CT Valley Chapter Newsletter

April 2004

**WTS Connecticut Valley Executive Board**

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**2004 WTS National Conference, Detroit, Michigan**

Mark your calendars for May 26 to 28 and plan to attend the WTS annual conference in Detroit, MI. The Michigan Chapter has a fantastic national conference in the works, titled "Transportation Drives the Economy." The Motor City is a uniquely rich meeting place for WTS: it offers such opportunities as tours of Ford's Rouge Factory Complex as well as the only sub-aqueous border crossing in the world - the Detroit-Windsor Tunnel. Conference sessions cover all aspects of transportation - from aviation to rail, and from livable communities to border crossings.

For more information about the conference, check out the WTS national website (www.wtsnational.org)

**Upcoming Events**

**April 30, 2004**
WTS CT Valley Chapter Annual Luncheon Meeting
500 Blake Street
New Haven

**May 26-28, 2004**
National Conference Detroit, Michigan

**August 2004**
The Essex Clipper Dinner Train Tour
Essex, CT

**September 2004**
Fall Luncheon Meeting

**December 8, 2004**
Holiday Gathering
English Tea Garden
Middletown, CT
Donations to a local charity

*If you have articles, information or ideas you’d like to submit for the newsletter, please email them to CheeYeun Hoor at choor@hwlochner.com*
WTS Connecticut Valley Message from the President

I would like to start by thanking all of you for renewing your membership or becoming a new member. One of my goals during my two (2) year term as President of the CT Valley Chapter is to increase the membership and even double the numbers if possible. I will need your assistance to obtain this goal by inviting a colleague, client or any transportation associate that you might invite to join the organization. In doing this, we will strengthen our core group and ultimately strengthen women in this industry. Please work with me, and if you have any questions regarding WTS, feel free to contact myself or any of the Executive Board listed on the front page. In addition, we welcome you to review our website at www.wtsnational.org.

WTS Connecticut Valley Chapter’s focus for this year is to continue to promote women and encourage them to join the transportation industry. The greatest number of professionals in this field has historically been in the hands of male planners, legislators, designers and executives. There is a great deal of opportunity for women in the transportation field, and with the help of WTS National, we will work together to spread the knowledge and educate our ladies to become better leaders and enter a field where their talents and energies can be utilized in an industry that has traditionally been male dominated.

The CT Valley Chapter of WTS has not had a scholarship program in place for several years, and it really is imperative that this program be brought back into progress. Currently we are seeking someone to assist with revitalizing a scholarship program which includes offering annual scholarships to a professional woman working in the transportation field and to a student to promote transportation at the college level. The Executive Board is preparing guidelines for these awards; however, it is necessary for the Chapter to have a committee to work on the whole process. This is a wonderful opportunity to become more involved with WTS at both the local and national levels. Please notify myself or any of the Executive Board should you have an interest in holding a Scholarship Committee position.

We have an exciting year of events planned and many new opportunities for you to network with people in the transportation industry. I hope that you are able to join us and attend some of this year’s programs.

In closing, I would like to remind everyone that our organization is for individual transportation practitioners. If anyone has suggestions regarding meeting topics, fundraising, or education, please let me know. I am open to all suggestions that will make the WTS Connecticut Valley Chapter stronger and provide all members with the information and tools that promote professional women in transportation. We look forward to hearing from you!

Special thanks to all of you who have already assisted with the Chapter have and made a commitment to hold a board or committee position. Your efforts are commendable, and you will undoubtedly benefit from the experience.

Enjoy the spring and please I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming WTS Event.

Regard,

Sofia Nirshberg
President
V.N. Engineers
and
President
CT Valley Chapter
2004 - 2005