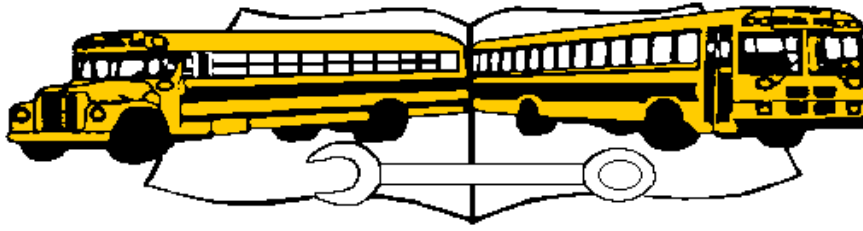


The Mechanic's Messenger



Annual OSBMA Meeting

The members of the Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association met for the annual meeting on October 24, 2019 at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Columbus-Worthington.

The association welcomes new members to the executive committee:

Treasurer—Dave McClure, Ashland City Schools

Central Regional Director—Ryan Gross, Jonathan Alder Local Schools

Southwest Regional Director—Jack Lewis, Oak Hills Local Schools

Congratulations to Tim Myers and Stephen Wagner on receiving their ASE Master School Bus Technicians award. Tim and Stephen were recognized at the OSBMA Annual Workshop in Columbus, Ohio on October 23rd. Pictured is OSBMA President Chris Dingus handing Tim and Stephen their plaques.



Tim Myers
Stark County Board of DD



Stephen Wagner
Napoleon Area City Schools

I spent years putting off the test, but don't let the ASE test intimidate you. I advise you google search for a few practice tests and see how you do. ASE also offers training materials on their website. The trainings OSBMA offers also gives you an edge to help tackle the tests.

If you know your stuff you won't struggle, take your time to read each question and all the answers, usually you can eliminate two right off the back and focus on the two answers left. The Tech A vs. Tech B questions trip me up the worst, don't look too deep into the answers, if it sounds like a dumb answer it probably is. If you are really nervous I would advise you to pay your ASE registration fee and take just one test, see how it goes. If it goes well, try to schedule more testing in that registration period to avoid paying the fee again (they break testing registration up quarterly).

Getting your ASE Master Mechanic award from the OSBMA is a pretty easy process once you pass the test, just fill out the paper work and send it in. I managed to get all of my testing done in a few months' time. It really shows a potential employer you are serious in this career, and it shows a pride in the work you do.

Stephen Wagner, Napoleon Area City Schools

Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association

Volume 27, Issue 1

November, 2019

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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31st Annual OSBMA Vendor Show

The 31st Annual OSBMA Vendor Exhibit Show took place October 22nd. Over 40 school bus industry vendors from across the country (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and even British Columbia, Canada) participated in the best pupil transportation vendor show in Ohio! There were a few new Vendors who decided to take part in the event.

Conlan Tire out of Toledo Ohio set up a table and talked with guys about their product. They offer a great deal on tire recapping and wheel recon, along with new tire sales, Continental, General and Ameristeel. They also offer a mobile alignment service! For more information contact Joe Lewandowski 419-307-6471.

Enertech Labs Inc. came from New York and shared information about there fuel additives. They provide product to 75-100 school bus fleets in New York State. Their success lies in preventing coking and carbon build up in EGR systems, reduce active regeneration and substantially extend the life of DPF's. The product treats the fuel, allows it to burn cleaner and removes water, lowering the gel point. For more information contact Bryan Roth 716-332-9074.

Crest Step On Inc. dba Shure-Step came from Houston, Texas. They brought some lightweight stepping blocks that help reach certain areas while working on school buses. Contact 713-956-5240 for more information about Shure-Step.

Thanks to all who participated!

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Canton Specialty Fleet Services
Cardinal Bus Sales
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Co-Alliance and CountryMark
Conlan Tire
Crest Step On dba Shure-Step
Cummins Sales and Service
D&W Diesel
Decals Plus
DPF Services
Easy Way Safety Services
Eberspaecher Climate Control
Enertech Labs
Enzo's Cleaning Solutions
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The W.W. Williams Company
Thomas Built Buses
Transportation Accessories Co
Truck Sales & Service
Unity School Bus Parts



Monday Night Gathering

The 31st Annual Fall Workshop and Vendor Show was held October 21-23, 2019 at the Doubletree by Hilton Columbus-Worthington. Those who arrived at the Hotel on Monday were welcomed with a warm chocolate chip cookie and absolutely no running water in the building. Who needs running water anyway when there is free wings and drinks within walking distance.



