



the**ranken**experience

VOLUME FOUR ISSUE ONE – SUMMER 2008



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RANKEN
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

program key

ACR | Automotive Collision Repair Technology

AMT | Automotive Maintenance Technology

BSAM | Bachelor of Science in Applied Management

BSAT | Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology

CNT | Computer Networking Technology

CRP | Carpentry and Building Construction

CST | Control Systems Technology

EAT | Electrical Automation Technology

ECDM | Electrical Construction Design and Management

ESDT | Electrical Systems Design Technology

HPRT | High Performance Racing Technology

HVACR | Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology

INT | Industrial Technology

IT | Information Technology

IWT | Internet and Web-based Technology

PLT | Plumbing Technology

PMT | Precision Machining Technology

STE | Stationary Engineering

WLD | Welding

WWK | Woodworking





ben ernst, president

note from the president

The construction projects in the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center are winding down. The renovation of the Industrial Technology shop has been completed. We also have had a full year of instruction in High Performance Racing Technology. In addition, the dorm construction is progressing nicely and we have begun the process of closing Cook Avenue. This progress would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors and the hard work of our faculty and staff.

While all of these changes make Ranken a better institution, there have been other events that are not as visible, yet are important to the success of our students. One of the events which impacts our college is our annual job fair. Held on this year on March 13th, we had 140 companies participate. There were tables in the lobbies, hallways and anywhere else we could find space. Companies of all sizes were trying to impress on our students why they should join their organization. Students were lined up three and four deep at tables, attempting to get as much information about the benefits of working for a particular organization. There were so many conversations taking place you almost had to shout to be heard. For the two hours this event lasted you could literally feel the elevated level of excitement.

Each year more and more companies are attending our job fairs. Some of them, in fact, offer to hire the entire graduating class from specific departments. This is one more visible indication that we are accomplishing our mission of graduating students with the skills needed to get a job. We can all be proud of the work we are doing and take real satisfaction in knowing our students are able to get good jobs because of the education they receive at Ranken.

Many thanks to everyone who has made this possible!

New Alumni Director

KATHY FERN has been named the new Director of Alumni Relations. Fern has a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from Illinois State University. She also has a Masters in Administration and Planning from Washington University in St. Louis.

For the past four years she worked as a Residential Services Director for Bellefontaine Place in Waterloo, Ill.. Bellefontaine is a division of Community Living Options, Inc., which is the largest provider of services for developmentally disabled adults in Illinois. While there, she was responsible for staff supervision, event planning and implementation as well as fundraising and facility supervision.

Prior to this, Fern had 12 years experience working with Physician Executives in Tampa, Fla, where she resided until 2001. She planned meetings, events and developed educational programs.

Currently, Fern is working hard to create a variety of opportunities that will increase Ranken alumni participation in events and programs. "I want to deepen the connection of our alumni to Ranken," said Fern.

She continued, "The biggest challenge is to determine what will draw our graduates back to the campus. I want to stay connected to them via all our communication tools ... the internet, phone, email, etc. We have a lot of great events and I want to make sure all our graduates take advantage of what we have to offer!"

Fern resides in Columbia, Ill. and has been married for 17 years. Her husband, Mike, has a commercial driver's license and is an over the road driver for Dynamic. She has a 13-year old daughter, Amber, who is an honors graduate from Columbia, Ill. middle school.

Her hobbies are reading, sewing, gardening and cardio kick boxing.

Fern can be reached at (314) 285-4895 in Alumni Relations or via email at ktfern@ranken.edu.

Welcome aboard, Kathy!

Steve Horner - New Vice President for Sales and Marketing

Steve Horner is our new Vice President for Sales and Marketing. Horner has an extensive sales and marketing background. He has served as Western Regional Manager for Bic Graphic (Tampa, Fla.) and as Vice President of Marketing for Souvenir Group (Cedar Rapids, Iowa).

"Although I have had experience selling to the educational industry, being directly involved in the business will be a new experience for me," said Horner.

Horner commented that one of the keys to success for any business or institution is knowing the customer's needs and interests. In this case, it is prospective Ranken students.

To meet this objective, Horner's primary responsibility is to develop and implement a comprehensive strategic sales program. This program will include business development, marketing and corporate communications. The program objective is to increase student enrollment.

"The new Bachelor of Science in Applied Management degree provides another opportunity to attract new students. A marketing campaign has been developed that is aimed at letting students know that we now offer a four year program to complement our Associate degree programs," commented Horner.

Horner is impressed with the environment at Ranken. "The students, faculty and administration are very passionate and committed to the college. It's this attitude, that no doubt was instilled by founder David Ranken, Jr. that has allowed Ranken to continue its mission of providing the highest quality of hands-on technical education for over 100 years," said Horner.

Horner has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mass Communications from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville (Ill). He is also certified as a Master Advertising Specialist from the Promotional Products Association International in Dallas, Texas. He is currently pursuing a Master of Science in Administration from Lindenwood University in St. Charles, Mo.

Horner has been married for 37 years to his wife, Georgie. Georgie is an office manager for CMA Management Company. CMA is a property management and maintenance company based in Chesterfield, Mo. They have two children. Their daughter, Stephanie, is an eighth grade teacher at Logos School in St. Louis. Their son, Eric, is an assistant baseball coach, the head baseball recruiter and adjunct professor of marketing at Johnson County Community College in Overland Park, Kan.

Mary Ann Lee Technology Center/Myrtle and Earl Walker Residence Hall

THE MARY ANN LEE TECHNOLOGY CENTER is our new building on campus. It is the home of both our High Performance Racing and Industrial Maintenance Technology programs.

In addition to this state-of-the-art facility, there is construction taking place on the new Myrtle and Earl Walker Residence Hall. This dormitory complex will house 210 students and is slated to open in late August 2008.

These new developments don't just happen. They require effort, planning and most importantly, the financial support of several donors.

These two new facilities are due to the financial generosity and vision of people like Heschel Raskas, Earl Walker, Mary Ann Lee and Jack Taylor. These people believe in our mission and are willing to help us realize our goals.

Raskas, the owner of Schreiber Dairy, was the previous owner of the property where these buildings now reside. It was the cooperation of Raskas that provided Ranken the opportunity to move forward in purchasing the property.

The construction and development of these facilities are due to the tremendous generosity of Earl Walker who contributed \$2.6 million; Mary Ann Lee \$1.6 million and Jack Taylor \$1 million.

These people support our efforts and are doing all they can to help us provide a quality education to Ranken students. We clearly could not have come this far without their help. We are extremely grateful for their support. It's people like this that turn our dreams and vision for the campus into reality.

Ranken President, Ben Ernst (center) talks with donors (from left) Des Lee and Earl Walker while touring the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center.



