



*Advancing Women in Transportation*  
Greater New York Chapter



**October 2016**

*Issue: 16*

## Upcoming Events - Save the Date!

**Tuesday, October 25, 1:00 - 2:00, Emerging Leaders On Site Training Series,**  
**Questions that Leaders Ask Themselves and Others.**  
Click [here](#) for more information

**Wednesday, October 26, 5:30-9:00, NJ Dinner Program**  
**WTS-GNY & ITSNJ Women's Group present**  
**Complete Connections: Connected and Automated Vehicles, Cranberry Inn, NJ**  
Click [here](#) for more information

**Wednesday, November 9, 5:30-8:00, Young Professionals' Trending Topic Series:**  
**Career Advancement, Capitalizing Your Free Time,**  
**Penny Farthing, NY**  
Click [here](#) for more information

**Thursday, November 17, 5:30 - 8:00, NY Dinner Program, "Boots on the Ground, Flats in the Boardroom,"**  
**Club 101, NYC**  
Please join WTS-GNY for our fall dinner program focused on the widely acclaimed book,  
Click [here](#) to read more

**Tuesday, December 6, 1:00 - 2:00, Emerging Leaders On Site Training Series,**  
**Nine Types of Courage for Emerging Leaders.**  
Click [here](#) for more information:

**Thursday, December 8, 6:00 - 8:00**  
**GNY Holiday Party,**  
**Annie Moore's, NY**  
Click [here](#) to register

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**WTS GNY Annual Meeting, Club 101 -NY  
Winter Solstice Celebration, Newark, NJ**



A good time was had by all!  
WTS-GNY 2016 Gala, October 6, 2016  
Click [here](#) for video

## WTS GNY Annual Gala at Battery Gardens

WTS GNY chose the perfect night with its clear skies to hold the chapter's annual gala at Battery Gardens at the foot of Manhattan. After an hour of vibrant conversation, mixing and mingling and with the sunset over the New Jersey skyline as a backdrop, the crowd gathered for an animated awards presentation. Karen Rae, Woman of the Year, was toasted by Polly Trottenberg, NYC DOT commissioner, and this year's seven scholarship winners were announced by Molly Campbell, director of the Port Commerce Department at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Other speakers in the all-star line-up were Polina Knaster, WTS-GNY president, and Ronnie Hakim, president of NYC Transit.



**Boots on the Ground, Flats in the  
Boardroom,  
*Transportation Women Tell Their Stories***

**WTS GNY 2016 Dinner Program**

**Thursday November 17,  
5:30PM - 8:00PM  
Club 101  
101 Park Av**

**JACOBS**

**STV** 100 Years

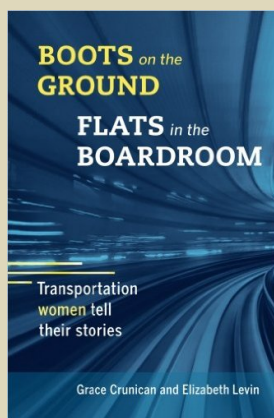
**vhb**

**WSP**  
**PARSONS  
BRINCKERHOFF**

**RUBY**



**CUBIC**  
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*"The first thing I said to my TIGER team was, 'Knowledge is power. Learn the rules inside out and all around.'"*

- Jolene Moritz Molitoris

*"I learned that there is more than one way to get something done. Figuring out how to go around resistance and move things forward is really important."*

- Anne Canby

*'When they asked what city department I wanted - this is late 1976 - and I swear to God one of my main concerns was that I didn't want to be in a 'relations' area because most women and people of color were in relations areas back then. So I told them I wanted to be in transportation or sanitation because they were 'nontraditional' areas for people like me, and I knew we'd always be moving people and trash.'*

-Dr. Beverly Scott

*"He level-set his gaze, and he said, 'You better learn to love the job you have to get the job you love.'"*

-Jane Chmielinski

Come hear a provocative panel discussion moderated by Liz, Levin, co-author of the book, Boots on the Ground, Flats in the Board Room. This promises to be an exhilarating opportunity to hear three pioneering women in the field of transportation tell their stories in their own words and discuss the issues that they have faced along the way.

#### Panelists:

**Shirley DeLibero:** Former chairman and CEO of the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas from 1999 until 2004. Previously the deputy executive of Dallas Area Rapid Transit, and executive director of New Jersey Transit.

