

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

December  
2014

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

*55th Year*  
*(1959-2014)*

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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 - 2014**

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 2014**

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  
 2014 Membership Application & Invoice  
 Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2015**

**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

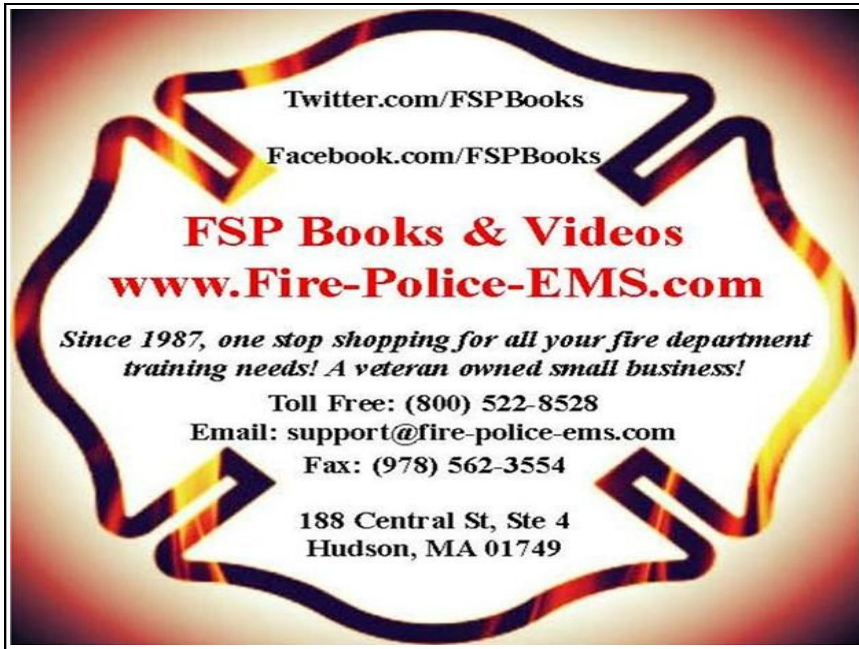
**Retired** \$ 12.50

**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 17, 2014**

**(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 2013.

Fire Tech always arranges an informative presentation for MIFDI on the latest in fire, safety, and rescue products. This year we will be offered a program on rescue air bags and struts.

Following the presentation, we will be allowed a tour of Fire Tech's 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.

***A REMINDER TO CHECK THE MIFDI  
WEBSITE FOR MEETING  
CANCELLATIONS DURING THE WINTER  
MONTHS.***

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### Beginning Balances for 01/02/2014

Preferred C.U. Checking \$295.61  
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$161.40  
CapitalOne360 Savings \$2,736.34  
 Total: \$3,193.35

### Bills Paid November 2014 (Checking):

Dec.2014 Newsletter - Michael \$120.00 - 11/30  
 Dunkin Donuts-Roche-Coffee-Meeting \$ 54.18 - 11/19  
 TOTAL: \$ 156.97

50/50 Raffle = \$0.00

Winner = N/A

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

### Account Transfers:

None

### Total active members = 133

Dues paid thru 2019 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2017 = 2  
 Dues paid thru 2016 = 0  
 Dues paid thru 2015 = 7  
 Dues paid thru 2014 = 102  
 Dues paid thru 2013 = 21

### Mailings

E-Mail - 88 Home - 37  
Work - 8  
 133

### Balances as of 12/01/2014

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 173.62  
 Less uncleared checks: (\$ 120.00)  
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 53.62  
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 427.31  
 CapitalOne Sav. Balance: \$ 2,746.36  
 Total \$ 3,227.29

### Membership Totals: 133

90 Active - 37 Retired - 6 Associate

### There Were No New Member Who Recently Joined MIFDI:

- None

### *Treasurer Notes:*

- 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 2015 dues will be due in January, 2015. Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2015 for your 2015 dues.**
- You may now use the 2015 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.
- There were some name changes to our financial institutions in 2013. All of our depository accounts remain federally insured.

Respectfully submitted

12/01/2014

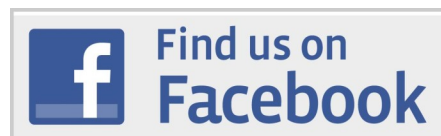
by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer

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, 2014. 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**. 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 \$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, 2014.**

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## RECALL OF MEETING #579

The November meeting of MIFDI was held on November 19, 2014 hosted by the Waltham Fire Department courtesy of Chief Paul Ciccone. Our meeting was held in the 9-1-1 Center training room.

Our training program was provided by MIFDI member, Assistant Chief Angus Davison of the Belmont Fire Department. The fascinating presentation offered a very informative look at the results of research on modern fires conducted by NIST & UL. The research showed how improper ventilation and variations of fire tactics can affect the fire growth in a positive or negative way depending upon the initial strategies and also displayed how modern day fires are significantly more challenging for firefighters then fires from the past. This presentation should be required for every fire service professional.



Following the presentation, Mr. Bob Nyland, sales representative from the Brand Co., provided a display of various hand-lights designed for use by various public safety agencies. Of particular interest was a recently introduced "Portable Scene Light Rechargeable Lantern" which has become a very popular light for use when conducting fire investigations due to its portability, 72" extension pole, and durability.

