

Knuckle Buster



Newsletter of the Wisconsin Association of Emergency Vehicle Technicians
www.waevt.com

February 2022

Annual Spring Seminar

We are having a 2-day seminar on May 18th and 19th. The classes which will be held on the 18th and 19th are; DEF/DPF by Pierce Manufacturing, Air Conditioning and an F1 EVT Prep class both given by Spartan Chassis. There will be a Carcinogen Awareness and Reduction Education Presentation by Pierce Manufacturing on Wednesday the 18th as part of the seminar. The annual meeting and officer elections will be held Wednesday during our lunch break. We will again host EVT testing after the close of the seminar on Thursday. ****Please note that since there are class size restrictions at the FVTC Public Safety Training Facility, we are holding the seminar at the FVTC D.J. Bourdini Center. At this time, there are mask mandates at the school. Hopefully they will be lifted at the time of the seminar but please be prepared to wear a mask.****

Annual Elections

We will have a need to have elections for 2 board positions that were up for election in 2021 and for the 3 board positions that were up for elections in 2020. The 2 positions that were up for election in 2021 were the President which is currently held by Brian Toth and the Recording Secretary which is currently held by Skip Burg. Brian is willing to run for reelection and Skip has indicated that he will not be running for reelection. These 2 positions will be elected to a 1-year term to finish the term that will end in 2023.

The 3 board positions that are up for election in 2022 are the Vice President currently held by Tom Thiele, the Executive Secretary currently held by Manny Ortiz and the Treasurer currently held by Randy Klaybor. Manny has indicated that he is willing to continue to serve and Randy and Tom have indicated that they won't be running for reelection for their positions. These 3 positions are 2 year terms.

With that said we will need to fill 3 positions on the board this spring. These 5 men graciously continued serving after their terms were up until we could hold an annual meeting and hold elections again. Please think about running in order to keep our training opportunities going. If you have any questions, please contact one of the board members.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting will take place during the 2022 Spring Seminar on May 18, 2022 during the lunch break.

EVT Testing

2022 nationwide spring testing will be on June 4th and the fall testing will be on October 4th. We will be offering EVT testing again as part of the spring seminar on May 19th. For more information and to register visit www.evtcc.org. If you have any questions about the testing or the certification tracks you can contact board or Mike Meyer, Jon Coutts or Brian Toth.

WAEVT Logo Items



The new t-shirts are a hit! There has been interest in them at the seminars the last couple of years so we will have a selection of the new style for sale at the spring seminar. Pricing is still to be determined.

We also have a number of old t-shirts, polo shirts and hats. We will have them at the seminar if you are interested.

2022 Spring Seminar Planning Underway

At this time, the 2022 fall seminar will be a 1 day seminar. So far we are looking at having an F5 aerial evt prep class. If you have any class suggestions, please contact Brian Toth. The seminar will be in September, date and location are yet to be determined.

EVTA Bulletin Board

Do you have a problem that is causing you trouble and can't figure out? Go to the EVTA Forums and become a member of the site. There is no charge and there are technicians and factory personnel from around the country asking and answering questions on all topics. There are several WAEVT members on the board as well. If you haven't visited the website, it is a very valuable source of information and sharing. You do need to register to post to the site, but there is no cost. Visit the site at www.evta.info/forums.

Facebook F.A.T. Talk Group

F.A.T. Talk is a Facebook group for Fire Apparatus Technicians. It is a great resource to ask for help or lend your knowledge to help another technician that's having trouble with a repair. It is a closed group that must be joined and they do screen to make sure there are only technicians in the group. There are techs from all over North America sharing information. Several WAEVT members are part of the group. If you're on facebook, check it out.

President's Note

It has been a trying 2 years for all of us. All of the departments that we serve are experiencing higher call volumes since the pandemic started. These higher call volumes are increasing the frequency of needed repairs on our apparatus and medical transport units. Not only are we as technicians having to make more repairs but the parts supply chain issues are causing longer out of service times. To make things worse production delays on new vehicles are causing problems trying to keep our fleet replacements current. With all of that put together, costs are skyrocketing causing our budgets to be stretched thin.

As I understand these are the jobs we signed up for, we need to be mindful of decontaminating not only for viruses but also for carcinogens. There are increasing conversations about first fire fighters and the cancer threat that they face. We need to be aware that what gets brought back from the fire ground or the medical call can harm everyone that comes into contact, technicians are included in that group. Make them decontaminate before you work on a vehicle. Also be mindful of the carcinogens in waste oils, fumes from welding/torching, chemicals that we use and the firefighting foam systems that you come in contact with. Last year, I had to update my safety data sheets. While compiling all the data sheets and reading through them, my eyes were opened to the dangers that these chemicals pose. Stay safe, stay healthy.

Lastly, I would like to thank the board members for staying on in their positions during this tough time. Without these men staying on, we wouldn't continue on as an organization. Without having seminars there hasn't been a lot of work to do but just keeping our association solvent during the pandemic is admirable. Tom, Randy and Skip aren't running for reelection and I wish them well in their future endeavors. Please think about serving on the board to keep our association going for current and future techs.

Thanks,

Brian

Website News

The new website is up and running. It is much easier to work with and is more user friendly than the old site. The address is still www.waevt.com.

E-Mail Addresses

If you know of someone that should be receiving our newsletters and information but isn't, please let Brian Toth know so they can be added to our mailing list. Thank you to all those that have provided your e-mail addresses in the past. We would like to utilize e-mail for sending information and newsletters to help keep costs down. Brian can be contacted at waevt.president@hotmail.com

Training Opportunities

WAEVT Fall Seminar September 2022, FVTC Appleton WI

Hale Pump Schools <http://www.haleproducts.com/Main/Content,30,10.aspx>

Pierce Factory Training <http://www.piercemfg.com/company/training.cfm>

EVT Certification Commission <http://www.evtcc.org/>

Spartan Motors www.spartanchassis.com

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