President’s Message

Here we are at the tail end of summer. The kids are back in school, and hopefully some cooler weather is on its way. Our fall meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, in Tuscaloosa. Joe Robinson and David Griffin have been working hard on the meeting arrangements. I think you’ll enjoy it. We’ll have our technical program on Lake Tuscaloosa, followed by lunch and a ride on a riverboat. A golf outing will be offered on Tuesday afternoon. James Brown is coordinating the links activities. Make plans to join us in Tuscaloosa and enjoy the arrival of autumn.

I have been very pleased with the progress of our Strategic Planning Committee. We held another meeting of the committee on August 26 in Montgomery to finalize goals and task descriptions for each new task force. We are working now to staff each task force with the goal that they be set by the end of September so they can have their first meeting in conjunction with the fall meeting in Tuscaloosa. The initial visioning stage is winding down now and the next stage is to develop specific action plans and budgets to accomplish each strategic goal. We’ve got a great vision, now let’s work together to see it accomplished.

In December, James Foster will be assembling our Section’s Year-End Report for submittal to the District. This report is used by the District to determine winners for the Best Section Award. It is also an important catalogue of our Section membership’s professional activities. Please be responsive when James asks you to complete a professional activity questionnaire. A timely response will really help him.

Since this will be my last newsletter message to you as president, I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank some folks. During my period of service to ALSITE, I have enjoyed working with each member of the Board of Directors.

Section’s past and present leadership are a high quality bunch! They take their responsibilities seriously and are a pleasure to work with. My thanks go to each one of you for your camaraderie. Another word of appreciation is due to the Strategic Planning Committee. These individuals have sacrificed a great deal of time through four full-day meetings to make our Section better. Their level of commitment to ALSITE is astounding. Please take a moment to express your own appreciation for them at our next meeting.

Communication and time together are the core elements of how we relate to one another. I want to thank Natalie Hobbs and Rosemary Sawyer for their great work at keeping us informed through the newsletter. Kudos also go to Bob Vecellio, the Auburn Student Chapter, the staff at Vulcan, Joe Robinson, and David Griffin who have worked hard to provide excellent meeting arrangements for us this year. Finally, thanks go to all of the membership whose contributions to the Scholarship Auction at our Annual Meeting made it the most successful in our history. We took in a total of $5,625, and we had a good time doing it.

It has been an honor to serve as your president. We’ve had some fun with the title of “Queen”, but realistically, “servant” is a more appropriate term. Serving a professional organization is hard work, as any Past President can attest, but the rewards in friendship and personal growth more than compensate. You are a special group of individuals. I hope and pray that as a Section we will continue to move forward as effective transportation leaders in our state so that it can truly be said we are servants to our communities.

I’m looking forward to seeing you all on October 9.

Becky White

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Southern District ITE Report

The ITE Annual Meeting, was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and was attended by approximately 2,000 registrants. There were some noteworthy events that included the State of Alabama and the Southern District.

Transportation Achievement Award for Facilities:  
Alabama Department of Transportation

ITE Honorary Member:  
John F. Exnicios, Louisiana

ITE Fellow Members:  
Craig M. Hanchey, Tennessee and Bob L. Mabry, Mississippi

Edmund R. Ricker Traffic Safety Award:  
Fred F. Small, Virginia

Goods Movement Council Awards -  
Outstanding Council Paper:  
Arun Chatterjee, Tennessee

Transportation Planning Council Award:  
Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc., North Carolina

Section Activities Award:  
Georgia Section

Congratulations to all the Winners!

(Maybe next year the Alabama Section can add some new champions?)

In the next few weeks (and maybe before our October meeting) I will be sending a notice to all the membership encouraging participation in a hospitality “Get to know our Future” reception with the Auburn ITE Student Chapter. I hope that you can make arrangements to join us, as a section, to kickoff a more interactive relationship with our future employees.

As stated in our last newsletter, “What can we (ALSITE and as transportation professionals) do for you?”

