

# The MIFDI BULLETIN

Massachusetts Institute  
OF



**FIRE DEPARTMENT  
INSTRUCTORS**

October  
2023

MIFDI  
PO BOX 507  
MERRIMAC, MA 01860-0510

65th Year  
(1959-2024)

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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 - 2023**

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 2024**

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 2023**

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**  
**2024 Membership Application & Invoice**  
**Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2024**

**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></b> \$ 35.00    |
| <b><u>Active</u></b>           | <b><u>Home</u></b>              | <b><u>Retired</u></b> \$ 15.00   |
| <b><u>Retired</u></b>          | <b><u>Work</u></b>              | <b><u>Associate</u></b> \$100.00 |
| <b><u>Associate</u></b>        | <b><u>E-mail</u></b>            |                                  |

**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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COASTAL SELECT  
PROPERTIES

## Glen Rogers

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Chief.g.a.rogers@gmail.com 508-654-2625

Thinking of  
moving south?  
Florida a bit  
too far from  
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friends?



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talk about  
finding you a  
place in North  
Carolina!

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REALTOR

## MEETING NOTICE

The October meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2023** hosted by the Dedham Fire Department courtesy of Chief William Spillane. We will meet in the first floor training room of Dedham's new Public Safety Building, 26 Bryant St.

Our training will be provided by Brockton Chief Brian Nardelli with a presentation on the 10-alarm fire involving the electrical transformer room at Brockton Hospital on February 7, 2023. This was a very challenging and manpower intensive incident requiring the evacuation of 160 patients.

**DIRECTIONS:** Take I-95 to Rt.1 North (EXIT 29A). Continue on Rt.1 for 5 traffic lights (Get in the left lane before the 5<sup>th</sup> light. Turn left at the 5<sup>th</sup> light, that is Eastern Ave (Gulf Gas on the corner). Take a quick left on Bryant St (Citizens Bank on the corner). The firehouse will be on your left and there is plenty of free parking on the "D-Side" of the complex.

**SCHEDULE:** 0930: Coffee, 1000: Presentation, 1115: Business meeting, 1145: Lunch



**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 September, 2023:**

Oct. MIFDI Bulletin - Michael \$120.00 - 09/30  
 Dunkin - M. Roche - Meeting Coffee \$ 45.98 - 09/27  
 Market Basket - Meeting Danish \$ 15.97 - 09/27  
 TOTAL: \$181.95

50/50 Raffle = None

Winner = N/A

Net Proceeds from 50/50 Raffle = N/A

**Account Transfers:**

PCU Savings to Cking - \$120.00 - 10/15/2023

**Total active members = 103**

Dues paid thru 2031 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2030 = 2  
 Dues paid thru 2027 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2024 = 6  
 Dues paid thru 2023 = 60  
 Dues paid thru 2022 = 26  
 Dues paid thru 2021 = 1  
 Dues paid thru 2020 = 6

**Mailings**

E-Mail - 72 Home - 20  
Work - 11  
 Total: 103

Balances as of 10/15/2023

Preferred C.U. Checking: \$ 168.91  
 Less uncleared checks: \$ ( 0.00)  
 PCU Cking. Balance: \$ 168.91  
 PCU Savings Balance: \$ 1,309.44  
 Capital One Sav. Balance: \$ 2,372.84  
 Total \$ 3,851.19

**Membership Totals: 103**

60 Active - 39 Retired - 4 Associate

**We don't have any new members who recently joined MIFDI.*****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. 2024 dues are due in January, 2024. 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.

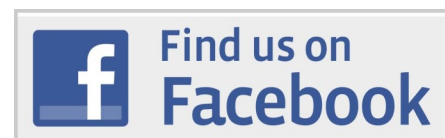
**The MIFDI website is now hosted on a new server.** This transition was completed in August and you should no longer have access issues. Our new hosting site has more capacity for our members to simultaneously access www.mifdi.org. If you are having connection issues, please contact Michael.

**Respectfully submitted****10/15/2023****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. Michael**

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](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

**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, 2023.**

## RECALL OF MEETING #2023-9

The September meeting of MIFDI was held on Wednesday September 27, 2023 hosted by the Brookline Fire Department courtesy of Chief John Sullivan and Deputy Chief Ryan Guilfoy. The meeting was held at their new Training Division classroom behind Station 6.

