



Advancing Women in Transportation
Greater Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

December 2014

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Upcoming Events

**WTS Greater D/FW
January Luncheon - Negotiating Confidently
January 13, 2015
10:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
NCTCOG**

The interactive workshop will provide guidance on how to negotiate both personally and professionally. The focus will be on having a purpose, being prepared, creating a plan, and prioritizing needs and wants. It is important that an individual understands not only who they are dealing with, but how to deal with them. The workshop will involve discussions on salary negotiations, purchasing items, and getting the most from your negotiating session. It is designed to help an individual develop their own strategy and style that empowers them to advancement both professionally and personally.



Dr. Steve Tidwell

[Click HERE to Register for this Event!](#)

**WTS Greater D/FW
February Luncheon - State-Listed Threatened
Mussels and Regulatory Requests
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
February 17, 2015
NCTCOG**

In 2010, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) listed 15



Corporate Sponsors

PLATINUM LEVEL



native freshwater mussels as "state threatened" species. State-listed mussels occur in the Red, Neches, Sabine, San Jacinto, Trinity, Colorado, Guadalupe, San Antonio, Nueces-Frio, Brazos, Rio Salado, Pecos, and Rio Grande river basins. State law prohibits take (i.e., harm, etc.) of state-listed species. Projects that may have impacts to rivers, tributaries, and/or reservoirs within the state of Texas, may require mussel presence/absence surveys



Ashley Oliver - HALFF

and associated relocation activities, if applicable, prior to construction. These activities should be conducted by persons possessing a permit issued by TPWD, and plans for potential relocations, if required, must be approved by TPWD. In addition, zebra mussel populations have been recently documented at various locations within the Red, Trinity, and Brazos river basins; therefore, zebra mussel presence should be taken into consideration when performing TPWD-required native mussel survey and relocation activities. This presentation will educate attendees on new state-listed mussel regulatory requirements and emerging zebra mussel issues so that future projects may be planned accordingly and costly delays may be avoided.

MORE DETAILS TO COME ON THIS EVENT!

2015 WTS Annual Conference
May 22-24, 2015
Chicago, Illinois



We are pleased to announce that WTS International has selected Chicago as the site for the 2015 WTS Annual Conference. WTS is looking forward to bringing the Conference to the Windy City. Congratulations Chicago!

MORE DETAILS TO COME ON THIS EVENT!

WTS Greater D/FW
13th Annual Golf Tournament
September 2015

MORE DETAILS TO COME ON THIS EVENT!

Word From the President

Dear WTS Members and Friends,



GOLD LEVEL

Baker



SILVER LEVEL



ferrovial



As the year 2014 comes to an end, we have seen the growth of WTS across the state. Over the past few years, we have had the opportunity to work with our sister Texas Chapters on various initiatives, enabling us to build collaboration, thus strengthening our individual chapters.



One of the goals of each of our chapters has been to bolster membership and participation by TxDOT employees. To that end, this week chapter president's from across the state met with TxDOT executives to discuss the benefits of WTS to TxDOT employees and the benefits of having their involvement in our organization. The meeting was held in Austin and included TxDOT executives John Barton, Deputy Executive Director; Richard McMonagle, Chief of Staff; and James Bass, Chief Financial Officer. We are still working out details, but we walked away convinced that TxDOT will begin supporting WTS statewide, thus encouraging their employees to take advantage of the benefits offered. It has been a pleasure working with our sister chapters. We appreciate their friendship and support in advancing the WTS mission. We have been able to accomplish so much more with them as our comrades. Happy Holidays, everyone!

Nikki Simon, P.E.
President, WTS Greater D/FW Chapter

Catch The T's Game Day Shuttle to AT&T Stadium

Football season is here and The T is a great way to relax and get to the game. The Downtown Cowboy Shuttle Circulator serves the downtown Fort Worth area with pickups at Molly the Trolley stops close to major hotels. The shuttle starts at the "Molly Stop" outside the Sheraton Hotel (2 hours before the official game time for Cowboys games) and circulates through the downtown area at various boarding points. The Shuttle Circulator is free to ride.

