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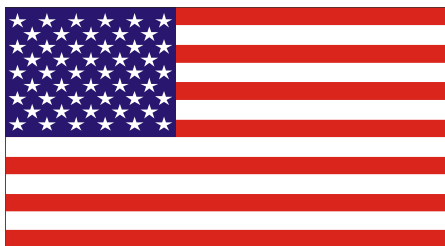
President's Message By Bob Murphy, P.E., PTOE

Over the past two months, Hurricane Katrina has etched in our minds an indelible memory; a memory that will impact our lives for many years to come. The great devastation caused by Katrina directly impacted many of our SDITE members. My thoughts and prayers are with those who are still putting their lives back together. Also, on behalf of those who were personally affected, I want to offer heartfelt thanks to all of the SDITE members who offered their time, efforts, prayers, and support.

I am certain that the Gulf Coast will be back, and better than ever. From the people I know who live in the Gulf Coast area, there is a determination and resolve to rebuild and experience more success than ever. Much work lies ahead as communities start to rebuild and reenergize. I hope we all accept the challenge to assist in whatever way we can to help rebuild this incredible area of our nation.

Regretfully, this year, due to damages sustained at the Beau Rivage Hotel, we will need to relocate our Annual Meeting from Biloxi. At the time of this report, all indications are that we will have our meeting in Jackson, Mississippi, the site of our very successful 1996 Annual Meeting. Like many other members, I was looking forward to our meeting in Biloxi and to the excellent accommodations that the Beau Rivage offered. However, I have equal enthusiasm for the meeting in Jackson. The Local Arrangements Committee is currently working hard to hammer out all the details for another great meeting and I encourage all of you to make every effort to attend the meeting next April. To me, the best part of our Annual Meetings has always been the fun that comes from seeing old friends, meeting new friends, and enjoying each other's company. We seem to figure out a way to do that every year. So, I know that we will have a great time in April regardless of the site.

Also, I want to highlight a few of SDITE's many successes during 2005. First and foremost, in April, we had a tremendously successful Annual Meeting in Savannah that was very well attended. Marsha Anderson Bomar, Susan Walker and the rest of the Local Arrangements Committee did a fantastic job organizing the meeting and making sure that things went smoothly. The inaugural William H. Temple Scholarship Challenge (Traffic Bowl) was a resounding success. This



Please remember our men and women in the military.

highly competitive event, which was won by the University of Tennessee team, was well attended and generated much enthusiasm from our members. I think all would agree that having the students involved in the meeting was a very positive experience. I look forward to the Traffic Bowl becoming an integral part of our future Annual Meetings. As usual, the social events were a highlight of the meeting. Also, for the first time, our Annual Meeting included a ceremony for the Order of the Engineer, where nineteen SDITE members were inducted into this prestigious organization.

My theme for this year has been “Be involved and make a difference”. The sections within the District have made many outstanding accomplishments this year. This work, along with the individual activities of many members, is proof that our membership continues to stay active and involved.

Finally, over the next year we will start implementing our strategic planning initiative, an effort that was started in 2003 under Rick Day’s leadership and included a lot of excellent work from Richard Atkins. At the December 2004 Board Meeting, the SDITE Board adopted the Vision, Mission, and Strategic Goal Areas portion of the Strategic Plan. Our next steps are to appoint Strategic Goal Champions for each of our identified goal areas and then establish Strategic Goal Teams. These teams will have the responsibility of directing the work of the District over the years to come. By taking a more strategic approach to the operation of our organization, we will be able to work more effectively and make SDITE a more valuable resource for our members.

In closing, these are exciting, yet challenging times to be a transportation professional. Thanks to each of you for all you do to make SDITE a great organization. Keep up the good work!

In Memoriam...

Marble J. Hensley

Senior Vice President; ARCADIS

November 6, 1922 to November 7, 2005

Donations can be made to the Marble J. Hensley Scholarship Fund at Bryan College. Mail to Bryan College c/o Office of the President, 721 Bryan Drive, Box 7000, Dayton TN 37321-7000. This is an existing scholarship fund that was setup by a close friend a few years ago to honor Marble, and having it continue and broaden would be a great testimony to the impact of his life.

