

# the **ranken** experience

VOLUME EIGHT ISSUE TWO - WINTER 2010



bioMerieux opens work cell on campus. Read more on page four.

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**RANKEN**  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**ENTER TO WIN A \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP!**  
**DETAILS ON BACK COVER**

**program key**

**ACR** | Automotive Collision Repair Technology

**AMT** | Automotive Maintenance Technology

**AFM** | Automotive Fleet Management

**ART** | Architectural Technology

**BSAM** | Bachelor of Science in Applied Management

**BSAT** | Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology

**CRP** | Carpentry and Building Construction

**CST** | Control Systems Technology

**EEL** | Electrical Technology

**EAT** | Electrical Automation Technology

**ECDM** | Electrical Construction Design and Management

**ESDT** | Electrical Systems Design Technology

**HPRT** | High Performance Racing Technology

**FWT** | Fabrication and Welding 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

**SEG** | Solar Energy Systems and Green Technology





**Stan Shoun**, president

## note from the president

**A**s the College winds down the fall 2010 semester, it's amazing to see the changes that have occurred in a relatively short amount of time. It was a successful semester with Ranken welcoming its largest starting class in our long history. In order to accommodate our growing student body, we have found innovative ways to use our current space, have hired more faculty members and are running both morning and afternoon classes in many areas. Everyone on campus has really pitched in to make things run smoothly and the "growing pains" have been minimal. We are also beginning to plan for the future and larger classes so we are very excited to announce that the Jack Taylor Family and Enterprise Rent-A-Car have committed to donating \$1M for the completion of the flex space in the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center.

The struggling economy is still a topic of concern, as it is for the rest of the nation, but we are proud to say that Ranken graduates are still finding jobs. Our placement rate for our May 2010 graduates is at 96%. Ranken's Career Services office is working hard to not only place recent graduates in their chosen career, but helping alumni who are looking for work as well.

Part of our educational philosophy is to provide a hands-on approach to learning in order to prepare our students for the workforce. In order to provide our students with real world work experience, the College has recently created the Education and Manufacturing Cooperative department the purpose of which is to provide a paid educational experience for students in a realistic industrial setting. We recently jump-started this department with a project in cooperation with bioMerieux, a multinational biotechnology company located in Hazelwood, Mo. Students who are participating not only have the opportunity of paid employment on campus, but are also earning college credit (read more on page four).

As we start the spring 2011 semester, we are looking forward to continued growth and are excited to offer new courses and programs in areas such as automotive and information technology that will benefit those industries (see pages 12-15).

Thank you to everyone who recently participated in the annual Phone-a-Thon as well as our alumni, advisory board members, donors and friends who have supported us over this past year and continue to support us as we look forward to Ranken's "Next 100 Years."

## Ranken Helps Keep Jobs in U.S.

**O**n Tuesday, November 16, Ranken Technical College and bioMerieux hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new space in the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center. The space was recently converted into a complete off-site work cell for the manufacturing of a Smart Carrier Station (SCS).

Ranken has entered into an education and manufacturing partnership with bioMerieux, which not only offers students a job opportunity on campus but also prevented the loss of jobs from the U.S. to Asia. The partnership came about when bioMerieux faced a decision to consider outsourcing the manufacture of the SCS overseas. Stan Shoun, president of Ranken Technical College, asked the company to consider an alternative approach and proposed that the product could be manufactured at Ranken by student workers.

Student workers began training at the work cell on campus in the summer of 2010, and are charged with the responsibility for inspection of parts, complete assembly of the product and testing of functions for the electrical and mechanical components to meet quality standards and

the production schedule. The students are also responsible for database tracking of the warehouse inventory. In addition to receiving pay as a part-time employee, students also receive Workforce Education college credits for the educational training.

This effort is part of a larger Education and Manufacturing Cooperative department at Ranken the purpose which is to provide a paid educational experience for students in a realistic industrial setting. Ranken is committed to partnering in future

manufacturing endeavors with bioMerieux as they relate to the educational needs of students. The department is under the charge of Vice President for Education Don Pohl and the bioMerieux project is being led by two faculty members, Vince Holtmann and John Baima.

bioMerieux is a multinational biotechnology company headquartered in France that produces a wide range of electronic medical devices. bioMerieux has an instrumentation manufacturing facility located in Hazelwood, Mo.



Pictured L-R: Gabriel Shoun, student worker; Vince Holtmann, project manager (Ranken); Ed Monser, chairman of the board (Ranken); Scott Remes, site director (bioMerieux); Ray Kowalskey, director of operations (bioMerieux) and Bradley Werner, student worker

## Ranken's PACT Program Passes Review

In 2009, Ranken's Automotive division partnered with Honda and became a part of their Professional Automotive Career Training (PACT) program. The PACT program is American Honda's automotive technician internship program and is offered at only 24 select schools across the United States.

Over the past few months, the division has been working to get resources in place and the instructor, John Springmeyer, trained to teach the class which currently has 16 students.



Photo: An automotive student performs maintenance during the Honda PACT program assessment.

On Tuesday, October 5, Honda sent a PACT program representative, Brandon Shimizu to assess the progress of the students who are in the program. During his visit he took a tour of the entire campus and spent part of the afternoon observing students as they performed the maintenance operations in the

"Express Service" training they received in the Import Technology class. During the assessment students used a specially designed vehicle lift and tools donated by Honda. Shimizu was very impressed and concluded that based on the students' performance during the assessment, Honda will continue to support the PACT program at the College.

"Ranken is the only college in the Midwest that has this type of training available and we are really excited to be able to offer this to our students," said Dan Kania, Automotive division chair. "Once they complete the course, students will have a Honda training certification that is desired by dealerships and it will make them more employable."

## Architecture Advisory Board Member Retires



**D**avid Cowell, a dedicated member of the Architectural Technology department advisory board, has recently announced that he will be retiring his position after 13 years of service.

Cowell is the principal of Cowell Engineering, LLC and is a registered structural engineer in 24 states. He received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri at Columbia and a M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla. His honors included membership in Chi Epsilon and Tau Beta Pi.

Prior to the formation of Cowell Engineering, he was the manager of the structural department at Lapin-Ellis and Associates in St. Louis and also worked at McDonnell Douglas. His experience includes structural engineering design of new structures and evaluation, rehabilitation, renovation and seismic analysis and retrofit of existing structures. His design experience includes single and multi-story commercial buildings and schools, industrial facilities, warehouses, churches, residential structures and specialized structures. Cowell is familiar with the latest codes and standards for design using reinforced concrete, prestressed concrete, tilt-up concrete, masonry, wood, structural steel and other metals.

While on the ART advisory board Cowell was part of many improvements at Ranken from making the transition from a trimester college to a semester college to being part of the inception of Ranken's first bachelor's program (Bachelor of Science in Architectural Technology). He saw the enrollment in the architecture program more than double and consulted Ranken on numerous structural projects and was part of the Forest Park Forever boat house project ART students worked on. Cowell has also supported Ranken by hiring ART graduates and continues to support the College annually through donations to the Fund for Ranken.

## CHECK OUT RANKEN'S NEW WEBSITE!

This fall, Ranken launched a brand new, user-friendly website. Check out the new site at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu)

One new feature included on the site is campus video tours (all five technical divisions, plus Walker Hall and Campus Life). The videos are embedded in various places throughout our website, and are also all available for viewing on our YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/user/rankentechnicalcolle](http://www.youtube.com/user/rankentechnicalcolle)

## Emerson Executives Visit Campus

**O**n Wednesday, September 29, Ranken welcomed David Farr, CEO of Emerson Electric Company and Ed Monser, Emerson COO and Ranken's Chairman of the Board, to campus.

The men were invited to campus because Emerson has been a long time supporter of the College and has been a strong advocate of the new Shearwater High School.

"Mr. Farr has not been to the campus in recent years so we were very excited to show him how the campus has expanded, including the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center and Walker Hall," said Stan Shoun, Ranken's president. "We also wanted to take the opportunity to show him proposed plans for future expansion in light of the exceptional growth

we have experienced over the past couple of years."

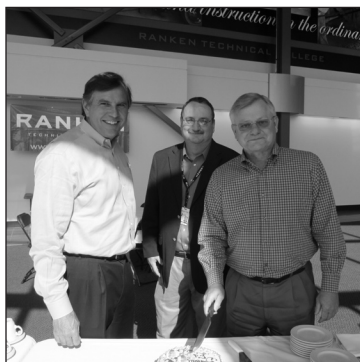
Future plans include finishing the flex space in the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center and an update and remodel of the Rodenheiser/Moog building.