The event kicked off with the Monday Night Gathering at PastTimes Pub, just down the street from the hotel. Thanks to our sponsors: **Cummins Bus Parts & Service**, **Rush Bus Centers of Ohio** and **Unity School Bus Parts**.

We had a great time talking with the guys that represent these companies while eating an endless amount of chicken wings, pretzel bites and salad!

Toss'em Tuesday

The 4th Annual Toss'em Tuesday Cornhole Tournament was held October 22nd. This years sponsors were **Cleveland Tank & Supply**, **Cummins Filtration**, **Enzo's Cleaning Solutions** and **Rush Bus Centers of Ohio**. A huge thanks to these companies for supporting this fun filled evening of corn throwing! We had gift card giveaways, cornhole board raffles and cash payouts for tournament winners!

So lets get down to business and recognize some of the best corn throwers the DoubleTree by Hilton has ever seen! First tournament was an 8 team tournament which paid \$60 for 1st and \$40 for 2nd. First place went to Greg Blessing and Bob Roth (a couple veteran players) and second place went to Charlie Cones and Steve Smithingell (first year attendees). Although Charlie was no beginner—I could tell he's thrown a lot of corn in his day (he maybe a farmer)!

The second tournament of the evening was one of biggest we have ever had. There were 13 teams, paying \$100 for 1st and \$50 for 2nd. The first place winners were Jim Kerner and Chad Klinge (we were pretty much on fire, just saying) and second went to Kevin Goff (who may also be a farmer) and his partner Dave Gordon (with Enzo's).

We made it through the whole night without a cornhole bag hitting the ceiling and nobody spilled a drink!

We are already looking forward to next year, so practice up! Toss'em Tuesday is a great time to relax, socialize and have some fun with our fellow Mechanics.



Jim Kern, Chad Klinge

Kevin Goff, Dave Gordon



Kody Hittle

Jim Kern



Steve Smithingell, Charlie Cones, Greg Blessing, Bob Roth



Mike Venditti



Tim Esposito

Steve Smithingell



Tommy Morgan



Thomas Moritz



Spotlight!

ROB WIDENER, OSBMA WEST DIRECTOR

School District: Greenville City Schools

Position: Bus Mechanic

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

A little over 20 years now. I have served as the West Associate, West Regional Director, Vice President, President and Past President.

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

I enjoy working with the other committee members on workshops and other things within the organization, and meeting and talking to everyone from the mechanics to the vendors and presenters at the workshops.

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

I enjoy model railroading and train watching.

What is your go to karaoke song?

A group of us from the Fire Department sing a changed version of Kenny Chesney's song: She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy. We changed it to: She Thinks My Fire Truck is sexy. Lol

If you had to go trick or treating this year, what would you dress up as?

Oscar the Grouch

If you could trade jobs with anyone in the world who would it be? and why?

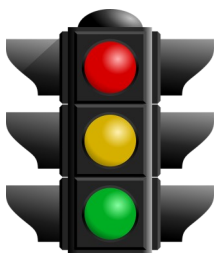
I don't think I would. I am happy the way my family and job have turned out. The phrase "I wouldn't change a thing if I could" comes to mind. I am happy the way everything has happened and is coming together at this time.

What is your favorite Movie of all time?

Ladder 49

What are your future plans/ goals in life?

When I retire from the school I would still like to run Fire and EMS as I am now and do more teaching of Fire and EMS classes. Instead of working some weekends, I would like to make it more steady through the week.



I was driving with my friend. We came to a red light and he speeds up and whips right through it. I start freaking out "Hey man, your going to get us killed!"

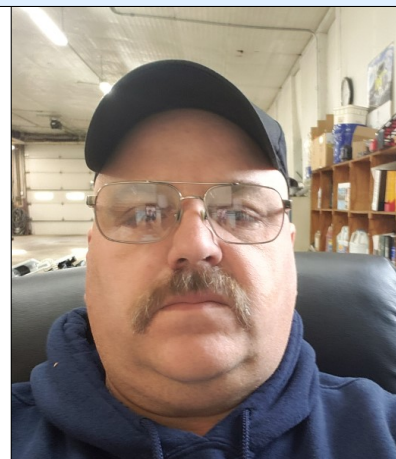
He replies "Relax, my brother drives like this." We come to another red light and he blazes right through. "You're going to get arrested or get us killed!"