**Rina Cutler:** Philadelphia Deputy Mayor for Transportation and Utilities. Previously deputy secretary for Administration for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT); transportation commissioner for the City of Boston; the Director of Parking and Traffic for the City of San Francisco and the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Parking Authority.

**Mary Jane O'Meara,** Associate Vice President, HNTB. Previously director of the Tobin Bridge, Massport; acting executive Director, Massachusetts Turnpike Authority.

**Moderator & Co Author: Elizabeth Levin,** Co-author of Boots on the Ground, Flats in the Boardroom: Transportation Women Tell Their Stories. President, Liz Levin & Company, a management consulting company that serves the transportation, design, and environmental communities which provides services in leadership, organizational development, and strategy; Executive in Residence, Brandeis International Business School.

EMERALD



AKRF

ARUP

ch2m

Dewberry

PARSONS



Read the book first! Hear from the woman who ran the Federal Aviation Administration during 9/11 to the woman who helped make seat belts standard in cars, "Boots on the Ground, Flats in the Boardroom" provides raw stories of how 18 women learned to succeed in a white, male-dominated industry. Authored by seasoned transportation authorities Grace Crunican and Liz Levin, "Boots on the Ground, Flats in the Boardroom" presents leadership lessons from women who changed the world.....

Please join WTS GNY for our Fall Dinner Program centered on this widely acclaimed book.

Click [here](#) to register.

## WTS GNY 2016 Scholarship Recipients:



Transportation YOU High School Scholarship: Caitlin Stanton

Leonard Braun Memorial Scholarship: Megan Young

Molitoris Leadership Scholarship for Undergraduates: Allison Luongo

Susan Miskowicz Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship: Marisa Budziszewski

Susan Kupferman Scholarship for Undergraduates: Julie-Ann Evans

The Leadership Legacy Scholarship for Graduate Studies: Kelly Glenn

TransitCenter Transit Policy Innovator Scholarship: Sahra Mirbabaee

## Apologies:

The September issue had a broken link to the Highlights from WTS-GNY Learn from A Leader Round Table Discussion with Emily Gallo, by Adrienne Zicklin-Kanter.

**Read it now**



## 2016 Recognition Award Nominations:

WTS-GNY is accepting nominations for the Member of the Year, Employer of the Year, Rosa Parks Diversity



Leadership, and Innovative Transportation Solutions awards.

Please consider nominating those individuals and companies who have contributed to the Chapter; individuals who have greatly contributed to diversity in the workplace; and transportation projects that are helping to make the New York metropolitan region a better place to live.

Nominations will be voted on by the WTS-GNY Recognitions Committee, and the awards will be announced during the January 2017 Annual Meeting. .

Please click [here](#) for more information

Nominations must be submitted by December 2, 2016

Member of the Year award

Employer of the Year award

Rosa Parks Diversity Leadership award

Innovative Transportation Solutions award

Honorable Ray LaHood award

## Members in the News:

Congratulations!

*Lucia Accardo* on her promotion to Application Developer 2, at Metro-North Railroad

*Danielle Drake*, WTS-GNY Scholarship Committee Co-Chair, has a new job as Project Manager at Cameron Engineering in Woodbury, Long Island.

## WTS GNY - Volunteer Opportunities!

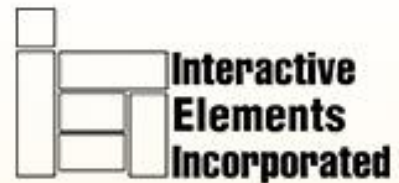
Contact [Keri Cibelli](#) for more information

### 2017 Annual Conference:

Please join for an exciting opportunity to help prepare for the WTS 2017 Annual Conference in NYC!

### Communications Committee:

W/M/S/DBE



A great opportunity to get involved with WTS GNY! If you have a background in writing/editing, technology or social media, the WTS Communications Committee has many opportunities to offer you.

### Transportation You Committee:

Committee is looking for new mentors and committee members for 2016-2017. Our mentoring program inspires young women (14-18) to pursue careers in STEM and Transportation. Transportation YOU is a hands-on, interactive, mentoring program that offers girls an introduction to a wide variety of transportation careers. WTS members work to make a difference in the lives of high school girls in New York City and Newark, NJ, by offering site tours, professional development and group activities that will spark their interest in all modes of transportation. We also seek to encourage them to take courses in math, science, and technology, which are the stepping stones to exciting careers that can change the face of the transportation industry.