Missouri SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conferences 2008 Event Results

MORE THAN 1,200 students from across Missouri gathered at Linn State Technical College in Linn, Mo. on March 29-31 to compete in the annual state SkillsUSA Competition. The competition includes both hands-on and written tests in various categories. Ranken students walked away from the competition with a number of awards including the following:

Post Secondary	Category	Place at State
416 Kal Cook	Automated Manufacturing Technical Information	1
416 Kal Cook	Automated Manufacturing Technical Information (Post-Secondary)	1
421 Tim Dumey	Precision Machining Technical Information	5
421 Tim Dumey	Precision Machining Technology	3
415 Evan Ely	Architectural Drafting Technical Information	2
415 Evan Ely	Architectural Drafting	5
419 Danny Farrington	Precision Machining Technical Information	7
419 Danny Farrington	CNC Milling Technology	3
422 Tim Kennedy	Automotive Service Technology	8
422 Tim Kennedy	Automotive Service Technical Information	4
424 Derek Lewis	Collision Repair Technical Information	2
424 Derek Lewis	Automotive Refinishing Technology	2
425 Tim Littman	Collision Repair Technology	6
425 Tim Littman	Collision Repair Technical Information	5
418 David Nesler	Automated Manufacturing Technology (Post-Secondary)	1
418 David Nesler	Automated Manufacturing Technical Information	3
417 Joe Puglisi	Automated Manufacturing Technical Information	1
417 Joe Puglisi	Automated Manufacturing Technology (Post-Secondary)	1
420 Nathaniel Smith	CNC Turning Technology	2
420 Nathaniel Smith	Precision Machining Technical Information	6
423 Todd Tyrell	Automotive Service Technical Information	1
423 Todd Tyrell	Automotive Service Technology	1
414 Corey Valeroy	Heating, Vent, Air Conditioning & Ref.	3
414 Corey Valeroy	Heating, Vent, A/C & Ref. Technical Information	7

SkillsUSA is a national organization. It serves high school and college students and professional members enrolled in training programs in technical, skilled, and service occupations. SkillsUSA also includes health occupations in high schools and college/technical schools.

Scholarship Highlights

The Scholarship Committee is proud to announce that the following students have earned scholarships and awards from Ranken supporters and friends:

President's Scholarship

Nicole Choura, Nathan Clinard, Joseph Dietz, and Daniel Koehler

Distinguished Achievement Awards

Robert Boitano, Jr., Matthew Keck, Annsih Kesmaa-Serud, and Brandon Lewey

Louis L. Seyer Scholarship

Charlie Meier, Brian Neville, Joseph Puglisi, and Clay Steinbach

The William G. Bachman, Sr. Machining Scholarship

Trent Carman and Steven Turner II

Ahern Fire Protection Scholarship

Kelly Bade and Brandon Little

Demand Electric Scholarship

Scott Holton and Robert Reichert

Pettus Foundation Scholarship

Vincent Partee, Annsih Kesmaa-Serud, and Torri Holbrooks

Emerson Scholarship

Carlos Jones, Quantarious Lloyd, and LaTiece Williams

The Home Builders Association of Greater St. Louis Construction Scholarship

Alex Chau

John Allan Love Foundation Scholarship

Kevin Chatman II

The Whiteaker Memorial Scholarship

William Bryan

James W. French/French Gerleman Scholarship

Jared Foley

James C. Groom Scholarship Award

Nicole Choura

BDK Scholarship

Manual Williams

Mike Holt Electrical Estimating Book Scholarship

Justin Foust

Jeanne L. Dennis Scholarship

Diamond Brown and Harry Williams

E. Desmond Lee Scholarship

Eric Miller and Levi Nowell, Sr.

Teacher/Counselor Workshop Scholarships

Nicole Choura and Brandon Wobbe

Open House Award

Andrew Birkenmeier, Austin Donoho, and Collin Zurliene

Earl & Myrtle Walker Endowed Scholarship

Chris Kircher, Shawn Morgan, and Ryan Schuettenberg

Boeing Company Scholarships

Patrick Bowker, Levi Gaze, and Ross Graves

Kurt H. Jensen Scholarship

Andrew Mayer, Charlie Meier, and Kyle Reed

Frederick Eiseman Scholarship

Matthew Keck, Annsih Kesmaa-Serud, and Ryan Wilson

Tops-at-Tech Award

Matthew Jones, Derek Kopp, Patrick Mahoney, and Cody Przygoda

Anheuser-Busch Scholarship

James Doermer, Tamara Kent, Brandon Lewey, and Joseph Woody

St. Mary's High School Scholarship

Steven Dinzebach, Brett Johnson, Timothy Schoenberg, and Joseph Whitnell

Monsanto Fund Scholarships

Ernest Allen, David Anthony, Bryson Brown, Lamont Franks, Joseph Gardner, Dominique Jackson, Wendell Johnson, Edward Perkins, Ernestine Smith, DeAndre Tucker, Harry Williams, and Ryan Wilson

St. Louis Auto Dealers Association Scholarship/Loan Program

Anthony Anderson, Nicholas Baker, Thomas Clay, Bobby Davis, Jarrod Frazier, Sheiku Gasama, Mike Graves, Kendrick Griffin, Chris Gould, Jeffrey Howard, Anthony Kiefer, Christopher Miller, Andrew Neal, Ryan Perrine, Juraye Pointer, Joshua Roth, Chris Sanders, Ryan Schuettenberg, Kristopher Schuler, Vincent Sims Jr., Antonio Smith, Elmir Sobo, Christopher Stevenson, DeAndre Tucker and Scott Wallace

Congratulations on everyone's hard work and accomplishment!

Cole eMints Academy

Ranken Technical College works hard to serve and support its community and its neighbors. In addition to being an institution of higher learning, Ranken also realizes the importance of adding value to the neighborhood. One way it accomplishes this goal is by having its carpentry students, through Ranken Community Development Corporation, build quality homes on vacant lots in the community.

Another way Ranken serves the community is in being a good neighbor and responding when help is needed. This opportunity arose when Stella Erundu, principal of Cole eMints Academy, needed cabinets and countertops installed in the school's science lab. Cole eMints is an elementary school (pre-school through fifth grade) in the St. Louis Public School system.

Ranken was quick to respond, since Ranken's Admissions Counselor for Community Relations, LaTrina Rogers, is on the Cole eMints task force. The school's need was quickly communicated to Ranken's Vice President for Education, John Wood. Wood worked with Ranken's Community Development Corporation, as well as the Student Government Association, to pull the necessary resources together to complete this task.

On Saturday, April 12th, several Ranken students and instructors arrived at Cole eMints to begin the project. Working together the team was able to complete the project in only one day!

Whether it's building a new home in the community for a family to enjoy or just lending a hand in a time of need, Ranken aspires to be a good neighbor, always available to help out.



Ranken Carpentry Students, being good neighbors.



2008 Spring Commencement

Ranken was privileged to have Dennis C. Donnelly as the commencement speaker for its graduation ceremony. Donnelly is a partner in the law firm Bryan Cave, LLP. He also serves on the board of trustees for Ranken.

Donnelly has a trial practice which exclusively defends employers in litigation dealing with employment discrimination (race, sex, age, national origin, disability and religion), workforce reduction, wrongful discharge and employment retirement income security act (ERISA) claims.

Here is a summary of Donnelly's comments to the graduating class of 2008:

"Your efforts are directly addressing one of the principle needs in this nation and that is to have relevant, technical, competent individuals who can help keep America running."

"From your talents will come some of the innovations and the inventions which will be mainstream to the development in our nation for the balance of this century."

"Now take the discipline you have learned and don't ever let go of it. This will make the difference in your personal and professional effort in your lives."

"Your diploma reflects innovation. It reflects hard work."

"You are Ranken material! Your diploma is the Blue Ribbon which proves it."

"You are one of the Centennial classes to celebrate Ranken's contribution to education in St. Louis."

On the following pages you will find a listing of the 2008 Ranken graduates.

