



Wisconsin Section News

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Fall 2026

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Derrin Wolford, PE, PTOE



Valued Members of the Wisconsin
Section:

The Fall season may finally be settling in across Wisconsin, and while the weather took its time, Wisconsin sports certainly did not. Between high school football, Packers football, and postseason Brewers baseball, fans across the state have had plenty to cheer for. The Packers may have found a bit of momentum (thank you Bears for the confidence boost), but the Brewers have looked like a complete, well rounded playoff contender. Maybe this will be their year!

While Wisconsin sports have been busy, so has ITE Wisconsin. Over the past several weeks, we hosted our annual joint meetings with ITS Wisconsin, WTS Wisconsin, and ASCE Wisconsin SE along with our Social Event at Lake County DockHounds. Each joint meeting saw strong attendance and great collaboration. As always, we extend our appreciation to our partner engineering organizations for their continued support in delivering high quality events and presentations.

Our Social Event at Lake County DockHounds was also a success, with excellent turnout from members and their families. The DockHounds were fantastic hosts, and based on the positive feedback, this venue may very well become our regular location for future Social Events.

Looking ahead, our next event is the UW-Madison/UW-Platteville Student Night, held at UW-Platteville on October 27th. We're excited to hear updates from both student chapters on their accomplishments over the past year and their plans moving forward. The evening will also feature a presentation on ITE's National & Wisconsin Chapter Complete Streets Action Plans.



To close out the calendar year, our Annual Section Meeting & Awards Night will take place at Delafield Brewhaus on December 2nd. During this event, we will honor this year's Distinguished Service Member award recipient, swear in the board members for the 2027 calendar year (read ahead in the newsletter for those on the ballot), recognize our council and committee chairs and co-chairs for their contributions, and enjoy a friendly Traffic Bowl competition. Who will take home the title this year? You'll have to attend to find out.

I look forward to seeing everyone who is able to join us for our final two events of the year.

As we move deeper into the Fall season and approach the end of another productive year, I want to extend my appreciation to all our members for your continued engagement, support, and enthusiasm. Your participation is what makes our Section strong, collaborative, and forward moving. Whether you join us for student nights, section meetings, or our Social Event, your involvement shapes the success of ITE Wisconsin. Thank you for being part of this community, and I look forward to finishing the year on a high note together.

Regards,

Derrin Wolford, PE, PTOE
2026 ITE Wisconsin Section President
dwolford@tadi-us.com

SAFETY COUNCIL ARTICLE

National Roundabout week took place during the week of September 25. The United States now has over 11,000 roundabouts which are working to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes. Wisconsin's first roundabouts were built in the villages of Howard/Suamico and city of West Bend in 1999. Since then, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, County Highway Departments and municipalities all around the state have installed over 600 roundabouts on the state and local roadway systems. Wisconsin continues to install alternative intersection designs which have reduced conflict points to improve safety, as well as installing other safety treatments on roadways that bring awareness or assist drivers when a mistake is made.



Learn more about some of these safety treatments that are being installed on Wisconsin's roadways on WisDOT's [safety engineering webpages](#).

ITE WISCONSIN SECTION ELECTION 2027

Another year has flown by, which means it's time for the ITE Wisconsin Board election. Electronic ballots will be distributed to all members this month for the Member Director position. Don't forget to make your voice heard and vote for our next Member Director.

The candidates for the 2027 Board are:

District Representative	Brian Scharles
Past President	Derrin Wolford
President	Joseph Blakeman
Vice President	Dan Murphy
Treasurer	Jeff Knudson
Secretary	Adam Walter
Member Director	Vote!



Below are the bio's for the two candidates running for **Member Director**:

Clare Dejewski

Clare graduated from the Milwaukee School of Engineering in 2024 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, concentrating in Transportation. While attending MSOE, she served as the president of MSOE's Student Chapter of ITE her senior year. Clare is a Civil Engineer with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for two years now. Since joining WisDOT, she has worked as a designer on a multi-year roadway improvement project. Brought onto the project in its early stages, she has contributed to the project by building the 3D models of the roadway, designing the traffic control and construction sequencing, collaborating on environmental documents, and aiding the lead designer on the drainage design. Clare has also gone back to MSOE representing WisDOT at career fairs and ITE Student Chapter meetings. She enjoys getting to work on all aspects of the project and helping to inspire the next generation of civil engineers.



Outside of work, Clare enjoys spending her time reading detective novels, creating beaded amigurumi, and doing her makeup. Clare is grateful for the nomination and looks forward to what the future brings.

