



California Automotive Teachers

Fall 2021

Issue #57

CAT NEWS

www.calautoteachers.com

Newsletter Highlights

- ♦ By-law Changes
- ♦ Electric Vehicle Training Program
- ♦ Board Member Reports
- ♦ Conference Registration

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The CAT Spring 2021 Conference is being hosted virtually by Pasadena City College

- Please plan to join fellow members for a full day of workshops and exhibitors on October 16th, 2021!
- Click the link to register for this WebEx event: [Fall 2021](#)
- As George Hritz officially retires from the Executive Director position, the CAT Board has been unable to find a suitable replacement. This has led to the creation of an interim Executive Director Committee.
- The creation of the interim Executive Director Committee requires significant change to the CAT By-laws, which all members in good standing will soon be asked to vote for or against by online survey.
- Be sure you have [Paid Your Dues](#) for the current fiscal year and check your email regularly to be able to vote on this and other CAT by-law changes.
- For more information about the Executive Director Position and Committee, refer to George Hritz' final report in this newsletter and current [CAT By-laws](#).

Please continue to look for emails and notifications from CAT. Together we will remain strong for Automotive Education in the state of California.

The California Automotive Teachers will meet virtually for the [Fall Conference](#) due to COVID-19 closures. We are looking forward to the interaction of our members.

President's Letter by Pete Escoto

Hello everyone! My name is Pete Escoto and I have the privilege of serving as the new CAT President. Many of you might not know who I am so let me tell you a little bit about myself. I attended Hartnell College with the goal of becoming a mechanical engineer and quickly realized that was not the field for me. I took a shop class as an elective, and I found my calling. While I worked full time in a transmission shop, I also went to school full time.



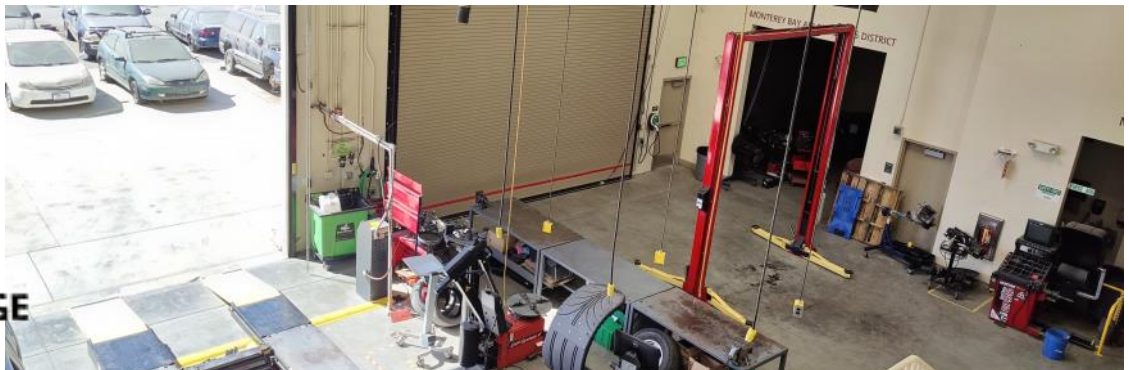
I graduated from Hartnell College in 1996 and got my smog license in 1997. I purchased my first shop in 2000 and the rest is history. I have had the opportunity to work for independent shops and dealerships throughout my career from the Salinas Valley to the Southern Bay area. For some reason my toolbox had the urge to roll from shop to shop about every 2 years in hopes of finding the perfect place to work. After all these years I found the perfect spot for it. It is now stored in my garage collecting dust while I dedicate most of my time and knowledge to help others how master this trade.

I jumped at the opportunity to come back to teach part time in 2014 and in 2017 I was hired as a full-time instructor. This year I complete the tenure process and I am so relieved I made it. I must admit though, I wouldn't have been able to do it without CAT.

I joined CAT as soon as I became a full-time instructor. I spoke with many of you about curriculum, grants, ASE Foundation Accreditation, dealing with administration, and training. My network of friends quickly grew and the valuable information you provided was incredible. As I spoke to many of you, I realized that I was not the only one with the daunting task of building a solid automotive program. That's when I realized how valuable CAT is. The knowledge and experience found within all of you is amazing.

