As I look back over 2013, the first year of my term, I am proud of all of the accomplishments made by our Chapter. Along with these accomplishments I am amazed at how quickly the time went by.

Being optimistic about the future of WTS I look forward to continued growth throughout 2014. Our Board of Directors is comprised of many seasoned and proven leaders. You’ll be seeing more of these women this year as we embark on a year of succession planning. With this planning we are seeking new talented, energetic, and positive individuals to serve as members of our committees. We feel that with a greater number of active members engaged in our committees the more we can do collectively to serve our members and network with one another to develop comprehensive programs. We hope for and want the future leaders of WTS to come from those serving on our committees today. Your investment of time on a WTS Committee will reap priceless rewards, professionally and personally. Ask any one of our current Board of Directors.

I’d be remiss if I didn’t thank our Corporate Sponsors; it is through their support that we continue to be one of the predominant professional organizations in Connecticut. We are thankful for the continued support, many of whom have continually stood behind us year after year and have been giving of their staff expertise and office space as needed. I hope that trend continues and that those that are currently sponsors will continue to support WTS in 2014.

We look forward to another successful year creating new opportunities for involvement and development, mentoring and supporting each other.
As part of the WTS student outreach program, WTS Student Outreach Co-Chair Nancy Rolfe (AECOM) organized a roundtable discussion in collaboration with Central Connecticut State University's chapter of Society of Women Engineers (SWE). The panel included Susan M. Libatique (CTDOT), Sharon P. Okoye (CTDOT) and WTS CT members Amanda Jenkins (PRIME), Alicia Leite (CTDOT), Lori Long (Michael Baker) and Jennifer Mortensen (Milone and MacBroom, Inc). The event included a dinner reception and a discussion of the panel members' introduction to engineering, obstacles they'd over come in careers and advice for the undergraduates.

**Congratulations to Our President**

Our CT WTS Chapter president, Pat Padlo, received the 2014 Connecticut Women in Leadership award from the Women and Families Center on Friday April 11, 2014. Pat was honored at WFC Fundraising Benefit Auction.

The event was held from 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 PM at Saint Clements Castle in Portland, CT.

Please join us in honoring Pat in her achievement as an influential woman in leadership.

To all our WTS Members who have helped to put this Newsletter together and have volunteered their time to ensure that all our programs and events have been a success.

~ Thank You ~

We couldn’t do it without your support!

If you would like to submit an article for a future newsletter or have any ideas for articles, please email them to: adevaux@mbakercorp.com
Member Book Recommendation


“Like a snowflake or a fingerprint, we are all one of a kind and have a special contribution to make. The late Kaleel Jamison, one of the first women to enter the field of management consulting, experienced what she described as "nibbles," little bites that life takes out of you--really attacks on your self confidence. Her longtime best selling book, "The Nibble Theory, is a process for dealing with the world that moves the reader toward personal power and growth arising out of the unique values and strengths of each person."

This book highlights an individual’s potential for growth and encourages them to grow despite obstacles they may encounter. It encourages those who read it to help others to reach their potential, in turn allowing them to grow as well.

CTTransit News

⇒ Visit: maps.google.com/Transit  
⇒ From here simply enter in your To and From addresses and let google do the work!  
⇒ Like Google Maps, multiple route options are available.  
⇒ The transit modes are expandable for future public transportation options.  
⇒ Sort your routes by best route, fewest transfers, and less walking.

And as always, the CT Transit Trip Planner is also available at: www.cttransit.com

WTS Professional Mentor Program Accepting Applications

The WTS Mentor Program provides a forum for women seeking development of the skills necessary to achieve success in both their professional and personal lives. The program offers support from experienced transportation leaders, through peer networking, and candid conversations with successful transportation leaders and professional development subject matter experts. Applications are now being accepted for mentors and mentees. Visit www.wtsinternational.org/connecticut/mentoring or contact Shawna Bartkus at sbartkus@hwlochner.com for more information.
As National Women’s History month comes to an end, the US Department of Transportation took the time to recognize how women are making a difference in transportation:

“When you talk to most people in the transportation industry, their career journey has often been filled with twists and turns and unexpected opportunities. Few students have a clear understanding of how their imagined career paths might lead them to working in this vibrant, multimodal field.

