

Michiganite



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN SECTION OF THE INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS

Letter from the President

Summer is over but there is still a lot of work to do. If you're like me you still have many projects to complete before winter sets in. This time of the year seems to be the busiest for me. There are things that I planned on doing before the summer started that have not been done, golf courses I wanted to play. And then there is work. It always seems that the construction projects never got started on time. But enough about the busyness.

This summer representatives from the Michigan Section went to the international annual meeting in Toronto to present Michigan's bid for the 2006 International meeting. Detroit and Milwaukee were finalists for the meeting and each made a presentation to the International Board. Unfortunately the board chose to hold the annual meeting in Milwaukee.

Michigan's presentation made a good impact on the board but the fact that Milwaukee just opened a new convention center in close proximity to the convention hotel seemed to win out. We gave it our best shot but it was not to be.

The Michigan Section was represented by Dick Beaubien of Hubbell, Roth and Clark. Helping Dick was Al Martin from the City of Detroit Transportation Department and John Tofflemire from the City of Windsor. Lori Swanson helped put the bid and presentation together. My thanks goes to each of these people for their hard work in representing the Michigan Section. Next time you see them please thank them for their work on behalf of our section.

At the annual meeting in Toronto Dick Beaubien was given the Burton W. Marsh Award for Distinguished Service. The Marsh Award recognizes an individual who has contributed to the advancement of the Institute of Transportation Engineers over a period of years in an outstanding fashion. Mr. Marsh was a founder and Past President of ITE.

Over the last 31 years Dick has worked the Federal Highway Administration; Reid, Cool & Michalski Inc.; the City of Troy; and Hubbell, Roth & Clark Inc.



Tim Haagsma

Over these years Dick has served the Institute in a variety of ways. He is a Past President of the Michigan Section and has served on the International Board as the Director from District III and International President. Dick also was awarded the Arthur C. Gibson Award for Outstanding Service by the Michigan Section in 1990. The Michigan Section can be proud to have Dick as a member. Congratulations Dick!

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Deadline for article
 submission for the next
 issue of Michiganite is:

Tuesday, Dec. 1st.

Treasurer's Report - Executive Board Meeting
 East Lansing, MI
 July 16, 1998

Section Fund Balance		\$19,708.19
Section Regular Fund Balance	\$9,351.19	
Education Fund Balance	\$9,272.56	
Incident Management Fund Balance	\$1,084.44	

Education Fund at National Balance (as of 6/30/98) \$30,994.66

ACTIVITIES MARCH 19, 1998 THROUGH JULY 15, 1998

Income - Section		\$2,603.27
Dues	\$709.20	
Interest	\$64.07	
March 19, 1998 Meeting	\$895.00	
July 25, 1998 Family Outing	\$135.00	
MichiganITE Ads	\$800.00	

Expense - Section		\$1,958.37
March 19, 1998 Meeting	\$646.43	
July 25, 1998 Family Outing	\$225.00	
MichiganITE Printing	\$711.37	
Postage (Meetings)	\$204.80	
Postage (MichiganITE)	\$99.27	
Supplies (ITE Lapel Pins)	\$55.00	
Transfer to Ed Fund-Income	\$16.50	

Income - Education		\$19,824.25
Member Contribution	\$95.00	
Golf Outing		
Golfer Fees	\$11,529.25	
Sponsors	\$6,840.00	
Donations	\$800.00	
Circle Hole	\$139.00	
50/50	\$421.00	

Expense - Education		\$11,471.19
March 19, 1998 Meeting Subsidy	\$11.00	
Golf Outing		
Course Rental	\$3,875.00	
Catering	\$4,531.44	
Golfer Gifts	\$2,115.78	
Prizes (includes 3 shirts)	\$711.87	
First Place Trophies	\$42.40	
Postage	\$102.40	
Printing	\$81.30	

Submitted by
 Mark W. Bott, Treasurer
 Michigan Section-ITE

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Life Members of ITE

New Members*

- Dylan Foukes (R)
- Jeff Janke (T)
- Ashok M. Patel (R)
- Vikas Joshi (S)
- Linda Poll (T)
- William J. Sproule (R)
- Kamyar Fattahi (R)
- Keith K. Knapp (R)

- * (R) Regular Member
- (S) Student Member
- (T) Technical Affiliate
- (C) Commercial Affiliate

Technical Presentation Tips - Part 2

Part 1 of Technical Presentation Tips was presented in the Summer 1998 issue of Michiganite

Dynamic Techniques

Many other techniques can be employed to make a presentation work especially well. All recognize one fact: A presentation is prepared for the ear. To be effective, the words and ideas must be retained in the listener's mind. The following techniques can be particularly effective while delivering your presentation:

Repetition. Besides helping your audience remember something, repetition builds greater awareness of central points of the main theme. Often, repetition contributes to the flow of the presentation. Do not be afraid to repeat the main point of your presentation.

