



National Fireworks Association

# NFA NEWS

- April 2017 -

## NFA Mission Statement

The mission of the NFA is to work diligently to ensure that the Fireworks Industry is regulated in a fair and sensible manner. We promote Safety within the industry and to the Consumers that use our products. The NFA was established to serve the members no matter whether a company or an individual. The NFA promotes the Safe Use of Fireworks in all sections of the industry.

## NFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Donald Lantis - President
- Garry Hanson - Vice President
- Howard Fry - Secretary
- Robert Kellner - Treasurer
- Michael Romano - Director
- Nancy Blogin - Executive Director

## NFA OFFICE

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 Email: [nlblogin@gmail.com](mailto:nlblogin@gmail.com)



## NFA VISITS CPSC IN DC

*Nancy Blogin*, Executive Director NFA and *Ms Ann Marie Buerkle* Acting Chairman of the U.S Consumer Products Safety Commission

## 2017 NFA EXPO

The National Fireworks Association  
**EXPO**  
 September 5th-9th Erie, PA  
 Host hotel - Courtyard Erie Bayfront  
 2 Sassafras Pier Erie, Pennsylvania 16507  
 US Toll Free: 1-888-236-2427  
 Phone: (814) 636-1005  
 Fax: (814) 240-7246  
 Host hotel - Sheraton Erie Bayfront  
 55 West Bay Drive, Erie, Pennsylvania 16507  
 US Toll Free: 1 (800) 325-3535  
 Phone: (814) 454-2005  
 Fax: (814) 454-2009



## Letter From The Vice President

Garry Hanson - President, Precocious Pyrotechnics, Inc.

I have been dealing with some health issues and have been out of the office for over 12 weeks, but still only working part time.

Well the NFPA #1123 is now in its Second Draft Meeting for NFPA 1122, 1123, 1127 dated September 7-8, 2016 held in San Antonio, TX documents:

Note: When reading through the document the removed items have a strike through them and the new additions have underline under them.

Only the NFPA 1123 pertains to fireworks: [http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/AboutTheCodes/1123/1123\\_A2017\\_PYR\\_AAA\\_SDAgenda\\_09\\_16.pdf](http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/AboutTheCodes/1123/1123_A2017_PYR_AAA_SDAgenda_09_16.pdf)

It is 66 pages long. That is the reason for not printing here.

Here is a summary of some of the proposed changes.

You will be able to see who and how each person voted as you go through all the documents.

You can see by the attendance listing who participated in the meeting and who were guests.

I will only highlight a few of the possible new changes here.

You can see Day 1 First Draft Meeting: item 9, talks about the Trailer Task Group and Mortar Rack Task Group meeting that is 2 different groups.

Day 2: Item 10; that all public inputs and committee statements were worked on.

Item 11: The NFPA Pyrotechnics Committee voiced by Julie Heckman made many motions to the standards council pertaining to #1124 Retail sales of consumer fireworks.

Item 12: The Trailer and Mortar Rack task groups made a motion to create a first revision based off of PI#25. The motion was tabled in case recommendations from the other rack committee were forth coming.

Day3: The Trailer Task Group made 8 recommendations. Then the Rack Group made recommendations they split to write those recommendations up. Those are still pending.

For more detailed information on this please see section 4.7.3.1

**Another new addition is Section 4.2.2.7:** Cutting of quickmatch when an electric match is known to be present in the fuse or quickmatch being cut.

**New:** 4.3.4 Plastic strip ties (“zip ties”) shall not be used to secure or stabilize individual mortars or roman candles 2.5 in. (64 mm) in diameter or greater.

**New:** 4.5.6.1 Plastic strip ties (“zip ties”) shall not be used to secure or stabilize mortar racks.

**New:** Changes and additions to 4.6.2 Chain-Fused Mortar Rack Requirements. See also, 4.6.3 & 4.6.4

**New:** 4.7 Trailer Firing.

**New:** Elevated firing sights section 5.1.2.2.1

**New:** 5.2.1.4 Angling of Mortars.

There are many small but important changes so please read the complete Draft to see what may be coming if this all passes through the system.

## Letter From The President



Hello Everyone,

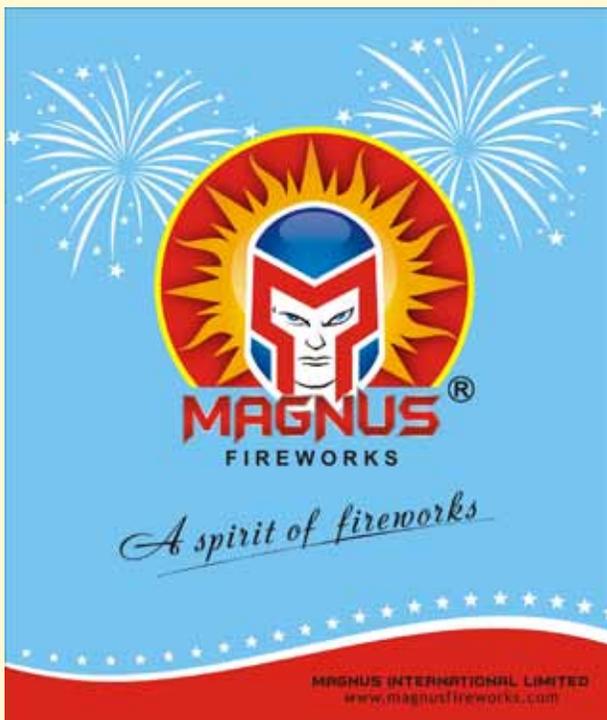
**In April, the N.F.A. board members are going to Erie Pa. to make final arrangements for the convention in September. If you haven't made**

