



The INTERCHANGE

President's Message

By Tim Faulkner, P.E., PTOE



Remarkably, almost four years has passed since I was first elected to the Treasurer position of the Executive Board. During my four year tenure, I have learned a great deal about ITE as an organization and the Upstate Section in particular. It has been my pleasure to serve the ITE NY Upstate Section in various capacities over the past four years and I look forward to my continuing involvement in

the coming years. I would like to thank my other board members that have served with me this past year. They have done an outstanding job and the Upstate section is in good hands going into the coming years.

Please join me in welcoming Eric Logan, P.E. of TVGA to the Upstate Section Executive Board. Eric won with approximately 55 percent of the vote and takes over the duties as Treasurer from Amy Dake. We look forward to his assistance and enthusiasm over the coming years in continuing the outstanding work of the Upstate Section. If you see Eric, be sure to congratulate him. Many thanks to our vice-president, Don Adams in chairing the Tellers Committee and running a smooth election.

As the year wraps up, the ITE NY Upstate Section is on a firm financial footing, primarily due to the efforts of past Boards in controlling costs and to our past-president, Lorenzo Rotoli, who chaired our 2005 Annual Upstate Meeting and helped make it a financial success. This is the first Annual Upstate Meeting where we actually had to turn away registrants because of the size of the facility and room space! The ITE NY Upstate Section again partnered with the New York State MPO's in a joint meeting that was held at the University of Rochester. Due to the outstanding attendance, the meeting one again was

profitable and we were able to improve the bottom line of the section.

This coming year will also be an exciting one for the Upstate Section. The Upstate Section will be hosting the District 1 Annual Meeting in Cooperstown at the historic Otesaga Resort Hotel. The dates of the meeting are May 17th through the 19th. This meeting promises to be an exciting one that will include a welcoming reception at the Baseball Hall of Fame, our annual awards banquet in the Grand Ballroom of the Otesaga Hotel, and that always exhilarating Traffic Bowl, with perennial host Steve Gayle. If you have not had a chance to attend a District 1 meeting yet, this is one not to be missed.

In closing, I would again like to thank all of my fellow board members for their time and energy in making the Upstate Section what it is today. It has been my pleasure to serve as ITE NY Upstate Section President and I look forward to servicing the Executive Board for two more years. If you have any concerns, suggestions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me or anyone of the Board members.

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The INTERCHANGE

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ITE NY Upstate Section Treasurer Election Results

Ballots for the 2006 ITE NY Upstate Section Treasurer election were distributed in November and the results are in!

Eric Logan, P.E. has been elected Treasurer of the ITE NY Upstate Section for 2006. Eric is a graduate of Clarkson University and is now a project manager with TVGA Consultants in Syracuse, NY. He has experience with many traffic engineering projects and has recently served as the Syracuse region coordinator for our Section. Congratulations, Eric!



Eric Logan, P.E.
ITE NY Upstate Section
Treasurer

The other Executive Board members to serve in 2006 will be highlighted in the next issue of *The Interchange*.

Welcome New Members

The ITE NY Upstate Section is proud to welcome our newest members. Below is a list of members that have joined the Section since our last publication. We look forward to meeting you at our next event!

Tim F. Clark
Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP
Glens Falls, New York

Paul J. Presutti, P.E., PTOE
Erdman Anthony & Associates
Rochester, New York





Institute of Transportation Engineers
District 1



Chairman's Message

By Rod Emery

It is my pleasure to report that another successful year is coming to a close for the Institute of Transportation Engineers District One. As chair this year, I have been very privileged to work with Lynn LaMunyon as vice chair and Michael Schauer as Secretary Treasurer. Paula Benway, as immediate Past Chair, and Al Gonseth, as District Administrator, have provided the continuity and technical advice needed to keep the district on the right track.