As your new president I will continue to do my best to provide others with the same support. Wendy did an awesome job as your previous president, and I am confident that with her help I can continue to bring positive changes to CAT.

Over the last years we proved how resilient we are as automotive instructors. We have also proven how driven and dedicated we are to helping students receive the necessary skill to be successful. For that reason, I encourage you all to become more involved with the "behind the scenes" part of CAT. We can use your help to continue to provide much needed support to programs throughout the state. I look forward to getting to know you all on a more personal level over the next 2 years. I will be happy to help and support you in any way possible.



Executive Director's Report by George Hritz



FALL 2021 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As some of you start the Fall semester your classes will be back to normal and, for most of you, things are "Pandemic" normal. Whatever the case I'm sure you are doing your best to provide quality education for your students.

This will be my last report as Executive Director. I agreed to serve until I was 70 and I turned 71 in September, so it is time for me to step down. I have enjoyed the job and tried my best to present CAT's positions positively to industry, education, and the CA legislators. I retired from teaching almost 12 years ago and I recognize that the Covid pandemic has changed Automotive Education.

The next Executive Director needs to have experience in online, hybrid and in-person teaching.

KUDOS

The Spring 2021 virtual conference was a great success. Mark Bernbeck from Evergreen Valley College hosted the conference and proved invaluable in navigating the online conference. Wendy Lucko, Pete Escoto, Donal Howell, Armando Hernandez, and Tom Broxholm worked to keep the workshops up and running for all of you.

Congratulations to Salvador Diaz from Pasadena City College for being elected CAT Vice President!

The winners of the Motorcar Parts of America - Selwyn Joffe Award are James Hooker, Taft Union High School, Gary Semerdjian, Santa Ynez High School and Keith Benson, Petaluma High School. Well done!

FOR YOUR BENEFIT

The CAT Board has been recruiting for a new Executive Director during the past three years. I have spoken with several people about the position and talked with others for suggestions of people they thought might be a good Director. The people I spoke to were either too busy, too far away from Sacramento, or after discussing the job with their family decided to decline to apply. All said they were honored to be asked to apply for the position. As a result, the CAT Board with the membership's approval will add "Executive Director Committee" to the CAT By-Laws. The language follows:

If the Executive Director's position becomes vacant, and a replacement cannot be found: The CAT Board shall appoint a person to represent CAT on Automotive and Industry related Boards and Associations that are mutually beneficial to CAT and its membership. The Boards and Associations CAT is affiliated with are, but not limited to the following.

(Continued on page 4)

Automotive Service Councils of California (ASCCA): participate in Team Weekends and join relevant committees.

Bureau of Automotive Repair Advisory Group (BAG): participate in the quarterly Advisory Group meetings.

California Automotive Coalition (CalABC): attend the quarterly board meetings and participate in monthly conference calls.

California Industrial and Technology Education Association (CITEA): participate in the yearly conference.

California Automotive Wholesalers Association (CAWA): participate in the summer and winter educational forums and the fund-raising gala at the SEMA show.

California Department of Education (CDE): participate in the industry advisory committee meeting.

Legislative Lobbyist: Designate a person to establish a relationship with the lobbyist for ASCCA and CalABC to stay informed on legislative activities and attend CTE legislative committee hearings.

Capital Legislative Day: As many people as possible (at least one person) should attend the "Legislative Day" and participate in visiting legislators for the Industry and Career Technical Education.

Each person will submit an expense report to be reimbursed for travel expenses to the meetings to CAT Executive Treasurer at least twice a year.

Write an association report for the CAT Newsletter. The Newsletter editor will organize the reports into a single report for the Newsletter.

Give an Association report at all CAT Board meetings.

The interim assignments will be:

ASCCA - Wendy Lucko who is a member of the ASCCA Board.

BAG - Ruben Para who is a member of the advisory group.

CalABC - Pete Escoto will be responsible for attending CalABC board meetings and monthly conference calls.