**your hotel reservations yet, do so now because they fill up fast. The Sheraton and the Courtyard Marriott both overlook Lake Erie for a great view. There is also a wharf so you can take a walk along the lake. The shoot sight is very accommodating, right off the interstate with a large parking lot and plenty of seating.**

**Hope everyone can make it to the convention in September.**

**Happy Easter,**

**Your President, Don Lantis**



**2017 EXPO BAG DESIGN SIDE ONE  
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Winners of the 2015 NFA Expo's Cam Starr Memorial Club Challenge, the Ohio Pyrotechnic Arts Guild was founded in 1997 as a not-for-profit association of fireworks professionals, apprentices, individual and enthusiasts.

**OPAG'S GOALS INCLUDE:**

- Promote the safe and sane display and use of pyrotechnics
- Encourage the legal display of public and private pyrotechnics in conjunction with personal, local and national holidays and patriotic events
- Channel the creative energies of talented people into design, production and display of high quality pyrotechnics
- Monitor Legislation and lobby for Legislation affecting pyrotechnics in Ohio
- Provide a voice for the exhibitors, hobbyists, educators, amateur and professional fireworks enthusiasts

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Member of many fireworks trade organizations,  
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by becoming a member.**

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## **WHO CAN BE OPPOSED TO FIREWORKS?**

*Mark Anderson, PGA - Senior Advisor Kelley Drye & Warren LLP*

I can't tell you how many times I have been asked this question as your representative on Capitol Hill. Just last week I was talking about what the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) was doing to the industry with Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC). When I told him what the proposed rule would do to the industry, he said "who can be opposed to fireworks"? In fact, he told me that South Carolina takes pride in using a lot of fireworks throughout the year. Unfortunately, we know that an arm of the federal government isn't a big fan of fireworks.

There are so many issues and interests that consume Congress. For example, both chambers are in the middle of trying to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, while dealing with the nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch to be the new Supreme Court Justice. These national issues, in addition to what states and districts demand, make it very difficult for a representative to focus on important issues on a regular basis.

The legislative process is consuming and runs on a variety of different clocks. This means that issues have a lifespan and can be dealt with very quickly or take years to conclude. NFA's immediate issue, the need to modify the current CPSC NPRM, is one of those issues that must be dealt with quickly, because the results could be detrimental to the industry. It is for this reason that the NFA has a firm that can advocate for them on a regular basis.

As your representative, I have been talking to elected representatives and staff about what the CPSC is proposing and how we may need to enlist their help should it be needed. These relationships will come in handy when the NFA needs to "call out the dogs" on this issue or on another issue that certainly will appear one day.

I will continue to talk about the National Fireworks Association every chance I get to those who will help us when necessary. Champions are necessary and important and the NFA is building the kind of stable that will hopefully stop organizations from attacking our industry in the future.

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# NFA IN DC TO VISIT CPSC



Bob Kellner, Howard Fry and Nancy Blogin from the NFA Board of Directors met again in early March with the CPSC to continue to work on the proposed testing method and variance levels for break charges.



Mark Anderson, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, Spencer Elg, Legal Counsel, KelleyDrye & Warren and Nancy Blogin, Exec. Director NFA



Far left. Nancy Blogin, Executive Director NFA, Dr. Roger Schneider, Rho Sigma & Associates and Ms Ann Marie Buerkle. On February 9, 2017, Ms Buerkle was named Acting Chairman of the U.S Consumer Products Safety Commission. Her term expires in October 2018.



Nancy Blogin, Executive Director NFA and Hon. Lee R. Terry, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP



Mr Mark Anderson, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP and Nancy Blogin, NFA



Dr. Roger Schneider, Rho Sigma & Associates with NFA's proposed SLM method for sound testing.



## American Fireworks Standards Laboratory

7316 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 214  
Bethesda, Maryland USA 20814  
Telephone: 301/907-9115  
Facsimile: 301/907-9117  
Email: [afslhq@afsl.org](mailto:afslhq@afsl.org)

### URGENT NOTICE

**To:** All AFSL Members, Participating Factories, and Interested Parties  
**From:** John D. Rogers, Executive Director   
**Date:** March 9, 2017  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF SUSPENSION OF SERVICES TO THREE PARTICIPATING FACTORIES

The purpose of this notice is to advise all AFSL members, participating factories, and others involved in the AFSL Quality Improvement Program (QIP) that AFSL has suspended all testing and certification services for three participating factories in China for violations of AFSL's policies and practices prohibiting attempts to compromise the integrity of the AFSL program and certification procedures. Services are suspended for the following three factories: Niushi Changsha Huarui Factory, Hunan, China; Wanzai Jinsha Factory, Jiangxi, China; and Dahu Shengyi factory, Hunan, China, for similar but unrelated actions. The suspensions will remain in effect for a period of at least one year, after which time the AFSL Board of Directors will consider whether to resume services to the factories.

