50th Anniversary of TexITE

By Emily Braswell, Editor

Fifty years ago a group of visionary men came together to create TexITE, the organization that has become the 9th District of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). On May 22, 1954, TexITE had 27 members, 9 Local Section Affiliates (LSA). The treasure held $33.31. In 1958, dues increased from $1.00 to $5.00 to cover travel expenses if the National Director is elected from the Texas Section. By 1961, TexITE had 50 members, 48 LSA’s. This year, 2004, TexITE serves as a full District, boasts a budget of over $20,000 and has several hundred members.

Over the years, TexITE has served many functions within ITE and within Texas. As a leader in ITE, Texas has pioneered many innovations within the organization. As a leader in Traffic Engineering in Texas, TexITE has served as a source of camaraderie, professional support and information exchange for 50 years.

Stewart Fisher’s 1992 article on TexITE’s beginnings is reproduced on page 4 and is well worth reading and re-reading. One of the reasons given for creating a Texas section was the difficulty of travel to Southern Section meetings (El Paso to the Atlantic) and the need for Texas to have some influence on the activities of ITE. Over the years, TexITE and TexITE members have served as officers, authors, committee chairs and committee members and in many other national and international capacities throughout ITE’s ranks.

From Continuous Left Turn Lanes to Vehicle Impact Attenuation to Moveable Concrete Barriers, TexITE has had a long history of working to improve transportation conditions. In his keynote address at the TexITE Winter Meeting in 1990, Arnold Oliver, Engineer-Director of the State Department of Highways and Public Transportation said the following:

You have chosen to be transportation engineers at a time when your abilities are more needed than ever. And you can be assured that you are in the right time and the right place to improve the quality of life

Continued on page 3

What TexITE Means to...

Mark Titus -- “TexITE is my link to the Transportation world. I get nation-wide and international news & information from the ITE Journal. At District 9 TexITE meetings I discover the industry challenges, innovations, and activities with which I and others across Texas are dealing.”

Rick Collins -- “TexITE has meant getting to know great people and always learning something new in the field of transportation. I was the first chairman of the Younger Members Group and it has been rewarding to see that group continued and to see the younger members moving through the ranks of TexITE and developing into successful professionals.”

Jim Carvell -- “TexITE is like a comfortable flannel shirt on a cold day. It means a healthy dose of fellowship with new friends in the traffic and transportation profession along with technical and management information to help me do my job.”

Continued on page 4

50th Anniversary Meeting
June 17 – 19, 2004
Registration form and details inside.
Message from the President

By John Friebele, P.E., PTOE (M)

Writing a “message” to your peers isn’t as easy as one might initially think. For instance, you want a subject that is topical and of interest to most of those who you expect to read it. A style that’s interesting and that does credit to your efforts at higher education and, most important at the moment, something that doesn’t require the expenditure of too many brain cells.

Some of the topics I might consider include: the new challenges and opportunities we, as an organization, face with the change to a strong district organization; the 50th Anniversary meeting to be held in Austin in June; the opportunities for professional contribution at the national level; the individual organizational challenges we face as we strive to deliver our “product” to the public and numerous other esoteric and basic, practical and philosophical issues of our profession.

So, for the sake of brevity and conciseness (yes, it’s a word, I looked it up!) I’d like to refer you to ITE President Steve Hofener’s message in the January 2004 issue of the ITE Journal concerning ITE’s 75th anniversary in 2005 which, obviously, has parallels to TexITE’s 50th anniversary and professional issues we share in the profession. Steve notes some of the changes experienced over the past 25 years of his professional career, particularly the rapid technological advancements we have experienced but, most importantly, the “big picture”; our broadened responsibilities to the public for an increasing range of transportation needs.

Fifty years ago in Texas our focus was largely on signs, signals and markings and the operation of streets at the local level, the implementation of the Interstate Highway System at the national level and the beginning of specific education of transportation professionals in our institutions of higher learning. Most cities had Traffic Departments that evolved into various names that included the word “Transportation”, the Bureau of Public Roads was the forerunner of the FHWA and the Texas Highway Department became (with variations along the way) the Texas Department of Transportation.

The leadership of our profession was focused in a small group of men who because of their abilities, strength of personality and dedication developed the publicly accepted programs and processes that led to a larger group of men and women that advanced the product of the transportation profession to serve the vastly increased population and urbanization of the State.

Steve Hofener stated that he believes our profession is standing at our crossroads and I, for one, wholeheartedly agree with him. TexITE’S 50th anniversary meeting in Austin will be not only an opportunity to celebrate our past accomplishments but an opportunity for each of us to compare where we’ve been to where we are, which should provide some insight to where we’re going.

I hope you will join with your predecessors and peers in Austin this June to celebrate what we’ve become over the past 50 years.

