



NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION
INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS



September 2006

VOLUME 45, ISSUE 3
AUTUMN ISSUE

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40th ANNIVERSARY
1966 - 2006

**SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON—STUDENTS
WELCOME BACK!**

Join us at **IIT Campus**, McCormick-Tribune Campus Center (MTCC), Ballroom, 3201 S. State St. Chicago, IL

Date: September 28, 2006

Time: Job Fair - 10:30 A.M.
Luncheon - 11:30 A.M.
Engineer Shadow - 1:00 P.M.

Cost: Students—FREE

Details to follow in separate notice

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Here it is September already...fall (almost)...the changing of seasons and usually a busy time for all. For many this means a return to school....even for ITE. The Illinois Section will be hosting its September luncheon/meeting at the Illinois Institute of Technology. This is the second year this event will be held at IIT for what we hope will become an annual student event. To gain support and interest in ITE the Section has focused this event on students, undergrads and graduate students. Although hosted at IIT students from around the entire Chicago region are welcome to attend and mingle with transportation professionals. This year's event is planned as a day long event with presentations, lunch, and a visit for students to a participating engineering consultant's office. For more details follow ITEms or check our web site at www.ilite.org.

In other news, preparations are underway to facilitate electronic voting this year (a.k.a. e-voting). This will be another first for the Section. E-voting has been successfully implemented by ITE for International President and Vice President and those who have voted through the internet in this

manner should have found the method easy and fast. E-voting also allows for more timely and accurate tabulations of votes thus eliminating the need for hand counts of ballots. Please stay tuned for additional messages from ILITE regarding this activity.

As I mentioned earlier fall is a busy season. The Section board and its volunteer committees are busy planning an evening event in October featuring the topic of Context Sensitive Solutions. Several speakers are planned including the Policy and Project Engineer with the Bureau of Design & Environment from IDOT's Springfield office. And in November we are planning a lunch event in Rockford. Mark your calendars for what I'm sure will be a memorable event.

Regarding memorable events – I hope that those of you who were able to attend the District 4 conference in June and/or attend the Annual Meeting & Exhibit in Milwaukee in early August had a fulfilling experience. As you may know the District 4 conference, held annually, rotates locations and every four years it is hosted by the Illinois Section. In 2004 the District 4 conference (a.k.a. Midwest conference) was held in Chicago and in 2008 the Illinois Section will again host the District 4 conference. With that said the Section is now issuing a call for volunteers to help plan that special event. With less than 24 months to coordinate this conference volunteers are sought for a variety of tasks including technical sessions, paper reviews, social events, technical tours, and meeting logistics to name a few. Anyone wishing to volunteer please contact **Mark Rinnan** or me as listed at the end of ITEms.

(Continued on page 2)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

Before signing off, on behalf of the Section I would like to extend congratulations to **Sagar Sonar**, our current Director of Activities, on his September marriage. Best wishes on life's new journey. And as usual, if you, our members,

wish to read something of specific interest please, contact me or any of the board members listed at the end of ITEms. ITE always needs, welcomes, and appreciates your help.

Sincerely, **Dennis Dal Santo**

DECEMBER NETWORKING AND HOLIDAY PARTY

BENEFITING THE ILLINOIS SECTION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In a break from tradition, the format for the December meeting is being changed from the typical luncheon year end wrap-up to an after business hours networking event. This holiday party is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 14 and will likely be held at a downtown location. The goal is two-fold: have fun and obtain early contributions for the scholarship auctions. While the auctions are conducted during the January 12th awards banquet, and past support has been strong, donating early will provide organizer's more opportunities to recognize donors. So while you are out doing your holiday shopping remember to add an auction item to your holiday shopping list, and stop in for some holiday cheer at the event! Donations of all forms are accepted, both new and gently used. As a guide, the banquet com-

mittee has developed the following categories which can be used to guide your shopping:

- **Toy Factory: gifts children will appreciate**
- **Technology: DVD players, i-Pods, stick-drives**
- **Just For Her: jewelry, scarves, day spa packages**
- **Sports: memorabilia, tickets, equipment**
- **Get-a-ways: hotel or cottage weekend packages**
- **Holiday Cheer: wine and food baskets, decor**
- **Tools of the Trade: things an engineer will like**
- **This and That: gently used items, books, videos**

Cash donations are also welcome. Donors who contribute cash or items in excess of \$75 by January 5, 2007 will be acknowledge in print and by PowerPoint display during the banquet. Watch your e-mail for more details.

SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS FOR 2007 BANQUET

Start planning now for donations at next banquet. Could you donate a week or weekend at your summer cottage? Have a favorite restaurant or country club you frequent that might be willing donors? If so contact Dan Nowak of the scholarship committee via e-mail at dan.nowak@CH2M.com or by telephone at 773.693.3809.

GOLFING WITH YOUR IRISH UP

Well, not only can the Irish Engineers/Contractors of Chicago golf, but they can party. Despite what in the morning appeared to be iffy weather, 17 members of the Illinois Section joined the Irish on a relatively dry course (courtesy of the Bloomingdale Golf Club), and were lucky with a well timed silver lining. Yes we got a full round in and started on time!