#### **Suspension of Niushi Changsha Huarui Factory (AFSL Factory ID number 43F290).**

AFSL's Board reviewed a report from our contract testing laboratory, Bureau Veritas (BV) which indicates that, on November 16, 2016, Niushi Changsha Huarui Factory violated AFSL's policies by demanding that BV technicians improperly certify a shipment of fireworks that had failed AFSL testing because they contained overloaded break charges with metal powder in the break charge. In addition, the factory, on a different occasion, tried to force BV technicians to test samples that were specially provided to the technicians by the factory rather than samples that were randomly selected from the Lot as required by AFSL procedures. When the technicians declined to do so, factory personnel made threats against the personal safety of one of the technicians and his family.

#### **Suspension of Wanzai Shuangqiao Jinsha Factory (AFSL Factory ID number 36F167).**

On December 28, 2016, two BV technicians conducted an inspection of a Lot of 500 cases of a fireworks and obtained a failing test result. Factory personnel demanded that the technicians certify the Lot as "complying". When the technicians refused, factory personnel locked the gate to the factory and refused to allow the technicians to leave the premises until



## American Fireworks Standards Laboratory

stickers had been placed on the cartons. In accordance with established procedures in such circumstances, the technicians issued a “pass” test report, applied the stickers to the cartons, and then were allowed to leave the factory safely.

### **Suspension of Dahu Shengyi Factory (AFSL Factory ID number 43F315).**

BV reported that on January 4, 2017, two BV technicians conducted a fireworks inspection in Dahu Shengyi Factory and determined that a Lot failed AFSL requirements relating to base attachment. However, factory employees disagreed with the technicians’ findings and demanded that the Lot be certified. When the technicians refused to do so, the factory employees locked the gates to the factory and would not allow the technicians to leave the factory until they issued a “pass” result for the Lot. In accordance with AFSL procedures to protect the safety of the technicians, the technicians issued certification stickers for the Lot as requested and then were allowed to leave the factory.

Based on the severity of the reported breaches of AFSL’s policies, the Board voted to suspend testing of all fireworks produced by the three named factories for a period of at least one year, as noted above. AFSL places the personal safety of our testing team at the highest priority and cannot tolerate any interference with the testing conducted by our team. The detention of our testing team is unacceptable under any circumstances and will not be tolerated from our participating factories or any AFSL members.

AFSL is very committed to preserving the integrity of AFSL’s testing program. AFSL’s policy is to take appropriate disciplinary action against any AFSL member or participating factory that offers, solicits, or accepts money or any other objects, goods or services of value, or otherwise participates in any activity, that is designed to obtain, or results in, the false certification of any tested lot or shipment of fireworks tested under AFSL’s testing program. False certification of shipments causes regulatory authorities to question the accuracy of the test results reported for all AFSL-certified shipments, and can cause those authorities to reduce their reliance on AFSL’s certification in the future. Furthermore, the distribution into the U.S. marketplace of falsely certified fireworks could create a potential risk of injury to consumers. AFSL encourages all factories, shippers, and importers to act responsibly and ethically and to avoid any activities that could damage the credibility of the testing program. We also remind all program participants that AFSL has and will continue to take disciplinary action against any member or participating factory that attempts to bypass or otherwise compromise the integrity of the testing program. Such disciplinary action may include, among other things, termination of AFSL membership or suspension of testing privileges.

Report any violations, including attempts to bribe or coerce technicians to falsely certify shipments, the removal of AFSL stickers from shipping cartons or the switching of certified fireworks for those not certified by AFSL, directly to AFSL’s U.S. headquarters, or to William Zhou, AFSL’s China Operations Manager (Mobile: +86 13874903088; Telephone & Fax.: +86 (731) 8366-7669; E mail: [william.zhou@afsl.org](mailto:william.zhou@afsl.org)).

Thank you for your cooperation.



The National Fireworks Association

2017 EXPO

Expo Schedule

Table with 4 columns: NFA EXPO, SCHEDULE, CONTACT PERSON, LOCATION. Rows are organized by day from Monday, September 4th to Sunday, September 10th, listing various activities and their details.



## NFA CONDUCTS SEMINAR IN CHINA

*Robert Kellner - Kellner's Fireworks Inc and NFA Treasurer*

On March 21st in Liuyang (Hunan) China, NFA Treasurer Bob Kellner conducted a seminar on the new proposed CPSC rule making amendments, for our manufacturer members. Kellner was assisted by his daughter Grace, Grace Jiao of Liuyang and Dr. Alvis He of TÜV Rheinland, who graciously volunteered to be the translator.

About sixty NFA members attended the 2 ½ hour seminar and were encouraged to submit their comments on the proposals to CPSC.