Vic McSwain

Director of Transportation; City of Mobile, Alabama

1943 to November 19, 2005

Donations can be made to the University of South Alabama Alumni Association or to the Salvation Army at 1009 Dauphin Street, Mobile, Alabama 36604

Vice President's Message

By *Steven C. Strength, P.E.*

Let me begin by thanking all of you who offered prayers, encouragement, and support during the tragedy of hurricane Katrina. The value of being part of a group like ITE is always underscored when tragedies occur, and expressions of sympathy and offers of help come from all over. Many of our SDITE members have suffered the loss of homes, businesses and the separation of families. Even our Annual Meeting has now been forced to relocate, and while life on the Gulf coast will now be measured by conditions before and after Katrina, there is a spirit here that says we will rebuild, bigger and better than before. Our SDITE members will be a part of that rebuilding process.

One of the things that separate our organization from so many other professional groups is that we exist not only to serve our own members, but the public at large, as reflected in our Canon of Ethics. The opportunities and responsibilities presented by catastrophic events go beyond decisions of right and wrong behavior; they speak to our purpose and place in society and what we as transportation professionals have to offer to help our civic leaders learn from the mistakes of the past. Though you will not hear about it on CNN, many of us from the Deep South can testify to the value of attendance at SDITE meetings when it came to preparing and executing a reasonably successful (but not yet perfect) evacuation plan for the Gulf region. The opportunity to interact with others who had already made and executed such plans in neighboring States was invaluable. But those of us in the public sector need to do more to inform and convince our governmental leaders that transportation is a vital part of the preparation, and recovery from, events and threats of all sizes. We need to get more involved with homeland security, law enforcement, and other emergency managers. Even more important, we need to sit down and have meaningful discussions with regional planners and mass transit agencies that do not have significant transportation engineering expertise, to explore how we can help our fellow citizens who do not always have access to reliable private vehicle transportation.

In the private sector, we as consultants need to become better versed in transportation operations issues and how we can contribute our expertise even beyond the studies and the computer models. We all need to learn how to better employ the unique relationships we have with our ABD community to help bring innovative technologies and services to bear on the challenges associated with major transportation-intensive events. And we need to maintain our emphasis on professional development, especially at the college level, to make sure that our society can count on the best and the brightest individuals being drawn to our profession in order to deal with the Katrina's of the future, as well as the opening of the next shopping complex in town.

I know that the Southern District is up to these challenges. I hope you will take some time during the upcoming weeks to reflect on what part you can play to make our strategic plan a reality. Then take some time during the holidays to give thanks that we have each other to take along on the journey.



Call for Technical Papers and Committee Reports

This is an advance notice for a call for technical papers and reports to compete for the District's **2006 Outstanding Sponsored Technical Paper**, for the **2006 Outstanding Non-Sponsored Technical Paper**, and for the **2006 Best Technical Committee Report**.

Technical Papers. The term "Sponsored" implies that the paper was prepared essentially as part of the author's job responsibility and on company time. The term "Non-Sponsored" implies that the paper was prepared on the author's own time and essentially apart from his/her job responsibility. To qualify for the competition, the paper must meet the following requirements:

1. The author(s) shall be a member(s) of the Southern District.
2. The paper shall be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the page, and shall be a minimum of 1,500 words in length.
3. The paper shall have been completed since January 2005.
4. The original and seven (7) copies shall be submitted to the address below no later than February 1, 2006.
5. The cover letter should clearly state when the paper was completed and whether the paper is being submitted for the sponsored or non-sponsored award along with an explanation related to the above definitions as to the category choice.

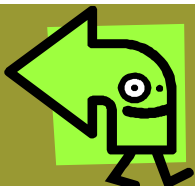
Papers will be judged on the basis of originality (20%), significance (20%), scope (15%), validity (20%), applicability (15%), and organization (10%). **Cash prizes for the winner and runner-up will be awarded in each category.**

Technical Committee Reports. To qualify for the competition, the report must meet the following requirements:

1. The report shall be written by a technical committee officially established by a Section in the Southern District.
2. The report shall be typed, double-spaced, on one side of the page, and shall be a minimum of 1,500 words in length.
3. The report shall have been completed since January 1, 2005.
4. The original and seven (7) copies shall be submitted to the address below no later than February 1, 2006.
5. The cover letter should clearly state when the report was completed.

