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MESSAGE from the PRESIDENT

Service to community. It connects us to each other and benefits everyone involved. I’d like to thank, on behalf of the WTS CT Valley Chapter Board of Directors, those individuals and companies serving the WTS community by giving their time and financial support this year to advance WTS’ mission and initiatives.

First, I’d like to acknowledge our generous corporate sponsors: Dewberry and HAKS. Each of these corporate sponsors has donated $1,000 to advance WTS 2009-2010 initiatives, including the upcoming October 15th 3rd Annual Transportation Mini Series, the inaugural year of our Mentorship Program, and our Scholarship Program. During these challenging economic times, WTS is extremely grateful for this corporate sponsorship.

I’d also like to acknowledge the contributions of time and talent of those serving as mentors in WTS’ Mentorship Program. They are: Jim Ford, Senior Associate with Beta Group; Larry Murphy, Principal Engineer with CDM; Carrie Roche, Area Manager with Keville Enterprises; and Carla Tillery, Senior Associate with Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. The collective experiences of these mentors include project management, business development, transportation planning, traffic engineering, and construction management and inspection. These individuals have committed time out of their personal and professional lives to meet regularly over the next year with an apprentice, sharing their experiences and passing on what they’ve learned to them. WTS thanks these individuals for investing in future generations of transportation leaders.

WTS challenges our members to work towards serving each other as we continue to try to serve you. As always, please contact me with ideas for how WTS can better serve you, our members and our community.

Laurel Stegina
WTS CT Valley Chapter President

Calendar of Events
Save these DATES!

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<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>River Boat Cruise</td>
<td>Charter Oak Landing, Hartford</td>
<td>Friday, August 21, 2009</td>
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<td>Golf Clinic</td>
<td>Golf Quest, Southington</td>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tour des Farms</td>
<td>Shelton</td>
<td>September 26, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation Mini Series</td>
<td>Marriott Hartford/Rocky Hill</td>
<td>Thursday, October 15, 2009</td>
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For more information, please contact any of your WTS CT Valley Board Members (see back page for a listing)
2009 WTS ANNUAL AWARDS RECEPTION

WTS held its Annual Awards Reception on April 30th at Cascade in Hamden. This annual event honors women that are leaders in the transportation industry and have shown extraordinary commitment to the goals and growth of WTS; and for those firms that have enhanced the transportation industry through their commitment to excellence and quality services, that have an outstanding record of affirmative action in hiring and promoting at all levels, support continuing education and encouraging young women to enter the transportation field. An award is also given for innovative transportation solutions. This award is for a local project or service whose transportation element has contributed to the success of the initiative, supports key community values, and has overcome obstacles to build or follow through.

This year's Woman of the Year was awarded to Leslie Haines, PE, and Vice President/Manager of New England Operations for Parsons Transportation Group. Throughout her career Leslie has taken chances, provided leadership, mentored and broken boundaries. She has served on the Board of Directors of ITS-CT from 2001-2003 and the Connecticut Roadbuilders Association from 2001-2003; she served as President of the WTS CT Valley Chapter from 2003-2005 and as Vice President from 2005-2006; and is currently the National Director of ACEC/CT.

Member of the Year was awarded to Shawna Bartkus, Marketing Manager of Dewberry. Shawna has been a member of WTS since 2007. She chairs the Scholarship Committee and Mentor Program Committee, two WTS initiatives Shawna assisted in bringing to fruition for the CT Valley Chapter.

AECOM was the recipient of Firm of the Year by the CT Valley Chapter of WTS and WTS International. AECOM is a global provider of professional technical and management support services to a broad range of markets, including transportation, facilities, environmental and energy. AECOM fosters professional development and personal growth, supporting training and a variety of professional advancement.

(Continue on page 4)
activities. They are a national sponsor of the ACE Mentor Program, and have been rated highly by Federal, State and Local Government for meeting and exceeding MBE/WBE goals on our contracts.

Innovative Project of the Year was awarded to the Town of South Windsor for Safe Routes to School and Gannett Fleming for the rehabilitation of Bridge 00749 (Frenchtown Road) over historic Route 15 (Merritt Parkway).

