

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

September  
2008

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

**CONTENTS:**

<i>Page</i>	<i>Subject</i>
1	Index
2	Next Meeting, Directions to Meeting, Drill Schedule
3	Treasurer's Report, New Members
4	Recall of Previous Meeting, Secretary's Report
5	Special Feature Article
6	Upcoming Events
7	From The Desk Of The President
8	Instructors Corner
9	Congratulations
10	Last Alarm, Line of Duty Deaths / Advertisement
11	Dues Information & Advertisers Page
12	Advertisers Page
13	Advertisers Page
14	Membership Application or Renewal Form

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 - 2008**

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 (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, 2008**

**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** \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Membership Type:</u></b>	<b><u>Send Bulletin To:</u></b>	<b><u>Membership Dues:</u></b>
<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>Active</u></b> \$ 25.00
<b><u>Active</u></b>	<b><u>Home</u></b>	<b><u>Retired</u></b> \$ 12.50
<b><u>Retired</u></b>	<b><u>Work</u></b>	<b><u>Associate</u></b> \$100.00
<b><u>Associate</u></b>	<b><u>E-mail</u></b>	

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

## FSP Books & Videos

*Celebrating 20 years of service to  
Fire, Police and EMS - 1987 - 2006*

**188 Central Street, Suite 4  
Hudson, MA 01749**

**Toll Free (800) 522-8528 OR  
(978) 562-1289**

**Fax: (978) 562-3554**

**Website: [www.fire-police-ems.com](http://www.fire-police-ems.com)**

### ED LYONS FIRE EQUIPMENT INC.

SERVING NEW ENGLAND FIRE DEPARTMENTS SINCE 1962

**1643 Central Street • Stoughton, MA 02072**

**Phone: 781-341-1220 • Fax: 781-341-1270**

**[www.edlyonsfire.com](http://www.edlyonsfire.com)**

**e-mail: [edlyonsfireequip@aol.com](mailto:edlyonsfireequip@aol.com)**

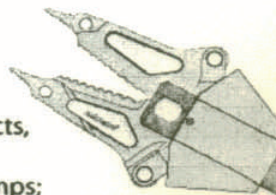
**Factory Certified Sales Service & Training for:**



**ED LYONS**  
President



**holmatro**  
rescue equipment



A full line\* of NFPA Compliant and UL Listed products,  
including: Cutters; Spreaders; Rams; Combi Tools;  
Personal Power Units; Two, Three and Four Tool Pumps;  
Hose Reels; Lifting Bags; Cribbing; Powershore; Hydraulic & Mechanical  
Jacks; ...and **MUCH MORE!**

#### NEW FROM HOLMATRO

- The S.C.R.T.® (Self Contained Rescue Tool) Hydraulic Combi Tool,  
Powered by the 24V DEWALT Battery System®.  
Take hydraulic power... anywhere. anytime.
- The NEW DPU 30 Compact Duo Pump is 45% lighter and smaller than a  
standard Duo Pump. Once again, Holmatro® has pushed hydraulic rescue  
tool technology forward, allowing you to do more with less.

**Call to schedule a demonstration!**

\* for a list of products that are NFPA compliant and/or UL Listed, visit [www.holmatro-usa.com](http://www.holmatro-usa.com). Holmatro is a registered trademark of Holmatro, Inc. DEWALT Battery System is a registered trademark of Black & Decker Corporation.

## SEPTEMBER MEETING:

The 518<sup>th</sup> meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, September 24, 2008** hosted by the Canton Fire Department, 99 Revere St. courtesy of Chief Thomas J. Ronayne III. We will meet in first floor training room and parking is plentiful at the left side of the building.

The training program will again be provided by Mr. Donald Chambers. Don is New England District Manager for TargetSafety. His presentation will provide an overview of the advantages of "Online Training for Fire & EMS". Don will examine what online training has to offer both the recipients and administrators of a training program. Not only can it save the Training Officer valuable time, it can actually save the organization money as it streamlines the implementation of the department's training program. Don's last presentation for MIFDI on "Fire Streams" in June 2007 was very informative and well received. Special thanks to Deputy Chief Mark Doloff of the Stoughton Fire Department for arranging this meeting for MIFDI.

