



texite

District 9 of the Institute of Transportation Engineers

Volume 51, Number 1

Spring 2005

Laredo Hosts Miss Texas USA® and TexITE, June 23—25, 2005

By Emily Braswell, Editor

Please join **Roberto Murillo, P.E., Brian Jahn, P.E.**, the entire Miss Texas USA® Pageant and District 9's South Texas Section Chapter June 23-25, 2005 for the TexITE Summer Meeting. Laredo has a long history of attracting people from all over the world to the Gateway City seeking fortunes, opportunities and new beginnings, bringing with them new ideas, cultures and a drive to make a life on what was once a desolate frontier.

The year 2005 marks an important historic milestone for Laredo, Texas, as the city celebrates the 250th anniversary of its founding. Laredo is one of the oldest cities in Texas. Since 1755, when Spaniard Tomas Sanchez established Villa San Agustin de Laredo, the city has been known for its independent spirit. Today, Laredo is the nation's largest inland port and one of the fastest growing cities in the United States.

Laredo has unique traffic and transportation challenges because of its historic past, its humming trade-based economy, its two nation culture and a dynamic tourist and business environment.

Laredo is a city of contrasts from its infrastructure to its economic climate and its dynamic culture. Laredo provides one of the most exciting tourist experiences on the Texas Border with opportunities ranging from sports to the arts to shopping and dining. TexITE members and guests will have the opportunity to tour an International Bridge, shop for bargains in downtown Laredo and across the border in Mexico, visit two Museums housed at La Posada Hotel, shop for Mexican imports on San Bernardo Avenue, visit Duty Free stores, and taste the local cuisine.

While in Laredo, you may decide to experience the Miss Texas USA pageant. Laredo hosts the pageant for the second time this year. The two-time Emmy award-winning Miss Texas USA is the most prestigious state pageant in the nation. The Broadway-style production will present 140 beautiful representatives from around Texas competing for the coveted title at the Laredo Entertainment Center, June 24-26.

Laredo is home to some of the most forward thinking local governments,

(Continued on page 6)

**Bienvenidos, Amigos!
Welcome to the
2005 TexITE
Summer Meeting in Laredo**

June 23-25, 2005
Summer where it sizzles!
Come join us north
of the border and
experience all the fun
and excitement of
south of the border!

La Posada
(956) 722-1701
[http://texitelaredo.homestead.com/
texiteindex.html](http://texitelaredo.homestead.com/texiteindex.html)

Table of Contents

Features

Laredo Hosts	1
Winter Meeting 2005	4
City of Laredo: Planning	6
TexITE Summer Meeting.....	7
Pass-Through Tolling in Texas	12

News

Message from the Int'l Director	2
Message from the President	2
District 9 Candidates	4
Younger Member's Committee.....	6
People & Section News	10
Student News	10
PTOE Certification.....	11

Directories

Section & Student Contacts	11
District 9 Officers	12
Job Postings	13
Professional Services Directory	13
Newsletter Staff	16
TexITE Committee Chairs	16

Message from the International Director

By Jim Carvell

Greetings. I hope your year is going well. I have a few items I would like to bring to your attention.

Member Services at ITE Headquarters

I have had a few occasions where TexITE members have related to me that they have felt services from ITE Headquarters were not as responsive as they should be. If you have something you think I could help with, contact me as soon as you perceive there is a problem. And give the details: who you communicated with, the date, and the subject. Unfortunately, a few of the recent issues brought to me were more anecdotal than detailed. However, most of them have been resolved. My email and number are shown below. Don't hesitate to call **with details**. I once had a secretary (remember those?) who left me a message, "Someone called you about something." Our ITE Executive Director, **Tom Brahms**, puts a high priority on services to the members. It doesn't hurt that this is one of the primary criteria on which he is evaluated each year.

Transportation Professional Certification Board

As many of you know, ITE formed a corporation, Transportation Professional Certification Board (TPCB) some years ago for the purpose of certifying some of the specialty areas of practice within ITE. The first of these is the Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (PTOE) and many of you are among the 1299 who have passed the written test and been certified. ITE made a loan of \$200,000 to the TPCB for developing and administering the testing for PTOE. Through test fees and annual renewals, TPCB has now paid back the loan to ITE with the final check being delivered by **Dr. Gene Wilson**, Chair of the TPCB, at the February ITE Board meeting. At that time, the ITE Board authorized a \$75,000 loan to the TPCB for the development of another certification, Traffic Operations Practitioners Specialist (TOPS), which will target certification of technicians, who while not holding an engineering degree, perform a vital service in the transportation engineering field. Watch the ITE Journal for more information on this subject.