CITEA - we are looking for a CAT member who attends the CITEA conferences who could give a board report.

CAWA - Donal Howell who will be appointed to the CAWA Board.

California Department of Education - Armando Hernandez who is a member of the Advisory Group and other committees.

Wendy and Pete will work with Jack Molodanof who is the legislative advisor for ASCCA and CalABC.

Wendy has attended the Capital Legislative Day in the past and plans to continue doing so.

IMPACT

Be prepared to develop courses for the new regulations and guide them through the approval process as the Governor signs the AB 471 bill into law. Highlights of the bill are;

- **Protects Consumers and Enhances current BAR Programs.** AB 471 focuses on the protection of consumers and enhancing current BAR programs by easily verifying and identifying auto repair shops that have proper training and certification credentials.
- **Improves BAR Citation and Fine Program.** The bill improves the current citation and fine regulatory

(Continued on page 5)

program by creating an independent citation conference panel to review citations; allows BAR to certify providers that train auto repair dealers; and provide opportunity for repair shops to attend training for minor paperwork citation violations, like traffic school.

- **Protects Consumers who Purchase Revived Salvage Vehicles.** Combines and renames the current brake and lamp program to the vehicle safety inspection program and provides BAR the authority to develop additional inspection criteria thru regulation.

PERSONAL

It has been an honor to serve as CAT's Executive Director for the past five years, which is barely a fraction of Bob Barkhouse's twenty-five years plus. Thank you to all the CAT Board members I worked with, as they made my job much easier. I want to thank Tim Gilles for his support and guidance but most of all for his work in editing my newsletter reports. Thanks Tim! Most of all I want to thank my bride, Letta Hlavachek, she is my anchor and rudder and guide through life. She is the perfect partner to bounce ideas and thoughts off. Letta was a career counselor for more than thirty-five years in the CSU and Community College systems, her experience was invaluable. Thanks Sweetie!

I know the interim system the CAT Board will put in place will make CAT successful in working with Industry, the California Department of Education and the Chancellor's office. Working as the Executive Director provided me paths of personal growth as it does for any leadership position. I encourage you to accept leadership roles that are presented to you in your career. I know you will find them very rewarding.

I believe that it is in the best interest of CAT to fill the Executive Director position. It is important to have a single person be the face of CAT to provide continuity and help bring CAT and all Associations and Boards together for mutual benefit. So, if you are interested in becoming CAT Executive Director contact a Board member and attend the Board meeting.

On another personal note after a twenty-five-year relationship we decided to get married. My bride, Letta Hlavachek and I were married on 7-14-21 in the Yosemite Valley Chapel. It was a small private ceremony in a beautiful small chapel in a spectacular setting. Tim Gilles was my Best Man.

I will continue to participate with CAT and will provide support where needed. I look forward to seeing you at future in-person conferences.



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-David Orr, Professor Emeritus of Environmental
Studies and Politics, Oberlin College



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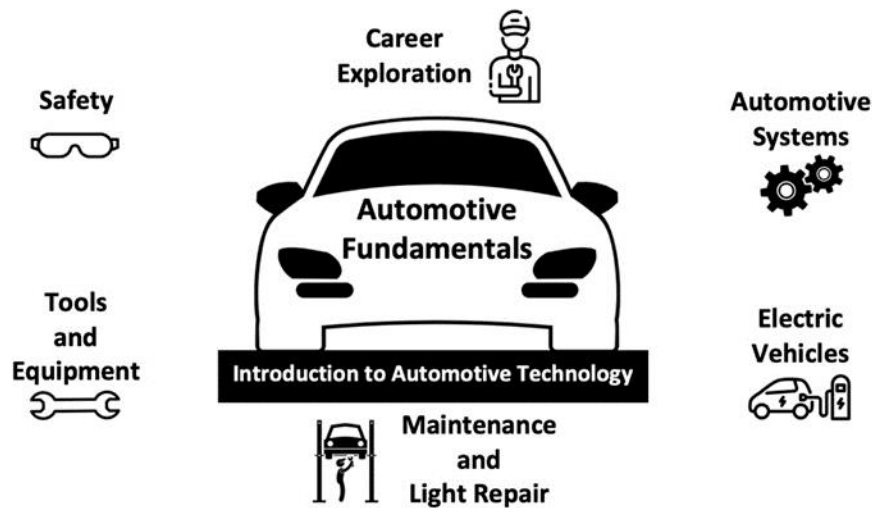
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Electric Vehicles