The Town of South Windsor has been on the forefront of pedestrian planning including a program of working with the various schools in town to develop Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) Programs. Town staff has worked with the individual school administrations and the Capital Region Council of Government (CRCOG) to promote SRTS programs at the town’s elementary and middle schools. The Town has engaged the schools’ administration, staff, parents, and students in this effort. Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. (FHI) assisted with the traffic engineering safety improvements at each school and its surrounding community, led early morning “walk-abouts” with the schools’ SRTS committee to observe issues and brainstorm improvement ideas, and prepared a technical memorandum that addressed engineering issues identified during the walk-abouts. The implementation of the SRTS program in South Windsor supports improved accessibility for students and staff, reduces dependence on vehicles and rides from parents, and reduces the need for busing. Less vehicle miles results in less emissions into the environment. Finally, more physical activity results in better health and, in the case of school children, better concentration and grades.

The Frenchtown Road Bridge was rehabilitated to improve safety and to maintain the existing service of the vital highway infrastructure which it serves. The Frenchtown Road Bridge is an historic twin-arch structure built in 1940, is located in Trumbull, CT, and spans State Route 15, also known as the historic Merritt Parkway. The rehabilitation effort focused on eliminating the dangers associated with existing cast stones falling from the deteriorated bridge on to the Merritt Parkway. In addition to the necessary repairs for the cast stones, the project also provided a wider sidewalk along Frenchtown Road to improve pedestrian safety and access for local residents and the Frenchtown Road Elementary School located immediately to the south of the project area.

The event closed with the awarding of two WTS Scholarships. The recipients were Tiffany Cartier, student at the University of Hartford studying civil engineering with a focus on transportation and Emma Chapman, student at Yale University studying political science and history of art with the intent of pursuing a career in urban planning.

The Annual Awards Dinner was well attended by WTS members, peer professionals, municipal representatives, and family members in support of our award winners.
WTS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION

Leadership Outside the Office

The WTS Mentor Program held the first of three professional development sessions on May 20th at the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT). The session entitled *Leadership Outside the Office: The Importance of Networking and Taking Advantage of Opportunities for Growth Through Professional Organizations* was presented by Theresa Casey, FSMP, CPSM, Founding Principal, of On-Target Marketing & Communications. The event was open to members only, as well as CTDOT staff and had a limited registration of twenty people to benefit those in attendance and to encourage an open discussion. Theresa kicked-off the session by asking attendees what they had hoped to learn from the session. As she progressed through her presentation, she paid particular attention to how each individual’s goals could be met. Theresa’s main point was to encourage attendees to join an organization you have an interest in, whether it be professional and/or personal, be an active member, and observe others and pick-up on those qualities you find admirable within other leaders. As a member of an organization, you never know where your next project lead, possible career opportunity, or reference may come from.
In 2007 the CT Valley Chapter of the Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTSCVC) started a local scholarship program for undergraduate women interested in pursuing careers in the transportation industry. For our inaugural year we awarded one $1,000 scholarship. For the 2008/09 year, via successful program initiatives and the support of corporate sponsors, we accrued enough funds to award two $1,000 scholarships.

Understanding the high, and ever increasing, cost of education for students and the low number of women within the transportation industry we are hoping to grow our scholarship program into a multi-year award to assist students throughout the term of their education.

If you have any questions about the WTS scholarship program or are interested in making a donation please do not hesitate to contact our Scholarship Chair, Shawna Bartkus, via email at sbartkus@dewberry.com.

Member Spotlight

Jessica Peruti joined WTS in August 2008. She became active almost immediately, rolling up her sleeves and assisting the Chapter’s Events Committee Chairperson with an assortment of tasks – no task too big or too small. A quick study, Jessica was appointed Co-Chair of the Events Committee within a few short months and has since assumed the full responsibility of Events Committee Chair. Although there are many hands helping Jessica behind the scenes, Jessica took the lead planning the 2008 Annual Awards & Scholarship Dinner in May, and she is currently leading the Chapter Events Committee in organizing the 3rd Annual Transportation Mini Series, which will take place on October 15, 2009. All those who know Jessica, know how enthusiastic and energetic she is. She brings a wonderful and positive energy to everything she does.

In her role as Office Manager/Marketing Assistant at HAKS, Jessica wears many hats and is depended upon by many. Jessica has been with HAKS since February 2008, and being new to the transportation engineering industry did not hold her back. She quickly picked up processes and procedures, proving herself to be an asset to her firm and co-workers. Jessica is detail oriented and has the ability to multi-task, a must in her position. According to Mahmood Mohammed, PE, Assistant Vice President of HAKS, “Jessica holds a position with responsibility usually filled by 4.5 people, and she does it smiling the entire time.”
WTS CT Valley Chapter Invites you!