Professional Development Program Courses on CD ROM

I have previously reported on these courses developed with the professional development fund. Three more are now available from ITE. These courses would make an excellent program for your section meetings or for use in training in your organization (and those important continuing education credits.) Below are links to course descriptions. I have the first four and will be glad to loan them out.

- o Traffic Signal Change Intervals
- o MUTCD 2000 and 2003 Revisions
- o Engineering Intersections to Reduce Red-Light Running
- o Managing High Technology Projects in Transportation
- o Introduction to Systems Engineering
- o Intervalos de Despeje de Transito
- o Fundamentals of Road Weather Management

Laredo Summer Meeting

(Continued on page 11)

President's Message

By Connie Clark

I am pleased to introduce a new Technical Committee for TexITE.

TexITE members value and expect a good exchange of knowledge, ideas and new developments within the profession from their professional organization. We attend the bi-annual meetings looking for new techniques and skills that will help us in our work. Toward the same goal of new ideas and knowledge exchange, the TexITE newsletter now incorporates an annual Technical Review Journal produced and distributed each Fall. The new Technical Committee has been given a goal to increase the potential for learning and technical endeavors for members through TexITE meetings and publications.

The key functions of the committee include being available to assist the TexITE Vice-President in selecting current and timely technical subjects and presenters for our meetings. The Technical Review Journal editors, **Emily Braswell**, **Dena Jackson**, and **Michelle Barnes**, will also have available to them the Technical Committee's assistance in selecting topics, research papers, and writers for inclusion in the new journal. The Committee may be called upon to serve on review panels for judging student papers and annual professional technical papers. The members listed below represent Texas' institutions of research and development, and everyday engineering practice. Membership in the Technical Committee is open to any TexITE members interested.

Today, the esteemed members of the Technical Committee are:

- **Srini Sunkari, P.E.**, Research Engineer, TTI
- **Nada Trout**, Research Scientist, TTI

(Continued on page 11)

District 9 Candidates for International Director

Daniel F. Lynch, PE, PTOE

Senior Principal
Traffic Engineers, Inc.

I have served 8 years in public practice and 25 years in private practice and have served on the Greater Houston Partnership Transportation Committee, Governmental Relations Committee, and Business/School Partnership Committee. I am a member of the Houston Engineering and Scientific Society and an Elder in the Presbyterian Church and a known trouble maker (although certainly not in the class of Mr. Jim Carvell nor Mr. Robert Wunderlich). Thanks for your support and I also believe Mr. Wunderlich would be a great Director for District 9.

Professional Activity

Institute of Transportation Engineers, Member
TexITE Technical Committee, Co Chairman (10 Years)
TexITE Correspondence Course (one of many who wrote chapters)
TexITE Newsletter Co Editor
TexITE, President
Institute of Transportation Engineers District 9, Section Representative
Institute of Transportation Engineers District 9, Chairman
Houston Section ITE, Organized Charter meeting for Chapter (Now Section)
ITE, Committee 6Y19 produced Planning Urban Arterial and Freeway Systems an ITE recommended practice (one of many who wrote chapters)
ITE, City Traffic Engineers Committee

Registration/Certification

Professional Engineer in Texas
Professional Traffic Operations Engineer

Things We Can Do Better at ITE

- Strengthen ITE commitment to members at local level.
- Make Online Learning Gateway free to members and require mentor certification of successful completion via exam.
- Feed live and on-demand webcasts on salient topics to local section and chapter meetings from ITE headquarters.
- Convert ITE Journal to electronic email magazine.

So, Vote early and Vote often (electronically please). See you in Laredo.

Dan

Robert C. Wunderlich, PE

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for District 9 International Director. This represents an opportunity for me to serve TexITE in a new role. I have been privileged to serve the profession in several capacities at the state and international levels and to have had a wide range of professional experiences.

TexITE Experience

Through my work on the TexITE board, I've had the chance to work with others from across the state to strengthen the profession in Texas.

