

# News of the South

A Publication of the Southern District of the Institute of Transportation Engineers



Fall 2008

## Y'All Come! Birmingham Promises Warm Welcome

Volume 26, No. 2

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Becky White and Scott Rumble (AL)

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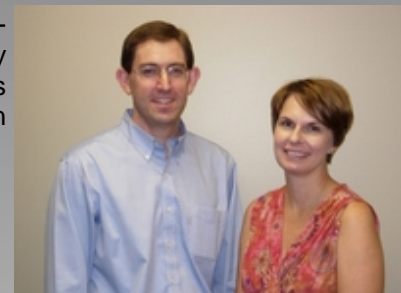
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On behalf of the 2009 Local Arrangements Committee, we are excited to invite you to join us in Birmingham, AL for the 57th Annual Meeting of the Southern District ITE. We are working hard to provide an engaging technical program within a relaxed and comfortable setting.

Our technical program theme is **“Forging the Future of Transportation”** and will focus on new and innovative approaches to transportation planning, design, and management. The theme incorporates the image of a forge – a symbol of Birmingham’s historic roots in the steel industry which shaped our past. Now, Birmingham’s future has been forged from a new focus on medicine, banking, and service industries.

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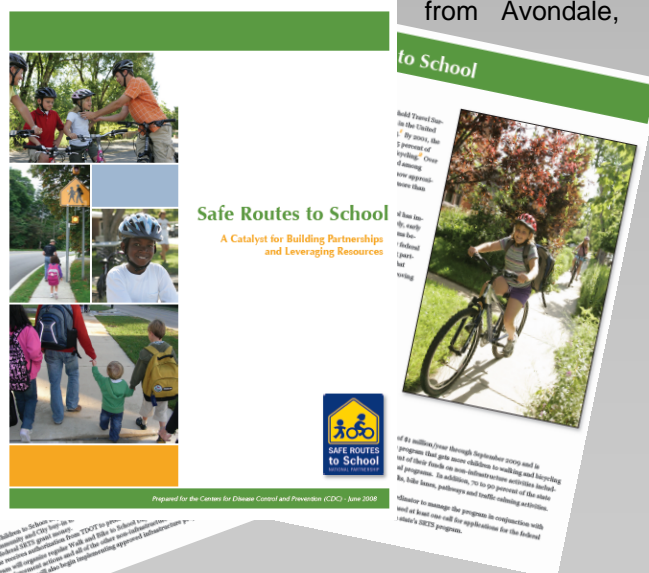
Becky, Scott, and the whole 2009 LAC hope to see you in The Magic City in April.

## Knoxville Exemplary in Safe Routes to School

Cindy Pionke (TN)

In June, the Safe Routes to School National Partnership released a report that was prepared for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showing how Safe Routes to School programs are serving as a catalyst for building community partnerships and leveraging additional resources. The report includes case studies from Avondale, AZ; Bozeman, MT; Knoxville, TN; and Miami, FL.

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### 2008 SDITE Officers

President: Craig Hanchey  
(615) 383-8420

[craig.hanchey@neel-schaffer.com](mailto:craig.hanchey@neel-schaffer.com)

Vice President: Karen Mohammadi  
[kmohammadi@msn.com](mailto:kmohammadi@msn.com)

Secretary-Treasurer: Jim Westmoreland  
(336) 373-2863

[Jim.westmoreland@ci.greensboro.nc.us](mailto:Jim.westmoreland@ci.greensboro.nc.us)

Past President: Colin Kinton  
(843) 470-2631

[ckinton@bcgov.net](mailto:ckinton@bcgov.net)

ITE Intl. Director: Kenny Voorhies  
(770) 509-2233

[kvoorhies@camsys.com](mailto:kvoorhies@camsys.com)

## ALSITE Award Recognizes Statewide Safety

### Initiative

*Richard Caudle (AL)*

During a recent meeting of the State Safety Coordinating Committee at the State House in Montgomery, Alabama, Representative Jim McClendon (R - Dist. 50) was presented the Annual Transportation Safety Award by the Alabama Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. This annual award recognizes an individual who has made a substantial contribution to transportation safety in the State of Alabama. Dr. McClendon was nominated for this award because of his exemplary service as chairman of the State Safety Coordinating Committee for the past three years. The State Safety Coordinating Committee is established by an act of the Alabama Legislature. The mission of the State Safety Coordinating Committee is increased safety, with particular focus on the problem of traffic accidents. This includes crash prevention, crash severity reduction and remedial actions. The SSCC is the primary liaison between the traffic safety community and the Alabama legislature. Dr. McClendon was selected by Governor Bob Riley to chair this committee in 2006.

