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NEWSLETTER OF THE ILLINOIS SECTION
INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS



September 2010

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AUTUMN ISSUE



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON

Join us at **Maggiano's**, 516 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL

Date: September 16, 2010

Time: Reception - 11:30 A.M.
Luncheon - 12:00 P.M.

Cost: \$40 members
\$50 non-members
\$15 Public Sector
\$5 Students & Unemployed

Speakers: Mr. Randy Blankenhorn

Topic: Go To 2040 Draft Regional Comprehensive Transportation Plan



Summer is always a busy time of the year – vacations, holidays, trial(s) of a certain ex-governor – and it certainly has been for the Illinois Section!

Our June luncheon was a tremendous success with over 90 people in attendance for our joint meeting with ASCE at the Maggiano's in Naperville. **Jason Salley** (IDOT), **Adam Lintner** (ISTHA), and **Jennifer Mitchell** (HDR) spoke about Diverging Diamond Interchanges (DDI) and their potential application to a number of locations in the region. Our thanks to ASCE for their continued partnership and assistance with this great event!

July included another first for the Illinois Section – a day-long shadowing event specifically for students. Nearly 20 students signed up to participate, and Section members graciously volunteered their time to give these young adults (and hopefully future Section members) an opportunity to gain perspective and learn from a “real life” transportation engineer. The day culminated with an evening of bowling and socializing for all members and participating students. Feedback from the event has been very positive, and a

special thanks is owed to the sponsoring individuals (and companies) and the Student Affairs and Activities groups.

August activities included the annual golf outing with the Irish Engineers at Bloomingdale Golf Club. Beautiful weather and occasionally good golf were enjoyed by all who participated. One golfer managed to hit his tee shot so hard his driver literally snapped, but unfortunately was part of the group with the highest round of the day. Despite the frequent separation between skill and golf (we're engineers for a reason), the weather, company, and BBQ dinner buffet made for a tremendous event! Early August also included a special technical seminar on the new Highway Safety Manual (HSM). Our thanks to **Fred Ranck** (FHWA) and **DuPage DOT** for leading and hosting this excellent training opportunity. Please read further for details on all these summer events.

Summer is also the time for ITE meetings, and the Illinois Section was well represented at this year's events. The Midwestern District held its Annual Meeting at the Depot Hotel in Minneapolis in late June and brought together over 180 professionals and students for three days of meetings, technical sessions, and tours. **Bob Seyfried** (Midwestern International Director), **Peter Lemmon** (Midwestern Secretary/Treasurer), and I represented the Illinois Section, as did students from **University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign** and **Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville**. While the students were unable to win this year's Traffic Bowl, they certainly displayed an amazing depth of technical knowledge exceptional sportsmanship, and a great enthusiasm for ITE.

(Continued on page 2)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

The International ITE Annual Meeting was held in Vancouver, British Columbia in early August. **Bob Seyfried** and I were joined by **Joel Christell**, this year's recipient of the Section's Young Member Award. Against a backdrop of mountains and water, and set within a uniquely pedestrian- and bike-friendly urban center, the conference provided tremendous technical sessions, exhibits, and networking opportunities. A true highlight of the conference was the presentation of the 2010 Theodore M. Matson Award to our very own **John LaPlante**. This award, named for one of the founding members of ITE and voted on by representatives from AASTHO, FHWA, ITE, and TRB (among others), recognizes outstanding contributions in the field of traffic engineering. John's 30+ years of experience, significant contributions to the industry, involvement in ITE and other professional organizations, and unique passion for and dedication to the transportation profession make him a truly deserving recipient of this award. On behalf of the Illinois Section, a

heartfelt congratulations to John and our thanks for your continued involvement in the Section and our industry!

As busy as the summer has been, the fall promises to bring even more opportunities for Illinois Section members. Our September luncheon (September 16th, Maggiano's Chicago) will feature Randy Blankenhorn, Executive Director of Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. Randy will share highlights of the region's draft comprehensive plan GO TO 2040. Details for the October luncheon are still being finalized, but it will be another "first" for the Illinois Section and promises to be an exceptional event. Watch for emails or check the Section website (www.ilite.org) to learn more about these and other exciting luncheon, technical, and social events!

Have an enjoyable fall – hopefully you all can make it out to at least one of the Section's events.

Tim Sjogren



John LaPlante (left) accepts the Theodore M. Matson award from ITE International President Paul Wong

THE PRESS

FIRST IN WHAT MAY BE A SERIES OF REMINISCENCES OF A VERY OLD TIMER!

By Past President Michael Hartigan. In June of 1950, the Division Engineer of the Cleveland office of the Ohio Department of highways, in an orientation lecture, told all the new engineers, "Make friends with the press." That admonition proved essential to his career within months-but that's another story.

In the 50's The Press was the media and vice versa. TV was in its infancy and the radio was pretty staid. The Press was therefore KING of mass communication. And there was plenty of royalty in the Chicago area. Every neighborhood in the City and most suburbs had a newspaper. Most of them were weekly but a goodly number were bi-weekly or even daily. But it

was the four (4) Chicago dailies that led the pack, including the Tribune, Sun-Times, Herald American and Daily News. The first two were morning papers, the latter two, afternoon.

Each of the four major dailies had a reporter who covered traffic and transportation. They were all career employees and on general assignment except for the Tribune. The Tribune had a titled, "Transportation Reporter" in **Hal Faust**. All the reporters vied with each other for scoops and exclusives including the Tribune's Faust, **Horton Troutman** of the News, **Jim Enright** of the American and **Fletcher Wilson** of the Times.

Of the four, Faust probably enjoyed the most success, if that is measured by the number of front page and headline stories he authored.

