



Advancing Women in Transportation  
Greater Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

Winter/Spring 2010

## Women's Transportation Seminar



# Dallas/Fort Worth Express

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## Wanda's Window

I am so honored to be serving as the Greater Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter president again. My first term was during the infancy of the local organization, when all of us were new to it and only twenty-three 23 other chapters existed nationally. Regional coordination was still mostly a concept and women in the transportation field only knew one another, for the most part, if they worked for the same company. There was no public transportation service between Dallas and Fort Worth. Our membership was largely comprised of public transit (The T, DART, and HandiTrans in Arlington, along with staff from the COG. Had it not been for those organization's financial and moral support, it is likely we would have folded. Monthly meetings were nearly always held in Arlington and our first awards were dispensed over lunch.

During the ensuing twenty years, much has changed and mostly for the better. Our membership is now representative of the industry and includes disciplines that few women held back then. We have a multitude of incredibly generous and helpful corporate partners and sponsors that encourage and salute our

success. Membership is more diverse and we now openly welcome our male counterparts who want to be part of an organization recognized for its informative programs and networking opportunities. Throughout the year, members from all across the metroplex work, play and learn together, sharing experiences, talents and skills on projects ranging from fun golf tournaments and lessons to awards banquets. And we are now financially able to fund generous scholarships to women entering the transportation profession to insure that our progress continues.

All of this in just twenty years! Makes you proud, doesn't it? Speaking of proud, I couldn't be prouder of our chapter award winners this year. Woman of the Year Judge Mary Horn, member of the Year Tricia Hatley, Employer Freese and Nichols and Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership winner Angela Berry-Roberson are all outstanding examples of the caliber and quality of our membership and relationships with the community. I know you are looking forward to honoring them, along with our scholarship winners, at the Awards Banquet on the evening of



Wanda Schafer, President WTS  
Greater Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

April 8 at the Sheraton Arlington. And don't forget to bring plenty of money to purchase silent auction items in support of our scholarship fund. The WTS banquet is known as a lovely, fun event not to be missed.

As the year progresses, we can also look forward to yet-to-be announced anniversary celebration plans and lots of professional development activities. If you have ideas, comments or concerns to share about the chapter, please feel free to contact me at [wschafer@dart.org](mailto:wschafer@dart.org) or leave a message at 214-749-3751 and I'll call you back. So stay tuned and stay involved!

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Monique Pegues

## Monique Pegues

Since this is the first Greater Dallas/Fort Worth WTS Chapter Newsletter since Monique’s passing, I wanted to take a moment to formally acknowledge the substantial contributions she had made to transportation. I know that Monique’s sudden death came as a shock to all of us. Monique was a vibrant woman who deeply cared about transportation and the community she served. While I did not have the pleasure of knowing Monique personally, I have heard nothing but kind words and wonderful stories about her from WTS members and her coworkers at The T. In memory of Monique, I am reprinting some of the inspiring words that others have written. A special presentation will be made at the Annual Awards Banquet so be sure to attend.

**“Monique had a passion for transit and was well respected by all our government officials.”**

**-Dick Rudell, The T**

**“Ms. Pegues was a devoted Christian, wife, daughter, mother, sister and friend who left an indelible mark on each person in which she came in contact. She led an accomplished life that was exhibited to others through her love of God, family and career.”**

**- The Honorable Michael C. Burgess,  
Congressional Record**

**“Monique lived life with zest and passion and I**

**know that her family will miss her dearly .”**

**-Robin Joseph-Williams, Half Associates**

**“Monique was a special individual and a credit to this industry.”**

**-Fred Jandt, Mass Transit**

**In Memoriam**

## Martha Martinez

As many of you may already be aware, Juanita Martinez, a WTS member, tragically lost her daughter in a shooting incident Thursday, February 18.

A prayer service for Martha Martinez was held Tuesday, February 23, at 6:00 p.m. at Mount Olivet Funeral Home located at 2301 N. Sylvania Ave. (corner of 28th street and Sylvania) The funeral was Wednesday, February 24, at 1:30 p.m. at the same location.

The Greater Dallas/Fort Worth WTS Board, Committee Chairs and members would like to send our condolences to Juanita and her family during this tragic time.

## Don't Forget!

Make plans to attend the  
**2010 Greater Dallas/Fort Worth WTS Annual Awards Banquet**

Thursday, April 8 at the  
Sheraton Arlington Hotel

Silent Auction: 6 pm

Banquet: 7 pm

Contact [Julie Ludeman](#) or  
[Lani Lin](#) for more information  
or to RSVP.



Building  
a Better  
Tomorrow.



### Annual Awards Banquet

The Greater Dallas-Fort Worth Chapter of  
The Women's Transportation Seminar  
Cordially Invites You to Attend a Dinner Honoring the  
2010 Award and Scholarship Winners.