- Current Student Chapter Liaison
- Past-President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer
- Section Representative
- Newsletter Editor
- Session Moderator and Presenter

ITE International Experience

As a member of ITE's Coordinating Council and through other activities, I've had the opportunity to work with professionals from across the U.S., Canada, Australia and Europe on issues of importance to the profession.

- Current Public Agency Council Chair
- ITE Coordinating Council Member
- Past Chair, Department 2 – Education, Administration and Professional Standards
- District 9 Representative to the International Nominating Committee
- Online-Learning Program Content Advisory Committee
- Technical Content Reviewer for the Online-Learning Site Impact Analysis course.
- Reviewer and contributor to technical products including new Parking Generation Report, Trip Generation Handbook, Guidelines for the Activation, Modification, or Removal of Traffic Control Signals, and an ITE Access Management Brochure
- Annual Meeting and Technical Conference Moderator and Presenter

Professional Experience

In my day job, I'm Managing Director of Transportation, Engineering, Streets and Stormwater for the City of Garland. I oversee the departments that plan, design, construct, operate and maintain the street and drainage

(Continued on page 11)

Winter Meeting 2005 Waco, Texas



Mayor Mae Jackson & Commissioner Robert Nichols visit before the luncheon.



Connie Clark & Commissioner Nichols confer before the luncheon.

On February 4, 2005, **Mayor Mae Jackson** welcomed TexITE members to Waco and commended District Engineer, **Richard Skopik**, and City Traffic Engineer, **Rick Charlton**, for the fine job they do in keeping Waco Moving. **Commissioner Robert Nichols** then gave a thought provoking speech on the State of the State in Transportation in Texas. He spoke at length about the importance of the local traffic engineer in the transportation partnership that is at the heart of keeping Texans moving. He talked about the changes being proposed in the legislative session and the changes that took place in the last session with the Mother of All Bills (MOAB) HB 3588.

Thanks go out to **Mayor Jackson** and **Commissioner Nichols** for making our 2005 Winter Meeting a rousing success.



Commissioner Robert Nichols briefs the group on legislative initiatives.



Mr. & Mrs. Ed Smith of Waco enjoy the pre-lunch conversation.



Rick Charlton, our genial host.



Kick-off Luncheon Crowd



Commissioner Nichols visits with members before the luncheon.

Winter Meeting 2005 Waco, Texas



The Highway Products Group Reception is well attended.



Los Senores Murillo.



The Highway Products Group is very inter-



The Highway Products Group is well represented.



Board members listen attentively.



Jim Williams gives the financial report.



Bettilu Charlton listens to Tone Def while John Friebele tries to explain . . .

City of Laredo: Planning for the Future

By Amy Lewis

In a 2003 effort led by the Texas Department of Transportation, stakeholders from the Laredo Region developed the Laredo Regional ITS Architecture and Deployment Plan. Kimley-Horn and TxDOT worked to develop the plan as one in a series of twenty regional architectures around the state. In the Laredo Region, participants in the process included TxDOT, the City of Laredo, El Metro, the Department of Public Safety, US Customs, US Border Patrol, and Webb County. The Regional ITS Architecture and ITS Deployment Plan satisfied federal requirements and established goals and priorities for ITS deployment in the Region. The City of Laredo expanded this planning effort in 2004 and hired Kimley-Horn to develop a detailed ITS Master Plan to identify projects for implementation within the City of Laredo. Representatives from the Traffic, Bridge, Police, Fire, Environmental Services, and Telecommunications Departments as well as El Metro and TxDOT worked together to identify needs and establish

priorities for ITS implementation in the City of Laredo.

The City of Laredo is growing and growth creates many challenges. With limited funding to make large infrastructure changes, the City is looking to ITS to address some of these challenges such as increased traffic, growth in NAFTA-related commercial vehicles, and growing security concerns. Recommended projects include a series of bridge management deployments that combine CCTV cameras and dynamic message signs to provide traveler information, updates to the signal system, and a joint operations center for traffic, police, fire and the emergency operations center.



(Continued from page 1)

education systems and businesses in the great State of Texas. It is also home to one of the most culturally diverse economic and cultural communities in Texas. Within this exciting and sometimes challenging environment, transportation is a key element in Laredo's past and future.

