

INTERMOUNTAIN AREA / SECTION HISTORY
1960 - 2020

60 YEARS OF MEMORIES



The Jackson Hole Story

Remembering when...

August 19, 2021

ITE INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION HISTORY

ORGANIZATION

The Intermountain Area was created as an organization by resolution of the Western Section ITE at the annual meeting in July 1959. The area to be composed of ITE members residing in Montana, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming and Colorado. It was promoted by the State Highway Departments of the respective States to have an annual meeting of the mountain States to discuss common issues and provide a central venue for industry contacts. Several members from the Intermountain area expressed concerns that the ITE Western Section did not fulfill all of their technical desires. At that time, the ITE members were primarily State Highway Department personnel and City of Denver with no traffic engineering consultants. Several met in Salt Lake City during the spring of 1960 to decide on the organization of the new group. Jackson, Wyoming was selected for the first meeting site in 1961 being central to the five states with Marvin Lotspeich (Idaho) named as the first Chairman.

In 1969, the Colorado group decided that they preferred more local meetings so they organized their own ITE Area. Wyoming decided to go with Colorado because of more meetings and their association with the Denver area. Through the ITE Constitutional Convention in 1973 with reorganization of the Institute, the Intermountain Area was changed to a Section of the Institute. Each State was organized as an ITE Chapter to provide regular meetings locally for the ITE membership and other interested individuals.

Bill Tucker, Colorado, Intermountain Chairman in 1968, referenced the meeting as being in Bedsprings, Wyoming, in his report to the Western Section Board. He was instrumental in leading the Colorado/Wyoming group from the Intermountain Area.

Northern Nevada was a subunit of the California Bay Area with Las Vegas a subunit of Southern California. It was not convenient for the Nevada members to attend California meetings and they never

scheduled meetings in Nevada. When P. D. Kiser (Section President 1987- Utah) moved from Salt Lake City to Carson City, he promoted the transfer of Nevada members to the Intermountain Section because of his past history and desire to attend the meeting in Jackson. In 1989, by vote of the Nevada ITE members the newly formed Nevada Chapter joined the Intermountain Section expanding the group to four States.



The group has been functional for 60 years growing in membership and providing a viable annual meeting in conjunction with and part of the Western District. From the original 12 members it has grown to 453 including 41 students by 2019 representing one of the larger Sections within the Western District and the Institute.

Over the years' the Intermountain organization records have been lost. The first mystery of the lost records box shall go unexplained by the Utah Chapter. It was the practice to accumulate the mailing lists, finances, notes, pictures, and other past meeting information in a metal box that was passed on each year to the newly elected Secretary. After an election the newly elected secretary had to resign as she moved outside of the Section. The box was placed in the care of the Utah Chapter where it became lost.

In the early days of the one person leadership, there was a past Chairman that moved to Washington, D.C., and took the checkbook and finances since he was the only holder on the checking account. Although the finances were limited, there was no money for printing and postage. Recognizing that these were the days of mailings before electronic registration prior to the meeting, the elected Chairmen covered the cost for a couple of years till the working account was recovered.

LEADERSHIP

The original organization as the Intermountain Area provided one person that was charged with organizing, hosting, and managing the annual meeting. The responsibility was rotated among the member States during the first 15 years. The change to an ITE Section increased the leadership roles providing a Secretary, Vice President and President. With a new Secretary elected each year that nominee was selected from a

specific State on a rotational schedule. Section President Tim Harpst (1990 - Utah) formalized the duties of the Section Board by providing detailed planning responsibilities of each officer in the planning of the annual meeting. A few years later



President Ken Ackeret (1997-Nevada) created a binder for each Board position to be passed on after each year's election. The binders including the officer duties along with annual meeting planning materials.

Section President Ken Ackeret (Nevada) proceeded throughout the year and the 1997 annual meeting without any backup information from the box. In 1998 Steve Meyer (President 1996 - Utah) discovered the box in his basement among a trove of other boxes. How it got there has never been investigated but the Section carried on without problems. In recent years with email and a Section website the box became less important and once again has been lost along with its historic contents.

The following list of Area Chairman and Section Presidents reflect the organization changes over 60 years.

Area Chairman

1959 Alan Pepper, Colorado	1960 Ray Halverson, Utah	1961 Marvin Lotspeich, Idaho
1962 Jim Challis, Utah	1963 Veales Hudspeth, Wyoming	1964 Jack Bruce/Gerry Rothweiler, CO
1965 Paul Poirier, Montana	1966 George Dale, Wyoming	1967 James Pline, Idaho
1968 William Tucker, Colorado	1969 James Booth, Utah	1970 Paul Poirier, Montana
1971 Herb Mayer, Idaho	1972 Wayne VanWaggoner, Utah	1973 Gary Funkhouser, Montana