Dear Members of TexITE,

It is with a great deal of pride that I write to congratulate you on your 50th Anniversary as a part of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). ITE has grown into a preeminent professional transportation member organization and TexITE has had a large part in that accomplishment. Your strong leadership and willingness to participate are qualities that have made TexITE what it is today!

Celebration of your 50th anniversary is a tremendous accomplishment. You are to be congratulated. ITE is excited about participating in your celebration at your summer meeting in Austin. The meeting is shaping up to be the best yet in Texas and it is exciting to be part of it.

As TexITE moves into its next 50 years, know that ITE is supportive of your activities. With your continued great leadership, we expect more great things from TexITE!

See you in Austin!

Sincerely,

Seven D. Hofener, P.E., PTOE, FIT
ITE International President

Nominations

Please take some time and help us identify the persons that we will be naming “Engineer of the Year” and “Young Member of the Year”. The challenge is to identify the individuals who best exemplify the tenets of transportation engineering and document their accomplishments and activities so they might be recognized. Nominations may be submitted on-line at http://www.texite.org. The awards will be presented at the 50th Anniversary Meeting.
Message from the International Director

By Jim Carvell

It is truly an honor to represent TexITE (District 9) on the International Board of Directors of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). ITE is certainly the premier professional organization for traffic and transportation professionals and practitioners and TexITE is one of the leading districts contributing to its vitality and leadership. As we approach our 50th anniversary, I think it is appropriate to cite some of our past leadership at the international level. Consider the list of former members of the International Board.

**District 5 International Directors from Texas**
- 1959 - 1960  M. V. (Bim) Greer*
- 1963 - 1964  Bob Buckman*
- 1971 - 1972  Stew Fischer
- 1976 - 1978  Neil Rowan
- 1984 - 1986  Rod Kelly

**Past District 9 International Directors**
- 1987        Rod Kelly
- 1988 - 1990  Roy Wilshire
- 1991 - 1993  Dennis Christiansen
- 1987 - 1999  Daniel Fambro*
- 1999 - 2002  Wayne Kurfees *Deceased

They all contributed their time, experience, and energies to building a strong ITE while representing the interests of TexITE. Two of them, Neil Rowan and Dennis Christiansen subsequently served as International President; two others, Stew Fischer and Rod Kelly, were candidates for International Vice President, and while they didn’t win, they should have (I try not to be too partisan). Too numerous to mention are TexITE members who have served as chairs and members of ITE Technical Councils and who have contributed papers and presentations to the annual, mid-year, and specialty conferences.

A note of history: In 1986, TexITE leadership convinced the ITE Board to designate TexITE a District, thus assuring that we would always have a representative on the International Board. Prior to that, TexITE was part of District 5, which stretched from Texas across the south to Florida and up the east coast through North Carolina. As can be seen above, there were many years prior to 1986 when there was no direct representation from Texas.

I count myself fortunate to have known every single one of these former Board members, all as colleagues, many as dear friends, others as fellow employees and even a couple as bosses. I also see in that list the valuable mentors of younger professionals over the years. Their contribution to leadership in TexITE and ITE will long be felt.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your International Director. Please know that I am always open to your suggestions, concerns and yes, I am open to being mentored.

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50th Anniversary of TexITE

Continued from page 1

for your fellow Texans, Americans, and, by example, the other inhabitants of this globe. I want to leave you with the thought that each one of you can make a difference. You are in a position right now to do so. Just think of yourselves as inventors and tap into that potent one percent solution—Inspiration.

Whether it is in technical innovation, professional advance or personal growth, TexITE has a long and proud history of making a difference.

This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to the 50th Anniversary of TexITE and all that TexITE has meant to the well being of Texas drivers, transportation professionals and traffic practitioners in the last half of the twentieth century. You will find reminiscence, history, photographs, artwork and maybe even a tall tale or two within its pages.

Please make plans to attend the 50th Anniversary Celebration in Austin, June 17-19, 2004. Registration information is provided on page 7.

Wayne Sherrell passes the gavel on to Richard Peterson in the 1980’s.
A Little History Lesson: The Beginnings of TexITE

By Stewart Fisher

Editor’s Note: This article appeared in the Winter 1992 TexITE Newsletter. It was prepared by Stew in anticipation of the celebration of TexITE’s 40th anniversary.

In 1953, Walter Klapproth, who was the Traffic Engineer for the City of Austin, and who had just returned from an ITE Annual Meeting, wrote letters to the ITE members located in Texas suggesting that a meeting be held to discuss the possibility of organizing a Texas Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. At that time, we were a part of the Southern Section, which extended from El Paso eastward to the Atlantic coast. The members in Texas were a tiny minority of the Southern Section membership and had no influence in the Section. Travel, at that time, was difficult and for the most part was by rail or auto. This made it virtually impossible for Texas members to attend the Southern Section meetings, especially if the member desired to attend the national annual meeting.

The two main reasons for the formation of a local section in Texas was the desire to have some influence on ITE activities and to provide a forum which most of the members could attend with some degree of regularity. It is obvious that we have been successful in achieving both of these goals.