We welcome you to come aboard “The Hartford Belle”
August 21, 2009!

You are sure to enjoy this 90 minute cruise on the CT River aboard “The Hartford Belle”

The Belle will be departing at 5:15pm from Charter Oak Landing in Hartford, CT. Please arrive 15 minutes before departure time.

Cost per person is $20.00. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided by WTS and Cash Bar will be available.

*Space is limited so please register A.S.A.P*

Need More Information:
Pleas contact
Jessica Peruti, Event Chair
860-632-5155 or jperuti@haks.net
3rd Annual Transportation Mini Series

WTS Connecticut Valley Chapter is pleased to announce the 3rd annual Transportation Mini Series (TMS) will take place on Thursday, October 15th at the Hartford Marriott Rocky Hill. WTS is again teaming with ITE to broaden this signature event within the transportation industry. The series kicks-off with a “coffee break style” members-only “Meet & Greet” with Ms. Amy Jackson-Grove, Division Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in the morning. WTS warmly welcomes Ms. Jackson-Grove back to Connecticut after her tenure as FHWA’s Assistant Division Administrator in New York State. Following the Meet & Greet, there will be one morning and three afternoon one-hour long sessions, with a break for lunch. These sessions will present information on several topics, all within the “Green Transportation” theme. Session topics for the 2009 TMS include:

- **Transportation and Climate Change: Time to Think, Plan, Mitigate, and Adapt**: The relationship between climate change and transportation is complex and includes a variety of considerations from land-use planning to technology. This session will discuss current federal, state, and local efforts designed to improve our transportation system while supporting economic vitality and global efficiency, increasing safety and mobility, enhancing the environment, promoting energy conservation, and improving quality of life.

- **Greenovation 101: Economic and Environmental Benefits**: What is “Greenovation” and what does it mean for the transportation industry? This session will focus on green jobs: what they are, how they are created, and what are their benefits to the transportation industry, the overall economy, and the environment.

- **Smart Transportation**: This session will present the concept of “Smart Transportation,” the linking of transportation investments with land use planning and decision-making, with the goal of creating better communities. The presentation will include examples from Pennsylvania, demonstrating Smart Transportation in action. Pennsylvania’s smart transportation initiative has resulted in the publication of a guidebook that sets the stage for changing the way the state’s DOT does business.

Our final session will cover the legal aspects in green transportation. The TMS will conclude with an opportunity to network with colleagues between 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., with the dinner program beginning at 5:30 p.m. This year’s TMS Dinner Program will feature a panel of rail experts discussing the state of Connecticut’s rail systems, present and future.

*Save the date* for the WTS/ITE 2009 Transportation Mini Series! WTS CT Valley Chapter looks forward to seeing you on October 15th!
WTS CT Valley Chapter Supports 2009 Tour des Farms

WTS Connecticut Valley Chapter is pleased to support the 2009 Tour des Farms, an annual bicycling event that supports local agriculture. This year the Tour des Farms will take place on Saturday, September 26th beginning at 9 a.m. at the Jones Family Farm (www.jonesfamilyfarms.com) in Shelton, Connecticut.

Participants choose between a 10-mile, 19-mile, 28-mile, or a 62-mile bicycle route. Regardless of which scenic bike route you choose, there are opportunities to stop at several local farms. You can buy local produce, and the event organizers pick up your purchases and bring them back for you. You receive a map of the routes at registration, and all routes lead back to the Jones Family Farm, where you can retrieve your purchases, enjoy refreshments, and participate in a wine tasting. Participants with older children could choose to participate in the Tour des Farms as a family (children must be over 12 years). Some of the farms on the route are:

