



Official Publication of District 9 Institute of Transportation Engineers

Volume 56, Number 3

www.TexITE.org

January, 2012

President's Message

C. Brian Schamburger, P.E., PTOE

Howdy TexITE Members!

I hope everyone had a Happy Holidays, and you're ready for a great 2012. 2011 went by so fast. We enjoyed two outstanding meetings in Fort Worth and Garland. Both meetings achieved record registration numbers and the technical programs were second to none. Much of the success for these meetings can be attributed to the dedication and hard work put in by the Local Arrangements and Program Committees.

As we start 2012, I'm sure everyone is contemplating which New Year's resolution to tackle first. Whether it's shedding those pounds you inadvertently swallowed these last two weeks or become more environmentally responsible, set smart goals and do your best to accomplish them. You may also want to consider getting more involved in TexITE. TexITE is an organization founded on volunteer efforts. You can attend or make a presentation at a Section or District meeting, join a technical committee, or volunteer to help out with the newsletter (that's how I got started). Whatever you decide I can promise you won't regret getting involved, and it will be a heck of a lot easier than losing 10 to 15 pounds.

Finally, I would like to say thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Texas District President. When I started this journey a few years ago, I was nervous about moving into the role of District President. I wasn't sure what was expected, and the job description in the District By-Laws is pretty thin. While I didn't accomplish all of the tasks I wanted to, I'm hopeful that my time as Past President will provide me the time to check off a few more boxes. Wish me luck, and I look forward to seeing you in San Marcos!

Sincerely,

Brian Schamburger



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Save the Date!
TexITE Spring Meeting
San Marcos, Texas
March 28—30, 2012

A Letter from the Editor

Matthew Johnson, PE, PTOE, PTP

Happy New Year! For those of you who know me I like to talk a lot and write a little less. This will be no different. I am honored to have been asked to take over for Praveen as the editor of our newsletter. Praveen did a fabulous job for many years and I want to personally thank him for his service.

Whenever an effort that requires imagination and personality is turned over to someone new there will be changes. Beginning with the first official newsletter you will see some of these changes. The first change you will notice is that the newsletter will be in a web format instead of a pdf. You will probably notice that the color schemes, graphics and layout will be different. Along with the cosmetic changes, we will be making a few tweaks to the content. We are hoping to give you more information about what is going on nationally and across the state.

We want YOU to get involved with the newsletter. If you have an idea for an article, give it to your newsletter representative or send it to me directly. You do not have to be a member of the newsletter committee to be a contributor. Please feel free to send me your comments and suggestions about the new newsletter format. Remember, this is your newsletter, we just put it together.

CALL FOR 2012 BUSINESS CARD AD SPONSORS!!!

It's that time of year again! We are in the process of offering space for business card ads in the TexITE Newsletter for 2012.

If you would like to include your business card ad in the three issues of the newsletter this year at a **cost of \$150.00** for a standard business card size ad (approximately 2 in. x 3.5 in.), please submit a check and email an electronic file as specified below. Double ad space is also available for \$300.00 (size is approximately 4 in. x 3.5 in.).

Checks should be made **payable to 'TexITE'** and sent to:

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555 East Ramsey
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Please submit an electronic (*.jpg, *.bmp, *.tiff, etc.) image of your ad to Kerri Collins at kcollins@pape-dawson.com. **Submissions should be received no later than January 30th, 2012 to be included in the first issue.**

Contact me by phone at (210) 375-9000 (ext 598) or by e-mail if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued support of TexITE activities!

A Letter from our Outgoing International Director

Gary B. Thomas, PE, PhD, Texas District International Director 2009-2011



And so with the close of 2011, so ends my tenure as your international director. It has been an honor and a privilege to represent the members of the Texas District on the ITE International Board of Directors. I think I have learned more about this fantastic organization in the past three years than in my first 19 years of membership.

The past three years have been incredibly difficult (as if I need to tell you that). With the downturn in the economy, many of our member firms and organizations had to cut staff or cut travel and membership fees (or in many cases, all three). Subsequently, ITE saw its membership numbers drop, advertising revenue decline, and meeting attendance suffer. This placed an enormous strain on the finances of the institute. Fortunately, with the foresight of many directors before me, ITE had built up a very robust rainy day fund. And boy has it been pouring these past couple of years. So while a tempest was brewing for many organizations, ITE was facing more of a severe thunderstorm. How-

(Continued on page 4)

A Letter from our Incoming International Director

Gilmer D. Gaston, PE, PTOE, Texas District International Director 2012-2014

I am eager to begin the next three years representing the Texas District on ITE's International Board. I am grateful to the membership for electing me as International Director. This past October, I attended the Board Meeting in Washington DC to attend the new board member orientation session, meet my fellow board members, and learn the in's and out's of ITE and the Board of Direction.

The upcoming 2012 Technical Conference and Exhibit in Pasadena, California, March 4-7, 2012 will have great

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In Memorium

Matthew Johnson, PE, PTOE, PTP

2011 was a great year of learning and growing for most of us. Some of us lost jobs and found jobs, lost weight and (dangit) found it again. Most of us were fortunate enough to find new friends and sadly we lost three great friends.