The first Transportation Safety Award was given in 1983 to State Senator Pat Vacca, who served as the chairman of the State Safety Coordinating Committee at that time. Following the death of Senator Vacca, the SSCC lapsed into a long period of inactivity until Dr. McClendon sponsored legislation in 2006 which effectively rejuvenated the committee. Over the past three years, the SSCC, under the leadership of Dr. McClendon, has developed and pursued legislation for the State of Alabama to increase transportation safety and safety awareness. It is memorable that Dr. McClendon received this award on its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The Alabama Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers is an association of over 200 traffic and transportation engineering professionals from across the State of Alabama, representing all levels of government, education, private practice, and equipment manufacturing. Chris Reeves with the City of Hoover serves as the current president of the Alabama Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. The award was presented to Dr. McClendon by Doug Peterson, Vice President, and Richard Caudle, Past President.



Rep. Jim McClendon receives annual Transportation Safety Award from the Alabama Section Institute of Transportation Engineers

### ROUTES

The \$612 million that the federal government allocated for SRTS in August 2005 through SAFETEA-LU is proving to leverage additional resources in the form of staff time from existing city, county and school personnel, as well as in-kind services and donations from non-profit and civic organizations. The program is also inspiring local governments and community organizations to dedicate discretionary funds toward SRTS projects from local, state and federal sources.

Safe Routes to School is an effective federal program that fosters unique agency collaborations and generates strong community volunteerism and support. By bringing people together from diverse perspectives, SRTS is leveraging additional resources to develop local environment, planning and policy changes that are improving community health and safety.

### KYSITE's Walker Snags ITE Young Professional's Scholarship, Attends Anaheim

*Scott Walker (KY), Submitted by Bill Seymour*

When I applied for the Transportation Consultant Council's scholarship to attend the 2008 ITE Annual Meeting in Anaheim, California, I had multiple reasons for submitting a paper on why I should be selected. These reasons included:

1. Represent the Kentucky Section of ITE (KYSITE): I am currently serving as the Vice-President of this Section. While we are much smaller than most Sections in the United States, we have a solid core of transportation professionals. And we are growing.
2. Represent my firm: Working in a large firm like PB, I have access to some of the best and brightest engineers in the world. However, I would be naïve to think that there aren't top-notch professionals elsewhere. Knowing that a meeting such as the ITE Annual Meeting features some of the best projects and topics in the traffic engineering / transportation planning industry, I wanted to be able to use what I gained from the experience to help me day to

**See ANAHEIM p. 6**

*Congrats also to Bobby Croom (NC) who won a Consultants Council Young Member Award.*

## SALTEENS Program Kicks Off

Becky Malenke (AL)

ALSITE has officially kicked off a major service project to target safe driving among teens. The program is officially known as SALTEENS, which stands for Saving Alabama Teens: An ALSITE Safe Driving Initiative. A phased plan has been developed to ultimately create presentation materials for use in schools, youth groups, and civic organizations.

Phase I has been completed. In this phase, project objectives were identified, existing programs were researched, a name and logo were created, and a plan was developed. ALSITE also sponsored a service project to promote safe driving as a part of the summer meeting in Gulf Shores. While at the beach, members distributed approximately 600 flyers and trinkets to teenagers directing them to [www.tdriver.com](http://www.tdriver.com), a website that shows them how to get involved in promoting safe driving at their schools.

Phase II is currently underway. It includes compiling Alabama accident statistics, identifying specific stories to share, determining video logistics, developing a website, and researching funding sources. This phase should be completed by the fall meeting in October. The goal is to have the presentation materials completed by the Southern District ITE meeting we are hosting in April 2009. To offer suggestions or to participate in this project, please send an e-mail to [becky.malenke@neel-schaffer.com](mailto:becky.malenke@neel-schaffer.com).

### SALTEENS OBJECTIVES:

1. Reduce injuries/fatalities in Alabama caused by distracted teen drivers
2. Educate Alabama teens, parents, and teachers about driving hazards
3. Develop and promote safe driving educational materials for distribution in Alabama communities



### MEETING

Our host hotel is the Renaissance Ross Bridge Golf Resort and Spa, a new facility located in a beautiful resort setting. Meeting attendees are encouraged to take advantage of the relaxed atmosphere with business casual attire. Together, we'll enjoy fellowship and some great evening entertainment, including a trip to the Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum, a world class facility that houses the largest collection of motorcycles in North America.

