

News of the South

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



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President's Message

Tim White (VA)

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to serve my profession as President of the Southern District of ITE in 2011. Building on the strong leadership of the District over the past several years, I hope to continue the connections that Craig, Karen and Jim started. More information on the 2011 coordination goals will be shared in a later edition.



Your SDITE Board had a lively meeting in Lexington, Kentucky on December 9 and 10, 2010. Thank you to **Scott Walker** and the rest of the Kentucky Local Arrangements Committee for hosting us for this meeting. Horse country was beautiful in the snow!

One of my goals as President this year is to bring our spending in line with the revenues – to balance the budget. After some challenging discussions and split voting, we closed the gap from a \$20k deficit in 2010 to a \$4k deficit in 2011. Hopefully, we will all tighten our belts to make the budget balance at the end of the year. I want to thank the Board for the steps it took towards a balanced budget!

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Son of a Gun Wasn't it Fun on the Bayou?

Kakki Purslow and Tony Tramel (DS)



The 59th Annual Meeting of the Southern District Institute of Transportation Engineers (SDITE), held in Lafayette, LA, April 10-13, 2011, was a rousing success.

The meeting's theme – **Back to the Basics; Safety, Convenience and Efficiency** – was both timely and enlightening.

Some 291 ITE members, non-members, ABD members and students registered; while 23 spouses/guests enjoyed the event.

Twenty-three participated in Sunday's golf tournament under very windy conditions. Congratulations go to the winning team of Jim Stewart, Eric Deason, Marybeth Bergin and Shane Bergin with a six under par round of 66.

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Fun on the Bayou

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Second place went to the team of L. P. Ledet, Gordon Nelson, Andrew More and Bob Mabry with a round of 69.

Forty-five technical presentations were conducted including a well-attended Wednesday morning session on the new Highway Safety Manual.

Three technical tours included a field trip to see roundabouts and a reduced phase intersection, a tour of the LITE Center and a tour of UL Lafayette.

The Traffic Bowl was hotly contested with nine teams participating during the preliminary rounds on Monday afternoon. The teams from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Southern Polytechnic State University (Georgia Section) and North Carolina State University advanced to the final round on Tuesday. At the end of the first Final Jeopardy, Southern Poly and NCSU were tied, resulting in the first ever second Final Jeopardy question in the final round. NCSU came out on top and will be competing at the International ITE Annual Meeting in St. Louis in August. Over 230 SDITE members watched the final round on Tuesday.

Many thanks to the ABD members for a well-attended and enjoyable crawfish boil at Vermilionville, including a live Cajun band and Cajun dance lessons. The attendees learned the meaning of "Laissez les bon temps rouler" – let the good times roll. The ABD hospitality rooms were also well-attended on Sunday evening.

While the guys were working, the spouses enjoyed a tour of the Atchafalaya Swamp, while learning to speak a little French. They also enjoyed viewing the magnificent 500-year old Cathedral Oak and an enlightening tour of the magnificent Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist. A visit to the swamp on the University of Louisiana at Lafayette campus provided sightings of live alligators which eluded the group on the swamp tour, although Captain Curtis tried his best "calling" the alligators to the boat.

Photo Credit — Zaki Mustafa



Message

from Page 1

On April 10-13, 2011, we had an outstanding meeting in Lafayette, LA with the theme of **Back to the Basics... Safety, Convenience & Efficiency**. Many thanks to **Tony Tramel** and **Travis Smith** for their efforts as 2011 SDITE Annual Meeting Co-Chairs.

The Southern District is actively moving toward the goals identified in the 2012 Strategic Plan. We must thank the leaders of the Strategic Planning Committee who are transitioning off the teams and the new leaders that are stepping into new roles in 2011.

First, many thanks go to **Bill Seymour** who lead the Strategic Planning Committee for the past three years. His big shoes will be ably filled by **Cindy Pionke**, who will be transitioning out of the lead role of the SPAM Team to assume her new responsibilities as the lead of the Strategic Planning Committee. With Cindy's old role to be filled, I want to thank **Hollis Loveday** for agreeing to take the lead role for the SPAM Team. Thanks also go to **John VanWinkle** who completed his three-year term as lead of the IC&O Team and to **Radha Swayampakala** who will now be leading this team. Since **Martin Bretherton** has assumed a new role as Secretary-Treasurer of SDITE, his role as lead of the Technical Activities Team was vacated. I am still looking for a person who is interested to take on the leadership of this team.

As you can see, the only two Teams that I did not mention were the Leadership and Workforce Development Teams, which will remain in the very capable hands of **Richard Atkins** and **Jeff Moore** – thank you Richard and Jeff for agreeing to continue leading these teams in 2011.

