

# Arizona Fire Service Mechanics Association

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

April 2017

### Table of Contents

**Announcements**-----1  
**Business Meeting** -----2-5  
**April Training Class**-----5-7  
**Pending July training class**-----7  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**-----8

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**Vice President**

Pat Collins, City of Yuma

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**Treasurer**

Charlie Miller, Tempe Fire

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**Secretary**

Joe Gorraiz, Phoenix Fire, Retired

safedrive654@gmail.com

**Arizona Fire Service Mechanics Association, PO Box 7131, Tempe, AZ 85281**

**To: All AFSMA Members, Associates, Corporate Sponsors, & Honorees**  
**Re: Training and Business Meeting Notes and Information**



er:

[charles\\_miller@tempe.gov](mailto:charles_miller@tempe.gov)



***For up to date information at a moment's notice,  
get a FaceBook account  
and get all the latest updates on the Association.***

**"Panicking can save your life"**

**\*That assumes of course that you are the first one to panic and you panic in the right direction**

**[Business Meeting](#)**

0805-0855 hrs with 38 members present out of a roster total of 179

### Call to Order and Roll call

Secretary and Treasurer reports given on the January meeting. Tax time again, and so with that and expenses to the insurance, Fed/State taxes, training class in January, EVT trip, a new power point projector, we are about a \$grand down. However, we start the New Year in good shape needing only instructors to fill out the rest of this year's training classes. Motion made and carried by AZ Forestry.

President/Vice President Report: Alan Shrock has stepped up to make not only the ambulance class in January a success, but also this April's class. Thank you Alan for your diligent work in supporting the Association and developing these classes. Having said that, our next training class in July is at Summit in Flagstaff. Possible class on V-MUX software updates, troubleshooting, diagnostics, repair, and so forth. In addition, we might, maybe, possibly have another A/C class. That is if we can find an instructor. Motion made and carried by Karl Zeller & Mike Sciortino,

## OLD BUSINESS



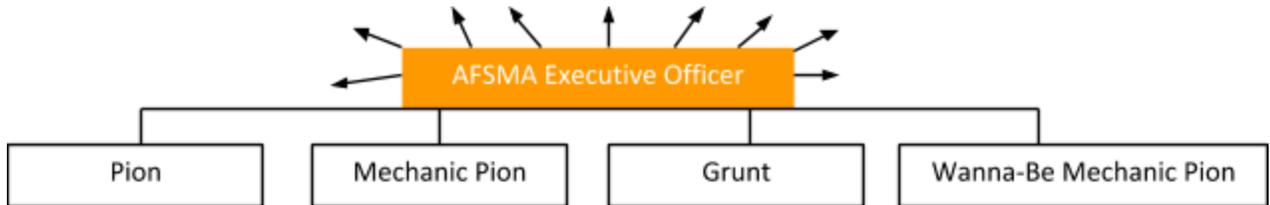
### *Chapter 11 of the Great American Pump Trailer Saga continues*

The trailer is now in a condition ready for transport to Tucson for its make-over—and not like my wife's make-over. Ours will have a new set of...fenders—and maybe a wrap, if we can ever find one that is not cost prohibitive. This is all possible as the pump has been removed—and one of these days we'll find it ☺

No seriously, Tempe removed it so that RM Tucson will have an easier time refurbishing the chassis and installing the much needed fender. The \$1,000 that was voted on by the membership present at the last meeting to address these problems will go toward its new body-off restoration—or at least it's new set of...fenders. Barring unforeseen problems, we could be nearing the end of our book. Unless of course something happens between here, and Tucson...'lot of road ahead...! We'll have to wait and see. Ben Davis from WWWilliams volunteered to take it there. Good luck Ben.

## NEW BUSINESS

★ The Association is looking for a free storage locker/covered parking/garage (something) for all our training materials as well as, and more importantly the 2 pump trailers. Currently the trailers are sitting behind the shop in Tempe and the training materials/Library is under the "Healing Tree" in Desert Hills (outside Charlie's house in the side yard) Hey! At least they're in the shade. However, being scattered about, makes gathering those materials difficult for anyone wishing to borrow them without spending an entire day collecting them. Having a centralized location will make things a lot easier for everyone concerned. And you never know what new Chief may come along and yell, "Hey! Get that CR\_\_ out of here. We need room for my staff car." So to protect what we have, it's probably a good idea we condense the training aides. So a discussion was entered into about the cost involved (monthly), location, size, and so forth. A few members have offered "open-air" storage and looking into the possibility of a locker/garage so we'll see what comes of that. If you know anyone who would like to donate their covered/protected location to house our 2 pump trailers and training materials, PLEASE give us a call. A motion was made to accept an expense for reoccurring monthly/quarterly cost, with the real cost to be determined later—if any.



