Traffic Generation Trends of Today’s Discount Clubs
By: John J. Yurick, P.E., PTOE and Jeffrey D. Gehman, E.I.T.
-McMahon Associates-
(see page 4)

The resulting average weighted trip generation rates continue to reveal trip generation rates lower than reported by ITE for discount clubs without gasoline sales.
A Message from the President
-Joseph C. Balskus-

My fellow New England Section members, I hope you are having a terrific summer! For the most part, the weather has been wonderful so far, with only a couple of weekends with rain that I can remember. While the summer is here, keeping NEITE going is still important, even on the lazy days of summer as they dwindle in number and the kids head back to school. What better way to break out of the summer pace than to read the third Chronicle of the year! As we stated in our goals for 2011, publishing four Chronicles remains the objective. So I am writing to you for the third time this year, and if all goes according to plan, you are reading this in early September, 2011!

This could not be possible without the dedicated team at McMahon Associates led by Steve Findlen but very much supported by his assistant, Tamorra King, who, will going on maternity leave in October, so this third issue is dedicated to her enjoying the time away from being an editor!

As I have in the past Chronicles this year, I routinely refer back to earlier Chronicles to understand the issues that were pressing then for transportation professionals in New England. As an example, I reviewed the November 2002 Chronicle when the economy was a focus of discussion for our profession, and the number of PTOE test takers was worthy of noting in the article. Here we are nine years later and I think we are one small economic boom removed from that time. And then in 2003 and 2004 Fall issues, we didn't have a President's message, but an Editor's Corner. As with all Chronicle newsletters, with change in editorship sometimes brings changes in the Chronicle. And change is good for keeping our members informed of the industry issues and events.

So as the third issue this year, I want to re-emphasize our stated goals, of getting four issues of the Chronicle published, increasing involvement of our membership, and keeping our strategic plan in mind as we set our goals for the year and work to achieve them.

Since I last wrote, the Northeastern District Annual Meeting was held in our sister Section in Port Jefferson, New York. It was a terrific meeting, building on the excellent meeting in Portland in 2010. The Port Jefferson meeting had record attendances and at the meeting, the organizers had to improvise several times to accommodate the crowd of attendees. Kudos to the Metro Section for pulling off another successful meeting. With the Section 2013 Annual meeting just around the corner, nearly 20 months away, the meeting co-chairs were taking notes of everything at the meeting to consider in the planning for the 2013 meeting. More information on the planning efforts will follow in the next several months.

And then in June, we held the annual Joint Section meeting with the NH and ME chapters in York, Maine with excellent training session on the new HCM and both transportation commissioners from NH and ME presenting during the dinner meeting!

As I indicated last time, we had three golf tournaments planned through the summer, with the inaugural CT Chapter tournament and the traditional Scott Desjardins memorial golf tournament in June. Please mark your calendars for the final trifecta of golf tournaments, the Scott Herr Memorial Golf Tournament on September 22. Information is on the Section website, www.neite.org.

And finally, as we head into the month of September and get back into our work groove away from vacations, we look forward to the annual Joint meeting of the Section and the MA ITE Chapter, again in Waltham. As with the terrific June meeting in Maine, another great training session is planned for the Highway Safety Manual. The Section Continuing Education Chair Alan Cloutier has been scouring the training websites while confirming with the NEITE board for the best programs for our members.

Don't forget after September, we basically have a joint meeting with the Rhode Island Chapter in early November and then back to Warwick, for our long planned and traditional, Section annual meeting the first Monday.

So here is your wake up call, to get out of the slumber of the summer lazy days, if you had any, and let's get back into the NEITE groove and moving ahead with making the Section the best it can be going forward. Thanks for reading this and thank you for helping NEITE be success.