Section Presidents

1974 James Pline, Idaho	1975 James Naegle, Utah	1976 Ralph Zimmer, Montana
1977 Joseph Laird, Idaho	1978 Emmett Quinn, Utah	1979 Norman Gutcher, Montana
1980 Wayne Pickerill, Idaho	1981 Glen Thurgood, Utah	1982 Clayton Sullivan, Idaho
1983 Pierre Jomini, Montana	1984 Gerald Blair, Utah	1985 Dan McComb, Idaho
1986 Robert Marvin, Montana	1987 Paul D. Kiser, Utah	1988 LeRoy Meyer, Idaho
1989 Richard Jacobsen, Montana	1990 Tim Harpst, Utah	1991 David Zielinski, Idaho
1992 Terry Smith, Montana	1993 Douglas Hattery, Utah	1994 Jim Poston, Nevada *
1995 Ervin Olen, Idaho	1996 Steven Meyer, Utah	1997 Kenneth Ackeret, Nevada
1998 David Butzier, Idaho	1999 William Morgan, Montana	2000 Larry Becknell, Utah
2001 James Caviola, Nevada	2002 Terry Little, Idaho	2003 Kathleen Harris, Montana
2004 David Kinnecon, Utah	2005 Scott Thorson, Nevada	2006 Kent Fugal, Idaho
2007 Michael Sanderson, Montana	2008 Lee Cabell, Utah	2009 Alyssa Reynolds, Nevada
2010 Joseph Tate, Idaho	2011 Danielle Scharf (Reagor), MT	2012 Molly O'Brien, Nevada**
2013 Molly O'Brien, Nevada**	2014 Bruce Christenson, Idaho	2015 D. J. Clark, Montana
2016 Tim Boschert, Utah	2017 Devin Moore, Nevada	2018 Cameron Waite, Idaho
2019 Erin Claunch, Montana	2020 Hal Johnson, Utah ***	

*First Nevada Board Representative to Intermountain Section

**Molly O'Brien served two years as president due to Board resignations

*** The last Intermountain Section Board serving out their terms with a transition to the Mountain District included Erin Claunch - Past President MT, Hal Johnson – President UT, Kondala Rao Mantri - Vice-President NV, Jeff Jones – Treasurer ID, Lisa Fischer – Secretary MT

It is noteworthy that the Intermountain Section is the home of 6 Western Section/District Past Presidents, 7 Past International Directors and 6 Past International Presidents. In addition the Section has been the home of 3 ITE International Honorary Members.

These individuals include:

Western District (District 6) Presidents (6)

- Ellis Mathes 1958 (Future District 6 - Western Section)
- Tim Harpst 1996
- Rich Romer 1998
- Ken Ackeret 2006
- Michael Sanderson 2010
- Alyssa (Reynolds) Rodriguez 2012

International Directors (7)

- James Pline 1976-78
- Jonathan Upchurch 1988-89
- Tim Harpst 1999-2001
- Rich Romer 2003
- Ken Ackeret 2009-11

- Michael Sanderson 2011-13
- Alyssa (Reynolds) Rodriguez 2015-17

International Presidents (6)

- James Pline 1989
- Jonathan Upchurch 1991
- Tim Harpst 2005
- Rich Romer 2006
- Michael Sanderson 2018
- Alyssa (Reynolds) Rodriguez 2021

International Honorary Members (3)

- Ellis Mathes 1985, Idaho Highway Department
- Jim Pline 1998, Idaho Transportation Department
- Rich Romer 2014, Orth Rodgers & Associates, Inc (Awarded Posthumously)

Each year the Intermountain Section Board was fully responsible for the planning of the annual meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer position had the responsibility to coordinate the meeting promotion and registrations. Their job was made a lot easier at the meeting by a group of ITE spouses who could be counted on to volunteer each year to run the meeting registration table. This process remained in place until the formation of the Mountain District in 2020.



Betty McComb, Beverly Pline & Mary Wilson



Julie Jacobson, Marge Smith, Kathy Ackeret & Beverly Pline



VENUE - LOCATION

The Jackson, Wyoming, site of the original meeting was selected as a central location with comparable travel distances for the initial five States. Although, Colorado and Wyoming left the group in 1969, the meeting location outside of the Section Boundaries has been retained because of travel distance, attractiveness of the location and the ability to obtain attendance from ITE officers and notable speakers. One of the main reasons Nevada gave for joining the Intermountain Section was the Annual Meeting in Jackson. The location provides an interesting fly in for flatland attendees. The weather is not always clear and the first thing you see when you drop out of the clouds are the mountains on each side of the aircraft and headed downward towards the valley for hopefully a safe landing.



Int'l. Pres. Jenny Grote - Jackson Airport - 1997

In the early years, several people liked to belabor the selection of a meeting site each year with seemingly endless discussion. That resulted in a meeting at Idaho Falls in 1965 and West Yellowstone in 1967.

Each of these meetings had lower attendance and limited activities outside of the technical program. Subsequently, it did resolve the meeting discussion

The Tetons provide some interesting flying experience as Gary Funkhouser one year (President 1973-Montana). He flew a small plane into Jackson and the weather turned bad with a high wind off the valley. When he left the meeting he found there was a major update along the face of the Tetons. As he headed across the pass towards Idaho the update sent him upward several thousand feet with the altimeter spinning. That got his attention so he drove over to Jackson at subsequent meetings.

for later years with Jackson the unanimous site for all meetings of the Intermountain Section. As they say; Location, location, location is everything.

The meeting dates have also been a consideration recognizing the influx of tourist during the summer. After having the meeting on Memorial Day weekend one year and Mother's Day in another year, the date was resolved to be the week between these two holidays to avoid the summer tourists and keep peace

Recognize that Jackson Hole was the site for the fur trappers to have their rendezvous each spring. They would come out of the rocky mountains to sell their furs, get supplies and have a spring fling. The early days of the Jackson meeting were a bad example for the ITE members attempt to emulate although they tried.

Rocky Mountain Rendezvous



Typical rendezvous scene

at home. Usually, the weather was good in May and some of the summer help was on board training to serve the visitors. Also, the hotel did not want a large group meeting that used up their hotel space for the Winter and Summer seasons.