# SEMINARS FOR THE 2017 EXPO

## 2017 EXPO

### TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5th

**1:30 - 3:00 - Tax Considerations for Small Businesses**

Presenter *Jeremy Hartzell*

**3:30 - 5:00 - Update From Washington DC**

Presenter *Mark Anderson*

### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th

**9:30 - 5:00 - US DOT "TRAIN THE TRAINER"**

Presenter *Tom Dunaway* - \$150.00 preregistration fee

**10:00 - 11:30 - Bringing Together A Global Future (In Mandarin)**

Presenter *Zhenting Men, Dr. Tuo Wang, Dr Renjun Bao, Pingshan Li*

**1:30 - 3:00 - Legal Considerations for Small Businesses**

Presenter *David Ridge*

**3:30 - 5:00 - Let's Get Engaged**

Presenter *Jeff Tobe*

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th

**1:30 - 3:00 - The Phenomenom of Firecracker Pack Collecting**

Presenter *Rob Berk*

**3:30 - 5:00 - U.S. DOT Update**

Presenter *Tom Dunaway*



### JEREMY HARTZELL JD, MBA

Jeremy Hartzell is the Principal-in-Charge of the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania office of Hill Barth & King LLC. Jeremy joined HBK in February 2015. He spent 13 years at Deloitte Tax and 3 years in industry prior to joining HBK.

Jeremy specializes in high net worth individuals, including estates and trusts. He is a valued resource for tax planning for individuals and privately held companies. In addition to his professional experience, he taught in this area as an adjunct professor at Duquesne University. Jeremy has extensive experience in consulting with nonprofit entities on tax and corporate governance matters. He also assists with nonprofit entity formation as well as mergers. Jeremy has presented at local, regional and national seminars, including the PICPA, Tri-State Tax Institute and the Bank Tax Institute.

#### Education

- Duquesne University, BSBA Accounting 1997
- Duquesne University Honors College Leadership Award, 1997
- Duquesne University, JD/MBS, 2000

#### Professional/Civic Associations

- AICPA Member
- PICPA Member
- Duquesne University Alumni Board of Governors
- Former President, Pittsburgh Affiliate of Susan G Komen
- 2012 Pittsburgh Magazine 40 under 40 award winner



### Mark J. Anderson

Senior Advisor *Kelley Drye & Warren LLP*

Mark Anderson is a senior government relations and public policy advisor in the firm's Washington, D.C. office. His practice focuses on government relations and public policy matters in the energy, environment, patents, agriculture, privacy and telecommunications areas.

Mark executes lobbying strategies and develops legislative coalitions to further client interests. He maintains longstanding relationships and credibility among the federal and legislative branches of government, including House and Senate majority and minority leadership, House and Senate committee staff, the U.S. Departments of Energy and Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the White House, CPSC and the Council on Environmental Equality.



### TOM DUNAWAY

Tom is a transportation safety and hazardous materials consultant and President of Tom Dunaway and Associates, Inc. Tom is retired from the US Department of Transportation (DOT) with 34 years federal government service.



### David G. Ridge, Esquire

David Ridge has been handling high profile criminal defense cases in both federal court and state court for over 25 years. He practices throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has appeared in the federal courts in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and New York. He has handled over 35 homicide cases throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and has obtained successful results for his clients in various white collar cases in both state and federal court. Attorney Ridge has also been a lecturer at numerous seminars, has served on a Disciplinary Board Hearing Committee and is a longtime member of PACDL and NACDL. He also handles over 100 DUI cases each year throughout Pennsylvania.

For more information, please contact Nancy at the NFA . [nblogin@nationalfireworks.org](mailto:nblogin@nationalfireworks.org)

# SEMINARS FOR THE 2017 EXPO

## 2017 EXPO



### Dr. Tuo Wang

*Associate Professor of Marketing*

Dr. Tuo Wang has been an Associate Professor of Marketing with Kent State University since 2010. He received a B.A. in International Business in 1992 from Sichuan University (China), a M.S. in Resource Economics in 1999 from the University of Maine, and a Ph.D. in Marketing in 2004 from the University of Pittsburgh. Wang was an Assistant Professor of Marketing with Kent State University during 2004-2010 and an Instructor of Marketing with University of Pittsburgh during 2003-2004. He also worked as an Assistant Economist with the Agricultural Bank of China from 1992 to 1997.

Wang's research interests include pricing, auction, marketing research, and game theory. He has published articles concerning reservation price elicitation at *Journal of Marketing Research* and "Name Your Own Price" mechanism at *Management Science*.



### Pingshan Li

*Partner, Thompson Hine LLP*

*Corporate Transactions & Securities International*

Pingshan is a partner in the firm's Corporate Transactions & Securities practice group. He focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions; cross-border business transactions including international joint ventures; corporate finance; corporate governance and restructuring matters for both private and public companies; public company compliance and reporting; intellectual property matters; international trade and maritime law matters; and complex commercial litigation. He also represents Chinese companies in direct investment and expansion-related matters in North America, as well as U.S. companies doing business in China.

Prior to joining Thompson Hine, Pingshan was a partner with a Cleveland-based firm and led that firm's China practice. Pingshan previously worked as a claim manager at China Shipowners Mutual Assurance Association in Beijing, where he represented shipowners and P&I clubs in maritime matters in Chinese and U.S. international ports.



