

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

May
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 _____

<u>Membership Type:</u>	<u>Send Bulletin To:</u>	<u>Membership Dues:</u>
<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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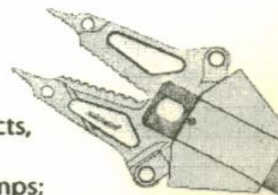
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MAY MEETING:

The 506th meeting of MIFDI will be held **Wednesday, May 23, 2007** hosted by the Merrimac Fire Department courtesy of Chief Ralph Spencer. The meeting will be held in the Hose Co.1 training room located at the Merrimac Fire/Rescue Headquarters, 16 East Main St. (Rt.110), Merrimac, MA.

The program will be provided by MIFDI Treasurer & Past President Michael McLeieer with a presentation on the 2007 FDIC Training Conference held annually in Indianapolis. Michael always brings back plenty of information from the FDIC with a focus on the most interesting topics covered during the conference. For those attending this meeting, copies of CD's with some of the training items covered will be provided. This is always an enjoyable and informative training program for those in attendance.

DIRECTIONS:

Merrimac is located in Essex County 30 miles north of Boston and easy to get to.

From Rt.495 either North or South, take **Exit 53** which is the Broad Street Exit. Follow Broad St. NORTH a short distance to the end and the Fire Station will be directly in front of you. Parking is on the left side and the rear of the complex.

SCHEDULE:

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

LUNCH

For lunch we will reconvene in the seacoast community of Salisbury at the popular Sylvan Street Grill located at 195 Elm St. (Rt.110), a short drive from Merrimac.

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 April (Checking):

May 07 Newsletter \$120.00 Michael - 05/09
 TOTAL: \$120.00

Account Transfers:

Eastern Savings to Checking - \$1,000.00
 Checking to new CD @ Economy - \$1,000.00

50/50 Raffle = None
 Winner = None
 Deposit from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

Total active members = 115

Dues paid thru 2009 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 5
 Dues paid thru 2007 = 87
 Dues paid thru 2006 = 22

Mailings

E-Mail - 40 Home - 59
Work - 16
 115

Balances as of 05/10/2007

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 1,319.42
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 1,120.00)
 Checking Balance: \$ 199.42
 Savings Balance: \$ 1,309.29
Economy Co-Op. 12 Mo. CD \$ 1,000.00 (matures 05/10/2008 @ 4.75% APY)
 Total \$ 2,508.71

Membership Totals

79 Active - 30 Retired - 6 Associate

We welcome these New Members:

- Jonathan R. Brickett - Deputy Chief - Amesbury

Treasurer Notes:

- 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.**
- 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.
- 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 05/10/2007

Michael McLeier


Treasurer

978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or

978-346-4731, ext. 1

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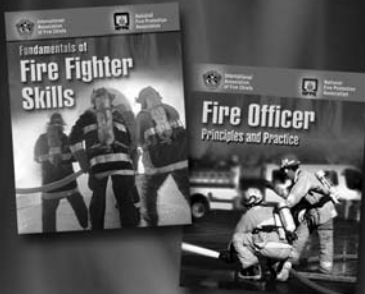
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS
may be addressed to:

MIFDI - Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer
PO Box 507
Merrimac, MA 01860-0510
Phone: (978) 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 #505

The 505th. meeting of MIFDI was held on April 25, 2007 hosted by the Massachusetts Task Force 1, National USAR Team located on the grounds of Beverly Airport.

The training session was provided by MTF-1 Team Leader Mark Foster with an overview of the Team's operations as well as past deployments, including their role on 9/11. MTF-1 Team Members Lt. Jay Bourgeois of the Newton Fire Dept. and Lt. Brad Smith of the Framingham Fire Dept. followed with a tour of the facilities, training area, and state-of-the-art equipment.

This was a rare opportunity for our members to tour the secure facility of this important National response team. Special thanks to member, Captain Mike Acciavatti of the Beverly Fire Department for arranging this meeting for MIFDI.

A brief business meeting followed by President Roche. Training Council member Persson gave an update from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting. It was announced that a new Director for the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy has been selected. Edmund M. Walker, currently Chief of the Weston Fire Department has been chosen from a total of 16 applicants. Chief Walker is expected to begin his new role as Director towards the end of June.

Members adjourned for lunch at the "99" Restaurant in Salem.



EMS RUN

Star of Life

The blue colored Star of Life is one of the most highly recognized symbols in the world. Most associate the Star of Life with emergency medical services. The six points of the star represent the six aspects of the EMS system: *detection, reporting, response, scene care, care in transit, and transfer to definitive care.*

The snake and staff in the center of the Star of Life represent Asclepius, the son of Apollo in Greek mythology. Chevron taught Asclepius how to heal the sick and injured. Zeus, the King of Greek gods, worried that Asclepius could make all men immortal with his powers of healing. To prevent this from happening, Zeus killed Asclepius with a thunderbolt. How and why did this all come together in what we now know as the Star of Life?

