



COUNTY HIGHWAY REPORT

November 6, 2002 - A Newsletter for the Indiana Association of County Highway Engineers and Supervisors

A Message From The President

by Scott Tilden; President of IACHES

As I sat down to reflect my thoughts for this newsletter, I think about how close we are to the end of the year, the County Commissioners' Conference is soon upon us, and how fast this year as your President has gone by for me. It has been a rewarding experience meeting and working with some really great people.

I would like to personally thank the IACHES Executive Board for all their extra efforts as well as the District Directors and the Awards, Standards, NACE, Legislative, and other committees for their dedication in working for our association. Executive Secretary Cheryl Menscik of LaGrange County has done an excellent job of keep all of us straight and focused. I was honored to join Walt Wilson in presenting the Supervisor of the Year Award to Steve Brooke of White County. Our sincere congratulations go out to Steve.

Also noteworthy, the Association has been working on construction of a website that should be ready in early December. I would like to thank Mike Beasey from Elkhart County for the time he has spent on this project.

Please make an effort to attend the County Commissioners' Conference December 3 to December 5 at the Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone at the Crossing in Indianapolis. The agenda is filled with informative topics including: Rights-of-Way Issues, Concrete and Asphalt Maintenance, Small Bridge Replacement, GIS, Asset Management, De-Icing for Winter Maintenance, and New Products. This conference offers a chance to renew friendships, exchange ideas, and learn something new.

I hope you have a great finish to the year 2002 and best wishes for the New Year to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Tilden
Fulton Co. Highway Superintendent

IACHES Updates

submitted by Steve Sherwood; IACHES Vice President

The 2002 AIC was recently held in Merrillville. IACHES held a regular business meeting. Several topics were discussed including the upcoming IACHES website soon to be unveiled. Also, the new directory will be published after the first of the year. If LTAP does not have a recent photograph on file of current IACHES members, please make an effort to forward one to them. These photographs are needed to update and complete the next LTAP and IACHES directory. Please check with Linda McCormick at the LTAP office or at the IACC conference. Linda will attend the upcoming IACC Conference and will be taking digital photographs for the directory.

The IACC Conference will have sessions on both December 4 and 5 and a regular business meeting for all IACHES members mid afternoon on December the 5. Please remember that IACHES will be electing a new Secretary/Treasurer during the IACC Conference. This year the candidate must be an engineer. Please give some thought to running for this office and notify any member of the IACHES Board to be considered for this position. Your time and talent is a necessary component that makes IACHES work and be the best that it can be. Please plan on attending as many future events as possible.

The 2003 IACHES Summer Conference will once again be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel on the northside of Indianapolis. The dates are June 4-5, 2003. The format will be similar to this year's past conference. Please feel free to forward your ideas on topics that you would like to see addressed on upcoming

conference agendas.

IACHES welcomes Norman Wendholt, P.E. (Dubois County Engineer) recently elected to the vacant Southwest District Director position and Wanda Hartman (Union County Supervisor) as the recently elected East Central District Director. This now gives IACHES a full complement of District Directors. Also, welcome Jerry Netherlain, P.E. (Vigo County Engineer) recently elected to the IACHES Awards Committee.

The new 2003 Directory is nearing completion. We anticipate that it will be ready for distribution after January 2003. Advertisement space is available for \$100 per half page or \$150 per whole page. Please help us keep IACHES updated with any new information or changes concerning your office mailing address, office phone/fax numbers and especially your office (or personal) email address. We are making an effort to keep our information as current as possible and we sincerely appreciate your assistance. Please forward this information to Cheryl at iaches@skynet.net or fax 219-562-3906.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Sherwood, P.E., L.S.
Warrick County Engineer

Upcoming Meeting Dates

IACC Annual Conference - December 3 - 5, 2002

Sheraton Hotel, Keystone at the Crossing;
Indianapolis, Indiana

IACHES Summer Conference – June 4 - 5, 2003

Embassy Suites Hotel (north); Indianapolis, Indiana

If there are other events or meeting dates that should be included in this section, please contact Odetta Cadwell.

Tom Stevens to Retire

After 38 years of service to the transportation industry, including 12-1/2 years of service to Hamilton County, Tom Stevens will retire. You are all cordially invited to attend a reception in Tom's honor on Friday, December 13 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at the Noblesville Moose Lodge 540, 1215 North 10th Street.