### Dr. Renjun Bao

*President, Cleveland Chinese Entrepreneur Association*

Dr. Renjun Bao has extensive business building experience both in USA and China. He started his career as a mechanical engineer after graduated from college. Later he joined WebEx (bought by Cisco) as a software engineer. In 2003 he came to Cleveland for graduate school. Renjun founded Cnjobs Technology Ltd. in Beijing in 2012. He established relationship with many investors and entrepreneurs while helping companies recruiting new talent.

While working on his dissertation on NBA scheduling, he worked as a beat writer for the largest sports newspaper in China. Along the way he has covered the Cleveland Cavaliers for major Chinese newspapers. Renjun taught LeBron James some basic Mandarin and started the Cleveland Chinese Entrepreneur Association. Renjun got his bachelor of engineering degree from Hefei University of Technology and his Ph.D in engineering from Cleveland State University.



### Zhenting Men

*Co-Founder, Cleveland Chinese Entrepreneur Association (CCEA)*

*Vice President, Cleveland International Fund*

As CCEA's Treasurer, Zhenting is responsible for general financial oversight and operations of the organization. He was born in Harbin and received his undergraduate degree in Computer Science from Nankai University in China. Since 2006, Zhenting has been studying, working and living in Cleveland and a witness to this city's resurgence. He spent several years working in the Outreach & Business Center at Cleveland State University, where he provided international market research and consulting services for over 10 small and medium sized businesses in Northeast Ohio. Besides private companies, he also assisted local government entities including Beachwood Chamber of Commerce and Ohio's International Trade Assistance Center. Zhenting is currently the Vice President of Cleveland International Fund, a private equity fund and one of the largest EB5 regional centers in Ohio.

He holds master's degrees in both Accountancy and Business Administration from Cleveland State University. Zhenting lives in the eastern suburb of Cleveland with his wife and daughter.

**For more information, please contact Nancy at the NFA . [nlogin@nationalfireworks.org](mailto:nlogin@nationalfireworks.org)**

# REBIRTH OF YOUR INDUSTRY

by Ray Mahowski, Mike's Fireworks

Mike's Fireworks has been in business for 60+ years and has functioned as a retailer, wholesaler and an importer.

### LEGAL RIGHTS

Our second Amendment rights would surely indicate that adult Americans can be trusted to safely ignite Class C, 1.4G 500 gram cakes that shoot beautiful effects high in the air coupled with audible reports. Ground salutes are strictly controlled with limited powder content. Aerial fireworks, with those beautiful effects, have to result in a louder noise to complete the "bombs bursting in air" effect.

### EDUCATION

A college level class is currently available at the University of Missouri at Rolla, an A+ engineering school coupled with scientific research of chemistry, entitled "Commercial Pyrotechnic Operations". This class is designed for students wishing to participate in, organize, design, or run commercial pyrotechnic displays (Class B, 1.3G). Students learn safety rules, laws, etc., how to arrange a show, choreograph, and finally, shoot a firework show. They learn about various effects, such as, willow, peony, chrysanthemum, crossette, etc., and how they relate to each other when putting on a display.

### SAFETY

Much like in China, a country where manufacturing has worked

extremely well, firework companies, mostly for safety reasons, spread out their operations. They build many smaller warehouses (some not so small) on their property and produce one item here, another there etc., so that in case of an accident, all their eggs are not in one basket.

### COST SAVINGS

We have, in America, the best modern technology in the world. We export lumber and oil that are used for labels, plastic packaging, boxes, bases, tubing, etc.. We have chemicals of all descriptions (copper, iron, etc.). It's all right here! Making fireworks (1.4G Class C) again, in America, will allow us to save on shipping costs from overseas, the cost of overseas testing, storage, insurance, duty, customs, labor, ground transportation, etc.. It would seem, that with a new Administration in Washington that is considerate to business, this would be the ideal time to once again produce family fireworks in the United States, and avoid some of the listed above costs from imported sources. M-60's, buzz bombs, missiles, etc., have been produced in America. Remember, when good quality #3, 4 and 5 cones as well as other products like #2, 3, 5 and #100 night shells, and make smoke devices etc. were produced in the United States?

### REBIRTH

We now have a President who is doing everything he can to bring jobs and industry back to America. Let's see if your industry can compete.



# 76 Spring Demos



# Join us!

Friday & Saturday  
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# Spirit of '76

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## Beijing to Host The Annual CPPCC and the NPC

Submitted by Cindy Cheung

Beijing will be hosting the annual Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) and National People's Congress (NPC) starting from 3rd March and 5th March 2017 respectively.

Due to an accident in a fireworks factory in Wanzai County, Jiangxi yesterday, Jiangxi government has ordered all fireworks factories to stop work from 1st March until both meetings are concluded (around 10 days).

Hunan province has not received any notices to stop work.

This puts further pressure on fireworks factories as they have just returned to production after Chinese New Year. In Liuyang, factories were required to pay RMB150,000 to the government before they were allowed to start production after Chinese New Year. This fee goes towards compensating fireworks factories who voluntarily closed down their factories, as part of an incentive by the government to reduce the number of firework factories in Liuyang.

