

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

September
2006

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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 - 2006

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 2006
 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, 2006**

**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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SEPTEMBER MEETING:

The 498th meeting of MIFDI will be held **Wednesday, September 27, 2006** hosted by the Marlborough Fire Department courtesy of Chief David Adams. The meeting will be held in the training room of Marlborough's impressive Headquarters Station at 215 Maple St. (Rt.85).

The training program will be provided by Jane McCluskey, Fire Service Sales Manager with Jones & Bartlett Publishers (fire.jbpub.com) a leading publisher of fire service & EMS training material. Their motto "Transforming Fire Service Education!" The presentation will provide members with an overview of the extensive selection of training aides and publications distributed by J & B for use in fire and EMS training and education. Free catalogs will be available for those in attendance.

DIRECTIONS:

Marlborough is located in Fire District 14, 25 miles west of Boston.

From Rt. 495: Take **Exit 24**, Rt.20 EAST. Follow Rt.20 east to the second traffic light and turn right onto South St. Follow South St. to the end and turn left on Maple St., the fire station will be on your left. There is plenty of parking to the right and rear of the fire station (try to leave the front spots open for those conducting fire prevention business).

SCHEDULE:

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

LUNCH:

Lunch will be at the popular Kennedy's Restaurant which is a short walk from the station.

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 1/2006
 Checking 172.36
Savings 1,327.88
 Total \$1,500.24

Bills Paid June - August (Checking):
 Sept 06 Newsletter \$120.00 Mike
 Pan-Mass Challenge \$50.00 Dave Jardin's Ride
 Mark Roche - MIFDI \$55.00 Coffee/Muffins 6/21
 TOTAL: \$225.00

50/50 Raffle = Collected
 Winner =
 Deposit from 50/50 Raffle =

Account Transfers:
 Transfer from Savings to Cking 9/01 - \$120.00
 Transfer from Savings to Cking 8/18 - \$ 50.00
 Transfer from Savings to Cking 6/23 - \$ 5.00

Total active members = 109
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 3
 Dues paid thru 2007 = 3
 Dues paid thru 2006 = 89
 Dues paid thru 2005 = 14

Mailings
 E-Mail - 33 Home - 62
 Work - 14
 109

Balances as of 09/05/2006
 Bank Statement Checking: \$ 124.17
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 120.00)
 Checking Balance: \$ 4.17
 Certificate of Deposit: \$ 506.58
Savings Balance: \$ 1,355.94
 Total \$ 1,866.69

Membership Totals
 76 Active - 28 Retired - 5 Associate

New Members: (None)

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.
- (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.

Respectfully submitted 09/05/2006

Michael McLeier


Treasurer

978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or

978-346-4731, ext. 1

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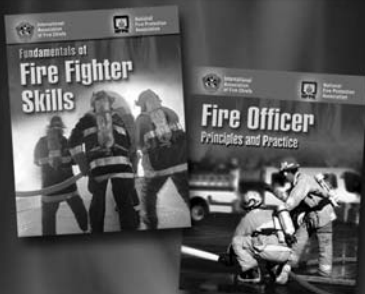
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS

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 #497

The 497th meeting of MIFDI was held on June 21, 2006 hosted by MASS Diving Inc., 247 West Central St., Natick. (www.massdiving.com)

The training session by Mr. Mark Potter, President of Mass Diving, provided a very informative power-point presentation on the steps to become properly trained and equipped for dive rescue certification. For departments looking to start a dive team or expanding an existing unit, this presentation provided a great insight on both the commitment required and the benefits gained by having a trained dive unit for your community.

A special thank you to Dan Meloche of BPC Rescue Equipment & Training (www.rescuealive.com) for displaying the impressive "RescueONE" dive rescue boat prior to the training presentation.

The presentation concluded with a brief business meeting held by President Roche. Training Council representative Persson gave an in-depth report from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting. The meeting adjourned for an enjoyable lunch at a nearby restaurant.



Members Inspect a Dive/Rescue Boat at the June MIFDI Meeting (Photo Courtesy of BPC)

E.M.S. RUN

"Allegations of a delay in treatment invalid"

A report released in early August by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services determined an allegation of a delay in treatment for an assault victim to be "invalid". The report also stated it is unable to determine whether there is validity to complaints the victim was physically assaulted and his transport to the hospital was delayed.