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ENGINEER SHADOW DAY

By Student Activities Chair Tracy Shandor. On Thursday, July 15th the IL Section of ITE hosted an Engineer Shadowing Day followed by the Summer Social Event at Rolling Meadow Lanes. Both events were a great success!

The shadowing event was the first Section event planned exclusively for the purpose of getting students into an office for a hands-on experience in a transportation career. With many companies unable to offer as many internships this summer, this event allowed ITE to continue fostering growth in student members by providing them with the opportunity to interact with professionals.

A special thank you to all of the members that mentored a student for the day and for giving these students (and our potential future colleagues!) a chance to get some hands-on career experience, attend project meetings, meet consultants and agency staff, and more! ITE members from the following companies hosted

a student for the day: **Baxter & Woodman, Alfred Benesch & Company, Patrick Engineering, the McHenry Division of Transportation, HDR, the City of Schaumburg, CH2M HILL, Civitech Engineering, Jacobs, Metro Transportation Group, Engineering Enterprises, Stanley Consultants** and **ENTRAN**.

Thank you to the students for taking time out of their summer vacations to participate in the event! Students from the following universities were in attendance: the **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the University of Illinois at Chicago, Bradley University, Marquette University, the Southern Illinois University Carbondale** and **Purdue University**.

At the end of the day, all members and students were invited to meet and mingle at the IL ITE's annual Summer Social Event at Rolling Meadow Lanes. Pins were knocked down, pizza was eaten and a great time was had by all.



Students and Sections members gather for bowling after a day of shadowing an engineer

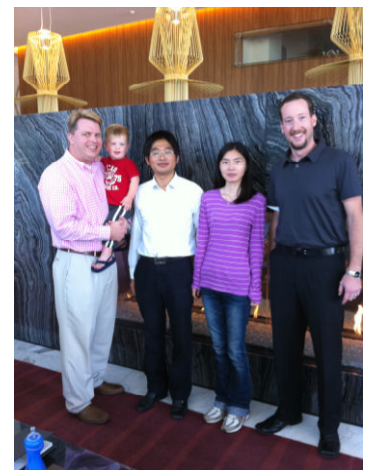
YOUNG MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE - VANCOUVER

By Section Secretary Joel Christell. As the recipient of the 2010 Young Member Award, I chose to attend the 2010 ITE Annual Meeting in Vancouver between August 8th and 11th that brought together fellow ITE members from all over the world. The sessions covered a breadth of topics including Pedestrian Safety and Automated Detection, Reducing Roadway Departure Crashes, Roadway and Intersection Safety Applications and Analysis, Design, Operation and Safety of Bicycle Facilities, and Sustainable Transportation Design and Planning.

The keynote speaker, two-time Gold Medalist **Catriona Le May Doan**, delivered an inspirational speech about the importance of working as a team to accomplish both individual and group goals. One of the highlights of the conference was when our own Illinois member, **John LaPlante**, received the Theodore M. Matson Memorial Award for his advancement of

the profession through outstanding contributions in the field of traffic engineering. In addition, the Illinois Section ITE's 2010 Scholarship winner **Jiguang Zhao**, a Southern Illinois University PhD student, presented a New Method to Evaluate Roadway Lighting System and its Safety Effects. It was great to see our Section recognized for their accomplishments with so many other transportation professionals in attendance.

As you all know, the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games were held in Vancouver earlier this year. When the City began planning to host the Games, their goal was to reduce vehicular traffic by 30% and to ensure that all events ran smoothly and efficiently. The challenge with reducing traffic was that it was expected that the amount of trips from all modes would increase by 30% while the road network



(From left to right) Illinois Section President Tim Sjogren and son, Section Scholarship Award winner Jiguang Zhao and wife, and Young Member of the Year Joel Christell enjoy the ITE International Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

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TECHNICAL GROUP - COMMITTEE REPORTS

By Technical Director Chris DeRosia.

SEMINARS COMMITTEE

On May 25th, 2010, the ITE - Illinois Section hosted the ITE Webinar, "Designing Urban Walkable Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach", at two locations within the State of Illinois: the Jacobs office in downtown Chicago and the City of Naperville. The webinar was presented by the ITE Professional Development Program and instructed by **James Daisa**, P.E. and **John Norquist**.

The webinar covered concepts included in the recently updated ITE publication, *Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares: A Context Sensitive Approach* along with supplemental information and case studies of practical applications that have been applied. The manual includes "best practices" that may be applied along side or in replace of previously established industry standards.

Participants are now able to understand, consider, and apply some of the more progressive techniques of design toward transportation projects including consideration for pedestrians.

On August 10th, 2010, twenty-five professionals attended a full-day workshop on the recently published Highway Safety Manual which was held at the DuPage County Convalescent Center building in Wheaton, IL. The workshop was sponsored by ITE - IL Section and was conducted by **Fred Ranck** on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The workshop included a broad overview of the newly published Highway Safety Manual (HSM). The HSM does not provide standards or guidance; however, it does provide a means to calculate typical crash frequency for various types of roads. The equations were developed based on data collected in a variety of areas. Calibration factors may be applied to develop estimates that are more representative of regions that may have not be incorporated as heavily into the data sets. Urban and suburban multi-

lane roadways and intersections were covered. In addition, spreadsheets were provided to all participants to aid with calculation and comparison of crash frequencies for roadways with varied cross sections.

