

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

December  
2006

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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**

**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** \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Membership Type:</u></b>	<b><u>Send Bulletin To:</u></b>	<b><u>Membership Dues:</u></b>
<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>circle one</u></b>	<b><u>Active</u> \$ 25.00</b>
<b><u>Active</u></b>	<b><u>Home</u></b>	<b><u>Retired</u> \$ 12.50</b>
<b><u>Retired</u></b>	<b><u>Work</u></b>	<b><u>Associate</u> \$100.00</b>
<b><u>Associate</u></b>	<b><u>E-mail</u></b>	

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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## DECEMBER MEETING

The 501st. meeting of MIFDI will be hosted by the Belmont Fire Department courtesy of Chief David L. Frizzell . The meeting will be held in the second floor training room at Belmont's new Fire Headquarters, 299 Trapelo Rd. on **Wednesday, December 20, 2006**

**(NOTE: This is the 3rd Wednesday to avoid Christmas week).**

The training program will be provided by Chief William Middlemiss of the Lexington Fire Department. Chief Middlemiss will present a Power-Point presentation on the gas explosion in Lexington on November 9, 2005 caused when a Keysapn sub contractor connected a high-pressure gas line into a low-pressure system. This presentation will include;

- The events which lead to the explosion.
- The explosion which destroyed a large 2.5 story house.
- The days following the explosion which the LFD responded to over 300 gas related emergencies.
- The recently released final report of the incident by Keyspan.

-----  
Following the presentation, a tour will be provided of Belmont's impressive new 24,000 sq.ft. fire headquarters building which they occupied on September 7, 2006.  
-----

### DIRECTIONS:

The Town of Belmont is located in Middlesex County, 7 miles northwest of Boston.

**From Rt.128 (I 95)**, take Exit 28A. (Trapelo Road). Follow Trapelo Rd. east approx 4.3 miles and Belmont Fire HQ will be on your left. There is plenty of free on-street parking around the firehouse. (Try to leave the parking spaces at the station for those conducting fire prevention business).

### SCHEDULE:

- 0900** Coffee & Pastry
- 1000** Program presentation
- 1130** Facility tour
- 1200** Lunch. (Off site)

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\* for a list of products that are NFPA compliant and/or UL Listed, visit [www.holmatro-usa.com](http://www.holmatro-usa.com). Holmatro is a registered trademark of Holmatro, Inc. DEWALT Battery System is a registered trademark of Black & Decker Corporation.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning Balances for 1/2006  
 Checking 172.36  
Savings 1,327.88  
 Total \$1,500.24

Bills Paid November (Checking):  
 Dec. 06 Newsletter \$120.00 Michael  
 Nov Meeting Meal \$180.00 Mark Roche  
 Annual Website \$ 71.95 Michael  
 TOTAL: \$371.95

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

Account Transfers:  
 Transfer from Savings to Cking 11/22- \$180.00  
 Transfer from Savings to Cking 12/05- \$ 50.00

Total active members = 111  
 Dues paid thru 2008 = 4  
 Dues paid thru 2007 = 16  
 Dues paid thru 2006 = 81  
 Dues paid thru 2005 = 10

Mailings  
 E-Mail - 35 Home - 62  
 Work - 14  
 111

Balances as of 12/07/2006  
 Bank Statement Checking: \$ 197.71  
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 191.95)  
 Checking Balance: \$ 5.76  
 Certificate of Deposit: \$ 513.25  
Savings Balance: \$ 887.47  
 Total \$ 1,406.48

Membership Totals  
 78 Active - 28 Retired - 5 Associate

New Member:

Steven P. Lavigne - Captain - Taunton


*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 12/07/2006  
 Michael McLeier  
 Treasurer  
 978-864-2015 (Direct Line) or  
 978-346-4731, ext. 1

Thank you for your continued support and for those of you who have already paid your 2007 membership dues! Have a Safe & Happy Holiday Season!

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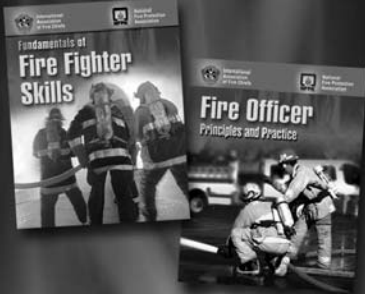
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**RENEWAL of DUES or NEW MEMBERSHIPS**

may be addressed to:

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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 #500**

The 500th meeting of MIFDI was held on November 15, 2006 hosted by Chief Richard J. Gomes of the Norton Fire Department. The meeting was held at the new Chateau Restaurant, 48 Bay Rd., Norton.

The training session was provided by Mr. Gary Benoit, Sales Manager for Bacou-Dalloz Fire Safety Group. The presentation included a power-point overview of the new NFPA Standard 1971, "Protective Ensembles for Structural Firefighting". Mr. Benoit also displayed new PPE manufactured by Securitex with a demonstration of the required "Drag Rescue Device" (DRD) allowing President Roche to drag him across the floor deploying the DRD.