Automotive Collision Repair Technology

Andrew L. Adams
Travis K. Anielak†
Jared E. Barrow
Robert Boitano‡
Derrick David Brown
Jason Michael Brown
Bradley R. Burke
Bradley Ryan Crawford
Daniel Joseph Cronovich
Eric Charles DeSplinter
Randy Paul Elliott

Phi Giang
Cameron Michael Haley
Andrew William Hall
Jeffrey Dale Howard
Wendell Earl Johnson
Derek M. Lewis†
Timothy Joseph
Littmann*
Corey A. McMullen
Anthony Leo Middendorf
Stephen Loren
Middendorf

Gregory Paul Ott
Juraye Pointer
Nick Edward Rasch
Brandon Lee Reaves
Garrett G. Sanburn
Benjamin P. Scobbie
Anthony L. Thurston
Brent P. Tramel
Bradley Austin Whiteside
Jacob Edwin Wikoff
Brandon L. Zeisler

Architectural Technology

Hunter B. Coffman(AS)

Mirsada Hotilovac(AS)*

Gena LuAnn Stille(AS)

Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology

Kelly Ann Bade*
Jason M. Bailey
Dan Joseph Brown‡
Evan Richard Ely*
Jeffrey Joseph
Engelmann
Nathan R. Faulkenberry

Geoffrey Niel Fester
Jessica Lynn Fink*
David Arnold
Hakenewerth
Cortez D. Hemphill
Kyle Matthew Jones
Bryan Edmund Lichtsinn

Ryan Michael Lindsey
Adnan Omeragic*
Billy Jean Pegel*
Elma Sehic
Eric Jacob Shockley
Miranda M. Wirtel

Automotive Maintenance Technology

Andrew Michael Albers
Ernest D. Allen
Mike Gallagher Alter
Zachary Anderson
Michelle M. Andrews
David Lacy Anthony
Thomas William Baldwin
Mehrshad Bashi
Nermin Beganovic
Adam Michael Brooks
Michael J. Butera
Andrew Steven Clements
Patricia L. Coffman
Tyler Robert Correll
Jake Edward Ellis
Joe Ryan Farr
Nicolas W. J.
Forbeck-Buhr
Kevin Andrew Garland
Christopher Louis
George

Patrick Lloyd Goff
Nicholas Paul Greffet
Daniel C. Gunter†
Tyler Andrew Harper
Patrick Andrew Harris
Nicholas John Harviel
Christopher Robert
Hewitt
Jeffrey Michael
Hopper(AS)
Antonio Victor
Indelicato
David H. Janowski
Aaron Wesley Johnson
David Richard Johnson
Adam Gregory Jones
Tim P. Kennedy
Caleb Martin Krotz
Keith M. LaJeunesse
Scott W. Latinette
Michael E. Lewis, Jr.

Dante Ramsey Maranan
Kenny Ray Mayfield
Thomas Mark McVey, III
Nicholas Joseph Milota
William A. Murray
John F. Nelson
Khoan D. Nguyen
Bryan D. Ondercho
Travis Jeffrey Phillips
Ryan Bernard Quick
Mirza Rahmanovic
Steven Joseph Saito
Randy Allen Schaefer
Alexander J. Schilling
Edward Earl Schmidt
Jesse Andrew Schwab
Andrew Joseph Siemer
Jordan Ray Sieve
Alex Benjamin Smith
Elmir Sobo*
Timothy Ryan Springett

Automotive Maintenance Technology

Clinton J. Staff	Steven Wayne Thomas*	Robert Joseph Wallace
Donald Gene Sturgeon*	Andrew J. Travagliente	Nicholas E. Walters
Kevin Neil Sullivan	DeAndra L. Tucker	Timothy James Wilhelm(AS)†
Matthew Emerson Taylor(AS)	Raymond Joseph Tunncliff	Daniel Paul Yates
	Todd Douglas Tyrrell	

Control Systems Technology

Paul Clinton Abendroth2	Dean Thomas Haller	Christopher Louis
Jacob Matthew	Travis Le'roy Herring	Panopoulos2
Behlmann2†	Carl Robert Hill	Jeremy Penny*
Nick Tomas Bond(AS)	Patrick Wallace Holmes	Bryan Michael Quirk
Kyle Christopher Boyd	Kyle B. Hueter†	Zachary Michael Rehmer
John David Brueggeman*	Pete Michael Iwen2	Carlos Enrique Rosado*
Douglas Eugene Cooley‡	Jason Dean Lash2	Matthew Paul Smith2*
Thomas Ross Druhe	James N. Lee	Eric Michael Stein
Nicholas R. Ellis2	Shannon Micah Maag‡	Todd Michael Stumpf‡
Jonathon Edward Elliston2*	Quy N. Mai	Cole Young Tucker
John Erik Engel	Casey Dawn Miller(AS)‡	Ekpe C. Usoro†
Steven Michael Floyd	Steve P. Nooney2	Cassidy Wooley

Carpentry and Building Construction Technology

Joel David Gass	John Joseph Krivi*	Timothy Hobbs Spearman
Adam Gregory Howes‡	Walter V. Lay‡	Michael Thomas Stevenson
Robert Paul Jackson	Derrick Jeffery Mullins	Michael Bradley Svoboda
Kevin William Jost*	Bradley F. Notter*	Phillip Barton Waits
Matthew Allen Keck‡	Vincent R. Partee	Andrew Robert Walker*
Eugene J. Kennedy	Patrick James Randle†	Harry Lamont Williams
Andrew Timothy Kobler	Kyle Anthony Rasch*	Shaun Anthony Young

Electrical Automation Technology

Bradford Juan Baker	Lee Thomas Creach*	Kyle Joseph O'Brien
Jason Michael Barrington*	Aaron Blanda Doty*	Dustin A. Reid
Derek Steven Bergman*	Lyle Cody Gilbreth	Scott David Saboff(AS)*
Brian Michael Berkemann	Ethan Lee Hamilton	Pablo I. Samaniego
Jeremy Michael Bert	Shawn Michael Hartmann	Jeffrey Michael Schleeper†
Rusty Daniel Bick*	Brian C. Hinnen	Bruce Alan Schoenbeck
Anthony Alan Brellinger*	Randy Kent	Jeffrey Scott Senko
William Broeker	Tamara D. Kent	Jordan David Sweetman*
Eva Marie Brooks	Klinton Keith Klocke*	Alex Tambala*
Bryson Andrew Brown	Aaron Kruse	Kevin M. Walker
Nicholas Andrew Campbell	Ryan Lee Kulp	Ryan Kenneth Williams
Donald A. Carrino	Shawn Aaron McClanahan	Ryan J. Welling
Manton L. Cooper	Daniel Robert McSperritt	Joseph T. Woody
Michael Alexander Cox*	David Wayne Messner, Jr.*	

*Cum Laude (3.5-3.74 GPA)
†Magna Cum Laude (3.75-3.89 GPA)
‡Summa Cum Laude (3.9-4.0 GPA)
2Dual Degree in EAT/CST
(AS) Associate of Science

Electrical Systems Design Technology

Patrick W. Canoy
David Russell Fette*
Aaron M. Finley
Justin Lee Foust
Dustin Gregory Godier

Cody Wayne Gudel
James M. Gurley
Scott P. Holton†
Nicholas Michael Kirn*
Patrick M. Maag
Adrianne Lynn Moore

Robert D. Reichert†
David Mark Ruyle
Chris C. Sheff
Nathan R. Webster
Jacob Wallace West*

Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology

Bradley A. Bartz
Maurtell Donnell Beck
Kevin Birkemeier
Gary W. Brannan*
Daniel Joseph Buttitta
Bradley Tyler Callahan†
Anthony Lamar Clark
Shane Anthony Czuchna*

Mike Kevin DeWitt
Kyle S. Ernst*
Scott Allen Frick
Daniel Giffin
Anthony Ryan Henricks
Nick Scott Kindle
William Robert Lee*
Emir Libic
Scott Andrew Morbert†

David Gerald Murphy
Christopher Nelson Parker
Kyle James Pirok
Robert Eugene Russell, III
Scott Christopher Simonds
Steven Edward Tanner
Charles Christian Vaughn*
Alex John Winkeler

High Performance Racing Technology

Joseph Raymond Behlmann
David Ray Farmer
Luke Alan Garber*

Michael Joseph Hoing*
Patrick Lester Petrowske
James Manuel Phillips
Nicholas R. Prather

William Leon Southard
Joshua Matthew Underwood
Jason Duane Wall

Industrial Technology

Adam Paul Alexander*
Patrick Steven Bach
Brett Daniel Bilyeu
William Patrick Bryan(AS)*
Matthew A. Buttitta
Adam M. Carrier

Andrew J. Cawvey
Ryan Lee Czajkowski
Luke Joseph Eversgerd
Christopher Joseph Knebel
Mark W. Krysl
Joshua Lee Rickelmann

Jacob Paul Rincker*
Nathan G. Santel
Darius V. Vilcinskis
Damon O. Williams†
Kyle T. Wilson‡

Information Technology

Richard Lee Allen
Matthew Bratchie*
Robert Joseph Braun
Daniel Devenport
Courtland Allen Frost‡
Eric Gerard Haake
Jonathan C. Hambach
Jeffrey D. Hetherington

Joshua A. Hoelscher
Kevin L. Jones
Richard Gene Kilman
Nicholas J. Lang†
Gregory Andrew Lewis
Daniele Vincenzo Manzella
Joshua Joseph Moulton
Stephen D. Neely‡

Roderick Gary Oetter
Douglas Matthew Paddock
Adam Carl Ross
Alex Edward Straub
Kevin Patrick Volz
Corey Justin Wicklund
Kyle R. Winkeler

Internet and Web Technology

Timothy Eugene Anthony‡ Joseph Farand Gardner(AS) Landon Matthew Zirkelbach
Christopher Ryan Barnhart Travis John Henkel

Plumbing Technology

Dave Alcorn‡ Merryl LaTroy Holmes Brandon Alfred Schrage*
DaRon Marquis Bailey* Justin J. Horn‡ Matthew David Steller‡
Nicholas James Bramlet Tyrone Lewis Jones Curtis J. Stemm
Travis E. Brinkmann Steven David Kelly Timothy Gene Sutton‡
Timothy Allen Dooley Wayne Allen Klobe‡ Matt Daniel Thole
Jason Matthew Fitzgibbons Myron Anthony Massey Jimmy Deametric Thompson
Brian Douglas Gebhart Dennis Wayne Montgomery* Kevin A. Whitehead
Joshua Steven Giddings James Anthony Moore* Manuel B. Williams*
Derek Robert Goatley Kenneth Eugene Naes Robert Williams*
Jarrod Brian Hayes Mark Christopher Ritchie Michael P. Wittman*
Justin Brian Heitzig Gerald Paul Sabaini Brandon Hoyt Yates
Alan Daniel Hoekstra Brian Michael Schell Collin M. Zurliene*

Precision Machining Technology

Alex Ryan Camacho Nicholas Gregory Larsen Brian Andrew Rinkel*
Trent Alan Carmant Drew Robert Loos Dylan Tanner Scheller
Randall Bryant Cassady Brad M. Mathews Thomas Alexander Sitton*
Kal J. Cook* David Ross Nesler* Asim Ahmet Spahic‡
Tim E. Dumey‡ Brian Lee Neville‡ Steven Kelly Turner‡
Nicholas K. Dyer Eugene Lee Nichol* Nicholas Carswell Vollmar
Giovanni Vittorino Favignano Gary Richard Platz Thomas Allen Westcott
Nicholas Matthew Kramer Joseph Benjamin Puglisi Thomas Joseph Zeveski
Denton Lee Krueger* Joseph Edward Recker

*Cum Laude (3.5-3.74 GPA)
‡Magna Cum Laude (3.75-3.89 GPA)
‡Summa Cum Laude (3.9-4.0 GPA)
2Dual Degree in EAT/CST
(AS) Associate of Science

Automotive Collision Repair Technology

Brian Barrington*	John H. Evans	Stephen Ray Taylor
Brandon C. Clonts	Ryan S. Grewe	Chad Gerard Tebbe
Chris Cokenour†	Edward A. Ramatowski	Shaun Steven Weakley
Kenneth Errett	James Robert Speakes	Kenneth Wikoff*

Automotive Maintenance Technology

Ayres Alton Bluett	John O'Malley	David Demetris Stidhum
Clifford Charles Brown	Colin David Patton	Gregory Dane Ukman
Brian Higginst	Richard Schwamle	

Bachelor of Science in Applied Management

Chris Beinke

Control Systems Technology

Danny L. Franklin	Shawn A. Tosh
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Carpentry and Building Construction Technology

Derion T. Alexander	Theresa Sue McWilliams‡	Jonathan W. Turner
Johan Jones	Tracy L. Parker	Detrich E. Williams‡
Dale Anthony Mangiaracino‡	Robert Earl Pittman‡	

Electrical Automation Technology

Russell L. Butler	Daniel Patrick Howk*	Michael F. McRoberts
Ronnie Lee Gunter‡	Scott Nelson Hyatt‡	Michael Thomas Milzark†
Chris Gusewelle‡	Darla Jean Kelly	

Heating Ventilation, Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology

Keith Ronnell Bailey	Jason Garvin*	David Scott Peckham‡
Jason Scott Bibb	Steven Matthew Linderman	Kyle Shockley
Marcus Tyrone Brown‡	Christopher Lee Milan	Pete Siegel*
Aaron James Chrisman	Gerald Irl Morgenthaler*	Charles Williams

High Performance Racing Technology

Aaron Christopher Francis Joseph M. Lang, Sr. George Justin Walker

Industrial Technology

Kevin Brock Nicholas A. Grissom Timothy Wayne Love*
Anofiu O. Gaffari James Lamont Johnson Kyle Wayne Winchester*

Precision Machining Technology

Mithakone Banthongsack† Neil D. Middendorf* Micah Herbert Smith
Dave Scheihing*

Precision Welding and Fabrication Technology

Christopher Patrick Filla* Kevin J. McKinney Eric Powers
James Kayser Dominique J. Netterville Daniel Ray Sullivan‡

*Cum Laude (3.5-3.74 GPA) 2Dual Degree in EAT/CST
†Magna Cum Laude (3.75-3.89 GPA) (AS) Associate of Science
‡Summa Cum Laude (3.9-4.0 GPA)



David Nesler receives the David Ranken, Jr. Award from Vice President for Education, John Wood

David Ranken, Jr. Award

Mark Bosworth, the Head of Ranken's Precision Machining Department (PMT) department described this year's winner of the David Ranken Jr. Award. "David is an excellent representative of this award. He is one of the top students in the department."

The student, David Nesler of East Alton, Ill.; was presented this special award on May 8th at the spring 2008 Commencement Exercise, held at the St. Charles Family Arena, in St. Charles, Mo.