The Seminars Committee is planning many interesting professional development events in the last quarter of 2010 including regular webinars and potentially another workshop. As always we welcome ideas from the membership on webinar and workshop topics or suggestions to make these professional training events more worthwhile and enjoyable.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Upon doing research for our Transportation Planning Committee a couple of noteworthy items were discovered. Based on the Americans with Disabilities Act free webinars have been developed to help professionals better design for the needs of the disabled including a webinar on accessible sidewalks and street crossings. The link to this free webinar is: <http://accessibilityonline.org/Archives/index.php?type=transcript&id=2010-06-03&app=4>. Additionally, The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has published a Transportation Impact Handbook for download at <http://www.fdottransportationimpacthandbook.com/>.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Technical Group is currently searching for volunteers to help with the Seminars Committee. Any interested individuals may contact **Chris DeRosia** at cderosia@patrickengineering.com or (312) 201-7931. The duties include advertising, making arrangements, and handling registration for Illinois Section technical training events. If you think you may have some free time please step up and volunteer so that the section can continue to provide worthwhile training opportunities to the local membership.



Fred Ranck presents the Highway Safety Manual Workshop at the DuPage County Convalescent Center in Wheaton, Illinois



ACTIVITIES GROUP DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Activities Director Brian DeSalle. The Activities Group has been busy this summer, beginning with our June 24 luncheon at the Maggiano's in Naperville at which Mr. **Jason Salley** (IDOT), Mr. **Adam Lintner** (Illinois Tollway), and Ms. **Jennifer Mitchell** (HDR) made a presentation on Diverging Diamond Interchanges (DDIs). The luncheon was held jointly with the ASCE Transportation Group. Nearly 90 people attended the meeting, with attendance being about equal between both organizations.

Our next big event for the summer was a social event for students who participated in the Job Shadowing day on July 15. There were 11 students and seven Illinois Section members who did some bowling and had some pizza at Rolling Meadows Lanes. A fun time was had by all, and the students gained some valuable networking time in addition to their job shadowing experiences.

Last for the summer but not least was our annual Illinois ITE Golf Outing on August 5 at Bloomingdale Golf Course in Bloomingdale. We had 20 golfers participate in this year's outing, with sponsorships provided by **Civiltech**, **HNTB**,

and **Traffic Analysis and Design**. Thanks to all those who participated for making this year's outing a success!

An exciting announcement that the Activities group would like to make is that we are currently working on finding a way to effectively webcast our luncheon meetings so that our membership, especially those outside the Chicagoland area, who cannot easily attend our meetings can still benefit from the continuing education opportunities that our luncheons provide. Currently, we are testing various technologies at our luncheons in an effort to make this possible. We hope to get things up and running before the end of the year, and we will keep everyone posted on our progress.

The Activities group would like to encourage everyone to continue coming out to ITE events, including the upcoming September 16th luncheon at the downtown Maggiano's, where a representative from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning will be presenting on the final report of the Go to 2040 transportation plan. We hope to see you there!

2010 ITE GOLF OUTING RECAP

By Activities Director Brian DeSalle. The 2010 ITE Golf Outing was held at Bloomingdale Golf Course on Thursday, August 5, 2010. There were 20 golfers in attendance, with participants and their guests from Civiltech Engineering, Traffic Analysis and Design, Entran, Baxter and Woodman, Jacobs, HNTB, and Infrastructure Engineering. This year, we had three sponsors for the Golf Outing. Sponsors were **HNTB**, **Civiltech Engineering**, and **Traffic Analysis and Design**. With the exception of some golf club destruction that occurred on the 4th tee, it was a relaxing, sunny day and everyone had a good time.

Every participant received a free sleeve of golf balls with the ITE logo, as well as a chicken and

barbeque rib buffet after the outing. Three \$25 gift cards for various restaurants (Olive Garden, Lettuce Entertain You, and Cheesecake Factory) were given for special hole prizes. **Bruce Talbot** won both closest to the pin and longest putt prizes, and **Rob Jankowski** won for the longest drive. The winning team from Infrastructure Engineering shot a 4-under par, and received \$25 Best Buy gift cards. A split Jacobs/HNTB foursome finished second at an even par and received \$15 Red Lobster gift cards.

Thanks to all the participants and sponsors who made this event a success and we hope to see more members and sponsors at our outing next year!



SAFE DRIVERS MAKE ROUTES TO SCHOOL SAFER

Safe Routes to School programs enable community leaders, schools and parents across the United States to improve safety and encourage more children, including children with disabilities, to safely walk and bicycle to school. In the process, programs are working to reduce traffic congestion and improve health and the environment, making communities more livable for everyone. Visit the National Center for Safe Routes to School website at <http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/>

**PLEASE ENCOURAGE
WALKING AND
BIKING TO SCHOOL
BY GIVING
STUDENTS THE
RIGHT OF WAY AS
THEY DEVELOP
THEIR NEW ROUTINE
FOR THE 2010-2011
ACADEMIC YEAR!**



THE PRESS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 2)

But Faust's success was many times based on chicanery, sleight-of-hand and the creation of nonexistent controversies. But he was also the most tireless and connected member of the press. If he wanted to interview you, you would be interviewed. His "clout" extended to the highest levels of government.

Some time in the late 50's the Section Program Committee decided to have a, "Reporters" panel at a regular meeting. All of the four reporters initially agreed to participate but at the last minute Fletcher Wilson had to cancel. The Section asked each of the participants to do a short (say five minute) introduction of how a traffic engineer should respond to press inquiries, to be followed by an open question and answer dialogue. (It should be noted that while none of the reporters disagreed with the format outlined, subsequently it was apparent that most ignored it.)

By luck (?), of the draw, Hal Faust was the first speaker. He arrived early and under the aegis of a couple of senior ITE members enjoyed a very long cocktail hour and a bottle or so of wine with his dinner. Most of his introductory remarks which ran to about 20 minutes consisted of his duties as a war correspondent in Bavaria at the close of World War II including an interview with some Russian general (or was it George Patton?) and a detailed description of the Black Forest elves and their construction of cuckoo clocks!

Hort Troutman was next and asked us to drop the jargon. He felt it was employed as an elitist type of BS. And don't try to write the story—that's his job.

