



# items

April 2001  
Vol. 40 No. 4

**The Official Publication of the Illinois Section Institute of Transportation Engineers**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Illinois Section is extremely fortunate to have an incredibly strong tradition of service to the ITE membership throughout the State of Illinois. With five activities and technical groups, the Section offers one of the most diverse programs of technical programs, education opportunities, and social activities. We are fortunate to have a very talented group of professionals actively planning and directing these Section programs. Section activities provide a variety of opportunities to meet fellow transportation professionals. They provide members the opportunity to continually develop new relationships, seek new opportunities, and share experiences. The Section's monthly technical programs (next one is April 19th at 12 Noon) provide you these opportunities.

Steven Gayle, ITE's International President, in March's ITE Journal said it best, "The recruitment and wise use of volunteer resources has enabled ITE to be a successful organization and a leader in transportation around the world." But Robert Frost also said: "The world is full of willing people: some willing to work, and the rest willing to let them." Since this is truly the central issue with all volunteer organizations, we need to take a time out to recognize and acknowledge the Section's very active and dedicated people who volunteer their time and energy to serve you.

Activities Group, directed by Reid Fellows schedules monthly luncheons, arranges for speakers at these luncheons and arranges special events such as the basketball tournament, golf outing and baseball outing, and is responsible for having all of the Section's awards prepared.

Operations Group, directed up by P.K. Gandhi, tackles the never-ending task of updating the membership directory, preparing the ITEMS newsletter, getting advertisers, maintaining the web site, and preparing membership certificates.

Public Affairs Group, directed by Todd Fagen, coordinates conference activities, coordinates activities with other organizations, and monitors various legislative activities.

**Continued on Page 2**

## **ITE – Illinois Section April Luncheon**

### **Please Join Us at Maggiano's!**

- Date:** Thursday, April 19, 2001
- Time:** Reception at 11:30 A.M.  
Luncheon promptly at Noon
- Speaker:** Dorin Fera  
Metro Transportation Group, Inc.
- Topic:** Roundabouts: Facts, Findings, & Operations
- Location:** Maggiano's  
516 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois
- Reservations:** For reservations or for further information, contact Joe Emry or Joel Christell at (630) 773-3900 on or before April 16, 2001
- Cost:** \$25 per person  
(\$12 for students)
- Next Month:** Illinois Section May Luncheon  
Thursday, May 17, 2001  
Maggiano's  
Chicago, Illinois





Continued from Page 1

Student Affairs Group, directed by Javier Millan, runs the student scholarship program, helps students find jobs as interns, and coordinates activities with student chapters.

Technical Group, directed by James Powell, organizes the various technical activities including the bi-annual seminar series and the four technical committees (Transportation Planning, ITS, Traffic Safety, Round-Abouts).

The Section is also very lucky to have people like Robert Grady who chaired the 200 District IV Conference and John LaPlante and James Morton who have their hands full planning the ITE International Meeting in Chicago, August 19-22, 2001. All of the Section's members serving on committees can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

I urge each of you to find a way to help ITE this year. Whatever you choose to do, I can say with certainty that it will enhance your personal professional growth, it will contribute to the success of ITE, and it will improve the ability of our profession to serve the public. The benefits are there for those who wish to take advantage of them. In order to maximize your membership, it is up to you to become an active participant in the direction of your profession as well as your career.

Please contact me if you are interested in actively participating in any of the above activities of the Section.

Your President,

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**AMENDMENT TO ITEMS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE**

As the Illinois Section membership is well aware, *ITEMS* was published 11 times per year. This equated to about one (1) issue per month. The reason we had published it so frequently was to let the Section know of the upcoming events later in the month or the near future. Every effort was made to mail (by regular mail or by e-mail) the issues prior to the monthly luncheons to announce the meeting location and speakers.

Consequently, the frequency of the issues and the burden of keeping the publication schedule have made it difficult to solicit technical articles. Producing *ITEMS* four (4) times per year would give additional time to the publishers and article contributors and help maintain a high quality newsletter. This schedule may also give us a better opportunity in the national ITE newsletter competition. The next issue of *ITEMS* will come out in June, which will be our first quarterly issue.

The Board is still committed to keeping the Section abreast of current Section news and events. The website, emails and postcard mailings in between the proposed quarterly *ITEMS* issues would serve as a means of filling the gap.