Plans were made for a meeting that was held in Austin on a cold, sleet falling December Saturday in 1953. About fifteen ITE members plus a few prospective members met in the Austin City Council Chambers on Saturday afternoon and quickly resolved to ask the ITE Board of Direction to approve the formation of a Texas Section that was to include only the State of Texas. At this meeting, Walter Klapproth was elected president of the fledgling section, Eugene Maier was elected vice president and M.V. “Bim” Greer was elected secretary-treasurer. Dues were established, a committee appointed to write a constitution, and the date for a meeting to be held in Houston was set.

One of the subjects discussed was the distribution of a newsletter. At the time, the Western Section of ITE was in existence and they had named their newsletter the “WesternITE”. With this in mind, Bim Greer made the emphatic statement, “I don’t care what you name the newsletter as long as it is not “TexITE.” You can see how we listened to Bim on that subject.

Ruth Klapproth had invited the wives to a reception at her home during the time the men were meeting at the council chambers. Her house was beautifully decorated with fresh flowers in every room, she had ample food and a maid to serve it, and my wife Myra was the only wife to attend the reception. Needless to say, she and Ruth spent a pleasant Saturday afternoon indoors and became very well acquainted.

There was a western style dinner on Saturday night but I do not remember its location. I do remember returning to the motel with sleet falling.

On Sunday morning, the group was invited to Brunch at the large, beautiful home of the distributor of one of the types of parking meters (I do not remember his name). The home was a two story southern mansion and I remember being very impressed. It was a lovely party and everyone was happy with what had been accomplished.

This meeting laid the groundwork for some almost eighty TexITE meetings that have taken place in all parts of the state over the next forty years. The small handful of members who attended that first meeting has grown into a section membership of more than 300, and the limited technical activities of those beginning years have been increased to where they have a major impact on the transportation activities of our society.

What TexITE Means to…

Continued from page 2

Jason Crawford -- “Family. Like a family, there are persons who act as your mentors and role models. Like a family, there is a rich history that so many people only have a slight knowledge of but would benefit greatly by understanding more of it. TexITE is a large extended family of friends and peers. I am proud to be a part of this family and to have been influenced by my many friends and mentors.”

Robert C. Wunderlich -- “22 years ago, I sat at my first kickoff luncheon wondering who all those graybeards were at the head table. Now, I am one and I reflect that TexITE has provided me with an opportunity to give something to the profession that I love, guidance and knowledge from people I respect and a chance to pass on a little of what gave me all those gray hairs.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

A National Conference is proposed for 2004 to raise awareness by public agencies to the importance and need to continuously improve how they manage travel for planned special events.

Information will be posted on http://www.itsa.org/tsop.html.
Highlights from the Winter Meeting
San Antonio, Texas

Picture captions by John Friebele

This higher math always hurts my head!!

That's right, Jim, $20 and $30 makes makes $50!!!

I traveled 270 miles for this ?????

They watched attentively to see if his finger would go off.

...and you'd better be glad your boss has a "diversity" program.

He could probably talk alright if it wasn't for his mouth.

Boy!!! My fingers sure do hurt.

Yep. Six instruments........ six different beats.

They quit playing!!!! Hallelujah, they quit playing!!!!
Mark your calendars for the upcoming TexITE 50th Anniversary Meeting in Austin, Texas. The event will be held at the Hyatt Regency located on Town Lake in downtown Austin, Texas. The local arrangements committee has prepared a three-day event full of training, technical sessions and celebratory events!

The Hyatt Regency Austin is offering a special rate of $80.00 per night for a single guestroom. Call 1-800-233-1234 for reservations.

Please register as soon as possible. If you are not able to register early, fax in a registration form one week in advance to allow us to get the meal count right and to make name badges. We look forward to seeing everyone in Austin this summer.

TEEX will be providing a “Design, Installation & Maintenance of Detection Systems” class the same week as the Summer Meeting. The class will be held June 15-17 at the Hyatt Regency Austin. The course provides engineers, signal technicians and newly hired personnel an introduction to traffic signal detection including detector theory, placement, installation and maintenance from both the engineering and the technical perspective. There is no charge for the class and all are welcome, but there is a maximum of 25 participants. To register call 800-824-7303. For more information, contact Les Phelps at 210-633-1043 or Les.Phelps@teexmail.tamu.edu.

The Technical Program for TexITE Summer 2004 will complement the 50th Anniversary celebration with topics that include traffic engineering's past, present and future. Featured for this program are retired (or semi-retired) traffic engineers and TexITE members in panel discussions that will give attendees a picture of how the profession has grown through the years. We will also hear about new evolutions in the industry.