***New Executive Officers are needed!!*** To clarify, as in the industry most Executive Officers are reimbursed for expenses like travel, mileage, meetings, etc. Ours however, are not. And many of you don't have the luxury in having your department pay your yearly membership dues—you must pay for these expenses out of pocket. So in an effort to entice more members to run for Executive Board positions, the membership discussed the possibility of not requiring the Executive Board members to pay for their yearly dues. So a motion was made to delete that requirement in the By-Laws so that anyone serving in this capacity would ***not*** have to pay his yearly dues. This does not affect the current Board members as their dues are paid by their respective departments—and I don't pay because I'm an Honorary Member and volunteer my life away in retirement ☺ This subject will be discussed more at our July meeting and if passed, the By-Laws would be voted on at the October meeting and take affect January, 2018 with the new Board. But nevertheless, we are looking for a few good men and women who would serve on our Executive Board as Officers who then would take our Association into the next year—"to infinity, and BEYOND!"

## **2017 is an election year for new Executive Board positions**

*Extrapolated from the AFSMA By-Laws:*

### **ARTICLE V**

#### **OFFICERS:**

##### **Section 1**

The officers of the organization shall be as follows: President, Vice President, Secretary, & Treasurer. They shall constitute the Executive Committee. In addition, the immediate past President shall serve on the Executive Committee in an advisory capacity and shall have voting status. Officers of the organization shall be limited to regular current and Honorary members only; with exception: Associate members, Vendors, and those employed by vendors cannot hold Executive Officer positions.

##### **Section 2**

Nomination of Officers: Nominations for Executive Board Officers will take place at the July Business Meeting with those names posted to ballots for election at the Business Meeting held in October. Names nominated at the July meeting will be posted in the newsletter, website, and social media prior to elections at the October meeting.

##### **Section 3**

The President shall appoint an election committee to stimulate interest among the membership in the offices of the organization. The election committee shall secure the consent of a candidate to place his name in nomination for an office in the organization.

##### **Section 4**

Any member may nominate a candidate for an office provided he has the consent of the candidate.

##### **Section 6**

Election of Officers: Officers shall be elected to serve a term of two (2) years. Election of officers will be held at the October meeting, with the new officers taking office at the following meeting. The candidate for a particular office receiving a majority vote of members present shall be considered elected. Membership shall be notified by newsletter of the upcoming election, at least four (4) weeks in advance of the voting date.

### **ARTICLE VI**

#### **DUTIES OF OFFICERS:**

##### **Section 1**

President: It is the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the organization and its Executive Committee; appoint all committees not otherwise provided for; and perform such other duties as may be required of his office. The President shall appoint a committee for an annual audit of the accounts of the organization. At his discretion, the President, or his representative, shall attend and report the activities of this Association to the AFCA at their Spring and Fall conferences.

**Section 2** Vice President: It shall be the duty of the Vice President, in the absence of the President, to perform the duties pertaining to that office. In the event that the office of President becomes vacant for any cause, the Vice President shall automatically become President, and complete, as President, the unexpired term. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to provide educational and productive programs for all meetings. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to act as chairman of the Technical Advisory Committee, appointing two members to act as co-chairmen with him in the duties of this committee. It shall be the duty of the Vice President to keep a progressive book of activities of this organization. This book should contain photographs, clippings, papers and letters important to the past and future of the organization. He shall work with the Secretary and Treasurer and receive correspondence help and money needed to perform duties of this office. His activities must have approval of the Executive Committee of which he shall be a member.

**Section 3**

**Secretary:** It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a true and faithful account of the minutes of all meetings, to keep all records of whatsoever nature for the organization. He shall keep a list of names and addresses of the members. He shall notify each member of an impending meeting and when and where the meeting is to be held. He shall prepare all communications authorized to be sent by the organization or by the President and shall submit an activity report to the members of each participating department concerning the achievements and accomplishments of each regularly scheduled meeting.

**Treasurer:** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive a receipt for dues of members belonging to the organization. He will, without delay, deposit this and the other monies taken into the credit of the organization in a bank approved by the Executive Committee. He shall issue checks only when properly signed by an authorized signature and after proper notification of the President, or in his absence, the Vice President. He shall keep a record showing the amounts received by him and the amounts deposited by him. He shall keep a list of all disbursements and make a complete report at any time as requested by the Executive Committee. He shall perform all other duties pertaining to the office.

