



COUNTY HIGHWAY REPORT

February, 2003- A Newsletter for the Indiana Association of County Highway Engineers and Supervisors

A Message From The President

by Steve Sherwood President of IACHES

By now we are well into the start of a new year. For most of us winter has shown up in strength this season. Mother nature continues to surprise us. We are also saddened by the recent loss suffered by our space program. Our hearts go out to the families and colleagues of our courageous astronauts of the Space Shuttle Columbia, whose lives were lost on February 1, 2003.

This year is already proving to be an exciting one for IACHES. We have recently launched our website. If you have not visited the site, I would encourage you to do so. Go to www.iaches.org. The IACHES website has plenty of information available. Menus for access to forms, bulletin board, newsletter, Committees, Executive Board and Board of Directors. Access to members (both Regular and Associate) is password protected for your privacy within the association as well as the Executive Room. Passwords will be issued with every annual membership renewal/application. Several links are available for your convenience. These are to IACC, LTAP, NACE and to the State of Indiana website. We encourage feedback to the website. We want to make the website as useful to the association as possible.

IACHES held its last Regular Member meeting at the 2002 IACC Conference last December. The two-day session was interesting and successful due mainly to the efforts of Scott Tilden, now the IACHES Past President in 2002. I can only hope that I do as well as he has done. The 2002 IACC IACHES Regular Members also brought forth several new changes within the association. Along with myself being promoted to the 2003 President for IACHES, Mike McTague is now the current Vice-President. Darin Duncan was elected as the new Secretary/Treasurer in the close election. We welcome Darin on board and congratulate those who ran for the office. All the District Directors positions are now filled as well. Another result of the meeting was the adoption of a new logo for IACHES. It can also be viewed at our website. The new logo will also be available shortly for use on clothing and items soon to be made available shortly for general purchase on clothing and items. IACHES will soon have several items available for purchase with this new logo. More to come on this in a few months. Check website for availability.

Our next Regular Member session will be at the 2003 Road School on Wednesday, March 26 at 8:30 a.m. Please check the 2003 Road School Itinerary for exact location and time (website: www.purdue.edu/jtrp). Please plan on attending the 2003 Road School Winter Expo and Equipment show at the beginning of Road School on Monday, March 24. This was a new feature that began at last year's 2002 Road School, which proved to be very popular, even with the bad weather.

The 2003 IACHES Summer is scheduled for Wednesday June 4th and Thursday, June 5th. Mark your calendars now. It will be held at the same location as last year, at the Embassy Suites Hotel North. A block of rooms has been set aside. Please look for the registration form in your mail in a few months. Forms will also be posted on the website. The agenda and format will be similar to last year's. Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning will have sessions at the hotel. Thursday afternoon will feature the golf outing followed by dinner at the Twin Lakes Country Club. This is our featured outing of the year. Please make plans to attend. Please feel free to forward IACHES your ideas or thoughts on topics that you would like to see addressed on future conference agendas.

The 2003 IACHES Directory is at the print shop and will be available at the 2003 Road School. Regular and Associate members, please plan on picking up your copy. Cheryl will be distributing these directories the morning of March 25 (Tuesday) and March 26 (Wednesday) near the Road School Registration area and at our scheduled meeting. After Road School, directories will be mailed out to those members who did not pick one up. Changes to member contact information such as addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, e-mail addresses, etc., should be supplied to Cheryl. Membership renewal information has already been sent out. As a reminder, please fill one out and send it in if you have not yet done so. If you have not received one, please contact Cheryl or print one from our website. We encourage you to enroll your office staff or seek additional Associate Members to join.