HOTELS

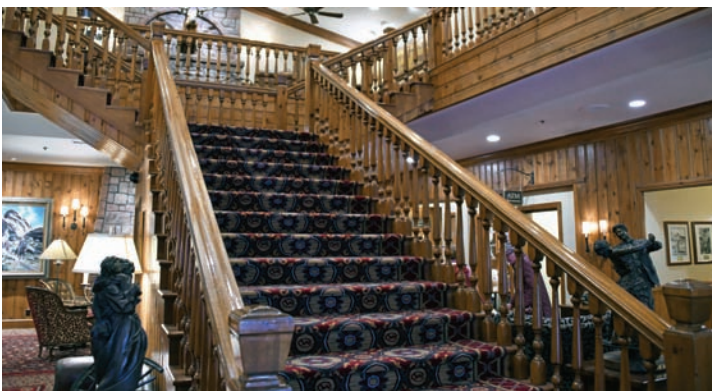
The initial site of the meeting was the historic Wort Hotel with the silver dollar bar and the mounted animal heads. It provided the ideal location, right downtown, central to all the nighttime activities. You parked your car when you arrived and never had to move until you left on Sunday. ITE met at the Wort from 1960 to 1986 with a fire forcing ITE to the Snow King in 1987. As a result of the fire, the owner



(Omaha Dentist) sold the Wort to a hotel group. The 1986 meeting at the Wort under new hotel management was not encouraging since they reduced

For several years, the Wort had a grand piano in the bar for entertainment during the afternoons and early evening. One year a group of Idaho boys were having a beer when Maurice Richey arrived from Montana and bought a round for the group. Knowing that Maurice drank only cognac, they bought a return drink for him. The waitress lined up 12 cognacs on the piano. Maurice could not resist the challenge and went down the line chugging all twelve. It didn't take long before he staggered out of the bar and upstairs to his room. It was reported he came downstairs on Saturday morning and then turned around and went back to bed. He was the first "Missing-In-Action" attendee and never made another meeting.

the meeting space and they hosted us next door to the bar. It was convenient to get a quick beer or bloody-mary but interfered with the technical program. The



Wort Hotel Staircase

Wort did have a room at the head of the stairs off the lobby where the Industry Representatives setup their hospitality suite. You had to pass by on your way to your room with someone always there to visit with so why not a night cap before retiring. Many a problem was solved in that room after several drinks and in the "wee" hours of the morning. The bartender at the Wort was also a master at making Bloody Mary's from scratch which was welcome morning pick-me-up to get through the day. One disadvantage to the Wort were the rooms over the bar since the bar and revelers did not close down very early as the "newbies" who got those rooms found out.



As noted earlier, there was a meeting at the Stagecoach Inn in West Yellowstone in 1967. The only night activity was playing pool in the basement and drinking beer. We persuaded a waitress to work after hours serving beer downstairs. She made some good tips and most of us didn't get to bed that early. The 1965 meeting in Idaho Falls was at the Shilo Inn with nothing going on that made the meeting noteworthy.

RESTAURANTS

The Jackson venue has always been noted for their outstanding restaurants. It was a practice by the Industry Representatives to host dinners for various invitees over many years. Some of the favorites were as follows:

- Open Range – By the downtown square and operated as a Chef training school. They served a variety of meats including wild game.
- Blue Lion – Originally discovered by Tom McCarthy the year they opened in 1979. They

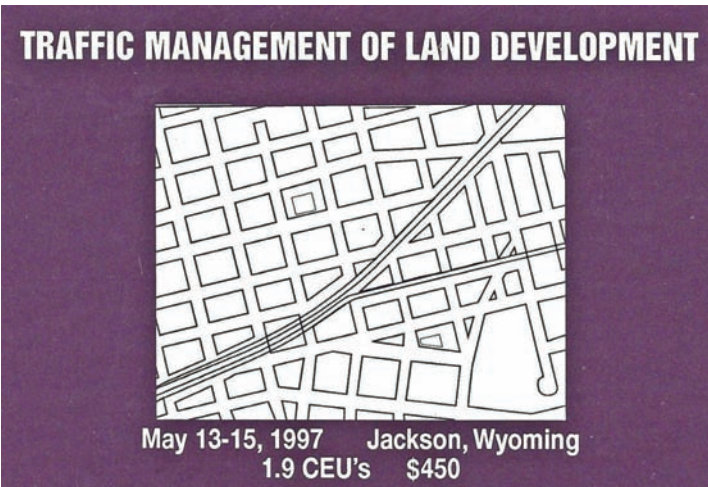
had no liquor license so you brought your own wine. Forty years in operation and still the site for members to have an excellent dinner.

- Heidelberg – Located on the grade to Idaho, west of Moose, specializing in German food. Don Kammersall (The little Kraut out of Denver) liked to host dinners here.
- Jeremiahs – This restaurant was a favorite for lunch with a number of surprises on the menu. They recently moved from downtown to the airport.
- Mangy Moose – One of several restaurants in Teton Village that serve good food.
- Granary – The restaurant is located on the ridge between Jackson and the Tetons providing an outstanding panoramic view of the mountains. A number of large dinners were hosted there and it was always a pleasure to be on the guest list.
- Gun Barrel - A dinner favorite for the restaurant décor with action wildlife dioramas. One could enjoy a dinner of Elk, Buffalo, and other special local dishes.
- Other restaurants of note are the Pink Garter, Snake River Grill, and Bubba's.



