

**REMARKS
ON RECEIVING THE WN CAREY JR AWARD
FOR LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT IN RESEARCH
January 2007**

I have joked over the years that my goal is to have 20% of my annual caloric intake provided by the Academies. But really my 40 years of involvement has been an intellectual feast and a feast of friendships. Sustenance for the soul.

[I remember at the Tr-State Commission when one January everyone was gone – Doug Carroll, Lee Mertz, Art Sosslau, etc. when I asked about them I was told they had gone to Washington for something called an HRB meeting – they came back with stacks of research papers – a real intellectual feast for me. The next year I was at Wash COG and George Wickstrom brought me to my first meeting.]

Since that time over 40 years of attendance I have been able to measure out important parts of my life in TRB terms. We all know that TRB is the official start of the New Year.

More personally, my dear wife Eli gave birth to our wonderful son Aleksander during TRB week My mother passed away during TRB week. I remember running back from the hospital to the Shoreham to announce to the Data Committee that I had a new son. Bob Barraclough, who chaired the Committee, was later Aleksander's godfather. Great memories.

Speaking of memories, one of the things I am proudest of in my TRB experience has been in helping in the creation of the committee on transportation history. Frank Francois and I participated in a session sponsored by the Committee last night called "memories are a terrible thing to waste". I would be remiss on this occasion if I did not restate the point of that session – much of our profession's learning and cultural history is being lost as older transportation researchers and actors leave us. TRB has to find more productive, more extensive ways to capture the great contributions of the past before they are lost for good. This could be a new role for the synthesis process. it could be a new role for the Emeritus Members.

This award has kind words about the time and effort I have devoted to TRB over the years. But I have received so much, much more back in intellectual fulfillment and life long friendships than I have ever contributed. It speaks of leadership but I still think of myself as a student rather than a teacher – really still a follower rather than a leader.

The greatness of this organization is exemplified by the leadership of fine people who have led it – Bob Skinner today; before him Tom Deen, who is sitting out there somewhere with a group which shall remain nameless, but his table includes several previous winners of this award, Peter Koltnow, Carlton Robinson, and again Frank Francoise, and finally preceding Tom, of course, Bill Carey, who's name this award bears. Great leaders in our profession. I am honored to join such distinguished company as a recipient of this award and in having my name associated with that of WN Carey Jr. I am immensely grateful to this organization for all that it has given to me and to the profession over the years and now for this award. Thank you all.