The District One Annual Meeting, hosted by the New York Met Section, was held in Morristown, New Jersey from May 2-4, 2005. Many thanks go to Michael O'Rourke and Andy Paluri as co-chairs for this event and to the many members of the local arrangements committee who volunteered their time and energy to make this an enjoyable and rewarding experience. I personally will always remember our visit to "Ground Zero" and the somber reminder of that day's events, which have changed our lives. The meeting will also be remembered for those recognized at the annual banquet for their achievements during the past year. The awards were given to:

Best Student Chapter Award - **University of Massachusetts at Amherst Massachusetts**
 Best Student Paper Award - **Harsh Doshi of Rutgers University**
 Best Section Award - **Metropolitan Section of New York and New Jersey**
 Annual Meeting Chairs - **Michael O'Rourke & Andy Paluri**
 District One Chairman's Award - **Paula Benway**
 Harvey B. Boutwell Distinguished Service Award - **Mark Kulewicz**

District One Elections were recently held and it is my pleasure to introduce the new 2006 District One Executive Committee:

International Director:	Kim Hazarvartian (NE Section)
Immediate Past Chairman:	Rod Emery (NE Section)
Chairman:	Lynn LaMunyon (Met Section)
Vice Chairman:	Michael Schauer (NY Upstate Section)
Secretary/Treasurer:	Ken Petraglia (NE Section)

Special recognition was given to Joan Cornell for her longstanding commitment to ITE at the announcement of her retirement from Transpo Industries.

The *2006 District One Annual Meeting* will be hosted by the New York Upstate Section at the Otesaga Hotel in historic Cooperstown, New York on May 17-19, 2006. The meeting Chair is Steve Gayle. Mark your calendars now!

I hope to see you soon at an upcoming ITE event.



Member Spotlight

Charles A. DiSalvo Jr.
Associate Traffic Engineer
Monroe County DOT

Our December 2005 ITE NY Upstate Section member in the spotlight is Charles A. DiSalvo Jr, ITE member since 2001.

Charles DiSalvo grew up in Rochester, New York. He earned an Associates degree in Civil Engineering from Monroe Community College and went on to study Traffic Engineering at the Traffic Institute at Northwestern University. When asked what interested him to study Transportation Engineering, Charlie responded “As a child, my aunt always suggested that I go play in traffic.”

So, Charlie obviously has a good sense of humor about his work. He is an Associate Traffic Engineer with the Monroe County Department of Transportation and has been working there for the past 34 years. Charlie now manages the Highway & Traffic division that is responsible for the maintenance, sign fabrication and installation, and pavement markings for 650 miles of

County roads and 600 miles of City streets, as well as working with the Towns of Monroe County to provide their traffic sign and pavement marking needs. Charlie also represents Monroe County on the City of Rochester’s Traffic Control Board. His favorite aspect of his work is “the day to day experience of working with the public to provide vehicular and pedestrian safety.”

Charlie has a son, Ben, and a daughter, Carrie. He resides in Irondequoit, New York with his wife, Sandy. Some of his hobbies include world history and Texas hold-em poker. And to keep him well-rounded, his role models are John Lennon and Judge Judy.

If you would like to recommend one of your fellow ITE NY Upstate Section members to be spotlighted in the next issue of The Interchange, please email Christina Douglas at cdouglas@cha-llp.com.

Institute of Transportation Engineers 2006 Technical Conference and Exhibit *Transportation Solutions for the Real World*



Held in conjunction with ITE District 9 and in cooperation with FHWA

**March 19-22, 2006
Crowne Plaza Riverwalk San Antonio
San Antonio, Texas, USA**

**For more information, visit
<http://www.ite.org/Conference/>**

Support the *Future City Competition*

“The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for seventh- and eighth-grade students that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a hands-on application to present their vision of a city of the future.”