**SCHEDULE:** 0900 coffee, 1000 presentation, 1115 business meeting, 1145 lunch (off site)

**DIRECTIONS:** Canton is located in Norfolk County, 15 miles south of Boston.

From Rt.128 (I 93) take Exit 2A to Rt. 138 SOUTH. Follow Rt. 138 to the 1<sup>st</sup> traffic light which is Washington St. Turn right and follow Washington St. 4-traffic lights (aprox 3-miles). At the 4<sup>th</sup> light turn right, that is Revere St. The CFD is a short distance on the right.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 1/1/2008  
 Eastern Cking. 57.39  
 ING Savings 618.57  
12 Mo. CD 1,027.37  
 Total \$1,703.33

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

Total active members = 122  
 Dues paid thru 2009 = 9  
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 95  
 Dues paid thru 2007 = 18

Balances as of 08/30/2008  
 Bank Statement Checking: \$ 5.98  
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 120.00)  
 Eastern Checking Balance: (\$ 114.02)  
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 1,806.52  
Economy Co-Op 12.mo CD - CLOSED - CD Matured 05/14/2008 - 12 mo. Interest earned \$49.37  
 Total \$ 1,692.50

New Members for June - August:

- Dan LaVache - Lieutenant - Watertown Fire Department
- Seth H. Colby - Captain - Shrewsbury 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 2008 dues were due in January.**
- (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 08/30/2008  
 Michael McLeier  
 Treasurer  
 978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or  
 978-346-4731, ext. 1

Thank you for your continued support and for your prompt payment of your dues!

"PROUDLY SERVING THE RESCUE PROFESSIONAL SINCE 1994".  
 CALL FOR YOUR DISCOUNT PRICING (800) 423-0686



STEARNS COLD WATER GEAR  
 I-595 ICE RESCUE SUITS-\$339.00

CMC RESCUE DEALER  
 TECHNICAL RESCUE EQUIPMENT

RESCUE ALIVE PLATFORM  
 ICE/WATER RESCUE EQUIPMENT

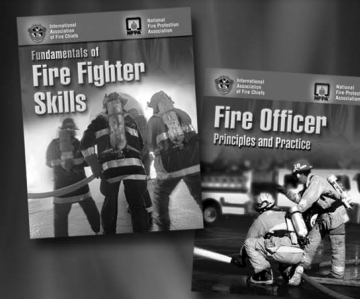
RIT SEARCH KITS & ESCAPE POUCHES

RESCUE ONE DIVE BOATS  
 CALL FOR FREE VIDEO

7 DAYS A WEEK-8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM

MASS. VENDOR # FIR - 02 0700

## Transforming Fire Service Education!



Request Your Complimentary  
 Review Copy Today!



Call: 1-800-526-1536 or  
 Visit: <http://Fire.jbpub.com>

JONES AND BARTLETT  
 PUBLISHERS



# 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 .

## AMERICAN FIRE EQUIPMENT CO., INC.

FIRE HOSE AND SUPPLIES  
FIRE EXTINGUISHERS  
FIRE DEPARTMENT SUPPLIES  
GAS DETECTION INSTRUMENTS



SCOTT AIR-PAKS SALES & SERVICE  
BREATHING AIR COMPRESSORS  
GAS POWERED EQUIPMENT  
LARGE DIAMETER APPLIANCES

58 NORFOLK AVENUE • UNIT 5 • SOUTH EASTON, MA 02375

Telephone: (508) 238-3800

Toll Free: (800) 426-3473

Fax: (508) 238-0300



Visit us at our new location!



mobile service unit



**Tempest • Partner • Hale Pumps • Phoenix Rescue Tools**  
**Fire Hooks • Akron • GFE • Duo Safety • Alco-Lite**  
**Vetter Air Bags and Hazmat • Team Equipment**  
**Koehler Responder • Streamlite • Pelican • Havis Shield**  
**Blackinton Badges • Horace Small • QUEST & Chieftan**

**JUST SOME OF THE COMPANIES WE KEEP !**



**Municipal and Industrial Fire Hose Made in the USA**

## RECALL OF MEETING #517

The 517<sup>th</sup> meeting of MIFDI was held on June 18, 2008 hosted by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency at the State Emergency Operations Center in Framingham. Our host was Mr. David Glazebrook, MEMA Operations Manager. David gave us a fascinating tour of the “bunker” as well as an explanation of MEMA operations and how MEMA can assist us during incidents that overwhelm our communities. Mr. Glazebrook also provided a brief history of the bunker which was dedicated on November 16, 1963 as a first-in-the-nation underground blast-proof State EOC. This was a fascinating and rare opportunity to actually visit and tour this secure facility in our Post 9/11 world.

