

The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT
INSTRUCTORS**

February
2023

MIFDI
PO BOX 507
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

64th Year

(1959-2023)

CONTENTS:

<i>Page</i>	<i>Subject</i>
1	Index
2	Next Meeting, Directions to Meeting, Drill Schedule
3	Treasurer's Report, New Members
4	Recall of Previous Meeting, Secretary's Report
5	EMS Run
6	Upcoming Events
7	From The Desk Of The President
8	Instructors Corner
9	Congratulations, Good & Welfare / Advertisement
10	Last Alarm, Line of Duty Deaths / Advertisement
11	Dues Information & Advertisers Page
12	Advertisers Page
13	Advertisers Page
14	Membership Application or Renewal Form

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>Active</u>	<u>Home</u>	<u>Retired</u> \$ 15.00
<u>Retired</u>	<u>Work</u>	<u>Associate</u> \$100.00
<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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REALTOR

MEETING NOTICE

The February meeting of MIFDI will be held on **Wednesday, February 22, 2023** hosted by the Burlington Fire Department courtesy of MIFDI member Chief Andrew Connerty. We will meet in the training room of their new Station 2 located at 114 Terrace Hall Ave near Middlesex Turnpike. MIFDI last met at this location for our March 2022 meeting.

The training program will be provided by a representative through Northeast Rescue with an overview on new foam products developed free of PFAS for the safety of firefighters and the environment.

SCHEDULE:

0930 Coffee, **1000** Presentation, **1130** Business Meeting, **1200** Lunch (off site)

DIRECTIONS:

From Rt.128/I-95 take Exit 50-B, continue toward Burlington onto the Middlesex Turnpike. Follow Middlesex Turnpike approx 1.5-miles to Terrace Hall Ave. on your right. The Station will be on the right. The parking and entrance is on the B-side of the station.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balances for 01/03/2023
 Preferred C.U. Checking \$ 121.56
 Preferred C.U. Savings \$1,250.83
 CapitalOneSav. Balance \$2,371.06
 Total: \$3,743.45

Bills Paid January 2023:

Feb MIFDI Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 01/31
TOTAL: \$120.00

50/50 Raffle = \$40.00

Winner = Mike Gerry - Donated \$20 back to MIFDI
 Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = \$40.00

Account Transfers:
 None

Total active members = 94

Dues paid thru 2031 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2030 = 1
 Dues paid thru 2027 = 2
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 4
 Dues paid thru 2023 = 37
 Dues paid thru 2022 = 40
 Dues paid thru 2021 = 3
 Dues paid thru 2020 = 6

Mailings

E-Mail - 65 Home - 20
Work - 9
Total: 94

Balances as of 02/13/2023

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 776.56
 Less uncleared checks: \$ (0.00)
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 776.56
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 1,250.83
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,371.26
 Total \$ 4,398.65

Membership Totals: 94

51 Active - 39 Retired - 4 Associate

We welcome this new member who recently joined MIFDI:

- Michael Gerry - Retired

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 were due in January, 2023.**
Please add \$10.00 for late renewals paid after April 1, 2023 for your 2023 dues
- (b) You may now use the 2023 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

02/13/2023

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!

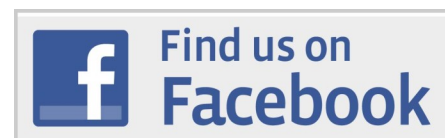
MIFDI will also accept credit card payments. Contact Michael McLeieer for details.

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, 2023. This fee does not apply to new members or for those who renewed before April 1, 2023.

**** 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 #2023-1

The January meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday January 25, 2023 hosted by NFPA at their National Headquarters in Quincy courtesy of NFPA President Jim Pauly. We were offered a welcome to NFPA by Bart Jae, Director of Education & Development. The training program was provided by Andrew Klock with an informative program on ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLE SAFETY. NFPA has conducted much research on this topic which has become a very real challenge for the fire service with both extinguishment and extrications.

Members can learn more on EV Safety at www.nfpa.org/ev





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PARATECH

EMS Run

Reminders about C.O. hazards during the winter heating season

Carbon Monoxide

What is carbon monoxide?

- Carbon monoxide, or CO, is an invisible gas
- It is made when things are burned
- You can't see, smell, or taste carbon monoxide

Why is CO dangerous?

- You may not realize you are breathing CO
- CO prevents your blood from carrying enough oxygen through your body
- Exposure can be fatal
- CO can harm or kill anyone, but children, pregnant women, and people who have heart disease are most at risk for CO poisoning

Common sources of CO:

- Gas- & propane-fueled grills
- Gas stoves & appliances
- Fireplaces & furnaces
- Gas/oil-fueled space heaters
- Car exhaust

If the CO detector goes off...

- Leave your home and get fresh air outdoors
- Call 911 right away
- Contact a technician to inspect your CO detector, gas and heating appliances
- Re-enter your home when emergency services has indicated that its safe



Symptoms of CO poisoning:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Shortness of breath
- Feeling drowsy
- Confusion
- Fainting & dizziness
- Headaches
- Weakness

To protect yourself from CO poisoning...

