The Greater New York Chapter of the Women’s Transportation Seminar had another productive and successful year in 2008.

As you read through this Annual Report, you will see how, through our volunteers’ hard work and dedication, the chapter was able to provide a wide array of programs and benefits to our members, including:

- Having speakers present important transportation issues at our morning and evening programs.
- Continuing to expand chapter activities in Northern and Central New Jersey.
- Organizing a series of professional development sessions to address more in-depth management topics.
- Initiating the process to offer more programs that provide continuing education credits to our members.

- Continuing to provide unique member benefits through our prestigious mentor program, a members-only breakfast program, the diversity and professional development conference, the summer boat ride and the holiday party.

Also, 2008 saw the greatest participation in the Corporate Partner Program to date! We are grateful to our corporate partners, who provide essential support for WTS-GNY professional development programs and services.

Please join me in thanking our board, committees and advisory board, without whose hard work and commitment none of this could have been accomplished.

It has been an honor to serve the membership as your President and I look forward to another exciting year in 2009!

Sincerely,

Jenny Kapelyan, President

www.wtsinternational.org/greater_ny

Dear Valued Members:

AECOM  
AKRF  
Ammann & Whitney  
Arch Street Communications  
B. Thayer Associates  
Cambridge Systematics  
Eng-Wong, Taub & Associates  
General Contractors Association of New York, Inc.  
HDR  
Michael Baker Corporation  
New York Building Congress  
Parsons Brinckerhoff  
PBS&J  
Sam Schwartz Engineering  
Skanska Civil Northeast  
Stantec  
Trueform  
URS  
Weidlinger Associates, Inc

The Greater New York Chapter would like to take this opportunity to thank all the companies, agencies and individuals who have generously contributed to WTS-GNY and supported our programs and services. We look forward to your continued support in 2009.

Cover credits

Graphics support provided by:
Delaney Associates LP
AECOM
The General Contractors Association of New York, Inc.
Parsons Brinckerhoff
Perini Corporation
Skanska Koch
**Woman of the Year**

**Susan L. Hayes** serves as President and CEO of Cauldwell Wingate Company, LLC. Since she assumed management of the business in 1996, the firm has grown to its current market position, with over 100 employees and annual sales exceeding $300 million. The firm is recognized as one of New York’s leading construction companies and has earned a stellar reputation for construction excellence, strong relationships and industry leadership.

A staunch advocate for the recruitment and advancement of women in the construction industry, Susan serves as a board member for Non-Traditional Employment for Women (NEW), an organization that trains women for jobs in the building trades, utilities and transportation, which helps them to gain economic independence. In 2005, Susan was appointed to Mayor Bloomberg’s Commission on Construction Opportunity, a group of 34 construction and real estate leaders which worked with city officials to explore strategies and set goals to ensure that all New Yorkers, particularly minorities, women, returning veterans and new high school graduates, are well prepared and can gain access to good, permanent jobs in construction.

Susan currently serves on the board of directors of Apple Bank for Savings and New Jersey Transit; is First Vice President of the Contractors’ Association of Greater New York; and is a member of the board of governors of the Building Trades Employers’ Association.

She began her career in the construction industry in the early 1980s as a controller for a demolition subcontractor. Susan later founded her own consulting firm, Spicer Hayes, where she served as principal and partner, and which was later acquired by Hill International. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Correctional Administration from John Jay College, City University of New York.

**Member of the Year**

**Stacey D. Hodge** is a transportation professional who helps stakeholders find solutions to diverse issues. Stacey has been a member of WTS-GNY since 2003. She served as Treasurer from 2006-2008 and is currently a Director-at-Large. Stacey is the Director of the Office of Freight Mobility with the New York City Department of Transportation, where she focuses on implementing goods movement and truck related initiatives for the agency. She received her master’s degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue University and is a 2003 Eno Transportation Foundation Fellow.

**Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership Award**

**Cheryl George** is a manager of Business Programs in the MTA’s Office of Civil Rights. She is responsible for managing and monitoring M/W/DBE participation on MTA contracts.

A WTS-GNY member since 2002, Cheryl has served in various capacities, including chairing the Nominations and Diversity Committees from 2002 to 2004. In 2003, she created WTS-GNY’s annual Diversity Award and Awards Program.