The group, which included David Farr, Ed Monser, Stan Shoun, Pete Murtaugh, John Wood and Don Pohl, toured most of Ranken's campus as well as the Shearwater spaces and also presented a cake to Monser who was celebrating his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Over the years, Emerson has been very generous in donating state-of-the-art lab equipment to departments such as Industrial

Technology, HVACR, Electrical and Plumbing. Most recently, Emerson helped with the update of the new Control Systems Technology lab by donating several pieces of equipment that will help students work on the most up-to-date technology.

The company has also given a significant amount of money to Ranken's scholarship fund and have a matching gift program that matches the donations of Ranken board members and friends.



Pictured L-R: David Farr, CEO (Emerson); Stan Shoun, president (Ranken) and Ed Monser, COO (Emerson) and chairman of the board (Ranken).



## Ranken Welcomes a New Board Member



**T**he College recently welcomed David Schepers as a new member of their Board of Trustees. Schepers is currently the vice-president of energy delivery technical services for Ameren Corporation in St. Louis, Mo. He has over 32 years of experience in all phases of electric utility distribution, including construction, planning, metering and operations. Schepers is a past chair of the Edison Electric Institute Distribution and

Metering Committee, a registered professional engineer in Missouri and Illinois, a senior member of IEEE and the co-founder and past president of the St. Louis Chapter of Engineers Without Borders. He is currently a member of the boards of directors for The Electrical Board of Missouri and Illinois, Trailnet and St. Louis Bicycle Works. Schepers received his bachelor of science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Missouri at Rolla in 1973.

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### Local NAFA Members Visit Campus

On Wednesday, September 15, members of the St. Louis Gateway Chapter of the National Association of Fleet Administrators (NAFA) visited campus to learn more about Ranken's new Fleet Management program.

The event, held in the atrium of the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center, included a brief history of the College, information about the new fleet management Certified Automotive Fleet Manager prep class that began this fall and a campus tour. Guests also enjoyed lunch from Sybergs and a chassis dynameter display of engine turning software designed to enhance fuel mileage.

NAFA is the world's premier not-for-profit association for professionals who manage fleets of sedans, public safety vehicles, trucks, and buses of all types and sizes and a wide range of military and off-road equipment for organizations across the globe. NAFA is the association for the diverse vehicle fleet management profession regardless of organizational type, geographic location or fleet composition. NAFA's Full and Associate Members are responsible for the specification, acquisition, maintenance and repair, fueling, risk management, and remarketing of more than 3.5 million vehicles including in excess of 1.1 million trucks of which 350 thousand are medium- and heavy-duty trucks.

For more information on Ranken's Fleet Management program, call the Admissions office at (314) 286-4809.



## Ranken Community Development Corporation (RCDC) Update

**T**he Ranken Community Development Corporation (RCDC) currently has two homes under construction on Evans Avenue. At the beginning of the semester Carpentry students started construction of a new two-story, single-family home located at 4463 Evans Ave. On this home, vinyl siding is completed and installation of Nova Brik siding has begun. Carpentry students have completed the framing inspection and began the insulation and drywall installation after Thanksgiving break. The plumbing rough-in for this home was completed by Ranken's Plumbing students and was managed by the department head, Marion Shands. The inspection by the City of St. Louis is also complete.

Heating and air conditioning systems have also been roughed-in and were completed by Chris Brueggeman, HVACR department head and his second-year HVACR students. The electrical rough-in has also been completed on this home. This home is a little different from others that RCDC has built in the past due to the detached garage.



Photo: James McNichols, carpentry instructor, stands in front of the new home being built on Evans Avenue.

On November 22, Ranken participated in an Energy Star home inspection by Applied Science Energy Ratings (ASERusa) for the first time. ASERusa specializes in building science and technology design, field verification, and program rating services for National Building Performance Programs. The inspection will benchmark how energy efficient the home is and allow RCDC to learn how to continue to build more energy efficient homes.

"We are looking at more energy efficient ways to build homes for many reasons," said John Wood, Ranken's vice president for student success. "One, is that in the long run it saves our future home owners money to heat and cool their home. It is also a great learning tool for our students who will be able to go out into the work force with this knowledge and potentially teach their employer these new building techniques. Overall, it's just the right thing to do." This home will also feature two rain gardens to control storm water runoff. One will be located by the garage and the other in front of the home.

The lot next to this home at 4459 Evans Avenue has been excavated and the basement poured for carpentry students to begin working on next semester. Both of these sites are managed by James McNichols, an instructor in the Carpentry and Building Construction department.

## Goedecke Supports Ranken

**D**ue to the organization and planning done by Ranken's Carpentry instructors who are involved in the Ranken Community Development Corporation (RCDC), second-year Carpentry students are not only completing a new home on Evans Avenue, but are also preparing the foundation for the new home that will be built by next year's second-year students.

For the past three years Goedecke Company, Inc. has generously donated

the concrete forms for the homes built by RCDC. Recently the company came to the job site and brought the concrete forms for the home that will be built next year on Evans Avenue.

Goedecke has been the resource for customers since 1951 for Symons forming & shoring systems, scaffolding, system scaffolding & tilt-up equipment. Goedecke has a vast rental fleet of forming, shoring and scaffolding systems. Many projects have been successfully built with

these systems: the tunnel under the Gateway Arch, Metro-Link, and Busch Stadium (old & new).

Goedecke recently moved its facilities to a new location at Broadway and East Taylor.



Photo: Several second-year Carpentry students with (L-R) Craig Sellers; Mike Rafferty, president (Goedecke) and Amy Benedick.

## Starrett Tools Presents Donation to PMT



Pictured L-R: Craig Hickerson, factory representative (Starrett), Brian Austwick, PMT instructor; Gwain Marron, PMT instructor and Tom Ely, PMT department head.

On Friday, November 12, Craig Hickerson, a factory representative from L.S. Starrett Co., visited Ranken's Precision Machining shop to present a 3752-24 inch electronic height gage that the company has donated to the College.

Starrett is a major player in the SkillsUSA vocational training program and the donation was made to the PMT department due to Michael Ehrenstrom's post-secondary gold medal win at the National SkillsUSA competition

earlier this year. Starrett also awarded Ehrenstrom approximately \$2,000 worth of tools.

"Starrett wanted to present the College with a token of our appreciation for the effort that you have extended to get this gentleman [Ehrenstrom] through this competition," said Hickerson. "In the near future there is going to be a shortage of skilled machinists. Our company continues to support programs like the one at Ranken because the education you are getting here is second to none. Ranken is known nationally and you should hold your heads high that you are a student here."

The electronic height gage, valued at \$1,200, is used to either set or measure vertical distances; the pointer is sharpened to allow it to act as a scribe and assist in marking out work pieces.

"We use digital height gages in the introductory semester for layout and height measurements," said Tom Ely, PMT department head. "We appreciate the electronic model as it will give the students experience on another type of height gage commonly used in industry."

# New Opportunities at Ranken

## - Energy Auditor Course

In December 2010, Ranken partnered with American Home Inspectors Training (AHIT) to offer a new Energy Auditor Course.

With this training, participants learned how various systems in the house interact and the effect they have on occupant health, safety and comfort, energy efficiency and durability and how a flaw in one area can compromise the performance in another system.

If you have any questions about the program, feel free to contact the Continuing Education department at (314) 286-3670.

## - Alarm Systems Technology

Ranken has recently partnered with the Missouri Burglar and Fire Alarm Association (MBFAA) in order to provide specialized training to those who are interested in becoming certified in alarm systems security. The MBFAA is a local charter of the National Burglar and Fire Alarm Association and Electronic Security Association (ESA), which has evolved into the largest professional trade association in the United States. These associations were established with the purpose of representing, promoting and enhancing the growth and professional development of the electric life-safety, security, and integrated systems industries. Combining the skills of an electrician with those of an information technology specialist, qualified apprentices of the MBFAA program and other interested individuals will attend Ranken to receive professional training on the most up-to-date security technologies. The MBFAA has collaborated with Ranken's Information Technology and Electrical departments to design a state-of-the-art two year evening program, leading to a certificate in Alarm Systems Technology.

