

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

May
2009

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 - 2009

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 2010

Deputy Chief John Sullivan, Billerica Fire Department (Retired)
 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 2009

Lieutenant George Churchill, Brockton Fire Department (retired)
 Chief Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., Malden Fire Department (retired)
 Captain 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- info@mifdi.org

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors
 Membership Application
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2009**

**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**
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MAY MEETING:

The May meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, May 27, 2009** hosted by the Merrimac Fire Department courtesy of Chief Ralph Spencer. The meeting will be held in the 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, Webmaster, and Past President Michael McLeieer with a presentation from the 2009 FDIC Training Conference in Indianapolis. This has been an annual tradition for MIFDI as Michael brings back some of the high-lights of the many topics covered during the conference. For those attending this meeting, copies of CD's with some of the training topics covered will be provided.

DIRECTIONS:

Merrimac is located in Essex County and easy to get to from Interstate 495.

Take Exit 53 from 495 which is the Broad St 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 and rear of the building. Try to leave the front parking spots open for those conducting fire and police business.

SCHEDULE:

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/01/2009

Eastern Bank Cking. \$ 38.98
 Consumers Cking. \$ 0.00
 Consumers Savngs. \$233.47
 ING Savings \$342.39
 18 Mo. CD CCU \$1,007.30
 Total \$1,622.14

50/50 Raffle = N/A

Winner = N/A

Deposit from 50/50 Raffle = None

Total active members = 116

Dues paid thru 2012 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2011 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2010 = 7
 Dues paid thru 2009 = 83
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 23

Balances as of 05/09/2009

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 18.98
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Eastern Checking Balance: \$ 18.98
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 1,346.31
 Consumers C.U. 18Mo.CD: \$ 1,021.34 - Matures 05/02/2010 - 4.22% APY
 Consumers C.U. Checking: \$ 329.06
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 45.94)
 Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 171.67
 Total: \$ 2,841.42

We Welcome these New Members in April:

- Jeffrey A. Gillpatrick - Captain - Brockton Fire Department
- Jack V. Barry, Jr. - District Chief - Lynn Fire Department
- Heavy Rescue Incorporated - (Assoc. Member) Dennis Macedo & Tom Kenney

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 2009 dues were due in January, 2009.**
- (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 05/09/2009

Michael McLeicer

Treasurer

978-346-4731 or

978-864-2015

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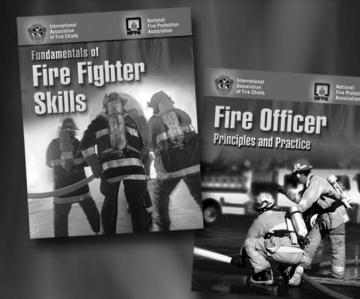
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS

may be addressed to:

MIFDI - Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

PO Box 507

Merrimack, 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 #525

The 525th meeting of MIFDI was held on April 22, 2009 hosted by the Marlborough Fire Department courtesy of Chief David Adams.

Our training portion was provided by Suburban Propane with Service Tech Artie Czuczor explaining some of the hazards of propane. Artie then showed some brief videos of what happens when things go wrong. The program completed with an up-close look at a typical propane delivery truck and explanation of some of the built-in safety features and shut off devices.

Prior to the training portion, MIFDI Associate member Jane Larkin of Merrimack College provided members with an overview of the Fire Science Engineering and Administration program offered through Merrimack. www.merrimack.edu

President Roche conducted a brief business meeting following the presentations. New members Captain Chris Merrick from Brookline and District Chief Jack Barry from Lynn were introduced. Member Steve Persson provided a report of the MFTC meeting. Members adjourned for lunch at nearby Kennedy's Restaurant & Pub.

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EMS RUN:

GUIDELINES REGARDING SUSPECTED H1N1 FLU PATIENTS

Dispatch/Triage:

Attempt to ascertain H1N1 flu risk of EMS patient.

Are there respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing)?

Has there been a fever?

Has the patient traveled within 10 days of symptom onset to a named epicenter (Mexico City area and other areas as per US CDC) or have they had close contact with a person with respiratory illness who has traveled to an epicenter or a person with known H1N1 flu?

If the answers to the above three questions are yes, the field crew must be immediately alerted to take appropriate precautions.

Field Treatment and Transport:

For all febrile respiratory illness, the responding crew should apply personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for standard, contact and droplet precautions. This includes a surgical mask, non-sterile gloves, and eye protection. Hand hygiene such as frequent hand washing is of primary importance. Hands should be disinfected with a waterless hand sanitizer immediately after removal of gloves.