Quotes. The best quotations are short and memorable. They not only say something meaningful, but they say it clearly. Good quotes work on several levels, forcing the audience to think. Make sure the quote is clearly attributed and that it was said by someone your audience will probably recognize. Quotations are often particularly effective at the beginning or end of a presentation but can work well almost anywhere.

Startling or surprising moments. Surprise is used to draw attention to the point you are about to make. Saying something the audience is not expected to hear can reawaken the audience.

Tell a short story. Everyone likes to hear a story. As we listen, we visualize the action of the story in our minds. This is why and how we remember stories long after we have forgotten a lot of other things. In a presentation, of course, a story has to be short (it cannot come to take the place of the presentation itself) and it has to make a point in the context of the presentation and its theme. Use all of these devices sparingly in your presentations. If overused, the presentation becomes exaggerated and can quickly turn into a farce. Used with care and to move the presentation along, they usually work exceedingly well.

Time Challenges

If making a presentation as part of a technical session, where more than one speaker speaks, it is very important to adhere to your allocated time limit. The overall session must end at certain time. Exceeding your time will make the audience wander and lose their concentration. It can ruin your presentation. As you write and edit your presentation, the general rule to follow is to allow about 90 seconds for every double-spaced page of copy. Rehearsing your presentation will tell you approximately how long it will be. To stay within the allocated time, it is very important that you write the presentation that you are going to deliver. If you have prepared a written version of your presentation, for the Compendium of Technical Papers, for example, NEVER read it. Take your time to prepare a custom presentation, one that incorporates some of the techniques described above. Your written paper and the presentation you deliver should NEVER be the same. Of course, if you feel you are the wrong person to speak on a certain topic, or if you don't feel comfortable about delivering a paper written by someone else, don't hesitate to say so. But be prepared to recommend someone else.

July Technical Session continued

Russian Exchange Program with Michigan State University *By: Kim Krull and Kate Misteravich, Michigan State University*

Dr. Taylor and Dr. Maleck worked to set up an exchange program with Russia. 18 students from Michigan State University were able to visit Russia under the program and Kim and Kate presented their comments on this opportunity. The MSU students were met by 6 Russian students who had previously visited MSU. It appeared that the Russian transportation system is very chaotic. 68% of Russian accidents are related to red lights. Transportation problems abound in Russia related to poor signage, poor pavement markings, etc. The students involved in the exchange attended courses presented by both American and Russian professors. In conjunction with Kim and Kate's presentation a plaque was presented to Carrier & Gable to show appreciation for their support of student programs such as the TRB trip, and the student exchange program.

Bike/Pedestrian Considerations in Our Transportation System *By: Dan Burden, Executive Director of Walkable Communities, Inc.*

Dan's presentation was based on a course in Walkable Communities. America has been designed more for cars than for people. The course is developed to show those places that have developed or maintained places built solid and friendly for walking, friendship and intimacy. Dan showed how by observing these places, designers can learn lessons to help them retrofit areas to encourage making our towns more livable, walkable, and lovable. This includes pedestrian friendly intersections, accommodating for the disabled, better illumination and signing, combination of walking with transit, and better access management.

ISTEA & Michigan's 8th District

By: Richard Cross

Richard gave a brief presentation on TEA 21. He talked about how TEA 21 (Transportation Enhancement Act) was developed. He explained what the bill was comprised of, how the money was broken down, and how it was allocated. The benefits of TEA 21 were listed and he described what programs would be enhanced.

Panel Discussion: Local Transportation Needs for Next Five Years - Will There be Life After the Gas Tax Formula Sunsets on 9/30/98 and Should New Directions Be Set?