The presentation concluded with a brief business meeting held by President Roche. A Certificate was presented to Chief Gomes for hosting MIFDI "500". One new member was introduced, Capt. Stephen Lavigne from Taunton. Training Council member Persson gave an informative update from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council meeting. The meeting adjourned for an enjoyable lunch on location.



MIFDI President Mark Roche presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Chief Richard Gomes for hosting the 500th meeting of MIFDI.

Photo by George Churchill



**EMS RUN:**

***Important Medical Questions - S.A.M.P.L.E.***

S = Symptoms: *"What is wrong?" (chief complaint)*

A = Allergies: *"Are you allergic to anything?"*

M = Medications: *"Do you take any medications?"*

P = Past medical history (PMH): *"Has this happened before?"*  
*"What other medical problems do you have?"*

L = Last oral intake: *"What and when was the last thing you ate/drank?"*

E = Event leading to the illness/injury: *"What lead to this problem?" "How did it happen?"*

**LAST ALARM:**

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Boston Firefighter **Michael P. Downing**, active member of Tower Ladder 17. Fighter Downing died on November 28, 2006 at age 40. May he rest in peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Somerville Fire Lieutenant **Keven J. Hough**, active member of Tower Ladder 1. Lieutenant Hough died on November 30, 2006 after a battle with lung cancer. May he rest in peace.

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **L. Murray Young** of Wakefield. Murray died suddenly on November 30, 2006 at age 72. He was well known throughout the fire service due to his employment with the I.S.O. surveying fire departments in New England for many years. His extensive knowledge of fire department standards, operations and history is now lost. Those of us who had the pleasure of knowing Murray learned something from every conversation with him. May he rest in peace.

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

January 24, 2007: **MIFDI** - TBA

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

March 28, 2007: **MIFDI** - DFS/MFA

April 25, 2007: **MIFDI** - TBA

May 23, 2007: **MIFDI** - Merrimac

June 20, 2007: **MIFDI** - TBA

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

It was great to see such a nice turnout at the 500th meeting of MIFDI at the new Chateau Restaurant in Norton. Many attendees included chief's from Norfolk and Plymouth Counties invited to listen to the important presentation by Gary Benoit on the 2007 Edition of NFPA 1971, Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Firefighting and Proximity Firefighting. Special thanks to Chief Richard Gomes of Norton for arranging this great meeting as well as Gary Benoit for his presentation and generous donation towards the continental breakfast.

As we approach the winter season, remember to check for meeting cancellations due to severe weather. A great deal of planning takes place to coordinate both interesting speakers and accessible meeting locations, however, many members travel a long distance to attend the meetings and we don't want to risk members traveling in a snow storm. Cancellations are made as soon as can be determined so be sure to check the MIFDI website @ [www.mifid.org](http://www.mifid.org) before leaving for a meeting during an expected storm.

Well the bad news is that your annual dues for 2007 are due. The good news is that the organization is running well and holding the dues at \$25 for active, \$12.50 for retired. Considering increased cost of just about everything, this organization gives you a real bang-for-your-buck. When you think of it, the info filled bulletin 10 times a year is worth that! So make out that check today to **MIFDI**, P.O. Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860-0510. Thank you for your support.

A reminder that it is that time of the year when MIFDI looks for future leaders of this great organization with openings in Officer and Board of Director positions for 2007. If any member would be interested in any position, let myself, Brian, or Michael know.

For those unable to attend the December meeting, I wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday, and safe New Year.

I hope to see you all in Belmont on the **20th**. Until then, stay safe.

*Mark*

**INSTRUCTORS CORNER**  
***Air Bag Jacking Tips***

- The air bags greatest lifting capacity is the first two or three inches of inflation.
- Make sure that the bag is as flat as possible and totally deflated before lifting.
- Place the bag so that it is cribbed solid and snug against the item being lifted.
- Use a bearing plate such as a one-inch piece of plywood between the bag and item being lifted.
- When lifting an I-Beam or axel, avoid the use of the bearing plate and allow the bag to wrap around the beam or axel housing to maximize stability.
- Do not crawl or work under any load raised by the bag unless the load is properly cribbed.
- Make sure the bag is centered properly to avoid lifting the load at an angle which could cause lateral movement.
- With the exception of a life safety emergency, it is better to inflate the bags slowly allowing the bags to fill gradually.
- Do not overinflate or bypass safety controls. Limit for most bags is 120psi .
- Make sure that all fittings are clean and secure before inflating.
- Protect eyes and face from foriegn particles in escaping air when deflating.
- NEVER stack bags more than two high, and ONLY two high if the load cannot move in an unintentional direction. Mats may crawl or pop out if the lift is not securely stable.