Aimee Robertson, PE, PTOE

Aimee is a Traffic Engineer at HNTB with 18 years of experience. She earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Michigan Technological University. Her primary focus is on traffic operations and transportation management plan (TMP) development. Her expertise includes microsimulation, work zone analysis, and construction mitigation planning and analysis. She's worked on projects involving complex freeway and arterial traffic operations analysis, forecasting, and traffic mitigation planning.

Currently, she is the TMP task lead on the I-41 Corridor Continuity team in Appleton and the consultant traffic task lead on the US 18/151 Corridor Study between Verona and Dodgeville. Having completed design TMPs across all five Wisconsin DOT Regions, she especially enjoys seeing projects transition from initial design through construction.



Outside of work, Aimee enjoys testing out new board games with her husband and two sons, reading, gardening, and biking. Aimee is grateful for the nomination to serve on the ITE Wisconsin Board and looks forward to contributing to the Section.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Harvey Shebesta Award

The ITE Wisconsin Section maintains a scholarship award that is presented annually to encourage students to consider Transportation Engineering in their studies and career aspirations, as well as to provide financial support to students who have demonstrated an interest and are likely to work in the transportation field. The award was named for Harvey Shebesta, who was one of the founding members and served as the first President of the Wisconsin Section in 1966.



Harvey graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 1950 with a B.S. in Civil Engineering and went on to work for the Wisconsin State Highway Commission. In 1969, he was appointed District Engineer for the Milwaukee District. Harvey also served on the ITE Technical Council as the first Section Technical Activities Department Head in 1968-69 and on the Board of Directors in 1970-71. In 1979, he was appointed District Director of WisDOT's southeast district when the Department merged the Milwaukee and Waukesha Districts. He served as chairman and member on many Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission committees. He went on to serve as ITE International President in 1980.

Through this scholarship, the Wisconsin Section recognizes Harvey's legacy of leadership, public service, and commitment to advancing the transportation profession while supporting the next generation of transportation engineers.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the scholarship, candidates must:

- Be either a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in a Wisconsin College or University, with course work and career goal emphasis on Transportation Engineering
- Be nominated by Transportation Engineering or Planning faculty. A letter or email nomination must be included with the submission to be considered for the award. **A maximum of two students from any school can be nominated.**
- Be a Student Member of ITE
- Completed work providing a basis for an original research paper while a student

Spouses and family members of ITE members are not eligible for this scholarship.

The Award consists of recognition given at the ITE Wisconsin Section Annual Meeting in December and a scholarship of up to \$1,500 each for one Undergraduate student and one Graduate student.

Additional information can be found online at <https://itewisconsin.org/awards/>

Submit your paper and faculty nomination materials in PDF format via email to efrailing@msa-ps.com

UW-Milwaukee ITE Student Chapter Attends 2026 ITE Great Lakes District (ITE GLD) Student Leadership Summit (SLS)

The ITE UW-Milwaukee Student Chapter attended the 2026 ITE Great Lakes District (ITE GLD) Student Leadership Summit (SLS), held in Detroit, Michigan, on July 17 and 18, 2026. The summit brought together ITE student chapter members from across the Great Lakes District for two days of leadership development, professional networking, and transportation-focused activities.

During the summit, UW Milwaukee student members participated in leadership and professional development sessions, interacted with fellow transportation students and professionals, and gained valuable insights into strengthening student chapter activities and engagement. The event also provided an opportunity to build connections with other ITE student chapters and learn from their experiences and initiatives.

Participation in the 2026 Student Leadership Summit was a valuable experience for the ITE UW-Milwaukee Student Chapter and supported our continued commitment to student leadership, professional development, networking, and active involvement within ITE and the broader transportation community.



Photos highlighting the ITE UWM Student Chapter's President participation in the 2026 ITE GLD Student Leadership Summit at Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

RECENT AND UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Joint ITE/ITS Meeting - August 13, 2026

Members of ITE Wisconsin and ITS Wisconsin recently had the opportunity to visit Waukesha County Airport for an informative and engaging behind-the-scenes tour led by Airport Manager Kurt Stanich.



Airport Manager Kurt Stanich presents an overview of Waukesha County Airport

Stanich shared the history of the airport, discussed current operations and construction projects, and provided a guided tour of the airfield and hangar facilities. Attendees also had the unique opportunity to see one of the airport's hangars and take a drive along the runway area, offering a firsthand look at the scale and operation of the airport. Waukesha County Airport is one of the busiest general aviation airports in Wisconsin, serving a wide range of business, recreational, training, and community aviation needs.

A lifelong area resident and aviation enthusiast, Stanich's passion for the airport and the aviation community was evident throughout the tour. He emphasized that the airport's success extends beyond aircraft operations, focusing on providing quality infrastructure, hosting community events, and creating opportunities for people to learn about aviation and pursue flight training.