The last speaker, Jim Enright made it clear it was not his job to help the traffic engineering profession. Rather he stated very forcefully that it was his job to find all those rat holes and manholes into which we were throwing the taxpayers' money.

The ensuing Q&A, only elicited more of Faust's elf stories and Enright's cynicism as he pointed out that if he wrote good things about traffic engineers' work he would probably end up on page 3 of the neighborhood section until there was a big fire which Commissioner Quinn attended, when he would be relegated to the obituary page, and then one of Tom Keane's top precinct captains would die and his story would be deleted completely and there went his Pulitzer!

Only Troutman attempted to impart anything constructive and generally couldn't be heard for the babble of other voices.

Section members generally learned two things:

- **if a reporter calls, tell him you'll call right back; go to your boss with the reporter's phone number and let him return the call, and;**
- **if the reporter comes in the front door you go out the back door or the fire escape or some other emergency exit.**

(If there is a follow-up article the personal experience with each of the aforementioned reporters will be described, some good, some almost catastrophic.)



DRAFT REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AVAILABLE

GO TO 2040 is the comprehensive regional plan that will guide growth in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties for the rest of this century. In addition to land use and transportation, GO TO 2040 also addresses the full range of quality-of-life issues, including the natural environment, economic development, housing, and human services such as education, health care and other social services.

The public comment period has now ended. Each comment received will be carefully considered and included in an appendix to the plan, which will be revised before going to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee for final approval on October 13, 2010. The plan's crucial implementation phase begins in October. Plan documents are available for download at <http://www.goto2040.org/plandocs/>



OPERATIONS GROUP DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Operations Group Director Mike Phan. The Operations Group continues to update the Illinois Sections website (<http://www.ilite.org/start/>) to easily navigate between the Major Topics such as Meetings, Newsletter, Membership, Business, and News such as Illinois Section Announcements, Road & Bridge News, and IDOT News. Past ITEMS newsletters can be viewed through 2007. If you have moved or need to update your member information please visit the Change of Address link under the Membership section to fill out the Change of Personal Information Form. New to the website past presentations have been made available.

Have you considered advertising in the ITEMS Newsletter? It's a great way to show your support for ILITE, not to mention a great way to promote your organization's products and/or services. If you're interested, a form can be found on the website listed above.

Membership continues to increase in 2010. I am pleased to welcome **Michael Vasak**,

Michael Pine, Susan Oyler, Wayne Miczek, and Jillyn O'Shea as new Section Members of the Illinois Section of ITE. It is important that we retain our Members as well as trying to gain new ones.

We are very thankful to the Institute of Transportation Engineers for providing billing services in the past to our Affiliate (aka Section) Members. Unfortunately, International ITE has declined to continue this service. If you are a Member of International ITE then you are already a Regular Section Member with the Section Dues forwarded to each Section. This fall Affiliate Members will be receiving an invoice for the Illinois Section of ITE for the 2011 Dues.

The Illinois Section encourages all of its Members to participate in its activities and functions as it provides excellent networking opportunities with fellow transportation professionals. Technical Seminars and conferences keep your skills sharp as well as meeting continuing education requirements.

STUDENT AFFAIRS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Student Affairs Director Sara Disney Haufe. This year, the Illinois Section is reviving the efforts of its Internship Committee. After the school year has begun for university students this fall, the Section's Internship Committee Chairperson, **Mukul Pal** of HDR, will begin contacting each of the seven Illinois colleges and universities that offer degrees in civil engineering. Students who are members of ITE will be

invited to send their resume to the Section, and a database of these resumes will be created. This database will be available to all Illinois Section members upon request, and an announcement will be sent to the membership near the end of the year notifying the Section of these resumes' availability. We are excited to integrate this new amenity into the long list of IL ITE member benefits!

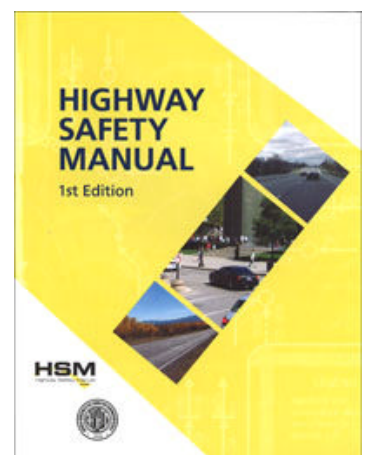
TRR TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES 2010

TRB's Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board, No. 2149, [Traffic Control Devices, Visibility, and Highway-Rail Grade Crossings 2010](#) contains 13 papers that explore school traffic control devices, speed control at rural intersections, innovation in temporary pedestrian signing, chevrons with full retroreflective signposts on rural horizontal curves, protected-permissive

left-turn signal control, reducing speed with converging chevron pavement markings on freeway ramps, rumble strips, and pedestrian countdown signals influence on vehicle speed. Enter http://www.trb.org/Railroads/Blurbs/Traffic_Control_Devices_Visibility_and_HighwayRail_163904.aspx into your browser to order this record online.

HIGHWAY SAFETY MANUAL (HSM) NOW AVAILABLE

TRB's HSM is [now available for purchase](#) (by clicking on this link for online purchase) at a of price of \$390, which includes domestic shipping. Most publications ordered Monday-Thursday through TRB are placed in the mail in less than 24 hours. Expedited, overnight delivery is available for \$22.00, if the order is placed by 2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. No TRB organizational or individual discounts apply to the purchase of the HSM.





INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS - ILLINOIS SECTION



2011 YOUNG MEMBER AWARD INFORMATION

The purpose of the Illinois ITE Young Member Award is to annually recognize the professional accomplishments and Section contributions of one member under the age of 35. The award provides reimbursement (up to a \$2,500 limit) for approved expenses associated with registration and travel for either the Midwestern District Annual Meeting or the ITE International Annual Meeting.