We welcome suggestions or comments regarding the formatting and content of the quarterly newsletter. We also encourage submittal of technical articles, Illinois Section news or content relating to transportation issues.


Your *ITEMS* Co-Editors,

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## NEW ROUNDABOUT TECHNICAL COMMITTEE FORMING

The Illinois Section is about to form a technical committee on roundabouts to:

- Research and develop resources for professional development, with seminars and preparation of technical reports.
- Disseminate information through meetings, flyers, brochures and other means.

Committee members desirably will be a mix of public and private sector individuals, including academicians. The aim will be to keep abreast of latest developments in operations, design, benefits and costs. Included will be safety impacts and circulation impacts on vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. Another aspect is the different applications of roundabouts, namely, traffic control vs. traffic calming. Ultimately, it is hoped that the committee will participate in shaping policies, practices and standards.

Several activities are occurring both locally and dealing with this "hot" topic. Upcoming local section conferences will address roundabouts, plus there have been a number of national publications/activities, including the FHWA *Roundabout Design Guide*, new materials in the *Highway Capacity Manual 2000* and activities of the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Some section members have related involvement through on-going project work.

Think you may be interested? Then plan on attending an initial formation/"brainstorming" meeting immediately after the April Illinois Section meeting (Thursday, April 19, 2001 at Maggiano's - Chicago). If you have any questions, or wish to suggest other directions for the committee before then, please contact **Dorin Fera** at 630-213-1000 or [df@metrotransportation.com](mailto:df@metrotransportation.com).



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## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

As most of you are aware, the topic of tollways has been in the news lately. Along those lines, this month's featured website is *ETTM on the Web* (**E**lectronic **T**oll collection and **T**raffic **M**anagement). The website provides data on toll facilities across the country, tollways in the news, technological advances, and information on collection systems and vendors. Links to websites for every electronic toll collection service are also provided.

<http://www.ettm.com>

As *ITEMS* moves from its monthly circulation to a quarterly publication, the Website of the Month will become Website of the Season. If there is an interesting website that you've discovered or you have a topic you would like to see featured, please feel free to notify your *ITEMS* co-editors.

Your *ITEMS* Co-Editors,

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**ITE ILLINOIS SECTION CALENDAR**

April 19	ITE – Illinois Section <b>April</b> Luncheon - Maggiano's
May 17	ITE – Illinois Section <b>May</b> Luncheon – Maggiano's
May 25	Deadline for advertisements and articles for the <b>June</b> issue of <i>ITEMS</i> <b>Reminder: This is our first quarterly issue!!</b>
June 28	ITE –Illinois Section <b>June</b> Luncheon – Maggiano's
September 20	ITE – Illinois Section <b>September</b> Luncheon – Maggiano's
October 18	University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana Traffic and Safety Conference
November 15	ITE – Illinois Section <b>November</b> Luncheon – West Suburban Location (TBD)
December 20	ITE – Illinois Section <b>December</b> Luncheon – Maggiano's

Events are always welcome for this calendar, please contact the *ITEMS* Editors.

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**ACTIVITIES GROUP**

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**Committees:**

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	Joe Emry	(630) 773-3900	<a href="mailto:email@CiviltechInc.com">email@CiviltechInc.com</a>
	Kim Kolody	(773) 693-3800 ext. 245	<a href="mailto:kkolody@CH2M.com">kkolody@CH2M.com</a>

Program	John Ellis	(312) 744-4608	<a href="mailto:bellis2142@aol.com">bellis2142@aol.com</a>
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Awards	John Sauter	(847) 362-3950	<a href="mailto:jsauter@co.lake.il.us">jsauter@co.lake.il.us</a>
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**TECHNICAL GROUP**

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Transportation Planning	Eric Russell	(312) 917-3032	<a href="mailto:eric.d.russell@parsons.com">eric.d.russell@parsons.com</a>
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Traffic Safety	Joe Fazio	(773) 282-2192	<a href="mailto:jfazio@charlie.cns.iit.edu">jfazio@charlie.cns.iit.edu</a>
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	Dorin Fera	(630) 213-1000	<a href="mailto:df@metrotransportation.com">df@metrotransportation.com</a>

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Conference Coordination	C. Kropidlowski	(312) 744-4866	<a href="mailto:whatisemail@whatisemail.com">whatisemail@whatisemail.com</a>
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