

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

June
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)
 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
 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 _____
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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**
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 E-mail: michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com

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JUNE MEETING:

The June meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, June 23, 2010** hosted by the Ashland Fire Department courtesy of Chief William Kee. We will meet at Ashland Station 2, 70 Cedar St.

Our training will focus on "Emergency Extrications" with presentations provided by Genesis Rescue Tool and Paratech Rescue Struts courtesy of our Associate Member Pat O'Conner of Northeast Rescue.

DIRECTIONS:

Ashland is located in Middlesex County, 26-miles west of Boston.

From the Massachusetts Turnpike, Take Exit 13 to Rt. 30 west approx 1-mile to Rt.126. Turn left and follow Rt. 126 south 1-1/2 miles to Rt. 135. Turn right onto Rt.135 heading west and take your 7th left on Bethany Rd. Once on Bethany Rd., take your 7th left again, that is Cedar St and the Fire Station will be on your left.

From Rt. 495, take Exit 18 to Rt.126. Follow Rt.126 north approx 9.4 miles to Elliot St. (Shaws Plaza on left). Turn left on Eliot St. and Cedar St. is your first right. The Fire Station is located 1-mile on the right.

SCHEDULE:

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

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 May 2010 (Checking):

June 09 Newsletter - Michael \$120.00 - 05/28
 50th Anniv. Lapel Pins Mark Roche \$450.00 - 05/28
TOTAL: \$560.00

Account Transfers:

Consumers Sav to Cking. - \$ 450.00 - 05/28/2010
 Economy Sav. To Cking. - \$ 2.00 - 05/27/2010

50/50 Raffle = \$ 76.00

Winner = - Michael McCadden - \$40.00

Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$36.00 - deposited to Economy Co-Op Checking - 05/27/2010

Total active members = 114

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2013 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2012 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2011 = 7
 Dues paid thru 2010 = 87
 Dues paid thru 2009 = 16

Mailings

E-Mail - 57 Home - 45
Work - 12
 114

Balances as of 06/17/2010

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 100.26
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Economy Cking. Balance: \$ 100.26
 Economy Savings Balance: \$ 267.52
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 1,489.50
 CD/None
 Consumers Stmt. Cking.: \$ 0.00
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Consumers C.U. Checking \$ 0.00
 Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 186.39
Total \$ 2,043.67

Membership Totals: 114

74 Active - 32 Retired - 8 Associate

NEW MEMBERS:

- **Mark D. Heitman - Captain** - Newton Fire Department
- **Robert E. Rossi - Deputy Chief** - Cambridge 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

06/17/2010

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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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 #536

The 536th meeting of MIFDI was held on May 26, 2010 hosted by the Merrimac Fire Department courtesy of Chief Ralph Spencer.

The training portion was provided by Treasurer/Webmaster/Past President Michael McLeieer with an overview of the 2010 FDIC Conference in Indianapolis. Members were also provided with a CD of many of the training seminars offered at the FDIC.

As an additional bonus, Mike Hennett of BullEx Safety provided a presentation on the many training tools and props offered by BullEx followed by a live demonstration of a smoke generator. Members can follow up on any of these fascination training products by going on the BullEx website: www.bullexsafety.com

A business meeting conducted by President Roche followed the training presentations. Michael McLeieer gave a report of the Treasurer. John O'Donoghue gave an elevator update on the "Lock-Out/Tag-Out requirement. New member Bob Rossi from Cambridge was introduced. Ira Hoffman of FSP offered an update on study material for the November promotional exams. Steve Persson gave a report from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting. Bob MacKendrick gave an update on the fire chief search in Lynnfield. Rick Gomes provided a tip on upgrading your computer by going on the website www.crucial.com . Member Michael McCadden of Beverly won the 50/50.

Members adjourned for lunch at Sylvan Street Grill.

EMS RUN:

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter Michael E. LaFerriere** ACTIVE member of the Lowell Fire Department, Rescue Co. 1. Firefighter LaFerriere died on May 30, 2010 at age 49. May he Rest in Peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolence to the family and friends of **Call-Firefighter David J. Hanson** of the Kingston Fire Department. David died tragically at age 20 from a boating accident on May 12, 2010. David was destined to be a full-time firefighter in Kingston having received his fire science degree and EMT certification at an early age. May he Rest in Peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to member Frank Fitzgerald on the death of his mother-in-law **Ann McRae** on May 17, 2010 at age 96. May she now be at Peace.



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PARATECH

CONGRATULATIONS:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations to MIFDI member **Captain James Vouna** of the Shrewsbury Fire Department on his appointment to Chief of Department effective May 17, 2010. Chief Vouna (48) was appointed to the department in 1993 and promoted to captain in 2002. We wish Chief Vouna great success as he accepts the responsibilities that challenge today's fire chiefs during this difficult fiscal climate. Good job Jim!