Friday Morning.
Session II: 50 Years of Traffic Engineering Problem Solving

Friday Afternoon.
Session III: 'New Phases' - Present and Future Signal Equipment Technology and Timing
Dan Lynch, moderating. Panelists include: Shelly Rowe, ITE, Chief Technical Officer, Larry Head, University of Arizona, and Raj Ghaman, FHWA, Research & Development
Session IV: New Challenges in Traffic Engineering: Smart Growth, Bike & Pedestrian Considerations, Dealing with Light Rail
Robert Benz, moderating. Panelists include: Joe Zietsman, TTI, Linda DuPriest, former City of Austin Bike & Ped Coordiantor, and Ramesh Gunda, Gunda Associates.

Saturday Morning.
Session V: The Role of the Engineer in Modern Society
Robert Wunderlich, moderating.
2004 SUMMER MEETING
HYATT TOWN LAKE HOTEL
Austin, TX
June 17-19, 2004

Registration Form

Personal Information
Name: ____________________________ Name for Badge: ____________________________
Street Address: __________________________
City/State/Zip: __________________________
Organization: __________________________
Phone: __________ Fax: __________ Email: __________________________
Spouse Name (If attending): __________________________
Children’s Names: __________________________
Vegetarian Meal Needed _____ Yes _____ No

Meeting Registration
TexITE Member (Received by 6/1/2004)* $110 X ____ = $________
TexITE Member (late) or non-member* $150 X ____ = $________
Student* $ 20 X ____ = $________
Vendor (full)* $ 50 X ____ = $________
Vendor (name badge only) $ 15 X ____ = $________

Additional Meal Tickets (for friends and family)
Friday Kickoff Luncheon $30 X ____ = $________
Saturday Business Luncheon $30 X ____ = $________

Events
Golf Tournament (Lunch Provided) $75 X ____ = $________
Family Outings – Limited Quantities Available – Register Early!
Thursday Afternoon – Bob Bullock Museum / IMAX
   Adults $13 X ____ = $________
   Children $ 5 X ____ = $________
Friday Morning – Capitol Tour
   Adults / Children Free X ____ = $________
Friday Afternoon – Austin Childrens Museum
   Adults & Children 3+ years old $ 6 X ____ = $________
   Children 1 – 2 years old $ 4 X ____ = $________
   Children <1 years old Free X ____ = $________
Saturday Morning Town Lake Bicycle Tour (Bicycles Provided – limited to 25 persons)
   Adults & Children $14 X ____ = $________
Friday Night Awards Banquet
   Adults $25 X ____ = $________
   Children (ages 3 to 12) $15 X ____ = $________

Technical Tours Limited Quantities Available
Austin TMC / Combined TMC Tours $5 X ____ = $________
(transportation from hotel provided)
Multimodal “Bus / Biking / Walking” Tour $5 X ____ = $________
(bicycles and transportation from hotel provided – limited to 25 persons)

Payment
TOTAL ____________________________________________ $________
Please make checks payable to 2004 TexITE Summer Meeting
Go to TexITE website (www.texite.org) for on-line registration (preferred)
Late registration does not guarantee meal availability – register early!

*Meeting registrations include:
Technical Sessions, Kickoff Luncheon, Friday Night Awards Banquet, and Business Luncheon unless otherwise noted. All early registration entries will be eligible for a drawing for a $200 Gift Certificate to Circuit City – in addition to a reduced entry amount. Please register one member/family per form. Early registration period ends on June 1, 2004
People News

Brazos Valley Section

Three members of the Brazos Valley ITE Section passed the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam in October. Montasir Abbas, Marcus Brewer, and Steve Schrock obtained their PE licenses in Texas. All are employed by the Texas Transportation Institute in College Station and have been promoted to Assistant Research Engineers.

After over eight years of employment at TAMU/TTI Larry Rilett has decided to leave Aggieland. He has accepted an offer from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and will be joining their faculty as a Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering as the Keith W. Klaasmeyer Chair in Engineering and Technology. He will also serve as Director of the UNL Mid-America Transportation Center. As the ITE student chapter advisor at TAMU for the past six years he would like to thank the TexITE executive board for all of their support over the years. Of all the ITE districts District 9 is arguably the most supportive of student activities and their support, both financial and otherwise, is greatly appreciated by the academic community.

South Texas Section

After serving the City of San Antonio as City Engineer and Transportation Engineer and other traffic engineering staff positions since 1985, Andy Ballard has “retired” and joined the San Antonio office of the Texas Transportation Institute as a Research Engineer.

Andrew J. Ballard, PE, PTOE
Texas Transportation Institute
1100 NW Loop 410, Ste 460
San Antonio, TX 78213

Capital Area Section

Rick Collins was appointed Director of the Research and Technology Implementation Office of TxDOT effective January 12. Rick was previously the Engineer of Traffic for the TxDOT Traffic Operations Division.

Roy Mynier with PBS&J is the President of the Capital Area Section. Sharon Barta is the Vice-President and James Kratz with the TxDOT Traffic Operations Division is the Secretary-Treasurer.