We will let you know if there are further developments.

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**JOHN W. HADFIELD**

AN ORIGINATOR OF THE AMERICAN FIREWORKS INDUSTRY

- By Bob Kellner

**FOURTH OF JULY.**

**HADFIELD'S  
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No. 11 Dey street.

John W. Hadfield was born in Sheffield (Yorkshire) England in 1808. In 1845, he immigrated with his wife and sons to New York City. It is unknown if he was a Pyrotechnician in England. His immigration passenger manifest listed his occupation as "Mechanic".

However, by 1847, the New York Evening Post declared that he created the "Greatest of Fireworks Displays" ever seen in Washington Square. Hadfield's shows consisted of: Fountain Bouquets, Rockets, Parachutes, Bomb shell batteries, Blue, Green and Red colored Bengal fires, Salutes, Wheels and Elaborate Set Pieces

and Double-Header Repeating Rockets. In 1865, 1867, and 1884 John Hadfield was granted U.S. patents for Improvements In Sky-Rockets. These improvements eliminated the long stick normally used for sky rockets and, instead, replaced it with three short guide sticks to economize for transportation and to form a stand for firing at many different angles. Hadfield's 1867 patent model is in the collection of the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum in Washington, DC.

According to "Scientific American" from July 1867, Hadfield's exhibitions were ingeniously lighted by quickmatch strings connected by conduit to electricity whereby many items would fire simultaneously. Could this have been the invention of the electrically fired shows that would not become commonplace until well over a hundred years later?

In 1885, JW Hadfield & Son merged with Charles B. Bidwell (1848-1912), a fireworks maker from Middletown, Connecticut to form Standard Fireworks. By 1899, Standard Fireworks had become part of Nordlinger-Charlton Fireworks and, eventually, Unexcelled Manufacturing Company. John W Hadfield died August 21, 1888 in Brooklyn, New York.

Throughout the late 1840's and early 1850's, Hadfield continually won the "Best Exhibition of Fireworks" trophy at the Annual Fair of The American Institute of the City of New York at The Castle Garden Entertainment Center in Manhattan. The American Institute of the City of New York for the Encouragement of Science and Invention was an association of inventors. It organized exhibitions and lectures to inform the public about new technologies and its fairs attracted wide attention from investors and capitalists. Among the inventions which received early recognition from the institute were the sewing machine, Colt's firearms, the Morse telegraph and the telephone.

On June 8 1860, an explosion at the JW Hadfield & Son fireworks manufactory in East Williamsburg (Brooklyn), New York killed several employees, including Charles Hadfield, the 26 year old son of the founder and severely injuring another son, Henry. According to the Brooklyn Daily Eagle report, the factory employed forty-five people and had never previously had the slightest accident. The cause of the accident was determined to have been from a fire caused by friction from a workman using a knife to scrape some composition.

John Hadfield continued to manufacture fireworks and his specialty was rockets. According to the 1888 book "New York, The Metropolis of Today", Hadfield made "Telescope Magnesium Rockets, Revolving Comet Rockets, Electric Bouquet Rockets

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American Fireworks  
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 Hudson, Ohio 44236.  
 330-650-1776  
[www.americanfireworks.com](http://www.americanfireworks.com)

Fire Art, LLC  
 Demo & Class Date:  
 Saturday May 20, 2017  
 13065 Old Erie Pike  
 Clearfield, PA 16830  
 Phone: 814-765-5918

Casabella Pyrotechnics  
 May 20 ,2017 - 7PM to 11PM, 1.4, 1.4 pro, and 1.3  
 6345 Dixie Rd. SW  
 Mauckport, IN 47142  
 812-989-2142 or 859-242-2426  
[www.casapyro.com](http://www.casapyro.com)

RKM Fireworks Co.  
 April 28th and 29th (1.4G Friday, shooter training and  
 1.3G Saturday)  
 Elkhart County 4H fairgrounds  
 269-663-6110  
[www.rkmfireworks.com](http://www.rkmfireworks.com)

Hale Fireworks  
 May 5th and 6th  
 1968, Hwy 65  
 Buffalo, MO. 65622  
 417-345-5575  
[halefireworks.com](http://halefireworks.com)

North Central Industries, Inc.  
 Saturday, 05/13/2017 (Doors Open: 2PM / Dinner:  
 7PM / Fireworks: Dusk)  
 1500 E Washington St Muncie IN 47305  
 1-800-800-BANG (2264)  
[www.greatgrizzly.com](http://www.greatgrizzly.com)

Wolverine Fireworks Display, Inc.  
 Demo date: April 22, 2017  
 Location: Tri City Motor Speedway, 85 Wheeler Rd.  
 Auburn, MI 48611  
 Phone: (989) 662-0121  
 Website: [www.wolverinefireworks.com](http://www.wolverinefireworks.com)

Ace Pyro - Saturday - May 6, 2017  
 PGI Class - 8 am Demo - at dark (around 9 pm)  
 Indian Creek Camp and Conference Center  
 9415 Tangent Highway Tecumseh, MI 49286  
[www.acepyro.com](http://www.acepyro.com) 877-223-3552