This annual award is presented to the Ranken graduate who best combines scholastic achievement, personal commitment to his field of study, along with an outstanding work ethic. Nesler graduated Cum Laude with a 3.7 grade point average. He never missed a day of class or was he ever tardy in his two years of attendance.

In order to finance his education, Nesler worked summer jobs and is currently employed at Mueller Machine and Tool Company in St. Louis. Nesler commented, "It has been a great place to work and I hope it continues for many years to come."

Nesler continued, "I can take my knowledge from Ranken and apply it to my position at Mueller. It is very rewarding and exciting to see the value of my education, while I perform tasks at work." Nesler is looking forward to earning his journeymen's card.

Nesler was able to balance his studies and work schedule and still find time to participate in student government and the Ranken car club. In fact, he helped design the car show trophies. Nesler worked well with his teammates on Ranken's Automated Manufacturing Team that won the Missouri State Skills competition. He was the team's lead man at the National Skills competition in Kansas City, Mo, this past June.

Nesler said, "It takes self discipline, hard work and a good attitude to meet goals and I have met everything I have set-out to do. Ranken helped me get to this point in my life. I just hope that I continue on this path. I don't believe I'll have any problems doing so, because of the things that I have learned at Ranken."

50-Year Anniversary Graduates

RANKEN ALUMNI that graduated 50 or more years ago were once again honored at the 2008 Spring Commencement on May 11 at the St. Charles Family Arena. Eighteen alumni participated in the ceremony. Anniversary graduates were treated to dinner with members of their family prior to graduation. Golden graduates participated in the graduation ceremony and were given a 50-year commemorative pin, a 100-year centennial pin, and an updated diploma cover with a certificate marking the occasion.

Below is the list of alumni who participated in this ceremony:

Lyal F. Broemmelsick	James E. Engel	Wilbert Sackman
Automotive	Automotive	Plumbing
Maintenance	Maintenance	'58
'47	'56	Paul Scheer
Henry J. Buchheit	Everett J. Haefner	Architecture
Refrigeration	Refrigeration	'57
'57	'50	Richard Vetterer
Harvey Theo Buettner	J. Patrick Marlow	Automotive
Carpentry	Machine Shop	Maintenance
'51	'58	'58
Jacob Colter	Robert J. Mentzel	Milton Zoschke
Automotive	Machine Shop	Architecture/Drafting
Maintenance	'51	'58
'58	Ronald L. McCormick	
Marvin H. Darnell	Electrical	
Automotive	'56	
Maintenance	John Niehaus Jr.	Honorary Degree
'58	Machine Shop	Robert Foree
Jack Dotzman	Carl L. Riesinger	Electrical
Electrical	Refrigeration	'57
'58	'57	

50-year graduates at the 2008 Spring Commencement



Students Helping Students 2007 Class Gift

STUDENTS HELPING STUDENTS is a Graduating Class Gift program that was created in 2006. Graduating students have the opportunity to make a difference in the future of the college with a monetary gift to their department, scholarships or to the area of greatest need.

David Ranken, Jr. believed strongly in giving to others. By participating in this program, graduating students help to ensure that his legacy will continue, so that future Ranken students will receive the best technical education using state-of-the-art equipment.

Twenty-eight students have made a donation to this program. We thank them for their thoughtfulness and participation! In giving of their first gift as students, we hope that they will continue to grow to be giving adults and alumni. The 2008 Class Gift Donors are:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| » Jeff Baur (EAT) | » Carl Hill (CST) |
| » Brett Bilyeu (INT) | » Alan Hoekstra (PLT) |
| » Kyle Boyd (CST) | » Michael Hoing (HPRT) |
| » Bryson Brown (EAT) | » Kyle Jones (AMT) |
| » Brad Callahan (HVACR) | » Matt Keck (CRP) |
| » Adam Carrier (INT) | » Scott Latinette (ACR) |
| » Andrew Cawvey (INT) | » Scott Morber (HVACR) |
| » Nicholas Cramer (PMT) | » Kenneth Naes (PLT) |
| » Scott Frick (HVACR) | » Steve Saito (AMT) |
| » Derek Goatley (PLT) | » Alex Schilling (AMT) |
| » David Hakenewerth (AT) | » Bruce Schoenbeck (EAT) |
| » Cameron Haley (ACR) | » Timothy Sutton (PLT) |
| » Ethan Hamilton (EAT) | » Jimmy Thompson (PLT) |
| » Brian Hennen (ET) | » Darius Vilcinskas (INT) |

New Student Orientation

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION for the fall semester is scheduled for Thursday, August 7, 2008. New Student Orientation will give students the opportunity to:

- » Explore the resources available to Ranken students
- » Meet students, staff, and faculty in a relaxed setting
- » Tour the labs and shops where classes will be held
- » Become familiar with the policies and procedures for students

New Student Orientation is mandatory for all new students and will last approximately four hours. The dress code is casual. Students will receive a letter closer to the date with the exact time of their orientation. There will also be an orientation for parents the evening of August 7. Visit ranken.edu for more information.

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Spring Job Fair

THE SPRING JOB FAIR, held on campus, was a rousing success. The number of participating companies increased from 105 (spring 2007) to 140.

This was a 33% increase!

The fair provided Ranken students and past graduates the opportunity to receive information about each of the companies attending. It also allowed them to submit resumes and participate in short informational interviews. The students were able to discover what jobs were available and provided important networking opportunities.

Ranken has a dual mission ... to provide a quality education and to work hard to place its students. It's events such as this that allow 98% of Ranken graduates to find gainful employment within 6 months of graduation.

Employers can contact Janie Summers at 314-286-3665 or at careerservices@ranken.edu for additional information or to place a reservation for the fall job fair.

Ranken Car Show/Alumni Reunion

THE 5TH ANNUAL RANKEN CAR SHOW AND ALUMNI REUNION was held on Sunday, April 13th on the Ranken campus. This rain or shine event was just that; rain with little shine. In the words of Maurice Riddle, Ranken alumnus and emcee, "the cars were hot, but the weather was not".

It was a cold day for the 120 registrants and over 400 spectators, but those that attended braved the four seasons (rain, sleet, snow, and a bit of cloudy haze) and had a good time.

The alumni lunch was attended by 50 members of the Alumni Association, representing all Ranken departments.

In addition to this event, there were guided tours of the campus and the new Mary Ann Lee Technology Center. For additional information on the car show and alumni reunion, visit our website at: www.ranken.edu

Here are the Trophy Winners in each Class:

Original, 1900-1948

- 1st - Kenneth Szahniesld - 1946 Ford
- 2nd - Dwight Perry ('89 AMT) -
1927 White Car
- 3rd - Carl Rieisinger ('57 HVACR) -
1948 Pontiac Streamline

Original, 1949-1965

- 1st - Jim Baver - 1964 Rambler
- 2nd - Kenny Walker - 1965
Chevy Impala

Original, 1966-1975

- 1st - Bill Rueckert ('56 ACR) -
1971 Chevy Impala
- 2nd - Jacob Bolter - 1967
Mercury Cougar
- 3rd - Alec Rolwes - 1970
Pontiac Trans Am

Original, 1976-1985

- 1st - Randy Tallent - 1988
Buick Reatta
- 2nd - Mike Chownina - 1976
Chevy El Camino
- 3rd - Derek Lewis - 1984 Chevy C-10