Students will spend roughly 300 hours in Ranken's advanced labs and classrooms, where they will be trained by industry professionals utilizing Ranken's well-known, hands-on technical training methods. Students then have the option to sign up for an apprenticeship, where they will be provided with on-the-job training through a local business or corporation. This unique collaboration is a one-of-a-kind program in the St. Louis area!

## - NEC Certificate Program

This spring Ranken is offering a National Electric Code (NEC) certificate program. The program is based on the 2008 NEC requirements but will also cover 2011 updates.

The course cost is \$300 and will include 16 Thursday night sessions beginning January 13, 2011. This course will be taught by Bill Layman, master electrician and member of the Electrical Board of Missouri and Illinois.

For more information, please call (314) 286-4809.

## - Hybrid Technology Course

Ranken is hosting a two-day Hybrid Technology course that is designed for automotive technicians, service associates, roadside service personnel, instructors and others who are interested in being prepared for the most current automotive technology.

This course is being offered during two different sessions:

» Monday, January 31, 2011 and Wednesday, February 2, 2011

or

» Monday, March 7, 2011 and Wednesday, March 9, 2011

All sessions are from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. This is a certificate-based course and all participants will receive a certificate of completion for hybrid technologies. The course fee is \$300 which includes all necessary printed materials.

Space is limited! If you are interested in registering for this course, please contact the Admissions office at (314) 286-4809 or stop by. If you have specific questions about course content, please contact Dan Kania at (314) 286-4834.

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## DID YOU KNOW WE NOW OFFER A GREEN TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM?

### » Solar Energy Systems and "Green" Technology

Ranken is dedicated to training students with the most up-to-date technology and equipment. "Green" technology is the wave of the future and Ranken is providing students with the necessary skills to stay on the edge of this new revolution in sustainable energy. As of January 2010, the Ranken Continuing Education department now offers a one-year certificate program in Solar Energy Systems and Green Technology. The courses are held on campus two evenings per week. Classes include Introduction to Solar Photovoltaic Systems,



Grid Tied and Hybrid Solar Photovoltaic Systems, Solar Hot Water Installation and Rainwater Systems Design. Please contact the Admissions office for an application and enrollment information or check out our website at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu).

## New Opportunities at Ranken (continued)

### - Cisco Certified Network Courses

Ranken's Information Technology has added three fundamental courses to its continuing education curriculum!

#### - Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA®)

Obtain the ability to install, configure, operate and troubleshoot medium-size route and switched networks including implementation and verification of connections to remote sites in a WAN. CCNA curriculum includes basic mitigation of security threats, introduction to wireless networking concepts and terminology and performance-based skills. Each graduate of this program will earn the Cisco Certified Network Associates Certification.

#### - Advanced Cisco Certified Network Professional (CCNP)

This one year, advanced level program will enhance your CCNA skills and expand your career options. The program is composed of more complex network configurations and is centered on diagnosis and troubleshooting strategies for real-world training experience.

#### - Cisco Certified Network Associate Security (CCNA® Security)

This new program is being offered to students who are CCNA certified. With a CCNA Security certification, a network professional can demonstrate the skills required to develop a security infrastructure, recognize threats and vulnerabilities to networks and mitigate security threats.

## NEW SUMMER COURSES!

The following departments will be offering day-school summer courses for ambitious students who would like to get a jump-start on their careers:

- Automotive Maintenance Technology
- High Performance Racing Technology
- Information Technology
- Industrial Technology

Courses will begin June 6, 2011. For more information, contact an Admissions counselor at (314) 371-0236.

The following departments will be offering evening-school summer courses so that working adults can complete their education even faster!

- Automotive Maintenance Technology
- Electrical Maintenance Technology
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology
- Fabrication and Welding Technology

Courses will begin the week of May 16, 2011. For more information, contact an Admissions counselor at (314) 371-0236.

## - Housing Code Inspection Seminar Series

Ranken will be conducting the Housing Code Inspection Seminar series beginning January 2011. The seminar is designed for municipalities that enforce a Housing Code requiring basic periodic inspection and occupancy permits.

### - Heating/Air Conditioning Inspections (January 11-27)

The seminar consists of the National Fuel Gas Code interpretation, with emphasis on proper combustion and venting.

### - Plumbing Inspections (February 1-17)

The course consists of code interpretation, plumbing terminology, drainage, waste and vent systems and hot and cold water supply.

### - Electrical Inspections (February 22-March 10)

This course is aimed toward the electrical inspection of one and two family dwelling, and prescribe by the 2008 NEC.

### - Building Construction Inspections (March 15-April 7)

This course covers interpretation and use of the International Building Code in frame construction.

Each course will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$275 per course plus books which can be purchased in Ranken's bookstore. A certificate will be awarded upon completion of each course. If you would like more information or would like to register, please contact our Admissions office at (314) 286-4809.

## - Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems Seminar

Ranken is now offering a seminar to review the new Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems (TPMS). This course will provide an overview of the history of TPMS and the new laws that govern TPMS regulations.

The seminar will incorporate the breakdown of direct and indirect systems, how they operate and the advantages and disadvantages of the systems. The course will also provide an introduction to all the different sensors in the industry, servicing information, including special service tools and tips for sensor/tire replacements.

This class is being offered on two different dates from 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. in Ranken's Automotive department.

- Wednesday, February 16 or Wednesday, March 16

The cost of this course is \$150 and includes all necessary materials. If you would like more information or would like to register, please contact our Admissions office at (314) 286-4809.



# RANKEN

## Women In Technology Group Holds Fall Meeting

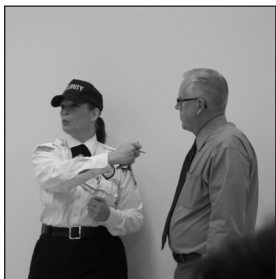


Photo: Lt. Leigh (left) demonstrates how to use your keys as a weapon during a self-defense lesson.

**T**he Women In Technology (WIT) group held their first meeting of the semester on Wednesday, November 10. The group enjoyed lunch and had the opportunity to listen to guest presenter, Lieutenant Leigh from Security Services of America. Lt. Leigh spoke to the group about personal safety and demonstrated self-defense moves to stop an attacker. She also gave helpful tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

Attendees then played an ice-breaker game to get acquainted and attendance prizes were awarded to seven different students.

The event was very well attended with approximately 60 employees and students taking part.

## Mike Holt Provides Grounding Seminar

**O**n Monday, October 18, Mike Holt from Mike Holt Enterprises, provided a free Grounding Seminar at the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center. The seminar was open to all faculty, students and local contractors. The seminar was very well attended with approximately 100 people in attendance.

Holt is one of the most recognized experts in the world as it relates to electrical power installation and groundings. The College uses many of his books for electrical training. Holt is very dedicated to making sure that his focus is always aimed at meeting the needs of electrical professionals.



# E V E N T S

## Carpentry Participates in Construction Career Day

**O**n Wednesday, October 6, PRIDE of St. Louis and St. Louis Council of Construction Consumers held a Construction Career Day on the campus of Washington University. The program, which targeted middle-schoolers, provided students with a hands-on opportunity to explore what it would be like to work in the construction industry. The program is also intended to help industry prepare for the anticipated increased need for skilled construction workers in the future.

Bryan Hicklin, Ranken's Carpentry department head and Mike Mays, admissions counselor, participated in the program by setting up a booth and providing a hands-on project where students could learn to use a hammer to drive nails and also used a screw gun to drive screws. Groups worked together to complete the construction of a miniature house. Approximately 500 middle-school students from local schools attended the event.



Photo: Bryan Hicklin (left) works with middle-schoolers during Construction Career Day.

The St. Louis Council of Construction Consumers is an owner organization which provides leadership to improve value, quality and safety in the efficient delivery of capital facilities and maintenance by the St. Louis design and construction industry.

PRIDE of St. Louis, Inc. is the nation's first voluntary construction labor-management

organization. The PRIDE acronym defines its mission - Productivity and Responsibility Increase Development and Employment. In the highly competitive construction industry, PRIDE joins labor and management in monthly discussions to identify stress points that might hurt construction progress. The result is a model for creating harmony from conflict to yield construction productivity, cost-effectiveness and work force training.

## TRiO Students Help Market the Program

**O**n Thursday, October 28, 2010 TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) held a viewing for the winning slideshow of their "Media Challenge." During the Media Challenge students were asked to create a two minute or less video or slide show explaining what TRiO SSS could do for them. The challenge was open to all students with a limit of four per team.

