

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Charlotte Metro Members:

Here it is...our second edition of the WTS Charlotte Metro newsletter, which as you noticed has been named. Thanks Margarita Gagliardi for helping us put a name to our newsletter!

I cannot believe the holidays are almost here... Time does indeed fly! It makes me proud to think about how much our chapter has flourished since our May charter. I am so thankful to be a part of such a great chapter.

Although our membership roster is modest (but growing) in comparison to other metro chapters, we have stayed busy and active. I've been told the word is spreading about the great programs and networking opportunities our Chapter continues to provide. Despite work and personal demands, the WTS Charlotte Metro Board and committee members will work hard to keep presenting you with informative, useful, and even fun events.

We hope you will continue to support us, as we stay 'In Motion'!

See ya soon!

Kim Bereis

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

Business Etiquette

Savannah Shaw, Etiquette & Protocol Consultant

"Excuse me, may I please join you?" "Can you remind me of your name?" "Kim, I would like to introduce to you Savannah Shaw." These are a few of the proper statements we learned from Savannah Shaw, an etiquette and protocol consultant, during our September program. Etiquette is the rules governing correct behavior in both business and social settings. Ms. Shaw touched briefly on several etiquette topics for us. The following are some examples of what we learned during the meeting:



- Wear name tags on the right; that's the direction someone is looking when they shake your hand.
- In social settings, hold your drink in your left hand so you can shake with your right.
- In a business setting, the first one to the door opens it.
- Be prepared for small talk by knowing about current events. Read the paper and watch the news to stay current.
- When standing, keep your hands to your side.
- When sitting, enter your seat from the right.
- When eating, your napkin should be in your lap, folded in half, with the crease toward your stomach. You place your napkin in your seat when you are excusing yourself, then coming back. The napkin should be placed to the left of your plate when you are done, not on the plate.
- Never groom at the table; not even to reapply lipstick.

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Everyone attending the program was given the opportunity to participate by practicing hand shakes, listening skills, and introductions. This was a very informative and successful program with 30 people in attendance. Since several members expressed an interest, we are hoping to offer a second etiquette program next year.



I hope you were able to walk away with some etiquette tips you did not know before. "It was so nice to meet you."

Joint Meeting with NCSITE

Jerry Orr, Aviation Director for Charlotte-Douglas International Airport, spoke at the November dinner program. WTS Charlotte Metro joined with NCSITE to organize the program. The event began with a social hour at the First in Flight bar in the main concourse of the airport. Following registration members were treated to a barbeque dinner sponsored by the Charlotte-Douglas International Airport. Mr. Orr discussed future plans for airport expansion. He announced plans to relocate West Boulevard, replace all surface parking with parking decks, and construction of a third runway. After Mr. Orr's presentation, members were given a tour of the US Airways tower.

The WTS Board would like to express our appreciation to Mr. Jerry Orr, Ms. Kay Lamont, and their staff for all of their efforts to sponsor this event. And thank you Ms. Fran McCutcheon and the NCSITE Board for their joint efforts with this program. It was a wonderful evening for everyone who attended.

APTA/WTS Breakfast

(Information courtesy of APTA)

At the American Public Transportation Association's recent annual conference in Charlotte, WTS cosponsored a breakfast seminar, a tradition in its 12th year as a conference staple. This year's breakfast on October 10

featured guest speaker Raghida Dergham, columnist and senior diplomatic correspondent for London-based Al-Hayat, the leading independent Arabic newspaper.

Based out of the United Nations, Ms. Dergham is also a political analyst for NBC, MSNBC and the Arab satellite LBC. She is a contributing editor for LA Times Syndicate Global Viewpoint and has contributed to: The New York Times, The Washington Post, The International Herald Tribune and Newsweek Magazine. Ms. Dergham has interviewed over 50 foreign ministers as well as US President George W. Bush, Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice and her predecessor Colin Powell.

From mail bombs to military tribunals, Dergham's career has brought her into jeopardy on more than one occasion. She has survived death threats and continues to battle the prejudices of being an independent and successful woman journalist working in the Arab world. She has broken major news stories, such as the Oslo secret talks; covered peace conferences and summits; accompanied U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan on his tours of the Middle East; and was the only journalist to interview Ramzi Youssef, the alleged mastermind of the World Trade Center bombing.

Ms. Dergham has spent her entire career struggling for women's rights in a male-dominated culture. She shared her perspective, knowledge, and passion on the challenges facing women in today's world. "What do women want?" she asks. "They want normalcy, education, and the option to participate in the workforce."