Place a surgical mask or oxygen mask on the patient to reduce droplet spread at the source. If this cannot be tolerated, the patient should be provided with facial tissues to use when coughing or sneezing. Keep only essential personnel in the potential exposed area.

If H1N1 flu is suspected (or confirmed) based on the above factors or other information, the crew should upgrade to airborne precautions using a fitted N95 respirator or similar protection.

In suspected cases of H1N1 flu, avoid the use of nebulizers and MDI as they may induce coughing and increase risk of spread. Passenger compartment should be closed off from the remainder of the ambulance using door and/or slide windows. Driver compartment outside air-vents should remain open. No passengers are permitted to travel in the ambulance while transporting a suspected H1N1 flu patient. Entry notification to the receiving facility must be made to ensure their readiness to receive the patient.

Post-Transport:

Waste generated during patient care should be discarded in biohazard bags. Reusable devices should be placed in a sealed biohazard bag and disinfected as per manufacturer specifications.

Wash hands with waterless hand sanitizer.

Use EPA-registered hospital disinfectant for the following:

Stretcher, rails, medical equipment, control panels, flooring, walls, any other contaminated surfaces.

LAST ALARM:

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Chief Herbert C. Fothergill, Sr.** of the Chelsea Fire Department who passed on May 3, 2009 at age 86. Chief Fothergill served as Chief of Department from 1966-1988 and had the unfortunate distinction of being the first fire chief in America to call a “conflagration” over a radio! May he now be at Peace. His son Herbert C. Fothergill, Jr. is the current Chief of Department in Chelsea.



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GOOD & WELFARE:

Nothing to Report



MIFDI members shown shut-off and safety features of propane delivery truck.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 17-23, 2009: National Emergency Medical Services Week

May 27, 2009: **MIFDI** – Merrimac—Annual FDIC Recap.

June 7-10, 2009: IAFF Dominick Barbera EMS Conference
Miami, FL iaff.org

June 8-11, 2009: NFPA Conference & Expo
Chicago, IL nfpa.org

June 13, 2009: MAFFA Parade, Muster & Firematic Flea Market
Edgewater Office park, Wakefield, MA

June 14, 2009: Firefighters Memorial Sunday

June 24, 2009: **MIFDI** – Brockton

June 26-28, 2009: FIRE/RESCUE/EMS 09
West Springfield, MA newenglandfirechiefs.org

September 30, 2009: **MIFDI 50th Anniversary** (SAVE THE DATE)

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REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

The April meeting provided us with an important look at the hazards associated with propane and how to best deal with an incident involving the typical propane delivery trucks. I thank Artie Czuczor of Suburban Propane for his informative presentation. I also thank Chief David Adams and the members of the Marlborough Fire Department for again hosting MIFDI.

As previously mentioned, MIFDI is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the organization on September 30, 2009. We have a lot of ideas on how to commemorate this milestone and we will be sharing thoughts and asking for input from members during the next few months.

A final notice to those who have put off sending in their 2009 dues to do so to avoid a lapse in the bulletin mailing.

Our next meeting will once again be hosted by the Merrimac Fire Department with a presentation on the 2009 Fire Department Instructors Conference. This annual tradition is one of our more popular monthly meetings.

See you on the 27th. Until then, stay safe!

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

Firefighter / Instructor Michael O. McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Dept.

“Managing Through These Tough Economic Times”

Over the past year when I have been fortunate to teach classes for and at the National Fire Academy, for the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, or while I attended this year’s Fire Department Instructor’s Conference, the most frequent comments I have heard from many of the participants include how great it was to be accepted in the training class or participate at FDIC in light of the poor economic conditions, however, many were unsure how or if they would be able to implement their newly acquired knowledge back at their departments.

While many departments across the country have had their training budgets seriously reduced, others have had their training divisions totally eliminated.

It’s very important, now more than ever, that the fire department administration continually monitor their department’s overall budget (as well as the training budget) and reconcile line item budget totals with the town or city’s finance department and investigate & correct any discrepancies immediately. Accounting errors which are not discovered by the fire department can seriously hurt an already tight budget.

Since it’s no longer business as usual, it is critical that we JUSTIFY each and every expense or expenditure request. Complete & accurate documentation remains a high priority in accomplishing this task, especially with regards to training in order to justify what monies we need to do our jobs and why. Make sure you list your goals, objectives and outcomes.

The tough economic conditions require all of us to take a fresh look at our organizations and recommend ways to become more efficient and increase effectiveness at the same time.

I’ll be speaking more about alternative funding sources as well as other topics of interest at this year’s FDIC recap in Merrimac and I look forward in seeing all of you there.