

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

November
2006

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

Join us to celebrate the 500th meeting of MIFDI on November 15th.

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
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 - 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, 2007**

**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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NOVEMBER MEETING (500)

The 500th meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, November 15, 2006 (Third Wednesday)** hosted by the Norton Fire Department courtesy of Chief Richard J. Gomes. The meeting will be held at the new Chateau Restaurant, (former Ann's Place) 48 Bay Rd., Norton.

The program will be provided by Securitex with a presentation on the new NFPA Standard 1971, "Protective Ensembles for Structural Firefighting". The new standard is expected to include many changes which should be an important and informative program affecting all of us in the fire service. As always, guests are welcome to attend.

SCHEDULE:

0900-1000: Coffee & continental breakfast buffet (\$10.00 pp donation)

1000-1130: Presentation & display of new "turnouts"

1130-1200: Business meeting

1200-1300: Lunch on location

DIRECTIONS:

Take Rt. 495 to Exit 9 (Bay Road). At the end of the ramp turn EAST toward Easton. The Chateau is 1-mile down on the left. There is plenty of on-site parking.

For further information, contact Chief Richard Gomes, Norton F.D. @ 508-285-0249. **Also, Chief Gomes is requesting that you make your reservations with him as soon as possible if you are planning on attending this meeting. Thank you for your cooperation.**

His e-mail address is: gomesr@nortonfire.com

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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 September (Checking):
 Nov. 06 Newsletter \$120.00 Mike
 TOTAL: \$120.00

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

Account Transfers:
 Transfer from Savings to Cking 11/10- \$120.00

Total active members = 110
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 3
 Dues paid thru 2007 = 8
 Dues paid thru 2006 = 87
 Dues paid thru 2005 = 12

Mailings
 E-Mail - 34 Home - 62
 Work - 14
 110

Balances as of 11/10/2006
 Bank Statement Checking: \$ 142.71
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 120.00)
 Checking Balance: \$ 22.71
 Certificate of Deposit: \$ 510.99
Savings Balance: \$ 1,117.04
 Total \$ 1,650.74

Membership Totals
 77 Active - 28 Retired - 5 Associate

New Members:


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.

Respectfully submitted 11/10/2006
 Michael McLeier
 Treasurer
 978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or
 978-346-4731, ext. 1

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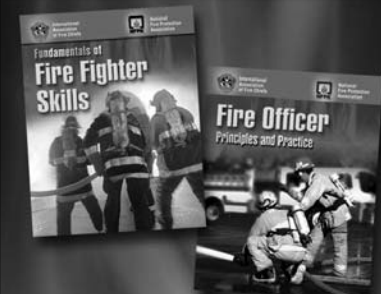
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RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS

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 #499

The 499th meeting of MIFDI was held on October 25, 2006 hosted by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fire Services Firefighting Academy courtesy of Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan and MFA Director Laurent R. McDonald.

The training session was provided by Mr. Stephen Pheeny of the D.F.S.- I.T. Unit who guided our members through a fascinating hands-on tour of the new Fire Command Training simulator. This state-of-the-art unit is expected to be placed in service shortly for training throughout the Commonwealth. Following the tour of the new unit, MFA Director McDonald provided our members with power-point presentation with an update on the latest happenings at the academy

The presentation concluded with a brief business meeting held by President Roche. One new member was introduced. Training Council member Persson gave a brief update from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting. Deputy Chief Mark Dolloff displayed a new type of apparatus SCBA bracket with a hydraulic release. The meeting adjourned for an enjoyable lunch at the Piccadilly Restaurant.



MIFDI members receive a hands-on demonstration of the new DFS Command Training Unit. (Photo by Mark Roche)

E.M.S. RUN:

Influenza: Clinical Description & Diagnosis

(CDC Publication)

Influenza viruses are spread from person to person primarily through the coughing and sneezing of infected persons. The typical incubation period for influenza is 1-4 days, with an average of 2 days. Adults can be infectious from the day before symptoms begin through approximately 5 days after the illness onset. Children can be infectious for 10 days, and young children can shed virus for several days before their illness onset. Severely immunocompromised persons can shed virus for weeks or months.

Uncomplicated influenza illness is characterized by the abrupt onset of constitutional and respiratory signs and symptoms (e.g., fever, myalgia, headache, malaise, nonproductive cough, sore throat, and rhinitis). Among children, otitis media, nausea, and vomiting are also commonly reported with influenza illness. Respiratory illness caused by influenza is difficult to distinguish from illness caused by other respiratory pathogens on the basis of symptoms alone.

Influenza illness typically resolves after 3-7 days for the majority of persons, although cough and malaise can persist for 2 weeks. Among certain persons, influenza can exacerbate underlying medical conditions (e.g., pulmonary or cardiac disease), lead to secondary bacterial pneumonia or primary influenza viral pneumonia, or occur as part of a coinfection with other viral or bacterial pathogens. Young children with influenza infection can have initial symptoms mimicking sepsis with high fevers, and 20% of children hospitalized with influenza can have febrile seizures.

