

dallas/fort worth express

2008-2009 Board

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From the President's Desk

Welcome to the second WTS Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter newsletter in 2008!

This year is off to an exciting start for our chapter and we have a great board in place to lead the group this year. The board's number one goal is always to provide a value to our current members and to garner new members by offering unique opportunities that provide professional development, promote our industry, and offer benefits to WTS members. The board has taken time to lay out the framework of this year through chapter management training, strategic planning sessions, and through the advice of the newly formed chapter advisory board. These planning sessions have resulted in a Chapter calendar that will be updated monthly to keep members informed of upcoming events in WTS.

Since our last newsletter the first meeting of WTS Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter Advisory Board was held in February 2008. The purpose of the advisory board is as follows:

- Provide guidance on overall chapter services and budget
- Assist with strategic planning
- Raise awareness of WTS
- Serve as a resource for tapping program speakers

- Provide advice on increasing membership and fundraising for scholarships
- Serve on selection committee for scholarship and diversity awards

The Advisory Board members are a prestigious group of women who are leaders in the transportation industry and have volunteered their time to serve our chapter. Members of the Advisory Board are:

- Nancy Amos (The T)
- Maribel Chavez (TxDOT Fort Worth)
- Peggy Crist (Federal Transit Administration)
- Gloria Dixon
- Tracey Friggle (TxDOT Dallas)
- Diane Gollhofer (DART)
- Noelle Ibrahim (Vertex Engineering, Inc.)
- Wendy Lopez (LopezGarcia Group)
- Katrina Keys (K Strategies)
- Lisa Pyles (Addison Airport)
- Wanda Schafer (DART)

Next time you see either of these ladies thank them for their service to our chapter.

Our Annual Scholarship and Awards Banquet was a major success made possible by the hard work and dedication of our valued volunteers. We took this opportunity to honor Cinde Weatherby Gilliland as the WTS-Dallas Fort Worth Chapter Women of the Year for her service to the industry, the North Texas region, and her tireless support and men-



Monique Pegues

toring of women at all levels of our profession. All of the award recipients' heartfelt acceptances of their awards made the evening unforgettable. Events such as our annual banquet and scholarship awards stand as a testament to the strength and purpose of the chapter. Again, well done and thank you to all our volunteers.

This May, the WTS National Conference will be held in Atlanta, GA. The event will bring together more than 350 transportation leaders from across the country for three days of sessions focused on current transportation issues and leadership development. The theme of this year's conference, "Transportation Crossroads."

I look forward to seeing you at the next WTS event.

For more information on the 2008 National Conference please visit:

www.wtsinternational.org

Members on the Move

Congratulations Monique Pegues! Monique was recently promoted to Director of Government Relations at the Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The T). Congratulations Monique, we know you will do very well in your new position!

Save The Date!

2008 WTS Golf Tournament will be Thursday, September 11th at the Texas Star Golf Course.

Snapshots from the Annual Awards Banquet



A big **THANK YOU** to everyone who made this event possible!



Member Spotlight: Kay Shelton, AICP

Kay Shelton is a Project Manager for the Capital Planning and Development Division of Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART). She has nearly 15 years of transportation planning experience, ranging from small site-specific studies to large, complex corridor projects. She managed the Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Impact Statement phase of the Northwest Corridor LRT extension to Farmers Branch and Carrollton, a nearly \$1 billion project planned to open in 2010. As part of that project, she was very involved in working with the Federal Transit Administration under their New Starts funding program, for which the combined Northwest

and Southeast LRT project was awarded \$700 million. Kay most recently managed the DART Transit System Plan update for the Year 2030. This effort identified and prioritized the next generation of capital projects and programs for DART. Ms. Shelton joined DART in October 2000, and was involved in various DART planning efforts, including the North Central and Northeast LRT lines, for several years prior as a consultant with BRW/URS Corporation.

Ms. Shelton is a graduate of UCLA with a degree in Economics and Business, and has a Masters Degree in City Planning from San Diego State University. She is a member of the



Kay Shelton

American Institute of Certified Planners and is past president of the Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS), and was selected as the chapter's Woman of the Year in 2003. She is married and has two children.

Corporate Spotlight: LTRA

Founded in July of 1998, Lina T. Ramey and Associates has concentrated on providing consulting services with an emphasis in the transportation field for 10 years. We offer a wide variety of services which includes engineering, surveying, and subsurface utility engineering as well as construction management for roadways, freeways and light rail projects. The firm currently has a staff of 42 professionals including seven licensed Professional Engineers

and four Registered Professional Land Surveyors.

LTRA's main office is located in downtown Dallas with branch offices in San Antonio and Houston. LTRA is HUB/DBE certified.

