SHOWCASING TALENT AND OPPORTUNITIES

BY JOANNE PULVER

Over 120 transportation professionals attended WTS-GNY’s annual M/W/DBE Expo on April 30th, which was held in conjunction with a panel discussion on “Upcoming Design and Construction Opportunities in New York.” The panelists were: Denise Berger, Deputy Director Operations, Engineering Department, Port Authority of NY & NJ; Joan McDonald, Senior Vice President, NYC Economic Development Corp.; Michael Jones-Bey, Executive Director, Minority & Women Business Development, Empire State Development Corp.; Judith Kunoff, Chief Architect, MTA New York City Transit; and David Resnick, Deputy Commissioner, NYC Department of Design & Construction.

Moderator Nora Madonick, WTS-GNY Marketing/Public Relations Committee Chair and Principal at Arch Street Communications, encouraged lively debate on an array of topics. Participants were given an overview of planned projects at these agencies and information about opportunities for minority-owned (MBE), women-owned (WBE), and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE).

Complementing the panel discussion, the Expo featured exhibits from the following M/W/DBE firms: DIGERONIMO PC; Donna Madison Associates; Walcavage Landscape Architecture + Urban Design; Eng-Wong, Taub & Associates; Envision Consultants, LTD; Howard/Stein-Hudson; KND Electric; Medina Consultants; Pinyon Environmental; and Robinson Aerial Surveys Inc. In addition, MTA Bridges & Tunnels presented a brief video about the steady advances of women throughout the agency’s history.

The event was sponsored by the LiRo Group, Urbitran Associates, Inc., Louis Berger

continued on page 2
FROM THE PRESIDENT DESK  
continued from page 1

do over the next few years to help WTS achieve its mission of transforming the transportation industry through the advancement of women. A lot of hard work and effort went into this fabulous planning document. I urge you to take a look at the Strategic Plan. A link to the plan is located on the WTS International homepage (www.wtsinternational.org).

WTS-GNY was proud to welcome the WTS International Board to New York City on August 2-4. The Annual Boat Ride provided an excellent forum to welcome the International Board and chapter presidents to New York City.

WTS is celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year with a Gala Celebration in Washington on September 18th. The celebration will kick off with a day-long seminar on issues and trends that are changing the transportation industry. I hope to see you there.

Don’t forget, WTS-GNY’s annual awards dinner will take place on October 18th at Bridgewaters at the South Street Seaport. We are proud to honor Susan Kupferman, MTA Acting Chief Operating Officer, as our Woman of the Year and we welcome MTA Executive Director Lee Sander as our keynote speaker at this event.

Felice Farber  
President GNY Chapter  
(212) 687-3131 Felice@gca.gcany.net

SHOWCASING TALENT AND OPPORTUNITIES  
continued from page 1

Group, Inc., Medina Consultants, and Booz Allen Hamilton. The program allowed the M/W/DBE firms to showcase their services, and provided a forum for transportation professionals to network.

Felice Farber  
President GNY Chapter  
(212) 687-3131 Felice@gca.gcany.net

KND electrical contractor

Envision Consultants, Ltd.

Eng-Wong, Taub & Associates

Robinson Aerial Surveys, Inc.
Meeting the Region’s Transportation Needs

By Daniella Bennett

“T”ransportation in a Changing World,” New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Commissioner Astrid Glynn’s presentation to a gathering of WTS members and non-members on July 17th at Club 101 in New York, focused on megaregions and the vital role transportation networks play in their economic development and growth. To this end, she emphasized the critical need to fund megaprojects. She highlighted this point by discussing the Northeast Corridor, one of the oldest regions in the nation, and its reliance on transportation.

“The success of megaregions,” she said, “depends on a reliable, frequent and strong regional transportation network. We need to look at how we as transportation professionals can contribute to shape growth plans and balance demand across many modes.”

