

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

November
2022

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

64th Year

(1959-2023)

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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 - 2022

President: Captain Mark W. Roche, Newton Fire Department (Retired)
 Vice President: Deputy Chief Christopher Kelley, Concord Fire Department (Retired)
 Secretary: Vacant
 Treasurer: Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired)

THE MIFDI BOARD of DIRECTORS

Terms Expire 2022

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

Terms Expire 2021

Firefighter / Instructor Michael McLeieer, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired) (Past President)
 Chief James M. Vuona, Shrewsbury Fire Department

EDITOR

Firefighter / Instructor Scott D. Maker, Merrimac Fire Department (Retired)

VISIT US ON THE WEB!
www.mifdi.org
E-MAIL- mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors - Tax ID: 04-2307216
2023 Membership Application & Invoice
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2023

**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 _____

<u>Membership Type:</u>	<u>Send Bulletin To:</u>	<u>Membership Dues:</u>
<u>circle one</u>	<u>circle one</u>	<u>Active</u> \$ 35.00
		<u>Retired</u> \$ 15.00
<u>Active</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Associate</u> \$100.00
<u>Retired</u>	<u>Work</u>	
<u>Associate</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	

There is also a \$10 late fee if dues are paid after April 1st
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: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org



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Carolina!

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REALTOR

MEETING NOTICE:

The November meeting of MIFDI will be held on **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022** hosted by the Natick Fire Department courtesy of Chief Justin Ferschke and Training Captain Justin Mellor (**NOTE: This is the THIRD Wednesday due to Thanksgiving**). We will meet in the Training room of Natick's new Station 4 located at 268 Speen St at the eastbound off-ramp from Rt.9.

The training program will be provided by Stephen Janzen of PV-STOP. They have developed a new spray-on product that provides a "Liquid Blanket" over solar panels in seconds that eliminates the electric hazards of the PV panels during firefighting operations.

SCHEDULE:

0930: Coffee, 1000: Presentation, 1130: Business Meeting/Discussions, 1200: Lunch (Walking distance off site)

DIRECTIONS:

From the Mass Pike (I-90) take Exit 117 (former Exit 13) to Rt.30 East. At the first traffic light, turn right, that is Speen St. Follow Speen St a short distance and the station is on the right just past the Rt.9 overpass. There is plenty of free parking around the station. Enter the front door on the Speen St side.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/03/2022
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$ 154.67
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$1,097.27
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$2,318.72
 Total: \$3,570.66

Bills Paid October 2022:

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

50/50 Raffle = None

Winner = N/A

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

Account Transfers:

PCU Savings to Cking - \$120.00 - 10/31

Total active members = 92

Dues paid thru 2031 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2030 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2027 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2023 = 8
 Dues paid thru 2022 = 69
 Dues paid thru 2021 = 3
 Dues paid thru 2020 = 7

Mailings

E-Mail - 63 Home - 20
Work - 9
 Total: 92

Balances as of 11/10/2022

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 151.43
 Less uncleared checks: \$ (0.00)
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 151.43
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 1,638.46
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,370.67
 Total \$ 4,160.56

Membership Totals: 92

53 Active - 35 Retired - 4 Associate

Join us and welcome this new member who recently joined MIFDI:

- Paul Parisi - Chief - Ipswich Fire

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 2023 will be due in January, 2023.**
Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2022 for your 2022 dues
- (b) You may now use the 2022 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.
- (c) All 2022 dues payments mailed in Dec., Jan., Feb. & March have been deposited..

Respectfully submitted

11/10/2022

by Michael McLeieer, Treasurer - 978-346-4731

Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

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

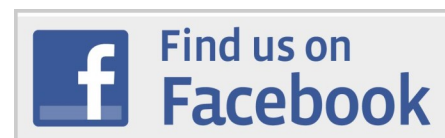
MIFDI will also accept credit card payments. Contact Michael McLeieer for details.

Active Member dues is \$35 / Retired Member dues is \$15 / Associate Member dues is \$100

Please remember to still add a \$10 late fee for renewal dues paid after April 1st, 2022. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2022.

**** If you are a Comcast internet subscriber, you may NOT be receiving the MIFDI monthly emails. Please contact me if you are not receiving your digital Bulletin and email notifications. Thanks.**

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 tablet, phone 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

PLEASE NOTE NEW Email: mifditreasurer@escapeinc.org

***Dues are \$35.00 per year for Active members *(\$45 after April 1st)
\$15.00 for Retired members *(\$25 after April 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, 2022.**

RECALL OF MEETING #2022-10

The October meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday October 26, 2022 hosted by the L.W. Bills Fire Alarm Co. located in Georgetown, MA.

The training program was provided by Dan Dinwiddie, President & CEO of L.W. Bills Co. Dan began with an introduction and brief history of L.W. Bills Co. He then went into an informative discussion of the 100-mill fire alarm box system and the radio emergency box system which can be powered by 110-volt when used as a Master Box or powered by a small solar panel for use in public parks or other isolated areas. This presentation offered members a great overview of the various options of fire alarm protection for our communities.