Football fans can also ride The T's Cowboy Shuttle to AT&T Stadium by leaving their car parked at the Vickery Park & Ride located at the Texas & Pacific Station at 200 Vickery Blvd. The cost is \$5 per vehicle (cash only) for parking and \$10 per person (cash only) for a round-trip shuttle ticket. The Shuttles for Cowboys games begin boarding at the Vickery Park & Ride two hours prior to announced/published game time and leave as they fill. The last shuttle leaves the Park & Ride one hour prior to game time. Shuttles for College games begin boarding four hours prior to announced/published game time and leave as they fill. The last shuttle leaves three hours prior to game time. For more information, contact The T's website at www.the-t.com or call 817-215-8600.

[Click HERE to see The T's 2014 Cowboy Coach Schedule](#)

BRONZE LEVEL



Texas Legislature Passes Transportation Funding Measure

The Texas Transportation Funding Amendment, Proposition 1 passed with 79.78 percent of the vote in a landslide victory! This constitutional amendment is anticipated to increase transportation spending by approximately \$1.2 billion each year.

The measure, which will take effect immediately, diverts half of the general revenue derived from oil and gas taxes from the Economic Stabilization Fund, also known as the Rainy Day Fund, to the State Highway Fund for the purpose of providing transportation funding for repairs and maintenance of public roads.

So what does this mean for Texans? Better, safer roads!

WTS Greater D/FW Scholarship Winners Named

The 2014 Greater D/FW Chapter of WTS scholarship winners were selected earlier this month. These winners have been nominated to compete for scholarships at the WTS International level.

- * **Wanda J. Schafer Graduate Scholarship - Junfei Xie**
Junfei is a candidate for Ph.D. in Air Transportation Systems/Airborne Networks at the University of North Texas
- * **Monique Pegues Graduate Leadership Scholarship - Mallory Casebolt**
Mallory is a Ph.D. candidate in Aviation & Space at Oklahoma State University
- * **Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter Undergraduate Leadership Scholarship - Nicole Velasco**
Nicole is a Supply Chain Management student at Texas Christian University

A big WTS congratulations goes out to the winners and all applicants. Special thanks to the scholarship committee for reviewing all of the excellent applications our chapter received.

WTS Greater D/FW Chapter-Year in Review!

So what has our chapter been doing so special this past year? Well, you can take a look at some of the highlights in our 2014 Annual Report on the WTS Greater D/FW website!

All of our past professional development programs, monthly luncheons, tours, Transportation YOU events and so much more can be found in this report.

Websites and Links:

[WTS National Website](#)

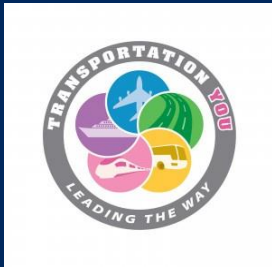
[WTS D/FW Website](#)

[WTS International Conference](#)

[WTS D/FW Board of Directors](#)

[WTS D/FW Job Postings](#)

We are Social!!



[Join the WTS D/FW Mailing List!](#)

After looking through the report, we are sure you will remember something special that brought you to WTS and will find that 2015 will bring so much more!

[Click HERE to view the 2014 Annual Report](#)

WTS Greater D/FW Chapter December Holiday Mixer

The WTS Greater D/FW Chapter celebrated the end of the year in style with their Annual Holiday Mixer at Pappadeaux in Grapevine. This year, gifts were collected for the Genesis Women's Shelter. The event was free with the donation of an unwrapped toy or gift card.

The warm and inviting atmosphere at Pappadeaux made for a fun night of holiday cheer and reflection on the past year. There were also special holiday photos of all our members having a little Christmas fun.

It was a great night for celebrating before the drinks...



And after...



Have a very Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year!

WTS Membership Affiliation

All members are encouraged to become affiliated with the other chapters in Texas: Heart of Texas, Houston and San Antonio. Just log into your WTS International account and select the affiliations you would like to join!

Irma L. Rangel Young Women's Leadership School to Offer Paid Summer Internship Program in 2015

Attorneys Serving the Community has chosen the Foundation for the Education of Young Women as its 2014-2015 beneficiary!

The Irma L. Rangel Young Women's Leadership School (YWLS) in partnership with the Foundation for the Education of Young Women has received a grant for a paid summer internship for high school juniors.

