



2019 Montana Traffic Education Conference

Speakers and Workshop Presenters

April 28-30, 2019 • Butte, Montana

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

David Henderson, Ed.D. – Montana State University – Bozeman

Dr. Henderson grew up in Memphis, Tennessee, and was a high school chemistry and biology teacher and coach after completing a B.A. in science education at Harding University where he later completed an M.Ed. in English education. After working in the software field, he moved to Yaak, Montana in 1993 where he taught grades 5-8 in the last one-room school in Montana that still met in its original log cabin. Since then, Dr. Henderson earned his doctorate, worked as a public school educator, coach, and high school principal, taught as an adjunct at The University of Montana in Missoula, and co-founded Montana Courage to Teach. He currently teaches Educational Leadership at Montana State University in Bozeman.

Opening Keynote

Teaching from the Heart

Sunday, April 28
12:15–1:15 pm

Dr. Henderson will discuss the concept of “teaching from the heart” and finding ways to connect with each student, his/her individual struggles, and forging a lasting relationship.

Susan Carney teaches Driver Education and Physical Education in Arlee and is an instructor at Montana DRIVE advanced driver workshops in Lewistown. She also teaches summer courses to aspiring driver education instructors as an adjunct traffic education instructor at MSU-Northern. She is a past president of MTEA, has served on the board as a class B & C representative, and is currently serving as a member at large. Susan is also MTEA’s 2018 Outstanding Traffic Education Teacher of the Year and one of five ADTSEA* Teachers of Excellence.

Teaching the Whole Student

Sunday, April 28
3:00–3:50 pm

Susan will share her perspectives on teaching to the “whole student” especially in the traffic education environment.

* American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association

Judge Jimm Kilmer is a Justice of the Peace for Butte-Silver Bow County and previously worked as a Police Sergeant in Crime Prevention Public Relations in the Butte-Silver Bow Law Enforcement Department. He is a lifelong Butte resident who has served as a DARE High School and Parent Instructor, Domestic Violence and Mobile Video Instructor, and Crisis Intervention with Hostage Negotiations. He is involved in many local organizations including Butte Cares, Special Olympics, Montana Police Protective Association, local DUI Task Force, Attorney General LE Advisory Council, State Crime Prevention Council. He also co-founded Mariah’s Challenge and currently serves as the board President.

Changing Traffic Safety Culture

Sunday, April 28
4:00–4:50 pm

Safety culture aims to prevent crashes, reduce errors, and change behavior. Drivers caught speeding, driving impaired, and/or disregarding the rules of the road need both education and consequence. Municipal judges can influence drivers who have made critical driving errors. Judge Kilmer and Judge McCarthy will share some of their educational as well as enforcement approaches to improving drivers’ behavior.

Judge Jerome McCarthy spent 26 years with the Butte-Silver Bow Law Enforcement Agency, working as a detention officer, police officer and detective before retiring this past January as a captain. He has since been a criminal investigator for the Montana Office of Public Defender.

MONDAY, APRIL 29

Michele Snowberger is the Driver Services Bureau Chief at the Montana Department of Justice, Motor Vehicle Division (MVD). She was the City Court Judge in Belgrade, Montana, for 12 years before coming to Helena. She earned her law degree at Pepperdine University.

CDTP and Driver Licensing

Monday, April 29
8:00–8:50 am

Michele and Tammy will share the news from the Department of Justice, Motor Vehicle Division and give an update on what’s new with the Cooperative Driver Testing Program (CDTP).

Tammy Stefanik is the Deputy Bureau Chief for the Driver Services Bureau for the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) at the Montana Department of Justice. Since she started with MVD in 1999, she has worked with every Bureau in MVD as a driver examiner, management analyst, trainer, and business process improvement specialist and has been involved with all aspects of program management for the Bureau including systems development.

Following this general session at **9:00 am**, they will move to the **Copper Breakout 4/5** for **CDTP Q & A**.

MONDAY, APRIL 29 (continued)

Stacy Aaberg is in her eleventh year of teaching at Conrad High School. She began teaching driver education the summer of 2013 after Jim Carroll, her Driver Education teacher, convinced her that she would be a great asset to the Conrad program. Stacy was born and raised in Conrad and graduated from Conrad High School in 2001. She went on to attend Montana State University where she obtained a Bachelor's in Health Enhancement with an endorsement in Special Education. In the Fall of 2013 she began working on her Family Consumer Science Minor and taught FCS while advising the FCCLA.