Following the programs, President Roche conducted a brief business meeting. One new member, Deputy Chief Albanese from Brockton was introduced. Captain Connerty provided a report on some highlights of the Mass Fire Training Council meeting. Chief O'Donoghue asked Captain Connerty to inquire with the training council about the future of the popular MFA Impact Program. Members adjourned for lunch at the Chateau Restaurant in Waltham.

## EMS Run

### *Six Massachusetts Hospitals Are Equipped To Care For EBOLA Patients*

According to state health officials, six Massachusetts hospitals (5 in Boston) are prepared to treat a limited number of Ebola patients should anyone in Massachusetts present with the virus.

The hospitals on the list include;

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center  
Boston Medical Center  
Brigham & Women's Hospital  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Tufts Medical Center  
Baystate Medical Center, Springfield

These hospitals would accept transfers from other providers based on referrals and capacity.

Other Massachusetts hospitals expected to be part of the collaborative include Boston Children's Hospital to care for children with Ebola. UMass Memorial Medical Center in Worcester is also close to being part of this list of facilities.

Under the plan for Massachusetts, all hospitals will be expected to handle the early steps involving patients presenting with Ebola symptoms including screening, identifying, and isolating suspected cases of the virus and coordinate with the Mass DPH on risk and transfer.

It should be noted that no cases of Ebola have been identified in Massachusetts and the risk, although possible, is considered remote. We must however be prepared.

## LAST ALARM:

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **District Chief William A. Tobin**, ACTIVE member of the Boston Fire Department. Chief Tobin died November 10, 2014 from occupational cancer. *May He Rest In Peace*



The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of **Lieutenant James K. Brown** of the Agawam Fire Department. Jim died November 11, 2014 at age 62. Many knew Jim as a Recruit Instructor at the Massachusetts Fire Academy. *May He Rest In Peace*





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**PARATECH**

**CONGRATULATIONS:**

*Nothing to report*

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

January 18-20, 2015: FDSOA Apparatus & Safety Symposium  
Orlando, FL [www.fdsoa.org](http://www.fdsoa.org)

January 25-29, 2015: FirehouseWorld 2015  
San Diego, CA [www.firehouseworld.com](http://www.firehouseworld.com)

January 28, 2015: **MIFDI** – MCI- Billerica

\*\*\*\*\*

April 20-25, 2015: FDIC 2015 Conference & Expo  
Indianapolis, IN [www.fdic.org](http://www.fdic.org)  
(Book your reservations early)



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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**

The November meeting of MIFDI was a very informative presentation about "Research on Modern Fires: What Do You Need To Know?" I thank Assistant Chief Angus Davison from the Belmont Fire Department for sharing this excellent program with MIFDI. I also thank Chief Paul Ciccone and the members of the Waltham Fire Department Training Division including Deputy Chief Brock Roland and Captain Steve Doe for hosting MIFDI. Thanks are also extended to Bob Nyland of the Brand Co. for providing information on their lighting products.

It is that time when MIFDI asks members to pay their dues for 2015 to keep the organization operating. The dues currently remain at \$25 for Active, \$12.50 for Retired, and \$100 for Associate. Make check payable to MIFDI and mail to Treasurer McLeier at P.O. Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860-0510.

It is also that time of the year that we need to be safe and ask members to check for meeting cancellations due to winter storms on meeting days. We will try to make decisions about cancellations on the night before meetings to provide time for members to plan their schedules.

For those unable to attend our December meeting, on behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of MIFDI, I wish you a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and blessed holiday season and hope for a safe and healthy 2015.

Stay Safe and I hope to see you at Fire Tech on the 17<sup>th</sup>



Old Mack Fire Apparatus ad from Fire Tech & Safety Training Room

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER:**

We have all seen those images of an auto blocking a hydrant and a supply line either over the hood or through the interior of a vehicle, the most recent during a fire in Boston's South end. Some of us have even experienced this frustrating and dangerous practice of a car on a hydrant.



A great tool for dealing with this problem as well as other situations when a car must be moved quickly away from a hazard is the hydraulic car dolly.

These dollies's provide a lifting capacity of 1250-1500 lbs and operate with a hands-free pedal ratchet system. Using 4-dolly's can move a vehicle easily in any direction, or using 2-dollies can pivot a vehicle enough to get your H.A.V. on a hydrant. These are also useful when a vehicle is exposed to a fire or blocking access to a building exit door or ally-way to gain rear access to a structure.

I witnessed these used one afternoon by a ladder company in Manhattan to move a vehicle parked over a smoking manhole near Rockefeller Center and was amazed at how fast and easy this task was conducted by the FDNY without the delay of waiting for a tow-truck.

These mechanical wheel dolly's range in price from \$60-\$150 each (you obviously will need four) and they have a foldable design for easy storage. The mechanical wheel-dolly is not something that you would purchase for every company, but you would definitely want these on your squad or rescue company equipment inventory.

Just think of how professional your department would look rolling a vehicle away, *damage free*, from a blocked access or a hazardous condition utilizing this tool.