IACHES is actively pursuing several legislative issues. HB 1687 (Gasoline Tax) was scheduled for a hearing on February 18, 2003. That day is being labeled "Road Funding Day". This article was sent to print during that day and the outcome may be determined by the time you have read this. I know many of us have discussed this bill with area legislators. IACC Executive Director Bill Haan has sent out numerous e-mails concerning this bill. Bill's efforts are sincerely appreciated. I would also like to thank the bill's authors, Representatives Ron Liggett and

2003 Secretary/Treasurer Introduction

submitted by Darin Duncan, PE, Harrison County Engineer

Sue Scholer. Without this proposed increase in the gas tax, our budgets look very bleak. The increase in revenues is necessary for us to continue maintaining our current system. IACHES is also still pursuing increasing the County Engineer's Grant-in-Aid Subsidy as specified in IAC 8-17-5-10. If you recall, I previously wrote about this in earlier IACHES newsletters. I have not been successful to date. In addition, we are attempting to ask the legislature to set up a similar subsidy for Supervisors. The legislators tell us that in order to do this, we must first establish a certification program for Highway Supervisors. Without such a program, they would be hard pressed to move forward on the issue. IACHES is beginning to work with LTAP on possibly establishing such a program. I would encourage all members to address these issues with your local legislators. Please contact them with letters and phone calls.

A draft on the Historic Bridge Proposal by Matt Fuller with FHWA is now available for your review on the IACHES website. IACHES has a committee actively involved in the monitoring of this proposal. At the last 2002 Road School, IACHES Members unanimously supported action presented by Steve Weintraut and Jim Cooper on this issue.

The 2003 IACHES Scholarship application is available on the website. Applications are due soon and winner(s) will be announced at the upcoming 2003 Summer Conference

In closing, I would like to thank outgoing/former 2002 IACHES Past President John Crist, Highway Engineer from LaGrange County and outgoing/former 2002 IACHES President Scott Tilden (now 2003 IACHES Past President) Highway Supervisor from Fulton County for their leadership and contributions to the IACHES and its members. I appreciate your help and continue to look upon both of you for your continued assistance in future IACHES endeavors.

We ask that all IACHES Members support and participate in IACHES functions as actively as possible. We can only continue to grow and serve the association's needs with your help.

May God bless us and watch over us all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steven A. Sherwood, P.E., L.S.

Warrick County Highway Engineer

IACHES President

Welcome to 2003! I am honored to have been elected the membership to serve as your newest executive officer. I appreciate your support and will strive hard to represent you in the years to come. I wanted to take a few lines in this first newsletter of the year to give you more of my background, especially for those of you that I haven't been able to personally meet.

I have been employed as the County Highway Engineer in Harrison County for the last 6+ years. Harrison County is located on the Ohio River about 30 minutes west of Louisville, Kentucky via Interstate 64. Our most noted claim to fame is that the county seat, Corydon, was the First State Capital of Indiana. Our current Governor, Frank O'Bannon, is a Corydon native and still maintains a residence in the County for those Indianapolis get-a-ways!

Harrison County has traditionally been rural, but it is rapidly becoming a bedroom community for the Louisville metropolitan area. Our growth is a mixture of residential, commercial and industrial developments. As you can guess, this recipe produces a blend of problem issues that I continuously find our local government addressing.

I grew up in a small town in our county called Elizabeth (population 175). I attended the University of Louisville Speed Scientific School and graduated with a Master of Engineering Degree in 1992. After graduation, I worked for a private engineering design consultant in Louisville until accepting this position in August of 1996. I was recruited then to fill the "newly created" position of County Engineer in Harrison County. Yes, there had never been a "County Engineer" here before, and I welcomed the opportunity to prove that it could be a great asset for my home county. I knew that it would be a challenge, so I hit the ground running to identify strategic issues that I felt that we needed to address. I quickly learned that "government is not a sprint, it's a marathon", requiring you to pace yourself and to have stamina for the long haul! I also learned that this position is not just engineering, but a lot of other "descriptions" rolled into one. But that's a topic for another article.