While it was in fact a good day (over \$450 was raised for the scholarship fund), we lived by the motto "A bad day of golf is better than a good day at the office." A special thank you to Sponsoring firms **Civiltech** and **HNTB** (Longest Drive), **CH2M Hill** and **Edwards and Kelcey** (Closest to the pin) and **Lin Engineering** and **Metro Trans-**

portation Group (Longest Putt). The low score foursome of **Peter Lemmon** and **Peter Wojtkiewicz** of Metro and **Joel Christell** and **Jim Woods** of Civiltech Engineering each won a \$25 gift card to Olive Garden. The longest drive went to **Ken Glassman** (Illinois Tollway, winning a \$25 card to Best Buy), the longest putt award was to **Joe Emry** (Civiltech, \$25 Gift Certificate to Pro Shop) and closest to the pin to **Joel Christell** (Civiltech, \$25 to Lettuce Entertain You). Despite certain advantages taken, the High Score went to the threesome of **Ken Glassman** (guilty by association), **Mark Rinnan** (Edwards and Kelcey), and a celebrity golfer. "Rhuh Rooh! Relp!" (\$15 card to Starbucks).



Longest putt winner Joe Emry lines up his winning shot while Scooby-Doo watches.



ELECTION RESULTS

Election results are in. A listing of the winning candidates by position and a summary of their goals statements follows.

ALFRED A. GUEBERT

ITE INTERNATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT ELECT

As the next International Vice President, my specific goals for ITE include...

Technical Excellence... ITE must continue to provide us with relevant, high quality, up-to-date materials... these are the tools of our trade... My priority is to engage the members from every district in the specialty councils, and to communicate the value of those materials to our members.

Transportation Safety... ITE must provide the tools we need to ensure safety-focused design practices, and review processes... My priority is to encourage global input to these best practices, communicate them to our membership, and promote them to the public agency decision-makers and to the general public.

Workforce Development... We need to encourage young men AND young women to consider engineering and planning as career options... and continue to expand the professional development opportunities for our members ... My priorities are: to get the message out that we need a highly qualified workforce capable of meeting the demand; and to expand the professional development opportunities.

International Growth... We must first strive to understand the needs in other parts of the world... then take steps to meet those diverse

E-VOTING

Like ITE National, the Illinois Section is switching to electronic voting. In fact, we will likely use the same provider as national does, so the process should be familiar. The timeline is a list of candidates will be sent to members via e-mail by October 1st. The deadline for candi-

needs... My priorities are: to provide members from around the world with opportunities to learn from each other; and to encourage international participation in the development of our products and services.



STEPHEN J. MANHART
ITE MIDWESTERN DISTRICT DIRECTOR

As District Director, I will faithfully:

- **Reflect ITE's Constitution, Policies and Canon of Ethics**
- **Represent the Midwestern urban, suburban, and rural transportation professional before the International Board**
- **Communicate information and innovation back to Sections and Chapters**
- **Encourage the development of new Chapters**
- **Support mentoring of our young professionals and students**
- **Promote increased opportunities for professional development and certification**
- **Endorse the District 4 Board's Strategic Planning Initiatives.**

ITE MIDWESTERN DISTRICT SECRETARY-TREASURER

Ballots for the Midwestern District Secretary Treasurer as scheduled to be tabulated in early September. Watch the district website at <http://www.midwesternite.org/> for results.

date petitions to be filed is October 20th. Balloting begins November 1st. If you want to cast a vote, MAKE SURE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IS CURRENT by contacting **Joe Emry** at (630) 773-3900, via e-mail at jemry@civiltechinc.com or on-line (see sidebar on page 14).



Alfred A. Guebert, P.Eng, PTOE, FITE
International Vice President Elect,
Institute of Transportation Engineers



The ITE National Board
ROCKS MILWAUKEE!



APPLY FOR NOW ILLINOIS SECTION SCHOLARSHIPS

Application are now being taken for two ITE Illinois Section Scholarship Awards. The Scholarship is an award of \$2,000 each, which is to be used to offset education costs. Applications must be received by midnight Central Standard Time, Friday, December 1, 2006. The award is presented annually to encourage students to consider transportation engineering or transportation planning in their studies and career aspiration, and to provide partial financial support to students who have demonstrated an interest and are likely to work in the transportation field. To be eligible for a scholarship, you must be a full-time undergraduate sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student in an Illinois College or University, with course work and career goal emphasis on Transportation Engineering or Transportation Planning. Candidates will be evaluated on the basis of academic performance, education plans, career goals, activities, and record of leadership. Final evaluation will be made on the basis of a complete application, a statement of career objectives and past accomplishments, and two letters of rec-

ommendation (at least one from a Transportation or Planning faculty member). The Scholarship is for one academic year and is not renewable. Only one scholarship will be awarded to each winner. The winners of the Scholarships will be presented their awards and introduced at the January 2006 meeting of the Illinois Section to be held in the Chicago region. The recipient must make arrangements to attend this meeting. The scholarship check will be issued at that time upon verification of enrollment in a full-time program conforming to stated educational objectives. To apply for this scholarship contact:

Sara Disney, Illinois ITE Scholarship Chair
c/o Metro Transportation Group, Inc.
3100 West Higgins Road, Suite 100
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60195
(630) 213-1000
sjd@metrotransportation.com

Additional information is also available on the web at <http://www.ilite.org/studentaffairs/scholarshipinfo.htm>

REFER A FRIEND

The Illinois Section will send a complementary issue of ITEMS to your friend or business acquaintance who may be interested in joining ITE. E-mail the contact information to your ITEMS editor at: mrinnan@ekmail.com or fax the information to 312.251.3015. The contact will be provided membership information and acknowledgement of your referral.

LIFE-TIME MEMBER AWARDS

JOHN LAPLANTE

For those attending the Section luncheon last April, it was a distinct honor to witness the presentation of the prestigious of Life-Time member award to **John N. LaPlante**, Vice President and Director of Planning for **T.Y. Lin International**.