-Joe
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<tr>
<td>Joseph C. Balskus, P.E., PTOE</td>
<td>Douglas Prentiss, P.E., PTOE</td>
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<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Charter/Bylaws</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kien Ho, P.E., PTOE</td>
<td>Kim Nazarian, Ph.D., P.E., PTOE</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Chronicle/NEITE Newsletter Editor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas A. Errico, P.E.</td>
<td>Steven C. Findlen, P.E.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Continuing Education Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Segale, P.E. / PTP</td>
<td>Alan Cloutier, P.E., PTOE</td>
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<td>Jr. Director</td>
<td>Legislative Liaison</td>
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<td>Michelle Langone Danila, P.E.</td>
<td>Jeffrey Dirk, P.E.</td>
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<td>Jr. Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roger Dickinson</td>
<td>Peter Vasilou, P.E., PTOE, LEED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immediate Past President</td>
<td>NEITE Website Chair / Webmaster</td>
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<td>Kevin R. Dandrade, P.E., PTOE</td>
<td>Samuel Gregorio, EIT</td>
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<td>Chapter Presidents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Aloise, P.E.</td>
<td>Program Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Jeffrey R. Gomes</td>
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<td>Randy Dunton</td>
<td>Public Relations Chair</td>
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<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Joseph Hallisey</td>
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<td>Steven C. Findlen, P.E.</td>
<td>Public Relations Communications Contact</td>
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<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>Nick M. Fomenko, P.E., PTOE</td>
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<td>Andre H. Betti, Jr., P.E.</td>
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<td>Tom Desjardins Scholarship, Chair</td>
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<td>Russell B. Holt, P.E.</td>
<td>Rodney C. Emery, P.E., PTOE</td>
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<td>Evan Detrick, P.E.</td>
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<td>Jason Degray, P.E.</td>
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<td>Daniel M. Dulaski, PhD, PE</td>
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<td>University of Connecticut Faculty Advisor</td>
<td>Tom Gorrill, P.E.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Lownes, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Historian</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Rhode Island Faculty Advisor</td>
<td>John Thompson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Hunter, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Strategic Plan Administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMass/Amherst</td>
<td>John Minibito, P.E., PTOE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Tupper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Knodler, PhD</td>
<td>Michael Knodler, PhD</td>
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<td>University of Connecticut Facility Advisor</td>
<td>Nicholas Lownes, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Rhode Island Facility Advisor</td>
<td>Christopher Hunter, Ph.D.</td>
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<tr>
<td>UMass/Lowell Faculty Advisor</td>
<td>Chronis Stamatisidis</td>
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### Useful Links

- **Institute of Transportation Engineers**  
  http://www.ite.org

- **Boston Society of Civil Engineers**  
  http://www.bsces.org

- **American Society of Civil Engineers**  
  http://www.asce.org

- **New Hampshire Chapter**  
  http://www.ascenh.org

- **Vermont Section Chapter**  
  http://sections.asce.org/vermont

- **Maine Section Chapter**  
  http://www.mainasce.org/

- **Connecticut Section**  
  http://www.csce.org/

- **Rhode Island Section**  
  http://www.riasce.org/

- **Urban Land Institute**  
  http://www.uli.org

- **MA Association of Consultant Planners**  
  http://www.macponline.org

- **The American Planning Association Northern New England Chapter**  
  http://www.nnecapa.org

- **Massachusetts Chapter**  
  http://www.massapa.org

- **Connecticut Chapter**  
  http://www.ccapa.org

- **Rhode Island Chapter**  
  http://www.rhodeislandapa.org
McMahon Associates, Inc. was recently engaged to complete traffic impact studies for two developments projects involving new discount club stores. These projects were located in southeastern Pennsylvania, and included discount club stores that provided gasoline sales for its members. ITE’s definition for discount clubs (ITE Land Use Code 857) did not include studies of sites that provided gasoline sales and called for more analysis/data of this land use with respect to fueling stations. As a result, McMahon began to research the traffic generation characteristics of discount clubs with gasoline sales for members, as this added component could significantly affect the trip generation of a store.

Background

As part of a prior project, McMahon had previously conducted several trip generation studies for discount clubs in the New England region. For the prior study, seven well-established discount club stores (two without gasoline sales and two with gasoline sales) had been studied. The resulting trip generation rates of the discount club stores without gasoline sales were unexpected as the average weekday afternoon peak hour and Saturday midday peak hour trip generation rates of these stores were significantly lower than ITE rates. Even more unexpected was the fact that the average trip generation rates for the two discount club stores with gasoline sales were also still lower in the Saturday midday peak hour and minimally higher during the weekday afternoon peak hour, as compared to ITE’s data for discount clubs without gasoline sales. Table 1 summarizes the New England discount club trip generation rates, and compares it to published ITE rates.

Table 1 | New England Discount Club Average Trip Generation Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PM Peak</th>
<th>Sat Peak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITE: Discount Club (Land Use Code 857)</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>6.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discount Club without gasoline sales (5 stores)</td>
<td>2.98</td>
<td>5.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discount Club with gasoline sales (2 stores)</td>
<td>4.78</td>
<td>6.02</td>
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</table>

With at least one of major discount club chains reporting strong sales over the past few years despite the current economic downturn, we presume that the lower trip generation rates were the result of two main factors unrelated to economic conditions. First, many of the ITE trip generation studies were conducted between the mid 1980’s and 2002, with the majority of studies appearing to be done in the early to mid 1990’s. During this time period, discount clubs were a newer retail option for consumers with far fewer discount club stores in operation at that time. As such, it can be expected that when these stores were studied, they drew more members from farther distances since there was less competition compared to today. Today, memberships in a particular region can be expected to be spread among several competing stores in a region resulting in lower trip generation for each store. Secondly, it appears that the size of today’s discount clubs stores (often about 150,000 square feet) are generally larger than those evaluated in ITE’s studies where the maximum store size studied by ITE was approximately 135,000 square feet with an average size of approximately 115,000 square feet.

