

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.”

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tracy Olsen

President
tolsen@whpacific.com

Gloria Maheux

Vice President
gmaheux@valleyride.com

Amy Elliott

Treasurer
amy.elliott@ch2m.com

Monica Crider

Secretary
monica.crider@itd.idaho.gov

Tim Wagner

Membership Chair
timothy.wagner@CH2M.com

Rex Hansen

Corporate Sponsor Chair
rhansen@americangeotechnics.com

Jennifer Bithell

Programs Chair
jbithell@hwlochner.com

Stephanie Bennett

Awards Chair
sbennett@powereng.com

Kelli Fairless

Communications/Scholarship Chair
kfairless@valleyride.org

Lisa Vernon

Diversity Chair
lvernon@whpacific.com

Spring 2011

Issue 6

WTS Youth Transportation Academy Gearing Up for Presentations



Youth Transportation Academy Students from Victory Academy and Frank Church High School. (L-R: Jose Chavez, Cody Sattler, Sawyer Davis, and Chris Sparks)

The WTS Youth Transportation Academy was busy last summer and fall working to find a solution to a lack of bus services for students attending Victory Academy and Frank Church High School. The group of students and transportation advisors have been meeting regularly and are now preparing a presentation for the Boise City Council in late February.

The students delivered a PowerPoint presentation to a group of Boise School District

administrators Jan. 10. WTS member Kelli Fairless along with students Cody and Sawyer explained the project and provided a schedule update. The group is now preparing information and materials for open house presentations scheduled for mid-February.

For more information on WTS's involvement or to become a part of this project contact WTS Communication/Scholarship Chair, Kelli Fairless at (208) 846-8547 or e-mail kfairless@valleyride.org.

2010 WTS Annual Award Winners

WHPacific Inc. was named Employer of the Year. The architectural and engineering firm was recognized for its local work, including numerous projects that improved pedestrian mobility and safety. These projects included a Greenbelt pedestrian bridge in east Boise and numerous area bridge expansions that improved safety for the traveling public, as well as large interchange projects, including the new Orchard interchange over Interstate 84.

The Ada County Highway District received the Innovative Transportation Solutions Award for its work on the Catalpa Drive improvement project, including new bus stops, ADA compliant sidewalks and curb ramps. The project, paid for by local and federal funding, has resulted in much safer travel for the many groups of pedestrians within and outside the neighborhood.

Kelli Fairless, executive director of Valley Regional Transit, was named WTS Member of the Year. Fairless was the chapter's first president in 2007 and 2008. She also participates on the Board of the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, is a member of the Boise Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Committee, and is president of the Community Transportation Association of Idaho.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Page 2

- » Event Calendar
- » President's Message

Page 3

- » Member Profile
- » Gold Sponsor Profile

Back Page

- » Thanks to our Sponsors!



Advancing Women in Transportation
Treasure Valley Chapter

**EVENT
CALENDAR**

JANUARY

***The Future of
Transportation***

Senator John McGee
State of Idaho
January 25th
11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Angells Bar & Grill
999 Main Street
Boise

FEBRUARY

Meet and Greet

Bruce Wong
Director
Ada County Highway
District
Brian Ness
Director
Idaho Transportation
Department
Paul Steinman
Chief Operations Officer
Idaho Transportation
Department
February 16th
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Angells Bar & Grill
999 Main Street
Boise

Note from the President...



Welcome to 2011 and we are going to start the year off with some outstanding WTS events. We welcome Senator John McGee to our first Luncheon on January 25 to speak about the Future of Transportation. Senator McGee was also our Chapter's first award recipient for Transportation Leader in 2008. On February 16, we are planning a Meet and Greet event with ACHD's new Director Bruce Wong, ITD's Director, Brian Ness and ITD's Chief Operations Officer, Paul Steinman. In May, we are planning our

kickoff luncheon for the WTS Scholarship that will show case the first Transportation Academy graduates. Also this spring will be a facility visit to Motive Power to see all the great things they have been, so watch for details.

The WTS board will be having their board retreat on February 3 to set our goals for 2011 and reflect on our accomplishments for last year. I am honored to be the new President of the Treasurer Valley Chapter this year and have been mentored well by past presidents Lisa Vernon and Kelli Fairless, who have both done so much for our organization.

I would like to congratulate the 2010 award recipients that were recognized at our banquet in December and thank those members and guest the joined us for a fun evening at the BSU Hatch Ballroom. I welcome new board members Stephanie Bennett, Power Engineers, - Awards Chair; Jennifer Bithell, HW Lochner, Programs Chair; Tim Wagoner, CH2M Hill - Membership Chair. Additionally, the Board has added a Diversity Chair this year and Lisa Vernon will chair that new committee.

A big thank you goes out to all of our corporate and agency sponsors for 2011. Even with discretionary spending is a tight as it is, the continued support from our sponsor has exceeded the Board's expectations and is a tribute to our outstanding professional community in the Treasure Valley.

I look forward to seeing all of our members at the various events we have planned for 2011. I encourage all members to get involved as we have spots available on various committees. Best wishes for a successful 2011!