LTRA has aggressively pursued work with the various public agencies in the state of Texas, and we have been very successful in providing excellent service and have sustained steady growth since inception. Our goal is to provide a quality

product that exceeds the clients' expectations.

LTRA has successfully completed and is in the process of completing work for several agencies including:

- Texas Department of Transportation (Dallas, Ft. Worth, San Antonio, Childress and El Paso districts)
- North Texas Tollway Authority
- City of Dallas
- Dallas Area Rapid Transit



(DART)

- Collin County
- Dallas County
- City of Plano
- City of Red Oak
- Fort Worth "T"
- City of McKinney
- METRO

Global Climate Change

Recently Pavitra Rammohan attended WTS Houston's Second Annual Awards & Scholarship Gala where the keynote speaker was Cynthia J. Burbank. Pavitra submitted a summary of Ms. Burbank's speech on global climate change.

Cynthia J. Burbank has worked for the USDOT for 27 years. In 1998 she was designated as one of five Core Business Unit leaders for the FHWA. As Associate Administrator, she supervised a staff of over 100, and oversaw federal regulations and policies for the acquisition of real property by all federal agencies; FHWA's statewide, international, and metropolitan planning programs; and FHWA environmental programs and policies, including air quality conformity, wetlands, water quality, endangered species, livable communities, noise, historic preservation, environmental justice, NEPA, 4(f), CMAQ, Transportation Enhancements, TCSP, Scenic Byways, and Recreation Trails.

The Science

Climatic changes are undeniable and are caused by

human activities. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions have increased rapidly in recent years. Global climate change defies forecasting and it is evident by unprecedented heat, floods, droughts and typhoons which cause tremendous damage. Projected impacts include damage to coral reefs (aquatic life), extreme weather conditions, irreversible changes, decreased water in the west, impacts on coastal areas vulnerable to development, pollution, and climate change, and more intense heat waves. Additionally, research indicates that sea levels will continue to rise throughout the world. It is projected that by 2100 sea levels will rise 11 to 22 inches and more recent studies indicate the rise could actually be closer to 20-55 inches by 2100.

How much do we need to reduce GHG Emissions?

The basic principle is that the amount of reduction in GHG emission is directly related to a reduction in fossil fuel use. Studies indicate that an 80% reduction in GHG emissions is needed. The State of Washington has implemented specific climate change laws which

have been found to influence travel behavior thus reducing GHG emissions. Coalitions and partnerships have been formed between government and private agencies called "United States Climate Action Partnership (USCAP)" in order to reduce GHG emissions. Recommendations of the USCAP include a goal to reduce GHG emissions 60-80% by 2050, creation a carbon cap and trade system, and recommendations for transportation and power generation systems to take action and implement necessary measures.

Carbon Cap and Trade Legislation

A carbon cap and trade legislation are vital to decreasing GHG emissions in the United States. A carbon cap is the process of allocating different sectors of business the right to emit within defined limits. The trade legislation used in Washington State has received support from environmental agencies and private companies alike. Cost effective strategies are important to meeting GHG emission reduction measures. It is predicted that cost effective strategies can cause a 300

gigatons of GHG reduction within a year.

Relationship to Transportation

Transportation, after electricity, is the second largest cause of GHG emissions in United States. Light duty vehicles cause 60% of GHG emissions, and heavy duty vehicles contribute 18%. Therefore the transportation sector must do its share to offset the damage caused. There are three major elements of transportation that contribute to GHG emissions. They include fuel carbon content, efficiency of equipment, and patterns of usage. There are a number of strategies the transportation sector could implement to reduce GHG emissions. They include improving vehicle technology and fuels, using price signals to promote conservation and investment, driving "green", optimizing traffic operations, supporting better land use, walking, biking, ride-sharing, transit, educating the public, creating awareness, and adapting to climate change.



Advancing Women in Transportation
Greater Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.WTSINTERNATIONAL.ORG

D/FW Chapter Mission Statement

The Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter of WTS provides opportunities for networking, professional development and leadership for women in all fields of transportation. WTS fosters the exchange of ideas among transportation professionals, and education in local, regional, state and national transportation issues in an effort to put our members on the forefront of industry change.

Why Join WTS?

WTS provides Monthly Programs, Newsletters, Professional Development, Leadership Training Program, Job Bank, Annual Conferences, National Membership Directory, and Scholarships.

How to Join WTS?

Joining is very easy. Simply go to our website at www.wtsinternational.org and click on membership in the top right corner. You can apply on-line or download and application.

If you have any questions about membership, please contact Trish Hatley at thh@freese.com or 214-217-2217.

Do you have something you would like to share? Maybe an idea for an article? Or perhaps a question or comment about the newsletter?

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