Michael Anthony Ogden, 48, died peacefully on November 19, 2011, surrounded by loving family and friends, after a courageous 11-year battle with Leukemia. He was the oldest of 3 children, born to Tony & Bo Ogden, on October 10, 1963 in San Antonio, Tx.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Tony & Mary Louise Ogden and Al & Dorothy Braun, all of San Antonio. Michael is survived by the love of his life, Colleen Reed Ogden and daughters, Casie & Kylie Ogden; parents Tony & Bo Ogden; brother Carl Ogden and wife, Lynne; sister Suzanne Rodriguez and husband Jessie; and many nieces & nephews.

Michael attended St. Pius V Catholic School and Pasadena High School. He graduated in 1982 and promptly became a Proud Texas Aggie! Michael earned both Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Civil Engineering from Texas A & M University in 1987 and 1989. After graduating, he worked for the Texas Transportation Institute, an affiliate of the Texas A & M system. In 1998, he joined Klotz and Associates, becoming Senior Vice-President in 2009. Michael was an extremely active member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, sat on the Advisory Council for the Dept. of Civil Engineering at Prairie View A & M; was on the Board of Directors for the Houston Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and donated time with the MD Anderson Volunteer Network. Michael was also a Past President of Baytran and a member of the Knights of Columbus.



Sally was born in El Paso, Texas on September 23, 1947, the daughter of the late George S. Graves, Jr. and Mary Ann (Humann) Graves. On June 18, 1967, she married William Anthony Wegmann in San Antonio, Texas.

Sally graduated from Texas A & M University in 1969 with a Bachelor Degree in Secondary Education and a Masters Degree in Educational Psychology in 1970. She was one of the first 300 women to graduate from Texas A & M University. She also received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from Lamar University in 1984 and was serving on the University's Civil Engineering Board of Directors. Sally worked for the Texas Department of Transportation for 22 years. She held the position of Director of Transportation Operations prior to her retirement and then served as a consultant for both PBS&J and Atkins North America.

She is survived by her husband of 44 years, William Anthony Wegmann of West Point; son, William A. Wegmann of Anchorage, Alaska; daughter, Cinda Davidson and husband Jon of West Point; two sisters: Georgeanne Wertheim and husband Larry of San Antonio and Suzan Jonas and husband James of Spring Branch; three grandchildren: Will and Sienna Davidson and Sasha Wegmann; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Paul R. (Bob) Tutt was born August 1, 1926 in Springfield, Illinois and grew up in nearby Rushville. He died December 16, 2011, holding hands with his sweet Peggy. Bob joined the Army Air Corp at 18 and was sent to Michigan State College. It was there at an exchange dinner that he met his future wife, Margaret (Peggy) Draper. He earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois. Following graduation, he and Peggy headed for Austin where he was hired as a traffic engineer by the Texas Highway Department. He worked there 27 years earning his Masters Degree at the University of Texas during that time. He was next hired as assistant director of the University of Tennessee Transportation Research Center. Throughout his career he was dedicated to making travel safer through design and legislation - his team went before legislators resulting in Tennessee being the first state to require child-restraint seats. A founder and past president of the Texas Institute of Traffic Engineers (Texite), he helped found the University of Texas chapter of Texite. He was a board member of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) and past

(Continued on page 4)

A Letter from our Outgoing International Director, Cont.

(Continued from page 2)

ever, like many businesses, we had to take a good hard look at both sides of the equation and make some very difficult decisions. As a result, we had to say goodbye to some very valuable staff members.

With this final column, I'd like to thank a few people for their support during my tenure as director. First of all, thanks to my employer, the Texas Transportation Institute, Dennis Christiansen, and Ed Seymour for giving me the support to run for the position back in 2008.

Next I want to say thanks to the hardest working people in professional organizations: the ITE staff. They work incredibly hard (and in many cases behind the scenes) and are very passionate about their work. Thanks especially to: Ed Stollof, Aliyah Horton, Doug Noble, Christina Garneski, Phil Caruso, Pete Frentz, Carol MacDougall, Siva Narla, Zach Pleasant, and Lisa Fontana Tierney. Your hard work, I assure you, does not go unnoticed. And your friendship is very much appreciated. And, of course, thanks to Tom Brahm, whose vision and passion for ITE exemplify what it means to love the work you do.

Thanks to my friend, colleague, and mentor Robert Wunderlich for being a shining example of inspiring leadership. It has been great serving on the board with you. You can exit the office of president confidently knowing you left it in even better shape than when you began your year.

There are so many others that have inspired me when it comes to ITE that it is impossible to list all of them here. Well...maybe not impossible, but it would indeed be a VERY long list. They come from every district in ITE and have held all kinds of leadership roles in our organization. So here are just a few (abbreviated) names: Pat N., Jenny G., Jon U., Ray D., Zaki M., Ken A., Ken A., Dr. Bob S., Jim C., Jim L., Paul E.-W., Brian B., Marsha A., Alf G., Tim H., Steve H., and Steve G.

