

AEMTA Symposium & Trade Show

Welcome First Time Attendee...

and returning attendees!

We on the Conference Planning Committee and AEMTA Board extend greetings and information. 2015 saw the very first edition of this little information treasure trove to make The AEMTA Educational Symposium and Trade Show less intimidating to our "Conference rookies".

We hoped it would help Conference rookies to navigate their time here more efficiently and make for a more enjoyable first experience so they would return. We received much positive feedback, so we're back with the expanded 2017 edition!

We appreciate your input. Perhaps one year you may join the Conference Planning Committee and share some ideas of your own.

First Stop....Registration

Top 10 Registration Tips

1. All registrations must be submitted online, whether preregistration or onsite.
2. All refund requests must be submitted to the Treasurer in writing no later than Sept 1, 2017 sedley.tomlinson@yahoo.com
3. Please review everything in your registration packet as it contains valuable information about classes, the Trade Show, entertainment, social events and much more.
4. On-site registration can answer most questions and for others, can point you in the right direction for help.
5. Full conference registration receives **an armband for the banquet** on Saturday. You must wear it to attend the banquet. Extra armbands for friends, coworkers, spouses, etc are on sale at registration for \$40.
6. Your Conference ID is necessary to verify class attendance. Should you lose your ID, go to Registration. Once Registration closes you will need to keep a list of your classes and have the person scanning at the door sign your form. At the

end of conference mail the form to Jennifer Davis, 10 Medical Services Drive Morrilton, AR 72110 for manual entry.

7. You will be given surveys on each class you attend as well as an overall conference email survey. Please complete these surveys as your responses are vital to the success of future conferences, perhaps even lowering costs to you! As you attend classes and events we suggest you keep a few notes to jog your memory for this later email survey.
8. For any scanning issues, please visit the registration desk.
9. After scanning into a class, you should receive an email with the class you attended, if not, please visit registration so we can verify your email address.
10. For last minute schedule/class changes there is an information board next to registration. We will also have a laptop with the most current class schedule.

Second stop.....FOOD

Morning breakouts Thurs. through Sun. Grand Lobby (Sunday upstairs)

7:00-10:00 or until the food is gone. Coffee, juice, fruit, muffins, pastries, sausage & ham biscuits and fruit bowls.

Concession Stands

Upstairs above registration Thursday 11:00-3:00

In the Trade Show Friday 11:00-2:00 (longer if business is good)

Saturday 11:00-1:00

Trade Show

Friday Meet & Greet 12:00 until the food is gone.

Scrumptious variety of gourmet items served up by your committee and board members. Sponsored by the Trade Show vendors

Some of the vendors will also be providing snack items during the show.

Friday Night

There is no Friday Night Entertainment this year.

“Rollin’ With the Oldies” Room 102: Cheese & fruit tray, coffee and lemonade.

Saturday Night Banquet

Horner Hall opens at 5:00 Buffet line 5:30-until the food is gone (about 7:00)

Awards start at 6:30.

Third Stop...The Trade Show

There is an entirely new floor plan this year.

We encourage everyone to enter at the new Grand Entrance of Hall A. All other doors should be reserved for emergency exits only, thanks.

In addition to the Educational Symposium, the conference also includes a Trade Show, formerly known as the Vendor Hall. The Trade Show not only showcases new equipment and practices, but allows for a great deal of networking in addition to fun.

Due to changes in the CEU process, there will be no general CEU opportunities in the Trade Show. There will be one Instructor opportunity.

In years past the Trade Show represented an opportunity to buy all those personal items so necessary to our jobs, but as smaller companies were bought out by larger ones, the onsite presence gave way to Internet Sales and we soon had none selling on site. We've worked very hard and have found some companies still wanting a face to face sales opportunity. Check the information board and easels near and in the Trade Show for the booth numbers of these special vendors.

The Sneak Peek came about as a way to save vendors a hotel night. They set up and open on Thursday. In the past, we've had some unique events during the Sneak Peek like the "Classical Gas Light Show". Free snacks will be available from some vendors.

The Meet & Greet is inspired by the idea of "have food and they will come". It is sponsored by the vendors and gives everyone an opportunity for some intensive networking without a class conflict. There will be more food this year.

