

# The **MIFDI** BULLETIN

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

December  
2005

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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 - 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**

<b><u>Product</u></b>	<b><u>Circle - Size</u></b>	<b><u>Each</u></b>	<b><u>Qty</u></b>	<b><u>Total</u></b>
Jacket	S - M - L - XL - XXL	\$45.00	_____	_____
T-Shirt	S - M - L - XL - XXL	\$10.00	_____	_____
Golf Shirt	S - M - L - XL - XXL	\$20.00	_____	_____
1/4 Sweatshirt	S - M - L - XL - XXL	\$25.00	_____	_____
Hat	—one size fits all—	\$10.00	_____	_____
Window Decal - Inside or Outside	- 2 for \$ 3.00		_____	_____
Pen & 2 Stickers		\$5.00/set	_____	_____
				<b>Sub Total</b> _____
				<b>(No Shipping charge if picked up) Shipping</b> _____
				<b>Total</b> _____

**Product Descriptions**

Jacket - 3 Season Lined - color = maroon  
 1/4 Sweatshirt - zippered w/collar - color = grey  
 Golf Shirt - two tone - color = off white w/blue strips @ collar & cuffs  
 T-Shirt - color = grey

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_

**Zip Code** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed Form with check or money order made out to:

**MIFDI - Clothing**

**Mail to:**

**MIFDI Treasurer**

**c/o Michael McLeieer**

**PO Box 507**

**Merrimac, MA 01860-0510**

For Shipping Charges, Call: (978) 346-4731, ext. 1

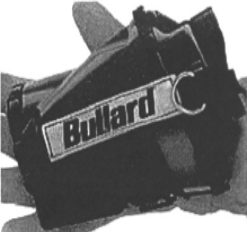
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**DECEMBER MEETING**

The 491st meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, December 14, 2005** (NOTE: this is the **Second Wednesday** to avoid the week before Christmas which is usually a busy period for everyone). The meeting location will be held at Anthony's Restaurant, 105 Canal Street, Malden (Two blocks in from Rt. 60).

The training program will be provided by Peter Ostroskey, Deputy Director of the Massachusetts Statewide Emergency Telecommunications Board. Peter has a very informative power-point presentation on the upgrading and replacement of the existing E9-1-1 system to incorporate wireless E9-1-1 call taking capabilities to your PSAP. It is important to note that this new upgrade will effect every community with a statewide completion target of July 2007, therefore we should all be prepared and educated on how this will improve emergency capabilities in our communities.

**DIRECTIONS:**

Malden is located in Middlesex County 5-miles north of Boston.

From Rt.93 take Rt. 60 EAST in Medford. Travel 6 working traffic lights (aprox 2-miles). Take the 1st right after the 6th light, that is Canal St. and Anthony's is located 2-blocks on the right

**SCHEDULE:**

- 0900** Coffee & pastry
- 1000** Presentation
- 1130** Business meeting
- 1200** Lunch

**LUNCH:**

A great buffet lunch will be provided on location. This will be our annual holiday gathering. (Special thanks to MIFDI member, Chief Frank Fitzgerald for arranging this meeting for us).

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**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Beginning Balances for 1/2005**

Checking 172.36  
Savings 1327.88  
 Total \$1500.24

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

Total members = 118

Dues paid thru 2007 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2006 = 14  
 Dues paid thru 2005 = 73  
 Dues paid thru 2004 = 30

**Balances as of 11/17/05**

Checking 113.56  
Savings 1133.39  
 Total \$1247.48

**New Members**

**John Farrington - Captain - Canton Fire Department**

*Treasurer Notes:*

(a) 2004 memberships owed total \$862.50 (date paid thru on mailing label)  
 (b) Thank You for your support during my term(s) as your Treasurer

Respectfully submitted 11/17/2005

David M. Jardin  
 Fire Chief – Stoughton

Bills Paid October 2005

Dec 05 Newsletter \$105.00 Mike

Mailings

E-Mail - 29 Home - 78  
Work - 11  
 89

Membership Totals

84 Active - 30 Retired - 4 Associate

PFM Plus Insurance Agency Inc  
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FAX: (508) 540-0144    **WEBSITE: www.mcvfa.org**

PO Box 2163  
 Teaticket, MA 02356

**Call / Volunteers Serving Today To Protect Your Tomorrow**

**RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS**

may be addressed to:

MIFDI - Attn: Michael McLeieer, Treasurer  
PO Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860-0510 - (978) 346-4731, ext. 1

**\*Dues are 25.00 per year for Active 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).

**\*Retired members dues are 12.50 for one calendar year (January 1 through December 31).**

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**RECALL OF MEETING #490**

The 490th meeting of MIFDI was held on November 16th, 2005 at the Newton Fire Department with 15 members present.