Roberto Murillo manages a staff of 30 and a budget of 4 million that includes maintenance and operation of 250 traffic signals - 130 of which are on line. He has several traffic signals that are still on span wire and operated with electro-mechanical controllers.

The city has initiated an aggressive traffic control program aimed at upgrading existing electromechanical equipment and incorporating signals into the City's computerized traffic signal control system. Roberto has also started work in upgrading the City's computerized traffic signal control system that was installed about 15 years ago. Included in this plan is the upgrade of signal and communication equipment in the CBD area. The City is also beginning a comprehensive revitalization, which will provide TexITE members and guests the full 'before' and 'after' experience when TexITE returns to Laredo for another meeting.

In addition to **Roberto Murillo's** aggressive approach to upgrading the Gateway City's traffic and transportation system, **Luis Ramirez**, District Engineer, TxDOT, and **Ronald Moore** of El Metro, the City's transit service, provide a very sophisticated partnership in keeping Laredo moving. TxDOT, El Metro and the City of Laredo work together to maximize the existing system and build the smartest future system possible.

Younger Member's Committee

Buenos Dias! Since this is my first official announcement as the **Younger Member's Chair**, I will introduce myself. My name is **Jennifer Butcher** and I work for Street Smarts in Fort Worth. I have been involved in TexITE for over a year and am anxious to form an active Younger Member's group. To kick off my term as younger member's chair, I am looking for all the young engineers (35 and younger) AND the YOUNG AT HEART engineers who are ready to have a good time after the Laredo Friday Night Social. I am still ironing out details for the event, so if you have any ideas about places to hang-out in Laredo or Nuevo Laredo, please shoot me an email (jenniferb@streetsmarts.us). I will post details of the event on the younger member's listserv and include them in the meeting's schedule of events. If you are not on the listserv, send an email to texite-youngermembers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to join the group. I'm looking forward to hanging out with everyone in Laredo and as Toby Keith would say, "What happens down in Mexico, stays in Mexico..."





2005 SUMMER MEETING

La Posada Hotel & Suites

Laredo, TX

June 23 - 25, 2005

Dear TexITE Member:

Bienvenidos, Amigo! On behalf of the TexITE 2005 Summer Meeting Local Arrangements Committee, we welcome all of you to beautiful and historic Laredo!

Please make your plans now to attend the Summer 2005 TexITE Meeting on June 23rd – 25th, 2005. The La Posada Hotel has blocked a limited number of rooms for us at \$ 89 Single or Double Occupancy (TexITE Members), \$99 Single and \$ 109 Double Occupancy for Vendors/Exhibitors, and \$80 Single \$99 Double Occupancy (State Employees with ID). The rates are only available until **June 7, 2005**, so place your reservation early. You must call **La Posada Hotel Hotel & Suites directly at 956-722-1701** to get this rate and be sure to indicate that your reservation is for the *TexITE Conference*. Visit laposadahotel.com for additional information regarding the hotel.

Thursday will start with the Golf Tournament at the Casa Blanca Country Club. There will also be two technical tours available. You can first tour the Laredo International Bridge System, and after that there will be a tour of the STRATIS Traffic Control Center. Transportation is provided for the Golf Tournament and both tours. The Highway Products Group will host the Thursday night group social where you can see the latest traffic products available. They will also have the exhibit on Friday morning.

We invite you to explore the history, the cultures and the adventure that the Texas border area has to offer. Please bring the family along to enjoy many fun tours also. There will be group trips available for shopping on Thursday and on Friday a bowling party, a trolley tour and a visit to the Laredo Children's Museum. Our Friday night social will be held at the Laredo Center of the Arts with lots of great food and a live band.

Early registration ends June 1st. You can register on-line at www.texite.org or you can also mail your completed registration and payment to the address included in this newsletter. All early registrations are eligible for a drawing for a \$ 200 Gift Certificate to Best Buy.

We look forward to hosting you in Laredo!

