



# AFBEA EDUCATOR

Winter 2009 Issue

Arizona Fire and Burn Educators Association is a 501.c (3) Non-Profit Corporation

## Mission Statement

The Arizona Fire and Burn Educators Association is committed to assisting the communities of the State of Arizona in promoting fire and life safety education. In support of this mission, AFBEA does the following:

- ◆ Provides the public of all ages and abilities with the appropriate behaviors to prevent fire or life safety hazards
- ◆ Effectively educates them in the skills necessary to protect themselves and other when confronted with a fire or life safety hazard.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**By: Janet Morlock-Ward**

Happy Holidays, hope this finds you in good health and happy. I don't know about you but we're more into community service than education this time of year. We will likely provide food to 100 or more families and toys to more than 250 children. I'm a bit worried knowing the economy is likely to bring out more families in need and bring in fewer donations than in the past. It's going to be awkward this year, considering we'll likely be delivery to families who've donated in the past. Fortunately none of our own will be on the list; I hope and pray that's true for you. If it isn't, consider sneaking a Secret Santa package on a door step for friends who need help, but aren't ready to seek or don't quite quality for traditional sources.

If you or another community group in your community deliver Christmas food and/or toy baskets consider adding an educational component by including safety literature (pretty inexpensive if you design and print it yourself) and a smoke alarm check or install. Provide training a dust-buster and a box full of batteries to the delivery "elves" and you can add Holiday Safety to Holiday Joy as delivery rounds are made.

Remember to count your blessing and share when you can with those less fortunate. If your agency or any group you are a member of does a holiday gift exchange consider this idea practiced by a local church that supports the fire departments' Christmas Drive. They draw names for a gift exchange after their Christmas Caroling Hay Ride and a meal of homemade soups and desserts...here's the twist...you wrap and give a gift you believe the recipient would have loved as a child, they unwrap it, laugh and tells tales of their youth, than load it in the back of a truck for delivery to the FDs "North-Pole". The coach in the crowd gets a football and basketball, an older woman who dresses to perfection the coolest collection of dress-up clothes, jewelry and a tiara...great idea, don't you think? Beats getting another set of snowmen salt & pepper shakers and it's just nice to share. How much stuff do we need knowing that Family and Friends are the Greatest Gift of All.

**Wishing you the best during the Holidays and Throughout the New Year.**

## ARIZONA FIRE & BURN EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

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#### ARIZONA PIO ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE

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### AFBEA Website

Check out our website at <http://www.afbea.org>. The website contains the meeting minutes, by-laws and copies of past newsletters. We have a children's page for kids to download coloring sheets and activities. We also have pages on emergency preparedness and juvenile firesetters.

While on the website make sure you check the Events section for upcoming training.

### The Newsletter Needs Your Help!

Please send any local stories of interest, local events, new station openings, new teaching methods, promotions, or anything to share with everyone. The newsletter should provide a means of sharing to all of AFBEA's membership.

Please send your correspondence to: AFBEA, P O Box 7227 Goodyear, AZ 85338 or email them to [afbea@att.net](mailto:afbea@att.net)

### AFBEA Mailing Address:

AFBEA  
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Organization

## ARIZONA FIRE SERVICE HALL OF FAME HONORS BEVERLY BURNS

By: Janet Morlock, AFBEA President



I was honored to be present for Beverly Burns' induction into the Fire Service Hall of Fame during opening ceremonies at 2009 State Fire School. Bev, a recently retired Public Fire Safety Educational Specialist served with the Tempe Fire Department for 25 years. Bev is also a founding member of AFBEA and has served on the board in a variety of capacities since the beginning. Bev was a founding member of the Drowning Prevention Coalition of Central Arizona, has served for Maricopa Safe Kids and is a member of the NFPA 1035 and the standards committee for Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist (JFS), serving on the board for the Arizona Youth Firesetter

Intervention Task Force. Honors include Arizona Educator of the Year and Elk's Safety Education Specialist of the Year.

Bev has developed programs for JFS for middle and high school, Fire and Life Safety programs for pre and elementary schools, Kitchen Safety and Babysitter programs for middle and high school students. Bev started programs for car seats and JFS in Tempe as well. Bev teaches at the national, state and international level promoting life safety and instilling a passion much like her own in the students who attend; I know this because Bev has played a huge role in developing my enthusiasm for community safety and injury prevention.

Bev has touched the lives of well over 100,000 children and adults during her career; as a result Tempe has not had a child drowning or fire fatality since 1998. She has also helped foster a sense of community in Tempe, partnering with other groups to offset costs and help with Tempe's programs. Bev has been successful in obtaining federal grants to support programs that provided door-to-door smoke alarm checks and free installations.

Bev has been an anchor for public safety education not only for Tempe but throughout the state and the country. Her educational efforts have touched hundreds of thousands directly and indirectly as those she trains reach out to others. Bev continues to be involved in the fire service as a member of AFBEA and other organizations. She is currently working on an educational curriculum that meets Department of Education's standards that she hopes to have implemented in schools throughout the state.

Bev's impact on both the state and national level has been instrumental in making Public Education a respected component of the fire service. Enjoy retirement, but not so much that you don't have time for us.