Attending the presentation was **Heather Gaffney**, Senior Vice President and Regional Manager at T. Y. Lin. John has been active in ITE at many levels, from Section to National and is currently Director of Traffic Engineering for T.Y.Lin International, working out of their Chicago office. Prior to joining the firm in 1992, Mr. LaPlante had been with the City of Chicago for 30 years in various transportation engineering positions, including Chief City Traffic Engineer, First Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, and Acting Commissioner of the new

Department of Transportation. He is involved in several national committees (AASHTO Green Book Technical Committee, NCUTCD Bicycle Technical Committee, and the TRB Pedestrian and Bicycle Committees). His education includes a BSCE degree from the Illinois Institute of Technology and an MSCE degree at Northwestern University. He is a Fellow of ITE.

OTHER AWARDEES

Other awardees for Life membership in ITE (of 25 years) included **Richard T. Klatt**, of **Walker Parking Consultants** and **Alex Sorton** of the **Northwestern University Center for Public Safety**. Congratulations to all awardees for this significant achievement.



Heather Gaffney presents John LaPlante his ITE Life-Time Award



ILLINOIS STUDENT BEST PAPER—\$1,000 AWARD

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Illinois Section is seeking papers from students who were members of ITE during the period between April 2006 and December 2006 and enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program in Illinois. The award consists of \$1,000 and a plaque presented at the ITE—Illinois Section Annual Dinner Banquet in January, 2007.

In order to be eligible for the award the student must have completed the work that provides the basis for the paper while a student member of ITE and must be the only author. Co-authors are not permitted.

The manuscript must address a transportation engineering subject and be submitted in English. The maximum length of the manuscript is 15 double-spaced, typed pages. The page limit also includes title page, table of contents and

any attachments; the pages must be equal to or less than 15. The title page must have the title of the paper plus the author's name, ITE District Number (District 4), and mailing address where you can be contacted between December 2006 and January 2007. Evaluation criteria consists of Originality – 20%, Significance – 20%, Scope and Format – 20%, Validity – 20%, and Applicability – 20%.

The deadline for submittal is midnight, Friday, December 1, 2006. Manuscripts should be submitted to:

Sara Disney, Illinois ITE Scholarship Chair
c/o Metro Transportation Group, Inc.
3100 West Higgins Road, Suite 100
Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60195
(630) 213-1000

Or e-mail your submittal to:
sjd@metrotransportation.com

LAKE COUNTY TMC TECHNICAL TOUR

Congestion has been named the number one frustration with Lake County's roadway network. In response, Lake County PASSAGE, a unique intelligent Transportation System improvement is now being implemented. The program is unique because it is one of the first programs in the country to implement ITS at the arterial and collector road network level. The system includes a network of interconnected signals created by linking existing state- and county-owned traffic signals at intersections along several busy travel corridors. Traffic information collected and processed from this network is monitored and processed by traffic technicians at the Transportation Management Center (TMC). During a joint luncheon with the Women's Transportation Seminar held July 13, the Section was given a technical tour of the TMC hosted by County Engineer **Martin Buehler** and Chief Traffic Engineer **Tony Khawaja**. The second phase of the PASSAGE program expands the network of linked corridors to include

more state- and county-owned signals. Later, the addition of municipally-owned signals to the network provides even wider coverage. PASSAGE is much more than linking traffic signals. Information collected in the field by vehicle sensors (such as the video detection shown in the lower right), highway maintenance and construction personnel, emergency responders and others is analyzed by Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) software, which also recommends and helps implement action plans in response. Ultimately, the ATMS will communicate traffic conditions back to highway users in the form of web sites, highway advisory radio (HAR) broadcasts, and variable message signs. HAR is now available in some areas of the county. Lake County PASSAGE gives motorists the opportunity to make better-informed travel decisions and choose alternatives to congested roads. For more information visit www.lakecountypassage.com.



A recent addition to the Lake County DOT admin offices house the TMC



Partners of the Lake County Passage congestion mitigation program are on display at the TMC



Full screen view and center console displays at the TMC



A portable dynamic Message Sign greetings technical tour attendees



Tony Khawaja demonstrates video detection monitoring at the Lake County TMC



OPEN ROAD TOLLING

If you are a dedicated I-PASS user you probably first noticed a lot of construction barricades at toll collection plazas and more recently a lot less congestion.

Mr. **Paul Kovacs**, Deputy Program Manager for the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority presented an update on the \$5.3 billion 10-year Congestion Relief Program, named "Open Roads for a Faster Future" at the Illinois Section's luncheon last April. Open Road Tolling

(ORT) is scheduled for completion across the system later this autumn and will greatly enhance traffic operations and safety. For more information on the Tollway's Congestion Relief Program visit <http://www.illinoistollway.com/> and click on the Congestion-Relief Program in the left sidebar. You can also sign up for an electronic newsletter by clicking on the "Sign up for Construction E-News" in the right sidebar on the same page and then follow prompts.



Paul Kovacs of the Illinois Tollway is presented a speakers gift by Sagar Sonar

ILLINOIS SECTION SEEKS CANDIDATES

A nomination committee is currently being formed for selection of candidates for the board position of Section **Treasurer** and three tenured director positions. Directorships vacated at the end of 2006 are **Activities, Operations**, and **Student Affairs**. Directors are elected by the Section at large for a two year term expiring in December 2008. The Treasurer position requires directorship experience and has a one year term that could advance yearly by ballot through the position of Section President. The total term of active service could be four years and one year as Past President. Section past presidents may be nomi-

nated for Board service at the District level.

If you are interested in running for any of these positions please contact Section Vice President Peter Lemmon at (312) 853-0820 or by e-mail at pcl@metrotransportation.com or Secretary Amarpal Matharu at (773) 693-3809 or e-mail Amatharu@CH2M.com.

For those intimidated by campaigning for election, other opportunities for service at the committee chair level exist (see article below). As an extra incentive, serve at any level qualifies for professional development hours of service (PDHs).