"Relax this is how my brother drives."

We come to a green light he stops dead looking both ways.

"Dude, it's green you can go."

"Nah man, my brother might be coming the other way."



*Rob Widener
Greenville City Schools*

America's Best School Bus Technician

The National Association for Pupil Transportation's (NAPT) "America's Best Training & Skills Challenge" will be held December 6-8, 2019 in Cypress, Texas at the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District. Due to the date and location change, Ryan Gross, Jonathan Alder Local Schools will be unable to attend as previously reported. **Stephen Wagner, Napoleon Area City Schools** (pictured on page 1) will be representing Ohio.

The Ohio School Bus Mechanics Association will provide transportation to the contest, lodging and breakfast for the technician. Please join us in wishing him the best as he participates in this event!

TIPS & TRICKS

The next time your under the hood or underneath your bus, spend a little extra time checking out the coolant lines and or hoses. I have found half of our fleet of (2009-2013 Cummins) Blue Bird Visions had the lower radiator hose almost completely rubbed through. There is a steel crossmember or cradle straight below the cooling fan that the lower radiator hose rubs on.

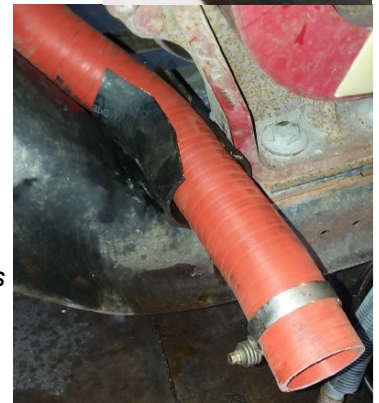
I had one begin to leak so after I replaced it I checked the rest of the fleet and had 9 more buses that were ready to burst at any moment. I also found D.E.F coolant lines rubbing on motor mounts and heater hoses rubbing on valve covers. These hoses are not always routed the best from factory.

The lower picture shows the new hose installed. I take the old hose and cut it then wrap it around the new hose at the spot where it rubs for some extra insurance, preventing it from ruining the new hose.

I hope this TIP will help someone find a bad hose while the bus is in the shop rather than when its out on a route.

FEEL FREE TO EMAIL ME CKLINGE@PHPATRIOTS.ORG
ANY TIPS OR TRICKS YOU MAY HAVE AND
WE CAN SHARE THEM WITH OUR FELLOW MECHANICS.

Chad Klinge, OSBMA Newsletter Editor, Patrick Henry Local Schools



BWC Compensation Safety Intervention Grant

I hope everyone has heard about the Bureau of Workers' Compensation Safety Intervention Grant available to most schools. Private and Public Employers are eligible for a 3-to-1 matching grant, up to \$40,000 for each eligibility cycle. This means BWC gives \$3 for every \$1 the employer contributes. For more information Contact your local BWC Safety Consultant or Ergonomist at 1-800-644-6262 or INFO.BWC.OHIO.GOV.

At Patrick Henry Schools in Northwest Ohio we have taken advantage of this grant the past couple years. We were able to purchase an outdoor JLG lift, indoor Genie lift, undercarriage bus wash system and a Hotsy Diesel powered hot pressure washer. The process is very simple once you have made contact with your Consultant, they do a great job helping you through the paperwork. The Vendors are very helpful as well. Tim Esposito with Enzo's Cleaning Solutions has helped a great deal with the grant as we have purchased different equipment from his Company. His employees Mike, Dave and Ray are always a phone call away for service, sales or installation. 419-502-0007 or ENZOSCLEANING.COM.

Recently we were approved to purchase 5 electrostatic spray guns (from Enzo's) which are filled with a liquid called Vital Oxide. This is a virtually odorless hospital grade sanitizer and disinfectant. One part stable Chlorine Dioxide Formula, no mixing required. Epa category 4, safe for animals and humans. It is a 5 log kill - staph, streph, ecoli, mold and mildew. The sprayer is cordless, lightweight (3.8 lbs) with a 16.8 volt lithium - Ion battery. We purchased one for each School Building, Bus Garage and Weight Room.



*Chad Klinge,
OSBMA Newsletter Editor,
Patrick Henry Local Schools*



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