

HOT Chapter Newsletter

2019 VOLUME 4

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Advancing Women in Transportation
Heart of Texas Chapter

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Happy Holidays!

It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of 2019!

As I look back over the past year, I'm both proud of our success as a chapter and look forward to our opportunities in 2020.

We had a great Professional Development Seminar day in September centering around Mobility in Austin and Beyond. Our luncheons included an informative visit with Commissioner Valerie Covey regarding the Williamson County Bond Election in October as well as an inspiring chat with LaVerne Francis Reid.

In November we put out a Call for Applications to select a graduate student candidate for a WTS Policy Fellowship in conjunction with the City of Austin and Mayor Steve Adler. We've recently selected and notified the successful candidate who will receive a scholarship to work part-time from January to May in Mayor Adler's office on transportation policy initiatives for the City.

We are so excited that our chapter is able to offer such an incredible opportunity for young women and would like to thank Mayor Steve Adler, long-time WTS supporter and Special Assistant to Mayor Adler John-Michael Cortez and Director of Community Engagement Janine Clark.

Also, please be sure to cast your votes for our chapter recognition awards. We will be awarding the Rosa Parks Diversity Award at a special diversity themed luncheon in February. And our Innovative Transportation Solutions Award will be presented at a technology themed luncheon in March. All other chapter awards will be presented at our Annual Gala on Saturday, April 25, 2020. So, mark your calendars – it's sure to be a "roaring" good time!

With the coming New Year, now is a great time to make a renewed commitment to your career and professional development by getting involved in any of our committees! Please contact the individual committee chairs or anyone on the Executive Board to find out more about each committee and how you can get involved.

President's Letter continued on the next page...



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Asakura Robinson

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Graduate Student

UT Austin

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Mary Jo Galindo

Senior Archaeologist

Galindo Environmental Consulting, LLC

President’s Letter continued...

Please be sure to join us at our next event which is our Annual Business Meeting luncheon on January 15th as we celebrate the success of 2019 and take a look at all of our programs and initiatives for 2020. In 2020 we will be expanding our programs to include luncheons in June, July, and August, as well as offering some program tours.

Be on the lookout for an announcement in January for a call for applications for our mentoring program. And if you’d like to serve as a mentor, please contact me or someone on our Mentorship Committee.

In closing, I’d like to send you all a special holiday wish: May the magic of this special season fill your hearts and holidays with peace, love, and joy! And may you then share that peace, love and joy with others!

All the best,

Jackie Sartor

HEART OF TEXAS CHAPTER HOLIDAY NETWORKING EVENT 2019

WTS hosted another successful holiday networking event on December 3, 2019. Drinks and appetizers were enjoyed at the Brewtorium, in addition to an optional ugly holiday sweater contest. Over 10 members and nonmembers participated in the contest and the first place and second place winners walked away with gift card prizes! Thanks to those who attended the event!

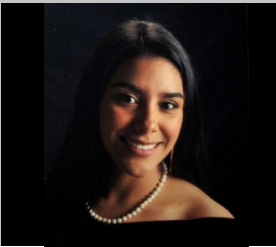




SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for the 16th Annual Scholarship and Awards Gala. Join us for a roaring ‘20’s good time celebrating the HOT chapter’s scholarship recipients, chapter awards and the 100th anniversary of women’s right to vote!

WTS HOT Chapter 16th Annual Scholarship and Awards Gala
Saturday, April 25
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
6505 N Interstate 35
Austin, Texas, 78752



Last year’s winners.

FRIENDS OF WTS SCHOLARSHIPS

It’s that time of year again! Friends of WTS Scholarship for high school students will be posted in January and will be due March 6, 2020; check our [website](#) for updates.

The deadline for the Transportation YOU student scholarships has been extended to January 15, 2020.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Transportation YOU will be preparing bridge kits in January for **Girl Day at UT**, which includes *Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day* and the *Girl Day STEM Festival*. Girl Day will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2020 on the UT Austin campus from 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. More than 8,000 elementary and middle school students are expected to participate with 1,500 volunteers from 160 organizations. WTS Transportation YOU is sponsoring **Design, Create, and Build Bridges** using toothpicks and marshmallows. We will also be supporting the UT Chapter’s **Candy City** activity. Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (Girl Day) is an international event celebrated during Engineers Week each year (February 16–22, 2020).

Girl Day at UT Austin

CALL FOR SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

Calling all Members! We are requesting YOUR help to make this year’s Silent Auction at the 16th Annual Gala the best one yet. All proceeds from our silent auction goes directly to our Foundation Account which funds our scholarships and youth mentoring programs. Please consider reaching out to your personal network to help our team bring in a diverse set of auction items. Ask your gym, your hair dresser, your favorite restaurant, your sister who makes homemade jewelry to consider donating or pick up an extra gift while you are out holiday shopping. Once you have secured an item, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/oi6vkUQWTaWecsFo9>

Remember, the WTS Scholarship Fund is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; therefore, your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

If you need more information, donation ideas or have any questions, contact [Ashley Macmillan](#).





2019 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR DAY

The 2019 Professional Development Seminar was held on September 27, 2019 and featured three panels, a briefing from FHWA on autonomous vehicle guidance, and a keynote address from entrepreneur and transportation expert Joseph Kopser. Master of Ceremonies Jason JonMichael facilitated discussions among public- and private-sector panelists discussing the role of technology in planning for the region, policy and funding for smart solutions, and best practices from implementation in Texas communities. Thank you to our speakers from CAMPO, CapMetro, City of Arlington, City of Austin, CTR, CTRMA, Grayline, FHWA, General Motors, Lyft, and TxDOT!