TRAINING

Training became a lead into the meeting starting in 1988 and lasting till 2014 with Northwestern University providing three-day seminars (Monday - Wednesday). There were normally 35 to 40 in attendance that stayed over for the Intermountain meeting. The training was not continued because of competition from other training venues such as webinars.



You may question what happened to the Silver Dollar bar in the Wort with its collection of silver dollars embedded in the bar when they had the fire. They cut the bar into pieces and stored them in the bank vault during the rebuild to avoid any theft.

The Intermountain Section provided a series of half day training sessions on Thursday afternoon from 2001 through 2014. It was designed for students and recent graduates to provide training on traffic activities that they would not obtain in school such as traffic impact studies, intersection design, traffic signal timing and highway capacity. The instructors were frequently out-of-area experts that were glad to present the “pro-bono” training as an opportunity to see the tetons. The motivation was to get these new members to the meeting capturing them for future attendance. It was a successful program of promoting student and young member attendance. A declining member attendance and availability of webinars brought this program to an end.

Bob Seyfried teaching for Northwestern, encountered overdue problems in 2014 as part of the last course offering. He started with a missed airline connection trying to get to Jackson. The Hotel scheduled the start of the seminar at 1 PM while Bob and the students planned on an 8:30 AM start. When he plugged in his equipment for the course, Bob discovered that his new laptop had no port for the projector. The crowning touch occurred when the restaurant miss placed Bob’s credit card once they made sure they had the charges. As Bob said, “It must be time to quit”.

AWARDS

The Section presented a number of awards to its members. The most prestigious is the Pline Award presented to those members that have a history of ITE involvement and have participated in ITE activities at the District and International level. Past winners are as follows with Jim Pline being presented as its first recipient:

James Pline - 1984	Kenneth Ackeret - 2004
James Naegle - 1985	David Butzier - 2005
Wayne VanWaggoner - 1986	Michael Sanderson-2010
Gerald Blair - 1987	Alyssa Reynolds - 2012
Ellis Mathes - 1988	Terry Little - 2014
Glen Thurgood - 1991	Danielle Scharf - 2015
Ralph Zimmer - 1993	Devin Moore - 2020*
Tim Harpst - 1994	Lee Cabell - 2021*
Richard Romer - 1998	
Paul D. Kiser - 2001	
Douglas Hattery - 2002	

*Presented at the last Intermountain Section Meeting held virtually August 19, 2021

For several years, the Northwest course accommodated a New Jersey engineer that liked to come to the Tetons and used federal safety funds for the course including travel costs. Someone decided that he could get the necessary training closer to home so his boondoggle came to an end.



The Jim Pline award was not presented Annually, but only when the Past Award Recipients identified an individual meeting the high qualifications of this recognition.

During the annual meeting the following Section Awards have been presented:

BEST TECHNICAL PRESENTATION/PAPER

- Devin Moore, 2018
- Michael Sanderson, 2017
- Thomas McMurtry, 2016 & 2013
- Charles Allen, 2015
- Lee Cabell, 2014
- Bill Baranowski, 2012
- John Grant, Jae Pullen & Mike Fuess, 2011
- Matt Riffkin, 2010
- Stephen Lewis & Grant Schultz, 2006
- Ken Ackeret, 1997
- Steve Markovetz, 1993
- Kevin Smeltzer, 1992

There have been additional award winners, unfortunately the records have been lost in history.

ENGINEERING PROJECT OF THE YEAR

- 2018, Project Neon Design, Atkins
- 2017, Boise Downtown Intermodal Center, Horrocks Engineers
- 2016, South Valley Connector, City of Pocatello/HDR
- 2015, Arrow Creek Slide Repair, Sanderson Stewart
- 2014, Metra Park Improvements in Yellowstone Co. MT, Marvin & Associates
- 2013, US 95 Sand Creek Byway-Sandpoint, ITD/Parsons/URS/CH2MHill
- 2012, West Mesquite IC Design-Build, NV DOT, Horrocks Engineers
- 2011, Trailblazer Variable Message Sign System, I-15, UDOT, Transcore, Provo River Constructors
- 2010, Shiloh Road Corridor, Sanderson Stewart
- 2009, Town Square Elevated Left Turn, Las Vegas NV, Kimley-Horn
- 2002, Olympic Transportation, SLC, UDOT, Utah Transit

2001, Park City Intermodal Ctr & Roundabout, Bill Baranowski, Kirk Bagley & Sear Brown

1999, Twain West Connector, Las Vegas NV, Kimley-Horn

1998, The 2.5 Million Dollar Driveway, Las Vegas, NV Kimley-Horn

1993, Broadway-Chinden Connector, Boise Idaho, ITD, CH2M Hill

1992, Charles Trainor, Ada Planning Association

1990, Design of Triple Left-Turn Lanes Flamingo Rd/Valley View Blvd, Las Vegas, NV SEA Engineers

There have been more award winners, unfortunately the records have been lost in history.



The humorous award is the “Missing In Action” for those attendees that are not able to make the 8AM Saturday morning session. It was created to recognize P. D. Kiser the morning after Bob Rogers showed up and taught P. D. the joy of tequila shots and beer chasers at the Cowboy Bar.