Charlotte Douglas International Airport Hits the Ground Running

Before flying the skies from the newest runway, citizens were given the opportunity to run in the Runway 5K Run. This first time event for CDIA attracted over 500 runners and walkers to participate in this United Way fundraiser. Proceeds are expected to exceed \$11,000. Runners and walkers were able to view planes landing and taking off during this charity event, held November 10, 2007. With the success of this first time event, I'm sure we can look forward to another Runway Run in the future. The new, third runway is scheduled to be complete in 2010.

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(Thank you to the Public Affairs Office of the CDIA for providing photos of the event.)



Runners make their way around the 3.1-mile course as they enjoy the sights of the Airport.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Holiday Luncheon – December 19, 12:00 pm. WTS Charlotte Metro Chapter will host a Members-Only Holiday Luncheon at Cantina 1511, located at 1511 East Blvd., on Wednesday, December 19 at 12 noon. Please join us to celebrate the holidays and get to know fellow WTS members. Cost: No charge – please bring a donation to the food drive.

Second Harvest
FOOD BANK
of Metrolina



Help End Hunger – WTS Food Drive. As part of our Holiday Luncheon, WTS Charlotte Metro will host a food drive to benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina. Second Harvest Food Bank is a non-profit, charitable organization that provides essential grocery items to nearly 600 non-profit agencies in 16 counties. Please bring your donations to the Holiday Luncheon on December 19, 2007. For more information about Second Harvest Food Bank contact Kelly Goforth at kgoforth@ci.charlotte.nc.us or 704-336-3513.

Save the Date - January 29. Mark your calendars to join us on January 29 for a luncheon program featuring Myron George, President, Capital Management and Engineering, who will discuss the York County one-cent sales tax program for road improvements, “Pennies for Progress”. More details to follow.

NATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

New Website. Check out the new look of the WTS International website at www.wtsinternational.org. You can find great information about the WTS strategic plan, membership, scholarships, and chapter news.

Chapter By-laws. All chapters are being asked to update their by-laws to be consistent with WTS International. Members of WTS Charlotte Metro will be sent the revised by-laws for their review.

Annual Conference. The Atlanta Chapter of WTS is developing an exciting and informative program for the 2008 Annual Conference to be held May 14-16, 2008. There will be several topics covered during the conference; a few of these topics include: International and Global Transportation Issues; Leadership and Management Skills for Public and Private Sector Transportation Professionals in the 21st Century; Noteworthy Environmental and Sustainable Transportation Practices, including climate change; and Funding the Transportation System in the Future.



For more information, contact Kim Bereis at kdbereis@pbsj.com.

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

WTS Charlotte Metro Chapter In Motion Newsletter. Congratulations to Margarita Gagliardi with STV. She is the winner of the Name Our Newsletter Contest and will be receiving a \$25 gift certificate. Thank you to everyone who submitted a name for the contest. Our goal is to keep you informed with quarterly issues of In Motion. To help us achieve this goal, we welcome your input too. So please share your news with any member of the newsletter committee, such as promotions, new jobs, new and exciting projects, recognitions, etc.

Thank you to our newsletter contributors for keeping us *In Motion* this quarter:

Kim Bereis, Claire Brinkley, Judy Dellert-O’Keef, Kelly Goforth, and Jennifer Green.



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Kelly Goforth
Charlotte Area Transit System

CORPORATE SPONSORS

WTS Charlotte Metro is proud to announce its inaugural list of corporate partners. We would like to thank all sponsors for their generous support of WTS and making the start-up of our local chapter possible! For more information on sponsorship benefits and opportunities, contact Kim Bereis at 704-665-4404.

PLATINUM

HDR Engineering



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SILVER

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If you have a suggestion, announcement, or great idea for this newsletter please contact a member of the newsletter committee:

Newsletter Committee

Kelly Goforth, Chair kgoforth@ci.charlotte.nc.us
Judy Dellert-O'Keef jdellert-okeef@ci.charlotte.nc.us
Paige Yandle pmyandle@pbsj.com

Help Wanted. Looking for a way to get more involved in WTS? The WTS Charlotte Metro Chapter needs a volunteer to serve as Website Chairperson. Responsibilities include updating and maintaining our chapter website, which is part of the WTS International website www.wtsinternational.org. Please contact Kim Bereis at kdbereis@pbsj.com if you are interested.