- Install carbon monoxide detectors in your home. Change the batteries every 6 months.
- Clean your fireplace and chimney every year
- Have your heating system cleaned and inspected every year
- Make sure your car's tailpipe and furnace vents are clear of snow
- Do NOT use a gas stove or oven to heat your home
- Do NOT warm your car in the garage
- Do NOT use gas-fueled space heaters in spaces that are not ventilated
- Do NOT store items close to your home's appliance/heating system room

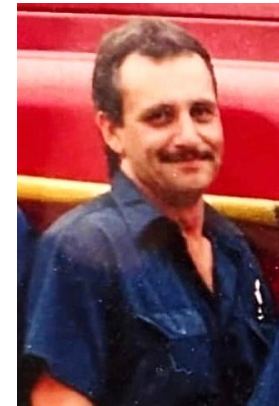


LAST ALARM

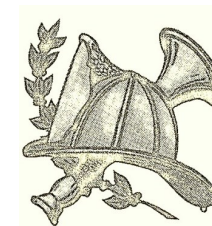
The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our condolences to the family and friends of the following;

Firefighter JAMES "Jamie" MATEYCHUK of the Worcester Fire Department died unexpectedly on January 13, 2023 at age 51. He recently retired from the WFD in November 2022 and was a member of the Support Staff at the Mass Fire Academy. He also served as a counselor at the On-Site Academy in Westminster.

Firefighter MARTIN "Marty" KUKKULA of the Fitchburg Fire Department died on January 31, 2023 at age 58 after a battle with ALS.



May They Rest In Peace



CONGRATULATIONS

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers our congratulations to the new Director of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy **JEFFREY P. WINN** as of January 3, 2023. Director Winn previously served a 34-years career with the Massachusetts National Guard as Chief of the Training Division.

We offer Director Winn our full support and look forward to meeting him during our annual visitation meeting at DFS/MFA on March 22, 2023.



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www.fire-exchange.org

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

269-492-3341

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 22, 2023: **MIFDI - Burlington**

February 28-March 2: **FCAM Professional Development Conference**
DCU Center, Worcester www.fcam.org

March 12, 2023: **Daylight Saving Time begins**

March 22, 2023: **MIFDI – DFS/MFA**

March 25, 2023: **Statewide Exam: Fire Captain & Lieutenant**
****RESCHEDULED FROM NOVEMBER 2022****



REPORT of the PRESIDENT:

Captain Mark W. Roche (Ret), Newton Fire Department

Our first meeting of 2023 was again hosted by NFPA at their HQ in Quincy. I thank NFPA Director of Education & Development Bart Jae for welcoming MIFDI to NFPA on behalf of President Jim Pauly. I also thank Andrew Klock for providing the training presentation on "Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety". Special thanks to Barbara Dunn of NFPA for arranging this visit and the training program for MIFDI.

A reminder for members to not delay sending 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, P.O. Box 507, Merrimac, MA 01860**

Stay safe and I hope to see you in Burlington on February 22.

NOTE: As we enter the winter season, be sure to check the MIFDI website for meeting cancellations due to inclement weather:

www.mifdi.org



Original "GRANITE # 3" on display at NFPA

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

INSTRUCTORS CORNER

Another Tesla Fire/ Another Challenge

On the night of January 19, 2023, the Wakefield Fire Department responded to a single vehicle MVA on the northbound side of I-95 at Exit 59. What began as a routine MVA with no injuries soon escalated to a TWO-HOUR incident.

The auto involved in this accident was, you guessed it, a Tesla electric vehicle. As the vehicle was in the process of being removed, the guardrail ripped the undercarriage battery tray creating a "thermal runaway" of the lithium-ion batteries causing the Tesla to soon become fully involved.

A full box alarm assignment was requested by the I.C. for additional resources. As the need for a supplementary water supply became evident, mutual aid from surrounding communities was dispatched. A Lynnfield engine established an LDH supply line from an adjacent street. It took 2-hours to place the fire under control with over 20,000 gallons of water used to extinguish this EV fire.

NOTE: There have been some dangerous training tips on social media regarding strategies during electric vehicle fires, some tactics can be dangerous or deadly. **REMEMBER:**

If it's an MVA or car fire, once it is determined to be an EV, prepare for the worst. Stay up-wind with full PPE and call for enough resources early.

Look for water source(s) and establish a continuous water supply.

Prepare for a long duration incident, rotate crews if necessary.

Notify the DFS HAZ-MAT Team for guidance if the batteries detach from underside.

NEVER drill holes in the EV batteries which are overheated or on fire.

If safe to do so, prop the vehicle to a 45-degree angle to access the battery tray.

Large quantities of water are required to cool the undercarriage battery tray.

Foam is ineffective on EV fires; it will contain the heat and not cool the battery tray.

Notify the State DEP about the run-off of contaminated water.

Find out the location of the tow lot and have it located in an open area.

The following links are available for training resources. They are constantly upgraded as we learn more ways to address EV fires in the future;

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training (NFPA) www.nfpa.org/ev

Emergency Response Guides for Electric Vehicles (FEMA) www.fema.gov

GM EV First Responder Training www.gmevfirstrespondertraining.com

Electric Vehicle Training (Dept. of Energy) www.energy.com

Training on fire & hazards from lithium-ion batteries (USFA) www.usfa.fema.gov

Fire & explosion hazards from lithium-ion batteries (UL-FSRI) www.fsri.org