Neal M. Doherty, Industrial Safety Consultant for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Division of Occupational Safety, On-Site Consultation Program was our presenter. Mr. Doherty presented an extremely informative and interesting program on trench safety and rescue. (see the 'Instructors Corner' for details)

Immediately following the presentation, President Mark Roche conducted a brief business meeting that included the election of new MIFDI officers for the upcoming year. The results were as follows;

President - Captain Mark Roche, Newton Fire Department.

Vice President - Captain Brian Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department.

2nd Vice President - vacant.

Secretary - vacant.

Treasurer - Firefighter/Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department.

The Board of Directors remains the same with terms due to expire accordingly.

It was noted that the PT standards at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy have changed to reflect the recent recruits' inability to pass the current standards, thus the standards have been lowered.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that the rates to produce the mail the MIFDI Bulletin be raised from the current \$105 to \$120 to accommodate the past 2 rate increases in postage, as well as the upcoming postage rate increase, and to offset the cost increase of paper and other supplies related to the publication.

Members were briefed about the possible grant opportunities that are, or will be available to MIFDI.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that monies be appropriated for FDIC in April.

It was announced that the next MIFDI meeting will be held on December 14th, 2005, (the 2nd Wednesday), at Anthony's Restaurant, Malden Mass. (see page 2 for details & directions), The 1st MIFDI meeting of 2006 will be held on January 25th.

Finally, it was noted that 60,000 NEW cases of bladder cancer are diagnosed each year. Firefighters are more likely to get this disease than the rest of the population due to the nature of their work. Major contributing factors are diesel fuel and fumes associated with the running of the apparatus in the building, as well as ANY unburned particles of combustion. There is now a simple and cheap test to detect this disease at its earliest stages.

**NEW BUSINESS:** nothing submitted

**OLD BUSINESS:-** nothing to report

**MFTC UPDATE:** – nothing to report

**At a recent MIFDI meeting...**



MIFDI President Mark Roche presents a certificate of appreciation to MIFDI member Ed Williamson in recognition of his recent retirement from Norwood Fire Department after 41 years of service.

**LAST ALARM:**

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Firefighter John "Jay" Gannon, Jr.** of the Clinton Fire Department. Firefighter Gannon, a 20-year member of the C.F.D., died on November 18, 2005 after being stricken ill. He was 46 years old. Contributions may be made to the Connor and Kelly Gannon Scholarship Fund, c/o Hudson Savings Bank, 1073 Main St., Clinton, MA 01510.

**NATIONAL L.O.D.D. (November)**

F.F. Walter L. Sykes	Lewiston, CA	(V)	10-26-05	Heart	(48)
Capt. Timothy E. Parsell	Collins, NY	(V)	11-04-05	Heart	(38)
F.F. Eduardo B. Teran	Riverside, CA	(C)	11-05-05	Heart	(43)
A.C. James C. Webb	Courtland, MS	(V)	11-05-05	MVA	(41)
Capt. Michael J. Bevans	N. Little Rock, AK	(C)	11-06-05	Heart	(35)
F.F. Timothy S. Hardy	Neosho, MO	(C)	11-07-05	Burns	(32)
Chief Brian J. Pugh	Portland Arpt, OR	(C)	11-08-05	CVA	(59)
Chief Kenneth Mitchell	Tull, AK	(V)	11-10-05	Heart	(58)
Chief Max Willard	Oakwood, VA	(V)	11-12-05	U/K	(68)
Capt. Kevin J. Foster	Ellerslie, GA	(V)	11-12-05	MVA	(41)
F.F. Donald A. Willard	Northampton, MA	(C)	11-17-05	Cancer	(62)

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

The officers and members of the Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations to longtime MIFDI member and Past President **Richard Gomes** on his appointment to Chief of the Norton Fire Department. Chief Gomes had been serving as Acting Chief since September 2004 due to the retirement of longtime Chief George Burgess. The Town of Norton Board of Selectmen unanimously voted to officially promote Chief Gomes to Chief of Department on October 31, 2005.

Good job Chief!