- **Jones Family Farm**: This seventh-generation family farm is located in the scenic White Hills of Shelton. Strawberries, blueberries, and Christmas trees are all harvest-your-own.
- **Beardsley Cider Mill & Orchard**: Visit the cider mill for farm-baked pies, cider donuts, pumpkin cheese cake, honey, fruit butters, maple syrup. Watch apples being processed into cider.
- **Stone Gardens**: Specializing in flowers, plants, vegetables, and meats. Cows are pasture raised, grain fed, and hormone- and antibiotic-free.
- **Twombly Nursery**: Specializes in rare and unusual plants.
- **Belinsky Family Farm**: A family-owned farm offering fresh apples, pumpkins, and ciders.
- **Rich Farm Ice Cream**: Visit this 100-acre dairy that has been in the Rich family for three generations. Watch cows graze while eating one of over 30 flavors of fresh ice cream.
- **Hubbell Farm at French’s Corner**: Visit alpacas, llamas, sheep, and goats. This 1825 farm, retains all its original barns and outbuildings, specializes in herbs, herbal products, yarn and fiber, soaps, and more.
- **Oronoque Farms**: Dating back to 1949 when Betty Winton sold homemade pies to earn scholarship money for her alma mater Mount Holyoke, this farm offers seasonally baked fruit pies and homemade jellies and jams.
- **Schreiber’s Family Farm**: Schreiber’s have occupied this 350+ acre farm for almost 70 years. Come for pumpkins, hay rides, eggs, honey, cider, gourds, cornstalks, and maple syrup.
- **Gazy Brothers Farm**: This fifth-generation farm offers a variety of vegetables, fruits, plants, and flowers.

The Tour des Farms supports a Connecticut farming community, alternative transportation, and staying active and healthy. WTS CT Valley hopes to see you there – visit our display table under the registration tent!

Proceeds from this event go to support the King’s Mark Resource Conservation and Development Program and the Working Lands Alliance. For more information or to register for the Tour des Farms, go to www.active.com or call 1-800-805-8313, extension 3. The cost for those registering on or before September 25th is $35 for single riders. There is a special family rate of $60 for couples plus $25 for each additional family member riding. All cyclists must wear a helmet and are encouraged to carry water bottles. The rain date for the Tour des Farms is Sunday, September 27th.
WTS RHODE ISLAND

Infrastructure Design Professionals
Annual Paw-Sox Outing
Date: Thursday, September 3, 2009
Location: McCoy Stadium

WTS Rhode Island is once again co-sponsoring the Rhode Island Infrastructure Design Professionals Annual PawSox Outing at McCoy Stadium on Thursday, September 3 at 5:00pm. Tickets are $12 each and include general admission to the game and an all you can eat BBQ! For additional information, contact Colleen Garrigan at 508-823-2245 ext 3010 or colleen.carrigan@mcmtrans.com

WTS RHODE ISLAND

Riding RIPTA Into the Future
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2009
Location: Providence Biltmore Hotel
Providence Rhode Island

Join WTS-Rhode Island, Rhode Island-APA and the Providence Foundation for an informative luncheon providing an update on the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority's current strategic thinking and plans for enhancing transit throughout Rhode Island. Mr. Mark Therrien, Assistant General Manager, and Ms. Amy Pettine, Special Projects Manager, will be our speakers for this event to be held at the Providence Biltmore Hotel. For more information, please contact Anne Galbraith at agalbraith@cox.net.

WTS BOSTON

Fifth Annual AltWheels Fleet Day
Date: Monday, October 5, 2009
Location: Framingham, MA

Come and join the 5th Annual AltWheels Fleet Day at Staples World Headquarters in Framingham, Ma., an event for leaders in fleet management. Learn how to achieve greater efficiency while making the business case for clean technologies that fuel costs and emissions.

Visit www.altwheels.org for more information.

DEEP FOUNDATION INSTITUTE

DFI-CSCE 12th Annual Geotechnical Seminar
Infrastructure Repair & Geotechnical Engineering
Date: Friday, September 25, 2009
Location: The Hawthorne Inn
Berlin, CT

This annual event is presented jointly by DFI and Connecticut Society of Civil Engineers. Various Geotechnical topics are to be presented. For Seminar program, registration, and exhibit information contact staff@dfi.org or call 973-423-4030.

Full Seminar Attendee Registration fees include: Seminar attendance, breakfast, breaks, lunch, registration materials and handouts.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

If you’ve recently changed employers or moved, please send an email to Nancy Rolfe at nancy.rolfe@aecom.com so that your contact information can be updated & we can keep you informed of all upcoming WTS CT Valley events!

Visit WTS online! We are at: www.wtsinternational.org
2009-2010
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WTS Welcomes New Members!

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Leslie Black  Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc.
James Ford  BETA Group, Inc.
Shivani Mahajan  Parsons Brinckerhoff
Laszlo Vers  HAKS Engineers, P.C.
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