In 2005, as Diversity Committee Chair, she started WTS-GNY’s annual Diversity and Professional Development Conference, held in March during Women’s History Month.

Cheryl has organized monthly and annual diversity programs for both MTA headquarters and NYC Transit. Throughout her career, she has taken an active role in assuring the participation of minorities and women, as well as promoting diversity. Her work has also involved community initiatives, including state and city Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial observance task forces and literacy campaigns.

**Employer of the Year**

**DMJM Harris (AECOM)** provides planning, design, management and construction support services in the Transit, Rail, Highway, Bridge, Intermodal, Energy and Power Services, Airport, Program and Construction Management, and Planning markets. The firm has a multi-disciplinary staff of 2,400 engineers, construction specialists and other professionals strategically deployed in offices nationwide.

The firm tops Engineering-News Record’s list of the Top 500 pure design firms for 2007. DMJM Harris (AECOM) is ranked No. 1 overall and No. 1 in transportation, No. 1 in General Building and No. 18 in Power.

DMJM Harris (AECOM) has been a longtime WTS supporter and encourages its employees to become involved in similar professional organizations. WTS-GNY boasts 26 members from the firm, including many who serve on various committees or in other volunteer capacities.
The programs in 2008 focused on the transportation industry’s need to adapt to a changing world and to confront the major problems facing the nation: population growth, traffic congestion and global warming. In addition, the programs looked at the future opportunities in the Greater New York region.

**JANUARY**


**Speaker**

Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner, NYCDOT

**FEBRUARY**

WTS Connects with Norfolk Southern


**Speakers**

Sarah Milam, Assistant Manager, Human Resources, Norfolk Southern

Kitty Vollbrecht, Director of Market Research and Economics, Norfolk Southern

Barbara Paul, Product Manager, Paper, Clay & Forest Products, Norfolk Southern

Sarah Quisenberry, Director, Strategic Planning, Norfolk Southern

**MARCH**

3rd Annual Diversity & Professional Development Conference

“Demystifying the Secrets to Success”

**Speakers**

Tami Gaines, Entrepreneur, Motivational Speaker and Author

Brigid Hynes-Cherin, Regional Administrator for Region 2, Federal Transit Administration

Darcy Immerman, Vice President and Director of Business Development, DMJM Harris (AECOM)

Diane James, CAE, WTS International Executive Director

Myrna Ramon, Chief of Staff to Elliot Sander, MTA CEO and Executive Director

Sharon Barnes, Computer Training Manager, MTA Bridges and Tunnels

Liz Levin, President, Liz Levin and Company

Raquel Nunez, Principal, Nunez Electric, Inc.

Antoinette Poinsette, Director, Contract Review and Special Projects, MTA

“Reducing Congestion through Pricing”

**Speaker**

Jeff Paniati, Associate Administrator for Operations, USDOT (Editor’s note: He was appointed FHWA Executive Director in April.)

The chapter also continued its efforts to increase its New Jersey presence by holding several meetings throughout the state.

The following is a summary of the variety of topics and fascinating speakers at our 2008 programs.
APRIL
“Highway Traffic Safety”
Speaker
Pamela Fischer, Director and Governor’s Representative, NJ Division of Highway and Safety

MAY
“Adapting New York City Transit to the 21st Century”
Speaker
Howard Roberts, President, MTA New York City Transit

JUNE
Driving Range event
Golf Outing
Members-Only Breakfast: A Conversation with Veronique (Ronnie) Hakim
Speaker
Veronique (Ronnie) Hakim, Acting President and Vice President & General Counsel, MTA Capital Construction

Grand Avenue Bus Depot and Central Maintenance Facility Tour
Speakers
James Courtney, Assistant General Manager, MTA New York City Transit
Anthony Parilla, Assistant General Superintendent, MTA New York City Transit
Linda Fernandez, General Superintendent, Depot Operations, MTA New York City Transit

JULY
NJ Transit Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Tour
Speakers
Sandra Check, Customer Advocate, NJ Transit
David Morgan, Assistant General Manager, Light Rail Operations, NJ Transit

“The Future of Air Transportation within the New York Metropolitan Region”
Speakers
Susan Bass-Levin, Deputy Executive Director, Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
Marie Kennington-Gardiner, Director, NY Area Program Integration Office for the Federal Aviation Administration

From left: Connie Crawford, NYCT Senior Vice President of Capital Program Management, NYCT President Howard Roberts and WTS-GNY President Jenny Kapelyan at the WTS-GNY May program.