A Unit Plan for Automotive Fundamentals

By Mike and Linda Gray

Do you teach an *Introduction to Automotive Technology* or *Automotive Fundamentals* course? What should be included in a unit plan on electric vehicles (EVs) within your introductory course? The key question to ask is, “What should every beginning automotive student know and be able to do regarding EVs?”



The Paradigm is Shifting

When there is a paradigm shift, a movement begins as the prevailing technology is replaced by a new technology. Think of how this change occurred when cell phones became the new way of communicating over landline phones. Another example is how listening to music changed from records to 8-track tapes to cassettes to CDs to MP3 players to streaming on your smart speaker. Depending on how old you are, you may have never experienced the former technologies. Paradigms can change quickly or gradually over time. A transformation in the automotive industry is occurring. While many alternative fueled vehicles have been proposed for years, the EV is emerging as the preferred technology. Battery technology has been at the forefront of this transformation. As the cost and weight of an EV battery is reduced, the price of an EV is edging closer to the price of an internal combustion engine (ICE – gasoline and diesel) vehicle. Range anxiety is less of a factor due to battery efficiency. The number of public charging stations are increasing, allowing for long distance travel. The demand for EVs is significantly growing. Governments have or are beginning to make projected bans on new ICE vehicle sales in the near future. This movement, plus the increase in carbon emissions into the environment, is accelerating the adoption of EVs. The paradigm shift from ICE vehicles to EVs is occurring right now.

The screenshot shows the Auto Upkeep Academy website. The header includes the logo and the text "Auto Upkeep Academy". The main heading is "Electric Vehicles". Below the heading is a "View Course details" link. The page features a large image of an electric vehicle charging station. Below the image are two buttons: "Not Enrolled" and "Join the Academy". The "COURSE INCLUDES" section lists the following:

