

Founded in 1977, WTS is an international organization of 4,100 women and men in 43 chapters whose mission is to “transform transportation through the advancement of women.”

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Open Position

If you are interested in becoming the chair person of the Communication Committee, please contact Tracy Olsen at tolsen@whpacific.com

A MESSAGE FROM KELLI FAIRLESS ON THE WTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN DENVER



I had the pleasure of attending the WTS Annual Conference this year in Denver. I enjoyed the opportunity to network with transportation professionals from all corners of the nation (as well as other parts of the world). The conference topics were very relevant to my work life and included tracks on transportation funding, community livability, and professional development. I was considered a “newbie” to the conference since this is the first one I have attended in

the five years I have been a member. There were several activities designed to make people who are new to the conference and WTS feel welcome and connected to the activities. It was inspiring to see so many professional women in one location, each with the focus of growing transportation leaders today and into the future. I found myself meeting women who were early in their careers and at the latter end of their careers. Through this experience I gained an appreciation for the WTS mission of “Advancing Women in the Transportation.”

The entire experience reminded me of why I wanted to participate in starting the Treasure Valley Chapter and why I have remained actively involved in the local chapter. I will be sharing more about this experience and how it will inform the work we are doing on our scholarship committee in future newsletters. For now, I want to extend an appreciation for our corporate sponsors and the corporate sponsors who support WTS International. You are truly leaders in the transportation industry and have a keen understanding of the importance of supporting diverse workplaces and providing opportunities for women to succeed and lead in transportation professions. I encourage all of our members to make a point to attend future WTS conferences. It is well worth the cost and investment of time.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

In response to our member survey, monthly luncheons will be held the 3rd Thursday of each month whenever possible. Luncheon announcements will be sent via email about two weeks prior to the event to confirm the speaker and location. If you have any suggestions regarding topics, speakers, or locations, please contact Brandon Coates, Program Chair at brandon.coates@powereng.com

JULY

Summer Break

AUGUST

ADA Compliance in
Transportation

Presented by Susan Duncan,
WHPacific

Date: August 16, 2012

Location: Double Tree
Riverside

Join us to learn the top five, must know, **new** ADA topics that will directly affect your organization.

APRIL MEET AND GREET EVENT

The WTS Meet and Greet Event held April 24 at the Riverside Hotel was a big success. WTS Treasure Valley hosted the event welcoming Ada County Highway District (ACHD) Commissioners Rebecca Arnold, Carol McKee, Sara Baker, and Dave Case. Over 50 WTS members and guests attended the two-hour event enjoying good food, drinks, and lively conversation with other WTS members and the guests of honor. Discussions and plans for WTS Treasure Valley's next Meet and Greet are underway. If you have any suggestions for a "guest of honor" please email Brandon Coates at brandon.coates@powereng.com.



WTS MEMBER PROFILE

Felicia Statkus



Felicia Statkus is a Civil Engineer who has worked in the Transportation arena for 25 years, first at the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for 15 years, then the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) in District 3 Design for almost 5 years and most recently at JUB as a Project Engineer, Project Manager and the Boise/Nampa Transportation Manager.

Felicia earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Idaho in 1986 and has truly enjoyed her very diverse career. She worked in many divisions and roles at Caltrans, and when she left in 2002 she was the Program/Project Management Branch Chief. She moved with her family to Nampa in 2002, and enjoyed working at a slightly less hectic position as a part time engineer at ITD Design while her kids grew. She also enjoyed her time in the private sector at JUB Engineers where she worked on the biggest challenge of her career, helping to deliver three GARVEE projects on I84.

Due to a severe drop in workload, Felicia was laid off from JUB in April, but she is out and about in the Boise/Nampa area, and determined to find a professional fit where she can contribute and help clients as well as those she works with. When she is not looking for a new position, she is working hard to get to those chores around the house that have been ignored (some for years), and is vowing to learn to cook lobster bisque...