Reports will be judged on the basis of originality (20%), scope (15%), validity (20%), applicability (15%), and organization (10%).

Papers and reports should be submitted to Mark G. Bailey, c/o Neel-Schaffer, Inc., P.O. Box 22625, Jackson, MS. Please address any questions to Mr. Bailey at telephone (601) 948-3071 or Fax at 601-948-3178, or email mgbailey@neel-schaffer.com.



Call for Technical Session Presentations

Call for Technical Session Ideas and Presentations

For the 54th Annual Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi – April 2-5, 2006

The technical program committee invites you to participate in the meeting's technical program on Monday and Tuesday of the meeting. These are some of the possible topics that we can build the program around:

Transportation along the Gulf Coast – Past, Present, Future

Hurricane Evacuation – How do we get the “H” ou’da here!

Transportation Planning – Whos idea is this anyway?

Interstate 69 – The new road from here to there

ITS – Intelligence is the key word

Traffic Calming – Bump, Humps and Gumps

Funding – How are we going to pay for all this?

Traffic and Access Management – If they build it, can you get there?

Design – Building a better mousetrap

Timing – It’s all in the timing

Dealing with the Public – Remember it’s all about them

Safety – Safety First

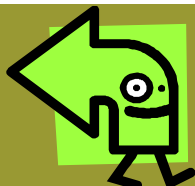
Low Cost/High Benefit Solutions – More bang for the buck

The list of topics is not all inclusive and other presentation topics will be considered. If you are interested in participating and presenting, please submit the following information.

Presentations – topic, material to be presented and importance to meeting participants.

Session Format – topic, material to be presented, format, number and role of presenters and participants, estimated length of session, and any other relevant information.

The deadline for participation submittal requests is Friday, January 27, 2005. Please try to limit the presentation/session information to two pages. The packet can be sent electronically to Mark Bailey at mgb Bailey@neel-schaffer.com or faxed to 601-948-3178. If you have any questions, you can call Mark Bailey at 601-948-3071 or Bob Canfield at 225-293-9609.



2005 Annual Meeting

As you may have imagined, due to the damage to the coast from the hurricanes this fall, we will not have our 2005 Annual Meeting at the Beau Rivage as previously planned.

The 2005 Annual Meeting will be April 2-5 at the newly remodeled Marriott in downtown Jackson, Mississippi.

More details later...



Jackson Marriott Downtown
200 Amite Street

Jackson, Mississippi 39201 USA
Phone: 1-601-969-5100
Fax: 1-601-353-4333
Sales: 1-601-503-2003
Sales Fax: 1-601-969-9665

Marriott Rewards Category: 4

Hotel Awards

Directions

From Airport
Jackson (JAN) - JAN
• 932-2859
• Hotel direction: 12 mi NE
• Driving directions: Go South on Airport Road for 1 mile. Bear right on ramp at sign reading I-20W and continue on I-20 for 6 miles to Exit 46 (I-55N). Take I-55N for 1.8 miles to High Street. Bear right on High Street and turn left on Lamar Street. Go South for 0.3 miles and the hotel is on your left.
• Estimated taxi fare: 25.00 USD (one way)

Arrival Information

Check-In and Checkout
• Check-in: 3:00 PM, Checkout: 11:00 AM

• Video Review Billing, Video Checkout

Parking

- On-site parking, fee: 2 USD hourly, 7 USD daily
- Valet parking, fee: 12 USD daily

Pet Policy

- Pets not allowed

Hotel Details

- 15 floors, 303 rooms
- 20 meeting rooms, 35000 Square Feet total meeting space
- 2 Concierge levels

Guest Room Information

(may vary by room type)

Room Amenities

- Air conditioning
- Alarm clock
- Bottled water
- Coffee maker/tea service
- Crib
- Individual climate control
- Iron and ironing board
- Luxurious bedding - down comforters, custom duvets, cotton-rich linens
- Pillows: down/feather
- Pillows: foam
- Rollaway bed

Bathroom Amenities

- Bathroom amenities
- Hair dryer

Room Entertainment

- Cable channel: CNN
- Cable channel: ESPN
- Cable channel: HBO
- Cable/satellite TV
- Color TV
- Movies/videos, pay-per-view
- Video games and players for rent