One of the highlights of the visit was a discussion of the airport's ongoing Runway Safety Area Project, the largest improvement effort undertaken at the airport in decades. The project includes the realignment of Silvernail Road and modifications to runway to meet Federal Aviation Administration safety standards by providing additional safety area beyond the runway ends.

The tour provided attendees with valuable insight into airport planning, operations, and infrastructure improvements, while also highlighting the important role general aviation airports play in supporting local communities and economic development. Stanich closed with an invitation to anyone interested in aviation to visit the airport, noting the continued need for pilots and the many opportunities available for those looking to learn to fly.

Thank you to Kurt Stanich and the Waukesha County Airport team for hosting an outstanding event.



ITE and ITS members gather inside an airport hangar during a behind-the-scenes tour of Waukesha County Airport

Summer Social Event - August 26, 2026

ITE Wisconsin members and their families enjoyed a beautiful summer evening at the annual Summer Social on August 26 at the Lake County DockHounds baseball game in Oconomowoc. Attendees gathered in the beach section in right field to watch the DockHounds take on the Kane County Cougars while enjoying good food, great company, and excellent weather.



The beach section proved a nice spot to spend a summer evening at the ballpark. Attendees enjoyed great weather, good food, and plenty of opportunities to take in the game and everything else the stadium has to offer. Events like the Summer Social continue to be a great opportunity to strengthen professional connections outside of the office while welcoming family members to join in the fun.



Joint ITE/WTS Meeting - September 17, 2026

On September 17th, ITE Wisconsin and WTS Wisconsin held their annual joint meeting at the WisDOT I 94 East West Construction Field Office in Milwaukee. The event was sold out, with more than 60 attendees filling the room.



Sean Race presents an update on the I-94 East-West project

The meeting began with remarks from Brenda Schoenfeld, WTS Wisconsin Vice President, who highlighted the Section's accomplishments over the past year and shared a look ahead at upcoming initiatives. Derrin Wolford, ITE Wisconsin President, followed with updates on future ITE Wisconsin events and award opportunities.

The feature presentation was led by Sean Race, Construction Supervisor for the WisDOT Southeast Region. Sean provided an overview of the I 94 East West project, outlining the major stages completed to date and those planned for the coming years. He discussed the significant construction challenges posed by tight right of way constraints and high traffic volumes that must be maintained throughout the corridor.

Next, Toni Keegan of HNTB's Transportation Management Plan Team spoke about the traffic impacts associated with the project, particularly given its proximity to American Family Field. With Milwaukee Brewers home games generating substantial spikes in traffic, the I 94 East West team worked closely with the Brewers organization to plan for safe and efficient ingress and egress. Their proactive coordination paid off; after the first few home games during active construction, one attendee summed up the experience simply: "It wasn't that bad."



Toni Keegan discusses traffic management strategies for the I-94 East-West project

Joint ITE/ASCE SE Branch Meeting - September 30, 2026

ITE Wisconsin and the Southeast Branch of ASCE Wisconsin recently hosted a joint virtual meeting featuring Dr. Xiaopeng (Shaw) Li, Professor of Transportation Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and director of the USDOT-sponsored Rural Autonomous Vehicle Center (TRAVELS). During the presentation, Dr. Li discussed emerging applications of connected vehicle telematics data and automation technologies, highlighting how these data sources are being used to support roadway safety analysis, infrastructure performance evaluation, real-time traffic monitoring, winter friction detection, and adverse weather detection. Attendees also received an overview of the Rural Autonomous Vehicle Center and its ongoing efforts to advance autonomous vehicle research, testing, and deployment to improve transportation safety, mobility, and accessibility in rural and tribal communities.

Upcoming Events

Below is a list of upcoming ITE Wisconsin events and key dates. Additional details will be provided as each event approaches. We have a great lineup of events planned in the coming months and hope you will join us throughout the year. Be sure to mark your calendar and register when details become available.

Date	Location	Time	Event Description
October 27, 2026	UW-Platteville, Sesquicentennial Hall, 3rd Floor Café	Dinner	UW-Madison/UW-Platteville Student Night
November 12, 2026	Union South, Madison, WI	All day	ITS Wisconsin Conference
November 15, 2026	Scholarship Deadline		Harvey Shebesta Award
December 2, 2026	Delafield Brewhaus, Delafield, WI	Dinner	Annual Section Meeting & Awards Night
TBD	TBD	Lunch	Public Service Appreciation
April 14, 2027	WCTC, Pewaukee, WI	All Day	Traffic Engineering Workshop & Transportation Planning Forum

ITE WISCONSIN MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

(Don't forget to [RENEW](#) for 2027!)