Future Annual Meeting Schedule:  
2003 Winston-Salem, North Carolina  
April 13 - 16, 2003  
2004 Covington, Kentucky  
2005 Savannah, Georgia  
2006 Gulfport, Mississippi

Future Events Around the Nation:  
October 2 Walk to School Day  
October 7 - 11 Drive Safely Work Week  
October 10 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

Future Request Needed:  
I need to know what’s been going on with “YOU” this year! Soon I will be preparing the “Annual Report” and I need “YOUR” information. Please, please, please . . . send, what you can, as soon as possible.

Some information is better than none!

Until next time . . .
Your Section Representative  
James Foster

Congratulations!

...to Becky White, Assistant Vice President of Traffic and Transportation, of Sain Associates, Inc. Our fearless leader has been honored as the inaugural recipient of the Work Life Balance Award of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). The award recognizes those who have had a positive impact in establishing a landmark program for their organization to improve the ability of women engineers and other employees to balance work and family responsibilities. The award will be presented at the SWE National Conference to be held in Detroit in October.
Online Professional Development Training Program

The two introductory courses of ITE's Online Learning Gateway are now open for registration. The courses being offered at this time are:

Capacity Analysis: Signalized Intersections
Safety Analysis: Signalized Intersections

Each of these courses is worth four Professional Development Hours. For those of you needing a few more continuing education hours as the end of the year approaches, these offer a convenient way to meet your goal. The classes are available 24/7 and you will have 30 days to complete the course. Some of the subjects planned for the upcoming year include traffic capacity, traffic safety, traffic control devices, and site impact analysis. For details about the training program and the available courses visit http://www.ite.org/OLgateway.htm.

Personal Updates

Steve Commander, P.E., Vice President with Volkert and Associates, Inc., is serving as the state president for American Council of Engineering Companies of Alabama (ACECA) from June 2002 to 2003. ACECA is the only business related engineering organization. It is a national group that watches over government legislative issues related to engineering such as qualifications based selection process, highway bills, etc. in addition to providing everyday business information to members, such as recruiting new employees, retaining employees, benefits, etc.

Mike Gray, P.E., is now an associate and the Department Head of the Transportation Group at Almon Associates.

Karen Ingram, Chief Operating Officer and Joe Meads, P.E., Senior Vice President, have become stockholders of Sain Associates, Inc.

Jason C. Walker, P.E., P.L.S., was recently hired as an associate with Almon Associates and Department Head of the Civil/Environmental group. Jason is a past recipient of the Charles E. Alexander Scholarship and is the fourth scholarship recipient to be employed by Almon.

A Career to Count on

An article published earlier this year by U. S. News and World Report listed eight of the nation's most secure career tracks. They were based on jobs that were projected to be plentiful in upcoming years. Among the professions listed was Traffic Engineer. The article reports that as traffic congestion increases in our cities, the need for professionals trained to find solutions to the country's gridlock is increasing. Be sure to share this with a young person that may be interested in an engineering degree. Its good news for those students wondering what the future job market holds for them.
DISTRICT DIRECTOR’S UPDATE
AUGUST 2000

Following are some excerpts from the ITE Annual Meeting held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

ITE Election
Steve Hofener of District 4 was elected as our Vice President, beginning January 1, 2003.

Student Chapter Support
The Board approved a motion to authorize up to $1,000 travel expense reimbursements to assist the winning Student Chapter officer(s) and the faculty advisor to attend the ITE Annual Meeting and Honorees Dinner and that the Board Procedures be modified to provide up to five complimentary tickets to the Dinner for the winning chapter representatives.

2003 Membership Dues
The Board approved a modest increase of $5 in our dues for next year.

2003 ITE Emphasis Areas
The Board approved eight emphasis areas for 2003. These are not listed in priority and are as follows:
- Role of Traffic Operations in addressing traffic congestion and emergency response / incident management
- Traffic Signal Timing
- Development and implementation of an action plan for dissemination of safety best practice, tools, and research findings
- Implementation of milestones in ITE’s Strategic Plan
- Transportation’s role in a successful community
- Membership
- Workforce Development

Agency Memberships
The number of public Agency Memberships continues to increase. We now have 163 agencies participating in this program which include 1718 ITE members. I continue to urge all governmental agencies with the potential for 5 memberships to participate in this program. It’s a great way to save money and get addition members involved in ITE.