In June, Veronique Hakim, Vice President and General Counsel for MTA Capital Construction, and WTS-GNY President Jenny Kapelyan.

Enthusiastic WTS-GNY members pose for a photo before taking the tour of the Grand Avenue Depot and Central Maintenance Facility in Manhattan.

WTS-GNY members enjoyed their ride on the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail along Bergenline Avenue and their tour of the Caven Point Maintenance Yard.

From left: WTS-GNY President Jenny Kapelyan with Susan Bass-Levin, Deputy Executive Director of PANY&NJ, and Marie Kennington-Gardiner, Director of the FAA’s New York Area Program Integration Office.
AUGUST

Boat Ride

SEPTEMBER

"Regional Transportation Planning and Coordination"

Speaker

Joel Ettinger, Executive Director, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council
Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director, North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority

NJDOT Brown Bag introducing WTS

Speaker

Kathleen Aufschneider, Deputy Executive Director South Jersey Transportation Authority

OCTOBER

Annual Awards Dinner

Speaker

Richard Anderson, President, New York Building Congress

NOVEMBER

Tour of Traffic Management Center

Speaker

Dianne Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Executive Director NJ Turnpike Authority

DECEMBER

Holiday Party at Trinity Place in Lower Manhattan

In August, WTS members and non-members enjoyed a leisurely cruise of New York Harbor.

From left: Joel Ettinger, Executive Director of the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, WTS-GNY President Jenny Kapelyan and Mary K. Murphy, Executive Director of North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, at the chapter’s September program.

On the floor of the TMC with Solomon Caviness of NJTA Operations.

On December 8th, WTS members had a wonderful time at the chapter’s holiday party at Trinity Place in Lower Manhattan.
WT S T S members and non-members came together on October 16th at Bridgewaters in Lower Manhattan for one of the WTS Greater New York Chapter’s most anticipated events of the year, the Annual Dinner. Participants honored Susan Hayes, President and CEO of Cauldwell-Wingate, as the 2008 Woman of the Year. Sarah Kaufman and Haiyun Lin were named the 2008 scholarship recipients. Richard Anderson, President, New York Building Congress, served as master of ceremonies and Deborah Wathen-Finn, WTS-GNY Advisory Board, presented the Woman of the Year Award.

WTS-GNY 2008 Woman of the Year Susan Hayes and WTS-GNY Advisory Board member Deborah Wathen-Finn.

WTS-GNY President Jenny Kapelyan and Haiyun Lee, this year’s scholarship winner.

From left: John Dionisio of AECOM, Richard Anderson, President, NY Building Congress and Elliot Sander, Executive Director of the MTA.

WTS would like to thank the Dinner Planning Committee chaired by Claudia Haskins, and committee members and volunteers Lisa Pompei, Megan Carton, Heather Cuffel, Yuri Estrada, Felice Farber, Amy Ford-Wagner, Nancy Gulino, Amy Kaufman and Betsi Nemeth. Our thanks also go out to all those who donated items to the Silent Auction, which raised $4,970 for the scholarship program.

From left: Victoria Cross-Kelly of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, Pippa Woods, WTS-GNY Past President, Marcia Shapiro of CH2M Hill and Felice Farber, WTS-GNY Immediate Past President.

M embers of NJ Transit enjoying the dinner.

