



THE REVIEW

Central Arizona Fire and Medical - 8603 E. Eastridge Dr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 – **June 21, 2019**

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Quote of the Week

"People who wonder if the glass is half full or half empty are missing the point. The glass is refillable."
 -Unknown

CAFMA FIREFIGHTERS CHARITIES Golf Tournament

StoneRidge Golf Course

Prescott Valley, Arizona



SAVE THE DATE

October 5, 2019

Golf –Scramble Format

Check-in 7:00 am – Start 8:00 am

Buffet lunch and raffle included

Sponsorship or for more information

Jaron Kirk 928-853-5142 or Jkirk@cazfire.org

Cody Rafters 928-533-8331 or Crafters@cazfire.org

Registration: www.iafflocal3066.org/golf

Reserve Your Hotel Room
 Hampton Inn
 2901 N. Glassford Hill Rd, Prescott Valley, AZ
 928-772-1800



In partnership with IAFF Local 3066 and Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority



The Chief's Desk

I will start this week by revisiting last week for a moment. Four is a number. Fore is a term used in golf to warn people before they potentially get hit with your golf ball. Spellcheck is wonderful for misspelled words, but does not identify when you use the correctly spelled incorrect word..... Thankfully I did not have to yell fore yesterday – really, it wouldn't have mattered for that house anyway 😊

I'm sure by now you have all heard, read, or viewed news reports of a recent police involved incident in Phoenix. Just so you know upfront, I am not writing my opinion in support of or against any parties related to this encounter. Rather, I'm looking from a 30,000' view of our society in general.

We had a conversation in the NAU ethics class I teach this past Wednesday about the possible ethical issues surrounding the event, but what I was hearing went beyond just ethical standards. As I've discussed in *The Review* before, we live in a world of instant access. This does not mean that you have instant access to the entirety of a story, just that you have access to some part of it.

With the advent of the video capable smart phones and social media anything anyone does can be instantaneously uploaded to the World Wide Web. What people on the viewing side tend to forget is that there is a lot more to any given situation than just the short clip you see on-line. Every situation has a definitive beginning, middle, and end. Without each one of those components, you really have no idea what happened. What you do have is speculation, innuendo, and/or WAGs.

The interesting thing about some of the videos we see on-line is that they likely did not catch the very beginning of an incident, and they certainly do not roll tape to the conclusion of the incident – okay, I know, roll tape is an old term. This doesn't mean that anyone is purposely hiding something; it's just that the situation may not have warranted attention at the beginning, but once it escalated it became "news" worthy. We never really do see the end, because the end is not at the end of the video. Rather, the end is at the end of a full investigation.

As a society, we've become quick to pass judgement based on bits and pieces of the story. Unfortunately, once an investigation is complete and the truth is revealed, it's generally too late. People at that point have formed their opinion so anything that counters what they thought they knew must have been fabricated to hide the truth. Is it a conspiracy to cover up, or does the truth not fit the narrative a person or group of people wants to perpetuate? Continued page 4

Upcoming Events:

June 24 – Board meetings
June 25 – Chino Town Council Meeting
June 26 – Morning meeting, afternoon meeting with YC
June 27 – Rodeo Chamber Mixer, Town of PV Council Meeting

Board Meeting:

June 24th Chino Valley Council Chambers

CVFD – 1600-1630
CYFD – 1630-1700
CAFMA – 1700-1830



More Than Wild Hogs - Rest in Peace, Malibu

By: Fire Chief Scott Ferguson

The Axemen lost another brother.



A few months ago, I shared a post about the importance of maintaining some kind of balance between the rigors of being a firefighter and whatever else it takes to put a smile on your face. Such a conversation usually starts with family, extends to a few golf strokes, an annual vacation, or maybe just hanging out with a pack of buddies at the local McDonalds, telling lies about the good 'ole days.

At the time, David (Professor) and I were fresh off of a 5,849-mile cross-country motorcycle ride. My brother (Ferg) is firefighter and member of the Axemen Motorcycle Club in Washington State. For some time, he had been trying to convince me to join, so last August we decided to embark on a trip to the mother chapter in Detroit. Each day, Axemen from other states joined our convoy— I think we rolled in tight with 25 to 30 scrappy looking bikers, before finally settling in at the Motor City Casino.

The trip spawned some amazing memories and a lot of laughs. It also provided me with a lot of time to think, particularly about what's important in life and how I had been spending my time. This experience eventually led to 10 firefighters starting the first chapter of the Axemen in California; we were number 30 in the Nation.