**GOOD & WELFARE:**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

December 14, 2005: **MIFDI** - Malden

January 22-25, 2006: 2006 FDSOA Apparatus Symposium  
Orlando, FL Contact: [www.fdsoa.org](http://www.fdsoa.org)

January 25, 2006: **MIFDI**

January 26-29, 2006: IAFF Human Relations Conference  
San Antonio, TX Contact: [www.IAFF.org](http://www.IAFF.org)

February 16, 2006: Firefighter MDA Ski Muster 2006  
Mt. Wachusett, Princeton, MA Contact: MDA @ 508-898-3375

February 19-23, 2006: Firehouse World Exposition & Conference  
San Diego, CA Contact: [www.firehouseworld.com](http://www.firehouseworld.com)

February 22, 2006: **MIFDI**

March 8-9, 2006: Wildland Firefighter Conference  
Phoenix, AZ Contact: [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org)

March 18, 2006: Statewide Exam for Chief, Deputy & District Chief  
GOOD LUCK!

March 21-25, 2006: EMS Today Conference & Expo  
Baltimore, MD Contact: [www.jems.com](http://www.jems.com)

March 22, 2006: **MIFDI**

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

The November meeting was again another informative training presentation provided by Mr. Neil Doherty, Industrial Safety Consultant for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Division of Occupational Safety. Neil's topic on "Trench Safety" gave us a new prospective on the risks associated with trenches. I now have an entirely new outlook on trenches and find myself more observant of trench sites as I drive by looking for means of egress, trench boxes, spoil piles, and heavy equipment placement. Neil was an encyclopedia of information and a very good presenter. He enjoyed speaking with our organization so much that he decided to join and become a member. Welcome Neil!

On November 4th, Governor Romney signed a bill named "Nicole's Law" requiring carbon monoxide detectors in residential occupancies throughout Massachusetts. The legislation was named in memory of Nicole Garofalo, a 7 year old from Plymouth who died from carbon monoxide poisoning after snow blocked an exhaust vent from a propane fired heater in the family's home. The law, which will save a countless number of lives, requires a detector in most residences by March 31, 2006 and multi-family units by January 1, 2007. This may be a good time to review procedures and S.O.G's. related to carbon monoxide incidents as well as acquiring additional monitoring equipment due to an expected increase in fire department responses relating to these incidents.

Elections held at the November meeting provided me with the opportunity to serve as your President for another term. I am honored to accept the responsibilities as President of this organization comprised of so many professionals and with your help we will continue to move forward as we deal with the future challenges facing the fire service.

Also elected at the November meeting is new Treasurer Michael McLeieer. I am delighted that Michael has taken the responsibilities of this important position watching over the finances of the organization. MIFDI is still in need of a secretary to handle minutes of the meetings. If anyone is interested in giving it a try in 2006, let myself or any of the Officers or Board members know.

I hope to see you all in Malden on the 14th. For those that are unable to attend the meeting, I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy holiday season!

*Mark*

**INSTRUCTORS CORNER:**  
(Notes on Trench Safety/ Trenching Risks)

- There are serious, unrecognized, and preventable risks associated with work in trenches.
- 50-100 workers die in trench cave-ins each year. Many more are seriously injured.
- 53% of fatalities occur in trenches less than 10-feet deep, and 15% of fatalities occur in trenches less than 5-feet deep.
- Excavating is recognized as one of the most hazardous construction operations.
- Fatality rate for excavations is twice that of construction as a whole.
- Trench cave-in is primary hazard.
- All trench walls will eventually collapse without soil collapse protection.
- Soil collapse will likely result in serious injury or death if worker is in trench.
- Workers can suffocate even if mouth and nose are not covered due to chest compression, (unable to breathe in).
- Compression injuries can be fatal even if worker is rescued.
- One cubic yard of soil equals approx. 3000 lbs (equal to a small car).
- One yard of dirt falling 6-feet can have the force of a car hitting you at 35 mph.

**OSHA TRENCHING SAFETY STANDARD: 29 CFR 1926**

**HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Over 5-feet requires soil protective systems.
- Competent person inspects.
- Access / egress ladder required.
- Spoils must be at least 2-feet from the edge.
- Location of utilities must be identified.

**ALSO CHECK:**

- Stability of adjacent structures.
- Hazardous atmospheres.
- Water hazards.
- Vehicular traffic protection.
- Falling loads.
- Mobile equipment.