Two years ago, we started the "**Vendor Assist Team**" which was a huge success. Anyone can volunteer, even for as little as 30 minutes. You roam the hall in your distinctive vest and answer questions, offer bathroom breaks, make a food run or allow a vendor to do so. Come to the Trade Show during set up or open hours and volunteer on the spot. See T.A. in the Information Booth. No experience necessary, just bring your enthusiasm.

Personal Market Place New last year and a huge hit. We have expanded the area with many more vendors. Explore a variety of crafts and personal items for sale and maybe get your Christmas Shopping done early.

Door Prizes: Continuous drawings, check the Information Booth for your name. Any prizes not claimed by Sat. noon will be re-drawn and you must be present to win.

Blood Drive: We continue our new partnership with the non-profit Arkansas Blood Institute. All the blood stays in Arkansas for the 23 hospitals they currently serve. There

will be hand out info in the booth during the Sneak Peek. Stop by to donate Friday 11:00-4:00 and Saturday 9:00-1:00

Arkansas Heart Hospital is offering free risk assessment testing Saturday from 8:00-12:30. It only takes about 10 minutes.

OTHER TOPICS....

Scanning

AEMTA found a better way to track CEUs with Cvent which allows the Association to house its membership, conference registration and CEU tracking in one place. Through Cvent we scan each attendee into the sessions, send an email alert and email a total CEU record at the end of conference.

*If you are 15 minutes late to a class you **will not** be scanned in.*

CEUs

All Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are pre-approved through the Arkansas Department of Health's Section of EMS. CEUs are available for all classes and may be used at any level of certification except instructor. Specific classes that contain teaching components have Instructor CEUs available and are noted in the program. All CEUs are valid for both State and National certifications. Earning CEUs can be expensive. Our conference gives you a great value, averaging less than \$5 a CEU.

The procedure for relicensing is changing. Be sure to visit the Department of Health booth for updates.

The General Meeting

The AEMTA General Meeting is held once every year at Conference. It is the most important meeting for the general membership. It's a time for members to voice their opinions, vote on proposed changes, see where the association has been and where we are going.

This is the time regional board members are elected who will represent members for the coming year.

The general meeting is "The State of the Association". This is your opportunity for input to the future of Arkansas EMS.

AEMTA Memorial

The Memorial honors and remembers those EMS providers who have left us in the past year or given their life in the line of duty. This includes, but is not limited to, First Responders/Firefighters, EMT's and Paramedics.

The Memorial is a moving ceremony, but also a joyful reminder of the lives our lost comrades led. It is a time to reflect on the people and activities they cared so much for. All attendees are encouraged to attend and thus pay tribute to our lost AEMTA family members.

Arkansas EMS Foundation (AEMSF)

Since its inception in 2006 the AEMSF has provided benevolence gifts and scholarships to AEMTA members and EMS Professionals in Arkansas. The Scholarship fund is available to individuals in Arkansas pursuing their EMT, Advanced EMT, or Paramedic training and licensure and is based on financial need.

The eleven-member board works throughout the year with fundraising events and drives to maintain the funds for this. One of these is the EMS license plate, for each one sold the AEMSF receives \$25.

Last year's rifle was a very popular raffle item, but unfortunately the gun was back ordered this year. We will have a beautiful quilt designed and made by Ms. Brenda Stewart as the main raffle item. The winning tickets for these special items will be drawn at the Awards Banquet.

The annual Silent Auction is loaded with items donated by individuals, companies and many of our very own vendors. Donated items are available for viewing during Trade Show hours. Bidding will close at 1:00 Saturday so check your bids frequently. You must pay and claim your items by 2:00 Saturday.

The Table of Honor

At the Saturday night awards banquet, we take time for the moving "Table of Honor" ceremony to remember those who died in the line of duty. Seated at the table and represented by the headgear of their services are Emergency Medical Service, Law Enforcement, US Military and the Fire Service. Whether experiencing the ceremony for the first time or the 10th, it is sure to bring a chill and a tear.

Competitions Heads Up...the competitions are outside this year. There will be a cooling tent. Each society (except Instructor) has a competition. These are scenario based and some may have a written test. For the first time, there will be an Air Medical competition. Skills and knowledge are tested in a fun, yet educational manner. Judging is according to National Registry standards and the top 3 places are recognized at the awards banquet. This year's competition will stress real-life scenarios, hence the outdoor venue.

The Valsalva Bowl Come enjoy learning in a completely different setting. This is a fast-paced trivia competition that tests the participants knowledge of EMS facts. The format is a bracket play style, with teams of 3 competing against each other with the winner moving onto the next round. Be prepared to laugh and learn from these sessions. CEUs are awarded for both spectators and teams. This competition is limited to the first 8 teams signing up. Finals will be held Friday night.