Participants: Dennis Randolph, Calhoun County Road Commission, Carmine Palombo, SEMCOG, Ron Reid, Kalamazoo County Road Commission

This panel discussion dealt with the proposed changes to ACT 51 and the ongoing debate on how to allocated funding and jurisdiction over roads in Michigan. Carmine tried to stress the need to work for a common goal rather than localities fighting over their fair share of the funding pie. Ron stated that the current proposal is not realistic and presented an amended version that deals with funding options available. Dennis gave a local government perspective, explaining local transportation needs. The panel fielded questions from the audience. One thing they all agreed on was the need to make the most of the money given.

Dick Beaubien Elected ITS Michigan President

Richard F. Beaubien, P.E. was elected President of ITS Michigan at the annual meeting in Detroit. The Intelligent Transportation Society of Michigan is an organization whose goal is to proactively unite Michigan resources for the planning, development and deployment of Intelligent Transportation Systems. Intelligent transportation systems use computer and communication technologies to make travel safer and more efficient. The membership of ITS Michigan includes a cross-section of interests in Intelligent Transportation Systems from Michigan and throughout the region. The organization consists of various groups, companies and associations, ranging from auto manufacturers to consulting firms; product manufacturers to design firms; federal, state, and local governments to universities and public transit agencies. Each of these members has a unique perspective and knowledge, which helps provide the diverse information needed to further develop and refine intelligent transportation systems. The 87 organizations who are ITS Michigan members include Ford, General Motors, Chrysler, the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Road Commission for Oakland County, Wayne County, the City of Detroit, and the University of Michigan.

ITS Michigan hosted the annual meeting of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America at Cobo Hall in May 1998. This meeting brings together more than 3,500 corporate executives, government officials, scientists, engineers, academicians, researchers, and marketing professionals from the United States and abroad. It featured more than 100 technical exhibits, 70 technical sessions, and tours of ITS operational sites. The organizations goals for the next year include development of a Program for implementation of intelligent transportation systems in Michigan.

Dick is the Transportation Director for the consulting engineering firm of Hubble, Roth & Clark which has offices in Bloomfield Hills, Detroit, and Troy.



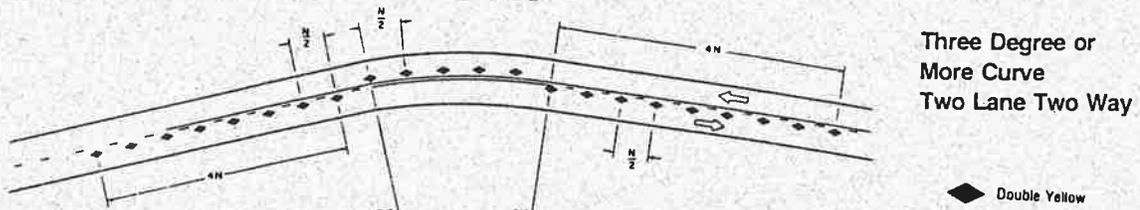
ITE Family Night



The Michigan Section Family night outing was held on July 25, 1998. The Lansing Lugnuts hosted their division foes, the West Michigan Whitecaps, at Oldsmobile Park. While the turnout was light for this activity, a good time was had by all attending. Those in attendance included Kurt Kunde and Ron Blake who both brought a large number of people with them, as well as Dr. Taylor, Bill Taylor, and Shirley Wollner who all brought family members with them. In the end the Lugnuts triumphed for the second year in a row.

Dangerous Curves... Are Advance Warning Signs Enough ?

As we are all too aware, many crashes that are located on those dark rural roads are located at curves. Though advanced warning signs make the driver aware of an upcoming potential hazard, it does not show the driver the geometry of the road which can be difficult to see; especially when the road surface is wet. Stimsonite plowable reflective pavement markers located in curve areas will enhance visibility, helping the motorist to stay within their lane with wet or dry pavement conditions.