Greater Houston Section

Donald R. Glenn, P.E. has joined Reynolds, Smith and Hills, Inc. as Vice President, Transportation Infrastructure, South-Central Regional Director. He will be headquartered in the Houston office.

Jack Keese Retires after 44 years of Transportation Engineering, Research and Education

(On March 31, 1985)

Dallas Area Section

Sindhu Avalokita recently relocated to JACOBS Dallas office as a Transportation Engineer. She moved from the St. Louis office, where she started her career after receiving her Masters from the University of Missouri in December 2002. Sindhu has been working on a number of traffic studies since her arrival.

Syed Ali M. Kazmi, PE, PTOE received his PTOE certification in November 2003. He has been a member of ITE since 1996. Ali joined JACOBS Dallas office 1997 as a Transportation Engineer. He graduated from UTA in 1996 where he received his Masters. He has 7 years of experience in engineering analysis, design and report writing. Ali leads various projects, including corridor simulation projects, traffic studies and signal designs.

Young Engineer of the Year – Joe F. Nix (Back in 1985)

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Section News

Participation with local Sections is a great opportunity to interact with fellow transportation professionals. Each Section has a website with contact information if you are interested in becoming a member of your local Section.

Brazos Valley Section

The Brazos Valley Section hosted its Inaugural Golf Outing on April 29 as a Section fundraiser and social event. The activities began with the Section’s regular April lunch meeting at noon followed by an afternoon of golf on the Texas A&M University Golf Course. It was an afternoon of relaxing fun in College Station with friends of the Brazos Valley Section. All participants were a winner because the prize was the satisfaction of not being stuck in the office all afternoon!
http://www.texite.org/bv/

Capital Area Section

Future Section meetings are set for August 6, October 1 and December 3, 2004. Future topics include the Transportation Funding Crisis and the Trans-Texas Corridor. http://www.texite.org/austin/index.php

South Texas Section

http://www.texite.org/southtexas/

Greater Dallas Section

The Greater Dallas Section holds meetings on the second Thursday of each month. Please check at http://www.texite.org/dallas/maindallas.htm for more information on upcoming meetings.

Greater Fort Worth Section

The Fort Worth Section meets on the third Thursday of each month at Joe T. Garcia’s in Fort Worth for a noon-hour meeting providing a buffet-style lunch, conversation, networking, and a technical presentation.
http://www.texite.org/fortworth/mainfortworth.htm

Greater Houston Section

The Greater Houston Section of TexITE is planning a Vendor’s Night event to be held on May 20th, at the Doubletree Hotel, Post Oak, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. The featured speaker for the evening will be Houston’s Mayor Bill White.

The section meets on the second Wednesday of the month. The next scheduled luncheon meeting will be July 14. The speaker is Lloyd Smith, Director of Traffic Management, Houston METRO. His topic will be “Traffic Safety in the Present and Future Rail Corridors.” In August, the speaker will be Erik Slotboom, whose topic will be “Houston Freeways, Beyond The Book.”
http://www.texite.org/houston/mainhouston.htm

TexITE 50\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary Logo Competition

Attention all graphically enabled people. TexITE is sponsoring a competition for a special 50\textsuperscript{th} Anniversary Logo, with a $50 prize and tons of prestige for the winning design.

The only requirements for your design are:
• Three color maximum (black, white, any other color);
• Must be reproducible in black and white; and
• Submissions must be a vector based graphic (Adobe, Illustrator).

Deadline for submissions is Thursday, May 13\textsuperscript{th}. Please send all entries to: Mrs. Rebecca Wood, Wilbur Smith & Associates, 9009 Mountain Ridge Drive, Suite 250 Austin, Texas 78759.
rwood@wilbersmith.com

Section Presidents

Brazos Valley Section
Michael Parks
Brazos Valley Council of Governments
(979) 775-4244
mparks@bvcog.org

Capital Area Section
Roy Mynier
PBS&J
(512) 327-6840
cllmynier@pbsj.com

Greater Dallas Section
Mark Titus
City of Dallas
Dallas, TX 75201
Phone: (214) 670-3123
mtitus@pbw.ci.dallas.tx.us

Greater Forth Worth Section
Chris Hoff
Carter & Burgess, Inc.
Arlington, TX
Phone: (817) 735-6056
HoffCM@c-b.com

Greater Houston Section
Robert DeShurley
Siemens
Houston, TX
Phone: (713) 939-6694
robert.deshurley@itssiemens.com

South Texas Section
Robert Murillo
City of Laredo
Phone: (210) 795-2550
rmurillo@ci.laredo.tx.us
CEU REQUIREMENTS

Legislature Enacts Continuing Education Requirements for Licensed Professional Engineers

As most Texas Licensed Professional Engineers are aware, the 78th Texas legislative session (2003) passed SB277 instructing the Texas Board of Professional Engineers to develop and implement a Continuing Education Program (CEP). The board has developed the structure and requirements for this program, and has adopted rules for Continuing Education. Specific details may be found at http://www.tbpe.state.tx.us/. License holders will be required to submit their first CEP hours with the renewal they receive in 2005. The board will permit license holders to begin collecting CEP credits starting September 1, 2003 until their 2005 renewal date. This means that you can collect your CEP credits all through 2004 to meet the 2005 calendar year renewal.