COMMITTEE CHAIR VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

Time management is a critical skill in today's work-day world. With a variety of professional, family and social commitments, it might be intimidating to consider donating time to other efforts. Yet there are critical needs that the Illinois Section goals to achieve and committee chairs are the how those goals are accomplished. If you cannot now commit to running for a director position on the Section board, please consider serving as a committee chair. Several positions are available. Open in the Activities Group is the **Awards committee chair**, contact **Sagar Sonar** at (847) 605-9600 or email srsonar@transystems.com. In the Technical Group the **Seminars and Transportation Planning committee chairs** are available, con-

tact **Kim Kolody** at (773) 693-3809 or email kkolody@ch2m.com. Finally the **Internship committee chair** in the Student Affairs Group is available, contact **Tim Sjogren** at (630) 213-1000 or email tps@metrotransportation.com.

The Section is also gearing up for hosting the 2008 Midwestern District Conference here in Chicago. By-laws require the committee for 18 to 24 months in advance of the conference so now is the time to call for volunteers. As a whole, the committee has many responsibilities and activities. Individual effort depends upon committee assignment and can range from early planning activities that need to happen now to running the conference in 2008. For more information see the side bar on this page.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT FOR 2008 ITE MIDWESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

If you are interest in serving on the planning committee for the 2008 Midwestern District Conference to be held in Chicago, contact **Dennis Dal Santo** at 312.793-2267 e-mail Dennis.DalSanto@illinois.gov or **Mark RInnan** at 312.424-5419 e-mail mrinnan@ekmail.com.



A slide from Mr. Kovacs luncheon presentation on Open Road Tolling (ORT)



CONDOLENCES

It is with regret that I inform you of the death of Matt Sielski.

Matt was International President in 1958 and was elected to Honorary membership in 1988. Tom Brahms, ITE Executive Director and CEO forwarded the following obituary sent to him by Matt's son. Our condolences will be sent to the family and we will miss Matt.

MATTHEW CASMIR SIELSKI

Matthew C. Sielski died July 29, 2006 in Melbourne, Florida of heart failure. Matt was born on May 30, 1914 in Winnipeg, Manitoba to Joseph and Pauline Sielski, both of whom had emigrated from Poland. His family moved to Chicago in 1920, where his father owned a grocery store. Matt graduated from the University of Michigan in 1938 with a degree in Civil Engineering, specializing in Traffic Engineering, and in 1962 he received the degree of Master of Science in Transportation and Highway Engineering from Northwestern University. Matt married Irma Anna (Mickey) Larson in 1939, with whom he had three children: Bonnie, born in 1940, Robert, born in 1942, and Betty, born in 1945.

Matt started his professional carrier by working in an unpaid position with the Chicago Surface Transit Authority, but in 1938 began his career with the Chicago Motor Club as a traffic engineer until 1963, when he became the Director of Traffic and Safety for the American Automobile Association in Washington, DC. In 1965, he became Director of the Office of Driving Environment Programs for the newly formed National Highway Safety Bureau of the Department of Transportation. In 1968 he returned to the Chicago Motor Club as Vice President until his retirement in 1980, after which he began a consultation practice in transportation safety.

Among his many accomplishments, he was International President of the Institute of Traffic Engineers in 1958, a member of the board of directors and chair of the Traffic Conference of the National Safety Council, a member of the Advisory Committee on Improved Street Utilization and Chair of the Visibility Committee of the Highway Transportation Board of the National Academy of Sciences. He served on the National Committee on Uniform Laws and Ordinances, and on the Engineering Committee of President Truman's and President Eisenhower's Highway Conference. In 1981, Matt and Mickey spent three months in Taiwan where he was volunteer consultant to the mayor of Taipei on the city's traffic problems. He was also the President of the Lake County Illinois Red Cross.

Matt Sielski was an avid swimmer all of his life, and won the national Masters championship in 1979. Matt and Mickey traveled extensively, visiting 62 countries around the world and all of the United States (except North Dakota). He is survived by Mickey, his wife of 66 years, his three children, five grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren. Contributions may be made to the Lake County, Illinois Chapter of the American Red Cross.



HISTORY OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION

SUBMITTED BY CHESTER KROPID- LOWSKI

In 1944 the Institute of Traffic Engineers membership roster listed 297 active members of which approximately 10% resided in Illinois.

Membership growth developed steadily through the forties and efforts by ITE to place traffic engineering sections into engineering departments were successful. As vehicle registration soared traffic problems became complex and the traffic engineering profession gained recognition as an important function of transportation.

The City of Chicago had already established itself as a pioneer in traffic engineering with a separate bureau within the Public Works Department. In addition, it maintained a large traffic engineering department within the Chicago Park District that had jurisdiction over the many miles of boulevards including the north and south Outer Drive (now call Lake Shore Drive). When the Park District Police and Engineering Departments merged with the City of Chicago, it created the largest traffic engineering administration in the United States under the direction of Leslie J. Sorenson, one of the pioneer members of ITE.

As the ITE membership grew, it was apparent that the national organization should form local chapters. The Washington, D.C. Chapter was one of the first to seek admission as a district chapter. In 1947, the Chicago area membership represented approximately 10% of the national, and the plan for a district began to develop. At the invitation of **Matt Sielski**, a group of traffic engineers met on the 38th floor of the Opera Building in the Electrical Club to discuss the organization of a district chapter. The luncheon was sponsored by **William Abbott**, representative of Automatic Signal Corporation. Among those in attendance were **Richard Fencil**, **William McConochie**, **Ralph Gross**, **William Marston**, **Matt Sielski**, and **Ralph Michel**. At this

meeting it was proposed that the district be identified as the Midwest Section and its membership to include the following states: Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota and Indiana. Approximately 70 active members resided in the ten-state area. At the meeting **Matt Sielski** was chosen as Acting President pending the first meeting of the Section.