FRIENDS OF WTS-GNY

Our sincere thanks to the following companies who provided in-kind services for the 2008 awards dinner:

AKRF, Inc.
Conti Group, Inc.
AECOM
Esteban Graphics, Inc.
Parsons Brinckerhoff
Mentoring Program

Congratulations to the apprentices who have just graduated from the 2008 WTS-GNY Mentoring Program. We wish you all the best in achieving your career and life goals. Mentoring is a lifelong process. We hope that you continue to make use of all the knowledge that WTS has to offer, while looking for opportunities to mentor those following you. We also would like to send a special thank you to the 2008 mentors, without whom the program would not have been possible. Your dedication to WTS and interest in helping to develop the careers of young professional women is an inspiration. The chapter’s Mentoring Program was one of the first of its kind for WTS and is a members-only benefit. It provides an excellent opportunity for tomorrow’s leaders to develop a one-on-one relationship with senior-level industry decision-makers through a yearlong program. Mentors provide valuable expertise and exposure, while helping apprentices to garner the skills they will need to grow both personally and professionally. Our apprentices have gone on to increasingly prominent roles within and outside of WTS.

The 2009 class will begin in February. One-on-one mentor and apprentice meetings are supplemented with formal events throughout the year with senior transportation industry leaders. This excellent opportunity has been highly promoted by the WTS board and we welcome inquiries from anyone interested in being an apprentice, mentor or committee volunteer. Get ready for a vibrant year and a worthwhile experience that will resonate throughout your career!

2008 Mentoring Program

Apprentices
Hollie Wells  
MTA New York City Transit
Majella Payne  
MTA New York City Transit
Sarah Kaufman  
MTA

Mentors
Albert DiBernardo  
Weidlinger Associates
Carl Selinger  
Carl Selinger Services
George James  
MTA New York City Transit
Janice Li  
Lea & Elliot

Sasha Durcan  
Ryder Construction
Wilhelmina Brown  
MTA New York City Transit
Yixin Wang  
Cambridge Systematics

Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee’s goal is to organize conferences and other initiatives that help to foster a dialogue on cultural diversity, industry trends, and career development. The WTS Rosa Parks Diversity Award, now entering its sixth year, was established to honor individuals who display such qualities and are dedicated to promoting diversity, whether it is in the workplace or other areas in life.

To further its mission, the committee in March held its third annual Diversity and Professional Development Conference entitled, “Demystifying the Secrets to Success.” The theme of this year’s program was achieving career success. Special guests included Diane James, WTS International Executive Director, and Odalys Delgado, WTS International Diversity Chair. The featured speakers from the two panels gave examples of how they were able to succeed and advance by embracing change; understanding their self-worth and value to their companies; encouraging the next generation; and enhancing personal development.

In 2008, the Diversity Committee proposed two new initiatives, which were adopted by the board. The “Speakers Bureau” and “Adopt-A-School – CUNY Prep” sought to introduce high-school students to traditional and non-traditional careers in transportation. Through these programs, members will have an opportunity to participate in Career Days at CUNY Prep and to give students a glimpse into an industry that they had never considered.

The committee also sponsored a brown-bag lunch in September entitled, “Redefine Your Future, Learn What It Takes to Become an Entrepreneur” at MTA headquarters in Manhattan. The members-only free program featured Elisa Moore, Director of Special Projects, The New Venture Program, Harlem Commonwealth Council, Inc. Moore and her staff presented vital information on how to establish your own business.
Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee diligently works to keep its database of past scholarship winners current. We also are interested in what career paths our previous winners have taken and we are pleased to highlight their ongoing achievements in transportation-related fields by publishing the “Where Are They Now” article in the Awards Dinner Journal. Here in the Annual Report, we’d like to take the opportunity to spotlight this year’s winners. It is rewarding for WTS to see that our scholarship awards are providing the financial support to advance Women in Transportation.

2008 Scholarship Winners

**PRESIDENT’S LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP**

Sarah Kaufman works at New York City Transit in the new Strategic Improvements and Best Practices group, coordinating Intelligent Transportation Systems projects. She is orchestrating the Integrated Communications Strategy and developing advanced customer information initiatives, including Web 2.0 functionality.

She is also working towards an MBA in Technology & Innovations Management at Polytechnic Institute of New York University.

Sarah previously worked as a Technical Writer at New York City’s Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications, a Researcher at the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at NYU, and a Communications Associate at the New York Academy of Medicine. She previously earned a Master of Urban Planning degree from NYU Wagner, focusing on Infrastructure, and a Bachelor’s degree from Washington University in St. Louis. Sarah is an apprentice in the WTS Mentoring Program, and mentors a high school student at the Lower Eastside Girls’ Club.