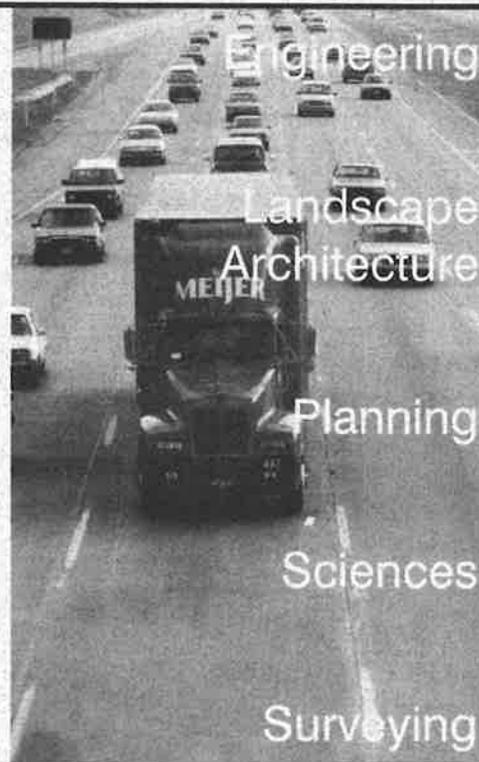
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July Technical Session

Vision for Transportation in Michigan for Next Five Years By: Gary Naeyaert, MDOT

Gary stated that the #1 policy issue in the State is Transportation. His presentation described the State's 3R policy approach; Responsibility, Revenues, and Reform. In the Responsibility area the highest priority is preservation of our existing system where 65% of the roads are ranked in good/fair condition. Regarding Revenues, the passage of TEA 21 will bring an average annual return of \$825 million for Michigan or a 62% increase from our ISTEA average funding. Reform deals both with the current Department reorganization based on increased scrutiny by the public and media, and also the Rationalization Process to assign jurisdictional responsibility for the State's key roads.

Effects of Increasing State Speed Limits on Michigan Roads By: Dr. William Taylor, Michigan State University

Dr. Taylor presented on the current findings of an ongoing study monitoring speeds and crashes that began prior to raising the speed limits on Michigan's interstate system. The study has found that no significant change in speeds is occurring. There has been no change in truck crash fatalities and injuries. The study has found that 83% of all crashes on rural freeways occur in the interchange area. No increase in crash severity is noted by the study as the speed limits were raised. The study will continue to monitor speeds and crashes for a couple more years to provide a more reliable sample.

Vision for Highway Safety in Michigan for Next Five Years By: Betty Mercer, OHSP and David Morena, Federal Highway Administration

Motor vehicle crashes are the #1 safety problem in American Transportation. Older and younger driver populations will grow significantly in coming years. Along with increased population growth will be an increase in travel miles and exposure to crashes. OHSP has developed a number of approaches to deal with these changing trends. More emphasis will be placed on community partnerships and programs, improvement of crash data quality, development of countermeasures to address emerging behavior issues, including increased public awareness of personal responsibility for driving behavior. Local and state agencies can benefit from a continued partnership with the USDOT, FHWA to assist in focusing on emerging transportation engineering improvements and enhancements. The USDOT has a number of research products including Interactive Highway Safety Design that can impact Michigan Highway Safety. USDOT polices and standards such as TEA 21 and NCHRP 350 will also have an impact. The FHWA also has initiatives under way for Safety Management Systems, Work Zone Safety, and Driver Behavior.

Continued on following page

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Technical Presentation Tips

continued

Delivering a Technical Presentation

Planning carefully, organizing your thoughts, and composing a good technical presentation constitute only part of the process. You have to be able to deliver the presentation well to carry it all off. Follow these 10 tips to achieve success.

1. Get comfortable with it. Read the presentation silently a few times. In your mind, listen to yourself delivering the presentation. Then read it aloud several times. Hear the sound and flow and cadence of it. Get to know the presentation so that you can quickly recall its sounds and words. Time it.
2. Watch your timing. Know where the beginning, middle, and end of the presentation click in. Identify the climax-the single most dramatic point in the presentation-which usually comes about two thirds of the way into it.
3. Mark it up. Give yourself notes and clues, if needed, along the margins or in the body of the presentation, to tell you where to slow down, modulate, raise your voice, speed up, and so forth.
4. Highlight the points that have to be made.
5. Deliver the presentation just slightly above the conversational mode. Speak calmly and clearly in a manner that makes it seem like you are in control, with total confidence. If you get nervous, slow down.
6. Maintain frequent eye contact with the entire audience. Look down at your notes, not to read the presentation but to remind yourself where you are.
7. Keep a glass of water at the podium. Anxiety can create an instant dry mouth. If necessary, steal a moment (when folks are laughing or applauding) to take a drink. Also, don't be afraid to take a moment to catch your breath. The audience will wait. A long pause is also a good technique to regain the audience's attention.
8. Don't think about the delivery of the presentation as you are delivering it. Ignore that little voice inside you that wants to criticize the presentation as you're speaking.
9. Delegate the responsibility for the sound system, lighting, and visual aids to others. Always arrive early and try everything out. Make sure the lighting is right for your visual aids. Check the orientation of your slides. Check the microphone and its cord to make sure it is long enough to reach the overhead projector. Check, check, check.
10. Enjoy your presentation and share your enjoyment with the audience. The spotlight is on you, but you have prepared well and practiced. Now earn the accolades. Savor the moment.