Kastner Pyrotechnics Fireworks Wholesale & Imports  
 1.3g and 1.4g Demo: Saturday, June 3, 2017  
 220 North Fayette St. Livingston, WI 53554  
 Contact: Jessica Kastner at  
[jessica@kastnerfireworks.com](mailto:jessica@kastnerfireworks.com) or 608-553-3377  
[www.KastnerFireworks.com](http://www.KastnerFireworks.com)

Lew's Fireworks  
 Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 5:30 pm  
 45788 US Hwy 212 -  
 1 Mile East of Watertown, SD Hwy 212  
 605-882-1744  
[www.lewsfireworks.com](http://www.lewsfireworks.com)

Little China Fireworks  
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 5919 Sunfish Rd. Brownsville, KY 42210  
 270 879 9340  
[ewpyron16009@yahoo.com](mailto:ewpyron16009@yahoo.com)

Kracklin Kirks Fireworks  
 Demo date - 04/29/2017  
 Location - Tuxedo Park. Crete, Nebraska  
 Phone (402) 826 4560  
[www.kracklinkirks.com](http://www.kracklinkirks.com)

Reichenbach Fireworks  
 Saturday May 6, 2017  
 815 High Ridge Drive  
 Billings, MT 59105  
 406-248-1150

Four Seasons Fireworks  
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 DeLeon SPings, FL  
 1-407-790-4944  
[www.ineedfireworks.com](http://www.ineedfireworks.com)

Pyro Dudes Fireworks  
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 Falling Waters, WV 25419  
 240-372-9257  
[www.pyrodudes.com](http://www.pyrodudes.com)



## Musings by Jack Leonard

# DYNAMITE DAYS IN MARYLAND

By this time, you are all acquainted with the oddities of relatives on my paternal side of the family, like my father's overwhelming fear of the police. To be fair, I must say that my mom's side had its share

of colorful characters, and she used to say that if you went into any asylum in America and yelled out her maiden name, several patients would respond. But when it came to sheer wackiness, no one matched her uncle Charles.

Charles Ignatius Wirth had migrated from Lancaster, PA, to Maryland circa 1914 in search of work. He was a burly, robust German whose attitude of self importance earned him the nickname The Boss. Oh, no one knew more than he did, and his infinite source of information extended to how the Fourth of July should be celebrated.

Shortly before the big day, he would visit the local hardware store and purchase dynamite, metal blasting caps, and fuse. All were available without a permit, and upon returning home he'd always show his son Raymond how to use the dynamite:

"Now remember that dynamite has no dried powder inside. The contents are soft like peanut butter so you can push the cap right into the end of the stick. But first, cut a foot of fuse and gently insert it into the cap. The dynamite is now ready to play with."

And play with it he did! The Boss's house was located about a quarter mile from my mom's, and at dawn his celebration would begin with dynamite blasts that awakened my mother's family and let them know that the holiday had begun.

Later in the morning, they'd see him weaving up the road carrying a large bag of holiday toys in one hand and a partially drained beer stein in the other, because he believed that one should celebrate "mit bier." When he arrived, he grouched to my grandfather that dynamite fuse was too expensive, and that he had devised a way to dispense with it entirely. He pulled out a stick of Dupont dynamite from his sack, pushed in the fuse-less cap, and rolled the whole thing into a ball of newspaper. This he placed on a tree stump near the road and lit the paper. He

and my grandfather stood back, never knowing when the flame from the smoldering paper would fire the cap and detonate the explosive.

But wait.....trouble was on the horizon in the form of my grandmother's cat named Thelma. The feline must have been attracted by the smoke from the newspaper and slowly crept toward the stump. No amount of calling dissuaded the creature as she slunk closer and closer to her demise. Just as she reached the bottom of the stump: BOOM! By some miracle little Thelma survived and was found later that morning unharmed and hiding in a paw paw bush at the end of the property.



While the experience was somewhat unnerving, it did not deter The Boss from further antics and with his excitement stoked by a few bottles of beer from my granddad's ice box, he decided to remove a tree stump from the side of the house. It sat within ten feet of the structure and was an eyesore. So once again he reached into his bag, removed dynamite, fuse and a cap, and set about assembling the charge to be placed into a hole he had dug below the stump. The explosive was then placed into the hole with just a bit of the fuse protruding from the surface. Dirt was tamped down and the fuse ignited. While the men awaited the removal of the stump, my mom was in the

kitchen where my grandmother was combing her hair, neither of them aware that the hissing fuse was a mere ten feet away. And then it happened. A deafening explosion ripped out the stump and sent it flying toward the house. In the kitchen, the ladies were somewhat surprised when a stump came crashing through the window tearing down the curtains, smashing the sash, and destroying the panes!

After this experience, The Boss fled to the safety of his home where he continued to slake his thirst and play with his dynamite.

That evening, my mom's family enjoyed sparklers, pinwheels, fountains and candles on their large front lawn, but The Boss could not attend. He went to bed early nursing a powerful headache. But what about Thelma, the first cat in outer space? She lived to a ripe old age and was a leading supporter of a bill to tighten Maryland's explosive laws.