ELIGIBILITY

Any member of the Illinois Section of ITE who has not reached his/her 35th birthday by September 1st, 2011 is eligible to win the 2011 Award. However, past and current presidents of the Illinois Section, student members, and previous Young Member Award winners are not eligible.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

Nominations for the award may be completed by any current member of the Illinois Section of ITE. Self nominations are allowed. Nominees will be contacted to confirm that they meet the requirements of the award. Nomination forms (see attached) must be completed and returned via email to Tim Sjogren at TSjogren@Traffic-AD.com by 5:00PM on Friday, October 29th, 2010.

SELECTION PROCESS

Nominees who meet the award criterion will be contacted by a committee of Past Presidents following the October 29th deadline. Nominees wishing to be considered for the award will be asked to provide the following by December 10th, 2010:

A short application form highlighting their professional achievements and contributions to the Illinois Section

A current professional resume

Confirmation of willingness to attend either the District or International ITE conferences in 2011

A committee of the Past Presidents of the Illinois Section, chaired by the Immediate Past President, will review the nominations and select one award winner and one alternate. The winner will be announced at the Section's Annual Banquet in January 2011 and will be recognized with a plaque and acknowledgement on the Section website and in the ITEms newsletter. If the Award winner is unable to attend either of the conferences, the alternate will be notified and given an opportunity to attend on behalf of the winner.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Award winners are responsible for their own travel arrangements, registration, and all costs above the \$2,500 award maximum. Approved expenses include registration, travel, meals, and accommodations for the conference duration. Award winners will be required to submit a 500 – 1,000 word article about their experience at the conference by September 1st, 2011 which may be posted on the Section website or included in an issue of the ITEms newsletter.

Thank you for helping to recognize the outstanding accomplishments and contributions of the young members of the Illinois Section of ITE!

Tim Sjogren

President



INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS - ILLINOIS SECTION

2011 YOUNG MEMBER AWARD NOMINATION FORM



Name of Nominee: _____

Email/Phone of Nominee: _____

Please provide a brief description of why the Nominee should be considered for the 2011 Young Member Award. If possible, please provide specific characteristics, capabilities, and examples that make the candidate deserving. Please limit your narrative to the space provided below.

Multiple horizontal lines for writing the nomination narrative.

Your Name: _____ Date: _____

Please provide this completed form (in PDF format) via email to Tim Sjogren at TSjogren@Traffic-AD.com by **5:00 PM on Friday, October 29th, 2010.**

Thank you for your help as we seek to recognize and honor the young professionals that play such an important role in the Illinois Section of ITE.



ILLINOIS SECTION

Institute of Transportation Engineers

2012 ITE MIDWESTERN DISTRICT - TRB USS CONFERENCE UPDATE

August 22, 2010

We are excited to announce that the 2012 Midwestern District Conference in Chicago will be co-hosted with the TRB-Urban Street Symposium (USS). USS is an international group focused on improving the designs of urban streets in large cities as well as small communities. Attendance at USS meetings ranges from 200 to 250, effectively doubling the anticipated attendance at the 2012 conference.

We are excited about this opportunity to increase the number of technical tracks, workshops, technical tours, and networking opportunities to our members.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

WHEN: SUNDAY JUNE 26TH THROUGH WEDNESDAY JUNE 29TH, 2012

WHERE: HOLIDAY INN - CHICAGO MART PLAZA

This Holiday Inn is nothing like any other Holiday Inn that I remember as a kid. It has breathtaking views of the City, and provides perfect meeting spaces for our groups. If you visit or work in downtown Chicago, check out the hotel for yourself.

<http://www.martplaza.com/>

WE ARE IN NEED OF A CONFERENCE LOGO!

Calling all creative people! The 2012 Conference Committee is looking for a volunteer to develop a logo for the 2012 Midwestern District Conference and TRB-Urban Street Symposium.

The winning designer will receive **\$50 off full 2012 conference registration.**



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2012

More information is available from the Conference Co-chairs:

Chad Hammerl by phone at (312) 424-5425 or e-mail chad.hammerl@jacobs.com and

Tim Sjogren by phone at (630) 213-1000 or e-mail TSjogren@Traffic-AD.com



INDUSTRY NEWS

JOHN GATES, JR. ELECTED AS NEW RTA BOARD CHAIRMAN

August 19, 2010, Chicago, IL. **John Gates, Jr.** was elected by Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Board members today as the new Chairman of the RTA Board. Mr. Gates serves as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of PortaeCo, a private investment company. He will serve a five-year term that ends in 2014.

Until May 2010, Mr. Gates served as Chairman of the Board and Chairman of the Finance Committee of Metropolitan Pier and Exhibition Authority "McPier." Mr. Gates succeeds Jim Reilly who resigned in May to serve as the trustee of McPier.

"John Gates brings an exemplary career track record in the investment business. His noteworthy expertise in finance and infrastructure can't be overstated or under-utilized especially at this critical juncture in our transit system's history," said RTA Board Member Dwight Magalis, who represents Lake County and serves as the Board's Finance Committee Chairman. Before today's vote, Director Magalis served as Interim RTA Board Co-Chairman.

Prior to forming PortaeCo, Mr. Gates co-founded CenterPoint Properties Trust and served as Co-Chairman and Chief Executive Officer for 22 years. CenterPoint Properties is the former site of the U.S. Army Joliet Arsenal. Gates success of the site can be attributed to his innovative vision for the site to be an intermodal facility because it was adjacent to the Burlington Northern Santa Fe's main line in Chicago and in close proximity to nine interstate highways. During that period, the site opened as the largest intermodal container handling facility in the world and connected the BNSF and Union Pacific railroads, along with 17 million square feet of industrial space for the Chicago region. Additionally, CenterPoint became the nation's first publicly traded Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust, as well as the largest private property owner/developer in the metropolitan Chicago region. In 2006, the Com-

pany was acquired by the California Public Employees' Retirement System and Jones Lang LaSalle.