Business Amenities

- Electrical outlet: desk level
- Phone feature: voice mail
- Two-line phone

Services

Complimentary Services

- Coffee in lobby
- Coffee/tea in-room
- Newspaper in lobby

Guest Services

- Concierge desk
- Full-service business center
- Safe deposit boxes, front desk

Restaurants & Lounges

Bistro 200 Restaurant

- American
- Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner
- regional specialties for breakfast, lunch and dinner

Bistro Lounge

- Open for dinner

Recreation

Swimming

- Children's Pool Outdoor
- Outdoor Pool

Fitness Facilities

- Health Club

Attractions & Landmarks

- Jackson Zoological Park
- Le Fleur's Bluff State Park
- Medgar Evers Home Museum
- MS Agricultural & Forestry Museum
- MS Governor's Mansion
- MS Museum of Art
- MS Museum of National Science
- MS Sports Hall of Fame & Museum
- MS State Capitol
- Russell C. Davis Planetarium
- Smith-Robertson Museum
- War Memorial Building
- The State Capitol
- Governor's Manion
- Old Capitol Museum
- Ross Barnett Reservoir
- Natchez Trace Parkway

High-speed Internet Access

Location | Connectivity

Guest Rooms:

- Wired

Meeting Rooms:

- Wired

News from the Sections

Kentucky Section

The Kentucky Section's Spring Meeting was held on March 3rd in Lexington, Kentucky at the Lexington Fayette County Urban Government Traffic Operations Center. A total of 28 people were in attendance. The meeting was held in conjunction with a one-day training opportunity on HCS led by Bill Sampson, Director of the McTrans Center at the University of Florida. The luncheon meeting included a presentation by Mr. Sampson on differences between HCS 2000 and HCS+. Updates and new features were explained. The presentation was very informative.

KYSITE had an enthusiastic group in attendance at the SDITE Annual Meeting in Savannah, Georgia April 10-13, 2005. And, KYSITE was very pleased to be part of the first annual Traffic Bowl competition. We were also very proud of our participants Chad Bourke, Adam Clayton and Tom Witt from the University of Kentucky. The Kentucky team won its preliminary round advancing to the final round of the competition.

KYSITE and TNSITE held a joint meeting on May 26, 2005, in Bowling Green, Kentucky. A total of 51 people were in attendance. Three technical presentations were given. Melissa Cansler and Eric Larson presented on the Bowling Green Major Thoroughfare Plan; Fred Swartz gave a presentation on the Nashville Congestion Management Plan, and Paul Slone presented on the Lexington Congestion Management Plan. Lunch was included as well a Section Business Meeting. A golf outing was held in the afternoon with 15 participants from both KYSITE and TNSITE. The golf outing raised a total of \$800 for the KYSITE scholarship fund.

KYSITE's third meeting of the year was held in Covington, Kentucky with the Ohio Section. A total of 19 people were in attendance. Presentations were given on the topic of Special Events Traffic Management. Andy Fluegemann from ARTIMIS presented information on the role of ARTIMIS in special events traffic management, and the Tall Stacks Festival and Riverfest in Cincinnati. Sgt. Joe Hornek and Officer Greg Raque from the Louisville Metro Police Department provided information on the traffic management plan for Thunder Over Louisville, the kick-off event for the Kentucky Derby Festival. The event draws over 500,000 people into the downtown Louisville and Southern Indiana area and requires the closure of interstate highways. The presentations were both interesting and informative.

The KYSITE Annual Meeting/Awards Dinner is set for November 10, 2005, in Louisville. And, our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by hurricane Katrina.

Tennessee Section

Capping off a year of well attended quarterly meetings, the TSITE Fall Meeting was held in Knoxville September 21 – 23. The meeting was a joint one with the Tennessee chapters of the American Planning Association (APA) and the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). The variety in social outings area tours and technical presentations proved to be a successful mix of our three organizations. The first ever Tennessee Conference of Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Transportation Engineering attracted 357 professionals and guests from around the state and the country. In fact, one attendee came all the way from Mexico to attend the conference!

A wide variety of tours included a canoe trip to see greenway planning from the water, TDOT's new Knoxville traffic control center, and historic street design in the city's legacy neighborhoods. Concurrent sessions meant a topic of interest was always available, ranging from safe routes to school to public involvement strategies. Another highlight was Mark Fenton, a national television personality and proponent of active community living. His spirited presentation highlighted the lack of everyday physical activity in America and how our city composition (particularly our road design and network) has to play a part in reversing this trend.