“It’s Your Street” Video
The first video of the newly established Public Information / Public Education Committee was shown during our opening session. This is an excellent video that needs to be shown throughout the Southern District; however this will require that copies of this video get into the hands of those who will take a pro-active role in showing this video.

Keep up the good work. Remember, the best is yet to come!

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Atkins,
District 5
Project Spotlight

Sea World celebrities such as Woody Woodpecker and Shamu the Whale joined state and local dignitaries in the festivities that marked the March, 2002 opening of a new Florida Welcome Center on U.S. 231 in Campbellton, Florida, just south of the Alabama State line. The welcome center is the state's newest and most modern welcome center.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 3, provided funding for the project and awarded the contract for the 10,144-square-foot building (12,700 square feet including porches and rotunda) in April of 2000. GAC Construction was the general contractor, and Volkert provided both architectural design and construction engineering inspection. ALSITE member Bruce Thomason along with J. R. Sute, were Volkert's project managers for the project. Post Buckley Schuh and Jernigan (PBS&J) served as the project manager for the FDOT. Construction for the facility, located on 40 acres of land, started on February 8, 2002; and Florida USA moved into the facility on February 15, 2002. The old facility closed on February 16th, and the new one opened to the public.

Bud Nocera, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for VISIT FLORIDA, the official tourism marketing corporation for the state, said, "When this facility's predecessor opened its doors fifty years ago, the road was narrow, hours could pass between visitors and that center was reflection of those times. But today, U.S. 231 is a multi-lane artery, traffic counts have grown dramatically and the need for a larger, more modern facility designed for the needs of today's visitors and the tourism industry that serves them is a natural consequence."

VISIT FLORIDA operates the five official Florida Welcome Centers; and according to David Dodd, director of visitor services for the corporation, more than five and a half million people have made the U.S. 231 Welcome Center their first stop upon arriving in Florida. Florida was the first state in the nation to operate official highway welcome centers. The first one opened in 1949.

The new Welcome Center is more than four-and-a-half times the size of the old facility, which has been in continuous operation since 1952. It features separate car, bus, and commercial truck parking lots and has ample space for motor homes. The design approach for the center was to create a facility that is visually inviting, pleasant, comfortable, and functional. Visitors can enjoy the Florida sunshine, using the outdoor walks with picnic pavilions located on two sides of the new center. Palm trees and tropical plants surround the state-of-the-art building, which includes TV monitors to provide visitors with current weather conditions, an onsite water well and treatment facility, and a complete decentralized wastewater treatment plant with spray field. The U.S. 231 Campbellton Welcome Center is designed to meet the needs of today's traveling public, providing a wide range of information and services as well as a cup of fresh Florida orange juice.
Alabama Section Institute of Transportation Engineers

Professional Activities Questionnaire

Member's Name

TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES:

List Projects underway by title and, if available, provide expected date of completion:

List Projects by title which were completed during this reporting period and, if available, attach a copy of the report:

Legislative Activities during this reporting period:

Current Officer / Committee Member in District / International, or others:

Other Professional Activities / Awards:

Please return to:
James Foster
Mobile County Engineer Office
205 Government Street
Mobile, AL 36644-1600

Note: Attach copies if additional space is required and return by November 15th
ALSITE Annual Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2002
Gulf Shores, Alabama

I. Call to Order:
President Becky White called the meeting to order at 9:26 a.m.

II. Minutes:
D. Skipper made a motion to accept the Spring meeting minutes as published. The motion was seconded by J. Robinson. They were approved by voice vote.

III. Board of Director’s Report:
A. Secretary/Treasurer’s Report - Tim Westhoven
Beginning Balance, March 5, 2002 $5,717.55

Expenses
Annual Meeting Reimbursement (Scholarship Fund) 570.00
Memorial Gift for Lamar Strickland 53.23
ITE Checks 77.82
ITE Shirts 1292.88
Newsletter Printing 207.38
Newsletter Postage 102.60
Envelopes for Ballots 23.19
Bio Mail-out Postage 68.00
Ballot Mail-out Postage 62.22
Shirt Sale Change for Annual Meeting 100.00
Total $2,557.32

Income
Affiliate Dues Payments 660.00
Member Dues Payments 826.00
Spring Meeting 776.56
Newsletter Advertisers 50.00
Total $2,312.56

Ending Balance, June 11, 2002 $5,472.79

A motion to accept the Secretary/Treasurer’s Report as presented, was made by J. Robinson, seconded by D. Lenoir and approved by voice vote.