Other changes to committee chairs this year include the Student Activities Committee. **Dyan Damron** has done an excellent job of actively connecting with the student chapters over the past few years – thanks to her for her efforts to make these connections. Thanks to **John Funny** for volunteering to lead this important committee starting in 2011 – we know that John will continue to keep these important connections with the Student Chapters. Our Traffic Bowl has now received national attention due to the tireless efforts of **James Foster**, who conducted much of the work of this committee as a one-person “team”. Thanks to **Richard Caudle** for ably leading this important committee in 2011.

Several effective communication initiatives were started in 2010 by President **Jim Westmoreland**, many of which I will continue in 2011.

This Just In...

As reported by Scott Walker, the Kentucky Section Spring Meeting on March 18 concluded with a traffic bowl practice round. Two students representing KYSITE in the Southern District Traffic Bowl in Lafayette challenged Lindsay Walker and Brad Johnson, current Vice President and Treasurer. The hard fought round ended in a tie.

[editor's note: Lindsay is married to Scott and independent verification of these results was not available.]

Congratulations to Heather Kraus, (TN) Chris Rome (GA), and Tarren Barrett (TN), the winners of the SDITE.org Scavenger Hunt! These lucky ducks each won a few trips to Starbucks. Be sure to visit SDITE.org for the most up-to-date information of the Southern District.



At the April meeting in Lafayette, Kirsten Tynch, Project Manager for Woolpert in Chesapeake, was elected as SDITE's incoming Secretary/Treasurer. Rick Day, a Principal with Stantec in Charleston, was elected as SDITE's International Director. Some information on Ms. Tynch, followed on Page 5 by Mr. Day:



SDITE Secretary/Treasurer-elect, Kirsten Tynch, PE, PTOE, LEED AP.

Candidate's professional biography, including number of years a member of ITE, transportation experience and accomplishments;

I hold a BSCE and MSCE from UVA with an emphasis in Transportation. During 17 years with Woolpert, I've held a variety of leadership positions. I am currently Project Manager for Government Design Services and lead Woolpert's traffic engineering services for the Southeast. I've been an ITE member for 18 years. I am a licensed PE in 8 states, a PTOE and a LEED AP.

Prior service to ITE International, SDITE, your ITE section, and to other organizations and other qualifications;

As a member of VASITE, I've served as District 5 Representative, Secretary, Vice President and President. Most recently I co-chaired the 2010 SDITE Annual Meeting. I have received VASITE's 2005 Young Member, 2006 Outstanding Individual Activity, and 2009 Distinguished Service Awards. I've also received SDITE's 2005 Joseph M. Thomas Outstanding Young Member Award. Most recently I received the 2010 Women in Business Achievement Award from Inside Business for my work to promote and mentor women in the workplace. I currently serve on the SDITE committee to update the Annual Meeting Manual.

Reasons for running for office;

For almost 20 years I have enjoyed every opportunity I have had to participate in VASITE, SDITE and ITE committees and events. I would like to have the opportunity to give back to an organization that has meant so much to me during my career.

With respect to the position sought, the candidate's goals and priorities as a member of the executive board;

If elected to the office of Secretary/Treasurer, I will work closely with the Executive Board to continue its focus on developing a balanced budget and retaining membership to ensure the long-term vitality of SDITE.

Discussion of the challenges and opportunities the candidate believes the profession will face in the coming three years;

The primary challenge of our industry is to address our aging infrastructure with limited financial resources. We will need to continue to work to develop as a profession that challenges itself to be creative and innovative in all that we do in order to meet our transportation needs.

Discussion of the challenges and opportunities the candidate believes the sections, district or international will face in the coming three years;

Our professional organizations face the challenge of staying relevant to our members. As government agencies and private industry continue to face tighter budgets, we need to find ways to be a value to our members in order to retain their membership and have them participate in our events and training. We need to continue to find non-traditional ways to communicate and engage our membership such as our webinars.

Discussion of how the candidate anticipates accomplishing his/her goals, especially with respect to the office sought;

As secretary/treasurer I would work with the SDITE leadership to maintain a fiscally responsible organization. I will also work closely with the Sections to determine how we can better serve our members.

Candidate's professional biography, including number of years a member of ITE, transportation experience and accomplishments;

BSCE, The Citadel, 1977

MSCE, Georgia Institute of Technology, 1978

Principal – Stantec Consulting Services Inc., Charleston, SC

I joined ITE as a student member and have maintained my ITE membership for 32 years.