Original, 1986-1995

- 1st - Kyle Brinkman - 1995
Ford Mustang
- 2nd - Dylan Freeburg - 1990
Mazda B2200
- 3rd - Kurt Vlasak - Dodge Shadow

Original, 1996-2002

- 1st - Scott Faust - 2001
Chevy Camaro SS
- 2nd - Matthew LaFaivre - 2001
Pontiac Trans Am
- 3rd - Dustin Glover - 1998
Pontiac Trans Am

Original, 2003 to present

- 1st - Brian Coulston - 2006
Ford Mustang
- 2nd - Mike Hatcher - 2004
Ford Focus
- 3rd - Zack McDonald ('03 ACR) -
2003 Ford Mustang

Original Pony Cars, 1965-1973

- 1st - Lorraine Anderson - 1968
Ford Mustang

Street Rod modified, 1948 and older

- 1st - Daryl Williken - 1946 Ford Sedan
- 2nd - Walter Moss - 1939
Pontiac Humpback Sedan
- 3rd - Bill Schrader - 1939
Chevy Master Coupe

Modified Cars, 1949-1975

- 1st - Sharon Burns - 1965
Ford Mustang
- 2nd - Matthew Schewe - 1975
Chevy Corvette
- 3rd - Mike Dyer ('99 ACR) - 1963
VW Beetle

Modified Cars, 1976 to present

- 1st - John Schumacher - 1995
Ford Mustang
- 2nd - Andrew Warren - 2006
Pontiac GTO
- 3rd - Guy Don Carlos - 1996
Chevy Impala SS

Modified Trucks, 1949 to present

- 1st - Brad Wesemann - 2004
Dodge Dakota
- 2nd - Cody Bryan - 2004
Ford Ranger
- 3rd - Jason Groenich ('07 INT) -
1995 Chevy

Street Machine, 1949-1960

No entries

Street Machine, 1961-1975

- 1st - Kerry Friedman - 1969
Pontiac GTO
- 2nd - Ryan Shoemaker - 1965
Ford Mustang
- 3rd - Jake Gmerek ('07 ACR) - 1970
Chevy Monte Carlo

Street Machine, 1976 to present

- 1st - Phillip James -1979
Pontiac Grand Prix
- 2nd - Cory Brummett - 2001
Ford Mustang
- 3rd - Martin Shaw - 1992
Ford Mustang

Pro-Street (tubbed vehicles) 1949 to present

No Entries

4x4 vehicles, all

- 1st - Steve & Tina King - 2002
Ford F250
- 2nd - Scott Latinette ('08 AMT) -
1987 Jeep Wrangler
- 3rd - Jeremy King ('07 ACR) - 2004
Jeep Wrangler Rubicon

Ranken Car Show/Alumni Reunion (continued)

Mini-trucks

- 1st - Steve Baucorn - 1998 Chevy S-10
- 2nd - Josh Wilson - 2002 Chevy S-10
- 3rd - Nicholas Waltering - 2000 Chevy S-10

SUV's

- 1st - Jay Johnson - 1996 GMC Yukon
- 2nd - Paul Yeager - 2005 Ford Escalade

Imports, 1980-2000

- 1st - John Kamler - 1972 Mini Clubman
- 2nd - Anthony Beisel - 1994 Mazda Mx-6
- 3rd - Scott Lasek - 1997 Honda Civic

Imports, 2001 to present

- 1st - Mike Jackson - 2006 Mitsubishi Eclipse
- 2nd - Thomas Brinker - 2001 Mazda Protégé MP3
- 3rd - Kyle Felix - 2005 Mazda RX8

Sport Compacts

- 1st - Ryan Eggleston - 2000 Chevy Cavalier
- 2nd - Matthew Bollwerk - 1997 Dodge Avenger
- 3rd - Ryan Salvo - 2004 Dodge Neon

Motorcycles

- 1st - Ethan Humbert ('96 ACR) - 2008 Harley Davidson Kicker
- 2nd - Jay Johnson ('97 PMT) - 1999 Yamaha Warrior
- 3rd - Ryan Reed - 2003 Suzuki Hayabusa

Competition Vehicles Off-Road

- 1st - Ted Kirkpatrick - 2005 Stallard Myro Sprint Midget
- 2nd - Ted Kirkpatrick - 1998 Stealth Midget
- 3rd - Tyler Rorrell - 1996 Jeep XJ

Kit Car

No Entries

Under Construction Class

- 1st - Jason Prichard - ('83 AMT) 1983 Ford Mustang
- 2nd - Don Nelson - 1930 Chevy Truck
- 3rd - Shane Kinzel - 1996 Buick Roadmaster Wagon

Best of Show

Steve & Tina King - 2002 Ford F250

Best Paint

Ryan Eggleston - 2000 Chevy Cavalier

Most Horsepower on Dyno

Travis Walker - Viper SRT 10 Ram

Best Club Display

Gateway Impala Club

Best High School Student Car

Nicholas Woitering - 2000 S-10

Back by Popular Demand The Ranken Car and Campus Calendar

The 2007-2008 car and campus calendar was our first. As a result of the positive feedback, we will be publishing a 2008-2009 calendar.

The new calendar will cover 15-months. Pictures from the April car show will highlight the winning entries.

The calendar is not only a useful tool for noting important dates, but also provides Ranken history along with department pictures and other noteworthy information.

The calendars are available in the bookstore and are distributed at alumni events. In addition, Ranken admissions counselors will use the calendars when visiting their respective high schools to recruit potential students.

Calendar ads are welcome! The standard price is \$100.00 for a 3-1/2" x 2," one-color ad. Anyone interested should contact an Alumni Leadership Council member or Kathy Fern at (314) 286-4895. Kathy can also be reached via email: ktfern@randen.edu.



Dwight Perry ('89 AMT) Presents his 1927 classic delivery truck.

Student Ambassador Event

On Wednesday, April 23rd, Ranken's Student Ambassadors traveled to The Moolah Lanes, in St. Louis' historic Moolah building for their annual outing as a "thank you" for their hard work throughout the year. After being dismissed early from classes, the ambassadors enjoyed a catered lunch followed by two hours of non-stop bowling. The activities included pool, and ping-pong. A great time was had by all! The student ambassador program is comprised of a dedicated and influential group of students who are passionate about Ranken and want to spread the word about their positive educational experience to prospective students. Ambassadors assist in a variety of activities including giving campus tours, planning campus-wide events, and helping the admissions office in a general capacity. Participating ambassadors can earn up to a \$500 tuition stipend at the end of each semester. To learn more about the student ambassador program, please call (314) 286-4809 or stop by the admissions office.



Student Ambassador Program:

- » Earn Tuition Credit!
- » Work Hard!
- » Have Fun!



STAY CONNECTED TO **RANKEN!** A Ranken education is the common thread to many who live in the St. Louis area. We welcome your information! Let us know what you are doing! Please contact Kathy Fern, Director of Alumni Relations, at (314) 286-4895, or email her at ktfern@ranken.edu.

Here are some of the Alumni updates that we have recently received. For a complete list, visit our website at www.ranken.edu. This site will also allow you to post your most recent information.

2000's

Daniel Brown (BSAT 2008) was accepted to Kansas University into their Master of Architecture Program and will begin this fall.

Tamikka Reed (IT 2007) is an IT/MIS Assistant at Myrtle Hilliard Davis Comprehensive Health Centers, Inc., in St. Louis. She remembers being able to be a part of Ranken's student body, enjoying Women in Technology, Student Government Association and the Student Ambassador Program.