Sincerely,

Roberto Murillo
Local Arrangements Chair



2005 SUMMER MEETING
La Posada Hotel
Laredo, TX.
June 23-25, 2005

Mail Form and Payment To:

City of Laredo Traffic Safety
Attn: Angelica C. Hale
2800 E. Saunders Ave.
Laredo, TX 78041
(956) 795-2250

REGISTRATION FORM

Personal Information:

Name: _____ Name for Badge: _____
Street Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____
Organization: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____
Guests' Names (if Attending): _____

Friday Night Banquet (Indicate Total Number of Each Entrée, Including Guest Selections if applicable):

____ Ribeye **R—MR—M—MW—W** (circle doneness) ____ Chicken Cordon Bleu ____ Seafood Kabob ____ Vegetarian (Applies to all Meals)

Meeting Registration:

TexITE Member* (Received by June 1, 2005)	\$125	X _____ = \$ _____
TexITE Member* (After June 1, 2005)	\$150	X _____ = \$ _____
Non-Members*	\$150	X _____ = \$ _____
Guest (includes All Guest Activities and Friday Night Banquet)	\$ 55	X _____ = \$ _____
Student*	\$ 25	X _____ = \$ _____
Vendor (Full)*	\$125	X _____ = \$ _____
Vendor (name badge only)	\$ 25	X _____ = \$ _____

Additional Meal Tickets (for guests)

Registrations marked with '' include Kickoff Luncheon, Technical Sessions, Friday Night Banquet and Business Lunch.**
All early registrations will be eligible for a drawing for a \$200 Gift Certificate to Best Buy. Please register only one member or family per form. Early registration period ends on June 1, 2005.

Friday Kickoff Luncheon	\$ 25	X _____ = \$ _____
Friday Night Banquet	\$ 35	X _____ = \$ _____
(Include Entrée Selection in Space Provided above)	\$ 15	X _____ = \$ _____
Saturday Business Luncheon	\$ 25	X _____ = \$ _____

Sporting Events (additional event information is available at the registration desk)

Golf Tournament at the Laredo Country Club—Thursday, 9 am to 3pm \$ 66 X _____ = \$ _____

Guest Activities (additional activity information is available at the registration desk)

Viva Laredo! Shopping Tour —Thursday, 11am to 3pm	Adults	\$ 25	X _____ = \$ _____
(Transportation and Lunch Provided)	Children < 12	\$ 10	X _____ = \$ _____
Laredo Trolley Tour —Friday, 10am to Noon	Adults	\$ 10	X _____ = \$ _____
(Trolley Leaves from Hotel Area)	Children < 12	\$ 7	X _____ = \$ _____
Laredo Children's Museum —Friday, 2:30pm to 4:30pm		\$ 2	X _____ = \$ _____
(Transportation Provided)			
Bowling Party —Friday, 1pm to 3pm		\$ 10	X _____ = \$ _____
(Transportation and Lunch Provided)			

Thursday Technical Tours (additional tour information is available at the registration desk)

Laredo International Bridge System, 11am to 2pm (Transportation and Lunch Provided)	\$ 5	X _____ = \$ _____
STRATIS Traffic Control Center at TxDOT Laredo Office, 3pm to 5pm (Transportation Provided)	\$ 5	X _____ = \$ _____

Payment

TOTAL → → → → → → → → → → \$ _____

-Please make checks payable to TexITE.

- Go to www.TexITE.org for on-line registration (preferred).

- Register early! Late registration does not guarantee meal availability.

Spring 2005 TexITE Meeting Meeting Schedule

Thursday, June 23

9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Golf Tournament, Casa Blanca Country Club
11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Technical Tour #1 Laredo International Bridge System. Transportation leaves from hotel, lunch is provided
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Technical Tour #2 STRATIS Traffic Control Center. Transportation leaves from hotel
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Executive Board Meeting
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Highway Products Group Reception

Friday, June 24

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Committee Meetings
8:00 am – 10:00 am	Section Officers' Meeting
8:00 am – Noon	Highway Products Group Exhibits
10:00 am – Noon	Executive Board Meeting (if necessary)
Noon – 1:30 pm	Kickoff Luncheon
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Technical Sessions
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Friday Night Social – Texas Sports Hall of Fame

Saturday, February 5

7:00 am – 8:00 am	Student Chapter Meetings
7:00 am – 8:30 am	Consultant's Council Breakfast
8:00 am – 10:00 am	Student Paper Presentations
10:00 am – Noon	TexITE Saturday Morning Talk Show
Noon – 2:30 pm	Business Luncheon

Kick-Off Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: Amadeo Saenz, Jr. Assistant Executive Director for Engineering Operations.