Prior service to ITE International, SDITE, your ITE section, and to other organizations and other qualifications;

I have regularly participated in ITE meetings at the International, District and Section levels throughout my career. I have been active in committee work at each level and been honored by various ITE sponsored awards. I have served in the following ITE leadership roles: South Carolina Section all offices, Georgia Section all offices and Southern District (District 5) all offices.

Reasons for running for office;

I have enjoyed my career in transportation and feel that ITE is the best professional organization to represent our collective interests as a profession. Therefore, I have always donated my time to ITE. I am excited about the possibility of continuing that support as the International Director representing the membership of the Southern District.

With respect to the position sought, the candidate's goals and priorities as a member of the executive board;

My primary goal would be to enhance membership services. ITE needs to continually evaluate how we can provide maximum value to our members in education and advocacy. Secondly, I would hope to be a part of elevating local transportation issues we face in our District to the International ITE Board.

Discussion of the challenges and opportunities the candidate believes the profession will face in the coming three years;

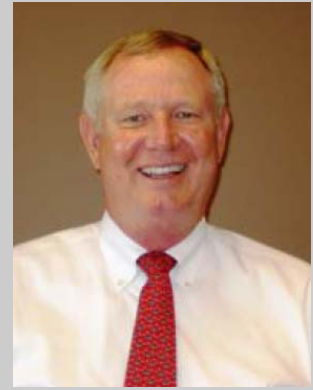
ITE is a recognized voice in the debate over national transportation policy. Strong leadership is required now more than ever with federal budget concerns and the need to establish the role transportation will play in the future. I believe the direction of the next federal transportation bill will be one of the major issues impacting the transportation industry for the next three years and beyond.

Discussion of the challenges and opportunities the candidate believes the sections, district or international will face in the coming three years;

Good communication is essential to ensure the three levels of ITE governance work efficiently. One of the roles of the International Director is to understand and articulate local, state and regional issues to the International Board as well as sharing information from the Board to the membership. Through this communication, a collaborative environment can be established to address issues at every level of the Institute.

Discussion of how the candidate anticipates accomplishing his/her goals, especially with respect to the office sought.

I feel I can serve as an effective International ITE Director because of my past leadership positions at both the District and Section levels. It is an honor to be considered for this position and hope to continue my ITE service in this role.



SDITE International Director-elect, Rick Day, PE, PTOE.

2010 SDITE Individual Awards Presented in Lafayette

Craig Hanchey (TN)

Award recipients were recognized at the SDITE Annual Meeting Banquet in Lafayette on April 12th.

Five awards were presented - the Joseph M. Thomas Outstanding Young Member Award, the Excellence in Transportation Engineering Education Award, the John F. Exnicios Government Employee Outstanding Service Award, the Marble J. Hensley Outstanding Individual Activity Award and the Herman J. Hoose Distinguished Service Award.

These awards are a great honor and represent the best of the Southern District. The winners for the 2010 slate of awards were as follows:

Joseph M. Thomas Outstanding Young Member Award – Kenneth Scott Walker

Scott Walker is a 2001 graduate of the University of Kentucky and works for Parsons Brinckerhoff as a Senior Traffic Engineer. He has been a member of International ITE since 2004 and is a Past President of the Kentucky Section. He received the Kentucky Section Ron Herrington Younger Member Award in 2006 and was presented with the Kentucky Section Individual Activity Award in 2009. Scott is currently serving as the KYSITE representative for the Southern District and will be the Local Arrangements Chair for the 2012 SDITE Annual Meeting which will be held next year in Kentucky.



Scott attended the 2008 Annual Meeting in Anaheim California after being selected for one of the ITE Transportation Consultant Council's Young Professional Scholarships.

In 2010, Scott assisted Southern District President Jim Westmoreland in presenting two student chapter webinars. The webinars were geared at informing students at the college level of what ITE can do for them as well as career opportunities. Scott coordinated the webinar material and served as moderator.

Excellence in Transportation Engineering Education Award - Robert E. Stammer, Jr.

Bob Stammer received his B.S. degree from Middle Tennessee State University in 1971, his B.E. degree from Vanderbilt University in 1972, his M.S.C.E. degree from Georgia Tech in 1974, and his Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee in 1982. He served as the first section representative for the Tennessee Section of ITE in 1990 and 1991. He received the Tennessee Section Outstanding Service Award in 2000 and the Volunteer Distinguished Service Award in 2010. In 2003, the Tennessee Section Outstanding Student Chapter Award was named after him to recognize his long time contributions in working with Student Chapters.

Bob is a Past President of the Southern District and received the Herman Hoose Distinguished Award in 2008. He now serves as the Southern District Director on the International ITE Board.

