Message from the President

It is with great regret that we accept the resignation of Ruth Fitzgerald as Chairperson of our Fundraising Committee. However, we are pleased that her company is growing quickly and needs her individual attention. Her valuable comments and insight will be missed. The Board has nominated the following WTS members to fill Ruth’s position for the remainder of her term as Chairperson for the Fundraising Committee. I am extremely pleased that the offer was enthusiastically accepted, and I’d like to welcome two new co-chairpersons to the Board of Directors: Linda Coates of DATTCO, and Shirley Granlind of New Britain Transportation Company. We look forward to working with you both!

As you are aware, WTS is dedicated to the professional development of women in transportation and annually recognizes a company that has demonstrated its commitment for women in transnational WTS conference in Chil-lamie. President of Parsons glas, Inc., accepted the 1993 Award for Parsons President Ann M. Hershfang noted that Parsons company and through its employees, has made continuous contributions to the advancement of women in the engineering profession. The number of women at PB has increased more than 200 percent since 1987 to 840, which represents 28.9 percent of the firm’s total. Over 40 women are officers and managers in the firm and the number of professional women is 364, representing 28.3 percent of the firm’s professionals.

We are delighted to announce that another WTS member has joined the ranks of the Clinton Administration. Former national WTS president, Grace Cronin has been appointed deputy administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). She joins Gordon Linton who has been appointed to the administrators post of FTA, completing the agency’s leadership in the Clinton Administration. Grace was director of the Surface Transportation Policy Project (STPP), a network of diverse organizations and coalitions whose goal is to develop a national transportation policy that better serves the environment, social and economic interest of the nation.

Other good news includes the addition of a new WTS chapter. A recently formed San Diego chapter joined WTS as the 25th active chapter. We now have over 2,500 members nationally. That is quite a network of transportation professionals!

—M. Christina Olson

Membership Report

To date, WTS Connecticut Valley has 73 active members. Please help us welcome the following new members to our organization:
* Mary Dyer, Manager, Research & Development, The Rideshare Company
* Claudia Hals, Program Administrator, Dial-A-Ride, City of Hartford Transportation
* Nancy Hayden, Transportation Planner, Conn.D.O.T.
* Susan Larmor, Program Admin., Employee Transp. Services, City of Hartford, Transportation
* Anne-Marie H. Mackertich, Transportation Engineer, Conn.D.O.T., Division of Research
* Norma L. Peck, Property Agent II, Conn.D.O.T.
* Paula G. Perdelwitz, Controller, The Arrow Line, Inc.
* Kawkeb A.A. Said

Anyone interested in transportation can receive additional information about WTS by writing: WTS Connecticut Valley, Inc., P.O. Box 290164, Wethersfield, CT 06109.
WTS Does Breakfast . . . and lunch and cocktails!

This year, the WTS Program Committee will be offering programs taking place at different times of the day. It was felt that perhaps for some of you, the luncheon meeting was not the best time and that a breakfast or after work meeting would be easier. So, if lunch doesn’t work, get ready for more choices this year!!

There are many exciting programs and tours coming this year along with meetings being held jointly with some other organizations. Here are just a couple of programs that are already in the works. More information to follow with the program announcement mailings.

November . . . holiday shopping . . . year end . . . income tax . . . Help!! The November program will give you a head start on ideas about how to prepare for the coming tax season and for your financial future. WTS will be bringing in a Financial Planner to help us understand what we can do to benefit us financially for the remaining months of 1993 and how to plan for 1994. This will be a breakfast meeting in the early part of the month.

Getting to know you . . . In the spring we hope to assemble a large group for a networking session. Everyone loves to network, right? . . . Well, maybe not! If you are like many of us, the thought of approaching a total stranger with business card in hand is about as attractive as a trip to the dentist. But never fear, WTS is here to help! This program will begin with a session on how to network effectively while the second half of the program will give us a chance to practice our newly learned skills.

It’s really going to be an exciting WTS year and the only way you can get your money’s worth out of the organization is to take advantage of what it has to offer. So be ready with a pencil poised over your calendar when your program announcements arrive. Make WTS a priority for ’93-’94!

Next meeting: Wed., October 20, 1993 (12 noon-1:15 p.m.) “Develop a Better Understanding of the Legislative Process.”