MACRS 23rd Conference April 7-10

During the MACRS four-day conference at Fairmont Hot Springs, Montana, twenty-four speakers covered various topics including legislative actions, interpersonal communication, road building materials, safety skills management, and road law. Nearly forty vendors displayed their products and services for Montana's roadway professionals.

told him over lunch one time "...all politics are local." Having served as Public Works Director for Butte-Silver Bow County, he understood where the action was and stated "MACRS is a critical piece of infrastructure of local government." Understanding how to make use of being such an integral part of local government, it is important to realize that employees are the most valuable assets.

The first day's general session began with a heartfelt National Anthem lead by Kristie Ostlund, followed by a warm welcome from Pam Haxby-Cote, Butte's Community Development Director. Eric Griffin, outgoing MACRS President, introduced the keynote speaker, Don Peoples, President of MSE, Inc. Peoples noted that Tip O'Neill Harold Blattie and Vern Petersen, MACo, followed with focus on the legislative updates affecting MACRS and city/county governments. Hiene H. Junge, South Dakota, Vice President from the North Central Region for NACE (National Association of County Engineers), covered the role of NACE and how his organization

(continued on Page 2...
MACRS continued from page 1

can be used as an information resource. Director of MDT, David Galt, concluded the morning session with the realization that ... "Montana is a state with lots of roads and not a lot of people." Galt also emphasized with the transportation bill TEA21 (also known as T3) going through Congress at this time it was good to know by Susan Swinmley, private Bozeman attorney and Tara DePuy, Park County Attorney. Most discussions evolved around road law from the private point of view and the county's point of view. Both attorneys strongly urged participants to contact their county attorneys before taking any action on questionable road situations, as well as contacting their county commissioners. Road personnel need to stay focused on making the roads safe while the commissioners are there to handle the complaints. It is important to note that road laws are changing all the time. The two attorneys pointed out that documentation is of utmost importance in establishing road law. In regards to maintenance as a county road superintendent, it is vital to keep correct accounts of labor performed, equipment and implements used, and materials furnished, (Section 7-14-2103(4), MCA.) The beginning afternoon breakout sessions had Steve Jenkins, Montana LTAP Director, we have key people on the committees such as Senator Conrad Burns, Senator Max Baucus and Congressman Dennis Rehberg.

The afternoon breakout sessions included Marion Bentley, Utah State University, addressing Public Relations & Interpersonal Relationships. Personnel issues were covered by Jack Holstrom, Personnel Service Administration, MACo and Suzie Cozzie, Human Resource Director, Lewis & Clark County, in the other breakout session. These were followed with Ray Barnicoat, Risk Manager, MACo, outlining personal safety dealing with the public, and Ken Skorseth, South Dakota State University & SD LTAP, covering road building materials.

The next day the general session was greeted and Sam Gianfrancisco, LTAP Field Engineer, combining the cattle guard expertise of Jerry Otto, Hill County, Wayne Efferiz, Lewis & Clark County, and Bob Smith, Powder River County. Design and materials were discussed as well as encroachment policies and liabilities. Gianfrancisco pointed out that you need to document why you are not doing 10 foot clear zones. Documentation is vital due to liability situations. The other breakout session...
discussed speed limit laws with Brett Friede, Sheriff’s Department, Lewis & Clark County, and Judge Terry appreciation for road personnel “stuff”—equipment, access, and expertise when participating in times of fire crisis. Crandall believed it was important to establish a unified command, that is, formalize a safety policy and line of communication among the road personnel, police, sheriff, and fire crews BEFORE any crisis occurs. The other session was covering PASER, Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating, with Jenkins and Gianfrancisco. It was noted that PASER is an excellent simplified tool to establish a methodology for road inventories for the counties.

The final evening banquet was filled with exciting door prize drawings for gifts from vendors and counties, and with poet-singer “Froggy” entertaining the MACRS crowd.

A big thanks to Donnetta Bohrman, Montana LTAP Conference Coordinator, and Carol Hanel, Lewis & Clark County, for also planning the Spouses Program. Over thirty gals toured the Copper King Mansion in historic downtown Butte. Much appreciated were Betty Ostoj who served as a Butte tour guide and Bus Driver Bill Shovlin. Donated gifts for this program included the famous Butte Heritage Cookbook from Mrs. McCarthy, Butte, and Montana Silversmith earrings from Mrs. Bare, Columbus. All enjoyed the activities at Fairmont Hot Springs!

LTAP Matters is published by the Local Technical Assistance Program at Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana.

Phone: (800) 541-6671
(406) 994-6100
FAX: (406) 994-1697

E-Mail (Internet):
MTLTAP@coe.montana.edu
www.coe.montana.edu/ltap

Director
Steven Jenkins
StevenJ@coe.montana.edu

Business Manager
Jeralyn Brodowy
jer_b@coe.montana.edu

Accounting Tech/Conference Coordinator
Donnetta Bohrman
dbohrman@coe.montana.edu

Graphic Tech/Librarian
Michele Beck
mbeck@coe.montana.edu

Check Out Bicycle Web Site
Interested in Montana’s bicycle laws? Check out Legal Briefs at http://www.mdt.state.mt.us/planning/ctep/bikelegal.html
### Annual Calendar 2003

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7-10: MACRS Annual Mtg., Fairmont Hot Springs, MT  
Work Zone Flagging & Traffic Control Training: 15th-Glendale, 16th-Miles City, 17th-Billings, 21st-Bozeman  
24-25: Region 8 Mtg. - Utah

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5: Work Zone Training, Dillon, MT  
19: Work Zone Training, Glacier Park, Montana  
23-24: Gravel Roads, Havre, MT  
25-26: Gravel Roads, Glasgow, MT

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2: Work Zone & Traffic Control, Yellowstone Park  
15-16: Gravel Rds, Dillon, MT  
27-31: LTAP Nat'l Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii

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1:3: League of Cities & Towns, Sheraton, Billings, MT  
MACRS - Drainage & Trenching: 2nd-Glendale; 7th-Great Falls; 8th-Missoula; 9th-Butte  
22-23: Region 8 - Rapid City, SD

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Training on Request  
*Winter Travel-Survival  
*Winter Maintenance  
*Leadership

Some dates & locations subject to change. Call Donnetta Bohman, LTAP, 1-800-541-6671 or 406-994-6100 to confirm.
Gravel Roads Training
Havre, Montana
June 23-24, 2003
Glasgow, Montana
June 25-26, 2003
Dillon, Montana
July 15-16, 2003

Work Zone Flagging &
Traffic Control Training
Yellowstone Park, Montana
July 2, 2003

LTAP International Convention
Honolulu, Hawaii

Equipment Training & Snow Rodeo
Great Falls, Montana
Sept 3 & 4, 2003

MACo Annual Conference
Lewistown, Montana
Sept 21-24, 2003

APWA Rocky Mountain Chapter
Fall Workshop
West Yellowstone, Montana
Sept 25-26, 2003

APWA Rocky Mountain Chapter Holds Fall Workshop
This fall the APWA Rocky Mountain Chapter will hold its Fall Workshop in
West Yellowstone, Montana at the Holiday Inn on September 25 and 26. Watch
for registration brochures in the mail. Here’s the tentative schedule:

September 25:
Board Meeting
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Registration
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

September 26:
Registration
7:00 am - 8:45 am
Breakfast
7:30 am - 8:15 am
Welcoming Address
8:15 am - 8:45 am
Leadership, Crew Supervision
8:45 am - 11:45 am
& Communications*
Lunch/Spreaker* & Door Prizes
Noon - 1:00 pm
Road & Sign Maintenance*
1:00 pm - 4:30 pm

*Speakers to be announced
Contact: Marty Basta, Operations Manager, City of Great Falls, PO Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403. Call 406-771-1401 or email: mbasta@ci.great-falls.mt.us

LTAP Matters • Summer 2003
From MACRS President Jack Knorr

Fellow MACRS members:
I am writing to you just after our Annual Conference in Fairmont Hot Springs. And what a conference it was! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members and all of our vendors for helping to make the 2003 Conference a resounding success. With over 210 registered attendees, we can say that MACRS is on the move. I have heard many positive comments and remarks about Fairmont. We hosted 18 county commissioners, MDT personnel, 38 vendors and the most important people in Montana—the county road people. Fifty-three of the fifty-six counties were represented. The entertainment, dining and hospitality were great. We were treated to dinners by Roscoe Steel and Tractor & Equipment from Billings. We were entertained in the lounge by many of our vendors and received many beautiful gifts from both counties and vendors alike. The technical and administrative sessions were well presented and well received. The conference was an excellent opportunity for us to gather and exchange ideas. My personal gratitude goes out to Eric Griffin, Jerry Forman, Tim White (District 1), Richard Miller (District 2), Russ Albers (District 3), Mark Trask (District 4), Duane Schaak (District 5), and Russ Huotari from Richland County. Without these folks, our agenda would not have been nearly as interesting. The LTAP staff worked very hard and made sure all of the necessary arrangements were made and the entire conference went smoothly. Thanks to all who contributed.

Now let me introduce our new Executive Board for the upcoming year. Vice President Tom Romo, Roosevelt County; Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Forman, Custer County; District 1 - Charley Johnson, Flathead County; District 2 - Richard Miller, Beaverhead County; District 3 - Shawn Norick, Liberty County; District 4 - Mark Trask, Prairie County; District 5 - Bob Moats, Yellowstone County.

Congratulations to you all! I look forward to working with each of you during the upcoming year. Working together, we can continue to make MACRS an excellent resource for all counties.

As your new President and with your help, I would like to take MACRS even further up the ladder of successful organizations. This group is no longer "just a bunch of good boys running patrols." This group consists of highly trained dedicated professionals, striving to improve our surface transportation system. I am truly honored to be asked to assist you in your profession. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the District meetings this fall.

Please feel free to contact me with any comments or suggestions during the upcoming year at the following addresses:

Jack Knorr
Stillwater County Road/Bridge Department
PO Box 715,
Columbus, MT 59019
Phone: 406-322-5336 Cell: 406-321-4696
Email: rbdept@in-ctc.com
Publications

**p-25:** Timber Bridges-2002 Award Winners:

**p-27:** Cold Temperature Effects on Stress-Laminated Timber Bridges:
Stress-laminated bridges perform well if adequate bar force is maintained to provide the interlaminar friction and load transfer between adjacent deck laminasations. This study was in response to concerns about the performance of stress-laminated bridges in extremely cold climates.

**p-419:** Assessment of Selected LTPP Material: Data Tables and Development of Representative Test Tables: This March, 2003, report documents an evaluation of selected LTPP (Long-term Pavement Performance) material data tables as of January 2000.

**p-645:** Effects of Water Flow Rate and Temperature on Leaching from Creosote-Treated Wood:
This is a series of studies to evaluate the environmental impact of creosote-treated wood used in timber bridges.

**p-1023:** Retroreflective Sheeting Identification Guides (11/16/2001):
Laminated one-page double-sided guide lists a variety of retroreflective sheeting patterns listed as ASTM Type, developed by FHWA.

**p-2579:** Laboratory Evaluation of Waterborne Coatings on Steel (April 2003):
FHWA in-house study investigating the performance of the current waterborne acrylic, epoxy, and polyurethane coatings on new steel surfaces.

Videos

**PAG108:** Mutual Aid Program, New Hampshire Public Works Time: 14 min

**PAD103:** Cry the Eagle, A Call to Drive Sober & Safe Time: 31 min

**ST110:** Safety First! Speed zones that make sense for Montana Time: 13 min

Software

**SW139:** Snow Removal Attachment Guide, Henke - Complete product line for wheel loaders, motor graders, backhoes, & trucks from Henke at www.henkemfg.com

**SW149:** Asphalt Management Maintenance - This field guide provides guidelines for preventive asphalt pavement maintenance techniques for a variety of distresses and conditions. (Hardcopy in LTAP Library: p-386)

**SW170:** NACE Training guide Series & Action Guide Series - National Association of County Engineers entire training guide manuals.

**SW300:** Falun Dafa - The true story


New AASHTO Publications Catalog Now Available - You may download an Adobe Acrobat (PDF) version of the Catalog at no charge at: http://www.transportation.org/download/catalog_k1.htm

MDT has some very interesting road maps from 1935-1955. Check out their website at: http://www.mdt.state.mt.us/history/history.htm
The Local Technical Assistance Program Newsletter is published quarterly. Funding for this program is provided by the Federal Highway Administration through the Montana Department of Transportation, Montana State University and a portion of Montana's gas tax revenues.

This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about new publications, techniques and new training opportunities that may be helpful to you and your community.

Individuals wishing to receive future copies of the newsletter at no cost may send their request to LTAP, 416 Cobeigh Hall, PO Box 173910, Montana State University-Bozeman, Bozeman, MT 59717-3910, or call 1-800-541-6671.

Editorial Contributions Welcome
LTAP welcomes contributions to LTAP Matters. Those wishing to submit relevant material to be published in the next newsletter can submit their ideas and articles to:

Michele Beck
Local Technical Assistance Program
PO Box 173910
Montana State University-Bozeman
Bozeman, MT 59717-3910
(800)541-6671 or (406)994-6100
Fax: (406) 994-1697
e-mail: mbeck@coe.montana.edu