Mr. Gates graduated from Trinity College in 1976 with a BS in Economics and Philosophy. He began his career as an Assistant to Governor James R. Thompson of Illinois. In 1979, he joined CB/Richard Ellis, and in 1981, co-founded the Chicago office of Jones Lang Wootton (now Jones Lang LaSalle).

In addition to his distinguished career as an investment executive, Mr. Gates serves on the Boards of numerous public sector, for profit and not-for-profit institutions, including:

- **Serving as past Chairman of the Board and Member of the Executive Committee for the Metropolitan Planning Council, Chicago's leading agency and advocate for regional planning, transportation and housing.**
- **University of Chicago, Harris School of Public Policy: Chairman of New Facilities Committee. The University of Chicago's Graduate School of Public Policy and Government Affairs.**

Mr. Gates is also an active member of the Economics Club of Chicago and the Urban Land Institute. Former Board roles include:

- **University of Wisconsin Center for Urban Land Economics: Research institute focused on urban planning, land use and real estate issues.**

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE ANNOUNCES ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY EXPERT ITS NEW DIRECTOR

August 3, 2010, Chicago, IL. The Active Transportation Alliance, Chicagoland's advocate for better biking, walking and transit, announced today that **Ron Burke** has been named its new Executive Director starting Aug. 17, 2010.

Burke, who joins the organization with an expertise in environmental policy, has also been at the forefront of sustainable and active transportation for years. He most recently worked as the

(Continued on page 12)



John Gates, Jr., Board Chairman,
Regional Transportation Authority



INDUSTRY NEWS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 11)

Midwest Office Director at the Union of Concerned Scientists. Prior to his work there, Burke served as the Associate Director of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Burke is only the third executive director in Active Trans' 25-year history.

Burke brings with him vast knowledge of policy development and implementation. His most recent work at the Union of Concerned Scientists included coordinating and implementing policy in the Midwest on climate and energy, clean energy and sustainable agriculture. His time at the Illinois EPA included work on the state's global warming initiative, and he supervised policy, outreach, community relations, pollution prevention and small business assistance.

Burke earned a master's degree in Technology and Human Affairs with an emphasis in Environmental Policy from Washington University and did his undergraduate work in life sciences at the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign and Bradley University.

Burke is a long-time supporter of the Active Trans mission, and his lifestyle reflects this. "Biking, walking and transit have been an integral part of my life for years," Burke said. "I am excited to work for an organization that has been so instrumental in making those choices possible."

Active Trans, the country's largest transportation advocacy non-profit organization, has worked to improve biking, walking and transit options for 25 years. The organization has more than 5,000 members and has been behind major strides like Bikes on Metra, legislation that requires drivers to stop for pedestrians, and statewide policies that provide bicycle and pedestrians accommodations on all new state road projects.

Burke is an avid runner and outdoors enthusiast. He lives in Oak Park with his two daughters and wife, Pamela Brookstein.

Active Trans' previous executive director, Rob Sadowsky, relocated to Portland, Ore. in June to serve as the executive director of the Bicycle Transportation Alliance.

YOUNG MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 3)

capacity decreased by 20-30%. The City was able to achieve this goal by reallocating road space to create pedestrian corridors from noon to midnight, developing temporary games-time bike routes and some temporary bike parking, and providing improved wayfinding signage for pedestrians and cyclists. The City also developed Olympic Lanes for TransLink buses and Olympic-accredited vehicles available 24 hours per day, seven days a week and allowed truck deliveries in the overnight hours downtown. A future transportation goal that came out of the Olympic Games was to establish a legacy of increased public transit capacity and use and to become the most sustainable city in the world by 2020.

The first International Collegiate Traffic Bowl was held with winners from all ITE Districts, including Canada, competing against each other in a Jeopardy-style trivia game. Unfortunately, the Midwestern District champion, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, lost in the first round. The students from Texas A&M won the Traffic Bowl and received a \$2000 check for their student section. It was really fun to cheer the students on and see the amount of transportation engineering knowledge they have gained while attending college.

It was an honor to be chosen by the committee as the recipient of the 2010 Young Member Award. Many thanks to ITE for this wonderful opportunity and also to Civiltech Engineering for supporting me as I serve the Section.

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: mark.rinnan@jacobs.com or fax the information to 312.251.3015. The contact will be provided membership information and acknowledgement of your referral.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINARS

ASCE TRANSPORTATION GROUP TECHNICAL TRAINING SEMINAR: DEVELOPING & IMPLEMENTING THE ISTHA CQP AS A LIVING DOCUMENT

Tuesday, September 21, 2010, 8:00 a.m. – Noon CDT. Credits 4 PDH. \$100 ASCE Member via 1-2-3 sign-up/\$125 Nonmember & Pay at the Door/\$15 Students. Course held at IIT Rice Campus, 201 East Loop Road, Wheaton, IL. Visit Illinois ASCE Transportation Division ISTHA CQP Training for more information.

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.

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION THROUGH SITE DESIGN

Wednesday, October 5, 2010, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. CDT Credits 1.5 PDH/0.2 IACET CEU/1.5 CM. ITE Series Site Fee: \$250 ITE Member /\$325 Nonmember /\$125 Student Chapter Member.

