

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

Sept
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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 Phone: (978) 864-2015 or (978) 346-4731
 E-mail: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

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SEPTEMBER MEETING:

50* SEPTEMBER MEETING *50

The September meeting of MIFDI will be our **50th ANNIVERSARY** held on **Wednesday, September 30, 2009** (NOTE: This is the exact date of the first MIFDI meeting which was held on September 30, 1959). This milestone meeting will be hosted by the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services and the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy courtesy of State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and MFA Director Edmund M. Walker.

Morning coffee is available on location at "Jake's". Members shall meet in temporary classroom 109 located between the original MFA building and the street. After a presentation by Marshal Coan including updates on the DFS/MFA expansion project, members will be given a tour of the recently occupied DFS office building and the MFA new 5-bay fire station that is expected to be completed by the time of our meeting. There will also be a display of recently purchased DFS equipment for members to look over. We hope to see and talk with many longtime and past members of MIFDI and share some stories.

Our meeting will finish with a complementary lunch of hotdogs, hamburgers, potato salad and beverage courtesy of MIFDI. Members attending this event will also be provided with a "MIFDI 50" lapel pin as a commemorative gift.

We encourage and welcome all of our longtime and former members
to attend this event.

SCHEDULE: **0900** Coffee, **1000** Presentations, **1045** Facility/Equip. tour, **1215** Lunch (ON SITE)

DIRECTIONS:

FROM RT.128/I 95: Take Rt. 20 West to Rt. 27 in Wayland. Turn right on Rt. 27 and continue until Rt. 27 makes a right towards Maynard, **DO NOT TURN RIGHT**, continue straight for approx 3-miles and the Academy will be on the right.

FROM RT. 495 North: Take Rt. 85 (Exit 25) towards Hudson. At the traffic light turn left onto Rt.85. Turn right on Broad St. (First traffic light), and at the second traffic light turn right on Rt.62. Continue straight until Rt. 62 takes a left towards Stow, **DO NOT TURN LEFT**, continue straight for approx 4-miles and the Academy will be on your left.

FROM RT. 495 South: Take Rt.62 (Exit 26) into Hudson Center. Continue halfway around the rotary and continue on Rt.62 East. Continue straight until Rt.62 turns left towards Stow, **DO NOT TURN LEFT**, continue straight for approx 4-miles and the Academy will be on your left.

DFS has requested we park in the upper-lot on the "D-Side" of the MFA campus. In the event of rain, shuttle service will be provided.

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

Bills Paid June-Aug 2009 (Checking):

Sept 09 Newsletter \$120.00 Michael - 08/31
 New Replacmnt Dep. Stamps \$ 27.75 W M Stamp 6/29
 TOTAL: \$147.75

Account Transfers:

CCU Checking to Savings - \$200.00 - 08/05/2009

50/50 Raffle = \$0

Winner = N/A

Deposit from 50/50 Raffle = \$0

Total active members = 119

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2012 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2011 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2010 = 10
 Dues paid thru 2009 = 89
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 16

Mailings

E-Mail - 53 Home - 51
Work - 15
 119

Balances as of 09/06/2009

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 4.94
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)
 Eastern Checking Balance: \$ 4.94
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 980.78
 Consumers C.U. 18Mo.CD: \$ 1,035.83 - Matures 05/02/2010 - 4.22% APY
 Consumers C.U. Checking: \$ 0.00
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 120.00)
 Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 398.33
 Total \$ 2,299.88

Membership Totals: 119

82 Active - 29 Retired - 8 Associate

We welcome these New Members who joined this summer :

- Richard K. Arruda - Fire Chief - Dartmouth Fire District #3
- John P. McLean - Captain - Sharon 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 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 09/06/2009

Michael McLeier

Treasurer

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

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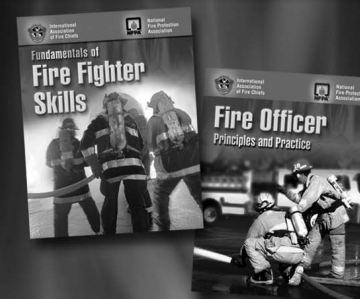
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS
may be addressed to:

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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 #527

The 527th meeting of MIFDI was held on June 24, 2009 hosted by the Brockton Fire Department courtesy of Chief Kenneth Galligan. Our training portion was provided by our host and long-time MIFDI member Chief Galligan who gave an excellent overview of company operations with the focus on choosing the proper attack line and establishing an adequate water supply.