Amadeo Saenz is the Assistant Executive Director for Engineering Operations of TxDOT. **Saenz** implements and manages TxDOT's engineering operations policies, programs and operating strategies according to federal and state laws and Texas Transportation Commission regulations and directives. He also oversees and coordinates engineering operations to ensure efficient and effective management. After earning his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1977, **Saenz** joined TxDOT in 1978 in the Pharr District as an engineering lab assistant, and he went on to work as an assistant area engineer, assistant field operations engineer, and area engineer in the Pharr District. He was promoted to his current position in November 2001. A native of Hebbronville, **Saenz** is a past member of the Laredo and Pharr Rotary and was active with the McAllen-area Boy Scouts. He is a past member of the Sembradores DeAmistad International Club. He owns and operates a small cattle ranch in South Texas, and he enjoys horseback riding and hunting.

Spring 2005 TexITE Meeting Technical Sessions

Session 1a. Access Management

- "Local / State Coordination on Access Management Issues," Bill Eisele, Texas Transportation Institute
- "Corridor Access Management Plan Case Study," Kurt Schulte, Kimley-Horn & Associates
- "Access Management in the Laredo District of TxDOT," Danny Magee, Texas Department of Transportation
- "Incorporating Access Management Into City Regulations," Dale Rudick, City of Sugarland, Texas.

Session 1b. Intelligent Transportation Systems

- "Your ITS Architecture and Funding – Use It Or Lose It," Tom Fowler, Kimley-Horn and Associates
- "European ITS Scanning Tour," Mark Olson, Federal Highway Administration
- "ITS Case Study - The Laredo Wireless Ethernet Network," Leonard Ruback, Texas Transportation Institute
- "Making ITS Projects Competitive in the TIP Process," Kevin Balke, Texas Transportation Institute

Session 2a. Traffic Operations

- "Guidelines to Reduce Red Light Running," Karl Zimmerman, Texas Transportation Institute
- "Pavement Regularity Effect On Multilane Highway Capacity," Professor Rafael Gallegos, Universidad Autonoma de Nuevo Leon, Mexico
- "Traffic Responsive Timing Plan Selection Guidelines," Monte Abbas, Texas Transportation Institute
- "City of Austin Signal Assessment Program," Ali Mozdbar, City of Austin, Texas

Session 2b. Work Zone Traffic Control

- "Traffic Control Plan Improvements for Urban Arterial Work Zones," Dr. Randy Machemehl, Center for Transportation Research
- "New Traffic Control Techniques for Short Term Maintenance Activities," Melissa Finley, Texas Transportation Institute
- "3D Modeling of Work Zones Near A Toll Gantry," Ruben Goldblatt, KLD Associates
- "Portable Signals to Replace Flaggers," Dale Picha, Texas Department of Transportation

Session 3. Student Paper Presentation

Session 4. TexITE Saturday Morning Talk Show

Section News & Activities

Brazos Valley Section

The Brazos Valley Section has had a good spring so far. Our regular monthly meetings have gone well, with three speakers from local agencies discussing local topics. These topics include the developing street connectivity project in College Station, the Bryan-College Station (BCS) MPO 2005-2030 Metropolitan Transportation Plan, and a long-awaited railroad grade separation project in Bryan. Most of our meetings have been well attended, and we expect another good meeting at the end of May.

BVITE membership is up this year, particularly among student members. We appreciate all of the Texas A&M Student Chapter members who are getting involved this Spring.

The biggest news in the Brazos Valley Section is the selection of our invitation to host the 2006 Summer Meeting. We are gearing up the local arrangements committee to start planning and preparations, and we are looking forward to a great meeting. Come join us in Aggieland next June!

Capital Area Section

Future meeting dates are June 3 and August 5, 2005. You can find section meeting information at this website: <http://www.texite.org/austin/mainaustin.htm>.

Greater Dallas Section

The Greater Dallas Section holds meetings on the second Thursday of each month. You can find information about their upcoming meetings at: <http://www.texite.org/dallas/maindallas.htm>.