MULTI-MODAL SCHOOL SITE PLANNING, DESIGN, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR PRIMARY GRADES (GRADES K-8)

Thursday, October 28, 2010, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. CDT Credits 1.5 PDH/0.2 IACET CEU/Approved Certification Maintenance (CM) credits for this activity are pending. \$25 Nonrefundable Site Fee. This Web seminar is offered at a reduced cost due to the sponsorship of the National Center for Safe Routes to School.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY COURSE: IDENTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF HIGH HAZARD LOCATIONS

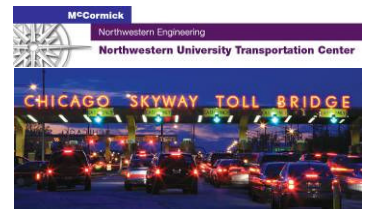
Monday to Wednesday, October 18 - 20, 2010, 11:00 AM – 12:30 p.m. Credits 19 PDH/1.9 IACET CEU. \$750 per person. Course held at the Northwestern University Center for Public Safety (NUCPS) 1801 Maple Avenue, Evanston, IL. Visit <http://nucps.northwestern.edu/> for more information.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY ON DEMAND COURSES

The NUCPS can deliver courses on-site at a location of your choice. If you are interested in hosting an NUCPS course or program, please phone 800.323.4011 or e-mail nucps@northwestern.edu.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY COURSE: PRICING TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE EXECUTIVE COURSE

October 18 - 20, 2010, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM Monday and Tuesday, 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM Wednesday. Contact Diana Marek at d-marek@northwestern.edu or call 847-491-2280 for information on Professional Development Credits. \$2160 per person government and academic rate or discounted program fee if paid before September 13, normal program fee \$2700. Course held at Chambers Hall, the Northwestern University Transportation Center, Evanston, IL. Visit <http://transportation.northwestern.edu/> for more information.



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WHEN CARS CAN FLY!

Woburn, MA – June 17, 2010: Terrafugia, Inc., developer of the Transition® Roadable Aircraft, or "Flying Car", has received an exemption from the FAA to allow the Transition® a maximum takeoff weight (MTOW) of 1430 pounds (650 kg). This additional weight accommodates the structure and equipment necessary for compliance with the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) which are not found in other Light Sport Aircraft. Items such as air-bags, an energy absorbing crumple zone, and a protective safety cage will increase safety both on the road and in the air. Exclusively applicable to the Transition®, the FAA's grant of an additional 110 pounds will allow a competitive useful load while providing a revolutionary level of crash safety in a Light Sport Aircraft.

By giving pilots a convenient ground transportation option, the Transition® reduces the cost, inconvenience, and weather sensitivity of personal aviation. In addition to the enhanced protection afforded by applying automotive crash safety technology to light planes, the Transition® reduces the potential for an accident by allowing pilots to drive under bad weather instead of potentially flying into marginal conditions.

Classified as a Light Sport Aircraft, the Transition® requires a Sport Pilot certificate to fly and is designed to drive on public roadways and park in a standard garage. Terrafugia successfully completed flight and drive testing of its Proof of Concept Transition® in 2009. Refundable airframe reservations are being accepted with first delivery scheduled for late 2011.

Computer graphics of the production prototype design will be unveiled at a press conference at 10:30 a.m. on July 26, 2010 at Terrafugia's exhibit at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI.

Terrafugia (terra-FOO-gee-ah), based in Woburn, MA, is comprised of a team of award-winning engineers who have been advancing the state of personal aircraft since 2006. Founded by five pilots who are graduates of MIT and supported by a world-class network of advisors and private investors, Terrafugia's mission is the innovative expansion of personal mobility. "Terrafugia" is Latin for "escape from land."

For more information, contact Richard Gersh at Terrafugia, by phone at 781-491-0812, or visit <http://www.terrafugia.com>



The Terrafugia Transition® proof of concept during taxi at the Lawrence (Kansas) Municipal Airport - Source: Terrafugia



High Speed shutter captures the spinning propeller during a test flight of the Transition® - Source: Terrafugia



Carl Dietrich, CEO/CTO of Terrafugia refuels the Transition® Light Sports Aircraft with premium unleaded automobile gas - Source: Terrafugia

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PROPOSALS

TRB NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONFERENCE

TRB is now accepting papers for consideration as part of the program for the 13th TRB National Transportation Planning Applications Conference. The meeting will be held May 8-12, 2011, in Reno, Nevada at the Peppermill Resort and Casino. The conference will feature presentations chosen from abstract submittals that offer practical and innovative solutions to contemporary planning challenges. Please submit your abstracts of 350 words or less online at www.trb-appcon.org prior to Septem-

ber 15, 2010 and identify a general topic from the list above. Authors of accepted abstracts are encouraged but not required to prepare a complete paper. The abstract, presentation and paper will be posted online after the conference. Authors with best papers from the conference may be invited to re-present their paper in a session at the next TRB annual meeting.

For questions regarding abstract submittal, please contact Vince Bernardin, Conference Technical Chair, at 812.479.6200 or VBernardin2@BLAinc.com.

(Continued on page 15)



CONFERENCE CALL

A list of conferences is provided for your consideration:

IBTTA 78TH ANNUAL MEETING AND EXHIBIT

Sunday to Wednesday, September 12 to 15, at the Hilton San Diego BayFront in San Diego, California. For more information visit <http://www.ibtta.org/Events/EventDetail3.cfm?ItemNumber=4428&token=22270&userID=>

PRO WALK/PRO BIKE 2010

Monday to Friday, September 13 to 17, at the Chattanooga Marriott at the Convention Center, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. For more information visit <http://www.bikewalk.org/2010conference/>

IDOT FALL PLANNING CONFERENCE

Tuesday and Wednesday, September 28 & 29, at the Hilton Hotel, in Springfield, Illinois. [Click here](#) for an online copy of the conference brochure.