The EMS Challenge will be outside this year with the other competitions. You may preregister or sign up on Thursday (\$45 per team of two). This is a fun competition, but prizes will be awarded. Give it a shot or support those competing. We will be available for fun tries after the official challenge.

The Societies of AEMTA

These are a vital part of the organization and consist of Fire/EMS, First Responder, Instructor, Industrial and Paramedic.

Each society has a president on the AEMTA board and a spot on the Planning Committee. Each society member works in that particular field. Anyone can join during conference (dues are currently \$10 for each society). Each society holds a meeting at conference which anyone can attend where they discuss business and define their roles for the coming year. Each Society has bylaws similar to the AEMTA's.

The Fire/EMS Society is the newest since more cities are going toward fire-based EMS. This group facilitates the education specific to them and works with the Fire Academy to get Fire CEUs.

The First Responder Society is for Emergency Medical Responders and is a voice for those not yet recognized by the state.

Instructor Society is working to make Arkansas instructors the best in the nation by providing high quality education for our instructors and membership and is open to any Arkansas licensed EMT instructor. EMS instructors meet every 3rd month at the ADH section of EMS. We encourage all Arkansas EMS educators to join and thus have a voice and role in educational changes. To join:

www.facebook.com/groups/arkansasemseducators, google email group: <https://groups.google.com/d/forum/arkansas-ems-educators> or email us at: Arkansas-ems-educators@googlegroups.com

The Industrial Society is the largest group, representing those working in anything from the paper industry, electrical businesses to chicken factories; thus, often providing emergency care under unique circumstances. We are very active in procuring CEUs at conference to educate our members.

The Paramedic Society is working to create better clinicians through advanced classes and skills labs at the Conference. Attend our meetings if you are interested in learning about or hosting an advanced educational event in your area as we will be discussing such opportunities.

Entertainment

There is no Friday night entertainment this year; however, the Valsalva finals will be in Horner Hall Friday night this year.

For those of you seeking a more relaxed venue the "Rollin' With the Oldies" can be found in room 102. This offers the newcomers a chance to socialize with some who

have been in EMS since the dinosaur era in case you don't work with any of these or are currently deficient in on the job tales.

The Awards Banquet on Saturday night affords an opportunity for everyone to break out their "Sunday go to meeting" duds and not only enjoy a fancy meal in the company of their peers, but recognize those peers who have gone above and beyond in EMS.

Sunday Morning Devotional

The Sunday morning meeting is a time for our AEMT family to gather for worship in a non-denominational service. We celebrate life and hope while sharing words of encouragement. Familiar hymns, special music and words from God will be presented by our chaplain K.C. Jones in a casual atmosphere. Come join us and learn from the Great Physician. No offering taken.

Sunday Morning Feedback

If you are still with us Sunday, you have a great opportunity to tell us what you think about your experience. The microphone will be passed around, giving everyone the opportunity to ask questions or talk about their experience at Symposium & Trade Show 2017. We have gathered some very valuable feedback during this session.

Lost & Found

If you find something it may be turned into Registration, the Trade Show Information Booth or the Convention Center Office. If you lost something, check these places. You are also invited to post a notice on the Information Board near Registration. Once Conference is over, all lost items are turned into the office at the Convention Center.

Miscellaneous items of interest:

The classrooms are cold. Bring a sweater or light jacket.

There is the AAA Golf Tournament Weds. Aug 2. Brochure & link at www.aemta.org

**Need to renew you AHA CPR, ACLS, or PALS?
We have you covered at the**

AEMTA Educational Symposium 2017

- 1) Go to www.onlineaha.org/courses
- 2) Purchase and complete the online Heartcode course you need to renew
- 3) Print your completion certificate & bring to conference
- 4) Pick a time you want to checkoff your skills & show up
- 5) Bring your certificate, checkoff your skills, pay the \$10 card fee and sign the roster.





Free parking directly behind the Convention Center in the lots on Church Street.

Competitions will be in the smaller lot on Church Street. (Thursday)

Metered parking on the streets in front of and around the Convention Center.

Registration on the first floor, Grand Lobby.

There will be an information board in the Grand Lobby with updates & changes.

Please use only the Hall A doors to enter or exit the Trade Show.