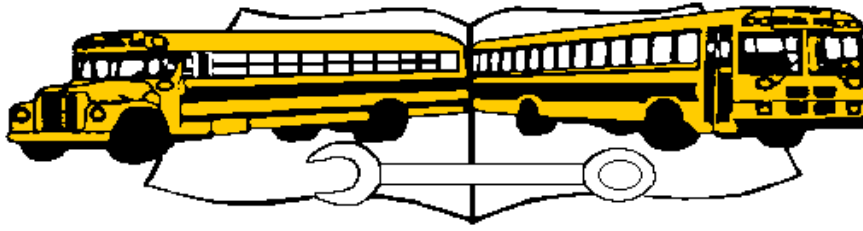


The Mechanic's Messenger



OSBMA Spring Workshop 2017

The 2017 OSBMA Spring Workshop was held on Tuesday April 4th at the Ohio Department of Transportation, Columbus, Ohio. Trooper Joel Smith, with the Ohio State Highway Patrol, talked about Licensing and Commercial Standards. Stephen Puchta, with the Office of Pupil Transportation and Ohio Department of Education, introduced himself and thanked the Ohio School Bus Mechanics for all they do to keep Ohio's Students safe.

Dave Brewster and Jon Davies with W.W.Williams were presenters for the first session. Jon Davies talked about Allison Transmissions and some of the issues they have experienced along with answers and fixes. He also touched on Allison DOC, Fuel Sence and PTS Promo . Dave Brewster talked about the Evolution of W.W.Williams , Pain or Gain and the Wheel Time Network.

Frank Byrd and Steve Kelshaw with Leece-Neville were presenters for the second session and spoke about the electrical system on Buses and Trucks. Frank reviewed the basics when diagnosing a faulty battery or alternator. He also talked about different test equipment used for properly checking the charging system.



The 29th Annual
Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association Workshop
will be held October 10 & 11, 2017 in Columbus, Ohio.

**Ohio School Bus
Mechanics
Association**

Volume 24, Issue 4

May, 2017

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.

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TIPS & TRICKS

Here is a tip for anyone having issues with headlights, front turn signals or parking lights on 2007-2015 Blue Bird Visions. I had a bus come in with a parking light out, so I pulled the bulb, put a new one in and it still did not work. I grabbed my test light and found no power at bulb socket. I traced the wire back to the harness (which is directly under the hood hinge as shown in this picture). You can see where the harness had been rubbed through and broke the wire. The wiring harness connector itself is not in a very good location, as water will find its way inside and corrode the terminals.

I have had half a dozen buses give me the same problem, so if it's not a bad bulb, check that harness close to the hood hinge or the harness connector itself.



Do you have any Tips or Tricks? Email me cklinge@phpatriots.org and we can share this helpful information with our fellow Mechanics.

Chad Klinge, OSBMA Newsletter Editor, Patrick Henry Local Schools

Construction Standards

I had the opportunity to represent the Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association on the Ohio School Bus Construction Standards Advisory Committee at the quarterly meeting on March 24, 2017. This meeting is presided over by the Licensing and Commercial Standards Division of the Ohio State Highway Patrol. The remainder of the committee is made up of representatives from all School Bus Manufacturers and Ohio School Bus Dealers. The committee is also made up of Invitees that the OSHP determines have an active role in safe pupil transportation in Ohio, such as representatives from ODE, OAPT, OSBMA, OSBA, NHTSA just to name a few.

For those unfamiliar with this meeting, it is where the Advisory Committee reviews current constructions standards, as well as applications for new (or changes to existing) equipment on school buses as per OAC 4501-5-04. The committee also reviews the existing construction standards to evaluate if items no longer need to be in the minimum construction standards because these items are no longer needed or no longer deemed safe for use on school buses. Two of the items that have been eliminated from the construction standards are the pry bar, and split rim wheels. I am sure there are more those are just the ones that come to mind.

Any manufacturer, dealer, or owner of a school bus who wishes to change or add options or make any changes to the Ohio School Bus Construction Standards must request permission, prior to the installation of new or additional equipment, from the director, as per OAC 4501-5-04. An item added to the latest approved options list is a Fire Suppression System.