MISSING-IN-ACTION AWARD

In 1995 the Intermountain Section Board voted to create a fun special annual award to recognize individuals who enjoyed the Cowboy Bar on Friday night of the meeting to such a high level of social entertainment with fellow meeting attendees such that they did not make the start of the technical sessions on Saturday morning. The Board also determined the first recipient of this recognition would be at the 1996 annual meeting to a long-time meeting attendee and past president P. D. Kiser (1987- Utah). The award was a pink bedpan that was embellished by each

year's recipient. The award selection process was determined by the previous year's winner. Only the past winners have a record and memory of who won this meeting award.



P. D. Kiser presenting MIA Award to Scott Plumber - 1997

The Intermountain ITE Members who are also recipients of a number of District and International ITE awards are as follows in alphabetical order:

Ackeret, Ken - District Wayne Van Waggoner Award 1995; Lifetime Achievement 2020; Consultants Council Distinguished Consultant 2021

Cabell, Lee - District Windest Scribe, 2000

Carson, Jodi - District Outstanding Educator 2002; International Wilbur Smith Distinguished Educator Award

Chang, Kevin - District Outstanding Educator 2016; Wayne Van Waggoner Award 2011

Cibor, Andrew - District Annual Mtg. Paper, 2014

Cleavenger, Daniel - District Annual Mtg. Paper 1996; Annual Mtg. Prof. Paper 2013

Harpst, Tim - District Individual Achievement 2003; Lifetime Achievement 2014

Kelsey, Leah - District Chapter Windiest Scribe, 2011

Mereszczeh, Yuri - District, Annual Meeting Paper, 2014

Moore, Devin - District Intermountain Website 2015 & 2016; Young Professional Achievement 2016

Nambisen, Shashi - District Outstanding Educator 2003

Pline, James - District Lifetime Achievement 2001; Wayne Van Waggoner Award 1992; International-Honorary Member, Burton Marsh, Theodore Matson Coordinating Council Award, Ed Ricker Safety Award

Rodriguez (Reynolds), Alyssa - District, Young Professional Achievement 2006

Romer, Rich - International-Honorary Member; Burton Marsh

Sanderson, Michael - District Individual Achievement 2006

Scharf, Danielle - District Young Professional Achievement 2010

Schultz, Grant - District Outstanding Educator 2009; International Wilbur Smith Distinguished Educator Award

Tobin, John - District Wayne Van Waggoner Award 1990

Upchurch, Jonathan - District Annual Mtg. Paper 1996; District Wayne Van Waggoner Award 1999; Lifetime Achievement 2012

Wu, Jianqing - District Wayne Van Waggoner Award 2019; International Daniel B. Fambro Student Paper 2018

In the 1990's, Steve Meyer decided that plaques naming the leadership and award winners would be appropriate to recognize these past honorees. The plaques were stored in Utah and then transported to the meeting each year. That worked fine for several years until the new officers overlooked the plaques. The problem was solved by prevailing on Reed Amijo to store the plaques at his Jackson consulting firm making them readily available in Jackson not stored in Utah.

STUDENTS

The Intermountain Section in 2019 had 41 student members in eight Student Chapters located at Montana State University, University of Idaho, Boise State University, Brigham Young University, University of Utah, Utah State University and University of Nevada Reno and Las Vegas. A number of students attend the meeting and provide a report of their activities. The yearly attendance has varied from 40 to none in the year 2019.

The Section presents an Ellis L. Mathes Scholarship each year to a student applicant enrolled in engineering with emphasis in transportation. The scholarship recognizes Ellis Mathes a pioneer in traffic engineering as the first Idaho Highway Department traffic engineer and the first Section member to receive ITE Honorary recognition.

The Student Advisors had a major impact on the student participation as noted in the meeting attendance and award list. Dr. Glen Thurgood (President 1981-Utah) was an active ITE member and always made sure his students were presenting their papers at the Jackson meeting. His former student Dr. Grant Schultz continues his legacy as the ITE BYU student advisor. At Montana State student advisor



MSU Fund Raiser Shirt

The Montana State Student Chapter Endowment Fund was the inspiration for the \$500,000 Western District Student Endowment Fund that was later re-named after ITE President Richard Romer from Las Vegas following his untimely passing.

The Student Chapter activity and awards list below illustrates some of the past student activity in the Intermountain Section.

Montana State University

Western District Awards:



- Outstanding Educator Jodi Carson, 2002
- Student Chapter Activity 1999, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2010
- Student Chapter Website 2010
- Outstanding Student Trevor Iman, 2004
- Student Paper Award Cody Glasnoqupan, 2009
- Lani Tribbet, 2000

International Awards:

- Student Chapter Award 1999, 2000, 2003
- Wilbur S. Smith Distinguished Educator Award Jodi Carson, 2004

Brigham Young University

Western District Awards:



- Outstanding Educator Grant Schultz, 2009
- Student Chapter Activity 1995
- Student Chapter Website 2015
- Outstanding Student Award



MSU Students around 1998 with Jodi Carson

Jodi Carson energized a Student Chapter. The MSU chapter was formed during the 1994-95 academic year, and became recognized as an International ITE Student Chapter of the Year for several years. To establish long term funding to participate in ITE



activities the Montana Student Chapter created a student endowment fund. In 1999 they sold special meeting shirts to the annual meeting attendees. In seeking endowment fund donations the students in 2002 initiated a fund-raising Golf Tournament in Jackson that was hosted by MSU for several years.