The first meeting of the Midwest Section was held at the Engineers Club on April 17, 1947. The dinner meeting was well attended and included members from Wisconsin, downstate Illinois, Indiana and Missouri. At that meeting **Vic Hofer** was elected President, **Stan Baker**, Vice President and **Matt Sielski**, Secretary-Treasurer. At this meeting the By-Laws were approved and submitted to the Board of Directors, which subsequently approved them on June 19, 1947.

Subsequent dinner meetings were held bi-monthly at the Engineers Club. All were well attended. As the membership of ITE grew, it became apparent that the Midwest Section included too large a geographical area and consequently the section was eventually dissolved into other groups such as the Indiana Section and the Movite Section.

In 1961 the Midwest Section membership was reduced to Illinois and Wisconsin. Its roster included a total of 150 active members. In the subsequent year, the Illinois Section was formed to include only members residing in Illinois.

The International Board of Direction of the Institute of Traffic Engineers (now known as the International Institute of Transportation Engineers) approved a charter for the Illinois Section of ITE on October 8, 1966.



**40th ANNIVERSARY
1966 - 2006**

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS

ITE-CNU CONTEXT SENSITIVE STREETS WORKSHOP

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2006
Time: 1:30-5:00pm (Concludes with reception from 5-6pm)
Registration Fee: \$60
Location: Chicago Club, 81 E. Van Buren St., Chicago, IL

Make sure that the streets you build make your community more valuable and livable! While standard street designs create the kind of materials that can be found in Anywhere U.S.A., a new road design resource created by leading urban planners and transportation engineers helps communities create streets that build character and long-term value. Come learn about this new resource at a workshop hosted by the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus in Chicago on Tuesday, September 12, 2006.

The new Proposed Recommended Practice, Context Sensitive Solutions in Designing Major Urban Thoroughfares for Walkable Communities, advances the successful use of context-sensitive solutions (CSS) in the planning and design of major urban thoroughfares for walkable communities. It provides guidance and demonstrates how context-sensitive design principles may be applied where community objectives support walkable, connected neighborhoods, mixed land uses, and easy access for pedestrians and bicyclists. The manual is a partnership between the Institute of Transportation Engineers and CNU.

The purpose of this workshop is to help local leaders understand and use this new tool for implementing street design changes. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and the Congress for the New Urbanism are collaborating to discuss the ideas of context-sensitive design with local elected officials and their staffs. By attending the workshop participants will:

- Learn about changing standards in street de-

sign;

- Increase knowledge of the impacts of street design;
- Learn how to work with public works officials and departments of transportation;
- Identify key urban design features that support a strong community.

A hard copy of the manual is included with workshop registration. For more information, contact Heather Smith at 312-551-7300 x15 or hsmith@cnu.org or visit www.cnu.org

ITE WEB SEMINARS

Registration for the ITE web seminars listed below closes 3 days prior to course date. Visit <http://www.ite.org/education/webinars.asp> to register. A copy of the presentation and a student supplement are provided two days prior to the web seminar.

ROAD SAFETY AUDITS

Date: Tuesday, September 19
Time: 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Central
Registration Fee: \$250 ITE members/\$275 non-ITE members per site
Credit: 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET CEU

This web seminar presents an overview of the key issues associated with a Road Safety Audit (RSA). The RSA is a tool recommended and promoted by FHWA and AASHTO to enhance roadway safety. Understanding the tool and the major RSA process features will be emphasized. Applying the RSA will be presented as an interactive case study example. At the conclusion of the seminar participants will be able to: define an RSA; identify RSA stages; identify RSA steps; determine RSA team members and prepare RSA report.

OVERVIEW SAFETY ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Date: Thursday, October 5
Time: 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Central

(Continued on page 10)

CONGRESS FOR THE NEW URBANISM

DRAFT CNU-ITE MANUAL

In collaboration with the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU), the first-ever engineer-endorsed design guidelines for major urban thoroughfares - real boulevards and avenues with well-defined relationships to their urban contexts and thoughtful accommodations for pedestrians and transit has just been released as a draft "recommended practice" from ITE. **Context Sensitive Solutions in Designing Major Urban Thoroughfares for Walkable Communities** addresses the challenges faced in creating streets that match the urban built environment, whether it's an urban core or outlying hamlet. The 255-page manual can be downloaded from ITE at <<http://ite.org/bookstore/RP036.pdf>>. Members are urged to read the manual and respond with comments by December 31, 2006. After a comment period and balloting, the manual will advance from a proposed recommended practice to a recommended practice, suitable for including in state DOT and local public works design manuals, and addition to the FHWA resource library.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS (CONT.)

(Continued from page 9)

Registration Fee: \$250 ITE members/\$275 non-ITE members per site
Credit: 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET CEU

This seminar will focus on the transportation professional's role in creating Safe Routes to School. The seminar will provide input and guidance on:

- What are Safe Routes to School programs?
- What types of activities are usually part of Safe Routes to School programs?
- How does a transportation professional become actively involved?
- How are Safe Routes to School programs and improvements funded and resources are available?

IDENTIFYING BARRIERS AND ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR SAFETY ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Date: Thursday, October 12

Time: 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Central

Registration Fee: \$250 ITE members/\$275 non-ITE members per site
Credit: 1.5 PDH/.15 IACET CEU

This seminar will focus on identifying critical barriers discouraging children from walking or bicycling to school and on short-term and long-range engineering solutions. The following topics will be covered in this seminar:

- Conducting a Safe Routes to School audit
- Identifying issues
- Engineering tools for the School Zone
- Measures to use along the School Route
- Techniques to improve street crossings
- Means of slowing down traffic
- Safe Routes to School resources

ACEC-IL IDOT DRAINAGE SEMINAR

Thursday, September 14, 2006 ~ Holiday Inn Willowbrook. Registration Fee: ACEC-IL Members \$155, Non-members \$275

Agenda includes Drainage Manual updates, Phase I and II drainage responsibilities, Location Drainage Study contents, Illinois Drainage Law and stormwater management, among others. Registration forms on-line at www.acec-il.org/events.html or phone 217/529-7430 for more information.

