

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

October
2007

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

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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 - 2007

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
 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, 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 _____

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) 864-2015 or (978) 346-4731, ext. 1
 E-mail: michael.mcLeieer@merrimacfire.com

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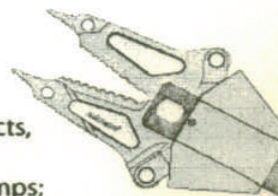
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ED LYONS
President



OCTOBER MEETING:

The 509th MIFDI meeting will be held **Wednesday, October 24, 2007** hosted by the Department of Fire Services / Massachusetts Firefighting Academy in Stow. This is our semi-annual visit to the MFA courtesy of Fire Marshal Stephen Coan and MFA Director Edmund Walker. Due to security reasons, please be sure to sign in at the front reception desk upon your arrival. The display screen in the lobby will indicate our assigned room.

Our program will be provided by **Deputy Chief David Mager** of the Boston Fire Department. Chief Mager has a power-point presentation on a difficult fire that occurred on April 8, 2000 at the East Boston Yacht Club. The presentation shows the challenges of fighting a fire in this type of occupancy with limited access, strong ocean wind, and large fuel load from boat storage. The presentation also focuses on "lessons learned" as well as the importance of pre-fire planning.

We also hope to introduce the new **MFA Director Ed Walker** to brief the organization on the future plans at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

SCHEDULE:

0900 Coffee (Jake's cafeteria), **1000** Presentation,
1130 Business meeting, **1200** Lunch

DIRECTIONS:

From Rt.128/I 95: Take Rt. 20 west to Rt.27 in Wayland. Turn right onto 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 onto Broad St. (First traffic light), and at the second traffic light, turn right onto Rt.62. Continue straight until Rt.62 takes a left toward 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.

NOTE: There will be Green signs with gold MFA symbols to help point the way.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 1/1/2007
 Checking 138.26
 Savings 887.66
 9 Mo. CD 515.44
 Total \$1,541.36

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

Total active members = 118

Dues paid thru 2009 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 8
 Dues paid thru 2007 = 89
 Dues paid thru 2006 = 20

Balances as of 10/11/2007

Bank Statement Checking: \$ 233.25
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 175.00)
 Eastern Checking Balance: \$ 58.25
 ING Savings Balance: \$ 710.72
Economy Co-Op. 12 Mo. CD \$ 1,015.35 (matures 05/10/2008 @ 4.75% APY)
 Total \$ 1,784.32

We welcome this New Member to M.I.F.D.I.:

- Richard Francis - Captain - Brockton Fire

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 2007 dues are 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 10/11/2007
 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!

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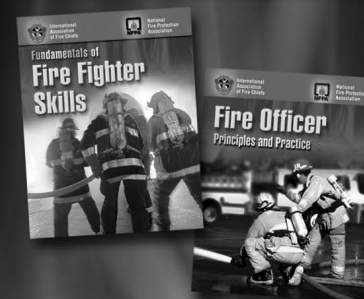
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS
may be addressed to:

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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 .

RECALL OF MEETING #508

The 508th. meeting of **MIFDI** was held on September 26, 2007 hosted by the Waltham Fire Department courtesy of Chief Richard Cardillo.

The training session was provided by **Officer Colin Murphy** of the Waltham Police Department. Officer Murphy provided us with a fascinating presentation on "Meth Labs" and the associated hazards encountered when called to a location with a suspected lab site. It was noted that 75% of meth labs are "stumbled upon" due to fires or calls for odors. When a lab is located or suspected in your community, you should immediately notify the D.E.P. "Clan Lab Response Team" available to respond to any incident 24/7.

Special thanks to MIFDI member Deputy Chief Mike Grigorakos of the Waltham Fire Department for arranging this meeting for MIFDI..

President Roche conducted a brief business meeting following the training portion. Member John O'Donahue gave an update on the Board of Elevators code changes. Member Steve Persson gave an update on the MFTC including discussion of a possible state takeover of the Springfield Fire Academy for a much needed Western Massachusetts Firefighting Academy to serve the needs of the communities located in Western Massachusetts.

Members adjourned for lunch at the nearby Chateau Restaurant in Waltham.

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EMS RUN

The Effects of Sleep Deprivation on Firefighters & EMS Responders **Courtesy of the IAFC and the USFA**

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) announce the release of *The Effects of Sleep Deprivation on Firefighters and EMS Responders*. This new report is based on a comprehensive literature of fatigue and sleep deprivation in other industries (primarily the transportation and medical fields) and features applications to the fire and emergency services as appropriate, along with useful mitigation strategies. A resource section is included.

"This is an in-depth culmination of available sleep-deprivation research that, if taken seriously, should keep the fire chief awake at night," said IAFC President Chief Steven P. Westermann. "The research can apply to any busy station, volunteer or career, with any of the traditional schedules, not just the newer 48/96 schedule. The report ends by providing several recommendations, not the least of which is how to spot sleep deprivation".

The program is a result of partnership between the IAFC and the USFA, with assistance from the faculty of Oregon Health & Science University. In addition to the report, a self-guided, computer-based training program has been developed.

"We are pleased to work closely with the IAFC on this initiative", said Chief Gregory Cade, U.S. Fire Administrator. "We have long known the stresses long-term operations place on all firefighters. The impact of sleep deprivation is an important issue to the health and safety impacts on members of the fire service and the residents they protect".