Glynn explained that intercity passenger rail service is key to tying the Northeast Corridor megaregion together. It is an alternative to the overburdened air and highway modes. “Rail serves as a development tool to harness the economic strength of the Hudson Valley.” She went on to cite the I-287/Tappan Zee Bridge project as a further example. “It is an extraordinarily complicated, multimodal, multi-jurisdictional project that will have a multi-state and regional impact. A project of this scale requires a robust public outreach effort and a phenomenally complex series of planning and environmental studies.”

The current cost estimates for the project range between $500 million for the No Build scenario to $15 billion for the full build option. However, she said that these costs will likely increase as time passes. “Marshalling the resources for megaprojects like the Tappan Zee Bridge is a mega-challenge, which dwarfs the EIS hurdle.”

However, she noted that a scarcity of resources, compounded by inflation of construction costs, makes delivering a complicated multimodal megaproject difficult. In this region, construction costs are rising 10 percent a year.

“NYSDOT and the MTA will invest more than $38 billion between 2005 and 2010 in infrastructure, but market forces are stretching those resources thinner and thinner.” The construction booms in China and India have fueled significant increases in the cost of steel and cement. “Such increases in the cost of materials limit what we can deliver with existing financial resources.”

The state’s dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund, which has provided consistent revenue for major rehabilitation projects and numerous small, but critical, improvements statewide will need to be reviewed by the end of the current five-year plan. The MTA is facing huge deficits before the end of its 2005-2009 capital plan period. On top of this, the federal Highway Trust Fund is looking at a $4 billion shortfall in 2009. Without additional revenues, AASHTO estimates that this could mean a nearly 40 percent reduction in federal highway spending in 2009 from the highway spending levels authorized in SAFETEA-LU. The federal mass transit account will also have a shortfall soon after.

“We must all work together,” Glynn implored, “to increase resources at all levels of government for transportation investment in all modes – not just to get us through the end of SAFETEA-LU, but to start changing the course for transportation for the next six years – and beyond.” She also stressed the importance of coordination to ensure that “we always get the best value out of any dollar we spend.”

She said that it is time to start talking about a new federal transportation bill and went on to outline some of New York’s reauthorization priorities. The state has been advocating a more diversified portfolio of federal revenue for transportation to provide a stable funding stream; allow investment in optimum transportation solutions; and to help focus on transportation needs by defusing the recurring “donor-donee” debate. She also suggested that a diverse portfolio might “finally provide long-needed dedicated federal funding for rail – both freight and intercity passenger – two parts of the system that have all too often been afterthoughts.”

“We, as an industry, must evolve to meet the many current and future challenges that lie before us. WTS has long been an organization dedicated to change. We have already changed a lot. Janette Sadik-Khan at NYCDOT, Helena Williams at LIRR and I are here because some of that change has already happened. With your help, we will carry that change ahead.”
WTS is a global leader in developing and operating infrastructure around the world, with 10,000 employees dedicated to meeting the needs of clients and communities in the Americas, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Australia-Pacific regions. WTS offers skills and resources in strategic consulting, planning, engineering, program/construction management, and operations for transportation and other forms of infrastructure.

PB promotes the advancement of women in transportation through its internal professional development programs and participation in WTS chapters nationwide. PB is proud to be a corporate partner. The firm also matches WTS scholarship donations. PB has been cited six times as Employer of the Year by several WTS chapters, most recently in 2005.

PB’s commitment to its women employees reflects its culture as an employee-owned corporation with a deep interest in developing the skills and talents of its workforce. The firm’s Women’s Outreach Network works closely with senior management to develop initiatives in support of PB’s goal of greater participation by women in all aspects of the company’s activities.

Ann Koby of PB currently serves as President of WTS International; Margaret O’Meara serves on the WTS International Board of Directors. Other PB women are in leadership roles in WTS chapters nationwide, and several PB women have been named “Woman of the Year” by local WTS chapters.