Greater Fort Worth Section

The Section typically meets on the third Thursday of each month at Joe T. Garcia's in Fort Worth for a noon hour meeting providing conversation, networking and a technical presentation. Speakers at our meetings come from a wide range of entities including governmental, academics/research, and consultants, to name a few. Check out the website for more details: www.texite.org/fortworth/mainfortworth.htm.

Greater Houston Section

The next Houston Section meeting will be on July 13th. A contract has been signed with **HESS Club** for future monthly luncheon meetings. You can register online before the lunch meeting. Any late registrants will be charged an additional \$5. www.texite.org/houston

South Texas Section

You can find section meeting information at this website: <http://www.texite.org/southtexas/index.htm>.

People News

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. (KHA), with offices in eight Texas cities, has been selected for FORTUNE magazine's annual listing of the 100 Best Companies to Work For. The number 46 ranking marks its first appearance on the FORTUNE list. Among small firms (1000 to 2500 employees) in the listing, **KHA** ranked 21. Texas offices are located in Austin, Dallas, Houston, Fort Worth, El Paso, San Antonio, Childress and Frisco. TexITE members of **KHA** include **Scott Arnold, Lee Ann Dixon, Chessa Faulkner, Thomas Fowler, David Halloin, Michael Hofener, Kevin Hoppers, Jim Jones, Wayne Kurfees, Amy Lewis, Aaron Nathan, Patrick O'Connor, George Roland, Kurt Schulte, Brian Shamburger, Brian Shewski, Brian Van De Walle**

and **Roy Wilshire**. Thanks to **Carlene Byron** for submitting this news.

Greater Dallas Section

Cinde Weatherby Gilliland has recently been named a Vice President of URS Corporation. **Cinde** coordinates the corporation's public transit projects and pursuits in Texas. She can be reached at 972-406-6970 or Cinde_Gilliland@URSCorp.com.

Greater Houston Section

Emily Braswell, AICP, joined Pate Engineers in April as Vice-President of Corporate Development, Transportation Initiatives. She will be based in Houston and will be working throughout the state in identifying and developing transportation projects for counties, cities, and private entities with the new innovative finance tools available to TxDOT. She can be reached at 832-590-7155 or embraswell@pateeng.com.

Student News

Congratulations to the graduates of May and August!

To the future employers, student resumes are available on the student ITE websites:

- stuact.tamu.edu/stuorgs/ite/
- studentorgs.utexas.edu/utite/
- www-ce.uta.edu/ite/default.shtml
- www.civil.utep.edu/student/ITE/

Students, as you graduate and begin your careers, please remember to update your contact information with TexITE. This can be done online in the "Members Only" section of the TexITE website, <http://www.texite.org>.

(Continued from page 2)

- **Tony Voigt, P.E.**, Research Engineering, TTI
- **Randy Machemehl, P.E.**, Professor and Director, UT Center for Transportation
- **Mark Olson, P.E.**, Traffic Operations Engineer, FHWA
- **Paul Leudtke, P.E.**, Dir., of Transportation Operations, City of Garland

We look forward to the results of their contributions.

(Continued from page 3)

infrastructure in Garland

My professional career has led from transportation researcher to municipal traffic engineer, consultant, and now into municipal management. I've worked for the Texas Transportation Institute, the cities of Austin, Arlington, and Garland and for Barton-Aschman Associates. My bachelors and masters degrees in Civil Engineering are from the University of Tennessee.

(Continued from page 2)

I heard **Roberto Murillo** and **Brian Jahn's** report on plans for the summer meeting at our spring TexITE Board meeting. Sounds like a great meeting. There are details elsewhere in the newsletter, but I was especially pleased to hear we will have participation from the new Northern Mexico Chapter in Monterrey. There will be presentations in Spanish as well as English. Mark your calendars for June 23-25.

As always, feel free to contact me on any ITE issue.

Jim Carvell

jcarvell@tamu.edu or 972-994-0433

Student Chapter Contacts

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Greater Fort-Worth Section

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PTOE Certification

TexITE and the Capital Area Section are trying to determine if there is enough interest to justify holding a PTOE Certification Exam in Austin this October. There are currently only 54 certified PTOEs in Texas.

Certification as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer is a powerful demonstration of requisite knowledge, skill and ability in the specialized application of traffic operations engineering. The certification process which has been adopted for Professional Traffic Operations Engineers requires that the holder be a licensed professional engineer if he or she practices in the United States, Canada or any other country that provides governmental licensing of engineers. This certification process builds on and supports the practice of professional engineering registration. It is a long-term investment in one's professional career, which can be presented with pride!