But transportation is always evolving and growing, and the workforce the industry needs is rapidly changing as well. To keep pace, women are now working in once male-dominated career fields. Today, you'll see women filling positions such as skilled high speed rail engineers; technically savvy aviation experts; astute truck, rail, transit, and maritime operators; and quick-minded statisticians and business analysts.

To help improve women’s participation in transportation careers, the industry must do its best to link them to role models and opportunities; show them how their efforts can have a great impact on local and national communities; and create an adaptable workplace that’s fair, flexible, and collaborative for all employees.

This month, we celebrate National Women’s History by looking back at past role models – their accomplishments and the avenues for progress their pioneering efforts helped create.”

The article goes on to mention women like Lillie Drennan, the first woman to receive her commercial driver’s license. It also details initiatives to increase women’s participation in transportation occupations. These include the Women and Girls in Transportation Initiative, administered by the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.

The article then goes on to ask “Have you heard of Transportation You?”. This program, in partnership with WTS International is aimed specifically at girls between the ages of 13 and 18. The partnership creates mentorships and firsthand field exposure to local transportation professionals and projects. Through this program, we help young girls prepare themselves in STEM fields before they are faced with major critical decisions like choosing a college major. Since 2012 the program has impacted the lives of more than 600 girls, with more than 80 percent reporting that the program influenced their career studies.

To read more visit the USDOT site: [http://www.dot.gov/fastlane/womens-history-month](http://www.dot.gov/fastlane/womens-history-month)

**STEM**

-Science
-Technology
-Engineering
-Mathematics
We were happy to welcome little Hannah Lynn Marino into the world on October 29, 2013. She arrived at 11:47 a.m. weighing 8 lbs 10 oz at a height of 20 inches. Now at just 2.5 months old, she already weighs about 12.5 pounds and is nearing 24 inches long. She has a full head of hair and has just started smiling and making gurgling and cooing noises. Her favorite past time is sleeping, making faces, hanging out in her swing and playing on her Baby Einstein Jungle Mat.

-Amanda Marino

Peyton Elizabeth was born on 11/25 and weighed 6 lbs. 6 ounces. She is doing great! :)

-Krista Kenney
Transform CT, A Place for Everyone’s Input

What is your vision to improve Transportation in Connecticut? With the TransformCT website you can share that vision with others around the state and state leaders that have the ability to make those visions come true. As an open forum you can share your ideas, post pictures, and pinpoint on the state map exactly where you would like changes to occur. You can visit the website http://www.transformct.org/ to sign up, or www.TransformCT.info to learn more. Below are some frequently asked questions in regard to the Transform CT initiative.

- What is Transform CT?:

  “TransformCT is a strategic planning process being led by The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT), with the full support of Governor Dannel P. Malloy. Connecticut has many existing and future transportation needs: to keep the infrastructure in a state of good repair, address congestion, increase transportation choices, and to create a more well-connected transportation system to get people and goods from here to there. These needs will be evaluated, prioritized, and shaped through TransformCT, and that will lay the groundwork for Connecticut’s first-class transportation system of the future.”

- What are the goals of TransformCT?:

  - Promote economic growth and global competitiveness.
  - Evaluate and prioritize needs based on a consensus vision for the State’s future.
  - Ensure that improvements are fully vetted with a comprehensive cost-benefit evaluation of the investments.
  - Support a future where many entities, individuals, and agencies continue to contribute, cooperate, and coordinate.
  - Transform the CTDOT to be more responsive, efficient, and effective in building, maintaining, and operating the best transportation system in the country.

- How can you get involved:

  The first thing you can do is visit www.transformct.org and sign up! You can also sign up using a Facebook account. It’s important to continue to visit the site as it is updated regularly, you can also joint their mailing list to keep apprised of future opportunites to participate.

- What is the timetable?