Support these students by volunteering and/or attending the *Future City Competition* in your area! The regional competitions will be taking place on the following dates:

Capital District

Jan. 14, RPI campus, Troy, NY

Buffalo Region

Jan. 28, University of Buffalo campus, Buffalo, NY

The regional winners go on to Washington, D.C. to compete in the Nationals!
For more information, visit:
<http://www.futurecity.org/>





2006 District 1 Annual Meeting May 17-19, 2006

Meeting Highlights

- ◆ Welcome Reception at the National Baseball Hall of Fame
- ◆ Outstanding Technical Sessions offering PDHs
- ◆ Vendor Exhibits of the newest in transportation software and hardware
- ◆ Traffic Bowl – the friendly rivalry between the Sections
- ◆ Annual Awards Banquet in the grand ballroom of the Otesaga Hotel
- ◆ Dynamic companion program
- ◆ Championship golf course at the Leatherstocking Golf Club

Area Attractions

- ◆ The National Baseball Hall of Fame
- ◆ Fenimore Art Museum
- ◆ Glimmerglass Opera
- ◆ Quaint Main Street
- ◆ And More

More Reasons To Attend

- ◆ The Otesaga Resort Hotel is a grand and recently renovated hotel overlooking Otsego Lake
- ◆ Cooperstown is only 3 hours from Rochester, 3 hours from Hartford, CT and 4 hours from New York



*Mark your calendars now and plan your visit to
"America's Most Perfect Village", Cooperstown, NY*

ITE/NYSMPO 2005 Fall Conference Draws Big Crowd

By Christina L. Douglas

The ITE New York Upstate Section and the New York State Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NYSMPO) successfully hosted, once again, the **2005 Fall Conference** at the Rochester Institute of Technology campus in Rochester, NY. With a fantastic program planned and almost every session PDH approved, the conference drew a max attendance of 130 participants, with even more turned away!

The conference was held on October 5, 2005 on a beautiful autumn day with a lineup of presentations that did not fail to satisfy every attendee's interests. From adaptive signal control to multi-use trails to travel demand models, the sessions provided a well-rounded choice of presentations from transportation professionals from all over New York State.

The meeting also featured the annual luncheon and awards ceremony (highlighted to the right). None of this could have been possible without the conference chairman, **Lorenzo Rotoli** and his local arrangements committee:

Don Adams	<i>Continuing Education</i>
Mike Croce	<i>Publicity</i>
Keith Mortimer	<i>Facilities and Finance</i>
Rich Perrin	<i>Registration</i>
Mary Rowlands	<i>Gifts</i>
Joe Tocke	<i>Technical Program</i>



Lorenzo Rotoli welcomes attendees at the annual luncheon.

Thank you to all of the presenters, sponsors, and participants who made this year's Fall Conference a huge success!



2005 ITE NY Upstate Section Awards

At the 2005 Fall Conference luncheon, the annual Section Transportation Achievement Awards were presented to individuals and project teams in recognition of their outstanding contribution to the transportation field and the ITE NY Upstate Section.

Transportation Project Award

The recipient of this award has demonstrated advancement in the use of technology, practical application or implementation techniques, cooperation & coordination with multiple jurisdiction/agencies. There were two winners of this year's project award:

Crossroads Traffic Information System

Buffalo, NY

NYSDOT, NYSTA and IBI Group

&

Troy Queue Jumper

Troy, NY

City of Troy, CDTA, Northeast Signals and Transportation Concepts

Both projects are deserving of this award due to their innovative uses of technology to improve our transportation systems. The Crossroads Traffic Information System project is highlighted on page 9. The Troy Queue Jumper will be highlighted in the next issue of *The Interchange*.

Transportation Professional of the Year

This award was presented to **Ian Miller, P.E.**, NYSDOT Washington County Resident Engineer. Ian assumed the



Ian Miller accepts his award as Transportation Professional of the Year.

leadership role for the transportation recovery when Route 149, along with several local roads and bridges, was washed out in numerous locations as a result of the failure of the dam at Hadlock Pond. He provided management oversight in the re-establishment of the highway network in the area and provided on site expertise and direction for all jurisdictions in the establishment and implementation of detour plans. Ian worked incessantly to find solutions to engineering and administrative problems on behalf of all agencies. His work and judgment always accommodates the best interests of the taxpayers of the State of New York and the users of the highway network in Washington County. Congratulations, Ian!

