire Training Council, Mass Fire Prevention Association, Mass Call/Volunteer Firefighters, State Haz-Mat Response Team, the State Sprinkler Commission and Fire Service Commission, and the PFFM. This was a great opportunity for all of these important agencies to sit together and discuss concerns and suggestions for changes regarding challenges facing the fire service as well as homeland security issues. As a participant of this forum, I would like to see this become an annual event.

Our April meeting will be a rare and fascinating presentation and tour of the Massachusetts Task Force Federal Urban Search & Rescue facility located at Beverly Airport

I hope to see you all in Beverly on the **25th**. Until then, stay safe.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

A New Approach to Teaching: Online Learning

By: Chief Paul Antonellis, Jr. (Ret.), MA, CEAP

Adjunct Assistant Professor – Southern New Hampshire University

Let's face it; the landscape of fire service education is facing a permanent change with the integration of online education. Our job as educators in the fire service is to keep an open mind to the concept of online learning and realize that our new firefighters not only require new technology they demand it. I will be up front; I do not believe this will be the end all cure all for the training needs in the fire service. Firefighters will still need the psychomotor skills found in the hands on training in the drill yard. For additional information on online learning in the fire service, please read my article "*Online Learning The New Generation*" in this month's **Firehouse** magazine (Page 138-143).

As an educator, it would seem like a normal process to take a standard fire service curriculum and adapt it to a new vehicle to facilitate the learning process. The new vehicle is online learning. Don't be fooled, teaching and learning online is going to take more than a new vehicle to deliver the curriculum. The best approach to developing a solid online environment:

- 1) Curriculum objectives need to be solid,
- 2) Course activities need to be value laden,
- 3) Focused around the students. Any program lacking one of the three steps will be significantly lacking and the curriculum is bound to fail.

The new generation of firefighters has been exposed to computers and high-tech gadgets for years now. Firefighters pursuing a higher education are now being offered online learning. Many students have obtained their degree online and yet back in the fire station they are still being taught in the "traditional classroom setting." You ask yourself, why are some of the younger firefighters not interested in the "lectures" or "trainings"? They want state of the art technology, critical thinking, active participation, communication, and successful accomplishment. As the environment changes so must our teaching methods.

Continued on page 9