The complaint was filed after rampage at a bar in New Bedford on February 1, 2006 seriously injuring three men. One of the victims of the attack alleged that the poor treatment he received was because he is a gay man who was attacked at a known gay bar. He claims he was told to shut up, treated with vulgarity, and had an oxygen mask smashed in his face "as punishment" by paramedics. During the attack, the 53 year-old victim was struck in the head with a hatchet leaving a four-and-a-half-inch gash. He also received a broken cheekbone and a gunshot wound to his shoulder.

The report recommends that the City of New Bedford make certain that EMT's do not enter dangerous situations without ensuring their own safety, synchronize their clocks so all departments are on the exact time, and establish protocols for a mass casualty incident. Although the report finds no fault with the conduct of the first responders, the Mayor of New Bedford has called for sensitivity training for emergency medical personnel to ensure "that everyone is treated with courtesy and professionalism and receives the best medical care".

The state report found the delay in treatment to be invalid and cited a "confusing, chaotic, and potentially unsafe major incident" and it should have been declared a major casualty incident from the beginning. The report continues that EMT's are trained to treat and transport patients "as quickly as possible", "but this was not an ideal situation" noting the prevailing confusion at the scene. The report continued, "while the injuries of the victim were certainly those of a *Priority 1* patient, the EMS Incident Commander appropriately triaged the three patients" (one struck repeatedly on the face and head with a hatchet, and the other with a gunshot wound to the chest), "and determined the victim was the third priority among the three patients requiring transport".

LAST ALARM

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Captain Charles E. Fitzgerald**, Stoneham Fire Department (retired).

Charlie was the brother of longtime MIFDI member Chief Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., Malden Fire Department (retired). Charles Fitzgerald was appointed to the Stoneham Fire Department June 10, 1964, promoted to Lieutenant September 13, 1970, promoted to Captain April 6, 1989, appointed Acting Chief of Dept. February 2, 1996 until November 30, 1997. He retired on April 29, 2000 after 36 years of service.

Charlie died suddenly at his home in Stoneham on June 19, 2006 at age 71. He was buried with full fire department honors including an impressive contingent of drums and bagpipes due to being very active with the Boston Fire Gaelic Brigade. May he rest in peace.

CONGRATULATIONS (Continued):



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Emmitsburg,
MD campus
Aug. 20th -
25th, 2006.

(From L to R) Scott Maker, Brandon Cox, Michael McLeieer (MFD), Dr. Kirby Kiefer, Deputy Supt. NFA, Lauren Torch (Harbor Schools) Martin King (rear) & Beverly Burns (NFA Instructors).

CONGRATULATIONS:

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to member **Greg Habgood** of the Merrimac Fire Department on his promotion to Deputy Chief on July 1, 2006.

We also congratulate members **Mark Baker** and **Kevin Galligan** of the Brockton Fire Department on their promotions to Deputy Chief and Lieutenant, respectively. Both were promoted at a ceremony on July 24, 2006. Kevin is the son of longtime MIFDI member and Chief of Department Kenneth Galligan.

Congratulations to all!



Deputy Chief Mark Baker & Lieutenant Kevin Galligan

Continue on Page 10

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 11, 2006: 5th Anniversary of the Attack on America
Never forget the sacrifice made by the FDNY "343"

September 13-17, 2006: Fallen Firefighters Memorial
Colorado Springs, CO Contact: www.IAFF.org

September 14-16, 2006: Fire-Rescue International 2006
Dallas, TX Contact www.IAFC.org

September 14-19, 2006: Dept. of Defense Fire & Emerg. Services Training Conf. Dallas, TX Contact: www.IAFC.org

September 25-29, 2006: Firehouse LasVegas FIRE-RESCUE-EMS
Las Vegas, NV Contact: www.firehouselasvegas.com

September 27, 2006: **GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP**, Topsfield Fire Department, 27 High Street (Fire Headquarters). Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the course will be held from 9am - 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact Richard at The Idea Bank - 800-621-1136. To register online go to: www.theideabank.com/results.html

