

# The Rambler

Volume X, Issue 1

January 2019

## The Chairman Speaks

*Another Chapter in the Great Adventure*

**Chris Nelson**

Chapter 2019

All things being said it's hard to believe how fast life is passing by. It's hard to find time for all of the possibilities there are for things to do! I have committed to do the best I can for the association and will continue that effort.

We have renewed our affiliation with the Fire Chiefs Association, and do see some good coming from that effort. I have felt in the past that we are highly ignored in our positions as the "JAM". I know that isn't true and have come to the realization that its better we are left to do our jobs. One way to look at it is, if we don't have constant contact with the administration it show we are doing the jobs we are hired to do. I think for the most part we are trusted to do the right things.

The right things include attending trainings to receive the current and pertinent information needed to do our job to the fullest. Obtaining and maintaining certifications to the necessary level is also key. Call on me if there is any information I can share that will help you in your quest to "be all you can be"*continued on page 2*

## COFMA Meeting

January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

46200 Coal Creek Drive

Parker, CO 80138

11am

January's fire mechanics meeting will be held at Rattlesnake Fire's Training Center.

Join us for training, discussions and collaborative support.

A Valvoline representative will be coming out to teach a class about Lubrication & Engine Oils. Valvoline Fluid Engineers are scheduled to attend as well.

## We are working on some training options for the upcoming academy and for the quarterly sessions now.

Your input is not only appreciated, it is very much needed. There have been a lot of job openings listed in our publications and there are some new hires out there that need some help attaining goals set for them. We can help with that, in fact, that is what we are here for.

## Secondary Lodging location for the Academy

In addition to the Best Western Plus in Loveland being our host hotel, there has been an additional player that has come along to offer assistance to help make "Academy 2019" a success. By the time the Academy comes around the Courtyard Marriot will be finished in Loveland. It is on the west side of the interstate diagonal to the Host hotel. Information will be available on our [www.coevta.org](http://www.coevta.org) website soon.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2** Academy info  
Hero Recognized
- 3** Past Meeting Minutes
- 4** Announcements

## Memberships are due to be renewed in January.

Please go to [www.coevta.org](http://www.coevta.org) to complete a membership application. You can now print one to take to administration if you can't put your information out on our secure link. Your membership covers three individuals on you department others can be added for a small fee. This membership gets you a deep discount on the Academy Tuition. This association is an excellent way to network with your peers in this endeavor.

## We need some help with elections!❖

We had an election this October as we have in October for years. It is recommended in our bylaws we have an election committee. This is a useful position in our association to keep the heading in a good direction. Folks could make it known to the committee their intent to run for a position. That committee could forward that to the group and we could get some fresh new faces for the front of the room. Good ideas come from new folks and this will help keep the association fresh. There will be an election this year for Chairman and Secretary to take over in 2020. Is it time for some new views? I know for a fact this is my last year. I also know that our Secretary has other ideas for ways to spend some time on other projects life has brought him. This isn't a bad gig. There are a lot of very capable people that are willing to help get the work done so the show can go on. These positions are more coordinators than anything else. :-)

## A True Community Servant Recognized

Recently, a department in Edmonton, Alberta Canada donated an engine to Puerto Morelos Mexico.

While in transit, one recent Saturday night. This engine broke down right here in Colorado. It had an intermittent starting issue. Too risky to continue-on, no telling when it would fail to start again. The drivers had precious few options on a Sunday morning in unfamiliar territory. This could have been a real set back, had it not been for the efforts of Ben Jennings.

On-a-Sunday, Ben volunteered his free time to head down to station 39. He diagnosed the engine to have a bad starter solenoid. Ben secured the parts and made the repairs and the engine was back on the road, to safely complete its 4100 mile journey from Canada to Mexico.

EVT's are always in the background, equipping front-line crews to do a job, that would other wise be impossible, without their persistent unsung heroism.

Thank you Ben for demonstrating these virtues so well!



## MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 2018

- Called to order @ 10:45
- Thanks to Summit Fire and EMS to hosting
- Thanks to Eric Beutz for the training on Diesel emissions
- Minutes from the May meeting were approved.
- Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report
- The Accounts have about 40K
- Report on standing committees
- Trailer revamp will progress after the trailer is picked up in Rattlesnake.
- Chairman is going to make a concerted effort to align website business and the Facebook page by the time the January meeting starts.
- Mia our PIO is going to help us get this going.
- Colorado Fire Chiefs conference was attended by Kent and Chris last week. More discussion to follow, as in a scheduled meeting with the president elect.
- Old business;
- Revisit of committee business.
- Revisit After Action meeting wherein;
- Money set aside for tools revamp
- Money set aside for web site changes.
- New business;
- Election results
- Ken Roland was reelected via White Ballot to Vice Chairman
- Tim Schneiderwent was reelected to Treasurer by popular vote.
- There was no further discussion and the meeting adjourned.

## JOB OPENING

Emergency Vehicle Tech in Kandahar at DynCorp International LLC

The **Emergency Vehicle Technician (EVT)** is responsible for maintenance, repair, and servicing of all fire vehicles and equipment.

<https://dyncorp.jobs.net/en-US/search?keywords=emergency%20vehicle%20technician&location=kandahar>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### SPECIAL EVENT

January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019 0800

Training Meeting

Rattlesnake Fire

### SPECIAL EVENT

August 12<sup>th</sup> 2019

COEVTA Academy

Aims Community College Windsor

## **Join Us - Membership....!**

If you are not a member of the Colorado Fire Mechanics Association, or you do not attend our meetings, please consider joining us.

We are a solutions-oriented group of people who believe in what we are doing. Therefore, we embrace these challenges and are proud to be the unsung, behind the scenes support. But we ourselves need support and get that by supporting one-another. Meeting on a regular basis gives us the opportunity to voice our frustrations and share in our wins. As well as; present ongoing training and learning opportunities that provide for continuing education credits. By pulling together, We are a group whose sum is greater than the tally of parts.

If you have any additional questions regarding membership, please feel free to call me on my personal cell:

Eric Beutz, 303-829-4767 Ebeutz@cheaperfords.com

## **Facebook Page**

Please check us out on Facebook: "Colorado Fire Mechanics Association"

Please log on to our Facebook page and check out uploads from the academy, then comment on your favorite pics and posts. This will help push the page into feeds, thereby prompting you and others to engage each-other on a regular basis. This is your association, it is here to help support you in the daily challenges and wins that you face. Please post fun pics on a regular basis. Post pics of things that you learn as you go.

## **Web page**

*Please check out our new web site [www.coevta.org](http://www.coevta.org)*

*Thank you Sarah Ryan for building our awesome website.*

## **Special Committees– Do you have an opinion?**

### **Now is your chance to get it out there!**

Many people have expressed their thoughts and opinions about how the Colorado Fire Mechanics Association should be run. Now is your chance to have a meaningful input on the association and its future. In an effort to build an association that targets the needs of its members in a meaningful, ethical and compliant manner. We have, and will continue to, form special committees. We are going to form a branding/ public image committee, membership committee, education, bi- laws and more. If this is important to you, please come prepared to discuss matters pertaining to existing committees or make suggestions on new committees. If there are any matters that are of particular importance to you please be prepared to make suggestions on new committees that may need to be formed. And/or volunteer your time to join or support.

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