New Section Members

Kyle Hensel
Jack O'Neill
James Wilson



TREASURER'S UPDATE

Treasurer's Report September 1, 2026 to October 8, 2026									
BEGINNING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs	\$ 72,441.03								
Beginning Balance – Checking \$ 44,390.53 Income - Checking <table> <tr> <td>August/Summer Social</td><td>\$ 724.60</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Income – Checking</td><td>\$ 724.60</td></tr> </table> Expenditures - Checking <table> <tr> <td>Constant Contact Fee</td><td>\$ 308.70</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Expenditures – Checking</td><td>\$ 308.70</td></tr> </table> Ending Balance – Checking \$ 44,806.43		August/Summer Social	\$ 724.60	Total Income – Checking	\$ 724.60	Constant Contact Fee	\$ 308.70	Total Expenditures – Checking	\$ 308.70
August/Summer Social	\$ 724.60								
Total Income – Checking	\$ 724.60								
Constant Contact Fee	\$ 308.70								
Total Expenditures – Checking	\$ 308.70								
Beginning Balance – Savings \$ 16,581.80 Income - Savings <table> <tr> <td>Interest Payment</td><td>\$ 0.68</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Income – Savings</td><td>\$ 0.68</td></tr> </table> Expenditures - Savings <table> <tr> <td></td><td>\$ -</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Expenditures – Savings</td><td>\$ -</td></tr> </table> Ending Balance – Savings \$ 16,582.48		Interest Payment	\$ 0.68	Total Income – Savings	\$ 0.68		\$ -	Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -
Interest Payment	\$ 0.68								
Total Income – Savings	\$ 0.68								
	\$ -								
Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -								
Beginning Balance – CD \$ 11,468.70 Income - Savings <table> <tr> <td>Interest Payment</td><td>\$ 31.67</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Income – Savings</td><td>\$ 31.67</td></tr> </table> Expenditures - Savings <table> <tr> <td></td><td>\$ -</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Expenditures – Savings</td><td>\$ -</td></tr> </table> Ending Balance – CD \$ 11,500.37		Interest Payment	\$ 31.67	Total Income – Savings	\$ 31.67		\$ -	Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -
Interest Payment	\$ 31.67								
Total Income – Savings	\$ 31.67								
	\$ -								
Total Expenditures – Savings	\$ -								
ENDING BALANCE: CHECKING + SAVINGS + CDs	\$ 72,889.28								

Prepared By: Daniel Murphy, Treasurer
10/9/2026

ITE WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COUNCILS

Here are all the Wisconsin Section councils and committees...consider joining!

Committee/Council	Contact	Email
Awards Committee		
	Eric Frailing	efrailing@msa-ps.com
	Dan Murphy	daniel.murphy@milwaukeecountywi.gov
Communications Committee		
	Jeff Knudson	jknudson@srfconsulting.com
	Adam Walter	adam.walter@strand.com
Meetings Committee		
	Adam Walter	adam.walter@strand.com
Traffic Engineering Workshop and Transportation Planning Forum Committee		
	Laura Schroeder	laura.schroeder@rasmith.com
Public Agency Council		
	Mike May	mmay@wauwatosa.net
Education Council		
	Anne Holzem	aholzem@msa-ps.com
SimCap Committee		
	Rob Beuthling	rbeuthling@hntb.com
	Vicki Haskell	vicki.haskell@dot.wi.gov
Traffic Engineering Council		
	Kevin Wehner	kwehner@klengineering.com
	Xiaowei (Tom) Shi	tomshi@uwm.edu
Safety Council		
	Christian Sternke	csternke@tadi-us.com
	Dan Brugman	daniel.brugman@dot.wi.gov
TSMO Council		
	Todd Szymkowski	todd.szymkowski@dot.wi.gov
	Dave Hansen	dhansen@cityofmadison.com
Planning Council		
	Jerry Shadewald	jshadewald@HNTB.com
Complete Streets Council		
	Jeff Polenske	jeffrey.polenske@mbakerintl.com
	James Hannig	jameshannig@AltaGo.com

DO YOU HAVE SOME INFORMATION TO SHARE?

The ITE Newsletter is an excellent medium for reaching Section members. If you would like something published in the upcoming newsletter, please contact the 2026 Wisconsin Section Member Director, Adam Walter at adam.walter@strand.com.

ITE WISCONSIN SECTION SPONSORS

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



If you are interested in sponsoring the Wisconsin Section please contact Eric Frailing, efrailing@msa-ps.com