Michael S. Smith (ACR 2007) is a Detailer for Plaza Auto Body in Maryland Heights, Missouri. He is engaged, buying a house and soon to be promoted to apprentice body man. He remembers working on a Toyota Corolla with his friends, and thinking that all of his instructors (Dave, John, Kevin and Larry) were great!

1990's

Matthew Witt (AMT 1999) is currently employed by JM&A as a Senior Mechanical Claims Analyst in Earth City, Missouri. He resides in Alton, Ill..

William R. Carpenter (IEE 1998) has been employed for ten years with Suburban Journals in St. Louis in the Maintenance Department. He resides in Cahokia, Ill.. His best memory of Ranken is "my fellow classmates."

Wayne Jackson (ACR 1997) is a co-owner of Collier Brothers Auto Body in St. Louis.

1980's

Larry Kelso (ACR 1989) is employed by Akzo Nobel. He is a sponsor of events and a donor to the College. Larry is a member of the Ranken Alumni Leadership Council and celebrated 15 years of marriage this past March.

Ronald Townsend (HVACT 1988) is currently retired and residing in St. Charles, Missouri.

James Hilyard (AMT 1988) is employed as a System Technician for AT&T in Austin, Texas, and resides in Pflugerville, Texas.

1970's

Rod L. Weisheimer (CST 1978) is celebrating twenty-five years of successful business in Columbia, Ill. (see Alumni Spotlight). He was surprised with a celebration at a St. Louis Blues Hockey game in January. This gathering included all of his employees and friends.

Gary Fields (RAH 1972) has been employed by Missouri University in Columbia, Missouri, for 33 years as a Chiller Technician. He has celebrated the birth of his grandson, Christopher Fields, born in August 2007, to his son Chris. He remembers living at 39th and Russell for \$9.00 a week while attending Ranken.

Donald Calame (ACR 1971) is a retired letter carrier for the United States Postal Service after 31 years. He now restores old motor bikes and resides in Alton, Ill..

1960's

Don Millmier (CRP 1969) retired in 1998 after 32 years of employment and remembers Bill Wagner as his favorite Ranken instructor. Don lives in Donnellson, Iowa.

Giuseppe (Joe) Marino (Machine Shop 1969) is retiring next spring after 40 years of employment. He is currently working on another classic car.

Gene Fayollat (Communications Electronic Technology 1967) is currently a manager of C.C. Bell Electronics in Collinsville, Ill.. He has worked there for 22 years. He has a daughter who is recently engaged and a son who is building his 4th mud bogging racing truck.

Richard Sminchak (Communications Electronic Technology 1965) is retired after 26 1/2 years as an Engineering Assistant for Shell Oil in Wood River, Ill.. His son William graduated in 2000. He remembers moving the communications department over the summer to its new location.

Don Huster (AMT 1967) has retired from State Farm Insurance and is owner of Ad-Vantage Promotions and Embroidery, LLC, with wife, Judi.

1950's

Marvin Darnell (AMT 1958) retired in 2005 after 41 years of operating the largest industrial radiator shop in the United States. He maintained the highest credit rating ever given to an unincorporated business by Dunn & Bradstreet for 30 years.

Wilbert Sackman (Plumbing 1958) has owned his own business, Sackman Plumbing and Heating, since 1963. Son, Mark, graduated HVACR in 1980 and currently is a licensed plumber working for Principia College in Elsah, Ill..

Theodore L. Arens (Machine Shop 1958) is retired from Sunnen, after 42 years of service. He wife's name is Betty Jane and they have two children and two grandchildren. He is recovering from bladder cancer and resides in St. Louis. He was sorry he was unable to attend the Golden Graduation ceremony.

Carl Riesinger (Refrigeration 1957) retired from C.O. May Company, where he secured background cars for movies made in St. Louis. He is married and has one daughter.

Leonard Ficken (Mechanical Drawing 1954) is retired from a career of 42 years as a Director of Engineering, and resides in Ballwin, Missouri. He was involved in mechanical design work and has more than 25 patents. He remembers his good friends the most and making a movie of the school and its activities. He served as a class officer.

John Schifko (IEE 1952) is retired as a buyer from National Vendors, where he worked for 27 years. He states, "My Ranken education opened many doors which led to a successful work career. Thank-you Ranken!"

1940's

Robert Dunavan (Communications Electronic Technology 1948) is retired from Rockwell International (Boeing). He was in airplane maintenance at Western Airlines. He was also a design engineer at North American Aviation and a test engineer on the Apollo and shuttle space programs. In addition, he was a member of the team that developed the Global Positioning System.

1930's

Earl Sandweg (AMT 1934) is retired from the collision repair business, where he owned his own shop. He is a World War II veteran and resides in Ballwin, Missouri.

For a complete listing of alumni class notes, please visit: www.ranken.edu.

Alumni Spotlight

In the early 1970's Rod L. Weisheimer was a hard-working Chrysler employee facing one layoff after another. He needed to make a change. When an electrical contractor recommended Ranken, Weisheimer took his advice and enrolled.

"I was 22 and older than most. Ranken prepared me with the skills to move into a career that I enjoyed and have enjoyed for over 25 years," commented Weisheimer.

Weisheimer graduated in 1978 and still remembers the dedicated, knowledgeable teachers at Ranken. "Charles Lenau is the teacher I remember most. And our electrical teacher, whose name escapes me, was a very unique individual, with a great sense of humor," said Weisheimer.

During the first year of a two-year program in Control Systems Technology, the instructors gave Weisheimer and his classmates excellent hands-on training. They were able to use up-to-date tools and equipment for wiring homes, motors and labs. He also took classes in general studies, which provided him with the complete skill set needed to succeed in the work force.

Weisheimer recalls a good classroom atmosphere and a strong sense of fellowship. He met good people. Weisheimer said, "I enjoyed walking the hallways and talking to all the guys. I had a lot of fun." One classmate Weisheimer remembers is Don Heep. "Don worked all night and went to school all day. He would sometimes doze off in class but, man, could he design electrical circuits!" said Weisheimer. After 30 years they are still friends. Heep later became the head of research and development for an electrical outlet company and is doing very well.

Weisheimer adds, "Ranken gives you a good work ethic, which is needed now more than ever." Weisheimer believes knowledge, integrity and work ethic are the keys to success. "Most jobs come from small businesses. Small business owners equate work ethic to being a good employee. Ranken helps every student develop these skills," said Weisheimer.

R. L. Weisheimer and Associates in Columbia, Ill., sells to engineers and services instrumentation products for manufacturers of pharmaceuticals, chemicals, petroleum, power, utility and steel. His customers include Monsanto, Anheuser-Busch, Centicor, Pfizer and Mallinckrodt. He helps engineering and maintenance divisions select equipment and applications to meet their needs. He also provides start up, calibration and training.

According to Weisheimer, running a small business is a full time job. "You spend almost all your time making it a success," said Weisheimer. If he has any free time, he races dirt bikes. He started before entering Ranken and has been

involved in racing for over 30 years. He also has an RV, likes to camp and travels while following racing events.

Weisheimer has always lived in the Waterloo/Columbia, Ill. area. His daughter, Sherri, is in the business and his son, Bryan, is a journeyman plumber. Another son, Tom, has been active in dirt bike racing for over 16 years. He is going to school to become a broadcaster and wants to someday announce motorcycle races.