September 27, 2006: **MIFDI** - Marlborough

Sept. 28-29, 2006 - **12th Annual Massachusetts Fire and Life Safety Education Conference** - Westford. Contact the Public Education Unit at the Dept. of Fire Services: 978-567-3380

October 8-14, 2006: National Fire Prevention Week
The campaign this year is *"Prevent Cooking Fires: Watch What You Heat"*

October 25, 2006: **MIFDI** - DFS/MFA

October 29, 2006: Daylight Saving Time ends
"Change Your Clock, Change Your Batteries"

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:
Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

Is summer over already? I guess its true that the older you get, the faster the summer goes by. I hope that everyone was able to take some time off and relax for a week or two. As we begin another season of MIFDI, I look forward to some informative and educational meetings already planned for the 06'-07' agenda suggested and hosted by MIFDI members. We always welcome new ideas and meeting locations brought forward by our members to share topics of training, safety and EMS. Let us know of any training ideas that you would like to see provided and/or good locations for meetings hosted in your communities.

The June meeting hosted by Mass Diving in Natick was very informative and enjoyed by those in attendance. Our speaker, Mark Potter, gave us an enlightening overview on the steps required to establish a rescue dive team. I received a lot of positive feedback from members and I thank Mark for his presentation. Special thanks to member Dan Meloche for displaying a rescue boat prior to the meeting.

For those interested, Dr. Robert Schlesinger of N.E. Sinai Hospital, who provided the presentation on "Bladder Cancer Screening for Firefighters" at our April meeting, has again offered to help any department interested in launching a screening program for members. Dr. Schlesinger is very willing to help firefighters with early detection and is well informed on this subject. You may contact him directly for further information or questions by e-mail mirkinmd@aol.com or through N.E. Sinai @ 781-344-0600.

A salute to MIFDI member David Jardin who again participated in the Pan-Mass Challenge bike-a-thon on August 5 & 6 from Sturbridge to Provincetown to support cancer research and treatment at the Jimmy Fund of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. I again ask our membership to support Dave with this important cause. You still have time to donate by sending a check directly to Dave made out to the "PMC", or donate on-line at www.pmc.org. Be sure to include Dave's Gift ID# DJ0027.

I hope to see you all in Marlborough on the 27th. Until then, stay safe.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

"Career Firefighter Dies While Exiting Residential Basement Fire"
(A summary of a NIOSH Firefighter fatality investigation)

On January 23, 2005, a 37-year-old male career firefighter died while exiting a residential basement fire. At approximately 1337 hours, crews were dispatched to a reported residential structure fire. Crews began to arrive on scene at aprox 1340 and at aprox 1344, a firefighter and officer made entry through the front door and proceeded down the basement stairwell to conduct a search for the seat of the fire using a thermal imaging camera (TIC). At aprox 1346, the firefighter and officer began to exit the basement when they became separated on the lower section of the stairwell. The officer reached the front stoop and realized the firefighter had failed to exit the building. He returned to the top of the basement stairs and heard a PASS alarm sounding in the stairwell and immediately transmitted a MAYDAY for the missing firefighter. The victim was located at aprox 1349, and numerous firefighters spent the next 20-minutes working to remove the firefighter from the building. At aprox 1413, the victim was transported to an area hospital where he was later pronounced dead.

NIOSH investigators concluded that, to minimize the risk of similar occurrences, fire departments should:

- Ensure that the first arriving officer or Incident Commander conducts a complete size-up of the incident scene.
- Ensure that firefighters conducting interior operations provide progress reports to the Incident Commander.
- Establish standard operating procedures regarding thermal imaging camera use during interior operations.
- Ensure that MAYDAY procedures are followed and refresher training is provided annually or as needed.
- Ensure that a rapid Intervention team (RIT) is on the scene and in position to provide immediate assistance prior to crews entering a hazardous environment.
- Educate homeowners on the importance of installing and maintaining smoke detectors on every level of their home and keeping combustible material away from heat sources.

Although that there is no evidence that the following recommendation could have specifically prevented this fatality, NIOSH investigators recommend that fire departments should:

- Ensure that firefighting teams check each others personal protective equipment (PPE) for complete donning.

(Read the full report on the NIOSH website; www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200504.html)