CALL FOR PAPERS (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 14)

JOINT RAIL CONFERENCE

JRC 2011 will be the major, multidisciplinary North American railroad conference encompassing all aspects of rail transportation and engineering research. The conference is a cooperative effort of the six co-sponsoring organizations and will be held March 16-18, 2011 at the Pueblo Convention Center in Pueblo, Colorado, 115 miles, south of Denver. Papers and presentations are being solicited on railroad civil, mechanical, electrical, and systems engineering, as well as safety, planning, design, operations, maintenance, and management. The conference theme is Shared Corridors, Shared Interests and will cover freight and passenger rail, encompassing commuter, regional and intercity systems. Abstracts are due October 1, 2010 and are to be submitted [on-line](#).

AMERICAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday to Wednesday, October 3 to 6, at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio, in San Antonio, Texas. For more information visit <http://www.apta.com/mc/conferences/alltother/2010annual/Pages/default.aspx>

RAIL-VOLUTION 2010

Monday to Thursday, October 18 to 21, at the Hilton Portland and Executive Hotel, in Portland, Oregon. For more information visit <http://www.railvolution.com/future.asp>

ASCE 140TH ANNUAL CIVIL ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

Sunday to Wednesday, October 21 to 23, at the Bally's Las Vegas, in Las Vegas, Nevada. For more information visit <http://content.asce.org/conferences/annual2010/index.html>

52ND ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH FORUM

The 52nd Annual TRF will be held March 10-12, 2011 at the Westin Downtown in Long Beach, California. The theme of the conference is Integrating Transportation: Moving People, Moving Goods. Panel topics under development include Congestion Pricing, High-Speed Transport Technology, The Intermodal Problem, The Changing Dynamics of the Supply Chain, and Infrastructure Finance. Abstracts for paper sessions are due November 15, 2010. Instructions for preparing an abstract and the paper can be found on-line at <http://www.trforum.org/callpapers/paper.php>. Proposals for panel and poster sessions are due December 15, 2010. Additional information about the forum is available by contacting Kristen Monaco, TRF Program Vice President by phone at (562) 985-5076 or by e-mail at ProgramVP@trforum.com.

NEW FHWA REFERENCE MANUAL: STATEWIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTEGRATING OPERATIONS, SAFETY, AND MULTIMODAL PLANNING

This reference manual is intended to assist managers and staff at State DOTs in their efforts to more effectively integrate operations, safety, and planning. The manual builds on a previous Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) document, Statewide Opportunities for Linking Planning and Operations: A Primer. While the primer identifies broad opportunities for State DOTs to integrate planning and operations, the reference manual extends this information to provide practical instruction on how to implement these opportunities and others along with case study examples and "toolkits" to help get started. This reference manual also expands the focus of integration to include operations, safety, and planning in a multimodal context. The manual can be accessed on-line at:

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/statewide/manual/>



SECTION CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2010

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 2010

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 2010

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 16** – Illinois Section Luncheon, Maggiano’s, Chicago, Illinois
- **September 22** – Chicagoland Car-Free Day. Leave your car at home
- **September 24** - Engineers Without Borders Chicago Chapter Annual Golf Tournament and Fundraiser, Tamarack Golf Club, Naperville, Illinois. Visit the [Illinois ASCE Transportation Group EWB Golf Outing website](#) for more information
- **September 28 & 29** - Illinois Department of Transportation Fall Planning Conference, Hilton Hotel, Springfield, IL. The conference brochure is available [online](#).
- **October 15** – Illinois Section Luncheon, Maggiano’s, Chicago, Illinois
- **November 15**—ITEMs Deadline
- **November 18** – Illinois Section ISPE Luncheon, Cliffbreaker’s (TENTATIVE), Rockford, Illinois

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ILLINOIS SECTION '10-'11 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.

2010

December 9 Year End Social Event (Tentative)

2011

January 21 Annual Banquet at The White Eagle, Niles, IL
January 23-27 TRB Annual Meeting, Washington DC
February 25 Engineer's Week Washington Banquet
March 17 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
April 3- 6 ITE Technical Conference and Exhibit , Walt Disney World Swan, Lake Buena Vista, FL
April 14 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
May 19 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
June 16 Suburban Maggiano's - Joint Meeting, ASCE (Tentative)
June TBD Midwestern District Annual Conference hosted by the MOVITE Section
July 14 Illinois Section ITE Summer Social Event
August 13-16 ITE Annual Meeting and Exhibit , America's Center, St. Louis, MO
August TBD Golf Outing - Joint Outing with the Irish Engineers Group
September 15 Holiday Inn, Naperville - Joint Meeting (Dinner), ISPE
October 20 Monthly Luncheon at Downtown Chicago Maggiano's
November 17 Monthly Luncheon at Cliffbreaker's, Rockford
December 15 Year End Social Event (details to be provided)

KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CURRENT...

...by using the Change of Personal Information Form on the Illinois Section website at <http://www.ilite.org/public/membership/ChgInfo.pdf> and by accessing <http://www.ite.org> then log in using your member no. and password. Your personal information page is then displayed. Hit the edit button and make changes as needed.



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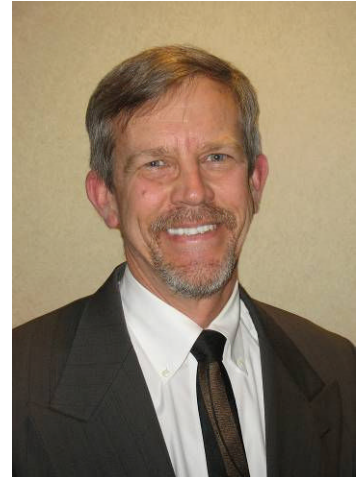
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Section members and non-members alike are invited to submit letters to the editor, articles relevant to the transportation profession, or comments, to Mark Rinnan, c/o Jacobs, One North Franklin, Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60606 or by e-mail to mark.rinnan@jacobs.com