

The President's Perspective

by Katie Zimmerman

One of the most rewarding parts of my job is watching the development of our employees as they transition through both personal and professional periods of growth. It means a lot to me that our employees see APTEch as a place they want to work and I love watching as each of you gains confidence in your skills and abilities and takes on more responsibilities in your position. Over the course of your employment with APTEch, I've seen many of you get married, purchase your first home, expand your family, or have a child go away to college. Professionally, many of you have been promoted from the job you were originally hired to do and are now leading the activities that you were introduced to when you first joined the company. This gradual progression of increasing responsibility and greater exposure to peers and clients is a natural part of building a career.

At the holiday party, and again at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board (TRB), APTEch will be celebrating the accomplishments that Roger Larson has amassed during the six-decade span of his career. Since Roger will be retiring early this year, we thought we'd take advantage of the large number of Roger's co-workers, peers, and friends who will be in Washington, DC this month to host a reception in his honor. The event is being held in an Art Gallery near the Marriott Hotel where we stay while attending the TRB Annual Meeting. Kurt and Beth have done a fabulous job of putting together some poster boards that will be scattered throughout the gallery commemorating various aspects of Roger's career. In addition, we'll be passing around a memory book for attendees to jot down a

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Aviation trivia

by Kyle Potvin

As we start the year I wanted to thank those of you that participated and provided amusing answers to last year's trivia questions. I enjoyed the responses. Hopefully the questions prompted some discovery and a greater awareness of aviation topics, even if in a small way.

I am going to take a shot at starting this year off with a current (or recent) event question. So

without further ado, what is 'Operation Migration' and what recently happened in Alabama that caused a hiccup in their mission?

Once you think you have the answer, take a little time and think of another current event that may be interesting to discuss and send it to me. I may use it in a future newsletter.

insidethisissue

PAGE 2 Steve shares his experience from a carnival-like CAI Tradeshow

PAGE 3 The winner of the grammar game is revealed along with this month's topic

PAGE 4 Browse the poster boards that will be included at the TRB open house in celebration of Roger Larson's career

celebration!

ANNIVERSARY

- 1/3 – Maura Hankinson (1 year)
- 1/10 – Steve Seeds (12 years)
- 1/12 – Roger Larson (10 years)
- 1/31 – Laura Raczowski (7 years)

BIRTHDAY

- 1/4 – Mat Brynick
- 1/30 – Jim Bruinsma

APTech has stiff competition at tradeshow *by Steve Seeds*

On January 13, Steve traveled to Tucson Arizona to serve as APTech's representative at the 2012 Southern Arizona Community Association's Institute. Unfortunately, someone forgot to inform Steve of the carnival-like atmosphere that the CAI Chapter targets for its trade show participants. Steve saw some vendors dressed in various types of costumes including Halloween (well it was Friday the 13th), early 20th century attire (supposedly passengers of the Titanic), and "airframed" dresses that were designed to inflate certain parts of the anatomy.

Besides the outrageous costumes, about half of the booths were decorated and set up to play games and award prizes. To the right of APTech's (sad) display, was an association manager with over 100 prizes ranging from candy to DVD players available to participants who left a business card and spun the wheel. On the left was a plumbing company claiming to be #1 in the #2 business. They offered prizes to participants who left a business card and successfully tossed a tennis ball into a toilet bowl. The booth that won first prize was an authentic looking mock up of Rick's American Café. All the staff were dressed up like Sam and the rest of the cafe staff in the movie, Casa Blanca.

Not to be outdone next year, Steve is seeking suggestions for next year's booth.

The trade show was not a complete loss. Steve reports that there were almost 200 trade show attendees and about 40 to 50 of them dropped by the booth to gather information on APTech services.



New year brings new laws for Illinois

by Maura Hankinson

More than 200 new laws, covering everything from local library boards to murder, go into effect on January 1. Memorizing all those new laws could be quite the chore, so here are some new laws that may require attention or are quite interesting.