This committee is our direct link to making changes to school buses in Ohio and possibly the rest of the country. The mechanics throughout the state have firsthand experience in what it takes to maintain the safest mode of transportation in the country. We also have access to impact change through our local MVI Team or LCS district office.

We as mechanics have firsthand experience with this vital part of student education in the state of Ohio and to some extent the rest of the country. You can access the most up to date Ohio School Bus Construction Standards & School Bus Approved Options List is at www.statepatrol.ohio.gov under the Publications heading.

Greg Pennington, OSBMA South Regional Director, Paint Valley Local Schools

Promoting Safe and Efficient Pupil Transportation in Ohio!

OSBMA Membership Renewal



Time to renew!



The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association is comprised of over 350 school bus mechanics working directly for school districts or for contractors from all over the state of Ohio. The general aim of the association is the advancement of pupil transportation as a part of a school district's public education program.

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP is open to **any qualified mechanic** who has responsibility in maintaining the operation of a safe and efficient pupil transportation system. Active membership is \$30 per year.

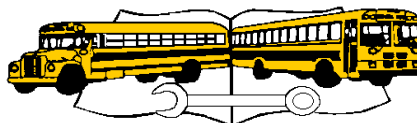
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP is open to other Ohio school officials who are interested in promoting safe pupil transportation in Ohio, retired OSBMA members, and vendors. Associate membership is \$20 per year, on an individual basis.

Membership is good for one year:

JULY 1, 2017 through JUNE 30, 2018

Please join us in promoting safe and efficient pupil transportation in Ohio!

Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association Annual Membership Application Form



School District / Employer _____

County _____

Name _____
[please print]

Work Telephone _____

Home Address _____
Street

Home Telephone _____

City State Zip Code

Cell Telephone _____

Email Address _____
[please print legibly!]

Current Membership Number _____

Complete this form and mail to Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association, P.O. Box 30844, Gahanna, Ohio 43230.
Enclose payment of \$30 (check or money order made payable to: OHIO SCHOOL BUS MECHANICS ASSOCIATION).
This will activate your membership for the 2017/18 school year (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018).

The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association corresponds primarily by email. If you do not have access to a computer, we will mail your information to your home address.

Would you like to be listed in the Mutual Aid Booklet?

Yes

No

Check # <i>if applicable</i>	If paying by credit card: <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER		3-digit security code:
PO # <i>if applicable</i>	Credit Card # <i>if applicable</i>	Expiration date MM/YYYY	Billing Zip Code <i>zip code</i>
Name on card:			

I'll bet you've been turning wrenches and talking with customers for quite some time now. You've probably tossed around the idea of changing careers at one time or another, too. The grease, grime, technical and mechanical stuff, as well as the various ups and downs of the day to day drudgery all fits you like a glove, but you're still not sure if you truly are a professional mechanic. Worry no more. Here's a list of the probable reasons to convince you that you really are what you are, a real life professional mechanic.

You Know you're a Mechanic if:

- ☞ You have no trouble spending more money on the tool trucks than you do on your girlfriend or wife.
- ☞ You know every type of automotive fluid by taste, but not by choice.
- ☞ Losing a socket is more frustrating than losing your keys.
- ☞ Listening to every walk of life explain to you the same type of problem on the same type of car, but in totally different ways, and still being able to sort through all these explanations and arrive at the correct solution to the same problem every time.
- ☞ Spend \$100,000.00 on personal tools and education to make less than that a year.
- ☞ You're a self-taught contortionist who can maneuver into places that seem humanly impossible.
- ☞ It's not unusual on a busy day to have a lunch on the fly only to realize your sandwich has as many grease prints on it as your shop rag.
- ☞ You can remember 12 digit part numbers, the oil filter size for an 85 Camaro, and the firing order on every V8 engine, but can't remember your wife's birthday.
- ☞ If you've ever been annoyed with the parts guy when he asks, "Is that a two or 4WD?" when all you wanted was wiper blades.
- ☞ You know, from experience, that torqueing a greasy bolt with an open end wrench also means you should check the path of the wrench for any obstacles that may end up embedded in your hand.
- ☞ You've ever had to order a part and the wiring diagram calls it by one name, the locator page calls it something else, the parts department calls it by another name, and still yet, the labor guide has a completely different name for the exact same part.
- ☞ You can spot a professional mechanic from a "wanna-be" mechanic as soon as they tell you how they diagnosed the car they're still having problems with.
- ☞ You have a rather low opinion of anyone who calls themselves a mechanic if their entire education is based on watching YouTube videos from other non-professional type mechanics.
- ☞ Not all the screwdrivers you own will fit into one drawer.
- ☞ Borrowing tools is a sin; not returning borrowed tools is a crime.
- ☞ You've pondered, which came first: the wrench or the screwdriver.