The challenge gave students the opportunity to utilize their 21<sup>st</sup> century skills (digital photography, videography, media editing and PowerPoint) to learn more about the program. The winning team members were Anthony



Photo: The TRiO staff in their Halloween outfits.  
L-R: Miranda Jackson-Myles, Tameka Herrion and Jovon Willis.

Doss (Electrical Automation Technology), Kameisha Carter (Electrical Systems Design Technology), Tamera Trotman (Information Technology) and Ebony Patton-Davis (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration). The team created a slide show entitled "TRiO Bounty Hunters", indicating how TRiO SSS has helped each one of them personally, listing the services offered by the program and also telling other students they would "hunt them down" and show them to the office if they need help. The team won goody bags featuring

items donated by several departments around campus.

The viewing itself was set to a Halloween theme featuring decorations, games, candy and a costumed staff. The winning slide show was looped and played for the duration of the event to inform students of the services TRiO SSS provides from a student prospective.

**JOIN US AT OUR  
SPRING OPEN HOUSE!**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2011  
11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.  
RANKEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

## Career Services Hosts Fall Job Fair



Photo: Representatives from Anheuser Busch speak with Ranken students about potential job openings.

**O**n Thursday, November 4, Ranken's Career Services office hosted the annual Fall Job Fair. Approximately 163 representatives from 105 businesses attended the event to speak with Ranken students about potential job openings.

Prior to the event, Career Services hosted two separate Resume Writing and Interview Skills workshops to help prepare students to speak with potential employers.

Ranken's spring Job Fair is scheduled for Thursday, March 10

from 11:00 am to 1:30 p.m. Please contact our Career Services office at (314) 286-4821 if you would like to showcase your business.

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## Ranken Hosts SkillsUSA Leadership Conference

**O**n Friday, November 12, the College hosted the East District Leadership Conference for SkillsUSA. Approximately 200 visitors attended, representing various schools which offer secondary and post secondary educational programming in technical areas.

Participants had the opportunity to attend breakout sessions that covered topics such as leadership, teamwork and team building, how to achieve good communication and how to overcome challenges

After the breakout sessions, attendees were given campus tours and enjoyed lunch before the closing ceremony.



# Ranken Honors Its Veterans

**O**n Wednesday, November 10, the Office of Residential Life held a ceremony on Finney lawn to honor all student and employee veterans. The ceremony began with a prayer by Hall Manager LaTrina Rogers, and all attendees reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Then Jeremy Sutton, director of Residential Life, called each veteran forward and presented them with a flag pin.

## Student Veterans

Albrecht, Jared  
Aldridge Jonathan  
Anderson, Keith  
Atkins, Eric  
Ballard, Dantoine  
Barton, Gerald  
Berrey, Bradley  
Best, David  
Betteridge, Kyle  
Bise, Derek  
Brown, DAndre  
Buell, William  
Carter, Shontai  
Cary, Daniel  
Cheshire, Nathen  
Clark, Tabatha  
Cody, Olliver  
Cofer, Aaron  
Coveyou, Daniel  
Crusoe, Robinson  
Davis, Justin  
De-Bose , Roy  
Dunivant, Bradley  
Eddington, Daniel  
Eden, James  
Eilerman, Michael  
Gainey, Anthony  
Gilliland, John

Gilman, Jeremiah  
Ginger, Marquis  
Haney, Christopher  
Hardesty, Stephen  
Heitmann, Michael  
Hohman, Robert  
Horton Daniel  
Houston, Jamail  
Hudson, Jarrette  
Humiston, Daniel  
Hurst, Brandon  
Ivory, Terron  
Jamerson, Curtis  
Jourdan, David  
Jurgensmeyer, Gordon  
Kerley, Daniel  
Knight, Scot  
Krause, Jason  
Landolt, Michael  
Little, Wallace  
Maul, Daniel  
McDonald, Scotch  
Menning, Ryan  
Nobles, Paul  
Patten, Stephen  
Peterson, Thomas  
Presley, Nathaniel  
Rathjen, John

Richard, Joshua  
Robinson, Joaquin  
Rose, William  
Schieffer, James  
Schuler, Jason  
Seitz, Tim  
Shamus, Anthony  
Shy, Marcus  
Smith, Nehemiah  
Stack, Nick  
Stahlschmidt, Nehemiah  
Steinacher, Luke  
Sumner, Joseph  
Tapia, Daniel  
Townsend, Andrew  
Tuhill, Michael  
Turpiano, Daniel  
Van Horn, Michael  
Van Ronzelen, Andrew  
Wells, Eric  
Wheeler, Donal  
Whitlock , Jonathan  
Wiener, Edward  
Wolf, Michael  
Young, David  
Zykan, Andrew



## Employee Veterans

Employee Veterans	
Shawn Bowers	Navy (99-08), served in Iraq
Ben Brown	Air Force 375th Civil Engineers Squadron. 6 years active duty and combined 29 years Civil Service with Air Force
Ken Corse	Army Reserve (92-00)
Michael Crawford	Air Force (83-87), Sergeant
Tom Ely	Air Force (68-72)
Ron Ettling	Marine Corps (69-72)
Sal Francis	Navy
Jim Gravitt	Navy (4 years); Army (2 years) 2nd Lt.
Kent Hornberger	Army (69-71), served in Vietnam
David Kirchner	Navy (01-05), E-5
Steve Navarrette	Army (97-01)
Alan Osborne	Marine Corps (67-73)
David Parchim	Navy (89-93), served in Operation Desert Shield & Storm, Navy Reserves (01-04), Mobile Unit Undersea Warfare Unit 112
Ron Paul	Navy (78-82)
Bob Paynter	Navy (73-75), Avionics Technician - 3rd Class
James Plumber	Air Force (70-77)
Marcus Record	Navy (22 years)
Tom Schroeder	Air Force (71-79), E-5
Drew Shands	Air Force
Mike Short	Air Force
Stan Shoun	Navy (22 years), Commander (O-5), served in Vietnam and Desert Storm
Larry Sisson	Air Force (21 years), served in Desert Storm, Bosnia (Operation Deliberate Force) & Somalia (Operation Restore Hope)
Aussie Thayer	Marine Corps (82-86), Corporal
Kurt Trice	Air Force (86-93), served in Desert Storm
Ron Vaughn	Marine Corps (88-92), Corporal (E-4), served in Operation Just Cause/Panama. Part of Operation Provide Comfort in Iraq

# STUDENT

## S-STEM Students Participate in Team Adventure Program

**R**anken's S-STEM program, which includes 41 students, is focusing on "team-building" this year. In October the group ventured to Greensfelder Park in Eureka, Mo. and participated in a team adventure program hosted by the St. Louis County Parks Department.

Participants were split into two different groups, which included students from four different departments; Architectural Technology, Information Technology, Industrial Technology and Precision Machining. Each student brought their own strengths and weaknesses and succeeded in completing

five hours of obstacles and challenges together. Challenges included climbing an 11 foot wall, climbing through a 50 foot long 24 inch diameter concrete tube, getting 12 team members to stand on an 18" x 18" platform, and walking a blindfolded partner through a wooded trail.

"This event built my confidence and was great for making new friends," said Bryan Sohn, a student in the Architectural Technology program and a S-STEM participant. "It was a lot of fun."

S-STEM is a four-year \$582,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to award scholarships to students majoring in four technical disciplines - architecture, information technology,



Photo: S-STEM participants took part in a team adventure program this fall.

precision machining and manufacturing. The grant also provides funding to develop a special enhanced program to help students during their studies at Ranken and prepare them to enter these high-tech fields or enroll in advanced degree programs. These include: faculty and peer mentoring, scholar groups, academic advising and assistance, professional development activities and career services and counseling.

The NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (S-STEM) program was established several years ago by the National Science Foundation and reflects the national need to substantially increase the number of American scientists, engineers and technical experts. To be eligible to receive the scholarships, prospective scholarship students must be a US Citizen, US National, US Permanent Resident or Admitted Refugee who wishes to pursue a degree in one of four chosen STEM related programs at Ranken. Students must demonstrate academic ability/potential and financial need to qualify for one of the scholarships.



# NEWS



**Joseph Timko**, a second-year Precision Machining Technology student, was recently awarded the Ehrhardt Tool-Keith Cotter scholarship in the amount of \$2,500. Timko graduated from Granite City High School and currently still resides in Granite City, Ill. with his mom, Allison Timko.

If you or your business are interested in offering a scholarship to students at Ranken, please contact our Development office at (314) 286-3674.