Given the disparity in the trip generation rates of the New England sites compared to ITE, the fact that ITE trip generation data for discount clubs lacks data for gasoline sales, the proposed stores that were outside of the ITE data range, and the lack of pass-by data for the land use, it was determined that local trip generation and pass-by data would need to be obtained for the current land development projects. Over the next several months, McMahon worked with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) reviewers to establish acceptable trip generation and pass-by rates for discount clubs with gasoline sales.

Continued on Pg. 5
Trip Generation

Trip generation studies were conducted at five Mid-Atlantic discount club stores with gasoline sales during the weekday afternoon (4:00 PM to 6:00 PM) and the Saturday midday (12:00 PM to 3:00 PM) peak periods. Each of the stores had been in operation for more than three years and no low-performing stores were selected for the study. The resulting average weighted trip generation rates (see Table 2) continue to reveal trip generation rates lower than reported by ITE for discount clubs without gasoline sales.

Table 2 | Discount Club with Gasoline Sales Average Trip Generation Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PM Peak</th>
<th>Sat Peak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discount Club with gasoline sales (5 Mid-Atlantic sites)</td>
<td>4.21</td>
<td>5.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Traffic Characteristics

Member (customer) interviews were conducted at the same five Mid-Atlantic stores to establish new and pass-by trips characteristics, as well as to identify the influence of the fueling facility on the member’s trip (i.e., store only, gas only, or combined trips). Members were interviewed either at the store entrance or at the gasoline pumps. Table 3 summarizes the results of the interviews with respect to pass-by trips while Table 4 summarizes the resulting trip purpose characteristics. It is noted that the average pass-by percentage of gas-only trips was 53 percent and 55 percent during the weekday afternoon and Saturday midday peak hours, respectively, and few members (less than 25 percent) responded that they were making a gas-only trip, thereby indicating that the gas sales do not produce a significant amount of new trips compared to the discount club store itself.

Table 3 | Discount Club with Gasoline Sales Pass-by Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PM Peak</th>
<th>Sat Peak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discount Club with gasoline sales (5 sites)</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 | Discount Club with Gasoline Sales Trip Purpose Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PM Peak</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Store-only trip</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas-only trip</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined trip</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusion

In January 2011, PennDOT issued state-wide approval of the trip generation and pass-by rates for discount clubs with gasoline sales shown in Tables 2 and 3, respectively. These rates will be valid until the next edition of Trip Generation is published by ITE, which will include the new traffic generation data collected for this study.

Upon review of the recently collected trip generation data, it is clear that additional data is still needed to supplement ITE’s database for Discount Clubs (ITE Land Use Code 857) in order to provide a better representation of today’s discount club stores. Furthermore, the new data should be collected for discount clubs that provide gasoline sales and for those that do not, and then reviewed to determine if ITE should consider a new land use category for discount clubs with gas sales. Lastly, it is recommended that ITE consider purging its older trip generation data for discount club stores (ITE Land Use Code 857) so that the characteristics of trip generation of today’s discount club stores are better reflected.
MAITE Chapter Update
By: Steven C. Findlen

The MA Chapter (MAITE) remains busy while still trying to enjoy the summer.

Some of the recent highlights include:

The annual Summer Social was held on Wednesday, July 20, 2011 at the Hyatt Roof Deck located at the Avenue deLafayette in Boston, MA. Several members and non-members of MAITE attended the event that was a success.

MAITE continues to work on the planning process of the Annual Meeting with NEITE that is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14, 2011 at the Hilton Gardens Inn in Waltham. (see Save the Date section of this issue for more details.)

MAITE continues to recruit new members and promoting attendance at our monthly board meetings held on the first Wednesday of the month at 10 Park Plaza in Boston, MA. We continue to add new members to the MAITE chapter that currently stands at approximately 150 members.

MAITE now has a Facebook page with a link to the MAITE page on the NEITE website.

MAITE continues to work successfully with the editors of the NEITE Chronicle, McMahon Associates, to stay on course for getting out four issues in 2011.