AICP CM credits can be logged from the event page: <https://www.planning.org/events/eventmulti/9186037/>



CORPORATE SPONSOR SPOTLIGHTS



ASHLEY DAVISON, P.E.

Ashley Davison, P.E. is an active member of WTS and has more than six years of roadway design experience at Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. Upon graduation from Texas Tech University, Ashley worked in the Kimley-Horn Lubbock office for five years before transferring to the Kimley-Horn Austin office in 2018. Ashley not only continuously strives to help grow the roadway discipline in Austin, but she also serves as a mentor and role model for younger women on her team and throughout the office. Ashley was elected Kimley-Horn Austin’s 2020 women’s leadership champion. In this role, she will organize and lead discussions focused on women in the workplace, as well as fostering community among Kimley-Horn women in Austin.



Expect More. Experience Better.

Ashley participated in this year’s WTS HOT Chapter Mentorship Program as a mentee. The mentorship program provided a unique opportunity to build a local network in Austin and learn about women who have been trailblazers in their careers. Ashley has also found Kimley-Horn’s program called “LIFT” (Lasting Impact for Tomorrow) to be a great resource. LIFT is an initiative to recruit, develop, and retain women in engineering and planning at Kimley-Horn, increasing the number of successful women consultants, and helping its women reach their full potential.



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Heart of Texas Chapter



OCTOBER LUNCHEON

Commissioner Valerie Covey provided attendees with an update on Williamson County’s latest plans and programmed improvements as well as her vision for the County’s continuing growth. Commissioner Covey stressed on the importance of acquiring right-of-way ahead of time to better plan for the anticipated growth and discussed the November 5 bond and what it includes.

NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

The WTS-HOT November luncheon featured LaVERNE Reid, contributing author of *Boots on the Ground, Flats in the Board Room* - who shared her heartwarming and inspiring story of being one of the first female African-American air traffic controllers and her rich career journey since. LaVERNE also made sure to sign some copies of the book for attendees and shared her perspective on work-life balance and lessons-learned in facing different challenges.

HOW TO SUCCEED AS A YOUNG CEO: *10 Tips on how to convey authority to earn respect.*

- Be transparent
- Give people a voice
- Align your mission/vision and the Company’s mission/vision
- Ignore stereotypes
- Introduce rewards
- Don’t expect respect, earn it.
- Embrace feedback
- Be knowledgeable of future trends
- Be sure of yourself
- Enjoy the ride



TRANSPORTATION YOU UPDATE

Four sophomores and a junior in the Ann Richards School Engineering track are in the WTS Transportation YOU mentee program.

These are the mentor/mentee pairs for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Jamie Farris of TxDOT and Lily Koppen, sophomore
- Lynn Isaak of TxDOT and Alexa Garcia, junior
- Marisabel Ramthun of TxDOT and Nora Willis, sophomore
- Jessica Rodriguez of Freese and Nichols, and Marleni Ruiz, sophomore
- Anamaria Torres of Stantec and Marisol Peters, sophomore



WTS STUDENT CHAPTER UPDATE

The WTS Student Chapter at UT Austin had a great beginning of the semester with the welcome event last September. Current students were able to interact with the new students, share their experiences in the chapter, and encourage them to apply for a leadership position. We also had professors and WTS members in the event, showing their support to the student chapter.



PATTY TRUJILLO, P.E.

ATKINS

QUICK FACTS:

- Professional Engineer/Project Manager with over 20 years’ experience in the transportation industry on both the government and private side
- Passionate about connecting with others in the industry and our communities and enjoys the business development aspect in the transportation industry
- Enthusiastic about helping other women
- Proud mother of a wonderful 23-year-old recent college graduate, Clarissa Aidee
- Loves traveling and meeting new people

Patty started her transportation career at TxDOT in the Materials and Tests Division. She became an E.I.T. in 2007 and then was accepted into the TxDOT Master’s Program. In 2011, she obtained her M.S. in CE from the University of Texas at Austin followed by her P.E. license. In the 18+ years she was at TxDOT, she worked for five divisions: Construction Division, Bridge Division, Design Division, Maintenance Division, and the Transportation Programs Division.

Patty, in collaboration with four other women in TxDOT, spearheaded a workgroup aimed at creating mentorship and network opportunities for women within TxDOT. This initiative fueled the creation of a position for the first diversity officer in the agency.

She joined Atkins in July and is currently working on three projects: TxDOT GEC design-oversight team for the SH 249 \$600M design-build project; US 290 Oak Hill to Dripping Springs Planning and Feasibility Study; and the CTRMA project development manual.



Celebrating the amazing women leaders of HNTB Central Texas

In diversity there is beauty and there is strength

- Maya Angelou



MEMBER UPDATE

Member	Employer
Laryssa Parker	Siemens Mobility ITS



2019 CORPORATE & AGENCY PARTNERS

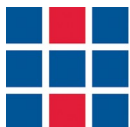
Platinum



Gold



Silver





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2019 CORPORATE & AGENCY PARTNERS

Bronze

Blanton & Associates, Inc.



COX | McLAIN
Environmental Consulting



DBE



**Baer Engineering
and Environmental Consulting, Inc.**



Nancy Ledbetter & Associates
public outreach • planning • communications

MECA

Montalbano Engineering,
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Agency Partners



METRO



CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL
MOBILITY AUTHORITY



Agency Affiliates



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Our 2020 luncheons will be the third Wednesday of every month, with the exception of May which is the second Wednesday. There are no luncheons in September or December.

- 01/15/20
- 02/19/20
- 03/18/20
- 04/15/20
- 05/13/20
- 06/17/20
- 07/15/20
- 08/19/20
- 10/21/20
- 11/18/20

