



E-Newsletter

Keeping Our Membership Informed Since 1952

Senior Editor - John Papa

WINTER EDITION

www.ihscdea.org

FEBRUARY 2010

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We have noticed that for some reason, a number of our members did not renew their membership in the Illinois High School and College Driver Education Association this past fall. We miss having you as a member and for providing us with insight as to the successes that you are having in teaching driver education.

We need all driver education teachers in Illinois as IHCDEA members in order to support the Association's ongoing effects in providing high quality driver education

From Our President . . .

to Illinois teenagers. We continue to work with the Illinois Secretary of State in strengthening and improving the Graduate Driver's License program. We continue to work with the Illinois State Board of Education in making sure that the schools continue to get appropriate reimbursement for each of the students that are taught in driver education. We work with the Illinois General Assembly to promote legislation that will continue to support high level driver education and laws that protect the driving public. We are currently reviewing the new National Driver Education Standards released by the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and seeing how the new standards relate to the driver education program in Illinois.

The benefits of membership in IHCDEA include some of the following:

1. being able to attend and participate in the fall driver education workshops where one learns about new laws affecting teenagers and driver education teaching techniques.
2. being able to attend and participate in the state conference held in May of each year in Effingham where we have some of the key leaders in the USA talk about issues relating to driver education and traffic safety.
3. receiving the IDEA Journal, which provides information on contemporary traffic issues and teaching techniques.

Continued on Page 2

ADTSEA Conference comes to St. Louis

The American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association (ADTSEA) will be hosting their annual conference in St. Louis, July 25th - 28th, 2010.

The conference will be headquartered out of the beautiful Hilton St. Louis Frontenac hotel. Room rates start at \$135 for attendees tax included, no parking fees.

Registration this year will be \$300 which includes most of your meals during the confer-

ence.

Spouse Registration is \$175 also including most meals.

The host outing this year will be a River Dinner Cruise. Costs are \$35 per adult and \$26 for high school age and under.

If you have never been to an ADTSEA Conference next summer will be a great time for your first. Mark these dates on your calendar and plan on joining a large Illinois contingent next summer.

If you have any questions, please email Roger Voigt at: dadvoigt2002@yahoo.com or call him at 847-253-5231. More information & agendas will be posted on our web site as details are finalized.

Make your plans now for the 2011 Conference which will be held in Honolulu at the Ala Mona Hotel. The dates are from July 17th to the 21st.

Hawaiian room rates are \$145.00 plus tax. Phone number for reservations is 808-955-4811.

**SurveyMonkey**

IHSCDEA Winter Survey

Look for it in your email . . .

The IHSCDEA has emailed all our members that we have current and accurate email addresses for, a request. We are asking that you take a few minutes to answer a number of questions online. We are using the services of *SurveyMonkey* to assist in this project. Many of you have filled out surveys using their products and their surveys have been used by over 3 million respondents. The advantages are cost, easy in collection of data and analysis of data collected.

This survey is a follow up to our 2008 Workshop Survey. As many of you recall that initial survey looked at program before and immediately after the new GDL requirements went into effect. A few years have passed and there have been a number of changes both in large & smaller school programs. Large numbers of our association members have retired, program fees has escalated and the future of some programs is uncertain. Our association is looking for a number of answers to questions that cover a variety of program issues.

The survey is broken down into three different topic groups of questions. They are:

- General District/School Information
- Specific Program Information
- Student Enrollment & Fees

The survey will have several different ways to be accessed. There is a link in the email we sent and there is a link on the home page of our web site. If you did not receive a email and are current member of our association we have noted that some district spam filter may be dumping our emails to you into your spam folders. Correct this problem with your district technology services so you do not miss any of our communications.

The survey is named **2010 IHSCDEA Program Survey**.

This survey will be active for two (2) weeks, from February 12th - February 26th

The result of this survey will be shared with all our membership online and in all our IHSCDEA communications.

Side Note:

If you are looking for a easy on-line tool for your classroom consider using *SurveyMonkey*. It is perfect for driver education instructors that would like to employ online quizzes and tests. If your classroom time has been dwindled down, why not have students go on-line to take their quizzes & exams? Certainly logistics would need to be worked out within your program but there are many disciplines that find *SurveyMonkey* very useful.

President Ritzel Continued

We need your support as members of IHSCDEA to show that driver education professionals in Illinois are join together for a common cause, namely, the timely and effective teaching of driver education to Illinois youth. Together, we can do what is best for driver education.