In addition, MAITE has begun the process of updating the MAITE logo. The board is currently looking into the competition requirements and hoping to have a new logo in place by the September meeting.

CTITE Chapter Update
By: Michael Dion, P.E., PTOE

The CTITE chapter has had a very busy summer. On June 26th we held our inaugural golf tournament with the WTS. While it was a very rainy day and the tournament was called off on the fourth hole it was still very successful. The golf tournament raised approximately $500.00 for our newly created CTITE scholarship fund.

CTITE also held its first meeting of our Past President’s council. We had five past presidents attend with the same number unable to attend but very willing to participate. It is the hope of the CTITE that the past presidents council will be able to administer the scholarship fund and provide assistance with strategic planning for the continued growth of our chapter.

NHITE Chapter Update
By: David DeBaie

The New Hampshire Chapter of ITE participated in a joint meeting with the Maine Chapter and the New England Section in June. A significant number of the NHITE membership attended the daylong 2010 Highway Capacity Manual review session and contemplated life with multimodal intersection analyses in York, Maine. We listened attentively as NHDOT Commissioner Campbell and MEDOT Commissioner Bernhardt offered their perspectives after lobster stuffed chicken dinner.

Plans are underway for a lunchtime meeting at the NHDOT in late September.
The joint ME/NH Chapter meeting was held on June 22 in York Maine. We had an HCM training class with an instructor from TRB and had the ME and NH DOT Comms in the evening to talk about financial challenges as well as strategies for replacement/repair of two bridges which connect the states.

We also made the following elections:

New ME Chapter Sec/Treas - Jennifer Williams
New ME Chapter President - Randy Dunton
New ME Chapter Vice President - John Adams

The annual VT summer meeting was held on July 13 in Montpelier Vermont. The key speaker was Todd Litman of the Victoria (CA) Transport Policy Institute. He is an internationally recognized expert on sustainable transportation initiatives. There was also a State Traffic Study Policies Update given by Rainish Gupta.

On June 23 RIITE hosted a lunchtime webinar entitled “Analysis and Assessment of Roundabouts” in Providence. 27 people attended and learned about appropriate procedures for conducting capacity and/or simulation analyses for roundabouts.

On August 19 several of the RIITE officers and members attended the “Rhode Island Infrastructure Design Professionals Night” at McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket. RIITE served as a sponsor for this years’ event, which was organized by the ASCE RI Section and which drew over 100 design professionals from across southern New England.

Planned Events:

On September 21, RIITE will host a lunchtime seminar entitled “Performance of Adaptive Traffic Control Systems”. Mr. Tom Cooper of Rhythm Engineering will give a presentation on the real-world results of recent deployments of adaptive traffic control systems (ATCS) in the eastern US. The event will be held at the RIDOT Maintenance HQ Building in Warwick, RI with lunch beginning at 11:30 AM and presentation following at noon. Contact Russell Holt at rholt@dot.ri.gov for more information or to learn how to register.

On November 3, the RIITE/NEITE Joint Annual Meeting will be held at the Providence Marriott hotel. The late afternoon Technical Session will feature a presentation on “post construction” experiences at a local RI roundabout, and the dinner session will feature a presentation on recent initiatives at the RI Public Transit Authority. A flyer will be sent soon with details on how to register to attend the event.

This May, UConn ITE celebrated the close of another successful school year with its annual End of the Year Barbeque. The gathering provided the opportunity to say good bye to several graduating members, including former chapter president, Garrett Bolella, and former treasurer, Jason Zheng. After the barbeque, the chapter took a short hiatus from group activities, allowing its members to delve into summer research projects, take internships, and travel, both nationally and abroad. The new cabinet took advantage of this time by making preparations for the upcoming school year.

Four members of UConn ITE, Jorge Simbaqueba, Abigail Osei-Asamoah, Alex Bernier, and Kelly Bertolaccini, had the opportunity to travel to the ITE annual meeting in St. Louis to compete in the second annual Traffic Bowl Grand Championship thanks to generous support from both NEITE and ITE International. Nine teams competed in the championships, representing ITE student chapters from across the United States and Canada. Though UConn’s team lost in the first round to the eventual champions, Brigham Young University, the team enjoyed the opportunity to meet other ITE student members, participate in the annual meeting, and explore the city of St. Louis.
Thank You for the Support
Executive Board Corner
By: Jeffrey S. Dirk, P.E., PTOE, FITIE

On June 22, 2011, the Executive Board of the New England Section was hosted by the Maine and New Hampshire Chapters at the York Harbor Inn in York, Maine. The meeting was held in conjunction with the Maine Chapter’s annual meeting and election of officers. NEITE President Joe Balskus presided over the meeting via conference call from his office in Connecticut due to a work commitment earlier in the day (Joe, you missed a great seafood chowder). No technical difficulties were encountered and the lack of cell phone service kept attendees focused on the agenda.