Throughout his career he has served in many organizations providing expertise in transportation. He has been a contributor or editor for publications with A.S.C.E., and the National Research Council. Bob received the Chancellor's Cup given for the greatest contribution outside the classroom to undergraduate student-faculty relationships in the recent past from Vanderbilt University.

Bob also serves on the Board of Directors for Underwater Warriors, which he helped establish, as a former Captain in the United States Army Reserve. The organization works with veterans, especially those that have been injured in service, teaching them scuba diving and other activities that provide challenges for people with disabilities.

2010 SDITE Student Awards Winners Recognized

Winners of the 2010 SDITE Awards for students and student chapters were announced at the Annual Meeting in Lafayette.

Student Chapter Award

This year, 20 student chapters submitted reports for the competition

Best Student Chapter Award - Clemson University

Best Student Chapter Runner-Up Award - Georgia Tech

Student Paper Awards

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Paper Award - Jennifer Johnson from Clemson University for her paper entitled "Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Issues and Opportunities"

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award - Yi Wen from Mississippi State University for his paper entitled "Stochastic Transit Vehicle Allocation Routing Problem in Emergency Evacuation"

Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Runner-Up Award - Katerina Bartman from Clemson University for her paper entitled "Transit System Evaluation Process: From Planning to Realization"



John F. Exnicios Government Employee Outstanding Service Award – Todd Long

Todd began his career with the Georgia Department of Transportation in its training program in 1990. He has served as District Traffic Engineer, District Preconstruction Engineer, Assistant District Engineer and then District Engineer. In 2005, Todd became Director of Administration and Director of Preconstruction where he oversaw the delivery of the Department's multi-billion dollar construction work program. In 2008, Todd left the Department to become the Chief Engineer for the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority. In 2009, he was appointed Director of Planning for GDOT where he directs the full planning team at GDOT and coordinates with external transportation organizations across Georgia.

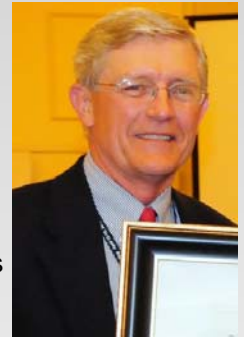
Todd is a Past President of the Georgia Section and recently completed his term as District Representative the Section. Todd was instrumental in the success of two programs to ensure that the transportation profession attracts and retains the best and brightest in Georgia.

Todd spearheaded the creation of the Transportation Engineers of the Future Scholarship Program. This innovative program ensures that the top transportation engineering students stay in Georgia by providing them with a full graduate school scholarship with a commitment to work for GDOT for three years. In 2009, Todd served as Chair of a new Georgia Section committee – the Mentoring Program Committee. Under his leadership, the Mentoring Program Committee developed the framework for the new program, which paired up-and-coming professionals with industry veterans.

Marble J. Hensley Outstanding Individual Activity Award - William M. Seymour

As an employee of state government for 32 years, Bill established himself as a strong leader while maintaining a low-key approach. While working for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, he initiated several programs including multiple inventory and inspection programs. In the private sector, Bill has worked for two consulting firms and has worked on projects ranging from access management of interstate highways to special event planning for an international sporting competition.

Bill is a former Director, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President, President, and Section Representative for the Kentucky Section. In addition, he has mentored numerous KYSITE members. He has served in other key roles within SDITE include serving as a member of the SDITE Leadership Oversight Team as well as the SDITE Technical Council. Most recently Bill served as the SDITE Strategic Planning Team Chair where he continued the implementation of the Southern District's ambitious strategic plan.



Herman J. Hoose Distinguished Service Award - Kenneth O. Voorhies

Kenny is a past President of the Georgia Section and received the Karl Bevins Award in 1993. He is a Past President of the Southern District and has served as the Southern District Director to the International ITE Board. Kenny chaired the 1995 Southern District Annual Meeting that was held in Atlanta. He received the Marble J. Hensley Outstanding Individual Activity Award in 2007.

Kenny has been very active in ITE at the International level. He served as a member of ITE's Climate Change and Energy Task Force. He is Vice Chair of the Management and Operations/ITS Council. He also served on the Nominations Committee, the Policy and Legislation Committee and the Membership Retention and Reinstatement Task Force.

Kenny is a Principal of Cambridge Systematics and has more than 35 years of experience in traffic engineering and transportation planning. He has managed a wide range of projects, including traffic management center operations, performance measurement, data management, data archive design, intelligent transportation systems planning and architecture studies, ITS design, ITS policy studies and training manuals, congestion management analysis, corridor analysis with alternative modes, and traffic operations plans for corridors.



Kenny Voorhies and Todd Long

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, jeff-hammond@rpmtraffic.net

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