**Congratulations and Thank for Your Years of Fighting Fire with Education.**

## 2008 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



At this years State Fire School Jean Machnicki, Community Service Coordinator for the Gilbert Fire Department was named the 2008 Arizona Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year. Jean is the sole person for the Gilbert Fire Department responsible for all Fire Prevention events and education. She works without any assigned staff and with very limited assistance. The programs Jean conducts are numerous and continuous throughout the year, these are just a few examples; Car Seat Program, School Talks, Juvenile Firesetter Program, Smoke Detector Program, April Pool's Day Event, Water Safety Walk Event, Back to School Shopping Event, Everyday Hero

Contest, Helmets for Children Program, Television Messages and ordering and maintaining all the promotional materials. In addition to the programs that Jean does for the department, she is also involved in many groups related to Fire Prevention and Education, these include the Drowning Prevention Coalition, Juvenile Firesetter Taskforce and Safe Kids Coalition

Although each of these accomplishments are milestones within themselves Jean's greatest accomplishment is that she manages to complete all of the above projects and many more within a forty hour week and on a shoestring budget.

Congratulation Jean, Job Well Done!

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Characterization Through Clowning & Puppetry Camp

By Stacy Figueroa, Committee Chair

We've got professional educators from Departments all over the country all week long, with our professional Clown/Entertainer from the show business side coming in for the last half of the week. We promise there is something for everyone at this years camp.

Camp will be held February 1-4, 2010 at Bullhead City, Arizona. Registration fees are \$200 for AFBEA Members and \$240 for Non-AFBEA Members (which includes one year free membership to AFBEA). The hotel will once again is Harrah's, Laughlin, NV – rates \$22.00 plus tax for Sunday – Thursday. \$70 plus tax if you come in on Saturday.

We have workshops covering, Safety messages kids remember; Recruiting & retaining your clowns while keeping your chief happy; Sound software and editing; Using music in your program; Safety for seniors; Educational methodology; When you're the only one; Giving your puppet a personality; Low cost one/two person shows; Group and character dynamics and development; Lights, cameras, action-green screen; Prop Building; Beginning character development-finding your character; Set construction; Magic with a message; Script writing; proper staging/stage presence just to mention a few.

To register go to <http://www.afbea.org/Events.htm> then click on registration online. Hope to see you all there!.

## Training

### National Fire Academy (NFA) Classes Coming Your Way

Janet Morlock

Class Code	Class Name (2-day unless except R132)	Host Dept	When
R132	Fire and Life Safety Plans Review (6-day)	Bullhead City	February 8-13, 2010
F290	Training Operations in Small Departments	Huachuca City	March 20-21, 2010
F275	High Risk Population: Age/Disability	Verde-Valley	April 12-13,2010
F344	Methods of Enhancing Safety Ed	Northwest	August 10-11, 2010
F276	Socioeconomic Factors: Rural/Urban	Rio Rico	October 28, 29, 2010

## New Members / Members Anniversaries

### *New Members*

Jean Machnicki, Gilbert Fire Department  
Kevin Garrelts, Wittmann Fire District

### *Anniversaries*

#### January

Nate Bare, 4 years  
Maria Hawkes, 5 years  
Jesus` Roberto Martinez Marthez, 2 year  
Gary Mattern, 3 years  
Alan Perry, 2 year  
Myrna Raya, 2 year  
Michael Reichling, 22 years  
Jason Willoughby, 3 years  
Ray Whitman, 22 years

#### February

Carrie Abts, 6 years

#### February, (con'td)

Barry Bunzell, 5 years  
Maria Fickerts, 8 years  
Mike Flummer, 20 years  
Euriel Gutierrez, 5 years  
Mark Johnson, 5 years  
Roy Lippman, 5 years  
Brett Mierendorf, 5 years  
Keith Tanner, 15 years  
Isabel Vasquez, 3 years  
Chris Weaver, 9 years

#### March

Christian Christensen, 2 year  
Jeff Thomas, 11 years  
Maria West, 15 years

## John Hopkins and NFPA Study

First time groups work together to enhance fire safety education

October 13, 2009 – The [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA) and the [Center for Injury Research and Policy](#) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH) announced a joint project titled *Strengthening the Impact of Fire and Life Safety Messages on Children*. The goal is to determine the best way to communicate fire safety messages to children ages 3-9. Each year approximately 290 children ages 3-9 die as a result of fire in the U.S. This project is made possible by funding from FEMA's Grant Programs Directorate, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, AFG Fire Prevention and Safety Grants.

“Fire departments and other safety educators reach out to millions of children each year to help them learn how to keep themselves safe from fire and other hazards,” said Judy Comoletti, NFPA's division manager of public education. “As safety educators, it is vital that we understand and continually re-view what types of messaging have the greatest impact on children when encouraging them to practice safe behaviors. Resources being developed through this project will guide us and others interested in ways to best reach this young audience and their families with life-saving information.”

Through this project, the two organizations are seeking to increase safety behaviors among children. Children will be asked to observe video vignettes that vary how safety content is communicated and how safety messages are framed. Researchers will evaluate what they learn, which types of messages have the most impact on children and how their parents react to the program.

“The outcomes of this study will contribute to understanding how children and their parents react to safety messages,” said Andrea Gielen, ScM, ScD, director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy. “Despite the fact that injuries are the number one cause of death for children in the U.S., little is currently known about how best to reach them with safety information.”

To ensure the outcomes of this study will impact future health education work, a guide for developing educational materials will be developed to help others involved in fire and life safety programs. The guide will be available on NFPA's Web site for use by any fire department or other fire safety organization. The project is slated to be completed by July 2010.

ARIZONA FIRE AND  
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**Prevention Through  
Education**

## **Arizona Fire and Burn Educators Association**

### **2009 Quarterly Meeting Dates**

December 3rd      Scottsdale Fire Department

Meeting start at 9:00 AM, Lunch will be provided.