Seat belts: Adult passengers in the back seats of vehicles must now wear seat belts. The previous law stated complicated age guidelines we were to follow; now the safety belt rule applies to everyone. The fine for ignoring the new law is \$25.

Electronics disposal: Illinois residents can no longer dump computers, monitors, TVs and other electronic devices into the same trashcan as their used coffee grinds. From now on, consumers must wait for a county-planned pick up day or take their old PCs and iPods to stores that accept electronics for recycling.

ID for drain cleaner: Residents will now have to show a photo identification to buy a bottle of Liquid-Plumner or similar caustic substances (except batteries). Purchasers will also have to sign a log that asks for their name, address, date of birth, the date and time, the product's brand

name and its net weight. The new law comes in the wake of two attacks in which Chicago women had drain cleaner poured on them.

Motorcycle "dead" reds: It used to be that bikers had to wait for extremely long red lights to turn green; now they can run that light after waiting 120 seconds and making sure the way is clear. The rule was enacted because many motorcycles' lighter weights will not trigger stoplight sensors designed for heavier cars.

School rules: School boards can suspend or expel a student for making online threats against school employees or fellow students.

Roadkill: One of the strangest new laws allows anyone with a furbearer license to collect the pelts or meat of dead animals from the side of the road. In the past, collectors would have been fined.

Debt collection: Owe money to a municipality, such as a parking ticket? Now your employer can deduct those wages from your paycheck to pay it back. On the flip side, employers can recoup excess money paid to municipalities in error.

Watch were you point that thing: House Bill 167, signed by the governor in July, outlaws shining a laser light into a plane cockpit in the midst of either a takeoff or landing. The measure was introduced in response to a Federal Aviation Administration report that 2,800 pilots nationwide reported such an occurrence in 2010, including many in the Chicago area.

For a full listing of Illinois' new laws, visit <http://senategop.state.il.us/index.php/in-the-news-mainmenu-123/recent-news/1065-214-new-laws-go-into-effect-jan-1>

Proposals and Projects compiled by Beth McKinney

NEW PROPOSALS

2010-098-AM02 YYC Airside APMS Update for 2012
 2011-150-AE01- Muria Airport PCN Development
 2011-153-RE01 Champaign Town Center Boulevard Coring
 2011-155-RE01 Pavement Structural Evaluation for Tournament Hills
 2011-156-RR01 Updated Performance Curves for SDDOT's Pavement Management System
 2011-157-RR01 Louisiana TRC Asphalt

Surface Treatments for Pavement Preservation
 2012-001-AM01 Iowa Statewide APMS 2012-2017
 2012-003-RE01 University of Illinois 6th St and Stadium reconstruction
 2012-004-AE01 Dallas Executive Airpark
 2012-005-AE01 San Marcos Airport Rehab
 2012-006-AM01 San Diego On-Call Services

NEW PROJECTS

2009-034-AM02 IL 2012-2015 APMS

Update
 2011-054-AT01 Port of Oakland Pre-Paving Workshop
 2011-155-RE01 Pavement Condition Assessment

COMPLETED PROJECTS

2005-055-RT03 National Training for PCC Preservation
 2008-017-AE01 Denver PCN Review
 2010-033-AM01 Des Moines International Airport APMS
 2010-098-AM01 Springbank APMS Implementation

(mis)adventures in grammar and style

by Beth McKinney

Congratulations to last month's grammar game winner, Gen Long! She came closest to correctly editing last week's sentence. Thank you to everyone who gave it your best; I definitely received some interesting answers! Read on for the solution to the game, and make sure to try again next month.

When do I spell out numbers?

Numbers can be one of the most difficult grammar rules to learn due to the many exceptions that must be remembered. However, there are very specific guidelines to help you. APTech follows the Chicago Manual of Style for this rule:

grammargame

Below is a sentence in need of grammar help. Correct the sentence and send it to me. The first correct response receives a gift card to Starbucks!

In the middle of the story the author, whose name I can't remember introduces three new characters: Joe, Sam, and Brumhilda.

