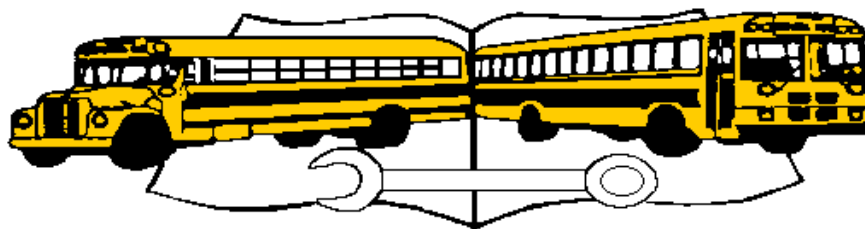


# The Mechanic's Messenger



## Message from the Vice-President

Happy February everyone! There is only a month or so before the weather starts changing for the better (unless you like this weather—ugh!!).

I want to take a moment to ask for your support of the Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association. If you know of fellow mechanics who are not involved with the association, please encourage them to participate. Stress the importance of continuing their education by attending classes held at the regional level or at our larger spring and fall workshops. I know how hard it is to set aside time with how busy our lives are, but with the ever changing technology, it is more important than ever to continue your training. The OSBMA works very hard to provide the best classes possible. Your input is always welcome and much needed for suggestions on classes.



Thank you very much for your support. We look forward to seeing you at the spring workshop!

**- Jason Divoll, OSBMA Vice President**

## America's Best School Bus Technician

The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association is planning on sending a representative to the 2015 School Bus Technician's Training and Skills Competition. The test will be administered at the 2015 OSBMA Workshop which will be held April 1, 2015 in Columbus, Ohio. This test will be similar to the typical ASE test with 50 questions. The top score will represent Ohio in the America's Best School Bus Technician's Training and Skills Competition.

The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association will provide transportation to the contest, lodging and breakfast for the technician. Any other persons traveling with you will need to cover their own costs. Information regarding the national competition will be posted on the NAPT website as soon as details are finalized ([www.napt.org](http://www.napt.org)).

All members of the Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association are invited to take a test to determine the Ohio representative in the national America's Best School Bus Technician competition. The 2015 America's Best will again be held in conjunction with the NAPT 41st Annual Summit. This year's event will be in Richmond, VA, November 6-10, 2015. More information can be found at <http://napt.org/annual-summit/americas-best.php>

*\*Those signing up to take the test will be first in line for lunch, then take the test in a separate, quiet room.*

The Ohio School Bus Inspection Manual Meetings  
will not be held this year.

The **2015 Ohio School Bus Inspection Manual**,  
**Supplement to School Bus Inspection Manual** and the  
**Approved Option List for Ohio School Bus**  
can be found at [www.statepatrol.ohio.gov](http://www.statepatrol.ohio.gov) under the Publications tab.

## Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association

Volume 22, Issue 3

February, 2015

## Membership

- ☞ **Active Membership** is open to qualified mechanic who has responsibility in maintaining the operation of a safe and efficient pupil transportation system. (\$30)
- ☞ **Associate Membership** is open to other Ohio school officials who are interested in promoting safe pupil transportation in Ohio, retired OSBMA members, and vendors. (\$20)
- ☞ Membership is good for one year: July 1 - June 30.
- ☞ General aim is to advance pupil transportation as a part of a school district's public education program.
- ☞ Please join us in promoting safe and efficient pupil transportation in Ohio.

## Inside this issue:

<b>Why Take the America's Best Test?</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Annual School Bus Inspections</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Mutual Aid Booklet</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>OSBMA Spring Workshop</b>	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Advertising</b>	<b>5-6</b>
<b>Executive Committee</b>	<b>6</b>

## Why Take the America's Best Test?

Why take the America's Best School Bus Technician test?

1. **You will learn something.** This is much more than a contest, you will be going to classes (like our workshops) and this makes us better able to do our jobs.
2. **Promoting safety.** The better we are at our jobs, the safer the buses are. After all, that's what we are all about. Putting the safest product we can on the street every day!
3. **You will represent all Ohio bus mechanics.** We are professional and dedicated. You will meet some of the top transportation people from other states. Some of the other states programs differ from Ohio. It was very interesting to learn how other states manage their bus programs.
4. **YOU WILL HAVE FUN.** We toured the Michelin truck tire plant at Spartanburg South Carolina; rode in test vehicles and drove on Michelin's test track. They also took us to a go kart track. Can you can picture all the grown-ups (kids) racing each other? We had a BLAST!
5. **Positive news for your school district never hurts.**
6. **Personal achievement.** A feather in your cap so to speak. For me it looked good on my resume.

