



The Rambler

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2018 EVT of the Year

Colorado is proud to announce that one of our members has been selected as one of the 2018 EVT of the Year Award winners!

Jarrett has worked in the EVT field for 12 years. Prior to emergency vehicles, Jarrett worked at a Ford dealership specializing in drivability. He left the Ford dealership as a Senior Master Ford Technician looking to expand his knowledge. He fully embraced the EVT curriculum and, in short order, obtained Master Fire Apparatus Tech, Master Ambulance Tech, and Master ARFF Tech. He was employed with South Metro Fire Fleet Services for around 9 years. Jarrett left the South Metro to develop a brand-new fleet division out in Elbert County. (Continued on Page 3)

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The Chairman's Corner

Chris Nelson: Chairman

I was asked to write up a highlight reel of accomplishments for 2018.

- We reviewed the bylaws of the organization to modernize the document. It had been almost 2 decades since the last revisions. Things like job descriptions, committee structures, and overall goals were clarified.
- I attended the Colorado Fire Chiefs Conference last fall in order to work towards bringing us back closer to the Chiefs' Association. There I listened to several folks regarding training needs for their mechanics. I also talked with many vendors about upcoming opportunities for us to work together in the future.
- Last year's academy was a great success due to the efforts of many. Our academy coordinator, education committee, and Aims college personnel worked tirelessly to put together a nice package of training. The sponsors our vender committee brought together were essential.
- Early this year I went to the EVT Certification Committee meetings with some goals in mind for fresh material to offer up at this academy. Look for that in this year's academy course lineup. I spoke with some other old- timers about the evolutions of their State Associations and the issues that they have much like issues that we have. Those networking opportunities are priceless.
- At the conference, one thing I did learn is we have quite a few technicians that are certified, more than I had realized. However, compared to other states, we are still way behind. I would like to see us increase our numbers and broaden our reach.

The largest of my goals was to involve more people in the COFMA. The goal was to spread out the association tasks to the members themselves and encourage participation in committee work. There is also a few of us that are getting older and soon moving on to other commitments (camping, fishing, etc.). There needs to be new young blood coming on to take the reins. I am honored to work with the people that are pulling together to make this all work. Encourage your co-workers, come to trainings, get yourselves certified, and never be afraid to ask for advice.**

Contact Us!

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2018 EVT of the Year (cont...)

(From pg 1....) Fire departments outside of large organizations have extremely limited options when it comes to fleet maintenance. Some departments never service their vehicles. Other jurisdictions do the best they can with local automotive shops.

Along with providing much needed repairs, Jarrett also takes the time to educate his customers on repairs made as well as steps they can take to better maintain their vehicles while they are in use. He treats every department with respect and answers all inquiries as quickly as possible. Whether a department has 2 vehicles in their fleet or 25, Jarrett works with them to determine necessary repairs and maintenance schedules.

Some vehicles came into the shop with extensive maintenance deficiencies. It was only a matter of time before one of these vehicles experienced a catastrophic failure. Jarrett's knowledge, dedication, and attention to detail makes these departments and our streets safer. The community benefits in a huge way from these repairs. Not only were injuries and accidents avoided, but the financial savings of preventative maintenance as opposed to the cost of replacing entire vehicles is considerable.

Jarrett stepped in as the Colorado Fire Mechanics Association's 2018 Academy Coordinator. He spends countless hours developing, planning, and organizing. Some of his duties include: locating instructors, advertising classes, contacting students, designing pamphlets, and setting up classrooms. He does all of this to offer students and instructors the best learning experience possible. Jarrett fulfills these Academy Coordinator responsibilities free of charge and in his spare time.

Jarrett demonstrates professionalism and dedication in everything he does. His passion and desire to educate and help future EVTs is evident through his daily words and actions. For Jarrett, teaching and learning are daily activities that improve and motivate him to go on fighting the good fight. Jarrett is driven to give his all every day because he loves his job and wants to share it with anyone willing to learn.**

Diversified Body & Paint

Barbara Wolfe: Marketing Manager

When you have a vision and a dream, you don't run from it, you build it! That was exactly what late owner Mark Gibson did when he started painting hoods in his mother's garage. Thirty years later, Diversified Body and Paint Shop, Inc. has grown into everything business owner Steve Wolfe has imagined possible.

With help from our hardworking team of employees and our wonderful customers that have stood by us all these years, we are making another dream a reality.

Diversified Body & Paint, Inc is pleased to announce some very exciting and BIG news! We will be moving to a new location this coming year! Construction on our new building has already started. We look forward to the new possibilities this building brings for our customers! Here is a sneak peak of our first concept drawing!**



Vice Chairman's Highlights

Ken Roland: Vice Chairman

Some of us have a hard time dealing with change, while to others, it's no big deal. However, change, no matter how frowned upon at times, is what's needed to keep improving. The Colorado Emergency Vehicle Technicians' Association and the Colorado Fire Mechanics' Academy are no exceptions to this. Many people have come to me and expressed that they have noticed and appreciated the changes that they are seeing!