And finally, thanks to my wonderful wife Sheila, and my boys Cameron and Nathan, for putting up with my frequent travels to board meetings and conferences. I couldn't have done it without you.

I wish my successor, Gilmer Gaston, the best of luck and enjoy these next three years.

In Memorium, Cont.

(Continued from page 3)

president of the Texas Archeological Society, a member of the Order of Masons, Hill City Lodge, 456 and elected to the Engineering Honor Society Chi Epsilon. Bob leaves his wife, Peggy and five children, Paul Jr. (Barbara), Beth (Richard Guenther), Don (Shirlene), Susan (Mike Ouimet) and Marshall; six grandchildren, Shawn Guenther (Melissa), Rebecca Jones (Chris), Seth Guenther (Ruthann), Dustin Tutt, Cory Tutt, and Kimberly Tutt; four great-grandchildren, Aaron and Ashley Guenther and Cameron and Maggie Jones. He also leaves a sister, Margie Aten of Rushville, IL and several nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his parents and a sister, Nancy Sloan. Bob traveled to Mexico and Central America many times to climb the Mayan pyramids. The neighbor children relied on his skills to keep their bicycles in working order. He enjoyed photography, fishing, searching for arrowheads, working on cars and playing a good game of 42. A memorial service is scheduled for December 21, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. in the chapel behind the High Pointe Baptist Church at 12030 Dessau Road in Austin. Bob decided many years ago to donate his body to the University of Texas Medical Center for Research. In lieu of flowers, donations in Paul's memory can be made to the Capital Area Division of the Institute of Traffic Engineer newly established scholarship fund at <http://www.texite.org/students/awards.php> or mail to Eric Bollich, PO Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767, ATTN: Scholarship Fund.

South Texas Section News

The South Texas Section held their annual Holiday Banquet on December 11 at the Club at Sonterra in San Antonio to celebrate a successful year. At the banquet, the newly elected officers for 2012 were installed. The results of the election for 2012 STITE Officers are:

President: Mike Garza, Pate Engineers

Vice President: Amy Lewis, Kimley-Horn and Associates

Secretary/Treasurer: Derek Mueller, Pape-Dawson Engineers

Kerri Collins will continue her two-year term as Section Representative.

(Continued on page 5)

A Letter from our Incoming International Director, Cont.

(Continued from page 2)

technical content and is expected to be the best Technical Conference and Exhibit in ITE history. I look forward to seeing these improvements first-hand in March and hope to see as many of my fellow Texans there as possible.

The ITE Community allows ITE members to connect with their peers around the world. If you do not know what I am talking about, you can access the ITE Community via the ITE website at www.ite.org and clicking on the "ITE COMMUNITY" button located in the top right side of the home page. On the community you can subscribe to the latest discussions, join topic groups and easily keep up with upcoming ITE events. If you have not yet set up your profile and tested the features on the ITE Community site, I encourage you to look into it and see how you can use the site to work for you.

You are probably aware of ITE's Proposed Roundabouts Policy that was approved by the Board of Direction and put out for member comment. As I am writing this on December 28, I see that any comments were due to ITE yesterday. The policy states, *"The Institute of Transportation Engineers recognizes the safety, operational and sustainability benefits of well-designed roundabouts and recommends the use of roundabouts when intersections are being planned, designed or modified."* I am pleased that ITE finally has something that looks like a policy statement on the topic as I am already convinced that roundabouts are a valuable tool in our toolbox for solving transportation problems.

Lastly, I want to thank Gary Thomas for serving as our International Director, he has been an outstanding representative for the Texas District and leaves some large shoes for me to fill. I will do my best to represent the District as well as Gary has for the last three years.

Please drop me an email or call me if you have concerns or issues with ITE. If I cannot provide an answer I will help put you in contact with someone who can help you out.

South Texas Section News, Cont.

(Continued from page 4)



Gilmer Gaston swears in the 2012 STITE Officers


Also the South Texas Section would like to congratulate UTSA engineering student Jose Robles, who was awarded the third annual STITE-UTSA scholarship for \$1,500. The scholarship awards qualified UTSA engineering students interested in transportation engineering and involved in the student chapter of ITE.



Amy Lewis and Mike Garza with Scholarship award winner Jose Robles

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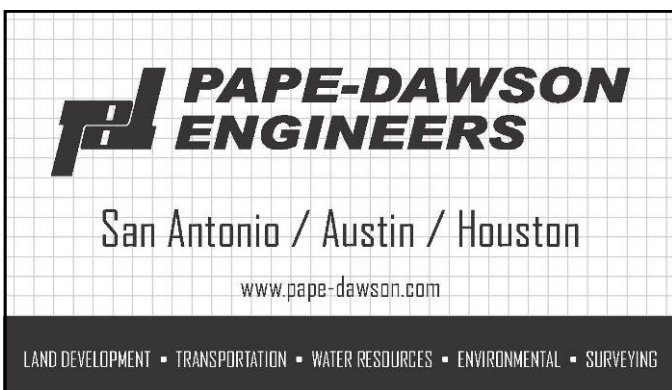
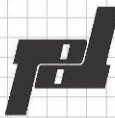
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Susan Langdon at roster@texite.org

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