Find out how you can get involved and help us create a great program this next academic year by contacting [Erica Swansen](#) or [Alyssa Pichardo](#)

### Glass Ceiling Committee:

WTS-GNY Yvonne Lopez-Diaz, VP and HR Director with HNTB Corporation, will lead a new committee focused on "glass ceiling" issues that could be impeding the growth of women in the transportation industry. Yvonne will organize a "Glass Ceiling Committee" whose goal will be to conduct research and make recommendations on programs and policies that can be led by WTS-GNY to further its mission of advancing women in transportation.

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Issue: 1

## 2016-2017 CORPORATE PARTNERS

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The WTS-Greater NY and NJ Membership

would like to Thank the  
**2016-2017 Corporate Partners**  
for supporting the Advancement of  
Women in Transportation

**WTS International is hosting its 2017 annual conference in New York City, May 17 - 19, 2017!**



**During this interactive, three-day session, transportation leaders will exchange ideas and learn about the latest developments in transportation.**

**More than 700 corporate and governmental industry leaders worldwide will be in attendance at the conference. A multitude of thoughtful and engaging topics will be covered, including autonomous technologies, transportation funding, shared mobility solutions, innovative data collection methods, professional development, and more!**

## **Arianna Huffington - 2017 Annual Conference Keynote Speaker**

Click [here](#) for more information

## **Good Read:**

The New Yorker magazine article [City Of Women](#)

### **Learn from a Leader (continued)**

Managing office politics. "It's a topic that has always bedeviled me," commented Emily Gallo, NYC DOT Chief of Staff, in the last Learn from a Leader program of the year on August 23rd as she energetically launched into her talk on her own professional experience "to address the subject head-on." Prior to her role at DOT, she was Chief of Staff at the Taxi and Limousine Commission where she had been Director of Policy. And before that, she was a policy analyst in the Mayor's Office of Long-Term Strategy and Sustainability.



Emily Gallo and  
Bonny Tsang at  
NYCDOT

Getting along with others had never been an issue for her, so Gallo was surprised by the challenges that office politics presented. This



was not a topic her professors in graduate school certainly had ever touched on! After thoughtful evaluation, she has come to the conclusion that there are several strategies to manage this taboo subject:

When your boss hires someone new, it's a great idea to try to understand why he or she was selected and what his or her strengths are. It's also worth sticking up for that new person. Everyone knows how it feels to be unfamiliar with the culture and practices of a new office. Putting someone at ease and offering them some insight into their new surroundings will be immeasurably appreciated.

Be underfoot. Make yourself available. Gallo described her boss in a previous job calling in early one morning when she was already sitting at her desk before others had arrived. The boss asked to speak with one person and then another. When Gallo let him know that neither of them were around and that she would be happy to help, he was greatly relieved. In short order, he was calling her regularly at that time relying on her assistance. Gallo also pointed out that when you aren't around, make sure everyone knows where you are, whether it's out at a meeting or in the field so that they know when you'll be available again and that you are doing something productive even if you aren't visible.

Make sure you have mentors and sponsors. Find people who can support you and offer you guidance, and do likewise. In offering your support to others, you'll have the opportunity for reciprocation at a later time.

Be direct and honest. Pass along positive feedback. You can do this even if you are the junior staff member. If no one speaks up, the boss would never get any feedback. Pass along negative feedback too. As women, we often try to be peacemakers and are oblique about anything that might make others uncomfortable. Better to be open about something than let it fester.

Your work doesn't speak for itself. You speak for your work. Promote yourself.

Use positive body language to convey your strength. If you don't naturally pose in a way to show power or strength, fake it until you become it. Gallo urged the attendees to watch a [Ted Talk](#) given by Amy Cuddy, a Harvard Business School professor on how your body language shapes who you are.

Gallo's thoughtful and insightful remarks engaged everyone in the audience and led to an animated discussion about circumstances that many women around the table had encountered. What to do about tone in email? How much small talk does one need to make? The conversation was lively and informative for everyone thanks to the Learn from the Leader program and the leader, Emily Gallo.

## **WTS-GNY COMMUNITY BUZZ DEADLINE**

**email: [wtsgny@gmail.com](mailto:wtsgny@gmail.com) by October 31**