Sarah is most interested in applying technical innovations to mass transit in order to enhance rail and bus service, customer information, environmental impact and transportation policy.

**LEONARD BRAUN MEMORIAL GRADUATE (HELENE M. OVERLY) SCHOLARSHIP**

Haiyun Lin is currently a student at the Department of Civil Engineering at City University of New York, where she has enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Transportation Engineering with a concentration in transportation planning.

Besides her studies, Haiyun is currently a research assistant at Region II University Transportation Research Center. Her work there mainly includes technology testing for MPO’s regional travel survey, as well as design and implementation of residential relocation survey in the New York metropolitan region.

Haiyun Lin is interested in exploring both individual and regional travel demand and supply from a behavioral point of view, with a focus on residential location search behavior and selection process. She is also interested in demand analysis for public transportation systems and hopes to work on transit-oriented development in the future.

**Accreditation Committee**

Recognizing the continuing education requirements recently required for engineers, architects and planners to maintain their licenses, the WTS-GNY board has created the Accreditation Committee to study the feasibility of providing professional credit programs for our members.

Initially, the committee met to assess the chapter’s current status and discuss an approach to accomplish the chapter’s goal. Early meetings were dedicated to fact finding and comparative analysis of features within the three main classifications for which we hope to earn accreditation. Of particular concern is the set-up cost versus the accreditation’s value to WTS-GNY and its members. Also, distinguishing among the three types of professional credits for each of the key target groups remains under consideration. The committee developed a set of charts to structure data analysis and to present the costs, timeframes and professions in a user-friendly format that facilitated comparison.

In the course of study, partnering with other organizations providing continuing education credits and working with already accredited speakers were established as the preferred methods of achieving WTS-GNY’s goal. Partnering with these groups has the dual benefits of minimal cost and familiarity with the process. The committee now will endeavor to create WTS-GNY programs that stand alone and provide credits to those members seeking to secure their professional licenses.

**Professional Development Committee**

In 2008, the Professional Development Committee focused on transportation technical tours. This introduced members to work sites and the people who run them, as well as presented career tracks that they could pursue. The committee also continued the Carl Selinger Professional Development workshop series, which highlighted a range of skills and strategies for the aspiring manager navigating through everyday work challenges. The Professional Development and Programs Committees are now joining forces to draft a team calendar of events for professionals at different stages in their careers. Stay tuned for an exciting year in 2009!
WTSS ended 2008 in a strong financial position with costs held steady, revenues in an upward trend, as we continued to grow and serve our members in the New York and New Jersey region. The accompanying table summarizes the chapter’s 2008 revenues and expenses between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008.

The WTSS fund has grown from $8,138.35 on January 1, 2006 to just under $50,000 as of July 2008. Scholarship revenue from the June Golf Outing saw a significant increase in 2008.

**Revenues**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>$15,315.00</td>
<td>$20,140.95</td>
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<td>$9,895.00</td>
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<td>Bank Interest</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<td>–</td>
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<td>Fundraising</td>
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<td>900.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>$128,029.57</td>
<td>$166,434.07</td>
<td>$136,296.68</td>
<td>$185,392.65</td>
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*Includes membership renewals for January to October 2008.

**Expenses**

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<td>$567.99</td>
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<td>Advisory Board</td>
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<td>937.50</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
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**Net Revenue After Distributions**

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<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>$20,670.48</td>
<td>$16,908.17</td>
<td>$17,291.65</td>
<td>$8,578.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses (Fundraising)</td>
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**Scholarship**

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<td>Scholarship Awards</td>
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<td>4,500.00</td>
<td>2,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WTS Greater New York Chapter Annual Report 2008
Over the year, the number of firms/agencies participating in the Corporate Partner Program increased significantly with revenues rising 15 percent from $46,000 in 2007 to $52,500 at the end of 2008.

The Board increased expenditures in several key areas in 2008 to both expand membership benefits and to improve chapter operations, such as an online database which will allow members to RSVP and pay for events via the Internet. Professional Development saw an increase in expenditures in 2008, stemming from an effort to offer our members a variety of programs.