Corporate Sponsor Profile

Howard/Stein-Hudson Reaches A Milestone

On July 1, 2007, Howard/Stein-Hudson Associates (HSH), a longtime exhibitor at WTS-GNY’s M/WBE Expo, marked 20 years of providing transportation-related consulting services to public- and private-sector clients in more than 31 states and several Canadian provinces. HSH has provided such consulting services as traffic impact studies, public involvement, roadway design and assistance with strategic and long-range planning efforts to more than 725 clients on over 1,350 projects.

Co-founder Jane Howard observed that while the firm has grown considerably in size and disciplines over the years, “we have remained true to our original ideals and deepened our commitment to urban revitalization, the preservation and enhancement of neighborhoods and communities, and the creation of the best solutions for complex challenges in all transportation modes.”

2007 Woman of the Year is
Susan Kupferman, Acting Chief Operating Officer of the MTA

Save the date
Thursday, October 18, 2007
at Bridgewaters
South Street Seaport

Corporate Sponsor Profile

WTS would like to give our corporate sponsors an opportunity to tell everyone about themselves. In this issue, we feature PB.

PB is a global leader in developing and operating infrastructure around the world, with 10,000 employees dedicated to meeting the needs of clients and communities in the Americas, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Australia-Pacific regions. PB offers skills and resources in strategic consulting, planning, engineering, program/construction management, and operations for transportation and other forms of infrastructure.

PB promotes the advancement of women in transportation through its internal professional development programs and participation in WTS chapters nationwide. PB is proud to be a corporate partner. The firm also matches WTS scholarship donations. PB has been cited six times as Employer of the Year by several WTS chapters, most recently in 2005.

PB’s commitment to its women employees reflects its culture as an employee-owned corporation with a deep interest in developing the skills and talents of its workforce. The firm’s Women’s Outreach Network works closely with senior management to develop initiatives in support of PB’s goal of greater participation by women in all aspects of the company’s activities.

Ann Koby of PB currently serves as President of WTS International; Margaret O’Meara serves on the WTS International Board of Directors. Other PB women are in leadership roles in WTS chapters nationwide, and several PB women have been named “Woman of the Year” by local WTS chapters.

Corporate Sponsor Profile

WTS would like to give our corporate sponsors an opportunity to tell everyone about themselves. In this issue, we feature PB.

On July 1, 2007, Howard/Stein-Hudson Associates (HSH), a longtime exhibitor at WTS-GNY’s M/WBE Expo, marked 20 years of providing transportation-related consulting services to public- and private-sector clients in more than 31 states and several Canadian provinces. HSH has provided such consulting services as traffic impact studies, public involvement, roadway design and assistance with strategic and long-range planning efforts to more than 725 clients on over 1,350 projects.

Co-founder Jane Howard observed that while the firm has grown considerably in size and disciplines over the years, “we have remained true to our original ideals and deepened our commitment to urban revitalization, the preservation and enhancement of neighborhoods and communities, and the creation of the best solutions for complex challenges in all transportation modes.”

2007 Woman of the Year is
Susan Kupferman, Acting Chief Operating Officer of the MTA

Save the date
Thursday, October 18, 2007
at Bridgewaters
South Street Seaport

Corporate Sponsor Profile

WTS would like to give our corporate sponsors an opportunity to tell everyone about themselves. In this issue, we feature PB.

On July 1, 2007, Howard/Stein-Hudson Associates (HSH), a longtime exhibitor at WTS-GNY’s M/WBE Expo, marked 20 years of providing transportation-related consulting services to public- and private-sector clients in more than 31 states and several Canadian provinces. HSH has provided such consulting services as traffic impact studies, public involvement, roadway design and assistance with strategic and long-range planning efforts to more than 725 clients on over 1,350 projects.

Co-founder Jane Howard observed that while the firm has grown considerably in size and disciplines over the years, “we have remained true to our original ideals and deepened our commitment to urban revitalization, the preservation and enhancement of neighborhoods and communities, and the creation of the best solutions for complex challenges in all transportation modes.”
WTS-GNY 2008 Mentoring Program

WTS-GNY mentoring program provides a forum for women seeking development of skills necessary to achieve greater levels of success in both their professional and personal lives. The program offers expert guidance and professional development through a shared experience with some of the most successful transportation leaders in the metropolitan area.

