

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Sarath Joshua, PE, PhD



Dear AZITE Member:

Welcome to another year with ITE Arizona! First of all, I would like to thank Andrew Smigielski, our Past President, for his service to AZITE during the last five years. Andrew will continue to serve on the Board for another year and we will continue to benefit from his experience and ideas.

Although the new Board will be formally sworn in at our next meeting on September 25th we have pretty much assumed our respective duties. Working together with all of you, we hope to make this a fun year with many interesting activities. We held the usual August Board meeting on the 19th to prepare for the upcoming meeting, discuss the budget for next year and formalization of the Southern Arizona ITE Chapter. We have discussed the possibility of having a joint meeting with SAITE in July at Casa Grande. More information on these topics will be provided at the September meeting.

I would like to start of my year as President by sharing some thoughts on a few areas we could focus on for next year. Let me begin by repeating part of my statement from 2000 that was in the AZITE newsletter following my nomination to the AZITE Board. *"I am excited by all the possibilities being created by recent and emerging technologies. How we take full advantage of them to solve transportation problems depend a lot on our profession. The transportation engineer of the future will have to be very different from our predecessor, the highway engineer. As a profession we have already begun to acknowledge the role of the internet, computers, wireless digital communications and how they affect our lives and our mobility choices. I would like to help in the collective efforts of our profession in addressing these challenges."* This is still a very accurate statement about how I feel about our profession today. The practice of transportation engineering and planning is changing rapidly with applications of new technologies, better

analysis methods, etc. Although it is a challenge for us to keep up with these advances, it is also our responsibility to keep current in our practice, be aware of innovations and also try new solutions and experimental projects. As the group of professionals primarily responsible for ensuring safe and efficient mobility in our communities we have a tremendous responsibility and all of us need to become more proactive in identifying and addressing transportation related needs. I am sure that many of you are already contributing in various community activities.

Here are some of the topics or areas where we would like to focus this year:

1. Redesign the AZITE website at the District 6 website and make it our first stop for all information on AZITE
2. A series of fun activities by the Active Member Group – You will hear more on this from Christine Warren
3. Provide support and possibly mentoring for ASU and U of A student chapters
4. Help recruit new AZITE members
5. Professional training – PTOE & PE training
6. Increase AZITE community involvement through participation in Future City, Eweek, MathCounts
7. Establish an Electronic Forum where anyone may pose questions related to traffic engineering to a panel of AZITE volunteers – similar to a number of volunteer expert panels on the internet

Kudos to Christine Warren, who is doing a great job in leading the Active Members Group. They have a number of activities coming up. See the announcement on page 2.

I would like to have a dialogue on these or other topics of interest between you and the Board. Please feel free to contact us via email, phone or in person at the monthly meetings. Thank you.

PTOE EXAM OFFERED OCTOBER 25

Eugene M. Wilson, Chairman of the Transportation Professional Certification Board, Inc. reminds you that you still have time to apply to take the PTOE Exam on Saturday, October 25, 2003!

The exam will not be held in Phoenix this Fall. Testing locations include Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Ft. Lauderdale, Indianapolis, and Kansas City, Missouri. Ideally applications should be submitted before September 30th, but completed applications and payments will be accepted up to noon on October 8th.

It is expected that the number of PTOE's will exceed 1,000 before year-end. If you are a practicing traffic operations engineer with more than five years of professional experience and are a licensed Professional Engineer, you are encouraged to become a PTOE or to encourage others who may work with or for you to do so.

HOW'S THAT AGAIN?

The following photos are making the rounds on the Internet.

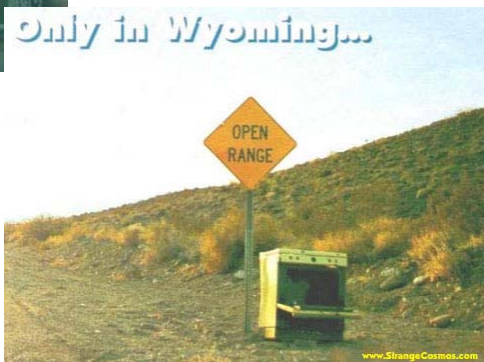


← Don't drink and make a traffic sign, either...