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ITE 68TH ANNUAL MEETING - TORONTO



Humber River Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge. A continuous reinforced concrete slab, cast on steel crossbeams supported by 44 stainless steel rods, 50 mm in diameter. This formed the western end of the Harbourfront Bicycle Tour.

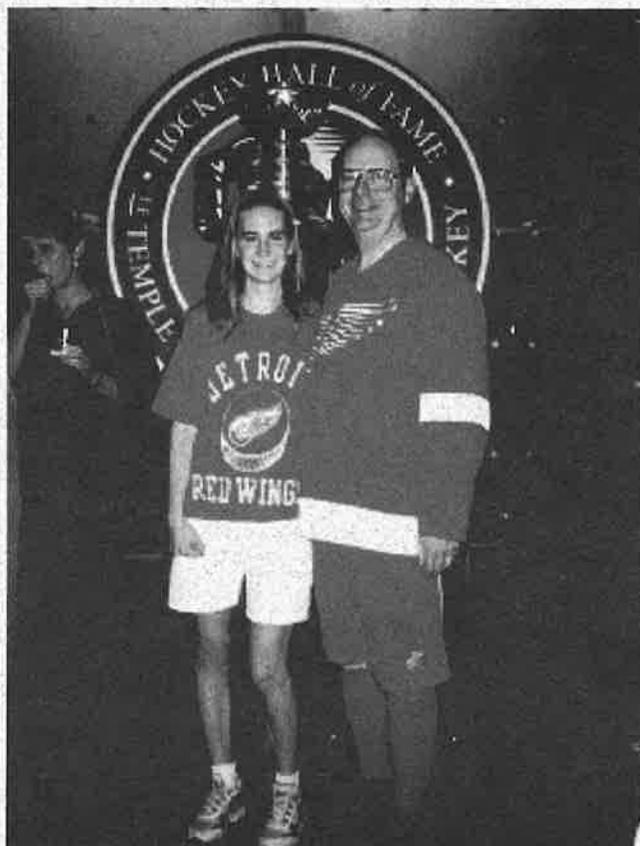
The 68th Annual Meeting was held in August in Toronto. Technical sessions were presented in six tracks which covered Traffic Safety, Planning, Advanced Technology, Transit/TDM, Livable Communities, and Major Issues. In all 71 technical sessions were held that covered a wide variety of topics. Other activities included a number of technical tours including, the Harbourfront Bike Tour, the Spadina Streetcar & Subway Tour, the Toronto Traffic Control Centre, and a tour highlighting Toronto's use of Traffic Calming. The Michigan Section was well represented at the Annual Meeting.

A big Thank You to the folks at Carrier & Gable for treating the Michigan Section attendees to a night on the town. We spent a wonderful evening at the N'awlins Jazz Bar where the food was fabulous and the live jazz band awesome. The lead singer, Jackie, even made a few of our gentlemen speechless when she tried to get them to sing along with her!

This year's annual meeting was a special one for Dick Beaubien who was the recipient of the Burton W. Marsh Award for Distinguished Service. The Burton W. Marsh Distinguished Service Award recognizes an individual who has contributed to the advancement of the Institute of Transportation Engineers over a period of years in an outstanding fashion. Congratulations Dick!



Our fearless President Tim reveling in the fine public transportation system in Toronto. Say, just what *is* Tim waiting for???



Dick Beaubien and Daughter Marie, showing their Red Wing pride at the Get Acquainted Party which was held at the Hockey Hall of Fame. Nice socks Dick!



1998 Michigan^{air} Section Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Host</u>
November 5	Kalamazoo	Tech. Session	John Byrnes (616) 381-3171
December 3	Farmington Hills Tech. Session	Annual Meeting	Kevin McCarthy (248) 473-9590



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