- 17 Lessons
- 64 Topics
- 1 Test
- Course Certificate

A Unit Plan – Electric Vehicles

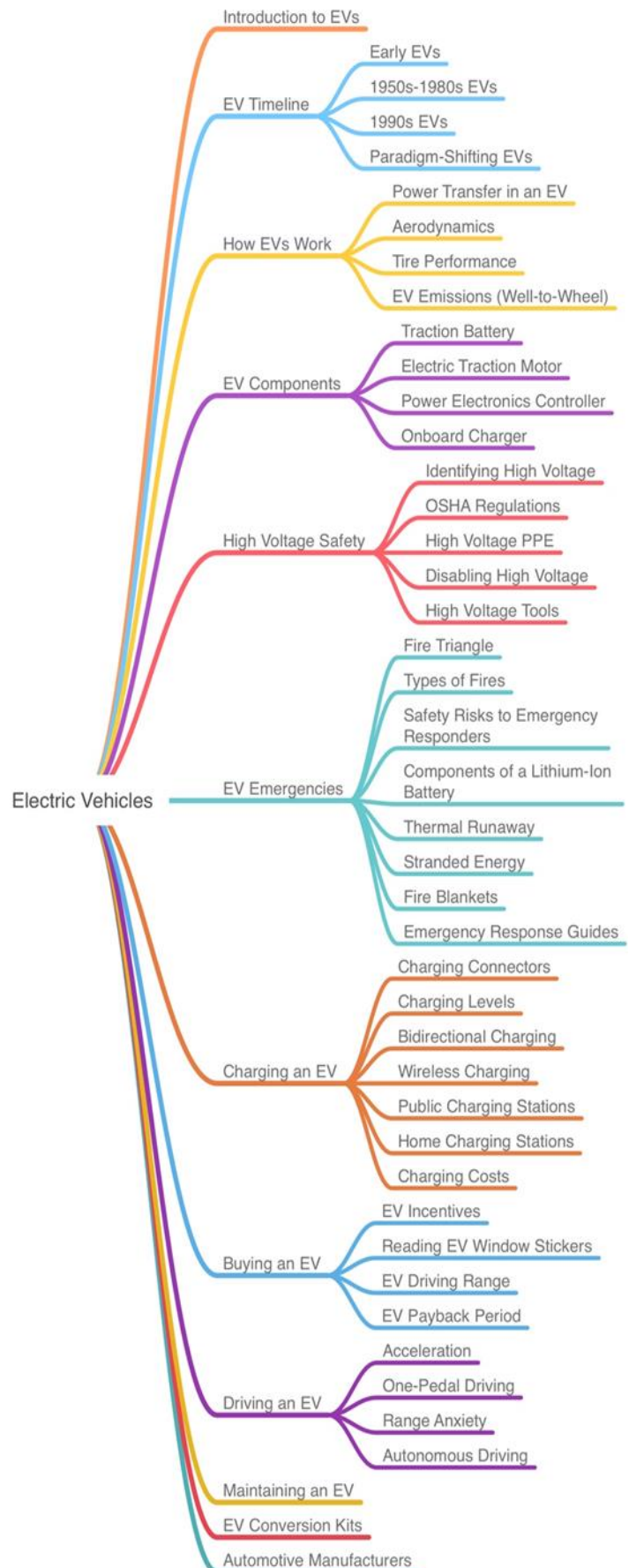
If you only have one semester to teach all the basics, what should be dedicated to EVs? You have a lot to cover in an intro class. Students need to know about safety, tools, automotive systems, and more. A unit plan (about a week or two) on EVs could be integrated into your fundamentals course. This unit plan could include the following: Introduction to EVs, EV Timeline, How EVs Work, EV Components, High Voltage Safety, EV Emergencies, Charging an EV, Buying an EV, Driving an EV, Maintaining an EV, EV Conversion Kits, and Automotive Manufacturers that are producing EVs.

Auto Upkeep Academy - Try for Free

Would you like to try out the Electric Vehicles unit? The Auto Upkeep curriculum is used by 500+ automotive programs throughout North America. Instructors receive complimentary access to the Auto Upkeep Academy to see if it is a good fit for their program. To learn more, go to Academy.AutoUpkeep.com, email us at info@autoupkeep.com, or call us at 800-918-7323.



The Grays
Mike, Linda, Aiden, and Landen





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- Transportation to the school and back to the dismantler must be arranged by the school at its own cost.
- Vehicles must be returned to the dismantler by May 30, 2022. However, they may be returned or exchanged earlier depending on availability.
- Schools must sign a memorandum of understanding with BAR.

INSTRUCTORS CAN USE THESE VEHICLES TO

- Teach mechanical and auto body repair techniques.
- Design troubleshooting activities for students.
- Disassemble systems as needed to demonstrate principles of operation.

STUDENTS CAN GAIN HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE

- Assembling, disassembling, and troubleshooting vehicles as needed to complete assignments.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:
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Every year, the Automotive Service Councils Educational Foundation (ASCEF) awards scholarships ranging from \$500 - \$1,000. These scholarships have been instrumental in helping recipients create rewarding careers in automotive technologies.

Accepting scholarship applications August - March.

To be eligible for these scholarships, an applicant must be a:

- California high school senior who plans to enroll in post high school technical and academic training or
- California college under-graduate in the automotive service field.

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To learn more, visit us online at asc-ef.org.

To apply, visit automotivescholarships.com



Tom Birch, one of CAT's long-time members passed away at the age of 88 on or around September 18th, 2021. Throughout his career, he authored textbooks for Pearson, and served as CAT Vice President, President, and Historian. Tom was a resident of Marysville, CA and is survived by his wife, Dee, as well as a son and daughter.