Tom's first work experience in highways came when he worked for the Wayne County (Indiana) Highway Department during the summers of 1964 and 1965. He worked as an assistant to the County Engineer, gathering field data for the purpose of replacing bridges and drafting plan sheets for bridge

replacement projects. During his second summer tenure, Tom met the Construction Engineer from the Greenfield District of the Indiana State Highway Department. He was offered and accepted a position with State Highway in construction and began his tenure there on January 1, 1966. That first winter, Tom set slope stakes on I-465 through the deep cuts at Fall Creek. In April he was assigned as an Engineer's Assistant on I-70 West and east S.R. 9 North of Greenfield. For two years, Tom led staking crews, setting all the blue tops and paving stakes on all of I-70 from Greenfield to Cambridge City. In 1968, Tom was assigned as the Assistant Project Engineer on an I-69 project which ran from Sand Creek Bridge to Cynthianne Road in Hamilton County. This project included the S.R. 238 Interchange. In 1969, he was transferred to a project on I-69 which ran from I-465 to the Sand Creek Bridge, also in Hamilton County. This project included interchanges at 96th Street, 116th Street, and at S.R. 37. Tom took over project on I-69 as Project Engineer in 1971 when he became a Registered Professional Engineer.

In 1972, Tom became the Project Engineer on the south section of the Muncie By-Pass. In 1973, he was assigned to a pre-grade project on I-70 in downtown Indianapolis, which included bridges and storm sewer construction. Many do not realize that interstates were almost non-existent when Tom began his career.

Tom transferred to the Central Office in Indianapolis as a Maintenance Field Engineer in 1975. He served as central office liaison for 2 to 3 districts, designed small improvement projects, and coordinated the District's resurfacing programs. Additionally, Tom served on the Specifications Committee, the Traffic Control Review Committee (which reviewed set-ups within construction zones statewide), and on the Ohio River Bridge Annual Inspection Committee.

After 24+ years with INDOT, Tom was lured to Hamilton County. David Ringer, who was Superintendent of the Tipton Sub-District for INDOT was also on the Hamilton County Council. He arranged a meeting with Tom and then Hamilton County Superintendent Kenny Marcum and the Hamilton County Commissioners. Tom started his tenure as Hamilton County Highway Engineer on April 9, 1990. Tom was promoted to Director on July 2 of that same year.

Tom claims that he has pursued his career in the highway industry during the best time in all of history. Not often will a young engineer get to see an interstate constructed from the beginning through farm fields and woods. Working for Hamilton County, the fastest growing county in the midwest, if not the country, has been very challenging and fun.

Many advances have taken place during the 12+ years that Tom has headed up the Hamilton County Highway Department. When Tom first came to the County, the Engineering

Department consisted of the County Engineer, an assistant who had already planned to leave, and a permit inspector/secretary. There was no reliable inventory of the roads and bridges for which the County was responsible.

Now there are six engineers, six assistants, two permit inspectors, and an administrative assistant in the engineering department. In the early 1990s, a task force was established to aid the Highway Department in developing much needed programs and standards. Committees were formed for: Noblesville by-pass and thoroughfare, impact fees, standards/ordinances, facilities, equipment, roads, and bridges. A five year bridge replacement program was developed and is continually updated. All deficient bridges in the County have been replaced or are scheduled for replacement in the next five years. There have been 57 bridges replaced in the last 12 years and all asphalt roads are resurfaced on a 12-year cycle. A two-year program is maintained and updated every year. All equipment has been replaced and will continue to be replaced on a 6 to 10 year cycle. During the four year period from 1992 to 1995, all gravel roads in the County (approximately 205 miles) were converted to chip/seal and have been resealed on a 3 to 4 year cycle to maintain them. The Hamilton County Highway Department moved to a new facility on April 2, 2001.

Over the last several years, Hamilton County has undertaken several major projects:

- 96th Street from Keystone to I-69, including a new bridge over White River
- 116th Street between Fishers and Carmel bridge over White River
- 146th Street from Spring Mill to S.R. 37
- 234th Street/Strawtown Avenue from S.R. 19 to S.R. 37
- Olio Road from Geist Reservoir to S.R. 238

Tom's all time highlight for his career was on August 11, 1998 when the 96th Bridge over White River opened. This was the most rewarding of all projects on which he has had the privilege to work. Bringing four government agencies together to mutually fund a project of this magnitude was quite an accomplishment. One week after opening, this bridge was carrying 23,000 vehicles per day.

As Tom looks back over his years in the industry, he realizes that every major move he has taken has proved to be positive. He knows that this present change will be equally positive. He plans to catch up on several projects around the house and spend much more time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Tom and Carole, his wife of 37 years, have a son, Jerry, age 36, and a daughter, Barbra, age 32 and six grandchildren (five boys and a girl) ranging in age from 13 to 4. Carole, a registered nurse, works at Eli Lilly as a supervisor of

the Employee Health Services Department in Greenfield. She plans to retire sometime this spring after 32 years with the company. Tom and Carole are also talking of purchasing a recreational vehicle and doing some major traveling.

www.IACHES.org

The IACHES web site will be completed later this year and will be utilized to better inform our membership of IACHES business and activities.