Of special interest to TexITE members are the ways that our membership may earn CEP credits through activities of our organization. Please see the entire set of rules for specific details (http://www.tbpe.state.tx.us/), but be aware that the following items are among those listed:

- Presenting or attending seminars, in-house courses, workshops, or professional or technical presentations made at meetings, conventions, or conferences sponsored by a corporation, other business entity, professional or technical societies, associations, agencies, or organizations, or other group.
- Active participation in professional or technical societies, associations, agencies, or organizations, including: Serving as an elected or appointed official; serving on a committee of the organization; or serving in other official positions.

The State Board website provides a record keeping log sheet for documenting credits. There is a specific requirement for one hour of professional ethics training each year. The TexITE Board will consider offering qualifying ethics training at 2005 District meetings. Sections may wish to offer such training at section meetings.
TexITE HISTORY TIMELINE

1910 - Texas had 14,286 vehicles in the 180 counties that registered cars.
1917 - Texas Highway Department was signed into existence in April by Governor James E. Ferguson. In August, the governor was impeached.
1919 - Gibb Gilchrist hires on as a division engineer in San Antonio. His office was in the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.
1922 - The first gasoline tax, a penny a gallon, was levied with three-fourths going to highways and the remainder going to public schools.
1924 - Gibb Gilchrist became State Highway Engineer. He resigned in 1925, after former Governor Ferguson's wife, Miriam, was elected and replaced the entire highway commission.
1926 - Gibb Gilchrist was re-hired as State Highway Engineer.
1929 - First sign standards published by the American Association of State Highway Officials (the words "and Transportation" were added to the name in 1975).
1929 - A bill was passed calling for 50 license and weights inspectors to find overloaded trucks. These persons were the beginnings of the State Highway Patrol, which became its own entity in 1935 but is still funded by the State Highway Fund.
1933 - DeWitt Greer Building constructed. Air conditioning wasn't added until 1951.
1937 - Gibb Gilchrist left the Highway Department to become dean of engineering at Texas A&M. He was succeeded by Julian Montgomery, then DeWitt Greer, who held it for the next 27 years.
1947 - One-fourth of all the highway work under contract in the United States was happening in Texas.
1949 - The Colson-Briscoe Act was passed, setting aside funding for Farm-to-Market Roads.
1956 - Interstate System Authorized by Congress
1956 / 1957 - Before the DFW Turnpike, drivers had to travel through 45 traffic signals in 32 miles on U.S. 80.
1973 - Congress passes the nationwide 55 mph speed limit.
1982 - The Del Rio District (District 22) of TxDOT was disbanded.
1985 - Don't Mess With Texas cleanup bill was passed.
1992 - The Del Rio District (District 22) of TxDOT was disbanded.
1992 - SUPERPAVE made its debut, adding recycled materials and asphalt binders.
1992 - Maribel Jaso became the state's first female district engineer.
1993 - The 1982 "Yellow Book" was replaced by the "Blue Book" for state specifications.

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

2005 Texas MUTCD Committees

The TxDOT Traffic Operations Division is currently developing the 2005 Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (TMUTCD). The 2005 TMUTCD will be incorporating the changes recently issued in the 2003 FHWA MUTCD. If you are a traffic engineer for a city or county and are interested in helping in this effort, please contact Greg Brinkmeyer in the TxDOT Traffic Operations Division. His phone number is (512) 416-3120 or email him at gbrinkme@dot.state.tx.us.

Neil Rowan addresses the troops at a TexITE Meeting.
FOR INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Thomas J. Clausen, P.E., PTOE (F)
Transportation Engineering and Planning Consultant, Benicia, CA, USA
Extension Instructor with the University of California, Berkeley, CA, USA

Institute of Transportation Engineers Service
Tom joined ITE as a graduate student in 1975. He has been active in ITE since, including service as an officer or a committee chair for 16 years.

Elected Offices Held
Tom recently completed a 3-year term on the International Board of Direction (1998-2000), representing District 6. He served on the District 6 Board (1992-1996; President, 1995) and the San Francisco Bay Area Section Board (1981-1985; President, 1984) and was the San Francisco Bay Area Section Past Presidents’ Council Chair (2002-2003).