The training was provided by **DETECTOGETHER** with an important program on cancer prevention and detection for firefighters presented by retired Brockton Deputy Chief Joseph Marchetti. To hear this message from a firefighter to firefighters and to have Joe share his personal experience with cancer and the importance of early detection was a wake-up call for us all.



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- ☐ Paratech

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617-325-3993












**EMS Run**

***National Breast Cancer Awareness Month***

October is BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH, an annual campaign to raise awareness of this illness. Breast cancer not only affects women, men can also develop breast cancer as well. In 2023, it is estimated that 300,590 cases of breast cancer will be detected in the US including 297,790 women and 2,800 men. An estimated 43,780 people will lose their lives to metastatic breast cancer in 2023. Again, the importance of early detection is the key for survival of this dreaded disease.



**LAST ALARM**

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

**Firefighter Steven M. Ferrante**, ACTIVE member of the Revere Fire Department died unexpectedly on October 4, 2023 at age 35.



*May He Rest In Peace*



## CONGRATULATIONS

The Massachusetts Institute of Fire Department Instructors offers congratulations and best wishes to MFA Deputy Director Joseph Klucznik upon his retirement this past July. Joe was always a consummate professional and a true gentleman. We wish him good health and happiness.



Belated congratulations and best wishes to MIFDI member **Captain David Peary** of the Woburn Fire Department upon his retirement at the end of 2022. We wish Dave good health and happiness.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 14, 2023: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chelsea Conflagration

October 14, 2023: Annual Fire Truck Pull for Special Olympics  
XFINITY Center, Mansfield, MA [www.mansfieldfiretruckpull.com](http://www.mansfieldfiretruckpull.com)

October 25, 2023: MIFDI - Dedham

October 26-28, 2023: EMS & Fire-Pro Expo  
Foxwoods Resort [www.firepro.org](http://www.firepro.org)

November 5, 2023: End of Daylight Saving Time

November 9-12, 2023: IAFC "Symposium In The Sun"  
Clearwater, FL [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org)

November 15, 2023: MIFDI

November 18, 2023: Statewide Exam – District & Deputy Chief's  
*GOOD LUCK!*

Change your  
**CLOCKS...**



Change your  
**BATTERIES!**



## **REPORT of the PRESIDENT:**

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

Our September meeting was appropriately held in Brookline, the “Birthplace” of MIFDI 65-years ago. I thank our hosts Chief John Sullivan and Deputy Chief Ryan Guilfoy for allowing us use of their new training classroom.

Our September training was provided by DETECTOGETHER on the importance of early detection and cancer prevention among firefighters. I thank our presenter, retired Deputy Chief Joe Marchetti from Brockton for sharing this message to MIFDI. Special thanks also to Sande Denault, Director of DETECTOGETHER for helping to arrange this program for MIFDI.

Stay safe and I hope to see you in Dedham on October 25.



**Dedham Public Safety Building**

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

## **INSTRUCTORS CORNER**

### ***50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chelsea Conflagration***

It was a beautiful fall Sunday afternoon with dry conditions, low humidity, temperature of 70-degrees and strong 45 mph winds, a perfect storm for serious fire conditions. At 1556 hours, Box 215 was received at the Chelsea Fire Alarm Office followed by calls for a fire in the area of Second St. First arriving companies were faced with rapidly spreading fire conditions throughout the densely packed neighborhood of salvage yards comprised of rag shops, paper and metal recycling storage, as well as 3-story residential wood frame buildings. Additional alarms were immediately ordered by the on duty Deputy Chief. At 1620 hours, Chief Herbert Fothergill reported a “CONFLAGRATION” requesting all available fire apparatus to respond to Chelsea.

The difficult decision was made to sacrifice part of the city to save the rest of the city. A final stand was established on Arlington St in front of the Williams School with an elevated master stream from the Lynn tower-ladder along with deck guns and hand-lines. This holding action proved successful with stopping the spread of the fire. Before it was contained, the fire destroyed 360 buildings within 18 blocks requiring 1500 firefighters from 97 communities to battle the inferno taking 5-hours to control. The “All Out” was sounded 3-days later.

*(NOTE) Some of our “senior” MIFDI members worked that fire while other current members were on the list or preparing for the fire exam, our younger members were not born yet. Those of us who remember that day will never forget it!*