Weisheimer has noticed a change in his industry. When he started at Ranken, there were no Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs). He observed, "Everything was pneumatic. Pneumatics hardly exist today. The technology has changed so that there are PLC's everywhere."

Weisheimer enjoys being part of the industry's evolution and passing on his knowledge and experience to Ranken's current students. "I was able to get some of our manufacturers to donate instruments. It's a win-win situation," said Weisheimer. He continued, "If students have up-to-date instrumentation they will be more apt to recommend purchase of that brand. The instruments are worth about \$40,000. I am pleased to be able to give back to Ranken."

Weisheimer concluded, "I have enjoyed everything I have done ... my education, career and family. It's been a fun ride!"

Alumni note: Many thanks to Chris Werner, O6' ACR Alumnus who suggested we celebrate the success of R. L. Weisheimer and Associates.



Ranken AMT Equipment from the era that Rod L. Weisheimer attended Ranken during the 1970's

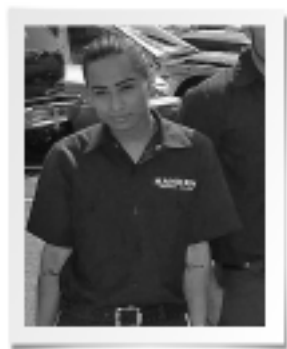
Alumni Memoriam

Ranken extends its sympathy to the families and friends of the following alumni who have recently passed away:

- » William Bloom, Class of 1948 (HVAC) - May 08
- » Richard Coombs, Class of 1955 (EAT) - May 08
- » Russell Webbink, Class of 1948 (INT) - April 08
- » Tom Yallaly, Class of 1939 (HVAC) - March 08
- » Jerry Goetz, Class of 1956 (INT) - March 08
- » Stanley Schuett, Class of 1942 (HVAC) - February 08
- » George Mosely, Class of 1968 (PLT) - February 08
- » Pearl (Jim) DeZarn, Class of 1948 (HVAC) - January 08
- » Leo (Bill) Oelger, Jr., Class of 1957 (AMT) - January 08

Student Spotlight

In describing **Mariam Thompson**, her instructors often use the following words: fantastic, rare, outspoken and giving. Auto Collision Repair (ACR) instructor John Helterbrand, unabashedly states that she “has the best work ethic of anyone I know.” In short, she is an exemplary Ranken student. Thompson is in her third semester and already has quite an extensive background.



Ranken ACR Student,
Miriam Thompson

For example, she is the oldest in a big family from Houston, Texas. “I have five brothers and five sisters who look up to me,” states Thompson. She served six years in the Army, most as an artillery supply sergeant in Hawaii and Alaska. She admits that her tours were “pretty good.” But the Army did not offer schooling for ACR, and her unit was scheduled for overseas duty. “At a time of war I did not want to leave my newborn son, plus I had a sister and a brother in the Army who were in Iraq,” noted Thompson.

Thompson went to school in Oklahoma, where she studied auto maintenance. She believes she got her love of working on cars from her dad. But the school in Oklahoma, like the Army, didn’t offer ACR, so she searched the internet until she found Ranken. “I was a little nervous to come to Ranken for my major, but I have no regrets now!” Thompson exclaimed. “I have enjoyed my experiences and I like my instructors. I have a lot of respect for them, because they’re here to help us achieve our goals.”

According to ACR instructor, Helterbrand, “she shows up every day, has never been tardy, and attends all Ranken events.” She is also the Secretary for Student Government and a Student Ambassador. How does a single mother participate in these activities, deal with the stress of being a parent, a full time student and also earn a supplemental income by selling car parts online? Thompson modestly states, “I have to take my time management skills to another level.”

She praises the Army for its extension of the GI Bill. “I love to learn, so that helps me stay focused, even though at times it can be a little stressful,” said Thompson. She admits that she does have difficult days, but she looks in the mirror and gives herself little pep talks. She also runs five miles, three times per week.

Thompson pushes herself because she knows she will benefit in the long run, and she is dedicated to her son. “I have a four-year-old son named Jaden who is my life! My future is his future, so everything is not only for me, but for him too,” said Thompson. “I’m here to get as much experience as I can ... and one day I want to own my own body shop.”

When she can find a spare moment, Thompson likes to skateboard, exercise, draw and write poetry.

Ranken Community Development Corporation

Take a drive east of the Ranken Campus and you may find vacant, weedy lots and old brick dwellings in disrepair, many boarded up.

However, occasionally you will see a newer building, one that stands out, clean and smartly landscaped, constructed with new materials and careful attention to detail. These new homes show pride in the neighborhood, hope for the future and demonstrate the positive impact Ranken Technical College, specifically its carpentry program, has on the community.

Ranken's carpentry students take basic shop and in-house instruction for their first year and spend their second year building homes in the surrounding neighborhood. Jeff Bosick, a 1995 Ranken graduate and current project manager, enjoyed his student experience and saw how beneficial it was, not only to his career, but to the community. He enjoys returning as an instructor and continuing the tradition. According to Bosick, "Often people call Ranken to sell their property. We've been revitalizing the community."

This year's projects are at 4019 and 4015 Cook Avenue. By mid-April, enough progress had been made to clearly show the students' high quality, professional work. Because of all the rain, boards were laid out over the mud to gain access to the site. Despite the weather, they were ahead of schedule.

Student Harry Williams loves building new houses and learning how a house is built from the ground up. Williams is getting carpentry training to gain experience to open his own custom home business. He is impressed with how the program is bringing people back to the city.

Williams appreciates learning safe building techniques. "Installing the roof trusses can be scary, but Ranken teaches you how to be safe," said Williams. Fellow student Adam Howes couldn't see himself sitting at a desk and values the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training, and his instructor's attention to a safe working environment.

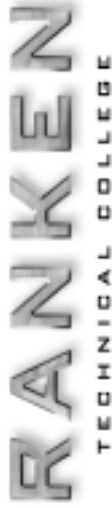
The Ranken Community Development Corporation is set to expand and continue its success. This year the Heating, Venting and Cooling (HVAC) students were included in the process, switching to energy efficient air conditioning systems. Next year, plans are in place to include the plumbing students. Also, architectural students are getting involved with "green design" for the homes.

Because of Ranken's dedicated staff and conscientious students, new homes have been brightening the neighborhood little by little and will continue to do so. The finished homes are beautifully constructed, thoughtfully landscaped, with three bedrooms, a garage, full kitchens, a dining room, living rooms and a porch. There is plenty of storage space, and they have great street appeal. The houses sell well and add good neighbors to the community.

Perhaps the greatest testimonial for the Ranken Community Development Corporation comes from a local resident, Anna Sampson, who has lived in the area for the past 60 years. "Ranken has been an asset to the Fountain Park Neighborhood, and we want to keep them here. We've seen improvements to the neighborhood since they started their home-building program 15 years ago. Ranken has home buyers who have become good neighbors for us," claims Sampson. Congratulations to Ranken Community Development Corporation for 15 years of success and for having such a profound impact on students and the community.



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calendar of upcoming events

July 2008

Summer Open House | 11

August 2008

Student Orientation | 7

Fall Classes Begin | 18

September 2008

Labor Day - All School Holiday | 1

Employer Breakfast | 5

Women in Technology | 17

Teacher/Counselor Workshop | 26

October 2008

Employer Breakfast | 10

Columbus Day - All School Holiday | 13

Student Government Meeting | 15

Fall Open House and Alumni Reunion | 18

Shadow-A-Tech | 23