## Walker Hall Residents Volunteer at Local Youth Center

**O**n Thursday, October 28, officers and members of the Walker Hall Residence Association volunteered at the Youth Learning Center on Olive Blvd. The event was named "Teach & Treat" because volunteers read with the students and provided candy.



Photo: Walker Hall residents spent a day volunteering at a local Youth Center.

The day included a tour of the facility, reading books with students from 2nd - 4th grade, board games, basketball, jump rope and an extreme game of kickball.

## Student Spotlight

### - Thomas "BJ" Woodcock



Thomas "BJ" Woodcock's Ranken experience began almost two years ago when Stephen Kashycke, a Ranken admissions counselor visited his high school in Wayne City, Ill. Woodcock knew that he wanted to continue his education in machining, but planned to stay close to home. Kashycke told Woodcock and his classmates about Ranken's Precision Machining Technology (PMT) program and about the S-STEM scholarship that was available to students majoring in four technical disciplines - Architecture, Information Technology, Precision Machining and Manufacturing.

Woodcock applied for and was awarded the scholarship so he decided to begin the PMT program at Ranken. The fact that Ranken had just opened a new dormitory also helped to make his decision since his home is approximately 110 miles from St. Louis.

Since coming to Ranken, Woodcock has been very involved within his major by participating in the SkillsUSA competition. This past February, Woodcock qualified to compete in the CNC Turning-Lathe competition at the East District Competition hosted at Ranken. Woodcock placed second and qualified to move on to the State competition held in Linn, Mo. where he placed third overall.

Woodcock is also very active as a Walker Hall resident and is currently serving as president of the Walker Hall Residence Hall Association. In this role he conducts hall meetings, helps to organize events and serves as an advocate for the other residents.

"We can always count on BJ to support Walker Hall events," said LaTrina Rogers, hall manager. "He is committed, helping, reliable and hardworking. BJ has also been active in celebrating diversity in the residence hall by

attending diversity programs and being friendly with all students."

Woodcock will graduate in May with an associate degree in Precision Machining Technology and plans to return home to Wayne City and continue his education.

"I think I made a really good decision coming to Ranken," said Woodcock. "I love the hands-on approach to learning and I have had a really great experience living in Walker Hall."



Photo: Woodcock recently volunteered at a local Youth Center with other Walker Hall residents.

## "Gold Certified" Wins 2010 Pumpkin Bowl

**O**n Thursday, October 18, Residential Life hosted the 2010 Pumpkin Bowl flag football championship game on the Finney lawn. The two teams vying for first were the "Hit Squad" and "Gold Certified." In a close battle to the end, "Gold Certified" pulled off the win with a final score of 52-44.

"This victory on the field today is a victory for all geeks everywhere," said Alan Poettker, team coach and Ranken Information Technology instructor. "Our secret router/switch play proved to be a play the other team couldn't respond to."

Each team member received an individual trophy as well as "bragging rights." Team member, Jonathon Roethig was named as the game's Most Valuable Player.

"Both teams played really well," said Stan Shoun, Ranken's president. "Seeing the IT football team, Gold Certified, going from rags to riches in



Photo: The "Gold Certified" team took first at the 2010 Pumpkin Bowl.

L-R (back) Jonathon Brunk, Nicholas Stallons, Gabe Shoun and Cole Johnson. L-R (front): Chaunce Gwinn, Alan Poettker, Dave Pongniphon, Chris Bechtold and Jonathon Roethig (MVP).

one year has prompted allegations of steroids, improper recruiting and bio genetics which will be investigated by the commissioner's office."

"All kidding aside it was good to see the students engaged and enjoying an intramural activity. We will see if the IT department can continue the dynasty."

During the game the Student Government Association sold pretzels, hot chocolate and popcorn outside with all proceeds benefiting the 2010-2011 SGA Scholarship fund. Fresh Ideas also served a "tailgating" menu for lunch.

The Gold Certified team would like to thank SigmaNet for sponsoring their team this year and last year. The company provided team members with shirts and water-bottles.

## Walker Hall Residents Making the Most of Their Ranken Experience

The residents of Walker Hall were very busy with lots of fun programs and activities this semester.

On **September 13**, residents participated in "Family Game Night." This was a night of board games and card games. They played Monopoly, Uno, Scrabble and Dominoes. There were also video games on hand for gamers. The event gave residents a chance to hang out and get to know each other.



Photo: Walker Hall residents participated in a "Family Game Night."

On **September 14**, Daryl Luster from St. Louis Community Credit Union gave the residents a finance workshop called, "Charge it to the Game."

On **September 15**, Anthony Doss, one of the resident assistants, gave a workshop called "Dorm Room Gym" and showed residents examples of how to get exercise and workout without having to leave their room.

On **September 16**, Stan Shoun joined the residents for "Pizza with the President." Stan answered questions about activities, mentioned respect of the campus, participating in events and making the most of the college experience.



Photo: Daryl Luster from St. Louis Community Credit Union gave residents a finance workshop.

## Want to keep up with other activities happening at Walker Hall?

Follow the dormitory hall manager's blog on Ranken's website. In her blog, LaTrina Rogers talks about the daily living of a dormitory resident and posts photos of the fun activities that they participate in. Visit [rankentechnicalcollege.typepad.com](http://rankentechnicalcollege.typepad.com) to follow LaTrina's blog!

You can also follow residents on the Walker Hall Facebook page!

On Friday, **October 8**, the departments of Residential Life and Information Technology hosted a Local Area Network (LAN) Party. The event brought out 25 gamers to engage in online and XBOX 360 action. The event ran from 4:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. and included games, food and movies. Thank you to Evan Gudmestad, IT instructor and LaTrina Rogers, Walker Hall manager who planned and chaperoned the event.



Photo: The LAN party hosted by Residential Life and Information Technology was a big success with 25 gamers participating.

To recover from the long night before, on Saturday, **October 9**, Walker Hall residents relaxed, hung out and participated in "Hillbilly Games." Brandon Bock, Walker Hall resident assistant and PMT student, led this program and set up games that included hillbilly golf and washers.



Photo: Hall Manager LaTrina Rogers participates in a game of "Hillbilly Golf."

## Show Your Ranken Pride With a Missouri License Plate!



(Plates available for Missouri residents only)

How to order your plates:

1. Purchase a "Ranken Emblem Use Authorization" from Ranken's Development office by contacting Rose Crawford at (314) 286-4865; a \$25 minimum tax deductible donation is required. All Phone-a-thon and Fund for Ranken donors qualify.
2. Complete the Personalized and Specialty Plate Application Form 1716 (Can get these from the Development office also)
3. Complete your annual registration and renewal forms.
4. Mail all original forms to the Missouri Department of Revenue office (address on the form). Process takes 10 weeks.

# EMPLOYEE

Welcome to the following new full-time employees:

» Dwayne Rall	AMT Instructor	8/23
» Bob Callanan	AMT Instructor	8/30
» Jason Gann	AMT Instructor	9/7
» Brandy Burrows	Admissions Counselor (Kansas City Area)	10/4

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## Ranken Welcomes New School Counselor



Jennie Wilson joined Ranken as a part-time student success counselor on September 9. Wilson is a licensed professional counselor at Step by Step Counseling and was previously a counselor, instructor and student advocate for Allied College. She has a dual master's degree in professional and school counseling from Lindenwood University and a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Missouri at Columbia. Wilson can help with

personal and family problems as well as issues with drug and alcohol abuse and suicide prevention. If you know of a student who could benefit from counseling services, please refer them to Jennie Wilson at the contact information below.

Jennie Wilson, MA, LPC, NCC  
Room F209

(Second floor of the Finney building in the same office as TRiO)

(314) 286-3629

[jlwilson@ranken.edu](mailto:jlwilson@ranken.edu)

### Hours:

Mondays: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tuesdays: 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, contact Jennie directly or stop by the TRiO office and speak with Angela Davidson



# UPDATES

## Meyer Receives CFRE Certification



Ranken is proud to announce that Ken Meyer, director of annual giving has received his Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) certification.

CFRE is an international independent organization which certifies fundraising professionals based on knowledge, skill and commitment to ethical and professional practice in the philanthropic sector of the business community. To achieve CFRE certification, a fundraising professional must demonstrate a minimum of a five year history of professional levels of donor research skills, including trends and

characteristics of a constituency; an ability to secure gifts through a variety of advanced fundraising techniques; successful relationship building with constituents; an ability to create an environment for volunteer involvement; advanced management skills; and ethical and professional levels of accountability and transparency. Congratulations, Ken!