**\*\*** The important thing to remember is make sure your department will allow you to commit to the very meager amount of time required to assume one of these positions. Nominations are being accepted now through the July meeting. New officers will be voted on at the October meeting.

★ At a previous meeting, the members present voted to send a representative from our Association to the EVT Conference each year. The representative member must possess a Master EVT certification to qualify for the conference. Over the past years we have sent a number of our members. If you would like to be considered as a representative, please shoot us an email and let us know.

★ Our Association Library is currently being housed under the “Healing Tree” (shaded) and is often used by our members to research and plan for EVT tests as they relate to NFPA. A discussion was undertaken to ascertain whether or not the Association should become a member of NFPA. So our questions to you members would be: 1) Do you have access to NFPA material? 2) Is the material easily accessible? 3) Do you think it would be easier if our Library contained the newest NFPA material? Of course this comes with a price. Tell us what you think.



## OPEN DISCUSSION FOR BRAINSTORMING

1

### Rocky Mountain Fleet Maintenance Council

- Is this membership beneficial to the Association?
- +/- \$300/yr—the exact cost will be figured out
- The council meets each month, throughout the state
- Possibly good resources for the Association
- Is this council for supervisors or mechanics?
- Since he brought it to our attention, some say we should send Alan—serves him right

2

There is a Grant Writing class being offered in Payson. A grant for the Association could go far in providing us the finances to hire expensive instructors who for intents and purposes are not available to our members. Classes that would cost each member \$600-1000 or more are out of our price range and therefore make it impossible for us to offer some of these training opportunities in areas where mechanics function in every day. To make our emergency equipment function completely safe, to address problems in a timely fashion, and obtain the training necessary, grants would make that possible. To send one of our members, class costs to our Association are in the neighborhood of \$1500.

3

The Glendale Regional Public Safety Training Center we now understand makes available their auditorium and out-rooms to us for the sum of \$100 per day (as long as the Glendale mechanics show up for training). So this gives our Association another training site if no other can be located. Just keep that in mind if you have an instructor, but no place to train. In addition, the old Phoenix Fire Academy, that is now Special Ops also has theirs available, but on a very limited basis. And we could be bumped should another entity want that day(s).

4

#### **répondez, s'il vous plaît**

R.S.V.P. stands for a French phrase, "répondez, s'il vous plaît," which means "please reply." The person sending the invitation would like you to tell him or her whether you accept or decline the invitation.

Which means, ***"MAKE SURE YOU TELL US YOU'RE COMING TO THE TRAINING!"***

We had accounted for 31 mechanics—52 showed up. Don't get us wrong. We thoroughly enjoyed having you attend, however this causes a number of problems:

- 1) we won't have enough food to feed you**
- 2) we won't have enough handouts for you**
- 3) there won't be enough room for all the mechanics who DID rsvp**
- 4) WTFahrvergnügen !!! LET US KNOW YOU'RE COMING !! *Enough said?***

Here's a company started by the son of a battery man in 1946 and now in Pennsylvania houses a plant with over 9000 employees. I think they know something about batteries—it's just a guess. Class was very complete covering topics of battery history, types, design, usage, make-up, plates, testing, cleaning, and charging. The importance in use of lead charging posts when testing. Don't put your tester on the stainless steel nut (gives you a false reading). Make sure you rotate your stock and follow date codes. Interesting to note, when building batteries, the plant only builds to a point before placing them on the shelf. Then when needed, East Penn finishes the battery so that it is brand, spanking new, and never sits on the shelf loosing energy. Additional coverage in the class was for the new Fahrenheit technology. 50% longer cycles (at 10x the cost<sup>®</sup>), but are made for high heat applications, sound familiar? Also covered was that East Penn is still dabbling in lithium ion technology in an attempt to stabilize this battery's heat output. Lithium ion does have a problem with thermal runaway and doesn't like vibration so East Penn is leading the design world in trying to stabilize and perfect this system. To a packed house of 52 mechanics, East Penn did a fabulous job at deconstructing the battery technology of today and covering what is in the hopper for tomorrow. Thank you gentlemen for your valuable time and intel.



