

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

May
2012

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

53rd Year

(1959-2012)

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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 - 2012

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department
 1st Vice President: Deputy Chief Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department
 2nd Vice President: Chief Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., Malden Fire Department (retired)
 Secretary: Captain Edward (Ted) D. Quinn, Jr., Peabody Fire Department
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department

THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS

Terms Expire 2012

Deputy Chief Thomas Conway, III, Billerica Fire Department
 Assistant Chief Robert MacKendrick, Lynnfield Fire Department (Retired)
 Chief Richard Gomes, Norton Fire Department (Retired)

Terms Expire 2013

Lieutenant George Churchill, Brockton Fire Department (retired)
 Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Past President)
 Chief 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- michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216
 2012 Membership Application & Invoice
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2012**

**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
 Merrimac, MA 01860-0510
 Phone: (978) 346-4731
 E-mail: michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com

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MAY MEETING:

The May meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, May 23, 2012** hosted by the Merrimac Fire Department courtesy of Chief Ralph Spencer. The meeting will be held in the training room of 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 2012 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 off Rt. 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 as well as those members with mobility issues.

SCHEDULE:

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



F.D.I.C. Exhibit Hall, Downtown Indianapolis.

TREASURER'S REPORT**Beginning Balances for 01/03/2012**

Economy Bank Cking. \$100.37
 Economy Bnk. Savings \$156.63
 Consumers Checking \$235.00
 Consumers Savings \$ 77.72
 ING Savings \$1,628.69
Total \$2,198.41

Bills Paid April 2012 (Checking):

May 2012 Newsletter - Michael \$ 120.00 - 04/30
 MIFDI Coffee/Rolls - B. Belliveau \$ 44.05 - 04/30
TOTAL: \$ 164.05

Account Transfers:

Haverhill Bank Savings to Checking - \$1,000.00 - 4/23

50/50 Raffle = \$None

Winner = N/A

Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$ N/A

Total active members = 120

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2017 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2015 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2013 = 7
 Dues paid thru 2012 = 84
 Dues paid thru 2011 = 26

Mailings

E-Mail - 70 Home - 39
Work - 11
 120

Balances as of 05/04/2012

Haverhill Bank Checking: \$ 702.90
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Haverhill Cking. Balance: (\$ 702.90) *Note Economy Bank is now part of Haverhill Bank - 1/1/12.
 Economy Savings Balance: \$ 156.84
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 1,631.40
 CD/None
 Consumers Stmt. Cking.: \$ 242.84
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 44.05)
 Consumers C.U. Checking \$ 198.79
 Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 77.77
Total \$ 2,767.70

Membership Totals: 120

81 Active - 34 Retired - 5 Associate

THERE ARE NO NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED MIFDI THIS MONTH:***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 2012 dues were due in January, 2012.** Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2012.
- (b) You may now use the 2012 membership application as your invoice. It has MIFDI's tax ID number listed, for your accounts payable department to process the dues payment. Simply use the dues year or payment date as your invoice number.

Respectfully submitted

05/04/2012

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

978-346-4731

Thank you for your continued support and for your prompt payment of your dues! Remember to add a \$10 late fee for dues paid after April 1st.

MIFDI is now on Facebook. Login to your facebook account and search for **Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors** or visit **www.facebook.com/mifdi**. Become a facebook friend to MIFDI and receive up to date announcements right to your PDA, Blackberry or computer. You may also select the MIFDI Facebook link on the MIFDI website home page at www.mifdi.org



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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. Add a \$10.00 Late Fee after April 1, 2012.

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RECALL OF MEETING #555

The 555TH meeting of MIFDI was held on April 25, 2012 hosted by the Fitchburg Fire Department courtesy of Chief Kevin Roy and MIFDI Vice President, Deputy Chief Brian Belliveau.

The training was provided by V.P. Brian Belliveau with an informative presentation on the process of upgrading the radio system for the Fitchburg Fire Department. Brian's presentation was preceded by a brief update on the AFG grant process provided by Dave Parr.

Following the presentation, a business meeting was conducted by President Roche. Member Glen Rogers reviewed the notes of the Mass Fire Training Council meeting. Member John O'Donoghue reminded members to ensure that elevator companies installing elevators in new buildings follow through on providing fire departments with a door-opening tool as well as proper demonstration of the procedure.

Members adjourned for lunch at Slattery's Restaurant in Fitchburg.



