



ICAIA NEWS

Illinois College Automotive Instructor's Association



www.icaia.org

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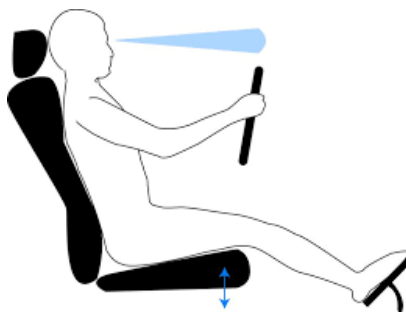
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From the Driver's Seat



The summer is over, the weather is changing and it almost time for the Fall 2017 ICAIA conference. The faculty and staff at Parkland College have been hard at work to bring a great list of vendors and presenters and to make sure everything is seamless.

Facebook and Instagram are a part of life across the globe. Social media and networking are something many of us do every day. But how often do we think about how much networking benefits us? The ICAIA organization and conferences give automotive instructors across the region a unique opportunity to network with other instructors, schools, and share ideas. We get to see other facilities and network with vendors during the tool show. I would guess that at some time or another, most members have left a conference with new ideas to take back to their own schools.

When we all congregate at Parkland in a few weeks, let's remember that than not all the learning is done in the technical sessions. Use this time to meet other instructors and make new friends. There is much more to a conference than NATEF training hours.

Ben Cook
2017 ICAIA President

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1976 FOUNDING FATHERS

James Lausted (passed in 2009)

Ray Oviyach
E-Mail: roviyach@aol.com

Paul Rickert (passed in 2017)

Treasury Report

The Association is financially sound and the detailed treasury report will be presented during the Thursday Luncheon Business Meeting. Currently, the ICAIA Treasury is at \$38,371.93 with expenses for the upcoming conference yet to be paid.

When you pay your membership dues, you will receive an e-mail from me (Art Koudelka - ICAIA Executive Treasurer) with your membership length (1, 3 or 5 years). Members can see their dues status on the conference registration form they receive in the mail for each conference. Their dues status is listed at the end of their name (G2012-2017 as an example). ICAIA Membership follows the school year and dues are paid in the Fall. So, this year's ICAIA dues pay for the 2017-2018 school year.

Art Koudelka

ICAIA Executive Treasurer
Illinois Valley Community College

Database Report

Current members, please let me know if you plan on retiring so that we can change your dues status in the database.

The updated database will be available on the website every fall.

If you need to know your "Dues Status", send me an email and I will let you know. If you can pay for 3 or 5 year dues when you update your registration, that will save a lot of work behind the scenes.

If you have any questions, comments, concerns, or corrections, please contact me at: doconnor3@icloud.com

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Fall 2017 ICAIA Conference

October 12 and 13, 2017



**2400 West Bradley Ave.
Champaign, IL 61821**

The Hyatt Place Champaign/Urbana Host hotel is “SOLD OUT”

**The Hyatt Place is the location for the Thursday evening banquet
and there are several other nearby hotels:**

- **Hilton Garden Inn, Champaign**
- **Homewood Suites by Hilton, Champaign**
- **Hawthorne Suites Champaign**

**The banquet will be held at the Hyatt Place Champaign/Urbana.
217 N. Neil Street
Champaign, IL 61820**

**Contact for additional conference information:
Jon Ross
jross@parkland.edu**

ICAIA Pub Crawl 2017

Join us for a pub crawl with fellow Illinois College Automotive Instructors Association (ICAIA) members as we tour local pubs with specialties in craft beers.



We will begin at 9:00 PM at Cowboy Monkey which is located just moments from Thursday evenings banquet at the Hyatt Place. Attendance is free! We ask that you complete the registration as a free RSVP. We also have custom 16 oz tumbler glasses for participants. Select the \$7 registration and pub glass offer! Glasses will be distributed on Thursday afternoon/evening.

RSVP at the following web address: <https://tinyurl.com/icaiapub>

It is sure to be a great time at the 2017 ICAIA Pub Crawl!