Tracy Olsen

WTS Member Profile



Kelli Fairless has been a member of WTS since the chapter was formed in 2007. She was a part of the initial group of four people that began forming the chapter in 2006. Kelli was the chapter's first president in 2007 and 2008. Since then, Kelli has been very active on the Board of Directors serving terms as both Communications Chair and the Scholarship Chair. Kelli was recognized for her hard work and dedication to Treasure Valley Chapter of WTS at the annual awards banquet last year where she received the 2010 WTS Member of the Year award.

Kelli was drawn to WTS as an association because of the mission to promote the advancement of women in transportation careers. She likes the diversity of the disciplines and sectors in WTS and thinks there is a lot of value in the opportunity to network with professionals from all over the spectrum.

"I also like that it is a new chapter and there is a lot of room to grow the organization." She said, "I am looking forward to seeing it achieve its potential over the years."

Kelli was born in Boise and raised there most of her life. She spent some grade school years in San Jose, California, and lived in eastern Washington and northern Idaho for a short time after college, but she was drawn back to her hometown of Boise.

Kelli's interest in transportation began while completing an internship at the Boise Mayor's Office for her Masters Degree in Public Administration. Through the internship she got familiar with the Boise transit system and applied for a position at BUS. Her career in transit began in 1994 as the Development Services Manager of Boise Urban Stages (BUS). She worked her way up and later served as the Operations Manager of BUS. Kelli's transportation career in the Treasure Valley has included serving on the Board of Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho (COMPASS), Community Transportation Association of Idaho (CTAI), and Boise Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Committee. Kelli currently works at Valley Regional Transit (VRT) where she has served as the Executive Director for the last 10 years.

So what is it about transit that has drawn Kelli's interest? Kelli believes transit is one of the most ethically and gender diverse fields in the transportation industry and credits the people she has worked with as being some of the most gracious and supportive people to be around. She said the early years at BUS were some of the most fun years of her career where she said she was mentored by a wonderful woman that helped prepare her for the rest of her career.

"The rest is history... Transit gets into your blood." She said, "It (BUS) was a great place for me to learn the tools I would need to be a leader of VRT."

Gold Sponsor Profile - CH2M Hill

More than 50 years of service helping clients worldwide develop safe, innovative, and sustainable solutions to their most challenging highway, bridge, transit, and aviation projects.

ch2mhill.com/transportation

Founded in 1946, CH2M HILL is global leader in engineering, procurement, construction, management and operations for government, civil, industrial, and energy clients. With more than 25,000 employees, CH2M HILL is an industry-leading program management, construction management and design firm, as ranked by Engineering News-Record. Since 1946, the firm's 25,000+ employee-owners have delivered projects in 133 countries and on every continent. The firm is headquartered near Denver, Colorado.

CH2M HILL is a recognized employer of choice and one that supports the advancement of women. CH2M HILL has been a stalwart supporter of WTS for many years, and dozens of CH2M HILL employees have served and continue to serve WTS at both local and national levels of the organization. Staff participation is encouraged and has support from all levels within the company. In years past, CH2M HILL has partnered with WTS by contributing to the WTS National Scholarship Endowment Fund supporting the growth and future career opportunities for women in transportation.

Thanks to our Sponsors!



KELLER
associates

Serve Clients and communities by delivering trustworthy and quality engineering services

131 SW 5th Avenue, Ste. A, Meridian, ID 83642
(P) 208.288.1992 (F) 208.288.1999



Stanley Consultants

A Stanley Group Company
Engineering, Environmental and Construction Services - Worldwide

2264 South Bonito Way,
Suite 150
Meridian, ID 83642

208.855.5600
www.stanleyconsultants.com

Providing engineering services for over 90 years.

- Water Resources
- Transportation
- Water and Wastewater
- Mechanical and Electrical
- Site Utilities/Development
- Power Generation

- Civil Engineering
- Construction Engineering Services
- GIS/Mapping
- Land Use Planning
- Landscape Architecture
- Public Involvement
- Structural Engineering
- Surveying
- Transportation Engineering & Planning
- Water/Wastewater Engineering



J-U-B ENGINEERS, Inc.
The Langdon Group
Gateway Mapping, Inc.

jub.com



AMERICAN GEOTECHNICS

- Geotechnical Engineering
- Field Testing and Drilling
- Laboratory Testing

5260 Chinden Blvd
Boise, ID 83714
(208) 658-8700

www.AmericanGeotechnics.com

GOLD Sponsors

CH2M Hill
URS
Stanley Consultants

SILVER Sponsors

WHPacific
J-U-B/Langdon Group
Keller Associates

BRONZE Sponsors

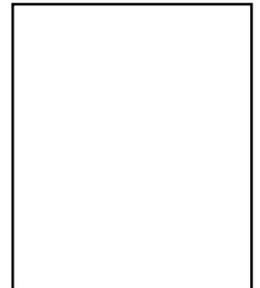
American Geotechnics
HDR
H.W. Lochner
Lynda Friesz Public Relations
Strata
Terracon
Kittleson & Associates

WTS is grateful for the generous support of our corporate and agency sponsors. For more information on the program, please contact Rex Hansen at rhanzen@americangeotechnics.com



Advancing Women in Transportation
Treasure Valley Chapter

www.wtsinternational.org



The Transportable Times

The Transportable Times is published four times a year by the Treasure Valley Chapter of WTS International. Please send questions and comments to Brandon Coates at brandon_coates@lfprinc.com.