Jeremy Searle, 2010
 Devin Moore, 2012
 Clancy Black, 2012
 Bradley Mecham, 2013
 David Bassett, 2015
 Natalia Brown, 2017
 Student Paper Award
 Bill Baranowski, 1989
 Glen Thurgood, 1999
 Brent Turley, 2002
 Ryan Christensen, 1993
 Lee Cabell, 1992
 Student Traffic Bowl 2013 and 2014

International Awards:

Wilbur S. Smith Distinguished Educator
 Grant Schultz, 2014
 Traffic Bowl Champions 2011

University of Utah

Western District Awards:



Outstanding Educator
 Xiuoyua “Cathy” Liu, 2017
 Student Paper
 Anne Harris, 1980
 Dhroujyoti Lahon, 2005
 Ivana Vladislavljevic, 2006

International Awards:

Daniel Frambo Student Paper
 Ivana Vladislavljevic, 2006
 Xiuoyue “Cathy” Liu, 2012

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Western District Awards:



Outstanding Educator
 Shashi Nambisan, 2003
 Student Chapter Activity 2005,
 2006 & 2007

University of Nevada, Reno

Western District Awards:



Student Paper
 Xuan Wang, 2007 & 2008
 Pei Feng Hu, 2010
 Yue Zhao, 2013
 Jianging Wu, 2018
 James H. Kell Award 2012

University of Idaho

Western District Awards:



Student Chapter Activity- 1998
 Student Paper
 Chris Clemow, 1990

One year in the 1960’s, Jim Delaney introduced some of the attendees to the affects of Yukon Jack, a bourbon liquor. It has a great taste but is a liquor meant to be drank in moderation. It is a nice yellow color and after a couple of days, some of the people looked like they had yellow jaundice.

INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES

The Intermountain Section meeting was always at a popular location for the representatives from industry to attend and make contacts. It was one of the reasons for the original organization to benefit them and reduce their travel expenses. The early meetings involved only limited product exhibits but included social rooms, hosted dinners for the meeting attendees, usually a poker game and refreshments.



Annual Vendor’s Social - 2010

When the meeting moved to the Snow King, the arrangement of product exhibits was established with the Industry setting up a Friday night social with a bar and hors d’oeuvres. They also provided a popular drawing for donated prizes such as hats, software, jackets, and sweaters. The event provided the opportunity to address product questions and socialize among the meeting attendees. The Vendor raffle became an important event of the meeting as Jackets were raffled off with the Intermountain Section logo and meeting year. The only way to obtain any meeting logo wear was by winning in the raffle. The only exception was during the 2010 - 50th Anniversary year when all attendees were given an opportunity to purchase logo shirts and hats.



A few of the early industrial people that attended the meeting are as follows and may bring back some memories:

“Skinny” DeYoung	Ted Morehead
Bruce Culver	A.T. Mathews
Don Kammersall	John Hansen
Jim Magerkurth	Steve Amend
Jess Overgaard	John Kugla
Jim & Cheryl Bannon	Larry Keyser
Tom & Dan McCarthy	Roger Alfroy
Henry Schellert	Jack Shockey
John McDonald	Jim Delaney
Kathy Johnson	Doug Daniels
Walker Brown	Greg Groves
Burnell & Tiger Walker	Ray Halverson
Ed Riasto	Ted Densee
Bryce Sorensen	Kathy Ardnes
Scott & Rhonda Skerlock	

ENTERTAINMENT

The main entertainment in Jackson on a Saturday night in May is drinking and dancing. Early on three locations had live music on Saturday night, the Cowboy Bar, Wort Hotel and the Log Cabin. The Log Cabin located on the corner of Broadway and Cache St. was an old log cabin building with a wooden floor. When the band was playing a lively song and the dancers were jumping, dust would come up through the floor and coupled with the room smoke the band became invisible. Dancing was

In the town square, there are elk horn arches assembled over the entrances to the square. In the 1960’s, John McDonald left our dinner at the Open Range and we asked him where he had been. He said that he gone across the street and run through elk horn arches to perk-up his libido.

probably unhealthy but at that time there were no environmental concerns. Which was good because on some occasions you didn’t want to see the band again anyway but a few beers tempered your acceptance. It was a practice for the local folks to come to town on Saturday night in May before the influx of tourists for some socializing, drinking and dancing.

Fishing was always a possibility but usually only Snake River was open and the water was high and roily. Jack Shockey always tried the fishing and normally was not to successful that early in the season. However, one year he managed to catch a five-pound trout and came into the technical session displaying his prize.

A number of people have taken the River Rafting trip down the Snake River from Hoback Junction to Alpine. In the spring with the high-water flow, the trip provided a wild ride.

Golfing was always available depending on the weather and course hazards. Sometimes bison invade the course delaying the opportunity to play with bison tracks in the greens making putting a challenge.



Jackson has some great shops with some of the spouses availing themselves the opportunity to pick up some nice rewards for making the trip. There are jewelry, western wear, and art shops serving their need for treasures to take home. Usually, there were yard-sales around town this time of year and for several years a group of spouses would tour the city looking for bargains.

Jackson is known for its elk refuge where the elk winter north of town and shed their horns each year. They are collected off the refuge by the Boy Scouts to



be sold at an auction in the town square with the Scouts getting part of the revenue. They are reported to be the richest scout troop in the U.S. Normally, the elk horn auction is scheduled the Saturday of the meeting. The horns are considered an aphrodisiac by Asian countries bidding against the U. S. buyers of the horns for handles, jewelry, and displays. Large racks are sold individually with pickup loads of miscellaneous horns sold by the pound.

A number of visitors new to the area are in awe of the mountains and hardily can imagine that wild animals are roaming the countryside. They schedule



an after-meeting trip to Yellowstone Park or take some evening tours for wild life viewing in the Grand Tetons Park. Typically, on the drive from Wilson to Moose, you will see deer, elk, moose and bison with



Zaki Mustafa captured the bear photo - 2016

occasional viewing of coyote, beaver and bear. Zaki Mustafa (ITE International President 2013) has been a frequent visitor to the meeting and as a photographer made friends with a Park Ranger to obtain information on a prolific, collared, mother bear. He got some great pictures of her and her twin cubs and one-year triplet cubs.



Ken Ackeret had the opportunity to take some photos of mama bear with her two cubs - 2017

The meeting has not been without some events that challenged the visitors. In the early 1960's with few airline passengers, they decided to close the airport on Sunday for some needed runway repair before the tourist season. They rescheduled the passengers to Monday without any prior notice. Some attendees had difficulty explaining their delayed return to spouses and employers.

In 1980, Mount St. Helen erupted on Sunday morning impacting travel in the northwest. Air flights to Oregon and Washington were cancelled with volcano ash liberally distributed throughout the region. People were concerned about driving through the ash because of their vehicle air intake and potential vehicle damage. There were major traffic delays for those members returning home to the St. Helen area of impact.

SPEAKERS AND VISITORS

One of the benefits of the venue was a location that easily attracted visitors and speakers. The meeting has always been informal, where you wear your Levi's and bring along a clean shirt. You saw speakers show up in their best "bib and tucker" to present their message to the masses. We have threatened many speakers to lose their ties and dress



Jim Pline tie cutting demo with Tim Harpst

down to their surprise and comfort or have their tie cutoff. One year when Tim Harpst (International President 2005) was a speaker, he coordinated with Jim Pline (International President 1989) and staged a tie cutting exercise to emphasize the seriousness of the established practice. Over the years this has been repeated with first timers.

The Section has been able to obtain renowned speakers from around the U. S. because of the opportunity to visit Jackson and Yellowstone Park. Some of the speakers enticed to Jackson were as follows:

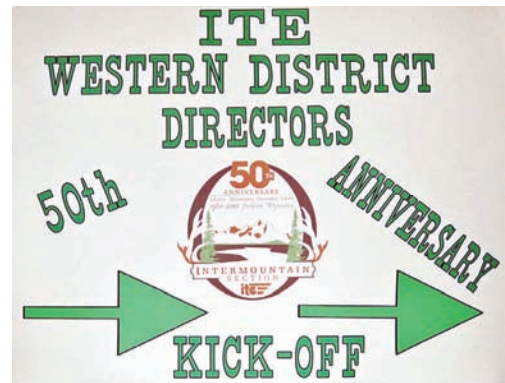
- Don McKenzie - New Zealand
- Whitney Nottage - Georgia
- Joe Gregory - Washington D. C.
- Mark Lenters - Wisconsin
- Vinod Vasudevan - Iowa
- Mark Lenter - Whitby, Canada
- John Freeman - Florida
- Walter Kraft - New York
- Richard Cunard - Washington D. C.
- Martin Lipinski - Tennessee
- Mike Walton - Texas

Each year Western District officers usually attended the meeting and it has been a tradition for years for the ITE International President Elect Nominees to attend and speak at the meeting. The reorganization of the International ITE elections process eliminated the opportunity to hear from the candidates. Tom Brahms, former ITE Executive Director and current Director Jeff Paniati have visited the meeting on a number of occasions.



Ken Ackeret, Dalene Whitlock, Zaki Mustafa - 2010

Additional meeting attendees included all three Western District International Directors (Zaki Mustafa, Ken Ackeret, and Dalene Whitlock) who hosted a 50th Anniversary party in celebration of the accomplishments and ITE leadership from the Intermountain Section.



In the 1970's, the Idaho Transportation Department Board had concerns about this meeting that the employees always asked to attend out-of-state. So in their annual tour of Idaho Highways they took a slight detour to Jackson to see the scenery, have a coffee break and check out the meeting. None of the Idaho Department employees were aware of this schedule change by the Department leadership and were surprised when they showed up at the Snow King for the coffee break. Needless to say, the bosses were surprised at the size of the meeting, and that all the Idaho employees were dutifully sitting in the technical sessions. It made the State travel arrangements easier in subsequent years.



Int'l. Past President Paul Eng-Wong Oath of Office - 2011

The meeting has always been a venue for International Presidents and at the 50th Anniversary in 2010 there were six Past International Presidents in attendance.



Seven International Past Presidents - 2014
Jonathan Upchurch, Rock Miller, Tim Harpst, Alf Guebert, Jim Pline, Zaki Mustafa, and Hibbett Neel

After visiting as a candidate for office Alf Guebert, (International President 2008) from Calgary, has become a regular visitor along with his wife Nancy for over ten years and they became recognized as an honorary members of the Section.



Alf and Nancy Guebert receiving Honorary Membership of the Intermountain Section - 2014

Under the leadership of Michael Sanderson in 2018 (Section President 2007 Montana), the ITE International Board met at Jackson when they decided to expand the Section to a District organization adding Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico and Arizona to form the Mountain District.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The preparation of this 60th year history of the Intermountain Section would not have been possible without the documentation and writings of Jim Pline of Boise Idaho. Jim and his wife Beverly have shown us all the importance and enjoyment of volunteering our time to our transportation community and to be a part of the ITE family. Jim maintained his record for attending all of the in person Intermountain Area and Section annual meetings from 1960 up to the COVID Pandemic which prevented us attending the 60th meeting in person at the Snow King in Jackson. We wish to thank all those who contributed to the photos and review of this History.

Kathy Ackeret
 Kenneth Ackeret
 Jenny Grote
 Alf Guebert
 Tim Harspt
 Devin Moore
 Beverly Pline
 James Pline
 Zaki Mustafa
 Alyssa Reynolds Rodriguez
 Ralph Zimmer

The last Intermountain Section meeting was held as a virtual zoom meeting and attended by Jim Pline on August 19, 2021. This maintained Jim's record of never missing a meeting in over 60 years. The August meeting officially closed out the business of the Intermountain Section and the release of this History to it's membership and the new Mountain District.



Snow King Hotel and Condos - Jackson, WY

INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ OFFICERS / MEETINGS ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ OFFICERS / MEETINGS ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ OFFICERS / MEETINGS ~



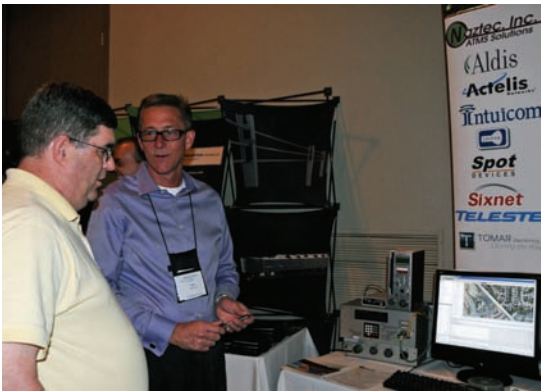
INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ OFFICERS / MEETINGS ~



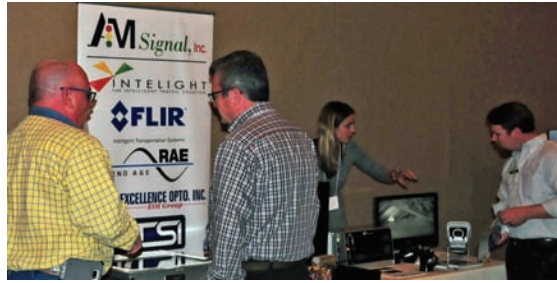
INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ VENDORS ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ VENDORS ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ RAFFLES ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ RAFFLES ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ 50TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ SOCIAL GATHERINGS ~

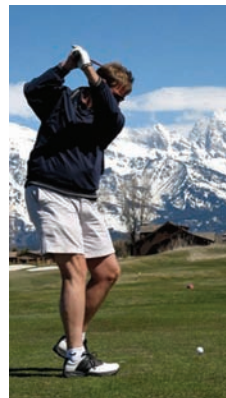


INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ SOCIAL GATHERINGS ~

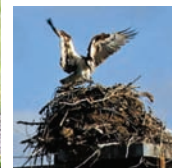
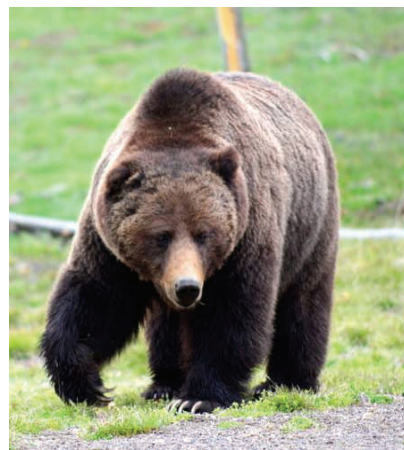
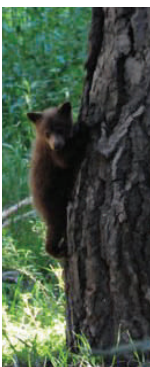
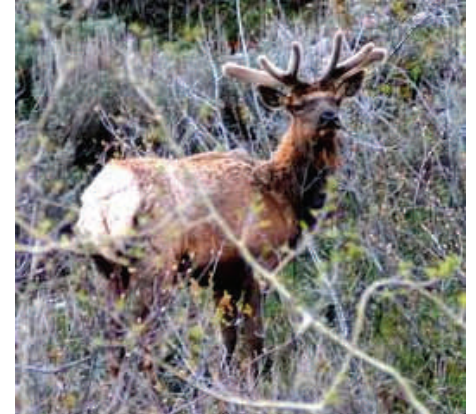
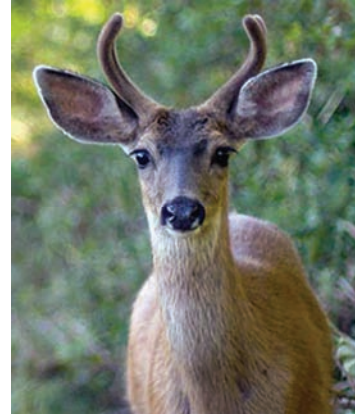


COWBOY BAR LUNCH & DINNER



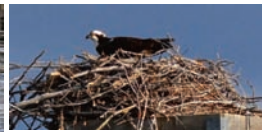
INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ WILDLIFE ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ WILDLIFE ~



INTERMOUNTAIN SECTION PHOTO GALLERY

~ MISCELLANEOUS ~