B. Vice-President’s Report - Ken Cash
There were two motions approved by the Board at yesterday’s meeting:
1. To approve the admission of international members to the Section that have paid their dues but have not completed the appropriate application. By doing this, membership was increased by 10% (11 new members).
2. Because those members who live outside the state of Alabama cannot be billed through the Section, the board moved to maintain a separate billing list.

C. Past President’s Report - Stacy Glass
1. Those who went to New Orleans had a good time.
2. Twenty-two people from the Section attended.
3. Approximately 360 attended the meeting.
4. There were 35 exhibitors.
5. Bob Wolfe gave a history of the 50 years of progress of the organization.
6. There is a new career video for students available. The Section is going to be receiving copies and will have them available for anyone interested in obtaining one.
7. ITE is putting together two videos one on neighborhood traffic issues and another on signal pattern issues.
8. As a result of September 11, they are putting together a new Council concerning safety, security, & evacuation issues.
9. The next meeting will be April 13th - 16th, 2003 in Winston-Salem, NC.

D. Affiliate Director’s Report - No Report.
IV. Committee Reports

A. Membership - Ken Cush
   Rod Turochy was accepted as a member.

B. Scholarship - David Griffin
   Beginning of Year Fund Balance: $83,521.15
   Interest Earned 2001: 4,128.90
   Past Presidents donations to Billy Jones Memorial: 1,532.00
   Corporate donations to Billy Jones Memorial: 200.00
   Directed Gift (Billy Jones Scholarship): 2,500.00
   2001 Scholarship Payments (Chambless & Fuqua): 2,750.00
   Current (06/12/02) Fund Balance: 84,114.15
   2002 Annual Scholarship Auction proceeds: 5,625.00

C. Newsletter - Natalie Hobbs reported:
   1. Spring Newsletters were mailed out.
   2. 15 advertisers were included.
   3. Collections: $50.00 ($1075 total collections to date)
   4. Expenditures:
      Postage $102.60
      Printing $207.38
      Total $309.98 ($876.71 total expenditures to date)

   5. Contributions for Fall Newsletter are due: September 6, 2002

D. Legislative - No Report.

E. JECA - No Report.

F. Meeting Site Selection
   Ken Cush reported:
   That the Fall Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 2002 in Tuscaloosa. He is looking
   for a facility in the Birmingham area for the Spring Meeting.
   Tommy Lee thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and reported:
   1. There were 94 registrants, approximately 130 participants at the banquet, and 70
      participants at breakfast.
   2. He also addressed the problems that participants had experienced with the hotel (not
      getting the rooms they requested, having to stay in rooms designated for smoking, etc.).
      He reported that the Section had signed a 3-year contract with Holiday Inn and have two
      years remaining on the contract. He also explained that it was hard to find a facility in
      that area for such a large group.
   3. The next Spring meeting in Gulf Shores will be June 4th - 6th, 2003.

G. Technology - Bob Vecellio reported:
   1. There were 11 technical presentations given at this meeting, plus the seminar.
   2. He recognized the 12 speakers that were involved in presenting the technical
      presentations.
   3. He also recognized the accomplishments of Dan Turner who conducted the seminar.

H. T² - John McCarthy reported
   1. The seminars that are listed on the T² website are currently being conducted.
   2. The Section’s agenda is on the website and said if anyone had anything that needed to go
      on the agenda to let him know.
   3. The meeting in Tuscaloosa is on the website
   4. The membership directory is up-to-date.
   5. The e-mail list only has 20 - 30 names and there are about 80 members. A members e-
      mail address will not be put on the list unless they make a request it be put on the list.

