

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

December
2012

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

53rd Year
(1959-2012)

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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 - 2012

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department
 1st Vice President: Deputy Chief Brian F. Belliveau, Fitchburg Fire Department
 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 2012

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

Terms Expire 2013

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
 2012 Membership Application & Invoice
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2013**

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

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DECEMBER MEETING:

The December meeting of MIFDI will be hosted once again by FIRE TECH & SAFETY on **Wednesday, December 19, 2012** (NOTE: This is the **THIRD Wednesday**). The meeting will be held at the Fire Tech & Safety NEW facility located at 90 Progress Ave, Tyngsborough (Just off Rt.3).

MIFDI last met at Fire Tech in December 2011 at their former facility in Chelmsford. They once again promise an informative presentation related to the latest extrication equipment and products available for the fire service. Following the presentation, we will be given a tour of Fire Tech's new service facility and equipment showroom.

SCHEDULE:

0930 Coffee, 1000 Presentation, 1130 Facility Tour, 1145 Business Meeting, 1200 Lunch (on site)

DIRECTIONS:

FROM RT. 128 or RT. 495, take Rt. 3 North to Exit 35 (Rt. 113). Take Rt. 113 West to the first left just over the bridge, that is Cummings Rd. Continue one-half mile to Progress Ave. on the left. NOTE: Progress Ave is a horse-shoe street so take the second left and Fire Tech is the first building on the right. They may not have their sign up yet so look for the #90.



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TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/03/2012

Economy Bank Cking. \$100.37

Economy Bnk. Savings \$156.63

Consumers Checking \$235.00

Consumers Savings \$ 77.72

ING Savings \$1,628.69

Total \$2,198.41

Bills Paid November 2012 (Checking):Dec 2012 Newsletter - Michael \$120.00 - 11/30

TOTAL: \$120.00

Account Transfers:

None

50/50 Raffle = None

Winner = N/A

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

Total active members = 137

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1

Dues paid thru 2017 = 1

Dues paid thru 2015 = 1

Dues paid thru 2013 = 32

Dues paid thru 2012 = 90

Dues paid thru 2011 = 12

Mailings

E-Mail - 89 Home - 36

Work - 12

137

Balances as of 12/03/2012

Haverhill Bank Checking: \$ 100.30

Less uncleared checks: (\$ 120.00)

Haverhill Cking. Balance: \$ 19.70

Haverhill Savings Balance: \$ 482.03

ING Savings Balance: \$ 1,635.94

CD/None

Consumers Stmt. Cking.: \$ 156.50

Less uncleared checks: (\$ 0.00)

Consumers C.U. Checking \$ 156.50

Consumers C.U. Savings: \$ 33.78

Total \$ 2,288.55

Membership Totals: 137

98 Active - 34 Retired - 5 Associate

*Note Economy Bank is now part of Haverhill Bank - 1/1/12.

WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS WHO RECENTLY JOINED MIFDI:

- James Walsh - Captain - Easton Fire Department
- Donald W. Bissett - Lieutenant - Turners Falls Fire Department
- Stephen P. Igoe - Captain - Watertown Fire Department

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 2013 dues will be due in January, 2013.** Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2012 for your 2012 dues..

(b) You may now use the 2013 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

12/03/2012

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

978-346-4731

Thank you for your continued support and for your prompt payment of your dues!

Remember to add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2012.

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. 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



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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 \$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. Add a \$10.00 Late Fee after April 1, 2012.

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RECALL OF MEETING #560

MIFDI-November's Meeting
Med Flight
Hanscom Air Force Base, Bedford, MA
November 29, 2012

President Roche opened the meeting at 10:15 and introduced Med Flight Paramedic Robert Holst. Medic Holst, who is also a Wrentham firefighter, suggested that we take the tour first due to the fact that all the crew and fleet were in quarters at this time.

The tour consisted of viewing the hangar and the Med Flight fleet that is located at Bedford AFB (1-Fix-wing jet, 1-Sikorsky Helicopter and 1-Ground Transport Critical Care Ambulance.)

Medic Holst gave an informative lecture through a Power Point Presentation. The highlights of the presentation focused on some statistics, "When to Call", Scene Request, Securing an LZ, Designated and Un-designated LZs, preparing patients, Departure and Fire Suppression. Medic Holst also reiterated that fact that Med Flight is always willing to come out to your Fire Department for a lecture or site review. We concluded with a tour of the "Sim-Lab" and the Control Room.

President Roche thanked Medic Holst and Med Flight for hosting November's meeting and a brief business meeting was held.

President Roche called on Burlington Fire Captain Andrew Connerty for a report from the Massachusetts Fire Training Council Meeting held on November 7, 2012. Highlight of that meeting focused on Fire Prevention Bridge Program, Continuing Education / Refresher and Discussion of Firefighter I/II classes in the southern areas of the state and discussion related to the Springfield Academy. There was also discussion related to Hurricane Sandy and our Response for assistance. Further discussion focused on Program provided at the DFS, Pre-employment Communication / Fit Testing, the Rhabdomyolysis report and the MFTC accepted change to the HAZMAT Operations Level Responder. Lastly discussed was the RIT success in Scituate, the narrowing of the appointment for a new Deputy Director and the Recruit class enrollment (which is now filled through July.)

With no other reports to be made, we adjourned to Waxy O'Connor's for some libations and further discussion on training related issues.

EMS RUN

MIFDI November Visitation to Boston MedFlight



MedFlight fixed-wing aircraft for long duration flights (Mark Roche photo)



MedFlight medical helicopter (Rick McClellan photo)

LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to Associate Member Pat O'Connor of Northeast Fire & Rescue on the passing of his father **John "Jack" O'Connor, Jr.** on November 24, 2012. May he Rest in Peace.