The Effects of Sleep Deprivation on Firefighters and EMS Responders and related training materials are available on the IAFC website at www.iafc.org/sleep. Information about this program may also be found on the USFA website at www.usfa.dhs.gov/fireservice/research/safety/sleepdeprivation.shtm

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Lt. David J. Boles** of the Sandwich Fire Department. Lt. Boles died unexpectedly on September 8, 2007 at age 47. May he rest in peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter Kelly Page** of the Lowell Fire Department, Engine Co.4. Firefighter Page, age 38, collapsed and died on the apparatus floor while on duty September 14, 2007. May he rest in peace



MIFDI Vice President Captain Brian Belliveau (Right) and his brother Deputy Chief James Belliveau of the Fitchburg Fire Department stand proudly next to a Memorial recently dedicated to their father Captain James Belliveau who died in the line-of-duty on December 10, 1967 at a building fire in the Cleghorn section of Fitchburg. The senior Captain Belliveau was also a member of MIFDI at the time of his death. (Photo by Mark Roche)

CONGRATULATIONS:

The Officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to **Deputy Chief Peter Skerry** of the Brookline Fire Department on his recent appointment to Chief of Department. Peter was a member of MIFDI during his past assignments in the Training Division. We wish Chief Skerry great success in his new position.

GOOD & WELFARE:

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 21, 2007: Boston Firefighters 25th Annual 6.2 Mile Road Race
Florian Hall, Dorchester Contact: www.firefighters10k.com

October 21-25, 2007: IAFF Redmond Symposium
Chicago, IL Contact: www.iaff.org

October 24, 2007: **MIFDI** - DFS/MFA

November 1-4, 2007: VCOS Symposium
Clearwater Beach, FL Contact: www.iafc.org

November 3, 2007: Emergency Services Seminar & Expo
Stamford, CT Contact: www.emtbravo.com

November 4, 2007: Daylight Saving Time Ends
"Change your clocks, change your batteries"
(AND DON'T FORGET THE CLOCKS ON YOUR SAED's)

November 5, 2007: Routine Responses - Safety & Tactics
Massasoit Conference Center, Brockton, MA
Contact: www.firstresponseeme.com

November 6-10, 2007: Fire Rescue Conference & Expo
Las Vegas, NV Contact: www.iafc.org

November 17, 2007: Statewide Exam; Fire Lieutenant & Fire Captain
GOOD LUCK!

November 28, 2007: **MIFDI** - TBA

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

The September meeting presented by Officer Colin Murphy of the Waltham Police Department was very informative and educational. His presentation on the topic of "Meth Labs" focused on the hazards encountered when a lab is discovered in your community. It is important to note that this is not just an urban problem, these labs are being discovered in quiet residential neighborhoods everytown USA. I highly recommend a program on this subject be presented to every firefighter.

I thank Colin for his presentation, as well as Deputy Chief Mike Grigorakos for arranging this meeting. A thank you also to Chief Richard Cardillo and the members of the Waltham Fire Department for hosting MIFDI.

On September 9, 2007, I was honored to represent MIFDI at a Memorial Dedication in honor of Captain James V. Belliveau of the Fitchburg Fire Department. Captain Belliveau was a member of MIFDI when he died in the line-of-duty on December 10, 1967 at a building fire in the Cleghorn section of the city. He was the father of current MIFDI Vice President Brian Belliveau who is also a captain on the Fitchburg Fire Department.

I'm happy to report that on October 2, 2007, the Worcester Fire Department officially opened their new \$1.7 million Training Center located behind Fire Headquarters at 141 Grove St. The new facility includes classrooms with state-of-the-art technology, an area for a weight and exercise room, and space to serve as a Command Center during statewide emergencies. The facility, paid for with funds from the Leary Firefighters Foundation and the EMC Corp., will serve as a memorial for the six firefighters that died during a fire at the Worcester Cold Storage Warehouse in 1999. We hope to hold a MIFDI meeting at this facility in 2008.

On a less happier note, I find it very troubling that officials from the Town of Randolph decided to suspend the fire chief for 15 days without pay for complaining about budget cuts after a fire last May that claimed two lives. Emotions always run high after a fatal fire especially when it involves a child, however, how much can a fire chief be forced to cut before saying enough is enough. With so many fire departments each year being force-feed a budget less than what is required to safely operate, it is little wonder why so many qualified and capable deputy chief's and captain's decide against pursuing the thankless position of Chief of Department.

Our October meeting will highlight a difficult fire at the East Boston Yacht Club a few years ago. This excellent presentation is one that you won't want to miss.

I hope to see you all at the Academy on the **24th**. Until then, stay safe.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER
Massachusetts Firefighting Academy
No Show Policy

Due to the high incidence of "no shows" at Academy courses, it has become necessary to institute a policy that identifies students who fail to notify the MFA if they are unable to attend a course. This also results in courses being conducted with fewer students in attendance than is practical.

- 1) Each student that signs up for a course at the MFA is required to notify the Academy if for any reason they are not able to attend. We realize at times there are circumstances that are beyond your control, however, we request that you make every effort to advise the MFA.
- 2) If it is necessary to cancel, please call 978-567-3200 at any time and leave a message stating your name as well as the course name and location.
- 3) Failure to notify the Academy of your inability to attend a course will result in your name being placed on the "no show" list. If a student accumulates two "no shows", the result will be that when he/she signs up to attend a program, their name will be flagged and they will be at risk of being bumped from the course if it fills up.
- 4) Students on the "no show" list that continue to fail to notify the Academy that they are canceling will be subject to further restrictions.
- 5) Once your name is on the "no show" list, it will remain in effect for one year and a letter will be sent to your chief of department advising of your status.