Following the program, members were provided with a tour of the impressive collection of fire alarm equipment and fire service memorabilia located inside their historic facility.





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PARATECH

EMS Run

Rainbow Fentanyl

This past August, the US Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) warned about the use of colored fentanyl known as “Rainbow Fentanyl”. Rainbow fentanyl come in a variety of bright colors, shapes and sized in an apparent effort to entice kids and young adults. This is a startling and deadly trend to hook our younger population. More than 71,000 Americans have died from fentanyl overdoses in the past year.



(PRESIDENTS NOTE) It's bad enough that fentanyl is killing young adults at an alarming rate, to see this deadly drug now looking like “Skittles” is frightening. If an unsuspecting child finds these in daddy's pocket or mommy's purse thinking that it is candy, it could kill the child. Remain alert when responding to a call for an unresponsive child, especially if it is a known address with a history overdoses or drug use.

And an additional warning, authorities have recently seized thousands of suspected fentanyl pills hidden in candy boxes at Los Angeles Airport. Drug dealers have been disguising fentanyl in candy wrappers to sneak them through customs. Following Halloween, parents must be especially vigilant to open and search every box and bag of candy before it's given to the child.



LAST ALARM

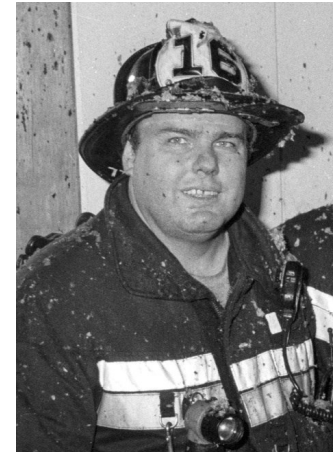
The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of the following firefighters who died in October;

Firefighter Michael T. Whelahan of the Foxborough Fire Department. Mike died unexpectedly on October 11, 2022 at age 55.

Lieutenant Edward D. Bergdoll of the Boston Fire Department. Eddie died on October 26, 2022 at age 60 due to occupational Cancer.



F.F. Michael Whelahan



Lt. Edward Bergdoll

May They Rest In Peace

CONGRATULATIONS

Nothing to Report

Firesetting Intervention Resource Exchange

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community for Firefighters,
Inspectors, Instructors, &
Juvenile Firesetting
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 - Mental Health Professionals

www.fire-exchange.org

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

269-492-3341

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 16, 2022: **MIFDI – Natick**

November 18, 2022: Firefighter of the Year Awards Ceremony
Mechanics Hall, Worcester

November 19, 2022: Statewide Exam – Fire Lieut & Fire Captain
Good Luck!

December 21, 2022: **MIFDI Holiday Social Luncheon**

33rd Annual Firefighter of the Year Award Ceremony

FRIDAY, NOV. 18, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.

MECHANICS HALL

321 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608



REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

I thank our October presenter Dan Dinwiddie from L.W. Bills Co for hosting MIFDI and offering a very informative presentation on the 100-mill fire boxes and the option of radio boxes. Special thanks also to Dave Parr for arranging this meeting for MIFDI

(Another reminder for ALL MIFDI members) We continuously try to schedule training presentations with a goal to inform and educate our members each month. Many presenters are requested months in advance and re-arrange their schedule to offer their program for us. I find it discouraging and at times embarrassing when a presenter arrives to our meetings, often on their own time, and see only a hand full of members in the classroom. I am aware that most members, especially training officers are spread thin trying to multi-task with numerous responsibilities, however, MIFDI training meetings are only one morning each month, a total of 3-hours at most including drive time. Members should be able to block out one morning each month on your calendar to attend the meetings for your own educational benefit. I have learned something at EVERY meeting that I have attended in the past 35-years!

Also as a reminder to members not to delay your annual dues payments for 2023. With increasing costs of printing, postage, website fees and other expenses, this organization relies on the support of our membership to allow MIFDI to continue our mission to provide presentations and information to educate and inform us as fire service professionals. Dues remain at: \$35 Active, \$15 Retired, \$100 ASSOCIATE. Checks can be mailed to: MIFDI, PO Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860-0510.

Stay safe and I hope to see you in Natick on November 16.



*"To Promote Fire Department Training & Education
by the Mutual Sharing of Knowledge"*

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

Energy Release Manhole Covers

This past summer, Eversource has begun replacing the traditional manhole covers with new "Energy Release" covers on their underground electrical vaults starting in the high-risk streets of Downtown Boston. The goal to replace approximately 40,000 manhole covers throughout Massachusetts to enhance safety of their system by keeping the covers in place.

Current manhole covers weigh 200 pounds and can travel 15-feet in the air after an electrical vault explosion resulting in shattered windows, damaged vehicles and injuring pedestrians. The new energy-release covers will lift slightly around 3-4 inches and drop back in place. The replacement schedule is dependent on how quickly the manufacturer can supply them.

This is one part of the Eversource Safety plan which also includes; installing manhole atmosphere sensors, scanning for stray voltage issues, and performing routine inspections and maintenance of the underground system.