This message brought to you by the Office of National Drug Control Policy... →



Talk about your mixed messages... this situation creates a dilemma zone at a stop-controlled intersection.



My apologies to those who hail from Wyoming.

VENDOR'S CORNER

This Space Available!

(The Vendor's Corner highlights a different vendor in our industry in each issue.)

Sorry, no Vendor's Corner this issue. In the next issue our highlighted vendor will be Phoenix Freeway Products.

PHOENIX WINS 2 AWARDS FROM ITE

The City of Phoenix won two awards at the recent ITE Annual meeting in Seattle. Both were awarded at the ITE Honorees Dinner held during the meeting.

The Transportation Achievement Award for Operations went to the Advanced Transportation Management System/National Transportation Communication Information Protocol Integration Project in Phoenix. Pictured accepting the award from ITE



President John (Jack) R. Freeman (left) is (l-r) James W. Sparks, Deputy Director, City of Phoenix, AZ; Michael S. Frisbie, Traffic Engineer III, City of Phoenix; Bill Skillis; and Doug Terry, National Director of ITS, Transcore.

The Edmund R. Ricker Transportation Safety Award also went to the City of Phoenix, which received this award in recognition of its comprehensive Phoenix School Safety Program. Pictured accepting the award on behalf of the city are: (seated L-R) Michael J. Cynecki, Traffic Engineering Supervisor and James W. Sparks, Deputy Director; (standing L-R) Paul R. Robinson, Principal Engineering Technician; Jenny Grote, Traffic Engineer III; Chaun Hill, Traffic Engineer III; and ITE President Jack Freeman.



Also at the meeting, Steven D. Hofener, P.E., PTOE was elected ITE International President. Timothy P. Harpst, P.E., PTOE was elected ITE International Vice President. Both will take office January 1, 2004 and will serve through December 31, 2004.

SO, WHERE WAS THAT, ANYWAY?

In the April-May, and again in the last, issue of *ITE Arizona News*, readers were asked to identify this sign, which was spotted in northern Arizona. No one responded to Past President

Andrew Smigielski with the correct answer. Andrew reveals that this sign is located on historic Route 66 just east of Seligman.



Children: New Guy in Town

From NEWSWEEK

July 28 issue — No, it's not an alien invasion. But recently there's been a swarm of 2½-foot-tall neon green men outside suburban homes.

THE KID ALERT Visual Warning System, a new kind of sign warning drivers to slow down, was developed by The Step 2 Co. in response to injuries resulting from children's playing



outside. "Drivers seem to ignore the CHILDREN PLAYING signs that neighborhoods put up," says Dotti Foltz of Step 2. Little fluorescent men are more arresting. The purpose of the Kid Alert is twofold: while catching drivers' attention, it also reminds children of the boundaries of their own yards. Laurel Bennett, from Stow, Ohio, says the Kid Alert, which her son, Ethan, 4, named "Slow Down Sammy," is like a friend. "I just have to say 'Don't go past Sammy!'" This may soon become the motto in suburbs across the country. Foltz says that many neighborhood associations recommend the Kid Alert, and at about \$25, it is a small price to pay for safety. Foltz suggests that parents take the Kid Alert inside when children leave the yard, to prevent it from becoming a signal that drivers are accustomed to and ignore. So no need to panic the next time you start seeing little neon men... just drive a little slower.

—M.S.