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## Raymond C. Crowell

1954 - 2016



Raymond C. Crowell, 63, of Somerset, passed away surrounded by his loving family, on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, at St. Peter's University Medical Center in New Brunswick.

Born in Trenton, Mr. Crowell was raised in Hamilton Square before moving to Somerset 30 years ago. He was a graduate of Steinert High School, Class of 1972, and went on to receive his Bachelor's Degree. He had a love for electronics and spent his professional career at various companies as an electronics technician. He was employed with the International Fireworks Manufacturing Company in Douglassville, Pennsylvania, where he used his pyrotechnic manufacturing talents, and enjoyed producing professional fireworks displays.

Mr. Crowell cherished his time on Long Beach Island and was an avid HO model train collector. He was a volunteer ambulance driver with the Nottingham Fire Company and a member of the Barnegat Light Historical Society, (the lighthouse in which his great-grandfather was the lighthouse keeper). He was an alumni member of the YMCA Camp Ralph S. Mason (a camp attended by generations of his family) and a volunteer raising funds for the Hugs for Brady organization of South Brunswick. Mr. Crowell was on the Parent Advisory Committee of the Somerset County Vocational & Technical High School and a "Choir Dad" Advisor to the St. Matthias R.C. Church Children's Choir in Somerset.

Predeceased by his father, Charles Morton Crowell and his brother, Randy Crowell; Mr. Crowell is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 32 years, Georgeann (Enright) Crowell; his adoring son, Jeffrey R. Crowell; his mother, Janith (Hutchings) Crowell; his sister-in-law, Denise Pultro and her husband, George Buonanno; and his beloved extended family, including his nephews, Gary and Gregory Pultro.

Funeral services were held at the Saul Colonial Home, 3795 Nottingham Way, Hamilton Square, NJ, followed by a graveside service and interment at the Barnegat Memorial Cemetery, West Bay Avenue, Barnegat, NJ.



## Larry Cornellier

1941 - 2017

We are deeply saddened to report the passing this past Saturday of longtime NFA member Larry Cornellier, Cornellier Fireworks, Beloit, WI, following a long and courageous battle with cancer.

Larry started his fireworks business, Cornellier Fireworks in 1972 and founded the Wisconsin Fireworks Association, working with his competitors in the industry to help preserve the right to celebrate freedom. He was respected for his work on behalf of the industry and this past October, he was honored with a citation from state officials commending his decades-long work in the fireworks industry. An avid outdoorsman, when not working Larry enjoyed nothing more than spending time with his family and friends.



**DOT Regulatory Corner****A COUPLE OF CRITICAL REMINDERS**

by Tom Dunaway Tom Dunaway &amp; Associates, Inc.



As the middle of the year is rapidly approaching we must be reminded of a couple of critical issues to the fireworks industry. Both for 1.3 display companies and 1.4 consumer fireworks companies. Remember that both the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the Pipeline and Hazardous Safety Administration (PHMSA) are instructing their agents to remember to start enforcing the change to the regulation we addressed in our last bulletin.

In short shipping papers that still have the PGII for any class 1 item is OK until July 5, 2017, but after that date it will be a violation to have PGII associated with any class 1 item. What companies should do is eliminate the PGII from its shipping paper now so you will be in compliance when it becomes mandatory on July 5, 2017.

Be very careful as this does not eliminate the requirement for all fireworks to be packed in a PG II tested UN spec package. 173.60 is the section that dictates that all class 1 materials be packed in a package that has been tested as a UN Specification of PG II. You just can't have PG II on your shipping paper anymore. PG for that material on the shipping paper.

Two more issues with FMCSA worth spending time with are: (Number 1) Reminders that the requirements for the electronic logs to be in every commercial motor vehicle with some exceptions (see our bulletin which address the complete rule which was in the last 2016 issue) is rapidly approaching. This rule becomes effective on 17 December, 2017 so everyone should research the various devices that are available. Make sure the one you choose meets all of the new regulatory requirements. Don't wait until the last moment and find that you do not have enough time to install devices. FMCSA will be very aggressive on enforcement with this issue.

**HEADS UP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

(Number 2) FMCSA has initiated a new requirement where they are now required to do a visit to any 1.3 fireworks company when it updates its MCS150B, which is also the application for renewal of the HM Safety Permit. All companies that have not received a visit within the past 4 years are getting

new audits when the renewal application is completed. Heads UP!!!!!!!!!! Make sure all of your records are in order or you may be denied renewal, which will result in not being able to transport 1.3 fireworks in quantities over 55 pounds per shipment. Some companies have already been visited this year with some being denied their renewal.

**Remember to sign up now for the NFA HM training that will be conducted at the next EXPO. We must know how many regulations to order.**

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# National Fireworks Association

c/o Nancy Blogin

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Articles for the next issue are needed by **MAY 11, 2017**.



To Submit an article for publication or advertise please contact Nancy Blogin at [nblogin@nationalfireworks.org](mailto:nblogin@nationalfireworks.org)

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