Fitchburg Fire Department's "line-up"

EMS RUN

Suicide Using Sodium Azide

During an evening in April 2012, Boston EMS responded to a reported overdose at a South End apartment building. Arriving EMS members found a non-verbal female patient with empty prescription bottles of anti-depressant medications as well as an accompanying suicide note. The patient also indicated to a family member about her suicide suggesting the possibility of a chemical use.

The patient presented with an altered mental status, normal pupils, pale skin, rapid pulse, but a normal BP. The patient was transported to Boston Medical Center where she passed a short time later.

It was determined that the chemical ingested by the victim was "sodium azide" which was obtained at laboratory in the Boston area where the victim worked. Sodium azide is a rapidly acting potentially deadly chemical that exists as an odorless white solid. Sodium azide is best known as the chemical found in automotive airbags. It is also used as a preservative in labs and agricultural pest control.

First Responders must exercise caution when treating patients of attempted suicide using chemicals such as sodium azide. Additionally, personnel should be aware that in such incidents that bodily fluids including vomit may contain contaminants. These chemicals may also affect family, friends or others that may come in contact with the victim and follow-up evaluations are recommended.

SODIUM AZIDE FACTS:

- When mixed with water or an acid, sodium azide changes rapidly to a toxic gas with pungent odor. It also changes to a toxic gas when in contact with solid metals such as when poured into a drain containing lead or copper.
- The odor of the gas may not be sharp enough to provide sufficient warning of the danger.
- The seriousness of the poison caused by the agent depends on the amount, route and exposure time.
- Breathing the gas that is formed causes the most harm but ingesting the substance can be toxic as well.
- The gas formed from the agent is less dense than air so it will rise.
- Sodium azide prevents the body's cells from using oxygen.
- Sodium azide is more harmful to the heart and brain than other organs of the body.

LAST ALARM:

Nothing to Report



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PARATECH

CONGRATULATIONS:

Nothing to Report

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 19, 2012: New England Walk for Burn Awareness
Castle Island, South Boston www.burnawarenesswalk.org

May 21, 2012: Firefighter Safety Educational Expo
Florian Hall, Boston www.local718.org

May 23, 2012: **MIFDI** – Merrimac - FDIC Recall

June 9, 2012: Fire Apparatus Parade, Show & Flea Market
Edgewater Office Park, Wakefield www.lffra.org

June 10, 2012: FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL SUNDAY

June 11-14, 2012: NFPA Conference & Expo
Las Vegas, NV www.nfpa.org

June 14, 2012: NATIONAL FLAG DAY

June 16, 2012: Extrication for Short-Staffed Crews
Georgetown, MA www.nefools.org

June 22,23,24: N.E. Fire Chiefs - FIRE/RESCUE/EMS 2012
West Springfield, MA www.newenglandfirechiefs.org

June 27, 2012: **MIFDI** - Saugus

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**Call Scott Maker, MFA Instructor,
Firefighter/Merrimac Fire Department, with any questions you may
have.**

269-492-3341

REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

After nearly a decade, MIFDI was hosted by Fitchburg at their impressive fire headquarters for our April meeting. MIFDI V.P. Brian Belliveau provided a great presentation as he walked us through the process of how the Fitchburg Fire Department significantly improved their radio system. I thank Brian for this informative presentation as well as Chief Kevin Roy and the members of the Fitchburg Fire Department for their hospitality.

As an added bonus at our April meeting, Dave Parr gave a brief but informative talk on the 2012 grant program as the AFG application period begins on June 4. I thank Dave for addressing MIFDI with this important topic regarding the grant program process.

Our May meeting in Merrimac is always popular as MIFDI Treasurer Michael McLeieer presents some of the highlights of the 2012 Fire Department Instructors Conference held annually in Indianapolis. As always, members attending the meeting will be provided a DVD with the available programs from the 2012 FDIC.

Stay Safe and I hope to see you in Merrimac on the 23rd
Mark



MIFDI V.P. Brian Belliveau presenting for MIFDI members

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

Electric Vehicle Safety Plates

Massachusetts is now issuing “Electric Vehicle” license plates for electric and hybrid vehicles to provide protection for public safety workers responding to accidents and fires involving these electric cars.

The plates show an outline of a vehicle with a plug protruding from the rear as well as the letters “EV” vertically placed before the numbers to indicate that the vehicle is electrically powered.

Massachusetts will be the second state in the nation to provide these plates. The plates will be issued to all newly registered electric vehicles. Current EV owners can exchange their existing plates for the new ones free of charge. According to the DOT there are 30 electric and hybrid models eligible for the plates.

These vehicles are another future challenge for firefighters. Always make sure that the vehicle is disabled and that all shock hazards related to the battery are addressed to ensure safe patient extrication.