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ranken**technical**college

## Summers Earns Bachelor's Degree



Janie Summers, Ranken's Career Services coordinator, recently graduated from Columbia College with a bachelor of science degree in Business Administration and Management.

"I have been taking classes off and on for about five years and it feels so fabulous to finally be done," said Summers.

Summers plans to continue her education and pursue a master's degree.

Congratulations on this accomplishment, Janie!

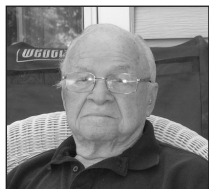
**EMPLOYEES**





# ALUMNI CL

1920s



At 98 years old, Frank Bokan (1929 Machine Shop) is the oldest known living Ranken graduate. He is also a "Top 100" honoree and resides in Schaumburg, Ill. After graduation he remained in St. Louis, and worked as a tool & die maker. In 1947 he joined Motorola in Chicago and remained with them until he retired in 1977 at the age of 65.

One of Frank's favorite things to do was to fix things and he states that Ranken gave him the confidence to attempt to repair anything. He spent hours in his basement working on TVs, radios, lamps, fans and just about anything else that was electrical.

Frank married his wife, Mary in 1944 and they lived on the northwest side of Chicago until she died in April 2007. He has two daughters and currently lives with daughter Barbara in Schaumburg, Ill. His second daughter lives in Philadelphia with her husband. Frank has two grandchildren. Christian, 23, who just graduated from Northwestern University and is starting his career as a journalist and Hannah, 20, who attends art school at Temple University.



Photo: Bokan on graduation day in 1928.

Roy Lake's (1926 Patternmaking) daughter, Beverly Lake Hoffman and grand-daughter, Mimi McDonald, visited campus in September to see where Lake went to school. Beverly is an accomplished local watercolor artist and Mimi is a director and ballet instructor for COCA. They believe their creativity has been passed down to them from Roy. The pair took a tour of campus and really enjoyed seeing the Cook and Finney buildings where Lake attended classes during his time at Ranken.

To submit an alumni update, visit our website at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) or contact Kathy Fern, director of alumni relations at (314) 286-4895 or [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu)

To view a complete list of alumni class notes that have been submitted, visit our website at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu).

# ASS NOTES

## 1940s

Wilbert Eckstein (1947 Radio & Electronics) retired in 1988 from a career as a technician in broadcasting that spanned over 40 years. Working for Channel 54 in Illinois and Channel 2 and 4 in St. Louis, he repaired and operated cameras on set. He recalls meeting TV personalities like Charlotte Peters, Bob Hope and Jack Benny.

Warren Ude (1948 HVAC) is 85 years old and doing well. After graduation he became a licensed engineer and worked at Equitable and Boatman's until he retired.

## 1950s

Jake Colter (1958 AMT) worked for Sears Automotive and retired from building transmissions full time after 35 years. He continues to rebuild transmissions in antique cars as a hobby.

## 1960s

D. Andre Voges (1962 Machine Shop) is now retired after more than 40 years as a machinist for Red Bud Industries in Waterloo, Ill. He continues to hold a seat on the Red Bud Industries board of directors.

Fred Windisch (1969 AMT) worked at a racing shop, then a Ford dealer, then Shell Oil Company Research Division until retiring in 2000. Fred's automotive career morphed into plastics research and

then Health, Safety & Environment. He also served as a firefighter, from volunteer to now full time fire chief in Ponderosa, Tex.

## 1970s

Michael Nesbitt (1977 Diesel) has been employed by Metro in the city of St. Louis as an LRV maintenance supervisor for 32 years. He married Donna in 1983 and they have one daughter, Jennifer. He and his family reside in Mascoutah, Ill.

Jim Newman (1979 CRP) attended the recent carpentry reunion and reconnected with his former instructor, Bill Wagner. Jim owns his own remodeling business and also makes and sells dulcimers nationally.

Mike Weiss (1979 CRP) who lives in Wildwood, Mo., attended the recent carpentry reunion. He and Jim Newman were classmates in the carpentry program and have been best friends since. Mike owns his own construction business, Weiss Construction.

## 1980s

Ray Johns, Jr. (1983 AMT) has been employed by True Manufacturing in Pacific, Mo. for 12 years as a machine operator. Ray was married in 1989 and has one stepdaughter.

## 1990s

Gary Alvers (1994 PLT) has recently been hired as the

# ALUMNI CL

new national sales director for Cambridge Quality Construction and will be running the St. Louis, Denver and Chicago sales divisions. He is looking to add people in construction sales and recently registered with Ranken's eRecruiting. Check out [www.CambridgeQuality.com](http://www.CambridgeQuality.com). No experience required.

Missy Borchardt (1995 ART) crossed off one item on her "bucket list" when she recently completed her first half marathon. She trained 12 weeks and ran over 200 miles to prepare for the Lewis and Clark Marathon which started at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre and finished in historic downtown St. Charles.

Tom Huelsing (1997 CNC) and his wife, Jean were recently honored as one of the 2010 St. Louis Health Care Heroes by the St. Louis Business Journal (August 27, 2010 issue) for their Camp Jump Start program for kids located at Living Well Village in Imperial, Mo. The last group of 65 campers ages 9-17 lost 2,052 lbs. and 1,148 inches. Tom was recognized in 2007 as one of Ranken's Top 100 Outstanding Alumni for his dedication to Living Well Village.

## 2000s

Eric Thrane (2002 PLT) is a journeyman plumber for Reddington Plumbing in Kirkwood, Mo.

Charlie Lutz (2003 ART) has been working with HOK's Chicago office on a project in Columbus, Ohio at Ohio State University. The project is close to a 1 million square foot tower (20 stories). He and his wife are expecting a baby in June.

Ethan Prough (2003 INEET) and Rachelle Kathleen Roth exchanged wedding vows at a ceremony in March 2010 at Emmanuel Free Methodist Church. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and will reside in Godfrey, Ill. Ethan is an electrician with GKN Aerospace in St. Louis.

Michael Diekemper (2004 INT) is a measurement technician for Kinder Morgan in St. Elmo, Ill.

Chad Imboden (2004 PMT) is employed by Lewis Pumps in St. Louis, Mo. He just finished an undergraduate degree in management at Webster University and will be pursuing an MBA from Washington University.

Justin Smith (2005 HVACR) has recently joined the faculty of Ranken as a HVACR instructor.

Brian C. Beatty (2005 HVACR) is employed by Edwardsville School District as an HVAC technician and recently announced his engagement to Nikki West. The couple is planning a June 2011 wedding and will reside in East Alton, Ill.

# ASS NOTES

Tamikka Reed (2007 IT) gave birth to V'Ron, Jr., her first baby on August 19. She is a member of Ranken's Alumni Leadership Council and is employed full time as an IT/MIS tech support at MHDCHC in St. Louis. She is also working toward a BS in technical management with a concentration in computer information systems/computer forensics. Her expected graduation date is spring of 2012.

Justin Foust (2008 ESDT) is currently employed by Sargent & Lundy LLC as an electrical designer. Justin now lives in Chicago and was married in October.

Sean M. Elliott (2009 AMT) recently enlisted in the Air Force Reserves and is training in Texas. Sean is currently employed by Cassen's Chrysler.

Dustin L. Pfeiffer (2009 PMT) recently announced his engagement and upcoming January wedding to Kristen Ruedrich.

Amanda Diehl (2010 PMT) and Bobby Berding (2010 AMT) have announced their engagement and upcoming wedding planned for April 30, 2011.

Jaryd Patton (2010 PMT) is working as an ATC machinists for Alpha Packaging in St. Louis.

Brooke Henderson (2010 IT) attended the recent job fair representing her new employer, Datotel.

Darryl Gentry, Jr. (2010 AMT) works at Roberts Automotive in St. Charles. He started there when he was 14 in 2004 as a cleanup boy. When he graduated in May he was made a full-time technician.