The Greater New York Chapter of WTS is proud to announce that applications for the 6th Annual Mentoring Program will be available on September 18th and are due on October 18th. Updated information will be posted on our website www.wtsinternational.org

If you are interested in becoming a mentor or apprentice please contact any of the members listed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Linda Travis
Indtravis@aol.com
914-302-6881

Brenda McIntosh
BrenMc1@optonline.com
718-694-4548

Marie DeLucia
Marie.Delucia@urscorp.com
212-736-4444

Maria Garcia
mgarcia@dot.state.ny.us
212-383-7268
Helping To Move New Jersey Into the Future

BY JEAN LAIRD

WTS-GNY joined with the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Met Section for its April 18th meeting on “What’s Ahead for Transportation in New Jersey,” which was held for the second year at Princeton University’s Prospect House. The joint program included an afternoon technical session on New Jersey’s Comprehensive Statewide Freight Plan, followed by a dinner program which featured NJDOT Commissioner and NJ Turnpike Authority (NJTA) Chairman Kris Kolluri and highlighted the Turnpike’s Interchange 6 to 9 Widening Project.

Commissioner Kolluri spoke to a capacity crowd of more than 100 professionals, including many ITE and WTS members, about the urgent issues facing the state’s transportation agencies and industries. This included a detailed discussion on asset monetization and ways to find new revenue sources to alleviate debt and fund critical state programs. Commissioner Kolluri’s words were especially moving, in the wake of Governor Corzine’s near-fatal accident on the Garden State Parkway, which occurred less than a week earlier. At press time, we are relieved to note that the governor has not only made excellent progress in his recovery process, but also has very quickly resumed tackling important state matters.

The Turnpike’s Interchange 6 to 9 Widening Project was introduced by NJTA Deputy Executive Director and WTS member Mary K. Murphy, and presented by NJTA Supervising Engineer-Planning Stephen Buente and Urbitran Executive Vice President Gary Davies. The Turnpike is not only a key interstate transportation corridor for commercial and non-commercial traffic in the Northeast, but it also serves as an intrastate corridor for commuters and goods movement. The Interchange 6 to 9 Widening Project is in the final design stage, and will involve about 35 miles of road construction and improvements to the Turnpike. The widening will accommodate projected traffic demands through 2032. The project will enhance the state’s economy and the quality of life for the citizens of New Jersey.

From left, NJ Turnpike Authority Deputy Executive Director and WTS member Mary K. Murphy; Urbitran Executive Vice President Gary Davies; NJ Turnpike Authority Supervising Engineer, Planning, Stephen Buente; WTS NJ Programs Co-Chair Jean Laird; WTS member Amy Sokalski; WTS member Emily Smith; and ITE Met Section President Armando Lepore.

How To Succeed In Business

BY HARRY TOM

Longoftime member Carl Selinger held a workshop on June 20th for more than 30 WTS-GNY members about some of the “soft skills” that are necessary in the business world to be effective. These involve interaction with co-workers, clients and customers, but also can be carried over into personal lives. Using themes described in his book “Stuff You Don’t Learn in Engineering School,” Carl’s entertaining discussion explored such topics as holding effective meetings, decision-making, and working on teams. Employers expect technical skills, but Carl pointed out that mastering these soft skills can make a difference in your career.

A 25-year WTS-GNY member, Carl was the recipient of the 1997 Member of the Year award. He encouraged attendees to participate in the chapter’s activities, describing how important it has been to him in his career.

The event was organized by the Professional Development Committee’s Iris Berman, Majella Payne and Harry Tom. The committee welcomes members’ topic requests for future programs.
Understanding the EIS

BY MAJELLA PAYNE

WTS-GNY’s Professional Development Committee held an educational forum, entitled “Demystifying Environmental Impact Statements,” on June 5th at The Center of Architecture in Lower Manhattan. The workshop’s featured panelists were AKRF’s Anne M. Locke, Senior Vice President and Chief Operation Officer, Julia P. Cowing, Senior Vice President and George K. Penesis, Vice President.