IDOT CSS APPROACH TRAINING

IDOT has several approach classes scheduled. Class size is limited, but IDOT is allowing ACEC-Illinois Members 6 seats at these initial classes. There is no registration fee for the Approach classes, and 12 PDH's will be provided. Below are locations and dates of classes (8:00 am start each day). All locations are IDOT district offices, except as noted for Effingham. Registration deadline is 30 days in advance of classes. You will receive confirmation via e-mail approx. 2 weeks in advance of the class, and will be asked to log on to a specific website to complete a pre-assignment.

- Effingham ~ October 11-12, 2006 (KC Hall across from District Office)
- Schaumburg ~ October 25-26, 2006 and May 16-17, 2007
- Springfield ~ November 14-15, 2006 and April 25-26, 2007
- Peoria ~ November 29-30, 2006
- Dixon ~ January 24-25, 2007
- Collinsville ~ January 30-31, 2007 and May 23-24, 2007
- Peoria ~ March 21-22, 2007
- Carbondale ~ March 28-29, 2007

For additional information on the CSS Approach Training and a separate 1/2 day CSS Awareness Class (8:30 a.m. to approx. 11:30 a.m. October 3, 2006) designed for Principals, Managers, Supervisors, etc. The awareness class discusses the Department's policy on CSS, BDE Procedure Memorandum 48-06 and the Department's Stakeholder Involvement Plan. E-mail acec-il@acec-il.org or phone 217/529-



All work and no play....
the cover band's tools of the trade before they were used to heat up the dance floor in Milwaukee.

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W O R K S H O P
 OCTOBER 4, 2006
 UNION LEAGUE CLUB
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CONFERENCE CALL

A list of conferences is provided for your consideration:

(PUBLIC-PRIVATE) PARTNERSHIPS IN TRANSPORTATION WORKSHOP

Wednesday, October 4 at the Union League Club, Chicago, IL. For program details and registration information, please visit the National Council for Public-Private Partnerships website at <http://ncppp.org/>.

IDOT FALL PLANNING CONFERENCE 2006

Thursday and Friday, October 19 and 20 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Fairview Heights, IL. Contact Kelly Murray at (217) 528-5331 or email iacbm@msn.com

55TH ANNUAL ILLINOIS TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND SAFETY CONFERENCE

Thursday and Friday, October 26 and 27 at the University of Illinois Urbana—Champaign, Urbana, IL <http://www.conferences.uiuc.edu/conferences/conference.asp?ID=151>

CALL FOR PAPERS

2007 ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH FORUM

The deadline for abstracts for the 2007 Annual Forum is September 15, 2006. Papers in all areas of transportation are welcome and panel session proposals are particularly welcomed on topics related to the conference themes. The conference will be held March 15 to 17, 2007 at Boston University, Boston, MA. For more information visit <http://www.trforum.org/callpapers/>.

2007 WTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Abstracts for the 2007 Conference are due September 15, 2006. The theme is "Reinventing the Wheel" so if you have tackled new technologies, created new strategies, or

ITS FORUM

Tuesday, October 31, Marquette University, Milwaukee WI, call Paul Kutz 414/359-2300 or e-mail pkutz@hntb.com for more information.

RAIL-VOLUTION 2006

Saturday to Wednesday, November 4 to 8 at the Marriott Magnificent Mile, 540 North Michigan Avenue, in Chicago, Illinois. Call 800-788-7077 or email convene@aol.com. <http://www.railvolution.com/>

MANAGING TRAVEL FOR PLANNED SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday to Friday, November 29 to December 1 at the Hyatt Regency Newport Beach Hotel, Newport Beach, CA, <http://www.trb.org/conferences/timpse>.

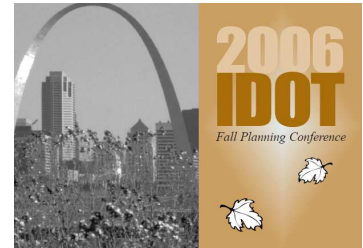
ATSSA'S 37TH ANNUAL CONVEN- TION AND TRAFFIC EXPO

Friday to Tuesday, January 26 to 30, Henry B Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, TX. <http://www.atssa.com> or call 800/272-8772 for more information.

developed new possibilities WTS would like to hear from you. The conference is to be held May 2 to 4, 2007 in San Diego, CA. Additional inform can be found at www.wtsinternational.org.

2007 IBTTA INVITATION FOR SUB- MISSIONS

Abstracts for all International Bridge, Tunnel, and Turnpike Association educational series meetings, including the 2007 Annual Meeting, are now being gathered. Submission deadlines vary by meeting with the earliest being September 15, 2006 and the last being May 4, 2007. For more information visit www.ibtta.org/Events/content.cfm?ItemNumber=1862 or email carnold@ibtta.org.