Risks for complications, hospitalizations, and deaths from influenza are higher among persons aged 65 years, young children, and persons of any age with underlying health conditions. Since the 1968 influenza A (H3N2) virus pandemic, the greatest numbers of influenza-associated hospitalizations have occurred during epidemics caused by the type A (H3N2) viruses.

Influenza related deaths can result from pneumonia and from exacerbations of cardiopulmonary conditions and other chronic diseases. Deaths of older adults account for 90% of deaths attributed to pneumonia and influenza.

(Presidents Note: The flue season generally runs from October through mid-May so this article is a good reminder for us all to practice strict universal precautions. Gloves are a must on all EMS runs, however, remove the gloves before getting back in the rig. Encourage everyone to cough or sneeze into the bend of their arm as opposed to using their hand. Place an O2 mask over patients that are coughing/ sneezing all over the back of the ambulance, and finally, you can never wash your hands enough.)

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of the FIVE U.S. Forest Service Firefighters from California killed when they were overrun by a fast moving wildfire on October 26. The crew of E-57 included;

Captain Mark Loutzenhiser (43), M.P.O. Jess McLean (27), F.F. Jason McKay (27), F.F. Daniel Hoover-Najera (20). The 5th member, F.F. Pablo Cerda (23) died from severe burn injuries on October 31. May they Rest in Peace.

CONGRATULATIONS:

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to MIFDI member **Frederick G. Clark** on his promotion to Deputy Chief of the Goshen MA Fire Department on October 1, 2006. Good job!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 15, 2006: **MIFDI 500th Meeting** - Norton

November 18, 2006: **Statewide Exam for Fire Captain & Fire Lieutenant**
GOOD LUCK!

December 20, 2006: **MIFDI** - TBA



MIFDI President Mark Roche & Vice Pres. Brian Belliveau shown attending the "Annual Firefighter of the Year Award Ceremony" at Faneuil Hall in Boston on October 26. See story on page 7. (Photo by Jim Daley)

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

Well here we are, about to hold the 500th meeting of this organization of professionals which dates back to 1959 when I was only 4 years old. I'm sure that many of the early members of MIFDI are looking down over us with pride as we continue their mission of MIFDI; "To promote fire department training and education by the mutual sharing of knowledge".

The October meeting held at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy provided us with a great opportunity to have a hands-on tour of the new Command Training Unit, a great training tool for anyone in a fire command position. I thank MIFDI member and DFS Director of Operations John Burke for his help arranging this meeting for us. I also thank MFA Director Larry McDonald for taking the time to provide our members with an informational update on the MFA.

On October 26, I was honored to represent MIFDI along with V.P. Brian Belliveau at the "17th Annual Firefighter of the Year Ceremony" held at Faneuil Hall in Boston, (see photo on page 9). Firefighters from Amesbury, Boston, Concord, Fitchburg, Gloucester, Holyoke, Northbridge, Plymouth, Revere, and Salem were all honored at the ceremony for going above and beyond. Congratulations to them all.

A reminder that it is that time of the year when MIFDI looks for future leaders of this great organization with openings in many positions. If any member would be interested in any position, let myself, Brian, or Michael know.

During the month of November, the National Geographic Channel will be airing a program titled "Tools of the Trade: Fire Trucks" focusing on some of the high-tech vehicles for firefighting in the future. The program will air on November 16 @ 9pm, and November 17 @ 12 midnight.

I hope to see you all in Norton on the **15th**. Until then, stay safe.

Mark

INSTRUCTORS CORNER
U.S. DOT SAFETY ALERT

Responding to Incidents Involving Ethanol & Gasoline Mixtures

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is alerting emergency responders to appropriate emergency response guidance for responding to incidents involving fuel mixtures composed of ethanol (or ethyl-alcohol) and gasoline in various concentrations. The most common of these fuels, designated E85 (85% ethanol & 15% gasoline), recently has begun to be used in volume in the Midwest.

Fires involving E85 and other ethanol/gasoline mixtures containing more than 10% ethanol should be treated differently than traditional gasoline fires because these mixtures are polar/water-miscible flammable liquids (i.e. they mix readily with water) and will degrade the effectiveness of firefighting foam which is not alcohol-resistant. For this reason, PHMSA recommends use of alcohol-resistant foam to fight fires involving these mixtures.

There are a number of shipping descriptions in the Hazardous Materials Regulations for mixtures containing ethyl alcohol and gasoline. "Alcohols, n.o.s." and "Denatured alcohol" may be used for mixtures containing up to 5% gasoline. The appropriate proper shipping name for E85 is "Flammable liquid, n.o.s. (ethanol, gasoline)".

PHMSA is currently evaluating the need for changes to shipping descriptions or other hazard communication requirements for alcohol/gasoline fuel mixtures to ensure that these mixtures are readily identifiable and refer emergency responders to guidance specifying use of alcohol-resistant foam. In the interim, PHMSA recommends the use of alcohol-resistant foam to fight fires involving fuel mixtures known to contain or potentially containing more than 10% alcohol.

(Presidents Note: As our country seeks alternatives to reduce our reliance in foreign oil, we in the fire service must remain pro-active towards upgrading firefighting techniques to deal with the new challenges facing us as it becomes just a matter of time before a tanker carrying the "fuels of the future" overturns in our community.)