LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT/EDITOR

Greetings WTS Members, I would like to wish you and your families a healthy prosperous New Year!

I am pleased to announce that our October 2000 program on the Expansion of the Bradley Airport went exceptionally well. The turnout was larger than expected and there were several new faces. Mr. David Gilbert and Ms Rebecca Sanders are a good team and their efforts were greatly appreciated.

Deputy Commissioner James Adams was very kind to sit in for Commissioner James Sullivan who was unable to attend and introduce our speakers. Rebecca Sanders who has been employed with the Department of Transportation for 14 years and is currently assigned to the Bureau of Aviation & Ports discussed her role with the airport project. She is the Marketing Coordinator and her responsibilities include marketing, advertising, public relations and community relations for the promotion of Bradley International Airport, the State Pier, the state’s five general aviation airports and the Connecticut River Ferries.

David Gilbert has been employed with the Department of Transportation for 30 years and presently administers the Department’s Consultant Selection Office and in 1982 he was assigned to the Bureau of Aeronautics. In 1998 Mr. Gilbert was named Program Manager for the terminal project at the airport.

In short David Gilbert spoke extensively of the improvements of New England’s second largest airport. Improvements include the construction of a new terminal facility and a 12 gate concourse, a passenger lounge, improve pedestrian circulation and create a continuous ticket counter for 4 airlines, create one security check point, install new interior finishes, new communications system, revise roadway system, install a state of the art glycol collection system, upgrade floor & wall finishes and construct a new 25,000 square feet Federal Inspection station. There is also some private development which is currently being done in the surrounding area of the airport. Mr. Gilbert and Ms Sanders entertained questions related to the current construction as well as possible future improvements that could be expected.

I would like to thank all who were involved in planning and making this program a very big success for WTS Connecticut Valley Chapter. Special thanks goes out to Leslie Haines of Parsons Transportation for her personal involvement and great effort in all aspects of this program.

Lori Long
Frederic R. Harris, Inc.

EXECUTIVE BOARD CHANGE

Kim Clarke has recently stepped down from holding the secretarial position with WTS Connecticut Valley. Kim held this volunteer position for almost 3 years. She was conscientious and helped out with many of the programs over the past years. Leslie Haines of Parsons Technology has volunteered to take on the role as secretary. I would like to take this time to thank Kim for her past devotion to the organization and Leslie for filling this position.

PROGRAM UPDATE

WTS joined the Hartford Habitat for Humanity “First Ladies Build” on September 23, 2000, to help build a home for a woman and her family in Hartford. Patty Rowland and other First Ladies sponsor this specialized building project by the Hartford area Habitat for Humanity. These First Ladies of each state are committed to build a home in each state capitol city. The plan has been for teams of women only to construct these homes. First Ladies Build has been a huge success.

Eleven WTS members and non-members joined together at the crack of dawn on September 23 as the first rays of sunshine were coming into clear view. The group was divided into two basic work crews and supervised by seasoned crew chiefs. One crew worked on the porch roof, front insulation and roofing. The second cleaned out the debris in the house prior to sanding down all the newly installed walls in preparation for painting. This same crew primed the entire interior. The women were given two breaks. One break
Page 2

consisted of coffee and doughnuts in mid-morning and the other when the group adjourned to the picnic tables across the street to eat "brown bag" fortifications. By 4 p.m., quitting time, the team was bushed, and the project manager said that they had not accomplished so much in one day all summer.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to the following who volunteered their time and enormous amount of energy: Katie Breen who organized the crew, Donna Ucci who brought 3 friends, Karen Herman (Katie Breen’s Sister), Colette Yeich, Margaret O’Malley of Normandeau Associates Inc., Terry Thompson and Lynn Goodwin both of ConnDOT and Ruby Durian of FHWA.

Hartford Habitat for Humanity dedicated this home on 99 Montiville Street in Hartford on October 14, 2000. Please drive by to see the results of what can happen when people work together and help each other in such a wonderful fashion.

UPCOMING AGENDA

Mark your calendars with the upcoming program dates. Hope to see you all soon. If you need more details regarding these programs please don’t hesitate to call any of the board or the program organizer listed under the description.

WTS Newsletter

more information, packets should be coming soon.

June 14, 2001, Professional Development (4:30 – 6:30) Training professional Ruthe W. Boyea, a retired professor from Central Connecticut State University, will discuss assertiveness training for women and men in both their professional and personal lives.

Location: CDOT Main Office, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington.

The Annual River Boat Cruise leaves from Hartford CT, State Street Pier at Riverfront Landing. The cruise takes you for approximately 1 ½ hour boat ride along the lovely Connecticut River. The views are spectacular and it gives you an ideal opportunity to meet and socialize with others in the membership as well as invited guests. This time of year has proven to draw a large crowd in the past, who look forward to joining us each consecutive year.

More information will mailed to you in at the end of June 2001.

October 2001, WTS National Speaker The subject of the speaker has not been determined; we are in the planning stages of this program.

December 2001, Annual Holiday Social, donations made to a local charity. More details to follow.

Please send comments or articles to Lori Long at llong@frharris.com.