Following Chief Galligan's presentation, Randolph Firefighter Joseph Dupras delivered an overview on the "Personal Retriever" water and ice rescue device. For more information on this life-saving product, go to: www.life-safer.com

As an added bonus, Chris Coombs provided an update on the product "GARTS" designed to reduce the stress endured while working and climbing in bunker pants. For more information on this revolutionary product, go to: www.gartup.com

And if all that information was not enough, members were given a tour of the PAC Tool Mounting System mobile unit which was on display after the meeting. For additional information on this superior system for safely mounting all of your equipment, go to www.pactoolmounts.com

President Roche conducted a brief business meeting following the presentations. Members adjourned for lunch at Christo's Restaurant.



MIFDI members provided a tour and explanation of PAC Mounting System following June meeting in Brockton.

EMS RUN:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts DPH/OEMS Advisory

This is to remind all ambulance services, their EMT-Paramedics, and other interested parties that there is no statute, regulation, administrative requirement, protocol or policy that permits ambulance services to dispatch their Paramedics to administer medications to individuals they are not transporting by ambulance. Additionally, there is no legal authority for a Paramedic to carry out such a role.

The Department of Public Health is aware that ambulance services are receiving calls to send EMT-Paramedics to such individuals, often people who are incarcerated (either being held at a local police department or local jail) and whom the police have found with medications on their person. The ambulance services are being called solely to administer the medication, with no expectation of assessment, other treatment, or transportation of the individual to a hospital.

Under 105 CMR 170.355(A), an ambulance service and its EMT's are obligated to dispatch an available EMS vehicle to provide emergency response, assessment and treatment in accordance with the Statewide Treatment Protocols AND to transport a patient to an appropriate health care facility, and may not refuse to perform ANY of these responsibilities. EMT-Paramedics who administer medications without assessing patients and without transporting those patients to hospitals violate the Massachusetts EMS regulations, jeopardize patient safety and expose themselves, and the ambulance services for which they work, to liability.

Please distribute this Advisory to all of your EMT-Paramedics and your employees with dispatch functions, and ensure that they comply with all current applicable rules, regulations, policies and protocols.

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors regrets to announce the death of MIFDI Charter Member **Assistant Chief Arthur N. Corbett**, retired of the Stoughton Fire Department. Arthur died on July 3, 2009 at age 81. Art was appointed to the SFD on February 1, 1950, promoted Lieutenant March 9, 1954, promoted Assistant Chief October 7, 1958, retired May 31, 1978. Our condolences are offered to Arthur's family and friends. May he now Rest In Peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors regrets to announce the death of MIFDI Member **Captain Terence A. Koen**, retired of the Boston Fire Department. Terry died on July 18, 2009 at age 74. Terry began his firefighting career as a Call Firefighter in his hometown of Chelmsford. He was appointed to the Boston Fire Department May 1, 1968. Promoted Lieutenant August 16, 1978, promoted Captain March 7, 1984 and after a brief assignment at headquarters, he was assigned Commander of Engine Co. 33 in the Back Bay (*one of the busiest companies in the city*). He remained at E-33 for fifteen years until his retirement on August 31, 2000 after 32 years of service. Our condolences are offered to Terry's family and friends. May he now Rest In Peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter Glen Walz**, active member of the Westfield Fire Department. Firefighter Walz died August 1, 2009 at age 39 from injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident. May he Rest in Peace.



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CONGRATULATIONS:

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to MIFDI member **Captain Paul Ciccone** of the Waltham Fire Department upon his promotion to Deputy Chief on August 2, 2009. *Good job Paul!*

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations and best wishes to MIFDI member **Chief James Driscoll** of the Dedham Fire Department upon his retirement on August 28, 2009. Chief Driscoll was appointed Chief of Department in 2001. *We hope to have you continue as an active member of MIFDI Jim!*

GOOD & WELFARE:

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer GET WELL wishes to long-time MIFDI Associate Member **Ed Lyons, Sr.** of Ed Lyons Fire Equipment, Inc. Ed became ill during the final day of the New England Fire Chief's Show in West Springfield in June. *We hope to see you back in service soon Ed!*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 11, 2009: 8th Anniversary of the attack on America
Never forget the "343"

September 11, 2009: Mass Firefighters Memorial Annual Ceremony
State House, Boston @ 6pm mafirememorial.org

September 18, 2009: Greenwood Emergency Vehicle Open House
North Attleboro, MA greenwoodev.com

September 19, 2009: Fallen Firefighters Memorial
Colorado Springs, CO iaff.org

September 23-24, 2009: 15th Annual Public Fire & Life Safety Conf.
Devens Conference Center Contact: Jennifer Mieth @ DFS 978-567-3381

September 30, 2009: **MIFDI 50th Anniversary** - Stow

October 4-10, 2009: National Fire Prevention Week
The 2009 campaign; **"Stay Fire Smart! Don't Get Burned"**

October 28, 2009: **MIFDI** – Chelmsford

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REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department

Our June meeting was full of information beginning with our host and longtime member Chief Kenneth Galligan. I thank Chief Galligan for his informative outline on basic fireground operations. I also thank Deputy Chief Richard Francis, Captain Mark Picher, and the members of the Brockton Fire Department Training & Safety Division for their assistance with organizing this meeting.

Special thanks also to Joe Dupras from “Life Safer”, Chris Coombs from “GARTS”, and Chick Granito from “PAC”, all for demonstrating and sharing their products with MIFDI.

MIFDI member David Jardin once again completed the 2009 Pan-Mass Challenge in August raising nearly \$3500.00 himself. The PMC is hosted annually to raise funds to support the Jimmy Fund cancer research and treatment at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. It’s not too late to support Dave with this important cause by making a donation at www.pmc.org and enter Dave’s ID# DJ0027.

Well we made it, **50** years of providing training, education and resource connections. **50** years of looking for better and safer ways to perform our hazardous profession. **50** years of hearing how other departments do things, of what works and what does not. **50** years of professional and personal friendships established. **50** years. There are too many people to name that are responsible for this important milestone so I won’t even try. The original dozen or so organizers had great foresight when they decided to create an organization comprised of training officers from throughout the Commonwealth, and I’m sure they would be happy to know that their goal of 50 years continues on;

“To promote fire department training and education by the mutual sharing of knowledge”.

See you on the 30th. Until then, stay safe!

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

NIOSH Report “Death in the line of duty”

On January 25, 2009, two male career firefighters ages 28 and 45, died after falling from an elevated aerial platform during a training exercise in Texas. The firefighters were participating in the exercise to familiarize fire department personnel with a newly purchased 95-foot mid-mount aerial platform truck. A group of four firefighters were standing in the platform bucket which was raised to the roof of an eight-story building at a local college. The platform became stuck on the concrete parapet wall at the top of the building. During attempts to free the platform, the top edge of the parapet gave way and the aerial ladder sprung back from the top of the building, it then began to whip violently back and forth. Two of the four fighters standing in the platform were ejected from the platform by the motion. They fell approximately 83 feet to the ground and died from their injuries.

Key contributing factors identified in this investigation include the firefighters being unfamiliar with the controls on the newly purchased aerial platform, training in a “high risk” scenario before becoming familiar with new equipment, failure to use fall restraints, the design of the platform railing and integrated doors, and the location of the lifting eyes underneath the platform which contributed to the platform snagging on the building’s parapet wall.

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

- Ensure that firefighters are fully familiar with new equipment before training under “high risk scenarios”.
- Ensure fall protection is used whenever firefighters and other personnel are working in elevated aerial platforms.
- Follow standard operating procedures for training, including designation of a safety officer.
- Ensure SOP’s covering the operation and use of fire apparatus are developed and followed during training exercises as well as in fire suppression activities.

Fire apparatus manufacturers should:

- Provide fall protection belts with all aerial ladder and platform apparatus and ensure that fall protection is used during manufacturer training.
- Ensure that aerial platforms and other aerial devices are designed to reduce or eliminate the potential for snagging on buildings or other elevated surfaces.
- Ensure that aerial platform doors or gates are designed to prevent opening in the outward direction.

To view the full report on this tragic incident, go to www.cdc.gov/niosh/fire/reports/face200906.html