“*Numerals versus words. 9.2: In nontechnical contexts, Chicago advises spelling out whole numbers from zero through one-hundred.*”

Note that this definition begins with “in nontechnical contexts.” When using numbers in expressing a measurement of any kind (inches, feet, minutes, dress size, etc.) the numeral is always used. That rule is at least pretty easy to remember.

For all of the rest, here are exceptions to keep in mind:

Numbers in a series: If the same item is counted multiple times in the same sentence, all of the numbers should be numerals if one of the items is over one-hundred. Ex. 1: “I did 140 surveys this year, but Tyler only did 20.” Ex 2: “I did 140 surveys this year in fifteen states.”

Numbers beginning a sentence: Always spell out a number if it begins a sentence. If this seems to long (i.e. spelling out 1,232), try to rephrase the sentence.

Hundreds, thousands, and hundred thousands: If the number is a whole

number one through nine followed by the words hundred, thousand, or hundred thousand, spell it out. For example, you would write out one thousand people but use numerals for 1,239 people.

Millions, billions, and beyond: When a number goes to one million or more, it is usually expressed with the words millions, billions, etc. following the whole number (which is written as dictated by the original zero through one hundred rule). For example, write out twenty-two million grains of sand and use numerals for 931 billion stars.

The solution to the grammar game follows:

Between the 2 (change to “two” based on the zero through one-hundred rule) restaurants, David picked the second because of its 52 (change to “fifty-two” based on the zero through one-hundred rule) entrees and 112 (correct as is) types of wine, nine (change to 9 based on the “Numbers in a series” exception since numerals have already been used to describe wine) of which were made in California.

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favorite memory or a story about their interaction with Roger. We envision that the book will be a treasured souvenir as Roger settles into his retirement. If any of you would like to add something to the memory book and won't be at TRB to do so, please let Beth know. We'll be sure to have someone insert your message into the book. We have also included copies of the boards that will be showcased at the reception in the newsletter for you to enjoy.

While we will miss Roger's contributions to the company and his passion for improving highway safety, we can certainly appreciate his interest in retiring. Having been involved in the preparations for his reception, one particular aspect of Roger's career struck me as being especially significant: over more than 50 years in the transportation engineering profession, Roger has worked for only two agencies; the Federal Highway Administration (and its predecessor the Bureau of Roads) and APtech. That is a remarkable accomplishment and a

testament to Roger's dedication and commitment. We are truly honored that Roger chose APtech for his second career and wish him every success as he begins this new phase of his life.

I hope there are many more of you who are able to experience the satisfaction that comes with having had a long and prosperous career like Roger's. And even more so, I hope that you consider APtech as a place where you are provided the opportunities that will allow you to experience that type of a career.



continuous improvement

Roger's career has been dedicated to the advancement of pavement engineering practices. While employed by the FHWA, he directed many significant concrete research studies and has helped advance the pavement design procedures used throughout the world.

- Contract Manager/Technical Liaison on Several Major Concrete Pavement Research Studies
- Improved Joint Systems for Concrete Pavements (4-volume report)
- Rigid Pavement Performance/Rehabilitation (RPPR) (6-volume report)
- Structural Overlay Strategies for Concrete Pavements (4-volume report)
- Performance of Concrete Pavements (SON OF RPPR) (4-volume report)
- Performance of Continuously Reinforced Concrete Pavements (4-volume report)
- Technical Liaison, 1998 Supplement to the AASHTO Design Guide
- Panel Member, NCHRP 1-37A, Mechanistic-Empirical Pavement Design Guide



safety

Roger's passion is to reduce the number of crashes in the U.S. He has authored many papers on this topic, has spoken at many national and international conferences, and has contributed to several projects that have resulted in improved practices in a number of transportation agencies.

