

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

November  
2015

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

57th Year

(1959-2016)

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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 - 2015**

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department  
 1st Vice President: Deputy Chief Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department (retired)  
 2nd Vice President: Chief Frank W. Fitzgerald, Jr., Malden Fire Department (retired)  
 Secretary: Captain Edward (Ted) D. Quinn, Jr., Peabody Fire Department  
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department

**THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS**

**Terms Expire 2016**

Chief Thomas Conway, III, Billerica Fire Department  
 Assistant Chief Robert MacKendrick, Lynnfield Fire Department (Retired)  
 Chief Richard Gomes, Norton Fire Department (Retired)

**Terms Expire 2015**

Lieutenant George Churchill, Brockton Fire Department (retired)  
 Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Past President)  
 Chief 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- michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com**

**Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216  
 2016 Membership Application & Invoice  
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2016**

**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** \$ 30.00

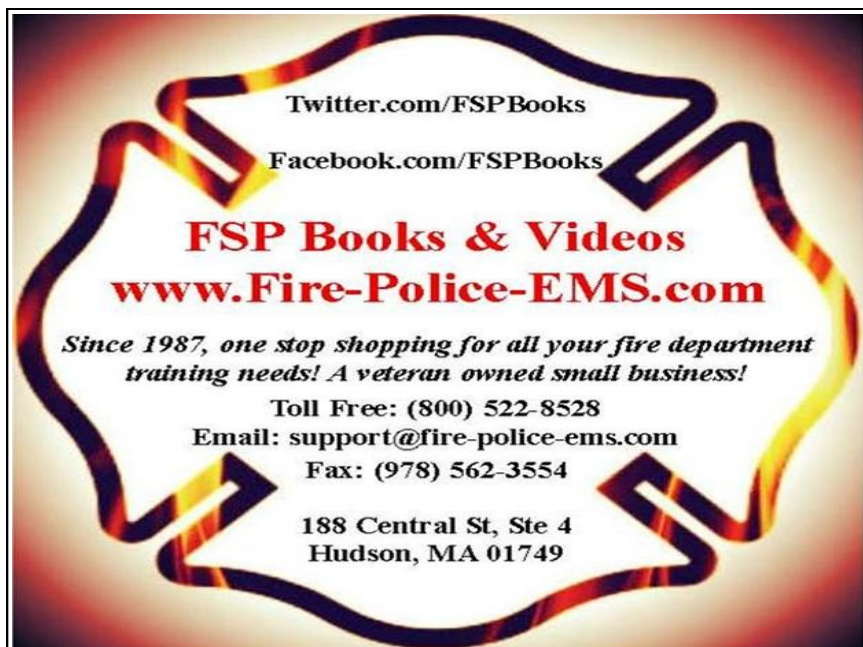
**Retired** \$ 15.00

**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) 346-4731  
 E-mail: michael.mcleieer@merrimacfire.com



**NOVEMBER MEETING:**

The November meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, November 18, 2015** (NOTE: This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday). Our meeting will be held at ENERGI, Inc. located at 10 Centennial Drive, Peabody. A presentation on “loss prevention” with a focus on spill mitigation will be provided. *What does the clean-up entail after the fire companies leave the scene? Is the community entitled to any compensation for the cost of the spill?*

**SCHEDULE:** 0930-Arrival, 1000-Presentation, 1130-Business Meeting, 1200-Lunch

**DIRECTIONS:** From Interstate 95 take Rt. 128 North to Exit 28 (Centennial Drive). At the traffic light turn left on Centennial Dr. Turn left into the first complex on the left marked “Boston Children’s at Peabody”. Turn left in the entrance towards 10-West. ENERGI is located in 10-W. There is plenty of free parking in the complex.



**TREASURER'S REPORT****Beginning Balances for 01/02/2015**

Preferred C.U. Checking \$267.67

Preferred C.U. Savings \$427.51

CapitalOne360 Savings \$2,747.29**Total:** \$3,442.47

50/50 Raffle = None

Winner = None

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

**Total active members = 128**

Dues paid thru 2020 = 1

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1

Dues paid thru 2017 = 4

Dues paid thru 2016 = 7

Dues paid thru 2015 = 93

Dues paid thru 2014 = 22

**Balances as of 11/09/2015**

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 324.43

Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)

PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 324.43

PCU Savings Balance: \$ 428.05

CapitalOne Sav. Balance: \$ 1,756.05**Total** \$ 2,508.53**Bills Paid October 2015 (Checking):**

Nov 2015 Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 10/31

USPS Postage - Mark Roche \$ 11.00 - 10/30**TOTAL** \$131.00**Account Transfers:****Mailings**

E-Mail - 81 Home - 38

Work - 9

128

**Membership Totals: 128**

79 Active - 43 Retired - 6 Associate

**We Welcome Back This New Member to MIFDI:**

- 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. **Your 2016 dues are due in January, 2016.**

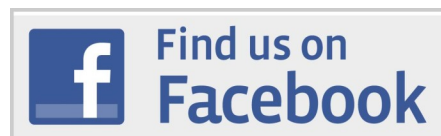
**Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2016 for your 2016 dues.**

(b) You may now use the 2016 membership application as your invoice. It has MIFDI's tax ID number listed, for your accounts payable department to process the dues payment. Simply use the dues year or payment date as your invoice number.