The audience consisted of over 35 entry-level and veteran transportation professionals. Some had experience in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS) and others were key stakeholders in the process. Anne Locke and her colleagues described the origins and legislation that affect the EIS, including what is an EIS, the environmental review process, and current efforts to streamline the EIS. The panelists, all with over 15 years of expertise in working on major transportation projects, have prepared EIS for MTA New York City Transit’s (NYCT) Second Avenue subway, LIRR’s East Side Access, NYCT’s Fulton Street Transit Center and several other projects. The EIS is a major document for transportation projects today because it identifies potential impacts for decision makers and the public.

Participants found the presentation informative and straightforward. It held the audience’s interest and served as a good learning exercise. At the conclusion, the speakers took questions from the audience about specific areas that are analyzed in the document and the use of alternatives to a proposed action.

Harry Tom, Cordelia Crockett and other Professional Development Committee members organized the event.

NJ Transit Technical Tour

BY JEAN LAIRD

WTS-GNY embarked on a fascinating technical tour of NJ Transit’s Rail Operations Center (ROC) and Meadows Maintenance Complex (MMC) in Kearny, NJ, on May 16th. An interested group of 20 WTS-GNY members and non-members observed the diverse activities taking place at both facilities, and then enjoyed networking and a lunchtime presentation.

Participants learned from NJ Transit about the key role the ROC and MMC play in the agency’s current and future operations. The lunchtime program featured NJ Transit Chief of Operations Communications and WTS member Sandra Check, who spoke about her 23-year career at NJ Transit and her involvement with WTS. Sandy’s enthusiasm and passion was evident in her presentation. She explained that the ROC and MMC are critical facilities that function through the collaborative efforts of many different people and departments. In her current position, Sandy and her staff are responsible for communicating customer service information to more than 1,300 front-line employees and to the traveling public.

The lunchtime program also featured NJ Transit General Manager of Rail Operations Bill Duggan, who sparked a fascinating open dialogue about customer complaints, as well as NJ Transit’s ongoing improvements to train service and customer communications.
Fun “Par” None
BY FELICE FARBER

WTS-GNY held its 4th annual Golf Outing on June 15th at Van Cortlandt Park Golf Course in the Bronx. The shotgun start event drew more than 60 golfers to this beautiful historic setting, site of the oldest public course in the United States. The outing raises money for the WTS-GNY Scholarship Program. This year more than $8,000 was collected.

Special thanks to all our players and volunteers, and of course, to our event sponsors: AKRF, Ammann & Whitney, Baker Engineering NY, Cemusa, Clough Harbor & Associates, Conti New York, DMJM Harris, Gannett Fleming, GFI Genfare, Greenman-Pedersen, HDR, HNTB, PB Americas, Skanska Koch, STV, Systra, URS and Wilbur Smith Associates.

Congratulations to our outing winners! Dan Payea from Skanska Koch hit the Men’s Longest Drive. Jen Strasser from Cambridge Systematics hit the Women’s Longest Drive. HDR’s Stephanie Cassin, Helena Tam, Christy Nevel, and Mike Grubstein, won the overall competition with a six under par team score. Congratulations also goes to our lucky raffle winners Ken Daube, Megan Carton and Peter Totten!

An Enchanted Evening
BY HEATHER CUFFEL

On Thursday, August 2nd, WTS-GNY held its annual boat ride, which was sponsored by AKRF and Michael Baker Corporation. The evening began with a reception for the WTS International Board, which was in town for its quarterly meeting. WTS-GNY members, non-members and the WTS International Board, as well as visiting guests, mingled companionably and enjoyed beautiful views of the Hudson River, Manhattan and New Jersey. WTS-GNY President Felice Farber welcomed the group and introduced WTS International President Ann Koby and WTS International Executive Director Diane James, who expressed their thanks at the warm welcome they received from their New York hosts. A crowd of 131 enjoyed background music, drinks and a buffet dinner as the Circle Line boat toured New York Harbor, passing such landmarks as the Statue of Liberty and the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges. Everyone had such a wonderful time, they hardly noticed when the boat return to the dock at Pier 83.
A Warm Welcome to Our New Members!