A report on activities at the 2011 Northeastern District Annual Meeting in Port Jefferson, New York was presented by Joe Balskus. The District enjoyed another successful meeting which was well attended and included a number of technical sessions and social functions. The UMass Amherst Student Chapter was well represented at the meeting with 11 student members attending, 5 of whom presented posters of their research at the poster session. The 2012 Northeastern District Meeting will be hosted by the Upstate New York Section, followed by the New England Section in 2013.

The 2012 NEITE election process has commenced with the appointment of a Nominating Committee by the NEITE President. The NEITE Nominating Committee will be chaired by past District and Section President Ken Petraglia. The Nominating Committee will be soliciting candidates from the State Chapters and the membership at-large to serve as Junior Directors on the 2012 NEITE Executive Board. The Nominating Committee will deliver their report and a list of candidates to be placed on the 2012 ballot to the NEITE Executive Board at the September Board meeting.

The Section will continue with the e-ballot process for 2012. In an effort to improve the response rate this year, NEITE Vice President Kien Ho and Secretary Joe Segale have formed a subcommittee to discuss refinements to the ballot layout and notification process. The e-ballot process requires that the NEITE President appoint a Tellers Committee once the ballot has been finalized and formally transmitted to the membership at the end of October. This is a change from prior practice where the Tellers Committee was appointed at the Executive Board Meeting in December. The early appointment of a Tellers Committee is required to transfer the tallying of votes from the Secretary to the Tellers Committee Chair given that the Secretary is a candidate for Vice President.

Following the lead of the Northeast District, the Section and several State Chapters are in the process of developing new logos. The Section hopes to unveil a new logo complete with a table banner and podium flag prior to the Annual Meeting in December. The Massachusetts Chapter is working on the details of an open competition to solicit proposals for a revamped logo. Check the NEITE website for more information on these activities and an updated listing of Section, State and Student Chapter meetings and events.

The Section’s finances continue to be strong due to cost savings achieved through electronic distribution of the Chronicle and meeting notices, the implementation of e-balloting, and a series of successful meetings hosted by the Section. After reconciliation of income and expenses for the period ending June 12, the Section had an account balance of just over $41,000, down slightly from the beginning of the year. The Executive Board and the Membership Committee Chair will be reviewing the recommendations from the Financial Drawdown Committee report prior to the September Board meeting, with the goal of advancing the report recommendations. The objective will be to reduce the Section’s account balance to be in-line with its non-profit status, provide membership incentives and maintain a reserve that is sufficient for Section activities and unforeseen events.

As stated earlier, the District will be hosting the 2013 ITE International Annual Meeting and Exhibit in Boston and the Section will be hosting the 2013 Northeastern District Annual Meeting. NEITE President Joe Balskus presented a list of potential meeting locations for the District Annual Meeting to the District Board at their May meeting. Based on the Section’s preliminary evaluation, the 2013 Northeastern District Annual Meeting is planned to be held in Northampton, Massachusetts; more information to follow. The NEITE President will be appointing a Committee Chair to formalize the planning process and details of the meeting. Please contact NEITE President Joe Balskus or a member of the Executive Board if you are interested in serving on the District Annual Meeting committee.

The next Executive Board meeting will be held in conjunction with the Massachusetts Chapter on September 14, 2011, in Waltham, Massachusetts. Board meetings are open to all members, so please plan to attend and participate in Section governance and activities.
“This is still the era of the four-wheel gasoline vehicle, but we will soon see the day when all vehicles will be powered differently. We are also seeing great changes in technology. Some are good and some are not, but I prefer to concentrate on the positive.”

-Doug McCobb

Doug McCobb’s upbeat personality is unmistakable, and while I never worked with him, it is easy to understand why he is so highly regarded. After graduation from the University of Maine in 1964, he joined the Maine Department of Transportation (MDOT) where he began a 37 year stay in the Traffic Engineering Department. Doug recalled that he was hired by two other names many will remember, Al Godfrey and Dick Leuttich. Doug became the Maine State Traffic Engineer for ten years, until 1992. He was then promoted again to District 5 Engineer, a position he held until he left MDOT in the year 2000. After retiring from MDOT, Doug moved to Alexandria, Virginia where he became the Deputy Director of Public Works. He held this position for 10 years, until he retired in 2010.