Prior to our tour and presentation, a brief business meeting was conducted by President Roche. There was no treasurer’s report or MFTC report. Two new members from Brookline were introduced. Vice President Belliveau shared an incident with us that involved a propane gas grill fire on the balcony of an occupied apartment building in Fitchburg. Members from Wilmington also shared a recent experience involving a natural gas leak inside a commercial building. Member John O’Donoghue gave a report on recent elevator code proposals.

Following the tour and presentation, members adjourned for lunch at *Joan & Ed’s Deli* in Natick.



MEMA Headquarters

## **EMS RUN:**

### **Stretcher Failure and Cot Handling Safety**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive office of Health and Human Services has issued a safety notice regarding the FernoFlexx Model 35-X stretcher (ambulance cots). Some of these stretchers have experienced metal fatigue and breakage of the telescopic legs. The area of highest concern is the X-frame axel (where both telescoping legs connect).

ALL ambulance services using the Ferno PROFlexx model 35-X stretcher should immediately inspect all of those cots for signs of metal fatigue (shavings, bent support arms, cracks, etc.) If such signs are discovered, remove the cot from service immediately and arrange for inspection and maintenance by a factory authorized representative as soon as possible. Even if you do not discover any signs of metal fatigue, you should contact Ferno-Washington or the dealer who provided the stretcher for immediate inspection and/or maintenance.

Furthermore, EMT's should be reminded to keep both hands firmly on the cot at all times, since at least one cot leg break occurred as the EMT's wheeled a patient toward the ambulance. In addition, wheeling the patient at the lowest cot height is the safest method to minimize any potential harm to the patient since catastrophic failure can occur without warning. Finally, all patients must be firmly secured to the cot using the over the shoulder harness, hip and leg straps.

If your department has experienced failure of a Ferno PROFlexx 35-X cot or any other medical device, complete a *Serious Incident Report Form* to: [www.mass.gov/dph/oems](http://www.mass.gov/dph/oems), in addition, EMS providers should file a report with the FDA at [www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch-online](http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/medwatch-online).

## **LAST ALARM:**

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **F.F. Cornelius "Neil" Keane** (61), ACTIVE member of the Boston Fire Department (Engine Co. 50). F.F. Keane died of occupational cancer on June 30, 2008. May he rest in peace.

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **F.F. Robert T. Graf** (45), ACTIVE member of the Revere Fire Department (Engine Co. 3). F.F. Graf died of a heart attack on August 7, 2008 while on vacation in Arizona. May he rest in peace.

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **F.F. Dennis B. Flynn** (61), ACTIVE member of the Boston Fire Department (Maintenance Div.). F.F. Flynn died on August 16, 2008 from a heart attack. May he rest in peace.

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **F.F. George M. Saba** (49), ACTIVE member of the New Bedford Fire Department. F.F. Saba died of occupational cancer on August 16, 2008. May he rest in peace.



**Northeast  
Rescue Systems**

*Northeast Rescue Systems*  
**313 Belgrade Ave**  
**Boston, MA 02131**  
**Office: 617-325-3993 Fax: 617-325-0238**  
**email: [info@northeastrescue.com](mailto:info@northeastrescue.com)**

**Northeast Rescue Systems, a name you can trust for top-line products, personal service and customer support. We carry high quality, trusted names in equipment and gear. You can find product lines such as:**

- ☐ Morning Pride
- ☐ Warrington PRO
- ☐ Ranger Boots
- ☐ Globe Manufacturing
- ☐ Paul Conway Shields
- ☐ Sterling Rope
- ☐ CMC Rescue Equipment
- ☐ Mustang Survival
- ☐ Stearns
- ☐ 5.11 Tactical Wear
- ☐ Dräger Safety
- ☐ Genesis Rescue System
- ☐ Koehler-Bright Star
- ☐ SOG Knives



**MORNING PRIDE**  
PROTECTIVE CLOTHING SYSTEMS



**Dräger safety**



**GENESIS  
RESCUE SYSTEMS**



**5.11  
TACTICAL SERIES**



**GLOBE**

**Globe Manufacturing Company, LLC**

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to member **David Grunes** of the Bedford Fire Department upon his appointment to Chief Of Department on June 23, 2008. Chief Grunes is Bedford's first "in-house" chief in over 30 years. We wish you great success in your new position Dave!