GONE FISHING

SUBMITTED BY CHESTER KROPIDLOWSKI

On a tour of Florida, the Pope took a couple of days off to visit the coast for some sightseeing. He was cruising along the beach in the Pope-mobile when there was a frantic commotion just off shore. A helpless man, wearing a Chicago Cubs jersey, was struggling frantically to free himself from the jaws of a 25-foot shark. As the Pope watched, horrified, a speedboat came racing up with three men wearing Chicago White Sox jerseys aboard. One quickly fired a harpoon into the shark's side. The other two reached out and pulled the bleeding, semi-conscious Cubs fan from the water. Then using (autographed by Paul Konerko himself) baseball bats, the three heroes in Sox jerseys beat the shark to death and hauled it into the boat. Immediately the Pope shouted and summoned them to the beach. "I give you my blessing for your brave actions," he told them. "I heard that there was some bitter hatred between White Sox and Cub fans, but now I have seen with my own eyes that this is not the truth." As the Pope drove off, the harpooner asked his buddies "Who was that?" "It was the Pope," one replied. "He is in direct contact with God and as access to all of God's wisdom." "Well," the harpooner said, "he may have access to God's wisdom, but he doesn't know crap about shark fishing.... how's the bait holding up?"



BE A FASHION TRENDSETTER-ILLINOIS ITE LOGO APPAREL

The fashion wave keeps rolling. Thank you to **Joe Fazio, Chester Kropidowski, Matt Letourneau,** and **Govind Vadakpat** for supporting the scholarship fund through their apparel purchase. They join **Kim Kolody, Brian De LaSalle, John Ellis, Todd Fagen, Chris Kreuger, Amarpal Matharu,** and **Jeff Young** sporting Illinois Section wear. In anticipation of cool autumn days we have added the very reasonably priced water resistant Kasha lined coach's jacket. You too can now purchase these items by using the form on the following page.

Your purchases not only support the **Scholarship Fund**, but also provide work opportunities for employees of the Jo Daviess Workshop Incorporated. JDWI is a social service organization that provides work, wellness,

education instruction, social skills/activities, creative expression and recreation for individuals with disabilities in Jo Daviess County, Illinois. To find out more about this worthy organization visit their web site at <http://www.jdwi.org/>.

Samples of the initial apparel items are shown on this page and will be available for viewing and purchase at Section activities throughout the year. Currently we are only accepting checks when paying by mail order or cash and checks when purchasing in person. We may expand to credit card sales and the use of on-line payment services. In the mean time use the form on the following page to purchase our current line of apparel. Other apparel item that could be added to the list could include baseball and pull-over caps, tote bags, luggage, etc. Contact **Mark Rinnan** at mrinnan@ekmail.com to suggest other items you might be interested in purchasing or discuss color options.

A TESTIMENT TO QUALITY

"The jacket is fantastic. With up and down weather this Spring, it works well to break the wind. It is a great transition from the winter coat to no coat at all. The material is surprisingly soft and very flexible and it looks more professional than a traditional windbreaker."

Jeff Young, P.E.
Design Manager

McHenry County Division of Transportation



ITEM 3408

Ladies Cornflower Blue Premium Polo w/White Pique



ITEM 3555

Adult Black Honeycomb Stitch Polo w/ White Pique (Maroon with Black Pique shown)



ITEM 8952

Adult Chili Red Fleece Lined Jacket w/Black Trim (shown in Olive with Black Trim)



ITEM 9000C

Adult Ultra Cotton Crewneck Sweatshirt (Forest Green swatch shown)



ITEM 3536

Adult White Classic Polo with Black Pique (Maroon Pique shown) and

ITEM 3537

Adult Maroon Classic Polo with White Pique (Shown with Colors reversed)



ITEM J401

Adult Water Resistant Kasha Lined Coach's Jacket (color swatches shown)





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INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS**

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For orders and to check status
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Fax: 312-251-3015
E-mail: mletourneau@ekmail.com

Illinois Section ITE Logo Apparel –2006

All items include embroidered Illinois Section ITE Logo

Item #	Description	Size	Qty.	Price	Subtotal
8536	Adult White Classic Polo with Black Pique	S M L XL 2XL 3XL		\$35.00	
8537	Adult Maroon Classic Polo with White Pique	S M L XL 2XL 3XL		\$35.00	
8555	Adult Black Honeycomb Stitch Polo w/White Pique	S M L XL 2XL 3XL		\$35.00	
3408	Ladies Cornflower Blue Premium Polo w/White Pique	S M L XL 2XL		\$35.00	
9000C	Adult Forest Green Ultra Cotton Crewneck Sweatshirt	S M L XL 2XL		\$27.50	
 J401	Adult Royal Blue or Forest Green Coach's Jacket	S M L XL 2XL		\$35.00	
8952	Adult Chili Red Fleece Lined Jacket w/Black Trim	S M L XL 2XL 3XL		\$65.00	

Order total: _____

Tax: Exempt

Shipping: \$5.00

Total: _____

Please allow about 6 weeks delivery from time of order.

At present we do not offer express delivery.

Please note we CANNOT ship to a P.O. Box

Please make checks payable to:

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SECTION CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

OCTOBER 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

NOVEMBER 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- September 8 – Business Leaders for Transportation Quarterly Meeting 8 to 9:30 AM. How will a tight state budget, large scale frustration with congestion, and a renewed public interest in ethics affect the shape of the next state capital package? Discuss your concerns and ideas with key leaders. Union League Club of Chicago, Rm. 710 – 65 W. Jackson Blvd. For more information e-mail Cresyl Nevado at cnevado@metroplanning.org or call 312-863-6016.
- September 12—Metropolitan Chicago Chapter of SAVE International presentation by Tollway Chief Engineer Jeff Daily. RSVP to mccsave@benesch.com or call Julie M. Melidis at 312-565-0450
- September 12— Structural Engineers Association of Illinois (SEA0I) dinner meeting at the 410 Club, Wrigley Building, 410 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago. Featuring insights and analyses regarding the upcoming Illinois elections, particularly the gubernatorial election, by political analyst Paul Green. Contact Donna Childs at, 312-649-4600 x200, by Friday, September 8th.
- September 13—GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEARING ON PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS, 9 a.m., Thompson Center, Chicago
- September 28 - Illinois Section Welcome Back Students Luncheon and Job Fair, IIT, Chicago, IL
- October 19 – Joint Illinois Section / ISPE Dinner, Naperville, IL
- October 19 and 20 – Illinois Department of Transportation Fall Planning Conference, Four Points by Sheraton, Fairview Heights, IL. Contact Kelly Murray at (217) 528-5331 .
- November 15—ITEMS Deadline
- November 16—Illinois Section Luncheon, Rockford, Illinois



KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CURRENT...