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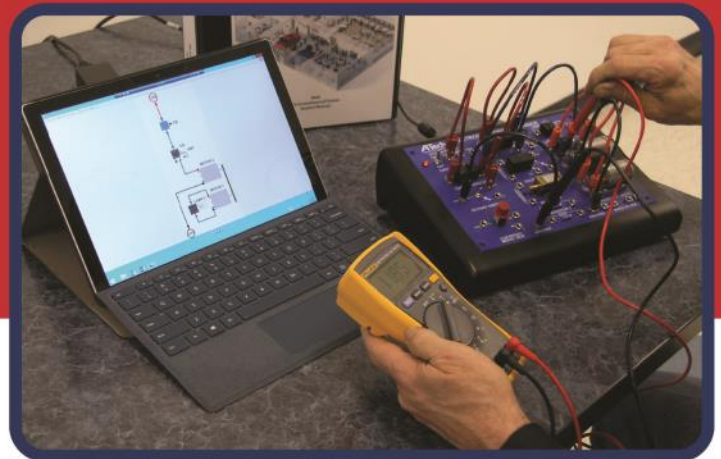
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Newsletter Editor Report

Apologies First

To say this has been a busy semester would be an understatement. As the solo full-time instructor for Automotive Technology at College of the Sequoias, I am responsible for everything related to running the program as well as teaching a number of courses spanning all eight ASE areas and the Smog Licensing courses. I should have spent more time during the Summer break and early Fall semester reaching out to advertisers and writers who could round out the content we are able to offer in this newsletter. I did not make this effort, so our current newsletter is much smaller than those published previously.

Questions Next

How is it with you and your program? Are there improvements or changes you are excited to share with others? Were you able to take advantage of recent funding sources to increase the quality of your instruction? These and others are questions I would love to hear the answers to! You are part of this association of California Automotive Teachers which is designed to be a support to individual instructors and the discipline as a whole. Please reach out with anything newsworthy, but do not be afraid to also reach out for HELP!

Good News Can't Wait

My own program has benefitted from recent funding sources, allowing us to begin offering Hybrid, Electric & Alternative Fuel Vehicles training. The pilot program is being run through contract education by our Training Resource Center, but the classes and lab activities take place in our home facility. Many of our current and former students are attending, as well as shop owners and technicians from the surrounding community. This not only brings important training for the future, but further establishes connections with those industry members who will be employing our graduates.

While it may seem a small thing to some, another recent improvement has been the hiring of a lab technician. We are only able currently to use a student worker, but I have been blessed with a great employee and partner who is able to come alongside and direct the hands-on activities. He is able to share knowledge with the other students as a peer, all the while increasing his own knowledge and improving his presentation skills. I hope our administration will see fit to hire at least a part-time lab technician as a classified employee soon, but right now, I am grooming this student to be my next adjunct instructor.

One of the biggest pieces of good news is that the college and the city have approved the building of a brand-new facility to house several Industry & Technology divisions, including Automotive. We are still in the planning stages, and were told the new place will basically house what we already have in our present location, but the opportunity to work with something new and improved is exciting! I could even see our college being able to host a CAT conference in the next few years.

A Final Plea

Please remember you are not alone, that others stand beside, behind, and ahead of you to lead and guide along the sometimes dark paths we walk. CAT will continue to be a resource, but it relies on its members to build up and support one another. Send your comments, questions, and answers to donalh@cos.edu and I will share them with the rest of the members.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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3rd & 4th Past President—Donald Schumacher, Resigned
5th Past President—Phil Jelinek, Retired
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**California
Automotive
Teachers**

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS

HISTORIAN:

Open

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The CAT Newsletter is always looking for technical articles and advertisements! The deadline for submitting articles and ads is March 25th for the spring issue and October 1st for the fall issue. Articles should be submitted in Word. It is preferred that ads be submitted in JPEG or EPS formats, PDF will work but sometimes the text is distorted once it is placed into the newsletter. The cost and sizes for advertisements can be found on our Website.

California Automotive Teachers was founded in 1966 by these five visionaries:

Orville Page and James Kenley of Reedley College, Norm Gibbs and

Mel Edwards of Chabot College, and Bob Barkhouse of Yuba College.

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CAT Conference

Fall 2021

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October 16th, 2021

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