**Thursday Evening - April 8, 2010**

Sheraton Arlington Hotel • 1500 Convention Center Drive  
Arlington, Texas 76011

**Silent Auction and Reception**

Six O'Clock in the Evening

**Banquet**

Seven O'Clock in the Evening

**RSVP by March 23, 2010**

[www.hntb-tx.com](http://www.hntb-tx.com) or Julie Ludeman at [jludeman@hntb.com](mailto:jludeman@hntb.com)



**Keynote Speaker**

Mary Suhm • City Manager, City of Dallas, Texas

Upcoming WTS Events

## 2010 WTS Annual Conference

Make plans now to attend the 2010 WTS Annual Conference, May 19-21 at the Capitol Hilton in Washington, D.C. This year's keynote address will be given by U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood. Don't miss out on topics such as the future of high speed rail, transportation legislation, and networking with industry experts. Visit the [Web site](#) for more information and to register. Early registration ends April 19.



## Upcoming Events:

### TxDOT Targets Small, Minority, Women-Owned Firms

A new series of webinars targeting small, minority and women-owned businesses in construction and professional services in Texas began Feb. 3, 2010, through the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Business Outreach and Program (BOP) Services branch. These webinars are an extension of the external online 2009 TxDOT seminars that cover topics ranging from how to become a pre-qualified bidder on TxDOT contracts to online access of bid lettings and contract plans and more. Each session provides information to contractors, suppliers and small businesses relating to how TxDOT operates with external parties, how to better understand these processes and procedures and how to improve opportunities and obtain contracts at TxDOT. The webinars are open to potential contractors, subcontractors, suppliers, DBEs and other small businesses. Each webinar is limited and registration slots are on a first-come, first-served basis. More information will be available after Jan. 15, 2010, at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov). Questions may be forwarded to [TxDOT-BOP-Webinars@dot.state.tx.us](mailto:TxDOT-BOP-Webinars@dot.state.tx.us) or by calling 1-866-480-2518, Option 2. Applying for the webinars does not guarantee a spot to participate.

### Last Two BOP Sessions with TxDOT are Announced

The last two sessions of the Texas Department of Transportation's (TxDOT) Business Outreach and Program (BOP) Services Small Business Briefing conferences have been announced for April 1, 2010, in Dallas and June 15, 2010, in Texarkana. The conference goal is to provide small and minority-owned business communities an opportunity to learn more about contracting opportunities with TxDOT. Information will be available to help them do business with the agency and the State of Texas. The sessions not only allow small businesses to be introduced to TxDOT and other state agencies, but also allows them to learn more about the economic development opportunities in their regions. It also allows the agencies to show the myriad of opportunities available for small and minority businesses in the state. For more information, call 1.866.480.2518, Option 2.

### A Few Good Women: America's Military Women From World War I to the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

Author Appearance and Book Signing: Rosemary Neidel-Greenlee, Random House  
4/21 Wednesday at 7:00pm

The never-before-told story of the U.S. women's military corps: the women who fought for the right to defend their country by serving in our armed forces with full military rank and benefits. A riveting firsthand narrative drawn from interviews, correspondence, diaries and other original sources, this is the remarkable story of the "few good women" who today make up more than 15 percent of America's armed forces. Here are the stories of the battles these women fought to march beside their brothers, the indignities they've endured, the injustices they've overcome, the blood they've shed, the comrades they've lost, and the challenges they still face in the 21st century.



## WTS Greater Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter Scrapbook

As Past President, Christie Jestis is responsible for creating a history of the Greater Dallas/Fort Worth chapter. To this end, she created a chapter scrapbook with pictures and memories dating back to 2000. The scrapbook will be available for viewing at the WTS Annual Awards Banquet on April 8, 2010. Members will be able to purchase copies of the book if desired in either a 12 in. x 12 in. or 8 in. x 8 in. size. Christie will continue to update the scrapbook, so if you have pictures, invitations, or other memorabilia to be included, please send those to Christie. Finally, if you'd like to order a copy of the story book, please contact Christie Jestis at 817/608-2338 or [cjestis@nctcog.org](mailto:cjestis@nctcog.org).

### 2010 WTS Corporate Partners



#### Platinum



#### Gold



#### Silver



#### Bronze

2010 Corporate Sponsors

# Women's Transportation Seminar



Advancing Women in Transportation  
Greater Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

We're on  
the Web!

## Renew your Corporate Membership!

Don't be left behind in 2010. It is time to renew your Corporate Membership with the Dallas/Fort Worth WTS Chapter. Contact Nancy Johnson at [njohnson@dart.org](mailto:njohnson@dart.org) for more information.

*If you have any information you would like to share in an upcoming edition of the newsletter, please contact [Pamela Burns](#) at 817-704-2510.*

[www.wtsinternational.org](http://www.wtsinternational.org)

2010-2011

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