ITE Committees
International Level
- International Transportation Achievement Award Committee, Chair, 1999
- Budget Committee, 1998-2000
- Nominations Committee, 1997
- Moderator at International Conferences

District Level
- District 6 Web Site Committee, Chair, 1998
- District 6 Career Guidance Committee, Chair, 1991
- District 6 Nominations Committee, Chair, 1997
- District 6 Advisory Committee, 2003
- Moderator at District 6 Conferences

Section/Chapter Level
- San Francisco Bay Area Section Career Guidance Committee, Chair, 1980
- Nominations Committee, 1985

Specialty Council Membership
Traffic Engineering; ITS.

Related Activities
- Subject Matter Expert, California Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
- APWA, Northern California Chapter, Member
- APWA, Northern California Chapter, Transportation Committee, Past Chair
- East Bay Traffic Engineers, Past Chair
- Contra Coasta County/City Engineering Advisory Committee, Past Chair
- Co-authored and presented paper at the International Transportation symposium, Kyoto, Japan

Professional Experience
Tom is a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (Certificate #001) and is a registered civil engineer and traffic engineer in California. He has been involved with ITE for 28 years, including 12 years as an officer and 6 years as a committee chair. He has 16 years of experience in the public sector, including leadership experience as City Department and Division Head, 2 years as an MPO Section Manager and 2 years as a City Traffic Engineer. He also has 14 years of experience in consulting, with 9 years of leadership as a Senior Associate and Branch manager.

Most recently, Tom retired as a Senior Associate at Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants. He has been Section Manager for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the MPO for the nine county San Francisco Bay Area; Director of Engineering and Transportation for the city of Concord, CA; Traffic Engineer for the city of San Leandro, CA; Senior Associate and Branch manager for TJKM Transportation consultants in Pleasant Hill, CA; Associate Planner for the California Department of Transportation; Senior Transportation Planner for the City of Berkeley; Engineering Technician for Contra Costa County, CA and the City of Walnut Creek, CA; and Mathematics Teacher, Vallejo, CA.

Tom considers it an honor to be nominated as a candidate for International Vice President of ITE. If elected, he pledges to do his best to continue the great efforts of the current and former officers, volunteers and staff who have helped make ITE the premier professional organization for transportation engineers and planners. He welcomes the opportunity to add to this work, with more emphasis on improving traffic safety, mentoring students, working with other groups and enhancing membership.

Tom has been married to Kathy for 33 years. They have a son, Ben, 25, who works in construction, and a daughter, Diana, 19, who is a veterinary assistant.
FOR INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

Richard T. Romer, P.E., PTOE (F),
Principal, Orth-Rodgers & Associates, Inc., Las Vegas, NV, USA

Institute of Transportation Engineers Service
Rich has been a member of ITE since 1976.

Elected Offices Held
Rich recently completed a 3-year term on the International Board of Direction (2001-2003), representing District 6 and its 15 sections, 6 chapters and 31 student chapters. He has served an additional 11 years at all levels of elected office—for District 6 (President, 1997), the Intermountain Section and the Nevada Chapter (Founding Officer—President 1992).

ITE Committees

International Level
- Joint ITE/District 6 Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committee-Las Vegas, Co-Chair, 1999
- Annual Meeting Committee, Chair, 2002-2003
- Budget Committee, 2001-2003
- Strategic Plan Finance Committee, 2003
- Policy and Legislative Committee, 2002
- Nominations Committee, 1999

District Level
- Nominations Committee, Chair, 1999
- Advisory Committee, Chair, 1999
- Special Workshops--Student/Faculty Advisor Initiatives, 2002; Financial Reserves, 1996
- District 6 Annual Meeting—Las Vegas, Registration Chair, 1993
- Local Arrangements Committee Manual Updates, 2001-2003

Section/Chapter Level
- Nominations Committee, Nevada Chapter, 2000
- Scholarship Committee, Nevada Chapter, 1999
- Founding committee, Nevada Chapter, 1989

Specialty Council Membership
Traffic Engineering; Transit; Transportation Planning; Education; Expert Witness; ITS; Goods Movement; Parking; Pedestrian/Bicycle; Safety; Public Agency

Related Activities
- APWA, Transportation Committee, Chair 2001-present
- APWA, Nevada Chapter, President, 1996-1997
- APWA/ITE Partnership Committee, 2002
- ACED, Nevada Chapter, Director, Treasurer, 2002-present

Professional Experience
Rich is a certified Professional Traffic Operations Engineer and is a registered professional civil engineer in the states of Nevada and Utah. He has been a member of ITE for 27 years. With more than 33 years of experience in the public and private sectors, Rich has served as county Traffic Engineer/Manager and a City Traffic Engineer. He is now a Principal of Orth-Rodgers & Associates Inc., a national civil and transportation engineering/planning firm, in charge of southwest U.S. operations from the Las Vegas, NV, office.