Also for the past several years, TSITE has been active in participating with the Tennessee Chapter of the American Public Works Association's annual meeting. This year's meeting in Chattanooga was another successful meeting. Participants enjoyed regular events like the golf outing and equipment rodeo. Taking advantage of unique Chattanooga activities, a welcoming dinner was held at the Chattanooga Aquarium where attendees were able to tour the new addition to the facility.



Having fun at the TSITE Fall Meeting in Knoxville

North Carolina

Section Highlights:

The North Carolina Section has been extremely busy in 2005. Under the leadership of President Bill Martin and the NCSITE Board of Directors, the Section has continued to build upon its core strengths: we have continued to increase our membership levels (currently stand at 559 members/affiliates and still rising); have continued to enhance member communications and outreach (via our monthly e-mail newsletter, NCSITE Involver, visit our web site at <http://www.itre.ncsu.edu/ncsite/> to view current and past editions); have continued to provide outstanding technical training and meeting opportunities to our members thorough the work and efforts of the NCSITE Councils (Engineering, Planning, Consultant/Vendors, and Administrative); and played a lead role in the implementation of the first statewide North Carolina Transportation forum in March (thanks to the leadership and efforts of Immediate Past President, Calvin Leggett, the City of Charlotte, and many other NCSITE members and affiliates).

In addition, we have also continued to focus on and influence transportation legislative and policy items and initiatives in North Carolina and on the Federal level; have continued to enhance our Scholarship Program through on-going, significant increases in our ITE scholarship account and plans to award six \$1000 scholarships this fall; have focused on area of Workforce Development and continue to increase our involvement and role with NC student chapters through sponsorship of a Spring student chapter lead meeting and participation in student chapter meetings/activities; and have continued to enhance our Section operations by updating our by-laws and moving forward with implementation of items in our recently updated Strategic Plan, NCSITE 2020.

Other Items:

We are saddened to report that Allen (Al) L. Williford passed away on May 4, 2005. Al was President of NCSITE in 1989 and was a valued member of the transportation and traffic engineering community in North Carolina. In memorial (and based on contributions from his past employer, family, and friends), an on-going NCSITE student scholarship has been created in Al's name. On a brighter note, NCSITE's Annual Meeting will be November 17th. Please join us if you can and visit the NCSITE web site at <http://www.itre.ncsu.edu/ncsite/> for more details. Finally, Incoming President Jim Humphrey, recently held a half day Strategic Planning Session on October 25th to plan for a successful 2006. The purpose of the session was to introduce new/incoming Board members to each other, review duties and responsibilities, gain direction on the issue of paid staff for NCSITE, and to develop goals and an action plan for 2006. Stay tuned...2006 promises to be another action packed year for NCSITE!

2005 Southern District Officers

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(615) 370-8410

bobmurphy@rpmtraffic.net

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(504) 437-3105

stevestrength@dotd.state.la.us

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(843) 470-2631

ckinton@bcgov.net

Past President: Rick Day
(404) 249-7550

rday@daywilburn.com

ITE International Director: Brent McKinney
(336) 662-0002

brentm@partnc.org

ITE Websites

International ITE: <http://www.ite.org/>

Southern District ITE: <http://www2.ncsu.edu/sdite/>

Alabama: <http://www.alsite.org>

Deep South:

Georgia: <http://www.ite.gati.org/>

Kentucky: <http://www.kysite.org/>

North Carolina: <http://www.itre.ncsu.edu/ncsite/>

Tennessee: <http://www.tsite.org/>

Virginia: <http://www.vasite.org/>

Upcoming SDITE Annual Meetings

The Southern District has a rich heritage of conducting informative and educational Annual Meetings, mixed with plenty of social occasions for members to learn from each other. The following sites have been selected for upcoming SDITE Annual Meetings:

2007 — Knoxville, Tennessee

2008 — South Carolina

2009 — Alabama

2010 — Virginia

2011 — Louisiana

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 Sharon Schutz, Newsletter Editor, (615) 383-8420, sschutz@neel-schaffer.com

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