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our best wishes to **Chief David Parr** of the Wakefield Fire Department upon his recent retirement. Chief Parr has served as a member of the Massachusetts Fire Training Council and we thank him for his contribution in that important capacity. We wish him success in his new position at the Boston office of FEMA.

**GOOD & WELFARE:**

*Nothing Reported*

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Sept. 11, 2008: 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ATTACK ON AMERICA  
Sept. 19, 2008: Greenwood Emergency Vehicles OPEN HOUSE  
Sept. 20, 2008: Fallen Firefighters Memorial, Colorado Springs  
Sept. 23-24, 2008: Fire & Life Safety Conference, Taunton Holiday Inn

**Sept. 24, 2008: MIFDI – Canton**

---

Oct. 5-11, 2008: FIRE PREVENTION WEEK "Prevent Home Fires"  
Oct. 22, 2008: **MIFDI**

Nov. 2, 2008: End Daylight Savings, Change your clocks, change your batteries"

Nov. 12-14: DFS Conference, "Meeting the Challenges of Tomorrow's Fire Service" - Westford

Nov. 19, 2008: **MIFDI**

Nov. 22, 2008: Statewide Exam- Fire Lieutenant & Fire Captain

## **FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT:**

**Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department**

It's the beginning of another season of training presentations and educational resource gathering for members of MIFDI. Although the summer seems too short, keep in mind that summer does not end at Labor Day, it officially ends on September 22 so enjoy the remainder of the season.

Our last meeting in June was interesting and informative as we were given a tour and explanation of the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency's facility at the "Bunker" in Framingham. I thank David Glazebrook of MEMA for providing this rare opportunity for our members to witness this operation.

Kudos once again to MIFDI member Chief David Jardin of the Stoughton Fire Department for participating and completing the 2008 Pan-Mass Challenge on August 2 & 3. The 192-mile bike-a-thon raises funds to support the Jimmy Fund cancer research and treatment at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. There is still time to contribute to Dave for this important cause by going to the PMC website at [www.pmc.org](http://www.pmc.org) and enter Dave's ID# DJ0027.

Mark your calendar for November 12-14 for the "1<sup>st</sup>. Annual Fall Conference of the Department of Fire Services" to be held at the Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center, 219 Littleton Rd., Westford, MA. The theme of this 3-day conference is "Meeting the Challenges of Tomorrow's Fire Service". For more information, check the DFS website at [www.mass.gov/dfs](http://www.mass.gov/dfs)

Our September meeting will provide us with a look at the advantages and options available for establishing "on-line training" for continued education of fire & EMS personnel. This may indeed be an optional tool of the future to providing additional training and support for our members.

See you on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Until then, stay safe!

*Mark*

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER**

### ***Anhydrous Ammonia & Propane Cylinders***

It has come to the attention of the National Propane Gas Association that propane cylinders are being used in the manufacturing of methamphetamines. This drug is commonly referred to as "crank". Manufacturers of this illegal substance are using propane cylinders for storage and use of anhydrous ammonia. These cylinders have been found in many states at cylinder exchange and refilling locations as well as in hotel rooms and mobile laboratories where the manufacturing of this illegal substance takes place.

A blue-green stain on any brass portion of a service valve is evidence that it may have been in contact with anhydrous ammonia\*. The pungent odor of ammonia on or near the cylinder is also an indication. If you suspect that a propane cylinder contains or has contained anhydrous ammonia, use extreme caution and restrict access to the area.

It can be dangerous to move the cylinder due to the unknown integrity of the cylinder's service valve. If the cylinder must be moved, keep in mind that hazards due to valve expulsion can be reduced by pointing the end of the container with the valve pointing away from yourself and others.

Contact the State Police Explosives Unit for support with handling and safe disposal of the cylinder.

*\*NOTE: Sherwood valves contain a green coated valve stem. Additionally, a green thread sealing compound is used on some valves. These valves should not be confused with those that have been exposed to anhydrous ammonia.*