The list reflects the new members that joined the chapter up until press time.

Stacey Barron
Louis Berger
Cara Kalberer
Washington Group
International
Eileen Fisher
AECOM
Katie Schwab
Cemusa, Inc.
Gloria Russo
MTA
Thalia Panton
MTA New York City Transit
Lei Yu Kong
Amtrak

Linda Javins
Amtrak
Michele Lee
Tech Prose
Satyanarayana Muthuswamy
KLD Associates Inc.
Sharon Khan-Kellman
LIRR
Karen Nation
Leah Flax
Lawrenca Nukenine
Bianca Alves

WTS-GNY BOARD, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND ADVISORS 2006-2008

PRESIDENT
Felice Farber
(212) 687-3131
VICE PRESIDENT
Gail Spears
(212) 803-3657
SECRETARY
Heather Cuffel
(212) 462-8597
TREASURER
Stacey Hodge
(212) 442-7199
DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE
Maria Garcia
(212) 383-7268
Felicia Jones
(347) 643-5046
Jenny Kapelyan
(646) 252-4407
Ileana Ivaniciu
(973) 739-9400 x 3200

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Pippa Woods
732-932-6812 x 684
CORPORATE RELATIONS
Amy Kaufman
(212) 878-7010
DIVERSITY AND W/M/DBE
Cheryl George
(646) 252-1379
Greg Bradley
(212) 340-2172
W/M/DBE EXPO
Donna Walcavage
(718) 834-0224
MEMBERSHIP
Heather Cuffel
(212) 462-8597
JOB BANK
Jen Strasser
(212) 907-6473
Yevgeniya Shpigel
(973) 792-4305

MARKETING/PUBLIC RELATIONS
Nora Madonick
(845) 855-7077
NEWSLETTER
Daniella Bernet
(212) 614-7632
PHOTOGRAPHY
Leila Weissling
(718) 575-8726
MENTORING
Linda Travis
(347) 694-1017
Brenda McIntosh
(718) 694-4548

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Harry Tom
(646) 252-3228
W/PROGRAMS
Joanne Pulver (NY)
(718) 566-3533
Catherine Hess (NY)
(212) 616-8199
Kashia Billah (NJ)
(609) 734-7981
Jean Laird (NJ)
(732) 750-5300 x 8236
RECOGNITIONS
Vacant
SCHOLARSHIP
Betsi Nemeth
(646) 388-9824
NEW PROFESSIONALS
Sara Oliver
(212) 631-3833
Priscilla Yip
(212) 631-3887
WEB SITE
Jenny Kapelyan
(646) 252-4407
RSVP
Jennifer Modi
(212) 465-5635

Web site address: www.wtsinternational.org

A Salute to Our Corporate Partners!

AKRF
Ammann & Whitney
Cambridge Systematics
DMJM Harris
General Contractors Association
Gilbert Tweed Associates, Inc.
Michael Baker Corporation
NY Building Congress
PB Americas, Inc.
PBS&J
Skanska Civil Northeast
STV

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS
Stephanie Pinson (Chair)
Gilbert Tweed Associates, Inc.
Deborah Wathen Finn
CH2M Hill
L. Dédi Gonga
MTA New York City Transit
Sandra Lauteenberg
Trueform
Anne Locke
AKRF
Richard Mailino
Parsons Transportation Group
Sam Schwartz
Sam Schwartz Company
Barbara Spencer
MTA New York City Transit
Barbara Thayer
B. Thayer Associates
Laura Toole
Michael Baker Corporation
Martha Wahlther
MTA Bridges and Tunnels
Pippa Woods
Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers University