

February 2010

## Welcome New Members!



ITS Florida welcomes three new member organizations! Jupiter and Wavetronix joined ITS Florida and participated in the Technology Forum in December. Lightning Control Consultants Inc joined in January.

- Richard Schlinkert — Jupiter
- Stephanie Hoback — Wavetronix
- Bill Cook — Lightning Control Consultants, Inc.

## ITS Florida President's Letter

I want to start by thanking the membership of Intelligent Transportation Society of Florida (ITS Florida) for giving me the opportunity to serve as the president for 2010. I have been involved with ITS Florida for the past five years and it has benefited me on both a personal and professional level. The ability to meet, interact, and learn from many of the most knowledgeable intelligent transportation systems (ITS) professionals in the state has provided truly unique and valuable experience that I would recommend to anyone in the industry.

In Florida, ITS is in the midst of some major changes and ITS Florida needs to provide timely information and assistance to those affected by these changes. We will continue with our primary mission by advocating ITS deployments, offering training and guidance, and encouraging interest in ITS throughout the state. Last year we started the new Technical Solutions Sub-Committee with the intent of keeping track of new ITS technologies being developed to provide the most up-to-date information to our membership.

SunGuide freeway management systems implementation continues toward completion, there will be a shift from deployment to operation and new ITS projects will start moving ITS on to the arterial roadway systems. With these changes, it is important to involve local agencies that have not previously been engaged in ITS activities. As an organization, ITS Florida possesses a vast amount of knowledge and talent that can assist anyone who is entering the world of ITS; I would encourage anyone involved in these type projects to consider joining ITS Florida.

Undoubtedly, the strength and success of an organization such as ITS Florida is derived from the efforts and dedication of its members and volunteers. We are always looking for volunteers and appreciate those who already give us some of their time. ITS Florida has several committees, including:

- Outreach
- Events
- Member Services
- Professional Capacity Building
- Technical Solutions Sub-Committee

Feel free to contact me (Ken Jacobs) or any other ITS Florida Board Member to let us know where your interests lie and how you would like to participate.

Economic conditions in 2009 were difficult for everyone and 2010 may bring more difficult times. ITS Florida continues to modify how we provide information, training, and services to our members. Last year we refocused our Professional Capacity Building training to provide low cost webinars to

compensate for the lack of travel funding. We offered a Technical Forum that provided speakers from several different areas of expertise as well as ITS equipment vendors in an effort to provide as much relevant information in a short time span as possible. We will continue with these types of training efforts, so please take advantage of them when they are announced.

2010 looks to be another outstanding year for ITS Florida. We will host Transpo2010 on December 12-15, 2010, in Ponte Verde Beach, Florida, at the Marriott Sawgrass Golf Resort and Spa. This will be a joint meeting with ITS Georgia and special efforts are being made to expand attendance to include much of the southeast United States.

Although not a 2010 event, it is worth mentioning the 18th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems that will be held in Orlando, October 16-20, 2011. Many of our members are involved with various subcommittees, including local arrangements and demonstrations. This is an important event for ITS in Florida and provides a unique opportunity for everyone involved in ITS to show the strides that we have made in our state. Over the upcoming months volunteer opportunities will present themselves, so please participate if you can.

I look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible during the upcoming year and if you have any ideas, thoughts, or comments on how we can better serve you, please feel free to contact me directly. If you are not currently a member of ITS Florida, please consider joining our organization.

This article was provided by Ken Jacobs, ITS Florida President. For information, please contact Mr. Jacobs at (727) 464-8922 or email to [Jacobs@pinellascounty.org](mailto:Jacobs@pinellascounty.org).

For more information on ITS Florida, please check the ITS Florida Web site at [www.itsflorida.org](http://www.itsflorida.org) or contact Sandy Beck, Chapter Administrator, at [itsflorida@itsflorida.org](mailto:itsflorida@itsflorida.org). If you wish to contribute an article to the *SunGuide Disseminator* on behalf of ITS Florida, please email Mary Hamill at [MaryKHamill@global-5.com](mailto:MaryKHamill@global-5.com).

## New ITS Florida Exhibit

ITS Florida needs your assistance by ensuring that your company logo is correct. Please send [ITS Florida](#) your company logo in a jpg or png format. Along with the two new banners, ITS Florida will have the members' logos on a monitor at the booth. Don't miss out on this opportunity to display your logo!

## Save These Dates!

Mark your calendars, reserve these dates and plan to attend!



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