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations to **Undersecretary Kurt Schwartz** of the Executive Office of Public Safety & Security upon his recent appointment as Acting Director of MEMA.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

June 25-27, 2010: FIRE/RESCUE/EMS 2010
West Springfield Contact: newenglandfirechiefs.org

July 20-25, 2010: FIREHOUSE EXPO
Baltimore, MD Contact: firehouseexpo.com

August 23-28, 2010: FIRE-RESCUE INTERNATIONAL 2010
Chicago, IL Contact: iafc.org

September 11, 2010: 9th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK OF AMERICA
Never Forget the FDNY 343

September 11, 2010: MASS FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL
State House, Boston Contact: mafirememorial.org

September 11, 2010: NATIONAL FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL
Colorado Springs, CO Contact: iaff.org

September 22, 2010: MIFDI

September 22-23, 2010: MA Public Fire & Life Safety Education Conference -
Westford Regency - Contact Jennifer Mieth - Dept. of Fire Services - 978-567-3381.

September 22-25, 2010: IFBA CONVENTION
Nashville, TN Contact: ifba.org

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REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

When I turned on the local news broadcast on the morning of May 26, I cringed (kinder wording) when I saw that Rt.495 was shut down at Rt.93 due to an overturned tractor-trailer. Fortunately, it had little effect on members attending our May meeting in Merrimac and this popular meeting was again well attended. Michael always does a great job bringing back information from the annual FDIC in Indianapolis as well as burning copies of CD's for members to bring back to their departments. I again thank Michael for his efforts and I thank Chief Ralph Spencer and the members of the Merrimac Fire Department for again hosting MIFDI.

An additional presentation was provided at the May meeting by BullEx Safety. I thank Mike Hennes from BullEx for attending this meeting on short notice to show MIFDI members the various tools and props for training members realistically and safely.

Once again, member Davie Jardin will be participating in the 2010 Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) bike-a-thon to support the Jimmy Fund cancer research and treatment at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. This year's event will take place August 7 & 8. For those who would like to support Dave in this important fundraiser, you can contribute on-line at www.pmc.org and enter Dave's gift ID# DJ0027, or you can send a check directly to Dave made out to "PMC" and mail it to Dave Jardin, 52 Willow St., Stoughton, MA 02072.

Our June meeting will give us a look at the latest in extrication equipment. Thanks to much safer built autos, we seem to have fewer extractions then we did 10-20 years ago, however, it's because of the safer built cars that we are finding that the extrications we do have are much more difficult. With structural supports of high-tempered steel, side air-bag sensors, and the hazards from electric powered vehicles, we can't just cut anywhere on a vehicle as we once did.

See you on the 23rd. For those unable to attend, I wish you a safe and happy summer.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

Limitations of Warning Devices on Emergency Vehicles

When properly used, emergency warning devices are designed to enhance the driver's ability to maneuver in traffic and reduce the risk to the crew and others.

HEADLIGHTS:

Headlights should be used in conjunction with emergency overhead lights.
Headlights are usually more visible than traditional red lights during the daytime.
Most drivers will see headlights before they see overhead lights.
At night, high-beams have a tendency to obliterate the emergency lights and blind oncoming drivers.

RED LIGHTS & SIRENS:

Sirens are required by statute in some states regardless of the time of day when engaged in an emergency response.
Emergency lights and sirens are NOT substitute for caution and professional driving skills.
Weather conditions can affect the sirens audibility and light's visibility.
The siren may be heard sooner on an overcast or cloudy day.
Siren audibility tends to dissipate faster on clear days.
At close range, fog allows sound to carry through its moisture with minimum loss of decibels. The greater the distance, however, the greater the sound blockage.
Emergency lights are virtually ineffective in foggy weather.
Inclement weather of any kind greatly reduces the value of lights and siren. The quality of driving then becomes more critical.
Sirens become less discernable with increase traffic noise.
Trucks and buses will decrease the effectiveness of the siren.
Large trees and hedges in residential neighborhoods tend to absorb the sound of a siren.
Tall buildings tend to block, deflect, or tunnel the sound of a siren.
The siren can be heard a greater distance in flat, open areas.
Sirens offer greater warning to pedestrian traffic than do warning lights.
Always use greater care and caution in areas with congested foot traffic.
School zones must require a combination of warning devices with reduced speed.
Drivers and pedestrians are not always attentive and may not hear an emergency vehicle approaching.
The public may respond to warning devices by panic stopping or acceleration.
As speed increases, the effectiveness of the siren decreases.
Due to the increase in speed and the resultant increase in feet-per-second, other drivers and pedestrians may not have sufficient time to react to the siren.
As speed increases, the driver may not hear the siren until the emergency vehicle is one or two car lengths behind.
As your speed increases, the chance of a collision increase and decision making decreases.

The use of emergency lights and siren may provide a false sense of security. Don't succumb to the "Invincibility Syndrome". Warning devices are there to benefit the public. Safe driving is the responsibility of the emergency vehicle operator.