The program, beginning in June 2015, will provide 10 girls with paid internships at various companies. The students will work 25 hours per week for a six week period in fields such as law, medicine, business, social work, technology, etc.

Irma Rangel YWLS is requesting employers to volunteer as an internship placement for this paid summer internship program. This is a great development opportunity as these young ladies begin to prepare for their future careers.

If you are interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Katie Albritton at 214-824-1400 or kalbritton@feyw.org.

[Click HERE to Learn More about the Junior Internship Program](#)



**The WTS Greater D/FW Chapter
is on Facebook!**

The WTS Greater D/FW Chapter is on Facebook! Check out our page for upcoming WTS Greater D/FW Chapter events and more.



[Click HERE to visit the WTS Greater D/FW Chapter on Facebook!](#)

WTS Greater D/FW Member Spotlight

Name: Brenda Smith

Job Title/Firm: Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Assistant to Vice President, Government Relations

Years employed with Firm: 6 years

City/Town in which you reside: DeSoto, Texas

Hometown: Henderson, Texas

College Affiliation: Texas College, Tyler, Texas

Marital Status/Children: Married/3 Children, Husband - MacArthur Smith (married 2 years), 7 Grandchildren with 1 on the way!



Organizations: WTS - Dallas Facilities Chair, Women in Leadership (WIL) - Treasurer, Toastmasters (Transit Talkers) - Secretary/Treasurer

Nickname: N/A

Favorite Quote: "Faith sees the invisible, believes the unbelievable and receives the impossible."

Favorite Food: Mexican Food

Hobbies: Spending time with my family.

Favorite Vacation Spot: Florida

Something my colleagues might be surprised to learn about me: I was a total "Tom Boy" growing up. I loved to shoot marbles with my brothers and loved to play basketball and ran track. I loved to climb trees and get dirty. I wore no makeup until I was an adult and you could not pay me to put on a dress. I never played with dolls and girly stuff; I thought that was terrible.

What super-power would you most like to have, and why:

I would like to possess the ability to travel through time. As I look at the world events today, it saddens me to watch all the calamity in the world. If I could travel through time I would share what is happening in the world now and perhaps make a change for the future.

How do I contribute to WTS?

I currently serve as Dallas Area Facilities Chair. For meetings scheduled in the Dallas area, my primary responsibilities include ensuring that the lunch is ordered, the venue secured, programs are done, sign in sheets are in place, RSVPs are collected, and all WTS information is displayed before the attendees arrive. If speakers are scheduled I ensure the speaker's gifts are secured and set up for presentations has been taken care of, etc. My main goal is to make sure all details are taken care of to ensure that the program is a success.

WTS Membership Benefits

Membership Benefits

In support of its mission to transform the transportation industry through the advancement of women, WTS helps women find opportunity and recognition in the transportation industry through professional activities, networking opportunities, education, and research. Members of WTS International receive the following benefits:

- **Networking Opportunities** - Monthly program events, thought-provoking speakers and interaction with WTS members, many of whom are top leaders in the industry.
- **Professional Development** - Access to a diverse mix of contacts within and across transportation sectors, access to the WTS International Career Center and educational and career-focused guidance.
- **Education** - Leadership training, scholarship and fellowship opportunities and distinguished speakers.
- **Mentoring** - Chapter mentoring programs, developed to benefit both the mentor and the mentee.

[Click HERE to Join Today!](#)

Corporate Sponsor Spotlight



DGR Consultants LLC is a DBE Certified engineering consulting firm specializing in program and construction management. Owner and

President, Diane Gollhofer, P.E. brings over 25 years of "hands-on" experience directing and overseeing major sustainable public transportation (rail and facility) construction projects including the recent award winning \$1B DART Green Line - the longest light rail project under construction at the time, and DART's first Construction Management/General Contractor.

Services include program management oversight, constructability reviews, value engineering, alternative project delivery support, contract management, conflict avoidance/dispute resolution, project controls, cost estimating, scheduling, change management, quality control and assurance.

DGR Consultants LLC serves transit, transportation, industrial, commercial and governmental sectors. The company is based in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas.

WTS Greater D/FW Chapter is Seeking Corporate Partners!