When asked about career highlights, Doug quickly responded with the completion of the 150 mile Maine Interstate, from Augusta to the Canadian Border. It is interesting that this same project was what he cited when asked about his greatest challenge. Doug enjoyed managing this effort, and credited a good, competent workforce for his own success. He added, “I loved the people aspect, dealing with the political aspect, and the challenge of acquiring funding for the project”. In keeping with Doug’s appreciation for his coworkers, he said that the challenge of working with young people turned into extreme satisfaction when he saw them become successful.

Another challenge was the transition from rural Maine to the more urban Alexandria. It was only when Doug went to Alexandria that he understood that the future was in mass transportation, and in increased technology. When I thought we were done with this topic he said, “Wait a minute, on second thought my greatest challenge was dealing with Bill McNamara”.

During Doug’s ITE career he went through the ranks to become President in 1986. Doug was also recognized with the NEITE Transportation Engineer of the Year, and Distinguished Service Awards in 1996 and 1988, respectively. He is very proud of the fact that over an 11 year period he did not miss a single meeting. He also offered, “My heart and soul are still with the New England Section”.

Among the many challenges and highlights in Doug’s 47 years in public service, he had one significant regret. He described an unnamed community along Maine’s Route 1 that was in dire need of a bypass road. MDOT tried three times over 25 years to convince the community they needed the bypass, and never succeeded. Doug feels they still need it to this day.

Doug currently lives in Galena, Maryland, and keeps busy with occasional consulting work and with the “Three Royal Waterfront Suites” Bed and Breakfast in Warwick, RI, of which he is a partner. He has: two daughters, one in Buffalo and the other in Maryland; and one son in northern Virginia who works for the Pentagon and is currently deployed in Afghanistan, and nine grandchildren.

Doug still keeps in touch with the New England Section, speaking occasionally to Bob Blasi, Bruce Imbarguen and his “greatest challenge” (Bill MacNamara).
ITE TO SPONSOR TRAFFIC SAFETY MERIT BADGE AT THE 2013 BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

The Boy Scouts of America will be holding its National Jamboree from July 15-24, 2013 at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve or “The Summit” for short. The Summit is located in the New River Gorge Region of West Virginia USA.

This Jamboree will be like no other previous jamboree, and will be attended by over 30,000 highly motivated Boy Scouts and Venturing Scouts, boys and girls, mostly aged 13-17. One of the many activities available to both Scouts and Venturers will be “Merit Badge Booths”, where they can get a sampling of the most exciting, challenging and fun aspect of a badge.

The Institute of Transportation Engineers will be sponsoring the Traffic Safety Merit Badge booth, as we did in 2001, 2005, and 2010. This is an excellent program that exposes the scouts to safety in terms of driver behavior, highway design and traffic control devices, vehicle and traffic law, and vehicle safety features. It is designed to make them safer drivers, passengers, pedestrians, and cyclists. It also offers an opportunity for career guidance about the transportation engineering and planning profession.

In 2005 and 2010, Traffic Safety was one of the most popular merit badge programs at the Jamboree. Nearly 2,800 boys participated in the program. Our volunteer staff, including ITE members, staff from FHWA, Virginia DOT, and others, contributed on the order of 1,800 hours over 10 days.

We need YOUR help to staff the booth in 2013! The participation dates for staff are from July 11 to 25, 2013. You can come the first part (July 11-18), second part (July 18-25), or the entire Jamboree, whatever best fits your schedule. Visit the National Jamboree website at https://summit.scouting.org/en/Jamboree2013/Pages/Staff.aspx for more information on staff qualifications and fees. For more information, contact program coordinators John Davis at DavisJ@AyresAssociates.com or Steven Gayle at gaylegvill@frontiernet.net.

SEE YOU AT THE SUMMIT!
Northeastern District 1 Status Report
By: Gary L. Hebert, PE, PTOE, FIT, Northeastern District 2011 Chair

General

Hello to all ITE Northeastern District members! Thanks to each and every one of you for your continued commitment to the profession and especially those who take time out of your busy schedules to contribute your energies to support ITE on the International, District, Sections, and Chapter levels. If you are new (or old) to ITE and not actively involved, I urge you to select a Committee of your interest or run for elective office at any of the various levels. You will find working as an ITE leader to be extremely rewarding, an excellent way to increase your professional skills, and expand your personal contacts in this great profession.