ICAIA Conference Agenda

Thursday

6:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Trade Show Set-Up
8:00 – 1:00	Trade Show
8:00 – 10:00	Continental Breakfast
8:00 – 9:45	Walk-In Registration
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.	Technical Session #1
11:45 – 12:30	Lunch
12:30 – 12:45	Business Meeting
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Technical Session #2
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Break
2:45 – 4:15 p.m.	Technical Session #3
4:15 – 6:00 p.m.	Free Time & Travel
6:00 – 6:30 p.m.	Social Hour
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Dinner Banquet
7:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Keynote Speaker/Presentations
8:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Door Prizes

Friday

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Technical Session #4
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Morning Break
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Technical Session #5

Loss of an ICAIA Founder – Paul Rickert

Paul Rhoads Rickert passed away on April 19, 2017 at Circle of Life Legacy Village in Bentonville, AR. He was born November 23, 1933 in Naperville, IL. Paul earned a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Arts and Education at Bradley University and completed his Masters in 1963. He taught for 30 years in the high school and community college levels. He served 2 years active duty in the US Army during the Korean War and then later served 20 years in the active reserves.

The Start of the ICAIA

The early to mid 1970's was a time when the U.S. was in its first major oil crisis and the American public was becoming more aware of pollutants in our environment. Automotive manufacturers, in response to these situations were dramatically changing the technology found on the vehicles at the time.

In 1975, the Illinois EPA invited many community college automotive instructors to attend a meeting at a hotel near Midway Airport in Chicago to inform them of the need to change on the part of present day automotive technicians, as well as future technicians. At the meeting, Jim Lausted of Prairie State College, Paul Rickert of Waubensee Community College and Ray Oviyach from Triton College were excited about the changes that were taking place in automotive technology and wondered what we, as automotive instructors, would have to do to meet the demands that were about to be taking place. About a month after that meeting, all three of them met again at a new products meeting given at the Chicago Chrysler Training Center by Fred Pierson. It was there during a coffee break that they discussed the need for automotive instructors to meet on a regular basis.

Shortly thereafter, Jim setup a meeting with Paul and Ray at Prairie State College to discuss the formation of an organization. They felt that this was needed in order to get the attention of automotive manufacturers and after-market companies, to deliver training sessions specifically for automotive technology instructors. The three of them simply spread the word and in the Spring of 1976, we had our first official conference, hosted by Paul Rickert. In the Fall of 1976, Fred Pierson hosted the second conference at the Chicago Chrysler Training Center. In the spring of 1977, Jim Lausted hosted the third conference, and in the Fall of 1977, Ray Oviyach hosted the fourth conference. We were on a roll!

By this time, the Association had a good solid ICAIA Board in place. The officers of the Association progressed through ranks and then took an advisory position to ensure the transfer of information and experience. This also ensured that the Association would be run by its members and that it would be seeing new ideas and approaches on how the association could be of more value to its membership.

Marty Zvonar from Parkland College attended the early conferences and became our first Executive Secretary/Treasurer to provide consistency in the administrative functions of the Association. He maintained in that position until his retirement when it was handed off to Art Koudelka at Illinois Valley Community College.

This was our beginning and the Association thanks the many individuals who played a part.

My Visit with Paul Rickert and Rolly Aiken

Story reprinted from ICAIA News Spring 2008

Back in the day, the College of DuPage would spend money to bring in a motivational or educational speaker during the “Ra Ra Days.” You know the “Ra Ra Days,” they are the meeting days just before the new school year starts in the fall. But, for the last ten years or so, the College decided that it would be better for the faculty to hear from the administration instead of interesting people. So I spent the “Ra Ra Days” day-dreaming about how I would spend the first days before fall term on the first year after retirement. I would day-dream about rafting through the Grand Canyon or bicycling across the country, maybe a train trip through Europe or a cruise to Alaska. However, as the day of retirement came closer, I knew there was only one place that I needed to be, that I HAD to be. I visited Paul and Rolly!