So, quit your grumbling, stop your fussing, and no more belly aching that you're going to change professions or something. Just grab your tools and get back to work. Cause you are what you are, nothing more and nothing less. You're a professional mechanic, something a lot of people don't have the knack or natural talent to ever achieve in their lifetime. The skills of a professional technician aren't in a tool box, or in some video, they're in the hands of the person holding the wrench. All in all, you love your job and your customers, just sometimes, you have to be reminded about it. So, the next time someone asks what you do for a living, hold your head high and tell em'... I'm a mechanic.



Submitted by Chad Klinge, Patrick Henry Local Schools

Spotlight!

MATT HOVEN, OSBMA PAST PRESIDENT

School District: Firelands Local Schools

Position: Mechanic

How long have you been with the OSBMA and what titles have you held?

I have been involved with the Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association for at least 12 years. I started out attending the workshops for education until I was pushed to get involved. If I remember correctly, I started out as an Associate Regional Director, Regional Director, Vice-President, President and Past President. Currently I am at the tail-end of my Past President position.

What do you enjoy most about being part of the OSBMA Executive Committee?

I enjoy our industry connection and meeting other mechanics. Being a part of the Executive Committee gets you closer to the experts. It is not very often in the mechanical field to have such a close connection with OEM and aftermarket providers that will go out of their way to help. OSBMA is lucky to be recognized by the manufacturers as an important group, and for that they spend a lot of resources to promote safe transportation by participating so heavily in our workshops. Networking with other mechanics about what we do and how to do it more efficiently is also a big part of our workshops for me. Using these relationships that I have formed over the years, most issues can be resolved with a phone call to a dealer or fellow mechanic. All of this makes the job of taking care of busses a bit easier.



What do you enjoy doing in your spare time/ hobbies?

One of my hobbies is snowmobiling. I have been snowmobiling in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for many years, covering most of the trails there. I also like spending time working on my antique heavy duty trucks and equipment. Currently I am working on restoring a 1941 Dodge WHA 2 ton truck. When time allows I also like to spend time with friends at my camper.

If you worked for a Traveling Circus what act would best fit your personality?

Act? Not sure.... Repair man maybe? I always like tinkering with things that don't work quite right.

Do you have any hidden talents?

One of my hidden talents is cooking. I like to cook for friends, mostly when I'm out at my camper. I'm always working on the next best concoction to put on the grill or in the smoker...

Which show would you perform better on "Dancing with the Stars" or "The Voice"?

I'll stick with being a mechanic!

What is your favorite television show or Movie?

It's a joke among friends, but 60 minutes...I like the wide range and relevant stories covered.

What are your future plans/ goals in life?

I would like to someday be able to take time and travel. I seem to be so busy these days that it might be a good retirement goal.

West Regional Workshop

Rob Widener, West Regional Director, has planned a regional workshop for the school bus mechanics in the west region. This workshop will take place at the Greenville City Schools Bus Garage, August 2, 2017. Topics include:

Kenworth of Dayton: Will talk about dealership (Allison Transmission may join them)

Paccar: Paccar Bus/Specialty Market - all parts Kenworth of Dayton can offer for buses (BESI may join them)

Fleetguard: Fleetguard filters and coolant

Bendix: Bendix brake shoes and slack adjusters

MGM: brake chambers

Ropple: radiators, condensers, DPF and EGR coolers

Registration information can be found at www.osbma.org

Support School Bus Safety in Ohio!