Things with the club had been moving along as expected. The 48-96 work shifts continue to make large rides difficult to schedule, but several members have been able to get out to the bars and other club functions to show off their new colors. In fact, just last weekend we secured our first two prospects, bringing our number to 12. You could tell that there was a good vibe among our guys – summer was coming and the two additions made it feel that our pack would soon grow very quickly. Unfortunately, that satisfaction lasted just about 30 minutes, before it flat-lined with a single phone call.

One of our first 10 charter members was named Vince Rodgers. He had retired from the Riverside Fire Department a little over four years ago. Vince and his wife, Beth, owned a Harley and loved to ride, so when they heard about the chapter forming, the decision to join seemed easy. All members eventually earn a road name, often from some embarrassing moment or bonehead decision that they could not shake. Vince's new handle was Malibu and Beth became Lola; the story of how their names were earned predated our friendship but, it seemed appropriate for a couple of beach drifters from California.

[FireEngineering](#)

Work-Life Balance in the Fire Service

By: Nicola Davies

“Work-life balance” has become the latest buzz phrase in the work arena. So many people want to find that “sweet spot” between work and the rest of life. However, this becomes particularly challenging when your work is to ensure the safety of others. Sometimes it is easy to forget your own needs when

your job is to be at the service of everyone else. This article highlights the importance of work-life balance in the fire service and provides advice on how you can achieve it.

You are More Than Your Job



Firefighters are humans too. You have a life outside of your shift. You may have a family to spend time with, the Sunday ballgame to catch, or a hobby to pursue. You may have that “staycation” with Netflix that you have been wanting for such a long time. The point is, even though you are in a career that is extremely vital to the nation, you need balance just like everyone else. More importantly, you need work-life balance.

So, what exactly is work-life balance? The definitions are as varied as those who try to define the phrase, but there is consensus that it is when work and the rest of life come together in a way that results in the worker feeling fulfilled. With specific reference to firefighters, it is when you can give the shift all it deserves while still being able to serve yourself in your own time so that your needs are taken care of. Ultimately, work-life balance is found when the humanity of the firefighter is not diminished by serving humanity.

[FireRescue](#)

Chief’s Desk Continued

The initial pressure on organizations at the beginning of a media frenzy like this can be enormous. There is an outcry to take some definitive action without having completed an investigation. People begin choosing sides, media outlets are looking for anyone willing to speak with them without regard for their actual knowledge of the incident, and political pressures mount.

I listened to the students in class talk about the “facts” as they knew them based on a variety of different news accounts. After listening for a few minutes I started asking some questions just to make them think a little more before passing judgement. I don’t necessarily want to get into the questions here as someone could misinterpret what I write, and there is no good that could come from that.

The bottom line is that we, as a society, need to take advantage of the pause. We need to start taking the time to realize that there may be more to the story we simply don’t know. Passing judgement is easy; waiting patiently for all the facts can be difficult.

Remember, in my opinion at least, we no longer have journalists, or journalistic integrity. Journalists have been replaced by reporters who simply report what they see and hear without any real investigation. We also live in a digital age with blogs and social media that have given rise to a new group of courageous people not afraid to voice their opinion on any given topic, situation, person, or

other group of people from behind a computer screen. There is no filter, no rules, and seemingly no repercussions.

As an example, the Town of Prescott Valley recently posted a story about Police Chief Bryan Jarrell's retirement. It was a nice story about a man who dedicated 5 years of his life to the community, and far more years of dedication in total to his profession. We all have things we like and dislike about those in positions of authority, but what I read in some of the comments was just vile. Honestly, I was absolutely disgusted and disappointed, but unfortunately not surprised. I'm not sure what happened to civility, but I sure hope we can find it again.

I would encourage everyone reading this to practice taking a breath, a moment to practice the pause so to speak, and not be so quick to pass judgement. There is always more to the story than you know. I'd also encourage civility, civil discourse, and kindness towards one another. It's a crazy world we live in with all the technology and instantaneous access. The constant barrage of information can make your head spin. Reminds me of a Seinfeld episode where Jerry switches apartments with Kramer for a period of time – YouTube it.....

I think I'll just avoid the news, and try to limit the level of negativity I allow myself to be exposed to each day. Take a break, take a breath, and try to remain positive – life is just too short.