## Alumni Memorium

Ranken faculty and staff extend their sympathy to the families and friends of the following alumni that have passed away:

- Warren R. Trampe (1956 ART) - October 2010
- Joe Schuengel (1983 HVACT) - October 2010
- Kyle Vanausdale (2003 INEET) - September 2010
- Joseph Vallina (1938 Machine Shop) - September 2010
- Clifford Haberl (1953 Plumbing) - August 2010
- John 'Fred' Rausch (1942 Electrical Maintenance) - July 2010
- Nicholas Kurple (2007 PMT) - May 2010
- Allen W. Warnecke (1973 PMT) - March 2010
- George Bartolin (1945 HVAC) - April 2009

## Seeking Nominations for Outstanding Alumni!

**A**t the 2010 Golden Graduate Ceremony held this past May, awards were presented to two outstanding alumni. Sponsored by the Alumni Association, these peer nominated and reviewed awards were given to outstanding Ranken graduates who through their character, leadership, service and financial support sustain the reputation of David Ranken, Jr.

Earl Walker (Welding 1940) was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award and Andy Raines (Industrial Electricity/Electronics 1994) was presented with the Distinguished Young Alumni Award.

We are now seeking nominations for the 2011 awards! Nominate your favorite Ranken alumnus who has been successful in his career, active in the community and sustains the giving reputation of David Ranken, Jr. The deadline is January 31, 2011 and winners will be presented at the 2011 Golden Graduate reception on May 14, 2011.

Go to [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) to read more about these awards and to read more about Earl and Andy. You can also complete and submit an electronic nomination or print out the form and send it to Alumni Relations, 4431 Finney Avenue, St. Louis, Mo., 63113.

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### JOIN OUR E-SCRIPT PROGRAM!

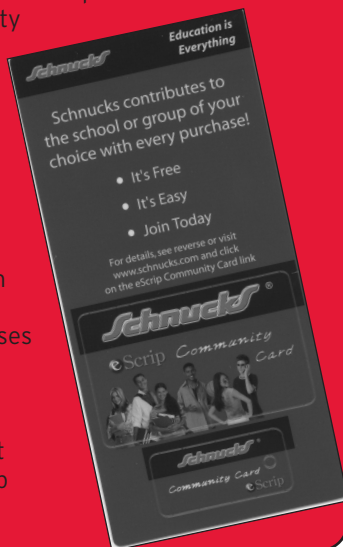
Shop at Schnucks and help grow the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund!

The eScript program, developed by the Schnucks Corporation, helps colleges and special interest groups all across the country.

To join the e-script program and help Ranken add to the Alumni Association Scholarship fund, follow the below steps:

1. Sign up for Schnucks eScript Community Card by contacting Kathy Fern in Ranken's Alumni Relations office located in Walker Hall by calling (314) 286-4895 or email [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu). Up to four cards can be issued per household.
2. Present your eScript Card to the cashier at any Schnucks location when you check out. Schnucks will donate a percentage of your total store purchases to the Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

With your help, future students can benefit from this easy way to grow the Scholarship Fund!



## Carpentry Department Hosts Reunion



Pictured L-R: Albert Konecnik (1949), Bill Wagner (1937 and Carpentry department head until 1984), Tom Wood (1955) who recently celebrated his 74<sup>th</sup> birthday

On Saturday, October 23, a reunion in the carpentry department was held in conjunction with the fall open house. The agenda included educational programs on residential and commercial construction but the highlight for guests was coming back to the old shop and getting together with old friends.

Presentations were made by Bryan Hicklin, Carpentry department head, Brett Randoll, Ranken 1994 alumnus and Dennis Lavalley, president of the St. Louis Council of Construction Consumers.

The next alumni reunion event will be held in conjunction with the spring open house on Sunday, March 6, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. All Plumbing department graduates will be invited to a gathering in the department. More information on presentation topics will be forthcoming in future mailings.



Pictured L-R: Jim Newman (1979), Bill Wagner (1937 and Carpentry department head until 1984) and Mike Weiss (1979).



Photo: All graduates of the Carpentry department were invited to a reunion in the old carpentry shop.

# 1985 Graduates Celebrate Silver Anniversary

Ranken's graduating class of 1985 recently celebrated their Silver Anniversary with a reunion in the atrium of the Mary Ann Lee Technology Center which was decked in silver. Instructors who were teaching on campus in 1985 were also invited to attend.



Photo: Robert Bergel (CRP 1985) (left) with Stan Shoun, Ranken's president.

All attendees were given a pin to commemorate the event and invited to become a member of the "Silver Club." Brunch was served and presentations were made by representatives from Edward Jones Investments and MetLife surrounding retirement income planning as well as asset protection for business owners. Both groups remained on site to answer questions about any personal situations.

Invitations for the Silver Anniversary for the class of 1986 will be sent in the fall of 2011.



Pictured L-R: Stan Shoun, Rick Rode (THERP 1985) and Suzanne Rode.



Photo: Lor A. Jackson (AMT 1985 and 1986 Diesel) (left) with Stan Shoun, Ranken's president.

## Become a member of the David Ranken, Jr. Legacy Society.

To encourage others to follow in the footsteps of David Ranken, Jr., the College has formed the Legacy Society to recognize those to have made a provision in their estate to support Ranken Technical College. Gifts can be made in various ways and the type and size of the gift is not a factor in determining membership. Members receive an invitation to the Legacy Society Luncheon, recognition in the annual report and other benefits.



Gifts can be made in the following forms:

- » Bequests
- » Trusts
- » Life Insurance
- » Gift Annuities
- » IRAs
- » 401Ks and 403Bs
- » Wills

For more information contact Tony Pisciotta, Major Gifts Director,  
at (314) 286-3621 or via email at [avpisciotta@ranken.edu](mailto:avpisciotta@ranken.edu)



## Ranken Alumnus Wins Quality Award



The winners of VeriFacts Achievement in Collision Repair Excellence Awards (ACE) were recently presented at the 2010 Collision Industry Achievement Awards Luncheon, held in conjunction with the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) tradeshow in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Ranken alumnus, Marc Hilpert (ACR 1990), was the recipient of the VeriFacts "March Taylor Technician ACE Award." Hilpert has been with

Schaefer Autobody Centers in Webster Groves, Mo. for over 20 years and is currently the lead painting technician. Hilpert received his autobody/collision repair training from Rankin Technical College.

"Marc has always set the bar for quality at the highest possible level," said Steve Schaefer, owner of Schaefer Autobody Centers. "He has always invested a lot of his own time on the research and learning it takes to get there and stay there. We are very fortunate to have him on our team."

"Marc is a very knowledgeable refinish technician who is always eager to learn so he can complete a quality repair on every vehicle he works on," said Audie Swedeen, Verifacts director of operations. "He always wants to know if there is any new technical information and is a very detail conscientious technician. Marc appreciates and welcomes any coaching he receives. He is dedicated to improving the industry one vehicle at a time."

To qualify for an ACE Award, collision repair centers must have participated in the VeriFacts Shop Coaching Program for at least six months.

"VeriFacts works with some of the best shops in the country who employ some of the very best technicians in our industry," stated Mark Olson, COO and co-founder of VeriFacts Automotive. "Each year one of our biggest challenges is working with our coaches to determine the list of ACE Award finalists from the nearly 5,000 technicians we see each month."

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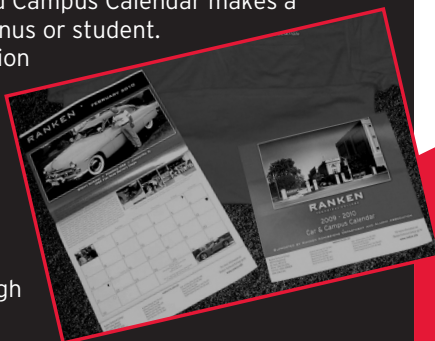
rankentechnicalcollege

## GREAT GIFTS FOR ALUMNI!

The 15-month 2010-2011 Ranken Car and Campus Calendar makes a great holiday gift for your Ranken alumnus or student. The calendar includes campus information in addition to photography from the 2010 Annual Car Show. Purchase your copy for only \$10.

We also have red polo shirts with the alumni association logo embroidered over the pocket. Shirts are available for \$25 (includes shipping and handling) in sizes M-2X and can be purchased through the alumni relations office.

Contact Kathy Fern by phone (314) 285-4895 or email [ktfern@ranken.edu](mailto:ktfern@ranken.edu)



ALUMNI

# Alumni Spotlight

## Amanda Diehl Precision Machining Technology 2010



Photo: Lor A. Jackson (AMT 1985 and 1986 Diesel) (left) with Stan Shoun, Ranken's president.

**A**manda Diehl was first introduced to Ranken Technical College during her junior year of high school at Northwest in Cedar Hill, Mo. Mike Hawley, who is now the director of Admissions, visited the high school as an admissions counselor and gave a presentation about Ranken and its programs.