This article can be found at <http://www.msnbc.com/news/941322.asp?odm=s16Ck&cp1=1#BODY>

For product, retailer, and ordering info visit The Step 2 Company website at http://www.step2.com/index.cfm?stp2ssid=D60AED8A-22C2-4E8D-B37A9430D8EED60A&action=details&category_id=1000&subcategory_id=1000&product_id=1055

STUDENT CHAPTER REPORTS

Arizona State University

The ASU student chapter looks forward to working with the state and district chapters. Currently, we are looking for any support (ideas, speakers, etc.) that anyone is willing to give us. If you are interested in helping the ASU chapter I can be reached at: Strick@asu.edu.

- Submitted by Rick Strickland, ITE Student Chapter President

University of Arizona

Career Night October 29th 5:30 - 8:30 PM

The U of A will be having a Career Night on Wednesday, October 29 from 5:30-8:30 pm. This is organized by the students in our Society of Civil Engineers (SCE). Interested companies and organizations should contact Juan Lopez, SCE President, at jjl@u.arizona.edu or by calling the SCE office at (520) 621-6588.

Mark Hickman
University of Arizona

ACTIVE MEMBERS GROUP MEETING

The next meeting of the Active Members Group will be on October 13th at Rosie McCaffrey's at 5:30 PM. Rosie McCaffrey's is located at 906 East Camelback Road, Phoenix, near Toys 'R Us. For additional information, contact Christine Warren at cwarren@cb2m.com.

INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

October 8, 2003

The goal of International Walk to School Day varies from community to community. Some walks rally for safer and improved streets, some to promote healthier habits and some to conserve the environment. While the main thrust of the event is to get together with children and walk to school one day a year, the event's greater aim is to bring forth permanent change in communities across the globe. Specifically, these goals include:



- Encouraging physical fitness through the easiest-to-do and most enjoyable form of exercise safely by teaching children the skills to walk safely and to identify safe routes to school.
- Raising awareness of how walkable a community is and where improvements can be made.
- Raising concern for the environment
- Reduce crime and take back neighborhoods for people on foot
- Reducing traffic congestion, pollution, and speed near schools
- Sharing valuable time with local community leaders, parents, and children

Whatever the reason, Walk to School Day events encourage a more walkable world, one community at a time.

OFFICERS

President

Sarath Joshua
Maricopa Assn. of Gov'ts.
602.254.6300

Vice President

Scott Nodes
City of Peoria
623.773.7224

Secretary

Mark Poppe
City of Glendale
623.930.2940

Treasurer

Kimberly Carroll
Kirkham Michael
602.944.6564

Past President

Andrew Smigielski
Carter Burgess
602.263.5309



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Ambassador

Bill Birdwell
Town Of Gilbert
480.503.6737

Career Guidance

Chris Lemka
David Evans
602.678.5151

ITE/IMSA Spring Conference

Seth Chalmers
480.949.0925

Legislative

Dave Eberhardt
Thunderbird Consulting
623.412.0050

Membership

Dan Hartig
Parsons Brinckerhoff
480.966.8295

Newsletter

Joe Spadafino
Kirkham Michael
602.944.6564

Active Member Group

Christine Warren
CH2M Hill
480.966.8188

Technical

Sharon Hansen
Aegir Systems, Inc.
602-363-3741

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Monthly Meeting of the Arizona Section of ITE will be held on
Thursday, September 25, 2003 at 11:55 A.M.
at

Best Western Executive Park Hotel
1100 N Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

Cost: \$20.00

(Menu: BBQ Chicken, Vegetarian Alternative)

Annual Business Meeting

Guest Speaker: Manny Agah of ADOT

Topic: Freeway Management System and Statewide Homeland Security



RSVP by noon, Monday, September 22 to Scott Nodes,
Phone: 623-773-7224

E-mail to: scotttn@peoriaaz.com



C/O Dan Hartig
Parsons Brinckerhoff
1501 W. Fountainhead Parkway
Suite 400
Tempe, AZ 85282

This newsletter is a bi-monthly publication of the Arizona Section of ITE. Send, e-mail or fax your articles to Joe Spadafino at Kirkham Michael. (fax: 602.944.6592, jspadafino@kmphx.com)