The Academy being moved from North Metro Fire to Aims Public Safety Institute was a difficult, but essential move. Moving to Aims will allow the Academy to continue to grow and thrive for the foreseeable future. Exceptional attention to detail and dedication from staff helped us establish a foundation for future academies to build on.

An emphasis has been placed on working together the State Fire Chiefs. Our goal is to communicate better and make sure that both groups know the desires and needs of the other.

We are also making concerted efforts to incorporate a variety of training topics into our quarterly meetings. We will still have refresher trainings, but the goal is to keep members interested. I urge you to reach out to us through whatever mode you choose: FaceBook, email, phone, etc... and let us know what your interests and/or needs are.

Thanks everyone for your contributions and continued support. You've all made it possible for us to accomplish things we've said we needed to do for a while.**



We are grateful to North Metro Fire for their hospitality and for the use of their facilities the last few years.

Thanks to Chris Nelson and Randy Souther for making the move to Aims a reality!

Thank you to Jarrett Hill, instructors and staff, for making the 2018 Academy the success that it was!

Thank you to Kent Coker for his instrumental role in helping us work with the State Fire Chiefs. making this happen.

Vendor Updates

Jeannie Schneiderwent: Vendor Coordinator

As we gear up for the 2019 Academy, we would like to take this time to thank all of our past participating vendors. We would not be able to make this event happen if we didn't have such a strong presence from our dedicated vendors. We greatly appreciate you, and we look forward to networking again this year

This year we will be allowing Vendors to set up at 10 am the morning of the event. We hope this gives more time for interaction and helps reduce stress. More details are on the website, so go check it out!

The 2019 Vendor application is available on the website, and we encourage everyone to register early. are Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Looking forward to another successful Academy!**

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Upcoming Events:

April Quarterly Meeting

April 24th 2019

Lunch Provided By: Quality Tire

Sponsored By: Diversified Body & Paint

West Metro Fire Training Facility

3535 S Kipling St, Lakewood, CO, 80235

COEVTA 2019

Aug 12 – Aug 16, 2019

Aims Community College Windsor Campus

1130 Southgate Dr, Windsor, CO, 80550

January's fire mechanics meeting was held at Rattlesnake Fire's Training Center. Some Valvoline and Offen Petroleum representatives came out and taught a class about Lubrication & Engine Oils, Coolant, & Used Oil Analysis. (Picture Below) They provided us with delicious Chipotle for lunch. Thank you! Follow Link to [January's Meeting Minutes!](#)



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Colorado Fire Mechanics Association Meeting minutes January 30, 2019

Called to order

- Jarrett Hill and Brian Brown recognized for excellence Brian received the Boyd Cole Award at EVTCC and Jarrett was a nominee for EVT of the Year by Apparatus Magazine.
- Other associations are teaching EVT Prep Classes. EVT CC has deemed it appropriate to teach to the Objective list- Chris Nelson recommends that we put on an EVT prep program: opened to the group as a proposal to offer EVT prep at the academy. Jay said that the items on the objective list should be done in the spirit, to elevate knowledge as opposed to teaching to the test. Concerns about the credibility of the certification should we provide test prep training.
- With the goal of increasing numbers- we should look to putting in an EVT track in the academy.

Gary Aranda, Adams County Fire= Motion to EVT tech class- Second by Jason Smith, North Metro Fire, all in favor=Unanimous.

Training options, next meeting:

Chris Nelson proposed having MMD Alignment come present at our next quarterly meeting. At the West Metro Meeting. \$1500 + expenses, to teach tire wear and correction. Gary Aranda motions, unanimous approval to have MMD instruct at our next meeting, at West Metro. Chris Nelson will reach out to vendors to help defray the cost.

Academy:

- Need for improved course outline, to help students understand the expectations and outcomes that will be offered in the classes. *Perhaps Jarrett and Eric Beutz can build a questionnaire, that can be used to write the course outline AND how it pertains to the EVT certification*
- Jarrett Hill said that he is talking to Ethan Conyers of Cummins, he might be able get Ethan to come in and teach at quarterly meeting or a day at the Academy
- Chance to get welding for Academy. Chris will follow up with Aims Personnel.
- Consider raising the hourly rate that we pay instructors for 2020 Academy, also raise the cost to the student.

Chief's Association:

- Kent Coker: wanted to know if we can put together a directory of agencies that will support them around the state.
- The Chief's said that they have state money in the volunteer coffer to sponsor EVT recruitment. For example to help younger technicians and interns get their certifications.
- Jarrett completed the training trailer and it is being sent up to Adams County for completion.
- Patch logo/ and Challenge coin: Shirts: Jason smith is working on the design and ordering w/Sarah Ryan, we will pursue this in conjunction with other swag items. Jason, Ken and one other will address this again.
- We need to fill the training officer's liaison position. Chris requested someone come forward and offer via email.
- Membership: Jay Powell is putting together a mailer and information on mailing addresses to get this out.
- Chris is going to address software issues with Sarah including: Getting confirmation sent to students after they pay
- Nomination committee, Looking for a new Chairman, and Secretary Nominee.

Adjourned 1:55