The site will include, among other things, contact information for the Executive and District Board members, a membership directory, and an associate membership directory. Various forms and applications will be posted on the site as well and may be printed, filled in, and mailed to the appropriate person. If you have e-mail, a web site, or other contact information that is not currently listed in the membership directory, please provide that information to Cheryl Mencsik at iaches@skynet.net or call her at 260-562-3906.

s
e
y

E
l
k
h
a
r
t



I am pleased to have been appointed as the new Southwest District Director and look forward to working with everyone at IACHES. I would like to thank the Board of Directors for selecting me to serve in this position. I am writing this article to introduce myself to the members of IACHES, and to those of you which I have not had the fortune of meeting.

I am the County Highway Engineer for Dubois County. Dubois County is a rural county in southwestern Indiana located about midway between Evansville and New Albany. Interstate 64 is our southern boundary. Dubois County has a population of about 39,600. The Highway Department maintains approximately 670 miles of county roads and has 149 bridges on the inventory.

A few of my accomplishments during my employment include developing an inventory of the county road system, improving the signage program on paved roads, and updating the speed limit ordinances in the county. Work is continuing on a striping program and designation of no-pass zones. My goal is to continue to improve the safety aspects of the county roads and to prepare the county for future road improvements. Another goal is the continuation of the bridge replacement program.

Prior to my present position, I worked in the private sector of the engineering field for 12 years. I worked for several consulting engineering firms in the Evansville area. This has proven to be a real asset when working with engineering firms on county projects. I received my degree from the University of Southern Indiana in 1980 and my license in 1987. I am a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and National Society of Professional Engineers.

I am happily married to my wife, Wilma, for the last 20 years and have 3 children, Brent, Jill, and Beth.

I look forward to working with everyone as the Southwest District Director. I feel that by communicating between members, we can help and learn from each other. If I can be of assistance to anyone, please do not hesitate to call.

k
c
o

IACHES OFFICERS – 2002

President: Scott Tilden
 Fulton County Highway Department
 (219) 223-2385; (219) 223-9852 -
 Fax
fulcohwy@rtcol.com

Vice President: Steve Sherwood
 Warrick County Highway
 Department
 (812) 897-6094; (812) 897-6109 -
 Fax
sherwood@warrickcounty.gov

Secy/Treas: Mike McTague
 Carroll County Highway
 Department
 (219) 967-4244; (219) 9674214 -
 Fax
carrlhwy@carlnet.org

Past President: John Crist
 LaGrange County Highway
 Department
 (260) 499-6352; (260) 499-7838 -
 Fax
jrcrist@ligtel.com

NW District: Dave Strahlem
 Cass County Highway Superintendent
 (574) 753-3749; (574) 753-3512 - Fax

NE District: Rick Pharis

Elkhart County Highway
 Department
 (574) 534-9394; (574) 533-7103 -
 Fax
ricklp@yahoo.com

WC District: Walt Wilson
 Fountain County Highway
 Department
 (765) 294-2971; (765) 294-1213 -
 Fax
bwwilson@localline.com

EC District: Wanda Hartman
 Union County Highway
 Department
 (765) 458-5692; (765) 458-
 5464 - Fax

SE District: Jim Olson
 Jefferson County Highway
 Department
 (812) 273-1708; (812) 265-
 8939 - Fax

SW District: Norman Wendholt
 Dubois County Highway
 Department
 (812) 482-5505; (812) 482-
 5511 - Fax

IACHES COMMITTEES – 2002

| | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Standards: | Mike Eckert – Allen County | (219) 449-7369; (219)449-7594 - Fax |
| | | Mike McTague – Carroll County (219) 967-4244; (219) 967-4214 - Fax |
| Legislative: | Les Locke – Hamilton County | (317) 773-7770; (317) 776-9814 - Fax |
| NACE Director: | Les Locke – Hamilton County | (317) 773-7770; (317) 776-9814 - Fax |
| Awards: | Joe Copeland – Hancock County | (317) 462-1112; (317) 462-1156 - Fax |
| | | Walt Wilson – Fountain County (765) 294-2971; (765) 294-1213 - Fax |
| | Jerry Netherlain – Vigo County (812) 462-3419; (812) 232-6841 - Fax | |
| | | Tom Martin – LTAP (765) 494-2164; (765) 496-1176 - Fax |
| | | Dick Robertson – Congdon Engineering (317) 876-0064; (317) 876-0114 - Fax |
| Newsletter: | Odetta Cadwell-- Indiana Rural Water Assoc. | (317) 402-7349; (317) 861-1630 - Fax OdieIRWA@aol.com |
| Golf: | Dick Robertson – Congdon Engineering | (317) 876-0064; (317) 876-0114 - Fax |
| LTAP Advisory Board: | Scott Tilden - Fulton County (219) 223-2385; (219) 223-9852 - Fax | |
| | | Steve Sherwood – Warrick County (812) 897-6094; (812) 897-6109 - Fax |
| Honorary LTAP: | John Crist – LaGrange County | (219) 499-6352; (219) 463-7838 - Fax |