Young Transportation Professional of the Year

The award recipient for 2005 was **Christina Douglas**, a traffic engineer with Clough Harbour & Associates, LLP. Christina readily volunteers her time to help others and has taken on responsibilities rarely seen in a young engineer. She has been instrumental in the completion of projects such as CORSIM modeling for the NYS Thruway Corridor Study and the Route 5 corridor for NYSDOT Region 5 and was also the lead designer on several signal design projects. Christina is also active in promoting the engineering community and building the profession. Twice in 2004, she was part of a presentation team for GE²MCS (Girls Excited about Engineering, Mathematics and Computer Science), which is a program for high school girls to help peak their interest in the profession.

Congratulations, Christina!

Carol A. Keck Award

This award is given to a NY Upstate Section member for continuous outstanding contribution to the ITE New York Upstate Section. This award was presented to **Keith Mortimer, P.E.**, a project engineer with Fisher Associates. Keith has been recognized for his leadership in the advancement of ITE and the transportation profession. He is always dependable to head finance and registration committees as he has done for nearly every Upstate Section and District 1 conference. Keith is someone that the Executive Board can always depend upon to help with Upstate activities. He is intelligent and hard working and adds value through his creativity and willingness to offer suggestions.

Thanks, Keith, and congratulations!



Keith Mortimer accepts the Carol A. Keck Award.

More photos from the 2005 Fall Conference...



Photos courtesy of Mike Wieszchowski, P.E., PTOE

2005 Transportation Symposium

By Don Adams, P.E., PTOE

For the 15th consecutive year, transportation professionals gathered in the Albany area on October 24th and 25th to share projects, the latest transportation trends and technologies, and their views on the future of transportation in New York. For those of you who are not familiar with the Symposium, it is an annual meeting held at the Century House Restaurant and Hotel in Latham, NY (just north of Albany), which is sponsored by five professional organizations that are each responsible for one technical session. Once again we had a wide variety of interesting topics that lured in over 100 attendees. Below is a list of the sessions and the sponsoring organization:



- Federal Transportation Act Reauthorization – *Albany Society of Engineers*
- I-90 Reconstruction Lessons Learned – *American Society of Civil Engineers*
- The Erie Canal Greenway: A Partnership in Progress – *Capital District Planners Association*
- Planning for the Transportation Infrastructure of Tomorrow – *NYS Society of Professional Engineers*
- New York State Route 5: A Project in Motion – *Institute of Transportation Engineers.*

Preceding the technical sessions on Monday morning was an FHWA workshop - Metropolitan Planning 101. Complimenting the technical contributions of the Symposium were the special guest speakers: Michael Fleischer, Executive Director of the NYS Thruway Authority; Dave Rettig, NYSDOT Region 1, Planning and Program Manager and Cliff Thomas, NYSDOT Director, Office of Central and Northeastern Transportation Strategy.

An added benefit to the attendees was that four of the five sessions and the FHWA workshop were approved for PDHs, providing attendees with the opportunity to obtain 9 professional development hours.

If you have any questions or are interested in attending the Transportation Symposium next year please contact the chair Shelly Johnston, Creighton Manning Engineering at (518) 446-0396.

Excerpt from

Tips and Trends in Transportation

Volume 11, Issue 4 (Fall)

Written and/or Edited by Jim Harris

Speed Awareness Signs

In an attempt to slow speeding drivers, Anne Arundel County (Maryland, USA) has installed devices consisting of flashing yellow lights mounted above and below speed limit signs. If a motorist drives across a speed sensitive loop detector too fast, the lights start flashing. Studies of previously installed school zone flashers, where the lights flashed continuously for 30-45 minutes, did not show any reduction in speed. The hope for this system was that drivers will recognize that their behavior (speeding) caused the lights to flash.

The first installation was on an approach to a small, isolated community on a two-lane roadway that was increasingly in-

use by commuters. A drop in 85th percentile speeds of 5-8 mph was seen; an effect that remained 18+ months after the installation. The second installation was on a five-lane (center turn lane) suburban arterial. A median island with flashers was installed facing each direction reducing 85th percentile speeds by 4 mph. This effect also remained after 18+ months. The latest installation is on a collector road entering a residential area from a rural area. The 85th percentile speeds dropped 4-9 mph immediately after installation. Four months later, however, speeds had crept back up for a net 2 mph reduction. It will be studied again to determine the long-term effect.