The Chief of EMS of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Leo R. Schwartz, designed the modern Star of Life in the 1970's after complaints from the Red Cross that many ambulance companies and other EMS organizations were using the "Omaha Orange Cross" which is the symbol of the Red Cross. The design by Schwartz was an adaptation of the symbol used by the American Medical Association. The Star of Life was registered as a Certification Mark in 1977. The Star of Life cannot be used by anyone, you must have an association with emergency medical services to wear or display this symbol.

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of former MIFDI member **Assistant Chief Louis A. Colella** of the Newton Fire Department. Louis passed on April 25, 2007 at age 89. He was a member of MIFDI during his assignment as Drill Master of the N.F.D. from 1969 to 1972. May he rest in peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Captain Ronald B. Palkey**, also of the Newton Fire Department. Ron died on April 9, 2007 at age 70. Ron was an Instructor at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy for several years and was well known by many in this organization. May he now be at peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **EMT Michael Latta** of Patriot EMS. Michael died on April 26, 2007 when the ambulance he was driving crashed into a barn in Dunstable, MA during a patient transport. Both Michael and the patient being transported died in this tragic accident. May they rest in peace.

CONGRATULATIONS:

GOOD & WELFARE:

The officers and members of MIFDI offer get well wishes to member **John O'Donoghue** who is recovering from recent surgery. We hope to see you in Merrimac this month John!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 12, 2007: America's Fire Heroes Whistle Stop Tour
Framingham, MA Contact: www.everyonegoeshome.com

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

May 18-20, 2007: Pennsylvania Fire Expo
Harrisburg, PA Contact: www.lcfa.com

May 31-June 3: Haz-Mat Conference
Hunt Valley, MD Contact: www.iafc.org

June 3-7, 2007: NFPA World Safety Conference & Expo
Boston, MA Contact: www.nfpa.org

June 9, 2007: MAFFA Parade, Muster & Flea Market
Edgewater Office park, Wakefield, MA

June 10, 2007: FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL DAY

June 17-23, 2007: Firefighter & EMS Safety Stand Down Week
Contact: www.iafc.org

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

June 22-24, 2007: New England Fire/Rescue/EMS 2007
West Springfield, MA Contact:
www.newenglandfirechiefs.org

June 23-24, 2007: New England Firefighter Challenge
Lowell, MA Con-
tact: newenglandfirefighterchallenge.org

June 24-27, 2007: IAFF EMS Conference
Houston, TX Contact: www.iaff.org

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:

I want to thank our April host Mark Foster and the members of the Massachusetts Task Force 1 for the presentation and tour provided to our members. I also thank member Mike Acciavatti for his help organizing this meeting and providing the nice breakfast pastry basket!

On Saturday, May 12, firefighters from throughout the Commonwealth and their families are encouraged to attend the "America's Fire Heroes Whistle Stop Tour" to be held at Lowe's, 350 Cochituate Rd., Rt.30, Framingham (Exit 13 off I 90). A public ceremony will begin at 12 noon and expected to last approx 45 minutes. The Whistle Stop Tour is traveling across the country spreading the message of "Everyone Goes Home", a program launched in 2004 by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation to reduce the number of firefighter line-of-duty deaths by 50% over the next 10 years. Additional information may be found on their website www.everyonegoeshome.com/whistlestop

I feel compelled to once again give another 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'Donahue 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).

Our May meeting will once again offer high-lights of the Fire Department Instructors Conference held annually in Indianapolis. For those who were unable to attend, this is one of the premier fire service events of the year and Michael does a great job bringing informative information back for our members.

I hope to see you all in Merrimac on the **23rd**. Until then, stay safe.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

Preliminary Findings from Danvers Explosion

State investigators recently announced preliminary findings of the cause of a massive explosion in Danvers on November 22, 2006. According to the investigation, the suspected cause of the explosion was due to a build-up of flammable vapors probably produced by the inadvertent heating of a tank of highly flammable heptane which is used in the process of producing inks. It is unsure what ignited the vapors, possible ignition sources include fans, heaters, furnace, or other electric appliance motors.

According to State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan, "It is described and agreed to be a very serious, inadvertent accident that occurred. It was human error most likely, but its an accident and it does not raise itself to the level of criminal complaint".

The November explosion, which was felt 25 miles away, caused millions of dollars worth of damage including; 16 homes demolished, 234 others damaged, 6 businesses destroyed, 14 damaged, over 300 vehicles destroyed or damaged and 65 boats destroyed or damaged. It was extremely fortunate that no serious injury or loss of life occurred from this incident.

Presidents Note: We are planning to have a presentation on this incident for MIFDI which is tentatively scheduled to be at one of our meetings this Fall.