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The WTS “Adopt-a-Highway Crew” has been busy this spring. Our chapter participates in four clean-up events every year and we have two down and two to go. We can always use volunteers...the more the merrier! Here are the details:

Location:

Orchard Street between Victory and Gowen roads (west side of the airport)

Length of our section:

Approximately one mile.

How often:

Four times a year (about every 2-3 months).

How long does it take:

About 2-3 hours to clean up both sides of the roadway.

Who can participate:

WTS Members, friends, and family. ACHD has a quick training video online about roadside safety.

What do you need to help:

Gloves and appropriate clothing for the weather.

To participate contact:

Monica Crider
WTS Vice President
monica.crider@itd.id.us

SILVER SPONSOR PROFILE

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The best transportation systems connect people and bring communities closer together, and well-designed systems - just like those created at Keller Associates - are paramount to our quality of life and economy. Efforts must continuously be made to sustain and improve all modes of transportation, even during these challenging economic times - we can make a difference!

Keller Associates is dedicated to this ideal. With about 65 people and offices in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington (Clarkston, Washington grand opening in June 2012!), Keller Associates’ professionals are ready to serve... with enthusiasm and innovation.

A Snapshot of Keller Associates’ Beliefs . . .

- ✓ Apply a “can-do” work philosophy.
- ✓ Govern activities with honesty and integrity.
- ✓ Treat individuals with dignity and respect.
- ✓ Honor commitments.
- ✓ Build long-standing relationships.

Proud Sponsor of WTS Treasure Valley Chapter



CHAPTER VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



This is the first volunteer spotlight EVER for the WTS Newsletter and the first volunteer is very deserving of this recognition. First and foremost, Kris is a WTS member and volunteer who eats, sleeps and breathes with conscious consideration of the environment. She has been employed by Bionomics Environmental, Inc for ten years providing environmental design services on projects throughout Idaho. This accounts for a large portion of her life but in her off time, she is also committed to volunteering to clean up Idaho’s roads. You could say

she is a pro at this clean up stuff. She has been doing it for ten years here in Boise with other organizations such as the Idaho Fish & Game Department and Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (she even has a special device she uses to save her back). When WTS started our clean-up in January 2011, Kris was right there (and has been ever since) to provide her time and effort in the adoption of Orchard Street, between Victory and Gowen. WTS wants to thank Kris for being a stable influence on our efforts to keep Idaho clean!

STAY CONNECTED WITH WTS

The WTS newsletter is published quarterly. The newsletter focuses on the people, organizations, and events that are helping WTS “Advance Women in Transportation” in the Treasure Valley and beyond.

Join WTS Treasure Valley on Facebook. “Like” our page to keep up to date on upcoming luncheons, networking, and volunteer opportunities.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

WTS International is proud of our veterans, and is offering them a **free one-year membership!** For more information, visit WTSinternational.org

Going the Extra Mile, One Hero at a Time.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



An organization is only as strong as its members and I am proud to be a part of this talented group of professionals in the Treasure Valley. Through the ambition and hard work of each of our members and sponsors, WTS Treasure Valley has grown to become an incredible organization in five years.

Looking to our future growth, I ask that everyone take time to reflect on the reasons you joined WTS and what we can all do to take our chapter to the next level. Our mission, “to transform transportation through the advancement of women”, can only be attained if each of our members is dedicated to making this transformation a reality.

Best Regards,

Tracy Olsen

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome New Members:

Rebecca Arnold - ACHD

Casey Jones - Boise State University

Paul Wasser - Geoengineers

Congratulations to the following members who have maintained five years of membership with WTS:

David Butzier - URS

Amy Elliott - CH2M Hill

Kelli Fairless - Valley Regional Transit

Lynda Friesz-Martin - Lynda Friesz-Martin Public Relations, Inc.

Sally Goodell - Ada County Highway District

Melissa Hennessy - HDR, Inc.

Mac McOmber - URS

Tracy Olsen - WHPacific, Inc.

Lisa Vernon - Elite Edge Engineers

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