Results have been encouraging enough that the road design section has asked to include two flashers in the widening of a roadway from 2 to 3 lanes through a small community. Contact Jim Schroll, Chief Traffic Engineer, at (410) 222-7331 or jschroll@aacounty.org if you have any questions.

2005 Transportation Project Award Co-Recipient Crossroads Traffic Information System NYSDOT, NYSTA and IBI Group

The Crossroads System (NITTEC's Advanced Traffic Management System) has completely altered the way vehicle traffic is monitored and controlled on limited-access highways in and around the Buffalo, Niagara, and Southern Ontario region. Crossroads uses closed-circuit traffic cameras (CCTV) and traffic monitoring equipment to detect problems, and then deploys Dynamic Message Signs (DMS), flasher control and automated faxing to inform the public. This remarkable synthesis of technologies greatly improves the flow of traffic in the area. Crossroads takes all of these diverse elements and brings them together in a simple, practical, and user-friendly interface for the operators of the system. The primary objectives of the Crossroads system are to assist the operations team with detection of traffic events, response generation and dissemination of information.

Detection

The Crossroads project installed over 40 cameras to help monitor the roadways in and around the NITTEC Region. The operations team is able to monitor and control these cameras from the Traffic Operations Center. In addition to the cameras, the system has incident detection algorithms running on several Vehicle Detector Stations installed on major arterials.

Response Generation

The sophisticated rules-based Response Plan Management component automatically generates a variety of response elements for the management of incidents, planned events and queues. Responses are generated for a variety of dissemination technologies supported include Dynamic Message Signs, Flashers and FAX. Rules-based responses are one of the highlights of the Crossroads software. The system will dynamically suggest appropriate messages based on the configured logic. The operator can review and modify the responses if necessary but the suggested response is accepted as-is about 90% of the time.

Dissemination

Once the system suggests appropriate response messages, the operator has a chance to review and approve all messages. By simply clicking *Accept*, the operator can send out all information to the public via DMS, fax and flashers. The system permits the operator to control most of the signs in the region, regardless of vendor or

protocol, from a single user interface. Many control centers have a workstation from each vendor with the vendor's software running on it, which makes sending out a coordinated set of messages very cumbersome and time consuming, delaying response time.

Innovation

The Crossroads System has taken several diverse modern technologies and combined them for a single purpose: to maintain transportation information systems that effectively create a more efficient and safer regional transportation system.

Significance

NITTEC is a premier example in the country of multiple agencies working together. The coordinated effort of the New York State Thruway Authority (NYSTA) and the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is unprecedented. The Crossroads project also ensures the dissemination of accurate information to the public in a timely fashion.

Complexity

There are several different types of DMS provided by five individual vendors with different protocols and operated by 3 of the member agencies (NYSDOT, NYSTA & Peace Bridge Authority). The system includes the capability to interface with other systems such as TRANSMIT to receive travel time information.

Efficiency

Crossroads is designed to disseminate information quickly. When multiple signs are required for a response, five modems are used to connect to the signs. This automation helps speed up the process and get the information out as quickly as possible. Another example of efficiency is that Crossroads performs periodic polling on all of the field equipment. Polling the equipment assists the maintenance staff because any malfunctions are detected early.

Economy

The system was designed in such a way that it can be easily expanded. Even now, IBI Group continues to work with NITTEC adding new features, new devices and interfaces to other systems.



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Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to:

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Happy Holidays



From the
ITE NY Upstate Section



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c/o Christina L. Douglas
Clough Harbour & Associates LLP
III Winners Circle

NEW YORK UPSTATE SECTION

Dates to Remember.....

March 19-22, 2006..... 2006 Technical Conference & Exhibit
San Antonio, Texas

May 17-19, 2006 2006 District 1 Annual Meeting
Cooperstown, NY