Jeff Mead semi-retired from teaching in 2014 after a long career as athletic director and driver education instructor in eastern Montana. He is a past president of MTEA and has served on the MTEA Executive Board. He currently teaches driver education in Fairview, Savage and Sidney, has taught for Montana DRIVE since 2007, and promotes bicycle safety and code compliance in Sidney, MT.

Taylor Lonsdale, P.E. is a member of the Small Urban, Rural, and Tribal Center on Mobility at the Western Transportation Institute of Montana State University. Taylor's work focuses on bicycle and pedestrian safety. Taylor served as the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Coordinator for Montana from 2009-2013, working with more than 50 communities across Montana to support SRTS program development. Taylor is a certified traffic cycling instructor with both the American Bicycling Education Association and the League of American Bicyclists. Taylor has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering with more than 18 years of civil engineering design experience.

Chris Brown is a Licensed Athletic Trainer employed by St. James Healthcare, working in their Montana Sports Medicine department. He has been board certified since graduating from George Fox University in 2010. Chris provides outreach Athletic Training services to Twin Bridges Schools, covering all sporting events. Chris is a Montana native who graduated from Plains High School in 2006.

Roger and Sharon DiBrito live between Lolo and Florence and have long promoted sustainable transportation and safe journeys on two-wheeled vehicles. They came to Missoula in 1976 as elementary and preschool teachers. After Roger retired as a health enhancement teacher, he and Sharon began teaching children and adults how to mix with traffic as pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. In 2015, Roger was named the 2015 Parks and Trails Steward by the Missoula County Parks and Trails Advisory Board.

Huff Symposium

Scheduling: Fitting It All In

Monday, April 29
9:00–9:50 am

Scheduling when teens attend classroom and in-vehicle instruction can be challenging for large and small school districts alike. Come to this session to learn how other programs accommodate the busy schedules of students and teachers.

Sharing the Road with Bikes

Monday, April 29
9:00–9:50 am & 10:00–10:50 am

Taylor will discuss the latest research supporting improved bicycle and pedestrian accommodation and safety on rural roads. Additionally, he will share his approach to educating motor vehicle drivers about safe driving when sharing the road with people on bicycles.

Oh, My Aching Back

Monday, April 29
10:00–10:50 am & 11:00–11:50 am

This discussion will focus on areas of physical strain and associated injuries common to Traffic Education instructors. The session will start with a short lecture and then attendees will practice stretches, exercises, and techniques to both prevent and manage those injuries.

Bike/Walk Outings

Monday, April 29
10:00–10:50 am & 11:00–11:50 am
2:30–3:20 pm & 3:30–4:20 pm

Mixing with traffic lessons begin on foot and two wheels. Sign up for one or two of the active learning sessions to identify good walking and cycling behaviors, scanning, signaling, and communicating.

MONDAY, APRIL 29 (continued)

Steffani Grogan has taught more than 25 years in the Forsyth Schools, currently filling the 7-8 Math and K-12 technology coordinator positions. She runs the Forsyth driver education program and a summer driver education program in Hysham. Steffani serves on the board as the newsletter editor and MTEA's current President. She has also served as a Class B representative.

Steffani is passionate about active learning, which she incorporates into her driver education coursework and her parent meetings. She incorporates OPI, sheriff department, Impact Teen Driver materials and MVD requirements in an hour-long parent meeting packed with as much information as possible.

Todd Mulcahy is the Program Safety Coordinator for the Motor Carriers of Montana, Inc. based in Helena, Montana focusing on motor carriers within the worker compensation program for the Montana State Fund. He attended Montana Tech for Occupational Safety & Health for 3 years before accepting a full-time position as a Site Safety Coordinator with a large general construction contractor based out of Minnesota. He holds both an Associate and Bachelor of Science in Occupational Safety & Health.

Jeff Steeger is the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) Manager with the Montana Department of Transportation. He works with MCS officers and MHP officers on commercial motor carrier (CMV) roadside inspections, and with his staff, provides carrier compliance training and conducts carrier compliance investigations across the state. In addition to Jeff's work at the State he has worked in the commercial motor vehicle industry for over 24 years. Jeff maintains his CDL and has driven various types of CMVs throughout his life. He has lived in MT for over 17 years and loves to take advantage of outdoor opportunities in Montana any time he can.