Perhaps you are saying "I DON'T HAVE TIME". Taking the test to go to America's Best was something I was always "going to do". In September 2007, I was lucky enough to survive a 'widow maker' heart attack. This event made me change my thinking. I try to accomplish something meaningful every day. You won't know until you try, so MAKE TIME!

- David S. Smith Jr., America's Best School Bus Technician 2009

## Annual School Bus Inspections

The Ohio State Highway Patrol will begin **Annual School Bus Inspections May 1, 2015** instead of June 1, 2015. The Spot Inspections will be completed by April 1, 2015 for the 2014-2015 school year. We will be completing Annuals throughout May to facilitate new scheduling guidelines.

If you are interested in an earlier date than May of 2015, please advise your Motor Vehicle Inspection Team before February 1, 2015. We understand schools are still in session during the month of May. We are asking schools interested in completing annual school bus inspections early to inform us. Suggestion, present your newer buses in May which will allow you to concentrate on the older buses that require more attention. We understand there will be growing pains as we all adjust to this new process. The month of August, 2015 will be dedicated to re-inspections. Spot inspections for 2015-2016 will begin October 1st. We are notifying you of these changes well in advance of the inspection season to avoid any major disruptions.

These changes are being implemented statewide to ensure all Annual School Bus Inspections are completed by July 31st. If you have any questions, please contact Sergeant Isaac Saunders or Lieutenant Doug DeBord, Licensing & Commercial Standards, Ohio State Highway Patrol at 614-466-4056.

- Sergeant Isaac Saunders, OHP Liaison

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## Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association

*"Promoting Safe & Efficient Pupil Transportation in Ohio"*

PO Box 30844, Gahanna, OH 43230  
Phone 614-478-9300 Fax 614-478-9304  
Email: [osbma@osbma.org](mailto:osbma@osbma.org)  
[www.osbma.org](http://www.osbma.org)

## OHIO SCHOOL BUS MECHANICS ASSOCIATION SPRING WORKSHOP APRIL 1, 2015

All school bus mechanics in Ohio are invited to attend!

This workshop will be held at the Ohio Department of Transportation—Auditorium, 1980 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

**Attending this workshop will help meet in-service requirements for school bus mechanics.**

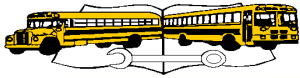
Registration is limited to the first 250 registrants.

Return your registration form and payment (or purchase order) by **March 27, 2015**.

You will receive a **Confirmation & Admission Ticket**, which will confirm your registration and be your receipt of payment.

*Walk-in registrations will not be accepted.*

Wednesday, April 1, 2015		INSERVICE TRAINING REQUIREMENT	
8:00 – 9:00 am	Registration/Continental Breakfast	<p>The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association provides each registrant with a <b>Certificate of Achievement</b> that serves as your permanent record of participation.</p> <p>This certificate is suitable for framing or can be placed in your personnel file to show that you have fulfilled the yearly in-service training requirements of section 3301-83-10 of the Ohio Pupil Transportation Operation &amp; Safety Rules.</p>	
9:00 – 9:30 am	Welcome, General Session		
9:30 – 11:45 am	SESSION I—Transmission Diagnostics		
11:45 – 12:45 pm	LUNCH		
12:15 – 12:45 pm	AMERICA’S BEST TESTING		
12:45 – 3:00 pm	SESSION II—Wheelchair Lift Diagnostics		
SESSION TOPICS			
ALLISON TRANSMISSION DIAGNOSTICS			
Jon Davies	⇒	In chassis diagnosis and repair <b>with</b> and <b>without</b> the Allison Diagnostic Tool.	
W.W.Williams	⇒	Proper removal and installation when required.	
	⇒	How to extend the life of your Allison Transmissions.	
	⇒	New features released in the 2015 product.	
WHEELCHAIR LIFT DIAGNOSTICS			
Rick Jacobs	⇒	Comprehensive lift training PowerPoint seminar that will cover the basics of the Braun Lift.	
BraunAbility	⇒	We will provide an understanding of how our lift operates, how to make technical adjustments to the product and we will discuss proper maintenance procedures for our lifts.	
	⇒	This course will provide technicians with resources to become more knowledgeable about taking care of and maintaining the handicapped vehicles in their fleets.	
AMERICA’S BEST SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIAN—STATE COMPETITION			
All members of the Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association are invited to take a test to determine the Ohio representative in the national America’s Best School Bus Technician competition. This event will take place at the NAPT 41st Annual Summit, November 6-10, 2015 in Richmond, VA. More information can be found at <a href="http://napt.org/annual-summit/americas-best.php">http://napt.org/annual-summit/americas-best.php</a>			
*Those signing up to take the test will be first in line for lunch, then take the test in a separate, quiet room.			
Registration			
Complete the registration form and return it with payment by April 1, 2015. <u>Registration is limited to the first 250 registrants.</u> You will receive a <u>Confirmation and Admission Ticket</u> which also includes your receipt of payment. <u>Keep this in a safe place and bring it with you to register.</u>			
Cancellations		Substitutions	
<u>Cancellations</u> received up to five working days before the workshop are refundable, minus a \$10.00 registration service charge. After that, cancellations are subject to the entire workshop registration fee, which may be applied toward future workshops.		<u>Substitutions</u> may be made, however, any additional fees due membership status must be paid at or prior to the workshop.	



# Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association

"Promoting Safe & Efficient Pupil Transportation in Ohio"

PO Box 30844, Gahanna, OH 43230  
Phone 614-478-9300 Fax 614-478-9304  
Email: [osbma@osbma.org](mailto:osbma@osbma.org)  
[www.osbma.org](http://www.osbma.org)

## OHIO SCHOOL BUS MECHANICS ASSOCIATION SPRING WORKSHOP APRIL 1, 2015

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name	School District	County			
Home Address		Home Phone			
Home Address (continued)		Work Phone			
Email Address		Cell Phone			
<p>Return the registration form and payment by March 27, 2015. School districts using purchase orders are responsible for paying the registration fee even if their mechanic does not attend (*see cancellations).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Mail form with a purchase order, check, money order or credit card information.</li><li>2. Email form with a purchase order or credit card information.</li><li>3. Fax form with a purchase order or credit card information.</li></ol> <p>Checks payable to: <b>OHIO SCHOOL BUS MECHANICS ASSOCIATION</b></p>		<p>Are you a <b>CURRENT MEMBER</b> of the <b>OHIO SCHOOL BUS MECHANICS ASSOCIATION</b>?</p> <p><b>YES</b>, membership number: <input type="text"/></p> <p>I'm sending \$60.00 for workshop registration. <b>\$60</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>NO</b>, but I wish to renew or become a new member.</p> <p>I'm sending \$30.00 for membership and \$60.00 for workshop registration. <b>\$90</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>NO</b>. I do not wish to be a member.</p> <p>I'm sending \$85.00 for workshop registration <b>\$85</b> <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>*Registration and payment or purchase order must be postmarked, faxed or emailed by March 27, 2015.</i></p>			
		Check # <i>if applicable</i>			
		If paying by credit card: <input type="checkbox"/> <b>VISA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MasterCard</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DISCOVER</b>			
		PO # <i>if applicable</i>	Credit Card # <i>if applicable</i>	Expiration date <i>MM/YYYY</i>	Billing Zip Code <i>zip code</i>
		Name on card:			

## DIRECTIONS

### FROM THE NORTH:

- ⇒ Take I-71 South to I-70 West
- ⇒ Exit #97 (West Broad Street)
- ⇒ Turn left onto West Broad Street
- ⇒ Straight for 1/2 mile, turn right

### FROM THE EAST:

- ⇒ Take I-70 West
- ⇒ Exit #97 (West Broad Street)
- ⇒ Turn left onto West Broad Street
- ⇒ Straight for 1/2 mile, turn right

### FROM THE SOUTH:

- ⇒ Take I-71 North to I-70 West
- ⇒ Exit #97 (West Broad Street)
- ⇒ Turn left onto West Broad Street
- ⇒ Straight for 1/2 mile, turn right

### FROM THE WEST:

- ⇒ Take I-70 East
- ⇒ Exit #97 (West Broad Street)
- ⇒ Turn right onto West Broad Street
- ⇒ Straight for 1/2 mile, turn right

## MAP

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## NEARBY ACCOMODATIONS

**COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT** (4.89 mi) 614-771-8999 or 1-800-MARRIOTT  
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**QUALITY INN & SUITES** (4.89 mi) 614-771-8944 or 1-800-4CHOICE  
2340 Westbelt Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43228

**RED ROOF INN COLUMBUS WEST** (5.53 mi) 614-878-9245 or 1-800-RED-ROOF  
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**ANNUAL SCHOOL BUS INSPECTIONS WILL  
BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF JULY.**



*August will be used for  
re-inspections  
and as needed.*



**Bob Rubin**  
Vice President Sales

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e-mail osbma@osbma.org fax (614) 478-9304

Sergeant Isaac Saunders, Ohio Highway Patrol (614) 995-5986  
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**SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:**  
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