The WTS Greater D/FW Chapter appreciates the support and sponsorship of our Corporate Partners! Our organization offers great opportunities to both women and men in the transportation field. A few of the benefits that come with WTS membership include:

- Professional development and training
- Networking with peers and leaders in the industry
- Opportunities to get involved and develop leadership skills

Each month, we organize lunch programs, technical tours, and/or professional development activities. Samples of our activities this year include:

- Tour of DFW Airport Terminal A, DART Orange Line Construction projects
- Seminars from TxDOT, NTTA, DART, NCTCOG, DFW Airport, etc.
- Professional Development seminars on personality styles and team working
- Continued development of a Student Chapter at the University of Texas at Arlington
- Development of a college student mentoring program
- Development of a high school transportation mentoring program at the Irma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School

Corporate partnerships are very important to our chapter's ability to provide these great benefits to our members. We encourage you to

click on the link below for our corporate sponsorship application. The many benefits of corporate partnership are listed on the application.

[Click HERE for a 2015 Corporate Partnership Form](#)

WTS Greater D/FW Job Bank

Looking for your next opportunity or a new addition to your team? Check out the Greater D/FW Chapter's Job Bank at www.wtsinternational.org/greaterdallas/job-postings/.

As a benefit to our corporate partners, members and local non-profit organizations, we will run job postings for 30 days at no cost on our chapter website. If you would like to post a position on the site, please send the information to Lane Wheatley-Zarate at: lmw@freese.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers Needed for Corporate Partner Membership Committee

The Corporate Partner Membership Program is being revamped with new ideas gleaned from the WTS Texas State Conference held last summer. Volunteers are needed to establish a strong committee. Please contact Diane Gollhofer, Corporate Membership Committee Chair at diane@dgrconsultants.com to become a member of this committee.

Greater WTS D/FW Chapter Seeking Volunteers

The WTS Greater D/FW Chapter is requesting volunteers in Professional Development for a HOME Funds Chairperson, Mentoring Chairperson, Job Bank Chairperson and Archivist Chairperson. If you're interested, please contact Lane Wheatley-Zarate, Professional Development Director at lmw@freese.com.

WTS Safety Moment

December - 12 Tips for Driving in Winter Weather

With roads covered with ice and snow this time of the year, the hazards are enormous. In fact, drivers are not advised to go on the road in winter weather. If you happen to be a worker in charge of delivering goods or transporting equipment and materials to different work sites; however, traveling during winter is a necessity. If you happen to be one of them, or if you happen to have a need to be out and about in icy conditions, then read on to know the 12 safety tips on driving in winter weather:

1. Set some extra time for travel. Consider delaying the trip if the weather is harsh.
2. Buckle up first before driving. Keep your seat belt buckled at all times.

3. Slow down. Whether you are inexperienced or a pro, it is always best to slow down while driving on slippery surfaces, especially in winter weather.
4. Before going on the road, inspect your tires. Make sure they have sufficient tread. A tread of at least 4 millimeters should be enough. Remember that the more tread there is, the greater the traction and amount of control available.
5. Keep a high pressure for your tires. Raising it to 10 percent should keep you safe. A high tire pressure on slippery surfaces helps in keeping tread open and channeling snow and water away. Also, it reduces the risk of sidewall damage to your tires.
6. Avoid making sudden movements of the steering wheel when driving in winter weather. Always accelerate and brake smoothly.
7. Set a following distance that is twice that on dry surfaces.
8. Stay in the right-hand lane unless you need to pass other vehicles. Use turn signals when changing lanes. Also, make sure to change lanes slowly or you will be more at risk of skidding.
9. Always reduce your speed when approaching intersections covered with snow or ice.
10. Drive with low-beam headlights on. This way, your vehicle is more visible to pedestrians and other vehicles. Low-beam headlights are brighter than daytime running lights and with them on, you can activate your tail lights.
11. Slow down when you are approaching a bridge. Remember that concrete and steel bridges tend to be icy.
12. Watch out for "black ice" on the road. It usually makes a road look like shiny new asphalt. Remember that pavement in winter weather looks grey-white.



Please send WTS Greater D/FW Chapter news items to

Darla W. Payberah, P.E. CFM

dpayberah@hntb.com

(972)628-3153