Tim Beckham has been a Traffic Safety Educator for Oregon Driver Education Center for 6 ½ years. He has been the Vice President/General Manager for 4 ½ years. He instructs both teens and adults in classroom and behind-the-wheel sessions. Tim also teaches defensive driving for National Safety Council and teaches advanced driving for fleets. He has been a Trainer of Trainers for Western Oregon University-ODOT program for new Traffic Safety instructors for 2 ½ years. With 7 children traffic safety has become a true passion of his as a way to keep his children safe. He wants to share, inspire, and teach all instructors in the state of Oregon and throughout the country.

Jess Stovall, a retired Army Officer, has been riding something motorized with 2 wheels regularly since 1971. He has ridden in many of the lower 48 and all over western Europe and in Japan. Some of his most challenging riding was in North Africa and Asia. A former Harley-Davidson Rider's Edge Instructor, he spent 12 years as a Montana Motorcycle Rider Safety teacher which uses Motorcycle Safety Foundation Rider Coach curriculum. He retired in 2016 after 20 years as the Auto Shop teacher at Bozeman High School. Jess used to ride the fastest street bike he could buy, but tempered his riding style to touring on a Harley Road Glide Ultra. He and his wife spend lots of the summers traipsing around the Western U.S. avoiding bad weather and killing bugs.

Parent Boot Camp

Monday, April 29

11:00–11:50 am and 1:30–2:20 pm

Parent Boot Camp—Engage, Inform, Activate

No, it isn't just sit and listen to the talking head, because parents tune out as well as students. Attendees will experience part of the curriculum from the viewpoint of the parent/student and learn several engaging strategies to inform and activate communication between parent and student as they learn all about Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL).

Sharing the Road with Trucks

Monday, April 29

1:30–2:20 pm

This workshop will include a showing of a recently released No-Zone DVD that demonstrates how to operate vehicles around CMVs (big trucks). The presenters will also discuss Montana crash records involving teens and trucks and provide more tips on safely sharing the road with big trucks.

Behind the Wheel Instructor Pro Tips

Monday, April 29

2:30–3:20 pm

This talk will focus on how to create safe, independent drivers using "cueing and coaching" techniques and other behind-the-wheel teaching methods.

Sharing the Road with Motorcycles

Monday, April 29

2:30–3:20 pm and 3:30–4:20 pm

This workshop will help car drivers understand how to safely operate an automobile on the same roads as a motorcycle. Motorcycles need space, they are smaller and can create an improper illusion as to where they are exactly located, and that they maneuver quickly out of the cone of vision provided by the car's mirrors, necessitating an increased awareness of the car driver's surroundings.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Mark Lisac and his two brothers and sister are carrying on the family tire business at Lisac's Tires, which reaches customers all across the state. Lisac's Tires started as a gas station in 1953 by Ed Lisac and now operates tire shops in Butte, Anaconda, and Billings.

Tire Safety

Tuesday, April 30
8:00–8:50 am and 9:00–9:50 am

Tire safety tips from a tire expert!

Kris Minard is the Tobacco Use Prevention Education Specialist for the Montana Office of Public Instruction. Her work includes educating teachers, administrators, and students about the harmful effects of tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes. E-cigarettes are now the number one tobacco product used by Montana youth and it makes perfect sense that those involved with any student education program become well informed about these ever-changing products. Prior to her work with the OPI, Kris worked as a community organizer to prevent underage drinking and previous to that she taught health and physical education in rural Alaska.

JUUL, Vaping, Tobacco Use Prevention

Tuesday, April 30
8:00–8:50 am and 9:00–9:50 am

Have tobacco products invaded your school? Participants will view the latest tobacco products, scrutinize marketing tactics, review regulatory measures, and learn the risks of youth use. This interactive session will underscore the impact of old and new tobacco products on Montana youth.

Fran Penner-Ray is the Director of Traffic Education at the Montana Office of Public Instruction (OPI) where she has worked in traffic education since 2004. She learned to drive in Detroit and to ride a horse in New Mexico. She walks or rides a bicycle to work at the OPI, where she provides vision, support, and leadership for schools and communities to improve traffic safety education in an effort to reduce young driver crashes. Fran also manages the Montana DRIVE Program at Lewistown with 12 seasonal instructors.

Closing Keynote

Keeping Teens Safe on the Road

Tuesday, April 30
10:30–11:30 am