The SDITE Annual Meeting is always a great opportunity for transportation professionals to network, exchange ideas, and learn about new trends in the profession. We hope you will make a commitment to join us in Birmingham for a few days of professional development and renewal.

We look forward to seeing you!

Latest information at [www.sdite2009.org](http://www.sdite2009.org)



## District States Shine in America's Transportation Award Sponsored by AASHTO

Submitted by *Bob Mabry (DS)*

America's Transportation Award recognizes achievement in the development and construction of transportation projects, and instills an appreciation of transportation as a key element of our quality of life.

In its inaugural year, the America's Transportation Award competition received 41 entries from 28 states. Ten finalists were chosen to compete for the Grand Prize and People's Choice Awards. The competition, also cosponsored by AAA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, was launched as part of AASHTO's transportation marketing campaign, a national effort to build support for transportation at the federal, state, and local levels.

A panel of nationally recognized transportation experts selected the winner of the Grand Prize. The People's Choice Award winner was selected by the public at large, who voted for their favorite projects. And the winners were...

### Grand Prize Winner

**Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project**  
 Maryland, Virginia, Washington, DC

The Grand Prize winners of the 2008 America's Transportation Awards competition are the states of Virginia and Maryland, and the District of Columbia for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. The prize, which carries a \$20,000 graduate-level scholarship in the transportation field, was awarded for the \$2.47 billion project that will unclog one of the worst bottlenecks on the East Coast. The old, six-lane bridge is being replaced with a modern 12-lane structure that will separate local and through traffic, has room for future mass transit, and ties communities together with hiker/biker trails.



### People's Choice Award

**St. Louis Bay Bridge**  
 Bay St. Louis, Henderson Point, MS

Mississippi's St. Louis Bay Bridge received the People's Choice Award, in a competition that saw more than 55,500 votes cast on-line and at the AASHTO Annual Meeting in Hartford, CT. The original bridge was destroyed during Hurricane Katrina in August 2005, forcing traffic to be diverted for more than 40 miles. The new \$267 million replacement bridge carries U.S. 90 between Henderson Point and Bay St. Louis. AASHTO will donate \$10,000 to a community program selected by Mississippi as part of the Award.

## Congratulations to SASHTO Regional Winners!

Category	Project Size	Title	Location	State
On Time	Small	Bird Road and Homestead Toll Plaza Open Road Tolling Modifications	Miami-Dade County	FL
	Medium	SmartFix40	Knoxville	TN
	Large	St. Louis Bay Bridge	Henderson Point and Bay St. Louis	MS
Innovative Management	Small	New Kent Safety Rest Area and Information Center	New Kent	VA
	Medium	SR 25 (Okeechobee Road) Depressed Section Project	Hialeah	FL
	Large	Biloxi Bay Bridge	Biloxi and Ocean Springs	MS
		Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project	Alexandria and Fairfax Counties; Prince Georges County; Washington	VA, MD and DC

**SDITE 2009 Annual Meeting**  
**Call for Presentations**  
**Submission Guidelines**  
**Deadline: November 14, 2008**

## **Instructions**

Greetings from the 2009 SDITE Annual Meeting Technical Committee and the Alabama Section ITE. Co-chairs of the Technical Committee this year are Richard Caudle with Skipper Consulting and Jonathan Byrd with the City of Anniston. This document is the official call for presentations for the 2009 SDITE Annual Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama on April 19-22, 2009. Submittals are encouraged for proposed presentations that deal with completed projects and lessons learned. If your proposal is based on a planned or incomplete project, please state this clearly. Preference will be given to proposals that fit this year's theme and list of possible presentation topics. More details on this year's theme and suggestions for potential presentation topics are given below.

Presenters will be given 30 minutes that should include 5-10 minutes for questions. No preference will be given to any presenter for particular conference days. List only those co-presenters who will be present during the conference. If credit for contributions to the work needs to be listed, please do this in the presentation itself.

## **Presentation Submittal**

Copy and fill out the Call for Presentations Submittal Form shown below (download from [www.sdite2009.org](http://www.sdite2009.org)) and send directly to Richard Caudle at the address shown.

## **Workshop Submittal**

This year, we're planning on conducting one Sunday Workshop. To organize a workshop at the SDITE Annual Meeting send an email to Richard Caudle at [richard@skipperinc.com](mailto:richard@skipperinc.com) with the title, a description of the topic of your proposed workshop up to two hundred words in length, and the name(s) of the workshop instructor(s). The workshop will likely be 2 hours in length.