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When you test your batteries, are you first removing the surface charge? This could take upwards of 20 min. Just one of the things talked about by Mark Timerman from Leece-Neville/Prestolite Electric. He began with the charging ABCs as this needs to be followed whenever you're troubleshooting the problems in an electrical system. Do you know what the ABCs stand for? Alternator, Battery, C???. You really should come to class. Cabling & Connections was the answer. Keep in mind; before the alternators leave the factory, they are tested. So if you have a repeated failure, Mark will tell you there is something else wrong. You need to return to the ABCs of troubleshooting. And if you have one of those tension pulleys attached to anything you are repairing, this makes a very good demonstration and explanation of those pulleys—which is better, which are worse.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EXYP1CmL9Q>

**TURBO & ELECTRIC**  
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SINCE 1969

**MATS FRANSSON**  
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After which, Mats Fransson and Rick Safriet presented on turbos, tech support, and some of the other things pertinent to Turbo & Electric. Stop by and see them or call for electrical problems that you're not finding a solution.



343 Venture Blvd. | P.O. Box 86  
Wooster, Ohio 44691

Bill Mack. Now here's a man who carries every available nozzle, fitting, shut-off, box, container, fixture, monitor, valve, light, and electronic product service, sold, and given away by Akron all in one truck !!

**Bill Mack**  
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Fax: 800.531.7335  
akronbrass.com

A Unit of IDEX Corporation

I think the slide out shelf in the back of the bed must support an aggregate weight of over 5000#. And he only brought into the class a very, very small portion to support his training. However, EVERY product was available for viewing and demonstration. And if you buy over \$100,000 in product, I think you get a free t-shirt with the Akron logo on it—I'm just kidding. Those are also in his truck in the back seat. Bill discussed much about the Generation II Swing-Out Valve with Actuator options: R1, TS/TSC (Actuator/handle and adapters not included in price). Sorry I got that last part from their website.

The new SmartCAFS features pre-programmed push-button operation enabling the flow of foam with a push of a single button. This product also features advanced safety interlocks.

**Features**

- Ultraview Display
- Freedom to adjust foam ratio based on application need
  - Safety Interlocks prevent dangerous conditions of air only or air and water from occurring
- Balancing Valve automatically tracks air to water pressure between 50-150psi
  - Integrated Foam and CAFS control from one Unit
  - 200 CFM Compressor
  - SmartFOAM System



**For Features and Benefits of the SmartCAFS go to:**

<http://haleproducts.com/product/130?title=%27SmartCAFS>



The Association would very much like to thank Joe Fargotstein and the staff at Turbo & Electric for their much appreciated support for our state fire mechanics. They supplied both meals for the two-days training and for that we take our hats off to you. Don't forget to check out Turbo & Electric's vast supply of manufacturer's products and equipment from autos to RVs and trucking (top of pg. 5). Thanks again. For all your truck needs check out their website at: [www.turboandelectric.com](http://www.turboandelectric.com)

**Next Training Class and Business Meeting**

**July 7-8, 2017**

Fri-0800-1600 Sat-0800-Noon

**\*\*\* Class topic to be determined...Keep watching our website \*\*\***

*Don't worry. I'll also let you know via email...*

**Class Location:**

Summit Fire Department, 6050 E. Firehouse Lane, Flagstaff, Az. 86004

**Directions:**

From  take the  /Country Club Drive exit to  N. Then north on  approx. 10 minutes to Firehouse Lane. Make a right, can't miss it.



**ARIZONA FIRE SERVICE MECHANICS ASSOCIATION**  
PO Box 7131, Tempe, AZ 85281

## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2017**

**Dues are \$ 80 per year**

**Don't be *THAT* guy! Get training through your Fire Mechanics Association**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:**



DATE \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / 2017

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION/DEPARTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS PHONE ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ FAX ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

BEST CONTACT NUMBER ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS FOR NEWSLETTER** \_\_\_\_\_

Please mark the appropriate box:

NEW MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RENEW DUES \_\_\_\_\_

### **AFSMA MISSION STATEMENT**

**“WE THE MEMBERS OF THE  
ARIZONA FIRE SERVICE MECHANICS ASSOCIATION  
STRIVE FOR THE BEST MECHANICAL ABILITY  
IN REPAIRING FIRE APPARATUS,  
TO GAIN SUPERIOR KNOWLEDGE THROUGH TRAINING AND JOB EXPERIENCE,  
AND TO UPHOLD THE IDEA THAT FIRE APPARATUS MUST BE THE SAFEST VEHICLES ON  
THE ROAD”**

**" Education and continuous skill development are at the core of our Association "**