Please renew your membership by going to our web site and filling out the form shown and mailing it to address indicated. Direct link - http://www.ihscdea.org/documents/ihscdea_membership_form_09-10.pdf

Thanks.

Dale O. Ritzel
President, IHSCDEA, 2009-2010

Current membership forms are available on our web site at: <http://www.ihscdea.org> under the Membership Tab

Meet the Candidates

IHSCDEA Members Running for Office - Voting is May 6th at our State Conference

Office of President

Art Kasak - Region #2

J. Sterling Morton H. S., Cicero

Office of President

James Archambeau - Region #1

Washington H. S., Chicago

Office of Secretary

Dennis Peters - Region #1



Coaching and teaching for over fifteen years with teenagers has been my passion. I hold a B. A. and a MA. in Ed, have been a certified teacher for 34 years. I work at two area high schools. Mather High School in Chicago and York High School in Elmhurst, Illinois.

Eight years ago, I became certified to teach Driver Education. This profession is a natural for anyone with a desire to impact students and offer them skills that have a profound affect on the rest of their lives. Involving the community and parents is a necessity.

I have wrote a grant for York High School that allowed us to host a highly successful parent night. Last year, over 800 students and parents packed the field house in Elmhurst. We have also made available to parents a 39 page Parent/Teen Driving Manual.

Enabling parents and the community is the best way to keep our profession relevant and supported by our school boards.

I have served two terms as the secretary of the IHSCDEA. I am committed to serving our body, nurturing our profession and striving to keep Driver Education relevant and necessary in Illinois.

Office of Treasurer

Tony Barrette - Region #7



Educational Background:

B.A. 1964: San Francisco State | M.A. 1967: Eastern Illinois Univ. | M.A. 1983: Eastern Illinois Univ.

Teaching Experience:

Driver Education and Social Studies | Bismarck-Henning CUSD#1| Bismarck, IL | August, 1984 to present

IHSCDEA Experience:

Workshop Director Region 7

Regional Director Region 7

Treasurer 2005 to present

Legislative Update

As the 96th General Assembly begins this month in Springfield it is shaping up to be one of the most bizarre springs at the capital we have ever seen. What this will mean for education is still yet to be determined but you can bet that it will have an impact on driver education in the state.

Most spring legislative sessions follow a predictable process where bills are introduced to committees and debates take place to accommodate the concerns of all involved parties. The IEA believes many of these discussions are taking place before the bills even make it to their respective committees. This means that there is less opportunity for discussion leaving us little or no time to act. So we need to be vigilant in letting our legislators know our concerns. I would check the following web sites often in the coming weeks and be sure to act when called upon by the IHSCDEA.



IEA - <http://illinoiseducationassociation.org/category/newsroom/capitol-report/>

IFT - <http://www.ift-aft.org/forms/index3.aspx?TID=top117&PID=23>

CTU - <http://www.ctunet.com/home/legislativeinformation.html>

By now you should have received an email asking you to participate in a survey for the IHSCDEA. Please make sure you take the time to complete the survey. The information it provides is crucial for our legislative pursuits. It should not take you longer than 5-10 minutes. There is also a link on our web site. Thank you in advance for your help.

Please take the time this month to talk with your school union leaders to find out who from your region is your representative. Then please call or email your representatives and let them know how to support the driver education (DE) initiatives on the Legislative Platforms. Tell them to vote in favor of them. This is a very important step in securing support from our state associations for future driver education legislation that will ultimately help you and your program.

Earlier this year ISBE put forth their proposed FY 2011 budget. They indicate the DE fund having a 36.4% increase in funding, growing from \$17.929 million to \$24.454 million. This is the first time the DE fund has been increased in many, many years. If all goes well you should see an increase to the total amount received from the state for each student that takes driver education at your school next year.

You may want to let your school administration know that this is in the works; it may help provide relief for your program. This is a wonderful example of how driver education association is being persistent in pressuring state administrators and legislators to properly fund our discipline.

I have recently been contacted by a few driver education teachers with concerns they have about the direction their school district is moving in terms of driver education. Biggest concerns are about staff not being hired after retirements and cuts to their programs. If you find yourself in this situation and need assistance supporting your program please begin by looking at the Driver Education Support Manual found on the IHSCDEA web site. If you are looking for further assistance feel free to email me and I will be happy to send you more support material. Once again please find the time to take the survey and if you are an association member contact your regional representative and let them know to support the driver education initiatives.

Daniel Kleinfeldt
Co-Chairperson of the Legislative Task Force
dkleinfeldt@oprfs.org