Northeast Rescue Systems

*313 Belgrade Ave
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email: info@northeastrescue.com

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- ☐ Paratech



CONGRATULATIONS:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations and best wishes to MIFDI member **ROBERT J. LEARY** upon his retirement as Chief of the Weymouth Fire Department effective November 1, 2012. We know that Bob still has much to offer the fire service and we are certain that we will be seeing more of him. Best wishes to you Bob in your future endeavors!



Weymouth Chief Robert J. Leary

UPCOMING EVENTS:

December 18, 2012: Massachusetts Firefighter of the Year Awards
Mechanics Hall, Worcester @ 10:30am

December 19, 2012: MIFDI – Tyngsborough

December 21, 2012: MFA Recruit Class #197 Graduation Ceremony
DFS/MFA 1:30 pm

January 20-23, 2013: FDSOA 25th Apparatus Symposium
Buena Vista, FL www.fdsoa.org

January 23, 2013: MIFDI

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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 November meeting was one of the largest attended meetings of MIFDI that I have seen in years. Our visit to Boston MedFlight Headquarters at Hanscom Air Base provided us with a fascinating tour and presentation on MedFlight operations and safety. I thank our presenter Robert Holst as well as MedFlight Training Coordinator Mary Arredondo for arranging this very informative presentation for MIFDI.

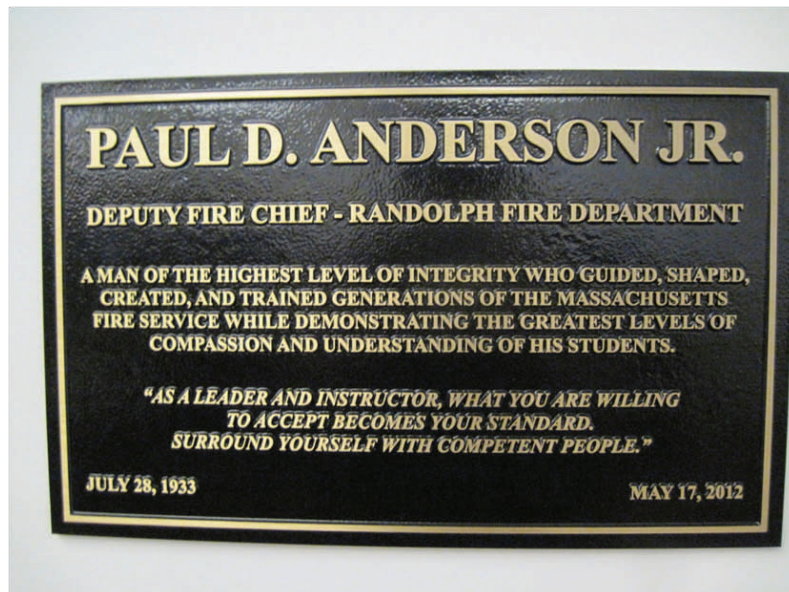
On November 15, I was honored to represent MIFDI at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy for the dedication ceremony honoring long-time training instructor, the late Deputy Chief Paul Anderson of Randolph. A plaque and portrait now adorn the wall of Classroom 124 to forever honor this legendary fire service training giant.

We once again remind members to forward your 2013 MIFDI dues to Treasurer Michael McLeier at P.O. Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860. Dues remain at the bargain price of \$25.00-Active, \$12.50-Retired.

Stay Safe and I hope to see you at Fire Tech & Safety on the 19th.

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of MIFDI, I wish you and your families a joyous and safe holiday season.

Mark



INSTRUCTORS CORNER:

“I Smell Gas Again”

With the arrival of winter, so to arrives the increase in calls for gas leaks. According to a recent study, older cities, especially in the Northeast, are prone to leaks from underground pipelines creating an explosion risk as well as environmental damage. The majority of leaks from our aging infrastructure are minor however, there are occasional leaks found to be within the explosive range.

According to federal energy statistics, there was approximately 9-billion cubic feet of natural gas unaccounted for from the Massachusetts gas distribution system in 2010. That includes leaks, thefts, and system purges for maintenance. That is a lot of “missing gas”.

Leaks develop in corroded pipes but are most often caused by contractors excavating. Deep frost can cause ground shifts creating hairline cracks. Other cracks form at joints where the service line connects to the structure. The increase in seismic activity in the region does not help matters either. The good news is that National Grid is working to replace the aging pipe in Massachusetts with a more flexible plastic pipe with a goal of 150-miles a year. There is however 20,000 miles of pipeline connected to 1.3-million households in the Commonwealth served by natural gas.

A bill recently passed the House and is before the Senate in Massachusetts that would require a timeline for repairing the most serious leaks and also notifies local fire departments of leak locations. As we learned from our gas presentations, yellow markings on the street is an indication that the gas company has been at that location in the past for a leak or planned excavation.

Gas odors are more than just nuisance calls as we witnessed the event that unfolded in Springfield on November 23, 2012. The massive explosion that leveled a building and injured 18, including 9 Springfield firefighters, occurred one-hour after the initial call for a gas odor while the investigation was continuing. Fortunately, the evacuation of the building had been completed. The outcome of this incident could have been tragic.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS AT NATURAL GAS INCIDENTS:

- Notify the gas company immediately.
- Evacuate the affected structure and adjoining structures as well.
- Shut off the gas flow if possible.
- Eliminate sources of ignition.
- Ventilate the structure.
- Utilize you CGI's and don't rely on your nose as the ground can filter the odorant.
- Check neighboring structures for gas. Even if the building does not have natural gas service, gas will follow any utility opening through a foundation.