If you would be interested in taking the PTOE Exam in Austin this October, please contact Brian Van De Walle at brian.vandewalle@kimley-horn.com.

For more information about the requirements to sit for the exam, please visit <http://www.ite.org/certification/>.

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PE's NEED CEPs

The Continuing Education Program (CEP) of the Texas Board of Professional Engineers requires that all active Professional Engineers (PEs) report 15 hours of continuing education activities with at least one (1) hour of ethics. Just check the box on your renewal form to certify that you have completed the requirement and remember to keep documentation of the activities as proof in the case of an audit. Many different activities can count so visit <http://www.tbpe.state.tx.us> for more information.

ITE Celebrates 75th Anniversary

The Institute of Traffic Engineers became a reality when the constitution was adopted in New York, NY on January 20, 1931. Forty-five years later, in 1976, the Institute of Traffic Engineers changed its name to the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). This change reflected the growing diversity in transportation engineering.

As an organization, ITE creates opportunities for engineers, planners and other professionals to increase their knowledge and further their advancement through meetings, seminars and publication. The ITE network includes more than 16,000 members in 90 countries.

There will be an international celebration at the ITE 2005 Annual Meeting and Exhibit in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia. Information about the annual meeting is available at www.ite.org/annualmeeting/.

Pass-Through Tolling in Texas

By Emily Braswell, AICP

Pass-Through Tolling is one of the new financing techniques created under HB 3588 in the 2003 Legislative Session in the Mother of All Bills (MOAB). It is a mechanism that allows a local government to finance and construct much needed projects today and can be repaid by the State over time as motorists utilize the improved roads. Pass-Through Tolling allows local entities to proactively control the timing of system projects and allows TxDOT to delegate authority for program implementation to the local entity. In this relationship, TxDOT takes on a role similar to the FHWA role as the lead agency while the local government becomes the implementing agency.

The first Pass-Through Toll Program to be passed in the State is the ambitious program passed by Montgomery County and approved by the Texas Transportation Commission in February of this year. It is an aggressive program that will advance six projects by 8 to 15 years. Pate Engineers worked closely with the County and the Houston District of TxDOT to secure a pass-through toll agreement. Pate is now working with the state and local entities to complete the project implementation agreement that will form the basis of the program contract for the next several years. The six projects include two projects on FM 1488, and individual projects on FM 1314, FM 1485, FM 1484 and SH 242 Direct Connectors to IH 45.

The first step in securing a pass-through toll agreement is to define the program and select suitable projects. Submitting the application through the local TxDOT District Engineer is the second step and involves a substantial investment in time and money to do a creditable job. Once the application has been submitted, the third step is acceptance by the Texas Transportation Commission. The fourth step is negotiation with TxDOT regarding the amount and terms of the payback schedule. The final step in securing the pass through agreement is the final approval by the Texas Transportation Commission. It is definitely not a one size fits all kind of

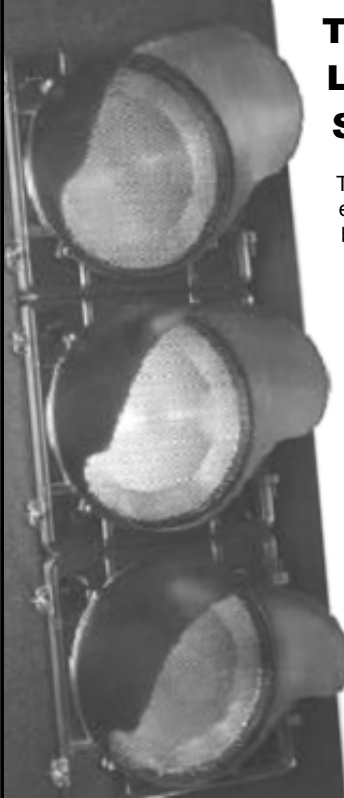
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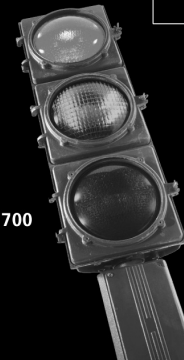
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