- National and International Presentations, Various Safety and Friction-Related Topics
- Pavement Surface Characteristics
- Importance of Pavement Friction/Texture to Safety
- Using Friction and Texture Data to Reduce Traffic Fatalities, Serious Injuries, and Traffic Delays
- Pavement Texture for Decision Makers
- Pavement Texture: Friction (Safety) and Noise (Environment)
- Overview of Friction Testing in the U.S. and Abroad
- U.S. Highway Safety Policy is a Failure
- Pavement Preservation Saves Lives
- Principal Author, Relationship between Pavement Surface Characteristics and Crashes (5-volume report)
- Technical Advisor, Splash/Spray Assessment Tool
- Technical Advisor, Demonstration of Pavement Friction Management Program



professional

Roger earned his Civil Engineering degree at South Dakota State University and followed that up with a Masters degree from the University of Minnesota. He has been recognized for his accomplishments several times throughout his career, including a Distinguished Engineer Award from his alma mater (South Dakota State University) and a TR News profile by the Transportation Research Board.


- B.S., Civil Engineering, South Dakota State University, 1961
- M.S., Civil Engineering, University of Minnesota, 1966
- Professional Engineer, Minnesota, 1967
- Retired from FHWA in 2001
- Distinguished Engineer Award, South Dakota State University, April 2002
- Profiled Engineer, TR News 248, January/February 2007
- Retired from Applied Pavement Technology, Inc. in 2012



implementation

The implementation of new technology has been an important focus throughout Roger's career. He has overseen the development of many pavement-related technical advisory guides and has contributed to the development of a number of training courses on pavement design, evaluation, and rehabilitation. He particularly enjoyed sharing his knowledge with practitioners as a certified NHI instructor and as a speaker at many technical conferences.

- FHWA Technical Liaison, Implementation of 1986/1993 AASHTO Design Guide
- FHWA Leader and Technical Reviewer on numerous FHWA Pavement-Related Technical Advisories
- FHWA Technical Liaison, various NHI Pavement-Related Training Courses
- Instructor, ASCE Course on Pavement Evaluation and Rehabilitation
- Author/Instructor, ASCE Course on Design and Maintenance of Low-Volume Roads
- Instructor, various FHWA/NHI Courses
 - PCC Overlays: State of the Practice
 - PCC Pavement Evaluation and Rehabilitation
 - Pavement Preservation: Selecting Pavements for Preventive Maintenance
 - Concrete Pavement Design Details and Construction Practices



innovation

Roger has worked tirelessly to bring innovative technology into the practice of state highway agencies. His contributions have led to the widespread use of retrofitted load transfer devices, the evaluation and adoption of alternative dowel bars for load transfer, and the implementation of improved PCC pavement texturing practices.

- Co-Chair, FHWA Follow-Up Tour of European Concrete Highways (Germany and Austria)
- Program Manager, FHWA SP-204, Retrofitted Load Transfer
- Co-Chair, FHWA Pavement and Bridge Deck Thin Bonded Overlay and Surface Laminates Technical Working Group
- Chair, FHWA Technical Working Group on PCC Pavement Texturing
- Principal Investigator, Evaluation of Alternative Dowel Bars for Rigid Pavement Joints
- Principal Investigator, Evaluation and Assessment of Pavement Friction in Ohio



service

Throughout his career, Roger has made significant contributions to the transportation engineering profession. He joined APtech after a distinguished 41-year career with the FHWA and has been actively involved in a number of professional associations, including ASCE, NSPE, ACI, TRB, and NCHRP.

- 41-year career with FHWA
- 10-year consulting career with APtech
- Member, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
- Member, National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE)
- Member, American Concrete Institute (ACI)
- Member, Caltrans Pavement Preservation Task Force
- Member, Permanent International Association of Road Congresses
- Member, Transportation Research Board (TRB), including membership on
 - Pavement Rehabilitation Committee
 - Rigid Pavement Design Committee
- Panel Member for numerous NCHRP Studies, including
 - NCHRP 1-34, Performance of Subsurface Pavement Drainage
 - NCHRP 1-37A, Mechanistic-Empirical Design Guide
 - NCHRP 38-15, Falling Weight Deflectometer Usage