DIVISION HEAD'S MESSAGE
As the Division continues to grow, communication becomes more important and more difficult. Although this newsletter is one means of improving communication, it is not sufficient to assure that we move forward most effectively. I would appreciate your thoughts on how we can improve our communications both internally and externally.

GOODBYE AND HELLO
As some of you in this Division have heard, I have been appointed the manager of the Human Factors Program in the Safety Division. I just wanted you to know that I have immensely enjoyed my association with the Transportation Systems Division and working with all of you. The Human Factors Program will relocate within the next 2 months to the 707 Texas area from Riverside Campus, so those of us that are working now with you on projects in the Transportation Systems Division will go right on with the job, and also find new ways to work together. As we get organized we'll keep you informed.

Rodger Koppa

CALENDAR MARKS
Oct 16-18 TxDOT Transportation Conference
Rudder Tower, TAMU
Nov 20-21 Review TxDOT Research Meeting
Presentations
Nov 29-30 and Dec 1 ITS Texas Meeting
San Antonio
Dec 7 TTI Day, Rudder Tower, TAMU

DIVISIONAL WANDERERS
New projects have started and members of our division have once again begun to travel. Tom Urbanik had a busy month. Tom traveled this month to Anaheim, Houston, McAllen, Washington, D. C., and twice to Austin.

Dan Middleton participated in the "Mexican Presence on U. S. Highways after the 17th of December 1995" conference in Laredo. Dan was also accompanied to Austin by Hassan Charara, Mark Shafer, Joseph Koothrappally, Duane Hartman, and Debbie Jasek, for a demonstration of the Peek Vision Systems, video detection device manufactured by Peek Traffic.

Dan Walker made the run to the border. Dan traveled to El Paso for a bicycle safety study. Dan put in 6 days and 650 inner city driving miles, however he did manage to see a high school cross town rival football game. After all the driving though, Bryan-College Station was a welcome site.

Gene Hawkins also racked up miles in September. Gene made 4 trips to Austin to meetings concerning various projects and a trip to San Antonio.

Nada Trout and Sandra Mantey from Traffic Management and Information Systems along with Shannon Frankel and Katie Womack from the Human Factors Program spent 10 days in Boise, Idaho. They were busy collecting information on a NHTSA project titled "Identify Conditions of Safety Belt Use for Youth." While in Boise, Nada visited the District Engineer from the Boise Department of Transportation about new traffic control devices used in Idaho to improve the worker safety during construction and maintenance work. This is part of a new project that just kicked off this month. All stated that Idahoans really displayed some southern hospitality.

Nada, Sandra, and Shannon will also be packing up to head for Charlottesville and Roanoke, Virginia, for 12 days in October for the NHTSA project. They are all looking forward to seeing the fall scenery that everyone talks about.

Dan Fambro, Kay Fitzpatrick, and Ray Krammes attended the International Symposium on Geometric Design in Boston (August 30-September 1). Ray was conference symposium coordinator and it was a great success (150 attendees from 26 countries). Ray received an outstanding paper award from the Operational Effects of Geometrics Committee for a 1996 TRB Paper. Ray, Dan and Pam Fambro took Saturday off and toured MIT and Harvard (nice, but wouldn't trade them for TAMU), visited Mount Washington in New Hampshire and L. L. Bean in Maine, and dined on Maine lobster.

Ray Krammes also traveled to Houston, September 20-21 to attend the ITS RCE sponsored Workshop on Intelligent Transportation Systems and Travel Demand Management.

Our Marco Polo recipient for this month is Tom Urbanik for his 3 cities in 3 days tour. Tom is our first repeat winner.
MEANWHILE BACK AT THE RANCH

Lee Anne Shull and Bridgette Keller are conducting grade crossing traffic control device studies at Riverside. Lee Anne had 12 students and faculty helping her prepare the course (weeding, painting, pouring concrete, and constructing the signs) on a Saturday morning and Bridgette had 5 focus groups (30 people) driving through the course and then sharing their opinions. Rumor has it that sleep has been at a premium during the past few weeks.

The major activity for Kay Fitzpatrick, Lewis Nowlin, Alan Black, and Dan Walker has been to recover from the intense travel demands of the last few months. Meanwhile, Jon Collins, Matt Henderson, Stacy King, Kelly Quy, Jake Vaughn, and Jennifer White have spent this past month reducing hours and hours and hours of data collected during the summer months.

In case you haven't noticed the Cohu camera is in place and in operation at the intersection of University Drive and Spence Street (by the MacDonalds). As it is used to collect data on pedestrian traffic, it is also becoming quite a conversation piece. People have noticed it and wonder why it is there. In fact a discussion thread about it has been started on the TAMU home page.

COMING AND GOING

Mariano Molina has joined the System Applications Program as a full-time engineer. Mariano received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from UTSA and is currently working on his Master's degree.

Lars Crotwell has joined the Transport Operations Program as a Research Associate. Lars was born in South Dakota but has lived in Houston since 1979. He received a degree in Computer Science in 1993 from Texas A&M.

Design and Operations welcomed Stacy King and Melinda Butts as new student workers. Matt Henderson, who spent the summer as a TxDOT intern has also returned as a student worker for Design and Operations.

Design and Operations also bid farewell to a number of graduate students. Brian Shamburger accepted a position in Fort Worth with Barton-Asman. Bridgette Keller accepted a position with Kimberly-Horn in Dallas. Stephen Endres has moved to a graduate assistantship in another division at TTI. Jing Li has accepted a position in San Antonio. Manjunath Kalsanka also left the program this month.

We also want to bid farewell to Rodger Koppa, John Holmgren, and Fran Greene. They are moving to the new Human Factors Program in the Safety Division.

Finally, we want to welcome someone who is working with us on the Smart Diamond Interchange Program. John Yen, who is with the Computer Science Department, received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from UC Berkeley in 1986. We hope you enjoy working with our group.

BITS AND PIECES

Greetings from Colorado! Srinivas Sunkari, who left us this month to work in Colorado Springs, reports that it is pleasantly cold. The area is very beautiful and it snowed the first week he was there. He is working with Greg and misses everyone from here.

Debbie Jasek was recently presented with a certificate of appreciation from the City of College Station for years of work on the Historical Preservation Committee.

Finally, Joan Stapp will be out for the next several weeks recovering from minor surgery. I'm sure she would appreciate a card or call since she's missing getting to see all the smiling happy faces in the Division on a regular basis.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

| Oct 1  | Dan Walker |
| Oct 8  | Mark Shafer |
| Oct 9  | Barbara Gomez |
| Oct 18 | Amy Peach |
| Oct 19 | Gene Hawkins |
| Oct 27 | Srinivasa Sunkari |
| Oct 31 | Don Woods |

Note: Everyone who is new. Please E-mail Debbie Jasek the date of your birthday, so we can update our files.