Ohio School Bus Driver Safety Road-e-o

Westland High School in Galloway, Ohio, South-Western School District was the scene of the 2017 State School Bus Driver Safety Road-e-o. The weather was sunny and cool – no rain! A “rodeo” it was indeed! The theme for the day was a Western—Country Hoedown. Drivers from the eight regions across the state were asked to participate by dressing and bringing decorations for their tables to add to the western, country festivities—and they did! Cowboy hats and boots were a part of the attire. However, out on the road-e-o course, the 48 drivers (6 top drivers from the Regional Road-e-o, held on April 22) were professional all the way.

Everyone was invited to participate in a catered BBQ picnic lunch at noon. We finished with top winners receiving trophies and medallions. Next step for the top winners is the International Road-e-o to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 14 & 15, 2017.

The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association has been involved for many years. We hold three positions on the Road-e-o executive committee (Sara Schlechter, David McClure & Matt Wyatt). Working with the Road-e-o has been a part of our goal of “Promoting Safe and Efficient Pupil Transportation in Ohio!” For more information check out www.ohioschoolbusroadeo.com

National School Bus Safety Week—October 16 - 20, 2017 "STOP ON RED!"

The theme of the 2017 National School Bus Safety Week reminds motorists and students about the dangers that exist outside the school bus. Plan on participating as much as possible by promoting school bus safety to keep our kids safe! For more information, check out www.napt.org/nsbsw

School Bus Poster Contest

Do the kids in your school district participate in the School Bus Safety Week Poster Contest? This is a great way to educate kids on the importance of school bus safety. The **2017** National School Bus Safety Week Poster Contest theme is: **"My Driver – My Safety Hero!"** This poster theme will become the theme for the 2018 National School Bus Safety Week (3rd week in October)

Make sure your art teachers are aware of this fun and educational contest. There are even prizes given for the top scorers in four categories Division I (grades K-2), Division II (grades 3-5), Division III (grades 6-8), and Division IV (Special Education K-12). The full contest rules and entry forms are available at www.education.ohio.gov (search “poster contest”). The deadline is September 15, 2017 so get started on them now!



"My Driver – My Safety Hero!"

Disclaimer: The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association does not necessarily endorse or support any of the advertised products. Products advertised may or may not meet Ohio specifications.

If you would like information on advertising in this quarterly newsletter, please contact:
Chad Klinge (419)769-0472

An advertisement for Thomas Built Buses. It features a large yellow school bus in the center, with two smaller yellow school buses on either side. The background is white with a pattern of grey fingerprints. At the top, the text reads "TECHNICIANS LOVE OUR BUSES, AND OUR HANDS-ON TRAINING PROGRAM." Below this is the Thomas Built Buses logo. At the bottom, there is a large yellow stylized 'm' logo for Myers Equipment Corp., with the text "MYERS EQUIPMENT CORP. Canfield, Ohio" and "www.myersequip.com 800-232-7649". The text "THOMAS BUILT BUSES" is also present at the bottom.

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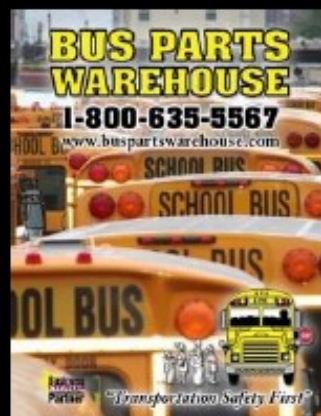
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Do you have school bus industry vendors who would benefit from participating in the OSBMA Vendor Show? Please direct them to our website www.osbma.org for more information.

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**OHIO SCHOOL BUS
INSPECTION MANUAL**
2016

**STATE
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OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL
Licensing and Commercial Standards
statepatrol.ohio.gov

Revision Date: August/2016
ATTENTION SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS:
This is a reference manual for your transportation personnel.

THE OHIO SCHOOL BUS INSPECTION MANUAL IS NOW AVAILABLE!

Visit www.statepatrol.ohio.gov and click on publications at the top. "2016 School Bus Inspection Manual" is listed under Licensing and Commercial Standards Publications.

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