**Respectfully submitted****11/09/2015****by Michael McLeieer , Treasurer****978-346-4731****Thank you for your continued support and for your prompt payment of your dues!**

**Please remember to add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2015. This fee does not apply to new members.**

MIFDI is now on Facebook. Login to your Facebook account and search for **Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors** or visit **[www.facebook.com/mifdi](http://www.facebook.com/mifdi)**. Become a Facebook friend to MIFDI and receive up to date announcements right to your PDA, Blackberry or computer. You may also select the MIFDI Facebook link on the MIFDI website home page at [www.mifdi.org](http://www.mifdi.org)





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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) 346-4731

**\*Dues are \$30.00 per year for Active members \*(\$40 after Jan 1st)**

**\$15.00 for Retired members \*(\$25 after Jan 1st)**

**\*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. Add a \$10.00 Late Fee after April 1, 2015.**

**RECALL OF MEETING 2015-07**

No Secretary's report received.

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*November is Diabetes Awareness Month*



**LAST ALARM:**

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter Robert F. Quinn**, ACTIVE member of the Somerville Fire Department, (Rescue Co.1). Firefighter Quinn, a 27-year veteran of the SFD, died suddenly at his Tewksbury home on October 4 at age 57. *May He Rest In Peace.*



The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter Anthony T. Colarusso**, ACTIVE member of the Plymouth Fire Department (Engine Co. 5). Firefighter Colarusso, a 9-year veteran of the PFD, died from occupational cancer on October 20, 2015 at age 39. *May He Rest In Peace.*





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**PARATECH**

## **CONGRATULATIONS:**

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our congratulations to member **Justin Woodside** of the Weston Fire Department upon his promotion to Captain/Shift Commander on September 6, 2015.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

November 14, 2015: Statewide Exam – Fire Lieutenant & Captain  
*Good Luck!*

November 18, 2015: **MIFDI** – Peabody

November 23, 2015: Massachusetts Firefighter of the Year Awards  
MIT Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass Ave, Cambridge @ 0930

December 16, 2015: **MIFDI**

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## **Firesetting Intervention Resource Exchange**

*An on-line networking  
community for Firefighters,  
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Juvenile Firesetting  
Intervention Professionals*

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- Juvenile Justice & Court Personnel
- Mental Health Professionals

**[www.fire-exchange.org](http://www.fire-exchange.org)**

**Call Scott Maker, MFA Instructor,  
Firefighter/Merrimac Fire Department, with any questions you may  
have.**

**269-492-3341**

## **REPORT of the PRESIDENT:**

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

Our October meeting held at the Middlesex County House of Corrections in Billerica provided us with an interesting presentation on handling fires and emergencies at correctional facilities. I thank Captain Bill Buckley and Sgt. Rudy Chaput for offering this program and tour of their facility. Thanks to Middlesex County Sheriff Peter Koutougian and his staff for their hospitality.

On November 23, the Department of Fire Services will host the 26<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Firefighter of the Year Awards which will be held again at the MIT Kresge Auditorium, 48 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge. On this day, the “Bravest of the Brave” are honored for their heroic acts from the past year. All are invited to attend this important event to show support for those who have gone above and beyond in our valiant profession.

Stay Safe and I hope to see you in Peabody on the 18<sup>th</sup>



Middlesex County Deputy Sheriff Persson with his dad, MIFDI member Steve Persson

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER:**

***How Safe Are Your Dorms?***

According to the U.S. Department of Education, there are approximately 18 million students enrolled in 4100 colleges and universities across the country, (approximately two-thirds live in off campus housing). According to information compiled by Campus Firewatch, 86 percent of the college fire fatalities across the nation have occurred in off campus housing. Five common factors in a number of these fires include; lack of a fire sprinkler system, missing or disabled smoke detectors, improper disposal of smoking materials, impaired judgment due to alcohol consumption, and fires originating on upholstered furniture on decks or porches. From January 2000 to present, 89 fatal fires have been documented that have occurred on a college campus, in “Greek Housing”, or in off-campus housing within 3-miles of the campus, claiming a total of 126 victims (Greek Housing is a fraternity or sorority house).

### **(MIFDI Presidents Note)**

*In Massachusetts, students travel from all over the world to attend our many prestigious colleges and universities. We in the fire service are required to inspect all of our college dorm buildings at least annually, and those companies assigned in districts with college dorms are all too familiar with responses to these locations for “nuisance alarms” such as burnt popcorn at 2am, maliciously discharged fire extinguishers, and of course the pull station false alarms.*

*Do we know the locations of the off-campus housing? Many are three-decker’s or old converted Victorian structures cut-up into a maze of single bedrooms to house dozens of students to share the expenses of the housing. It is doubtful that we will find a suppression system in these structures and it is likely that whatever detection systems are installed will be dismantled at some point.*

*We must work closely with our local Inspectional Services Departments to be notified of the locations of off-campus housing in our communities. We should also maintain a good working relationship with the college Fire Safety Officers to ensure that the dormitory detection and suppression systems are maintained, and that students are fined for dismantling smoke detectors in their rooms.*

*Finally, student vacation weeks and holiday breaks are a good opportunity for our companies to pre-fire plan and run a dry line from a standpipe get an idea of the stretch between stairways. It is also a good time to check damage to threads debris in the piping, missing caps, reducers, handles, etc. Most importantly, we must be aware of security screens on windows that could prevent entry or escape during firefighting operations.*