For more than 16 years, Rich served as the Clark County, NV, Traffic Manager of the Traffic Management Division, providing leadership for its 55 employees in the administration, planning, design, operations and maintenance of transportation infrastructure and programs serving 500,000 residents and millions of visitors to the famous “Strip.” Rich’s design expertise and experience provided technical support for the annual $100-million Master Transportation Program. Rich also has served as part of the regional Emergency Operations Center team that coordinated EOC operations for nine New Year’s Eve celebrations. Prior to that, he served as the Assistant Chief Traffic Engineer for the City of Las Vegas for 6 years, in charge of enforcement; the City Traffic Engineer for the City of Palm Springs, CA, USA; and has held various traffic engineering positions at the City of Scottsdale, AZ, USA.

Rich believes that we must continue to emphasize safety, continuing education and public information/awareness.

Rich’s wife, Pricilla, his family and his employer, Ortho-Rodgers & Associates, Inc., are completely supportive of his desire to serve the ITE membership.
The City of Pasadena (141,600) is seeking a licensed professional engineer. The position has the responsibility to plan, design, and direct traffic engineering projects involving traffic signals, signing and pavement markings. The qualifications include licensed P.E. with ability to become licensed in the State of Texas within one year of hire. Certified Professional Traffic Operations Engineer, preferred. Four to seven years experience in traffic operations; governmental experience preferred. Proficient knowledge of Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, AutoCAD 2000 or MicroStation. Target hiring range is $55,000 - $62,000 per year plus benefits, DOQ. Send resumes to resume@ci.pasadena.tx.us or download an application from our website, www.ci.pasadena.tx.us and fax to 713/475-7204, or mail to: Human Resources Department, P.O. Box 672, Pasadena, TX 77501. EOE

The City of Frisco is currently seeking to fill the position of Traffic Engineer. The Traffic Engineer will assist with the administration of the City’s transportation system including traffic control, signal design and operations, signing and striping, and long range planning and development. Candidate will have a Bachelor’s Degree in Civil Engineering or related field plus 4 years transportation design and planning experience. Applicant must be a registered Texas Professional Engineer. Must pass pre-employment drug screen and MVR check. Salary is $4766 monthly + benefits. To apply, forward resume/application to Shannon Allyn, Employment Specialist, City of Frisco HR, 6891 Main Street, Frisco, TX 75103 or email to employment@ci.frisco.tx.us.
NEWSLETTER STAFF

Newsletter Editor:
Emily Braswell
Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Inc.
11011 Richmond Avenue, Suite 700
Houston, Texas 77042
Phone: (713) 914-4413
emily.braswell@texite.org

Newsletter Assistant Editor:
Michelle D. Jozwiak
Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Inc.
11011 Richmond Avenue, Suite 700
Houston, Texas 77042
Phone: (713) 914-4426
michelle.jozwiak@rsandh.com

Newsletter Assistant Editor:
Dena Jackson
Reynolds, Smith & Hills, Inc.
11011 Richmond Avenue, Suite 700
Houston, Texas 77042
Phone: (713) 914-4420
dena.jackson@rsandh.com

Roster Manager:
Susan Langdon
Street Smarts
susanl@streetsmarts.us
Phone: (972) 771-6518

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Past Presidents: Robert W. Jenkins
Turner Collie & Braden, Inc.
1200 Summit Ave., Suite 600
Fort Worth, TX 76102-4409
Phone: (817) 332-8977
jenkinsr@tcbfsw.com

The Profession: George Human
City of Richardson
P.O. Box 830309
Richardson, TX 75083-0309
Phone: (972) 238-4243
george_human@cor.gov

Technical & Consultants: Larry Cervenka
Parsons Brinkerhoff Quade & Douglas
Mesquite, Texas
Phone: (214) 819-5964
cervenka@pbworld.com

Transit: Kevin R. St. Jacques
Wilber Smith Associates, Inc.
4925 Greenville Ave., Suite 915
Dallas, TX 75206
Phone: (214) 890-4460
kstjacques@wilbursmith.com

Awards: James C. Cline
City of Irving
P.O. Box 152288
Irving, TX 75015-2288
Phone: (972) 721-2646
jccline@ci.irving.tx.us

Highway Products: Dale E. Thomson
Consolidated Traffic Controls, Inc.
P.O. Box 151837
Arlington, TX 76015
Phone: (817) 265-4321
dethomson@aol.com

Legislative: William R. Stockton
Texas Transportation Institute
7715 Chevy Chase Drive, Suite 4160
Austin, TX 78752
Phone (512) 467-0946
Bill.stockton@tamu.edu

Membership: Ginger Gooden
Texas Transportation Institute
7715 Chevy Chase Drive, Suite 4160
Austin, TX 78752
Phone (512) 467-0946
gingerdaniels@tamu.edu

Younger Members: Jason A. Crawford
Texas Transportation Institute
Arlington, TX
Phone: (817) 462-0534
jcrawford@tamu.edu

Future Engineers: Melissa D. Finley
Texas Transportation Institute
3135 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-3135
Phone: (979) 845-7596
m-finley@tamu.edu

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11011 Richmond Ave, Suite 700
Houston, Texas 77042