I. State Safety Coordination - No Report.

V. Old Business
   1. D. Skipper presented Strategic Plan with a motion to approve the mission’s goals and
      objectives as outlined in the Newsletter. The motion was second by Dan Turner and
      approved by voice vote.
   2. Becky reported that the shirt sale is going well. Tim Taylor’s efforts were recognized.
   3. The Section received two Thank You notes on behalf of Lamar Strickland.
VI. New Business
1. John McCarthy reported that the Driver’s Manual & the Graphic in it needs to be updated. The Section needs to set-up a committee to make recommendations to the traffic department. The manual also needs to be translated to Spanish.
2. James Foster, Chairman of the Student Chapter, reported that there are about 20 Student Chapters and only 8 are involved in writing technical papers. Last year the Section received 13 technical papers and 6 of those came from Tennessee. The goal is to get all of the Students Chapters involved, district-wide. James is working toward developing a group that will attend the Student Chapter meetings, in an attempt, to get the students more involved.

VII. Adjourn
Becky White adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Westhoven
Secretary, Treasurer

Advertisers
Mark Your Calendars...

Alabama Section Meetings
Fall Meeting – October 9, Tuscaloosa, AL
Spring Meeting – 1st or 2nd week of March, Prattville, AL
Joint Meeting with the Alabama Transportation Planners Association

Southern District Meeting
April 13 - 16, 2003 - Winston-Salem, NC

ITE International Events
Technical Conference and Exhibit - March 23-26, Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Annual Meeting and Exhibit - August 24-27, Seattle, Washington

The mission of the Alabama Section Institute of Transportation Engineers is to provide a leadership role in providing a transportation system in Alabama that improves mobility and safety for the traveling public. Activities of the Section focus on advancing the transportation profession and developing our members through education and training.

2002 ALSITE Standing Committees, Representatives and Liaisons...

Associated Business Division
Tommy Lee* 334.943.2645

Awards
Stacey Glass* 334.242.6095
Tim Taylor 334.242.6275
Jim Meads 205.940.6420
James Foster 251.574.8595
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675

JECA Representative
Robert Kolar 205.979.7757

Legislative
Dale Lenoir* 205.755.0811
Dan Turner 205.348.8550
Robert Kolar 205.979.7757

Meeting Arrangements, Program & Site Selection
Ken Cush 256.234.8495
Bob Vecellio 334.844.6266
Tommy Lee 334.943.2645
Joe Robinson 205.349.0240

Membership
Ken Cush* 256.234.8495
Kerry NeSmith 205.582.2254

Newsletter and Publicity
Natalie Hobbs* 205.298.6074
Rosemary Sawyer 251.342.1070

Officer Nominations
Stacey Glass* 334.242.6095
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675
James Brown 205.349.2100

ALSITE Strategic Plan Committee
Darrell Skipper* 205.655.8855
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675
James Brown 205.349.2100
Ken Cush 256.234.8495
James Foster 251.574.8595
Stacey Glass 334.242.6848
Vic McSwain 334.434.7513
Jim Meads 205.940.6420
Tim Taylor 334.242.6275
Bruce Thomason 251.342.1070
Dan Turner 205.348.6550
Ed Watt 423.842.3335
Tim Westhoven 205.298.6074
Becky White 205.940.6420

Past Presidents
Stacey Glass* 334.242.6848
Robby Anderson 334.361.3675
James Brown 205.349.2100
Jim Meads 205.940.6420
Tim Taylor 334.242.6275

Technical
Bob Vecellio* 334.844.6286
Ken Cush 256.234.8495
Joe Robinson 205.349.0240

Transportation Consultant
Ed Watt* 615.842.3335
Malcolm Beasley 334.342.1070

Historian
Lisa Ray* 334.242.6421
Pat Alford 334.242.6283

Alabama Technology Transfer Center Liaison
Brian Bowman 334.844.6262

Career Guidance Committee
Jim Meads* 205.940.6420
Bob Vecellio 334.844.6286

Student Chapter Liaison
Walter Dorsey* 334.705.5456

Scholarship
David Griffin** 205.349.0240

State Safety Coordinating Committee Liaison
Pat Alford** 334.242.6283

Tellers
Ed Watt* 615.842.3335
Don Vawter 256.739.0524

*Committee Chair **Committee Liaison

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