"Mr. Hawley's presentation made me excited about college. I knew I wanted to learn how to program machines and I wanted to work with

my hands," said Diehl. "I looked into several four-year colleges and they all seemed so boring. He showed me that there was a school out there that I could go to in which I could learn what I dreamt of becoming."

Diehl first stepped onto campus when she attended one of Ranken's Annual Car Shows four years ago.

"When I walked through the front doors of the Finney Building I looked over at my dad, smiled, and told him I felt like I was at home," said Diehl. "That's the day I made the decision to go to Ranken and I knew I had made the right one."

Diehl began classes in the Precision Machining Technology department in August 2008. Though she was extremely excited to be a part of Ranken, she had underestimated what it would be like to be the only woman in a typically male dominated program.

"I was used to being the only girl in class since I had taken industrial classes in high school, but I will not lie, the first day I was in that machine shop as the only girl I was terrified," she said. "It was a totally different scenario when I was one of only ten girls on the entire campus. I really felt like an underdog at first but my teachers helped me realize that I was only an underdog if I allowed myself to be."

"Since I'm only 5' 3" it's hard for me to get to the top of many of the machines so Mr. Austwick got me a stool to stand on to make programming life a whole lot easier. I just decided to show everyone in shop that I shared their same goal...to become a machinist."

Diehl graduated in May 2010 from the PMT program and just a few days after graduation she began her career as a CNC Lathe apprentice at R&S Machine in St. Louis, Mo. She makes parts that contribute to Boeing's aerospace industry and also makes parts for other company products such as Hydromat, Edge and Patriot Machine. She works on a computerized turning machine where she manually writes programs in G and M Codes. She also has the opportunity to do manual machining.

"I find great satisfaction in the idea that Ranken has helped me learn to provide parts for the aerospace industry that keep my country's brave soldiers safe while overseas. I also make parts that help keep our country functioning during everyday life," she stated.

"The thing that I loved most about Ranken was how welcome the staff and faculty made the students feel. I liked that Ranken offered me the chance at a degree and the chance to earn experience in a field that I love. Since being in the workforce I have realized that the general education courses were also very useful. My English classes helped me to be able to communicate within the workplace which is essential and math classes keep me sharp so that I can perform everyday tasks within my job."

"I guess my advice for students would be to just be themselves and learn everything you can and more! And to the girls, don't let the boys intimidate you! You can be a machinist and still be "girlie." You don't have to become male to fit in."

Diehl recently moved out on her own for the first time. She and Bobby Berding, a Ranken Automotive Maintenance 2010 graduate, are planning a spring 2011 wedding. They have known each other since birth and dated on and off since they were fifteen. They both share a love of hot-rodding, cars, car shows, fishing and relaxing together when they have time off.

Diehl has a 1967 Mustang Coupe and Berding has a 1965 Ford Falcon, both of which are featured in the Ranken 2010-2011 Car and Campus Calendar.

### - Hart Automotive and Wheels of Hope

**H**art Automotive is a family-owned business that was started in 1948. The company moved to Florissant, Mo., their current location in 1969 and offer a wide range of mechanical services.

In 1984, Ken Shell, a Ranken AMT graduate, stopped in to see his old junior high friend and current owner of Hart Automotive, Scott McRoberts and was offered a position in the repair shop. Combining McRobert's business talents with Shell's technical abilities and their shared passion to help others, in 2009 the two started the Wheels of Hope program.

Wheels of Hope (WOH) is a registered non-profit organization in the state



Pictured L-R: Scott McRoberts, owner; Leslie Miller, WOH car recipient and Ken Shell, Ranken alumnus.

of Missouri. WOH is a ministry in partnership with Hart Automotive and several local churches whose primary focus is to provide affordable cars to those who need them most. The program accepts donated cars then repairs them if possible. Once the vehicle is fixed, they sell the vehicle at cost to a need individual in the St. Louis area. WOH has nine church partners who field applications for assistance for those in need and help select deserving

people to receive the cars. Priority is placed on single parents, widows, widowers and those who are current members of the partnering church. If the vehicle is not economically repairable then WOH sells the vehicle as-is and the proceeds go towards repairs of other vehicles donated to the program.

In addition to helping with transportation, WOH also assists in the physical and spiritual enrichment of the recipients by donating bibles, offering prayers and sharing their beliefs.

During the first year of the program, they serviced an placed 49 vehicles to those in need of transportation. Their goal for this year is to repair and place 60 vehicles and would also like to grow the program to 20 church partners.

"Through this process we help give individuals a boost of self-worth," said McRoberts. "They take a vested interest in taking care of the car and having reliable transportation helps them to find and keep a job which can drastically change their situation."

Shell's son, Mike is a first year student at Ranken in the Automotive Maintenance Technology program and is currently working at Hart Automotive.

## Annual Phone-a-Thon



Students from all departments within the College recently assisted with the 2010 Annual Phone-a-Thon. During the months of October and November, thousands of calls were made to Ranken alumni in an attempt to reconnect them to campus and to ask for their support in growing the Fund

For Ranken which helps the College with the costs of equipment, campus growth and operating expenses.

Thank you to all of the students who participated and to all of our alumni who gave a gift!

Its not too late! if you were not reached by one of our student callers and you would like to make a contribution, please send your gift to:

Fund For Ranken  
4431 Finney Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63113  
or online at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu)

If you have moved or changed contact information recently, please contact Jackie Barnes at (314) 286-3674 or [jlbarnes@ranken.edu](mailto:jlbarnes@ranken.edu) to update your information.



Thank you to the Boeing company which recently donated titanium and aluminum to the Precision Machining program valued at approximately \$20,000!

# SAVE THE

## Employer Breakfast

Businesses are invited to join us for breakfast on January 21, 2011 or February 25, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., to learn more about Ranken and how to connect with our recent graduates looking for positions in their field. Please register your attendance online at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) or call the Career Services office at (314) 286-4821.

## St. Louis Auto Show

The St. Louis Auto Show is scheduled for January 27-30 at the America's Center. Watch for e-news on alumni happenings at the show and check out the Ranken booth. If you are interested in working the booth as an Alumni, please contact Kathy Fern.

## Alumni Entrepreneur Workshop

Join us at the next Alumni Entrepreneur Workshop scheduled for February 8, 2011 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Larry Kelso (1989 ACR) is the scheduled speaker.

## Placement Testing Day

Choose from three different sessions on Thursday, February 24, 2011 to take the placement test and enjoy a free continental breakfast or afternoon snack. The \$25 application fee will be waived for day students who take the test during this event. Please register online at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) or call (314) 286-4849. Space is limited.

## Spring Open House and Plumbing Reunion

Join us at our spring open house on Sunday, March 6 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Take the opportunity to tour our programs, speak with an admissions counselor and learn about the many scholarship opportunities.

Also on this date, all graduates of the Plumbing Technology program and their families are invited to attend an alumni reunion from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Hear presentations on the state of plumbing education, trends in the industry and local industry updates.

## Ranken Night at the Blues Game

On March 24, 2011 all Ranken students, staff, faculty and friends have the opportunity to see the St. Louis Blues face off against the Edmonton Oilers at a discounted price! Purchase your tickets online at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) and use special purchase code "Ranken" to get tickets for only \$21. A reduced facility fee is included and a reduced ticket handling fee of \$1.25 will be charged.

# EVENT DATE

## Shadow-a-Tech

All potential students are invited to spend part of their day on campus to get a first hand look at what it's like to be a Ranken student. This half-day event includes breakfast, lunch, a program tour and the opportunity to participate in a hands-on project in a classroom setting. To sign up for one of the dates below, please register online at [www.ranken.edu](http://www.ranken.edu) or call (314) 286-4849.

- Wednesday, March 16, 2011
- Wednesday, April 6, 2011
- Wednesday, April 27, 2011 (Automotive only)

## Annual Ranken Car Show & Alumni Reunion

The date for the 2011 Ranken Car Show and Alumni Reunion has been set for Sunday, April 17. More information to follow.

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## ENTER TO WIN A \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP!

To enter, simply fill out the information below, tear off this form and drop it in the mail. Anyone is eligible to enter and the scholarship IS transferable.

- The scholarship is valid for either the fall 2011 or spring 2012 semester.
- The deadline for entries is **January 31, 2011**.
- If you have questions, please contact the Marketing department at (314) 286-4849.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_



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