...by using the Change of Personal Information Form on the Illinois Section web-site at <http://www.ilite.org/public/membership/ChgInfo.pdf>

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ILLINOIS SECTION '06-'07 PLANNER

Please note all dates, locations, and topics are tentative. Check the section calendar in future editions of ITEms or on line at www.ilite.org to verify details.

2006

December 14 Networking and Holiday Party, Downtown Chicago

2007

January 12 Annual Awards Dinner at Wellington, Arlington Heights
 February 23 Engineer's Week Washington Banquet
 March 15 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
 April 19 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
 May 17 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
 June 13 to 15 District 4 Annual Conference hosted by MOVITE
 June 21 Joint Luncheon (with ASCE, WTS, APA, APWA, WSE or other), location to be determined
 August 5-8 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit , Pittsburgh PA
 September 20 Student Welcome Back Luncheon on campus
 October 18 Monthly Luncheon at Suburban Location to be determined
 November 15 Monthly Luncheon in Rockford at Cliffbreakers
 December 13 Year End Event in Downtown Chicago



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INDUSTRY NEWS

JIM MORTON AT DMA

David Mason Associates introduces **James K. Morton**, P.E. as Transportation Program Manager in the Chicago office. For over 35 years, Mr. Morton has provided transportation and civil engineering for public, private and institutional clients. His project management skills and design experience includes environmental impact studies, highway and traffic signal designs, traffic and municipal engineering, public involvement, expert witness testimony, and QA/QC plan reviews. Jim can be reached at jmorton@davidmason.com or (312) 942-9600.

JEAN-ALIX PERALTE AT STV

Mr. **Jean-Alix Peralte**, P.E., P.T.O.E. has assumed the position of Vice President - Chief Civil Engineer at the Chicago Office of STV Incorporated, 200 West Monroe Street, Suite 1650. Mr. Peralte can be reached at 312-553-0655, by Fax at 312-553-0661, or by his direct Phone: 312-553-8431.

(Continued on page 17)



MORE INDUSTRY NEWS

(Continued from page 16)

CATS + NIPC = CMAP

To integrate planning for transportation and land use, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) has been created by merging the staffs of the Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS) and the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission (NIPC). Staff are employees of CMAP and the body formerly known as the Regional Planning Board is now the CMAP Board (formerly known as the Regional Planning Board). CMAP serves the counties of Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will.

Currently, CMAP is preparing its strategic report on the agency's vision, governance, and funding for submittal to the Illinois General Assembly and Governor Blagojevich in early September. The draft report, which is posted at the CMAP website www.chicagoareaplanning.org/docs/. If you have any questions or comments about the CMAP Report, please contact **Holly Smith** or **Erin Willrett** at 630-584-1170. Thirty-three residents of the seven-county region were announced today as members of the Citizens' Advisory Committee of CMAP, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning.

CMAP was created in 2005 by the Regional Planning Act, passed unanimously by the Illinois General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Blagojevich with widespread support from the region's mayors. The agency is responsible for the integrated planning of transportation and land use in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will counties. Its authorizing legislation called for the organization to "create a standing Citizens' Advisory Committee to provide continuous and balanced public representation in the development of regional plans and policies."

"Formation of the Citizens' Advisory Committee is an important step toward increased public participation in our region's planning," said

CMAP Executive Director **Randy Blankenhorn**. "We were gratified by the response from more than 200 citizens willing to serve, and we intend to keep them all – whether appointed to the committee or not – engaged as CMAP develops its plans for the region. As an organization, we are dedicated to incorporating residents' input to improve our planning processes and outcomes."

Application to serve on the CAC were reviewed by the CMAP Public Participation Committee chaired by **Elliott Hartstein** (mayor of Buffalo Grove) and including fellow CMAP board members **Zenovia Evans** (Mayor of Riverdale), **Marilyn Michelini** (Mayor of Montgomery), and **Raul Raymundo** Executive Director of the Resurrection Project.) The CMAP board is chaired by **Gerald Bennett**, Mayor of Palos Hills. It includes elected officials and private citizens appointed by the region's mayors and county boards. For more information, see <http://www.chicagoareaplanning.org>.

POSITION CHANGES AT CMAP

Announced in late July, **Joy Schaad** will be joining the CMAP Planning group under **Ron Thomas**. This group has been charged with the development of the CMAP 7-county region's next transportation plan (due fall of 2010), among other major projects. Previously Ms. Schaad provided CMAP planning liaison management and support to the Council of Mayors.

CHANGES AT COOK COUNTY

As a result of **Chris Snyder** taking a position with the DuPage County Highway Department, the Cook County Department of Highways announced temporary staff changes in the Transportation & Planning Bureau until the Bureau Chief position is filled. **Scott Van der Aa** (Traffic Division) will be responsible for Operations and Engineering. **Rodney Bettenhausen** will temporarily be responsible for Advance Planning and Agreements. **Pete Godowski** will handle Part A Studies.



Connectivity is the key at the Lake County Illinois Traffic Management Center



At the Tuesday Night Theme Banquet in Milwaukee. Can you name the District 4 rep? (standing)

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