It has been an honor to serve as your Northeastern District Chair. For those who don’t know, other District Executive Board voting members include our new International Director Paula Benway, Vice Chair Armando LePore, Secretary/Treasurer Mike Wieszchowski, and our Immediate Past Chair Don Adams. Steve Gayle continues to provide an invaluable service as our District Administrator. Thanks to the hard work of District’s Executive Boards, coupled with Steve’s diligent guidance, and the great Annual Meeting Local Arrangements Committees we’ve had over the past several years, the District is on good financial footing. Once again, we operated at a small surplus for the 2010/2011 fiscal year.

At ITE International’s request, the District is exploring tax-exempt status as part of ITE International. Steve Gayle, our District Administrator, has submitted a questionnaire response indicating the District’s interest in being granted the tax-exempt status under the ITE umbrella. More information on this will follow once the District Executive Board has had a chance to review and discuss the financial and logistical implications of this change at the District and Section levels.

International ITE Award Winners

Congratulations to the Northeastern District Award Sections and Chapters that continue to receive well-deserved recognition from International ITE! For the second year in a row, the Upstate Section has won the ITE International’s Newsletter of the year Award for Sections with 250 or fewer members. Christina Douglas, newsletter Editor, and all the Interchange newsletter volunteer contributors should be very proud of this accomplishment. This speaks volumes to the quality of services that the Upstate Section provides for its members. Christina and another Interchange contributor will be going to St. Louis, Missouri to receive the award at ITE’s Annual Meeting being held August 13-16, 2011. Additionally, UMass Amherst has been selected to receive ITE International’s award as Student Chapter of the Year for the third year in a row. UMass representatives will also be traveling to the ITE meeting in St. Louis. This is fantastic news for the District!

Northeastern District Meetings

So far, the District has successfully held two of three annual Northeastern District Executive Board meetings. The first, a winter organizational meeting was held on January 31 in Newburgh, NY. As discussed further on, this year’s District Annual Meeting was hosted by the NY/NJ Met Section in Port Jefferson, New York on May 25-27, 2011. Our final meeting of 2011 will be held on September 14 at Waltham, MA, a joint meeting with the Massachusetts Chapter and the New England Section.

UMass Amherst hosted our annual District-wide Student Chapter Symposium where students display and present their creative projects. This year, the UConn Team prevailed and will represent the District at ITE International Student Traffic Bowl also being held in St. Louis. Way to go, Uconn!

In addition to our annual allocation of $200 for Student Chapter assistance, under the District’s Special Student Initiatives budget item, the District has received and granted three requests of $600 each for Student Chapter financial assistance -- from University of Connecticut, UMass Amherst, and the University of Buffalo.

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We welcome and encourage greater Student Chapter participation in ITE. All Northeastern District Student Chapters are urged to take advantage of this Initiative as well as funding assistance opportunities within their respective home Sections. We continue to work on finding effective ways to encourage the formation and active programs for Northeastern District Student Chapters.

The NY/NJ Met Section hosted the Northeastern District Annual Meeting at Port Jefferson, NY on May 25-27, 2011. The meeting was a phenomenal success. The stellar Local Arrangements Committee including among others, Mike Salatti, Adam Allen, Tommy Kwong, and Lynn LaMunyon went to great lengths to ensure that the meeting would be packed with great activities and have a highly relevant, thought-provoking technical program. With more than 250 full meeting registrants, it was one of the most, if not the most, well-attended annual meetings in the District’s history. The Welcome Reception, bike tour, evening networking session, and the entire Technical Program were all great.

Our two International Vice Presidential candidates, Zaki Mustafa and Ray Davis presented their points of view on ITE’s future directions at the Annual Awards luncheon, as did our own ITE Immediate Past President Paul-eng-Wong. After a great deal of deliberations, the District Awards Committee led by our Vice-Chair, Armando Lepore, identified the winners for the District’s Student Paper, Student Chapter, and Section of the year awards. The Student Paper Award was “Elimination of the Dilemma Zone Danger” by Keith Hall, representing Northeastern University. For the third successive year, UMass Amherst was selected as the Student Chapter of the year award at the District and, as noted above the International ITE Meeting. The Met Section was awarded the Section of the Year Award. District awards culminated with the Harvey Boutwell Distinguished Service Award, the District’s highest individual achievement award. Dr. Michael Knodler, of UMass Amherst won the award in recognition of his many years of service in promoting Student Chapter activities throughout the District and his outstanding service to the New England Section. Congratulations to all the District Award winners!

Next year’s District Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Upstate Section at Lake Placid, New York on May 23-25, 2012. Lake Placid, with its Olympics history in the picturesque Adirondack Mountains, will be a fantastic spot for a District Meeting. Co-chaired by Don Adams and Mike Wieszchowski - two folks who can’t seem to resist new challenges - the meeting is certain to be well-attended, so keep an eye out for future updates and be ready to submit technical materials for the Program.