I am happily married to my wife, Deonne, soon to be 10 years in September. I have no excuse to forget my anniversary for it is a date that is permanently burned in all of our minds (yes, the 11th)! Our three children, Blake (6), Luke (3) and Abby (1) always make life interesting at home, which we just finished building in the spring of 2001. My hobbies include raising Angus beef cattle on our 45 acre farm in Elizabeth and reliving my childhood with those three kids. (The toys are so much more sophisticated today!)

I look forward to working with each of you on important issues for our association. Undoubtedly, those issues and members opinions on them will vary with time. Ultimately, in the end we all are working for the betterment of our respective

communities. Working together, we can certainly accomplish more than working apart. I look forward to the New Year and the challenges we have in front of us. If anyone has opinions or ideas on the needs of IACHES, I encourage you to contact myself or any of the IACHES Board of Directors. We exist to serve you. Thanks again!

I.A.C.H.E.S. WEBSITE
Submitted by Mike Beasey, Elkhart County

Our web site is on-line! You can browse the site at www.iaches.org. The site has a variety of features that we hope will be of interest to you. You will find information on our current Board and Committee members posted on the site. Members will be given a username and password to access a complete listing of Members and Associate Members of our organization.

Various forms can be downloaded for your use, including applications for the renewal of your membership. Important dates regarding meetings, training, etc. can also be found here. We also have links that will take you to web pages of interest.

Our Bulletin Board can be used to advertise equipment you would like to sell, or to make your interest known in purchasing used equipment. Simply click the *Web Designer* button and send me an e-mail with the details of what you want to sell or purchase. The information will remain on the bulletin board until you are ready to have it removed.

Our current Newsletter will also be posted on the site along with archived Newsletter for the past year for your convenience. If you have information or suggestions for the web site please press either the *Contact IACHES* or the *Web Designer* button and e-mail us your suggestions. We encourage you to check the site frequently and to make use of its features. Happy surfing!

Mike Beasey, Elkhart County Highway

PRESS RELEASE

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners Monday, February 10, 2003 announced that Bradley James Davis has accepted the position of Highway Director for Hamilton County. Bradley Davis is extremely qualified with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Purdue, Masters of Business Administration from Butler. Mr. Davis has worked his entire career at INDOT since October of 1976; starting as Engineer in Training, Assistant Programmer, Maintenance Field Engineer, Assistant Maintenance Engineer, District Maintenance and Operations Engineer, to his current position as District Director of the Greenfield District which he has held since February of 1993.

Mr. Davis is extremely experienced in operation of highway department, maintenance operation and bridges. He is a licensed Professional Engineer. Brad and his wife Peggy,

son Kyle and daughter Kara reside in Fishers where they have lived since 1988. They attend church at St. Elizabeth Seton Church in Carmel.

Bradley Davis will replace Tom K. Stevens who retired on December 6, 2002 after being in this position for twelve and a half years.

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners and the Highway Department are very much looking forward to working with Mr. Davis starting March 3, 2003.

Next Newsletter

The next IACHES newsletter will be mailed prior to the IACHES Summer Annual Conference. Any information you wish published in that edition will need to be submitted to Cheryl J. Mencsik, IACHES.

You may contact Cheryl at:

Phone & Fax: (260)562-3906

E-Mail: iaches@skynet.net www.iaches.org

Address: Cheryl Mencsik, Executive Secretary

IACHES

P. O. Box 55

LaGrange, IN 46761

We especially encourage articles from Committee Chairs, our Officers, and our District Directors. We also welcome job change information or news on what you are doing, tips you might have, challenges you've overcome, or assistance needed.

Distributor Truck For Sale

1966 Ford F800 single axle semi truck with ground speed radar with 2000 gallon 1965 Etnyre distributor. **Good Condition.** Refurbished by Southeastern Equipment in 1996 purchased from Randolph County Highway Department in November of 1998. No Reasonable offer will be refused. For more information contact:

Daviess County Highway Department

Larry F. McLin, Supervisor

204 S. E. Third Street

Washington, IN 47501

(812)254-5798

