

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

April
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!

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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) _____

Zip Code _____

Membership Type:
circle one

Send Bulletin To:
circle one

Membership Dues:
Active \$ 25.00

Active Retired Associate Home Work E-mail

Retired \$ 12.50
Associate \$100.00

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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APRIL MEETING:

The April meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, April 28, 2010** hosted by the Billerica Fire Department courtesy of Chief Anthony Capaldo and MIFDI member Deputy Chief Thomas Conway. We will meet in the Training Room of Billerica Fire Headquarters located at 8 Good St.

Our training presentation will be provided by Billerica Firefighter Phil Tamaro. Phil is a burn survivor due to injuries received as a child when he was burned 35% of his body. He is currently involved in the IAFF Burn Foundation as the New England Coordinator presenting programs on burn education and prevention. Phil is also involved with the Shriners Hospital SOARS program (Survivors Offering Assistance in Recovery).

SCHEDULE:

0900 Coffee, 1000 Presentation, 1130 Business Meeting, 1200 Lunch
(Off site)

DIRECTIONS:

From Rt. 128, take Rt. 3 North to EXIT 27 (Concord Rd.) Proceed east toward Billerica Center. When you get to Rt. 3A (Boston Rd) turn left and head two-blocks to Good St. (Flashing Yellow Light). Turn left on Good St. and the station is on the left.

From Rt. 495, take Rt. 3 South to Exit 29 (Rt.129). Follow Rt. 129 East toward North Billerica. Rt.129 will merge with Rt.3A. Continue East on 3A to Good St. (Flashing Yellow Light). Turn right on Good St. and the station is on the left.

There is plenty of parking in the lot to the left of the station.

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 March 2010 (Checking):

April 09 Newsletter - Michael \$120.00 - 03/31
 March Coffee, Rolls,-M. Roche \$ 59.91 - 03/26
TOTAL:\$ 179.91

Account Transfers:

Economy Savings to Checking - \$1,000.00 - 04/03/2010
 Economy Checking to ING Sav. - \$1,250.00 - 04/03/2010

50/50 Raffle = \$36.00

Winner = Bob MacKendrick

Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$37.00 deposited to Economy Checking 3/26/2010

Total active members = 112

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2013 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2012 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2011 = 7
 Dues paid thru 2010 = 83
 Dues paid thru 2009 = 18

Mailings

E-Mail - 56 Home - 44
Work - 12
 112

Balances as of 04/07/2010

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 132.22
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Economy Cking. Balance: \$ 132.22
 Economy Savings Balance: \$ 269.30
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 1,936.74
 CD/None
 Consumers Stmtnt. Cking.: \$ 0.00
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Consumers C.U. Checking \$ 0.00
 Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 330.74
Total \$ 2,669.00

Membership Totals: 112

72 Active - 32 Retired - 8 Associate

We welcome this new member:

- James J. Belliveau - Deputy Chief (Retired) - Fitchburg Fire Department
- Brian F. Nardelli - Deputy Chief - Brockton Fire Department
- William L. Brown - Lieutenant - Winchendon 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 were 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

04/07/2010

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer
 978-346-4731

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

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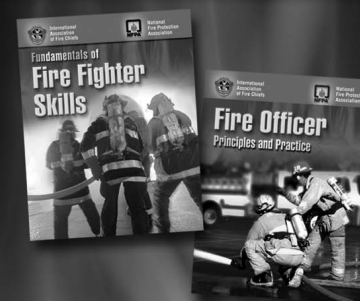
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS

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 .

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RECALL OF MEETING #534

The 534th meeting of MIFDI was held on March 24, 2010 hosted by the Belmont Fire Department courtesy of Chief David Frizzell. The meeting was held in the training room of Belmont Fire Department Headquarters.

The training portion was provided by Mr. Manuel Machado of Massachusetts Bay Commuter Railroad (MBCR). Manny's informative presentation focused on rail safety for first responders during emergencies on trains and operating on tracks. This important program is offered to any fire department throughout the Commonwealth. (Even if your community does not have a rail line, a town that you provide mutual aid to may). To schedule training by MBCR for your department, you can contact Manny at 617-438-6776 or e-mail manuel.machado@mbcrr.net

A business meeting conducted by President Roche followed the training presentation. Our host, Chief Dave Frizzell, offered greetings on behalf of the Belmont Fire Department and spoke on the importance of training for the fire service. Michael McLeieer gave a report of the Treasurer. Two new members were introduced, Deputy Chief Brian Nardelli from Brockton and Captain Mark Heitman from Newton. Steve Persson gave a report from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting. Members Bob MacKendrick and Frank Fitzgerald both spoke on the importance of periodic night-inspections for clubs and restaurants in your communities due to overcrowding and blocked exits that continue to exist in many establishments.

Member Bob MacKendrick won the 50/50.

Members adjourned for lunch at Greg's Restaurant in Watertown.

EMS RUN:

Baby Sling Death “My Baby’s Not Breathing”

“Derrick” was just 6-pounds, 8-ounces when his parents placed him in an “Infantino Baby Sling” for a shopping trip. In a hospital class, the mother was told that the sling was the best way for babies to transition into the outside world.