Paul Rickert and Rolly Aiken were my Automotive Service Technology instructors at Waubonsee Community College when I was 18 and 19 years old. They were, without a doubt, the reason why I became an instructor. I would sit in their classes mesmerized at their abilities to present the information in a fashion that not only made me care, but would make me remember. Both Paul and Rolly were my role models, my heroes.

Paul Rickert and I became close on our shared commutes to and from school. Both Paul and I lived in DuPage County and Waubonsee is in Kane County. Gas prices went through the roof in the early seventies, so Paul would drive from Elmhurst to Glen Ellyn and then we would drive together to Sugar Grove. During these drives, I met the personal side of one of my teachers for the first time. We would talk about family, hobbies, vacations, and life in general.

Rolly Aiken’s racing stories were right in my wheelhouse. I enjoyed motor sports and attended a few races. Rolly worked on the crew for one of the race cars that I watched on my first visit to Road America. To me, that made him a celebrity.

After I graduated and was working at a local Ford dealer, I began to question my career choice. I thought back to my days as a student at Waubonsee and how much I missed them. So, I took a day off and paid a surprise visit to my Alma matter. On this day, Paul told me he thought that I would make a good teacher so I drove from Waubonsee to N.I.U to get information on their education degree. While a student at N.I.U. I paid another surprise visit to Waubonsee. I happen to walk into a meeting to find Paul, Rolly, and others sitting around a desk with very unhappy faces. They were talking about who would be stuck teaching a Saturday a.m. “Know Your Cars” class that suddenly and unexpectedly had enough enrollment to run. Because of Paul and Rolly I was teaching my first class that very next day.

That’s why I knew I had to visit them on my very first “Ra Ra Day” after graduation. That’s how I found myself inviting Martha and myself to their homes this past August.

Martha and I first visited Paul and Marion Rickert at their home in suburban Hendersonville, North Carolina. We were with them on the first “Ra Ra Day” after I retired and left the morning of the second “Ra Ra Day.” Paul and Marion are very happy living at the foothills of the mountains that are traversed by the Blue Ridge Parkway. Their lovely home sits on a hill that allows the lower level to be a walk out. Paul and Marion are very involved in their community, especially, church and the local public library.

Paul drove us throughout his adopted home of Hendersonville pointing out every new project and every restored building. It was obvious that he was very proud of his surroundings. Paul even lobbied Martha and me to move into the area.

While we were sitting in their living room, the mail carrier delivered Paul's invitation to the Fall 2007 I.C.A.I.A. conference. I realized that my admiration of Paul's communication skills has only grown with time. I only wish that I could express my feelings half as well as Paul.

Next, we visited with Rolly and Beverly Aiken in their home in New Tazewell, Tennessee. We were there during the end of the second "Ra Ra Day" and the first day of the new academic year back home. Rol and Bev own an amazing log home on a hilltop overlooking the Cumberland Gap. When I say log cabin, I mean it. This two-story building has a green steel roof, a covered porch on all four sides, log interior walls dividing the rooms, and a large natural stone fireplace. Rolly drove us around the area including a lookout point in Cumberland Gap National Park where it seemed we could see forever. Both Rolly and Paul asked me to say hello to their old friends at the I.C.A.I.A.; but, I think that I can speak for most of you when I say thank you.

Paul and Rolly for all that you have done for the I.C.A.I.A. I really wanted to say thank you Paul and Rolly for my career, I owe it all to you.

By Bob Sobie

Attend ICAIA and:

- See new things!
- Share ideas!
- Learn a lot!
- Make new friends!
- Have a great time!

Thank You to Joliet Junior College!

The Spring 2017 ICAIA Conference was hosted by Joliet Junior College. The conference had an excellent turnout of members, vendors, and presenters.



ICAIA thanks the many sponsors, vendors and everyone at Joliet Junior College for hosting a great conference!