  June 2013 marked the beginning of TransformCT. An 18-month set of activities is planned that will result in recommendations by January 2015. The process has four phases – visioning, needs analysis, development of recommendations, and the final strategic plan. So now is the time to get involved!
**Project Spotlight—Westbrook Train Station**

Connecticut Department of Transportation Commissioner James P. Redeker joined Westbrook First Selectman Noel Bishop and other regional and local officials Tuesday, March 25th to cut a ribbon and formally open the new Westbrook train station serving Shore Line East customers.

The platforms are the length of four rail cars; there is parking on both sides of the tracks including the addition of 200 parking spaces, a commuter drop-off and bus pick-up area, a full audio and visual messaging system, a two story over the tracks building with elevator, and canopy-covered, high-level platforms on the North and South sides of the track. The station is fully compliant with the American with Disabilities Act. Ground was broken for the new station on January 6, 2012.

Shore Line East rail service is operated by Amtrak under contract with the DOT.

**Have you considered becoming a Corporate Partner?**

*A sponsorship of WTS Connecticut offers vital mutual benefits to WTS and your company. WTS Connecticut offers outstanding networking and professional development opportunities for transportation industry employees and leaders at every level. WTS offers informative programs, scholarships for students, mentoring program, and information exchange through our newsletter and website (including job postings). For more information on the Corporate Sponsorship Program please contact our Chapter President, Pat Padlo at ptpadlo@transystems.com*

**Around the Area Calendar of Events:**

**WTS - Connecticut** - Annual Awards Scholarship Banquet - April 11, 2014 - 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM EST: [http://www.wtsinternational.org/](http://www.wtsinternational.org/)


**WTS - Connecticut** - WTS Summer Social & Kickoff Mentor Program - August 7, 2014
Southwest Airlines and Lea+Elliott Commit Support for STEM

Southwest Airlines Co. and Lea+Elliott, an international automated transit systems consultancy, have made substantial commitments to WTS International, the association for the global advancement of women in transportation, to support the association’s Transportation YOU program for girls aged 13 – 18.

Southwest will provide travel to help more young women get to Transportation YOU’s flagship event, the Transportation YOU DC Youth Summit, offsetting one of the program’s biggest barriers to entry. Lea+Elliott’s commitment will subsidize the full DC Youth Summit program for several of the young attendees.

The 2014 Transportation YOU DC Youth Summit program, which will take place at the end of June, is still under wraps, but in past years the young attendees and their WTS member mentors have had intimate meetings with former Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, toured the traffic tower at Reagan Airport, completed field work in the study of transportation accessibility, and met with officials at the NTSB.

WTS International Annual Conference

The Annual Conference is the WTS annual networking event of the year. It attracts more than 500 corporate and government industry leaders worldwide. Private Corporations, public agencies, and government officials invested in every transportation mode will exhibit, present, learn and network.

Eight distinct events, including an opening night reception and banquet dinner, will showcase the tremendous leaders represented. You don’t want to miss attending the one and only multi-modal conference of the year!

Kat Cole, Cinnabon, to Address WTS

Kat Cole, the 35-year-old president of the cinnamon roll brand, Cinnabon, has been confirmed as the keynote speaker for the 2014 annual conference of WTS International, that will take place May 14-16, 2014, in Portland, Oregon.

“Kat Cole is an incredible role model for business leaders in any industry, particularly for women. What she has done for the companies she’s worked for since a young age and the odds she’s defied as a woman in business make her story and the lessons she’s learned universally appealing,” said Margaret Mullins, director of the WTS Annual Conference. The Annual Conference is WTS International’s flagship event. It attracts corporate and governmental industry leaders worldwide, including executives, CEOs, government administrators, and leading transportation authorities.

Fitzgerald & Halliday - Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc. is seeking a full-time administrative professional in our Hartford, CT office with a minimum of 5 years of experience. Responsibilities will include general office and receptionist duties, travel and meeting coordination, as well as support for our business development and financial operations. Position requires strong computer and organizational skills, flexibility, versatility, and the ability to work well with all levels of internal management and staff. Proficiency in using MS Word, Excel, Access, and Powerpoint is required. Experience in the Transportation A/E industry a plus. Bilingual a plus. Salary commensurate with experience. Send resume to resume@fhiplan.com or Claudia Massie, 72 Cedar Street, Hartford, CT 06106. Equal Opportunity Employer.
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