Believing their son had fallen asleep inside the sling, the parents finished with their shopping and returned to their car an hour later. That is when they noticed Derrick’s skin had taken on a bluish hue and he could not be aroused.

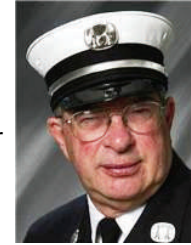
While the father attempted CPR, the frantic mother dialed 9-1-1. An ambulance rushed Derrick to the hospital where he was pronounced dead. The cause of death is listed as “compression asphyxia and suffocation”. The death certificate specifically cited the use of the baby sling as a contributing factor.

The problem with the slings appears to be that in very young infants, the design causes the baby’s neck to crumple, thus closing off the child’s windpipe. As newborns do not possess the muscle strength to adjust their heads, they can suffocate when their necks are cocked at such an angle or their faces are pressed against the sling wearer’s body.

In response to the death of Derrick and two other infants in separate incidents, Infantino announced a recall on more than 1-million baby slings.

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **Chief Robert L. Gaucher**, ACTIVE member of the Shrewsbury Fire Department. Chief Gaucher died at age 63 on March 14, 2010 after suffering stroke and subsequent heart attack. Chief Gaucher was a 34-year member of the SFD and has served as chief since June 2008. Chief Gaucher hosted MIFDI in Shrewsbury for our November 2008 meeting. May he Rest in Peace.



Chief Robert L. Gaucher

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolence to the family and friends of **Firefighter Michael T. Dalton**, ACTIVE member of the Andover Fire Department. Firefighter Dalton died on March 24, 2010 at age 33. May he Rest in Peace.



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PARATECH

CONGRATULATIONS:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations to our newest member **Brian Nardelli** of the Brockton Fire Department upon his recent promotion to Deputy Chief. Brian is assigned as Chief of the Training & Safety Division.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 8, 2010: MDA/PFFM 2010 "Rock-the Boot" Kick Off Dinner
Double Tree, Westborough Contact: pffm.org

April 10, 2019: Retirement Dinner for Deputy Marshal Tom Leonard
Doubletree Milford Contact: Kerry Duffy @ 978-758-0488 by 4/1

April 12, 2010: PFFM 2010 Legislators Night
Florian Hall, Boston Contact: pffm.org

April 17, 2010: Retirement Dinner for Brockton Chief Ken Galligan
Shaw's Convention Center, Brockton Contact: BFD @ 508-583-2323

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 3, 2010: Fireground Operations Seminar with B.C. Salka
Framingham Contact: ffdseminar@yahoo.com

May 12, 2010: 100 Club Annual Dinner "Heroes Among Us"
Boston Contact 100club@mjhcomm.com

May 26, 2010: **MIFDI** – Merrimack - Annual F.D.I.C. Recap.

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REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

Our March meeting on “Railway Safety” was superb. I thank Manny Machado from MBCR on his informative program. I also thank Chief David Frizzell and the members of the Belmont Fire Department for once again hosting MIFDI.

It’s good to see the large attendance at meetings again. When we run out of seats and program handouts, that’s a good thing. It shows that MIFDI is a strong and vibrant organization. We hope to continue to bring interesting and informative presentations each month to encourage members to attend, not only for the education but to also participate in the training and safety discussions during the business portion of the meetings. As always, guests are always welcome to attend.

Our April meeting is expected to be another interesting program as we get a look at the prospective of the victims of burn injuries from fire. It is safe to say that there is no other injury more painful or more destructive to the human body then that of the burn injury.

See you on the 28th, until then stay safe!

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

“Solar Panel Hazards”

Courtesy of the Boston Fire Department – Safety Division

All members should be aware that many buildings are now outfitted with solar panels. With a new tax credit soon being offered we can expect many more of these installations in the future. The panels can be found on both commercial and residential buildings. The hazards of these panels include the following;

When the sun is out, the panels generate between 300-500 volts DC. The disconnect switch is usually found at the roof level and/or at the point where the power enters the building.

The disconnect switch only turns off the power coming from the solar panels back into the building.

The disconnect switch does not turn off the power at the panels.

The hazard lies in the wiring beneath the panels.

DO NOT come in contact with the wiring at the panels.

The panels can be installed vertically or horizontally and sometimes at an angle.

If you break a panel with a tool, that panel will no longer supply power.

However, these panels are expensive and cost about \$1000 per panel.

You will not receive an electric shock if you inadvertently break a panel during roof operations unless you come in contact with the wiring beneath or under the panel.

The 300-500 volts of power generated by the solar panels is converted from DC current to AC current so that the power can be used in the building.

If you remove the AC power source coming into the building from the power company, the DC power coming from the solar panels will cease being supplied into the building until the AC power is restored.

REMEMBER THAT THERE WILL CONTINUE TO BE POWER AT THE PANELS.

At night the panels do not generate power.

These panels can add to trip hazards when conducting roof operations.

When panels are installed horizontally, they can be slippery when walked on, especially during inclement weather.

BE VIGILANT – KNOW YOUR BUILDINGS!