During 2013, the New England Section will have its plate full, as it will be hosting both the District and International Meetings. For the May District meeting, New England Section leaders are looking to set the venue at a western Massachusetts community. Joe Balskus and Mike Knodler are leading the charge on that meeting, and will welcome any volunteers to assist them.

Later on, during August 2013, Boston, Massachusetts will host the ITE International Meeting for the first time since 1997. Ken Petraglia is the Local Arrangements Chair for the ITE International Meeting and is also looking for District volunteers to assist him. Please e-mail Ken if you are interested in helping out at KPetraglia@BETA-Inc.com.

On the Lighter Side

After reviewing the great technical program at this year’s Port Jefferson, NY meeting, I couldn’t help but reminiscing about how much things have changed since my career began some 40 years ago:

- Back then, we thought the main goal was to ‘move’ traffic; now we are much more likely to try to ‘calm’ it or simply ‘slow it down’.
- We tried to increase road capacity and safety at the same time, that is before we found out the terms were often mutually exclusive.

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- Speaking of capacity, its analysis was much simplified. We used the ‘Critical Lane Method’ and (Ken Petraglia’s favorite) TRB ‘Circular 212’ to estimate it using a slide rule that was always fully charged.

- Roundabouts? We tried quite successfully to get rid of them, they were called rotaries back then—way too dangerous. Now they are back in vogue, smaller, modern, and, of course, much safer.

- We used to measure success by the number of lane miles and widened roads added each year – the fatter the better. Now roads are placed on ‘diets’ and we are better off for it.

- Parking management? It was simple, you had a space when you started and one when you got there, where ever it was. And of course, there was no sharing of parking, folks were very selfish back then.

- We never coordinated with the public or others. There were no stakeholders, only trouble-makers.

- Streets weren’t ‘green’ unless there was a landscaping truck spill.

- Bicyclists and pedestrians were simply after-thoughts. Streets were never ‘complete’, they were left unfinished for someone else to come along and pick up the pieces.

- If you don’t count 8-tracks, there weren’t enough electronics available for ‘distracted’ driving.

- Lastly, the words ‘smart’, ‘sensitive’, and ‘intelligent’ weren’t in our vocabulary.

That’s it for now. Have a great summer and am looking forward to seeing you all at future ITE functions throughout the District.

Best regards to all - Gary
What engineers say versus what they mean

1. A number of different approaches are being tried.
   (We are still guessing at this point.)

2. Close project coordination.
   (We sat down and had coffee together.)

3. An extensive report is being prepared on a fresh approach.
   (We just hired three punk kids out of school.)

4. Major technological breakthrough!
   (It works OK, but looks very hi-tech!)

5. Customer satisfaction is believed assured.
   (We are so far behind schedule, that the customer will take anything.)

The NEITE Chronicle would like to thank Kim Eric Hazarvartian, Ph.D. P.E. PTOE of TEPP LLC for sending us this great joke!

Save The Date

Scott Herr Memorial Golf Tournament
Thursday, September 22, 2011
*For more information go to www.neite.org

Northeastern District Annual Meeting
May 23-25, 2012
Hosted by the Upstate Section - Lake Placid, NY

The Boy Scouts of America National Jamboree
July 15 - 24, 2013 at the Summit Bechtel Family National Scout Reserve - West Virginia
*See page 11 for more information

For a list of upcoming NEITE meetings & events, visit:
http://neite.org/calendar.html

Please contact Ken Petraglia (newenglandite@gmail.com) for an application. The application must be submitted by September 9, 2011 at Noon to:

N.E.I.T.E. Scholarship Committee
BETA Group, Inc.
315 Norwood Park South
Norwood, MA 02062
Attn: Ken Petraglia

Candidate recipient recommendations for the scholarship may be submitted by faculty members or students at accredited Civil Engineering schools in the States of New England, or by Members or Affiliate Members of NEITE.

The Award recipient must be a student at an accredited Civil Engineering school in one of the New England States.

Applicants should demonstrate a strong commitment to the discipline of Transportation Engineering in their coursework and outside activities.

The Scholarship Award may be made in equal installments by quarter or semester for the 2011-2012 academic year, or in a single installment at the discretion of the committee. You must furnish official confirmation of enrollment in the required course of study along with a copy of your course grades for the previous academic period prior to the disbursement of each portion of the Award.

Two scholarships of $1,500 may be awarded: one each to an undergraduate and a graduate student.