



Arizona APCO & NENA Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2

March 2003

NENA President's Message



Sheila Blevins

Marana PD

I hope that all who could attend the Western Regional in Las Vegas in February had a good trip. It's great that we could support our neighboring chapter with such a big endeavor. I was very pleased to hear that several people were still talking about the Western Regional that our chapters sponsored the previous year. Our committees and those who were brave enough to chair them did

an outstanding job.

I am encouraged by the increased attendance we have experienced at our general meetings. The Board has taken a hard look at ways to improve the quality of time that we spend together at those meetings. We have tried to encourage people to provide short presentations to edify but until now we haven't had any interest. With some encouragement, we have found a few people and organizations that are

willing to share their experiences with others. So plan on spending a little more time at the upcoming general meetings. Don't forget our training class scheduled for March 3rd, see the website for additional information. This training includes a year's membership in APCO as well as NENA. Encourage a nonmember to attend this valuable training. Keep up the hard work. See you at the next meeting.

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APCO President's Message

Karen Allen

Tempe PD

At the last APCO/NENA Board meeting we discussed ways to make the General Meetings more productive and encourage attendance and I believe we came up with an answer. Our meeting in Mesa on March 21st will have two guest speakers. John Gantt from LoJack will do a presentation and answer

questions about the LoJack system. This will give everyone an opportunity to learn more about the system's capabilities. After that, Mike Lindsey from the City of Tempe will give an overview of the new trailer that they have assembled, called the Mobil Interoperability Recovery Vehicle (MIRV). This trailer has an ACU1000 on board that has the ability to "patch" radios from dif-

ferent agencies together, allowing them all to talk. We used it for the festivities in Tempe during the Fiesta Bowl and were able to allow Tempe, and ASU officers to talk without ever changing channels on their radios. The discussion will be of interest to both the technical and operational members. With all of the conflict and major events that have been occurring it

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Telecommunicator of the Year
Deana Jack
Tucson Police Department



Line Supervisor of the Year
Becky Castillo
DPS-FI agstaff

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WINNERS

W
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D



Technician of the Year
Brian Keast
City of Mesa



Comm. Center Manager of the Year
Ellen Anderson
Southwest Ambulance



Next APCO/NENA meeting:
 March 21, 2003, 10:00 a.m.
 Mesa Training Academy Auditorium
 3260 N 40th St
 Mesa, AZ

AARC meeting held prior to the general meeting

Directions: (See maps above)
 From the 202:
 S on Greenfield to Virginia - turn right (W)
 S on Norwalk to Quenton (no other choice)
 W on Quenton to 40th Street
 Training facility is right at the corner of
 Quenton and 40th Street

Questions:
 call Liz Hunt at 480-644-2130

APCO President's Message (continued)

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is important for us to be aware of our resources and what they can do for us. If you have ideas for future topics, please contact any NENA or APCO Board member with your ideas.

I would encourage those of you that are not already a member of the NENA and/or APCO list-serve to join. It's a great way to share information, to learn what other agencies are doing and

to realize that we are all dealing with similar issues. APCO and NENA members routinely ask questions of each other and share answers. Lately the APCO list-serve has discussed eve-

"Mike Lindsey from the City of Tempe will give an overview of the new trailer that they have assembled, called the Mobil Interoperability Recovery Vehicle (MIRV)."

rything from 911 hang up calls from pay phones to evacuation plans, and given out information about the grant funds that are available through APCO. If you are not aware, APCO has Grant Funds Available for Wireless 9-1-1 Implementations: The Public Safety Foundation of America was established by APCO to receive and distribute funds to assist public safety communications agencies. You can gather more information at www.psfu.us.

APCO has placed information on Homeland Security on their web page with information to get you started on a plan for your agency. The APCO Homeland Security White Paper can be

located at http://www.apco911.org/about/gov/HST_FWP.pdf. There are many details and several items that will make you think about what you are going to do if a catastrophe hits your area. It reminds us all about how important it is to plan ahead and remember that it can happen here.

I want to thank to Mary Dysinger-Franklin and Susan Loll for all of their hard work on this newsletter. They spend a lot of time gathering information to share with all of us. If you have any ideas or would like to write an article, I'm sure they would appreciate hearing from you. Their contact information can be located in the back of this newsletter. I look forward to seeing all of you at the next APCO/NENA meeting in Mesa.

National Telecommunicator Week

April 13-19, 2003 is National Telecommunicator Week. The Arizona Chapters of APCO and NENA formed a committee and donated money to plan a celebration for the State's Telecommunicators. The committee has been hard at work making plans, searching for donations, and finding out how many Telecommunicators we have here in Arizona. To help celebrate, the committee had

plans to have a picnic or two with donations from the community and public safety vendors. With the sluggish economy we were unsuccessful in securing that amount of support. We are however, putting the finishing touches on packages for each of the Telecommunicators. At the March 21 meeting we

Telecommunicators
Celebrate
April 13-19, 2003

will be handing out these packages. We hope to hand out as many as possible so if you are unable to attend please try and make arrangements to have your center's packages picked up. The committee will be contacting each of the PSAP managers for help in making these arrangements.

NENA Annual Conference Tuition Scholarship Program

Once again, NENA is offering conference scholarships for the NENA 2003 Annual Conference. This scholarship program assists public safety professionals in reaching a higher level of knowledge by participating in the NENA Annual Conference. The program also assists with the cost of professional development, thereby

contributing to agencies' abilities to provide continuing education. The scholarship program also enhances the Association's goal of One Nation-One Number by providing scholarship preference to those agencies that have not deployed E9-1-1.

You may be eligible to receive the NENA conference scholarship for your

conference registration fee, one educational pre-conference course, and hotel for five nights. Visit the NENA website at www.nena9-1-1.org and look for the Denver Annual Conference for more information and an application, or call NENA Headquarters at 800-332-3911.

APCO Executive Council Report

APCO Executive Council Report Susan MacFarlane

The International APCO Executive Council held their mid-year meeting on February 8th and 9th in conjunction with the Western Regional Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. The two-day meeting was moderated by Xavier Anderson from the New Mexico Chapter and had a very full agenda.

The Executive Council received staff reports from the APCO Headquarters staff as well as presentations from the many APCO committees. The primary focus of the meetings dealt with the APCO budget for next fiscal year and a budget restructuring of this year's budget. APCO Headquarters' staff submitted a plan to revitalize the APCO

Institute by transferring funds to enable the updating of training materials and generating a stronger marketing campaign.

The plan also outlined a mechanism to fund an Association Management System. This system will be one database for all areas of the organization. The current system is separate databases that are not connected resulting in membership information errors. This has been very frustrating for the members of APCO who must be transferred between different departments when trying to get information from the National office.

The plan also recommends a dues increase for the membership beginning in 2004. A detailed analysis was completed on the cur-

rent membership dues and comparisons to similar organizations were conducted. The recommendation is for a \$20 increase for each membership level. A dues increase can only occur by a vote of the APCO quorum at the National Conference in August. The Executive Council approved the drafting of a resolution to submit to the membership for vote at the Indianapolis conference. The dues increase created much debate but is ultimately needed to ensure the members of APCO receive the type of service they need from headquarters' staff.

This is a very brief overview of the meetings so if you have any questions please feel free to contact me directly at 602-262-4433.



Arizona APCO

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We're on the Web

www.az.-apco-nea.org



APCO/NENA

Mission Statement

Arizona APCO/NENA
is dedicated to
promoting the issues of
public safety communications to the
public and to educating
Public Safety Professionals to
enhance career development.