



The Rambler

Volume21 | Issue02 | The Rambler | Colorado Fire Mechanics Association

The Chairman's Corner

Jason Smith: Chairman 2019-2021

The COVID-19 national emergency pandemic has changed life as we know it. While people across the country had to shelter-in-place, work from home, or even temporarily close up shop, first responders and fire mechanics kept showing up to work and putting community/patients first. This of course put us on the front lines of a perilous situation.

There is no doubt many of you will feel uncertain, anxious, and even scared. Considering the extraordinary adjustments to day-to-day operations, you may question how the fire service will navigate this moment in history and how you will get through this with crewmembers, your family, and friends. (Cont...Page 3...)

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(From pg 1....) I am constantly aware of the work men and women do every day in our industry. Though we are not perfect, the integrity and dedication that the community has demonstrated in the midst of chaos, especially under the uncertainties of the COVID-19 outbreak, is amazing. We are the tip of the spear on the front lines of this pandemic, and the community not only expects, but deserves, our best. It is critical that our forces stay focused on the service we provide. Through all of this, we have to also take care of each other. Family is a simple word with an amplified meaning in times of seeming desperation. I pray for everyone's safety and ask each one of you to take care of yourself, take care of your loved ones and each other. We will continue to provide you the latest information and are committed to all fire mechanics. As we all get back to hopefully some kind of "normal". I hope everyone made it through covid without too hard of a time. The COFMA is ramping back up. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel 2 academies, but we will be back in 2022 and we plan on having our first in person meeting in almost 2 years soon. Stay safe. I wish the organization continued success and thank you for your patience and cooperation at this time.

I want to tell you all that I am resigning from my position as Chairman on the board of Colorado Fire Mechanics Association. I feel that it is in the best interest of both myself and COFMA if I step down. I apologize for any inconvenience that my resignation may cause. I have enjoyed working with COFMA and I am honored to have served in this capacity. The experiences I earned as a board member are very valuable to me and will serve me well in all areas of life.**

Association Update

Mai Samhouri: Vice Chairman

With the resignation of Jason Smith and in accordance with our bylaws, Kenneth Roland has moved into the Chairman role. Per the bylaws it is his responsibility to appoint people to fill any vacant board positions.

In October, the positions of Vice Chairman and Secretary will be open for election. I encourage COFMA members to think of the membership and consider nominating either yourself or one of your peers. This organization is an excellent resource for the EVT community. It is only through the dedication of volunteers that trainings are planned, academies are scheduled, and newsletters are written. Please evaluate your current commitments and let us know if you are interested in running for either Vice Chairman or Secretary.** .

Executive Board

Elected Positions:

Chairman: [Kenneth Roland](#)
Vice Chairman: [Mai Samhouri](#)
Secretary: [Eric Beutz](#)
Treasurer: [Tim Schniderwent](#)

Appointed Positions:

Academy Coordinator:
[Jarrett Hill](#)
Vendor Coordinator:
[Jeannie Schniderwent](#)

Vice Chairman's Highlights

Ken Roland: Vice Chairman/Chairman

I hope this finds everyone beginning to recoup as we are attempting to return to some kind of "normal". Although, in reality, I think it's a matter of getting to a new normal. There have been far too many things that have happened to all of us whether it's due to family, employment, financials, or combinations of all of it. On behalf of the Colorado Fire Mechanics Association and myself, I would like to offer well wishes to all who are dealing with the various stressors currently going on as well as condolences to those who have lost friends and/or family members during this pandemic.

As for the Academies, we've had to cancel for '20 & '21, be sure it was a hard decision to do so. The uncertainty of the times forced our hand, such as gathering restrictions, travel, venues, etc., we chose to error on the side of caution, even if it was not the most popular vote. However, we plan to pick up with some renewed vigor and get things moving forward again. We are looking forward to quarterly meetings and the 2022 academy.

Some have heard that about the Pumps class in August at Aims. Unfortunately, due to a few restrictions still in place, we were only able to make it available to 16 students. Thank you to those who attended, and we really hope to set up something sooner than later for those needing such classes.

In closing, I'd like to remind you to remember why you chose this profession to be in and who you serve and take care of with every repair. We owe it to all who need us that we give them the best we can.**

Contact Us!

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[@COFMA1987](#)**

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Vendor Updates

Jeannie Schneiderwert: Vendor Coordinator

Welcome back!

We hope this letter finds everyone well and ready to start interacting and being able to support one another face to face rather than over the phone or a Zoom meeting.

We are planning the 2022 Academy. We hope to have some dates set in the near future and look forward to everyone's continued attendance and support. As soon as we have a date secured, we will send out a "Vendor Save the Date" email.

We are always looking for ways to improve and make this a better experience for our students and vendors. Should you have any suggestions or input, we welcome the opportunity to hear from you!**

SUTPHEN ALL OUT.™ 

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Upcoming Events:

October Quarterly Meeting

October 27th 2021

Lunch Provided By: COFMA

Sponsored By: To Be Determined

Location: To Be Determined

COEVTA 2022

Aug 1 – Aug 4, 2022

Aims Community College Windsor Campus

1130 Southgate Dr, Windsor, CO, 80550

August Pumps Class Recap

Jarrett Hill: Academy Coordinator

The August Fire Pumps Class was a success. Thank you to the students and teachers for being flexible and working within the CDC restrictions. It was great to see each other again after so long apart. We hope to see you all at the October meeting. Please set aside time to attend, even if it is through Zoom. We would like to see as many people as possible to be involved with this round of elections.**

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