## **Discussion Panel Participation and Submittal**

Discussion panels should address timely topics relevant to the theme of the conference. The panels will run in parallel with other sessions. They typically last 1.5 hours with 3-4 panel members. Suggested panels for this meeting include: traffic calming, impact fees (congestion pricing), or toll roads. Other panel topics may also be considered. If you are willing to serve as a member of one of these panels or have a potential panel on a different subject, submit proposals directly to Richard Caudle at [richard@skipperinc.com](mailto:richard@skipperinc.com). A discussion panel proposal should include a description of the proposed panel topic, panel chairperson, likely panel participants, and an abstract describing the content of the panel.

## **Poster Session**

Plans this year also include a poster session, which will run parallel with other sessions. Proposed presentations which are not selected for the program may be offered the opportunity to present as a poster. The Technical Committee will also accept proposals for presentations only as a poster. Please indicate your preferences regarding poster presentation on the submission form.

## Acceptance

Proposals accepted for the conference must have a presenter. Co-presenters are welcome, but both presenter and co-presenter will be required to pay the conference registration fee. **Presentations that do not have a presenter or co-presenter registered by the early registration deadline will be canceled and replaced.** Letters of acceptance and further instructions will be provided electronically.

## Possible Presentation Topics

The theme for the 2009 District 5 Annual Meeting is "Forging the Future of Transportation." Potential presentation topics will fit this theme by focusing on new and innovative approaches to all modes of transportation. Here are some potential presentation topics:

- Arterial Safety
- Arterial Simulation
- Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning and Design
- Gaming, traffic impacts and parking
- Grant Applications
- Impact Fees
- Incident Management and Incident Simulation
- Innovative Capacity Addition, Roadways and Intersections
- Public/Private Partnerships
- Road Rage
- School Zone Design and Safety/Safe Routes to School
- Toll Roads
- Traffic Calming

### Presenters' Calendar

#### Abstracts due:

**November 14, 2008 at 5:00 PM Central Time**

#### Notification of acceptance of abstracts:

**December 12, 2008**

#### Potential speakers must accept or decline invitation:

**January 7, 2009**

#### Early registration deadline:

**March 2, 2009**

**SDITE 57th Annual Meeting:  
April 19-22, 2009**

### **ANAHEIM**

3. Represent my own professional development aspirations: As a young professional, I want to take advantage of as many opportunities as available. I am very interested in the ever-changing world that is transportation engineering and I want to make sure that I stay aware of what is going on

I am very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to attend the ITE Annual Meeting this year in Anaheim. It is highly recommended for professionals wanting to learn about current and future trends in the transportation business. The folks that present are at the forefront of their specialty and are willing to share their experiences when asked. This information can easily be taken back to your own jurisdiction.

Again, I would like to thank the ITE Transportation Consultant Committee for the opportunity to attend this meeting. I feel that the scholarship was an investment in this young engineer that has high aspirations. I would encourage others reading this article to seek this opportunity for future meetings.



ITE's *Trip Generation, 8th Edition* (IR-016F) and *Urban Street Geometric Design Handbook* (TB-018) are now available for pre-sale in the ITE Bookstore. These books are currently in the final stages of production and will be shipped in December 2008. ITE is offering a \$35 pre-sale discount for purchases made prior to November 14.

The ITE 2008 Annual Meeting and Exhibit presentations are now available on ITE's Web site at [www.ite.org/meetcon/2008AM/default.asp](http://www.ite.org/meetcon/2008AM/default.asp).

ITE membership dues invoices for 2009 have been e-mailed to all members who have valid e-mail addresses. Paper invoices will be mailed to all other members by mid-October. 2009 membership dues are due and payable by January 1, 2009.

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**News of the South — Newsletter of the Southern District (5)**

"News of the South" is the official publication of the Southern District (5) of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). Any comments or suggestions are welcome and should be submitted to Jeff Hammond, Editor (615) 370-8410, jeffhammond@rpmtraffic.net

**Section Correspondents**

Doug Peterson (AL) dpeterson@volkert.com

Bill Seymour (KY) bill\_seymour@gspnet.com

Chris Cowan (TN) chris\_cowan@gspnet.com

Jeff Dale (NC) jeff.dale@kimley-horn.com

Mike Holt (GA) mike\_holt@gspnet.com

Bob Mabry (DS) bmabry@mdot.state.ms.us

Tim White (VA) twhite@t3design.us

Jeff Hammond, P.E.

SDITE Editor

C/O RPM Transportation Consultants, LLC

214 Centerview Drive, Suite 240

Brentwood, TN 37027